

Railroads - Settlers

November 29, 1886

Hill to Major R. E. Fleming, Fargo

The Territory of Dakota, more than any other part of the Union owes its great prosperity not only to the building of the railroads, but to the efforts of the different companies to secure settlers to go upon her lands. These settlers are looked up throughout all the states of the Union by the representatives of different railroads in competition with those from other states and territories and every possible effort is made to bring them to Dakota. The rapid settlement of Dakota shows the success of these efforts. ~~Wheat~~ rates of Nitoba Road between northern Dakota and St. Paul, Minneapolis and

Duluth are 6 to 8 cents cheaper per hundred pounds than those for the same distance from Chicago in Iowa," notwithstanding all the expenses of operation, wages included, are greater on the Manitoba line than on lines in Iowa." Recently (month to 6 weeks) we have had difficulties in finding cars enough to supply demand on our lines and supply of cars and receipts of cars at Minneapolis and Duluth is greater than the elevators at those points can unload." Have had in both those places from a thousand to 1500 cars constantly waiting to be unloaded. Our grain car equipment is sufficient to move the entire crop raised on all our lines in 10 round trips & it is not our fault if the cars are not handled by consignees with greater dispatch."

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