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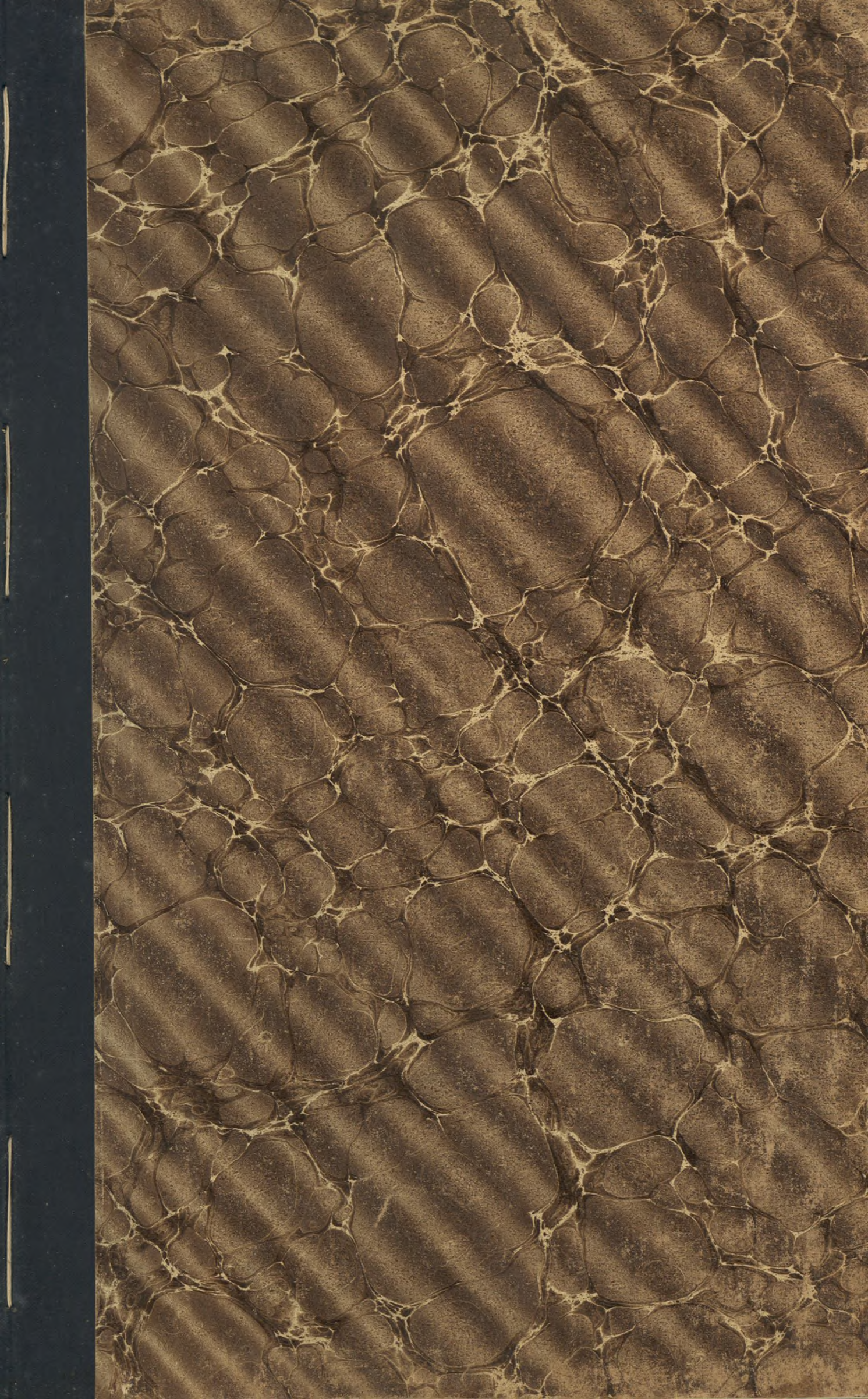
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**11 & 12 SOUTH ST. EXETER**

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# Langton Herring Bells.

October 12. 1906

To the Rev. W. Owen Cockcroft.

Rev. Sir.

I beg to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 9<sup>th</sup>. In answer to your questions I beg to say that I could not begin work in the tower until early part of next year, say January, but I should get all the work prepared before then.

The masons work putting in the corbels would have to be done when my men were there as soon as the Bells and frame were cleared out, it would have to be done sharp.

There is no necessity for me to communicate with the contractor about the masons work but I would do so if you like.

The tower roof must be repaired before my work is done.

I could do my work in the Tower in a week or ten days after arriving at Langton Herring if the mason would get over his work quickly as I should have everything made & fitted here.

I would make the chimer so that it could be locked up at an extra charge of 18/-.

Harry Stokes.

re Greenhouse at Manor House, 8.6ford.

October 16. 1906

To Mr. Wm. Summerfield.

Dear Sir.

I will put on a glass double roof on the proposed new Hot House at Manor House, 8.6ford, the ~~Hot~~ Hot House 11' 6" long 8' 9" wide out to out, the plates, ridge and ribs worked and rebated to take glass, glass to be 21 oz. and properly bedded and puttied in, the ribs to be 2x3 and fixed about 11" apart, make a door in end 5' 9" high 2' 0" wide with glass at top, properly hung and fix 6" rim lock & handles, and the gable end of roof where door is hung to be filled in with bars and glazed, fix 3" O.C. shuting to front and back of same and carry it around the end, which will be bricked up, with an outlet to it to let rainwater drop into a tub, paint all the woodwork inside and out 3 coats of best white lead paint for the sum of £ 9.. 2.. 9.

I will make and fix a pair of jambs in garden wall, and a ledge door size 6' 6" high 4' 0" wide out to out of jambs, hang door with stout pair of Tee hinges, and fix a 7" rim lock & handles on door, paint same 3 coats and provide and fix an oak lintel 5' 0" long 14x3" for the sum of £ 1.. 19.. 6.

Harry Stokes

Oakhayes Stable Racks.

Oct. 23. 1906.

To. W. Ferrier-Kerr. Esq:

Sir.

The cost of the 2 racks each  
2-6 high and 11-2 long with deal bottom and  
top 4x3 and 1 1/2 square staves of oak or  
ash will be £ 1-14-0.

yours obediently  
Harry Stokes

re Timsbury Bells. nr. Bath

October 24. 1906

To A. Arnold. Esq.

Churchwardens

Timsbury.

Sir.

I have been thinking over about the cost of rehangng the 6 Bells in Timsbury Church according to your specification which you sent me and it would cost about £ 61..5..0, not including a new set of ropes which is not mentioned in your specification. The frame if it was required to be strengthened with angle brackets + wood iron bolts would cost I should say something about £ 4 or £ 5. In the £ 61..5..0 I have included my going to Timsbury taking the measurements I should require.

Harry Stokes.

• re Cothills Post & Rails against Yard  
October 24. 1906.

To Mr. Wm. Palmer.

Dear Sir.

The cost of taking out the present hanging post and putting it in for falling post of gate, providing 1 oak hanging post 8'0" long 9" x 9" and 2 posts 8'0" long 7" x 7", hang the gate, provide and fix 2 deal rails 4" x 3" and provide and fix 1" deal board to gate and rails, 26'0" long 5'0" high will be £ 4.13.0

Harry Stokes.



November 10<sup>th</sup> 1906

To

L. P. Adams Esq

Colbury

Newton Abbot

Woodleigh Church Bells

Sir

I have received a reply from the Bell Foundry and they cannot supply new Bells for less than £8- per cwt.

I therefore cannot undertake to carry out the work for the above for the sum I have sent but can carry it out for £2-8-0 more making a total of £104-4-0. They inform me (the Bell Founders) that in all probability there will be a further rise within a week to £8-8-0 per cwt

I remain Sir

your Obedient Servant  
Harry Stokes.

Nov<sup>r</sup> 4<sup>th</sup> 1906

Sir

I cannot get the Bell Founders to supply me with the 2 new bells for Woodleigh for the £4-14-0 per cwt. unless less than the £8- per cwt., but I will be the loser of the extra £2-8-0 and will carry out the work for the £101-16-0 -

H. S.

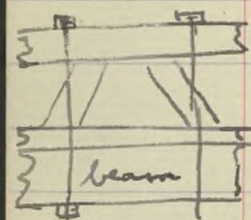
re Timbury Church Bells.

Nov. 2. 1906

To the Rector & Churchwardens  
of Timbury.  
~~Reverend~~ Gentlemen.

I will undertake to take down the 1<sup>st</sup> Bell from the piece of strutted framing where it is now hung, and take away this framing altogether and hang the Bell down on the underframe as there is room for her to be hung there by shifting the 2<sup>nd</sup> Bell closer to the east wall, put an  $1\frac{1}{4}$  round bar of iron bolted to the frame to keep it apart between the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Bells, put in about 17 -  $\frac{3}{4}$  round iron bolts with nut each end of them down through the frame and into the main beams under,

where they can be got to go through beams thus:-  
and strain it all well up together before putting in any bearings. Unhang the other five Bells and take off all the old fittings from them and rehang all the six Bells with all new fittings viz:- Wheels, stocks, steps, slides, pulleys, steel gudgeons and gunmetal bearings, the steel gudgeons fitted into iron saddle plates clip bolted to the stocks and the gunmetal bearings fitted into iron <sup>carriage</sup> saddle plates screwed down to frame, fitted with iron hinged covers and thumb screws, quarter turn 4 of the Bells (the 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> + 5<sup>th</sup>) so that the clappers shall strike opposite to what they do now, provide 4 new clappers for them, and properly hang the other 2 clappers in wood boxes, all new ironwork to hang the Bells with, provide a new set of best made bell ropes (Hortons, London), provide and fix on floor in chamber under Bells 6 galvanised rings, fitted



in wood blocks for ropes to work in instead of the stones now there, and make and fix to ceiling in ringing chamber 6 turned wood boxes with holes in them for ropes to work in, paint all the ironwork, stocks and felloeing part of wheels 3 coats of paint pay all carriage of my materials and all travelling expenses for my men and complete the work in a workmanlike and satisfactory manner for the sum of Sixty Nine Pounds, Fourteen Shillings. (£69.14.0).

The old ironwork and bearings to be my property and the old wood to be yours.

I explained to you when I was at Tinsbury that the reason why I proposed to put a new wheel to the Tenor Bell was because the present one was too large. I should require you to pay me £55. when the work was completed and the remainder 3 months after.

Harry Stokes.

Prory Stable & Coach house.

Nov. 3. 1906

To the Rev. J. L. L. Fulford.  
Rev. Sir.

The cost of rising back wall putting on 2 plates & 2 purlins boarding them over with  $\frac{3}{4}$ " board and putting on roof of 24 gauge corrug. iron making good wall against yard with either wood or brick, putting in 3 oak posts in other end and making changing a pair of 1" doors 7'-0" x 6'-0" putting in 4x2 rails in remainder of end boarding it up with 1" match board & painting it 2 coats will be about £14-15-0

Harry Stokes.

November 3<sup>rd</sup> 06.

Re Bishops Tawton Church Bells

To the

Vicar & Churchwardens,

of Bishops Tawton,

Devon.

Gentlemen.

I have been as you already know, & examined the bells & their fittings & frame in your Church Tower, & I then told you that nothing could be done to it, as regards repairing it, as it was all got too bad to repair, especially the frame, & the only thing to do is to lower down the bells, out of the way & clear out the old fittings, frame, floor, & beams, & put it all in new, you will then have a thorough good job made of it. In re-hanging the bells I should put the 3<sup>rd</sup> bell which is now up over, down under, in the place where the 4<sup>th</sup> is now hung & put the 4<sup>th</sup> up over the 5<sup>th</sup>, the ropes can then be made to come around a bit better in bottom of Tower. The Clock which is under the bells would want to be shifted out altogether before anything was done & put back again, when the bells were re-hung, this is clock makers work. If it was possible to shift the steps in the bottom of the tower around the other way, it would be a good job, & would give the Tenor ringer more room, this cannot be decided on until the bells are hung again in their places. I will undertake to lower down the six bells from the tower, & put them in some convenient place, take out the old frame, fittings, floor & beams from the Tower, & provide & fix.

in the Tower, 3 oak beams, one  $11 \times 9$  & two  $11 \times 10$   
& provide & lie on the beams, well nailed to  
them, a good red deal floor 2" thick leaving  
room in the floor for a ladder to get to the  
bells, provide, make & fix in the tower, an  
English oak frame for the six bells, the  
1<sup>st</sup> 2<sup>nd</sup> 3<sup>rd</sup> 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> to be hung in the under  
frame, & the 4<sup>th</sup> bell to be hung up over  
in a frame, built up from the bottom  
frame, the whole frame to be bolted  
together with about 31 long  $\frac{3}{4}$  bolts, as shown  
on plan enclosed, & the bolts where convenient  
to go down thro' frame & floor into beams, all  
the joints of frame to be secured with stout  
strap plates, & the sizes of scantling to be the  
same as marked on plan.

I will also undertake to hoist the bells again  
into their places in the new frame, & hang  
them with all new fittings complete, viz:—  
wheels, stocks, stays & sliders, pullies, steel  
gudgeons & gunmetal bearings, the steel  
gudgeons fitted into iron bed plates, clip  
bolted to the stocks, & the bearings fitted  
into iron carriages screwed down to frames,  
fitted with iron hinged covers, & thumb  
screws, all new ironwork to hang the bells  
with, provide three new clappers, & rework  
the other 3. & properly hang all the 6  
clappers in the bells, provide a new set of  
best made bell ropes, & properly guide them  
away from wheels to bottom of tower, with  
all necessary shutes, thimbles & patrics,  
paint all the ironwork, stocks &

following part of wheels, 3 coats of paint,  
pay carriage of all my material from  
here to Bishops Tawton, & all travelling  
expenses for my men, & complete the  
work in a workmanlike & satisfactory  
manner, & to the satisfaction of anyone  
you may like to appoint to inspect the  
bells, or try the "go" of them, anyone who  
knows anything about Church Bell work,  
for the sum of One hundred & twenty  
six pounds, seventeen shillings, & sixpence  
(£126-17-6.) All the old material I take  
out to be my property, & you to have the  
clock shifted & refixed, & to have done all  
the mason's work, that may be wanted to  
be done to the tower before putting in  
any new work.

I remain Gentlemen

Yrs obediently,

H. Stokes.

January 22<sup>nd</sup> 1904 To Rev. E. A. Leake

Rev. Sir

I beg to say I will lower my Tender for Bishops  
Tawton Church Bells, and will take off 5 per cent  
from it the figures will now be £120-10-0

yours obediently

Harry Stokes

To

Nov<sup>r</sup> 12<sup>th</sup> 1906

L. P. Adams Esq<sup>r</sup>

Woodleigh Church bells

Sir

You should have accepted my offer of the 7<sup>th</sup> when you wrote me on the 8<sup>th</sup> in reply to it - instead of still offering me the £100, since then the Hombles have informed me that the price is £8-8/- per cast - I cannot therefore carry out the work for the above price less than I wrote you on Nov<sup>r</sup> 1<sup>st</sup> - viz<sup>z</sup> £104-4/- I have then 12 castings nearly £3- at that price, this price will not remain open only a couple of days because they think it will still go higher, you must please understand that any inscription you wish to have put on the bells will be 4<sup>s</sup> per letter extra to the above sum. If you think of accepting this price, you had better close with me at once. I took an order last Tuesday for a new bell 5<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> cast - at £8 per cast -

yours obediently  
Harry Stokes

32-14 0  
25 17 6  
6 12 0



Edford House

Nov-13<sup>th</sup>-1906

Mr W Sumnerfield

Dear Sir

The cost of a new seat & iron  
and brackets for to hold the seat to be hung with pair  
of hinges, and cut out hole in door about 12x6 and  
put in pane of glass at Edford House will be 13.5<sup>0</sup>  
(nothing to be painted)

yours truly  
Harry Stokes

Cleyst Hydon Bells.

Nov. 10<sup>th</sup> 1906

To the Rev. C. Sherwin.

Rev. Sir

Your tenor Bell is got badly out of order and it wants a new stock, gudgeons bearings and ironwork, she also wants quarter turning very badly so that clapper shall strike opposite to what it does now, the staple inside Bell where the clapper hangs on has become loose and worn out and must be a new one put in and the clapper wants doing up, she also wants a new stay slider put to her, there is a stay and slider in tower that will do for this, and I should advise to put in about 6 long  $\frac{3}{4}$  bolts down thro' the frame 4 on one side of tenor and 2 on the other and strain frame well up together this would stiffen the frame a good deal, the cost of doing this will be £8.2.6. I should recommend the canons of tenor to be taken off and drill holes thro' head of her would not then want such a deep stock and bell could be taken up more in stock this would make her ring a lot easier, I would take off the canons and drill holes thro' head of her for the old metal. The 5<sup>th</sup> Bell is also getting into bad order and she also wants a new stock and gudgeons and bearings and ironwork and also to be quarter turned so that clapper shall strike opposite to what it does now to do this must put a new staple in her for clapper to work on, there is a new stay slider wanted to be put to her there is a stay slider in tower that would do for it, there are 4  $\frac{3}{4}$  bolts wanted to be put down through the frame between 5<sup>th</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> and the clapper wants doing up, the cost of doing this Bell will be £7.5.6. if done same time as the tenor. I should recommend to take canons off this Bell same as off from tenor. I will do this!

To

Nov 14<sup>th</sup> 1906

Messrs J. B. Gostlin & Son

13 Artillery Lane

Whitechapel to  
London

Dear Sirs

The price for the 6 wheels would be as follows  
delivered at my Station here Woodbury sub-delivered to you in  
London

W	"	£ s d
4.4	wheel	1.2.6
4.6	"	1.3.0
4.9	"	1.3.6
5.0	"	1.4.6
5.3	"	1.5.6
5.7	"	1.7.6

It would depend on how soon you would want them  
as to whether I could make them

yours truly  
Harry Stokes

→ and drill holes in her for the old metal.  
One of the bearings of the 4<sup>th</sup> is loose and wants  
to be seen too. I will put this matter right  
for 5/- . I may mention that the Clapper  
of tenor has been striking on one place since  
1616 and 5<sup>th</sup> since 1670.

8.2.6  
7.5.6  
5.0  
13.6

Nov 22<sup>nd</sup> 1916

Mrs Peters

Warrington House

Dolls House same as sketch £1.12.6

Madam,

The cost of making a Dolls house with front similar to sketch enclosed, 3"0 high, 3"0 wide and 1"6" deep with 4 windows and a door painted on, the inside in 4 divisions and papered and the outside painted white will be £1.12.6

Harry Stokes.

To

Nov-21<sup>st</sup> 1906

Rev. H Marks

Hawthorn Church Rectory  
Aminster

Rev. Sir

The cost of a set of 5 Bell Ropes will be 11/- <sup>1/2</sup> you pay carriage  
each up to 60 feet in length and 1/- extra for every 10 ft  
over that length. I am afraid I could not go to Hawthorn  
and see your Tower Bell for a few weeks, because I  
am very busy, but if you can wait for a few  
weeks I would go.

yours obediently  
Harry Stokes

Brixton Bells

Nov-23<sup>rd</sup> 1906

To

Rev. G. Green

Rev. Sir

My charge for going to Brixton  
and examining bells and reporting on them will be £1.5/-

H. Stokes

# Exmouth Church Bell

Dec. 8. 1906

Rev. E. V. Freeman.

The Vicarage, Exmouth,  
Rev. Sir.

The cost of providing, making and fixing an oak frame in Trinity Church Tower, Exmouth and hoisting a Bell between 20 cwt. and 25 cwt. from the bottom of the Tower to the Bell chamber where it will be hung and hanging the Bell with all new fittings complete (not including clapper) fit for ringing will be Thirty Two Pounds, Ten Shillings (£32.10.0).

The cost of providing, making and fixing a cast iron frame and hoisting and hanging a Bell the same as stated in the above estimate will be Thirty Eight Pounds (£38.0.0).

The above estimates do not include doing anything to the clock, clockwires or hammers as this is a clockmakers work, neither do they include shifting the steps and repairing them. I should put the two pillars 10x6 for the oak frame and for the iron frame across the whole width of the tower, the iron frame would be bolted down to these pillars

Harry Stokes.

H.S. jr.

Greenhouse at Manor House. 26ford

Dec. 15. 1906

To Mr. Wm. Summerfield.

Dear Sir.

The cost of putting on <sup>glass</sup> a double  
double roof, the size of building to be 16'-0" x 12'-0" in  
clear all carried out same as named in my estimate  
of Oct. 16. will be Seventeen Pounds (£17-0-0)

Yours truly

Harry Stokes

H.S. jr.



December 5<sup>th</sup> 06

To

Rev<sup>d</sup> W<sup>r</sup> Lemon  
Poughill Vicarage  
W<sup>r</sup> Bude

Rev<sup>d</sup> Sir

A treble bell to match your peal of five (provided they were in tune, one with the other) would weigh about  $4\frac{1}{4}$  cwt, exclusive of Clapper, & according to the sketch, & sizes you have sent me, it would not want to be put up over the others, but would go alongside of present tenor, by putting a cast iron side of framing against wall, & this would be far the best plan, far better than putting it up over, your figures are  $29\frac{1}{2}$ " from side of tenor framing to wall, & the bell would be about  $26\frac{1}{2}$ ", so would just give room, & 1" clearance for bell, could not put oak side there. The cost of a new treble bell & clapper, bell to weigh about  $4\frac{1}{4}$  cwt, provide & fix a cast iron side & end, & hang bell with all new fittings complete left fit for ringing, would be about £58-15-0. If bell did not weigh  $4\frac{1}{4}$  cwt, it would be deducted at rate of £8-8-0 per cwt, & if over that weight, it would be charged at same rate. In the above figures I have not included for my going down & taking the measures I should want, that would be £1-1-0 more.

I remain Rev<sup>d</sup> Sir

Yr obed<sup>t</sup> servant  
Harry Stokes

H.S.

Dec 15<sup>th</sup> 1906

Little Torrington Rope Works

To

Mr W Broad

Dear Sir

The cost of 5 turned hoses with holes  
in them for rope to work in filled up with band & clip  
will be 6/- each. The 5 - £1.10.0 you to pay the  
carriage of them from here to Little Torrington you  
must please let me know about this by return so that  
I may know what to do

yours truly  
Harry Stokes

Churchill Church Bells.

Dec. 18. 1906

To Messrs. F. Merrick & Son.

Builders & Contractors, Glastonbury.

Dear Sirs,

There are no timbers in the present old Bell frame that I should recommend to be used again in making a frame for six Bells, some of the old framework is not stout enough and also not long enough, there are 2 beams in the tower carrying the top bells which could remain but they would have to be shifted and another new one put in to help carry the top frame. The beams and floor under the lower frame appear to be alright, none of the fittings are fit to be used again, I therefore have made up my estimate for a new job. All the old framing & woodwork after it was taken out could be sold by the Vicar & Churchwardens but it is not worth a great deal. The canons on the tenor Bell are very high and I would recommend that they be taken off the same as the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Bells are now. The tenor Bell can be made to ring much easier by taking off the canons. I enclose a pencil sketch of how I propose to make the frames, it is rather a difficult job to get the ropes away when the Bells are hung in two tiers and when they are rung close under the Bells.

I will undertake to take down the 3<sup>rd</sup> bell which is cracked and send her to the Foundry (London) and have her recast pay carriage of her to and from and hoist her again in

her place in the new frame in the Tower.  
I will also undertake to lower down the  
other 4 Bells and put them in some convenient  
place, take out the old fittings & frames, and  
provide, make and fix an English oak frames  
for six Bells, 3 to be hung under and 3 up  
over, the frames to be bolted together with  
about  $\frac{3}{4}$ " and  $\frac{7}{8}$ " bolts, all the ~~the~~ joints  
of frames to be secured with stout strap  
plates and angle plates, the sizes of scantling  
to be same as marked on sketch, provide and  
fix one more oak beam 12x9 to help carry the  
top Bells and hoist the Bells into their places  
in the new frame and hang them with all  
new fittings complete viz: - Wheels, stocks,  
stays rollers, pulleys, steel gudgeons, and  
gunmetal bearings, the steel gudgeons to be  
fitted into iron bed plates, clip bolted to the  
stocks and the bearings fitted into iron carriages  
screwed down to frame and fitted with iron  
hinged covers and thumb screws all new ironwork  
to hang bells with, put clapper in proper order  
use the same set of ropes again, repair and refix  
chiming hammer and leave them in proper  
working order, take off canons from tenor bell  
and drill holes through her head for bolts to go  
through to fasten on stock, paint all the ironwork,  
stocks, and felloeing part of wheels 3 coats of  
paint, pay carriage of all my materials and  
travelling expenses for my men and complete  
the work in a satisfactory and workmanlike  
manner for the sum of £158. 15. 0

All masons work to be provided that would be  
wanted to be done, all the old wood to be the  
property of the Vicar & Churchwardens and all

the old iron, bearings and metal to be mine.

The cost of a new Treble Bell rclapper, the bell to weigh about 6 cwt. hung all complete in the Tower fit for ringing will be about Sixty Three Pounds, Five Shillings (£63.5.0) if done the same time as the other work.

If the Bell did not weigh 6 cwt. it would be deducted at the rate of £8.8.0 per cwt but if over that weight it would be charged at the same rate. any inscription on recast Bell or new Bell would be 4<sup>0</sup> per letter.

Dec-21<sup>st</sup>-7906

Hawbridge Muffles

To

Rev R Newman

Rev Sir

I can supply you with  
a set of Muffles they are 8/6 each please let  
me know by return if I shall send them.

H Stokes

# Stoke Canon Bells.

January 11, 1907

To. A. O. Sillifant Esq.  
Culm Leigh.  
Stoke Canon.

Sir,

I have been and examined the above Bells and the frame and beams and they are not in very good going order, when the Bells are ringing the frame on which they are hung shifts about a bit especially on the side against wall where the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> hang, this side wants to be keyed up under the beams and a couple of long bolts put down through frame into the beam under, there could also be about 8 or 9 more bolts (10 or 11 in all) put into the frame and through into the beams where possible and strain the frame well up together, this would stiffen the frame and make it more rigid, the stocks on all the Bells were put in too long and too thick when the bells were rehung last time, especially the 4 largest, the stocks have not got room enough end ways to allow the Bells to work about properly when ringing, these 4 Bells also ought to have been quarter turned when the Bells were last rehung because the Bells are badly worn where the Clappers have been striking so many years and they are very liable to become cracked when they are worn so thin, the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> have been striking on one place since 1691, 4<sup>th</sup> since 1649, and the tenors since 1724, the clappers of the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> are alright but the 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> want

reworking and a new one is wanted to the 5<sup>th</sup>, there are new pins wanted to be put to the pulleys under the wheels and six galvanized rings put on the floor in the chamber under the Bells.

What I would propose to do is to put 10 or 11 long  $\frac{3}{4}$  bolts down through frame and to put new stocks to the 4 largest Bells and new gudgeons and bearings to all 6, use the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> stocks again and what ironwork I could and make good what was wanted, all new would be put to the 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, and 6<sup>th</sup>, quarter turn the 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, and 6<sup>th</sup>, and put new quarter staples in them and provide one new clapper and rework the 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, & 6<sup>th</sup>, clappers and properly hang them in the Bells, see that the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> clappers are alright, put new pulley pins in pulleys under the wheels provide and fix 6 galvanized rings on floor in chamber under the Bells for ropes to work in instead of cutting into the floor, refix the same wheels, stay and sliders and ropes and give the rim or felloeing part of wheels two coats of paint, paint all the stocks and ironwork two coats, leave the chime hammers in proper order and pay carriage of material & travelling expenses. The cost of doing all the aforesaid items and leaving the Bells in proper ringing order will be Thirty Four Pounds, Sixteen Shillings, (£34-16-0). The old ironwork, old wood & bearings to be my property



# Petermarland Church Bells

Jan. 3. 1907.

To Col. R. Moore-Stevens  
Wincoth.  
Torrington.

Sir,

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Bell in the above peal is cracked across the head and its tone is gone and it ought to be recast, this Bell now spoils the peal. The frame which the Bells hang on is shaky when the Bells are ringing and it is also wedged against wall in the South West North West corners which ought not to be, I should propose that about 14 long  $\frac{3}{4}$ " bolts be put down through frame and into the beams under where possible and strain it well up together this would stiffen the frame a good deal and allow the wedges to be taken out from between frame and walls. The 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, & Tenor Bells are worn a good bit at the sound bow where the clappers have been striking so many years, the 3<sup>rd</sup> since 1759. and the 4<sup>th</sup> and tenor are very old Bells, the tenor being a Sancta Maria Bell so that will give you some idea how old they are, when Bells are worn thin at the sound bow they are very liable to become cracked, the 2<sup>nd</sup> which is cracked dates back to 1664. The fittings on the Bells, viz: - Wheels stocks, gudgeons, bearings &c. are got into bad order, the felloeing on the wheels is worn eaten badly and ought to be renewed, the gudgeons & bearings are worn out these want to be renewed they have been in use 41 years, the stocks on the Bells are worn eaten, the ironwork on the Bells is rusted very badly

some of this may be able to be used again but not very much of it, the pulleys under the wheels are all worn out and there are 4 new clappers wanted to 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, & 5<sup>th</sup>, the chiming apparatus is out of repair, new ropes wanted and the hammers want to be repaired and refixed, the holes in the guide for ropes in the bottom of tower are made of iron, this should not be, they ought to be hard wood where the ropes work, I should propose to take the iron bars and rings down and fix up some fresh bars with turned hard wood bosses fixed into them. The rims of wheels, stocks and ironwork I consider would not have gone so bad as they are if they had been painted occasionally, I should say it has never been cleaned and painted since it was put there 41 years ago. It would be possible to put a 6<sup>th</sup> Bell in the tower but it would have to be put up over the present 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> and it would have to be pretty close up to roof. To take the 2<sup>nd</sup> Bell down from the Tower there would have to be a trap door made in the floor in the Tower, the floor that shows from the bottom of tower, as there is no trap door there, there ought to be a permanent one made there.

I will undertake to take down the 2<sup>nd</sup> Bell, which is cracked, from the tower and have her resact. You to have a trap door made in the floor showing down in church large enough to let her down and up, pay railway carriage of her to the Foundry, London and back again, put in about 14 long 3/4 bolts down through frame and strain the frame well up together, take off the wheels, stocks, ironwork, & gudgeons & bearings from the Bells, provide and fix on new hoops and shrouding

to the present 5 wheels, provide and fix 5 new stocks and 5 new pair of steel gudgeons and gunmetal bearings to the Bells, new ironwork where required to the 5 Bells, quarter turn the 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and Tenor Bells and put new quarter staples in them so that the clappers shall strike opposite to what they do now, provide 4 new clappers and properly hang them in the Bells, provide and fix 5 new ground pulleys and 5 new metal rings on floor in chamber under the Bells for the ropes to work in, take down the iron bar from bottom of Tower with the iron rings which ropes work through and put up new bar with turned hard wood boxes fixed in them, repair the same stair slides to the Bells, repair and put the present chiming apparatus in proper order, paint all the following part of wheels, stocks & ironwork 3 coats of paint, pay all carriage of my material and all travelling expenses for my men from here to Torrington Station (you to do all the carting of men, materials and tools to and from the Station) and I will complete the work in a workmanlike & satisfactory manner for the sum of Sixty Four Pounds, Sixteen Shillings. (£64.16.0). The old ironwork & bearings to be my property. If it was found necessary to have a new set of Bellropes I will supply them for 11/9<sup>d</sup> per rope. The canon head is broken off and gone from the 2<sup>nd</sup> Bell and what metal is added to her in recasting to make her <sup>the proper</sup> ~~her present~~ weight would be charged as an extra at £8.17.4 per cwt. If you wish it I would send you an estimate for a 6<sup>th</sup> Bell, new Bells are at present £8.17.4 per cwt.

## Clyst Hydon Bells.

Jan. 3. 1907.

To Rev. C. Sherwin.

Rev. Sir.

The cost of making & fixing 6 shutles in Clyst Hydon ringing chamber. The shutles to be brought from floor in bellchamber through the present ringing chamber down through the ceiling above the gallery where it is now proposed to ring the Bells, put 6 metal rings on floor of present ringing <sup>chamber</sup> and turned hard wood blocks with holes in them to be fixed under the ends of shutles for ropes to work in, provide six new Bell ropes everything fixed all complete will be Eight Pounds. Five Shillings (£8.5.0).

You to have made good any plastering that may be required in the ceilings

Harry Stokes.

# Coryton Church Bells.

January 4. 1907.

To Rev. H. J. Fowler,  
Rev. Sir.

I beg to inform you that a larger and a smaller Bell cannot be added to your 3 Bells without recasting all 3, your present 2 small Bells are more than a note apart whereas they would only have to be a semitone, and they could not possibly be tuned to that extent as the Bells are exceptionally thin. It would be a great improvement to recast all 3 and put a larger tenor Bell about 7 cwt. and a treble  $3\frac{1}{2}$  cwt. they could be put in the tower, it would be a peal of this description

1 <sup>st</sup>	diameter about	2.1 $\frac{1}{2}$	Note F.	about	3 $\frac{1}{2}$ cwt.
2 <sup>nd</sup>	.. ..	2.3	.. E <sup>b</sup>	..	4 $\frac{1}{4}$ ..
3 <sup>rd</sup>	.. ..	2.4 $\frac{1}{4}$	.. D	..	4 $\frac{3}{4}$ ..
4 <sup>th</sup>	.. ..	2.6 $\frac{1}{4}$	.. C	..	5 $\frac{1}{2}$ ..
5 <sup>th</sup>	.. ..	2.9	.. B <sup>b</sup>	..	7 ..
					Total. <u>25</u> . cwt.

this would make a pretty little peal of 5 ~~rather~~ nearly as heavy as the Lew Trenchard 5 back Bells, the Lew Trenchard tenor is I calculate about 7 $\frac{1}{2}$  cwt. The cost of the above, recast the 3 add a larger tenor and a treble, new beams, floor, frame for 5 everything all complete would be about £255.

In case you do not do the above I shall strongly recommend you to recast the old tenor and send the other two up with her to the Foundry to be tuned, the two old Bells will then be put in tune with the 2 new ones and the recast tenor, you must please understand that new Bells are now £8.17.4 per cwt.

When I sent you my estimate in August last it was £7.14.0 per cwt. so now there will have to be added to my estimate £1.3.4 per cwt. more for the 2 new Bells which will make a difference of about £7.17.6 to be added to my estimate of August 15. 1906 for the 2 new Bells.

The work will now cost you as per estimate of August 15. 1906.

Frame for 5 & re-hanging 3 Bells	£ 86. 0. 0
2 new Bells	74. 18. 6
recast tenor	19. 18. 0
sending 2 old Bells to London & tuning	4. 15. 0
an addition of £1.3.4 per cwt. to two new bells	7. 17. 6

£193.9.0

The old Bell which you speak about weighing about 2<sup>cwt.</sup> could be utilized, if it is good metal it is worth about £6.5.0 per cwt.

Please let me hear from you again about these matters.

Harry Stokes

re Northmolton Church Bells.

January 10. 1907

To the Rev. J. G. Clunn.

The Vicarage  
Northmolton.

Rev. Sir.

I have been as you already know & examined the beams, frame & fittings of your Church Bells, & I find that some of it is in a very unsatisfactory condition. The ends of some of the beams underneath the frame & floor, & which carries the whole thing, are entirely rotten off, & almost clear of the walls which they rest on, two of them especially on South west corner, are gone very bad, this is the cause of the frame giving down & vibrating so much, when the bells are ringing, & makes the bells rather hard to ring. I should say these beams were put in the Tower, when the original peal of 5 were there before they were cast into 6. in 1784. The frame is got rather shaky, & it has been cut about badly in some places especially under tenor to <sup>room for her to swing round</sup> get, the long bolts now in the frame could be used again. Some of the fittings on the bells are worn out, especially the gudgeons & bearings, these were put there in 1865, when bells were partly rehung, & two pairs were put there 16 years ago, when tenor bell was recast, the stocks on the 1<sup>st</sup> & tenor, also the ironwork on them are alright, & can be used again but the others want to be renewed, the wheels have been there a good number of years & are fairly good, but they are old sizes, the pullies under wheels

are worn out & must be renewed. There is only one thing that I can recommend & that is to lower down the bells, & take out the old fittings, frame, floor, & beams, & put it all in new, using what bolts, ironwork stocks &c. would do again. There is nothing in the way of repairing, that is any good because the bells would not go any better than now, & there has been repairs done to them several times.

I will undertake to lower down the six bells, & put them in some convenient place, take out the old fittings, frame, floor & beams, from the tower, & provide & fix five English oak beams two  $14 \times 15$  & three  $14 \times 10$ , provide & lie on the beams a good deal floor  $2\frac{1}{2}$  thick well nailed to beams & provide make and fix an English oak frame for the six Bells the sides of scantling for the frame to be same as marked on plan enclosed, the frame to be bolted together with about 47 long  $\frac{3}{4}$ ,  $\frac{7}{8}$  and 1" bolts using the bolts again that are now in the old frame the bolts where convenient to go down through into the main beams, the top joints of frame to be secured with wrought iron angle plates and bolted to the frame, and the bottom joints to be secured with stout strap plates. I will also hoist the Bells again into their places in the new frame and hang them with fittings as follows, viz: - New wheels, 4 new stocks, part new stays and sliders, all new pullies, new gudgeons and bearings using 3 pair of gudgeons plates and 3 pair of bearing ~~plates~~ carriages again fitting



new gudgeons and new bearings into the plates and carriages, use what iron work can again and making good what new is wanted, put the clappers in proper order and reeve the first five, provide a new set of best made bell ropes, refix the present trunks that are now in clock room and make good what is wanted to them provide 6 metal rings and fix them under the trunks on clock chamber floor for ropes to work in, paint all the ironwork, stocks, and felloeing part of wheels 3 coats of paint pay carriage of all my material from here to Northmolton and all travelling expenses for my men and complete the work in a workmanlike and satisfactory manner and to the satisfaction of anyone you may like to appoint to inspect it (anyone that knows anything about Church Bell work) for the sum of One Hundred and Sixty Four Pounds,

Twelve Shillings (£164.12.0).

You to have the clock seen too and have done any masons work that may be wanted, the old ironwork and bearings to be my property and the old wood to be yours.

There is plenty of room in the tower for eight Bells and it would be a very good thing while you were putting in a new frame to have it made and fixed for 8 Bells.

I would give you a price if you wish it for making the frame for eight instead of six Bells.

Harry Stokes.

Elford Manor House

Jan. 19. 1907

To Mr. Wm. Summerfield,

Dear Sir

I will make and fix 2 lengths of flower staging one on each side and one piece across end of greenhouse at Elford Manor House consisting of 10 legs, top 1.6" wide, and 5, 2x1 deal bars and painted 2 coats of white paint for the sum of £2.2.0.

I will also make and fix 2 hanging shelves the shelves to be 7" wide and suspended from roof with 4 iron brackets to each shelf and painted 2 coats of white paint for the sum of 17/6

H. Stokes.

Oakhayes Wardrobe

Jan. 19. 1907.

To Mrs. Ferrier-Kerr.

Madam.

I will clean off and paint  
two coats of white paint and one coat  
of white enamel, the wardrobe for  
the sum of 12/6

Harry Stokes,  
of A.S. Co.

W. A. Andrews

Jan<sup>ry</sup> 23<sup>rd</sup> 1907

Builder & C

Boston Durham

Sherborne

Dear Sir

I have no sample Rope by me don't  
keep sample ropes, and I have just sent away  
the last 6 I had in stock because I do not make  
them, my price is 11/- per rope net, up to 60 ft -  
and 1/- extra for every 10 feet over that length  
you to pay the carriage of them they are first-  
class ropes some of the best that are made  
I supply hundreds of them during a year  
you won't make much mistake if you have  
4 of them weight of Tarwe with sides  
H. S. / 1000

# Newton S. Cyres Church Bells

January 22<sup>nd</sup> 1907

To the Rev. J. A. Welsh Collins.

Rev. Sir.

I have been and examined the peal of five Bells in your Church Tower & I then told you that it was all got into a very bad state and past repairing and that nothing could be done only to clear it all out and put it all in new, except the Bells, which I consider is a very good peal and they would by adding another Bell to them, a treble, make a capital peal of six. There could be another Bell added by putting it up over the others but to do this the new work would have to be lowered down about eight or nine inches lower than the old which would not be much trouble, a sixth Bell would then go up over the others very well. The Bells themselves are alright and sound but in rechanging they want quarter turning so that the clappers shall strike opposite to what they do now because the clappers have struck on one place since 1733 and have worn the Bells and they are very liable to become cracked when they are worn thin at the sound bow. The Bells are also what we call hung backward that is they run around against the sun and you find only a very few peals hung in this way, in rechanging they would be put around the other way which you can see by the plan.

I will undertake to lower down the five Bells and put them in some convenient place, take out the old fittings, frame, floor and beams from the tower, and provide and fix six new English

oak beams two to be 10 x 8 fixed one on south side running from east to west and one on north side running from east to west, these two beams will help take the ends of the other four beams which will be fixed running from north to south as there is very little set off in the tower for them to rest on, the sizes of the other 4 beams will be two 11 x 9 and two 11 x 10 provide and lie on the four beams an oak floor 1 1/2" thick well nailed to beams and cut off boards enough to form a trap hole so that they can be taken out to admit of the Tenor Bell being taken up and down. I will also provide, make and fix an English oak frame for the five Bells, the frame to be made and fixed clear from the tower walls all around and to be bolted together with about 3" long 3/4" and 7/8" bolts and bolts where convenient to go down through into main beams, all the joints of frame to be secured with stout strap plates and sizes of scantling for frame to be same as marked on plan enclosed. I will also undertake to hoist the Bells again into their places in the new frame and hang them with all new fittings complete viz: - wheels, stocks, stays slides, pulleys, gudgeons & bearings, the gudgeons fitted into iron bed plates and clip bolted to the stocks and the bearings fitted into iron carriages screwed down to frame and fitted with iron hinged covers and thumb screws, all new ironwork to hang the bells with, quarter turn the five Bells and put new quarter staples in them, put the clappers in proper order and properly hang them in the Bells, provide a new set of best made bell ropes and properly guide

them away from wheels to ringing chamber with all necessary shutles, thimbles & re fix the present chiming apparatus and leave it in proper order, paint all the ironwork, stocks & felloeing part of wheels 3 coats of paint, pay all carriage of my material and all travelling expenses for my men and complete the work in a workmanlike and satisfactory manner and to the satisfaction of anyone you may like to appoint to inspect the work or try the go of the Bells, anyone that knows anything about Church Bell work for the sum of

£107.14.0

One Hundred and Seven Pounds, Fourteen Shillings. All the old ironwork and materials I take out to be my property and you to have any masons work done that may be wanted in levelling up setoffs and taking out holes & stopping in walls, and also have the clock seen too!

If you provide all the oak that is required for the work sawn to the sizes and lengths required and deliver the beams and floor at the tower and the scantling for frame delivered here to Woodbury and fetched again I will allow the sum of £29.0.0 for it out of my estimate.

If you would like to have the frame made & fixed for a sixth Bell same as shown on plan I will make and fix it for the sum of Ten Pounds, Fifteen Shillings and if you provide the oak scantling for it cut to sizes and lengths required and deliver it here to Woodbury and fetch it again I will allow the sum of £5.10.0 for it out from the £10.15.0

£10.15.0

A sixth Bell weighing  $5\frac{1}{2}$  cwt. hung all complete in your tower and left fit for ringing will cost ~~Fifty~~ Fifty Five Pounds,

£ 55-15/-

Fifteen Shillings if supplied and hung the same time as the other work was done. New Bells are now £ 8-17-4 per cwt., the actual weight would be charged if over  $5\frac{1}{2}$  cwt. it would be charged for at £ 8-17-4 per cwt. if under deducted at the same rate.

Harry Stokes

H.S.P.



Buckland Monachorum

February 5. 1907

To the Vicar & Churchwardens  
of Buckland Monachorum.  
Gentlemen.

The cost of unhooking the Tenor Bell and taking off stock from her taking off the remaining canons that are not broken off and drilling six holes through her crown and fitting a block in stock to fill out that which was cut away for canons to fit in and bolting stock on the Bell with six  $\frac{7}{8}$ " bolts putting an iron band  $2\frac{1}{4} \times \frac{1}{2}$ " around Bell repair the Wheel, mens time, railway, fares &c will be Six Pounds, Seventeen Shillings and Sixpence (£6.17.6).

The old canons to be mine for my time and fares going to examine the Bell, if not I should make a charge for my time &c.

Harry Stokes

Wilton Paine

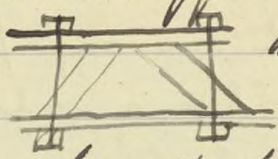
February 11<sup>th</sup> 1904

To

Rev. A. Hillyard

Rev. S. L.

Your deal of 6 bells want-over

hauling, some of them knocks in the frame when ringing especially the Tenor, she is also end bound, the clappers want seeing too and some of the clapper braces want renewing, the pulleys under the wheels the pins which they run on, want seeing too, all the bells want lifting out of their places, and those that are end bound want easing, the frame when bells are ringing rocks about a bit. I would suggest that about 12 - long  $\frac{3}{4}$  bolts be put down thro' it - thro' frame well up together this would stiffen  and screw it a great deal. I will undertake to put in about 12 - long  $\frac{3}{4}$  bolts down thro' the frame, overhaul all the bells, and lift them out from their bearings, and ease those that are end bound and striking in the frame and see that bells are level, put new clapper brace to 2<sup>nd</sup> and see that the others are alright, see to the pulley pins and make good what is wanted clean off the ironwork <sup>from</sup> bells and give it 2 coats paint, and leave bells in good ringing order for the sum of £7 " 7 " 0

yours Obediently  
Harry Stokes

# Broadhempston Church Bells.

February 14. 1907.

To the Rev. F. B. Daldie,

The Vicarage.

Broadhempston.

Rev. Sir.

I have been as you already know and examined the peal of six Bells and their fittings in your Church Tower and I found that some of it is got into rather bad order especially some of the fittings and some parts of the frame, the sills of the frame are got bad around the walls and got decayed, also one of the beams is badly decayed, some parts of the frame are built into the walls and this of course keeps the frame pretty rigid. The top Bell (No. 1) when it was put there was not put on a framework suiting it, the framework which it is hung on shifts about a good deal when the Bell is rung up and this makes the Bell hard and difficult to ring. I would suggest that you should not throw away any money in repairing and patching up again because it will not be a satisfactory job and the money that it would cost to patch and repair it would do a good bit towards the new work although I could patch it up but it would not give satisfaction to you or either to the Bellhanger that did the work, because in a very few years it would want doing again and a new frame wanted, the Bells also run the reverse way what is termed backward and you find but very few peals hung in this way and it makes it very

awkward for anyone used to ring<sup>ing</sup> Bells being the proper way to ring this peal. All the five back Bells really ought to be quarter turned that is if you were going to make a complete job of it but if you are only going to repair it I could do with quarter turning 3 of them the gudgeons and bearings are worn, especially the bearings which are worn very bad, and five of the wheels must be new. I would strongly recommend you to have the whole thing cleared right out now and make a thorough good job of it, it would then be a perfect job, put in new oak beams and oak bed and an iron frame for the six Bells, the under frame can be made and fixed clear of tower walls, and hang the Bells to go around the other way from what they do now, I should put the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> in the under frame and the 3<sup>rd</sup> up over and to carry the 3<sup>rd</sup> Bell I should put in some steel girders two each way of the tower. It would then be a pleasure to ring the Bells.

I am sending you a sketch of the frame, girders &c showing how I propose to hang them, you could not put in an oak frame without fixing some of it in the walls and cutting it about again same as the old one is.

I will undertake to lower down the Bells from the tower and put them in some convenient place, take out the old fittings, frame, floor and beams from the tower and provide and fix four oak beams, two to be 12x9 and two to be 12x8, provide, make and fix on the beam an oak bed framed to take the iron frame,

and cut in between the oak bed and nail to the beams a good 2" deal floor, provide, make and fix an iron frame for the six Bells, the bottom of iron frame to be bolted down through into oak bed and beams, the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> + 6<sup>th</sup>, to be hung in the bottom frame and the iron frame to be of sufficient strength and substance to carry the Bells and to resist the action of the Bells when ringing, the 3<sup>rd</sup> Bell to be hung in an iron frame fixed up over the others and fixed on four steel girders 8x6 two of these girders will be put in North to South fixed in the walls to carry the two girders and frame the other way. I will also hoist the Bells again into their places in the new frame and hang them with all new fittings complete viz. Wheels, stocks, stays sliders, pullies, steel gudgeons and gunmetal bearings, the steel gudgeons fitted into iron bed plates and clip bolted to the stocks, the bearings to be fitted into iron pedestal carriages bolted down to frame and fitted with iron hinged lubricating covers and thumb screws, all new ironwork to hang the Bells with, quarter turn the 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> + 6<sup>th</sup> Bells and put new reverse staples in them, put the clappers in proper order and properly hang them, provide a new set of best made bell ropes and guide them away from wheels with all necessary shutles, thimbles and patrices do what alteration is required to the iron guide in the bottom of tower and put turned hard-

wood bosses into them with holes for ropes to work in, paint the iron guide frame 3 coats of paint, two before fixing and one after, paint all the ironwork, stocks and jelling part of wheels 3 coats, pay all carriage of materials and all travelling expenses for my men and complete the work in a workmanlike and satisfactory manner, and to the satisfaction of anyone you may like to appoint to inspect the work or try the go of the Bells, anyone that knows anything about Church Bell work for the sum of One Hundred and Thirty Seven Pounds, Sixteen Shillings, (£137.16.0) and all the old material to be my property and you to have any masons work done that may be wanted to be done after the tower was cleared out.

To repair it I would make and fix five wheels, four new stocks, four pairs of gudgeons & bearings, quarter turn the three Bells and put new ironwork and reverse staples in them, put the clappers and stays and sliders right, five new ground pulleys, put four struts to top frame to try to keep it from shifting about, carriage of materials; mens time and railway fares at a cost of Thirty eight Pounds, Seven Shillings, (£38.7.0) but I hope you will not attempt to have the work carried out, the work of repairing.

Harry Stokes.

Aylesbeare Vicarage Gate.

February 14. 1907

To the Rev. G. B. Brutton.

Rev. Sir,

I will make the gate according to your sketch and your specification with the exception of tail piece which I should make in two pieces for the sum of £2.10.0

Yours obediently,

Harry Stokes

P.S.

I will let you know about the wire door for Church

To

February 15<sup>th</sup> - 1904

Rev. G. H. Moscardi  
Hunston Oratory  
Southwold

Rev. Sir

My charge for going to Hunston and Wolland  
and examining the 2 peals of bells will be £1.0.0  
you to send and fetch me from the Station and send  
me back again. If you put the work in my hands  
I should not make any charge.

H. Stokes



# Hawkechurch Bells.

February 20, 1907

To the Rev. H. Marks.

The Rectory.

Hawkechurch.

Rev. Sir.

It is a great pity that you should spend any money in repairs about your Tenor and the other Bells, because the frame and fittings are not worth spending any money on. I should strongly recommend you to clear the place out and put in new beams under, if they are wanted, and a new floor and frame for six Bells (there is plenty of room for six Bells and you could add a 6<sup>th</sup> Bell at any time if you wished to do so.) and rehang the five Bells with all new fittings, it would then be a perfect job, but whatever you spend on it now would be only temporary because you would have to put in a new frame before long, but if you wish to repair the Tenor, I will put a new stock new gudgeons and bearings, ironwork, stay and slider, ground pulley and new box to the clapper, put four long bolts down through the frame two on each side of the Tenor, provide and fix five new bell ropes, make and fix four new ground pulleys to the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup>, all the pulleys also the Tenor one to be made so that the palleis of ropes will work up through them, put five short shutes through the floor and ceiling with a turned wood patrice with hole in it fixed up under each of them

for ropes to work ~~in~~ up through, pay carriage of material and travelling expenses for my men for the sum of Fifteen Pounds Eighteen Shillings (£15.18.0). I use the same wheel again for the tenor and the above sum includes my expenses going to examine the Bells. It is a pity the Organ should have been placed back under the tower, that is where the ringer ought to ring the Bells from, and there is now no way of getting anything up and down the tower, to take anything up in the tower one of the stone windows up where the Bells are would have to be taken out.

#### Estimate for new work.

I will undertake to lower down the five Bells to next chamber take out the old fittings, frame and floor and provide and lie on the beams a good deal floor 2" thick, and provide, make and fix in the tower an English Oak frame for five Bells, the frame to be made and bolted together same as shown on plan enclosed, and the frame to be bolted together with about 43 long  $\frac{3}{4}$ " bolts, the bolts to go down through where convenient into the main beams, all the joints to be secured with stout strap plates, the sizes of scantling for frame to be same as marked on plan. I will also undertake to hoist the Bells again into their places in the new frame and hang them with all new fittings complete viz:— wheels, stocks, stays & slides pulleys, steel gudgeons and gunmetal bearings, the steel gudgeons fitted into iron

bed plates and clips bolted to the stocks, and the bearings fitted into iron carriages screwed down to frame, and fitted with iron hinged covers and thumb screws, all new ironwork to hang the Bells with, provide one new clapper and put the other four in proper order and properly hang all the clappers in the Bells, provide a new set of best made Bell ropes and properly guide them away from wheels to ringing chamber with all necessary shuttles and patrices, paint all the stocks, ironwork, and felloeing part of wheels 3 coats of paint, pay all carriage of material and all travelling expenses for my men and complete the work in a workmanlike and satisfactory manner for the sum of One Hundred and One Pounds, Twelve Shillings and Sixpence (£101.12.6). all the old ironwork and bearings to be my property and the old wood to be yours, you to have any masons work done that may be required, and have one of the windows taken out in Bellchamber to be able to let old material down and take up new, and to put it in again when the work was completed, and you to have the clock seen to.

If it was found on clearing out old materials that new main beams were wanted to be put in, I would take down the match board ceiling and take out the old beams, and provide and fix five new beams, two to be 12x8 and three 12x9 and fix the match board ceiling up to the new beams making good any match board that would be required for the sum of Thirteen Pounds, Fifteen Shillings and Sixpence. (£13.15.6).

Harry Stokes.

Broadhempston Bells

February 20. 1907.

To the Rev. F. G. Waldie.

The Vicarage

Broadhempston.

Rev. Sir,

I can rehang the Bells in an oak frame with all new fittings, the fittings to be the same as mentioned in my estimate of Feb. 14<sup>th</sup> for an iron frame, with the exception that the bearings would not be pedestal ones but bearings fitted into iron carriages screwed down to frame and fitted with iron hinged covers and thumb screws for the sum of One Hundred and Eighteen Pounds Five Shillings (£118.5.0.).

I remain Rev. Sir

Yours r.

Harry Stokes.

Feb 23<sup>rd</sup>

All the old ~~materials~~<sup>work</sup> to belong to Vicar & Churchwardens.

February 23<sup>rd</sup> 1907

To

Mr. G. Hart  
Blyth - St. George.

Dear Sir

The cost of the Clappan Slays will be 5/-  
each. I should want the rise of all the bells  
across the mouth.

yours truly  
Harry Stokes

February 26/07.

To

Rev. F. A. Sanders.  
Woodleigh Rectory,  
Loddiswell.

Rev. Sir:

I have received a letter from Mr. Adams, saying that you wished him to ask me, whether any measurements were taken for the stays & guides to carry the bell ropes, when the old bell was removed, & which you say was necessary, & was included in the estimate I gave you & him; this is not correct, I did not include the stay guides for ropes, which ought to be fixed in bottom of Tower, because there was none to the old three bells, & they were not included in either of my estimates to you, or to Mr. Adams. The measurements were taken when old bell was removed, but they will not be fixed without an order from yourself or Mr. Adams.

I was instructed to send this reply to you.

I remain Rev. Sir  
Yrs Obediently  
H. Stokes

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Feb 28<sup>th</sup> 1907

Broadkempstone Mills

To

Rev. H. G. Waldie

Rev. Sir

I thank you for your letter received this morning and I will accept the Church Councils offer and will carry out the work and do what measures that would be necessary to be done for the sum of £118.5.0 and all the old materials to belong to me. I will send you on an amended specification in a few days.

I remain Rev. Sir

Your Obedt. Servant  
Harry Stokes

# Woodleigh Guides

March 1. 1907

To the Rev. F. A. Sanders.

Rev. Sir.

The cost of the guide stays for the Bell Ropes fixed all complete would be £2.5.0. I enclose you a sketch of them showing how they would be fixed, they would be fixed up about 13 feet or thereabout from the floor of Belfry and they would I know be highly appreciated by the Ringers who would have to ring the Bells, because they would ring the Bells with a great deal more comfort

Harry Stokes



# Pinhoe Bells

March 2. 1907

To the Rev. O. Backridge  
Rev. Sir.

The cost of lifting out the Bells that are end bound from their places and easing them and putting them back again, putting a new pin and leather stirrup in the 5<sup>th</sup> clapper, renewing the oak blocks and putting galvanised rings in them that the ropes work in in the chamber under the Bells overhaul all the ironwork on the Bells and frame and test the nuts and leave the Bells in good ringing order will be £2.17.6.

To provide 5 new Bell ropes and fix them on will be £2.17.6 if done the same time as the other work.

To clean off all the ironwork on Bells and frame and all the woodwork that has been previously painted and paint it 2 coats will be 18/- if done same time as the other work.

# Ashwater Bells.

March 4. 1907

Rev. G. D. Melhuish,  
The Rectory  
Ashwater.

Rev. Sir.

I have already told you that nothing can be done in the way of repairing the frame and fittings of your five Bells and to make a thorough good job of them all the old fittings and frame must be taken out and all put in new. A sixth Bell (a new Treble) can be added to the peal by lowering down the set of 5 on walls about 1 foot there will then be room to put a Bell up over and it would be best to do this at the same time as the other work was being done, because the new sixth Bell would not go up over, but the present 3<sup>rd</sup> which would then be the 4<sup>th</sup> would have to go up over so as to be able to get the ropes of the Bells around in their proper places. I should recommend an oak frame because if an iron frame was put in you would never be able to paint it around by the walls because it would be out close to them and iron frames ought to be painted occasionally, and to carry the top Bell two steel girders would have to be put in the walls above the under frame; the oak frame will be built up on the under frame as shown on plan. In taking down the Bells and taking out the old material the clock would have to be shifted on one side or taken down while the work was in hand because there would be no room to pass things up and down where the clock is now in position, this would be a

clockman's job.

I will undertake to take off the old fittings from the Bells and lower down the Bells and put them in some convenient place take out the old frame floor and beams and provide and fix 4 oak beams, two 10x9 and two 10x8, provide and lie on the beams an oak floor 1½" thick well nailed to beams; provide, make and fix an oak frame for the five Bells, the sizes of scantling for frame to be the same as marked on plan, and the frame to be bolted together with about 30 long ¾ bolts and the bolts where convenient to go down through main beams, all the joints of frame to be secured with stout strap plates. I will also undertake to hoist the Bells into their places again in the new frame and hang them with all new fittings complete viz. - wheels, stocks, stay sliders, pulleys, steel gudgeons and gunmetal bearings, the steel gudgeons fitted into iron bed plates clip bolted to the stocks and the bearings fitted into iron carriages screwed down to frame and fitted with iron hinged covers and thumb screws, all new ironwork to hang the Bells with, quarter turn all the five Bells so that the clappers shall strike opposite to what they do now, provide five new clappers for the Bells and properly hang them in the Bells provide five new Bell ropes and properly guide them away from the wheels with all necessary thimbles and patrices, repair

and repair the present five shutles now in the tower, pay all carriage of my material and all labour and all travelling expenses for my men, paint all the ironwork and stocks and felloeing part of wheels 3 coats of paint and complete the work in a satisfactory and workmanlike manner for the sum of Ninety one Pounds, Eight Shillings. (£91.8.0). You to have the clock seen too and to have all masonry done that would be required and all the old material to be my property. The 3<sup>rd</sup> Bell would be hung with bolts again same as now.

If you provide the oak beams and the oak floor cut to the rises required and delivered to the tower I will allow the sum of £8.0.0 for it out of the £91.8.0. If you provide the beams and floor it ought to be cut out at once and stacked in some draughtly place with raps between it.

The cost of a new sixth Bell (a treble) to add to your present five the Bell to weigh about  $3\frac{3}{4}$  cwt. provide a new clapper for her and carriage from foundry London, will be Thirty Four Pounds, Nineteen Shillings (£34.19.0). any inscription put on bell would be 4<sup>s</sup> per letter extra. If the Bell weighed over  $3\frac{3}{4}$  cwt. it would be charged at the rate of £8.17.4. per cwt. and if it did not weigh  $3\frac{3}{4}$  cwt. it would be deducted at the same rate. The cost of providing, making and fixing the oak frame to carry the top Bell, the frame to be made and fixed and bolted the same as shown on plan and hanging the Bell with

16. 10  
1. 3  
1. 3  
19. 4

all new fittings complete and left fit for ringing will be Sixteen Pounds, Eighteen Shillings and Sixpence (£16.18.6.).

The cost of lowering the Bells and clearing out the tower, providing and fixing four new beams and an 15' oak floor, making and fixing an oak bed on the beams to take iron framing, providing making and fixing an iron frame for the ~~five~~ Bells with ~~fittings~~ the iron frame to be bolted down to the oak bed and beams and hanging the five Bells with fittings the same as described in estimate for oak frame will be One Hundred and Nine Pounds, Thirteen Shillings (£109.13.0) you to see to the clock and do masonry required, and old materials to be mine. To provide a sixth Bell same as already described will be Thirty Four Pounds, Nineteen Shillings (£34.19.0).

To provide and fix 2 steel girders and an iron frame for the top Bell and hanging the Bell with new fittings as already described will be Twenty One Pounds, Nineteen Shillings (£21.19.0).

Amended estimate  
Brookhempston Bells.

March 6. 1907

Rev. F. G. Waddie.

Rev. Sir.

I will undertake to lower down the Bells from the Tower and put them in some convenient place take out the old fittings, frame, floor and beams from the Tower and provide and fix four oak beams two to be 12x9 and two 12x8 provide and lie on the beams well nailed to them a good 2" deal floor and provide, make and fix in the tower an oak frame for the six Bells, the pieces of scantling for the frame to be the same as shown on plan, and the frame to be bolted together with about 3/4 long 3/4 bolts, the bolts where convenient to go down through into main beams, all the joints of frame to be secured with stout strap plates, the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Bells to be hung in under frame and the 3<sup>rd</sup> hung over. I will also hoist the Bells again into their places in the new frame and hang them with all new fittings complete viz:- wheels, stocks, stays rollers, pulleys, steel gudgeons and gunmetal bearings, the steel gudgeons fitted into iron bed plates and clip bolted to the stocks and the bearings fitted into iron carriages screwed down to frame and fitted with iron hinged covers and thumb screws, all new ironwork to hang the Bells with, quarter turn the 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Bells and put new reverse staples in them, put the clappers

in proper order and properly hang them, provide a new set of best made bell ropes and guide them away from wheels with all necessary shutters, thimbles and patrices do what alterations are required to the iron guides in the bottom of tower and put turned hardwood bosses in them with holes for ropes to work in, paint all the ironwork, stocks and felloeing part of wheels 3 coats of paint, do what masonry that would be necessary to the setoffs of walls for levelling in beams, pay carriage of all my materials and all travelling expenses for my men and complete the work in a workman-like and satisfactory manner, and to the satisfaction of anyone you may like to appoint to inspect the work or try the go of the Bells, anyone that knows anything about Church Bell work for the sum of One Hundred and Eighteen Pounds. Five Shillings (£118.5.0) and all the old materials to be my property.

I remain Rev<sup>d</sup> Sir

your Obedient Servant  
Harry Stokes

P.S

Will complete the work by June 15<sup>th</sup> 1917

Knowstone Church Bells.

March 7. 1907

Rev. E. H. Moscardi.

The Vicarage  
Knowstone.

Rev. Sir.

The cost of taking down your tenor Bell which is cracked, from the tower, sending her to the Foundry to be recast adding what metal is wanted to her to allow for waste in recasting (3 lbs. to 1 cwt.) pay carriage of her from Knowstone to the Foundry and back again, hoisting her up into her place again in the tower and hanging her again with same fittings except stock & bell rope which would be new ones doing what is necessary to the ironwork as it would have to be altered a little, pay carriage of my winch ropes to and from Knowstone and travelling expenses for my men will be Fifty Two Pounds (£52.0.0.). You to have the font shifted if it was found necessary and move stone in jamb of door if cannot get out Bell without it. Any inscription put on Bell would be 4<sup>s</sup> per letter.

I will also overhaul the frame and screw up all the bolts also all the ironwork on the Bells fasten the staples that are loose in the Bells, put the 2<sup>nd</sup> clapper right also the 2<sup>nd</sup> chime hammer put new pulley pins in all five pulleys and 3 new leather stirrups to 3 clappers, put five galvanised rings on floor under the Bells to prevent the Bell ropes from cutting into the floor clean off and paint all the stocks and



ironwork of the Bells and frame for  
the sum of Two Pounds. Fifteen  
Shillings (£ 2.15.0), if done the same  
time as the Bell was recast and  
hung again.

# Molland Church Bells.

March 7. 1907.

Rev. G. H. Moscardi

Rev. Sir

The frames and fittings of the four Bells in Molland Church Tower are got into a very dilapidated state and the Bells are dangerous to ring, the floor and beams underneath are also in a bad state and some portions of the beams are badly decayed. The Bells themselves are alright but are worn badly at the sound bow where the clappers have been striking so many years (over 200 years) and in re-hanging them they must be quarter turned so that the clappers shall strike in fresh places. Nothing can be done to the fittings, frame, floor and beams except to take it all out from tower and put it all in new. The Bells as they are now hung go the reverse way and that makes them awkward to ring, they would in re-hanging hang to go around opposite to what they do now. I should advise having the frame made for five Bells there is plenty of room in the tower for them, you could then add a fifth Bell at any time if you wished to do so.

I will undertake to lower down the four Bells and put them in some convenient place take out the old fittings, frame, floor and beams from the tower, provide and fix four oak beams two to be 12x9 and two 12x10, provide and lie on the beams well nailed to them an oak floor 1 1/2" thick, provide, make

and fix in the tower an oak frame for five Bells, the frame to be bolted together with about 32 long  $\frac{3}{4}$ "  $\times$   $\frac{7}{8}$ " bolts, the bolts where convenient to go down through into main beams, the joints in bottom part of frame to be secured with stout strap plates and the joints in top part of frame to be secured with angle plates, the sizes of scantling for frame to be the same as marked on plan sent. I will also undertake to hoist the Bells again into their places in the new frame and hang them with all new fittings complete as follows viz: - Wheels, stocks, stays, sliders, pullies, steel gudgeons and gunmetal bearings, the steel gudgeons fitted into iron bed plates clip bolted to the stocks and the bearings fitted into iron carriages screwed down to frame fitted with iron hinged covers and thumb screws, all new ironwork to hang Bells with, quarter turn the four Bells and put new reverse staples in them, rework the present clappers and properly hang them in the Bells repair and and refix the present four shutters in the chamber under the Bells for the ropes to work in, make what holes are required in floors for letting down old material and taking up new, and make good floors again, paint all the ironwork, stocks and felloeing part of wheels 3 coats of paint pay all carriage of my materials from here to Molland and all travelling expenses for my men and

complete the work in a workmanlike and satisfactory manner for the sum of ~~Ninety Pounds~~. Ninety Two Pounds, Four Shillings (£92.4.0).

You to have the clock sent to and have done any masonry that may be wanted to be done to walls and levelling of setoffs before putting in new work, the old ironwork and bearings to be my property and the old woodwork to be yours.

If there should be a new set of Bell ropes wanted I will supply them at 11/- per rope but the present ropes seem to be alright.

March 20<sup>th</sup> 1907.

To

Rev<sup>d</sup> H. M. Drake.

The Vicarage  
Otterton.

Rev<sup>d</sup> Sir.

To thoroughly overhaul your Church Bells, the following will want to be done, put new pulley pins in ground pulleys, lift out the bells from their bearings, the ones that have bearings loose, & make them firm, & put fresh coach screws in them, ease the gudgeons, that are end bound, put a galvanized ring against frame for treble rope to work in, so as to keep it away from 2<sup>nd</sup> wheel, put a new box to Tenor Clapper, & properly hang the Clapper, test all the ironwork on the bells, & frame, & tighten it all up, clean off all the ironwork & the stocks on the bells & give it two coats of paint, & leave bells in good working order, the cost of doing this will be £4-15-0

I remain Rev<sup>d</sup> Sir

Yr obed: Serv<sup>t</sup>

H Stokes

March 27/07.

re. Holbeton Church Bells.

To

Rev<sup>d</sup> E. S. Powell.

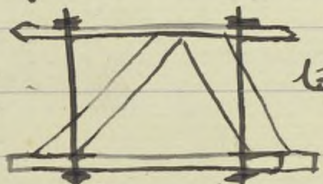
Holbeton Vicarage.

Plymouth.

Rev<sup>d</sup> Sir

I have been as you already know  
& examined the peal of bells in your Church  
Tower, & I found that the fittings on the bells  
had got into a bad condition, the frame  
which carries the bells is a decent one, but  
it requires a little strengthening, & I should  
recommend that 3 stay bars should be  
put into it, one between 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> bells, one  
at the end of 2<sup>nd</sup> & one at the end of tenor.  
There is nothing now to keep the sides of  
frame against walls, where the 1<sup>st</sup> 2<sup>nd</sup>  
& tenor hang, from coming in towards  
the bells; when they are ringing, & this  
naturally draws in towards them, &  
makes the bells hard to ring; if these bars  
are put in the same way, as I showed you  
it would prevent the frame from drawing  
inwards, & would not pinch the ends of  
gudgeons, when the bells were ringing.

I should also recommend to put in about  
12 long  $\frac{3}{4}$  bolts down thro' the frame  
thus



& pull the frame well up  
together, this would help  
stiffen the frame, &  
make it more rigid, the frame on top  
requires 4 bolts to be put thro' it,  
one on each corner to pull it together.

The fittings on the frame, viz:—  
wheels, stocks, ironwork, pulleys, gudgeons  
bearings &c, all want to be taken off from the  
bells & put in new, 3 of the bells the 1<sup>st</sup> 2<sup>nd</sup>  
& 3<sup>rd</sup> are worn very badly at the sound  
bow, where the clappers have been striking  
for so many years (since 1780) & large dents  
are worn in them, these must be quarter  
turned, & new reverse staples put in them  
for clappers to ~~work~~<sup>hang</sup> on, as there is a danger  
of their being cracked when they are worn  
so thin, all the clappers want seeing to, &  
require reboxing & rechanging.

I will undertake to unhang the six bells,  
& take off the old fittings from them, put  
3 stay bars in frame, & about 12 long 3/4 bolts  
down thro' frame as shown, & screw frame  
well up together, put 4-3/4 corner bolts  
in the top frame which carries the 3<sup>rd</sup> bell  
& change the six bells with the following  
new fittings viz:— wheels, stocks, stays & slides  
ground pulleys, steel gudgeons, & gun metal  
bearings, the steel gudgeons fitted into iron  
bed plates, clip bolted to the stocks, & the  
bearings fitted into iron carriages, screwed  
down to frame, & fitted with iron hinged  
covers & thumb screws all new ironwork to  
hang the bells with, quarter turn the 1<sup>st</sup> 2<sup>nd</sup> &  
3<sup>rd</sup> bells, & put new reverse staples in them,  
& properly hang the clappers in them, put  
all the clappers in proper order, & rebox 3  
of them, & properly hang them in bells  
properly guide away the ropes to bottom  
of tower, paint all the ironwork stocks  
& following part of wheels, 3 coats of

paint, pay carriage of material, & travelling expences for my men, & carry out the work in a workmanlike & satisfactory manner for the sum of Fifty six Pounds, sixteen shillings £56/16. and all the old material I take out to be my property. The iron guide in bottom of tower ought to be fixed about 3 ft. or 4 ft. higher, this is a masons job. if it was shifted up when the bells were rehung, it could be done under the Bellhangers instructions,  
P.S.

To get the sound of bells down under better, I would recommend that two wood shutes be put in, & carried up above the bells, with a zinc trumpet mouth top, put in each of them, if you thought of doing this, you could get them made in Hobeton & fixed by your own man the same time as the bells were being rehung.

To tune the bells would cost about  
£ 8 - 0 - 0.



Estimate for ~~the~~ frame  
Iron

April 2<sup>nd</sup> 1907

re East-Allington Bells

To the

Rev. J. J. Mallock  
Rev. L. L.

I have been as you already know and examined the peal of 5 bells in your Church tower and I found that the frame which carries the bells is a very slight one for that weight peal and it is also wedged to the tower walls to keep it steady when the bells are ringing, this ought not to be, the frame ought to be strong enough to be kept clear from the walls and not wedged to it, but if the wedges were removed from the frame now, you would find that the frame would sway about a great deal and that the bells would be difficult to ring. The ends of the 3 original beams running from North to South which are in the walls are decayed and the 2 deal beams which are in the other way were put in some years ago to strengthen the 3 old ones these 2 deal beams would not be wanted to be put in again, 4 of the bells are worn very badly (2<sup>nd</sup> 3<sup>rd</sup> 4<sup>th</sup> & Tenor) where the clappers have been striking so many years since 1723. and must be quarter turned so that the clappers may strike opposite to what they do now, if the bells are not seen to and the clappers reversed the bells are very liable to become cracked where they are worn so thin the clappers are bad and want reworking and one new one is wanted to Tenor. The fittings on the bells are also got badly out of order and want to be renewed. I would recommend to clear the tower right out and put in new frame and fittings. There is room in the tower to put 6 bells all on one level by putting in an iron frame, you would not then want to lower the bells any more than they are now but if you put an oak frame 6 bells could not be put on the level and one would then have to go up over you would then have to lower it all down about 1-3 to get room for the top bell. I should strongly recommend you to put in 4 oak beams, an oak panning bed, and an iron frame for 6 bells all on one level, the sides of tower on south west and north east corner would want to be eased and cleaned down a little bit to bring the tower square up about 3-9 high from floor and to make it 12-2 in the clear on the West side the same as it is on the east side the west side is now 12-1 in the clear, an iron frame can then be put in very well

a plan of which I am sending I can then get over the difficulty about the clock in the ringing chamber and should not want to disturb the case where the pendulum is enclosed only after the casing where the weights are the same as was proposed when I was in the Tower, and a 6<sup>th</sup> man ring of new rope and the ring of old rope which would be the 2<sup>nd</sup> would stand back there very well and the ring of old 2<sup>nd</sup> would stand out of the way of the case of pendulum I should not recommend you to spend any money about the bells in re-hanging them again on the present frame as it would not be a satisfactory job either to you or to a bellman as the frame is a very slight one and is not strong enough or rigid enough to re-hang the bells on again

I will undertake to lower down the 5 bells and put them in some convenient place take out the old fittings, frame, floor and beams from the Tower, provide and fix in the tower 4 oak beams size 12 x 9 provide make and fix an oak framing bed to rest on the beams to take the iron frame, provide make and fix in the tower a cast-iron frame for the 5 bells the frame to be fixed clear of tower walls and to be of sufficient strength and substance to carry 5 bells and to resist the action of the bells when ringing, the iron frame to be bolted down thro the bed into the beams with 3/4 round bolts, provide and cut in and lie in each pit under the Bells a 2" red deal floor nailed to the beams leaving loose boards enough under the tenor Bell to admit of its being taken up through again. I will also undertake to hoist the five Bells again into their places in the new frame and hang them with all new fittings complete viz: - Wheels, stocks, stays & sliders, pulleys, steel gudgeons and gunmetal bearings, the steel gudgeons to be let into iron bed plates, clip bolted to the stock, and the bearings let into iron pedestal carriage fitted with iron hinged covers and thumb screws and bolted down to frame, all new ironwork to hang the Bells with, quarter turn the 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and tenor and put

new quarter staples in them, provide one new clapper for tenor and put the other four in proper order and properly hang them in the Bells, repair the present chiming apparatus and leave it in proper order, properly guide the Bell ropes away from wheels to ringing chamber with all necessary thimbles and patrices paint the iron frame 3 coats of paint two before fixing and one after and paint all the stocks, iron work and felloeing part of wheels 3 coats paint, pay all carriage of my material and all travelling expenses for my men and complete the work in a workmanlike and satisfactory manner and to the satisfaction of anyone you may like to appoint to inspect the work or try the go of the Bells, anyone that knows anything about Church Bell work for the sum of £138.12/-

All the old material I take out to be my property, you to have the clock & weights seen to ~~to~~ and do what is wanted to be done to them and also have done what masons work would be required.

I will undertake to supply you with a new 6<sup>th</sup> Bell (a treble) the Bell to be in tune with the others and to weigh about 5 cwt. provide a clapper for her pay carriage of her from the Foundry, London to East Allington and hoist her into her place in the tower and hang her with all new fittings complete and put chiming hammer to her and leave the Bell fit for ringing for the sum of

Fifty Seven Pounds. Sixteen Shillings  
and Sixpence (£57.16.6), this sum is for  
supplying and hanging the Bell the same  
time as the other work was being done. If the  
Bell weighed over 5 cwt. the extra weight  
would be charged for at the rate of £ 8.17.4 per  
cwt. and if under that weight it would be  
deducted at the same rate.

### Estimate for Oak Frame

I will undertake to lower down the five Bells  
and put them in some convenient place  
take out the old fittings, frame, floor and beams  
from the tower, provide and fix in the tower  
4 English Oak beams <sup>size 12x9"</sup> the beams to be put in  
about 1-3 lower down than now, provide and  
lie on the beams a good 2" red deal floor  
well nailed to them leaving loose boards  
enough under the tenor to allow them  
to be taken up to admit of tenor Bell being taken  
up and down, provide make and fix in the  
tower an oak frame for 6 Bells, five to be hung  
on one level and one to be hung up over, the  
frame to be made and fixed clear of tower walls  
the sides of scantling for frame to be same as  
marked on plan sent and frame to be bolted  
together with about 35  $\frac{3}{4}$ " long bolts, the bolts  
where convenient to go down through into main  
beams, all the joints of frame to be secured with  
stout strap plates. I will also undertake to  
hoist the five Bells again into their places in  
the new frame and hang them with all new  
fittings complete viz: wheels, stocks, stays, slides  
pullies, steel gudgeons and gunmetal bearings  
the steel gudgeons fitted into iron bed plates

clip bolted to the stocks and the bearings fitted into iron carriages screwed down to frame and fitted with iron hinged covers and thumb screws, all new ironwork to hang the Bells with, quarter turn the 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> & Tenor Bells and put new quarter staples in them, provide one new clapper for tenor and put the other four in proper order and properly hang them in the Bells, repair the present chiming apparatus and leave it in proper order, properly guide away the Bell ropes from wheels to ringing chamber with all necessary thimbles and patrices, paint all the ironwork, stocks and felloeing part of wheels, 3 coats paint, pay all carriage of my materials and all travelling expenses for my men and complete the work in a workmanlike and satisfactory manner and to the satisfaction of anyone you may like to appoint to inspect the work or try the go of the Bells anyone that knows anything about Church Bellwork for the sum of £121-13/-

All the old material I take out to be my property, you to have the clock seen to and weights, and do what is wanted to them and also have done what masons work that would be required.

April 4<sup>th</sup> - sent telegram to say cost of recasting Tenor Bell would be £45-

Dongjatt-Bells

April 5<sup>th</sup> 1907

To

Rev<sup>d</sup> Alfred. B. C. Beechey  
Rev<sup>d</sup> Sir

To recast your present 1<sup>st</sup>-Bell calculating <sup>that</sup> she  
is  $5\frac{3}{4}$  ~~now cast~~ <sup>now cast</sup> and adding  $\frac{3}{4}$  <sup>wt</sup> of new metal to her  
to make her  $6\frac{1}{2}$  <sup>wt</sup>, providing a new staple and clapper for  
her, pay carriage of her from Iminota or Chand, to London,  
and back to either of these places again, fitting a new block  
in present stock, to make it fit new bell, do what alterations  
is wanted to be done to the present ironwork, and hoist the  
Bell into her place in the Tower, and hang her again with  
same fittings will be. ~~£275~~ £275-5-0  
and any inscription put on her will be charged extra  
at 3<sup>rs</sup> per letter. I to send one man and my rope and  
blocks up to help take her down, you to supply the rest  
of the labor to help take her down, and <sup>you to send and</sup> fetch rope and  
blocks from Station, and take bell into station and  
fetch it again when it <sup>comes</sup> back. If it ~~was found~~ <sup>was found</sup> the  
old Bell did not weigh  $5\frac{3}{4}$  <sup>wt</sup>, and it was found necessary  
to add more than  $\frac{3}{4}$  <sup>wt</sup> new metal to her, what was  
added more than  $\frac{3}{4}$  <sup>wt</sup> would be charged extra at  
1<sup>rs</sup> 4<sup>d</sup> per lb.

The cost of a new Treble Bell to add to your present  
4 now in the Tower, the Bell to weigh 6 <sup>wt</sup> and to be in  
perfect tune with the others, provide a new staple & clapper  
for her, pay carriage of her from foundry London, to Iminota  
or Chand (you to send and fetch her from either of these  
stations) and ~~hoist~~ hoist her into her place in the Tower and  
hang her with all new fittings complete, namely, "Wheel  
stock, stay and roller, pulley, gudgeons & bearings, ironwork  
rope, provide and fix chime hammer to her, paint the stock  
ironwork, and fellows part of wheel, pay carriage of my  
materials, and winch and rope & blocks, either to Iminota  
or Chand stations you to send and fetch it from these

£69-15-0

and take back which and rope to station again will be  
£69-15-0 - Any inscription put on bell will be 3<sup>+</sup>  
per letter if it was found that bell was not required to be  
6<sup>cut</sup> - it would be deducted at the rate of 1<sup>d</sup> per lb. and  
if it was found necessary to make her over 6<sup>cut</sup> - it would  
be charged what was added over at 1<sup>d</sup> 7 per lb

I have not charged any rail faces for men in with the recast  
bell, <sup>for hanging her</sup> but have charged them in with the new bell, one journey  
each way.

yours & obediently  
Harry Stokes

January 16<sup>th</sup> 1908

Rev<sup>d</sup> Sir

If you intend having the new bell it would be a  
good time to have it now there is a big drop in bell metal  
and it may not last long if you ordered it now it would  
make a shatter of about £9=15/- difference instead  
of £6=15- it would be £60 - please think this over  
H Stokes

Charles Church Chimes

April 8. 1907

To D. Banks Esq.

Churchwarden

17. Seaton Avenue

Mutley, Plymouth

Sir.

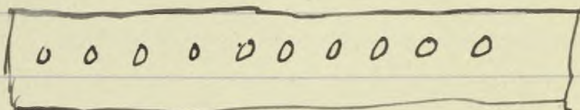
The cost of providing and fixing the Blacomb's chiming apparatus all complete to the ten Bells in Charles Church Tower, Plymouth will be £ 16.18.0.

There will be a small roller and ratchet attached to each rope to wind it up and unwind it to throw it in and out of gear and a piece of gutta percha tubing put to each rope for chiming <sup>with</sup> instead of a worked pallied rope.

To fix the apparatus all complete and to put worked pallies to each rope similar to Bell ropes instead of gutta percha tubing will be £ 19.15.0.

Yours obediently  
Harry Stokes.

Put ~~in~~ in lead pipe cut-out floor and stand a piece of board down  
to keep ~~the~~ dust  
from going ~~into~~ holes





April 11<sup>th</sup> 07

To

Rev<sup>d</sup> E. V. Collins

The Rectory

Blisland

Rev<sup>d</sup> Sir.

I thank you for the order received yesterday morning to rehang your Church bells according to my estimate of January 18<sup>th</sup> 1905. I cannot say exactly about the time I could complete them because I have 3 peals on order to rehang, but it would be I expect some time in beginning of July. I make everything here in my workshop all ready for fixing, so the work in the Tower would only take about 3 weeks; with regard to payment, I would accept payment in three instalments, but I should request the last instalment 6 months after work was done, & a certain sum as soon as work was completed, say £ 80 = please say if this will do.

Yours obediently  
Harry Stokes

Re. Molland Bells.

April 19. 1907

To the Rev. E. H. Moscardi.

Rev. Sir

A Treble Bell to add to the present four <sup>Bells</sup> now in Molland Church Tower, the Bell to weigh 6 cwt. provide a new clapper and fittings all complete, and hang the Bell in the Tower and <sup>leave it</sup> left fit for ringing would cost £ 65. 13. 0. If the Bell weighed over 6 cwt. the extra weight would be charged for at the rate of £ 8. 17. 4 per cwt. and if under 6 cwt. it would be deducted at the same rate. The price I have quoted is for supplying and hanging the Bell at the same time as the other work was being done.

If you can have green oak given you by the Lord of the Manor, the best way would be for you to sell it to a timber Merchant in the neighbourhood as I should not be able to take it. You would want the Lord of the Manor to give you green oak of the value of £ 26. 10. 0 which is the value of the oak that I should use for the beams, floor and frame

Yours obediently  
Harry Stokes.

April 22<sup>nd</sup> 1904

List of Oak Timber for Molland Wells sent to Rev. G. H. Moscardi.

Rectory

	W "	long	" "	" "
1-	11.9	long	8	4 1/2
6-	12.0	"	8	4 1/2
1-	11.9	"	8	5
4-	8.0	"	8 1/2	5
1-	8.0	"	8	4 1/2
1-	8.0	"	8	5
1-	3.6	"	8	4
1-	3.6	"	8	3
9-	3.10	"	12	4
5-	3.10	"	14	4
4-	3.10	"	16	4 1/2
2-	6.0	"	4 1/2	4 1/2
2-	6.0	"	5	4 1/2
1-	4.3	"	4 1/2	4 1/2
1-	4.3	"	5	4 1/2
2-	3.10	"	5 1/2	4
2-	3.10	"	5	2 1/2
9-	1.9	"	5	4
5-	1.9	"	5 1/2	4
4-	1.9	"	5 1/2	4 1/2
2-	12.3	"	12	9
2-	12.3	"	12	10
16-	12.0	"	9	1 1/2
1-	12.0	"	6	1 1/2
4-	3.0	"	3	3 1/2 for pulleys too

87 pieces

To

Rev. J. H. C. Morson  
Rev. Sir

I have been and examined the 5 bells in your Church Tower, and I found on examination, that the fittings and frame and floor and 3 beams, are ~~not~~ ~~got~~ ~~into~~ rather a bad condition. The frame which carries the bells is a very weak one, and it has been cut about a good deal in some places, so has to get room for bells to swing around, and ~~it~~ is not at all fit to rehang the bells on it again, and whatever you have done to it, in the way of strapping and bolting, it will not be a satisfactory job, and you would in a very few years have to clear it all out, and put in a new frame, it would be a job that would not give credit to any bell hanger, nor satisfaction to yourself neither to the Ringers that would have to ring them, to ~~hang~~ <sup>have</sup> the bells on the present old frame <sup>again</sup>, and I should not undertake to do so. I therefore shall not give a price for rehangng the bells on old frame again. Three of the beams under the floor and frame, which carries the whole thing, the ends of them are getting decayed, and there is only one beam there which is fit to remain. This beam has not been in the Tower many years. Two of the bells you already know that they are cracked and must be recast, and the other 3 - the 1<sup>st</sup> - 2<sup>nd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> in rehangng them, they must be quarter turned, because they are worn badly where the clappers have been striking so many years, this quarter turning, putting new staples in them, can be done in the Tower, would not want to take them away to do it. There is room in the Tower for a 6<sup>th</sup> Bell, and an oak frame can be made and fixed in the Tower for 6 Bells all on one level, which you will see by plan I have sent. There is 3 new clappers wanted, and 2 can be reworked up again. I will undertake to take down the 2 cracked Bells from the Tower, and send them

returning

to the Foundry and recast them, these 2 Bells to be recast  
so as to be in tune with the others, provide 2 new clappers for  
them, pay carriage of them to and from the Foundry and  
hoist them again into their places in the Tower. If these  
2 Bells when they were taken down and weighed, it was  
found that they had to be made heavier than they are now,  
what they were made heavier would be charged extra for  
at the rate of £8.17.4 per cwt, and any inscription  
put on them would be 4<sup>d</sup> per letter extra. I will also undertake  
to take down the other 3 Bells from the Tower, and put them  
in some convenient place, take out the old fittings, frame  
floor and <sup>3</sup> beams from the Tower, level up the beam that  
will remain, and provide and fix in the Tower 3 Oak beams  
11x9 provide and lay on beams a good red deal floor 2" thick  
well nailed to them, provide make and fix in the Tower an  
Oak frame for the 5 Bells, rise of scantling for frame to be  
same as marked on plan for 6 Bell frame which I have sent  
the frame to be bolted together with about 30 long 3/4 bolts  
and bolts where convenient to go down through into main beams,  
and all the joints of frame to be secured with stout strap plates  
and I will hoist the Bells into their places in the Tower  
and hang the 5 Bells with all new fittings complete -  
"as follows," wheels, stocks stays & slides, pulleys, steel gudgeons  
& gun metal bearings, the steel gudgeons fitted into iron bed  
plates clip bolted to the stocks, and the bearings fitted into  
iron carriers screwed down to frame, fitted with iron winged  
covers and thumb screws, all new ironwork to hang bells  
with, quarter turn the 1<sup>st</sup> - 2<sup>nd</sup> and Tenor Bells, and put new  
reverse staples in them, provide 3 new clappers for ~~them~~  
3<sup>rd</sup> - 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> Bells and rework up the other 2 clappers  
and properly hang the clappers in the Bells, provide a  
new set of best made bell ropes, and properly guide them  
away from wheels, ~~to~~ through the floors, with all necessary  
stubs, stays and thimbles, pay all carriage of my materials  
and all travelling expences for my men, and complete the work  
in a workmanlike, and satisfactory manner, and to the satisfaction

of anyone you may like to appoint to inspect the work or try the  
go of the Bells, anyone that knows anything about Church Bell  
work for the sum of £155.15.0. you to have done any  
masonry that would be wanted to be done, and put a Trap  
door in the floor, in the Chamber under the Bells large enough  
~~to admit of~~ <sup>for</sup> Town Bell ~~to be~~ <sup>to be</sup> taken up and down, all the old  
materials to be my property.

If you supplied the 3 Oak Beams cut to the sizes required  
and delivered at the Tower I will allow the sum of £5.5/ for  
them

If you had the frame made and fixed for 6 Bells, same  
as plan. I would provide, 3 beams, and floor, make and fix  
frame for 6 Bells recast the 2 Bells, and hang the 5 Bells  
with all new fittings for £159.15.0

I will undertake to provide a new Treble Bell (a 6<sup>th</sup> Bell) Bell  
to weigh  $4\frac{3}{4}$ , provide a new clapper for her pay carriage of  
her to Waustron, and hoist her in the Tower, and hang her  
with all new fittings complete left fit for ringing, Bell to  
be in time with the others for the sum of £46.10.0  
if Bell was over  $4\frac{3}{4}$  it would be charged for at the rate  
of £8.17.4 per <sup>cut-</sup> and if under  $4\frac{3}{4}$  it would be  
deducted at same rate, any inscription put on Bell would  
be charged at 4<sup>d</sup> per letter, this estimate for new bell  
is for supplying and hanging it - same time as <sup>the</sup> other Bells  
where done.

H. Stokes

Iron frame for 6 would cost £68 or £19 more than  
the Oak one

sent 62 testimonials and a little book

April 27<sup>th</sup> 1907

To

Rev<sup>d</sup> W. G. C. PhelpsRev<sup>d</sup> Sir

The fittings of the 5 bells in your Tower are got very much out-of-order, and the Bells are not fit to be rung again until they are all put right, they want a general overhauling. The stocks on all the Bells are got very loose, and some of the bearings are also very loose. There is 3 new clapper boxes ~~wanted~~ and a new stock and gudgeons & bearings wanted to the Tenor, the present stock on Tenor is split across very bad, and bell is dangerous to ring, the bottom half of wheel on Tenor wants repairing, and all the pulleys under the wheels want seeing too, all the stocks and ironwork on the Bells want clearing off and give it all 2 coats of paint, the side of frame against wall where Tenor hangs is loose and shifts about when bell is rung this side wants keying and wedging up. I will unhang the Tenor Bell take off the stock and take out the old gudgeons and bearings and provide a new stock and gudgeons & bearings, and fix on same to bell, hang up bell again, and put on same fittings ~~again~~ and ironwork again making good any ironwork that may be wanted, put a new box to the clapper, and properly hang it again, repair the wheel and put pulley right, put new boxes to the 1<sup>st</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> bells, unhang what bells have their bearings loose and tighten them, level up the bearings of all the bells and see they are right, & screw up and tighten all the stocks and ironwork on bells, also the wheels, see that all the pulleys are right, clean off the stocks and ironwork, and paint it 2 coats paint, key up and wedge the side of frame under Tenor that is loose and leave bells in proper ringing order for the sum of £9 =

The old frame also the beams <sup>which I considered was put there in the year 1643 or ~~1637~~ 1637</sup> under is not in very good condition, and before many years you will have to clear it all out and put it in new.

April 24<sup>th</sup> - 1904

To

Rev. A. Ogle.

The Oranage Bishop's Telegram

The cost of the 6 Bell Ropes will be 11/- each  
you to pay carriage of them. They will be 60ft -  
not 64 ft as you mentioned

H. S



Thornton Chimney Hammer May 2<sup>nd</sup> 1907

Mr J Pullin

Dear Sir

I have heard through my man that the  
Tower Bell is clocked for chiming it, may I tell you  
that it is a most dangerous practice and bells are  
often cracked through clocking them, and it also  
loosens the staples in bells and makes them loose why  
dont you get the Dean & Churchwardens to have a  
chiming hammer fixed to the Tower Bell instead of  
tying the clapper and clocking it, I would make  
and fix one to the Tower Bell for £1.10/- using the  
same rope that is now on clapper

Yours truly  
Harry Stokes

May 4<sup>th</sup> 1907.

Dear Sir

If you only want the chimney hammer I can let  
you have it for 12/- but if you want the 2 pulleys, and the  
pulley that would be in the rack that would be fixed against  
wall in ringing chamber it would be £1=.

H. S.

May 2<sup>nd</sup> 1904

Skilgate Church Bells

To

Rev<sup>d</sup> H. S. Williams

Rev<sup>d</sup> Sir

I have been as you already know and examined the frame and fittings of the 4 bells in your Church Tower. I then told you that it was all got into a very bad and dilapidated state and bells dangerous to ring so I need not now to make any further comment on it. The bells themselves two of them have some of their canons broken off, and the rest must be taken off, and drill 4 holes in heads of each of them to put bolts up through to fasten on the stocks with, this is no detriment to the bells, all the bells want quarter turning, and put new reverse staples in them so that clappers shall strike opposite to what they do now, they have been striking on one place nearly 300 years (ever since 1609 & 1612) there is also 3 new clappers wanted to the 1<sup>st</sup> 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> bells, in clearing out the old frame, and floor and beams, the paneling up under and which stands down in bottom of tower, would have to be taken down, and I am afraid could not be put back again. I shall therefore include in my estimate to put up an 1<sup>1/2</sup>" match board ceiling in place of this paneling, it is also a very long draft for the ropes for ringing the bells, it is 26 feet and cannot ring bells <sup>properly</sup> with so long a draft. I ~~am~~ ~~not~~ ~~sure~~ ~~that~~ therefore propose to put up a light iron stay guide about 15 feet up from floor for bell ropes to work in. I will undertake to lower down the 4 bells from the tower, take down the paneling which is fixed up to the beams, take out the old fittings, frame, floor and beams from the tower and provide and fix 4 new oak beams, 2 to be 11x9 and 2-11x8 provide and lay on the beams, a good red deal floor 2" thick, provide make and fix an oak frame for the 4 bells, sizes of scantling for frame to be same as marked on plan sent, and frame to be

bolled together with about 30 - long  $3\frac{1}{4}$  bolts and bolts where convenient  
to go down through into main beams, all the joints of frame to be  
secured with stout strap plates. I will also undertake to hoist the 4  
Bells again into their places in the new frame, and hang them with  
all new fittings complete, as follows; "Wheels, stocks, stays & solid  
pullies, steel gudgeons and gun metal bearings, the steel gudgeons  
fitted into iron bed plates, clip bolted to the stocks, and the  
bearings fitted into iron carriages screwed down to frame, fitted  
with iron hinged covers and thumb screws, all new ironwork  
to hang bells with, quadrant turn all the 4 bells and put new  
quadrant staples in them, provide 3 new clappers and rework up  
the the one for 4<sup>th</sup> Bell and properly hang all the clappers  
in the Bells, take off the remaining canons from the 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup>  
Bells and drill holes in them to take the bolts to fasten on stocks  
with, provide a new set of best made bell ropes, provide and fix  
a light iron stay guide with turned hard wood blocks with  
holes in them for each rope to work in, provide and fix a match  
board ceiling 1" thick up under to beams, and stain & varnish it.  
paint all the ironwork and stocks and felloes part of wheels  
3 coats paint pay carriage of all my materials and travelling  
expenses for my men and complete the work in a workmanlike  
and satisfactory manner and to the satisfaction of any one  
you may like to appoint to inspect it or try the go of the Bells  
anyone that knows anything about Church Bell work for  
the sum of £92" 15" 0, all the old metal and bearings  
and ironwork and ropes to be my property and the old  
wood to be yours, and you to have done any marous work  
that would be wanted to be done.

# School Screen

April 26. 1907

To the Woodbury School Managers  
Gentlemen,

I will make and fix a screen  
in Woodbury Schoolroom as per plan and  
specification supplied to me by Mr. A. S.  
Phillips for the sum of Thirty Six Pounds  
Ten Shillings (£ 36.10.0)

yours obediently,  
Harry Stokes

sent to Mr. A. S. Phillips

# Priority Painting.

May 6. 1907

To the Rev. J. L. L. Fulford.

Rev. Sir,

I will clean off and paint two coats all the woodwork in the Hall, the doors, windows, skirting &c. in the front Passage upstairs, the Stair-case and doors at bottom of stairs, and clean off and paint the door, window, and skirting in the Drawing-room two coats and one coat of enamel for the sum of £ 4.7.0

Yours obediently,

Harry Stokes

Sent to Ellis, Lou. & ...

Sent to W<sup>m</sup> A. E. Ellis  
Midland Chambers, Exeter

List of Oak scantling required for May 7<sup>th</sup> 1907  
a new Bell frame for 6 bells for Newton 1<sup>st</sup> byres Tower

✓ 2 pieces	11.9 long	8½ x 4½	2 pieces	12.6 long	10 x 8
✓ 7 "	11.6 "	8½ x 5	2 "	12.0 "	11 x 9
✓ 1 "	11.6 "	8½ x 4	2 "	12.0 "	11 x 10
✓ 2 "	7.9 -	8½ x 5½	16 "	11.6 "	9 x 1½
✓ 1 "	7.9 -	8½ x 5	2 "	11.9 "	3½ x 3
✓ 1 "	7.9 -	8½ x 4	2 "	10.0 "	4 x 3 <small>struts top piece</small>
✓ 2 "	6.9 -	8½ x 5½	1 "	4.6 "	4 x 3
2 "	<del>3.6</del> -	8½ x 3½	2 "	4.8 "	4 x 3 <small>chime hammer</small>
✓ 2 "	<del>3.8</del> -	<del>12 x 3½</del>	3 "	3.9 "	3½ x 3
✓ 8 "	3.8 -	12 x 4	3 "	3.0 "	3½ x 3 <small>low pulleys</small>
✓ 3 "	3.9 -	15 x 4	This lot would be taken to the Tower		
✓ 2 "	3.9 -	15 x 4½			
✓ 2 "	3.9 -	16 x 4			
✓ 2 "	3.9 -	16 x 4½			
2 "	1.9 -	5 x 3½			
✓ 4 "	1.9 -	5 x 4			
✓ 9 "	1.9 -	5½ x 4			
✓ 4 "	1.9 -	5½ x 4½			
✓ 3 "	3.9	8½ x 3½			
✓ 4 "	6.6 -	10 x 3½			
✓ 2 "	6.6 -	9 x 3½	35 pieces		
✓ 4 "	8.9 -	5 x 5			
✓ 6 "	2.9 -	6 x 3½			
2 "	4.3 -	4½ x 3			

This lot would come to Woodbury for the  
Frame

There must be no sap in it nor dead knots  
or shakes

77 pieces

Wanstead Church Bells

To

May 8<sup>th</sup> 1907

Rev. J. H. C. Mason

Rev. Sir

In reply to your letter received this morning asking me certain questions about the above Bells I beg to say in reply to them

- 1<sup>st</sup> I shall not provide the Trap door that is required to be made in 2<sup>nd</sup> floor.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> I will provide a small platform for the Ring of No 1 Bell to stand on
- 3<sup>rd</sup> I will take payment in 3 instalments £100 - when work is finished half of what is left - in 3 months, and the remainder at 6 months from time of completion.
- 4<sup>th</sup> I will allow you to keep the old Bell Ropes
- 5<sup>th</sup> I will allow you £5.15.0 for the 3 Oak beams, I did not deduct I find quite enough for the carriage.
- 6<sup>th</sup> I cannot do the work as named by you for £150 - my price is £154 - to do the work as specified, and make frame for 6 bells you to provide the 3 Oak beams  
~~I hope~~ new 6<sup>th</sup> Bell not included in the £154 -

I hope these replies will be satisfactory to you.

yours obediently  
Harry Stokes

May. 9. 1907

Ms. Peters.

Farrington House

Madam.

The cost of making and fixing a boot cupboard with a framed door and side painted and enamelled white will be £1.10.0

Harry Stokes.  
 H.S. jr.



To

May 11<sup>th</sup> 1907

Rev. J. G. Blum

The Parsonage  
North Molton

Rev. Sir

If the work about your Church Bells ~~was~~ <sup>was</sup> not placed in my hands I am charge for going to inspect them and making out report and estimate &c will be £2.2.0. If the work is placed in my hands I should not make this charge. I hope the other estimates you have obtained are from proper Church Bell Hangers. If you wished it I could send you a plenty of Testimonials for you to look at.

yours obediently  
Harry Stokes

To  
Rev. T. Woodman  
Down St. Mary

May 14<sup>th</sup> 1907

Rev. Sir

The cost of the 5 Bell Ropes for your  
Church Bells will be 11/- per Rope you to pay  
the carriage of them

yours obediently  
Harry Stokes

Chadstock chiming  
app<sup>t</sup>-

May 15<sup>th</sup> 1907

To

Rev<sup>d</sup> A Lewis

Chadstock Vicarage

Rev<sup>d</sup> Sir

The cost of providing and fixing the Ellacombe chiming apparatus to the 6 bells in your Church Tower will be £8.15.0 - provided that it is all wood floors to bore holes in for bringing chiming cords through no stonework to get holes in. The right place to chime the bells is at the bottom where the Ringers ring the bells. I shall be very pleased to receive an order from you to prepare and fix the apparatus.

yours & obediently  
Harry Stokes

P. S.

I have calculated that the bells are in an oak frame, not an iron one if it is an iron frame it would cost more.

May 17<sup>th</sup> 1907

Mr D Banks  
Churchwarden

Charles Church

Plymouth

Sir

In reply to your letter, re Charles Church chiming apparatus as to the extra cost of £1.15/- more than I quoted Mr March in Sept<sup>r</sup> last. I beg to say the quotation I sent Mr March was about £1.11/- per bell but it would not have been a binding quotation. I found on looking at the bells that it was more difficult to fix them than I expected, especially the bells that are out in the windows, and it would take at least 2 days longer fixing than I calculated and it would also take about 30 feet run more of  $3\frac{1}{2} \times 3$  and  $4 \times 3$  oak scantling more than I reckoned for and instead of the sally ropes costing 5/- each they would be 5.9 each. I made the extra £1.15.0 up as follows

extra time fixing 13.4

extra wood 8.8

sally ropes 4.6

and -

5.6 for self for part - plain for

&c the day I worked them

I hope this explanation will be satisfactory to you. It is rather difficult to quote a definite price for a chiming apparatus to be fixed to bells hung on an iron frame without first seeing it.

H. J.

re Medmore Bells.

May 15. 1907

To Mr. Porter,  
Glendale Farm.  
Wedmore.

Sir,

~~Simply~~ In reply to the questions you asked me about the quarter turning of the tenor Bell, I beg to say that I do not, in my opinion, see that it is necessary to quarter turn it, and I think in my own mind that it would go on yet for some years before it was found necessary to quarter turn it, the Bell is about 150 years old and it is  $\frac{1}{2}$ " thick at the pound bow and where clapper is striking it is  $\frac{3}{8}$ " thick so that it is worn  $\frac{3}{8}$ " and it has taken 50 years to wear  $\frac{1}{8}$ " so I reckon it would go another 50 years before it would require quarter turning, it would then be only worn  $\frac{1}{2}$ " calculating that it has taken 150 years to wear  $\frac{3}{8}$ ".

With regard to the danger of cracking the Bell as it is, I could not give an opinion because often times Bells get cracked and not where the clapper strikes.

It would not be necessary to take off the canons to quarter turn the Bell. To quarter turn the Bell would cost £13 or £14.

I fancy in my own mind that the tenor clapper could be made several pounds lighter by drawing out the stem above the Ball and make it

smaller and then take off some of the  
flight under the Ball, the clapper after  
being drawn out would then be too long  
and a piece would have to be cut off from  
it to make it the same length in the  
stem above ball as now and it would  
then want a new box for the clapper  
to hang in.

I consider that it would be a good  
plan if you were to have all the Bells  
and frame ~~re~~ thoroughly overhauled,  
lift out the Bells and see if the bearings  
are level and clean, ironwork and  
stocks and bolts all cleaned off and  
painted, it is 27 years ago that these  
Bells were rehung and nothing has  
been done to them since, the cost of  
this thorough overhauling would be  
about £23. including drawing out  
and lightening tenor Clapper & reboxing  
it and putting a few extra bolts in  
top frame.

Harry Stokes

re Milborne Port Bells

May 22. 1907

To W. D. Caroe Esq:  
3. Great College Street,  
Westminster S.W.

Sir,

I went last week and made a thorough examination of the Bells and Frame in Milborne Port Church Tower and I am sorry to tell you that I could not undertake to remake the present frame with additions of new timber &c. after it was taken to pieces and removed, the old frame has already had bits and wedges driven into it and been bolted and strapped and wedged everywhere where it could possibly be done to keep it right, and there are not any sound pieces in it much more than about 2' 0" long but what there is a joint, or mortice, or tenon in it.

No Bellhanger I don't think could make a satisfactory job of what you propose to do; and there is also another matter which you mention about the Bells going the wrong way round, a Bellhanger who has any reputation would soon lose it if he were to remake up this frame so that the Bells would go the wrong way round. In my own opinion there is nothing that can be done to this to give satisfaction (especially to ringers, because ~~you have~~ a Bellhanger has to study them) only to clear it all out and put it all in new and hang the Bells so that they would ring round the right way. For this