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751029-A.MPS

**TO: Mary P. Stevens**

**FROM: R. S. Stevens**

HANNIBAL & ST. JOSEPH RAILROAD COMPANY,  
General Manager's Office

Hannibal, Mo., Oct. 29, 2 P.M. 1875

Dear Mary,

Here I am back, safe & sound after a very pleasant trip, with quite satisfactory results. Business is good, the morale of employees improving & a general good feeling from the Public springing up. Still, unless the promises made in N.Y. as to Directors &c. is carried out, I shall not remain. It would be a pleasant situation (much more so than M.K.& T.) if properly supported.

You have no idea what a reputation I have acquired since coming here. It certainly is a good one -- & I am being classed among the "Great R.R. Men of the Age!" Yet all this does not suffice without you. If you could but be with me, I should be content.

I sent Fred \$50- a day or two since, telling him to frankly ask for more whenever needed. Also that I would be sure to stop & see him, en route to N. Y. & perhaps could arrange with Pres't. White to decrease his studies, so that he could remain, without injury to his eyes. I feel it is very desirable for him to remain a year if possible & consistent; twould improve him so much.

I hardly know what to say about New<sup>t</sup>, but will write him or have a full talk when there. The Ice Stock came all right. Hope to sell at 20-. Hannah goes with Mrs. Scullin to St. Louis (perhaps Kate) but Jo. has taken to drinking freely & they will let him out. Little Fred is learning many bad words from Jo. also. The baby I am told, talks all the time. The next one will put in an appearance in March!

Am going up to Quincy at 4:45 P.M. to spend Sunday & meet Cap't. Acker (of N.Y.) who comes to attend annual meeting. Their action will decide mine.

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<sup>1</sup>William Newton Barrows, Kate's husband.

Putnam is doing splendid, is lonely & sad on reading his wife's letters. She better come out with you & me for a few weeks, if he stays. I have fixed his salary at \$125- per month & he is delighted.

My collar bone is now the only trouble. It joins on breast bone by a socket joint & seems to have 1/2 slipped. Doctors tell it will all come right after a little. Adeline & Mary better stay in house, if you come up. Glad to hear that May [Mary?] is back at Mothers. Hope she will remain a few months. The Ladies at my Boarding house are all anxious to meet "Mrs. Stevens" & conclude she must be a very "elegant Lady" as her husband is so agreeable! Very delightful weather, but cool.

In Love, your own

Robert