Erie Penn^a
May 1st/69

Mr Cornell

Sir

I hope you will pardon my intrusion. upon your acquaintance. having merely seen you. at the table when you visited our place some few weeks past
It is through. my friend Palmer. I have ventured this address to you
I suggested to Palmer the propriety of learning to telegraph having taken some fancy to business which he abridged by informing me that. in Offices. where. our business was done respectable Salaries was given for Clerking And. advised me to. write to you. &c.
Will you please inform me. (from your intimacy with Col. Speed,) whether in this prospective it would be advisable. to go into the operation? or. whether any situation, as Clerk. is afforded in your Office
N.B. I've done some Copying for friend Palmer. to whom. I would refer you for any further information, he being my Room mate. may have satisfactory acquaintance of Character & Abilities

Address
Alpha Apple

Yours. Respectfully

Alfred Apple
Erie Pa May 1, 49

Mr Cornell
Telegraph Office
Cleaveland
Ohio

Bridgeport May 4th 1849

Dear Sir

I entered into a written contract with Mr John McKinney to deliver Chestnut Telegraph poles at fifty Cts. a piece North of Bridgeport to the House of Isaac Cummings 176 feet a part they were delivered before the 16th Day of November and I was to have pay from you on or about the time they were delivered I have received no pay the number of Poles is one hundred and thirty one amounting to sixty five Dollars and fifty Cts. if it is convenient for you to pay the bill it will be gratefully received you can if you please Deposit the money in some good Bank and send me the certificate of Deposit so that I can draw it at the Connecticut Bank at Bridgeport

Yours respectfully Samuel Edwards

Middletown Point
May 5th 1849

E Cornell Esq
Sir

I Send you by Wells Co Expss $500 the amt I have recd on account of Subscription of Telegraph Stock. You will please Send me a receipt for the Same by return Mail & oblige

Yours Respectfully
W M Graham
Agent

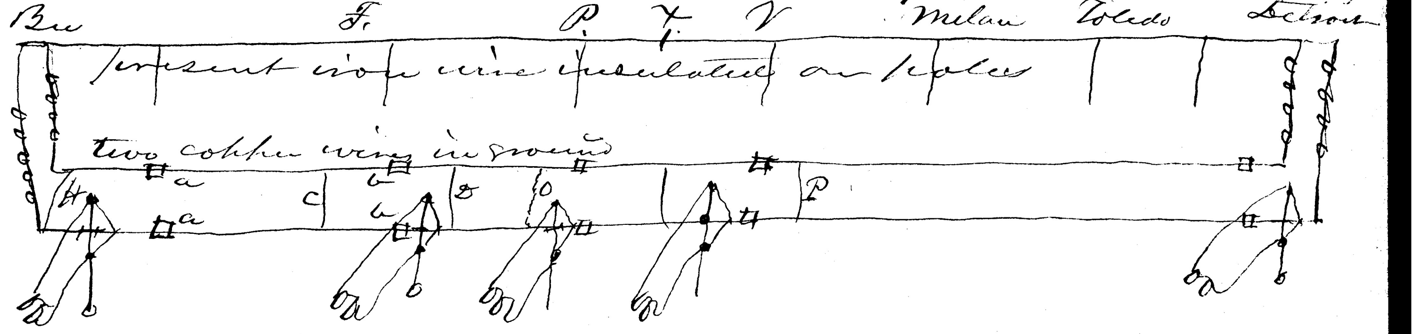
W. M. Graham
$500

Buffalo 6th May 1849

Dear Sir

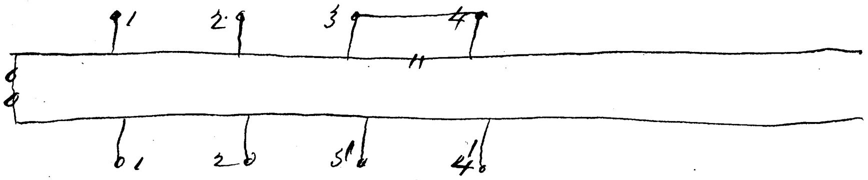
I have all the troops off on duty— Raised funds enough to start Jackson, Lee, & Wade, and they will all succeed—

I will remain here till I get your answer to my Telegraphs today in relation to the McKay Matter. I cannot see that there is any essential difference between taking an assignment of all McKays interest in the line, which he certifies entitles him to four thousand dollars— or to take a transfer of that amt in Stock— I had rather pay the Patentees half of nett proceeds after paying 7 pr ct; than to give them half the Stock; but as there is no probability that the line will ever pay more than can conveniently, and honestly, be used in expenses,— the share which the Patentees will get is small— and as our 4000 & Smiths quarter of the Patentees interest will give us a majority of the Stock, I do not see but we accomplish our object as well as if the Stock was only five thousand as I supposed— The debts due by the line, other than the amt due McKay, he says will not amount to over 200 or 500 dollars most of which is due to Kissick the operator— The debt due to McKay he assigns to us— I know of nothing more in the way of business, and dont like to have you pay postage on blank paper, so you must take an other dose of metalic circuits—


Bu
F.
P.
X
V
Milan
Toledo
Detroit
present iron wire insulated on poles
two copper wires in ground
H
a
a
c
b
b
D
O
P

I propose to lay down two copper wires in the ground from here to Cleveland, and ultimately to Chicago— Connect the two copper wires with the iron wire now on the poles— work all the Relays in the copper circuits— but when the iron wire is broken at X between Painesville & Cleveland, I will connect the coper wires togther at O & P and work a short copper circuit between O & P with the battery attached to the Keys at O & P— which can certainly be done, as it will not require more than two or three cups, to work from one office to the next, and with a battery of such low intensity the current will not make a cross circuit from one wire to the other— You will see that I propose to work with *open* instead of *close*

Keys on the copper circuit, when the iron wire is broken. If the iron wire was broken between Bu & F, the copper circuit would be closed at H & D. - If broken between F. & Painsville the circuit would be worked from C to O., that is, the copper circuit would only be used alone, when the iron wire was broken, so as to work passed the break, until the iron wire was mended. - If the two copper wires should be broken, and the iron wire not broken, we could work the iron wire as we now do, If our iron wire is broken between Bu & F, Buffalo would send to Fredonia on the two copper wires in the short circuit, using battery enough at Bu to work only to F. Fredonia would connect his copper wires with the iron wire and work West to Cleveland. If I am right, (and I think you cannot upset my boot) we would be always enabled to send and receive, by reuniting at the two offices where the break occurs, and would never be down unless both iron & Copper wires should ~~both~~ be broken at the same time, and even then we would be no worse off than we are now_ Your great objection to under ground circuits was the difficulty in finding, & delay in mending break, - I propose to obviate that in this way



At suitable distances, say the 1/4 of a mile I will run a side wire from the main wire five or six feet, and drive down a stake with the copper wire attached at 1, 2, 3, 4, &c. To find the break, I take 1/4 of a mile of copper wire & a Relay. I try from 1 to 1, from 2 to 2, & find a circuit, until I get to 4, and there find no circuit. I then know that the break is between those posts, and by trying first on one wire, and then the other, I can tell which wire is broken. I find the wire from 3' to 4' is whole, and between 3 & 4 broken. I then leave my wire on the surface connecting 3 & 4, & closing the break, until it can be found and properly repaired.

It would take but little longer to find a break and mend so as to work, under ground, than it does on the poles. If we use a wire on poles as the return circuit, there would be no more inducement to break us, than there is now & as we could mend the iron & work that as we now do, and as quick as we now do, & stand a good chance to have a whole copper circuit besides. Both must be broken to stop us. What say you. Yrs truly J J Speed

You will see on this envelope that Morgan is making free use of Shiss name by changing the title of our line.

Buffalo 7 May 1849

Dear Sir

The Pirates have adopted our Tariff for ten words and send fifteen at the same price - They refuse to make any arrangement and say we have altered the price without consulting them and they will alter to suit themselves -

I have added 10 words to our number and send 20 words at the Tariff price for ten - as far as Detroit, leaving the Tariff West of Detroit as it is -

I think I can get them to some terms in a week or two, but we have got to have a field fight first -

I have not seen McKay today and am waiting for your answer -

I will remain here several days, until I can close up the business in some way with McKay, and see how the Pirates mean to act.

I think they are determined to use us up if possible - They boast that they have the money and can stand a run better than we can; and will have the business if they do it for nothing - I think they will get tired of that game before long - You know that they refuse to take Coms from us to go over their line from Cleveland South, and I have told Detroit to charge them the same on all Coms going West, that we charge at the office where the com originates, that is to say - We now ask them 80¢ from ~~Detroit~~ to Chicago, if the com goes from this City -

I forgot to tell you that Faxton writes me that he considers our N.Y. & E line a violation of contract between him & the Patentees and says "it will be looked to at the proper time" - I answered him that we were ready to meet that issue at any time, or at any place, and would, interpose no obstacles to ~~not~~ delay or postpone the hearing, "the proper time", was therefore subject to his decision— It seems that we have to fight for our rights on all hands, and we can be used up they mean to do it— I think that chaps who have lived on the Tompkins Co hardpan hills can keep soul and body together in any pasture where others can get fat, and if we die, let us die game— Let me know what you think is our best policy under existing circumstances—

Yours truly

J J Speed Jr

Mr E, Cornell

I own up. on the plan of using one wire on poles and half a dozen in the ground— It's no go— I did not take time enough to see all the holes in the skimmer before I sent it to you— The copper circuit under ground will work, but there is no advantage in having one wire insulated, if more than one circuit is needed—

I may waste some paper and ink on this subject, but no mony— I will Stick to the rut, until I am sure I can travel a better road—

J J Speed Jr
May 2, 1849

Morgan says the public do not know whether the Erie & Mich line belongs to O.K or to us and to designate he has altered the Stamp as you see on this envelope

All Communications strictly confidential.

Office of the New York and Erie Telegraph,
Telegraph Buildings, No. 5 Hanover st. cor. Beaver, New-York.

New-York. May 8 1849

By Telegraph from Buffalo May 5th

To E Cornell

Contract for Pattentees on McKays Line give them half the Stock- But no Stock has been issued and McKay proposes assigning to us which is four fifths of all Except Pattentee interest as the interest - As the line never has & never will

J J Speed
May 8. 49

E. Cornell

pay more than Expenses
I dont care much
about Pattentee interest
and Send to this Office
the contract with McKay
and answer by Telegraph
whether I Shall complete
the bargain - The company
owe Mr McKay about
$500 which he assigned to us

J. J. Speed Jo

TELEGRAPH OFFICE.

New-York, May 8th, 1849.

To the Operator of the
Cleveland ***Station.***

SIR—Mr. JEREMIAH S. BEEBE has opened a "Telegraph Agency Office," in the Telegraph Buildings, No. 5 Hanover Street, in the City of New-York, and is ready to transact any business, make enquiries, or obtain information in the City of New-York and its vicinity—or in any part of the country, for persons at a distance, who may wish to employ him. You can therefore refer all such persons as apply to you with a desire to employ such an Agency there, or in that vicinity, to Mr. BEEBE ; who is believed to be a very suitable and safe person—it being out of the question for the Operators or Clerks in the New-York Office, to attend to such matters.

You will collect for Mr. BEEBE's services a reasonable charge, when not specially instructed as to the amount, and order the same paid to him by the New-York Office, in the same manner as you now collect on messages for other Lines, and order payments thereto.

All persons sending orders to Mr. BEEBE, must be required to pay for the answers as well as Mr. BEEBE's charge for transacting their business ; and you will not send orders to him for persons who will not become responsible and pay for the answers, nor incur any hazard of their doing so—unless you know them, or willing to assume the payment of the same yourself.

Yours respectfully,

FRANCIS O. J. SMITH,

President New-York and Boston Telegraph Company.

Any Enquiries your Customers may wish made or business done promptly in this city, Mr Beebe will attend to at a Moderate charge which you can collect for him. Our operators cannot attend to such business.

Respectfully

E Cornell

Buffalo 8 May 1849

Dear Sir

In order to keep you "posted up" as Smith says - I will tax you with ten cents a day, while the war lasts -

What the Pirates will do with our 20 words Tariff has not yet been developed, we will doubtless have to meet a still further reduction of price before the war ends - I doubted the expediency of adopting ten words, instead of 15, after we had once adopted the 15 words; (against my will at the time) but as you would not unite with us if we used 15 for N.Y. Com - we concluded to make our Tariff uniform, and take ten as the Standard - What will be the result, I cannot say - I will be guided by Circumstances as they arise, and keep you advised daily -

I recd. from Farlow a Second letter today, as follows -

Utica May 7th 1849

J. J. Speed Jr Esqr

Dr Sir - Your favour of 4th Inst is at hand, and I must confess I am not a little surprised at the construction you give to some parts of my letter - "Business going West of Buffalo is kept there" (West of Buffalo)

& the amt. travel back by E R Road line of Tel" - Now I am not able to see by what mode of reasoning, or construction of language you could torture that sentence so as to come to the conclusion that I meant the communication was "Kept at Buffalo" – and that you may not be led into an error again, I repeat, I mean West of Buffalo - As to the hundred cases you mention, it is all news to me, and if you have suffered the business to go on without once asking if it was with my knowledge or approval, it seems to me that the fault is your own

You say "your boys in your office have invariably directed parties wishing to send West to the O'Reilly line; this in your own peculiar happy phrase is "notoriously untrue", and I ask for the Proof, *not doubting* but that you have been told that such has been the practice in our Bu office - Your remarks about what I said respecting the NY & E line being looked upon by this Co. as a violation of our Contract with the Patentees, and the flourish you make about the "proper time" being subject to our decision, are altogether gratuitous, as you are not one of the parties to the contract - The Patentees are the men for us to look to in the matter, and I cannot understand why you should feel so anxious for notoriety by litigation with this Company as your language would seem to imply; but perhaps I misconstrue your meaning, as you evidently did some part of mine - I am desirous of arriving at what is correct about the business as you or any other man, and am always ready to meet gentlemen half way, don't know that I am very desirous of going "more than half way in arriving at it" - nor do I believe it necessary for either of us to do so, left to ourselves - I am frank to say to you that there is a man at Buffalo who is disposed to make mischief between the two companies, as I believe, You know there is an old saying that when *wine* is in, *wit* is out; but I have found that when *Rum* and *Whiskey* both are in, sometimes the disposition is not the most conducive to favourable results between parties, and particularly when such a man makes himself officious about others, & takes upon himself that part of the business which properly belongs to them - I will not say more on this subject at this time - think there cannot be any mistake about what I have said, and that you will not be at loss on *that* subject"

Yours respectfully

To this I replied Signed T. S. Faxton

T. S. Faxton Esqr Buffalo 8 May 1849

Dear Sir

Yours of yesterday was recd, this morning - You will probably pardon my error in not understanding your allusion to business being "Kept" at Buffalo, when I say to you that your Mr Porter accused our office here of detaining ours going West. I think Mr Porter was mistaken, and supposed that you might also have been misinformed on the subject, and meant to accuse us of not forwarding your business West, as promptly as we should have done - Much of our misunderstanding may, and doubtless has arisen, from an unfortunate ill feeling existing between the gentlemen in your office and ours, I think we will be able to make such arrangements, soon, as will obviate that difficulty hereafter - I do not care to dwell upon the past - I had rather provide for the future, by removing every obstacle which may prevent a mutual good feeling, and reciprocity in business: but I can prove by witnesses whose ~~testimony~~ *you* will credit, that your operators here, have directed them to the O'Reilly office to send West, and in one instance told a man in our employ to "look out for his pay" - thus manifesting a degree of hostility to us, which I considered uncalled for and unjust, so far as I am concerned, as I have never done, or said, any thing to provoke such feelings - but as I have before said, those feelings no doubt arisen from causes which will not hereafter exist, & hope that our intercourse may be mutually advantageous & satisfactory - You accuse me of seeking notoriety by inviting a Law Suit with your Company - Your notifying me of your intentions respecting our New York & Erie line, led me to suppose that you considered us the Trespassers, and I only expressed a willingness to meet the issue without giving you unnecessary trouble - I am very happy to learn that I was mistaken, and that the Patentees are the parties who have been guilty of a violation of your rights - You will please accept my acknowledgements for the admission -

Very respectfully
Your Obt. Servt J J Speed Jr

You will see that I have paid no attention to that part of Mr F's letter alluding, I suppose, to Morgan, as I think it so unfounded and unjust - McKay told me this morning that Wells wanted to buy his Canada Stock, and asked if we insisted on a fulfilment of his contract with us - I told him we did - and I was waiting for your answer to complete the arrangement - He said if we insisted on it he would comply with his agreement, and inform Wells that it was out of his control - He says Wells wants to secure the Canada business for the House line, which is to be built from here to N.Y. - Your Tel was just recd from N.Y. I will probably trouble you with these occasionally, (Nights & Sundays) read them when you get ready - I will go on the old way until you say take a new & better road - Yours &c J. J. Speed Jr

Buffalo 9th May 1849

Dear Sir

Our Tariff of 20 words to Detroit has put the O'Reilly fire out for the present— their sending 15 words at the same price as we asked for 10 words was giving them the business of some of our best customers, Especially as they have an Office on the Dock which is quite as convenient to the Shippers as ours— I therefore had no other alternative than to adopt their Tariff or drive them to take ours— I had a talk with their man Gibbs last evening, and I think we will be able to come to some understanding and arrangement to use 10 words and have no further fight: I will attend to the rascals closely, and if they get the long end of the evener, they must fight for it— You will doubtless say it is like the boys stoning the frogs— fun for the public, but death to us— That I understand, and I also understand that by letting them send cheaper than we do for a week or two, that they would get the public running to their shop, and

it would take us a long time to get them
back— They shall get no such advantage,
and if we only had a second wire
to Detroit, or one to Cleveland, I think
we could make money by keeping the
price the same as it now is for twenty
words, and send ten words for still less—
You know that the Pirates have refused to
take ours from us at Cleveland, and since
I have given the devils their own medicine
by refusing to take theirs at Detroit, unless
they pay the price from the place where
it originates, they are getting sick of
the fun— I will devote all my efforts
to reaching St Louis & Cincinnati, and
we will do it, and then the rascals
will have no advantage of us—
I will keep this letter until near 7 oclk &
let you know the changes in the Telegraphic Barometer, if any, up
to that time—   6 oclk P.M.

Nothing from you yet, except your
Boston Letter, McKay is very anxious
to get rid of the contract with us, and
sell to Wells, as he pretends, whether
to make us bite sharper, or whether
he means what he says you can
best judge— No move made by Pirates
today— Faxton has not come— He has

gone to Oswego. Porter is here: but I have not yet seen him. They evidently are a little afraid of us, and had rather not have open war, which may also be best for us. I will endeavour to use a fair share of discretion, and I think I can make Faxton do somewhere near right—

If you decide not to take McKays line— I still think we had better put an instrument in that office and have Kipick take Western business for us, and get the N.Y. business if we can— Kipick would watch Faxtons boys and keep them up to the mark, and the additional business we can get, will far more than pay our part of the expenses— I want to go home: but this is the place to fight our battles just now, & I will stay here as long as I think it necessary to do so—

Yours truly

J J Speed Jr

From Buffalo May 9th

To E. Cornell

I have notes get my letters in New York and answer - Stock of no value except for connection - Worth just as much to give Patentees half as none, will be nothing to divide - Line owes $600 besides the sum due McKay which he assigns to us & he will pay all but 350 due by Line Shall I consent to let McKay sell to Wells, and until Wells gets his House Line done take Canada business for Faxtons price & pay part of Expenses & of Expenses of Canada office Kissock taking business for us to go west - Have Line nearly done from our office to Canada - Wells & Pomeroy will be here to day. Answer to day if possible

J. J. Speed Jr

J J Speed Jr
May 9. 1869

E. Cornell

N.Y. 5 Hanover St
9 May 1849

Mr Cornell D. Sir

I feel satisfied that if I had some means I could make it go, and I had hoped that Mr Means would have given me the means, but he will not be likely to do it till he sells the Real Estate property; and your estimate of its value disappoints him. I told him that I thought his half of the residue would bring $10.000 as it cost me $20.000 at least. I hope, however, that you will buy it, and as Blunt may hold on for a big price, suppose you buy his bond & Mortgage which is less than $7500 which would give you control so that you could do as you pleased with it. I will be happy, and still hope that in some way I may get out of it at least enough to clear me from all debt, say $1000.

I do not know how exactly, but probably the old man may consider me if the property brings any thing near what it cost. You have been unfortunate enough to lend me say $130 or $140, and your note for $130 more which is now due, and I am distressed beyond measure that I have not the money to pay both as I expected

I had every right to expect that I should have had the money - but Mr Mann, and others have treated me in the most cruel manner, not to say outrageous. I dont intend that you shall suffer by me if it is possible for me to prevent it. My daughter has agreed to give me the avails of 1/3d of the furniture belonging to the proprietors of the Clinton House, ~~it~~ The whole cost $6000 - 1/3 say $2000 and is now worth say $500. I have written my daughter that I shall place it at your disposal, and I trust it may be sold to Leonard & Preston or Ackley & Hubbard - or it must be sold at Auction. I am bound hand & foot, and with $1000 I could be set free, and my heart is set upon it, but how to do it I cant see. But I must have $100 in some way to pay Christ, and several small sums that I owe those that trouble me, and have a little spare money to start my business - This would give me $60 to pay small debts, and $40 to pay necessary expenses in starting my business. I think I could make $1000 the 1st year. I am a hard customer I freely acknowledge, but I do feel anxious to get started again, and ultimately to be _again_ a free man. My present bondage is insupportable.

This is truly a hard story but it is true.

Your much obliged friend

J. S. Dale

J L Beebe
May 9. 1849

Office of the New York, Albany, and Buffalo Telegraph Company,
GENESEE ST., OPPOSITE BANK OF AUBURN.

TARIFF OF PRICES FROM AUBURN
(For fifteen words and every additional five.)

TO	15	5	TO	15	5	TO	15	5
New York....	$0,52	$0,20	Schenectady,.	$0,37	$0,15	Canandaigua,	$0,27	$0,10
Carmel,.....	$0,37	$0,15	Little Falls...			Rochester,...		
Po'keepsie,..			Utica,........	$0,27	$0,10	Batavia,.....		
Hudson,.....			Rome,........			Buffalo,......		
Troy,.......			Syracuse,....			Ithaca,.......		
Albany,......			Geneva,.....			Binghamton,..		
....			....			....		

TO THE TELEGRAPHING PUBLIC.

It is for your own interest, as well as our convenience, that communications be PLAINLY WRITTEN. The cause of most all mistakes is traced to bad copy. ORDERS for money and all important business communications, must be written with ink and signed by a responsible person Give FULL ADDRESS, name, street and number, to ensure prompt delivery, and your own address, under your signature, if you expect an answer. Use NO FIGURES, except date, they cost more, and are more unsafe than words. PREPAY always, and if you wish to pay for your answer, say so under your address. We cannot always send your communication immediately: every office has its opportunity in regular order, and your communication will be sent as soon as possible. Any complaint addressed to me at Utica, shall be promptly investigated.

SAMUEL PORTER, Supt. N.Y. Alb. & Buf. Co.

Auburn, May 11th 1849.

By Telegraph from

To Mr. Cornell

Dear Sir - Can you not possibly send me $28. I am in the ut=most want of it. It was money that I advanced in good faith for the Ia Co. relying on your assurance that I "should lose nothing." I can imagine how it is with you, carrying on the business you, but *I* am not only "losing by it" but suffering. Do something immediately for God's sake. Yours respy H. C. Gilbert

All Communications strictly confidential.

Office of the New York and Erie Telegraph,

Telegraph Buildings, No. 5 Hanover st. cor. Beaver, New-York.

New-York. May 12 1849

By Telegraph from Buffalo

To E. Cornell

Pomeroy was here yesterday ~~an~~ McKey says offered four thousand half down & the other half secured It is important to hear from you immediately

J. J. Speed

All Communications strictly confidential.

Office of the New York and Erie Telegraph,
Telegraph Buildings, No. 5 Hanover st. cor. Beaver, New-York.

New-York. May 12 1849

By Telegraph from Fredonia

To E Cornell

For the last week I have not been able to get off through Business at the least time in six or eight hours after received from the West - We are losing by this the western people begin to lose confidence in our line & its reputation now stands on a par with Faxtons

I should think it would be good policy for some office to put up another instrument & try it

Cobb

PS When I get ~~another~~

Cobb &
Binghamton Office
12 May 49

E Cornell

Thos Platinas shall I put up another instrument & try it Mr Morris says he thinks the Rail Road Company will take stock for the other wire and immediately too

Bn ofs

Cleveland Saturday evening
May 12th 1829

My friend Cornell.

No doubt, you will think me very presumption for addressing you, yet when you have heard me through you will, I think overlook my boldness. Some few weeks since, I borrowed a sum of money from you, which I promised to repay in two or three days at that time I did not know the character of the man who was my employer. But I have since found him out to my sorrow. He is now indebted to me to the Amount of Forty dollars, but I cannot get one damned cent out of him. My Brother and other friends at home have written for me to return home as soon as it is possible, as he has got a good situation for me in first-rate business. Now my friend I am anxious to get home as quick as possible, but I have not sufficient funds to carry me there, I am short, about Five dollars. I have no friends to whom I can apply for assistance, in this place. Tis true I have an Uncle, residing here, but it is a well known fact that he would not part with a dollar to save the life of his own daughter. So I have no hopes there. I know you to be my friend, for you have proven yourself to be so. And I regret very much to trample upon your generosity after what has past. But circumstances will compell a person to almost any-thing. Now Cheney if you will but grant me this request, I faithfully promise you that it shall be remitted to your address, immediately on my arrival at Whitehall. I am sure of it there, for I have not got old Potter to depend upon. From my Brother, I can obtain any reasonable amount. I wish to start on Wednesday Morning. I

hope that you will not deny me this small, yet very great favor
and I can assure you it shall be promptly attended to.
Trusting in your generous friendship, I subscribe myself
your
Sincere, yet damned unfortunate friend

Chas C Hicks.

P.S. Please do not expose this to any person, whatever
and still further oblige me. yours Chas

Chas C Hicks
Clevd May 12, 69

Mr W. C. Cornell
Telegraph office
Present

Auburn May 12. 1849

Col: J. J. Speed Junior
Dear Sir

Mr Kendall promised Mr Seward that he would send to him copies of the affidavits used in Kentucky on the proceedings there, that we might make similar ones for the motion here. As they did not arrive I wrote to Mr Kendall at Washington ~~some~~ two weeks since urging him to send them. And I also wrote to Mr Davis at Portland on the subject. They are necessary for our motion. I have not heard from Mr Kendall, & have supposed that the reason might be that negotiations were pending for a settlement of the matters in controversy. It has been announced in the newspapers & I have so understood from Henry R. Selden that the parties had settled their difficulties about the western lines & were now negotiating about the lake line.

Yours very truly
S. Blatchford

It seems from the above that nothing has been or is likely to be done by Gov Seward. Has not Kendall forfeited the contract with Mr Smith by medling in the way he has?
J J S Jr

S. Blatchford
12, May 1849

Coldspring May 12/49

Mr Ezra Cornell

Dr Sir

In regard to some arrangements between me & Mr Blunt I should be glad to know your opinion of the present income & present fair market value of what remains unsold or unpaid for Mr Blunts 1/2 of the Ithaca Property (in which I was once owner 1/4 with him — I mean by the fair value, what could be got for it in the whole or by retail on a reasonable cash payt say 20 pr cent & Bond & Mortgage in instalments 2 to 5 years for Balance —

Also what improvements & income on what he still has unsold — also what is the Speculative value when the Erie rail road reaches Owego —

2 Mr Blunt some time since told me you were in negotiation to buy a considerable portion from him — Has that bargain been agreed on — or if not is it likely to be and at what price — & what property does it include — also are there any other portions of it that will fetch fair prices at present on fair credit — if so please state particulars —

Your Telegraph agent was here last week — I made my subsn $300. which with what he had expected would he said ensure the Station at Coldspg and they should moved. & get in operation there in a week or two — & they should probably give up the project of a Branch at West Pt — which I should think just as well for the company — as Cold Spring office will without doubt get all that business — at any rate —

Please let me know about the Blunt property & whether the Fall creek property has been divided ~~with~~ between him & our Union since the Beebe Foreclosure and oblige

Yours respectfully
F. Phillips

F. Phillips
12. May 1849

Waterloo May 13th. 1849

Kind Sir

ohley with regrett I direct A few lines to you to think should have to trouble you but necessity has Driven me to it as I have not recieved my Just do for Working on the Vt & Ct tellegraph line thearefore I Shall look to you for it as I have ben home sum time and have not heard from Mr David Parker to hoom I have to at noth dorcet it but have not recivet eny anser from him Mr parker not settle with me but went off owing me thearefore the bill Stands thus 16 days at $1.. 8 .. 67 days at $ 1,12½ I want my pay from you or to know Who is to pay me if it be Mr parker Pleas drop him A line for me Mr O C Alen Went off owing me $3,63

P S Pleas Direct to Waterloo

Mr John W. Sharp

Tillotson
Palmyra

All Communications strictly Confidential.

Office of the New York and Erie Telegraph,
Telegraph Buildings, No, 5 Hanover-st. cor. Beaver, New-York.

New-York, May 14 1849

By Telegraph from Elmira

To Alby Ofs

Yes, has been at rafting pitch since Sunday — Rafts running continually Water falling

No Sig

Col. 56

Collect 93/pd 5

E. C. OReily agents funds are in
Evry place and hamlet along the Canal
at Lions they have Ever subscribed
I think we can get 500 - then - at
Palmyra - they have nothing
yet - it is important - for our
success that you should be then
thursday Evening - If we dont
have six at meeting, they
now stand - checkmated and
if you will meet me at cay-
uga bridge Wednesday will
go there and make our
[illegible] - if we dont Euchre
them I think you will be
safe in Ordering the wire -
perhaps - it will be the best
to Extend the line to rochester

A. T. [illegible]

Newburgh May 14th 1849

E Cornell Esq

Dear Sir

I hasten to inform you of the result of my mission thus far tho I do it regretting that I have not accomplished more - but I must be excused from blame or lack of exertion on my part as it is decidedly an uphill business under the circumstances

After leaving New York I went to Peekskill & called Mr Nelson the man who it was expected would take a certain amount of Stock in the New York & Erie Line of Telegraph - I laid the matter before him but soon found that he had previously decided not to have anything to do with it from prejudice growing out of the working of the line and at the same time after seeing the man I was not at all dissapointed in his determination he being strictly a 7 per cent man

I left Peekskill immediately for West Point where I called on Capt Brewerton the superintendant of the Acadamy & Grounds & learned that as yet there had been no final action on the part of Government in relation to granting permission to erect Poles on the Govt. grounds & consequently nothing further could be done there for the present

After leaving W.P. I went to Cold Spring & saw several but done nothing but to get Fred Phillips to double his subscription the amt there now stands at $1300 & $1400 at Peekskill

From thence I went to Fishkill and saw Rankin who as yet has done nothing in the way of contracting poles — From thence I went to Kingston & there learned that O'Reilly had raised $3600 at that place & some at Catskill & Coxsackie &c —

I found that nothing could be done there & went to Rondout saw the Agent of the Delaware & Hudson Canal Company who is quite anxious to have a station established at Rondout & said the Company would guarantee & stipulate to pay $100 per annum for a term of years and as much more as they might use it — that they could not take any stock as a Company — but before leaving I consummated a guarantee on the part of individuals to take $2000 which I shall put in the proper shape by wednesday if thought best so to do —

O'Reilly's proposition is to put the line in working order for $150 per mile including every thing so say those who have subscribed & I do not doubt them still I have not seen the Documents.

I cannot now see what can be done to advantage in the way of getting stock aside from Rondout as the inhabitants think there is something wrong about it and that two lines cannot pay

They do not enlist the monied men as I have done almost invariably & the reason why I am not able to say — I could not find a man that knew anything about their system of Telegraphing

I have been solicited to make an effort to get up a line from Wappingers Creek to Fishkill a distance of about 7 miles I would like to do this & also run the line to Cold Spring making it a side line to Connect with the New York & Erie at the latter place & accommodate N.Y. & Erie at Fishkill & case of a break My Brother is here & would take hold of it immediately Consequently my attention would not be diverted from your business in the least I hope this may strike you favourably & I think it will when you look at it right as it will relieve you from any further trouble about that side line

I am out of money almost entirely & must have some in a day or two

I am in Haste
Yours Very Truly
O E Allen

P.S.

Be kind enough to let me hear from you immediately upon rec't of this

Yours
Allen

5

E. Cornell Esq
No 5 Hanover St
N.Y.

O E Allen
16 May 1849

Defiance 15 May 1849.

Colo Speed

D Sir

I had just talked the inhabitants of this town out of $600 when ORileys folks made their appearance and claimed this whole route through by original contract between ORiley & Morse & also by virtue of a settlement between ORiley & three of the four parties owning the patentee interest - They have a circular purporting to be the articles of compromise between - ORiley & Kendall Morse & Vail as late as March last in which they cede all their right to him for certain routes among which is this same route from Toledo to Lafayette specifically specified for 5/6 of the stock. In vain I told them that Smith had the control of this Northern County - In vain I cried out Kendall &c had no rights to cede. In vain I told them of ORileys falsehoods & land piracies - They came to the conclusion that until the matter was settled they would not take stock in either one of the lines - In the midst of all these troubles I however have this consolation that I have got them stuck as deep in the mud as they have me in the mire so far as this place is concerned - I shall go directly from here to Lafayette as they have scraped every dollar between here & there. that can be pinched out of the people - They have not left a town as big as your hat in which they have not taxed the inhabitants to their utmost capacity. I think therefore it will be policy to proceed at once to Lafayette & work my way to St Louis as soon as possible & if we conclude it is best take this route in return. I shall probably be at St Louis in about two weeks or a very little more. I shall wait for you* ~~letter~~ there if ~~you~~ ~~are~~ not there when I arrive. If you cant come as soon write me immediately at St Louis. I should think it an object to ~~to~~ follow the scamps up from here west but they have most of their stock paid in & have got their holes dug some ways beyond here going East & the posts up most to this place & I understand the wire is all on hand at Toledo ready to go up as soon as they get the balance of the poles up. Besides I want the documents to meet the scamps on their own grounds. They threaten to sue us & all that sort of thing, & the people dont know which party is in the right - nor have they the means of discovering. Should the matter be brought to close which I have but little faith in we could succeed in putting up the line from here without much difficulty, or rather had I made the contract last fall I could have obtained every dollar necessary for the construction of the line but it is useless to spend any vain regrets about that which cannot now be remedied - I now think if we can get enough to pay for the poles & caps & the putting up the line we shall do pretty well -

Yours Respectfully John J. S. Lee

J. J. S. Lee May 1849

New York 15th May 1849

Mr. E. Cornell

Dear Sir

My daughter has placed at my disposal the avails, whatever they may be, of one third of the furniture in the Clinton House at Ithaca belonging to the Proprietors.

I paid upwards of $2000 for the one third, but from wear and tear and destruction, it may not be worth *now*, more than $500 or $600. The feather beds, Matrasses, Bedsteads, Stoves &c &c cannot be much injured. I hope you can sell it to Leonard and Burton — or Ackley, Hibbard, otherwise it *must* be sold at Auction to raise the means for my relief. Please do the best you can for yourself and me. Yours Truly

J S Beebe

J. S. Berber
15 - May 1844

Buffalo 15 May 1849

Dear Sir

I am at last relieved, having this morning recd your com. I think on the whole you have arrived at the right conclusion; but I would like to retain the Canada business if possible. I have told McKay that we decline purchasing on any other terms than an [illegible] no contract ~~and~~ He will sell to Wells. We have the business for the present, and Kissack takes Western business for us. We are to pay half the expenses of the Canada Bu office, which is a good arrangement for both parties, as we will now get our share of up town Western business, and a great deal more from Faxton's line than we could at our town office. The contract Smith made for a line from Sandusky to Zanesville, conflicts with the contract you gave Wells for a line from Milan to connect with Cleveland & Cincinnati line at Mt. Vernon; but as Smith's man cannot raise the coin to build, it is of little consequence. I have written you fully respecting my negotiations with Faxton. We are now getting a much larger share of his Western

compelled to resort to it - I hope, & believe,
we can get money enough to buy for the
wire & expensing building; but we must
reach St L & Cin at all hazards -
Pirates have caved in, and adopted
our printed Tariff with ten words -
If they get the start of me, it will be when
I am asleep -
Enclosed I send you Blatchfords answer
to my inquiry respecting a hearing before
Judge Nelson -
I went to see McKay after I read your
Com this morning, & told you said I must
make the best arrangement I could about
the business, & let ownership remain as it
is - I thought he seemed disappointed, and
by no means as anxious to sell to Mills as
he pretended - He wanted me to
ask you about it again, and get
your consent to annul contract with
us - If I do not hear from you I will
leave tonight or in the morning -

Yours truly
J J Speed Jr

Mr E Cornell

business, and I think the peace policy is best for us at present, and until we can get ready to fight him, to advantage, by getting an other wire from here to Fredonia, & the N.Y. & Erie in apple pie order—

I do not understand that a Patent expires in 14 years after it is granted in a foreign Country; but has 14 years to run from the date in this Country— If you are right, it is news to me— It would certainly be paying dear for the whistle, to give 15$ per mile for Morse's Patents on 814 miles from here to Au, with an opposition using same instruments by our side— So far as Smith is concerned, I am right every time, and will do just as I would like to be done by; but you may devise any scheme you please to fleece Rendall & Co, and I will say Amen! with a Methodist good will—

You cannot use the Syphon without infringing Morse's first Patent, as you would be using "the motive power of Electricity to actuate or give motion to machinery"; but there is time enough to decide that question, when we want to use it— Let us bend all our energies to reaching the Great West. St Louis & Cincinnati. Hope you can make some arrangement for wire in the way you proposed, if we are

New York & Erie Tel Office
5 Hanover St
New York 15 May 49

Dear Sir

On behalf of the New York & Erie Telegraph Co I will agree to erect posts along the line of the New York & Erie Rail Road so far as it is necessary to open Telegraph offices at Pier Mont, Port Jervis Narrowsburgh and Deposit – and open offices at those points in addition to the offices already established along the line of the road and maintain them at the expense of the Telegraph Co putting up an additional wire for the purpose – and telegraphing for the Rail Road Co free of charge, Provided the Rail Road Co will ~~subscribe~~ will take stock in the Telegraph Co sufficient to furnish the necessary amount of funds to carry out the arrangement – and to be expended for that purpose, which will amount to $50 – per mile of the length of the wire – the R Rail Company allowing their men who are stationed along the road to mend the Telegraph wires when they may be broken and allowing free transit of the Telegraph men

repairing and working the Telegraph
You will ablige me by giving this subject
as early concideration as may be convenient
as the present season of the year is the
most favourable for carrying this project
in to Effect.

Yours Respectfully
E. Cornell

B. Loder Esq
Presdt N.Y. R.R. Co

P. S. I will also make arrangements for
the conductors of your trains to communicate
rom any point on the line when an accident
may render such facilities necessary
E. C

Copy letter to
B. Loder

Belleville May 16. 1849

Mr E. Cornell

Dear Sir

After waiting so long & given you every indulgence possible we did not expect to be compelled to take Stock for our claim — however "as you say is now to have the thing closed" — we are willing to take Telegraph Stock say N. YK & Buffalo or Phila or Boston which you think best is now that we are not losers — which we ought not to be after accomodating you as we have — You have the acc & you will please add Interest thereto say to May 1. 1849. & make out Certificate of Stock to William Stephens — & then will send you receipt in full when all is closed — Yours Respy

Stephens & Thomas

Stephens Thomas
16 May 1819

Buffalo 16 May 1849

Dear Sir

I have told McKay that we would relinquish the Contract for Canada iron — I did not get any thing from you yesterday and I cannot remain here longer. I suppose there is nothing further to be done — I doubt whether McKay can sell to Wells as he told me he could — Should he not be able to make a sale to Wells, or Faxton, you may still think it advisable to make the purchase — I have left the notes with Morgan, supposing it possible that you may be here, and want to use them — I should like to secure the business; but not against the advice of you & Smith, and have therefore released McKay, so far as I am concerned — If you choose to hold him to the contract you can still do so —

Yours truly

J J Speed

Lavanna May 17. 1849

E. Cornell Esq.

Dear Sir

My Cedar Posts have arrived. I have a superior lot of Red & Yellow Cedar Posts.

Red Cedar at $16 a Cord

Yellow Cedar 10 cts a Post

Red Cedar 2/. a Post If sold by Count

Shall I Ship you any & what Amount?.

Yours Truly

E. Manchester

New England Glass Co
14 May, 1849

Mr E Cornell

D Sir

Mr Smith has requested us to send you a statement of the account of glasses sent you with the amount paid credited against it — We have the repeated promises of both yourself & Mr Smith that this should be paid long since — the glasses were put at the low cash price, and we must insist upon a very early settlement

Your Ob Ser

Joseph N Howe agent

Mr. E. Cornell
Ithaca
~~New York~~
N.Y.

J N Hows
Bill in full

Date			
1847 Oct. 21	To Mdse. pr. Inv.	67	50
" 28.	" " " "	129	—
" 30.	" " " "	45	—
Nov. 3.	" " " "	112	50
" 6.	" " " "	112	50
" 11.	" " " "	22	50
" "	" " " "	67	50
" 16	" " " "	207	—
" 20	" " " "	189	—
" 24	" " " "	108	—
" 29.	" " " "	153	.
Dec. 17.	" " " "	9	83
" "	" " " "	18	—
" 18	" " " "	14	83
" 27	" " " "	90	.
" 29.	" " " "	171	—
1848 Jany. 3	" " " "	99	.
Feb. 21	" " " "	31	25
Aug. 4.	" " " "	180	.
Oct. 10.	" " " "	85	.
" 20.	" " " "	120	.
" 27	" " " "	105	.
" "	" " " "	30	.
Nov. 2	" " " "	45	.
" 3.	" " " "	60	.
" 6.	" " " "	105	.
" 8.	" " " "	90	.
" 15.	" " " "	198	34
" 20.	" " " "	217	50
" "	" " " "	17	50
" 24	" " " "	165	—
Dec. 7	" " " "	137	50
" 23	" " " "	91	67
1849 Jany 9.	" " " "	141	67
		3.436	59
May 14.	Interest	[illegible]	
		[illegible]	[illegible]

Date			
1847. Dec. 20	By. Cash		1000 —
1848 July 19	" "	✓	300 —
Sep. 15	" "	✓	100 —
Oct. 5	" "	✓	200 —
1849 Feb. 1	" "	✓	100 —
Apl. 19	" "		200 —
			1.900
June 19-49-	Cash		250 00
			2150

1647 41
180
1827 41
1700
127.41

1609.18
450.
1159.18
110 77
1269.95

1789.18
850.00
939.18

5436.59
2150 00
1286.59
180
1106
110 77
1216.77

Mr E. Cornell, Palmyra May 18. '49

You spoke of sending Luther to Montrose or Carbondale, after you left I thought the matter over and upon reflection I think it would not be advisable as I am absent so much of my time - My wife has no one upon whom she can depend except him, and there are many little things he can see to and still not interfere with any duties that may be required of him in the Ithaca office. At present I do not suppose he is needed much there but after a time and when the different lines are concentrated there and the books are kept there I think he or some one will be wanted to aid Mr Wood, and I should be extremely glad to have him remain for the present - his compensation is a secondary consideration, I want him to make a man of himself and would prefer he should ~~should~~ be under parental care rather than among strangers, at his age. I think he can give Mr Wood satisfaction and at the same time be useful. How would Spencer's son, answer to send to one of the places named? I think it would comport with Mr Wood's views to have Luther instead of Spencer with him if any one - he can do any thing that may be required of him such as repairs, putting up & taking down battery, delivery of Messages &c &c. I want him to work at any thing pertaining to the business and not be above it.

Very truly &c

L. T. Tillotson

N. Y. & E. Telegraph Office
Honesdale. May 18. 1849

Dear Sir.

On account of my ill health, I shall soon be obliged to desist from my present occupation and to leave Honesdale. Consequently it will be necessary to supply my place as operator in this office. Will you please attend to it, and make such arrangement as you think most proper? As soon as I can conveniently leave Honesdale, I shall return to Peekskill.

Yours respectfully
Wm: Minor

To E. Cornell Esq. Ithica

Water wheel $20 — Shaft & curb & head 30 —	$50.
Fan with rigging —	30.
Cupola —	25.
Flasks for Telegraph Caps —	70.
Sand	10.
Patterns	80.
floor 15 — Windows — 20. Race $25 —	85 —
	$350
Ten tons Iron	250
freight	50.
4 tons Coal	32.
	682 —

70 —

500
8002
7000
1600
152
180
2455
1200
900
1800
1100
19689
~~10082~~
98.44
207.71
103.35
95.50
200.00
500.
250.
100
1248.85

440
77
363
40
14,520 —
4680
19,200
1082
20282 Troy —
300
20582
180
20,762 —

156
30
4,680

2455
900
2900
1082
40 / 7337
183 —

1960
760 —

New Milton
18 May [illegible]

157355
124885
324.70

164
276 —

Dr Sir   Steamer Canada 16 May '49

I have just left McKay. He says you agreed to connect with Canada on the side line principle. I did not so understand you — I think we had better take McKay's interest but you must decide it & fix it as you deem best. If you could spend time to come here you could get all right in one day. I think you had better do so. I have staid as long as I can, without neglecting other and important matters.

If you decide to connect with Canada on side line principle notify Allen or Kissock. I am to pay half expenses of McKay's office here and what I pay should be divided on some equitable terms between E & M & NY & E lines.

no time to say more about it

Yours

J J Speed Jr

Come here if you can