

**VAN HORNE LETTER  
BOOK, NO. 1  
- 1882-1883**

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**WILLIAM CORNELIUS VAN HORNE &  
CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY COMPANY**

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Canadian Pacific Railway Company  
Office of General Manager

Montreal, 30th November, 1882.

W. R. Baker, Esq.,  
C. P. Ry.,  
Winnipeg.

Dear Sir,

This will introduce Mr. G.W. Vis who goes to the North West to look over our lines in the interest of certain Dutch Capitalists who contemplate taking a large interest in the Canadian Pacific Ry. He desires to make as thorough an examination as the season will permit, of the entire main line between Thunder Bay and the end of track, and of all the Branches. Please put my car at his disposal and put him in the way of getting all information possible both as to the railway and the country, and all information he may desire as to our Traffic, Operating Expenses and anything else.

If Mr. Hill does not go up to accompany him over the road West, I would like you and Mr. Egan to go with him to the end of track. He desires to return alone, stopping at such places as he sees fit. Please arrange the details with Mr. Egan. We want Mr. Vis to see the whole road and everything about it, good and bad. If Mr. McTavish is able to go I would be glad to have him accompany Mr. Vis also, in order to give him the necessary information about our lands, &c.

Yours truly,

{signed} W. C. VanHorne.



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Canadian Pacific Railway Company  
Office of General Manager

Montreal, 1st December, 1882.

Private

W. R. Baker, Esq.,  
C.P. Ry.,  
Winnipeg.

Dear Sir,

I have today given Mr. G. W. Vis a letter of introduction to you. He goes to the North West in the interest of certain Dutch Capitalists whom we are anxious to impress favourably with the Canadian Pacific Railway. Mr. Vis is well acquainted with American Railway matters, and particularly with the principal Western lines, and it is important that all appearance of "Stuffing" him should be carefully avoided. He wants to return alone from the end of the track in order to stop where he may like and carry on his investigations in his own way. Please arrange so that he can ride on Passenger, Freight or any other trains with or without my car as he chooses.

Show this to Mr. Egan and Mr. McTavish.

Yours truly,

(signed) W. C. VanHorne.

I would like him to see our Winnipeg yard, the statistics of the business handled there, etc. The advantages of the Thunder Bay section may need a little attention - timber, water power, lake terminus &c, &c. Be sure that he gets from the Auditor and Chief Engineer's offices all information he may wish. There must be no appearance of withholding anything. Give him a few copies of Horder's crop report.

W.C. VH.





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Canadian Pacific Railway Company  
Office of General Manager

Montreal, 4th December, 1882.

H. B. Ledyard, Esq.,  
General Manager,  
Michigan Central Ry.,  
Detroit, Mich.

Dear Sir,

As I wired you today it will be impossible for me to attend a meeting in Chicago this week. Our President leaves for Europe on the 13th, and I will probably be unable to attend a meeting until after his departure.

Referring to your telegram to Mr. Kennedy last week, I beg to say that there seems to be important reasons why no one of the railways North West of Chicago should be taken into the proposed new line to the exclusion of the others. At all events the matter should be very carefully considered before anything is done, and in order that the question may be freely discussed I would suggest that the Chicago and North Western people be not invited to attend the first meeting.

In a conversation with Mr. C. K. Vanderbilt on Saturday, last he suggested that the Canada Southern line organization might be used instead of a new one - Do you see any objection to this? I cannot.

I will wire you on Monday next when I will be able to attend a meeting. It would be more convenient I think for all concerned to have it at Detroit, Toronto or New York.

Yours truly,

(signed) W.C. VanHorne.



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Canadian Pacific Railway Company  
Office of General Manager

Montreal, 5th December, 1882.

L. J. Seargeant, Esq.,  
Traffic Manager,  
Grand Trunk Ry.,  
City.

Dear Sir:

I am surprised to learn from your favor of yesterday that any of your cars have been used in our Local business in the North West, and I have wired our General Sup't. at Winnipeg to give the matter personal attention and have the cars sent home at once. Can you from your Car Tracer's reports give dates and car numbers showing any cases of misuse. I would like to trace up a few cases and make an example of the party in fault.

Yours truly,

(signed) W. C. VanHorne.