



Mill Memories

The Newsletter of the Friends of the Mills Archive

Issue 27

Autumn 2020

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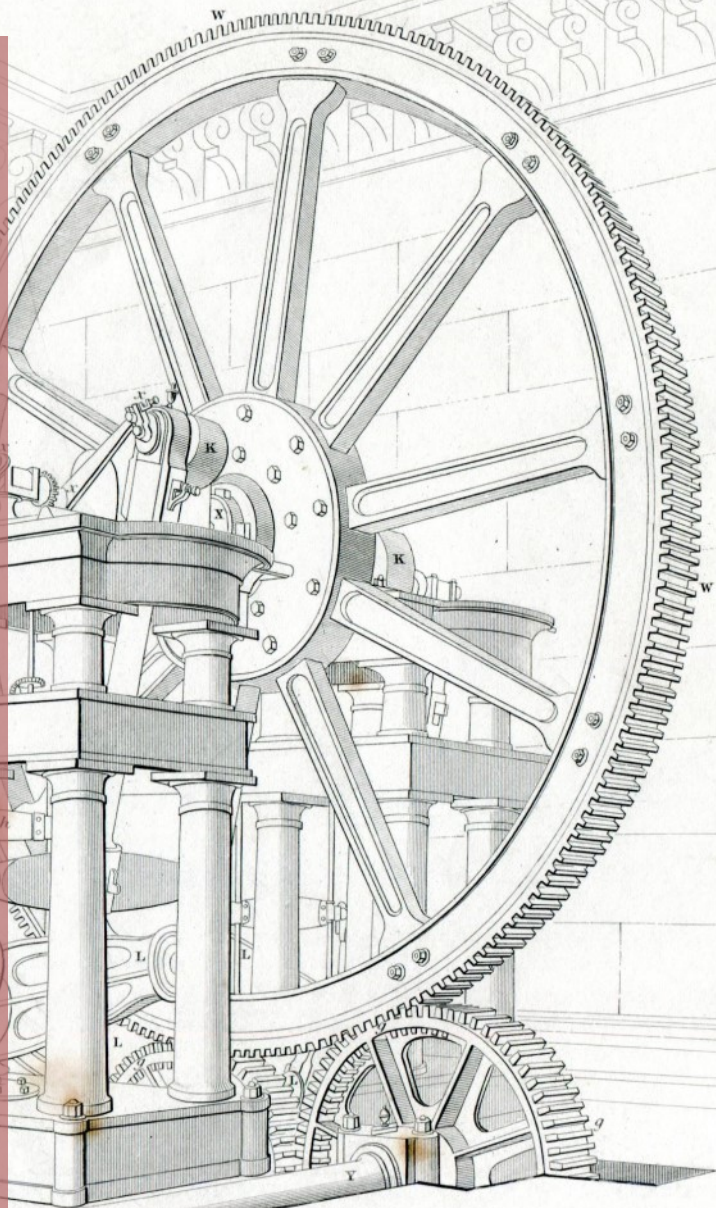
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Unprecedented Times, Unprecedented Support

Liz Bartram, Director

What a strange few months it has been. At times it has been difficult, challenging, frustrating, uplifting, reassuring and inspiring. Your continuing support has been essential in helping us to make the most of the situation, strengthening some of our existing ways of working while exploring new opportunities.

Some things have had to change - we haven't been able to accommodate visiting researchers and the team has been working from home. We've been overwhelmed by the commitment of our volunteers, who have rallied around to offer their help from a distance.

The message of this issue of *Mill Memories* is one of optimism. We've seen some quick thinking and innovation not only in the archives and heritage world, but also by mills - from traditional and volunteer run, to the larger commercial mills.

I am grateful for the dedication of my team - especially Nathanael, Nataliya, Elizabeth, Mildred and Ron - for their hard work to preserve the history of milling and to continue to provide you with digital access to the content you cherish.

Thank you for your support, suggestions and kind words over the past few months. I hope you enjoy reading this issue and if anything inspires you, let us know!



We are exploring how to use Zoom to bring our collections closer to people.

Keeping in Contact

Nataliya Vine

The COVID-19 pandemic, the biggest threat the world has faced for decades, reached the United Kingdom in late January 2020. It was spreading very fast and as a consequence, the lockdown began on 16 March 2020. We all hoped that it would be managed by the end of the summer...

The Mills Archive was closed to visitors and staff have been working from home ever since, while (with volunteers' contributions) continuing to maintain the security of the collections in our care. We have had our Zoom meetings every week to recap on our tasks and workload. We decided that the best way to stay in touch with our supporters was to send out our weekly e-newsletters that would include some intriguing articles about mills, windpower and waterpower, millwrights, images and press cuttings, etc., from the fascinating collections we hold at the Mills Archive. Every week one of my colleagues sends me the content for our next e-newsletter and I put it together in Mailchimp, software which gives us the ability to create and manage mailing lists, newsletters, etc. I have enjoyed working with Mailchimp for several years now. It is not always straightforward, but the end result is satisfying and I'm very grateful and content when people comment on the design.

We all work hard to produce e-newsletters that will be interesting to everybody and the response from our supporters has been overwhelming.

Here are some replies:

Sue Bartram regarding our Mills at War eNewsletter. *What an interesting excerpt in your latest eNewsletter taken from Ron and Mildred's book on Mills at War. And a fitting topic around VE day I thought. I was quite moved to see the example of the terrible damage inflicted on the mill at Achicourt.*



Moulin Accart, Achicourt, France, severely damaged during WWI.

Tony Walton: *The mills at war article was very interesting...*

Wayne Wilson says: *Interesting article about wind mills, or as the Yanks call them wind engines. Being Australian wind mills were part and parcel of the countryside...*

Hazel Langford regarding *Buckinghamshire Windmills* book: *Thank you all for this splendid book! A quick dip in found some of my family names, and I look forward to reading every single word in due course. What a joy!*

You are all doing a grand job keeping things going from home and your efforts are much appreciated.

Dennis Gregory: *I would like you to know just how pleased I was to read your entry on Cranfield's Mill in today's Mills Archive email. I spent three of the happiest years of my forty seven year milling career at Cranfield's when I joined the company in 1972 as the Assistant To The Mill Manager, the late Robin Armstrong who to the best of my knowledge was the last of the descendants of the Cranfield family directly involved in the business.*



Cranfield's Mill, Ipswich, from dockside.

Thank you so much for getting in touch and we hope you enjoy our future newsletters as much as we enjoy putting them together.

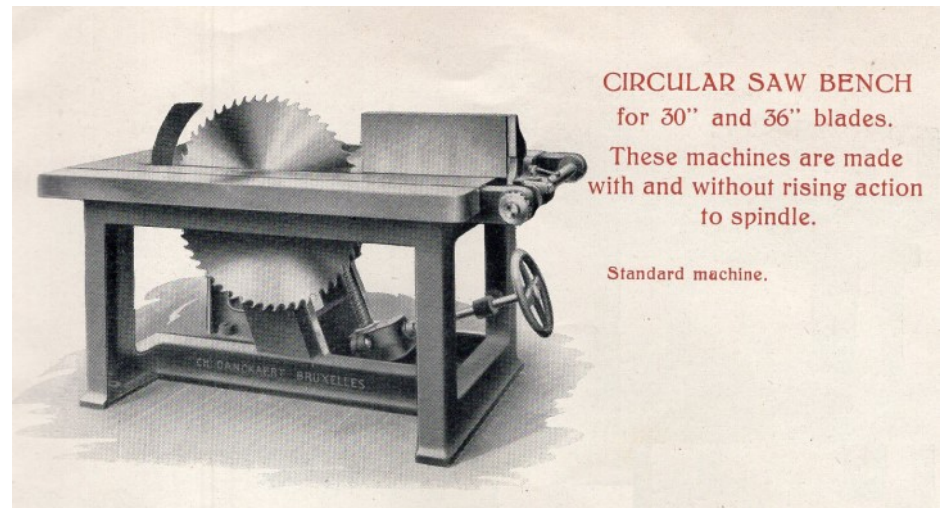
Vodka and Gunpowder!

Pru Barrett

It has been nearly 5 years since I found myself drawn in as a volunteer to the Mills Archive in the atmospheric Watlington House in Reading, on a weekly basis, carrying out various tasks. Working there on a Wednesday broke the week up nicely, and I especially have enjoyed the companionship, meeting an interesting mix of people – you never know who will turn up next and what their story will be – and I particularly enjoyed coffee and (hopefully) chocolate biscuit time!

So it was very sad to have to stop my visits due to this "pandemic" – I quickly tired of the joys of home life – and asked Ron if there was anything he could set me to do. He suggested I tackled the dire shortage in their "Our People" biography section of women who contributed to the story of milling, and who somehow have been "forgotten" or overlooked simply because they were women. Ron helpfully supplied me with a few thumbnail sketches of suitable candidates and I have been enjoying picking out almost at random people whose stories caught my eye – two of which turn out to be Swedish ladies of the 18th century and one early 19th century American Shaker. All battled prejudice typical of their time and were certainly not typical "stay-at-home" ladies. They worked in fields I wouldn't have dreamt about – circular saws, producing flour and vodka out of potatoes and last but not least – gunpowder packaging! And the remarkable thing is that all this was connected to milling!

I look forward to my next assignment with interest.....



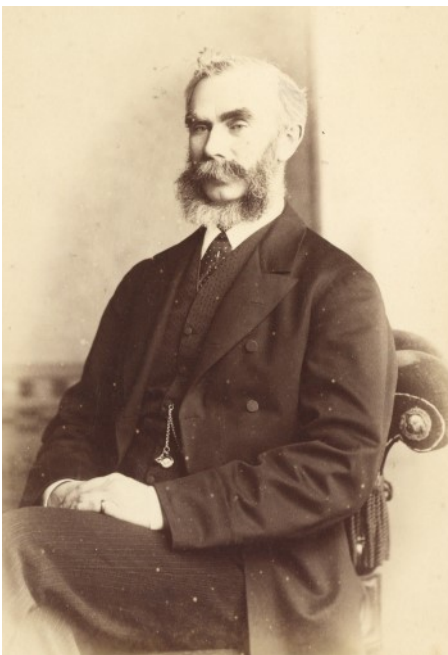
A standard saw bench from a Danckaert's Woodworking Machinery Ltd catalogue of about 1920 (Mildred Cookson Collection).

Gems of the Rex Wailes Collection

Nathanael Hodge



Work on the Rex Wailes Collection had to be put on hold over the lockdown, but since I've been back in the office I've continued listing and sorting through the boxes. Some of Rex's drawings have been passed to a conservator for cleaning and repair, and a new plan chest to house them is on its way to the Archive. Here are a few of the items we've come across when looking through the collection:



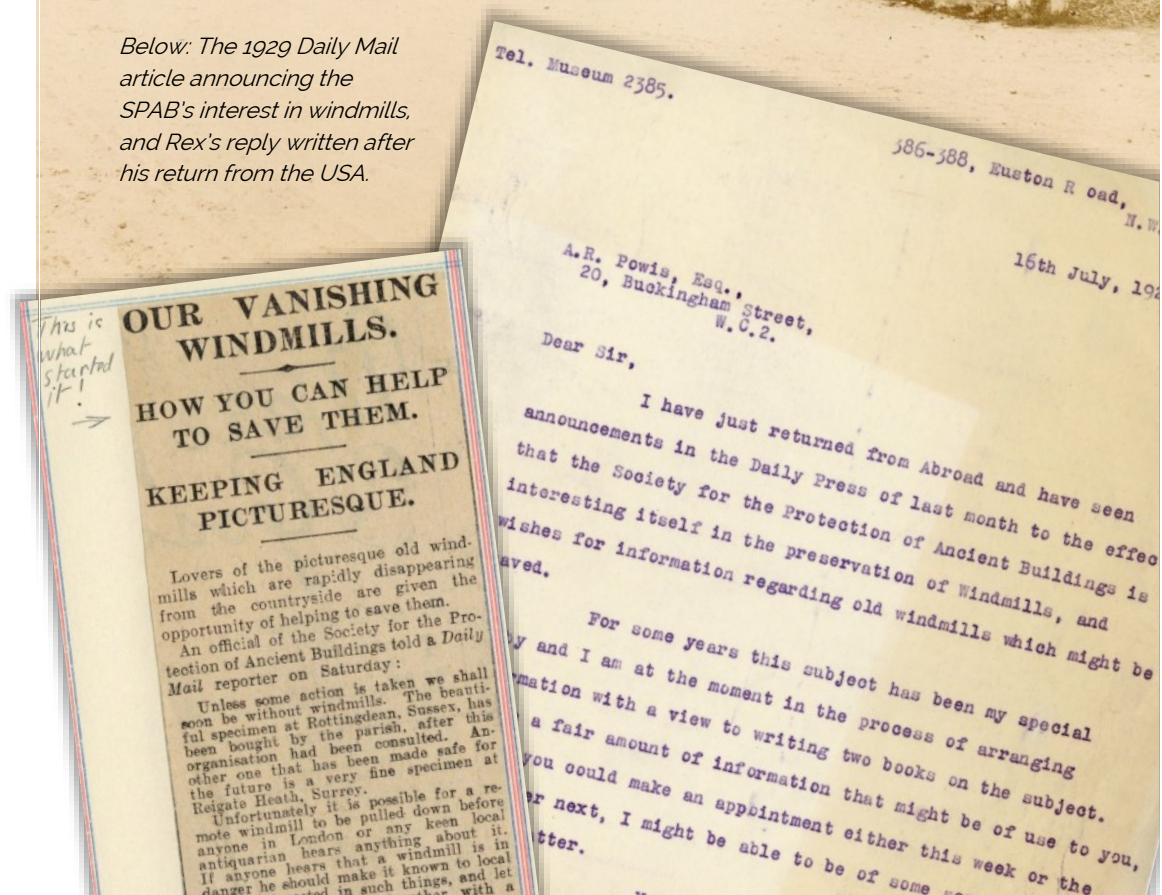
Left: Rex's grandfather, George Wailes, c 1870s. Right: Rex's father Reginald Wailes.



Below Went's Mill, Peldon, the Mill House after the Colchester Earthquake, 1884. Given to Rex Wailes in 1956 by Mrs E Went. The school boy with the black armband was her husband. His father had died shortly before and his brother (next to him) was running the business.



Below: The 1929 Daily Mail article announcing the SPAB's interest in windmills, and Rex's reply written after his return from the USA.





*Left:
Collapse of
Rash's Mill,
Wortham,
1948.*

Right: Rex's daughter Ursula at Jill Mill.



*Drawing of 'Mill near
Portsmouth' by Wellington
Drummond, 1829.*

Industrial Milling

Mildred Cookson



Olive oil press from 16th century engraving by J della Strada.

Over time mills have been fundamental to a large number of processes other than corn milling. These are usually referred to as industrial mills and the Archive has been working to extend our catalogue and website coverage of these fascinating uses. Following a grant from the Foyle Foundation, supported by a number of private donations, we have developed a series of industrial profiles, with more to come.

Before the advent of wind and watermills, we had to rely on muscle power, mainly supplied by animals. Later, steam power and the Industrial Revolution changed people's lives in the workplace forever. Industrial mills have used all these power sources and more modern ones, although our main focus is on the earlier power sources. Their many uses are clear from the thirteen industries already described on our project pages (search for "Mills make the World go round").

Nearly all methods that were done by hand were eventually adapted to wind power or water power where that was available. Animal or muscle power is still used in some countries for oil and sugar production; even crushing lime was done by camel in Aden.

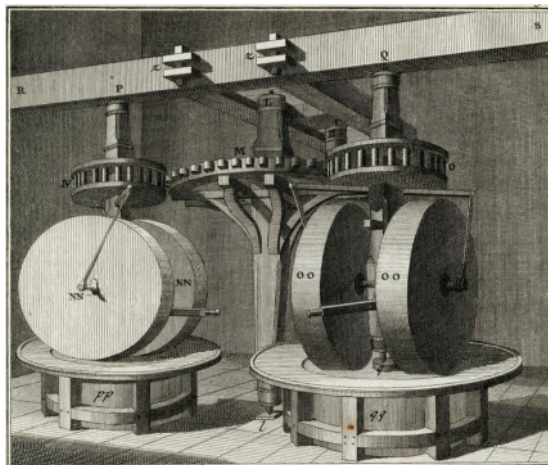
Wind or water power was adapted for use in saw, colour, salt, gunpowder, paper, sugar and fulling mills. Mining needed continuous draining and ventilation - here animals, windmills and waterwheels were put to use.

Cotton and woollen mills relied on a good water supply, and other industries competed for the water rights. Some rivers were more adaptable than others, and some industries needed faster flows than others.



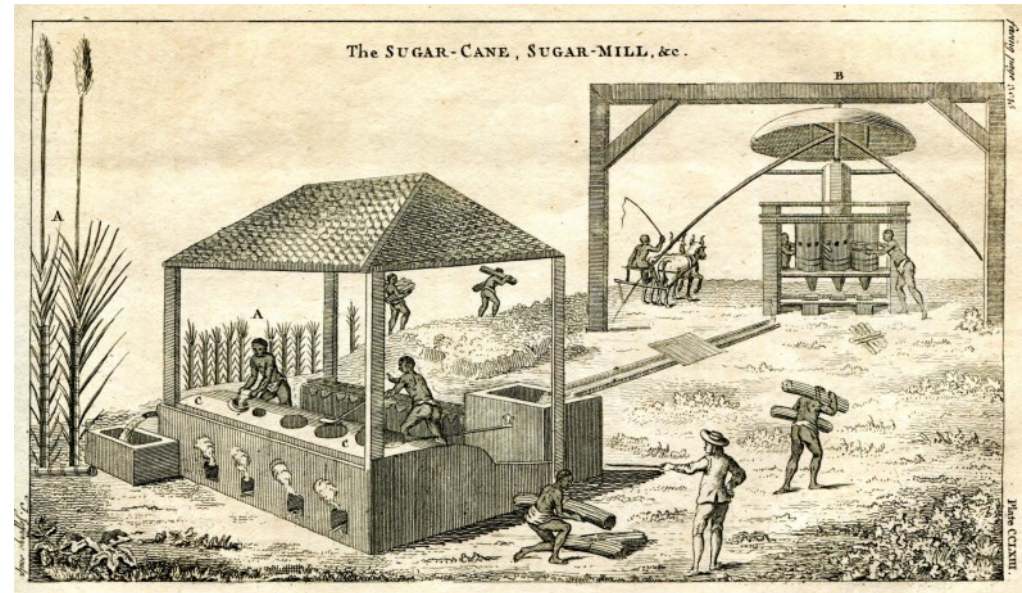
Above: Ghani oil mill, India. Below: Edge runner stones in a gunpowder mill.

It is interesting how the animals of various countries were used, from the donkey, horse and mule, to the buffalo, camel and even elephants. Oil mills in most countries used the animals to turn edge runner mill stones; India had its own traditional system called a Ghani, dating back to the 13th century. The different regions of India had their own types of Ghani varying from wood to stone. The large wooden mortar and pestle arrangement



could take 8 to 15 kilograms of oil seeds at a time, whereas the granite Ghani's of southern India could take up to 40 kilograms.

Edge runner millstones powered by wind or water were common in gunpowder production, whiting and flint and colour mills.

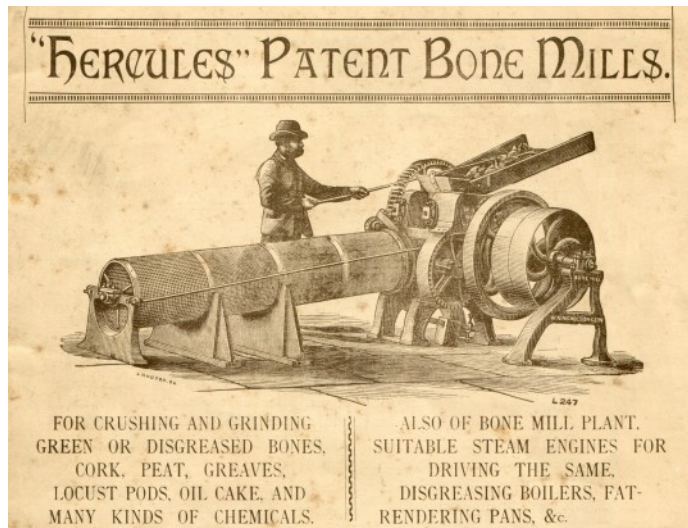
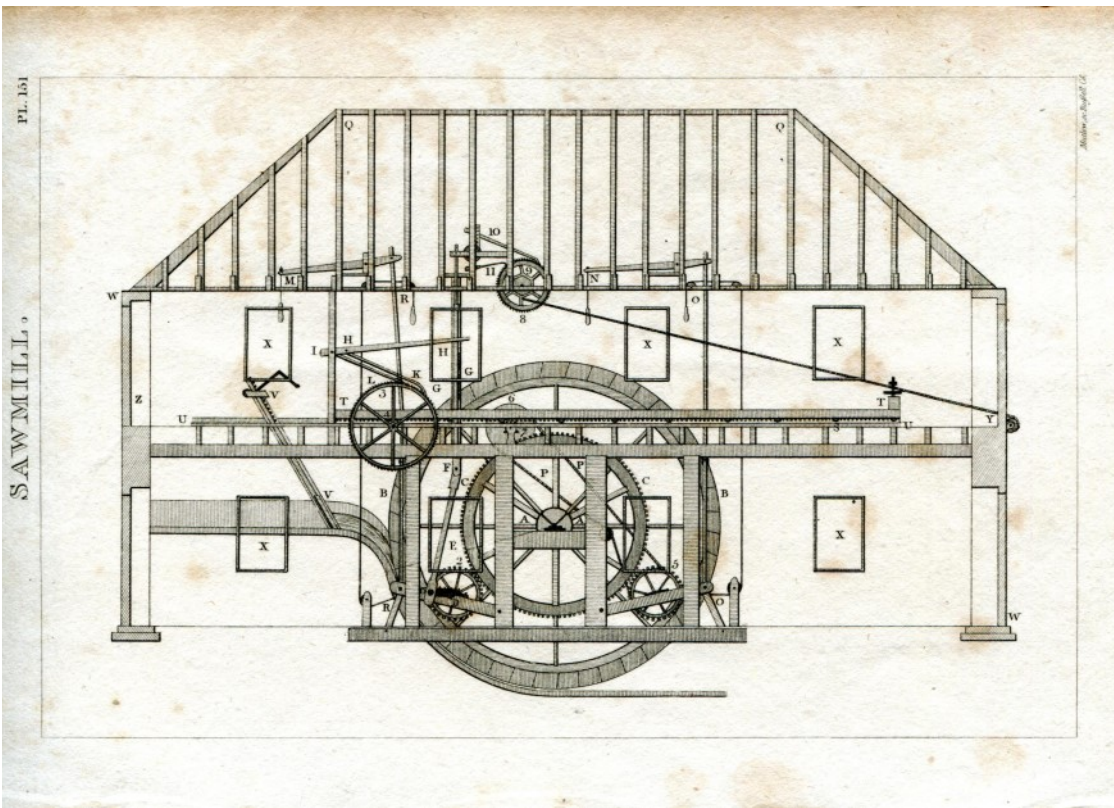


Sugar mills in India and Asia used animal power to turn the vertical wooden rollers to crush the sugar cane. But in the slave plantations of the West Indies and other Caribbean islands windmills were common, using the wind during the harvest season and then taking down the windmill points (sails) for the hurricane season. Waterwheels also were used here for rum production.



Animals were also common in underground mines, sometimes on a treadwheel operating a ventilation system. Horse mills were used in mines for raising the material to the surface and in woad mills for extracting the colour out of the plant.

Left: Horizontal windmill at the saltworks, Salt Cay, Turks and Caicos Islands.



Saw mills adapted wind and water to drive the saws, and many estate watermills had a saw mill for cutting up logs for building material or for use as fuel. Watermills provided the power for turning the machinery in paper, fulling, bone, cotton, wool and tanning mills.

Future industries yet to be written up include mining, forges, brewing and brickworks.

Hidden Heroes, a New Funded Project

Liz Bartram

We are delighted to have received a grant of £75,000 from the Garfield Weston Foundation, our second largest grant to date.

We have all felt the effects of the pandemic in some way, and the milling industry has not escaped this. Mills both traditional and modern have moved quickly to meet the changing demand for flour bought for domestic use.

I'm sure that just like me, you too have faced bare supermarket shelves where flour, bread and even yeast once waited for us. Why did this happen, how did milling businesses and their teams adjust to keep us fed and well, and how does this fit into what has gone before, when our food supply has been interrupted and change has been necessary?

These are some of the areas we will shed light on during this project. The next generation should know what has happened. Through our work to collect, share and preserve these accounts, this will be possible.

We are keen to show the connections between the romantic countryside windmills and watermills and the large-scale factories that feed our nation today. Millers and milling advances have enabled innovations in many parts of the lives of our predecessors, and continue to have a role to play in the areas of nutrition and green energy.



Garfield Weston
FOUNDATION



The grant from the Garfield Weston Foundation will equip us with the tools with which to employ our wealth of historical records for the benefit of people who may have no awareness of the fundamental role mills will have in their future.

Left: Packaging flour at Heage. Heage isn't currently open for normal tours but the group is milling and selling flour at the mill door on nominated dates.

Coronavirus and the Milling Industry

Hayden Francis-Legg

The milling industry has been pivotal to many historical events. The situation in 2020 also brought mills to the forefront in a period of adversity when the world was placed into lockdown due to the COVID-19 pandemic. In the USA and UK, the lockdown led to a huge increase in home baking which resulted in a shortage of flour on supermarket shelves. As retail flour usually represents a small percentage of total flour consumption, the large increase in demand for flour for home baking led to logistical issues and shortages in the supermarkets. This in turn led smaller traditional mills across the USA and UK to dramatically increase their production of flour. By late April, however, flour supply had returned to normal despite the shortage in the early weeks of the pandemic – which even made the national news in both the UK and America.

The UK milling industry

The lack of flour on the shelves of supermarkets during the lockdown was not down to a supply issue but a change in the profile of demand. Prior to the pandemic, retail-packaged flour represented just 4% of total flour consumption in the UK, with the rest attributed to the commercial sector, such as commercial bakers, large-scale food manufacturers and the hospitality industry. However, data from the IRI shows that following the COVID-19 outbreak, there was a huge change in consumption patterns, leading to a 145% increase in the sale of flour in retailers (week ending 15th March). This was due to the part-closure of a portion of the commercial sectors that made up a large percentage of flour consumption coupled with the rise of domestic flour consumption. In response to this massive increase for retail flour, UK Millers began working round the clock, milling 24-hours-a-day-seven-days-a-week, according to the National Association of British and Irish Millers (nabim) director Alex Waugh.



For example, Wessex Mill in Oxfordshire began running a 24-hour milling operation for the first time in its 125 year history, whilst supplementing the 15% of its workforce it lost due to self-isolation with local people who were out of work. The shift in the demand for flour meant that smaller mills, as well as commercial mills, had a higher demand for retail flour rather than the bulk commercial flour

*Left: Wessex Mill, Wantage.
Photo Brendan Barrow.*

they were used to packaging. Therefore, many mills encountered logistical problems in their milling operations while working to meet the surge in demand for flour. Mills that deal with the commercial market typically package flour in bags larger than 16kg; this meant that there were not enough packing lines packaging flour in smaller sizes to meet the demand. Even with packing lines running at full capacity mills were only able to produce enough packaged flour for 15% of households to buy one bag of flour per week, resulting in the shortage seen on supermarket shelves. This shortage was soon fixed when demand lowered, and the increased production allowed stocks of flour to level out. Although the first few months of the pandemic will be remembered for the lack of flour on supermarket shelves, it highlighted the positive attitudes of the milling industry in the UK and its will to fight in the face of uncertainty to keep the nation fed.

Traditional mills in the UK

As flour became hard to find in the supermarkets, people sought it from other sources. An unexpected effect was a sharp increase in demand for smaller traditional mills as people turned to independent millers for their flour. As well as helping support small traditional mills that had lost income from tourism due to the national lockdown, this also allowed some older mills to begin milling flour again.



Letheringsett Mill, Norfolk carried out a month's work in two days, milling around 2.8 tonnes of wheat from Monday to Wednesday due to the increase in orders, with many trade customers 'double-buying' to ensure a supply of flour. As well as trade customers the mill also took on many orders for domestic flour from those who were home-baking during self-isolation, which became a popular hobby during the lockdown period.

Another traditional mill which saw a huge increase in demand following the COVID-19 pandemic was **Charlecote Mill**, a Grade II listed mill in Warwickshire. Demand for flour pushed Charlecote Mill to double their production, milling ten tonnes in about 3 weeks and leaving them with a second week waiting list.

Before the lockdown, **Foster's Mill, Swaffham Prior** only opened their mill shop once a week on a Thursday, however during the lockdown they increased this to twice a week, also opening on a Monday, to supply the local community with flour. Foster's Mill soon became the centre of the community with their first Monday opening experiencing huge queues stretching into the local village. The mill also experienced a large increase of sales following their expanded hours of opening with 60-70% of those making transactions being repeat customers.



Despite not being open for visitors due to COVID-19 restrictions, **Brixton Windmill** became a community hub during the lockdown by providing flour to established local shops that have stayed open whilst also donating flour to two local food banks. Although Brixton Windmill couldn't take on new orders as their increased production couldn't supply the demand, providing the local community with flour and donating flour to food banks shows how important the traditional mill was during the lockdown especially during a shortage of flour in the supermarkets.

Right: Brixton Mill, photo Peter Jennings.



Sturminster Newton Mill, photo Colin Smith.

Sturminster Newton, a mill mentioned in the Domesday Book in 1086, is a working tourist attraction that sells flour to visitors. However, it turned back to commercial milling for the first time since 1970 during the national lockdown, which put a halt to the mill's main income. In the first ten days of milling, Sturminster Newton had milled a tonne of wheat, which usually amounts to a year's supply for the mill when acting as a working museum. By the middle of April, the mill had supplied local grocers and bakers with 200 bags of flour weighing at 3.3lb.

One mill helping out another: **Holgate Windmill** in York in mid-February were concerned at reducing wheat stocks and were struggling to find good quality milling wheat. The offer of some wheat from Heckington Windmill in Lincolnshire was too good to refuse "so we hired a van and drove to a farm a few miles from the mill to bag and load one and a half tonnes of Crusoe wheat. Little did we know how important this wheat would be when the coronavirus situation worsened".

Right: Holgate, York. Photo Guy Blythman.

At **Wicken Mill** in Cambridgeshire they decided to stop selling flour direct from the mill at the beginning



of the lock-down, for the protection of millers, customers, and villagers. Instead supporters could buy windmill flour from two local outlets, Daily Bread in north Cambridge and the Stretham Village Store, which the mill supplied with wholemeal and white flour in larger batches.

The weekly delivery was done in a most unusual way, by wheelbarrow! The mill has been busier than at any time since 1900, and they say if they can retain 5% or even 10% of our new supporters it will be a considerable benefit to their efforts to sustain the windmill.

Redbournbury Mill said, "we are certainly milling "overtime"! The demand for flour has been incredible. We last opened the mill on Saturday 21 March. We expected to be busy and decided to open early at 8am. By 7am we had had our first customers and by 7:45 we had a queue of people out of our gates and down the lane for over 50 yards. Our bakery had a similar queue. By 8:30 we had sold nearly two tonnes of flour. We had five people bagging more flour while we were open but sold out of everything by 10:30 am".



Redbournbury Mill, photo Sara Jarman.

North Leverton windmill in Nottinghamshire is run by volunteers. "Although the windmill is closed to visitors, it is still milling every week and supplying local villages, community groups, those supporting the vulnerable as well as our regular shops, pubs (doing takaways) and bakers. We take orders over the phone, email and Facebook, then when the orders are ready we allocate 10-minute time slots and our customers come and collect. It has worked very well, we keep to the social distancing rules and everyone has been great at helping us."

Left: North Leverton windmill. Photo Guy Blythman.



You can read more on our website: <https://new.millsarchive.org/2020/09/10/coronavirus-and-the-milling-industry/>

Our Digital Emphasis

Ron Cookson

Leading the way

Watlington House is very attractive but not accessible to most so we have always emphasised placing high quality material on the Internet. Back in 2002 this was seen as revolutionary. We had to design and build our own catalogue. Funded largely by the Lottery it was then described as "the best £50,000 the Lottery has spent". Twelve years later with help from Helen Major's large legacy, we were able to develop a new catalogue better able to share information with other institutions. We were innovators again, the first in the country to adopt the AtoM (Access to Memory) catalogue, one that has since grown in popularity. In 2016 our "online provision" was praised by the National Archives as a model for others and we now have enquiries from around the world.

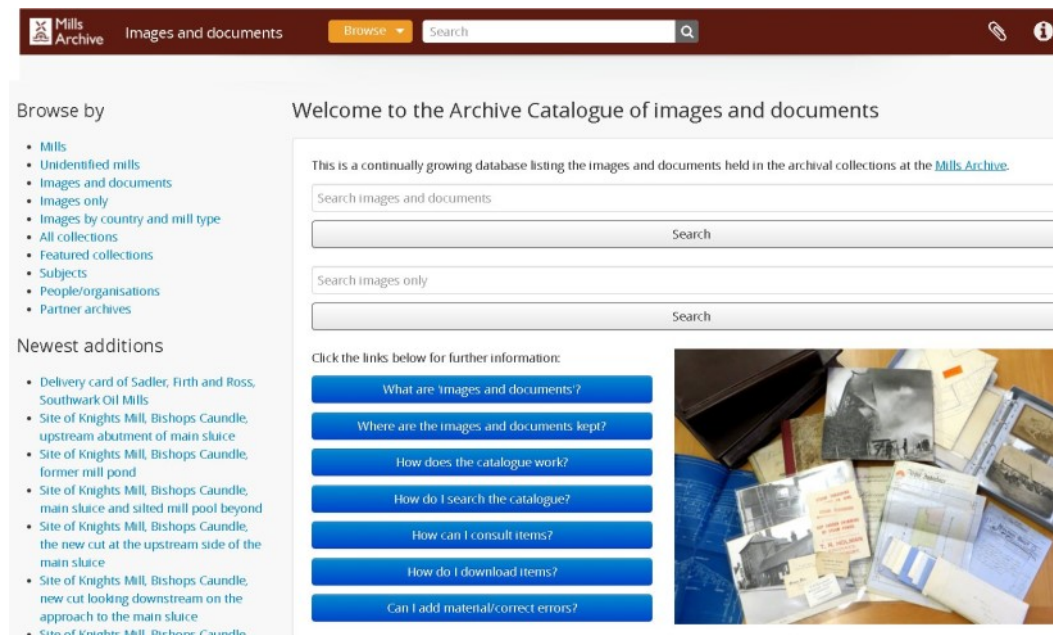
Website

During the last few years the number of new visitors to the website has increased to more than 180,000 pa (with a 25% surge during the early days of lockdown!). An important driving force behind this growth is the work by Nathanael and his volunteers, scanning and cataloguing images and documents. Currently we are approaching 90,000 digital records from 265 collections.


As well as the archive catalogue, we have built well over 300 educational pages on many different aspects of mills and milling. Access to these and the databases we have created of 12,000 mills and almost 50,000 "mill people" meant our original website became progressively overloaded and often very slow to respond. We have therefore moved all the data-hungry elements onto a separate part that enables them to be searched rapidly and the website to show the results within a few seconds. This move to a much faster service will attract more virtual visitors and encourage them to explore, learn and enjoy so much more.

What next?

Articles elsewhere in this issue underline how our digital emphasis has enabled us to continue to improve the value of what we offer, even during the Covid lockdown. Last year, the UK modern milling industry agreed to fund a three-year programme to improve our digital capability. This and some of the funds from the recent Garfield Weston grant are helping to add a lot more digital content and improve our communications, as well as upgrading our digital equipment to enable us to work even better from home when needed. Our weekly emailed newsletters on different aspects of the history of mills and milling are proving very popular. We now have a potential email audience of many thousands. If you are interested or just curious you can register your interest at new.millsarchive.org (scroll down to the bottom of the page).



Our catalogue of 265 collections at <https://catalogue.millsarchive.org/>



Register your interest

Stay in touch with the Archive by registering your specific interests in mills and milling history. We'll keep you informed with relevant stories and features based on these interests. You can opt out at any time.

First name

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Choose the topics that interest you:

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Register your interest at <https://new.millsarchive.org/>

Vincent Pargeter Collection

Nathanael Hodge

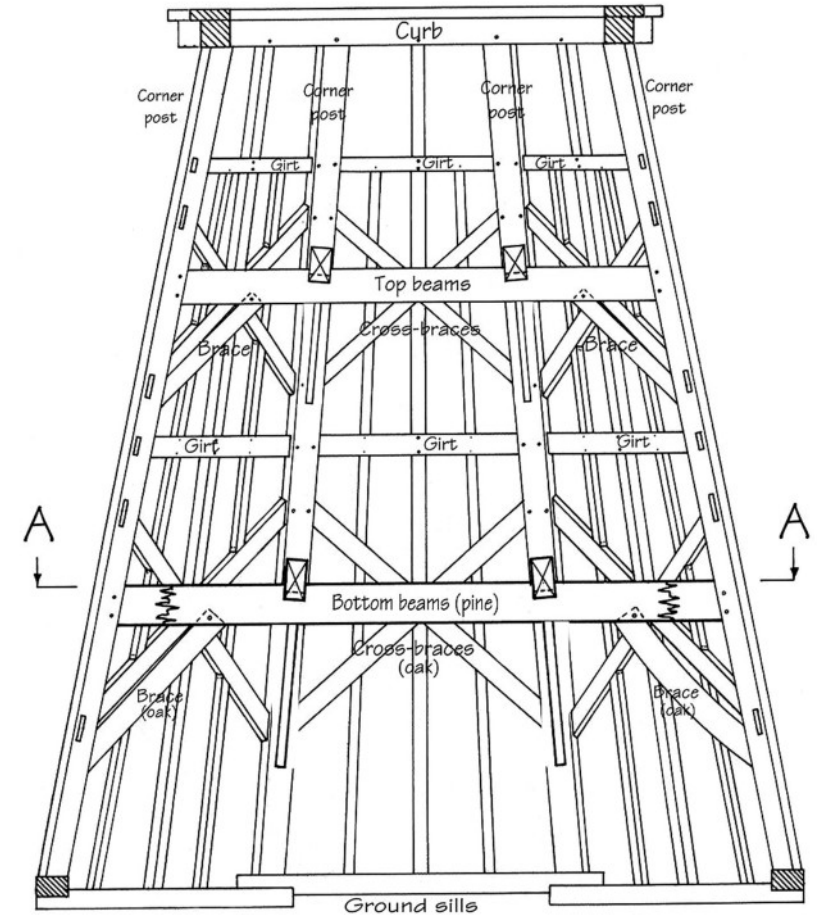
During the lockdown I spend quite a long time uploading a selection of digital files from millwright Vincent Pargeter to our catalogue, including photographs, drawings and mill reports. Here are a few of my favourites.

Right: Half of brakewheel being lifted out of workshop, Hardley Mill, August 2008.



Above: Interior of North Mill, Ludham Bridge, 2008.

Below: Vincent with dog, Gran Canaria, 2005.



Former Smock mill, Seven Mile House Reedham Marshes

Reconstruction of Dutch-style frame
based on re-used timbers found in
Polkey's tower mill (drawn bold).



Vincent Pargeter (Millwright) Ltd
46, Heybridge Road,
INGATESTONE,
Essex, CM4 5WQ,
Phone & FAX 01277 352264
Mobile 07776 300807

You can view the rest of the collection at <https://catalogue.millsarchive.org/vincent-pargeter-collection>

Beyond the Front Cover:

Trading Innovation

Elizabeth Trout

Apart from books, the Mills Archive Library has several milling trade journals that provide an insight into the historic and contemporary developments of roller flour milling from the 1870's to the modern day. Recently, we acquired some 20th century milling journals including the *Journal of Flour and Animal Feed Milling* (JFAFM) and *Milling Feed and Fertilizer* (MF&F). As I have been going through these journals from the mid 1970's, I have been struck by two things. Firstly that the milling industry had become truly global, and secondly, the importance of regular visits, meetings and conferences to share ideas, research, innovations and new product information between millers and suppliers.

VICTAM International Feed Industries Show 1977, Utrecht

This image on the front cover of the *Milling Feed and Fertiliser* July 1977 issue is entitled 'Fly high with Simon-Barron':



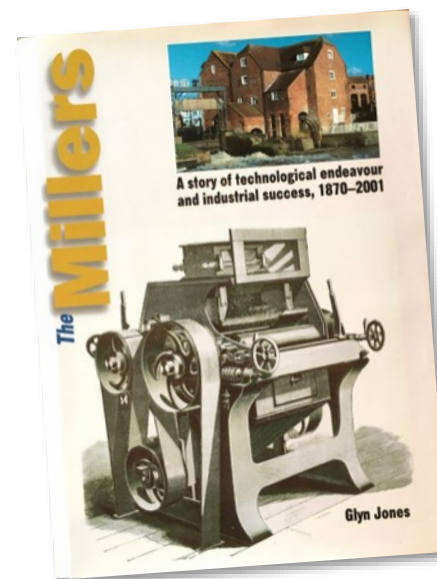
On page 4, a smaller black and white picture explains that this is a group of feed millers at Birmingham airport, about to embark onto a Boeing 737 Britannia Airways flight for a one day visit to the Victam 6th International Feed Industries Show held at Utrecht, Netherlands in May 1977. The standard way to travel to Europe at that time was by car/coach and railway which would take several days and include a hotel stopover. Air travel on scheduled flights was still relatively expensive, unless you took a package holiday, and was still something of a luxury. Previously, the May 1977 issue of JFAFM, had reported on the planned 'Day trip to Victam arranged by Simon-Barron' for the inclusive cost of £55 (equivalent to £344 today) which presumably included the air fare and entrance to the show. A preview was provided of what the participants could expect to see at the show, particularly the machinery demonstrated by British exhibitors. So the one-day trip, arranged by Simon Barron Ltd, on a special charter flight with Britannia Airways was front-page news because it was cheaper and less time-consuming for the participants. The party of 130 passengers mainly comprised the Directors and staff of Simon-Barron but also present were H C Harrison, Deputy Chairman and Chief Executive of Simon Engineering Ltd, and S R Horner, Chairman of the Simon Food Engineering Group. VICTAM International is still the world's largest dedicated trade conference and exhibition for the animal feed processing industries.

British Millers at the Vienna Exhibition in 1877

Trade shows are important for suppliers, manufacturers and customers to meet to share ideas and learn about new products and developments. This put me in mind of another photograph that I had seen of a group of British and Irish flour millers gathering for a trade exhibition in Vienna in 1877, one hundred years earlier. I was further

prompted by a request in JFAFM March 1977 from Glyn Jones for back copies of *Milling* from 1891 to 1930 for a university research study on the history of flour milling. Glyn Jones' research on the history of flour milling was further developed and in 2001 he published *The Millers: a story of technological endeavour and industrial success 1870-2001*.

This book tells the full story of the transition from millstone grinding to modern roller flour mills, celebrating the unsung British heroes of invention who revolutionised the production of flour milling. It includes this iconic image of British and Irish millers gathered for the 1877 Vienna Exhibition which had first appeared in *The Miller*, 3 July 1899 (next page):





The trip to the Vienna Exhibition and Budapest in 1877 was an opportunity for British and Irish millers to study the new development of gradual reduction roller milling that was being developed in Hungary. The trip was organised by J W Throop and J Harrison Carter. Seeing the earlier image of a group of millers about to board a plane in 1977, made me wonder how this group might have travelled. Certainly, they would have spent several days travelling by boat from the UK to France, Belgium or the Netherlands, then by railway to Vienna. They then may have travelled by train to Budapest or taken a five day scenic boat trip up the Danube from Vienna.

These forty millers weren't technical leaders, as such, but through their passion and interest in new flour milling processes, they pioneered the manufacture, installation, and development of roller flour mills in the UK. *The Miller* produced an identification sketch with the image so we know who these people were. Some of the millers who visited Vienna and Hungary went on to form the National Association of British and Irish Millers (nabim) in 1878. The Mills Archive team plan to research the lives of some of these extraordinary people as part of the 'Hidden Heroes' Project funded by the Garfield Weston Foundation (see p. 13).

The future of conferences and exhibitions – is it online?

However, the Covid-19 pandemic this year has had an enormous impact on the milling industry - not least that lockdowns and social distancing regulations have meant that many events have been cancelled or postponed this year. Many organisations are using webinars, online meeting rooms and Twitter conferences to host events this year.

One new development reported by *Milling and Grain* in June 2020 was the Bühler Virtual World Tour which uses impressive CGI graphics in "a variety of presentations informing their customers of the innovative solutions they can offer all stages of food and feed production chains". The myBühler Customer Portal also offers complimentary customer services and is available in 120 countries serving 6000 customers in eight languages. Such is the reach and power of computer technology.



Milling and Grain also reported that VICTAM International, mentioned at the beginning of this article, had cancelled the 2020 trade

Article from *Milling and Grain*, June 2020.



Visitors to an exhibition at the Mills Archive.

show twice this year, but was confident that it could hold it again in 2022. It is difficult to demonstrate new equipment online and meeting people face-to-face has enormous benefits for building customer relations. How could online meetings replicate the camaraderie of a conference dinner or in-depth discussions with suppliers in an exhibition?

Will the virtual world replace physical meetings? We hope not.

Keeping in touch

We are very grateful to you for your support, which is needed now more than ever. Unfortunately we are still unable to accommodate visits to the Mills Archive.

But our website and online catalogue remain freely available online, and in addition to receiving this newsletter twice a year, you can also receive our weekly updates on a variety of topics – why not sign up using our newsletter subscription form? You can find the form here: millsarchive.org/register-interest

You can also contact us by email at friends@millsarchive.org

Our promise to you is to continue to safeguard the history of milling, and to share the stories, facts and photographs with you.

Thank you for your support and we wish you and your loved ones well.

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The Friends of the Mills Archive

The Friends of the Mills Archive are dedicated to aiding the work of the Mills Archive Trust.

As a Friend you are supporting us in our goal to preserve, protect and promote one of the world's great mill collections, ensuring its continuing care and free availability to the public and other academic institutions.

"Whether it's acquiring and protecting new collections, training volunteers or running outreach projects in the local community, none of it is possible without the help of our Friends of the Archive."

– Dr Ron Cookson, Chairman of the Mills Archive Trust

We highly value new members, and extend a warm welcome to everyone: family, local and national historians as well as to those who simply want to find out more about our milling heritage. If you're not already, now is your chance to get involved: become our Friend.

For more information write to the address opposite, email us at friends@millsarchive.org or complete the online form on our website at: <https://millsarchive.org/friend/register>

"I am very proud to be a Friend of the Mills Archive ... It works tirelessly to liberate important historic material and has grown exponentially ... The Mills Archive will always be an institution which is very close to my heart."

– James, Friend of the Mills Archive



Fig. 2.

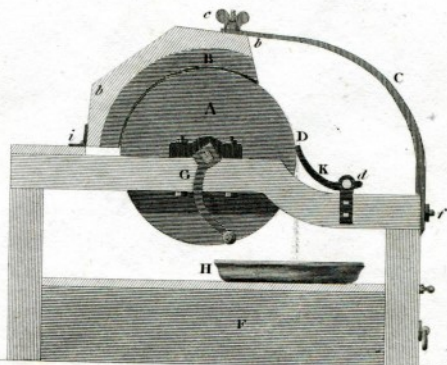


Fig. 1.

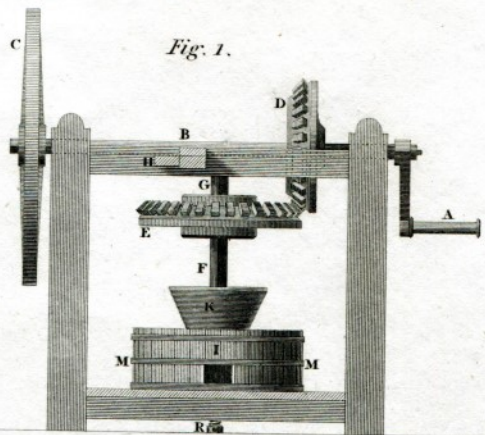


Fig. 5.

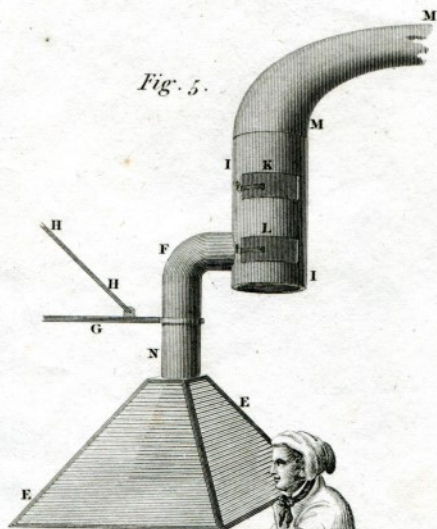


Fig. 4.

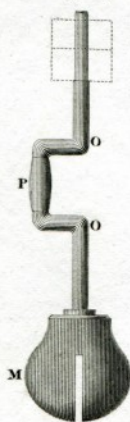
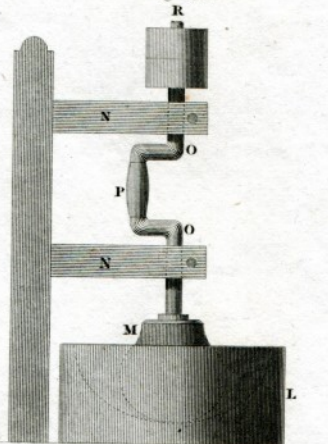


Fig. 3.



Lower Stone

Fig. 6.

Upper Stone.

