NOTE.

In temperament, Mr. Roebling was hopeful and sanguine, even to the degree of enthusiasm. When we read one of his preliminary reports on a bridge enterprise, we are struck with that feature. But when we read the concluding report on the same structure, be it three, five, or ten years subsequent, we find that all his predictions have been more than fulfilled.

In the preliminary report on the East River Bridge, we notice that feature; yet the two years that have elapsed since then, have only tended to confirm everything that is said there.

While engaged in laying out the towers for the work just mentioned, on the twenty-eighth of June, Mr. Roebling received the accidental injury which ultimately resulted in his death.

He at no time expected to see the great work upon which he was engaged finished, but did desire to live long enough to see it fairly launched upon its way toward completion.

He looked upon the task before him with that calm confidence that knows its own power. Numerous difficulties were expected to arise, novel in their character, and difficult to overcome. Yet similar difficulties had been overcome before successfully, and would be again, provided there was left to him the time and the health necessary to accomplish it.

In view of that, the injury he received was as much a mental as a physical shock. He felt that at his age he could ill afford to lose any time: this circumstance, combined with the prospect of being crippled to some extent, had a most depressing influence on his spirits. Symptoms of tetanus set in, rapidly assuming a fatal character; they terminated in death on the tenth day afterward.

W. A. B.