report of the committee of the Ohio Legislature appointed to investigate that disaster, had factors, — we can hardly call them factors of safety, — in some parts as low as $1\frac{6}{10}$ and $1\frac{2}{10}$, such factors referring to the breaking-weight; and even these factors were obtained by assuming the load as at rest, and making no allowance for the jar and shock from a railroad train in motion. Well may the commissioners say, as they do at the end of their report, "The bridge was liable to go down at any time during the last ten years under the loads that might at any time be brought upon it in the ordinary course of the company's business, and it is most remarkable that it did not sooner occur."

One point always brought forward when an iron bridge breaks down, is the supposed