

VICTORIA BRIDGE.

This Bridge, which was constructed in the face of the greatest engineering difficulties, is the connecting link of a continuous line of railway, extending from the extreme western limits of Canada to its eastern boundary, and affording an outlet to provincial trade to the Atlantic, when the rigor of our climate closes the natural channel of the St. Lawrence. It was commenced 20th July, 1854. Its length, including the abutments, is from bank to bank 10,284 feet; the height above summer level in the central opening, is 60 feet; the tube is 6,600 feet in length, 22 feet high, and 16 feet wide, and is supported on 25 piers. The embankment on the north side is 1,200 feet—on the south, 800 feet. The material used in construction of the Bridge were, 3,000,000 cubic feet of masonry; 10,000 tons of iron, and 2,000,000 rivets. The painted surface comprises an area of 158 acrs. The cost was nearly \$7,000,000. It was constructed for the contractors, Messrs. Brassey, Peto & Co., by Mr. James Hodges.