OF BRIDGES.

flat countries, where the rivers are neither so precipitate in their courses, nor have such hills on each side to swell them with their torrents. Such a flood unfortunately occurred after the completion of this undertaking, which tore up the largest trees by the roots, and carried them down the river to the Bridge, where the arcs were not sufficiently wide to admit of their passage. Here, therefore, they were detained. Brushwood, weeds, hay, straw, and whatever lay in the way of the flood, came down, and collected about the branches of the trees, that stuck fast in the arcs, and choked the free current of the water. In consequence of this obstruction to the flood, a thick and strong dam, as it were, was thus formed. The aggregate of so many collected streams being unable to get any further, rose here to a prodigious height, and with the force of its pressure carried the Bridge entirely away before it. William Edwards had given security for the stability of the Bridge during the space of seven years; and of course he was obliged to erect another; and he proceeded on his duty with all possible speed. The Bridge had only stood about two years and a half. The second Bridge was of one arc, for