the same kind of material. For it is said, that those employed in the erection of this City and Bridge had not discovered any stone at hand suitable to quarry, though they had been engaged, as Megasthenes informs us, in an immense excavation of fifty-two miles square, by seventy-five feet deep, thereby to form a lake, or reservoir, that should prevent the waters of the Euphrates from endangering the city, when the Armenian snows swelled it into an yearly overflow of its banks, as part of the current was then diverted into this lake, and afterwards, on proper occasions, were drawn forth to moisten the fields that lay below the level thereof. Neither was it to be expected, that they had attained as yet a sufficient knowledge by their experience in mechanics, to authorize them in the erection of a timber fabric of such extensive dimensions. And what tends still further to corroborate this opinion is, that they had already proved themselves competent to the erection of arches of no small dimensions; as we are informed that all the openings in that immense building erected by the offspring of Noah, called the Tower of Babel, were turned with arches of this material. They had also evinced their skill, in the carrying of a brick