

Baltimore Morning Herald
May 14, 1901

Florida City is Still in Need of Assistance from the Outside World.

Food and Clothing Have Been Distributed to the End and Cash Subscriptions Are Badly Needed – Wealthy Negro Charged With a Serious Misdemeanor – Herald's Relief Train Did Yeoman Service

Jacksonville. Fla., May 13.-The *Herald* train stands on the Seaboard siding empty tonight. When it arrived early Saturday morning it was filled to overflowing with food and clothing. Since then the food has furnished meals for 3000 of the starving and the clothing has provided raiment for hundreds who had been wearing for a week the garments in which they fled from the fire.

The need for aid has become greater within the last day or two, and in the face of the impending crisis the members of the citizens' relief committee have lost their hope that Jacksonville would be able to help herself before long. The people are profoundly grateful for what their fellow countrymen in the North have done for them, but they are not yet in a position to stay the hand of charity.

In all the *Herald* train provided about 9000 rations. As this vast amount is barely sufficient, under the conditions existing today, to supply one day's demands, the urgent need for assistance is plain. At present more than 11,000 people must be fed daily.

Nevertheless the people are hopeful and optimistic, and the work of re-building the city will soon begin. Already business is resuming its normal state, and for those who have money there is plenty, to eat.

Those in authority gave out this afternoon that the relief fund is almost exhausted, and unless the nation comes to the aid of Jacksonville the city will not be able to cope with the situation here. The relief association empowered Bishop Weed of the diocese of Florida. Mayor Bowden and Capt. C. E. Garner, president of the board of trade, to issue an appeal tonight calling on the entire country for cash contributions to bridge over the next four weeks in caring for the destitute and homeless. Unless generous and prompt response is made to this cry for aid the situation in this city will be dreadful. Hundreds of people are yet without proper clothing, many are sick and in need of delicacies, and, as the food supplies are giving out, thousands will go hungry.

The relief association has decided that it is time to cast all modesty aside and set Jacksonville before the country in the true light of the prevailing conditions. S. H. Hart, one of the wealthiest negroes in the city, was this afternoon charged by the head of the employment bureau with falsifying pay rolls and diverting to himself the funds of the relief association.

As Hart has heretofore stood high in the community, the revelation created a sensation. He will be brought up before the executive committee tomorrow morning for a hearing.