

Cartwright, Sir Richard      November 9, 1880

R. B. Angus to Cartwright, Kingston, Canada

I have delayed reply to your inquiries re Nor. Pac. Railroad and was promised documents from officers of that Company, which have not come. "I fear they are being withheld from the suspicion that the information might be used for sinister purposes. Unfortunately the interests of their Co. and ours have seemed to clash & there has been a want of cordiality between us for some weeks, but while it lasts I am not surprised at a disposition to cover up the past records of a concern that imposed such a gigantic fraud upon the public and used its short lived strength to rob its weaker neighbours." I dont know where to look for an authentic account of its early expenditures. I have been told

that the construction of the first 250 miles from Duluth westward cost about \$60,000 per mile. A portion of the work was heavy but the expenditure was vastly in excess of the legitimate cost. The early history of the enterprise is in fact a record of folly, cupidity and corruption such as to be hoped will not be repeated in this generation. The Construction Co. divided a large amount of money on completion of the final section."

StPM&MRyLetterBook(Angus)p.518(12/4/79-8/18/1881)  
1881)