

tion once made, the cost of the ingenuity is nothing. Of course, the mechanical principles involved in such structures are obvious to the mathematician, when the problem has been practically solved. And in this case, as in the previous cardinal inventions in structure, though the event has taken place within a few years, no single person, so far as I am aware, can be named as the inventor.<sup>5</sup>

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<sup>5</sup> Since this was written, I have been referred to Rees's *Cyclopædia*, Article *Oblique Arches*, where this invention is correctly explained, and is claimed for an engineer named Chapman. It is there said, that the first arch of this kind was erected in 1787 at Naas, near Kildare in Ireland.