

(22)
255 ties of which 168 have been put in, and 89 still on hand.

The above items show that there are 615 ties needed, with 89 on hand, leaving 526 to be furnished. It would be well to add to this amount at least 50, as some of those that show apparent good order, will prove damaged on lower side. I find that part of the road between Morris and Vandyles in very fair condition, but the other two sections as laid off in this statement will soon become dangerous if not attended to. I find the bridges in fair order, the joints which are coupled with what is known as the "Reaver Chain" are in bad order, partly arising from the weakness of the chain, but mainly from indifferent ties, and want of a proper section gang.

The ditching in nearly all of the cuts is in very bad condition, but was never in proper order from the first.

I think one thousand dollars (\$1000.) judiciously expended during the next two or three months

would restore the Branch to its original condition, bringing the National wear and tear, but to put the road in any thing like a first class condition, including proper ditching, it would require two hundred and fifty (\$250) dollars per mile.

Yours very respectfully,
Lemming Hood, Engineer