

vigour. The destruction was mostly confined to the early planted blocks of *Larix europaea*, *Pinus Laricio*, *P. ponderosa*, *P. Benthamiana*, *Betula alba*, and *Robinia pseudo-acacia*, covering an area of about 80 acres, over which about 160,000 were burnt. Perhaps half of this number will be a reasonable estimate of trees permanently injured; but it cannot rightly be asserted that the plantation, even prior to the conflagration, was a success, as the prevalence of large unplanted spaces throughout permitted the formation of coarse lateral branches, and so defeated the object originally aimed at. Some 450 acres of treeless area have been fenced off and leased for grazing purposes, whilst greater security from any future outbreak of fire has been gained by securing the services of the enthusiastic local officer of the Justice Department, who exercises a vigilance over the planted reserve, and is fully empowered to run a limited number of sheep to keep cocksfoot and other rank vegetation in check. It is needless to emphasize the excellence of this substitute for fire-breaks.

Exceedingly fine progress is being made by all varieties planted, and this can only be attributed to the abundance of moisture found in the substrata by the gradually extending root-system.

Appended are statements of expenditure, Trees Account, &c., which include liberal allowance for losses enumerated.

Schedule II.—Statement of Expenditure.

	For Year.			To Date.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Planting operations and maintenance—						
Tree-planting				1,777	10	7
Pitting				3,898	11	1
Clearing				13	5	0
Cartage of trees				73	10	6
General upkeep of plantation	25	18	6	1,505	17	4
General repairs				23	17	8
Horse-feed						
Permanent works—						
Fencing				122	17	10
Formation				158	5	7
Buildings				41	2	8
Stock, implements, &c.—Tools, implements	1	4	11	276	3	2
Supervision and clerical—						
Salaries—						
Supervision of free labour				347	14	9
„ „ „ prison labour				467	16	3
Nurseryman's proportion and clerical assistance		5	0	108	14	0
	£32	3	5	£8,815	8	5
Estimated value of prison labour (apportioned in above items)				2,365	14	7
Actual expenditure				£6,449	13	10

Schedule III.—Trees Account.

	Number.
Trees received during year
Less, to replace blanks
Planted on new area
Previously planted	569,640
Total number planted on 209 acres (average age, 6 years)	569,640

Schedule IV.—Property Account.

	£	s.	d.
Land (857½ acres)	3,600	0	0
Buildings			
Stock			
Improvements	158	7	7
Fencing	122	17	10
Stores in hand	1	4	11
	£3,882	10	4

Balance-sheet.

	£	s.	d.
Total expenditure (prison labour included)	8,815	8	5
Less Property Account	3,882	10	4
Cost of operations	£4,932	18	1
209 acres planted; (average age, 6 years)			
Estimated value of plantation per acre	£10	5	0

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Superintending Nurseryman.