James Blake Esq

Cincinnati June 1/54

Dear Sir;

The necessity of my being in Columbus at as early a date as possible, in order to see Mr Wade, the President of the Cincinnati & Xenia Telegraph Company, before he should leave for the East, made it impossible for me to prolong my stay in Indianapolis so as to wait upon the Gentlemen of the Lawrenceburgh Rail Road, and yesterday, as our Company look upon the contract, which we understand has been made recently by Mr Ezra Cornell with the Indianapolis and Lawrenceburgh Rail Road Company, as infringing upon their right under the Morse Patents, it is due to the Gentlemen of that Rail Road, that they should know it, and be made acquainted with the determination of our Company, in regard to the matter in question, now; as the whole affair may be more easily adjusted to the satisfaction of all concerned, if misunderstandings are corrected at the outset.

The simple Truth is this; Mr Ezra Cornell had & has no more authority or right to build such lines, and assume the Satisfaction of such undertakings as are necessarily involved in such an agreement, than any other man who may be willing to involve other People in loss & embarassment, because his own position put him beyond the risk of pecuniary accountability himself.

The Power of Attorney, which Mr Cornell held from Col Speed, and which is now revoked, was only for the sale of the Patent right on "unsold routes", and, of course, did not, & could not, convey the right to build lines, on routes covered by the rights of the Cincinnati and St Louis Telegraph Company, or to run wires between Points connected by the lines of that Company.

The right secured to the Cincinnati and St Louis Telegraph Company, by its conveyance from the Patentees, and confirmed and defined by Mr Amos Kendall, the irrevocable Attorney of the Patentees, in an argument to the Directors of the Ohio and Mississippi Rail Road Company, is that of carrying all business

to and from Cincinnati and Saint Louis, in the Territory north of the Ohio River, and between intermediate Points on that route.

And in Mr Kendall's compromise Contract, made in New York, recognising and ratifying the rights derived through J. D. L. Smith to the ownership of the Morse Patents on unsold routes, north of the Ohio River, "unsold routes" is expressly defined, to refer to such lines as may not compete with the Cincinnati and St Louis Company's lines, and the connection of Points intersected by its wires, is particularly provided against.

Mr Cornell is not, nor has he at any time, been authorized, to contract in the name and for the Cincinnati and St Louis Company, so that if he has made a contract at all, it is under some construction he has chosen to put upon the Power of Attorney held from Reed.

How that can give him the right to connect Indianapolis with Cincinnati, is, as any one may see from the Statement of its nature and scope given above, decidedly incomprehensible; but to say nothing of that, he could not, under such authority, even build and work a line along the base extent of the road, for the first stretch from Indianapolis strikes Shelbyville, thus connecting two of the Points already connected by the wires of the Cincinnati and St Louis Company, and making himself liable to be stopped at once, by an injunction, which would require but little time & argument to procure.

If he should refrain from carrying messages that were to go to Cincinnati, and so avoid thus making the Rail Road line part of a through connection from Indianapolis to Cincinnati, still Amos Kendall has declared the right of the Cincinnati & St Louis Telegraph Company, to run a second wire under its Patent, from Cincinnati through Lawrenceburgh and Vincennes to St Louis, and we shall open an office at Lawrenceburgh in less than a Month, and then Mr Cornell would add another Point to his aggression.

Private

But Mr Connell does, I understand, propose to carry the Rail Road Company's business, not only along their own road, but beyond each terminus of it, and so binds himself, by his Contract, to encroach on every side, and in every possible way, upon the rights of the Ohio & Mississ Company. Indeed we have been informed, he even goes so far, as to promise to procure the sending of their business over the Ohio & Eastern lines free, something which is utterly out of his power, unless he pays on each Message, the full tariff on such lines, which he does not probably intend to do.

In fact, Mr Connell must have made this Contract, without reflecting whether he would be ever able to carry it out, beyond the direction of the Posts and hanging the wire, its satisfaction, in any respect, is as completely out of his power.

It is but just to say, however, that Mr Connell may have relied on the chance of an after-compromise with our Company, which more reflection must have told him was scarcely a thing to be hoped for, certainly not a foundation for risking his own, or a Rail Road Company's money or property.

Nor can he by any means possible, give the Rail Road Company any security against loss, for the suspension of the operation of their Telegraph lines, after its use, even for a short time, has taught them its value, and their arrangements have been modified by its employment, and after it is paid for, will be of incalculable annoyance and detriment to them; and this no power of Mr Connell's exerting, will be able to prevent.

Mr Connell may, however, have professed to derive his authority from the Ohio Indiana and Illinois Company. Let us look at that. The Ohio Indiana and Illinois Telegraph Company, like the other O'Reilly lines, disavowed the settlement O'Reilly has made with the Patentees, and has no protection under his contract with the Patentees.

But even if they had not done so, and had, so far complied with the requirements of the Contract with the Patentees, as to be

protected by its provisions, yet that protection expires on the 20th day of June next. You remember that the first Patent to Morse, for the single circuit, incapable of writing at a distance of over thirty or forty miles with reliability, was issued in 1840. It was in 1845, that the O'Reilly Contracts were executed under that first Patent, without any provision in them as to an interest in the renewal, and that Patent expires June 20th. In 1848 Morse took out his second Patent, which was for the Combined circuits as used now by Morse lines, and which has six years yet to run. With this the O'Reilly contracts, being made before it issued, have, of course, nothing to do, as that lines claiming right under those O'Reilly contracts, not only are without show of title to the use of any part of the Morse instrument after the 20th of the coming June, but are liable for the past use of the Combined circuits, which the second Patent was to guard. But if the Ohio Indiana and Illinois Co, abandoning all hope of advantage under the O'Reilly Contracts, should determine to issue their stock to the Patentees, and so purchase a right to the Ports they occupy, yet the right so granted, would be only that of existence on their present route, & would not, after all, be exclusive even there, as regards the Cin & St Louis Co; for the Compromise contract, made by Amos Kendall for the Patentees whom he represents, with the parties holding rights through S. O. Smith, which makes the arrangement above referred to possible, expressly provides, that the Company first complying with its requirements, should have precedence, & should have exclusive privileges.

The Cincinnati & St Louis Co has long ago issued stock to the Patentees, and taken every step necessary to the perfecting of its Title. You see, the Rail Road Co might just as well have built their own lines, and taken the risk, as to have agreed to pay C. W. Lowell, for what he never had the right to dispose of.

The union of the House Patentees with Speed & Wade, & the virtual consolidation of our interests with theirs, makes a Coalition of the strongest character, both as to right of ownership of Telegraph Patents, and as to pecuniary ability, and it is the intention of the Coalition, to try thoroughly, whether well constructed & carefully worked lines, and reliance of unlegalized competition, will not make the business profitable, or to pay the least respectable.

Yours very Respectfully
Chas. P. Davenport
Pres Cin & St L Tel Co

Lafo June 1 1884

Dear Sir. you wish me to report my offences. I cant give all of them With report for May as I did not keep them. I only give a few that I can think of I will Keep them after this and report in full.
you also wish me to Report amt Received from other Lines I have not Recd any thing in May my report shows 25 cts fr other lines. there was a balance of 28 cts due me on Report for April So we will call that Square if I make any mistakes plea Correct me. Yours Truly
E Carnell S. S. Authony

Vincennes June 1st 54

Mr Cornell

Dr Sir:

Your letter of the 26th & 29th are at hand, and glad to see that you have "at last" "waded through the obscurity" of my Reports. Mr Alvord's Operator says he supposes the $6,88 is correct and allowes it - which will leave a ballance due O & M of $5865 which he says please remit. Mr Alvord instructed his Operator here not to receive any messages from your line that went farther East than Louisville or farther west than St Louis — and I suppose it will be refused until balance is paid, at least his Operator here says so. In your letter you make a comparison between my office & the Hutsonville office receipts in which for three months his receipts are longer than mine - by $1.00 - Please take the last years accounts of the two offices & see which is the longest? At Hutsonville there is a large business done in Feby March & April, by produce speculators, and a great deal of eastern & southern business is done

through that office – there is but one office in Hutsonville here there are two – I can only take eastern and local business – where Hutsonville can take southern Eastern Western & Local business, he has four chances to my one – My receipts for Eastern business will compare with the Eastern business of the O & M office here as my recpts are generally larger, Now we will see how Hutsonville compares with the recpts of both Offices here.

The Recpts of the O & M for Apl Mch & Feby	181.23
My recpts	104 77
	286.00
Hutsonville Recpts for same time	204 70
Difference in our favor	$81.30

Now the question arises, Will sir that does not substantiate your assertion ~~that~~, that your recpts ~~do~~ will compare with the O & M office – let us see deduct the Louisville western & Southern receipts from his receipts and we will see – that amount of Southern and western business (business that goes beyond St Louis as I have not counted St Louis Local business or Louisville business) is, for Feby Mch & Apl $58,87. Now lets see how it will compare

Amt Rec'd by O & M including all business $181,23

Deduct Southern & western business $8,87=

$122,34

Amt Rec'd for same time by me 104 25

$18,09

Leaving a balance in favor of O & M of -

Another thing you must take into consideration that the O & M line works through nearly all the time - never down more than 12 hours at one time while yours has been down for number of days at time and that very often, I have shown both your letters to Mr Kabbell and he thinks your comparisons are very wild ones for a business man. If you think the difference is want of attention you are at liberty to send an operator here in my stead as soon as you please but I shall continue as operator on the Evansville line as long as I please to, so Mr Kabbell the supt informs me. I would be glad if you would as I do not desire to work for a man that cannot place confidence in me - neither would I have one that I could not do so. I hope this will set you right as far as your first letter is concerned Now for your second letter.

June 1 - 1854

Your letter dated 27th I cannot understand. You say they charge me with receiving 15-18/100 more than I account for. All I can say is this- that during the month of April there were good many messages sent east that were never rec'd and consequently I had to refund the money. Als several messages rec'd here from Lancaster O that were to be collected here but ever from 8 to 10 days getting here consequently I could not collect and of such messages, the offices were duly notified to destroy. My books are open for inspection if you wish Sir, to satisfy yourself- My account is right- all the money I received I have given you credit for. And why may not- the checks from other offices be wrong as well as mine? Another item I wish to draw your attention to is this- on messages to Cincin & East they (your offices) charge me full Tariff of this line, when I collect only what the O & M Line takes eastern business for. For instance on messages to Cin I collect 40 cents and its is checked against me at 80 cts to New York I collect 130- checked against me at 140

to Cleveland 70 checked ~~against~~ to me at 90 cts
to Pittsburgh 70 checked against me at 90 cts
N. H This you see will make considerable
difference, At first I did not intend to
reply to this letter but Mr Hubbell advised
me to make a statement to you, which I
have done, my books and messages are
subject to your examination personally if you
choose, and farther I was not here in April
but I do not offer that as any justification of
the difference in my account and the checks
from other offices. Some months ago I
rec'd a letter from you about giving checks
against other offices as you wanted to see who
swindled you. And I suppose, from
the tone of your letter that you are
apprehensive that I have done it, Let
well all I ask is an examination of my
books. Your line has been down between
"Ch" and here for twenty days and
good prospect for it to remain so.
You will oblige me very much by
sending an Operator here imm— My
Rpt for May will be mailed tomorrow
Send an Operator immediately or give it to

Mr Hayward the Operator on the O & M Line here as he can easily attend to it I leave it first- of next week

Respectfully
Yours
Elmir Sellers

A MAGNIFICENT EXCURSION.—On the 5th of June the opening of the Chicago and Rock Island Railroad is to be celebrated by an excursion over the road from Chicago to the Mississippi River, and a trip in steamboats up the great river to the Falls of St. Anthony, returning by way of the river and railroad to Chicago, and thence eastward. To this excursion a large number of ladies and gentlemen in this and other eastern States—some 400 as we hear—have been invited. It will, we dare say, be one of the most brilliant and agreeable, as it is one of the most grandiose festivals ever given.

Springfield Ohio June 1, 1854

My Dear Mary Ann

Not having heard from home since I left. I presume you are in the dominions of Queen Vic and shall address you at her most loyal City of Montreal.

At the head of my page I affix the N.Y. Tribunes notice of an excursion that I had the proffer of a ticket for, but which I forego the pleasure of in consequence of not being able to enjoy the happiness of your Company for the trip.

I almost regretted the decision that turned you northward, as I have desired to visit St Paul's for a year past and the present would have been an auspicious time for such a visit, although as for the season of the year. I should prefer Sept. or Oct.

I hope some favourable turn of the fickle Wheel of fortune, may yet present a favourable opportunity to visit that region in Company with my beloved wife before the season has passed—

I came here this morning from Dayton expecting to meet Haviland and other Gentlemen in relation to some Telegraph matters, but they went to Dayton at the same time I came here passing each other on the road. This act of perfidy of Shields & Woods, will lead to new combinations, whether the plans they had formed will all mature, or whether the frosts of treachery may not nip some of them in the bud remains to be seen, I should not be surprised if the latter was the fact,

Their treachery towards me, may have the effect, to cause me, to suspect the motives of better men, and thereby guard against future betrayals, but I trust it will not encase me in adamantine garb of the Misanthrope,

The prospects are flattering for combinations and connections quite as profitable, and influential as those that have been dissolved by the treachery of the modern Judas,

The O. I & I. line has not done so well the winter half of the year as it did in the summer half, but the poorest half exceeds the working expenses by receipts about $3,000. So the year gives me about $8,000. over the working expenses of the other lines,

Of this sum is $3,000 to pay for rent
in rebuilding the bins, and balance to
pay for services of Charley Shaw and
myself. I regard this the worst of
the 5 years, as the bins will become
better each succeeding month till
all is new, and if the bins was new
to day, I could add $1,000 per mo
to the business.

If "O.S" is please say to him that I
have heard nothing yet from him or
Mr Allen respecting a pass through
Canada since I left, I await their
decision anxiously, as I want to make
inspections for building from Niagara
Bridge to Buffalo. as soon as they de-
cides. if we come to an agreement,

Last week the weather was very warm
some days oppressive with heat, Yesterday
& last night was cold, and fire comfortable
this morning, although it is a beautiful
pleasant morning and now I am warm
and Comfortable,

I am inclined to enclose you some
money, but I presume, you were provided
with what you needed before you left home
and will omit it, If you require any
borrow some of Orrin, and I will remit

to him on receipt of your draft.
I know of no man to whose draft
I would honour sooner than yours.
Please give my respects to Julia
and the Children.

Yours Affectionately
E. Cowell

Mary Ann

P. S. Tell Carra that I have not
forgotten her, but omitted to mention
her through fear to Bishop at the
time. I suppose she is standing so
much more pleasantly.

I think the travel, change of air
and fresh use of it, and variation of
scenery will improve her health
enliven her spirits, bleach the frowns
from her countenance, and dimple her
cheeks with smiles of happiness and pleasure,
Fancying her to be in the enjoyment of such
a Paradise. I cannot consent to divert
her thoughts to the gloomy world a single
moment. Let us be happy while we live

Affectionately
E. C

Pittsburgh, June 1. 1854.

Mr. E. Cornell
Indianapolis
Ia.

Sir,

Your favr of 29th ultimo is to hand per Adams & Co's Express enclosing us Sixty five dollars — $65.00 — in bank bills which is passed to Your credit.

We shall be out of blast next week & cannot get up any new style of Insulator till be Commence again in Aug. or Sept. Should you want any quantities of the kind we now make, you will have to advise us by Telegraph.

Yours Very Respectfully

S. McKee & Co.

per P. C. Sawyer.

Rockford, June 1st

Mr. E. Cobb

Dear Sir

Enclosed I send Report of the Receipts & Expenses of Rockford Office for the Month of May—

The Line working good now but it wants repairing badly there is about 12 new poles wanted between this place and Beloit also quite a number of bad connections that should be taken out—

I think if a repairer could work on the line between this place & Beloit two or three days he could put it in good order and there would not be but little Expense in keeping it so—

The line has been down so much that people have no confidence in it and it will take some time to gain their confidence again

I would like to hear from you soon

Yours Resply

Chas. B. Tillotson

Cin June 1. 54

Jas Blake Esq

Dear Sir The necessity of my being in Columbus at as early a date as possible in order to see Mr Wade the Pres't of the Cin & St Louis R.R. Co, before he shall leave for the East, made it impossible for me to prolong my stay in Indianapolis, so as to wait upon the Gentlemen of the Lawrenceburgh R.R. and get, as our Company look upon the Contract which we understand has been made between Mr Egra Cornell with the Indianapolis & Lawrenceburgh R.R Co as infringing upon their rights under the Morse Patent It is due to the Gentlemen of that R.R, that they should know it and be made acquainted with the determination of our Company, in regard to the matter in question, now; so the whole affair may be more easily adjusted to the satisfaction of all Concerned, if misunderstandings are corrected at the outset.

The Simple truth is this: Mr Egra Cornell had & has no no more authority or right to build such a line, and assume the satisfaction of such undertakings as are necessarily involved in such an agreement, than any other man who may be willing to involve other people in loss and embarrassment, because his own position puts him beyond the risk of pecuniary accountibility himself.

The power of Attorny, which Mr Cornell held from Col Sloud, and which is now revoked, was only for the sale of the Patent Right on "unsold routs", and of course did not & could not convey the right to build lines, on routs covered by the rights of the Cin & St Louis R.R Co, or to run wires between points connected by the lines of that Company.

The right secured to the Cin & St L Tel, Co by its conveyance from the Patentees, and confirmed and defined by Mr Amos Kendall, the irrevocable Atty of the Patentees, in an argument to the Directors of the Ohio & Miss R R Co is that of carrying all business to & from Cin & St Louis in the territory north of the Ohio River, and between intermediate points on that route,

And in Mr Kendalls Compromise contract made in New York reconveying and ratifying the rights claimed through F, O, J, Smith to the ownership of the Morse patent, on unsold routs, north of the Ohio River "unsold routs" is expressly defined to refer to such lines as may not compete with the Cin & St Louis Companys lines and the connection of points intermediate intersected by its wires is particularly provided against

Mr Connell is not nor has he at any time been authorized to Contract in the name and for the Cin & St Louis Company so that, if he has made a contract at all, it is under some construction he has chosen to put upon the Power of Atty held from Speed.

How that can give him the right to connect Indianapolis with Cincinnatti, is, as any one may see from the showing of its nature and scope given above, decidedly incomprehensible & but to say nothing of that, he could not, under such authority, even build and work a line along the bare extent of the road, for the first stretch from Ind to Cin, still Amos Kendall has declared the right of the Cin & St L Tel, Co to run a second wire under its Patent from Cin through Lawrenceburgh and Jeffersonville to St Louis, and we shall open an office

at Lawrenceburgh in less than a month, and then Mr Cornell would add another point to his aggressi

But Mr Cornell does I understand propose to carry the BM Co business, not only along their own road but beyond each terminus of it, and so binds himself by his contract to encroach on every side and in every possible way upon the rights of the Ohio & St Louis Comp pany. Indeed we have been informed he even goes so far, as to promise to procure the sending of their business over the Ohio & Eastern lines &c, something which is utterly out of his power, unless he pays on each message the full tariff on such lines, which he does not probably intend to do,

In fact Mr Cornell must have made this contract without reflecting whether he would be able to carry it out, beyond the expectation of the poles and hanging the wire, its satisfaction in any respect, is so completely out of his power,

It is but just to say however, that Mr Cornell may have relied on the chance of an after compromise with our Company, which more reflection must have told him, was scarcely a thing to be hoped for, certainly not a foundation for risking his own or a BM Co money or property. Nor can he by any means possible, give the BM Co any security against loss for the ~~Compensation~~ suspension of the operations of the Telegraph line, after its use, even for a short time, has taught them its value, and their arrangements has been modified by its employment, and after it is paid for, will be of incalculable annoyance & detriment to them; and this no power of Mr Cornells exerting, will be able to prevent.

Mr Cornell may, however have professed to derive his authority from the Ohio Ind & Ill. Co. Let us look at that, The O. I. & I. Co like the other Atlantic lines, disavowed the settlement O'Reilly has made with the Patentees, and has no protection under his contract with the Patentees,

But even if they had not done so, and had so far complied with the requirements of the contract with the Patentees,

as to be protected by its provisions, yet that protection expires on the 20th day of June next, You remember that the first Patent to Morse for the Single circuit, incapable of working at a distance of more than 30 or 40 miles with reliability, was issued in 1840, It was in 1845 that the O'R contract was executed under that first patent, without any provision in them as to an interest in the renewal, and that Patent expires June 20th. In 1846 Morse took out his 2nd Patent which was for the combined circuits as used now by Morse lines, and which has 6 years yet to run,

With this the O'Reilly Contract, being made before its issue have of course nothing to do, so that lines claiming rights under those O'Reilly contracts, notoriously are without show of title to the use of any part of the Morse instruments after the 20th of the coming June but are liable for the past use of the combined circuits which the second patent was to grant.

But if the A.S.T. Co abandoning all hopes of advantages under the O'R contracts, should determine to issue their stock to the Patentees, and so purchase a right to the Patent they occupy, yet the right so granted, would be only for the existance of their present route & would not, after all, be exclusive everywhere, as regards the Cin & St Louis Co's for the Compromise Contract, made by Amos Kendall for the Patentees, whom he represents, with the parties holding rights through P. O. J. Smith, which makes the arrangements above referred to possible, expressly provides, that the Co first complying with the requirements shall have precedence, & shall have exclusive privileges,

The Cin & St L Co has long ago issued stock to the Patentees and taken every step necessary to the perfection of its title, You see the N.R. Co might just as well have built their own line, and taken the risk, as to have agreed to pay Mr Connell for what he never had the right to dispose of, The Union of the House Patentees with Speed & Wade & the virtual consolidation of our interests with them, makes a ~~Confederacy~~ coalition of the strongest character, both as to right of Patents and as to pecuniary ability, & it is the intention of the Coalition, to try thoroughly whether well constructed & carefully worked lines & riddance of unhealthful competition, will not make the business profitable, or to say the least respectable.

Yours very Respectably
Chas. Davenport
Sec'y Cin & St L Co

Cin. Dec. 15 to 20
June 1. 1852

Sandusky City Jan 5. 54

Dear Sir

I have succeeded with new arrangements that will make our further connections quite as good as they have been, and our men are of opinion that they will be better.

Our loss of Speed & Wade will simply be the removal of an incumbrance, we have got rid of a heavy burthen, and our House friends will find that they have taken up the burthen that we have laid down,

Their position with their new acquisitions is not better than it was before the treachery of Speed & Wade was perpetrated,

I have no anxiety about the future, it has in store

for me a Golden Harvest, that cannot be wrested away, by false & traitorous friends, or open enemies,

If the House folks have not paid dear for the whistle in their purchase of Wade. I am greatly deceived,

I go to Detroit tonight, and shall return to Indianapolis in few days

Yours Respectfully

E. Cornell

E. W. Chester Esq

City New York

Mt Pitty June 3rd 54

Mr Quill

Dr Sir

Enclosed is receipt for the $57.00 I paid Sheridan. I went up this morning found the poles all up. He had 300 on the tract. two hundred cut in the woods near by & two hundred at Saw Buffalo which were rafted thro. Only about 3 doz poles are peeled as yet but now he will peal them as fast as they are got out.

He said you told him they were to be 30 to 35 feet long He has a few 35' & the balance 30 feet. Hereafter will cut all 37 feet as you speak of in your letter to me. He has about 300 that were hauled on very early that would not peal then & now are dried & will have to be shaved by hand but I suppose he will have it done if it is your wish.

He says the man at Tunkhannock will get out 1000 more for you Hemlock

& fine - If you want them send me word & I will inform Sheridan him -

Sheridan wants more money soon as you can send it as he has promised money to different ones & the $5,000 want meet their demands - The 3 or 4 days must be paid to the men at New Buffalo & the others want until you send more - They are getting anxious here -

I will telegraph Abbe about the money soon as can reach him -

I do not understand your letter refering to the report for April - I acknowledged in it due you $4.64 but you make it 5.5-8 -

I understand that the moneys rec'd here for other lines is not to be divided equal between each line but is money merely advanced to active lines & is to be paid to each Co as much as they pay out - The bal of rects to be divided 1/2 to each line & the two 1/2

of said sets which is the way Chapman reports them to have been made out.

The April report I paid myself ½ of sets of each line before dividing the receipts as you will see. I did not think of it at the time but now am certain it must be wrong although Mr Ward was present at the time & assisted me in making it out & Speed has said nothing about it. The Speed Co paid me ½ sets of their line for the ½ month that I was there 14.27 & your line only 1.49. This month (May) you can see how it is & inform me if not at P

Due you April $3.38
" Baldwin May 1.37
$4.21

R. Smith Parkhoff

PS Sheridan wants $150.00 more than will cover & you get out what you owe you want

Received June 9th 1854 of
C. Mitchell Esq. in Commutation Duties
dollars to apply on Contract for Porter

Hutsonville Ill June 3 / 54

Mr E. Connell Esqr

Sir

I Just returned from Vincennes off of a hard tower of repairing the line- found it in very bad condition from Russelville to Vincennes- a distance of ten Miles- there ~~was~~ will have to be some 12 or 14 new Poles in the Prairie- The lightning has played Smash with them down there- I got it in working order with a great deal of trouble- but it is only temporaly fixed- was compelled to put it up on the fences in several Places- in one Place it is on the fence for about a quarter of a Mile- I have been out two days fixing it- found Sellers in his Office had entirely give it up- I also find there is great dissatisfaction in Russelville about some 3 or 4 Poles that is on some lots that is wanted to be ~~used~~- the man that owns the lots say they are in his way & he will cut them down if not moved soon- They had the wire all down in & scattered all over town- but with great dificulty I found enough to complete the circuit- one Man forbid me putting it up- but I Paid no attention to him but went on with my work- but dont know how long before he will have it down again- can there be a Man sent down to fix it- or what is best to be done- it will be out of my Power- to attend to it that fax off- & Sellers says

he wont do it- My Boat is in good working order- but has kept me very busy for several weeks to keep it so on account of so many heavy storms- if those Pole at Russellville are moved it will require about 2 hundred yards more wire- & I think it will be best to move them for I dont think that Man will let it do any good while it runs over his lots- Please answer & let me know what is best to do-

Yours Respectfully

J. S. Walkite

J. S. Walkite
June 5, 1854

Mr E. Bonnell Esqr
Indianapolis In

P. S. I have been so busy have not got my Report ready to mail to day but will have it ready to-

J. S. W.

Zanesville O June 5. 87

E. Cowell Esq

Dear Sir

Your two letters in regard to Cups have been received, and I have had several talks with the Potter in regard to what you say. He says it is impossible for stones or limestone to be in the body of the cup; and, indeed I think so myself, as the clay is all reduced to a thin liquid consistency and run through a fine seive, almost or quite as fine as a mill bolting cloth for flour. and then passed into an immense cauldron and boiled until it is thick enough to work. From these facts I am induced to think that it cannot be stone or gravel, though there may be something in the clay that caus

the cups to crack when tested with the acid, but I have never discovered anything of the kind in my experience with them in the offices here.

We can make them as thick and burn them as hard as you wish to have them; and I will have 100 or 150 ready to forward you on Tuesday or Wednesday next such as I think will suit

The demand heretofore has been for very thin cups, burned but little; but I think we can suit all tastes

Yours Respy

J. H. Kaufmann

Pittsburgh June 5, 1882

W. E. Cornell

Indianapolis Ind.

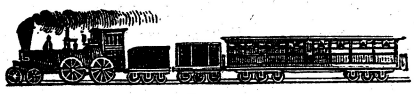
Bot of S. McKee & Co

1000 Groove Insulators 25,00

To Cash Remitted May 29. $25.00

CLEVELAND & PITTSBURGH RAIL ROAD.

J. A. CAUGHEY, Agent,
Monongahela House,
PITTSBURGH, PA.



H. JOHNSON,
Freight Agent,
CLEVELAND, O.

Pittsburgh, June 5 1854

Received, from E. McKee & Co on board the Barge of the Cleveland & Pittsburgh Rail Road Co. (with the privilege of towing,) in apparent good order, the following articles, marked as per margin, which we promise to carry by the Ohio River to Wellsville, Ohio, and thence by Rail Road, or by Rail Road and the Lakes, and deliver in like order, (the dangers of River and Lake navigation, the dangers incident to Rail Road transportation, fire and all other unavoidable accidents excepted,) at the Port of Cleveland unto Bellefontaine & Ind. R.R. or assigns; on payment of freight at the rate of 25 cents per 100 lbs. and charges $

☞NOTICE.—Any persons desiring information respecting property receipted by this Company to be forwarded beyond Cleveland, and not delivered, will address **H. JOHNSON, Freight Agent C. & P. Rail Road, Cleveland,** instead of the shippers in Pittsburgh or Philadelphia.

MARKS.	ARTICLES.	WEIGHT.
E. Cornell Indianapolis Ind	4 Boxs Insulators	578 Fifths

137½
$5 48

Smith Ft Wayne
July 6. 1854

Fort Wayne Ind
June 6th 1854

E. Connell Esq
Indianapolis

Yours of 30th ult at hand — The discrepancy between my receipts & checks of other Stations can be traced to Lake & Penn — They have reported the entire business between the office — Lake has $2.54 & Penn $2.21 checked against us — This more than accounts for the deficiency as far as you have rec'd reports — Wabash in all probability will report as Penn & Lake have done the having been under the same instruction — They say Mr Speed instructed them — I can hardly believe that — Penn says upon examination the total business should have been $5.79 — You say $3.00 reported. I also find that Chicago, according

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to My books should have me checked with $1.35 While Your report says $2.20 Mich City With 87¢ While I have Nothing Laporte With 50¢ while I have but 40¢ - Cinti With $6.80 While Mine is about $8 - (figures Mislaid) I am surprised that these discrepancies were not discovered before as Peru Kalmo & Wabash say they have always reported so heretofore - In transmitting I invariably use "P" & "pd" to specify paid messages & "Col" for others - This precaution is not generally used on this circuit - Owing to the great similarity (made more liable in bad writing) between "En" "Zu" "Cy" "Ly" & others of like characters to "O" then is evidently a great liability to make mistakes in check when "pd" or "Col" is not appended - I have frequently tried to have this rectified but as yet without success - These things become more apparent when We take into consideration

the many Young Operators we have. To obviate this only requires the Enforcement of your order given some time since – "Ken" & myself & believe are the only ones ~~on~~ on this Cir who adhere to it – When the larger offices fail the ~~Smaller~~ follow their Example – It is certainly very unpleasant to My Ear to be told that a message was send at the other end more particularly by strangers or those not acquainted with the business & to go off under the impression that an attempt has been made to wrong them, unpleasant – very unpleasant – Such things do occur sometimes & the reason are obvious to those who understand – We have been laboring under a great difficulty in doing business East for several weeks past although the line is in good repair & to-day I sent Mr Palmer to Toledo to suggest to Mr. Chadwick the

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Sproperiety of spatting his Ground
Gojny a little deeper than 2 inches
below the surface to take the crow
bar that forms the End Con[nection] to which
is Wrapped very loosely to a piece
of wire[?] out & replace it with
a a good Copper one - to take a
spoor battery out of a damp
Cellar & place it where the line
Will get more magnetism than
the Ground & Atmosphere & if
he would not do it - why take the
responsibility himself & I would
be responsible to you - This may appear
Strange to you in me but desperate
diseases require desperate remedies
& it was only after forbearance had
ceased to be a virtue that I resorted
to it - On the arrival of a Steamer
the business quieting at Toledo for
Lafayette Logan Wayne & intermediate
Stations is work to the line at the least
Calculation 50 other days not so much
but the very life of this Wabash Valley
depends upon the promptness of Toledo
To say that our force business is not Enough
but we lose friends & their Confidence
Consequently their patronage - To get
business East & West I do Sometimes
day after day repeat when I know
that the line is right but there is a
"rotten place in Denmark" - Logan
can get Toledo writing Even though
Logan has the largest battery on[?] which
of Course saves Toledo but Toledo does

get his - Has at first attributed it to the bad condition of the line after Mr Palmer had got this far he attributed it to his magnet - They stand the test - Then Mr Connell went supply him with zinc plates &c. - God only knows what next. With three operators at Toledo we certainly ought to do business spromptly - Do we? no nor wont until the rottenness is displaced. I do not wish this to be considered in the light of a complaint against Mr Chadwicks ~~capability~~ for I presume that if he would give it his individual attention or had to work on the line he would have removed it long ago, but he keeps boarding house & of course he must supply his boarders with food Even if the business which brings that food suffers - Mr C. may be offended at my presumption in sending Mr Palmer there & may report to you my officiousness but if such

is the case I refer you to any of the operators on this Cir whether it was not right to do as I have done more particularly to Mr Harbison of Logan who has differed with myself if the difficulty is not found in his office I will pay for new Cabinet time & acknowledge that after Seven or Eight years Experience in lodging in Main & pony, large & small offices I have learned nothing – I have often suggested these things to the boy who has charge of the Mabach instrument. but it is waste time – You may have observed in recent reports from my office the diminution of money rec'd for report sometimes it is not the fault of Fields but Some times it is – Not long since I had Several messages for him when he was ready to send report – I asked him to hold on till I sent him my business then go ahead with report

which he resolutely refused to do & I was virtually compelled to do. Was it right? no, in all my Experience we considered business that paid well paramount to all sport - It ought to be so here - At other times if sport comes late he refuses to lead it until it suit his majestys convenience the consequence is that we get about half the sport & half the money The Prof have withdrawn & now I am Endeavoring to get the business men to take them - As you remarked to me in one of your letters not long since "these things are small but in the aggregate they amount to a great deal" - It is better Mr Connell to have one good man at a good price than two poor ones at half rate - One brings life into the business the other murder it. We done a good business last month but we lost it all our Exertion to get it & had them not of been

other route We Certainly must have fallen far short, as it was we had a hard siege to keep Customers quiet — to Lend assistance pa & ty. own shed kind when they have so much of their own to do delays ours of Course — I am in hopes that Ere you receive this We will be working good — If this is complaint — Will it does read like one — it is the first one I Ever made — It may be, that I may not be justified in making this — but the great difficulty is so palpably plain to my Eyes that I Cant help it — I do not like to suggest or advise one who has the experience you have, but it is not Expected that you Can be all over & personally aware of all the little difficulties that occur but I do honestly & sincerely believe that if Mr Chadwick or his Assistants was made to understand the importance of Promptness our business to be made to Search for any difficulties that occur & to apply the proper remedies, that those operators ought to be able to do it & will too — that you would realize a greater amount of money for would have the good will of the public & pleasantry would Rubbish the place of mortification & Curses — I have strung out a longer string than I Expected to, but give it the attention it deserves & if you will come & sit in my office one day you will be convinced that I have Ever softened the Evils — I will make out report to day & mail — I think We Can want you about 60 or $70 Times a month — Please send me some blanks & Very Respectfully — Smith —

UNION TELEGRAPH,
Speed and O'Reilly Lines.

OFFICE, No. 6, SECOND FLOOR, DAVISSON'S BUILDINGS,
CORNER OF LAKE AND CLARK STREETS.

Communications Confidential, and must be Prepaid.
WRITE PLAINLY---GIVE FULL ADDRESS---USE NO FIGURES.

Chicago, June 6 1854.

By Mail Telegraph from Chicago

To Mr A B. Cornell

My Dear Alonzo,

I arrived here about two hours ago from Adrian Mich rode all night, I was at A. to attend sale of S.M. Tel line, but sale adjourned, chances fair for my getting it right,

Total receipts our ch of fs for May 54 is $2,754.17
" " " " " " " 53 was 1808.20
Increase for year of this ch fs $945.97
Add for rcpts of S.M. Line which was not in operation last year on may. being opened in Sept last, 462 00
$1,407.97

Total increase of Chicago business for May this year over corresponding month of last is $1407.97. and next May will show as great an increase over the current year,

I hear S Reid talk about about the Telegraph & one would suppose it was a huge bubble that had been inflated by extraordinary effort, and had now

attained its greatest possible dimensions and was about to burst and that it was now incumbent on those who had blown it up to sell out and get the money pocketed before the explosion by which they were certain to be blown up themselves,

I am heartily sick of such twaddle as I am indignant at the baseness of his treachery in selling out to our opponents and in that sale, selling a part of my interest that he had no authority to sell, and which he knew could not be sold without injury to my interest,

The time has been when such an act of treachery would cause the cheeks of the Traitor to tingle with shame, -

I must go out to meet an appointment, Yours In Haste

E. Cornell

E. Cornell
Chicago June 6 1857

Terre Haute June 8th 54

E Connell Esq

Dr Sir

I have been expecting a letter from you for Several days about that horse and wagon belonging to the Wade line but up to the present time I have heard nothing - I should be glad to hear from you about it as the horse is eating his head off as fast as he can and I have an opportunity of letting him out so as to make him pay his way. Business has been pretty good so far this month, Mr. Sellers was telling me this morning that Mr Hubbell had written you that they could never get this office and he very patronizingly told me I must do better - There is a mistake about it in some way as I told him for I that office and all the rest of the offices were attended to as punctually and promptly as this is we could give the very best of satisfaction to our patrons - I shall do all I can to give satisfaction and so for unless I am much mistaken I have succeeded as well as the nature of circumstances would allow

I Should be glad to hear from you —

Yours Respectfully

A. Haas

A. Haas Texas Adjt
June 8. 1861

Ohio, Indiana, and Illinois Telegraph Co.

ALL MESSAGES STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL.

STATE SENTINEL JOB ROOMS, INDIANAPOLIS.

Terre Haute, June 1st 1854

The following Message was received from .....

Dated, ... 1854.

To Mr Cornell

Sir.

If you did not get my letter of ~~Saturday~~ Monday this will do as well = I sent my Report Saturday to you at = Balance of $42,23 due me. I wish to leave Monday morning for Missouri can't go without it. will you please send it by tomorrow afternoon's train so as not to delay me. I have waited a week now owing to absence of Mr. Haas I should have left last Monday = Pls attend to it & much oblige Yours Respectfully

G. Winter.

Ohio, Indiana, and Illinois Telegraph Company.

ALL MESSAGES STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL.

STATE SENTINEL JOB ROOMS, INDIANAPOLIS.

Lafayette, Nov 8th 1854.

The following Message was received from .....

Dated, ...1854.

To Mr. Oneil

The bill of Zinc came in my name. but were not ordered by me. I supposed they were ordered by you or Speed. Logan being out. I sent him 19.- The bill calls for 30 zinc[s] there were but 29. I telegraphed you about it - also wrote you upon the receipt of a letter from Hubbell but as yet have heard nothing from you. I sent Toledo upwards of 50

Haas Lafayette
June 8, 1854

pounds of cut paper. He
telegs for it — The remainder
is here awaiting orders.
If our line was in good
order the 2th receipts would
nearly double what they
are now. We are compelled
to turn many customers away
daily - We have not worked
to Vincennes or Evansville for
"months" — I fear the wire is
again in the river at Perrysville.
Cormaton has gone down to
see about it — our compts
to you —
Yours ever
Haas

I hereby agree to work for Ezra Cornell at Indianapolis, as Operator and manager of said Cornells Telegraph Office for one year from the first of June 1854, for five hundred dollars per annum, payable monthly, devoting my time and best ability to promote the interest of said Cornell in the premises

Indianapolis June 8, 1854

Jno F Walbeck

Winchester June 8th 1857

Dear Will

At the request of Mr Edger I again address you in regard to a Telegraphic office in this place, he is very anxious to have one, he will furnish a room on the terms I stated to you while here. the Citizens here will send Mr Way to Indianapolis to learn to operate at their own expense, or at any other office the Co may prefer. Or they will make up say $30, on towards getting apparatus, and the Co sends and operator here to learn Mr Way. Mr Edger thinks an office will pay at this point. Will state these matters to Mr Cornell or shew him my letter. Mr Edger is anxious to know what the Co will do

Yours affectionately John B Goodrich

June 9 – 52

E Cornell Esqr

Dear Sir – Our Board at its last session passed an order to not make any Payments on your telegraph contract, until they are satisfied of your right to build & use the line –

Our Secretary I presume has sent you a copy of that order

Yours
T. A Morris

Washington June 9th 1854

E. Connell Esq

Dear Sir, Your letter of the 30th ult is before me.

I learnt at Newyork a few days ago that the papers of the Speed sale had not been delivered but were in the hands of a third party awaiting the performance of certain conditions. Of course, they are not recorded in the Patent Office.

The purchasers, I understand, are the House &c. west of Buffalo; but I do not know their official name.

Very respectfully
Amos Kendall

Indianapolis Ia

Logansport Oct.
June 9 1852.

E Cornell Esq
Ind pls

Dr Sir:

I telegraphed you I would mail my report, yesterday tho 8th I was unwell yesterday, and therefore could not come to the office to do so. — I hope no inconvenience will result therefrom — I will be careful in relation to expenses —

I have to sold that intestand for $1100, as I found on old one, and enclose the fees, as the simplest way of balancing the account, —

And now in relation to the Michigan City Fees.

Mr Knowlton, Supt of New Albany & Salem R.R, has been negotiating with the Mich Central & R, to get me both ticket offices, at Mich. City, in case you would be willing for me to exchange, and go to that office, and so combine the ticket and Telegraph offices in one. Unless you are perfectly willing for me to make the exchange, I will, of course stay here.

Upon what terms does Brinkerhoff have that office? Do you think it would be for my advantage to exchange?

After the Northern wire, from here to Mich City is altered, it will, of course require but one operator here, but the Rail Roads coming in here, (5 of them) will probably each have a line, and that will, after they are built, require a competent man here, as they will probably all be in one room.

If you wish me to stay here I am willing to do so.

Please give me your advice on the subject, consulting your own & my interest and

very much oblige

Yours Very Respy

Ch. A Harkins

P.S. Since the putting of a battery at Mich City, the line in that direction works well & other lines pretty well except X. who needs more battery