Unprecedented Flood-Terrible Destruction of Property.

It is our painful duty to record one of the most terrible public calamities, from the sudden rising of the waters on Friday and Saturday last, that has ever befallen this or any other country, in modern times. On Monday and Tuesday of last week, the various water courses throughout this country were considerably swollen, from the rains that had fallen out for several days previous, and great fears of a flood were then entertained. But Wednesday and Thursday were comparatively fair days, and it was fondly hoped that the August storm, which has occurred annually for some years, had passed by; but on Thursday evening, at 8 o'clock, the rain commenced falling again in torrents, and continued with little intermission throughout the night, and during all the next day, until 8 or 9 o'clock in the evening.

During the evening of Friday, the rain, which descended with a rapidity surpassing anything ever before witnessed in this country, was accompanied by a heavy north-east wind, which very generally prostrated the upland corn, and must have done great damage to the growing crops, independent of the flood. When it ceased raining, although it was expected the waters would be high, no one dreamed, on account of the comparatively short time the rain had been falling, that so terrible a calamity was to follow, as almost immediately burst upon them; and our citizens generally, retired to rest, still gratified at the prospect of a returning and bountiful prosperity, to be aroused in the morning with the heart-rending intelligence that the substance which they had been for years accumulating, with great toil, had been totally swept away and destroyed.

It is estimated that at least one-half of the entire crop of Anderson District is totally destroyed. Large portions of the crop growing on upland is entirely swept away in the flats and small hollows, and even that on the hills seriously injured by the wind. So the fences surrounding the uplands were swept off, wherever a hollow, flat, or ravine of any magnitude occurred. But the disaster of the low ground crops, which were very extensize, and finer than was ever grown in the District, is complete. A large portion of these crops, together with the entire low ground fencing, was entirely swept off-a still larger portion washed down and embedded in the sand and mud; and even the corn that was left standing was covered with water so long, that it is said to have soured, almost invariably, and must be very near a total loss. There cannot be, we would suppose, less than two hundred thousand bushels of corn totally destroyed in Anderson District, whilst the cotton and other crops are seriously injured. The prospect on Thursday was that the District would make an exceedingly large surplus crop; on Saturday the impression was almost universal that a supply cannot be gathered .- Anderson Advocate, Sep-

THE RECENT FRESHETS, THE CROPS, &c .- The freshets resulting from the rains of Friday and Friday night last, of which accounts continue to reach us from every section of the State, have been felt very injuriously in this District also. The Broad and Catawba Rivers, and the several large creeks that course through the District, are represented to have been higher than was ever before known. The crops on the bottom lands of the large streams have been injured, and to a great extent, entirely destroyed. Rich fields of corn and cotton that promised more abundantly than ever before, have been completely inundated. Very considerable damage has also been felt in the destruction of bridges, dams, &c., but, we think, not to the extent reported elsewhere.

The prospects of upland crops, particularly of cotton, are also much changed by reason of the continued rains and cold nights. Very little has been made in the curing of fodder. although the season is now pretty well advanced. Few have succeeded in properly curing any portion of the crop, whilst the most of that has been pulled is much damaged or wholly lost.

Since Saturday evening we have had clear and pleasant weather; and it is hoped that the season will prove more favorable for the maturing and gathering of the crops .- Chester Standard.

Union District .- The Journal says: "It is painful to think even upon the sweeping destruction. Not less than ten thousand acres of bottom land, in this district, have been submerged. The loss is incalculable but may safely put down at three hundred thousand dollars. Every bridge in the district, we believe, with perhaps one exception, has been swept away, while almost every saw mill and several very valuable flour mills have met with a similar fate. Thousands of bushels of wheat, and hundreds of barrels of flour, have been swept off in the wreck. Yet, with our losses, we have abundant reason to be thankful. The uplands give promise of an abundance and although cakes may not be as plenty as blackberries, we trust that old Union may have enough and some to spare."

SPARTANBURG DISTRICT .- The Spartan says: Any attempt at description would be vain .-Suffice it to say, that this has been the greatest and most destructive flood with which this section of the country has ever been visted .-Lawson's Fork river was ten feet higher than ever known before; and we presume this was the case with Rivers and Creeks generally. Thus, it may be seen at once, that the loss of property and produce, must necessarily be greater than on any former occasion. Any attempt to estimate the value of property lost would be fruitless; but we feel warranted in saying, from the reports coming in from the country that the loss to our District amounts to more than one hundred thousand dollars-some intelligent gentlemen however estimate the loss at a much high-

GREAT FRESHET AND DESTRUCTION OF THE CORN CROPS .- For a week past we have had a flood of rain, almost without cessation. On yesterday the rain fell in torrents, which continued with great violence for the space of 18 hours, cau sing much destruction to the growing corn in and about this place, and we fear in the adjoin-

The rivers and creeks in this vicinity rose on the 27th to an unprecedented height, flooding the low lands and sweeping away everything which might impede their progress.

As far as our knowledge extends it is the general impression that not less than one-third of the

corn crops will be destroyed. We hope, however, that this may be an over estimate of what will be really destroyed Keowee River is this morning 20 feet above low water mark.

Pickens Courier Aug. 28.

THE FRESHET .- We are cut off from all comnunication south east, and the effects of the ecent disaster reach us slowly. We have no doubt but we will have a gloomy record for some days to come. The Charleston mail did not reach here last evening, as we learn that from the Junction to the trestle work the track is under

The bridge at Columbia is very little injured, and will be passably to-morrow. Light wagons, foot and horse passengers, can now cross in sate-The greatest damage is a deep gully washed on the west bank, which is being filled up as rapidly as possible. Our country friends will ave this mode of reaching us.

The plantations below have suffered severely. Col. Hampton, Col. Singleton, and Mrs. Taylor are among the heaviest sufferers. In fact, all the crops on the plantations on the river are utterly ruined. It is also humored that a number

of negroes have been lost. We have nothing further from Hamburg or

The most painful apprehension is felt for the safety of Col. W. S. Brown, Chief Engineer of the Greenville Railroad. He started from Alston on Monday in a canoe with Mr. McCollum and Mr. Jeffers who are employed on the road. Coming down the stream, the boat upset. Mr. McCollum, in company with his son, a lad of some twelve years of age, swam off. The boy soon got wearied, and his father took him on his back, but had not proceeded far when a floating limb of a tree threw him off, he was seen no more. Mr. McCollum reached the bank, and returned to Columbia late on Monday night.

Mr. Jeffers clung to the canoe, and after some hours came within reach of a limb of a tree, and succeeded in getting on the tree, where he remained all Monday night. Soon after reaching the tree, he saw Col. Brown floating past him, perfectly self-possessed. He was heard calling for help in the morning, and, through the effort of those on the bank, was rescued from his perilous condition. At the present writing nothing has been heard of Col. Brown or the boy.

The Greenville railroad, from its proximity to he river, must have suffered immense damage. We have not heard from above Alston. The folowing is an extract from a letter from the post-

master at the office: "Walker & Feaster's store washed over, and all the goods damaged. Welsh & McRoy's store entirely gone, with all the goods; loss about \$4,-000. The bridge is gone, and the road, as far as we can hear on the east side of the river, is greatly damaged -all the trestle work gone .-Mr. Brown, the chief engineer, left Alston yesterday in a canoe, for Columbia, in company with Mr. McCollum."

Should we have any further intelligence before we go to press, we shall append below.

South Carolinian, Sept. 1.

DESTRUCTIVE FRESHET .- The Pee Dee which had been quite flush for a week before, commenced rising very rapidly on Saturday evening last, and continued to rise up 9 o'clock P. M. to-day, when it had risen to within 4 inches of the great freshet of March 1851. The damages to the crops will be incalculable. On much of the richest bottom land the corn was late and the fodder not pulled which makes it much worse .-From the vast amount of drift wood, punkins &c., which passed this place, the freshet must have been common to all the streams emptying into the river from near its sources down. Cheraw Gazette, Aug. 31.

From the Augusta Constitutionalist.

Augusta-The Fresher.-Yesterday exhibieyes in what direction you would, it looked livey, and as far as the eye could reach, the box pump handle, with from two to four sturdy pumpers, was seen busily employed. To day all the cellars in the city will, no doubt be relieved of water, and in another day the deposits will be removed. A number of the cellars, we have no doubt, after the latter operation is gone through with, will be some foot or a foot and a half deeper than previous to the freshet.

Now that the waters have subsided, we can form a more accurate judgment of the injuries sustained by the freshet. It is nothing like as great as the loss sustained by the freshet of 1940. The city itself is the largest sufferer, and we have heard it estimated, by those who ought to know. that it will cost about \$50,000 to repair damages, The streets are much cut up, but a large force has been engaged to put them in order, and when finished they will be in better condition than previous to the freshet, for the deposit by this freshet has been principally sand and gravel, while by former freshets it was mostly alluvial.

The loss of our merchants is comparatively trifling, as most of them had removed the principal part of their goods from their cellars, and but few stores were damaged above the first floor by water.

THE RECENT FRESHET.—HAMBURG.—We paid a visit yesterday to Hamburg, and were pained to see the sad havoc made by the recent freshet. Not a house or family residing in that town has escaped its ravages, and it is a wonder to us that more lives were not lost. In the outskirts of the city, several families and many single persons were taken from the roofs of houses, and would, no doubt, have been swept off by the flood, had it not been for the energy displayed by several of her citizens, who, forgetting that their own property was at stake, devoted themselves for several hours with boats, in rescuing such as were in exposed situations. Every part of the town, and every store was filled with water, except that of Mr. Josiah Sibley, on the corner of Bay and Centre-streets. To give a description of the scenes passed through, or of the damages sustained, would be next to impossible.

To give our readers, however, an idea of the extent of the flood, we must content ourself with stating, that on Bay-street, near the Bridge the water was about four feet deep on the side-walk, at the Bank of Hamburg about two, and in the upper portion of the street, from four to six feet deep. On Centre-street, at Robertson's Hardware store, the water was about 4 1-2 feet above the floor; at Kendrick's old store, which was unoccupied, about six feet; at Sale & Lock's, about

one-half, and at Hammond's about eight feet deep above the floor.

We will not undertake to enumerate the sufferers and the loss sustained by each of them, for it is impossible for them to estimate their own rising rapidly on Monday. The flood in James losses. Suffice it to say, that they were estimated to us at from \$500 to \$10,000 respectively, Monday. The water found its way into a few by different individuals.

The occupants of most of the stores had removed such of their goods, lying on the floor, as were of a perishable nature, to the cour sand caused by the lodgment against the bridge of embankments having been washed away to a drift wood and boats, just before it gave way, disgreat extent.—Petersburg (Va) Express. appointed their hopes, and even such goods as were thought to be safe, were materially damaged.

The floors of all the warehouses were under water, with the exception of Mr. Coleman's, at the foot of the hill. A number of bales of Cotton were washed out, but were afterwards recov-

At the Railroad Freight Depot, the water was about five feet deep, but did not reach the floor. The depot was filled with goods, which escaped injury. At the Passenger Station, the water was about 12 feet deep, but did not reach the second floor. The road is washed up about half a mile, but the embarkments are safe, and the road can be put in good travelling order in a few days. At the old Depot, which is now used as a private store-house, the water was about five feet deep

The scene yesterday was distressing to behold. Look in what direction you would, and you could see every one busily engaged in shovelling the mud from their stores, or washing such articles as were not subject to damage by water.

THE BRIDGE. - Already has timber been engaged for the re-building of the lower bridge, and the services of a large force engaged, under a competent superintendent for its re-construction. A steam pile driver will be used, and as soon as the river falls sufficiently, operations will be commenced. In the mean time transportation between the two roads will be kept up by neans of flats and drays.

Mr. Conner, the President of the South Carolina Railroad, came forward promptly and offered the services of hands and materials for the reconstruction of the Bridge. In the course of a week flat will be finished with a Railroad track, so that cars loaded can be run on board and disharged on the Georgia side of the river.

Sturgeon.-Riding yesterday morning along McKinne street, we saw several negroes engaged n the operation of cutting up a fine Sturgeon, and was told that he had been caught, with another and larger one in a hole on that street. They had been left there by the receding waters, One, seven feet long was caught in Greene street on the same day. There have been a considera-ble number caught in different parts of the city.

We understand that yesterday evening a Sturgeon, alive and fluttering, was discovered in the hole on Cumming-street, at its intersection with Broad street, and that steps will be taken early this morning to capture this interesting stranger.

DESTRUCTIVE FRESHET IN MOBILE.-We have accounts from Mobile to-day which represent the storm at that place as the severest that had ever been experienced there.

The river rose to such a height as to overflow, Front, Commerce, Dauphin and Governmentstreets up to Water-street and St. Francis-street above St. Louis-street was a complete lake, reaching from the wharf westward nearly to Royalstreet, and extending beyond the railroad depot. The damage done to property in the city is es-

timated at a million of dollars. One house was blown down, and the family occupying it, consisting of five persons, were

All the boats in port were more or less damaged, except the Jenny Bell. Some boats were blown into the woods. Two schooners and one steamboat were lost. A boat was washed on the

wharf, and now lies on dry land. The telegraph posts are scattered in every di-

The Mobile Light House was carried away with several men, women and children.

The wharves in the city are nearly all destroyed, and the surrounding country is nearly entirely inundated .- Savannah News 1st inst.

SERIOUS FRESHET .- The late rains caused the water along the Shenandoah and Potomac rivers to rise to a considerable height, butno serious overflow occurred. The Spirit of Jefferson, however, says the wheat crop has suffered quite seriously. At Richmond, Virginia, on Sunday night, the James, River was twelve feet above its ordinary level, and on Monday it was only six feet below the great flood of 1847. A number of streets, cellars, and houses were overflowed but most of the goods and other property having been removed, no serious damage was done.

THE LATE STORM .- THE FLOOD .- On Thursday evening last it commenced raining here, and continued in torrents, almost without intermisson, for twenty four hours. The consequence has been an immense destruction of the crops on the bottom lands, and a general sweep of bridges in this section of the country. Both of the bridges at this place are gone; also the bridge at the Princeton factory across the middle Oconee. Mitchel's bridge, just above, is left standing-so is the one at the Georgia factory below this place, and the one near Doct. Leisler's on the new road to Clarkesville .- Athens (Ga) Banner.

FRESHET .- The Marietta (Ga.) Advocate of the 31st ult. says: The incessant and heavy rains of last Thursday night and Friday, have done great damage. Bottom lands have been to a great extent overflowed, the standing crops of Corn, &c. greatly injured, if not ruined. We hear of bridges and mills dam destroyed on almost all the water courses in this section. The Rome Railroad is so mouch injured as to prevent the running of the cars on yesterday.

THE WEATHER .- We learn through the Federal Union, that a great quantity of rain fell during last week in Milledgeville, and its vicinity, the water courses in that section have been full stopping entirely all travel to the North and East of us. They have been unable to hear from the plantations in the river bottoms below them, but they fear that the injury to the Corn and Cotton is serious.

FRESHETS.-From all quarters accounts reach us of the swollen state of the streams, both in this and North Carolina. We learn from a seven; at Hodges & Smith's, about seven-and- gentleman who is connected with the different Carter, near Mount Meigs. Col. C. is well known prescribe a remedy !- Spartan.

Railroads, that from Wilmington, N. C. to Philidelphia, the water is very high in the rivers. The Roanoke, as our readers were informed yes-River, rose to its highest point at Richmond, on cellers we learn on Maine street, between the City Hotel and the Market House, but as the merchants anticipated the rise, little damage was done. It is thought James River, and Kanawupper shelves of their stores, but the sudden rise, ha Canal has suffered very much-its docks and

> THE STORM .- The Storm on Saturday was exceedingly severe. It rained in torrents throughout the day, with occasional blasts of wind that did serious damage to the growing crops of corn. Rappahannock commenced rising in the afternoon, and before nightfall was within a few feet Bridge was carried away, and some damage, we learn, was done the Plank Road. We have not heard from the Canal. The water rose rapidly and subsided as quickly. The streams in the neighborhood were greatly swollen. Capt. Long, from Spotsylvania, lost four horses, while his wagon and team were attempting to cross the Massaponax, between this place and the Court House.—Federicksburg, (Va.) News.

> Extract of a Letter, dated Greenville, 31st August: "On Saturday morning last, we were visited by an unprecedented freshet in the upper country. The water courses are several feet higher than they have been during the last seventy years. There is scarcely a bridge left standing in our district, and seven-eighths of the grist and saw milis, cotton and wool and other factories, are entirely swept away. The heavy corn crops upon river and creek bottoms are almost entirely destroyed. Upland corn is not much injured.

THE SEMI-WEEKLY JOURNAL. TUESDAY EVENING SEPTEMBER 7, 1852.

THO. J. WARREN, Editor.

Our Mails.

Through the exertions of our energetic Pottmaster, who went down to the Congaree on Saturday, we received on that evening all our letter mails to that date, and the two latest newspaper mails from Charleston. There are three newspaper mails now due, which may be expected in a day or two.

Our mail communication with all parts of the counry is again regularly opened by the cars leaving some two hours earlier than usual; say, leave at 4 a. m. and arrive at 5 to 6 p. m.

Meeting of Merchants.

We learn from the Carolinian that a meeting of the merchants of Columbia has been held for the purpose of consulting upon some mode of re-establishing the communication for the transportation of merchandise from Charleston. A committee of three was appointed to confer with the President of the Railroad to ascertain if such communication could be established, and to report to an adjourned meeting of the citizens.

We would suggest to our merchants the propriety of holding a meeting for the same purpose.

Debating Societies. It is strange that Camden cannot boast of a single

Literary Society. Once there were three,-two Debating Clubs, and a Lyceum.-Where are they now? Gone! like everything else of this nature; they live only in memory as things of the past. Where is the Camden Orphan Society? its excellent library? Gone too; these are sad commentaries on the intelligence and energy of our citizens. It is a solemn reflection, that among many things which have been suffered to droop struggled through the vicissitudes of early age, just when it had attained its majority, and full of strength, should be neglected, and finally abandoned, and at last, go too, like all the others. This society had numbered over twenty years, (if we mistake not) and during that time, it was a source of amusement, and instruction to its members. We regret the dissolution of this valuable society; its benefits have been seen and felt in this community, time and again; its fate does not speak well for us. We can call to mind many pleasant associntions, connected with Debating Societies. The hours we have spent in friendly controversy with the companions of our early youth, -some of them gone from earth, others with us, plodding along with the busy throng of life, are recollections of a most pleasing character, inscribed in grateful remembrance on memory's page.

We presume all intelligent minds will admit that Debating Societies are sources of instruction to the mind, and admirably adapted to its cultivation. The benefits resulting from them, are so obvious that we will pause to discuss the topic. We now call attention to the subject, hoping that some of our friends will take the matter in hand, and that we may at least find co-operation enough to re-organize the old Camden Debating Club.

Can't the boys and youth of our town do something in this matter? There was a capital juvenile Debating Club in Camden once, and it existed five years, or upwards. Can't we have another? There is no reason why we cannot! On the contrary many reasons why we should. Let the effort be made.

Mayor of Charleston.

The Hon. T. L. Hutchinson has been elected Mayor of Charleston by a majority of 152 votes over his opponent, General Schnierle.

LAND SALES .- The Winchester Virginian states that Messrs. David Watson and James Christy have, within a few days, sold their farms, near the Opequon, to Mr. Jonas Chamberlin, at \$45 per acre, cash, or its equivalent; and Mr. W. D. Barton has sold a small tract of wood land, adjoining, at \$50 per acre. These lands are within two miles of the Valley turnpike, and the prices show a considerable abvance.

THE FISHING QUESTION SETTLED .- New York Morn ing Express states on the best authority that the Fish ery question has already been satisfactorily settled.

BEAT THIS WHO CAN?-A load of water melons in this market on Wednesday attracted attention from their uniform large size. They were placed (forty in number) on the platform of the public scales and found to weigh 1604 pounds. being an average of over forty lbs. a piecel The load, we learn, came from the plantation of Col.

for his skill and success in all agricultural m ters. It may well be remarked, "beat this," can?"—Montgomery Ala. Journal.

For the Camden Journal, MR. EDITOR-We noticed in the Lance Ledger of the 18th ult. an article headed "Turn Out of Hanging Rock Division Sons of Tempe ance." It stated that an advertisement had a peared sometime ago in that paper, saying "that Hanging Rock Division would turn out in 14th regalia on the 13th, at Mount Bethel Church, and friends of the Order in neighboring Divisions wer invited to attend." Soon after this notice, I editor of that paper published through the column of the Ledger, that there would be a Pic Nic on that occasion. We gave him no authority to say so-nor can he certify that he had knowledge of the matter from any responsible source. His ferof the highest flood-mark. Part of the Chatham | tile imagination must have invented it, or some of his associates may have thought so in a dream and he considered it a reality. At any rate, he spread abroad through the Ledger that there would be a Pic Nic at Bethel Church on that day, and his mind must have been much elated when he thought of the "fat turkies, hams, mutton, catfish soup &c,, which he presumed would be served on the occasion.

> We are grieved to find that he deceived others in common with himself, as he informs us that several gentlemen left Lancaster that morning before breakfast, to have their appetites sharpened. so that they might enjoy the rich provision which the Ledger informed them should be made for them. We doubt however, whether gentlemen left to ride eighteen mllas without first breafasting. It might so happen where no food could be procured, but we are pleased to know that family does not rage in Lancaster, neither did the citizens of that town eat voraciously when they were invited to the several carriages, which are always bountifully supplied with provisions of such occasions.

The editor informs us that he arrived on the ground at 11 o'clock in company with his friend the Doctor, and meeting his brother B. of Lancaster, wearing a rueful countenance, he barely salute us-(we presume he did not uncover his head)he indignant'y informed us that there was no Pic Nic, and also that there were no speakers for the occasion. "Brother B." must have been the Ledger's authority (if he had any,) for saying there would be a Pic Nic, and fearing detection, sumed the "rueful countenance" above spoken of

The Ledger next represented us as being in a strait for speakers which was not so, for many would have volunteered if necessity had require it,) and he loaned us his man, Dr. Gallachat. We always thought Dr. G. was his own man, and did not belong to the Ledger. However, we were much pleased with his address.

The Ledger next states that he "addressed an audience of empty stomachs," but this cannot be so, as we believe no one left home without breakfast, except the villagers, aud we can assure the Ledger and his friends that if Mr. John U. Ingreme who he says invited him to partake of his "cold collation" had known that they had no breakfast, he would have invited them from his peach orchard to his house, and conducted them to his table, which is a ways bountitully, supplied with warm provisions for the entertainment of hungry strangers.

The Ledger concludes by remarking that the Turn Out took place in Kershaw District, not in Lancaster, and that he intended nothing disrespectful to his Hongiag Rock brethren. To whom then does he desire to impute incivility? Our and die, that the Camden Debating Club, after having | Kershaw friends kindly loaned us their Church and politely treated us with attention and respe and we are indebted to them for the marked friendship and regard which they manifested towards us on that occasion, and if the Ledfier entertains unfriendly feelings towards them, he ought to speak plainly, and not use insinuations, which are always calculated to wound feelings. HANGING ROCK.

From the South Carolinian

The South Carolina Railroad.

We are indebted to Mr. Bolin, the Agent at this place, for the following letter, from the energetic President of the South Carolina Railroad Company. Mr. B. also informs us that the letter mails will reach here this morning, and the newspaper mails to-night. The telegraphic line, it is thought, will be in operation to Charleston

We are indebted to Mr. Bolin and Mr. Caldwell, one of the directors, for the latest new from Charleston last evening. ROAD, September 2.

The damage at the Congaree is pretty Lac but we are making the most and the best of i But for the draw, we could soon fix up a tempe rary means of conveying goods over. That will throw us back. We will make that and the whole bridge at Charleston, while the piles are driving, and not one hour or a single effort lost, or left untried to get the work done in the least time possible; but a good deal of delay, wit all we can do, must occur.

We will send passengers over on Monday! It would be unsafe to attempt it before. You will be particularly instructed beforehand.

I have now a full view of the damage every where, and my plans and arrangements are at made to remedy them.

There is nothing now but the work to be some and that we will do. H. W. CONNER.

SOMETHING NEW UNDER THE SUN. - We re cently visited a section of our District, about eighteen miles east of this Town, where the good people of that neighborhood have been visi with the destructive ravages of a small black by which has been operating like the pine sawy upon the dwelling houses. Plank partitions seasoned heart pine material, of ten, fifteen twenty years standing, have been literally e out; floors have been thus eaten until they given way and fallen through; log houses have in like manner; been ruined by those ruthles destroyers. This is to us an entirely new development in the historp of entomology. The facts we witnessed in person. Who can explain, or