To J. J. Speed Jr. Esq.

Sir — We assent to the appointment of the following gentlemen for Trustees of the Erie & Michigan Telegraph Company, under the articles of agreement and association with Livingston & Wells & John J. Speed Esq — viz —

Levi Hubbell Esq. of Milwaukie

Martin B. Wood Esq of Al[illegible]. Calhoun Co. Michigan — & Jacob M. Howard Esq of Detroit — being persons designated by said Speed —

N.Y. May. 7. 1847.

Saml. F. B. Morse
Alfred Vail
By their Atty in fact
Amos Kendall
Francis O. J. Smith

Ithaca May 7, 1849

My Dear Brother

I recd your last at Rochester was glad to hear that you were well you Stated that you had Contracts to build Telegraph to the amt of one hundred thousand dollars, I hope that your forces correspond with the amt of work, I dont know but I was rather haisty in Engageing With Mr Haxton, I was aware at the time that I Could do better to hold on but I should have to be away from home & leave my family, I find that my Children are geting verry unrooly on act of haveing no one to keep them in there places there fore I thought it was my duty to have them where I Could See to them my selfe my things are now at the in let ready to Start for Rochester by the Tuesday morning boat I have had some dificulty in in geting Started on act of Some debts which I owe here and not having money to settle them. I dont know but my things will be stoped now before they are put a board of the boat, I have already payed out so much in order to get away that I have not money enough to pay for moveing my things & family I dont know what I shall do I am almost discouraged ~~there~~ there is a ballance due me for my last Summers work with you of some 18 or 20 dollars which if I had it would now it would help me verry much

If you want a good man to go to Michigan to assist in the Erection of that line. there is one here by the name of Holms which I can recommend as a smart & responcible man for that busness he is about 30 years of age & would like to get a situation I think he is well calculated to take charge of a gang of men or to go on and contract poles or any thing Else that might offer he will take pride in strive to promote the intrest of his imployers, I think he can be hired Cheap, if you wish to make any arangment with him pleas let me know immediately

I wish you would write often and let me know what your prospects are and how you get along

I well remember what my feelings were in refferance to your Circumstances about the time you started of on the Plough Expedition, it is true I had but little Confidence in the prospect of your makeing much out of that Speculation but still I was wiling to assist what I could to Enable you to try the Experiment as you were at that time out of busness, well as it has turned out. (although you faild in makeing the Plough go) it was the right move for you, and I am glad that you are now pretty much clear of one of the worst of Curses that is debt I am determined that if I get away from Ithaca that I will stay away untill I can setle up and cast of the Shackels is sufficient to Curse anny man, & when once more of I shall try to keep them of.

if you can assist me in that object I
would be very glad
I wish my famely were so situated that I could
be with you for I much rather be building Telegraph
than to be ~~att~~ engaged where I am at present

Your famely are well Alonzo was down
to day he says the Dryden folks are geting better
Mr Wood is not very smart him self on act of being
hurt some way he is about seling the
Snider farm to Stabbard

Nothing more at present pleas write me often
at Rochester

PS Nubbin & Mr Spencer gets stuck ~~once~~ in
then I went in the offis fridday & they were stewing
over then instrument which was as dead as a door
nail, on act of a bad connection through the local
Ci In the relay I aranged it for them for which
they were very thankfull, last night again they
lost greatest part of the rep on act of bad management
Mr Eddy tells me he has got the contract to
build a line from It Ica to Owego & Binghamton, for
which you was an aplicant he is now at Owego
I have heard talk of them abandoning the Elmira
offis dont know whether it is so or not

Yours respectfuly E B Cornell

To E. Cornell Esqr

E B Cornell
May 7. 1847

10

E. Cornell Esqr
Portland

Maine

ITHACA
MAY
10
N.Y.

Magnetic Telegraph Office
Pokeepsie May 7 1847

Mr Cornell,
Sir,

I have just learned that you are about to build a Line of Telegraph from Montreal to Troy — and being not very unlike men in general — I am desirous of obtaining a situation where I can demand more salary or in other words get a more important Office and make Money a little faster than where I now am — I should be pleased therefore, if you would (if you could conscientiously with your knowledge of me as a man, and of my ability as a Telegraph Operator) give me your aid and influence in obtaining, upon your contemplated Line such a situation as above alluded to — You may ask if I intend to leave this Line? I answer I do not voluntarily at present unless I have an opportunity to do better, which I hope I may have, I have written Otis to speak to you but have since thought best to write you. I am exceedingly anxious upon this point — Will you please answer this soon and give me your present views upon this matter —

Please say nothing to any one that I have applied to you for a station — Yours Truly N. T. Curtis

E. Cornell Esqr

N. G. Curtis
May 7 /47

E. Cornell

Ithaca 10th May 1847

My dear Sir

I recd your letter from N York, and also one from Smith. I am exceeding glad to learn that we are as Smith says "to be put into the right shape" very soon. It is important to have some one on our Michigan line as soon as possible, for we have a great deal of work to do, and should be at it – As soon as we get matters fixed, you must make some arrangemt for having the Registers made, and contract for the wire &c. Munger is very anxious to make the Registers, and has spoken to me about it every day. I tell him that I would be glad to employ him; but you are the man to make those contracts – that I know but little about it, and depend entirely on your decision. He says he will make them after any pattern, and do the work as well, and as cheap, as it can be done anywhere. I wish you would decide the question as soon as you know that we can go on, and let him know whether you want him to build them. We will want at least twelve instruments on our line from Detroit West – as we must put a Register at every place where they have taken $2000 of our Stock. It was the agreement when they subscribed that if they would make up $2000 they, should have a register, and we could not have got the stock taken on any other terms. and altho we have to furnish four more Registers than was contemplated ~~A~~ thought we had better do so, than not to have the stock taken. Smith says "If L & W dont put these matters in a satisfactory shape, I shall hope to get the whole line transferred to you and Cornell". which means, I suppose, that they must pay the bonus on their Canada lines. I wish we could get the whole line, as I am certain that I could get stock enough taken to build it, and I think twice told, if the coast was all clear. Johnson thinks that I am neglecting our clock business, and after getting him in for a considerable sum, he thinks I ought to help get out, which is all true enough: but if I can make more by the Telegraph, than I could at the clock, I may be in a situation to help that along at some other time. At all events, if we can get the line from Buffalo to Detroit, I will get the stock subscribed, and risque the consequences. I read your note by Telegraph. The Trustees are all right, if Wood is the man, and of that you know better than I do. We will need some one to make contracts for poles, and superintend the construction of the line. Who shall it be? Tillotson would have as much as he can attend to, to collect the instalments as they become due, and we cannot get a better man for that job, as he will do it right and keep all straight

I saw your brother E. B. this morning - He has engaged with Faxton for a year, and goes back tomorrow on the line - He says that O E Allen has got up an improvement in constructing the line of wire, by putting a Spiral Spring on each side of the pole, so that the wire can give considerable and not break - is there any thing in it?

How did you get your Stock taken on the Canada line? or is that still to be done - It seems to me that we will have no lack of employment for some months & whether we get any pay or not, we will avoid being classed among the fraternity of loafers.

I cannot imagine how you intend to organize the visual, without adopting the unit interval, or having the means of making *different* signals, which can only be distinguished at a limited distance. If you attempt to count the *number* of obscurations, or times the signals are shown, you will be more likely to err than on the unit plan: but you may have some better way of getting at it, and I have full faith in your success. for I know that I could succeed with the proper fixtures on the plan we proposed.

I have not yet arranged the dft at the T. C. B. and will have to do it by drawing on you for the balance of fifty dolls - as soon as Williams happens to think of it - The dft is lying at the Bank ~~at~~ $75 to your Cr towards it -

I have been to Owego to see Johnson since I set to home, and to Trumansburg and sold a clock but cannot venture far from home just at this time will be at liberty soon and ready to do any thing which you think will best promote our interest

10

Mr. E. Cornell
Portland
Maine

ITHACA
MAY
10
N.Y.

J J Speed Jr
May 10. 1847

I wish you would not forget to make some enquiries respecting the Cuba line. If we can do any thing in that quarter we can certainly make it pay. The news has just arrived of Scotts victory and we have concluded to keep the whole of Mexico.   Yours truly J J Speed Jr

Ithaca 10th May 1847

Dear Sir

Immediately on my return home, I wrote to Mr F O J Smith urging the proprietors of Morse's patent to make some arrangement respecting the O'Rilly contract. It is due to the public, and certainly for the interest of all engaged in extending the Telegraph, that the question should be settled, and fully understood. I intimated to Smith, that when honest men are as earnest in "asking for nothing that is not clearly right", as they are in "submitting to nothing that is wrong", they can generally settle their difficulties by the intervention of a third party, if they fail to agree among themselves. ~~In answer to my letter~~

From Smith's answer to my letter, which I send yesterday, I think the proprietors of the patent would ~~readily~~ willingly consent to submit the whole matter in dispute between them and Mr O'Rilly to any intelligent honest ~~man~~ Lawyer in the City of New York, and abide by his judgment. If Mr O'Rilly and his associates cannot agree with the patentees on some satisfactory terms ~~&~~ by which the controversy can be adjusted. Would it not be well to submit the matter to the decision of some disinterested man who is competent to do justice to both parties:—

I trust that you will pardon me for making the suggestion as you ~~are aware~~ know that I have an interest in having the question disposed of as soon as is practicable

Should the question be carried into court it will necessarily take a long time to get a decision, and the summer pass away without any thing being accomplished

F. J. Smith
May 4. '47
Speed to Smith
May 11, '47

Eastport May 13th 1847

Dear E. C.

I will give you the result of our yesterday's expedition to Grand Manan. We hired an open boat about 25 feet long - with a little deck in the bow and a good sailor to manage her - Brown remained here - Jack Backus & I started about 9 with a fine breeze and very Clear atmosphere (Brown said it was very Clear here all day) On sailing down below Lubec along the narrows we observed a fog Bank lying along G Manan and up & down the bay as far as the eye could reach so that we could barely see the island in any place - We sailed on and when about 1 or 2 miles outside the "Quaddy head" or within 7 or 8 miles of Grand Manan the suns light was obscured and we could see nothing except fog in every direction, thick & Cold - our Captain said the fog might "light" in an hour and might continue a day or two

From what we learned of the Capt & the appearance we were satisfied to put about & start back — On reaching the narrows we were becalmed and the tide carried us out ~~it~~ The fog "lighted" so that we could see the island & we again set out for it — A heavy bank seemed to lie along on the east side of the island all day and our Capt said there was no such thing as seeing land any where east of Manan without a very clear atmosphere which was seldom the case — Speaking without risk not half the time — We are all perfectly satisfied that we must cross higher up —
An old sea capt of St Stephens says there is not one day in 5 that we can see across the bay in any place — He and all others with whom we have conversed say the head of the bay is much less troubled with fog and from all the information we can get we can cross some where in the vicinity of Cape Split Cape Enrage Blomidon or Sheapody bay — and that it will not be practicable to attempt it at any point this side — We shall therefore take Maid of Erin for St Johns at 11 today & thence the earliest conveyance for the head of the bay

We Shall be short soon as the expense of travelling here is great and as soon as we reach the head of the bay we will tell you where to forward funds I think we shall use Devereux & Waldo — Had not Thatcher & McRea better go there and examine those stations & then work west — we shall probably go to head of Bay & Park go east & ~~the~~ balance of us work to Devereux I must close to be in time for mail

Your Afft Brother

M J Hood

E. Cornell Esq
Blue Hill
Hancock Co Maine

M L Wood
15. May 1847

Montreal May 13. 1847

My Dear Brother

Yours of the 8th ~~is~~ I recd this day & am much obligd for your promptness. I at the same time recd a letter from Mr Livingston & another from Brother Otis. I am very happy to hear that you are driving on so much business & with such a prospect of success. Our folks will be very happy to see you on the subject of your proposed Troy route. I hear from Mr L— that you & Mr Wells are to be here on your way to Quebec on or about, the first of June.

I have just returned from that place where I have been to select an office & decide upon the location of the line this side of the city. I did not get an interview with but one of the Halifax men & he informed me that they had concluded to build their line themselves which they thought they could do for about $40 per mile. He also informed me that they had already ordered their wire from England.

I did not talk with him as much as I should on the subject had it not been a very busy time with them making up the English mail and I was quite unwell while I was there.

I have had a billious attack again this Spring & was persuaded to take some calomel. I have now nearly recovered from its effects.—

I shall be delighted to see you here as we have had so much difficulty of late that I have felt rather down.

May 14th I was broken off last night by Griffin who has been here a week with nothing to do but here I am at it at 5 oclock in the morning so you see I dont allow these slothful Canada habits to get hold of me. It is a lovely morning and we have had about a week of fine weather & as soon as vegetation starts it will appear something like Spring here.

I recd a letter from Otis yesterday in which he says you have been to Boston & back 3 times since you have been down & M.S. with Backus & Mr Thatcher & McCrea of Ithaca are in Portland but *what's brewing* he cannot learn.

I hope you will all make your fortunes at it.

I have not heard from home direct but once since I have been in Canada but suppose that they have had a good deal of sickness there. Father wrote me that you thought of giving J Dunham employment. have you concluded to do so and if you have let me know at what point. I think he will make a

prime man on any of your Telegraph lines as I have worked considerably with him & know him to be a very energetic fellow & one on whom you can rely in any place. I dare say he would even do as well as any one in "your down East" or "Yankee" operations. If you do not come on to Montreal as you expect I wish you would write me again soon & let me know what the prospect is of success in that enterprize. I suppose I know what it is although no one has told me. Are S & Wells interested in it?
I have 7 students at work learning to write & they are making very good progress but I should much prefer to train them in an office but I think I shall be able to get along with them. Otis says that he wishes to know whether he had better stay in N.Y. or come to Canada or take a place from you somewhere in business. I am of the opinion that I can give him a place when our line is started at 5 & perhaps $600 per year do you think that he could do better than come here at $500.? I do not very well like to let him stay in such a place as N.Y. with no one in particular to look after him.
Father wrote me that Alonzo was with him & was of great service to him in getting his work done this Spring. I think he cannot have a

better place than with his Grandfather until he becomes fully acquainted with all kinds of farming, & I am very happy to hear that he likes it so well. I regret to learn that Uncle Mart. is to be annoyed with that suit. I wish you would make inquiry and see if we can get paper in Boston for our line such as the last lot Mr Smith got for the Boston line. If you have time I wish you would see what it will cost. I have very easy times here & if you make business in this city that I can attend to I shall be very happy to look after it for you.

I am now stopping at a very pleasant private house French & will soon talk so that you cannot understand me.

PAID

1/

E. Cornell Esq
Boston Mass

MONTREAL
MY 14
1847
L.C.

O. S. Wood
13 May 1847

If you get anything from home that is new I should like to hear it as they do not write to me often. What about that lake farm which you were going to inquire about? I must have a farm as soon as I can pay for it. Otis says Prest Faxton is making some changes on the Bu line. I feared that that line would get down to No 2. or 3. The others have a great advantage if they make proper use of it. Farewell Wishing you much success

I remain
Your afct Brother O. S. Wood

E. Cornell Esq

Belleville May 21. 1847

Wm E. Cornell

Dear Sir

We replied to your favor of March 29th now near two months since, & directed to you as requested 10 Wall St — since that time we have neither seen or heard any thing of you — altho we had reason to suppose & expect that you would certainly have endeavoured to have paid us in part if you could not the whole of the amount due us so long since —

You are aware we have always been willing to oblige you all in our power, & also that the low price we furnished the Wire does not justify such long credit — therefore we trust you will at once make us a remittance which will be duly acknowledged by yours

Respecty

Stephens & Thomas

[illegible]

(10)

Mr. E. Cornell
Ithaca
N. Y.

BELLEVILLE
MAY
20
N.J.

Mr. D. T. Tillotson

Sir

You are hereby authorized to call for instalments on the Stock of the Erie and Michigan Telegraph Company as you may think advisable and for the best interest of said Company, not faster however than said instalments are to be called for as provided in the articles of association of said Co. You may use our names as Trustees in the published notice calling for each instalment.

Yours &c

Dated this 24th day of May 1847.

Levi Hubbell
Martin B Wood
J. W. Howard.

Trustees

Trustees
vs
Tillotson

Call for Stock

Copy

We the undersigned Trustees appointed under the articles of agreement and Association of the Erie & Michigan Telegraph company, do hereby constitute and appoint Daniel T Tillotson of Ithaca New York, the Agent of said company for the purpose of obtaining the right of way for the Telegraph and collecting the subscriptions to the Stock. and we do hereby authorize said Tillotson, or his properly constituted Agents, to demand and receive from the subscribers to the Stock of the Erie and Michigan Telegraph Co the instalments due from each subscriber, when the same are made payable by public notice from us. We do also authorize said Tillotson to receive subscriptions from such individuals as may be disposed to aid in the construction of the Telegraph, and to give to such subscribers a receipt for the amount paid, and allowing such subscribers to receive the amount of their payments in postages, after the line is in working order at the usual charges to other persons. The said Tillotson accounting to us for all sums received by him, he being allowed a reasonable compensation for his services.

Sign'd

Dated this 24th day of May 1847.

Levi Hubbell
Martin B. Wood
D McHoward
Trustees

Copy

Trustees
to
D. T. Tillotson

Power of Atty

Copy

We the undersigned Trustees appointed under the Articles of agreement and Association of the Erie & Michigan Telegraph company, do hereby constitute and appoint Daniel T. Tillotson of Ithaca New York, the Agent of said company for the purpose of obtaining the right of way for the Telegraph and collecting the Subscriptions to the Stock. and we do hereby authorize said Tillotson, or his properly constituted Agents, to demand and receive from the Subscribers to the Stock of the Erie and Michigan Telegraph Co the instalments due from each Subscriber, when the same are made payable by public notice from us. We do also Authorize said Tillotson to receive Subscriptions from such individuals as may be disposed to aid in the construction of the Telegraph, and to give to such Subscribers a receipt for the amount paid, and allowing such Subscribers to receive the amount of their payments in postages, after the line is in working order at the usual charges to other persons. The said Tillotson accounting to us for all sums received by him, he being allowed a reasonable compensation for his services.

Signed

Dated this 24th day of May 1847.

Levi Hubbell
Martin B. Wood
D McHoward

Trustees

I, J. J. Speed Jr of Ithaca do hereby constitute and appoint Daniel T. Tillotson of the same place my true and lawful attorney for me and in my name to collect from the subscribers of the Stock of the Erie & Michigan Telegraph Co. any instalments which I am or may be authorized to collect, and also to contract with such person or persons to make such collections, purchase posts, & set them obtain the right of way when authorized by the Trustees and to do all other acts which I would be authorized to do were I personally present to transact the same, in all matters relating to the construction of the Telegraph from Detroit to Milwaukee.

Given under my hand & Seal this 24th day Nov 1847.

J J Speed Jr

J. J. Speed Jr
Power of Atty.
May 24. '47.

J. J. Speed Jr.
Power of Atty.
May 24th 1847

Cornell

I send the articles of asso. Troy & Canada junction line, they are as good as I can get them. I would suggest you leave them until your return from Quebec, we will then determine the route & will send out & within few days after go over the entire route & visit each place.

I have this Day written a long article & sent it to the Burlington paper & with it asked to open the ball. Mr Wells will leave tomorrow for without fail & meet you on Thursday for Quebec direct. If you leave the [illegible] & Co's papers & things but to do so it would do no harm to distribute the articles of asso. at once but the trouble is until they get in right hands unless some one takes them and see to this as you think best

Yours

Livingston

NY May 25/47

Did you see the Utica Gaz May 14, good acct

[illegible]

Belfast May 25th 1847

My Dr. Sir

I have recd, as you will perceive two letters for you at Blue Hill with directions If you were not there to read them and send for Thatcher & then for both of us to proceed to your station, which I supposed to have been here. I arrived here on Saturday and on making inquiry for you, learned that you had left for the West the monday previous: supposing that you were in Mont Ville I immediately sat off on foot for that place: on arriving there and making inquiry for you I learned that you had stoped there about 1/2 of the day monday and then proceeded on west I went to all the high lands and inquired for you but not finding you I thought it best to return to Belfast and await your arrival; I returned and found that Thatcher had arri and from his account of things I at once concluded that you had gone to N.Y. Whither I thought it best to direct your letters and also inform you of our destitute condition as it regards funds. We have held a council between ourselves and have concluded that it is best to return to Blue Hill and Mortgage our our baggage for security of the payment of our bill

If we were ship builders or sailors we might possibly engage in something in that line by which we might at least obtain the necessary cumforts of life but trusting in providence to a certain degree and the ballance in you we expect to soon be able to out ride these storms of poverty and affliction and land our weary limbs on the peaceful shores of riches and prosperity

Your Most Obt Servant
W. C. McRea

P.S. please direct all Communications to Blue Hill; If you wish anything forwarded to the rest of the Company I will do it with promptness
W.C.M.

The Wolves out on Schoodick have eaten Thatcher very high up

W. C. McRea
25 May 1847

Washington May 28th 1847

Mr. Ezra Cornell

Sir, After the consummation of the contract with you for the Troy & Canada Junction Telegraph Line, Mr. Smith presented me your proposed Articles of Association and said it was your desire that I should sign them. I objected on the ground that neither I nor my principals were to be stockholders in the Company. He replied that your object was simply to obtain our approval to facilitate the raising of funds. In that view I read them over and declined giving them my approval unless the price of the line of one wire was cut down from $200 175 to $175 per mile. Mr. Smith made that alteration, and I gave my approval in substance and I suppose in form as amended to your printed Articles.

To my astonishment I now perceive that the price of a line of one wire is in ~~your~~ these printed Articles, put at $200 per mile, and that the price of a second wire is put at $100 per mile, all which I am made to approve!

I hope there is a mistake in the prices put down here; for, if you had been so indiscreet as to put the price of the first wire including the patent right at the exorbitant rate of $200 and the second at the *monstrous* rate of $100, I do not believe you would intentionally make me recommend what I expressly condemned and commit an act of virtual forgery.

Yet, it is due to myself to make a prompt explanation; and it is due to me that these printed pamphlets, *one and all*, should be collected and destroyed. I shall expect it as the only means to spare me the pain of a public explanation.

Satisfied that my first impression was right in this matter, I must request you to omit my approval in any other edition printed by you, being resolved to incur no responsibility in this or any similar case.

Your immediate reply is expected.

Very respectfully
Your Obt Servt
Amos Kendall

Montreal 29th May 1847

My Dear Sir

I arrived in the dominions of her British Majesty this morning, and reached this City about 10½ A.M. I did not get time to write you from Albany as I hoped to, nor have I had time to collect as many facts in relation to the success of the lines of Telegraph now at work as I wished, But I am happy to be able to inform you that they are all doing well and making money.

E. Cornell
May 29. '47

The N.Y. A & Buffalo line will earn for the month of May at least Six thousand dollars, the first week in May Rects were $1,100, second week $14.000, third week $1,550, and increasing daily, notwithstanding, during the three weeks mentioned above they were cut off from Buffalo three or four days with broken wires.

The gross expenses of the line including 7 per ct on the Capital is a trifle less than $100 per day, So that all the line earns over $100 per day is so much above all expenses and 7 per-ct on the entire investment, This business is done with one light Copper wire, and there is hardly a day passes that the line is not interrupted by breaks from two to four hours per day in some part of the line, With the heavy Iron wire, and 30 posts per mile the line would never broke except by extriordinary causes, as the falling of trees across it, and its capacity to do business would be double and the expenses reduced at least 15 per cent,

With increased capacity to do business, the business would increase, such is our experience.

We find people who on the start laughed at the folly (as they called it) of building Telegraphs, saying they would find nothing to do, who now furnish daily business for the line, and clamour the loudest if the line is out of order for a few hours so that they cannot be served at the moment,

The Eirie & Michagan line if built as I hope and intend it shall be, will subject the company to a very small expense to keep it in repair, and rarely be out of order or unfit for use, It will possess a capacity with one wire of earning $300 per day at least at the rates now charged on other lines, I have not had time to estimate the expenses of working the line, or its business, but I know it can be worked successfully through the 800 miles ~~that~~ for what it costs to work the N Y & Buffalo line through 550 miles, and I can see no reason why it should not have all the business it can do, in fact, I have no doubt in less than twelve months from the day it is started the Company will find it necessary to put up the 2nd wire to accomodate the business seeking this channell, its Stock must be desirable as an investment.

The President of the N.Y. A & B Co has become so well satisfide with the prospects of that company that he has purchased $10.000 of its Stock at par, and is doing what he can to withhold information from the publick & the small Stockholders, to prevent the Stock from selling in the market at what it is worth, having an Eye to the purchase of more of it,

The facts I have given you on this subject. I wish to be regarded as confidential, as far as the world is concerned, if you wish to show them to friends who have interested themselves in the western line you are at liberty to do so.

The N.y & Boston line is doing as well as the Buffalo line so is the N.y & Phil line Smith has purchased the Stock of the N.y & B line untill he holds 3/4 of it, and the N.y & Phil Stock has no sellers but plenty of would be buyers, I have been offered 50 pr ct. premium for my Phil Stock, but shall not sell as long as I can do without the money, which I trust will be sometime to come, I have stock in the N.Y. A & B Company which enables me to get access to the facts stated in this letter.

I find there is a war waging at this time in the Canadas on the subject of Telegraph Stocks. the Montreal folks have monopolized the Stock of the Company that build from Quebeck to Toronto 600 miles, this Quebeck & the towns from Montreal to Toronto dont like and insist on them being permitted to have a fair proportion of the Stock, but Montreal is obstinate & insist on holding it, which has led Kingston and some other places to hold indignation meetings, and finally to refuse to allow the posts to be set in the limits of their towns, Mr Wood has now gone up the line to see if he can negotiate for the right to pass,

See the difference, the Canadians are quarreling for the Stock of a line that will never have half the business that the Erie & Michagan line will, while on the latter it is dificult to get the necessary Stock subscribed to build it,

The Canadians however are better informed on the subject of Telegraph than our western friends are, they have had an agent in England and an other in the States the year past investigating the subject for them, one year ago you could not have got a dollar subscribed in Canada for Telegraph,

Yours Respectfully

E. Cornell

D. T. Tillotson Esq