

dams and other artificial changes  
either in the beds or banks.

The piers of a bridge or other  
artificial obstructions, causes contracti-  
-on in the water-way of a river,  
and if this contraction is considerable  
it will cause the water above the  
point obstructed, to rise higher than  
the level of that below it, and thus  
produce a fall, with an increase of  
velocity due to it, in the current  
between the two points. This may  
be productive of serious results,  
both from the overflowing of the  
banks, thus doing great injury to  
agriculture, and if the structure is