

The bridge was first opened for the passage of trains on the 19th of December, 1859. The formal inauguration by his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, who visits Canada for the purpose, is appointed for the 25th of August, 1860, when, under God's blessing, this work, of such great social and international importance, will be duly dedicated to the great purposes for which it is designed.

The following are the inscriptions at the entrance of the Bridge :—

[ON THE OUTER LINTEL.]

ERECTED A.D. MDCCCLIX.

ROBERT STEPHENSON AND ALEX. M. ROSS,
ENGINEERS.

[ON THE INTERIOR LINTEL.]

BUILT
BY

JAMES HODGES,

FOR

SIR S. MORTON PETO, BART., THOMAS BRASSEY,
AND

EDWARD LADD BETTS,
CONTRACTORS.

DATES.

First part of north abutment coffer-dam towed into place 24th May, 1854.	First stone of bridge laid 20th July, 1854.
	First train passed over the bridge 17th December, 1859.

DIMENSIONS, WEIGHTS, &c.

Total length of tubes, 6592 feet.	Number of spans, 25; twenty-four from 242 to 247 feet each; one, 330 feet.
Total length of bridge, 9144 feet.	
Height of bottom of centre tube above surface of water, 60 feet.	Quantity of masonry in piers and abutments, 2,743,095 cubic feet.
Height of bottom of tubes at abutment, 36 feet.	Greatest depth of water, 22 feet.
Rise of tubes to centre, 1 in 130.	Average rate of current, seven miles an hour.
Weight of iron in tubes, 9044 tons.	Quantity of timber in temporary works, 2,280,000 cubic feet.
Number of rivets in tubes, 1,540,000.	Quantity of clay puddle used in dams, 146,000 cubic yards.
Painting—number of coats, 4; number of acres in each coat, 32. Total acres, 128.	
Number of piers, 24.	

FORCE EMPLOYED IN CONSTRUCTION.

Number of steam-boats, 6.	Number of men employed, 3040.
Number of barges, 75.	Number of horses, 144.
Tonnage of ditto, 12,000.	Locomotive engines, 4.
Power of steamers, 450 H.P.	