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TO: R. S. Stevens

FROM: C. O. Godfrey

Hannibal, Mo., Sept. 13th 1875

R. S. Stevens, Esq.

Dear Sir:-

I have your telegram and note its contents, and am acting accordingly. I was at Sedalia on Friday: had a long and very pleasant talk with your Mr. Mirick who, of course, was prepared to follow any instructions from you. I looked over the accounts of the two companies thoroughly, and am satisfied, with what information I have in regard to the properties, that I can make it very profitable. I think I should recommend, if you approve it, putting the two companies into one, or letting Osage buy out the Union. Mr. Mirick wished me to send him a written proposition which I have done in the following language and he will forward it to you.

COPY

H. D. Mirick, Esq.

Assignee &c.

Dear Sir:-

I would wish to secure one thousand shares of the stock of the "Osage" and "Union" Coal Companies, which have been operating upon the line of the M. K. & T. R'y., provided the general management of the companies can at the same time be placed in my hands.

I would be willing to pay for the same at the rate of from three to five dollars per share: payments to be made in a manner satisfactory to you.

I should be able to make such connection with your companies, of value to all parties interested, and desire an early consideration of the above proposition: as prompt action is demanded by present management of the rail-way company, in coal matters on their line.

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

Very Truly Your's -----

I could not, with Mr. Mirick, enter into details as I might wish to do with you personally. You of course understand that a good portion of any profits that I can get out of my stock would have to go to other parties.

What I should want would be 1000 shares assigned to me attached to a note for \$3000 or \$5000; the less the better for your interests as well as mine. In this connection, I am so sure that I can advance your interest that I am encouraged to ask the assignment at the least figures possible.

I also had a conversation with Mr. Garner, who assures me of every assistance in his power for the development of the work. It is reported from a good source that the Texas Cen. have brought a half interest in with Williford; if this be true it necessitates prompt action: as I had some assurance from Mr. Baker when I was there in regard to their trade.

I would recommend —— unless you are coming home within a week or ten days —— that Mr. Mirick be instructed to give me a letter appointing me manager of the two companies, so that I may immediately get at the business. Of course I should make no changes without your approval; then farther (*sic*) details of the matter can be left until your return.

Please telegraph me and you can depend implicitly upon my movements in this matter.

Truly Your's,

C. O. Godfrey