

Smith, Donald

March 25, 1879

Hill to Smith

Consult George Stephen about Willis, Tupper, and the Pembina Branch affair, for he is well posted. He has repeatedly offered to operate the Branch if the Govt. would settle with the contractors & give us some rights. Willis insists upon having free use of Branch without obstruction from commercial trains, in order to complete his contract. Dr. Tupper's bill proposes to change terms of W's contract without his consent or knowledge, bringing them face to face with the question, "Has a contractor under the Govt. any rights whatever?" In case they push Willis too hard, he may be obliged to ask his own Govt

at Washington to come () his air.

JJH LetterBook, 1/14 - 9/11/1879, p. 198