they began to adopt measures for its erection. An Architect was chosen to carry on the necessary works, who in due time produced plans, estimates, and a model of the intended edifice. But as the work was of considerable magnitude and importance, it was thought expedient to refer the design to the opinion of some gentlemen of celebrity for scientific and practical knowledge in and near the metropolis; their report being unfavorable, the scheme of erecting a stone Bridge was abandoned. The committee, however, being now warmly engaged in the business, continued to prosecute their enquiries; and Mr. Burdon in particular being frequently called by his parliamentary duty to London, was very diligent in his endeavours to obtain information and hints, from various quarters, as to the peculiar advantages and disadvantages of different materials, as well as of various modes of construction. Mr. Burdon had the good fortune to be assisted in the maturing of his plans by Mr. Thomas Wilson, a truly ingenious man, and at the same time to learn much of the construction of iron Bridges from Messrs. Walkers, of Rotherham, so that at length he became persuaded that