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**TO: J. C. M<sup>c</sup>Mullin**  
**FROM: R. S. Stevens**

Oct. 18, 1875

J. C. M<sup>c</sup>Mullin, Esq.  
Genl Supt., C. & St. L. R.R.  
Chicago

Dr Sir:-

The iron is now laid from this place to Bowling Green, tho, on account of "disasters by flood," &c., the track is not in fit condition for use. Several thousand dollars will be required to put it in fair & safe running order.

This done, and proper arrangements made with your Co., quite a large business might be sent over it & your line to & from St. Louis. I think a large Passenger business might be secured during winter, by a thro line from Keokuk. The road (of Mr. Stone) from this along river bank to Louisiana cannot be finished for this winter's business but the road to Bowling Green can be, with proper effort, in less than 30 days.

What would be your views in reference to this line from here to St. Louis? There will be a large shipment of grain from H. & St. Jo road to E. St. Louis that might all be sent via this road & all the California freight coming to E. St. Louis over O. M. & now sent on N<sup>o</sup>. Missouri to St. Jos might come over your road to Bowling Green. If you think well of this route, I will come up & see you at an early day.

Yours Respectfully,  
R. S. Stevens

Gen Mgr.

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