

From: Mrs. Florence ~~Allen~~
Lowville Historian

Journal of Watson
Historian

Chases Lake Fire, August 2, 1888

The extensive extract works of L. Crawford & Co, at Chases Lake about 10 miles from Lowville were destroyed by fire yesterday p.m. The report of the fire, which at this writing is somewhat meagre says that the extract works proper, save the barkmill, were destroyed together with a greater part of the machinery and fixtures. The origin of the fire is not known. The buildings were of wood and were erected in 1872 by LeRoy Crawford and Grover C. Hinman for the manufacture of bark extract for tanning purposes. The original cost of the buildings and fixtures was about \$22,500, but they have been enlarged and thoroughly repaired several times since the date of their erection. It is difficult therefore, to place an estimate as to their value previous to the fire. However the loss to the firm is a serious one, as they carried but \$10,000 insurance, \$7,000 with Hedden & Moore, \$2,000 with J.H. Wood and \$1,000 with John Benedict.

(J & R)