Attica Aug 20th 1855

E Connell Esqr

Dear Sir

Yours of the 20th is recd.

Enclosed is a statement of your age showing a balance due our Co which I suppose you was not aware of when you proposed to make the draft your intention. At present our Treas. has his hands full to meet our engagements & as the balances are largely in your favor at the Bu. office We wish you would instruct Mr. Makepiece to apply those balances in payment of the amt. due as per within statement

In regard to your consolidating with the House Co West of Buffalo & Our Board have met to day & canvassed the matter over & We cannot see how it is possible for you to carry out ~~our~~ your Contract with us if you consolidate with the House Co We think our interest will be seriously effected by it & that you cannot rightfully & consistently make such an arangment while standing in the relations you do to our Company. I hope you will not make any further progress or take any further steps in that matter till you shall first meet our Board & confer with them & satisfy them how their interest is to be protected. They desire me to enter a protest against any such arrangement without getting their consent to ~~...~~ If you will give me two or three days notice before you come I will have our Board called together to meet you Yours Respectfully Geo Smith

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

The Erie & Michigan Telegraph Co. Utica, August 1855.

Dr. to The New York, Albany & Buffalo E. M. Tely Co.

1855 February 1	To Account rendered to this date		303	96
July 31	" One fourth of Rent of N.Y. & West. Union Line. from 1 February to 31 July. @ $2000 per ann.		250	00
	" One fourth of the following items for repairs of above Line from 1 February to 31 July.			
February 28	Sundries per C. Cuddeback. Bill	34.75		
" "	do " Owego Office a/c	.85		
" "	do " Honeedale Office "	9.00		
March 31	do " New York Office "	17.17		
" "	do " C. Cuddeback's Bill	44.58		
" "	do " I. Lockwood Bill	3.50		
" "	do " Montrose Office a/c	9.00		
" "	do " Carbondale Office a/c	14.50		
" "	do " Hopkins Bill	13.54		
April 30	do " New York Office a/c	16.46		
" "	do " I. Lockwood Bill	10.50		
" "	do " E. Bennetts Bill	8.00		
" "	do " I. Hardings Bill	15.00		
" "	do " C. Cuddeback Bill	40.31		
" "	do " Owego Office a/c	1.65		
" "	do " Honesdale Office a/c	13.50		
" "	do " Ithaca Office a/c	1.38		
" "	do " Carbondale Office a/c	11.88		
" "	do " Montrose Office a/c	6.81		
May 31	do " C. Cuddeback. Bill	39.53		
" "	do " Montrose Office a/c	19.00		
" "	do " Ithaca Office a/c	1.00		
" "	do " Honesdale Office a/c	2.00		
" "	do " Carbondale Office a/c	14.13		
" "	do " Owego Office a/c	.25		
June 30	do " C. Cuddeback's Bill	57.63		
" "	do " Honesdale Office a/c	4.25		
" "	do " Montrose Office a/c	2.00		
" "	do " Carbondale Office a/c	1.25		
July 31	do " Hopkins Bill	7.37		
" "	do " Cuddeback Bill	55.05		
" "	do " Lockwood Bill	3.50		
" "	do " Gordons Bill	5.63		
" "	do " Montrose Office a/c	10.50		
" "	do " Carbondale Office a/c	15.00		
" "	do " Owego Office a/c	1.39		
" "	do " Ithaca Office a/c	1.25		
" "	do " Cuddeback Bill	.27		
	¼ of	$ 513.38		
	is		128	34
			682	30
May 31	By Cr. Balc at Buffalo on Western Line business as per a/c of H. Mathewson		360	97
	Balc due N.Y.A. & Buff. Co. 1 Aug.	$	321	33

Adrian Mo
Aug 20th 55

Mr. M. B. Wood.

Dear Sir:

Some time since, in answer to a despatch from Mr Cornell, calling for my report, I wrote ~~him~~ a letter (which I sent enclosed with the report) to him, requesting him to either come himself or have you come and settle with me, and I would resign. I have waited patiently for a reply or his appearance, since that time (~~the~~ fourteen days) During this time I have been obliged to borrow money for my daily

expenses. I have held myself in readiness, to perform any service required of me, as Supt. of the line, when I could have money to do with and to bear my expenses. Yourself and Mr. C, must surely have forgotten my needs, or you would have responded in some way, to my letter above referred to. I shall be obliged to seek other employment soon, in self defence. Please inform me when Mr. C. or yourself will be here, that I may make some calculation, as to how much longer I must borrow, before I can commence playing M/s. As I am furnished with no money to make repairs with, I can do Mr Cornell little service in remaining here, at his disposal in this ~~manner~~ manner, and yet he must be aware that I am entitled to full compensation, M/s to the time when we shall come to a settlement. So both for his sake and mine, do let me hear what I'm to do and expect at once.

With respects to yourself and family, and Mr. C., I am Yours truly,

Ch. A. Hopkins

Asst. Supt.

Ravenna aug 23 1855

Dear Sir. your letter from Albion, to me, at V, is at hand at last. If you can wait a little while I will do as you request. I am on way to Nurbeattie, and would like to pick up what wire there is left on the Erie line, as it is worth something, being in all appearances as good as new. I am sure I dont know what the Natorial people will do. There is no telling anything from what Mr Duncon says, His tongue seems quite restless in its operations. I should like to go to work for you somewhere would not be very particular for a while. would work where my services are most needed, would like to get in some place like Mr Tubbs particularly on account of my wife. things are not quite so pleasant with me, as home. & it will be necessary for me, I suppose. to do differently from what I myself would prefer, for the sake of all parties. I will hurry as fast as possible & get with you, It is possible I might engage some one to get up the wire for me. if it is very necessary for your business to be done immediately

I judge, from yours that there is some prospect of your consolidation with the Home. I Cant say that I exactly like it. but I presume it will be best for you. if I had only known it. so I might have made a dicker with Wade, I could have done so much better. I was afraid I would be sorry & so that's

had missed it. How will that work. do you suppose there will be any chance for me, where I could get anything. I wish a position, where, by the greatest persevering industry & faithfulness I can earn something worth while I am so hopely in debt, that if I ever pay the debts, I must work hard & get good wages -

Your Cleveland & Zanesville wire, the first twenty five miles out of Cleveland, is mostly down, this no10 & very good wire to all appearances. It should be attended to immediately, it is down, cross roads & in fields catching carriages, horses & cattle & doing some damage, besides botheing farmers in gathering their Crops - & I understand it is equally bad between Franklin Mills & the southern end of line, I took the wire out of some fields & broke it & coiled it up & hung it on posts, while it was down in Franklin Mills & where across roads, broke & tied it to fence as well as I could, It was so badly down near Cleveland & twenty five miles out, I had not time to fix it - I only purpose, at present taking the Erie wire up from Newcastle & Westward 81 miles, the line from Westward to Erie is working & I would like, at least, to keep it up till after my collection suits are tried at Erie I suppose I would need some wire to carry accross wire into Office between Cleveland & Buffalo -

A letter might possibly reach me at Newcastle, if not

it would at Waterford, Erie Co Pa. I intend to go up line from NE to Waterford first, to begin there as my operations for gathering coin is extensive.

Very Respectfully
W P Rice

E. Connell Esq

P.S. Bitter complaints & threats of damages are made by former workers. respecting your coin in this route —

Rice

Kenosha, Aug 23. 1855.

E. Connelly, Esq.

Dear Sir: After all the trouble we took to secure the right of way on the Lake Shore R R route for the Mss interest - a right which would have been granted to the Shore Company but for our opposition and interference - I was really in hope that, things some arrangement with the C. & M. Company we should be able to secure some important advantages to ourselves - I mean, of course, the "Wisconsin State Telegraph" interest - The proposition or contract submitted to you, and opposed because of its alleged illegality, was one the main features of which were suggested by Mr. Wood - I presumed he was posted in regard to your wishes and intentions - and supposed the contract was in a shape to suit you, as it fully suited him - It seems, however, my presumption was an erroneous one, and that you are far from approving what he thought there would be no difficulty in consummating - as regarded the mutual interest of the two companies - You say "the C. & M. Co has no authority to dispose of its line south of Ch; or to put the control of it into the hands of another Company" - I have no objection to offer to the first part of this statement, but the last takes me by surprise; - for the impression had been made on my mind, that so far as the control of the "Ch. & Mw" circuit was concerned, you not only had no question as to your right or authority to give it to us, but that it was your

wish and determination we should have the control, so that we should be able to meet in our own name and on our own responsibility the contract obligations entered into on our part with the R. R. Companies — I understood you distinctly to say in substance "the business of that portion of the line shall be done in your name and under your control, according to the assurances you have given to the parties with whom you have contracted" "Had I not so understood the matter, I should have been loth to make the contract which was made; and to bind the Wis State Tel. Co. to do what, without having the control alluded to, it were an impossibility to perform — If the management of the Ch. and Chw. circuit, after the work of reconstruction shall have been completed, is refused to us, and assumed by the C. & N. W. Co. it will be placing us in a position I do not choose to occupy — that of deliberately imposing upon the R. R. Companies, and taking upon ourselves as a Company obligations which we knew if performed at all, must be performed by other parties — You cannot wish to place us in this position. I suppose there can be no serious impediment in the way of having the Business between Ch. and Chw. done in the name and under the control of the Wis. State Tel. Company, so far as the operating department is concerned, when there is no alienation of the pecuniary interest of the C. & N. W. Co. in that portion of the Line — We think good faith to us, and good faith to the R. R. Companies, require that the management of the Co be placed in our hands and left there so long as that management is

found to be efficient and in accordance with the general interest of the line - This we asked - We were willing, and stated our willingness, to advance means to such an extent as might be asked or desired for the reconstruction of the line on the R. R. route - but were met with the assurance that this was unnecessary - "the E. & ill. Co. will advance all the means, and so long as there is no alienation of interest from the entire line, you can have all the control of the circuit which may be required to enable you to fulfil your contracts" Let this be carried out - Secure to us for a period of years as a company ~~or individuals (Whereby Dodge and Reed~~ the management of the operating department, nothing further, and we will give any security that may be required for faithfulness and efficiency and serving the common interest of the line,

I have conversed with Mr Wood in regard to the matter at length - and he can inform you more fully as to the views entertained by Mr Young and myself, and of our reasons at length for wishing the control of this circuit -

Our western line from Milwaukee to Madison will be in good shape in the course of a month or two - The work of reconstruction, under Dodge's auspices, is progressing finely - A nice paying business can be done on that line this fall and winter. I shall be on hand to make contracts with R. R. companies for the extension of our lines as soon as things are in the right shape. Should the consolidation you speak of, be consummated, and our company thus secured from competition, we shall

be able to make about such terms as we please with such Companies in the State as will soon be calling for telegraph lines. I trust the arrangements for consolidation will be perfected.

Please let me hear from you at the earliest possible moment, as we are very desirous of knowing at once what we are to depend upon. Enclose the outlines of such a contract as you may be willing to make, and let this thing be closed up without further delay.

Yours, Very truly

C. C. Sholes

Pier No 1 St, Tex

C. C. Sholes Aug 25, 75

Chicago 24 August 55

Dear Brother

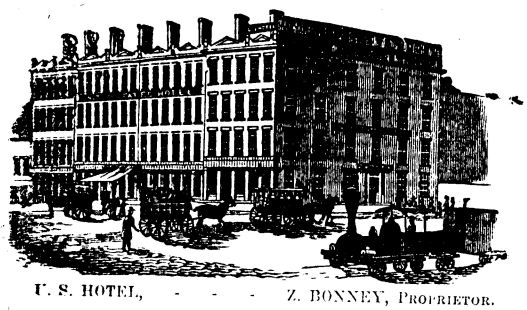
I have got the poles up one and a half miles north of Waukegan and it is the best line so far that I ever built I commence putting up wire tomorrow and I think I shall get it up to Waukegan by Saturday night it is all over ballasted and in good shape but there is not enough with what is there and at Waukegan to reach that place had we better use the Galvanised wire that is at Mich City or is there some plane wire some where Else

As yours & my family are now situated I would propose that we hire a house in some suitable place on the line where I can move my family and you live with us it would be much more pleasant for our familys and also for us to be situated so as to be at home a little more than we now can

Please think this matter over and let me know what you think about it I guess Phebe would not cry to have you move your Office away Yours Respectfully

E. Blornell

To E. Cornell Esq



U. S. HOTEL, - - - Z. BONNEY, PROPRIETOR.

United States Hotel,

CORNER PEARL STREET AND TERRACE.

Buffalo, Aug 27 1855.

Dear Alonzo.

I arached here yesterday morning, and am trying to raise funds to pay notes to Lexington, it is due today, and I have only $250, to pay with. I hope to have $500. p^d in at Dr today but have not heard yet, I may get a raise at Utica they owe me $60, but I fear will trump up some offset in expense of My old Line, hope to get something out of them, Balance I shall have to arrange with Lexington some way, I shall go to Providence and see if I can settle with that Bank and get back what I p^d them and sometimes, They ought to pay me $1000, The I. old Line has a claim of $1000 or more against them, which I shall settle if I can —

Business is some better this week than July, A Buffalo will be $200 better Bus of—no better if as good, Cutler the House now wants to quit, If we dont consolidate

I think I shall have to get you come to Buffalo office and try your hand at selling the mercantile business.

There is a pile of business to do, and after getting acquainted you could get a fair share of it.

Curtis would like to have you take their N.Y. office, but I told him if you went into the business again you would go west,

Mother has been quite sick since Saturday morning, but as she will probably be home she can tell about it,

I have no time to write more at present, As time set I get for committing to mail, Howard is the Lake, back this week,

Yours Respectfully

E Cornell

A.M.C.

Lafayette Aug 27. 55

E. Cornell Esqr.
Albion
Mich.

Dear Sir.

I have been very anxious ever since I last wrote you to get an explicit reply. but it has been unfortunately delayed.

We were yesterday (Saturday) working beautifully with Dayton & could work with Cin but not well. Fort Wayne up & working. but beyond there we can do nothing. Toledo sends his business for that point as well as all west of it Via La Porte & "Ty".

I wrote Hubbell about our trouble at Vincennes. He declines doing anything. I sent Hutsonville ps." He went over line to Vincennes & put it up so it would work although Hayward (Alvords opr) used every exertion to discourage him. & it is my opinion that as soon as Welch (Hutsonville opr) left Vincennes for home that Hayward either disconnected us from Evansville or put on a ground wire so that we could do nothing south after repairing

Because we have been unfortunate on our river line. Hayward takes the liberty of calling this line a swindling concern & as such should be denounced & we that to back him in all his actions.

Hubbell says we cannot expect anything from Alvord & his Ops as long as we have that balance due them standing — He is in heart an Alvord man I believe —

Why are the two lines running opposition to each other at Vincennes. both. O'Kelly lines does the Patent permit such work —

Why had Wade any more right to build on the Ohio & Miss RR from Cin to Vincennes than you —

When our Patent expires what is there to hinder any set of men from building along side us —

Has Chicago reported to you the amt of business done over this line for several months past since the completion of our line on T A & S R R —

On the 28th inst Kiersted told me the House folks had got control of the Speed line (O & M). by some means, that you were out. in reply to a question why he did not send more business this way. — When he can work to Lafayette he tells Pittsburgh that C H & is O K but

they do not send much business over them. Very little indeed. When Laf is not O.K. he tell them "C.H." down & all their business goes to "Sy" as the line from "Sy" to "C.H." may be down for a week yet they send that way because they are accustomed so to do. they do not make this their outlet. They should send all their business to Dayton as they ever do to "Sy" & let him get it through some way should the line happen to be down. You spoke of refusing their business at "Sy" if they did not give it to us at Dayton Voluntarily. Suppose you should do so would it or would it not be likely to make them give their business to House folks.

I believe that Smith at Wayne favors the Home line; from his Telegraphs to John Guthridge. He says they have a splendid line & are good pay & good salary &c. I do not like the fellow & wish we were rid of him. You remember of my writing him to send his back reports to me. Yet instead of doing so he sent them to Albion & I also spoke to him to send his July report here. Which he did not do. When You gave me the situation of Asst Supt. You requested the different Opis &c to obey my directions. He has not only refused to do as I directed but has also disobeyed

your orders by not doing as I requested. I am not satisfied with this treatment. He is the only person giving me any trouble & I now wish to know what had best be done.

Goodwin of the House line was here the other day & says they "work finely from 'ch' to Cleveland, direct," & also receive reports &c direct from Buffalo, & no line could work better than theirs. That Judge Caton gives them all the business of his line to them &c. &c.

If the Judge gives them his business he needs your attention & do not like to see your interests sacrificed. We need that business over this line.

Fletcher wants office opened at Chesterfield Oakland Yorkton & Morristown. I have nothing to work with. He wishes Chesterfield opened immediately. What shall be done.

Millikan of Laporte wishes something done with his office. He says he wrote you declining your proposition but no change has as yet been made. The young man who wished to take the office has gone into the House office.

Johnston of Union wishes to take charge of our instrument at that place at

8/27/55

25 dolls per Mo. He refuses to keep chge of Eckhents instrument any longer & unless this arrangement is made he will leave. I have been in favor of such an arrangement for sometime yet there is not enough business at that point (Repeating included) to keep two Opr's busy. What I think you had better be done.

Hamilton Opr & Boy have not as yet got their June & July Repts made out correctly. I keep them at work trying to get them OK but they and so does they cannot get them right. Wabash chgd Salary $25. & Pd other lines 1,44 & other Errors which needed correction & I returned his Rept. - Salary to be $25. &c.

Operator at Troy wishes to change location of office. He says he can save fuel & get rent at 20 or 25 dolls per ~~Mo~~ year - We now pay 37½ have a large room which requires large fire to keep room comfortable. I told him he could change it. Mr Mayo of whom we now rent told me when there that he could easily rent it for more than we pay, but he wished to be as easy as possible on us. I will write him that he may understand why we left - We wish his good will -

Upon former Opn at Troy owes us quite
a number of dollars which should
be looked to - I give you all the
reports - consequently the only thing
I can do is to remind you of such
things as I can remember
Our line needs work badly between
here & "Ty" this dry weather, our fall
rains will show commence & then it will
cost twice as much as now, & also
between Wayne & Toledo, we will lose
a great deal this fall by our not having
direct communication with Toledo
I speak of these things because it is almost
impossible for me not to when so much
is at stake. yet I fear it annoys you
because money market is very tight.
I sent you the Gramercy Banks receipts
for that E & M stock. if you return it
to me I will withdraw it.
I am very sorry your arm causes you
so much pain - I hope your fears may
not turn out realities in regard to your
not being able to use your arm again.
Please write fully -

Yours Truly

D Haas

Mch 1 1873

NATIONAL TELEGRAPH.

FROM THE OFFICE OF THE

NEW YORK, PHILADELPHIA,

PITTSBURGH, CINCINNATI & LOUISVILLE,

The United NEW ORLEANS & OHIO & People's

ST. LOUIS, INDIANA & LAKE ERIE

TELEGRAPH LINES,

CORNER WOOD AND THIRD STREETS, ENTRANCE ON THIRD,

PITTSBURGH, PA.

Rowan, print.

WRITE PLAIN—USE NO FIGURES—ANSWER BY THIS LINE.

Dated, Cincinnati Aug 28 1855.

To T. Duncan

Mr Cornell is mistaken when he says his business is not attended to his line works like any other Line which is in bad order and business suffers accordingly. two thirds of the time we do his business gratuitously over wires either Via O or M. Mr Cornell is certainly aware of the condition which his Line is in, & should know that the chances are against him in doing business promptly the message which he speaks of was received here on

over

2

the 21st whether it was answered
I don't know but that was the
last of it we never rec'd it repeated
and if there were any office messages
sent they were promptly answered it
generally takes three or four days to
reach Chicago by that line & messages
have plenty time to dry up. I think
he makes his complaints as a pretext
to disconnect with us there is no
foundation for them whatever as far
as this office is concerned his instructions
and messages attended to as promptly as
any other business of the office. I
have no control over the working of
his line and of course can't answer
for any delay outside of the office
if he is not satisfied with the present
arrangement he had better employ
one of his own men to attend to
his business I don't wish to have
anything to do with it & will write
him to day

Yrs

Stevens

Pittsburgh augt 28 · 1855

E Cornell Esq

Dear Sir

your Letter dated Chicago 22/55
is Recd Strangly addressed it appears I am not
worthy your notice My name is a familiar one
and I believe Known with our Connecting lines
I Should not do so with any person whom I was
Personaly aquainted with

in relation To your
Compant of inattention To your business at
Dayton & Cin I have made the Enquirey Enclosed
is reply from C office dayton agts Similar
the Management & discipline of the National Lines
and directors Strictly obeyed if not the result
is dismissal from office I believe there
are but few lines that are better disciplined
and thier Superintendents more Strictly obeyed
than on the National Lines

This is Strang reports going the rounds which
I cannot believe that you are about if not
already done Connected with the Co if it is
So I am much disapointed in you

your Respectfully

Jas McDuncan

Cincinnati Aug 28, 1855

Cornell Esq
Supt &c

I need a message yesterday from Mr Duncan in which I am informed that you have made complaint to him in regard to the business of this office - I have taken this opportunity to give you a few particulars in regard to the manner in which business has been done and the reason why I took charge of your Instrument in this office -

When you had your own Operator here the business was very much neglected on his part which injured very much the reputation of our office As I have charge of the wires of the Ohio line and having prompt assistance I thought we could do better justice to your business and for this reason I effected the arrangement with Mr Speed Your then Supt: and I can assure you

that Your business has been better attended to throughout—

The Controle I have over the Peck wires Enables me at any time to use Either of our wires to Dayton or Madison for the purpose of doing Your business when Your line is out of order and I have always taken advantage of this when it does not in any way interfere with the business of the Peck line—

The bad Condition in which Your wire has been in between here and Dayton for the past year has not much interfered in getting Your business through where if You had not this advantage Your business would not amount to 25$ per month— I mean the advantage of the line being under my charge— If You had Your own operator at this point. I doubt much whether You could have the same advantage in getting Your business through— We have undertaken several times to do Chicago & Evansville business by Your line in which we have always failed to give satisfaction I informed me Duncan of this and of the injury it does to our office

The last time he was here, he gave orders to have that business sent by the best route - this may be a severe task to you but I suppose Mr Duncan is responsible for his own instructions but you can hardly expect us to send business by your line when it is not working -

The particular message you referred to was read here and delivered, but he never need any repetition of it and if there were any office messages sent in regard to it they were promptly answered, it is very reasonable to suppose that an office or any other message could be lost on its way, I dont remember of any being read -

If you are not satisfied with the manner in which your business has been attended to here I hope you will employ one of your own men to take charge of it - I am satisfied that I have done my duty

Respy Yours
D H Stevens

New Philadelphia August 29th 1855.

Mr. Cornell

Sir. I recived your last favour two days ago and spoke to our people about investing one hundred and fifty dollars in line but I cannot get them to agree to it. if the line is not fixed before long the wire will all be carried away the poles are falling fast. there are not more than 6 poles to the mile standing of the Irish shot were put up along here. and they will not stand long. the poles along this part of the line were black Oak and are all rotten. the folks here and at Glover will put the line in good order to Massillon if the stockholders in the Company will let them take the wire and instruments. I have been requested to write you and ask you to give them your interest in the line as far as Massillon from this place if you are not going to use it. if something is not done immediately the line here will be of no use to any body. please answer immediately and let me know all about it.

Your

John A. Smith

Perryville Ind August 30. 1853

Mr I Hass

Dear Sir Some time ago
I sent you a Bill of Iron wire got By
D W Stockwell

1854
March 7. 32 ℔ Iron wire 2½ℓ per ℔ $6.40

when he got this wire he had it charged
to the telegraph company. I received a
letter from you complaining of the over
charge on this wire now Sir. I paid
17ℓ for this wire in Terre Haute - Besides
transportation and it was only through
accommodation that I let him have the
wire at all and less than 2½ℓ per ℔
would not pay for it. But if do not feel
disposed to pay me more than cost on it
Send it along I am always disposed
to accomodate the telegraph company But
all I want to know is that I will get pay
for what I furnish them

Yours Respectfully
Isaac Hedill

New York Aug 30 1855

E. Comell Esqr

Dear Sir

I have left a letter at the office requesting you to be at Attica on monday to attend our Election Mr. Kendall is to be there & also W. G. Hunt who is very busy buying getting horses. I think it important for you to be there We shall have to get the consent of the Executives to carry out the arrangement which We have been talken about & if Mr. Kendall can be made to see that his Western Stocks are to be benefitted he may consent to the arrangment & not be so urgent about Leasing the line

Do not fail to come to Attica & make my house your home while you are there

Yours

Lyman Curtis

New York Aug 30th 1855

E. Cornell

Dear Sir

I telegraphed you to day to Providence that I thought it quite important that you should be at Utica on Monday I have learned to day that Mr. Kendall is to be there & very probably W. G. Hunt. I find Mr. Hunt is engaged getting all the proxies he can get whether it is for the purpose of carrying out what you were told at Rochester was intended to be done or not I cannot say. I think it very important that you be in Utica to see Mr. Kendall & let him understand in regard to Western arrangements &c it may very important & I think if our Co do any thing as has been suggested he must have the consent of the Patentees & if Mr Kendall can see the advantages he is to derive in making his this I mean & M Stock redeemable and also the Stock he may get of the M & Miss line he may consent to such an arrangement as our Directors may think best

I hope you will come to Utica & without fail come to my house Yours

Geo Curtis

Lafayette Aug 31. 55

E. Cornell Esqr

Utica

N. York

Dear Sir,

Your favor of 26th inst. & had written the enclosed letter for you at Albion supposing from your Telegraph from Detroit that you wished me to direct there, inasmuch as you gave no directions, but before mailing I rec'd your Telegraph from Buffalo saying you had written me, I concluded to retain it until yours rec'd, but it took much longer than I supposed to reach me. I am sorry I did not mail it at once.

I feel in hopes that our August business will turn out better than July. It is very unpleasant to see the reports coming in with a deficit on each.

I should be very glad to see O'Reilly's contract with the Evansville Co. You are on good terms with Mr O'Reilly & it is probable you could get the contract or a copy of it without much inconvenience. Such things should be in our possession

so as to enable us to claim our rights. It may be the Patent for the O. & V. R. R. will give us some light on the subject. I wish we could get it.

I shall certainly be very glad to hear of anything that may be to our interest & if the consolidation with House parties will be, the sooner it is done the better. This is uncommonly nice weather for us to improve the condition of this line & I am extremely anxious to see it progressing.

There is no doubt in my mind but that Hubbell wishes to lease the line from Vincennes to Terre Haute & if he can get it by prejudicing the R R Co against us. He will do it - I am disposed to think that Hubbell does not understand the position in which that line stands to ours & if we had our patent & O'Reilly's contract with them, I think we might cool his ardor a little, I cannot but think we have the advantage of him. If so we might make him assist us in getting it on the R R instead of being a stumbling stone.

In regard to Chicago complaining that D. & Ohio does not do their duty, &c I cannot see why they do. They do not send any business this way. It all goes

via Sy.q - what Chicago & Western business is done via D & C goes west - does not come from the west - yet they wish to throw the burthen on this line for delay &c on business sent via Sy.q. They may not do justice to this line at Cin & it is quite certain they do not. yet it is almost impossible for us to work together, & the arrangement of Instruments are such, at C, that it makes ours a side affair & ours does not receive that attention it should & because the National lines work better than ours they do not try very much to get business off this way. We now pay $400. salary there, if we can get some one to & pay exclusive attention to our business it might be to our interest so to do.

It is almost impossible to get men to do our repairing as it should be done. There is no doubt but that thousands of dollars are spent foolishly by Repairers every year. Even the Operators do but little more than raise wire off ground when they go out on their respective beats, fearing their white hands will be soiled or something else equally as simple I suppose. If you can tell me how to obviate this - you will much oblige an anxious Engineer. What money was spent by men on Valley line under my direction I think was not entirely wasted but could I

have been with them myself & have no doubt but that a material difference would have been made, both as regards substantial work & the well working of the line. I do not know of any one that I could have sent out, in whom I could have had more confidence than those sent.

Linesmen - a very rough article - no Browns out yet - I will go to Laporte & put in a switch as soon as the office is changed (as you say) but what that change is I know not.

Please look over Union reports & give me a statement of the standing of that office so I can draw from Fletcher & get the money back I paid that office & to pay Johnston for services up to date of last rept. rec'd by you.

I am glad to hear that your arm will be useful to you, although at a distant period. I do not like to see the continued pain - It does not look like a good omen to me.

Here is a copy of your letter to Bn. J. in regard to Montezuma office. " Indpls May 25. 84. - Your report for Apl & letter of Apl 26th is at hand & in Answer will say that if you can bring the business up I can give more & will make you the following proposition. I will pay you $20. per month & give you half of the

Nett amount that office earns over Ex
penses. So if you increase the business
you will increase your own Salary.
Please return balance of Apl. 15th May report
I draw two conclusions from it. but please
give us your intention.

Mr Veitch Supt of Missouri
Com telegraphed for an Operator at Salary
$45.00. Winder thought he could make
more at that there than to remain here
at Lafayette at $30.00. He has left us leaving
a balance due us of $10.00. He promised
to remit out of his first earnings.
Young Bryant Opr at Covington is going
away Saturday next. unable to say where
He is a very ordinary Opr. It is probable
he will try his fortune in the west also.
His place can be easily supplied. but
Winders cannot. He was an excellent
receiver & a pretty good Operator. He
knew nothing about the business except
working at the instrument however.

Our repairing wagon is here but as I told
you at "B" does us no good our livery
men refuse to put one horse to it on account
of its great weight. The little wagon I bought
for $16.00 is making money for us it saved $30.00
within repairing on Valley line & 1.50 every day
we have it out here. We hired it out 3 or 4
days in town at 75c day rate. It is better now than the

8/31/55

day I purchased it,

In my report you will see Freight on skiff & chain & lock, I when at Perrysville putting up crossing last time. We could not get skiff for less than $5.00 day. Thinking that would not pay I bought a good substantial skiff at Attica for $10.00 which is better than the skiffs for which $12.00 were asked. After our crossing was completed I left skiff in charge of operator there but the boys would file off the chain thinking it best I had it brought here for safe keeping.

Another item Messenger & Repairer. Young Shafer whom you remember no doubt, (Marion born) was out of Employ & agreed to do all the repairing he could & carry messages for 15.00 month. He was here half that month 7.50 & Message boy the half at 5. making 12.50. We made something by the arrangement but I wished to explain, in case where we had to send two directions at once we had to get another man.

My health improving but Mrs H. was taken with Flux & fever last Friday - She is very sick -

I hope Mrs C. health is fixed again by this time. Our Compts to both -

Please write soon as can

Yours

D Haas

Providence R.I. Aug 31. 1855

J. H. Read Esq. Post M. & M. R.R.

Sir

The basis of my claim against the Mechanics & Manufacturers Bank of Providence and your Self, rests upon the fact that you failed in the fulfilment of the contract made June 13. 1854 at Adrian Mich between the Bank & yourself as the first & second part and myself & others as the third part, in every particular. You also aggravated your failure by transferring your interest in the contract and the possession of the telegraph to which the contract related, to adverse and hostile parties, in violation to the provision of the Contract.

By reason of your failure to fulfil your Contract & subsequent sale, I sustained great damage, being ~~interested to the amount of one third of the contract~~,

For which damage in part consists in the loss of the amount paid to the Bank on the Execution of the contract, being $2000, with interest on the same from the time of payment to the present date at ten per cent per annum, that being the ~~amount~~ rate of interest to which the mortgage were entitled,

Also three per cent interest on the amount of $3000 1st Nov 54 to 15th June 55, being the payment on the 1st note made in advance of its becoming due,

Also interest at three per cent on the amt of the second note, until that became due, and the like amount of interest on the balance of Mortgage from date of contract until the last note became due, as the money which was paid on the mortgage, to you, belongs by contract to the parties of the third part, and the three percent being the difference between the amount of interest that the Mortgages & notes were entitled to draw respectively,

Of the above amounts. I claim to be entitled to 1/8,

I also sustained damage by reason of the sale of your interest to the Mt Phillips Telly Printing Tel Co, and placing the possession of the line in the hands of said Co inasmuch as this possession enabled the said Tel Co to become the recipients of seven thousand dollars, for telegraphing from Chicago and western lines which they could not have got, if you had not thus unlawfully placed them in possession, of the telegraph you had previously sold to Conell Haviland & Cobb,

The amt thus secured by the rival Company amounted from $1500. to $2000 per month, for a period of six months a large proportion of which would have been profits to the lines in which I was interested, as they were compelled to incur all the expenses necessary to do this additional amount of business.

I also sustained great damage from the advantage that this passession which you gave to the rival line, placed in their hands for making business connections with western lines, several months earlier than they otherwise could have done, an advantage in their hands which I sought to prevent by the purchase of your interest,

There are other items of damage that I believe I shall be legally entitled to that I will not specify at this time, ~~If it should first be found a disposition on your part to make a~~ to settlement ~~of this~~ matter now and between ourselves, you will find me disposed to liberality in a settlement, and no disposition to exact all that I am legally entitled to,

Yours respectfully

E. Cornell

If I find a disposition on your part to settle this matter, I shall meet it in a spirit of liberality, and not exact all that the aggravated nature of the case, or my legal rights would justify

Yours Respectfully
E Cornell

Copy of Claim on
Log Road for damage
Aug 31. 1895

MORSE'S
AMERICAN TELEGRAPH
NEW-YORK, ALBANY AND BUFFALO LINE.

CONNECTING WITH ALL THE

PRINCIPAL CITIES AND TOWNS IN THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA

OFFICES, 2½ WALL-ST., CORN EXCHANGE,

ST. NICHOLAS AND METROPOLITAN HOTELS.

Please write plainly; answer quickly; use no figures except dates and number of street; give name, street and number of the party addressed, to insure prompt delivery; also your own address under your signature. Pay in advance, except for answers. The above is for your safety as well as our convenience.

F. H. PALMER, Sup't. **GEO. CURTISS, Pres't.**

NEW-YORK, Sept 3 1855.

By Telegraph from Coldwater

To Cornell

Poordenel

Found letter not mailed supposed it mailed last monday Can you now wait for it

J. J. Parkhurst

Dr
for Cornell

Plymouth Sept 3rd /55-

Mr Haas.

Dear Sir, I have been waiting with the "Patience of Job" to hear from you or Mr Cornell, about that Bal. in my favor. I should be very much pleased to have it at your or his earliest convenience for which you will

Very much oblige

Yours &c.

Dan'l Mc Donald

Toronto 5 Sept 1855

My dear Parents

William Richardson the Bearer of this starts in a few minutes for the States and on his way back will call on you. I will write a few lines and send by him. I have got in the Pottery Business I am with Capt Warner of West Troy who I consider recollect is the Man that deals in and furnishes the Pottes with Stone and Clay. He appears like a very nice man and I think we shall do well. We are buying a Kiln of Ware every week now since we have got our driveway and the Kiln holds $500 worth. My health is just rate but Mary has just recovered from a fever She is quite unwell now so she does her own work again. I have not time to write more as the boat starts in about fifteen minutes. Love to all

Affectionately

Geo N. Comell

Elijah Comell
Athens
N.Y.

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

Utica, Sept 5th 1855.

E. Cornell

Dear Sir.

I saw Mr. Butts when he passed through to day I informed him of the result of our meeting of the committee that was appointed &c. I said to Mr. Butts that I had no doubt if arrangments should be made West to Consolidate Western interests so that the entire business West of Buffalo could be given to us there; our Company would enter into arrangments to Lease their Line and I thought would pay them Seven per Cent

I said to him it would not be any object for us to Lease their line at any time without the Western arrangments should be consumated

He said their Company would prefer to Lease to our Co & that he would use his influence to have it effected. He said to me that he wanted me to use my influence with you to bring about the contemplated Western arrangment I infer from this last remark that he has some fears that it might not be effected & that you might oppose it; he particularly urged upon me to use my influence with you to bring about the Western Consolidation & it is this part of

the Conversation that I write more particularly to call your attention to the we may have an idea that you will object on account of their outstanding bonds

I now think the two arrangements should depend on each other; that you should not consumate the Western arrangement without our Concurrence & their making some arrangement with us & We on the other hand should put an arrangement here on the same basis If We both take this ground I have no doubt the whole thing can be effected satisfactory to all parties

I have conversed with Mr. Edmunds one of the members of our board, this afternoon and he is decidedly of the opinion that We have a right to Lease the House Line even though the Patentees oppose & I think our directors will come to the conclusion to do so if every thing can be made satisfactory

I have a letter to day from Mr. Kellogg saying that Smith does not deem the $100,000 a sufficient guarantee. I think I mentioned this to you in the Cars. If you think best for our Committee to be present when your Committee have their first meeting you will give us due notice

I hope this will find your health improved

Yours

Geo Curtis

Our Board Meeting is defered till next tuesday

9/7/85

I have forgotten to mention that Mr Walker was in the office after you had left to day & enquired if I had said any thing to you about the reports which the Lease of the Southern Mich. Tel Co requires you to make I think the Lease requires that you shall make monthly reports & if not that the Co could declare it void & Mr. Walker was fearful that on account of the accident to you & your sickness you might not have made the required reports and that they might take advantage of it; Please mention how this is when you write. I think I mentioned to you when on your way to N.Y that Edwood had said to me that certain enquiries had been made of him to know if they wanted

to purchase the Line as it might be sold on execution, have you learned any thing further about it & what the enquiry meant. —

If you write to any of the members of our board I wish you would make some excuse for doing so that it may not appear as if done by my knowledge or suggestion; perhaps it may not be best as you are so unwell it may be taxing you too much. I would like the plan & suggestions you made to me before when convenient

Yours
Geo Curtis

I would advise you not to try to meet the Committee on consolidation till your health and strength is restored, you need your full strength for such an undertaking

Rochester Sept. 8. 1855.

E. Cornell Esq
Ithaca.

Sir/

I have just received a despatch from Howard, saying he could not meet the committee as originally proposed, on account of health, & speaks of doing so on the 20th. I am sorry also to hear of your ill health.

It is extremely desirous to get these Committees together, before the time appointed for the next stockholders meeting. If this Consolidation is to be effected; it is all important to avoid the agitation & discussion of questions which may be brought up at that meeting.

From receiving a despatch from you at Utica, I presume you were at the election. I understand the old Board were elected, and it is rumoured also, that Butterfield, Paxton, & Kendall were appointed a committee to leave the line. We should have been very glad to have learned from you, what the feeling at that meeting was. What is to be the effect upon us at the West, consolidated, or not, if the Newfoundland Company gets possession & control of all the principal lines centering in New York city? We should be glad to hear from you or see you here—

Yours &c
Isaac R Elwood

Office of the Daily Union,

Rochester, Sept 6 1855.

E. Cornell Esq.

Dear Sir

On my way to Albany yesterday Swear in a lawsuit, I met with both Curtis & Sutherland and talked with each — though not together. Mr C. professes & I doubt not sincerely a desire to have our Western Lines united and then have the Morse Line here hereafter perpetually at 7 per cent. Now I would almost guarantee that our folks would rent on these terms substantially if the Western matter were disposed of. But it is hard to say how soon an offer that will be ac=

ception may be made by other parties. And it is my earnest desire that we meet soon to see whether Union is to fail or be consummated. Your holding off so long is naturally charged by some of our friends here as having a sinister purpose. I tell you this with my usual frankness knowing you will admit such suspicions to be altogether natural.

Nobody can tell what moment something another may happen to render our proposed Union entirely out of the question. And as I have almost staked my good name on the success of this project, I feel anxious to have our meeting come off with the least possible.

Please drop me a line & resolve to have the meeting of the committee brought about at once. Where there is a will there is a way — is an old & true maxim.

Yours truly

Isaac Butts.

Defiance Sept 7th 55

Dear Sir.

I wrote you at Albion in reply to your letter in which you offered to give me a bank note payable in 60 days; receiving no answer I conclude you did not get the letter.

In a former letter I attempted to represent my great and immediate need of money. that I had bought land and borrowed money to secure possession relying on soon getting the Bad" due me from the Line P.C, The time for which I borrowed is nearly out, and it is of great importance to me to have the bad debt I have paid over sixty dollars of money I had of my own beside the amt borrowed, and am really in need of funds. Unless I get the money immy I must lose the best opportunity for purchasing land that has been afforded in this Country for years. and to also sustain some loss incident to borrowing. the possession & release. Could get the note discounted at Bank. I dont know what I could do with it to make it available until it became due. I beg leave respectfully to suggest that the sum is not so large but that the money could be

at once raised without trouble or delay.
I feel more at liberty to urge immediate payment because it has been so long due and is the accumulation of very small wages and of money paid out. It is now one year since I returned to this Line with the expectation having a situation that would afford a better compensation than this; during that time in consequence of that expectation I have made no attempt to engage in any other business except that connected with the Office and the receipts over expenses have not paid the expenses of living. I do hope you can now let me have the amount due and relieve of some embarrassment & anxiety.
I send this to the care of Mr Brush that you may get it early as possible.

Respectfully

S A Story

[Cornell]

S. A. Story, Sept 15

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

Utica, Sept 10th 1855.

E Cornell

Dear Sir

I received a telegraph to day from your son saying that you was some better which has relieved me from much anxiety. I assure you I have felt very great anxiety on your account since you left. I can hardly forgive myself that I did not go & call in a Physician the night you was at my house when you first suggested that you did not know but you had best have one called. Mrs Curtis said to me after you left that she thought you gave up the idea of having me go for a Physician because you did not like to put me to the trouble of going after him & this has made me feel very bad for fear that such may have been the case & that you have suffered on that account. I feel to condemn myself very much for not getting a Physician, I shall feel very anxious to hear from you every day & I hope your son will telegraph me.

I got a telegraph to day from Mr Butts from Rochester written on the 6th the day I left for N. The following is a copy of it "I had some talk with Butterfield, He says

he is confidant your line will not be rented to New York Company. He says he wants Cornell to unite with us. Whether he can't or not. We think here that he means to drive a bargain with Field Hunt & Co at once, Cant We get Cornell to close and then write or leave immediately."

The forgoing is a copy of the message, now it looks to me as if they was over anxious to close the arrangement with you & wanted me & our Co to use our influence to bring it about under the idea that after it is done We can leave their line, ~~It looks~~ to me as though it would not all know to be as fair for us to leave their line as they would have us think; I think as soon as the arrangement is concluded with you & them & nothing is done before about effecting the arrangement east of Buffalo they will then stand out & dictate the terms that they will lease, or Consolidate with us & if We do not comply then they will try to lease to the NY company & claim a larger percentage on account of having all the business West of Buffalo to give them at Buffalo

Geo Curtis
vs. Suit

Now as they are so anxious to effect the arrangmt with you & will comply with almost any terms you may dictate you can well afford to take the ground that you must have our consent or see us coming to some arrangement East of Buffalo before you closing with them
I will think you all find of all I know

Yours in haste Geo Curtis