

INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION: A DOCUMENTARY HISTORY
Series One: The Boulton and Watt Archive and the Matthew Boulton Papers
from Birmingham Central Library
Part 13: Boulton & Watt Correspondence and Papers (MS 3147/3/286-404)

DETAILED LISTING

REEL 224

3/300 John Rennie - letters answered by John Southern, 1794-1798 (37 items)

3/301 John Rennie, 1798-1799 (34 items)

3/302 John Rennie, 1800 (36 items)

John Rennie worked as a millwright and engineer in London, and he acted as a London agent for Boulton Watt & Co. He also travelled around the country – this bundle includes letters from Bath, Melksham and Scotland. The bundle also includes a letter from Rennie's assistant Meredith Jones.

1. Letter. John Rennie (London) to Boulton & Watt (Soho). 2 Jan. 1800.
Docketed "West India Dock Co. have agreed to his proposal of 2 engines. Orders 36 inch, 8 foot stroke and pumps. Will want some small engines for Leith Harbour."
2. Letter. John Rennie (London) to Boulton & Watt (Soho). 27 Jan. 1800.
Docketed "Philpott has at last determined arrangements. Rotative shaft to be made here, fly wheel there. Sundry queries of Mr. Rennie. West India Dock 20 horse engine to be stopped."
3. Letter. John Rennie (Bath) to Boulton & Watt (Soho). 8 Feb. 1800.
Docketed "Has had letter from Jessop ordering 30 inch cylinder, 6 feet stroke for Isle of Dogs."
4. Letter. John Rennie (London) to Boulton & Watt (Soho). 12 Feb. 1800.
Docketed "His son dead. Hopes to be here 21st. Mr. Jessop determines upon a 20 horse rotative engine to work pumps for Isle of Dogs."
5. Letter. John Rennie (London) to Boulton & Watt (Soho). 8 Mar. 1800.
Docketed "Specifies height of water for Isle of Dogs. Thinks packed buckets will answer. Orders 20 horse mortar engine. Has laid estimates before Mr. Walker."
6. Letter. John Rennie (London) to Boulton & Watt (Soho). 11 Mar. 1800.
Docketed "Jessop has ordered pumps for Isle of Dogs. Sketch of Severn's new engine proposed." The sketch is within the text."
7. Letter. John Rennie (London) to Boulton & Watt (Soho). 20 Mar. 1800.
Docketed "Mr. Jessop will correspond with us about the pumps. Mr. Rennie means to erect the mortar engine in a brick house. Size of beam for 36 inch engine. Mr. Jessop has given up the rotative engine."
8. Letter. John Rennie (London) to Boulton & Watt (Soho). 8 Apr. 1800.
Docketed "Approves of the plan proposed for the breaches pipes of West India Dock engine. Cannot send dimensions of rotative shaft. Got a beam for Jessop. Wants to know the premium charged upon Coslet's engine."
9. Letter. John Rennie (London) to M. R. Boulton (Soho). 18 Apr. 1800.
Docketed "Has communicated estimate to Severn, who wishes us to take his old engine. Wants drawings of wet dock engine. Wants size of Philpott's shaft."

10. Letter. John Rennie (London) to Boulton & Watt (Soho). 28 Apr. 1800.
Docketed "Wants length of rotative shaft of Philpott. Wants finished drawings of wet docks large engine."
11. Letter. John Rennie (London) to Boulton & Watt (Soho). 6 May 1800.
Docketed "Urging the necessity of the West India Dock engine being sent off immediately."
12. Letter. John Rennie (London) to Boulton & Watt (Soho). 8 May 1800.
Docketed "Has given Mr. Walker a quietus. Wants drawings of framing for mortar engine. Wants statement of effects produced by different sorts of coal."
13. Letter. John Rennie (Melksham) to Boulton & Watt (Soho). 14 Jun. 1800.
Docketed "Has procured an order for a 3 horse engine and expects another order for the same size. Whitmore's operations. Answered 21 Jun."
14. Letter. John Rennie (London) to Boulton & Watt (Soho). 17 Jun. 1800.
Docketed "Has procured orders for two three horse engines. Wishes the West India Dock working barrel to be made at Soho. Answered 21 Jun."
15. Letter. John Rennie (London) to Boulton & Watt (Soho). 30 Jun. 1800.
Docketed "West India Dock engine will be [in London in] time enough if sent by water. Mortar engine to be sent off. Two 3 horse engines soon wanted."
16. Letter. John Rennie (London) to M. R. Boulton (Soho). 4 Jul. 1800.
Docketed "Wishes to be informed when the Isle of Dogs engine will be finished."
17. Letter. Meredith Jones (Stamford St., London) to M. R. Boulton [London]. 2 Aug. 1800.
Docketed "Meredith Jones, agent of J. Rennie. Acknowledgement of the receipt of bill of £100."
18. Letter. John Rennie (London) to James Watt Jr. (Soho). 23 Aug. 1800.
*Forwarded to Watt Jr. at the Post Office, Liverpool.
Docketed "Acknowledges receipt of £100. Wants estimate of 160 horse engine for Straw Paper Co. Mills & Heylin want new iron boiler."*
19. Letter. John Rennie (London) to Boulton & Watt (Soho). 1 Sep. 1800.
Docketed "Mills & Heylin – sketch [within the text]. Wants estimate of engine for Straw Paper Co. Has received drawings of wet docks and canal engines."
20. Letter. John Rennie (London) to Boulton & Watt (Soho). 12 Sep. 1800.
Docketed "Order for the rotative shaft of the Dock mortar engine. Enquires when the Bath engines will be ready."
21. Letter. John Rennie (London) to Boulton & Watt (Soho). 17 Sep. 1800.
Docketed "Mr. Benfield wants his brass engine now. Rennie will get Turnbull & Co. to give the order. Has got an order for 4 horse engine for Paper Co."
22. Letter. John Rennie (London) to Gregory Watt [Soho]. 20 Sep. 1800.
Docketed "Sketches of relative situations of boilers and engines, say 3 horse engines at Bath." [The sketches are on the same sheet.]
23. Letter. John Rennie (Bath) to Boulton & Watt (Soho). 26 Sep. 1800.
Docketed "Will be ready for the little engines at Bath in a fortnight. Order for another dock engine."
24. Letter. John Rennie (London) to James Watt Jr. (Soho). 30 Sep. 1800.
Docketed "Order for Benfield's engine likely to be renewed. Wishes to know when he can have the Bath engines. Enquiry about Mills & Haglin's boiler."

25. Letter. John Rennie (London) to James Watt Jr. (Soho). 4 Oct. 1800.
Docketed "Order for Benfield's engine from Messrs. Turnbull & Co. Length of credit. Iron beam and crank. 2 boilers."
26. Letter. John Rennie (London) to James Watt Jr. (Soho). 6 Oct. 1800.
Docketed "Increase of price mentioned to Turnbull & Co. Names of the persons who have ordered little engines at Bath. Two 4 horse engines ordered. Rothwell's character. Dock engines – when wanted. Tate's working gear. Mills & Heylin's boiler. Shaft etc. for dock engine."
27. Letter. John Rennie (London) to James Watt Jr. (Soho). 10 Oct. 1800.
Docketed "Turnbull & Co. Pumps for West India Dock. Order of 3 engines for London Dock. Probable order, Koops Tate & Co. Sayce & Kelson's Bath engine. Mills & Heylin's boiler."
28. Letter. John Rennie (Edinburgh) to James Watt Jr. (Soho). 22 Oct. 1800.
Docketed "Enquiry for winding and pumping engines for a colliery. Boat engines for Leith Docks."
29. Letter. John Rennie (Edinburgh) to James Watt Jr. (Soho). 2 Nov. 1800.
Docketed "Has received estimates etc. Enquiry for corn mill at Bristol. Has desired his clerk to send dimensions of shafts for Bath engines. Capt. Huddart wants his engine."
30. Letter. John Rennie (Edinburgh) to James Watt Jr. (Soho). 6 Nov. 1800.
Docketed "Order for 4 horse engine for Leith Docks. Method of working pump. Willing to take the working barrel for London Docks."
31. Letter. John Rennie (Inverary) to James Watt Jr. (Soho). 16 Nov. 1800.
Docketed "Wants estimate of framing and erecting 6 horse engine. Also of pumping engine. Conditional order for 8 to 10 horse engine. Queries about sundry former orders."
32. Letter. John Rennie (London) to James Watt Jr. (Soho). 8 Dec. 1800.
Docketed "Enquiry about Bath engines. Wishes us to find a person to go to Berbice. Enquiry about Reddell. Has received dividend from Haig & Co. and will pay our share."
33. Letter. John Rennie (London) to James Watt Jr. (Soho). 10 Dec. 1800.
Docketed "Orders 80 horse engine for Koops Tate & Co. The partners' names. Wants Benfield's drawings."
34. Letter. John Rennie (London) to James Watt Jr. (Soho). 20 Dec. 1800.
Docketed "Will make payment of £49.5.6 to Mrs. Matthews on account of Haig. Cannot inform us respecting Mr. Benfield's engine house. Duplicate of beam left to us. Good character of Mr. Forbes."
35. Letter. John Rennie (London) to James Watt Jr. (Soho). 23 Dec. 1800.
Marked "See reply 24 Dec." Docketed "Wants estimate of 30 horse engine for Bristol. Expects order for 8 horse from Enderby's. Impatience for Clarke's engine."
36. Letter. John Rennie (London) to James Watt Jr. (Soho). 27 Dec. 1800.
*Mis-docketed as 25 Dec.
Docketed "Whether Benfield's engine is rotative. West India Dock likely to want another engine. Bath engine."*

3/303 John Rennie, 1801 (29 items)

John Rennie worked as a millwright and engineer in London, and he acted as a London agent for Boulton Watt & Co. He also travelled around the country – this bundle includes letters from Leek and Dublin.

1. Letter. John Rennie (London) to James Watt Jr. (Soho). 3 Jan. 1801.
Docketed "Benfield's house to be of wood."

2. Letter. John Rennie (London) to James Watt Jr. (Soho). 16 Jan. 1801.
Docketed "Wants Benfield's drawings and Koops'. Orders 4 horse for Wilson & Jackson, Bankside."
3. Letter. John Rennie (London) to James Watt Jr. (Soho). 30 Jan. 1801.
Docketed "Situation of Turnbull's boilers. Length of shaft [sketches within the text]. Koops & Co.'s sketch [within the text]. Proposes sliding valve for Leith Harbour."
4. Letter. John Rennie (London) to James Watt Jr. (Soho). 1 Feb. 1801.
Docketed "Wants Benfield's engine and an engine erector. Order for West India Dock No. 3. Mode of procuring payment from Dock Co."
5. Letter. John Rennie (London) to James Watt Jr. (Soho). 2 Feb. 1801.
Docketed "Wants Benfield's engine and an erector. Order for West India Dock No. 3."
6. Letter. John Rennie (London) to James Watt Jr. (Soho). 12 Feb. 1801.
Docketed "West India Dock No. 3 to be done in 6 months. Order 12 horse for Messrs. Enderby. Causes of delay in Sayce & Kelson's machinery. Orders 2nd pump barrel for the London Docks."
7. Letter. John Rennie (London) to James Watt Jr. (Soho). 18 Mar. 1800.
Docketed "Engine and millwork about to be shipped for Berbice. John Fairchild to go with it. Sets out for Lancaster and will visit Soho on his return. Richard Bush & Co. want estimate of 50 horse engine."
8. Letter. John Rennie (Leek) to James Watt Jr. (Soho). 28 Mar. 1801.
Docketed "The authority from Messrs. Bush & Co. to order a 50 horse engine. Expects to be at Soho on Friday."
9. Letter. John Rennie (Engineer's Office, London Docks, Wapping) to Boulton & Watt (Soho). 10 Apr. 1801.
*The outside of the letter is addressed to James Watt Jr.
Docketed "Enquiry about a 3 horse engine for the London Docks."*
10. Letter. John Rennie (London) to Boulton & Watt (Soho). 25 Apr. 1801.
*On the same sheet:
Pen and wash drawing of rotative shaft and fly wheel for Lieth Dock.
Docketed "Rotative shaft, Leith Harbour. Enquiry about drawings and orders."*
11. Letter. John Rennie (London) to Boulton & Watt (Soho). 1 May 1801.
Docketed "Wishes still to have the engine intended for Koops & Co."
12. Letter. John Rennie (London) to Boulton & Watt (Soho). 9 May 1801.
Docketed "Wants estimate of duplicate articles for West India Dock engine. Enquiries after the London Dock engine and small one for Wilson & Jackson. Information about beams of the dock engines."
13. Letter. John Rennie (London) to James Watt Jr. (Soho). 20 May 1801.
Docketed "Dimensions of beams for the London Docks. Change expected in Engineer's Department. Wants to know when sundry engines will go. Has informed Koops & Co. about their beam. Enquires character of Underhill. Complaints of our men at Bath."
14. Letter. John Rennie (London) to James Watt Jr. (Soho). 3 Jun. 1801.
Docketed "Only one beam to be depended on for London Dock. Situation of boilers for London Dock engine. 20 horse for Koops."
15. Letter. John Rennie (London) to James Watt Jr. (Soho). 15 Jun. 1801.
Docketed "Wants opinion on his contrivance for applying a pile engine to be worked by a steam engine."

16. Letter. John Rennie (London) to James Watt Jr. (Soho). 18 Jun. 1801.
Docketed "Orders 4 horse engine for Mr. Goulding, Bankside."
17. Letter. John Rennie (London) to James Watt Jr. (Soho). 30 Jun. 1801.
Docketed "Has prospect of getting a 10 horse engine. Wants iron beams for the London Dock No. 2 and West India Dock No. 3. Wants one of the small engines finished as soon as possible. Allows time for the others."
18. Letter. John Rennie (London) to Boulton & Watt (Soho). 10 Jul. 1801.
Docketed "Is in treaty with Sutton & Bowman for their engine for London Dock. Desires to have the 8 horse. Wilson & Jackson to have the 1st 4 horse. Enderby's shaft and boiler and steam pipes. London Dock mortar engine rotative shaft and boiler and steam pipes. Koops' boiler and steam pipes."
19. Letter. John Rennie (Dublin) to Boulton & Watt (Soho). 19 Aug. 1801.
Docketed "Not succeeded in getting an engine for driving piles. Wants the 8 horse engine forwarded immediately. Also Wilson & Jackson's."
20. Letter. John Rennie (London) to Boulton Watt & Co. (Soho). 29 Aug. 1801.
Docketed "Orders iron beam and rotative wheels for Koops."
21. Letter. John Rennie (London) to Boulton & Watt (Soho). 4 Sep. 1801.
Docketed "Willing to concede the London Dock rotative engine if another can be provided by Christmas."
22. Letter. John Rennie (London) to Boulton Watt & Co. (Soho). 8 Sep. 1801.
Docketed "Proposes Koops Tate & Co.'s 20 horse engine to go to Messrs. Elstone & Co., not being wanted for some time."
23. Letter. John Rennie (London) to Boulton & Watt [Soho]. 14 Sep. 1801.
Docketed "Wants drawings of the pile engine framing, which were sent off 30 Jun."
24. Letter. John Rennie (London) to Boulton & Watt (Soho). 15 Sep. 1801.
Docketed "Detention of Wilson & Jackson's engine by a stoppage of the Grand Junction Canal. Wishes the other goods to be forwarded by land."
25. Letter. John Rennie (Stamford St., London) to Matthew Boulton [London]. 12 Oct. 1801.
Docketed "Recommending Mr. Robertson Buchanan as a millwright at Glasgow."
26. Letter. John Rennie (Stamford St., London) to Boulton & Watt (Soho). 20 Oct. 1801.
Docketed "Cannot send at present particulars of rotative shaft etc. for the small engine. Expected orders from Messrs. Leader & Co. and the Croydon Canal. Iron beam wanted for London Dock engine. Enquires when Enderby's engine will be forwarded."
27. Letter. John Rennie (London) to Boulton & Watt (Soho). 31 Oct. 1801.
Docketed "2nd pumping engine for West India Dock not arrived. 2nd pumping engine for London Dock much wanted. Arrangement proposed for those engines. Address for Enderby's boiler. Obligated to make a new fly wheel etc. for Wilson & Jackson's engine."
28. Letter. John Rennie (London) to Boulton & Watt (Soho). 7 Nov. 1801.
Docketed "Series of orders for little engines. Enquiry about time of completing engines for Demerara."
29. Letter. John Rennie (Office of Works, London Docks) to Boulton & Watt (Soho).
28 Dec. 1801.
Docketed "Wants iron beam for London Dock engine. Enquires about Enderby's."

3/304 John Rennie, 1802**(23 items)**

1. Letter. John Rennie (London) to Boulton & Watt (Soho). 6 Jan. 1802.
Docketed "Has written to Mr. Kirchoff and will write again. Urgent for one of the cast iron beams for London Docks. Wishes drawing to be sent to have one made in London."
2. Letter. John Rennie (London) to James Watt Jr. (Soho). 14 Jan. 1802.
Docketed "Will have one beam by land and thinks they can wait for the other by water. Wishes to know whether we could make a 6 horse engine for Sayce & Kelson, same construction as the other."
3. Letter. John Rennie [London] to James Watt Jr. (at Mr. Tuffen's, Lower Thames St., London). 28 Jan. 1802.
Docketed "Fracture of Mr. Goulding's air pump."
4. Letter. John Rennie (London) to Boulton Watt & Co. (Soho). 13 Feb. 1802.
Docketed "Elstone Nicholson & Co. intend to employ him. Will want a 40 or 50 horse engine. Cast iron beam arrived at London Docks. Two fines upon it. Enderby's engine not arrived."
5. Letter. John Rennie (Boston) to James Watt Jr. (Soho). 21 Feb. 1802.
Docketed "Has referred our letter respecting the penalty upon the iron beam to Mr. Robinson. Enquiry concerning a canal engineer of the name of Porter. Boilers for the pile engine and Messrs. Potts wanted."
6. Letter. John Rennie (London) to Boulton Watt & Co. (Soho). 27 Feb. 1802.
Docketed "Determination of Messrs. Elstone & Co. to order a 50 horse engine. Have one of Cartwright's. Urges dispatch – wanted in 8 months. Mr. Bellamy desirous of trying an engine to drain a fen. Queries as to power and expense. Wishes our opinion as to the best mode of applying one of the 4 horse engines to the pumping of water. Mr. Robinson obliged to pay the beam fine and expects to be called upon for a second. Asks how it is to be settled."
7. Letter. John Rennie (London) to Boulton Watt & Co. (Soho). 5 Mar. 1802.
Docketed "London Dock piling engine boiler arrived. London Dock engine no. 4 not likely to be wanted and requested to be kept here. Requests answer to his last. Swords' advertisement."
8. Letter. John Rennie (London) to Boulton & Watt (Soho). 9 Apr. 1802.
Docketed "London Dock No. 4 engine likely to be wanted at Boston. Order for steam pipes."
9. Letter. John Rennie (London) to Boulton Watt & Co. (Soho). 21 Apr. 1802.
Docketed "Wishes to have a six horse sliding valve engine in lieu of one of the 4 horses. One of the 4 horses intended for Becket & Brinkley of Gravesend. London Dock No. 1 started. The other London Dock engines are retarded for want of men. London Dock No. 4 to go to Boston."
10. Letter. John Rennie (London) to Boulton Watt & Co. (Soho). 22 Apr. 1802.
Docketed "Wants in great haste the drawings of Messrs. Chalmers & Co., Aberdeen. Disagreement among the Straw Paper Co. Advises us not to send the engine at present."
11. Letter. John Rennie (Stamford St., London) to Boulton Watt & Co. (Soho). 3 May 1802.
Docketed "Orders 6 horse engine for Stacey & Wise. Boston engine to go to Hull. More assistance wanted at Wapping."
12. Letter. John Rennie (London) to Boulton Watt & Co. (Soho). 20 May 1802.
Docketed "Stacey & Co. would change their order to an 8 horse if it can be had in time."
13. Letter. John Rennie (London) to Boulton Watt & Co. [Soho]. 28 May 1802.
Docketed "Sketch of Stacey Wise & Co.'s premises." The sketch is on the same sheet.

14. Letter. John Rennie (London) to Boulton Watt & Co. (Soho). 1 Jun. 1802.
Docketed "His transactions with Koops & Co. Favourable opinion of Mr. Forbes and bad one of his partners. Has sold one of the 4 horse engines and can sell the other. Hesitates about accepting our present. Wishes Koops & Co.'s 20 horse to be reserved for a friend."

15. Letter. John Rennie (London) to Boulton Watt & Co. (Soho). 22 Jul. 1802.
Docketed "Chalmers Brown & Co. request to have a 20 horse engine. Enquires state of Stacey & Wise's engine. Thinks Potts does not work well. Bad performance of Mr. Cartwright's engine at Wisbech. Report of Murray's engine."

16. Letter. John Rennie (London) to Boulton Watt & Co. (Soho). 24 Jul. 1802.
Docketed "Wishes to know the speed of the shaft of Brown Chalmers & Co."

17. Letter. John Rennie (London) to Boulton Watt & Co. (Soho). 14 Oct. 1802.
Docketed "Shaft for Chalmers & Co. Bellamy & Peckover renew the treaty for a 45 to a 56 horse engine. Bad performance of Mr. Cartwright's engine. Himself and Chapman are appointed engineers to the docks at Hull."

18. Letter. John Rennie (London) to Boulton Watt & Co. (Soho). 19 Oct. 1802.
Docketed "Order a 56 horse engine for Messrs. Bellamy & Peckover. Has sold the 4 horse engine no. 2. Wants price of one and two horse engines. Will give timely notice about his own engine. Engine erector wanted for the Boston engine in November. Has purchased the spare West India Dock engine for the Kennet & Avon Canal. Stacey & Wise will not want their engine until the next season."

19. Letter. John Rennie (London) to Boulton Watt & Co. (Soho). 22 Oct. 1802.
Docketed "Wishes to have the 6 horse engine countermanded to Stacey & Wise in lieu of the 4 horse last orderd for Messrs. Bough & Holmes. Sketch of the intended situation." The sketch is within the text.

20. Letter. John Rennie (London) to Boulton Watt & Co. (Soho). 26 Oct. 1802.
Docketed "The engine at the Isle of Dogs found inadequate and proposed to be converted into a double one. Enquires whether Mr. Gregory Watt has recovered anything at Nantes from the Compagnie de la Secherie [?]."

21. Letter. John Rennie (London) to Boulton Watt & Co. (Soho). 28 Oct. 1802.
Docketed "Thinks Peckover & Bellamy have not space enough for a 56 horse engine. Would like to have a 50 horse instead, if it can be got ready in time."

22. Letter. John Rennie (London) to Boulton Watt & Co. (Soho). 3 Nov. 1802.
Docketed "Confirms the order for a 56 horse engine for Peckover & Bellamy. Observations upon his account with Thebaud & Co.

23. Letter. John Rennie (London) to M. R. Boulton (Soho). 6 Dec. 1802.
Docketed "Hurries Isle of Dogs materials. Wishes Stacey's engine to be suspended on account of his death. Enquires after 6 horse late Stacey. Boiler and steam pipe at Isle of Dogs."

3/305 John Rennie, 1803 (31 items)

1. Letter. John Rennie (Hull) to Boulton Watt & Co. (Soho). 19 Feb. 1803.
Docketed "Orders 2 six horse engines for the Hull Docks, to be ready immediately."

2. Letter. John Rennie (Boston) to Boulton Watt & Co. (Soho). 25 Feb. 1803.
Docketed "Expects our answer relative to the engines for Hull Docks. Desires the order for bucket and clacks of Boston engine to be cancelled. Wants a man to present to the Royal Canal at Dublin."

3. Letter. John Rennie (London) to Boulton Watt & Co. (Soho). 28 Feb. 1803.
Mis-docketed as 1802.
Docketed "States that Mr. Chapman's application had nothing to do with the Hull orders for the 2 six horse engines. Urges their completion. Orders 2 more six horse engines. Mr. Villiers likely to want one of 4 horses. Enquires about one and two horse engines."
4. Letter. John Rennie (London) to Boulton Watt & Co. (Soho). 4 Mar. 1803.
Docketed "Distinction between the improvements carrying on by the Corporation of Hull and the Dock Company. Must have the two six horse sliding valve engines for the Hull Docks. Confirms the order for the other two and expects to have some occasion to order many more. Will dispense with a man from us for Ireland. Shakespear to go to the Wisbech engine. New dock likely to take place at Blackwall for the East India trade. Himself appointed engineer. Orders another 36 inch pumping engine for the East India Docks. Materials for the Isle of Dogs engine wanted."
5. Letter. John Rennie (London) to Boulton Watt & Co. (Soho). 5 Mar. 1803.
Docketed "Orders 4 horse engine for Mr. Villiers."
6. Letter. John Rennie (London) to Boulton Watt & Co. (Soho). 10 Mar. 1803.
Docketed "One of the 6 horse engines to be for Mr. Hall of Trinidad. Payment guaranteed by Mr. Bass. The other to be for the County of Stafford. A third six horse engine ordered for himself. Engine materials for the Isle of Dogs not yet received."
7. Letter. John Rennie (Stamford St., London) to Boulton Watt & Co. (Soho). 14 Mar. 1803.
Docketed "Orders 2 six horse engines for Mr. Inglis."
8. Letter. John Rennie (London) to Boulton Watt & Co. (Soho). 19 Mar. 1803.
Docketed "Recapitulation of his orders for engines. Limits the time of execution. Orders 2 more six horse engines."
9. Letter. John Rennie (Andover) to Boulton Watt & Co. (Soho). 25 Mar. 1803.
Docketed "Orders 6 horse engine for the Kennet & Avon Canal Co. Also a 6 horse for the Board of Ordnance."
10. Letter. John Rennie (London) to Boulton Watt & Co. (Soho). 5 Apr. 1803.
Docketed "Hopes to have the Trinidad engines by Sep. Proposes sending out a millwright of the name of Gillchrist and that he should be previously instructed at Soho. Wishes also to have an engine erector sent. Wood to be burnt in these engines. Enquiry about the power necessary for a cotton mill. Is in treaty with Mr. Wyatt for the Albion Mill wharf and wishes to know whether we have declined it."
11. Letter. John Rennie (London) to Boulton Watt & Co. (Soho). 23 Apr. 1803.
Docketed "Has prevented Dayus from going to Wisbech. Has written to order John Shakespear to go there. Imparts the delay of the buckets to Shakespear. Will want plans of the working gear and parallel motion. Thinks an assistant to Shakespear necessary."
12. Letter. John Rennie (London) to James Watt Jr. (Soho). 30 Apr. 1803.
Docketed "Hull Dock Co. cannot wait our time for the small engines. Thinks they would agree to take one in Jul. and one in Sep. Desires these engines may be reserved for him in case they are not taken by the Dock Co."
13. Letter. John Rennie (London) to Boulton Watt & Co. (Soho). 1 Jun. 1803.
Docketed "Enquires whether the Trinidad engines will be ready in Sep. Favourable account of Mr. Benfield's engine at Demerara. Orders 2 more 6 horse engines. Wants plan of framing for Hull Dock engines and a copy of his orders."
14. Letter. John Rennie (London) to Boulton Watt & Co. (Soho). 21 Jul. 1803.
Docketed "Wants estimate of a 12 horse engine for the Liverpool Dock Co."
15. Letter. John Rennie (London) to Boulton Watt & Co. (Soho). 13 Aug. 1803.

Docketed "Enquiry about the engine for the East India Dock. Orders a boiler for the engine late R. Pease & Co. Desires to be informed about the progress made in the Hull Docks engine, ditto for Mr. Villiers' engine."

16. Letter. John Rennie (London) to Boulton Watt & Co. (Soho). 22 Aug. 1803.
Mis-docketed as 1802.

Docketed "Wishes to know if there will be any difference between the East India engine and London Docks. Wants plan of Messrs. Jos. Rob. Pease & Co.'s 12 horse engine. Wants a 12 or 14 horse engine immediately."

17. Letter. John Rennie (London) to Boulton Watt & Co. (Soho). 2 Sep. 1803.
Docketed "Enquires whether we can immediately furnish a 30 horse engine for an oil mill. Wants estimate of a 20 horse."

18. Letter. John Rennie (London) to Boulton Watt & Co. (Soho). 6 Sep. 1803.
Docketed "Orders 30 horse engine for Matthew Wilkes Esq. of Dartford. Has received drawings of Pease & Co.'s engine. Supposes a mistake in representing a second boiler. Answered by Mr. Southern."

19. Letter. John Rennie [London] to Boulton Watt & Co. [Soho]. 7 Sep. 1803.
Docketed "Wants the length of the architrave beam for Wilkes Esq."

20. Letter. John Rennie (Chesterfield) to Boulton Watt & Co. (Soho). 23 Sep. 1803.
Docketed "Enquiry about the engine preparing for Mr. Wilkes."

21. Letter. John Rennie (Lichfield) to Boulton Watt & Co. (Soho). 27 Sep. 1803.
Docketed "Thinks the 32 horse engine will do very well for Mr. Wilkes. Has desired his clerk to send a drawing of the situation and also of the situation of the East India Dock engine. Has given directions for the engine houses at Hull Docks. Mr. Jones will send drawings of the boiler if wanted. Is obliged to go to Ireland."

22. Sketches & notes. By John Rennie, Lichfield, 27 Sep. 1803.
Rough pencil sketches and notes, and some calculations by John Southern [?]. This may have been used as wrapper for items which are now missing.
Docketed "Wilkes' sketch. East India Dock boiler steam pipes. Trinidad engines."

23. Letter. John Rennie (London) to Boulton Watt & Co. (Soho). 18 Oct. 1803.
Docketed "Mr. Wilkes wants drawings of his engine house. Ellis & English enquire when one of the Trinidad engines will be ready."

24. Letter. John Rennie (London) to Boulton Watt & Co. (Soho). 22 Oct. 1803.
Docketed "Supposes plan for Mr. Wilkes' situation to have been delivered to Woodward. Account of the performance of the engine at Wisbech and complaint of the consumption of fuel."

25. Letter. John Rennie (London) to Boulton Watt & Co. (Soho). 26 Oct. 1803.
Docketed "Will forward another copy of Wilkes' plan."

26. Letter. John Rennie (London) to Boulton Watt & Co. (Birmingham). 29 Oct. 1803.
Docketed "Wants Wilkes' drawings. Simms' socket pipe. Will write Mr. Villiers about his engine."

27. Letter. John Rennie (Stamford St., London) to Boulton Watt & Co. (Soho). 7 Nov. 1803.
Docketed "With drawing of Matthew Wilkes' engine house."

28. Letter. John Rennie (London) to Boulton Watt & Co. (Soho). 24 Nov. 1803.
Docketed "Wilkes urgent for his engine. Report of consumption of fuel at Wisbech."

29. Letter. John Rennie (London) to Boulton Watt & Co. (Soho). 8 Dec. 1803.
Docketed "Wants size of Wilkes' shafts. Great expedition wanted in preparing the engine etc. Intends going to Wisbech. Treatises on artillery."

30. Letter. John Rennie (London) to Boulton Watt & Co. (Soho). 12 Dec. 1803.
Docketed "Has received a more favourable account from Wisbech. Gives directions about the Boston Fen account."

31. Letter. John Rennie (London) to Boulton Watt & Co. (Soho). 16 Dec. 1803.
Docketed "Wishes us to cast rings for the turning bridges of the London Docks. 40 horse engine not likely to become an order."