

Montana Central Road

October 20, 1887

Hill to D. Willis James

Gives much information on rates, on the new lines of the Manitoba Road as recommended by Potter, &c. Track on Montana Central is laid for about 12 miles; expect therefore to reach Helena by 15th to 20th. Shelby, the Mont.Cen. general manager, was until recently Gen.Traffic manager of Union Pac. "We found Mr. Shelby's knowledge of Union Pacific and Northern Pacific traffic in that country of great value in helping us to fix the rates. Shelby says that Butte is by far the largest revenue producing station on the Union Pacific. They haul in daily over 600 tons coal, 100 tons ~~lumber~~, and 50 tons salt

besides a large amount of merchandise machinery
lumber &c. We should take the whole of their
coal and later the coke when our line is fin-
ished to Butte." All our lines are doing bet-
ter than expected. October earnings will I hope
show better than any previous month since orgar-
ization of the Company. The Ellendale and Aber-
deen line is earning more ~~than~~ both east and
west than any new line we ever built."

JJH LetterBook, 6/6/87 - 4/12/88, p. 347