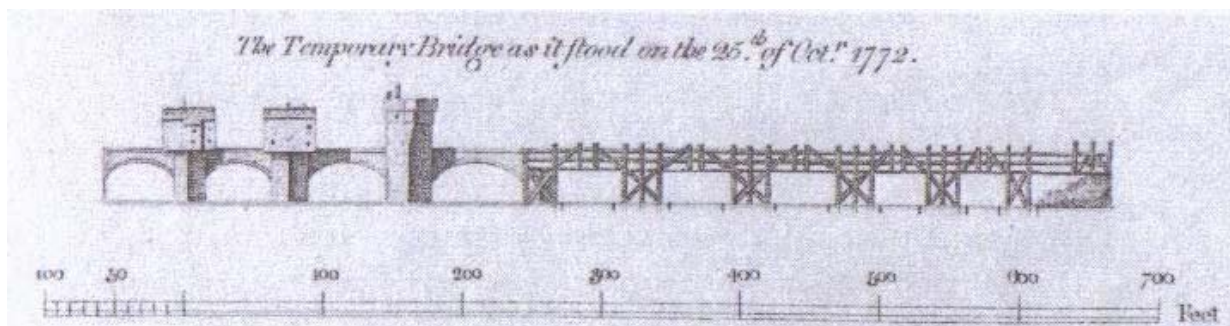


## After the Flood

The next day, four other houses fell from the bridge and by 29<sup>th</sup> November all the buildings on the Gateshead side were gone. It appeared that that the Durham part of the bridge had not been as well constructed as the Newcastle side.

The fall of the bridge had a severe effect on communications between north and south. It was quickly decided that a new bridge must be built and in early December demolition work began on what was left of the old bridge so that a new, temporary one could be built. In the meantime, a large ferry boat was established for carrying vehicles and passengers across the river. A huge effort was made by the construction workers and on 27<sup>th</sup> October 1772 the new temporary bridge opened for traffic.



*The temporary bridge opened in 1772*

On 22<sup>nd</sup> July 1773 the first piles of the new permanent bridge were driven on the site of the old one. On 30<sup>th</sup> April 1781 the new nine arch bridge was finished and open for traffic.