

C. P. R. Office,

27 Aug. 86.

Dear Father,

I had quite forgotten the  
mail again to-day, as I was busy  
last evening making sketches for an  
idea I have for the levee along the  
front of the city. Mr. V. Horne has  
written to the City saying the C. P. R.  
will favour the project if affording  $R\frac{1}{2}$   
communication along the city front,  
& I wanted to explain my idea to  
him. He ~~is in~~ <sup>left for</sup> Winnipeg last evening,  
& so I have not the chance at present.  
I cannot feel any respect for the active  
managers of this line, & that is one reason  
I am extremely diffident about getting  
too near to them. Only today Mr. Peterson  
repeated a remark of Mr. V. H., that it  
was allowable for R's to do a little lying;  
and I have just been hearing also the  
way in which they are trying to humbug

& barter all the municipalities between  
the Bridge + St. Johns + Sherbrooke  
The Engineers are set to run various  
lines all for appearance, to deceive,  
with the object of getting larger grants  
from the local people. I am now aware  
that if I wish to please the men further  
above me, & endeavour to push myself  
before their notice, ~~the only way to~~  
~~please~~ I would only be set to do  
some dishonest & unreasonable thing,  
& this is my reason for holding back.  
I am very thankful to have em-  
ployment, & to be able to do what  
I am doing with a clear conscience,  
& being as far down as I am, I  
have not yet been asked to do wrong.  
The men at the top, the Directors, may  
be upright men & I try to hope they  
are; but they cannot throw off  
the responsibility of employing mere  
deceivers and bull-dogs to make

money for them by all means, fair  
& foul. I feel more + more ~~that~~ in  
this world that I am in the Enemy's  
country, & feel glad to be able to live  
at all + to find honest work.

Please do not think I am taking  
a sinister view; I have felt for  
some time that the C.P.N. are  
likely to control ~~the~~ (practically) the  
whole of the schemes + projects that  
are likely to be carried out in Canada,  
& have been trying to think of ways  
in which I could devise such ideas  
as wd be acceptable to the Magister,  
but I have seen so much of their  
methods that I always hold back.

I may possibly go down to Quebec  
for a few days next week to make  
some surveys.

Yours affectionately

William.

William  
Sept 86