

INDIAN IRRIGATION

MAGNITUDE OF PLANS IS ASTONISHING.

Irrigated Area in 1901 Over 18,000,000 Acres—Parts of India Resemble the Arid States in Climate and Soil—Construction of Irrigation Works Furnishes Employment and Prevents Famine.

The United States Geological Survey is about to publish, as Water-Supply and Irrigation Paper No. 87, an enlarged and revised edition of the report on irrigation in India, by Mr. H. M. Wilson, first published in part 2 of the Twelfth Annual Report of the Director of the United States Geological Survey for 1890-91. The most important feature of the revision is the bringing of all the financial and statistical data concerning the more important works in each province up to 1901, the data of the latest official India reports.

India stands prominent for her gigantic engineering undertakings. No other country has so vast and fertile an expanse of territory, with such convenient slopes for the construction of canals, and at the same time such an abundant water supply. In general, there is great similarity between the climate and topography of the great northern plains of India and portions of our arid West, especially the eastern slope of the Rocky mountains and the great California valley. Central India and the Deccan have many features in common with the central portion of our arid regions, particularly portions of California, Arizona and southern Utah. The climate is as similar to that of our middle Western states as is the topography. The average annual precipitation rarely exceeds 20 inches.

Profit of 7.5 Per Cent.

At the close of 1901 the area of India, including native states, was 1,559,693 square miles, the total population was 294,226,701, and the total expenditure upon all classes of irrigation works by the government of India had been \$327,850,000. In the year 1900-01 the expenditures on account of irrigation amounted to \$115,000,000, and the revenue was \$12,975,000, showing a profit of 7.5 per cent on the capital outlay for construction. The total area cultivated in India the same year was 180,151,098 acres, and the total area irrigated was 18,611,106 acres; or counting areas double cropped, or those irrigated more than once in a season, the area irrigated was 33,096,021 acres. The estimated value of the irrigated crops in 1900-01 was \$150,000,000, and of these it is interesting to note that the area under cultivation in wheat amounted to over 16 million acres and in cotton to over 8 1/3 million acres, and the total value of the latter crop alone was \$52,773,000.

Construction, including in large measure repairs, has been most active during the past few years in order to afford employment in famine-stricken regions. The demands on the water stored in reservoirs in the more humid portions of India—those which have lately been afflicted with drought and consequent famine—were greater than ever before. Some of the more notable tanks in Bombay and Central India were called upon to do their highest duty, and in consequence many of those projects which were constructed as protective works and were never anticipated to be revenue producing, have recently earned moderate net revenues.

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Oregon Baptist Convention, Oregon City, Ore., October 12-16th, '03. For the above occasion the O. R. & N. makes a rate of one and one-third fare on the certificate plan. Tickets on sale any of three days prior to the opening day. For particulars, call on or address F. F. Wamsley, agent.

Boise Odd Fellows' Hall.

The Odd Fellows of Boise City have just erected a new two-story brick building costing \$8,000. The hall will accommodate 300 members.

Best shoe repairing at Teutsch's

WEEKLY FASHION LETTER.

New York, Oct. 10.—Fashionable interest centers largely in new skirts just now, for the way new autumn fabrics are being gobbled up in smart new models is alarming. It is stated on high authority, that twenty gores to the skirt will not be an unusual allowance this season and if one must judge by the stiffenings of various sorts that are shown in the hems of new skirts, it is safe to say that the day of crinolines has returned.

There are two logical arguments against the very wide skirt, the first being its unbecomingness to full figures and the other its unreasonable expense. Since the fullness is disposed of about the hips by tucks and platings of various forms, the first objection is somewhat outdistanced, but there is hardly any way of bridging the second and the woman who wishes to be fashionable as far as her gowns are concerned must economize in another direction.

If possible tips fit more closely than ever, but from this point all the new skirts are hung with such amplitude that a stiffening of some kind around the bottom is a necessity. A pretty design is shown in metal grey homespun intermixed with black. The yoke, an extremely simple affair, is stitched in applique effect over the inverted plaits which take up the fullness of the skirt. With the exception of several rows of stitching three handsome metal buttons placed at regular intervals between the stitching constitute the only trimming.

Natty Eaton Jacket.

A natty little Eaton is worn with the skirt. It is plaited also and finished with a deep velvet girdle ornamented with steel buttons. The collar shows something new in cut; it is cut away irregularly at the shoulders to simulate an epaulette effect and the equelettes are buttoned to the top of the sleeves with smaller buttons matching those upon the skirt and jacket. A brim little camel's hair hat completes the costume. It is grey in color, bearing a band of tiny pink flowers about the crown, with just enough foliage to give tone to the grey and pink color scheme.

Another costume of which the skirt is the distinguishing feature has a yoke effect over the hips also, but this is gained by stitching bands of the subdued red broadcloth above a plain but very deep graduating flounce of the same material. There are two of these bands and inserted between them is a strip of soft green lace with the designs worked out with black silk threads.

The jacket has two ripples below the belt line stitched with very narrow bands of cloth. Wider bands are remarked above the waist line and quite an elaborate shoulder effect with lace stitched with cloth bands decorated the jacket. Revers of red silk trimmed with black buttons turn back over the lace while the vest is of shirred chiffon in cream white. The sleeves are closely tucked from shoulder to elbow; from this point they are full and gathered into a rather deep cuff, close-fitting and trimmed with buttons and lace.

The knit skirt is pretty if worn by a tall graceful woman; otherwise it can scarcely be considered a success, although worn indiscriminately. Next to this the box plaited skirt is the most difficult to wear. The great secret of its becomingness however lies in the making, for so many women try to economize on it that they do not arrange the plaits in the double, hence they pull and look out of gear.

Hints on Evening Gowns.

The skirts of evening gowns will be shirred and gathered principally. If the shirring extends below the hips, it will not be often for the girlish effect gained by a skirt hanging in graceful folds from belt to hem is too pretty to interrupt intermediary confinements. When the material employed for the gown is very thin a narrow inner lining will be necessary in addition to the dress skirt and for this nothing is better than canvass, which comes in a variety of weights and colors.

The red-blue shades are asserting themselves rather vigorously and promise to be among the smartest of the season's colorings. They are they are variously called fuchsia and dahlia and are pretties in broadcloths, velvets and lustrous tints. The latter make indescribably beautiful linings for diaphanous fabrics of the same tone.

A charming example is shown in the fuchsia red cotton evening gown, with fluffy shirred skirt. The bodice is contrived into numerous puffings that run riot with tiny bands of soft yellow lace worked with red and gold. The puffs of the skirt are headed with ribbon knotted and caught at intervals with silk American beauty roses.

The décolletage is outlined in a similar fashion and dropping from each shoulder is a garland of lace flowers. Another bodice in dahlia red tulle is intended for wear separate skirts. It has a bit effect accompanied by an early Victorian collar. The bib, coming from the collar entirely conceals the waist and is bordered with lace which appears again in frills on the rounded apron piece of the skirt.

Great Variety of Effects.

Evening bodices show a great variety of ways of finishing the joy cut neck. The square effect, by the way, is seldom, if ever seen nowadays. Everything is after the very low Dubarry pattern, or round St. Cecilia cut. A finish becoming to both old and young consists of folds of chiffon or soft satin, caught here and there with natural flowers, rosettes of velvet, or some tiny little insect patterned in costly lace. Another pretty way of completing the décolletage shows a band of embroidery in which the color of the gown is predominant under which

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appear myriad tiny ruffles of lace or chiffon or both. Borders of tiny ostrich tips with lace frills and puffs of chiffon make an exquisite bodice trimming, but alas, are destined only for her whose riches are beyond the dreams of avarice.

Many of the simplest evening and at home gowns are made without any trimming except a few wide tucks on the skirt and handsome lace collars with long stoles extending to the bottom of the skirt are worn with them. The smartest peleries and cloaks this season are composed of two or three kinds of lace, for instance Duchess, honiton and Herre and the combination is beautiful.

The all lace bolero comes in nicely for bodices that have seen a season's service. The addition of a few velvet ribbon bows about the neck, front and sleeves makes all the difference in the world in the appearance of the waist and often it can be used for second best for another year after such treatment.

Many of the new tints are double-toned; for instance, besides the reds, there are the blue-greens and the many-greys. The novelty pinks come in a new color known as rosewood and is very pretty, but rather trying to the complexion. White is too convenient to be discarded for another season at

least, so one can invest in white gowns with impunity.

Princess Gowns Again.

Princess gowns are conspicuous among the smart new visiting toilet. A charming design is developed in white mousseline de sole tastefully applied with black chantilly lace. It is plaited to fit the form and encircled with gauze bands. The skirt shows a lower flounce sewed in short groups of tucks while the sleeves come only to the elbow where they are met by long suede gloves. Gaudy bands and gathered frills finish the sleeves and a dipping of white pique softens the effect of the black and white lace stock.

MAUDE GRIFFIN.

Confessions of a Priest.

Rev. Jno. S. Cox, of Wake, Ark., writes: "For 12 years I suffered from Yellow Jaundice. I consulted a number of physicians and tried all sorts of medicines, but got no relief. Then I began the use of Electric Bitters and feel that I am now cured of a disease that held me in its grasp for 12 years." If you want a reliable medicine for Liver and Kidney trouble, stomach disorder or general debility, get Electric Bitters. It is guaranteed by Tallman & Co. Only 50c.

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