

while the other is at the Brooklyn anchorage. When, for instance, the left sheave carries a wire from Brooklyn to New York, the right one moves empty in opposite direction. When the latter arrives at the Brooklyn anchorage, the driving wheel is stopped, a wire placed on the same, and the motion of the working rope is reversed.

Other appliances in the service of stretching wire are the wire drums. There are altogether 32 drums, 8 for each cable, the chief object of which is to serve as reservoirs of wire ready for being worked into strands. Each drum is 8' 2" in diameter, 15" wide and can hold about 50,000 feet wire, which is enough for six to seven trips of the traveling sheave. It is provided with a brake by means of which the sag in the running wire can be regulated. It is necessary that the wire is wound tight on the drum, else the brake is ineffective. The wire ring therefore is placed first on a smaller wheel (Fig. 13), from which it is unwound on the large drum under