have curved backs, properly grooved, to receive the wires of the cables. They weigh 13,000 lbs. each. Some of the stays are attached directly to the bed plates, and assist to steady and support only the main span of the bridge. Others pass over the towers, resting on small saddles, beside the ones which support the cable. These stays are attached to both the long and short spans. The three outermost stays of the main span pass over the towers directly to the anchor piers, to which they are fastened.

A FOOT BRIDGE

For the use of the workmen, was thrown across in the month of October, 1865. On this the Ohio was first crossed from Cincinnati to Covington, at 11 A. M., October 4th. This was a miniature suspension bridge, complete in most of its details and capable of supporting a great weight. The cables supporting it were twisted wire ropes, 2½ inches in diameter; and the suspenders were composed of 9 wires laid in a similar manner. The cross beams were of oak, 2½ by 6½ inches, and three feet long. The flooring was of the same material. Four pieces formed the full width of the floor, about 27 inches. Two oak slats on each side, attached to the suspenders, formed the railings. The planks were secured to the beams by round iron bolts, ½ inch in diameter. In still weather this bridge could be crossed in comparative comfort and safety; but on windy days, steady nerves, quick hands and feet, and some knowledge of navigation were necessary. Three times this bridge was badly broken by high winds—once pulling it apart a distance of 12 feet near the Cincinnati tower; and the last time, the whole stationary portion through the Covington tower, was thrown into the river.

The question is often asked: "How was the first wire got across the river?" Easily enough. The 2½ inch cables for the foot bridge, were the first to be put across and over the towers. They came from the manufactory, in Trenton, N. J., on large wooden reels. These reels were mounted on a wooden shaft, suspended on a frame in Water street, Cincinnati. The end of the rope was passed over the floor of the anchor pier, and the ground of the short span, to the Cincinnati tower, and hoisted to the top of this, by the same apparatus which hoisted the stones. After being hoisted up and passed over the tower, it was coiled in a flat boat, which was fitted up with an apparatus for paying it out easily, and with-