

**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.

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**TO: R. S. Stevens**  
**FROM: Mrs. M. A. Lykins**

Kansas City Nov 10<sup>th</sup> 1875

Gen. R. S. Stevens, Supt.  
Hannibal & St Joe R.R.  
Hannibal, Mo.

The appropriation made last winter by the Legislature for the support of the Orphans Home located in Kansas City, being totally inadequate for its support forces upon me, as its Superintendent, the unpleasant duty of asking aid from private sources & corporations in our great pressing need of coal, & with no means to supply the institution the thought has occurred to me to appeal to you to know if you would do us the kind & generous honor of delivering to us at Kansas City 4 cars of coal free of transportation from the "Summit Mines". This favor, if granted, would so lessen the price of our coal as to keep the children from suffering.

May I not be permitted to beg a reply at your earliest convenience & I assure you of the gratitude of our Board of Trustees as well as of myself.

Very Respectfully,

Mrs. M. A. Lykins, Supt.  
Orphans Home of Mo.

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<sup>1</sup>FROM: 1875 Book of Letters to R.S.S.