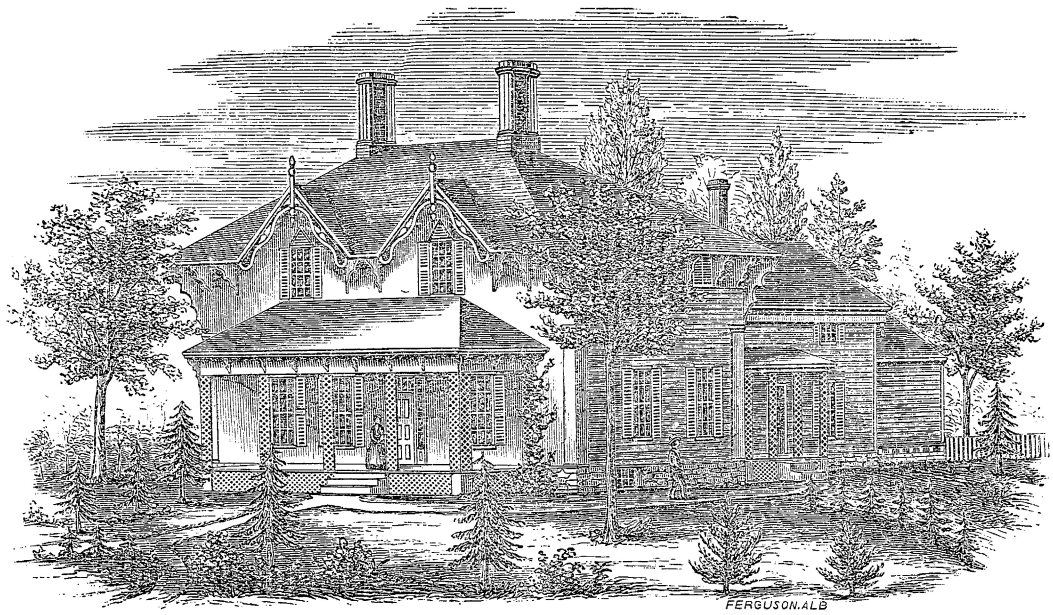


RESIDENCE OF S. EDWARDS TODD, LAKE RIDGE, TOMPKINS CO., N. Y.,

Author of "The Young Farmer's Manual," a large 12mo. vol. of about 460 pages, with 200 illustrations of gates, fences, farm implements and tools, with a view of a farmer's work-shop, with plain directions for putting them in order, and for handling them skillfully, &c.; published by C. M. Saxton, Barker & Co., 25 Park Row, N. Y. City, and sent post paid, by the Author or Publishers, on the receipt of price, $1,25.

Lake Ridge, Oct. 29th 1860

Mr. E. Cornell—

Dear Sir—

Your Circular in relation to the Census is received.

We would like to have a little light on the subject, if it is consistent.

What is the principal object of going over the ground again? Several of the inhabitants of this vicinity—of this county—are connected with the school districts in Cayuga Co.

If you have received no names of individuals to act for you in this vicinity, I will attend to the business for you, in this district, providing you

will furnish me with answers for those who will say that they have given an account &c.

Respectfully yours S. Edwards Todd

Slaterville Oct 29/60

Dear Sir

In reply to your wish I would say the farmers that I have talk with say they can't tend to it We are all behind with our farming work

I am very well acquainted with most of the farmers of Caroline I think you will find it very difficult in getting the Agricultural Statistics of the County in that way

If you wish it I'll take the job of School Dis No 3 of Caroline & Dryden

Yours truly

Johnson Quick

F. O. J. Smith
Oct 30. 60.

Portland Oct 30/60

E. Connelly Esq
Dear Sir -

It is important to you & to me that you should be present at my trial with Chester - He will doubtless want your testimony in some things - & I shall also - He did say formerly, to my self, that he would procure you to attend - But lately he keeps shady, & to save a postponement of the trial, I write to request your attendance, on the 8th of November at 10 o'clock - & beg with you every matter that can bear on his & your answer -

ments, & your duty
now, that the exact
facts may be develop-
ed - which is all I
ask for - If I can hold
him, as I hope to do
so, for the Erie Line, it
will relieve us for our
differences - & he cannot
recover back of you under
any circumstances - You
are aware of my claim
upon him - & it is, that he
in pursuance of his relations
to me, as my counsel, took
advantage of the information
& possession of my title
deeds and interests in dis-
pute with Morse, obtained
to fortify appropriation
of my interests in the Erie
Line, & fraudulently par-
ticipated in the proceeds
of that appropriation -
and wholly disregarded
the duty of the confi-
dence & engagement of
my interests - He knew the
legal & equitable title to
the Patents, & to the structure
connected with the Patents
were in me - he knew upon
my title deeds in his possession
as my counsel - He advised
to a sale of them by you to the
E. R. R. Co - & partook of
the benefits of such sale -
I am aware of the proceedings
by courts of the Line be-
tween, I say, as between him &
myself - he as counsel & I
as client, those proceedings,
whatever validity they may
have between certain of the
parties, are no bar in a pro-
tection of his unfaithfulness to-

wards me. I claim the
value of my interest in
that suit of land, as my
measure of damages. If
I recover, you can at once
perceive how it reduces
the distance between you
& myself. Now all I require
is, to have facts from you,
as they transpired. You have
no occasion to inform him
of this letter of my views.
Nor can this affect any [redacted] you or
I may entertain of the af-
fair between you & me. I may
recover of him. Retain it if,
you cannot be prejudiced by
an exhibit of the exact truth, &
all the facts. If you are in
N. York, if you choose, I can
summon you, & have nothing
whatever on your part. Ac-
knowledge me receipt of this, if you
will & write. Yours truly F. W. Lincoln

M. B. Wood Oct 30. 60

Oil Works Oct 30th 1860

Dear Ezra

Your letter is at hand & I would like to have something new to write you but I have to say we have no goose necks yet & nothing done to the Retorts I went to Newark to see when they would get them ready They promise to ship them this week. I sent them two casks of oil No for 25th & 41 for 65th & 42. for casks if not returned & a draft on Johnson for the ballance of their a/c. I also sold 120 gallons in Rosco for 65th and have only two casks left in all of light oil. I met Capt Stewart in the street & talked a little about heavy oil, and he said he

would take what we had on hand at 25¢ I think we had better let him have it I have paid J. Butlers a/c up & he is to make 6 barrels for us at $1,50 a piece iron bound that will hold oil as a sample He will select the timber and glue them ~~through~~ thoroughly while putting them together. I have also paid Lewis prety nearly up. The debts ~~are~~ are not crowding here now. I have the crops prety nearly secured. The Coxes have Vamoused, Left, Gone, Vacated, Absquatulated, Departed from our premises, Robinson is Rejoicing & fixing up the little log shop on lower side of road for smithing this winter, I let him have 500 long board shingles that Raymor split out, to cover it.

Wagner is sick with a bad cold & sore eyes and the stills are idle. We got the pipes & condensing trough up in prety fair order.

I have to run after those fellows that have pastured horses too much. I will fix them next season. The cattle men will all pay up prompt.

I think you better come out soon after Election & help put in the work for the Retorts & see them start. Bring M. A. along. Your room is fitted up for you complete. Phebe & Arlina is getting the house to shine considerable. Jack has broke up the old waggon prety bad & it will take

some time to repair it if no help can be had beside me. He keeps sober & works well at the fences. J. N. Davis has moved over south about 4 miles for winters job, so I have got rid of fixing up that old house. I bought his hay so as to keep it on the place Milton Whitaker moves to Medina County next month but I have secured & paid for the use of his tools for the year, so we shall not be discommoded by his leaving. Bills has left his shop & gone over to Greasecopolis or Skunk hollow to work. I wish his family was there. Come round soon as convenient

Yours truly
M. B. Wood

New York Nov 1st 1860

E. Connell Esqr.

Dear Sir.

The course of proceedings which D. Chrestman pursues in regard to settling up this Trustee business, lays me under the necessity of applying to you again to ascertain what you have sent him on my acct since your last letter to me dated April 27th 1860. There is some hindrance I know of with you would inform me if any thing has occured in his transactions with you that might be an obstacle in the way of winding this business to a close. - You know how much he has among me & can judge in some measure of what I have suffered by him - if you will reply to this as soon as you possibly can you will much oblige

Yours truly

53 West 25th St. Caroline L. Stokes

Western Union Telegraph Co.

SECRETARY'S OFFICE,

Rochester, N. Y. Nov. 2 1860

6 Cornell

Lin. Sept. Lee receipts $46.470 73
Extra 3.976.58
50.447.31

O L & wiring expenses $21.667.82
Rent of Lines 857.36 28.525.18
$21.922.13

At the meeting, when you was here an agreement was entred substantially to carry out the understanding of Sibley at Washington. Our Co. was to apply for a charter & then the Co. was to be organised. In the meanwhile our directors were to manage it

At a subsequent meeting it was agreed that Creighton should go to Salt Lake city — that Nash should go to California as soon as practicable, and that Sibley should visit associated companies to get the best terms he could. He has been to Utica & was to meet Benspill & Brooks in N.Y. — Whether he will apply to American Co for the present is doubtful.

Since our meeting, some of our directors have been discussing the question to buy and

get you to go on the proposed route. But no action has been taken. Some thought you would consent to go & others not. No action has been taken upon the question.

Rufsell in N.Y. wants to sell out. This is good news. It goes to show he is going to the bat. I hope no one will buy his stock. So long as he holds it we shall have a pledge that he will not try to impair its value. If he sold he would be head-devil in getting up opposition lines. In haste

Resp'y

J R Elwood

J. R. Elwood
Nov 3, 1860

Office of the American Telegraph Company,
Rochester, Nov. 3. 1860.

Ezra Cornell, Esq.

Dear Sir As you and I were among the first to appreciate & embark in the "American Telegraph" enterprize; and as the lapse of time (after all the "lightning was") leaves us both in friendly intercourse, — and, furthermore, as we both have pastialities for Agricultural pursuits — I take the liberty to submit for your consideration my Circular announcing the advent of the "American Telegraph," which inaugurates a revolution in farm labor not less remarkable than that which the Electric Telegraph has accomplished in correspondence.

I write more particularly to say that it would afford me pleasure to see you present on Wednesday, Nov. 7, at one o'clock, (earlier or later,) at the grounds of Messrs Ellwanger & Barry in Rochester — when several distinguished Agriculturists will be present from different quarters to examine the Structure & working of the "Telegraph" — among which persons will be (as they have written me) Hon Jas. S. Wadsworth of Geneseo, Hon Burrow Kenney of Illinois, Hon Turner of the Albany Cultivator, Hon Lewis F. Allen of Buffalo, Hon John J. Thomas of Lockport — and some prominent Agriculturists of this neighborhood.

I say to you, friend Cornell, that there is a matter worthy of enterprize — promising returns in Europe & America, unheard of even the Telegraph can surpass. I address you the more freely, because I know you investigate closely as well as labor persevere[d]ly. If you will come here then, I will tell you freely the particulars — & if you, for yourself or your son, think proper to investigate & have or less in the matter, (but little capital will be required,) I feel sure you will not leave here without concurring in my opinion of the value & greatness of the opportunity.

Now, at this early day in the development — now is the time for sagacious enterprize to embark in this new & valuable field.

Yours truly, Henry O'Reilly.

H. A. Risley
Nov 3. 1860

Ezra Cornell, Esq
Telegraph Proprietor,
Ithaca.
Tompkins Co. N. Y.

Mary Robertson 52 52
Nov 4. 60 26 130 =

#65

Albion Nov 4th 1860

Dear Brother,

Father received your kind letter in due time and requested us to answer it. The letter done him a great deal of good it seemed to cheer him up very much. He has been quite unwell for a few days past with a kind of influense he is better The most of the time since he has been here he has been very smart and has seemed quite contented and happy. He has been with us since he came to Albion as that was his choice and says that he intends to spend his days here We are very glad To do all we can for his comfort and happiness and we

are sorry to have it seem necessary
to have pay for taking care of him
But our house is to small and
poor to be comfortable for our
family it therefore becomes
necessary that we should collect
and lay up means to build anew
We are trying to make arrange-
-ments to do so next summer
we shall have to get in debt
some and as you express your-
-self able and willing to pay
his expenses and only not feel it
a duty but a pleasure we shall
be very greatful in receiving
it I (Mary) talked with Jane on
the subject she thought it worth
3 dollars per week but we should
feel satisfied with 2½ dollars per
week We are only sorry that
we are not able to take care
of our Father without the aid of
any one

I have 80 acres of timber land
lying 4½ miles south and 1 mile
west of the village of Homer
which I will give you a deed of for
$480,00 which would assist me very
much in my building if
you have money to lay out in
that way. As to the specimins
of Oak and acorns you are over
two months too late for them for
this year but for other specimins
I shall be proud to supplie your
club with at the earliest convenien
We have had a glorious season
for crops for all those that has
attended to their business.
We have a beautiful crop of apples,
Our Grator news is rather
limited Still we understand
that their crops is first rate
Edward is expected here soon
as a witness in Jackson circuit

About Irving Wood hes is here
with us he came here sick
about the middle of Oct.
we doctored him up he is
now a husking corn for
me now. He intends going
to school this winter
and has means to do so of
his own

Nov 6th

The ground is alittle whitened
with snow this morning for the
first time this season
Father feels pretty well this
morning he had been calculating
to go to election to day but the
air is rather raw and he has
given it up as he has but
little interest there not being
a voter

With our respects to all
inquiring we close
yours as ever
W. D.
S. C. Gorrell Mary E. Robertson

McLean Nov 6 1860

Orianna Connell

Sir

Jane requested me to write to me in due time requesting me to send the Name of some one that would take the Census of 1860 of our School Dist I would present the Name Newton Chapman being a competant person & will attend to it

Yours Resp J P Hart

Mc Lean Nov. 6th 1860

Mr. Ezra Cornell

Sir in answer to your Circular of the 22d of Oct. last. I write at this time

I have talked with most of the inhabitants of this School Dis. and find them favorable to the idea of having an agricultural ~~a~~ census taken in their District. You can send Blanks to Gilbert McLean Francis who will do what he can to aid you in your undertaking.

Yours Truly

John B Hart

Lansing Nov 7. 1860

Mr Cornell.

Dr sir —

I received your letter wishing me to select some one in our District that would perform the business of circulating the blank you wish to send I have done so and Mr Rufus J. Drake said he would do it. Please send your blank to him.

Yours Truly.

E. Allen.

Caroline Co Va

Dear Sir

I have talked with some of my neighbors in regard to getting your blanks filled and I will do you the favor or undertaking to get them filled if it is your pleasure that I should do it

Yours very respectfully

P. H. Coward

Lansing Nov 11th 1862

E Cornell Esq

Sir

Yours in regard to taking the Agricultural Statistics of the County of Tompkins this fall was duly received, and I have endeavored to get some enterprising farmer to procure the desired information, but have failed, I belong to S. District No 12 Genoa together with 2 other farmers of this town, There is also a part of another Dist, west of me in this town that belongs to Genoa,

If you will send me the blanks I will volunteer to take these two parts of districts and also the district East of me comonly called the German dist, I do not know the No's but you can ascertain by seeing our Supervisor who will be in Ithaca on Tuesday of the present week,

Yours very Respectfully

D Crocker

Statesville Nov. 13th 1860

Ezra Connell Esqr

Dear Sir, I received through the politeness of S. C. Green a couple of blanks (Sheets) (from you) for taking the census of this School District

It appears to me that it could be done with far more accuracy after the first of Jan. next than now, for several reason to wit.

In the first place there is but a small part of the thrashing done in this section of the Co. next there is a large proportion of the Corn crop yet to be harvested, Neither is the dairy season quite closed nor is its products marketed to any great extent, So I think you will agree with me in the above suggestion

But if you desire it done immediately I will attend to it with as little delay as possible

Yours in haste

Peter Mills

P. S. Please let me hear from you in relation to the matter at your earliest convenience

P. M.

D. B Cornell
Nov 16. 60

Belvidere Nov 16th 60

Dear Brother

Your kind favor containing draft for $50, came duly to hand – and with the bother and trouble of moveing & getting settled I have neglected to answer it until the present I am doing my fall plowing as fast as possible and with 10 or 12 days more open weather which for this climate we may reasonably expect I shall finish it –
I intend to put in 20 acres wheat 20 acres corn 8 acres oats and 2 acres potatoes, beans, beets, carrots and garden stuff generaly in the spring, my land is high & dry so I can get crops in as early as any body & earlier than the most

of my neighbours. I have all the corn I can husk for 2 weeks after I get done plowing — part of which I get 1/6 & part 2/5 for husking. we have had great rejoicings over our Election triumph & every body are Republicans now. Democrats have all dried up & blown away ~~sorry~~ hands are so stiff & sore I can scarsely hold my pen we are in usual health

Yours in haste

E B Conell

C Conell Esqr
Ithaca

New York Nov: 17th. 60

E. Cornell Esqr

Dear Sir

I wrote you on the 1st of this month begging you to reply at your earliest convenience & let me know if any obstacle had arisen in your transactions with Dr. Chesman to retard his settling up his trust business — Will you please reply to this at once & give me an answer to that & to where in I asked also for a statement of your transactions with the Dr. for the last 6 months — since you gave me the last statement. — We had a meeting before the Referee yesterday but could make no progress — Dr. C's Lawyer had not ready the required Papers — I wish I could find out the hindrance — hoping you will attend at once to this (as there

if another Meeting
next week

appointed for
I am yours truly
Caroline L. Stokes
53 W. 25th St.

Norfield Nov 19th 1860

Mr E. Kennedy

Dear Sir — Yours of the 7th was duly rec'd —

Presuming that you by this time would like to know what disposition I am making of the "Blanks" you sent me, I send you this line to inform you that I have not been able to put them all, as yet in proper hands on account of business which has kept me pretty close at home.

There are some 5 or 6 districts in the out parts of the town which I presume I shall be obliged to personally visit.

I think I can spare the time during the present week.

Of course I cannot send you

the list of names now, which you desired. As far as I have given out the Blanks I have requested them to be returned to me in time for me to forward to you by the first of Dec.

There is a school dist: No 10 also joint dists Nos 6, & 12 which were overlooked in your enumeration for this town. The Blanks also for Jt dists Nos 9 & 10 were not received. Will you please send me remaining Blanks as soon as possible - if not convenient I can have the census taken on those which I now have.

Yours Respectfully C M Starr

M N Wood Nov 20. 60

Oil works Nov 20th/60

Dear Ezra

I have neglected writing you too long but my excuse is I wanted to get something done worth writing about but have not yet effected any thing I have got the old goose neck on retorts all cut of & cleaned out of main all ready for the new but they have not yet arrived. I have written the machine Co about them & they say you only ordered one. I am going down there to day with the condense pipe to get it fixed & will see if I cant hurry them

up a little. Wagner is ready to leave and is only waiting for you to come & settle with him. I think it is about time he left There is not a thing about the refinery in shape of glass or tin ware, all has been broken up & scattered about He makes no words about it only every thing is wrong about the place He goes to Cincinnati to refine parafene & thinks he will be able to get a patent for his improvement I have been tinkering with Stewart about the heavy oil till I am satisfied it is best to ship it to Buffalo. I wrote to Tanner but get no answer. I have sold all the light oil we have on hand for 65 & 75 & barrels returned. Stewart has a lot of oil here for us to finish & wants Orson to take charge of the work on it & said he did not want him interfered with & would furnish all the help he wanted. We have all the barrels & tanks full of Par—afene & heavy black oil which I dont know what to do with. I believe it better be emptied in the gulf & set fire to it It has been on hand near a year & cant be sold Cold weather is coming &

fast & I have nothing
yet prepared for the
care of our cattle.
The men having pasture
hold off about pay till
they get them into market
which is a little dull they
say. I have tried to get
Wagner to press out the
parapene but he rather
set round the house than
work at it. I keep Jack
& the oxen at work on
fences all the good weather
I hope to report soon
that the setorts have
started & oil running
Come round if you can
& help advise
Your truly
M. B. Wood

Palmyra Jefferson County Wis
Nov 23rd 1860

Ezra Cornell Esq

Dear Sir

506/100

Yours of Nov 5th was this day received very well I recollect of writing to you about the Etrurian and a hoppy idea it was for this State that I did do. By obtaining that Wheat was thousands of Dollars in the pockets of the farmers of this State

At that time there was no good reliable White Winter in the Country and I like others was placing on the best I could in the hard times that effected all the States of this Country

We were many of us very much discouraged and I among the rest and the next Spring I traveled across the Continent to California I obtained some gold but Decrepitated more than its equivalent in health I returned Sold my farm Moved to this place and Engaged in the Mercantile Business and have Continued

in that business ever since (although but still not personally engaged in agricultural pursuits I feel a deep interest in the prosperity of that portion of our Citizens who follow that Calling once when I can aid or assist or throw any light on the Subject I take pleasure in doing it

Now about the Wheat in this vicinity I think there has not been a very great many varieties Cultivated the last season There was but a very little Winter Wheat Sowed last Fall The Crop Sowed in the fall of 1858 was almost a total failure this discouraged many from Sowing and others Could not obtain Seed to Sow Consequently almost our whole Crop this Season is of the Spring Varieties Mostly Canada Club and Fife

I do not Know how far I can succeed in getting up any thing that would be of interest Enough to warrant my Sending you a batch of Samples but I will endeavor to interest Some of our principal farmers to furnish me with Samples for that purpose and if I Succeed in getting Varieties enough So that I think it would be any object to you to receive it I will Send it on as Early as Convenient with Name History &c as far as I can obtain the desired information

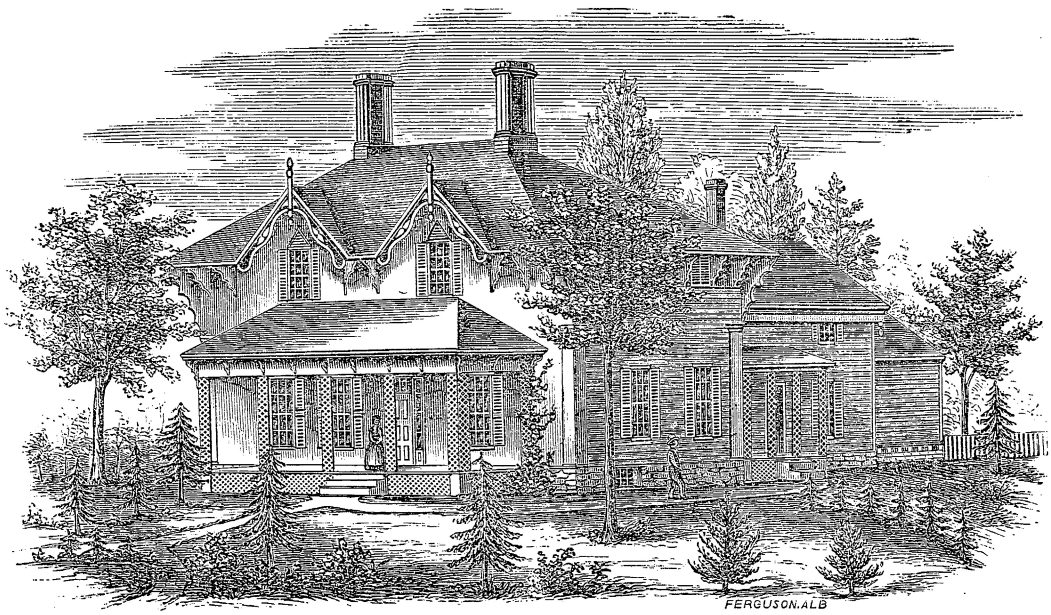
Respectfully Yours
M. Holmes

McLean Nov 24/60

Ezra Cornell Esq

Dr Sir, I received the blanks for taking the agricultural statistics for School Dist No 13 in the town of Groton, Among the items Fences Walls & Drains of different modes of construction. Now is it designed to include only those constructed the present year, or all that are now standing and in actual operation

Respectfully Yours
Gilbert Primeau



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Author of "The Young Farmer's Manual," a large 12mo. vol. of about 460 pages, with 200 illustrations of gates, fences, farm implements and tools, with a view of a farmer's work-shop, with plain directions for putting them in order, and for handling them skillfully, &c.; published by C. M. Saxton, Barker & Co., 25 Park Row, N. Y. City, and sent post paid, by the Author or Publishers, on the receipt of price, $1.25

Lake Ridge, Nov. 26th. 1860.

Mr. E. Cornell—

Dear Sir—

Your letter and Blanks as need.

This school dist. is No. 1, Lansing. The school house is located some 8 or 10 rods from the "Top-onion Hotel," near the center of the great metropolis, Lake Ridge, and directly opposite the Park. (See County Map.)

My manner of taking the statistics in my dist. is, to hand the blank to a neighbor, and Request him to fill it out, opposite his name, and then, I see that another neighbor has it the next evening.

By this means, I think we shall be able to obtain every thing much more correctly, than in the usual way.

I suppose it will be proper for me to take the statistics of those farmers, who belong in school districts in Cayuga Co.

Very Respectfully yours
S. Edwards Todd.

Rawson Hollow Nov 26. 1860

Dear Sir

Agreeable to your request, the No of this School District is 8. The District south of me is in Speedsville and I think the No is 21, and I should think that S. P. Ashley attend to your request ——— The district north of me I do not know the No of — but think Hiram W. Tyler would fill out your paper for you — There is also a part of District 8. north only 2 families in our town. I will give you Benjamine Krum — gets his letters at West Richford P. O. Tioga Co.

N. B. H. W. Tyler gets his letters at Rawson Hollow P.O

E. Cornell Esq

Yours &c L. Kingman

Hempstead, Nov. 27. 1860

My dear Sir:

Yours of the 22d was duly received, and I hasten to comply with the request. By Express I send you samples of the Grain and Corn which received premiums, with the weight, all being measured in a sealed half bushel, and weighed with the same scales. I thank you for giving me an opportunity of contributing our little mite to your museum of samples, and only regret that my time was so occupied that I could not gather more.

We had a large and interesting meeting, nearly 30 samples of butter and a very large quantity of grain, vegetables, fruit, poultry &c was exhibited. The wheat marked, "Field crop" was from a lot of nearly 4 acres yielding nearly 42 bushels per acre, the corn varying from 60 to 100 bushels.

Accept my dear sir, the assurance for yourself of my cordial friendship.

Very sincerely yours
John Harold, Sec'y

Ezra Cornell, Esq.

State Agricultural Rooms,

Albany, Nov 28 1860.

Sir:

You are requested to attend a meeting of the Executive Committee, at the Agricultural Rooms, Thursday, Dec 6th at 12 o'clock

B. P. Johnson

Secretary.

E. Cornell Esq

Miller Chace
Dec 1, 1860

Fall River 12 mo 1 1860

My dear Nephew
Ezra Cornell

I wrote to thy Father a few days since I hope I shall here from him by same one I believe I have not made a letter from the time the was here I had a Telegraft from the a few days since, I was not at home when it came which was at Eleven I came home at twelve went directly to the office and sent the information the wanted and gave the insinuation to come to Fall River to see the doings the nisi prius case which was granted indeed I wish the was here, I have not heard weather the hurt had the grape vines I hope the has

The small vine I a white grape very good the other I got of a man in Tiverton they are a purple grape and very good I had some of them, there is a few other kinds that I will find the next year after rooting them if the wants, I have read the China journals regularly all this week, thy letters was very interesting to us, if I could write like the I should do more at it than I do I never was much of a chatter and I have failed in what I have now so you must excuse the imperfection I had a letter from Edward Chase a few days since, he writes that he has a fine crop of corn he thinks he shall have 25 hundred bushels when all in 15 hundred already in the crib

Edward thinks he shall make the a visit the coming season and thinks he will come as far as Fall River, I hope he will do so, we are all well as usual and getting along as well as could be expected for people in our time of life we are fast passing away to give room for others, I want to here often from all of you there and thy Father in particular I wanted to here the remainder of thy journey and the visit to Lightner Rock I think the I able to do it good justice we have not all the letters that was published in the paper I should like to have it in a pamphlet form, how is the subscribing in making Ails close the Ail Springs at the

I want thee to write me soon
and let me know if thee has
got the box I sent and did
thee git the information thee
wanted and at what time of
day as the machine was at
work when I was in the office
though he said he would send
it I do not think of any
thing more at this time that
would interest thee so I will
Close for the present
Our family who are all
present wish to be remembered
to thee and thine they will
in particular
Affectionately thy uncle
Ezra Cornell Miller Chase

McLean Dec 1st 1860

Dear Sir

I received your
Circular a few days since
and have been from home since
until last Evening
If You will forward a blank
To me I will endeavor
To have it filled out with
the information you require
and returned as soon as
I can conveniently do so

Respectfully Yours &c
John Young Jr

E, Cornwell Esq

Chicago Ill 12th Mo 2nd /60

Ezra Cornell

At the time the Erie and Michigan Telegraph Line was being put up we were living in Battle Creek Michigan, & my husband took one share upon which he had paid $35.00 when we left that place — we moved ~~down~~ to Cincinatti & heard no more of it, untill within the past year, since living in Chicago, a gentleman of Detroit has several times written to my husband asking if he wishes to sell it — My husband is now in Ohio & will be for Months to come he has sold his right in the Telegraph line to our son doing business here, he has communicated with the office here & in Rochester & they refer him to thee as President of the road at that time — The receipt which his Father held is lost — he remembers distinctly having one but cannot find it now — What we desire is to know what my son can do to make his claim to his fathers share good & what will

then be due upon it— we are informed that it is & has been for sometime at par has there been any dividend that might be applied to make the share whole so that we may obtain a certificate— The gentleman in Detroit seems anxious to buy & my son is to sell— we have been unfortunate and are greatly in need of the money I hope to hear from them soon

Rebecca W Mott
Chicago Illinois
PO box 3044

P S my husband will at any time affirm that he has paid $35 on his share— I may yet find the receipt but we have moved several times & I fear it is irrecoverably lost—

Rebecca W. Mott
Dec 2, 1862

J. E. Paine
Dec 3, 1860

Franklin Dec 3d 60

Ezra Cornell

Dear Sir

I received your note of Nov 19th in due time. I was very glad to hear that Homer had got one more calf to perpetuate his race. If I had the calf, I should think a good deal of it. It seems very strange that Homer should get calves up to Feb. 10th 1860 and in May following should be entirely impotent.

There is some features of the case that are very curious. Those Cows that Homer served have been in heat over and over again; it has been impossible to get many of them in calf

I should think that perhaps there was some trouble with the cows but for this fact that cows have been drove from several adjoining towns and a good many different dairies and in almost every case the cows selected for Homer to serve have shaved as spoken of above while there has been no difficulty whatever with the other cows of the herd

We had very good luck in getting the Calves home At first it was impossible for one to lead them both as they were inclined to fight to much but while at Richford where we stayed the first night I procured a stick and a hole in each end and inserted those rings which Alonzo gave us This was placed between the Calves and fastened to their halters after which they behaved themselves very well and I soon had them broke to drive with a whip like a yoke of oxen our little team attracted considerable attention It was quite amusing to har the remarks of people as we passed along some thought the calves were very nice others could buy pins as good for ten dollars apiece a good many asked if they were twins to which I replied that they were only one happened to be three months older than the other The Calves grew poor while on the road especialy Prince as I could not get him to eat

any meal but I gave him milk occasionally when I could get it Mr Edwards is well suited with his calf Prince is doing finely and I think that I shall be able to show something pretty nice one of these days I have received a letter from Thorne's Herdsman in answer to some inquiries about the dam of Duke of Oxford he wrote that she was an excellent cow giving 24 or 25 qts of milk pr day and would keep it up for months I think that from Prince of Oxford and the heifer Petroona which I purchased at Col Sherwoods sale I shall rear some fine dairy stock I am inclined to brag a little about Petroona The last of Nov I drew from her about five qts of milk at one milking she having been milked as usual the morning previous which was set for about 48 hours when the cream was taken off and churned the process occupying just two minutes and producing just one pound of butter

Edgar Payne Franklin

M. B. Wood
Decr 4. 1860

Oil works Dec 4th/60

Dear Ezra

Your letter of 26 ult is here and I have but a few minutes to write before the mail closes, for you must know that every one going to the river is mail carrier and we dont know who is going but few minutes before they start. We are all in tolerable health & are doing as well as we can but have a hard job getting our folks up in the morning. My feet are getting bad again although I have taken as much care I could of them. They cant stand cold weather. They are painful

Wagner left on the 19th Nov
I settled with him satisfactor
-ally & paid him $65. cash
& assumed $53. at Stebbees
& promised to send the bal.
soon as I could. We owed
him on settlment $300.
I have had men at work
at retorts the past week
but it is so cold they cant
do much. Our water pipes
& pump & boiler freeze up
when we are not firing
all the time & I have to let
out the water often. The
heavy oil lies on the dock
& canal froze so I suppose
it will stay there through
the winter. Orson has run
out Stewarts oil & it looks
nice. I think he can make
as good oil as Wagner did

I hope to start the retorts
this week if the weather
is so we can work. We are
out of barrels & no storage
so I think I will burn the
parafine oil and relieve
all the crude oil barrels we
have on hand. I have paid
all the debts here except
J. Thompson & Hay & Harbaugh
When I get the retorts going
the debts will accumulate
& in the spring I shall have
nothing to pay with but
a lot of unsalable oil
The prospect is poor indeed
for our expenses are enormas
when we attempt to set the
works going. There is something
out of order all the time
The copper condenser leaked
so bad I had to go to Newark

for repairs & could not get it done there & had to go to Columbus to a copper Smith & I paid out $10. in the trip

Our taxes are now due & I have no money to pay them but can collect enough I think of the pasturage to meet it I am glad to hear your cattle & sheep are housed & cared for this cold weather. It is not so here. Cattle sheep & horses are roaming over the fields without shelter & but little care. I have a little shed with straw roof to keep the oxen under & have a colt to ride & draw jumper of one of the coal diggers Edgar writes that he has closed up his service in Indiana & will be here this week. We shall live through the winter some how. Jack flares up pretty often. They feed whiskey pretty over the hill. Hope you can enlist Curtis in the oil business.

Yours Truly
W. B. Wood

J. H. Millspaugh
5 Dec 1860

Hyde Park Dec 5th 1860

Uncle Ezra.

I send you by express to day two pictures, which I painted for portraits of your stock. The "Duke of Oxford" & "Lady Booth" I cannot say how faithfully they are represented in regard to color, though I think the drawing is good, providing the cuts in your catalogue are faithful delineations I painted them for you for Christmas presents, and hope at least they will please you as pictures if not as portraits. I could have done better no doubt had I seen the animals, as it is hard telling by wood cuts, whether the marks are designed for shadows

or colored spots. and it is so long since I saw them that I could not recollect the color of the roan
I hope Uncle Ezra. that you and Aunt Mary Ann will come to see us sometime if you can find leisure
We are all well, and Mamma unite with me in sending you all our kindest wishes

Your affectionate Nephew

John W. Millspaugh

To Ezra Cornell Esqr

Albion Dec 7th 1860

Dear Brother

Your letter of Nov 29 received last week and was happy to here you were all well. Father received a letter from Uncle Miller Chace last week saying they were well at Fall River I received a letter from Thomas Chace some 4 weeks since informing me of the death of Cousin Elizabeth Earl who was living with her sister Sarah in Davenport Illinois You remember of seeing her I have no doat She was a very aimable and lovely woman was unmarried Father is very well and goes over to Janes almost every day he still reads a great deal of the time My children all go to school and seem to be improving in their Studies Mott is 15 yrs old to day he is quite a help to his father I am doing my work at present which is quite small for me. We are having steady winter weather but not very cold as yet

We should be glad to receive the $65
in January if convenient as Hiram
has not sold his wheat yet and dont
want to at present prices if he can get
along without doing so as it is only
worth 50 cents a bushel for the best
Hiram would be very glad to hire $300
of you in June if you could accomodate
him with it Please let him know soon
if he intends to build and wants to buy
some of the material this winter Please
give my love to Mary Etta and the children

Affectionately your sister
Mary C Robertson

E Cornell Ithaca

12/12/60

THE McTAVISH CASTLE.—A Highlander, once directing a cabman to a certain locality, commenced as follows:—"Do you know McTavish's?" "Yes." "Well, it's not there." This lucid direction shows at least the prominent place that the "Haunted House" holds in the ideas of the people. Many and strange have been the stories we have heard from the more credulous portion of our citizens, and still more strange those which thoughtful American travellers have received from the mouths of our voluble cabmen, and borne off to their wondering countrymen as among the weird stories commonly believed by the unsophisticated Montrealers. The many versions of the death of the founder of the mansion, and the stories connected therewith of strange noises, and the evil-spirits that at night-fall got into the workmen's tools, causing the said tools to perform strange dances on the floor, on

account of which impertinent interference the building was stopped, were good stories to tell round the fireside in the servants' hall, but soon lost all credence when one in broad day-light entered the most unromantic of ruins, and found that there was not a floor, but the bare earth for the tools to dance on.

The site of the McTavish mansion was the best in the city, and does more honor to the taste of the founder than the barbarous architecture of the building itself, which, like our French Parish Church, has no other claim to admiration than its size. It was evidently intended that the splendid slope which spreads out in front of the edifice was to be a lawn, and the large property behind, on which a stone monument to the old Nor'wester now stands, was to be the magnificent domain of the clan for generations. The dining-hall, occupying the whole of one of the wings, was circular and arched overhead, and surrounded with many windows. The house is about three-quarters of a mile from St. Antoine Street, which, at the time it was built, was the nearest thoroughfare. This old structure is mixed up with all the earliest associations of natives of Montreal, and our pleasure at seeing such an eye-sore removed is not unmingled with regret. One after another the mansions of the jovial old Nor'westers is disappearing. Beaver Hall, once the seat of the Frobishers, being of wood, was razed by the flames in '47. McTavish Castle disappears in '60, and Burnside, the residence of the generous James McGill, the Merchant Prince of 1800, is being hidden by more modern and comfortable, but also more ephemeral, brick buildings. The name, however, of this latter will not be wiped out with the mansion which he reared; for farther up the hill, and side by side with that which is about to disappear, he leaves a nobler and more durable monument than any palatial mansion,—a monument which, instead of disappearing from among the people, and the place of it knowing it no more for ever, is doubtless destined to increase in magnitude and usefulness whilst time lasts. We of course refer to the College which bears his name, and which is every year rooting itself more firmly in the affections of the Canadian people.

Montreal Telegraph Company.

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE.

MONTREAL, Dec 28th 1886

My Dear Sir

Your letter in regard to Varieties of Canadian wheat Comm was duly received and handed over to Mr Logan for Collection. I have not seen him for some time past therefore do not know how he is succeeding. I presume that he has not yet threshed his own wheat or I would have reed notice of its having been delivered to the Express to be forwarded to you. When I see him again I will enquire about it.

I have finally completed my plans & Specifications for a house & have Contracted for the building. It will Cost me two or three thousand dollars more than I intended to put into a house when I began to think of building but it is to be a Cobble of Stone with the 4 Sides laid in Courses Similar to Mr Morgans house at Aurora

All of the principal division walls on the inside to be of brick & everything about it to be built in the most substantial manner & to include all modern improvements. I think when finished it will be as good a house as there is on the Island though very much less expensive — Exclusive of heating I expect it will cost me a little over $9000 — The demolition of the old house has already commenced as you will observe by a paper which I will send with this. I have contracted to have possession on the 1st of March 1862. fifteen months from this time —

My health is much better than it was during the Summer. After the visit of Dr Windship to Montreal I took up Gymnastic exercises and find that the threatened loss of use of my left arm arose from want of use as it now seems to be about as good as the other. I shall try to give it work enough hereafter —

Do you know what the next dividends of the N H Co are likely to be? They must have done a

prodigious business the last autumn. I am anxious to know what arrangements are likely to be made for Conducting business upon the old homestead now that Otis has left or is about leaving it. I have not heard from any one at home for several weeks

Julia & the Children are quite well — Hollon does not walk yet though he could do it with the greatest ease if he were to try — Mary has got to be a fine reader almost self taught

With much love to Mary Ann and Children

I remain

Yours &c

A. Wood