



Fig. 33.—De Muralt Concrete Covering of Embankments (Heavy Type)

to force its way between the joints of the slabs and displace them, causing upheaval of the covering of a bank.

In the heavier type of defence the slabbing is deposited *in situ*. The concrete slabs, with a stepped face, are laid on the bank, and between the slabs the bank is trenched. In the trenches steel reinforcement is placed and embedded in mass concrete. The beams thus built hold down the slabs, and form, as it were, casements for them. The slabs themselves are reinforced. This system is suitable for positions of greater exposure. Fig. 33 shows its adoption to form the apron of a sea-wall on the Essex coast. It will be noted that special expansion joints are used to prevent cracking of the slabbing. The positions of these joints have to be carefully