Floating Log Bridge over Schuylkill River Philadelphia

Thomas Twining in "Travels in America" describing his trip from Philadelphia to Baltimore by canoe, says, Mar. 14, 1796. "We have reached the Schuylkill — we crossed it upon a floating bridge constructed of logs, laid between each other upon the surface of the water and planted, nailed across them, although this bridge floated when not charged or charged but lightly, the weight of our wagon depressed it several inches below the surface, the horses splashing through the water, so that a foot passenger boarding at the same time would have been expected to receive inundation. — The existence of such a bridge seemed the more surprising as it is completely obstructed the navigation of the river nearly eighty miles further up."