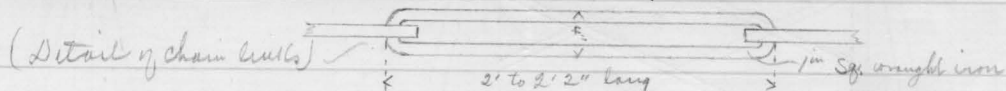


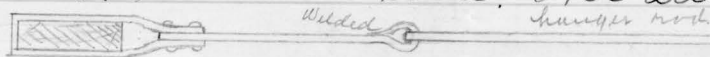
Boston, Mass., May 21 1889

Newburyport. — Report on highway bridge

There are four distinct cables with three (3) separate chains in each cable. The road ways are entirely separate except that the cables supporting them rest on common towers.



The hangers supporting the floor system are about 7.0 ft apart. They are made sometimes of 7th square iron, again of 1/2" x 2" strap iron, and in some instances chain similar to cables is used. All are connected to floor timbers thus:



Could not see bearings of cables on the towers except to note that for about six feet over the bearings each chain is spliced or replaced by three smaller chains, similar in design to the large chains, except the links are only about one foot long and made of about 1/2" sq. iron. The cables seemed to have been repaired with different size links in many places and nowhere bears evidence of ever having been painted. The photographs show simple means of suspending the hangers from the cables.

Distance from centre to centre of towers 244.10 ft. Distance from centres of towers to where cables enter ground for anchorage 90.5 ft. Centre to centre of cables on each road way 15.5 ft. Centre to centre of inside cables 170 ft. Total distance centre to centre of outside cables 327 ft.

Trains trotting over the bridge shake the whole system violently and the floor curls up before the horses like rubber ice.