

3532

Blandford  
July 26<sup>r</sup> 1895

Dear Sir

In answer to  
your Letter respecting the  
Cyan brought over on Wednesday  
I beg to say, if it is not loud  
enough I can let you have  
a very Large Hammerium  
with 14 <sup>steps</sup> and 4 full rows of  
Vibrators at 10 per month  
if you will pay carriage  
of the same to and from  
Hew - I am sorry to have  
to complain of the Treatment

The Piano has had since  
you have had it as it was  
quite new and not a mark  
on it when it was brought  
over and if this weather  
lasts damp as it is now  
it will be nearly spoilt  
which will be a great  
loss to us as it is a  
40 Pound Piano waiting

your reply I am

Yours obediently

W Skivington

H Gray Esq

to Gen Pitt Rivers and asks  
him what I am to do  
about it - waiting your  
reply

I am  
Yours obediently

W Sturvington

To

Mr Harold Gray

Sturvington

8532

Blandford

Jan<sup>y</sup> 17<sup>th</sup> 1896

Dear Sir

I am very sorry to have  
to inform you that the Piano  
Gen Pitt Rivers has had at the  
Larmer Theatre has come  
back a perfect wreck it was  
quite a new one when it  
was sent and was promised  
to be taken great care of. In  
the first place it has been allowed  
to get wet as it is blistered  
all over the polish is all  
coming off the mouldings  
and the plinth and the top  
is swollen a  $\frac{1}{4}$  of an inch  
in width and the veneer

is coming off in fact  
it is entirely spoilt the  
Leathers and Felt inside  
have been damped and  
the Touch is entirely  
gone. I am obliged to send  
to London for another as  
I fully expected it would  
be fit to let on hire but  
it is no use to us  
whatever and must be  
sent to the makers to be  
put in order and then can  
only be sold for a second

hand one I am dreadfully  
vexed and beg to say I would  
not let it <sup>have</sup> gone on hire  
to the Larmer Theatre on  
any account if I had known  
the treatment it would  
have had some one has  
been meddling with the Keys  
as the cloth the Holes are  
Bushed with in many of  
them have been cut or  
taken out which no  
doubt was done when  
the Keys would not  
act please show this

Condition of Piano when it  
left Larmer as reported by  
Elpray and R. Davidge. Jan. 17/96

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1. Veneer chipped off in one place,  
and blistered in one or two  
other places.
2. Polished much damaged on  
top of piano, & cover of keyboard.
3. "Touch" of piano somewhat  
spoilt. The notes are stiffer  
than when it was new.
4. The piano was very fairly in  
tune when it ~~left~~ was taken away.
5. The front of the piano at the  
bottom was a good deal  
scratched, more especially near  
the pedals and the bottoms of  
the legs.
6. The mechanism inside was  
not touched, but ~~the~~ some of  
the notes on the sides had been  
sand-papered down.
7. One piece of "imitation ivory" was  
off.

1533

Blandford  $\mu$   
July 28 1896

Dear Sir

Kindly let me have  
an answer to my Letter  
respecting Injury done to  
Piano while at the  
Lantern Theatre in last

I am

Yours obediently

W. Skivington

Mr Gray

Copy

Rushmore  
Jan. 29/96.

Dear Sir,

I have sent both your letters before General Pitt Rivers re the Piano that was on hire at Larmer, and I am directed by him today that you better send in a bill for any positive injury done to the instrument. Care was taken of the Piano as much as possible, and of course you must have known before sending the instrument, that it would get more wear and tear at Larmer, than if you had been sending it to a private house, and we consider that you have charged accordingly for the hire.

Of course General Rivers is willing to repay you for any injury done to the Piano over and above what may be considered fair wear & tear.

Yrs faithfully,  
Harold Gray,  
for Gen. Pitt Rivers.

Messrs W. Skirington & Son

22, Salisbury Street, and 1, Oak Villas, Blandford,

3/2/ 1896

5533  
To Mr Gray Esq.

W. SKIVINGTON & SON,

Dealers in

Pianofortes, American Organs, Harmoniums, and all other Musical Instruments.

TUNERS, &c.

Dear Sir

In answer to your letter respecting the Piano I beg to say that it is not the wear the instrument has had but the way in which it has been neglected by being left out in the rain. I asked Mr Dawkins who took the Piano to pieces and removed the Bushing cloths out of the keys and also sandpapered them which he said he did.

If the Piano wanted looking to we ought to have been advised and then we should have seen the state the instrument was in by the way.

I asked Mr Dawkins some time ago how the instruments were going on and he told me they were alright which he must have known was not the case.

We are sending the Piano to the makers and as soon as we get the bill we will send it to you Peter Rivers

We are Sir

Yrs Obediently  
W Skivington & Son



(B533)

Blandford

April 11 1896

Dear Sir

I have just  
written to say the  
Plan has just arrived  
from London and have  
enclosed the Bill for  
repairs if you will kindly  
show it to Gen Pitt Rivers  
no doubt they have done  
the best they could with  
it but it is nothing

like it was when you  
had it first - it was  
quite new of course  
it looks just as good  
hoping to hear from  
you at your earliest  
convenience

I remain

Yours Obediently

W Skivington

Harold Gray Esq

(B533)

Blandford

May 9<sup>th</sup> 1896

Dear Sir

In answer to  
your Letter I beg to say I  
cannot take less than  
the amount on Squire's  
Bill for repairing Pianos as  
I have every penny of it to  
pay him and must do  
so at once if you will  
kindly send back the Bill  
as we never owe anything  
in London over a month  
and Respecting a new Piano  
I can supply you  
with one in Oak by

The saw makers at  
25.0.0 including Carriage  
and keeping in time for  
the season or I can sell  
you one by Turkman  
a H2 Guinea one at 30.0.0  
equal to new with  
thanks for the trouble  
you have taken and  
waiting your order

I am

Yours Obediently

W. Sturvington

Howell Gray & Co

P.S.

It is not the wear  
and tear that hurts the  
Piano but the damp  
and wet they are exposed  
to

P.S.

The List price of Bryan  
is 25.00 and the

Piano 25.00

hoping you will not let  
them get damp

Rev. Adye

58- 6 1/2  
66 1/2  
70

Has Bronze  
packed in cart  
Horse & arrived  
for General  
Rivers

Spinet  
Ans'd. 6/96.  
Nov. 6/96. Bradford  
Oct-3 1896  
B533  
Dear Sir

In answer to  
your Letter they say the  
Price of Piano is 20.00  
and the Bryan 18.00  
and if purchased there  
will be no charge for  
Tuning or Carriage hoping  
to see you in a few days  
respecting Spinet with many  
thanks

I remain  
Yours Obediently  
W. Sturinton

Ans. Early this + have that

Amnd.  
Nov. 11/96  
Estimate accepted

8533

No 22 Salisbury St  
Blandford  
9/11/96

Dear Sir

Many Thanks for your  
letter we will call at Larner  
and I see the Plans also en  
to the Organ

Does Gen Pitt Rivers wish  
The old Plans cleaned and  
polished or only put in tin

The cost for cleaning polishing  
and ~~put~~ tinning will be £1-5.

Awaiting yr reply

We are

Yrs

W. P. D. G.

W. P. D. G.