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751006-J.LTR<sup>1</sup>

**TO: W. C. Graham**  
**FROM: R. S. Stevens**

Oct. 6, 1875

W. C. Graham, Esq.

Dear Sir:

Your favor of 5<sup>th</sup> is rec'd & thanks for your prompt reply & telegram & the style in which you treat the matter. When the first trip through to Red River on cars, thence to Denison in coach, was made by Gen'l Sheridan & Suite, twas determined that Denison was a good point, indeed the point to which gov't supplies should be sent. This involved necessity for warehouse & I claimed Gov't should do by M. K. & T. same as it had done for other Roads, - i.e. erect its own warehouse. Gen'l Sheridan made no promise it would, but afterwards from other parties, strong assurances were given me, if one was built the Gov't would pay rent. Relying on this, I went ahead and built the warehouse on my own acc't and paid for it myself, as our R.R. Directors were at first unwilling to build it, claiming the Gov't should. Subsequently the Co. took it, always believing the Gov't in time would pay a fair rent. Last fall, Col. Strong admitted Co. should be paid and fixed \$200 per month as a fair rental - in his opinion. Before bill was made out, a Receiver was app't for M. K. & T. I made a proposition to him to pay a certain rental to him as Rec'r, becoming the lessee myself and the difference being mine for services in collecting, etc. Under Col. Strong's advice as to proper manner of procedure, that is the Dep't. to file bill, &c., (being inexperienced in Army matters myself), I made out bill and sent to Q. M. in Washington. Your letter is first intimation as to results. You have this in confidence, in full statement -- The Gov't has had every facility, excellent accommodations & should pay. If you can aid in any way, tell how I can reciprocate & to what extent. Indicate plainly.

Truly yours,

R. S. Stevens

I would come there & see you in person but must go to St. Joe and K. City &c., tomorrow for a three days trip & Monday am compelled to go for another trip over road with some of our board. If you can delay answer to

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<sup>1</sup>FROM: Letter Book, "FROM R.S.S. - 1875-1876."

Army Q. M. S. Tompkins <two lines unreadable.> I am confident you will be satisfied there is stock in acct.