

**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.

751006-F.TOR<sup>1</sup>

**TO: R. S. Stevens**  
**FROM: Miss R. M. Craighead**

Denison, Texas

Oct<sup>r</sup> 6", 1875

R. S. Stevens, Esq.

Dear Sir:-

The suffering among the poor during the three winters of Denison's existence has shown the great need of a Benevolent Society:- and the Ladies have organized "The Denison Benevolent Association" for the purpose of giving aid in a more systematic and economical manner than it has been done heretofore.

Among the most worthy persons for our consideration is a widow who has an aged father and one child to support. We have decided to build her a little house, let her occupy it, and pay us \$3.00 per month until she pays the amount of cash we expend when the house shall be hers - the Ass<sup>n</sup> giving her a bill of sale for the same.

My object in writing is to ask permission of you to build said house on one of the Town Co.'s lots, in Block No. 4 (Number four) between lots No. 4 and 8, that she may have the ground free of charge for the present.

She has selected the most Rocky, and much washed lot as the one as least likely to be sold and perhaps valued at the lowest price by the "Co.," so that after she pays for the house, she may begin to pay for the lot, thereby securing to herself and aged father a home.

By rendering the assistance above named we shall make her self-supporting, for we cannot rent a home for less than \$8.00 per month and she is not able, even by the most rigid economy to pay more than \$3.00.

We are ready to put up the house the moment we receive your answer, which I feel almost sure will be favorable, knowing your great goodness of heart and large benevolence as well as the deep interest you take in everything in Denison.

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<sup>1</sup>FROM: Book of letters to R.S.S., July 1875 to April 1876.

One of the great efforts of our Ass<sup>n</sup> will be directed toward the children to keep them in school; for schools are the greatest safeguard of morals that any town can have.

Hoping to hear from you at your earliest convenience.

I am truly yours,

Miss R. M. Craighead

President of the Denison  
Benevolent Association