

Stephen, George

March 18, 1879

Two telegrams from Hill to Stephen

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Re Becker's claim and Stephen's wish for Willis to get out of his contract, about which Hill has already written Willis. Rumors will be many for a few days, "but then the current will set the other way & if you think best we can then show the true inwardness of Upper & Harty's blackmailing operation." Merely try to make our road "pay them for the right to operate the line during the coming summer" at \$50 to \$60,000 is what they are attempting. Re man in Kingston, Ont., who "paid Sir John's [MacDonald's] meat and officers bills for the last three years [&] is a partner in the new

concern." Not to be spiteful we have advised Farley to allow our ~~company~~ to be hauled over the Pembina Branch on terms of the enclosed letter. Kittson wants a copy of the lease, please. Reed backed out of his agreement to sell his bonds at 80. I thought I had arranged for ~~ZZZZZZ~~ both his bonds and his steam boat stock. Farley has put engineers into the field to see about a line as proposed by Washburn.

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