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Mountain Forest Fires.

153
All through these dry summer months the people of the Basin country have been congratulating themselves upon being spared from any disastrous fires on the mountain boundaries which surround them. The forests have been under the espionage of vigilant force of rangers, many of them from the Basin, and their knowledge of every critical spot affected by careless campers, and their vigilance in safeguarding them against fires has made us free from any disastrous conflagration in the vast mountain forests which surround us. But we cannot longer lay that flattering unction to our souls that we have entirely escaped, for on Monday last a disastrous blaze broke out in the mountains above Tensleep about fifteen miles from the Milo Burke ranch. It has raged from the start with growing fury, and compelled all who were in the neighborhood to hike to the lowlands for safety, for the smoke was so dense as to almost smother everything animate within its range.

This valley since Monday afternoon has been enveloped in a smoky haze so dense that observation at short distance would be