

Hundred Children made destitute by the recent conflagration, and to take them to the Home in Boston, provide gratuitously for their wants, and care for them until such times as their parents or guardians desire their return to St. John.

We have given as fully as possible the telegrams of sympathy and the particulars of help sent, because this is the one cheering feature in the midst of an overwhelming calamity. Thank God for the noble feeling that prompts men thousands of miles away to weep with those who weep, and to minister to their necessities.

INCENDIARIES.

One of the most appalling features of the whole sad matter is the fact that incendiaries are about. We have not heard any reliable statement concerning the origin of the first fire. But that there have been incendiaries since is too well established to admit of question. About two o'clock Friday morning a fire broke out in a brick building on Gerow's wharf, owned by Geo. W. Gerow, and occupied by W. A. Spence. The building and contents were destroyed, including a valuable horse. Messrs. J. & T. Robertson's general Warehouse fronting on Smyth street was also destroyed. It was occupied by the owners, and Messrs. White & Titus. The latter firm succeeded in saving the flour they had stored in the building. The firemen of the city and Portland worked nobly to prevent the flames from spreading to other buildings and were successful in their efforts. There is no doubt whatever but that the fire was the work of some fiendish incendiary.

While the fire was in progress the utmost consternation prevailed in Mill, Pond, and Smyth streets. Everybody moved out. People on Portland Bridge sought refuge in Portland, throwing their household effects on the street, and being unable to remove them. On Paradise Row occupants of buildings too moved out.

Pond street, however, presented the wildest view. From the crowded tenement houses rushed out those who had before been safe, and also those who had been victims previously, and those who had sought refuge with their friends.

Men, women, and children, the old and young, the healthy and the invalid sought removal. Teams were brought into requisition, and some of the people moved away their goods. Others with piteous cries could do nothing but look on, expecting every moment to see the flames spread to what little they had saved. Fortunately, however, the gallant firemen, by the most strenuous exertions, succeeded in confining the conflagration to the brick buildings where they had started, and a second calamity was averted.

Two attempts were made to burn a house on Paradise Row, and a determined attempt was made to set fire to the Intercolonial Railway Freight House. Had this diabolical attempt succeeded, many lives would undoubtedly have been lost, for the building was occupied by the people turned out of house and home on the previous night.

Two men attempted to set fire to the house of Mr. Morrison on Paradise Row last night. The approach of two women alarmed the incendiaries, and they ran away. On the women coming up, they found a bunch of oakum saturated with paraffine placed in an opening under the house; they destroyed the intended torch, and aroused the inmates of the house.

On Friday night an attempt to burn Mr. G. W. Day's house was made by two men, who placed waste, saturated with oil, under the clapboards, and were frightened away by a lady in a neighboring house before they lighted it. Some specialists turning the corner just then, the reptiles ran and escaped.

Friday afternoon Mrs. David Tapley's house in Indian town was set on fire and burned down. Hardly had this fire been got under way before the cry of "fire" was again heard, and it was found that a fellow named Day had been caught in the very act of setting fire to a woodboat laden with hay. With difficulty the people could be kept from lynching him. A rope was placed around his neck when Major Cunard effected his release by placing his revolver close to the head of the man who held the rope. The villain of the incendiary, who had all along protested his innocence, was established on his clothing being searched, by the production of a pocket full of matches. He was lodged in the Portland Police Station.

Thomas Sloven has been arrested on suspicion, in Portland, of attempting to set a building on fire.

Charles Brown is also safe in the lock-up, charged with the same offence. That there has been a regularly organized attempt to fire Portland there appears is but little doubt, as fires were started at the same time in many different places, a few of which we name. The residence of Stephen E. Stevens was set on fire inside by some miscreant who had obtained entrance through the open door. A bed of straw which was in the centre of one of the rooms, was found burning, but fortunately the flames were quenched before any damage had been done.

Andrew Ramsay's house, on the Douglas Road, was also set on fire, the inside basement being the part chosen by the incendiary for the accomplishment of his cherished deed. The fire was put out before much damage had been done.

The barn of Michael Dolan, off Haymarket Square, was fired about half-past six. The adjoining buildings were saved, though all the hay in the barn was destroyed.

The excitement among the citizens is at a fever heat, and their faces blanch at the least intimation of fire. There is not the least doubt but what St. John has proved a rich field for many fiendish incendiaries, the circumstances of the last few days but too plainly pointing that out. Many are the stories that have been related to us of the dark deeds that these villains have done, but one can hardly believe that so

many persons in human form could be found who would do such actions.

PROTECTION.

Not an hour too soon was the city placed under the protection of special constables and the military. Lawlessness was fast increasing, and a reign of terror was imminent on Friday. Two hundred special constables were sworn in yesterday afternoon and evening, and it must be acknowledged there was work for them. Hundreds of men and boys under the influence of liquor wandered about the streets ready for almost anything, however desperate, and a large force was certainly required.

Two companies of the 97th Regiment have arrived from Halifax. Fears are entertained by the more thoughtful citizens that the remaining portion of the city is in danger from the large number of reckless and desperate men who are now unemployed and roaming at large without check of any kind to restrain them, and thought it expedient that the community should be under military protection.

THE WOUNDED.

are being cared for at the Public Hospital.

TAKING DOWN THE WALLS.

Friday afternoon the work of taking down what walls remained began. Col. Foster is in charge. In blowing down the remaining walls of the Post Office an accident occurred. The trains were laid and fuses lit, but before the working party could get five yards from it the powder took fire. A shudder ran through the crowd when it was considered that the men were unsafe. The on-lookers had the utmost difficulty to dodge the stones that were sent into the air in profusion and fell in every direction, while it was seen that some of the working party were injured. A second explosion followed, before which Lieut. Ewing crawled feebly away, and in the meantime the witnesses to the accident were in fear of approaching the fuse, the first having brought down the front of the walls, which fell half a mile away, and shook the buildings on King street. After the second explosion assistance was given the sufferers.

RE-BUILDING.

Already preparations to re-build are being made.

The Water and Sewerage Commissioners have commenced on a building on the site of the old one, corner of Leinster and Carmarthen streets.

Thomas Campbell is preparing to re-build his building on Germain street.

I. & F. Burpee & Co. have commenced clearing away for re-building.

Much sooner than many suppose a number of good buildings will be in course of erection.

MORE DEAD.

John Anderson who was injured at the blowing down of walls at the same time that Joseph Ewing and Walter Lamb were hurt) died on Saturday. He suffered great pain. His injuries were mostly of an internal nature.

Michael Donahue, who had been carried by his sister from a burning building to the Hospital, is also dead.

There are still many missing since the day of the fire. Among them are Mrs. Coughlan, a woman and child belonging to Smyth street, and Miss McVane, of North street.

ANOTHER ATTEMPT AT INCENDIARISM IN PORTLAND.

On Monday another attempt was made to burn Ramsay's house on the Douglas Road, Portland. Fortunately the fire was discovered and the flames were extinguished before serious damage was done.

On Saturday afternoon an attempt was made to fire the barn of Mr. Bell, foot of Elliott Row. Oiled paper was found under the shingles.

The foregoing account of the fire cannot be better concluded than by the following description from the *Telegraph* of a walk

AMONG THE RUINS.

No more melancholy spectacle ever presented itself to man's view on this continent than that which meets the eye of him who looks down from any elevated point over the ruins which cover the greater part of the peninsula on which the city of St. John once stood. On all sides every side—southward, eastward, westward—down to the water's edge, lie heaps of bricks, stones, ashes, rubbish, from which smoke, suffocating gases and flames still rise. These melancholy remains, these worthless ashes and broken or half-consumed materials, these fragments of walls, which seem to stare at us with their vacant windows and doorways, are all that is left of long rows of handsome and stately buildings which were stores filled with valuable goods, where large business transactions were carried on by active men, or were comfortable, in many cases beautiful, dwellings. Here enterprising men thronged, and toiled, and strove for wealth and position, or for the income necessary to support their families. Here happy people dwelt, and slept in health and ease and comfort. Now the whole scene is a desert, over which the winds sweep in freer course than they ever blew before. Not a tree, or even a blade of grass is left to wave before them. Everything lies a blackened, smoldering ruin.

Looking over this desolate area the spectator pauses to fix the position of the structures which formed the principal features of the once thriving city. The wharves, which used to be at times covered with hogheads, barrels, crates, and bales of merchandise, lie flat and bare, with only here and there part of a brick wall remaining to break the monotony of the waste. The Market Square—the spot upon which the Loyalists, who, in 1783, came to found a new city and a new province, first encamped and slept—stood a few days ago surrounded by some of the most substantial buildings and finest stores in America. We stand in the middle of that Square now and see not a vestige of their contents, and nothing but piles of bricks and stones, and crumbling, threatening ruins. Passing along Prince William street, an avenue of which our citizens had grown justly proud,—we go by, one after another, what were in some degree historic points, and the remnants of buildings which were the ornaments and pride of the place.

German was the street of churches, three of which were the oldest in the city and were built of wood—Old Trinity, St. Andrews, and the Wesleyan Chapel. They, of course, have been swept clean away, and the Baptist Church shows only part of its bare and blackened brick wall. To thousands of men, women and children these sacred edifices and their Sunday schools were hallowed and dear. Now only the memory of them will live.

Among the old buildings on Germain street were three conspicuous ones, the lofty and elegant Victoria Hotel, the neat Academy of Music, and

the house at the northern corner of Germain and Church streets, which was the first brick building erected in St. John. It was built for the late Noah Disbrow, Esq., by a builder who was styled Architect Smith, and it was believed to be about seventy years old. If we glance up and down Prince street, as we cross it, we observe that the spires of the Reformed Presbyterian and of the Centenary are laid low, and that the faithful built and handsome Savings Bank and Ritchie's buildings still bravely hold up their empty outer walls.

We pass Club's Corner, past all the splendid row that lined each side of the way from Market Square, and reach what is left of the new Post Office, whose once striking and fine front, surrounded by the fire, has been reduced to a pile of the Coliseum, and next to it the useful wall of the venerable Bank of New Brunswick, the seat of a long-established, honorable and prosperous Corporation, known and respected all over the world, and the dilapidated remains of the Globe, the Meritt, and the Smith buildings. On the opposite side we have gone past the solid, granite City Building, once known as the Commercial Bank, past the spot where the *Telegraph* issued, and formerly the Cushing, the Bayard buildings, and the commodious Barnes Hotel. And so onward we go, leaving behind us either hand the debris of valuable business stands, reaching the long, gray front of the costly County House, and finally, as we proceed along St. James street, we proceed along St. James street, to Germain street, and return in a northerly direction, we are still seeing over ground destroyed and of many recollections, and many once attractive features.

Of the old public buildings destroyed at places further off, it is only necessary to say that the large and best appointed structure of the kind in the Dominion, and the finest beautiful Wiggins Asylum—the very finest building, perhaps, in the Maritime provinces, have only large walls left to represent the many thousands of dollars expended upon them. On Queen's Square, and in its neighborhood, along Mecklenburg—once the prettiest street we have in the city—there stood the floor of flame that rolled onward toward Courtney Bay and the Barrack Grounds. The residences to which the fire was directed—such as those in which Messrs. Boyd, Palmer, Nicholson, Vaughan, Magee, Armstrong, Crockett and others lived, are all things of the past, as are also the Leinster street Church, and the well built houses in that quarter.

In short, by whatever street we pass from King street toward the southern point of the peninsula on which St. John stood, or up and down whatever street crossing our path from east to west we cast our eyes, we view only the same sad scene—ruins and ashes, and the spread everywhere. Even in a short street like Canterbury, many thousands of dollars had been invested in state houses, like those of Mr. E. Jones and the North British Insurance Company. All shared the same fate. The losses sustained by our city can hardly be estimated in money, great as the total sum at which they set them down may be. St. John will rise again from its ashes; but the blast which rose from the awful conflagration has hung over many a once bright, joyous life a cloud which can never in this world be wholly away. Still all who have hope and energy left, the duty of the hour is to lend their aid in lifting the city out of its ruins to a nobler and prouder position than it ever held before. Cheerful courage, and unshaken energy are called for, and if we do not mistake our people, they will be a ready, manly response to that call.

LATEST FIRE NOTES.

The work of taking down the remnants of walls is going forward briskly. The Chief of Police has been notified that a gang of a hundred thieves have left Boston for St. John.

There have been several arrests of persons suspected of attempting incendiaryism. The Jail and Portland Police Station are full of prisoners under arrest for various offences.

It will be an interesting fact to the residents of this city to know that the Royal Arms, which were in Trinity Church, were removed in safety by Capt. F. B. Hazen. A singular circumstance in connection with these arms is that they were taken from Trinity Church, New York, about a century ago while the edifice was on fire.

The Portland Light House, like those of the city, were requested by a Committee of the Town to close their bar rooms for a week. They have promised to do so. It is to be hoped they will keep their promises.

The Gas Company have decided to go on with their works immediately. They expect to have the city supplied with gas in about ten weeks.

Another incendiary fire was discovered on Portland Monday night, in a house of Mr. Kilgill, on Douglas Road. The fire had evidently been set with much care. The fire was soon extinguished, but the alarm caused great excitement for some time.

Relief from all quarters continues to come into the city. Yet there is need of all that comes. The necessity is to collect in money, for definite time. The Relief Committee is distributing the relief in a judicious and satisfactory manner, and have so systematized their work as to check as far as possible, everything like fraud, and to keep the food from the sink, which is the distributing head quarters. A careful estimate of the needs is made on Monday, showed that food was supplied to about 20,000 persons. Much more provisions are required. Clothing and bedding are greatly needed. The Committee hoped to be supplied with more in a few days.

DISTRICT MEETINGS.

1st DISTRICT.—To be held with the Church at Upper Kent, on Saturday, July 1st, 1877. To attend—Revs. G. T. Hartley, W. Kinghorn, J. Perry, and E. Garrity.

2nd DISTRICT.—To be held with the Church at Knowlesville, on Second Saturday in July, 1877. To attend—all the ministers living in the District.

3rd DISTRICT.—To be held with the Church in Middle Southampton, on First Saturday in September, 1877. To attend—Rev. C. T. Phillips, Bro. J. W. Clark, and Rev. J. Henderson.

4th DISTRICT.—To be held with the Church at Lincoln, on the Second Saturday in September, 1877. To attend—Revs. A. Taylor, Wm. Kinghorn, O. M. Bular, and J. R. Shaw.

5th DISTRICT.—To be held with the Church at Wickham (Carpenter's neighborhood), First Saturday in July, 1877. To attend—Revs. J. T. Parsons and E. Reid.

6th DISTRICT.—To be held with the Church at Coveville, on First Saturday in July, 1877. To attend—Revs. J. N. Barnes, J. McLeod, and G. A. Hartley.

7th DISTRICT.—To be held with the Church at Quaco on First Saturday in September, 1877. To attend—Revs. A. Taylor, Wm. Kinghorn, N. L. Price, C. T. Phillips, and G. W. McDonald.

INSURANCE.

The following statement of insurance is probably not exactly correct, but is as near as can be stated at present:

| | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------|
| The Imperial of London..... | \$300,000 |
| Edinburgh..... | 220,000 |
| Hartford..... | 200,000 |
| Phoenix of Brooklyn..... | 200,000 |
| Royal American..... | 22,000 |
| Commercial Union..... | 200,000 |
| Royal Insurance Co..... | 500,000 |
| Standard..... | 500,000 |
| Lancashire..... | 500,000 |
| Queen..... | 500,000 |
| North British and Mercantile..... | 600,000 |
| Liverpool, London & Globe..... | 1,000,000 |
| Guardian..... | 400,000 |
| Northern..... | 200,000 |
| Royal Canadian..... | 200,000 |
| Provincial..... | 200,000 |
| Citizens Confederate..... | 200,000 |
| National..... | 125,000 |
| St. John Mutual..... | 75,000 |
| Central of Fredericton..... | 70,000 |
| Total..... | \$6,162,000 |

The people of Upper Woodstock are rejoicing over the fact that they have now no liquor shop in their village. Mr. Jas. Knox has retired from the liquor business.

"Religious Intelligencer."

ADVERTISING DEPARTMENT.

This Department is under the management of M. McLeod. All communications relating to advertising should be addressed "M. McLeod," Post Office, St. John.

TERMS AND NOTICES.

THE RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCER is published weekly, from the Office of CHARLES LAWSON (temporarily), Queen Street, Fredericton, N. B. Terms: 2.00 a Year, in advance.

For all communications for insertion should be addressed, Rev. JOSEPH McLEOD, P. O. Box 81, Fredericton, N. B.

All Exchanges should be addressed, RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCER, Fredericton, N. B. Subscriptions (at present) may be remitted to the Editor at Fredericton.

The Religious Intelligencer

SAINT JOHN, N. B., JUNE 29TH, 1877.

NOW! NOW!

It seems scarcely necessary that subscribers should be told that *now* more than ever before, the INTELLIGENCER needs their help in prompt payment of arrears and renewals. Many hundreds of dollars are due, every dollar of which we ought to have within the next ten days. It is proposed to keep the paper moving. To this end we must have all the money due. We have therefore to request that every one who owes us any amount, large or small, send it to the editor at Fredericton without delay.

ANOTHER WAY.

We have intimated in another place a kind of help we must have now, viz: the payment of all that is owing to us. Another way our friends can help is by sending new subscribers. We would like to have them. True this is a small paper, but there has been a fire. Next week it will be larger, and it will continue larger. Give us a lift, friends, by some new names to commence July with.

A STRICKEN CITY.

WEDNESDAY, June 20th, 1877, will be remembered always as the darkest day yet known in the history of St. John. May God grant it to never know a darker or even one so dark. We give in this sheet as full an account as possible of the terrible fire that came upon the city, and sweeping over it in a very hurricane of flame, laid it in ruins. In a few hours twenty or more millions of dollars worth of property were swept away, not a few men were reduced from affluence to comparative poverty, every branch of business was paralyzed, twenty thousand people were driven from comfortable homes, and many lives (no one knows just how many) were destroyed. No such appalling calamity ever fell upon this city. Has one such ever fallen upon any city of modern times? The Chicago, Boston, and Portland fires of a few years ago were disasters that shocked the world, and which will always have a prominent place in the list of the great conflagrations. But we think we do not venture beyond sustainable statement when we express the belief that, the size of the city considered, the ruin that came upon St. John last Wednesday is greater than the greatest of them—that in Chicago. Two-thirds of the area of the city proper has been burned over. Nothing remains but chimneys and pieces of walls. From York Point to Reed's Point along the line of the wharves, including Dock street, Market Square and Prince William street; from the Market slip to and including the block beyond the jail on King street east; from King street (South side), including it to the barracks on the shore at the southern extremity of the city, extending east to Pitt street on Courtenay Bay, and in some cases beyond, all is gone. In this area were included all the wholesale establishments, and fully seven-eighths of all the business houses of the city. Besides these, and the public buildings, hotels, and churches, there was also in the burnt district a very large number of the best residences in the city proper. The Court House, Jail, and No. 2 Engine House, in a group on the corner of King street East and Sydney street, the Hazen House, on the south-west corner of King Square, and the Marine Hospital, in Lower Cove, remain. The rest is a desolate waste, to look upon which makes the heart sad beyond expression. It was our Rev. A. Taylor, Wm. Kinghorn, O. M. Bular, and J. R. Shaw.

5th DISTRICT.—To be held with the Church at Wickham (Carpenter's neighborhood), First Saturday in July, 1877. To attend—Revs. J. T. Parsons and E. Reid.

6th DISTRICT.—To be held with the Church at Coveville, on First Saturday in July, 1877. To attend—Revs. J. N. Barnes, J. McLeod, and G. A. Hartley.

7th DISTRICT.—To be held with the Church at Quaco on First Saturday in September, 1877. To attend—Revs. A. Taylor, Wm. Kinghorn, N. L. Price, C. T. Phillips, and G. W. McDonald.

8th DISTRICT.—To be held with the Church at Upper Kent, on Saturday, July 1st, 1877. To attend—Revs. G. T. Hartley, W. Kinghorn, J. Perry, and E. Garrity.

9th DISTRICT.—To be held with the Church at Knowlesville, on Second Saturday in July, 1877. To attend—all the ministers living in the District.

10th DISTRICT.—To be held with the Church in Middle Southampton, on First Saturday in September, 1877. To attend—Rev. C. T. Phillips, Bro. J. W. Clark, and Rev. J. Henderson.

11th DISTRICT.—To be held with the Church at Lincoln, on the Second Saturday in September, 1877. To attend—Revs. A. Taylor, Wm. Kinghorn, O. M. Bular, and J. R. Shaw.

12th DISTRICT.—To be held with the Church at Wickham (Carpenter's neighborhood), First Saturday in July, 1877. To attend—Revs. J. T. Parsons and E. Reid.

13th DISTRICT.—To be held with the Church at Coveville, on First Saturday in July, 1877. To attend—Revs. J. N. Barnes, J. McLeod, and G. A. Hartley.

14th DISTRICT.—To be held with the Church at Quaco on First Saturday in September, 1877. To attend—Revs. A. Taylor, Wm. Kinghorn, N. L. Price, C. T. Phillips, and G. W. McDonald.

15th DISTRICT.—To be held with the Church at Upper Kent, on Saturday, July 1st, 1877. To attend—Revs. G. T. Hartley, W. Kinghorn, J. Perry, and E. Garrity.

16th DISTRICT.—To be held with the Church at Knowlesville, on Second Saturday in July, 1877. To attend—all the ministers living in the District.

17th DISTRICT.—To be held with the Church in Middle Southampton, on First Saturday in September, 1877. To attend—Rev. C. T. Phillips, Bro. J. W. Clark, and Rev. J. Henderson.

18th DISTRICT.—To be held with the Church at Lincoln, on the Second Saturday in September, 1877. To attend—Revs. A. Taylor, Wm. Kinghorn, O. M. Bular, and J. R. Shaw.

19th DISTRICT.—To be held with the Church at Wickham (Carpenter's neighborhood), First Saturday in July, 1877. To attend—Revs. J. T. Parsons and E. Reid.

20th DISTRICT.—To be held with the Church at Coveville, on First Saturday in July, 1877. To attend—Revs. J. N. Barnes, J. McLeod, and G. A. Hartley.

21st DISTRICT.—To be held with the Church at Quaco on First Saturday in September, 1877. To attend—Revs. A. Taylor, Wm. Kinghorn, N. L. Price, C. T. Phillips, and G. W. McDonald.

22nd DISTRICT.—To be held with the Church at Upper Kent, on Saturday, July 1st, 1877. To attend—Revs. G. T. Hartley, W. Kinghorn, J. Perry, and E. Garrity.

23rd DISTRICT.—To be held with the Church at Knowlesville, on Second Saturday in July, 1877. To attend—all the ministers living in the District.

24th DISTRICT.—To be held with the Church in Middle Southampton, on First Saturday in September, 1877. To attend—Rev. C. T. Phillips, Bro. J. W. Clark, and Rev. J. Henderson.

25th DISTRICT.—To be held with the Church at Lincoln, on the Second Saturday in September, 1877. To attend—Revs. A. Taylor, Wm. Kinghorn, O. M. Bular, and J. R. Shaw.

26th DISTRICT.—To be held with the Church at Wickham (Carpenter's neighborhood), First Saturday in July, 1877. To attend—Revs. J. T. Parsons and E. Reid.

27th DISTRICT.—To be held with the Church at Coveville, on First Saturday in July, 1877. To attend—Revs. J. N. Barnes, J. McLeod, and G. A. Hartley.

28th DISTRICT.—To be held with the Church at Quaco on First Saturday in September, 1877. To attend—Revs. A. Taylor, Wm. Kinghorn, N. L. Price, C. T. Phillips, and G. W. McDonald.

of business swept away in a few minutes, and hurried home to see their residences go down before the destroyer. Fortunes, the accumulations of many years of industry, turned to ashes in a twinkling. The aged and sick were hurried from their houses to places of possible safety. Families were separated, husbands sought in vain for their wives, parents sought in vain for their children. Many finding all other escape cut off were driven to take refuge in boats. Some, unable to escape at all, died. How many God alone knows. May it be that they went from desolated homes here and the terrors of the hour to the place of "many mansions"—the eternal rest.

THE FUTURE.

And now the awful ruin is being looked for in the face. The difficulties of the situation, to many, doubtless, seem almost insuperable. Yet they have to be grappled with. And they will be overcome. St. John men are brave. They may have quailed in the face of the tornado of fire that swept away the things they have created. And who would not have quailed. But they are of the kind that returned to the fight determined to win. They have business knowledge, they have credit, they have luck, many of them, the best of them, have also, we hope, trust in God. And in their calamity they have not forgotten to make their appeal to Him for direction and help. From a hundred thousand and more hearts prayer has been breathed for blessing on them. The blessing will not tarry. Now what is to be done? A great many persons have said, "fifty years will not see the city restored to the condition it was in on Wednesday morning." This is the usual thing to say in such a case. It is easy to understand how men can have that opinion. It is the most natural thing in the world to have it. But it is not correct in the present case, whatever it may be in some cases. St. John will be rebuilt. It must be rebuilt. And the work will be accomplished much more rapidly than many imagine. The situation of the city is such that it can scarcely help being rebuilt. Its rebuilding is a business necessity. Not a necessity to St. John merchants simply, nor even to the trade of New Brunswick alone, but to the business of the Dominion, and even of sections of the continent not within the borders of Canada. Its harbour, open all the year round, is in many respects superior to any on the continent. It is an absolute necessity to the proper carrying on of the business of this part of the Continent. A city of such importance cannot long be in ashes. It must rise again. And the time will not be long.

That some individuals have suffered loss from which they will not recover is doubtless true. But the majority will come at once to the front, while new men will fill the places of those who through age or overwhelming losses step down and out. Those who, with a mere wreck of what they had, begin the struggle up will of course have many a hard time. They will require great patience, courage, and perseverance, with much business wisdom, and above all it will be good for them to learn to have a great trust in God. If they have not heretofore, they had better now take Him into partnership with them, seeking counsel and help of Him in business as well as in matters pertaining purely and exclusively to religious services. These men will succeed and their success is the city's. They who think this hitherto busy, growing city is to die under this blow, a tremendous one though it be, will meet with disappointment of course, for everybody far and near wishes well to the smitten one. May she rise soon, and being purified by fire, be stronger and better than ever.

"THE SILVER LINING."

The cloud is dark—so dark and heavy; but it has a silver lining; "Weeping may endure for a night, but joy cometh in the morning." So it has been in the experience of St. John.

The prompt aid given the suffering of this city is most gratifying. So soon as the tidings of the dire calamity were spread abroad, scores of cities, towns and villages hastened to speak words of tender sympathy, and to lay their offerings of help at her feet. Not from New Brunswick and Nova Scotia alone, nor from almost every section of this great Continent, and from across the sea too, came words with tears in them, followed quickly by the substantial aid that has thus far kept our thousands of suffering ones from starvation. In evil even there is good. The fire that smote St. John smote also the world's heart and love gushed forth.

It was not always so. Once cities might burn, pestilence and famine might waste whole sections of country, and no eyes wept tears, no lips breathed words of sympathy, no hands were stretched forth to help. What has wrought this great change? What! but the blessed gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. "Good will to men" was part of the advent song. His teaching, who taught as never man taught, was in accord with that song—"Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself." The world is learning the lesson. The world is taking in and being governed by His spirit. Hence this weeping with those that weep, this bearing of each others burdens. Let His name be praised who doeth such things.

Nor do we forget to thank those thousands who, according to His teaching, have sent help in time of need. God bless them, every one. May they know—they do know—how true it is that "it is more blessed to give than to receive."

A fire at Pictou destroyed a dwelling and blacksmith's shop owned by Mr. John McDonald. Only \$200 insurance.

A TESTIMONY.

It appears that Mr. Farlow, one of the largest and most successful rum dealers in St. John, seconded the resolution to have the bar rooms closed for a week. Some people commend him for this. Perhaps he deserves commendation, though we may be pardoned for believing that his action indicates nothing more than that he is wiser in his generation than his brothers in the trade, and would keep on the good side of