Office Erie & Michigan Tel Co
Buffalo March 9. 1848

Mr Connell

Dear Sir Our office was opened here on Saturday last & the line from Buffalo to Fredonia put in operation about 2 o'clock in the afternoon. Thus far we have not the least been interrupted & the line has worked most admirably.

Mr Cobb is in the Fredonia office now & he works very well indeed for his experience. I shall take the liberty to instruct him as much as I can, & he seems much pleased to have me do so.

Mr Dunham left this morning for Fredonia & will go into the Erie station as soon as it is ready for operation. Elijah thinks he will have the wire up there by the latter part of the coming week.

When this office (Erie) is opened I think we shall do some business. In fact we now do. Cobb has averaged his Dollar per day since starting.

I wish you would send me some Porous Cups. those you thought were here must have been sent up to Detroit, for

we cannot find any here, Mr Speed says there are considerable many up at Detroit, I shall not need a very large quantity as my Battery is small. I will have only 10 cups & I think we can work to Case with this number. Mr Dunham brought me some Platinas, so that we have plenty just now —

I wish you would hurry up our Communication Books, as they are very much needed — I have got a small Blank Book which I can rule myself just as I want it, which will serve me for the present. I gave Bobb some instructions how to keep his business all straight & I tell him he must ask all the questions he can think of about our business, and I will be happy to assist him all I can —

Mr Connell, when the Cleveland Office is opened I should like to furnish you an Operator for the station. He is a Mr Buell of this city, but now engaged on the Saudon Line Canada, I have been intimately acquainted with him for the past year, and can safely recommend him to your notice.

I think he can be engaged for about $400. the first year. I am in no wise interested, but recommend him as being just such a man

as I know you want. His habits are good, & so are his qualifications.

One thing more I should like to ask you about. When your company gets organized all things as you desire. I should like very much to have the office of Superintendent of the Line between this city & Detroit.

I only want the charge of the working the line, as far as this no more— I ask this as a privilege & I deem I have some claims to it at being the oldest practical operator on the line—

If you will give me your influence in this I shall esteem it a very great favor indeed— If you dont feel disposed to do this I am perfectly content. I would like the office very much, but I leave it to you & the company to say who shall be the incumbent.

Please reply by mail to this letter & much oblige

Yours very Respectfully
In haste
W. D. Allen

E. Connell Esq
Troy

P.S. Mr McManus is now getting stock taken for the N.Y. Erie line, but perhaps you know this

Boston March 9. 1848

Dear -

I return you a copy of the Sun contract signed - & send the other to Edward at Detroit - Have no ahead without delay a batch of steam -

My news from Northumberland is, that my quiet there has cut off, chances in favor of the Durbin impediment - cut short - in fact a downfall & suffusion of both Lungs prevails on our Coast. I have an accompanying able man along this week up for me - to U.S. Council, Mr. Andrews - & he has frustrated all opposition by his pleadings pleadings & lightning activity -

I send you also proofs of new books acct for stockholders -

Don't forget to send me in turn paper or the like, drawings of your patent work as substitutes for mantes - I hope Mr Olin will shape his time to return at Jamaica, as in March his time - It is worthy important & for all interests & time to do -

In haste, Yours truly
F J Huntington

L. Tyrrell Esq
Burlington
Vt -

F. O. J. Smith
9. March 1848

P. Comer Esq

Dear Sir

Enclosed I have

for my account, as Trustee.

I am in do me the

favour to attend against the

Sale on account, as for many

years past,

I am expecting in Sale

matters will be able I trust to determine

what salary to place upon the

Service rendered,

Please have no delicacy

in naming the amount, as it

will be perfectly satisfactory

to I remain

Dear Sir

Yours truly

J. H. Peck

Buckingham

10 March 1818

Chemin En

J. Hogan
10. Mercers

Whereas the Board of Directors of the Troy & Canada Junction Telegraph Company at their Session at Burlington on the 10th & 11th of March 1848 passed the following resolution,

Resolved as the sense of this Board that a union ought to be consummated between this line of Telegraph and the line from the North boundry of this State and Montreal - and from Bennington in this State and Bridgeport or New Haven in Connecticut - to be then united with a continuous but independent line to New York & Boston - and that an application be made to the individual stockholders of this Company for their assent to this measure

Now We the undersigned Stockholders in the Troy & Canada Junction Telegraph Company - do hereby approve of the measure therein proposed - and request the Directors to carry the same into Effect -

Henry Hale
E. Corell
S. G. Austin
A. L. Catlin
John Thomas
C. M. Fletcher -
E. Cushman
P. Austin
I. L. Hammond

S. G. Peck
John Peck
E. W. Peck
C. P. Peck

W. J. Odell

Burlington Vt March 13 1848

Dear Sir

I received a letter from Mr Smith last evening containing the following extracts from a letter from yourself to Mr Kendall- "I have recd a letter from Mr Ellsworth dated Lafayette Feb 21 in which he says the O'Reilly concern got no subscriptions from their Dayton Indianapolis & Chicago line- that all further payments at Crawfordsville & Indianapolis are suspended & that the hands set their poles have struck for pay- but he says the people will the Fleck tittle or no tittle things for us he can"— Last July Jeff Smith and my self were appointed the sole agents of Morses Telegraph in the states of Ohio Indiana Illinois and Michigan- since which time we have been engaged in building the Erie & Michigan 500 miles of which is in operation and balance will be by 1st of May. We have also erected in the past summer 500 miles in Vermont and Canada which is in operation and our plans of operation for the present season embraces a line from Chicago to St Louis- from Chicago to Galena- from Toledo there to connect with Erie & Mich Line through Fort Wayne Logansport Lafayette Terre Haute to St Louis- with a line connecting to the above at Terre Haute- passing through Indianapolis Dayton & Springfield when it will connect with a line from Cincinatti to Sandusky City- I have marked out this plan supposing it would better accomodate the business of the country through which they pass- than if they

west across the country as O'Reilly proposes from Dayton to Chicago. The Telegraphs must follow the line of business. The lightning must follow the corn and pork to Market and if I am rightly informed in relation to your channels of trade the above as the plan for a Telegraph that will best serve your wants. We shall have our agents on all those routes very soon and if the stock is subscribed shall put the Lines in speedy operation — with good title to the patents and better working lines than O'Reilly has ever built. All the lines I have seen work in rain as well as sunshine which is not the case with O'Rs. I have also various associated improvements in the circulation that I attach to all lines I now build. If there is anything wrong in the plan I have indicated above for location of several Lines I should much obliged to you if you had leisure to point them out. And if you could do or say any thing that would prevent further piracy of Prof Morses rights by O'R and to check the patience of your neighbors for the Tel for the short time necessary to furnish them the one restricted to their wants you would do me a very great favor — There has been a wonderful change in the Tel enterprise since the time our old friend Prof Morse was waiting the slow progress of Congress for an appropriation He has now realized more than he or any of his friends dare anticipate at that time and his great invention is yet in its infancy — and is vastly more important to our country than any acquisition of Territory in Mexico —

I will take the liberty to give you again a letter to you when he leaves for the mark If you find time and will write me please address your letter to Fair Play

Resp Respectfully
Mrs
E Conger

Hon N L Ellsworth.

Lafayette Indiana

Copy to
H L Ellsworth
Mar 13th 1848

Copy

Burlington 13th March 1848

Friends

Enclosed you have a draft for £1098.6.6
to pay my note due 19th inst for £443.6.6
also to pay New York Agency for bill of
exchange drawn by Thos Stubs of £653.11.0

In regard to time of Payments with
Screw &c I supposed that I was right
in my impression and that the former
arrangement was 4 months and afterwards
altered to three months — I make no
memorandum of the time and therefore
must yield to what they claim as they
may to O. G— but I fear it is rather
short time for my future operations—
I shall want all the nie they can
make as I shall build 1,000 tons
this year and I like the men to
deal with but I have had nie offers
at ½ ct less than I pay them—
I may remit from Montreal for this amt
due them the 21st but if I do not they
must not be impatient at a few days
delay— I also enclose them notes for
Address from C—r

One for bill nie £665 £655

One for bill mic	Feb 8	$855
" " " "	Feb 19	786
" " " "	Feb 26	786
		$2227

The balance of the bill I mic arrange is so short a time it is not worth while to make note for it.

I left a Telegh dispatch in office for you last night asking you to ship 50 pons cups to Buffalo for me addressed to my Brother L C Gonell for Ann Arbor Michigan Line, I hope you have sent them as they are in want of them If they have not been sent please send them at once

Yours Respectfully

L C Gonell

Mills 161

Copy to
Wells & Co
Mar 13th 1848

Fredonia March 15th 48

M. McGown Esq.

Sir

I have to inform you that the citizens of this Village have taken the 40 Shares in the N.Y. & Lake Erie Telegraph Co. which were Expected would be taken when you left us. —

Should be pleased to hear how the Enterprise progresses as Electricity & Steam along the line. —

Respectfully
Yr. Obt. Servt.
D. W. Dougherty

D. W. Douglass
Fredonia 15 March

I St Cutter
March 15/48

St Johns
March 15th/1848

E Cornell Esq

Dear Sir.

Your favor dated at Lapraire 12 o'c this evening - I heard from a Henryville man that the wire was broken between Phillipsburg & Pike River. I went as far as Phillipsburg to day but found it not the case - I have enclosed your letter to the St albans operator & requested him to come as

far as Phillipsburg and
Examine & repair.
Mr Nutter tells me the line
is all O.K. from here
to Lapraire. I have had
no communication at
all since 1/2 past two
Yesterday P.M. from
the South.

Yours truly
Isaac H. Cutter

P.S. Please say to Mr Whitney
Mr Bent's Com was duly sent on the 13th inst
for which he owes me 1/6
I.H.C

Erie 15 Mar 1848

Dear Sir

Mr Gowan and I stopped one day at Buffalo, and tried to Enlist some of the wealthy men there to take money on My Horse stock but we did not make them believe all the truths we told them, and consequently they were so unwise as to miss a capital chance to make money At Fredonia we will get two Thousand dollr. which is as much as they dare able to take, At Westfield we will get two thousand, on this take line as soon as we shut up OR at Buffalo. I have tried all day to see Mr C M Reed the great man of this burg: but have not yet found him. I go to his house this evening and will probably see him

I am told that Mr Rue took all the Stock O'Reilly asked to have taken here; but has not have any I hope to get him to promise us the rest as soon as we spike their artillery - It is useless to try to get Stock taken on this line without making it a condition that O.R. is to withdraw at Buffalo, and I have no doubt about closing his office in 60 to 90 days I think it advisable to get the Stock on those conditions

I go tomorrow to Watertown, and from there to Painesville, Milan &c, I am confident that we can get home and at all the Towns where O.R. has not opened an office and I will stop at all of them and do all I can -

The wire is up to this place; but no Register Place will send one in about 10 days. Your Brother & Murdoch are here. They have

wire enough him to reach 16 to 18 miles
have holding it together: but do not
think it best to put it up until the other
hosts are put in - Elijah thinks we
had better keep Bundick, as he
says Bundick is cheaper at 20$ per
day than any man we can get
at 16$ - Bundick is more fully acquainted
with the swamp, and can manage
to get twice as much work done in
a day as a green hand - I think we
had better keep him this summer
as we have had him through the
winter in cold weather & short days -
we must make up this summer
for the Cost of this winter -
Bundick says that he could get
the stock cotton for a trip from
Lynchburg via Chattanooga, Lagrange,
La Range Trupton Hornia, Courtland
Bryden Village to Athens Ga 475 miles
@ 150 per Mile $112.50 - [illegible] the Patent
$25. per mile - leaving $12.5. for building
I have no doubt but the stock could

might easily be obtained on that route and you had better get a contract from Smith Brick & Lot Bundicker or some one else at it

Mr Gowen left Indonia in good spirits and I have full faith in his getting as much stock taken on the line as we expect. If you can manage to run on the balance of the wire, and get him on it - I have great confidence in squeezing the cash out of them on this Lake line in May or June - I think Gowen will get a hearing before Judge Coleman April and by the 1st May I hope and believe that we will have Myers Ely & Co. out of our way - "to note it he,

Yours truly

J. J. Spurgh

April 15th 1848

Attend my letter carefully
Attend & obey

Erie 15 March '48

Dear Sir

I have seen the Revd this Evening, He says that when we Stop O'Reilly he will act as liberally but he is not dishonest to act any thing for either line as long as the question about the right is in dispute.

Elijah says that he must see all the money you sent without finding any to pay for poles Wait of Schuelenne - I hope that Tillotson will get some Bonds on the line between Detroit & Milwaukie and if we should succeed in getting any more money on that End then we will have to pay them, shall we send it to you or shall we use it to pay off

holes and work on this line?
Wood will soon be done in Michigan
if he is not by this time, and
can come on this way from
Detroit, if we have any means
shall we use all we get, or
send you the surplus, if any?
The man who wrote to you, seem
to be much in want of this money
and your Credit and O'Reilly
on this line is a little below
par. We cannot make contracts
for the balance of the holes until
those delivered are paid for,
and no money can be had on
this end of the line until we
get our accounts out of the way
I will get all the promises I can
but those promises will not be
available at present.

Elijah will go home in about a week, and you had better write Warren at Ottawa & Mr at Detroit Elijah says that as soon as funds can be had he will commence at Buffalo putting up the poles and also puts this place West he thinks by the first of April that poles can be set as cheap as now. I will write you again Ashtabula or Painsville—

Yours truly

E J Speed

By preventing OR from making any collections on this line, we will be able to get the money out of them whenever we release his Battery. If we cannot get the work, it is some satisfaction to know that he is in the same fix—

J J Speed
March 15 /48

Office of the Erie & Mich. Telegraph Co.
Corner of Cass Street & Jefferson Avenue,
Detroit, Mich.

All Communications Strictly Confidential.

By Telegraph from _____

Detroit, Mch 16, ____, o'clock, ____ M. 1848.

To E. Cornell Esq

O'Reilly's line from the East to this place is in full blast and they have commenced making arrangements for other lines — one is from here to Portland — how much further I don't know — We have had a number of cons from Chicago, Milwaukie & other places, with charges and through, but Since I got here I have Marked them, and told all West no could not send by his line — if they chose to send to this point, we would write them out and send by Mail, but in no case by Telegraph till our line was done when I come here no calls need apply to me.

O'Reilly line

Eight times as much as the receipts of this Office and Northrop, could not get money enough to make the advances for the Western Offices — On the other hand Mr Ely, instead of sending one on him has mailed all West from this place with the exception of a few shillings worth — and then is not much [redacted] in doing business for this benefit — I enclose my account with D. Ely & Co for March 1864 which will be approved by you Col.S.

D. L. D.

Most of our Operators are men of little Experience in business matters, as well as in Telegraphing, but we must blunder along as well as we can till we can do better —

Burlington March 16th 1848

Dear Sir

I rec'd your line this Evening & as to the Particulars Charges I can say nothing as George is not here & takes 4 or 5 Days to unite him & Get an answer he told me when he left the act that it was all Correct & it would be Paid on Presenting I let him have Money last fall I supposed it would be paid then I hope it is all right he told me it was & if he has Charged you Money that he has not Paid of Course he is accountable but I feel sure he has not for he worked hard & seemed to be Engaged & Interested in the business his Character for honesty is known here if there is any doubt on the subject ~~[illegible]~~ it Can be found out in haste

Yours Respectfully

A. Durand

D O Griffin Esqr

Montreal

C E

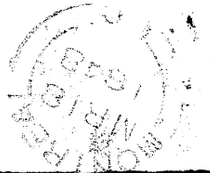
P S I hope the affair will be settled as I want what I have Paid out some Months ago

A. E. Durand to
D. O. Griffin
March 16 1848



BURLINGTON
MAR
17
Vt.

Mr
D. O. Griffin Esq
Exchange Hotel
Montreal
C.E.



MONTREAL
MR 18
1848

Mr O. Cornell Detroit March 16th 1848

My dear Sir

I arrived in this "Wolverine city" on the 12th. and found every thing in a bad fix— the Mic that arrived here on the 18th Feby. had a bill of charges on it of $942. No left with Mr Storrand $300. t. met Chf. supposing it was but $420.— and Mr Wood would be able to pay the balance he could only raise enough to come to $400. which he paid and got away five tons,— that together with what he had on hand he had got soldered together but more of it put up— On the 14th. I went to Albion and met him he had then on hand about $200. (and was indebted about $600.) with no prospect of collecting any more till the line was completed to Niles SouthBend when he could probably raise about $500.— more He concluded to come to Detroit and get Mic enough to put thro' to Niles, accordingly he returned yesterday and on board of the Cars he made our embarassments known to Jenos Dillotson who lent us $250. at 90 d. at the rate of 12 pr ct. this enables us to get away 4 tons and will carry us to SouthBend if we can get trusted for the work which Mr Wood says he can— and he will now push ahead putting up from both ways, Kalamazoo & SouthBend— All west of Mich City are complaining at the delay and it is perfectly useless to try to

collect any thing more till all is completed, I hope there is something on hand at Milwaukee and more to have it sent here (if any) as soon as I learned what a fix we were in - I have urged the necessity of completing it to Mich City by the 5th of April or sooner and Mr Wood thinks it can be done if we can get Money but not without - I have also written Col. Spink at Cleveland, Ohio & Buffalo, how matters stood and urged him to hasten to our aid if he could raise a single dollar, but he is so much wrapped up in the Lawsuits, I fear he will suffer things to be neglected this way, such are some of the embarrassments of building R.R. in this Western world, in opposition to O.R. and his abundance of Money (or credit) to go ahead like lightning - Gov and Col.S. think I am easily discouraged - if a Saint would not falter, under what we have to encounter, then I am no prophet - If the line is not completed to Mich City, so that it will work thro' by the 5th of April, the Notes given us at Chicago amounting to about $350. will be forfeited, and I fear it cannot be without more money than we can get, I must remain here till I hear from Milwaukee and Col. Spink, and will then go on to the line west and help Stutch fire or do any thing that will help most. The line from here to Kalamazoo has been running in debt, as all the Stockholders have time clear headed till I got here, when I took the "responsibility" of demanding pay from all on the whole line except the Rail R. Co. and Walbridge & Hollister, it now owes

about 6 to 8$ pr day and will nearly pay 50 p.c. after Col.
left the Tariff was altered allowing 15 yards instead of 10. I shall
not meddle with it till Col. comes, he can then do as he pleases
about it.

Very truly in strong hopes of
better times, D. T. Tillotson

Dear Brother E—

The time for completing the line of telegraph
west of here runs faster than I can push the line along
to keep pace with it and I regret that I have had to
spend nearly two weeks am trying to get funds to pay charges
and keep the works going on. It is really tight times for money
here and I have made every cent count one in all business
I have done here. Mr. Tillotson has given you a true statement
of affairs here and I am glad to have some one to counsel with
and help bear up under these embarressments. When I came here
and found the heavy freight bill to pay I immediately sold
my flour that I had in store here but I could get only
$150.00 down which I payed in for freights and labour and
have collected all the cash notes I held to pay expences
but this was as it ware a drop in the bucket I have disposed of
all my stock and farm tools as far as I could by orders to
my hired man (for I have not spent any time at home) and
shall have the family move to Albion this month where I
can reach them by telgraph if necessary. As to an office at
Albion I care but little about it. I will get a bonus of $500
out of them if I can and if not I can let it go down

I am going out on the line tomorrow to get up another gang of hands and as they will be all raw hand it will be necessary for me to stick by them to make any progress and let Mr Tillotson stay here and forward material as fast as he can pay the fright. I shall endeavor to put up 8 or ten miles a day if we do not have too foul weather. I have kept the credit of the concern good as yet by inspiring confidence in those that we are indebted to most and getting them to hold easy untill we could get the line completed and as it is a novel thing to many I can get them to work and wait for their pay untill June by paying 7 per cent and cash enough for their board while at work. I have been careful to not make a lot of small accounts and lay myself liable to be dunned and harrassed for small amounts. There has been any quantity of mud here this winter but the wheeling is good now and I shall scatter the wire as fast as possible. I received a letter some time since Brother Benj about his matters here but I can see no time to look after them very close I will try to write you oftener for Tillotson has given me an overhawling about it

Yours with respect H B Wood

D. J. Tillotson
Macon
Ga

E. Cornell Esqr Montreal Mch 20. 1848

Burlington —— Dear Sir

Agreable to instructions I measured the river yesterday in two places if you recollect there is an island projecting out from the south shore some 6 or 7 hundred feet, from the extreme end of this island to Alsopps islands, it does not seem more than two thousand feet, the small island you mentioned of lies direct from where I took the measure and lying on the west side of the channel towards Alsopps island near half way across. the island where I made my base is fine and well elevated and contains stone enough for the pier

Now I propose to you for to erect a small mass on the Island and on Alsopps do one 150 feet which will admit of a sufficient elevation to have the wire suspended state such term as you may see fit to build the pier let me hear from you soon on the subject and oblige Yours respectfully

David Gilfillan

D. A Griffin
20. March 1848



Elyria Ohio March 20th 1848

Dear Sir

About the first of January last I received from you by E. B. Comell a letter dated at Cleveland Ohio giving your excuse for not fulfilling on the Contract you made with me in November for furnishing 2 dozen pole boats and wishing me to furnish as many more In reply I will say that I furnished about one hundred poles and if you will now pay me fifty per cent on what I have already ~~dx~~ furnished and allow me to include White Ash and White Wood in the catalogue of timber for poles I will go on but not otherwise Mr Abraham Rice who has the next contract gave authority me to say the same for himself I agreed to furnish the poles for almost one half of what the next Contractor Cost for the same

Yours Respectfully Yours

Bird B. Chapman

E Comell
Ithica N.Y.

E. Mich Tel office
Buffalo March 20. 1848

Our Bonnell

Dear Sir.

I wish to confer with you at this time upon the subject of monetary affairs. We are doing but a small amount of business of course our Receipts are small.

I am very much in want of funds both for myself for the office. I have received $35 of your brother E.B. Bonnell on rent paid. $15. of Elijah & $20. of our Board. I paid out of this $13. for painting office. Time when about $7. for Quicksilver. Acids &c for Battery & the balance for Nails. Screws &c. materials for opening the office. Out of the whole sum I have received I have used only about $6. for my own use.

I am very much in need of some money to pay my own expenses. I use as sparing as possible of my money as it seems to be rather hard to get picked out. There are a few small Bills now standing against the office which

should be paid. I have borrowed $10 of O. E. Wood to get along with.

There is one other leak for money from this office. Communications coming from our lines destined to New York & other points on the N.Y. lines have to be prepaid here, & they are constantly drawing on this office. At present our line is so short, that the balance of trade is much against us.

I have been extremely close confined in attending the office here, & have got along with out many things we need.

I wish you would forward some money for one month for the office till we can do enough to pay our way.

This office is now open & we are in hopes of doing better soon.

Elijah is here, starts for the east to-morrow morning.

I hope you will be able to crowd the line through to Utica as soon as possible. We are called upon daily for business with that place.

Mr Speed is west. Orderson is on his route through the northern counties, getting stock taken for the Ohio line. Jordania took about two

Dollars! Pretty well for one small place—
I hope this line will be finished this season
too as I anticipate a great amount of
business will hap over it—
I earnestly request you to send
me the funds if possible. I do hate to
owe for board so—

Yours very Respectfully
In haste
N. D. Allen

E. Connell Esq

Rich 21. P.S. Been drunk this morning!
+ only 50 cts on hand— Allen

I wish you would send some acid as soon
as you can conveniently— Have to pay
20 cts per lb for Nitric + it costs only
23/1/2 at Hoadley-Phelps Co N.Y.- Sulphuric
6 pence + only 2 cts in city.

Buffalo March 21 1868

Dear Brother

Our line is at work to Erie and works fine. but I fear we shall have trouble when the frost goes out the ground for the sections are so long that where a pole sets on an angle there is a very heavy strain and the caps being to large for the pins, if the poles draw over much the cap will draw off. we have been bothered some in this way already, and the sooner the other poles are set the better; they will be on the ground by the first of April with one or two exceptions I think I had better set some hands to putting them up by the 10 of April. We have got 55 hundred of wire delivered ready to start on west from Erie and the poles I think will be on there so as to Commence putting them up by the first of April and we shall put them up before putting on the wire

Mr Speed Concluded to keep John Bancroft to work this summer at the wages I mentioned he is going home and will be gon about three weeks then will come back here and Calder up the 220 bundles that are here and then go to Erie and Commence putting up the second lot of poles and put on the wire as he goes along, & I think I had better set his father to work putting up the poles between here and Erie

for unless they are put up soon we shall have trouble with the water long branches some of them are so low that they can be reached from the ground and can't be altered until the poles are put up

I shall want some funds by the time John gets back which will be about the first of April I am going to start for Syracuse this P.M. and shall see Glen to hear from you at Cayuga as possible. When I came down from Cuz I stopped at West field and left the subscription book and a letter for the citizens from the Sheriff with a Mr Cook who is a very influential man among them because I was that he would get $200 subscribed there in March if he went to give them an opportunity in the course of a month. If they would take $200 stock, there is over $100 due Parker for freight on the last lot of wire he says he will send it on by his boat and you can pay after charges at the places where it is landed if we choose the Offices of at Buf Everages about 15 to 25 dollars per day these receipts are more than the Buf office on the N.Y. & Buf line I wish our line was finished we could do a big business this Spring if it was, the new line works very bad they have not been able to work it through to Detroit without

repeating but a few times the insolation is so bad

I want you should write soon and let me know what the prospect is about funds to finish up this line to Detroit the poles that I have contracted for are to be payed for by the first of June I think it is necessary for some one to go through the line west of Cleveland and see if those poles are being delivered and incourage the men by letting them have some money for it is important that they should be on the ground soon if your intention is to push the line through as fast as posible so that some one can go on there as soon as the frost is out and commence setting the poles Respectfully Yours E. J. Cornell

De E. Cornell Esq

E B Cornell
March 24/78

Cleveland 21 Nov 1848

Dear Sir

I wrote you from Erie. I stop'd one day at Ashtabula. They will take two thousand dollars of our stock, as soon as our sheet with OR's stock; but it is impossible to get them to subscribe and pay their money for what they have got without pay, especially as they think that they may be got into a lawsuit by doing - O.E. & Co have not collected one dollar, as I can ascertain, between Buffalo and this City. At Sandusky he has several subscribers who have paid, and they are all good. At Elyria he has some subscribers who have paid, and I mean to send their names to Columbus and have them written on by the Marshall. I have a letter from Tillotson, which looks when enough, says no wine was up on the 14th all of it at Detroit except five tons, charges over $90 on it, Wood had no money, could not raise any to pay the charges &c, He was going on and urges me to get them as quick as possible. A boat is expected here every hour, bound up, and I will go on the first one that comes

Jackson goes with me to Toledo, and then
go to Adrian & Hinsdale and make an
effort to get the stock taken to build a
line from Toledo to Hinsdale
I am trying to get a man started on the
route from this city to Beaver on the
Ohio. Via Warren and Youngs Town.
I am also in negociation with a Gentleman
who lives at Moreestu in this State, and
who is I think the right man to send to
get stock taken. I think he will go
for us, or on joint account.
You can start a man and get the stock
taken for a line from Schoharie Via
Kingston to Newburg. There are several
manufacturing Villages between Catskill
and Schoharie, and some "right smart"
towns between Catskill and Newburg.
I mean to get lots of lines underway
this summer. We now have between
our hands, (between us all (decently) while
we can. I shall sell Side lines at $25 per
mile for the Patent & half the profits, and
Smith must stand at $2500 for the right to
build (or mile through small towns
& enough to pay the Patentee
O'Reilly is doing a land office business
on this line - they have all they can
do in clear weather, to day it rained

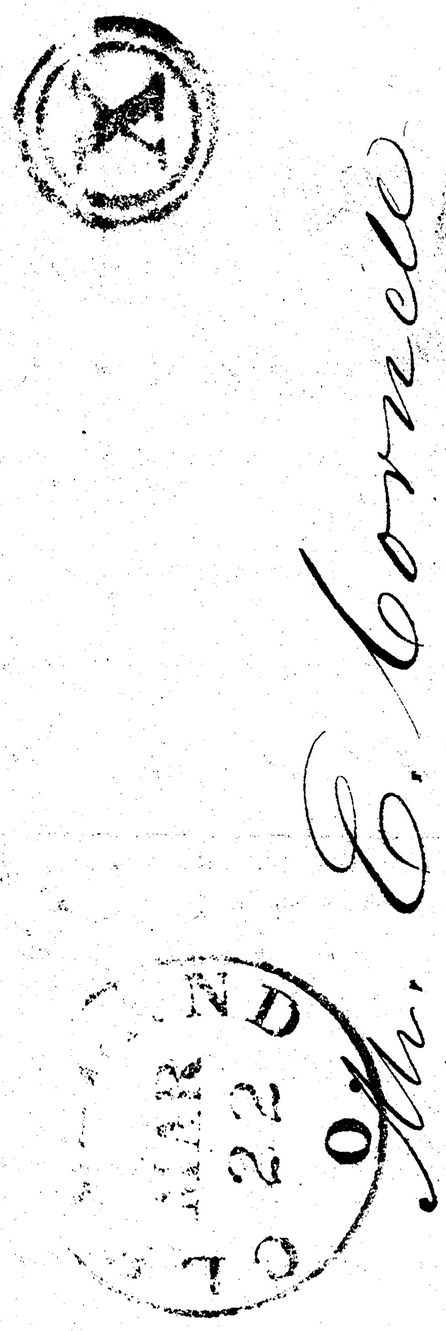
and they said the lightning knocked them so that they could not work, and it did do so every time it rains, until they get some contrivance different from theirs, to stop the same lightning from running down the holes -

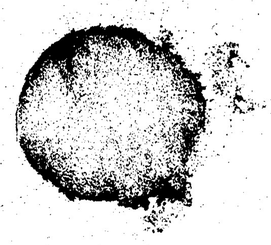
If we had our line done, we would have just as much as we could do, com with ORs line at work. They had 66 com. from here on Saturday to Buffalo and 160 from the West to Buffalo & Newyork (so they say) The papers here are anxious for us to get our line done, they and pay us $6 for each for a report they are out with OR & Co. and desirous to be very friendly with us. Give us our line through and we can earn the means of building other lines: but when we are to get the funds to get it through, you will have to decide. From the tone of Talbots letter there is not much chance to get any thing Net: but I will go there and stir them up. I think I can squeeze some cash out of them. I am now about well again and it must be a devil of a storm to make me show the white feather

Yours truly

J L Gardner

The mud here is about 18 Inches deep on the average, and getting no better fast. The boats will soon be running on this Lake no ice in sight here, and as warm as Summer. The frost is nearly or quite all out of the Ground, and if we had the wine and the racks





J. J. Speed
March 4/71

to buy or hold & work this line could be bought in April as well as in May. I hope Swann will be able to strike the artillery of our opponents at Buffalo before long. We can then get some help; but until then we must lie on faith until you can make Canada break up

Dear Sir

Above you will find a/c of Wire we Sent Screw Co
I have sent you a/c at Buffy which place I hope you
will find the a/c and also the Note sent back to us and
directed to Burlington Vt.?

The Screw Co would not receive them as the time was
ten days from the date which make them according to their
a/c due 7. & 21. of this Month, what you draw them
at 90 days. which time was to long and I sent them with
an a/c back to Burlington & hoping they would reach you
on your return from Montreal The Screw Co is owed us
worth of the Note & Money & they will Ship the Balance
as heard as soon as possible — The Wire has all been
Ship'd to Buffaly as per Bills sent ——

We have to pay on the 18th of this month a
large amt of Money & If you could remit us to meet
your Note's due the 21st it would oblige us & we would
pay you the Intrest If this can be done & you will
would consider it a favour your attention will oblige

Your Respectfully
Wells & Co
Day

Wells & Co
Rec'd March 22-38

Erie Michigan Rail Road Office
Buffalo March 22. 1848

Jas Fillotson.

Dear Sir,— Your letter was received by this morning's mail, enclosing a communication from Ben Hubbell Milwaukie, which I have forwarded to New York, as you desire, & shall always be very happy to (do) any favor of like kind or any other nature, that I can do, will be promptly attended to there.

I shall forward Your Speed Letter by Stevens's Stage to Toledo, being the most probable point I can reach him. If he don't get it there, the presumtion is that he will very soon see you at Detroit.

I very much regret that the section of our line from Kalamazoo to Michigan City is not finished as there must necessarily be a large amount of business to be done when it is finished & complete through from Detroit west. There is still more cause to regret that the section this side from Detroit (from Erie (the present terminus of our line) up is not in operation as I have any amount of business to do to places up the Lake.

The citizens of Buffalo & vicinity seem to be favorable to our line, would much sooner give us their business & influence than the Rival line

were we only in connection with those places where they wish to communicate. There is a general good feeling among our best business men towards the Erie & Wick Line & all seem to wish it success, as far as I can learn. The must have the line through to Detroit somehow.

The Press here are very anxious to make an arrangement to send a Report to the cities of the west & also to receive one from there. They wish to commence in April if possible & if the Line is not done they will effect an arrangement with the other line. Cannot there be something done to secure the Press of this city? My opinion is that give us the line & will guaranty the Press & its influence here.

One more suggestion I have to offer, or rather I ask one favor of you or whoever has control of the matter. When the lines is wholly completed from here to Dunkirk no doubt the different Editors along the line will want a Daily News & Market Report. The way this thing is managed on the N.Y. & Erie Line. The Editors along the line club together & employ a man for the Co. to collect & arrange each Daily Report for the Co. operator, & pay him a stipulated salary, so much per week, this they pay the I & E Co. aside from this a certain amount for the use of the Line to receive each Report. Now, as I am situated

I have all the means at hand to furnish a Daily Report. I would respectfully ask your influence in recommending one to the Editors who may wish to take Reports to furnish them with such as they may want.

If I can have the good fortune to secure this it will be a very great favor to me in a pecuniary view and lap to the line. I can make an arrangement here by which I can collect Mkt intelligence both Local & from Ny. without interfering with my office duties in the least, & I trust I can give them good satisfaction. I had an arrangement of this kind with the Lockport Papers & furnished them a Report daily all last summer.

By the Editors clubbing together in this way they will hardly feel the small amount paid to me each week & this same small amount to them will greatly add to my means. They may confer with you after the line is complete & all is arranged with the line if you think it best to give me the job. I will also talk with Mr Judd about this & reply at your earliest convenience. We are doing very well between here & Erie. Please communicate freely with me about any matters, or suggestions you may have about working the line or any thing else. I trust from my experience in Telegraphing I may be able to do the Erie Michigan Line justice as far as I am concerned - Yours with very great Respect

D. L. Gillette Esq W. D. Allen

P.S. Please give my compliments to the Western Operators & tell them to write to me by Permit & get a Cypher before we pass Communications by Telegraph - Postage is no object to me

Yr Obt Servt
M. Gallin

Detroit 22 June 1848

Dear Sir

I came here yesterday ~~last night~~ on the Steamer Grand U. States. I find that little or none of our wire is up, and I go in this morning to Kalamazoo, and in all of next week I mean to have from Kalamazoo at this place.

Ely is out with an other manifesto three columns long, to be continued, to which I have replied in a short article which you will see in the Detroit Advertiser. There is no possibility of raising money between here & Buffalo until we can close this operation at Buffalo, and as the Courts have now commenced running we could soon have the line done if we had the Rocks. I will return to this place as soon as we get the line finished, and hope to have what you have to say about going on with the line to Buffalo, without

money

Litchon says Work will over, or rather
does now over, near two thousand
dollars. If so, our chance for getting
much more than that sum out West
is not flattering: but I will go at them
in sober earnest and persevere
that can be squeezed out.
Let us once get the OR tide out of
our way, and we will have a
glorious field before us. It will
be fully equal to our most sanguine
expectations—
I think we will have near
or quite two tons of wire here more
than we will want on the West end,
we can use it towards Buffalo.
I feel well again and something
must and shall be done—
Yours truly
J. J. Speed Jr

Your letter from Burlington was just read, also one from Smith & McRundle. It is a hard fight again to stop OR from getting money them to get it ourselves but I will have a man on the line from Toledo to St Louis immediately and one from Chicago to St Louis. This line must be started through to Milwaukee immediately, and must go to it. I will then have Dillon to collect all he can and so on some other line. If Smith thinks it is so easy to get money over him, I have no objection to his sending up the tallest cuss he can find, and let him try— I will do all I can if he can get some one who can do better just have them along.

Mr. E. Cornell
Troy
New York

J J Speed March 22
48

Telegraph Office Little Falls

March 23rd 1848

To Mr E Cornell

Dear

At the suggestion of my friend Mr Gilbert of Auburn Telegraph office, I take the liberty of addressing you.

I have been a student in the Auburn Telegraph office a little over three months, Mr Gilbert thinks I could now take charge of an office, or act as assistant, (which I should much rather do at present) in which capacity I could copy &c.

If you can give me a situation upon some of the lines which you are now constructing, I hope to be able to do the duties to your entire satisfaction. I now have charge of this office for a few days, during the absence of Mr Lynch. I shall probably return to Auburn next week. Please answer me at that place. If you can accommodate me with an answer soon I will be much

obliged.

I respectfully refer you to Mr A.B. Gilbert, Auburn. Mr J.D. Stone. Syracuse. Mr S.H. Lynch. Little Falls. & Mr H.F. Makepeace. Newyork.

Respectfully yours

Alfred G. Luckey

A.G. Luckey
March 23/94

Burlington 23d March 48.

E Cornell Esqr

Dear Sir

Yours is before me.
The least sag which can now occur of 9000 ft.
in length will admit of 8 ft.;
and this too without sleet & not
affected by the wind —
I should not be willing to run the
risque, even for a temporary purpose,
of allowing a sag less than about
120 ft, as in that great tension there
is a gradual stretching & working of the
wire. The line enclosed in brackets
in yr note I do not clearly apprehend.

The crushing force of the wire
upon the posts or rests does not increase
at all as the sag diminishes or as the
tension increases.

The part of the note which I have objected to
assume I will do so when I apprehend it

Very truly Yrs.
F. V Beneduct

E Cornell Esq
Poseent

F. A. Bruckert
March 23. 1848
Sayofwin

Northfield March 24 1838

Col D. L. Seymour

Dear Sir

Your favr. under date
date of 15 inst, directed to the Citizens of Northfield
was handed me by Mr. Cornell with the other
papers in relation to the subscription of Stock in the
Erie & Michigan Telegraph Co, and the conditions
on which you would open a Telegraph Office in
this Village - I think I speak the wishes
of our business men and Citizens generally. When
I say to you, that they are desirous of having
a Station here, and have no doubt but the Required
amt. of Stock would be taken, to put it. $2000, if that
Object can be accomplished - -

You are aware Sir, that it is
an Experiment with us, and that we can not Estimate
the profit of an Office with much accuracy; nor are
we informed of the amt necessary to sustain One, or
know whether it can be sustained by the Citizens without
Expense to the Company; subject however to your
entire controll, as much so as if you placed your own
Operator in the Office - That we may more
fully understand your wishes, please answer first,
Will you Establish a Telegraph Office in the Village of
Northfield - to remain permanently, If the Citizens will

over

Subscribe for $2,000 of Stock on the Condition
mentioned in your letter, or if the Office is
removed given us the right to withdraw our
Stock? Secondly If we will take the
$2,000 of Stock will you open an Office in Milford
and permit us to furnish our own Operator (subject
to your direction) after six months - If the receipts
of the Office is not sufficient to defray the Expenses?
and Thirdly - How do you Estimate the
receipts of an Office, the Yearly or Commutation
too, and from, the Office, or from the Office only?

You will confer a favor on
our Citizens in behalf of whom I address you,
to give us an answer at your earliest convenience
and will only add further that I believe
with entire confidence that the location is a favorable
one for a Station to promote the interest of the
Company and that its success will meet the
Expectation of its friends

I am Sir with respect
Your Obt Svt

T. J. Campbell

Note . Mr Camp

that Col Spear would

inform his Father on his return to

Detroit probably 2 or 3 miles

Page 48

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Col. J. J. Speed Jr.
Detroit
Mich

G. T. Camp
Westfield

Kalamazoo 24 June 1848

Dear Sir

I go from here to night to South Bend and hope to have the line through to that place in all by next week. If the weather is not very bad I think we can do it.

When the line is done there will be more business than can be done on one wire, unless we can cut the line up in sections, and work each section separately. How would it do to have two instruments at Chicago and two at Detroit. Communicate at Milwaukee and send all communications for places East of Chicago. then do the same at Racine & South Bend. this would not take more than twenty or thirty minutes at a time then put in the ground wire at Chicago and with two instruments the line could be worked both ways at the same time. do the same at all the offices from Chicago to Detroit, then if you send all East of Detroit, and then use the line between Chicago & Detroit as a separate section. It seems to me that there would be no difficulty in using the line in that way for three or four hours each day, which would give the offices

a chance to do their local business, without
materially interfering with the through business.
Your practical knowledge on the subject,
may, and probably is, vastly better than
my theory, but I see no objection to that plan,
and think it will enable us to do much
more business than in any other way.
You may rest assured of one fact, that
the line from Milwaukee to Wyoth
will be the best line, in proportion its
length, that can be made on this conti-
nent. and unless we can work the line
in section, in the way I propose, or some
better way, it will be utterly useless to
have so many small offices, as they
will never put a chance to any
work, except nights & Sundays.
Wood is a capital fellow, I like him,
but he is better to work, than to finance,
and must have the funds furnished
to enable him to go ahead. He has
done all he could since the war came,
but that amounts to but little, as he had
no money & could not get any—
I ought to go through this whole line, and
stop one day or more at each place,
but I cannot do it. and as soon as
I get the line done, Tillotson & Wood

must manage as well as they can, and collect all they can. I must attend to the "Pirates" as Kendall calls them, in Indiana & Illinois. I shall take down Jackson cattle on, and go to Lafayette, Indianapolis, & St. Louis, and throw stones at them, if I can do nothing else. But this is a terrible country to travel over at this time. the bottom is all out.

Write me at Detroit, and the letters will be forwarded, if I do not get them before going South.

Yours truly

M. Declennell

J. J. Speed

If you see no objection to my pleasantly working the line in sections, till Burnet or Place to send us two more instruments,

Telegraph office Montreal
March 24th 1848

My Dear Father

We are becoming somewhat encouraged about the masts. as Griffin says Capt Murray will have the masts up and he will have the wire up in ten days- Sutter has the wire all up on the other side of the river and has this morning commenced distributing the wire on this side of the river. as you promised to leave Capt M some money on monday he promised to pay off his men on monday evening but as you see disappointed and could not leave him any he would have been obliged to stop work as his men would no longer work without pay had not Griffin borrowed fifty dollars of Uncle Orrin for him to be paid when you send on funds- So that the masts out my mill. Griffin went up to Lachine on Tuesday morning and has been there since- I think the Line will soon be completed. or at least I hope so. I think if we are at work across the river now we could do nearly as much as the other line. Our cash receipts yesterday at this office was $12 and I think the whole amount was near $14.

I think that after I've get under fair head way that I shall not need Barry's assistance- and if such is the case it will be a help to the office or rather the company in a financial point of view-

The prorogation of the provincial Parliament happened yesterday and Mr Whitney and myself were at the parliament house to see His Excellency the Gov Genl- come in, he is a noble looking fellow-

The receipt for the $75 which I paid for poles I found in one of my vest pockets yesterday and I will enclose it to you, We have very fine weather here and I think the river will not keep closed long but I guess in spots it will remain until we get across.

I want to hear from you often- How much did you agree to pay Barry? Please write soon

I remain Your affect Son

E Connor Esq

H Connor

E. Smith Esqr. Montreal March 26. 1848
Troy N. Y. Dear Sir

Yours of the 23. came to hand in due season. I find by information received by you concerning the strength of the line it will be necessary to build a pier in order that we can stretch across the channel the mast on the pier must be at least 140 feet as there is a channel on each side of the island, for instance one on Abiolf's. 150 ft on pier 146 ft on the east main shore 150 ft the west side I can use the two small ones contracted for by Murray. and if possible shall avoid a pier and a third mast

You have made arrangements for funds in order that Capt Murray might not be embarassed I am heartily glad of that for I was obliged to borrow from O. S. Woods 50 to help him along how I am to squeeze along god only knows I have run ashore and had not enough to pay board with and without you make some arangments I shall find it difficult to keep on the work and you know the pier must be built and the extra mast put up before the line can be worked across. if I can get on Murray to

till he finishes you may surely depend that we will not finish till the middle of June I do not see anyother way but to get timber and hire a good Carpenter and set him at work immediately by days work and then I can attend to the whole .. and in fact it is impossible to contract to build the pier and mass at any reasonable price the trustees do not feel inclined to be to much expense in the union is effected. I leave the matter with You for consideration and when decided upon send words by telegraph or mail how I shall proceed not forgetting that I am pushed daily and the trustees are very anxious for the completion of the thing

I saw Whitney and he will with Mc Lindsay leave on Wednesday to inspect the line I shall endeavour to attend to the result and see that all is right which no doubt is the case, do not fail in deciding at once about the extra work in order that I may make a bargain for timber Mc Murray has the three boats framed and will commence raising on Monday or Tuesday all goes well so far

Yrs respectfully D.O.G

March 26/72

Kalamazoo March 26th 1848

Dear Brother E—

When I wrote you from Detroit we were in quite a stew about funds, the freight on wire absorbing all we could raise and I left there the next day and came on here to get the wire out on the line. The mud was about two feet deep and a good team could not draw over 10 bundles. I worked here two days getting teams to start out. I had to give big prices to induce them to start at all and it will cost twenty five dollars a ton to get it on beyond South Bend. I made the teamsters believe I had plenty of money by offering to pay one third in advance and if I can get all of it started before any of them returns I can make out their bills and leave them to be paid at the office here when we get the funds Speed came here 23 and went on to Niles to get a gang of hands started to put up the wire when it arrives. The wire is dis-tributed between here and Niles and I started a set of hands last Tuesday (21st) to put up wire from here and worked with them the first day. We got up four miles and last night one of the teams came in (we have two of our own on the line) and reported twenty four miles up and that they would be to Niles on Thursday night. When Speed came he brought one of the Jacksons with him to manage a gang of hand sent to South Bend to put up from there to Mich, City 36 miles and he said he would get it done as soon as we could get to South Bend which is 66 miles and if he does the line will be all up by Saturday night. I have got only three tons of wire here to solder and

start off and I shall follow them up close until the line is complete. I understand there is several posts cut down between here and Niles which has to be replaced and I shall inqure into the matter as closly as I can an provide means to stop such work if possible. I have estimated the distance and the quantity of wire was received at Detroit and I think it will not take the whole to complete this line. We must have a surplus I think and there is nearly two tons I shall not send out until I am certain we shall want it I feel some what perplexed that the work drags along so slow and I can account for it only in one way that is I undertake to do too much of the work mysely and do not employ help enought for fear of lacking means to pay. and if I could not hire a hand that could solder ½ a ton of wire together in a day or do something near what I could mysely I have thought I could not afford to hire him, I have not been used to doing bisiness on so big a scale but I am getting my ideas waked up and begin to discover that time is worth more than the extra cost for doing the work so soon. I have a stray letter without post mark which was handed me by some person I could not find who, from Burlington dated 12 March with regard to the tariff of prices and the blunders we have made &c and as you say, all we can do now is to make the best of it and go ahead I am pretty well satisfied that Speed is right on the charges and that we shall have all the business the line can do at his rates. He did not find any fault with us for extending the com's to 15 words on this end of the line and says let it be so until the line is completed west of Detroit

I could not say where my family is or what condition they are in. They were to leave the farm by the first of April and I have disposed of all my stock and left my hired man to help get the things together and I bought a small house in Albion for them to go into if they could get possession and if not they must get into some barn or stack themselves out awhile for- I cannot be with them for some time to come. Mr Haviland passed through here yesterday to Detroit and I understand he will return tomorrow. I do not understand the nature of his business or the object of his coming. I wrote to him some time since that you thought you would have to send an experienced operator to Detroit to give direction to the whole line and as he has been expecting that post himself it might have excited his anxiety sufficient for him to come and see something about it. We may have written you perhaps in regard to it. I apprehend there will be but little favouritism shown in the line and he that can render the most and best service in such important places are the ones to be prefered. I know that I am not competant to judge of the requisite qulifications and shall give no encouragment to any one for any particular place. Tillotson is in Detroit at present giving direction to the business on this end of the line and gets up the reports for the western papers. There seemes to be some little misunderstanding about those instruments that come from Mr Place's shop. There were fifteen places on the line to put instruments and I supposed that you had them under contract and would forward them when wanted. I did not wish to interfere

in the least with your order of business and when I obtained leave of Mr Speed to put a register at Albion the understanding was that it should not cost the contractors any thing or be a burthen in any to the line. I then got Holman to write to Mr Place for two sets of instruments complete one to put at Albion and one for the Spring Arbour seminary. When they arrived they were in very bad condition the helix on the receiving Magnet was torn off and broken to peices and the registers were bruised and jamed and were all loose in the box. I took them to Jackson and got them repaired so they work well one I put at Albion the other went to the seminary and I took a conditional note to pay the money in 20 days or return the instrument in as good order as he received it. When Col. Speed returned he told me that he had calculated on that register for Niles and was much surprised that I had parted with it, The money has not been paid on it and I am entitled to the instrument and shall go and get it for the Bob, Mr B B Hoyt is here for a few days. He left 5 students at Albion where he makes it the "head quarters" for instructing the art and where we shall turn out some pretty fair operators All our friends are well I believe excepit aunt Anny Macy She is very poorly and no prospect of her being any better, I have written E B Connell but get no answer I want one of those three wheel hand cars to repair the line on the R R. the cars here are to heavy. Can you send one up before many weeks:

Yours with much esteem

M B Wood

E Connell Esqr,

Mch 26/43

Troy March 28th 48

Dear Cornell

Yours of 21st came to hand this morning & is before me. I was right glad to get it as I did not know but you had so soon forgotten Troy & its inhabitants. But it seems I was mistaken.

Yes I have been to albany twice since my illness & have been down to the office two or three times the first attempt at the key proved a failure I tried hard to write & gave it up but saturday last I was down there & got some of the kinks out of my elbow & made it go well in fact run 4 Cams at one time. Soon after you left I had a call from Rust Paxton or rather he called at my office & after taking a look at woods office came back into mine & scowled & looked round & began to suggest improvements such as a closet lathing, box drawers Iryon holes &c &c. & what do you think he went up to albion & ordered Chadwick to fit me up a new instrument & down came the best

instrument you ever saw it is a
perfect steam boat Nothing shorter.
I was talking of going up in the
country before I went into the office
but have concluded to give it up & go to
N.J. tomorrow evening & stand two
days & return by Patrick's & take
charge of my office my health permitting
I want to go to Ivy. bad & there is
as many as one there who will
be glad to see me B. that is I flatter
my self there is. I am glad you
like your situation as well
as you do I was humbug you to
not like the Canvates very well
I should like to have such an
office as B.S.W.Co but mine is very
& fixed up pretty well now we are
sharing no money to pay Exp.
The old man is very liberal this
spring. The albany office is to be
removed to the Exchange & they
will have the best office on the
line old "F told Johnston to go ahead &
fit it up & says he "get it up nice"
Father strange talk for him is it not?
I have not had a dicen Easton yet but shall
soon & then he must do the brown thing

or I bolt, Cheeky Northway Johnston &
Swan Clem & my self are bound to
make him come to terms and pay us
for making fortunes slaves of our selves
as we all have to who follow Dalyrumpling
for a livelyhood. I think Northway will
have any how as he is not going to
shake to Taxton again & exhorts every
day to see O'Riley who is exhausted in a
Shaking of weather we are in the
midst of our Equinoctial storm & such
weather is not fit to throw a cross
dog out are both for better nor worse.
Well that Dodge is one of the good
fellows. & in fact the boys that learned with
me who are stationed on that line
are all good fellows at least that
was the impression I formed from
shaking with them on the line
the other day on the line they appeared
to be glad that I had got out so as
to be able to shake with them once
more. I wish I had some news to tell
you but sorry to say I have none.
So I did not all that lady chick just
a-while in a & surely I did not care!
All wish to be remembered. & Gurney &
Merchant sit in the parlor half sick as we
have lots of salt. Write soon & I am Yours Truly
A Brick

W. C. Buell
March 28/1848
Troy

Montreal March 31st 1848

My Dear Father

I suppose you are expecting to hear every day that the is complete across the river but you will wait sometime I thinks before you hear it. The completion of the line appears to me nearly as far distant now as it did when I came here. The trouble is the want of funds to prosecute the work with greater force. Griffin has been doing nothing with great industry about all of the time since you left. On Saturday after you left he borrowed fifty dollars of Uncle O.S. for Capt Murray which lasted him but a few days. then on Monday last Mr Rice tried to get your note discounted but could not do it. Then Uncle O.S offered to cash it which was of course accepted. and after deducting the fifty dollars he had previously advanced left two hundred and fifty which Griffin let the Capt have which will last him until monday next when I do not know what will be done. during all of this time you were there had not been the first thing done to the piers and Griffin has been obliged to stay here as he says he has nothing to pay his expenses any where. and unless you have been providing for this in New York I think there will some little delay in the completion. as I do not believe the Company will accept the line on account of the great expense of crossing the river. Griffin tells me that Whitney told him confidentially

that if it would cost over Two thousand dollars across the river they would not accept it. and what looks still more like it Whitney. Lindsay and Workman all refuse to examine the Line from Laprairie to the Line. under the pretence that they are too busy and that as a matter of course the Line will be accepted and there is no use of having it examined, and Mr Whitney talks as though they would not pay in the instalments which are due or will be tomorrow. but I cannot tell what will all happen yet. but one thing is certain I should like to see the Line finished soon.

Since monday last the crossing has been so bad that teams have not been able to cross at all and for a day or two I had a man cross on foot and then it got so bad he had to go down some way to cross and indeed so far that it was over twenty miles from here to Laprairie and the I thought it was best (as it took the man so long to go across) to dispense with him and trust to the mail. and send over but once a day. and as a matter of course our business is very light. and in fact nothing of any consequence. This morning the channel was discovered to be entirely clear. and then this evening we are having a warm rain. which will do the ice a great deal of damage. and if the weather continues as warm as it has been for two or three days the river must evidently soon break up

For a few days we have had uncommonly warm weather and no frost at night whatever. I have not been at La Prairie nor seen Barry since you left but from all reports I should think he was doing very well.

On Tuesday last we received the Caledonias news and it was took from L by a man on foot and was printed here and sent to Dunbre and Buffalo from a printed copy and in consequence of the Ny & Buffalo line being down west of Auburn we got it in Buffalo before they began sending it there over the Ny. line. pretty good time. I let the Courier. Herald & Gazette and News Room have it with the understanding that each party were to pay me five dollars, and the next morning the Herald sent me $5. and the Supt. of the News Room said he would submit the case to the Directors and we shall undoubtedly get the amount from them and I think the Gazette will pay. but the Courier absolutely refuses under the pretence that Mr Lindsay the Editor has made an arrangement with you by which he was to have the exclusive reports and no other person to have them which I know was not the case, and he is not willing to pay anything for it even if he were to have it exclusively. and I learn by uncle D S (who knows more about him than you or I) that unless he pays for the reports in advance he will not pay for them at all, and in future unless he pays in advance for

reports I shall not let his paper have a single report although he or one of the Trustees, because the Herald will pay for them and will have them and I should consider that I should be doing precisely opposite to what is right, and I am advised to the same effect by Uncle Sands Mr Rice, and it will take considerable to convince me that I am wrong. Do you not think I am about right in this matter. Mr Rice left for Burlington this PM.

I think the boat will run between this and Lapraire in a week or two after the out side and then I shall send a boy across three times a day but until then we can send but once a day.

I am very anxious to hear from you and want you to write often, it is getting late and I must bid you adieu and retire. By the way I forgot to mention that the confounded Canadian ma te plays the mischief with me yet. It is as good a physic as I want but I think if there is any thing the matter but the weather I shall soon get used to it but it affects me somewhat severely whatever it is. Write soon

With affectionate Regards I am Your Son

L. Cornell

A. B. Cornell

L. Cornell

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