a bridge, in undermining the piers. If, on the contrary, the Natural Water Way is enlarged at the point where the structure is placed, with the view of preventing these consequences, the velocity of the current, during the ordinary stages of the Water, will be decreased. This will occasion deposits to be formed, which, by gradually filling up the bed, might, during high Water, prove a more serious obstruction than the structure itself; especially if it should change the channels, and form new ones around the foundations of the structure. The Artificial Water-way should, for