

can know how long it may be before a Flood happens; and that heavy Matter will generally rest where the River is shallowest, is plain and evident from common Observation, and from the Nature of the Actions of Fluids. For,

Fluids prefs and scower the Beds of Rivers with a Force proportional to the depth or perpendicular Height of the Stream, and not according to the Swiftnefs and Breadth of the Superfices. If this is not the Case, how can we account for the deep Places of Rivers not filling up; for there the Water appears to have and has a very gentle Motion; but on the contrary, heavy Matter drops and lodges in the shallow Places where the Water runs swifter: This is self evident; and to give more Reasons than above why it is so, will be both mispending my time and the Reader's. Having first given the above Account, I think it proper to give the following Caution and Advice.

As I said before, remove the Obstruction with all Speed; for if you have proceeded and deepened a shallow Place a third, or a half of what it must be deepened, and if a Flood happen, it is very probable the Flood will leave near as much heavy Matter on the shallow Part, as you have taken away; and you may be served so many times until the Expence become unsupportable; but if you have the good Fortune to get the shallow Part all deepened equal to the River above and below, before a Flood come, every Part then will have an equal Force of Scowering; and in many Cases no Man can be assured where the next Obstruction will gather, or whether any will gather at all.