

Des Moines & Ft. Dodge Road      Feb. 17, 1886

Hill to John S. Kennedy

The only interest the Manitoba Road has in this enterprise is that of a line which is to receive new business from territory not reached by its own lines for which it is to receive a fixed compensation. All this is ~~to~~ provided for in case the Des Moines and Fort Dodge is extended to Hutchinson or Litchfield. That there will be built a road over the same ground as the proposed line, I think, there is little doubt, and it is of something more than ordinary consideration to us to know that it will not be built north of our lines in seeking an outlet to Lake Superior. This as I look at the

matter substantially covers all that affects our company except the business we receive and from which we would derive additional earnings without any investment in new lines and the benefit of another line than the Minneapolis & St. Louis over which we would be able to reach our Iowa coal mines. Also re possible purchase of the stock. "I do not wish to be understood as thinking the line of little moment to our Co. and it takes but a glance at the map to show that either in friendly hands or depending on us for northern outlets it would be of benefit."

JJH LetterBook, 9/12/85 - 3/22/86, p. 816