

# The St. Andrews Standard.

Saint Andrews, June 27, 1877.

## The St. John Fire.

On the outside page we have given a short summary of the disastrous conflagration which destroyed the business portion, the public buildings, and the finest private residences in the City of St. John, on the 20th inst., and publish a more lengthy description from the *Globe and News*, both papers being published for the present at reduced size, until their new presses and outfit arrive.

The terrible calamity, drew forth the heartfelt sympathy of St. Andrews. The interruption of telegraphic communication prevented the inhabitants from learning the immense destruction of property until Wednesday evening. A public meeting was called next day in Stevenson's Hall, (proceedings are inserted in our columns) which was well attended, a relief committee formed, who commenced work immediately, and, notwithstanding the scarcity of money, in a couple of hours raised \$400, which was sent to the Mayor by Friday's mail. This was supplemented by \$150, and three cases of clothing, which were forwarded on Monday; the committee is still collecting, and through the exertions of Mrs. Tilley, wife of the Lieut. Governor, a town sewing society formed of the matrons and wives of the Town, who meet daily in all Saints church school room, and are busily employed making garments to be sent to St. John. The response of our townsmen was truly hearty; every one contributed to the relief fund—many beyond their means.

On Sabbath last, allusion was made in all the churches to the great fire, and prayers offered for the sufferers. The hotels and private boarding houses here, are prepared to offer accommodation to persons from St. John, at a moderate charge, and every disposition is manifested to do all in their power to render the homeless comfortable.

It is gratifying to learn from St. John papers that aid for the sufferers is pouring in from all parts of the Dominion, United States, and old England; which will to some extent relieve the distress. Measures however must be devised to restore the trade of New Brunswick of which St. John was the grand centre. It is probable that the Dominion and Local Governments will advance large amounts; the Insurance Agents have promised to pay promptly all the losses, the total of which is estimated at Twenty Millions, and it is believed the insurance amount to nearly ten millions. It will require years however to build up the burnt district. The enterprise, pluck, and energy of St. John people, will in due time build up the waste places, change the wilderness of burnt district into a fruitful field of commerce, and fill the city with the busy hum of workshops. For the present, business will be carried on in such locations as can be obtained, and the fine old city ere many years will rise from its ashes, purified and invigorated and assume the proud position hitherto held of being the Liverpool of the Dominion.

The following is a continuation of the description commenced on the outside page, of the awful fire:

The flames swept down Dock Street, seized the North Wharf, and swallowed up all the block to water's edge. The schooners and woodboats in the Market Slip could not be removed, and half a dozen were burned. Before the flames had attained this headway, however, the startling intelligence came that there was a fire in Lower Cove. Many who were helping their friends in York Point only rushed home to find their dwellings gone—lured to the ground with all their contents. The fire was now spreading in two directions it was carrying all before it in the direction of King Street, and it was sweeping through Lower Cove in an easterly direction. Nothing could be done to stay its dreadful progress. The four city steam fire engines and the Portland steam fire engine and the Carleton department did what they could, but it was impossible either to subdue the fire, or to confine it to any certain locality. Nothing seemed to avail, for the flames went wherever the wind carried them, destroying block after block, and street after street, and apparently determined to obliterate all traces of the once fine city.

### ANOTHER CONFLAGRATION.

While the attention of the people was divided between these two places—Lower Cove and Dock Street—the sparks that were carried to the roof of Trinity Church. In a few moments this edifice was a mass of fire, the flames creeping quickly up the steeple and along the roof, leaving in a minute or two nothing but a few burning posts. The terrible heat generated by this fire, and the tremendous gale of wind that was blowing at the time carried the sparks to houses on each side. The occupants of many of the houses took their goods to the Academy of Music building and to other brick houses adjoining, but in a very short space of time the devouring element had claimed these for its own. Then sweeping down German Street the flames took hold of the Methodist Church, and from that fire communicated to St. Andrew's Kirk. Still the flames were increasing in volume, and the wind also appeared to be increasing. It was not long before the Victoria Hotel caught, the raging fire leaping from story to story, seemingly reveling in the terrible ruin it was doing. The sparks from the Victoria Hotel were carried in all directions, spreading desolation in their wake, until the flames had connected with those at Lower Cove.

### THE SOUTH WHARF IN FLAMES.

When the fire had seized the buildings on the North Wharf, the shower of sparks that were carried across the Slip soon communicated to the South Wharf. The burning house at the lower end, was the first to catch. From thence it crept up the wharf, through Ward Street up to Water Street, taking with it all the buildings on the wharves in the vicinity, until it reached the Ferry Flats.

### PRINCE WILLIAM STREET.

This was the next to catch. Indeed, while the flames were on the South Wharf, the rear of the buildings on Prince William Street, near the Market Square were on fire, and presently the whole block of buildings from the Market Square to Princess Street, burst out in one mass of flames. The heat was terrible, and the wind was increasing in velocity. Soon the New Post Office was in the grasp of the fiery monster, and as the flames swept around the corner the wooden buildings in the vicinity were soon on fire. The Post Office was some time in burning down, and presented a grand though terrible scene, as the flames spread up to the dome. But we need hardly particularize, for it was quite evident that despite all that human hands could do, the flames would connect with those on German Street. This proved too true. It was a terrible spectacle for those who had saved their goods in the Custom House, thinking they would be safe from the devouring element there, to see that building burning. The amount of household goods that were swallowed up in this building must have been immense.

### ON WATER STREET.

When the flames had reached as far as the Ferry Flats, it was plain to be seen that all the buildings on that street must go. Messrs. Magee worked hard to save their magnificent building from taking fire, and for some time they were successful, but as it is to defy the puny efforts of human hands the flames took hold of it, and the men on the roof had to flee for their lives. All the warehouses on the line of Water Street were destroyed and many were the narrow escapes from death that occurred. The wharves were crowded with people and household goods, who had sought these places as a last resort. They were obliged to take to boats to save themselves from being burned.

### A GRAND SCENE.

was presented as the flames from Water Street and Prince William Street joined with the flames on British Street, and in that vicinity destroying in a short space of time all the buildings between Prince William Street and Pitt Street. The people in Carleton saw it was an awful scene to witness, as the flames took hold of the Wiggins Orphan Asylum in Lower Cove. This building caught about one o'clock this morning, and the flames were for a long time burning on the dome, presenting the appearance of a huge bon fire, rising high above the smoke and flames in the vicinity. The noise made by the falling walls and chimneys could be heard a mile distant, and now and then one would hear an explosion that would lanchie his cheek, not knowing what the result might be.

### THE EXTENT OF THE DAMAGE.

At this early hour it is impossible to convey to the mind any adequate idea of the extent of the damage caused by the fire. The greater part of the city, however, is a mass of smoking ruins. The following will partially show the awful amount of loss:

Mill Street, North of North Street; Drury Lane, Smyth Street, north of North Street; Georges Street; Union Street, west of Mr. Hegan's house; Dock Street and Nelson Street are all burned down.

Buildings on the four sides of Market Square; all of Water Street, Prince William Street, South of Bank of B. N. A., (which was saved); the South side of King Street to the Square; that portion of the North side of King Street below the Revere House; Canterbury Street, Church Street, German Street, the east end of King Street, extending to Pitt Street, and all the buildings are destroyed, with the exception of the wooden and brick buildings on Kings Square belonging to the Postwick Estate, and the Court House, Dead House, Gaol. The latter building was somewhat injured. No. 2 Engine House, along side the Court House, is the last building left standing on Sydney Street. All to the south of this has been swallowed up by the devouring element. In fact all the blocks of buildings (with one or two exceptions) from the Market Slip to Pitt Street, and from that south to the harbor line are in ashes.

The houses to the east of Pitt Street, as far down as Duke Street almost, are saved. This building face on Courtney Bay.

### TO SUMMARIZE.

It may be stated that nearly all the dry-goods stores, every hardware store, the majority of the clothing stores, nearly every flour and provision store, the principal liquor stores, ship broker's offices, and almost all the public dwellings in the city, [A list of the public buildings will be found on first page.] Insurance, law, exchange, express offices, etc., are all gone. Hardly a law book remains in town.

### THE SCENES WITNESSED.

on the streets were heart-rending in the extreme. Queens Square was packed to density with people and their household effects. This part soon became the centre of a whirling, seething, devastating torrent of fire, North, South, East, and West, and it seemed as if the whole population of that district were doomed to destruction. First they were driven to the eastern part of the city; then North; still pursued by

the flames they were driven West, and found rest only in the extreme northern portion of the town. The Market Square entrance to Prince William and Water streets were shut off by the flames. Princess, Duke, Queen, St. James, and Britain streets, were in a mass of fire, and escape the district south of Market Square and east of Prince William was impossible, except by water. Men, women and children ran frantically from one point to another, met at every turn by the overpowering and pitiless fire. Boats from Portland and Carleton conveyed load after load to both those localities. The American boat made three trips down to Patridge Island, each time packed with people and their goods taken in at Reed's Point. Provisions for those were scarce, and to the misery of wretchedness and despair was added the pang of hunger. Shelter was insufficient, but the poor unfortunate were treated to the best that could be done for them by the Island people. While Oliver's Tacket Agency was in flames, a man was laying in the gutter on the opposite corner in the stupor of drunkenness. In all probability he perished. Although only a few bodies have been found as yet, and it is not known with certainty how many human beings perished in the flames, yet it is more than probable that the loss of life is fearful. An insane woman living on Main Street is believed to have been burned, as she was seen to enter a burning house and not return. The remains of two are in the Dead House, one consisting of charred bones contained in a box, the other the body of a full grown man, burned beyond recognition. A woman and child were burned to death in a house on Smyth Street, the torrent of flame being so terrible that it was impossible to give any assistance. She was last seen standing at a window with her child in her arms, and in less than two minutes after was engulfed in fire. Another woman had given birth to twins yesterday morning and was with difficulty extricated from her peril. An old woman jumped from a window of one of the houses on the same street, but escaped unhurt, being received in the arms of a crowd who gathered to save her. On Kings Square and in the Old Burying Ground a sight was presented sufficient to awaken the sympathies of the most callous. As on Queens Square, the whole area was covered with goods, among which were stowed mothers nursing their babes, and surrounded by wailing children. Others held in their arms sick members of their families; and others moaned in the agony of burning pain and wounds. A large number found shelter before morning in the burnt portion of the city, but a vast number were forced to remain exposed throughout the whole night, and this morning find them without a home, with hardly the possibility of finding a shelter, without provisions, and without city authorities in a position to minister to their relief. But they were more favored than the Lower Cove people, in not having to remove goods from point to point to save them from the devouring element.

Notwithstanding the wide spread distress, the cupidity of man was added to the destruction of fire. Numbers of thieves rascals hovered round the property saved, to appropriate whatever of value they could carry off. Others again risked their lives in burning stores to secure for themselves what was most valuable. The jewellery places especially suffered; wherever one was open, they rushed in and seized upon watches, rings, and all that was worth taking. The hardware stores met with great losses in the same manner, in nearly every direction from the burning district, men and boys were to be seen carrying boxes, bundles of cloth, articles of clothing, boots and shoes, articles of everyday and description—as the fruits of spoil, and what was saved from the elements of fire and water, became a loss to the owner equally as if destroyed.

Even amid the harrowing sights and scenes prevailing, one scene of beauty stood out in magnificent grandeur. That old landmark of by-gone years, the Bell Tower—the subject of newspaper ridicule and the individual's sneer—became enveloped in flame. When dangled of its outer covering, the timbers showed a burning beauty beyond description. It was built solidly, and offered long resistance to its overpowering foe—the fire of whom it surrounded so many an alarm of coming danger, but now struggled hard in its embrace, and when corner post and cross-tie and studding burned with a clear, white brilliancy, it looked as if enwrapped in a vast illumination. If in life it was plain, in death it showed forth beautiful.

### THE CASUALTIES.

To attempt to give the exact number of persons killed and wounded would be useless, but already a fair idea can be obtained of those whose lives were lost.

Garret Cotter, cutter, living on Crown Street, and Peter McGovern, of the Straight Shore, were killed by the fall of the Manson building on King Street. James Kemp and Thomas Holmes, of Lower Cove, while carrying goods from Reed's Point to a vessel in the harbor were drowned by the upsetting of a boat. Kemp leaves a wife and child. Mrs. Reed (T. M. Reed's mother) and the two Misses Clark, (Mr. Reed's aunts) are believed to have perished in the flames of their house at Lower Cove.

Mrs. Wm. Coholan, who has lived in John McSweeney's house, Smyth Street, is missing, and is certainly lost.

The body of an unknown woman was taken out of the ruins in Drury Lane this morning.

Mrs. Lyons, second hand goods dealer, German Street, perished. Her daughter, Mrs. Cassidy, is also said to be lost.

There are two bodies in the Dead House the identity of which is uncertain. One is supposed to be Samuel Corbett, furniture dealer, the other a young man named Fox, who has lived out side the city.

Accidents are numberless, and hundreds are moving about today with bruised bodies and limbs.

### THE SHIPPING.

When the fire had joined considerable headway, it was seen that the shipping in the harbor was in danger. The large vessels at the wharves were drawn out in the harbor to safe anchorage. Some small vessels took fire, and several lying in the Market Slip were totally destroyed. Others were damaged. The loss in this respect, however, is not nearly as great as was to be expected.

As a consequence of such terrible devastation, the blackness of ashes marking where stood all that was of industry or business, and of commerce in St. John, thousands of men are thrown out of employment in the city. To day they wander about gazing in melancholy sadness at the smouldering ruins where they earned their living. A quaint prospect for work stares them in the face. The heart, the pulse of the city is dead, and no resource is left as means to earn their living.

**PUBLIC MEETING.**—A meeting was held in Stevenson's Hall, on the 22d inst., for the purpose of devising relief for the sufferers in St. John.

The meeting having been called to order, Dr. Gove moved, seconded by G. F. Campbell, Esq., the Rev. Canon Ketchum, take the chair, Carried.

Moved by G. F. Campbell, Esq., seconded by Mr. W. B. Morris, that A. W. Smith be Secretary. Carried.

Dr. Ketchum explained the object of the meeting. Moved by G. F. Campbell, Esq., seconded by W. Whitlock, Esq., that a Committee be appointed to be called "the St. John Relief Committee," to solicit and collect subscriptions for the immediate relief of the most needy sufferers by the late fire in the City of St. John, and that the following gentlemen compose said Committee:—Dr. Gove, W. Whitlock, W. D. Foster, J. R. Braithwaite, L. F. Hatheway, Carried. Moved by C. E. O. Hatheway, Esq., seconded by G. F. Stickney, Esq., that the money when collected, be at once remitted to the Mayor of the City of St. John, for distribution. Carried.

Moved by Mr. Campbell, seconded by Mr. Morris. That the Relief Committee be requested to solicit and receive any description of clothing, and whatever may be useful for the relief of the sufferers.

**ACCIDENT.**—Yesterday afternoon while Mr. John Mowat was driving a double wagon loaded with lobster shells, his little son, aged about 12, was thrown from the load, and struck on the ground, the wheel passing over his left leg, cutting a severe gash near the ankle. The wound was dressed by Dr. Gove.

**A SCULL RACE** is to take place in St. Andrews Harbor, on the 24 July, between Wm. Mitchell of Calais, and Alexander McElwee, for \$25 a side.

### Fredrickson Notes.

The news of the St. John fire created the deepest sympathy among all classes here, and measures were at once taken for the relief of the sufferers. A public meeting was called on Thursday afternoon, and a committee appointed to collect all the available cooked food. The citizens responded liberally to this request, and a special train was dispatched that night with contributions. At a subsequent meeting on the following evening a sum of \$5,000 was voted by the city, and as this was increased to nearly \$7,000 by a few individuals, it is likely that the whole amount raised will not fall short of \$10,000.

A hail-storm passed over this vicinity last week doing damage to the amount of \$2,000 at Gibson and Marysville.

It is said that of account of the fire the Provincial Exhibition has been postponed. The Wesleyan Conference of the Maritime Provinces is expected to meet here shortly. The Encenia at the University was held on Thursday last; a large number of visitors were present.

**NEW POTATOES.**—Mr. Finley is again the successful raiser of the earliest potatoes in the market this season. Thanks for the basket sent to this office; they were of good size, dry and mealy.

The Russians have crossed the Danube, and driven the Turks from Dobruzhia, and also from the town of Matchin.

**HARPER'S MAGAZINE** for July contains nine illustrated contributions, with eighty-five beautiful engravings.

Among these papers, an especially timely and curious article is contributed by Maurice Thompson, entitled "Hunting with the Long Bow," illustrated by Miss Bridges, and Messrs. Beard, Gibson, Abbey, Davis, and other distinguished artists. The writer's experience for many years in this novel sport yields a rich fund of useful information and striking incident.

John Muir, the scientific explorer of the Sierra, contributes an original description of a novel phenomenon, which he entitles "Snow Banners of the Californian Alps," with illustrations.

While there is in this Number so many

descriptive articles, the literary character of the Magazine is well sustained by the remarkable serial stories of Charles Reade and R. D. Blackmore; by short stories from the pens of Miss Constance F. Woolson, and Miss Augusta Stevens, and by poetical contributions J. T. Townbridge, Bret Harte, Elizabeth Stuart Phelps, Ellis Gray, John E. Tabb, and George Lant. The five Editorial Departments are well sustained, in comprehensiveness of scope, and in the novelty of the material included in their various fields.

### The Great London Show.

The popularity of the Great London Show is unbounded—it is success upon success—and all through New England no similar establishment for years has ever had the praise bestowed upon this show. The leading papers endorse it. Persons at St. George, the Islands, and Saint Andrews, can witness the great spectacle, as can be seen by reading the following notice.

**GRAND EXCURSION.**—The Steamer Stroud will make a grand excursion from St. George and the Islands touching at St. Andrews, to Calais, on Wednesday July 4, for the convenience of those who desire to see the "Great London Show." Fare for the trip and admission to Circus, One dollar U. S. currency. Leave St. George at 6 a.m., return from Calais at 5 p.m., same day.

Since 1871 the grain trade from India to England has increased more than twenty fold, and last season it amounted to a third as much as Russia sent to England and a sixth as much as the United States, thus standing third in the list of those countries that supply Great Britain with grain. The late war will give a still greater stimulus, but the incongruity is this enterprise in that a country which able to export so much grain should have two or three famines constantly on hand.

### MARRIED.

On the 20 inst., at the house of the bride's father, by the Rev. W. Millican, Mr. Robert Metcalfe of Beaufort, to Jane fourth daughter of Mr. Nathan Harris of Back Bay.

## BAZAAR!

The young ladies of St. Andrews, will hold a BAZAAR in

## GOVE'S HALL,

—ON—

Thursday, the 28th June,

For the sale of FANCY and USEFUL articles

—A—

A Refreshment table supplied with all the delicacies of the season will be provided, where cool, refreshing, and sparkling Ginger Beer, will be sold to the thirsty.

An excursion from St. George per Steamer "UTOPIA", leaving at 7 A.M. Fare for the trip, 50 cents.

The ladies will spare no pains to render the Bazaar attractive. The proceeds are to be used in defraying the expense of erecting a Cedar Hedge around the Cemetery and improving the walks. To be open at 10 A.M. Admission 12 cents. St. Andrews, June 20.

## VALUABLE TRACT OF LAND FOR SALE.

THAT PART OF THE JOE'S POINT FARM LYING NEARLY THE TOWN OF ST. ANDREWS, KNOWN AS

Lot 1, 2, 3, 4 & 5;

Containing Forty Acres, as conveyed by the late Anne R. Davis, and J. H. Whitcomb, Esq. to the late Beverly Robinson, Esq. by deeds registered on the 12th June, 1867.

Possession Given on 1st Nov. next,

FOR FURTHER PARTICULARS apply to

**BENJ. R. STEVENSON.**

St. Andrews, 7th May, 1877.—41.

## Foyle Brewery.

Malt Houses & Distillery.

**P. & J. O'MULLIN,**

Manufacturers of

**XX & XXX Ales**

AND

**BROWN STOUT PORTER.**

IMPORTERS OF

**FINE FLAVORED**

**RUM, BRANDIES, WINES, &c.**

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