

McCORMICK HARVESTING MACHINE COMPANY
CHICAGO.

M. P. SPROUL, GENERAL AGENT,
EAST ST. LOUIS, ILL.

St. Clair, Mo. ⁶ 1902
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Dear Sir:—

I will endeavor to answer some of the numerous questions ask in regard my monthly report

First you ask who authorized me to hire livery at \$2.50 per day. I will say nobody. I had been riding horseback till I was tired of it and Metzner would not furnish a rig. In fact he has never furnished me a rig since I have been working here. He would furnish nothing but a horse & saddle.

The work was here to be done and so I got a rig and did not think it was necessary for me to telephone to you and ask May I hire a rig? Why did you not call me down on the rig I hired June 14? I had no more right to hire it than I did the other two.

The rig on June 17 was hired of Robert Glover of St. Clair Mo to drive me out to Andy Bergmanns about 14 miles from St. Clair. The one on June 25 was hired of Joe Barth to drive out to Elit Andrea to put in some repairs, & to Mr. Stone about 8 miles from St. Clair. The one on June 14 was hired of Geo. Bay at Catawissa to drive

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out to the Brady Boys about 3 miles from
Catawissa. These are all parties that have
brought machines this year. I sent you an
expert voucher from these parties so there can
be no doubt as to my having been there.

Now you did not order me to come to St.
Louis, but Fisher went down and I went
with him. I thought being I had
not been down since commenced work,
(which was just three months ago on
June 20) it would not hurt the Co. to pay
my way.

Yes, it is true that some of the
farmers charge me board when I stay a
night with them. They ask me whether the
Co. pays my expenses and I tell them yes.

Then some of them charge all the way
from .25 to \$1.50 for lodging & horsefeed.

I notice in my report that you
erased the four dollars extra I had charged
for Sunday work. You did not tell me to
work on Sundays but I worked three
Sundays and I thought that \$4.00 was
pretty liberal.

Now gentlemen I have tried to do
the right thing with you. I have not

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sent in any more expenses than I
spent in the interest of the McCormick
Harvesting Co. but I do pay my way
and try to be white and don't like for
people to make insinuations as though
I was a liar & a thief.

I may not have read your letter
just right but that was about all I
could get out of it.

Now hoping that one or the other
of these reports will be acceptable I
remain,

Very truly Yours,

John Deering.