

Philadelphia Musical Academy,

NO. 1517 SPRUCE STREET.

DIRECTOR:

Richard Zeckwer.

Residence: 2023 Pine Street.

Philadelphia, Aug. 5th 1879

To his Grace, the Archbishop F. Wood.

Dear Sir

With much regret
I received this morning a letter from
Father Elcock, in which he communicated
to me, that you have given the repairing
of the organ to Mr Knapp. Mr F Wood,
the best organist in the city and who
knows every Organ in Philadelphia says:
"I consider Mr Knapp an unscrupulous
man and would not trust ~~any~~ organ
to him for repairing." And so every
musician I have spoken to says the same.

I have communicated with the two best Organ builders in the country; Mr Roosevelt charges were of course too high to be considered, but why Mr Flook & Hastings of Boston, known by every musician as the organ builders of America, should be not considered at all, I can not understand. Mr Knapp charges for cleaning the organ \$300, while Mr Flook only charges \$275. For altering and adding four combination pedals Flook wants \$100 and for new pedal keys \$50, all together \$425. This are the charges of our best organ builder in America. Mr Knapp came to see me this morning to find out, what I wish to have done. I told him every change and explained to him, what I thought

would improve the organ. He suggested to me to take the "Melodia" in the "great organ" out and put a new stop of his own make in. I think the Melodia one of the prettiest stops in the organ and consider a man, who makes such a suggestion not fit to take charge of a large organ. I have not interest whatever in the person, who repairs the organ, but I want to feel that I can take pride in it and love to play on it. For your interest alone I was thinking, when I proposed the two well known organ builders.

I am very much offended to think that my opinion is so little esteemed. You have chosen the organ builder and therefore have to take the consequences.

I have done my duty to warn you.
It was who is afraid to show me any
of his workmanship I do not think
trustworthy.

I enclose the estimate of Mr Hoon
& Hastings, which I endeavoured to
make Father Elovok consider. He told
me he would consider it, when he
already knew Mr Kauf was working
at the organ.

Very Respectfully

Rice Jackson

E. & G. G. HOOK & HASTINGS,

Church Organ Builders,

1131 Tremont Street,

E. Hook.
G. G. Hook.
F. H. Hastings. }

BOSTON, MASS. July 31 1879

Mr Richard Leckwer
Philadelphia

Dear Sir

We give below our estimate of what we think it will cost to do the work which you propose to have done on the organ in the Philadelphia Cathedral.

1. For cleaning the organ, - taking out the pipes cleaning them, removing the accumulated dust from the chests action and working parts generally, replacing the pipes correcting the voicing of occasionally faulty notes tuning and adjusting throughout say \$275.

2. For changing the Gr. Comb. pedals and adding two combinations pedals to effect the Swell Stops and two to operate on the Choir stops - each pair to comprise a Forte & Piano pedal. say \$100.

3. For adding new pedal keys of 29 notes C to E of same style as those in our Boston Cathedral organ \$50.

We do not include any repairing - But if when we have the pipes out we find there is any repairing needed we will call attention to it and give the cost

The figures we here give are very low. but you may rely on having the work well and faithfully done by good skillful men.

Yours Truly

E. G. Hook & Hastings

Philadelphia, Oct'r 9th 1879

Cathedral

CHURCH, CHAPEL,
and
PRACTICE ORGANS
with latest novelties.

Contracts
Executed Promptly.

TUNING AND REPAIRING.

Phila^{da}
J. H. KNAUFF & SON, Jr.

ORGAN MANUFACTURERS,

No. 649 North Broad Street.

Gordon Press, 1320 Ridge

Cleaning out organ, regulating actions and couplers, regulating and tuning throughout	3 00	00
Making new set of pedal keys, elevating heel of keys 1 1/2"	60	00
Altering leverage of pedal action and attachments to reduce depth of touch on pedal keys	40	00
Balanced Swell pedal, altering swell blinds to suit, with unveiled action for both motions	60	00
Changing & Comp'n. Pedals - Ext. Org.		

to the side	35	w
Changes in combinations in do to stops @ 7.50	30	w
2 additional Comp'n. Pedals for Small Organ	80	w
2 do do for Choir Org.	80	w
Reversible pedal movement for St. Organ. Diap'n, and reversible pedal coupler movement	75	00
Converting Dulciana, Ped. into Vidua Bass - 16ft.	90	w
(Estimated in proposal @ \$175, but made by a different process.)		
Repairs to pedal bellows feeders and adjusting reservoirs	40	w
Shifting movement action could not be made satisfactory by reason of the imperfection of slides, therefore there has been done additional as follows:		
Amt. forward		\$90 w

Amt. forward ———

\$90 w

Removing upper boards and
easing slides: —

13 Ext. Org.	@ 1.25	16 25
10 Choir	"	12 50
11 Swell	"	13 75
5 Solo	"	6 25
10 Pedal - dbl. adj. bds	2.50	25 w

73 75

Repairing 2 Supplementary Adj.

Bds. in pedal wind chests @ \$ —

16 w

9 Ivory Plates engraved - for
comp'n. pedals

75

6 75

\$ 986 50

Church, Concert & Parlor Organ

MANUFACTORY.

HILBORNE L. ROOSEVELT,

40 West 18th Street, bet. 5th & 6th Ave's.

New-York, _____ 187

- 1st To Thoroughly Clean and tune Organ
throughout, regulate Action & Couplers \$650.00
- 2nd To Make & Connect - new Pedal Key 27 Notes \$75-
- 3rd To replace Old swell pedal
with Balanced Sw.
- 4th To Alter present Combination
in Great Organ and add two new
ones in Swell, also to add present
Coupler bet to Pedal } \$150
- 5th To substitute new Subhar pipes
16th tone for present dulciana
in Pedal - provided the Old
pipes are in good order \$100

975-

2

H. KNAUFF & SON,
MANUFACTURERS OF
Improved Church Organs

OF EVERY DESCRIPTION,
No. 649 North Broad Street.

Philadelphia, July 26th 1879

Proposition for Cathedral Organ.

- 1 Cleaning out the whole Organ, regulating action and Couplers and Tuning throughout \$300-
- 2 To make a new sett of Pedal Keys, elevating the heel of the Keys $1\frac{1}{2}$ " higher - Sharps of proper elevation and shape 60-
- 3 To alter leverage of Pedal action and attachments so as to reduce the touch 40-
- 4 To make a balanced Swell Pedal, altering the Blinds to suit, with conveyed action for both motions 60-
- 5 To change the 3 Composition Pedals of Great Organ to the right side 35-
- 6 To make and attach 2 additional Composition Pedals on the left for the Swell Organ 80-

OVER

- 7 To make and attach a reversible movement for the Left Open Diapason of the Pedal on the right, and attach a reversible Pedal Coupler on the left, both being now used for Left Diap 75c
- 8 The Sulciana in the Pedal to be converted into a Subbass 16 ft. soft tone 100c
- 9 A repair to the Pedal Bellows Feeder, there being a break in the ribs, and adjusting regulators of reservoirs 40c
\$790c
- 10 It is a question whether the Sulciana of the Pedals had not better be converted into a Violon Bass 16 ft. which would decidedly assist the Pedal tone in combination, and would still be moderate for any soft accompaniment where the Pedals are at all desired, has a string quality of tone.
- 11 Changes of stops in the Comp. Pedals of Great Organ will be say \$7.50 each.

H. KNAUFF & SON,

MANUFACTURERS OF

Improved Church Organs

OF EVERY DESCRIPTION,

REMOVED TO
No. 649 North Broad Street.
1605 & 1607 Spring Garden Street.

Philadelphia, 187

The foregoing comprises substantially all that is adverted to in the Memorandum given with additions specified and a much needed repair to Bellows

The whole organ lacks very much the development of the Diapason tone — hence the tone is thin, noisy, without sufficient volume to give it dignity. A considerable portion of this difficulty can be remedied by certain alterations mainly in the Great Organ and Pedals.

The following suggestions are made to effect this purpose —

1. Open Diapason of the Great Organ is too weak and light, a bad character of tone — requires a resetting and revoicing, probably a transposition will be necessary.
2. The Viol d'Amour (marked Violon) has no character, not stringy enough, does not carry, requires to be worked over to correct the scale.

3. Dolceissima 8 ft. is very fair, but is of no use in the great Organ for combination. Would supplant this with a Diapente 6 ft. so as to get the "Plain Jeau" of the organ.
4. Melodia 8 ft. tone is very light and the same remark applies as to 3. Would supplant it with a Flohl Flöte 8 ft. as far down as the space will allow — this would combine with the Open Diapason and increase the volume.
5. Stop^d Diapⁿ 8 ft. is very light and undecided in tone, can be remade and with a metal. Fiddle.
6. Principal 4 ft. is too light — should be reset, transposing smaller and longer to get a Tuning Crifice.
7. Travers Flöte 4 ft. — should be reset and altered or supplanted by another that has power.
8. Sesquialtera and Mixture Stops have no proper succession — should be both arranged with a proper Mixture combination, forming breaks at proper intervals, thus working into larger pipes for the upper octaves, avoiding this mass of small pipes.

9. Trumpet Great Organ has not sufficient power, Trumpet in the Swell is superior, very good. This stop can be improved
10. Sesquialtera in Choir Organ — same remark as at 8 — should be altered lest by coupling it should spoil the Great Organ.
11. Sesquialtera ~~in Swell~~ the same.

Pedals

12. L^{ts} Open Diapason Pedals 16 ft. Scale is too large, should be lengthened and transposed.
13. L^{ts} Dulciana 16 — suggestion made in proposition.
14. Open Diap 8 ft. Pedals — would take this out and substitute an Acoustic 32 ft. by the introduction of a 12 ft. Tone.
15. Violoncello 8 ft. is a Viol D'Amour — this does carry its tone — can be improved and made much more decided.
16. Trombone 16 is too thin a tone — 1 octave or 1 1/2 octaves should be a free reed, then the upper tones developed in volume.
17. An improvement could be made in the set of the Keys of the Manuals — they are too far apart in height which makes it inconvenient to change from one Key board to another, and as there are

Your Key boards throws the Music Desk too
high up.

I do so sincerely regret
that Mr. Leckner did
have ^{any} reason to be offended,
~~of course~~ anything could have been
farther from his intentions.

He regarded the whole as
a mere business transaction
and as Mr. Knapp (whom he
knew and who had worked for
him before) agreed to do the
repairs for \$790. instead
of \$970. he accepted his
proposal. The other
proposal ^{unfortunately} he did not see
until afterwards.