

Orla D. Allen Martin B. Welch
Pipe Organ Work

DESIGN, SPECIFICATION, CONSTRUCTION
TUBULAR AND ELECTRO-PNEUMATIC ACTIONS
TUNING AND GENERAL REPAIRING

Birmingham Alabama, Nov 5th, 1923.

Hon. Hugh Locke, Chairman Music Committee,
First M. E. Church.

My Dear Judge Locke:-

When we took the contract for the overhauling and thorough repair of the First M. E. Organ, it was with the expectation that we would be able to at least get parts made for some of the worn out parts of action.

Finding after we had gotten started, that not only could we not find any materials in stock to replace certain portions of this work, but that the markets of the country did not contain certain materials necessary to this old fashioned type of work, (the organ is thirty years or more old), we decided even at a great extra cost to ourselves in time and money to completely rehabilitate this instrument, by making it entirely in its operation what is known as an Electric action.

This required the building of special electric relays, the addition of valve chambers with the pneumatic pull down action, for three manuals, all stop action chests, and all separate Pedal actions and stops, necessitating the construction of some fourteen chests containing over 1000 electro magnetic actions, and the building of an electric console, which when completed and in operation will more than treble the power and brilliancy of the instrument.

This work ordinarily would take in our shops in Hartford Connecticut from eight to twelve months to put thru, but as an especial favor to us, (asking it of them because of the prominence of your Church and influence of your your membership,) they agreed to put it thru in 60 to 90 days time. According to their figuring they should have had this material to us by Oct 1st, but unable to obtain certain parts necessary to the construction or rather perhaps certain materials, it has been impossible for them to get this material started to us before the 26th of Oct.

We had asked the Company to ship this material by express, and part of it has been received that way, and we have gone as far as it is humanly possible, until the balance is received.

This material was shipped by freight October 26th, and according to the time made by other shipments of late, should be only a few days more in getting here.

My only reason which it seems possible to assign for their shipping this material by freight is the fact that the shipment which weighs nearly a ton and a half was too heavy or too cumbersome for the Express Companies to handle.

I have told Judge Locke that as soon as we can get this material we shall work day and night to get it through with, for be assured that we are just as anxious to get this work out of the way as your people are to have us do.

The machinery is all in working order, and it only awaits the shipment (which is not many days away) of the balance of the actions and the electric console for us to complete our work, and tune and finish our work, which with good luck and favorable conditions

Should only take ten to twelve days.

Yours Very Truly,

Orlando Allen

Very truly yours,

Orlando Allen

STAMFORD, CONNECTICUT, MAY 15, 1902

STAMFORD, CONNECTICUT, MAY 15, 1902

STAMFORD, CONNECTICUT, MAY 15, 1902