

cially following the creation of the Corps des Ponts et Chaussées in 1716, but the forces prompting it became more insistent with the advent of iron in sufficient quantity and at a cost that made its use in bridges possible. This arrival of a real Iron Age, plus the advent of the railroad and, in the present century, motor transportation, have made it necessary for the engineer to continually create bigger and better bridges, many of which are interestingly described in *Bridges and Their Builders*.

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