Bridge of Surpassing Size and Cost Projected in New York City.

Structure with Terminals Estimated \$60,000,000-Waning Prestige of the Port the Main Incentive.

After years of planning and many delays fue to the magnitude of the undertaking the projectors of the bridge across the Hudson river, from Fifty-ninth street, New York City, to Guttenberg, N. J., announce that contracts will be let and actual work on the structure will begin before the close of the quently blocked during business hours. year. Final approval of the plans by the secretary of war was secured on the 3d inst. The state authorities of New York and New Jersey had previously endorsed them. No serious obstacle now remains to balk the construction of a bridge of surpassing size, which is estimated to cost, with terminals,

purpose of so great an expenditure of money is continued to the Battery -the hope of regaining the commercial the suspension and cantilever principles.

Brooklyn bridge. The height above mean the Battery.

Thus, while providing an immensely erosity of the city. greater traffic capacity, the structure across The creation of Roebling has been likened to a giant spider's web. The North river plan: bridge will be as filmy and delicate as a queen's Mechlin handkerchief. Ruskin's terminal facilities is rapidly driving away "frozen music" will apply fit this newest traffic in grain. and most ambitious creation of the Ameri- respect to this bridge is realized the concan bridge builder's intellect.

Limit of Construction.

The speed with which an American firm built the Athara bridge in Egypt won encomiums from Lord Kitchener and elicited a generous meed of praise from British engineers and scientists. But this \$60,000,000 hand whose fingers are to clasp the states of New York and New Jersey in one cordial union is to be finished in exactly five years from the date of signing the builders' contracts. Compare this wi h the thirteen years that elapsed between the inauguration and the completion of the first bridge from Manhattan to Brooklyn and the progress the world has made in this domain of human activity will be better comprehended. As an earnest of its ability to complete this Titanic task the builders have already filed a bond of \$1,000,000. The law under which the New York and New Jersey bridge was projected provides that it must be completed within ten years, but Secretary Swan of the bridge

commission said to the Herald reporter:
"We expect to do better by half." Once the freight approaches to the bridge in this city anyhow." are approved by the sinking fund commis-The guaranteed cost of the bridge alone was placed at \$17,-600,000, but the approaches and freight terminals comprehend an expenditure of some \$60,000,000. The money is ready now.

"As this is not a public project, but a private enterprise, we anticipate no further delays. The securing of national, state and of speech. He was a purist in language local approval has been a tedious process. The work of erection will be another matter. Naturally, it is so much to the advantage of those interested to complete the work of building the enormous structure and then get a return for the huge sum invested have shouted: 'Get a git on you there and that interruptions will not be tolerated, and the delays inevitable to the securing of and turn 'em.' Roosevelt's order, while bonds, appropriations and approvals in a equally sharp, nearly paralyzed the flying public work done under state or municipal auspices will be precluded. Therefore we told and retold wherever two or more cowfeel confident of doing what we say and punchers have gathered together. Standing

Why and Wherefore. 'The object of the management is to

build for the distant future. The metropelis of the western hemisphere has sorely needed this project for many years. Until it secures it we may continue to see our commerce going to other ports. Facts which cannot be controverted sup-

port this statement. The question of New York's shrinking commerce has received the careful consideration of our Chamber of Commerce and of the Produce prisoners and on the commandant demandexchange, as well as the state commission appointed by Governor Black to examine the condition of affairs in the main gateway on this side of the Atlantic.

'New York City is the only city in the United States, Great Britain or on the continent doing an export and import business and handling its traffic by rail and where the traffic cannot be transferred directly from car to ship and ship to car; and it is the only city handling this class of business on the Atlantic seaboard which has not increased its percentage of the business during the last twenty-five years. In 1873 New York handled \$8 79-100 per cent of the wheat exported through Atlantic seaports or gateways This business has greatly decreased since then, so that in 1896 New York City exported only 46 44-100 per cent of the wheat shipped from the Atlantic scaports. 1897 the value of these exports from this port was \$24,000,000 less than it was in

1896 and the decline has continued. The managers of the railroads entering Boston, realizing the importance of holding generalized from such insufficient premises the immense gain in business won at the that the worse their writing the brighter expense of New York, have built during the their chances of becoming learned men. last two decades, at great expense, capac- From the parental point of view the argusteamship lines running from the Hub. It the premise is sometimes true is beyond has been largely owing to these increased question. Miss Caroline Ticknor tells an facilities that the vast export business of amusing story of Rufus Choate, that port have been possible. is virtually true of Newport News, whose

growth has been phenomenal 'In Boston all the export freight, except an occasional small shipment, is handled directly from car to ship. In the metropolis there is no facility whatever for handling export or import products directly from car to ship, except by lighterage. Therefore, what commerce at this port imperatively needs is a system whereby the freight car can be placed alongside of the steamship to load and unload its bur-This is the true meaning, the crux. of the New York and New Jersey bridge project, with its proposed freight approach along the North, river marginal

New York Terminal.

The official plans for this approach show that it will run from the New York terminus at about West Fifty-ninth street along the dock reserve of West street to strongly resemble your notes of the present the Battery, where a loop will enable switching to be eliminated. In this vicinity of West Fifty-ninth street all the tremendous traffic of the Pennsylvania. New Jersey Central, West Shore, New York. | time."

SPANNING THE HUDSON RIVER Lake Eric & Western, Dalaware, Lackawanns & Western, New York & Susquehanna, Lehigh Valley, Baltimore & Ohio and other reads, tapping all of the union except New England, will have its point of

> ity be situated in this vicinity. steamship lines running to Europe. Panama and along our eastern coast are fast moving up town, and the New York Central and all s constituent lines already come down the Hudson nearly to the northern approach of the future North River bridge. Thus it may c seen how this project for both passenger and freight business will revolutionize the substitute. hoped, reclaim the trade that has gone to sence sold by the Indian traders is enorand it will enhance values and overcome all the time, but the truth of the matter the congested condition of the streets in the lower part of the city, which are so fre- alcohol, and the Indian-or to be precise. gun desappeared into the coulee.

The route submitted by the engineers, to- claim as an intimate acquaintancegether with the report made by the com | tonses off a few bottles of either, or both mission, is briefly:

rould leave the main approach at Fiftyfifth street, near Eleventh avenue, upon the wear and tear of ginger as a beverage. tracks elevated to a height of 135 feet, at West Fiftieth street they fall to 110 feet under a table, grasping a six-foot Unca-Facts and figures given by the New York and by the time West Twenty-fourth papa Sioux by the legs. Herald give some idea of the magnitude of street is reached the structure is not more the structure and its approaches and the than twenty-three feet high. This height and I took the weekly supply of butter

From the junction at West Twentysupremacy of the part of New York. The fourth street the structure would be con- time. bridge will have six tracks for steam rail- tinued in a northerly direction at a height roads on the main level and four trolley of twenty-three feet, connecting with and game of freezeout. tracks a readway and nedestrian and excle passing through the New York Central paths on the upper deck, constituting the freight yards at Fifty ninth street, and so most complete bridge structure ever to the Riverside Drive. From the bridge This bridge is a combination of approach to Twenty-fourth street the structure permits of only two tracks. At The river span will be 2,739 feet, from Twenty-fourth street it is widened for shore to shore, or 1.235 feet longer than the four tracks, which would be continued to

high water will be 150 feet, fifteen feet. The cost of construction is estimated a higher in the clear than the Brooklyn more than \$1,000,000 per mile. This, of The extreme width will be eighty course, does not include the ornamentafeet, about the same as the East river tion of the boulevard and the carriage apstructure. The foundations will be 170 feet proaches and stairways for pedestrians and below high water. The piers will be sixty- bicyclists, all of which are matters of detwo feet in diameter, considerably smaller tails to be considered later and which than the tower area of the Brooklyn bridge, may be elaborated according to the gen-

Andrew H. Green, the "Father of Greater the North river will be more compact and New York," who for many years has been even more jarclike when it is silhouetted untiring in his research and study of the against the sky than is the Brooklyn bridge, question, "How to maintain New York's ommercial supremacy," says of this great

"The lack of adequate and convenient familiar description of architecture as from this port the immense continental If our anticipations with veniences for handling grain and freight must inevitably follow the construction, if they are executed on a scale commensurate with pressing needs."

SHORT STORIES WELL TOLD.

A certain colonel on the staff of one of Grant's generals was much given to novel reading and went about with his saddlebags stuffed full of thrilling romances. For weeks he had been devouring an English translation of Victor Hugo's "Les Miserables." One day while passing through a confederate town he saw a young woman seated on a porch and, stopping his horse, bowed to her with all the grace of a Chesterfield and endeavored to engage her in onversation. Before he had gone far he

ook occasion to remark anglicizing the pronunciation. Her black eyes snapped with indignation

as she tartly replied: "Don't you talk to me that way; they're

of the Bad Lands Cowboy when Roosevelt was ranching up on the Little Missouri and has many pleasant recollections of those

"Nothing amused the cowboys more than Roosevelt's choice of words and manner and at first was unable to tackle the cowpunchers' slang. While driving the "rst ounch of cattle to his Chimney Butte ranch a number of them started up a An experienced foreman would coulee. head them steers,' or 'Hit the high places cow-puncher. It has been treasured and consummating the work in five years from in his stirrups, he opened his steel-trap mouth and yelled: 'Hasten quickly forward yonder.' The wonder was it didn't stampede the herd."

> The Dutch commander who had charge of all the British prisoners taken after the battle of Glencoe, Dundee and Nicholson's Nek has told Mr. Davitt the following in teresting little story:

Going his rounds at midnight on one oc casion he was astonished to see an English soldier acting as a Boer sentinel over the ing an explanation "Tommy" offered the following extraordinary account of his transformation from a prisoner to sentinel

over himself and fellow prisoners: Well, sir, this 'ere poor little chap, pointing to the sleeping form of a Boer lad 5 years old, "was dead broke for sleep after two nights of dooty. I takes pity on the little chap an' I says: 'Look 'ere, you're regular done up, you are, that's sartin. You give me your rifle and take a bit o' sleep an' l'll do sentry go for you, l Honor bright! I won't do nothink wrong, blow me if I do!' So the little chap went off. It's all right, sir; don't blime him, please, he's only a kid!"

"I was assured," adds Mr. Davitt, "that neither 'the kid' nor the kind-hearted English prisoner suffered over the unique in-

It is notorious, says Youth's Companion, that the handwriting of the scholar sometimes does little credit to his learning. Ingenious but illogical schoolboys have ment seems radically unsound, but that

Her grandfather, George Ticknor, the historian of Spanish literature, was once called as a witness in a case in which Mr. Choate was engaged as counsel. Sitting beside the eminent lawyer, during the progress of the trial, he was attracted by Mr. Cheate's notes of the evidence

He found that he could not read a word of them. After studying them a short time he remarked to Mr. Choate that the writing reminded him of two autograph letters in his possession, one of Emanuel, "the Fortunate," of Portugal, dated 1512, and the other of Gonzalvo de Cordova, the 'Great Captain," as he was called, written glanced over these remarkable specimens of chirography would marvel that it was possible to make out a syllable of such

llegible scrawls. These letters," Mr. Ticknor assured Mr. Choate, "were written 150 years ago, and

Choate's reply was instantaneous

POKER, WITH A DASH OF GINGER.

By H. W. PHILLIPS.

know because I have seen its operations. uring interest within the limits of the city red woman made pastry and confection; blazed away at the sunthe Sioux, for he is the only Indian I can

and feels uplifted. At least, he feels up-The cars, after crossing the bridge, lifted for a while and then is horribly ill It takes a sturdy constitution to stand asked, I came by my dislike for ginger drinking

> The way it happened was: from the ranch to the post, settled the business, then wandered around, killing

> We met an old friend, who suggested a He had a friend, se the four of us turned into a log cabin. spread a horse blanket on the table counted out twenty-five matches apiece, paid in our 25 cents to the bank and began

We were having the nicest kind of a time, when the Evil One came to the doorway and peeked in. nize him as such at the time. The casual glance showed only a big Injun, haggard as to face and a trifle wild about the eyes. but otherwise merely an Injun.

If he had the necessary money-the west

"How much " "Cash-poppy-nopah-sema-keese" (two

He fished out a quarter from his paint box and threw it on the table. Jack got up and let him pass to the corner seatfortunate circumstance! The table thus formed a barricade, shutting him into the orner of the cabin.

As our new friend dropped heavily upon his cracker box, his breath filled the air with Oriental spiciness. In a minute the place recked of ginger. Still, he played his cards handily enough.

holding up one or more fingers to indicate the extent of his draw. At last he and I fell foul of each other in a pot. He bet five chips-I saw and raised him five. He came back at me with ten. I thought the matter over and called

He laid down his hand and raked in the

I looked at the cards carefully. There was nothing but a pair of fives. dropped my three kings on the blanket and reached for the matches. In an instant he had a knife in his hand. I ducked back-it swished by within an inch of my

Then, with a promptitude for which annot sufficiently admire myself, I exeuted a flank movement. Under the table I flew and wrapped my arms under his long legs-wrapped 'em tight-shut my

eyes and waited. It was with me as with a stoker on a battleship. All about me the war raged and roared. There were thumps, whacks, shricks, yells and curses; my legs were a good deal better than Grant's miserables, painfully trodden upon, but I had my simple duty to perform and I did it. the darkness and gloom under the table I hung on to that Injun's legs.

The table fell over and we rolled en the floor. Young Jack, the Injun, and Iwhile the other two, with pieces of board, dealt an excited but impartial hammering

We floundered out of the door. Heavens, bulls. A boiling storm center around which, cyclonewise, revolved our friends, with flashing boards for lightning. Fortunately, the injun had lost his knife early in the hostilities and had to rely

upon nature's weapons. Still I clung to his legs. habit by this time. I doubt that I could have let go had I willed it. I had inducement enough, heaven knows. by friend and foe alike; I must have stopped a dozen kicks which Jack intended for the Injun, and that worthy made my head ring again to the stroke of his fists, while those boards! They smote my quivering flesh from crown to sole with a report like a six-pound shell. (A lucky thing for me that it did not occur to the

wielders to strike edgeways with them, or should have been brained to a certainty.) do not know how long we had been imbling in the dirt, when misfortune directed the feet of five soldiers in our di-I heard a voice, full of wonder, say,

Well, what in blazes kind of a racket is this, anyway

"Dunno, Billy," was the answer. "But let's get a board and join the game." And they did, laying it onto us to the time of "O, Dem Golden Slippers," when they had breath enough left from laughing. In the middle of the hilarity a stern voice called, "Here! Here! What's the mean ing of this?

"Lord! of the soldiers. Then they all jumped up "Separate those men." commanded the

officer. They had great difficulty in unangling Jack and the Indian, but when hey came to me, I refused to let go al-

"Why!" said I, very gravely. "It wouldn't do-it wouldn't do at all." by which you can see how cool and composed

Then two giggling idiots pried my arms apart and raised me to my feet. They stood us in a row; Billy, one eye covered with bumps and bruises, o the left; next, the Injun, his long hair dressed a la omelet, sundry cuts on his arge face showing through the sweat and dust, his eyes quivering behind his hair like savage animals in a cage; then your

he cares to put down. The officer started to speak-bit his lip straightened his features - coughed and addressed us. "Now, what was the cause of this?" he

humble servant, who has no idea how he

looked, but who could imagine more than

"Ginger"" repeated the efficer, and his brows went up. "Why, what had that

o do with it " quarter. With one appalling sarisk the Injun fell upon the nearest soldier, raised him into the air and jammed him down on his head; grabbed the rifle and began to lay about him like a man threshing wheat few years earlier. Any one who had He jumped toward the captain and me. Now the "leg holt" was my forte Could I but have gotten him there again I should have been us cool as a mountain energetic young business man, "writing to

spring; as it was, I gained three yards on the captain in the first hundred. A sound of firing stopped us. Could it be that murder was rampant behind us? We looked back. Ah, no! No one was in do you?" danger from sudden death unless it were "Remarkable men, no doubt: they seem from over-exertion. Young Jack and two to have been much in advance of their of the soldiers were hitting the breeze toward the south. Two more of the United guess I know my business."

Jamaica ginger is excellent for stomach preferred a northerly course. The only one troubles, but it is not good as a atimulant. | who remained on the field was the smitten You must not sell liquor to the Indians, widespread arms, the whole contour of

A result of this is that the In the direction of his gaze pranced the commerce of New York City, it will, it is quantity of Jamaica ginger and lemon es- Indian, rapidly going out of the field of other ports; it will stimulate almost every mous. One would think that the red man howled to the onlooking heavens that his nown industry and business and manufact had nothing but stomachathe and that the heart was very bad, raised the rifle and

"Chantay meatow deena I turned triumphantly to the captain

Now you see what ginger can do!" said I

Because I ought to go and chase that

Injun," said he. trader's store he concluded that the Indian would be so far away that it wouldn't be worth while. And to this day I have a foriora feeling

when I smell famaica ginger. "KNOWED I'D BE THAR."

Story of the Peculiar Codicil to an old Miner's Will.

The other day, relates the San Francisco Examiner, we met on Kearney street an old-Washoe acquaintance called Jem Briggs, whose usually well-worn miner's apparel was on this occasion replaced by a gergeous display of velvet vest, check pants red searf and ponderous watch chain, while his honest and simple face shone above these evidences of prosperity with the placid contentment of a full harvest moon.

"Hello, Jem," we said "glad to see you looking so presperous. Must have struck

"So I have," said Jem, and then, as his tanned face saddened a little, he continued: "but I had a mighty tuff loss, though My partner, Ned Blimber-you remember Ned !- has gone up the shaft."

"Dead, ch" "Yes. I'll tell you how it was. You see Ned and I had a quarrel about two years ago. Don't matter now what it was about. Mebbe Ned was wrong and mebbe I was, but all the same neither of us would back down-coupl'er d-n fools, you'll say and so we were-and the upshot of it was that we parted and agreed never to speak to each other again.

"And didn't you?" "No, sir; more shame for us, for we had been pards, thick and thin, for fifteen years together. Well, about six months after that Ned got a good gravel claim up on the Feather, where they have been turning the river bed, and he struck it rich-cleared up nigh ento \$256,000 in ten months."

'And how were you getting on?" "Oh, clean broke. Working up at Gold Hill for \$3 a day. Well, I was kinder sneaking glad to learn of Ned's luck, for all we were outs; but the next thing I heard was that he had been killed by the bank's caving in on him. He lived just long enough to make his will. Well, the lawyers wrote as how Ned was worth just about \$200,000 and the will gave \$5,000 apiece to each of the three distant cousins of his'n-they had all come out from the east when they heard of Ned's find-and the same amount to me mind you, just as though we had not quarreled. But Ned allers was a 'centric sort of a cuss, and the will provided that none of us should get the money if we attended the funeral. He didn't want anybody at the funeral but just the undertaker. The to be buried lonely. Them's just the words-and I felt they were intended for me, sure. The disposition of the rest of the estate, about \$200,000, was provided for in another codicil, to be opened the day that Injun was as strong as a yoke of after the funeral, but we all supposed it was donated to some charitable object, for Ned hadn't any kin, 'cepting the cousins," "Of course you stayed away from the

"That's just the point. Somehow I felt so miserable and down-hearted-you see, Ned was the onliest partner I ever hadthat I determined to go and see him sent down on his last cage, anyway-money or

'And the cousins? 'None of 'em went. Fact is, they were o disgusted with the 'divvy' that they cleared out down to 'Frisco to see about breaking up the will. So I was the only surner at the funeral. My friends all thought I was fit for the crazy house to throw away the \$5,000 like that. Well, I just couldn't help it. It turned out, though,

"Why, the next day when the main will was opened we found it really gave the entire balance of the clean-up to whichever of us four disobered the condition of the \$5,000 bequest, so you see I came in for the whole sum just like a knife. And do you know," continued the legatee, as he hastily steered us into a saloon to conceal the gathering moisture in his eye, "as sure gun's iron I shall alters believe that Ned put up the whole job a purpose-'cause he knowed I'd be thar.

Ague Victim Arrested.

A man was arrested in Brooklyn for the rime of having a chill. He got on a Flatbush avenue trolley car at Malbone street o ride down town, reports the New York precinct were on the car and they noticed that the man trembled violently. He seemed to be greatly agitated over something and the slouths decided to watch Every time the car passed a policeman it seemed to the detectives that the man's agitation increased and that he trembled more violently.

After awhile he turned up the collar of his coat. The sleuths winked at each other significantly. The fellow was trying o avoid recognition. That was plain. he Brooklyn end of the bridge and the sleuths followed. Two policemen were tanding near by and it seemed that at sight of them the man shook like a leaf. The watching sleuths were convinced. The man was at least a suspicious character. They stepped up to him and informed him

that he was under arrest. "Under arrest!" exclaimed the man, ainly astonished. "What for?" 'Well-er-er-what are you trembling so much about?" asked one of the de-

The man laughed. He was apparently greatly nmused 'I'm trembling because I can't help it. "I've contracted a severe he explained.

The sleuths boarded the next car for Manhaitan and the man with a chill went

Chleago Post "What!" exclaimed the That's no way to do business. Why don't you so to see him?

I guess you don't know him by sight

Well, he's six feet two, weighs 220 sunds and has a frightful temper. Oh.

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