NEW YORK, July 18, 1871.

Jno. F. Winslow, Esq.,
Pres. Poughkeepsie Bridge Co.,

Dear Sir:—In the communications from the Company, I am requested to prepare a plan of Suspension Bridge to carry a Railroad of single track across the Hudson River at Poughkeepsie; the plans to be in sufficient detail to furnish the character and quantities of work and materials, required for an estimate of cost of such bridge, and previously to furnish an approximate estimate of the cost.

I am informed that the width of the river at the proposed place of crossing, will required a bridge of 3400 feet length—that the depth of water may be taken at 50 to 55 feet, and that rock or other material suitable for the foundation of the towers will be found at 70 feet below the surface of the water.

I am directed to assume that suitable provision for the navigation of the river will be made by an elevation of the under side of the bridge above the water of one hundred and thirty feet, and by two centre spans of 1100 feet, and half spans of 600 feet. The width of the bridge to be that which will provide for a single track, and for the horizontal stability of the structure.

The towers of the bridge to be of masonry, sustained by adequate foundations, the cables to be steel or iron as found preferable, and the superstructure of iron as far as advisable.

The carrying capacity of the bridge to be that of half a ton to the lineal foot.