

Sturminster Newton

January 31 / 1889

(621)

General Pitt-Rivers.

Sir, at Bayber in this Parish close to the high road stands an old Manor House built in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, now for many years used as a farm house. Enclosed is a rough sketch of its front elevation which is 100 feet long. It is stone built with porch in the middle. The stair case is of massive plain oak work with steps of oak. The external walls



have not a brack nor a  
crack that any ordinary  
builder could with ease  
repair. It wants re-roofing  
and many other necessary  
repairs when it will be  
the handsome useful building  
it ever was. It either belongs  
to Lord Stalbridge or he has  
the management of it,  
and strange to say for  
some reason that is not  
known he has changed  
his mind from having  
it restored to having it  
pulled down, to make



room to build a modern  
farm house in its place

Sir, I venture to hope  
that you will be interested  
in the preservation of this  
ancient and handsome  
old building, and should  
you be successful, by  
bringing your powerful  
influence to bear, in  
staying this what looks  
like a wanton act  
of vandalism, all who  
know of the house will  
be deeply gratified to



know of it, including the  
present tenant. Building  
operations are soon to  
begin, therefore to stay.  
The work of destruction  
no time is to <sup>be</sup> lost.

Trusting that my  
subject is a sufficient  
apology for troubling you.  
I beg to remain, Sir,  
Yours respectfully,  
L. L. Groves.

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