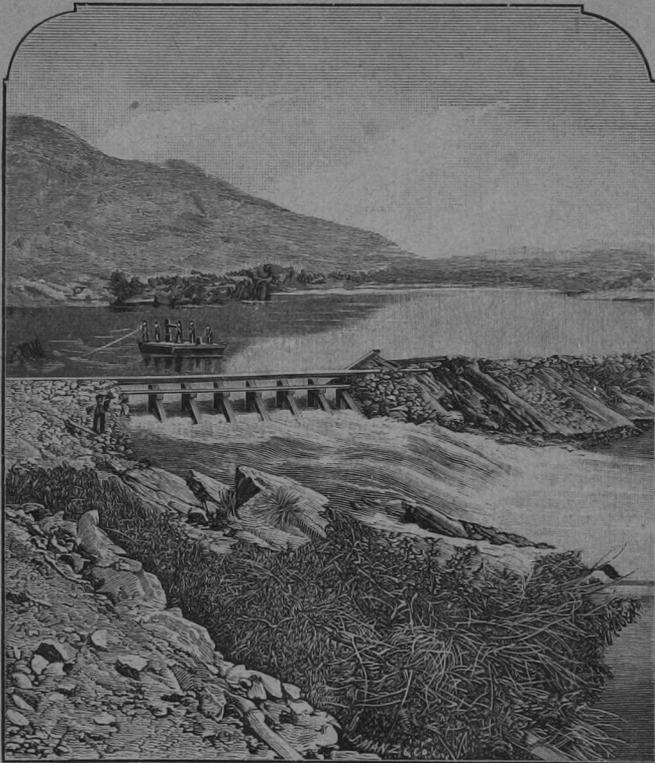
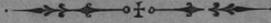


S. M. Blake

The Garden of America.

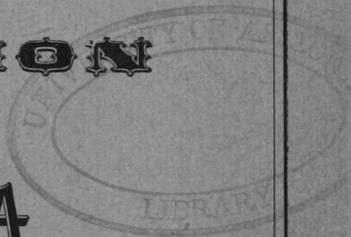


ARIZONA CANAL. UPPER WASTEWAY.

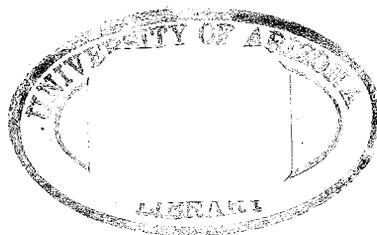
IRRIGATION

— IN —

ARIZONA.

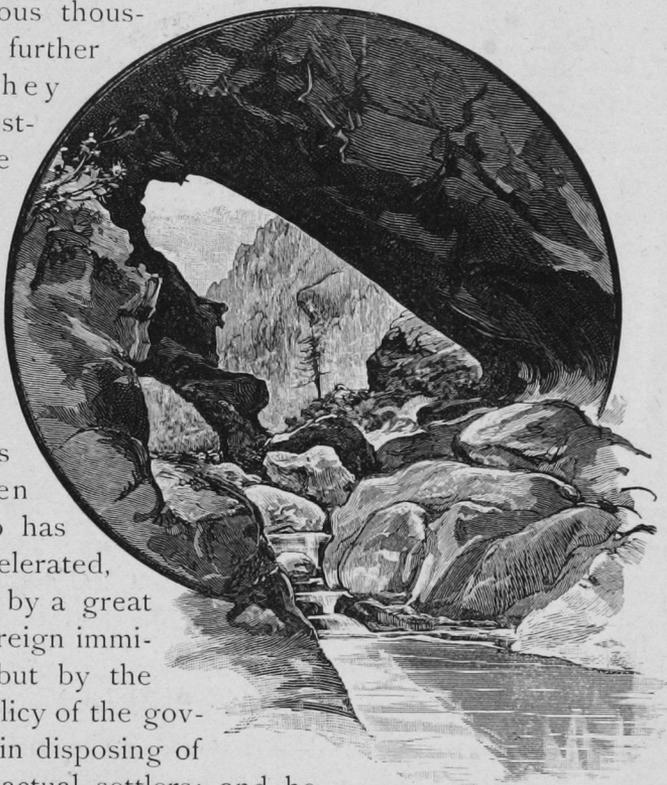


THE GARDEN OF AMERICA:
THE
SALT RIVER VALLEY,
MARICOPA COUNTY,
ARIZONA.



THE SALT RIVER VALLEY.

IN the world's history there are few, if any, more wonderful chapters than that which tells of the settlement and material development of the Western States and Territories of our country. The extraordinary agricultural wealth of the great West first attracted thither the youth, vigor, and enterprise of the Atlantic States, and at a later date the gold discoveries in California led the steps of adventurous thousands still further on till they were arrested by the waters of the Pacific. The rapidity with which our public lands have been taken up has been accelerated, not only by a great tide of foreign immigration, but by the liberal policy of the government in disposing of them to actual settlers; and he who runs may read that the time



NATURAL BRIDGE OVER PINE CREEK,
A TRIBUTARY OF SALT RIVER.

is near when it can no longer offer to its citizens any such lands as have been hitherto thought desirable for homes or investment.

Recently, however, scattered tracts have been found to exist in California and in some of the territories, which, while apparently worthless, can yet, by proper treatment, be rendered as productive as the valley of the Nile, as profitable as the best lands of the older states, and as beautiful as the loveliest spots of earth, celebrated in history or song. The mighty agent of this wonderful transformation is simply

IRRIGATION.

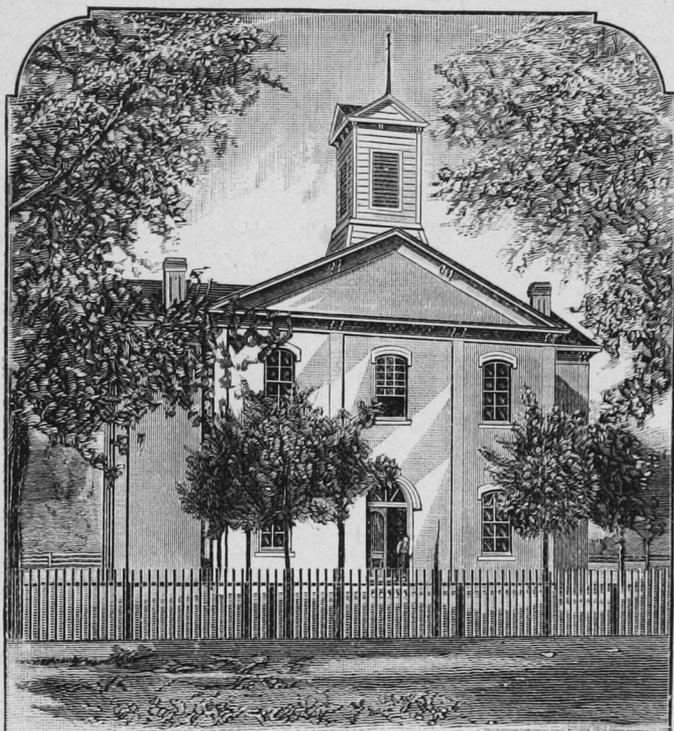
The so-called deserts of Arizona are such only by reason of insufficient rainfall. For want of moisture these plains have been, ever since the destruction of the Aztec Acequias, the lines of which can still be clearly traced, barren of vegetation, except the cactus, soap-weed, sage brush, and a few other shrubs of little or no value. But when human enterprise and ingenuity, by means of irrigating canals, conducts upon these deserts the streams which rush down from the lofty mountains that overlook these treeless, lifeless solitudes, a change is wrought, beautiful, magical, and almost incredible.

It is as though the Almighty, leaving the walls of Paradise to stand through the long ages in all their pristine beauty and sublimity, had turned away the River of Life from its sin-cursed fields, dooming them to long silence and sterility, till now, in the fullness of time, it pleases Him by human instrumentalities to resurrect and baptize them to a new life, full of freshness, vigor, and transcendent beauty.

THE SALT RIVER VALLEY.

Of all these reclaimed deserts we know of none of larger extent, or where the results of successful irrigation are better shown, than in the Salt River Valley, and none destined

to a more generous development in the immediate future. Enough has already been done in this direction to build up a flourishing community, and demonstrate the commercial and agricultural advantages of this valley. Lying right in the center of the southern and most populous half of the territory, and containing the growing and prosperous city of Phœnix, which has a population of about 4000,



SCHOOL-HOUSE AT PHOENIX.

several causes are now conspiring to give it a new and powerful impetus, and to ensure for the next few years a growth quite healthy, but exceptionally large and rapid.

An obstacle which has heretofore retarded the rapid settlement of the valley has been removed. A large portion of its lands, temporarily withdrawn from sale, to be granted to the Texas Pacific R. R. Co. on certain conditions,

have been returned to market, the prescribed terms not having been complied with.

The character of the inhabitants of this valley is beginning to be known by the outside world as it really is: industrious, law-abiding, quiet and orderly. Since the first settlement of the valley there has never been a resort to mob violence, never a vigilance committee or the need of one; life and property are safer there than in the large cities of the United States. The means of moral and intellectual education, the church and the school-house, are permanently established and in successful operation.

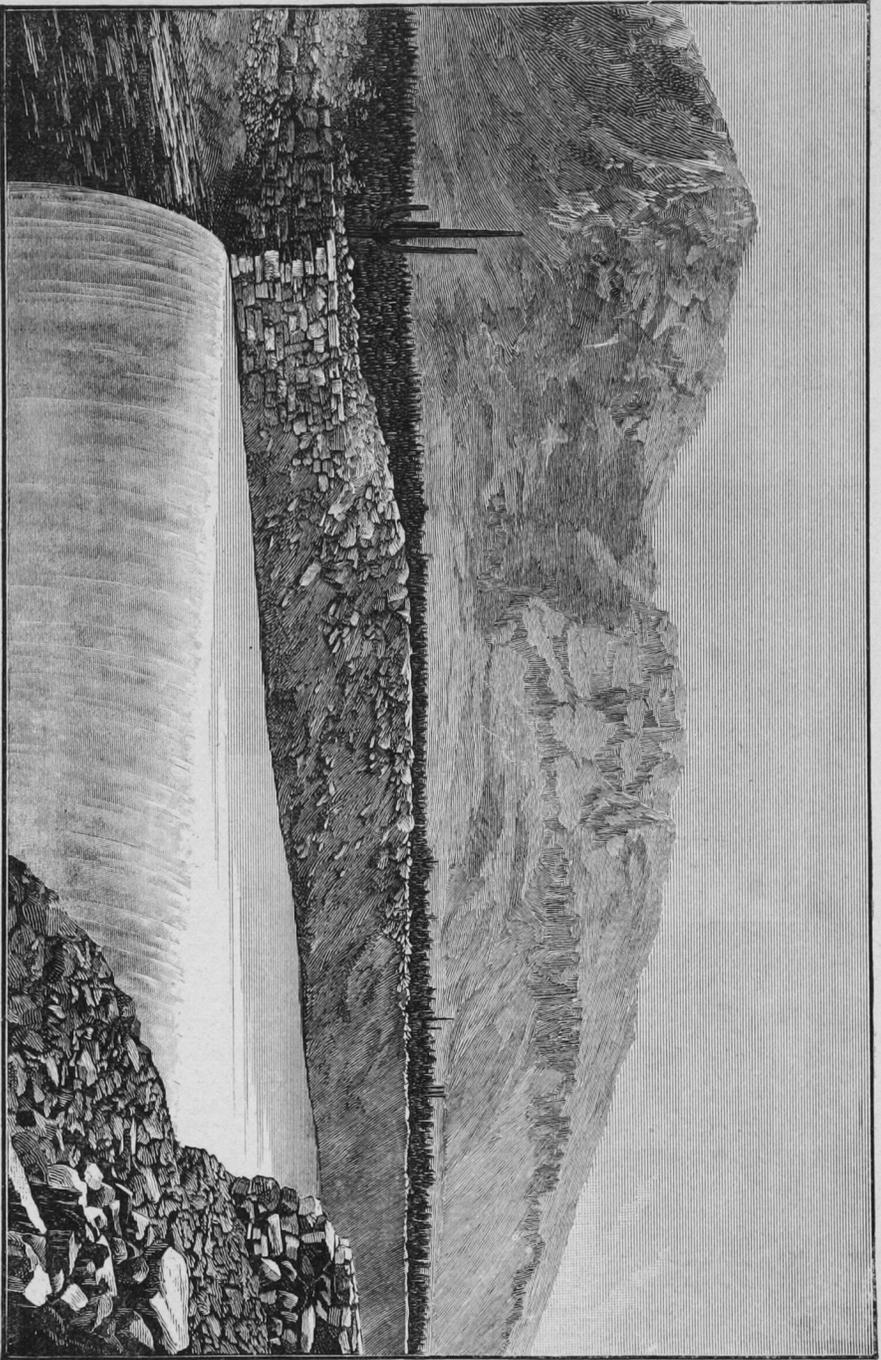
Some thirty-five to forty thousand acres of wonderfully fertile land are already irrigated and producing large crops of grain, hay and fruit.

Phoenix has been fixed on by act of the Territorial Legislature as the location of the Territorial Asylum for the Insane, and an appropriation made for that institution of \$100,000. The Territorial Normal School also has been located within a few miles of Phoenix, and the city is to be connected within a few months by railroad with the Southern Pacific Railroad—work of construction is already in progress. But the greatest factor in the causes at work to affect the prosperity of the city and valley is undoubtedly the recently completed great

ARIZONA CANAL.

The water of the Salt River is remarkably uniform in its supply, and is furnished by the rains and melting snows upon the mountains. It would be hard to find in any land a lovelier stream, with waters clearer or sweeter, than this river, as it comes down from its native hills, rushing and foaming along a rocky channel, its volume swelled by a score of tributaries coming from the snow-capped peaks of the great Mogollon Range. Four miles above the Upper Valley the Salt is joined by the Verde River, its

127400



ARIZONA CANAL. UPPER SECTION OF THE FALLS.

chief tributary, another mountain torrent of lesser size, but of equal beauty and purity.

It is right here in a rocky bed that its waters pure and soft are arrested, and a sufficient quantity turned by the Arizona Canal to be distributed over some 100,000 acres of valley lands which yet remain a barren desert for want of irrigation. The canal will be amply able to fulfill its intended office, for it has been planned and built deep, broad and substantial, by men of broad views, scientific knowledge and practical sense. Thirty-six feet wide on the bottom, and fifty-eight feet wide at the top, with a depth of seven and a half feet, an ordinary fall of two feet to the mile, it is the equivalent of a river of no mean magnitude. Besides its agricultural duties, it will be required to furnish water-power for the machinery of many mills of various kinds.

Opposite the city a miniature Niagara is formed by dropping the entire volume of water over a vertical limestone ledge of 15 feet. These beautiful falls produce over 1500 horse-power—a power sufficient to move the machinery of more than twenty large manufacturing establishments—thus making Phoenix the manufacturing as well as the agricultural and commercial center of an empire large as New York, Pennsylvania and New Jersey combined.

SURROUNDINGS.

No picture of this valley is complete without an allusion to its rugged surroundings. It is a gem in a rough setting. Lying at the southwestern base of the great Mogollon plateau it is surrounded by rugged mountain spurs and butes. Much of this upper mountain country is exceedingly bold and picturesque, and presents many features of more than passing interest.

The Grand Canyon of the Colorado, over a mile deep—the most stupendous chasm on earth—cuts through the

northern portion of this table-land. On its eastern slope are petrified forests of immense trees; and the ruins of the homes of the Cliff Dwellers, Aztecs and other prehistoric peoples are found in the sides of the canyons and in many other localities.

In the higher altitudes of these mountain ranges are found parks and savannas of indescribable beauty. Clothed with rich verdure and dotted here and there with pines, they dwell in solitude profound, while hoary peaks of granite stand around like grim sentinels, as if guarding



STREET IN PHOENIX.

these gems of nature against the approach of the vandal, man. Even in midsummer the air is delightfully crisp and bracing. The air and scenery are like a *new revelation* to one going there from the low, moist altitudes of the east.

For recuperation, rest from the labors and strifes of life, there can be no more grateful retreat than to pitch one's tent underneath the great sighing pines by the side of a spring of purest water. Some of these places are but a few hours' ride from Phoenix.

THE FUTURE.

Were one to draw on his imagination for a picture of this valley as it will appear ten years hence, he would be quite sure, however enthusiastic, to under-estimate rather than to exaggerate the reality.

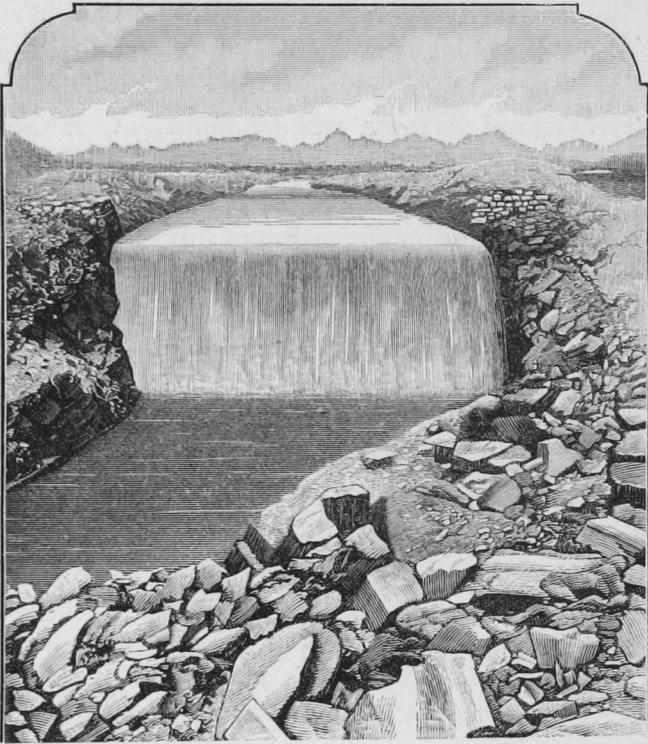
To the 35,000 or 40,000 acres now under cultivation, will be added 100,000 to 150,000 acres which will be irrigated by the new canal. So far as the eye can reach there will be spread out a great sea of verdure, bounded by the distant mountains. Orange groves with their golden fruit, orchards and vines loaded with all kinds of luscious fruits, great fields of waving grain, broad meadows of alfalfa with herds of sheep, cattle and horses, fine avenues lined with beautiful shade trees and elegant houses, will take the place of the wild home of the jack-rabbit and cayote.

The city of Phoenix will contain 25,000 to 50,000 prosperous citizens, will be the largest city in the state, and will be connected by rail with the extreme northern as well as southern parts of Arizona. Every acre in the valley will be worth \$100 to \$200 or more over and above the value of improvements, trees and vines. Pure water will be furnished the city, from the canal, for domestic uses and fire protection. The valley will, as now, have a ready market at good prices for all its products: cattle, hogs, grain, fruits, and everything else; since mining and stock-raising and the other great interests of the territory will expand quite as rapidly as its agriculture—perhaps more so—the amount of land susceptible of irrigation

being limited to a few valleys of an area quite small when compared with the vast aggregate of the territory, which is larger than the New England States and New York all put together. There are large tracts of timber in some parts of the territory, the manufacture of which will, within a decade, constitute a great source of wealth and employ many men. So it is quite questionable whether any of the products of its valleys need go out of the limits of the territory for a market. It can hardly be expected, until the investment of immense capital in bringing water many miles for irrigating purposes, that the home products of Arizona will be sufficient for the home market.

A glance at the map will show that neither here nor in New Mexico are there many rivers of any considerable size. One who travels through the country will find that these few streams can be utilized but to a very limited extent, and that it is only when their waters are secured before emerging from the mountains that they can be safely depended on. They seem to retain after leaving their native hills all their youthful propensities, which they exhibit by changing their courses in the most eccentric and uncertain manner, now taking this channel and now that, and anon "taking a header" and diving out of sight, to reappear "serenely" miles away. In their wilder frolics through the plains they sweep along in changing currents vast quantities of soil and sand, filling not only their own channels, but the mouths of the irrigating canals connected with them, entailing large expense for reopening, and sometimes cutting off the water supply when most needed. Hence the probability that even the proportionately small amount of irrigable land in Arizona will be slowly developed, and the extraordinary value and advantage of a canal like that on which the Salt River Valley is mainly to depend, taking water from a rocky channel and through solid rock, and always having an abundant supply.

We are aware that to some extent very false ideas have prevailed respecting Arizona. Time and a better knowledge will dissipate all these, and the fact will remain and stand confessed that the Salt River Valley as a producing district, and Phœnix as a business and distributing point, offer solid attractions for all good people who desire to make good investments, are in search of good homes,



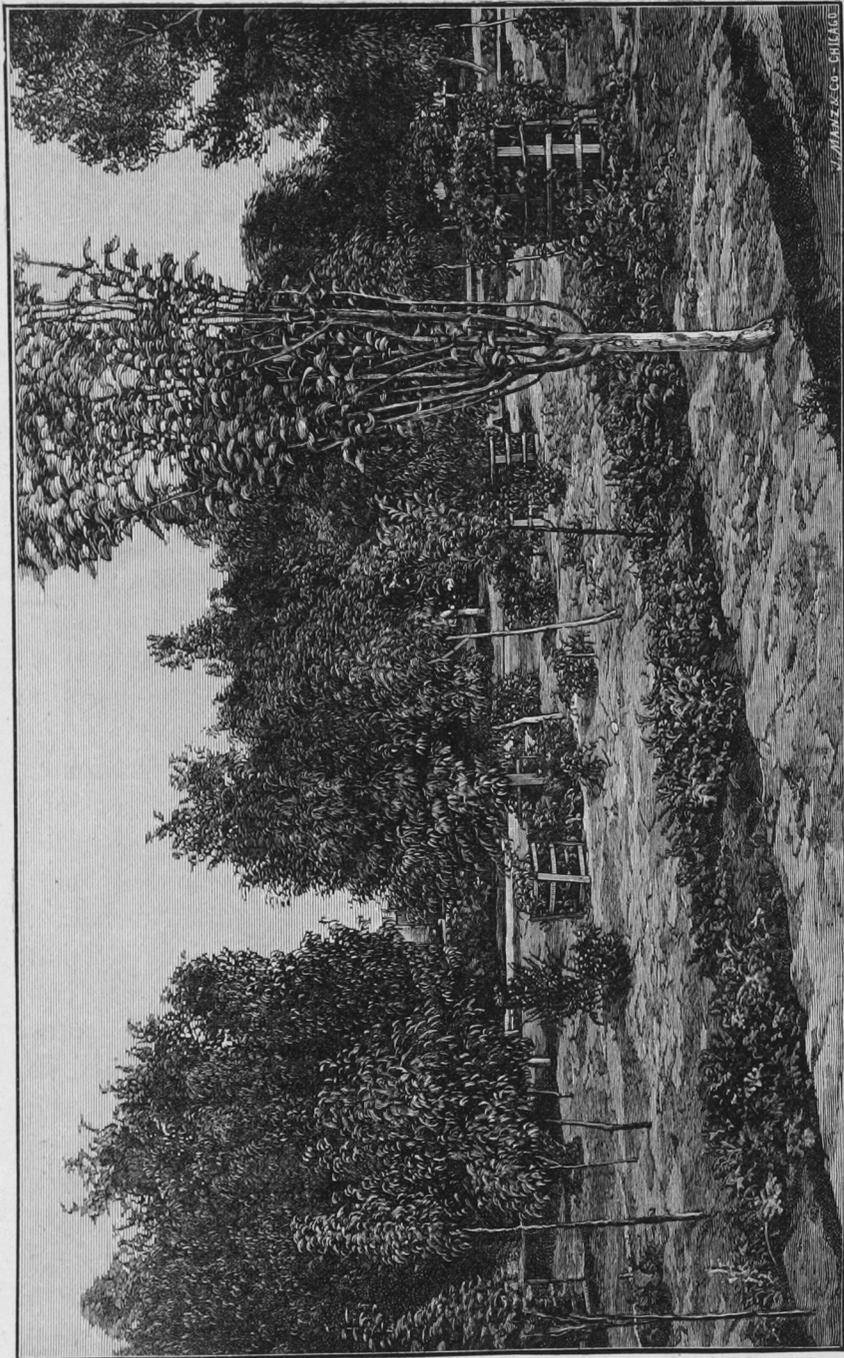
ARIZONA CANAL. THE FALLS.

or would find a sphere for active usefulness in any department of material, mental, or spiritual labor. The accompanying illustrations taken from photographs give a fair representation of some scenes in the valley.

CLIMATE — HOMES.

The climate is mild, genial and healthy. Indeed, if reference were made to the few physicians in Phœnix, we are sure it would be reported as "distressingly healthy." It is the verdict of experience that *no better sanitarium exists for lung diseases, in all their various forms and complications.* Thousands of instances might be given of those who have gone there in various stages of consumption, asthma, catarrh, etc., etc., and have been speedily cured, many going there as a last resort, assured by their medical advisers that it was their only hope. Space will permit the mention of but a single case. Col. William Christy, cashier of the Valley Bank, of Phœnix, a victim of asthma, aggravated by an old gun-shot wound through the lungs, received in the late war, had reached the stage where he could not lie down: sleep had to be taken in a sitting posture. He came to Arizona, and in three months could lie down and sleep as in childhood.

Do you want a peaceful, happy, and beautiful home, where the earth pours forth her gifts in generous profusion, where the nights are cool and fragrant with the breath of flowers, where day after day bright sunshine and a cloudless sky touch your spirit with their own glad radiance, where nature asks little and gives much, where all that man can reasonably desire is within his reach? If you seek such a home, in which are no chilling storms of snow and sleet, no freezing winds nor destructive tempests, no untimely rains blasting, when the harvest is ripe for the sickle, the hopes of the husbandman, where there are no malaria, consumption, fever or climatic diseases of any sort, where the sick come for restoration to health, and where only the most wanton violation of nature's laws brings disease, then let us welcome you to just such a home in the Salt River Valley. Are you poor, and striving in vain to acquire a competence?—come here, and grow rich.



J. MANZANCO - CHICAGO

ORCHARD OF MR. COTTON, IN THE SALT RIVER VALLEY.

LANDS — COST — PRODUCTS.

Land, equally fertile, if not superior to the best in California, can be bought for just about 1-10th what you must pay in that state. And the products here are as varied in character as those of any land on earth. When we mention wheat, barley, oats, corn, sorghum, alfalfa, millet, cotton, sugar cane, the olive, orange, lemon, lime, fig, grape, date, pomegranate, prune, nectarine, pear, apricot, persimmon, plum, peach, and sweet potato, peanut, almond, pecan, and walnut, we have enumerated but a part of our products, which here grow in the greatest abundance and with unsurpassed rapidity. Fruit trees bear well the third and sometimes the second year from budding, and grape vines will produce one year earlier than in California. At five years of age fruit trees as well as vines are at full bearing.

ALFALFA.

Perhaps the most remarkable product of the valley, considered with reference to its uses and the amount produced per acre, is the alfalfa or Chilian clover, which grows continuously the year round, the successive crops aggregating 8 to 10 tons per acre. Cattle and hogs kept on it are healthy and thrive and grow fat. One acre furnishes feed for three head of cattle, or hogs in proportion. Considerable quantities are now baled and sold for use in mining camps, which trade with Phoenix. Price \$10 to \$11 per ton. Wheat raised here is of fine quality, and, of course, good as to quantity. After it has been cut, a crop of corn can be put in, thus giving the two crops in one year.

OTHER RESOURCES.

An attractive feature in a region with the known merits of this valley, is the probability of the discovery of sources of wealth as yet hidden or unnoticed, and the development

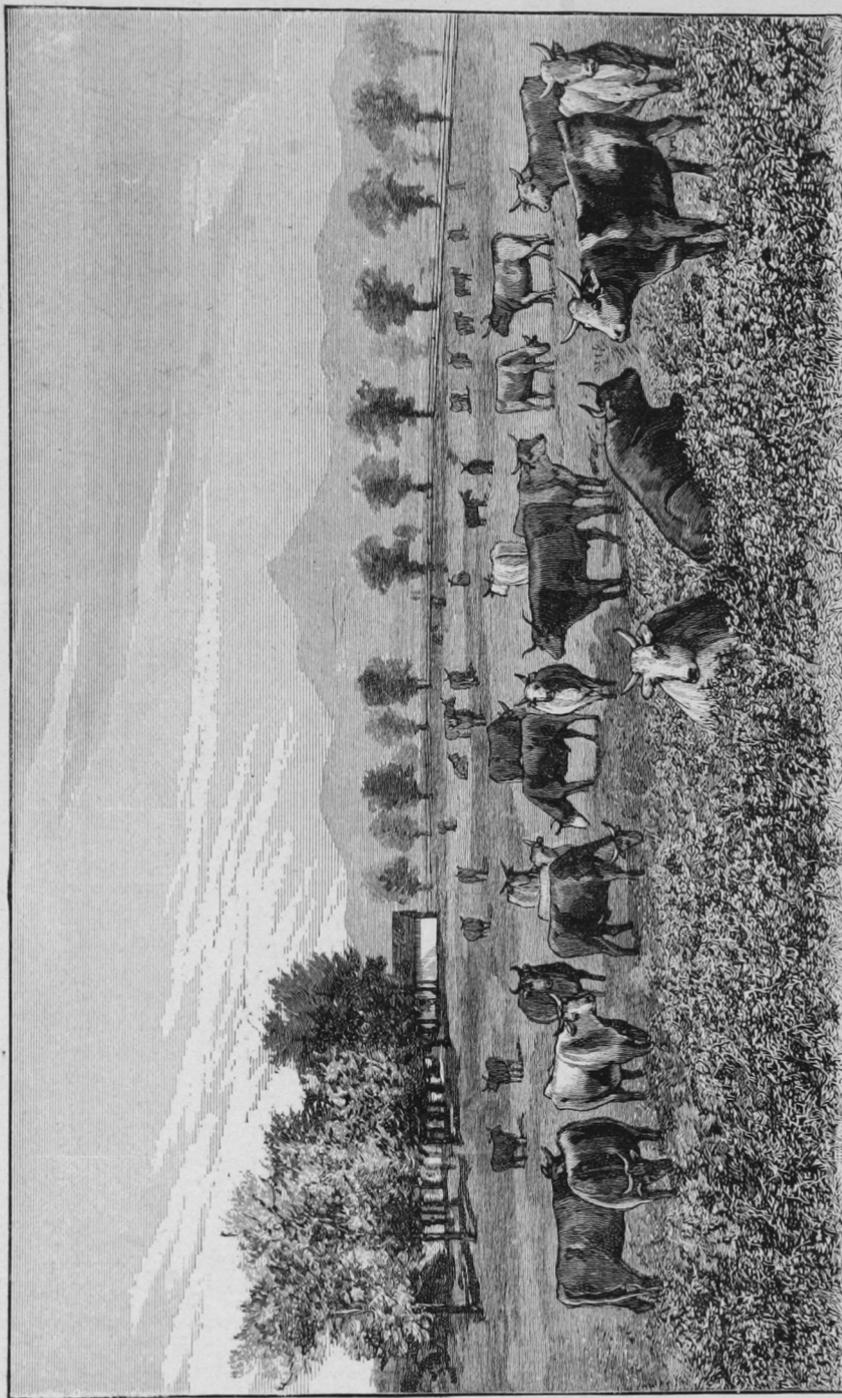


"CALISTOGA STOCK FARM," THE SALT RIVER VALLEY.
(Alfalfa Pasture.)

W. H. H. G. Co.

of industries thus far untouched. Thus all the conditions seem favorable to success in bee-raising, the manufacture of wine, and the growing of raisins, drying of berries and other fruits,—all which are likely at no distant day to require much land and employ many laborers.

But the advantages in plain sight are enough to arouse enthusiasm. Intelligent observers who visit the Salt River Valley invariably go away declaring that the half has not been told. They say that they find a climate so genial and healthy that no barns or other shelter are needed for stock, and the cost of fuel, clothing and houses is reduced to a minimum; good schools and a liberal spirit with respect to educational interests and facilities; wonderful fertility, certainty of crops, a good market at good prices, present and prospective good roads, never muddy or blocked by snow drifts; lands cheap at present and sure to advance in value; water pure and plentiful and always at command and under control, worth more than the cost of it merely as an insurance of good crops; cool mountain retreats within easy reach for those who would for a short time in midsummer withdraw from the every-day routine of life or business; in short, all the conditions favorable to the growth of an intelligent and prosperous community. Verily the hour is near when Arizona will need no advocate or defender, but present herself proudly as the peer of any and all her older sister states. "She has three great sources of wealth: agriculture, stock-raising, and mining; and the semi-tropical fruits grow side by side with the products of the temperate zone. Few countries are so blessed as to possess all these resources, and those so favored have reached the highest pinnacle of power and prosperity."



BRILL'S RANCH, THE SALT RIVER VALLEY.
(Alfalfa Pasture.)

ADDENDA.

Extract from letter of N. R. Gibson, Esq., of Peoria, Ill., dated June 10th, 1885, in reply to inquiries from S. A. Kean & Co., of Chicago:

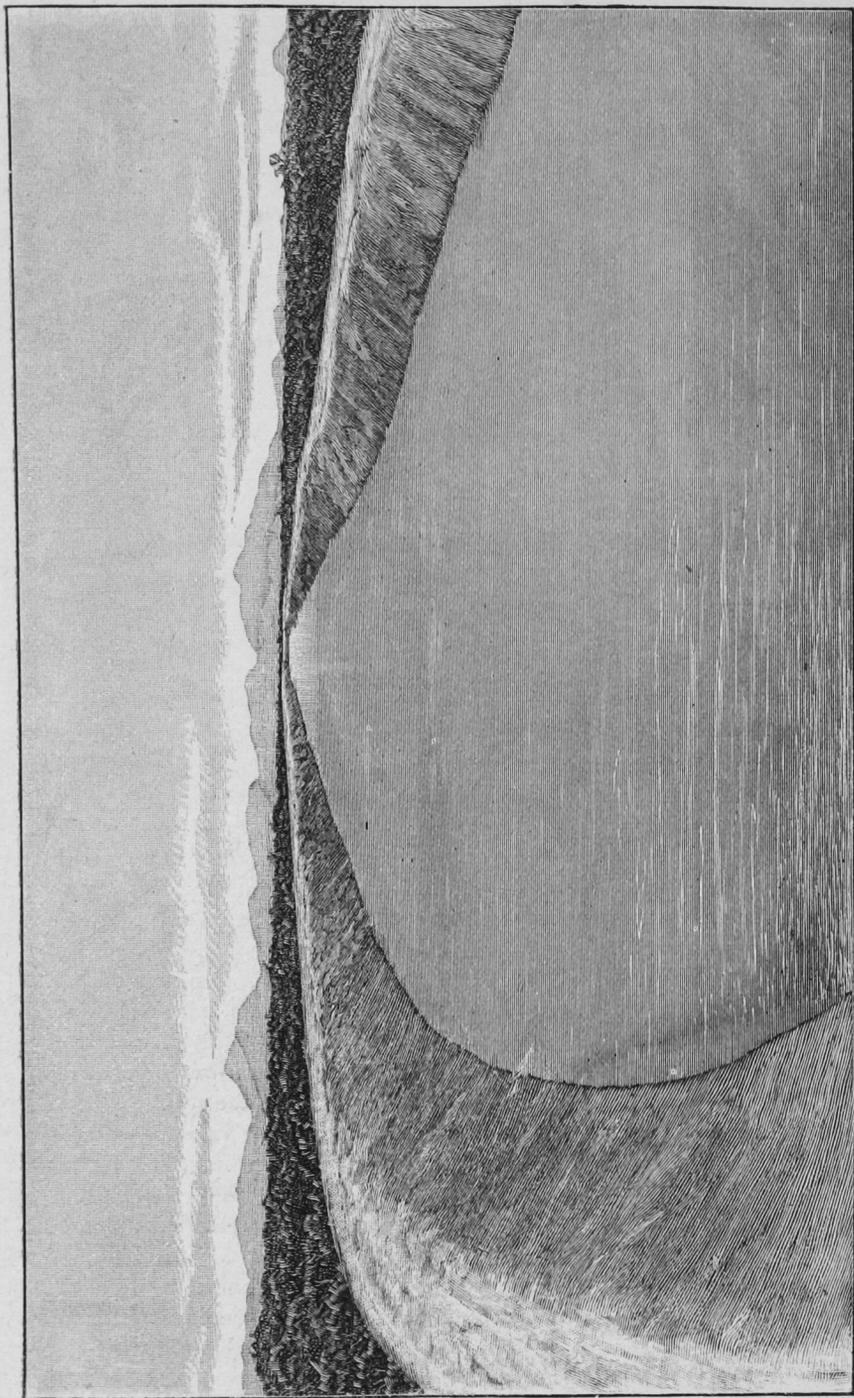
During the month of February last, and again in May following, I made extended visits to the Salt and Gila River Valleys, Maricopa County, Arizona. My object was the selection of a desirable location for a home for myself and family, and also to investigate general advantages and disadvantages for the purpose of making report to many friends who wished also a change of location.

In all my experiences I found the climate to be more desirable than that of Southern California. The days were warm in May, yet the atmosphere so pure and invigorating that no fatigue was felt from long tramps beneath the most direct rays of the sun. As a sanitarium for lung troubles I think it has no equal, owing to the dry, bracing character of the atmosphere.

Careful examinations of the soil were made in different places, and I am fully convinced of its superiority. It is generally a gravelly loam, and the productions of fruits and cereals are most wonderful. Fruit trees look healthy, and grow to an enormous size in a few years. At several places in the Valley I saw 3-year-old vines fully twice the growth of those of the same age in California, while the bearing qualities of all are not inferior to that of any country. These lands will produce nothing without irrigation, but with water will yield in fabulous abundance.

In some sections of our country corn is king, in others cotton. The farmer, owning the soil and aided by the elements, becomes prime minister, and controls the markets of the world. In desert countries like the valleys of Arizona, *water is king*, and he who owns or controls it becomes dictator, and rules even the cultivator of the soil.

To arrive at a fair conclusion of the prospective value of water in Salt River Valley, we must have recourse to comparison. In Southern California (with which I am well acquainted), ten to fifteen years ago, thousands of acres of land without water were bought at from one to three dollars per acre; now these same lands, *with water*, command fabulous prices. We might mention numerous instances in which the development of the small streams has produced enormous profits and almost fictitious values. Pasadena, a flourishing settlement near Los Angeles, was purchased by colonists eleven years ago at about \$6

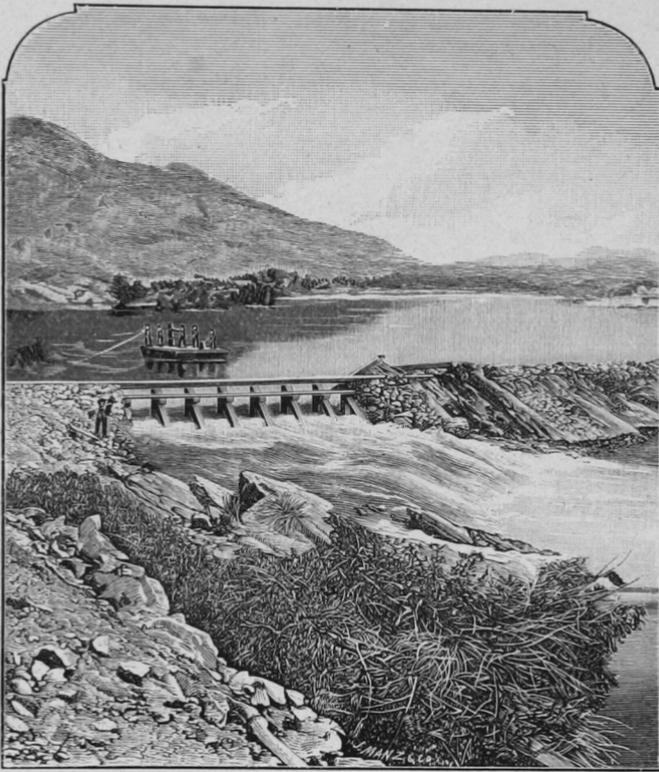


ARIZONA CANAL. UPPER VALLEY.

per acre. All the water now used for domestic purposes and irrigating the magnificent orchards and vineyards of that place is conveyed from the springs in a 12-inch pipe. These lands now sell readily when offered at from \$1000 to \$2500 per acre. I might refer to many other places in Los Angeles and San Bernardino Counties, but will only mention the fact, that at Riverside, twelve miles from the City of San Bernardino, a new addition has been laid out for settlement, where the company controlling the water have placed the water rights alone at \$100 per acre, the settler paying for his land and annual rentals as separate transactions. With these facts before us, is it unreasonable to say that water rights in the Salt River Valley will be worth at least \$10 per acre within a year from this date? At present the Arizona Canal Company are disposing of a limited number of water rights at but \$6.25 per acre. At this figure, the production of one crop of grain will pay for the land (government price \$1.25 per acre), water rights and rentals included. With Phoenix and the Salt River Valley of to-day we have the parallel of Los Angeles and the surrounding country of ten years ago. Then Los Angeles had a population of about 3000. To-day the population is nearly, if not quite, 40,000. The City of Phoenix has at present a population not exceeding 4000; the main line of the Southern Pacific Railroad is but twenty-eight miles distant, from which a new line of railroad is being constructed through the Valley to Phoenix. Other lines are also in course of construction, by which the Atlantic & Pacific Railroad will have direct connection, and give competing access to the outside world. That this city will in ten years increase her population to at least 20,000, and lands in the valley enhance to \$500 per acre, is no extraordinary supposition. At present the emigrant in search of a home finds, when he reaches California, prices of land and water far beyond his means, and turning eastward finds the Valley of the Salt River presented to his view, as beautiful a vale as any in the Golden State. Here he finds all that can be desired in soil, water and climate, and all within the reach of limited means. The extent of these irrigable lands is quite limited, and when fully occupied will only continue to appreciate in value.

Yours truly,

N. R. GIBSON.



ARIZONA CANAL. UPPER WASTEWAY.

Letter from Dr. S. M. Slade, of Elgin, Illinois, President of the Northern Illinois Horticultural Society, who spent last winter in the semi-tropical fruit sections of the West, with a view to finding a desirable location for a home, and the business of fruit growing :

PALMER HOUSE, Chicago, June 16, 1885.

S. A. KEAN, ESQ.

Dear Sir :—Your favor of inquiry about the Salt River Valley, Arizona, is received. As my time is so largely occupied with the work of the Association now in session here, my reply must be general and brief.

Most of the time occupied by the trip was devoted to California, but about six weeks was spent in the Salt River Valley. What has already been accomplished by irrigation and the present resources of California, is pretty generally understood. In this respect it differs

very widely from Arizona. While I traveled considerably over both, yet my particular attention was only given to Los Angeles and vicinity in California, and the Salt River Valley in Arizona. Both occupying the same parallel of latitude, and other things being equal, should embrace the same climatic conditions.

I visited Pasadena, San Gabriel, Ontario, Colton, Riverside, and other places in Los Angeles and San Bernardino Counties. As my eyes feasted upon the beauty of scenery and the variety and profusion of the fruits before me, and then contrasted the desert waste immediately surrounding these irrigated sections, I was simply amazed at the transformation which so few years had accomplished. Land all around entirely worthless, and yet here, by the magic touch of water and help of human hands, these lands already commanding anywhere from two hundred to two thousand dollars per acre, according to improvements.

Leaving Riverside for Phoenix, Arizona, I wondered should I find anything there to compare with what I was leaving behind. I found in the Salt River Valley some half dozen canals already taken out, covering thirty to forty thousand acres, some of which had been cultivated for ten years or more. The great "Arizona Canal," finished while I was there, will supply the water for one hundred thousand acres more. The amount of fine irrigable land is far in excess of the water that can be obtained to supply. *This canal alone furnishes a far greater supply of water than that furnished by all the canals in southern California.*

I can conceive no reason why the orange and lemon may not do just as well as in California, although they have not yet been fruited there. All the other fruits, such as apple, pear, peach, plum, prune, apricot, fig, etc., seem perfect both in fruit and growth. In fact, many told me, who were mostly from California, that some did much better than farther west, among which they invariably named the apricot and the raisin, and other grapes.

I could learn nothing of disease upon trees or vines, and the insect enemies so destructive to fruits and often so detrimental to personal comfort in most hot climates, are not there.

In speaking to Professor Budd, of the Iowa University, yesterday, I mentioned the fact of there being no insects, and my theory that they were to come very slowly IF AT ALL. He remarked, that "two years ago, while at St. Petersburg, he found all the insects to be found anywhere, and they were quite as destructive and offensive; and yet when he got twelve to fifteen hundred miles directly east, with a dry and clear crisp atmosphere, he found *no insects*; and although they had been irrigating the land for thousands of years, they had never been troubled with any kind of insects, and he believed it might be the same in Arizona."

Should this prove even approximately correct, it is of the utmost importance; for the insect depredations upon our fruit have been a very serious matter, both East and West.

I have not time to speak of the cause or effect of the rainy season coming in spring and summer in Arizona, instead of winter as it does in California; or the favorable sanitary effects of that great mountain range shutting off the fogs and damp atmosphere that so largely prevail only a few hundred miles to the west.

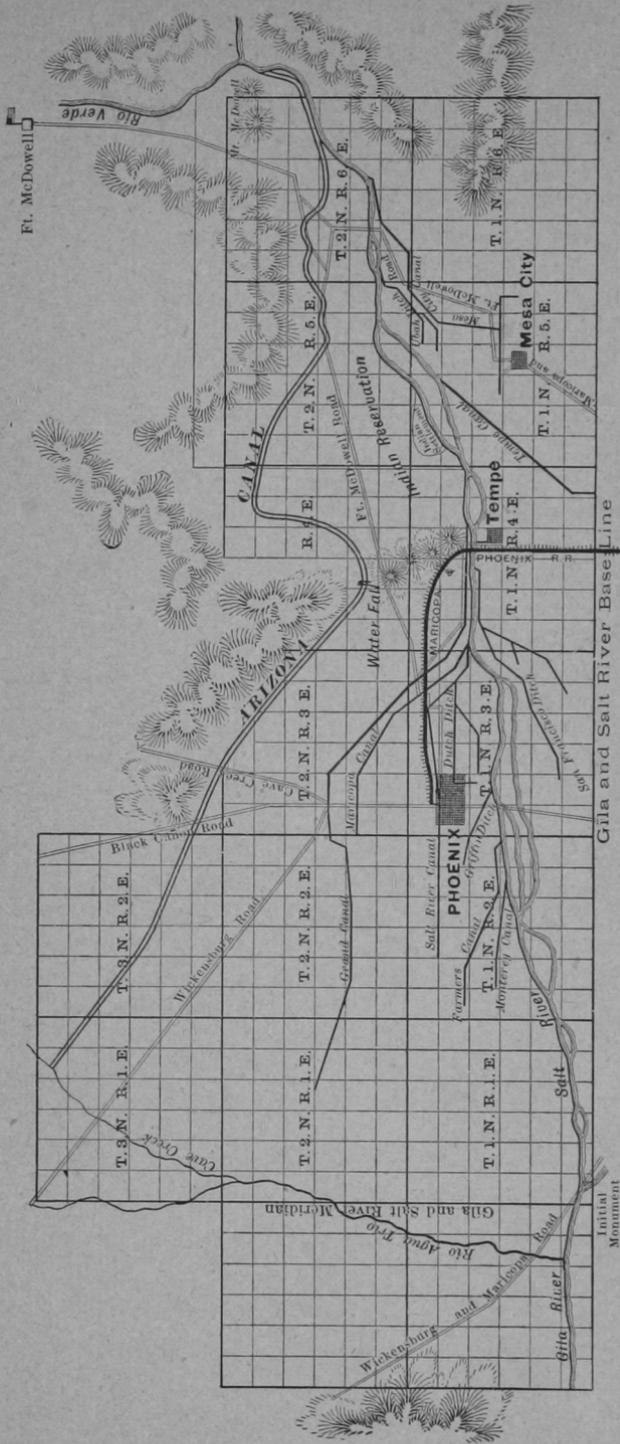
It is in many respects a peculiar country, and less understood and appreciated by our own people than it is by some wide-awake foreigners, who are securing large interests in its great mineral wealth. The development of its mineral resources is progressing quietly, but very strongly. As an instance, a Scotch company has constructed a narrow-gauge railroad, at a cost of two and a quarter millions, from the Southern Pacific Railroad at Lordsburg to Clifton, where they own large copper deposits. Its great extent of coal fields, soon to be opened, with its almost unlimited grazing ranges and forests of fine timber, much of which is already occupied by the herdsman and the lumberman, are building up at a rapid rate thousands of camps and towns, all of which (with but very few exceptions) *must have their wants supplied either from this small amount of irrigable land in the valleys of the Salt and Gila Rivers, or shipped to them from long distances at rates which we would regard as exorbitant here.*

Reared in a country where we depend wholly upon natural rainfall for our crops, we are slow to comprehend the fact that not in this country alone, but in the vast areas of Europe and Asia, where they expect no crop of any kind only as they put water upon the land, this land *with water to irrigate* it invariably commands from two to ten times the price of land dependent upon the heavens above for its supply, and this value increases more largely in those countries where the comparative quantity of irrigable land is small. Not only Arizona, but adjacent sections of other territories, will depend upon these valleys for their supply. When it is considered that these irrigable lands comprise less than one-half of 1 per cent of this vast empire to be supplied with bread, pork, hay, fruits, vegetables, etc., it will readily be understood that this land and water must rapidly increase to a value that will seem fabulous.

My efforts now are to make a home there for myself and family, because with far cheaper lands and water at present than in Southern California, with some superior advantages and an equable climate, I have great faith in the future prosperity of the Salt River Valley.

Yours truly,

S. M. SLADE.



Gila and Salt River Base Line

THE SALT RIVER VALLEY.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

IN RELATION TO THE

SALT RIVER VALLEY,

REFERENCE IS MADE TO:

Gov. F. A. Tritle,	-	-	Prescott, A. T.
Attorney General Clark Churchill,	-		" "
Ter. Auditor E. P. Clark,	-		" "
Hon. J. J. Gosper,	-	-	" "
Hon. De Forest Porter,	-	-	Phoenix, "
Col. Wm. Christy,	-	-	" "
Hon. Joseph Campbell, Probate Judge,	-		" "
Hon. Frank Cox, District Attorney,			" "
Hon. E. B. Kirkland, County Treasurer,			" "
Hon. F. P. Trott, Under Sheriff,	-		" "
S. B. Chase, Esq.,	-	166 La Salle Street,	Chicago, Ill.
Wm. H. Bradley, Esq.,		3523 Indiana Avenue,	" "
B. A. Hadsell, Esq.,	-	166 Market Street,	" "