Defiance O Sept 11 1855

E Cornell Esq

Dear Sir.

I learn that you have some hands at work East of Fort Wayne, resetting Telegraph poles. It is certainly encouraging to those engaged in working the Line that the work has been commenced.

I wish however to suggest what appears must be evident to any one acquainted with the actual condition of this Line between Fort Wayne & Toledo. viz: the expediency of employing another set of hands, or at least of instructing those now at work, to employ themselves first where repairing is most needed. I made a trip to Toledo last Thursday (6th) and thus had an opportunity of viewing the Entire line between Defiance & Toledo, and am well acquainted with its precise condition. I am also informed of its situation between Defiance & Fort Wayne.

There are two places, each several miles in length to which the labors of the repairers should be immediately directed. One commences about one mile below this place and extends to Florida a distance of 8 miles. The other commences about 12 miles west of Toledo, and reaches nearly to that town. Within the limits of the localities that I have named, more poles are down, and more that are liable to fall immediately, than in all the remaining distance from Toledo to Wayne. although it is bad enough in many other places. some of which should be repaired immediately: Some places where poles have fallen into trees carrying the wire among the boughs making bad ground connections. A great length ~~length~~ of wire is supported by fences in the vicinity of Defiance. and more yet near Toledo. It will be a long time before the men now employed at resetting can reach

the points that need fixing most, and wilst more hands are employed, as discretion is used in directing the labors of those now at work. ~~much delay~~ great interruption of business, together with much wilst expense in temporary repairs will be incurred. Although I have been, or had a man out nearly every day the past Month. & presume Toledo & Ft Wayne officials have done the same, we have failed to do sufficient business, & it seems to me. to defray expenses within the same time for repairs: and what is of more importance than the present expense & loss of rect" fr the public are losing confidence in the business capacity of the line. as they have no assurance when they send a despatch that it will remain "O K" long enough to get an answer.

My Expenses since the 1st August to the present time have considerably exceeded me" to. and am getting short of funds. I presume the bare mention of the fact is sufficient.

I learn there is a prospect that a vacancy will occur at Logansport ofs before long. If so allow me to say that a situation there, or in some more business office, one that pays a little better than this, would be very acceptable to me. I shall be pleased to hear from you soon.

Very Respectfully

S. A Strong

Opr at Defiance

E Cornell Esq

E. A. Strong
Operator
Defiance O
Sept 10. 1853

Chicago Sept 10, 1853.

Dear Alonzo

On arriving here last evening I found two letters from you with one from Mr Howe on subject of way for RR &c &c In relation to Mr Stansbury & Miss Dunyan you may say to them that the ground on the hill south of tunnel when hickory grove is will be sold at auction this fall in the partition sale when they can buy if they wish The ground on the north side of the Creek I would not divide as they describe it, it would leave a useless unsalable piece on hand,

I will sell them the 5 acres where we used to live at Fall Creek if they want for $2,000 — or I will sell them the Orchard and all the land on north side of Creek, embracing the Spring & Sight for Water Cure, for $100 — per acre, there is about 30 acres of it I think,

I have not had time to read mothers letter but presume she wrote all the news so I will close

Yours Respectfully
E Cornell

A, B, C

Chicago Sept 10th 1858

My Dear Children

I promised in my letter to Molly to write you soon and now I will try and fulfill that promise. I believe you had a sketch of our journey as far as Albion from your Father so I will not give you a history of that, but will try and commence where he left off, we arrived in two weeks ago yesterday since which we have been visiting around there, one week ago yesterday I was calculating to go to Willsdale with M.B. and Mother to find Aunt Gay, but Emma was taken sick in the night before we had to start and I had to give up going, and we prevailed on Phebe to go in my place, they started from Albion about seven in the morning and supposed they had no more than an easy days work to perform, but they found that their thirty mile journey was a long one, they rode until dark and could not hear any thing of the folks they were in pursuit of and then they began to try to find lodgings for the night but no one would keep them and they kept on and finally came to a piece of woods that they had to go through and it was so dark when they got in the wood that they could not see any thing they said but one bright star to be guided by, to know what direction to take, they finally met three men, Phebe said she supposed they were big way robers and should have thrown her pocketbook at them if she had have had

it with her but she did not and so they did not rob her of course, but they stoped and enquired of them about the folks they were in pursuit of and they told them where to find Wm Gay and they were then about five miles from there so they went on, and finally got there about ten oclock at night, found them all a bed, they got up and mustered round and got them some supper and made them comfortable as they could, and the next day they succeeded in finding annt Sarah, Monday they came home and brought Aunt with them, glad enough to get back I can assure you, we left Albion for the west Thursday eleven oclock arrived at Michigan City about five where your father had some bisiness to attend to and we stoped over until five yesterday when we left for Chicago arrived here about half past six stoped at the Matteson House where Mr Cobb had provided comfortable quarters for us and here we are now how long I shall be from Albion I cannot tell, I left both the children at Phebes with Jane, Mother was up to south Albion when I left she seems to be enjoying her visit first rate,

Mamy is going to school with Kitty and is so much taken up with it that I dont know as she will be willing to go home, Emma was well when I left and I hope will keep so, write me at Albion as soon as you receive this and tell me where Molly is and how she is enjoying herself whether her sisters are there and when they are coming to visit and if Molly is coming with them.

I think of nothing more and will close with my love

Ever your affectionate mother M A Correll

Sandy Grove 11 Sept 1833

Dear Sir

I expected to have been back long ago but I could not do so without a certainty of going to the Del home, if I left, and as strong probability of it if I stayed - Mr Clarke is gone and I cannot leave until he returns which will be about the 20th this month, as soon as he returns I will go home -

We agreed to have a meeting of our stockholders on the 20th. your last letter to them as I cannot reach home by that time -

Charley is here and from his looks, he has had a pretty hard time, and I judge from what he says, that the lines are all in about as poor a condition as our RR contracts - I say nothing about our RR matters to any one, and query we will come out right yet -

Yours &c

S J Lloyd Jr

Mr. E. Cornell

J. J. Speedy
Sept 11, 1853

"P." Sept 13th 1853

E. Cornell Esq.

[illegible] attempt
"to find a needle in a
hay-stack" is [illegible] applicable
to you Non-a-days. When can
I [illegible] has been
[illegible] with me
for six weeks but all appeared
to be as ignorant as myself
until this morning when I [illegible]
[illegible] to-night by
the southern mail I am enabled
to acknowledge the receipt of one
dated at [illegible] July last which
I presume has "been to the Springs"
"Falls" or "Chrystal Palace" during
"dog days" & consequently I was
not aware until reports were made
out that you desired "check columns"
filled. — My Sept Report will furnish

them if I can the boys to watch their entree on our line but we have so many outlets & inlets while our line is in such a miserable condition that it is almost impossible to keep the run - for instance I take Cin Mess either from "Ch." "D." or "B." the tariff is same from each & one half rec'd do not say at which of the three points messages come on our line - This I presume is no fault of yours but until op'rs can be made to feel its importance no reliance can be placed upon check columns. I will endeavor hereafter to keep mine correct & hope the same feeling will be unanimous - I am sorry you did not empower me to bid upon construction of line east from here over A & Ind R.R. Wade & Eckert have been awarded the contract at rates they can not lose & are now fishing for the

Chicago Road. 3 I dont know in what relation you & Mr Wade stand to each other but this running on our territory looks a little suspicious - Mr Palmer has sent one of his men to repair line east from this & without any instructions to have advanced them eighteen dolls & yesterday they asked for more which I have promised to send. They have re-set about twenty miles of poles up to-to-day & from what I can learn they are doing it in a substantial manner - I hope you will keep them down this way during our fall business & then we can show good balances - In my aug rept a payment of $8.00 made to one of Mr Palmers men without authority because of extreme poverty sticking out of his knees & elbows and to be

Sept 13, 1853

attributed to some Extent to
Mr Palmers telling him to hold
himself in readiness to go to
Lafayette & Continue repairs
& the poor devil relying upon that laid around
here until they was about to
arrest him on the vagrant act
& rather than that we paid him
He had written repeatedly to
Palmer but rec'd no answers
I hope this will meet your
approbation. - "Come over &
see us" we "Macedonians" would
like to introduce you to our
young City.

Respectfully
Smith.

Chapota. Sept 15th 1853.

Dear Sir

Your letter dated 11th was recd today
The receipts for last month would have
been greater if the line had been in good
repair — but delays to answers, & frequently
the impossibility of getting business off ~~office~~
Operated against me. The S.M. Line has
created considerable business. ~~An~~ An arrangement
has been made with the S.M. Line by one at
present I get the receipts of the office for my
pay — Mr. Allen wanted me to divide the business
equally, but I told him I could make no such
arrangement — that the Superintendent of our line
was the proper person to make an arrangement.
I send answers to all business originating on
the S.M. Lie by that line, & all other business
property belonging to it — I invariably send eastern
business on the O.S. & S. line, when I can get
it off in that way — If not I send it on
the S.M. Line. The expenses of the office I
shall divide equally until some definite arrange-
ment is made. I can make an arrangement
with Mr. Allen, if it is your wish — but do not
like to take the responsibility without instructions
The check report I had made out on
a separate paper, & forgot to insert it in
my report.
The two offices give me a decent salary
& I suppose business is not hindered here by
the S.M. line, as I now keep a message bag —
heretofore I have been obliged to deliver
messages myself

Respectfully Yours
A. Millikan

Mr. E. Cornell. Supt

Indianapolis Sept 13 1853

E. Cornell Esq

Dear Sir.

I have just received your letter of the 10, inst. The O. I. & Ill. Tel Co. are the lessees of the Milwaukie line with the right of purchase. As I understand it, Messrs K & B. are bound to defend the title of the line, and to defend the lessees against all claims that in any way effect the title. I am very much inclined to the opinion that we are not bound to pay Messrs K. & B. any of the payments that are required immediately to redeem the line, I also think the contract between you & the ~~O.~~ O. I. & Ill. Tel. Co. will bear the same construction. that is, that you may appropriate the payments due the Co. for the M. line to redeem the line from actual liens, in all cases where the line or any part of it has been sold upon a valid proceeding, and in cases where it is Exposed to certain sale. I think it to be the interest of all parties that you should pursue that course. I am gratified to understand by your letter that you & Mrs C. will visit Indianapolis. Please to come and stay at my house.

Respectfully yours &c

Lucian Barbour

84 John St New York
September 13th 1853

E. Cornell Esq
Indianapolis Ind.

Dear Sir

Enclosed please find Invoice of Wire sent forward yesterday & today which we hope will reach its destination in good order The $140 received by us on the 2nd inst of which you were duly advised was (we learn from a gentleman who has since called on us) in payment for the Ton ordered by you to be sent to Corning N.Y. but that not having been specially noted either by yourself or A B Cornell Esq we sent value to the Amount to Galion Ohio — Yesterday we forwarded Mr Skinners wire so he will be all right

We duly received your remittance of Fifteen Hundred Dollars ($1500) from J Nottingham Esq Supt. for which please accept our best thanks The balance of your Wire will be sent forward in a day or two — we have had such a demand for Wire that a portion of yours was appropriated to another use, we hope the short delay will not put you to any inconvenience

Soliciting your continued patronage
We are Dear Sir
Yours truly
James Cocker & Co
J. Eagleton

Corning Sept 13th 1853

E Cornell Esq.

Dear Sir

Yours of 9th inst was received this Evening I think the S. & Oswe go folks are rather verdent I think however that the thing will come out right yet. I have no idea that they will do as they propose. I will see the Scrantons this week and blank these game. I saw the Central Rail Road Supt. through N. J. over whose Road they intend to pass. I think I made things O K in that quarter. I am glad you. Usale them. I to will write them. We have got the Brackets up from P Port to RA

I should have begun to
put up the wire this week
if the money sent by
A B C had been sent in
a proper shape but A B
C said nothing to whom
the wire was to be ship-
-ped so you got it and
it will delay me longer
than I hoped to be —
I saw Cracker & Co last
week, and asked them to ship
me the next 10 bundles
they said they would do
so, and cont you let
me have 20 more I
can put it up in 10
days after I commence and
get the cash to deposit
for that note at Ithaca
if you will do so - and
give me power to coll-
-ect it.

In the mean time
keep driving at the subsec
itptions - people begin
here to ask with great
solicitude are we a go-
ing now an office here
I think they will come to
them milk when they see
we want be trifled with
please answer and let
me know about wire
some. I will drive
this line any way

Yours Respectfully
G W Skinner

E Cornell Esq

Wankyan Sept. 13th

Friend Cobb.

Below, find the List of Idepdeness of O. Reilly. Line which I think are correct. I have made no inquiries of the Creditors as did not wish to Excite their Expectations too much. But make them out from my own Recollection as this is the 3rd time have done the same Job.

E. D. Ely. Rent. Bill	81.00
Rev Deacon & Co "	20.00
Cory & Evans. Drug Store	20.50
S. Kellogg. Board of Charles. B. now in Court	100.00
Terry & Searls Lawyers.	40.00
Hitchcock & Co. Furnishing fs	22.75
D. O. Dickinson Mony. advanced. on fr.	16.00
J. H. Speed Jr. amt Paid Tiffany Br. Cobb	20.00
Philo McClark Back Salary as Per agreement with Bryant & Deland.	95.10
	$415.25

1)

Extracts from F. O. J. Smith's letters relating to the N.Y. & Erie, Ct. & Vt. or Ehll. Telegraph lines or Others.

N.Y. & Erie line

Jan. 8. 1848. "I wish to God you could go out & command a portion of the enterprise out of Speeds operations. And yet the stock and work work should be obtained on the main Erie R R line for early summer. I have no doubt on reflection that the N.Y. & Wash. line will be compelled both for security and Economy to carry their line up the North River to West Point and down on the west side of the river." "I propose uniting in the structure of the posts on the East side, for our Erie R.R line." And I intend making a definite proposition to the board next week, covering the whole route, and thus hasten the building of the Erie R.R. Route."

"In case O'Reilly Opens an Office in Buffalo I shall try an injunction at once."

Side lines

Feb. 9. 1848 I cannot yield to your doctrine of putting lines at $25 per mile yet, - leaving all profits of construction in other hands - under the policy of multiplying these unimportant lines for the general benefit of main lines.

I have never underappreciated the policy of thus multiplying side lines. But I have

deemed it best to keep what enterprise we can command confined to the important lines, to hasten their completion"

Feb 8. 1848 Recurring to your extension line from Renning, my advice would be, and especially if we are to retain any interest as stockholders to run it clear of the R. Road, through the best class of business towns you can to intersect B & N.Y. line either at Hartford or New Haven." "There are small towns that would be enough productive to furnish good facilities for repairs &c, on either rout, that would be taken in, & again if we take stock in the line let it be built with reference to durability and less to immediate construction profits." Ponder these suggestions."

St & Pt line take Stock

March 9. 1848 "I return you a copy of the Erie contract signed, and send the other to speed at Detroit, now go ahead without delay or lack of steam."

Erie Contract

March 27. 1848 "I have made excellent arrangements in N.Y. for our Erie, N.Y. & B & Phil^a lines in one building, for term years" but could not bring Faxton to join with the conveniencies we could offer, and he takes 2nd story, for less convenient accomodations

Office Erie line

Drive Erie Line

near Hillsko, while we remain on the corner opposite our present office. The truth is, he is exceedingly jealous of the Erie and Trent Canada lines." "Drive your Erie line forward also."

Drive Erie Line

Apl 23. 1848 "I am glad you are pushing the Erie line. Every consideration admonishes us to push it. It will be the great western line if rightly constructed. Dont use less than 35 posts to the mile, make it substantial and enduring. If it was now at work we would reap a rich harvest from it."

Kendall talks Stock Co. Plan

June 24th 1848 "I enclose you a charter that you may organize under in Massachusetts, which I hold the controll off- has cost me to organize and keep alive about $150., it dont give the right of way - but it protects your posts when up, and takes away personal liability except as in ordinary corporations. You can have this charter if deemed necessary by refunding my expences, & I think if the company is incorporated, I can get Kendall to take his share of stock if we cant get money. I have got him to do so with Halifax line.

Mgt E & Side Lines

July 4th 1848 "In respect to the side lines named in yours, adjuncts to Mgt Erie, I need only say it is useless to get up any further negociations

with Mr K - He is as jealous as Morse used to be & quite as selfish. All is, you know my authority precisily - dispose of those side lines as I ought & have a right to do, for the Patentees, and I will ratify, only keep me apprised of each negociation as made. I think our main line to Milwaukie will be a fortune for us all, if properly made and husbanded, tho all the rest of the lines were to go to Pat, & you and Speed had better make it your pet - regardless of most else."

P.S. Had you not best bend some force on to extend the line from White Plains to some paying point, by the time I can accomodate that, so as to have the advantages of the announcement of our line being at work at both ends, I am building a new line all way into N.Y. so as to give N.Y. & Erie an independent line from the office to White Plains."

July 8. 1848. I have written Faxton as you suggested about Erie line. all is wanting is completion of our line to turn all business thitherward!

July 25. 1848. The Conn General law is good enough for that state, you will not need one in Massachusetts, no town will refuse you the right of way on the public roads."

It is false from beginning to end, that I informed an editor, or any one else, that I sold you the line at $50. If Mr Plunkit will appeal again to his editor, and tell me his editors name I will ferret out the falshood for him.

(See No 2)

Boston July 13. 1848

Dear Sir. I rec'd yesterday yours of 6th inst with form Erie certificate enclosed, The design is good, and sufficiently expressive, Why not carry out same design, altering only map of territory, for My Erie I think it best.

I sent no proxy west Speed will do as well without it, as I suppose all is harmony I hope the organization there will be perfected, and that you will drive the My Erie line with all possible dispatch,

This morning I have yours of yesterday from Lenox, results most satisfactory, The comm law, is a very good one, There is no special objection to it.

2)

I am not much in the habit of telling my business to any body, & much less to Boston or New-York Editors. Say on my authority the story is without foundation, and that you have told the truth from first to last about your line, - I consider my contract with you as equal to half the stock for the patent - the same other great lines are paid - & your line is one of the best in all New England".

Ct & Vt line

July 25. 1848 "I shall be ready to give you the line from Office to White Plains, for the Erie line in all August. How soon will you be ready to hitch on to it? And how soon will you have your wire at Bridgeport? I wish to know so as to arrange for a special wire to accomodate your line."

Erie line

Ct & Vt line special wire

Nov 16th 1848.

"P.S Dont forget that I am obliged to pay $4,000, on the first Decr & you must help me to at least $3,000, of it,".

Nov 23rd 1848.

"You must make me a remittance of all you can in the shortest time possible, Kendall requires me to call in all his interest as rapidly as ~~possible~~ I can"

Nov 26th 1848.

"I wrote you in both that you must put me

in funds without fail." The largest sum in the shortest time. Kendall has most unjustly applied all his collections for me, to support the western line, insisting on my advancing one half of all, although only 1/4 owner and that assigned to him, and where on the southern line he was in like manner assignee, and dividends accrued, he claimed to be sole owner & took all the dividends! Such sort of investing makes me dislike having any open accounts with him, and my only remedy is, to collect funds and withhold to indemnify myself, which I shall do. This is the additional reason why I wish you to make me prompt payment on all Patentees interest."

Funds pay up

Nov 26th 1848 "You can lay out side lines just as you please to forty Erie. I wish you to do so keeping me advised of each of each one, & terms only keep in view my relations with Mr Kendall under the agreements."

Side lines

"The times must be more auspicious another season than the past for our Telegraph labour and we must push them."

Feb 24th 1849 "I return your list of stations on Erie & M lines with my proposal of tariff which rises on yours little but is still very low. The additional word charge I propose will be throughout less than proportionate for the first ten words. If the first 10 be kept so low, the additional ought to be kept up somewhat in proportion. I think it as I proposed, low enough."

Tariff Erie line

Tariff Erie line

If you adopt it, say so by telegraph, that I may instruct lines accordingly."

"What are you doing about money for patents? I cannot get a dollar from Kendall, You must turn your attention, to getting White Hall amt paid in and portions of the Vt & Erie."

Answer to Kendalls letter

Aug 2, 1849 "Dear Sir, I am in receipt of yours of 27th Ult, with copy of your letter to Mr Kendall under date of July 25th that letter is well put, and according to my understanding of the facts, in the main, excepting, only that beyond your note due me on the Troy & Canada Junction line, I am not aware of any payment made by you, The payment of your note to Doane, if paid, may furnish a surplus to appropriate to the Troy & Whitehall, Conn & Vt or Erie & ll lines, as you may advise, Perhaps the $4000 you speak of being paid the patentees, you mean as embracing all your operations with the Patentees", It is of little use to succumb to Kendalls arbitrary exactions.- Especially when for the sake of his principles I forgone payments due me that you might complete, or at least hasten your payments to them,

Ct & Vt

Aug 2. 1849- I was not aware untill to day that the business of the Ct & Vt line was

suspended at Bridgeport office for want of an operator. And yet I think the line it self should be suspended, unless the stockholders pay up the subscriptions & for the patent. Or how will it do to put it in process of sale outright, & let it become absorbed by the NY&B line, & I will extend it to Albany to meet a cross line to our Erie line as heretofore suggested by you. If a sale be made to pay the patent, it probably would be of more service to us individually, than to have it hang along as it now does, with a half suspended animation, & the Patentees could probably be made to agree to take one half of the proceeds of the sale, and that would be less than fifty dollars per mile. Think of it, & let us get it settled up somehow, or wound up somehow.

"P. S. It is better for you to be rid of the Vt & Ct line and let me absorb it in the Boston line, than to place it in any other shape, for it will fource all western business on that rout."

Ct & Vt line stop using patent

3

New York Sept 14, 1849

Copy -

E Cornell Esq

Sir Under your contract for the Patent of Morses Telegraph, from Bridgeport to Bennington, nothing has been paid, and no title of Patent has been passed, The Patentees are unwilling to suffer this longer use of their property without compensation. The patentees require that the Patent should be paid for, or the line discontinued so as not to stand in the way of others use of the Patent,

The Patentees are unwilling to impose any hardships, even after this long delay in the fulfilment of the contract, on the bona fide, paying subscribers of the line' However they are willing to make any extention for the payment, and satisfactory security given of ultimate & ~~early~~ payment, that you can command

But, the purpose of this is, to say, the matter cannot be allowed to remain longer in its present unsettled condition, Please inform me early, what I may rely on, Very Respectfully

Your Obt Sot

Francis O.J. Smith

Rec'd Chicago Sept 14th 1853. from Cornell & Speed fifty dollars in Cash, and a note for one hundred dollars dated Sept 14th 1853 payable in Six months from date, and one note for one hundred dollars dated Sept 14th 1853 ~~for~~ payable in one year from date which is in full of all account for services & Expenses & disbursments for repairing & working the telegraph from Chicago to Rockford, and in full for two hundred and sixteen dollars interest in a judgment obtained by Cornell & Speed against the North Western Telegraph Co upon which it was sold

C. T. Hotchkiss

Union Sept 14th 1853

Dear Sir

your note 5th. is rec'd. & I hasten at-
late date to say that I wish some one of com-
pany would come or send immediately so as ar-
angement can be made wherin or how near the
track the holls, must beset in union they
cant be set as Mr E. Cornell directed wh-
ich is 30 ft. Rail. he had beter befor arang
the 2 bends which Road makes one on the
East & one on west side of town I think perhaps
the north side of road within 10 or 12 ft., of
track would be best then cross over on the ~~west~~
South side Road.

NB) Should you send a line & not come
you"ll please send me som money as I am
short of meanes that I may pay the farmers of
whom I have ingaged some 8 milds of holls one hu-
ndred & Sivtty amounting to 36$ 00 if I am Rite.

Respectfully yours R. A. Roby

Mr E. Cornell

I would much Rath you would
come than send at this time
if you please in haist & I"will
Await-

R. A. Roberg

Plymouth Sept 15" /53.

Mr Cornell
Sir

Yours of Wrist is Rec'd, I herewith furnish you the figures as they are on Book.
The Error occured in adding I suppose. I was not very care=ful in making out my Report from the fact that Mr Stevens said he did not Know that it was necessary for me to make a Report at all. I will be a Little more careful for time to come

Yours Very Respt
Daniel McDonald

Opr

Rec'd in Plymouth:	Amt Checked to La Porte
30	92
25	30
50	30
84	30
257	
35	
32	
30	" " Michigan City
55	
35	47
63	
63	" " Logansport
35	
50	79.
36	53.
40	
59	
64	
64	
80	
30	
30	
30	
44	
31	
30	
62	

D. M. Donald, Oper

New York and Erie Railroad.

Superintendent's Office.

New York, Septr. 15th 1853

To Mr. E. Connell

Cleveland O.

Sir:

In answer to yours of 26th ult. I will say this much. that I think our Co. would be willing to help your Telegraph Co. along by throwing in our second wire from Deposit to Susquehanna & the line from New York to Dearman at a fair price & take pay in Stock. more than that I cant say, but if such an arrangement is made it must be done immediately.

Respectfully Yours.

Chas. Minot

Supt

per D W Guppy

Corning. 15th Sept 1853

E Cornell Esq

Dear sir

Since I wrote you the 13th I have received advi-ces from Crocker & Co stating that they had ship-ped me 8 Bundles of Wire weighing 2005 lbs which I shall put up as soon as I get it — and please let me have 20 miles more so I can get to addison - the Brackets will be all up as far as ~~at~~ addison to Day there ~~a~~ is 25 poles to the mile - - I sent for ~~Let~~ the shields today

Let me hear soon and dont forget the Wire &c

G W S Kinner

Newcastle Sept 15/53

Dr Sir, yours from Chicago just received & just previous, the one written to Pittsburg received, the contents of which last, gave me some little encouragement for the future, I had feared it was otherwise, You did not answer, two important questions, Tolbert, "what is prospect of the great Union Scheme, so long talked of? Is it likely to be brought about? & when? Will there be any chance for me to get in, with either, or all my lines; 2° if so, as you have posted yourselves, what is the particular course, I am to take previously, to with my Stockholders or Directors, to enable me to come into said company? I am sorry I did not get the last information before. I go north today to attend the Election of new Directors, in Columbus, Warren Co Pa. on the Eighteenth Sept- I feel greatful for the interest you took for me, in trying to get A Kendall to make me out Dectt, He has said as much to me several times, but nothing further done, I wrote him respecting the reciprocation of business, He referred me to Geo R. Dodge of Baltimore city M.D. President of their Company- Dodge replied & says as follows "We are under contract with the N O & O Reilly Lines for a mutual exchange of business, that Contract will expire in December next; when a satisfactory arrangement may possibly be made."

The Board of Directors of the O Reilly Line at Pittsburg, have placed before their Committee, my proposition to reciprocate

business with us, Hanna, the principal man talks favorably. Our lines are working tolerably well, excepting the Line from Cleveland to Pitts, That cursed wheeling Line is a dead weight upon us, we have not been able to work through for two months, & our wires are constantly together, no keeping them apart — It is an additional expense to us besides, if in my power I would put up an entire new set of poles & be by myself it has always bothered & always will, The Cleveland office seems to give that Line the preference, keeping our key open the most of the time, On the other end we are troubled with the O'Reilly wire half the time, I am trying to effect a loan of the citizens of Newcastle to get means enough to move our wire on Rail-Road poles — & purchase few miles new wire, I put up 18 or 20 miles new wire in spring of 51, on that part of Line, The O'R, Line there is constantly falling on us, it does no good to repair, before I get home its crossed again, I am tied up for want of means, cant get money to move with, I only have about 25 a month from all my office to bear my expense & large put that for battery & run my hand for balance of battery fixings &c. besides, both Cleveland & Pitts office are running us in debt, now fast — I cannot stay by myself in Pittsburg & Wade & Eckert do not intend to open an office there, for some months yet — I will be obliged to move immey & think I will have to go in with the O'Reilly fellows for short time at least — or close, I may close, if I get means to put up wire &c — Eckert will not let me use his wire, while I am moving it although they are not using theirs, I asked for it sometime ago, but

was denied the privilege, I see a slim chance for me in the future & live now by begging my way, going afoot from place to place, living in 3d rate hotels & consuming around sleeping in offices and on bunks &c — in hotels — I dont know how to endure it much longer, I get nothing to buy my clothes with, nor my wifes, who is now living on her friends, truly shamefeel, I have so far died hard & think I will still stick to it as long as I possibly can — I am very healthy & able to do anything & stand anything, if I totally fail, is there any chance for me out west? Can you put me in business that will pay me pretty well — as far as my ability goes I can do as much as any two or three men you can find. Can dig post holes, raise as large a pole as any two men you have — stand cold or heat, rain or shine, I wish a place where I can work hard, & earn a good salary

If something is not done with that wheeling Line, Wade will send his business on his own line sure — As to the Waterford & Erie Line, I thought I must see the Ceizes & was told by my Attorney that I must have the Patent. I got a name on the paper & gave note for the Patent & have $150 to pay then soon — now — In many places along my lines. The Soft wood poles are falling, indeed almost all but the Chesnut & White Oak — Some black ash good yet. So you see my prospects are poor ahead, The first leasure moment you get drop me a few words by way of encouragement & give me what telegraphic news you have, confide in me, I will be

Close mouthed in any private matter you may have in view, that may be of any advantage to me to know — nothing further do I wish to know — I once in a while hear you are succeeding well out west & is Skinner going on with the new Line on Rail Road & will I have any chance to do New York & business from Pittsburg over that Line — all these little things are the straws I catch too. I have quit sending NY business via of Buf — no use never get through & back. Wood lays it to the E & M operator & vice versa — one thing I know I cant get my business done — & there is a cause somewhere with a little instruction from you & Speed. I think I can fill almost any place on telegraph Line & as I have lost everything in the world & largely in debt still — I will work hard to gain my former reputation for paying debts & living comfortably (say 16 hours in a day) Very truly

Yrs W. P. Rw

W. P. Rw
Newcastle Pa
Sept 15 1883

Corning 17th Sept 1853

E Cornell Esq

Dear sir

Did you write to Mr Minot about the freight on wire and other Material — — they have charged me for everything shipped yet wire at 34 cts per 100.. &c The wire seems to be put up in very bad order — I shall go to N Y today &c see Minot and Ramsdell — and try to get a pass for the men. I am also building a cheap substantial reel I have had those shields shipped to me here. I shall use up all the wire next week — Please write to minot about freight

Yours in hast

G W S Rinner

Mr E Cornell

Dear Sir

I arrived in this place the 15th inst in the evening Next morning I wrote to E Cobb and stated to him that I was here and unable to proceed to business for the want of funds I recieved a Telegraph dispatch from him (E Cobb) stating that one Robertson had left Chicago the 16th inst with letter and funds for me I went on the line to find him and learnt in Aurora that he left in the afternoon train of the 17th inst for Chicago and I found myself as bad off as ever this Morning I telegraphed from Aurora to Mr Cobb for some funds he said he would send me ten dollars this afternoon I told him to send me fifty dollars he said he would report to you as he expected you to day [redacted] morrow I wish you would see to it and write to me or see me in Geneva

I have not written to you concerning the line and its progress in three weeks past There has been a good deal of trouble with the line between Rockford & Dixon and I have been over the line [redacted] at times to ascertain the cause as the line was up I did not know but some [redacted] had broken the line and connected it with a string

I examined it carefully from Grandtown to Rockford and found the difficulty in Rockford which was occasioned by the casing of an iron Mortar for a Drug sign I have taken the wire down on the Freeport line and left it as you directed I disposed of the poles to one Berry formerly from Tompkins Co NY and he is to pay me the 15th of October

The horse I hired gave out and I was unable to hire one for less than three dollars per week I thought that would not pay and in fact it is not worth it I found where there was a good heavy horse for sale and went and see it I considered him cheap at one hundred dollars and bought it thinking that if you did not want the horse you and I could agree upon the terms that the service of the horse was worth and if you did want the horse you could have it at what it cost and pay me any time between now an April next with interest There is poles wanted at Burdett and the line is down and has been down since I was at this end of the line three weeks ago and at that time Mrr Edmunds Repairer said he would send wire to Elgin and the operator at Elgin said he would repair it but has not been Repaired I have wire enough that I brought from the Freeport line to repair it and had I had money to have bought poles I would now had it repaired If it is so you can come and see me come I would like to talk the matter over with you and get some

some instructions what to do in regard to the office at Oregon Belvidier Woodstock &c I am so thick headed that I cant think of all that I would like to write and think it to your intrest if we could meet and talk matters over &c

Geneva Ills Sept 19th 1853

Respectfully Yours
R. F. Tallman

P.S. My exspences for horse hire wagon poles help to raise poles and on the road has been over Eighty dollars I have paid it out for you and I am now in want of some funds and dont know where to raise it as I now am and dont know as I could if I was at home but think I could yet I do not like to pay out to much of my own money for you well know that I have not much to pay out and my family is large and while away from home I like to know that my family has enough to help themselves with Therefore as you know what my rescources is I hope that I may not want again for funds away from home as it is rather humiliating

truly Yours
R F Tallman

Union Springs Sept 19th '53

Dear Brother

I received your letter of the 13th to-day and would write again to ask what kind of employment you could give me and where would it and so forth if I should abandon the Idea of going to the gold diggins, My mined has been so unsettled since Maria's Death that I could hardly tell what I was going to do but I have made up my mind to leave this place soon, I had thought some of going to Belvadier, Boon Co Ill, but then it would be going into a strange place, and as my fatherinlaw was in California and wrote for me to come I had thought it was the best thing I could do, and then again my health is not as good as I could wish to undertake a Journey of that length, although it better now than it was two months ago, please write to me as soon as convenent, and do not withhold any good word of advice, as I shall take it as from a Brother

Your Brother

D B Cornell

E. Cornell
Chicago

E Cornell Esq Pittsb Sept 20/53
Indianapolis
Ia

Sir

Your favor of the 6th inst to Genl Moorhead was duly recd the reply has been delayed by his absence and at his request I now reply

To your previous letter of complaint to him he replyed that he would send an agent from here to meet you at Dayton and examine the charges of violation of our contract. This he did Mr Duncan repaired to Dayton by Rail Road at once, found you had left he remained a week there and in Cincinatti and instead of some hundreds of dollars of improper charge a very small sum for stationery repairs — The large items you alluded to had no existance — in relation to the numerous items of under charge or over charge by us I had no knowledge untill the receipt of yours of the 6th had the been embraced in your former letter Mr Duncan would have examined them

We have not intentionally violated the

Contract in any particular nor will we in future any errors in accounts will be corrected when we are satisfyed of their existance

We have complaints to make which we expect to be met with the same attention — You have send the Chicago Messagers including answers to our Messages by Speech line — The line from Dayton to Logansports has been in bad order for weeks together and between Dayton & Indianapolis it has been down for three weeks at a time obliging us to send our business by Express from I while the bad condition of your own line was made an excuse for sending by an other line which you continued even when these lines were in order — We have overlooked these grievances hoping you would place your line in good order and meet the Contract with us as you express "to the letter & spirit" thus we expect in future and any errors in accounts will always be cheerfully corrected on our part any inattention of our clerks will be attended to — But thus far we have suffered largely by the diversion of our business to other lines for which we expect

(see back)

reservation —

We will have your last charges examined and error corrected and if in your debt will pay it

Respectfully
Yours &
Jackson Hammer
Sec
P.C.A.L.S.

84 John St New York
September 21st 1833

E. Cornell Esq,
Indianapolis Ind,
Dear Sir

Enclosed please find Invoice & B/L of Telegraph Wire which about Covers your remittances We hope it will arrive safe & meet your approbation. We should be glad to hear from you in regard to the prospect of another order — We are still in a position to serve you at 6 7/8 how long we may be so is very uncertain

Soliciting your Commands
We are yours mr truly
James Cocker & Co
J. Eagleton

8 Bundles Shipped to Corington Ind
74 Bundles " " Galion Ohio
90 total 8 Bundles " " Corning N.Y.
90 " Wg 23688 Lb.

Enclosed you will find statement of account

Septr 13	To Goods.	Bill Rec'd.	Cash		152.78	
13	To "	"	"	"	776.32	
15	To "	"	"	"	146.80	
16	To "	"	"	"	147.49	
22	To "	"	"	"	417.22	1640.61
					1640 61	
	On By remittances.					1640.00
	Balance due					$0 61

Defiance O Sept 23d 53

E. Cornell Esq

Dear Sir

Your favor enclosing 20 dollrs was duly & thankfully rec'd. I wish at this time to acquaint you with the precise condition of affairs here, as regards the line bet. Ft. Wayne & Toledo. In a former communication I stated well as I could its condition then, as was to be expected many poles have fallen & constant repairs have been required to keep it working well as we do. It has been impossible much of the time for Toledo & Wayne to communicate, and I rewrite nearly all their business. Especially in bad weather. It is seldom we can reach an office west of Wayne for some cause that I am unable to name, but suspect it is not always the result of a broken wire; a "ground wire" is a bad thing sometimes. When I wrote you last, I had a different idea of what Perrs was doing, and was going to do, from what I now know to be true. I saw him soon after he had commenced work this side — or East of Wayne & understood from him that he was resetting every pole that had not been recently set over without going into the sham operation of "pushing" them to see if they were sound and passing by such as stood that test. But I was soon corrected of that error, for in

a few days after first seeing him he was here in distress.— "out of money, couldn't get it at Wayne & C & C". and threatened to leave the work. Thinking it important that he should proceed with it. and knowing it vastly important to have Line repaired. I Teleg'd to Smith, Wayne Offs, & he said he would furnish the means for them to go ahead. so he returned to business again. In the mean time I was making preparations to get some hands at work bet" Dc", & Toledo. knowing if Peers was resetting the entire Line. it would take 3 or 4 weeks to reach this place. I was surprised last Monday (19th) to see him here again in the same deplorable condition as before; and then I learned for the first time the kind of a job he was doing. He had got to within 8 or 9 miles of this place. and on questioning him found he was not setting over 74th part of the poles. was minus funds again & couldn't proceed without. I let him have 10 dollars & took his recept. thinking Ft" Wayne Offs would remit me that amt. and more for Peers when he wanted it. Smith said however next day. (for I cldnt work with him when Peers was here) that he had not ten dollars. and cldnt possibly send more money for him to use, as he had not got it. Peers went back to his work & came on this way. putting up poles that were down & looking at the rest. One of the men that I had engaged to work was taken sick. & is not now able to be out. as he ~~is~~ is the man I mainly relied on to prosecute the work successfuly & faithfuly. and hands

of any kind are hard to be found to work. I thöt best to delay commencing operations myself till he recovered. altho I had to keep a man out. or be out myself nearly every day to keep the use of Toledo Batty. Well Wed'y night (21st) Peers and his man had looked the Line over as far as to this place. My man had not recovered. Line working with difficulty to Toledo. & daily getting worse.

Peers was out of money again. only enough to pay bills here. Ft Wayne had none to let them have. and Toledo was in debt without the means to "emerge". Ft Wayne wanted Peers to go there to work west. which he wouldnt do with such poor prospects for getting the "needful" and he and his man had determined to quit and go home. As they were here, well supplied with all necessary tools. and had done nothing but a patching business so far. I gave them 12 dollars with orders to go on and put up what poles were down so as to get Line off ground. and fences, & out of trees and bushes, bet" here & Toledo. so as to give us a little breathing spell. & to see what to do next. They left here this morning. and with the exercise of dilligence and economy. can effect a very "saving" influence on the Line before they are driven to the extremity of the 12th dollar.

You will see that I have invested 22 doll's for the purpose of keeping vitality in Mr Speed's patching scheme. in relation to which I wish to say a word. It was well enough to send the men over the Line superficialy, so to speak. for the

S. A. Strong
Sept 25. 1853
Defiance O

purpose of avoiding further interruptions of business till some thing more permanent could be done. But ~~to think~~ to make such a job as they have done bet^n Ft Wayne & this place a final one for any length of time. was a project conceived in utter ignorance of the true state of the Line, or in an incapacity to see anything, as can easily be shown. In order to satisfy myself in relation to the matter. I took a man yest^n P.M with axe & shovel and examined some of the poles that Peers had "tested": and passed without resetting. on digging about them a little. and cutting in. we invariably found them in a state of partial decay entirely through them, some of course father advanced than others. but many of them liable at any future storm of rain & wind to fall. It appears to me that it must be plain to any one with half an eye. that the true, and only policy to be adopted, is, to resett every pole that has not been set up since the building of the Line.

With the right kind of men and a moderate supply of money. I think it can be accomplished. without involving any great expense. I think 3 hands can resett 1 mile per day. perhaps more. I will only refer to the experiment of Palmer's passing over Line last Summer to show the necessity of making a whole job, of it instead of half of one. He put up all fallen poles & tested the rest. & how are we now: with the increased decay of another Season what can be expected from a repetition of that experiment. Good hands are scarce, & wages rather high here. Please write soon as convenient.

Very Respectfly

S A Strong

New York Sept 24th 1853

Ezra Cornell Esq
Wades Tel Office
Cincinnati. Ohio

Dr Sir

I send you by Wells American Express Co to-day - a Registered Magnet, they also the Rail Road Instrument you ordered - I trust they will give satisfaction - I send you a 12½ dollar Magnet - I make a smaller kind at 11 dollars if you should prefer -

I am compelled to charge you 25 dollars for the R. R Instruments as the first one costs more than others would - the absolute cost of this Instrument is 22.18/100 $ - - If you wish more, I could make them at 20 $ each -

Let me hear from you at your earliest convenience -

Yours Truly
John W Norton

35
12,50
25,00
12,50

Coming

Cornell Rustler
My Dr. Russel

Sept 25. 53.

Evident Enough to me that you
dont like to be posed with
letters of no immediate concern
of yours, And yet I would
like very much to be able to
get your attention to the subject
of this intrusive epistle,
What I wish to know is
simply when you Expect (or about
the time) to be here Again
so as to Enable me to get our
R.R Suit refered to Arbitrators
to be tried, or sat down to be
tried, at such a time as you
think / now is Autumn! A
a matter of court pudding,
How are the Openings
for such Customers as myself
in that part of the Country?
It is my present intention to
Emigrate as soon as I can shape
matters so as to be Loadable.
yours with Respect
Geo. W. Allen

Direct Binghamton as usual

Supreme Court
Samuel A Holmes
aqt
Ezra Cornell

Gentn

Please to take notice that we shall bring this cause to trial before Stephen B Cushing Esqr the Referee, on the 18th day of October next at ten O'clock A M at the office of Dana & Beers in Ithaca. Sept. 26th 1853

Yours &c
Dana & Beers
Piffs Attys

To Love & Rowe Esqrs
Defts. attys

Sept 26-1903

To CC

Enclosed Strong #20. for the men & told him. Tell them Go through To Toledo Reset all the poles that are down or are likely to fall very soon. So we can work. Would let the men know at Toledo what To Do.

Think we better Increase the force & Reset all the poles. The Line dont work & has not for a month. Four men could Reset from Toledo to ~~Logansport~~

Lafayette in six
weeks. it will have
to be done & as
there is no prospect
of changing it on
to a Rail Road or
any way of altering
it to a Travelled Road
it will Have to Remain
where it is = Had you
not better go to Toledo
the first thing & move
that office & see the
men when they get
there which will be
~~by~~ this week some
time — We are
Loosing money at
all the time by
not changing the
office = I Leave Today
was Taken with the
fever again last night

Sept. 26, 1853

but hope it will
not last long.
Am very weak
just now. Palmer
is sick some where
Hinck at Lafayette
or Logansport

Yours Respy
C.H.S.