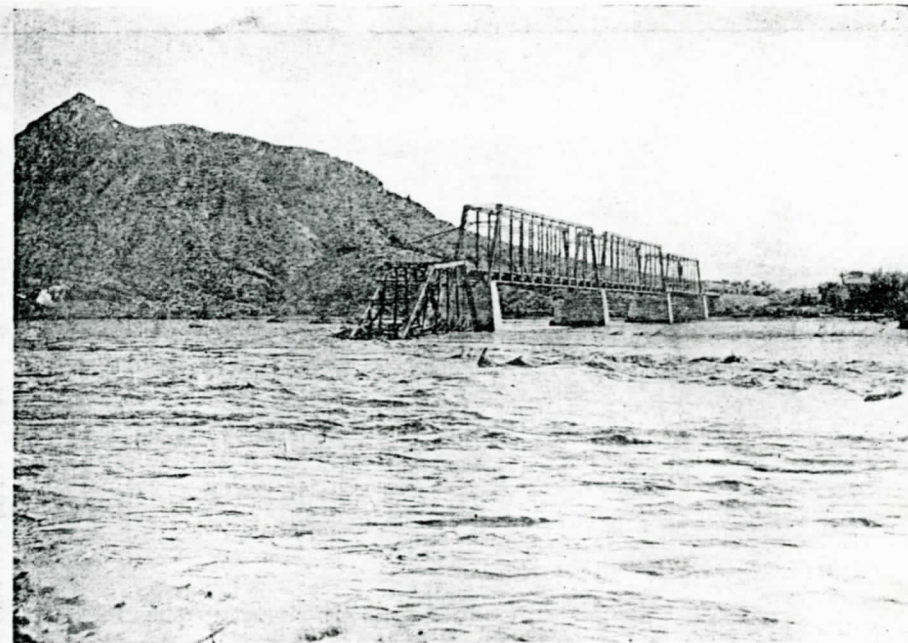


The Southern End of the Appalachians, near Cartersville, Ga. (page 28)



Railroad Bridge Damaged by High Water

people, in protecting the soil from erosion and from exhaustion, in the reclamation of the deserts and swamps and in the preservation of forests still remaining, and the planting of denuded tracts is an investment yielding an annual income. If such expenditures fail to bring a return at once, the money expended is like a bequest to those who come after us. And as the parents live for their child, as well as for themselves, the good citizen provides for the future as well as the present." President Taft has pledged his support to any measure tending to conserve natural resources, and we must confidently expect that his administration will render valuable assistance in this great work.

#### CARDINAL GIBBONS'S OPINION

His Eminence, Cardinal Gibbons, gives his endorsement to the work by convincing arguments. He says "our forests and other natural resources are God-given heritages which belong no

more to the present generation than to the generations that are to come. It is our duty as American citizens to regard these resources as sacred trusts, to preserve them and to use them wisely and with moderation, that we may, as far as possible, provide against the days of want that are surely approaching."

The distinguished French ambassador, M. Jusserand, said: "It is an absolute principle—no forests, no waterways. Without forests regulating the distribution of waters, rainfalls are at once carried to the sea, hurried sometimes across the country. After having devastated the neighboring fields, the rivers find themselves again with little water and much sand, and with such rivers how will you fill your canals? The question is as clear as can be. Do you want to have navigable rivers, or do you prefer to have torrents destroy your crops and never bear a boat? If you prefer the first, then mind your forests \* \* \* If the Mississippi is the Father of Waters, the forest is the Father of the Mississippi."