

**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:** E. C. D. Shortridge

OFFICE OF  
**MISSOURI**  
COAL & MINING COMPANY  
CAPITAL \$300,000

Macon, Mo. Novr 27 187 5

Col. R. S. Stevens  
Gen Manager, H. & St. Joe  
Han, Mo.

Dear Sir:-

We learn today that Mr. Godfrey is shipping coal to private parties from your mines. This should not be so. We are giving nearly all our coal to you for RR use, to the damage of our selves and custom, and hope you will see to it that Mr. Godfrey be not allowed to take advantage of us in any such way. Hope you can make arrangements at an early day to place you mine in the hands of responsible parties, and thereby advance the interest of all concerned. From a long business acquaintance with Mr. Godfrey, we have learned not to place any confidence in his word, and regret that we are compelled to have any thing to do with him now on your a/c. We desire peace and harmony & wish your Road prosperity.

Yours very respectfully,  
E. C. D. Shortridge, Sup't.

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