

Albion 5th Nov 1848

My Dear Father

I have not yet fulfilled the promise I made to thee while in Buffalo of writing soon after my arrival in this place and I don't know as I shall have a better time than the present for doing so. I left the "Queen City of the Lake" on Thursday of last week on the Steamer Louisiana with a strong breeze from the west and every prospect of a pleasant time. But, ^{the} wind soon commenced blowing and continued to increase until about two o'clock when if I am not very much mistaken it was blowing a perfect gale. There was on board some four hundred passengers besides a great quantity of freight. Well now for a description of the passengers and to commence with there was not fifty out of the whole load but who were sea sick and of all the sights I ever saw that ~~that~~ the "gratest". As for my-self I might as well own up that I was a little sick but not to be compared with some of the rest. We were on the lake about forty eight hours and after the first twelve had a very pleasant voyage as the wind shifted in the east and then just hard enough to make the trip pleasant. I stopped a few moments at Cleveland and saw Alonzo who is in that office he was well and felt fine as likewise was Durham. I arrived at Detroit a few moments before the Cars started west and as I had

to go on that train or wait until the next
week I did not see much of the place. I got to
Albion about three o'clock Saturday and found
the folks all well. Jane was at Masts boarding
and going to school. She is well and appears to
enjoy her self first rate indeed who would, ^{not} here
in this County? I think it is a very pleasant place
around Albion and for a country place Mirams
farm is the most admirable one I have seen in
the State. I was not at all disappointed in the
County which the Rail Road passes through
as it goes through the poorest part of the coun-
try but I was happily disappointed in this County
for it is as pleasant as Tompkins or any other
County I have passed through since I left it.

I suppose you was some what surprised to
hear that I was going to Michigan but on
my arrival in Buffalo I found Sprad there
who thought there was no chance in that office
for me so I concluded I would come home and
winter if nothing more and trust to look as to
getting some-thing to do. I came up here to Mira-
ms yesterday with Jane who went back last night
to be ready for school this morning. I will now
close as Mary wants to say something to Mother

Yours Respectfully

John W. Conell

Elijah Conell

Utica N.Y.

As there seemed to be an opportunity, I thought I would improve
it in saying a few words to Mother we have not had a
description of thy journey home yet and it was some time
before we heard thee had got home at all. Things go on about
the same as when thou was here. Neighbors Fuscumb has
lost his father. We remember I've visited there with her
I have been sick with the chill there some 4 weeks ago
Jane was with me at that time her health is good I
don't think I ever saw her so fleshy as she now is before.
Phebe Elizabeth works when she is a mind to ask Mary
Ann if her beads that John & Moll is not living he
went west after a wife and got to where the woman
lived and was taken sick and died and was carried
back on the cars. I dride over a bushel of peaches and
as many apples it is after ten O'clock. Phoebe and John
are a bed and I have got to make bread yet to night
and must be excused from writing any more this time

So good night
Mary

Mary C. Robertson

Nov 5th 1848

My dear friend
Alfred Smith

Dear

Recd Clod Nov 18th 48

Auburne Sund PM
Nov 12/48 Annm Hotel

My Dear Alongo

Here I am yet no farther than this. Arrived here about 5 this am with the hope of finding a coach for Ithaca today, but none till tomorrow. Have just returned from church & also have secured a seat from here to Libertyville. Am going to send my baggage on to Ithaca but foot it up home from Libertyville.

This is a very dull gloomy day & I feel desolate enough, altho going home & when you & others might say I should be cheerful, but I repeat it again that when alone where I can reflect - & not in the midst of bus & company, it is beyond a possibility for me to feel & look upon things temporal as I once did - the fault of humanity has stared me full in the face.

I wish you would write me at once & tell me how Col S appeared & what he said after I left so abruptly - I am sorry I came off so but I wanted to not miss the first chance. Tell me how things go in the ops & where the boys all are.

A shot has just struck me that I

will walk out about 9 miles towards
home to a cousin of mine & then meet
the stage in the morning

Good bye

Yours sure as ever
J. Dunham

My Dear Elizabeth

Dec 5th 1848

I received your kind letter some time ago but have neglected to answer it until now, for the want of time. You will perhaps think this a poor excuse, but it is the only one I have to give. I can assure you that I have thought of you often since I left home, and should have written before now, but I am attending school and you know that school girls do not have much time to devote to anything but their studies that is if they expect to improve. I am very glad that you wrote to me however, as it shows that I am not entirely forgotten. I want you to write often, and I will try and be more punctual in my correspondence with you. Your friends here are all enjoying nothing good health with the exception of Aunt Mary, whose health is ^{very} poor indeed, she is very nervous and weak, the doctor says he cannot help her unless she gives up all kinds of work, and attends faithfully to his directions. We have good sleighing here and of course we shall have many times as long as it lasts. Albion is quite a place Elizabeth after all. There is quite a large society of young people here, most of whom are spending the winter with their friends and relations.

I have attended the Episcopal sewing society several times and find it very pleasant, indeed if any one is fond of company they cannot fail of enjoying themselves here. I think you would enjoy yourself here for a short time first rate. I suppose you are very pleasantly situated at school however and do not wish for a change. How does school go off nowadays and how do you get along with your studies? I don't think that the school I am attending is as good as the one taught at the Academy, although I like this school very well.

I suppose little Mary Emily has grown a good deal since I saw her. I would give all the old shoes that I have got to ^{see} her and all the rest of my dear friends to night. Elizabeth and it is Marion's reply

about this time, please to give my love to her and tell her that she may expect a letter from me before many weeks, give my love to Maria and kiss her for me about a dozen times. Where is Abner now? ask him to forgive me for not writing to him before now, tell him that I shall write him a good long letter before I leave Michigan at any rate. I received a paper from Elizabeth Barnard a short time since giving notice of her marriage, so I suppose she has got Billy after all, I wonder if she keeps her brothers likeness yet? Now why you should think that I would get homesick because I do not hear from home often, I do not hear from home very often and I have been homesick but I live in hopes that spring will come some time or other and as soon as it does come I intend to go home. Please ask your mother to write as we should be very happy to hear from her in particular, I suppose you are making great calculations on Christmas & New years, you must write and let me know how you spend the holidays the presents you receive &c and do not fail to send me something in a letter if it is nothing more than a piece like some of your new dress,

Please return my compliments to Miss Ellis & Miss Mitchell and tell them that I should be very happy to see them.

Elizabeth you must excuse me for not writing more in the way of news as I want to write a few lines to Mother and it is getting quite late, I will therefore close with my kind regards to all who may inquire, I remain your affectionate aunt

Jane Cornell,

To Miss Elizabeth P. Cornell
Ithaca

Union Springs Jan 17th '49

Dear Parents

It is a long time since I have written to you but it is not a want of regard that makes me neglect it. although I will make no excuses now and try to do better in future.

My health is very good which I am very thankful for, there is a good deal of sickness about here but I have escaped all diseases except ~~the most~~ the most prevailing which is the "Yellow Fever" yes I have got the great gold Fever from the far off California, ~~but~~ I am getting rather worse of the disease every day and the Doctors say I must go South (to California) for my health but no more of this nonsense.

I am at work for Daniel Ganger yet, and he will not let me quit so I suppose I must stay till the first of April. I then think of coming home but I can't tell what may come to pass by that time.

I am informed that there is a pottery going to be put up in this place in the Spring by ~~a~~ a couple of men one from Troy and the other from Jordan and I believe it is Gustus Norton. I saw Am Norton here in town about three weeks ago and it was a good while before he knew me and when he made up his mind who I was he appeared to be in a great hurry to get home - he had a load of stone ware with at the time - they have got a fine site for their Shop. It is close on the beach of the sweet - beautiful - enchanting dayuga lake (to my father D. B. Cornell.)

It is stone ware that they intend to make and the inhabitants of this newly incorporated city think it will be a great help to the place.

and now Mother how do thee like thy New Years
present? Oh how I wished to be there to put it in
that awful great big Looking but then I should have
wanted a basket of potatoes to have filled it up with
I did not send a letter with it for I wanted to see
if thee would know whose it was, and somebody wrote
to me and told me that thee knew it very quick
It is now 2 o'clock and I have got another letter to write but
I will say a few words more, I am enjoying my self very well
this winter, I have got me a slate and arithmetick and
am going to cipher evenings and next summer I want
to go to school if possible, how is all the folks in Attaca,
tell Deborah that I am a good boy and want her to
write to me, when is Jane and John coming home
and what is Edward doing, where is Cyra and E.B.,
and why don't Cyra send me that money
Give my love to ~~all~~ my friends &c

Thy Son D. B. Cornell

Albion Jan 15th /89

My Dear Sister

I rec^d your very kind ^{letter} dated Dec 11th some time since, but have neglected to answer it until now, as you no doubt perceive. Your letter found us in good health, and we are still enjoying the same blessing, to a considerable extent at least.

Mary's health is gradually improving. John came from there last night and said that she felt better yesterday than she had in some time. She has a wainman to do her work.

John and I are attending School yet. John seems to like going to School here better than he did in Ithaca, and wants to attend here if nothing happens to prevent, until next fall, and Teach next winter. I think there is nothing to hinder him from improving if he can attend regular, and I presume there will be nothing to hinder his attending, and as for myself I think that I ought to understand the importance of improving while I have an opportunity, for I presume I shall not have many. I suppose you and Elizabeth get along finely doing your work. I think you do well in keeping her at home with you this winter. She will no doubt take more interest in her studies when she commences again, than she would if she had kept on going this winter. I suppose Minnie is enjoying herself first-rate. I think when she once gets acquainted there at the Academy she will like it well. Maria I suppose is a perfect witch. I would give most anything to see her. She kissed me so hard before I left that my lips have not got well yet.

Sunday evening Jan 20th.

My Ann it is just a week since I commenced this letter to you, and I have got only one page filled out yet. but as I have nothing else to bring myself about this evening I intend to finish it. Tell your friends that were well when I commenced this letter still remain so and the sick are on the gain, We feel very anxious to hear from you all. as the last news we received was that you were about all sick. I hope that Deborah will be fanned to recover her health, for she has been sick a great while, Mother I suppose gets along first rate while I am gone, as she has no one to put things out of place and does not have to wait upon me, I feel in hopes that she will make a good girl of me while I am there but I don't know how it will be, Mary's woman has got the ague, and gone home, they have not been able to get any one else as yet, Hiram has been trying to get a girl for two or three days past but has not succeeded, as all the girls in this vicinity do not work out because they are obliged to put for the pleasure of the thing, and therefore do not go out of Town, I suppose that Father thinks about starting for California in search of Gold, tell him not to do so untill Spring and I will go with him, Mart is very strongly attracted with the Leaver but has not started for there yet, and Hiram says he would not go if they would insure him \$100 a month, what does the eastern people think about it and who is going, The people of Abhin hold

California meetings here two or three times a week, and there is a large company going from here early in the Spring. Do you know where Daniel is at present, I should not wonder if he was in California by this time.

I presume I shall leave School in about two weeks ~~and~~ and stay with Mary until Spring, You must go over and see Mother as soon as you receive this letter & give her my love and tell her that John is fat and healthy besides being very happy and that I am ditto, Tell Edward that Lurel & Mary Shaw are married, Lurel married the widow Bryant from Livingston Co whose husband died in a well, & Mary married Mr. Cumber.

I presume you will excuse the miserable writing & spelling &c in this letter for you know I never was noted for orthography.

As I do not think of any more news that will interest you I will close this, my first letter to you with my respects to all who may inquire, Please write soon.

Yours Respectfully Jane Cornell.

To Mrs E. Cornell,

P. S. By the way, do you all want to see me sent back?

Jane Cornell
Jan 15 1849

1/11
36-7

New York.

Friend

Mr. E. Cornell.

X



Dear Elie

Tuesday Jan 16. 1849

Oh Elie I have for the first time taken my pen to address you; Long indeed seems the time since I saw you and I do not know when I shall again see you. I have been going to school to John Carr and am still going but it is a miserable one I assure you, and I suppose will not continue longer than this week. Oh how I do wish you would come and see me. I am so lonely. I guess you will think ^{I am} ~~you~~ never going to send your "Love Mark" home again and as I do not know when I shall have a chance to send it I concluded to send it in a short letter. I am very much obliged to you for it, and would like to return it myself but I have not time.

And now dear Elie, how did you spend Christmas and New Year? I should like to know very much. And would you like to know how I spent them? Now listen and I will tell you. But you must agree not to tell anyone. Well Christmas I spent at home and New Year I went a sleigh-riding; and guess who I went with, if you can. I will tell you for I do not think you can guess. It was with — Carlos Daily. Do you not envy me. We had a grand time I assure you. Have you had any sleigh rides this winter? I have had ~~one~~ grand one. The young gents in our neighbourhood got a large sleigh from town and a driver and four horses and we went out to Smith's Gate, just half way from Ithaca to Owego. There was 16 of us. You may imagine we had a jolly time. But I have not time to write more as I am going to commence a letter to Mary Livermore. Do come and see me. Give my love to all. From your sincere Friend,

C. E. Mitchell

Union Springs 2nd ~~Dec~~ 4th 1849.

My Dear Brother and Parents,

It is a long time since I have written to you and perhaps on that account this will be the more acceptable. however as I had a letter from Edward I shall answer it in here. and now Edward

I am thankful to you for your kind letter of the 22nd Inst. I can inform you that I am in good health for which Blessing I am very thankful to the Great giver of all good. I can likewise inform you that I am learning a trade which you ~~always~~ wanted to learn your self. I commenced about 11 days ago and like it well thus far. I want you to tell E. Cornell to send me that money if he has any regard for a Brother's feelings and welfare and if not I should like to borrow about \$10 of you if you can spare it for. I am very much in need of it and I will give you my note with use.

I am very glad to hear of the progress that you are making in your studies and wish I was with you but circumstances will prevent at present.

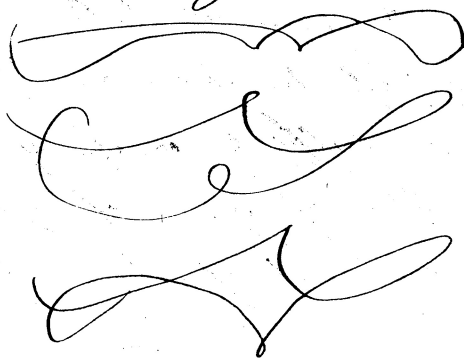
Give my love to Deborah and tell her that I have often thought of ~~what~~ the advice she gave me and I think I can say that I have profited by it. give her my love and tell her that I think of her very often with pure Brotherly affection. give my love to James also. and to all of my Brothers and sisters and relation and except a portion your self from your Brother {E. S. Cornell} D. B. Cornell

Dear parents, I don't know of any thing that would
be interesting news to you except that I have commenced
to learn a trade, I am well and happy, and think I
shall come home on a visit in the Spring.

tell Father that I don't hear any thing more about the
starting of a Pottery in this place, what does John
Intend to do and when is he coming home, tell
Sister Deborah that she must write as soon as
she is able and you must both do so to and
believe me it will be excepted and answered also
by your son —

D. Blornell

To My Parents,



D. B. Cornell

Feb 3rd 1849



Mr D. B. Cornell
Hacker
N. Y.

Received of D. B. Cornell
the sum of \$100.00
for the purchase of
the stock of the
New York & Albany
R.R. Co. Feb 3 1849

Albion Feb 11th 1848.

My Dear Mother

My Dear

Mother, It has been some time since I have recd a letter from home, and I did not know but that you might think that you had written last, and was waiting for me to answer it, but Phoebe tells me that she thinks I write a great many letters that I do not receive answers to, and I shall begin to think that some of my friends do not thank me for writing to them or they would be more punctual in doing their part towards keeping up the correspondence. It is rather discouraging to send to the post office every night, but find no letter, however I will pardon you all if you will be more punctual in future. We are all enjoying an excellent degree of health at present. Marys health is much better, she and Frank have been down here today. She has a tired girl, so she can leave home at any time. I still continue at School and shall do so in all probability until the close of the Term which will be in about four weeks. I recd a letter from Ezra last night he wrote from New York city. he says he shall try to accompany Elizabeth to Albion in the Spring, that she may pursue her study of Botany, and if so I think it will be doubtful if I return home until then. I should be very glad to see you all, but I suppose you get along a great deal better while I am away, and I dont know why you should not, for I suppose I am nothing but a hindrance, let me be where I will,

Mother I guess she and Father had better make up your minds to move to Michigan, for Charles & Robert May talk of buying a farm joining Flircus, and Aunt Anna will live with them and then you could be all together, what do you think of the plan. For my part I think Mich is a "great country" and I should rather live here than in fall lake, provided my friends were here, with one exception, and that is the young Doctors of Albion have become so hard hearted that they will not let people rest, after they are dead and buried, but in the silent hours of night, when all the good inhabitants of this village are wrapped in the arms of "Morphius" they pursue their way with stealthy tread to the Grave yard, and rob the graves of their dead. John still continues at School and likes it well, I think it will be much pleasanter there in the summer than it is at present. We have had fine sleighing here all winter and it still continues. Mother how does thee get along with the work, and how does thee enjoy thyself. I wish I could get a good long letter from thee, and hear all about home and all that pertains to it. I think I have enjoyed myself since I have been in Michigan better than I ever did before in my life. I have not been sick a day since I have been here and I doubt if thee would know me. I am so fat and rugged. My school is very pleasant indeed. The preceptress is from Elmira and she seems like an old acquaintance. She says she is acquainted with a number of "friends" there.

I shall regret leaving school very much, for I presume the happiest days of my life have been spent in School, but every thing must have an end. Life is but a span at longest

and it will be but a short time before the people now upon the stage of action will be numbered with those that are not and others will take their place.

Phoebe recd a letter from Thomas a short time since. he wrote that they were all well. Mart has been gone from home nearly 4 weeks, and I feel almost rest about him but I presume he will make his appearance before long.

Father must take an interest in this letter and consider it an answer to his very kind one. I am much obliged to him for his well wishes & advice, and also to thee for paying the postage on thy letter. I would do the same on this if I had plenty of argent. Where is Rhoda now and what is she doing? give her my love and ask her to excuse me for not writing it is not because I do not wish to hear from her but simply for want of time. Give my respects to Mrs Talmage and also to Emma Browne & tell Mary Ann and Elizabeth that I believe they both owe me a letter. tell "Liz" that if she comes to Mich she will never regret it for I can promise her a good deal of fun. Give my love to E. B. & folks tell Marion that I should be happy to hear from her by letter.

And now as I am coming to the bottom of the sheet, I shall have to bid my kind and much loved Mother adieu.

Do not neglect to write but do so often.

Yours with affectionate regard Jane Cornell

To My Mother

Emmie Cornell

Lehigh March 2 1849

My Dear cousin Elizabeth

After waiting until there is no hope of getting a letter from you I thought I would just enquire the reason and hope you will give a good one. We are all well and in a prosperous condition but me and all the trouble I have is sore eyes but they are better than they was formerly. I can see quite well father and Mary come home the same day they left fall creek got here about eight P.M. and dont you believe I made them sit down and tell me all about every body out there before I gave them a bit of supper you do not know how I want to see you. I would give all my old shoes and I have got three or four pairs if I could I left in there this afternoon I am here all alone and nobody to speak to if I wanted to talk ever so had the sleighing is leaving us and it seems like parting with an old friend we have had it so long but I will not shed any tears on the occasion for there is water enough without I expect every day when we shall have a freshet that will wash away all the mill dams and bridges. She has just come in she says tell you to come out and make her a visit and rock cradle but for my part I dont see what you will rock for she has got neither cat dog nor baby but maybe she wants you to rock William she acts so bad I can hardly write I went in there the other day and had a real

frolick with Lib and said a great many curious
things and so and behold William had the head
ache and was on the bed behind the curtain
and heard all and he never told me who
ought to have been kicked had she not I
shall have to tell you about my going to a
hall the other night there was three or four
of us had a great curiosity to see some of the
company dance that we were pretty well
acquainted with so we looked us up a heap
and went we sent him up in the hall morn
and when the right ones got on the floor
he come down and told us and we went up
and as soon as they got through the figure
some of them left the room as mad as hens
he told some one they would not come back till
we left but we thought we would try them a
pull and stay till they did at last they came
and appeared tickled to see us but we hear they
blowed us sky high afterwards and said we came
to make fun of them now you know we would
not do that I did not know before that we were
capable of making such a sensation in a hall
room I must quit now and eat supper after
telling what we are going to have holed wheat
and cream I wont tell any more you may
guess the rest because I am so hungry I cant
wait, now my stomach is full I will proceed
to tell you about some of our temporal
affairs we have got a little calf two weeks
old only we killed it one week ago the cow
was ~~very~~ full of milk lacking some our hens

have layed all winter untill now Robert
says we must chase them up hill and they
will lay again I believe that is all the live stock
we own but blessed be nothing was an exclamation
made by some one I have read of perhaps you
will find it in the bible how does uncle Eliza's
folks do Deborah & B's folks Rhoda Tom and Ann
and all the rest of the good folks tell James
we are much obliged to him for calling on us
and presume we shall pay the visit some time
Mary tells me you talk of going to Michigan
I would like to be your company if I could if
you go tell Frank we would like to see him and
tell him to write of tier I do not know what I
shall do for a living this summer I hate the
sound of teaching but expect I shall have to do it
my eyes feel so bad I shall have to stop writing and
my throats and my toes are cold so wait a spell
it is getting to be real cold weather again
and it snows like fun so I guess I shall take
another sleigh ride I should think some of you
might come and see us I have looked for
some of you all winter untill our folks went
out there I would get all ready for you every Saturday
night and sit down and wait for you it is now
Monday morning the gold is washing and I am
making believe have the toothache and I have
had a trouble from my face is swelled big as
a half bushel Georges wife has got a little girl
about a day old and I must go and see it
So say or tomorrow I cant think of any
thing more to write that will be interesting

to you you must be sure and write as soon
as you receive this tell me all about the folks
give my respects to all of our folks tell
Marian to send me word when she is going
to be married so that I can come out and
attend wedding. Kiss Perry for me and be
a good girl yourself from your affectionate
pawpaw
Eunice Barnard

P.S. If you cant read this send it
back without breaking the seal as the
paddy said
E B

My Dear Father

Albion March 15, 1849

Thy kind favor of the 28th Feb-
came duly to hand this morning, and I will
embrace the first opportunity to answer it.

The manner in which business has shaped
as regards the Portland Pottery has fully borne out
my predictions. I was not at all surprised
to hear that Woodruff has burned up the
dry-kiln, & if he manages business there one
year without burning up the whole Establi-
ment, he will do better than I think he will.

As regards the Utica Pottery I should
deem it expedient to give Rider a job of
work as he is an excellent workman and would
I have no doubt be as profitable a hand as
could be hired, at least as far as the manu-
facturing of the Ware is concerned. He is not so
well calculated to take whole charge of a Pottery
in its various business relations as a person should
be to make it a profitable business. But as I said
above as far as the Workmanship is concerned
I know of no one more competent or better
qualified to go into the business than Rider.

The thought (Shollar would like to become
concerned in the Pottery business at Utica.

And if so his aims on the subject here
greatly changed since I left Portland.
How much such a change in his opinion
might have taken place and if so he
would be the best and most profitable
partner the could associate with in bus-
iness. As he understands perfectly all of the
branches except turning. He is a skilful bu-
siness and a better business man could not
be had.

It is gratifying to be able to inform
you that so good a degree of health is existing
with us as is, altho Mary has just fully over-
come her former health yet. She was down to
the Exhibition at the Seaside last week &
it proved to have for her so that she is not so
well as she was a few days previous, but I believe
we can safely say that she is again on the gain-

I am is spending the vacation with her
and if she don't go to School the next Quarter
she will probably remain with her until she
starts for home which she thinks will be on
the first boat - or at least - early in the Spring.
I am trying busying myself in various
ways trying to while away the vacation, but to
tell the truth it goes rather slow. Please say
to Deborah & Edmund that I will answer
their letters in a few days. Where is Ed.

that I don't hear from him tell him that
I am waiting anxiously for an answer to
my last letter to him and also that I would
like to hear a full yr of the doings and progress
of the N. Y. & Erie Line of Telegraph I would
also like to hear what conclusion you
come to in regard to the Pottery Give my love
to Mother and the rest of my connection. I
must now close as I am left alone with the
children and it takes over the most of the time
to keep them straight.

Respectfully thy Son
Jas H. Connel
Elijah Connel
Shaca N.Y.
La Roche

Albion May 9th 1897

Dear Parents

As there is an opportunity to send I thought I would write a few lines, - Delia Bishop starts for Ithaca as home tomorrow she has been a good deal of company for us and is she arrives safely at home I believe will not regret her journey. She is a very amiable girl and will leave a godwifery friends in Michigan. I have been thinking a good while how glad we should be to have a visit from Father and ^{us} it seems to me that you ought to come and see us and see how we are situated. Aunt Anna wants very much you should come and visit them. I hope you will think about it and if there seems to be ~~no~~ hindrance will come. I understood yesterday that M. B. Wood thought some of going east soon on business as there is some prospect - at there place going to pay the Hopkins debt if they Hopkins don't settle it some other way as they have obtained a verdict ^{against him}. I forgot to tell you we were all well and hope this will find you enjoying the same blessing. Well morning has come and Delia is getting ready to start. I should like to hear from you what you are all about. Does Sam work in the factory yet and do you keep boarders. I should like to get a letter from May soon a gone. I believe Phebe is looking for Ezra soon. Please write to us once more and let us know what you think about coming to Michigan. I have not time to write any more and will conclude ~~to~~ with my love to all friends. — from your child Mary C. Robertson.

Elijah and Eunice Cornell

May 6 Roberson
May 9 1843

Elijah Cornell
Ithaca
N.Y.

Whitehall New York
May 27th 1849

My much respected friend. C. B.

I heard from you this afternoon by telegraph through my friend Marsh, and I can assure you that I was right glad to hear from you. I requested Marsh to inform you that I was just about to drop you a line, or two to inform you of matters and things in general. Marsh is now standing by my side, but he says that he has no particular word to send, as he can talk by lightning, if it is necessary. Marsh is one of the boys, I can tell you. But to business. I arrived in Whitehall in due time, safe and sound, with my trunk and have rented a nice house, or at least my Brother rented it for me before I got here, and I shall move into it and go to keeping house, or Menology next, by the blessing of God. There is nothing new worth relating here, that I am aware of. My friends here are very glad that I got married, as they are of an opinion that it will steady me down. I have two or three good opportunities to go into business, for my friends are very anxious to assist me now, since I exhibit signs of reformation. But I shall delay until I get settled and then it will be time enough for me to go to work. It will be impossible for me to do justice to a letter this time, but in my next I will try to do better. Please receive this scroll, and give my respects to all the boys. Answer this, and write often.

To Conrad.

I remain your Grateful and
Sincere friend. Chas C. Hicks

Chas Chick
Whitehall May 29. 49



recd 11-10

B. C. Comer Esq

Specs. Telegraph Cleveland
Ohio

Union Springs Aug 27th '49

My Dear Brother

It was with great pleasure that I received your kind letter of the 12th Inst. informed me that you were all well and in good spirits, and I can inform you that I am in good health myself, altho I was some what unwell for a day or two in harvest, I worked in haying & harvest from June 24th untill August the 6th except a few lost days. I had \$1 per day in haying and \$1.25 in harvest, I earned about \$50. I am now at work in the shop again.

You wrote about coming down here to work, and I can assure you that it would give me great pleasure to have you come but ~~as it is~~ the Farmers generally hire their help in the Spring, and business is very dull and uncertain in winter, there is first rate hands to be got in winter for \$7 per month, but I will do what I can do and if I can find any place I will write again soon and let you know, I think it would be as well to wait till Spring and you could then get 10 or 14 dollars per month please write soon and let me know all about how John and Jane and Deborah and Rhoda

and Father & Mother get along and be sure
remember me to them all and tell them that I
think a great deal more about them than I
ought, tell Father that I have got on good
terms with Daniel Gauger the man that
lives close by here and he says whenever I want
his "gun" to go a hunting I must come over
and get it, now Brother I have not got
but just one thing more to tell you that
will interest you and that is one week ago
last Thursday night your brother D.B. Cornell
was (not married) but initiated in the Spring
Port Division 488 G. of T. - I will now close
with my love to you all, good-bye

To E.S. {

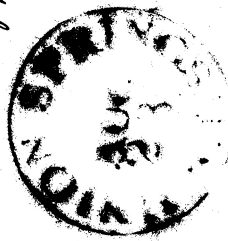
D.B. Cornell

P.S. I think I shall come home
and make you a visit before ~~winter~~
winter sets in, good-bye D.B.C.

5

Mr. E. S. Corwell

March N. Y.



Union Springs Sept 16th 1849

My Dear Parents,

It is some time since I have written to you. and I am now almost ashamed to write, but I have made up my mind that the longer I put it off the more I shall dread it. so you must try and forgive my neglect and be assured it is not a want of regard for my thoughts often dwell on my Dear friends and relatives in and around Athens. I shall if possible make you a visit this fall and then Mother I will bring up thy trunk & explain the reason why I did not send it before. I have often heard from you sometimes by letter and sometimes by people who were acquainted with you and me. — I can inform you that I am still at work in the shop and am learning ver. fast but I am not doing much over-work on account of not having any trestle-hoops. father I want thee or Cyra or some of you to let me have about \$20 or \$25 for the purpose of getting some iron and hoop-iron etc for to work up for my self. as I have some considerable time to work for my self. I have got my eye on a small lot of first rate staves which I can get for \$15 pr 1,000

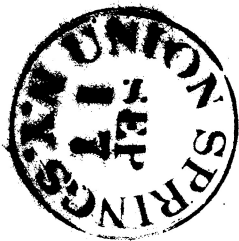
and if I can get them I can make it least \$20 for 1,000
by working them up into pork barrels. please try and
get it for me and send it as soon as the can, and on
the receipt of it I will send my note for the ~~Don~~
the man who has got the stores here near Quid
and he says if I want them I must let him know
this week or he will let them go, as there are a
number waiting for them, give my love to all
and tell my brothers and sisters that they must not
think I have forgotten them because I don't write but
tell them to return good for evil and write the
after for it - good bye -

To Elizabeth and Eunice
Cornell }

From your son

J. B. Cornell

and
by ..
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am
the
tell
after



To
to

Philip Cornell
Ithaca N.Y.



Pine River Oct 16, 1849

My Dear Father

It is a long time since I have written to thee but I have not neglected writing through forgetfulness or disrespect, but from the habit of procrastination which has many victims amongst people who have not so reasonable a plea as I could bring forward.

Hoping thee will overlook my seeming neglect I will promise to try to do better in future and will proceed to give thee the details of whatever may be interesting from this part of the country, and in our own family. Our family and Edwards are in usual health. Altho my own health is not good and I have grown old so fast since I have been here I think

I should be glad to have one more letter from the father

They would not know me James also looks
10 years older than when he came in the
woods I am nearly 40 and he is near 44
but to grow old is the natural destiny
of mankind and that of itself is not so
much to be deplored as the cause of
premature age. The same may be said
of all Quakerites they grow prematurely
old in consequence of hard fare and hard
labor and continual anxiety as whether
by all their energies they can procure
a subsistence for their families or not.
The spring ~~and~~ summer and
fall frosts and drought have reduced
the county to a state of dependance
again and it is believed that famine
has not yet done its worst for us here
in the woods. Our means are diminishing
and by the last aid rendered by the state
many are so tied by mortgages as not
to be able to meet their wants by

giving security on their land while it will
be impossible to free it for some time to
come. There are a great many leaving
the woods not being willing to run the
risk they did a year ago and a great many
more would leave if they had the means to get
away - As for us and Eds folks we shall
be able to che out alive as far as eating
is concerned, we both got in all the crops
we possibly could expecting to have some
to spare for the comforts and necessities all
families kneed and some left to help pay
our debts with but as it is we have got
to almost count monthful to make
it last til another harvest with out
having any to spare to get us shoes and
clothing, much less to pay our debts
(ie our obligations to Ezra) We pointed five
pigs which were spring poor and are yet
and we have got to kill them as they are not
having any thing to fat them on

James and the boys have got off about 6 acres
this season and have sowed it to wheat.

We have no school yet don't know
whether we shall this winter or not.
We have not had but one letter from
either my friends or James or over
6 months and that one was from Phoebe
about two months ago. Conceive had the
luck to go out to her folks on a visit
and was at Olhon two, and got home
again safe and sound, you see we are
shut up from all the rest of the world
here and know nothing about what is
going on in the world at large.

Oh this monotony of life, I am tired
of it and often find myself wishing that
something would happen to break the dull
dread march of time, but it is the same
unceasing roll of seasons bringing still
poverty want and privation on their wing.
Will there ever be an end to it.

from thy affectionate Daughter
D. B. Moody

Union Springs Nov. 8th 49

My Dear Sister.

I have been threughtening to write to you for more than a month but untill now I have neglected it. although my mind is ever on my Dear Home and friends, now Jane will you forgive my negligence this once? for I am going to try to write every week.

well Jane tell Father and Mother that I have left the cooper Shop, and gone to work in the vilage, when I come home I will give my reason for long as I have — Jane I was told last week that Marion C. Cornell was married is it so or not — Jane I feel as if I would give the world to see you now and to have a socible Sisterly Chat with you but I cant come at present.

I think I shall come home and go to school this winter if I come —

— Jane Maria is well and as clever as ever. and I wish you was acquainted with her. but perhaps you will be by the by.

I must go to my Grub for its now half past five AM. so Jane well at present and please to write soon and excuse all of the mistakes and poor writing.

From your loving brother

D. B. Cornell

Jane Cornell

Thence

Eane Cornell
Ithaca
N. Y.



Union Springs 11th Mo 9th 1849

Dear Father,

It is with great pleasure that I take my pen in hand this evening to address a few lines to thee, and I can inform thee that my health is good, with the exception of a slight cold., I received thy kind letter and am very thankful to thee for thy kind neps. and good advice, and I will endeavour to profit by it. — I went to Friends Meeting this fore noon and to Christian Meeting this evening, and am now in the shop perform a duty which I have until now neglected since my return, I have also made up my mind to abandon the use of tobacco according to thy advice and request, — I don't know what I can write in the shape of interesting news unless it is that I formed the acquaintance of a Friend here who seemed to be acquainted with the but whose name I did not learn, he seems to be a very fine man and I shall try to get more acquainted with him. Now Father I guess thee must excuse me for to night as it is late, please give my love to all Brother and Jane (not excepted) To Elijah Cornell } From thy Son
Ithaca N.Y. } J. B. Cornell

Union Springs Nov. 12th 1849

My Dear Parents.

It has been so long since I have seen you or heard from you that I had almost began to get home sick, but as we have no Physician here for that kind of sickness that I gave it up and made up my mind to see if I could hear ^{from} you by mail. I left the cooper Shop about two weeks ago and am now at work in a carpenter shop, you may want to know the "reason why" I left, they were as follows - in the first place Robert A. Hosack told me so many lies about getting money that I made up my mind that truth and honesty did not dwell in him. secondly, he was and is now in debt some \$500.00 more than he is worth and as a matter of course he could not pay me if he would. thirdly, and in plain words I did not have enough to eat.

And under those circumstances I left - I am now getting better wages and better living and besides that I am at work for an honest man.

I was calculating to come home before I went to work here but his business was hurrying and he wanted me to wait till the hurry was a little over and then then one of his Journeymen that lives in Hector is coming to Thacher and I am going to Hector with him. He is a young man by the name of Jas B. Stoughton.

Well I have Just had a good good cup of coffee
and some fresh pork and beef stake and so on for
breakfast and I feel quite refreshed and very
thankful for it, and now how does all my friends
in Ithaca got along, how is Deborah's health, and what
is James a bout, where is Jane and what is she doing
and Edward? what is he doing and why do I not
hear from them oftener tell them all that I
think of them a great deal and tell them they
must not think I have forgotten them or that I
dont care any thing about them because I dont
write oftener but tell them they must forgive my
neglect for the past and I will try to do better in
future, they must not do wrong because I do but
where I miss they must mend, be sure to give
my sincere love to them all and tell them all
to write to me, I heard that Marion was
married is it so or not, at any rate tell her
to write her Aunt D.B. a good long letter tell
Monia that I am acquainted with some fine girls
here by that name and they would be glad to
see her for my sake tell her to write also, and tell
Elisabeth that she has not written me that letter
that she promised too but I will forgive her if
she will write soon, tell Jane that I wrote that
letter to her in a great hurry that is the reason why
It was so short, tell to write by all means and
tell them all to do the same

Now Father, I began this letter with the intention of writing as good as I could, but I can think so much faster than I can pen my thoughts that I fear I have not written it so as thee can read it and if so the must let Lorne read it to thee. and Another I am coming home as soon as my new boots can shoo me and if I dont send thy trunk before I come I will bring it with me, and when I tell thee the reason of my keeping it so long (which I shall do when I come home) I trust that thee will forgive me, I dont think of any news that I can fill this page out with but I could fill it out with nonsense if I thought it would not tire your patience. but when I come home I will make it up by asking questions so good bye, write soon to your affectionate but truant son.

Elizah & Eunice
Cornell Thacker

D. Bleornell

My Dear Parents

Albion Nov 24 1849

It is a long time since I wrote to you and I hope you will pardon my negligence. if I thought a little about you as I write you might indeed think that I had near-forgotten you but that is not so. not a day passes but something occurs to bring you both fresh in my mind.

As I watch the daily growth of my children and and sore tried with their childish follies I always think of you and the trouble I have caused you. and I do not think either of my children is near as ugly as I was according to my own recollection and I have often thought how many trials you have had which I know nothing about.

We have had lovely weather all the fall just rain enough to lay the dust but no mud until day before yesterday it commenced raining. and the streets are a little muddy. we have not had a particle of snow yet. My plants look very nice indeed. and I think a great deal of my pots

Aunt Anna is well and I want to go and see her. I have not been there since I went with mother. The R.R. folks let me ride free but I can not leave home for enough to go.

Martin has got his health apparently as good as ever but he thinks his sickness has impaired his memory he thinks he cannot recollect as well as he used to and that was not any too well

Harriet and Mary is very well and their children too. We were much shocked to hear of Elizabeths death. How you must all miss her she was such a lovely girl. We got a communication from Ezra the next day after she died and the same day he sent it

I ans to the call and Detroit communication sending it I thought I should have fainter before I got through it

We had received no letters and George had just come and said you were all well and it was a long time before I could realize it. I read it over a number of times before I felt as though I could believe it. How does Mary Ann bear it. Arline is great girl her head comes up to my shoulders and she is quite healthy

What is the reason Edward dont write to me any more I wish you would put him in mind of it I want to hear from him

I want to come home and if we are all well in the spring I think I shall. I do all my work with what help I get from the children and is help the back way some times.

The office confines me at home but it is no tax on my time as I have but little to do. I can do three or four dollars worth of business a week and not miss the time I spend more time talking than in the business I do.

I like it and can do it as well as not. I must tell a little circumstance that occurred a day or two ago which if had been told when Father was a young man it would not have been believed.

I sent fifty miles after an apple it was early and light say about half past five. when I sent and before 9 o'clock that same evening I had the apple in my hand. and the gentlemen who sent it waited an hour and half for a opportunity to send it after receiving the message.

I do not mention this as a thing uncommon. but how strange it is. What a wonderful age we live in. Sis sets here a pining my things and bothers just as babies two years old always do.

John wrote that Jane thinks of going
to learn a trade. I am sorry to hear it
as the one she has chosen is so hard
I had much rather hear that she was
learning to telegraph for she could
earn more by three hours of light
work than she can in ten of hand
work with her needle. and as others
do it I see no good reason why she
cannot take her chance along with the
rest. It is work better calculated for
women than men for a great portion
of ones time in the way of sleep
must be unoccupied while others
are busy and then a woman can be
sewing or knitting whereas a man
unless he has other business connected
with it must be idle. But I know what
you will all say i.e. I am all telegraph
that is what Col. Speed says about all
the Cornells. He told Mark "that it was
contrary to the laws of nature if he could
not learn for he never saw a Cornell
the bottom of the telegraph" well here is
good bye although reluctantly P. Wood

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not learn for he never saw a Cornell
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Fall River Nov 29 1849 Dear Brother and Sister

I have sat down this Evening to acknowledge the receipt of thy very acceptable ^{letter} this day received which was a satisfaction to me to hear that thee and Ernie was well and I conclude that the rest was well as thee said nothing about them and I may acknowledge that I feel for Ezra and family for the loss they have met with but their loss may her gain for she is ^{out} of the way of many temptation and trials that she might have had to pass through if she had been permitted to live longer we are all well through the blessing of Providence also Brother Mellers family are well Mellers is tending Mill for a living and I am casting mind to market for my living which is small business I have made this summer from 16 to 18 dollars per month but in long day I get through in about half a day so have the rest of the day to rest or do any thing else as I please I have not seen Thomas since I last wrote but I conclude that they are well or I should have heard of it and the rest of thy acquaintances about here are generally well Father given has been sick this fall and his life was despaired off for some time but he has got out again quite smart Robert family is about as they were was his son that's whole was sick is about as he was then he has been more unwell since but has recovered some but it is hardly likely that he will ever be well again nor be able to do any more work and in regard to my coming up there to make you a visit I have not given it up if I live and have my health but cannot set any time at present and the great reason why I did not come last fall was that our child come down with the C

Slooping Cough and had it very hard she has not got
over it now but Cough quite hard she has had it
about three month there is quite hard times here with
many of our inhabitants for there is great money that
have nothing to do and our houses are visited almost empty
with beggars for something to eat mostly by foreigners that
that flock to manufacturing villages for work but find
nothing to do so they beg their living as long as they can
now it has got to be nine o'clock which is late bed time
for me and I am too dull to write any more at this ~~at~~
~~the~~ time but I shall see Miller tomorrow and I will tell
him to write thee soon so I will conclude with Subscribing
myself thy well wishing Brother Palmer Chase

P.S. my wife joins me in love to you all please to write
often for that is next to loving you P.C.

Palmer
Cheese

PAID

PAID

Ernest Cornell
Ithaca New York



Union Springs Jan'y 23. 1850

Dear Father

As I am not at work today I have an opportunity of writing a few lines to thee, I can inform thee that my health is generally good altho I am some what unwell to day. it is very sickly about here. we have of a funeral almost every day - I want very much to hear from "home" as I have not heard since thee wrote - I sent a communication to John ask short time ago but Merit L. Atwood did not take the pains to send it to him.

Father where is Ezra? he talked a bout sending me to school. and if he was willing to do that would not he help me a little other ways? I am at work for small wages ^{now} and losing my wages last summer has left me in debt. and if Ezra or some one else would help me now I should like it very much. I am owing a man here and it was due last fall but not getting my pay of Hosack I have failed to pay him. and he thinks I do not mean to pay him. and I think Ezra might help me if he wants to. I would rather pay 50 per cent when I can pay it than to have the man

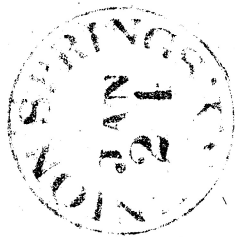
think that I am dishonest but if I can't
get it by borrowing he will certainly think so
and that will ten times the damage to
me than the amount that I owe him.

Give my love to all my friends and
tell my mother that Mrs Trapp.
Marion's Mother has been making me
some fine shirts, and they are made
first rate. good bye.

From thy Son
D. B. Cornell

George Cornell
Ithaca N.Y.

Elizabeth Cornell
Ithaca
N.Y.



I. Ruyter Feb, 17, 1850

My Dear cousin

Thinking perhaps you would like to hear from us I thought I would write a few lines and let you know how we get along I arrived home last night and found Mary better than when they wrote me but still very sick she had not taken any food for two or three days but this morning took a little gruel the Doctor has just gone and he thinks her decidedly better there is a chance of her recovery he thinks I had quite a tedious time getting home I stayed about an hour at the stage office after we got out in the country the wind blew almost a hurricane but I got along very well got to Courtland about noon and found the stage did not come so I. Ruyter till the next day noon which was a great disappointment to me it seemed to me the longest twenty four hours that I ever passed but they were very kind and tried to make the time pass as pleasantly as possible. I found our folks waiting for me when I got to I. Ruyter and several standing on the town steps that I was acquainted with they appeared glad to see me I don't know whether they were or not Robt and Frank are both at home Robt sits here with his eyes tied up he says give his love to Mary Ann and tell her he wants to see her had

I was sorry I had not home stopt to uncle Es but
was so afraid the stage would leave me that I dare
not, tell you she must write as soon as she can
please tell John I forgot to pay the postage on
that letter but will make it right when I
see him I commenced this letter this morning
it is now evening and I am almost tired
to death for we have had a house full of
company all day the folks here think I look
ten years younger than I did when I left home
quite encouraging I think you must excuse me
for not writing more for I have not time now
please write as soon as convenient and let me
know how you get along for I feel really anxious
to hear it seems as though I could see little baby's
black eyes now I really hope the dear little child has
got well I feel most discouraged again about
Mary she has a very sore mouth but if it were
not for hope the heart would break she I
say she is just as mother was only worse and
if so I am sure she cannot live they did not
tell me that till this afternoon

from your affectionate Cousin. Emma

Mary Anne

Union Springs March 3rd 1850

Dear Sister

It was with great pleasure that I received your kind letter of the 24th ultimo, I say kind letter because I think you wrote it with a pure sisterly love. but Jane you done wrong in writing as you did about what a dear friend of mine wrote in my previous letter, Jane it was Maria L. Tripp that wrote in my letter to you, altho she was very loth to do so she done it to please me, she read the one you wrote me before she wrote. and she said she wished she was acquainted with you so that she could write and receive letters from you, and I urged her to write hoping and expecting that you would return the compliment. but instead of that you wrote that you ~~that~~ thought you should be more particular what you wrote to me if your letters were read by others than my self, you also wrote that Maria must take a great intrest in a person she never saw to want to read her letters the reason why she takes an intrest is because she has so often heard me speak of you, and because she says I seem to think so much of you. that is why she takes an intrest in you and there is nothing strany or uncommon about, you said the idea of her writing to you as if you thought it was some great crime, then on the other hand you wrote as if you thought I wrote it my self, but I did not she wrote it Jane but would have any thing almost. if she had not wrote it, when I showed her your last letter.

I shall be very much obliged to have you

Now Jane I cannot think that my sister would do as say
any thing to hurt my feelings or the feelings of my friends.
I know that you would not have such a thought but Maria
thinks that you (by what you wrote to me) ~~that~~ feel your
self alone answering her letter (if I may call those few lines a letter)
and that you know would make anyone feel bad but I
don't believe that my sister feels her self alone any respectable
person and ~~there~~. I think Jane that you ought to write
to her and satisfy her that such is the fact, and now
to drop that ~~subject~~ subject I will say please write
to her as soon as you receive this, or you need not look
for any other letter from me, for when any one slights
my friends they slight me also. now take it all in
good humour and believe me yours

loving Brother

J. B. Cornell

But I have not one word have I written to a soul but
~~but~~ tell mother that I weigh 160 pounds and am
quite fleshy ~~and~~ Tell Father that I have been looking
for a letter from Ezra and was quite disappointed at
the ~~announcement~~ content of his letter tell Deborah that she
must not feel slighted but keep up good courage
and I will try to write to her next Sunday, and
tell mother father Deborah and the rest that
I have not changed a bit of tobacco since New Years day
give my love to them all good bye. — Daniel

I would write more if I had time I

le n
20



you

y

Miss Jane Cornell

Albany

Tombkins Co

N.Y.



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ke