

The Petoskey Record Wed 4-13-1887

Dan Tripp left yesterday for Newberry in from County, where a situation awaits him. During the several years Dan has been night watchman, he has waked every man in town for the night. Trains, and has always manifested the most accommodating spirit.

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Tripp's Luck.

Last Tuesday night Dan Tripp, accompanied by his son Marion, started for the upper peninsula, to take charge of a "log drive" in Black River, but went down to Cheboygan the same night to attend to a matter of business. Wednesday morning they started on foot for Mackinaw City, reaching that place shortly after noon. As the boat would not go over until the next morning, and they were anxious to get to St. Ignace, Tripp and Marion accompanied by another man started across the ice on foot, expecting to reach their point without trouble. About half way over Dan broke through the rotten ice but with considerable exertion kept himself from being swept under by the current, and finally crawled out. There was a strong breeze blowing from the west and under the combined influence of the current and the wind the ice was giving unmistakable signs that it was about to break up. Exhausted with his struggles and chilled to the marrow by the cutting wind Dan hurried the boys along and got within half a mile or so of the Point when to their dismay they found open water between them and the land. Behind them the ice was cracking, and before them a wide stretch of ice cold water, but the only hope was in getting back across the few miles where the current was strongest before the ice should break entirely. Accordingly spreading themselves apart to prevent concentrating their weight upon one point they began their toilsome return to Mackinaw City, a distance of about six miles. They were compelled to leap across wide cracks, and avoid others by detours, but with all their caution Dan went through twice more and the boys once. When one got in the others were unable to aid him, as they had no rope or plank, and an approach to the edge meant another immersion. In one of the immersions Dan got jammed by the floating ice and came exceedingly near being carried under. After a terrible struggle they reached shore and relieved by the strain Dan sank utterly helpless. He was carried to the depot and brought home on Thursday morning. Examination showed that combined over exertion and exposure had brought on congestion of the lungs and that the muscles of the back were severely

strained. For several days, he suffered much pain, but now is much better, and with care will speedily recover.

The public sympathy with his misfortune was great and Mr. J. A. C. Rowan, a brother mason, raised a purse of \$102.75 for him in a few hours time. He has had such a hard run of luck since coming into this northern country that when anybody has a hard time now people say that he is having "Tripp's luck." However this might be worse, and we hope to see him on the streets again inside a fortnight.

Card of Thanks.

A few days ago I came very near to death in the icy waters of Mackinaw straits, and escaped only by a miracle. I am thankful that I am alive, and when I think of the sympathy of the kind people of Petoskey, and the ready and generous financial assistance so quickly tendered in my helpless condition, I am yet more thankful that I live in a community where beat so many warm and generous hearts. To all my friends I wish earnestly to express my grateful appreciation for all they have done for me in this my time of need.

D.R. Tripp

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On the day Dan Tripp was brought home from Mackinaw injured, Joe Rowan got out on the streets and raised a purse of \$102.75 for his benefit among his friends.