

I wish to express my obligations for their cordial and efficient co-operation in the execution of the works.

In reporting to you the final and successful completion of the Bridge, I would be doing injustice to my own feelings as a man, if I did not avail myself of this opportunity, to thank you publicly for the unwavering confidence, which you have always placed in my professional ability. When Engineers of acknowledged talent and reputation freely expressed their doubts as to the success of this work, a wavering of confidence on your part would have been but natural. But I am happy to state here, that in all my operations I have always met with a cordial support. It is a great satisfaction to me, that this work has turned out equal to my promise, and also to know, that on taking leave of you, the mutual confidence that exists, will not undergo any change

Respectfully submitting the above, I remain

Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

JOHN A. ROEBLING.

—It is now some twenty years since the great Suspension Bridge was built over Niagara river. The question of its safety has recently been agitated, and critical investigation has accordingly been made by the Ohio engineer and directors of the Great Western Railway. The caps on the towers covering the cables have been removed, and the cables found to be as perfect in all respects as ever they were. But most important of all, the anchorage of the cables was thoroughly inspected. The masonry over one of them was removed for about twelve feet, or below where the wires are attached to the anchor chains. A portion of the cable is imbedded in water lime cement. For twenty years this has been there, yet, on removing it and rubbing the paint off the wires, the latter were found as bright and perfect as when placed there, the cement having preserved the wire and anchor chains intact. The examination was made in the presence of competent engineers, who have expressed themselves as above to the directors of the bridge company.

Dec 11, 1872