

### PROPOSED PEACE MEMORIAL BRIDGE.

A student of modern political conditions is conversant with the fact that mankind in general is cultivating an abhorrence of war between nations and communities. Examples have not been few during the past decade when the voice of the people has ended pending hostilities and bloodshed by declaring, through the columns of the press and by other means, that war must not yet be, and if difficulties have

The Niagara River is an ideal spot for such a structure on account of the prominence enjoyed by the Falls, the ease of distributing the foundations equally and the possibility of welding into its members the idea that it is an indestructible link that shall bind these two nations together for all time to come. Just at what spot the structure is to be built has not been decided, but that it will be either crossing the river close to Lake Erie or just below the Falls is very probable.



Fig. 1.—Proposed Memorial Arch Bridge at Niagara Falls.

arisen, arbitration must be given every possible opportunity to restore a peaceful attitude.

There are two pronounced reasons for this; first the national mental expansion which has kept pace with the unprecedented industrial expansion of the past few years, and secondly, the overwhelming expenditure of public money following a declaration of war between two or more nations.

It may be a coincidence or it may be the natural succession of events, nevertheless, it is a fact that the three nations who have not resorted to a force of arms for over ninety-eight years to settle international difficulties, are the foremost examples of mankind, speaking in general terms, among the nations; these three are Great Britain, France and the United States.

Prominent citizens of the first and last mentioned

Mr. T. Kennard Thomson, acting as consulting engineer to a committee of prominent men of both nations, has prepared the illustrations which we present to our readers. Figure 1 is a proposed structure to be erected and take the place of the present steel arch bridge a few hundred feet from the Falls. It has a clear span of 840 feet with a clear height of 144 feet, and the materials are steel encased in masonry; the design of the structure, both mechanically and aesthetically, has been prepared with a view of one hundred years' use.

The history of the bridges at this point has been somewhat varied, the first was a suspension bridge with a width just sufficient to allow one wagon to cross at a time; the second was of such a width that two wagons could cross, but the structure met an untimely end and fell a prey to a

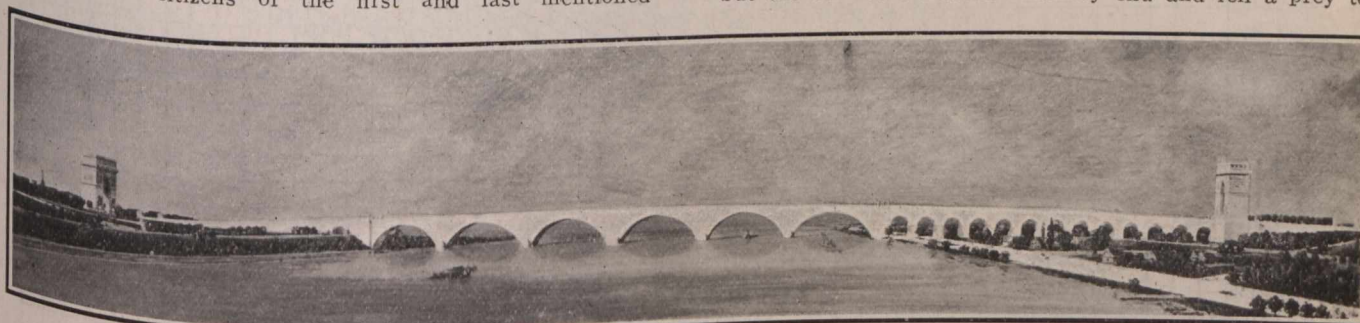


Fig. 2.—Proposed Alternative Memorial Bridge Between Buffalo, N.Y., and Fort Erie, Ont.

nations have assumed that was is over between these communities, and, acting upon this assumption, have made preliminary preparations for a tangible celebration when the ninety-eight years shall be increased by two.

The two illustrations show in which direction the plans for the event have turned; the erection of a permanent bridge across the Niagara River between Canada and the United States of America.

miniature hurricane which swept the structure from its anchorage. The third was, like its predecessors, of the suspension type, and it was removed to make way for the present structure, which is now considered too light.

Figure 2 is an illustration of an alternative proposed bridge, and is of a much more pretentious nature, having a length of nearly 4,000 feet. The design of this bridge includes six main spans with a length of 300 feet clear each,