


Montana Extension  
Hill to J.S. Kennedy

October 17, 1887

We finished tracklaying to Sun River Saturday morning, "which completes our Montana Extension and the same party will continue today on the Montana Central. The stockyards section houses water stations and other buildings are well up with the track. Last week our shipments of cattle and sheep from Big Sandy station were over \$6000 and this week we expect to have over \$20,000 from cattle from Montana. We have had Mr. Potter of the Union Pacific here to meet Col. Broadwater and Mr. Shelby of the Montana Central. Rates via the Nor. Pac. and Missouri R. from St. Paul to Bent  have been from \$1.15

to \$2.00 per 1000 lbs. against which we have made our highest rate 90 which Mr. Potter agrees was as high as we would get against the river. This would give us a rate of \$2.35 to Helena (Col. Broadwater wanted it \$2.25) as against \$3.00 heretofore... I think the Union Pac will withdraw from Helena which they now reach over the Nor. Pac., rather than reduce their rate of \$3.00 which prevails from 800 miles east of Helena and Butte. We have Mr. Fargo here today about the Express business and while he professes inability to accede to our terms of about the present rate on all Manitoba lines for freight hauled, with one half the profit of the business in addition, I feel sure they will come to it, in which case our plan is to make and Express Company for our line the stock of

Montana Extension Card 2

October 17, 1887

which would be held equally by the American Express Company and our Company."

We are now moving daily as much wheat as is hauled into Chicago and Milwaukee daily from all lines.

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