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IRRIGATION IN THE WEST

The men who are pushing irrigation into the arid regions of the great West are benefiting more of the populace of this country directly and indirectly than any other body of men who are interested in public work.

More irrigation means more productive homes for individual farmers, and homes that, once occupied will not be deserted, as crops and prosperity are insured to the farmer who has water supply under his controll.

Irrigation means more traffic for the railroads, more and better food for the people who live where food is scarce and high. It developes those regions of the country that most needs developing; it relieves congestion in the older agricultural regions by affording new and attractive fields for the progressive young men. It is a work that should be more appreciated and encouraged.

Japenese journals, says Weekly Mail (Yokohama), publish, in large type, a statement that owing to the unsettled state of Siberia and the constant disturbance in European Russia, the St. Petersburg authorities find it impossible to remove the troops from Northern Manchuria within the prescribed period of 18 months. There are still 200,000 men massed at Harbin, and the probability is that Russia will approach Japan with a proposal to extend the time for evacuation.

After the battle near San-de-pu, January 27, 1905, in which the Russians lost 14,000 men out of 40,000," says the Kobe Herald, "there occurred scenes which have never been made public, as everything has been done to keep them from being known. Twelve hundred wounded Russians were dragged to the railway and then allowed to lie there in the snow for 24 hours. The cold was most severe; in vain the men implored help as they wept aloud, and in vain they tried to crawl into shelter; every man was frostbitten and died."

A movement to buy and preserve the house in Rome in which Keats died, and to establish in it a memorial library of of his works and Shelley, was set on foot in 1903 by eight American writers then in Rome. The plan has been recognized and commended by President Roosevelt, King Edward, and the King of Italy, and, according to recent despatches, an option has been obtained on the property. The house is on the Piazza di Spagna, at the foot of the picturesque Spanish steps which lead to Villa Medici. It is at present owned by France.

RUSSEL SAGE

Russel Sage is dead and it may be that as he was the beginning of great financiering his death may begin its decay. The world admires genius and Russel was one of the greatest financiers the world ever knew.

He knew the value of a dollar as the genius in politics knew the value of a vote and he knew the causes and influences that effected the dollar as scarcely any genius in politics knows the causes and principles that effect the voter. Russel Sage was to finance as Tennyson was to poetry, as Napolean was to war and Shakespeare to the drama. His genius was of another sort but it was greatness. As Tennyson studied his art; as he evolved the machinery of verse that gave expression to the soul within; as he searched for the beauty of truth, so did Sage study and search for truths in finance and opportunity to give expression to the principles of money making.—Pendleton Tribune.