Wooden Bridges.

The chords are formed of 3 or 4 courses of timber side by side, with a depth equal to two or three times the thickness; the joints in the several courses being so distributed that no two courses may have a joint in the same panel when avoidable.

Fig. 64, represents a side view in the upper, and a top view in the lower diagram, of a portion of the bot-

tom chord. At $t$ is represented a view of the tube of the skewback as it would appear with the outside chord timber removed; at $mm$, the seats of the main braces, and $c$, the seat of the counter brace. Over $a$, is a clamp, or lock piece, and $bb'$ are transfer blocks, or packing pieces, to secure the joint, and transfer the strain from one to another of the chord timbers. The transfer blocks may be placed obliquely as at $b$, or straight, as at $b'$. The latter is the more usual, but the former leaves the greater section of timber at the point where the bolt holes occur.

The braces are usually placed with a horizontal about half as great as the vertical reach, and extending across one panel only. Counter braces used throughout, and the upper chord made of equal length with the lower, giving the truss a rectangular, instead of a Trapezoidal form.