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751218-A.LTR¹

TO: W. H. Neilson
FROM: R. S. Stevens

Dec. 18, 1875

W. H. Neilson, Esq.
Prest.

Dear Sir:-

Sometime since Clinton County (in this State) bro't suit for taxes dating back several years, and claiming under-assessment made by State Board in 1874, some \$40,000. This case was tried last week, verdict for County \$6,200.00. We gave notice of appeal, and got thirty days to perfect same and file Bond of \$13,000.00. Our Atty is very confident of setting aside verdict.

In the Court now in session here several suits are to be tried. In one the Pl'ff sues for damage to his daughter some 11 years ago, claims \$15,000 for personal injury. If verdict is against Company, we must appeal.

Now the question is, who will sign the Appeal Bonds? I have already signed several and to quite an amount, but can get no one to sign with me, with indemnifying them. I have no authority to do this, and tis not right for me to sign with being indemnified. Unless appeal bonds are given promptly on time, execution will issue & the Co. have no redress. This matter has often been mentioned to Messrs. Carver and Acker, but nothing done. Let me say again, we cannot appeal without giving bonds and these promptly. These not given, executions will at once arise & property be sold without redemption. The effect of this would be very injurious. But I stand here alone, no man (not even Genl. Craig when president), will sign. This matter must be arranged so that bondsmen can be secured. I can get them on that condition only, but I have neither power nor authority as Genl. Mgr. to do this.

Very Truly Yrs,
R. S. Stevens
Genl. Mgr.

¹FROM: Letter Book, "FROM R.S.S. - 1875-1876."