

Railroads - Charters

March 6, 1881

Hill to Kennedy

Re the Austin and Mankato Railway [St. Cloud, Mankato and Austin]; the Wells and Mankato line St. Cloud and Minneapolis has four sections of swamplands per mile from St. Cloud to Mankato; the last road has a charter that has all the peculiar traits of ours regarding rates &c and has the right to build branches and connect with any road in Minnesota as well as a grant of 10 sections of swamplands per mile between St. Cloud & the St. Paul & Duluth (60 miles) road & 4 sections per mile from there to the North Shore of Lake Superior. I have just bought the charter and stock of the company except the Mankato

Branch which was consolidated. My price was \$30,000. I took it to event its falling into the hands of others and to secure the land grant of 600 sections for the line from St. Cloud east, which we must build to give us a short outlet to Lake Superior as soon as we conclude the trade with Porter and Merrill for the St. Paul and Duluth. I think I can arrange it to get these swamplands in the Red River Valley at least the bulk of them.

JJH LetterBook, 9/24/79 - 7/20/82, p. 109