

Burlington Vt. Apr 20th/52

Gent

Yours of the 18th is recd. I only I would say that I think I shall be able to get the suit v E. Corcoran postponed as you wish. It will pass to the March term. Our rules require all pleadings to be filed in 60 days after term & if not filed within the rule, payments to the Clerk for the benefit of the adverse party of five dollars. The term commences to-morrow and will probably continue 3 or 4 weeks. I shall be in B. V. next December or January, I think, and will then call upon you, if I do not see you before.

Respectfully Yours

J. B. Conkling

Wm E. May Jr. Clerk
Atty, &c
B. V.

Forestville 20th Sept 1852
E Connally

Dear Sir

I have been
putting up wine the last of last week
I commenced on Friday to put it up -
the glasses did not come till then
they were left here on Friday Morning
the Brackets come a week before
I had to pay ten dollars freight on the Brackets
& glasses, - I think ~~not~~ putting up
wine as I have to here is the worst job
I ever got into and the slowest too I
distribute it (or string it) both by manual
and least labor. I have a Yoke of Oxen
to carry wine along and where I can - I use
them, but mostly by manual labor. I
have four men drive the Oxen and ~~at~~
work hard to ~~put~~^{up} 2 miles a day I
never worked harder than I have for two days
past. it is a very hard and a very expensive
mode as people seem disposed to bleed
where ever they can I am sadly in want
of these fellows I have spoken about so
often they would save me much labor
I got some such as Mr Pell spoke of but
they are not worth two-pence

I am also out of funds or ~~money~~
nearly I borrowed fifteen of friend Elze
I should have sent you a letter I wrote you
about some when I as returned to G.H.
and told ~~you~~ to ~~know~~ to speak to you
and have you send to this place soon
for you sent it, if so to what place
I shall drive the thing as far as possible
if you send me funds I'll wait
over a hundred dollars to complete it
from the time I commenced to take it down
when or, if all things had been ready when
I first came here ^{and the RR Co give up a claim} it would not cost
more ^{than} \$5 or \$70. Now \$125 will not be
more than will ~~be~~ be necessary
to complete it. I will take me ~~the~~ all
the week to complete it. Let me hear soon
or I don't wish to be hindered any more

Yours Very Respectfully

E. Cornell

J. W. Skinner

Sept 18 1880

Putland Sept. 21. /82

~~My Dear Mr. Gay~~
~~Dear Sir,~~

Whi - On my arrival here I have found Col. Spaul's letter - I don't know as I rightly appreciate its motive. It refers all over to such agreement as you & I shall come in, & then he will submit it to his directors.

Now I suppose you understand that I have no agreement to make with your directors. I have had no hand in appointing them - have no control over them - have not been called on to come in any election of directors. Hence, it is for you & Mr. Spaul to be governed by them - not myself. I will respond to this -

If the Board of Directors you have agreed, will insert me the body of the North originally ^{contemplated to be} intended to represent the capital of the Company, I will waive all interest ^{as a regular stockholder} in past dividends, and all interest as partner in future ones between Buffalo & Milwaukee, you & Col. Spaul doing the same.

If the Ely line be added, I shall

GO I Smith
Sept. 21. 1882

be a stakeholder in that as patentee, & the
extent of our grant, & will ask nothing
beyond for its bearing a convenient
part of our line.

Our division of stock for property
of construction will stand by itself & is between
ourselves, & is regulated by the contract.

With this settlement made, I will
seize in any & every opportunity of annexing
to the line, all other western lines be their
names so as to make the Lake Line, the
great conduit of the business between the
west & east.

If you don't elect to do this, I
shall make the whole series of western
lines which are now under settlement
the feeder to such line connecting the
west & east, as will do me the greatest
justice in a settlement - whether it be the
Ely Line, or the O'Reilly western Line,
or Kendall's Line.

It is so clearly the interest of
all to have settlements made, that
I hope I can make one with the Lake
Line, as preferable in my feelings - as
preferable as a compromise of the men
so largely interested in it. But very

chitance inclines me to submit to wrong
at the hands of those who have openly
been my opponents, rather than submit
to wrong from those who have had my
confidence. I kept me subservient
hitherto in the name of friendship
to their counsels & interests. When I
remember to what unlimited extent
I have thus for years surrendered my
power & interests to your son & Bob.
Spencer's counsels, with a clear understand-
ing respecting the proportion of results
which should be accorded to me, the
idea now of being turned off under
the pretext of delinquency in any part
of our enterprise excites any thing but
patient endurance. Your stock
& Spencer's stock, with a settlement, will
be worth double & triple what it will
be, with a disputation hanging over the
true & false. Whatever he shall recommend
as the ~~practicable~~ ^{practicable} adjustment to make
the Directors beyond any doubt, will
accide to. If he reports, that it is highly
desirable to have a little to use the
Patent; and also to secure the good
will of the Patentees in effecting ^{favorable} connec-
tions with Western & Southern Western business,

and that, on condition the ~~Board~~ shall
be made, with a full waiver of all claim
for the non-payment of any future of past
dividends to the patentee's stock; ~~and~~
a waiver to all stock to represent the record
and, or any additional one which the com-
pany shall put up, as patentee, it is order-
able to me, & the President is authorized to
me to J. J. Hunter, the grantor of the right
to use the patent, the amount of stock originally
contemplated as a part of the by the contract
of construction as soon as the same shall be
accepted by him -

such a report he can carry through
beyond any doubt or cavil.

And will it not be best for us all?
clearly best for the line, & all interested in
it? It will ensure its being made the base line
of all the work, & without it, it will be left to
later work it can get, & my interest will be
known to such other allusions, even if it be
with the House line to Louisville & the New
York. The plea is before you & Gov. Sped to decide,
& the time has come when the settlements of other
lines which I have in proper calls for a decis-
ion, yes, a way. Before me which it is, & I will
act accordingly. In haste, yours as ever J. J. Hunter

Pike Sept 21st 1852

Dear Sir

I am once more on my own premises and find things about the same as when I left not much improvement in this line as I can discover yet, I went to Portage yesterday to see how things were in that direction found the line in good condition between Pike & Portage with one or two exceptions but in bad condition in the woods beyond P., found wire there sufficient to rebuild the line and learned you had been there since I saw you but could not learn what arrangements were made, I wish you would come and go into the thing yourself with me but if not I think Skinner better collect those caps and come here and I will start with him at any time if you want me or if there is no other way of getting along send me some funds and an order for the wire & I will hire some good fellow to go with me & do the best I can, I wrote Mr Villotou the day you left me that I must come home and he come up to see me and was very anxious I should stay on the line but as

Yours

I told you I had rather stay here than any
other place if the line is made to work
as I hope it will; I am sorry to see so
much hostility as there seems to be between
you & Elliston for it wont be any advantage
to either line; If you dont want me in
some time I can go on that line for a few
weeks more but if you do I am ready
to go to work and do the same & take
the same interest in the line as though
it was my own for \$25. per month
for services & rent with other necessary
expenses paid with the assurance of
my pay monthly or nearly so which
is absolutely necessary for me to live
please write me immediately what
I can depend upon for I am laying
idle now & shall till I hear from you
yours &c

J. P. Gordon

E. Cornell Esq

J. P. Gordon
Sept 21 1853

Jan^y 3, 1846 "I have had a communication from Wall St to Fort Lee which is on the Jersey side of the river, so that our pipe works will thus far - I hope I shall have the luck to get a corn as far as Summerville by Tuesday next!!"

Feb 8, 46 I now think I shall be successful in my experiments for crossing the river. If so I shall snatch a laurel from the brow of Prof M & place it upon my own - for the Prof has made up his mind that the wire cannot be made to work across the river, and has so informed the Directors - I have now got him when I wanted him, that is to the expression of an opinion, which he has done unreservedly after seeing the experiments - I shall now redouble my exertions to do what the Prof says cannot be done."

May 3 - Enclosed I send a strip of paper with T&L Corn as follows - written from a point 24 miles fr Wash. to Prof Morse at N. - "The Committee leave Balt at 1-P.M. if Henry Clay is nominated I shall be on the look out." -

We were on the look out & when the nomination came we telegraphed it to Wash more than an hour in advance of the Cars."

10391
ITHACA, Sept. 26th, 1851.

SIR:

You are hereby notified, that the Annual Meeting of the Stockholders of the New York and Erie Telegraph Company, for the election of officers for the ensuing year, will be held at the Telegraph Office in Ithaca, on the Second Thursday of October next.

It is important that your stock should be represented at said meeting, as there are several questions to be acted upon involving the interest of the Stockholders.

Yours, respectfully,

E. CORNELL, President.

Mr. Cornell -

Kindly explain to
myself the plan of the
rotation of my horse, by the
way you are making of the
room over-head - in making
a receiving office there - &
in keeping battery there -

For God's sake don't involve
me in any new trouble on
account of your kind. See
me & B. & have the
matter made satisfactory -
without delay -

What is your answer
to my letter about Eve &
the fine?

With that settled,
I can make an advantageous
arrangement of Eve with
Kain line west - & that would
bring other useful results to us
all -
Yours truly
O. L. S.

Amey Oct 8. 1882

Dear Sir I learn this day that the Operators on the RR line understand themselves instructed not to send any messages for our Company on which we have no? pay to any point or over any portion of the RR wire without having the money used by us first paid over to them.

If such is their instructions I have not correctly understood your views on the subject. When your line has been interrupted between points that we were working, we have invariably sent all messages for the RR Co that were offered us, and I supposed it was the intention & interest of the RR Co to do the same by us - going RR bus precedence. If I am wrong in this respect, I should be glad to know it, so that I may know how to govern my instructions.

Our repairs are so far advanced that I expect to work from N.Y. to Dunkirk next week.

Yours respectfully
E Cornell

Supt of RR

We hereby agree to sell and convey by good and sufficient warranty deed, free and clear of all incumbrance all that certain lot of land and premises situate as follows, to Wit: being a part of Fall creek property in Ithaca (Beginning at the southeast corner of the Paper Mill lot running thence westwardly along the south line of said lot and the street to the Paper Mill one hundred and eighty feet, thence southwardly one hundred feet, thence Eastwardly one hundred and eighty feet, thence Northwardly one hundred feet to the place of beginning; and also all that portion of the water and water power on the Paper mill fall which was reserved in the sale of the Paper mill privilege together with all restrictions to the right to use the Paper mill privilege for other purposes than paper making) to John Lewis and James French of Ithaca for the consideration of six hundred and seventy five dollars to be paid or secured to be paid on the execution and delivery of such Deed. with interest from this date. Said Lewis & French are to have the immediate possession and use of said premises
Dated at Ithaca Oct 8th 1851

E. Cornell

James Monroe

Residence of Joseph Blunt
by E. Cornell Agt.

MANN, RODMAN & PIERSON,
ATTORNEYS & COUNSELLORS AT LAW,
78 Merchants Exchange,
ABRAHAM MANN, JR., THOS. H. RODMAN, H. R. PIERSON, Notary Public. } NEW-YORK.

Oct 9. 1852

Dear Sir
Mr Thos J Little
has a claim agt the Erie (now
your Co) for \$23:59 for services
which he desires my young
men to collect. I have advised
to wait your arrival when
I doubt not it will be
arranged. Will you give
it a little attention when
convenient.

Yours faithfully
A. Mann Jr
McE. Cornell

A Mann Jr
Oct 9 1852

Ezra Correll Esq
38 Wall St.
New York

Jan	15-	10.00
Feb	28-	14.75
Mar	31-	1.31
Apr	30	7.00
May	31	5.00
June	30	20.00
July	31	
Aug	31	
Sept	7/22/52	
		37.81
		58.00
		65.00
		60.00
		4.94

744

Columbus ~~Sept~~ Oct 10. 52

Dear Col.

Another piece of humbugery on foot. & as the world is moved by wind. I say the more the better, if we can only get our share of it.

Rawdon, Wright & Hatch. bank note engravers of ^{Cincinnati} ~~this city~~ are getting up a steel plate engraving of 10 Portraits of Individuals who have distinguished themselves in Telegraph business arranged as in sketch I here send you, I being well acquainted with them, and having ~~done~~ considerable work done there, have been favored with a place on the plate, and an inside berth to assist in selecting the individuals to put on, this last I prize quite as high as any other part of it. and it has cost me a good deal of management to keep Reed off who is more in my way than any one else. & some to keep them from putting on House and Bain. they also at one time thought of increasing the Number. & spoke of Alexander H. Smith, T.C. H Smith, Wood & some others but that would be making it too common, & I would like to see it contain the likenesses of those I have marked. and the most of them are decided on and commenced. In getting up such a job it will cost them \$800. or \$1,000. & their object in doing it is to get the money back and as much more

as they can. And they need first to select those who stand most prominent before the public to make the pictures sell. & secondly, those who will offer the most encouragement by subscribing for the pictures. The plate will be about 12x16 inches & from what I know of pictures & what they have told me & showed me it will be a splendid affair. They propose to retail them at \$3. and to furnish them to subscribers whose heads are on at \$1.50. Each. The most who have been heard from have subscribed for 100 copies each. I among the rest. & hope you & Cornell will do the same not that we shall ever get the money back directly but we are all young yet. and the world is moved by wind and is likely to be for some time to come and the most we live for. work for. fight for. and lie for, is position, and in this way it will pay. and it is one step towards immortality, as the picture will be very extensively distributed & always preserved, - Please write me what you think of it? and whether you would like to have your likeness on? and how many pictures (if any) you will subscribe for? I am as anxious to have your head on as my own. in fact would hardly consent to have mine on if yours is left off. Say also how you like the selection and make such suggestions (or as

as you think proper. It will take 6 or 7 months to complete the plate and they will expect half or two thirds as ~~they~~ job progresses and will keep the subscribers informed of its progress by sending them proof impressions from time to time

Prospects on our c & c line is encouraging but the St Louis line aside from the benefit it is to the c & c line, is to me, what Pitts line & Wheling lines are to you. it seems as tho' there never will be an end to the old debts. I have made out to ^{pay} all that has been presented, but "still they come"

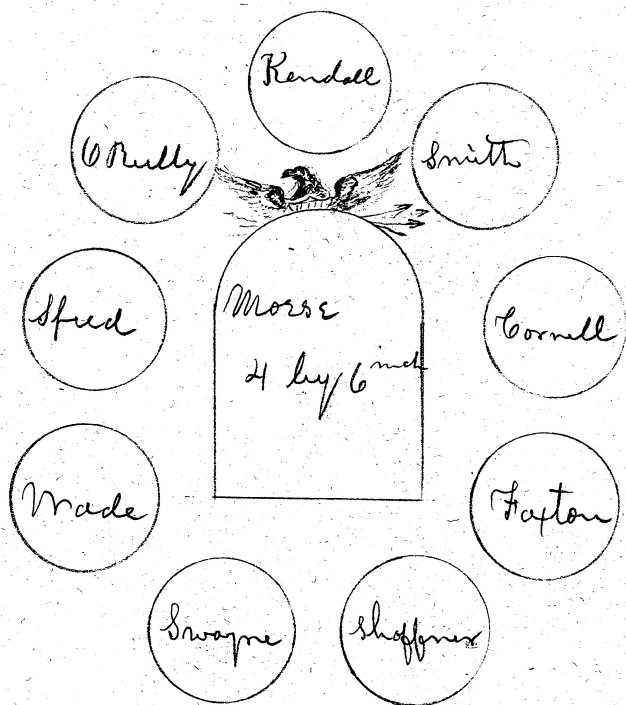
How are you getting along? I wonder you had bought the line on Southern R.R. how is that? how is your R.R. jobs? did you get any of the bridges? how is real estate speculation? how is Hatchkiss lines doing?

I am anxious to see, & have a chat with you. if you come to V. let me know. if you are not coming there, ~~let~~ let me know when you will be home & I will see you then

Very Truly yours

J. J. Speed Jr }
Detroit }

J. H. Wade



E. Cornell Esq

Columbus, O., Oct 10th /32

Dear Sir

An other piece of humbugery on foot and as the world is so willing to be humbuged I say the more the better if we can only get our share

Rawdon Wright & Hatch of Cincinnati are engraving on steel 10 Portraits of individuals who have distinguished themselves in Ireland business, arranged as in sketch I here send you. I being well acquainted with them, had considerable work done there, & having had some experience in picture business, have been honored with a place on the plate and an inside berth to assist in selecting the individuals to put on. this last I prize quite as high as any part of it, as it has enabled me to keep off some that would have been on. it has cost me considerable management to keep Reed off, who is more in my way than any one else & also some to keep them from putting on House & Bain. they also at one time tho't of increasing the number & spoke of Alexander, Wood, Francis J. Smith, J.C. H. Smith, & some others but so many are, although it would make the picture

sell would make it so common as to loose its interest & I would like to see it contain the likenesses of those I have send you & that will be the selection, unless they have some good reason for altering it as the most of them have been heard from and are commenced

In getting up such a job it will cost them something like £1,000. & their object in doing it is to get their money back, & as much more as they can. & they need first, to select those who stand most prominent before the public to make the pictures sell, & secondly those who will offer the most encouragement in advance by subscribing for the pictures

The plate is about 12 x 15 inches, & from what I know of pictures, & what they have told me & showed me I think it will be a splendid affair - they propose to retail them at £3. each to furnish them to subscribers whose heads are on at £1.50 each - the most who have been heard from have subscribed for 100. copies each, & I among the rest & hope you & Fred will do the same, not that we shall ever get our money back directly, but hoping to indirectly. we are all young yet & the world is moved by wind & humbugs & is

likely to be for some time to come, and the most we live for, work for, fight for. (not to say live for) is position and in this way it will pay. and further it is one step towards immortality that we are all hoping for - as the pictures will be very generally circulated & always preserved -

Please write me what you think of it and whether you would like to have your likeness on, and how many pictures (if any) you will subscribe for. & I will report to them I am as anxious to have your & Col S. on as myself. & would gladly consent to have mine on if your are off - say also how you like the selection - & make such suggestions as you think proper - it will require 6 or 8 months to complete the plate & they will report $\frac{1}{2}$ or $\frac{2}{3}$ as the work progresses & will keep the subscribers informed of its progress by sending proof impressions from time to time

Business good on C & C line & improving on C & S line, & if I ever find the end of these old debts I may save something from that - I have made out to ^{get} all the debts so far into my own hands. but "still they come"

You & Col S. & I ought to get

together & compare notes & divide the
stock of C & S live according to what each
one has paid. The Certificates now are ready
to be issued. & further there is many things
we ought to talk about. lets try & get
together & have a regular chat

If ^{you} can get it handily please send
me a copy of Specs & of my affidavit in
the suit Morse - vs - Smith. I have part of
those proceedings & want to get the rest

How are you getting along with
N.Y. & E live & how does the Tel business
generally look by this time? did you
get my last report?

Very truly yours

J. H. Wade

J. H. Wade

Dec 10/1892

Kendall

Smith

O. Rielly

Spud

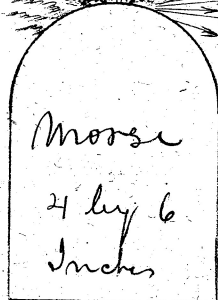
Cornell

Made

Faxon

Swayne

Shaffner



GENESEE VALLEY TELEGRAPH COMPANY.

OFFICES -

ROCHESTER,
AVON,
LIMA,

GENESEO,
CUYLERVILLE,

MT. MORRIS,
DANSVILLE.

This Line also connects directly with all the Towns and Cities in the United States and Canada.

TARIFF OF PRICES.

From any Office on this Line to any other Office 20 cents first 10 words. One cent for each additional word

E. R. HAMMATT, Secretary.

B. F. ANGEL, President.

Dansville, Oct 11th 1852.

By Telegraph from

To E. Cornell Esq

Dear Sir,

Mr Tichenor
said you wished me
to make out my
Statement to W A T Co after
July 24th. I have made
out new bills from Jan 15th
Hope you will pay them
soon. He said you
would have means - No
Ci' nest yet. Glad you
are going ahead with so
much rapidity. Hope we
can work through soon -
Please answer - Yours C M Smith

Ithaca October 14th 1852.

Dear Father.

Enclosed I hand you a letter from Wade marked private. and ^{as} I did not know but it might be of some importance for you to receive it at the earliest possible moment. I found it to take a copy and keep him and forward the original to New York, which you would not perhaps receive before you left there. but this I find unnecessary.

I think if you will allow me to make the suggestion that if you consent to having your own portrait in the collection, you should also hand your worthy partners Messrs Tichenor & Thomas represented. I think Tichenor would like to distinguish himself in the business if he has not already done so. and Wade's plan would be a good one to give him a start. Would it not?

John came in from Canada last evening. He intends to remain but a day or two and when he goes, he will I suppose take a wife with him.

Very Truly Yours

A. B. Cornell

O. Cornell Esq.
New York. D.

Ithaca October 15th 1852.

Dear Sir.

Your favor of — inst has been recd. by my family during my absence and Alongo after reading it forwarded it to N.Y. expecting I would go there before returning to Ithaca. I therefore only know its contents from his recollection. He informs me there is an enterprise in ~~fact~~ contemplation by some of our master artists for getting up a steel engraving of some of the Telegraphic dignitaries of the land, which you are disposed to patronize on the ground among others, that it would confer a certain degree of immortality. In this I think you are right to some extent in your judgment as it will certainly add somewhat to the fame of the favored parties to have their likenesses coupled with that of Prof Morse, in a good engraving, as the name of Morse is already inscribed on the tablet of fame by the side of Franklin & Fulton by his generous heartide countrymen, and will in future ages be honored where the lightning flash the thoughts of man over the tiny ends of steel, and to a certain extent immortality follows the favor. It is also an immortality far above that sought by many, the recording of their names in a public print.

If I could have my choice, I should prefer that my name should be immortalized by its connection with some good deed, by alleviating in some degree the sufferings of humanity, by reclaiming the inebriate, by reforming the vicious, by removing the burthen of destitution from the hearts of the widow and orphan, by restoring the fallen to the paths of virtue, thus I should be employed in a manner far more congenial to my feelings than by laboring to procure the publication of my likeness in the contemplated group. I however should not object to the placing of my likeness in the group, if though worthy the honor of such association, and if such a picture should be published I should want a few copies to supply my friends perhaps 50 or so. I will leave the matter in your keeping trusting in your judgment for proper action. I proposed for your benefit to sketch the services rendered by each of the parties you associate in the group in the order in which they ~~occurred~~ occurred, in time and importance and thus suggest a slight alteration in the order of the arrangement.

Prof. S F B Morse although not possessing an original and inventive mind caught the happy idea of applying the galvanic current to the production of the Electro magnet as the most likely to be successful for telegraphing. The most of the contrivances and inventions by which this thought was carried out. in detail owed the productions of other minds. as the necessity of the case led to the invention of one after another. the Prof. adopted them and marshalled them into use, sometimes paying the inventor a trifle for his production. and at other times appropriating them without pay or credit. The Prof. however is entitled to great credit for the enthusiasm and perseverance with which he adhered to his project through poverty & derision. until the combined genius of himself and friends brought forth in perfection of detail the great railway of thought. and taught the lightnings to flash the message of admiring millions through annihilated space. It is appropriate ^{therefore} to place Prof Morse in the center.

Francis O Smith is the next on the list. Mr Smith though a man possessing and active and vigorous & original mind contributed nothing to the enterprise by way of invention. but he had the foresight to compass at a glance the vast advantage the telegraph would add to the facilities of transacting business in a commercial community like ours. and the sagacity to secure a portion of those advantages to himself at a time when the enterprise required "material aid". The enthusiasm with which Smith espoused the lightnings caused. contributed largely to secure the proper action of Congress. in making an appropriation for the erection of the experimental line between Wash & Balt. Smith should be regarded as Morse's right hand man. until the question was settled and the Telegraph became a living reality. To Smith I would therefore assign the second place in the picture. I have the honor of being the next of the persons your name. who was connected with the enterprise. being a practical and scientific mechanic. I possessed decided advantage in planning & arranging the details. My attention was first drawn to the subject of laying the pipe in the ground. which contained the conducting wires. (it being Morse's original intention to enclose his conducting wires in a leaden tube beneath the surface of the earth.) Which resulted in the invention by me of a machine with which those pipes could be laid for \$5. per mile instead of \$100. per mile the ~~price~~ price contracted by Morse to pay for laying the pipes between Wash & Balt. afterwards the subject of insulation. The registers relay magnets connectors &c claimed my attention which resulted in improvements the importance of which you may infer when I inform you that I have

a letter from Smith written directly after the completion of the line from Wash to Ball, in which he gives me credit for the successful termination of the enterprise. Now A Kendall, was next connected with the enterprise as an agent for Prof Morse & some others of the then owners of the patent for selling the patent to the Government, or individuals as the case might be. Mr K's offhand business habits coupled with the importance of the invention enabled him to realize large sums in cash & stock in the line for his principals. in the sale of the patent. he also possessed other qualities, that has resulted in getting the business so tangled up with conflicting claims, disputed rights, lawsuits & quarrels, that the parties who originated them are not likely to live long enough to see the end of them. Mr Kendall contributed nothing to the invention or perfection of the Telegraph.

Henry O'Reilly was the next in order and was introduced by Mr Kendall they becoming parties to a contract for the purchase & sale of certain of the patented privileges granted to Prof Morse. The parties soon got into a quarrel respecting their rights, and I believe up to this day there has been no two lawyers found who on reading the contracts could tell what the meaning of it was, or could agree as to what either party could rightfully claim under it. O'Reilly's great forte has been in arraying public sentiment against the patentees, even attacking the patent itself. His only claim for credit must be on the ground of carrying on a vigorous war against the patentees which has resulted in his own bankruptcy, and vast trouble for his friends.

Mr Theo. S. Foster comes next. he was associated with Livingston A Wells, J. Butterfield & A Greenman in the purchase of the patent between Mr O'Reilly, via Albany & Prof. Mr Foster has contributed nothing to the improvement of the Telegraph. his merit consists in knowing nothing about the science of the business and being content to let things alone, as they were arranged by those who understood it better than himself. — Col J. H. Speer is the next in order. I have the honor of introducing the Col. his vigorous & original mind with a good share of inventive talent, induced me to believe that he would make a valuable addition to our force, and his self acting committee getting moving together with his success as a manager of Telegraph lines prove the correctness of my judgment. Mr Wm M. Linn is next in point of time. but as Mr L. has nothing upon which to found his claim to immortality but respectable business tact, in managing a line of Telegraph on a road where there are few physical difficulties to encounter, & a profitable business to do, I will pass him over to your tender mercies without further notice.

Your own claims may now be presented. but instead of giving my own views of your merits I will refer interested parties to your pre-eminent success. under adverse circumstances, as a telegraphist in the west. Of Mr Chaffin. I know too little to speak with safety. and I will apply the maxim if "When you know nothing it is best always to say nothing."

With above remarks and the suggestion that Smith is entitled to the first place after Morse. I will leave the group for such arrangement as the better judgment of those interested may suggest.

Yours Respectfully
(Signed) E. Cornwell

W. J. A. Wade
Columbus
Ohio

Copy of letter to
W. J. A. Wade
Sept 15 1852

Detroit 15 Oct 1832

Dear Sir

Speed 15 Oct 32
I returned home last evening from the West. I staid longer at Chicago than I would have done; but the littings on the bal of the All C P R took place this week, and I wanted to get a contract on the road, as there was a chance to make some money with a little work. But the contracts were let so low that we did not get a tickel in for a mile.

Your letter with diagram recd. I think the plan a good one, all except the removal of our battery from Ben to Dk, and that may not be a serious objection. We can have the battery better attended to at Ben, than we have heretofore been able to do at Dk; but by having the right man at Dk it can be done there as well as at Buffalo.

Enclosed I send you a letter from Fayton - you will see that he begins to smell a rat - I answered by saying that you had been at work on your line but could not tell what you had done - that the completion of your line would not interfere with my bargain with him - The bargain was to give him his answers and all our original business this side the City of N.Y. and all original beer for N.Y. when N.Y. & R. line was down - I expect we will have some trouble with him & probably lose his business for a while - He must manage that as well as we can - It will never do to let the T & R line have Fayton, but at B. & O., if we can help it -

The Rochester Tribune have fired up at last, & shot off their gun at us - I have read over some portion of their papers - They ask the Court to grant an injunction

to prevent our using Morse's
instruments. Claim under the
old O'Reilly contract, & get a copy
of O'Reilly's affidavit in the Philadelphia
Court. Seldons affidavit, sets forth
that they performed all their
contracts with the Patents, &c., and
are entitled to protection. They
set forth the old contract with
O'Reilly for the formation of the
Atlantic Lake & Mississippi &c. Co.
and claim the exclusive right
to build all lines this side the
Ohio river.

I have paid Howard
\$100, and he will attend to the
guits in due season. The time
for the application is the 16th of Nov
next. Howard will see Judge McLean
who is now here & find out whether
he is still of the opinion that the
Morse Patents are invalid, as
he decided at Columbus.

There is a plank road now building
between here and Monroe, directly
on our line, and for two weeks
past we have been terribly annoyed
by the falling of trees. They are now
nearly done chopping & I hope we
will not be troubled so much. Our rotten
poles have also interrupted us a great
deal. Our wire is now on new poles
between Fremont & Sandusky, & that
source of trouble is cured at the worst
place on the whole line. I have had
to pay Sturges at Zanesville \$300, Have
paid & Mills \$500. Howard \$600, and
used all the bal we could to pay for
poles & work. We are not out of the
woods yet. We must pay Jackson some
\$500 or \$600 & Ward \$800. This fall
if we had a new line we could pay
fast, but the constant interruptions
from rotten poles, & the very heavy expense
for new poles & labor keeps us as poor as
ever. From here West the line is now
in good order - but we have to keep
three men between here & Milwaukee
and 5 or 6 between here & Gen, and
it takes almost all we get to pay
them -

Yours truly J. J. Speed Jr

I spent a week last Spring, and
got a contract on the Ill RR Road
which has been executed by others,
and out of which I have great
confidence that I will get one or
two ^{or three} ~~or three~~ thousand dollars next March
when the job will be completed -
I spent ten days more ^{late} in trying
to get an other; but failed to get
it. I will spend a week or ten
days again in November, and
hope to be more successful next
time. I will not neglect our Tel
bus, unless I should succeed
in getting a large contract, which
would require my personal attention.
If I do, it shall be such a contract
as will pay well, and in that case
I may leave the Telegraph this winter
for Haviland to manage. If I was
out of the business entirely, I could make
my services worth three or four
thousand dollars per year on
some RR Road. Or I could get that

whether my services are worth it
or not - Old Murr says, that
when Horace Mack once gave
me \$2.00 per day for a few days
to help out. & appraise Stephen's
property, that he paid me just
twice as much as he ought, as he
could have got a man of more
capacity for one dollar per day -
I wrote the old man a saucy
letter in reply - I can make some
one believe that I am worth
more than Murr would be willing
to pay me - There are many good con-
tractors on RR Roads, who have the means
& the experience, & who will gladly go
in with me, as they think I can
get contracts better than they
can - I have sometimes regretted that
I should have spent five years very
hard work for a living; but after all
it may be worth something in the end,
& I will see that all the lines I have
had charge of, shall be kept at work
until we are obliged to stop by the laws of
the land, and not from poverty -
I have just come in
with the loggers & lumbermen & had three shakers work for me
back but they have some household goods & I want to have any more

I suppose the Rochester tribe have
deed as with the hope of making
a better compromise. They are also
getting new poles between Fairmount
& Sandusky & intend moving their line
on same road with ours. They are
also getting new poles at other places
expending a good deal money on
their line. They will soon have to
get new wire as well as poles, and
when they do get both, we will be
ready to join terms with them
thru two good lines.

If they succeed in stopping us ~~from~~
in using Morse's instruments, we
will have to make one of our own.
See O'Reilly & advise with him.
He may want to get his affidavit
on our side. I send you a letter
from Wade? If you like that kind
of immortality, shell out \$150 and
your face will be handed down
to posterity side by side with "Amos the pious".
Yours of the 12th just came with it a
dispatch for \$25 for Lin bill at Muncie.
When I went West we were in a bad

our receipts for Sept about \$5000
40 other lines about \$1176

first in that direction & while gone
we were worse off East. If I could
be in half a dozen places at
the same time I could make it go -
But it is the most annoying, vexatious,
contemptible business that a white
man ever undertook - I am more
than half inclined to make tracks
for California & dig -
I saw Hotchkiss & Smith, & they say
that they cannot keep up over half
the wire they put up & think with
me that it had better be taken
down & saved - They have 350 miles of
wire which will be wasted and
entirely lost unless attended to soon -
If you can sell out to Smith & O'Reilly
& get anything, make any bargain
you please for me - I will be satis-
fied with small matters, if we can get
out of the whole concern - If we had
the matter settled with Smith, I would not
care about the Rochester tribe - but to fight
them first, & then him, & earn the money with the
expense of building a new line & paying old debts, all

same time, makes it an awful business - at the

New York Oct 16th 1852.
C. Cornell Esq Sir

I expected to find you here Wednesday evening. As you were not aware of my situation, I do not wonder at your prolonging your stay. I considered myself engaged until you made arrangements for me in N.Y. You should have forwarded a letter on to Mr Brown if it was not your to come on immediately informing him that I was employed by you. Necessity compels me to leave tonight. I have lived on my friends here long enough. When you have matters arranged, write or telegraph me at R.R. or G.

Respectfully Yours
J. Cornell Lumsden

Newcastle Oct 18/1852

E Cornell Esq

Pr Sir. our line works up to
the handle now & I can give you
my business & a considerable to D.S. if there
was an operator then to attend to the business
we cant get time to keep five minutes
in a day. I dont write with him once
a week. I can get next office to him
any time. When will you be off - & able to
take my Pittsburg & C business for My
city. I expected to hear from you long ago
& thought you were going to put a bulley
operator there in my

Respectfully

M. P. P. W.

Bradfordville Oct 18th 1832
Alonzo Bennett Esq
New Buffalo

Dear Sir

Your favor of
the 12th inst duly recd, & I hasten
to reply.

If your son is prepared to
mend breaks whenever they may occur
on our line, I will give him Charge
of an instrument at Lake Station,
& pay him One Hundred dollars per
Year for his trouble, besides whatever
expense he may incur in putting
him in order,

Should the line get down
west, he would be expected to go or send
~~the~~ man half way to Chicago, & if East
half way to Mich City, I presume he
fully understands what is required in such
Cases, & I have no doubt it would be
gratifying to him to be connected by
Telegraph with home, & the rest of
the world, Please advise by Telegraph
on receipt hereof, & adly.

Yours Truly
R. E. Bryant

R E Bryant

Oct 18/12

A & N. W. Bennett
Against
O. Ind. & Ill. Lique. Co

no mules for

McCool send
by freight train

G. G. Hammond

Office Geneva Valley Tel Co
Geneva Oct 19. 1882

E. Cornell Esq
Dr Sir

Having been informed by
Mr C. McSmith that you have disposed of
your interest in N. Y. & E. Tel Co, it seems
proper that I should call your attention to the
bal due this Co from N. Y. & E. Co embracing the
time from your assumption by purchase of the
line to Aug 20th and amounting to sixty one
77/100 Dollars (\$67.77) The items embraced in the
account Mr. Smith informs me have been in-
cluded in his reports as Operator on N. Y. & E. Line.

With a view to closing the account I
will thank you to forward me a draft and
certificate of deposit for the amount

Very Resp^{ly}

Yr Ob. St.

E. R. Hammett
Pres.

Burlington Oct 20th 1851
Mr Ezra Cornell

Dr. Sir. Yours of the 16th
was handed me on Saturday evening by
Mr Pomeroy. In reply I would say
that in the suit in favor of Geo. W. Demaree
Judgment has been rendered against you
and sufficient of your stock sold to
satisfy that judgment; in the case of
Hyde, Fuller & Hyde against you. Mr Hitchcock Esq
of H. J. T. Co informs me that your stock
has been sold to satisfy a judgment in
their favor. The respective amounts of the
judgments against ^{you} I have not ascertained
but can do so if you wish. Our laws
provide that in case a judgment is
obtained against a person without personal
notice to him, he has a right to prosecute
the matter by writ of review, if commenced
within two years after the rendition of
judgment. Any further instructions in
the matter shall be attended to with
as little delay as possible.

Respectfully Yours

S. B. English

New York Oct 23^d
E Cornell Esq -

Dear Sir:

Can you
give me the note
I spoke about yester-
day for \$75 - payable
thirty days. the
fore part of next week?
Please leave or send
answer to 3 1/2 Wall
St.

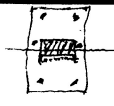
Y. Much obly
Yours Respd
W. H. Butcher

Detroit 25th Oct 1832

Dear Sir

I have been a good deal unwell lately - first with a chill fever and since with a cholera or Cholera morbus. I believe I am over it, but still weak. If I had felt as well yesterday, as I do today, I would have gone with Harland to meet you at Elmira, altho. you had better come to D R than for me to pay fare to Elmira & back. But as the time has passed for my visiting you there, you had better come and meet Wade and me at V. I have not seen Wade for a long time, but guess he is not doing as well as we all expected he would. - He have been very much troubled for the past three weeks between Maurice & Fremont - Harland & others went over the line but

did not find the trouble. I was
sick and West, when I came
home. I went over the line between
here and Moorov, found all
right & came back. I intended
going the next day to Maunee,
but was too unwell to do so, and
sent Chi, Spud, with proper instructions.
He found the trouble the first
half day after he got there &
as you may have a similar case,
I will tell you what it was - one
of our black insulators was nailed
onto the side of a green tree, and
to keep the glass in the black,
we drove a six penny nail in
at each end of the glass - The nail
went through the black & into the
tree - The head of the nail hit the
wire, when the wire was on one
side of the black, but when the
wind changed the wire so as not
to touch the head of the nail, the
line worked well, but when the wire
hit the nail we could scarcely work

at all -  - The OK line have been in trouble from some cause for three or four days I have not yet found out their difficulty.

I send you, by Express, the bundle of papers served on me. I do not want them, as each one of our directors ~~has~~ a copy. I thought you might have some curiosity to see them, & show them to Smith & O'Reilly - Get O'Reilly's opinion of the case - I think he will be willing to make an affidavit saying that the Rochester title, who have brought the suit, have no title, even under his contract, nor any right to use Morse's instruments, as they have now fulfilled their agreement with him - I would also like to know whether Smith thinks we ought to issue him half our stock and \$20 per mile besides, before we know whether our contract is valid or not. We will want Smith,

Letters to you, giving you the
right from here to Buffalo -
I wish you could come up here
and have a talk with Howard.
But if you will come to St. Louis
must you there -

We have paid \$1000 the past
month, besides all we have
paid for poles & labor - We
must pay \$2000 more this
fall, & that is as much as we
can pay & keep the men
at work on the line -

Yours truly

J. J. Speed

And Cornell

My dear

P.S. I have been to see Mr Howard & says
if I can get an affidavit from O'Reilly say-
that the Rochester tribe have not executed
the contract on their part & have no rights
to morse's instruments, even under his
contract with Patentes - It will be a wet
blanket for them - I think O.R. will not
hesitate, from what he told me, to make
such an affidavit. If he will have him do so,
& send it to me,

Speed
23 Oct 1873

Pittsburg Oct 24th 52

Dr Sir

I wrote you few days ago to Dr. I write you today to Dr. & Dr. - I am in prime order for doing telegraph business. want to send My business from my line & from Pittsburg. How are you getting on - when will you be able to do it. I could get a large business in short time from P. to N.Y. if you could do it up to the huddle - The National Telegraph does business from here to N.Y. & New Orleans, in less than a day - few hours to N.Y. & back, send business to New Orleans & get answer back in few hours - with such line to appear we must do the business & go in custom. There appears to be no good operator in Dr's yet. we cant get him to operate in a day. Yours is there. I understand but hear he is too busy to attend to my instrument. Most all my N.Y. business has to go via of P. or I have lost all confidence in Speeds line that way. I cant get anything to N.Y. & back in short of 2 or 3 days when I can get any business of The National in or many hours - Cant you connect us at Dr's so we

Can write in one cresent to WJ
try it - Let me hear from you
9/12 —

Respectfully
Rw

W P Row
24 Oct 1852

Pittsburg Oct 24th 1860

Dr Cornell

I am in prison order for sending
you my business. When will you be ready?
Now is the season when Merchants are sending
often to the City, & my business has to go via
Pittsburg to my - we get left, & it costs the
Citizens more, our aim works the best to
D.C., but we cannot raise D.C. once a day
scarcely. They say they have not time to attend
to my instrument. I hear your New operator
has come but I have not yet had a talk
with him & don't know who he is. I
sent a him to him & dispatched rec'd of V to
him to let me have a small telegraph
talk with him, but appears to be so busy
that he can't come to my instrument
we can get the office 14 miles from D.C.
any day, first note & I got several
dispatches the other day - from the north
office saying they would close this office
if I did not put some one in D.C. office
to do their business. Can't we manage to
do my business from Pittsburg in one
circuit I can do much if you can.
What say you - Ans G/B

Respectfully P.B.W.