Extracts from O'Reilly's letters to Delano commencing reference to them.

Aug 18. 1848. H. O'R. writes D from Cin - Encouraging him to persevere in the telegraphic Enterprise, & planning for him to go to Lafayette to get stock for Cin fr. Cin to Ch. as soon as the suit is decided at Frankfort by say next week. Promises reward, thinks D & Sady in good humor

June 16-49- H. O'R to D. "I raised your salary as Supt at $1000- with 5 per cent in stock pursuant for all money you collected from Crawfordsville till the whole line is completed to Ch" "& one eighth as well as Cin" - It gives me pleasure to see how well and faithfully you have laboured, you will find your reward," Recall the money you can as long as you can ~~house~~ your resources so as to get wind to Chicago, You can get some time for material & labour, by encouraging discretion, as you always do"

July 1. 1849- H. O'R to D. Soyaushort = "I hope this will reach you on 4th July when you promised to complete the lighting line to that point," "You have done well, you have quietly, steadily, faithfully, fulfilled my directions; and your tact & conciliatory spirit, joined to your perseverance & business tact, have left me nothing to regret, in your whole course". I thank you heartily, The manner in which you have proceeded has freed me from much care, when I had anxieties enough to bear down any spirit, I now enclose you to Shows Stock in O. & I, which please rec. as mark for services you have faithfully rendered "aside from the payment & commission mentioned in my letter to you" Let me know exactly your resources & let me see exactly how all your accounts stand when you count at Soyaushort, forward me here a full statement,

Sept 10. 1849 H.OR to D. If it is desirable to Mr. Pullan to have acceptances 60 - 90 & 120 days for 15th for balance on O. I. & I line please make paper to suit their views, & I will guarantee the payment, whether you can collect on your line or not. for that balance, I will see it paid as acceptance matures."

Jan'y 7. 50 H.OR to D. I have directed $2,750. - stock belonging to me to be issued to you - and desired that you be made the director for Ch in Ill & Miss line - locate at Ch. I deem you important there,

Jan'y 30. 50 H.OR to D - congratulate you on opening line to Chicago & Cin - Corresponds with Reid - about harmonizing rates, Dont interfere with his business -
I forgot Toledo Draft protested non acceptance, Mr Ramsey telegraph to know what it means, I telegraphed him I will accept & pay it if I know when draft is. You do not tell me. Glad you find all right at Chicago, you better stay there till all works well -
The Telegraphers will doubtlessly allow to be somewhat in arrears, for a month or two, in order to enable us to square up little debts, and meet some of your bank payments, A little will make all easy, in money matters. When crowded, if you can draw on me at New York at 3 months - or four - I will accept & pay - this way you may ease off till all is paid.

Apl 14. 1850 H.OR to D. As Atty for you & for G. L Lundy. Mr Sherwood has taken confession of Judgment from me in your favour for $12.800 and will protect it along with other judgments in such way as he deems most proper, in promoting justice towards you & all who that you have claims upon me for money
You speak of Dun bill to Vanna for $1600 it is of course for my benefit, over

you and those who aid you will find that I could no prompting to do all that man can do to make all such acknowledgments as will enable the friends who aided you to feel that there is fair security for ultimate payment if not immediate", write more fully about any claims against me,"

Of one thing I need scarcely assure you — that no matter how my interests may be sacrificed (though I will struggle to save the interests of creditors protected) I will increase my efforts, hereafter to pay off every man who may thro' any sacrifice of my interests in the past, be unable to get what is due him. I ask no exemption from payment, thro' fear of law. I will labour while life is left to make all square,"

May 24th 50. N.O.R to D. I am getting along well, but it is tight times to meet everything till My & B- and Boston & P- bills are done next month. N.O. bill is able to stand alone — It is a hard contest but it is nearly over — You have fought the fight well, your are fully appreciated, Next month I hope down will turn the most troublsome point. Remit me all you can to meet the 1st $1300 — I have much else to meet about same day: dont fail. It may be I will be short and have to draw on you tho I will try to pay it with aid of what you send me,

Try & draw on me for enough to meet the whole at 3 or 4 mo. or even 60 days from June 1.

I pray you to ascertain fully & quickly how matters stands with Curtis & help him some way to get coin up to Mineral Point, Act for me in aiding him to finish this & settle what is yet unsettled on that line. Do I beg you for too much care is corroding my life. See Curtis to whom I write by this mail, Telegraph me about 1st June

how much I can rely on from you, Strain your energies
Report all moneys as fast to be remitted from Office to you
for a month or two, till we meet those pressing de-
mands—, I can say no more, You know I feel what
to do, I am too much pained — I cannot close this
writing till after I get relief from care,

You have done well with M & P. & with
Terre Haute line "—

June 5. 1850 H. on N. to D. "I thank you for your for your prompt
attention (as usual) to all matters telegraphic, I appreciate
them & you God Bless you"

Do not fail to dispatch Curtiss instantly to 3 rs to all
matters on Wisconsin line — A little money will finish
it to Minnal Point.

I stride vainly on 30 4th to find Chicago dft I cannot
get him of it here. I am ready for it.

I will meet all drafts you make on me
on 60 - 90 & 120 days for completing Wisconsin
line —

June 8. 50 H. O'R to D. Completion of line to Buffalo
& Boston this month will soon give me easy times,
but this & next month are "corner" which I want
your aid to turn, Try all your might to raise and
remit me all you can to aid me in taking up
some of your drafts, on me, I will meet every
thing but it will be hard, and I rely on your sending
me proceeds of what you can raise, to meet some of
your drafts In a couple of months or less I will
have no great need of aid — But now it is important
Dont fail —

I hope you will not rest till you get that
Milwaukie line finished — Get Curtiss to start
instantly and close up that Wisconsin line
I relinquish charge of the matter to you

June 8 continued H. O'R to D I telegraphed you to say as follows- "Telegraph Notice William J. Dolano is the only person authorized by me to collect moneys for stock for constructing Telegraph lines between Detroit, Chicago, Milwaukee & Green Bay. Henry O'Reilly"

Publish it when & where you choose. I warned Kingsley in writing that I considered it no better than Swindling for any person to attempt to use any name as his employers at Rochester have done through him and others"

Telegraph me as quick as you can & send me any thing. Do all you can for a month or two more."

June 10. 50 - H. O'R to D - Dont fail to do all you can to to aid me for a while to suit proper you draw on me on some of it. In a couple months I will be easy, but till then do all you can.

As I pay all you draw on me, try and draw on me at 2 to 4 mos & suit to enable to suit matters now coming due.

I will rely on you to raise by drafts on me without a moments delay all you can conveniently. Having paid your Chicago & all other drafts credit will stand fair & you may raise something Can you not convert a portion of the receipts of the line to help to suit these payments for its construction & I can pay up the Telegraphers & have delivering the line to stockholders or company.

June 14. 50 H. O'R to Kirtland Dayton By request of Dolano I send you any name on 2 blanks for acceptances, to be filled up as he advises you, for accommodation of his business, I wish them made payable at my office 181 Broadway

July 15. 50 Hastings to Delano. Vindicating himself against charges of Drinking & Gambeling &c.

Aug 5. 50 H. AR to D enclosing a letter to McRoss cash Trueman. "I hate to ask any human being to endorse here, as I ~~have~~ not thus far; but I will do so unless you can with the most ample security to any one who will aid us at Dayton or Toledo raise enough by Dft on me at 3 months to pay the $2000 dft on which Ellis now was on to pay the $1600. for which the first new draft was given to Ross by you.

If you can find friends at Dayton to aid you to do this, Pl to Ross you will pay cash for 1st dft,

I will send you stock or Deed of lands to Endiminify any one who will aid you in raising the money in Dayton or Toledo by dfts on me at 3. mo- or even at 2, I only want a little time and all goes well as you see,

Your own good sense & good feelings will direct you how to act, If you can raise even enough to redeem the dft which Ellis accepted, past due ($2000. & interest & cost do so- but I suppose interest & cost will swell it to mean amt of new dft ($1600.) given to Ross-

Aug 5. 50. H. AR to Ross accompanying the above to D. Says Excepting the matter at your Bank (will succeed as it is) I have not a particle of accomodation in any Bank in the United States, over which Vaste tristalory any business Speculations."

Delano adds a note in pencil - "It was in July 50. I stood to Trueman to renew the $2000 I also then by giving my dft on O'Reilly. The Bank demanded why I had not brought My endorser. but finally took my draft without giving up the old paper. They have I think $8000 Lost & stock, but the old endorsers (Judge Ellis & E J Smith) contend that they are exempt by the Bank taking the new paper I have been sworn two times & protested on the whole amount

Sept 14 50 - H. OR to D. "Dfts have been sent back, but I left note saying I would pay or deposit for one or both of them within 5 days from this,

I have just got this (& trumpled down) an attempt to drive me into terms by "Coercing" me. But it instructs me with money for a while. I will most fully indemnify (thro fortunately) to any one who will help you, When you know how I am situated you will not wonder at my being short for money for a while - disappointed as I was, but things are now on good footing again -

I will send you in 2 or 3 days securities to place in the hands of your friends, I will insist on paying them heavily for their trouble, Thro all the blame on me, I would bear every thing rather than your credit or feelings should be hurt, You will not suffer, you have done nobly & you shall see that I am not ungrateful I wish to see you in a homestead as I told you last year - Please inform me (if you don't deem me too inquisitive) what sort of a house & lot - price &c &c have situated &c -

I have just asked one dollar accomodation from any bank or broker, for all my business, through the United States, I relied on payment here from one who should not disappoint me & their delay must plead my apology. You know I would not allow your dfts to go back if I could help it. I make bold to say this morning that I would pay one or both dfts written 5 days (before which your letter will arrive) if other means do not arrive tho' I little hope to be able to raise any here so soon - though soon again all will be easy." -

Sept 23-50 H OR to D - You surely know enough of me to know that if it were possible, I would not let you or your friends suffer a moment for any money

Sept 23-50. H&R to D. "I will cheerfully take all blame by a card in your newspapers if necessary; & as for indemnity, I will indemnify any one most satisfactorily, for any aid they give you,

If you will send me statement who are your securities and for what amounts and what stocks you have, I will send you enough to satisfy all, as well as may be. I deeply regret their position; but perhaps I can do them more good, than all the bank favours they ever expected to enjoy—I would write more but I am busy, Friend Deland: when you review the past 5 years and more, and see how I have borne up through all troubles & how my footing was less secure than now you will not probably doubt that I will soon indemnify any one who suffers temporary Mortification (& none can suffer more than I) for non payment of a draft, or two—

I deeply most deeply regret but cannot help for a while—Steadiness & firmness for a little while make all straight—I know you will not be dismayed, & you others may believe that I never forget any aid rendered me. God bless you!

Oct 4th 50. Mrs. H & R to D. "P.S. I have executed a mortgage so as to screen you on the friends who endorse for you to the amt of $5000—on my place at Fort Washington—Donald Mann being the mortgagee with your name inserted for him to screen—(Mr Mann you may know is now my son in law)—

Nov 9 1850. H&R. to D. a long letter justifying the price ch^d for the line, and enclosing the conveyance of the line to the Co & schedule for the issue of stock—

Nov 12th 50 A&R to D. I am enlisting aid to meet payments so as to Ease you on your line, I rely on paying acceptance for $2000 so as to soon protect on 15th and must rely on you to get along with the others; and making every effort in my power specially to release you"—

I will write (if needful) to the president from whom you bought the farm and show him whether Sam either — or ungrateful, Be of good Cheer a little longer, All will go well — I think it best to pay the $2000 on the 15th and have those already protested to be settled as well as we can, I will soon work through—

Nov 15, 50 A&R to D— Your $2000 dft for Sam Dec! I did not want you to get any more protests if I could help it, but dont loose an instant in trying to help me with some means to meet your next one. if (as I believe) you come before January I can soon make matters easier, Stand your ground firmly as usual,

I will cheerfully & liberally pay any any friend who endorses for you, they shall never regret it, God bless you—

Nov 30. A&R to D. You know the fortitude it has taken for me to work through the last 5 years. You know I always bring things out right in the end. I am delayed and disappointed for a while — I will soon make all right, You know that no one can suffer in the end, I am doing all I can and will soon make all money matters easy — Stand firm! Ask any one to look at my course, and be assured I would not allow any one to suffer long — I say that I decried you and say that I only am answerable — I will make good to anyone who suffers by endorsing for you here, as what was done at Indianapolis —

Decr 16. 57. Dondlann to Dreland - This appears to be the first letter from M to D and it breathes the same good wishes, and confidence that has surrounded it in all letters, and makes the promises of aid as may be seen by following extract, And we beg you to believe that any thing that it is possible for us to do, to relieve the necessary difficulties which you have been obliged to incur to accomplish what you have accomplished will most cheerfully & certainly be done, and we trust that before long our abilities in that respect will be equal our desires -

Mr O'R feels as sensibly as you do yourself the annoyance which you suffer for lack of funds, and you will believe me when I say that he has taken every means in his power to aid you - What money has been sent to you was obtained at a sacrifice to great to be mentioned, & still it was cheerfully made and will be again if possible -

Feb 15. 57 D. M to D. Difficulties with My. Stoteline Hence the impossibility of meeting the bft that have been protested here, That draft for £000, was sent at great sacrifice from the peculiar circumstances you were placed in with the endorsers -

I as well as Mr O'R will do every utmost to relieve you soon as possible - I cannot meet the sight draft you mention for £5000 - or any other sum at present I will cooperate in giving any proper securities for all you are any way responsible for - But I hasten to Enquire about the £50,000 - O. I & I stock which you say is pledged for £5,000 - due on the 20th Is not this incorrect as to amount? or if correct in amount is it such a pledge as will allow any sacrifice if money is not paid that day? The amount is so great (if that is correct)

over

that I cannot doubt your usual fundness has been manifested in guarding against any sudden sacrifice
Please write me fully on receipt of this,
In reference to Milwaukee we will write you again on monday or tuesday —

Nov 17.1857 W. Hubbell to D. Enclosed is Sight check for M.Y to your order.
Nov 19 Same check for $155.67 —
I made the sale as follows $1000. Cash $800
6 mo. without interest to 8 different parties, $185,
of the 1000 still unpaid —

June 8.48 D. Charges Services on his Steamer and
4 days — $56.
Feb 2.49 — Our year Salary as Sup't Sept $500.
Cr O'R — "Deduct amt due Mr O'R by W.J.D
borrowed at sundry times since leaving Phil — $97.03
Bal due D at this date
Say Feb 2.49 — $232.64

March 23.1850 — Drlano Charges O'R — $11.040.08
Cr O'R Cash rec'd - Subscriptions
on acct of an O'R — $9.953.13
Balance due Drlano — $1.086.95

Dec 10.50 W.J. Drlano. A/c Stone $500 (acknowledged by Stone not Dec 7.50) a/c Milwaukee line —

NEW YORK, ERIE & MICHIGAN
TELEGRAPH COMPANIES.

Offices, No. 5 Hanover Street, Corner of Beaver, and Corner of Broadway and Canal Streets.

Cost of Answer, 10 *or less words,* *each added word*

New York, Jany 2 1851.

Received by Telegraph from Ithaca

For E Cornell

The large stem take in No 7 wire full size how large do you want them ~~how many do you want~~ Have sent 6376 small stems and 2472 / 9048 large stems, How many more do you want, We are now out of glasses

V Conrad

V. Conrad
E. Jan 1852

500 ✓
446 ✓
343 ✓
293 ✓
400 ✓
400 ✓
280 ✓
350 ✓
305 ✓
184 ✓
180 ✓
272 ✓
168 ✓
412 ✓
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238 ✓
420 ✓
98 ✓
521 ✓
480 ✓
270 ✓
595 ✓
134 ✓
141 ✓
13,007

265
219
306
750
250
80
100
2000
600
4570

56
30
1680
Pil. [illegible]

850
400
111
1361

52
25
260
1040
1300

440
77
363
40
14,520

250.00

94
1[illegible]
13.0

Burlington January 4th 1857

Dr Sir:

Your favor of the 29th Dec was rec'd last evening. The Sup. Court for this district is now in session, but as soon as it closes, I will endeavor to bring your business with the Tel. Co. to a satisfactory conclusion. I can see no reason why your proposal should not be satisfactory.

In haste

Respectfully Yours
L. B. Englesby

E. Cornell Esq
Ithaca

Burlington January 7th 1852

Dr. Sir.

I have seen Mr Hickok Secy of S&C. J. T. Co in regard to the proposition contained in your last letter. He expresses himself satisfied with it and says the matter can be adjusted as soon as you will furnish them evidence of your title, either by the original deeds from Morse & bail or certified copies of the same. Perhaps you had better send me the deeds, if convenient, & they will show the record. I advise to such course not from any regard for the Co, because I consider it their duty to look up the title for themselves, but as the best and cheapest way for you to be rid of the matter. On an examination of the records I find there were six shares of your stock sold to satisfy the exn Durand v you at $18. pr share, which after satisfying the exn & costs leaves a balance in the officers hands of $11.50. which you had perhaps ~~better~~ give me an order for & I will account for

the same.

Very Early Yours

L. B. Englesley

E. Cornell Esq.
Ithaca

Ithaca

L B Englesley
7 Jan. 1852

Newburgh Jan'y 11th 1851

Dear Sir.

Yours just received. From a misunderstanding of one of my letters. You use the expression "charge" to let me off from my present engagement. I asked on what terms or conditions I could get released, provided I could do better. I doubt if I used the word charge at all. But we will let that go. There are some things stated in yours which are not true. I am not sure you used them for truths or merely as arguments. I shall point them out. I have never said that my situation here was unpleasant except so far as this, that the company did not fulfil their part of the contract. & I repeat the same now. From that fact my position here has been & continues to be unpleasant. The work of the line on the east of the 9th did not indicate that they were crossed near me. I am the best judge of that matter. Had you asked Butcher to request me to examine & & in your name. My remark would probably have been somewhat different. Butchers words will not pass with this way. And his last stay at Fishkill has done more to damn the character of N.Y. &c than I could do to injure this line if I were disposed which, I am not. I allude to his answer when asked what sent him up there to open that office. In good weather I have walked that distance. in bad weather tis not the duty of any one to do it. I dont know what duties the Co hired me to perform. nor what duties they have paid me for performing. I do know that I have performed each & every duty of operator at this station. When the company are sure this is not the case they can make the most-

of it & discharge me at once. I sent out yesterday morning to top of Butter Hill, & as twice before there is none nor was any trouble this side of the River whatever N.Y. may think of the <u>indications</u>. All signs fail in dry weather. I have had to pay for sending to Goshen twice under just such circumstances. 'Tis such matters that I protest against.

Now I would not give a fig to know <u>what</u> Ops say that I do not perform my duties. but I should really like to know <u>how many</u> of the officials are of that opinion. But to close. I say that the Co has failed to perform its duties & engagements towards me. while I have not failed in the strict performance of my duties as Newburgh operator. Now for that part in which you are most interested. Just as soon as you can come here yourself or arrange to settle completely & fully with me, you shall have the desired <u>resignation</u>. Dont misunderstand me, you are to have my resignation when you settle with me fully. If you can make any arrangements with J.J. White for the amt of my bond bill, I can not how long or little it gives. What I have asked & stipulated for was that I had my pay as regularly as the N.Y. Ops. I told the Co at the time I engaged that I would not take an ops when I could not get my pay every month. they said that "at "W" I should get it" & refused to the rate of this ops for the year previous to show me the prospect. I know that this ops has not done what the Co supposed it would, but they have no grounds to say that I have done anything to lessen the rate. Respectfully & c yours. Chas H. St Ingersoll
Operator

Ingersoll Jan'y 57

P.S. I entertain the same feelings of respect to you individually as formerly. I am down on the arrangements which do not fullfil arrangements with me - I know that you form your opinion of me by my letters & by what you hear Ny say of me - Let me tell you that when the line works well Ny. does not talk of me. When It works bad they are in no can competent judges of the line this way or of my remarks or conduct or of character as operator. I have never taken it upon me to indicate to Ny. that the trouble was on his part of the line - What ever my letters say I have always sent or gone out when the trouble appeared to me to be on my part. & I hold that I am to be judge of that fact & not the N.Y. ofs!

C M K

Erie Jan 13th 1851

E. Carnell

Sir— On saturday last a despatch from you was recd by me at R. ops stating the express charges were collected, also, that they were exorbitant. A.L. Rockwood done the express business by hiring horse and cutter and driving thirty miles on best of sleighing and after an absence of two days returned with Wm. Miller who paid all expences, answered Thomas & Stephens communication and paid for it also. I as opr. done the business of the office free of charge to him. Now Rockwood asks Mr Stephens to pay him three dollars for two days pleasure riding, it being a compensation for his time as principle of this ops. and that too when he has not incurred one cent of expence. You may present this to Mr Stephens or make any other disposal of it you may deem advisable

Yours Respectfully

E. H. Curtis

Darien (Conn) Jany 14th 1857.

Mr Connell,

Dr Sir,

As you thought best, I wrote to Mr Sadler in regard to the New Haven affair but as yet, have heard nothing from him. I wrote to have him reply, if convenient, immediately on receipt of the letter, I stated the whole case to him, telling him just how I was situated with you, I do not know as he will trouble himself about the matter, but am inclind to think he will throw it aside, however if you think best, you can telegraph him and, get the purport of my letter from him, I assure you, that what I told you was true to a letter, and I presume it is useless for me to say anything more about, But to only ask you if you will offer me a Situation, and from my actions judge me, and not from hiarsay, all that I will ask of you is enough to live on until you are satisfid, as regards my honesty and faithfullness. Please write to me here in the care of Geo Walmsley Esqr. on reciept of this.

Yours &c

E. W. Tomlinson.

Paid } Darien Ct
Jan 15

Paid
5

E. Cornell Esq.
Telegraph Office
No 5 Hanover St
New York City

if not there
please forward

E M Tomlinson
14 Jan 57

Chicago 16 Jany 1857

Sam Sir

I have been to Milwaukee and spent some days with Hotchkiss - He cannot pay one dollar now: but I believe he will pay every cent he owes you, or any one else, I will give you the reasons on which I found my belief, and you can then judge of the future as well as I can - Hotchkiss has built the line from Milwaukee to Prairieburg, 170 miles - from Milwaukee via Janesville to Madison and Fulton 220 miles - from Madison to Fort Winnebago via Baraboo 60 miles - from Chicago to Janesville via Rockford & St Charles 148 miles, making in all 598 miles - He owes nothing for labour, or bills, or taxes bills - He owes nothing for iron, except what he owes you, and nothing for instruments - He owes about $3000 dollars for borrowed money, some considerable of which is not due until next fall - He owes sundry small debts here, but in sending what he owes you his whole indebtedness does not exceed $4500 dollars - He has in notes, and balances due on subscriptions, where half and three fourths

has been paid over $6000 dollars, besides near as much more in subscriptions which he will get something out of - His lines are now all done, except the putting on of about 25 miles of wire from this city West - the poles are all up, and the wire on hand, and paid for, to complete the line. This he has done under difficulties and obstructions in the way, which to most men would have been insurmountable - In the first place, Wilson, as you know, had the contracts, and commenced the lines - He constructed the line from Milwaukee to ~~Galena~~ Madison and incurred the whole liability now due you for wire - He also made other debts to a large amount, and squandered the money collected - Wilson also had an Agent named Bowman, who got stock subscribed on the line from this city to Galena, and collected a large part of it, and like Wilson fooled away the money - All those losses & foolish bargains Hotchkiss has had to pay for, and they amount to full as much as he now owes on all the lines he has built - Wilson & Bowman made both routes where they must fairly stink, and required twice the effort to undo what

they had done, that it would to have built the lines, if the track had been clear. On the Greenbay line, Hotchkiss had to contest with the O'Reilly tribe, who fought him every inch of the way, ~~and~~ they collected some, and run in debt for more, and have got poles up all the way from Milwaukee to Greenbay; but have not got on a rod of wire, and never will. Their efforts presented Hotchkiss from collecting as much as he would otherwise have done. You will no doubt say that if he has paid so much, he might have paid you a part; but he has been obliged to pay for his wire as he used it, and for his instruments when he got them; and for the balance as it was done; and he says, and I believe, that he has never seen the time when he could spare 100 and go on with his work. He now has his lines done, and tells me that he will collect the balance due him, sell some lots he has taken for stock, and clear up all demands against him. I believe he means just as he says, and I believe too that he will do just as he says, so far as he has it in his power to comply with his promises. He will have a very large amount of stock after all his debts are paid. What the stock will be worth, is doubtful. The country is rapidly increasing. The towers are

rapidly growing into Cities, and the time may come when his lines will pay: but I confess that my faith in Telegraph stock is much weaker than it was a year or two ago - The poles will soon rot down, & I doubt whether there are many lines in the Country which will earn money enough to replace them - You will ask when Hotchkiss will give you some substantial proof that he means to pay your demand! - That I cannot answer - but if all he tells me is true, and I believe every word of it, I can guess that it will all be paid in something less than a year - He wont be able to pay anything under four to six months - He says (& I believe he means it) that he can pay you all within the year - probably half by June or July and the other half as fast as he can collect during the summer - You will remind me that you had the same story told a year ago, and that when an other year rolls round it will be repeated again - It may be so - I only tell you what is told to me, and if you wont believe the big fish story a second time, I will and hope that you will be disappointed, if you will call it a bad debt - Yours truly J. H. Speed Jr

I think we are doing here as much bus as the Sedano line, and Snow line both, but that leaves but half, instead of the whole for us - How long we will have to contend with two lines, taking Eastern bus, I cant say; but we owe nothing here or West of the Lake, and they owe every body - Snows wine and Just are under attachment in every County from here to Ohio - The O'Reily line from here to St Louis has seen in debt, and the Stockholders have had to pay an assessment to keep it up - The Stock could be bought for ten cents on the dollar - Snow owns for all, or nearly all, the poles they have set from here to Greenbay, and for Liv Stable bills and Tavern bills every where - The fact is, The public have been so tremendously cheated, that almost every body is suspicious of Telegraph debts, and Hotchkiss has had to pay up as he went, and by doing so has gained the confidence of the public, and got the means

to complete his lines. I think there are few men in any Country who could have done what Hatchkiss has, and whether his lines pay or not, I believe he will pay you, because I believe he has the money due him, and can collect it. If it depended on getting the money by working his lines, I would consider the debt bad, beyond all hope, for I have great doubts about our line to Ben, paying any more than to keep it in good repair, and reset the holes as fast as they rot down.

I do not mean to do any more to our line than is absolutely necessary to keep it working, until we get all our debts paid. Two lines all the way from Ben to Ann, and three half way, cant all live. Some one must die, will try and live longest if possible. I owed $500 on cabs hayl at Ben about three days and sundry other matters which had to be paid, I have borrowed some & collected some, and paid the $500 about $200 at Cleveland & can keep out of jail for 60 days longer. Will send the pay for old acid bill soon. Cant pay Ely before summer & then

in Indiana, Cleveland as we are Ann the money,

In place to

New York Jany 17th 1857

Mr Cornell

A Meeting of the Directors of the Bank where I am applying for a situation, is to be held on Monday or Tuesday & I wish to get a letter from you stating that I had been in your employ & that ~~was~~ ~~bad~~ received I had performed my duties to your satisfaction &c. I infer this from numerous letters you have written me as from those I received from Mr Boardman & feeling myself conscious that I have done every thing to serve your interests & that of the line since I have been employed by you, as this letter will be placed before the Directors as a reference you will much oblige me by answering by return of mail

Very Respectfully

Yours &c

C Robinson

it is too late to pay postage on these letters but I will do so

Owego Jan 18th 1851

Mr E. Cornell President
N.Y. & Erie Telegraph Co

Sir

Will you please pay to I. B. & A. I. Terry of Ithaca $ 68.22/100 on or before wednesday next (22nd inst) and direct them to place the same to my credit.

If you do so please charge me that amount on the books of the N.Y. & Erie Telegraph Co —

Whether you do conclude to comply with the above or not please inform me by monday next as if I cant be thus accomodated I may have the balance of the time to provide otherwise

M. L. Wood

E. Cornell Esq
Prest. N.Y. & E Tel Co

Ans. 20th Jany 1851

Meadville Penna Jan-20/51

Dear Sir

I understand that you are, or are going to be the Superintendent of the New York & Erie, Rail Road, Telegraph. And as I am a Telegraph Operator, and desirous of obtaining a situation as such, I take the liberty of writing to you to solicit a situation on the above named line.

I am nineteen years of age, have been operating in this place over a year, on the Allegheny and Erie line, And I flatter myself that I can keep and attend an office about right.

I can get a good recommendation as Operator, from every Operator on our line, unless it be from Cobb at Fredonia, who has never treated me just as he should have done, Also from M. P Pew the Superintendent.

Recommendations as regards my Character, and standing in society, I can give you <u>any amount</u> from all who know me. Let me refer you to Mr S. N. Brown of Lord & Brown, 55 Cedar Street, New York, Also

Mr D. Dick, inventor of Dicks anti friction press New York, Also Geo P. Morris & N. P. Willis, Editors of Home Journal.

The latter two persons however I am not personally acquainted with. Let me also refer you to M. Galbraith of Erie, also to any resident of Meadville The Smiedekopers, Reynolds's, Cullums, Dicks, & Presidents R. P. Stebbins, J. Barker ect, & ect,

This is my native place and my home, & I do not wish to trouble you to make enquiries of these persons, but if solicited from you I will get written recommendations from all of the above named persons, besides a host of others—

I can be at your service any time, Hoping that you will give me an immediate reply & also state what salary you will be able to give, and where you could probably locate me &c, ect,

I remain respectfully Yours &c
Wm Shippen

Mr E. Cornell New York

P S. If you do not wish any more Operators at present probably you may in the spring, At which time I would also like to be remembered, Yours &c W.S.

1

Ann Shubert
20 Feb 57

Erie Pa. Jan 20th 1851

E. Cornell

Sir – Will you have the kindness to inform me when the New York & Erie Telegraph Line will probably be completed and offices opened, the salaries of the same and who superintends the employing of operators. I am desirous of a situation on that line and give A. King, A. Hitchcock and O. D. Spafford as references to my character and standing in this place, which has been my residence for four years past. Any information you may give to the above enquiries will be thankfully rec'd.

Yours Respectfully

E. M. Curtis

E. Cornell
New York City

Detroit 21 Jany 1851

Dear Sir

I returned home last evening - and find yours of the 5th & also one from Lee which I enclose - I think Lee will continue to get through, but he seems to have a hard fight for it - One thing is certain neither you or I can help him unless it is by going to St Louis and getting Stock taken, and that we have not time to do -

You probably remember your Geographical correspondence with Clark of Chicago, about a certain "Castle" in N.Y. I told Clark, when he mentioned to me the facts - That I would get a letter from Faxton complaining that answers were sent by your line which belonged to him - When I got home I found Faxton's letter, as I expected, After stating his grievances he closes by offering to send our bus to N.Y. for thirty cents instead of forty - This would give us nearly our full Tariff between Cleveland & Bu, or when sending to N.Y., and the full price for all coins coming this way = What shall I say to our directors for paying 40 cents on each coin when Faxton offers to send them for 30¢

You ask how we get Delano's bus, & where his line is. His line is from Toledo via Lagansport to Chicago, and he writes in one circuit from Toledo to Ch. and he gives us his bus, or a part of it, at Toledo, by our giving him his answers which the OR line do. The reason why he gave us his bus, was because the Lake line & OR Tribe (represented by Delano) had a quarrel, and the Lake line gave their Western bus to Snow at Monroe. I have no confidence in retaining Delano's bus, as Bain line at Bu will give their bus to Lake line, & they will abandon Snow and unite with Delano. In relation to Reports I do all I can and try to get all our offices to do so: Think they will improve in that matter when navigation opens. I cut the statistical report from Ch paper, and if it was lies the Editor or the Telegraph made them. The letter I wrote you from Ch. I wrote to show Hotchkiss, as I want him to understand that I have the utmost confidence in his honesty and integrity. I do think that he has accomplished a great deal, and that you will get the amt he owes you: but he cannot get it now. There is scarcely any money in Wisconsin

and will not be until the opening of the navigation - I will keep at him and do all that can be done to get it & as soon as it is possible to do so - We have had to keep a man constantly on the line between Mich City & Ch. to repair breaks, as they are grading RR & cutting ties all along our line and breake in down three or four times a day - When we get on the RR all the way to Ch. we will have the most reliable line in the Country - but we cant get enough this winter to pay expenses & repairs - I will attend to all the matters referred to in yours respecting lines on RRoads - Brooks is now in Boston, when he returns I will have the matter settled about 2d wire -

Cobb has written me & enclosed your letter to him - He thinks you have done him great injustice & he proposes to quit - What reason have you for charging him with making a false return? He sent me what I suppose he sent to you, giving an a/c of each days business - I will bet you a quart of soap that you may take every coin which has passed F1 office for the month of December, and make out a statement from the checks and it will not vary one cent from Cobbs statement - and if that is so, you

certainly did Cobb injustice - Why do you say it is not correct? I told Cobb not to enter reports either way - that you would keep that a/c and give us credit for our share - I cannot see how Cobb should lie so badly as you accuse him of doing - Do you mean to say that he has charged you with more cows than he recd & sent on our line, or that he has failed to credit you with all that was sent on your line? If his statement sent you is incorrect the books on both lines are also wrong, and Cobb is not competent to do the bus - I am satisfied that Cobb is honest, and when you accuse a man of dishonesty, you should be sure that you are right, as one of the strongest safeguards is broken down, the moment you make a man believe that it is a slight matter be accused of dishonesty - If you will send me a list of every corn sent and recd by your line in Dec, ~~I will~~ with the address signature and check, I will find out where the error is - If you think Cobb is dishonest it is your duty to both lines to have

him removed, at once, and a better man put in his place - If however your account at N-York should happen to be incorrect, and his right, you have given him reason to Complain - I am inclined to think that you had better send some one to H to take Charge of your buy, and some one that you have confidence in - I do not want our operator there to have charge of both lines, as it will always give rise to hard talk, and unpleasant occurances - your operator would protect your interests, and if he did not, you could change him any month, if you Chose to do so - I will want O Brigham in the Spring to go to Dunkirk and you must send your own man to H - But give in the list of cons you want if Cobb is dishonest, or incompetent I would like to know it, and if you are right, and he has ignorantly or dishonestly made a false statement, we dont want him any longer - I will tell Cobb to make out a list of every con need sent, with Sc's & address, no cons & check, and send to you, and we will have the questions settled: but as that will be too much work to be followed up every month, you better find an honest man there who will render you a correct statement the first time -

In looking over your letter the 2d time — I see you say, "I have put some little confidence in what you said to me about having my claim against Hotchkiss I suppose you meant secured — and am therefore surprised to see you write, "as to Hotchkiss and his promises I am as much in the dark as you are" — I never wrote you, or told you that I had the Claim secure, without telling what the security consisted in — You blamed me for saying that Hotchkiss would pay at a certain time — I repeated to you what he said, or wrote, or Telegraphed to me, and you knew that I had not been out West all summer, and of course could only tell you what he told me in reply to my various letters and dispatches urging him to pay — In the first place, I erred in having anything to do with Wilson. He was a dead shave, but you also erred when you told him to go ahead & build the line to Madison if he could get fifty dolls per mile subscribed Wilson squandered all the money Hotchkiss owes besides building in the name of Cornell & Speed & getting us in, for between two & three thousand dollars of liabilities besides the coin you sent him — I managed to get rid of every dollar of liability, and got all the Security I, or any one else, could get at the time,

and it consists of almost any kind of Slack, not worth the paper it is printed on - I still believe that I can get every dollar out of Hotchkiss, but it will be some time coming, and I may be wholly deceived and never get one dollar. I think the best way to induce him to buy, is to have him understand that I have the utmost confidence in his capacity, honesty, and ability to do all he promises - If you choose to direct any better, or quicker, or surer way of getting it, I will comply with your directions - He offered me his horse & buggy, which I would certainly have taken, if I had considered the debt good, and if you say so, I can now get horses & buggy & village lots, worth perhaps half what I would have to give for them; but I shall do no such thing without you direct it, as I believe you will get better buy in the end - He says

he can, & will pay all this season, and I think he means to do it - but if he does not, I only say to you what he says to me, & do not mean to be understood as saying that he will or will not pay it, I only give you my belief, from all the circumstances I have been able to find out - I will keep trying in the way I think best to secure the payment; but if you can dictate any other way more satisfactory to you, I will comply with your directions —

Let me hear from that F. bus again

Yours truly

J J Speed Jr

Newburyh Jan'y 24th 1851

Dear Sir,

Is there any way that I can get money of this company so as to keep my board bill paid? You must see the importance of that much being furnished me. 'Tis very unpleasent for me to be mentioning this subject to you so often, but I can not help it - The Co alone is responsible for so frequent notice of this matter.

Now we are out of coal & I shall not go to P.R. & Co for any more on the terms which they impose. Do you even wish this office kept open if the weather becomes cold again as it very likely will? Do you expect it?

My instrument runs very poorly & it is not in my power to improve it. I have tried my best. Have you any put aside which will do me better service? I presume you are very busy that my last receives no answer. While it remains unanswered I dont apprehend I shall hear any more about not performing my duties as operator. One of three things is very certain. either they cant get rid of me by those charges or they dont wish to get rid of me, or lastly, I do as well as they can reasonably ask or expect of me & therefore I am retained & my resignation not accepted. Respectfully &c

Chas M. K. Ingersoll

Pike Jany 26th 1851

Dear Sir

I trust you will pardon me for taking the liberty of addressing you by letter, allthough a stranger I feel as much intimacy as if we had years of acquaintance & shall make myself just as familiar with you as circumstances will allow and hope I may expect the same from you I suppose I am an older man than you are but age is honorable if we live accordingly, I would be extremly glad if you could come here and see how I live & form a personal acquaintance, I am a man 45 years of age have a wife & 2 children am a Cabinet maker by trade have been in Pike (a small Village of about 600 inhabitants) for 23 years, came here with nothing and hold my own first rate, have got a comfortable living so far & trust I shall while my health is preserved but I tell you this telegraph biss is rhe poor biss for me but I am into it & shall do my duty as far as I know it regardless of interest to myself while I occupy the station I now do, I no need to tell you I am no Operator for you know it allready but I am not to blame for that as I have had no advantages nor do I expect to ever be a first rate one, I think I can get along with this Office with the help and

over

Pacience of my fellows & I must say they have always used me with the greatest civility for which I respect them for I have no doubt troubled them some times, If you see any thing out of place in me please have the goodness to correct me & be assured it done ignorantly & should therefore be winked at;

And now when you have leasure I want your opinion on the prospects of this line, is the Stock going to be worth any thing or not the reason I ask is I have a chance to purchase a share at a good lay, please give me something near what the expences will everage & what it has earned for the last three months that I may judge something and with your opinion (which I shall appreciate much) I will make up my mind,

I herewith inclose my report for December & if it is so you can understand it I shall be glad for I must say I dont fairly myself, should it be altered in any way pls instruct me, bns with me is dull not had a nibble since 14th inst but plenty employ on line for last week and what on earth is mtr I kw not I think we have got it in close quarters when me left it last ni at dark we cd get gd ci with F & 10 rods fr tr cd wrk east, I would like your opinion on the mistary, I am willing to go & hunt it out but I am sometimes afraid the Co will complain of the expence but I am as careful of that as possible.

write me on the Receipt of this & I wd like to see you much
Yours &c
[illegible] D. P. Gordon

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

UTICA, *January 27* **1851.**

E. Cornell Esqr

Dear Sir.

Yours of December 19th came duly to hand, and in reply have to say that I cannot see any particular benefit likely to result from a meeting at you propose; and my time is too much occupied otherwise to devote to what would seem to be entirely useless, in trying to bring about such an arrangement as you speak of.

Respectfully Yours

V. Paxton

Detroit 28th Jany 1857-

Dear Sir

When we were at Cleveland last fall, I felt that you had good cause to accuse me of a want of sagacity, or inattention, in allowing the accounts at that office to be in the condition you found them- I remembered that you asked me once, how Alonzo's a/c stood with this Company, and I replied, that we owed him several hundred dollars- I now enclose you a Statement made by him showing, as I had every reason to suppose, a correct a/c of the business at that office up to 1st June 1856- The Report in which this Statement was enclosed, shows a balance of Cash on hand of $58.21- no more than I might reasonably suppose was due from Customers, and actually on hand- This Statement also professes to show the amt due by the Co, to every body at Cleveland, and being but little over $100 more than the amt on hand to pay it with- The actual amount due when AB left, as near as I have been able to ascertain, was as follows:-

Due A. S. Sanford Stationery &c	$121.03
" M. C. Youngloves Stationy &c	158.87
" H & R Gaylord Acid &c	241.21
" Carron & Kendig - Signs painting &c	11.39
" Gardner & Vincent. desks & other fixings including bal due his boy as messenger -	127.00
" E Cushing for services as messenger	94.01
" Livery Stable bill	25.80
" H. C. Buel Operator	34.14.
" C Iredell Book Keeper	126.08
" Morley on Rent	15.00
	$1004.50

What part of this sum was due 1 June, I am not able to say; but certainly much the larger half of it was due before that time - I relied on the statement made out by A B & now enclosed to you, and it was not until I had the $200 to buy on A B's draft, that my suspicions that all was not right at Cleveland, were excited - I do not send you this by way of complaining, but to show you that I had reason to suppose that the financial matters at Cleveland were all right as late as June 1st. 1850 — I have been able to pay but little of the above mentioned debt, and we are threatened with suits; but I will probably

be able to pay it off during the coming Spring - I have concluded to send Haviland to Cleveland - There must be some one at that office, who can control the working of the Eastern circuit - The boys will all be willing to mind Haviland; but would pay no attention to Marks - Hoyt has also gone to Cleveland, and taken Buels place, who got so lazy and so abusive to other operators that I could do nothing with him - We must incur no expense the coming year, except what may be indispensable to keep the line at work, unless we can get it out of the R.R.Co, and by doing so, I hope to be able to pay off all we owe -

Have you made any progress in organizing N.Y. & E. Co under the Genl law of N.Y.? It would be well to so, as the stock would be more valuable, at least to sell, if not to keep -

I owe about three thousand dolls in N.Y. on Speed & Tourtellots old store debts, besides a claim which old Mum has against me for the balance due him on

lot back of store at Jan I paid the old Hebrew $500 in cash, (or I paid it to Burbe) besides near as much more in interest. He then sold the lot under his mortgage and bid it in himself leaving near or quite the whole amt due on the judgment - If I never get anything out of our Telegraph Stocks besides a living - I would like to turn out stock & pay off those old debts, so I would be free to engage in any-thing else - If you had My & E organised under the My. Law, I could probably induce my Creditors to take stock in your line & release me - I can pay a debt to the firm of John Johnson's sons in E & M Tel Stock, which I think I had better do - If I can settle with Munn, I think I can with all the rest - If I cannot, I will take the advantage of Mich insolvent laws, and set him at defiance -

If we can get the control of the R Road lines from here through Canada, and on the South Shore, and on the Southern RR in this State, we will prevent

having any more competition than we now have, and it is exceedingly questionable whether the Rochester Guts, will want to furnish funds to renew wire & poles - some bargain can be made, when the Patent question is settled, to have best one line from Ber West - We are as much in their way, as they are in ours; and we can sell out to them, or unite our interests, or buy them out - I think somebody will ultimately make money out of this Lake line Telegraph, and the only question is, who will live longest -

Your plan for concentrating our lines, or the more efficient working of them by more concert of action, can be made to work to our mutual advantage - but it is so difficult to move in this Country in the winter, that I would rather avoid a Stage ride to Ber. if possible - As soon as the navigation opens - Hotchkiss, Wade, Lee, & myself, and as many others as you can induce to join us, will meet you at any place you say - Cleveland would be most central, if Eastern lines do not ~~unite~~ with us -

Brooks is still absent, and nothing can be done about RR wire until he returns - If RRCo will pay for 2d wire, I will get glasses made at Pittsburgh where I can get them for 2½ cents; but if Brooks declines paying for 2d wire on RR, I will get two bbls more glasses from Jersey City, which will fill caps enough to repair with, where glass knobs get broken - We must move line on RR from Niles to the Indian State line 16 miles this side of Chicago. We have poles paid for to Mich City, and the wire on 6 miles West of Niles - We will have about 65 or 70 miles poles to set & wire to put on: But if RRCo do nothing, Wood will reset poles on RR West of Niles when not engaged in repairing, and take all summer to do it, so that we will not pay out much for extra work -

I think you make a mistake in keeping bus, when NY & E is down - Other line beat us on NY. bus as they get it via Philad, when Bain line is down between NY & Bu - & when you are down better give it Faxton -

Yours truly

J. J. Speed Jr

I. J. Speed Jr
Sent to Jr
Have nothing else on hand
You can read this some Sunday when you

Middletown Jan 29/51

Mr E Cornell

Sir

In the summer of 1849 I wrote you for information in Relation to the value of N.Y.&E. Telegraph Stock as I had an opportunity to buy at a little below par. You answered me saying that if I could buy below par it would a good investment on this information I Bot. a little stock & I now wish to enquire whether I am to Expect any dividends in order that I may Realize a small Interest on my investment — You assured me with others in this place that we Must Realize large dividends when we Subscribed in the first Instant I for one wish you to inform me what I may Expect for the Eight shares I now hold it is not a large amount but I have not $400 to throw away or any part of it — If you will be so kind as show me how I am to come out of this with a whole skin you will Greatly oblige me —

Respectfully yours Elisha P Wheeler

Elmira Jan' 30th 1851

Mr Cornell

Dr Sir

I have been trying ever since you left to make My local Battery work with some power but I find it impopible to do so.

I have got a Mepenger boy who will I think learn very soon. It is Mr Smith's boy the one you spoke of getting He seems to be a very smart little fellow & I think he will do well. I want a good local in order to learn him as soon as popible. The Main seems to work very well indeed. I think I had better have one of the old locals until we find how to use these.

I think you had better give orders along the line to have them leave their circuits closed when they o f n so that we can work early in the morning. Our trains have been late from the east every morning this week & I never can raise Ow tills after 8 o'clock & Mr Rutter complains about it, If it is popible it would be better to have the boys in offices earlier. My Busines opens about as well as could be

expected. I rec'd $1.70 yesterday & $1.04 day before & that was all transient business. With a view of increasing it I thought I would put a badge on the Messengers cap with "Telegraph Messenger" on it in large letters as it is hardly known down town that there is an office here & that will be a good way of advertising it. I wish you would see about my local & send me one of the old ones.

Yours respectfully
L. G. Tillotson
Elmira

E. Cornell Esq
New York

L. G. Tillotson
Sept 30, 57

Binghamton Jany 31st 51

Mr Cornell

Dear Sir

I write to inform you of the annoyance we have experienced, today in particular, but more or less for two weeks past. You saw a fair specimen of it the other day from Goshen — This Evening since 6 Oclock My and I have been continually interrupted and were finally forced to give up with out doing anything, at most but very little — The breaking being west of Ithaca. Circuit opened for good a little before 9 Oclock west of Op —

After Ci opened west. I tried to send a com to My but was interrupted by some one breaking, or playing with the Key and they finally opened, and left, or at least I suppose so, for I got no more Ci — and My Message of 30 words lies on the table Useless Unless this can be stopped. No dependance can be made on busines of any kind important or unimportant. Some of our new

hands, and some who are not so young but who possess a certain degree of recklessness, or carelessness, have got to have light reins drawn. — My student is headstrong but I caution him a dozen times a day about adjusting, and from what I can see it is generally easy to hear him.

You spoke to me when you first came up about going to My town and I have been expecting an order daily — I am satisfied that I can render the Co. double the service in that office under the present circumstances that I can in this, and am rather desirous of going there as soon as convenient with the same understanding as when I hired to Mr Boardman — I think there are operators on the line who can tend this office with ease — if not Mr Allen. Let me hear from you, if you are not coming up soon

Yours Respectfully
P. A. Hopkins

P. Hopkins
31 Jan'y 57

NEW YORK, ERIE & MICHIGAN
TELEGRAPH COMPANIES.

Offices, No. 5 Hanover Street, Corner of Beaver, and Corner of Broadway and Canal Streets.

Cost of Answer, 10 *or less words,* *each added word*

New York, Feb 3 – 1851.

Received by Telegraph from Fredonia 9 PM.

For E Cornell

V said would not be on hand till usual time in morning – Buffalo Boys are so prejudiced with Faxtons Line can do nothing with them – Talked with Speed of Buf some time but he said he would not be on hand –

Cobb

F –

let me know & Erie remain if not should like to return –

S McTowlinson –

De

E.C.

Haviland left this mng to take chg of V offs – He will tell me how the game is played about V offs

J J S. Jr

Ow – E.C.

Sir – Will you please let me know your decision in regard to me – I came here expressly you & passed you on the road – I am on considerable expense to myself in remaining here & you will oblige me much by ans soon if any encouragement

Jeffersonville Feb 3rd/57

Mr Connell —

Dear Sir — There is now due me for Service in this Telegraph office the Sum of Seventeen dollars & Nine cents — which I am obliged to say I must receive to enable me to keep in the Service — The mere rents of the office do not give me sufficient compensation for attending to & do to the instrument —

Will you be so good as to attend to it immediately — I have had considerable expense lending west this month & am in the greatest want or I would not trouble you thus much —

Yours with regard

Geo. M. Huntington

C. Connell Esq

Elmira Feb 3d 1851

Mr Cornell

Dr Sir

Since I have got some paper to run through my Register I find the register does not work well at all. I can get along with it well enough myself by reading by sound. But my Boy can do nothing with it & I want to get him learnt as soon as possible. I have been thinking that I might send this to Owego & he (with his experience) could get along very well & have him send me one of his. He is willing to exchange his old one with me but not the new one, I think we could get along better with the old one than the one we have & if you are willing I will exchange with You. By the way Hay told me Saturday that Platt said if you did not furnish them at Owego with good instruments he would tell Mr Minott about it. I told him I did not think he would make a great deal by it, but I thot I would inform you about it.

It will be necessary for the boys on the line to be in their office certain hours

on Sundays. I was in almost all day yesterday but could not raise any one at any time when they were wanted the most. Ow & B were in in the early part of the day but I could not get them after that. Mr Rutter did not like it at all & said if they were going to be R.R. Men they must be R.R. men & do as they did which was to be on hand Sundays till the trains passed. I should think the hours from 8 to 10 a.m & 4 to 5 or 6 P.M would be the best for that day.

I have been thinking that we might make an arrangement with the Mansion house & perhaps some other to send our Messenger to their house before the arrival of each train & let them know what time they pass Owego or B. I should think they might afford to pay us something for it. Please advise me about it as soon as possible & I will try & see what we can do. The great trouble would be with the night train from N.Y. which passes here so early in the morning I am afraid the boys would not be on hand. We might however come in at 7 o'clock & find out if they were going to be much behind time & that would save them considerable of trouble.

Mr Coffin one of the clerks just came to me & said they Telegraphed for an extra Engine from J this morning but D had not rec any such mesage. D will enquire & see what the reason was as soon as D can. Mr Northrup is now here & going right on to put up the wire West. Mr Rutter went to N.Y. this morning. D wish you would let me know as soon as posible by Tel about changing those insto as D wish to get the boy learnt as soon as posible

Yours respectfully
S.G. Tillotson

P.S. D am much in want of funds. & wish you would provide for me as soon as posible D must have some clothes & busines does not bring in the money fast enough to get them

T

Detroit 4 Feby 1851

Dear Sir

Judging from your dispatches, I conclude that some of our offices have sent bus by Haxton's line, which should have gone by your line, and if Haxton's letters tell the truth, a great many answers have gone back by M&R line, which belonged to him - you are probably both right to some extent, as it is no easy matter to keep the run of every one, and always send it back by the line from which we receive it - I have talked over the subject with Haviland, and I think when he gets to Cleveland, the business will be attended to at that office better, and answers go back by proper line - You have complained of our giving Haxton his answers, but you should recollect that we have an other line along side of us, that would gladly take Haxton's bus, and give him his answers, and if we do not do so, that other line would get the bus - In that case you would be no better off and we would not only loose the answers but we would not get the original bus - All original

bus, we do give your line, when it is up, But when you are down, it is neither for our interest nor yours that we should keep the bus until you get up - If we did, and our customers found it out, they would give their Eastern bus to our opponents - If OR line sends a com to Ny. and the answer cannot be promptly returned by Baire line, it is sent via Phila, or by Faxton's line, or in some other way so that they do get answers to Eastern bus more promptly than we do - When your line is all OR, we get ours well; but you know that you have been down two and three days at a time, and it would be death to us, to keep Eastern bus on hand to wait for Ny & E to get up - If there was but one line up the Lake, we could do as we 'pleased; but with as strong an opposition as we have always been we are compelled to get bus through quick, or loose it - Faxton offers to send our bus from Bu to Ny. for 30 cents for ten words and two cents for ea additional - This would give us 20 & from V for all coms going East, and 25 for all going West - All of our offices between V & Bu & some this side V, have two thirds of the receipts on our line -

when they send via Bu. They would get 2/3 of 10 cents on ea com more than they do by sending over Ny & E line, and as it is for their interest to avail themselves of every chance to send by Bu, they will be inclined to do it, and will do it when they can have any excuse for doing so — The fact is ten cents is too little for sending from V to Bu or F, and at that price the office at Cleveland cannot be made to pay its expenses. we must charge 60 cents from V, or you must take Faxtons price. I doubt whether you get any more bus at Ny at 50 to V than you would if you charged 65 as Faxton does. Let me know your views about this 10 cent Tariff from V to Bu or F.

We still retain Delano's bus at Ex — he owes about $100 which I expect him to pay soon. If we can keep that bus it will give us more than 1000 dolls per year — I got a letter from Lee today — He has his poles up to Alton, within 25 miles of St Louis & wire on to within 40 miles of Alton — He lacks 65 miles of wire — thinks he can fight it through & will keep trying until he does — Hatchkiss has opened his office at Ft Winnebago. died

will get his line completed and offices open from Chicago to Janesville on R Road in a few days=

Brooks is still absent — nothing can be done about wire on R R until he returns — I am going to sell Bu & Ny. market report daily to our customers — also get Report of all vessels passing Welland Canal for insurance offices daily — your ideas about reports have done us some good, and we mean to profit by them —

I got weather report one day last week from St Louis, Green bay — Fondulac, Galena Milwaukee & Chicago: but Ny & E was down, and I believe it was not sent — Either Cleveland has told us wrong stories, or you have been unusually unfortunate for some weeks past in being down —

Yours truly

J J Speedy

a Com just coming from
Baraboo — 14 miles West
Ft Winnebago

J J S
4 Feby 57

Pike Feb 4th 1851

Dear Sir

Yours of Jany 27th Just Recvd and how to account for the difficulty you speak of is more than I can do, I will state the case as well as I can & if you can explain it I will gladly listen to you, it failed I think on Wednesday when I was at Linnen & I went to Portage which is the extent of my rout & found all things in good order & returned home, on Thursday morning I made up my mind it was in Un Ofs & Mr Cobb thought I better go there I went and found some 2 or 3 places where Thompson had mended & not soldered,

I took him with me & took down & mended those places good & went home, the next morning it worked well (and by the way I should say circuit would close at times for a minute or two but no dependance on it) it worked well till P.M. Friday and failed again I took my relay determined to find it & worked till dark & saturday went again & tried ci at Portage & found F Ok, then I went within 4 miles of Un & tried again & found I was beyond it, when Thompson came up & we went at it with United effort & traced it to where we could get F & 10 rods from there cd get east —

Oven

and ntg could be seen out of place when it got so dark we cd do no more & we parted & it has worked dood ever since, now if you can explain it pls Ga and Oblige

Yours &c D. P. Gordon

E. Cornell Esqr

N.B

I once more venture to tell you my wants which are more than I can well satisfy and I guess you are tired of hearing of it & I am sure I am of writing, I have before me your favor of Dec 13th 1850 which says I shall be paid in the course of said month but not a shilling have I receivd yet and by request I sent an express to Ellicottsville the fore part of November & paid ten Dollars out my own pocket which I have not receivd nor do I see any prospect of it Mr Bagley tells me he has written you & expected you would see to it if so please remit soon as possible & if not I must try & get it from some ohr source, As for living so I cant much longer

Now do take a little interest in my necessities & help me

D. P. G.

Gordon Feb 4.57

Ithaca Feby. 1857.

My Dear Father.

Enclosed you will please find several letters which I received subsequent to your departure to Newyork which I should have forwarded earlier had I not supposed you would have been at home in a few days—

I think you cannot make a more important improvement in doing business than by urging the officey to return reasons why no answers— Business is so light it would be no trouble and indeed I believe it would keep them at work so as to be on hand much more of the time. Another thing I have adopted that I think would be well to adopt at all offices on this line as well as the western lines, which is, making no charge for the sentence "Answrd immediately by Telegraphe". As we are now in the habit of charging for this a great many correspondents do not write it but tell the operators to add it, which they do by "G" and it is sometimes put on under the signature and sometimes is not and many times the party addressed will think an answr by mail will do as well. And another reason which is a strong one especially in Newyork and other places when there is opposition. The O'Reilly people and most of the other lines do not charge for it.

Bristol was down today, and I think mother has gone home with him, such was the understanding when he left here— He is getting along very well. Think he will be able to report himself sound in a few days should you want him.

Very affectionately Yours

Alonzo B. Cornell

I think Hopkins should go to Newyork as soon as you can effect it. How would Butcher do at Newburgh and let Ingersoll go. & stop his Complaint—?

Over

Will you please answer Gordon's letter to me which I enclose relative to stocks &c.

A. P. C.
Dec 5. 57

NEW YORK, ERIE & MICHIGAN
TELEGRAPH COMPANIES.

Offices, No. 5 Hanover Street, Corner of Beaver, and Corner of Broadway and Canal Streets.

Cost of Answer, 10 *or less words,* *each added word*

New York, 6 Feb 1851.

Received by Telegraph from Cold Spring

For E. Cornell

Send me the ballance of that money inn. If you dont. I shall make trouble for you. E. Hubbard

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