Cleveland jan 7 1855

Dear Sir,

Yours of 15th is at hand. The offices on the V. & Whlg line that we have had connection by tel. with for last two years more or less are Cuyahoga Falls, Akron, Dalton, Massillon, Navarre, Canal Dover, & New Philadelphia & occasionally Uhrichsville — Between the last & Roscoe the line is hopelessly down & has been abandoned by Mr Haviland for the last year or two By some arrangement with Wade he works it up as far as Roscoe & I believe at quite an expense to E & M line — The nature of the arrangement I have never learned. I only know that when Wade was called on for his balance due V offs he claimed quite a large amount due him there — Hudson & Canton are O Reilly offs. Franklin Mills on Pres line Coshocton is near Roscoe & has no offs.

That line is in debt to us here — the amount you have.

House offs has Haviland as Manager & Van as Book Keeper Each with a salary & a per centage on the business they influence One well prepared to know says if from the business they attract is deducted that they upon balance will be largely against them.

They have our old copyist that I paid fifteen dolls per month to 'till last summer I paid him twenty — When I left they raised his salary to $25 When I returned they bid his salary up to $400. per Ann & of course took him He is sixteen years old & is man of all work doing the most of the waiting on the counter. The number of their Operators & messengers I dont Know —

Our dock men are doing nothing but what comes in on the rail roads Their lines of course take all of that for they occupy that ground exclusively. The pork business has been quite brisk

I deem it necessary that we have an office on the dock as early as business commences on the river.

You say I must be wide awake or they will get ahead of me — I have not much fear of that & if you have tell me in what particular.

I do not expect to get all the business They will have their friends & their customers But I do expect to retain our present customers & know of a number of our good houses who had become dissatisfied & left, that have returned

Economy is the order of the day & all who can make a three cent postage stamp save the price of a despatch do so.

I am ready to report Dec business but as Mr Wood is so soon to be here am defering it to consult him as what is best to do with some debts due the offs that cant now be collected I should be glad to make some disposition of them so as to reduce the amount on hand.

Yours &c

J M Gubbs

The N Y & Erie line want some of our tariffs to supply their offices with. I have none here — are they out of print — Shall I get some printed here where they owe us & we cant get any money

Lafayette, Jan 18 55

E. Cornell Esqr

Albion Mich

Dear Sir

I again must write you. — M. Seeber was here about daylight this morning after wire & insulators — Your brother took all insulators we had sometime since. M.S. says there is 8 miles of insulators needed between this & the crossings of southern road. The Auger (got by Robertson or your brother) with which the holes are bored was too small & every hole has to be chiseled out to Enable the insulator to go in. That was a great oversight — I directed M.S. to enlarge the holes & put up the wire without insulators, that I would write you at once. There is also 8 miles yet to be put up from the crossing to the city or 10 miles to Laporte. If the wire is yet up from Laporte to the city & the poles "good substantial ones" it would do to run it to Laporte if otherwise I would not bring Laporte on main circuit. By firing 5 cups main batty at M city we might make short circuit to Laporte. which will

answer every purpose for their business.
Sara is 2 miles new line. but do of course as
"you" think. best. but the workmen had better
know at once what you wish done. I do not
believe in letting men stand still awaiting
directions - costs too much -

We have our crossing
at Terrysville repaired. the line works
beautifully to Terre Haute. but 50 or 100
yds we find stolen between that point &
Hastmills. It will be repaired today I
think. Iman gone out from Terre Haute

We
need blank reports - I have been sup-
plying other offices with two or 3 ~~copies~~ blanks
each until I have but 2 or 3 left.

We will need Message registers in our
wells. I enclose a design for one page
of register. Marked off in double quick time. I
leave the heads of the columns blank giving each
& every office the privilege of inserting the offices
with which he does most business. if we should put
our largest offices in print at top of columns it would
make an inconvenient register for small offices. you
will see my design without further comment I think. I
have no more room to explain. If it does not suit
it may suggest something that will be of benefit.

My letters come most too fast to please I expect.

Yours Haas

Dec 20. 84 Cable Writes Memo- We are getting all the business St Louis business for the East —

I will send you Cash a/c when I return (from Detroit) with Receipt for money ½ on Mortgage —

Jan 7 & 9-85

I go East Monday to make payments & settle up our business for 1884 I wish I could collect of the NP Co so as to endorse the Amt on the Mortgage

Hunellsville January 19th 1855

E Connell esq

Dear sir

Inclosed please find a pass over the B and N.Y City RR for the year 55. Mr Hall will send you some of their Posters which please send to any one of your Telegraph offices with instructions to favor this route. Making no noise about it. the Bills or Posters will be sent to your address at Detroit. It will pay us well to be on good terms with this N.R.C°— Things work slow and hard Money tightens up here ~~s~~ Suppose I should Lease the Telegraph Line from Williamsport to Philadelphia and make arrangements with the W se E N R C° to build them a Line, Shall I do it under the name of the N.Y se W U Tel C°. I have already advanced Negotiations with the Phila and Williamsport telegraph C° to Lease said Line. I shall go to Williamsport next week. My family are very ill indeed — How do you progress — Please remember me to Mrs Connell with Compliments of the season and to Conroy

Very respectfully

G W Skinner

Detroit Jan 20. 1853

Dear Stanza

I have just closed a settlement with J J Speed Jr, in which I took all the C & S interest in M.Y & M.V. Union line the Ohio Ind. [redacted] and all Miss line, Speed pays $1,060,00 to John Butterfield & bal due him on $8,000, loan at Utica, leaving me to pay a like sum to Hopton, Curtis & Child, Each, I knowing get my payment postponed a year and Butterfield (Hanscman) who would not vote get his money when due, Get $95,000 Ill & Miss Stock, say 1/3 of the stock of the line, which judge Cayton says will pay $20,000 for an, Speed also pays his Son C.M.S a bal of $56. which I owe him & I get what is due C & S by E & M Tel Co say two or three hundred dollars,

Now if fortune favours me and I have my health for a few years longer I will make my Telegraph interest worth 1/4 million dollars,

Your Mother Aunt B. A & Erwin left here for Brantford Yesterday 9 A.M. since which I have not heard from them, Brooks will be here to night from Boston

I shall see him & [illegible] Yours Respectfully & Truly C. Conrad

Franklin Jany 21st 1855

Dear Sir

Yours of the 15th is at hand requesting me to inform you at what terms I am engaged as operator the receipts & & expenses of this office on the Cleveland Wheeling & Zainsville Line This office has not any connection with the line leading to Wheeling except by Cleveland the line runs within a few rods of the office If you want a report from this office I will one to you upon request The office does not pay expenses & is kept open by the A & G W R R Co & I am employed by them

Yours Respectfully
Geo L Whitcomb
Opr

To E Cornell Pres
E & M Tel Co

Telegraph Office

Hudson Ohio Dec 20th 1855

E Carnell Esq

Prest C & M Telg Co.

Dr Sir—

Yours of recent date is at hand & in reply must state that the situation of this office is not upon the Cleveland Columbus & Zanesville Line, therefore deem it not of essential importance to give the financial statement concerning expenditures & receipts of this office & presume you would not require it when without the bounds of your investigations

Respect Yours—

J. K Hart

Albion Jan 21, 1855

My Dear Alonzo

Your favour of 15th inst was rec'd this morning on my return from Detroit from whence I wrote you yesterday that I had settled with Spud. The Dft you enclosed for acceptance of $400. on Albany City Bk. I accepted and return enclosed, you must be particular to keep a record of this paper so you will not get in the fog.

Wade did not succeed in getting judgment against me at last term of Court, so he will have to wate a few months longer, I am ready to pay it before he is ready to enforce the payment, this is the Ely win age.

A letter from Elwood to M B Wood Esqs Enclosing receipt for their dividend, says. tell "Mr Cornell that several of our largest Stockholders were sorry they did not get an interview with him, believing that a face to face talk would be less likely to produce disagreement." I did not wish to see them I was satisfied that they were on the anxious seat, and though it better for them to have ample time for repentance before their Sins were forgiven,

I learned last night by passengers who came from Buffalo Friday that the East end of the Buffalo & Brantford road was closed by the

unpaid workmen, Switches Spiked down and bridge across Welland Canal opened. So the road could not be used. All right from Paris to Brantford so I suppose Mother had no difficulty in reaching Uncle Johns,
I hope they will get arranged so as to return again soon, as I bought tickets for Mother & Aunt Bet as far as Dorvills Ville,
I shall write them today, giving the best advice I can from this distance from the scene of trouble, They should have telegraphed me of their safe arrival but did not,
I supposed that Brooks reached home yesterday and I shall go to Detroit tomorrow or Tuesday to see him and arrange about the loan to take up the S. M. Mortgage,
I am glad you settled that matter with Boardman for he is a kind of "Good Lord good Devil" man It is the rising, rather than setting sun that he chooses to worship — If he gets dazzled by the spasmatic flashes of some nondescript luminary and mistakes it for the ascending orb of day, the fault must be his own, and his the consequence if this false light guides him into strange paths,
I feel evident regrets his treachery towards me and proffers his services, to aid me in anyway that I can suggest and at any time that his services can be available, I rarely get cheated twice by the same person
Yours Respectfully
E Cornell
A B C

Chicago Jany 21 st 1865

To

O. Cornell Esq
Albion Mich.

Dear Sir

Yours of 24th received I have waited until patience has ceased to be a virtue for three or four months with the expectation of being removed to some other point I have not entertained the least idea that I should ever be better suited in this office for I know the present manager will never leave it until he has the satisfaction of knowing that you cannot remove him even if you choosed to do so. he is a snake in the grass and will do all in his power to injure You that is certain Stager and Cobb also Wade are trying no doubt will succeed in removing you from power then divide the spoils between Stager and Cobb You may think I am not right But I think you will find I am not much mistaken. After I had been here two Months I had the offer of a situation with a much larger salary than I was receiving from the company But our lines were in such a bad condition and you were so unfortunate as to break your arm which delayed

everything. I thought better to remain. had our lines been in good working order and everything going off smoothly I should most certainly have accepted the offer. I have remained faithful to the company for the past five years notwithstanding the repeated offers from Opposition lines. and not proved traitor as some have done and those same managers now hold the best positions on the Line.

Under the present circumstances I can do no better for myself than to tender you my resignation. to take effect March first. Please accept my best wishes for your welfare and prosperity

Yours Truly

A. L. Downs

FLETCHER'S BANKING O FICE.

Indianapolis, Ind., June 22nd 1855.

Collections made and remitted without Charge, at Current rates of Exchange.

E. Cornell Esq
Albion Mich

Dear Sir

I have credited
you Shafton Bk/Commonwealth $75-
1/0 pm 75
rec'd in your favor of 19th inst $75.75
The note held by Garton
shall be paid when presented at my
counter.

Yours Respy
I. A. Fletcher

Office of the New York, Albany & Buffalo Electro Magnetic Telegraph Company,

Utica, Jany 22 1855.

E. Cornell Esqr

Dear Sir

Yours of the 11th from Chicago is recvd I also recvd yours containing your proposition for our Co to put up a new line on the Erie Line. I wrote to you a few days since in regard to the Colt Message for Washington I also wrote to Judge Eaton

I do not know but Judge Eaton is right and generally disposed to your & our line but I am well satisfied that his men from some cause are disposed to throw all the business they can into the Hamm Company & will make any exertion they can to do so I do not say what influences are brought to bear upon them to get the business but judging from what has been done by the Co of that name in this State it is not impossible that those men have not received or are not to receive presents in the shape of money or otherwise for such business it is done to a great extent it is a way that some Companies have of getting a large amount of business. If that business from Eaton cannot be got in any other

way I would be for securing it by Contract by a reduced tariff I hope you will look well to that business & if it is necessary to secure it by a reduction of tariff or by making presents to his men I go for getting the business & I trust you will secure it at that and in some way Nothing should be left undone on our part to take away any objection that can be raised; We have the means and ability to do the business without any delay. — I will lay your proposition for putting up a new line on the Erie R. R. before our board the first opportunity at present We are much engaged with the Contract with the Central R.R. which you examined in New York they have notified us that We must ratify or abandon the Contract our Board have decided to abandon & at the same time offer to make such a contract as shall be fair & equitable for both parties You probably recollect the principal features of the contract whether we you do abandon & run the risk of a future arrangment or accept that with the objections. The Home Co are making a great effort to make a similar Contract with them and have

their poles & lines on the line of their Rail Road & I suppose will make any kind of an arrangement that the R.R. co may dictate if they can get enough out of them to set new poles on the line of their Rail Road

I have to day received your telegraph stating in regard to your arrangement with Col Sprd & a notice to Butterfield that he will be here I have notified Butterfield

Mucker & Kasprek have been on to Washington to see Mr Kinsella to secure the right to work More instruments on the Canada Junction line but they did not get it We expect to here it

I have written this in much haste Nothing to hear from you again soon

I am Yours Truly
Geo Cuttys

Have you decided to make a change at your Buffalo Office

E. Cornell

Albion

Michigan

Binghamton Jan 23d, 1855

E Cornell Esq
Dear Sir

We want an order issued by L G. Tilotson or L. C. McCallum to all their offices where we have offices, not to do public business of any kind except to places on their Line where we do not connect. Will you be so good as to lay this before Mr Chester & have him insist upon such order being issued & fulfilled to the letter. If it is not done we may just as well hang up our fiddle. You know that our business with N. Y. is more than two thirds of all we can do on this line. Well the R R are doing a good share of this business now, & make no bones of their intentions to do all the business offered for N Y & all places beyond there — The R R Offices at Hornellsville Corning Elmira & Owego take & send such messages every day. Owego has sent two today, while my office here has done nothing — They send for 2/0 & 2 & besides this I am satisfied that the Depot is the place for all our offices — It

gives them an importance & a show of responsibility that separate offices in this country cannot command - This tends to throw all the business into their offices & we shall loose all that is worth working for - I have written to Mr Chester on this subject, but have not confidence enough in my influence, to induce him to act decisively & promptly Aside from the damage to our purse it is most humiliating to me, and if their doing this business is not stopped entirely I will stop my management of the line. as I cannot afford to be ground too much for the sake of a good salary -

You did not believe that it was their intention to do this business. Let me copy all the instructions Tillotson has given in the matter - "To all Ops on Susqua Division you will hereafter hand to the operator of the N Y & W R Line at your place the charges collected on all messages sent to ~~places received from~~ Owego Elmira Corning or Hornellsville ~~on this~~ by ~~this Line~~ ~~offices~~, provided that Line is at work. To accommodate Customers the Messages may be sent by our Line" - You see by this they intend to accommodate all the customers & induce them

I believe there is no other office in the place. Aside from drawing the customers from our own office, we have no check on the amt of business they will do & we must receive what ever they choose to allow us - It places this line in a position of inferiority that I am not willing to submit to - In the foregoing instruction you perceive that the question of N Y business is dodged entirely & cursorily the operators having no instructions against taking N Y business of course take all they can - But Tillotson says in plain terms in a letter to me that "I have authorized all the offices on Susqua. Division to receive messages for N Y, not that I wish to divert business from your line at all, but do not want to turn customers off" It is plain enough from this that they intend to do such business - The first instruction which I copy names 5 offices the nets from which sent to which we are to receive, But they are doing & intend to do our N Y business, besides all business for other lines beyond N Y — an instruction, to these offices, to the effect named in the first part of this letter is the only remedy we have and if they are so anxious to

accommodate people I will pay them
15 or 20 per ct on all business they
may secure, and send by messenger to
my offices, from passengers, but
not from citizens — If they will not
do that passengers must go un accommo-
dated until they reach Bn or Ro where
we have offices in the depots for their
accommodation —
I trust this is of sufficient importance
to command your immediate attention if
it has not before —
While writing the above I have received
your letter from Detroit announcing
your settlement with Reed, and I congra-
ulate you on your good luck in that re-
spect — I wrote you over a week ago and
enclosed the bill you gave me to look over.
I would like to hear what you think of paying
¼ of the Extraordinary repairs —
While in Ithaca I had a conversation with
one of your enemies, who assured me that
you would be obliged to come under — said he
had been written to several times by Wade to
buy up claims against you & send them on
&c &c — It is needless to say that I assured him to the
contrary &c — The space is used up Yours truly
P. A. Hopkins

Albion Jan 26. 1855

My Dear Mary Ann.

I dont exactly know where you are to night, I consult the spirits, but they are equivocal, I therefore fancy you may be in one place, just about as well as an other. Perchance the iron horse is now floundering in a mountain of snow doubting whither he is on or off the track, the fire out, the Engineer drunk, the fireman looking wise, water froze up in the pipes ready for a "bust" without an explosion, The Conductor with I-dont-care-a-cent-ative, phiz, an oricalcar-scowl, dodging about to keep out of the way of inquisitive passengers. Expecting every moment that Something may turn up, Brakes, not asleep at their at their posts, but on a comfortable cushion, for whats the use of brakes, when every thing's broke down. Passengers stiffy, hungry, cross, mad, fretful, whimsical, Jolly, Sad, alarmed, and foolish according to their several compositions, Sadies at full liberty to enjoy their "right," all their rights to their

heart content, but scolding, fretting, praying wishing, talking, or whining won't help the matter, your are stuck, and must take it Coolly till relief comes "draging his slow length along" &c. and make, aunt Betsy Ann & Emma as Comfortable as the circumstances will admit,

Perhaps you ant "stuck" and that it is the intrusion of an evil Spirit, prompts the imagination, and it must be so, for at this Moment, a more genial Spirit whispers, "All is well" and hints that you are embowered in the folds of clean Sheets at the Clarendon, the Mansion of the Misses, with aunt B. snuggled on the one side, and Emma entwining her tiny arms about your neck from the other, while the Spirit invades the land of dreams, to Catch a glimps, at "home sweet, sweet, home".

Could my will, invest the ideal, with reality I would enjoy a visit from that gentle Spirit, ere it nestles in the faithful heart of the fond one, and inspire it with new hopes of more lasting & substantial pleasures.

If my fancy is still in the realms of ideality, I must descend to the matter

sphere, and fancy you, jolting jostlingly & rattling along over the broad guage, nodding & yawning, half a sleep, and half awake, guttered out, and rejoicing that every time they whistle down brakes you are one stage nearer home.

And may the best of luck and the best wishes of the undersigned attend you, to the bosom of our "dear loved home",

Just now two important events are transpiring in these parts, Mrs. Coon is having a party, that is just now in full blast, as I am reminded by a visit from Arlena the sister, who solicits a loan of my light to go down Cellar after some milk, as the "Cat in the Cream pot" or some other Cause ran the cream shoot so it wont go round,

We all had invitations, but Phebe said she did not care to go unless I wished to, in that event she would attend with me, I preferred the communion with the Spirits, that I have just enjoyed, and she has gone to bed,

The other event is the quiet fall of a lovely crop of snow white & sparkling, as if from the bosoms of Angels,

It will gladden the face of nature and the hearts of her children,

The pulls of the bean will beat at fever heat, and the bosom of the bell will swell with secret joy, as their Ears are gulled by the merry bells, on the morrow,

The Farmer will rejoice, as he beholds the pure white mantle from heaven so timely spread to protect, his expectant harvest from the fierce blast of winter,

The lumberer will also greet the sparkling snow, as a godsend, for it will subdue the icy path, that crowns his labours with a rich harvest,

And your humble Servant rejoices, at the universal joy, and gladdening of hearts, that will follow the blessing that God grants us this night,

With Affectionall
Regard I remain
Yours.
E. Cornell

... Mary Ann

Albion Jan'y 25th 1855

My Dear Alonzo

Your favour of 18th came to hand yesterday while I was at Detroit. I went down in morning to see Brooks about the loan of the M.C.R.R.Co I find money matters are more stringent with dividend paying R.R's than I supposed they having been paying so much of their earnings to advance improvements in connecting lines, and in preparation for doing an increasing business,

Brooks feels right but said he did not wish to decide the question of letting me have the money yet, as if he decided then he would be compelled to decide against me, he therefor defers the decision a few days. If money was ordenarily easy to command I should have no trouble in getting it and think I shall get it as it is,

I had forgotten the aunt due Burritts, but did not suppose it amounted to as much as $700. but 7 per ct is an industrious worm, and if he gets nestled alongside of a fellows vitals he will soon gnaw a hole in them. The arrangement you propose with B is perhaps the best that can be done,

I will therefor execute the note and return it to you

That aunt of Bruny Wills that you enquire about is unadjusted yet. the embarrassments grew out of an allowance I made them or him for a claim that he pretended that he bought Crawford Livingston

had against me for assisting in getting stock subscribed on T. & C. R. Line, L. while of the firm of Levington & Mills went to Burlington with me to aid in getting the stock subscribed and assured me before he went that he had had talks with different influential parties & had the promis to have the stock taken at once. He stayed there a week with me doing all he could, all of his pretended promises failed & he gave up and told me he was satisfied that the stock could not be obtained, Mier who was also there concurred with him in that opinion and they advised the abandonment of the enterprise.

I then assumed the leadership myself, changed tactics, and tried on my own book and succeeded and win from Levington; a high opinion of my ability &c, after L's death, Mills pretended to understand that L & M were partners in the contract, and to be very liberal towards them. I gave him a note for $1000. the interest of which has been charged up in my a/c part of the time, and that off $ at T. C. R. R. not a/c in a/c. Last Feb Mills claimed $1000 due him, from which the off should be deducted,

I am not sure that I should owe him any thing if a rigid examination of the a/c should take place, I will try and get it in some definate shape.

The following is the amt of my indebtedness as far as I know — Judgments on record Tompkins Co —
Square Nelson Wash, Co Atty. May 8. 49 $72.71 ¢ — should be discharged
Phile Parks " " " " 8.4 109.18 ¢ " " "
When the above were ¢ I did not know that they were on record at Ithaca and therefore ¢ no attention to them being discharged —
Thos. Coan Erie Co May 15. 1849 $62.71, this is something that I know nothing about, did not know of any such suit or judgment till I saw it on record. — I think it must be some Ed affair & ¢ or I should have had something about it.
Griffs Waring Orange Co, Decr 10.50, $24.16. not ¢ — Int 1.50 Int 68.00
Sybilla T. Pierce Ulster Co May 15. 57 — 227.02 " "
Interest Jan 1. 55. 57.59 $593.77

Chas Ely. now in Suit at Detroit
note $1306.22 Mar 1. 50 interest $434.40 = ✓ 1740.62 Pd
Dft — $1330.33 have no date. Interest subpoena $400 — ✓ 1730.33 Pd

I have just proposed to pay the note, $1740.62 and give notes at 6 & 12 mo for Dft. Woods Atty has telegraphed for me mission to settle so, advising it, they can't get judgment before march —

S. S. Winston two notes, 3 & 6 mo ~~for~~ ✓ 800.00 Pd
Comberdger Livingston Feb 24. 55 ✓ 879.45 Pd
" " " Aug 24. 55. $821.92 + interest $86.29 86.29 ✓ 908.21
" " " Feb 24. 56 — 821.91 Interest 2,7 a 115.06 ✓ 936.97
Henry Mills say a thousand. 1000.00 Pd
P. A Hopkins — dont recollect but about ✓ 325.00 ✓
Genesee Valley Pk. Co Co Judgment about ✓ 95.00 ✓
Mrs A Thomas — 1500.00 ✓
10,389.32

Amts forward	$10,389.32
Otis, E. Wood — due in Year	168.75
Say Saw Holmes &c	700.00
" & Conrad	700.00
Perry boys, bal don't know say —	50.00
E. S. Cornell " " " "	100.00
I borrowed of Father I think about $700. several years ago. & suppose his heirs will pay interest,	700.00
B. Wood don't know say as much more —	700.00
Balance of $800 borrowed at Utica —	3180.00
Various Matters connected with A.B.& C line & building O.C.& C possible for 800 $ but say.	1000.00
	17,688.07
Present means of payment Ely, Livingston & [redacted] say —	2688.00
	15,000 07
S. B. Munn, Bond & Mortgage,	2,800.00
	$17,800.07
I Burritt & Son left out.	700.
	$18,500,07

Assets are Cornell Rl. Co stock $60.000, Par $60.000

" 16/20 of Ny+W W Rl. Co — worth in Cash 16.000

95.000 Ill & Miss Rl. Co worth 50 cts on dollar 47.500

25.000 A.S.& S worth 50 cts 12.500

$136.000

This list is somewhat imperfect and I wish you would correct it with the data that you have and make as correct a list as you can, and send me a copy. You will not show it to any one as a matter of course as it is not to be for timid & nervous people & would give them a shock. That would be injurious.

Yours. Respectfully

E Cornell

A.B.C

New York 25th Jany 1855

E Cornell Esq

I Received a letter from you some time ago Saying that You Expected to Declare a Dividend on Telegraph Stock about 1st Jany Present.

Now I hold a little of it & if any Div.d has been Declared I dont Know it. but. If a Div.d has been or is to be Soon. I think I could Make Sale of Considerable more of it than I have having had Some trades offered me that. I believe would pay well. I Shall hold on upon mine own & if all looks favorable I think I Should More of it. will you please write me about what your Comp.y intend in relation to it. and Oblige Your Humble Servant

G K Bartlett
4 Pond St

I mean as to Declaring Dividends

Roscoe, Jan 25. 1853,

E. Cornell, Esq-
Prest. Erie & Mich Tel. Co,
Dr. Sir,

Your favor of Jan 15th last has been received in duplicate, I will answer your inquiries, so far as I am able to do so, in the order put.

I took charge of the office at this place about the first of Nov. 1852, rather as a matter of accommodation, than otherwise, as the late operator refused longer to attend to it. I was told by Mr. Gardner, (late operator) that I would be paid twenty dollars pr month for attending to it. In the Spring I had a correspondence with Haviland, and then agreed to manage the office and line from here South, - for proceeds of the line - I have done what I could to keep it in working order from here to Jamesville - extending my duties ten miles that way - within six miles of the next office -

The receipts of the office have been very light - The exact amount I am not able to give, at this time as my books are not posted up by several months - as soon as I get them up - which will be in a few weeks, I will send you the result.

I have not remitted a dollar to any one - and not much prospect of doing so soon - I have expended a good deal for repairs particularly on line north of this - between here and Cherry Corners town, - and to little purpose,

There are no debts due to any one here, that I am aware of - except a small matter of four or five dollars, for Livery - incurred in repairing line - and which I am responsible for.

The present condition of the line is bad enough, truly - From this point South, it has been in working order barely, - From this place to Marshallville about 30 miles the line has not worked one week at a time since I had the office - It was down when I took it, and remained so during the winter - Early in the Spring I set to work to put it in good repair, - Spent

any amount of labor, - Considerable money, and time in putting it up - and in one week's time after I get through it was down again, - Again it was put up - and scarcely would I get home before it would be down again - and that has been the history of it during a greater part of the summer, - And that too, when I made it a point always to make thorough repairs, as far as I went. But the posts are so rotten, that the only way of making it efficient will be, for a repairer to go along the whole line, and examine every post, where they are sufficiently sound - (as a great portion of them are) to repair them and where they are not to put in new posts, - and the insulators is very much out of joint also - The re setting of the posts at this time, or, as soon as the frost is out of the ground, might be accomplished rapidly and without taking them down, by two hands, with the proper implements, - and would cost little, beside the labor,

With the repairs above suggested, and an efficient Superintendent or the adoption of some means for more prompt, and thorough repairs, when needed, - I have no doubt the line would do a very fair business -

But the Management has always been inefficient, and the Community have lost all confidence in it. I would also suggest the increase of offices, wherever the citizens of a place will guarantee sufficient business to pay expenses.

The past season has been an unusually dull one in all kinds of business, and has been especially so as regards the Telegraph business of this office - One additional reason for that however, was that all our business with Cleveland had to be done via Zanesville, on an increase of tariff, amounting to almost two hundred per ct.

I am very respectfully,
Yours &c

C. Bassett
operator Roscoe, O.

Columbus o Jan 26th/55

E. Cornell Esq

Dear Sir

Yours of the 22nd Inst. Rec'd Please forward the Ill & Miss stock to me at this place & oblige

Yours Respectfully

J. & M. Wade

Jan'y. 30. 1855

Sent Wade one certificate stock in Ill & Miss Line No 1300 for 192 shares of stock. Mailed by M B Wad who saw it deposited in letter to Wade

Utica Jany 26 1855

E. Conell Esqr

Dear Sir

Mr Speed passed through here this day & saw Butterfield & agreed to meet him in N.Y. tomorrow & pay him $1860. for your a/c on the Contract for Stock &c. How do you make out that amt due Butterfield? I have handed him the 212 Shares of Ill & Miss Tel Stock which you left with me for him & I shewed him the statement I had from you which gives him 57 Shares of Ohio Ind. & Ill Stock &c. I do not know how the int. has been made up; Gardner made it up to the 27th June at which time Speed took his interest I have not undertook to make it out & do not know how you understand it should be made up; I said to Butterfield that the $1860. was more than would be due him with the 212 Shares Ill & Miss Stock & the 57 Shares Ohio, I. & Ill Stock (&c) I supposed he said if it should prove so he would refund to Faxton Childs & myself on your order. I think you had best make out a full statement of the whole business as it now stands & if the $1860 is more than is due Butterfield he will no doubt pay over to us on your order & being satisfied how the account stands. I hope you will make out the statement & send it to me

Mr. Faxton has rec'd a letter from Judge Caton within a few days in which Caton says to him that he had recently opened a new office in Chicago & put in a

Geo Carter, 26, 55

new man & that he finds by experience that in sending his messages from that office to New York by the Hawe Line he gets his answers uniformly in less than half the time than when sent by Erie & Mich & our Line and in consequence he was giving all his Western & St. Louis business to the Hawe line Mr. Faxton wanted me to mention to you what Eaton had written him. Now I do not know how much you delay his business on your line, nor how much it is delayed in Buffalo before it is handed in to our office nor whether it is purposely delayed in Buffalo by any one in order to give the Hawe Co the ascendancy nor whether any one is bribed to delay business for the purpose of helping the Hawe Co but this much I do know that the messages are not delayed after they get into our hands & that we can get answers & return them as soon as the Hawe Co or any other line for our line is in good order & our men are all efficient and prompt. For some reason Eaton seems to make a great many excuses for giving his business to the Hawe Co - he seems to want excuses for so doing. I hope he will not in his efforts to ~~Credit~~ favor them discredit us unjustly. I did not learn from Mr. Faxton that his correspondence with Eaton had any thing to do with selling his stock to him. I will send you one of our Annual Reports as soon as it is out which will be in a few days

The Hame Co have made a Contract with the N.Y. Central R.R. Co to put their line on their Road between Rochester and Syracuse about 80 miles I do not know as our Co will ratify the Contract with the Central R.R. Co which I showed you in NY they have given us the option to ratify or abandon; the Hame Co are making them offers & I suppose will agree to do anything if they can get money enough of them to rent their holes on the R.R. from Buffalo to Albany; our Board are disposed to abandon unless they will modify it; what do you think of our abandoning it

W.C. Johnson is a lawyer in this City & man of Capital & a Speculator I do not know Mr. Cochran of whom you write I will try and learn from Johnson what he intended in writing you about your pipe laying machine I will do it cautiously

I hope you will be able soon to secure the South Mich Tel line & to put the Erie & Mich Line in such order that Judge Caton cannot have the excuses he now pretends to have for giving all his business to the Hame Co.—

We have heavy payments to make in Feb & I hope you will not forget the case our Mr. Chapman sent to you $780.84 — You will recollect I said to

1/11

you when We were in New York that I thought I would purchase some of the Stock of the Ohio Indiana & Illinois Tel Co & give in exchange some Bank Stock I have Now If I could find & find that the Stock of that Co would prove a good investment I would not object to exchange I hold some 3 or 4000 dollars of the Stock of the Bank of Central New York in this City an old established Bank of 15 years standing & if it would be an object to purchase that Stock at about $14. per Share I would do so & pay in the above Bank Stock but I should depend on you in regard to the value of the Tel Stock & its ultimately proving a good investment I would do this; but the Bank Stock at your disposal to be used to purchase the Tel Stock on joint ops with you the Stock to be transferred to me to be held till you should buy me for the one half the cost. What do you think of it Could you purchase up the large parcels at about $14. per Share & pay in that Bank Stock. I would not sell the Bank Stock for less than par $100 per Share

Hoping to hear from you soon

Yours Respectfully

Geo Cuttle

You mentioned when I saw you last that should our Co sell the Line from Attica to Buffalo with the right to that it would not give the right to send messages over that route beyond that place, say to NY our Board think differently Please give me your reasons for your opinion

Albion Jan 26. 1855

My Dear Mary Ann

I have listined with patient anxiety to the ticking of the telegraph all day hoping that I should hear that you had visited the sole of your foot upon the hearth stone of home sweet home, but not a tick have we had from you. My anxiety has not been lessened by learning to day that Phebe was dreaming that you got stuck in a snow bank and came back to Albion about the same time that fancies you did the same for in my letter. I hope this coincidence will not conform it self into a reality.

We have a fine slighing snow, as it continued to fall all night, and boys from though "Old Borans" bristled up same before morning, and puffed a small degree of indignation at what was passing, but the winning charms of the virgin snow soon wooed him to quiet slumber.

The Cars from west due here at 1. P. M. not yet arrived at 11. P. M. had a collision of some kind between Mich City & New Buffalo No one seriously injured as we hear yet. I now bid you good night and retire.

Affectionately

Yours E Correll

Mary Ann

Albion Jan 27. 1855
11. P.M.

My Dear Ann.

About 2 P.M I rec'd a dispatch from A.B.C informing me that you had reached home the morning previous all safe, thus relieving me from all anxiety concerning mishaps of the journey.

M.B. has got home, he came last night and is now playing Yankee Doodle on double quick time, He Phibe & Athena have been taking a cutter ride up to John Stevens this P.M and just got back A, is quite smart, and the children is improving, though Phibe is quite sick yet,

E.B. Came about 6 P.M, and says I wish Betsy Ann was here, so what did you take her home for,

Phibe says. She should think you both might have stayed a month longer as well as not,

The Smash up on R.R between Mich City & New Buffalo, Shorter

three Engines effectually, one train had 2 Engines before it & the other had one. the thaw filled in a high, damage about $25,000. One man injured, he had several ribs broken,

The Passengers were detained about 24 hours, but fortunately there was but few of them, if the cars had been loaded, they would have found worse than you did in the swamps of Canada, as it is a spot where a famine could be easily bred,

The rubbish is now cleared away & trains running regular again,

If any anxiety should develope itself respecting Daniel, you can allay it, by assuring the anxious that he is at work all OK between Detroit and Monroe,

I do wish you was here tonight for the seat of my Pants has worn through and must be mended or a new pair purchased, but I hate to abandon them, I do love old friends, If I had time I should mend them myself,

I have just found that I can write faster when Matt is playing and he is now playing a tune fast enough to write by, and if you can't read

road it. You must lay it to the fiddle and not to me, then the time is out; and I will lay aside my pen to night and finish tomorrow.

Good night—

Good Morning. We have just finished our breakfast, and a conversation on the Spirits. The Spirits were invoked, by the circumstance of M.B.W. supposing he heard some one in the house last night, and he got up, lit a taper and exp[lo]red the lower rooms, followed out into the hall and then thought he heard it up stairs, but gave up the pursuit. This morning he put us under examination to learn if any of his household were up. He finds no source for the noise through this medium, & hence we infer it must be through a Spirit Medium, that his organs were excited. Then the question arose, do the Spirits make a noise, when they visit "the scenes of my childhood"? The result I wont undertake to state, but I should not be surprised if we were all believers.

Snow. Snow. Sleighing. Sleighing.

The lovely, snow storm, I mentioned a few days ago, was all that my fancy pictured, a gift from heaven! and each day since we have had "more of the same sort"

This morning, the snow is falling quite fast in fine substantial form, and the sleighing must be fine, though there is no prospect of my testing it. I will now lay aside my writing and commence my days work and finish my letter to you this evening -

Midnight Sunday Evening,

My Dear, I have just closed my books have been writing all day, and am catching up finely, with my writing. Mart sits by the stove scratching away, all the rest have been to bed these 3 hours.

Over. Snow has continued to fall, by spells all day, now fine & compact, and then again in large flakes & beautiful stars, and from that a change to diamonds, and till 9 o'clock, they "shine like diamonds in the sky"

Neither body, or mind, has had chance to collect any news, to-day, so it is difficult to get out a single item. So I shall close and go to bed.

Yours. very Affectionately

E. Cornell

Mary. Ann

Ithaca

(Confidential)

Ithaca 27th June 1855

My dear Sir

I had the pleasure to receive
yours of 21st inst night before last. And
I assure you that it afforded me real
pleasure. I have stated publicly several
times since I have been in Ithaca that
you knew infinitely more about the
Telegraph than professor Morse ever knew,
and that if your health held out, that
you would come out a man of more
means than any Halsey, Grant or Sage
ever had or ever will have, for which
I have been frequently laughed at and ridiculed.

Still I persisted that I was right, and
that time would prove it, and not long
hence. The Halseys, Grant, Sage and
Speed & Mack are all faithless. I know
them well. I commenced life honest,
intending to do all that I ought, and
in many cases I have done much
more. I worked like a slave for Stephen

R. Mann for 5 or 6 years, and after the War of 1812 when all his Customers were failing and running away, He became partially insane and was incapable of business.

He and his family appealed to me thus. "Mr Beebe, you sold the goods, you kept the book, you know all the Customers, and where to find them: You may save something for the family, but no one else can. I was aware of that, and as I loved his daughter, I gave up all my prospects in life, and travelled several years and laboured incessantly for more than 15 years to save his Estate. And I did save it, I have made a statement of what I secured and collected and remitted him, and it amounts, with the annual interest to this time, to $740.000 which is nearly all he is worth; and I fully believe that but for me, he would have been in his grave or a lunatic asylum 25 years ago. And All I get for it is misery and wretchedness for the balance of my life. His family would sacrifice honesty virtue, and even religion to gratify their cursed selfishness

It is so dark I cannot see to write any more to night but will write again shortly.

I have not a postage stamp or three cents in the world or I would pay the postage of this. I have frequently been without a sixpence for months together for the last 2 years, or any means of getting one, but I have health and spirit.

In haste and in darkness, Yours truly

L. S. Beebe

Pov Jan 28th 1855

Dear Uncle

I recieve your beautiful present some two weeks since also your kind wishes and were grateful for both but did not deserve either after answering your kind letter that you sent me after you was here before in the manner that I did and I gess that you think I have come pretty neigh treating this one in the same manner for I have put off writeing untill a more convenient season that I am nearly ashame to now but uncle that is a fault I wish I could promise you I should never be guilty of again and have any faith that it would be kept We are all well except father who

has the western fever which I think has rather increase than decrease since you were here and like all other contagious disease has circulated more or less through the family and I should not wonder if another year found us there Brother Elijah is with us at present he regrets very much that he was not at home when you were here he likes his trade so far very much and says that he has given up the idea of going to sea and is quite contented to build vessels for others to use

Feb 4th 1855

When I commenced this letter last Sabbath I intended to have finished it that evening but I surpose I ~~xxxxxx~~ overrated my strength as I had been to meeting in the afternoon an evening making it rather late when I began to write so when I had written a a page or so I began excusing myself with the plea that sleep would be rather agreeable that I would finish it during the week the week has now past and it is Sabbath evening again and my letter unfinish I have been to meeting this evening also but hope that I may be able to

finish this to night. The weather is fine as genl
~~[illegible]~~ usual this winter but to day has been the
coldest day of the season. We are all well and hope
you are enjoying the same blessing. I suppose you
are all over the beautiful west Garden of Paradise
as we hear it sometimes called I cannot believe
your gardens can be much more beautiful than
the gardens on the stubborn soil of ~~[illegible]~~ New England
it is a new country and of course the soil is richer
and vegitation is thrifter than here but there are
privations enough to overbalance its superiority
but after all I should like to go west and hope
father will emigrate before long Father sends his
love and hopes when ever you come this way you will
make us a visit even if it is a flying one we shall be thankful
for it It is getting late and I must close hoping
to hear from you soon although not deserving
to I remain

Your affectionate
niece
R. Shaw

Albion Jan'y 29, 1855 11 P.M

My Dear Mary Ann

I expected to have left here to day for Ind- but I am sorry snow bound, and have stuck sum to my writing all day, and by this time tomorrow night shall have verry nearly caught up with my work.

Our snow storm has continued until this P.M in a quiet way, and yet continues but not so quietly. "Old Borreas" has got out of all patience, and he is now puffing away in a great rage, and Dame Snow is getting her "back up", and between them, I guess the poor mortals who "are out" will have a fine time of it, The trains that left Chicago last night have not yet reached Mich City, now about 30 hours, and not heard from, they are among the sand borrows & snow drifts, off the head of Lake Mich, nothing to eat and in a desert that affords nothing at this season, and only bleak in the Summer months,

I should not be surprised to learn that the whole train had got snowed under, the fires out, and helpless. Passengers must

suffer, with hunger, if not cold,

I am too old a stager to be caught out in such a time, I shall therefore not risk it tomorrow yet, but poke away at my books, and not start for Ind. till I can get there,

You have been fortunate in getting home as you did, If we had Aunt Betsy Ann here now, we should not know what to do with her, So we consider that we have made a fortunate escape as well, as she,

The wind is blowing a gale now from the west with 2½ feet of light snow for it to act upon,

The telegraph keeps its place, during the storm, and works beautifully, fortunate for us,

I rec'd a letter from Frank to day he says I must tell Mother to take Mary home with her, I guess all hands will be glad to see Mary, and she will be equally glad to see all, and will have a fine time visiting -

I borrowed a pair of britches today to wear while I got mine mended, so I am in rig again - I have not looked at the job but suppose it is OK

Hiram was down here today, he looks pretty well, and says the Children are improving finely, Mary was not very well yesterday, but is better today, and H. says he thinks if she is careful she will get along without a turn of the fever -

I will now go to bed and leave my letter open to enter a dream in the morning if I have a funny one, Good night

Tuesday morning 30th after breakfast, My Dear I am unconcious of having dreamed any thing, I turned into a cold bed in a cold room, and slept, sweet & soundly, as only a clear conscience will allow a man to sleep,

The storm continues, and mortals begin to realize that they "can have too much of a good thing"!

E. V. B. C who left here about 1. P. M yesterday did not reach Mich City till 7. A.M this morning,

No trains have arrived here yet from Chicago or Lafayette, since Saturday, Passengers, must suffer very much, You may bless your stars that you did not get caught in Canada, as they are off the head

Lake Mich, on the deserts Indiaola's
You would have suffered tremendously with your responsible charge;
Little Emma, would have been out of humour with Railroading, and Mary, would have wished herself back to Aunt Molly's supping "sour wate", and Aunt Betsy Ann, would have declared that the, west, the great West, the Glorious West, was, an little humbug.
I most sincerely rejoice that you had the good fortune to get thro's in safety & season, and that you now can enjoy the Comforts of home, "sweet home", while so many others are less favoured, Let us return thanks, for the bounties of a kind providence, thus opertunly bestowed,
I shall not turn out today, but hope, the storm will soon cease and the Iron Horse, pursue his track through the supurabundant, accumulation of snow, so I can, [illegible] my wonderings
Yours, Affectionately
E. Cornell

Mary & Aunt
Ithaca

Pittsburg January 29th 1855

E. Cornell Esq

Mr Reed & Duncan. I have
one to meet you in Cin- Wednesday
or Thursday of this week. If they can be
satisfied, I think, that the Hook folks
cannot floor you- they will make a
Connection. Don't be too fierce - Satisfy
them that you one sound on the magnanimous
Then- leave rest principally to me-
I can get more than answers out of them
& can effect connection. & I think
Can get the Bell & Hook business
from the Dodge & Kendall lines. I
want to see you much immediately
Come up river with them on Boat
or any way, Reed & Duncan may go
with Wold to Chicago- you come
here sure I must see you immediately

Yrs W. P. Rw

I dont want you to promise them too
much at Londonby & Chicago & Cin
Unless we can do very well. we stay
by ourselves in Pittsburg- I can get good
Connection for Cincinnati & find use your
line to Ch- & Can get lots at Louisville

Albion Jan^{y} 30. 1855

My Dear Frank

Your kind favour of the 20th inst was rec^{d} last evening, and I was very glad to here from you.

Your writing looks well, and the form of you letter is good, all but the margins, You do not leave quite margin enough. You will with little practice make as good a penman as Alonzo is, and good penmanship is a valuable branch of an education.

I am sorry to notice a want of care in your spelling, You spell some words wrong, that you know perfectly well how to spell, "Smeetin" is not right I think it is, Cemetery. (look and see if I am right.) "pair" is not right for fruit, it is pear., You write, "there were no shade a mean it." that is a very bad sentence, it would be better to say, There was no shade mean it, Examin and see which sentence you could pramise the best,

You use plural & Singular nouns & verbs, out of place, hitching them

togather in making up a sentence after the fashion of hitching an ox and an ass togather to make a team, it would make a team, but it would also be likely to make a wicked one, as he would be likely to swear at their oddities - So with your words they make sentences but, not pleasant ones - It would be a good idea, after writing a letter to take it for a parsing lesson, and if you could make it go through the verbs, nouns, and pronouns, then you might consign it to the care of Uncle Sams Post Masters.

I like your Grandfathers view of having you go to school and if there is a better school than at Ithaca, I will pay her your tuition. to it, A manual labour school would remedy the difficulty you complain of in Summer attendance at School, I like the Idea of mixing labour and study togather.

It tends to preserve the health of the pupil, at the same time that it invigorates the mind and prepares it for obtaining knowledge with greater ease, and clearness.

I hope if you decide to go to school that you will make up your mind to spend your time profitably, remember that knowledge is power.

The best capital a young man can have to commence business with is a good Education, gold is as dross compared with it, "'Tis Education forms the common mind. As the twig is bent, the tree's inclined."

The great distinguishing feature between man and brute, is that produced by Education. Take an uneducated, ignorant, stupid man though in the form of humanity, he is only a brute.

The young have no standard by which to estimate the value of an Education, hence their

indefference to the subject are
their willing to waste the precious
hours, in idleness and folly, that
is allotted to them, to secure the
greatest good they can possess,
an Education.

Your mention having written
me a letter that I have not answered
I am not aware of any such
having been rec'd I always make
it a rule to answer letters, and
any body who wants a letter from
me, may secure it by writing
to me. Your mother got out
a short time before she left for
home, and I supposed she answered it, as she told me she
would,

We have had a 4 days snow
storm and R.R.s all blocked up
Cars that left Chicago sunday
night for Detroit have not yet
reached here.

Write often, I am always glad
to hear from you,

Give my respects to Grand Father
& Mother all all others,

Yours Affectionately
E Conklin

Frank

P.S. Flowers is sweet

Detroit Jan 4. 2[illegible]

E C.

My Dear Sir.

Respecting that horse of mine that has been in use on O. S. & I Line for last year & nine months - should I not have some compensation for use of him -

At the time he was bought the Co had only one horse & that one was the old mare that you sold at Mich City - the other horse the old Co had when we took line having died at Crawfordsville Palmer says he is now at Dayton he having left him there with wagon & harness when he finished repairing line from Peiyna to Cincinnati - If you will give me what he cost either in Catons Stock at 250 per share your note or the money I will say nothing about use of him

I was twice offered twenty five Dollars more than I the cost but Palmer was using him & could not sell without greatly injuring the line -

Hef has earned you on the O I & I line more than he cost - If you do not want him for O I & I line will you buy him for E & M line - Do they not need one -

He cost $125. & now that the line has had nearly two years use of him it would seem no more than right I should have first cost for him - Please make me an offer for him I must have Kiersted sell him if you have no use for him. The O I & I line have no horse of their own & are now using Livery horses at great expense - When I was last at Indianapolis January 1st Galtridge was using Livery horses 150 per day between Indianapolis

& Lafayette — I asked him why he did not go to Dayton & get horses he said the line wanted immediate repairing & no time to go to D & drive horses & wagon over — They should use that horse while he is there — You must have a horse on Indiana line & you would much oblige me by taking that horse at what he cost me or buy him for E & M Line — Please let me know what you can do for me — Can you give me something to do till opening navigation. Have got tired laying idle — I depended on your promise of Chicago office but did not get it — Please write me — should be glad to hear from you —

Yours Truly
C A Speed

To
E Connell
Albion.