until all wires for one strand are stretched. The regulating is done by men standing on light platforms called “cradles,” which, supported by wire ropes, are erected at different places along the line of the cable. It is therefore necessary, that these cradles should be at such an elevation, that the wires of the strand hang about breast high to a man standing in them, so as to enable him to compare the relative deflections of the wires.

In order to reach the cradles without difficulty and otherwise to facilitate general communication between all parts of the work, there is a narrow and light “footbridge,” spanning the river and the spaces between towers and anchorages, which serves for all purposes. The wires of a strand are tied together with a wire lashing about every sixteen inches, and then lowered in their final position. A second strand is made in the same manner, and so on until with the nineteenth the cable is ready for wrapping. The strands occupy in the cable a certain