Stephen, George December 19, 1887

Stephen to Hill Re rumors Northern Pac. is buying Manitoba or North Western Road's charter."They are not quite such idiots." I agree with your every word about the Duluth & Winnipeg; it will disappear as soon as the Govt. gives the Manitoba and South Eastern its guietus. Strange that Luxton, otherwise sensible, should be led astra by the rubbishy cry of 'Monopoly' which is being used as a political weapon not without some effect because the question is not properly put before the public. I quite agree with you as to the absurdity of the Dominion Govt aiding so largely in the construction of a through nation al line & before it is finished permitting a

policy to be pursued which can have no other effect than to render mational line useless It is only politicians & fools that would for a moment think of such a thing." Re Stickney and lack of supervision. We shall need all the spar days you can give us for CPR & Man. Rd. matters before I sail on the 18th." I was glad to get a note from Major Rogers from St Paul from whom I shall be very glad to hear again in reference to his efforts to get in through the mountains on the short line."

General Correspondence by Date