

PARKER LUMBER COMPANY

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DEALERS IN

FIR AND CEDAR LUMBER, LATH, PLAIN AND FANCY BUTT SHINGLES
BRICK, LIME AND CEMENT

13TH AVE., NEAR EAST JEFFERSON ST.

Handwritten calculations:

48 1/2	44 1/2
21	23 1/2
27 1/2	21 1/2
6	5
12 1/2	11 1/2
5	5
25	25
2 1/2	2 1/2
20	20

SUNSET PHONE MAIN 1244
INDEPENDENT PHONE

Seattle, Wash.

190

Dear Mamma:—

I suppose you are worried to death not to have heard from me for so long. I haven't meant to be so negligent. I started several letters to you and Selden but never finished them. I meant surely to write to Selden on his birthday.

There have been several changes here since you last heard from me. The two Harrys came up here with us and about two weeks ago all three quit. Both Harrys are still in town but will probably leave soon. Percy is yardman at a mill at Thornwood in the northern part of the state. I expect that he and Harry will go to Vancouver^{or} in a month or so. The business of our company is in a very unsettled condition. Percy agreed to put in \$3000 here but lost confidence in the company and so only put in half. That was less than enough to install our machinery and left the company without cash to run it. We are practically out of stock and have been unable to take up any large contracts. Very likely however we will be able to interest some capital.

Our machinery is not running at all since last Thursday. I am only getting \$2.25 a day at present but as I am practically the

yard-man, I am learning a good deal and soon after we get our affairs untangled I expect to do better if I stay here. I know that they would like to get a yard-man who had some capital to put in.

I wonder how you are. Are you pretty well? I wish I heard from you oftener. Mrs. Harger has asked very kindly about you a number of times. I hope you will send her your regards next time you write. If it happened to be convenient I think it would be very nice for you to write to her. Her address is number ten West Aloha. The whole family have been awfully nice to us boys. They told us that they wanted us to feel at home up there at this house and to come any time we wanted to. I don't think I have been treated as nice anywhere as I have on Queen Ann hill. ~~Lizette~~ (I don't know how to spell her name) always says if I don't go up for a week, "Why, why you're quite a stranger here. I don't know which one I like best but just at present I think it is Lizette the oldest. M. the boy is in ~~Sopkase~~ but as the line-man there have been on a strike for some time he may come to Seattle.

Oh, I learned or started to learn to play cards last week up at the Hargers. The girls know how but Mrs. Harger doesn't. They weren't going to teach me at first because they thought you wouldn't like it. I think I will get a great deal of pleasure out of cards and I am sure they won't hurt me any. I would like awfully well to know how to dance but I guess probably I'll never learn. I think possibly there is more of a moral question involved in dancing than in cards.

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Have I written since Mary accepted her position? I don't remember. I went down to Tacoma one Saturday afternoon to look at the town. I didn't get a chance to see the residence portion of the city as I spent nearly all my time in one of the lumber mills, one of the biggest in the world. I sent Mary a little book with some views of the town. Tacoma is a quieter town than Seattle although it is growing wonderfully fast. It has the largest smelter on the coast one of the largest mills in the country and I think the largest shipping ware house on the coast. It is quite a little ahead of Seattle in manufactories but not in export trade. It has fine parks and is situated on a high bluff with the sound on two sides of it. Mt Rainier a fifteen thousand foot peak always white with snow is considered so much a part of Tacoma's scenery that all the Tacoma people call it by the name of their city. We are connected with Tacoma by rail, trolley, and water routes. It only costs fifty cents for a round trip on hour and a half ride each way on the steamer. You can phone to Tacoma for twenty five cents.

In Cook's bill paid. I am just about dead broke. Don't

seem to be able to get ahead any. Harry owes me fifteen dollars but that's about all I have. I only spend 3.50 for board but my money melts some where. I hate to be without any cash as I may have to move at a moments notice.

I wish I knew what I will do next year. If I had the money I think maybe I would go to school, perhaps here at the State university. The tuition would cost nothing of course. I would like whether I'm in school or not to be near Mary altho' not in the same town. I don't think it would improve her "pull" at all to have her faculty or students get acquainted with me.

Well I guess I'll close this so as to be sure to get it off although I have a great deal more to say

With Love

Willie

W. H. Belder

Parker Lumber Co.

Seattle

W. H. B.

PARKER LUMBER CO.

13TH AVE., NEAR EAST JEFFERSON ST.

SEATTLE, WASH.



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