

Stephen, George

Oct. 13, 1878

Hill to Stephen

"I am satisfied that both the N.P. and the Mil & St. Paul would like to get a foothold in our St. Paul yard as that would give them a direct and close connection, and while it is the key between the Northern lines and all roads running south and East from St Paul as long as we control it, we have a decided advantage, but should we sell a joint ownership, there would be nothing to prevent the Mil. & St. Paul making a through line from Chicago to Fargo of if they thought the local trade developing fast enough they might continue down on the west

side of the Red River." Notes Litchfield's letter and hopes "you [redacted] will be able to come to some understanding with him. I think we could afford to pay him a liberal amount to get his holding and thus secure an early organization. "Judge Harlan's recent decision re Drummong & Blodgett renders Litchfield's interest worth very little or rather nothing until our bonds were paid principal and interest in full."

JJH Letter Book, 4/11/78 - 1/16/79, p. 433