Buffalo Jany 1st 1852

E Cornell Esq

Sir.

I wrote you some time since in regard to amt due me from W N & C Line. But have received no communication in return. I wish my pay as I have use for it. I cannot wait a great deal longer.

I wish to know your opinion as to connecting with our Line at Portage. If you wish to connect please make a proposition. Or if you prefer I will make you one. We could throw a good deal of business on your Line Besides helping to keep it in repair. I would like to connect with you there & let Mr Gordon of Pike have both Offices. We could both pay him a Salary that would remunerate him for his faithful services. If you wish him to remain at Pike I do not wish to interfere. I will take it & pay Expenses for such a sum to be paid monthly. Or any other equitable arrangement agreeable to you. I wish an answer soon as convenient. If I connect at all wish to do so at once.

Yours with respect

C M Smith

New York 1st Sept 1852

Mr Conner

I had a letter from Gov Collier saying you and Mr Hunt had fixed on a settlement & presume the releases you sent me to execute are right But as Gov Collier has changed regulating I executed and sent them to him with directions to send them to you if they are right Yr ans

Stephen D. Simms

JOHN A. COLLIER & SONS,

Attorneys & Counsellors at Law,

SOLICITORS & COUNSELLORS IN CHANCERY,

No. 542 Broadway,

(NEARLY OPPOSITE DELAVAN HOUSE,)

JOHN A. COLLIER,
HENRY M. COLLIER,
JAMES H. COLLIER.

Binghamton 2 Janr. 1852

Ezra Cornell Esq

Dear Sir,

I send you enclosed deeds which were forwarded to me by Mr. Munn for my inspection and approval - and which he directed to be enclosed to you. You are to pay him no consideration money - to be applied on your bond and mortgage - which being done it will be all right.

Our telegraph office here is kept in a building which they rent of me - They have occupied it a long time - but have paid nothing on account of rent. They do not seem to know at the office who is to pay the rent - There has I believe been a change of operators since they first rented. Please let me upon whom I must draw for the rent - or tell me what I am to expect

Yours truly

John A Collier

Fillmore
Jan 2 1852

8 lb to sqr foot
3/2 lbs to

5 lbs to sqr foot

O'RIELLY'S

Atlantic, Lake and Mississippi Telegraph.

OHIO, INDIANA AND ILLINOIS LINE,

CONNECTING DIRECTLY

Cincinnati, Toledo, Chicago, Evansville,

AND INTERMEDIATE PLACES IN

WABASH AND MIAMI VALLEYS.

Despatches sent to any part of the United States Canada.

☞ Please write plainly—use no figures—answer quickly—give full address. Despatches delivered within City limits promptly, and without extra charge. All despatches strictly confidential. Despatches left at the Office between the hours of 7 A. M. and 8 P. M., will be punctually forwarded.

ROSSERS' POWER PRESS

By Telegraph from.....

Dated.....185

To .....

Rec'd of John
B Durst Jr
certificate for 1 share
of stock in the
Atlantic Lake &
Mississippi Telegraph
Line Peter Anderson

Logansport 1852

Detroit 7 June 1852

Dear Sir

I returned from the West last evening - Hotchkiss will finish our line to within about 20 miles of the west end - that is he will finish it as far as the RR is done, about 44 miles from Niagara Falls - I think his nearly used up - He says he can and will buy, and I presume he thinks so; but I do not see it is possible for him to do so without getting in debt some where else to pay what he owes now - as near as I can get at it he owes near $5000 and his lines cannot be made to pay one dollar more than it will cost to work them - If the Patentees will let him keep on building he may make enough in time to pay up, but not otherwise -

You are correct in supposing that it requires the consent of our stockholders to make a sale of our line or dispose in any way

of the trust property - It requires the consent of every stockholder, which it is useless ever to get - The directors can make such bargain as they choose for the working of the line, which is all that is necessary - I do not suppose that we can consolidate with other lines and issue new stock - our Stockholders will retain their stock, and the other line the same, and divide the spoils in proportion to the value of each line, as may be agreed, either by negotiation, or arbitration
I have heard nothing further from Smith - I hope it will not all end in nothing as heretofore - I want the matter settled in some way - I do not mean to leave home again until I get our books up and a statement published for our stockholders, showing a big sum account of empty boxes and a debt of near ten thousand dollars including what due Connell & Speed - that is to say $ Connell for wine & some $1200 dollars paid in stock for cutting Brimstone fixings &

I propose publishing a full statement of our receipts & expenses for our Stockholders - They will readily consent to any change we may propose, as they will think it cant be worse and may be better - our line works fine as possible when they but we are troubled with broken holes between Cleveland & Buffalo nearly every storm - Wade has not yet got into action, waiting for ice to stop running - says he will go with me and not smith - guess we will have a nice time, all hands get mad, if not drunk -

I am pushed for bal due on Pittsburgh and Jamesville line debts - Wish I had let the devils lines burn first -

I have sent all our directors but two, written to them, they will all agree to anything you and I think for our interest - But the more I reflect on it the more difficulties I see about it, and I am sure we never can settle in it any way except by arbitration

Yours truly J. Stuart Jr

New York. Jan. 13. 1852

E. Cornell. Esq
My dear Sir

In the absence of Mr Wells I was unwilling to do any thing - in relation to signing the Release sent us by you to sign after his arrival. he saw your Lawyer Mr D S Beebe & stated to him his views which were as far as I remember. his unwillingness to do any thing until our accounts were adjusted - which is also my opinion We have waited & sought for this settlement - but are always put off from time to time - and we cannot but feel. regret - thinking for the sake of the relations that once existed between us that you should take some steps to have. this account (the amount at least) determined & settled to the mutual satisfaction of all parties - It is as much - duty for you as us - & must sooner or later be done I had arranged with Mr Day to meet you agreeable to an appointment named by you many weeks since - Seeing that you will be here soon I defer this adjustment

I remain
Yours &c
Winston Livingston

STATEMENT of Receipts and Disbursements of Stl Office, for Jan 1st to 15th 1858

DATE.	RECEIPTS. Communications.	RECEIPTS. ALL OTHER SOURCES.	DISBURSEMENTS. TO OTHER LINES.	DISBURSEMENTS. EXPENSES, DEPOSITES, &C. &C.	RECEIVED FOR OTHER LINES.	CHECKS AGAINST OTHER OFFICES.	REMARKS.
1	65				25	St 47	
2	45			2 Nitric Acid 50	25		
3							
4							
5							
6							
7							
8							
9				horse hire 200			
10				Expenses on line 106			
11				horse hire Chenay 50			
12				406	50	47	
13	110						
14							

Ithaca, Jan'y 15. 1882.

Dear Sir:

The N.Y.P.L. line has been sold today without reserve, and I have bid it off at $7,000, which will be enough to pay the debts of the company. I had tried all sorts of schemes to get up an Organization among the stockholders, Auditors, &c. &c., to no purpose. As a last resort, I got the Ithaca stockholders together last evening, which resulted in one of our old fashioned stormy times — at about 11 P.M. we adjourned to the Clinton house this morning, and kept up the strife till 2 P.M., in the most boisterous style, until the very moment that the sale commenced, when all settled down to a dead calm, and the line was started at $1,000, which I bid up to $1800, at which it stood for half an hour, and I thought several times it would be knocked down to me at the $1,800 — but the stockholders, who were pretty numerous, united in saying to me that if I would bid enough to pay the debts they would all be satisfied, and would not run it up beyond that sum. Even Sage, Woodruff, who had fought all my plans the fiercest, came in, and said they were satisfied at that result.

P.S. A full examination of the contract between Smith, Cornell & Reed in reference to the patent, seems to

lead all to the conviction that the right of the Patent is absolute in the Co. The same is the opinion of Mr. Ford, as expressed for Mr. Kendall. That being so, the sale embraces the Patent, as well as the Structure — and it covers the Patentees' stock as well as the stock of other parties.

I propose however to treat the parties liberally, and offer them the right and chance to redeem their stock by paying their respective proportion of the debt and cost of installating the line, &c. —

Well, we are in for $7000, about $4000 of which I have got deposited of, but how to dispose of the balance, say $3000, is the rub. I have 105 days to accomplish this feat in, and it can be done, & must be, and enough more with it to pay for installating & putting the line in good order. The Lord be with us. — Amen. —

I have felt some little anxiety about the situation of your affairs in the E. Tenn. line, & have been apprehensive that your confiding nature has led you in some unguarded moment to make admissions or concessions to

Smith that may be taken advantage of, with the advantage from us that there inability to fulfill in the case of the St. M. line has given us.

I cannot help but think that Smith has got the hot End of the poker in his settlement with O'Reilly — as any bargain by which he takes an interest in that twisted route is a hard one, and if he has got a hard bargain he will want to give us a hard one, and I am little disposed to have any thing to do with that twisted route.

Allow me to suggest to you, that it is a matter of vast importance to our interest, and especially to mine, that we keep right with Smith, so as to have a fair start for the last race.

I shall soon get the Spy. St. in good shape, and get up a good feeling, and I must have a chance at the western business. I shall keep you advised of my proceedings, as matters develop themselves from time to time,

Yours Respectfully,
E. Corell.

J. J. Speed Jr.

4/

Ithaca Jan 18. 1852

Dear Sir Having forgotten to mail this letter I will add to it, that I have got my purchase of the line secured and W. A Thomas & J. S. Tichenor are my security for the payment of my bid. notwithstanding the predictions that I could not get security, I now propose to be as generous after the battle is won as I have been brave in the fight. and offer the privilage of redemption to the old stockholders on terms of equality with myself, for which purpose I have prepared a circular in which I propose]

J. J. Speed Esqr
Detroit
Mich.

Ithaca
1852

Buntington Jany 14 1852

Dr Sir

Mr Wires of the firm of Wires & Peck waited on me this morning with an execution in favor Hyde Tuttle & Hyde of Castleton against you amounting in all damages & costs to $36.37 with interest. At my request he has consented to wait till I could hear from you in relation to the matter. Did you receive a letter from me in regards to the Ext. & proposition in answer to your favor of Dec. 29. Mr Wires says he has instructions to issue the execution immediately.

Respy Yours

L. B. Englesby

E. Comstock Esq
Ithaca

Granwich Jan. 16th 1852

C. Cornell Esqr

Dear Sir -

Rec'd your Esteemed favr of the 12th and in reply would say that I have conversed with 3 or 4 of the Stockholders in the Telegraph Comp'y and they do not feel like making any farther investments in that Kind of security - but they say if you or any other person will make the outlay you speak of they would give you their Stock -

My opinion is if you would agree to give the Community a Telegraphic communication at the Stations that were formerly occupied as such that 3/4 of the Stockholders would agree to surrender their Stock to ~~any~~ you as a gift -

The Rail Roads ~~Stars~~ from Troy and Passes through Cambridge Salem, Granville & Poulting - and terminates at Rutland, and they are also anxious to get facilities for communicating by Telegraph - and I doubt not would be good customers to a line if well organized, and transacted business with dispatch - If any thing is ever done to reinstate the line you or some one acquainted with the Business will have to attend to it - "What is every Bodys business you know is no bodys business"

The title of the Rail Road Company is the Troy and Rutland Rail Road" — Bernard Blair of Salem is the President, and I think John M Stevenson of Cambridge the Sec'y — Both are also merits Stockholders in the Telegraph Co - Mr Clark of Poultney is also a Prominent Man in the Rail Road enterprise and is ~~also~~ a Stockholder in our Company — Mr Stevenson was elected President of the Telegraph company with others for directors but all declined to serve — I asked Mr Masters to answer Mr Sovs letter but he declined to have any thing to do with the matter — but said if you would put the line in Mr Ring's order he would pay something besides sacrificing his Stock — I think you had better come to our place and Salem and see if you cannot do something to secure the line — If permitted to remain in its present dilapidated condition much longer the Wire will be useless in the entire line —

Yours Respectfully
L C Roy Morey

Lt Rob Mowry
Iowa 16. 1852

Chas Bruce Esq
Office
Mils

Burlington January 17 1852

Dear Sir

I sent by telegraph to-day a message delivered me by Mr Hickok. When I sent the papers by last nights mail, it was under the strongest assurances from Mr Hickok that the business with the Company should be closed at once. What has caused the change I cannot conceive, perhaps Mr Hickok will inform you by to-days mail. It will be of no use for me to state my opinion of such a proceeding among business men. It is enough to say that I was as much astonished as you can be. I still think that it would be best to demand payment of the dividends as I do not see how they can refuse or avoid paying them.

Truly Yours

L. B. Eaglesby

E. Cornell Esq.
Ithaca

Chester Jany 17th 1853.

E Connell Esq

Sir.

If as I am informed you are intending to redeem the line by paying the amt of your bid & giving bond to save subscribers against all former claims, and are following the plan you had in writting when here, & will forward me a copy to examine I will decide in a day or two whether I will take part in a new organization, by paying the 9 dollars instalment.

I would like to know the conditions of the bond, and also what is to be the amount of stock or shares going to make up the new company. The value of an interest in the concern will depend very much upon the amt of stock. I understood you to say that I could decide as well after the sale as before, and that by paying nine dollars gave me the same position as any who pay nine on a share formerly held by them. If I have a wrong impression I only wish to have it corrected

Respectfully

C M & R Ingersoll

Poughkeepsie Jan 17th/32

Mr E. Cornell

Dr Sir

You will remember that I have written you several letters with regard to that unsettled affair between you & me — Thus far I have heard nothing from you — This strange & unpardonable neglect on your part calls for an explanation —

I remained in & kept up your office for a long time when the receipts did not amount to scarcely anything, owing to the general hard State of uncertainty of the times

I wish for nothing more than what is right, & to that I am entitled —

I hope you will write me soon & inform me what I may

Expect —

I send direct your letter to Poughkeepsie, at which place I am now stopping for the present —

Yours most respectfully

E. Packard

E. Cornell

Ithaca

Danbury Conn
18 Jany 1852

E Connell Esq

Dear Sir

I Learn the Sun
Boat Sold on the 15th inst for $1.600 Dollars
Is it Why Don you Not answer
My Letters Dont you get them I
have Written them, I sent Mr Fuller
an order on you for $50 there is a balance
Due me yet and if the Sun is ~~Sold~~
out of your Hands I Will Collect it
of the Co If you Don't I Will Sold
on till you get Every Penny Let me
Hear from you soon I Dont like to
annoy you in my Return to Pa called at the
office in NY Sir was down Hope you
Will get it OK Let me hear soon

Direct Montrose Pa Tioga Co Pa

Yours in Hast
S W Benedict

E Connell

Ithaca Sunj 19th 1852

Dear Sir

Yours of this date was rcd last evening and duly Considered You intimated that the proposition for me to operate the Ithaca office was first made by me to Mr Riggs — That was not so — Mr Riggs on thursday last asked me if my services could ~~not~~ be obtained to operate here. what I would ask &c — I replied in the affirmative, or probably so for the time being — That was the first ever mentioned between him & me on that subject

You & I once differed pretty widely, & to an extent causing some wrong feelings, for which I have many times felt deep regret — I did as I honestly thought was right & am yet of the same opinion — You still seem to be retaining the same position, and yet you have even gone farther — You have coupled me with a conspiracy designed to crush you, which I deny your having any authority substantial for, whatever — I here never permitted

myself to entertain feelings of hostility but
partaking more of the nature of lamentation
and regret at your unsuccess & our
difference — You say, you "see no longer
reasons to respect the feelings of a warm
and generous heart" — I hope not. and
upon more mature reflection think I
had better not connect myself in such
a manner as to make any obstruction
to the flow — I have just learned by
Hopkins that you have obtained the title
of the line — You have my well wishes
God speed you & give you success

Yours truly &c
P Dunham

E Cornell Esq
Ithaca N.Y

P Dunham
19 Jan 1872

Jeffersonville Jan 19. 1852

Mr Connell

As yet we have no operator at Jeff Office. Next week I can have a young man from Penn Yan: and if you have made no other arrangements. I will have him come on next Monday.

Will you write me & let me know

Yours in haste

A. P. Dibble

Jefferson Jan 22 d 71

C Connell Esq

Dear Sir:

Yours of the 20th was handed me by Mr Hopkins: I will do as you suggest for the present. I have a young man at Penn Yan who will be here Monday. I take charge of both of your office at J. I want some 5 or 6 good Instruments that are reliable: When can I get the best kind? I don't want any half way concern: I think I can get a young man to take charge of an office at Batts if you should conclude to open one there: What do you think of it? There is no mistake but what your line will pay handsomely if circulated as you propose: I will see that your line is kept up between J. & Mechlenburg, and between J. & Batts for the present. I can there make arrangements with the mail-boy to keep an eye on it between J. & Batts

Yours Truly
W. H. Gibbs

Ithaca Thursday Jan 22, 1852

Mr. Cornell.

Dr Sir-

The prospects of the N.Y. & Erie Tel. line are good- and being good I want to be in the employ of it- If you are willing to try me once more- I would like the Ithaca office- If you will let me have it I will try and do the business satisfactorily both to you and the public- I am certain I am competent- I have spoken to Hopkins and he is willing- Under new arrangements this will be a good station and business must be attended to- I wish you would try me once more- I promise to attend to it as well as any one can- Gay talks of going to California- but if he does more there will (I suppose) be other offices where operators will be wanted- I should prefer this office to any other- Please overlook the past and give me the office here, at Ithaca, and the interest of the Company shall be mine also-

Yours Respy

E. Cornell N.Y.C. M. D. Spencer

Jamestown Jany 27th 1852

Mr Cornell

Dr Sir

As usual today we can not hear from Ny - Mr Gibb X good but he reports no circuit South. We were on just 3 hours yesterday and did up a fine business. We were busy all the time with Ny & such a call for him after Ci failed I hardly ever witnessed. Today every one reports lots of business and N has condescended to take some few cents and send by Bainbridge. But as we never get a reply to a com sent that way. the boys all feel reluctant to send them so - Can we work a line down the east side of the Hudson river or not It appears to be reduced to this one question and it will be necessary to have it determined upon very - My pass is now about out for the Railroads and I wish you would see Minot and obtain one. and be sure and get an unlimited one this time for it is not profitable for us to pay my fare west of Ow to all points -

Please bear this in mind as I may want it very soon — While I am on this subject I will mention, that there is an almost universal outburst of indignation against Chapin and his actions as supt. Powers, Baskerville and all of the head men on the road are against him strongly. Mr Minor was up this way last week and knows something of it and said that he was going to look into the matter. Perhaps some suggestions from you in my favor, in regard to the affair, will be very favorably received and I have no doubt they would be, — If such is your opinion please broach the matter ere it is too late. And some one else is appointed. Let me hear what your success is in getting subscriptions — I had full as cold a job over at Jefferson as I anticipated — What is it about an arrangement for our using one of the Bain wagons from N. Please reply soon — Let me know when you come, ps. I have a letter for you from Gibbs — They will build their [illegible] to Olmsia as soon

as they can dig the holes. He said the poles would be distributed, this and next week. As he has the subscriptions necessary already raised I believe Havanna took $700, So you contemplated alliance with them will go by I should think!

Don't forget the Underwriter Posts for Money in pocket is better than Money in prospect. We work beautifully to 278 - and all impediments

Yours Respectfully
Pay Chapman

E Connell Esq
New York

Hastings
27. January 22

Mayne

13 Mandeville Crescent

Upper Tooting

S.W.

PAID

P.S. Please send acknowledgment with regard to my shipping Inv of 26 inst — O.W.P.

Arnden Jan 27th 52

Mr E. Sorrell

Sir

This is to Inform you I refuse to send any more Commodities over their line for us, unless the Gov's will forward the Tariff unimpeded after Sunt —

Some arrangement must be made immediately, for such a course will be destructive of a Great portion of my business and a Great protection of many others — This to take effect to day & henceforth —

Yours truly

O W Packard

Agt at Arnden Station

E. W. Packard
27th Jan'y 1862

C. Bruce Esqr
Ohio Co. Va.

Burlington Jany 28 1852

Dear Sir

Yours of the 20th was duly rec'd & contents noted. I send you herewith a copy of the act of incorporation of the E & C. J. R. Co as you requested. Mr Hickox informs me that the Directors have directed him to furnish you with a statement of their claim, which he says, he will do in a few days. I will reply to yours of the 20th more fully when I send their statement.

Respy Yours

L. B. Langdon

E. Cornell Esq.
Ithaca

Mansfield 28th Jany 1852

E Cornell Esq

Dear Sir

I Received the Circular that You Were so Kind as to Send Me and I have Read it over and over again and find it full of truth I am pleased very Much to Know that You have got Controll of it and also that the Mutinous parties are out of the Camp. That a line of Telegraph Can and ought to be kept up on the Rout of the N Y & Erie Telegraph Line I never had a Doubt. this I have Said to You and others on all occasions When I have been Questioned upon the point I have been of opinion always that the old Line or that the if it Could have been put in proper order Would have been good Stock and Would have paid the Stock Holders a handsome Dividend but others Saw fit to think or act otherwise; and Now that the Stock Will be Reduced to one half of its Original Sum and With the Line in good order and No Rival Lines to Contend With it Must pay a very handsome proffit—

I Was glad to See Speeds Letter published

that Will Set the matter in a good Light
I Will Show that the old Stockholders might
have done Well with the Line, if they Would
have backed you in trying to put the Line
in good Working order it Shows that they
Were in the fault Not you. and
it Completly throws all grounds of Censure
from you.

I Was in Washington When your letter
of the 15th Inst come to Mansfield and Mrs
S forwarded it to that place but it did not
Reach me before I Left Consequently I did not
See it. I Returned via N Y hoping to See
you there I Went East to Connecticut about 100
Miles and Returned and Called at the office and
Seond that you Were going to N Y this Week
I Should have Called on you at 9a but I Was
to unWell to go out of my way home. I regret
very Much at Not Seeing able to See you.
I am Very anxious to hear from you to Seom if
you Wish Me to engage with you and how and in
What way Where and When Please answer as
soon as Convenient Mrs S joins
Regards

J W Skinner

E Connecticut

Peekskill Jan 28 1852

Mr E. Connelle

Sir

I have just received your note requesting me to keep account of business of the office and informing me that it will be expected to contribute something towards keeping up him. I will keep the account, and make report to you as often as you desire; but if you wish it to contribute towards the expenses of keeping him in repair you must remove it from my building and get some one else to take charge of it. I paid ten dollars for stock which you promise to take, and I bought it because you promised to take it; and I have incurred expense for hose hire which it was solemnly promised should be refunded. But not a red cent of all have I received. As to the office, it has been a positive damage to me for more than a year; and if it had not been for the accommodation it afforded the citizens in cases of sickness and death, I would have put away the instruments long since.

My boy James having used improper language in any way deserving censure. He said he was in fun in saying what he did. I think he was to be blamed and I corrected him. Relative to the interruptions you speak of I will try to remedy them.

Yours

I expect to be in the city to-morrow and will see you. In the meantime you can decide what to do with the offs if you mean to make it do more than support itself.

Yours respectfully
Wm Richards

Wm Richards
28 March 57

New York Jan 29, 1882

Dear Monge

Your dispatch about taxes rec'd. I have only 22 cts in my pocket, which will pay for my Supper & Breakfast, I therefore cant send any money to pay taxes, There is not enough due to pay the taxes and more than enough and you and the boys must see if you cannot collect some of it, and pay the taxes or borrow it & pay or some way I am not moving yet with Organettes & Myers him waiting for spring & weather who are to do her this work,

Smith & Kendall are here, and I think prospects are good to get some good arrangement that will put all right

Let me hear from home often

Yours in much haste

E Covell

A.B.C

Pike Jany 30th 1852

Dear friend Cornell

I Received you kind favor of the 20th inst & am glad to learn that things have turned out thus and only wish I had the means in my power to go in with you and make this line (what it should be) the best one in the state for I am fully satisfyed it can be done but I have no means to do any thing, I wish you all the success in the world & be assured I will stick by you & if in my power to render you any assistance I am on hand & you can judge from part experiance whether I am trusty or not, I wish I could see you & know what course you would take in regard to the concern but will content myself as I am at present & hope for somthing better some day for the truth is I have not earning enough here to support my family & am well aware I am getting all any man can earn for the Co here, in regard to redeeming the stock I am unable to say what our stockholders will do

I have two shares in the Old company one by subscription & one I bought of E. W. Griffith & have the Receipts of the Trustees assigned to me which I will redeem & think some if not all the rest will do the same, if I understand you we must pay $10. on each of those shares making $20 which will entitle me to four shares in the new company out of 2200 Shares if I am rong please inform me & I want to hear from you often & when do you think you will get out this way with the new caps

T. H. says he is going to leave there & hope you will send some good fellow there, The question has been asked me whether the Patentees can come in & claim one half of the stock in the new co without redeeming & helping to raise this eleven thousand Dollars for purchase & repairs I don't know how that is but if so we don't get but one Share in 2200 for ten Dols please give me the correct view of the matter & in the time I will get the minds of stockholders here & write you again

Yours &c

Cornell Eryn

D. P. Gordon

Ithaca Jany 20 1852

Dear Father.

The operator at Arcada writes that the Genesee Valley Line refuse to send any more business from the Erie Line unless an arangement be made to pay for it as it is sent, and that unless some arangement is made so that the business can be sent it will prove very distructive to the resources of his and other offices.

He also writes you to give him a proposition in regards to his keeping that office.

Some other arangement should be made for the office here. There are a lot of loafers hanging about it all the time. and I have been told it has been turned into a whore house at night on two or three recent occasions, and on night this week there was quite a row there, between two parties. (one of whom was the operator and his friends ~~and the other~~ who had a woman in charge, and the other a parcel of fellows who wanted the woman or devil). This I do not know from personal knowledge, but I have good authority for it, endorsed by young Burdick who sleeps in the store under the office.

Truly & Respectfully Yrs
A. B. Conkle

Ezra Cornell Esq
New York

Pike Jany 15th 1852

Dear Sir

you will see by my report it is rather hard business this
for this Month but it is hard work to telegraph with the line down
every forty rods whether you know it or not, the line failed on sunday
the 4th inst in consequence of an ice storm which increased until tuesday
when it began to take up a little, I went 35 miles west & put up four
breaks at an expence as you will see of $3.06 got home & got ok with
it on thursday but could not get a cart therefore I went out again when
cost fifty cents, it is now the 15th & 8 o'clock & not ok yet & the Lord only knows
when we shall be, I suppose we are under a new Administration by this
& whose hands I shall fall into I know not, if you sell me with the line
please write & inform me where I am yours &c L. P. Gordon