Gowanda or Lodi Dec 1rst /48

Dear Sir

I arrivd here yesterday. & found Thomas had just got poles contracted within 6 miles of this since the reason of my not stoping at Springville was that all the contracts were given for three weeks & I found that the only alternative for me was to drive ahead & overtake Thomas. We have now poles contracted so that we can commense monday. They have not got stock taken here or at Springville it is yet doubtful whether they will I shall start back as soon as I can get matters arranged here

I stopt where Bayly was at work & measured 17 of his holes, 3 of these were 4 feet the balance did not exceed 3 ft 9 in the reason of my doing this was they had just filled a hole as I came in sight it did not set straight & one man racked it up with ease, this is a bad way to set poles, when I passed Bayly he had out few poles & the next contract was given till the 8 he was 3 miles from Sunday

Thomas has gone on west & says he will contract all the poles & then go to work with this gang till he hears from you

E Cornell

Yours &c S. C. Holmes

S. A Holmes
Decr 1, 1848

Pittsfield Decr 1 '48

E. Cornell Esq

Dr Sir

Yours of the 28th inst did not come to hand until this morning on account of its passing this Ofs & going to Springfield

The 8 Instruments are recd in good order as far as I can discover — Collections do not progress to suit me tho, as yet everything has been paid for excepting the Poles — Power doesnt seem to care how things wag along if he can only spend his time — I have no authority to collect only the ten per cent otherwise the matter would be attended too more thoroughly — As yet there has been nothing Colld at Sen. of. the Wire will be up as far as there tomorrow & then $2.000 will be due — Power wishes me to draw orders on him to pay the Pole contracts this I decline — doing as it would establish a bad precedent "

There has not any Wire arrived at Bridgeport, let me know immediately why this — Let me hear from you on recpt of this

I am in Haste
Very Respectfully Yrs
Oliver E. Allen

E. Cornell Esq
No 10 Wall st
N.Y.

Shaftsbury Sund Dec 2, 48.

Dear Sir

There is 4 wire hands here Came last night and do not appear to be in any hurry I should think they were at work by the day The two that left part their wire at Farmers in Talk now that they will go and get the ballance &c. before they go home

We work near 1/2 day yesterday used up all the caps last night the stage had a small box for Manchester this I Stopt so we will have work near 1/2 day to morrow Brayton must be more carep about cementing caps he breaks a grea many and some comes out of the iron

I have a lonesome time heare as we have not work to do send me caps or send me some other business if you Can The going is so very bad I have not yet been up the line and I did not think it best till we got material enough to keep the hands to work I suppose Nitter will be through Monday we have not got but 9 1/2 mily let Nitter come upt here when he gets through if he has not got other work I send this by a teamster the first that loaded

Yours &c L. A. Holme

E. Cornell Esqr
Telegraph Office
Troy
N.Y.

S. Holmes
Jany 2, 1848

E.C. note back
says Jany 3. 1848

Dec the 3 1848

Dear Friend

I am up to the farmers inn Mr Swan teem left 1500 bundles of wire here left word for you to pay the full prid without any deduction on the first load I let him Know the contents of your last letter but he would not comply & said I must not meddle with it, with some talk he said I must leave some to secure him. There is some wire here the Land Lord said you Knew of that is not solderd 28 bundles I believe. my best man Mr Stone has left me his brother lays at the point of Death he said he would meet me in Benington would work if you wish but must have more wages he is worth as much as two green hands. I have had some trouble about triming trees the people wants somthing for Damage Mr McCoy left here at noon got stuck. come back for our horse we went with all hands had hard work at that I never saw the travlin worse

John Nutter

John Miller
3 Jan 48

to be left at Troy house

Mr Ezra Cornell
please forward this Troy
N.Y.

Troy Dec 3d 1848

E Cornell Esq
Dear Sir

Learning yesterday that you were on your way to Pittsfield and not coming via Troy I drop you this line — You doubtless recollect that when you were here last you said you should return again in a very few days and with this consideration I concluded to stay here un-till you returned & as your were so busy during the short space you stayed that we had not time to talk over our matters And now first and formost I am in debt thirty dollars and out of funds and that is not the worst of it I can see no likely-hoods of being any differently situated very soon as I have borrowed about all the funds my friends care about trusting me with at present — I send you a bill of my expenses while on that "Yankee line" and I wish you to examine them closely as to my "loafing off two or three weeks at Salisbury" And while Mr Allen & You are togather I wish you would make out my account and send me ballance soon

soonest possible as you see I must
have funds from some source to get
away from here with and pay my debts
at least — Mr Allen has sets against
me — As there was nothing said abt price
when I commence I shall set none
but think my time worth as much as
Mr Holmes or Mr Bronson.

If I can be of any service down
on ~~that~~ line by way of learning the operators
&c I should be most happy to do so

Yours respectfully
John McKinny

to E Carnell Esq
Pittsfield
Mass

John McKinney
8 Decr. 1848

Pr Oelr,

E. Carnell Esq
Pittsfield
Mass

Recd Dec 8 Clvd
ansd Dec 10 C

Woodville ~~Nov~~ Dec 3/7

My Dear ABC

I learned a day or 2 since that your mother had recd a letter from you & in that you requested me to write & you would ans I infer by that, that you have not recd my letter written you from Auburn on my way home — I wrote you at the Amm there on the Sund following after leaving Clvd & in that asked you to tell me how Col Speed acted or what he said about me after I left—

I sposed of course I had the privilege of returning to "V" if I chose but I learn by the by that he is not expecting me back & strange I that but never mind I can do something, somewhere else & live somehow if at all perhaps — But above all things I hope he is satisfied with what I have already done. when I know I was honest in trying to do the best for him I could But that Charley matter I reckon has had something to do with his feelings — I wish him well — Wont you write & tell me all about the boys & how things go there now? where is Charley, Holmes, Lucky & so on? Have just been writing J S B, & have not time now to write more — Our folks say "remember us all" Give me another 6 or 8 page letter

Your genuine friend J Dunham

"E/p S" to all the boys

J Dunham
Dryden Dec 3. 1848

answered

Recd Dec 7 Clod
Ansd Dec 8th 48

Erie Dec 3d 1848

Dr Brother

I hardly know what to say but I hope this sheet will find you O.K. — dear Alonzo there is no use for me to repeat my history again as I gave it to you by telegraph & you better believe I felt bad when you & I were talking I could not help giving vent to my feelings when I calld to recollection things that have gone by but oh! how much better I felt after we got through to think that I had such a good friend a brother as I have so called you above & you may rest assured that I shall never forget your friendship — & I would sacrifice most anything to benefit you because I think I am bound to do it — & now for those debts of mine — You may say to A. Monroe that he may rest easy about the $20.00 as he shall be paid soon — tell Mrs E that I am sorry that I could not pay her before but you can tell her the circumstances if you please (you know how) I am glad that Dockstader is paid & I spose you have paid Ely by this time

If not just as well — I beg of you
not to discommode your self too
much for me — you are a friend &
a good one & I am fully convinced of
it — I've been thinking about something but
I dont know as I will be benefitted by
it & it is this — you know you were
speaking of the N. York line that your
father is building &c & as I understand
it is to terminate at F. & of course there
will be head quarters or rather a considerable
operating to do — I suppose De will be
head quarters for some time to come — but what
I was coming at is this — If I could
get into a large office such as F. will be
or some other one through your influence
I would stand a better chance to get
more salery — I should like to be in an
ofs with you if I could & I have
been sorry that I did not go back to
B ofs which I could of done if had
said the word but I thot I could save
more money if stopped in R because there
is not so may temptations in a small
place — you know how that is as well
as I do but I have got bravely over
some of my habits which I thank the
lord for — Now Alonzo see what you
can do for me I dont want to ask

too much but if you can get me
in an office where I will ~~[illegible]~~ only
have to operate why it will just suit
me — What I mean do nothing but
operate have nothing to do with the books
& I think if I had such a situation
that I could improve in operating —
I love to operate & comes very easy to
what it did at first — If I do say
it my self I can get writing in bad
weather if any one can - but sometimes
I get careleſs about my adjustment &
is hard to break me - when that is the
case it is groſs careleſsneſs on my part —
& as Charley says my key is not as good
as it might be - it is too heavy it is about
four times as heavy as yours so you can
judge for your self, but I always hate
to hear a fellow complaining about
his inst & key &c It dont sound good
& for that reason I never said a word
on the line to any one ——
Alonzo I long to shake hands with you
but I spose I shall have to wait a spell
I hope not long — just immagine you
have got mine when you get this —
Enclosed I send $10c , which you will get
receipt for — if you hear anything more about
"M."D" please state what it is &c

I recived a letter from my good "Pa" this morning & you better belive I was pleased to hear from him & those dear sisters of mine oh! how they want me to come home - but I am sorry to say to them that we shall not have that pleasure of meeting very soon —

You must excuse my writing & if anything that you cant read I will R.R. it —

If my father should come in the office you will please call me if it is so you can — give my Resps to the boys in off & John & tell John I should like to have him write —

dont fail to ans this imm & I will subscribe my-self your true & humble servt

A B Cornell

By Horace Palmer

Horace Palmer
Erie Dec 3rd 1848
answered

Arlington Vt Dec 4/48

Dear Sir

Yours is just received I do not think we can add more men to any advantage for we can put up 4½ or 5 miles per day and that is as much as we can reel then when we come to trimming we should be in a pile I have got within ½ a mile of this place will be in Manchester thursday should been there now if we had not been hindered with caps Mc Coy got here at 11 oclock since that time we have come 3 & ¾ miles Shutter will get to B— to morrow night how will it do to leave Parker here and start another gang at Rutland this is the only way we can add more men to advantage or you start some one there to meet us this would probably be as well Write me at Manchester immediately The stage is at the door waiting

J C Holmes

J. A. Holmes
Jany 7, 1848

Arlington Vt }
Jany 5 }

5

E. Cornell Esqr
White Hall
N.Y.

Pókeepsie Decr. 4th 1848.

Dear Sir,

I have receiv'd your drafts one of $275..00 and the other of $500..00 on "*John J. Fish* Esq. Cashr New York," which when paid will be credited in liquidation of *Seven hundred* *and* *seventy five* dollars of your note.

The disappointment is very great to me, the not receiving the *whole amount* long since due, and which I *need*. I had supposed the last arrangement, in which I endeavored to make the payment easy to you would be strictly adhered to. You cannot complain that I have been hard with you, and surely I am not to blame for the unprincipled conduct of those *pirates* who are leaving no stone unturned to rob me in every way. When wicked men are determined to harrass and injure a man they can do it. Conscious of right, my appeal from those who are injuring me is to the Courts, and I feel confident I shall be sustained by them In the mean time I must suffer with as much patience as possible.—

I will inform Mr Kendall of the receipt of the above sum that he may endorse it on your note; he holds it at present.

Please send me the number of miles you & Speed have erected I wish it to oppose to O'Reilly's boast.— —

Truly Yr friend as ever

Sam. F. B. Morse.

Ezra Cornell, Esqr

New Burgh.—

Detroit Decr 4th. 1848.

Dear Sir

Your favour of the 27th came by the "London" this evening, and as the boat leaves tomorrow, probably for the last time this winter, I will answer your letter. I have unbounded faith in your ability to accomplish a little more than any other line man of my acquaintance, in the way of getting funds to build Telegraph lines, and I doubt not you will fight your way through with the N.Y.&Erie in due time: but you take too hard a stint when you promise to have it done by the first of Feby. If you will get to Fredonia by the first of June next, you will do admirably. You ask me whether it will do to run the risque of buying the wire for Pew? I answer, I know no more about it than you do- He telegraphed me to know whether he could get the wire on Credit. I answered he could, if he could satisfy you that the cash would be forthcoming when promised- From his representations to me, I think he will have the funds to pay with: but his subscriptions may turn out as many of mine did- "all Talk, and no Cider" the past week has been the worst we have ever had since the line was built - I have been almost discouraged - We have had a most severe blow, and all the old trees any where in reach of our line must have blown down - We have not been able to reach Buffalo since last Wednesday noon. I immediately started a man to Monroe; but he mended but one place, and contrary to my orders came back without going through, which took two days and then had go a second time - We finally got Toledo yesterday - The line was broken badly between Lower Sandusky & Sandusky City; but what they have been doing not to get it up is more than I can tell - I mean to go as far East as Lower Sandusky, and see who has been to blame, as some one needs a good scolding, or something worse - I have a first rate, energetic fellow at S City, and I cannot comprehend why he should suffer the line to be down for five days - There is something radically wrong somewhere, But O Reillys line has also been down as long as ours until today - They have got to work again and we have not - Our line West was also broken but that

As an other half sheet will go for 10¢ I will use it.

I wrote you in the fall, some time in Sept I believe that I was negociating with the people at La Porte for a line to that place, They would not do as I wanted them to, and I abandoned the trade. Last week two of the La Porte Merchants called on me, and renewed the negociation. I satisfied them that it was for their interest to do as I proposed and better for them than the way they wanted. They went home intending to raise the money and give me $150 per mile for a line from Mich City to their place. I have no doubt but they will get the amount subscribed. I will make an effort to get the Mich Legislature to aid in building a line from Jackson to the Capitol 40 miles, I offer to put it up for $150 per mile including Patent, I should call the Patent 25 dolls per Mile I think it for the interest of the Patentees to sell such lines at that price rather than not have them built, as the Patent will expire long before we can build all the lines wanted even at that. If I am not right say so in your next, as I shall sell all such

J. J. Speed
Decr 4. 1848

lines to ourselves at that price, and
if Smith or Kendall scolds I will
ask Kendall how he happened to sell
me the line from Pittsburg up the Allegany
for $20 per Mile. We will have to allow
the Patentees $50 per mile for the Toledo and
St Louis line as Kendall will claim that
as one of the lines which Smith bought.
J Jackson has been getting stock on the
line from Sandusky City to Mansfield
Mt Vernon Newark and Columbus.
How he has succeeded I do not know.
It takes near a month to get a letter
here by mail from Columbus in the
winter, and I have heard nothing from
Jackson since he went on that route.
I will settle the a/c with both Jacksons
and endeavour not to be skinned. Morris
Jackson is really one of the best fellows
to work we ever had. He does more
work, and does it better than any one
else. Town Jackson is better for running
and making bargains for poles than for
work. He contracts for poles well, and
I have been in hopes that he could
do something in getting stock taken, but I
am not sure as he can do much at that.

was soon mended, and works well to Chicago.
Wood has been out West repairing ever since
you was here in August. I have not seen
him since you did. He is now at South
Bend and just told us he found plenty
of work to be done. I think I have learned
somethin, by experience, and could build
an other line a great deal cheaper, and a great
deal better. I have had a man constantly
tramping from here to Niles, and Wood
has been constantly on the line from Niles
West, and it is as much as they can do, or ~~a~~
a little more than they _do_ accomplish to keep the
wire on the poles, and the caps on.

Your suggestion in relation to side lines is good.
When Tillotson gets back I want to go West
and see how Wilson is getting on: and
then go on the Toledo & St. Louis route and
stick to it until that line is up. I go tomorrow
on the route towards Monroe with two hands
and mean to cut down all the old trees
near the line, if they have not all blown down
I will stay at Monroe a day or two and
open an office there, altho it will not
pay more than expenses, if that, while the
O R off is there, it will facilitate repairs
very much. I recd the instrument
from Buffalo by the boat today—

I am greatly obliged to you for letting Alonzo remain at Cleveland. There is a good of the right sort of grit in him, and he will be somebody. Lee is with him and he is a Capital business man, and his habits are all right. They will do the business at the Cleveland offs, as well as it is done any where on Smith's, Faxton's, or O.S. Woods' lines. Alonzo can go home on a visit any time when you, or he, thinks it best for him to do so; but he probably will not want to go until Spring.

It is strange that Gov Seward should not be able to get a hearing in less than a year, when he thought he could close this off in 90 days. I am sorry I had any agency in paying him $500 last summer.

You say we had better allow O.R. at the rate of $100 per mile. That is too much. He is not entitled to any thing, and if he gets $50 per mile, as Smith offered him, it is as much as we ought to allow for his line. I would like to have the question settled, and would be willing to make almost any sacrifice to effect it; but $100 per mile would be giving us the hot end of the poker in good earnest. If Tillotson is still at Ithaca when this gets there start him off

Yours truly J. J. Speed Jr

I was not at all surprised to hear that S.&J. had burst the boiler. I have some experience with one of them and expected just such a result.

Gowanda Dec 4th 1848

Dear Sir

I have now got nearly through with Contracting.

When Mr Holmes was here I advised with him what I had better do he and I boath thought best for me to Stay for the present and help Chales Van Doren about Setting. So I have concluded to do & write you so that if you want me on any other part of the line you can immediately write to me and give me the necessary instruction what course you would like to have me take. You will direct to me at Gowanda Cattaraugus County N.Y.

You will see Holmes who will give you as much information relative to the stock of this place & Springville as I should. I think all that is needed is for you to come through once and talk the thing up to them and the Stock will all be taken

I should think as near as I can learn that Mr Risley only talked the thing up had none of the articles of association with him or if he did they were not left so that an amount could be subscribed if the people should choose after he left to do so.

Let me here from you soon as convenient.

E Cornell

Yours &c Samuel S. Thomas

J. A. Thomas
Nov 27 & Decr 4. 1848

Detroit 5 Dec 1848

Dear Sir

I have always supposed that "bad luck" and bad management mean the same thing, and are in fact syponimous terms: but it does seem as though we have been visited by an unusual streak of bad luck. Our wire has been broken in Eight places between here and Monroe in five days, and at a time when it is very difficult to get to it. Yesterday we got up for a few hours to Toledo, and I supposed we would certainly get Buffalo today— But yesterday afternoon it commenced Snowing, and this morning the snow was 8 to 10 inches deep, and as wet as snow can be made, so that this morning we could not get Toledo, and before noon we were unable to get Chicago. The wire is not broken either way: but the wet snow is piled up on the top of the posts and entirely covers the caps, making a ground connection at every pole— The top of the poles should have been cut off so that but little snow could lodge on them: but that was not done, and on the top of some of the largest poles there is a pyramid of snow 5 or 6 inches high hiding the cap entirely. If it continues to melt it will soon be off, or if it freezes it will do no harm; but just in the state it is now in, it closes us up completely. The O'Reilly line is at work, but imperfectly; their insulators are not effected by the snow. The O'Reilly line is far less liable to get down than ours; their wire seldom gets off, and altho their method of insulation is very imperfect, they can work more days in a year than we can.

I went this morning to Dearbourn, and from there four miles on our line South, towards Monroe. The snow and mud was near a foot deep, and no track, I soon got my feet wet, and concluded to back out and come home. I intended to go Eight miles to see that ~~the~~ wire was up at a corner where it had been off the pole: but I met the man who went to put it up, and was glad to get back. We erred in running our line the way we did to Monroe. Wood & Wade both thought it the better way, as we saved something in distance, and saved two miles of poles; but it is almost all woods & the road at this time impassable. The log bridges are all afloat, so that a horse cannot get over them, and a man wants fisherman's boots to keep his feet dry. If the O.R. line should fall into our hands I would move our wire on their poles from here to Monroe. If I ever build another line I will go over the ground myself before the poles are set, and be sure I am on the right road before I begin. Experience is said to be a good schoolmaster, which is doubtless true: but so infernally expensive I dislike to pay the bills.

I got a few lines from Jackson today saying that he would succeed in getting the stock taken as far as Mt. Vernon. He is now, (today) helping to put the wire up between Sandusky City & Lower Sandusky which must have been broken even worse than between here and Monroe. I suppose we do not have more than one such storm as we have had in a year. There has been nothing like it before, since I have been in this Country. I am sensible that this letter is not worth ten cents: but the boat which was expected to leave this morning has not gone yet, and it is some little relief to tell our troubles to one who will sympathize with us & possibly suggest some ideas which may be useful to us. As the boat will not go before nine o'clock tomorrow, I will let you know

whether we get to work in the morning
10 oclk 6th.

Work as far West as Kalamazoo but cannot get Toledo. Snow still melting — How is it at the East? does the wet snow trouble you? My men will meet between Dearborn and Monroe today towards night — A man cannot walk over 12 or 14 miles in a day between Dearborn & Monroe, the snow, mud and water is so deep that it is very difficult to get through at all, and impossible in any way but on foot — We send one copy of our Comms to Bu, and one to Cleveland by boat — The O R line is unable to do any thing today.

This is what I call miserable Telegraphing but I cannot help it, and will keep trying until we cure the difficulty.

Yours in great
tribulation
J J Speed

P.S. 5 P.M. We are not through yet — I started the man back towards Monroe from where I met him, four Miles East of Dearborn yesterday noon — also a man from Toledo yesterday morning, and I supposed they would certainly meet before night, but we cannot get Toledo yet — Wood returned from ~~the~~ West yesterday & is at Albion. Came on the cars from Niles — is going back tomorrow to put up line between Kalamazoo and Niles — We can only get Kalamazoo.

J J Speed Dec 5 1848

Portland Dec 7/48

Dr Bro.

I am just in receipt of yours of 3d. You must not let me be disappointed as to funds as is proposed— You told me about Septr. in N.Y. I might count on you to make up $3000 of my liabilities due early in December— I have so relied, & not getting a remittance, I am living on borrowing of funds from day to day, to save my credit—for not only what you promised, & I relied on, but for what Kaplan is keeping me out of— Kendall too, is keeping me out of more than $2000 I ought to have— & as I let you pay him instead of me, it is so much the harder— I do feel exceedingly disappointed in being thus made to shift for myself at any point— & am quite inclined to the opinion, that there is more comfort in attempting to accommodate nobody & looking wholly to oneself, than in striving to share burthens not your own— I can endure any toil & mortification but that of borrowing money in piece meals first from one friend & then of another to pay the first & so on— Kendall blames me for calling on him to pay over his collections, while I neglect to collect of you what is due — and what is more, I feel the force of his reply — My liabilities are now at maturity, and are large. I have put off all demands on your operations, to the extent of my ability — & having informed you seasonably how much I must depend on you for, I cannot relieve myself without that much of aid from you, and at the earliest moment — I doubt not your good judgment in all matters — & I have reposed every confidence in your operations — & have been wholly disposed to keep all cash demands on you down to the lowest point & off at the furthest point possible — But, you must not forget that I cannot dispense wholly with means for meeting Kendall's portion of the Patent Right — that I may have the avails of the cash collections he makes belonging to me —

Let me hear from you at the earliest moment in reply, with all the means of relief you can command. I can draw on N. York from this point without expense, so that deposits with Bank there for me will be safer than remittances.

I will attend to your bill agt. Duncan the first opportunity

Yours Truly
F. O. J. Smith

E. Cornell Esq
N-Y.

P.S. I expressed to you all occurred to me about your Patent Claim. It is undoubtedly good & new in principle.

F. O. J. Smith
7 Decr 1848
funds

Newburg Dec 7 1848

Dear Brother

I Came up from Peekskill last Evening hopeing that you would be here I have had a job to get the poles on in that vicinity as several of the men disappointed me and I had to make new Contracts &c

I have discharged Pinkhams men and paid them off I have paid Pinkhams and Chesters Bord bills or a part of them and let them have money besides I will see you before you setle with them, Nutten would have finished up at P this week had the wether been good and no bother

A letter from Bristol sais he will be at Midletown this week I go up to morrow to see that Brundage gets his Poles ready for him next week, shall be back here Satur=day night, if you Cant be here then leave a line, there must be some money to pay for Poles both here and the other side of the river immediately as the money is due and the men are uneasy, what is the prospect about wire when will it be ready to commence putting up

leave a line for me at my bording house

E. C.

yours in haste E.B. Cornell

Albion 7th Dec 1848.

Dear Brother

Your favor of the 27th was found on my arrival here from the west and I will embrace the first opportunity to answer it—

I arrived here from Chicago last night where I have been to assist in the office and left to make room for one of Col. Speeds Sons who arrived there the day before I left— Business is very dull on the line as well as other business.

The receipts of the Chicago office was until a few weeks since from fourty to fifty dollars per day and now they range from five to twenty so you see there is quite a falling off in business and unless it revives again it will be dull musick— I followed the line down and found it in very bad repair some places the caps were off of four or five poles in succession caused by high winds— In regard to the Pottery I should not go into the business without a determination to succeed as I think I have been in the business long enough to carry it on profitable— Have you ascertained about the building and lot on what terms it can be had?— If so please write the particulars and let me know what the prospects are— Mart started west again yesterday to repair and put on some new caps &c— The folks here are all well except Mary whose health very poor and has been since her fit of sickness last fall— I am feared she will

not recover her health very soon as help is scarce
and she works a good deal about her work—
I have concluded to spend the rest of the winter
at school or at least a portion of it as business
is dull and I dont succeed in getting into an
office— There will be help wanting about the first
of January to work a line Wilson is building from
Milwaukee to Galena and I may go on that
line if I get a good chance— The line is complet-
ed from Milwaukee to Waukesha a distance
of some fourteen miles, they progress rather slowly
but hope to get it completed early in the spring—

Yours Respectfully

E. Cornell
Ithaca N.Y.

Jno. M. Cornell

Kalamazoo Dec 8th 1848

Dear brother E,

I received your letter dated at Dansville and am glad to hear from you & yours and that you are making good progress with the N Y & Fredonia line for we need it very much when there is a press of business, I have been rather negligent about writing to you as it seemed to be the business of others to keep you well advised of the situation and business of the line. I have been at Detroit but once since you were here and have had no chance to look at the books of the line. I have been constantly on the line from here to Milwaukee and have had as much as I could do to keep the line in working order. The portion west of Michigan City is crooked and badly built. brash cross grained pins and the wire gets down very often and when it is wet it is difficult to work it. Having so many young operators without any mechanical practice, the instruments gets out of order and I have had to repair them in almost every office I come to. and unless I keep on or some one takes my place it will seriously effect the business on the line, Col. Speed has been away from Detroit and Tillotson has kept me out so much I have had no chance to settle the contractors account and it remains just as it was when you left. I have made no bargain with the President or directors about my labour since the organization of the line and as you enquire what I am driving at, perhaps you think my servic are no longer wanted. but as there is some outstanding accounts unsettled and some debts yet unpaid I think the company would loose nothing by having me continue to work a while yet at the rate I have worked for the contractors. I have no business of Myown aside from that of the company and am engagued all the time on the line and find plenty to do, I have just come from Milwaukee every step of the way on foot and carried my tools for repairing on my back and as we had a tremenduous storm out here last week I found the wire torn down and broken by trees in three places with sixty miles and although the snow and mud was half leg deep I got the line to work in less than a day & a half I understand it was broken between Cleveland & Detroit the same time and this is the ninth day and we hear nothing from the East, Tillotson wrote to me that Jackson would keep that portion of the line in tip toe order and wanted I should see to the west as Col Speed was unwell. I have been at home only three days in ten weeks and am on my way again for Chiago with a quantity of the Col.s new caps which I intend to put on the corners & angles and I think they will answer a good purpose John Cornell is at Albion now having returned from Chicago with me There was a prospect of his having employment either at Chicago or on Wilson's line west when I sent for him. but things seemed to take a different turn after he got there and he concluded to come back. I advised him to attend school this winter as there is no business seems to open for him and next summer be prepared to take hold of the best chance that he can select. I offered him all the facilities that he should need and I think he will commence his studies. Jane seems to like her situation weel and is making good progress in her studies I should think. Phebe and the children are well as usual, Mary I am told is in rather poor health, As to a divadend on their stock I guess it does not trouble them much. but it answers well for a teaser. As to the time of making a dividend I understood Tillotson to say the first of January they would declare 5 per cent, As to the earnings of the line since its opening I have no means of knowing more than a casual observation of the weekly reports from the west which would indicate not much short of fifteen thousand dollars. As I have had no handling of the money I could not tell what direction it has taken.

I saw Gen. Wilson when I was at Milwaukee last and I am sorry to have to say he does not push on the work on the western lines as he should. He is a miserable financier and when money comes into his hands it is applied I am told in other ways than building telegraph lines. He had only seventeen miles in operation and no money to go any farther and unless he is more energetick in getting subscriptions and applies them properly he will fail to do as he should have done He is a clever fellow and has an agreeable address and I like him as an associate and all I know of his operations was told me by persons who ought to know but I hope it will turn out otherwise than what was represented to me there, I urged him in every way I could to push those lines ahead to Janesville, Madison, Mineral Point & Galena and told him you would expect him to get them in operation early in the spring. He started for Madison the day I started from there to get subscriptions for that line and perhaps he has written you of his success. With regard to operating the E. & M. line the salaries have been put as low as the operators can possibly live and although the expences of some offices is disproportioned according to the amount of labour actually done than in others. yet upon the whole the expence of working it is as small as could be expected. and I believe the operators generally try to do as well as they know how. There is a disposition to gether into the offices where there is the most business a greater amount of help in proportion to the business than offices where there is less. I have spoken somewhat plainly upon this point and have contended that it is no less obligatory on an operator to do all the wor in kind and quantity for the same wages in Detroit. Chicago & Milwaukee than ~~it~~ is done in any other office on the line. There seems to be a falling off of business since the late storm which has cleared the lakes of nearly all the crafts carrying freight and no doubt business will be more dull though I think it will more than pay expences this winter if we can have a communication through to N.Y. City

There is ~~a~~ quite a number of complaints against us about com's not getting to their place of destination and we have lost some customers on the account and it has proved a source of anoyance to the western operators that they were not allow to clear themselves of the fault. For instance a com. starts from Au, to N.Y and is not heard from and the corrispondant receives a letter to the effect. He comes to the office and asks who is at fault. The operator at Au. makes inquiry of Bu if such com, has passed that office and when. That inquiry reaches De. or V. and is quashed and nothing more heard from it. I am told by an operator from both places that this has been the universal practice and the operators west of De are much displeased on the account, I think it unfair both to our operators & customers. Of one thing I am well convinced that the business between Milwaukee Chicago & Detroit is done up with more accuracy and dispatch and with far less failures or delays than between Detroit & Buffalo and I think a better state of feeling exists this way than below. There is only one man that is disliked on the whole rout from De to Au and that is our secretary. They blow him hard and I am ~~at~~ a loss to know why he is so obnoxious to them. They prefer no speciffic charge but seems to be a spontaneous feeling all through. I have sustained him in evry position he has taken and shall continue to do so as long as he discharges his duty promptly and they must curb their feeling within bounds. They are all glad to see me wherever I go and inquire after the Col, & Mr Cornell. but not a word for our secretary. It seems to me I have spun you considerable of a yarn for I have been at it near two hours which is a long time for me to remain in one place writing. You may perhaps know more about the operations here than I do after all for I feel that I am but little better than a dead head any how in the business.

Please write and give me what ever information you have for me

Yours with much respect

M B Wood

E. Cornell

M B Wood
[illegible]

Mt Pleasant
Saratoga Co Decr 9/48

Mr E Cornell

Dear Sir

We are very much surprised that we do not hear something from you by the way of remittance and hope you will attend to our wants immediately

Yours &c
J Granger & Co

Recd Decr 22. 1848 and sent a dft dated Decr 25. for $157 46/100 at 60 days on Wells & Co N.Y.

Grainger &Co
Decr 9. 1848

Office of the
Montreal Telegraph Co.
Montreal 10th Decr 1848

Dear Brother

Yours dated "Hudson River Dec 3rd" is recd for which you have my sincere thanks. I cannot answer your inquiry in regard to taking the charge of the Erie and Mich, Line, at once. I suppose the Mtl Co. will wish me to remain another year upon the same terms as my present engagement. I can judge better however after the 12th of next month, when our annual meeting takes place. I think I should like the change if your Co. can do as well by me as this Co. will do, that is, if there is a reasonable prospect of my holding the place permanently upon the E & M Line. — Upon these points I would like your views as soon as convenient, and I shall then be prepared to decide. — Inform me also if the Line from Fredonia to N.Y. would also be under my inspection. — I would prefer having all the business that I could do well. You do not acknowledge the receipt of any of my letters so that I do not know whether to repeat anything that I have said before. – It is necessary that you should appoint an atty in Quebec to act in the case with Cutter as it comes on in six days he says. Did you rec.d Gisborn's report that I fwd. to you?

Before anything can be done collecting funds from the Troy & Mol Line it will be necessary to send me another power of Atty granting to me the power to settle and convey the Line to the Co.

Workman absolutely refuses to make any further payments until the Line is transferred to them and a settlement made. – You may think it better to defer it until you can come in yourself.

Shall I subscribe for 30 shares of the stock (or more) so that I can vote at the election. Whitney must be re-elected, as he will settle with you on better terms than any other that you can expect to elect.

Dec 12th I have lost a mail waiting to hear from Troy but cannot get a word and will therefore wait no longer
O.S.W

Barry recd. his discharge yesterday and is very furious- He expects to upset the present dynasty at the Annual meeting and come into power on their downfall. - I think he will undertake to make some outrageous exposures but I shall try if possible and get him pacified. - They pay him his month that he is entitled to (by notice) in advance and make arrangements to dispense with his services at once but he will not, he says, allow any one in the office here until his month expires. - and has locked up the books and the doors and taken the keys with him. He will make a great fool of himself I presume as he has such a vituperous temper. Poor Lindsay will not probably get off short of getting his nose *well* wrung - Moorhouse takes his place at Laprairie for the present. I fear we will not see the wire up again this winter but they intend to make another trial in 2 or 3 weeks. - Should you have application from Barry for a place stand off. - I would prefer Cutter three times. -

I have never had any Confidence in either since I became acquainted with them. —
I have 12 or $1300 now in fathers hands which I wish applied immy to payments upon that farm unless you trade with Johnson — It is idle and I Cannot think of losing 80 or $100, interest annually when I have the means of paying. — Will you see to it. —
Will M. L. be able to keep his situation at his present salary in Troy or Can he do better elsewhere? I am somewhat anxious about him, as he appears to have been more successful the past year than ever before, I think myself that he is better Calculated to manage a Telegraph Line than any other business that he has yet been engaged in and I pray that he may be able to keep in a place where he Can save something out of his salary. Cara is Certainly an extraordinary economist and too much praise I think Cannot be awarded to her for the part she has acted in "married life". While upon the subject of economy, I will Call your

C. S. North
10 Dressings

Rcvd Dec 16th ABC
ansd 17 ABC

Tremont House Boston
Decr. 10th 1848

My Dear Alonzo
I have been spending two days with Mr Smith at Portland, and retur from there to this city last evening,

I canvassed the whole subject of the O'Reilly dificulty with Smith, and he gave me the full history of the late meeting of parties at Phil & Balt to settle, The parties all agreed to the details of a settlement, but the O'R party flew out before the writings were executed, but Smith thinks their object in so doing was to gain a little time to close some arrangements between themselves and the several stockholders on their various lines, and when that is accomplished they will accept his offer and settle the whole thing, this you will not mention however as it might have some influence with the parties if they heard it,

There is no doubt but O'Reilly has been used up in the controversy, and that the parties interested with him desire to have the question settled as bad as we do — and it will not be long before the matter will be settled, and we shall have their line from Buffalo to Detroit, and all the business to do,

E Cornell
Boston Dec 10 1848
Answered

I am makin arrangements that will result in our getting a direct line from this city to Cleveland, during the next season. it will paſs from here to Albany, thence direct to Ithaca, and connect there with the N.Y.&E and so on to Fredonia & Cleveland, the Entire distance will only be 640 which we can work in one circuit.

I intend to have one wire from Cleveland to Boston, one wire from Cleveland to New York, which will be 580 miles – one one wire from Buffalo to Chicago via Cleveland & Detroit, one one wire from Cleveland to Milwaukie, via Toledo, Fort Waine – Chicago &c, so that there will be 3 wires from Cleveland to Fredonia, and two from Cleveland to Toledo, or rather say 3 wires from Cleveland to, Sandusky city, as we must have one circuit from Cleveland to Cincinati, so as to take Cincinati busineſs to N.Y & Boston & to send N.Y & Boston busineſs via Cleveland & Cincinati to New Orleans, this we can do and beat the Atlantic line all to pieces – when we get all ready. I am now getting up a new Company in Boston to buy the Boston & N.Y. line so as to get rid of the prejudice that the N.Y & B folks have against Smith, My plans may get into the papers if so you will understand all, dont

disclose my plans as above detailed – I shall make the Cleveland office the great office of the west – Yours Affectionately

E. Cornell

Erie and Michigan Telegraph Line,

FROM BUFFALO TO MILWAUKEE.

Office in Merchants' Exchange, up Stairs.

☞ ALL COMMUNICATIONS STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL. ☜

All Communications must be written out in full plain writing, and no figures used except, for date. The address and number of the street to be given fully.

No Communication will be received unless *pre-paid*, except where the parties sending desire to pay the answer.

Buffalo, Dec 11 1848, 4 o'clock P M.

By Telegraph from Whitewater

To E. Cornell

Mail at Buffalo Ithaca

Compliments of W D Wilson by Telegraph = Will talk from Janesville by Friday next, and from Madison City on the 1st Jany

W D Wilson

Free

Auburn, Dec 11th, 1848

Mr Cornell—

Dear Sir—

I sent you by telegraph the amount ($34.74) due from Ia line on *Ia business*, as you desired, but have not yet received the money either from you or Ia office. There is a livery bill, which I necessarily incurred here in Mending the line, of $20 more, making it necessary for me to have (in order to square up *Ia* accounts to the 1st December) $54.74. As I have advanced a good share of the balance above, to Main Line, I hope you will see that it is very important to me that you give it your earliest attention.

Excuse me for reminding you that I would like to have you bear me in mind for the "Ny" office on the "Erie" Line, & please tell me whether there is any probability that I can get it & at about what salary.

Hoping that you will without delay, give the above subjects your favorable attention

I remain

Yours respectfully

H. C. Gilbert

E. Cornell Esqr.

[illegible]

Monroe 12 Dec 1848

Dear Sir

Your favour of Nov 30th recd. here this day. You have doubtless done the best that could be done to protect my waning Credit at Ithaca, for which you will please accept my acknowledgements & thanks. My organ of Hope is very fully developed, and consequently I believe that I will yet be able to blot out the last dollar which I owe on earth. You may say that I must expect long life, be it so, if I die before I get to the end of the debts, that will be a receipt in full, as I have always supposed that debts of a pecuniary character do not follow a poor devil to the other world. I have written to Ewing. Do not mention the Ewing letter as I may deem it honest to keep all I get from that quarter, or choose my own place to apply it. I wish you would find out whether Speed & Tourtellot have any paper at the Tomp. Co Bank. There was a note on which W. T. Huntington was endorser, and the last I knew of it there was some five or six hundred due please ascertain how it is- I would also be glad if you would devote one to settle the a/c with James Clark or *jump it* & call it even- If I owe him. I ought to pay him- I believe Clark's is the only unsettled a/c I have at Ithaca except with Jerry; and that is now settled I suppose-

I was not at all surprised to hear of T&S failure, altho it does not tally very well with the story of Eight thousand dollars made on wool last year. You and I know very well that their lines were all loose- none of them fastened to the dock- no anchor out, and nothing to prevent their vessel from going ashore the first adverse wind- I am sorry to hear of their failure but own experience induced me to expect it-

I recd, with your letter two from Cornell and one from Smith- Smith says OR assignees "will have to in a few weeks, and I shall send you an order to take control of all their line and offices from Bu to Se"- I hope he may not be deceived- He say he will have to allow them $75 pr Mile

and he claims as much more for
the Patent which would increase our
Stock $150 per mile from Bu to De
about $60,000 - This is too much by one
half, and I will not assent to it if I
can help it: but it may be better to do
that than not to have the fight ended -
Smith says O R is used up. and has
assigned all his interest in all his
Western lines -

Cornells letters look well
and he seems to be going on bravely -

We have had a terrible time
since you left - The line was down
between Bu & De one whole week -
I have not yet found out the
~~reason~~ why it was down so long
East of Toledo. We are now at
work through finely, and I have the
office here in operation - I have made
an arrangement with the Post Master
here to take the office as soon as his
son can learn - The whole expense
will not be over $250 per year -
Operator, office rent & fire wood $200 -
Messenger & extra expenses say $50 -.
This office will pay its way even with
the OR line. and when that is out of our
way this office will pay well -

the people at Adrian, Hinsdale, Jonesville
& Cold water have concluded that
they want a Telegraph and I am
making arrangements to get a line from
here to South Bend - I have enlisted
a man who can do it - He is to be
here tomorrow to make out the
papers - Jackson says he can get
Stock enough to build from Milan
to Mt. Vernon, perhaps to Newark

I have had the Mully grubs some since
you left but am getting well again
want you back so that I can attend
to something besides the Lake line -

Yours &c
J J Speed

Friend Mack - I read your postscript on
Tillotsons letter - right - I will do just so - only
a little more so, -
I have had to ask for a very long rope: but
I will come it yet - dont call my paper
a dead horse - there is life in it, & it will
be visible by and by.

Speed
Dec 9/47

Monroe Dec 12th. 1848.

Dear Sir

Your two letters of Dec 1 & 3d reached me here today, also one from Smith of Nov 29th. I congratulate you on your success on the N.Y. & E. - You have done what no one else could have done, & if you get funds enough to build the line, and pay for the Patent, it will be a great performance; and you may set yourself down as A No 1, and I will swear to it. I have been infernally bothered on this line as I wrote you last week. I could not go every where myself, and the men I sent seemed to do no good. Between here and Detroit there is a swamp, which is now mostly under water, our wire was down in the water, and the men passed round the swamp and did not see it - but we are at work again and in good order all the way from Bu. to Milwaukee, and will be likely to remain so until the next hard blow, when we will be down again. I have our offs here in operation - Have made arrangements with the P Master, and have our office in the P. Office. The son of the P. M. is learning, and will

take charge of the offs as soon as he is
capable of doing so. I pay $200 per year
for Salary. Rent and fuel. The offs
will more than pay its way even with
the O.R. offs here, and when that is out
of our way this offs will pay well.
Smith says he will be able to send me an
order in a few weeks to take the O.R. line –
wants $75. per mile, and as much more
for Patent, making $150 per mile, and
increasing our Capital Sixty thousand
dollars!!! Is that not a loud call? dont
you hear it thunder? I have stoped chewing
tobacco: but on reading that, I took a
big pinch of snuff. In answer to Smiths
letter I will only demur to the price, and
leave it with you to settle the matter with
him. If he is allowed that amount of
stock, we ought to have the thirty dolls.
per mile which he claims. That would
be giving our stockholders the hot end
of the poker: but would not be quite
so bad for us. I think we ought not
to assent to the $150 per mile unless we
can get some part of the spoils. Have
you ever showed Smith the a/c as
settled with the trustees. Tillotson says that
he makes out about five thousand
dolls for extras on the East End. Smith will grant

at that, and you had better agree
with him respecting the whole matter—
Smith asks when I can make a
dividend? You can tell him that
I have had to use all the funds
we have been able to get to pay the
debts on this line. It was as much
for his interest as ours that I should
do so, for unless I had done so, we
would not have had the line done
even now, and if something had
not been paid on the poles they would
have been cut down, or our wire
broken—with all the funds I could get,
I have had as much as I could do to
keep them quiet. If we get the O.R. line,
I would use that for a through line, and
connect with no offs between Fredonia
& Detroit except Cleveland, and then
we would have to put on new caps
on most of their poles before we could
work through to Buffalo. It would
cost five to six dolls per mile to put
that line in good working order, altho
they can work half way, to Cleveland,
more days in a year than we can,
as their wire seldom gets off the poles,
and all the Saints & devils I can enlist
can't keep ours on—

If Smith will allow us the extras, as settled with the trustees (and I do not see how he can help himself any how) and give up one half the profits of construction, and allow us to use the funds of the line to pay the balance of our debts, ~~&~~ apply on the "Extras" as far as is necessary to get us out of debt. we taking the balance of the "extras" in stock — I will vote as you say in relation to his having the $150 per mile for the O R line — but I would have to go to a Universalist meeting for some months after it, to ease my conscience, and give me any sort of a chance for Heaven —

I am making some arrangements here which I think will end in getting stock taken for a line to South Bend: but as you say there is but little dependence in others, unless I go myself I have not much faith in doing much about new lines —

Yours truly

J. J. Speed Jr

Mr E. Cornell

Did you receive my letter containing Twenty dolls for Dunham?

J J Speed Jr
12 Dec 48

Cleveland O. 13th Decr 1848

My Dear Father

Today I received your kind favor of the 7th inst written at Springfield. and the one dated 27th Nov on Cayuga Lake was received some days since. and would have been answered before this but I was waiting for you to answer mine of the 24th & 26 ult directed to Ithaca. but I see you are "outward bound" and it will be some time before you will receive it, so I will write you a few lines this evening but wish to have your answer to mine of the 26th before I write you particularly. I hope you will give me a full answer early, to that one. If I remain in this office as you seemed to intimate I shall write to Col Speed informing him that I can & wish do the duties of this office alone. and I had previously thought of this but not knowing where I would go or remain here I thought best to hold on a spell. You will understand this when you refer to mine of the 26th. — I like this place very well indeed but there is not business enough to suite me. I like to have enough business so I can keep digging into it all the while, as I had rather do business in the office than eat any time, and I think I could manage the New York office as well as the next person. and as satisfactory to all persons concerned but I do not know what you views or intentions on the subject are. — You ask where I board, I sleep in the room adjoining the office, and get my meals at the New England Hotel costing me in the whole $2.50 per week. similar board at a private House would cost me $2.25, and to room at a private house & board also would cost me $3. so I think the present arrangement as good a one as could be effected. — — our rcts for the week ending last night were $49.25 which should have been $90 at least if not $100, if we had the whole business of this city. We had some bad break downs last week which effected it some, one week our rcts were $29. about three weeks ago I think, — On Wednesday the 29th ult we were broken between Detroit & Toledo, which did not get up till Friday when it was interrupted in several places between Sandusky City and Maumee City. which was repaired so we got Toledo on Wednesday evening just a week since we had heard from Detroit, and on Thursday eve we opened with Detroit, the first time in eight days which undoubtedly was $500. damage to the Line when I think it need not have been down half the time. Had things been managed as they might have been, and as they operators are not permitted to do I am sorry to say, except those who do as they think & know is best in the matter instead of waiting a day or two to hear from Detroit. by the other Line whether to send out or not. now this is all gammon and the Line has lost hundreds of dollars for the very reason that the operators will wait perhaps a day and sometimes two days (as our office did a spell ago when the break was within 20 miles of his office) to rcv directions from De to know whether to send out or not. on our sections it has never been down over ~~six~~ hours & one of our streches are twenty five miles. The Office at Monroe Mich was opened on monday & I hope it will not be so bad hereafter. there was a break today between De & Monroe within fifteen miles of De which was broken last night. and by waiting three or four hours to see if it would not get up itself. they did not get it up till after 4 oclock. so you see how things are managed. that is "De" office. Col Speeds banner office, but I am sorry to say that I candidly believe there is not a worse managed office on this Line. J. Jackson has just returned from the Mansfield Line and it has proved a second failure on that route. and I will venture to say you may put this same man on any ~~route~~ I care not what & he will never get the stock subscribed & the Line built — but Col S is completely done up in him. but I must close.

I enclose you a couple of slips from the Herald of this city — please preserve them the one Nov 8th I think it well written? — Best respects to all. Will. write soon

E Cornell — Your Aff^{ct} Son A. B. Cornell

in Haste. Excuse all

A. B. C.

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144)312(2
288
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11 Bbls
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E. Cornell Esq
Ithaca
Tompkins Co
N York

19 3
144 20
40)2880
72

A B Cornell
13 Decr 1848

Pittsfield Dec 13' 48

E Cornell Esq

Your fav. of the 11th inst dated at Boston came to hand this morning in which you state that the present plan of organiseing this Line is good enough at the same time you request me to assist the Trustees in makeing speedy & thorough collectns & attend to the trimings very particularly — In reply I would say that you need give yourself no uneasiness in relation to anything that legitimately devolves upon me to attend to — So far as appearances present; I see nothing which looks at all foreboding or as tho this Line would not be closed up to the satisfaction of all parties concerned — I recd your Telegraphic communication yesterday in relation to the Wire; I had previously learnd however of the arrival of 50 Bundles at Bridgeport — I have ordered the distribution of what has already been recd as soon as it can be put together — The Caps are all distributed & the Wire up near G. Barrington

I feel as tho there was a heavy responsibility resting upon me & more so especially since you was here for I discovered when you was here that you was disposed to be dissatisfied with my management & did I suppose that you were really inclined to dissatisfaction I would quit the Line to day — If you take this position for effect ~~I must say to~~

over

I must frankly say to you that you are deceived in the chap So far I have done the best in my power & I feel no compunctions of Conscience for dereliction of duty or neglect & so far as business is concerned I am not dependant; as enough is presented & of this kind too; therefore am not Compelled to remain in any position long where there is the least shadow of dissatisfaction or unpleasant feelings suffice it to say upon this subject I feel as tho I have done my duty & accomplished what many others of your smart men could not have done under the circumstances — If I understand things you will at least make $14000 from this Line which ought to satisfy any reasonable man & most certainly would.

The Line is working thro— to Lee most admirably & Wood says that I made the arrangements at Lee. from the fact that we did not get a circuit at first on a/c of the dryness of the soil — I was fully satisfied we should not when we first put the Wire down & so told Wood — All things are now right mean time

I am in Haste

Yours Truly
Alvin E. Allen

E Cornell Esq
N.Y.

December the 14: 1848 portage

Dear Sir it is nescary for me to let you
know how I am geting a long on thes line I
have the poles raised to portage and the poles
dug to pike I would have Been to Chinne
only for the disapointment of poles I have
not Been Eable to work any on to this date Seeing
to the poles and treying to Get them oned
~~Mr~~ Mr Thomas contracted with Sherwood
to have ~~//~~ his on By the first of december
he did not get don or to the 8 of thes
months and we had to come from pike
to to munday to raise on his Job Mr
wilnor has failed also which has Been
more than $20 damage to me I hope you
will not pay eather of them to I see you
the poles is on as fare as pike
and I think we will not bee hindred any
more on the acount of poles when I
Started from dansvile I had 13 men But had
to Discharge 5 of them I would lik to have
more than 8 if my means would pamit I
got $50 in dansvile and $50 from Squire
Begly I have paid it ale out and is in a good
dale of imbarisment on that acount I would
wish to Be releived as fast as posible and
I thought you would have Been a long the
line Before this time nomore at preasent
But remaines yours James Bealey

C. Cornell ~~ap~~