

their places than by the old. At least some engineers say this, and they have given proof of their belief in the construction of very remarkable bridges. Travelers to Switzerland speak with wonder of the wire-bridges at Freyburg, in which the span from pier to pier is nearly two hundred feet; in which the platform is nearly a hundred feet above the water, and the entire structure is supported by four cables, each consisting of more than a thousand iron wires. They speak, too, of another iron bridge across the gorge at Gatterau. But these bridges have been outdone by others which have recently been thrown across the mighty Niagara, owing to the extraordinary nature of the falls, and rapid, and boiling eddies rushing beneath. With a span of eight hundred feet from shore to shore, and a height of two hundred and sixty feet above the water, a light and elegant bridge presents its delicate tracery of wire-work against the sky, near the great North American Falls, in an extraordinary manner.

It is a brave effort to make an electro-telegraph cable. We are accustomed to such things now, but two or three years ago they were wonders to be marvelled at. When Messrs. Newall produced the wire-cable, and the Gutta Percha Company produced the gutta percha work, for the Anglo-French submarine telegraph in the summer of eighteen hundred and fifty-one, the achievement was worthily recorded as an honor to our age. Many of those who read this sheet will remember that the cable was twenty-four miles long; that it consisted essentially of four copper wires insulated in a bed of gutta percha; the strand or cord thus formed was bound round tightly with spun yarn; and round this strand, as a central core, were twisted ten galvanized iron wires. A high mass of wire, for when all completed, it formed a coil thirty feet in diameter on the outside, fifteen on the inside, five feet high, and weighing a hundred and eighty tons. A great work was the manufacture of this cable. In the first place, at the Gutta Percha Company's works, about a hundred miles of copper wire, in fair equal lengths, were coated and coated again with this singular gum; and then they were transferred to a cable-making factory at Wapping. The four coated wires were grouped, and were bound round with spun yarn, and round this strand, as a central core, were twisted ten galvanized iron wires. This rope, if it may be called, was passed vertically up a tube, around which were ten large bobbins fixed with galvanized iron wire; and while the rope was traveling upward, the bobbins were busily rotating on their axes, the wire, unwinding from the bobbins, coiled itself in a hard twist around the rope, compassing the hemp and the gutta percha closely, without allowing the all-important copper telegraphic wires in the centre to come in contact with one another.

And so again, in eighteen hundred and fifty-three, when the still more remarkable line of telegraph was prepared to stretch from England to Belgium. The cable cable has four copper telegraphic wires, but the Belgian cable has six; the Belgian cable is encased by twelve; the length of the former is twenty-four miles, but of the latter the length is upwards of seventy miles; of the former the weight is a hundred and eighty tons, but of the latter not much less than five hundred tons.

For aught that is yet known, the wire-drawers and wire-twisters could do their part towards the construction of a submarine telegraph across the Atlantic itself, if the difficulties in other directions can be surmounted.

The internal copper wires for these and other telegraphs are now-times coated with gutta percha in a singular way. The engineers who, about six years ago, laid down four or five hundred miles of telegraph from Berlin to Frankfurt-on-the-Main, thus coated their wire: they had a box or small chamber, with eight small holes on one side, and eight larger holes on the opposite; they put eight copper wires in at the small holes and out again at the larger; they forced in hot gutta percha by a piston, and forced out the eight wires each with a close wrapper of gutta percha.

He who would know all the forms into which wire is now twisted, and woven, and linked, must look at the wire-netting factories, for excluding hares and rabbits from gardens, for enclosing poultry-yards and pheasants, and for guarding tender young plants. He must know how this wire is galvanized for some purposes, to render it durable without painting or tarring. He must know something about the very strong wire-netting for confining sheep and dogs; and the various kinds used for arched, trellis-work, flower-training, window-guards, and sky-light; and wire-fencing of a more ornate character for gardens and pleasure grounds; and wire-pleasants, something like large bird cages; and pleasant and hen coops; and wire garden-borders, around flower-beds and parterres; and wire plant-guards, encircling the young plants and shielding them from all dangers; and stronger tree-guards, made to open at the sides. There are, too, wire-fences, with or without wire-netting attached; wire-arbors, niches, and summer-houses; wire umbrellas or canopies, around and over which roses may cluster in the middle of a flower bed; wire flower-stands, for conservatory, or green-house, or hall; wire chairs and garden seats; wire gauze blinds; wire bird cages; wire fire guards and fenders; wire lamps and baskets; wire meat covers and meat safes; wire lattices for bookcases and windows; wire shelves and stainers; wire cloth for flax-dressing and paper-making. The wire-gauze is a peculiar material, woven in a loom with a wire, and fibrous material. We have seen brass wire-gauze so exquisitely fine as to have sixty-seven thousand meshes in a square inch.

Our readers are not unfamiliar with the old and narrative of coal-pit explosions, Day-lamps, and fire-damp. Yet we may spare a dozen lines or so, to explain how it is that from wire plays so important a part in the clever but neglected contrivances for lessening such disasters.

In great coal-fields of our northern counties, the seams of coal give forth large quantities of carbonated hydrogen, called by the miners fire-damp. This fire-damp is a deadly enemy to the miner, and a certain ratio between the two produces an explosive compound; and when a light approach, such as a candle, or an explosion, causes which produces the devastation so often recorded in the newspapers. Even while we now write, public attention is directed to a dread calamity whereby nearly a hundred human creatures in one pit have been destroyed by an explosion of fire-damp. It was to guard against these awful scenes, that Sir Humphrey Davy invented his beautiful safety lamp. If a fine gauze be woven of iron wire, the iron coils the flame so much to allow of gas passing through the gauze. Days, therefore, said, "If the miner's lamp be surrounded by iron wire gauze, the fire-damp passes through and becomes kindled, the flame cannot come out again, but becomes cooled and extinguished, and air-lights gas passes out instead, thereby preventing the fire-damp in the rest of the mine from becoming ignited." He was right. In Dr. Clavius's improvement on Davy's lamp, the wire gauze has about fifteen hundred meshes in the square inch. The principle is sound and beautiful; but the practice is sadly overlaid with negligence and blunder.

The manufacture of gold-lace affords a pretty exemplification of the making and using of wire. Gold-lace, however, is not gold-lace for the gold is laid covering for silver-lace; and indeed the silver-lace is not silver-lace for the silver is but a covering for silk-lace. A knotty quignia, this, altogether, gold-lace may be considered as a kind of ribbon, of which the coarse and wet threads are of silk coated with gold. How the metal becomes gradually thinned and thinned, until it performs its work, it is curious to see.

First, a good stout rod of solid silver is prepared, perhaps an inch in thickness, by a couple of feet in length. The rod is heated; a layer of leaf-gold is placed upon it; this layer is burnished down; another layer is placed and burnished; and another, and another, and another—several layers of gold, but a trifle smaller for to a pound of silver there may be more than a hundred grains of the more precious metal. Then is the gilt-silver rod annealed, and drawn successively through many holes in a steel plate, until reduced to a slender rod of about one-fifth of an inch in diameter; the gold, like the silver, becoming elongated as it becomes thinned. Then the wire-drawer takes it, and draws and draws until the slender rod becomes a minute wire—using holes pierced through rollers when the wire becomes

very fine indeed. And then the wire is fluted, and is wound or spun upon a silk thread, and the threads so made are woven or braided into a ribbon. But of what thickness is the silver-wire with which the silk is encased? It seldom exceeds the size of a delicate hair. And of what thickness is the gold with which the silver is encased? It is a trifle thicker than the silver, and has their heads together and have come to a conclusion, that the gold on the finest gilt-silver wire does not exceed in thickness one-third of a millionth of an inch; and yet it is uniform and homogeneous, without breaks even when viewed under the power of a moderate microscope. A little slate-and-pencil work will show that, if a coined sovereign could be beaten or drawn out to this almost inconceivable degree of thinness, it would form a ribbon an inch in width, and long enough completely to encircle the Crystal Palace at Sydenham, wings, and towers, and all!

Fluoree is another pretty kind of wire-work. Silver wire, or gold wire, or gilt-silver wire is here twisted into fantastic and artistic forms, partly by the fingers and partly by small tools and machines. Some of the productions in this art, especially those produced in Italy and in India, are wonderful for the notice bestowed upon them. It is a curious English art; we can be too busy and too hasty to bestow time on these prettinesses. The wire is very thin, but of course much exceeding the thickness of the film of gold on the silver wire for gold-lace.

Perhaps the thinnest bit of wire ever actually made and isolated was that produced by Doctor Wallaston, a philosopher who had an extraordinary knack of doing things which no one else could do. He procured a small rod of silver; he bored a little hole through it from end to end; he inserted into this hole the smallest platinum wire he could procure; he subjected the silver rod to wire-drawing processes, until it became the finest of silver wires with a platinum filament running along its centre; he dissolved the silver in warm nitrous acid; and there remained an exquisite little platinum wire, one thirty thousandth of an inch in thickness!

THE DROUTH IN THE STATES.

From the N. Y. Tribune, Aug. 22.

We continue to receive accounts from all parts of the country, of the prevalence of the most severe drouth. In sections of Missouri, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Pennsylvania, New York, Vermont, and New Hampshire, it is destructive to all growing crops, and has exhausted feed and water for cattle to such a degree that they have to be driven outside of the drouth-parched region for subsistence.

ILLINOIS.

We learn from one of the employees of the Tribune office, who has just returned from Iowa by way of St. Louis and Central Illinois, Chicago and Detroit, that the appearance of things on the Illinois prairies is desolate. Cattle can procure feed, but are often troubled to find water. Corn-fields are in the seed and yellow leaf of autumn, with the grains on the cob dry and shriveled, and in many fields the crop is worthless. The greatest alarm is felt among the pork-raisers. Hogs that will easily make 200 or 300 lbs., fatted, are freely offered for \$1.50. Fruit is withered upon the trees, and garden vegetables are turned to dust.

Our informant says that he found on his return thro' Michigan, that no rain had fallen while he was gone, and the drouth there began to be felt severely, where all looked green and flourishing on his outward trip. The corn crop of Indiana and Illinois is certainly very much cut short, and is not seriously affected other places, and not the least, the beef market of this city.

A public meeting of farmers has been called in Madison county, to consult upon the best manner of economizing their corn so as to prevent a scarcity in that county, which is one of the greatest corn regions in the State.

In Jacksonville, owing to the drouth, potatoes are selling at \$1.25 a bushel—a price unheard of before.

INDIANA.

On the whole of the Valleys below Lafayette, on both White rivers, and generally thro' all the best corn region of the State, the drouth is destructive. Putnam, Park, Green, Bartholomew and several other central counties are spoken of as not likely to make half crops of corn.

PENNSYLVANIA.

Particularly in Mercer & Lawrence counties, the drouth seems to have come upon the farmers with distressing force. In some places, we are told by a friend just from there, water cannot be had upon farms, or even in the neighborhood for the cattle, and they often have to be driven inconvenient distances for a supply.

We have not heard of any case of hardship of this kind, however, quite equal to a story we heard an Ohio farmer tell one of the big drouth in his county, when he had to drive his cattle "eighteen miles to water; and that 'twas the worst of it, for he had to cross two ferries on the road."

The Shenango and Neshacon rivers are dried up; and the fish are gathered into close quarters in the puddles. Of course there is no grinding at the mills, and more than two women are left without bread.

"How long this drouth will continue," says our informant, seems quite uncertain, but there is nothing but a little muddy water left to dry up in that part of the Keystone State.

Accounts from Lancaster represent the drouth almost as bad there, tho' they have now and then a little sprinkle of rain, but not enough to feed the parched earth. Corn without rain soon, will be a failure.

KENTUCKY.

In the vicinity of Lexington, we learn from gentlemen recently from there, that the corn crop is suffering beyond measure, and must fail to a great extent, whether rain comes soon or not; and it will seriously affect the fattening of beef and pork. In places no rain has fallen for two months. The early prospect of a great crop of corn was never better. That is past; no hope for a good crop now. Corn must be scarce and high, and pork small. A good many people have given up all thought of fattening their hogs this year.

The Journal, Louisville, Aug. 14, says: "It is now nearly two months since we had any rain here. Other localities have, however, been more fortunate. We learn from passengers who came in on the Frankfort cars on Saturday night, that a very heavy rain fell between Bagdad and Frankfort on that evening."

Thermometer 97 deg. in the shade. The earth parched and drying in such heat.

TENNESSEE.

At Memphis there is great suffering for want of good water to drink. Cisterns are dry, and wells nearly so. Many families have no water, except as it is hauled in casks. The effects of such a drouth are very annoying, as well as destructive to crops.

Nashville, Aug. 11.—At length we have rain, after a drouth of many weeks that had well-nigh destroyed the crops. Corn is seriously injured, and all garden vegetables quite used up. The river would do as well for a powder-house as for steamboat navigation. I have never seen the Cumberland so

low. It has set up a good many bars, but seems unable to supply them with drink.

The Franklin Review says:—"The weather has been as dry in this neighborhood for the last few weeks as a powder-horn. In some parts of the country, however, they had good rains, and are not suffering as we are in this vicinity." This is the language of several other papers in this State.

MARYLAND.

The drouth is equally distressing in several of the counties. The Howard (Md.) Gazette says that rain sufficient to wet the ground two inches, has not fallen in that county for two months,—and that in consequence the corn is suffering severely.

At Frederick, the corn is considered past recovery, and not more than half a crop hoped for. At Hyattstown, farmers don't talk of over two or three bushels of corn to the acre.

VIRGINIA.

Adjoining Maryland, is of course affected in about the same degree, and will not make a fair crop of corn and potatoes.

On the 15th there was a fine shower at Alexandria, accompanied with lightning. Cattle in the interior are suffering, and only here and there will the corn be worth anything. The drouth has been very destructive.

In Bedford county, Aug. 11, the lightning struck Tighman A. Cobb's barn and killed two negro men, who were consumed with the building and crops stored.

On the 14th there was a terrific thunder-storm at Wilmington, N. C., with heavy rain.

OHIO.

The Lake counties suffer most—the soil being very clayey, and more easily affected by drouth than sandy or stony soil.

In Sciota county the grass-hoppers have been very destructive.

NEW YORK.

The drouth seems to prevail the most severely in those counties affected last year and year before; that is, Chautauque, Allegany, Jefferson, and St. Lawrence. In Tompkins and Yates counties also it has been very severe. In Yates, it prevailed early in the season, destroying spring crops, and we are sorry to see that buckwheat which was largely sown as a substitute, is likely to be measurably cut off. Stock has been or must be mostly sold off before winter.

In Tompkins county the drouth is at the worst now; corn is dying, and potatoes without tubers; and pastures are all drying up, and a general failure of fall crops anticipated.

Wyoming county is also sending off cattle as fast as possible before they starve. There is great complaint of drouth among the milk-men of Orange county. It seems difficult—owing to the scarcity of water—to keep up their regular supply of milk. The roads are dusty, almost beyond precedent. The same complaint prevails in the Genesee Valley generally, tho' not as severe as in the counties named.

NEW HAMPSHIRE.

It is said that the drouth affects the springs and streams so that the locomotives on some of the railroads find it difficult to get water, and the mills upon the Merrimack are dependent upon the Lake Winnepesaukee reservoir for the supply of power.

The fall feed will be almost entirely cut off, and early feeding have to be resorted to. The potato crop will be almost an entire failure.

The Manchester Mirror says:—

"All the streams among the Franconia and White Mountains are very low. The 'Silver Cascade' does not delight the eye of the traveler; the usual watering places for horses by the road-side are gone, and drouth stares you in the face everywhere. The dust is insufferable. Wells are dry, pastures are drying up, and some farmers are obliged to drive their cattle long distances for water. The drouth has not affected this region till within a few days as much as some other parts of the State. In Skowhegan it is very severe,—and all kinds of vegetation suffering. The potato rot has also made its appearance. This is said to be the driest year since 1826.

In the vicinity of Lawrence, Mass., the corn is drying up, and small vegetables already dried. No moisture can be found in some fields within a foot of the surface.

MAINE.

A letter from Oldtown, Me., of the 11th inst., states that the drouth was felt severely, and that the fire was still running in the woods.

ALABAMA.

The Huntsville Advocate of August 9, says:—"The hot and dry weather still continues. Its effects upon the crops are most disastrous. We have never seen or known a worse prospect for a crop of corn. A few weeks ago, every appearance indicated a most abundant crop; but the hot and dry weather has now set in, and it is impossible for even an average yield to be secured. In many parts the drouth has been of eight weeks' duration; while in other portions the rains have been more seasonable and frequent. The drouth has affected all of North Alabama and Middle Tennessee. Rain even now would do a great deal of good to late corn, make peas, revive the pastures, and make water more abundant. The drouth is injuring cotton.

New York, Aug. 19.

The weather remains hot, dry and dusty, and crops in the neighborhood begin to suffer for want of rain. The effect of drouth shows most plainly in the supply and price of potatoes. They are selling at \$3.50 per barrel.

Cleveland (Paladiner), Ohio, Aug. 16.

The farmers are experiencing a trying time with weevil, drouth and grasshoppers. Their crops, all but hay, are short, too short,—almost an entire failure. They see the fruits of their summer's labor in stunted fruit, withered oaks, and dried up corn. In the midst of this dusty desolation, the farmer has got his flour and pork to buy. That is certain; but the price he has got to pay, and the means to pay it are quite uncertain.

Columbia, Pa., Aug. 16.

Corn and potatoes are dried up to less than half a crop.

Lawrence Co., Pa., Aug. 15.

Our corn, potatoes and buckwheat are ruined. All garden vegetables are dried up.

Chicago, Ill., Aug. 17.

The corn crop in more than three-fourths of this State is more than half cut off by drouth. The loss of corn in Illinois, Missouri, Kentucky, Tennessee, Indiana, Ohio, will not be less than one hundred and fifty millions of bushels. No amount of rain now, can save the crop in Central Illinois. It is too late.

Cincinnati, Aug. 17.

We have had no rain for 1 don't know how many weeks, until one shower last Saturday. You never saw the earth so parched. Besides the rain of crops, cisterns, wells, springs and streams full, and there is much distress for water.

Wilkesbarre, Pa., Aug. 16.

The drouth which usually occurs at this season is unusually severe. Corn and potatoes are seriously injured, and portions burnt up. Irrigation is easy, but no one practises it. Many of our farmers on the uplands can water every field at less expense than the increased crops at one season will return, and yet no one pays any attention to the subject.

Louisville, Ky., Aug. 16.

There never has been so great a failure of crops from drouth in this State. Cornfields are withered and pastures turned brown. There will be great falling off in the pork crop. We had a fine

rain yesterday, but it comes too late. The mischief is done.

Martinsburg, Va., Aug. 16.

Much of the vegetation is dead, and the country suffering beyond measure. We have had showers lately, but they only serve to lay the dust.

St. Louis, Aug. 16.

The drouth in this State is past all belief. Drovers are not getting either grass or water on the road, and the stock is killing. Corn has risen one third, and Illinois farmers are here buying corn for their own use,—and those, too, who usually make thousands of bushels to sell.

Rackland Co., N. Y., Aug. 18.

The drouth here is ruining potatoes. We shall have no apples of any consequence.

Kinderhook, (Rough Notes) Aug. 17.

On all sides we have melancholy evidence of the blighting effects of the unprecedented drouth devastation. Vegetation is brought to a standstill—the earth is baked—trees are withering and dying—cattle can hardly satisfy their cravings—corn, buckwheat and potato crops are nearly annihilated.

Ogdensburg, N. Y., Aug. 16.

The drouth continues unabated. Fall feed will be dried up and dairy-men's prospects destroyed. There is great danger of fire.

Seneca Co., N. Y., Aug. 17.

Pastures are all dried up, and the cry is now, where shall we sell our cattle?—we cannot winter them.

Middletown, Ct., Aug. 17.

Potatoes are very much injured by drouth in this vicinity. The earth is excessively parched.

Bangor, Me., (Whig) Aug. 16.

The drouth still continues severe in this region, altho' the extreme heat of the weather has relaxed. We have had one or two slight showers within a week, but not enough to compete with the street-sprinklers.

The fires in the woods are still causing much damage to the growing trees; and the crops generally are suffering.

Littleton, N. H., Aug. 16.

We have had no rain here for six weeks to do any good. Potatoes must be a failure, and corn and pasture badly injured. This is the case nearly all over the State.

Westmoreland Co., Va., Aug. 16.

This county will have to buy corn; it is nearly all dried up, and it is no better anywhere on the Northern Neck. I hear also several counties north of us just as bad off. Of course we shall have no potatoes.

Cleveland, O., Aug. 18.

It is now six weeks since we have had rain enough to do any good. Corn and potatoes will not yield one fourth the crop that was promised before the drouth. Make up your mind that pork will rise, and flour will not fall.

Marion Co., Ill., Aug. 15.

Eight weeks without rain. What are we to do? Farmers generally do not expect to make five bushels of corn to the acre. Some fields will not furnish an ear to a hundred stalks. Stock hogs are a drug in market at one cent a pound. Old corn 50c a bushel, and scarce. Every one looks gloomy.

Allegheny Co., N. Y., Aug. 16.

This county is ready for the fire—it is dried up. I doubt if there is any enough in this town (Independence) to winter one cow to each family. In Willing it is nearly as bad. Potatoes are hardly worth digging, and corn-fields are dry as after a frost. Oats are very short. Pastures none. What shall we do?

Winchester Co., N. Y., Aug. 20.

Up to within a couple weeks, we have read the accounts of drouth in other parts without feeling very sensitive upon the subject. It is all changed now. Corn that promised 60 bushels to the acre falls to 30; while late potatoes, turnips, and fall pasture, upon which many persons place great dependence, are almost ruined. Our prospects look very gloomy. Milk dairies are failing very fast.

Allegheny Co., Penn., Aug. 17.

The drouth surpasses anything that you ever thought of. In some parts of this county the farmers will not dig as many potatoes as they should. It is too late for rain to save them. The vines are dead, and with a few little immature tubers in a pile of dust at the bottom. Wheat was light, very. Oats but little of anything but short, dry, hard straw. Grass is poor. Corn, in spots, will produce a little, and in others nothing. Cattle must be fed as much nearly as in winter. Our condition is distressing in the extreme.

Bellevue, Orange Co., N. Y.

The drouth is becoming very serious, and fatal to the corn, buckwheat and potato crops. The corn will not be one third of a crop; buckwheat nothing, and the mass of the potato crop nothing. What little fall there was is dropping, from the extreme dryness.

THE FIRES IN THE WOODS.

[From the Tribune.]

We gather from our exchanges the following additional particulars:

From The Whitehall (N. Y.) Chronicle, August 25.

The fires in the woods, which we spoke of last week, have assumed the character of terrible conflagration, and have already destroyed a vast amount of property, and threaten still more disastrous consequences.

In Dresden a large extent of valuable timber lands has been burned over, and a large quantity of cordwood and one saw mill consumed.

In the northern part of Fort Ann, in the vicinity of South Bay, the fire has been raging terribly for more than a week. The inhabitants have turned out en masse to resist the progress of the flames, but their labors are unavailing. The timber and trees are so dry, and the wind so strong that the destructive element sweeps forward with alarming rapidity. Should the drouth continue but a short time longer, several houses and mills in the vicinity will inevitably be consumed.

A fire is raging on the mountain on the east side of the Lake, opposite the steamboat landing. Considerable apprehension is felt that it will reach the lumber piles and buildings in the north-east quarter of this village. The smoke here is so dense at times as almost to hide the sun. The steamboats are unable to make their trips in the usual time, on account of the thick cloud that has settled down on the Lake.

A passenger on Wednesday's boat informs us that the fires are raging terribly all along the coast from this place and Rouse's Point. One firm in Crown Point have already suffered a loss of \$20,000. In the towns of Westport and Moriah, Essex Co., the fire is doing great damage.

This section is not alone subject to this terrible visitation. From nearly every part of the State, and from many parts of Vermont, we hear of disastrous and terrific conflagrations.

Along the destructive element is raging with considerable fury, and will undoubtedly commit destruction of property ere it is extinguished.

On the Green Mountains in Vermont, between Arlington and Sunderland, another conflagration is raging. It commenced about a week since, and has advanced in a direct line over six miles! The destruction of property, in the shape of cord-wood timber and peeled bark, is very large. But the loss will fall most heavily upon the owners of the land, the value of which consists chiefly in the wood standing upon it. Many thousands of acres must have already been destroyed. A large steam mill on one of the mountains is in imminent jeopardy—the fire yesterday morning having approached within half-a-mile, and in direct line of it.

A fire has also broken out in the woods about half a mile north of Swanton village, on the Vermont and Canada Railroad. It has run along the road some three miles, burning up the ties and very badly bending the rails. The track is covered up with trees that have fallen

across it. The railroad company carry the passengers around the fire in teams and boats, and then send them on in freight cars. No trains can pass at all. About 2,000 cords of wood belonging to the railroad have been burned. The fire spreads in the woods and fields very rapidly, and it is feared Swanton village will suffer badly.

We learn that a fire is also raging in the woods about three miles beyond Saratoga, on the line Kennels and Saratoga Railroad, and is proceeding with considerable fury. The telegraph poles and wires have been destroyed, and also a quantity of wood belonging to the railroad company.

Correspondence of the Albany Argus.

SARATOGA, Aug. 25.—From Rouse's Point, north, for twenty miles, there are fires in many places; and from Chazy, nine miles west of Rouse's Point, to Malone, the entire country is threatened by the flames, which are spreading rapidly. The passengers from Montreal were detained on Wednesday night at Rouse's Point by the non-arrival of the steamer Canada from Whitehall, which could not leave in consequence of the dense smoke from the burning forests.

Yesterday, as we passed Crown Point, at three o'clock p. m., the atmosphere was so clouded by smoke as to totally eclipse the sun at times, giving it a lurid appearance when seen, until sunset.

Five miles back from the lake at Crown Point the saw-mills, with wood and lumber, belonging to Hammond and Co., have been totally destroyed by the fire spreading from the forests. Their loss is estimated at \$30,000. A passenger told me that at the sources of the Hudson the forests were burning for fifteen miles around.

When we reached Whitehall the side of the mountain in that vicinity was in a perfect blaze. The appearance was sublime, but the air was hot and suffocating. The lake was literally covered with burning leaves, wafted thither by the wind; and the air thoroughly permeated with heat, smoke and ashes. I noticed fires at several places between Whitehall and Saratoga, but they were not very extensive.

From the Dinghamton (N. Y.) Republican, August 25.

Sometime during Wednesday the 25th inst., some dry grass and underbrush on land belonging to the Hon. Oliver C. Crockett, a short distance west of Mount Prospect Water Cure, was set on fire by the discharge of a gun; and owing to the great drouth now prevailing, the fire spread with rapidity, consuming a large quantity of cord-wood belonging to Mr. Crockett. All efforts to check the fire were unavailing, until it had run over about 200 acres of timber land on which were some large pine trees. The fire, we learn, was mostly confined to Mr. Crockett's land, but trespassed some on Dr. Doubleday's and Mr. Hubert's. It is difficult to estimate the amount of damage, but it probably will exceed \$2,000.

From the Toronto (Canada) Colonist, August 24.

We learn from the Port Dover Argus that a fire has been raging to an alarming extent in the woods in that vicinity, and has in many places done much damage. The farm of Mr. W. Olds, it is said, was on fire from end to end, and it was with the greatest difficulty that the buildings were saved; it is also rumored that a barn at J. J. J. has fallen a prey to the flames.

From the Monticello (N. Y.) Watchman, August 23.

The woods are on fire in all directions around Monticello. Thousands of acres of valuable bark and timber land have been burned over and much damage done. We are told that Mr. Gilman, the proprietor of a large tannery in Forestburg, has suffered a loss of about \$1,000, and that his tannery was saved with much difficulty. About 400 cords of bark were burned and 100 cords of wood. If the present unprecedented drouth continues, the destruction of timber and bark must be immense.

From the Saratoga (N. Y.) Whig, Aug. 23.

Some woods north of Ballston Spa were reported on fire yesterday, and the fire from the woods near Fish House has spread to the fields, and was destroying fences, hay, &c., when last heard from.

Cranes Mountain has been nearly bare of vegetation in the same way, and reports of fires in the vast forests covering the unnamed hills and valleys of Northern New York are received almost daily.

WATERVILLE, (N. Y.) Aug. 24, 7 p. m.—The large swamp five miles south of this place is now on fire. About eighty acres have been consumed. The fire burned three feet deep. Two families have been compelled to leave their dwellings in consequence. The plank road for