I.—LOCATION.

The question of location is influenced and must be finally determined by two distinct considerations.

The first consideration is purely technical, a simple engineering question, which decides the practicability of the work on the various routes.

The second question is that of Cost, and suggests the inquiry: will the work pay as an investment?

The Charter of the New York Bridge Company confines the Brooklyn terminus to a point at or near the junction of Main and Fulton streets. Accordingly, this locality has been fixed, as will appear in the large map which accompanies this report. For the New York terminus, a latitude is allowed, ranging from Chatham Square, along Chatham Street, to the junction of Nassau and Chatham.

By this legislative provision, the surveys have at once been confined to two lines or routes.

One line terminates at Chatham Square, the other line opposite the City Hall Park.

No ground between these two localities is available for want of elevation.

The Hall of Justice, known as the Tombs, stands upon a spot, which once was the centre of a lake, called the Kolck or Collect. The low ground between the Park and Chatham Square formed part of a slough and outlet of this pond. Although forestalled by legislation, I have laid down upon