

18th Century Material Culture

Bells



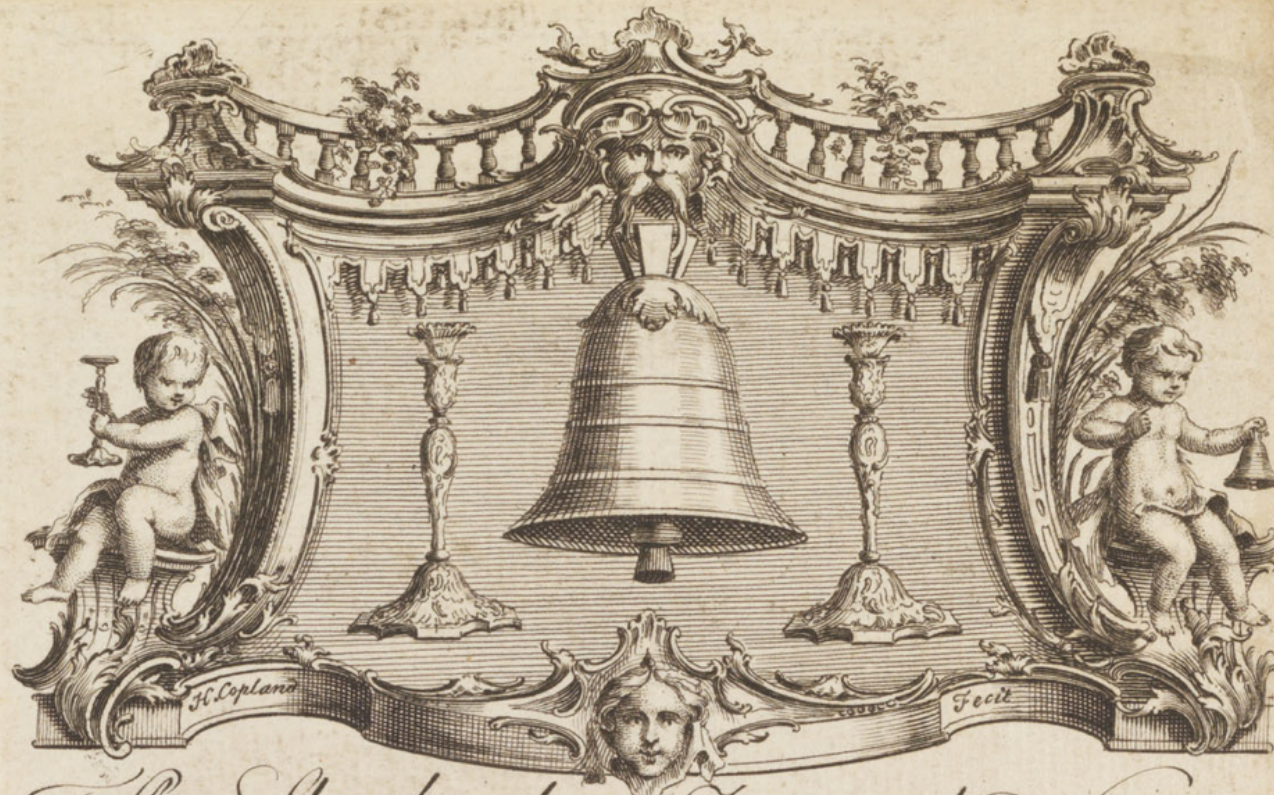
Bell Foundries



Whitechapel (London) Bell Foundry Sign
18th Century
(Photograph - Neal Hurst)



“William Kinman, Founder & Ironmonger At the Bell”
London 1758
(Victoria & Albert)



Tuffin, Shepherd & Jeremiah Nance
 At y^e two Wrought Candlesticks & Bell, in Newport Street Facing Long Acre,
London.

*Make & Sell all Sorts of Fine Wrought or plain brass Furniture of all kinds
 for Desks & Book Cases Chest of Draw^{rs} Bureaux, and all other Cabinet
 Work, wth all Sorts of Brass or Iron Locks for y^e Same, Brass or Iron
 Locks for Doors, All Sorts of Fine Wrought or plain Brass Branches,
 Candlesticks, Jerondules and Chandeliers for Churches or Gentlemens Halls,
 Fine Brass Lanthorns of all Sorts, Glass Branches or Glass Bell or Globe,
 Lamps of all Sizes, Brass Curtain Rods, Rings & Pulleys, Cloak Pins & Watch
 Hooks, Brass & Leather Casters, Sutes for Coffins, Brass Coffin or Chair Nails,
 Imptments of all kind, for Hanging Bells, And all other Sorts of Brass
 or Iron Wares, that's Used by Cabinet Makers, Upholders or Joyners,
 Wholesale & Retail at Reasonable Rates.*

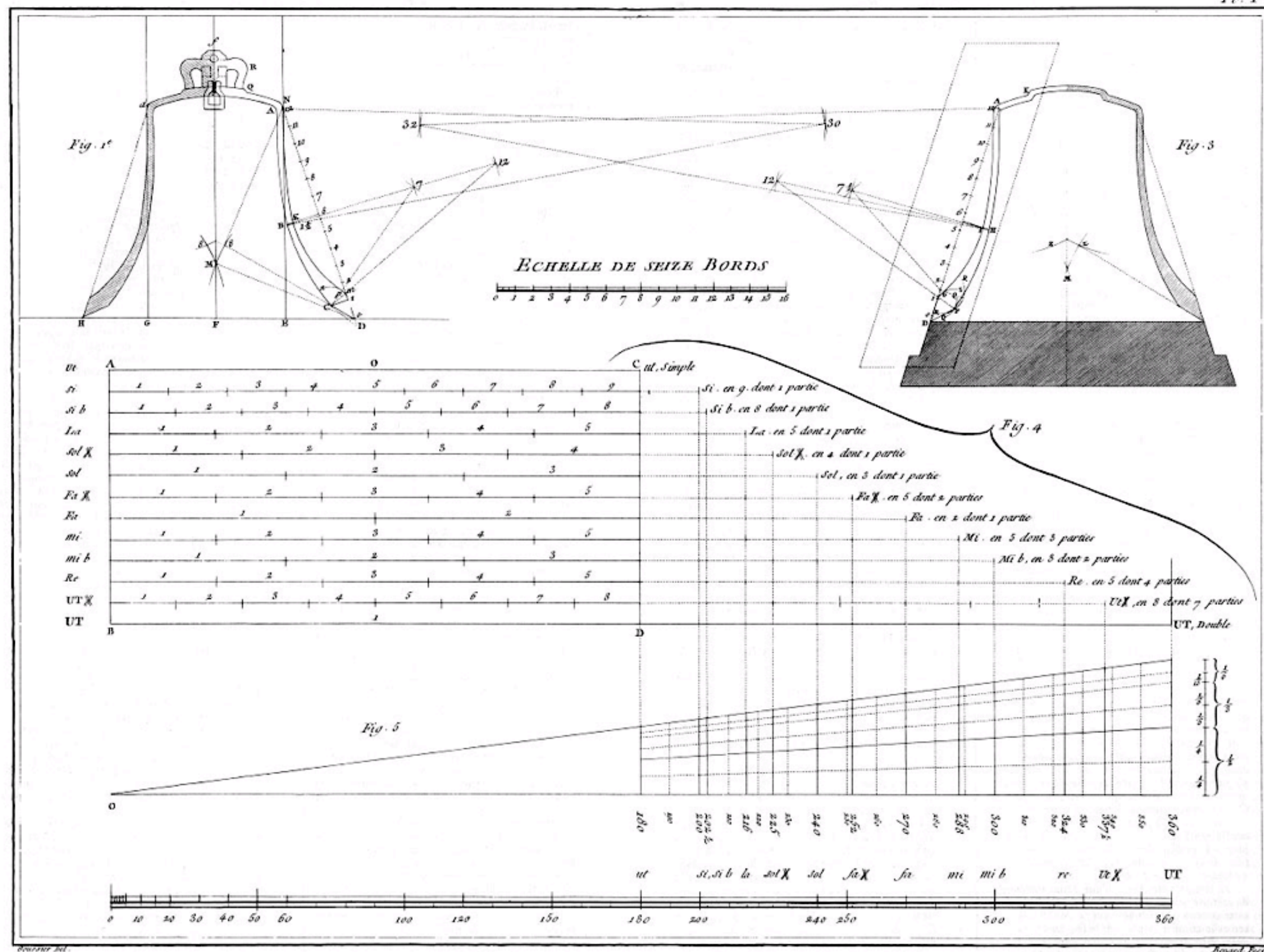
"Tuffin, Shepherd & Jeremiah Nance..."
 18th Century
 (Victoria & Albert)



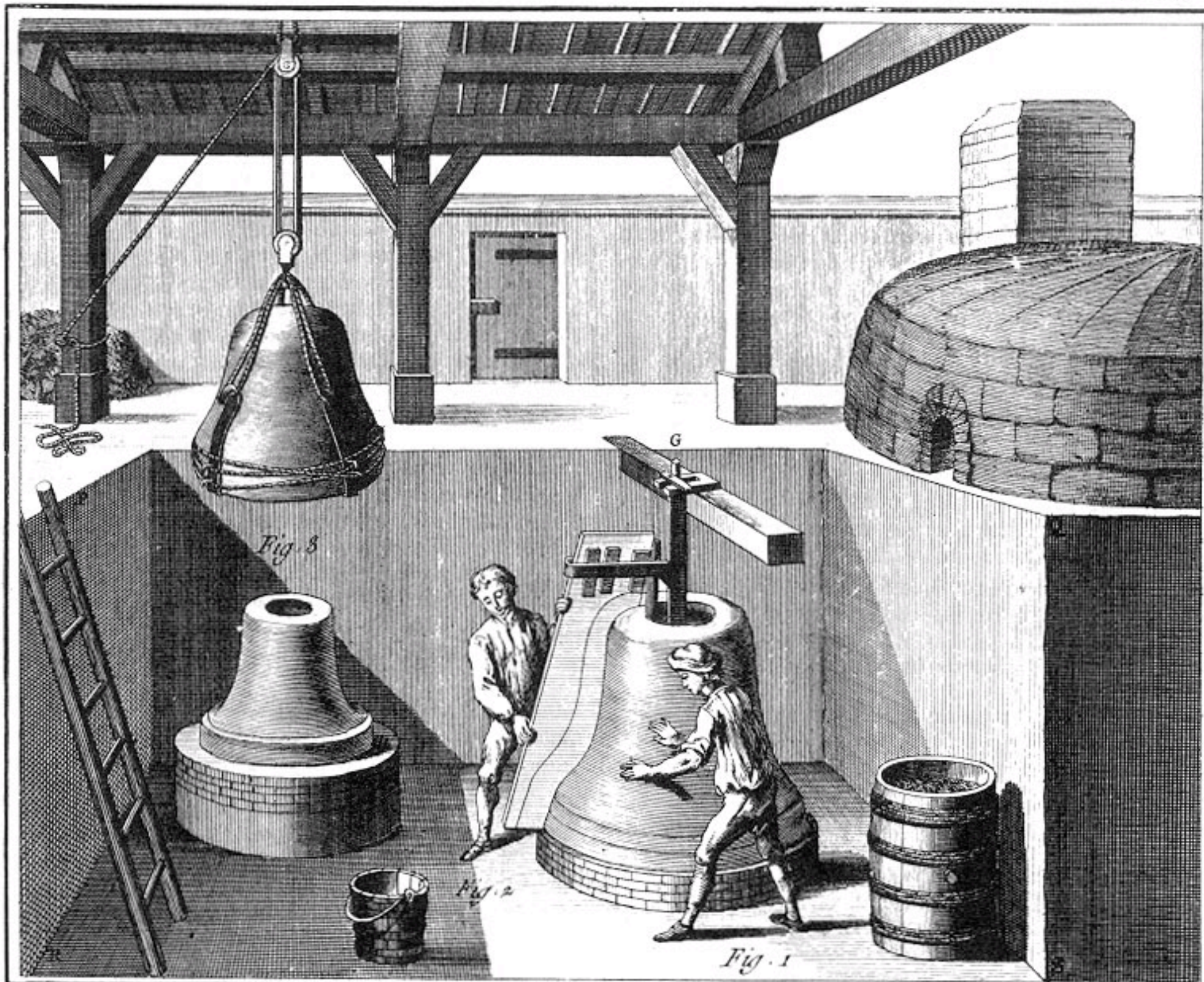
“Thomas Trimby, Cabinet Founder & Ironmonger...”

c. 1758

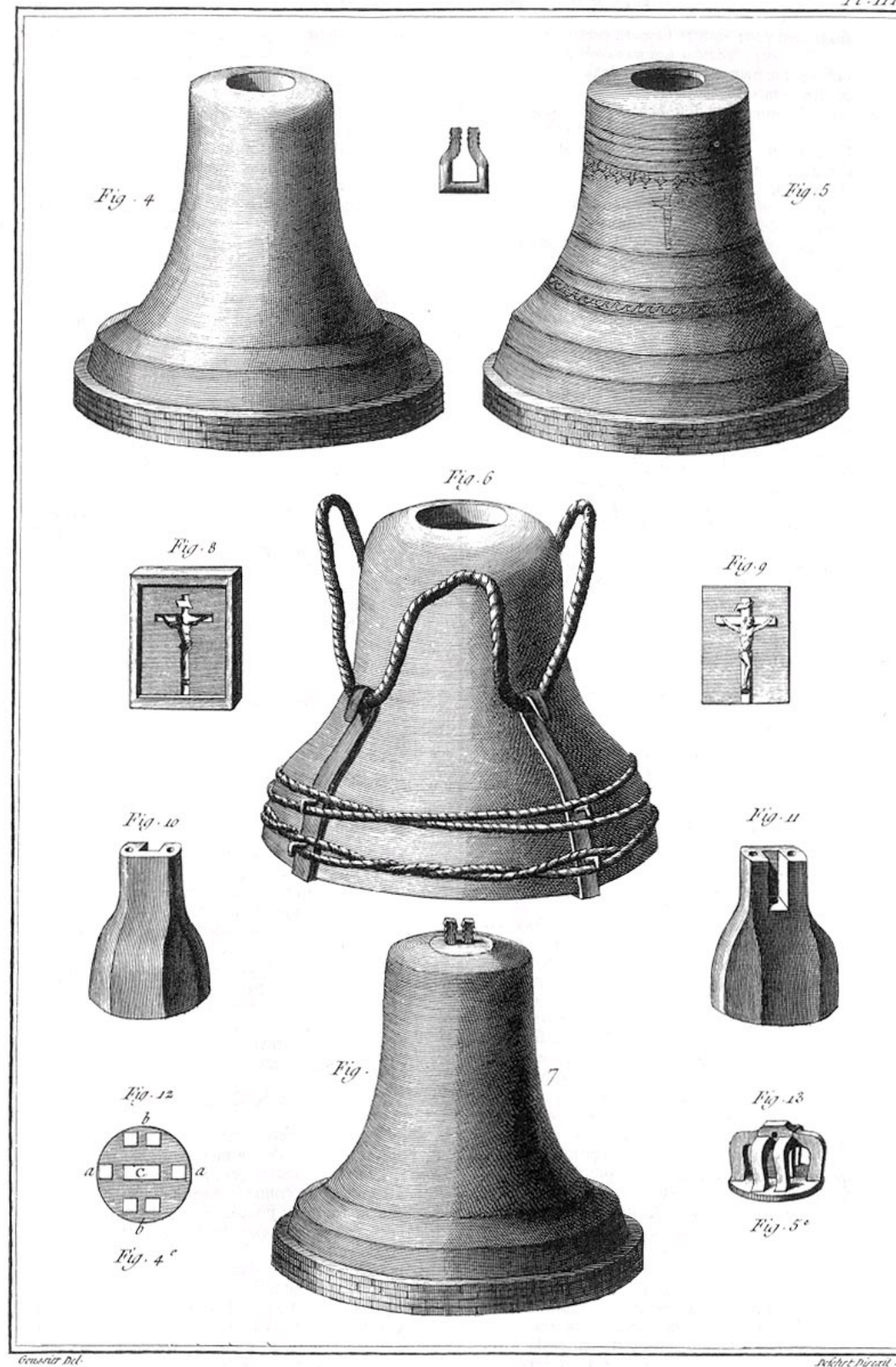
(Victoria & Albert)



Fonte des Cloches, Echantillons et Diapasons.

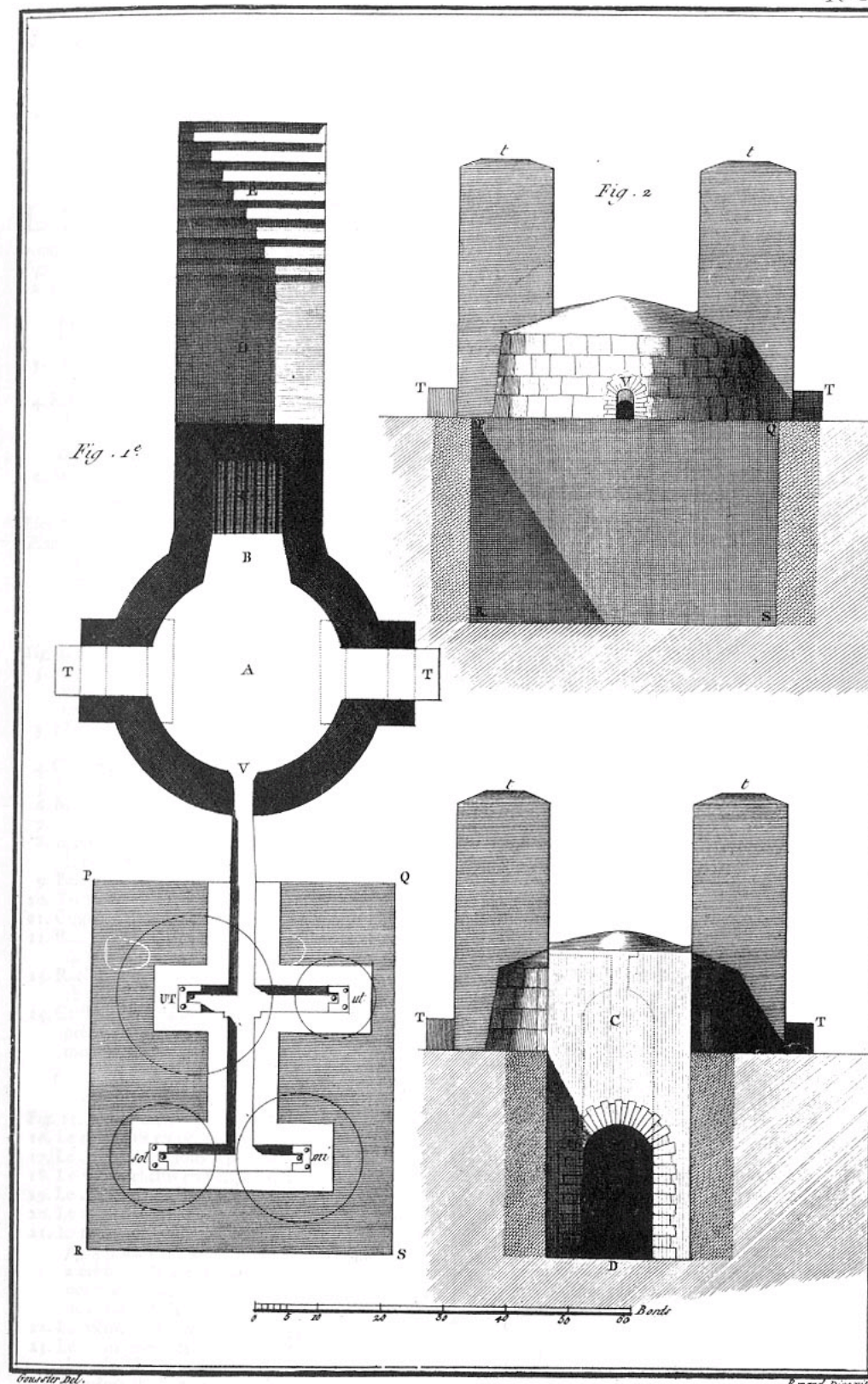


Bell Casting
The Encyclopedia of Diderot & d'Alembert 1767
(University of Michigan)



Fontes des Cloches, Différens progrès de l'opération de Moulter.

Bell Casting
 The Encyclopedia of Diderot & d'Alembert 1767
 (University of Michigan)

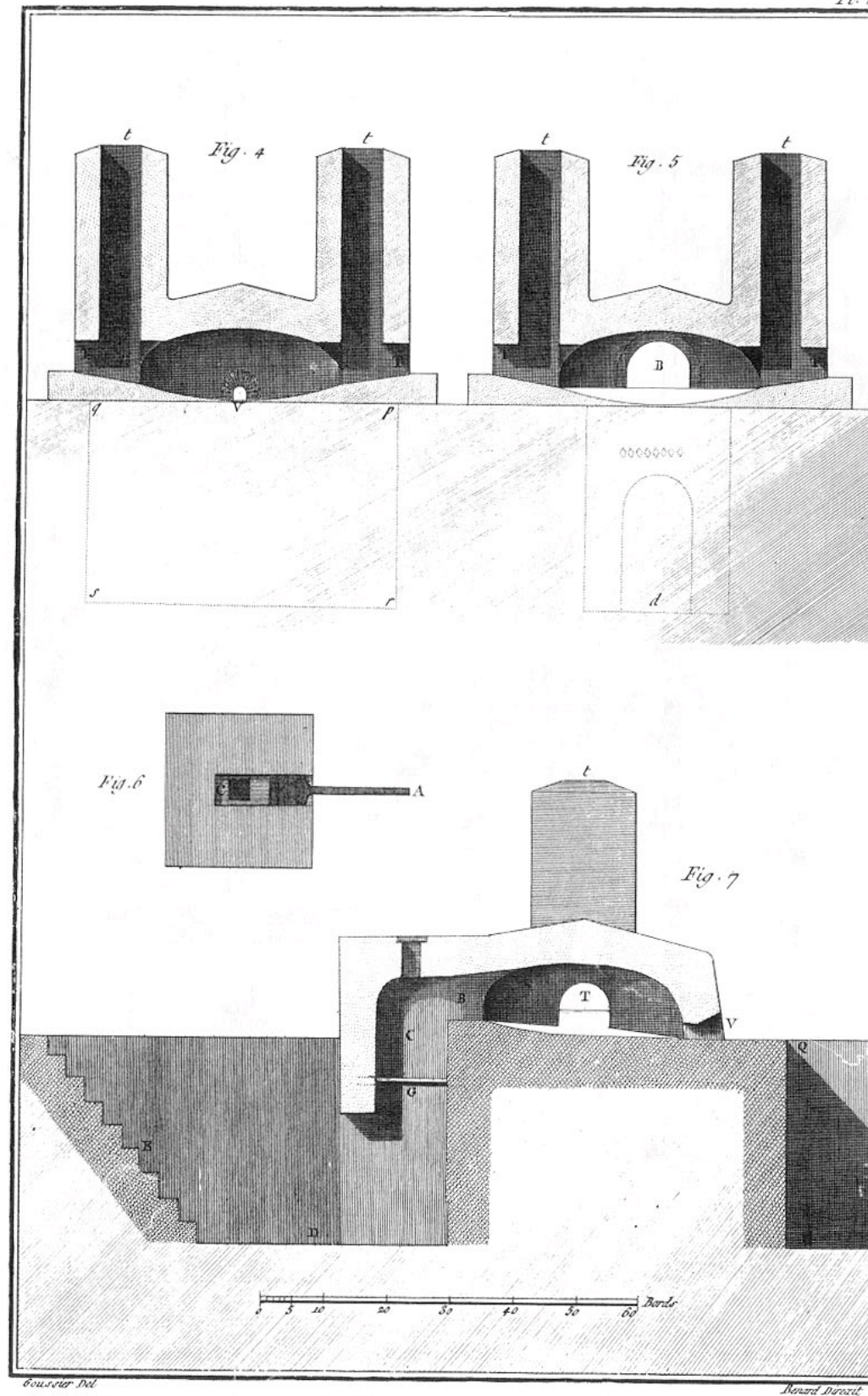


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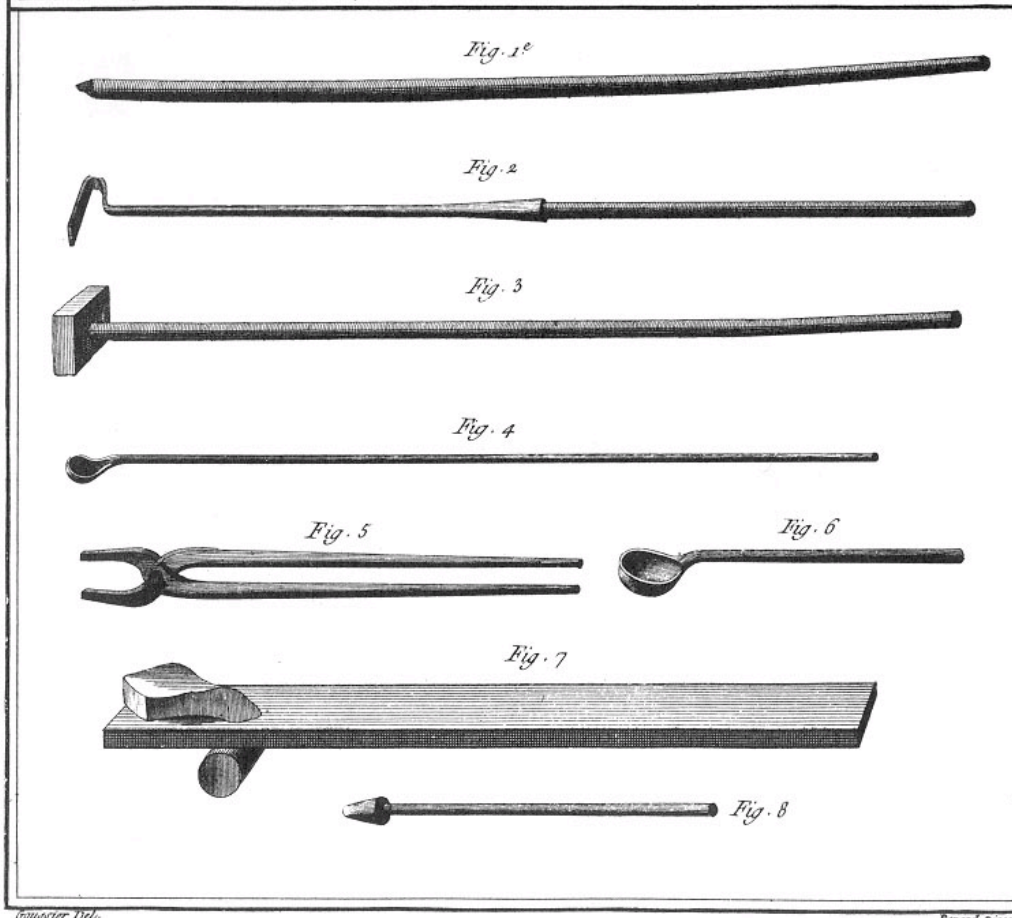
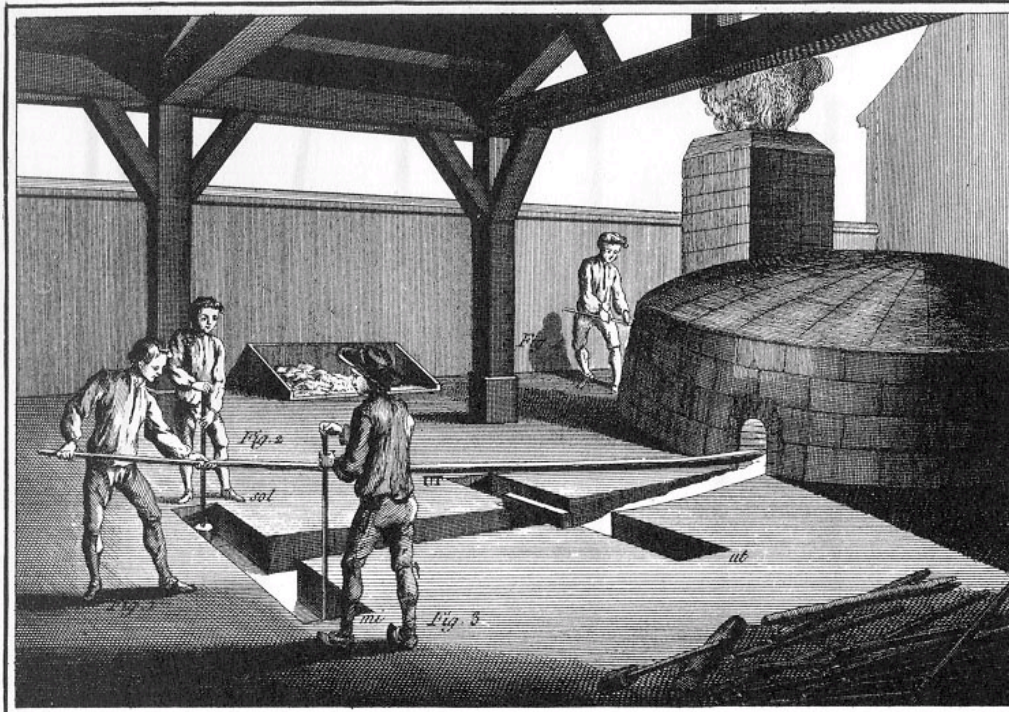
Fontes des Cloches, Plan et Elevation du Fourneau.

Bell Casting
 The Encyclopedia of Diderot & d'Alembert 1767
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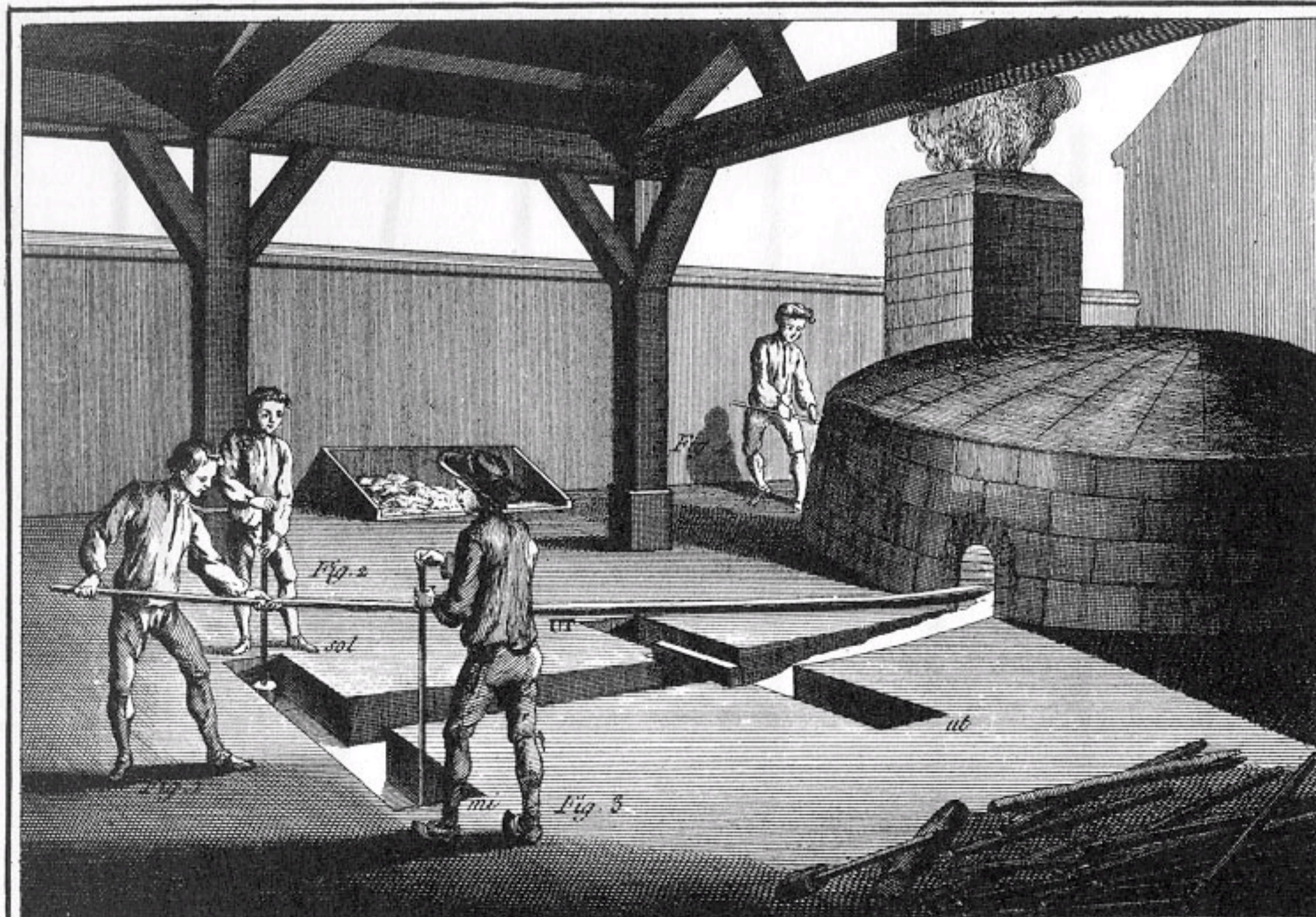
Fontes des Cloches, coupes Transversale et Longitudinale du Fourneau.

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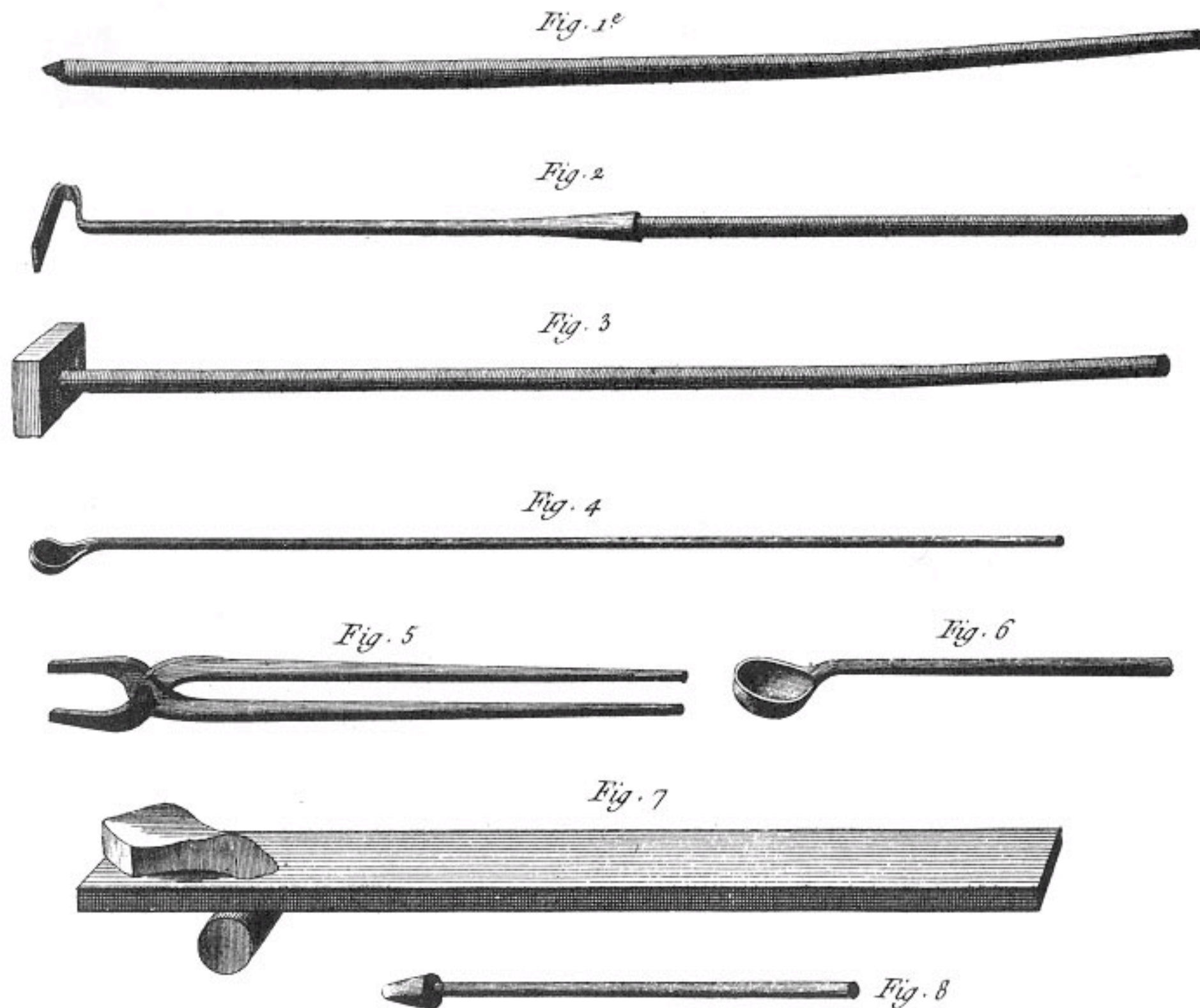


Fonte des Cloches, l'opération de Couler.

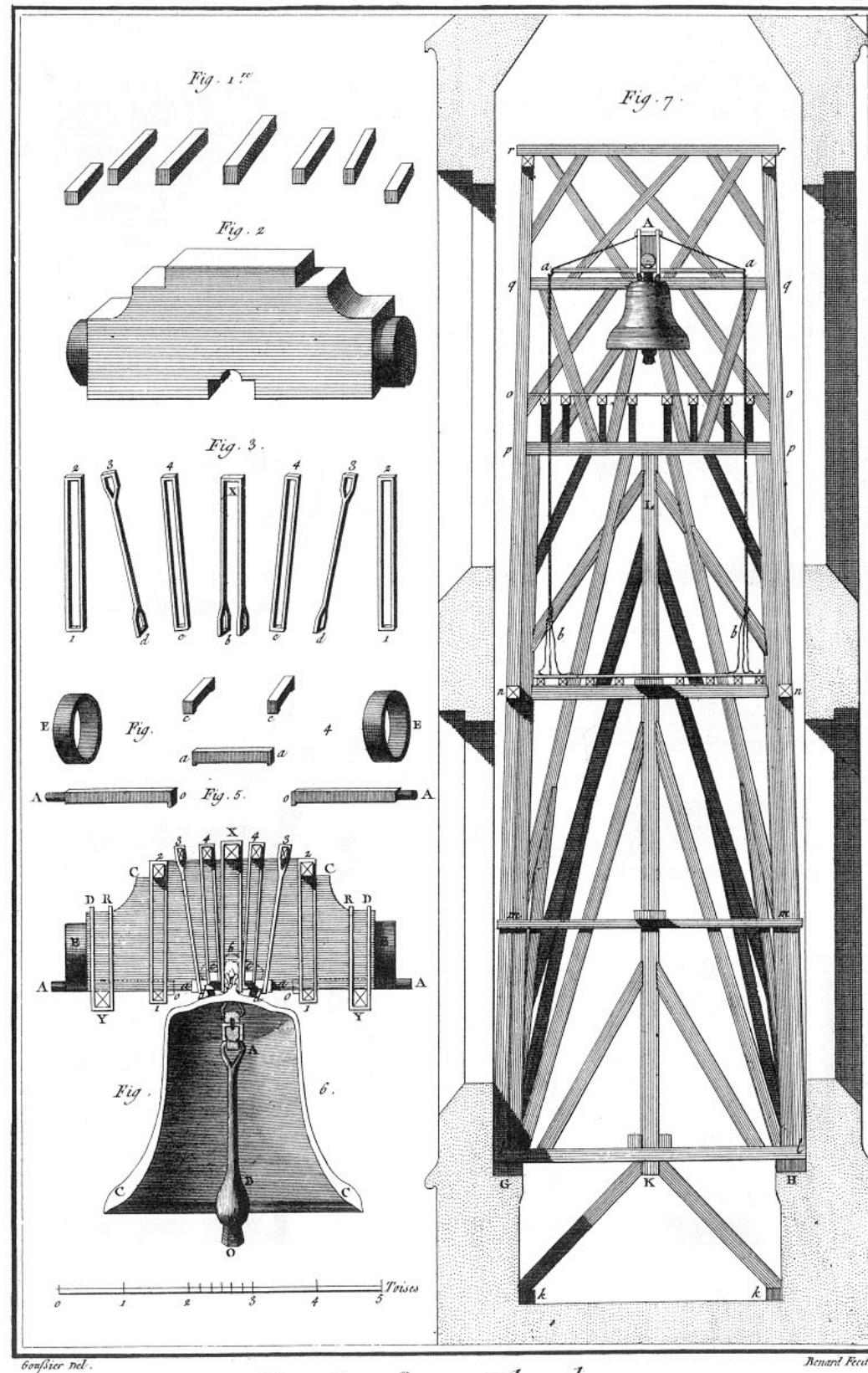
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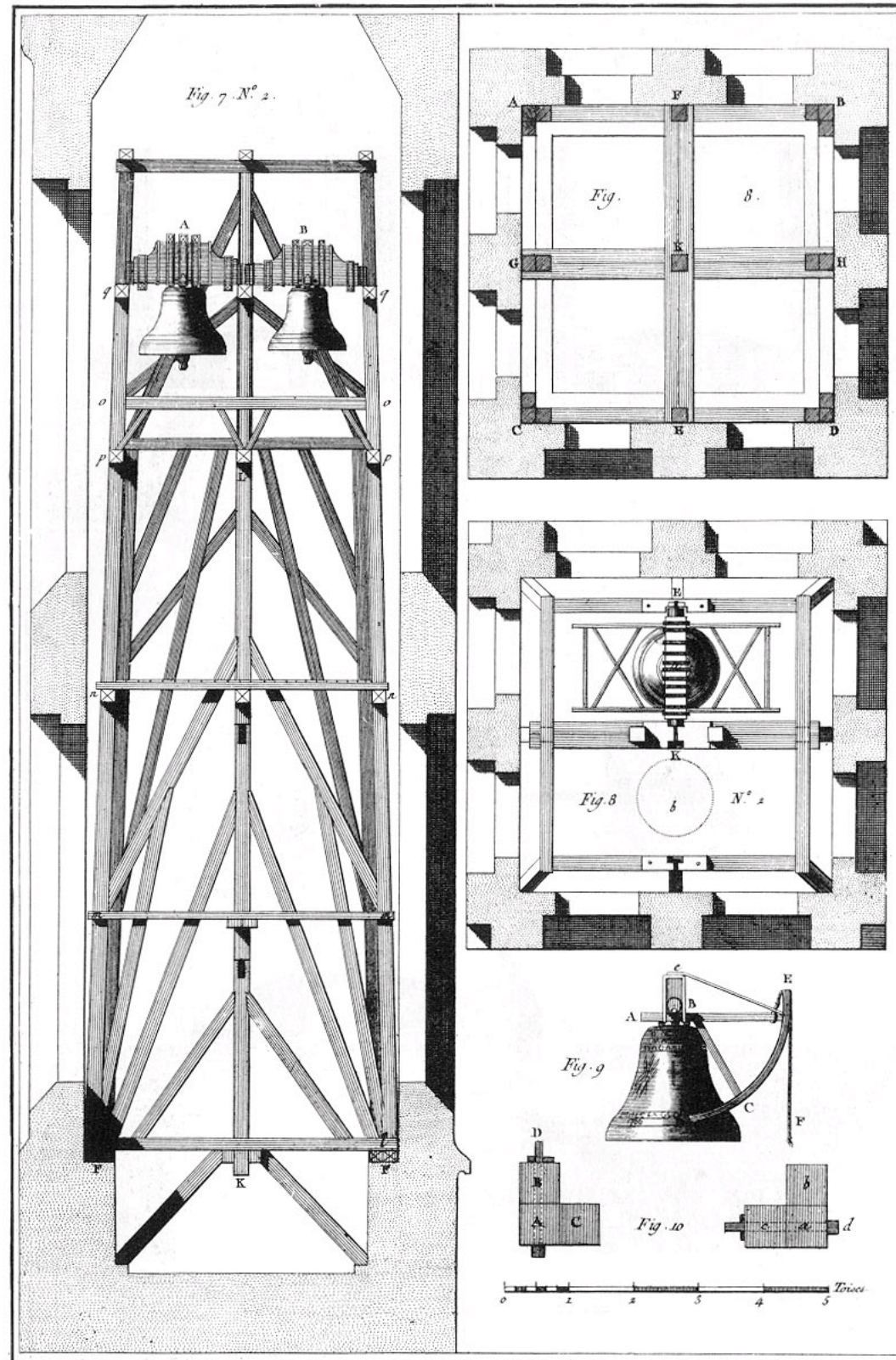


Bell Casting
The Encyclopedia of Diderot & d'Alembert 1767
(University of Michigan)



Fonte des Cloches
suspension des cloches et coupe Longitudinale du Belfroy

Bell Casting
 The Encyclopedia of Diderot & d'Alembert 1767
 (University of Michigan)



Fonte des Cloches.
Coupe Transversale, et Plans du Refroy

The Liberty Bell



The State House Bell “Liberty Bell” that Hung in the Tower of the Pennsylvania State House
Originally made by the Whitechapel Foundry in London 1751
Cracked, it was Twice Recast by Philadelphia Metalworkers John Pass & John Stow in 1753
(Independence Hall)

Bells



The Original Bell, Mounting & Wheel of Bruton Parish Church
Hanging in the Steeple Since 1769

(Colonial Williamsburg Foundation - The Historic Carpenters of Colonial Williamsburg - Willie Graham of Architectural Research)



The Original Bell, Mounting & Wheel of Bruton Parish Church
Hanging in the Steeple Since 1769

(Colonial Williamsburg Foundation - The Historic Carpenters of Colonial Williamsburg - Willie Graham of Architectural Research)



Copper Bell Found in the Mill Pond of Boston, Massachusetts
c. 18th - Early 19th Century
(Massachusetts Historical Commission)



Bronze Bell
Cast by the Whitechapel Foundry, London 1789
(Denham's Auctioneers)



Wringing the Bell at the Wren Building, College of William and Mary
(Interpretation by Jenny Lynn, Photograph by Crystal Buccioni)

Earthenware Bells



English Lead Glazed Earthenware Bell from Staffordshire
c. 1700
(Victoria & Albert)

Hand Bells



English Hand Bell Often Used for Funeral Processions
1638
(Victoria & Albert)

ENGLAND's New Bell-man ;

Ringing into all People's Ears GOD's dreadful Judgment on this Land and Kingdom.

Tune of, *O Man in Desperation, &c.*



A WAKE! awake! O England,
Sweet England now awake,
And to thy Prayers speedily,
Do thou thyself betake:
The Lord thy God is coming,
Within the Sky so clear,
Repent therefore, O England,
The Day it draweth near.

The dreadful Day of Vengeance,
Is shortly now at Hand,
When fearful burning Fire,
shall waste both Sea and Land;
And all Men's Hearts shall fail them,
To see such Things appear,
Repent therefore, &c.

The wordly wise and prudent,
Shall fall besides their Wits,
And wish the Hills would fall on them,
In these their frantic Fits,
No Succour, Help, nor Comfort.
For them shall then appear,
Repent therefore, &c.

The Seas and Rivers running,
Shall roar in grievous wise:
The Beasts in Pastures feeding,
Shall strain forth grievous Cries:
The Skies shall flame with Fire,
The Earth shall burn so clear,
Repent therefore, O England
The Day it draweth near.

The glorious holy Angels,
Shall then their Trumpets sound,
The Dead shall hear their Voices;
As they lie in the Ground;
Then all the Graves shall open,
And dead Men shall appear,
Repent therefore, O England,
The Day it draweth near.

The Devil will be ready then
Each Creature to accuse,
And show how in their Life-time,
They did themselves abuse:
And every Man's own Conscience
For Witness shall appear,
Repent therefore, &c.

The Works of every Creature,
Their Thoughts, and Deeds, I say,
Shall follow them together,
In that most dreadful Day:
And no Respect of Persons,
Shall in that Day appear,
Repent therefore, &c.

But such as have done justly,
Shall wear the Crown of Life;
The Wicked shall be damned
To Sorrow, Pain, and Grief;
In boiling Pans of Brimstone,
With doleful hellish Cheer,
Repent therefore, &c.

But Wo unto that Woman,
Which then with Child shall go;
And to the silly Nurses,
Which do give suck also:
When as the Day of Judgment
Grievous shall appear,
Repent therefore, &c.

And pray with Tears most constant,
Unto the Lord of Might,
That in the frozen Winter,
You do not take your Flight:

Nor yet upon the Sabbath,
That Peril do appear,
Repent Therefore, &c.
Let all good Christian People,
Repent therefore in Time,
And from their Hearts lamenting,
Each former grievous Crime:
Prepare themselves with Gladness,
To watch when Christ will come,
The Trump shall sound on sudden,
And no Man knows how soon,
Repent therefore,
For all Things are fulfilled,
Which Christ before had told,
Small Faith is now remaining,
And Charity's grown cold;
Great Signs and Wonders we have seen,
Within the Earth and Sky,
Repent therefore, &c.

Why dost thou put thy Confidence,
In strong and stately Towers?
Why takes thou such Pleasure,
In building sumptuous Bowers?
Rejoicing in thy Pastures
And Park of fallow Dear,
Repent therefore, &c.
Why seekest thou deceitfully
To purchase Treasure great?
Or why dost thou through Usury
The Bread of poor Men eat?
Why doth thy Life and Living,
So filthily appear?
Repent therefore, &c.

Wherefore let all good People,
Upon their Knees proceed,
In making earnest Prayer,
For never was more Need
That God may spare the Punishment,
Even for his Mercies meer,
And give us Grace to bear in Mind
The Judgment that is near.

"ENGLAND'S New Bell-man;..."

Newcastle 1740

(Lewis Walpole Library)



A Hark and hark! Bellman of the Town,
That out to cry his Master up and down,
At Callers had not introduc'd the Thing,
New-constituted widenesses had seen the King;
The loyal Tag, in four Parts of the Nation,
Both to the King's, and Bellman's Pensionment,
A Whisking Captain, quarrel'd in the Fleet
By whom the Bellman daily took his Beat,
Took it as his Concession to correct
Of Civil Rules to crying a Nephew,
That Day an honest Soldier peeling by
Had knock'd of his Catalogue the Cry,
Hark ye, Bells, ye! Bellman! come up Train—
A Dog!—I'll teach him how to cry his Whim—
Up goes the Man into a jolly Room,
Where saw the Captain starting his Fume,
And thought, that same Division by another
Had put the Here into such a Puffin;
So, I says he, bowing, and with Star in Hand,
My'st pleas your Worship, what is your Command?

Command? as Dog! If I were to grudge,
I'd break the Bones in your rebellious Hiss!
Bony, Sir! break Bones! (and then put on his Hat)
What have I done, Sir? What if ye mean by that?
I'm not a Bellman, but do all your Bell,
As good as you Sir, and can look as well.
The Captain, not suspecting such Rabble,
Began to fence his angry Look,
Smooth'd on his Draw the Military Frown,
And dropp'd his Wrath to gather something down,
Pony, when you say your Bell about here, Friend,
And cry your Bell, why don't you at the End,
Pony for his Majesty King O— I pray!
Bogly'd the Bellman—O good Luck-a-day!
I pray! forsooth! and why not preach as well?
Is it to Pray is you think I ring my Bell?
That I could I pray as well as you can preach,
To not my Office, Master! here's the Bell,
I thought you wanted to have something cry'd—
Well, but my Friend, the Bell-out Speak says it,

In other Place, when the Bell is rung,
King O— I pray! for, then, you told your Tongue.
Look ye, I have said it, as you walk'd about,
And suddenly have heard you leave it out;
I see his Draw—and do wish that you
Pony for his Majesty as others do,
Or the U—Mister, don't be in a Splinter,
You may not know—and never shall be known,
What's that to me? and if you are, good Sir,
So kind of prying, as you make a Stir,
What's your question, yet if that's the Case,
The Church, Sir, not the Market, is the Place;
If this be all you have to say—Famish!
And so—the Bellman here away the Bell.
When he was gone—but such a loud Part
To the same Tune he sang—with all my Heart—
When he was gone, the Captain quite shak'd
To find his Bell against the Bellman's quak'd,
To know in Conversation, by Signs,
The Edge of Knowledge's cutting Regiments.

Pony, says he, speaking to a Bander-by,
Is it not odd, or the Bellman's Cry,
To pray, that you the King?—No, Sir, not here,
It is a Custom which they have often here;
But to their Parts it has not yet come down,
At last I never heard it in this Town—
—You have in others—Ay, Sir, in old Times,
It is a Thing as common as the Queen's
Oath, in particular, it made my Son—
—How so?—I'll tell ye, Sir, in the mean while,
A Story, Sir, without Offence begun,
Which have some taken, although I've done—
Well, Sir, go on—Why now, as I said a Story
There is a Bellman as'd to say this Grace,
Which was known nothing of, it should appear,
—As I remember Babel!—Nay, if you won't have
My Tale it ended, even so to name
But very that which does us Good give.

For Best and Piffles—Well, Sir, I have done—
—This Bellman, Jack, they call'd him, as ye see,
Had Orders once to cry a Currier's Horse,
Bony'd or money'd one of his proper Course,
So to his Work had gone, and rang his Bell,
I mean a Whisking to begin to tell
The Horse's Colour, Height, and Age, and Branding,
But quite forgot he was a Partisan;
This good Token did not then Christianize
Of Money, since all the Constitution
Till Paper was ended, as you're now to tell it,
When recollecting that we found him hand it,
(After before that's a Truce, and the Paper
About the Market laugh'd, and call'd it their Jest)
Gad did his Majesty King O— I pray!
Then that's—well, a remarkable Tale.

“THE BELLMAN AND THE CAPTAIN”

London 1749
(Lewis Walpole Library)



“THE BELLMAN AND THE CAPTAIN”

London 1749
(Lewis Walpole Library)



George Pratt the Town Crier
by John Kay 1784
(Lewis Walpole Library)



George Pratt and a Fool
by John Kay 1784
(Lewis Walpole Library)

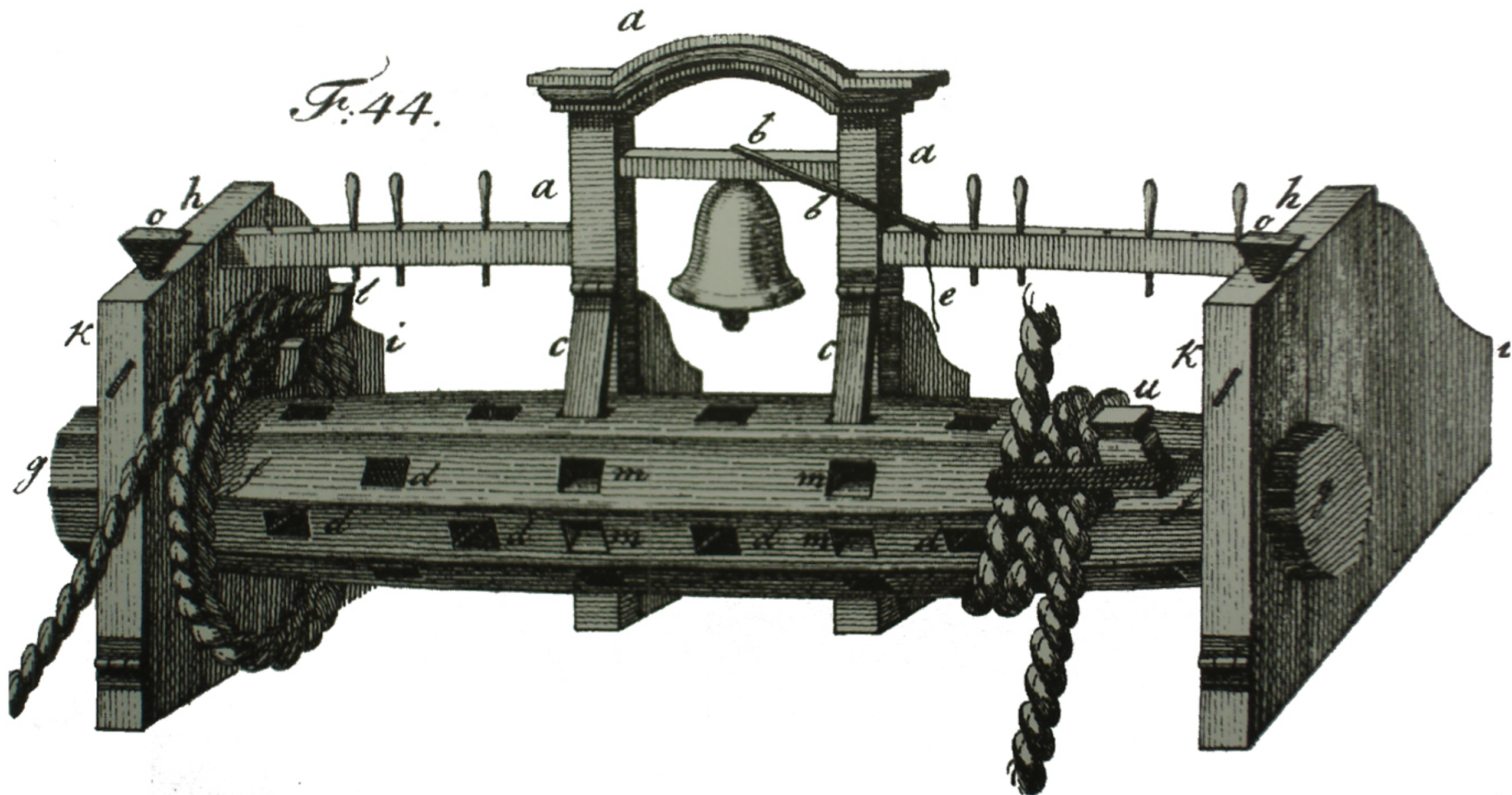
Ship Bells



Belgian Ship's Bell from the wreck of the Mary Rose, Found just Outboard of the Sterncastle
1510
(The Mary Rose)



Ship's Bell from the wreck of the English Slave Ship, Henrietta Marie, which Sank in 1700



Depiction of a Ship's Bell in its Belfry
 Attached to the Windlass in the Bow, an Arrangement Typical of Merchant Ships in the Late 18th Century
 From Röding 1793: Figure 44

House Bells



House Bell Owned by George Washington to Call His Servants & White Overseers

c. 1784 - 1788
(Mount Vernon)

Trade Cards



"J. Smith Apothecary, at the Bell & Lion..."
18th Century
(Victoria & Albert)



“William Fielder, Stationer, AT THE Bell & Star...”
18th Century
(Victoria & Albert)

Crotal or Rumbler Bells

Crotal or Rumbler Bells

Crotal or Rumbler Bells were cast in English & Continental European foundries as early as the 16th century. They were often used to adorn carriages, sleighs, and animal tack. Crotal Bells were also used for livestock and by the occasional person who wanted to attract attention to themselves, such as a market or fair person. Imported in large quantities to the American Colonies during the 18th century for similar use, they were often traded to some of the Native American tribes who incorporated them into their cultural practices. The first American manufactured Crotal Bells were made by Captain William Barton of East Hampton, Connecticut.

Crotal or Rumber Bells differ from open mouthed bells by the lack of an attached clapper. They create sound through open holes or a slit within their body and by the incorporation of a loose pebble or iron pea jinglet which rattled inside.





English Copper Crotal Bell from Essex
17th Century
(Private Collection - UK Detector Finds Database)



English Pewter (?) Crotal Bell from Norfolk
17th Century
(Private Collection - UK Detector Finds Database)



English, Possibly Tinned, Copper Crotal Bell from Cambridgeshire
17th Century
(Private Collection - UK Detector Finds Database)



English Copper Crotal Bell with Iron Pea Clapper from Norfolk
17th Century
(Private Collection - UK Detector Finds Database)



English Copper Crotal Bell with Iron Pea Clapper from Nottinghamshire
Marked for the Maker "HW" - Possibly for William Seller's Foreman 18th Century
(Private Collection - UK Detector Finds Database)



English Copper Crotal Bell with Iron Pea Clapper from Norfolk
17th Century
(Private Collection)



English Copper Crotal Bell from Oxfordshire
Marked for the Maker "WG", Possibly for William Gwinn 18th Century
(Private Collection - UK Detector Finds Database)



English Copper Crotal Bell from Kent
Marked for the Maker "RW", The Robert Wells Foundry c. 1760 - 1781
(Private Collection - UK Detector Finds Database)



English Copper Crotal Bell from Kent
Marked for the Maker "RW", The Robert Wells Foundry c. 1760 - 1781
(Private Collection - UK Detector Finds Database)



English Copper Crotal Bell from Kent
Marked for the Maker "RW", The Robert Wells Foundry c. 1760 - 1781
(Private Collection - UK Detector Finds Database)



Large & Small English Copper Crotal Bells from Aldbourne, Wiltshire
Marked for the Maker "RW", The Robert Wells Foundry c. 1760 - 1781
(Private Collection - UK Detector Finds Database)



English Copper Crotal Bells Recovered at Conestoga Town, Pennsylvania, a Susquehannock Village Site (c. 1690 - 1740)
Possibly by the Knight Foundry of Reading England & Aldbourne Wiltshire Foundries c. Late 17th - Early 18th Century
(State Museum of Pennsylvania)



English Copper Crotal Bells Recovered at Conestoga Town, Pennsylvania, a Susquehannock Village Site (c. 1690 - 1740)
Possibly by the Knight Foundry of Reading England & Aldbourne Wiltshire Foundries c. Late 17th - Early 18th Century
(State Museum of Pennsylvania)



American Copper Crotal Bell Recovered from Fort Hunte, Pennsylvania Possibly by the Knight Foundry of Reading
Likely by Captain William Barton of East Hampton, Connecticut or His Descendants c. 1740 - Early 19th Century
(State Museum of Pennsylvania)

Acknowledgements

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Thank you!

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