



Smithsonian
National Air and Space Museum

Balloon Locomotive Correspondence [Haenlein]

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National Air and Space Museum Archives
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Collection Overview

Repository:	National Air and Space Museum Archives
Title:	Balloon Locomotive Correspondence [Haenlein]
Identifier:	NASM.XXXX.1206
Date:	1867
Extent:	0.01 Cubic feet (1 folder)
Creator:	Haenlein, Paul, 1835-1905
Language:	English
Summary:	This collection consists of a letter, and a multipage description of a "Balloon Locomotive," from inventor Paul Haenlein to U. S. Minister to the Court of St. James's, Charles Francis Adams, asking him to share the balloon locomotive plans with the U. S. government. There is also a letter from Benjamin Moran (U. S. Embassy in London) to Edward Stanton, Secretary of War under the Abraham Lincoln and Andrew Johnson presidencies, in which the letter and description were forwarded.
Digital Content:	Image(s): Balloon Locomotive Correspondence [Haenlein]

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Unknown, Unknown, Unknown, NASM.XXXX.1206.

Processing Information

Arranged and described by Patricia Williams, and encoded by Jessamyn Lloyd, 2019.

Preferred Citation

Balloon Locomotive Correspondence [Haenlein], NASM.XXXX.1206, National Air and Space Museum, Smithsonian Institution.

Restrictions

No restrictions on access

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Biographical / Historical

Paul Haenlein (1835–1905) was a German engineer and flight pioneer. Haenlein studied at Technische Hochschule in Karlsruhe and received his education as a mechanical engineer and pattern maker. While working as a civil engineer for different German factories, he created a dirigible airship which was powered by an internal combustion engine. In 1869, Haenlein contacted Charles Francis Adams, U. S. minister to the Court of St. James's (United Kingdom), asking him to share his balloon locomotive plans with the U. S. government in hopes of selling his invention for military purposes. In 1872 Haenlein obtained a U. S. patent (No. 130 915) "Improvement in Balloon-Locomotives" to use the otherwise wasted gas in the dirigible's engines for propelling power as well as ascending.

Scope and Contents

This collection consists of a letter, and a multipage description of a "Balloon Locomotive," from inventor Paul Haenlein to U. S. Minister to the Court of St. James's, Charles Francis Adams, asking him to share the balloon locomotive plans with the U. S. government. There is also a letter from Benjamin Moran (U. S. Embassy in London) to Edward Stanton, Secretary of War under the Abraham Lincoln and Andrew Johnson presidencies, in which the letter and description were forwarded.

Arrangement

This collection is in original order.

Names and Subject Terms

This collection is indexed in the online catalog of the Smithsonian Institution under the following terms:

Subjects:

Aeronautics
Balloons