VEVAY, a town of Switzerland, the capital of a bailiwick of the same name in the canton of Vaud. It is finely situated on the lake of Geneva, where the climate is mild, and the prospects around are of the most exciting descrip­tion. In this town many English families find a retreat. There is a college, an hospital, and other benevolent insti­tutions. Vevay has little trade, and that mostly in native productions. It contains 430 houses, with 4500 inhabit­ants. There are two churches, in one of which, St Mar­tin’s, are monuments to two Englishmen, Ludlow and Broughton, who had sat as judges at the trial of Charles I. and found refuge here.

VIADUCT. The contract for a brick viaduct should clearly define the site and extent of the whole of the sections; the gross amount to be paid, as well as the detail prices at which any additions or extra works are to be paid ; an enu­meration of the plans, sections, and drawings, which should be signed by the engineer and contractor ; and, attached to the contract, the mode in which the work is to be paid for, the time for its completion, and the time the contractor is to uphold the work, together with the penalty for non-com­pletion. It should state in a precise manner any diversions of roads or streams, the nature of the foundations, and whether the contractor is to find cofferdams, centerings, scaffolding, and all other machinery and materials. With respect to the time for completion. It will be best to divide it. If, for example. It is a viaduct of ten to twelve arches of fifty feet span, and forty feet high, in twelve months at the far­thest the brick work and masonry of the abutments, piers, and wing walls, should be up to the springing of the arches. The remainder of the work may be divided into two por­tions of six months each, so that the whole should be com­plete in two years. We are well aware that such a work could be executed in much less time, but it would be at a corresponding increase of expense.

The contractor should be bound to execute the work to the satisfaction of the engineer, or whoever may be ap­pointed by the parties for whom the viaduct is to be erect­ed, and at all times to keep a sufficient number of men on the work, or the engineer should have power to send the requisite number. This will of course be dome at the con­tractor’s expense ; and it should be expressly stated, that all materials, scaffolding, and machinery, on the spot, will be used by the engineer, and that he will provide any other materials which may be requisite, in order fully to employ his men. The number of competent foremen to be em­ployed by the contractor should be stated ; and the en­gineer should have power to supersede any of them for in­capability or improper conduct, and in default of there being a sufficient number, to employ as many more as should be found requisite, up to the specified number. An account of the foremen and workmen employed, should be furnished to the engineer weekly, each trade being classed un­der a separate head, under a penalty of five pounds per week.

The contractor should be bound to enclose the whole area before commencing the work, and to comply with all local regulations and the act of parliament, if there is one, under which the work is to be done, so as to prevent all trespass on the adjoining lands, and to maintain the said fence till the works shall be completed ; but if any of the adjoining land would be of use to the contractor. It should of course be procured for him, by his undertaking to pay the expenses. He should be bound to deposit any spoil earth taken out for the foundations, wherever the engineer may appoint. Any temporary roads which he may require, should be set out and made entirely at his own expense, he compensating the owners of the land. Before he com­mences any excavation or work for any of the abutments, piers, or wing-walls, or commences any arch, proper notice should be given to the engineer, under a penalty of not less than twenty pounds.

Should the parties for whom the viaduct is to be built, be called upon to pay any damages to the owners of the adjoining property, or to any other person, through the negligence or wilfulness of the contractor’s workmen, they should reserve the power of deducting the money so paid from any sums which may be due to the contractor for the performance of the work. No subcontract, except for la­bour, should be allowed, without the the engineer’s consent in writing. Should the contractor become bankrupt, or should he, from any other cause, cease to continue the works, the engineer should have power, after serving him with a written notice, to carry on the work himself, placing the amount of all monies expended by him, in constructing the work, to the contractor’s account, and using all the materi­als and machinery on the ground, which should become the property of the parties for whom the viaduct is built, from the time they are brought upon their ground, till the com­pletion of the works, and should not be removed without their consent. When materials are brought on the ground of an improper sort, or unsound, or of an inferior quality in the opinion of the engineer, the contractor should be bound to remove them forthwith, and to supply their place by others, in default of which the engineer should have power to remove them after two days’ notice, without being amen­able for either loss or damage in so doing. The expense of the removal, of course, should in all cases fall on the contractor.

Should the engineer discover that any part of the work is unsound, or imperfectly executed, or not performed in strict accordance with the conditions of the specification, plans, sections, or drawings, he should have power to order it to be immediately taken down and executed in a proper manner, without any extra charge whatever, and without any delay ensuing in the completion of the several parts of the work ; and if the contractor should refuse or neglect to do so after proper notice, the engineer should have power to cause it to be done, charging the expenses to the con­tractor, and removing the materials, and then proceeding to erect the work in a proper manner.

The contractor should be bound to make any alterations, additions, or omissions in the work, on being authorized to do so by the engineer ; the omissions being set off quantity for quantity against the additions, or by measurement and valuation, as may be agreed on, and the balance accounted for to either party. There should be no alterations what­ever allowed, except under the signature of the engineer. The contractor should be furnished with copies of the draw­ings and specification, but he should be bound to see they are correct, and should also be required himself to set out the whole of the work. Should there be any buildings, trees, or other matters on the site of the works, the pro­perty in them should be secured to the parties for whom the viaduct is to be built ; the contractor removing them to the nearest public road, giving a week’s notice previously to his doing so, and stating the place to which they will be removed. All damage done to the works during their pro­gress, or to the materials or implements thereon, whether arising from accident or the carelessness of the workmen, should be made good at the contractor’s expense ; and he should be bound, not only to execute such works as are expressly described respectively in either the specification, plans, sections, and drawings, but also such other works as may be necessarily implied, or reasonably inferred to be done ; and in case of any dispute arising, the decision of the chief engineer should be considered final.

The mode and times of payment for the work, and the nature and extent of any sums which may be retained from the periodical payments, as a security for the due perform­ance of the contract, should be clearly defined, and also the time when the retained money will be paid, which in all cases should be dependent on the engineer being perfectly