

C.P.R. - Contract

Sept. 8, 1880

R.B. Angus to George Stephen

Explains "long telegram" (see p. 454, Sept. 7, partly in code): "We consider essential modify distribution reducing [cash subsidy for] Nipissing to "food tricky [Fort Wm.?] Think "Hag" [Govt.?] will be satisfied with our strong reasons for this change. They must bear in mind immediate & large outlay" etc.

Letter helps understand above: "I suppose you were able to make out ... my long telegram respecting the proposed distribution of the Cash subsidy for the Canada Pacific. In one respect a large cash Bonus for the Lake Superior section would be advantageous, as there would appear to the public a greater encouragement for abandoning its construction. On the other hand a small al-

lowance in Cash for the prairie Section would necessitate the borrowing of too much money and a greater charge for interest during the early years of construction than the enterprise should be burdened with... the success of the whole scheme depends upon the development of the prairie Country and the opening of communication with the Pacific and every effort should first be devoted to that end... A mere line of iron from Ocean to Ocean would do nobody any good while the settlement of the Country is the great desideratum. It is therefore most important that prairie and Western sections should be pushed to completion with the utmost energy and before any effort is thrown away on the sentimental that threatens to be so costly in construction and maintenance [North Shore of Lake Superior]...The

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retention of the proceeds of every fourth section of Land sold by the Company as additional security for operation of the Line is to me a new and uncalled for condition... The Hon. Alexr Mackenzie has been here for two days and we have paid him some attention, although both Hill and I have been rather busy ... Dr. Ritchie is here. I am glad to find he is making a living at Duluth."

St. PM&M Ry. Letter Book (Angus) p. 458 (12/4/79-8/18/1881)

1880, September 8