to the transverse bearers or heads of the pier superstructure; they are lapped and bolted through the strut blocks and transoms, which are lengthened for that purpose, while the same construction is carried out at the abutments, and the girders are completed at the ends by vertical struts between the top and bottom chords.

The bridges were all put together in the yard, then taken to pieces, and sent down the rivers on rafts, to the positions they were intended to occupy, when the piers were sufficiently advanced to receive them.

In the last length of the railway to Karlsburg there are several smaller bridges from 32 ft. 9 in. to 39 ft. 4 in. in span. They are of simple construction. Two main beams composed of two, three, or more layers of double bulk timbers, each 9½ in. square, with oak packings, are bolted vertically by bolts of 3½ in. diameter. Let into these compound beams are the joists, which support the rail stringers. The whole is tied beneath by lateral braces, finished off by a strong railing on either side, and supported by stone abutments.

BRIDGE OVER THE RIVER MISSOURI AT KANSAS CITY.

PLATES LXVI., LXVII., AND LXVIII.

UPON "the Grecian bend of the Missouri River," where its course changes from a southerly to an eastward direction, as it flows towards the Mississippi, and just at the point where it receives the waters of its tributary the Kansas, the town of Wyandotte and chain interposed between itself and the Atlantic freeboard, Kansas City has grown and flourished with a rough-and-tumble civilisation of its own, until it has become a great railway centre, and a depot for the vast goods traffic carried eastward and westward,

Kansas City stand, now one of the important cities of the Western States, though only a few years since of utterly insignificant proportions. Far removed from the eastern and comparatively settled cities of America, with the broad flood of the Mississippi and the Alleghany or brought down the Missouri from Nebraska and Dakota. The accompanying sketch will convey an idea of the situation of the city, and give some notion of the peculiar action of the river upon its unstable and constantly shifting shores. On the north