Plymouth Ind Oct 20 /54–

Mr Cornell

Sir One of your Agents was here some days ago removing Telegraph Line, and wanted I. should give up the Instrument, He said, you said, that I probably would not be willing to give up the Instrument until I was paid up. I care not for the Amt. you owe me, as I believe you will pay all of your just debts anyhow, but the Instrument was bought by the Citizens of this place, and they Positively will not give it up.

Yours as Ever

Ward McDonald

Office of the New York, Albany and Buffalo Telegraph Company,

Utica, Oct 2d 1854

Mr. E. Cornell
Prest

Dear Sir

Yours of the 21st Sept is received; You say you would be glad to receive a proposition from our Board for a permanent Connection West & will give it prompt attention; We would prefer first to meet you to compare views &c, & can do so at any time on having 8 or 10 days notice, at Utica if you cannot come here; as there are many important things that should be fully understood in making a permanent Western Connection, I think it would be much preferable that you should come here, where our Board can be convened on short notice, I would therefore suggest that you come here at your earliest convenience, giving us some 8 or 10 days notice. — Judge Caton has called on us for the purpose of making an arrangement that will ennable him to do the St. Louis business, viz, Chicago to N. York, & to agree upon the tariff of prices &c. He proposed to allow 85 & 5 from Chicago to N. Y. Should this be decided upon, as the amount then We should meet & agree upon the division. Judge Caton informed us that his intention was to make

arrangements with the House Lines, as well as the Morse, so that in the event of a delay on the Morse Lines the business should be handed over to the other Lines, & remarked that it would leave Chicago on your line, & if your line should be in working order so that it could be sent to Buffalo promptly, our line would get it, he said your line from Chicago to Buffalo had not been in working order a considerable portion of the time, & that the Communications had come to Monroe & there had been handed over to the House Line, & by them sent through to NY; that being the case, We must have lost some of the Chicago business the past summer; Cannot that portion of your line be put in working order without delay, so that our line can have the benefit of all the Western business that originates on the Morse Lines. We said to Judge Caton that We would put our wires in good order, & if necessary to do the business promptly, would devote one Wire to Western business.

We are also about making a new arrangement for our news reports, Market &c, which may also make it important for you to meet our Board here, & I therefore think it much more desirable that you come here, instead of our Committee meeting you at Chicago.

The House men continue to boast of

arrangments they are about effecting with you & others, to secure all the facilities for Western business, & to cut us off; these assertions and boasts they have made to Prof Morse in NY within three or four days past; having confidence in your good faith to us, We have not been much alarmed about it.

The following are the names of our present Directors. Silas D. Chiles. John Wilkinson Chas. A. Mann Thomas R. Walker John H. Edmonds. Edward Chapman James Dutton, Daniel B. Goodwin Geo. Curtiss. —

I would also state that about the time our co leased the Erie Line, Mr. Speed on behalf of the Erie and Michigan Line, agreed to keep that line in repair from Dansville to Dunkirk; afterwards finding it inconvenient for him to do so, he agreed to pay one fourth of the whole repairs from New York to Dunkirk, and one fourth of the rent of that line, which he paid while he had charge of the line; after he left, the first account our treasurer rendered was objected to by you, on the ground that you did not know of any such agreement. It is therefore important that you should come here that you may see the agreement of Mr. Speed in behalf of the Erie & Mich. line, and have that business arranged.

When Judge Caton was here he agreed with Mr. Faxton to purchase his interest in the Contract with Mr. Speed & yourself under date of Jany 21 1853 provided the purchases made under that agreement & what has since grown out of it since have been such as he supposes them to be, which is that the money had been mostly expended in the purchase of the Stock of the Illinois & Mississippi line, is it so? They wished me to write & ascertain from you in regard to it & then write Judge Caton that he may decide whether he will make the purchase, or not. Please write me on receipt of this in regard to this business for the benefit of Mr. Caton & Faxton.

Yours Respectfully
Geo Curtis
Pres

Geo. Curtis Aug 22, 53

Macofordsville Ind.
Oct 20 1854

E Connell Esq
Indpls. Dear Sir:

Not hearing from You lately in regard to the adjustment of my claims against the Ind Co. prompts me to again write to You -

My claims are now in the hands of Lawyers & will be acted upon the Next term of Court, that a judgement will be rendered in my favor there is no doubt - Yet to prevent trouble & expense to myself as well as the Co - I am still ready to settle with You or any other person upon reasonable terms, If You still desire to purchase my claims upon the terms mentioned in Your former letters, write me here - or if there is any other way in which the matter can be satisfactorily adjusted. I shall be pleased to hear it -

If You are prepared to pay Cash down or in a short time I will make You a proposition that Cannot but satisfy every one of my liberal feelings towards the A. T. & T Telg Co -

Please write me here

Yrs. Truly
R. C. Bryant

Detroit 20th Oct 1834

Dear Sir

I received a letter from Fenton yesterday, saying that he was disposed to sell his stock in Catons & Md lines, even that Judge Caton offered to take it at what it cost, and interest. But by the contract he is bound to offer us the stock first, and he wants to know if we desire to take it - I have answered Fenton for myself, saying that I have no objection to his selling to Judge Caton - If you want the stock you must let Fenton know it -

Yours &c J J Speed

Mr E Connell

Cleveland Oct 20th 54

Dear Sir; Hearing you are to be at Toledo today, I improve this opportunity of writing you, as it is quite impossible to keep track of you long at a time, & as for learning your whereabouts by telegraph, I would sooner jump on some old blind bull & seek you, & should gain time thereby, so remiss & negligent & indifferent are the whole tribe of operators to any one's interest further than how to line their own pockets with enough to eat & drink, & play the devil generally — Now for another boring letter, not that I willingly would if I could possibly avoid it, add any to your already too burdened mind, but, I speak almost entirely by you. now, which acts to me, compels me to regard you as a friend, My great distrust of mankind to the contrary notwithstanding, I call more freely upon you, because I see some little opportunity of a reciprocation of favors & in your helping me, I feel that you are in a measure helping yourself — I have been for some time knocked flat as a flounder, & for 99 times, have I attempted to lift my head in the act of rising when some, relentless would give me a wallop that would again drop me & from your hand have I met with encouragement & assistance & if it proves to be from the depths of a heart full of human kindness as it purports to be, may, may my right hand wither & my tongue cleave to the roof of my mouth, if I ever return it in any other than in the spirit of kindness, I am yet, in a condition to do but little, indeed am sick abed

becoming more & more involved & my obligations crowding upon me so & feel compelled as an honorable man to do something. that promises means of payment. Our Pittsburg connection is not yet effected. Should we immediately we are fast running in debt, our Land Lord wants me to give security immediately for the payment of rent. which has now reached to quite amount, somewhere near $200, I have not been able to cancel any of my debts then, My creditors are kind & easy, but begin to feel, that they have waited a good while, & then behooves us to effect the connection forthwith. At the time we met in Cincinnatti. They Commenced a credit with us. for monthly settlements in good faith. that they would be punctually made, They have passed to this day unpaid. I have made repeated calls on O & B to no effect. I have time & again telegraphed Mr Howland. never got a single reply. Nor could I ever get him to meet me, our indebtedness to other lines, than to the National's were 3 weeks ago. about $70, now I suppose about $60, They refuse us any more credit, on account of non fulfilment of agreement, The business from your lines, west & south of O & B. is now sent via Buffalo per Baltimore &c & N.Y. So you see we are also sinking in O & B. Some orders, should we give O & B to remit to Pittsburg & pay the amount due National, Monthly & promptly done, The arrangement so long talked & once effected & we are O.K, Then I suggest that the Reconnoissance from Cleveland to Franklin mills, be removed and a reporting agent to the Zanesville & Wheeling line be made in Franklin mills & we put in some new poles between

Cleveland & the Mills & perhaps some towards Pittsburg to answer the purpose, until the rail road via Newcastle is completed, & have encouragement from a prominent & influential direction of the Mahoning road, that the next season, they will be able to help us put up a new line, Now for the wire, I have gathered from my line, 8690 lbs, which is in good order, will put up & new connections made & as good as new, & think 1/4 or more of it is new & good, bright & soft, which I understood Mr Wood to say he would give me 8 150, ten, which is half cent less than good wire can be purchased for in Pa now, but on the second conversation with him here he allows me only 8 120, which diminishes my expected pile very materially & not only so, but he deducts 8 5 25 of which he paid me by your verbal order when we were in V together the day 7th that 8 25 I immediately Expended on this line, & was in hopes & expecting to use the most of the money I got for this wire for myself individually, in paying the Expense & taking care in cancelling that Ithaca note, & in purchasing some clothes for myself & wife who was utterly destitute rendered by your kindness. She came in possession of ten dollars, a favor looked in memory & I hope will be like Bread cast upon the waters unto the donor, I requested Mr Wood to put the first 8 25, alluded to, to the account some of other money but this line for its repairs & he said he would remit me, if you said so, I promised my Pittsburg operator, if he would stay in office during

the Chelsea then awhile I was gone north up west, that I would pay him up - when I received the money, To him & repairs. I will have to pay from this wire money - about $100, which money I hoped to use for my individual debts - I know - I am asking much if a friend asking you to order the remitting of the $25. That cannot go any ways with me, & with it even - I shall scarcely be able to pay expenses & pay the others note indeed I cannot - & pay up Pittsburg operator Now Cannot you find time to give your attention to all these matters. till we get started, - First secure the immediate connection, then the immediate payment of the National in Pittsburg - you will not forget - that I am in quite a pickle until we get going. I will go to Pittsburg Monday & see how things are getting along - I will have to see the prospects of building & shall be in the dark unable to give him a definite answer, until I hear from you, Please read carefully this long tirade & answer to each item pretty fully that I form some opinion, what course to pursue, I have a good & truly reliable who works for $15, per month. have business enough to employ him. if had money to have his expenses - I have a horse & all apparatus - I have been sued for an old debt against him when Jackson had it & a little of it is working into my time for an operator board - for fear they would take my horse I

purchased him for the E & M Co, gave 5% note payable in 60 days, with promise from man & purchased him of, that if I could not pay them, he would give me more time. It is now about 90 days since I purchased him & gave him the note— I call him the E & M Co. horse— I gave my individual note, He is an old broken down stage nag, but as good as the most Asiatic for the purpose used & well worth the amount promised for him, If you know a post for me, let me know. As of the Clerkship in V becomes vacant & think I can fill, it possibly will at least I in many respects. I can unpedant can spell— If had that post could attend to hires for Pittsburg &c I wish you could come to Pittsburg down & go up to Newcastle with me to come to Newcastle, take cars to Enon Valley & stage 14 miles to NC, or take cars to New Brighton & Packet at night to NC almost any train meets stage at Enon Now my [redacted] has come for taking cars to NC— I may have omitted something I wished to say, write me immediately to Pittsburg Box 588 Yours Truly & obediently Yrs WPRw

Turn over

E Cornell Esq

There is a little charge on wagoneity of coal to rail road $11.07, that I omitted to mention to Mr Wood — which if you can — Please pay yourself — if not I will allow — Mr Wood wants to be able to account to board directors fairly for all moneys paid out by him — Hereafter I cannot consistently pay over 6 cts for cwt as on spout for purchasing when not much needed — The coal is as good as new — & the company make something on it, so I hope you will not consider it amiss to allow that

Yours Truly

H. P. Pratt
Jan. 1st 1857

E. Connell Esq

Ohio, Indiana, and Illinois Telegraph Co.

ALL MESSAGES STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL.

STATE SENTINEL JOB ROOMS, INDIANAPOLIS.

Piqua, Oct 21st 1854.

The following Message was received from .....

Dated, ... 1854.

To Mr Cornell or Speed

Dear Sirs

As I have wrote to you several times and received no answer I have concluded to try it again. This line now is in a very bad condition and it takes all the receipts to repair it. The receipts upto date are $36.92cts and expenditures $12.86 Salery not included. It takes most of my time to repair it as fast as I put up poles others come down. I would like to hears from you and know whether I shall repair it any more or not, If you intend to work it this winter it will have to be thouroughly repaired. I would

like to have some zincs and promo cups if you have them at B. Office if not I will send to Cincinnati for them.

Please answer immy and

Obligo Yours & Co

G. P. Crawford

73, 44

G. P. Crawford
Pres. Oct 7 1882

Fort Wayne Oct 22nd 1854

Dear Brother

I arrived here this morning from Defiance expecting to find the line in working order from Defiance to Lafayette but alas how liable are all human hopes & expectations, the line is down both ways from here & that with other things tends very much to discourage me in trying to get it to work, but I am in hopes I shall be in better Spirits in the morning, — I am sorry to say that my health is quite poor. I have been troubled with a very bad Diarhea most of the time since I have been up here & I find it much worse this morning than it has been for some time I suppose it is owing to the impurity of the water & I fear I shall be obliged to abandon this line & let some one else take my place here, — I came from Napoleon yesterday — left there about 5 oclock P.M. the line appears to have been down more the nearer I get to Toledo but I think there has been a great deal more intrest taken in keeping it up by the operator at Defiance than any other place. I dont know whether you passed over the line on

his beat in the daytime or not. if you of course you know as much about the condition of it as I do – perhaps more – however I will just say that his method of repairing has been to drive an oak stake into the ground solid & then to nail a small oak piece about 7 or 8 feet long to the stake with a notch in the top of the oak strip for the wire & a piece of leather in the notch for an insulator. it does very well to keep the wire off of the ground & is quite substantial for a temporary fixing.

It began to rain about 8 o clock last evening & has been raining most of the time since very hard & looks as much like rain now as it did this morning. I dont think we shall be able to do much tomorrow towards getting line up. I am going down however towards Defiance & see if I can find any trouble with it, as Smith has not been able to get them yet with a battery of 10 or 12 cups, he sent a man west on Packet this morning who will perhaps get line O K to Huntington by tomorrow morning.

Smith tells me he sent some letters to you at Defiance & that there was a couple for me in the package & the operator there forwarded them to you at Toledo. I should like to have mine sent to me at Defiance. if you have not sent them.

And now while I think of it I will just mention to you that I want to go to Illinois the 20th of December & I should like to have you make such arrangements as to not let it interfere with the promulgation of your business I shall want to be gone about a week there & also a week at Albion & I should like to settle up with you before that time. I merely speak of this so that you need not be disappointed by it. If you can make any arrangement so as to let some one else come up & repair this time & let me take their place I should like it very much as I dont think it will be prudent for me to remain under existing circumstances

Please write me at Toledo & oblige

Yours Truly

E. Cornell ex Albion 3

D. B. Cornell

Albany Oct 23. 1854

My Dear Mary Ann

I am well, first rate, and want to get home bad, but I dont see how it is possible before the first part of Nov. I have important busines to attend to in Ind Nov 4, and it is now to late to get around & do what must be done, and then go East and back, before that time,

Say to Monge that I got his dispatch respecting Conrad Suit being noticed for trial 2d Oct, I dont see how I can be there, Town must get it put off if he can,

Things work well here, but it is a critical time, as my presence produces wonders,

E, & M, is remitting to Treasurer over $2000, per mo,

Say to A, B, C That Cleveland instead of requiring 3 or 4 00 a mo as it did under Spier, Haviland & Co has changed sides & remitted $421,22 to Treas for Sept, and hope to do better this mo, — Cars are Coming

Yours in Haste

E, C

Providence Oct 29th 1854

M E Cornell

Dear Sir. Your letter of the 9th was not [illegible] as I should have replied sooner. The last Mortgage of the date 29th of Oct. and I have sent on an advertisement to sell the Line at Adrian as soon after as I can but it must be advertised 3 weeks. As soon as Mr Allen fixes the day will write you.

I have submitted your reasons for not delivering the Stock under the Contract to the Board. The Board cannot see why you do not settle with Lo C Speed. and get the Stock re-issued in New York. When we made the Contract it was expected that the Certificates of Stock should be sent on in a few days. The Board are not satisfied with the great delay. We hear that about the time you assigned your Int in the Erie & Michigan Line. an attachment was served to prevent the Co from issuing any Stock to you. Is so, what was the date of said attachment. The assignment was dated some date of the notes. but when was it delivered to Mr Allen my Agent? We hear that there is $40000 lien on your Stock in New York and a Creditors Bill of about $1800, - in addition. Please send the Certificates of the $15000 Stock forthwith. I suppose you will be at Adrian at the Sale. but should I sell by an Agent which the late Mr Barstow of Detroit said could be done could you come to Providence to arrange the papers. As you remark the nett earnings of the line go to reduce the Mortgages. I should have monthly returns and payment and the proceeds should go towards the payment of the notes I hold.

Please reply.

I learn that the Decision at Detroit is in favor of the Sparrow Co forbidding you to use the Mons Petout, that you have entered a Demurer which has been overruled. Is this so, what is the effect on the Erie & Michigan & Southern & Northern Lines?

Yours truly
James F Reed

JFR

New Albany Mich City Oct 25. 1854

My Dear Alonzo

I regret that I have not been able to leave business ere this so as to visit home. but so it is, The sickness of this western region the last Summer has rendered many of the operators useless, as respects their efforts to Repair & Keep up the line, so that the old line required more of my attention than ever before, as it also seemed to have the ague, and get the "Shakes" and become prostrate,

In addition to this the building of the new line required my constant care,

I could leave now perhaps for a few days but for one thing, there is a sale of some School lands on the 4th Nov which I am desirous to attend to learn the manner of those sales, and I cant go to Ithaca and be there the 2d and get back in time so. I must there trust the Concord suit to chance. If you can get it put off do so. if not make the best defence you can. One thing requiring attention is the charge for filling the cars. You will see by his bill that the first lot

2

was charged at Price agreed upon, but after the first charge all other lots were charged for an advanced price for filling

We should have the testimony on the trial of Henry Moore. who I suppose is at Buffalo. He would gladly attend the trial if he has an opportunity. for he feels that Conrad has cheated him, and will cheat others if he gets a chance.

Do the best you can and I shall be content. I dont recollect all the points in the case but I explained all to Lowe & he made a memo of them.

Bumps is pretty good and E. A. Merrin is getting funds a head. a dividend can be made at the end of my first 6 mos administration of say 5 pr ct for 6 mos which will give me $3,000 — and help me very much. Breakfast just called so — good morning

Yours Respectfully
E Conrad

ABC

Milan O. October 25th 1854

Dear Sir "

Yours of Oct 23d was Rec'd this evening and I am sure from you have got that $9.40 ~~Forty~~ you say it was put down on the Report that the $2.40 was due the Company July 1st but it was paid out for back accounts as follows

To A. P. Moore & Co for Feby	2.67
" " " " " Dec	2.88
" Smith Daniels " "	3.85
	$9.40

The amount was paid out on accounts that were not paid in Feby & Dec as you will see from the above " I am pretty sure I put it so on the Report but if I did not it was by mistake and it is as I have it on my book " The amount to S. Daniels was for Sieve and & Moore & Co for stationary and Batt tops & C where I trade " The amount has been collected & paid out as I have stated " Some way or other you dont understand my Reports or I dont make them plain I guess the trouble was in one for I am young yet and here is the first place I ever had anything to do with keeping accounts and they may appear blind to you " Did you Receive the 2300 I sent you two days ago "

Yours Truly
O. N. Nilson

Mr E Cornell Esq

Cleveland Oct 28/54

Dear Sir,

Some movements to the injury of the E & M line are now being made on the telegraph chess board — a word to the wise &c.

It is reported that Staniland & Van go into the employ of the House folks here.

You will probably have a Made man recommended to you for your employ here

Please consider this confidential

Yours Truly

J M Gibbs

Mich City Oct 28th 1854

Dear Sir

Sickness has thrown me back 2 months in writing up my Reports, I have just reached yours for August, and learn that you want Mayor's Receipt for July Rents; which I enclose to you.

Why do you charge 4,50 for rent in August and only 4,15 in July?

Yours Respectfully
E Correll

Mr J. F Culbertson
Troy

P.S. Write me at Indianapolis

Jamestown Ind^a Oct 25^th 1864

Mr E Cornell

I am Sorry to Say that my Buisness is Such that it does not suit me to have charge of this office any longer

Mrs Walker is very much devoted to the Buisness of Telegrafting, and in you choose you can let the office Remain with her, you furnishing every thing. and She receiving the receipts of the office, and making this the meeting point betwen Indianapolis & Crawfordsville

She Says, She will take charge of the office. at a Salary of $16 Pr month provided it is Promptly Paid monthly and that She does not have to Send out but half Way to Crawfordsville, and only to Pittsboro, which is 10 miles from here and 17 from Indianapolis the Road from here to Pittsboro gets nearly impassable during the fall and Winter, and it is a long days travil from her to Pittsboro

and provided that the line is thoroughly Repaird, unless it is it will be impoible to keep it up this Winter Pleas let me hear from you this week or as Soon as you Receive this

Yours

J.M. Walker

J. M. Walker

Oct 28th 1854

Binghamton Oct 28th 11 1882

E Connell

Dear Sir

Enclosed please find a draft for $100, Endorsed by me, which if not used please return to me with the $100 I left with you, I should have tried to furnish an other hundred, but find my father is in no situation to raise it for me at present, and as he has the rest of my loose funds, I was obliged to wait for my Oct Salary to raise this - If you use it as we talked please send me a receipt, and specify on it for what purpose it was used. I am this particular to guard against accident or any emergency that may happen - Please write soon - I have seen Mr Curtiss of Utica and they work better faces in regard to this line & its expensiveness - I can do nothing with Skinner as yet. He even forbids the Operator at Elmira to make any returns to me whatever although nearly all

the business done there is sent over
my end of the line to Ny & C — If the
thing is not arranged with him
soon, I shall open a separate office
as I have taken all I shall from
him & our Co are putting me through
for the receipts of Elmira office
which I cannot collect — Ryan
mostly to blame in not giving
Skinner orders for us to take
that were according to agreement
at least so we all understand the
last contract — Skinner can do nothing
with the Buffalo & N y city line &
we are paying out to other lines for
him at N y & Newburgh without
any prospect of being reimbursed, besides
his keeping the receipts of the Elmira
Office — I certainly hope you will
make it convenient to come down at
once & relieve us on several subjects —
One thing is sure that Skinner &
myself cannot manage the same
line together any longer — Please
write me on receipt of this and very much
oblige

yours truly
P. A. Hopkins

P. A. Hopkins Oct 28th 1854

Mich City Oct 29. 1854

My Dear Mary Ann

It is now approaching Midnight, and you and my little rose bud, are nestled in a warm bed dreaming perhaps about me at this very moment,

There is a satisfaction, even in visiting loved ones ~~xxxx~~ in fancies gossimer saloons in dreamland, and I enjoyed a pleasant time with my dear Wife & Son, a night or two since, at one of those Meetings, where soul mingles with soul, and enjoys bliss unknown to the gross en system of flesh and blood, and I shall soon be with you again for your loved forms have occupied a prominent place in my mind all day. Though I have worked hard, as my labours will plainly show, I have written a dozen letters, Ex^d and entered 25 Reports, and filed over an hundred letters,

My writing has been behind hand ever since I was sick, but another days work, such as this, I should catch up, but I dont know when I shall git a chance to do it, as there is a way for me to go all the time,

The Cars are just Comming in from Chicago so it is not as late as I thought it was, as they are due at 11. P. M and I presume on time,

They have had a horrible R.R accident in Canada again, some 60 persons killed and more will probably die, I see no names among them with whom I am acquainted, but some one have dear friends to mourn the loss of,

Hiram Robertson has just left my room they are all well at Albion. Daniel is also well, though he has recently frightened Edward & Mary verry much by writing to them that he was "verry sick and did not know but that would be the last letter he would ever write them" he is a strange mortal, Business goes slowly, but we gain some every day,

I now think I shall be able to get away so as to be home by the middle of Nov, and trust you will return with me and spend a part or all of the winter,

With prospect of seeing me soon you will excuse a short letter

Affectionately Yours

E Correll

Mary Ann,

Vincennes Oct 30th 54

S. Cornell Esqr

Indianapolis

Dear Sir, I have
to acknowledge the receipt of your
letter containing Twenty Dollars
for which I am under many obligations
As the mail closes in a few moments
I will have to defer answering your
questions in regard to the line
until tomorrow

W. Haas is still here
his Bro left the Office at Terre
Haute without giving us any
intimation of his intentions

Your most obedient
Servant

Frans W Haas

Grenville, Oct 31/64.

Dr Sir

Yours of 26 inst., Rec'd.

It seems that you do not yet understand me in the way I wish to be understood, In reference to my leaving Pegua, you have been misinformed, I had signified my intention of leaving there to Mr Jones (my successor) sometime before I had any notion of coming to Grenville. I desired going west. And to that end, had written to Mr Veitch — St Louis — for an office. He offered me the Off at Weston, Missouri at $1400. per annum I should have accepted his offer had I not, in the meantime, been apprised, that an office was to be established here & that the Line was being built by R R Co.'s as I then thought by them alone, & of course that they would work it, That is how I came here to work for R R. as I at first thought. They were to employ operators.

I thought the situation, if attainable, better suited to me than the Off at Weston, In view of this I came here to see Mr Wilson about the matter. He told me that you was to work the Line & not the Co. & that I had better first learn what arrangement could be made with you, Mr Wilson never solicited my assistance in R R Business, And I had no idea of serving him in any other capacity, than as operator, until after my conversation with Speed, as I stated in a former letter

I did not give up the Regina ops to Mr Jones, until I had completed my arrangements here. I was uncertain of getting the situation when I left there. I had not seen Mr Wilson before nor had he written me, or me him. I am quite sorry now that I left Regina, & would willingly take ops back again at $ 30 per Mo.

You speak of the time used in doing business, & of pay in proportion to the time employed. It is my time, little time is used in telegraphy — much less in doing business for R R Co. They dont employ me for the service I do them alone. I told Mr Wilson that the Telegraph alone, would give an operator no inducement for attending the office, & at $ 20. per Mo. they would find great difficulty in having the office worked. He had not much for me to do, but since I would be in the office at all times, he might find some employment from time to time, & therefor gave me the additional $ 10. — more for an accomodation to Jct Office, that for any great need they had of my services, in as much as they are not to pay for the working of the Line. The above is Mr Widgin's view of the matter, as I was telling him a few days since of my having some difficulty in settling with you. He said had it not been for Jct ops being placed in R R ops they would not thought of employing an assistant, as his business does not engage one half of his own time.

I admit that the arrangement is a bad one for you. You cannot expect, however, to have the office worked for nothing. Neither do operators receive pay in a ratio to the number of hours employed each day.

Mr Shird was very confident in the office paying more than the $ 20. I doubted it, & it seems that I was right, dont mention receipts any more, as receipts were never mentioned in any of the former arrangements.

If you can make any arrangement which will be more suitable to yourself & agreeable to me, I will willingly remain & tend ops. But I must have sufficient for my services, to keep soul & body together. Hoping now, that you may fully understand the arrangement made with Reed at Union. I should be very much pleased of a speedy adjustment of

the account would follow
the receipt of this letter
& remain Gentlemen, Sirs
Very Respectfully
Your Obedt Servt
E. Connelly
Lieut

E. W. Reynolds Co. 80 ft/sq

Vincennes Oct 30 th 1854

E. Cornell Esqr

Dear Sir

You ask me if I can give you any ~~thing~~ information in regard to your line, that is "reliable" I have been over your line from this point to eighteen miles north, so far as that is concerned I can give you some information From Vincennes to Russellville Illinois the line is in a very bad condition, indeed nearly every other pole has rotted off and fallen to the ground, beyond R. for eight miles the line is placed mostly upon trees and, with the exception of some glasses out it is in very good repair. Between Vincennes and Russellville (a distance of 10 miles) poles can be had at from 15 to 20 cents

each. I dont think that the repairs between these two points ought to cost more than One Hundred ~~and fifty~~ dollars and that to cover all expenses of men and teams etc, The above estimate is fully if not more than what it would probably cost to repair this portion of the line. What state the line is in above the point mentioned (18 miles) I cannot say but take it for granted that it is far better than this end. As to business providing there was a reliable Operator at Terre Haute, I would not be at all afraid of guaranteeing the receipts to be $40 per month over all expenses, aside from the benefits you would receive from Evansville. My Connections here are engaged in the Rail

roads now going on, Isaac Mass being in the firm of Allen McGrady & Co having Contracts on nearly all the roads running from Vincennes, and my personal acquaintance with the business men of Vincennes makes me positive as to getting all the business that can go over our lines.

You also speak of the "non-necessity" of keeping an operator here, that you are to decide upon, of course unless the line is put in such order as to insure an operator his salary, no one would be willing to remain in this office and if it is your wish for me to discontinue, I will do so immediately. Mr Haas informs me that it is his intention to start out on the line immediately to repair &c. Please let me hear from you soon Your most obt Servt H Mass

Detroit 31st Oct 1854

Connell

Sir

Your abusive letter just read. When I said that I had nothing to do at Rochester, I forgot the line you mention - I talked over that matter at Rochester, and they seemed disposed to do all that they ought to do in relation to lines sold, but the difficulty was to determine what right they had to convey on the line from Indianapolis to Lawrenceburg - Wade contended that the right belonged to the Cin & St Louis Rl Co, and that the Pres[t] of the RR Co would not accept of a title from the Rochester Co, if they did make one - That the Pres[t] of the RR Co had refused to execute the contract, on the ground that you had deceived him by representing yourself as acting for the Cin & St Louis Rl Co, in the Matter of this Patent - The old Cin & St Louis line, Wade says, does run on a part of the way immediately along the R Road

and had one or more offices
at RR Stations - With such
representations from Wade, I could
do nothing at Rochester - I fully
intended writing to you on the
subject; but it escaped my recollection -
Now as to your abuse and suspicions -

Just let me say once for all, that
your mathamay are wholly lost —
on me; but if it is any relief to
your overburdened conscience
to spit your spite at me, your
"amiable qualities" need be smothered
no longer on my account; and
when you have exhausted your
venom and vindictiveness on me,
I hope, as you say, of "an other
lot of traitors" that you will "have
a good time of it" —

Yours &c J J Speed Jr

Wm E Connell
Pres. I & M Tel. Co.
Indianapolis

J. J. Speed Oct. 31st 1864

Plymouth Ind Oct 21/54

Mr Cornell

Sir— Yours is just rec'd and in reply would say that I have seen most of the Stock holders, and they are all willing (Except H B Pershing) provided you will give them something to show that you will ~~replace~~ return the Instrument when the line is put up on the Peru R.R. and that there is any prospect of a line being put up at all. The Instrument is Boxed up, and will be Shipped according to your order as soon as we hear from you.

The Stockholders, hold me responsible for the Instr. that is why I am so particular 73—

As Ever

D McDonald

1854

E Connell Nov 1/52

I wish you would come down Lemoore without fail. Mr I Borrowed Money of Denning the Daily - is as mad as the Devil my tape all made out I wish funds to settle up so that I can leave - Dont fail to come Lemoore

as I have to meet father
in Ohio Friday next
must go even if I have
to leave my trunk here
as security for my loan
Money Borrowed -

Yours Truly
C. Alfred

Nov 1st/54

Telegraph Office Logansport ~~Ind~~

Mr Cornell

Dr Sir

As I have written to you several times in relation to the Salary & management of this Office — I thought I would write once more at all hazards This time about the management of this Office — I was very sorry I did not get to see you while you was here but I was not able to be about then — You know Mr Boyce knocked me out the management of the Office — He came when I had already taken charge of of the same & was anxiously waiting for an answer from a letter I sent you at that time — Mr B still holds the Office I think I am entitled to it more than any one I worked here at times when Mr Haskins was absent & have been here ~~near~~ 3 weeks at a time alone and all the time with the Expectation of getting this Office Mr Haskins gave the Office to me when he left — But I had to have you to secure me and while I was ~~Expecting~~ getting that Security Mr B came & disappointed me — My Folks lives

here and I am permantly located here therefore if I should take the Office I wont have no friends to visit and have the botheration of getting another Opr which will be the Case if Mr B retains the Office I am well acquainted in Town know almost every one I never had any difficulty with any man since I been Telegraphing.

This Office has but one instrument in now as I have taken down the other one it is ready for one operator 2 is ~~not~~ not required at all There is one through circuit now from Toledo to Lafayette Toledo is still down — I have nothing more at Present but I hope to hear from you soon by letter Please Answer immediately to —

Yours Obt Servt

Judson O Moore

Opr Logan Telegraph Office

Mr Boyce acts as though he would Resist as soon go any place else as stay here

Yours Truly

J. O. Moore Nov 1st 1854

Defiance Nov 1st /54

E Sorrell

Dear Sir Your letter of the 27th Ult containing $30 on the Bank of Mt Vernon was last "Sat" rec'd. I dont know how it is in your vicinity, but the notes on that or any other Indiana Bank, except the State Bank, are not current here, or in any part of this State. and it is not owing to the "Small note law" of this State. but to the uphorhundred unsound condition of those banks. I am therefore obliged to return the notes. We have no circuit next yet. Your Brother was here 3 or 4 times last week. and was out on the line most of the day every day except Saturday. I told him that if it would be of any use or advantage. I would go out with him, but he said unless he had more help + funds. that he could do just as well alone as. I have not been out that way for the past week. His man was down the river towards Toledo somewhere, and not hearing from him he went down that way last friday night and on Sunday Evg went through here west towards Ft Wayne. since which time. I have not heard from them. but suppose they are engaged in repairing that way. It has been raining for the past two days so that but little could be done I suppose, I am just as well satisfied not to go to "X" on town accounts. provided I get a good office at some other point: and am willing to help keep the Line in work. till such be secured; but at the same time feel desirous of obtaining an office soon as practible. You will see by my Reports that I have already spent considerable money + labor in repairs aside from that for the month of October which has not appeared in Rpt. Before I can accomplish much more therefore. it will be necessary for me to have some current money.

I have a little money at interest. and have already drawn out money to invested. for the purpose of repairs. but am unable to get any more just now and presume you would not wish to have me do so. am therefore "short" being unable to use the amt you loaned to me. If some reformed repairs could come on to this line now they would soon put it in pretty good condition no doubt. and I hope the men you referred to on the M & E line will soon be at hand. and in the mean time will do what I can towards supporting the line in a working condition.

There is some mistake in the record you refer to which allows but 4½ years since the building of this line. It is nearly 6 years since I came into this vicinity. and I am told the line had been built 3 years then. It is at least 6 years since these poles were put up.

We have worked to x with exception of 2 days ever since I received those brass mem Materials. I will keep you acquainted with the condition of affairs here.

And remain Respectfully Yours

J. A. Stong Pres't

Jno. E. Connell Esq

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Milwaukee Daily Sentinel,

RUFUS KING & CO., Proprietors.

Milwaukee, Nov 1 1854

Yours rec'd this day. He proposes as follows. He proposes to send us reports at $30 per week we paying agent & he paying the line. That is all the papers together for $30. The allowment in line & it only makes us $7.50 per week. Strickhe a great reduction on our telegraph bills. He informs us that no report can be had at Buffalo except under this arrangement.

The first report came to night of theirs. We shall keep our private reports up if we can get them. but there is something wrong & intentional to I think. You will see by enclosed from Hacker & Abbott, dispatches.

These dispatches never came here until 26th 5 PM all came together. The report came on night of 25th at 8 o clock

on

We were about to publish an article blowing up the Sire but thought we would write you first. We never can get an answer from Haviland about anything matters. We telegraphed him some night of this transaction

Please advise this will probly. We are paying him $12 to 1500 per year & don't like such treatment

Please advise us in regard to report arrangement. We presume upon matters will make no alteration in our private despatch. We must be ahead somehow. Where can you & Mr H meet you within 10 days Please telegraph us & probly We will see you about Newton line

Yours truly
R King Jr
(Hillsboro)

12 Thursday Nov 1, 54

Huntington Nov 2nd

Dear Brother

I received your letter at Defiance last night. also the 20 dollars, the line is broken 4 miles east of here, which I fix in morning. it has kept us busy mending breaks thus far. it breaks down about as fast as we can get it up, but I think when we get a few more of the worst places fixed we can manage it, my health is no better. I have the chills every other day & the shits at night, I have not had a nights rest in 8 days,

I go east again as soon as I can get line mended, write to Defiance or Wayne,

C Cornell 2/3

Yours truly D B Cornell

P S the Instrument at this office is out of order which accounts for not hearing from here oftener & Norton I hear does not intend to do much more with it you had best write to him & see about it soon so that he can help keep up the line

L B C

Troy Nov. 2 1854

Mr E. Cowell

Dear Sir

Your favor dated Oct 28th 1854 came to hand this day. Mr. May inclosed me my payment for rent for Abby again which I would not do knowing that I had made rent to you at Indianapolis Our line from Piqua to Dayton is in bad condition & must be repaired soon or we cannot do anything with it when winter commences.

I assumed authority to manage this section of line between D & P With Mr Kinsticks advice I told Mr. Crawford that

I had authority to manage this line from Piqua to Dayton & my reasons for so doing are thus so. Master Crawford Esq. of has been very careless about his battery & from that cause the line not working & Generally he has been very inattentive to business notice I told him if he had given me charge here & I was going to have things done better since that time he has done very well & so long as he continues all O.K. but if he gets negligent again the better plan would be to remove him, I do not make the above charges for the purpose of having him remove him please let him retain the Idea that I have a charge here & all will go right as far as the working of the line is concerned.

As regards the rent error you speak of my cash Book shows for July $4.15 & for August $4.20 if it is $4.50 it is my mistake & I will rectify it I think I shall give up this office at the end of this month & would like to give it to Mr Moore a brother of Jesse at A, his friends like here & he wants it please write me soon as convenient

Yours &c

D. F. Caldwell Esq

Dear

P.S. please send me immediately half doz Jones & some Blank Reports and Tantalus cuts

A. F. G.

Winchester Nov 2nd 1854

Mr E. Cornel Sir—

I indulged the hope, that you would have paid that triple that is coming to my Son without any further trouble, and I should not now have asked you for it. But for several board bills being presented to me for payment, and I do not like to pay money out of my pocket without getting Some in regard So I hope you will see to it Soon and oblige us very much —

Yours Respectfully

George A. Smith