

**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.

751021-C.LTR<sup>1</sup>

**TO: E. C. D. Shortridge**  
**FROM: R. S. Stevens**

Oct. 21st, 1875

E. C. D. Shortridge, Esq.  
Macon

Dear Sir:-

Your favor of the 20th inst. is rec'd.

Should Messrs. Barnard and Towne desire to purchase of coal of you, we will make you a price for freight thereon, the same to be transported in their cars, without mileage; in other words, they furnish cars for their own coal, only.

We are turning out five or ten coal cars per week, and I am confident shall be able to furnish all cars that may be needed for the coal trade, provided, that you will load promptly, and consignees will reload upon receipt; but my judgement, based upon what little opportunity I have had to look over the Road, is that a great delay exists in unloading cars. They are left up on side tracks to be unloaded at the convenience of the consignees - in fact, using them for storage to a very great extent. To furnish cars sufficient to accommodate parties in this respect, would be utterly impossible. If consignees will unload at once, I can assure you we will furnish you, in some way, with cars to accommodate your trade.

Yours respectfully,  
R. S. Stevens  
Genl Manger

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