

Mr. Henry Morgan, town of Wilmington, Essex county, N. Y. :

August 20, 1899. Number of acres burned, 800; value of standing timber destroyed, \$200. In addition, 1,000 cords of pulpwood were burned. I ordered out ninety-three men, who worked in all 616 days. We worked night and day to keep it off from the other lumber-jobs. This fire started in a pulp job near the trail that goes up White Face mountain. It started in an abandoned lumber camp that has not been occupied since last March. Four houses and barns were burned. It was the worst fire ever seen in the town by the oldest residents. Being on a steep mountain side it was difficult to control it. Everything was very dry; no water; all the brooks dried up. The fire burned in the muck until the 19th of September, when a rain came that lasted two days and nights. There was not much timber on the land aside from the 1,000 cords of pulpwood which were destroyed. The rest of the ground was covered by an old slash and dead timber, and made a very hot fire, forcing us to keep on the outside, where we held it inside the ditches. There was no moisture in the ground owing to the drought. Springs dried up that never failed before, and there were trout brooks of a large size in which we could hardly find a place to get a drink of water. I have been hampered and opposed by the taxpayers, who charge me with putting on useless help and making unnecessary expense. I believe I have done as much with the men I put on as any warden in the county. The whole row and fuss is caused by the former firewarden. If you will write to Mr. Madison Baldwin, timber agent of the J. & J. Rogers Co., you can find out the facts.