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John A. Roebling

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Washington Roebling's Father

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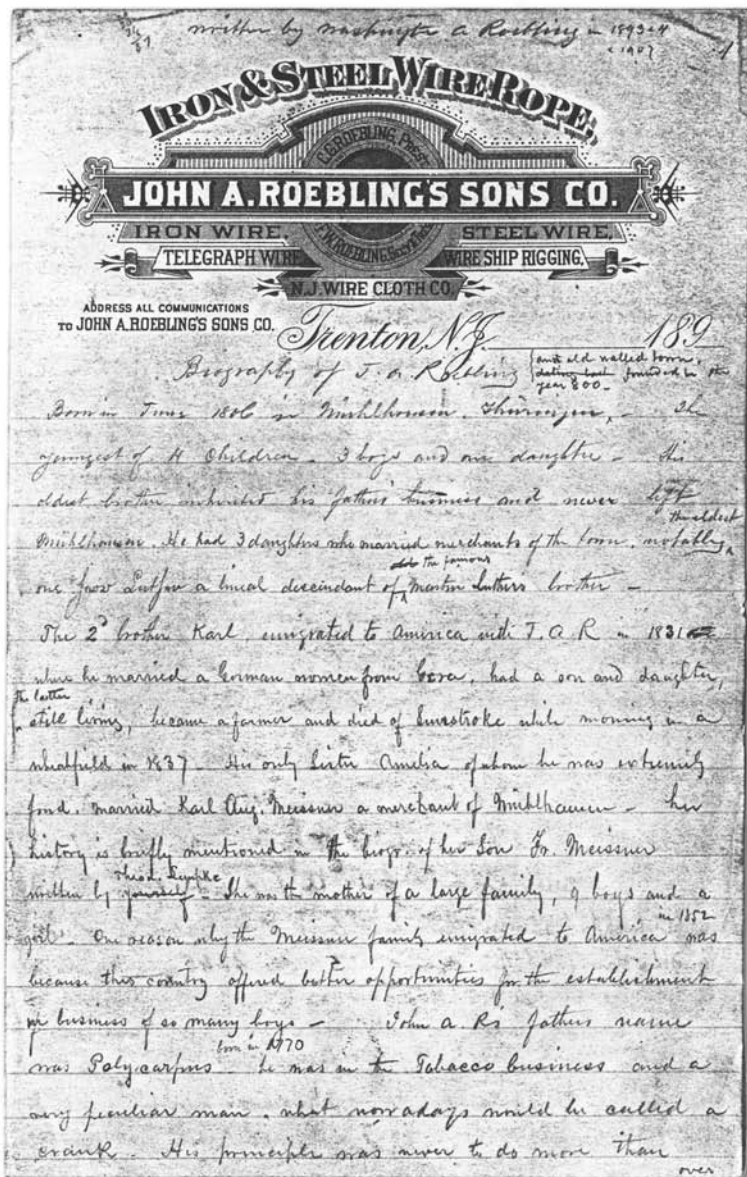
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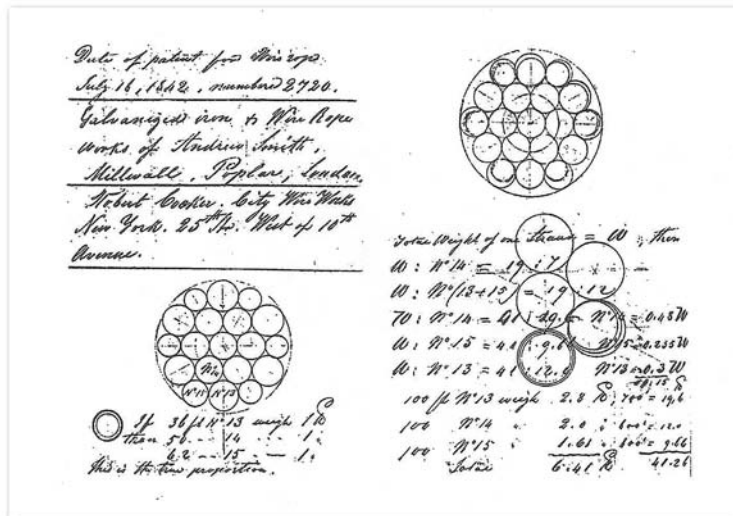
Great gifts are the fairest, and often the most dangerous, fruits on the tree of humanity. They hang on the weakest branches, which easily break. In most cases, as I have already suggested, the gift develops in inverse ratio to the maturation of the personality as a whole, and often one has the impression that a creative personality grows at the expense of the human being. Sometimes, indeed, there is such a discrepancy between the genius and his human qualities that one has to ask oneself whether a little less talent might not have been better.

— Jung

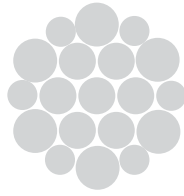
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The First Page of the Holographic Manuscript.



Three Sizes of Wire. Although he always referred to himself as a civil engineer, John A. Roebling's greatest and most lasting innovation was an achievement of mechanical engineering. He devised a helical wire strand made with three sizes of wire to improve the service life of his wire ropes. This concept, for which he never sought a patent, is still made and used daily all over the world. It is now known as Warrington Construction. (Photograph from the Roebling Collection, Institute Archives and Special Collections, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Troy, New York)



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