

Manitoba Road - Origin of May 5, 1915

Hill to George Bryce, Winnipeg

Cannot correct Bryce's article sent for Hill's observations and corrections, since it does not conform to the facts re Donald Smith's connection with the origin of the St. Paul, Minneapolis, and Manitoba Railway and so will give a brief account of what really happened. Does so in an admirably succinct and authoritative account of the visit of Smith to St. Paul in latter part of December, 1873; Smith's revelation of having rec'd a letter from Dutch bondholders of St. Paul & Pacific desiring financial aid from Smith to complete the line to St. Vincent; Hill's visit to Ottawa in early part of April, 1876 and meeting with Smith; on Smith's, Geo. Stephen's,

and R.B. Angus's visit to St. Paul to spend time going over the proper ; of negotiations with the Dutch committee and referral of whole matter to committee's N.Y. representative [John S. Kennedy] and final agreement of purchase of bonds after foreclosures of various mortgages; organization of Manitoba Road and inclusion of word "Manitoba" in its title out of deference to Smith's desire; "Following the success of the new company the same parties formed the original syndicate to build the Canadian Pacific"

General Correspondence by Date