



Bellevue June 2 1899

Dear Mother, Sister, Brother,  
and family

1 to know more particulars about <sup>As you wish</sup> the big fire  
2 I will this evening try and explain it-  
3 to you as best I can as I got to the City about  
4 5 hours after the fire first started but everything  
5 was then in flames already though I seen  
6 quite a number of walls fall after I got  
7 there Herbert was along so <sup>were</sup> five of the  
8 Camp men we stayed around untill after  
9 midnight then wasent but one Brick  
10 business house left unburnt and that was  
11 on fire 5 or 6 times but a lot of Citizens  
12 formed a Bucket Brigade and in that  
13 way saved it - and the Building was the  
14 Post office & Land office July 1st I got so sleepy  
15 the evening I wrote what is here I could  
16 write no more so I quit I will now try and finish  
17 it - well it the fire burnt about - 90 Blocks  
18 or about 160 acre of ground all built  
19 up solid with frame and Brick buildings  
20 you stated that you thought the  
21 fire would make things dull 10  
22



though it is just the reverse Every  
thing is bustle and activity Brick  
masons, Carpenters, painters, and  
common Laborers can get all the  
work they can do and more men  
are wanted and cannot be had  
there is five or six buildings  
that is brick stores one storey high  
already in the burnt District  
and about as many more  $\frac{1}{2}$  as high  
there is about 300 tents up in which  
all kinds of business is done I heard  
the other day Johnny and Willie are  
trying to sell their lot in the North  
of Seattle Johnny is just now Tending  
a lodging house Willie told me  
that he got the job for him he might  
of kept it for himself but he was  
said he expected to start a chop house  
this week again, the fire has not  
done any harm on the whole though  
some of the property holders are  
heavy losers but only in a few  
instancences will any be unable to build



and that property goes in to other owners hands and will be rebuilt at once there is only a few instances where the poorer people have lost their all and in such cases if they make application they will be furnished a good cook stove and dishes and beds enough for the family and clothing and a few provisions too start on there is no need of suffering in any one case if only application is made through the proper authorities there has been a fund subscribed for the sufferers to the amount of about \$8500 cash and upwards of 30 Ton of provisions for the needy and all that want work can get it at \$2.00 per day and can get meals for 15<sup>cts</sup> at the relief tent so you see there is no needy need to go hungry if they want work but no Lazy need apply as they will very soon get found out and then their name is waker and if any needy can show good cause



