



Smithsonian

*National Museum of American History Kenneth E. Behring Center*

## Guide to the Evolution of the Corliss Steam Engine Album

NMAH.AC.1016

Alison Oswald

2018

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## Collection Overview

<b>Repository:</b>	Archives Center, National Museum of American History
<b>Title:</b>	Evolution of the Corliss Steam Engine Album
<b>Date:</b>	1930.
<b>Identifier:</b>	NMAH.AC.1016
<b>Creator:</b>	Franklin Machine Company Providence, Rhode Island Corliss, George H. (George Henry), 1817-1888
<b>Extent:</b>	0.3 Cubic feet (1 box)
<b>Language:</b>	English .
<b>Summary:</b>	Collection consists of an album illustrating the history of the Corliss Steam Engine.

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## Administrative Information

### Immediate Source of Acquisition

Collection donated by the Franklin Machine Company.

### Ownership and Custodial History

Donated by the Franklin Machine Company, 1930.

### Provenance

Transferred from the Division of Work and Industry to the Archives Center in 2007.

### Processing Information

Collection processed by Alison Oswald, 2018

### Preferred Citation

Evolution of the Corliss Steam Engine Scrapbook, 1930, Archives Center, National Museum of American History.

### Restrictions on Access

Collection is open for research but is stored off-site and special arrangements must be made to work with it. Contact the Archives Center for information at [archivescenter@si.edu](mailto:archivescenter@si.edu) or 202-633-3270.

### Terms Governing Use and Reproduction

Collection items available for reproduction, but the Archives Center makes no guarantees concerning copyright restrictions. Other intellectual property rights may apply. Archives Center cost-recovery and use fees may apply when requesting reproductions.

## Biographical Note

George Corliss received US Patent 6,162 for his valve gear on March 10, 1849, a more efficient type of steam engine which ran more efficiently on less fuel. The patent covered the use of a wrist-plate to convey the valve motion from a single eccentric to the four valves of the engine, as well as the use of trip valves with variable cutoff under governor control that were associated with Corliss Engines.

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## Scope and Contents

Album (a carefully prepared, handmade book) illustrating the history of the Corliss Steam Engine. The book includes clipped-out illustrations of the factory, of steam engines and parts, accompanied by captions.

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## Arrangement

The collection is arranged into one series.

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## Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

- Engines
- Factories
- Steam-engines

Types of Materials:

- Albums -- 1920-1930
- Scrapbooks -- 20th century

## Container Listing

Box 1, Folder 1	Evolution of the Corliss Steam Engine Album, 1930 1 Album
Box 1, Folder 2	Notes about the Corliss Steam Engine Album by curator Robert Vogel, 2014