OF BRIDGES.

BRIDGES IN NORWAY,
CONSTRUCTED OF MASTS.

Where the rivers in Norway are deep, and the rapidity of the current such that no timber pier can withstand its force, there Bridges of considerable extent, constructed of large masts, are frequently erected. The parts of the masts, which are to rest on each other, are first hewn to a flat surface, whereby to prevent them from rolling; one tier of the largest of these masts is then projected into the river from each side, with the thickest end fastened to the rocks: the first tier, making the width of Bridge, being thus laid in the water, the second is placed thereon, extending six or eight feet beyond the first; then a third, fourth, or fifth tier, in the same order, till they reach the middle of the stream, where they are joined by the connected masts from the opposite shore. The passenger, in crossing over this Bridge, is often alarmed by its swinging and cradling, especially in the middle, and which to strangers appear so extremely dangerous, that they always dismount from their horses, and prefer to lead them over.