

**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:** W. F. Downs

CENTRAL BRANCH  
**Union Pacific Rail Road**

*Atchison, Kansas* Dec. 21 187 5

R. S. Stephens, Esq.  
Genl Manager, etc.  
Hannibal

Dear Sir:-

I enclose herein statement of a/c, the detailed bills for which have been duly forwarded to your Company but for which payment has been delayed or refused. You will not fail to observe that the entire bill or indebtedness is for actual disbursements of money for your account. In the matter of "transfer service" - the two items which mainly compose our claim - I remark, that this service was performed and the disbursement made by us at the prices fixed by the Sup<sup>t</sup> of your line. This included service of Engine at \$7.00 per day and the actual cost of supplies and labor, thus leaving no margin of profit to this Company, and I assure you that we are poorly able to be disserved of the use of this money at a time when we are finding it necessary to pay 1-1/4% per Mo. for the where-with-all to pay our taxes. I am therefore led to appeal to you for the relief which is our due, and request that you will give the necessary direction to the end that we may be speedily reimbursed to the Amt. of our several bills rendered.

Very truly yours,

W. H. Downs

Gen. Sup<sup>t</sup>.

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<sup>1</sup>FROM: Book of Letters to R.S.S. from 8-1875 to 1-1876.