It should combine strength with the greatest compactness in order to reduce the width of the chain to a minimum. To resist the squeezing pressure of the strand the shoe is stiffened in front by a connecting piece; but enough length should be given to enable regulation of the strand. The advantages of the shoe are various. It increases the diameter of the curve around which the wires are bent, and it holds the latter between its flanges firmly, preventing any slipping after a wire is once regulated. In removing the strand from its temporary to its final position, the shoe especially is of great advantage, as all connections for hauling are made with the shoe, saving thereby the wires from injury or displacement.

The shoe in its first position rests on the so-called “leg,” of which a description may be in place here, as part of the anchorage, though being only of temporary use:

The “leg” is a trough-shaped casting about 12 to 13 feet long. It is held in