New York Jan 14. 1847

Dear Sir

I rec'd your letter of Dec 29th a few days since at Albany in which you say, "I have not had from Mr Smith, if he recommends it I shall withdraw objections as to Binghamton line."

I have just seen Mr Smith and he informs me that he wrote you on the subject ~~on the Bout~~ ~~Bill~~ ~~and~~ ~~letter~~ on that & other subjects ~~letter to you~~ ~~dated~~, saying that he ~~recommended~~ associates the pursuit of the Binghamton Contract, ~~if you would~~ Please in answer to this, give me the necessary authority to go on with that line.

If Mr Paxton does not accept the terms you offered for the towns of Johnstown, Lyons, Clyden &c on the Canal I wish to take them at the price say fifty dollars per mile, to which Mr Richards ~~agrees~~ There is a class of smaller towns on the Cooperstown Turnpike, that I think would incur the expense of a line of Telegraph if it was made Cheap enough. I have proposed to Mr Smith to try them and if Successfull divide what I can make with the Patentees

Mr Smith says he has no objection to that arrangement, if you approve I will move at once in the business. I think I can secure $25, per mile for the Letters and an equal sum for myself on such route, Please direct your letter to New York.

Yours Respectfully
E. Cornell

Hon A. Kendall

To the above Smith adds

"I have read the above and leave Mr Cornell to get your answer by which I will abide

Yours Truly
F. O. J. Smith
Sept 14. /47

Copy of Letter to
A. Kendall with
F. O. J. Smiths
assent
Jany 14. 1847

I. John J Speed Jr of Ottawa, having entered into a contract dated 31st of October 1846 with the proprietors of the Patent for Morse's Electro Magnetic Telegraph, and under the provisions of said contract having the right to organize an association obtain subscriptions of stock, and construct a line of Telegraph from Detroit to Milwaukie, do hereby constitute and appoint Daniel S Tillotson of the same place my true and lawful Attorney, for me and in my name to obtain subscriptions under said contract, & receive ten per cent thereon and to do all other acts, which I of right might do in the premises for the purpose of executing in good faith the terms of said contract according to its letter and Spirit. Hereby ratifying and confirming whatsoever the said Daniel S Tillotson shall do or cause to be done in the premises. given under my hand and seal at Ottawa this 18th day of Jany. 1847

Witness
Luther G Tillotson

J. J. Speed Jr

J. F. Speed Jr
Power of Atty.
Dec. 18. 45

J. F. Speed Jr
Power of Atty.
Dec. 18. 45

To Mr Cornell

I dont know what Prof Morse's or Mr Kendalls motive is in the letter you sent me.

F. O. J. Smith

To F. O. J. Smith.

I dont know except what is in the letter. I presume the object is to give the Binghampton line to Butterfield. as that letter was written soon after the Prof returned from Utica.

E. Cornell

To E. Cornell

That will not be so you may rest assured

F. O. J. Smith

To Mr. Smith,

What further steps shall I take in the matter of Binghampton line

E. Cornell

To Mr Cornell

I cannot say untill I know the Grounds of Mr Morse Refusal, I Consider you as having the refusal of my interest when it is parted with, that is all I can controll

F. O. J. Smith

Correspondence
with F. O. J. Smith
through Ill. from
Albany to N.Y.
Jan. 20. 1847

Ithaca Sunday 24 Jany '47

My dear Sir

I rec'd your letter from Buffalo the next day after you wrote it. I am not surprised that Mr Fargo should not have obtained subscriptions for this line in Four days; and attend to their regular business at the same time, if he had worked hard for four months, and had devoted his whole time to that object, and expended mine enough to drive a Liverpool Packet across the Ocean, and then failed to get the stock taken, I would think that we might not be able to get ours subscribed: but I am not the least discouraged by Mr Fargo's effort and failure, You go on and make all the arrangements for getting up our subscription just as you would if he had been successful; and I will come out and help you finish our job, and then we will take Livingston & Wells contract off their hands and complete both within the year. If we cannot succeed in any other way, we can get enough subscribed in small sums, payable in Postages, after the line is completed, to build the whole line from Buffalo Triumph. I am almost certain that we can get all the Scrip given to contractors we will want, which will be equal to near two thousand dollars, and if we cannot get money enough to buy the coins & Registers &c by way of Stock, donations & Postages, all I can say is, that the Western Country" is not what it is cracked up to be". They are a set of poor devils, if $20.000 cannot be raised on a line of 400 miles, with near 20 large Towns immediately on the route. We ought to get some stock taken in Ithaca, lying fifty

or 100 miles from Chicago, if we had time to go and see them. The postal telegraphs are nearly or quite as much interested in having the Telegraph completed to Chicago, as the Lightning are at Chicago and if we make the necessary effort I have great confidence in our ultimate success, even if it does look gloomy and discouraging at first. If the business has been as dull at the West this Winter as it has here, the Merchants will not want any quicker conveyance for intelligence to work they will get theirs as soon by mail, as they care for. Now for my Lightning line. The old man went home the day after you left, and Sylvester and I put the machine together. I worked all day Thursday and Friday to get the needles to deflect so as to reverse the current, and quit Friday night a good deal discouraged, wrote to Johnson to come, and help me out of the scrape. Yesterday I commenced at it again and succeeded in getting every action we require. The needles were both deflected in the proper direction, and all the magnets worked as I anticipated. It succeeded in writing my name: but the magnets and drivers were loose, and require some adjusting to make them work well, it will take me an other week to get every thing arranged just right. But I have increased faith in doing all that I can. Anticipating I think that I will make the magnets vibrate, drive the slides, unlock the clock, and dispense with the magnet under the pendulum. It can be done without difficulty, and with little work, and will render the action surer, as I could run and lock the clock without driving a slide. I should also put a collet or head on each slide, to prevent

thin setting out, when hit by the drum, or by accident. I put on more than half the heads on the sticks last night, and will finish them tomorrow.

I can see no reason why we may not make 60 letters per minute, when we get the needles to work properly, and there ought is no serious difficulty in doing that, as it is the only method used in Europe, and altho I did not accomplish it very readily, at any rate, it is certain that it can be done by those who understand it. Anne who can do this work better than I am. On the whole I quit work last night in good spirits, fully believing that we can give Mr Morse a hand some, and if our register is not quite as good as his, it will be good enough to compete with him, and set up an opposition. I see in the Albany Journal that Hawes is about trying his printing Telegraph. If Hawes can use his, Morse's patent is worthless; as then are several ways of recording, just as good as Morse's.

Nothing has occured here since you left, Ryan spent a small night, or came yesterday, and no doubt will today. The bells are now ringing for church so I will write you again next Sunday or sooner.

Yours truly

S. J. Vail

Sunday afternoon

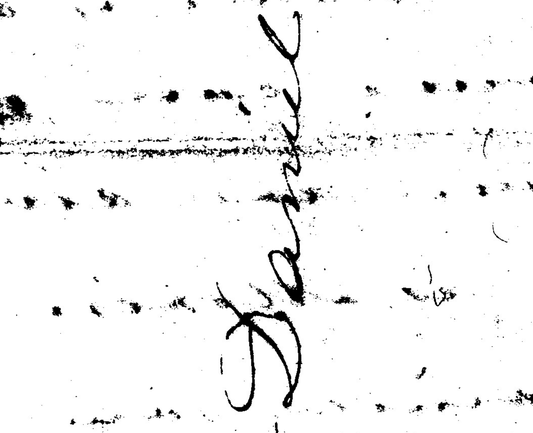
I will try the register day after tomorrow with the keys shorter, and let the needles alone until I can get some made as they should be. I shall also dispense with the magnet under the pendulum, there is not the least use in it as the other magnets can be made to unlock the clock just as well and with very little trouble. I can arrange them in half a day any[illegible]

There is no use either in having the end of the driver flexible, in order the help the interest, for by having head, on the slides, the driver has only to touch the to drive through to the head, and the right slide can help the driver and not be driven in the 1/16 of an inch. These arrangements will simplify the thing very much, and make the action absolutely certain.

Mr Daniels

Mr Daniels Patent

Specification



When the pressure of the driver, hits the slide b, it will be driven to f, and the slide c, which you do not want to drive, can help the end of the driver, without being driven more than the thickness of the head.

Office of the Montreal Telegraph Co
Montreal 26th January 1847

Sir

I am directed by the President of this Company to state to you that the Directors have had your proposal to contract for a Line of Telegraph from here to Toronto under the Conditions and have decided to decline your offer, thanking you at the same time for the information & various other points you have conveyed to them.

I am Sir
respectfully Your Obt Servt
Frederick Preston
Secretary

E. Cornell Esq
Albany N.Y.

Office No 10 Wall Street
New York January 26. 1865

Dear Sir

Annexed I send you a letter in answer to yours of the 23d. I have no doubt but Mr Fabbri would be glad to have it in his power to do any one who does any thing for him. But Mr Fabbri is wholly indebted to his superior mind & judgment for its success. If he does not entertain high opinions of himself he does not know who else would do it for him. Since you left the city I have indirectly heard it hinted that F.O.J. Smith, Colonel Robinson had associated & sent the last named Gent to Montreal in answer to the "notice for extradition" by the Montreal Stamp Office. I give little or no credit to this rumor, but you will give explain if there be any truth in it, or did you furnish this Mr Robinson ammunition for building or in anyway aid or advise his going to Montreal. Speak out for "murder will out" & I am anxious to know the truth or falsity of the information that has been communicated here touching your departure

I ask for in pray only that I had not had the utmost confidence in you I would not have mentioned it. Further the price I offered to build for you I have no motive in my mean. I can only say I must live yet to learn I could live. Such a mortal as you to mean from You at an early day

Yours Livingston

Colonel Ely Attorney

Office No 10 Wall Street
Newyork January 26th 1847

Sir Your favor of the 22nd inst at hand & noticed. I have said to Mr Easton after he communicated to me there were less number of Poles used on our line than 27 to the mile & some of them were very crooked & too light, that I would not have accepted the line from the Contractor until & had every mile properly inspected & the number of Poles Counted & for any one used not according to your Contract & for any one I would deduct from your account. the Cost thereof, more than this I am entirely opposed to having entered & would not even this much unless drawn from me by Mr Easton numerous Complaints. The above I have deemed but justice to the Company and highly proper towards & from you as a Contractor. I can only add & had the barriers been under my Care I should have adapted & this course & based my Settlement with you upon the Carefull fulfillment of your Contract only & avoided a resort to hard words, or any attempt on my part to drive or force you into allowances & deductions from what you Claim to be right & just. I trust however you & Mr Easton may succeed in settling your a/c amicably & justly & in feelings of friendship towards each other. Yours Livingston

Cornell Esq Ithaca

Ryssilanti Jan. 26. 1847

Respected Cousin

We received your kind letter of Nov. 22 which was perused with a deal of satisfaction. it was gratifying to heare of your good health and that of our friends in general. We were much pleased with the idea of having a visit from you next summer, and it has been a matter of surprise to me Ezra to think that you have not visited our western Country before we have heard of you from time to time in different parts of the country, but never have had the satisfaction of seeing you heare in the woods.

We are enjoying good health at present excepting Father he has been confined to the house nearly five years, although he has been very comfortable a good part of the time, his eyesight has remained very good and he has spent most of the time in reading until quite recently, however he is failing gradually and has been confined to his bed for nearly three months. The American Agriculturist has come regularly for which we feel under great obligation. I received a letter from Phebe a few days ago saying they well and received a letter from you a short time before. They live about seventy miles west of us Myself and wife together with Maria and her husband made them a visit a couple of months ago and found them comfortably situated and in good health Edward was at meeting going to school he appeard to enjoy himself much

Ezra I think you will like our country. I believe Michigan is destined to be one of the greatest Agricultural States in the Union, We have a snug farm of one hundred and twenty acres and manage to get a comfortable living. But I often think I never was meant for a farmer and have been one so far from necessity only.

We see a great contrast between this and DeRuiter in the winter. There has been but about ten days good sleighing in three years, we have had three or four inches of snow this winter but it is all gone leaveing the ground as bare as mid summer. Okeba tells me they expect you and Elijah B along early in the spring to put up a line of telegraph from Detroit to Milwaukie. I never have seen any thing of the kind & think it must be a great curiosity, our Michigan folks are great for improvement and it will take first rate, tell E B there is lots of Odd Fellows in Michigan Robert being one among the rest. Charles is spending the winter in Virginia he was well the last account we had of him. he has met with a sad misfortune in the loss of his arme, although he says he dont miss it in his business. Maria lives about two miles from us and is very comfortably situated.

Mother says tell Ezra he must pass this letter along to Aunt Eunice, her health has been quite good this winter much better than it was last

We have not heard from Nancy in a long time I suppose
you see them often in passing back and forth. Ezra I shall
tell you nothing about my wife and boy only to say
that we have got the biggest boy of ~~this~~ the State the
~~is~~ is going to make a regular built Macy.
I want you should write to us again ~~soon~~ let us know
what time to look for you in the ~~Spring~~
Please give our best wishes to all enquiring friends
and believe me as ever your well wishing. Cousin

P D Macy

R D Macy
Jany 26 1849

JAN 28

Mr. Ezra Cornell
Ithica
N Y

TERMS.—Daily Democrat $8 00 a year, quarterly in advance; Tri-Weekly Democrat, $5 00 a year; Monroe Democrat, (weekly) $2 50 a year, or $2 00 in advance; and at the same rate for any less time.

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STRONG & DAWSON, & Co

Proprietors of the Rochester Daily Democrat,

CORNER OF BUFFALO AND STATE STREETS,

ROCHESTER, N. Y.

Jan. 27. 1849.

E. Cornell, Esq

Dr Sir—

I beg leave to call your attention to the circumstances of my application to the Telegraph office in Albany, on the 4th of January, while you were present, to furnish a copy of the Governor's message, and to have it transmitted to this place at the same time it was sent to New York, which Mr. Carter proposed to do that evening if he could get a copy. Mr. Carter, as I think very unwisely and wrongfully, mentioned the matter to Mr. Lacy of the Argus—and that paper tortured it into an offer "to sell the message for a consideration:" by which it might, and has been, inferred that I offered to sell it for money.

You will probably recollect that I called the second time at your request—and that you declined sending as I proposed, because other western papers would take occasion to censure the Telegraph Co.

I wish to satisfy the Argus, and other papers, that they have misrepresented the matter, and for this purpose, ask of you the favor to give me at

Jan. 27. 1849

as early a moment as you can, your own recollection of the circumstances — and whether you regarded it as purely an offer to speculate, to traffic for pecuniary gain, with the message; or whether you regarded it as evincing a desire on my part to get in advance of other papers in this region in publishing the message — a rivalry in newspaper enterprise.

I propose to make no public use of your reply, unless I fail to procure from the Argus and other papers which have copied its statement, a proper and fair explanation of the circumstances.

Very Respectfully

Your obt Servt

S. P. Allen.

JAN 7

PAID

5

E. Cornell, Esq

Ithaca

Tompkins Co.

Cornel

Dear pr I Inclosed Your favour of the 18 Inst
and Assure that I have no doubt Mr Griffin thinks the account
he gave You correct because I was when times when Mr Griffin
was not present that work was done Such as carting poles from the
dock and from Other plans where they where not wanting to whre
they where I Really have made the account as low as Possible
I have Only charged half days when in justice to my self
I ought to have charged whole Ones I do not Suppose You
wish me to work for nothing and I Assure You to take Eleven
dollars of that bill would be worse than that

You Agent have offend me more than that I of course
refused ~~to accept~~ for I always make my accounts as low as possible
and make no charge but Such as I can prove to be correct
I cannot nor do I think You wish me, to omit in my bill charges
when my self my help and Horse and cart where Engaged
in Your Service I have left the account with
Mr James Dard № 2 Cointies Slip and You Letting with
him will greatly Oblige Your Obedient

James Parker

N York January 27 /49

Have taken the liberty of pulling this open & putting it in more accommodating shape

Mrs. E. Cornell
Telegraph Office
Exchange Place

Jos Parker
Jan 7 1847

New York Jan 30, 1847

Dear Brother

There is a letter which has been lying about several days here & I believe I will inclose it to you as it may be of some service. I should like something of an acct. of your success in NK but I infer from what Mon S says to me that all was not right. What kind of a trade did Park make with Paxton? I should like to know. We have another extension break in the neighborhood of Hudson so that I fear you will not talk much with us in the morning. "No go" on the Boston line in wet weather they say & I mistrust that the "Phila." new line does not go first rate from what I hear. Our line has worked better for 2 weeks past than I have seen it work since last fall. Both wires go steadily between here & Albany. The reason of the ~~worst~~ instrument in my office on the South wire working so badly I have discovered this recvg magnet to be a 3rd rate article. Let me hear from you by mail soon

Cover

Mr. Livingston is my right hand man,
He spends a good deal of his time here,
& proposes that I go home & make a visit-
thence to Bn. & I am inclined to think
I should accept if Mr F was not such
a strange Customer though he is very
respectful towards me of late.

Exhibit

Supreme Court
State of New York

Jan 1 1900
NEW YORK

E. Adams Esq
Mina Bonds
Co Pa Roads

Yes yes have many things more in pro-
ud us have yet. Our pur-ye thousands in-
ness since O.C. & are we for & notice with
this? dog are to Moore down the cuckoo
Mina Bonds in last
Co Pa Roads

Washington Jan 31 1847

Dear Cornell.

My only excuse for not letting you hear from me before. is in disposition. Since I came on I have not been able to make the necessary inquiries you wished me to respecting "Morses Patent" & in fact I have not yet seen "Dr Page". I wrote to "Backus about some shirts I thought he had of mine the day after my arrival & he informed me you had thrown up your commission & had gone to Ithica. I have been quite ill since I came on but thanks to good & kind friends I am now O. K.

I will try & see "Page" to-morrow but I am inclined to think his Mr. Morses present patent covers all Telegraphs where magnets are used. I saw the Prof once since I came on. he is as cool as you can possibly imagine, he can go to hell I shall never trouble him to do any thing for me. "Old Amos" & O'Reilly are having a regular flare up, how they will settle it I am unable to say. I hope they will be like the Kilkenny cats, eat each other up, I know so far not accomplished much since I came on & the prospects are anything but flattering unless. O'Reilly & Amos compromise I. am at a loss to know what I shall do. I'd war in hopes of meeting "F. O. Smith" here. but the Session is so far spent it is doubtful whether he comes on & without his aid in person I can do nothing. with Major "French" however I must trust to luck

have they appointed any one in your place
if so, who. I hope you will obtain a much more
profitable job & at the same time a more
agreeable one, did "Mr Gaston" object
to your retiring. Livingston think old
Theodore, rather small potatoes. Do they
this individual, he made himself very
agreeable in the cars when I came down
from "Utica". I was rather fearful he would
ask me to go to work for him, what has
become of "J. D. Park" did he do as
you requested him I trust he will be
able to give satisfaction if he does
engage. he is a good honest whole Soul
fellow, Give my "Kind regards to your
Brother & remember me to your good Lady
& family, write me Soon,

In haste Yours Truly
H. A. Brown

To E. Cornell Esqr

10

WASHINGTON D.C. JAN 31

E. Cornell Esqr
Ithica
New York

Ithaca Feb 6. 1867

Sir

Herewith you have a Statement showing the daily nets of the Ithaca & Auburn Tel Co which belongs the N.Y. & Buf. Tel Co based upon the rule dictated by yourself. It also shows the nets daily by the N.Y. & Buffalo Co of money for Com which belongs to the I & A. line, the result shows a balance due your line of $53.20.

This Statement does not include nets for news reports I cannot make out that Statement until some basis is agreed upon respecting the portion that is equitably for each line to have. Under the Contract with the Patentees, which guarantees to the I & A. line the right to connect with the main line, and hold as its share of the nets the amounts chargable on all communications originating on any part of the said line and passing eastwards to any point on the main line, and to the main line the right to nets on all Com originating on the main line, directed to any point over said I & A. line, The N.Y. & B. line would undoubtedly be entitled to the entire nets for news reports taken on the I & A. line passing from the main line over the I & A. line. But as you choose to disregard that Contract as it regards Com, it follows that proportions are to be agreed upon in respect to news reports, and as the entire additional Expence of the news reports taken on the Ithaca & Auburn line is born by said line, I can see no reason why it is not entitled to much the largest portion of the nets. As soon as this question is decided I will forward a Statement of the ball due main line for reports

Respectfully

E. Cornell

Supt I. & A. Tel Co

T. S. Faxton

Ithaca 7 July

My Dear Sir

I suppose you may be surprised to hear that I am still at home but I determined not to go to the city until I was satisfied that we could present a plan for a Telegraphic which would successfully compete with Morse's. My Slide which I completed as I wrote you: but found that the construction of balls as suggested by Johnson was much superior to the Slide. We can write the balls about at least 60 letters per minute, and depend with the Local battery, We can also have a whole communication in sight before copying if we choose to do so. We can write the balls communicate as fast and with as much certainty as Morse can: but still he has an advantage on long lines, as we have to reverse the current in order to divide balls of different color. While working on the Slide which I divised as recording Telegraph which Johnson, Connor Munger and I all believe to be as good if not better than Morse's - You may say we interfere with his rights: but on my plan we operate so essentially different from Morse Right that we think we have a right to use it. Morse records with the Electro Magnet and says that the only way in which the current of Electricity

has heretofore been supposed to be done by deflecting the needle, which he says has no power to record the communication. I use the needle alone, without the case of the Edwards battery, and could store one hold recording in every church I have a right to use mine.
The result of the whole is that Johnson Cornell and I start in the morning for the City and are meant to find exactly what we have a right to use and then go at them.
I will write you from Newyork as soon as I find out what we can do.

I saw Mrs Ackley Mr Gibbons and Luther to day, all well—
I have not heard from you since you left Buffalo, and consequently have no suggestions to make respecting your operations. I write so first if you think it best for me to do so as soon as I can. write me at Newyork, Care Johnson & Hall 29 Nassau St.

Yours truly

J F Steward

CHICAGO
MEMPHIS

FORWARDED

Mr Daniel J Tillotson
~~Chicago~~ ~~Detroit~~
~~Ill.~~ Milwaukee ~~Michigan~~

ITHACA
FEB
9
N.Y.

Speed
Ithaca Feby 5 '45

Ithaca February 9th 1847

James Eddy Esqr

Dr Sir

The business of the Ithaca & Auburn line of telegraph is not sufficient to warrant the directors in paying you at the rate of Six hundred dollars per annum for your services in attending to the business of the line.

We therefore notify you that the temporary arrangement made with you by the directors at their meeting in September last will be discontinued and annulled on the fifteenth day of February inst.

Very Respectfully
E Cornell
Wm H Wood
Directors
Chas W. Rowland

Troy Feb 9th 1847

Mr O Cornell

Sir. I wrote to you some time since asking that the balance of my bill which yet remains unsettled, might be settled, as I much stood in need of my money, & in the same communication sent you a schedule of what the Telegraph Co owed (and justly) to me, and also what amount of money I had recieved from Mr Duell, There is now as you can see per bill my due the amount of $10.00

On Friday last I saw Mr T. L. Faxton at Albany and he said to me that if Mr Cornell would certify that there was anything my due that he would pay the same to me,

I have taken this method of once again asking you to favor me by writing to me and stating the amount that is due to me as you can see by refering to bill, that I may forward the same to Mr Faxton and get an order for the balance of my due.

With great respect Yours &c

Russell Cole

To E Cornell
Utica

E Cornell
Ithica

R Cole
Feb 9, 47

Telegraph Office Attica 9 Feb 1847

Mr Cornell

Sir

Yours of 6th Inst with Amount between Your Co and the main line is at hand I see by your account you say Sept 16th Ithaca Dec 25 Cts Allow me to ask how you arrive at that part

Allow me to ask you On what basis you made out the account

On the 16th Sept we have 3 Communications from Ithaca to Attica paid at Ithaca Can you Explain how it is

Now say you will send us the Report for the press as soon as a basis is fixed on, which you think is fair. allow me to ask what you think that is

I had supposed when I said you take one third and give us the balance that there could be no cause for complaint but I find myself mistaken 40 Miles of your One wire does not seem to be a fair proportion to 325 Miles double wire to give a third On And therefore I shall not undertake to say what is right fix your own terms and make out the Amount to suit yourself, you certainly cannot be ignorant

Of the fact that I have always said and do has this board And do it was assented to by the Patentees in N.Y. that we should draw according to distance

I think hereafter the better way will be for side lines to stay at the office when the Conexion is for any communication so far as it goes over the main lines and any Communication from the main line stay at the office when the Com leaves the main line this saving much trouble and vexation in keeping this account

I do not believe there is 2 Clerks in the State of N.Y. that can take the accounts of lines with side & main line and settle them in thirty days And I think the short & proper way is to have no account of em

And I have no disposition to go upon the agrarian principals that the smallest stockholder in the line is to divide equally with the largest

Respectfully Yours

J. J. Dalton

My Dear Brother and Sister Albion Oct. 9 /47

I found your long looked for letter on our return from Washtenaw Co where we have been on a visit to Uncle Mays. And am glad I can write you the particulars concerning them Uncle is very feeble so much so that Martin did not go in his room to see him I saw him twice he merely spoke to me. he has been confined to his bed about 3 months. Aunt is almost worn out taking care of him. he is very troublesom and childish he takes morphene and Laudanum constantly which I think makes him much worse than if he had never taken any although it affords him temporary relief. his nerves is in a very sensitive condition the rest are well and await anxiously your coming and Aunt is very anxious for you to have Mother come if M.A. does and I need not say how glad the rest of us would be to see her and father too, Charles is in the southern part of Virginy writes encouragemy. I think if you could get Robert in business instead of Charles. it would be conferring a favour that would be much more appreciated Robert is a fine fellow and has had a hard time of it for five years he does not seem pleased with farming and would not have been one if he had not been drove in it by necessity and is anxious to get in some other business. he can not leave this state until some change takes place in his father and say, if Ezra will give him a job of digging post holes for ten dollars per mo. he will accept it, this of course he did not mean. but as soon you do come here with the Telegraph he will be very grateful for business if there is any thing he could do, I think you could trust him, , We had one of the greatest kind of visits and talked about you all. I am very sorry to hear to hear that O.H Perry is so afflicted with that horrible disease but hope he will not grow it Our family are well. we have had a little sloughing of late but it is wasting away to day ——

With regard to the Sleighride "I stops de subyect." I must not forget to tell you that we went from Wenches down to Raisonville to Mr Barnabys found them well and overjoyed to see us they live a beautiful country and seem prosperous and happy Mrs Barnaby says you must certainly come and see them. he said we must tell you every thing good about them so you would want to come Mrs B. said I must not tell you that her tea pot had no handle or cover Harriett lives about half a mile from her father her husband was a widower and had a little boy and they have another. Mr Mc. that M. B. went to Plymouth to see Mr Brown the old schoolteacher found them well and glad to see him he has four or five girls but no boys his eldest daughter teaches school, I do want you to buy a farm here. but would rather you would buy from your own observations, than from our recommend there is some most splendid farms in this state and think you would not lay out money there if you should see them low tides might prove to be very disagreeable and I hardly dare flatter myself that you and family would have the resolution to stare yourself away from your friends as we did. only compelled by the same necessity. I am glad to hear that Harriett is like to recover her health it seems hard for one so young and joyous to be deprived of the only blessing which renders life tolerable. But why do you say nothing about M.L. we would like to know how he is. his health used to be poor enough. is he prosperous in business. I sent Caroline a paper some time since but do not hear from them. Tell Mc for me that I cannot find out wether Mrs Sage got her knitting work. I mean to ask her every time I write for seven years if she dont tell me I have had so much trouble about it I mean to know if she ever gets it

May the day soon arrive when the mail shall be carried by the lightning conveyer if it will tend to bring friends closer to gether and raise us in the scale of beings, We are in for reform

Edward has been quite sick but is nearly recovered he has not been to school for a week but I think will be able to go in a day or two I congratulate you and yours on the prospect of your spending the remainy part of the winter at home although the winter is so far spent W.P. family are well tell M.A. that a romp with that child is well worth a trip. a crop Lake Erie I can him so seldom that the little scamp will not own me,

Tell Mother that Mary has given Edward the making of a beautiful fine coat and vest we gave him the cloth for an every day vest and pants, with the making we have done his sewing that is, Mary and me, gratis since last summer and I have found him in stockings he has never bought any yet. I do not write this to boast but to try to convince Father and Mother that we try to do all we can for him at least all we are able. for nine months of the first year that he lived with us he was not able to earn his board. and since that he has been to school winters and I think he has done well to keep himself clothed well and free from debt. his disposition is such that unless he can stay as well as any one and appear respectable he will not try to be any body, he can do to now. He has not so much independence of mind as some. I feel it my duty to encourage him to be somewhat particular in regard to his personal appearance and to encourage self respect, Tell Daniel that I suppose it would be quite unexpected to him if Edward should make the smartest man. and he certainly will unless he cultivates sober industrious habits. Mary for will please accept this as an answer for hers which I very highly appreciated. and Edward is writing to Alonzo so I will not answer his yet. You will pleas accept our most hearty good wishes for yourself and family

Phebe Wood

X

Ezra Cornell

Ithaca N. York

45-210 Va 11 X 703
242

Phebe Moore
Feb 9th 1857

Lancaster Dec 9th 47

Mr Lowell

Dear Sir

I received your note by due course of mail & was very glad to see that I was recollected by at-least one of my Ithaca friends. I have enjoyed myself often (though it was in a quiet way) there while I stayed in your beautiful village for I was more familiar with the glorious scenery surrounding it than with its inhabitants But all those with whom I did become acquainted (i.e. those who frequented the telegraph office) were unquestionably component parts of the Salt of the Earth. I was somewhat surprised to be told that Lowell had resigned his office on the Ivy & Buffalo line I had supposed it one worth retaining. I have a very pleasant time here in Lancaster - have been in the Philadelphia office about half my time Mr O'Reilly, though at law with the Patentees, is pushing his operations ahead with great rapidity. Give my respects to Mr Eddy & Byron tell to Mr Wood & Mr Allen Tell Mr Allen I will write him as soon as I have any

– Thing of interest to say Now is busines un
Ithaca I mean Telegraph business. About
what are the receipts of the office per
day does the Elmira line pay well
& to the Binghampton line Just
write soon and much oblige

Yours

July

A.B. Cornell Esqr – Don Mason

20 Feb

Enquire if the Com of Patents
if he rec'd a Ltr from Chas D. Johnson
to pay expenses on papers to be
forwarded to Phy and how the papers
have forwarded

Washington 10th February 1847

Dear Friend,

When I wrote you I said I had a report, but on examining it I found it was an old one & not the one you want, the last report is not printed yet, those engaged upon it tell me it will be out in about a week or ten days, when it appears you shall certainly have a copy if I can raise one you where mistaken about a person of your name applying for an improvement in telegraphing, I overhauled "Knowles Book" & found one "Cornell" as applicant for an improvement in a "globe" such as used in schools, & none others save your own dear self, "S. B. Smith" came on 2 or 3 days before Congress adjourned, and departed immediately after the adjournment he was so busy while here I had no time to talk to him, I have not seen either French or Monroe to speak to them since I came on, I am getting rather sick of staying here doing nothing and should

like to hear from you what the chances are for something to do. If you know of an opening for a short time let me know it, for being out of funds & Idle does not do for this child as long as my money lasted I was O.K, but now I am very anxious to leave here,

When do you commence the Toronto Line, I do not wish a peirmanent job all I want is to raise funds enough to carry me to Boston or Salem so I can ship for part unknown my health requires a voyage to sea or at least I think so. & that is the same — let me hear from you soon Give my kind regards to your good lady & family & remember me to all my old friends

Yours Truly H. A. Brown

To Ezra Cornell Esq

10

MAR 11

Ezra Cornell Esq
Ithica
New York

Ezra Cornell
10 ~~March~~ 1867
Feb

Ithaca Feby 12th 1847

Dear Brother Cornell

I this morning received a letter from Chas W. Howland enclosing the notice for Mr Eddy with C W H's Signature attached. I have copied the notice and shall serve it on Mr E tomorrow. Eddy wishes to sell me his share of Sa & Au line and seems quite anxious to dispose of it. Shall I act as your agent and buy it for you pretending to buy it on my own book. If so what terms shall I make with him. Be very careful in stating terms so that I may not mistake.

I spoke to Jacob M. McCormick about writing the Post-office and Telegraph. He said but few words and nothing definite but talked as though he viewed the matter favorably. I think the two can be brought together.

If so will Sa & Au line pay me 35 and Ed line 100 and a permanent location so long as I do my duty

Dr Sir - Mr McCormick

Dear Brother

Mad River

Telegraph Office Utica. Feb 12. 1847

Mr. Connell

Sir.

Yours of 6th inst. with account between your Co. & the Main Line is at hand.

I see by your account you lay Sept. 16th Ithaca Dr. 25 cts. Allow me to ask you how you arrive at that fact.

Allow me to ask you on what basis you made out the account.

On the 16th Sept. we have 3 communications from Ithaca to Utica paid at Ithaca, can you explain how it is?

You say you will send in the Reports for the Sept as soon as a basis is fixed on, which you think fair. Allow me to ask you what you think that is?

I had supposed when I said you take one third & give us the balance, that there could be no cause for complaint, but I find myself mistaken; 40 miles of your one wire does not seem to be a fair proportion to 325 miles double wire to give a third on, therefore I shall not undertake to say what is right; fix your own terms & make out the account to suit yourself.

You certainly cannot be ignorant of the fact that I have always said, & so has the Board, &

so it was assented to by the Parties in R. G. that we should draw according to distances.

I think hereafter the better way will be for all side lines to pay at office where the connection is, for any communication so far as it goes over the Main Line, & any communication from the Main Line pay at the office, where ever the communications leave the Main line; thus saving much trouble & vexation in keeping the account.

I do not believe there is 2 Clerks in the State of R. G. that can take the accounts of Sides with Main line & settle them in thirty days, & I think the short & proper way is to have no account open.

And I have no disposition to go upon the Agrarian principle that the smallest stockholder in the line is to divide equally with the largest.

Respectfully Yours

J. J. Dalton

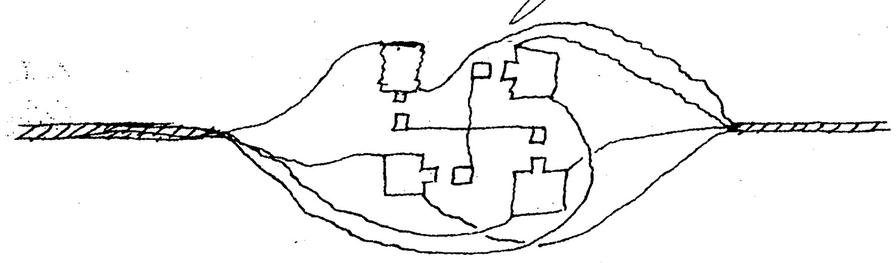
I Lee pay Dalton amt in $64.95 Owes in $110.14
what Makes Mr Dalton. 45.19

Rec'd & Answered
Feb 14

New York Feb 15th 1849

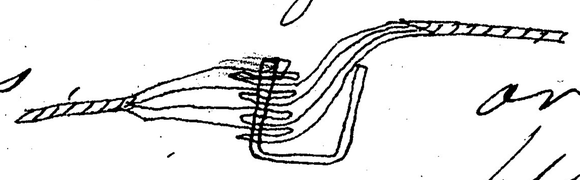
Dr Sir

I wish you would make a relay magnet for me, with 4 magnets. using the fine wire for the helix, which may be made not more than half as large in diameter as the helix used on Morses Magnets and Connect the wire after the following plan



To Wit to connect the wires of each pair of Coils or helix with the main conducting wire of the line the object I aim at is to avoid the dificulty I have often talked with you about, of fourning the amount of Galvanism conducted by the large wires on the posts in the air, through a single ~~thick~~ fine wire, as now used in the helix of the magnet, which object is accomplished by the above arrangement, ~~so that the small wire in the helix does not exceed one fourth the size or is equal Equaling the large wire through the air; in capacity, one fourth the size of the large wire used on the line between Stations~~ the 4 small wires in the relay combined , The same object can be effected by the arrangement I explained to you at Utica some time since that is by having the helix made of a sufficient number of strands of small wire, to equil in conducting capacity the large wire to which the several ends of the

Strands of small wire must be soldered

this  or the thing may be accomplished by using a better conducting ~~metal~~ for the fine wire in the bobbin than is used for the large wire on the line, But I have no doubt the plan of using the four magnets as per Diagram on first page is the best away and I want you to make me a duplex magnet on that plan to enable me to test the experiment I have explained the magnet to F. O. Smith to day as shown and discribed in this letter and he expresses the opinion that it will not accomplish the object or work with any uniform power, as he supposes at some times the entire current of galvanism will pass one magnet and at other times be divided between the four, I want you to be particular to get the bobbin all of one size,

Dont mention what you are to work at to Haxton or any one, let them use their own brains, I Shall soon have a plenty of Work for you on some other project,

If you dont understand what I wont write one to you make it.

Yours Respectfully

E. Correll

Mr Chubbuck

Copy of letter to
Mr Chubbuck Order
a relay against Fish
13. 1847—

New York Feb 14th 1827

Sir

Yours of the 12th inst is at hand, the three questions you ask in relation to the first days business (Sept 16) I am unable to answer without reference to the Books, I can only say at present that I recollect that Mr Wheeler did not make his entries for the 16th Sept until the 18th or 19th in consequence of some doubts which he entertained in reference to the meaning of instructions rec'd from you, I will Examine that when at the books.

You Say "I had supposed when I said you take one third and give us the balance, that there could be no cause for complaint, but I find my self mistaken, 40 miles of your one wire does not seem to be a fair proportion to 525 miles double wire to give a third &c" I am yet to learn that I have asked to have a third of the Earnings of 525 miles double wire as a fair proportion against 40 miles single wire, I suppose you are elated with your recent success in operating double wires and may on that ground be excusable for the error you have fallen into, You further say "You certainly cannot be ignorant of the fact, that I always said, and so has the Board, & so it was assented to by the parties in N.Y. that we should draw according to distance" the Stockholders of the Ithaca & Auburn line were not of the parties referred to, and were not invited to participate

in the New York Conference, and have no Idea of having their rights disposed of in that way. they yield to that arbitrary dictation, in the business of private communications, as in that the main line ~~does~~ performs both, ~~a portion~~ of the ~~business~~ work and even the largest portion of the work, but not So as reference to news reports, in this case the main line does nothing that is not indispensible to furnishing their own customers with reports, they have no care, on the subject of our getting reports nor have all the trouble, all the care, and all the work to do, and furnish all the line of Telegraph necessary for earning the money in question, and therfor under your rule should rec the largest portion of the money thus earned,

The I & A Co are willing to pay the N Y A P B Co one hundred dollars per annum for the right to ~~and~~ take all news reports, If it is not the interest of the N Y A P B Co to allow the taking of said reports at that price, then the papers on the I & A can must delay the publication of the news a few hours until we can Copy'd from the Auburn papers,

You may adopt such regulations in regard to paying tolls as you please, and if you get a rule that will Satisfy your Self I shall be very much pleased I dont care what you do with your one money all I aim at is to protect what belongs to me & those I represent,

The time it would require 2 Clerks to settle the Side line accounts would depend very much who dictated rules for them to be governed by,

You seem to disclaim agreeing and I hope you are equally free from other faults,

I am unable without comparing the books to inform you of the ~~particulars~~ whole cause of the difference you mention in the accounts, which appears to be $23.79 by your Statement, two items amounting to a number of dollars arose from the N.Y Office neglecting to credit the Ithaca line with Mch for Election cards, Albany Office were in the same Error, I have no doubt the books will show the differences is, if examined, they should do so, The I.A. line has run behind hundred dollars. Since it started, but I have no doubt would have had expenses if not more if it had been allowed the privileges guaranteed to it in the contract with Patentees, but I trust this will not cause any misunderstandings with parties long as the Main line has $600 dr on account as a guarantee for the small ballance due it from the I.A line,

Yours Respectfully
E. Lovell

~~J. S. Clapham Esq~~

If I take correct view of this matter and I doubt not you will agree with me on further reflection there the ballance due the N.Y & Albany line by the I & A line is for bill on Com as per bill $33.70 Apart to Feb 1st $36.73 Whole 1/2 mo to 1st Feb $16.16 in all $86.59 If you concur with me

you may deduct the above bill from my account against him,

Yours Respectfully,
E Cornell

T. S. Flaxton Esq

Copy of Letter
to T. S. Flaxton,
Feb 14. 1849

New York 14 July 1847.

My dear Sir

Mr Johnson Mr. Cornell & self arrived here on Thursday afternoon. We have a comfortable ride in lumber wagons over the beach woods mountains - We immediately called on Lett. P Staples, the most notive patent lawyer in this country, and presented our case for his consideration. We soon found that we had to instruct him in the science of Electricity and Electro magnetism, before he could instruct us, respecting our rights in the premises. We procured for him all the books relating to the subject, and with our explanations made him understand what we wanted him to decide. He has not yet had time to determine all that we want to know: but he has settled the main question viz: That Morse cannot hold the exclusive right to "record" by means of the electric current, this opens the door for our recording Telegraph in some form: but perhaps not in the way in which we would like it best. In a day or two he will determine fully what we have a right to do, and we will then get up an instrument for

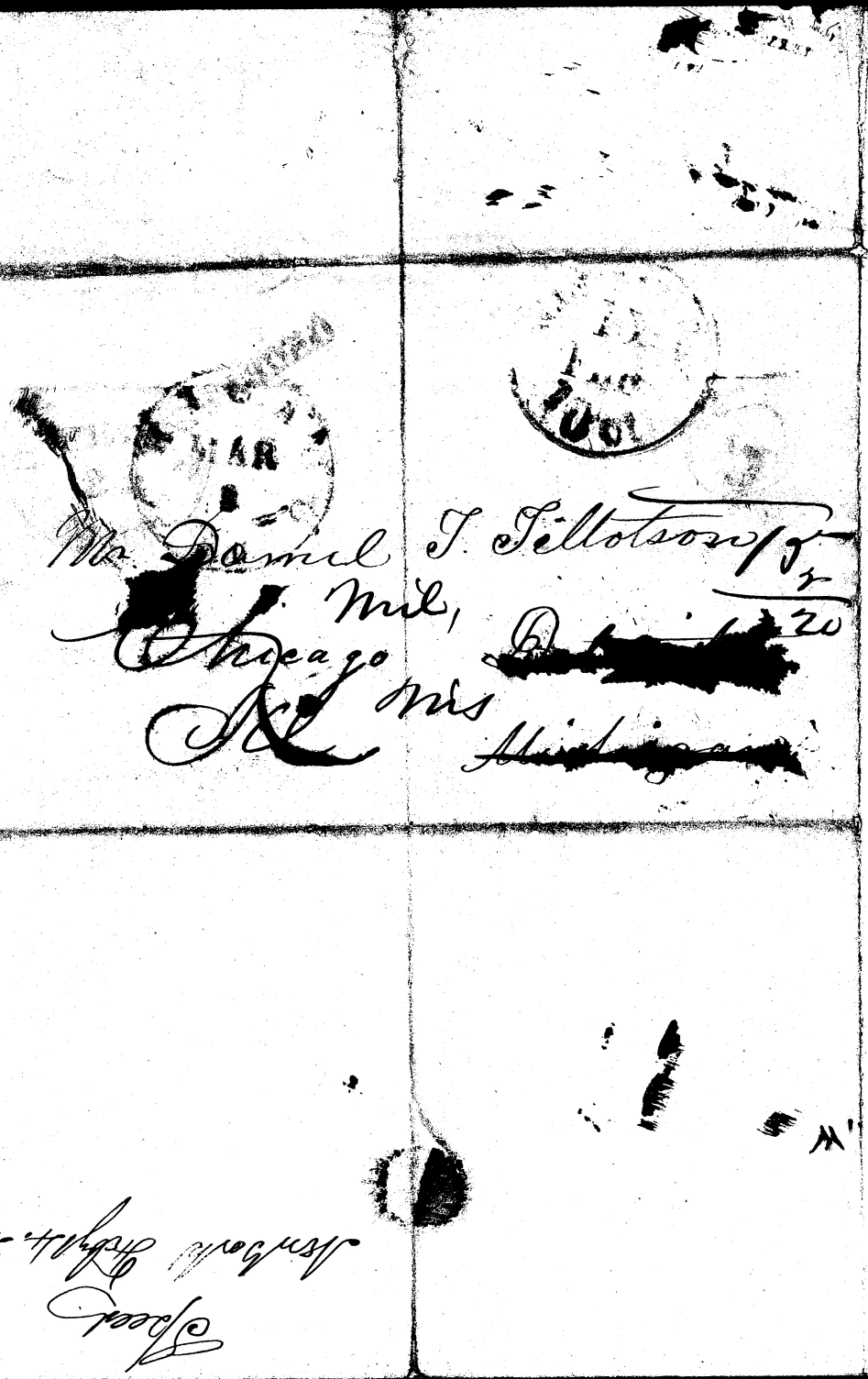
"recording" which we think will cause the Morse to slink up sorely than usual for a night or two. That Morse can retain his monopoly much longer is out of the question, and I am only afraid that other persons will get up other lines just as poor as ours or Morses, and the competition be so great as to destroy the value of them all. I have heard nothing from you since you left Buffalo. Should be glad to know how the Robinsons have used you. I have seen Smith and have some talk with him about our contract and find that they are disposed to treat us kindly, and I think there will be no difficulty in their taking stock for their portion of the profits, consequently if the necessary amt can be obtained to build the line, we can go on with it. Mr Cornell says that arrangements are made and a line of Telegraph will be completed the ensuing season from Toronto to Quebec and from Quebec to Halifax. This now done from Toronto Buffalo. The people at Chicago will thereby be able to get the foreign news by the Halifax steamers before it is used in this city, or at any rate as soon as can be used here - There will

also be a line from Toronto to Detroit, completing the coming season on the Canada side of the Lake, connecting with our line at Detroit. The construction of those lines will make our stock much more valuable, and in less than one year after our line is in operation the stock will be above par. It will be one of the best lines in this country. The Buffalo and Philadelphia line pays from this city are coining money, and will make the owners rich - A line from ~~Chicago~~ Detroit will have the business between Quebec, Montreal, Toronto and all the towns between Detroit and Milwaukee as well as the business from Buffalo on the American side, which will make the line from Detroit to Milwaukee more valuable than from Buffalo to Detroit, and altho it is now one company, the whole line will pay better than any other line of the same length, unless it be from this city to Buffalo.

I will write you again next Sunday, if not prevented by unforseen contingencies.

Yours truly

J J Strang



Telegraph Office Utica 17th Feb'y 47

Sir

Yours of the 14th is at hand I find you are like all the rest of the world have a bad recollection at times; so that it is of very little use for us to undertake to settle accounts by letter

We will Endeavour to get the account for the past arranged as well as Circumstances will admit of And hereafter put our business in such situation as it can be understood

I Accept of your proposition of One Hundred Dollars pr Annum for the news Reports to Ithaca papers

There is an account to be arranged for the Office at Auburn And some other things which we will adjust when you are here

Your remarks about the M.E. Conference requires no answer at my hands. it is sufficient (~~it is insufficient~~ Error) for me that I met the proper persons their to attend to the business we met for

You are very liberal in saying you may adopt such rules as you please and if you get a rule that will satisfy yourself I shall be very much pleased —

Again :- I do not Care what you do with your
Own money :- all this is very kind in you
but I happen to be associated with some
Gentlemen who do care about all this busines and
therefore I am disposed to look after it and
see that I can give a good account of my
Stewardship

In speaking of my remark about this
Comparitive Expence of 2 wires of 325 Miles
against One wire of 40 miles. you let out
a little of the Old Seven when you say. I suppose
you are Elated with your Recent Succes - in
operating double wire and may on that
ground be excusable for the Eror you have
fallen into

I Am not sensible of having fallen into an
Error in any thing I said in my letter to you of
the 12th Inst but you will pardon me if I tell
you when I did Commit an Error!

When the board of Directors were together
about the 1st of Oct/46 and the Subject of
Superintendant Came up for Consideration
And the Man Enquired for Who could put the
Second wire into operation and adopt a Sett
of rules & Regulations for the Operators to be governed
by. I Recommended Mr Cornel for that place as a
Suitable and Competent Man, he was Employed
On the Strength of that recommendation and three
months afterwards when the board was together

there was no differance of opinion with them;
" I had accommended a man who so far as any
thing could be shown. was Entirely unfit for the busines
and had spent more of his time for the 3 months in
his own business than in that of the Company and
while in Session a letter was brought into the
office saying that he Cornell was there in
Washington asking for some little side line in the
neighbourhood of Geneva.

Then it was that I felt not Elated but
Ashamed and Confounded at my own want of
judgment in accommending a man who could
so soon place me in a wrong position before the
Board

And when I found Every operator on the line
who knew what you aught to be doing, and was
not nor could not do what you had undertaken
to do; at an Expence of between 2 & 3000 Dollars
a year Salery and Expence, and that no attention was
given to your instructions as they were as liable
to be wrong as right. then it was that I thought the
Expence had better be saved

Now will I hardon my plain way of speaking
in as much as your own remarks seemed to
require an answer and to give facts was
better than fiction.

Respectfully Yours

J. J. Patton

E. Leavitt Esq
Supt. Western Union T. Co.