

Mying his last offer was prigl  
Norton, I suppose Mr Lewis will  
now soon arrive at a decision  
when he has got over & settled  
with the Insurance Company as  
to the fire, he will I think be a  
considerable loser in addition to  
the Insurance - I should have said  
the estimate for making good the  
Farm House is £320 but this can  
stand over until the future of the  
Farm is decided, it may perhaps  
be able to make the one Farm House

6289

Sturminster Newton

Dorset 24<sup>th</sup> July - 1887

Dear General Pitt-Rivers,

When writing you as to  
the fire at Ash I told you I was  
going over the sums with Mr Green  
& we find from Mr Lewis that what  
required attention at once was the  
stabling for 6 horses & the cow stalls  
& shed £20 so that he may  
carry on the work of the Farm &  
I have this morning an estimate for

re-instating the Farm House in  
addition to the other, the former  
cost £127. 10/- and must  
be ordered at once which I will  
do, the Farm House can stand  
for consideration for a time as  
Mr Lewis ~~is~~ is 76 years of age  
& having lost the greater part of  
his implements he hardly thinks to  
continue Farming, the neighbouring  
Farmer Mr Norton has a large  
House & no family so Mr Lewis has

gone there as he has lost all his  
livestock nearly, you will recollect  
both Mr Norton & Mr Lewis  
gave notice that they should leave  
if they did not get large  
reductions in their rents & Mr.

Norton also wished to get a  
large Farm, the reductions asked  
were so large that you were not  
disposed to grant the same &  
they were to reconsider the matter  
& I have a letter in reply from Mr

Sturminster Newton,

Dorset.

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showing intact do for both Farms,  
 if the Farms should be carried on  
 separately as heretofore it may  
 require a little further out building  
 but not to any large extent, it  
 will not be necessary to rebuild  
 the old cottages burnt as there  
 will I think be sufficient for the  
 Farm purposes without -

The Remains begin with the  
 5)

Shurton Fire Brigade worked well  
I did a lot of good in saving  
other property, the engines belong  
to Sir Talbot Baker I think but  
the Brigade <sup>Helpers</sup> will have to be paid  
by Mr Lewis or the Insurance Office  
I yourself - It would be Sir Talbot to  
thank - The Bradford Brigade  
did not ~~appear~~ attend but I do  
not think they were much to be  
blamed as the Agent to the  
Insurance Office did not consider it

was much good -

The cottages are in other  
cottages in the village and a  
subscription has been got for them  
in the village and immediate  
neighbourhood & I hear it will be  
enough to cover the whole of their  
losses, I entreat as you are the  
owner of the Buildings you would  
have not wish to subscribe a little -

I will write as to other matters  
to-morrow - I am  
Yours obed<sup>t</sup> Servant  
Wm. Keetch