

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.

751220-A.LTR¹

TO: Capt. Acker
FROM: R. S. Stevens

Dec. 20, 1875

Capt. Acker

My Dear Sir:-

Everything is going along comparatively well. Business holds up first rate, but prices are very low. No use trying to keep them up so long as the whole control of Freights is left to agents. The entire system must be changed or twill be a long time before this evil is corrected. In writing thus I do not mean to reflect a particle on Mr. Courtright, as he never "cuts" unless compelled so to do by action of others. Genl M'g'rs & Supts. must fix rates, and instruct their Freight Agents. Within a week some agent cuts, then all follow.

Here is the trouble. I leave here this P.M. for the east, stopping in Attica for Christmas. Intend to 27th & 28th in your city & hope you and Mr. Carver will be there. There is much I would like to tell you.

This morning I have \$47,029.50. This is payday and we must mail the payrolls. They amount to \$64,000. To this add \$15,000 due Quincy Bridge for Nov., \$5,000 draft given 60 days ago for School taxes and \$27,000 due the 31st for taxes to State under any charter, on valuation of President. Total \$111,000 to be paid in 11 days and only \$47,000 on hand. From this you will see the impossibility of sending you any more this month. Within 2 or 3 months I can bring up & I think meet interest and Bonds.

Truly yours,

R. S. Stevens

Genl Mgr.

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