Granville Apr 16th 1850

E Cornell Esq

Dear Sir

You asked me last week if I would be in Ithaca soon. and I then thought I should. But I find it will not be safe for me to leave this man in charge of this Office as soon as I expected. I have been here now nearly a month. and he has been practicing nearly that length of time. but no one can take this Office, with its business and main battery, and be able to go on with it successfully, in that length of time. I have him so he can send a communication to any of the Offices near by, but not at a distance. However I think in about two weeks more I can qualify him for the station. so he will make you no trouble in future. But if you think best for me to leave before that time of course I will do so. — We want another carboy of Nitric acid. Since you sent the

first the Nenda office has been supplied from here and we are out and must have more soon or our main battery is down. During my stay ~~are~~ in this office, there has been no waste of acid. We want a supply of Telegraph paper also — What are your intentions with regard to me if you have any. Please reply to this and much oblige ~~you~~ Yours Very

Respectfully
P. A. Hopkins

DANSVILLE N.Y. APR 17

10

E Cornell Esq
N S & Erie Telegraph Off
5 Hanover St
N York

pd 11 4
R

P. Watkins
16 Apr 1837

Apl 17 - 12 8½ ock - I came to Bu last
Eve from Ia line worked will from Ny to
Ow at 8.30 when I ar^d at Bu Ofs - Ia could
not be raised - I took one message from Ny for
west and called Ia from 8.45 to 9 k, but
could get no ans. at this moment I
find - Ro repeating cours to Ia, which
he rec^d yesterday. -

Apl 17-50 Operation
of Sine

Ithaca April 17th 1850

E Cornell

Sir.

Please take notice that an adjourned meeting of the directors of the "New York & Erie Telegraph Association" will be held at the office of the Association No 70 Owego St Ithaca on thursday the second day of May 1850 at 9 O'clock A.M.

Your presence is particularly requested as business of importance will come before the meeting

M. L. Wood Sec'y

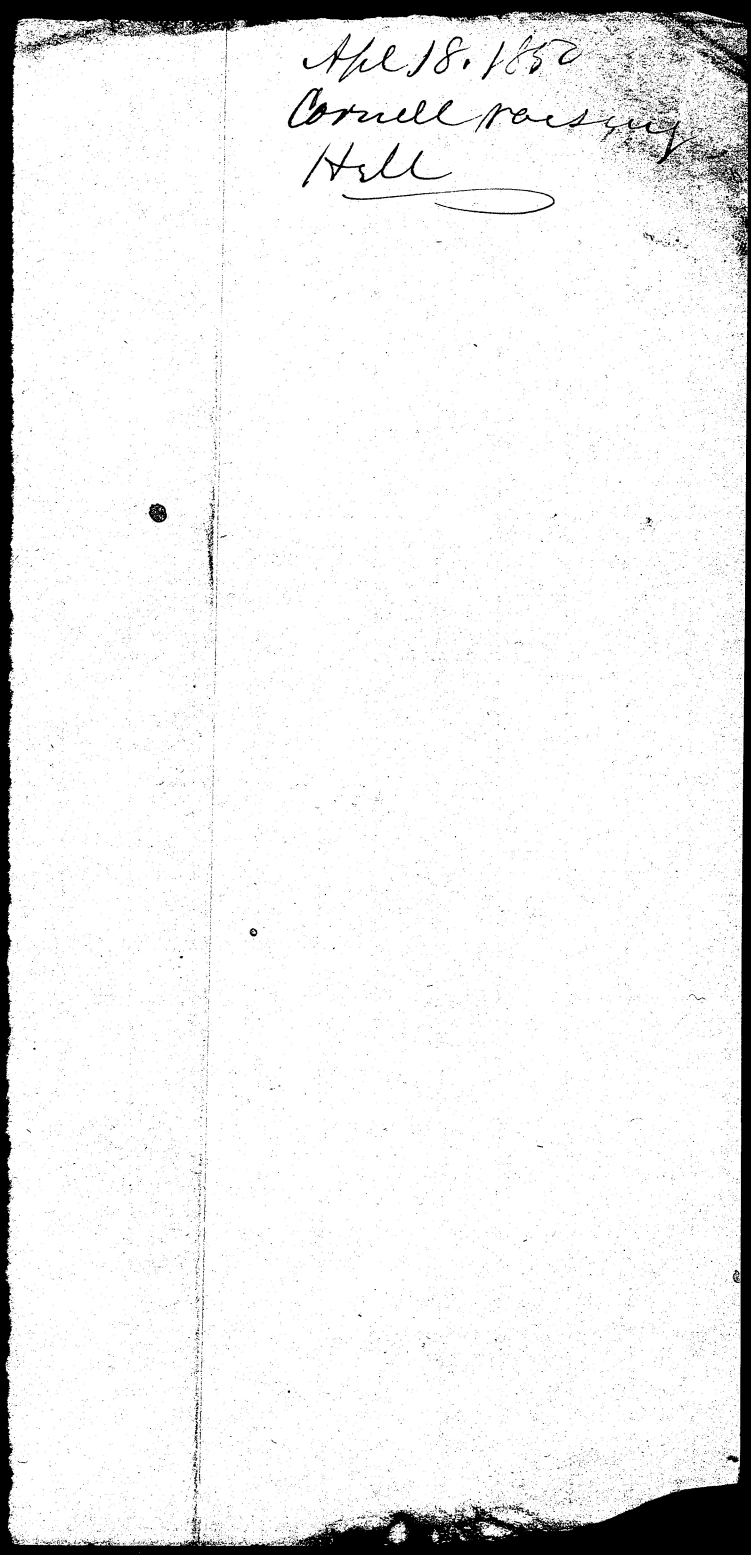
E. Cornell President

ITHACA
17
APR
N.Y.

E. Connell Esq
Telegraph Office
Binghamton
N.Y.

Ithaca, April 17, 1852

Dout East — We are all right to here
and not able any farther but pres-
ume Cornell is raising hell — sig Ia
I.J.J.J.J.J. M.L. — To Ia will you tell me
~~is a~~ 18 east, dam it was I at the east I
would raise the Devil
Apl 18. 1850



Apl 18. 1850
Cornell raising
Hall

Cincinnati April 18th 1850

Friend Cornell:—

Your message asking for tariffs came a long time since, but I forgot it in the hurry of moving &c. Please excuse the delay. The only southern tariff I have is the Morse Lines. The O'Reilly Line have no printed tariff, and although they have promised me a copy several times, I never can get one. We are in our new office and can do business quick for you, I think. Hope we shall write through soon. Wade does not think best to make that display in front of the office, which it seems to me necessary to draw custom — so I fear we shall not get much business just yet. However I hope we shall have more soon. What tariff shall we charge on messages for Saxon's Line? — to Albany &c? My Rps to Lake Bhoys

Yours truly

A. B. Cornell Esq[r] Charles M. Stebbins

Cleveland O April 20. 1850.

My Dear Father.

Your very kind favor of the 16th inst reached me last evening and I hasten to reply at my earliest leisure, I am much gratified to learn that you are all enjoying good health at home, I can also inform you that my health was never better in this world than it is now & has been in fact all the winter & spring. This buckeye country seems to agree with me exceedingly well as well as the confinement of my office.

I am very sorry to hear that you are so plagued in your money matters. Though it is not very much to be wondered at considering from whence you expect money, I am told by business men here that they have not for ten years past seen such hard times at it has been for the last year in this state and vicinity — Mr Nash is now here and he will return to Columbus in a day or two. He says he will send you the balance due from him in the course of a few days. Speed's resources seem to be very limited, and by his conversation I should think that he did

not expect to help you any right away. He seems bent on putting up the new line from here to Buffalo and if he does that now it will be all he will be able to command funds for. For at least four months. I know nothing about Rews nor Hutchkiss' resources or prospects - but I should think Lee would be able to do something for you pretty soon. You had better write to him I should think at Terre Haute, Ind. I shall also write him in a few days and will mention your wants -

I cannot tell exactly about the Zinc, but one thing I am very certain of I have not got money enough for them to pay the freight or but little more. I will however try to collect what is due & furnish you with an a/c of them in a few days - I will also let you know definitely about my own finances in a few days - I do not know exactly & I have not time to look it up today.

The Cincinnati line works very well from here to Columbus without repeating & from Col to Cin - about thirty miles limestone Cars between here & Col & about forty miles between Col & Cin. They are doing a very good business

now and it is improving every day, and it will be double what it is now in the course of two months. I think without doubt, they have taken no newyork business at Cin yet but will now as we send over your line & Faxtons too,

Jacksons line works pretty well now but there is no business on it, & it never can be worth anything. The Kent line works miserably but we shall have the caps changed on that line soon & it will do well I think.

We have tried the Sulphate of copper battery & it far exceeds our expectations. We put up a local ~~with the~~ battery of that kind monday pm last of two cups & now it works as well as it did the day it was put up. five days old & not even having been taken down night. yesterday I put up a main battery & it words with the Grove battery at Detroit well. today we will have one of ~~these~~ new kind up at ~~the~~ Detroit & we will fairly test it. I will write you soon fully, & report upon batteries,, My opinion is it is going to be a grand stroke for us, My love to all.

Your Affectionate Son

A. B. Cornell

Salisbury Ct. April 20th 1850

E. Cornell Esq

Dear Sir

Yours of April 15th was duly rec'd & I have this morning forwarded by Express to New York as per your direction one Relay it being the only extra instrument of any sort in this Office

With regard to the Connecticut & Vermont Telegraph Line I can only say that it is not in operation south of Lee Ms & that the wires between here & Stockbridge are very badly broken. Our people feel disappointed and chagrined at the result of the enterprise but do not know what can be done

Respectfully Yours

M. L. Graham

M. L. Graham
20 April 1870

Telegraph Office Mineral Point Wis
April 22d 1850

Sir

Much complaint is made in this place by persons having busines to do on the Telegraph Line between this place and New York, on account of the inattention, on the part of those whose busines it is to deliver Telegraphic Communications in your city. Several Communications have been sent to busines men in New York, from this place, requiring immediate answers, and upon enquiring the reason why answers were not sent, I have been informed by the N.Y Office, that the persons to whom they were addressed, could not be found.

This to me appears very Strange, as many of them were sent to persons who had both sent and rec'd Coms. before between the two offices. To show you the grounds of Complaint, I will mention a few Cases;-

Sometime since, a communication of Considerable importance, was rec'd. in this place from C.C. Washbourne Esq. of N.Y. asking an immediate answer. It was answered the same day & Mr. Washbourne, who is now in this place informs me that he called at the office daily for some time, but got no answer.

A com. was also rec'd here from Messrs Dow, Wilson & Herriman, calling for an answer, which was sent without delay; Some days after they sent another calling for an answer to the first. I sent to the N.Y. Office to know if the first com was rec'd. and got for answer, "Dow Wilson & Herriman Cannot be found," and this day in a letter to their agent here that they Call several times, and was informed, that now Less been rec'd.

On the 1st day of April inst. I sent a Com for Washburn & Woodman to Colvin W. Howe & Co. N.Y. and same day another from Same gentlemen to Wm A. Meade & Co. both on busines of much importance to them, and asking for answers. None were rec'd. and at the request of Messrs W. & W. I sent to know if they were recevd, and got for answer, that they were rec'd.

but neither Calvin W. Howe & Co. or W. A. Meade & Co could be found. Several of the above Cons. gave name of street and No. - and I am informed by gentlemen acquainted in the city that some of them are the oldest houses in New York, and known to almost every School boy in the City.

Such are some of the causes of Complaint, and you can judge for yourself if they are not sufficient to injure the business of the Lines. In fact I cannot now get a Con to send to N.Y. Office unless I guarantee its delivery which, of Course I cannot do under the Circumstances. And the business for that place is now taken to Galena, a distance of forty miles, to be sent upon another line, for the sake of insuring punctuality

I regret very much that such a state of things exist and hope that something may be done to remedy the evil, that the business between this place and New York may again be done upon your line, which appears to be the most legitimate channel between the two places,

I trust, Sir, that this Communication will not be taken in any degree of unkindness as it is only my desire to do all in my power to secure business and as a faithful Servant a wish to do all in my power to secure accuracy, promptness and certainty in all that may pass through my hands

Your Obt Servt

Geo. W Bliss Operator

Mineral Point Wis

E. Cornell Esq

Pres. & Gen Supt Lines

Geo W Bliss
Mineral Point
Feb 22 1855

Detroit 25th Apl 1830

Dear Sir

Yours of the fifteenth recd yesterday It has probably been keeping company with the answers to sundry coms sent to N. York, and repeated at Narrowsburgh You can get a judgement against friend Place, and you had better have Tower Jackson of Cleveland, Edward Benedict of Pittsburgh John H Wade, Columbus, Charles M Stebbins, Cincinnati, William H Hyde Columbus. Wm M Marks Cleveland. Charles Lee, Cleveland, Ebenezer C Cushing, Cleveland, William Martin, Cleveland Henry C Buel Cleveland examined - I think they all know that Mr Place's traps were mean contemplable, worthless pieces of coarse brass & Japanned iron, and if he gets off by paying you three hundred dollars, he will have more than justice done him - Pew had but 17 tons wire instead of 18 tons as I supposed, and as he makes out the account has sent all he owes for it - but you have him charged with Int com, guarantee &c, which you must settle with him, I got all the money he had & sent it to you from Cleveland by express as I wrote & telegraphed you at the time I sent it -

I have $747 to pay on the 10th May, & I much fear that

it will be impossible for me to raise the wind to do it—
Wade promised me to raise some funds if possible & remit you at once— He has had a terrible draw back with the cursed cap business— His subscribers growl & refuse to pay; but he is now getting his line to work pretty well to Columbus & will soon better it between Col & Cin—
Lee also had 250 mills sulphur caps on & will have to take them all off before putting up his wire—
I have 72 miles between this & Maumee to take off, and 40 miles between Kala Mazoo & Niles—

When I got home I found all as poor as poverty— Hardly enough done while I was gone to pay board bills— Bus is now improving and if I stay at home and attend to my business I think we will get out of the woods; but I find a telegraph line is no go on its own hook—

I have suffered badly for a week past with a swelled face, probably occasioned by defective teeth— I am now much better— but far from being in good running order yet—

I have concluded to try the glass tubes on the 72 miles from here to Maumee, we cannot work now in a wet day to Toledo. If the line does not work in the worst weather after I put the tubes in, I will throw away the iron stem, and substitute a hickory stick, boiled in oil, & varnished; and fasten the wire to the bottom of the stick. I will also use Rosin & Tallow, (about 1/5 Tallow) to fasten in the glass tubes, instead of the Zobut we have been using. The Rosin & Tallow, or Rosin & Whiting, or Rosin & Tar will make a better cement than sulphur, and be free from Chemical change.

The reason which I gave you in my letter from Cleveland for the failure of the sulphur was the true one. The sulphur absorbs oxygen from the atmosphere and makes sulphurous acid. (If I said Sulphuric, I was wrong) You will find by examining a Cake that has been long exposed to the air, that the surface, in a wet day is acid, & it is sulphurous acid.

I therefore repudiate the brimstone wholly, and will not use any more of it, even to fasten in the glasses.

Yours truly

J. J. Speed Jr

Mr E Cornell, Ny.

April 27th 1850

Fr. W. to E. Cornell –

Wade will send you five hundred as soon as can get the exchange – Has the paper to make it of in his hands now

Sig.

A. B. C.

ahr.

Fr. J. to E. C. –

When does note come due given to you payable Canal Bank, Elmira – Answer

Sig.

John Walter

Detroit 28th April 1850

Dear Sir

When we send cows to Ny over N.Y. & E line, and answers cannot be sent back promptly over that line, it is beyond all doubt for your interest, as well as ours, to have the answers taken to Fenton's office without waiting a day to get them over N.Y. & E line. It is perfect folly for us to undertake to compete with O&E line from Cin to Ny. unless we can get ans to come the same day they are sent, or if sent in the P.W. from Cin, the answer should come back early the next day. We now have a good strong competition at Chicago, as well elsewhere, and the line which does best, will get it to do, and if we cannot get ans from Ny. the O&E line can, and will take the business. You may loose some hundreds of dollars by taking out to Fentons line when yours is down; but you will loose thousands by keeping them, or having them delayed on the line. Wade is now getting his line in good order, and as soon as he can lay to the Cin branch

that he can get ours from N.Y. as quick as OR line can, He can get a good share of the bus: but if you keep the answers from noon till 9 o'clk P.M. before getting them to F. we may as well refuse N.Y. bus at once, as we cannot get it, if we try ever so hard — The first sacrifice is generally the best, and you will find it so in telegraphing more than in any other business — It seems hard to pay Fenton 10 or 20 or 30 dollars a day, but if we do not do the business up right, we cannot get it to do when our lines are in order — Business will be less this spring than usual, as there is very little produce to go to market, and many vessels are laid up already —

How would it do to join teams with Rochester pirates — Call our 800 miles $125. per mile. call their 530 miles (400 Bu to Detroit & 130 from Cleveland to Pittsburgh) the same as ours per mile, give Smith $25000 cash, or such other sum as he might agree to take for Patrolier Interest: would not some such plan be the best to end the fight & consolidate the Lake lines?

If the Patent is renewed, Smith's Claim at least $125 000 & worth more for second wire - Can we not close a better bargain now, than we can after the fight is ended? or had we better kick quick, and let Smith fight it out on his own hook?. You remember that Smith offered me his interest in Lake line for $25000 Cash - perhaps he would now take less, and if it not possible for us to compromise with him, and unite with other line on better terms now, than to sustain the fight for two years longer. I am inclined to think that we might make as good a bargain now; or in the course of the following summer, as to wait two years, and then compromise: Would it not be well for you to find out from Smith the lowest sum he will take in cash & relinquish all Claim on Lake line, & I settle with Pirates - He relinquishing all claim on Patentees for damages, -
I have $740 to pay 10th May, and I know not where to get it, and I fear you are in the same fix -

Yours truly

J J Speed

I think the Cheapest way to get out of the Brimstone scrape, is to put glasses on Janesville & Pittsburgh lines, & take the irons for Lake line. The irons are worth as much as it will cost to put on the glasses.

Gum Shellac is the material to fasten in the glasses with, & if we had used it instead of brimstone, our lines would have worked well. Rosin I fear will melt in the sun. Gum Shellac will not, & it fastens in the steam in the iron more firmly than sulphur. Shellac will change its character by exposure to the air.

May 1, 1852

Mr Cornell

Dear Sir yours came duely to hand I have been waiting to hear from Mr Hutchison I am not fully prepared to answer your letter I will state my understanding of the business First in Relation to Construction the Cost per Mile $125 with weight of Morse Telegraph & what you lacked of Construction by Subscribing you made up your self & took Stock for the payment of the same You know how much of the line you own I have no Objection to any course to secure the best Success, it dose upper to me it would be to your interest to have sold out the line to Oriling or some of his Crew to Aburn & thereby saved a considerable to your self for Construction I should like to have you take Chg of the line & if you can make anything out of it to do so as you propose & the only way to make it pay Expenses is to have a report Daily My Opinion is that I would not have any office at Auburn Only as I have made arrangements & none at the Seneca Falls the other offices I know nothing about now is a good time for business & if anything is done to do it immediately I found a young

that is Studying Medicine he says he will attend to it for $100 per year he is a good opperator so said &c if you wish to do any thing in the buyer there should be no delay what the trouble is on the line I know not wee could reserve but could not send a communication I think the Batteries should be increased that you can judge better than I can that is the Opinion of Mr Porter if you put up the line if you will Tellegraph to me I will have Mumford on hand if in the Mashine works here I think you had best to make such arrangements as you think best only not to involve the Subscribers &c

Yours Respectfully

Waterloo May 1/50 James K Webster

As the poles are not set on the new line if you think best you can try to make as Sale to Orily & Crew do that you think best in haste

J. K. Webster
1 May 50

66
12
74

5

Mr E Cornell
Ithaca
Nay

NATIONAL
1
MAY
N.Y.

Binghamton, May 1st. 1850

Ezra Cornell, Esq—

Dear Sir—

Your favor of the 29th ultimo reached me only this evening, and I hasten to answer so far as I am able.

You charge me with the five dollars that was in my hands— correct and right; and you ask for the items for which I paid in Montrose, and also for the vouchers if I have them. I had a small memorandum book in which they were entered (the items) but on looking for it I am unable to find it and therefore can only give what I can recollect. One thing paid for was the bill of yourself & horse while there— another was for Acids at Turrell's— & another charge was for use of things had at the tin smith's shop— there are some others, but it is impossible for me now to state them— but as to the exact sum left I have given.—

I was disappointed as I had hoped I should be re-paid for my Physician's bill of $5.00— as it cost me all that I earned or rather was allowed while there; & I suppose I shall not be repaid.

There was a receipt taken from some one by me for something while there but I think it was left in the Ms. ofc.

Accompanying I send o/c as requested.

Yours servant, (11 o'clock pm)

E. St. John,

N.S. & E. Telegraph Co.

To E. St. John Dr.

1849-

Sept. 29. To services from April 25th to date $118.01

Cr.

1849.

Sept. 29. By cash at sundry times $62.03

1850. April 29 " paid Mack, Andrews & Co. by E. Cornell 50.98

" cash, (bal. of order on T. P. St. John) 5.00

$118.01

BINGHAMTON
MAY
2
N.Y.

5

Ezra Cornell, Esq.

Ithaca

Tompkins Co.
N.Y.

All Communications strictly confidential.

Office of the New York and Erie Telegraph,

Ithaca May 2d 1850

By Telegraph from Middletown

To E. Conant

I sent a bill of Items for March with report that month. Mr. Tyler did not have any cash, but a balance owing the Line. I had no money from January 11th to April 1st.

Hudson River Line owes at present $41.59

Yrs.

D. H.

T. O'Mere
2 May 1850

E. Cornell
Ithaca

Detroit 2 May 1850

Dear Sir

I go to Cleveland tonight, and hope to hear from those glasses soon—

One of the troubles incident to poverty, is the liability to be compeled to change quarters yearly— I have just finished putting up bedsteads &c &c. in our new location for the next year—

While resting a few minutes yesterday, I was thinking of the terrible explosion of the boilers on the Anthony Wayne on our Lake, and notwithstanding your oft repeated cautions to think of nothing but the most available way to pay notes and make the E&M line pay a dividend, The idea forced itself on my mind that steam boilers blew up much more frequently than there was any occasion for, and as I might soon be one of the sufferers, I concluded to benefit the world, as well as secure my own safety, by devising the means of preventing explosions— When you get some easy chair, and have two minutes leisure, amuse yourself by looking at it— The mind as well as the body becomes weary in thinking continually on one subject, and it is good philosophy, as well as a pleasant

I think Dutch battery will do well for Local & May be better for main battery; but the lines will require about as good insulation as with the grove battery. The only advantage in using the Dutch battery will be in the saving of expense—

recreation to change the current of our thoughts occasionally for a few moments— acting on that principle, I now give you ten cents worth of lecture on Steamboilers—

A Steam boiler never explodes, so as to tear a boat and boiler all to pieces when the boiler contains a sufficient quantity of water. A boiler full of water may burst but it will only open a small place in the weakest part, and let out the Steam and water, without demolishing the boat— I suppose that invariably the water gets below the fire flues, so as to bring the hot iron in contact with the Steam, before an explosion occurs. The steam in contact with red-hot iron parts with its oxygen, which unites with the hot iron, the Hydrogen is set free, and forms with the steam an inflamable gas. this gas when mixed in proper proportion explodes, producing the same effect as powder or gun cotton would— My invention is intended give an alarm when the water in the boiler gets below a certain place, and is based upon the fact that Mercury expands with every degree of heat ab to the point when it vaporizes, which is over 600°.

By looking at the drawing you will see, that I insert in the boiler a vessel filled with Mercury, just below the usual water line, as soon as the water falls, and the Mercury

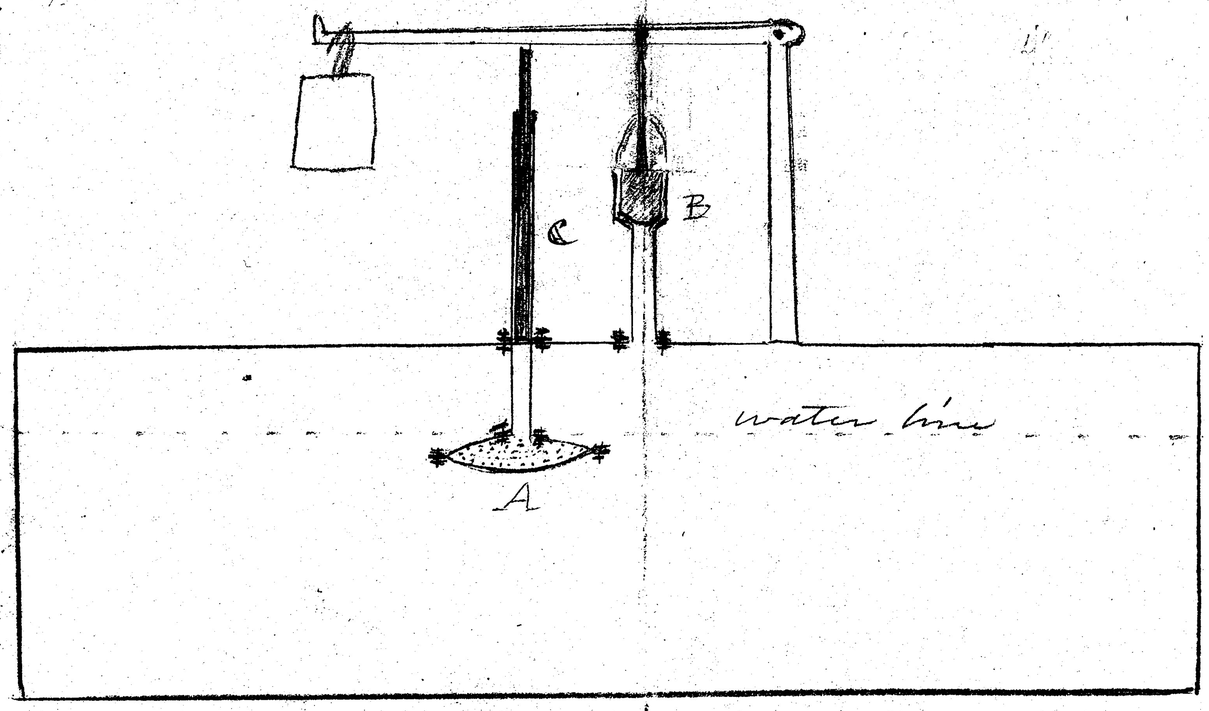
Chamber comes in contact with the steam, the mercury expands and forces the piston up - the piston lifts the lever which opens the alarm whistle, and tells the engineer there is danger nigh - If he neglects his business after the whistle tells him the water is low, he ought to blow up.

If you think this not worth ten cents, you may send me a lecture on "scheeming", and then we will be even - If you think it is of some value show it to Keller & such others as you think best.

Yours truly

J. J. Speed Jr

Mr E Cornell
New York



A. Wrought iron vessel filled with Mercury
B. Alarm whistle
C. Piston

J. J. Speedy
2C May 1882

Cleveland May 2. 1850.

Friend C.

Dear Sir. Yours of 30 ult
came to hand this morning.

I have written Allen, expressing
my satisfaction. With such a team, I
hope we shall do a land office business.

Col S has not arrived yet.
I will show him your letter.

Business is dull as we might
expect. Boys all at their posts. Buzzing
away among dots & dashes.

Nothing of importance to
communicate. Will telegraph.

Yours truly.

L. V. Bradish

D V Benedict
May 2. 1800

1

Ithaca May 2nd 1857
10 o'clock Am.

Board met pursuant to notice & adjourn
to the Clinton House

Minutes of last meeting read & approved

Moved that the Trustees be invited
to

Present E Conrill Post
H Ramsdell
R L Seely
B Bagley
D Burchman
V. Conrad
J. S. Tichenor
J B Williams
} Directors

Minutes of last meeting read & approved
Moved that the Trustees be invited to sit
with the Directors during this session
Carried unanimously
Boardman Suggested that the accounts
be now examined which was Communi
cated owing to the confused condition
of the books & papers of the company
the effort was abandoned and a
Motion was made by Mr Ramsdell
that a committee be appointed to
settle all outstanding accounts
After some discussion
Mr Sage offered the following resolution
Resolved
That the Trustees of the N.Y. & E
Telegraph be constituted a committee
to inquire into & take advice upon
the legal rights of the stockholders in
said company with the contractors for
construction growing out of their failu
to furnish & convey to the Trustees the
right to use the patents & also to
inquire into the legal relation now &

for the past year existing between the Co & the owners of the patent with regard to its use by us & also the legal obligations of the stockholders to the Public for services or other liabilities & to report ~~the same to a meeting of directors to be called by them~~ to the board at the earliest moment to ~~be submitted~~ Passed unanimously ~~The committee retired~~

Pending discussion on the above the board adjourned to 1 h P.M.

May 2nd 1 h P.M.

Board met pursuant to adj't & the ~~foo~~ resolution passed unanimously ~~The committee~~ (Sage & Bourne ~~Bourne~~ Sage) then ~~retired~~

~~Moved by~~ Mr Ramsdell then offered the following

Resolved That the same committee be authorized to examine & audit the Presidents a/c's & all other unsettled a/c's & to finish & perfect all unsettled business Passed unanimously

Moved & Seconded that the Trustees be a committee with power to perfect the organization of the line under the General Law of the State of N.Y.

Carried unanimously

Moved that the Trustees be a committee to Employ a bookkeeper at any Expense to balance the books of the Company & present the same to this board at their next Meeting

Carried unanimously

In consequence of the failure ~~of~~ on the part of Cornell & Speed ~~to~~ ~~fulfil~~ their Obligations as contractors & with a view to the final adjustment of all difficulties growing out of ~~lack~~ said non-fulfilment of contracts

Mr Sage proposed to Messrs Cornell & Speed that they should assign to the Trustees the whole amount of Stock subscribed by them ($75.200.) in trust to secure the Co against any loss, costs or damage whatever which might grow out of their failure as Contractors to furnish the stockholders the right to use the Patent & that in the event of a final settlement with the patentees any settlement that might be made reducing the sum from the price originally agreed ~~on~~ to be paid them by Cornell & Speed should be for the benefit of the whole stock & not for that of (C & S) exclusively & that the amount of such reduction & also of all costs & damages aforesaid be deducted from the stock to be assigned whenever it is reassigned to them

After long discussion Mr Connell proposed to assign $ 65.000. instead of $ 75.200. for the purpose & on the condition named

Mr Sage was asked if he would so modify his proposition — He refused to do so

The vote was then taken on Mr Connells proposition & carried & a contract was drawn up between the parties as agreed. which Mr Connell assented to but declined signing until tomorrow

It being very late the board adjourned without further action till tomorrow at 9 o'clock

Friday 9 A M May 3d

The board met pursuant to adjournment present Ed. Connell D Boardman & Conrad J.S. Tichenor J.B. Williams & H.H. Sage —

Mr Connell produced the contract having added a clause in substance that nothing therein contained should be a bar to his voting upon the full amount of stock transferred & asking also as a condition of signing it at all that the Trustees sign another Contract prepared by him making an unconditional acceptance of the line & a release on the part of the Co. & individual stockholders from all claims whatever on (C#.8) for damage growing out of failure on third part as contractors

Both these propositions were rejected & after a fruitless effort to reconcile the difficulties till one Oclock Adjd to meet again at 2 P.M.

2 P.M.

Sage introduced the following resolutions & urged their passage as connected with

the true interests of all parties concern

Resolved

That the resolutions passed Oct 2nd 1849 confering certain powers & duties upon the ~~Pres~~ Presidents be & ~~are~~ hereby ~~ers~~ rescinded

Resolved

That D Boardman & Josiah B. Williams be & are hereby appointed a committee whose duty it shall be to correspond forthwith with every operator ~~of~~ or other employee of the ~~Co.~~ N.Y. & Erie R.R. Co directing them each & all to close their respective offices or places of business & to discontinue forthwith any & all business for the company — & make & transmit to them at the earliest possible period a correct account of the condition of all claims for or against the Co. at their respective offices together with a correct inventory of all the property & effects of the Co of every nature whatever & to place ~~under lock & key~~ said property safely under lock & key subject to the order or control of the directors & to give such other advice & direction relative to the property of the Co as they think proper

Resolved

That when we do adjourn we adjourn to meet at a meeting of the Stockholders & directors to be notified in due form for the 12th day of June next

An amendment was offered by Williams inserting the names of the

Fruttes in place of Boardman Williams

The question was then taken on the amendment which was carried

The vote upon the resolutions as amended was as follows

Ayes Boardman. Conrad. Williams 3
Nayes Cornell. Tichenor — 2

Mr Williams moved to reconsider Question upon reconsideration

Ayes Conrad Tichenor Williams 3
No Boardman 1

The resolutions were then amended to read as follows — — —

Resolved

That the resolutions passed Oct 2nd 1849 conferring certain powers & duties upon the President be & are hereby rescinded

Resolved

That Ramsdell Williams & Tichenor be & are hereby appointed a committee whose duty it shall be to correspond forthwith with every operator or other employee of the N.Y. & Sel C° & if they think expedient directing them each & all to close their respective offices or places of business & to discontinue forthwith any & all business for the Co to make & transmit to them at the earliest possible period a correct & of the condition of all Claims for or against the Co at their respective offices together with a correct inventory of all the property & effects of the Co of every nature whatever & to make such other arrangements for the care management & protection of the property & interests of the Co as they may deem advisable

Resolved that when we adjourn we adjourn to meet at a meeting of the stockholders & directors to be notified in due form for the 12th day of June next

Passed unanimously

Mr Connell then insisted on the appointment of a Committe to investigate Certain charges he alleged to have been made against himself in connexion with the line & also such charges as might be made against any other person in the employ of the Co

Objected to by the board except as a matter of courtesy to Mr C on which ground they were willing to allow such committee to investigate chgs against Mr C ~~but insisted that if charges were to be~~ but denied the justice ~~of said~~ or propriety of the appointment of any committee ~~to be appointed~~ to investigate Charges not actually preferred — they insisted on Charges being specified before any committe would be appointed Thereupon Mr Connell Charged Mr Wood with "general neglect of his duties at Ithaca office" ~~& insisted that chgs had been made~~

The board then not being satisfied that charges had been made against Mr C sufficient to call for a committee of investigation & Connell insisting with some warmth that the board wished to shrink from investigations against him Mr Wood ~~made the following Charge as~~ remarked that if the board wished he was ready to

bring a charge against Wm Connell
The board ~~the~~ called for the charge
& which was made viz:

General Mismanagement
of the affairs of the N.Y. & Erie
Rly Co. from the Commencement
down to the present date

whereupon it was

Resolved

That Ransdell Pickens &
Williams be a Committee to investi
gate the Charge made by Wm Connell
against Mr Wood & the charge
made by Mr Wood against Wm
Connell for Mismanagement &
neglect of official duties

adopted

~~Resolved~~ Adjourned to June 12th 1857

D. L. Wood Sec'y

Directors Meeting
June 2nd 1857

Minutes

42 years
Gossage

114 18
48 23-10
8 14 10—
12 5.00
20 6.00
1.50
460 .5
6.60

$6600
900

Ithaca May 3. 1850.

Dear Sir

Your favour by Monroe was Rec'd. In answer I can say that "the mighty has fallen" — I am without power, and your appeal is therefore made to the wrong source. We have just closed the 2nd (second) day's session of our board of directors, who passes more power for evil than good; I have exerted all the influence I possess to prevent any great evils being perpetrated, and have been successful. Sage was one of our Trustees, and at the instigation of Boardman, who was also a Trustee, (Williams being absent) was invited to sit with the directors. Ransdall, Seely & Bagley were present, and with us the first day, which closed its session by agreeing with me that I should assign $65,000 of the stock subscribed by Cornell & Speed, to the Trustees, to indemnify the association for all costs, that might accrue in getting the Patent, either in buying the Patentees, or in carrying on any litigation that might grow out of the controversy; and in the event that the Patent was void, and nothing

and nothing had to be paid for it, than the suit that was intended to pay for patent should be enjoyed by the association for their benefit. I assented to this, with the understanding that, by giving the Ass'n this position, they assumed all responsibility and released us from all claims for nonfulfilment of the contract. The Board then agreed to organize under the law of the State, and issue certificates of stock, to the cash paying subscribers -

This all agreed to, we adjourned, to meet this morning, sign a contract to that effect, & close all up. I found this morning that Bagley & Ramsdall had left for home, and Sage and Boardman declined to sign the ~~contract~~ discharge from the Obligations of the old contract, which of course was reason enough for me to decline to make the assignment of stock, and we have quarreled out the rest of the day. Sage & Boardman have labored hard to stop the whole concern and lock up the offices, and got a Resolution to that effect passed, which I got reconsidered, and finally closed up by appointing a committee, Ramsdall Tichnor Williams, J.B. - who have an

thority to stop if they deem it expedient, and who are the managers of the line until the next meeting (11th June) next.) and who are also a committee to investigate charges of neglect of duty &c. against me & against Wood. There was a hard fight by Sage to pursue this investigation, but I was determined and successful, and I shall show that the line has been prevented from work the last month, by Wood, and that a conspiracy had been organized to get the controll out of my hands in order that he might be appointed superintendent but that is no go, the committee will not dare to so appoint him,

We shall soon get on the track again now, and the line will again work, and as soon as the brimstone caps are changed all will be right again.

I hope you will not accuse me of being a Prophet because I told you so truely the facts in relation to Morgan I hope you will not get caught by any more of your troops,

Pro is here I have not got settled with him but he claims that he does not owe me any thing, I claim some $500, He says he did not have as much even

as, you reported - Where is the Min &
The report that Jackson Suit is short
of the quantity Suit out, and now to have
that account cleared again. I don't understand
it, Where is the coin! —

In regard to Patent for N.Y. & Erie, I
shall settle the matter up with Smith,
and give the parties their assignment,
and "give them a little more grape
Capt Bragg" at the stockholders meeting,
in June.

Yours, In Haste,

E. Cornell.

J. J. Speed Jr.

E Cornell
May 1858

Cleveland May 3rd 1850

Friend Cornell

I returned to V last evening on board Keystone. I did not get away from Ben till next morning after you left for La. The wind commenced blowing a perfect gale the morning you started and kept up till about 2 o'clock A.M. next day. & no boat left till then. Things jog along in the old way and nothing has transpired in the way of bens worthy of mention. How much funds there are on hand I dont know as I have not asked Ben but will let you know in my next. The Col has not arrived yet but leaves De in the Southern this evng.

When I returned I found hallowed and consecrated old 48 completely deserted not a tenant remaining to call back a reminiscence of the ~~imm~~ unmeasurable quantity of, fun, folly joy & devilty which its new gloomy and deserted walls have witnessed the last winter. Bill & Buell have gone into 45. & Charley & Marten gave gone to board with Ben, and I remain sole owner & proprietor monarch of all I survey. without any particular

of danger of having any one to dispute my sight thereto.

As might be expected the Alabama lead the Queen a handsome hour and a half into R. The boys gathered on the end of the pier and gave old Howe three cheers as he passed. Bsns is pretty good. Excuse haste as I want to get the books up before the Col gets here. will write more full in my next

Truly Yours
Mary

R H Morey
May 3 1850

Ithaca, May 5, 1850.

Dear Sir—

I suppose it will be for our interest for you to be here at our stockholders' meeting the 11th of June, and at that meeting we must be prepared to carry a majority of the stock in favor of our measures & interest, as that meeting will decide by a vote of Stock whether or not we shall pay the debts of the Company up to the first of October last, the time of appointing Directors. The Trustees now take the position that the Co. had nothing to do with the line untill Directors were appointed, and any profit or loss that accrued by working the line prior to that time, the company had nothing to do with.

The company ran in debt up to that time about $2,000,— and was still in debt abt $1,000— 1st Apl last. This debt of $2,000— they wish to saddle on us, and will do it if they can, and the vote on stock must settle it as it should be settled. They will not consent to have any stock voted on representing the patent untill the assignment of Patent is obtained.

This avish. I should avish them to enjoy—
there will therefore be but $55,000 to vote on if
the Patent is not Obtained—there has been about
$30,000 ++ paid in, leaving $25,000 + for us to vote
on. I should wish to carry our measures,
under the circumstances of the feeling that
has been got up here, with as much of the
stock of other parties as possible. I therefore
wish you would see to the Firdonia stock,
and have that fixed so that it will be on the
right side. There is a portion of the stock
of other places that I can probably carry as
I may wish.

I should like to divide the $30,000 at
last, and I think we can.

I am sorry to have this quarrel on
hand at this time, as all my time is
wanted to look after my debts, and pro-
vide for my notes. If it were not for
this I should like to fight the devils
till They acknowledged satisfaction.

Don't forget that I shall need all
the funds I can get— Every dollar will help
me. When shall I get something from Lee?

We have been getting a magnificent
rain all day, and prospect good for all night.

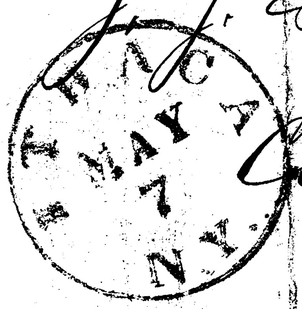
Yours, Respectfully,
E. Corell.

J. J. Speed, Jr.

E. Cornell
May 1830
about N.Y. & E. line
p. 93

J. J. Speed Jr Esq
Cleveland
Ohio

ITHACA
MAY 7
N.Y.



New York 6 May 1850

Mr E. Cornell Dear Sir

I am too old to do business — my friend Isaac Carson — told me a man ought to quit at 50 — I would not as a matter of business put my name on as I did for 100 dollars — what property do you you proposed to give mortgage on and for how long a time do you want the three thousand dollars you name — I have not got it

I am Sincerely

Stephen B. Munn

S. Bellemin
6 May 1850

Mr Ezra Cornell
Ithaca
N.Y.

NEW YORK
7 MAY
OCT



New England Glass Co
6 May 1850

Mr E Corning

Dr Sir

I left a line for you a few weeks since at the Telegraph Office in New York — asking for information in regard to the Kind of Stocks you proposed to give us as security for the final payment of our Claim — to which you have made no reply

Considering the circumstances under which the debt was incurred & the leniency with which we have treated you, I think your neglect of my request is unpardonable — Our Company are getting quite out of patience & I must ask your prompt reply You have without doubt received that letter, I have no copy of it. but I asked you to name the Kind of collateral you proposed & a copy of the Charter of the Lines so that we might know if there is any liability against the holder of it — We are not disposed to press the matter at all, provided we have collateral security

Yours truly

Joseph N Hower Agent

1

Cleveland 7 May 1850

Dear Sir

I am not very easily frightened about money matters, as I have had so many protests & duns. I find there is "no hanging for debt": but really the prospect ahead looks dark and gloomy - I have done all I could to inspire confidence in all our troops and induce them to raise the wind if possible: but there seems to be some confounded ill wind that upsets all my calculations = The cursed brimstone caps have most seriously embarrassed our operations. The Zanesville & Pittsburgh lines are almost useless, and the caps must be changed before we can do any thing on those lines - It will cost near $1000 to take off the iron caps and substitute glass caps on both lines - Wade has not yet been able to change all his caps & his line still works bad in wet weather - Lee has to take off 200 miles of his caps & get glasses = Money is exceedingly scarce - no produce going forward & none to so, until after harvest. Half the [illegible]

Ny & E Rail Road trade? Has that all flashed in the pan? I will keep trying; but it looks mightily like having to seen away to California. I guess Pew will find hard sledding to get the funds to change his tophat caps - Wade left every tenth cap on his line of brimstone, & in a wet day he has three ~~a~~ good groundwires to the mile - I cannot learn any thing about the glasses from Summers, and doubt whether he has shipped a single cask yet - I wish you would see about it & let me know what I can depend on - Get him to give me a little time on the draft, & ship the glasses as fast as he makes them

Yours in financial
distress

J J Speed Jr

Mr E Cornell

4

I have just rec'd a letter from Ladd at Milwaukee. He says Pirates are using Judge Nelsons decision against Hotchkiss very effectually; and that Hotchkiss and his man Bowman have got into a quarrel and Bowman has obtained an injunction from the State Courts, prohibiting Hotchkiss from collecting any more money on Chicago & Galena line - I do not know what it means; but it means one thing certain, that Hotchkiss will fail to pay as he agreed the 1st June

Misfortune it is said never comes single. and our office at Milan burnt up Sunday night - We have got an other Lfs, and are under way again, but lost 75 to $100 by the fire -

If this is not a blue letter, I never wrote one before, & hope never to have to write such an one again

Morgan borrowed several hundred dollars & cleared from Bu - I had discharged him for inattention to his business - I am going to put on Wades glasses on Zanesville & Pittsburgh lines & the iron caps which we take off will be worth as much as the cost of putting on the glasses - I will use the iron caps on Lake line with the glass tubes - I still think the iron cap with the glass tube fastened in with shellac instead of sulphur & tallow in the flange will be as perfect as it is possible to make a cap

J. Sperry
May 7, 1880

New York May 8. 1850

Dear Sir

Yours of the 6th inst is at hand. You may arrange with French & Lewis at any thing like a fair price. I do not know what that should be, but I am disposed to be reasonable.

Can you send me the interest & a small instalment of principal to pay Munn's interest.

Let me know.

Yours in haste

J. Blunt

Mr E. Connell

J. Blunt May 8, 1850

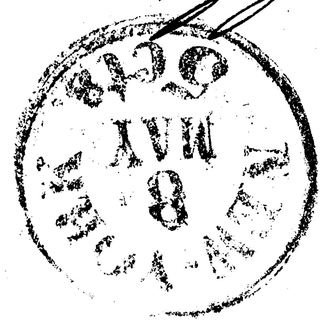
Mr E. Cornell

Ithaca

N.Y.

NEW-YORK
8
MAY
OCT 8

52.
1.96
50.00
6
1.30
15
224
112.56



New York May 8th "

Mr Cornell

Prest -

Dear Sir, Your favours of 4th & 5th "
were duly received, & would have been answered
before this, had anything special taken place,
I shall lay such facts before the Committee as
I have partly informed you of, as well as other cir=
cumstances which have come under my observation
during my stay in NY office, When I informed
you of where I considered a great deal of the
difficulty on this line I thought it might have
been received as presumptuous but I felt
as if it was my duty to inform you as I
did, & I find that my opinion is backed by
every operator who has been in the NY office,
Mr Park with whom I had a conversation
last week says that, had the Way Stations
Bn & Sa taken NY's business to repeat &
so ~~vice~~ "vice versa" the business of the line
would have been increased double if not thrible,
There is no doubt if this line could once be
put in such order as to ensure the prompt
transmission of our business we could
do as much business as any line in operation
May 10th " Since commencing this letter I have been
to Peekskill hearing heard that the line was

down above that place, & I found the wire down from four poles in succession as well as one more at another spot, I fixed them perfectly, I returned to the city last evening & found the line had not worked since Yesterday PM In consequence I think, of Mr Gilmans being at NY & someone having left the Key open in his office, this morning between 8 & 9 oc as soon as C.S. called NY, the line was again in order,

There is less disposition shewn by the Way Stations to take our business than heretofore consiquently we get our business off more punctually We have not heard from Va in some time direct I noticed a conversation held between Bn & W a few evenings ago, when Bn said the Directors had voted the way Stations their thanks for not having taken NY's business I thought this was of course not true, as since the meeting they took our business with less trouble than heretofore,

both W & Bn are expecting to go on the Bain line, as soon as it is finished & they do not as they themselves said to eachother care whether the line works or not & they said, they expected they would get their walking papers, I do not report these things for the purpose of injuring these operators but I see that this line can not succeed unless the operators take an interest in the line and do their duty as much as if the line belonged

them, You can depend upon my doing under any circumstances all in my power for the benefit of this line & shall at all times report what I think is not right, whoever it may be ~~by~~ that does so, Since receiving your letter of 5th inst I have kept a diary every half hour or hour, I have six letters for you here, Mr Griffin has not I think had the Brimstone taken out of the caps,

I think could Mr Chapin who is now with me in NY office go to Bn if for only a week or two we would have our business go promptly provided I a would work with him, He is interested in the success of this line & I would answer for his working faithfully there, I pr[illegible] this knowing that the Bn Office does not do at all times as he should,

Awaiting your further communication
I remain Your Obdt Servt
C Robinson
NY Office

E Cornell Esq
Prest —

C. B. Robinson
8. May 1880

Mr. E. Cornell
Pres. Mgr & Cons. Ill Co
Ithaca
N.Y.

on the Lake laid up, which never was the case before at this season of the year. I have $750 to pay on the 11th for freight & charges on our Lake wire, & on Lees wire, & I will have to shin it to get the money.

I enclose you a letter from Lee. It looks squally. Trade is not much better off. Subscribers make all sorts of excuses when it is tight times for money, and refuse to pay, or postpone the payment as long as possible. If I can by any possibility get the Watertown paid we now owe, I will be very careful about making any more.

Kent & Co will not pay the $900 still due from them, untill I procure the Patent, and reinsulate the line, as it is now almost worthless

I put 70 miles brimstone caps on our Lake line from Detroit to Maumee, and it effectually prevents our working in bad weather. I will take them off as soon as I can get the glasses. I can get up 2d wire & change all the caps: but as to sending you money I see no way of doing it, & without it, I do not know how you are to keep afloat. How about