Office of the
Montreal Telegraph Co
Montreal Apr 2nd 1849

Dear Brother

Yours of the 21st ult is at hand but it is very short and I cannot really tell whether it is your opinion that I should leave here if there is a chance for me to continue another year at my former salary or to go on as I am. You intimate that it might be more desirable to leave as there is a prospect of another revolution, but that has entirely blown over and we shall continue on and do a good business here if the Cholera does not check it.—

I have intended to resign in favor of Mr Partridge of Hamilton and he is anxious to leave that line as they do not give him a chance to manage the business as he wishes and if you have business for us, I wish you would give him a chance if it is thought best for me to remain here as he is competent to do any business which I should be capable of managing and you can trust him in every place— I think he would succeed admirably in getting up stock for a line as he can write very forcibly and is clear & honest.—

An entire Stranger would know him to be honest and he has the advantage of us in that respect as men would generally wish to have some acquaintance with you and me before deciding upon that point.—

I wish you would write me at <u>once</u> and tell me what you intend to set me about & what is the chance of making a "fortune" out of it, if I leave my place here.— I suppose our directors will want me to re-engage soon as my time expires on the 1st of May.—

Have you abandoned the Cuba expedition or what is the state of negotiations there?—

I have just rec'd a letter from home in which they hint at some objections from the family to my leaving this cold climate to go to Cuba to pass the Summer but I do not know as I should have any objections to taking the risk.—

As I intimated in my message to you the old Trustees (Workman Lindsay & Whitney) are the only ones I think that have not paid and Lindsay objects to paying any more at present as he says you promised to make the exposing for them and he says it has not been done.— Whitney promises to pay as soon as the others do and intends to have a meeting of directors this week when we will get them to say what they intend doing.— Canada is a hard country to build

Telegraphs, or to get pay for building. I do not suppose you can do anything with Cutter as it would cost you more to move your acct. and make your defence here in Canada than you will be able to get out of that Halifax Co.

If I do not succeed in getting funds from that Troy Line (and I have but little hope) shall I send you what money I can raise on my own private acct ~~and~~ Send to you, or what arrangement have you made about a payment on the farm? — dont let it run till we get into difficulty as I can make a raise in some way if absolutely necessary.

I can get $2000 to stay here for another year, and I leave it with you to say whether I shall go or stay. If you have nothing better for Partridge would you like to set him at work at that Ogdensburgh Line he can get the stock taken and build it if you should wish, and would you prefer to have him or let him take an interest in the work? If I leave here he must take my place. Please reply to this immediately — I will endeavor to defer an engagement till I hear from you — My health was never better than it has been during the winter, and I am shedding my "gray hairs." — My love to Mary Ann & Children. In great haste Yours affectionately A. S. Wood

Ithaca, N.Y. Cornell Exp

Will my dear Sister have the kindness to keep a copy of the substance of this letter and forward it where he will be likely to receive it early? Hoping that you are well and happy I remain your very affect brother Orrin

Dear Brother
Received your kind letter
Evening that it will find you
your letter with much pleasure
Dear by this mail - I am thankful
Mountain once more - Yes - I and
If you think I can do better
Ark don't say anything about it
about it when you write

Cleveland Tuesday morning
Apr 3d 1849

My Friend, B.

I am in a damn peculiar situation, and I cannot extricate myself, except by one way. I have again, been duped, by a Capiens, and I have not money enough, into, one dollar to pay the demand. The sum is five dollars. I have but four. Now my friend, if you will grant me a loan of one dollar, to meet with this necessity, you will confer upon me a very great favor. Mr Potter will pay me Ten dollars, on Saturday and then I will promptly, repay you. If it be convenient please grant me this favor and command, at your will.

I am Sir your sincere friend, to command.
Chas C Hicks.

To B. Cowell.
Telegraph Office.

P.S. I will call upon you about twelve O'clock, for an answer. Please do not let this be seen.
Yours.
Chas.

Charley Hicks
Garland Apl 3. 1862

Mr. P. L. Grimes
Postmaster Office
Arcola

North Adams apl 3d 1849

Mr Comell

Sir Mr Thayer makes me the following offer in relation to his claim agst you for poles. He says if you will pay him 50¢ pr pole & relinquish him & his brother (each 1000) from taking their stock he will settle you to pay all costs amounting to say 5 to 10 $. & that this offer on his part shall be binding on him say till 1st May

Will you instruct me in the matter.

As I have previously reported to you all our Relay Instruments are complained of by our operators & I am satisfied that they are not such as we should have. Several of the poles north of here are reported to me as being nearly down & if they had been properly set & braced it should not be so.

I remain

Very Respectfully

Yours

W. H. Power

Mrs H Bowen
3 Apl 1849

Milford Apl. 4th 1849

E. Cornell Esqr

Dear Sir Your favour of the 2nd Inst. came to hand this morning: In reply: I have been employed in Phila and Trenton Offices of the N.Y. & Washington Line: Also at different Offices as Superintdt. of Offices and instructor of Operators on the Balt. & Wheeling Line: Employed by Messrs E.M. & E.B. Townsends (Contractors): For full particulars I refer you to S.R. Cutler Esqr 50 John st. N.Y. A.T. to Salary: I should only expect the usual compensation of those engaged on other Lines in the same capacity: Except perhaps in case of insufficient Business:

Could you name the particular improvements of the Elect. Teleg. made & Patented by Caleb Tinsley of Springfield Ohio? Would be pleased to learn as I am somewhat personally interested in Teleg. improvements.

I Remain with Respect
Elisha Wilson
Milford Conn:

E. Cornell Esqr
N. York City

Rutland 5th April 1849

Dr Sir.

Yours of the 2d inst. came to hand this morning, and in reply, I would say that I could not enter into any arrangement on any such terms as you have heretofor proposed—

I have lately learned something about the cost of a right when it comes from first hands, and I would now ask you if you would be willing to sell the right that you have for the proposed line or for a line from this to Boston, and if so at what price. If you give me a price dont make to much, for I know the cost pretty near, & I know what has paid for some other lines— I think there might be an arrangement made if you would sell your right at a fair price and that you could make a fair sum, without doing a thing only to speculate on the right but you could not make to much out of it now as the cost is known

I could not go to N.Y. as I see—

Truly Yours

W. E. C. Stoddard

Bangor April 7. 1849

Dr Sir

Will you inform me what were the terms upon which the Ithaca & Binghamton line was merged in the N.Y & Erie.

My interest in the Ithaca & Auburn and I & Elmira lines is for sale low, What will you give?

If you have spare copies of Articles of Association & Bye Laws & regulations of N.Y & Erie and of other lines I should be pleased to receive one of each as also rates from N. York west to each of your stations

The Maine Line extends from Portland to Calais— The New Brunswick line is finished to St John only

On next page I give prices from Boston for the greater convenience of your operators in making up ~~messages~~ charges on messages for this line

Yours Resp.
Jas Eddy

E. Conell Esq
Ithaca N.Y

Ithaca, April 7. 1849.

Dear Sir—

Owing to the illness and lameness of my wife, I have been unable to complete my arrangements for entering upon the business, some time since talked of, until the last week. I intend leaving for Palmyra on Monday morning; and, as I was at my house when you came in town this P.M., & could not see you, I judged it best to explain to you the cause of my delay, in beginning the undulating. As it is entirely new business to me, if I succeed it will disappoint me— and I had hoped to see, and talk with you a little, ere I started and get some advice how to proceed. I shall call on Mr. Howland and see how he will receive the proposition, and I should be very glad to receive from you, at Palmyra, at your earliest convenience, as full directions as you may deem proper to communicate. Economy in all my expenses shall be observed. I start with $31.00 which I trust will be sufficient.

Respectfully your servant,

E. St. John,

E Cornell,

Ithaca. N.Y.

Rutland Vt. 9th April 1849

Mr E. Cornell

Dear Sir.

Since I last wrote you I have learned some facts, which make it seem proper and necessary for me to write you again, at this time and to urge you to make me an offer of the very lowest price you would under any consideration except of for the patent for a Telegraph line from this place to Boston via Keen N. You are probably aware of the tendency of the late decision of the U S court at Washington in relation to the respective rights of Profs Morse & Bain.

Upon the strength of that decision I am credibly informed that there are some very energetic & stirring men about to open a correspondence with Prof. Bain, to secure his patent for this same line, & I am now affraid that the correspondence has been commenced & somewhat advanced — Now it would be perfect folly for us to suppose that the business would demand or the People furnish the money to build more than one line, in which case it entirely depends upon which has the start — Still I think there is no time to be lost as Prof. Benedict is making quite an impression upon public opinion in regard to the two systems — As regards the cost of Patents I have the best of authority for saying that Morse Patent has been sold on good lines for $2 per mile,

I am now prepared to buy the patent to build this line provided the terms are satisfactory to the gentlemen who would be my partner in the project. If the terms are too high & we should be delayed in coming to any result, he informs me that there are other men who will build the line at once to use Bains patent.

If you would wish to see Moses patent used on the line You must either sell your patent or build the line immediately yourself

Inaction in this matter will certainly defeat the use of Moses system therefore I hope you will answer me on your most favorable terms immediately—

If your terms are acceptable I will make arangments to meet you at Troy or any place you may designate at our mutual earliest convenience to make final arangements. but if you are not so disposed it will be useless for me to incur any expence— I presume that we should both feel willing to pay you a fair profit on the patent but still you must know that we could not at the present time get anything like $100. per mile for any ones patent on any line—

Please answer me immediately.

Yours Truly

W. E. C. Stoddard

E. Cornell Esq

M. E. Stadium
Ypsilanti

Mr E Cornel Sir I went to Dins vill
last february & took a load of Telegraph Lups
& ars to halve 20/- per day I was gone six days
Elijah paid me six dollars & gave a order
on Bonies for the Ballence I did not se Bonies
& conceguntly did not get my pay
Mr Burdic told me to send in my bill to you
I will send the order by the Boy so
So that you can see what I ars to halve a day

Six days 2.50 per day $15.00
six dollors paid 6.00
$9.00

Alfred the 11/4/9

H E Minton

I never bagted Money worse than at the present

New Haven Apr. 11th 1829

E. Cornell Esqr

Dear Sir

Your favour in answer to my communication of March — was duly received and answered. The reply is probably waiting in the N. York P. Office directed to E. Cornell Esqr.

Please communicate at your convenience and direct us before to Milford Conn.

Very Respectfully
Your Obedient Servt
Elisha Wilson
Milford Conn.

E. Cornell Esqr
N. York City

Elisha Wilson
b 11 Apl 1819

Auburn	to Seneca Falls	11
Seneca Falls	to Clyde	12
C	Lyons	9
L	Newark	6
A	Palmyra	9

8 9 00
2 2 25
11.1 25

8 9
4 1/2
4 7 00
1 1 75
5 8 75

E. A. Gorham
Apl 11 1849

Newburgh Apr 11 - 1849

Dear Sir

It has been some time since I commenced work for you & we never have took time to agree on wages but I expected you will do what is just as it regards that question. I would like to settle as our acct. has been rather scattering the work on this line or what I have received & paid out since last November I made out the acct. & left it with your Brother as the money & other acct he is more acquainted with. if I do not get work for the summer I shall return to my trade or go home to the State of Maine, Please answer this

I shall remain in Newburgh until I hear from you

Respectfully Yours J. Nutter

J. Butler
Apl 11. 1849

Detroit 13 Apl 1849

Dear Sir

Tillotson goes tonight and I have only to say that your letter from Ithaca was read this day, and the first sunday I have leisure, I will answer fully about the long Canal cotts- I will only say at present that you and Smith are both mistaken, and that the copper circuit can be worked for any distance, and will be worked in the way I propose, as I will prove to your satisfaction when I have a half day to spare-

You ask what the arrangement was between Smith & Kendall about three Crop lines from the OR line to the Lake. It was this- Smith agreed to pay fifty dollars per mile for three connecting lines, when he located, & nothing said about the time when they should be built, or when the fifty dolls should be paid- Kendall will doubtless claim that the line from St Louis to Chicago is one of the three. The line from Sandusky City to Cincinnati an other, and should we build a line to St Louis he would claim that as the third- If O'Reilly builds the lines, he claims

a right to do under the old contract he would say that Patentees were to take 25 p ct of the Stock issued, ~~and~~ I do not believe it possible to get money enough to build any of those lines and buy fifty dollars (Cash) per mile for the patent— If we undertake it, we only embarrass ourselves still more— Smith has a right to sell us, or any one else, any line in his territory for ten, or five dollars per mile, as he chooses, and the recent decission of Judge Shrandt, in favour of Baine, is a good reason for putting a less value on Morse's Patents than formerly. I think Smith is now about in the right fix to sell cheap, as he dont care much about protecting Morse & Kendall's interests— So far as relates to new lines, I will do just as you think best; but the price of patent must be low if it is to be paid for in cash—
Wilson has now received his instruments and I hope there will be no further delay in his collecting enough to pay the balance due you— Hotchkiss knows all about the affair, and as he agreed to take his pay after you were paid, I conclude there is no doubt about the rest being collected soon— I have

not hear from Wilson or Powers since I came from there, except to enquire for the Register from Place - I expect a letter every day from Hotchkiss, who has gone back there, and he will let me know what they are at -
I have an Irish printing and will send you a copy in a few days -
The through business is considerably reduced in price: but we can get more money at the low price than at the high one - I think the O R tribe will not care to send from Chicago via St. Louis since Philad. for 100 - nor from Cleveland via Pittsburg for 4/ -

As soon as you can make a visit West I would like much to see you. come here if you can if not I will meet you at Buffalo - but let me know by Xd - some days ahead. -

You have never told me whether you agreed to give Allen at Ben $600 for you as he claims by agreement with you - I have written him that we will allow the $600 if you say so for one year but no longer - If he stays it must be at $500 and I care not when he quits at that - Our expenses can be reduced $1000 per year by Tittotons leaving, and if I

do not go on any new line. I can do all that can be done on this, and I want no superintendent. I had rather have an other good man like Moore, who can, and will, help push the line in order. I can do the planning, and talking, crazy enough myself, We want some one who is willing to do hard work & such a man I think I can get for half of $1000 per year—
I have rented a house here for an other year and agree with you that this is the place for the present, and perhaps as long as I have anything to do with this line — Send me your tariff — We will charge our regular price in addition to yours for all offices this side of Ky. so that the price from here to Newbern or Thence would be more than to Ky. but for way business we will have no competition & can get our share as well as an other —

Yours truly — J. H. Speed

Feb 1st 1858

At a meeting of the Directors of the I & A Tel Co, held at Ithaca April 15th 1854 pursuant to notice, present Ch. M Howland M L. Wood & E Cornell, in the absence of the Secretary of the Co Mr Jas Eddy — Mr C.M Howland was appointed Secretary of the meeting —

On Motion of E. Cornell it was Resolved that the interest of the company, and the wants of the community demand the rebuilding of the I & A Tel Co with new wire — forthwith,

On motion of Mr Howland, Resolved that the Copper wire now on the poles be taken down and sold, and the proceeds applied to the payment of the debts of the Company, and the erection of the new wire,

On motion of Mr Howland Resolved that the citizens of Sandsville, Asthville Aurora be tendered a station in the line if they will take stock enough in the Company to indemnify the company in Establishing Such Stations, the same to be fixed at the discretion of the President,

Resolved that in the opinion of the Board of Directors, The N.York Albany & Buffalo Tel Co have adopted an unwarrantable course towards the I & A Tel Co, in refusing to carry out the side line arrangement, Such the aggregate length of side lines, has amounted to 300 miles, and that the President be directed to make an effort to secure the just rights of the I & A Co in the Settlement with the N.Y. A & Buf Co,

Resolved that the president be directed to take immediate steps to collect all dues to the I & A Co, and to carry the above resolutions in to effect, as early as possible —

Resove that this meeting now adjourn

E. Cornell President

Chas W Moreland Sec'y

Resolved on motion of E. Cornell that
~~if the President~~ it in the opinion of the
Board of Directors it is the interest of the
Ida RR Co to extend the line from Auburn
to Seneca Falls — Clyde. Lyons & Palmyra
and that the President be directed to
take the necessary steps to secure such
extention, if the funds can be procured to
do so without assessing the present Stockholders
Resolved that if the line is extended to Palmyra
or any point less distant the new section shall
enjoy equal privileges with the old in the ad-
vantages of the whole line insofar as to distance

E. Cornell President

Proceedings of
Directors of Ida RR Co
Aug 13, 1869

Ill. April 15-th 18[illegible]

My Dear

Brother your letter of the 8-th inst- was recd by us last- eve, amid mingled feelings of surprise and sorrow at Dear Brother Edwards melancholy situation, although I cannot say that- the News was entirely unexpected. For several of his last- letters to John bore evidence that he was not- in his right- mind. Poor Mother and Father; I fear the blow will be felt- the hardest by them. I hope to soon be at home with them. I think I shall start for Ottawa by the first of next week if nothing happens to prevent. I am very anxious for Mary to accompany me, as I do not like the idea of traveling alone, and I think it will be the best thing she can do for her health.

You see if I have need your order on M. B. W. I have, not, and shall not have any occasion to do so. I have only $10 by way of bearing my expenses home. But prehaps I can borrow the remainder.

Mary is very thankful for your kind offer and would like very much to avail herself of the opportunity presented to go East.

Hiram is obliged to hire a man & girl now, and if he could come across a man and his wife who would work out, he could hire them and get along first- rate without Mary. I guess he will try to do so. I presume you think there is no difficulty in my returning alone or you would have mentioned it in your letter. M. has left- of doctoring with a Botanic Doctor, and is taking Ayres Sarsaparilla Dandelion & Wild-cherry Extract. She thinks it is going to help her. at one time she was taking 3 or 4 different- kinds of bitters three times in a day, and would be nearly dizzy after taking them. She tries a cold-water bath every morning.

I think John would like to go home this Spring, and yet- he cannot give up the idea of attending school. he feels very anxious to do that- which is going to be of the most benefit. Tell Mary Ann that I will answer her letter in person. Prehaps if M. goes home with me I shall not get started under two weeks, but- I assure you

that I shall start as soon as posable, for I wernt to be at home very much, You do not write how Dis health is, but we conclude that she is better, Mr. B. has not returned from Buffalo yet, I have felt in hopes that Alonzo would come out here, before returning home, and that I would have his company home, but I fear he will not.

My letter will necessarily be short, as I do not feel much like writing you will therefore excuse me for the present, I should like to hear from home again very soon,

Your affectionate Sister Jane Cornell.

E. Cornell Esqr.

Jane Cornell
Oct 15, 1849

Auburn, April 16th, 1849

Mr. Cornell—

Dear Sir — You know that I have advanced certain sums of money to Main Line for Au & Ja Line, & on what conditions. I did it in good faith, supposing, & in fact you said, that I should lose nothing by so doing.

There is now due me for money which I have taken from my own pocket for the use of the Ja Line, the sum of $27.15. If you knew how much I want this money, Mr. C., I know you would not, if you could possibly help it, let me go longer without it. You know that I have always tried to do your business promptly & efficiently; & especially your free business have I always taken as good care of as that which was paid, & also have ever tried to accommodate you in every possible way. I know that for this there should come some little encouragement; at least justice should be done. I do not wish to complain — I only ask you to do by me as I have done by you.

Yours very respectfully

H. C. Gilbert.

E. Cornell, Esq.

Saratoga April 16. 1849

Ezra Cornell Esq.
Ithaca

Dear Sir

Yours of the 6th inst. is at hand and its contents noted.

We have had no meeting of our Board of Directors except the one you had at Salina which I did not attend, but I understood you was appointed to Cost. after certain matters pertaining to systematizing the business of our line with a view to make it productive, all which so far as I am informed, you have omitted to look after, no doubt from the press of business on your hands; what I intended to suggest was that it would be better for you to turn these matters over to our directors on the spot, giving us the benefit of your experience and better judgement in touching all the matters to which I alluded, that we would give them immediate attention. In any thing I undertake I want punctuality, system and order, and besides a regard to economy and hence I cannot undertake to establish a new line of Telegraph from Saratoga to Union Village, when it would be much simpler, more economical and better in all respects, to do the same thing, under our organization as a part of our company; it is not one tenth part the labour to get the consent each Stockholder in our company to do this, that it would

As regards the amendments to the General Telegraph Law, if they had have been suggested to me and had been such as appeared proper, could without trouble, have procured them passage, for I spent a few days in Albany to procure the passage of the Troy and Rutland R. R. bill, and could have looked after the matter without trouble or expense.

Yours Respectfully

Amos Briggs

12000
3500
11250
45
15
15
74.250

250
450
12500
1000
11250

440
250
22000
880
110.000

254
88
48
12
13
65
45

275
550
137.500
15
152.500
174752
22250

150
50
7500

Cornell Esqr
Ithaca
N.Y.

James Peddie
Ashmyn
Mrs Faucher
Lyons
Ford & Grant
Towarth
Esbon Blackman

COMMUNICATIONS CONFIDENTIAL.

ERIE AND MICHIGAN TELEGRAPH LINE,

Office up stairs, No. 15 Merchant's Exchange.

Communications must be Pre-paid.

Buffalo April 17 1849, 4 o'clock, P. M.

By Telegraph from Portland 16th

To Elwell

Buffalo

In Communication with

Fredonia,
Erie,
Painesville,
Cleveland,
Milan,
Sandusky,
Lower Sandusky,
Maumee,
Toledo,
Monroe,
Detroit,
Ypsilanti,
Ann Arbor,
Jackson,
Albion,
Marshall,
Battle Creek,
Kalamazoo,
Niles,
South Bend,
Michigan City,
Chicago,
Southport,
Racine,
Little Fort,
Milwaukie,
Rockford,
Morris,
Ottawa,
Peru,
Galena,
Dubuque,
Springfield,
Jacksonville,
Quincy,
Hannibal,
Bloomington,
Bloomingdale,
Alton,
St. Louis,
Janesville,
Waukesha,
White Water,
Madison.

Also with
Cincinnati,
Pittsburg,
All other offices South and West.

I have got Mr Paxton to join us in building a Dam at Nearlem if cost exceed $ 600. this bo pay 1/3 your 1/3 + mine do. I think it can built very high & very strong for that, mine will cost much less in vicinity of Boston. will you attend to it at once

F & J Smith

22

Lewanna April 17. 1849

Dear Sir

Yours respecting Red Cedar Posts is before me, at present I have but few & those are longer than usual. say from 8 to 10 & some of them 12 feet long. There is about 2 loads of them, Should want $20 a load for them here — Shall have Posts of ordinary length about the 12 & 15 May — & can sell them from 10 Dollars (Poor ones) to $16 for good ones — Any orders you may send I. Should be pleased to fill as low as I can do it, in justice to myself — Posts average variously; from 65 to 80 in a load. 70 is about a fair size — Were I more near you & fair article & good size, I have retailed them at 50 cts a piece — Should be pleased to see you on your return

Yours Respectfully

E. Manchester

Lewanna

Iowa Co —

E. Cornell Esq —

Cayuga Bridge

65 = 1600 — 24

130

300

260

40 —

Ed Manchester
17 Apl. 1869

COMMUNICATIONS CONFIDENTIAL.

ERIE AND MICHIGAN TELEGRAPH LINE,

Office up stairs, No. 15 Merchant's Exchange.

Communications must be Pre-paid.

Buffalo April 18 1849 12 o'clock, P M.

By Telegraph from New York

To A. Conner

Buffalo

In Communication with

Fredonia,
Erie,
Painesville,
Cleveland,
Milan,
Sandusky,
Lower Sandusky,
Maumee,
Toledo,
Monroe,
Detroit,
Ypsilanti,
Ann Arbor,
Jackson,
Albion,
Marshall,
Battle Creek,
Kalamazoo,
Niles,
South Bend,
Michigan City,
Chicago,
Southport,
Racine,
Little Fort,
Milwaukie,
Rockford,
Morris,
Ottawa,
Peru,
Galena,
Dubuque,
Springfield,
Jacksonville,
Quincy,
Hannibal,
Bloomington,
Bloomingdale,
Alton,
St. Louis,
Janesville,
Waukesha,
White Water,
Madison.

Also with
Cincinnati,
Pittsburg,
All other offices South and West.

I have received the thirteen hundred dollars

Charles Ely

DH

By N.Y. & R. line 40¢ for 10 words 32¢ N.Y. rate

" "	"	30 —	15 — 52
" "	"	53 —	16 — 72
		56 —	17 — 72
		59 —	18 — 72
		62 —	19 — 72
		71 —	20 — 72
		74 —	21 — 92

Chas. Ely
Asst. Sup't

Albion 18 April 1849

Dear Brother

We recd your letter 8 June stating Brother Edwards troubles, and I have come to the conclusion that it will be best for me to return home with Jane, and perhaps go to work in the Pottery, or some other work that I may find to do, as I want to get permanently settled in business of some kind this Spring. If the Pottery is not disposed of, and things could be brought around in a favorable shape, perhaps it would be best to go to work at the business. I wrote you a letter concerning it some months since but have recd no answer to the letter, and consequently I don't know whether you think that the best move for me or not. I have had rather discouraging luck as business so far since I left home, and I don't see why I cannot get in some business that will by close application and attention prove profitable, or at least that I can get a living at—

I shall probably start for home next monday if nothing prevents, when I shall hope to see you or hear from you and know your opinion on the subject— All well no more time—

Yours Respectfully

John H. Connell

E. Connell Ithaca N.Y.

Hamilton C.W. April 18/49

Dear Sir,

I learn from Mr O. S. Wood, Montreal, that you may perhaps furnish me employment at a fair salary in case I leave this line.

In the first place they (the Company) commenced by cutting down nearly all the salaries on the line, & giving as a reason that they were making nothing ~~at the~~ while the salaries were all so high, & they resolved to take a slice of $200. off mine. I immediately intimated to the Secretary & one of the Directors that I should resign; but did not do so formally. Their resolution was to take effect on the 1st of May. Learning that I would not stand it to be cut down so much, they made a proposition to restore my salary to its former amount & deprive me of an assistant, & required me to ~~bind~~ bind myself to remain in their employ one year. I immediately returned an answer that I would remain while they paid me the $600. unless I had an opportunity of doing better, in which case I wanted the privilege of leaving, after giving a reasonable notice. The Board of Directors do not like the proposition, & the Secretary called to see me last evening & tried to induce me to bind myself to remain with this Company a year no matter what offers I may have; but I refused to do it. There will be a meeting of Directors on next friday evening when they will accept or reject my proposition—

Mr Wood writes me that you will do well by me if I apply & advises me to do so, & that is the object of this letter. This Company gave me the Superintendence of the Line after Mr Porter left which office I still hold. And you are probably aware that I have been with them more than two years, and why they have of late been so particularly fearful of my leaving, I cannot divine.

[I have just learned per telegraph that you are in Buffo. & will try to have this reach you there — If you do not leave too soon I will direct it there & I am sorry that I cannot pay postage all the way]

Please answer and state what will be my business, and how much I can Nett per year? How soon you could give me employment? Could I do anything on the N.Y. & Erie Line? & give me some idea of what the Yankees are doing in telegraphs

I intend to go to Onondaga about the 10th ~~of~~ or 15th of May. I should be happy to meet you somewhere in that vicinity

Yours Truly

A J Partridge

A. J. Partridge
Apl 18, 1854