present time: and first we shall mention the ancient

**BRIDGE AT BABYLON,**

over the river Euphrates, constructed of brick,
supposed to be built by Nimrod, the third from Noan, who lived about one hundred years after the flood.

Babylon, the capital of Chaldea, we read, was one of the most splendid cities ever built. Its form was an exact square, sixty miles in circumference; fifteen on each side. The walls thereof were, in thickness, eighty-seven feet; in height, three hundred and fifty; on which were built, two hundred and fifty towers; these were constructed of large well-burnt bricks, laid in bitumen,* a glutinous slime, which, in that country, issues out of the earth, and in a short time, when exposed to the air, grows harder than the very bricks which are laid therein.

This city was wholly surrounded by a ditch filled with water, extremely deep and wide. The river Euphrates running through the same, from north

* Consisting chiefly of what the Chemists call Asphaltum.