

Iron ore - Minnesota

March 17, 1912

Hill to Gaspard Farrer

Long letter on Brazilian iron ore prospects, with comparative figures of costs of transportation &c. with Mesabi ores owned by Gt. Nor. Road. Our electric power in Oregon is bought from Portland Light & Power Co. at \$25.00 per horsepower per annum. Gt. Nor. ore trains on Mesabi have largest adverse grade - .3% of 1% or about 16 ft. per mile and cost per train mile, using steam, was \$1.85. Cost of docking & loading into vessels properly equipped for handling ore, with dock facilities such as we use at Superior, not over 5¢ per ton. A Mr. Boissevain of Amsterdam was here a few days

and Hill consulted him re 8 shillings per ton sea voyage of 5,000 miles, 1 to 2 million tons a year; he says he would like a contract for his steamship business at that rate. Cost of mining on the Mesabi, if overburden is not more than 35 feet, is from 15 to 30 cents per ton. Our steamer, Minnesota, would carry 28,000 tons; she has 40 electric hoisting engines operated by about 1,200 horse power electric motors.

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