Copy of Smith to O'R of Feb 26. 1849

Washington March 2/49

P. O'Reilly Esq
Philadelphia

Dear Sir your letter of the 26th ult in reply to mine, I rec'd on yesterday With a regret that all differences might not have been amicably settled. I shall assign them to other arbitraments for the future, And as under the Case conveyance, other parties have rights, I shall leave them and you to measure those rights, as best may be done on each side. Only this I wish to be distinctly understood, that no act of any party must be considered as affecting my individual interests or rights, or as sanctioned by me, unless accompanied by my special authority authorised under my hand,

As to the publications you refer to, I am indifferent about your holding back a single day, The whole field is to be contested, and the sooner commenced, the more there will be of it. If it be not sooner ended thereby

Respectfully
Your obt Svt
Frans. O. Smith

Col Speed (Tuesday) Milwaukie Mar 2d 47

My dear Sir

I this morning rec'd yours of 7th and 14th Feby. do you see with what dispatch and regularity news goes by mail from our land to this western world— I wrote you on Sunday two letters one directed to Ithaca and one to Detroit— from the tenor of yours of 14th I am inclined to think it will be some time before you will receive the one directed to Detroit, but from what you wrote me 24th Jany. which was the only one I had rec'd from you 'till today, I had reason to hope it would met you there— I still must urge the importance of your coming on and hope to have you take up the line at Detroit and work it along 'till you met me, how long I shall be here and at Chicago is altogether in doubt, On Sunday when I wrote you every thing looked bright and prosperous but yesterday and today it does not look so well, I have call'd on many the last two days and they hold back and talk poor, and the news rec'd today from the arrival of the last Steamer having knocked the bottom out of breadstuffs, has cast a gloom over the Millers, Wheat buyers, forwarders and they are afraid to take hold of our Enterprise, then there is a class of Money lenders and capitalists, who will not do any thing, but rather throw cold water how all will terminate it is impossible to say I shall still keep doing and not give up 'till I have seen the worst week out and then if I don't make it go I

I shall begin to show the "White feather" as yet I have good courage, tell all it is going a head as well as I could desire, but I must confess it is one step forward and two backwards — after a day or two it may look better, I shall write again as soon as I see a change which I hope will be for the better —

I am certainly pleased with your prospects in your Register and hope it will ultimately succeed, in meantime I think you would do well to let Messrs. Johnson & Cornell manage it for 5 or 6 weeks 'till we can get our $20.000 or $30.000 subscribed and then you can devote your whole uninterrupted time to it and I can manage the concern, but it requires your personal aid to give it a start on the East end of the route perhaps at Chicago.

Very Truly Yrs

D. T. Tillotson

P.S. am out of money & shall draw on Cornell in a day or two for $100. if I can get it Cash. if not must borrow or beg my way — Send me your papers showing our doings here —

D D Gilotson
March 2 1847

Miss Ann Eliza Young
Nauvoo
Hancock Co.
Ill.

MAR 3 WIS.

10

If O.B. is yet in N.Y. and will remain there till this can reach him Mrs. S. will please send it and any others she may have occasion to send from me to him—

D.D.G.

Ithaca March 2nd 1847

Dear Sir

Your favour of the 24th Ult. is at hand, informing me that you have the Stock taken for a line of Telegraph from Fish Kill to Albany, and asking me for terms &c for erecting it,

I will erect it for you in the best and most substantial manner furnishing heavy iron wire of best quality, batting Insulators and registers for two Stations with all necessary fixtures for Stating the line, set it to work and give the necessary instructions for operating it, to the person who you may discipate to put in charge of it, for $100 per mile and have it in operation by first of May next, The line should be much more permanently built than the Ny & Albany line, posts heavyer and more of them per mile,

Please let me know your decision on the subject as early as possible

Yours Respectfully
E. Cornell

Jas. M Rankin Esq

Copy of Letter to
Jos. M. Rankin
Fish Kill Landing
March 2. 1849

Auburn March 3 1849

Dear Brother

You requested me to write by mail what I could do here in reference to wages I have Encouragement of getting 600 dollars a year of Mr Easton, although he has not yet told me he would give that but Mr Barnes thinks he will & says I must not think of leaving the line, I shall write to Mr E soon and know what he will do.

I have not seen Brown yet but learn that he is doing well & is able to pay, will see him on my return to Rochester

Mr Park has gone to NY to see his friends for he found none on this line but me & tis mach for that, he made a perfect Ass of himself while in the Rochester Office in Barnes absence he got so that no one on the line would pay any attention to him or Even Call him unless on very urgent business neither did he know when he was called unless he let the instrument roar all the time

I learn Mr E raised Hob while in Buf, the line broke down in 7 different places between Buf & Utica last Saturday A.M. at 10 I started at 3 P.M. went as far as Utica all O.K. learned there that to men Cincinnati as far as there on the freight train counted seven breaks but did not

stop to mend one of them I supposed of course they would stop on their return & mend them so as to get <u>here</u> Saturday evening so I returned to ~~R~~ Rochester got back 9 Oclk but could not hear anything from Bu nor did not until the Cars came in Monday noon & brot Mr Hayton witness at Bu & the time when he came in the Office I saw nothing in his Eye. so I asked him where Bu was that we could not hear from her. he say there were 2 dam'd heathen heads went out on last to mend breaks but all they did was to count 9 even breaks with out mending one & says he I told them to leave, & fined some one that would mend a break when they found it if he did not like when telling of it I would not say so, he has never found any fault with me I think if I can get Sex hundred dollars & have a permanent situation it will be better than shifting about. I Can then be with my family by ~~morning~~ morning somewhere on the line, when you write let me know what you can do & where the work will be & c direct to Rochester, I have agreed to stay only for this month unless there is a new bargain

I have sent you the papers that you received there & will you send me an Ithaca paper now & then.

Yours Respectfully

H B Cornell

D C Cornell Esq

C. Cornell Esq

Ithaca

NY

E. H. Bonnell
Apl 8/71

Ezra Cornell
1882.
Mch 4/7

Detroit 4th March 1837

Dear Sir

When I arrived at this burg on Friday last I found myself nearly used up with a bad cold, and want of rest. On Saturday I felt better and went to work to find out "how the cause lay". I soon ascertained that all the business men are all anxious to have a Telegraph it would be a little business to get them subscribe to our articles of association the second named called on said that he had subscribed for $100 when Fargo was here: but he was very busy just. The truth is the Speculators in "Coffee Stock" have raised the very devil in this Country and frightened every man who has a dollar to loose, by making them individually responsible for all the debts of the association After consulting with Mr Woodbridge of the Bank of Michigan and the Hon J. M. Howard and others I came to the conclusion that it was of no use to attempt to get any considerable amount subscribed to our articles of association but if a Charter could be obtained from the Michigan Legislature, they all thought that there would be no difficulty in obtaining subscriptions: After spending two days in consultation with various individuals I came to the conclusion to make an effort to obtain a Charter. In examining the laws of this State I found an act passed last year Authorising any five or more persons to organize themselves, for the purpose of Mining and carrying on sundry manufactures, something like the law under which our Factory Co are organized. I also found on last passed

this winter in relation to the construction of Telegraphs in this State. I drew such a new bill of which the following is a copy An Act to authorize any five or more persons to form associations or companies for the purpose of constructing any line or lines of Telegraph in the State of Michigan

Be it Enacted &c That any five or more persons who shall form an association or company for the purpose of constructing any line or lines of Telegraph in this State, or commencing in this State and ending elsewhere, shall be entitled to all the benefits, privileges and immunities, and subject to all the pains, penalties, and liabilities contained in an Act entitled An Act to regulate private associations or partnerships &c passed 18th day of May 1847 so far as the provisions of said act are consistent with the purposes of such associations or companies and not inconsistent with the provisions of an Act entitled "An Act authorizing any persons to construct lines of Telegraph in the State of Michigan" approved June 28th 1847 &c

I succeeded in getting the above bill passed through both houses, and as soon as signed by the Governor it will become a law. By the provisions of the first mentioned act we have to file our articles of association in the office of the Sec of State, and with the Clerk of each County through which the line may pass. We may then sue and be sued in the name of the President and the Company have continued succession for thirty years. The stock holders are individually responsible for the amount of their stocks only, but a majority of the Trustees must reside in this State. The act has been 28th day since as

the rights of way on all public roads and bridges and taxes the Company 25 ℔ ½ mile annually
The three Acts taken together give as as power an act of incorporation as an applt to ask for, and I think that the Patentees will be pleased with it, and readily consent to all its provisions. I also think that I can now obtain as large a subscription here as we have ever contemplated, and as soon as I can get a certified copy of the law just passed I shall commence operations, with full confidence in my success.

I have not heard from Lillystone but doubt whether he has done any more than to learn the books and get a list of names in the different Towns. Your letter containing his last list was received yesterday. I shall immediately write to Smith and Kendall and get them appointed to organize under the laws above mentioning. as without their consent the subscription would be useless: but I apprehend no objections from them as it is manifestly for their interest and they have sagacity enough to know it. I attach to our articles of association the following:

Whereas the Legislature of the State of Michigan passed an Act entitled An Act Authorizing any five or more persons to [redacted] associations or companies for the purpose of constructing any line or lines of Telegraph in the State of Michigan approved 4th Mar 1847, and whereas by the provisions of said act any five or more persons may form associations or companies for the purpose of constructing and using any line or lines of Telegraph conforming to the provisions of said act, thereby avoiding the personal liabilities incurred by joint stock associations or [redacted]ships, We the undersigned do hereby assent to, and agree to become parties to the foregoing articles of agreement and association, [redacted]

the proprietors of the patent for Morses Electro magnetic Telegraph of the one part, and Livingston and Wells and J J Speed of the other part, and for promise and agree to pay the sums set opposite our respective names as therein provided, on Condition that said Association or Company shall be so organized under the said Act of the Legislature of the State of Michigan

E. Cornell Esq
Ithaca
N York

J J Speed
March 4/47

as to secure to the subscribers hereto, all the benefits immunities and privileges granted to Associations or Companies by the provisions of said Act. Or otherwise this subscription to be null and void and of no effect

I do not see why the above will not secure all our rights and the rights of the proprietors of the patent

I give myself some credit in managing to get the bill passed in so short a time, and hope all interested will be pleased with it. Let me hear from at Chicago. I will write again before I leave here Yours J. J. Speed

When I got home I had $25 left which I deposited to your credit at the Tompkins Co Bank, which with the $50 left by you will leave but $50 more to pay, I got Williams to hold on to the $25 and not send it back, and promised him to arrange it as soon as I could hear from you.

Tillotson spent some of his own money, besides the amt he had of yours, which we will have to pay him back before he goes again as he will need it for his family. but if we get our trustee appointed and the dam O R com- troversy settled. Tillotson can go West and collect $4000 very soon. It is of great importance to have that fixed as soon possible and if I had been at libert to leave home I would have gone to Newyork and seen A.R. Smith & Rundall and tried to get them together. Ely told me that O R was at Albany & Newyork and would be there some time, and altho the Ely's talked very positive about their rights, and said that they had consult- ed the best Counsel in the State and were certain of sustaining their contract to the extent claimed by them. I thought that they would rather settle the difficulty than to have a Law suit. I said to them that they had a right to serve an injunction on me by my absence of my intention to build Moses Lake from Section Nine, if their contract was better than mine, and that I was ready to make such a statement in writing as would enable them to obtain an injunction if they chose to do so: but they declined commencing the war, and as they had given me notice that they should build the line & prevent my

doing so. I told them that unless it was settled soon I would serve an injunction on them. Harry Ely advised that we would them have a good natured fight and test the question. If nothing else can be done, had we not better serve an injunction on them and have the matter ended. Talk to Smith about it, and if you and Smith think it advisable to try the question by way of injunction. I can send Ely's letter to Humphry and let him fire up at them. As that method of testing the question would necessarily take some time, and perhaps in whole year I would much prefer that Smith should make some arrangement with them so as to get us go on peaceably; and let O R and the patentee fight such attempt at this business — You may say that I am making more fuss about the O R matter than the occasion calls for: but if you had heard as much about it as I have, and had to answer as many questions respecting it you would want it out of the way — Livingston cannot get his Stock sub. until it is settled, and his line should be going on at the same time with ours, or our sub will complain, as this objects in taking our Stock was to have the means of reaching the City of New-York — When the line is done to Milwaukee it will add one half to the receipts on the N Y and Buffalo line

It is a devil of a job to see so many men as we had to see to get our Stock taken and I do not want to do so much taking for nothing

I have written to Smith three letters, but have seen no answer

Ask him what he means ?—

Detroit 5 Mar 1847

My dear Sir

After my arrival here I soon ascertained that it would be an advantage to get my large and y Stock subscribed to our articles of association. I called on Mr Hastings and got the books the day after I got here & he went with me to see Mr Howard, Mr Trowbridge &c. Mr J. M. Howard (a glorious good fellow) thought that if I could get an act of incorporation, which would relieve the stock holders from the individual liability incurred by joint Stock associations, that I would have no difficulty in obtaining ten thousand dollys. in this city. I immediately went to work to see what could be done in that way, and in examining the laws of this State I found an act passed last winter, a printed copy of which I send you, granting to associations, many of the powers and privileges of an act of incorporation. I drew up an ~~act~~ bill, and got the Chairman of the judiciary committee in the Senate to introduce it, and ask for its immediate passage. He succeeded in getting it passed through the Senate the first day, which was Wednesday. I then went to lobbying in the House and yesterday got it passed through it now only requires the signature of the Governor to become a law, which I expect to obtain today. The provisions are as follows Any five or more persons, who shall form associations or ~~partnerships~~ companies for the purpose of constructing and using any Line or lines

of no use

of Telegraph in this State of Michigan or commencing in this State and ending elsewhere, shall be entitled to all the privileges, benefits, and immunities, and subject to all the pains, penalties and liabilities contained in an act entitled "An Act to regulate private associations and partnerships" approved 18th May 1846 so far as the provisions of said Act are consistent with the purposes of such Associations or Companies, and not inconsistent with the provisions of an Act entitled "An act authorizing any persons to construct lines of Telegraph in the State of Michigan" approved 28 Jan 1847 You will see by examining the laws of 1846 which I send you in pamphlet form, that we are authorized to have continued succession to sue, and be sued, in the name of the company, to hold and convey real estate and that the personal liability of the Stockholders is limited to amt of their Stock, unless the indebtedness of the Company shall exceed the amt of their Capital, which is hardly a supposable case, so far as we are concerned.

I have attached to my subscription book, immediately following the names of the Patentees the following.

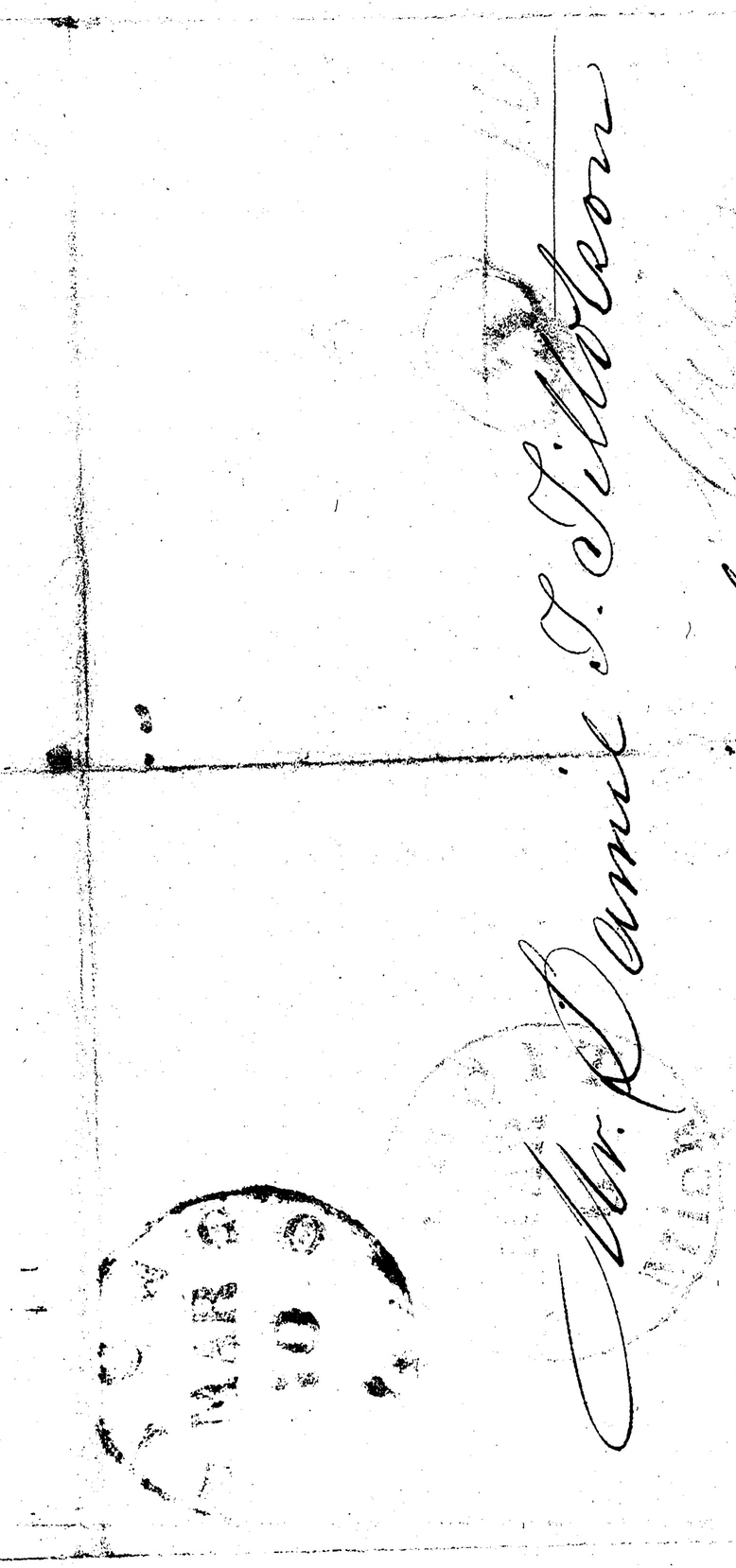
Whereas the legislature of the State of Michigan has passed an act entitled "An Act authorizing any five or more persons to form associations or Companies for the purpose of constructing any line or lines of Telegraph in the State of Michigan, or commencing in this* State & Michigan and terminating elsewhere by conforming with the provisions of said Act, thereby avoiding the personal responsibility

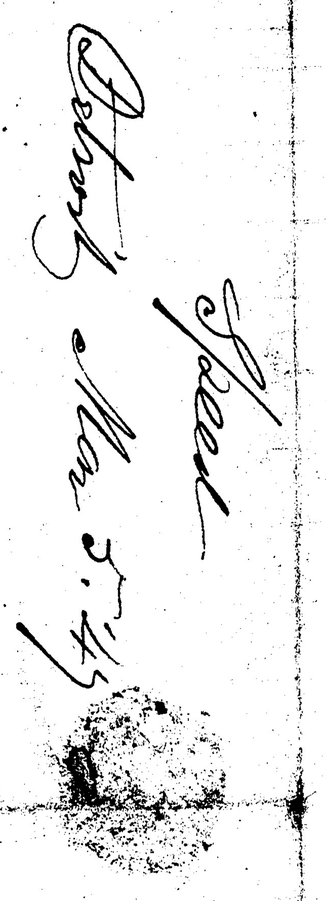
* If you copy put "in the State of Michigan"

of joint Stock associations or Partnerships - We the undersigned do hereby assent to, and agree to become parties to the foregoing articles of agreement and association, between the proprietors of ~~the~~ the patent for Morse's Electro Magnetic Telegraph of the one part and Livingston & Wells and J.J. Speed Jr of the other part and promise and agree to pay as therein provided, the sums set opposite our respective names - On the express condition that said association or Company shall be so organized under the said act of the Legislature of Michigan as to secure to the subscribers hereto all the benefits, privileges and immunities, granted to associations or companies by the provisions of said act. Or otherwise this subscription to be null and void and of no effect, and all payments that may be made prior to such organization, or without it, shall by the first day of July next, be restored to such subscribers so aggrieved, and unless such organization shall be completed by that time, this agreement shall cease and determine, except as it relates to such repayment.

If you have got but little subscribed and find any difficulty in doing so, in consequence of the individual liability of the subscribers. I would insert the foregoing in your subscription books: but if you have already obtained a large subscription and you think we can get the balance of the Stock taken without the attestation I would not make it. You will see that by adding what I have to the subscription book, that it will require the sanction of the Patentees and Livingston & Wells. I have written to all of them & sent them copies of the law and I have no sort of doubt about their assenting to it: but if by possibility they should not, all our subscriptions obtained under the attestation would be of no use

I advised with Chs Bumpsby, in Albany, about the interference of O'Riley's contract, and he says that if we get our Stock subscribed, and O'Riley's contract should be decided by the court to be good. I could make the patentees responsible to me for all the damages I would sustain. If we change the





terms of the subscription, and the patentees should not assent to it, I could not claim that I had obtained the subscription according to the contract but if O'Riley's contract should be overturned and I could show that I was unable to get subscriptions in consequence of that contract, they would then be accountable to me for damages. I have little doubt but the patentees will settle the difficulty with O'Riley, and agree to organize under the

the laws of this State as I suppose, and I shall no doubt receive letters from Smith and Kendall to that effect. As soon as I can get a certified copy of the bill just passed I go at them here in solemn earnest, and do not mean to let them off short of $10.000 Mr Howard has been sick ever since I came here: but is better today, and I hope by monday will be able to go with me and see what we can do. I will probably hear from you before I leave this city, and if you think it advisable to insert the conditions in your books, which I have in the one here, I shall do the same in all the others on the route: but if you have already obtained a considerable sub: and have had no trouble with the personal liability matter, I will use the balance of the books after leaving this city as they are, and run the risque of getting the requisite amt. aside from the subscriptions here. There will be no difficulty at any time in getting those subscribers who have signed the present articles to change their subscriptions, and avail themselves of the advantages of the corporate powers granted in this State. Mr Howard gives it as his opinion that under the laws of this State we have a right to do business, and be recognised in our corporate capacity, in other States, consequently any subscriber in Illinois or Wisconsin would be entitled to all the benefits of the law of this State limiting the personal liability of stock holders, to the amt of their stock

All acts of incorporation granted by one State are good in any other State. Insurance

companies in the different States, grant Patents
and are recognised in all the States, and the Stock
holders in such companies are individually res-
ponsible just so far as the laws of the State granting
the act of incorporation make them so and no further.
I think that Randall, Smith and Livingston
Wells will be well pleased with the Price I have
put upon, and will at once assent to it.
as I know it is for their interest to do, and they
will have wit enough to see it.
I do not know how long it takes the mail to go
to Chicago and back. but I will be
most unhappy — I think perhaps
it will be safer for you to write me at
Marshall. I will probably hear from you
in answer to my letter of last week before
leave here, and you safely to this, I can
get at Marshall.

I send a letter from
friend Martin yesterday mailed 26
July. your family were then all well.
Mark writes you to let him know the price
of wheat, flour and corn, and says
that he may possibly come for the
next some time this month. I send
a letter from Cornell a day or two since
enclosing yours to me from Marshall
with list names &c.

I have had a great
deal of writing to do, to Smith, Randall
Livingston, Cornell & a little to my
wife — As you remark in one of your
letters, this business is not all fun: but
I think we can make it so, and
get some of the rocks too before we
are done with them.

Yours truly J J Strong

Owego Mch. 7th 1867

My Dear Sir

I returned from N York on Friday last. I did not obtain from Mr Staples his opinion on the matters submitted to him, as the copies of Mr Moore's Patents did not come to hand before I left the city. I arranged it so that the papers when they arrive shall be handed to Mr Staples, and he will then make up his opinion and send it to me. I know pretty near what his opinion will be, at least in one particular - namely that it would be an infringement of Moore's rights to use signs, formed by combinations of dots and lines - but the use of dots alone or lines alone would not be. I should be glad to learn what you are doing as regards our experiment. I will come out to see you whenever you think it worth while. I have a plan for crossing rivers which I should be glad to submit to your practical good judgment. Have you heard from Speed?

Ans 10 March

Yours respectfully
Chas F Johnson

Elmira March 8th, 1847

T. Cornell Esq

Dr Sir

On the following page I send you a "Sort" of a Statement of receipts & expenses on the line as far as I am able. But from the want of a settlement of the rates to be charged the Ia & El line for transmission of communications over the Ia & Au line I cannot arrive at even an estimate of the actual earnings of this line & as regards the prices to be paid for report by the editors for the time they have taken them it remains to be settled as yet. It seems to me & in fact Mr Benjamin so expressed himself that the proposed charges on the Auburn line are rather large & will diminish our receipts to a mere pittance & intimated that we "might as well give it up if we were subjected to such large expenses".

Yours Respectfully

T. Haviland

Amount Received on Communications

Rec'd & Sent at Elmira Office $54.30

Amount rec'd for reports —

" Rec'd at Ia office 11.10 $65.40

Of the above amt the Main Line

is to be credited with $20.20

Deducting amts pd on Main

Line $5.40 5.40

14.80

add amts charged as

pd in Auburn office. Pd on ~~1.25~~ ~~6.65~~

1.25 7 85

Main Line but coming marked

on with the charges — — — 14.80

1.25

16.05

Deducting also cash $5. sent Mr Eddy 3.00

Due Main Line $11.05

Expenses of fitting up 9.12

" " repairing 17.63 37.80

$27.60

The way we do main is to keep

An ie funds to pay balances on each

Conn at the time of Sending — So if you

Send 15 words to ny, the keys the ne line

50 05 and chgs it to your offs. If ny

Sends 15 to EL then the keys EL 25-05

and chgs it to us. L this comment

Fib 25th.

J. Haviland
F. March 1847

C. Monroe.

New York 8th March 1847

Dear Sir

Your favor of 3rd Inst is this moment received, and I hasten to reply. I sincerely regret that so much time has been, and must be consumed before this matter under consideration can be brought into operation — I trust that a very little reflection has convinced you that there can be nothing dishonorable in the matter — I cannot conceive that it would require the slightest argument to convince you of that fact — If any man sees energy and enterprise to procure more riches than any one else, he is certainly entitled to the benefit of it, provided, he uses no dishonorable means in procuring it — I trust there is nothing dishonorable in the mode you propose — no cutting of telegraph wires, or anything objectionable — Since you left I was enabled to get a look a map of Nova Scotia — Nature has placed three mountains there, just where you want them exactly — There is every probability of the news being valuable for the next three years at least — and if you can set about the matter at once you can make ten thousand dollars the first year and fifteen thousand dollars per year after that as long as it is used — You are the practical man that I want to see undertake this matter You can carry out the plan and make this money for yourself as well as any one else, and better too — If you undertake it I shall have confidence in its success — but now is the time to begin — it will not

do, to set on our posteriors and say that we can do nothing until warm weather - the work must be commenced at once, and be ready for the steamer that follows the next one if possible - time is too precious to be thrown away now - and I call upon you as a practical man, an enterprising man, and a man of Energy to come forward now, put your shoulder to the wheel, and make your fortune, for if the system is worthy of the confidence you profess to have in it, you can make a fortune in a very few years

You say you may be unable to give your "personal attention" to this project at once - Mr Parks is here and doing nothing as hotels me - It strikes me that he would be just the man to go over the ground and see if the plan was practicable or not - why not employ him, or any one else you may have confidence in -

Write me immediately upon this matter and do not I beg of you allow me to express surprise at another silence as long as the last -

Respts

Your Obt Servt

John N. Norton

23 South St

P. S. I have ascertained that the Grand Jury do not reach inland in New Brunswick more than 8 or 10 miles -

E. Cornell Esq
Ithica
N. Y.

New York March 11th 1847

E. Connell Esq

Your favour of 27th Feby Came duly to hand - was much obliged for the Contents but no ade - I made no Offer to build the Line or any portion of it. they had Offers to build it at $21. Pr. Mile which was much lower than I could think of Offering - But I believe they have decided to build it themselves and have appointed McKay of Buffalo Gen. Supt. of Constructing - he has entered upon the duties of his Office and has employed Mr Parkerson - he is going to Soldier the Iron at present and will then go north for them -

The Boston Line is much the Same as when you were here. Smith is now trying a Series of Experiments this P.M. he has thrown out all the intermediate Stations and Trying Boston alone - Cant tell yet what will be the result - I think I can tell what his difficulty is

The Locomotive on the Philadelphia Train Ran into the Iron on that Telegraph West of Brunswick and tore down about a Mile of Poles to - Last night Haley has all his Stock Sunbeam - Orleans - the last $12.11111. was taken - New Orleans he is Expected home soon - His Bon. Preserved Fish is here - no news - I have Expected to hear from you in relation to that Note but Let expect before this time tell me if anything is up & how you get on and how soon you will be here -

That note I gave for Board for S. B. Battles has not been paid yet at Hunts Bridge -

Write Soon

Yours very Respectfully

J. D. Park

Milwaukie W.T. Mar 11. 43

E. Cornell Esq.

My dear Sir

Yours of 20th ult. dated at Albany and directed to Chicago, was forwarded and rec'd by me this morning, also one from Col. Spaid dated at Detroit 5th inst. I was pleased to hear from you and the statements of revenues on the different lines helps, but as you know that I figured down in 36. I have not forgotten how, and being without any kind of Statistics I set myself to work on Sunday and got up an Estimate for our line from Buffalo to Milwaukie which shows most conclusive we can make at least 2½ p/c pr annum the Capital of $250 pr mile, if I have made any errors in my Calculations it was from ignorance and no one can refute it. at all events it takes well enough. I regret the obstacles Col. Spaid met with at Detroit, but have no doubt the course taken by him will overcome them, I have just gone straight along with my Subscriptions and have overcom any objections to our Association, my list now has on it at this place 67 names & firms amounting to $6250. shall get it up to $7000 or $7500 here and will meet Col. Spaid at Chicago with $10,000 I think all good — As I found myself without Money enough to pay postage this morning I thought it time to make a raise and have therefore drawn my Bill on you in favor of Lewis Stubbell Esq. at five days from sight (payable at the Telegraph Office in Stonbank) for One hundred dollars, which I hope will be agreeable to you as per advice of Col. Spaid and my former letter. Gen'l H. has

Lewis Stubbell
Apl 10. 1843

125
100
50.000

aided me very much here and advanced the Money on the dft. and I would hate to have it dishonored or give him any inconvenience – Should you write me again address for next 10 days after rect. of this at Chicago. I think our cause prospers and will succeed –

Very Truly Yrs

D. T. Tillotson

D J Pilotson
March 11/47

[illegible] Dunphy
Mayor
Gen. Comm. Sgt.
A. Signal Office

[illegible]

FORWARDED

If Mr Cornell is absent Mr Wood will please advise him of receipt of this by Telegraph
D. J. Pilotson

Dear Sir

Detroit 12 Mar 1849

I have written like the very devil
him, and have only got fifteen hundred
dollars subscribed. I think that I can get five
hundred more when I return: but the
prospect here is equally enough. I have
this day devised a new scheme for bringing
them to the work in this City, which is this.
I have written to the proprietors of the Scioto
Val Road to learn the line from Toledo through
the Southern tier of Counties, directly to Chica
go, which will save more than 100 miles. I
want them to authorize us to go that way, if
the people here and along the central rail
road do not subscribe enough to pay for
running this way, that is to say, they must
subscribe enough to pay for building 130 miles of
the line, and if they will not, I want them to
believe that we will take the Shortest cut to
Chicago. I shall go on tomorrow to Ann Arbor
and stop a day or so, and work my way on
to Chicago, I do not know what Talbot has
done: but I conclude that he has done well
at Milwaukie. I have faith to believe that
we will get enough to enable us to build the
line, altho it looks equally low. I shall leave
my subscription book here in good hands, and
if they can be made to believe that the line
will be seen from Toledo directly to Chicago
leaving this City, they will get do the first thing
here. I saw Brooks the agent of the Central
Rail Road this morning, and altho he
had declined taking any of our stock, he
attends his time a little when I told him

that I had
about come to the clusion that we must take
the short cut from Toledo, and leave them
to make a Telegraph this way when they
made up their mind that they wanted one.
I think that the Rule Co will take several
thousand dollars of our Stock, rather than have
the line run the other way. and if the
O'Riley contract was out of the way, I should
still think that we could make it go, and
even as it is, I will make it go some how,
perhaps not quite as we would like to have
it: but better than no go at all

Please let my family know
that you have heard from me. I will
write you again as soon as I make a
trial along the line of the Rule Road.

Yours truly

D. J. Spencer

The law compelling us to send communications in
the order in which they are received, altho it
might be a whole newspaper, or an old
almanac, will be attended, if they Legislature
has time to reach it: but they have passed
a bill to remove the Capital to Lansing,
in Ingham County, which is making
a terrible row up the country, and
the probability is, that they will work at the
details connected with that bill, until there
will be no time to do any thing else. I think
the law which I got passed a good one,
and will add much to the value of our
Stock, as many it limits the individual
liability of the Stockholders to the amt of the Stock.

I send you a Letter, containing the Cause
Inquire this within.

P.S.

I find that my funds are running low and
I do not believe that I will have enough to
get home with unless you can send me down
to Chicago. If we could collect the
10k at once subscription we could
make it go but that cannot be done
until the Billy Matter is finally
settled. If I stay here as long as
I ought to I cannot get along
with less than $60 more. If
no of no way to manage the
Matter only you can send
me a certificate of deposit at
Chicago. As your Credit is
better than mine and you
can get the money and I cannot not
You will have to do the needful until
I get home.

J. J. Church

J F Speed
March 27 / 47
Send Money

Respectfully
Your Obt Servt
A. Lincoln

MICH
14
3

Ann Arbor 14 March '47

Dear Sir

Your letter of the 5 Inst. I rec'd here, when I arrived yesterday noon. I am very glad to learn that the prospect is so flattering at Millennium. If you can get $7000 of good available subscription at that place I considered as certain that we can get enough elsewhere to enable us to build the line. I stain at Detroit until yesterday morning, and the last week worked as hard as I could and accomplished but little. I only got $1500 subscribed with the promise of about $500 more. Jacob M Howard was sick all the time I was there, and consequently unable to aid me a great deal, as he would have done had he been well. Barstow did all he could: but the people at Detroit who are best able to subscribe, are Lemuel Bates, Calvin Buvis and Edmund Taylor's, or in other words decidedly mean and illiberal, they suppose that the Telegraph would be built to their place any how, no matter whether they took stock or not. I got a little out of patience, and before I left there, I wrote to the proprietors of the patent, to give me permission to run the Telegraph from Toledo, directly through the southern tier of Counties to Niles, thereby saving 130 miles in distance and $12000 or $15000 in the cost. I told the Detroit people what I had done, and that they would be compelled to build a side line from Toledo to their City, whenever they come to the conclusion that the Telegraph would be useful to them, and that they would, for all future time, have all the advantages of being on a side line, instead of the main line, from Buffalo to St Louis, and that all their communications would have to be rewritten at Toledo, and sometimes subject to half a days delay. They did not seem to relish that idea very well

and if I can make them believe that we are in earnest, they will take ten thousand dollars of our stock rather than have that plan carried out. If they do not do the fair thing, I will endeavour to get the consent of the Patentees and take the Southern route.

Mr Brooks, the R Road agent did not seem disposed to do any thing more than to give us the right of way, on their road, by our giving them the use of the Telegraph. I told him, just before I left, that he might consult with his friends, and if they concluded to do nothing, they might consider it as setting the question in favour of the Southern route. He thought that was a new view of the subject, and they would take it into consideration. If the Patentees and Livingston & Wells will do as I want them to, and as I have no doubt they will, we can free the people at Detroit, and along the line of this road, to take the whole of our stock, not subscribed at Chicago and West of it. If the people at Chicago will subscribe as liberally as $7000 will be for Milwaukee, I am confident we can get the balance.

Mr Baldwin of Detroit, a wealthy man, doing a large business, took $50 only. I went to him the night before I left, and told him what would be the consequence of this illiberality, that they would get no line this year, and when they did, it would be a side line, he said that he would increase his subscription to $250, and he thought others would do the same. I left the Sub. book with Mr Hamond, who will see them all, when he gets well, and I think he will be able to double it at least. I also think that Brooks will do the liberal thing, rather than have the line on the Southern route. I called on some of the business men here

and they tuttle right. Tomorrow I will give them
a chance to make their mark. I will stop as long
at the other places between here and Chicago,
as I think necessary, and must you there
as soon as I can.

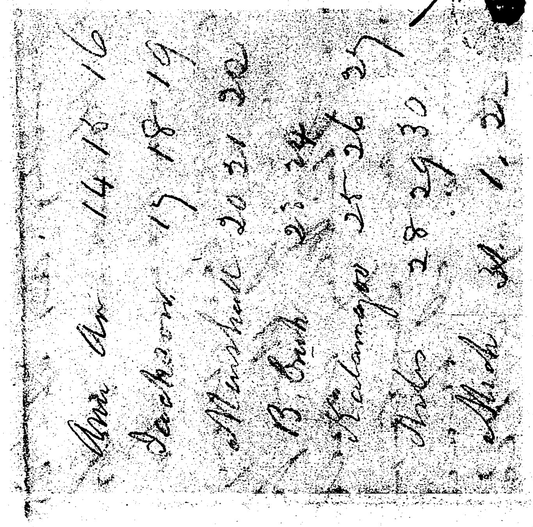
I have not added the proviso,
compelling us to organize under the law of
this State, to any book except the one at
Detroit, as it is possible, though not probable,
that Kundert & Smith may object to it. The
subscribers who sign the books as they are,
will all be very willing to organize under
the law, if the petitions agree to do so.
The O'Reilly controversy has done great
harm at Detroit, and perhaps at
Chicago. I have written to Ely, the
secretary of O'Reilly Company, saying
to him, that if they sustain their
contract by law, they may have our sub-
scription books, as they will then be of
no use to us, but he had better not publish
any more articles in the newspapers. The dispute
must be settled amicably, or by the legal tribunals,
and cannot be decided before a Town
meeting. I think they will hereafter be quiet,
and let us fill up our subscription, when
I will notify them that I am going on, and
give them a chance to settle the validity
of their contract, if not done before.
If we get our sub. filled, and O'Reilly's contract
should be decided to be good, the proprietors of
the Patent would be responsible to us, for all
the damages it would be to us, and I
think we could make them pay a round sum.
Get our sub. made up, and we are safe, for a
good drive out of somebody.

Yours truly

J. J. Thomson

Splash

Ann Arbor Mar 14 1877



Mr & Mrs J. Stebbins
Chicago
Ills

MAR 18
MICH
WIS
MAR 19
MICH

I have not known any
one more thankful than
I the Fall previous two months -