Ithaca Aug 25. 1849

My Dear Alonzo

You have a young Brother here about 3 days old. He is a fine fellow and will soon want a situation in a Telegraph office, Your Mother is quite smart and would be glad of a visit from you, The rest of the family are in usual health; I expected to have gone to Cleveland to meet Speed when I again left home but circumstances seem to prevent I shall have to go to Newburgh to meet Hepburn of the O'Reilly tribe who is building a line of Paine Telegraph between Newburgh & Albany, and who has got "Speed" and proposes to Buy Morse's Patent, and connect with N.Y. & Erie as a side line, I shall remain no longer East than necessary to close the negotiation and then try to get out as far as Cleveland, and see what you are at and see if we can make a raise to get an other coin up between, Toledo & Cleveland—

Col Speed writes me that he will be to Cleveland in a day or two and I hope to get out there before he leaves—

Yours Affectionately

El Cossell

A. B. C.

West Lexington Aug 25th 1849

Dear Sir

Yours of the 20th just recieved I am sorry that you think me ~~incable~~ incapable taking charge of an office on your line. I know that my penmanship is not as good as it should be or as good as I would like to have it: But I think if you have a vacant place for an assistant in any office where there is not much writing for the assistant to do I would be glad to have it: I think that I should be entitled to it unless you think me entirely incapble of doing the business: as I supposed when I left home that I should go to work as soon as I reached New York or else I

should not of left home. as I could not afford to lose my time and pay my expense to New York and back which will cost me about thirty dollars. My board bill in new yorck was five dollars if you wish to pay it please send it here as soon as you receive this

Yours Respectfully

C. B. Chase

West Lexington Mt
Aug 24

5

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

Mr Cornell is not in city

I have just had half a ton of Zincs made which are better than we have seen before had. At 8¢ they charge us 9¢ per lb for all we have used. I can furnish them here at the same price, I have sent 3 Boxes to you 50 in each box - you can dispose of them at $11 - per box and add expense of getting them out. In future I can sell them in Cleveland at 9¢ per lb -

Let the Sandusky Cin Co have what they want also Jackson and wade -

E. Cornell

A.B. Cornell 27 Aug 1849

Lenox. Aug 27. 1849

Mr Cornell.

Dear Sir.

Yours is received but I am under the necessity of replying that I cannot consistently accept your proposal – You are aware Sir that the business of this office is small at best & when the line is in such a state that the public cannot depend upon it, as it has been, is now, & is likely to be for some time to come, you will readily admit that one half the net proceeds of the business of the office would be no compensation for the time & trouble of keeping the office – I had hoped the office would be a source of some little profit to me, & I am too poor to throw away my time – I shall consider the offer in your letter as the most liberal which the directors can afford to make me, until I hear from you again, & make my arrangements accordingly, for I must spend my time to better advantage than telegraphing at any such rate, & under such circumstances.

Respectfully yours,

Geo. Wells

Seneca Falls 28th Aug 1849

Dear Sir:

As I have made no engagement for the coming year, and understood that you were looking for an operator for my, I wrote to you to inquire if you thought you would like to employ me. If you do & and will pay me such wages as I can earn I will be happy to serve you, and think I can give you satisfaction.

Very Respectfully.
Your Obt Svt.
H. C. Hutchinson.

E Cornell
Newburgh

N. Adams, Mass. Aug 29/49

Mr. E. Cornell,

Dear Sir, Yours in reply to mine asking about advertising in connection with construction of BL & BS Telegraph line came duly to hand, but absence from home has prevented my answering before. Below is a copy of the charges

1848 July 20	To publish proceedings of meeting at Lenox and for 10 papers containing same, as per order	$2.50
Aug 3	To Advertise Notice for payment of Installments, 3 times	1.50
" 17	" " " of Meeting, 3 times	1.50
1849 Feb 20	" " " of completion of line, 3 times	1.00
		$6.50

If you can inform me who should pay this you will oblige me

Respectfully Yours
E. Chickering
Publisher of Weekly Transcript
N. Adams Mass.

McLean Aug. 29. 1849.

S. E. Cornell Esq

Dear Sir,

Before this reaches you will doubtless have learned the circumstances under which I left the C. S. & Poughkeepsie Tel. Line — I hope you will learn the particulars —

Your bro E. B. said something to me in reference to a line of Tel. from Ithaca to Syracuse — & one or 2 others he named which he said he would like to construct in connection with myself — I am now ready to enter into an arrangement of the kind with your bro or yourself — Will you be kind enough to let me hear from immediately — Meantime

I am Very Resp

S. F. Allen

Birmingham, Aug. 29. 1849.

Mr. Cornell,

Dear Sir, — In reply to yours of the 17th inst. I would state, that it would be utterly impossible for me to accept the proposition which you have made me to conduct the Telegraph office in this village. $300 would be a small remuneration, and I am confident, that if the line is to be conducted hereafter as it has been heretofore, that the office will not yield one half of that amount. Since the commencement of the line I have used every effort in my power, to push it ahead; spoken of it repeatedly in my paper, and laid out ready cash to the amount of $50, and as yet have received not a cent from the company. If the company will pay me for what I have expended for fitting up the office and carrying it on, with a reasonable compensation for my services, I will willingly yield the management of the office into other hands. There has been expended for the office $50, rent, light, fuel, &c $25 — some of it, money paid by you orders and my own services I value at $100, but if the Directors will allow me $150, covering

all expenses, not including my stock, it would be doing nothing more than is honorable & just. Trusting in your magnanimity and honorable feeling I submit the above proposition to the consideration of the company, hoping to hear from this decision at your earliest moment.

Truly and Respectfully

Yours Thos. M. Newson

P.S. My stock (one share) $50, can be purchased for $25.

Newburgh 8th Aug 1849

My Dear Friend

With Grief I learned last evening of your afflicting bereavement.

Having enjoyed the hospitalities of your "Forest Home" as presided over and disposed by your late amiable and accomplished Lady, I can appreciate your irreparable loss, and sympathise with you in the hours of mourning.

May her virtues & accomplishments descend upon her son, and be magnified in his expanding years as a solace for your afflictions.

With the best wishes for your health & happiness,

I remain yours
in affection

E Cornell

F. O. Johnson Esq
Forest Home
Westbrook
Maine

Copy of letter to
Mrs S--

Telegraph Office
North Adams, Mass, Aug 30, 1849

Dear Sir,

Your Circular of the 17th. inst. is recd. I have been delayed, by various causes, from writing before this. In relation to accepting one half the net rects. of the Office for my compensation hereafter, or for a time, I have to say that the rects. of this Office for 2 months past have barely paid expences, with the best economy I can use. They were 15.40 for July, and 18.00 for the Months, up to time of writing. In the above statement of expences I have said nothing of Salary. That you will see hereafter has been small at the best. When I took charge of the Office in Feby. last, I found quite an amount of debts against the Co. and paid some of them, but found I could not, with my rects, pay them. I found also, that a number of accounts had been presented my predecessor, and payment refused, "for want of funds"; by which the credit of the line was lost. Now, if anything is done to the line it is charged directly to me. I am now attending to Wire breaking, falling of Poles, &c. I have some Bills of that description to pay, and must depend upon the rects. to pay them. So that with expenses on the line (30 miles,) and office expenses, I have to use close mangement to get along. My office expenses are paid at once, and entered in the monthly Report; but expenses on line, occurring once in two or three days, are kept in open Account, & pay in, 2 or 3 dolls. at a time, as I have the means. There is now charged to me — Bill for Mending Wire about $3.00, resetting Poles $1.50, Horse hire 7 or 8 dolls making about $12, which must be paid in two or three months ——

Now if you have had the patience to wade thro' what I have on the other side written, I will say a few words about what, on this Line, has been called Salary.

During ~~the~~ Seven months service, I have charged myself with ——————————— $44.
but there is 7 months Rent $30 pr year, lus, — 17.50
So my actual pay for 7 months has been — $26.50 cts
about 3.75 cts. per month.

You will think, I believe, that 3.75 will hardly be worth dividing. The Rects. for the winter months were larger; but out of the 7 months, I was attentive to the drafts of the Trustees so that my pay has ~~only~~ been taken from only 4 of them. But the worst of all is, I am losing business for want of an operator at Bridgeport; for example:

The Charge to N.Y. was .50 — now 87 cts.
to Boston " 50 — now 1.37 "

But I have done receiving communications to Boston, as I dont know whether they get there or not; ~~for~~ after repeated trials I cant get an answer, so rather "guess" they dont.

Another description of Bills (which I have before alluded to,) have been presented to me, which you will find on next page.

C. Munn, Cleaning Machine	1.00
Burlingame Bill for Chemicals (when office 1st opened	2.88
Leonards " Turning Pins for Poles	8.75
Davis " for Board when putting up Wires	3.50
Chickering " Printing for Tel. Co.	6.50
S. Bacon " for Services at Bridgeport &c	40.00
Coleporis " for Trimming Trees p your order	3.00
	$ 65.63

To which my Bill added, is

7 Months Services as Operator,	155.00	
I have rec'd.	44.00	
Making		111.00
To Rent 7 Months Rent to 1st Sept.		17.50
		$ 294.13

Most of the above are impatient for their pay; but if there has been any Operator less patient than I have, I have yet to learn where he is. I shall be willing and pleased to operate on this Line, but must have some prospect of payment sometime, more than I have seen yet. And my Bill as above, for Services (ballance) $112.00, and $17.50 for Rent, must be paid, before I can consent to give my time and room-rent for the purpose. On second consideration, if you will send me $100.00 I will give the ballance to the Line; on the rect. of that sum, I will sacrifice as much as any other Operator, and I have already paid more money over, in proportion to rects., than any other Office. I am hurried by Mail leaving soon, which must be apology for apparent carelessness in writing a portion of this. Hoping to hear from you soon, and with much Respect, Yours &c

Wm. P. Brayton
Operator

Elmira August 30th 1849

Ezra Cornell Esq

Dear Sir.

Your favour of the 24th was duly received which I laid before a meeting of the Directors yesterday. The directors are well convinced that no design is entertained of a speculation on the part of any one, and are sensible of your liberality in the offers made in your last communication. But they thought it would be prudent to discharge their duties in a manner that no opportunity could be found for censure from any quarter hereafter.

The Directors are desirous to have you rebuild the line, knowing that you could do it cheaper than any one else, and passed the following resolution

"Resolved: that Ezra Cornell be empowered to rebuild the Ithaca & Elmira Telegraph line, in such a manner as he shall deem necessary for its business operations, limiting the expense to a sum not exceeding 25 per cent on its original cost."

The Directors pledge themselves to raise 25 per cent (if that sum is necessary for this proposition) on the stock originally held by the various stock holders except the $1600.00 originally held by Mess Cornell & Eddy; within ten days after the line is put in working order, if within that time they can give the 30 days notice to stock holders, otherwise within ten days after the 30 days notice has expired

I was also directed to request you to send to the

Directors the bill of sale of the copper wire, and also a bill of items of the indebtedness of the company, which will audit them at their next meeting.

I think that most of our citizens feel an interest in having the line rebuilt, and the majority of stockholders will pay their assessment. In all cases where they do not, the Directors have power to forfeit their stock, and citizens enough can be found to take it for the assessment.

If you accept our proposition to rebuild the line, please inform me at your earliest leasure how soon the line will probably be completed, that we can make our arrangements for raising the money accordingly.

Very Truly Yours
L. S. Bush Secy
by order of the Directors

L. S. Bush
Thurman
Sc Reply

New York Aug 31. 1849

E Cornell Esqr
Ithaca

Dear Sir

I telegraphed you a few days ago for the names of the persons who had the superintendence of the building of the Erie Line on the East side of the North River. My object in doing so, is to find out from them how Norton's men set the poles on the line he contracted to build. Mr Nutter must know something about it, as he was building your line at the same time. I wish to obtain all the information possible on the subject previous to the meeting of the Committee. I wish you would write to him to give me in writing all the facts he may have on the subject. I have an "inkling" that the poles have not been set five feet deep, and side it. the tops have been sawed off. I have been told by persons living on the ground, that the holes ran from 2½ to 3½ feet deep. It is important that I should find out these things, and I think you can help me, and what is done must

be sure Sam, You must see the bearing it will have on Certain persons who pretend to be so very honest,

Let me hear from you soon

Yours truly

Thos M Clark

T. M. Clark
31. Aug 1849

Litchfield Telegraph Office
Sept 1st 1849

Dear Sir —

Yours of the 27th was duly rec'd. In reply to your request that I should make "such suggestions" &c &c — the first suggestion I would make would be to put some good man in Bridgeport Office instanter — It is ruinous to the interest of the Company to have that Office closed — and the next that if T. O. J. Smith — would not put an Opr there that knew his business and would give us a fair chance to get things to N.Y. within a time than the mails would carry — I would suggest that some arrangement be made with one of the two other Lines passing through that place — to do our business & in the contract that it should be done promptly. People will not Telegraph if they cannot do so — and I tell you the fact — that for the last three or four months we have not been able to send to N.Y. & get answer in the same day I believe not in a single instance — even when sent from here at 8 a.m. Now what is the use of such kind of Telegraphing as that? It is only imposing on one

employers - and those that have been imposed upon in this way a few times - have left us altogether - the fact is we have lost all our early & best patrons - by the damnable way in which business has been managed I do not know where fault it is - nor do I care - that there has been gross mismanagement somewhere I do know - in fact I believe the whole management for the last three or four months has been in the hands of the Operators - and they - no authority to act, and of course nothing done -

My next suggestion is that suit be commenced against all delinquent subscribers - forthwith - give them a touch of U.S. Circuit Court, and I think you will get your money in a better way than asking Operators to work for nothing - till the deficiency is made up - & my last suggestion and one that should be first acted upon is that the line be extended through to N.Y. immediately or as soon as practicable - give us direct communication with that City, and remedy the other difficulties spoken off - and my word for it - your line will feel the effect instantly - and in time be a profitable concern - And now as to terms "on which I can Co operate with the Co" it seems almost useless to make any - You cannot

afford to pay much — I cannot afford to do it for what you can give — Long long before this some one authorised to act should have visited every office and made contracts with Operators. It is now seven months that I have been in the Office — and the only person that has ever said the first word to me about it is McKenney & Power & neither of them were authorised to say very much or very little — I will assure you that had I known how things were to be managed as well as I do now — you would never heard from me as Opr. in Li. Office — As it is — I consider my claim as good against you as Mr Furman or any other — and shall hold on to what I have until some-one that is responsible — will become responsible to me for past services — The Notes — now endorsed payable to me as such I collected them — and as my own I shall keep the avails until I am paid — or a promise to pay from some-one balances my claim — and the only terms I have to propose are which I will continue in charge is $150 per year — and that only until this arrangement — this the Company could well afford to have paid me & can yet — if the defects in the business management of the Line are speedily & promptly remedied

E. Cornell Esq. N.Y.

Yours truly A. S. Lewis

A. S. Lewis
Sept 11 1861

"daily report" for Room Rent to
but do not get it

Z. Lewis Esq
Cor 4 Pine St
N. Y. City

Mr Chas Ellis Esq

About raising money for daily
report — We have not had "daily
report" — or any other "report" since
last Winter — Harrington of Bun-
-ington refuses to connect — so
we are cut off from that &
Messrs Baldwin are to have

All Communications strictly confidential.

Office of the New York and Erie Telegraph,

Office, Second-st., under United States Hotel.

Newburg, Sept 3 1849

By Telegraph from

To Cleveland to E Cornell

Sir I want you to send me 40# Mr Place best inst as quick as possible – as we want to use them immediately. Send such as you sent to E & M – Pl Co when first opened –

Tower Jackson

Madison to E Cornell

I remitted from Galena 3# on Ny for 600 – & shall remit $1000 – on my arrival at Milwaukee on Sunday or Tuesday next – if you have forwarded the wire and caps ordered to Towson & 10 gross caps – please advise if draft is rec –

E W Hatchlip

Sept 3rd 1849

E. Cornell. Cayuga Bridge.

I intended to start for the Chenango Valley to day, my wife has been quite ill for four days and I cannot leave untill she is better.

D. T. Pillotson.

Free.

I do hereby agree to Let to the N.Y. & Erie Telegraph Co the Front Room with privilege in the Rear attic of Building No 26 Water Street for the sum of Forty five dollars per annum from date of this agreement to the First day of May Eighteen Hundred and Fifty with privilege of Leasing the same thereafter at an Annual Rent not to exceede the sum of Fifty dollars per annum

Charles Halstead Jr.

Newburgh Sept 3. 1849

Halstead Jr.

Great Barrington Mass
September 3. 1849

Ezra Cornell, Esq

Dear Sir

Enclosed we send you a small bill against the Ot & Att Telegraph Co. for advertising. It has been sent to Mr Graham the Treasurer, and he received in reply that he had no funds in his hands, but that he would present the bill to you when it would be adjusted. We have since heard nothing from it, and we therefore forward it to you. hoping it may be satisfactorily adjusted immediately

Respectfully Your
Cushing & Bogan
Publishers Berkshire Courier

West Cornwall Sept 2d 1849

Mr E Cornell

Yours of the 17th Augt was received in due course of Mail – I find that there is one Bill due one man for Poles I saw him on Saturday and his Bill is for 63 Poles at 40 cts each 25.20 which is all the claims I know of at this place I told this claimant that I would write to you about it and secure for him an early settlement of his claim – he says he thinks he will cut them down unless they pay him soon I think he will not do that yet he should be paid as soon as any thing can be collected –

In regard to the proposition to compensate the Operators by ½ the nett proceeds of their office had I such an office as Litchfield I should consider it a fair compensation – but with my office it costs as much to keep it in working order as any and although there is not as much time spent in it as as in most of the other offices yet what time is spent there is lost time because my business is such that I can seldom find any thing else to do while staying my hours there –

If the the line were put in working order to N Y and a faithfull & economical Operator

in each Office - I should be willing to take my share of it the nett proceeds of the whole line divided equally among the Opperators - I suppose that such a course would hardly support the Office at Bridgeport or New York and that some other provision would have to be made for them. I think that an Office like Litchfield or Salsbury would be fully compensated by the ~~course~~ plan you proposed for the Opr at Litchfield told me he had taken 25$ in one day at his Office and it strikes me that with the line completed to N Y such an Office would on the plan proposed by you afford abundant compensation to the Opr

I sent you a paper from the Republican Office at Litchfield which contained an extract from your letter which with the accompanying remarks show a great want of interest in the success of the company and a total disregard to the feelings of the writer of that letter and certainly an uncalled for exposition of the affairs of the company

It seems to me if there is an Opr on the line that is benefited by the Office he holds it is one of the Opr at Litchfield Geo Baldwin is one of the publishers of the Litchfield Republican and gets the latest news by Telegraph free of any charge

which in the hands of an other man would become a source of revenue to the company —

at our annual election in April last I had a number of Gentlemen in my Office waiting to get the news from Hartford and such other places that we could hear from they had contributed $3.50 for the purpose and after as King Litchfield about the news so far as he had heard and telling him all I knew of the election around me — I heard Birmingham ask Bridgeport for the news from Hartford and Bridgeport says I am going to send it to Litchfield and you must take it off them and after that I could hear nothing more from any one South Litchfield put on his ground wire & cut me off so that ~~my~~ those who had paid for telegraphic facilities were cut off and were much disappointed by it — they have never attempted to trim the line on each side of them even now within a few steps of their office the wire is woven in between the branches of a tree where 3 forks branch out from the same limb making as good a connection with the tree as could be made I did not intend to file a bill of complaints against the Office at Litchfield but I have seen so many things which indicate a want interest in the Co's welfare that I could not refrain from speaking of some of them and indeed I was

directed to do so by some of the Stockholders here — inform me for not writing sooner and accept assurances of my regard

Yours

Hartford Foster

Newburgh Sept 3. 1849

Dear Sir

The Pirats in this quarter has hauled down the black flagg, and promis in future to become law abiding citizens Saturday I closed a bargain with them making a sail of Morses patent for the line they had built from Newburgh to Albany on which they proposed to use Bains patent which they had also purchased supposing they could use it.

Some of the Gamer one in the list of Stockholders fell chop fallen as they had been made to belive that Bains was the only system that was good for any thing or at least that it was decidedly superior to Morses — and now to pay along price for "Morses infernal" concern they could not understand it, but those who had got further in the book felt well pleased to see the mountain of trouble thus removed from their path, I shall go from here to Buffalo or Cleveland

to next Sprg

I hope you will collect all the funds you can on the Sa & P line as. I have a draft of $700 for that sum to pay the 17th of this mo.

Are you ready to take hold the subscriptions on the Binghamton & Utica line

Yours Respectfully
E. Cornell

D T Tillotson Esq

COMMUNICATIONS CONFIDENTIAL.

SPEED'S
ERIE AND MICHIGAN TELEGRAPH LINE.

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

Communications must be Pre-paid.

Buffalo, Sept 14th 1849, 6 o'clock, P. M.

By Telegraph from Milwaukee

To E Cornell

In Communication with

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

Sinclairville, Warren, Pike, Nunda, Dansville, Jefferson, Ithaca, Owego, Binghampton, Montrose, Honesdale, Middletown, Goshen, Newburg.

Communications for the Canadas, and to other stations, East, South, and West, will receive prompt attention.

Do boxes shipped? I need them = Send 2 hundred receipt for four hundred dollars that I sent you as they are shipping us the fire

Hotchkiss & Powers

DR

Rochester Sept 4th 1849

Mr Cornell.

Dear Sir

I understand from Mr Porter Supt of the N.Y. & Buffalo Line, that you are in want of an operator at Newburgh, also a copyist at New-York. I am out of business at the present time, and if acceptable would be glad of the situation, I spose Mr Porter's recommend will be sufficient, if not I can get recommends from any of the business men of this city, who are acquainted with me, as to my character & capability.

I wrote Mr I. I. Speed at Detroit last fall, & rec'd an answer from him, which was very favorable, I have not heard a word from him since that time, but in all probability, he has forgotten all about the matter.

I was advised to write you by Mr Allen Operator in this office, please write me at your earliest convenience, & in the meantime —

I remain as ever.

Respectfully Yours

Jno E. Dennison

COMMUNICATIONS CONFIDENTIAL.

SPEED'S
ERIE AND MICHIGAN TELEGRAPH LINE.

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

Communications must be Pre-paid.

Buffalo, September 5 1849, o'clock, P. M

By Telegraph from Ithaca

To O. Cornell

In Communication with

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

Sinclairville, Warren, Pike, Nunda, Dansville, Jefferson, Ithaca, Owego, Binghampton, Montrose, Honesdale, Middletown, Goshen, Newburg.

Communications for the Canadas, and to other stations, East, South, and West, will receive prompt attention.

Yours of 5th received = Write a letter describing the Bain transaction on Albany & Newburg line & send me = can use it My family about the same = cannot leave them yet

D. D. Lillottson

G. Barrington Sept 5th 1849

E Cornell Esq

Dear Sir I recd your favor of the 3d inst last night. You take my language in rather too comprehensive a meaning. I did not intend to say I thought you ought not to complain because some subscribers to the Line refused to pay - for the reason that the subscriptions were obtained by your authorized Agent - but that I thought your Operators ought not to suffer in consequence. My assertion in relation to the Stock was intended to be confined to this village and the plain statement of the case is this. Instead of being $1000 due in this village there is but $900 subscribed that has not been paid & $500 of that was subscribed by a person who died before the Line went into operation & whose estate was never administered upon as far as I know. That amt was never calculated upon by your Agent or the Trustees I believe after you began operations. The remaining $400 with the exception of $50 was subscribed by good responsible men who are abundantly able to pay - & if the contract under which they subscribed is fulfilled on your part - there is no difficulty as I can see in compelling them to pay. The $50 mentioned above - I have always understood Mr Allen & Mr Power to say they did not expect

would be paid & I think the subscriber has not been called upon to pay & probably understands that he is not to pay.

The charge of "bad faith" which you think I made against you was not one of my own - but I said some of the subscribers complained of it. If the promise to give this Line a direct connection with N. York was not specific in direct terms the subscribers in this village understood that arrangement had been made to that effect & also that measures were in a train to unite this & the Bay & Montreal Line so as to secure the through business, and under this impression many of them acted. In my communication I alluded to this feeling and said some complained of bad faith because that arrangement was not only not carried out but that even the necessary office in Bridgeport was closed. I must still think that if a direct connection had been furnished to N. York it would have been vastly easier to make the collections from those subscribers who delayed paying until the completion of the Line. To sum up all then in regard to the subscriptions my deliberate opinion is that the Co when formed - I say when formed - for is it organized when the subscribers are not stockholders? - will have the power & will be clearly justifiable in enforcing payment on all back

subscriptions with the exception of a few irresponsible subscribers & the amount subscribed in Waterbury. Who is to assume those subscriptions I have excepted if they were turned over to the Trustees as bona fide subscriptions – is a matter that I dont pretend to decide

As you invite suggestions in regard to the business of this Line you may have my opinion gratuitously I think you should go along the Line and make the best arangement with the operators you can & now perhaps is the best time as the business must be at its lowest ebb – that you should establish an efficient office in Bridgeport & make arangement with some one of the three lines that pass through there for the transmission of our business – & that if you cannot devote your own time to see to the affairs of this line you should ~~a~~ authorize some operator on it in whom you have confidence to see to ~~its affairs~~ for I am heartily sick of working a line that has no head to it.

You ask me to "suggest some terms within the reach of the company" on which I will retain my office. I told Mr Clapp of Salisbury one of the Directors that for the present I would continue it for the rents after paying the expenses, but that is not to be considered a permanent arangement.

Respectfully Yours Theodore Dewey

BREAKBARRIAGE
SEP
5
1
1871

O Connell Esq
Ithaca
N. Y.

N. Bennet
Esq Hamilton
N. York

Dr Sir

Troy Septr 5. 1849

The last instalment due for your subscription is this day due. Mr Pistol told me that when you was called on by him for the two first that you said it was not then convenient to pay but would in a few days - Since then Mr Hutchinson informed me that you refused to pay and said all ought to do so - I have incurred liabilities on the strength of your and other subscription and have fulfilled my contract and must collect the subscriptions - If it will be any accomodation to you to send me your Note at 4 Mo. on interest from this date payable at some Bank I can use it, but if you still refuse to pay I must proceed in a different manner to collect it. Hope to hear from you on receipt thereof.

Very respectfully &c
E. Cornell by his
atty. D. T. Dillotson

Hon. W. A. Jackett

Conn & Vt Telegraph Co Dr
To Joseph St Clair

For Operating at Pittsfield from Dec 5th 1848 Sept 5th 1849 39 weeks @ $7.00 per $273.00

By Cash at various times as per reports $76.83
Bale due $196.17

Pittsfield 5th Sept 1849.

Mr Cornell Sir

Above please find bill for oper from the opening of the line to date. At the 1st Sept I handed W & Power a bill from the 5th Dec/48 to that time the above bill includes that amt. Enclosed please find bills which have been handed me with request that they might be given to you. Also a man on South Adams a man has bill for posts of the amt of $5.00. Wm S Backus of this place has a bill (contracted by W & P.) of I believe some 5.00. Allen

& Son this place have bill for Stationary & printing for W H P. The amt I do not know These are all the bills G H Mead has Bill for Glazing. Amt Not Known Geo Goodrich has bill for rent which I believe he takes in Stock These are all the bills I think of against the Co except some small amt by J. A. Butler & Son for Soldering platinas &c which I shall settle at my own expense I close the Office in this place this day as you write you cannot give me the Amt stated in my last Please inform me what is the prospect of my getting the Amt of my bill if I hold on for I do not wish to force measures if by waiting a reasonable time it can be paid without inconveniencing the Co

By answering as soon as possible you will very much oblige

Yours Respy

J. H. Olds

To E Lemuel Esq
Ithaca N.Y.

Buffalo 6th Sept 1849

Dear Sir

Enclosed I send you the note signed by Mr Cornell & myself - Hope you can get the money on it and send $100 to Detroit office for Wood -

Mr Cornell thinks we had better buy our wire in Ny. except what we can get by paying a part stock - Hope you can get the 1800 dolls. worth as you proposed at Wheeling: but where we have to pay all cash we had better get it in Ny. as Mr C can get 1/4 or 1/4 of all he buys and pay in stock - I will go from here back to Cleveland, and get the Genesee line under way - Lee has not yet returned - expect him in a few days & if he can induce his subscribers to consent to change the route from Terre Haute to Cin. I think it advisable to do so, but cannot tell 'till I see Lee.

Yours truly J J Speed Jr

If you should be lucky enough to get $1000 which you can send to Ny. for wire, send it to Mills & Co No 10 Wall St. to be credited to I Coonce - Mr Connell says put on second wire if you can get the rocks to do so, and extend it to this city, so as to write to this place and to Fredonia in one circuit. The Ny & E line is now working in one circuit from Fredonia to Ny. and by using Connell's "switch" we can write from cin to Ny without any recording - wont we pile ~~up~~ Click

Yours
D. B. Hay

1257.78
1364.58
18.7.18

[illegible]

111
111
3386.89
18.7.18
4171

Buffalo 7 Sept 1849

Dear Sir

I think you took my letter to Wade. At any rate it was on the table in the evening and I could not find it after you left, I enclosed the other note you signed to Wade, and if you have the note in my letter send it back to AB & Co or tear it up.

I went to work this morning to see where I could rent an office for our up town & Cincinnati offices. I have just closed a bargain for the most splendid room for our use in this City — over Olivin Lee's Bank — on the corner opposite the Mansion House. I pay $125. p. yr. — you will say a big rent, but the location is precisely right and the rent can be made up four or five times over in the transient customs we will get, as everybody will have to pass our office, to get to Hartons and O'Rilly — I am delighted with the bargain, and if we can

do want to fight Hayton, we will be exactly in the right place to do it to the very best advantage. I take a lease for 4½ years or until 1st May 1854 — and after the 1st May 1852 I have a small room addition to the large one on the corner that will rent for 50 to 75 dolls per year for a Law office. The lawyer now in it pays $65 — and has a lease until May 1852 — I had to make sundry swaps to effect; but the bargain is concluded, and the lease is to be signed by the owner of the building tomorrow morning at half past 8 o'clk — I expect to close the matter so as to take the boat to Fairmonia at 9 o'clk — You will find that we will give the Pirates a hard run of custom for the transient, as well as the dock business of this burg —

Your truly

J. J. Speed Jr

J. J. Speed Jr
Sept 5 1851

Office of the New York, Albany & Buffalo Telegraph Co.

UTICA, Sept 8 1849

Copy of a Resolution passed at a Meeting of the Board of Directors of the above Company on 3d September 1849.—

Resolved, that the matter of the account of the Company with E. Cornell be committed to the president, with power to employ counsel, and take legal measures for its settlement.

Utica Sept. 8. 1849

E. Cornell Esq.

Sir,

Above I hand you a Copy of a Resolution passed by the Board at their last meeting, after a full examination of the subject.

I have thought proper to forward to you a Copy of the Resolution, and at same time remark that I still am disposed to meet you at such time and place as you may deem proper, and make an effort for an amicable settlement of our account. And I do this under a full belief that the Company is in possession of

Sufficient documentary Evidence to enable them to recover their claim from you.

An answer at your earliest convenience will oblige.

Yours Respectfully N. Patton Pres

T. C. Hunter
8 Sept 1891

Sheboygan Sept 10th 1849

Mr E. Cornell

Dear sir

Your communications have been received by Telegraph stating that you was getting wire from Thomas & Co. and they would continue to send as long as any one they knew would stand in the Gap I wrote or Telegraphed you to send wire & C. and I would remit you 1000$ I should have done so but my partner in the western line was taken ill and not much of a disposition to leave his home in Cholera times he did not go out to collect nor do any thing so it cut me short in my calculations but we like the arrangement to have wire shipped to Alex Mitchell of Milwaukee I have paid him for what wire has arrived and it is going on between Madison & Galena I had a thorough fight with the pirates to get the stock taken through they lied and told all sorts of stories but believe me where I can have an equal chance and the truth on my side I am more than a match for any thing that walks on this side the Lake no boasting but money is very scarce and I have very hard work to collect the stock after it is subscribed I should have sent you $200 that I had collected on that part of the line that Wilson superintended

but Col. Speed wrote me to pay that draft of
Mr Place's it had come to hand I paid that you
may depend that I shall be true to your interests
and throughout in those collections and the money so
collected shall take its proper direction I doubt whether
there can enough realized out of those dues to
pay for what wire you sent him last fall
but I will account for all that passes into my
hands I shall remit every time I get even 100 to you
on those old assets I hope you have forwarded those
Caps I asked you to forward 30 gross inch hole caps
I shall want 10 gross more sent as soon as they
can be made all the wire we have received
has been forwarded through Thomas & Co and
from what I can learn that is our best channel for we
want to pay as we go that there shall be no old
debt left unpaid I do not shall have a hard time on this
Green Bay route to get cash enough to build the
line I hear that one of R. Riley's agents is
in the Green Bay country a trying to get up stock
claiming that they have the exclusive right to
Wisconsin I am on my way to give him an Irish
hoist a peg lower his name is Daily I have some
$600 of my own money sent on from Michigan that
I shall use to pay for materials if I cannot get
along without I shall commence to put on the
wire from Milwaukee to Fondulac about the 20th
if those Caps have come I want Thomas & Co

to forward me at least 25 tons of wire in all to Milwaukee and it shall be paid for in N. York City funds promptly those platenuns if they are not sent I wanted 60 and 100 pounds cufes and 2 doz of those Directory pamphlets for all Telegraphs and any Court decisions that you may be in posseson of that you can spare I want them that I may war against the pirates successfully I shall hope to come to Ithica in October next send these small articles by express if you turned that 400$ draft that I sent you expecting you had sent wire over to Thomas & Co I will remit you at sight as per bill for these little articles Col Speed writes he has been sick but is now better I am glad I want to assist in putting this whole Country in a net work of Telegraph lines Mr D. P. Powers my partner in the Galena line has resigned his presidency the Directors say I must take his place and the Superintendence of that line as I am deeply interested in the stock and wish to make it popular and a paying stock I must take hold of that and go it right & left the Cholera has nearly left this State but there has been many deaths & I should have deserted from business and travelling but I could not my life in one hand and interests and engagements in the other I have trabelled some 700 miles per month through thick and thin

Thus you will see that I ought to have some reward for my toil, the times improve a little and as money circulates I mean to get some share of the shining dust but the height of my ambition is to get the lines and get them working well and paid for before I go to any new field of labour and thus I am bound to do we have no leaky vessels about now the Gen is doing well in Washington he returned to S. P. a few days since but only stayed over night I have his bills that was made for almost every thing presented to me and all that I am convinced was for the Tel. line I pay as fast as line earns money and out of my own pocket to do so as to redeem the lost confidence he had his furniture attached and sold when he undertook to remove with his family I was sorry although he had been so reckless with your money, I have the hard part of the work to do to redeem but we shall bury all things right I hope yet please write me often and I will reply I have written to J Burnett & Son to send 10 machines of the most improved, with five spare coils to put into relays all without weights but the pulley wheels this is a curious letter visiting & business all mixed up

Your most Obl. Servt. S. W. Hatchkiss

S. W. Hatchkiss
10. Sept
My address Milwaukee

New York Sept. 10, 1849

E. Cornell Esq

Dear Sir

Your favor of the 5th instant covering a notice of a Telegraphic meeting was duly rec'd — It will be impossible for me to visit Ithaca at that time — If I do not see you here before the 1st I will send you my proxy — I am quite disappointed in not receiving the amount due the new Company from you — It is now more than 6 months since the last was delivered to you — I was only induced to the supposition that I was making a Cash trade that I was induced to agree to take Stock for any portion of the work — If you cannot remit me the amount my due I wish you would send me a draft, and the balance in your notes due in the course of 30 days — If I can not have the money I want some short paper upon which I can raise the money as I have a large amount to pay for the Boiler Co in the next 30 days

Yours very Respectfully
Charles Ely

10 SEP 1849

E Cornell Esq
Ithaca
N Y

Oliver Edy –
10 Sept 1849