MS 13 Thomson Manuscripts

About the collection:

Collection of scientific papers and notebooks, memoranda, lectures, correspondence etc of James Thomson (1822-1892), Professor of Engineering at Queen's College, Belfast, 1857-1873. Various topics are highlighted in the collection reflecting Professor Thomson's wide range of research interests. These include such areas as fluid motion, the formation of river bars, ventilation, atmospheric circulation, the atmosphere of Jupiter and the freezing and melting of solid, liquid and gaseous states of matter, which he investigated with his Belfast colleague, Thomas Andrews (1813-85). The collection also includes many manuscript drafts of lectures and scientific papers, printed offprints of papers by Thomson and other contemporaries, newspapers and journals, pamphlets and patent specifications. There is also a large quantity of letters to and from Thomson with about 50 correspondents. These include his brother, the eminent physicist Lord Kelvin, Michael Faraday, James Clerk Maxwell, P.G. Tait, J.J. Murphy, Thomas Andrews, Galbraith, G.G. Stokes, Sir R. Ball, W.J.M. Rankine and others. Most of this material is of a technical nature. The collection also contains some manuscripts belonging to Thomson's father, James Thomson, senior (1786-1849).

The following is an inventory of the manuscripts in the Thomson Collection.



MS 13 Table of contents Manuscript Books MS 13/A Relating to Professorships MS 13/B MS 13/C Lectures Fluid Motion MS 13/D MS 13/E Formation of River-bars MS 13/F Ventilation MS 13/G **Atmospheric Circulation** Atmosphere of Jupiter MS 13/H MS 13/I Coagulation and Liquefaction Solid, Liquid & Gaseous States MS 13/J MS 13/K Words MS 13/L Miscellaneous papers MS 13/M Correspondence MS 13/N Manuscripts of James Thomson, Senior

MS 13/A

Manuscript Books

MS 13/A/1

07/04/1937

Jacobus Thomson, Bench 3

Book in wrappers of newspaper, on which is a date Apr 7, 1837, containing exercises in geometry, worked by "Jacobus Thomson, Bench 3", at Glasgow College. (200 x 130 mm).

MS 13/A/2

13/05/1837

No. 4, James Thomson, Jr College Glasgow May 13, 1837

With marbled covers, inside cover "Note-book. No. 4, James

Thomson, Jr College Glasgow May 13, 1837", containing exercises in algebra & trigonometry; followed with later notes on the cost of engines. (202 x 128 mm).

MS 13/A/3

15/11/1838

Solutions of the Questions proposed to the students of the Senior

Mathematical Class in April, 1838, as the subject of a

Vacation Exercise. Glasgow College November 15th 1838

Book with stiff marbled covers. "Solutions of the Questions proposed to the students of the Senior mathematical Class in April, 1838, as the subject of a Vacation Exercise. Glasgow College November 15th 1838". This is followed by a note in the hand of Prof Jas Thomson, Sr. – "This exercise was written by James Thomson Jr, Glasg. Coll. And gained the prize, decided by the Rev. Dr. Forbes, Minister of St Paul's, Glasgow. J. Thomson, Prof of Math." Pasted inside the cover, the letter from Dr. Forbes to Prof Thomson conveying the award. (255 x 200 mm).

MS 13/A/4

1841

James Thomson. Jr, 1841

Note-book, marbled covers, "James Thomson. Jr, 1841" inside cover, on first page, "Note-Book. No.2, no other class note-book. Civil Engineering Class Notes". Some entries in an early form of Pitman's Shorthand. Stuck in at the end, a printed Syllabus of lectures on Civil Engineering & mechanics in Glasgow University, Session 1846-47. (205 x 125 mm).

MS 13/A/5

May 1942

Essay on Overshot Water Wheels, James Thomson May 1842

In paper covers, "Essay on Overshot water wheels, James Thomson May 1942". (255 \times 210 mm)

MS 13/A/6 1874

Note-Book. No. 3

Small note-book, marbled covers. Marked inside cover "Note-Book. No. 3". The Latter part of the book contains notes on hydraulics written "before 1847", at the end in red ink, is "Postscript, March 1874" in which comments are made on the progress of the writer's ideas on flow of water. (155 x 98 mm).

MS 13/A/7 1847 Natural Philosophy 1847

Small black note-book "Natural Philosophy 1847", notes of a course

of lectures (given by Wm Thomson?). (160 x 100 mm).

MS 13/A/8 n.d. Note-book, No. W.W. 1

Book with limp marbled covers, "Note-book, No. W.W. 1. (195 x 165 mm).

MS 13/A/9 1849 Note Book, No. 4, intended to contain chiefly Memorandums likely to be useful

to me on Practical Subjects and on Scientific Subjects applicable to the Arts.

James Thomson, Nov. 1849

Note-book with black covers. (200 x 127 mm).

MS 13/A/10 04/03/1852 Calculation Book, No. 2, James Thomson

Book with black covers. Date at beginning, March 4, 1852. Calculations relative to

vortex-turbines. (182 x 115 mm).

MS 13/1/11 n.d. Applications of the Principles of States

Note-book with stiff marbled covers. "Applications of the Principles of States",

contains miscellaneous notes, some in shorthand. (184 x 115 mm).

MS 13/A/12 01/1875 Note-book. No. 5, intended to contain Notes on Water Works, James Thomson,
April 24, 1856. also Notes on House Arrangements begun chiefly in reference to

W. Thomson's intended house at Largs, January 1875

Book with stiff marbled covers. (220 x 180 mm).

MS 13/A/13 c. 1872 **Untitled**

Note-book. (200 x 165 mm). Contains notes on thermodynamics & on ocean

currents. Inserted is a pencilled letter from Wm Thomson on the latter subject, dated

22 Oct 1872.

MS 13/A/14 09/1848 Motive Power of Heat & Air Engines

Set of three books, marked A B C (255 x 205 mm), "Motive Power of Heat & Air Engines". On outside of cover of A label inscribed – "This book contains at page 58, under date May 1848, my original manuscript investigation of the amount of the

lowering of the Freezing Point of Water by pressure James Thomson, Sept 1863".

MS 13/A/15 n.d.

Untitled

Foolscap engineering notebook. (380 x 250 mm) Worn marbled boards over quarter calf, back strip largely perished and missing. 128pp with c 40 blank pages and miscellaneous jottings, some in the hand of other family members. Throughout the book, Thomson uses a mixture of drawings and graphs combined with text and mathematical calculations, all divided into headed sections. Mainly pen, with some pencil.



QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY BELFAST

MS 13/B Papers Relating to Professorships

MS 13/B/1	1855 – 1858	Queen's University Papers Testimonials & Applications for Examinership Packet inscribed "Queen's University Papers Testimonials & Applications for Examinership" containing the following:
a.	04/07/1855	Letters James Thomson to Robert Ball, 4 July 1855
b.	04/07/1856	Letters James Thomson to Robert Ball, 4 July 1856
C.	03/07/1858	Letters James Thomson to G. Johnstone Stoney, 3 July 1858
d.	n.d.	Testimonials Printed copy of testimonials
MS 13/B/2	1857-1880	Envelope Envelope with list of contents inscribed:
a.	22/12/1857	Commission of Her Majesty Queen Victoria appointing me to the Professorship in Belfast
b.	30/12/1857	Letter J.A. Larcom to James Thomson relating to the above.
C.	24/01/1862	Letter J.A. Larcom to President, Queen's College, Galway about pensions. Copy.
d.	[c.12/1857]	Note as to my Commission from Her Majesty for Professorship in Glasgow
e.	06/09/1880	Letter Elizabeth Thomson to James Coutts, relating to amount of pension, and memorandum of dates & income. (Included with these papers, but not included on list in envelope.
MS 13/B/3	n.d.	De Ratione Incolimitatem Periculumre Aestimandi Quod Ad Structurarum Usum Machinarumque Attinet "Induction dissertation, University of Glasgow", Prof. Nesbitt put it into Latin for me"

MS 13/C Lectures

Four books containing notes for college lectures:

WIS 13/6/1 1030 Queen S Conede Denast, Civil endineening Class 1030	MS 13/C/1	1858	Queen's College Belfast, Civil engineering Class 1858
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Green covers, inside front cover "Queen's College Belfast,

Civil engineering Class 1858". (220 x 185 mm)

MS 13/C/2 1861-1864 (Surv. & mapping 1858), 2nd Year. Lecture & Practice courses, From

1861-2 forward, 1862-3, 1863-4

Black covers. (220 x 190 mm).

MS 13/C/3 c.1864 Memoranda of 1st Year Course from 1863-4 forward

Red mottled covers, on first blank leave "Memoranda of 1st

Year Course from 1863-4 forward". (227 x 178 mm).

MS 13/C/4 c.1864 Memoranda of 3rd Year Lecture & Practice Courses from 1862-3 Forward

Similar to MS 13/3/4

Notes for lectures on elementary mechanics:

MS 13/C/5 1877 Simplified Proof of the Parallelogram of Forces

Fasc. pp 15 (3 blank).

MS 13/C/6 27/11/1888 Untitled

Fasc. pp 27 (3 blank) 27 Nov 1888

MS 13/C/7 18/12/1888 Untitled

Fasc. pp 17 (12 blank) 18 Dec 1888

MS 13/C/8 n.d. Notes for Introductory Lecture or Advice to Students entering my

Practice Classes

Pp 4 (one blank).

MS 13/C/9 c.Jun 1870 Notes for Contemplated Lectures to Working Classes. Perhaps Two,

Three or Four Lectures for May or June 1870

Pp 8 (one blank).

MS 13/C/10 02/10/1873 Copy made by John Stewart of Lecture-Notes on Architecture as a Fine

Art

Pp 48 (2 blank).

MS 13/D		Papers Relating to Fluid Motion
MS 13/D/1	07/1868	New proposed pump, July 1868 Jet pump. pp 19
MS 13/D/2/A	03/1876	Vena Contacta, W.J. and J.T. in Glasgow Phil Society, Feb and March 1876 Off print with manuscript notes, attached to fascicle of further notes, pp 9 (3 blank).
MS 13/D/2/B	19/09/1878	Remarks as to Question of Validity of Prof Purser's Reasoning on the Hydraulic Theorems for Similar Flows Letter, John Purser to J.T., 19 Sep 1878, accompanying notes on flow through notches, pp 4 and pp 3 of "Remarks as to Question of Validity of Prof Purser's Reasoning on the Hydraulic Theorems for Similar Flows"
MS 13/D/3	n.d.	Theory of the Flow of Water through Orifices Similar in Form & Similarly Situated Relatively to the Water Surface Fasc. (blue paper). Pp 13
MS 13/D/4	03/1889 5 TP 18 4 5	Water Orifice notes Separate copy of Brit Ass. Paper "on the Flowing water through orifices", 1876, containing many notes & corrections in manuscript. Attached to this "Lecture notes on flow of water through orifices", Date March 1889. (pp 12, 6 blank).
MS 13/D/5	[1879]	Bundle Connected with Paper by John Perry
a.	15/03/1879	Letter W.E. Ayrton to James Thomson. Sent with John Perry's manuscript
b.	n.d.	Manuscript John Perry on "Flow of liquid" pp 21
C.	25/09/1879	Letter W.E. Ayrton to James Thomson 25 Sep (1879) enquiring about the MS 13/D/5/b
d.	n.d.	Fasc. "Notes on Mr Perry's paper on Flow of liquid" pp 7
MS 13/D/6	14/02/1885	Flow Through Similar Notches with Other Similarities & Proportionalities (as usual J.T.) Pp 7, (one blank).

MS 13/D/5 n.d. On the Flow of Water Through Rectangular Gauge-Notches in Vertical

Thin Plates

Fasc. Blue paper, pp 27.

MS 13/E Formation of Bars

Package inscribed in blue pencil, large writing "Package for Collection of Progressive Notes and Allied Papers, River Outfall Bars, Movement of Sands & Shingles et cetera similia." Containing:

MS 13/E/1	07/1885	On Bars, Notes Begun in Lalla Rookh near Cowes, July 1885 Fasc. Enclosed.
a. b.	n.d. n.d. n.d.	Single sheet of pencilled memoranda Note Note in handwriting of W.T. scribbled on back of envelope addressed to Mrs Jas Thomson. Considerations on the Origin & Perpetuation of Bars at the Seaward
C.	n.u.	Limits of Rivers & Tidal Estuaries 3 Pages.
MS 13/E/2	10/1887	Printer Letter from A.T. Atchison, Socy Brit. Ass. Intimating Appointment of Committee to Examine the Subject, Oct. 1887
MS 13/E/3/A	16/07/1889	Notes for New Theory of the Mode of Formation of Bars at the Sea Outlets of Rivers
MS 13/E/3/B	25/09/1889	Further notes on Bars Written by B.J. from father's dictation. Glasgow. Pp 4.
MS 13/E/4	07/12/1889	Interim Notes on Hydrodynamic Action in Waves Breaking on a Shelving Beach, and on the Shifting of Gravel, Shingle and Larger Stones by the Waves Pp 5.

MS 13/F Ventilation

MS 13/F/1		The New College at Glasgow
	n d	Notes of Heaful Principles
a.	n.d.	Notes of Useful Principles Pp 3.
b.	30/09/1864	Letter
D.	30/09/1804	Copy of letter from W.T. With additional page in W.T.'s hand
0	n.d.	
C.	n.u.	Reply Unsigned in hand of Mrs. F. Themsen
d	c.10/1864	Unsigned, in hand of Mrs E. Thomson Memo
d.	C. 10/1004	Memo of information sent in letter of E. Thomson to Wm. Thomson from
		Dublin about Oct 1864
_	40/40/4004	
e.	13/12/1864	Letter
	45/40/4004	W.T. to James Thomson
f.	15/12/1864	Notes
		Notes of answer sent to W.T
MC 42/E/2		December Street Church
MS 13/F/2		Rosemary Street Church
	09/06/1865	Letter
a.	09/06/1663	
h	29/12/1965	John Campbell to James Thomson. Letter
b.	28/12/1865	Robert Patterson to James Thomson.
	06/04/4966	
C.	06/01/1866	Note of opinion on question of ventilation of meeting-house of 1st
		Congregation, Rosemary Street, to the Sub-committee on that matter
ــا	07/05/4000	Pp 6
d.	07/05/1866	Letter
		G.K. Smith to J.T
MS 13/F/3		Belfast Museum
a.	15/07/1868	Letter
		A.O'D. Taylor to James Thomson.
b.	N.d.	Notes on Dr Templeton's Proposed Ventilation for the Museum Belfast
MS 13/F/4	n.d.	R.A. Irish, Mathematical Class-room
IVIO 13/F/4	n.a.	K.A. Irisn, Watnematical Class-room

Working drawings with notes of "Ventilation constructed ... about 1870 or

1871"

MS 13/F/5 30/12/1877 Bute Hall, Glasgow University

Copy of letter James Thomson to W.T. describing proposed new system.

MS 13/G Atmospheric Circulation

MS 13/G/1 06/04/1859 On the Reason Why the Equatorial Rising Belt Keeps So Close to the

Equator at all Seasons of the Year

Single leaflet.

MS 13/G/2 n.d. Atmos. Circ. Notes & Queries

Fasc. pp 12.

MS 13/G/3 n.d. Claim to Priority

Written on the backs of leaflets of the B.N.H.P.S. pp 3

MS 13/G/4 03/02/1891 Progressive Fascicle of Notes & Papers, Old & New for Use In

Preparation of my Intended Royal Society Paper on

Atmospheric Circulation, J.T. Feb 3. 1891

Fasc. pp11.

MS 13/G/5 21/10/1891 Primary Date, 21 Oct 1891

Fasc. pp 4.

MS 13/G/6 c.12/1891 Title for a Proposed Essay or Paper Either for Own Consideration or

Perhaps for Publication in Some Way or Third Paper - Date about Dec

1891

Fasc. Pp22

MS 13/G/7 19/12/1891 Notes to be Spoken about to W.T.

Fasc. pp 12

MS 13/G/8 06/01/1892 Primary Date

Fasc. pp 9

MS 13/G/9 07/01/1892 From Father's Dictation

Fasc. pp 8.

MS 13/G/10	07/01/1892	2 nd Form, 7 th Jan 1892 & Srd Form 8 th Jan 1892
		Fasc. pp 26
MS 13/G/11	05/1892	Primary Date
		Fasc. pp 6
	/ /	
MS 13/G/12	17/04/1892	Date 17 Ap 1892
		Fasc. pp 4

MS 13/H Atmosphere of Jupiter

In wrapper addressed to Miss Thomson.

in wrapper ad	iaressea to iviiss	Thomson.
MS 13/H/1	08/09/1891	Letter in pencil
		James Thomson. to W.T.
a.	21/09/1891	Letter Letter
		Large sheet, in pencilled large handwriting. James Thomson to W.T.
b.	03/10/1891	Letter
		W.T. to James Thomson
c.	03/10/1891	Letter with Covering Letter
		James Thomson to W.T. Pencil. 2 & 3 Oct 1891 with covering letter J.T. Junior to W.T.
MS 13/H/2		Jupiter, Also Sun
		Blue Envelope
a.	n.d.	Notes Out of Ball's Story of the Heavens
		Fasc. pp 5
b.	n.d.	Sheet of rough paper with pencilled notes in large writing
C.	11/10/1891	Covering Letter
		J.T. Junior to W.T.
MS 13/H/3		
		(One sollation One southern)

a.	n.d.	'Speculative Suggestion'	
		Double sheet.	
b.	n.d.	Rough Notes of Calculations	
		Double sheet.	

MS 13/H/4	1860	De la Rue's Pocket Diary for 1860
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Containing information about Jupiter

MS 13/I	Coagulation	and Liquefaction
1410 ±0/1	COUNTING	aria Eigaciaction

MS 13/l/1 18/04/1866 On the Effect of Pressure in Lowering the Freezing Point of Water, and

on the Plasticity of Ice

Report of paper read to B.N.H.P.S. on the 2 Dec 1857 with historical memorandum by

James Thomson dated April 1866

MS 13/l/2 12/1866 On the freezing of water at temperatures lower than 320 F

Offprint of paper by A.H. Curtis, in Phil mag, Dec 1866. with criticisms of James

Thomson.

MS 13/I/3 31/08/1890 Scribble memo

Fasc. pp 12.

EST91845

MS 13/J Solid, Liquid and Gaseous States

MS 13/J/1 10/05/1869 Notes and Queries on Gases, Liquid, Fluids

Fasc. Pp12.

MS 13/J/2 05/06/1871 Notes on Solid and Gaseous States of Matter

Fasc. pp 9. One blank.

MS 13/J/3 08/07/1871 Notes & Queries on Boiling & Superheating in Liquids, or on Boiling &

on Conditions in Liquids Brought Past their Boiling Point Without Gasification

Fasc. pp 10. One blank.

MS 13/J/04 15/07/1871 Notes on Boiling & Allied Phenomena

Fasc. pp 7.

MS 13/J/05 25/05/1873 Fascicle of Papers Containing Progressive Notes on Solid, Liquid &

Gaseous States

Fasc. pp 15

MS 13/K Notes on Words

Large envelope marked 'Notes on Words' containing:

MS 13/K/1	Notes on Nomenclature in Reference to	Improvements in Expression
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Bundle of manuscripts.

a.	25/03/1875	Letters Letters
	القفا	J.D. Everett to James Thomson.
b.	22/08/1875	Letters
		J.D. Everett to James Thomson.
c.	21/06/1875	Letter
		Thomas Harvey to James Thomson.
d.	07/02/1876	Postcard
		In hand of P.S. Tait to James Thomson. Postmark 07/02/1876
e.	n.d.	Miscellaneous Notes
		Pp 25.
MS 13/K/2		Notes as to new words, and new or modified verbal expressions, either
MS 13/K/2		Notes as to new words, and new or modified verbal expressions, either introduced by myself or in which I may have taken special interest. J.T.
MS 13/K/2		•
MS 13/K/2		introduced by myself or in which I may have taken special interest. J.T.
MS 13/K/2 a.	20/06/1889	introduced by myself or in which I may have taken special interest. J.T.
	20/06/1889	introduced by myself or in which I may have taken special interest. J.T. Manuscripts.
	20/06/1889 N.d.	introduced by myself or in which I may have taken special interest. J.T. Manuscripts. Letter
a.		introduced by myself or in which I may have taken special interest. J.T. Manuscripts. Letter Max Müller to James Thomson.
a.		introduced by myself or in which I may have taken special interest. J.T. Manuscripts. Letter Max Müller to James Thomson. Miscellaneous notes

regarding new words, chiefly own new words, with a view to the sending of proper information on the subject to editors of dictionaries. This draft is begun

in May 1887 in consequence of a suggestion from MHT

Stuck inside is an examination paper of 5th April 1881, in which "apocentric force" is used. Pp 19,

MS 13/K/4	08/1888	Notes & Queries for reference to W.T. Aug 1888
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Double sheet.

MS 13/K/5 n.d. Words for Which Deviations Are Wanted

Pp 3

MS 13/K/6 n.d. Long Words, Many Syllables

Pp 3

MS 13/K/7 n.d In the Imperial Dictionary

Note beginning 'In the Imperial dictionary'. Pp 2

MS 13/K/8 02/02/1891 New Word. Normate Resultant

Fasc. in large writing with blue pencil. pp 6

MS 13/K/9 02/1886 On the Numerics of the Elements

Offprint of paper by E.J. ??????. Phil Mag, Feb 1886 with memos by J.T. on wrapper.

Miscellaneous Papers

MS 13/L/1	08/1870	On an India-Rubber Value Introduced at the Belfast Water-Works Single sheet, reprint from Civil Engineer & Architects Journal, Nov. 1855. With memo at foot dated Aug 1870.
MS 13/L/2	14/02/1861	As to the Rigid Suspension Bridge Invented by Me and Worked out in Models Double sheet. Letter written 14 Feb 1861 to Editor of Civil Engineer & Architects Journal, but not sent, dealing with James Thomson's own work on the matter.
MS 13/L/3	08/07/1862	Question as to Strength of Floor over Anatomy Class-room, July 8, 1862 Double sheet.
MS 13/L/4	07/05/1864	Notes for Proposed Self-Registering Wind Gauge Fasc. Attached to this an envelope containing drawings & notes on 4 scraps of paper. pp 15
MS 13/L/5	09/1866	"The Way It Was" & "The Way It Is" Drawings on two pages of a double sheet, showing the arrangement of connexion with the sewer at James Thomson's house at 17 University Square.
MS 13/L/6/A	01/07/1867	Proposed Modified Arrangement of Experiment for Exhibiting Influence of Rotation of the Earth With small leaf of calculations. pp 3.
MS 13/L/6/B		Notes Towards Hydraulic Gyral/Gyrational Experiment for Manifesting Terrestrial Effects (Written Down) of the Earth's Rotation Rough paper with large writing in blue pencil, from the last years of James Thomson's life. Pp4
MS 13/L/7	n.d.	On the Jointed Prisimatic Structure of the Giant's Causeway & Other Basaltic Rocks Reprint from Annual Report of B.N.F.C. 1869-70, with pencil notes and drawings.
MS 13/L/8	07/01/1870	Notes on Capillarity Fasc. pp 4
MS 13/L/9	n.d.	Suggestion for New Lactometer Written on the detached cover of Inventory of the food collection, Bettinal Green branch

museum.

MS 13/L/10	04/1880	Notes on Flow Round River Bends Two sheets of notes of observations on the model for flow round river-bend 4 March 1879 and April 1880
MS 13/L/11	03/1881	Father's Theory About the Effect of Porous Sails
		Single sheeting note paper written on both sides.
MS 13/L/12	n.d.	Notes of Various Matters Considered as Perhaps Being Suitable for Being Patented or Copyright Secured double sheet. Without date.
MS 13/L/13		Relative to Examination Systems
MS 13/L/13		Relative to Examination Systems Collection labelled 'Relative to Examination Systems containing:
MS 13/L/13 a.	n.d.	•
	n.d.	Collection labelled 'Relative to Examination Systems containing:
	n.d.	Collection labelled 'Relative to Examination Systems containing: Form for Examiner's Report
a.		Collection labelled 'Relative to Examination Systems containing: Form for Examiner's Report Printed double sheet of blue foolscap. (Q. K. I.)
a.		Collection labelled 'Relative to Examination Systems containing: Form for Examiner's Report Printed double sheet of blue foolscap. (Q. K. I.) Suggestions & Recommendations as to Modes of Conducting

BELFAST

Fasc. Pp6, 3 blank.

MS 13/M

Correspondence

	-4-	NI
•	At a	NI

Other letters, not listed below, will be found among the manuscripts, as follows:

Robert Ball, (1802-1857) B1a

B1b

F2a John Campbell

J.D. Everett K1a

K₁b

Thos. Harvey K1c

J.A. Larcom, (1801-1879) B₂b

Max Müller, (1823-1900)

Robt. Patterson, (1802-1872)

John Purser

G.K. Smith

G. Johnstone Stoney, (1826-1911)

P.G. Tait

A.O'D. Taylor

Elizabeth Thomson

Jas. Thomson, Junior*

Wm. Thomson

B2c K2a F₂b

D2b

F2d

B₁c

K₁d

F3a

B2e

F1c

F1d

H1d

H2c

A12

E₁b

F1b F1c F1d F1e F1f F5 H1a H1b H1c H1d

MS 13/M/1 Correspondence with John Aitken, (1839-1919)

About Aitken's theories of ocean temperatures and the structure of ice-bergs.

a. 27/01/1875 Aitken to Thomson
b. 19/02/1875 Aitken to Thomson
c. 23/12/1876 Aitken to Thomson
d. 01/01/1877 Aitken to Thomson
e. 15/01/1877 Aitken to Thomson

MS 13/M/2 Thomas Andrews (1813-1885)

a.	11/10/1873	Thomson to Andrews
		In reply to suggestion about presidency of Section A at BA, Belfast meeting, 1874
b.	05/02/1874	Andrews to Thomson
		Papers, p.lxxi.
C.	15/04/1874	Andrews to Thomson
		Papers, p. lxxii.
d.	16/04/1874	Andrews to Thomson
		Papers, p. lxxiii
e.	13/07/1874	Andrews to Thomson
f.	06/01/1875	Andrews to Thomson

^{*} Son of Prof. Jas. Thomson (1822-1892) Grandson of 1st Prof. Jas. Thomson (1786-1849)

a.	19/10/1885	Barlow to Thomson
b.	27/10/1885	Barlow to Thomson
		Enclosing letter of F. Stevenson, engineer, L & NWR to B, 24 Oct 1885
C.	11/11/1885	Thomson to Barlow
		Сору
d.	14/11/1885	Barlow to Thomson
e.	05/08/1887	Thomson to Barlow
f.	08/08/1887	Barlow to Thomson
g.	19/08/1887	Barlow to Thomson
		Dealing with safety of metal structures, see Papers p. 404.

MS 13/M/4

Archibald Barr (1855-1931)

a.	11/10/1885	Barr to Thomson
		Sending references to work on reported stress.
b.	10/11/1885	Barr to Thomson
c.	12/11/1885	Thomson to Barr
		About T's work on ice.
d.	06/1886	Barr to Thomson
		Experiments on Stresses
e.	25/09/1886	Barr to Thomson
		Equipment of new engineering laby.
f. E	05/10/1886	Barr to Thomson
		Equipment of new engineering laby.
g.	20/07/1888	Barr to Thomson
		Early work on the Range-finder
h.	10/02/1889	Barr to Thomson
i.	05/03/1889	Barr to Thomson
j.	10/03/1889	Mrs Barr to Thomson
		Mrs Barr on behalf of B.
k.	19/03/1889	Barr to Thomson
		Trial of Range-Finder
I.	22/03/1889	Barr to Thomson
m.	26/03/1889	Barr to Thomson
n.	14/04/1889	Barr to Thomson

1013 13/101/3 3.1. DOLLOTTIES (1043-1320	MS 13/M/5	J.T. Bottomley (1845-1926
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MS 13/M/5	30 Dec 1879	Bottomley to Thomson

Report of work done with a class in T's absence and statement of a problem set, attached is a manuscript in pencil, in T's hand, containing his solution.

MS 13/M/6 J.D. Evertt, (1831-1904)

a.	31/12/1873	Evertt to William Thomson
		About underground temperature research, and units; contains a list of words suggested
		by Prof Mc Douall as names for the new units
b.	15/12/1874	Evertt to William Thomson
		Mainly concerned with questions of nomenclature.
C.	21/12/1874	Evertt to William Thomson
		Mainly concerned with questions of nomenclature. With enclosure from E's treatise on
		units.
d.	18/09/1876	Evertt to William Thomson
		Mainly concerned with questions of nomenclature.

е.	28/09/1876	Thomson to Evertt
		Copy. Mainly concerned with questions of nomenclature.
f.	06/10/1876	Memo on Metric Units of Force by James Thomson
		Mainly concerned with questions of nomenclature.

g. 24/07/1878 Evertt to William Thomson

Mainly concerned with questions of nomenclature.

h. 28/04/1880 Evertt to William Thomson

About T's theory of effect of stress on melting & solution.

MS 13/M/7 Michael Faraday (1791-1867)

a.	30/07/1858	Thomson to Faraday
		Papers p212. Copy.
b.	04/09/1858	Faraday to Thomson
		Papers p212.
C.	09/11/1858	Thomson to Faraday
		Papers p214. Copy.
d.	15/11/1858	Faraday to Thomson
		Papers p216.
e.	24/11/1858	Thomson to Faraday
		Papers p217. Copy.

MS 13/M/8 Thomas Claxton Fiddler (1841-1917)

a. 22/07/1881 Fiddler to William Thomson

Papers p212. Copy.

b. 23/08/1881 Thomson to Fiddler

In Reply to MS18/M/8/A

c. 09/11/1858 Fiddler to Thomson

About suspension bridges.

MS 13/M/9 W.M. Froude (1810-1879)

MS 13/M/9 30/06/1877 W.M Froude to R.D. Napier

On an envelope attached to this a note in T's hand "Mr Froude's letter to Napier Esq. lent to me by Mr Brownlee in Sept or Oct 1877." A description of experiment with a

model of the "Russian round ship."

MS 13/M/10 George Fuller (-1917)

a. 21/01/1872 Fuller to Thomson

With discussion of a question on framed structures.

b. 11/01/1873 Fuller to Thomson

Reference to intention to stand for T's chair at QUB, with account of procedure adopted

in regulating flow in a stream.

MS 13/M/11 Joseph A. Galbraith (1818-1890) (Fellow of Trinity College Dublin)

a. 15/03/1888 Galbraith to Thomson
 b. 26/03/1888 Thomson to Galbraith
 Memo of reply sent.

c. 28/03/1888 Galbraith to Thomson

Acknowledgement. Query about T's work on centrifugal pump.

MS 13/M/12 James Geikie (1839-1915)

MS 13/M/12/1 19/01/1882 Geikie to Thomson

Question of ice-sheets.

MS 13/M/13 W. J. Hancock (1799-1852)

MS 13/M/13/1 22/11/1877 Hancock to Thomson

About patent 'tell tale clocks'.

MS 13/M/14 A.S. Herschel (1836-1907)

MS 13/M/14 12/04/1874 Herschel to Thomson

Experiments with centrifugal fan.

MS 13/M/15 Fleming Jenkin (1833-1885)

a.	11/11/[1874]	Jenkin to Thomson
b.	16/11/1874	Jenkin to Thomson
c.	26/11/1874	Jenkin to Thomson
d.	07/03/1882	Jenkin to Thomson
		With pencilled notes of T
e.	17/03/1882	Jenkin to Thomson

Queries about dynamics & hydraulics (Kane) see end of MS 13/M.

MS 13/M/16 *Mrs Elizabeth King

a.	08/11/1849	'Copy of letter from Father to Aunt Elizabeth'
b.	28/09/1852	'Copy of letter from Father to Aunt Elizabeth'
C.	25/10/1852	'Copy of letter from Father to Aunt Elizabeth'

MS 13/M/17 George King

MS 13/M/17 16/01/1874 King to Thomson

Accompanying Proof of K's Paper on Glaciers (second part).

MS 13/M/18 S.P. Langley (1834-1906)

06/12/1890 Thomson to Langley a.

Copy

Langley to Thomson b. n.d. n.d. Thomson to Langley C.

Correspondence about Ferrel's papers. Copy.

MS 13/M/19 Charles MacDouall (Prof of Greek, QUB 1850-1878)

MS 13/M/19 04/12/1882 MacDouall to Thomson

In hand of "E.M.D". About loan of books from Glasgow library.

MS 13/M/20 Mrs Jane MacDouall

MS 13/M/20 03/04/1889 Mrs Jane MacDouall to Mrs Jas. Thomson

Envelope with postmark Ap. 3 1889, inscribed "Mrs MacDouall concerning Prof

Purser's candidature for President, Q's College".

MS 13/M/21 Robert Manning (1816 - 1917)

12/10/1881 MS 13/M/21 Manning to Hancock

With note of Hancock enclosing this to J.T. It deals with construction of weirs on the

Shannon and the theories of James Perry.

MS 13/M/22 James Clerk Maxwell (1831-1879)

13/07/1871 Maxwell to Thomson a. 21/1871 Thomson to Maxwell b. Copy. 24/07/1871 Maxwell to Thomson c.

Correspondence about boiling-point, with a view to Maxwell's book on heat.

02/09/1871 Maxwell to Thomson d. Maxwell to Thomson 11/01/1873 e. About curved rays of light.

Maxwell to Thomson f. 27/03/1875 Maxwell to Thomson 26/06/1875 g.

Postcard, signed 'dp/dt'.

08/07/1875 Maxwell to Thomson h.

With diagram of lines on Gibb's Surface

i. n.d. 'Diagram of Prof J. Willard Gibb's Thermo-dynamic Surface, Made in Plaster by dp/dt ...'

j. 25/06/1879 Maxwell to Thomson

Marked in Thomson's hand: 'On Disk, Ball and Cylinder Integrator'.

Papers p. 457.

k. 16/07/1879 Thomson to Maxwell

In acknowledgement of MS 13/M/22/J. Papers p. 458.

MS 13/M/23 C.W. Merrifield (1827-1884)

a.	23/11/1878	Merrifield to Thomson
b.	25/11/1878	Thomson to Merrifield
	_	

c. n.d. Prismatic Structure of Basalt

Referred to in MS 13/M/23A and MS 13/M/23/B, bearing critical notes by Thomson.

With off-prints of newspaper reports of Joseph John Murphy's papers before

MS 13/M/24 Hugh Robert Mill (1861-1950)

a.	18/01/1892	Mill to W.M. Thomson
b.	23/03/1892	Jas. Thomson to Mill
c.	24/03/1892	Mill to J. Thomson.

About Ferrel's work on Atmospheric Circulation

MS 13/M/25 Joseph John Murphy (1827-1894)

B.N.H.P.S:

a.	02/04/1859	Murphy to Thomson About atmospheric currents, marked "Important letter, J.T."
b.	13/01/1875	Murphy to Thomson
C.	30/07/1875	Murphy to Thomson
d.	21/12/1875	Murphy to Thomson
e.	30/03/1892	Thomson to Murphy
		Copy, with manuscript notes in pencil about the history of ideas on atmospheric
		circulation.
f.	05/04/1892	Murphy to Thomson
g.	06/04/1892	Thomson to Murphy
		Copy.
h.	11/04/1892	Murphy to Thomson

1) 06/02/1856 On the Circulation of the Atmosphere.

2) 21/01/1857 On Tornadoes & Water Spouts

MS 13/M/26 W. Nesbitt (1824-1881), Prof of Latin, QCB (1864-1881)

MS 13/M/26 15/01/1881 Nesbitt to Thomson

MS 13/M/27 John Perry (1850-1920)

MS 13/M/27 16/05/1884 Perry to Thomson

MS 13/M/28 Edward C. Pickering

MS 13/M/28 22/04/1874 Pickering to Thomson

With graph, about Requault's observations.

MS 13/M/29 Frederick Purser (1840-1910)

MS 13/M/29 21/09/1884 Purser to Thomson

Along with translation with critical comments, of Heinrich Streintz, (1848-1892) "Die

physikalischen Grundlagen der Mechanik" (Leipzig, 1883).

MS 13/M/30 John Purser (1835-1903)

MS 13/M/30 20/09/1884 Purser to Thomson

Dealing with work of Streintz (see MS 13/M/29).

MS 13/M/31 William Ramsay (1852-1916)

a. 17/11/1883 Ramsay to Thomson

Account of R's experiments on change of state.

b. 19/04/1884 Ramsay to Thomson

Account of R's experiments on change of state.

c. 15/09/1886 Ramsay to Thomson

Account of R's experiments on change of state.

MS 13/M/32 W.J. Macquorn Rankine (1820-1872)

a. 04/07/1870 Rankine to Thomson

In acknowledgment of loan of T's paper on strength of materials. With memo of reply

in T's hand.

b. 07/07/1870 Rankine to Thomson

In acknowledgment of loan of T's paper on strength of materials.

c. 09/07/1870 Rankine to Thomson

In acknowledgment of loan of T's paper on strength of materials.

MS 13/M/33 Osborne Reynolds (1842-1912)

MS 13/M/33 26/05/1868 Reynolds to Thomson

MS 13/M/34 W Chandler Roberts (afterwards Roberts-Austen) (1843-1902)

a. 03/11/1874 Roberts to Thomson

b. 02/01/1877 Roberts to Thomson

c. 07/01/1877 Thomson to Roberts

Draft reply about columnar structure of rocks.

MS 13/M/35 Thomas Romney Robinson (1792-1882)

MS 13/M/35 12/07/1856 Thomson to Robinson

Suggesting lower price for Ordnance Survey maps. Copy.

MS 13/M/36 Warren de la Rue (1815-1889)

a. 23/05/1877 de la Rue to Thomsonb. 30/05/1877 de la Rue to Thomson

Suggesting the use of phosphor bronze for integrating machine.

a.	05/02/1862	Sorby to Thomson
		Papers p.252.
b.	14/03/1862	Thomson to Sorby
		Papers p.254.
C.	22/03[1862]	Sorby to Thomson
		Papers p.255.
d.	24/03/1862	Thomson to Sorby
		Papers p.256.
e.	20/08/1862	Sorby to Thomson
		Papers p.256.
f.	26/09/1863	Thomson to Sorby

Сору.

H.C. Sorby (1826-1908)

MS 13/M/37

MS 13/M/38	題/	George Gabriel Stokes (1819-1903)
a.	06/06/1871	Stokes to Thomson
b.	20/06/1873	Stokes to Thomson
		With note of reply sent on 4 July 1873.
MS 13/M/39		P.S. Tait (1831-1901)
a. E	25/04/1870	Tait to Thomson
		About atmospheric refraction.
b.	14/06/1884	Tait to Thomson
C.	26/06/1884	Tait to Thomson
		With note added on the envelope & pencilled comment by J.T. within, dealing with
		frames of reference.
d.	05/07/1884	Tait to Thomson
		With note on envelope
e.	30/09/1884	Tait to Thomson
f.	19/01/1885	Tait to Thomson
		About Tait's suggested modification of Thomson's isothermal curve.
g.	24/01/1885	Tait to Thomson
		About Tait's suggested modification of Thomson's isothermal curve.
h.	28/01/1885	Tait to Thomson
		Postcard. About Tait's suggested modification of Thomson's isothermal curve.
i.	29/01/1885	Thomson to Tait

About Tait's suggested modification of Thomson's isothermal curve. Copy.

j.	29/01/1885	Tait to Thomson
		About Tait's suggested modification of Thomson's isothermal curve. Postcard.
k.	05/02/1885	Tait to Thomson
		About Tait's suggested modification of Thomson's isothermal curve.
l.	09/09/1886	Tait to W. Thomson
		About Tait's suggested modification of Thomson's isothermal curve.
i.	n.d.	'Letter of Prof Tait of special interest to me, J.T'
		On envelope, enclosing an account of Fischer's work in pencil, in Tait's hand.

MS 13/M/40 James Thomson, Senior, (1786-1849)

MS 13/M/40 18/07/1844 From a letter to his father, dated July 18, 1844 Copy. About a plan for consumption of smoke.

MS 13/M/41	鯯	William Thomson (Lord Kelvin) (1824-1907)
a.	n.d.	William Thomson to James Thomson
		A note of invitation to Cambridge.
b.	26/04/????	William Thomson to James Thomson
		With notes by James Thomson about modules of elasticity.
b1.	20/01/1857	William Thomson to James Thomson
		With "receipt for gutta perch & cement" & references to cable-laying.
c.	19/02/1862	William Thomson to James Thomson
		Headed, in J.T.'s hand, "Hydraulics, Friction or viscosity of water".
d.	04/03/1870	William Thomson to James Thomson
		Copy of end of letter, with reference to size of molecules.
e.	22/10/1873	William Thomson to James Thomson
		About J.T.'s proposed presidency of Section A at B.A. meeting.
f.	19/07/1878	James Thomson to William Thomson
		About units & dimensions.

MS 13/M/42 Mrs Elizabeth Thomson (formerly Hancock) wife of James Thomson.

MS 13/M/42 22/11/1891 Elizabeth Thomson to Jas Thomson, Junior.

MS 13/M/43 Frances Anna Thomson, Lady Kelvin (formerly Blandy)

a. [19/08] Frances Anna Thomson to James Thomson

Containing message from William Thomson about the effect on metals of "Sunday

rest".

b. 17/05/1889 Frances Anna Thomson to son or daughter of James Thomson.

About views of Stokes on words, "posture", orientation and others. The postscript of a

letter.

MS 13/M/44 Sylvanus P. Thomson (1851-1916)

MS 13/M/44 24/07/1909 Sylvanus P. Thomson to Jas Thomson, Junior

Enquiry for Sylvanus P. Thomson's life of Lord Kelvin

MS 13/M/45 W.C. Unwin (1838-1933)

MS 13/M/45 08/02/1866 Unwin to Thomson

Proposed licence to Fairbarin Coy for manufacture of T's turbines.

MS 13/M/46 John Warner, (American engineer)

a. 30/10/1863 Warner to Thomson

b. 30/12/1863 Warner to Thomson

With pencilled note about J.T.'s reply.

c. 04/02/1864 Warner to Thomson

Letters describing Warner's visit to Paris & other places.

MS 13/M/47 Walter White

a. 26/07/1871 White to Thomas Andrews

b. 28/07/1871 J to White

Memo of reply with reference to Thomson's paper in Pir. Roy. Soc.

MS 13/M/48 A.M. Worthington (1852-)

MS 13/M/48 06/02/1884 Worthington to Thomson

With memorandum of reply with reference to Worthington's work on capillary action.

MS 13/M/49 Robert Young (1822-1917)

a. 05/01/1875 Young to Thomsonb. 10/03/1880 Young to Thomson

MS 13/M/15.5

Robert John Kane, (Sir) (1809-1890)

MS 13/M/15.5 04/01/1865

Kane to J

With reprint of K's lecture on "Industry in Ireland" from Jour. Society of Arts, 16 Dec 1864

MS 13/N

Manuscripts of James Thomson, Senior, (1786-1849)

MS 13/N/1

1809-1814

'Exercises in Natural Philosophy', 1811-12 and 'Matthew Steel & J Gardiner'

MS book (225 x 180 mm) used at Glasgow during student-period (1809-1814). From one end "Exercises in Natural Philosophy, 1811-12", answers in essay form to questions, numbered & dated. Some "Voluntary Exercises" written in shorthand. From the other end, on cover, 1 January, 1810, Matthew Steel & J Gardiner. Day-book of goods exported, etc & money received for the same", used for notes on mechanics. Some passages in shorthand.

MS 13/N/2 1814-1832

Public examination of the Junior Mathematical Class, April 26, 1825

MS. book (225 x 180 mm), period of Belfast Professorship (1814-1832). Names of pupils & questions set to each, followed by class register. From the other end, two pages of algebraic examples, followed by 4 pp. notes on quadratic equations.

MS 13/N/3 1827-1832

Royal Belfast Academical Institution

Long book (395 x 165 mm) containing class-registers & examination records, 1827 to 1832.

MS 13/N/4 1828-1832

Belfast Institution, College Department, Mathematical Classes 1828-29

Small book (197 x 123 mm), a numbered series of mathematical questions, (1-8 missing) with notes of their having been set at Examinations. From the other end, after a page of similar questions, a record of fees paid by students, with heading "Belfast Institution, College Department, Mathematical Classes 1828-29", continued till 1831-2.

MS 13/N/5 1832-1836

Record of Students Attendance, Junior Mathematical Class, 1832-33

MS. book (250 x 205 mm) "Record of Students Attendance, Junior Mathematical Class, 1832-33", followed by mathematical exercises & record of examination up till 1836. Continued from the other end, a number of loose sheets & printed class-lists interleaved.

MS 13/N/6 [1829]

(President's) Address to the Students of the Belfast College

MS. without covers (24 numbered pp. 232 x 190 mm) copy in feminine hand of "(President's) address to the students of the Belfast College". Inferred date 1829. Note by Mr Povey, Librarian: "James Thomson became President of the Faculty of Arts, Belfast Academical Institution, in 1829. (R.B.A.I. Centenary volume, page 209). The paper of this MS. is watermarked 1828".

MS 13/N/7 06/11/1832

Introductory Lecture, Glasgow College, Nov 6, 1832

MS., sewed in paper wrappers. (230 x 180 mm) "Introductory Lecture, Glasgow College, Nov 6, 1832", pages numbered 1-37.

Separate fascicle "Nov 1834", numbered 1* -6*. Inside the first leaf a list of mathematicians & their dates.

MS 13/N/8 n.d.

Measuration

Two MS books, sewed without wrappers (253 x 205 mm), the first paged 1 - 24, the second 40 - 70, followed by blank pages containing a text-book of measuration.

MS 13/N/9 n.d.

Proposed System of Education for the intended Irish Colleges

Double sheet of MS. (253 x 205 mm).

MS 13/N/10 11/1827

Remarks on the Phenomena of the Heavens as they Appear from Different Bodies in the Solar System

Reprint from the Belfast News-letter of November 23, 27, 30 - 1827. (6 copies) Lecture: "Remarks on the phenomena of the Heavens as they appear from different bodies in the solar system", delivered to the Belfast Literary society, Nov 5, 1827.

One copy inscribed: "R.J. Martin, Esq., with James Thomson's compliments November 1910"

MS 13/N/11 [1836]

Time Piece inscription

Copy of inscription on "time -piece" presented by students of year 1835-6.