their loading being taken off, they are driven into the water about a mile and a half above the Bridge, in order that they may reach the opposite shore near it; they being usually carried so far by the rapidity of the stream.

Instead of a bejucos Bridge, some rivers are passed by means of a tarabita, which is a single rope either made of bejucos or thongs cut from the hide of an ox, and consisting of several strands, which, when twisted, form a rope of six or eight inches in thickness. This is extended across the river, and fastened on one side to a strong post, and on the other to a wheel, that it may be straightened or slackened as occasion serves. From the tarabita hangs a kind of leathern hammock, large enough to contain a man, and suspended by a clue at each end, hanging in a loop over the tarabita. A rope is also fastened to it, and extended over the river, for drawing the hammock to the side intended; which, with a push at its first setting off, sends it quickly to the other side. This not only serves to carry over persons, but the burthens of beasts, and also the animals themselves, where the rapidity of the current and the prodigious.