land stone was begun to be erected in its stead: to accomplish which, a tax was laid upon wool, which in the course of time gave rise to the notion, among the vulgar, that the said Bridge was built upon woolpacks. In the reign of King John, about the year one thousand two hundred and nine, the Bridge was finished, having been thirty-three years in building, at the public expense. But, although it was now constructed of a material much less perishable than the former, yet we find that in the reign of Edward I, one thousand two hundred and eighty-one, the King, being informed of the ruinous condition of London Bridge, granted his letters patent, empowering the keeper of the said Bridge to receive a toll of such persons as should pass over it. The winter following, at the breaking up of a severe frost, five arcs of this Bridge were entirely swept away by the violence of the ice. Since that period it has undergone many alterations, repairs and improvements. This Bridge is erected in the old Gothic style, and had twenty arcs, but two of these having been thrown into one, in the centre, for the purpose of giving more water-way, there are now only nineteen remaining. The length of Bridge