ascertained, that most every day an accidental coincidence of circumstances keeps for 6–7 minutes the line under the bridge clear of vessels. Of such a chance advantage was taken, and in the forenoon of Aug. 14th, 1876, a cannon shot gave the signal for cutting the lashing on the Brooklyn dock and setting the engine in motion. Four minutes later the rope came out of the water and in six minutes hung clear over all masts and formed the first connecting link between the cities of New York and Brooklyn, destined never more to be broken. Simple as this operation was, it created considerable excitement and interest among the population, probably caused by a feeling of historical importance for the day, which practically should unite the two cities. Thousands of spectators lined the shores, who greeted with loud cheers the appearance of this little rope, as it rapidly ascended high up in the air. It seemed that all doubts, hitherto entertained as to the erection and subsequent safety of the bridge,