

NOTE: The original of this document is in the Stevens Family Papers, #1210, at the Division of Rare and Manuscript Collections, Cornell University Library, Ithaca, New York 14853.

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TO: R. S. Stevens
FROM: Frank M. Bishop

Palestine, Aug. 23rd 1875

Mr. R. S. Stevens

Respected Sir:-

News has reached me of the change which you have made, and I now cherish a hope that I may get with [you] again. Could you, or would you give me a job on your road?

I am running a freight here, but I feel that the south is no place for myself, or wife, as I suffer untold agony with Asthma, and my wife, I fear has Consumption.

While in your employ, I endeavored to be as faithful as anyone, but I may have erred, but Mr. S. I am only human and have my faults as well as everybody, but henceforth, I shall try and let my conduct in the future make atonement for the past.

I am not at all particular what situation you might give me, only so I could get North. The Physician who was treating my wife when we were obliged to leave Sedalia, is living now at Hannibal, and I am very anxious to get her there again, as he is the only one who ever helped her, and at times when I think that I shall not have her long I feel that I shall go frantic, and to think that she is down in this God forsaken country where she can get no relief, hurts me worse than all. Now Mr. S. if you will take me and try me once more, I will try to <?> prove a faithful and attentive employee.

Strong fears are entertained of yellow fever visiting us as it has already got as far as Houston, and if we should wish to leave we must take our time. I am perfectly willing to accept a situation of breaking for awhile. Now for God sake, try me once more, and I will try and prove satisfactory. Please write soon and as favorable as you can.

Most Respectfully,

Frank M. Bishop

Care P. & G. N. R. R.

Palestine, Tex.

¹ FROM: Book of letters to R.S.S., July 1875 to April 1876.