

**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.

751216-F.LTR<sup>1</sup>

**TO: H. J. Skinner**  
**FROM: R. S. Stevens**

Dec. 16th, 1875

Dear Sir:-

I am in receipt of your favor of recent date, and note contents.

We are putting in considerable steel rail, and hope to get at least one hundred miles down during the coming summer, but if we had the facilities for cutting, punching and repairing our old rails, it would be much more economical to do this with a large number of rails that otherwise would have to go to the rolling mills. It was with this object in view that I wrote you in Oct. Hearing nothing from you I concluded you did not receive my letter or had no desire to take the work in hand.

I expect to leave here next week for the east, where I will probably remain until about Jan'y 5", after which time I hope to remain here for a month or two.

While it may not pay you to make a trip here especially for that purpose, yet I would be glad to see you and consult in reference to plans and means for repairing old rails. We have a shop that could be very advantageously used for this purpose, being contiguous to our machine shops, stationary engine and tracks.

I have no doubt Maj. Garner would cheerfully give you a pass Denison to Hannibal and return upon your application to him. I cannot do it, not being provided with blanks.

Upon receipt of this please write me whether or not I shall expect you, say Jan'y 10".

Am glad to know you have taken the contract referred to and hope it may prove more profitable than you imagine.

Yours respectfully,

R. S. Stevens

Genl. Manager

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<sup>1</sup>FROM: Letter Book, "FROM R.S.S. - 1875-76."

H. J. Skinner

Houston, Texas