

Underground Waters of Kings River Delta.

One of the interesting developments which of late years have been attracting considerable attention in connection with irrigation is the change in the underground water level of irrigated districts. Within the last few months the United States Geological Survey has issued, in its series of Water Supply and Irrigation Papers, a report by J. B. Lippincott, resident hydrographer of the Survey of California, on the water storage possibilities on Kings river, which contains interesting information regarding the underground water conditions found in the irrigated portion of the Kings River Valley near Fresno.

The height of the ground water, or the "water table," is the distance beneath the surface at which the soil is found to be saturated with moisture. In the Fresno district the striking fact has developed that, while previous to the practice of irrigation there in 1870 the water stood at 60 feet below the surface, at the present time it is found at from 10 to 15 feet, and in places even from 4 to 6 feet. So high has the water risen in certain sections that some of the cellars near Fresno were flooded and had to be abandoned, and the ground water at present stands so near the surface that roots of alfalfa, vines, and trees readily penetrate to it and soils are kept continually moist. Surface wetting has become unnecessary in many sections.

This condition of saturation represents the use of an immense amount of water in irrigation. The total quantity of water brought to the vicinity of Fresno, as indicated by the report, during the seventeen years between 1878 and 1896 would, at a very low estimate have covered the 50,000 acres, to whose surface water is applied in irrigation, to an average depth of 4 1/2 feet per annum, or to a total depth of 75 feet. Some of this water has, of course, been consumed in sustaining plant life; more has been evaporated; but the most of it still permeates the subsoils of the irrigated region and of the adjoining lands.

The abundance of underground water has been widely taken advantage of by the inhabitants of the region, and over 850 wells have been sunk, whose individual capacity varies from a small discharge to over a million gallons. These wells are used largely for domestic purposes and for stock, but they are also employed for irrigation, street sprinkling, and city supply. One of the largest pumping plants draws water from a well 600 feet deep, driven in a city lot 50 by 150 feet, for the supply of a city of 12,000 inhabitants.

To Save Her Child

From frightful disfigurement Mrs. Nannie Wallger, of La Grange, Ga., applied Bucklen's Arnica Salve to great sores on her head and face, and writes its quick cure exceeded all her hopes. It works wonders in Sores, Bruises, Skin Eruptions, Cuts, Burns, Scalds and Piles. Cure guaranteed by Adamson & Winnek, druggists.

Found buried to a skeleton.

ANXEROX, Wash., July 30.—St. George Kemp, a well-known surveyor and civil engineer of this place, went to his claim on the Wynooche River, some three months ago. As time passed by he was neither heard of nor did he return home. Finally his friends became alarmed, and a search party set out to find him. His cabin was visited, but he was not there. After all efforts to find alive had proven futile, search was made for his body; was equally

without avail, and the hunt was reluctantly abandoned. Yesterday a timber cruiser named Fulton was starting out from Montesano, and when about two miles from town, saw the smoke from a campfire, and proceeded to investigate. He recognized in the emaciated form reclining on the ground the man so long and hopelessly sought. He had lived on berries and roots for the three months he had been missing, and was nothing but a wreck of skin and bones, unable to speak above a whisper.

An old friend, Mr. E. C. Hunt, brought him to Aberdeen, and he was at once taken to St. Joseph's Hospital. He is in such a weak condition that he is allowed to see no one but doctor and nurses, consequently can give no account of his strange experiences. Signs in the neighborhood of where he was found go to show that he must of been in the vicinity most of the time of his absence.

The case excited much interest, as he has been well known in the county for years. The physician in attendance is hopeful of his full recovery.

Young Lady's Life Saved.

At Panama, Colombia, by Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy.

Dr. Chas. H. Utter, a prominent physician, of Panama, Colombia, in a recent letter states: "Last March I had as a patient a young lady sixteen years of age, who had a very bad attack of dysentery. Everything I prescribed for her proved ineffectual and she was growing worse every hour. Her parents were sure she would die. She had become so weak that she could not turn over in bed. What to do at this critical moment was a study for me, but I thought of Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy and as a last resort prescribed it. The most wonderful result was effected. Within eight hours she was feeling much better; inside of three days she was upon her feet and at the end of one week was entirely well." For sale by all druggists.

Went Too Far.

"We used to have a lot of trouble getting our hired girl up in the morning. She wouldn't rise in time to wait on the milkman. She was such a good girl, however, that we didn't dare to say much—even if we went without cream for breakfast."

"Well, what did you do?"

"I spent about \$1 on a red scarf and a little mustache dye, and an eyeglass, and I coaxed the milkman to fix up real pretty. Say it worked wonders! That girl would get up before daylight to wait for the lad. That's right. And she'd stand at the door talking to him so long that the cream would come within an ace of souring. But I overdid it."

"How so?"

"She's going to marry him next month."—Cleveland Free Press.

Next House is Safe.

Chairman Babcock, of the Republican Congressional Committee, passed through Washington, Tuesday, stopping long enough to say that the Republicans will carry the next House by a safe majority, making gains in the Middle West and holding their own in the East. He said the harmony efforts of the Democrats did the Republican's lots of good. Bryan's Eastern visit had aided materially in raising the old silver specter that most Democrats hoped had been cast aside. Babcock had feared that the Cleveland-Hill appeal for harmony would withdraw from the Republicans the support of Gold Democrats, which they had in the three past elections, but Bryan's letter following the Tilden letter

opened the eyes of Eastern Democrats to the fact that the Chicago-Kansas City crowd is determined to dictate to the Democracy of the country, and, as a result, former supporters of the sound money party will continue to support Republican candidates for Congress. Outside of a few New York members, the Democracy of the House today is for Free Silver as strongly as ever.

Chairman Babcock observes that the Democrats have dropped the Philippines issue, it being too hot for them, falling back on trusts and the tariff questions, on which the Republicans are ready to meet them. "With everybody at work and general good times prevailing, the result of Republican policies," said Babcock, "the people will continue the Republican party in power. As to trusts, the Republicans have enacted the only anti-trust law on the statutes. On this question the Democrats have no record."

There is quite a strong probability that the act of the last legislature providing bounties for the scalps of seals, sea lions, sheldrakes, shags and cormorants is valid and operative, though it has all the time been held inoperative and, under the advice of the Attorney-General, the Secretary of State has refused to issue warrants in payments of such bounties says the Astoria Budget. The Supreme Court, in the case of Fish Commissioner Reed vs. Secretary of State Dunbar touched incidentally upon this point and indicated its opinion, without expressly deciding, that the law is operative. Only two claims have thus far been filed with the Secretary of State, and these were presented over a year ago and disallowed. Others had claims they desired to present, but did not, because of the ruling of the Attorney-General. It is a custom of all supreme courts not to decide points of law until they are directly presented in cases which involve the questions decided. As the Fish Commissioner case did not hang entirely upon the conditions of this act, the court went no further than to indicate what its construction of the act would probably be. The language is strong enough, however, to leave little doubt that the court believes the bounty law to be operative.

Parties who have been experimenting for some time to extract gold from the sands on Clatsop plains and along the beach, have tested the sand which the dredger Ladd is taking from the bed of the river in the cut-off channel about a mile from the city, and have discovered that it contains about 20 cents in flour gold to the ton, more than sufficient to pay for working it, says the Astoria Budget. The sand found here is much richer than that taken from the Upper Snake, and fully as rich as that secured in the Sacramento river. At both of those places dredgers are being operated by companies which are making big returns on their investments by separating and saving the gold. The particles of gold in these sands are so fine as to be scarcely perceptible to the naked eye, but by appliances operated in connection with the dredgers nearly if not all of it can be saved. Here appears to be an opportunity to improve our harbor and the channel at the mouth of the river by dredging out the sand and at the same time secure sufficient returns to much more than pay the cost of operating.

Seed Early and Oats.

S. J. Newcom has CLEAN seed barley and oats for sale at his feed yard in north Willacville.

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