

three feet ten inches ; at Kew it is seven feet, and at Teddington only one foot four inches. The time of high water here is about an hour and a quarter later than at London Bridge. The bridge itself stands nearly sixteen miles by water above London Bridge, and about twelve above Chelsea Hospital.

There was originally on the spot a ferry belonging to the Crown, as an appendage to the manor of Richmond. The increase of population rendered this mode of passage extremely inconvenient, and

as seen from the railway bridge, has a charm and richness peculiarly its own. The mansions, mingled with lofty trees and sloping gardens, are set off by all the garniture of rural scenery. Maurice, in his admirable poem, gives the following lines on Richmond Bridge :—

“ Mark where yon beauteous bridge, with modest pride,  
Throws its broad shadow o'er the subject tide,  
There Attie elegance and strength unite,  
And fair proportion's charms the eye delight ;  
There, graceful while the spacious arches bend,



RICHMOND BRIDGE.

an application was made to Parliament in 1773, and an Act obtained for building the bridge.

A view of the bridge was painted by Turner whilst he lived at Twickenham. The picture is in the possession of Mr. Ruskin, who tells us that Sandycome Lodge, on the Twickenham side of the bridge, was bought by Turner in 1808, and that he resided there till 1827.

From many points in the surrounding country the bridge forms an impressive feature, and the views from it, both looking up and down the river, are very beautiful.

The view up the river, however, is especially charming ; we see it dotted with its willow-clad eyots, and with Richmond Hill and the groves of Ham in the distance. The view of the hill, also,

No useless glaring ornaments offend ;  
Embowered in verdure heaped unbanded round,  
Of every varied hue that shades the ground.  
Its polished surface of unsullied white,  
With heightened lustre beams upon the sight !  
Still lovelier in the shining flood surveyed,  
'Mid the deep masses of surrounding shade !  
Glittering with brilliant tints and burnished gold,  
Above the cars of luxury are rolled,  
Or commerce, that upholds the wealthy Thane,  
Guides to Augusta's towers her cumbrous wain ;  
Below, refulgent in the noontide ray,  
While in the breeze the silken streamers play,  
A thousand barks, arrayed in gorgeous pride,  
Bound o'er the surface of the yielding tide."

There was no bridge at Richmond, or probably we should find more about its park and scenery in Pope's letters, for he was on friendly terms with