

THE FLOODS AT CORK.

The city of Cork was visited on Monday, the 27th ult., with a disastrous flood, caused by the overflow of the river Lee, which was greatly swollen by the heavy rains of the week before and by a high spring tide. It was between three and four o'clock in the morning that the waters burst their banks, near the George IV. Bridge, where the north and south channels meet, and an unbroken flood swept over the Mardyke, the fields on either side, the western road, and the "inches" between it and the southern branch of the Lee. Fences were laid low, garden-plots were destroyed, the paling around the baths was demolished, and the flood surrounded a couple of hundred sheep, many of which were drowned. In the city much damage was done. Every shop in Great George's-street had a couple of feet of water in it, as the flood ran in a regular river through it; and the same was the case in the houses at each side of the Parade, as far as the Berwick fountain. In Christ Church lane and other parallel lanes it was fully 3 ft. high until nine o'clock in the forenoon. The current also passed from Nile-street, through Castle-street, into the Parade, and ran out by Patrick's-street, Old George's-street, and the South Mall, and the cross-streets of Prince's-street, Cook-street, and Winthrop-street, until, as the tide fell, it was able to escape through the sewers. So high was the water on the Western Road that a boat was pulled down as far as the Court-House and back in Nile-street. In Moore-street and that neighbourhood communication between houses was kept up by boats. St. Vincent's Bridge, an old timber structure, was so much shaken that it can scarcely be used for traffic again. Three breaches were made in Pope's Quay, and one, a large gap of 40 ft., opposite the premises of Mr. Bible. The roadway for about 10 ft. inwards was carried away; for about twelve or fifteen yards at each side the quay was all shaken; and, as large rents have appeared in the pathway, the entire quay wall will probably have to be rebuilt. None of the portions that have been rebuilt within the past few years show any sign of injury. Barriers have been erected at two other places on the quay where the foundation has been undermined. The North Gate Bridge and St. Patrick's Bridge are uninjured. During the entire day floating wood and trunks of trees were driven against the buttresses of St. Patrick's Bridge, but without causing any injury. A portion of one large trunk, with the roots attached, lay against one of,

the buttresses for several hours. A number of small boats were driven from their moorings at the ferry, nearly opposite St. Mary's Roman Catholic church, and were smashed against St. Patrick's Bridge. In the South Channel the bridges also escaped, though the rush of water was terrific, and large pieces of timber were driven against them. At the quays the ships were held by extra hawsers; but two of the Cork Steam-Ship Company's steamers and the two dredges belonging to the Harbour Board by good luck alone escaped serious injury. Our Illustration shows the breaches in the river wall at Pope's Quay. The church tower behind is that of St. Mary Shandon, with its belfry, celebrated by an Irish poet—

The bells of Shandon
They sound so grand on
That pleasant strand on
The river Lee!

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