



# BIG-BEN

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**Big-Ben — a bell tower in London, a part of an architectural complex of the Westminster palace. The official name — «the Hour tower of the Westminster palace», also it name «the Tower of St. Stefana».**



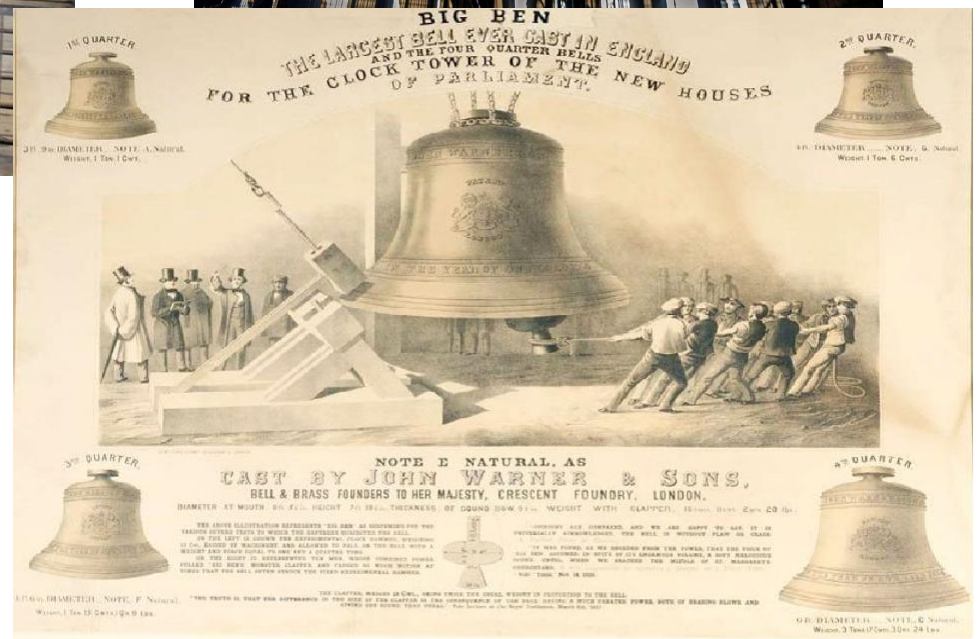
In 1834, there was a huge fire in Westminster Palace and everything burned down. Charles Barry took over its restoration. In 1834, there was a huge fire in Westminster Palace and everything burned down. Charles Barry took over its restoration.

The tower has been erected in 1858, a tower clock has been started up a course on May, 21st 1859.  
The clock tower was built in Westminster in 1288 and at that time had a completely different look.





**Big Ben is a name not towers, and a 13-ton bell which calls inside.**





**The tower, including the spire, measures 320 feet (96.3 meters). To imagine what Big Ben looks like, imagine the height of a 16-story building.**





**There are no lifts or lifts in the tower, so it is closed to the public. Sometimes exceptions are made to this rule, and then visitors climb 334 steps to go upstairs.**