
Guide to the British Patents Collection

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Contributing Institution: Special Collections & Archives

Title: British Patents Collection

Identifier/Call Number: SC.BPC

Extent: 1.56 linear feet

Date (inclusive): 1841-1853

Abstract: The collection consists of documents related to the process of acquiring patents in the United Kingdom in 19th century. Items include a patent specification written by Alfred Vincent Newton in 1853 for an "Improved Sewing Machine," and a copy of a patent issued to Oliver Louis Reynolds in 1840 for a "Certain Improvement on Machinery for Producing Stocking Fabric or Framework Knitting."

Language of Material: English

Scope and Contents

The *British Patents Collection* consists of documents related to the process of acquiring patents in the United Kingdom in 19th century. In order to acquire a patent in the United Kingdom, the inventor first must put a detailed description of their invention into the public domain through what is called a patent specification. The inventor is then granted a patent by the government providing them the right to prevent others from exploiting their invention for a limited period of time.

Items in the collection include a patent specification written by Alfred Vincent Newton in 1853 for an "Improved Sewing Machine," and a copy of a patent issued to Oliver Louis Reynolds in 1840 for a "Certain Improvement on Machinery for Producing Stocking Fabric or Framework Knitting."

Conditions Governing Access:

The collection is open for research use.

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For information about citing items in this collection consult the appropriate style manual, or see the [Citing Archival Materials](#) guide.

Processing Information:

Jessica Geiser, 2014

Subjects and Indexing Terms

Documents

Box 1, Item 1	Patent Specification Written by Alfred Vincent Newton for an "Improved Sewing Machine," 1853 July 18
Box 1, Item 2	Copy of Patent Granted to Oliver Louis Reynolds on November 4th, 1840 for a "Certain Improvement on Machinery for Producing Stocking Fabric or Framework Knitting," 1841 January 4