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Report of the Governor of Arizona, 1886

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R E P O R T
OF
THE GOVERNOR OF ARIZONA.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT, ARIZONA TERRITORY,
Prescott, September 25, 1886.

SIR: In compliance with your request, I have the honor to submit the following report of the progress and development of Arizona for the year ending June 30, 1886, with recommendations to which I deem it important that the attention of Congress should be directed.

REMOVAL OF INDIANS A BLESSING—CURTAILMENT OF RESERVATION.

The constant raids of the renegade Apaches, under the lead of Geronimo and Natchez, for the past sixteen months, have done much to retard the development of the Territory in preventing us from receiving our share of immigration, and have been a barrier to the investment of capital. But the capture of these outlaws and the transportation of the Chiricahua and Warm Spring Indians to a distant country, as recommended by me to the Department, under date of December 5, 1885, has already had a beneficial effect upon our industries.

The border counties of Cochise, Pima, and Graham have suffered materially from this cause during the past year, and indirectly all sections of the Territory have been affected to a greater or less degree by the presence of these assassins. While the counties above mentioned have not increased their taxable wealth, yet they have held their own, and other counties which have not been directly affected from this cause have shown a most gratifying increase in both taxable property and in population.

In some counties the tax-roll shows for this year an addition of 50 per cent. Complete returns are not yet in, but it is certain that the assessment roll of the Territory will show a very decided increase upon the assessed values of 1885, and with the removal of the renegade Indians, who during the American occupation of this Territory have defied all attempts to civilize them, and have repaid every effort of the Government in this direction with treachery and bloodshed, Arizona welcomes the dawn of a new day. Her rapid development will now go on without check or drawback.

The San Carlos Indian Reservation contains 3,950 square miles, or 2,528,000 acres of land, well watered and well timbered, the most of which is as good as any agricultural land in this Territory or in this

country. Upon this large tract are gathered together of Yuma, Tonto, and White Mountain Apaches about 3,500, so that each Indian, male and female, young and old, holds over 700 acres of land. These Indians, I am told, are nearly self-supporting.

It would be well for Congress to parcel out the land, giving to each head of a family 640 acres, or, if this is deemed premature, then Congress should take measures to reduce the reservation to at least one-half its present limits, which would then give to each adult male more than 1,000 acres of land, upon which can be grown cereals of all kinds, apples, peaches, pears, and all fruits and berries common to the temperate zone. In addition to withholding a large and desirable body of land from settlement, the continuance of the reservation in its present size makes it difficult to guard, control, and supervise the Indians upon it. It is an easy matter for bands of restless bucks at any time to escape the supervision of their agent and play again the treacherous part of Geronimo upon unoffending ranchmen and prospectors.

The narrowing of the limits of the reservation would not only throw open to immigrants a large and desirable body of land, but would give greater security to the people against Indian outbreaks.

I invite your careful consideration of this matter.

MINING.

The product of Arizona in precious metals for the year 1885 are given by Wells, Fargo & Co. as \$5,748,710 silver and \$846,426 gold. To this should be added 20 per cent. for ores extracted by chlorides and shipped to San Francisco and Colorado for treatment. This shows a falling off from 1884. I do not think the present year will show much change either way from the product of 1885.

Mining industries have been very much depressed for several years, consequent upon the low price of silver and copper. Many valuable properties are permitted to remain unproductive until the price of these metals appreciate or railroad facilities make cheaper the cost of transportation.

During the present year much attention has been given to prospecting for gold, with most gratifying results, and in a few years we may expect Arizona to largely increase her output of the yellow metal.

Silver mining will again be extensively engaged in when silver bullion has some stable and fixed value, and the producer is satisfied that the lowest mark in the depreciation of this metal has been reached.

The copper mines of Arizona, except where they are close to the railroad and ores are easily fluxed, cannot at present be worked to a profit. With railroad facilities, cheap coke, and transportation, which we hope to have in a few years, this industry will give employment to many thousand miners and add greatly to the wealth of the Territory. The same may be said of the coal fields in Apache and Yavapai Counties. These will be worked profitably when railroads make a market for the product.

RAILROADS.

In connection with the two trunk lines, the Southern Pacific and the Atlantic and Pacific, which traverse the Territory from east to west, the Arizona and Sonora, which runs from Benson to Nogales on the Sonora line, and the Clifton and Lordsburg narrow-gauge, which runs for about 40 miles in Arizona, there are now under construction a road from Prescott Junction on the Atlantic and Pacific to the city of Prescott, a dis-

tance of 72 miles; one from Calabasas via Tucson to Globe City, which will be about 150 miles long, and a road from Maricopa Station on the Southern Pacific via Tempe to Phoenix. I understand a contract has also been made for the building of a road from Flagstaff, on the line of the Atlantic and Pacific, to Globe City, in Pinal County, in length about 150 miles.

The Prescott road will open the mineral and agricultural regions of northern Yavapai; the Phoenix Railroad will give to the horticulturists and farmers of the Salt River Valley a ready market and quick transportation for all their products, and both will form connecting links for a north and south road running from the line of the Southern Pacific to the north, and connecting with the Utah Southern near the Arizona line. When completed this road will open up the iron mines of Southern Utah, its fields of anthracite and bituminous coal, the copper and coal fields of Arizona, and a large mineral belt containing many valuable gold and silver mines that cannot now be successfully worked on account of high price of fuel and transportation. It will also throw open to settlement many of our mountain valleys upon which large crops of cereals, fruits, and vegetables can be raised.

It may be some time before this north and south line is completed, but it will be constructed, for no railroad enterprise anywhere presents greater inducements for the investment of capital; it will be the main artery for the intercommerce of these Western Territories, and will pay handsome returns upon the cost of building. The Calabasas, Tucson and Globe road runs through a rich agricultural and grazing section. The road from Flagstaff to Globe will open the Mogollon forests, which contain several hundred thousand acres of timber land, and will pass over a rich grazing and mineral country. What the Territory needs is a railway system that will give facilities for the transportation of her products.

The completion of the roads now projected will go very far towards supplying this much needed demand.

The Atlantic and Pacific, under the grant given them by Congress, claim the odd sections along the line of their road in this Territory for 50 miles on each side. Some of this land they have entered into contract to sell, and it has passed into possession of another corporation, who use not only the land of the railroad, but also the even sections belonging to the Government for grazing purposes and pay no taxes.

A survey of these railroad lands should be made at the earliest practical moment in order that they may be listed for county and Territorial taxation.

Congress should also take some step to protect the even sections, which are the property of the Government, from the control of the corporations which purchase the railroad sections, and, by virtue of such purchase, control and occupy the Government sections also.

DESERT LANDS AND IRRIGATION.

Arizona contains nearly 114,000 square miles, about 72,000,000 acres of land. About 18,000,000 acres are utilized for stock-raising, and upon it graze nearly 1,000,000 head of cattle, more than 1,000,000 sheep, besides horses, mules, and other domestic animals. Nutritious grasses grow everywhere, and, could the balance of the land adapted to grazing be utilized for that purpose, this would become the greatest stock-raising country in the United States. The want of water is the only drawback to its occupation and development. For the most part these

lands lie so that water reservoirs could be constructed to preserve the water from the rains of summer and the melting snows of winter for the use of the herds of cattle and other stock. Of the remaining 36,000,000 acres of land, which are mineral and agricultural, two-thirds are arable could they be irrigated; of these 1,000,000 acres can be reclaimed by a judicious appropriation and distribution of the present water supply. All farming in Arizona, except in a few of the mountain valleys, to be successful must be attended by irrigation. To show the success of horticultural and agricultural enterprises under irrigation, I need only cite the following among many facts which can be collated.

MESA CITY AND SURROUNDINGS.

In January, 1878, a party of four, as an exploring party for a colony, located a water-right on Salt River in Maricopa County, and entered the present town-site of Mesa City, consisting of 640 acres. In February they were joined by their families and others, thirteen families in all, and went into camp. February 18 they began active operations excavating their ditch to irrigate their land, which was completed and the water introduced upon their town-site and farm land after nine months of hard labor.

The canal is owned by a stock company consisting of 200 shares with a par value of \$100 per share, which now have a cash value of \$500 per share. The main canal is 10 miles long, with a capacity sufficient to reclaim 15,000 acres of desert land. Several miles of the canal traverse the bed of an old Aztec ditch that had been cut through a layer of cement. This prehistoric water-way, excavated probably thousands of years ago, was not less than 30 feet wide at the top and 20 feet at the bottom. It is estimated that a saving of \$25,000 was made by following the alignment of this old canal, which to these pioneers was the important item that made their enterprise successful.

The section of land entered as a town-site was divided into 10-acre blocks and these subdivided into $1\frac{1}{2}$ -acre lots for residence and business property; the land immediately surrounding the town was entered by the various members of the colony for more extensive agricultural purposes.

The first water was turned upon the land where the town of Mesa now stands in November, 1878, and not until the winter of 1879-'80 was much seeding or planting done, for they had homes to build, land to clear, and other preparatory work to do. It must be remembered that this energetic, industrious little colony of thirteen persons settled upon a desert, where for centuries the sun only smiled upon the sparse growth of cacti and sage-brush; where there was no trace of verdure, and whose only visitant was an occasional coyote in his lonely wanderings.

The transformation after six years has been complete. It is regarded as a colony no longer. Mesa has a population of 700. The original town-site is dotted over with beautiful homes built of rustic red-wood neatly painted, some of brick, and others of adobe; all surrounded by fruit trees and vines, they present a picture of Arcadian homes set in groves of fig, almond, ash, locust, pepper, willow, umbrella, and pomegranate trees. Altogether there are 7,000 acres under a high state of cultivation, devoted to the raising of cereals, alfalfa (French lucerne), with extensive orchards and vineyards supplying and enriching a population of 1,300 people. Several crops of cotton have been raised here. Grapes are made into wine and raisins, not excelled by those of California.

The main street of the town is 2 miles long, with a double row of cot-

tonwood trees 40 feet high on each side, one on the outer and the other on the inner side of the sidewalk, thus forming one of the most lovely alamedas, or shady walks, imaginable.

Mesa has churches, schools, and stores, and is not only a self-sustaining community but raises a large surplus for market. It is the one spot where can be seen the ideal realized, and this is only one instance of many in the Salt River and Gila Valleys of Arizona. The great farms surrounding Phoenix for 20 miles west, as well as those surrounding the town of Florence in Pinal County, will soon be subdivided and nearly all of them will be devoted to the *citrus* and deciduous fruits, especially to raisins and wine grapes, and the olive, fig, orange, lemon, and lime; twenty-five acres of this land planted in any of the above fruits give a large annual income.

PRODUCTS OF THE SALT RIVER VALLEY.

In the Salt River Valley during the past year there has been under cultivation 44,200 acres of land, supplied with water from the various canals, and divided as follows:

Barley.....	16,000
Wheat.....	14,000
Alfalfa.....	10,000
Miscellaneous products.....	4,000
Grapes.....	700
Fruit trees.....	500
Total.....	44,200

The value of the product at a low valuation has been as follows:

Articles.	Quantity.	Value per unit.	Total value.
Barley.....pounds..	20,000,000	\$0 02	\$400,000
Wheat.....do.....	16,000,000	01½	240,000
Alfalfa.....tons..	50,000	6 00	300,000
Miscellaneous.....acres..	4,000	20 00	80,000
Grapes.....tons..	2,000	25 00	50,000
Fruit.....do.....	3,000	25 00	75,000
Beef steers.....No..	1,500	25 00	37,500
Hogs.....do.....	2,000	5 00	10,000
Total.....			1,192,500

It should be borne in mind that much of the land seeded in alfalfa and planted in vines and fruit has not reached the maximum of production. Under favorable conditions the estimate given above could be doubled, especially in fruit; for the yield of grapes is placed at 3 tons per acre and it is no uncommon thing to see a full-bearing vineyard yield from 10 to 15 tons per acre; while peaches yield as high as 300 to the tree.

GILA RIVER AND OTHER VALLEYS.

What has been accomplished in the Salt River Valley through irrigation has been followed with equally good results in the Gila River Valley, as the orchards, vineyards, grain and alfalfa fields of Florence and Gila Bend fully attest.

The lands of the Colorado River Valley, near Yuma, where water has been brought upon them, are found to be well adapted to the growth of

bananas and all citrus fruits. In these valleys the fruit ripens three weeks to a month earlier than in Southern California.

As to their adaptability to grape culture and wine-making, I insert the results of an experiment made by the Count de Ramey from grapes grown in the Gila Valley, near the town of Florence. From a vineyard of 4 acres, three years old, he manufactured 60 gallons of white wine, superior to that of California or France, and in body and flavor equal to the best of that of Spain. The white wine of France and the best of that of California has 8 to 10 degrees alcohol, while this contained the same as best the Spanish wine. The product of a Spanish vineyard is 10 pounds to the vine. His vineyard yielded 100 pounds of grapes to the vine.

PRODUCT OF A VINEYARD.

From this vineyard, only three years old, and containing only 4 acres, he has this year made 3,800 gallons of wine of different kinds, which he has sold for \$1 per gallon, besides selling grapes to the value of \$500. The net yield of each acre has been \$1,000. The testimony of vine-culturists is that there is no better country for the manufacture of wine than that of the Gila River and Salt River Valleys, and the experimental test above cited would seem to fully bear out the assertion.

REPORT OF MR. E. W. PARSONS.

A syndicate of Eastern capitalists, with a view to loaning upon property in Pasadena, Riverside, and San Bernardino, California, and the Salt River Valley in this Territory, during the past summer sent out Mr. E. W. Parsons, the auditor of the Connecticut Mutual Life Insurance Company, to investigate and report. From his report, submitted during the present month, I am permitted to make the following extracts:

As to irrigation, to a New England traveler by railroad through Southern California and Arizona, who for days passes over what appears to be a barren desert, producing nothing but cacti, sage-brush, and mesquite, it is almost impossible to realize the magical change produced by a systematic application of water. The desert lands can be turned into fruitful vineyards and orchards and waving fields of grain and clover, and be made to bud and blossom as the rose.

One is struck with amazement in visiting the vicinity of Los Angeles, Pasadena, San Bernardino, and Riverside, to see the orange groves, peach orchards, and vineyards, covering thousands of acres, and all loaded down with fruit of the finest quality. All owing to the system of irrigation so little understood by Eastern people. It was simple as A B C, and when in perfect order is under as complete control as the water and gas are in our own city and can be readily applied to the whole section, or any part thereof where it may be needed, at any time and any amount within the limits. I have frequently seen the fields flooded and have let the water on myself.

The desert lands without the water are nearly worthless, but where the water can be applied the lands in Pasadena and Riverside, which but a few years ago were bought for from \$20 to \$50 per acre, are now worth \$1,000 per acre.

In order to show what has been and still can be done (for it is constantly taking place), I will cite a few instances that I learned while on the spot.

Two gentlemen in Riverside, Cal., own jointly 37 acres, which are devoted entirely to the raising of oranges and grapes. On a certain plot containing $1\frac{1}{2}$ acres of grape vines of four years' growth the owners sold the product of one crop to a wine-maker, who was to gather them from the vines at his own expense, for over \$1,300. I copied this myself from the inspector's certificate. The whole amount of labor which the owner had expended on this plot, including the cost of irrigation, was not over \$25.

A gentleman in Phoenix, Ariz., whose ranch I visited, has an orchard of peaches; he assured me that he had sold the product of that orchard for \$500, and the purchaser was to gather the fruit himself.

These two statements must not be taken as an average result, but such results can readily be obtained by proper care and attention to the fields.

A gentleman in Riverside five years ago bought 100 acres of land for \$2,000. His income from that land at this time is from \$300 to \$500 per acre, and the land to-day cannot be bought for \$1,000 per acre.

In 1885 there were 50 car-loads of fresh fruit sent east from Riverside. In 1886 there were 500 car-loads sent.

The reports from San Bernardino Valley are that 1,500 car-loads have been shipped from there this season, and in all probability a much greater quantity was used in canning than was sent away.

In 1886 the crops of wheat and barley in Salt River Valley was 500,000 bushels. This I learned from Mr. Smith, the miller, who handled nearly the whole amount. A Mr. O., in Phoenix, has 750 acres in wheat and barley, which yield about 30 bushels to the acre, and sold from 75 to 80 cents per bushel.

The wonderful results of irrigation on these desert lands have attracted the attention of stock and fruit growers to such an extent that there is a great demand for lands that are favorably situated for irrigation. So large a portion of these lands in California which can be irrigated, and the high prices that those which are cultivated are held at, have compelled new settlers to look for cheaper lands, and naturally their attention has been called to the Salt River Valley, Maricopa County, Arizona, as the most desirable locality for stock and fruit raising. There is no one single natural advantage possessed by the wonderful fruit-growing region of Pasadena or Riverside, Cal., that does not exist in the Salt River Valley of Arizona. But this valley has natural advantages which do not exist in Southern California, viz, less variation in temperature and a uniformly dry atmosphere, admirably adapted to fruit-drying, and, what is more important and essential of all, an abundant quantity of water, far exceeding the amount attainable in the irrigating region of California.

For nine months in the year the climate of this region is unsurpassed on the continent. There are no fogs, dew, or dampness. Lung complaints and malaria troubles are unknown, and out-of-door life can be enjoyed all the year round. The hottest portion of the year is in the months of July and August, during a portion of which it was my fortune to be there. I slept out of doors the greater portion of the time, which is the general custom, the houses being built one story high, beds being placed on the piazza at night.

For many days during my stay the mercury ranged from 110° to 115°, notwithstanding which I suffered no more from the heat than I do at home with the mercury ranging from 80° to 90°. There is no perspiration to be observed, the atmosphere being so dry that it is absorbed as soon as it reaches the surface of the body. I did not feel the heat in my head at all. There are but few weeks in the year when people feel as though they would prefer to be nearer the coast.

Had Mr. Parsons spent more time in the Territory, and examined the results of irrigation upon the lands along the Colorado, Gila, Santa Cruz, and San Pedro Rivers, he would have found that the conclusions he reached in reference to those of the Salt River Valley would have applied with equal force to those of the other localities above named.

HIGH MESA LANDS.

In the high mesa lands of Graham, Mohave, Yavapai, and Apache Counties, wherever water has been introduced upon them, they are found to be most productive. Here are grown peaches equal in flavor and excellence to the best Delaware product; raspberries, pears, blackberries, cherries, and apples not excelled anywhere.

As to what has and can be done in this direction in these counties by irrigation I give the following result of farming in Apache County this year:

Articles.	Land.	Production.
	<i>Acres.</i>	<i>Pounds</i>
Wheat.....	8,310	3,972,000
Barley.....	1,720	2,520,000
Oats.....	3,506	3,788,480
Corn.....	1,312	1,459,440
Total.....	9,848	11,737,920

Valued at 2½ cents per pound..... \$203,448

1,246 acres of alfalfa produced 6,320 tons, valued at \$20..... 126,400

Total value..... 419,848

The value of the product varies in different localities, but a yield of 1,200 pounds of grain per acre is good in any country.

IMPORTANCE OF IRRIGATION TO FUTURE DEVELOPMENT.

To the above facts I invite the attention of the Department, in order to demonstrate the importance of irrigation to the future development of this Territory, and to urge upon Congress the necessity for a liberal appropriation for a hydrographic survey with a view to obtaining water by storage reservoirs in the mountain sheds, and to test the utility of artesian wells for that purpose in the valleys.

Under present conditions, of the 72,000,000 acres of land in Arizona there is available to the stock-raiser not more than 20,000,000 of acres, and to the farmer and horticulturist not more than 1,000,000 of acres. The extended valley of desert land stretching from Yuma to the mountain ranges of Pinal and Pima Counties, 200 miles in length and more than 125 miles in width, containing about 15,000,000 acres of land, could, with irrigation, be made as productive as any portion of Southern California. Forty acres of this land in a vineyard, orange, nut, or olive orchard would yield a small fortune every year to the fortunate owner. That a great part, if not all, of it could be reclaimed by artesian wells I think admits of no reasonable doubt.

Could capitalists secure this vast domain by reclaiming it I have little doubt but a corporation would be formed to do so; but in that event, if success attended their undertaking, the land would pass under control of a syndicate of millionaires who would reap the advantages that should accrue to the honest settler and worthy homesteader.

CONGRESSIONAL APPROPRIATION NECESSARY.

It would be better that Congress should, by a scientific survey and practical test, demonstrate the feasibility of artesian wells for giving the needed supply of water, and if the experiment proved successful it could advance the price of these lands and limit the amount which should be entered under the homestead law to 40 acres, and by entry to 80 acres to each individual purchaser. This law should be made applicable to all vineyard and citrus-fruit lands.

Congress made an appropriation to the Territory of Colorado for artesian well-boring, which demonstrated the practicability of this method of obtaining a water supply for irrigation in what is now that State.

In and around Denver a well irrigates from 40 to 50 acres; if one-half as good results could be obtained in Arizona we could produce wine, raisins, fruits, nuts, and olives enough to support in affluence a population of 2,000,000 people.

In comparison with the magnificent results both possible and probable the outlay to test the experiment would be a mere bagatelle.

It is wise for Congress where possible to provide homes for our ever increasing population, and an outlay on its part of two or three hundred thousand dollars would demonstrate whether three or four millions in the near future could make happy homes in this Territory, in addition to the large population which under natural (present) conditions we can provide for. When once the experiment is made, and is proved to be successful, private enterprise will do the rest.

Ditches and canals are being now constructed in all parts of the Territory; more and more land is being cleared every year and placed under cultivation. In two years more it is quite likely that all the land which can now be irrigated will be owned and occupied.

EDUCATIONAL.

Arizona has always been progressive in the matter of public education. By reference to the annual report of the Bureau of Education for the years 1883-'84 it will be seen that she expended in that year per capita on children enrolled in the public schools, \$35.84, and on average attendance in the public schools, \$48.33, which is more than that of any other State or Territory. The facilities in this direction have been much extended during the past year. We have now in successful operation a normal school located at Tempe, in Maricopa County, and in course of construction a Territorial university at Tucson, Pima County.

School advantages are so general in the Territory that any child in any locality can obtain a good common school education.

GENERAL PROGRESS.

The progress of the Territory during the past year has been, considering the Apache Indian war, very gratifying, and with the removal of this great drawback to its prosperity I confidently believe that we shall double both our population and taxable wealth within the next two years.

With a climate unsurpassed; a soil the most productive, upon which the industrious farmer can support his family upon a lesser acreage than in any other State or Territory (excepting, perhaps, in Southern California); a rapid extension of railroad facilities, which will open up and develop new industries, Arizona enters upon an era of permanent prosperity.

Very respectfully yours,

C. MEYER ZULICK,
Governor.

Hon. L. Q. C. LAMAR,
Secretary of the Interior, Washington, D. C.