

INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION: A DOCUMENTARY HISTORY
Series One: The Boulton and Watt Archive and the Matthew Boulton Papers
from Birmingham Central Library
Part 12: Boulton & Watt Correspondence and Papers (MS 3147/3/1-79)

DETAILED LISTING

REEL 202

3/27 Letters to James Watt Junior, 1797 (12 items)

1. Letter. James Watt (London) to James Watt Jr. (Soho). 5 Jan. 1797.
*With a label attached marked "All these letters are from J. Watt to his son James 1797."
Summarised "Mr. Perier in London, he is doubtless come to buy pig iron and spy out new inventions that he may publish them as his own. Intends calling at Windsor."*
- 2a. Letter. James Watt (Soho) to James Watt Jr. (13 London St.). 2 Feb. 1797.
*Enclosing (b) below.
Docketed "With enclosure of letter to Mr. Parker." Summarised "Watt's letter to Thomas Parker enclosed, asking for money. Requests his son to send or give the enclosed to Parker."*
- b. Letter. James Watt (Soho) to Thomas Parker [London]. 2 Feb. 1797.
3. Letter. James Watt (Soho) to Boulton & Watt Juniors (13 London St.). 2 Feb. 1797.
Docketed "John Wilkinson approves of the Chancellor's nomination." Summarised "Concerning engine for Hockley Heath Co. corn mill. John Wilkinson approves of the Chancellor's nomination of Mr. Lovat."
4. Letter. James Watt (Soho) to Boulton & Watt Juniors (13 London St.). 3 Feb. 1797.
Docketed "Wyatt's offer to the City of Albion Mill premises. Letter from Mr. Mylne concerning his boiler. Letters from sundries. Concerning Daniell." Summarised "Gives the cost of the Albion Mills. Watt balloted for the new cavalry. Remarks upon engines."
5. Letter. James Watt (Soho) to James Watt Jr. (13 London St.). 4 Feb. 1797.
Docketed "Acknowledges receipt of letter on Albion Mill business. Mentions Mr. Wilson's agreeing to the proposal respecting Tom. Has paid some bills. Received from Bott & Birch £240. Encloses Foulkes' letter which is to ne answered by Southern's affidavit. Advises Meux to be spoken to." Summarised "Re. Albion Mill affairs. Speaks of Foulkes' letter and Meux. Signed a bill for J. Watt & Co. Orwell's order for 10 horse power engine and other small matters."
6. Letter. James Watt (Soho) to Boulton & Watt Juniors (13 London St.). 9 Feb. 1797.
*The outside of the letter is directed to Watt Jr. alone. On the same sheet:
Letter. Gregory Watt (Soho) to James Watt Jr. 9 Feb. 1797.
Docketed "About taking the opinion of Counsel concerning the Trustee for Albion Mill."
Summarised "Concerning money matters and Albion Mills. A long quarto copying press to Mr. Brinley of Boston. The parallel elevator acts well. Philosopher Lucas engaged as a cavalry substitute. P.S. by Gregory Watt, re a night cap."*
7. Letter. James Watt (Clifton) to James Watt Jr. (Soho). 25 Jun. 1797.
*On the same sheet:
Transcript of letter. James Watt (Clifton) to Thomas Wilson (—). 25 Jun. 1797.
Docketed "Copy of letter to Wilson on his private affairs."
Summarised "Intends going to Bath. About the Albion Mills. About Wilson's affairs. Copy of Watt's letter to Wilson, about his debts and unfortunate undertakings."*

8. Letter. James Watt (Clifton) to James Watt Jr. (Soho). 28 Jun. 1797.
Docketed "Has signed Mr. William Wilkinson's arbitration powers and forwarded letter to Mr. Wilson concerning Trevithick." Summarised "Concerning his letter to John Wilkinson and Watt's remarks thereon. Watt at Clifton."
9. Letter. James Watt (Bath) to James Watt Jr. (Soho). 3 Jul. 1797.
Summarised "Sunderland & Lawson Main agreements. Re. Thackeray & Co. Remarks upon the town of Bath, and Ewart. Has had a fit of the gravel."
10. Letter. James Watt (Bath) to James Watt Jr. (Soho). 6 Jul. 1797.
Docketed "With letter from Mr. Wilson concerning his private affairs." Summarised "Speaks of an enclosed letter, too ill to form any resolution thereon."
11. Letter. James Watt (Bath) to James Watt Jr. (Soho). 9 Jul. 1797.
Docketed "About making present of Prony's work to Prof. Robison." Summarised "Concerning the carriage of Prony's work for Prof. Robison, who is at his farm at Baghall. Intends leaving Bath so mention this to Murdock. Glad Boulton is better."
12. Letter. James Watt (Bath) to James Watt Jr. (Soho). 12 Jul. 1797.
Docketed "Returns Lees' licence. Journey to Hampshire." Summarised "Glad Wilkinson can assist in cash affairs. Wilson to be written to. Will leave Bath for Hampshire (Christchurch)."

3/28 Letters to James Watt Junior, 1798

(10 items)

1. Letter. James Watt (Heathfield) to James Watt Jr. (Soho). "Monday" [circa 24 Jan. 1798?]
With a label attached marked "All these letters are from J. Watt to his son James, 1798." Summarised "Watt and Matthew Robinson Boulton intend to set out on their enquiry. Concerning the specification and patent."
2. Letter. James Watt (Soho) to James Watt Jr. (Post Office, Whitehaven). 31 Jul. 1798.
Docketed "On the termination of Pednandrea business. Received remittances from Edinburgh. Power of attorney sent to Hotchkiss. Not willing to build at Greenock. Proposed route to Scotland. State of the weather." Summarised "...M. R. Boulton and Gregory are gone to see Sir R. Lawley's house. Mr. Boulton at a guinea meeting...Accounts of harvest at Soho. Intends visiting Scarborough."
3. Letter. James Watt (Heathfield) to James Watt Jr. (Wormald Fountain & Gott's, Leeds). 12 Aug. 1798.
Docketed "Mr. Curwen's engine. Projected route to Scotland. Visit of Judge Heath and Baron Thompson. His health and that of the horses." Summarised "Mr. Curwen merits own indulgence. On the state of engines at Workington. Altered the intended journey, will go to Scotland. Justice Heath and Baron Thompson at Soho. Boulton expected home. The state of the new horses."
4. Letter. James Watt (Soho) to James Watt Jr. (13 London St.). 20 Nov. 1798.
Docketed "Remarks on Lord Kenyon's observations on the recitals of the Act." Summarised "Lord Kenyon states that the recital was incorrect and the House of Commons deceived. Watt remarks at length upon it. Concerning the division of some family property."
5. Letter. James Watt (Soho) to James Watt Jr. (13 London St.). 21 Nov. 1798.
Docketed "Observations on the state of our proceedings. M. R. Boulton's letter to Cobb. Ditto's journey to Shropshire." Summarised "Mentions Murdock's illness. Certificate for Soho land tax. Concerning Brockliss' engine. Watt considers Lord Kenyon has been prejudiced. Some method should be set on foot to get at him and put matters right."
6. Letter. James Watt (Soho) to James Watt Jr. (13 London St.). 27 Nov. 1798.
Docketed "Queries about our future proceedings." Summarised "Watt in trouble about the best manner of proceeding with the trial. Suggests different ways of evading trials."

7. Letter. James Watt [Soho] to James Watt Jr. (13 London St.). 2 Dec. 1798.
Docketed "Despondent reflections on the law suit." Summarised "Despondent reflections on proceedings before Parliament. Concerning piracies of the engine trade."

8. Letter. James Watt [Heathfield] to James Watt Jr. (13 London St.). 6 Dec. 1798.
Docketed "Remarks on Murdock's affidavit versus United Mines. Letter to Mr. Erskine. Application from Wilson to borrow £1200." Summarised "Watt remarks upon Murdock's affidavit. Mentions Mr. Erskine. Wilson wishes us to lend him money on mortgage of his brewery."

9. Letter. James Watt [Heathfield] to James Watt Jr. (13 London St.). 10 Dec. 1798.
*Docketed "Etymologies of terms. Advises sale of house. Murdock's affidavit. Loan to Wilson."
Summarised "Etymology of terms in specification. Desires the house to be sold. Boulton thinks well of Murdock's affidavit, so I must have more talk with him. Re. the loan to Wilson."*

10. Letter. James Watt (Soho) to James Watt Jr. (13 London St.). 14 Dec. 1798.
Docketed "Upon the effects of salt water on steam engines."

3/29 Letters to Matthew Robinson Boulton, 1799

(13 items)

1. Letter. James Watt (Soho) to M. R. Boulton (Thomas Wilson's, Truro). 2 Apr. 1799.
*With label attached marked "All these letters are from James Watt Senr. to Matthew Robinson Boulton son of Matthew Boulton, 1799."
With a postscript by James Watt Jr.
Docketed "Sentiments upon Wilson's situation and conditions of Boulton & Watt's consent to the proposed mortgage upon the brewery." Summarised "Watt's remarks upon Wilson applying our money for his own purpose, proposes advancing him £600. Gives accounts of his debts and proposes a mortgage on the brewery. Murdock sets out for Cornwall."*

2. Letter. James Watt (Soho) to M. R. Boulton (Thomas Wilson's, Truro). 15 Apr. 1799.
Docketed "Sentiments in regard to the mortgage upon Wilson's brewery. In regard to our claim upon Hallamanin adventurers." Summarised "Concerning Wilson's appropriation of our money, and the mortgage on his brewery. Speaks about the engine erected upon Bull's principle."

3. Letter. James Watt (Soho) to M. R. Boulton (Thomas Wilson's, Truro). 9 May 1799.
Docketed "Return from Town. Account of the proceedings in Court on the motion made by Daniel and Harris to remove the venue." Summarised "Watt recites to M. R. Boulton what passed in the court between the counsels, upon the Cornish affairs."

4. Letter. James Watt (Soho) to M. R. Boulton (Thomas Wilson's, Truro). 24 May 1799.⁺
*Mis-docketed as Jun. by M. R. Boulton.
Docketed "Murdock's arrival. Weston desired to point out the evidence wanted in regard to the action against the refractory mines. Aversion to further litigation. Copper controversy likely to terminate by some restriction being imposed. My sister hurt her knee."
Summarised "Concerning Murdock, the little engine and the boring mill. Watt dislikes law suits. Tries to persuade Boulton from the copper business (in vain). Miss Boulton and friends mentioned."*

5. Letter. James Watt (Soho) to M. R. Boulton (Thomas Wilson's, Truro). 25 May 1799.
Docketed "Approbation of the settlement with Crenver. Thinks it ought not to be a precedent for others. Opposition to the copper regulation bill likely to succeed. Charles Wilson's departure from Soho." Summary adds "Miss Boulton mentioned."

- 6.** Letter. James Watt (Soho) to M. R. Boulton (Thomas Wilson's, Truro). 28 May 1799.
On the same sheet:
Transcript of letter. Ambrose Weston [London] to James Watt [Soho]. 25 May 1799.
Docketed "Copy of a letter from A. Weston with his sentiments upon the necessity of compromising. Receipt of Harris' acceptance. Sentiments upon compromise with Daniel."
- 7.** Letter. James Watt (Soho) to M. R. Boulton (Thomas Wilson's, Truro). 30 May 1799.
Docketed "Bedford's opinion upon the mortgage offered by Wilson and general advice upon the best mode of securing the money due from him. Our concerns in Cornwall to be brought to a conclusion. Bad management of the Minera mine."
Summarised "The little engine at the Foundry does well. Preparation for boring mills. Concerning the management of the Minera Mine. Remarks upon mortgaging Wilson's shares in a brewery,"
- 8.** Letter. James Watt (Soho) to M. R. Boulton (Thomas Wilson's, Truro). 3 Jun. 1799.
Docketed "Not dissatisfied with the terms of the agreement with Consolidated Mines. The proposal suggested in his preceding letter respecting the settlement with this mine founded on a mistake. Curious request of exemption urged by Harris." Summarised "Sends power of attorney for M. R. Boulton to act in Cornwall. Concerning the money owing from Consolidated Mines, and M. R. Boulton's proceedings thereof Watt approves. Strange suggestion of payment by Harris, when working an engine without a beam."
- 9.** Letter. James Watt (Soho) to M. R. Boulton (Thomas Wilson's, Truro). 5 Jun. 1799.
On the same sheet:
Transcript of letter. William Bedford (London) to James Watt. 3 Jun. 1799.
Docketed "Bedford's opinion of the mode of securing Wilson's debt. The terms proposed for the compromises with the recusant mines agreed to. Hesitation in complying with the refund to the friendly adventurers in Wheal Gons." Summarised "... Murdock is going on with the boring mill. Watt's remarks upon the payments to be made by United Mines and Wheal Gons."
- 10.** Letter. James Watt (—) to M. R. Boulton (Thomas Wilson's, Truro). 6 Jun. 1799.
On the same sheet:
Transcript of letter. William Harris (Rosewarne) to James Watt. 30 May 1799.
Docketed "Encloses Harris' singular epistle. Arguments in refutation of the alleged promise. James Watt Jr. approves of the sums proposed for the agreement with the recusant mines."
- 11.** Letter. James Watt (Soho) to M. R. Boulton (Thomas Wilson's, Truro). 8 Jun. 1799.
Docketed "Intelligence in regard to Mrs. Scale's house, her terms. My father indisposed. Chapmans establishing a ropery. Defalcation in the supposed amount of the income tax." Summarised "The boring mill nearly finished. Concerning the proposal to buy Mrs. Scale's property by Boulton. Boulton not well, coinage dropped. Miss Boulton better. Chapman orders an engine. Remarks on the income tax."
- 12.** Letter. James Watt (Soho) to M. R. Boulton (Thomas Wilson's, Truro). 9 Jul. 1799.
Docketed "Advice of the deed of mortgage and warrant of attorney being forwarded." Summarised "Concerning the mortgage in Wilson's brewery. Congratulates M. R. Boulton upon his success with Wheal Gons. Boulton with Lord Hawkesbury thought the new mint. Written Weston upon the Hornblower's engine."
- 13.** Letter. James Watt (Soho) to M. R. Boulton (Thomas Wilson's, Truro). 17 Jul. 1799.
Docketed "Consents to the installments proposed by Wilson & Co. Bedford directed to fill up the bond accordingly. Doubts upon the propriety of allowing Wilson's commission upon the litigated premiums. Waiting Weston's opinion in regard to Hornblower's engine. Proposes to charge the premiums upon the largest cylinder as a single engine."

3/30 Letters to James Watt Junior, 1800**(5 items)**

1. Letter. James Watt (Heathfield) to James Watt Jr. (13 London St.). 2 Feb. 1800.
*With a label attached marked "All these letters are from James Watt to his son James 1800."
Docketed "Upon the conduct of the trial versus Hornblower. Mr. Boulton to set out. Visit from Stuttle and his reasons for not entering into an immediate engagement with us."*
2. Letter. James Watt (Soho) to James Watt Jr. (13 London St.). 3 Feb. 1800.
Docketed "Sentiments upon the proposed release of Mr. Furey by the Albion Mill Co."
3. Letter. James Watt (Soho) to James Watt Jr. (13 London St.). 4 Feb. 1800.
Docketed "Conference with Mr. Galton. Letter from Mr. Jones respecting Bateman. Arrival of Thomas Walker and departure of Mr. Boulton. Gregory's visit to Wednesbury and that of Edwards to the Foundry. Offer of a scheme."
4. Letter. James Watt (Heathfield) to James Watt Jr. (13 London St.). 11 Feb. 1800.
Docketed "Upon the proposal for a release at Albion Mill. Jonathan Hornblower. Doubts about flax scheme."
- 5a. Letter. James Watt (Glasgow) to James Watt Jr. (Soho). 30 Oct. 1800.
*Enclosing (b) below.
Docketed "With Smith's advertisement."*
- b. Cutting. Advertisement of William Smith for his improvements to the steam engine.
21 Oct. 1800.

3/31 Miscellaneous Correspondence, 1776-1816**(15 items)**

1. Letter. James Watt (Broseley) to Matthew Boulton (—). — Feb. 1776. 2 sheets.
2. Letter. James Watt (Redruth) to James Keir (Soho). 12 Oct. 1778.
The letter has been docketed twice. One of the dockets misdates the letter as Aug. 1778.
3. Letter. James Watt (London) to Matthew Boulton (Birmingham). 15 Jan. 1786.
Summarised "Paid Boulton's fees at the Royal Society. Concerning heating the boilers from coke ovens, and Watt's annoyance thereby. Allingham's engine and about Argand."
4. Letter. James Watt (London) to Matthew Boulton (Birmingham). 27 Jan. 1786.
Summarised "Concerning Watt's illness, the Albion Mill, Mr. Allingham's engine, the forge engine, orders for engines. Argand's case before the four Judges of the Common Pleas."
5. Letter. James Watt (London) to John Southern (Birmingham). 23 May 1791.
Comments upon Dennison's order. Arrangements for shipping materials to de Tastet. The fire at Goodwyn's has done little damage compared to the fire at Albion Mill.
6. Letter. James Watt (London) to John Southern (—). 28 May 1791.
Comments upon the Mydrecht drawings. Is to go to Brentford and Albion Mill.
7. Letter. James Watt (London) to John Southern [Birmingham]. 30 May 1791.
Summarised "We are taking proper measures to proceed against Hornblowers. Heard nothing of Richard Dayus. Isaac to be sent to Ocker Hill. The report that the engine caused the fire (at the Albion Mill I presume) is very disagreeable."
8. Letter. James Watt (London) to Gregory Watt (Soho). 26 Feb. 1799.
Docketed "Substance of reply to Davis Giddy." Summarised "James Watt's letter to his son Gregory, or a letter for him to copy and send to Mr. Giddy, relating to law suits and Wheal Crenver."

9. Letter. James Watt (Bath) to James Watt Jr. (Soho). 13 Oct. 1799.
Docketed "Upon Mr. Gott's proposed patent." Summarised "Concerning a patent for heating dyeing liquors by steam, and suggests we have nothing to do with the affair."

10. Letter. James Watt (Newport) to M. R. Boulton (Soho). 23 Sep. 1801.
Docketed "Account of G. Watt's progress in his tour on the Continent. Examination of an estate in Gloucestershire. Directions for forwarding his letters. William Reynolds employed by the Gloucester Flour Co." Summarised "Gregory Watt at Zurich. Watt speaks of land on the banks of the Severn, will not purchase. Speaks of Miss Boulton and friends."

11. Letter. James Watt (Glasgow) to James Watt Jr. (—). 13 Nov. 1807.
Docketed "Upon the proposed tunnel etc. at the Glasgow Water Works."

12. Memorandum. Stove for the Hunterian Museum, Glasgow. Heathfield, 30 Aug. 1808.
*Sent by James Watt to John Southern at Soho.
Docketed "Order for stove for College of Glasgow."*

13a. Letter. James Watt (Heathfield) to James Watt Jr. (13 London St.). 16 Jul. 1810.
Enclosing (b) and (c) below. Docketed "Enclosing letters introducing Mr. Stocks who wants employment as a clerk."

b. Letter. Archibald Hamilton (Glasgow) to James Watt Jr. (Soho). 4 Jul. 1810.
Docketed "Introducing Mr. Stocks."

c. Letter. James Miller (Glasgow) to James Watt Jr. (Soho). 5 Jul. 1810.
Docketed "Introducing Mr. Stocks."

14. Letter. James Watt [Heathfield] to James Watt Jr. (Soho). "Saturday" [31 Jul. 1813].
Docketed "Upon the height of the ground and nature of the foundations at Sheerness."

15. Letter. James Watt (Heathfield) to James Watt Jr. (Soho). 19 Jan. 1816.
Docketed "Titles of Rumsey's patents. Cannot find the copies. Suggestions with regard to the alteration of the engine in the Congo boat."

3/32 Miscellaneous Memoranda and Papers, 1791-1816 (4 items)

1. Memorandum. "List of Public houses in the parish of Handsworth." 6 Sep. 1791.
In James Watt's hand. Minutes of a meeting between George Birch, Thomas Lane, John Whately, Matthew Boulton and James Watt. "Resolved, that it appears to this meeting that there are too many public houses near to one another..."

2. Manuscript. Directions for the erection of Buildings [for Blowing Engine BWG]. Not dated [circa 1793]. 32 pages [of which 1-4 are wanting].
*In James Watt's hand. Directions for building the engine house for engine BWG, the first blowing engine supplied to Don Diego Gardoqui, Cadiz, Spain. The engine was identified via references in the text to drawings codes.
Henry Hazleton attached a label reading "Miscellaneous letters by J. Watt. James Watt's directions for the erection of Buildings for a Blowing Engine."*

3. Draft (press copy). Address to the King on the recovery of his health. Not dated.
Address on behalf of Boulton & Watt. In James Watt's hand.

4. Text of description of plates of engines for Dr. Brewster. 1816.
Text to accompany plates of the Albion Mill engine, for Dr. Brewster, as follows:

a. Rough Draft. 3 sheets.
Consisting of "Description of the Method of working the Albion Mill Engine, plates A B C D V VI VII VIII" and "Particular description of the mechanism which opens and shuts the nozzle valves regulators, plate VII, Fig. —."

- b. Observations relative to the plates by J. W. Tenby, Sep. 1816.
- c. Description of the Method of working the Albion Mill Engine, plates V VI VII VIII. 2 sheets.
- d. Drawing. Side view or Section of one of the Albion Mill Steam Engines."

MS 3147/3/33-44: Correspondence from Matthew Robinson Boulton, 1795-1809

3/33 Letters to James Watt Junior, 1795 (9 items)

1. Letter. M. R. Boulton (Soho) to James Watt Jr. (6 Green Lettice Lane, London). 15 Jan. 1795.
Docketed "State of affairs at Soho. Glass phials. Casting of brass rolls."
2. Letter. M. R. Boulton (Soho) to James Watt Jr. (6 Green Lettice Lane, London). 22 Jan. 1795.
Mis-dated by M. R. Boulton as 1794.
Docketed "Casting rolls and standards. Ink phials. Remarks on price of copying machines. Printing of directions for their use."
3. Letter. M. R. Boulton (Soho) to James Watt Jr. (at Charlotte Matthews', London). 26 Jan. 1795.
Mis-dated by M. R. Boulton as 1794.
Docketed "Going on well at Soho. Sir John Sinclair. Workmen from Liverpool. Sponge paper. Fearnought."
4. Letter. M. R. Boulton (Soho) to James Watt Jr. (at Charlotte Matthews', London). 2 Feb. 1795.
Docketed "On the purchase of mahogany. Brushes for copying machines. The explicitness of the Foxes."
5. Letter. M. R. Boulton (Soho) to James Watt Jr. (at Charlotte Matthews' London). 5 Feb. 1795.
Mis-dated as 1794 by M. R. Boulton.
Docketed "State of the copying machine business. Completion of the lathe announced."
6. Letter. M. R. Boulton (Soho) to James Watt Jr. (—). 11 Feb. 1795.
Arrival of the 'demon of disappointment' at Soho, and the fearnought. Possible supply of cloth from Gott. Disappointing work from the cabinet maker at Dudley. Remarks on the agreement with Richardson & Harrison. Remarks on trunks, brushes and boxes for copying machines. Death of Miss Mylne.
7. Letter. M. R. Boulton (Soho) to James Watt Jr. (at Mrs. Matthews', London). 19 Feb. 1795.
Docketed "Letter to Forrest. Gott's cloth. Preference to be given to Dearman over Ramsden's man in casting brass rolls. Richardson & Harrison's account. Hair powder etc."
8. Letter. M. R. Boulton (Soho) to James Watt Jr. (London). 26 Feb. 1795.
Docketed "Anxiety on account of his father's illness."
9. Letter. M. R. Boulton (London) to James Watt Jr. (Soho). 3 Jun. 1795.
Docketed "Order of a copying machine by Hodson and Hayton. Conversation on portable copying machines with Richardson & Harrison."

3/34 Letters to James Watt Junior, James Watt, Matthew Boulton, 1796 (49 items)

1. Letter. M. R. Boulton (Soho) to James Watt Jr. (13 London St.). 6 Jan. 1796.
On the same sheet:
Transcript of letter. Boulton & Watt to Hornblower & Maberley. 1 Jan. 1796.
Docketed "Copy of letter to Hornblower and Maberley. Proceedings against Sturges & Co."
2. Letter. M. R. Boulton (Soho) to James Watt Jr. (13 London St.). "Friday Morning" [8 Jan. 1796].
Mis-dated by M. R. Boulton as 1795. Docketed "Horton and his boiler. Cornforth. Robinson. Dissention of Hornblower and Maberley."
3. Letter. M. R. Boulton (Soho) to James Watt Jr. (13 London St.). 10 Jan. 1796.
Docketed "No news of Perrins. Horton. Maberley's contract with his customers. Hornblower's practices as detailed by Cornforth. William and John Wilkinson. Copying machine business. Wilkinson's correspondence."
4. Letter. M. R. Boulton (Soho) to James Watt Jr. (Charlotte Matthews', London). 12 Jan. 1796.
Docketed "Perrins ready to make affidavit relative to Sturges & Co."
5. Letter. M. R. Boulton (Soho) to James Watt Jr. (—). 15 Jan. 1796.
The docket is on a separate wrapper.
Boulton completed this letter on 16 Jan. with a report of progress at Soho Foundry.
Docketed "On draining of Fens by steam engine. Copy of a letter from T. Dudgeon."
6. Letter. M. R. Boulton (Soho) to James Watt Jr. (at Wormald Fountain & Gott's, Leeds). 21 Jan. 1796. 2 sheets.
Docketed "On proceedings against Sturges. On calculation of premiums. Peareth, Barnes, McMurdo. William Harrison and Peter Ewart. Scarcity of hands. Advertisement for them."
7. Letter. M. R. Boulton (—) to James Watt Jr. (at Wormald & Co.'s, Leeds). "Friday Morning" [22 Jan. 1796].
Docketed "Theorem for the calculation of engines."
8. Letter. M. R. Boulton (Soho) to James Watt Jr. (at Wormald Fountain & Co.'s, Leeds). 24 Jan. 1796.
Re-directed to James Watt Jr. at the Walker Colliery office, Newcastle.
Docketed "Perrins' affidavit. Garland & Co. Sherriff Hill. Coalbrookdale and Bersham and engine yard."
9. Letter. M. R. Boulton (Soho) to James Watt Jr. (at Wormald Fountain & Gott's, Leeds). 27 Jan. 1796.
Re-directed to James Watt Jr. at the Walker Colliery office, Newcastle.
Docketed "Sturges & Co. Fenner & Flint. Letter from Wilson with overtures from Daniel."
10. Letter. M. R. Boulton (Soho) to James Watt Jr. (care of Thomas Barnes, Walker Colliery Office). 6 Feb. 1796.
Docketed "S. Bromley sent off. Applications from Bradley. Copying business."
11. Letter. M. R. Boulton (Soho) to James Watt Jr. (care of Thomas Barnes, Walker Colliery Office). 7 Feb. 1796.
Docketed "Foundry feast – proceedings there. John Wilkinson and Abraham Storey. Walker & Fishwick's request. Clegg & Co. J. Lees. Dumbell."

- 12.** Letter. M. R. Boulton (Soho) to James Watt Jr. (Fountain Wormald & Gott's, Leeds). 15 Feb. 1796.
On the same sheet:
Transcript of letter. Boulton & Watt to The Proprietors of Cockshead Colliery. 6 Feb. 1796.
Transcript of letter. John Martin (Cockshead Colliery) to Boulton & Watt. 13 Feb. 1796.
Docketed "Coxhead."
- 13.** Letter. M. R. Boulton (Soho) to James Watt Jr. (at Messrs. Walker's, Manchester). 19 Feb. 1796.
Docketed "John Wilkinson's attack on Mrs. Porter. Abraham Storey. Parker. Apedale."
- 14.** Letter. M. R. Boulton (Soho) to James Watt Jr. (at Messrs. T. & R. Walker's, Manchester). 22 Feb. 1796.
Thomas Thorneycroft's evidence against Thackeray and Bradley. James Watt is inclined to bring an injunction against Thackeray.
- 15.** Letter. M. R. Boulton (Soho) to James Watt Jr. (at Messrs. T. & R. Walker's, Manchester). 22 Feb. 1796.
On the same sheet:
Pencil sketch and plan of Soho Foundry.
Docketed "Inspection of Parker's engine. Proofs against Thackeray."
- 16.** Memorandum. Draft of Affidavit of Thomas Thorneycroft against Thackeray. 23 Feb. 1796.
M. R. Boulton sent this to Watt Jr. on 23 Feb. Witnessed by William Creighton.
- 17.** Letter. M. R. Boulton (Soho) to James Watt Jr. (at Charlotte Matthews', London). 11 Apr. 1796.
Docketed "Contents of letter from Wilson and comments."
- 18.** Letter. M. R. Boulton (Birmingham) to James Watt Jr. (13 London St.). 12 Apr. 1796.
Docketed "Thorneycroft's affidavit. Men from Scotland. Rise of wages."
- 19.** Letter. M. R. Boulton (Manchester) to James Watt Jr. (—).
"Tuesday Evening" [10 May 1796].
Docketed "Thackeray, Bateman and Sherratt. Horton etc."
- 20.** Letter. M. R. Boulton (Manchester) to James Watt Jr. (13 London St.).
"Wednesday Evening" [11 May 1796].
Docketed "Perrins' affidavit against Bradley. Jones' proposition to Thackeray. Bateman's conduct."
- 21.** Letter. M. R. Boulton (Manchester) to James Watt (Heathfield).
"Thursday Morning" [12 May 1796]. 2 sheets.
Docketed "Information gained concerning Thackeray and Bateman. Recommends vigorous measures."
- 22a.** Letter. M. R. Boulton (Manchester) to James Watt Jr. (13 London St.).
"Thursday Evening" [12 May 1796].
Enclosing (b) below.
Docketed "Copy of letter to Mr. Watt containing an account of proceedings respecting Thackeray."
- b.** Letter (press copy). M. R. Boulton (Manchester) to James Watt [Heathfield].
"Thursday Morning" [12 May 1796]. 5 sheets.
Press copy of the above letter to James Watt.
- 23.** Letter. M. R. Boulton (Manchester) to James Watt Jr. (13 London St.). 14 May 1796.
Docketed "Thackeray's conduct. T. Livesey's affidavit. Endeavours to procure evidence."

- 24.** Letter. M. R. Boulton (—) to James Watt Jr. (13 London St.).
"Monday Morning" [16 May 1796]. 2 sheets.
Mis-dated by M. R. Boulton as 1794.
Docketed "Thackeray declares his intention of turning his engine into a common one. Other proceedings of Manchester pirates."
- 25.** Letter. M. R. Boulton (Manchester) to James Watt Jr. (13 London St.). 18 May 1796.
Docketed "Thackeray proceeds in the alteration of his engine. Bateman & Co. wish an interview. Messrs. Mort & Co."
- 26a.** Letter. M. R. Boulton (Manchester) to James Watt Jr. (13 London St.). 19 May 1796.
Enclosing (b) below.
Docketed "Copy of letter from Thackeray to Jones. Interviews with Bateman and Sherratt."
- b.** Transcript of letter. Jos. Thackeray (Cark) to Thomas Jones [Manchester].
17 May 1796.
- 27.** Letter. M. R. Boulton (Manchester) to James Watt Jr. (—). 21 May 1796.
The races interrupt his proceedings. Thackeray's alterations. Absconding of a potential witness who informs Bradley of M. R. Boulton's activities. Proceedings against Thackeray, Bradley and Bateman.
- 28.** Letter. M. R. Boulton (Manchester) to James Watt (Heathfield). 24 May 1796.
Docketed "Interview with Thackeray. Bateman & Co. promise capitulation."
- 29.** Letter. M. R. Boulton (Manchester) to James Watt Jr. (at Charlotte Matthews', London).
25 May 1796. 2 sheets.
Docketed "Bateman & Co.'s capitulation. Proceedings against their customers."
- 30.** Letter. M. R. Boulton (Manchester) to James Watt Jr. (at Charlotte Matthews', London).
25 May 1796.
Docketed "Agreement with Bateman & Sherratt. Proceedings against the other pirates."
- 31.** Letter. M. R. Boulton (Manchester) to James Watt (Heathfield). 26 May 1796. 2 sheets.
Docketed "Ratification of treaty with Bateman & Co. Lord Derby and Peel. Watson of Preston's submission. Wishes price of engines to be settled."
- 32.** Letter. M. R. Boulton (Manchester) to James Watt Jr. (—). 27 May 1796.
Thackeray and Bradley's delaying tactics. Engines made by Bateman & Co. Interview with John Goodier. Report on the Cark engine. Proposed agreement with Watson. Middleton Colliery potentially troublesome.
- 33.** Letter. M. R. Boulton (Manchester) to James Watt (Heathfield). 28 May 1796. 2 sheets.
Docketed "Watson's agreement. Conduct of the other pirates. The rascality of Daniel Lees. Thackeray. Cark Company's plea for clemency."
- 34.** Letter. M. R. Boulton (Manchester) to James Watt Jr. (13 London St.). 29 May 1796.
Docketed "Barrow Lees & Co."
- 35.** Letter. M. R. Boulton (Manchester) to James Watt (—). 31 May 1796.
Docketed "Affidavit against Bradley. Bateman & Co."
- 36.** Letter. M. R. Boulton (Manchester) to James Watt (—). 1 Jun. 1796.
Remarks on the agreement with Stockdale about the Cark engine and its effect on Thackeray. Agreement with Goodier. Bills received.
- 37.** Letter. M. R. Boulton (Manchester) to James Watt (Heathfield). 4 Jun. 1796.
Docketed "Remarks on Thackeray's submission. Liverpool engines. Holloway's bill."

38. Letter. M. R. Boulton (Manchester) to James Watt Jr. (13 London St.). 5 Jun. 1796.
Letter re-directed to James Watt Jr. at Soho.
Docketed "Reflections on Thackeray's submission and conduct."
39. Letter. M. R. Boulton (Manchester) to James Watt (Heathfield). 6 Jun. 1796.
Docketed "Interview with Thackeray. List of pirate engines. Respecting their premiums."
40. Letter. M. R. Boulton (Manchester) to James Watt Jr. (Soho). 7 Jun. 1796.
Docketed "On premiums to be exacted from the pirates. Dumbell. Bateman's tenants' threats. Thackeray."
41. Letter. M. R. Boulton (Manchester) to Matthew Boulton (Soho). 7 Jun. 1796.
Docketed "Dimensions of Thackeray's engine. Conversations with Dumbell."
42. Letter. M. R. Boulton (Manchester) to James Watt (Heathfield). 21 Jun. 1796.
Docketed "Signing of the bonds by Carlisle, Goodier, Burton and Thackeray. The remonstrances of Thackeray. Lord Derby and Peel. Copying machine for D. Burton."
43. Letter. M. R. Boulton (Manchester) to James Watt (Heathfield). 25 Jun. 1796.
Docketed "Conclusion with Mr. Watson. Lord Derby. Messrs. Peel."
44. Letter. M. R. Boulton (Leeds) to James Watt (Heathfield). 28 Jun. 1796.
Docketed "Settlement with Paley & Co. Varley's good conduct. Probable increase of steam engine business. Horrocks. Copying machine for Lord Derby's steward."
45. Letter. M. R. Boulton (Soho) to James Watt (Bath). 17 Jul. 1796.
Docketed "Albion Mill accounts. Sending Mr. Brown to London."
46. Letter. M. R. Boulton (Soho) to James Watt Jr. (Mrs. Matthews', London). 21 Nov. 1796.
Docketed "About Mr. Goodwin's evidence."
47. Letter. M. R. Boulton (Soho) to James Watt Jr. (Mrs. Matthews', London). 23 Nov. 1796.
Docketed "Mr. Wilson's amendment. Murdock's journey. Mr. Nicholson not among the witnesses."
48. Letter. M. R. Boulton (Soho) to James Watt Jr. (13 London St.). 24 Nov. 1796.
Docketed "Observations on Maberley's sluggishness. Gilpin's articles."
49. Letter. M. R. Boulton (London St.) to James Watt Jr. (Soho). 28 Dec. 1796.
Docketed "Maberley's men dismissed. Robison and Matthews offer their services. Grand Junction pump. Albion Mill Co."

3/35 Letters to James Watt Junior, 1797 (13 items)

1. Letter. M. R. Boulton (London) to Boulton & Watt (Soho). 11 Feb. 1797.
Docketed as 7 Feb. With a postscript in James Watt Jr.'s hand.
Docketed "Transactions at Westminster Hall."
2. Letter. M. R. Boulton (London St.) to James Watt Jr. (Soho). 30 May 1797.
3. Letter. M. R. Boulton (London St.) to James Watt Jr. (Soho). 31 May 1797.
4. Letter. M. R. Boulton (London St.) to James Watt Jr. (Soho). 3 Jun. 1797.
Docketed "About licensing Bowman & Garforth's engine."
5. Letter. M. R. Boulton (London St.) to James Watt Jr. (Soho). 5 Jun. 1797.
Docketed as 7 Jun.

- 6.** Letter. M. R. Boulton (—) to James Watt Jr. (Soho). "Friday Morning" [9 Jun. 1797.]
On the same sheet:
 Transcript of letter. Samuel Wyatt (—) to M. R. Boulton [London St.]. 8 Jun. 1797.
Docketed "United Mines. Albion Mill."
- 7.** Letter. M. R. Boulton (Swansea) to James Watt Jr. (—). 20 Aug. 1797.
Docketed "Upon Wilson's private affairs."
- 8a.** Letter. M. R. Boulton (Soho) to James Watt Jr. (care of Dr. Beddoes, Mall, Clifton, Bristol).
 20 Sep. 1797.
Enclosing (b) below.
Docketed "Account of Kennet & Avon Canal Co. Order from Taylor Weston & Co. Lee to come to Soho. Repairs of stoves at Foundry. Windhouse [?]."
- b.** Account. The Kennet & Avon Canal Company debtors to Boulton & Watt, 1797.
In James Pearson's hand.
- 9.** Letter. M. R. Boulton (Soho) to James Watt Jr. (care of Dr. Beddoes, Mall, Clifton, Bristol).
 1 Oct. 1797. 2 sheets.
Dated and docketed as 31 Sep.
Docketed "Visit of Trevithick and Vivian to Soho and detail of what passed with them."
- 10.** Letter. M. R. Boulton (Soho) to James Watt Jr. (care of Dr. Beddoes, Mall, Clifton, Bristol).
 13 Oct. 1797. 2 sheets.
On the second sheet:
 Transcript of letter. Boulton & Watt (Soho) to J. Stackhouse [Bath]. 30 Sep. 1797.
 Transcript of letter. J. Stackhouse (Bath) to Boulton & Watt [Soho]. 8 Oct. 1797.
Docketed "Stocktaking and particulars of progress in lathes, stoves and other machinery at the Foundry. State of orders. Letters to and from Mr. Stackhouse about Prince William Henry."
- 11.** Letter. M. R. Boulton (Soho) to James Watt Jr. (care of Dr. Beddoes, Clifton, Bristol).
 9 Nov. 1797.
Docketed "Improvements in stoves at Foundry. Lathes etc. Murray's piracies. Richard Cartwright. Maberley's law proceedings. Tax upon iron and politics. Zaccheus Walker's visit to Soho."
- 12a.** Letter. M. R. Boulton (Soho) to James Watt Jr. (care of Dr. Beddoes, Clifton, Bristol).
 19 Nov. 1797.
Enclosing (b) below.
Docketed "Advice of my father's coming to Clifton. Materials prepared at Soho Foundry etc."
- b.** Memorandum of castings, smith work, engines ordered etc.
In Gregory Watt's hand.
- 13.** Letter. M. R. Boulton (Soho) to James Watt Jr. [Clifton]. 25 Nov. 1797.
On the same sheet:
 Transcript of extract of letter. James Lawson (Leeds) to M. R. Boulton [Soho]. 21 Nov. 1797.
The docket and the address are on a separate sheet, but the address has been torn away.
Docketed "Accompanying a letter from Thomas Wilson containing his proposals for paying off his debt. Propositions respecting Poldice and Wheal Unity. Bull's failure at Pednandrea. A. Vivian's assertions about Wheal Treasury. Employment of Trevithick at Prince William Henry. Extract of a letter from Lawson concerning Murray and his intended piracies."

3/36 Letters to James Watt Junior, 1798

(27 items)

- 1.** Letter. M. R. Boulton (London St.) to James Watt Jr. (Soho). 6 May 1798.
Docketed "Interview with the Under-Secretary of State. Particulars respecting Messrs. Loughan & Cheap."

- 2.** Letter. M. R. Boulton (Soho) to James Watt Jr. (care of George Lee, Manchester).
7 Jun. 1798.
Re-directed to James Watt Jr. at Benjamin Gott's, Leeds, and returned to M. R. Boulton, who added another page on 14 Jun. and sent it to James Watt Jr. care of Thomas Barnes, Walker Colliery Office, Newcastle.
Docketed "Estimate for Mr. Horridge. State of orders and engines. Benyons Marshalls & Bage want an estimate."
- 3.** Letter. M. R. Boulton (Soho) to James Watt Jr. (care of Thomas Barnes, Walker Office, Newcastle). 10 Jun. 1798.
Docketed "Queries of T. Jones of Caedyglyn. Answer given to them. Proceedings in Chancery. Letter from Weston."
- 4.** Letter. M. R. Boulton (Soho) to James Watt Jr. (care of Thomas Barnes, Walker Office, Newcastle). 11 Jun. 1798.
On the same sheet:
Transcript of letter. Boulton & Watt to Mr. — Fishwick [Newcastle]. 29 May 1798.
Docketed "Wilson's account of the failure of attempt upon Carpenter. Application to Johnston of Byker for names of Lambton's trustees and bills for those protested. Copy of letter to Mr. Fishwick."
- 5a.** Letter. M. R. Boulton (Soho) to James Watt Jr. (care of Thomas Barnes, Walker Office, Newcastle). 17 Jun. 1798. 2 sheets.
Enclosing (b) below.
Docketed "Murray's infringements. On sending Abraham Storey to Leeds. On licensing Fisher's engine. On the general policy of licensing Murray's engines. The probable end Murray has in view. Brocke's agreement. Copy of letter to Smalley."
- b.** Transcript of letter. James Watt (Soho) to Mr. — Smalley (Low Moor Iron Works).
18 Apr. 1797.
- 6.** Letter. M. R. Boulton (Soho) to James Watt Jr. (care of Thomas Barnes, Walker Office, Newcastle). 25 Jun. 1798.
On the same sheet:
Letter. John Southern (Soho) to James Watt Jr. 25 Jun. 1798.
Docketed "Recommending 17 inch pump for Hebburn. Enquiries respecting engine for Walker & Fishwick. Maberley's manoeuvres in King's Bench. Carpenter preparing his answer."
- 7.** Letter. M. R. Boulton (Soho) to James Watt Jr. (care of Thomas Barnes, Walker Office, Newcastle). 29 Jun. 1798.
Docketed "Progress of the order for Weston. Hebburn engine house. Barnes' rail roads. Estimate of Walker & Fishwick's engine materials."
- 8.** Letter. M. R. Boulton (Soho) to James Watt Jr. (care of Thomas Barnes, Walker Office, Newcastle). 9 Jul. 1798.
Docketed "Carpenter's answer. Weston's letter and remarks. Boulton & Watt's answer to Weston's letter and their remarks on Pednandrea. Circular letter proposed to Wilson."
- 9.** Letter. M. R. Boulton (Soho) to James Watt Jr. (care of Gilbert Hamilton, Glasgow).
24 Jul. 1798.
Docketed "Review of J. Watt Junr.'s proceedings in Scotland. Conclusion of Pednandrea business. Cornish affairs. Trevithick's infractions. Agreement with Wheal Unity. Wheal Abraham's rejection of terms."
- 10.** Letter. M. R. Boulton (Soho) to James Watt Jr. (care of Gilbert Hamilton, Glasgow).
26 Jul. 1798.
Docketed "Manner in which the engine erectors are employed. Estimate for Newcastle in preparation. Remittance from Van Liender. Forays of Bramah."

- 11.** Letter. M. R. Boulton (Soho) to James Watt Jr. (London). 6 Nov. 1798.
Docketed "Pryor & Co. Bramah's Norwich piracy. Hodgson & Co. purchasers of Cobb's engine."
- 12.** Letter. M. R. Boulton (Soho) to James Watt Jr. (London). 12 Nov. 1798.
Docketed "Land tax. Commission of Brooks."
- 13.** Letter. M. R. Boulton (Soho) to James Watt Jr. (London). 14 Nov. 1798. 2 sheets.
Docketed "Arrangements at the Foundry. Murdock's scheme of new nozzle. Hydraulic ram. Letter from Cobb. Wilson's account wanted. Wheel Jewel and Wheel Garland."
- 14a.** Letter. M. R. Boulton (Soho) to James Watt Jr. (London). 24 Nov. 1798.
Enclosing (b) and (c) below.
Docketed "Account with Shadwell. Form of agreements. Settlement with Brodie."
- b.** Transcript of extract of letter. Boulton Watt & Co. [Soho] to Mr. — Frazer [Shadwell Water Works?]. Undated.
- c.** Memorandum. Shadwell Water Works Account – paid to 25 Mar. 1798.
- 15.** Letter. M. R. Boulton (Soho) to James Watt Jr. (London). 26 Nov. 1798. 2 sheets.
Docketed "Settlement with Parker's. Directions given to Lawson. Order from Mr. Gillies. Order expected from Mr. Houston. Progress made in new boring mill. Considerations upon the case of United Mines. Pryzor's information of his own piracy. Foundry Poor Rates."
- 16.** Letter. M. R. Boulton (Soho) to James Watt Jr. (13 London St.). 3 Dec. 1798.
On the same sheet:
Letter. James Watt (Soho) to James Watt Jr. 3 Dec. 1798.
Docketed "Observations on the answer of United Mines. Cobb's settlement. Land tax. Wilson's settlement with Trevithick. Impudent letter from Fox."
- 17.** Letter. M. R. Boulton (Birmingham) to James Watt Jr. (13 London St.). 5 Dec. 1798.
Docketed "Enclosing Murdock's affidavit versus United Mines."
- 18.** Letter. M. R. Boulton (Soho) to James Watt Jr. (13 London St.). 7 Dec. 1798.
Docketed "Facetious remarks upon his own despondency."
- 19.** Letter. M. R. Boulton (Soho) to James Watt Jr. (13 London St.). 13 Dec. 1798.
Docketed "Upon the effects of salt water on engines. Brass cocks wanted."
- 20a.** Letter. M. R. Boulton (Soho) to James Watt Jr. (13 London St.). 15 Dec. 1798. 2 sheets.
The address and docket are on a separate wrapper. Enclosing (b) below.
Docketed "Return of Mr. Boulton. Effect of the screw and other improvements at the boring mill. Inconveniency of undertaking Mr. Gordon's order. Bishop & Co.'s endorsement of Johnson & Gould's agreement not found. Extract of advertisement in the Sherborne Journal."
- b.** Cutting from the *Sherborne & Yeovil Mercury*. 10 Dec. 1798.
Article titled "Law Intelligence – Court of King's Bench, Friday, November 16. Patents. Hornblower v. Bolton."
- 21.** Letter. M. R. Boulton (Soho) to James Watt Jr. (13 London St.). 16 Dec. 1798.
On the same sheet:
Account. Bishop & Co. debtors to Boulton & Watt.
The account is in James Pearson's hand.
Docketed "Weston's account of monies received. Private commissions."
- 22.** Letter. M. R. Boulton (Soho) to James Watt Jr. (13 London St.). 18 Dec. 1798.
Docketed "Upon new estimates of engines. Reflections upon United Mines affidavit."

- 23.** Letter. M. R. Boulton (Soho) to James Watt Jr. (13 London St.). 18 Dec. 1798.
Docketed "Estimates of engines. Estimates of brass air pumps. Supply of water for Hall's engine. Time required for the execution of orders. Murdock's ill health."
- 24a.** Letter. M. R. Boulton (Soho) to James Watt Jr. (13 London St.). 21 Dec. 1798.
Enclosing (b) below.
Docketed "Correspondence with Cook's Kitchen mine (Kevill) and observations upon it."
- b.** Transcripts. Transcripts of two letters on the same sheet, as follows:
Thomas Kevill (Trevenian) to Boulton & Watt [Soho]. 24 Jul. 1798.
Boulton & Watt (Soho) to Thomas Kevill [Trevenian]. 10 Aug. 1798.
- 25.** Letter. M. R. Boulton (Soho) to James Watt Jr. (13 London St.). 27 Dec. 1798.
Docketed "Enclosing sundry legal documents. Letter from Dodd. Price wanted at home."
- 26.** Letter. M. R. Boulton (Soho) to James Watt Jr. (London). 28 Dec. 1798.
Docketed "Advice of sending some documents. Thermometer at 2, 5 degrees above zero."
- 27.** Letter. M. R. Boulton (Soho) to James Watt Jr. (13 London St.). 30 Dec. 1798.
Docketed "Respecting the engine for the docks at Lisbon. Murdock and Abraham Storey set out for Leeds. Dayus to return to Town."