INTRODUCTORY REMARKS.

The East River Bridge will form a suspended highway, connecting New York and Brooklyn, cities of respectively one million, and four hundred thousand inhabitants. The location of the terminus in New York is opposite the City Hall, in Chatham street; and in Brooklyn, in the square bounded by Fulton, Sands, Washington, and Prospect streets, comprising a total length of five thousand nine hundred and eighty-nine feet. It forms an air line from the City Hall to the square above mentioned.

Of this whole length, three thousand four hundred and fifty-five feet are suspended in three main openings. The central span will cross the river from pier-line to pier-line, without impeding navigation, in one single span of one thousand five hundred and ninety-five feet, six inches, from centre to centre of tower. From each tower towards the land side, half-spans will be supported by the land cables, nine hundred and thirty feet long each, measuring from the centre of tower to face of anchor-wall.

From the face of the anchor-wall, on the New York side, a distance remains of one thousand five hundred and sixty-two feet, six inches, to Chatham street, and from the anchor-wall to the Brooklyn terminus, a distance of nine hundred and seventy-one feet.

These distances, between the anchorages and termini, are known as the approaches. These latter will be supported by iron girders and trusses, and will rest at short intervals upon small piers of masonry or iron columns, located within the blocks of buildings which will be crossed and occupied. These pillars will form part of the walls needed for the division of the occupied ground, into stores, dwellings, or offices.