TIMBER BRIDGE OVER THE RIVER DON, AT DYCE IN ABERDEENSHIRE.

Fig. 84.

We were much surprised upon turning to the article Bridge, in the Edinburgh Encyclopedia, to find almost the identical plan of construction which our theory had led us to recommend as best adapted to bridges of large span.

This structure was erected by Mr. James Burn of Haddington, near Aberdeen, in the year 1803. The description does not inform us in reference to any of the details of construction, and we cannot tell whether the architect wedged the counter-braces to increase the stiffness of the truss. The plan of using wedged counter-braces appears to have been but recently introduced, and forms a new and important era in bridge construction; even yet, many practical builders do not seem to understand their utility.

SCHAFFHAUSEN BRIDGE.

Fig. 85.

This celebrated structure was built by Ulric Grubenmann, and consisted of two spans, one of 172 feet, the other of 193. It was supported in the interval by a stone pier, which had remained when a former bridge had been swept away. With many excellencies this bridge had also serious defects, and it is certain that a much smaller quantity of timber judiciously arranged would have given far greater strength. Still the principle is an admirable one, and originating as it did with an