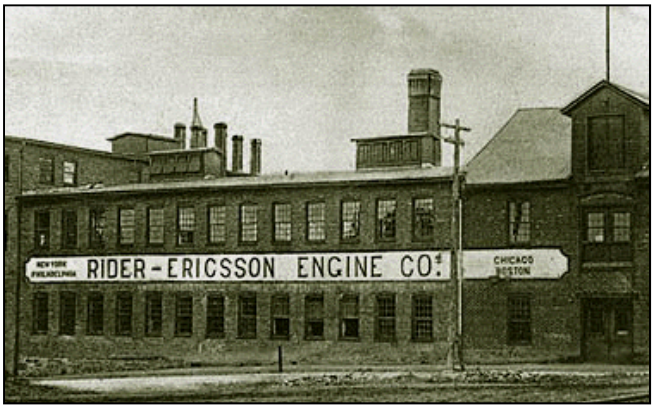
1895 Rider Ericsson
Hot-Air Pumping Engine
(or “Stirling” Engine)



Bore: 6-inch Stroke: 3 inch
Horsepower: 1/8 to ¼ HP at 100 RPM
Weight: Approx. 625 lbs.

John Ericsson, builder of the ironclad U.S.S. Monitor, developed many different hot air engine designs, beginning with his 1826 British Patent and was built by the Rider Ericsson Company.

Ericsson engines were used strictly to pump water; the smaller engines were used in homes and small businesses. The water was pumped from a well or cistern into an overhead tank where it was stored for later usage.

The operation of the Stirling engine is not complicated. There are no carburetors, ignition systems, valves, or other complicated mechanisms. Stirling engines run off of the expansion of air as it is heated, and the contraction of the same air as it is cooled. The source of heat can be wood, fuel oil, sunlight, or geothermal sources. Cooling can be achieved from water, or air.