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**TO:** R. S. Stevens  
**FROM:** Thomas Jobson

*Office of Thos. Jobson*

Macon, Mo., Oct 2 1875

R. S. Stevens, Esq.  
Genl Manager

Dr Sir:-

In regard to coal I would say that I am not willing to furnish the supply of coal to the road for less than six (6) cents pr Bu. — The Company furnishing the mine free of rent. In the month of June coal cost was over six cents pr Bu.

The mine I am operating is expensive on a/c of bad roof & the responsibility for damages to men & expense of timbering will not justify me in working for less than price named. If I operate the mine I expect to work it properly so as to be able to turn it over to the road when my contract expires in good order. I have now a large amount of entry work ?drove that I had done upon the representation of Mr. Morse & Mr. Carver that I should supply the road for some time. This being permanent improvement that has cost me considerable, I should expect the road to pay me for if I gave up the mine before I had received compensation from operating the mine.

I undertook the establishment of this mine to obtain a reduction of price of fuel to the road, and the difference in cost of fuel at the present time and the price when I commenced would pay every dollar the mine has cost back to the road in less than 12 months. I feel that the road can afford to show me some liberality or at least a preference. It is impossible for me to do justice to the company or myself & operate the mine as I have for past 2 or 3 months. If I can have controll of the mine for 12 months supply of coal to the road I can make such improvements as is needed. If not I shall want you to take chg of the mine at once. Should you prefer someone else to work the mine I shall be pleased to render any assistance or extend any information they may require in starting, & shall be glad to sell to them my stock of Pit mules and such tools as I may have that belong to me personally.

Yours Rsp

Thos. Jobson

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<sup>1</sup> FROM: 1875 Book of Letters to R.S.S.

