

Stephen, George

May 4, 1880

Stephen to S. S. Merrill

Long and important letter. Disappointed that in our interview yesterday your Directors voiced objections to our building the Brown's Valley Line from Morris westward to Lake Traverse. Explains that it was begun under pressure of circumstances to prevent the construction of the Little Falls and Dakota line and because then we "came under obligation to the Settlers who have (mainly under the auspices of Bishop Ireland entered upon lands of the Company to furnish them with Railway facilities." Refers to an interview Hill had with you, March, 1879, that led to a proposition that our Company should buy

the Hastings and Dakota line which we would have been glad to do, but we declined to entertain .. from a desire not to interfere with the negotiations you had already instituted! This led us, when you did buy that railway to a belief you approved our building the Brown's Valley Line.
Signed G. Stephen, Pres.

St.P.M.& M. Angus LetterBook, p.266 (12/4/79-8/
18/81)