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your station. I'll save you some money, I think
"Thief! Plrate! Robber!" laughed Keating. "You sly dog. You're going to make two dollars a thousand on Ihis in addition to your commission Cut the price a dollar, Rube, and I' Eive you the order this minute.

Why should $1 ?^{\prime \prime}$ queried Pitcher irtlessly. "I have you in the nine hole, and I'm still being kind to you. You pitiful piker, Rube Pitcher Gleven dollars and not a penny more Take it or leave it

I hate to be a hog, Mr. Keating but this is business. You need the stock, and I need my little old profit if off every mill sgency in town and ipee that it costs you thirteen later see that it costs you thirteen later

CYRUS KEATING had the blessed Cgift of a sense of humor, and the ablify to make one dollar grow where but fifty cents had grown be fore. He knew he was whipsawed but Reuben K. Pitcher had anes theticized the dreadful wound with a saving of one dollar on every thou and feet of that three million foot order, and a saving of three thou sand dollars is never productive o rage at the bolling point.
"Rube," he sald, "you're such a bright young man I haven't the heart to hurt you. I'll take your stock a twelve dollars. It's second story work an old and valued friend but I'11 submit. What are the terms?
cash in sixty days, less two per
Keating was serious. "That's kindy, at least," he replied. "I was go ng to demand ninety days to fou months.
"I'll be kinder still, if you'll meet me half way, Mr. Keating. I'm mak ing you a delivered price, am I not?
res.
And you know that in figuring $n$ delivered price on this stock, we estimate the weight at four thousand pounds per thousand feet. Well, I'l make you a price F. O. B. cars at point of shipment and you pay the reight to destination. My stock is bone dry and you'll save twenty-five cents a thousand on the actual rall coad welghts, as against the usual estimate." ${ }^{\text {" }}$ stimate.
that is absolutely munificent Rube. And in return for this wha am I to do? I know you too well to take such philanthropy at par value, "In return for this," replied Reuben
K. Pitcher, "your company must accept my draft for the full involce at sixty days' sight. A little red ink work across the face of that draft is all I ask.
"Easlest thing in IIfe, Rube, I'll be at your office this afternoon and "x up a contract and sign it."
Rube Pitcher gazed after the departing figure of Cyrus P. Keating and grinned, for he had sold lumber to Keating before, and knew that it was always delivered at a lonely lit tle station where no agent was main tained - in consequence of which the freight had to be prepaid
He hastened to his office and for wo hours beat out letters on his sec ond-hand typewriter, accepting the tock on which he had taken options, and specifying that deliveries should commence immediately. In the after noon Keating called and the formal contract was drawn up and signed after which, Reuben K. Pitcher took he carbon copies of his letters of acceptance to the manufacturers' offices; carried them in person to the various managers and stood trembling while they affixed the word "Accepted" and signed and sealed the acceptance.
With his contracts of purchase and sale duly signed and in his posses. sion, Mr. Pitcher next visited a cer tain bank and sought out the cashier

I would Hke to borrow five hun dred dollars on my note now, and assign to you, as security, these con racts of purchase and sale," he ex plained, as he laid his preclous docu ments before the cashler. "A perusal of these papers will convince you that I am worth neariy seven thou sand dollars in paper profits. I also


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