together by means of a pair of tongs, on
the claws of which an iron sleeve, by
knocking it towards the end of the arms,
exercises great squeezing power.

The strand is now ready to be "let off."

This consists in relieving the shoe from
its temporary seat on the leg, and to let
it forward in its final position, at the end
of the anchor-chain. It is an operation,
which, with heavy strands, requires great
care and foresight, because an accident
here would not only be a loss of many
thousands of dollars, but also would
cause immense damage to property and
shipping, and likely great destruction of
life. It is therefore advisable, not only
to make careful calculations, but also to
have every rope and iron used in this
operation thoroughly tested.

Fig. 34 represents the top view of the
anchorage, with the full letting off
arrangement for one of the outer strands
of the East River Bridge.

Two heavy iron bars \( LL \), fitting close-
ly to the sides of the shoe, and bolted to
a double steel plate in front of it, form