

FRED. G. PLUMMER
Chief Engineer
STATE UNIVERSITY COMMISSION.
STATE HARBOR COMMISSION.
TACOMA WATER WORKS COMMITTEE.

General Offices :
917 C St.

TACOMA, WASH., June 1st, 1892.

J. C. SHARP, ESQ.:

Dear Sir:—In reply to your inquiry as to my experience with your Stump Puller, which I used on the University grounds near Seattle, would say that in every respect it gave me entire satisfaction. As a time and money saving machine its merits are beyond question. You will read in my report to the State Commission that the cost of pulling stumps was \$66.44 per acre, after allowing \$35.00 per day for the use of the machine. I estimate roughly that this is from \$1.25 to \$1.75 per stump. The largest stump had a ground hold of 42 feet in diameter.

I have examined with interest the improvements you have since made, by which the service of the machine is increased and its handling made easier, and believe the near future will see the pullers in general use wherever heavy work is to be done.

Yours,

(Signed) FRED. G. PLUMMER.

Office of TACOMA LAND CO.,
ISAAC W. ANDERSON,
Gen'l Manager.

TACOMA, WASH'N., Aug. 30th, 1892.

To Whom it may Concern:—

The bearer of this letter, J. C. Sharp, has done considerable clearing work for this Company with his stump pulling machine, and I take pleasure in stating that the work was done entirely to our satisfaction, and at less expense than we have had similar work done. The clearing was heavy, and some of the stumps as large as are often found in this state. I can recommend Mr. Sharp and his machine to anyone wishing similar work done.

Yours truly,

(Signed) ISAAC W. ANDERSON.

Hereinafter will be found some very favorable statements from well-known Seattle and Tacoma parties relating to this horse-power chain machine, also to Mr. Sharp's later and most valuable invention, viz.: a very ingenious engine-power, geared, wire rope Stump Extractor, which, with its quickly operating engine-power, and other valuable improvements, will enable it to do about twice as much work daily as his aforesaid horse-power machine. An examination of the model of the engine-power machine is invited, and, if done, will be found quite interesting.

THE PROBLEM SOLVED!

A large portion of the lands in western Washington are remarkably fertile, but, being covered with such heavy timber, the question has been, how can these lands be speedily and cheaply cleared, and this part of the state thus made the rich and prosperous agricultural and fruit-growing country that nature so lavishly provided for and destined it to become? This machine both happily and practically solves the vexatious problem, and it is now simply a matter of setting a sufficient number of them to work.

To properly carry out the plan, a good, strong company should be organized, enough capital being paid in to build one of these engine-power machines, and when it has been thoroughly tested and fully met the necessary requirements, more capital to be then paid into the company and it to have a supply of the machines built and take contracts for clearing lands, or if land owners or farmers wish to do their work themselves, furnish them with a machine at such a daily rental as will be profitable to both them and the company, and with each machine so rented put a good experienced foreman to see that it has proper usage and to direct the efforts of the workmen that the best results may be had from their work. If the land owners are unable to pay all or a part cash for rent of the machine, or for contract clearing work, if done by the Company, the Company to give the party from three to five years' time, or even longer, taking an interest-bearing mortgage covering the land cleared and enough other land to make the security amply good. If the Company should be unable to permanently carry such mortgages, the Loan Companies say they would be glad to get them after the lands have been thus cleared, and thereby rendered an acceptable basis for a loan, which loan could not have been obtained by the land-owner himself whilst his land was unimproved. Giving the farmer time to pay for his clearing from crops raised off the land would be an arrangement that he would be only too glad to go into. With such a favorable proposition to offer, the Company could undoubtedly get an

enormous quantity of clearing work, and at highly profitable figures. For the first year the Company could keep all the machines it could get ready for operation working at or in the immediate vicinity of the cities and towns, if so desired, which work would in most cases be paid for in cash.

In some instances, where deemed good policy, the Company could take desirable well-located timbered lands in part or full payment for clearing work, and make money by clearing and selling such lands to others. In fact, it is almost impossible for anybody to comprehend what a vast and exceedingly profitable business could, with good management, be really built up in this land clearing line, especially so with such a magnificent field as Washington affords.

DOES IT PAY TO CLEAR LAND?

Why not? If it pays anywhere it certainly does here, as the wonderful productiveness of our soil, the favorable climatic conditions, the certainty of a crop yield, and the good prices obtained for products, all combine to make it possible to pay the cost of clearing in a shorter time out of the proceeds of crops raised than can be done on the much lighter timbered lands of the East. In a country where lands will produce yearly crops ranging in value from \$50.00 to \$500.00 per acre, and in some cases more, why will it not pay handsomely on the investment to clear good lands, even though it should cost double what it can be done for with this machine?

Upon good authority it is stated that in many cases timbered lands in California have been cleared for fruit growing purposes at a cost of \$500.00 to \$600.00 per acre, and made profitable even at this enormous expense; yet, the stumps can, with this machine, be removed from thousands of acres of western Washington's choicest and best lands for agricultural and fruit growing purposes at a cost of \$100.00, or less, per acre, and at the same time yield a handsome profit to the Company, the cost depending upon the size of the stumps and number per acre.

The following clipping from the *Seattle Post-Intelligencer* of January 14, 1893, is but one instance out of many indicating the rapidly growing and generally favorable opinion relative to land clearing in this state:

Mr. and Mrs. Fred S. Tucker and family, of Boston, are stopping at the Arlington. Mr. Tucker has come out here as the representative of a Peoria, Ill., syndicate, which owns 18,000 acres of land on Whidby island. Julius S. Potter, of Fidalgo City, has been the local representative of the syndicate and will be associated with Mr. Tucker in managing the property. "We shall open offices here at once," said Mr. Tucker, "and we shall start to improve this land and fit it for settlers. We own about 12,500 acres around Oak Harbor and about 5,000 acres a few miles south of Coupeville. We intend to clear this land, which is now heavily timbered, and put at least 1,000 acres of the tract into prunes. The soil up there is wonderfully fertile, and we want to get it in shape for agriculturists, when we shall try to colonize it with farmers and fruit raisers. Mr. Potter will also remove to this city. Yes, this is my first visit to this country, and I must say I am agreeably disappointed at the weather. I anticipated finding it much worse from the tales I had heard before coming, and I am satisfied now that George W. Childs was right when he said that the best eastern men had come west."

GOOD TESTIMONIALS

Department, CITY ENGINEER.

SEATTLE, WASH., January 13th, 1893.

MR. J. C. SHARP, City.

Sir:—At the request of Mr. John S. Patterson, I have made an examination of your Chain Stump Extractor at Tacoma, and have also made a study of your models and drawings for an improved machine. I confess myself to have been astonished by the work done by your Chain Machine and believe it to be far superior to any similar machine, and the improvements devised in connection with your Wire Rope Machine are such, that it appears to me to possess mechanical perfection which cannot be excelled.

Very respectfully,

(Signed)

REGINALD H. THOMPSON.
(City Engineer.)

NORTHERN PACIFIC RAILROAD COMPANY. }
Office MASTER MECHANIC. }

EDISON SHOPS, April 30th, 1892.

MR. J. C. SHARP, Tacoma, Wash.

Dear Sir:—Your letter asking my opinion of your recent improvement in a winding drum for stump extracting purposes is received, and after examination of drawings and model, I have no hesitancy in saying that I regard your machine as being not only very ingenious and simple, but also very practicable and well adapted to the

purpose. By use of the worm and worm-wheel driving gear method, you can, no doubt, obtain all the power you need and at the same time economize more in the weight of the gears and the frame space they occupy than by use of any other kind. The automatically moving or co-operating of the draft-rope guiding and anchor devices, is, I think, a very fine and important feature in your machine, and will accomplish what has been heretofore much desired in connection with a winding drum; the automatically moving guiding device would, in many cases be a valuable addition to winding drums used for hoisting in mines and numerous other purposes, and would render the rope much more durable than as commonly used. When I saw your powerful Chain Machine in operation, I was quite favorably impressed with it, but I can see that your last invention is, in several respects, greatly superior to it. Hoping that your machines may be the means of clearing many acres of land in our state and putting it in a productive condition, I am dear sir,

Very truly yours,

(Signed) H. H. WARNER.
(Master Mechanic and Supt.)

BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS.

SEATTLE, WASH., October 27th, 1892.

MR. J. C. SHARP.

Dear Sir:—After examining drawings and model of your Stump Pulling Machine, it is my unqualified opinion that for simplicity of construction, strength and general adaptability to the Herculean work required of such a machine in this state, your machine stands unequalled.

Yours respectfully,

(Signed) J. W. VAN BROCKLIN.

SEATTLE BRICK AND TILE COMPANY. }
ROBERT NIEDERGESAEISS, Vice-Pres. and Gen'l Mgr. }

SEATTLE, WASH., January 13th, 1893.

J. C. SHARP, Seattle.

Dear Sir:—I have examined your Chain Stump Puller, your models for an improved Wire Rope Machine and your patents. Whilst I find pleasure in congratulating you on the success you have met in your first named invention, I wish to say that I consider your new machine the embodiment of many years of practical and valuable experience. The claims of your patent seem to cover every important feature in connection with the heavy work to be done and I am satisfied that a proper application of well known principles of construction must bring forth a machine not only able to pull the biggest trees and stumps in this country but to do it with alacrity.

Yours truly,

(Signed) ROBERT NIEDERGESAEISS.

U. S. COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY.

SEATTLE, WASH., January 14th, 1893.

MR. SHARP, Seattle, Wash.

Dear Sir:—I have carefully examined the models of both your "Chain" and "Wire Cable" Stump Pulling Machines. While the practical operation of the former show unusual results in economy and efficiency, I am more favorably impressed with the comprehensive, powerful and non-breakable qualities of the later for it is not only adapted to stump pulling, but also to the moving of great weights, particularly the hauling out of vessels.

Very respectfully,

(Signed) J. F. PRATT.
(Engineer in charge of Survey.)

FOR FURTHER PARTICULARS, APPLY TO

J. C. Sharp at Grand Hotel, Seattle Wash.

or

A. M. Brooks Cashier Boston National Bank, Seattle.
A. M. Baxter Cashier Guarantee Loan and Trust Co. "
Angus Macintosh Pres't Merchants Nat'l Bank "



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