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THE AMSTERDAM BELL-FOUNDRY UNDER JAN ALBERT DE GRAVE 1699 - 1729

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From Hemony via Fremy to De Grave

- 1657- 1680: Hemony brothers
- 1680-1699: Fremy brothers
- 1699-1729: Jan Albert de Grave


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1699: Claude Fremy died

- The widow Catarina ten Wege owns the business
- The foreman Claes Noorden has the know how
- Together they rent the premises from the city-council
- They conclude a formal partnership agreement


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The Amsterdam bell-foundry



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Public notary



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Partnership agreement - 1699

- Business aspects
- Personal aspects: adults and children
- Splitting of the living accommodation

Partnership agreement - 1699
1- Business aspects

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- for a six-year period, including a rivalry stipulation
- finances on a fifty-fifty base
- cash in common
- inventory of the bell-foundry
- metal bars for tuning
- both names on the bells

Amsterdam 1699

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- New small bells added to five carillons:
 - Westertoren 3
 - Zuidertoren 3
 - Stadhuis 2
 - Oude Kerk 2
 - Regulierstoren 1

Both names on the bells - 1699

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- Claes Noorden on the upper legend
- Catarina ten Wege on the flank

Zuidertoren: adaptation keyboard

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Keyboard - detail

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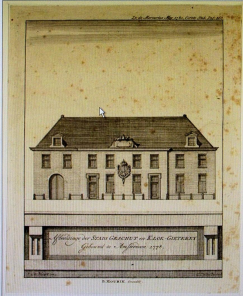


Partnership agreement - 1699
2 Personal aspects

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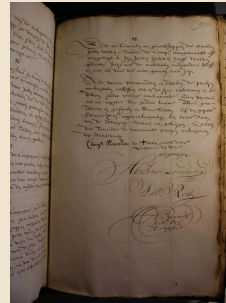
- Fremy boys to be educated in the bell-founders profession
- Same for the future Noorden son in law

Partnership agreement -1699
3 Living accommodation



- authorization of
 - access to workshop
 - access to closets
- 2 sets of keys
- communal use of attic, cellar, garden, rainwater tank

Partnership agreement -1699

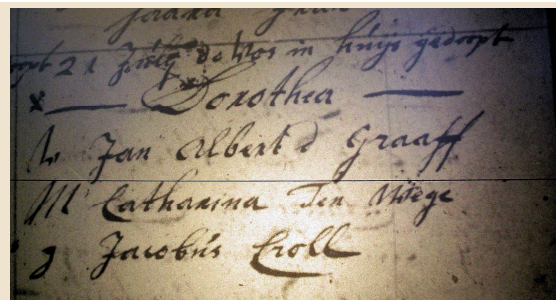


- Signature of Claes Noorden
 - Mark of Catarina ten Wege
- Comment: This business-woman is illiterate !!

1699: enters Jan Albert de Grave

- July: Catarina ten Wege remarries
- The groom, Jan Albert de Grave, is a gun founder
- De Grave becomes co-owner
- Friction between De Grave and Noorden

De Grave - ten Wege: 3 children



1704 - Change of situation

- 22 April: Catarina De Grave - ten Wege dies
 - three children: 1700, 1701, 1703
 - she leaves one child only
 - the other two died at early childhood

1705 Inventory of estate

- Premises: housing and workshop
- Household: furniture, clothes etc.
 - Workshop: stock-in-trade

Inventory of the bellfoundry

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Tools, instruments and materials

- Raw metal for guns and bells
- Old copper and blocs of tin
- Moulds and patterns for bells
- Mortars and bells in stock

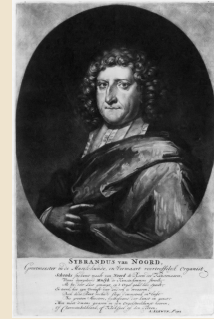
- Metal bars for tuning

Tuning of the bells

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- 7 october 1700: The Amsterdam city treasurer pays Sybrand van Noord for tuning of 9 bells

- Sybrand van Noord supervised in 1704 the casting and tuning of the bells for Moscow



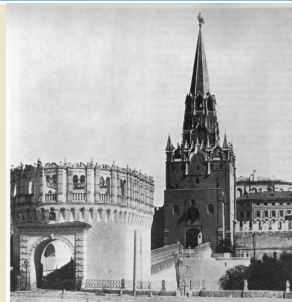
Sybrand van Noord 1659-1705

Moscow 1704

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44. The Spasskiy Gate from Red Square and the Tsandki Tower on the Kremlin wall (left). From Barten'ev, Moskovskij Kromf., (p. 122), fig. 116.



45. The Tsandki Gate as it appeared before its destruction in 1860. The Tsandki Tower in the background. From Barten'ev, Moskovskij Kromf., (p. 122), fig. 117.

De Grave - 2nd marriage - 1710

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- 1710 Elizabeth de Jong

- 1711 Elizabeth dies
 - ▣ she leaves 1 child
 - ▣ I found no baptism nor a funeral of the child

1716 - Claes Noorden dies

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- 83 years of age, twice married, twice widower

- Worked since 1662 in the profession = 54 years
 - ▣ with Hemony, Fremy and finally with De Grave

- Claes Noorden never became the owner of the foundry

- De Grave continues the business on his own

Production of bells 1699 - 1716

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Partners Claes Noorden and Jan Albert de Grave

- 37 swinging bells

- 6 carillons: Moscow 3x, Louvain / Brussels, Sneek, Middelburg

De Grave - 3rd marriage - 1722

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- Margaretha Dralle
- Marriage settlement

- Three children: 1723, 1726, 1729

Production of bells 1716 -1729

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- Jan Albert de Grave
- 56 swinging bells

 - 3 (4?) carillons: Hattem, Berlin, Potsdam
St Petersburg?

Final curtain for De Grave

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- Renewal of the 6 year contract with the city council in 1728
- De Grave dies in 1729
- The widow continues the business

- De Grave's name still appears on bells until 1732 together with Nicolaas Muller [foreman?]

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- The widow marries bell founder Pieter Oudeborn in 1732

- In 1734 the couple Oudeborn - Dralle does not continue the business

- The City Council lets the premises to Ciprianus Crans from Enkhuizen

Carillon Louvain - Swinging bells NL

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Delft - De Grave 1719

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- The survivor of a peal of three swinging bells