

THE FLOODS.

GREAT DESTRUCTION OF PROPERTY—LOSS OF
LIFE NEAR HEREFORD, &c.

The papers received at our office from all parts of the kingdom, have, since Thursday, last week, contained reports of great disasters arising from the floods in various districts.

In the Swansea Vale, Glamorganshire, there was a complete overflow of the rivers Twrch and Tawe to an unusual extent. At Cwmtwrch several foot bridges were carried away, and among others the one opposite the Gilwain mine works, which was a strong bridge of many years standing. At Ystradgynlais, all the houses in Water-street were inundated to a depth of three feet; the flood surrounded one poor sick woman in her bed, which terrified her to such a degree that it is feared the result will be fatal. The stream entered the cellar of the Penybont Inn, where it destroyed two or three barrels of *cierw da*, and a quantity of butter and cheese was spoiled. At Ystalyfera Iron Works, the whole plain was one sheet of water—the water in and about the houses in front of the furnaces was sufficient to carry a pilot boat. An immense quantity of timber, of every description, was seen passing down the flood, and among it one cow, but we have heard of no loss of human life.

STORM IN SOUTH WALES.

£1000 WORTH OF DAMAGE DONE IN THE SWANSEA VALLEY.

A RAILWAY BRIDGE DESTROYED.
DESTRUCTION OF PROPERTY AT YSTRAD-
GYNLAIS AND CWMTWRECH.

A WOMAN CARRIED AWAY.

PRIVATIONS OF THE INHABITANTS.

On Friday night a tremendous storm broke over the district of the Swansea Valley. One tremendous clap of thunder occurred about half-past eleven, agitating the whole neighbourhood, and causing many people to start with fear; although the thunder was loud and frequent, yet this one was something awful. It shook the houses, the doors and the windows rattled, and caused a general sense of the solemnity of the scene. The night was dark, except when the vivid glare of the frequent lightning flashed across the horizon. Many persons in their terror sat up all night. At daylight it was found that the streams were fast rising, the roads were becoming impassable, and the miners failed in courage to face the storm and go to their work; so that nearly all work was at a standstill. About seven o'clock houses were beginning to become inundated. Temporary barriers were of little avail, and scores of houses were filled to the depth of several feet, the torrent carrying with it great stones and a quantity of rubbish. The roads were broken up, and tons of rubbish were deposited in corners and turnings. Furniture was floating about in all directions.

In the morning the news came that the canal bank had burst at Ystradgynlais, and that a row of houses known as Gough-buildings were completely inundated. We at once went thither, and saw the sheets turned into rivers, houses flooded to the height of 8 or 10 feet, and the inmates making the best of their way out through the front doors, but the majority seeking for shelter upstairs and through the windows, beseeching aid, and in some instances rendering heart-breaking shrieks. Ystradgynlais is a scattered village of some 2,000 to 3,000 inhabitants, but the centre of the place is rather crowded, and lies between the canal (owned by the Great Western Railway Company) and the river Tawe. The canal is raised above the streets some 12 or 15 feet. The towing path is immediately at the back of Gough-row, a row of some 40 houses. Between the towing path and the houses was a small steep space on which were some back houses, wash-rooms, coal places, &c. We may now say that all these with the exception of a few at the upper and lower ends of the row, are completely destroyed. The cause of the inundation was not as we were first given to understand, the breaking of the bank of the canal. Just opposite the upper end of this Gough-row a very small rivulet runs into the canal. This stream rose to such proportions that it carried large stones, rubbish, and trees with it, down to the canal. These filled up the bed of the canal and overflowed its bank, and the water ran down and filled up the steep space between the towing path and the houses. Directly opposite where the overflow occurred, and where the velocity was greatest, the water burst in the doors and windows, and soon filled up the houses, and many of the inhabitants had very narrow escapes with their lives. The excitement was terrible to behold. Mothers were clinging to their little ones, and running wildly with them in their night clothes, for it was early—about half-past seven o'clock; and it is certainly a most providential thing that daylight had come, for if the flood had broken out in the darkness a great loss of life would have resulted, for the great majority of the houses have sleeping apartments down stairs. In many of these houses, doors and windows were burst open, partition walls thrown down, furniture spoiled, beds saturated with water, chests of drawers swimming and turned on their faces, and as the fashion is in well-conducted houses to have a lot of china ornaments and looking glasses on the drawers these had all come to grief. Long eight-day clocks in cases were apart, books were floating or lying in the mud, the soil of the gardens was ploughed up, and potatoes, cabbages, and other garden produce uprooted.

In front of this row is a narrow road, having on the opposite side to the houses a wall, forming the boundary of the gardens. Up to this narrow road the water rushed from the houses and down, it the water flowed in a wild turbulent stream. In the height of it a woman about sixty years of age ran out of her house, and the floods carried her away, knocking her up against the wall, and half drowning her. She was at last rescued, greatly bruised, and carried, into the Ynisedwyn Arms Hotel, where she now lies in a very precarious state, under the treatment of Dr Edwards, who is himself a great sufferer, the lower portion of his house being flooded, and a fine rick of harvested hay, of about twelve tons, completely spoiled. From Gough-road, the water rushed round a corner and into Water-street, a long row of houses, about thirty in number, with their backs abutting the river Tawe. This row soon became inundated, and the lower portions of the buildings filled. To this row there are no privy conveniences, but one of the houses has been turned into a common privy for the whole of the row. We cannot characterise this but as most disgusting, and the rush of the water has effected one great good, in so far that it has made a complete wreck of this house. We cannot say when this place was thoroughly cleaned out before.

Winding our way back towards Ystalyfera for about a mile we turned up towards Cwmtwrch, the lower part of which village has also suffered greatly from the overflowing of a small rivulet. A row of houses known as Crown-row was inundated, and a quantity of the furniture spoiled. Just on the border of this stream is situated a mill—Felinganol. This building seems to be very much injured, and the proprietor had a very large stock of grain and flour, which is completely saturated, and, of course, much of it destroyed, but it is to be hoped that the wet has affected only a certain quantity of the flour, and that the centre of the contents of the sacks may be found not to be spoiled by the wet, else it is computed that the proprietor's loss will be something like £400.

Cwmtwrch, or the portion inundated of it, looks in a deplorable condition. Nice gardens are spoiled, and the produce is all turned up and carried away.

The traffic from Cwmtwrch to Brynaman over the Swansea Vale Railway is impeded in consequence of a bridge at Cwmllynfell having been washed down by the torrent of water.

In the houses that were so inundated at Ystradgynlais, we should have said, that all provisions which were in them were completely spoiled or carried away, and for the moment many families were left without food or means to get it. Dr Edwards and the Rev. H. Thomas (Penygorf), with great forethought and promptitude, exerted themselves to collect bread and other articles of food and money to relieve present pressing wants. The residents of Water-street appear to be a poorer class of people than the residents of Gough-row. A committee of the principal gentlemen of the district met on Saturday evening, at the Ynisedwyn Arms, with Mr Fleming Gough as chairman, when a subscription list was opened, headed by Mr Budd, of the Ystalyfera Ironworks, with £20, and Mr R. White, Fountain Hall, £10. A sub-committee was also formed in order to visit all the houses, and ascertain the amount of damage done. It is to be hoped that whatever is done may be done promptly and equitably; also that Cwmbach will be included, for it would be unwise to have two relief committees for places so near each other.

YSTRADGYNLAIS.

On Sunday night, in consequence of the heavy rain that fell during the day, the river Tawe overflowed its banks in several places, and some of the oldest inhabitants say it was the heaviest flood they ever witnessed in this neighbourhood. Water-street was flooded, and considerable damage was done. There were several narrow escapes.

THE FLOODS IN SOUTH WALES.

GREAT DAMAGE AT YSTRADGUNLAIS AND SEVEN SISTERS.

HOUSES SWEEPED AWAY BY THE WATER.

NARROW ESCAPES.

GALLANT RESCUE BY A MOTHER.

SWANSEA.

The Swansea Valley, always seriously affected when storms are prevalent, was at an early hour on Thursday morning the scene of a tempestuous outbreak, the destructive results of which are said to be unprecedented in the district. At five o'clock in the morning rain commenced to fall with great fury, accompanied by thunder and lightning, whilst the water from the hill sides rapidly, and in large volumes, poured down into the Tawe and the numerous tributary streams which empty themselves into that river. The Tawe quickly overflowed its banks, and made its way into a number of the neighbouring houses, before the alarmed inhabitants could fully realise the extent of the approaching danger. At Cwm Gydd, a place close to Ystradgynlais, no less than seven houses, in close proximity to the bank of the river, have been completely destroyed—two of them, indeed, are washed away entirely, with the exception of some broken masonry, which serves to indicate the outline of the devastated homesteads. The tenants were—John Evans, John Thomas, William Williams, William Morgan, Thomas Morgan, and two other men.

It was about half-past five when the great rush of water actually took place, and, fortunately, most of the inmates of the houses, who are all labouring people, were up and about the place. Many of the children, however, had a very narrow escape, as the water rapidly rose to a great height, carrying pretty well everything before it. Beds, chests of drawers, tables and chairs were washed out of the houses, and some of these articles of furniture were carried down the stream nearly as far as Swansea before they were picked up.

The lightning played havoc with the telegraphic wires; the apparatus were damaged and rendered useless at about half the different stations from Swansea up the Valley line, and a man was engaged nearly the whole of the day telegraphic communication was suspended for repairing the respective insulators. Fields remained under water for hours, and the destruction of the hay, quantities of which were discovered floating in the river, is, of course, very great.

A place called "Seven Sisters," not far from Ystradgynlais, was rather severely visited. Two houses, one of them a farm homestead, were completely gutted about six o'clock in the morning, and in a short while they entirely succumbed to the violence of the water pouring over the banks of the Dulas and the Nantmelin. Glyne Farm, one of the places destroyed, was occupied by a man in a small way, named William James, while the tenant of the other wrecked house was Edward Bevan. The families of these people, who were in the most wretched plight, not expecting a sudden inrush of water, although their houses are very close to the river, took refuge amongst their neighbours when it came. It is satisfactory, though at the same time somewhat surprising, considering all the circumstances, that no loss of human life occurred in this instance. At the same time several narrow escapes were made, and it is reported that a number of cattle were drowned.

A subscription has already been started on behalf of these two unfortunate families. Since the above was written, information has been communicated to the effect that two railway bridges, between Neath and Colbren Junction, on the Neath and Brecon Line, have been washed away, causing the traffic on that route to be suspended.

At Abercraig, near to Ystradgynlais, a woman waded into the water up to her shoulders, in order to rescue her child, which was in bed sick at the time. The valley sides are strewn with fallen trees and torn-up hedges.

THE FLOOD IN CWMTAWE



Photo Water Street, Ystradgynlais, has gained a most unenviable notoriety on account of its insanitary condition, and the absence of even the most primitive of conveniences; but Monday's flood crowned all, and the above illustration shows the condition of things at the height of the flood.

GREAT FLOODS IN THE SWANSEA VALLEY

Not since Saturday, August 14th, 1873, has the Swansea Valley been flooded to the extent as was the case on Monday. In 1873, the Cwmpenparc brook overflowed, with the result that Gough Buildings, Ystradgynlais, were flooded to the depth of several feet. All the bridges over the Twrch were washed away on the same date.

On Monday morning last, about ten o'clock, both Tawe and Twrch rose with alarming rapidity, due to the extraordinary amount of rain which had fallen during the previous sixteen hours. Miles of low-lying land in the vicinity of both rivers was flooded, owing to the river overflowing its banks at various parts. Extraordinary scenes were witnessed at Ystradgynlais. All the houses in Water-street, and the majority in Gough Buildings, were speedily flooded, the former through the course of the river being inadequate to cope with the water, and the latter because of the overflowing of Cwmpenparc brook. Water-street had a depth of about five feet of water at 10.30 a.m., and the inhabitants had to be conveyed from their houses by means of the Council's cart and Hancock's brewery dray, to safe quarters. Councillors J. W. Morgan and C. G. Davies were amongst those who assisted. In addition to Water-street, the Square was flooded, and quite three feet of water covered the floor of Page and Edwards' shop. The business premises of Messrs. C. D. Lake, and Councillor J. W. Morgan, also suffered damage in consequence of the influx of water.

About two o'clock, Amon Bridge was torn from its foundations; and the wreckage was swept down the river. On several occasions the water was higher than the bridges and swept over them. A number of pigs, cattle, and sheep were drowned, and the carcasses were seen in the flood. Trees were uprooted, and quite a procession of trees, baulks of timber, planks, etc., was seen being swept down at a rate estimated at 17 miles an hour.

The full damage done by the unprecedented flood was not realised fully until Wednesday. At Ystradgynlais, in addition to the damage above recorded, the road past the Mason's Arms was broken, the electric light standards felled to the ground, and it is probable that it will be a month or more before the road is open to traffic. A retaining wall from the old weir, which has been completely demolished, to the main bridge, will be absolutely necessary, and will cost a large sum of money. The longer the work is delayed, the more damage is likely to be done, as the bank is rapidly falling into the river.

Yniscodwyn appears to have got over the flood very easily, as only a few fields show any trace of having been submerged. Towards the Cwm-tawe farm, Ystalyfera, and at the confluence of the Twrch and Tawe, signs are not wanting that the river bank on the road side has been seriously damaged. The road at this point was flooded for several hours on Monday, as were also the fields lower down the valley. Pontardawe appears to have suffered considerably, the low-lying lands between Ystalyfera and Herbert-street, Pontardawe, presenting the appearance of one huge sheet of water at one time of the flood's existence. Herbert-street was flooded to a depth of several feet—never previously known in the history of the place. Mr. D. J. Thomas's establishment was completely flooded, and at least £500 worth of stock was affected by the water. Handicapped by the absence of his assistant, he was unable to clear the floor, store room of its valuable contents, and first-class dinner and tea services, dressing tables, sideboards, brass bedsteads, linoleum, and carpets have been affected by the water. A large quantity of Christmas toys and china was spoilt, and nearly £100 worth of damage was done. Next door Mr. Bours' suffered loss, through the water filling his room, and sweeping a box of eggs, border decorations, carpets and causing furniture to be broken by coming in contact with the water.

Herbert-street was blocked for several hours, and there were many exciting incidents.

Up the Twrch Valley the same state of affairs obtained, and the Twrch has never, in the memory of the oldest inhabitant, been seen in such a full state of flood. The manner in which the water rushed over the weir under the canal aqueduct was magnificent. Several bridges were washed away at Cwm-twrch and higher up the valley. The Girdd was also in full flood, and two bridges were lost. The estimated amount of damage in the district from Pontardawe to Abercraze, including Cwm-twrch, must be well over £2000, most of which, of course, will be paid by the ratepayers.

The total rainfall from Sunday at noon to Monday noon was over two inches.

Ystradgynlais Notes

By Tertium Quid.

The subject of all conversation during the past week has been the flood and its effects. The latter, however, are so serious that there will be some shouting when the bill for damages has to be footed. In addition to the vast amount of damage caused to private property in Water-street, Gough Buildings, Glantawe-road, and Cwm-giell, by the water spoiling furniture, wood-work, carpets, provisions, confectionery, hosiery, pig sties, outhouses, etc., the loss to the public has been considerable, and will probably amount to thousands of pounds before the work necessary, in consequence of the flood, is completed.

EYES RIGHT! If not consult Hutchins Etchells, D.B.O.A., Ophthalmic Optician, 9, Portland-st., Swansea. Central.

The weir opposite the Ma-on's Arms has been completely destroyed, and about ten yards of the road washed away. Large cavities formed in the other parts of the road, and about sixty yards are affected. In order to make the road capable of carrying the ever-increasing volume of traffic, it will be necessary for the County Council to construct a wall alongside the river bank, and it is probable that the same will be carried as far up as the main bridge.

The Amon bridge, which was torn from its foundations on Monday afternoon, is now a total wreck, and more than half the timber has been swept away. The loss will be heavy upon the guarantors of the fund, who still owe over £300 upon the structure.

The bridge near the Gough Arms has been shaken, and it was impossible to get any wagons over it until a gang of men had raised the structure about five inches in the centre. The Ystrad-fawr, Gurnon, and Diamond collieries were idle on Tuesday owing to no traffic being dealt with at Claypond. Two of the Cwmgiell bridges were swept away, and damage to the extent of £50 was done to the two structures. Several outhouses were also washed away. At least two beasts, eight sheep and three pigs were drowned. On Wednesday morning three ponies got into the river and were floating with the current until they reached the Mason's Arms weir where they were rescued. Owing to the press of water near the Diamond colliery tips, a culvert was unable to drain off the water fast enough, and houses and fields in the vicinity were flooded.

The people of Water-street are, perhaps, the worst individual sufferers. Mrs. Harris, confectioner, had over £10 worth of confectionery spoilt, and two tons of water in the old cowshed were under water. Mr. Cynlais Lake's cellar was flooded, and a large quantity of newspapers was spoilt. On Wednesday morning a number of men and boys obtained a big supply of timber and coal from near the weir, the water having washed tons of coal from off the side of the road into the centre of the stream. Most of the wood was that from the Twrch.

It is said that the foundation of the Gough Weir were loosened by the repeated acts of "fishermen," whose idea of sport is not in accordance with convention.

A rick of hay of about six tons, belonging to Mr. Botton, a roadman employed by the Council, was spoilt. It was situated on the bank of the river behind Tabernacle Chapel.

Cwmgiell pig owners removed their porkers from their sties, and some of them were accommodated in the kitchens of their owners.

It is said that the depth of the hole made by the water coming over the weir was 30 to 40 feet. It was filled up with stones, and is now level.

DON'T use common glasses, it will cost you more in the end, get your eyes properly tested. Hutchins Etchells, D.B.O.A., Ophthalmic Optician, 9, Portland-st., Swansea.

A fish individual approached the caravan of Edwards and Page and knocked at the door. He asked if he might fish in the lake as he had seen two herrings floating about. Despite three feet of water, the Edwards and Page staff manfully drained the Square, and the show was held as usual on Monday evening.

"Patsy" made himself invaluable to the residents of Water-street, and couldn't find his way home on Monday night without assistance.

Some excellent photos were taken by Mr. Cartwright, and although he was "up to the eyes" in Christmas work he spent several hours in "snapping" some remarkable pictures.

An inquest was held at the Penrhos Chapel, on Friday, before Mr. W. R. Jones, County Coroner, touching the death of William Brynmor Thomas, the three year old son of David Thomas, fireman at the Yniscodwyn Colliery. The circumstances have already been reported in "Llais Llafur." A verdict of "accidental death" was returned.

YOU DEPEND on your eyes, give them the best help you can get. We are specialists in spectacle fitting. Hutchins Etchells, D.B.O.A., Ophthalmic Optician, 9, Portland-st. Swansea

Lord Tredegar owns a little less land than previously. Considerable damage was done to some fields near Tir Roger.

Henry Selme's, the noted dental surgery for perfectly fitting teeth and painless extractions. Exclusive process. 53, High Street, Swansea. (Opposite G.W.R.) Attendance at Ystalyfera every Saturday at Mrs. Penhale, Brydan House (opposite Police Station), from 4 till 8 p.m. Established twenty years.

Dr. Lewis Watkins, son of Mr. John Watkins, of Glantawe-row, has been appointed organist and choirmaster at Doylstown, Pa., U.S.A. The church is one of the largest in the States, and Mr. Watkins was successful out of twenty applicants. Dr. Watkins was previously organist at the Methodist Chapel, Lansdowne, near Philadelphia, for four years, previous to which he held a similar appointment in Pittsburgh. His success will be heartily welcomed by his many friends.

The balance sheet for the Eisteddfod has been audited by Messrs. B. L. Lewis and Edward P. Jones. The total receipts were £148 0s. 10d., and the expenditure £143 0s. 4d., leaving a balance to the good of £5 0s. 6d.

W. A. WILLIAMS, Rhymologist, can be consulted daily at the Victoria Arcade (near the Market), Swansea.

Printed and published by Llais Llafur Company, Ltd., Ystalyfera, in the County of Glamorgan. Dec. 21st, 1911.

THE FLOOD IN CWMTAWE



Photo

Cartwright, Ystradgynlais

Water Street, Ystradgynlais, has gained a most unenviable notoriety on account of its insanitary condition, and the absence of even the most primitive of conveniences; but Monday's flood crowned all, and the above illustration shows the condition of things at the height of the flood.

GREAT FLOODS IN THE SWANSEA VALLEY

Not since Saturday, August 4th, 1875, has the Swansea Valley been flooded to the extent as was the case on Monday. In 1875, the Cwmpenparc brook overflowed, with the result that Gough Buildings, Ystradgynlais, were flooded to the depth of several feet. All the bridges over the Twrch were washed away on the same date.

On Monday morning last, about ten o'clock, both Tawe and Twrch rose with alarming rapidity, due to the extraordinary amount of rain which had fallen during the previous sixteen hours. Miles of low-lying land in the vicinity of both rivers was flooded, owing to the river overflowing its banks at various parts. Extraordinary scenes were witnessed at Ystradgynlais. All the houses in Water-street, and the majority in Gough Buildings were speedily flooded, the former through the course of the river being inadequate to cope with the water, and the latter because of the overflowing of Cwmpenparc brook. Water-street had a depth of about five feet of water at 10.30 a.m., and the inhabitants had to be conveyed from their houses by means of the Council's cart and Hancock's Brewery dray, to safe quarters. Councillors J. W. Morgan and C. G. Davies were amongst those who assisted. In addition to Water-street, the Square was flooded, and quite three feet of water covered the floor of Page and Edwards' show. The business premises of Messrs. C. D. Lake, and Councillor J. W. Morgan, also suffered damage in consequence of the inrush of water.

About two o'clock, Ainon Bridge was torn from its foundations, and the wreckage was swept down the river. On several occasions the water was higher than the bridges and swept over them. A number of pigs, cattle, and sheep were drowned and the carcasses were seen in the flood. Trees were uprooted, and quite a procession of trees, baulks of timber, planks, etc., was seen being swept down at a rate estimated at 17 miles an hour.

The full damage done by the unprecedented flood was not realised fully until Wednesday. At Ystradgynlais, in addition to the damage above recorded, the road past the Mason's Arms was broken, the electric light standards felled to the ground, and it is probable that it will be a month or more before the road is open to traffic. A retaining wall from the old weir, which has been completely demolished, to the main bridge, will be absolutely necessary, and will cost a large sum of money. The longer the work is delayed, the more damage is likely to be done, as the bank is rapidly falling into the river.

Ynisdwyn appears to have got over the flood very easily, as only a few fields show any trace of having been submerged. Towards the Cwmtawe farm, Ystalyfera, and at the confluence of the Twrch and Tawe, signs are not wanting that the river bank on the road side has been seriously damaged. The road at this point was flooded for several hours on Monday, as were also the fields lower down the valley. Pontardawe appears to have suffered considerably, the low-lying lands between Ystalyfera and Herbert-street, Pontardawe, presenting the appearance of one huge sheet of water at one time of the flood's existence. Herbert-street was flooded to a depth of several feet - never previously known in the history of the place. Mr. D. I. Thomas's establishment was completely flooded, and at least £500 worth of stock was affected by the water. Handicapped by the absence of his assistant, he was unable to clear the floor store room of its valuable contents, and first class dinner and tea services, dressing tables, sideboards, brass bedsteads, linoleum, and carpets have been affected by the water. A large quantity of Christmas toys and china was spoilt, and nearly £100 worth of damage was done. Next door Mr. Bourn suffered loss through the water filling his room and entering a £95 organ, besides saturating carpets and causing furniture to be broken by coming into contact with the walls. Herbert-street was blocked for several hours, and there were many exciting incidents.

Up the Twrch valley the same state of affairs obtained, and the Twrch has never, in the memory of the oldest inhabitant, been seen in such a full state of flood. The manner in which the water rushed over the weir under the

canal aqueduct was magnificent. Several bridges were washed away at Cwmtrwrch and higher up the valley. The Giedd was also in full flood, and two bridges were lost. The estimated amount of damage in the district from Pontardawe to Abercrave, including Cwmtrwrch, must be well over £4000, most of which, of course, will be paid by the ratepayers.

The total rainfall from Sunday at noon to Monday noon was over two inches.

Ystradgynlais Notes

By Tertium Quid.

The subject of all conversation during the past week has been the flood and its effects. The latter, however, are so serious that there will be some shouting when the bill for damages has to be footed. In addition to the vast amount of damage caused to private property in Water-street, Gough Buildings, Glantawe-road, and Cwmgiedd, by the water spoiling furniture, woodwork, carpets, provisions, confectionery, hen cotes, pig sties, outhouses, etc., the loss to the public has been considerable, and will probably mount to thousands of pounds before the work necessary, in consequence of the flood, is completed.

The weir opposite the Mason's Arms has been completely destroyed, and about ten yards of the road washed away. Large cavities formed in the other parts of the road, and about sixty yards are affected. In order to make the road capable of carrying the ever-increasing volume of traffic, it will be necessary for the County Council to construct a wall alongside the river bank, and it is probable that the same will be carried as far up as the main bridge.

The Aion bridge, which was torn from its foundations on Monday afternoon, is now a total wreck, and more than half the timber has been swept away. The loss will be heavy upon the guarantors of the fund, who still owe over £300 upon the structure.

The bridge near the Gough Arms has been shaken, and it was impossible to get any wagons over it until a gang of men had raised the structure about five inches in the centre. The Ystradfawr, Gurnos, and Diamond collieries were idle on Tuesday owing to no traffic being dealt with at Claypond. Two of the Cwmgiedd bridges were swept away, and damage to the extent of £50 was done to the two structures. Several outhouse were also washed away. At least two beasts, eight sheep and three pigs were drowned. On Wednesday morning three ponies got into the river and were floating with the current until they reached the Masons' Arms weir where they were rescued. Owing to the press of water near the Diamond colliery tips, a culvert was unable to drain off the water fast enough, and houses and fields in the vicinity were flooded.

The people of Water-street are, perhaps, the worst individual sufferers. Mrs. Harris, confectioner, had over £10 worth of confectionery spoilt, and two tons of water (sic) in the old cowshed were under water. Mr Cynlais Lake's cellar was flooded, and a large quantity of newspapers was spoilt. On Wednesday morning a number of men and boys obtained a big supply of timber and coal from near the weir, the water having washed tons of coal from off the side of the road into the centre of the stream. Most of the wood was that from old barriers.

It is said that the foundations of the Gorof weir were loosened by the repeated acts of "fishermen", whose idea of sport is not in accordance with convention.

A rick of hay of about six tons, belonging to Mr Bofton, a roadman employed by the Council, was spoilt. It was situated on the bank of the river behind Tabernacle Chapel.

Cwmgiedd pig owners removed their porkers from their sties and some of them were accommodated in the kitchens of their owners.

It is said that the depth of the hole made by the water coming over the weir was 30 to 40 feet. It was filled up with stones, and is now level.

A cool individual approached the caravan of Edwards and Page and knocked at the door. He asked if he might fish in the lake as he had seen two herrings floating about. Despite three feet of water, the Edwards and Page staff manfully drained the Square, and the show was held as usual on Monday evening.

"Patsy" made himself invaluable to the residents of Water-street, and couldn't find his way home on Monday night without assistance.

Some excellent photos were taken by Mr. Cartwright, and although he was "up to the eyes" in Christmas work he spent several hours in "snapping" some remarkable pictures.

Lord Tredegar owns a little less land than previously. Considerable damage was done to some fields near Tir Roger.