Cascadilla Place
April 20th 1870

Hon Ezra Cornell

Dear Sir

I regret much to be forced to trouble you again on a subject, which, though concise and simple to begin with, seems to become complicated the more it is talked about. As you seem to misunderstand the circumstances in which we are placed will you allow me to repeat that it is a week today since Mr Bailey refused to send the girl to do the work of our rooms; two days later as the work could not remain

undone; I employed a woman to do it, not because it was badly done but because it was not done at all. I never intended to keep the woman, but untill your return home, when I thought I had only to represent a matter so flagrantly unjust, to have it remedied.

I am unable to understand what you mean by transcending your own authority. If it means that Mr Bailey has been empowered to control the Cascadilla without any appeal on our part I can only say as before that I never could consent to be placed in the power of such a man, or worse still that of his wife. If I mistake your meaning, please forgive me. I thank you sincerely for coming so promptly to enquire into the matter but regret that you did not see me at the same time. One or two questions and answers face to face might have shown you who was in the wrong.

I was told and believed that the pump was broken, but that did not take from the fact that there was plenty of good water in the house and that the girl who went to fetch it for me was only laughed at and had to go out of the Cascadilla to one of the Professors houses to get water for me. Our board & rooms cleaning are paid for. I would no more think of keeping a house maid there than of keeping a cook.

Mr Bailey might as well

My dear
April 20 1870

send and tell me that there is a fire in the stove and that I can get my food cooked if I choose; as to tell me that the pump is mended and that I can have water if I choose. For having these things done for us is a fair bargain I only requested you to order the work to be resumed after it had been left untouched for several days. I never thought of basing such a request on the high toned principles of Christianity. It is a matter of bare justice. Can it be for this Mr Cornell; that you place me in the odious position of studying my personal convenience and

comfort to the interference of with the organized harmony of a large community. Never in my life before was I so stigmatized. No one who ever knew me would have done so. I feel it the more keenly seeing that it comes from one whom I have so highly esteemed. If it is conclusions drawn from what Bailey or his wife have said; I can only repeat that I am quite prepared to meet their worst statements. I have nothing either to fear or to conceal but most of us here know too well that in their oily tongues is the trail of the serpent. I have asked

nothing more than every
Boarder in the house gets
and which we have got
up to this time: when the
hour of its being done was
fixed by Mr Bailey,
I accept with gratitude
and all sincerity your
good wishes and in that
spirit beg to subscribe
myself as before

Yours very Respectfully
Eliza C. Law

OLE PETERSON,
Treasurer.

County Treasurer's Office,
Pope County, Minnesota,

Glenwood, April 20th 1870

Ezra Cornell Esq

Dear Sir

yours of March 29th is at hand with the Enclosed Draft of $9.40 which I have applied that amount on your Taxes. but there is more Land on the Tax Duplicat in your name, which was not Returned last year, and one quater of what was returned Last year is allowe left for want of funds, if you will Send me a Correct list of your Land here in Pope County I will let you Know who much is on Paid, Enclosed Please find your Tax Rec

yours Respectfully
Ole Peterson

This contract made and entered into this twenty fifth day of April A. D. 1870 between the Ithaca and Cortland Railroad Company, a Corporation organized under the laws of the State of New York, party of the first part and Henry V. Poor Henry W. Poor of the City of New York and Duncan McDonald of Montreal in the Dominion of Canadda under the name of Henry V. Poor and Company party of the second part

Witnesseth

Whereas the party of the first part is desirous of constructing a railroad forthwith on their route from Ithaca to Cortland and whereas the party of the second part are largely engaged in the importation and sale of railroad iron and are experienced as Contractors in constructing railroads the party of the second part agrees to construct said railroad from a point near Cascadilla Place in Ithaca or from a point on the Delaware Lackawanna and Western Railroad near Cottes or Hygiene Falls (if the said Delaware Lackawanna and Western Railroad shall construct their road

during the current year down the valley of Six Mile Creek) thence up the Valley of Cascadilla Creek through or near Varna, Etna, Freeville, McClean to Cortland to the Syracuse and Binghamton Railroad and the Utica Ithaca and Cortland Railroad in said Cortland when the latter shall be constructed, provided however that the latter be constructed within one year on the general line surveyed by the party of the first part for said road, the specific line to be hereafter located and agreed upon by the parties hereto, and also a line from Pugsley's to a junction with the above line at a point in Cascadilla Valley on a route to be hereafter fixed by agreement of the parties hereto, provided the party of the first part decide to build the same within three years, but there shall be allowed not less than $30,000 for the Bridge and fill at Rottville for this line.

The party of the first part is to furnish the right of way and pay all land and construction damages of said road.

The Village of Ithaca is to issue its bonds to the amount of $100,000 and take the same in stock in

said road, and said party of the second part is to take all bonds as cash at par under this contract.
Cash subscriptions to the amount of $2000 per mile between Freeville and Ithaca shall be procured by the party of the first part and when these amounts; $10,000 Ithaca bonds, and $2000 cash subscriptions per mile are so obtained between the Southern Central Railroad at Freeville and Ithaca inclusive all which funds shall be ready for use on or before June 1st, 1870 the party of the second part agrees to subscribe $100,000 to the capital stock of said railroad as herein provided and to go forward and construct that portion of the road between the Southern Central railroad and Ithaca forthwith, doing all the work and furnishing all material for the same
The said road is to be constructed in the manner and upon the terms and conditions following
The road bed shall be properly prepared and graded to a width on the surface of nine (9) feet properly sloped and ballasted with suitable side ditches of sufficient width and descent for thorough drainage. Culverts may be made of

to be in the first instance but shall be of sufficient width to
to admit the subsequent construction
of a stone culvert inside without
obstructing the use of the road,
rubble stone culvert, to be hereafter
built by the party of the second part,
before the wooden culverts become
decayed and when required by
the party of the first part, the
railroad to be used without expense
for the transportation of stone and
material for same but the work
to be done by the party of the second
part without additional compensation,
stock to the amount of the estimate
for the same to be retained by the
party of the first part as security
for the performance of this part
of the contract: bridges to be built
with oak pile abutments - stone
abutments to be afterwards built on
terms provided for culverts in last
section and on same conditions.
with piling for approaches and
trussed stringers, crossing of highways
above the railroad or railroad
above highway with wooden abut-
ments: Fences to be built of cedar
oak or chestnut posts with hemlock
or pine boards or other material
acceptable to party of the first part
cross-ties to be of oak chestnut or
hemlock eight (8) feet long with six
inches face on each side and six

inches face on each side and six

inches thick and laid two (2) feet apart from centre to centre. The rail shall be not less than 56 pounds to the yard of the best quality ordinarily used with Fish bat plates and bolts or similar connection equally good or superior and approved by the party of the first part. It is further agreed that there shall be no grades going east exceeding 30 feet to the mile except between Ithaca and Varna where the grades and location of the line shall be determined by agreement of the parties hereto. The party of the second part agrees further to construct a telegraph line ready for use when the road is opened as a part of this contract but the party of the first part shall furnish the instruments for operating the same. The party of the second part shall furnish switches, frogs and construct turnout and side tracks all the same to be measured from the point of each switch and paid for as so much railroad constructed under this contract.

The party of the second part shall furthermore furnish and put up all necessary sign boards and signals at the highway crossings at the junctions with other railroads and elsewhere. The party of the second part agrees to construct the road from the Southern Central Railroad at Freeville to Varna Hill for use on or before the first day of September next and the portion thence to Ithaca on or before the first of December next and open the same for use before any interest shall become due on said bonds, but for the completion of the grading, ballasting, excavation of the heavy cuts the party of the second part shall have the use of said road thereafter, and provided further they shall not be required to reduce the grades in the cuts to the minimum in this contract until the road is ready to be opened from Utica to Elmira, but nothing herein shall be construed to prevent the party of the first part operating the road for all purposes of business traffic after December 1st 1870.
In consideration of furnishing the material and of the construction of the road as above the party of the first part agrees to pay to the party

of the second part $25,000 per mile for each completed and accepted mile of road as follows; $12,000 Ithaca or Groton Bonds or cash, and $13,000 cash or stock of road. If steel rails are used $3,000 per mile additional in stock shall be paid. If a third rail for broad gauge shall be laid $5000 per mile additional in stock shall be paid for the same. Payments shall be made by the party of the first part as follows.

First, The Bonds of Ithaca to the amount of $50,000 shall be deposited in the hands of Morton Bliss and Company, Bankers in the City of New York or some other responsible party as security for the purchase of the rails for the road, and when the rails are purchased delivered and laid upon the road said bonds shall become the property of the party of the second part at the rate of $5000 for each and every mile so delivered and laid down.

Payments shall also be made by the party of the first part as follows- For each mile of graded and fenced road $3000 in cash or bonds, and

$2000 more when the ties are down and rails laid and the remaining $2000 cash or bonds as each mile is finished for use But it is understood and agreed there shall be retained from the last payment of $2000 per mile 25 cents per cubic yard for all cuts and fills unfinished and for earthwork necessary to reduce the grade to the minimum herein required These sums make $12,000 per mile

There shall further be issued and delivered to the party of the second part stock of the Company to the amount of $13,000 on each mile so completed and accepted, this making the sum of $25,000 per mile as agreed and when eight miles of road are so completed and accepted it shall be a settlement of the subscription of the party of the second part herein provided for.

The party of the second part agrees to construct said road from Freeville to Cortland at the same price and on the same terms and conditions receiving bonds of Cortland Dryden or Groton at par as cash and cash subscriptions per mile and payments in bonds, cash and stock the same

per mile as herein agreed upon for the first portion of said road. The Cortland bonds to be advanced for purchase of rails as provided for Ithaca bonds. The road from Freeville to Cortland to be completed and opened for use within six months from the date the Cortland bonds shall be issued and before any interest shall become due on said Bonds provided said Bonds shall be issued before July 1st 1870 but the grading and ballasting shall not be required to be finally and fully finished till one year thereafter, but the party of the first part shall not be held and required under the provisions of this contract to pay over to the party of the second part any cash or bonds for the constructing of the road from Freeville to McLean and from McLean to Cortland only where and to the amount that the towns of Dryden Groton or Cortland shall bond and subscribe for the road.

An Engineer shall be selected by agreement of the parties hereto and

his salary fixed by like agreement to take charge of the work but his salary and all engineering expenses after this date shall be paid by the party of the second part

Before the party of the first part shall be required to accept said road finally the party of the second part shall reduce the grades to a uniform rate to the same extent and in the same manner as done in first class railroads, except the heavy cuts herein provided for. The party of the second part shall also properly ballast and level said road and shall in all respects construct and complete said road in a good and workmanlike manner of a style and finish equal to the average of first class railroads except as otherwise herein provided and the parties of the first part may reserve from final payments due such sums as may be necessary to ensure and secure the full performance of this contract.

Kirk J Kinney
Apl 27. 1870

Glenwood Minn
April 27th 1870

Hon Ezra Cornell
Dear Sir

Yours of Nov 11th should have been answered sooner, but it seems so much easier to put off until to morrow what we should do to-day

You ask in regard to Mark D. Jackins, would say that he is a very fair young man think he could be relied on. I think the land he wishes to purchase is all prairie if so if his improvements such as fencing, breaking &c would increase instead of decreasing the value of the land

You asked in a former letter if any one was trespassing on

your lands I think not so far there is cut very little timber on your lands

Resp yours

Kirby J. Kinney

P.S. – If I remember correctly I advanced $18 – and some cents on taxes

K J K

(Letter no 2

Albany April 29. 70 –

Mr E Cornell
Ithaca N.Y.

Dear Sir some time since I enclosed to you a letter for perusal from Mr Scheiffius of Galveston Texas concerning Cotton Gins – Mr S. is the party who lately rented for the Estate of R. L. E. Esq. about 600 ℔ which I forwarded to you by draft by mail – That letter we wish you would return with your suggestions on it –

Houston is one of the best points and if we had 25 Gins there in time with a good crop of Cotton they would all be sold for cash pay and as many more on cotton terms. but the latter I would not like so well –

On Monday morning I went to see Col Skinner whose letter I now enclose. Mr S. said in his first letter he wanted terms for 50 to 100 Gins for Egypt and that he would sail on Thursday 28th yesterday when I met him he wanted simple working size Gins and also 500 to 1000 dollars to work up a trade with our gins and first of all with the "Radive" nigger who grows 2/3 of all the cotton in the Nile

On this I could only speak for samples of Gins – and as to means to carry them through any ordeal I could not answer

He is a man of 60 years, an old Cotton planter a Col in Rebel service

an agent for the Egyptian Govt in the selection of more than twenty permanent field officers as Generals Colonels Captains &c and who have all sailed — He is also commissioned by the Hazard Powder Co with $2000 — advance also by American gunsmiths of several kinds with 500 to 1000 $ each — and comes also all documents and endorsements and letters from Bourgeaud. Jeff Davis and hosts of others — — his letter tells its own story — 1000 $ could be well expended there by the proper person, and the entire trade in guns for the Nile could be handled by us or our guns — and a Firman obtained for our monopoly of our machines there —

I doubt Bonne of Skinner is the right man practically but influentially he could do much good — a Mr "Hazeldine" is now en route here from Egypt as discretionary buying agent of the Vice Roy for all American Machines and Implements for Agriculture. Mechanic arts — and the Cotton Gin is an most important feature — Mr Hazeldine was an intimate friend and business acquaintance with me at the Exhibition at London for nearly a Year and after his return to Egypt I made several purchases and shipped them from London to him — he desired me to return them with him and there obtain the firman from the

Apl 24 - 1870

Letter No 2

Government as he was in government employ at that time and in full confidence with the Royal personages - - and it was through him that our two Gins & Condensers were sent to the late Roy & the Prince the first they dead the second is now the Kedive or King - I have made such arrangements as will bring me in connection with Horseldine in his interest - If I succeed with him it will result in an order for 25 to 50 Gins & Condensers of large size and a man to go out with them to put them in operation there

I should be free to go there or Herbert perhaps (if he abandons the business in this country) could do better there than any other man alive to send out there - This I think worth waiting for rather than to commission Mr Skinner -

Mssr Orgill & Co of Memphis who wanted our gins last year in Commission and of whom Herbert wrote you in Dec last wanted our gins - actually sold and paid to the Gullett Gin makers last year over twenty two thousand dollars for gins sold and you probably know that is far superior to our gin - still it sells for 6 $ per saw without condenser - we sold only one gin in Memphis last year

Gullett Gins 50 saws each last year and we sold more in Nashville and the other towns and thinks killed the sale of Tyrode for us - We have no demand from there this year - Sample of the

Dictated
Dictated

NB— we received today from Jones & McDowell of Little Rock Arkansas— a note to settle for the a/c of H L E & Son to your order for $193.50 90 days from March 30th this is the full claim deducting only $1.50 for insurance & cartages — It was for a flower damaged in transit and refused by the purchaser and afterwards taken charge of by J. McD. & Co. for us — McD & Co want fifty years and 15 or 20 of them in dirty

Mrs P. P. Tabb & Co of Norfolk reply that Hinks Estate is solvent and good and can and will pay every demand owing by it — individually — and our claim is individual claim —

Smoch & Co the tote firm continues by condition of his will without interruption by his death — Have you heard from the parties in Norfolk who wrote you yet — "Lawyers"

Glenwood Pope County Minnesota
May 1st 1870

Mr Edwin Cornell

Dear Sir

yours of 11th of April was received last Evening saying you asked 6 dollars pr acre. I take it by your writing that you think there is timber on the land. but there is not a tree or even a brush on the land. its only common prairie land. your offer is good. all but the price of the land. there have been any unimproved lands have sold for in this section of country without timber. they sell good timber lands here for 6 dollars pr acre in small lots to settlers. I am willing to pay you as much for your land as its worth. but I think there more than I can afford to pay. improved lands with timber on the lots sell for that price & some less.

Please let me know if there your lowest figures on open prairie lands. Mr Crosby has lands all through this county that he sells. I will send you a list of his lands & prices

yours Respectfully
Mark D Jenkins

P.S. if you can sell me this land so I can afford to buy it. I want it as it joins our farm & if not I shall break 30 or 40 acres on it this season please write soon. for breaking season commences in 15 days or 20.

I ask this to say what price he will pay &c

Blank No. 1.

THE WESTERN UNION TELEGRAPH COMPANY.

The rules of this Company require that all messages received for transmission, shall be written on the message blanks of the Company, under and subject to the conditions printed thereon, which conditions have been agreed to by the sender of the following message.

O. H. PALMER, Sec'y. J. H. WADE, Pres't.

54 Sy

Dated, Albany NY May 15 186

Received at " " 710

To Hon. A. D. White

I have written to you Today asking if you would go to Ithaca saturday and remain Monday. If you will Prof Hall will go up to be there the same time to witness a peculiarity in our quarry - answer by telegraph and I will inform Prof Hall

E. Cornell

DH. Forwarded from Syracuse NY

Glenwood Pope county Minnesota
May 14th 1872

Mr Ezra Cornell

N W 1/4 Sec 15 125 - R 39 W

Dear Sir

I wrote you a letter last week & was appointed you would not get it - & will write again I will take that piece of land at your lowest figures - & will send you money enough to make the bargain valid the first of next month I commenced breaking on our claim to day & consider the bargain made with you when your letter comes with your lowest figures that you can sell for 3 months to break a good piece on the lot this season - I served 5 & a half years during the war & am entitled to a government claim but there is more clear and good rather buy this lot of you than take a claim - please write soon -

I am yours truly
Mark D Gravelling

D. S. HALL,
AUDITOR,
REAL ESTATE
AND
INSURANCE AGENT.

PARTICULAR ATTENTION
GIVEN TO THE
PAYMENT OF TAXES
For non-residents.
LAND WARRANTS BOUGHT AND SOLD.

Office of
COUNTY AUDITOR,
RENVILLE COUNTY, MINN.

Beaver Falls, Minn., May 18th 1870

Ezra Cornell Esq
Ithaca N.Y.

Dear Sir

Yours of May 5th is just recd. I herewith send Y Treas receipt. Your land in Range 33 is on the roll for assessment for 1870. I will advise you in time as to the amt of tax

Respectfully Yours
D. S. Hall
Co Auditor

Albany May 20th 1870

Hon. Ezra Cornell

Dear Sir,

Yours received of the 19th
your mistaken in supposing I
have entered into any partnership
whatever it was your own suggestion
and request that H. L. look the
papers over and see if you paying
was correct and approved by him
You could not I think have
received my letters of same date
or you would understand me
better for I did not send them
of his writing until it was done
in either case the last be handed
to me to enclose with mine.
now in relation to Hings Mortgage
I think you had best have it
transferred to you by Assignment

without cancelling it as it will
prove a stronger title to the Prop-
erty being the oldest. you should be
come here and have it done at
once before anything is known
of the transaction, contemplated
I will not believe you intend
wronging me or mine for I am cer
tain I would do so to you in
your method of figuring it was the
case which gave it a bad look
if other parties questioned the
matter it gave the impression
that you took that way to make
your account large to better hold
the Property for your benefit as
Creditor. I cannot talk or explain
my meaning clearly on paper.
but will try but hope to see you
in person as I deem it of great
importance to you to hold
the Bens Mortgage. Hoking will
wait upon me 30 thirty days if I
desire so much time and perhaps
would longer for you if you took
the Mert. and it should not be
delayed as if those other parties
chose to and based of the opportu
nity it would afford them
to decide advantage over
you in the Bankruptcy matter
this I know. No does any one know
that I am telling you this.
I had a letter from Porlie yesterday.
His Father telegraphed him last
night. Why I mention the Inter
view a matter of policy on to have it
look on your right if submitted
to a Lawyer, as I did not propose
showing them to H. but want his $500
hundred paid to me regularly.
for I am greatly in need of some
advance I will not cost you any
thing but a little time to come
here and make all right. Yours

F. M. Emory
May 20. 1870

Most Respectfully
F. M. E.

OLE PETERSON,
Treasurer.

County Treasurer's Office,
Pope County, Minnesota,

Glenwood, May 25th 1870

Ezra Cornell Esq

Dear Sir

yours of May 5th is received with the Enclosures to Pay the Taxes therein stated. which receipt I herewith Enclose ——— I thank the many for the Books for the Library will present some

Respectfully yours
Ole Peterson

Cascadilla: May 28th '70.

Mr. Cornell –

Dear Sir.

You may remember seeing me taking some large beetles from the big pine tree just over Cascadilla bridge, last Fall. I got nearly a hundred of them. and none on any other tree. The Books upon Insects say that the grub of this beetle (the grub is what eats) is not known, and that it is not known upon

what tree it feeds.

To-day, my student assistant and I stripped off some of the bark - and succeeded in digging out two grubs from the wood. In doing so we had to disfigure the tree more than I liked: but it was already dying from the attacks of the beetles and as there must be hundreds of grubs higher up out of reach, I

wish you would allow me to have it cut down - and cut into pieces - so that they may be got at and thoroughly studied.

You may have time to look at it before the Club meeting next Wednesday - and then I will ask you.

I am
Very respectfully yours.
Burt Wilder

Hon. E. Connett

Albany June 21st 1857

Hon. Ezra Cornell

Dear Sir.

I write you at this time to say I hope you may find it condenient to come this way home if you return this week. for you will have to record your Mortgage here to make it good and the sooner it is done the better if you desire to make it a sure and certain thing. Our Gas Metre has been detacked but not yet taken away by the Gas Co. so I shall not be able to read, write or work, after dark or daylight disappears. This has in itself a great tendency to make Mr. Fingar Gasbeck feel unwilling and fear

full about the payment of their Mortgages as the form is in the Gas Co and one of its Officials.

The weather is warm but dry no rain as yet. its low good no wonder lay the dust

I have not received one word from any of our absent children for nearly or quite a fortnight. I hope all are well however. I shall not be able to write them now for I will not use Kerosene, for I am afraid of it and cannot take the risk of being burnt or losing any member of my family with such a Magazine.

I have just executed the Mortgage and Bond. So you with Mr Emery's signature to the same he is not mentioned in either however it shall be as you desire Mr Fremain said it was not nesseary, to have H. L.'s name only a matter of care with yourself He said the Papers were all right and very well done I should like to have him see the paper you have without telling him any thing and see if he would raise any question about what H. L. argued. and not have him or anybody say it was just like a womans way of doing business in case it should fail of showing what it is intended to show

I will now close as it is beginning to grow dusty and I have no light but that which heaven gives me free gratis. with kind wishes for you & yours.

Very Respectfully
T. W. Emery.

Albany June 3. 70

Mr Cornell
Care 5th Av Hotel
New York

Dear Sir enclosed telegram from Hubert this morning and enclose a copy of same to you and hope you will loose no time in replying to him or to us so we may reply —

It seems imperatively necessary that some one should now soon as possible make a journey to dealers say if Hubert should be detained to do so - to go up State Mississippi to Vicksburgh and other points in north part of State where we have sold or Corinth &c thence to Memphis. St Louis. thence to Nashville Columbia Murphreesboro Chattanooga Knoxville &c Tenn - thence to Norfolk and home touching such points where he can so as to reach home in two weeks from starting - If he does not then some one else who can handle this business properly should do so - My impression is that Hubert could more than Even his Expenses five times over on such a trip home and once here the matter of New Orleans Can better be understood than can be done by writing - We have very many Evidences of his untiring labors in behalf of our Machines and with prospects for large demand and sales of now followed up - No man Can do this business

Hub Secretary June 3. 1870

either here or in New Orleans by waiting for Customers to come to us to an amount which would make it profitable — It is necessary to look after it Early in season — One man now in Tennessee is selling as much for Whole sale & Co as fifty men can manufacture and he has been out only about three or four weeks yet — where we formerly had large sales we get nothing — the ground is being occupied by others — a dozen such points as Louisville and Little Rock St Louis Memphis Nashville and New Orleans with a few others well appointed would with effort effort made in time require the full capacity of their works in any ordinary Crop of Cotton —

The travelling done thus far has been worthless so far as soliciting this trade for two years past I might say this is the third year since it has been attended to — only fairs after selling season have been attended while they are necessary it is equally necessary to look after the trade as it will seek other channels and others pick it up

The success of this business is your own success and ultimately my own and it is only success I desire — when another month is past half the opportunity for soliciting patronage will be past for the year — I hope you

can visit Tennessee to receive orders for Shirts & Shirtings by telegram and let them be sent in writing by mail for the route to have them as soon as affording to the patronage — Yours truly Jno A Lowry

Cornell University,

Ithaca, N. Y., June 9, 1870

My dear Mr. Cornell;

May I trouble you to lay the inclosed resignation before the board of trustees, as I have felt it my duty to accept the presidency of the Adelphi Academy in Brooklyn.

It causes me sincere pain to sever my connection with the great work with which your own name, more than that of any other man, is identified; especially as I would like to contribute to the welfare of that class of young men whom I believe you chiefly wish to benefit – the laboring boys. My own early struggles with poverty and the pursuit of knowledge under difficulties have made me sympathize deeply with them. I honor you for much that you have done for the general good, but for this most of all. With good management and with sympathizing professors having faith in the plan and fertile in devising expedients, I believe the manual labor feature of the University may be made a grand success.

May you be spared many years to the University and to the community, and see on earth a good measure of the reward in store for those who have served God by serving man.

Very Truly Yours
Homer B. Sprague

LECTURES

BY

COLONEL HOMER B. SPRAGUE,

PROF. OF ENGLISH LITERATURE, RHETORIC, AND ORATORY, IN CORNELL UNIVERSITY, ITHACA, NEW YORK.

NOTICES OF THE PRESS.

MILTON AS AN EDUCATOR.

It has seldom been our pleasure to listen to a finer production. The subject, "Milton as an Educator," was handled with great breadth and originality of thought and a masterly grasp of the facts and principles. Milton's lofty example, his methods of instruction, theories of education, and doctrines of liberty, were discussed with vigor, originality, rhetorical grace, and occasional flashes of the finest eloquence. The lecture will not soon be forgotten by lovers of sound scholarship, manly enthusiasm, and true eloquence.—*New Britain Record.*

This elegant and polished production not only gave the audience a vivid impression of the poet's intellectual and moral might, but also demonstrated the speaker's ability to treat his theme in a manner entirely worthy of its greatness. He gave a graphic and skillfully condensed picture of Milton's life and times, clearly developing the governing thought of the lecture—that he was an educator in the broadest and highest sense. As a speaker, Col. Sprague is attractive and impressive, both in voice and gesture, and the people of Brooklyn are indebted to him for an evening full of interest and instruction.—*Windham County Transcript.*

Col. Sprague's lecture on Milton, last evening, was one of the most finished, graphic, complete and beautiful addresses we ever had the pleasure of listening to. In eloquence of style, in masterly description, in sensible discrimination, and in faultless delivery, it was unsurpassed. —*Bridgeport Standard.*

Those who heard the lecture were delighted. We make no attempt at giving even an analysis or epitome. To be appreciated it must be heard. Rich in historic instruction, classic in the style of its composition, kind and just in its estimates of one of the greatest of England's great men, it fully sustained the reputation Col. Sprague has long had of being a prime scholar, rhetorician, and orator.—*Cor. Litchfield Enquirer.*

Col. Sprague's lecture, Friday evening, was one of the most instructive, interesting, and scholarly lectures ever heard in this town. With free and easy manners, graceful gestures, and smooth and silvery voice, he captivated the audience at once and held them captive to the end. It will certainly be hard to find a lecturer who so universally pleased the audience.—*The Caledonian* (St. Johnsbury, Vt).

We have not space at this late hour for a report of Prof. Sprague's admirable lecture on Milton, last evening. The lecture was complimented by a large attendance, and yet more by the earnest attention with which all seemed to listen. Selecting with finest scholarly appreciation the salient points in Milton's life, character, and literary work, he illuminated the whole with his own eloquent and eloquently expressed thought. It was one of our very best intellectual and oratorical treats of the season.—*The Ithacan.*

The citizens of Ithaca have been favored in years past with several courses of popular lectures, and have heard some of the most celebrated lecturers of this country; but we venture to say that they have never listened to a more interesting or eloquent lecture than that of Prof. Sprague on Milton as an Educator, last evening. He has the happy art of portraying by a few vivid touches, the character, life, and times of his subject. * * * * * * *

The eloquent lecturer held the undivided attention of his large audience for an hour and a half. His hearers were more than satisfied—they were delighted; and it is the universal wish that Colonel Sprague may soon favor our citizens with his lecture upon his six months' experience in Rebel Prisons in our late war. He will be sure of a crowded and attentive audience.

A valuable contributor writes of this lecture: "The lecture was on one of the most magnificent subjects to be found in any language. As a composition it was a literary marvel; such a compend of biography; such an epitomizing of contemporaneous history; such elegance of diction, richness of metaphor, and profusion of thought; such a whirlwind of fact, fancy, ready wit, and genial humor! It would be vain to give an abstract of this lecture. It must be heard to be appreciated. The superior to Gough in voice, action, and imagery, he is more than a match for Beecher in brilliancy. Full of the genuine rhetorical fire, with an ample lore to keep it alive, Col. Sprague is far in advance of the general run of lecturers and is fully equal to any of them."—*Ithaca Journal*, March 2, 1869.

The best lecture of the season.—*Candor Free Press.*

The lecture of Professor Sprague, of Cornell University, on "Milton as an Educator," delivered in Brooklyn on Tuesday, merits more than the passing notice we can give it.

The title—"Milton as an Educator"—when announced in the public notices, doubtless gave many minds the suggestion of a lecture both dry and dull, and to be delivered with the stiffness of the pedagogue; so slight and superficial is the thought awakened by the mention of a theme which, in the choice reflections and eloquence of Professor Sprague, become most elevating and inspiring.

As a speaker the lecturer, though young and comparatively new to the lecture platform, inspired all with the delightful consciousness that he was possessed of the gifts and acquirements of a master spirit in that art. Many passages in the address were beautiful and eloquent beyond expression. Intensity of thought and feeling found thrilling expression in a voice of singular melody, sweetness and power, and in the masterly use of language and action. In the subtle intensity of feeling he has few equals, and many declared it was the finest lecture they ever heard. We may say, in a word, that Milton was brought vividly before our thought in the supernal glory of his mind and spirit, absorbed in love and devotion to truth, virtue, and religion, possessed of power to communicate the truth, with an over-mastering force all his own, to the common mind and judgment, and always found in the thickest of the fight in the tumultuous times in which he lived, bearing aloft triumphantly the banner on whose folds were inscribed those principles of civil and religious freedom and popular education which have since become the palladium of all that is held most dear in a free country. A repetition of this lecture in our own city is much to be desired.—*New York Evening Post*, December 23d, 1869.

WHEN I WAS IN JAIL.

The Colonel-Professor could not reasonably ask for a finer compliment to his lecturing ability than he received Thursday evening. The audience crowded Library Hall, below and above, and their silent attention was only interrupted by occasional applause. This is not strange after the superb lecture on Milton. Col Sprague exhibits some of the best qualities of style, matter, manner, and treatment of the best popular lecturers. He has a most genial and winning face, with an eye that expresses the whole range of emotions. His voice is delightfully musical; not strong nor deep, but easy and distinct in its high-pitched modulations. It has little volume, but is firm, smooth, and unmonotonous, and you do not weary of it. The speaker as he steps before you and commences speaking, magnetizes you, whether you will or no. He gets *en rapport* with his audience at once. You are pleased with the first words, and with the next, and keep expecting something better, and are not disappointed. Bright witticisms sparkle at intervals in the right places. Pithy and pungent sentences are uttered and ring long in your ears. A brief figure impresses a fact or a scene on your memory. Poetical fancies lift you into the higher regions of thought. Rapid descriptions follow each other, and are like pictures on the wall in vividness. The horrors of the rebel prison pens are told, and so brought home to your sympathies that your eyes moisten, and your heart beats quick with indignation. Add to all this a rare literary finish and completeness, and a manner in keeping therewith. Such is Col. Sprague the lecturer, as he appeared on Thursday evening. The story of those terrible prison sufferings at Salisbury, Danville, Andersonville, and other places has been often told, but seldom with such power as by our Colonel-Professor.—*The Ithacan*, March 13, 1869

The audience to hear Colonel Sprague at Library Hall on Thursday evening, was magnificent. * * * It is hard to know in what terms to speak of this lecture. To say that it was a consummate piece of oratory and composition is not to do it full justice—because it was not only this but much more. As a literary effort it did not surpass his "Milton"; but as a narrative of thrilling events which appealed to the sympathies and feelings of his audience, it was perfectly electrifying. Col. Sprague has the happy faculty of carrying his audience with him from the outset, and from the beginning to the end one can almost see the scenes described, as though looking on a moving panorama. * * * * But there was also a fund of amusement running through the lecture. We entered heartily into the plots to escape, and enjoyed the humors of the prisoners and the bewilderment of the befogged rebel officers. * * * But the lecture must be heard to conceive any correct idea of it. We only state what none can contradict, that his peroration was never surpassed in Ithaca, * * * and the whole audience responded in bursts of applause. —*Ithaca Journal.*

Humorous, pathetic, touching, eloquent, and finished. May it be our good fortune to hear him again soon.—*Waterbury American.*

A thoughtful and scholarly production.—*Meriden Recorder.*

There was quite a respectable audience out on Thursday evening at the Presbyterian Church to listen to the narrative of Prof. H. B. Sprague's experience in "Rebel Prisons." Indeed the audience was much larger than we expected to see, owing to the short time given in which to advertise the lecture. The Professor held his audience silent and interested for more than an hour with his recital of the touching story of the sufferings of the brave heroes who were so unfortunate as to be confined in the prisons of Salisbury, Danville, Andersonville, and Richmond. His was keen observation and he used it well while in durance. To relieve the dark pictures he told many stories brimful of humor and amusing incidents. We should be glad to hear him again, and we believe this is the universal verdict of all who heard him.—*Tompkins County Sentinel.*

At the Packer Institute, last evening, under the auspices of the Long Island Historical Society, and to a numerous audience, Colonel Homer B. Sprague read a very interesting paper on his experiences of Libby, Salisbury, and other Southern military prisons during the late war. Colonel Sprague's powers of description are of the highest order, and he riveted the attention of his hearers throughout. He recounted many incidents of a highly humorous strain connected with his travels inside of the rebel lines, displaying keen observation and due appreciation on his part of the better traits of character sometimes found.—*The Brooklyn Union.*

Mr. Sprague is an earnest, eloquent speaker, and has won all hearts by his happy style of presenting this most touching story—a picture of army life, imprisonments, and privations, that far outstripped in vividness and reality any of our former notions; not dwelling too long upon the sadder details, but interspersing the light with the shade, the gay with the grave, spiced with anecdotes of the wit and cunning which at times completely baffled their murderous tormentors. We have no hesitation in predicting a crowded house of eager listeners the next time Homer B. Sprague comes here to lecture.—*Dryden Weekly News.*

The lecture of Col. Homer B. Sprague at Mechanics' Hall last evening was largely attended, and the fine oratorical powers of the speaker were fully appreciated. The lecture was one of the most able of the present course, and Colonel Sprague was at times very eloquent and impressive. He held his audience with wonderful power for an hour and a half, and his description of prison life was most thrilling and truthful.—*Worcestor Spy.*

Col. Homer B. Sprague engrossed the attention of a large and appreciative audience at Liberty Hall last evening. He depicted in vivid and scathing language the sufferings of Union soldiers, and paid a glowing tribute to our martyred dead. The painfulness of the subject was relieved by the relation of amusing incidents which came under his observation during his imprisonment.—*New Bedford Mercury.*

RICHES, AND WHAT CONSTITUTES THEM.

An interesting lecture was delivered last evening before a large audience at Rand's Hall, by Prof. Homer B. Sprague, of Cornell University, and we may without any flattery to the gentleman, safely pronounce it by far one of the finest lectures ever delivered in our city. We regret that it is not in our power to report it in a manner worthy of the speaker. Prof. Sprague possesses fine powers of oratory, a splendid delivery, and rare powers of illustrating his theme. We predict that should Prof. S. visit our city again, he would be greeted and welcomed by even a larger audience than assembled at Rand's Hall last evening. —*Troy Daily Whig*, Feb. 16, 1870.

The lecture was a rich treat. The Colonel has earned an enviable reputation as a lecturer.—*Soldiers' Record.*

Col. Homer B. Sprague, Professor of Rhetoric and Oratory in Cornell University, delivered his lecture, "Riches, and what Constitutes them," in Union Hall, Monday evening. The lecture was a very interesting one, and the speaker well sustained his reputation for eloquence, purity of thought, and graceful delivery. The lecture is a succession of brilliant flashes of wit, passages of exquisite word painting, rare gems of thought, and not a little of sound philosophy, and hard practical common sense. The lecture of itself bears ample testimony of the culture, scholarship and talents of its author. It was received in New Britain as it has been elsewhere, with the warmest expressions of approval from the audience.—*New Britain Record.*

A fine production.—*Troy Daily Times.*

Homer B. Sprague, Professor of Elocution and English Literature in Cornell University, gave the citizens of Batavia a rare treat last Thursday evening, in his lecture entitled "Riches and what Constitutes them." Prof. Sprague came a stranger and almost unheralded; the only pledge or knowledge we had of him being the fact that the Young Men's Lyceum had placed his name upon the Course, and the University from which he hails. These pledges, however, were sufficient to fill the hall, and seldom, if ever, has it been filled with a more attentive or delighted audience. Both the lecture and the lecturer will live long in the memory of his auditors. He is richly endowed with all the external graces of the orator. A pleasing address, grace and ease in manner and gesture, a fine command of language, and when to these are added the heart of a philanthropist aglow with love for his kind, and beating response to all genuine reforms, we have more of the successful lecturer combined, than is often the case, and we confidently predict a brilliant future in the lecture field for Prof. Sprague.

The lecturer showed, in many apt and beautiful illustrations, and with a wealth of language we covet in vain, how Health is riches; Courage, Self-Sacrifice, Morality, Precious Memories, and Good Books are riches. He that founds a Public Library has erected a monument to himself more lasting than Brass, more enduring than Marble. A monument not of dead cold marble, but a fountain of living, perennial water flowing to beautify and freshen the lives of thousands yet to be.—*Spirit of the Times*, Batavia, N. Y.

A fine and appreciative audience greeted Col. Homer B. Sprague, on Wednesday evening last, to hear his lecture on "Riches," at Goodyear's Hall, in this village. And to say that his hearers were highly pleased, is using a very mild expression, for in fact all were delighted. The lecture, in point of power of argument and illustration, in acute witticisms, in good common sense and humor, and as a literary production, is superior to anything that we have heard in Groton. It was full of original ideas, artistically grouped, and pleasingly enunciated, at times with a power that seemed born of inspiration. There is a general desire to hear Col. S. again, and we hope to be able to announce another lecture during the winter.—*Groton* (N. Y.) *Journal*, Dec. 31st, 1870.

Col. Homer B. Sprague gave a lecture on "Riches," to a very fine audience at Mechanics' Hall, last evening, and gave great satisfaction. Indeed, there has hardly been a more entertaining lecture delivered here this winter, or one that was better received. In brains, in health, in courage, in self-sacrifice, and in many other forms the speaker showed how true riches are developed illustrating his theme admirably. Fact, and fancy, wit and humor and wisdom, were skillfully blended, and the magnetic power of the speaker was felt and acknowledged by his attentive audience. Col. Sprague is now Professor of English Literature, Rhetoric, and Oratory at Cornell University, Ithaca, N. Y.—*Worcester* (Mass.) *Spy*, March 15th, 1870.

Col. Homer B. Sprague, Professor of English Literature, and Oratory in Cornell University, is one of the most brilliant of the brilliant young workers that President White has summoned to aid him in the task of creating a model University. As a writer and orator Mr. Sprague was distinguished among his fellows, while yet under the academic shades of Old Yale. A brave soldier, he served throughout the war. Colonel Sprague's lectures have been warmly received by cultivated audiences, and Lyceums will find among the list of lecturers few more acceptable than the gallant Colonel Professor.—*The Statesman*, Yonkers, N. Y.

Colonel Sprague gave a lecture on "Milton" before the Y. M. C. A. last winter, which was pronounced by those who heard it, as one of the best, or perhaps *the* best of the course. * * * * * Our people had reason to expect an unusually good thing from him again, and they were not disappointed. Without attempting to give an abstract of the lecture, we will simply say that it was remarkable for power, good sense, wit; rich in thought, finely illustrated, spiced with anecdote, and displayed a most extensive knowledge and an eloquence rarely surpassed.—*The Caledonian*, St. Johnsbury, Vt., Dec. 31,1869.

Library Hall was crammed, of course. To at once fill eye and ear, and satisfy the mind and heart, is no easy task; but Professor Sprague does all without apparent effort. This is a characteristic of genius. He undoubtedly studies closely, and disciplines thoroughly; but his elocution is as natural as his vocalization.—*Ithaca Daily Leader*.

It was, perhaps, the most delightful thing of the kind ever heard in Ithaca. It was marked by power, sense, wit, humor; rich in original thought, finely touched off by anecdote, by ideas from ancient as well as modern languages and literature, displaying a critical as well as most extensive knowledge; soaring to the pinnacle of our expectations which were high, and creating a wish to "drink deeper at the font." It received the undivided attention of the audience, and was loudly and heartily applauded.—*Ithaca Journal*.

Pronounced by all the best literary entertainment ever given to the people of Ludlowville.—*The Ithacan*, January 15, 1870.

Colonel Homer B. Sprague delivered his lecture on "Riches" before Stanley Post, Grand Army of the Republic, on Monday evening. The lecture is one of the eloquent Colonel's finest productions, and was delivered in the matchless style for which he is noted.—*The Connecticut Post* (Hartford).

It is seldom that the people of Ithaca have the privilege of enjoying so rich a treat. The address was interesting, instructive, and well spiced with wit. The frequent and renewed cheers, the almost breathless silence that prevailed throughout that densely-crowded hall during the whole of the long address, are incontrovertible proofs of Professor Sprague's power as an orator.—*The Era*.

One of the best lectures ever delivered in this City, was that of Prof. Homer B. Sprague, of Cornell University, at Rand's Hall, last evening. As a polished piece of oratory, and a sensible and instructive discourse, it has rarely been excelled. "Riches and what Constitutes them" was the subject. It was treated in a manner original, concise, and entertaining.—*Troy Press*, Feb. 16th, 1870.

The lecture has not been surpassed by any ever given in the new hall. Prof. Sprague possesses rare power as an orator, a graceful delivery, and peculiar descriptive ability. He handled his subject in a charming manner, showing what constitutes wealth, and some of its many advantages and dangers. We are unable to give any adequate idea of the lecture, which needed to be heard to be appreciated.—*Waterbury* (Ct). *American*, March 18th, 1870.

Prof. Sprague's lecture, at Library Hall, on Friday evening last, was a rich treat, and the ability of the lecturer never showed to better advantage. We shall make no attempt at criticism or analysis. Nothing but the lecture entire would give any reasonable idea of it. The Colonel well sustained his high reputation, and the audience was well pleased. His delivery was as nearly perfect as can well be imagined.—*Ithaca Journal*.

We cordially concur in what the Journal says of Col. Sprague's lecture. These lectures should be heard by all, as there is no man among us more capable, more eloquent, or who gives more satisfaction.—*The Ithaca Democrat*.

Every one who heard it will bear witness that it was a rhetorical treat of rare quality. Racy, humorous, and insinuating, it was at the same time full of useful hints and sound financial doctrine.—*The Ithacan*.

Colonel Sprague's lecture was, without doubt, far the best lecture ever delivered in Candor, and certainly the best we ever listened to.—*Candor Free Press*.

It was warmly received by all, and in giving it the lecturer added new laurels to his already enviable reputation.—*The Ithacan*, Jan. 22, 1870.

Rich in original thought, rich in wit, humor, and good sound sense.—*The Sentinel*, Trumansburgh, N. Y.

One of the very best lectures ever delivered in Bennington.--*Bennington* (Vt.) *Banner*.

The lecture was an admirable one.—*Weekly Recorder*, Fayetteville, New York.