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TO: R. S. Stevens

FROM: W. J. Hilton

*Hannibal and St. Joseph Rail Road Co.
Treasury Department*

*W. J. Hilton
Treasurer.*

Hannibal, Mo. September 10 1875

R. S. Stevens, Esq.
General Manager, &c.
New York City

Dear Sir,

I am in receipt of yours of 10th (*sic*) and carefully note contents, and will carry out your instructions. I have been unable to make a suitable arrangement with our bank here, in regard to having our checks payable here or in Chicago, at the option of the holder, and have therefore decided that I will open an account for the Paymaster with the Clarion National Bank of Chicago, and pay the rolls for August by check on that bank.

Our bank here has agreed to cash any and all checks which may be presented by any of our men residing in Hannibal. So I think we will have no difficulty. If you do not approve of my plan will you please advise me by telegraph. I have requested <?> to forward your letters as directed.

I regret to inform you that the "warrant" forwarded by the Department at Washington August 13th has failed to reach me. It was <?> the balance due for transportation of mails and amounted to \$11,791.⁸⁰. I have been in correspondence with the Department on this object for some time, and have now got it in <?> shape. Upon my signing a bond, together with two sureties for \$24,000 they will issue a duplicate warrant for the amount of our claim. I send you herewith the "bond" and would like to have you and Mr. Carver or Mr. Acker, sign as sureties and then return to me. It seems unjust to make us furnish a bond when we never had possession of the original draft or warrant, but I presume we will be obliged to furnish it in order to get our money.

¹ FROM: 1875 Book of Letters to R.S.S.

I am sorry to know that your injuries are so serious, but trust your rest will speedily restore you to health and strength. Mr. Lee is expected in Hannibal tomorrow. I wrote to you last yesterday.

Yours truly

W. J. Hilton

Treas.