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ITALIAN FLOODS:

Floods sweeping down the Alpine valleys and across the farmlands of Piedmont and Lombardy spell ruin for thousands of North Italian farmers and peasants. Melting snows, combined with the worst June rainstorms in living memory, caused the disaster. Worst hit is the Susa Valley; floods and landslides have blocked the upper valley and most of the lower part, and whole villages of people are homeless.

Many of the stricken villages and towns are cut off from help, for the floods have washed away bridges and roads and put railways out of action. Agricultural damage is estimated at £25,000,000, and unless the floods abate quickly, experts believe the total loss will be far higher.