Charles H. Morgan Papers

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Charles Hill Morgan was born in Rochester, New York January 8, 1831. He grew up in Clinton, Massachusetts and attended Clinton schools and Lancaster Academy. He worked in his uncle's machine shop in Clinton, focusing on mechanical drawing, mechanics, and increasing his technical skill. In 1863 he received a patent for manufacture of paper bags.

In 1864, Mr. Morgan became general superintendent of the wire mills of Washburn & Moen. He continued with the company for 23 years, eleven of which he was director of the corporation. He founded Morgan Spring Company in 1881, and Morgan Construction Company in 1891. Morgan Spring manufactured steel springs, and Morgan Construction manufactured rolling-mill and wire-drawing machinery. He was president of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers in the late 1800s.

Mr. Morgan was married twice (his first wife died), and he had six children.

In 1866, at the suggestion of Ichabod Washburn, Mr. Morgan was elected a trustee of the Free Institute of Industrial Science (later Worcester Tech and WPI). He was given responsibility for erecting and equipping the machine shop, and he was credited with much of its success. Until the early 1900s he was actively involved as a trustee. He died Jan. 10, 1911.


SCOPE AND CONTENT

This collection consists primarily of diaries and journals which Mr. Morgan kept, from 1852-1909. Most of the information contained in the diaries relates to Mr. Morgan's businesses. There are diagrams and drawings of machines, financial and other business records, and descriptions of trips he took. Journal No. 6 is a record of New England soldiers at U. S. Hospital, Turners Lane, in Philadelphia in 1862. Journal No. 56 contained letters and other materials of Mr. Morgan's, most from the 1880s, which apparently had been sent to him after he left Washburn & Moen. These materials have been removed from the book and placed in folders at the back of Box 3. Journal No. 55 has a few entries, written by someone else after Mr. Morgan's death. Included in this is a tribute to him related to his church. Some of the journals have inserts, with business information, news articles or poems. While many of the books are diaries, some span several years and were used for lists, addresses, or subject matter related to his businesses. Not all the books are in a strict date order.

Container List

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<th>Container</th>
<th>Folder</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>Box 1</td>
<td>Number 01</td>
<td>March 14, 1854-April 27, 1857 -- 132 pages</td>
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Pages 1-54 contain drawings and diagrams of Brussels Carpet Loom with possible improvements to design. Pages 55-99 blank. Page 100: details of Lace Loom
Box 1 Number 02
July 1852-November 27, 1854 -- 172 pages

Page 19: Design for Boiler Plate Punch; page 52: Diagram of Spooler Frame. This book contains many drawings.

Box 1 Number 03
September 8, 1852-January 21, 1875 -- 240 pages


Box 1 Number 04
January 1, 1855-December 31, 1855 -- 138 pages

Daily calendar summarizing purchases, accomplishments, and activities of the day. Record of daily cash account. One letter enclosed in back of journal along with small diagram.

Box 1 Number 05
May 31, 1858-June 1860 - 165 pages

Lists, particulars, sketches, etc. of one of Smith and Morgan's #2 paper bag machines

Box 1 Number 06
November 1, 1862 - 77 pages

Record of New England Soldiers at U. S. Hospital Turners Lane, Philadelphia. Pasted to inside cover is certificate of Morgan's membership in the New England Soldiers' Relief Association

Box 1 Number 07
May 15, 1866-June 11, 1867 - 226 pages

Primarily a "to do" list. Diagram on Page 17 and page 96, as well as other less-detailed sketches spaced throughout

Box 1 Number 08
July 1, 1867-January 29, 1872 - 254 pages

Notes on operations of various mills and companies. Diagrams on pages 93, 97, other rough sketches throughout.

Box 1 Number 09
January 1869-August 1886 - 240 pages, plus appendix

Layout and floor plan of new mill. Pages 106-130 contain several detailed drawings of various mechanical components. Several notes and documents in back binding pertain to a legal battle.

Box 1 Number 10
Feb. 8, 1872-June 1872 - 60 pages

Daily calendar/planner

Box 1 Number 11
September 1872-January 1875

26 pages, with several pages in back Business records, data, etc. Inside cover contains a pasted page with letters and symbols.

Box 1 Number 12
1874

Pocket calendar/daily planner. Largely empty.

Box 1 Number 13
1883 - 16 pages

Small pocket notebook containing personal notes and accounts of daily activities. Only first 16 pages contain writing; the rest are blank.

Box 1 Number 14
June 20, 1877-July 17, 1888 - 128 pages

Notes, measurements, weights, and calculations. Then journal entries of daily experiences on a trip to London.

Box 1 Number 15
1878 - 4 pages

First two pages contain peoples' names followed by a number. Middle is empty, and last pages contain a note about someone's expenses.

Box 1 Number 16
November 20, 1878-May 1880 - 97 pages

Small pocket notebook inside white envelope. Contains daily activities/events and other notes.
Box 1  Number 17  Daily Planner/Calendar  January 1, 1880-December 31, 1880 - 374 pages

Box 1  Number 18  Daily Planner/Calendar  January 1, 1881-December 31, 1881 - 127 pages

Box 1  Number 19  Engineers' and Mechanics' Pocket Book by Chas. H. Haswell

Box 1  Number 21  Daily Planner/Calendar  June 1884-March 1, 1894 - 118 pages

Box 1  Number 22  Daily Planner/Calendar  January 1, 1885-December 31, 1885 - 384 pages

Box 1  Number 20  Pocket Handbook of Iron and Copper Wire in Electric Transmission by the Washburn & Moen Manufacturing Co.

Box 1  Number 23  June 1884-March 1, 1894 - 118 pages

Box 1  Number 26  Daily Planner/Calendar  dates from 1868-1886 are mentioned - 67 pages

Box 1  Number 25  Small notepad. Mostly money-related calculations and records. Sketches and drawings on pages 39, 41, 56, 57, 64.

Box 1  Number 27  Small daily calendar

Box 1  Number 28  Daily Planner/Calendar  January 1, 1888-December 31, 1888 - 384 pages

Box 1  Number 29  Business notes, lists, etc. Newspaper clipping page 78. Diagrams and figures pages 6, 7, 101, 111-116.

Box 2  Number 30  Daily Planner/Calendar  January 1, 1889-December 31, 1889 - 384 pages

Box 2  Number 31  Daily Planner/Calendar. Contains a brief letter from the Trenton Iron Company.

Box 2  Number 32  Daily Planner/Calendar  January 1, 1891-December 31, 1891 - 384 pages

Box 2  Number 33  Daily Planner/Calendar. Towards the back is a card/advertisement for Columbus Watch Co.

Box 2  Number 34  January 1, 1892-December 31, 1892 - 386 pages

Notes, calculations, and financial notes
Box 2  Number 35  January 5, 1893-March 2, 1898 - 162 pages

Pages 1-20, 52-70, and 142-162 contain writing. The rest of the pages are blank. Mostly business-related notes, summaries of conversations with other engineers, calculations, etc.

Box 2  Number 36  September 29, 1893-August 16, 1900 - 88 pages

Business notes, specifications and costs, conversation summaries, etc.

Box 2  Number 37  January 1, 1894-December 31, 1894 - 400 pages

Daily Planner/Calendar

Box 2  Number 38  January 1, 1895-December 31, 1895 - 400 pages

Daily Planner/Calendar

Box 2  Number 39  January 1, 1896-December 31, 1896 - 400 pages

Daily Planner/Calendar

Box 2  Number 40  1896-1897 - 200 pages

Very neat, organized, and detailed list of specifications for various products (mostly wires)

Box 2  Number 41  January 1, 1897-December 31, 1897 - 400 pages

Daily Planner/Calendar

Box 2  Number 42  January 1898-December 1898 - 400 pages

Daily Planner/Calendar. Pasted to February 20th page is a pledge to pay 100 dollars per year for three years to the Whitman Memorial Fund.

Box 2  Number 43  January 1, 1899-December 31, 1899 - 384 pages

Daily Planner/Calendar. Between pages for November 28 and 29 is a card pledging $1,000 to Berea College.

Box 2  Number 44  January 1, 1900-December 31, 1900 - 400 pages

Daily Planner/Calendar

Box 2  Number 45  January 1, 1901-December 31, 1901 - 400 pages

Daily Planner/Calendar

Box 2  Number 46  January 1, 1902-December 31, 1902 - 400 pages

Daily Planner/Calendar

Box 2  Number 47  January 1, 1903-December 31, 1903 - 400 pages

Daily Planner/Calendar

Box 2  Number 48  January 1, 1904-December 31, 1904 - 400 pages

Daily Planner/Calendar. Newspaper clipping between April 17-18

Box 3  Number 49  January 1, 1905-December 31, 1905 - 400 pages

Daily Planner/Calendar

Box 3  Number 50  January 1, 1906-December 31, 1906 - 400 pages

Daily Planner/Calendar. Pasted on page 399 is a “List of Self Supporting Stacks.” Pasted on page 400 are specifications for “Coatesville High Duty Return Tubular Boilers.”

Box 3  Number 51  January 1, 1907-December 31, 1907 - 400 pages

Daily Planner/Calendar. Between July 31 and August 1 are a newspaper clipping and an invitation from the Worcester County Historical Society. Newspaper clippings - August 2, September 12, November 8 & 19, December
Box 3 Number 52

January 1, 1908-December 31, 1908 - 400 pages

Daily Planner/Calendar. Newspaper clippings - January 14, May 15 & 31, July 7, and page 373 (memoranda)

Box 3 Number 53

January 1, 1908-December 31, 1908 - 384 pages

Daily Planner/Calendar. Conversion table inside back cover, along with newspaper clipping.

Box 3 Number 54

January 1, 1909-December 31, 1909 - 384 pages


Box 3 Number 55

January 1, 1912-December 31, 1912 - 368 pages

Daily Planner/Calendar. Contains only a few entries, some relating to the death of C. H. Morgan the year prior.

Box 3 Number 56

Large folder containing many important letters, correspondence, papers, deeds, etc. [these papers are now in a folder at the back of this box]

Box 3 Number 57

1858 - 100 pages

List of orders by customer name, grouped by state

Box 3 Number 58

date unknown - 135 pages

Notebook containing many detailed diagrams, engineering notes, calculations, specifications, etc.

Box 3 Number 59

date unknown - 182 pages

Possibly an address book (sections divided by letter). Only 3 pages contain Writing, in sections E, G, and P

Box 3 Number 60

November 1897-January 1899 - 92 pages

Small pocket notebook with quick notes, calculations, scribbles, etc.

Box 3 Number 61

Book - 784 pages

Two pocket books in one: Molesworth’s Pocket Book of Engineering Formulae,” and “Harst’s Architectural Surveyor’s Handbook”

Box 3 Number - none


Box 3 Letter Book 1

Letter book, 1859-1868

Box 3 Letter Book 2

Letter book, 1865-1870

Box 3 Photograph

Photograph

appears to say Eastgate Street, Clinton, n.d.