Detroit 8th Sept 1854

Dear Sir

I did not have an opportunity of talking to Mr Howard until today. He says. If it can be shown that Wade has destroyed the value of the partnership property (to wit; the Stock of the Cin & St Louis line) by fraudulently diverting the funds or property to his own use, he can be made liable ~~to the~~ individually to the other partners; but unless it can be shown that he has acted fraudulently he thinks he cannot be liable for anything but the proportion due the other partners in Stock, altho the Stock may have been rendered worthless by bad management.

Mr Howard says the Bonds issued are illegal if the articles of association are like those of the D & M Rl Co.

If the bonds are illegal may not Wade collect the amt by his attorney for the Company of Lee & Cornell & Shurtz.

Yours very respectfully

J J Speed

Mr E Cornell
Pres't D & M Rl Co

S. A Strong Defiance
Sept 18. 1854

Defiance Sept 18th /54

E Cornell. Dear Sir,

I herewith show you Reports of recpts & expenses of this Offs for the last two months.— July & August. Mr Gibson - the man now in charge of the Office, is unwell & I have made up his Rept. for Augn.

You will see by report for July, that only $7.12 was expended for repairs, and all but $2.62 was incurred by myself while out on line. The expenses for August have been somewhat larger than for any previous month during the season.

Mr Gibson was not able during the hot weather to work at repairs, and it was difficult, perhaps impossible to hire any competent hand. he has probably done the best he could. I think he will be able to conduct the business of the Offs properly.

Business will be constantly interrupted by "breaks" until it is thoroughly repaired all the way from Ft Wayne to Toledo.

It is in a tottering condition, and must be re-set or it cant be worked one half the time. I was out with one hand 2 days last week and had a man out all the week except one day. My man mended a break yesterday (Sunday) 20 miles West from this: & I mended another this morning, a short distance below here. and yet have no circuit either way. Toledo has not worked to Ft Wayne but once during the past ten days. To be constantly expending money for temporary repairs, such as sticking the wire up on crotches stuck in the ground, and hanging it on the limbs of trees - places where it ought not to stay but a short time if it could, and then fail to keep the line in a working condition, seems to be poor economy, or rather, no economy at all. I believe that enough money has been spent in sham repairs between Ft Wayne & Toledo, within the last 12 months + which if rightly laid out would have re-set every pole in that distance and insulated them when necessary. Had that been done, we should now have a sound working line with a great increase of profits, and without a great increase of expenses as at present.

But here we are. Line down, cant do any Office business, and constantly expending money for repairs that will never do any good! What shall be done? unless there are some remote considerations that have a bearing on present action, it does not seem difficult to determine what should be done, if possible viz" set the line over. I believe it to be a mistake to put up such high poles as are generally used. It costs more to erect them, costs more to repair them



and they are much more liable to fall — and a line 10 or 12 feet high except through towns, or across highways ~~+~~ rivers & canals, is just as secure from molestation as one 20 feet high. Insulators made something in shape like this it seems to me would be better on some accounts than those now in use. let them be one inch in length and about two in diameter at the ends. and perhaps one inch diameter at the small part. with a hole throug length wise, sufficiently large to admit of a stout spike. No brackets, or framing of poles would be necessary for an insulator of this kind. they could be easily ~~secure~~ fastened to a pole or tree. and the line secured to them by a little piece of copper or other wire. they would be particularly convenient in repairing lines.

$2.27 bal^n for June should have been credited to you in July rep^t.

I hope to receive instructions, where to go or what to do soon and remain Respectfly Yours S. A. Strong

E Cornell

E. Cornell Esq

The State & County Tax of 1853 for the Telegraph Co should be paid. which if you will pay will be acknowledged in your settlement with the Company as a valid claim against the company

Indianapolis
Sept. 18. 1854.

Lucian Barbour
Prest of the
O. Ind. & Ills Tel. Co.

134 95
83 00
217 95

Winchester Ills Sept 18th 1854

Dear Sir,

Your answer to mine of the 29 Aug is before me, and I am sorry that I made that blunder, in not giving you my sons name, but his name is Jacob B. Smith as you will find by reference to your foremans returns — and he commenced working on the 13th of February and worked 78 days at $1.00 per day which is $78,00 —— 78,00
and than 41 days at 1,25 per day 51.25
making in all —— $ 129.25
Received pay from Rockwood —— 10.00
Rec do " Palmer —— 4.00
deduct —— $14 00
leaves —— 115,25
Rec pay from C. Speed —— 5 00
Balance due —— 110,25
to pare paid 3 00
to cash loned to Rockwood to pay Board 75
Total amount due $ 114,90

there is some board to be deducted out of the above

He worked with the above

persons principaly, and this account
is correct [redacted] I think —
he worked first with Rockwood
and next " D. Cornell
and then Palmer
then McGehen
lastly C. Spect
which his memorandum will
show

Yours Respectfuly

George A. Smith

Wm E Cornell Esq

Indianapolis
Indiana

Geo A Smith
Winchester bill $14.90
Sept 18.54

Albion Sept 19th 1854.

My Dear Mary Ann

I arrived here Saturday 1 P.M. and went over to Mary's and stayed all night, and came over to Al the next morning and wrote diligently all day,

I found your blue note of the 7th on but as I had rec'd a much better letter from you of 3 days later date, I did not suffer so much from the gloom that pervaded this, as I otherwise should have done,

I have got quite smart again and hope to keep in locomotive trim,

M. B. Wood will start for Ithaca in a couple of days to look up his family & get them home, he will be returning about the 1st of Oct and I told him that he had better bring you and Em with him, and he said he would

If your temperance meeting is over with I dont see why you cant come as well as not,

I have a note from Mally that I will enclose you as it is the last news I have had

from her or Mary,
Sister Mary is well but her youngest girl Ellen I believe & Ezra had a few shakes of the ague, Edward is there well,
Hiram is at Mich City at work for me,
I will send you some money as you requested if I can find any eastern funds that you can pass,
Yours Affectionately
E. Cornell

Mary, Ann

P.S. Those rcpts for the notes must be in one of those telegraph pass books, written in the book, probably the one at Court at Owego, get it
E.C.

Albian Sept 18. 1854

Dear Alonzo

Yours of 7th & 13th are at hand I understand the nature of the Revolution at Utica, and know of some of the means that produced it, They are marching up to the mark quite fast enough all right,

The remittances from E & M Offices in July to Treasurer were $1243.19 — and in Aug $2438,22 The boys begin to think the new administration means something all but Haviland gets along first rate, but the Devil is in him and I see no prospect of his being Expelled, thus far he is of no use but to spend money.

Won't stay any where, and won't do any thing, any where else, but gad about and spend money

It is quite possible that he may retire soon —

I have not Exd his old a/c yet, I expect to find that he owes the Co 5, or 1000 but he claims 300 deel him —

Yours in Haste
E Cornell

W. Pierce
Sept, 18, 1854

Newcastle Sept 18/54

Dear Sir. yours of the 14th acknowledging the receipt of both of mine, at Indianapolis, just at hand. I was completely exhausted with anxiety, before its receipt, & its contents, though a welcome letter, completely unmanned me, particularly that part concerning the note at Ithaca, & could bear the loss of my house & property there. with composure & pleasure, rather than have my poor uncle called on to pay that note, He has not yet recovered from his traitor sons acts he had to pay for him $2000. & costs of law $500, & largely in debt for a farm he bought recently. On his sons note my case he endorsed without his wife's knowledge & contrary to her wish or rather Commands, for she is a termagant & he has a hard life to live, & has more trouble with her already than 10 ordinary men can stand I really fear the result — He writes me

that it will ruin him, if he has it to pay
I would have made any sacrifice rather
than he should pay it — The little stuff
I had I cannot dispose of, & consequently
have no where to get the money —
My only way, now is to go up & take down
that wire & sell it to get the money &
how to do that, puzzels me, for I have
not a dollar to move with, but if 'twas not
for few payments I have to make, I could
beg my way along for that — My lines
are both down above Newcastle & have been
for 3 days. I went up half way to Warren
Ohio first day — & to-day sent up to Warren
My repairer, went & uses his own money
although I owe him about $25, for services
now. From Warren, he crosses over & goes to
Waterford to take up that wire — I start in
Mng to Cleveland & Erie to meet him —
I have been detained here waiting the
operations at Pittsburg, but I must stop
lines entirely or get some money somewhere
I will leave word at Pitts to telegraph you
when to meet them & where — you keep
Cleveland posted on your whereabouts

& then you go to Pitts & see to the
arrangements — It may be necessary
to go to Phila — & see the Board & President
as they seem well satisfied to do as they
are doing — & look upon it, I judge as
entirely favoring us — consequently will
not put themselves out of the way, in the
matter. My Pitts creditors are easy & kind
Excepting one — who sued me the day note
came due. That was for clothes I got for my
operator there, My gass bill, must be
paid there tomorrow — The money
has not been remitted me yet
by Haviland & the National has
today refused to take any more
& not having any money there,
we have had to refuse busns —
for points beyond Pitt — I expect H —
has forgotten it — Reid said we should
have answers enough to pay our way
at least, but we dont get them I
spose it is because he yet has no
control of matters yet — but is working
for it — What to do I dont know — I declare
I am completely discouraged. I cannot

Now, as present operating, get enough to pay my washing. My Wifes & my shirts & under dresses are all in tatters & my feet stick out of my boots - but in that respect so far as myself is concerned I can do without any - Now to save my uncle - I know of but one way, & that is to telegraph & have Bank pay it - $325, The 21st 3 days from today its due & they will not wait another day - The money goes to the heirs of Jacob Teter of Lansing - Is there no balm in Gilead no Physician there - I cannot do anything - I will be faithful to you & make it up to you if will manage to pay it - more is needed but that is the most pressing now - To come to Newcastle - cars to Enon valley stage to Newcastle now - when water, can come to New Brighton & take packet in the Evening for NC - stage leaves Enon valley to accommodate trains I should be so glad to see you here {mail waiting} yrs truly W. P. Rw

E Cornell Esq

Wm P Penn
Sept 18, 54

Newcastle Sept 18/54

Dear Sir. Yours of the 14th ack knowledging the receipt of both of mine. at Indianapolis, just at hand. I was completely exhausted with anxiety, before its receipt & its contents, though a welcome letter, completely unmanned me, particularly that part concerning the note at Ithaca, I could bear the loss of my property in Ithaca with comparative pleasure, rather than have my poor uncle called on to pay it- He has not yet recovered from his Brooklyn Bank acts, He had $2000, to pay for him & costs of law $500, & largely in debt for a farm he recently purchased,- In his son's & my case, he endorsed without the knowledge & consent of his wife & contrary to her Commands, for she is a perfect termagant & he has a hard life to live & had more trouble than 10 ordinary men could stand, with her already- I really fear

the result — He writes me, that it will ruin him if he has to pay this — I would have made any sacrifice rather than have it occur, The little stuff I had I cannot dispose of & consequently have no-where to get the money — my only way now is to go & take up that wire & sell it — How to do that is a puzzler, for I have not one dollar but if twas not for few payments I have to make — I could beg my way up there & at the business — Lines both down twixn NC & V & R — & have been for 3 days — I went up half way to Warren Ohio first day & today my separier took his own money & started for Warren although I owe him 25 dollars now for services — I expect McWood has sent $25, to Erie He crosses over from Warren to take up the wire — I expect to find the $25, at Erie — I start in morg for Cleveland & Erie, I have stayed around here to attend to the Pitts matter — but I must stop line now or get money somewhere — I will leave word at Pitt — to telegraph you whm to meet them at Pitt & I leave that matter with you to attend to you May have to go to Phila — They seem well enough satisfied with what they are doing & seem to think what they do, they do to oblige us, Keep Cleveland posted on your whereabouts — My Pitts creditors are kind & easy except one who sued me the day into Canceduc $35, for clothes for my Pitts ofr My gass bill must be paid tomorrow The money has not been remitted me from Haviland & the National has refused business & to-day we could not take any for points beyond P — no money — to pay — I expect H has forgotten it — Reed said we should have answers nuf to pay up, but we dont yet get them. I spose he has not yet got control

I declare I am completely discouraged
I cannot now as at present operating
get nuf to pay my washing, my wifs
& my shirts & her under dresses are
all in tatters, as to myself I can do
without any - my feet stick out of
my boots - Now to save my uncle
I know of but one way & that to
telegraph & mail to have Bank pay
it - $325, The 21st inst. 3 days from
today. The money goes to heirs of
Jacob Liter of Lansing & they will
not wait another day - I will
be faithful & true to you if you
will manage to pay it - Is there
no balm in Gilead, no Physician there
To come to NC. Cars to Enon Valley
Stage 14 miles to NC - when water
in Canal - Cars to New Brighton
Packet in Evening to NC - Stage
accommodats cars - I should
be so glad to see you here -
mail waiting - Excuse this hasty
copy

Yours
W. P. Rice

E Cornell Esq

Mr E. Cornell
Indianapolis Ia.

Pigua Sept 18th/54

Dear Sir

Yours of the 14th Recd., I know but little of Mr Crawford personally but from some inquiries I have made concerning him I should think he was rather a hard case There has been a good deal of complaint here in regard to the office for some time ~~since~~ a good deal on account of the condition of the line between here and Dayton and perhaps a little against the opperators I have no doubt that if the opperators at this office and Troy had paid a little more attention to the line out side of their offices things

would have sent better than they have.

The line between here and Dayton from what I can learn wants the labor of a couple of hands for at least a week to put it in good repair for winter

If this was done I think the offer I made you would save 150 or 200 at this office to the line per annum

If you should visit Piqua I should like to see you for as I have operated in the office here before I could perhaps give you some information regarding it that would enable you to set things going better

Yours truly Respy
Thos L. Daniels

Muncie Sep 18th 1854

Mr Cornell

Sir I recvd by US Express on 16th Thirty dollars by request paid Mr Mathers ten for scoring & hewing poles He says he scord & hewed twelve poles for which he charged fourteen dollars on the first contract they were the dry poles then he hewed & furnished one hand to help score six poles for which he charged six dollars he says Mr Higgins worked at scoring two days and half day choping down. He allso worked one day on the line repairs with me Will send Aug rept this week have not got it copied yet

Thos J Hosford
O. Pmy

PS Been trying to communicate with B cant get him to day dont whats the mater

E. Cornell - Esq - Indianapolis -

Utica N.Y. 19 Sept. 1854

Sir -

Your favor of Aug. 9. addressed to my care for McCochrane I duly forwarded to his address in London and yesterday received a few lines from him in which he desires me to repeat you "to name a price" for your plough - You will readily perceive that in so experimental a matter it would be embarrassing, if not impossible for him to put an estimate upon the value of your instrument. It would facilitate his conclusions and be more suitable, for you to name the sum at which you are willing to sell -

You are of course better able to judge of its

actual worth to you, than he could be of its possible availability to him –

You can address your reply to me or, if you prefer, to him, care of Messrs Lambert & Whitmore No 7 John St Bedford Row London – But it will perhaps facilitate matters if you correspond with me

Yours very truly
W. C. Johnson

D. P. Jordan Pike
Sept 20. 1854

Pike Sept 20/54

Dear Friend

It is a long time since I have corresponded with you & I did not know where you could be found until a few days ago I read a letter from Van Dk by which I learn where you are located, Glad to hear you are well situated & hope you will reap an abundant harvest for your exertions in years past, I have no reason to complain of my situation as I know of but I fare rather hard yet, my office affords me a very poor support and I have Disprived of this telegraph line ever doing

me any good for it will be among the things that have been before the present Legislature I guess !!! I have gathered & received the most of the wire as it got down from Portage as far as Eagle — how it is west of there I do not know but hear it is in a bad condition with the poles most all down & a great deal of the wire destroyed, I tell you it burns me to see it go so but I can't help it — I wrote Hopkins some two months since but not a word can I hear from him, I have spent some number of days without any compensation but the satisfaction of thinking I am doing some good to some body & hope it may be so, if the line is to be abandoned why on Earth don't they send some one to gether the wire !!! I am going to work for Villeton again the first of next month but where I shall be I cannot tell now but you can learn by enquiring at DK after that time & should you be passing don't fail to call on me, I am in hope to hear from you before I leave with a full history of your operations west and the probable destiny of this line, I have thought hard of going west this fall & should I hear where you was before I engaged to Villeton for I flatter

myself you would give me
work rather than see me
starve, I Recd from your
Son the ballance due me
from the N Y & Wern Union
last spring but there is
a ballance due me of $40.27
from Jany 15 to July 1850
besides about $50 from
the Old concern !!! —
shall I make any calculation
on ever getting anything
from them, ~~no~~
now dont fail to write
on receipt of this & when
you come to Ia call on
me wherever I am —
when I commenced I did
not think of writing but a
few words but I have spun
out a loud yorn & must close
for want of paper & so I
say good night —
Respectfully Yours
D. P. Gordon
E, Cornell Esqr

17 Wall St. N Y
20 Sept /34

Dr Sir

Your favor of 13th inst: was duly recd. I ought to apprise you of your mistake as to what rights or power I gave to Mr Wells or my brother relative to your settlement with them.

As I was of course entirely ignorant of the accounts between you - I preferred that you and they should determine the sum due & when I left you saying I could stay no longer - you were in the midst of ~~several~~ a discussion or investigation of several disputed items - and as I thought were not very near any close of the settlement. But the question of time for payment had not been spoken of by you or to you, in my presence or to my knowledge. You had prior thereto promised to come to town at or about that time & settle the accounts & pay me $500 - (I believe was the sum) and I was very much surprised when I heard that you had gone - not having paid me anything or spoken a word (at that time) on the subject of ~~said~~ payment of that or any sum.

And immediately on being informed of what you and Mr Wells my brother had done, I refused to accede to the arrangement.

And although I have the utmost distaste to any difference or dispute - still I cannot consent to give the credits proposed.

It seems to me just that where you

E. Cornell Esqr
Indianapolis Ind:

have the power & means of paying your debts
it is just, that you should make the sacrifice
and not I. — for I too have had debts that I have
made sacrifices to pay — & if necessary will do so
again — Still I intend to do nothing that is
not fair friendly & temperate.

Your account of the your affairs with S & W
puts you in a light by which you may complain of
S & W. but I confess I do not see why the House
interest should voluntarily take sides with you in
your disputes with S & W.

Indeed it strikes me, looking at the matter
generally — for I am ignorant of the particulars —
that it is more prudent & more fair, for them not to
take sides — but if possible act as mediators.

As I consider our correspondence as a private one
I shall not show your letter to Eden or Russell [illegible]
But I must add that I would like to see a little
of the Telegraph interests — I know I know my dear
Sir that it must be for the pecuniary interests
of all concerned — and I feel disappointed & annoyed
when I see you hold yourself aloof — from any negoti
-ation with our side, because your former
associates have betrayed, as you say, your confidence.

I cannot see any good reason, why you & the
House folks should not make a bargain which
shall be satisfactory to both sides — merely
because S & W. have deceived you. If S & W have
illegally disposed of your rights you have your remedy
But if you have no legal remedy — or if you have
why not make a satisfactory arrangement as to what is
not disposed of — or a compromise. — You know what
rights you have or claim, why not seriously reflect & deliberate

on your exact position and classify your interests in all the lines built & to be built — and then make a fair & reasonable proposition for an arrangement with the House interest.

Of course I do not wish to be the bearer of any proposition that is not fair & feasible; one by which the prospects of all sides may be brightened — but I should like to be the means by which ~~the~~ the last obstacle in the way of general success & profit shall be overcome — and I believe, if you would acquiesce, this obstacle would be removed.

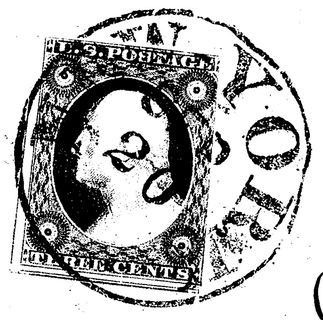
I have not talked with ~~any~~ any one on this subject since about the time of the receipt of your ~~for~~ former letter & therefore I do not speak for any one but myself — & do not mean to hint that any one thinks as I do. But I have known about these Telegraphs from its birth & I have scarcely seen any thing made out of what should produce large fortunes & profits — & I believe this result is because the persons interested have been constantly quarreling with each other, instead of amicably combining to work for the mutual interest of all. Surely you have seen as much of this deplorable course & I should think ought to be the first or among the first to endeavor to produce a different result. For you have talent industry, integrity & perseverance — qualities which rightly applied will lead to fortune — but inexpertly applied leads one to quicksands disputes & pecuniary trouble

E. Cornell Co

Dear you will throw my letter down before reading through — Perhaps you will be right; for you may think that I have no right to thrust myself in unbidden to take the part of a friend or adviser — I know I have not — Still I do feel as your friend, & I believe I am acting as such — Besides I am acting as my own friend — I believe that my own interests can be advanced by some compromise ~~of~~ or ~~xxx~~ fusion of interests & I do not believe either will profit much by the present state of things.

Yours Resp'y

Cambridge Livingston



Ezra Cornell Esqr
Indianapolis
Ind.

Sapp Sept 21 64

Dear Sir

yours favor of the 16 inst at hand you wish to know about line in our section. I can say that line is in tolerable good condition West of Ft Wayne. but it has been down nearly all the time for about four weeks it has been down so much that I have sent but one message to Toledo for 3 weeks. I wish it could be fixed up again as this is the season of the year when line is most needed. if it could be fixed immy it would pay more that twenty times the cost of repairs in three

S. J. Anthony Logan
Sept 21, 54

Thanks I think. We
have no trouble with the
line west of Wayne

Yours &c

S. J. Anthony

Milan O. Sept 21st 54

Mr Cornell
Dear Sir

Yours of Sept 18 just Recd by me. But I do not know how you make out the 733 Do you get it from July Report. I have no such amount as 733 on hand. But I have got 27.56 to collect which belongs in August Reports and that is all Please explain how you make 733 due yet & oblige I will try & collect the 27.56 & send soon as possible. Perhaps I shall want a situ= in the spring with you

Yours Truly
P. H. Wilbor

40.00
24.00
12.00
16.00
35.00
10.00
$137.00

Albion 22nd Sept 1864.

Dear Brother

When I left Detroit yesterday I was in hopes of seeing you here, as I learned you had gone West. But as I did not will leave a line for you.

I wished to see you respecting some affairs at Utica which I want to get settled. I have an opportunity of going into business in Canada which I dare not do at present as those debts is sure to come against me.

If you can time I would like you to see the parties that have claims against me and see what they are willing to do.

I am willing to pay the face of their demands to get the thing settled up. but to pay the interest & costs which some of them has made it is hard as every dollar I can get I want home for and need what funds I can to establish my self to get a living.

Bill Halsey has a Judgement agst me for some $40. & C. Conrad one of 24.00 J. Clark one of 12.00. and then there is a couple

J. A. Conrad Syracuse

of Notes one in favor of L. H. Culver of $16.00 and an other one which I have forgotten now who was given to of $35.00. and an a/c for Lumber to build these sheds with. amtiny all togather to some $130 or $140.

If you will take the trouble to see Halsey Conrad & Clark & see what they are willing to do you will much oblige.

I presume those demands could be purchased at a discount less than the face of them if some one would attend to it.

I found a letter here written by you the 8 Augst at Indianaplis to Molly. and keeping good the old addage. "that what is hers is mine & what is mine is my own" I took the privilege of a peak in side also. and am sorrow to inform you there is a chance of your being mistakened in the interesting time Coming. as if I am not mistakened there was some gap in that letter. but the Mine ought to be pasted on such affairs.

With Respects to Mary Ann

I Remain

Affectionately

Jno H Cornell

Sandusky City Sept 22d/54

E Cornell Esqr

Albion. — Dr Sir, Yours of the 20th instant is rec'd. You desire to know what are Mr Smith's claims, I will briefly mention them although I cannot undertake to present any arguments to sustain them in the brief span of an ordinary letter.

He claims the line constructed by Speed was under a contract with him, to give him one half the stock for the patent, He claims therefore 1/2 the stock to be issued to him de novo, & a dividend of 1/2 of the past profits.

The original patent has run out, & he claims Speed & his assignees have no right at all now to use it. That by virtue of his contract with his copatentees, he has the sole right to the benefit of the renewal so far as this and other Northern territory is concerned.

That Speed & his assignees have no right, will be seen by reference to the contract, and to the decision of the U S Court in 4th Howard's Reports 673. & onward. Smith's contract with Morse & provides that he shall have the benefit of all renewals &c.

Mr Smith says the claim of the Speed line has heretofore been, that he was under obligations

to suppress the O Riley line, & that he has been refused his stock under this pretence. He claims however that Speed &c purchased with full knowledge of O. R's claims, & took their rights subject to them. But however this point may now be determined he claims that under the renewed patent neither has any rights at all. Unless therefore the matter be settled in some way, to his satisfaction, he intends to take immediate steps to enjoin the use of the patent &c. He has instructed me to this effect. He is willing so far as he is concerned that an amicable arrangement for uniting the lines should be made if desired by those interested. —

I will add also that I am instructed to have communication with the owners of the O R line & the one that first complies with his terms or makes an arrangement with him shall have the benefit of the renewed patent, & the other be prohibited from using it.

This is all I deem necessary now to say. I trust you will give me an early reply, & let me know what your co. propose to do. Immediate action is not only desirable but necessary.

Yours very Truly

E. B. Sadler

E. B. Sadler Sept 22, 54

Jamestown Ind Sept 23d 1874

Mr E Cornell

Sir

Messrs Browning & Meyer of Indianapolis holds my note for $21. and some cents you would confer a favor by taking it in and sending it to me by the first mail or so soon as you can make it convenient

Yours

J. M. Walker,

Mich City Sunday Sept 24, 54

Dear Alonzo

Enclosed. I send you a letter for your Uncle M.B.W. which you will envelope & hand him. I enclose it to you, so you can see what progress. I am making in settling with E&M, Ol^d Guard. (They were as great veterans in their way as were Bonaparts "Old Guard"). H. claimed, an old bal due him to July 1, 54 of over $300. when the books will show at least $1,000. due the Co after they get in shape to tell the truth, I feel disposed to thank my old friend J.S. Bube for my propensity to scrutinize a/c^s. If you see him you may say to him that what I learned of him in this particular. I shall turn to a/c of at least $3,000 — benefit to the E&M Co in settling those old a/c^s.

I want those or that receipt. I took of Chas Ely for those notes, and am confirmed in the opinion that it is in the Tel Mem^d book that had C^t & V^t Tel a/c on & I think it is one of the books Love & R sent to Courts, to Owego. Have you got it? If not you must do so, and forward it to me at Albion Mich by Ex, or send it by M.B.W.

Yours Respectfully,

E. Cornell

A.B.C.

Terre Haute Sept 24/52

Dr Sir

Enclosed you find my report for August - The line has been down the greater part of the time and necessarily required repairing. Those men from L will be along in a few days and after that I can make things tell a different tale. I have not done anything for 5 days. This Repairing comes in the right time exactly otherwise the line could not have been kept up a month longer —

Yours Resp'ly

E Cornell Esq

A. [illegible] Haas

Indianapolis Sept 3d

Dear Sir

Yours Received - Have been out on Line & not able to Reply before Today - Men are getting along tolerably well - The Weather is so hot & ~~Dry~~ the ground so Dry that it is very hard digging - They have got out 16 Miles - Daniel has gone to Take up wire between Eaton & Dayton - Could not get a cent of Taylor - As the wire was wasting very much thought it more profitable to Take up wire first perhaps by Time that was Done Taylor could help us with funds - His Cars will run on narrow gauge - No Trouble in getting poles distributed, Did you get my letter about my going east - I must

leave here by Wednesday
without fail Telegraph
me via Cleveland if you
will be here in time or
whether I shall meet you
at Albion or where -
I enclose you message
from A K. Glad to hear
of Paxton folks determination
to fight House folks -
I assumed him to mean
you here - have only
two letters & have not
heard one from Pittsburgh
one from N.Y. Have
expected you daily & concluded
not to forward to you -
Hope you can get here
by Wednesday night or
sooner - I have to meet
person in Buffalo Saturday
& shall have to go via
Detroit - Common Council
have passed an ordinance
compelling us to paint &
new clear down to ground
all poles in City. Some of them
were not hewed low enough

& about a foot extends above ground - what will they want next - Palmer very comfortably situated Believe his wife well contented Daniel boarding with them My best Respects to Mr & Mrs Wood

Yours Truly
O H Speede

Conneaut Sept 28 1854

Dear Sir

The agreement between the Co & the Operator is, that the Company pay Expenses and give Operator 2/3ds receipts of the office.

I have sent reports or statements for every month to Haviland. My reports for Augt may be incorrect as I made them out in a great hurry.

I see there was a balance due this office in June of $7.69. which I should have brought in. The following statement I think is correct as I understand it.

1854

July 31	To Receipts month	26.83	
"	By Money Bill		2 00
"	Rent & Offs Expenses		4 00
"	Salary		17.42
"	Due on last Rep		7.69
"			31.11
"	Bal.		26.83
	due this Off		4.28
Augt 31	To Receipts for month	24.36	
	By Amt due last month	27.43	4.28
	" Money Bill		2 25
	Rent & Offs Expenses		4 00
	Salary		16.90
	Bal due Office	3.07	27.43

The recepts for each of the foregoing months, are more than the average monthly recepts of this office. More than half the messages recd and sent from this office are paid elsewhere & principly at the larger offices, so the company receive considerable more on Commant business than they pay out.

There is some prospect of a Rail Road terminating here which will greatly increase the business of the office. Should that event transpire I shall be willing to make other arrangements But am not now willing to receive less than two thirds of the whole receipts for my services.

There is about fifty dollars due to subscribers which will be "telegraphed out" by them and we will receive no money for it. The balances heretofore due this office have had to stand till increase of business made them up which has much embarassed me at such times. I will endeavor to make out my reports promptly & satisfactorily in future

Respct Yours

F Farnsworth

E Cornell Pres't
Albion

Defiance Sept 25th /54

E Darrell.

Dear Sir - With the help of another hand. I have been able during the past week to keep the Line whole and off the ground on my Brd. but have had no communication within that time with any Office except Toledo. I dont know where the difficulty has been. but know that it is in the vicinity of Ft Wayne. I was at Antwerp the western extremity of my Section. last Friday (22nd) and 18 miles East of here last yesterday. A good many Poles are down both ways. those that are standing. that have not been re-set since the Line was first put up are very rotten and fall easily. In passing along west the other day. I found that I could push down with my hands. the greater number of them. They are Swamp Ash. a kind of wood that decays fast in the ground. Every time a beat backs to one now. it is pretty sure to pull it down. and the falling of one frequently draws down 2 or 3 more with it. where they stand near the Canal. and a pole falls towards it. the wire is carried into or near the water. the Boatmen are regardless of it. and many rods of wire is sometimes drawn into the Canal by being caught by the bow of some boat. I think it will be necessary to make some more thorough repairs than merely to mend breaks and renew ground connections before much business can be done on this end of the Line. If such repairs are made, I think it would be better to break down all such poles that seem liable to fall. unless they are set over. For the greater part of the way. one half of the present No. of poles. if they stood firm would answer for sustaining the wire till the Line could be built somewhere else.

The Wabash Valley R Road is nearly all graded between Toledo & Ft Wayne. and I dont know but that its present condition is as favorable for putting up a Telegraph Line along it, is as it would

be if the Road was in operation, but am not sure as to that.

It seems to me to be a useless waste of expense, in building lines to put up poles as first high. They cost more at first, is more work to paint them, are more liable to fall down, it is more work to repair them, and except through towns or over highways are no better more neat in my opinion, than as if only 12 feet high.

Expense incurred by me in repairing as we are now doing, seem to be of but little benefit, except where we re-set poles, but which we are only trying to mend when the wire gets down. we are obliged to spend much time and some money in traveling back & forth. and cant always get up fallen poles. Enclosed is a note from the Auditor of Pawlding Co" in relation to taxes. I have replied to the Auditor. that I did not know how to estimate the stock.— that it was given in too high last year &, and that I would communicate with you in relation to it. There is something like 20 miles of line in that Co". This County will be calling for taxes too soon I suppose. Please give immediate instructions as to the manner of estimating the stock. I sent Reports of Rects & Expenses of this Off for July & August last week. am somewhat at loss what cause it take in making repairs. because I do not feel at liberty to go to the expense that will be necessary to effect any permanent good.

Am short of funds, have a little that I can get if necessary.

How about another situation &c?

Yours Respectfully

S A Storey

E Cornell Esq

S. A. Storey Sept 25, 54

Mich City Sept 25. 1854

My Dear Mary Ann

You can do me a special favour by giving my old over coat a thuror repairing, it wants nearly a whole set of new buttons verry strongly sewed on. In order to make them match you will likely have to get all new.

Other improvements such as your own ingenious mind will suggest.

Come & bring it, send it by MBW, or keep it till I call, as circumstances may dictate.

I will pay you 2/- per hour for mending it. that is what I have to pay Dutchman for loading pahs. on sunday

Yours Affectionately

E Cornell

Mary Ann

Mich City Sept 24. 1851

My Dear Mary Ann,

I wish you was here with me. I am not as well used when a lone as when you are with me. I dont get as good a room, nor as clean a bed. I dont get called to my meals as early, or by as pleasant a messnger, and at table I have to wate longer before being waited upon, all those ills are incident to being alone every one of which would banish before the magic presence of a woman.

Such is the case not only at a hotell but every where, in Railroad cars, on board Steamboats, in Omnibuses, in fact every where on this Globe, and I doubt not it is so in the Realms of Eternal bliss.

The influence is so strong and effect so marked that I would at any time when traveling take charge of a strange ladys handbox, and play with a squalling youngone, for the sake of what I can make in privileges, by seeming to belong to the "privileged Class".

With such facts staring you in the face can you doubt for a moment that I wish you was with me. I should chearfully pay all your bills, lay still

without grumbling, when you throw the clothes off the bed half a dozen times of a night, to get up to catch flies, and bear patiently your having a fit of the blues, when ever your baggage gets lost by my neglect, and you are pounced to wear the same gound for a week, All this and even more I could endure for the sake of your company,

So you see the exact state of the case, and I think you and Emm had better make up your minds to board with me this winter,

Why not? Traveling though less fashionable in the winter than Summer is not the less agreable for sensible persons, you wholly avoid the dust, that is so horrible in Summer, The stove compensates for the mercury at zero, You dont hear the unpleasant remarks about the drouth and this or that poor crop, of corn potatoes, or oats, bed bugs have migrated, to the "Sunny south" or to some other harmless position, Flies, have borrowed deep in the sands of Mich City, and you are not compelled to flee to save your bacon, Musquetoes only present their bills once a year, and

dog days, is the season they most delight in,

All those little pleasuretrips, that serve to give variety to the pleasures of the summer tourist, in the frosty embrace of Stern winter.

What can you loose in the winter travel that that can extract as much from your comfort, as those little excursions would in summer,

The Summer tourist are compelled to pay tribute in their very hearts blood, for the privilage of being fashionable, this tribute is not exacted from the unfashionable votaries, of old winter,

Then again, Cholera, Chills & fever, bilious fever, the typhoid, dysentary, and such like ills of flesh, lurk among the flowers with which the path of fashionable summer life is strewn, while the pure, bracing air, and health enspiring breeze of December richly compensate, for the sunburnt landscape, of July & August.

Why not then, chuse winter for travel instead, of summer. In olden times, I should have said, in the "good old time" such was the decision of our fathers approved by our mothers, and hailed

with delight by bell & bough, in those happy days. July & August were appropriate as God designed they should be, in making hay, housing the golden harvest, and preparing for all the future wants, the swains wielding the sickle & the maid the distaff, and both layed plans for the joyous rides in black December and blustering Jan'y, when the merry bells made music for the prancing steed. The well beaten Snow path was then all the rage, and so he says the rail track is an improvement, all things considered; I say show me the man! and I will venture to say you may see "Young America" written on his forhead.

Well My Dear. I spose you'll come, wont you?. I hope, you will accept this for a letter, for I reckond you wouldent like it if I dident write, and when I got out my pen & paper, I dident know what in the world to say. So I fixed away at random, and here is the effects of the shot. Good bye, Kiss Ellen for her pa.

Yours. Affectionately

Mary Ann

E. Cornell

Dunkirk Sept 27th 1854

E. Cornell

Dr for

The smallness of the receipts this month induces me to offer a proposition which you may consider worthy your attention. The expenses of this office, at the lowest calculation will exceed $60. per month the year round for salary, rent, light fuel & stationery. For $50.00 per month, I will agree to keep the office & pay all the expenses of it with the exception of Line repairing. I would be enabled so to do by moving the office to N Bartholomews Store where he would give me Rent Light & fuel, for $10.00 per month - (Some 2 or 3 dollars less than it now costs.) I could dispense with a messenger then as I would have some one to tend to customers while I delivered messages and when I went out on line = My other expenses (battery stationery & C), would amount to at least $250 leaving me $37.50 the amount I now receive. By this means the Company would be gainers of 12 to 15 dolls per month & myself neither gainer nor looser. Should the proposition be acceptable to you & you think a change

desirable at the end of this month please teleg me this week as I can move monday thereby avoiding paying rent for next month in this office

Yours respectfully

J. H. Townsend

P.S. The location at Bartholomews Store is as good for business as this

September 28 1854

Baltimore Monogamry County Ohi

Mr Cornell i want you to come
after them poles as soon as poseble
i have sold the plose and i have to
give poseson the 10 day of october
and i want you to come and move
the pools first i have ben wating for
you a long time i want them settled
for and if you can make arrangement
with the when that Boat the farm i
am satisfied these pools was to
ben moved last spring now i
am going to move off and i want
the money first and if you dont
come to see me i must come to see you

yours respet full

Michael Troutman

17 Wall St. N.Y.
29 Sept 1834

Dr Sir

Your favor of 25th is rec'd.

I certainly do not blame you, for entertaining the feelings that you do respecting the House folks at Rochester, believing as you do, that they have slandered you in the manner you suppose.

But I deem it due to you & to those of the Rochester people that I know; to say that I am confident that none of the gentlemen there that I know, ever said any thing of the kind. My reasons are that I have talked with several of them at different times about you incidentally, & not one of them ever expressed an idea against your honesty veracity or character or credit. (I do not remember which one)

The worst that any one of them ever said, was in speaking of the likelihood of effecting some arrangement with you — "I understand he is a rather self willed & not likely to come into any arrangement" — or something to that effect.

But that either of them have ever thought or spoken of you in the manner you suppose I do not believe — You may rely upon it that some evil disposed person has misrepresented the truth to you.

Yours Respy
Cambridge Livingston

E. Borgell Esqr
Indianapolis.

Cleveland 29th Sept 1854

E. Cornell Esq

Dr Sir Yours of the 22d inst is at hand In answer to the first interrogatory I would say That the salary was voted as I understood for services - It was entirely inadequate for me to afford to pay either R.R. steamboat or hotel bills & therefore I conceived it proper to make the charge - This course has I believe been customary in similar cases & looks reasonable

2d & 3d The amount received from offices from July '50 to Jany '53 agreed with their reports at the time I made out my a/c - I made out my statement from the reports but they do not agree with the ledger - They have in some instances charged me with money paid for other purposes This the Treasurer has also done - I have not the means here of giving dates & items

4th J. J. Speed Jr sent me on or about the 17th Nov 51 - $150 I do not find the date of the $20 yet -

5th In the settlement of the C.W.&Z. a/c I their debt to the E.&M. Co was placed at $100. To keep the accounts distinct I gave credit for that amount & charged C.&S. in their a/c - which see

6th Explained by reference as above

7th Old horse – one I formed on the line – not fit to work – hardly able to live – I sold him to Jackson for $25 – he sold him for 12 cord wood Dutchman delivered 1 cord – horse died – he failed on contract

8th Not having kept statements of my a/c at that time I cannot give items of the credit $361.58 I did not fully appreciate the necessity at that time I suppose of keeping minute statements but was satisfied with getting the aggregate correct What it consisted of I cant say from memory at this day

9th Mr Wade drew on me for some purpose for $100 – He did not prepare for it – I paid it & charged same to him in settlement between lines

We leased Mr Jackson for a horse & wagon – $45 & think – which I paid – I also paid one note which I have retained as a voucher – also a judgt on another obtained by R Stone for the sheriff gave me a receipt for the last part which I also hold – There are one or two other parts which are endorsed on the notes – one is on the note paid by Mr Wood

I believe the foregoing contains a reply to the queries contained in your letter as far as I am now able to give them – I have in all cases where practicable taken vouchers for payments of all moneys, which are now in my possession

Yours Respectfully

J. Haviland

J. Haviland Sept 29, 1884

Fort Wayne Ind
Sept 29th 1854

E. Comell Esq
Toledo O

Dr Sir

Your Lef Communication of 26th inst reached me yesterday & I delayed answering until to-day that I might furnish you with some definite information in regard to the Chicago R.R. from the Board who were in session to-day but in Consequence of non-attendence of a quorum they came to no Conclusion - Mr Williams their Chief Engineer informs me that they probably will Commence work next summer & thinks he can assure me the road will be finished to Plymouth (about 70 miles) by the winter of 55 - (they suspended work a month ago) This End will be running first - The Ohio & Ind road Expect to close the gap between trackLayers within ten days or two weeks & that will give us a RR Conn with the world & the rest of mankind" - Wade & Eckert are within 20 miles of "P" & Expect to finish line by the time Road is done or very soon after - Have you made any arrangement to connect with them here? Will they occupy our office in Common - The R.R. Co will not Erect their Depot buildings

until next Summer which will be a mile from our office — during the Winter they Expect to run to their Canal Conn about a squar from our office — Wade & E I believe have made no arrangements for an office until they have done it with you — I have understood they are making Efforts for the Chicago line but I dont know how true these rumors are — If You can just as well spare the time I think it would be a good idea to Come here the Fort Wayne men Control all the road & if you once get their assurance you can rely upon it besides that it would give you an opportunity of seeing line between here & Toledo & you could better determine what kind of repairs will answer for Winter as I am officially informed the Valley road will not be completed between here & ~~Short~~ of from 9 to 12 months & I presume you do not wish to ~~[illegible]~~ our line while it is done — As regards repairs during this month I refer you to my report — You will there discover that I have not been derilect but rather have tried to keep up 75 miles of line 37 Miles more than my Sections when the line had'nt a cent but what I borrowed that a majority of the breaks were not on my Sections & worse than all to me that by going out myself when low Nor Money would hire men & working day & night I contracted sickness that Cost me forty one dollars

Every Cent I had saved in six months work & now have the cheering Consolation that I must go both ragged & dirty until I Earn something to supply my wants — On Wednesday we worked to X ~~[illegible]~~ Thursday line down both ways Yesterday we got up West & I had hoped as much of East but to day I heard my man was sick & unable to do anything. The break is not on my section = I have Engaged a man for to-morrow if he gets sick before morning I will go myself — $4 per day was offered for men here to day — The City is paying $10 per day for men to go to hospital as nurses = The health is improving slowly I hope we will soon get through with our troubles = If you do not intend to remove line to R.R. I would suggest Cutting off & re-setting Every pole as the only surety of keeping line in working order through the fall & winter — There isn't 500 poles out of the 3000 between Wayne & Toledo but what you can push over with one hand — Can we Expect such poles to resist snubbing of boats? That is the great Cause of our difficulties — Temporary repairs will not do while the poles are so rotten — There isn't a day but what more or less poles fall — They are altogether too high Cutting them off & setting them down 3 feet will leave them high Enough plenty — It would also be better to put them beyond the reach of

boat lines — October & November the latter especially will be our best months for business — I almost dread to have them come if line is to be down — Do try & come up I would like to have you see line in person besides the pleasure it would afford me to become personally acquainted with you — Please write me in relation to Wade & Eckert line arrangements.

Respectfully

J. M. Nutt Smith.

E. Cornell Esq
Toledo O

J. M. Nutt Smith
29 Sept 1854

Logansport Sept- 29th/54

Mr Connell

Dr Sir

As lines are all down this evening and I have nothing to do at the present I thought I would inform you the circumstances here & distance— The northern line is mostly torn down I was out north on it last wednesday & nothing can be done to it unless there are a corps of repairers to fix it I found several poles down wire broken in dozens of places and the ends of wire at the top of poles on the poles could not be climbed on wire pulled through it for an extention I only went 14 miles & found it as described— Where we stopped for dinner they reported the line to be in worse order further on towards Plymouth- whats to be done Mr Boyce or I cannot tell If your line from Mich City to Lafayette will soon be completed I should let this one go it costs us more than any route we go— The Toledo line also is in very bad order I have not had Toledo for months I think- the trouble is between P & X— line between here & P in quite bad order— line between here & Lafayette I think is pretty good order It is I know on our beat— Mr Boyce went to Delphi today No operator at Delphi now as he has not returned I cannot say what is the matter with Davis— There is no need of 2 opers here now I do not think it is Salary for nothing— the Office owes me twenty five dollars at the Ending of this month & I shall not be able to get it very soon without you remit

it to me I should like to take this
Office at $40 but you can do as you like about it
I shall not remain here long at $25 as it is
worth $30 for me here— Boyce says he is $25
behind I cannot see into the matter he says
he thinks it must of been Stolen but I think
not he might of made mistake in his accts
but as I see nothing to it it makes no difference
to me — I should like to hear from
you soon — If you do not give me some definite
answer soon I think I shall pull up
Stakes without your reply but I will give you
time to think upon the matter — I have
nothing more to write at present — But
this Toledo line should be seen to
immediately — I still remain Yours
as Ever Yours

Judson O Moore
Post office Logan Oh

F. O. Moore
Left 29 1852