Baltimore Feby 1st 1845

Dear Sir

As Mr Avery is about leaving for Newyork, I will just drop a line or so — although I had this pleasure some or five weeks since, in answer to your last favor by Professor M. which you have probably received. All things remain about status quo — respecting the Telegraph. — When they act upon it, I suppose it will be by the jump.

I had written to Spring Smith, that I thought his presence was needed at W. I suppose he dont like to be too importunate, or too profuse with proffers. still, he will be needed when it goes — however, what he has done already, will have an influence which I think will be salutary —

Mr Avery expresses good feeling towards yourself, — and I have desired him by all means to aid you in any thing he can possibly do, towards the chemical department. I think he will be useful, in that, he cheerfully assords, — I hope something may yet transpire that will enlarge our acquaintance, ~~as well as to~~ assist the objects of my return — and believe me

Yours truly

David Burbank.

Mr Ezra Cornell
No. 30 Veasey St
New York
Mr Avery } N.Y.

9 Dec 1865

Dear E. C.

Ithaca N.Y. Feby. 7 '45

We held our annual meeting the 4th Inst which resulted in the election of our old board. Our friend C L Grant wished very much to be trustee. but although he was good looking he could not come in and in order to avoid any marks of approbation or disapprobation he declined the morning of election.

I give You below a statement of our business up to Janry 1. 1845

Total Amt. of Inventory of wool dys. oils. accounts &c &c	$79.907.32
Total Amt. paid for labor. wool. dys. oils. taxes &c &c &c	$60.284.80
Leaving as our total profits	$19.622.52
from which deduct profits for '42 $2.206.40	
& " " " " '43 9.916.05	12.122.45
Leaving as a bal. our profits for 1844	7.500.07

The Trustees voted to declare no dividend — thus much on profits; now let me tell You one of his fact — You are probably aware that Spud & C gave us a warranty deed for our property they having rec^d a warranty deed from I S. Bube — but it turns out that Mr Bubes warranty to Spud & C is about as good as a horse jockeys warranty of soundness of a "wheeze O" horse. for he had given to a Mr Wicks previous to his sale to Spud & C a mortgage on the undivided half of the Fall Creek property for Six Thousand dollars — Which mortgage was

assigned by Mr Wicks to S B Munn who has now commenced suit on it — Of course look to Messrs Spurr & for a fulfillment of their warranty

And now let me say one word on the result of our Election — I know you take pleasure in dwelling upon the subject and that is why I allude to it — It is Enough to make one's heart sick within him. to see the "Causes how" it was done — "Did you ever (was a question asked me the other day) note the resemblance ~~between~~ our election last fall. and the one held in olden times in the city of Jerusalem between Christ & Barabbas when the Jews said "they would not have this man to rule over them" — if you have not the similie is perfect — — Your father & friends here are all well — I saw Mr Wood yesterday he seemed well — And I am well myself all the time Except when memory takes me back to last November —

How did you make out moss speculation go — Let me hear from you. And with the compliments of our Mr Palmer let me subscribe myself

Your very obt Servt

E. G. Morgan

PAID 1834

FREDONIA FEB 8 N.Y.

Ezra Cornell Esq
Agt. Morse Mag. Telegraph
New York

Paid

E.G. Allington
Pd. 5 cts

Ithaca 17 Feby 1845

Dear Sir

Your letter by Mr Shenill, was rec^d yesterday; I also rec^d the letter directed to me at Northumberland. In the first letter you say "that you have discovered a new application of Galvanism, indispensable to the safety and well being of society." I was greatly rejoiced to hear it, as the conclusion was inevitable, that your fortune was made, with sundry smaller fortunes for such of your friends as you might choose to favour with a share in — In your last letter you say that your invention is "for the security of property against housebreakers" — whether society will consider your invention indispensable to their safety is questionable: but I most sincerely hope that you may be able to make the habits believe, that your contrivance will add so much to their safety as to induce them to pay you a good round sum for it. I can only say in reference to myself, that if you can make my services profitable to you, and me too, I am at your service — I do not know of any business which will take me to the city this season: but I suppose you will visit your family before long, when I hope to see you. I cannot conjecture how you apply Galvanism, unless it is by making the doors, windows, &c, form the circuit, when opening, and thereby ringing a bell or other contrivance, to give the alarm — Will there not be some difficulty in keeping the battery in order? some expense in supplying the acid as it evaporates? in removing the plates, when decomposed? But as I know nothing of your plan, I will not anticipate objections; but hope that it will be of such importance to the public as to compel them to reward you liberally

(over)

Do you know any thing of the contrivance invented at Washington as a substitute for the Galvanic battery? I saw a notice in the papers that a substitute had been invented, which would answer all the purposes of the battery, and cost nothing to keep it in operation. From the limited notice which I saw, I conclude that it was some combination of permanent magnets, or some new arrangement of the dry pile - I would like much to have a full description of it, and will thank you to send it to me if you can.

Our election for Trustees, at the factory, went off without any excitement - no opposition to old board - The profits for the year, (1 Jany 44 to 1 Jany '45) were $7500 - We took our cloths on hand at 15 p.c. less this year than last which makes a difference of $1300, we also took our wool on hand at something less than it cost, altho not less than its present value - I hope that we can do better for a year to come, than we have for the year past. If you want to see some well made cloths, go to Seth Grosvenors, and you will not be ashamed to own that you live at Fall creek.

The second trial between Williams and Miss Conrad, has been progressing all of the last week, and not yet ended - I have not been to the Court House, but understand that it is constantly filled, to its utmost capacity. I predict that the Jury will not agree, which, if true, will be a public calamity, as it has already taken near three weeks, including the first trial.

Let me hear from you again.

Yours truly

J. J. Speed Jr

Tuesday 18

P.S. I have just been to see your wife, don't be alarmed, it was only to be able to tell you with more certainty that they are all well, I saw Elijah's bribe yesterday and your letter to day and report all right. The Counsel in the Williams suits are still summing up and we take all day tomorrow. I should like to have you initiate me still further into the secrets of anti housebreaking contrivances. If you think this letter is not worth the postage you must send me one by mail of equal value and then we will be even. The snow is nearly all gone and melting away fast. Yo

Friday 21 4 Oclk P.M.

I have retained this letter to tell you the result of the Williams Trial. Ben Johnson spoke from Monday noon till 9 Oclk. & Joshua A Spencer all day Tuesday for the defence. B. D. Stryker all day Wednesday and Sibly all day yesterday for the plaintiff. The jury went out last night about 9 Oclk. and have just been discharged not being able to agree

1844

Mr E. Cornell
No 30 Vesey St.
New York

MACO
FEB
12

Washington Feb 19. 1845

Dear Brother

I have been placed in rather an uncomfortable situation by the transactions of this day and have concluded to write to you in consequence. Mr Smith came to me this morning and said he had just recd a letter from you stating that you had all things in readiness to exhibit the Tel. in N.Y. except some one to attend one of the instruments. He proposed that I should go, as I was acquainted with the operations. I told him I was willing to go if it was thought best. We talked with Prof Mc & Vail about it & they were not willing for me to leave at present as they should want me here if the Tel. Bill passed. Smith thought it would not need any one here as it would be better policy to close these offices & put all the force on the construction of the new line. But Prof Mc & Vail thought that this line would have to be kept in operation. I think Smiths plan much the best as this line detached from any other would not even pay the expense of Messengers. & the first report after settling upon standing rates would be unfavorable. Smith offered to pay my expenses there & board me & if the exhibition was succesful he would pay me reasonably. But as Prof Mc. thinks I had better hold on a few days I must do so as I have no doubt he will give me an appointment as soon

as the Bill passes. I suppose Smith will write to you to-day & direct you about getting some one to assist you. If you could find some one to assist you for a few days until this matter is decided or for 2 weeks at longest I would take the place if they do not keep me here. You can arrange matters as you think best for me. Smith has found out that I am the best writer on this line & spoke to me about it a day or two since. They timed me last week & I wrote a page of foolscap containing 1176 letters in 12 minutes. Let me know when you hear it. I recd. $18. from the editors of Balt. Pat. & the Argus for writing the Congressional proceedings for their papers for 2 weeks & I might have had that for the whole session if Tail had done as he might. Smith told me that if I stood in need of money when I got through here he would assist me. & said that you wished him to see that I was not in want, for which I thank you. & Prof Ms said that he had recd. a letter from you in which you requested him not to let me starve. & he told me I should not if his Bill passed, but I regard that as very uncertain since the close of this session is so near at hand.
We suspended operations last Sat. and I am entirely out of business.
As soon as you make your arrangements let me know. Enclose a letter to ~~me~~ O S Wood Morse's Telegraph under cover to A. Stewart M.C. I have not time to write any news as I am fearful I shall be too late for the mail.
In great haste Yours Sincerely

O. S. Wood

O L Moore
Feb 9th 1845

E Connell Esq
New York

Washington May 19 - /48

Dear -

Your of the 16th came to hand this morning - Immediately I had an interview with Mr Wood & arranged with him to leave this P.M. to and you. On appearing Prof. Ale - & Mr. Vail of it, they said, you had best wait a few days - if the bill passes we shall want you here d. t. I thereupon told Mr. W - & Mr & V - that if they could retain Mr W - to any ad. vantage, I would not ask him to leave - but I am afraid they could do nothing for him. The fact is, Vail wants to hurry the Tel. on operation here, if the bill passes, although there is no business to do that will pay anything between this & Balt - & to keep Mr W - to do his, his duty - very well, I have no objection, except to the folly & impudence of the thing - So Mr. W - will remain & take his chance - I am glad it brought Mr W - to an acknowledgment of Wood's usefulness - &c.

All is, you say you can provide an assistant & you - so be, with the best possible ex-

have a loss of time - I advise you come on to the room - get under way as fast as possible, & take such help as may be needed to save all time - but see also whether you propose to go ahead with the exhibition under the same arrangement as had at Boston, or at any hazard - I have it optional with you, only wish to understand which way it is to be done -

I see the N. York letter writer of the Post^c bulletin summarizes your movements favorably -

I would have a hand bill, or bill enclosed, printed for circulation thro' the P. O. Hopes - & at the public hotels -

I would have posted on your entrance door, a notice requesting visitors to pay their admission fees to the person operating the Instrument, on entering the Room.

As you employ no door keeper, you must be sure of the honesty of your man at the other end. Sure, as to A-?

I would have 3 or 4.000 of the hand bills struck - not all at once - but keep the form in type - send copies ~~forward~~

can be set up, so as to make the first work afterwards costs for a sheet full, only as much as it would for a single copy -

If you have not set advertisements, you must have them struck off - & back the form up.

I have talked with Mann about your claim, & he says he thinks he shall have no objection - where Vail will say, I have had no opportunity of ascertaining - But there work is but with him -

Nothing whatever has been done for the bill upon the Senate, nor I left it last year, until my arrival - Prof. M. & L. & all hands seems to act as if they could not start an inch until I came. It is provoking to witness such infirmness & effeminacy combined. I have managed to get the bill up in the H. at the critical moment - but it is so late in the session, & business is so clogged, that the chances are small for it - a good feeling exists on all sides towards it, I am sure, yet it is like immoral charity that gives upon nothing in particular & helps nobody -

Immediately I have distributed - as then addresses indicated.

I would not advertise much in the newspapers - but write all the editors to insert the solicitation - Hand bill advertising will be most effective -

I will write again shortly.

Yours truly F. O. J. Smith

Mr E. Cornell -
Marquette City.

Washington Tuesday 23-/45

Dear Sir. Your favor of the 21st. is at hand. I have sent to Baltimore for the Platinum - (two days since) it has not yet come to hand - I have sent again to day - it will go to you shortly. I should not -

As to the Exhibition, I am indifferent whether it be at my own, or your interest with me - only I wish you to be satisfied that I desire not to monopolize profits when you can participate of them satisfactorily with me in the matter - Considering the result in Boston, & not doubting that the same in N-York can be made very different, I did not wish to deter you of the latter, if inclined to, on discovering at all of joining me in it. If you wish to join me, I should of course continue your interest with me which the exhibition costs - & I think the longer we hold it up, the more profitable it will be -

And if I have occasion to put you in charge, I can get you in charge of a line of instruction, we would arrange to supply your place, & continue the exhibition for our mutual benefit - I should think of nothing other wise, of course - In a word, I wish to do the right & liberal thing in the matter & have it entirely for you to elect which will be for your interest - as I have too much confidence in your discretion to suppose that you would suffer my interest to be prejudiced against your judgment, merely to promote your own gain, whichever way the exhibition be conducted -

The Prof. & Vail have flew from their dependence on the line for the future, & got Kennedy of Balt. to get an $8000 appr through the House to buck the line up between there & Balt. Is it not a-bominable to represent the expense of supporting two stations so much, when ordinary economy would not make it exceed $2500? He is desirous another year, to damn the whole system in the eyes of Congress - he is to make immense salaries for himself & Vail, & make other assistants do all

the work - & this is to illustrate the cheapness of the telegraph system! I did not interpose with it in the House, hoping the effect of it would be seen by them. But, I shall head it off in the Senate - & make every thing depend on the main appropriation for an extension. The Prof. proposed the majority of the P.O. Department as the basis of a territorial division of the Nation - to this I have acceded, & made a division of N. England & the Middle States, based upon the official table of postages. But had I - am hesitating about a division, upon them are basis, the moment I acceded to it! Now they are afraid to go alone, & yet distrust their company! I have offered to take 1/4th in any body, or section of the Eleven Eastern & Middle States, & relinquish to them the other 3/4 thus - but is afraid to give me N. England, because he says the cities & large towns are numerous & important - & then offer to take in N.Y. & Penna - when the cities & towns are more distant - Prof. M. thinks the portion where the towns are most remote from each other are the best - & so to him I say, then give me N. England. Now after proposing a basis, they cannot abide the result - Poor devils - they both need guardians - Tail says you & I too will get out. a stump when we shall undertake to put up the Baltic line - that there are a great many things to be understood about it b.b. I laughed at his quaintness, & told him Blanchard had learned, with -

are any thanks to him, all that he, Vail, knew that was with any thing for practical purposes - & that it was ridiculous to be attempting to throw such mystery around the matter as he had done at Baltimore & elsewhere. He appealed to Morse to know if he had learned how to manage the instrument &c. & I appealed to Morse to know if Mr. Vail, had ever shown the slightest disposition to learn him &c. I was determined to bring down his notions of himself to a level with the notions that other fellows have of him.

I am trying all efforts to get the extension appropriation passed in the Senate - I hope to succeed, I make down the $8000 humbug -

I see the Express has noticed your arrangements - I want you to have a right man, I am honest one, for a while - Get one who can shift well, & with ease - very much depends on the man. If you do not get one readily, I could send you one from Boston but it will occasion some delay -

You can write me daily under cover to Mr. Francis.

Vail does not come into the alarm business - Says he & the Professor talked it over two years ago! & Prof. says he opposed the continuance to his brother in 1835! But Prof. says he is willing to aid you. But it is necessary to put it into Congress - I shall improve the earliest opportunity to bring them on it -

Yours truly S. F. B. Morse

Mr. Carroll -

Hon. Carroll
Washington

Baltimore February 2d. 1845.

Dear Sir

Your favor was rec'd by hands of Mr Smith, and I am inclined to believe your ideas & suggestions are more than fair right. I put an extra fee of the bill, to extend the telegraph from here to N York, being so near the end of the Session. Even it is a popular measure, still any thing needs being attended to in season. Of course this week will decide it.

I have not given up the idea respecting my lumber business. I would be glad to learn if any thing new has occured to your mind, as to what I need. Since I saw you I believe there you tho't that the endless saw would not suit my purpose. & that a person in New York had a machine for cutting the staves, convex & concave, can you tell me his name? & the probable price of it? also that machine for shaving shingles, can you tell me his name & the probable price, & what number ought it to shave per day from rough slats? and again that hoop machine, for splitting, can there not be a knife after it is split, that will shave or operate upon it, similar to a plaining machine? & not be expensive as you are among such implements, aside from your own general knowledge of them. I shall be much obliged if you will look after them a little & write me stating so far as you can, what their relative expense & what they ought to perform. & let all remain confidential &c. Yours truly

David Purbank.

as you know what I want, please make out some statement — as to what the expense of each should probably be — exclusive of power & carry. Viz:

Hoop Machine.

Stave Machine — you propose to saw them as the wood grows —

the machine for dressing the stave both sides.

The Shingle Machine, to make it look as though it was shaved with a drawing knife.

I suppose the small circular saw for pointing the bot — or do you think of something better.

The crozing & dowling

And you will recollect. I wish to get them off if I can & adopt as my own & have none to consult so far as I can —

Davis Burbank
March 24/1845

Mr Ezra Cornell
New York.
N.Y.

Ithaca 25th Feby 1845

Dear Sir,

I recd yours of the 24th ult. some time ago. I have had a sick family all the fall and Winter, commencing in Aug last with Wm Moore who died 12 last of inflamation of the lungs

I took the next turn immediately after the Election, then came Miss Casey, & my wife and my little boy along in succession, so that we have occupied the whole time for the last five months in sickness which has proved afflictive and expensive, and has run my very narrow resources to a very small compass I assure you.

I am glad to hear of your prospect of soon being able to meet your engagements, and I hope sincerely that you will succeed in becoming a rich man. My prospects are not so flattering. Luck they were. You have no occasion of informing Capt Holman of your and prospects, as it may possibly interfere with some arrangement that I may be able to make with him for my debt for which you are implicated. I do hope that that you will not be compelled to pay my debt, and I feel assured from your letter I rest easy under the assurance that I shall never be called on to pay my bond to him given for $1500 that I borrowed of him for you, and for which he holds my property as security in common with my own indebtedness to him. You are aware that he holds all I have, including my house & furniture, for any thing, & every thing that he has any demand on me for, and that I have no control except as his representative, of either property or rents. And you are also aware that half of all the rents belong to Mr Blunt, over which I have no control,

and that $125 of the balance of your account is for balance of wheat rent due on farm the year before sold to Manning. You delivered Spurs & Co 300 Bu wheat instead of 400 bushels. The half of that $125 belongs to Blunt, and I have no power or right to appropriate his half to my use. There is now due as follows

	from Ezra Cornell due J. A. Beebe	$55.13	
1844 July 9	By Cash of you	25	$30.13
	E Cornell due Blunt & Beebe		
1841 Oct 1	for Rent of farm 400 Bu Wheat a 10/	$500	2,18
	Do 300 Bu Wheat sold Spurs & Co 10/	375	
		125	
	Int to 1st March 1845 3 yr 5 mo	29.90	$154.90
	E Cornell & Co. due J. A. Beebe balance		12.32
	E. Cornell & Co due Blunt & Beebe		
do	Rent of House 15 Mo: Mo: $50 from 1 Oct 1841	$62.50	
	Int to 16 March 1844 1 y 10 mo	8	
		70.50	
1844 March 16	By Cash for paying taxes	20.	
		50.50	
	Int from 16 March 44 to March 1845	3.53	$54.03
	E Cornell & Co due Blunt & Beebe		
	Rent of store from 1 Apl 1842 to 1 Apl 1845 at 50 $ per annum	$150	
	Interest	15.75	
1844 Dec 12	By Cash	$15	165.75
1845 Feb 1	By "	7	22 143.75

Rest due Beebe is $42.45
Rest due Blunt & Beebe $352.68

The half of the $352.68 belongs to Mr Blunt, and are which I have no control. He has written to his agent at least ten times for the rent the must be paid. There is no two ways about it. And I know of no good reason why the other half should not be paid as long as you have made advances for me, and I stand in relation to you quite

as importunately as you do to me. There is this difference; I am on your bond for $1500 borrowed of W Mann, and you are on mine to Holman for nearly half that sum, and the security in either case is about the same. You have the advantage in this - I am making considerable sales of property at Falls Creek which will be proportionately more advantage to you than me.

Your account of removing the stains from Geib's shop is correct except that you did not state that I had to pay about $40 to get rid of Geib after the stains were removed.

Your age of the operation on Manning's shop at Falls Creek, so far as I am concerned, is a mistake altogether. I never advised it or was consulted about it, took any part in it directly or indirectly. It is true that I expressed my regret that such a shop was kept at Falls Creek, it is true that I advised you to see Ch Humphrey for counsel but nothing further. I never advised the carrying it up to a higher Court at all. I did agree to see you and the men harmless in the Geib case, and should have felt bound to do so. I never dreamed of the Manning affair I knew nothing of it at all till after it took place. I recollect, my distinctly, that I sent you to purchase 50 or 100 acres of land on Greasbodies Run & that instead of doing so you got a farm a distance off on which I lost more than $2000 & that by your neglect I lost $30 by Smith the purchaser of the Cow, and various other such circumstances, but I have made no claim upon you on that acct.

And I conclude, taking all circumstances into consideration, that I am just about the last man that you have any reason to

complain of, and as far as I can judge of public opinion, that is the general impression in this village. I have not complained of your rent. I have always done all in my power to advance your interest, and to sustain your character and gentilification against prejudice & calumny, and I now feel disposed to do so. I have not the least

Post Office
Gen Post Office
Newark
Single

L. S. Ralph
Jan 25th 1845

unkind feelings towards you. On the contrary I wish you entire success; and I have often felt a pride and gratification that you did so far to lay down all the prejudices against you, and against your capabilities, of which there has been much as you are aware. Under all circumstances, & particularly that of my necessities, I hope & trust & believe that you will pay the rent without delay

Yours truly
L. S. Ralph

Washington Feby. 25th/45

Dear Sir

The enclosed Obituary has just come to hand. I hope it will answer - I am not informed whether any press is on hand -

I have very little faith in the passage of the $8000 appropn - 1st. Because I know it ought not, in reason - & 2dly because, the Senators of the Senate, Chm of Comte. on Finance to whom the bill is committed, told Kennedy of Balt. that he was opposed to appropriating a dollar for keeping up the line from this to Baltimore, & on yesterday told me the same thing - But I impressed him very forcibly to an extension, & I got him to get it. But for the reasons & strongest, & selfish holding of

my associates, I could get all that is deserved —

They are well to admitted.

Nothing is known about the cabinet appts. — I shall get old McCulloch out of the Treasury. I reach the funds that belong to me there in a few weeks, as prospects now indicate — & if so, whether Congress goes ahead or not with the tax — I shall as soon as I can get my co-owners out a tentative division —

In haste, yours truly

F. W. Smith

Mr.
E. Cornell
Newport City

Mr E. Tomalk

City of Ia. Cpt.

H. O. Adams
Esq Atty

Washington July 26. /45

The news of the 24th is favorable, & of the 25th is quite, cause to hearten their hearts –

I have agreed to send Mr. Brown, who is here, & knows all about the instruments, & with little practice will make a good author, to N. York on Saturday P.M. to wait to meet you on Sunday night, & be ready for work Monday morning – provided he can arrange to leave so soon – & if he cannot, I am to know by this letter if possible – If he cannot go, I will order a man from Boston, – whom I can trust – who will be with you as early as Monday morning –

All is doubt & uncertainty as to what kind you will do. With the best feeling & disposition on their part, all of which being negatived within the last days of the session. They may do nothing. The probability, is, I think,

that they will do nothing — In that case, I am determined to do nothing here in company with Mr & Mrs but want to get a division & vote to prepare for the Boston route. I can carry that & will, into as my Own book —

I have not been able to accelerate yet about Bolt's revolutionary machine — but shall shortly — I have got down eighteen miles of iron coupled out & paid for — I shall begin for money if the appr Bill does pass — I want 40 miles — & then I can go ahead from Boston to Worcester — this of all the miserable apparatus that man ever came with, I have the most miserable — They are perfect dogs in the manger — all here see it, but themselves.

Mr Brown has just come in & says he will be with you — on Sunday night — I have agreed to pay his expenses to R-Island, & $1.25 — per day — I think he will be a good man. & shall put him entirely under your direction. Vail has kept him down here — But he is of a good family, & intelligent, & I doubt not will be satisfied —

Yours truly F.O.J.S.

Washington March 1. 1845

Dear Rothson

I avail myself of the present opportunity of sending a line to you by Mr Brown. The Bill appropriating $8.000 for the support of the Telegraph has passed and I feel quite certain that; that is all Congress will do. Smith is very much dissatisfied with it, and I think he has reason to be, as this line will not pay 1/4 of the expenses. Rogers & Vail want apistants and I can have the h[illegible] of being Vail's if I choose. Prof Morse wants me to stay here, which I shall probably do until something better offers.

I have not heard anything said about your alarm bell.

The feeling which exists between the proprietors of the Tel. Mr Brown will be able to make known to you, and all of the movements with us.

They have said nothing to me yet about salary and I suppose it will be regulated by the P. Ms. Genl.

I heard from home yesterday, all were well as usual.

I spoke to Smith about sending you the Patent Doc's & he said he would attend to it. I dont succeed in getting but one copy. I want to send a copy to Father.

Yours Sincerely O. S. Wood

Osmond
March 1st 1840

Mr E Connell
N. York

By Mr Brown

No 30 Vesey Street

Washington
Jan. 1. /45

Dear Sir - Mr. Brown takes this, leaving here to join you. You will give him such directions as you think proper. He is put under you -

Congress has passed the appropn for $8000 which I deem a most outrageous fraud upon the good sense of Congress - & have not made myself responsible for it in any way - to say that the Telegraph costs $666 per month, with only 2 instruments, is evidently absurd. I can prevent the expenditure, because I can prevent the use of the lines unless compensation be made - But, if I can effect a division of tendering with them, it is all I want - & this I shall try about -

Let me hear from you early after Mr. Brown's arrival, how you progress -

It will be well for you to have on your entrance door, a notice to this effect -

Persons visiting the Telegraph are requested to pay the price of admission (25 cents) to the attendant of the instrument, on entering the room -

I have no special news to send you, beyond what the public papers contain -

Yours truly F. O. J. Smith

Mr. E. Cornell
N. York.

P.S. I have advanced Mr. Brown $12.50 - to be accounted for -

Mr. E. Cornwall -
30 Vesey Street
N. York.

By Mr Brown -

H. Ogden
Atlanta, Ga

Washington City
March 1 1845

My Dear Brother

I rec'd your two letters by Mr French which are now before me and I feel under increased obligation to you for your kind admonitions.

Before receiving your last letter I had a talk with Tail and told him that Prof M. thought that I had better go to N.Y. if there was any chance for me.

Tail said I must not go and he would set matters all straight as soon as he had an opportunity to talk with Prof M.

I then made up my mind that I would stay at least till I saw what my salary would be. I have not heard except by your letter what the estimates were for us but I think our salaries will not be over about ½ what you say the Estimates were. You know we have got Cave Johnson to regulate salaries in our Department.

I think the expenditures compared with the receipts of this line for the coming year will

use up the Telegraph in the opinion of the Government.

I dont blame Smith for his opposition to the present appropriation. I think Vail will insist upon my staying here as he is entirely relieved from the confinement of the office.

I want to know what the prospect is for the Boston line.

I will send this by a friend and if he takes it to you show him your Telegraph. His name is Smith & stopped at the same house with me.

I will write you again by another friend in the course of a few days.

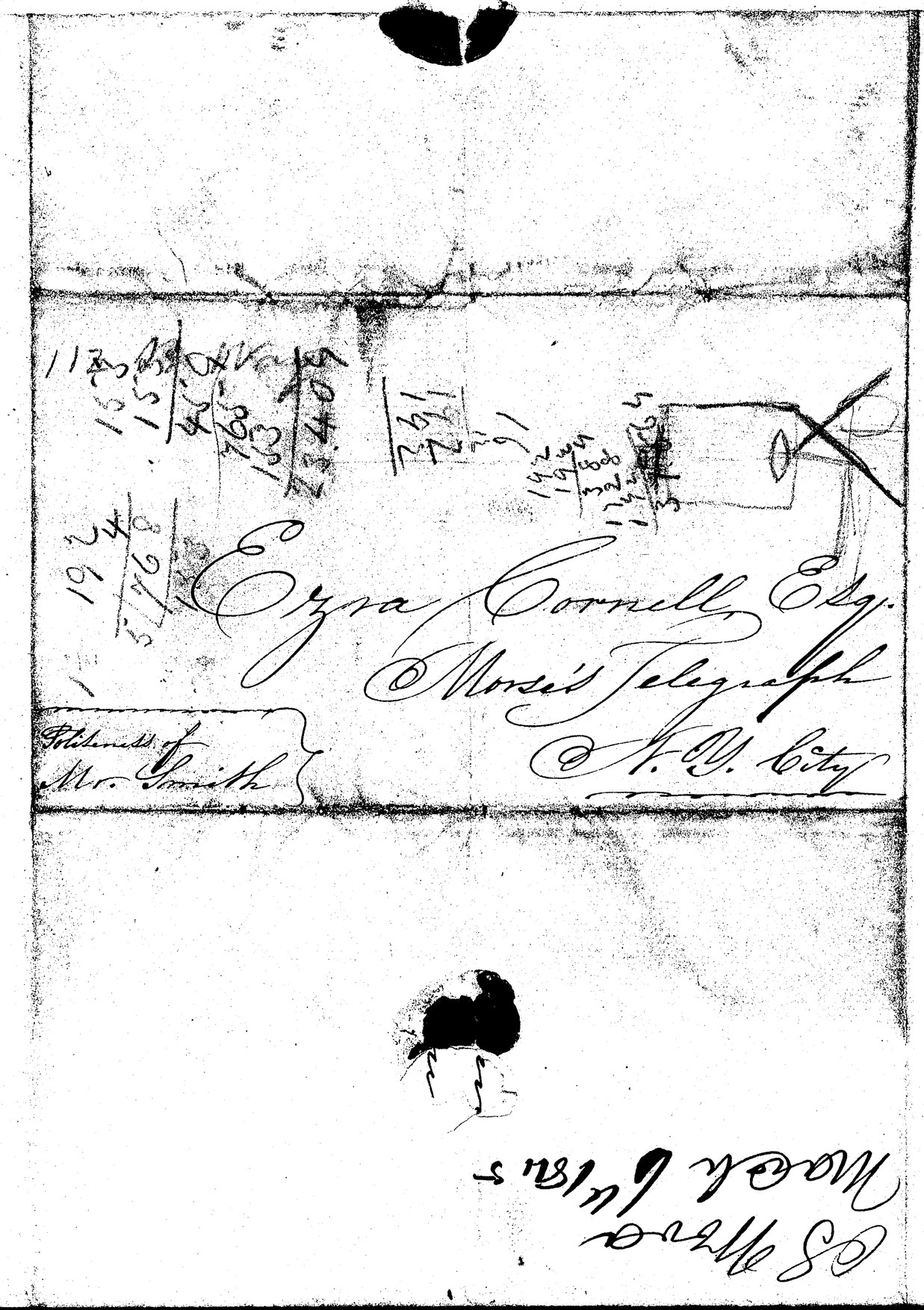
We had a very unpleasant day for the inauguration and last night we had a larger fire than I ever saw before. The National Theatre & several other buildings were burned and there were as many persons present at the fire (I thought) as there was at the inauguration.

The night before the great Democratic ball was held at that Theatre.

Yours most sincerely

E. Connelt

D. L. Moody


Ezra Cornell Esq.
Morse's Telegraph
N.Y. City
Politeness of
Mr. Smith
Moses Ellis

Washington
March 10/45

Yes - your favor of the 8th inst is at hand - I am sorry you allow the worst of both lands the first week of your exhibition to depress you hopes so much - I think it is no sure indication of the future - you must reflect that N. Yorkers are a busy people - have a great many sights to see, & take time to see them - Curiosity is not satisfied with them in a day about any thing, exclt what happens immediately in the Street where they are passing you know how it was in Boston - If efforts are any thing like hard the first months, I shall not despair of an ultimate good run - Still - if you think best to give it up after a short trial, so be it - I will not, of course urge you to sacrifice your interest to a hopeless chance -

I cannot get Prof. Q. Mr. L to come to any bout about your alone - I don't know" - well, I may not have any objection - I will think of it - & as the sort of replies I get - & I dare not press out

night, but I should be surprised of an intended motion —

As to prospects here — all is uncertain — the probable temporary appt. holds off the main one. — No mode of expending there has yet been agreed on. They think to do as they please with it, I suppose — but; unless times are come to about it unusually very soon, I shall try my right to stop the whole —

They have appd Mr. Amos Kendall as their agent, or shears, to conduct suits &c — I want to keep on pointly with him — I am to meet him this morning at 10 — my mind is fixed — I will have a division, unless they agree on a positive mode of indemnifying me on the Bartlett contract, I seem to a disproportionate share of the benefits of the ~~H~~ Force appt. — There will be my terms, or nothing, to be — this morning — I have worked out a limitation division, & offer to let any impartial mind vary it, if it be not all they can ask fairly in a division — If we agree on a division, or on a joint operation, a loan will certainly go up between N. Y. & Phila — or N. Y. & Bos — this season — If we separate, I shall certain

by bear on or the other of those lines, & build in that season. A total disagreement of the proprietors alone will stop operations.

They need about $9000 out of the $30.000 appr. I nothing - but had to forfeit the $6000 loss & disappt - on the B-contract. I will submit to such inequality no longer - The time has come for us to separate, or equalize benefits & act jointly -

Kendall will be a first rate man, if we agree on a joint operation -

Brother of H. H. is a candidate for Ellsworth's place - I think he must succeed - He is recommended very warmly all the Dem. strength in Congress - I wish him God's speed - I send you one copy of E's report two days since - I will another as soon as I can get hold of it - It is not much this year - beyond what most people know already -

I will write you again tomorrow -

Yours truly
F. O. J. Smith

Mr. E. Cornell
N. York City -

Washington March 11/45.

Phil -

I hoped to write with Mr. Randall, as McK's agents, & secure a decision, if they would just adjust old matters, & take a fair share - I take the position that I have had all the disadvantages, & they all the advantages of the $30.000 offer - Thus, of this

money has cost - about	5.500 -
Vail - - - - —	2.350
Gale - - - - -	1 500
total -	$9.350

I had not a cent - but two journeys made to Washington on the written request of Mr. McK & he was disallowed in his accts — $150 -

Then the loss & return - due on the Realties outstanding fully 6 000

$ 6.150

So much for difference between their facts & mine in the facts -

Now I say, equalize this & equalize the $ 8000 offer. The whole purpose of the 8000 can be accomplished for $2.000 - & 6 000 saved, or $1500 for each quarter owner

The cost of the 3/4 ths of the Butte & L. Yuba lines, there would cost them if sold at $50 per mile, as agreed on, say 20 & miles - would be - ~~[illegible]~~ $7 800 —

Let them give me that line, & square off my claim above - of 6.150 / 1.500 } 7.650 - They back the whole of the 8 000 collateral - &

I will then waive a division — if not — divide —

Kendall has put matters so, saying, Mr. & Mr. will refer all differences to three arbitrators, if I will consent to go on with K & not divide —

I have assumed, that technically I have no legal claim to surplus vs. other proprs — that if in their service, or in that of such as knew all about the risk, prospects &c. & of those differences, & the inequality thus far existing in the receipts of the Telegraph, I cannot find indemnity, I will let it all go — that I would not go into technical briefs & counter briefs with them at all for the whole of it, but take my chance in other questions — But, as you know all about our transactions, if they will agree that you shall decide the whole, & say what would be equitable & equal, & make me even hundred with them in the advantages of the 30.000 applied to B — contract &c. I will refer the whole to you. & abide your judgment, & then go on with Mr K — cheerfully & in good feeling — But then, I will go on rationally — will insist on a division, & take my chance — L. L.

But for their $6.000 offer — as Charles has got the x tenths his share, & that would go on as soon as I can again look to me. Their very confidently thinks they

What the answer may be, I know not — I will write you, as soon as I know — But, if they will give me something to equalize the boat — & am willing to adjust all on a way that cannot cost them a cent of money, but will secure them all the prospects of getting it back ten times over, why then I am determined not to go on such in company with them — but will divide. Kendall is all business to avoid division. He knows I have all my plans

of operations matures, & can go ahead as soon as I have the track clear. He will be a good right hand fellow, but is not so good at going ahead alone.

The prospect now is very good, that Ellsworth will be discharged, & Brooks of L. & H. will take his place. I will keep you advised of the progress of events. You need not be concerned, I will provide an opening for you, whenever the Co. moves in any direction.

Yours truly F. O. J. S.

Mr C. Connell.

P. S. My contract with the other people about the Boston route expires 1st of April. But I had prop. his scheme promised, in preference of Bancroft, to renew & extend it. If I can get that route, unencumbered, I can enter on my civil contracts at once. I have, I presume, timber cut for 40 miles, ready to be shipped at notice.

Washington March 17th 1845

Dear Sir

In answer to yours of the 12th inst. I would say that the use of the Electro magnet to give an alarm you will find is included in my patent. I will quote the 6th section of my claim.

I claim "The application of Electro magnets by means "of one or more circuits of metallic conductors from "any known generator of Electricity or Galvanism "to the several levers in the machinery described in "the foregoing specification for the purpose of impar-"ting motion to said levers, and operating said ma-"chinery and for transmitting by signs & sounds "intelligence between distant points, and simultaneously "by to different points."

Now an alarm is intelligence by sound, and if this is accomplished by the Electro Magnet, it certainly comes within my patent.

In regard to making an assignment for the purpose you request, I have not now the power to grant it. The Hon. Amos Kendall is the Agent for transacting all the business of the Telegraph pertaining to 3/4ths of the whole right. I mentioned the subject to him, and he seemed indisposed to allow it. But you can write him more fully on the subject if you think it worth your while.- I will add

that matters are in train for a vigorous prosecution of the Telegraphic enterprize, and so soon as the plan of operations is digested which will probably be done in the course of the next week your services I think will be negotiated for. I have spoken in strong terms to Mr. Kendall in your behalf, and you may possibly see him in N. York in two or three weeks at farthest. I may be on myself before that time.

Respectfully & truly
Your friend & servt

Ezra Cornell, Esq.

Saml. F. B. Morse

Washington Jan. 23-/45

Dear - your favor of the 20th is at hand - Mr. K. & myself are having a perfectly good understanding, & there is being drawn a close an arrangement which will enable him & myself to have the entire control of the Telegraph. & ultimately the entire profits & property - All was agreed on at one time, but Prof. Morse, as usual, flew from all his recollections & understandings with Mr K - which resulted in bringing him to a point one more by adding another $20,000 to the price. I have been delaying for several days to write you, in the hope of writing what the definite arrangement made, is - I think tomorrow, or next day will close it - if Morse does not again rub out of recollection all that remains to be put in black & white - I must proceed, on step, until the entire matter is reduced to writing, so far as he & I are concerned - But, you may rely on our going ahead very shortly, on the basis from this to Mr Gale - & on your having an advantageous position in the enterprise which continuing, & permanently when con-

structure - Before this I presume you have seen Mr. Wood, you got treated by Mr & Mrs quite as well as I anticipated -

I hope to go to St. John with Mr. Kendall, in a short time, & hope you will remove for home - Mr. K. is to leave the city P. O. here on the 1st of next month - but will leave it mainly in charge of his nephew -

Mr Graham went away quite assured that his removal could not be effected - yet I am less sanguine than I wish as to his destiny -

I will try to get you some documents respecting Baptist houses, & forward -

As soon as matters come to a crisis here, I will apprise you -

Your truly
H. J. Scott.

Rev. E. Crosby
Hampton.

Ithaca 23 March 1845

Dear Brother

Not heveing had a letter from you in some time not even the one you prommesed me on the return of Smith to N.York I thought I would brake the Silence my self by writing to you I will commence by giveing you an account of the Excitements which carecterized the 22 day of March in Ithaca (which was yesterday) it was however confined to the forenoon of the day, Wal it commenced about 3 o'clock in the Morning by the alarm of fire fire, Soon the bells increased the alarmes by there quick and successive peels and the anxious fireman and citizans were directed to the scene of action by a brite light and flame of fire wheving forth from the roof of the South end of Halseys Mill, when the Red rover got there (for she was the first on the ground as usual) the whole gable above the second story was in fool possession of the fiery Element about half the length of the building, well we commenced as soon as posible to apply the opposeing Element while a portion of the most active citizens commenced roleing out the bbls of fower from the Stone house (in which there was about 500) the first Story of the mill was also stripped of the custom grists, the hook & lader company playing well there part in saveing 3 of the runnerstone and taping the side of the building nex to a large bin of wheat saved about 200 bushel there was about 7000 bushels stored in the mill the ballance of which was lost

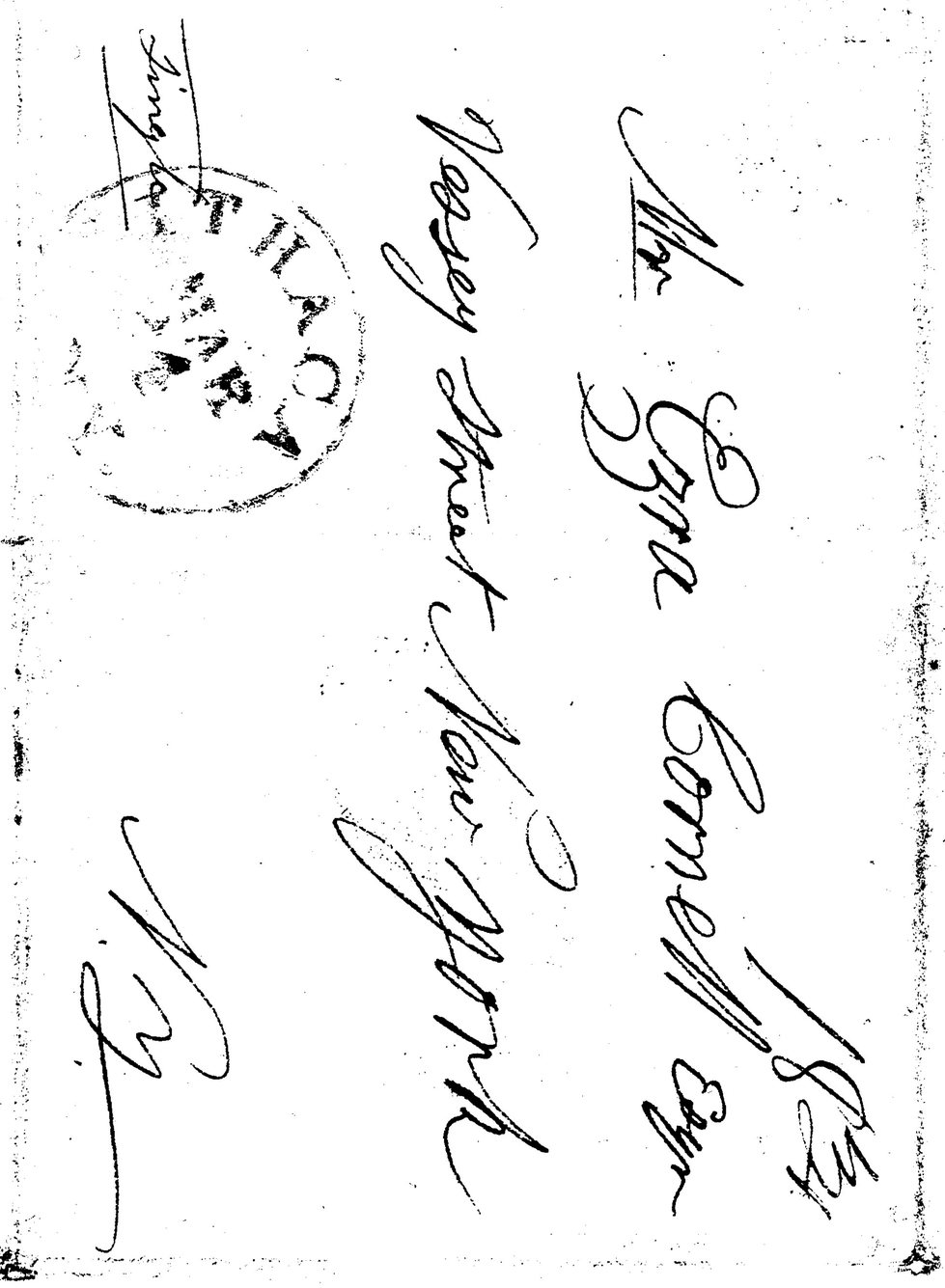
the Engine No 2 worked about 5 minutes when she sucked in a lot of gravel which loged in her valves and rendered her uselell, we then took her hoes and atached them to our machien and threw to streams on the fire which done great Execution, the stone house you will recollect is situated 10 feet west of the mill and atached to eachother by an office built between, the office was pulled down by the hook & ladder co and we saved the stone house with one stream from our machien without even a scorch, and with the other stream we played on the plaster mill in front, No 4 playing all the while on the rear of the plaster mill and by bad management wasted about one half of her water we succeeded however in saveing the plaster mill & stone house the former but little dammaged and the latter scarcely any at all, the mill a totle loss will about 50 bbls of lower unpacked and between 6 & 7000 bushels of wheat, we got the fire down a little after daylight and put up our machiens about 9 oclock we were called out again to extinguish the rubage (which had re kindled) in order to save the geering in the Cockpit after which we put up our machiens, and about 11 o clock when we were pretty well exausted the bells again sounded the alarm of fire and in an instant the whole fire department and hundreds of citizens were on a march of quick step for fall creek, the redrover being atached to a wagon standing nearby and mr woodchuck applied to a good team which was atached to the wagon away she flew followed by her spirited opperators and leading the whole crowd when we got to the gravel hill we were met with the welcome cry of fire out and on looking round the whole street was crowded with citizens

& the other machiens were just comeing a crost the brige by the Chapley the fire from which the alarm sprang was at the wooten factory, it had taken fire in the roof by sparks from the Chimney and had got well a growing before it was discovered, and had it not been for the reservoy in the 3d story it would have been impossible to have arested the flames as it had got so good a start, before the engines could have got on the ground and got ready for action the fire being so high it would have been impossible to stope it so says Mr Palmer the roof was burned about 10 feet square and some other damage done by weather

you will pleas write to me on the receipt of this and let me know what the prospect is about the Telignaph and also what you are about and when you expect to be at home, I have been thinking about getting one of machiens for boreing the Artizen wells and goeing to Chicago and supply that place with good water, the water they now use is all brot from the lake and is very poor I think that would be a good business just give the subject a thought and see if you dont think it would pay pretty well to take your pipe laying plow and a machien for sinking the Artizen well, and some water lime for building cisterns and go to the west were they have nothing of the kind, I am told that in Detroyt Chicago Michagan city & Racceen they have nothing of of the kind even to cisturns

I suppose Mary ann has writen to your in refference to your note at the B.Co Bank of $150. due April 7 & 10, for fear of some Accident I mention it

Your family I believe are well, they have been out of health which you have probably learned, I believe Mr Miller at the corner of the Lake talks of leaving the house that Potter leaves, people think that the house will not improve its credit by the change neither in paying rent or procuring a good name



Sag Harbor
March 23d 1845

it is possible that the burning of the mill will give a new impulse to business here this Spring as I suppose they will commence immediate to rebuild it; the prospect at present is very dull, I wish you would send me up a bbl of Mackerel by some of the Merchants this Spring if you can get them so as it will answer

Yours respectfully

E. B. Cornell