

Canadian Pacific Road - Exploration 10/14/80

"Hill to R. B. Angus

"I have started Col. Smith and Hoffman with a private letter to J.H.McTavish enjoining absolute secrecy to make a careful inspection of the country from the end of Ry and work west as far as Fort Ellis [sic]. I have told him that our object was to get the best line to a point on the Prairie level west of the Assiniboine River which could be projected from the point of crossing that stream to the located line of the Canadian Pacific or if a better line to the Mountains was found by later surveys." Details of recent r.r. track-laying . "We could earn \$500,000 quite easil, in Oct. if we had the

cars...The millers are holding up prices very well and receipts are large." The Northwestern Board of Directors are now visiting their entire line and I have invited them to go to Fargo Grand Forks and Winnipeg and they have accepted my invitation. I learned from Porter that Flower and Bishop told them that they knew absolutely nothing of the North West and that they should lose no time in visiting it."

St.P.M. & M. Ry. LetterBook, 4:40 (1880-1881)