

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.

751029-E.LTR¹

TO: E. C. D. Shortridge
FROM: R. S. Stevens

Oct. 29th, 1875

E. C. D. Shortridge, Esq.
Macon

Dear Sir:-

Your favor of the 27th, is before me. I regret exceedingly, that anything has been done at the Company's mines, which could be considered wrong, or which in any way could interfere with the kindly feeling which seemed to be growing up between the coal interest and this Company.

I had supposed you and Mr. Godfray would work in harmony, and the coal traffic be managed for your mutual benefit.

It seems I was mistaken. My arrangement with Mr. Godfrey was that he should furnish us every car of coal that came from the Company's mine, hoping to increase the supply within a few days, so that it would not be necessary to ask you, or anyone else, to furnish us any, leaving the commercial trade to you who were engaged in the mining business. A recent trip to St. Joe., Atchison and K. City satisfies me that the trade can be increased very far beyond our previous calculations, the only question being the amount you can supply. The present rates of freight will enable you to control the market at Saint Joe, Atchison and Omaha, and to a great extent Kansas City. You can rest assured that you will find me more than willing to cooperate with you and others to the fullest extent - my great desire being to develop a trade, foster, and encourage it, and thereby swell the receipts of the Road.

Yours respectfully,

R. S. Stevens

Genl Mgr.

¹FROM: Letter Book, "FROM R.S.S. - 1875-76."