NO FLOOD IF NOAH HAD KNOWN HYDRAULICS.


The same or similar floods rise from time to time, but they are caused by such circumstances that in some regions it is customary to fire a gun as a signal on the approach of a flood, that the inhabitants may be warned in time to escape.

The open warfare between the tribes in the upper and lower valleys is still waged.

It is to do away with these floods and bring the entire delta into cultivation that the new irrigating canal is being built.

The ancient rulers of this country realized that they did not have water enough for the delta and accordingly built the Tigris and Euphrates, south of Kerche, where the desert is low and flat, and would feel the full force of the flood.

The Bible records that the flood rose to a height of 15 cubits, or 22½ feet. Such a rise would be sufficient to inundate an immense area in this section.

The delta formed by the two rivers had an area of about 12,000,000 acres, of which 8,000,000 form a desert, and 2,000,000 a fresh-water swamp. The entire delta is 200 miles long, and while it is at the mercy of the rise and fall of the sea, it also sends itself well to irrigating eastern Persia.

The irrigating canals now being surveyed will bring immediately some 3,000,000 acres of land into cultivation in Mesopotamia, and eventually this will be increased to 4,000,000 acres. It is estimated that the great area over which Noah floated in the ark will soon be made fertile by the growing of cotton, and 1,000,000 tons of wheat a year.

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