

Stephen, George

Sept. 13, 1878

Hill to Stephen (also original letter)
Details of arbitrators' decision, of Harty's decision, of offer of \$10,000 to Murphy for his part of Pembina contract, of Murphy's price of \$20,000. "Harty & Murphy profess to be great friends of the present [Canadian] govt. but I think they are simply laying back to see how much they can force out of the Govt for extra work." Robbins "has got rid of all the old dead heads." 80 men are laying 1¼ miles a day and soon will be laying 2 mi. on Pembina line. 80 to 120 cars of gravel are dumped daily, &c. Othe lines had to take 80,000 of our ties compelling us to have pine ties [redacted] @ 36¢ apiece (40,000)

Re Cambria Co's iron. As we will arrive first at boundary, Canadian [redacted] we will have to conform to ours. "There will undoubtedly be a smart town there & it should be on our land." Re Thompson's & Bigelow's efforts in Litchfield scheme. Why not approach Litchfield by stressing danger of a west-side line from Sauk Rapids? And also Windsor & Potts of Phila. who, I understand, own the controlling bonds or preferred stock of N.I. and are not "particularly pleased with Pres. Wright's management?" Also find out how Jay Gould stood towards them, & if I am not mistaken his heavy interest in C. & N. W. line & his control of Union Pac. bearing in mind Mitchell's position in Nor. Pac., might be used successful

Stephen

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ly to destroy the N.P. if necessary. I have been told that Mr. Gould offered to buy a control of the N.P. if he could make some arrangement to run it or lease it as it now stands & build no more west of the Missouri River." Thompson may go with me to N.Y., as he is very anxious to prevent the building of a west side line, and thinks he can persuade some of the N.P. directors. He knows several of them. Re Farley's health and slowness. Binning gets on very well in the accounting department.

JJH Letter Book, 4/11/78 - 1/16/79, p. 344