

James Rowland and Sons, Ironfounders and Engineers of Salisbury

by
Peter WL Filtness



JAMES ROWLAND,
ENGINEER, MILLWRIGHT, & IRON & BRASS FOUNDER

front flap

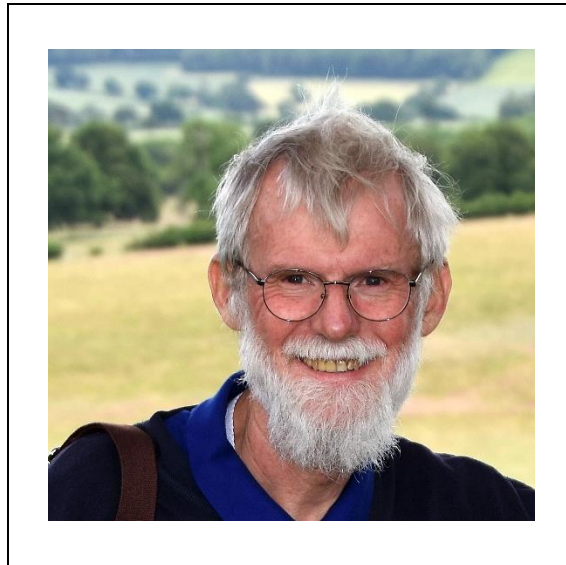
This little book tells the story of James Rowland (1803-1875), a mechanical engineer, ironfounder, inventor, entrepreneur and businessman, who settled in Salisbury, Wiltshire, and established there a family business which lasted three generations, one hundred years, from roughly 1840 to 1940.

The book tells both his personal story, with four wives and twelve children, and looks at how his engineering business was established and fared over the generations. Their story is a mix of a family history every bit as convoluted as a Thomas Hardy novel, and local history, during this formative period in English social and economic history, from gas lamps to Spitfires, taking us up to the start of the Second World War and the emergence of England in its current form.

Here the reader will see how the new engineering technologies of the Victorian "Age of Iron" were applied in Salisbury, and how local engineers in rural Wiltshire were quick to adopt the greatest invention of the Edwardian age, the motor car. It is a story of how a modest engineering business can be founded, grown, redirected and then repeatedly renewed after unforeseen events.

In passing, we will witness the ire of Lord Folkestone, the biting criticisms of *The Engineer*, and meet the famous "*Rowland's Patent Mashing and Mixing Machine*". Here the reader will find "*Rowland's Cocks, Taps and Valves*", discover the "*Waltham Orient Autogo*", and learn to see the humble highway gully drain in a completely new way.

Rear flap



Peter William Leonard Filtness MA, Dip TP, MRTPI, IHBC, was educated at St John's College, Cambridge and the University of Westminster. He is by education a Geographer, by profession a Chartered Town Planner, and now dabbles in architectural and local history. He retired in 2012 and lives with his beloved wife Jean in Old Sarum, just outside Salisbury in Wiltshire, where he has time to ramble through the history both of the City of Salisbury and of his own family. His previous work was "Roots and Branches", a comprehensive family history of both his own ancestral line and that of his wife.

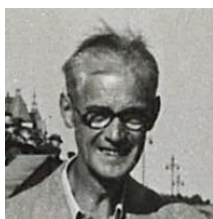
Jacket back



James Rowland 1803-1875



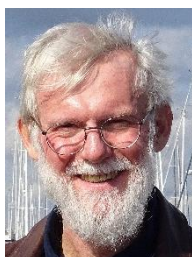
Herbert Rowland 1859-1929



Charles Haywood Rowland 1887-1974



Adeline Mary Filtness nee Rowland 1915-2005



Peter William Leonard Filtness 1952-