

Stephen, George

July 2, 1878

Hill to Stephen

Re contract with Dominion Gov't. Smith plans "a short run down to Montreal & Ottawa. Railroad matters ~~are~~ at fever heat here & in Minneapolis. All railroads into Minneapolis have had two-day convention" and "we gave them a full statement of our position as regards the business of the upper Country in such terms as all parties present could not fail to understand." Convention adjourned with a Millers Assoc. declaration that they would not do anything in connection with any railroad that was unsatisfactory to the St. Paul & Pacific. [while it was an entirely new thing for the St. Paul & Pac. to be represented in those meetings and

was a surprise to all hands, I was gratified to know that when our [redacted] interests were asserted, the local millers were unwilling to take position against us. Both Merrill & Mitchell were at the meeting " and promised that Wright on the advice of Mitchell will abandon the idea of building from Sauk Rapids to Minneapolis. Land sales have entirely stopped on account of the position of the Land Commissioner.

JJH Letter Book 4/11/78 - 1/16/79, p. 203