THE BROOKLYN FOUNDATION.

One trial boring, made in 1867, showed gniess rock at a depth of ninety-six feet below high water. The strata penetrated consisted, besides the surface filling, principally of hard pan and alternate layers of trap boulders imbedded in sand and clay. Below a depth of fifty to sixty feet the material was so compact, that the bore hole stood without tubing for weeks. No necessity existed therefore for going down to rock, since a depth of fifty feet would suffice.

But the great desideratum to be attained was a foundation of a uniform character over the entire space, whatever the depth might be. It is well known that the drift formation of Long Island presents a great variety of strata in comparatively short distances. Within a few hundred feet on either side of this foundation, there is no bottom so to speak, and piles are driven a great depth into the mud, whereas in the centre of our foundation the depth was only a few feet; the existing ferry slip had been blasted out at great expense, and to drive an iron-shod pile even two feet into that material, was the work of hours.

This hard material, however, occupied only a part of the foundation which comprises an area of seventeen thousand square feet. One third of this area, towards the East, was much softer in character.

To meet the requirements of this case a

SOLID TIMBER FOUNDATION

Was decided upon, of sufficient thickness to act as a beam, and having the requisite mass to insure uniform settling. The importance of a uniform foundation becomes evident