Vergennes Nov 13th 1847

Dr Sir

I arrived here this forenoon am now putting up the poles through the village & shall expect to hear from you as soon as monday morning the poles on Guindons contract if I counted them right there is 258 — one hundred & twenty seven of which were delivered by Mr Martin

I intend to hire men enough this afternoon to fill out my gang on monday & shall continue along as fast as possible

Mr. Cornell

Yours &c

G. W. Durand

North Ferrisburgh.
Nov 13

5

Mr. Cornell
American Hotel
Burlington

G W Durand
13 Nov 47

Erie Nov 13/47

Dear Brother

yours of Nov 2 was recd yesterday containing 200 dollars in refferance to farther moneys see my letter of the 3d I have had some pull backs on act of wither and other things since I last wrote so that we have not got along as well for the last week as I Expected I shall start the third gang monday morning we have got up in all about 30 miles of poles, Mr fish takes charge of the 3d gang at $2,00 per day untill we hear from you in refferance to the wire dont delay geting the wire on before the close of navigation, Lake navigation is very uncertain even now I started from Buffalo last thursday morning for Erie and after coming up 15 miles we were Caught in a gale and put in to Point Evenew & laid at anchor there 30 hours and then had to put back to Buffalo and take the stage before I could get here, the Boat has not yet arrived

If the Poles could be contracted for the ballance of this line (to be put up in the spring) this fall they could be got for from 25 to 30 cents to be delivered along this winter and payd for when set is it best to do any thing about it, the People are anxious to get a holt of the job to furnish them this winter

E B Cornell Nov 13-47

I hear nothing more yet from the other
company no wire up yet I believe
I want you to write me soon in refference
to Fishes puting up the wire as he is anxious
to know about it; I think he knows more about
Telegraphing now than he did a year ago last
summer he got a pretty good lesson in Canada
Burdick is having a pretty hard time between
Bu & Silver Creek having a good del of Slate
to encounter with since he got out of the
swamp, Mr Brown the Proprietor of the Eagle
Hotel in this place says he will give the rent
of a room in the second story of his building
for an office I think it will do if the office
being in a publick house will not be an
objectoon we might soon get the line to work
from here to Bu if the wire and other things
~~were~~ would be ready by the time the poles
were up what say you about it
I saw a mr Camp from west field
who says there is 2 or 3000 dollars in stock
ready for us if we will give them an
office at that place, it is between here
and Silver Creek and a pretty smart little
place yours &c E. B. Cornell
E. Cornell direct to this place

Burlington 14th Nov 1847

E. Cornell Esqr

Troy

Dear Sir

Agreeable to your request of the 4th Inst. I Enclose herein Fifteen hundred dollars $1,500. Hope you will be able to give the funds a good circulation.

Please acknowledge

Very truly

Yours

J.M. Rich

Treasurer

10

Cornwall Nov 14 1847

Dear Ezra

your letter Containing those Orders was recd this morning but I am very sorry to learn by that of your ilness and why did you not have the Man that wrote the letter be more explicit about your sickness so that I might know your true situation he merely states that you are their sick on your way to N York you will Please wright as soon as you are able and let me know how you are I have learned to day that the Man North is 4 Miles the other side of Middlebu at work again I have wrote you in A former letter that I learned they were doing nothing but it seems they are now at work and I hope will stick to it so that we may soon get through you say you ish me to Count the Poles South and report o you and have Durand ~~Count~~ North do you wish them Counted the whole length of line that I have Put up I should not think this would be necessary as we have the Number of wrights & Wymans I have also Counted Mr Ketchams he has furnished 187 Poles in all and I shall have the Number of the rest when I get to Middlebu Please inform me what you wish on the subject and Please say what I shall do with the Tools when I get done and where I shall meet you or what you wish me to do or any other directions you may wish to give me

I have Put up the Poles within 3½ miles of Middlebury and hope to be done Soon the first of the week I had but few hands and rock for Some 3 miles it went hard and slow but it goes better now I have more help and better digging and Shall drive it through as fast as I Can Please wright Soon and direct your letter to Middlebury

Yours affectionately
J. S. Bristol

E. Cornell, Esqr

5

E. Cornell, Esq
Buffalo & N. York
Telegraph Office
N York City

Care Otis E. Wood
Pacific Hotel
Room No 26

J S Bristol
14 Nov 47

11/14/47

Chicago Sunday 14 Nov

My dear Sir

As far as I am concerned you may have any route in Wisconsin on your own terms: but I doubt whether I could induce Kendall or Smith to take stock for the Patent. They would, I know, much prefer taking a very low price in Cash. I will submit your proposition to them, and induce them, if I can to assent to it. Would it not be better to run a line from here to Galena? on the route of the contemplated R Road? That would depend on the chance of obtaining subscriptions, and I do not know enough of the country to determine which would be the preferable route. As soon as we get this Lake Line in operation there will be good chances for several other routes, and, I think it cannot be a great many months before we get O.R. into court, and strike his artillery.

I wrote you yesterday, and have nothing new to communicate. The feeling here, is growing stronger every day in our favour, and we have only to keep on our work and do about right, to have as strong friends here, as at Milwaukee Livingston has cut stick, I have not seen him for a week - I wish O.R. would send him to Detroit and keep him there a month.

You will have enough to do for some time in getting your wire ready to put up - it is more of a job to solder the wire than you anticipate My Father has gone to M. City with a good man to solder and five tons of wire - I shall stretch several miles of our wire this week, and take a forked stick and lay it up on the top of the poles first one side of the pin and then the other and if it falls down it will do no harm when the caps come I will have them put up in a hurry.

As soon as I can get all things in order I ought to go back to Detroit and go on the line towards Cleveland I do not see as you will require my aid North of this. but I would like to see you before you go. and I will meet you half way any day you will appoint, or if you think best come on here, and see how we do or if you say so I will go and see you: but I do not see how I am to do you any good.

You make the arrangement and I will live up to it.

Yours truly

J J Speed

Speed

Nov 14. 47

Route from Galena to Mil —

20 posts —

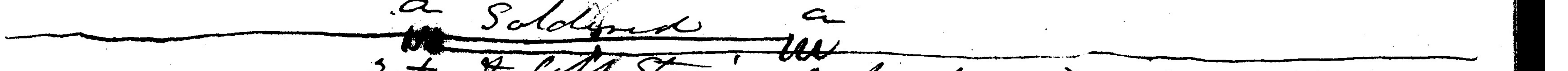
No 12. wire —

$150 —

Patent $25 }
E. Cornell 25 } payable in Stock

I send this to answer yours of the 12th.

I am not disappointed that you do not get along with the soldering as fast as you expected. A good man will not put together and solder as it should be over 400s a day when he first tries. after a little practice, a man will solder 500 to 700 pr day. It is indispensable to have it soldered without the solder you cannot get an action for 20 miles. The copper wire has to be soldered, even that will not answer without. The line from Boston to Lowell was put in cold weather in the winter, with copper wire without soldering, and it would not do, it had to be taken down & soldered. I put it together thus



3 turns & left straight for two inches, and some solder run on the places a a when it is wound round. If your acid is good for any thing, and you will heat the wire before you put it on, there is no need of filing, or tinning, before it is twisted. The acid is 1 lb Muriatic acid 1 Oz of Sal ammoniac with Zink put in as long as the acid will dissolve it. You have to use a soldering iron & furnace just such as tinners use. I have three pots & 6 soldering irons for 3 hands. Small vise to hold the wire & pincers or large pliers to twist it.

Acct Sent

Buffalo November 15. 1847

Mr Cornell Esq

Dear Sir

As my time with the "Buffalo & Canada Junction Co." has expired, I am desirous of getting a situation on some line, as operator, & wish at this time to confer with you whether you can give me a situation or not on any of the lines under your charge.

I received a letter from Mr D. T. Tillotson Milwaukie a few days since with regard to the station at Chicago, and he refers me to you as the proper man to correspond with in reference to the matter. As it is so late in the season of the year, and as the probability is that some time will yet elapse before this line will be ready to commence operations & besides the conveyance is so very bad, I would much rather go east on the Troy & Montreal line, at least during the present winter.

I would very much like the Troy station if it can be had, it being much more convenient for me, as it is near home & in our own state too. I have heard that M. L. Wood would probably have this office. You know how this is, of course & will act accordingly. I think however Merritt would give way for me to go there, but I dont know how he feels it.

If I cannot have this station, how is it with the Montreal Office.

I think with the experience I have had in the business that the price I named you by Telegraph at Montreal $600. would be a reasonable compensation, & I think too, your Directors would have no hesitation in giving it, when made acquainted with my ability as an Operator.

I trust you are too well acquainted with me to need any references as to moral character or ability, but if requested I refer you to any or all of our Directors.

Mr Cornell you well know how I am situated in the world, & that my only means of support are my hands & that single & alone I have to work my way along against the many opposing influences of money & friends, & that while others have both these I am left with only friends & a good name to win my way. Under these circumstances I ask of you, your influence at this present time, to obtain business in telegraphing. True, I never knew as yet, what it is to want, or found difficulty to get into good business places, but then, one word from you I am aware would place me where I might in vain try alone to get.

To friend Orrin & his Father I owe much, for my success thus far, & I shall not overlook the kindness they have done me, I trust too they have not given their help & influence to an unmerited claim. But I digress.

By communicating with me upon the subject above here at Buffalo, at your earliest convenience you will confer a very great favor & greatly oblige me, as I am anxiously waiting to get a situation some where.

I think the price I have given you not too high for the experience I have had, & I trust I shall give that satisfaction ~~that~~ the Montreal line will feel they have not thrown away their money.

That line must be a very important one from the way it is so directly connected with the New York business.

Your answer to this will be anxiously looked for. I shall remain here till I hear from you.

Orrin is well & compliments to you —

With considerations of respect I am
as ever Yours Respectfully

E. Cornell Esq
Troy N.Y.

W. D. Allen
Buffalo N.Y.

P.S. If you cannot give me encouragement at the price I have named, please say what price you can give. Mr Cornell give me the most you can. I need it, & will be most thankful to you

W. D. A

St Johns November 13th 1847

Mr Cornell.

Dear Sir

All the Poles we have are set reaching from St Johns to within five miles of Laprairie the holes are Dug from that to Laprairie & two miles above Leaving four Miles More to be dug, Making six miles from Laprairie to the Mills in stead of four. Well there is no Poles at this Place. Davis wrote or rather sent by a Man who was drunk to get sixty Dollars but Pierce would not let the man have it the Man stated that the Poles were all Loaded when they will be here cannot say I hardly Know what to do. will finish Digging & trust that the Poles will be here by the time we get that done, there has arrived eight tons of Your wire at St Johns but no caps or Pins. You must let me hear from You in a way that I can understand what You are going to do Immediately for when I get the Poles set I shall strike off. before I shall lay Idle one day have Laboured under great disadvantages for the Past two weeks by not having Poles. Lye set nine Miles of Poles in two Days in all five hands, had the holes dug, you ask are they holes Deap enough I answer over five ft if that will do. it cost about four cents a piece to Peel Davises Poles they were very Notty & crooked Making More work than if they had been Straight Poles, have had six Men the Past week. Saw Mr. Lo Wood yesterday on his way Home

As regards our work below Quebec So far as I was consurned did the best I Know how where we had a chance that is, when it was possible we dug five feet & where we could not on account of rock we Made them firm & Substantial & I trust that on examining You will find it to be as I tell You the roads were very narrow & a Deep ditch cutt on each Side for the Most of the way from Quebec to Rivi Du Loup, Some of the Way we were Obliged to set the Poles in the road about three feet from the Ditch there were never any complaints Made to Me while on the rout for So doing & I believe that no Man could, under the Same circumstances & having the Same difficulties to encounter, have done his work better than we did ours below Quebec our Poles stand Plumb & ~~settled~~ firm. the road being so narrow we could not use bracing timbers therefore took a great deal of Pains in Cutting into the rock. Not setting any Poles less than three feet, & always more if it was possible generally the rock was very hard to cut. I think that I am safe in saying that you saw the worst set Poles on the whole route. Presume there is Many Particulars you would like to know that I do not think of at Present if so I shall always be ready & willing to answer any question you may wish to ask.

Hoping you may have recovered you Health & that I shall soon hear from you

I remain

Your Humble Servant

A. Backus, Jr

Mr E. Cornell Esquire
Troy, N.Y.

A Backus Jr
14 Nov 147

BURLINGTON V
NOV
16

5

Mr E. Cornell Esqr
Troy City
N.Y.

Monday Morning
Kingston Nov 15th 1847

Dear Bro Ezra

I learn with great regret by Griffin of your ill health and sincerely hope you will speedily recover —

Various circumstances have contributed to delay my passage home and as I am detained here for a few hours have decided to report myself to you in the mean time — The Quebec matters I left as you requested The oaks and pine are shipped and Ald' were to hold a meeting Saturday noon the result of which I have not learned as yet — I called for a copy of "Symes report" as ~~by~~ you requested and recd a short document of less than — pages containing no particulars and in 2 places referring to Symes field notes —

I of course called for the "field notes" to which reference was made as being our only mode of ascertaining what were the existing objections to the work — The Secretary informed Mr Cutter that the president refused to give a copy

I think as reference is made to the "field notes" we are as much entitled to them as to any portion of the report because the report is not complete without its references — The copy of contract which I held I gave to Griffin and also the document they gave me as "Symes report" All the other papers I left with O.S. as I that they would be wanted in that quarter — I have however in my memorandum book some notes made at the time of ~~certain~~ the occurrence of some of the circumstances with the dates which may be of service I will put them in shape so that I can send them where you wish at any future time if necessary

In reference to my winter's business I held some conversation with O.S. and he thinks it will be policy for me to apply for Montreal Station of T&M Line and Supt of that portion of it between

Montreal and "the line" as he thinks
they will be willing to pay me $1000.
and by such arrangement he thinks
the chances of bringing about a
harmonious feeling between the two
Companys will be considerably increas
ed — I think best to suggest it
to you and shall be influenced to a
great extent by your own advice
in the matter." The Troy office too
perhaps could not be better disposed
of than by locating brother C. E. there
I offer these as suggestions not
knowing whether you will be pleased
with such arrangements or whe[illegible]
my own family affairs will permit
I wish if possible to make such
a disposition of affairs that
Mother Sage shall be one of my
family — and should be quite
unwilling to have it otherwise as
she feels much more at home with
us than any where else —

Please write as soon as convenient
and advise
Your Brother
With best regards M. L. Wood

E. Cornell Esq

E. Cornell Esq
of the Magnetic Telegraph
Burlington
Vermont

Expect to reach home
Wednesday evening
Nothing new

M. G. Wood
15 Nov 47

Chicago Monday 16 Nov 1847

My dear Sir

I commenced stretching wire today by the poles, and have six miles by the side of the poles ready to put up. I shall take a pole, as I wrote you, and put the wire up on the poles, and if it falls off occasionally, before we get the glasses, it will do no harm, even if it is on the road, and the waggons run over it.

It is more of a job to solder it, than you anticipated, and you should have at least two hands at it. I will meet you half way, and no mistake, and get half way to Michigan City at the same time. Father will meet me between here and the City. Wood and Baily will put it up on the R Road, and we can get through before 1st Jany any how.

Yours truly

J J Speed

I have not heard from Cornell in more than a month. the posts are going up briskly in Ohio.

Sent
Nov 16. 45

Montreal 17 Nov 1847

E. Cornell Esqr.

Dear Sir

I am sorry to learn by Mr. Giffin, and others, that you were quite ill after leaving Montreal. I hope that by the time this reaches you, you will have entirely recovered. —

No doubt you are anxious to hear what progress I have made in getting the Stock of the Telegraph taken up — I am sorry to say that we have met with a good deal of opposition from the old Company — who have lost no time in representing to those, who took an interest with us, — that we were paying an enormous price for building the new Line — and by calculations have attempted to prove. that the Line of Telegraph — can be built upon a close calculation for Seventy five Dollars a mile - of course they do not include crossing rivers - nor neither do they say - that any one can afford to build it for that - but it tends to show that one hundred and sixty Dollars is a great deal too much - these reports operate very much against us, and some of those who have taken - stock - have called on me to have these matters explained - and if it was really the case - that the *Line* was being made at too high a price - they did not wish to have anything to do with it - these being the facts - I ~~thought~~ it but right to inform You. - and if the Line cannot be built for less. - I think that perhaps it would be as well to form no Company here. - and let

the Troy Company run through to
Montreal. – as originally intended,
– as soon as you can decide upon
these matters – and make it convenient
to come in – the better it will be –
I do not myself give up the Ship

Yrs truly
W. W. Whitney

5

MONTREAL
NO 17
1847
L.C.

E. Cornell Esqr
Troy
N.Y.

4/2

H. H. Whitney
Nov 17. 1847

North Penisburgh Nov 17th 1847

Mr Cornell

Sir we have been anxiously waiting the arrival of the money due us for the telegraph poles which we have delivered on the line from here to Charlotte the number of poles as we count them is 128 but your man did not make but 127 if we have made any mistake we shall be willing to rectify the same at any time. you will please send us the amount our due by return of mail the amount is $80.00 for 128 poles at 62½ cents each we are anxious about the money as we have promised money to be paid when we received the money for those poles and the bargain we made with Mr Allen we were to have our money by the 25th of October so we shall expect it with out fail in the Mail of to Morrow Morning

Mr Cornell

Yours in Haste J & C Martin

128
5
8/640
80–
79.50

North Pennsburgh Vt
Nov 17

5

Mr Cornell
agent for Telegraph
Burlington Vt

J & C Martin
Nov 17 1847

500
8
1300

220
1/2
11,000

4900
1 3
6,200

Quebec Nov 18th 1847

E. Cornell Esq

Dear Sir,

Your letter dated the 10th inst at Burlington I duly received & note its contents. Agreeable to your request I accompanied Mr Griffin down the Line as far as St Thomas 35 Miles - we found all correct & did not think it advisable to go any farther at this season of the year being well aware that this end of the line was the worst end to build by far.

I saw the persons to whom you are indebted for posts &c - & gave some of them my due bill payable as soon as I can get funds from South of 45 - as for being able to get any from this Celebrated Association it is out of the question until they are compelled by law - The greater part of the people to whom I am indebted are now in town & are hard up for funds to meet their fall payments I have arranged with them to wait until the first week in December I hope you will try to send me the amt due them by that time & sooner if possible. I have sent to convenient places below the Caps & Pins they are all carefully stored with the Exception of 8 Boxes Caps & 2 Bbls Pins which Stevens has put up between Point Levy

Point Levy & St Thomas. The black Horse
I send up tonight by boat - to my brother to
winter. I shall hire one to go below with
when I am ready to go -

Do you think you could find me
a birth on the Troy line or have you any
thing like out post duty that you
could give me employment for the winter.
I am so disgusted with this association
I have given up all hopes of their ever
employing me or were they so disposed I
should prefer remaining idle - I shall be
ready to leave here if you should require
my services ten days after I receive the
funds necessary to pay up below. Salary
not so much of an object as the getting
out of this place.

Mr Griffin will give you
all the news I will therefore close -

Hoping you have recovered your
health - I remain,

Dear Sir,
Your Very Obt Servant
Isaac H. Cutter

E Cornell Esq
Troy
N.Y.

I return you the report considering it of no import either to Mr Cornell or myself.

You have mentioned of the report given by Mr Symes as being a true one I hear what Mr Gisborne says he declares to me before witness that he is satisfied it was Mr Symes full determination to condemn the line on the first onset and that he through fear to do as and report as he did and that if he was compelled to testify before a court he would first be obliged to have Mr Symes bound to keep the peace. Do you consider that as a fair examination and just one

I am prepared to say it is not as I have examined the posts condemned by Mr Symes and find them to answer beyond contract

I am also in full belief that is ~~cor~~ not convenient for the Company to have the line finished this season on account of not having the materials on hand ,, we now declare ourselves ready to finish agreeable to contract on our part, and the only reason we do not is on account of the company not furnishing us with the materials which they were bound to do on their part. Under these circumstances you are again notified to deliver the wire agreeable to orders given by Mr Cornell previous. and that within three hours or we shall be obliged to leave the line

I also forbid the company in sending any person to intefere with the line but such as are experienced in the constructing of lines of Telegraph without first asking permission from E Cornell or Myself who being Mr Cornells lawful Agent in the Constructing of your line

I also demand from the Company the just demands of E. Cornell in previous letter You would oblige me much by seeing the directors and informing them of our lawful and just demands which are unlawfully kept from us

believe me Yours truly &c

D. O'Giffin Agt
for Ezra Cornell Contractor

Quebec Nov 18. 1847

T. W. Kimber Esqr
Secty of B. N. A. T. Co.

Copy of D O'Giffin
letter to Kimber
Nov 1847

Toledo O. Nov^r 19th 1847

E. Cornell Esq^r

Dear Sir

You may be somewhat surprised in finding me at this point; but I shall endeavour to esplain. I wrote you day before yesterday that I had come in contact with a lot of hands which were sent on by Speed from Detroit comeing towards Cleveland haveing set the Poles to within ten miles of this place. I met them at Vienna Michigan and assisted them two days in getting through the French settlement where we had some considerable trouble.

At the time I met them Mr Wade to whom Speed gave the contract of purchasing and setting the Poles through to Cleveland was absent haveing returned to Detroit to raise funds which he had had the promise of from Speed receiveing at the time he started upon the job only $150 Mr Wade ret^d night before last without funds and with a determination to dischange his hands and abandon his job for the present.

He came to Toledo with me yesterday and staid over until this morning and after confering togethe advising &c we came to the Conclusion that I had better remain here for the present or until I heard from you Wade this moment started for Vienna with a veiw to dischange his hands and returne home and wait until he gets funds which I think he will not be able to do under two or three weeks when I am inclined to think he will make up his mind not to come back and if he should not you can see that this would be my point at which to hold on for the present and start with a gang of hands in case he should not return.

Your fav. of the 12 inst came to hand last evening giveing a statement of your adventures upon the Lake &c.

and in that letter you request me when I get through Contracting to return to Cleveland and engage 10 hands &c I should have done so but for the reasons before suggested and the want of funds I am entirely out of funds and so also was Wade he not being [illegible] able to assist me a dollar after paying a small portion of his liabilities in this neighbourhood

You now can see the fix of this end of the Line and the unavoidable delays consequent upon this peculiar fix

I shall hear from Wade before I do from you mean time shall learn whether he intends comeing back upon the Line again therefore in giveing me further orders make your Calculations for his returning and his not returning as you will most readily see the necessity of doing so in order to get me to work and out of my present dilemma

If you should desire me to come to Cleveland you can make your calculations to be there about the same time when I think we can put the thing in a more satisfactory and advantageous shape than can be done by writing

All that is required now is concert of action and sufficient funds to prosecute the line to a Speedy close This small delay I consider will not result in much disadvantage from the fact that the ground will soon be frozen when men will be more easily had and at less prices and the poles will be set more reliable for as it is now it seems almost impossible to set a Pole with any assurance that it will stand in some of the many small Lakes which I see upon the Roads side I have already seen Poles which were set by the other Company down in the drink This is a great Country and there are a great many human beings in it and a great many

over

Roads without bottom Near this is the place where the mans hat was found upon the road and on raising the hat there appeared to be a head under it which objected to the hat being taken away and stated that he was yet a man with a waggon under him and a first rate team before that and that he would soon be all O.K.

The Poles will now soon be on the ground the whole entire length of the line and at much less prices than those got by the other company and some of them much less than Wade paid to fill his Contract with Speed

I would here state confidentially that in my opinion Wades Poles and the setting are far short of the intention of the Contract however this is none of my business

They put pins in the ends of their Poles intending to use Knobs or Caps and I understood Wade to say that Knobs are ordered for the entire [illegible] if so some or all of your setting are unprepared for that kind of insulator consequently there will be much difficult additional labour and I cannot now see how you can bore the top of the pole standing

In getting up a kit of tools there will be wanted an Auger of the proper size and an apparatus through which to drive the pins corresponding with the size of the caps &c.

In writing I want you to be more descriptive and definite particularly in relation to the kind of insulator and what size the Pins &c. There will necessarily have to be some blasting done through the black swamp west of Lower Sandusky

Except My Kind Regards
Mean time I am &c
Oliver

TOLEDO
NOV
19
O.

5

E. B. Cornell Esqr
Erie
Penn.a

O. E. Allen
to E B Cornell
Nov 14. 1847

Chicago 19 Nov 1847

Dear Sir

Yours of the 15 was rec'd this evening - You will get along better after a little practice, a man will solder 400 to 600 ft per day when he knows how -

Father has a man with him at M City who will solder 800 ft in day. I can solder 600 ft and surely you can find some one in Milwaukee who knows how to solder wire. If you cannot I will go and show them. If your Acid is good, and you will heat the wire before you put on the acid, and put on enough of it, there is no difficulty about it -

If you can manage to get your end to Racine I will soon be there from this way, and to M City too. I find no difficulty in putting 600 ft on Reel, and have had ~~an~~ 800 ft, put the Reel on the waggon and Reel on the waggon - Keep trying and you will make it go.

I have a good deal of work on the three miles from the Race Course with to our office opposite the Court House as we have to put caps on the poles & put up two wires, I will have the wire all on tomorrow night. Tower Jackson is at Racine, when he gets back we go on with an other set of hands. He will go towards you and I will go towards the city

It will never do to put the wire up without being soldered we might as well have none —

No glass yet. hope to hear from them every day

Yours truly,
J. J. Speed Jr

Speed
Aug. 9. 47.

Middlebury Nov 19 1847

Dear Ezra I have at last met the North Company and this day at night finished up the work here I have Sett the Poles 3 miles & one Pole North of Middlebury and this day has been A hard one, rain & snow & freze to A man as fast as it fell but I did not Stop for Storm & to day have Put up two miles & 2 poles, I let Durand have Cash $50.00 & Should have Settled with him But he could not tell Me the exact Amount of his acct But thought he would have nearly enough to Pay of his hands & it is Probably well for I have recd A letter from Finch this evening Stating he had recd no Money from you that he was indepted to his hands $150.00 they swore they would cut down the Poles unless they got their Pay Soon and he had 25 Poles to Set between Collins & White hall but had not worked any since the 9 of the Month I Shall attend to this Matter at once Shall send him Some Money Set him at work at once & be there My Self Soon but I think I Shall hardly have Money enough to Pay my own hands and Pay his but I dont know how much I Shall fall Short you can send me at White Hall what funds you think best, and Please wright me if you dont intend to be there soon whether I Shall go home or what I Shall do

Father Wood writes me that he has no help but Norman and Can do as much as he Pleases the tooles I Sent to Burlington with Durands as I thought it would be A better Place to get them from than here the whole Number of Poles that I have Let as I have them

Wrights	— — —	135 & 143 Let by Self
Wymans	- " "	437
Mr Ketchum	" "	188
Tolletts	"	503
		12,82 in all

the Above I think is Correct as I have been very Careful in Counting they have been in most instances been Counted twice I think of nothing more at Present that will interest you Please write soon and let me know how you are in health I am very anxious to hear from you
Please direct to Whit Hall

Yours: affectionately
J. S. Bristol

E Cornell Esqr

E. Cornell. Esqr
Telegraph office
N. York. City

Pacific Hotel
Room 26

Ans Nov 24. to White Hall
and sent order for $100 - on
Mt Hall B R

J S Bristol
19 Nov 1847