

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 245**

**3/397 General Correspondence, N, O (8 items)**

1. Letter. Archibald Neilson (Manchester) to James Watt [?] (—). 23 Jul. 1787.  
*Docketed "By Mr. Stephenson."*
2. Letter. Archibald Neilson (Dundee) to James Watt (Birmingham). 22 Feb. 1788.  
*Mis-docketed as 2 Feb.*
3. Letter. Archibald Neilson (Dundee) to James Watt (Birmingham). 3 Nov. 1788.
4. Letter. Nelthrop & Harris (Copenhagen) to Boulton & Watt (Birmingham). 4 Nov. 1794.
5. Letter. John Osy & Sons (Rotterdam) to Matthew Boulton (London). 15 Sep. 1789.  
*Re-directed to Birmingham.*  
*Docketed "Price of tin."*
6. Letter. William Owen (Woodhouse, near Oswestry) to Boulton & Watt [Soho]. 22 Oct. 1789.  
*Docketed "William Owen M.P. Wanting terms for engine."*
7. Letter. William Owen (Woodhouse) to Boulton & Watt [Soho]. 16 Nov. 1789.
8. Letter. John Oxley (Seaton Delaval) to Boulton & Watt [Soho]. 4 Jan. 1785.  
*Docketed "John Oxley, engineer."*

**3/398 General Correspondence, P (44 items)**

1. Letter. Samuel Parker (London) to James Watt (Soho). 17 Mar. 1787.  
*Docketed "Engine for a drug mill."*
2. Letter. Samuel Parker (London) to James Watt (Soho). 20 Mar. 1787.
3. Transcript of letter. Matthew Boulton (Soho) to Samuel Parker, Attorney at Law (Birmingham). 25 Oct. 1792.  
*Docketed "Worcester Canal" and "Engine affairs."*
4. Letter. Job Parsons (Burton) to James Watt (Soho). 28 Apr. 1785.
5. Letter. Job Parsons (Burton) to Boulton & Watt (nr. Birmingham). 27 May 1785.  
*Docketed "Account of boiler plates."*
6. Letter. Job Parsons (Burton) to James Watt (Soho). 21 Jul. 1785.
- 7a. **Letter.** Mr. — Patje (London) to James Watt [?] [London]. 5 Sep. 1787.  
*Kept with (b) and (c) below. Docketed "Mr. Patje's letters and queries."*
- b. Letter. Mr. — Patje (8 St. James' St., London) to James Watt [?] (—). 29 Aug. 1787.
- c. Memorandum (in French). Mr. Patje's queries about engines.

- 8.** Letter. Thomas Paty “now Paty Byrchall & Co.” (London) to Boulton & Watt (Soho). 27 Apr. 1790.  
*Docketed “Wanting us to refuse erecting wick engines.”*
- 9.** Memorandum (in French). Mr. Paul’s queries about engines. 1788.
- 10.** Letter. Henry Pearson (Shrewsbury House of Industry) to Matthew Boulton (Soho). 30 Dec. 1785.
- 11.** Letter. Henry Pearson (Nottingham) to Boulton & Watt (Soho). 12 Apr. 1786.
- 12.** Letter. Pearson & Grimshaw (Nottingham) to Boulton & Watt [Soho]. 11 Aug. 1788.
- 13.** Letter. Henry Pearson “for self & Co.” (Nottingham) to Boulton & Watt (Soho). 30 Jan. 1789.  
*Docketed as 20 Jan.*
- 14.** Letter. Pearson & Co. (Nottingham) to Boulton & Watt (Soho). 21 Apr. 1791.
- 15.** Letter. Pearson & Co. (Nottingham) to Matthew Boulton [Soho]. 18 Jan. 1792.
- 16.** Letter. Robert Peel (Burton) to Boulton & Watt (Birmingham). 22 Feb. 1787.  
*Docketed “Ordering engine.”*
- 17.** Letter. John Peel (Warrington) to Boulton & Watt (Birmingham). 1 May 1787.
- 18.** Letter. Peels Ainsworth & Co. (Warrington) to Boulton & Watt [Soho]. 15 Jun. 1787.  
*Docketed as 16 Jun.*
- 19.** Letter. Peels Ainsworth & Co. per William Mather (Warrington) to Boulton & Watt (Soho). 3 Sep. 1787.
- 20.** Letter. Peels Ainsworth & Co. (Warrington) to Boulton & Watt (Birmingham). 13 Jun. 1789.  
*Docketed “Engine wanting repair.”*
- 21.** Letter. Henry Penn (Kidderminster) to James Watt (Harper’s Hill). 2 May 1786.
- 22.** Letter. Isaac Perrins (Bristol) to James Watt [Birmingham]. 24 Oct. 1790.  
*Not dated – date and place of writing taken from the docket.*
- 23.** Letter. Isaac Perrins [Manchester] to Boulton & Watt (Soho). 21 Aug. 1794.  
*Docketed “About the burning of Illingworth’s engine.”*
- 24.** Letter. Isaac Perrins (Manchester) to Boulton & Watt (Soho). 13 Dec. 1794.  
*Docketed “Impertinence.”*
- 25.** Letter. James Phillips (London) to “Matthew Boulton or James Watt” (Birmingham). 20 Apr. 1787.
- 26.** Letter. Alexander Blackey (Albion Plate Glass Warehouse, London) to Boulton & Watt (Birmingham). 23 Jul. 1788.  
*Docketed as The Plate Glass Co., for whom Blackey was writing.*
- 27.** Letter. Thomas Studley, Clerk to Thomas Plumer (Worcester) to Boulton & Watt (Birmingham). 10 Aug. 1791.  
*Docketed as Thomas Plumer.*
- 28.** Letter. A. Popham (Hungerford) to Boulton & Watt (Birmingham). 7 Aug. 1788.
- 29.** Letter. Portier & De La Cour (London) to Boulton & Watt (Birmingham). 21 Oct. 1791.

- 30.** Letter. John Harcourt Powell (Boveney, near Windsor) to James Watt [?] (—).  
31 Jul. 1787.
- 31.** Letter. John Harcourt Powell (Farley House, near Winchester) to Boulton & Watt [Soho].  
4 Jun. 1789.
- 32.** Letter. John Harcourt Powell (Farley, near Winchester) to Boulton & Watt (Birmingham).  
18 Jun. 1789.
- 33.** Letter. John Harcourt Powell (Farley, near Winchester) to Boulton & Watt (Birmingham).  
14 Aug. 1789.
- 34.** Letter. John Harcourt Powell (Farley) to Boulton & Watt (Birmingham). 21 Aug. 1789.  
*Re-directed to James Watt, care of the Post Office, Cheltenham.*
- 35a.** Letter (in French). Monsieur — Pradeaux (Paris) to Matthew Boulton [Soho].  
13 Jul. 1786.  
*Enclosing (b) and kept with (c) below.*  
*Docketed "On sugar mills."*
- b.** Memorandum (in French). Queries about the application of engines to sugar mills.
- c.** Translation of letter (press copy). Mr. — Pradeaux (Paris) to Matthew Boulton [Soho]. 30  
Jul. 1784. 3 sheets.
- 36.** Letter. Prichard & Barlow (Bristol) to Boulton & Watt (Birmingham). 15 Dec. 1785.  
*Docketed "Polgooth goods."*
- 37.** Letter. Prichard & Barlow (Bristol) to Boulton & Watt (Birmingham). 30 Jan. 1786.  
*Docketed "Receipt for £21."*
- 38.** Letter. Prichard & Barlow per James Pullen (Bristol) to Boulton & Watt (Soho).  
22 Jul. 1786.
- 39.** Letter. Prichard & Barlow per James Pullen (Bristol) to James Watt [Soho]. 10 Jul. 1787.
- 40.** Letter. Prichard & Barlow (Bristol) to James Watt (Birmingham). 30 Oct. 1787.
- 41.** Letter. James Barlow (Bristol) to James Watt (Birmingham). 15 Feb. 1788.  
*Docketed "Prichard & Barlow – Manganese."*
- 42.** Letter. Prichard & Barlow per James Pullen (Bristol) to Boulton & Watt (Birmingham).  
1 Oct. 1788.
- 43.** Letter. William Pulteney (Bath House, Piccadilly) to James Watt [Soho]. 25 Jan. 1788.
- 44.** Letter. William Pulteney (London) to James Watt [Soho]. 30 Jan. 1788.

**3/399 General Correspondence, R (67 items)**

- 1.** Letter. Edward Radcliffe (8 St. Ann's Court, Dean St., Soho) to Matthew Boulton (6 Green  
Lettice Lane). 15 Mar. 1785.
- 2a.** Letter. R. E. Raspe (London) to Matthew Boulton (Soho). 29 Jul. 1792.  
*Enclosing (b) below. Docketed "Bog engine."*
- b.** Memorandum. Extract of Mr. Raspe's Report on the Bog Mine. 23 Jul. 1792.  
*In Raspe's hand.*

3. Letter. R. E. Raspe (London) to Matthew Boulton (Soho). 4 Aug. 1792.
4. Letter. R. E. Raspe [London] to Boulton & Watt (—). "Monday Evening" [27 Aug. 1792].  
*Docketed "About J. Weston & Co."*
5. Letter. R. E. Raspe (12 Sackville St., Piccadilly) to Boulton & Watt (Truro). 13 Sep. 1792.  
*Docketed "John Weston."*
6. Transcript of letter. James Watt (Truro) to R. E. Raspe. 15 Sep. 1792.  
*In Gregory Watt's hand [?].*
7. Letter. Joseph Rathbone & Co. (Coalbrookdale) to James Watt [Soho]. 1 Feb. 1785.  
*One or more of Boulton & Watt's people should come, the sooner the better.*
8. Letter. Joseph Rathbone & Co. (Coalbrookdale) to Boulton & Watt (Birmingham).  
13 Jun. 1786.
9. Letter. John Reeder (Islington) to Boulton & Watt [Soho]. 26 Feb. 1791.
10. Letter. John Reeder (2 Pullen's Row, Islington) to Boulton & Watt (Soho). 19 Mar. 1791.
11. Letter. Mr. — Reveillon (21 Walnut Tree Walk, Walworth Place, Lambeth) to James Watt (—). 6 Oct. 1789.
12. Letter. Joseph Reynolds (Charles St.) to James Watt (—). 22 Nov. 1791.
13. Letter. Richard Reynolds & Co. (Ketley) to Boulton & Watt (Soho). 4 Feb. 1785.
14. Letter. Richard Reynolds & Co. (Ketley) to Boulton & Watt (Soho). 3 Apr. 1785.  
*Docketed "About new forge for Horsehay."*
15. Letter. Richard Reynolds & Co. (Ketley) to Boulton & Watt [Soho]. 3 Sep. 1785.  
*Docketed "Ordering new nozzle."*
16. Letter. Richard Reynolds & Co. (Ketley) to Boulton & Watt [Soho]. 28 Jan. 1786.
17. Letter. Richard Reynolds & Co. per Richard Phillips Jr. (Ketley) to Boulton & Watt [Soho].  
4 Feb. 1786.
18. Letter. Richard Reynolds & Co. (Ketley) to Boulton & Watt [Soho]. 17 Apr. 1786.
19. Letter. Richard Reynolds & Co. (Ketley) to Boulton & Watt (Birmingham). 14 Feb. 1787.  
*Docketed "Asking to permit them to erect stamping engine."*
20. Letter. William Reynolds (Ketley) to James Watt [?] [Soho]. 14 Apr. 1785.
21. Letter. William Reynolds (Ketley) to James Watt [?] [Soho]. 25 Apr. 1785.
22. Letter. William Reynolds (Ketley) to James Watt [?] [Soho]. 30 Apr. 1785.
23. Letter. William Reynolds (Ketley) to James Watt (Birmingham). 10 Feb. 1789.  
*Docketed "Ordering 8 horse engine."*
24. Letter. William Reynolds (Ketley) to James Watt (Birmingham). 3 Mar. 1789.  
*Mis-docketed as 1788. Docketed "Little engine."*
25. Letter. William Reynolds (Ketley) to James Watt (Birmingham). 16 May 1789.  
*Docketed "About small engine and wanting drawings for 8 horse engine."*

- 26a.** Letter. William Reynolds & Co. (Ketley) to James Watt (Birmingham). 12 Jun. 1789.  
*Docketed as 13 Jun. Kept with (b) below.*
- b.** Note. Terms of premium for an 8 horse engine.  
*In James Watt's hand.*
- 27.** Letter. William Reynolds (Ketley) to Boulton & Watt (Soho). 17 Jul. 1794.  
*Docketed "Introducing Mr. Garnett & Co."*
- 28.** Letter. William Reynolds (Ketley) to M. R. Boulton (Soho). 17 Dec. 1795.  
*Docketed "38 inch cylinder for Madeley Wood. Remittance for pneumatic apparatus."*
- 29.** Letter. Isaiah Richards (Llansamlet) to James Watt [Soho]. 3 Mar. 1788.  
*Docketed "Welsh engineer."*
- 30.** Letter. William Ridley (King St., Oxford Road, London) to Boulton & Watt (Birmingham).  
6 Jun. 1785.  
*With a postscript added on 7 Jun.*
- 31a.** Printed circular (in French). Rilliet & Compagnie (Paris). 30 Jan. 1792.  
*Offering their services as successors to Louis Julien & Fils. Enclosing (b) below.*
- b.** Printed price list. 30 Jan. 1792.
- 32.** Letter. J. Robinson (24 Castle St., Southwark) to "Boden & Watts" (Soho). 21 Mar. 1787.
- 33.** Letter. George & James Robinson (Papplewick) to James Watt (Birmingham).  
3 Jan. 1785.
- 34.** Letter. James Robinson "for Father & self" (Papplewick) to Boulton & Watt [Soho].  
2 Jun. 1785.
- 35.** Letter. James Robinson "for Father & self" (Papplewick) to Boulton & Watt [Soho].  
9 Jul. 1785.
- 36.** Letter. George & James Robinson (Papplewick) to Boulton & Watt (Soho). 21 Jul. 1785.
- 37.** Letter. James Robinson "for Father & self" (Papplewick) to James Watt [Soho].  
27 Jul. 1785.  
*Not dated – date taken from the docket.*
- 38.** Letter. George & James Robinson (Nottingham) to Boulton & Watt [Soho]. 13 Aug. 1785.
- 39.** Letter. James Robinson "for Father & self" (Papplewick) to James Watt (Birmingham).  
25 Aug. 1785.
- 40.** Letter. James Robinson "for Father & self" (Papplewick) to James Watt (Birmingham).  
2 Sep. 1785.
- 41.** Letter. George Robinson "for self & Son" (Nottingham) to James Watt (Birmingham).  
9 Oct. 1785.
- 42.** Letter. James Robinson "for Father & self" (Papplewick) to James Watt (Birmingham).  
14 Dec. 1785.
- 43.** Letter. George & James Robinson per Andrew Ogle (Papplewick) to James Watt  
(Birmingham). 18 Dec. 1785.
- 44.** Letter. James Robinson "for Father & self" (Papplewick) to James Watt [Birmingham].  
27 Dec. 1785.

- 45.** Letter. George & James Robinson (Papplewick) to James Watt (Birmingham). 9 Jan. 1786.
- 46.** Letter. George Robinson (Papplewick) to James Watt (Birmingham). 9 Feb. 1786.
- 47.** Letter. James Robinson “for Father & self” (Papplewick) to James Watt (Birmingham). 27 Feb. 1786.  
*Docketed “By Cartwright.”*
- 48.** Letter. James Robinson [Papplewick] to James Watt [Birmingham]. 26 Mar. 1786.  
*Docketed “Per J. Harrison.”*
- 49.** Letter. James Robinson “for Father & self” (Papplewick) to Boulton & Watt (Birmingham). 14 May 1786.
- 50a.** Letter. George & James Robinson (Papplewick) to Boulton & Watt (Birmingham). 18 Dec. 1786.  
*Kept with (b) below. On the same sheet:*  
Letter. Ann Watt (Harper’s Hill) to James Pearson [Soho]. 21 Dec. 1786.
- b.** Note. James Pearson (Soho) to Ann Watt [Harper’s Hill]. 21 Dec. 1786.
- 51.** Letter. George Robinson (Nottingham) to James Watt (Birmingham). 15 May 1786.
- 52.** Letter. George & James Robinson per John Dawn (Papplewick) to James Watt (Birmingham). 26 May 1786.
- 53.** Letter. John Robinson (Papplewick) to Boulton & Watt (Birmingham). 7 Sep. 1790.  
*Docketed “About repairing engine.”*
- 54.** Letter. James Robinson (Papplewick) to Boulton & Watt (Birmingham). 9 Jun. 1792.
- 55.** Letter. James Robinson (Papplewick) to Boulton & Watt (Birmingham). 12 Jan. 1793.
- 56.** Letter. W. Robinson (Navigation Office, Stone) to James Watt [Birmingham]. 1 Jul. 1786.  
*Docketed “About Mr. Harris’s goods.”*
- 57.** Letter. W. Robinson (Stone) to James Watt (Birmingham). 14 Jul. 1786.  
*On the same sheet:*  
Transcript of letter. John Colemere for John Higson (Chester) to W. Robinson [Stone]. 30 Jun. 1786.  
*Docketed “About Messrs. Robinsons’ and Harris’s goods being detained on the navigation.”*
- 58.** Letter. Roe & Company (Macclesfield) to Boulton & Watt [Soho]. 20 Apr. 1785.
- 59.** Letter. Roe & Company (Macclesfield) to Boulton & Watt (Birmingham). 11 May 1785.
- 60.** Letter. John Roebuck (Tillibady House, by Alloa) to James Watt (Birmingham). 17 Aug. 1793.
- 61.** Letter. John Roebuck Jr. (Kinneil) to James Watt (Birmingham). 12 Jan. 1786.  
*Watt has used the back of the sheet for calculations.*
- 62.** Letter. Will Roy (Argyll St., London) to James Watt [London]. 8 Mar. 1787.  
*Docketed as General Roy.*
- 63.** Letter. William Russell (Paradise St.) to “Boulton Watt & Scale” [Soho]. “Saturday Noon” [— Aug. 1785].  
*Docketed “Per William Rhodes Bernard Esq.”*

**64.** Letter. William Russell (Paradise St.) to James Watt [Soho]. "Tuesday" [12 Feb. 1788].  
*Docketed "Order Messrs. Russell & Smith 3 cwt. bar tin."*

**65.** Letter. William Russell (Birmingham) to James Watt [Soho]. 21 Feb. 1788.  
*Docketed "About tin."*

**66.** Letter. John Towill Rutt (23 Upper Thames St., London) to James Watt [Soho].  
31 Mar. 1787.  
*Docketed "Order for engine."*

**67.** Letter. John Towill Rutt (London) to Boulton & Watt [Soho]. 2 Oct. 1787.