In every such case the bridge floor will be constructed fire and water proof; serving as a roof to the blocks of houses underneath. The streets will be crossed by iron girders and trusses, twelve in number.

There will be one uniform grade of three feet, three inches per one hundred feet from the New York terminus to the centre of the Bridge, and the same from the Brooklyn anchorage. That of the Brooklyn approach will be less, only two feet, nine inches per one hundred owing to the greater elevation of the terminus.

The roadway will pass the towers at an elevation of one hundred and nineteen feet, and in the centre of the main span, the elevation in the clear of the lower chord of the Bridge, will be one hundred and thirty-five feet above mean high water, or one hundred and forty feet above low water.

This elevation was fixed by special Act of Congress, being an increase of five feet over that of the original plan.

It is sufficient to permit the unobstructed passage of all schooners, barques, brigs and steamers, as well as ships below a thousand tons. Ships above that tonnage will have to lower their upper spars. The amount of such tonnage is however only one-tenth of that passing under the Bridge, and the number of such vessel not one in two hundred, diminishing moreover in numbers from year to year, as the commerce of the world is carried on more and more by steamers.

The suspended superstructure will consist of an iron framing eighty-five feet in width from out to out, suspended from four main cables by wire rope suspenders attached to iron floor-beams, which are placed seven feet six inches apart. The flooring is further divided into five spaces by six lines of iron trusses, of which the two centre-lines have a depth of twelve feet, and the others, of eight feet; the lower chords being placed below the iron floor beams.

The outer spaces have a width in the clear between the truss posts of eighteen feet, one inch, and accommodate each, two lines of iron tramways for ordinary vehicle travel, as well as for street cars, drawn either singly, by horses, or in pairs, by light dummies. The next two spaces are thirteen feet two