

would go a long way toward supplying the wants of those who have been unfortunately heavy losers. Few, if any, of our Lodges would ever miss a contribution of \$25 from its funds, and we earnestly trust Masters of Lodges will bring the subject before their members at the first opportunity. It is true that \$1,000 has been given out of the funds of the Grand Lodge of Canada and \$200 from the Grand Lodge of Quebec, but these sums no doubt were immediately swallowed up. Probably many of our brethren of St. John are nearly reduced to that "poor and penniless" condition in which they were admitted into Masonry, and we confidently appeal to our brethren on their behalf. It will be observed by the circular that M. W. Bro. Clinch, Grand Master of New Brunswick is authorized to receive subscriptions, and we trust our Lodges will promptly respond.

We append an extract from the *St. John Globe*, for a copy of which we are indebted to R. W. Bro. Bunting:

"The Masonic fraternity occupied the front portion of the upper story of Ritchie's building, Princess Street, where there were two Lodge rooms, and several ante-rooms, whilst the Encampments of Knights Templar and the bodies of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite had their ante-rooms, armories, etc., on the story below. For nearly twenty-one years this building was the headquarters of Freemasonry in New Brunswick, the craft having previously held its meetings in Marshall's building, corner Princess and Charlotte Streets, which also fell a victim to the fire. On September 24, 1856, the late Grand Master Keith, of Halifax, then Prov. Grand Master of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, dedicated the Hall to Freemasonry, there being a procession, service at Trinity Church, at which the Rev. Jerome Alley preached the dedication sermon, a Masonic dinner and ball in the evening. The late Alex. Balloch was Mr. Keith's Deputy for New

Brunswick, but the old hall now in ashes witnessed the formal constitution of the Prov. Grand Lodge of New Brunswick, with Mr. Balloch as Prov. Grand Master, the installation of his successor, Robt. T. Clinch, and finally the constitution of the Grand Lodge. The walls of the room were adorned with the warrants of the different bodies that met in the hall—some of them dating back to the early days of the present century, that of Carlton Royal Arch Chapter, whose origin goes back to 1802, being the oldest,—with choice engravings and paintings, including many Masonic pictures of interest, an oil painting of the "Ascension" of considerable merit, a portrait of the late Mr. Balloch, and Mr. Furlong's gift to the Grand Lodge of the "Prince of Wales in his Masonic clothing." To everything that hung on the walls some special interest attaches. One bore the signature of some eminent man, another commemorated some great event, another was the work of a departed brother, another recalled struggles and trials of which nothing now but happy memories survived. Each body had its own silver jewels, banners, furniture, regalia and cabinets. In the armory of the "Encampment of St. John" of Knights Templar was probably the finest set of uniforms in Canada, and the loss falls not only on the organization itself but upon individual members, whose private property was there. The Union De Molay Encampment also had a large lot of fine regalia. Albion Lodge had, among other treasures, one set of silver jewels, the gift of the late Assist.-Commissary General Oliver Goldsmith, a descendant of the poet. Indeed, it would not do to undertake to recount the treasures which the Masonic body possessed—all are swept away. Not a thing in the room was saved; and no amount of money can replace the losses. The bodies burned out were:—Albion Lodge; St. John Lodge; Hibernia Lodge; Union Lodge of