

25 West 27th Street
New York March 28th 1867

Hon Ezra Cornell

My dear Sir

Allow me to introduce
to you the Dean of this - Dr
Walter B. Roberts - one of the trustees
of the New York College of Dentistry
and a member of the Common
Council of this City (and an hon
orable man in spite of that)

Any assistance you can render
him will be regarded as a per-
sonal favor by his friend and

Yours
Norman M. Kingsley

March the 28

Mrs. Correll

you will no doubt be surprised
at receiving this from a stranger
but hearing a great deal about your
benevolence I have taken the liberty
to write and ask in my extren-
ity my husband went to war
and I left me with 2 little children
and when he came back he died in
Maryland hospital my health is
very poor but if I had a sewing
machine I think I could support
them and school them but
I do not ask you to give it
to me but I ask you to
lend me until September when
I will get my pension
and I will pay you if you
will lend me money enough
to get one of Willcox and Giff
machine if you can do so. Send
me a line direct to ~~Wm~~ Dryden

Prerinda A Bloom
respectfully

pleas answer soon

L. A. Bloom
Mar 5, 1949

East Maine, Broome Co.
March 28th 1867

Hon E. Cornell.

Dear Sir, It
becomes my duty as Secretary
of the Farmers Club of East Maine,
to, ask you to place our institution
on your list, and, if you have
any reports to distribute, but especially
the last census we should be very
glad to receive it to place in the
Library. The Governor in his
Message said it would be interesting

Yours truly
Robert Hogg Secy,

Broome County Clerk's Office,
Binghamton, N. Y. March 28th 1867

Hon Ezra Cornell,

Dear Sir -

It is a matter of great surprise to the People of our Village that the passage of the City Charter is so long delayed in the Senate when there is such a unanimity of feeling in its favor among our citizens, and when we take into consideration its passage by the Assembly by such a decided vote we are still more surprised that it does not pass the Senate by an equally decided vote. - Hoping that we may not be disappointed in our hopes that you will favor the Bill & that you will urge its immediate passage we remain. Your humble servant
C. O. Root

Dinghamton
March 28/67

Hon. E. Cornell

Sir. We learn that you are in doubt as to the wishes of the people here in regard to the application for a City charter. When the subject was first presented to us we were in doubt as to the policy of the change, but upon more mature reflection we are very decidedly in favor of the change for many reasons. Our business groups are in contact largely with the business portion of our community & we have taken pains to ascertain the wishes of the business part of our people & we say that we know that a very large majority of our citizens are anxious for the change.

Weed, N.Y., 1st Febr
1867

We have no hesitation in saying that not only a majority but a very large majority of the people of Birmingham wish you to favor the passage of the bill now before the Senate.

That there are some who oppose the measure no one doubts, but the number who do so are very limited, and their number is decreasing every day.

We speak of what we know to be the case, having, as we said, been among those who originally did not favor the change.

If you will correspond with our Citizens upon the subject we are confident that you will not hesitate in your action upon the bill now before you.

Very truly Yours
Weed, N.Y., Feb 1st 1867

Binghamton March 28/67
Hon Ezra Cornell

Dr Sir

The business men
and laboring class of our community
generally favor the passage of the bill chartering
the Binghamton Savings Bank for the reason
that they want an institution of the kind.
I have confidence in the persons named as
incorporators and consider the selection fair
as between our different worried interests.

The removal for the third time
of the Chenango Valley Savings Bank gives
one man and one Bank the virtual control
of a benevolent institution for Binghamton
which judging from the past may soon be
put into operation and is gotten up in a
spirit of factious opposition to a bonafide move-
ment to secure to our people the benefit of a
Bank for savings. The friends of the Binghamton
Savings Bank desire you to urge its passage.

they don't fear the consequences of both bills
are passed as the community would be quick
to discover the one which they have confi-
dence and as a consequence the other
would fall to the ground or never organize

There is almost an unanimous
expression here in favor of our city charter
which has been carefully prepared by
a Committee of our prominent citizens.
After being printed it was revised and
corrected upon consultation as to its merits.
Our old bridge ^{charter}

has been so often amended & patched
up that the lawyers can make almost
any case out of it against law
& order. We want an economical
administration of our police affairs, fire
limits, health regulations, &c &c which
are now insupportable under our present
charter & I trust you will urge its
passage

Very truly yours
W. E. Taylor

W. E. Taylor
28. Newby

American Hotel
Albany, Mo 28 1867
Respected Friend?
Erna Cornell?

I am here, in opposi-
tion to the bill of the Assembly 668
the purport of which is to authorize the
removing the present pavement of Atlan-
tic St Brooklyn for about a mile and
laying down Belgian pavement, a
very expensive operation at the present
time.

This has been a spring trap operation
upon the greater part of the property owners,
the bill having been introduced to the Assem-
-bly only about perhaps three weeks ago
and it is only about a week ~~that~~ since
that the greater part of the owners of
the property to be affected, have heard of
it.

Another opposer and my self, brought

up several demonstrations, ^{never} merely signed by the greater ^{than} part of the largest property owners in the proposed district, but when ~~we~~ we arrived here, tho' it was only a few days after the bill was introduced, perhaps two or three weeks, yet we found it had gone thro' the several stages, preparatory to the final passage, and consequently we have had no opportunity of being heard by ^{the} assembly committee.

If the bill should lie over till the next session, I do not perceive that any disadvantage can arise, especially as that kind of pavement, at the present time is exceedingly expensive, and the demonstrators would have an opportunity being heard before the committee of the assembly as well as the Senate, next winter.

I speak so decidedly when I say that

there is a majority of the property owners, are opposed to the Law, but the very few days we have had to canvass and inform them of the impending law, is entirely insufficient in point of time to enable to obtain their names to the demonstration.

The accompanying printed statement will show that our objections to the bill are of a substantial character.

Respectfully Very friend
Edwin Frost

Binghamton March 28th/67

Hon E. Cornell

Dear Sir

Yours of the 26th inst
is received. In relation to the rival
claims for a Savings Bank at Binghamton
my position is this. I was a trustee of
~~the~~ Savings Bank chartered a few
years since but which was never put
in operation. Recently Mr H. G. Rogers
who has had experience in banking
started the enterprise of getting a
Savings Bank organized here & requested
my aid & I signed a Petition for that
object. I did not know at the time
that any effort was making to get an-
other institution incorporated & I
did not know until I received your
letter that my name was used for
one of the Trustees of the latter Bank.

I think it very desirable that such
an Institution be established here
for the benefit of the laboring classes
rather than for the benefit of any clique
who may wish to control it
I am in favor of the one whose managers
intend in good faith to put it in operation
I have no fixed partiality but had
believed that the enterprise of Mr
Rogers was in good faith & would
be put in operation if Chartered
In connection with ^{the} subject I
wish to request of you your aid
in passing our City Charter thro
the Senate, which passed the other
House so unanimously. I can assure
you that the Citizens of this place
by a very large majority desire
the passage of the Bill. An expression
was taken in a public meeting
which was almost unanimous in
its favor. I hear the same sentiment
from private intercourse with

our Citizens. For many reasons
the law should be passed this
session.

Yours Respectfully
P. M. Loomis

Binghamton Feb. 28/67
Hon. Ezra Cornell
Sir

I notice that there is a bill before the legislature authorizing Commissioners of the Circuit Court of the United States to take affidavits & acknowledgements the same as notary publics. Being the only one of your constituents holding that office, and it being chiefly a matter of personal convenience I think I may fairly ask you to vote for the bill when it shall come up.

Among the other measures affecting us here I am

much interested in the
passage of our City Charter.
Our Village Charter
is exceedingly defective,
the police provisions are
entirely insufficient and
a new Charter is imperatively
demanded, the cost nothing
about the expense of the
administration of justice
in the town, which is three
times what is necessary
or which must be brought
within control of a city
organization. There has
been little opposition of
kind, but it seems to have
almost entirely died out
and the acquiescence to
be general in its passage.
I think you will meet
with the approval of
four fifths of our citizens.

by urging the immediate
passage of the Charter,
I trust when the matter
comes up you will forward
it with all speed, for
it is desirable to get it
into operation as soon
as possible.

Respectfully,
Charles S. Hall

Binghamton, March 29, 1867.
Hon. E. Cornell;

I see by the Republican
daily that the Charter Bill has
been ordered to a third reading.

I hope you will see that
the amendments sent you
by F. A. Drake Esq. are made
if the bill must pass.

Yours truly,

B. R. Johnson

Sherman & Phelps
Mar 29, 67
Savings Bank
BN

March 29 March 67

Hon. E. Corcoran,

Sir,

Your letter has
been sent me and in reply
would say that if the "Chicago
Valley S. Bk." is named it will go
into operation under good
loyal management unless
the other is chartered. There is
out our wanted - The Chicago
Savings Bk. is to make a place for
H. Rogers who is & always has been
a Democrat and ^{in our right} has father
in law who presided at the
Democratic meeting last fall
has promised largely by way
of helping poor people &
intend to use the institution

for private & protective purposes.
The petition I sent you
for the Ch. Valley B.K. was signed
by every one to whom it was presented
and I unhesitatingly say that
it is the choice of the people
& they do not feel that it ought
to require an extra effort to secure
the one & defeat the Rogers affair.

My impression is that the
members are all in favor of the
Valley one except Democrats.

If the Institution of
Rogers passes the Senate & he
gets established, it will be found
a plan to make votes & laws will
be made with special reference
to securing such influence. I
hope it will be permitted to rest
in the Senate until the next
Session previous to which the
Old one will be in operation
& then will there be no need of an

- Others - It is my impression
the Champ Valley charter is
the choice of them of the
four Banks - Mr. Van Valkenburg
unwisely as I believe interested
himself in the Binghamton
project for Rags - not at
the time giving it any thought
or consultation with his
friends - I trust you
will find a way to get
along with this matter so
as to secure your friend and
not build up an interest
which will be sure to work
to their injury -

Very Respectfully

My
Samuel Phelps

City National Bank
of

Binghamton, N. Y., 29th March 1867.

Hon. Ezra Cornell,

My Dear Sir,

I have just seen a letter addressed by you to my friend, Mr. Osborn, regarding the subject, now before the Senate, in which my fellow citizens feel a deep interest, and, in reference to which you express a desire to be more fully informed.

The expediency of obtaining a city charter for the Territory now organized as the Village of Binghamton, has been fully discussed for several years, men of property and heavy taxpayers taking each side, myself being among those, who doubled the expediency of changing our position.

But I have become satisfied during the the current winter that a large majority of those most concerned in the growth and prosperity of the place, and of those who bear the heaviest burden of taxation, are

in favour of opening a city corporation
I have scarcely heard a voice against it, among
those who have examined the details of the
proposed Law. The opposition appears to be confined
chiefly among the incumbents of bridge offices,
whose emoluments they may be in danger of
losing. I have watched the progress of the
advancement of our Village in wealth and
numbers since the year 1812 and the increase
of its expenses, and of the increasing necessity
an enlargement of its powers, and I am entirely
satisfied that the time has come, when in
these respects a change in our organization is
demanded.

I am aware of the full extent to which
the will of your constituents should be consulted
and, yet, it seems to me that mere numerical
force should not ^{alone} be defined to in such a case
as this - And I believe that upon an examination
of the names and the standing of the citizens
who have advocated a city charter. Although
and, your will become satisfied that you

will all promote our interests by advocating
the passage of the bill before the Senate, gra-
-nting us city powers and privileges

Very Respectfully
Yours friend

3/29/1847

A. S. Doubleday

First National Bank of Binghamton.

ABEL BENNETT, President.
RANSOM BALCOM, Vice-President.
GEORGE PRATT, Cashier.

Binghamton, March 27, 1867.

How Ezra Cornell

Dear Sir

Enclosed please find a pledge from the Trustees of the Chenango Valley Bank that they will start this Bank and that it shall not be run in the interest of any Bank here. This means my view for while I do not desire it to be controlled by this Bank I also desire it to be beyond the influence of any other. Write this at the request of Mr Hotchkiss - one of the Trustees - You of course know them all.

Yours Res

Geo Pratt
Cashier

Free Reading and Meeting Room, or Strangers' Resort,

49 LUDLOW-STREET.

Ladies and Gentlemen can have a Free Toilet at all times—Soap, Hair Oils, Shaving Apparatus, Shoe Blacking, Brushes, &c.

Parties engaged in Co-Operative Enterprises, can have the use of the Hall for such purposes, Free of Expense.

JOHN W. FARMER.

New York, March 29th 1867

Hon. Ezra Cornell,
Sir,

I wish to see our Union Republican Party pass the Eight hour Bill. It will be of great importance to our cause to pass said Bill. It will cement the working classes to our noble principles, and will elevate them to a great extent, and will not hurt anybody.

Respectfully yours

John W. Farmer

Washington D.C. March 29, 1871 L. Steyer
Hon. E. Cornell Senator of the N.Y. State Legislature

My Dear Sir,

You may have forgotten me, in the strides you have made in wealth, honor, & power. Your sun has indeed risen high in the heavens. While many like myself have kept on the even tenor of their ways. I have not been unmindful of your progress. I have seen you soaring aloft, & I rejoice at your successes. Not only so, but I have reason to be glad that you have met the full fruition of all you sought, and have not hesitated to apply the means for the benefit of your race in your great bequest to the farmers of your state, that they on their own account, & the world through them, may reap the benefit of your magnificent bequest. You may remember a quondam acquaintance Dr. H. D. Gale who acted as Assistant of Professor Morse in the underground telegraph pipes of wires, and with this there may be associated in your mind with that enterprise a certain pipe burying plough of your own invention. I am the gentleman who was then within cognizance. Since those days I have been variously occupied. Some three or four years thereafter I was appointed as Examiner of Patents in the U.S. Patent Office where I remained till near the opening of the war with the South. Since then I have been occupied as solicitor of patents, and have also kept up my chemical studies & practice in the analysis of soils, manures, & plants. I have watched your progress with great interest in your public enterprise, the Agricultural College. The chemistry of agriculture has been a darling theme of mine for my whole active life. The history & progress of the philosophy of manures & their action on the growing plant. The materials which the plant absorbs from the soils and the means of restoring it to the soil again &c. I have experimented by myself & through others on the subject.

L. Steyer
March 29, 1871

Four years ago I was advised of the condition of the Potato disease on the South side of Long Island, that it prevented the farmer from realising more than half a crop. The practice of the neighborhood for many years had been to manure the soil with fish and offal from the sea. At the request of my friend I analysed the soil & ascertained that it was quite exhausted of its potash, and proposed that it should be supplied with this as a manure, the sweepings of the potash in spectors of the city furnished the material. It was mixed with ground plaster as a diluter. The disease prevailed every where in the neighborhood. The alkali, a pound equal to that contained in a single handful of wood ashes was an abundance for a hill of potatoes. The result of this trial was that out of some half an acre of land planted every potato was free from the disease. While those not so treated in contiguous rows were smitten down with the rot. I have been exercising myself very much in this manner for several years. The rot ceased.

by this exp I confess I have arrived at conclusions perhaps somewhat different from yours. That is, it seems to me we need first of all experimental farms, which should be followed by Agricultural Colleges. I have conceived the idea of fixing the facts first, laying down the basis of the work, based on analyses of soils, analyses of all the articles of produce, showing what each takes up from the soil and, what each kind of manure contains and consequently what kind of crop it will best sustain. The art, science, and the whole business of farming when successful must rest on a knowledge of the condition of the soil to be cultivated, accurate experiments and accurate statement of results, and a large accumulation of statistics which decide great principles, seem indispensable in laying the foundation of an agricultural college. Now I do not feel that we have yet accumulated the statistics, nor made the experiments which are the first principles. My old friend Prof Emmons of the N. Y. State Survey in his Agricultural Report of the

same did great service in the agriculture by making a series of valuable analyses of the most common plants in the different stages of their growth, and of different parts of the plant, a work which cannot be dispensed with. Yet all this constitutes but a single row of foundation stones on which to raise the superstructure.

We must first establish the Laws, Rules, & Regulations; then we can carry them into operation. The great aim & desideratum of the farmer is reached when he can make his ^{soil} continue to yield the same amount as it did when it was a virgin soil. We as a nation do not appreciate that our lands are fast running out. It is said that England holds her own conditions. But it is not so with her eastern neighbors except perhaps Belgium which is said to be the second nation in the world for sustaining population. But in Italy, the lands are so worn they will hardly pay for cultivating, Greece is still poorer, Turkey is lower, and the plains of the Tigris and the Euphrates are lowest of all. Our farmers know the fact that their lands do not give the products they once did: yet they sleep on & bury the fact in oblivion. (But, sir, the cause of the evil lies on the surface. You & I know very well the reason to be that former crops have taken something from the soil which has not been returned to it. Therefore the soil produces less & less the longer it is cultivated. The Genesee Farmers know their lands give less wheat in quantity & poorer in quality than they once did, yet the farmer seems powerless to remedy the evil. Now if the farmer could examine his wheat & know what it is that the soil demands then he could manage his own business. If he could know that the kernel of wheat consists of Starch gluten & sugar on the one hand 70 to 75 percent, hull or husk 10 percent and the balance extractive & gummy matter which belongs the 1st division. & that the Starch, gluten, & gummy matters are materials furnished by the atmosphere

and ^{the} land can spare them, But the hull contains
the phosphate of lime and of magnesia and in fact
embraces what may be called the mineral matter of the grain.
This cannot be manufactured by aid of air & moisture, & must be
restored to the soil again, (if through the alimentary canal of
of the farmer, his pigs, or his cows, all the better.) But the soil demands
and must have it to make up the mineral matter necessary to form the
hull (covering) of the starch & gluten in the next growth of wheat.
If ^{the} soil fails to respond to this call, without supplying the bran or its
substitute, (bones, guano) the grain cannot be made up, without
all of the ingredients which belong to it. We might as well make goats,
without the wax necessary for the skins as try to make wheat without
the mineral matter necessary for supplying the hull. This is enough
to explain what I mean in saying we want more statistics, more
analysis of specific soils, specific plants, fruits, grains, vegetables, mammals.
Every single plant cultivated, or cultivatable, should be analyzed
carefully, and every farmer should have a book containing a complete
list of all the known plants, their compositions; then they should
have each a book, of all the available manures, where & how made
what changes they suffer by weather, under cover, with the thousand
other things necessary for a farmer to know. I have said thus much in
explanation of my remark that we want the statistics to prepare the way
for the college. But I had a design in writing you, to tell you of an inter-
estingly interesting letter I have received from a friend, and a lecture I have just
heard by another friend at Cooper Institute New York on the Rinderpest
or Cattle Plague of Europe & Asia, by Rufus King Brown M.D. of New York. I have been
a resident of New York for the last 3 years, & am the General Secy of the N.Y. Assoc
for the Advancement of Science art. at Cooper Institute, where I have heard
Dr Brown's lectures on the Cattle Plague & learning since I came here a
few days ago he proposes to lecture before your Honorable Body & take
the liberty to say I hope you will take an active part in carrying out
the Dr's proposition. He is an intensely earnest man, a laborious worker,
and a man of great ingenuity, an inventor of a new ^{microscope} with great powers
beyond any known instrument. If you can secure him in your
new Institution by all means do so, his name is already famil-
iar to men of science in Europe, & the instruments & the results will soon
extend everywhere. Physiology of plants & animals in health & disease are his line.
No Sir, Good Speed your good work my address is here. Truly yours L.D. Gale

N.Y. Tribune,
March 30, 1867.

My dear Mr. Cornell,
Yours with note en-
closed came duly to hand.
I shall not use it until
I am compelled to do so.
You think that the Beet
Sugar job was a good one.
So it was, for the kind, and
it was done in a hurry too—
say 5 or 6 hours—for Grant want-
ed it, he said, to take with
him on the afternoon after
the night he gave it to Osborne,
to Albany. But my good
friend we shall do a good
deal better job when we do
the library book, which I am
getting ready from the manu-
scripts you left with me.
Hurry up the things you have
yet to send me, so that I can
submit the whole thing, in
shape, to you when you come
down again.

Hoe is right when he
says that the power press will
not do the best kind of work,
that that must be done on
the hand press and in the old
way, ^{known} but I do not want it for
fine work. I want it for
book and map work where
large numbers are wanted.

If it will do that kind
of work I shall be satis-
fied in every respect.

Did I tell you that the
Appletons had given us
a job - 1500 ^{copies of a} Maps -? They
sent it in for an estimate.
We sent in our estimate, and
They said "go ahead." That
is the end of a long rope.
I mean that this one will
bring many more from
the same source.

I hope to be able to take the
Tribune's job - say a \$1000 one
- down to Osborne today.

We are getting along quite
well so far as relates to work
coming in, but we need a little
money, as I told ^{you} in my last, to
pay our workmen, &c. until we
can get a return for work
done.

Yours,

Thomas N. Ricker

J. N. Ricker
Mar 30/74

Boston. Mar. 30. 67

Dear Sir

I do not think we can hold on upon the lands, if any one sh^d come along who will take all: tho. we may be willing to refuse to sell small parcels.

They were selected in person by Mr W. J. Barney, now in Chicago, formerly land agent of Jay Cooke & Co; and recommended to me by Mr Cooke in a letter in wh. he asserts that "he is a thorough man of business and a Christian"

McBarney went himself upon the
lands. He purchased horses to do
this, & sold them afterwards.

He made the acquaintance
of the Register & land agents

where he did not know them
and he is in communicatⁿ

with them now.

The sale of this year will com-
mence very soon.

Yours respy truly

Amos A Lawrence

McBarnell.

A. Lawrence
Jan 30. 67



Albany. N.Y.

Senate Chamber.

Hon. Ezra Cornell



Binghamton
March 30-1867

Hon. Ezra Cornell,

Dear Sir; Although
I am named as a trustee
in the act establishing
the Chenango Valley Savings
Bank I have no objection
to the passage of the Bill
for the Binghamton
Savings Bank but am
in favor of the passage
of this Bill.

Respectfully Yours
Ransom Balcom

Vassar College,
Poughkeepsie N.Y.

March 30, 1867

Hon. E. Cornell,

Dear Sir:—

I write to
inquire if it will not
be convenient for you
to visit Dover^{N.H.} the last
of next week — say
the 4th or 5th of April.
I can be in Boston at
that time, & would go to
Dover with you and others
whom you might desire to
take with you to see the
cabinet of Hon. Chas. Tuxth.

I write now because I
have today received a
letter informing me of
a probable customer for
the collection, although there
is nothing certain about it yet.

Indeed I have written to
Mr. Tufts, that unless
the gentleman who wrote
to me today, is ready, after
he sees the collection,
to give our full
price \$400, we
ought not to sell
till you have a chance
to take it or refuse
it. If you could
take your Professor
of Mineralogy along
with you I should be
glad.

What I mean to say, then
is this: if we get our
as ~~full~~ price \$400, we
feel that it will be
right to let it go to the
first man that offers; if we
do not get our price, we
mean to give you a chance
before it goes. Mrs. T. S. Tenney

Binghamton March 30/67

Hon Ezra Cornell
Dear Sir

My attention
has been called to the question
of the proposed Savings Bank
for this place and I take the
liberty of writing you upon the
subject. I have no feeling
as to the matter further than
that originating in the wrong
done by those withholding action
upon the old Charters & the
prejudice of a large class
of our Citizens of limited
means - A Savings Bank
has been needed here for
several years and there
has been a feeling of
much indignation that

directors of the Old Bank,
did not put it in operation.
The interest of our Banks
here was however otherwise.
I understand it is now alleged
that if the old Charter is renewed
our organization will be
immediately laid under it.
I don't think so. I do not
understand that there was
an intimation of that until
preparations had been made
for a new charter by those
who felt the necessity of such
Bank and who entered upon
the matter in good faith.
Many believe that the old
Charter has deprived us
of a savings Bank for years.
I believe (with I believe
a large majority of the citizens
here) can enable to see
any justice or propriety

in granting the charter
to those who have permitted
the period of time of two
charters to expire without
action to the prejudice
of a large class of the
Community.

Yours truly
H. S. Griswold

Honorable E. Cornell
Senator 24th District
State New York

Historical Forms
March 30. 1867.
Chicago Ill.

Dear Sir.

The Chicago Historical Society
gratefully Acknowledges a donation to its

Library from You of the following:

"Annual Report of the Civil Commissioners
of the State of New York
Transmitted to the Legislature in 1867."

By instruction of the President
W. L. Newberry.
Thomas H. Armstrong
Secretary & Librarian

Thos. H. Armstrong
Mar 30. 67

P.S. I am desired by Col. Sam^l Stone
Your old acquaintance, to convey his
kind regards to Mr. Carnett
Armstrong.

J. H. WADE, PRESIDENT.
H. SIBLEY,
WM. ORTON, } VICE-PRES'TS.
N. GREEN,
O. H. PALMER, SEC'Y & TREAS'R.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE

Western Union Telegraph Company,

145 BROADWAY, NEW YORK.

March 30, 1867

Hon. Ezra Cornell,
N.Y. State Senate,
Albany.

Dear Sir,

Herewith enclosed I send you in duplicate copy of two amendments to existing laws carefully drawn by our Counsel, the enactment of which is necessary to enable us to punish certain parties engaged in stealing the contents of Messages, by bribing and colluding with our delivery boys.

It is very doubtful if a Tel. Message as written out by our operator, in the hands of our Messenger is a "sealed letter" within the meaning of the statute relating thereto. And the provisions against divulging contents of Tel. Messages apply only to Tel. employees.

We have been to much trouble and expense in ascertaining how important

J. H. WADE, PRESIDENT.
H. SIBLEY,
WM. ORTON, } VICE-PRES'TS.
N. GREEN,
O. H. PALMER, SEC'Y & TREAS'R.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE

3/30/1867 Western Union Telegraph Company,
145 BROADWAY, NEW YORK.

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information sent over the wires gets into the street here before it reaches the party to whom it is addressed. And now that we have discovered the secret, it seems only equitable that the older and more responsible culprit should share whatever punishment is inflicted upon the Message boys whom he seduces.

I send these in duplicate in order that you may - if you deem it advisable - in order to save time place one set in the hands of a member of the House, and respectfully solicit such efforts on your part as will secure their prompt enactment.

Very truly yours,
Will. Orton

Vice Pres.

Binghamton March 30th 1867

Hon. Geo. Cornell
Senator. Albany N.Y.

Dear Sir,

A. G. Rodgers
Mar-30-67

I take the liberty of trespassing on your valuable time to explain some matters in relation to the savings bank question. On my return from Albany I found that George B. Eg. had been circulating a paper among the incorporators (named ten years ago) in the bill charting the Chenango Valley Savings Bank, asking them to agree to put it in operation, representing that this was the only bill the Senate would pass, that the movement was friendly to Mr. Rodgers &c. with this assurance. Ransom Balcom, Joseph E. Ely, & B. A. Loomis signed the paper. They have since written you explaining the cord and in favor of the other Savings Bank, Mr. S. C. Hitchcock, W. B. Wilson & Richard Mather refused to give him their names. Some other parties may also mean. It is openly asserted here that Sherman D. Phelps is about to leave the town, take up his residence at his country seat near New York City and engage in business there. If so why should he be allowed to control our local Institutions? Why should his bill be preferred to ours, when found it was in the interest of his Bank to the exclusion of the other Banks of the village. I know the movement to revive its charter

was made by a clique without consultation with, or a meeting of the trustees, by parties inimical to a Savings Bank for the avowed purpose of killing the bill for the Binghamton Savings Bank. This fact I know from a bankman who was solicited to join the ring.

The friends of the Binghamton Savings Bank are mostly republicans in good standing in the party and have the people with them, they are true friends to our local institutions, and have faith that you will soon see the justice & merits of our case and report our bill favorably to the Senate.

One word personally in reply to the cowardly charge insinuated to you that I have been a 'Copperhead'. Before the war I was a democrat. During the war I voted the republican ticket straight - served nearly four years in the Army, being appointed Paymaster (upon the recommendation of the late Mr. Dickinson) Oct 25th 1862, mustered out March 3rd 1866. Early fall I had the pleasure to vote for W. S. Lincoln for member of Congress, this may account for some of the "snick in the Coccyus" I do not claim to be a Republican, but eleven out of thirteen of our trustees are Republicans.

Very Respectfully Yours &c &c &c
H. J. Rodgers

Stumansburg
March 31st / 67

Dear Sir

I understand you
are organizing a party of men
for the purpose of putting up
Telegraphs if so please state
the location and terms on which
you propose to hire,

I am a man 40 years
old a painter by Profession have
spent twelve years of my life at sea
I am well versed in navigation
and from the nature of my past life
I feel confident of giving good
satisfaction in any capacity you
might deem me worthy of filling

Three years I have spent
About the regions of Bhering's
Straits and Russian America
if you think me worthy
of your Employ please answer
by return Mail the Conditions
you wish to Employ

Yours Most Obedient
To the } James E Hall
Hon E Cornell }

March 31st.

My dear Sir

I am much that it is not too late to entreat your kind office in behalf of the Bill for the Union Home and School. Asking for the same appropriation for the orphans of our Soldiers and Sailors as you accord to the other institutions of our city and State. For should unless the bill is passed we are obliged to draw upon our building fund and to cripple ourselves very materially in building this Spring and to incur a debt which will oblige us to ask for more money to pay interest on. In consideration that we ask so little it cannot be when we have done so much more than other institutions that the State or city will refuse us for the Soldiers orphans what they have granted to all other Catholic and Protestant, paupers.

foundlings and juvenile delinquents. All who have visited the institution know that the children are a superior class, physically and mentally and had we not raised this money - we should have been obliged to have turned them into the public poor houses. We are willing to have any supervision that the legislature or city may desire to see that our trust is worthily administered. Indeed we challenge inquiry into which the manner in which it is conducted as the institution is more under the personal management. Administration of the ladies than any other as it is visited at least three times a week and many times oftener as we feel a motherly and paternalistic interest in these orphans.

As we did not presume to collect while this enterprise was going on with the exception

of \$2000 received from Mr
Chauncy Rode we have had
no money this winter and
have been obliged already to
draw from the fund sufficient
to pay last months expenses,
and the mortgages on our
property. We ask this
allotment that we may feel
that the institution ^{will be} on a
stable footing and that the
orphans of our soldiers ^{will} have at
last an honorable asylum such
as is ^{the} due of those whose fathers
have died in the service of the
Country. We refer you to the
well known names on our Advisory
Committee who will all we feel
abundant answer for our good faith
and zeal in our work.

Respectfully Yours.

Maria L. Dally. Acting President.

Union Home & School.

Wm. B. Fremont
Arch. Wm. Fred. Union Home & School.