

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.

751009-F.TOR¹

TO: R. S. Stevens
FROM: Dr. James Orr

Lawrence, Tex.

Oct. 9th 1875

Col. R. S. Stevens
Sedalia, Mo.

Dear Sir:-

For nerely (*sic*) six years I have been a citizen of this State and have been a silent looker on of the many events transpiring. I have seen the many efforts made by the M. K. & T. to get charters through the State and how they were each time defeated by the capital and influence of the powerful H. & T. C.

I have seen the building of this road on which I now live, the T. & P., and I have studied very carefully every phase of the International embroglio that was so long an eye sore in Texas.

With all these means of observation I have gathered a few facts and now write you on the subject, to take into consideration the building of another road - one that will be sure to bring the haughty Central to terms and make Galveston and Houston look to something else than Natural Advantages. I mean a road from Dennison (*sic*), Tex., to Sabine Pass. This route would run through the very best part of Northern Texas and open up the richest ?priery (?prairie) in the State, finally touching the very best harbor on the Gulf coast. I have carefully considered the whole plan and have had some correspondence with parties on the line and can get good subsidies from the counties southeast of here.

A charter will be hard to get, but by a Judicious combination it can be obtained. Now what I desire is your cooperation and assistance (If you are still interested in Tex. R. R.s). I will undertake the obtaining of the charter and a liberal donation provided you think the company can be organized and the road built.

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

If you enter into this, give a letter describing in full what can be done outside the State and I will then give you my plans and how I expect to succeed.

If anything is done we must be ready long before the meeting of the next legislature and have all our combinations formed in due time.

Hoping to hear from you at an early date, I am Yours etc.,

Dr. James Orr

Lawrence

Kaufman Co., Texas