

W. A. Roebling  
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Trenton, N.J.

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Walter F. Hunt

Editor Min Mag  
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Dear Sir

I have received so many congratulatory letters regarding my gift to the Min. Society, that I cannot answer them all immediately.

If you can find space for the following few lines, I would be much obliged

"Col. Roebling desires to express his thanks for the grateful appreciation of his gift to the Min. Society from all over the country and Canada. He is pleased that it has been his privilege to contribute to the advancement of this science, a science which is the gateway to the ultimate constitution of matter - "

I am now 89 y. of age - while I advent been a contributor to mineralogical literature (my time being taken up by engineering and business calls) I yet had a fair education in mineralogy at the R.P.I. in Troy N.Y. in 1856. Was quite expert in blow piping and the simpler acid tests.

The old standards of chemistry were still in vogue then, and the optical properties of minerals were barely noticed.

When you once acquire a love for minerals the hobby lasts a lifetime - During an extended period of illness I found this my only solace.

My collection has grown until it numbers over 16 000 specimens - embracing particularly all the rare minerals in which I specialize and a fair number of large show specimens. Having lost the use of my left eye I have to write of fine

Yours Sincerely  
Washington A. Roebling