Contents

Acknowledgments		xvii
In	Introduction	
Abbreviations		
1	Power in an Agricultural Economy: The Rural Water Mill	1
	Numbers, Kinds, and Distribution	1
	Role in Pioneering Development	6
	Bread: The Fundamental Need	8
	Sawmills and Shelter	15
	Fulling and Carding Mills	21
	Tanneries	25
	Public Support of Water Mills	28
	Growth in Numbers	36
	Mills and the Market Economy	41
	Water Mills in Western Europe	44
	The Decline of Water Milling	47
	Contributions of the Water Mill	49
2	The Traditional Technology	51
	Dams, Millponds, and Races	54
	Hydraulic Prime Movers: The Waterwheels	60
	A Wheel in a Class by Itself	71
	Wheels with Horizontal Shafts	83
	A Technology of Wood	88
	The Millwright's Craft	91
	The Millwright's Companion	94
	Milling Practice in the Colonial Period	104
	From Water Milling to Waterpower	111
3	The Geographical Basis and Institutional Framework	114
	The Geographical Determinants	116
	Patterns of Millstreams and Waterpowers	118
	Topography and Power Potential	119
	Rainfall, Runoff, and Streamflow	122
	Natural Regulators	126
	Regional Power Potentials	130
	The Law of Watercourses	139

	Navigation Rights and the Milling Interests	142
	Milldams and Fisheries	144
	Farmers versus Flowage Rights	146
	The Public Character of Water Mills	148
	Conflict of Interests: Mills versus Mills	151
	Difficulties in Coordination	155
4	Mill and Factory Villages: Grass Roots Industrialization	159
•	Power Sources in Perspective	161
	Conditions Controlling the Choice of Power	163
	Manufacturing as a Condition of Growth	169
	Mill Seats as a Condition of Manufacturing	172
	A Factor in the Growth of Towns	174
	Waterpower and the Industrial Village	178
	The Ubiquity and Variety of Waterpowers	181
	River Systems and Patterns of Industrial Location	185
	The River Basin: Basic Unit of Power Supply	189
	Representative Drainage Basins in New England	191
	The Merrimack, Connecticut, and Hudson River Valleys	194
	Regional Variations in Waterpower Supply and Use	201
5	The First Industrial Cities	204
	Breaking New Ground at Lowell	205
	Engineering and Management Tasks	207
	Power Supply: Evolution of Control	211
	Small Industry: The Outsiders	217
	The Lowell Achievement and Influence	221
	Waterpower and Paper	227
	Flour, Lumber, and the Falls of Saint Anthony	233
	Power Developments in the South	242
	Waterpower for Sale: The Overall Dimensions	247
6	Management of a Great Waterpower: The Proprietors of	
	the Locks and Canals on the Merrimack	251
	The Supply Canal Network	255
	Enlargement of the Canal System	261
	The Balance Sheet	268
	Maintenance and Management	273
	Shortcomings of the Supply System	276
	Management of the Upstream Reservoirs	279
	Shortage and Surplus	282
	Steam Power	287
	Discontent and Dissent	289

Contents

7	The Hydraulic Turbine	292
	Operating Criteria	293
	Changing Industrial Requirements	298
	Reaction Wheels	299
	Tub Wheel to Turbine	305
	Samuel Howd and the Inward-Flow Wheel	313
	Birth of the True Turbine	318
	The Turbine Reaches America	322
	Contributions of Boyden and Francis	328
	Who Invented the "Francis" Turbine?	338
8	A Generation of Declining Use and Advancing Technology	343
	The Stock-Pattern Turbine Industry	347
	James Emerson and the Holyoke Testing Flume	350
	The Mixed-Flow Turbine	359
	Designer-Builders of the Mixed-Flow Turbine	363
	Improving Efficiency at Part Gate	374
	Advances in Setting, Governing, and Positioning	378
	The American Stock-Pattern Turbine	385
	Influence of Hydroelectricity	388
	Turbine Design after Niagara	391
	Innovations in Western Mining States	396
	From the Hurdy-Gurdy to the Tangential Waterwheel	400
	In Brief Summation	413
9	The Transmission of Power through Millwork	416
	From Gristmill to Flouring Mill	421
	Variations in Transmission Requirements	431
	Power Distribution in Textile Mills	432
	Power Transmission in Mining	448
	New Conditions and New Needs	449
	British Innovations in Millwork	450
	The Shafting Revolution of Fairbairn and Lillie	456
	The New System in the United States	459
	The American Contribution: Belting in Main Drives	462
	Millwork Fittings and Equipment	471
	The Limitations of Millwork	478
10	The Decline of Direct-Drive Waterpower	481
	Factors in the Change	482
	Urbanization and Power Supply	485
	Regional and National Trends	488
	Power Trends by Major Industries	490
	7 J	

Motive Power and Two Economies	495
Traditional Industries in Decline	496
Unutilized and Underutilized Waterpowers	498
Expedients for Enlarging Power Supply	499
Irregularities in Streamflow	504
Storage Reservoirs	509
Auxiliary Steam Power	514
Comparative Costs of Steam Power and Waterpower	516
An Indictment Agreed Upon	529
A New Contender for Stream Use	530
Epilogue	
Appendixes	
1. Grain-Milling Practices among the American Indian	s 545
2. Survivals: The Tub Mill	548
3. List of Ironwork for Gristmill	553
4. The Tenth Census Reports on Waterpower	556
5. Tidal Power along the Atlantic Seaboard	559
6. Data on Streamflow	562
7. James B. Francis on Estimating the Power of a Strea	m 564
8. The Franklin Institute's Experiments on Waterwheel	s 567
9. Comparison of a Boyden Turbine and the Burden	
Overshot Wheel	569
Index	575