



The Flooded Cathedral

THE FLOODS AT SALISBURY

Extraordinary Scene: Cathedral Nave Flooded

Extraordinary scenes have been witnessed in Salisbury during the week on account of the main thoroughfares through the city having been flooded to a depth of several feet. Fisherton Street, by which communication is maintained between the east and west of the city, has been completely submerged by several feet of water, and Crane Street, the only other connecting street, has only been passable by means of planks laid above a gurgling stream of two feet of water, covering the road from one side to the other. The deluge came on Saturday night, but cleared temporarily twenty-four hours later. By Monday evening, however, there was a more serious return, and it has only been with difficulty that the beleaguered tradesmen have obtained supplies of food. In Fisherton Street all the houses are occupied as business premises, and a very serious loss has been suffered at a time when trade is booming through the presence of large numbers of troops in the district. Since Monday the tradesmen and their families have been confined to upstairs rooms, while downstairs in the shops stock floated about in 18 inches and two feet of water.

The Cathedral was surrounded by a crystal lake and inside the whole nave was covered by four inches of the flood. In the Close many of the picturesque and beautiful homes, including the Deanery, were washed by a strong current which flowed over the ground floor at rushing speed. The Diocesan Training College, lying low, was submerged to a considerable depth on the ground floor.

In the working class districts great hardship has been suffered, but the food difficulty has been minimised through the distribution of supplies by the Mayor and others, who have gone round with provisions, which have been tied on to ropes and hauled up through bedroom windows.

Numerous boats have been performing useful service in the streets in carrying messages and bringing supplies to tradesmen who have been unable to leave their houses.

On Wednesday there were some signs of abatement, but in the evening news came of trouble higher up the valley, which greatly increased anxiety.

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