

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: H. H. Courtright

Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railway.
— WM. BOND, Receiver —

M. P. COGSWELL

Contracting Freight Agent,
54 Clark Street,

Chicago, Sept. 6th 1875

R. S. Stevens, Esq.
Genl Manager, H. & St. Jo

Dear Sir:-

I called upon the C. B. & Q. folks this A.M. and they agree to carry out any arrangement we see fit to make on the Cattle business. Mr. Smith, G.F.A., said he intended writing me a Confidential letter explaining why they were sending so much of their business via Burlington north, but as I was here he would explain verbally, and it is this. It seems the H. & St. Jo owe them quite a sum (\$20,000 he says) on a/c rebates, &c., &c., and that notwithstanding constant ?duns, they have been unable to collect and that they have directed the business via Burlington to prevent if possible any additional indebtedness on our part. We make out all vouchers as their claims promptly, but I cannot say how promptly they have been paid. All these things work against us and of course cut down our earnings. I believe we will have to do something soon to protect our Hannibal lumber dealers as lumber is exceedingly low here and no prospects of advance this season but I will do nothing ?until you return when I will lay the figures before you.

I think if it is possible to do so that we pay the C. B. & Q. what we ?owe them on a/c traffic claims, as we cannot afford to lose their business.

Respy Yours,
H. H. Courtright

Please keep us posted in regard to your health as we are very anxious and hope to see you home very soon. The road needs you.

¹ FROM: 1875 Book of Letters to R.S.S.

H. H. C.