

## **CIVIL WAR AND RECONSTRUCTION: THE MAKING OF MODERN AMERICA**

### **Series One: The Papers of Jay Cooke (1821-1905)**

#### **from the Historical Society of Pennsylvania**

#### **Part 5: General Correspondence, January 1872-June 1874 & Miscellaneous**

*(Most letters are addressed to Jay Cooke, unless otherwise indicated below).*

### **DETAILED LISTING**

#### **Reel 81**

**Dates: 1 January-29 January 1872**

#### **Principal and most interesting correspondence**

- from Henry Cooke (“HDC” or “Harry”), Washington DC, regarding banking and railroad matters. See letters dated 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 17, 18, 19, 20, 22, 23, 24 January and extract below.
- from Jay Cooke to H. D. Cooke See letters dated 1, 2, 5, 6, 9, 10, 15, 16, 17, 20, 22, 23, 24, 26, 29 January.
- from H. C. Fahnestock (“HCF” or “Fahney”), regarding banking matters. See letters dated 1, 2, 4, 11, 25 January.
- from Pitt Cooke, New York, regarding personal and banking matters. See letters dated 2, 3, 5, 12, 13, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 22, 23, 25, 26, 27, 29 January.
- from W. Milnor Roberts, engineer, relating progress of construction. See letters dated 1, 3, 14 January.
- from G. C. Thomas, Jay Cooke & Co., regarding banking matters. See letters dated 1, 8, 9, 12, 23, 24, 26 January.
- from J. G. Smith, President of N.P.R.R.,. See letters dated 3, 18 January.
- from G. C. Stone, Minnesota, working from the office of G. B. Sargent. See letter dated 20 January.
- from H. C. McCulloch, Head of London banking house, London, regarding banking issues in London. See letter dated 18 January.
- from A. B. Nettleton, regarding publicity matters. See letters dated 6, 20, 24, 27 January.
- from Samuel W. Wilkeson, Secretary of Northern Pacific Railroad. See letter dated 29 January.
- from W. L. Banning, Lake Superior & Mississippi Railroad Co., St Paul. See letters dated 8, 13, 22, 25 January.
- from William E. Chandler. See letter dated 1 January.
- from A. H. Barney, Treasurer of N.P.R.R., New York. See letters dated 4, 19, 22, 25, 29 January.
- from Philip W. Holmes, New York. See letters dated 13, 16, 17, 18, 20, 27 January.
- from Congressman Garland, House of Representatives. See letters dated 2, 16 January.
- from S. Garfield, Washington. See letters dated 2, 11 January.
- from W. S. Huntington, Washington. See letter dated 2 January.
- from J. T. Garland, New York. See letters dated 3, 4, 5, 16, 18, 20, 23, 25, 27 January and extract below.

## **Key topics include**

- Correspondence between Henry Cooke, H. C. Fahnestock, Pitt Cooke and Jay Cooke regarding business affairs and banking issues.
- Northern Pacific Railroad. Construction and bond sales. Collapse of European negotiations.
- Other railroads including Lake Superior and Mississippi.
- Various letters relating church matters, potential investments, job opportunities and charity.

### Extract from Henry Cooke's letter to Jay Cooke dated 2 Jan 1872 from Washington DC.

*"...We have done good business in the Washington office this year. Our profits nett and clean will foot up over \$50,000 – I will send you the full and complete statement tomorrow or next day...The bank statement will be carefully made up, including syndicate, as soon as we get the figures, and we can then see exactly how we stand...I think we ought to take out Gen'l Grants' note from the Bank for obvious reasons. Shall I do so, and how?..."*

### Extract from Congressman Garland's letter to Jay Cooke dated 16 Jan 1872 from New York

*"...Your idea of the Syndicate settlement agrees exactly with my understanding and upon which I have been arranging the settlements. I have been pushing Huntington up about sending check so we can settle and this morning I received the enclosed telegram..."* -

## **Reel 82**

**Dates: 30 January-28 February 1872**

### **Principal and most interesting correspondence**

- from Henry Cooke ("HDC" or "Harry"), Washington DC, regarding banking and railroad matters. See letters dated 30, 31 January and 2, 3, 5, 8, 9, 10, 13, 15, 17, 24, 26, 28, 29 February.
- from Jay Cooke to H. D. Cooke. See letters dated 30, 31 January and 1, 9, 10, 11, 12, 14, 16, 17, 23, 24 February.
- from H. C. Fahnestock ("HCF" or "Fahney"), regarding banking matters. See letters dated 17, 19, 23, 26, 27, 28 February.
- from Pitt Cooke, New York, regarding personal and banking matters. See letters dated 30, 31 January and 1, 7, 8, 9, 10, 16, 17, 23, 24 February.
- from W. Milnor Roberts, engineer, relating progress of construction. See letters dated 6, 19, 21, 23, 29 February.
- from G. C. Thomas, Jay Cooke & Co., regarding banking matters. See letter dated 3, 13, 16 February.
- from Governor Smith, relating to the construction of the N.P.R.R. See letters dated 24 February.
- from J. G. Smith, President of N.P.R.R.,. See letters dated 6, 23, 29 February.
- from G. B. Sargent, Land and bond agent, See letter dated 22 February.
- from H. C. McCulloch, Head of London banking house, London, regarding banking issues in London. See letter dated 23 February.
- from Col. Puleston, London Banking House, relating banking issues. See letter dated 22 February.
- from H. E. Johnston, Baltimore, regarding bond sales. See letter dated 31 January and extract below.
- from A. B. Nettleton, regarding publicity matters. See letter dated 8, 9, 10, 13 February.

- from Samuel W. Wilkeson, Secretary of Northern Pacific Railroad. See letter dated 31 January and 6 February and extract below.
- from W. G. Moorhead, regarding banking and railroad matters. See letter dated 26 February.
- from W. L. Banning, Lake Superior & Mississippi Railroad Co., St Paul. See letters dated 6, 30, 31 January and 3, 14, 16, 21 February.
- from J. K. Moorhead, Pittsburgh, regarding personal and railroad matters. See letter dated 3 February.
- from H. C. Swain, Washington DC. See letter dated 30 January.
- from Rice Harper, Duluth, regarding land matters. See letter dated 27 February.
- from Philip W. Holmes, New York. See letters dated 5, 27 February.
- from A H Barney, Treasurer of N.P.R.R., New York. See letter dated 5, 12, 28 February.
- from M. H. Bovee, Chicago, regarding the abolition of the death penalty. See letter dated 7 February.
- from Congressman Garland, House of Representatives. See letters dated 30 January and 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 24 February.
- from Robert Schenck, Washington DC. See letter dated 8 February.
- from W. S. Huntington, Washington DC. See letter dated 30 January.
- from W. Armstrong, London. See letter dated 21 February.

### **Key topics include**

- Correspondence between Henry Cooke, H. C. Fahnestock, Pitt Cooke and Jay Cooke regarding business affairs and banking issues.
- Northern Pacific Railroad. Construction and bond sales. Attempts to sell \$20,000,000 bonds in London;
- Other railroads including Lake Superior and Mississippi; Pennsylvania Railroad Co. (letter 24 February).
- Various letters relating church matters, potential investments, job opportunities and charity.

#### Extract from H. E. Johnston's letter to Jay Cooke dated 31 Jan 1872 from Baltimore

*"...I enclose the Western Land and assoc? a circular with a proxy for you to do what you think best. We remit today for our months sales of N Pacifics – nearly \$150,000. I want you to let me have 5000 more ...Bonds for my second boy, Henry. Alan? Johnston has given Buchanan her's & I want 5000 for my boy!..."*

#### Extract from S. W. Wilkeson's letter to Jay Cooke dated 31 Jan 1872 from New York

*"...I showed my wife your letter about the uncertainty of profits in the business of the 1<sup>st</sup> National Wash? Bank for the last six months – She simply said after looking very much astonished. "That shakes my faith in many things". Please send her tomorrow at this office her interest on the Warren & Franklin coupon Bonds..."*

### **Reel 83**

***Please note that some correspondence is out of chronological order. Where possible these are listed below:***

*Between the 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> of March there is a letter from Baron Geralt dated the 14<sup>th</sup> of May.*

**Dates: March 1872**

**Principal and most interesting correspondence**

- from Henry Cooke (“HDC” or “Harry”), Washington DC, regarding banking and railroad matters. See letters dated 1, 2, 4, 5, 8, 9, 11, 19, 25, 26, 27, 28, 30 March and extract below.
- from Jay Cooke to H. D. Cooke see letters dated 5, 7, 9, 11, 16, 22 March.
- from H. C. Fahnestock (“HCF” or “Fahney”), regarding banking matters and the promotion of emigration to the US from Europe to help populate the route of the N. P.R.R.. See letters dated 1, 2, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11, 12, 13, 16, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 25 March and extract below.
- from Pitt Cooke, New York, regarding personal and banking matters. See letters dated 1, 2, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11, 13, 14, 16, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 25, 29 March.
- from G. C. Thomas, Jay Cooke & Co., regarding banking matters. See letter dated 6 March.
- from J. G. Smith, President of N.P.R.R., See letters dated 7, 8, 14, 15, 29 March.
- from H.C. McCulloch, Head of London banking house, London, regarding banking issues in London. See letter dated 14 March.
- from Col. Puleston, London Banking House, relating banking issues. See letter dated 28 March.
- from A. B. Nettleton, regarding publicity matters. See letters dated 8, 11, 13, 15, 19, 20, 29 March.
- from W. L. Banning, Lake Superior & Mississippi Railroad Co., St Paul. See letter dated 2 March.
- from J. K. Moorhead, Pittsburgh, regarding personal and railroad matters. See letter dated 16 March.
- from Rice Harper, Duluth, regarding land matters. See letter dated 4 March.
- from William Windom. See letter dated 18 March.
- from Governor W R Marshall. See letters dated 28, 30 March.
- from Philip W. Holmes, New York. See letters dated 13, 20, 23, 28 March
- from Vice President, Washington. See letter dated 26 March.
- from William E. Chandler. See letter dated 1 March.
- from A. H. Barney, Treasurer of N.P.R.R., New York. See letters dated 1, 10, 13, 18, 20, 22, 25, 30 March.
- from W. S. Huntington, Washington. See letter dated 1 March.
- from W. Armstrong, London. See letter dated 7 March.
- from Baron Geralt, Prussia. Regarding matters in Germany. See letter dated 14 May.

**Key topics include**

- Correspondence between Henry Cooke, H. C. Fahnestock, Pitt Cooke and Jay Cooke regarding business affairs and banking issues.
- Northern Pacific Railroad. Construction and bond sales.
- Other railroads including Lake Superior and Mississippi; Central Railroad of Iowa (letter 25 March).
- Various letters relating church matters, potential investments, job opportunities and charity.

Extract from Henry Cook.’s letter to Jay Cooke dated 30 March 1872 from Washington DC.  
*“...Fahnestock has just left and will input to you he says on his return to New York. We have looked somewhat into Huntington’s private affairs; but we can arrive at no definite knowledge of their precise condition until administrators are appointed, and make a thorough examination...”*

Extract from H. C. Fahnestock's letter to Jay Cooke dated 21 March 1872 from New York  
“... I send you herewith Mr McCulloch's private note of 7<sup>th</sup> enclosing prospectus of the N. Pacific...

*The preparation of the prospectus was as you are aware a subject which had our most careful attention, with a view to avoiding any committals upon our part that would not be fully sustained by facts... You will certainly find nothing on the second page of the prospectus inconsistent with your American publication, every point open to discussion having been carefully compared with them before printing our prospectus.*

*“The best wheatgrowing region in the world” is I confess a rather stray statement, I think it was Sheppard's...*”

## **Reel 84**

**Dates: April 1872**

### **Principal and most interesting correspondence**

- from Henry Cooke (“HDC” or “Harry”), Washington DC, regarding banking and railroad matters. See letters dated 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 8, 12, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 22, 23, 24, 25, 30 April and extract below.
- from Jay Cooke to H. D. Cooke. See letters dated 1, 8, 10, 11, 13, 15, 16, 18, 20, 27 April.
- from H. C. Fahnestock (“HCF” or “Fahney”), regarding banking matters and the small gains on N.P. bond sales. See letters dated 2, 4, 5, 6, 9, 10, 13, 15, 16, 18, 20, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 29 April and extract below.
- from Pitt Cooke, New York, regarding personal and banking matters. See letters dated 9, 10, 13, 20, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27 April.
- from W. Milnor Roberts, engineer, relating progress of construction. See letter dated 25 April.
- from A. B. Nettleton, regarding publicity matters. See letter dated 8, 9 April.
- from Samuel W. Wilkeson, Secretary of Northern Pacific Railroad. See letter dated 19, 22, 25 April.
- from J. K. Moorhead, Pittsburgh, regarding personal and railroad matters. See letter dated 4, 6 April.
- from Governor W. R. Marshall. See letter dated 13 April.
- from Philip W. Holmes, New York. See letter dated 27 April.
- from A. H. Barney, Treasurer of N.P.R.R., New York. See letters dated 4, 6, 11, 19, 24, 26, 29 April.
- from S. Garfield, Washington. See letter dated 30 April.

### **Key topics include**

- Correspondence between Henry Cooke, H. C. Fahnestock, Pitt Cooke and Jay Cooke regarding business affairs and banking issues.
- Northern Pacific Railroad. Construction and bond sales. Some Bonds bought back due to favourable terms.
- Other railroads including Lake Superior and Mississippi;
- Various letters relating church matters, potential investments, job opportunities and charity.

Extract from Henry Cooke's letter to Jay Cooke dated 15 April 1872 from Washington DC.  
“...In regard to further funding operations, I have no confidence in the success of the secretary's efforts to pass the bill authorising this government to pay interest abroad, and in

*talking over the matter with Richardson I am more than ever confirmed in the idea that it would be best to go on with our negotiating....”*

Extract from H. C. Fahnestock’s letter to Jay Cooke dated 27 April 1872 from New York  
*“...I send you herewith statements from London House up to apr. 6<sup>th</sup>, of the results of N. Pacific in London.*

<i>To get at the final result take</i>	<i>£601.340</i>
<i>add sales over the counter</i>	<u><i>£9.160</i></u>
	<i>£610.500</i>
<i>Deduct repurchases</i>	<i>£21.860</i>
<i>Net sales</i>	<u><i>£88.640</i></u>
<i>which at 85 equals</i>	<i>£75.344</i>

*From this deduct expenses commission syndicate*  
*£32.874*

*and you will have on 1<sup>st</sup> July a net result of £42470...*

*This is not a very cheerful showing but you will perceive that we placed £601.000 – of which at least one half would have remained outstanding...*

### **Reel 85**

**Dates: May 1872**

#### **Principal and most interesting correspondence**

- from Henry Cooke (“HDC” or “Harry”), Washington DC, regarding banking and railroad matters. See letters dated 1, 2, 3, 7, 8, 11, 13, 14, 15, 17, 18, 20, 21, 23 May.
- from Jay Cooke to H. D. Cooke. See letters dated 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 10, 11, 14, 15, 16, 18, 20, 21, 24, 28, 29, 30 May and extract below.
- from H. C. Fahnestock (“HCF” or “Fahney”), regarding banking matter. See letters dated 1, 2, 3, 4, 8, 9, 10, 13, 16, 18, 20 May.
- from Pitt Cooke, New York, regarding personal and banking matters. See letters dated 1, 2, 3, 4, 9, 10, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 22, 25, 27, 28, 29 May.
- from W. Milnor Roberts, engineer, relating progress of construction. See letters dated 3, 20 May.
- from G. C. Thomas, Jay Cooke & Co., regarding banking matters. See letters dated 17, 27, 29 May.
- from J. G. Smith, President of N.P.R.R.. See letters dated 1, 3, 8 May and extract below
- from G. C. Stone, Minnesota, working from the office of G. B. Sargent. See letter dated 15 May.
- from A. B. Nettleton, regarding publicity matters. See letters dated 22, 6, 25, 28, 29 May.
- from Samuel W. Wilkeson, Secretary of Northern Pacific Railroad. See letters dated 7, 8 May.
- from J. K. Moorhead, Pittsburgh, regarding personal and railroad matters. See letters dated 20, 25 May.
- from S. P. Chase. See letter dated 21 May.
- from Philip W. Holmes, New York. See letter dated 8 May.
- from A. H. Barney, Treasurer of N.P.R.R., New York. See letters dated 3, 6, 10, 13, 16, 17, 20, 21, 23 May.

## **Key topics include**

- Correspondence between Henry Cooke, H. C. Fahnestock, Pitt Cooke and Jay Cooke regarding business affairs and banking issues.
- Northern Pacific Railroad. Construction and bond sales.
- Other railroads including Lake Superior and Mississippi;
- Various letters relating church matters, potential investments, job opportunities and charity.

### Extract from Henry Cooke's letter to Jay Cooke dated 1 May 1872 from Washington DC.

*"...I have kept our people posted all along about Alambra matters. They ought to have relied ... upon my assurances that a satisfactory solution would come and occur soon. I wrote about two weeks ago that our Government did not care to press the question of consequential damages for the sake of the money consideration, but that it wanted the principal settled..."*

### Extract from J. G. Smith's letter to Jay Cooke dated 3 May 1872 from New York

*"...we have no advisers in our office here in reference to the reported attempt to blow up the dyke at Duluth...I have however had Roberts telegraph to Col Guw? our engineer there to learn facts & will report it to you when answer is in..."*

## **Reel 86**

**Dates: 1 June-22 July 1872**

### **Principal and most interesting correspondence**

- from Henry Cooke ("HDC" or "Harry"), Washington DC, regarding banking and railroad matters. See letters dated 4, 10, 14, 18, 22, 24, 25, 27, 28 June and 3, 5, 6, 8, 10, 13, 15, 22 July.
- from Jay Cooke to H. D. Cooke. See letters dated 1, 6, 7, 14, 24, 25, 27 June and 3, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10 July.
- from H. C. Fahnestock ("HCF" or "Fahney"), regarding banking matters and fear for Jay Cooke & Co. future if they continue with relationship with the N.P.R.R. See letters dated 8, 10, 12, 14, 22, 28 June and 1, 3, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10 July and extract below.
- from Pitt Cooke, New York, regarding personal and banking matters. See letters dated 1, 3, 6, 7, 8, 10, 12, 13, 14, 15, 18, 19 and June 1, 2, 8, 9, 15 July.
- from W. Milnor Roberts, engineer, relating progress of construction. See letters dated 1, 3, 13, 28 June and 5, 22 July.
- from G. C. Thomas, Jay Cooke & Co., regarding banking matters, including overdraft of N.P.R.R. standing at \$605,000. See letters dated 1, 10, 11 June.
- from J. G. Smith, President of N.P.R.R.,. See letters dated 24 June 5 July.
- from A. B. Nettleton, regarding publicity matters. See letters dated 1, 6, 8, 10, 11, 13, 15, 22 June and 2, 15, 17 July.
- from James G. Blaine, regarding appointment of new management. See letter dated 28 June and extract below.
- from Whitelaw Reid, regarding election campaign. See letter dated 18 June.
- from Samuel W. Wilkeson, Secretary of Northern Pacific Railroad. See letter dated 29 June and 1 July.
- from W. G. Moorhead, regarding banking and railroad matters. See letter dated 3 June.
- from W. L. Banning, Lake Superior & Mississippi Railroad Co., St Paul. See letters dated 24 June.
- from J. K. Moorhead, Pittsburgh, regarding personal and railroad matters. See letters dated 3, 10 June.

- from Rice Harper, Duluth, regarding land matters. See letters dated 2, 6, 8, 11, 20 July.
- from A. H. Barney, Treasurer of N.P.R.R., New York. See letters dated 4, 13, 19 June and 1, 9, 12, 15 July.
- E. A. Rollins, Philadelphia. See letter dated 22 July.

### **Key topics include**

- Correspondence between Henry Cooke, H. C. Fahnestock, Pitt Cooke and Jay Cooke regarding business affairs and banking issues.
- Presidential election campaign between Grant and Greeley.
- Northern Pacific Railroad. Construction and bond sales. Fear of collapse of the company due to overdraft with Jay Cooke exceeding \$500,000 limit.
- Other railroads including Lake Superior and Mississippi.
- Various letters relating church matters, potential investments, job opportunities and charity.

Extract from H. C. Fahnestock's letter to Jay Cooke dated 8 June 1872 from New York  
*"...I beg that you will not regard any of my views and criticisms as personal reflections, but that they shall be received as the earnest expression of my convictions after careful study of the situation. I do not hesitate to say that the present actual condition of the Northern Pacific, if it were understood by the public, would be fatal to the negotiations of its securities... No enterprise of such magnitude has ever before been so entirely dependent upon one house, or rather upon one man..."*

Extract from James G. Blaine's letter to Jay Cooke dated 28 June 1872 from Pittsburgh  
*"...Some rumours I have heard....in regard to a change of Presidency in the N. P. R. R. & quite a little towards a Pensylvanianising of the enterprise - at least towards creating an apprehension to that effect- Do you think this altogether wise and advisable..."*

### **Reel 87**

***Please note that some correspondence is out of chronological order. Where possible these are listed below:***

*Between the 31<sup>st</sup> of July and the 1<sup>st</sup> of August there appears a letter dated 2<sup>nd</sup> July.*

**Dates: 23 July-1 September 1872**

### **Principal and most interesting correspondence**

- from Henry Cooke ("HDC" or "Harry"), Washington DC, regarding banking and railroad matters. See letters dated 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 30, 31 July and 8, 15, 16, 19, 20 August.
- from Jay Cooke to H. D. Cooke. See letters dated 24, 31 July and 9, 10, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 24 August.
- from H. C. Fahnestock ("HCF" or "Fahney"), regarding banking matters. See letters dated 14, 27 August.
- from Pitt Cooke, New York, regarding personal and banking matters. See letters dated 2, 23, 24, 25, 27, 31 July and 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 12, 14, 16, 31 August.
- from W. Milnor Roberts, engineer, relating progress of construction. See letters dated 2, 7 August.
- from G. C. Thomas, Jay Cooke & Co., regarding banking matters. See letter dated 15 August.
- from J. G. Smith, President of N.P.R.R.,. See letters dated 10, 13, 27 August.



- from H. C. McCulloch, Head of London banking house, London, regarding banking issues in London. See letters dated 31 July and 13, 29 August.
- from Col. Puleston, London Banking House, relating banking issues and slow bond sales. See letter dated 20 August and extract below.
- from A. B. Nettleton, regarding publicity matters. See letters dated 23, 30 July and 5, 8, 19 August.
- from W. G. Moorhead, regarding banking and railroad matters. See letter dated 27 July.
- from J. K. Moorhead, Pittsburgh, regarding personal and railroad matters. See letter dated 13 August.
- from Rice Harper, Duluth, regarding land matters. See letter dated 24 July and 5, 8, 14, 15, 17, 23 August.
- from J. B. Montgomery. See letter dated 13 August.
- from Philip W. Holmes, New York. See letter dated 6 August.
- from J. V. Painter, Banker, Cleveland. See letters dated 5, 13, 14 August.
- from A. H. Barney, Treasurer of N.P.R.R., New York. See letters dated 7, 9, 16, 24, 31 August
- from Congressman Garland, House of Representatives. See letters dated 24, 31 July and 3, 22, 23, 24, 24 August.
- from S. Garfield, Washington DC. See letter dated 8 August.
- from E. A. Rollins, Philadelphia. See letter dated 13 August.

#### **Key topics include**

- Correspondence between Henry Cooke, H. C. Fahnestock, Pitt Cooke and Jay Cooke regarding business affairs and banking issues.
- Presidential election campaign between Grant and Greeley.
- Northern Pacific Railroad. Construction and bond sales. Fear of collapse of the company due to overdraft with Jay Cooke exceeding \$500,000 limit.
- Collapse of the St Paul & Pacific Railroad Co.
- Other railroads including Lake Superior and Mississippi.
- Various letters relating church matters, potential investments, job opportunities and charity.

#### Extract from Col. Puleston's letter to Jay Cooke dated 20 Aug 1872 from London

*"...I quite understand how you feel about n. p but I again assure you that it has not and is not possible to do more than we are doing. You will remember that so far this year we have had nothing but financial clouds – Alabama difficulties – French loans disturbance...strikes all over the country – high prices of iron, coal & other materials & other circumstances...In fact for months we have had no market? of any consequence and it would have injured rather than aided n. p. to make any efforts at pushing it..."*

#### **Reel 88**

**Dates: 2 September- 30 September 1872**

#### **Principal and most interesting correspondence**

- from Henry Cooke ("HDC" or "Harry"), Washington DC, regarding banking and railroad matters. See letters dated 2, 3, 6, 13, 14, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 30 September.
- from Jay Cooke to H. D. Cooke. See letters dated 2, 4, 6, 7, 9, 14, 16, 19, 20, 23 September.

- from H. C. Fahnestock (“HCF” or “Fahney”), regarding banking matters and fear for Jay Cooke & Co. future if they continue to increase overdraft of N.P.R.R. See letters dated 7, 10, 14, 31 September and extract below.
- from Pitt Cooke, New York, regarding personal and banking matters. See letters dated 6, 11, 12, 14, 16, 17, 18, 20, 24, 26, 28, 30 September.
- from W. Milnor Roberts, engineer, relating progress of construction. See letter dated 2 September.
- from G. C. Thomas, Jay Cooke & Co., regarding banking matters. See letter dated 25, 28 September.
- from Robert Lamborn, Philadelphia. See letter dated 7 September.
- from Col. Puleston, London Banking House, relating banking issues. See letters dated 6, 14, 17, 18, 20 September.
- General Cass, President of N.P.R.R., Pittsburgh. See letter dated 3 September and extract below.
- from A. B. Nettleton, regarding publicity matters. See letters dated 4, 27 September.
- from Samuel W. Wilkeson, Secretary of Northern Pacific Railroad. See letters dated 5, 10 September.
- from J. K. Moorhead, Pittsburgh, regarding personal and railroad matters. See letter dated 6 September.
- from H. C. Swain. Washington See letter dated 7 September.
- from Rice Harper, Duluth, regarding land matters. See letters dated 10, 11, 18 September.
- from William E. Chandler, Philadelphia . See letter dated 19 September.
- from J. B. Montgomery. See letter dated 6 September.
- from Philip W. Holmes, New York. See letters dated 2, 10, 30 September.
- from A. H. Barney, Treasurer of N.P.R.R., New York. See letters dated 2, 3, 7, 10, 11, 13, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20 September.
- from Congressman Garland, House of Representatives. See letters dated 3, 6, 7, 13, 14, 17, 18, 20, 26, 28 September.
- from S. Garfield, Washington DC. See letters dated 9, 10 September.
- from W. S. Huntington, Washington DC. See letter dated 13 September.
- from E. A. Rollins, Philadelphia. See letter dated 4 September.

### **Key topics include**

- Correspondence between Henry Cooke, H. C. Fahnestock, Pitt Cooke and Jay Cooke regarding business affairs and banking issues.
- Presidential election campaign between Grant and Greeley and its impact on bond sales.
- Northern Pacific Railroad. Construction and bond sales. Fear of collapse of the company due to overdraft with Jay Cooke exceeding \$500,000 limit.
- Other railroads including Lake Superior and Mississippi; St Paul & Pacific Railroad Co.
- Various letters relating church matters, potential investments, job opportunities and charity.

#### Extract from General Cass’s letter to Jay Cooke dated 3 Sept 1872 from Pittsburgh

*“...I will do what I can now to make a dollar buy the most for the Northern Pacific Railroad Company, but you must not assume, as you seem to do, that I am in charge of property. Until after my return from the Pacific coast, say November 1<sup>st</sup>, you must not look to me as running the machine...”*

#### Extract from H. C. Fahnestock’s letter to Jay Cooke dated 14 Sept 1872 from London

*“...There is no use in our undertaking to carry the company ourselves. However unpleasant would be the embarrassment of Northern Pacific after the extraordinary recommendations of our house, we could survive the odium of its failure, even if ourselves in proper shape and unembarrassed by unavailable loans, and we would be stronger than ever for future business. Under no consideration must you allow your pride or interest in the company to place us in a position of even possible complications with its troubles...”*

## **Reel 89**

***Please note that some correspondence is out of chronological order. Where possible these are listed below:***

*Between the 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> of October there appears a letter dated the 27<sup>th</sup> of January. Additionally several items of correspondence dated the 10<sup>th</sup> of September also appear between the 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> of October.*

**Dates: October 1872**

### **Principal and most interesting correspondence**

- from Henry Cooke (“HDC” or “Harry”), Washington DC, regarding banking, railroad matters, including appointment of commission member to inspect the N.P.R.R. See letters dated 1, 7, 8, 15, 16, 19, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 28, 30 October and extract below.
- from Jay Cooke to H. D. Cooke. See letters dated 15, 17, 21, 24, 26, 29, 31 October.
- from H. C. Fahnestock (“HCF” or “Fahney”), regarding banking matters. See letters dated 1, 25, 26, 28, 29, 30, 31 October.
- Robert Lamborn, Philadelphia. See letter dated 21 October.
- from Pitt Cooke, New York, regarding personal and banking matters. See letters dated 10 September and 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 15, 16, 17, 19, 28, 29, 30 October.
- from G. C. Thomas, Jay Cooke & Co., regarding banking matters. See letter dated 2, 3, 4, 9, 15, 24 October.
- from H. C. McCulloch, Head of London banking house, London, regarding banking issues in London and concern that N.P.R.R. overdraft is too high. See letter dated 2 October and extract below.
- from Col. Puleston, London Banking House, relating banking issues and fears over N.P.R.R. See letter dated 19 October and extract below.
- General Cass, President of N.P.R.R.. See letters dated October 25, 26, 28.
- from A. B. Nettleton, regarding publicity matters. See letters dated 2, 4, 9, 10, 11, 12, 16, 26 October.
- from W. G. Moorhead, regarding banking and railroad matters. See letter dated 1, 8 October.
- from W. L. Banning, Lake Superior & Mississippi Railroad Co., St Paul. See letter dated 19 October.
- from Rice Harper, Duluth, regarding land matters. See letters dated 24, 31 October.
- from S. P. Chase. See letters dated 3, 26 October.
- from Philip W. Holmes, New York. See letters dated 9, 11, 15, 17 October.
- from A. H. Barney, Treasurer of N.P.R.R., New York. See letters dated 3, 7, 8, 14, 28 October.
- from Congressman Garland, House of Representatives. See letters dated 1, 21 October.
- from S. Garfield, Washington DC. See letter dated 21 October.
- from William E. Chandler, New York. Secretary Republican National Committee. See letters dated 22, 28 October.

- from Colonel J. W. Spragne, Kalawa. See letter dated 27 January.
- From Felix Polak, The Hague. See letter dated 12<sup>th</sup> October.

### **Key topics include**

- Correspondence between Henry Cooke, H. C. Fahnestock, Pitt Cooke and Jay Cooke regarding business affairs and banking issues.
- Presidential election campaign between Grant and Greeley and its impact on bond sales.
- Northern Pacific Railroad. Construction and bond sales. Fear of collapse of the company due to overdraft with Jay Cooke exceeding \$500,000 limit.
- Other railroads including Lake Superior and Mississippi; Saint Paul & Pacific Railroad (letter 1 October); Central Railroad of Iowa (letter 21 October).
- Various letters relating church matters, potential investments, job opportunities and charity.

#### Extract from Henry Cooke's letter to Jay Cooke dated 8 Oct 1872 from Washington DC.

*"...I advised the house in New York and ? sometime ago of the appointment of commissioners to inspect and accept the completed portion of the N. Pacific Road. I requested at the same time, Gov Smith to be notified officially of the appointment by the Sec of the Interior, which Mr Delans promised to do as soon as notification of the acceptance of the parties was received : and I had supposed that he had advised the Governor accordingly..."*

#### Extract from H. C. McCulloch's letter to Jay Cooke dated 2 Oct 1872 from London

*"...The connection of Jay Cooke and Co. with the enterprise has been a great difficulty in the way of our taking high rank as a banking house in London. There has been an apprehension among careful men, strengthened by the efforts, perhaps of rival houses, that the connection between your houses and the road might become such that a failure of the latter might seriously involve, if it did not break the former. To counteract this we have stated that by contract you were never to be called upon to be in advance to the company for more than \$500,000 and that we had your assurances that this amount should never be exceeded. When I learned, therefore, that you had very largely exceeded this amount and that this might lead to still further advances, I was both mortified and alarmed..."*

#### Extract from Col. Puleston's letter to Jay Cooke dated 19 Oct 1872 from London

*"...I regret more than I can express in words to you, the fact that you still do not think my heart is in the enterprise...I have always thought it a magnificent undertaking, and I firmly believe that sooner or later it will be very successful; but I must say that I saw when we came over here that it was going to be with us and for us a most difficult problem, the way it had been knocked about and managed here for a year previously making it a most undesirable thing to take up, particularly by a new house..."*

### **Reel 90**

**Dates: November 1872**

#### **Principal and most interesting correspondence**

- from Henry Cooke ("HDC" or "Harry"), Washington DC, regarding banking, railroad matters, and election day. See letters dated 2, 4, 5, 6, 9, 11, 14, 15, 16, 18, 25, 27 November and extract below.
- from Jay Cooke to H. D. Cooke. See letters dated 1, 2, 4, 8, 9, 12, 13, 21, 22, 25, 26, 29, 30 November.
- from H. C. Fahnestock ("HCF" or "Fahney"), regarding banking matters. See letters dated 1, 4, 6, 9, 11, 12, 13, 14, 16, 18, 25, 26, 30 November.

- from Pitt Cooke, New York, regarding personal and banking matters. See letters dated 2, 4, 5, 12, 25, 29 November.
- from G. C. Thomas, Jay Cooke & Co., regarding banking matters. See letter dated 22, 27 November.
- from Col. Puleston, London Banking House, relating banking issues. See letter dated 7 November.
- General Cass, President of N.P.R.R.. See letters dated 4, 5, 11, 13, 26 November.
- from A. B. Nettleton, regarding publicity matters. See letter dated 6 November.
- from Samuel W. Wilkeson, Secretary of Northern Pacific Railroad. See letters dated 4, 25 November.
- from W. G. Moorhead, regarding banking and railroad matters. See letter dated 19 November.
- from W. L. Banning, Lake Superior & Mississippi Railroad Co., St Paul. See letter dated 7 November.
- from Rice Harper, Duluth, regarding land matters. See letters dated 7, 30 November.
- from Col. J. W. Sprague. See letter dated 22 November.
- From C. H. Graves. See letter dated 11 November and extract below.

### **Key topics include**

- Correspondence between Henry Cooke, H. C. Fahnestock, Pitt Cooke and Jay Cooke regarding business affairs and banking issues.
- Presidential election won by Grant.
- Northern Pacific Railroad. Construction and bond sales. Fear of collapse of the company due to overdraft with Jay Cooke exceeding \$500,000 limit.
- Other railroads including Lake Superior and Mississippi.
- Various letters relating church matters, potential investments, job opportunities and charity.

#### Extract from Henry Cooke's letter to Jay Cooke dated 5 Nov 1872 from Washington DC.

*"...I merely salute you today. I have nothing special to write, and am so nervous over the impending elections that I am not much in the humour of writing. I think you and Fahney had better not come to Wash'n until Richardson's return. I saw the President this morning and had a very pleasant interview with him. He was not half as nervous as I. I never saw so imperturbable a man..."*

#### Extract from C. H. Graves's letter to Frank Clarke dated 11 Nov 1872 from Duluth.

*"...allow us to call your attention to the importance of at once releasing the mortgages of J. B. Culour & C. H. Graves in your hands and substituting therefor the accepted draft of the R. R. Co. and the cash, (already in your hands) before any accident happens to any of the parties interested which could make trouble in settlement of an estate, or anything of that kind..."*

### **Reel 91**

#### **Dates: December 1872**

#### **Principal and most interesting correspondence**

- from Henry Cooke ("HDC" or "Harry"), Washington DC, regarding banking and railroad matters. See letters dated 3, 6, 9, 10, 11, 13, 14, 19, 20, 22, 24, 26, 30, 31 December and 2 January.
- from Jay Cooke to H. D. Cooke. See letters dated 3, 5, 6, 9, 11, 19, 21, 23 December.
- from H. C. Fahnestock ("HCF" or "Fahney"), regarding banking matters and concern for Jay Cooke & Co. future if they continue to increase overdraft of N.P.R.R. See

letters dated 2, 4, 9, 10, 12, 13, 14, 16, 18, 20, 23, 24, 26, 30, 31 December and extract below.

- from Pitt Cooke, New York, regarding personal and banking matters. See letters dated 2, 3, 4, 9, 12, 13, 16, 17, 19, 20, 21, 23, 24, 30, 31 December.
- from W. Milnor Roberts, engineer, relating progress of construction. See letters dated 13, 14 December.
- from Col. Puleston, London Banking House, relating banking issues. See letter dated 22 December.
- General Cass, President of N.P.R.R.. See letters dated 2, 21, 24 December and extract below.
- from A. B. Nettleton, regarding publicity matters. See letters dated 10, 16, 24 December.
- from Samuel W. Wilkeson, Secretary of Northern Pacific Railroad. See letter dated 9 December.
- from J. K. Moorhead, Pittsburgh, regarding personal and railroad matters. See letters dated 11, 23 December.
- from Rice Harper, Duluth, regarding land matters. See letters dated 6, 16, 31 December.
- from Governor W. R. Marshall. See letter dated 3 December.
- from Philip W. Holmes, New York. See letters dated 9, 10, 31 December.
- from Emerson Foote, New York. See letter dated 16 December.
- from J. V. Painter, Banker, Cleveland. See letter dated 23 December.
- from A. H. Barney, Treasurer of N.P.R.R., New York. See letters dated 10, 20, 24 December.
- from M. H. Bovee, Chicago. Regarding the abolition of the death penalty. See letter dated 16 December.
- from Congressman Garland, House of Representatives. See letter dated 28 December.

### **Key topics include**

- Correspondence between Henry Cooke, H. C. Fahnestock, Pitt Cooke and Jay Cooke regarding business affairs and banking issues.
- Northern Pacific Railroad. Construction and bond sales. Fear of collapse of the company due to overdraft with Jay Cooke exceeding \$500,000 limit.
- Other railroads including Lake Superior and Mississippi; South West Pennsylvania Railroad Co. (letter 18 December).
- Various letters relating church matters, potential investments, job opportunities and charity.

#### Extract from H. C. Fahnestock's letter to Jay Cooke dated 9 Dec 1872 from New York

*"... Who is to provide for the further payments of N. P. during this month for which you have authorized drafts to be made? Every day we are getting in deeper and I only fear that preparation will be so long delayed that, depending entirely upon us, you will some day wake up to find that we have gone after Mr Bowles to Panama. Without any exaggeration we are in a perfectly helpless position and we must have from you immediately either money or securities that we can use..."*

#### Extract from General Cass's letter to Jay Cooke dated 2 Dec 1872 from New York

*"...It is known to nearly all the members of this company's Board of Directors, that if I shall enter upon the duties of the President of this company, it will be with the distinct declaration, accepted by the Board, that I shall not be called upon to assume the financial management, farther than to see that all the funds of the company are honestly, and judiciously, and properly accounted for..."*

## Reel 92

**Dates: 1 January-14 February 1873**

### **Principal and most interesting correspondence**

- from Henry Cooke (“HDC” or “Harry”), Washington DC, regarding banking and railroad matters, and Credit Mobilier scandal. See letters dated 1, 2, 3, 6, 9, 10, 13, 20, 23, 25, 28 January and 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 10, 11 February and extract below.
- from Jay Cooke to H. D. Cooke and certain others. See letters dated 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 15, 21, 23, 24, 28, 29, 30, 31 January and 5, 6, 7, 8, 12 February
- from H. C. Fahnestock (“HCF” or “Fahney”), regarding banking matters. See letters dated 2, 3, 4, 7, 10, 11, 20, 21, 22, 23, 25, 29, 30, 31 January and 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14 February.
- from Pitt Cooke, New York, regarding personal and banking matters. See letters dated 2, 3, 4, 6, 14, 15, 16, 20, 22, 23, 24, 30 January and 1, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 10, 12, 13, 14 February.
- from W. Milnor Roberts, engineer, relating progress of construction. See letter dated 3 January.
- from G. C. Thomas, Jay Cooke & Co., regarding banking matters. See letters dated 6, 9, 15, 16 January.
- from H. C. McCulloch, Head of London banking house, London, regarding banking issues in London. See letter dated 6 February.
- from Col. Puleston, London Banking House, relating banking issues. Including a letter of the 22<sup>nd</sup> forwarded from Rothschilds discussing issues with the N.P.R.R. See letters dated 7, 22, 24 January and 5, 6 February.
- General Cass, President of N.P.R.R.. See letters dated 1, 6, 7, 14, 16, 22, 23, 25, 31 January and 7 February.
- from A. B. Nettleton, regarding publicity matters. See letter dated 27 January.
- from Samuel W. Wilkeson, Secretary of Northern Pacific Railroad, regarding being subpoenaed in the Greeley Will contest. See letter dated 30 January 14 February and extract below.
- from Rice Harper, Duluth, regarding land matters. See letter dated 4, 25, 29 January and 5, 6, 10, 11, 14 February.
- from William Windom, United States Senate Chamber, Washington DC. See letters dated 23, 27 January and 1 February.
- from N. G. King United States Senate, Washington DC. Note some shorthand written on the back of the letter dated the 24<sup>th</sup>. See letter dated 24 January.
- from Philip W. Holmes, New York. See letters dated 13 January and 3, 10, 12 February.
- from A. H. Barney, Treasurer of N.P.R.R., New York. See letters dated 3, 4 January.
- from M. H. Bovee, Chicago. Regarding the abolition of the death penalty. See letters dated 1, 11 January.
- from Congressman Garland, House of Representatives. See letters dated 22, 29, 30, 31 January and 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 10 February.
- from S. Garfield, Washington DC. See letter dated 13 January.
- from H. F. Crosby, War Department, Washington DC. Regarding the circumstances around the discharge of Mr Chaplin Barr. See letter dated 4 January.

### **Key topics include**

- Correspondence between Henry Cooke, H. C. Fahnestock, Pitt Cooke and Jay Cooke regarding business affairs and banking issues.
- Credit Mobilier scandal.

- Northern Pacific Railroad. Construction and bond sales. Discussions over another bond deal with the Rothschilds, and attempts to get more legislation through Congress.
- Other railroads including Lake Superior and Mississippi;
- Various letters relating church matters, potential investments, job opportunities and charity.

Extract from Henry Cooke's letter to Jay Cooke dated 6 January 1873 from Washington DC.  
*"...At five p.m. have just returned from the House and it has been an exciting day. The Credit Mobilier matter was up and a resolution passed to make the sessions of the investigating committee public. Afterwards a resolution by Sam Randall, requesting the President to sue the Union Pacific Railroad Company for the interest paid by the government on its bonds, amounting to some five millions. There was a good deal of squirming, dodging and filibustering. I cannot describe the scene but it was intensely exciting..."*

Extract from S. W. Wilkeson's letter to Jay Cooke dated 30 January 1873 from New York.  
*"...I have been subpoenaed to testify in the Greeley will contest. I have got to go to White Plains or else be carried there under arrest. Among the questions that will be asked of me is "No. 3. What is the value of Mrs Greeley's interest in the Northern Pacific Railroad enterprise?" I had made up my mind to swear that it was worth \$10,000. My testimony will be reported, of course, and published throughout the country, and I can conceive that every word I say about this enterprise had better be well weighed ..."*

### **Reel 93**

***Please note that some correspondence is out of chronological order. Where possible these are listed below:***

*Between the 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> of February there appears a group of correspondence dated the 1<sup>st</sup> of May. In addition there is a group of correspondence dating from the 9<sup>th</sup> of April between the 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> of March.*

**Dates: 15 February-31 March 1873**

### **Principal and most interesting correspondence**

- from Henry Cooke ("HDC" or "Harry"), Washington DC, regarding banking and railroad matters. See letters dated 17, 18, 19, 21, 28 February and 7, 8, 10, 15, 31 March.
- from Jay Cooke to H. D. Cooke and others. See letters dated 20, 25, 26, 27, 28 February and 10, 11, 12, 14, 23, 26, 28, 31 March and 9 April and 1 May.
- from H. C. Fahnestock ("HCF" or "Fahney"), regarding banking matters. See letters dated 15, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28 February and 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10, 14, 15, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 31 March and 9 April and 1 May.
- from Pitt Cooke, New York, regarding personal and banking matters. See letters dated 15, 17, 18, 20, 21, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28 February and 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10, 11, 14, 15, 20, 22, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29 March.
- from G. C. Thomas, Jay Cooke & Co., regarding banking matters. See letter dated 30 March.
- from J. G. Smith, St Albans. See letter dated 6 March.
- General Cass, President of N.P.R.R.. See letters dated 3, 14, 17, 27, 28 March.
- from Samuel W. Wilkeson, Secretary of Northern Pacific Railroad. See letter dated 25 February and 14, 17 March.



- from W. G. Moorhead, regarding banking and railroad matters, including a new loan deal with syndicate only hope of saving N.P.R.R. See letters dated 26, 31 March and extract below.
- from Secretary Boutwell, regarding loans. See letter dated 25 February and extract below.
- from W. L. Banning, Lake Superior & Mississippi Railroad Co., St Paul. See letters dated 20 February and 1 March.
- from H. C. Swain. See letters dated 21 February and 10, 27 March.
- from Rice Harper, Duluth, regarding land matters. See letter dated 15, 20, 27 February and 3, 12, 24, 26 March.
- from Philip W. Holmes, New York. See letters dated 5, 20, 25 February and 15, 19 March.
- from J. V. Painter, Banker, Cleveland. See letters dated 1, 3, 6, 10, 18, 29 March.
- from A. H. Barney, Treasurer of N.P.R.R., New York. See letters dated 15, 25 February.
- from H. S. Sandford. See letter dated 23 March.
- from Congressman Garland, House of Representatives. See letters dated 7, 10, 31 March.

### **Key topics include**

- Correspondence between Henry Cooke, H. C. Fahnestock, Pitt Cooke and Jay Cooke regarding business affairs and banking issues.
- Northern Pacific Railroad. Construction and bond sales. .
- Other railroads including Lake Superior and Mississippi; Baltimore & Ohio, Toledo & Michigan Railroad Co. ( letter 1 March); Philadelphia, Washington & Baltimore Railroad Co. (letter 24, 27 March).
- Various letters relating church matters, potential investments, job opportunities and charity.

### Extract from Secretary Boutwell's letter to Jay Cooke dated 25 February 1873 from Washington DC.

*"...A conversation with Governor Cooke yesterday leads me to write you in regard to the amount of the subscription that you may make on the first of March next. I am clearly of the opinion that it should not exceed the amount already disposed of, with perhaps such additions thereto as will not exceed the sum that you may be reasonably sure of disposing of within three months after the first of March..."*

### Extract from W. G. Moorhead's letter to Jay Cooke dated 26 March 1873 from San Francisco

*"...The gentleman here whom we expected would be interested in the contract – I fear will give it the cold shoulder. The truth is money is extremely tight and likely to remain so for some time to come. The Central Pacific & some other R. Roads are largely indebted - the central some for? \$7000,000 of floating debt, all of which is due to the people here. Under these circumstances those who control capital are not inclined to invest in such roads..."*

### **Reel 94**

**Dates: 1 April- 19 May 1873**

### **Principal and most interesting correspondence**

- from Henry Cooke ("HDC" or "Harry"), Washington DC, regarding banking and railroad matters. See letters dated 1, 8, 9, 10, 12, 14, 17, 18, 19, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 30 April and 2, 7, 8, 9, 13, 16 May.

- from Jay Cooke to H. D. Cooke. See letters dated 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9, 11, 19, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26 April and 3, 8, 15, 17 May.
- from H. C. Fahnestock (“HCF” or “Fahney”), regarding banking matters. See letters dated 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 9, 10, 11, 21, 25, 28, 30 April and 3, 5, 8, 9, 10, 12 May.
- from Pitt Cooke, New York, regarding personal and banking matters. See letters dated 1, 2, 3, 4, 9, 10, 11, 14, 17, 18, 19, 21, 24, 26 April and 8, 16, 19 May.
- from W. Milnor Roberts, engineer, relating progress of construction including the risks involved in surveying in Sioux territory. See letters dated 6, 22, 24, 29 April and 2 May and extract below.
- from G. C. Thomas, Jay Cooke & Co., regarding banking matters. See letter dated 15 April.
- from G. C. Stone, Minnesota, working from the office of G. B. Sargent. See letters dated 8 May.
- from Col. Puleston, London Banking House, relating banking issues. See letters dated 5 May.
- General Cass, President of N.P.R.R.. See letters dated 1, 3, 8, 10, 14, 28 April.
- from E. G. Spaulding. See letter dated 16 April.
- from A. B. Nettleton, regarding publicity matters. See letters dated 12, 15 April.
- from Henry E. Johnston, regarding panic in markets. See letter dated 16 April and extracts below.
- from W. G. Moorhead, regarding banking and railroad matters. See letter dated 10 April.
- from W. L. Banning, Lake Superior & Mississippi Railroad Co., St Paul. See letter dated 9 April.
- from J. K. Moorhead, Pittsburgh, regarding personal and railroad matters. See letter dated 13 May.
- from H. C. Swain. See letters dated 3, 7 April.
- from Rice Harper, Duluth, regarding land matters. See letters dated 3, 4, 12, 14, 21, 26, 28 April 6, 12 May.
- from J. V. Painter, Banker, Cleveland. See letters dated 9 April and 10, 15, 16, 17 May.
- from A. H. Barney, Treasurer of N.P.R.R., New York. See letter dated 12 April.
- from H. S. Sandford. See letter dated 8 May
- from Congressman Garland, House of Representatives. See letters dated 19 April and 2, 16 May
- from W. Armstrong, London. See letters dated 25, 30 April.
- from Baron Geralt, Bonn, Linz. See letters dated 8 April and 7 May.
- from J. W. Spragne, Kalawa. See letter dated 10 April.

### **Key topics include**

- Correspondence between Henry Cooke, H. C. Fahnestock, Pitt Cooke and Jay Cooke regarding business affairs and banking issues, including depressed money markets.
- Northern Pacific Railroad. Construction and bond sales. Plans for a new 7-30 N.P. bond syndicate to close out outstanding debts.
- Other railroads including Lake Superior and Mississippi;
- Various letters relating church matters, potential investments, job opportunities and charity.

### Extract from Henry E. Johnston ’s letter to Jay Cooke dated 16 April 1873

*“...I would suggest your not pressing the syndicate by even opening up the prospect, to people not familiar with it, in such a panic.*

*No one feels like entering into any obligations for the future with money worth 5/8 % a day! It is calculated to deter even those of much faith & strong nerves, let alone the timid...”*

Extract from W. Milnor Roberts's letter to Jay Cooke dated 2 May 1873

*"...I will tell you how we are situated about engineers, so. In the first place, we travel only one party to go west from the Missouri river. This goes with the large government escort, about June 15<sup>th</sup>. In the second place we have on hand on the line more than enough of our first class assistants to fill every post – men who have been out on the other expeditions, who know the country and the ways of the Indians...And now for several days past, I have been getting applicants from persons who want to go out and pay their own way. If such persons can arrange to go with the military escort I have nothing to say; but I have a rule, never yet departed from, to have no man or boy or one of my engineer corps who is not under pay, and disciplined. Supernumeraries in or about an engineer corps, cannot be thought of - especially on expeditions into hostile Indian Country, when there is hourly real danger; and where men of experience, coolness and courage, trained to discipline, alone should be sent..."*

## **Reel 95**

***Please note that some correspondence is out of chronological order. Where possible these are listed below:***

*Between 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> of June there appears a letter dated 18th April.*

**Dates: 20 May-31 October 1873**

### **Principal and most interesting correspondence**

- from Henry Cooke ("HDC" or "Harry"), Washington DC, regarding banking and railroad matters. See letters dated 22, 27, 29, 30, 31 May 2, 3, 6, 7, 9, 13, 14, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 23 June 4 November.
- from Jay Cooke to H. D. Cooke. See letters dated 26, 31 May 7, 16, 17, 20, 27 June 2, 3, 10, 23, 31 July 5, 15 September.
- from H. C. Fahnestock ("HCF" or "Fahney"), regarding banking matters. See letters dated 20, 23, 24, 26, 27, 28, 29, 31 and May 4, 5, 9, 14, 16, 18, 19, 20 June 19 September.
- from Pitt Cooke, New York, regarding personal and banking matters. See letters dated 20, 23, 26, 28, 29 May and 2, 5, 6, 7, 9, 14, 16, 30 June.
- from W. Milnor Roberts, engineer, relating progress of construction and the army escort for his team of surveyors. See letter dated 30 May and 8 August and extract below.
- from G. C. Thomas, Jay Cooke & Co., regarding banking matters. See letter dated 10 June.
- General Cass, President of N.P.R.R.. See letters dated 23, 27 May and 2, 9, 17, 19 June.
- from E. G. Spaulding. See letter dated 3 June.
- from A. B. Nettleton, regarding publicity matters. See letters dated 20, 27 May and 18 June.
- from W. L. Banning, Lake Superior & Mississippi Railroad Co., St Paul. See letters dated 9, 18, 19 June.
- from J. K. Moorhead, Pittsburgh, regarding personal and railroad matters. See letter dated 30 May.
- from H. C. Swain. See letters dated 18 April and 20 June.
- from Rice Harper, Duluth, regarding land matters. See letter dated 22, 29 May and 2, 14, 18 June.
- from William Windom, including being unable to endorse his \$50,000 note to the N.P.R.R. See letters dated 29, 31 May and 3 June and extract below.

- from N. G. King United States Senate. See letter dated 27 June.
- from Philip W. Holmes, New York. See letter dated 4 June
- from Emerson Foote, New York. See letter dated 27 May.
- from J. V. Painter, Banker, Cleveland. See letters dated 26, 28, 30, 31 May and 5 June.
- from H. S. Sandford. See letter dated 18 June.
- from Congressman Garland, House of Representatives. See letters dated 7, 13 June and 23 July
- from Schuyler Colfax. See letter dated 19 June.
- E. A. Rollins, Philadelphia. See letter dated 20 June.
- Baron Geralt, Linz, Prussia. See letter dated 4 July.

### **Key topics include**

- Correspondence between Henry Cooke, H. C. Fahnestock, Pitt Cooke and Jay Cooke. regarding business affairs and banking issues, including panic over closure of Jay Cooke & Co.
- Banking failures. Closure of New York branch of Jay Cooke and Co. on 17 September, followed by closure of Clarke & Co., Fisk and Hatch and collapse of railroad stock prices.
- Northern Pacific Railroad. Construction and bond sales. Plans for a new 7-30 N.P. bond syndicate to close out outstanding debts. Publication of European delegation report on N.P.R.R. Skirmishes with Indians along route.
- Other railroads including Lake Superior and Mississippi; Central Railroad Co. of Iowa ( letter 24 June).
- Various letters relating church matters, potential investments, job opportunities and charity.

Extract from William Windom's letter to Jay Cooke dated 29 May 1873 from Washington D. C.

*"... I have a letter from Mr Pritchard, requesting me to renew my endorsement on the \$50,000 note of the company. I have not yet complied for the following reasons. When I made the first endorsement, it was upon a verbal statement made by yourself that you would take care of it for me. This you have done, but I cannot in justice to my family become responsible for a sum that would prove my utter ruin without some written guarantee that in no event shall I be compelled to pay it..."*

Extract from W. Milnor Roberts's letter to Jay Cooke dated 30 May 1873 from Philadelphia

*"There will be no delay after the track reaches the river; freighting over the 450 miles from Duluth to Bismarck can begin at once. By the 15<sup>th</sup> of June the U. S. troops, two thousand strong, with the 7<sup>th</sup> regiment of cavalry; will start from Fort Rice on the Missouri river to escort our Engineer Corps on the survey from the Missouri over to the Yellowstone & Musselshell rivers... We are now in the beautiful valley of Apple Creek, which as yet is just as nature left it; presenting grass...buffalo heads and bones bleaching in the sun. The buffalo and Indian question appear to be settled east of the Missouri; the railroad track being the finishing touch. Less than a year ago there was not a mile of track in Dakota Territory west of the Red River of the North, now there are two hundred miles. All that this country needs now is settlers..."*

### **Reel 96**

**Dates: 1 November-31 December 1873**

**Principal and most interesting correspondence**

- from Henry Cooke (“HDC” or “Harry”), Washington DC, regarding bankruptcy and closure of banking houses. See letters dated 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 13, 17, 20, 21, 22 November and 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 16 December.
- from Jay Cooke to H. D. Cooke. See letter dated 3, 4, 6, 20, 26, 28 November.
- from H. C. Fahnestock (“HCF” or “Fahney”), regarding banking matters. See letters dated 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 17, 19, 20, 22, 24, 25, 26, 28, 29 November and 1, 2, 4, 18, 24 December and extract below.
- from Pitt Cooke, New York, regarding personal and banking matters. See letters dated 3, 5, 7, 8, 10, 11, 13, 14, 19, 20, 24, 27, 28, 30 November and 3, 4, 25, 27, 30, 31 December.
- from G. C. Thomas, Jay Cooke & Co., regarding banking matters. See letter dated 4 December.
- from H. C. McCulloch. See letter dated 10 November.
- from Col. Puleston, London Banking House, relating banking issues. See letters dated 17 November and 12, 31 December.
- General Cass, President of N.P.R.R.. See letter dated 1, 4, 5, 8, 10, 11, 21, 24, 27, 28, 29 November and 8, 27 December.
- from E. G. Spaulding. See letter dated 9 December.
- from Samuel W. Wilkeson, Secretary of Northern Pacific Railroad. See letter dated 21 November.
- from W. L. Banning, Lake Superior & Mississippi Railroad Co., St Paul. See letters dated 21, 29 November.
- from Rice Harper, Duluth, regarding land matters. See letter dated 3, 4, 6, 15 November and 6, 20, 22 December.
- from Philip W. Holmes, New York. See letters dated 6, 10, 24 November and 4, 9 December
- from J. V. Painter, Banker, Cleveland. See letters dated 3, 17 November.
- from M. H. Bovee, Chicago. Regarding the abolition of the death penalty. See letter dated 20 December.
- from Congressman Garland, House of Representatives. See letters dated 7, 8, 26 November.
- from Robert Schenck, Washington DC. See letters dated 4, 8 December.
- from William E. Chandler, New York. Secretary Republican National Committee. See letters dated 6, 15, 16 December.
- from Baron Geralt, Linz, Prussia. See letters dated 2 November and extract below.

### **Key topics include**

- Correspondence between Henry Cooke, H. C. Fahnestock, Pitt Cooke and Jay Cooke regarding bankruptcy and personal matters.
- Northern Pacific Railroad.
- Other railroads including Lake Superior and Mississippi;
- Various letters relating church matters, potential investments, job opportunities and charity.

#### Extract from Baron Geralt’s letter to Jay Cooke dated 2 Nov 1873 from Linz

*“...We received some time ago, the news of difficulties your firm was involved to meet the money crisis in U. States and every were in Europe – The N. P. R. R. Co will be obliged to suspend the payment of interests but I hope it will not prevent the Building of the Road for long time. I am anxious to learn what arrangements have been made to save the company?...”*

#### Extract from H. C. Fahnestock’s letter to Jay Cooke dated 2 Nov 1873 from New York

*"...Have telegraphed you very fully about the Western dispatches muddle... The only malicious looking despatch is the following which are clips from a Boston Paper among a lot of financial items.*

*"Rumors of the failure of the N. Pac R. R. are still current and originate in the refusal of the Co. to pay coupons of the St Paul & Pac Road under lease to the N. Pacific, whose laborers have suspended work in consequence of non payment of 'wages' "*

*I have taken steps to find out the origin of this despatch which Biynton thinks was sent in good faith by Bradford..."*

## **Reel 97**

**Dates: 1 January-31 March 1874**

### **Principal and most interesting correspondence**

- from Henry Cooke ("HDC" or "Harry"), Washington DC, regarding bankruptcy and closure of banking houses. See letters dated 22, 26, 29, 30, 31 January and 16, 17, 20, 21, 23, 25, 28, 29 February and 2, 3, 4, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 16, 18, 19, 30 March
- from Jay Cooke to H. D. Cooke See letters dated 13, 19 January.
- from H. C. Fahnestock ("HCF" or "Fahney"), regarding banking matters. See letters dated 12, 13, 14, 17, 20, 27, 28, 29, 30 January and 2, 16, 17, 20, 27 February and 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 9, 11, 13, 18, 20 March.
- from Pitt Cooke, New York, regarding personal and banking matters. See letters dated 1, 3, 5, 6, 7, 9, 12, 13, 16, 19, 20, 21, 24, 27, 28 January and 24, 25, 26, 27, 28 February and 2, 3, 9, 13, 14 March.
- from W. Milnor Roberts, engineer, relating progress of construction. See letter dated 12, 13, 17 February and 20 March.
- from G. B. Sargent, Land and bond agent. See letter dated 26, 28 February and 20 March and extract below.
- from H. C. McCulloch. See letter dated 7, 9, 20 February.
- from Col. Puleston, London Banking House, relating banking issues. See letter dated 10 January.
- General Cass, President of N.P.R.R.. See letters dated 4 February and 25 March.
- from Samuel W. Wilkeson, Secretary of Northern Pacific Railroad. See letter dated 18 March.
- from W. G. Moorhead, regarding banking and railroad matters. See letters dated 23 January and 14 February.
- from Rice Harper, Duluth, regarding land matters. See letter dated 3, 26 February and 3, 9, 13, 14, 18, 31 March.
- from Governor W. R. Marshall. See letters dated 21 February and 6, 16 March.
- from N. G. King United States Senate. See letter dated 7 January.
- from Philip W. Holmes, New York. See letters dated 17, 26, 29 January and 20 February
- from J. V. Painter, Banker, Cleveland. See letter dated 6 January.
- from M. H. Bovee, Chicago. Regarding the abolition of the death penalty. See letter dated 18, 24 January.
- from Congressman Garland, House of Representatives. See letters dated 3, 5, 6, 7, 9, 25 February
- from S. Garfield, Washington DC. See letter dated 17 March.
- from W. Armstrong, London. See letter dated 22 January.
- from Baron Geralt, Linz, Prussia. See letter dated 1 February.

### **Key topics include**

- Correspondence between Henry Cooke, H. C. Fahnestock, Pitt Cooke and Jay Cooke regarding bankruptcy and personal matters.
- Northern Pacific Railroad.
- Other railroads including Lake Superior and Mississippi;
- Various letters relating church matters, potential investments, job opportunities and charity.

Extract from G. B. Sargent's letter to Jay Cooke dated 26 Feb 1874 from New York

*"...It has been long since I have had the pleasure of addressing you – and I should not intrude upon you at this time if I did not feel from statements made to me that I have been placed in a false position - During my connection with the N. P. business in Europe my whole time my entire energies were given to make it a complete and entire success and I have positive proofs in my possession that will prove that if I had received the hearty co-operation of your partners it would have been the greatest success of the age –But Mr McCulloch always believed that the N. P. enterprise was the “old man of the sea” with his legs about his neck that was bound to eventually strangle & ruin J. C. Mc + Co - and he never talked ten minutes with any man on the subject that he did not effectively damn the enterprise with feint praise..."*

### **Reel 98**

**Dates: 1 April-30 June 1874**

#### **Principal and most interesting correspondence**

- from Henry Cooke (“HDC” or “Harry”), Washington DC, regarding bankruptcy and closure of banking houses. See letters dated 2, 4, 11, 15, 16, 20, 21, 24, 27 April and 4, 8, 11, 12, 14 May and 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 8, 10, 13, 15, 16, 27, 30 June and extract below.
- from Jay Cooke to H. D. Cooke. See letters dated 4, 10, 13 April and 9, 29 May.
- from H. C. Fahnestock (“HCF” or “Fahney”), regarding banking matters. See letters dated 1, 3, 6, 8, 10, 14, 16, 18, 21 April and 1, 11, 13 May and 24 June.
- from Pitt Cooke, New York, regarding personal and banking matters. See letters dated 1, 7, 20, 25 April and 4, 8 May and 1, 2, 10, 29 June.
- from W. Milnor Roberts, engineer, relating progress of construction. See letter dated 2, 7 May.
- from G. B. Sargent, Land and bond agent. See letter dated 10 May.
- from H.C. McCulloch. See letter dated 20 April and 20 May.
- General Cass, President of N.P.R.R.. See letters dated 4, 10 April.
- from A. B. Nettleton. See letter dated 11 May.
- from Samuel W. Wilkeson, Secretary of Northern Pacific Railroad. See letter dated 13 April.
- from W. G. Moorhead, regarding banking and railroad matters. See letter dated 16 April.
- from W. L. Banning, Lake Superior & Mississippi Railroad Co., St Paul. See letter dated 1 April.
- from J. K. Moorhead, Pittsburgh, regarding personal and railroad matters. See letter dated 16 May.
- from Rice Harper, Duluth, regarding land matters. See letters dated 3, 18 April.
- from Philip W. Holmes, New York. See letter dated 8 May.
- from to A. H. Barney, New York. See letter dated 25 April.
- from M. H. Bovee, Chicago. Regarding the abolition of the death penalty. See letter dated 27 April.
- from Robert Schenck, Washington DC. See letters dated 5 April and 19 May.
- from Baron Geralt. See letter dated, 3 April 12 June.

### **Key topics include**

- Correspondence between Henry Cooke, H. C. Fahnestock, Pitt Cooke and Jay Cooke. regarding bankruptcy and personal matters.
- Northern Pacific Railroad.
- Other railroads including Lake Superior and Mississippi;
- Various letters relating church matters, potential investments, job opportunities and charity.

Extract from Henry Cooke's letter to Jay Cooke dated 2 April 1874 from Washington DC.

*"...I have been all the morning at the House of Reps...and all the afternoon with Finance Com. of the reform school getting a first adjustment and settlement of my a/c as treasurer and correcting the figures sent to the committee of the Court of Indebtedness J C & Co to me treasurer. It has been a vexatious job but is now happily dispensed of – all take the ground that the balance to my a/c as treasurer, was gov't money and talk of instructing the Attorney General to take steps for its collection of J. C & Co..."*

### **Reel 99**

#### **Miscellaneous items 1862-1871 including:**

Civil War Quartermaster Receipts  
Subscription Loan List, 1863  
Statement of Sterling Iron and Railway Co. 1864  
Statements of Public Debt of United States, 1864, 1866  
Various papers relating to figures for government bonds 1863-1865  
Various papers relating to railroad and mining companies

### **Reel 100**

#### **Miscellaneous items including:**

Personal and company receipts  
Bonds  
cheques