Aster House Jany 1. 1860

E. Connell Esq

Dr Sir

I learn by a Tel from your bro that you are in Ohio and I wish to repeat what I wrote you some days since that I will invest some money in our scrip and wish your lowest price for the bal of what you have I am offered some here but do not like the price understanding you had sold some to Mrs Potter & Elwood thought perhaps you would like to sell more

Our Company made a dividend of the funds on hand payable on the 10th inst of 2½ pr cent We had money enough to have added ½ pr cent more and made 3 pr cent but we are aiding in constructing a line west of St Louis in the direction of California & will require our earnings for some time to come in aid of that Enterprise which seems to be indispensible in order to keep the control in the great west Pleas answer me at Rochester where I go on Tuesday Yours Truly Hiram Sibley

OFFICE OF THE

Breckenridge Coal and Oil Company,

Cloverport, Ky. Jany 9th 1860

Mr. E. Connell

Dear Sir

I purpose to go home about the first of February and would be glad to see you on my way. I want to see you very much. I have not heard from you in a long time. I would like to know how you are succeeding making oil.

If you receive this I wish you would drop me a line here if you get this in time so that I can get it before I leave & if you think I will not get it before I leave then write me to the care of Mssrs Allen & Co Cinc. where I shall stop on my way & can get it. Let me know where I can see you. I think I shall be at Cinc. by the first of Feb. perhaps a day or two before.

Yours

Geo Curtis

Mfork Jan 11. '60

E Connelly

Dear Sir

Your fav. of 9th is just rec'd. I can recommend a root cutter I am now making as the best ever offered, & much better than those sold 3 or 4 years ago. It splits or cracks the pieces of roots as it slices them approximating nearly to the pulping machine yet works rapidly the price is $10—

Very Truly Yrs

R. L. Allen

New York and Erie Railroad.

NATHANIEL MARSH, Receiver.

Office General Sup't, New York, Jan. 16 1860.

J. Cornell, Esq,
Coshocton, Ohio.

Dear Sir,

In reply to yours of 23d ult. I have to say that our Gen. Supply Agt. L. L. Lockwood, of this city, takes entire charge of all matters relative to oil, & he is the person to be corresponded with on that subject. Our business is light, but we are doing as well as our neighbors.

The Prest. of the N. Y. Albany & Buffalo Tel. Co. called on me last week claiming that we are using the Morse patent without any authority. Their title seems to be good, & he notified me that they should no longer pay us the $1500. they have been paying us, to do no paying through business over our line. He

seems to be right in his positions.
If so, there can be no reason why we should pay you the rent we do for our No 2 wire. I wish you could come on & arrange this troublesome telegraph matters; it looks to me that you had no right to the patents under which we are now working, & the consolidation of the rights of Morse, Kendall & Co into one party, looks to me to be troublesome in this matter.

Reply Yours
Chas. P. Mott

Tecumseh Jany 18 1860.

Ezra Cornell

Dr Sir

I have a bill of costs charged to you on a ~~Sheriff's~~ Sale of Telegraph Stock of $35,00 on which I have never rec'd a dollar — I wrote you once in regard to it & you stated you had sent the pay to your atty - but he has never paid me

I wish to have the matter paid at once by some one —

Yours truly

G. W. Ketchum

Late Shff.

Prospect Farm

Yates Janry 23 1860

Ezra Cornell Esq Dr

Sir, I notice in the New-York Weekly Tribune of January 7th you speak favorably of Hungarian Grass, I am induced to try a small peice this season, from the fact that my farm is what (is called here upland) which does not produce the quantity of hay necessary to make it proffitable to keep it for meadow. You say you raised 20 bushels of seed, can I get some seed of you, or am I too late, I notice seed advertised in Buffalo but I am rather fearful to order it from any seed store for fear I may not get the genuine article, Some contend that it is nothing more than Millet. I had much rather get my seed of some one who has raised it. I have never seen any, and it has not been introduced into this part of the country. I should like to get seed enough to sow

about Three acres, you say that 1/3 of a bushel is sufficient to sow one acre; but if you could not spare that amount could you spare enough to sow one acre or ½ an acre or even enough to sow ¼ of an acre. Will you please inform me at your earliest convenience whether you have any to sell, if so I can then order what I may want. How much is it pr Bushel and how many lbs to the bushel. Should you have it for sale I can remit you the money and have you forward it by Express. Can you inform me what kind of soil is the best adapted to it. I have a variety of soils and could sow on either viz a Clay soil, Sandy loam, Gravelly loams, and a black muck with Clay sub-soil, Do you think that 1/3 of a bushel is a plenty of seed pr acre

I read with much pleasure a description of your Herd of Thorough bred stock, from the description I think you must have a splendid Herd of the best blood, I have heard so much said of all the differant breeds of cows for Milking qualities that really I do not know which is the best for milk I therefore made up my mind one year ago to find out for myself, I accordingly purchased one full Devon Cow, one full blood Durham Cow, one ½ blood Devon Cow, and one full blood Native Cow I got them so late in the season that I could not try the experiment as I wanted to, The above cows were all selected with special refferance to milking qualities I have now sent for one of the Alderney Cows to add to my stock. Next spring my cows will all come in within ten days of each other, and I design to keep them all together and feed just alike and see if possible which of the five cows makes the most, and best quality of butter. My object is to satisfy myself with regard to which is the best breed for milking qualities

Please Direct to me (Yates Center Orleans Co. N.Y.) Enclosed please find stamp for return postage I shall hope to hear from you in due time.

Very Respectfully Yours

Dr N. F. Gates

To Ezra Cornell Esq. Forest Park

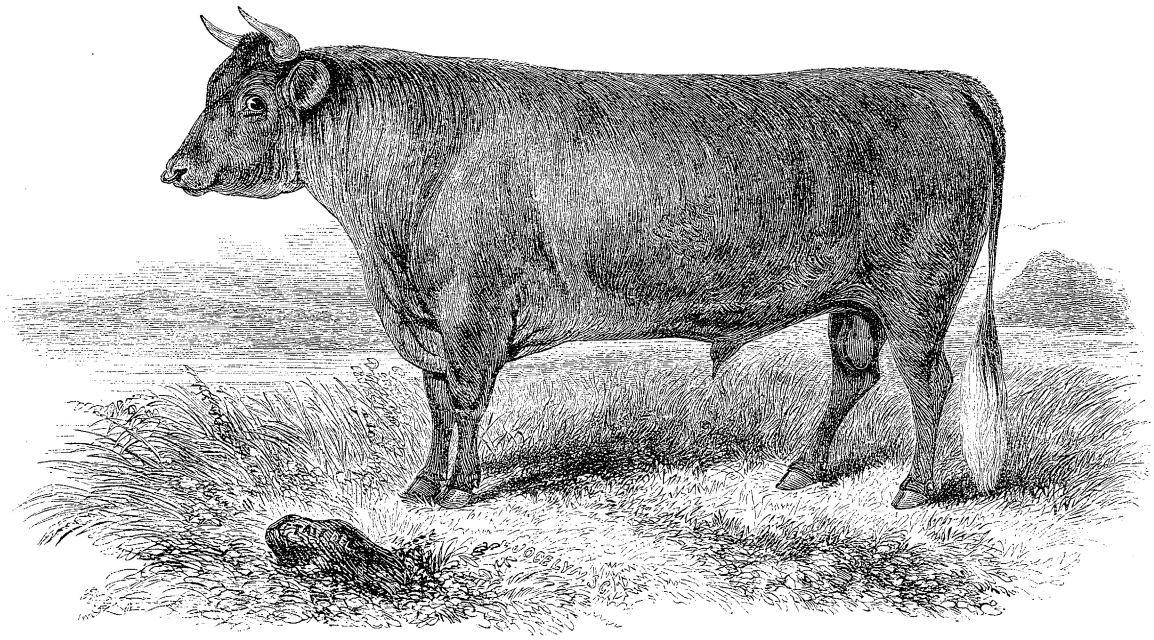
West Farms
Jan 7 24th 1860

Mr E Cornell
My Dear Sir
Col B P Johnson

writes me saying you would like to procure a copy of the Gt Col Davys Devon Herd Book. I have one remaining to sell for Mr Davys a/c - price 9/- sterling $2.25 -
If you desire it please address Faile Williams & Co 192 Chambers St New York City

Sincly Yours
Edwd Y Faile

Postage on Books 18 cts



DEVON BULL.---TECUMSEH. 567

Bred by Edward G. Faile, West Farms, Westchester Co., N. Y. Tecumseh took the first premium as a calf at the Show of the N. Y. State Agricultural Society in 1854; the first as a yearling at the Show of the same Society in 1855; the first at the Show of the U. S. Agricultural Society in 1855; the first as a two year old at the Show of the same Society, 1856; and the first at the Show of the American Institute in 1856. He was sold to Juan Emanuel Macias, Esq., and taken to the Island of Cuba, in 1857.

Clifton. Staten Island N.Y.
July 29th 1860

My dear good friend

You may imagine my feelings, when, on coming to the city Saturday Evening, I found your two dispatches announcing your ability & readiness to come to my aid in time of need, I had & housed every morn in fruitless efforts to obtain the needfull, & had, as you will say, wisely concluded to leave the event with Providence especially as I had no alternative, I answered yours from Ca. to pay to Esq Drake. You may deduct the dividend to me, from the amt required. Every year I draw somewhere in the neighborhood of $150.00 (fifteen) dividend, I was in the Coventry. I am now in the employ of the New York Kerosen oil Co. (The old Austin establishment) at 3 1/3 dollars per day, & Expenses paid. How long the arrangement will stand I do not Know, its an Experiment with them. They contemplate sending me through the United States, this year. If the Experiment of my 1st efforts around here prove good. I have been out in Newjersey this week only, & from appearances, they are well pleased. In the few minutes talk with them last evening. They said I must get Cards printed on Monday with my name on - which looks a little as though they meant to continue my services for a time, yet to say the least. I shall probly after the 1st month get $200, or I found, if so I sent, while I will of course, I will soon be able to get out of my pinch I owe here $220. I am in a little sort of a Republican place that wont do to come to the light & I thoughtlessly got into I went to the Lady I spoke, of being able to get $150 or, if I could give real estate security. Expecting to get $350, & turn her out what decently I could, but her attorney not encouraging her to let me have the money. He wanted it himself, she done not do it, but proposed to let me have $75, what I must have that Evening to pay my board

If I had got the $350, I intended to mortgage my watch & pay up the $55, I had got on it. ~~the~~ To the person letting me have the $55, I had pledged my word not to part with my watch, but keep it as security for what he let me have — In my haste to get to the last boat, as ~~you~~ I saw she seemed uneasy & afraid she had done wrong & that she would lose the 75, involuntary without a moments consideration I jerked off my watch & handed it to her as security, before I got home I thought of it, & went the next day to see her about it, but she seemed not to want to part with it. So I left it. Now I am so afraid I will be caught at it, besides I do so need my watch — In a month I will be able to take it up, if I dont buy any clothes but I am getting quite stringy & seedy & ought to have a little better suit I suppose — with what carry is doing in her Piano teaching, I shall be able to get along if I can only square up for her Piano the 1st of ~~March~~ April $165.00 & interest 6 months & now get the 55 & 75 provided for pretty soon — However I feel in pretty good spirits again. & thinks things will come around abt — right pretty soon now — I have two or three strings to my bow, now. ~~[illegible]~~ I have not much fear but I will get along — I have too long depended on my ~~friends~~ relatives here, I find better friends elsewhere — Now since I got a place I hear J, D, D, is speaking of having procured it for me. I had it & was gone before he said a word to the House & would have got along just as well without him. However if he is conscious of neglect towards me & now wishes to make amends so be it — we must ~~forgive~~ be of a forgiving spirit —

How do things get on with you — I judge you are a lucky participant also. If you have time write me all about your works & success therein, Will you be down to the City? I shall be around here for a week or so yet — I go again to New Ark, Then Orange, Hackensack and Patterson & perhaps some of the towns on L. Island always where I could here by telegraph. I will try & keep 21 Posted on my whereabouts. How do you get any time for political reflections & effusions our boys at Washington Evince good plucks. I fear some, that we shall get floored yet, come mighty near it Friday, It will be a lesson to the Republicans I think not to be flinging their votes around like caps — I vow I am afraid Smith will be elected Monday. Its rumored on the Island by Democrats, that last evening's dispatch from Wash^ton announces his election I guess not — Give my kindest regards to Alonzo Ann & Lady & Mrs E. C. & family & believe me

Yours Most Truly

W. P. Pers

Care Ino Horner
21 Wall

Essay on the Potato Rot.

By Geo. A. Hayborn.

" " "

To the President and Members of the Farmers Club.

Mr President & Gentlemen,

In giving you my theory of the cause of the potato rot, I shall not be able to present you with an elaborate essay, couched in eloquent language, and replete with scientific terms; but what this article may lack in those particulars, shall be more than ~~made~~ balanced by the simple, but truthful statements of one who has made the potato rot the subject of his study and investigation for years.

In this article I propose only to give you my theory as to the cause, and its limited length will only permit me to mention a few of the circumstances and experiments that influenced me in my belief. My first experiment in regard to the potato rot occured in the year 1847, at which time I was in the employ of Mr Benj Ferris, and at that time the rot had only been known in this country for a few years, although it had been raging in Ireland for many years previous.

Mr Ferris entertained the opinion that the rot was simply a disease of the tuber, and that if a potato that was effected by the rot was planted, that it would produce diseased potatoes, and on the contrary he held that if none but sound potatoes were planted, that they would produce sound potatoes, and the rot would thus be avoided; I differed with Mr Ferris in this opinion, and thought that potatoes that were sound when planted would produce diseased potatoes as readily as those that were diseased when planted.

Mr Ferris had instructed me to plant none but perfectly sound potatoes, but in order to test my theory I planted a few rows with potatoes that were effected by the rot, this I did upon my own responsibility, and without the knowledge of Mr Ferris, the result was—

that there was no perceptible difference in the yield of the rows planted with sound or unsound potatoes, for each produced as many sound and as many unsound potatoes as the other. This satisfied me that the disease did not originate in the ~~the~~ tuber, and I was more than ever convinced that an insect was the sole cause of the disease, this opinion was the result of my own personal observation and investigation for two or three years previous. I have frequently noticed potato vines that looked green and vigorous, and in less than two days after, they would be black and ~~wilted~~ wilted, at the same time giving out a very disagreeable smell, and have the appearance of being severely frost bitten; the potatoes produced by such vines were invariably diseased. I have often carefully examined such vines, both those that were dead, and those partly so, and I have always found without exception upon those vines an insect that was entirely new to me, and a kind that I have never been able to find upon any other vine or shrub; those vines that were free from the ravages of this insect still continued green and vigorous, and produced sound potatoes.

I then told Mr Ferris that the rot was caused by an insect, and that I could show it to him, he requested me to do so, and one morning while he was at the breakfast table I took him a vine with the insects upon it. The cause of the rot according to my theory is this, the insect that I refer to by stinging the vine poisons the juices that are carried to the tuber, there are in the potato vine two courses of circulation — the inner course circulating upward through the central part of the stalk, and nourishing the vine; and the outer course circulating downward next to the skin or bark and nourishing the tuber; and this insect by piercing the skin with its sting or bite poisons the juices which flowing downward to the tuber inoculates it with the poison, which finally causes the rot.

Anybody ~~who~~ may convince themselves in regard to the truth or falsity of my theory in regard to the circulation of the potato vine by

a very simple experiment; take a peice of string or tape and tie it tightly around the vine quite near the ground, this will stop the outer or downward circulation at that point; this should be done about the time the potatoes are setting, if the young potatoes have already set at the time you put on the string, they will immediately stop growing, and strange as it may appear — although the growth of the tubers underground is checked — vines will grow out of the stalk above the string! and no more will set on the roots, nor those already set increase in size until the string is removed and ^the circulation restored. These facts I mention to show that the disease can originate in the vine and be conveyed from the vines to the tuber, which assertion some scientific men deny.

I am now ~~thoroughly~~ thoroughly convinced that this insect, the scientific name of which is to me unknown, is the cause of the potato rot, and I have discovered and repeatedly tested a plan by which I can set the disease — which has baffled the agriculturalists ^of America and Europe — at defiance; this plan I have tested several times during the past ten years, with never failing sucess whenever I have been permitted to carry out my views; at times I have worked under orders, and cultivated the potatoes according to the plans of my employers, and when such has been the case, the rot has been as destructive as ever.

In 1859 by my plan I raised nearly 330 bushels of potatoes from one acre, for Mr J.B. Williams, these potatoes were free from rot, and according to his own admission, the best he ever raised; the following year with over four times the amount of ground planted, with the same seed of potatoes, he only raised about 200 bushels, and many of those were effected by the rot; this failure was caused solely by Mr Williams refusing to allow me to carry out the plan that had proved successful the year previous; I then predicted a failure, and my words were fully verified by the result.

I am now willing to answer any questions, in regard to my theory, that any of the members of the Club may choose to ask, always excepting such leading questions as would divulge the manner in which I prevent the rot; that is still my secret which it would no longer be were I to reveal it to the Club; but at the same time, I am willing during the coming season, to practically demonstrate my theory to a Committee of this Society, composed of men who will faithfully and impartially discharge their duties.

Ithaca, Jan 30/60

Potato Rot

Jan 30
Kings Ferry

Mr E Cornell

Respected sir

With regard to the picture of which you wrote, I am quite at a loss what estimate to put upon it: because I do not know whether it was satisfactory to you. I laboured under great disadvantage in the coloring, not being able to see any of the stock. — I wish to be reasonable in the price & will leave it very

much at your option.

I thought it perhaps ought to bring ten or fifteen dollars, but you may give what you think it worth to you. You may think me something of a novice at making a bargain & in truth I am, besides I remember much kindness received through you some two years since.

Mr Post presents his regards & joins me in saying we should be happy to see you at our house at Montville

Respectfully
Mrs G H Post

OFFICE OF THE

Breckenridge Coal and Oil Company,

Cloverport, Ky Buffalo Jany 31 1861

Mr. E Cornell

Dear Sir

I enclose you the Card of Allen & Co of Cinc. of Whom We purchase our acid which has given Satisfaction thus far They will fill your orders for acid on the same terms they supply us viz 2 3/4 for the acid & $1.50 for the Carboys allowing the same on the Carboys they Charge when returned terms a cr of 60 days,

As I shall expect to see you in Utica while I am home I will not write more at present. I expect to remain home till the 15th Feb & may stay some

longer I wish you would write me on receipt of this saying what time you design to be in Utica as I have some business out in the country & if I know about the time you will be there I will arrange to be home

Yours Truly
Geo Curtis

I have requested my friend J. S. Burt to send you one of his prospectus I am inclined to think it will increase the telegraph business —

Jan. 31st 1866

Dear Ezra

Your letter of 22nd from Cleveland was rec'd in the evening of 28th having been six days on the route. I was at Coshocton on the 24th & got the acid which had just arrived and found a Mr Bailey coming up with team & got him to take them on. I did not think to leave one with Dryden & Co. as you directed in your letter. I can leave one from the lot to arrive from Cincinnati. The iron came the next day & I have tried to get it up but cant get a team to do it for any reasonable price. We have now on hand 8 casks of finished oil which I do not know

what to do with. You gave no direction for any except the s- on hand when you left. I have got the press in operation but dont make much headway in getting out dry paraphene The trouble is to hold the compounded stuff in the box till the oil is out It comes out both at top & bottom. The oil is so thick it wont run in the gutters & spreads all over the platform If the Republicans had one broad enough to contain the stinking stuff I would try to borrow it awhile I think perhaps by getting a bag just big enough to fill the box made of double cloth & line the follower on each side we may hold it in the box till the oil is pressed out. Our box & press is strong enough to squeese Halafax out of it if we can hold it in the box. The mud for a week or more passed has been ancle deep about the works rain & snow alternate so we have not made much progress. We have no more barrells on hand and our storeage is all full of coarse stuff. Wagner thinks it is not best to use the lead tank any more for bleaching He has tried 2 batches and lost 10 per cent in evaporation in three days. I think we will use it for storing the oil from the crude oil still Wagner is careful & faithful but he is no General.

He can tell when a thing dont work well but has no faculty to change the thing himself. He wants me to do it all. I have watched the operation of the small stills & find they work different & I shall try to improve the large one by lowering the condensing trough & covering the still with brick. I shall start to day to see if I cant get up the iron for the lanterns. The retorts continue the same as when you left. The miners are at work & have got out a large pile of Coal. They call loud & long for flour & chees & butter & pork, all of which I have no means of getting. The $25. that was promised for D F Mack pork is called for and all are after money. I paid for the sheet iron plates $6. a big bill I thought. There is $10. freight to pay & I fear cash will be scarce Please give directions about the shipping of oil

Yours truly
M B Wood

Phebe Wood
Feb 27. 60

Oil works Feb 9 1860

Dear Brother

Thinking you may feel somewhat anxious to know of some of the doings here I will try to inform you. They are steadily working at oil Mayner seems very anxious to do his best but I do not believe he feels perfectly satisfied with the result. I have been making improvement on their Strainer and believe it now works well. The first one was a failure it can be fixed after they mark it. I wont promise any thing before. Mrs McC could not manage those new fangled nicks and returned her lamp which we exchanged for one Conn had

I Sold the one I was using and are using the one returned. There are no more of those first ones left- and no more chimneys. The people are agoing. to like them the best- the others do not seem to suit- as well and there are chimneys of the first kind much wanted A letter came from Mr Nef of Bath acknowleging the receipt- of oil. and a draft- of $30 Enclosed which M B placed at- your credit at Johnsons. I have the books all posted up to the 1st inst work of miners and all others credited Carnahan performed the mathematical part for the miners which came with 600 pounds of iron which was Satisfactory Mr Billy has been quite sick and has not- got- his work done yet- he has no help yet- A. J. Jones is going to give up Tommy and go to work with B in the shop but he has been too unwell to work as yet-

Weather cold and clear Coon has partly enclosed the warehouse but- so cold he could not do much.

Local. The season continues gay The boys are taking the girls of on horseback as usual The Baileys had a wedding a few days ago but- we did not get- invited as Mr Baily says M B is not- the man he took him to be. making the men work at- rebels "without- a Shelter and Sunday" which is truly bad

We have our goods and I have a feather bed (and can furnish you one when you come back) a carpet on my floor and Mr Bills says it looks a "heap" more comfortable Tell Mary Ann if She will come back with you MB can sleep up stairs and me can sleep here and when she gets tired of staying here we will go to Mich.

Give my love to Father and tell him There is no day in which I do not think of him. Letter from Mich. report all well

Affectionately

Your Sister

Phila

Answered
$10 each calf

Freetown, Cortland Co. N.Y.
Feb 6th 1860

Ezra Cornell Esq

Dear Sir - will you loan me your Devon bull "Fordham" this season, to be taken now and returned next Fair time. or, will you loan him to the 1st of may next & then have him returned. I have only four cows to use him to by the 1st of May & would like to get his services to them - I will keep "Fordham" in any way you may desire. feed him roots &c as you say - If you lease him what is your lowest figure. Inform me by return mail.

Yours very Respectfully
John Corp

N.B. please inform me the P.O. adress of Mr Willcox - who owns the bull "Sommerville" Wm S. Corp bought of L. H. Colby - he lives near Auburn somewhere

Williamsburgh.
Aug 7. /60

E. Cornell Esq.
Ohio.

On my return here last Saturday evening, I found your letter of 29th ult.

I am glad to learn the fate of the pig, as I was apprehensive he had got strayed off on the trains, & in the cold, had died or been captured for salvage.

I was apprehensive that your rent system of animals would prove profit to others in the summer, & loss to you in the winter. All are glad of such opportunities of improving their stock, but few appreciate, or are willing to incur the expense of first outlays. But your satisfaction will be, in having done a good thing for the farmers.

Now our other enterprise of yours, allow me to allude to, in no desire to impeach your own judgment, but to restrain it a little for a second look. You are investing in the coal business. It is a most

different & hazardous business to handle with profit, with any of our coal mines - On paper, counting from the crude material, up through a theoretical ~~[illegible]~~ of it, & the margin of profits is most tempting - But, like dead sea fruits, this coal turns to ashes, rather than gold. Nearly all the enterprises have failed, altho' many have been under the supervision of the best chemical skill - The crude oil can doubtless be got out cheap, among for many purposes - but, unless distilled under an exact rule of heat or temperature, & that adjusted to the exact qualities of the coal, the crude oil is more expensive to purify subsequently so as to answer for illuminating purposes, than to take the oil from the coal itself for that purpose - I have not for a long time doubted, that the whales of the ocean were to be spared under the workings of divine Providence by a substitution of the oils of coal & vegetable products, for their oil, for which they have for ages been hunted - other improvements are destined to make the cows of the Ocean itself in the regions of the Whale, of less use to man, than the old ways of intercourse have rendered indispensable. Its great original purpose, as a reservoir for chemically purifying the atmosphere of the world, will in a degree be restored to it - But, that vastly expensive experiments have yet to be made to perfect this substitution of oils - & especially to convert our coal mines, which bleed so much foreign matter in them, into a commercial oil for illuminating purposes - Hence, my advice to you is, more continuously with all your investments in that direction - & confide but little to book learning on the subject, or the speculative views of coal mine speculators -

Now as to our business. I transferred to the Am. Coy. all my claims &c in the suit vs. you & Speed. Except the profits of construction in the Erie & Mich - & N. Y. & Erie - they to settle & do with you in respect to the others, as they might see fit - They transfer to the Western Union, I suppose - But how Joseph's garment has been divided, I don't exactly understand - But, in any way I can properly serve you in that portion of your interests, I will do so with satisfaction - I doubt if they can avail themselves of much, if left to hunt out the connexions of testimony for themselves -

Now it was to the other remaining claims, to which my suit, for myself, is reduced, that I alluded to in my letter to you - & as that involves no great complexity, I think you & I & Speed ought to be able to get done together, & in our way adjust it all - unless you prefer to keep all you record, & accord nothing in payment under your

F. O. J. Smith Feb 7, 60

contracts with me - I think however the construction profits, as agreed on, were made too disputable on both lines to admit of much dispute -

As to Chester - I never gave him any special credit for any talent beyond technical astuteness in enforcing the quibbles of the N. York practice - As for preparing my case with Moore & Vail, or arguing its merits, he had, as you will know, about as little to do with it, as you had - He never prepared a deposition - never performed any too labor of the defence that cost a weeks service in all the trials - and never understood, until the moment of my argument of the principles of the contract, the one upon which by far the largest portion of the whole case hinged - That he is cunning, astute in little things, unscrupulous in advantages gained, watchful in the enforcement of little advantages, I never doubted - These were the talents he exercised against me in the Proctor case, & these were all he can exercise in the Moore case - But that he is as dishonest towards decent, as he can be towards adversary is what I think I will demonstrate beyond any doubt in my case with him - & if he holds his place at the N. Y. Bar, when I shall finished with him, he will be more lucky, I think, than is entitled to be.

When will you come here?

Yours in haste F. O. J. Smith

Illinois and Mississippi Telegraph Company.

SECRETARY'S OFFICE,

Ottawa, Ill. Feb 1st 1860

D. Gould Esq
Ithaca N.Y.

Dear Sir

Since the change in the organization of this Company I have not sent out any of their statements, but knowing the interest you feel in the Company's affairs & hoping now we are the close of the year, I forward you an abstract of the business & the state of the treasury, remarking that by an inadvertence in our Clerk there was omission of a charge which put in a thousand dollars more into the treasury than appears & which was entered too late to appear in December business.

Yours Respectfully
Thos Burnett
Sec'y.

Willards Hotel Washington Feb. 17. 1860

E. Cornell Esq

Dr Sir

I have been here for three weeks urging a bill through congress in aid of a line to California

We obtained yesterday a favorable report on our bill before the Senate the main features of which can be found in the N.Y. Herald of yesterday We have secured the route via Salt Lake which devolves on us the labor of passing the bill

By writing at once to any members of either House which whom you may have influence you may assist in securing the value of which to our company & the Public & to you can hardly be over estimated

Let no time be lost the form of your Efforts I leave to your discretion

I am almost alone in this struggle & wonder at the inactivity of our friends but shall do my whole duty notwithstanding the indifference of others I am working night & day & must be brief as I have so many letters to write yet before I go to bed Yours Truly

Hiram Sibley

Coshocton Feb 17th 1860

Dear Ezra

I have neglected writing for some time, expecting a letter from you in reference to shipping the oil we have on hand, I dont know what to do with it, I suppose Osborn & Wilcox dont want it from what they wrote you before you left & I expected you would look out for the sale of it in some other direction & give me notice where to ship it. I have got the paraphene press so it works well but I find it needs overhauling ofter to make the oil press out. It gets dry round the sides and dont come out from the middle. We have a large amount of heavy oil from the press which is all the while accumulating & needs much store room We have run it over, through the crude oil still but dont improve it much. I run the retorts as long as I thought it best & stoped them on the eleventh inst, We got only about 40 gallons from a charge for some days before we stoped. I have got them all cleaned out & am sorry to say find them in bad condition. Evry one is badly cracked. Three are split from top to bottom, The lanterns are nearly done. Mr Bills has been sick & confined to his room over a week so that little progress has been made of late. I went to coshocton

M B Wood
Feb 17. 60

the day I wrote you & hired three teams to haul up the iron. They took it on reluctantly at 12½ per hundred & demanded the cash before they would start with it. When they got to Elders corners they threw it off & strung it along the road for thirty rods & left it. This was a most shabby trick. I sent Jack with Oxen & gathered it up. so that none of it was lost or damaged. I have got the box of iron filings & salmoniac from McConeaughs & set a hand to caulking up the cracks in the retorts I tried to get into them mysely but could not get my shoulders through the top. The men told me before I tried that I could not get in, but I did not believe them. There was a large amount of hard stuff in them & it took much pounding with sledge & chissel to clear them. Our force is now prety light. Jack & Warren & Conn is all the men out side except Wagner & Mysilf. The Coal diggers are progressing with their job finely. Morris has bad luck, he has bad eyes which trouble him much. His father is also sick & not able to help him. To add to his trouble his room has reached into that swamp & the water comes in bad. I went up & examined it & the chance to start again & I concluded we could not afford to loose the room so I hired his boy to keep the water bailed out so he can work. It takes him about 2 hours every morning to get it out

and about the same through the day. I agreed to pay him $1. per week to keep it clear till the job was finished. They must have out now near 400 tons. We run pretty short of barrells but did not suffer till Butler brought us a load. I received $160. from Elwood as dividend money which helped along first rate for a while Phebe scouled some to see me use it in the work, said we should never realize a cent &c. all did not avail it had to go. I took a letter from office for you from Hess of Bath. Enclosing a $30. draft which I deposited at Johnsons bank to your credit & acknowledged its receipt and deposit, to Hess. I took a trip round the oil work in this region last Tuesday to see what was doing. The retorts are all idle now except Baker & Forsyth. Nothing doing on Mohawk except two crude oil stills, & such work with them I never did see Their pipes were filled with paraphene & busted up & run over & they had a sweet muss. all out door. Dr Semple has caved, says he must sell out. Youngs has left. Stewart has possession of Semples works at $50 per month. How are we to get pay for coal used there. Stewart has bought all of Dickeys crude oil & set Hodkinson to refining it. He uses Dickeys stills, but I heard yesterday that Dickey had stoped him and a difficulty is to be apprehended. Lumburgh works has been

idle several weeks. Geo. Hull says they are undergoing repairs. He came here & got three hundred red brick & 100. fire brick, which I told him I did not like to spare. I learn since that he (Lumburgh) has sold out to some one. McConeaugh seems to be going on yet, but in a conversation I had with him yesterday I think there is trouble brewing. His men refuse to work any longer without a settlement. I questioned Lee on the feelings of the men & whether they demanded pay. He says no not pay but a settlement. I asked McC. why he did not make a settlement with his men. He remarked that he was not ready. From this I surmise that when he is ready it will make but little difference to them whether they settle or not. And now to our own condition. What can we do with our stuff I have bought flour of late by the barrel & fill the barrels when empty with paraphene & have three full & another nearly. What success did you have with the heavy oil & what can be done with the rest so as to get some returns. Phebe keeps up the books verry well. I think you will be satisfied as to correctness. Many inquire after you & when you are coming. Robinson has moved into Methams new house. Stewart has office there yet. Mail goes once a week & some times twice. I keep well & work hard my feet are comfortable now. Hope you will come out soon. Yours Respectfully W. B. Wood

Clifton Staten Island NY
Feb 20th 1860

Dear Sir

I wrote you yesterday speaking of my efforts & disappointment in not seeing you. Nevertheless the spirit moves again to drop a note. I saw a friend from Erie an Editor of a Paper who tells me the oil there, is to be obtained anywhere in Western Pa. Even the City of Erie, by digging from 30 to 50 feet & in paying quantities, at a gallon a minute. Today I got a paper from Fredonia, with further accounts from the Diggers. In one place it was impossible to dig over 100 feet. The oil coming up in such quantities as to prevent further operations & they last was superior to any yet raised. They can & do pump over 36 bbls per day & that it will ooze out of itself 7 or 8 bbls per day. That there over 200 wells being sunk within a circumference of 30 miles around Titusville, And that there

there are evidences of its existence (Known) years ago - beyond the present memory of man - They find holes sunken at various depths, with timbers in the bottom &c &c

Now if this be true, and there seems no doubts of it, It seems to me that other works will not be able to compete with them - I understand they are putting up refining establishments out there

Dont fail to go out there when you go West - when in Erie call at Young's Express office (Newspaper) Enquire for Mr Linn - I think he will be able to give you some information in regards to where the wells are &c

If this should to be in very considerable quantity, it certainly will stay proceedings with Manufacturers for a time at least - I send you this, fearing the true state of things might escape your notice - It may still be your policy to dispose of your works at the Earliest moment - Something always whispered to me that that would prove a bad speculation for you - I had just begun to hope my fears were unfounded - At best dont dip too deep fael will your way and let your moderation be very prominent - I imagine our establishment wont be anywhere, "Fast thing you know" & I had been building my hopes on its resuscitation - I dont know. Sometimes I've half a mind to jump into some Balloon & go to some other sphere & experiment a while - If you go to the Penna. Diggings write me all about em Plz present my warmest regards to Mrs C & family & believe

Yours truly

H. S. Pew

21 Wall

E. Cornell Esq
Ithaca NY

N York Feby 21/60

E Cornell Esq
Dear

I was obliged to be absent yesterday but supposed as the weather was so unpleasant you would not wish to go up the Road

I want to see you very much, as Our Directors have made some propositions to me, that I desire to communicate to you – I shall leave here at 12 M but will return in the morning and meet you here at 9.30 Am ~~[illegible]~~

Yours Resly
B J Seymour

Mount Forest
Feb 23rd 1860.

E Cornell Esq.
Dear Sir

Time & weather prevented my going to Ithaca to see your Bull "Duke of Oxford" as I intended when I saw you in Albany. If his blemish, or even total might render him indeed next season, I may be very glad to avail myself of your very kind offer to use him & if I could have seen him I might have advised you as to an operation. I have not as yet had a reply from my letter across the Atlantic relative to a Bull for next season. Let me hear from you as to the appearance of the Bull at present & reserve for me the privilege of his use until I can see you, as that may influence my answer to the English Correspondent. If it is necessary that an operation should be performed upon him, I might have it much better done for you down here near New York.

Yours Respectfully

S. Y. Morris.

THE MAGNETIC TELEGRAPH COMPANY.

MORSE LINE,

NORTH, SOUTH, EAST AND WEST,

Connecting with all the Southern, Western, Eastern and Northern Lines of Telegraph.

DIRECT SOUTHERN LINE, NEW YORK TO NEW ORLEANS,
AND ALL INTERMEDIATE PLACES.

WASHINGTON OFFICE—National Hotel, Pennsylvania Avenue and Sixth Streets.
NEW YORK OFFICE--No. 21 Wall Street.
PHILADELPHIA OFFICE--105 and 107 South Third Street.

Terms and conditions on which Messages are received by this Company for Transmission.

The public are notified that, in order to guard against mistakes in the transmission of messages, every message of importance ought to be repeated by being sent back from the station at which it is to be received to the station from which it is originally sent — Half the usual price for transmission will be charged for repeating the message, and while this company will as heretofore use every precaution to ensure correctness, it will not be responsible for mistakes or delays in the transmission or delivery of repeated messages beyond an amount exceeding five hundred times the amount paid for sending the message, nor will it be responsible for mistakes or delays in the transmission of unrepeated messages from whatever cause they may arise, nor for delays arising from interruptions in the working of its telegraphs, nor for any mistake or omission of any other company over whose lines a message is to be sent to reach the place of destination. All messages will hereafter be received by this company for transmission subject to the above conditions.

Dated New York July 25 1860

Rec'd, Washington, 7 5 — 1860 o'clock, min. M.

To C. Cornell

Millards

It is best not to commit ourselves on that point. It may be necessary to let it take the usual course of Senate bills

H. Sibley

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Dated New York, Feby 25, 1860

REC'D, *Washington*, 25 1860, *o'clock*, *min. M.*

To E. Cornell, Esq

Millards

It is best not to commit ourselves on that point. It may be necessary to let it take the usual course of Senate bills.

H. Sibley

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Dated Rochester July 27 1860

Rec'd, Washington, 9 1860, o'clock, min. M.

To C. Connell, Esq

I saw Messrs. Cooper, Hunt, Field, and McKesson. They say that no one but Morris and Russell of Jones and Mr. Alden agrees with Russell, and that no opposition to the bill is intended by any other of the American company. They will all be there to

H Sibley
29 Feb 60

help on the seventh, and the meeting was called by them for that purpose. I learn that Russell entered a resolution to oppose bill. Not passed by the Board Ascertain if he is using it in Washington.

H. Sibley

New York March 1st 1860

Sir I have seen your name in some recent publications as a successful Cultivator of the Hungarian Grass, and having a farm of about 90 acres in New Jersey I am induced to ask your advice in regard to cultivating this Grass on my place.

A good deal of the land, say 50 acres is meadow and can be drained - a part also consists of dark peat. Is such land advantageous for the purpose?

Yours

what mode and what preparation would you recommend for the trial of a few acres?

I fear I take too much freedom in thus addressing a gentleman to whom I am unknown, but I trust you will pardon me. Perhaps you can refer me to some publication wherein I can find the information I am seeking, for which I shall feel equally obliged.

Again apologizing for this liberty and enclosing a Post Office stamp, I am Sir,

Your Obt. Servt.

E Cornil Esqr.

Jn. S. Bartlett.

Address me,
Dr. Bartlett,
formerly of the N.Y. Albion,
24 Ann Street
New York.

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Dated Coshocton O. 3d 1860

REC'D, *Washington*, 3d 18 , o'clock, *min.* M.

To E. Cornell

Twenty one casks light & nine heavy oil lanterns all in & works ready to start have shipped no oil I mail letter to day with one from osborne

M. B. Wood

DR

H E entered

M J Wood Mar 3. 60

Coshocton March 3 1860

Dear Ezra

Your letter of 19th ult. came to hand a few days since & as it announced your departure for Washington I have delayed writing for a few days to see what might bring forth. In my last letter I expressed my doubts as to sending any more oil to Osborn & since then I have rec'd a letter requesting no more to be sent there this season. I have got eleven casks at Coshocton now & several here & dont know what to do with them. The men finished their job yesterday & I have settled with them & find that we owe Firth $153.97 Conahan $143.17 Morris $111.88 J. S. Davis $92.45 Lewis $109.86

making over $600 which they are pressing me to get for them, They are anxious for you to come or let them know soon what they can do. Morris wants to go back where he came from if he can have his money so as to get away. Firth & Carnahan will leave with a promise of having their pay sent to them in x-y drafts. Lewis & Davis wants to stay if they can get work here. We found a long tedious job in repairing the retorts but I think we have got them well fixed now I got about 400 gallons of crude oil of McCanaugh to keep Wagner at work till we could get under way again I agreed to allow him 15¢ per gallon. It is a big price but it was good oil & I thought as the doctor was hard run I had better take it at that than to have nothing Dr Semple has assigned all his effects for liquidation. Stewart wants us to send 15 casks to Cincinnati with his to make out a load of 50 which will go through for one dollar per cask. He has sold all his & says he can sell ours without warehouse charge or commission & he wants me to set the price. What shall I do. The season to sell is near over & will it do to send it that way for sale. Stewart seems to keep up courage yet & he is good grit Forsyth has stoped, says his oil costs him to much. The works over the hill are all in difficulty some way & dont go any-

The bottom has fell out of the roads sure & there is no passing on them. I have been trying to get to town for some days but dont have resolution enough to start. I cant get even your barrel paraffine which by the way I dont believe is best to take in a crude state, as it is just as bad as oil to transport on account of leak & smell. The farm is in bad condition & needs attention. There is about 6 miles of road & line fence to repair beside gates & bars & inside fence to put up Hogs & horses & cattle innumerable are roaming over it in every direction. The work about the oil keeps me confined all the time to see that all are at work to advantage You must come round soon & see what can be done to get any profit from the farm. All keep well except Mr Bills. He works some

Yours truly W B Wood

Saturday morning
March 3d 1860

Dear Sir.

I shall be out of town to day & shall not return before evening. In the meantime I think it desirable to see Graham without delay & give him the information which Mr. Sibley seems to think he ought to have.

I will see you if possible after my return.

Yours —

R. Walker.

I enclose for your perusal a copy of my reply to the N & O. which keep for me —

Newyork March 7. /60

E. Cornell Esq

Dear - I wish to take your testimony in my case with Chester - will you be in this city shortly, or if not, I must send a commission with interrogatories - unless you can attend court in person, which I suppose may be inconvenient - I should prefer the latter, if you can attend - The time is not certain - I regretted not seeing you when last in this city I did not learn of your being here, until too late to find you - Please inform

me if you have a defi-
nite time of bring here
in view. When will you
take up & finish your
own case -? I think it
can be narrowed to a
small compass of evi-
dence now -

The Telegraph arrange-
ments are in their zenith
as it respects the new
company. But I hear
what they seem not to
fear, or hear, that a pow-
erful company is in
formation for a new
set of lines - at least

along the whole sea-
board. I was appre-
hensive it would be
so - The Zabriska suit
which has driven the
Am. Cry. to taking the
horn[illegible], that the Cry.
has a legal right, & jus-
tify themselves in ex-
cusing it, of giving whom-
soever they please priori-
ty in foreign news-de-
spatches, awakens a
deep concern among
mercantile men which
will great aid the mul-

triplication of lines -
Let me hear from
you by return of
mail - Very respectfully
Your Obt Sir
Francis O. J. Smith

F O J Smith
7. Mar 60.

Albany March 7. 1860

Ezra Cornell Esq

My Dear Sir

Your Telegraph ie dispatch is just received and I hasten to say that I have thought it safer to write to the care of our mutual Friend Judge Wells than to reply by Telegraph as you have not given me the name of your Residence in Washington The Bill of which you speak was presented by me and has been reported by the Committee to whom it was refend have Reported it favorably I have entire confidence that it will be passed when reached in its order Or if there is a necessity for it I have no doubt that I could get it out of its order & have it passed at allmost any time You will please address me freely and I shall be glad to adapt myself to your convenience Very Respy Yours S. W. Dright

Will Judge Wells please hand of this letter to Mr. Cornell if in Washington. If he has left forward to him

& very much Oblige Yours

Respy

J. W. Dwight

The Prorata Bill as you are aware has passed the Assembly but its fate in the Senate is perhaps doubtful. The Poll Bill is now under consideration and is exciting a good deal of interest. These are important subjects and the effect that they may produce if adopted are well deserving the attention they are now receiving. The subject of taxes is not an unimportant one that was Republicans are compelled to consider unpleasant though it be upon the eve of the most important Presidential Election ever held in this Country. The feeling here seems to be strongly in favor of Mr Sewards nomination

J. W. D.