



A WEEKLY JOURNAL DEVOTED TO THE ART OF RINGING AND CHURCH NEWS.

No. 4. Vol. 1.

JANUARY 26th, 1907.

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The Outlook.

AN old adage hath it:—"there is nothing new under the sun," and we are vividly reminded of it even in this inventive age. We may view with self-satisfaction the consummation of some mighty engineering enterprise only to be reminded that the Collossi of Thebes and the Pyramids were far greater feats in the remote ages, when in the absence of mechanical appliance and motive power, slave labour was the only obtainable force. When we gaze on some mighty Cathedral and view with astonishment the vast edifice on whose grandeur the ingenuity of man has been exhausted, our enthusiasm palls somewhat when we reflect upon the fact that the Temple of Solomon was deftly drawn far from the place of its erection, and with such accuracy, that in the building of it neither sound of hammer or echo of chisel was heard; every stone fitting into its niche with precision—a feat unparalleled in modern architecture! If we feel proud of our craftsmanship of the Twentieth Century our pride receives a shock by a visit to the Museum where is shewn the marvellous workmanship of the Ancient Empires, gone to dust long before England was isolated by the waters of the North Sea and Atlantic piercing their passage between Dover and Land's End.

Further, if we prefer it we can see the Ancients themselves bound in mummy-clothes of finest fabric—still strong, and the Sarcophægi with their unfading colours just as rich to-day as when they left the painter's palette thousands of years ago!

Would we quote our Poets and Literateurs Sacred or Secular? The cynic can point to Omar Kayham of Persian fame Plato, or Confucius of China where it is probable that the highest point of our modern civilization was reached when our ancestors were burrowing in caves.

In our own sphere of ringing we grow pessimistic when we discover the reported new iron frame is an hundred years old. It is an undoubted fact that improvements in bells and bell appliances have been remarkably slow. Only in the last few years have any great strides been taken out of the beaten track. It may be that there is little room for improvement in general principles, but there are some points that shew prominently. One is the hanging of the "Stock."

In times gone by bells were hung low on their 'Cannons,' and there is something to be said even now for *trebles* hung that way, but in the case of large bells the Cannons have gone, the flat crown taking their place. The "Tucking up" era began presumably with a view of counterbalance. The bell-founders of the continent however preferred the real balance weight above the stock, and we believe there is a Ring of eight in the Metropolis from a Dutch foundry hung recently in this manner.

Then the evolution of a *shaped* stock began and it will be of interest to our readers to notice the varieties of 'stocks' that apparently aim at reducing the counterpoise to a minimum. Whether the result of these experiments in bringing the gudgeons nearer the centre of gravity makes a big bell go easier remains to be seen, and in this connection we may mention that a recent photo of 'Great Paul' shews that this point has been aimed at. It has been stated in our hearing by a very celebrated engineer "that given the centre of gravity the weight of the revolving mass is of no account, Big Ben, or Great Paul, could be rung up in this fashion."

We have not sufficient knowledge on this head to endorse or demur to these remarks but we watch the 'evolution of the stock' with interest.

What is wanted more than that, is some contrivance to minimise the sound in a busy neighbourhood. Bricking up or stoning up the walls is too expensive and moreover stops the sound of chimes. There is a great scope for the ingenuity of the inventor in devising a clapper that can be used for loud or soft ringing—the latter for peal-ringing. We have experimented in many ways without success but a wooden ball with iron 'flight' seems the only practical solution. No sort of muffler will answer, we have tried it with Rubber under Steel, leather under Steel, but nothing seems so feasible as wood. It is plain however, that a wooden ball would not long stand the infringement of peal-ringing, but we have an idea and we give it for the benefit of the inventive reader—that if the clapper ball was hollow so that an iron ball could be slipped in at ordinary times, and a wooden one (inside the iron case) for peal-ringing the question might be solved.

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

THE SECOND SESSION of the SIXTH COUNCIL will be held at Exeter on Whitsun Tuesday, May 21st, 1907. Reports of Committees and any notices of motion should reach me not later than Saturday, 20th of April, in order that they may be forwarded in due course for insertion in 'The Bellringer,' Hon. Secretaries of Diocesan and County Associations will kindly bear in mind that Affiliation Fees (2/6 for each elected representative) became due on 1st. inst., and should be forwarded as soon as convenient. The rights of representatives whose quota has not been paid are in abeyance until payment has been made. I shall be grateful if they will at the same time kindly inform me of any change in the address of themselves or of representatives, or of any change in the representation itself.

Rev. CHARLES D. P. DAVIES,
Hon. Sec.

Fretherne,
Stonehouse
Gloucestershire.

TO RINGERS AND OTHERS.

—✂— **JOHN W. STEDDY,** —✂—

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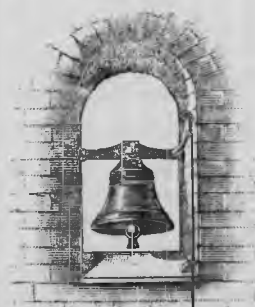
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32 and 34

**WHITECHAPEL ROAD,
LONDON, E**

THE PEAL OF HOPE—*Continued.*

THE OLD BELLRINGER'S CHRISTMAS STORY

HIS familiar there helps him,' was the response. 'Mr. Hugh's a fine chap, isn't he?'

"He'll have a fine lot of money some day, and that's better. Wish I was in his shoes."

"There's to be an ox drawn to the Square and divided; and a lot of sheep. And there's dinner for everybody that likes to go for it. Now then."

"And all day long, at intervals, the bells rang out as vigorously as ever, 'Long life to them!' But through it all, plain, and solemn, and unrelenting, came the knell. And I only heard it.

"At night when the ringers were gone, and I was alone, I looked up at the iron tongues, and said, 'What is it for? What do the burning cheeks and glittering eyes mean? Many a dreary work I have to do; but they are both so young; let us spare them. It is hard to toll on a wedding-day. 'Give me the marriage-peal, but take back the knell'. But they were dumb, and there was no answer, save the whistling of the wind, and the creaking wood-work.

"The chill January passed away; the crocuses and snowdrops bloomed and faded in my little garden—you know it—round about the tower; the robins came no more to the belfry for shelter and crumbs; the stoves in the church were empty; the sun shone, and the river ran like a thread of golden light through green meadows, under leafy trees, which were musical with the song of many birds.

"And there rung in my ears the sentence, 'Wait till we come back in the summer, and see if I won't rouse the echoes as merrily as ever.' For they were come back and summer was here; and there had been great rejoicings over the return of the husband and wife. But when Mr. Hugh remembered his promise, and stood once more with me up amongst the bells, his wife was with him, and the strong man leaned on the arm of the slender girl. In spite of the warm sunshine, his chest was muffled up, and his nostrils dilated and grew pinched again with every breath he drew.

"Old Jeff,' he said, 'thanks for your welcome. We are glad to be home again. But—this staircase of yours—it is a cranky, breathless sort of affair; we must see if something can't be done to it.'

"Had he forgotten, I wondered, the light steps that sprang up it last Christmas, and dashed in upon me at midnight, when I least expected them?

"And there's your bird of ill-omen safe and well, and gruff as ever. It is but a weird companion though; and the place—don't you find those midnight watches of yours somewhat dismal, eh?"

"He never used to think so. The tone was new to me, as well as the sharp catching for breath, and the sinking of the old buoyant spirit that was never wont to find the belfry a dreary place. I did not say this, however. I looked at the young wife and then at her husband. Did she know?"

"It is better than a solitary hearth, Mr. Hugh; and I am alone you know, wherever I go. And then there are these—friends of yours as well as mine,' I said, pointing to a rope.

"He shook his head, and smiled.

"I should like it, Jeff; but my wife won't let me."

"I turned away, that he might not see my face. As if I could look at him and not know that a single pull would shake almost the life out of him. He said that, looking down upon her with proud fondness, as a young husband should.

"Dear Hugh," she answered, 'only for a while, until you get stronger. For I like the bells too; and when you are able for it you shall ring, and I will sit and listen—outside, though,' she added, laughing. 'I wonder the ringers are not all deaf.'

"As she spoke, his face contracted with a strange expression—a sudden wandering look of fear, and perplexity, and pain. Did he hear the bells as I heard them? Did they send down upon him some voice of warning and trouble then, as she spoke of his getting stronger?

"I wish we had never gone away, Jeff. I was strong before we went. I think the travelling must have knocked me up. But here, give me a rope and let me try. It is all nonsense. If I could do it once, I can do it now."

"A little hand held him back—a little light touch, like the touch of a feather."

"Mr. Hugh,' I said, 'go out into the sunlight. It is dreary in here, and there are draughts in every direction. We will have a peal when you get stronger."

"Yes, you are right; let us go. There's something damp and earthy about the place. Come, love."

"And when I thought they were gone, all at once a dainty touch was on my hand, and eyes full of a dim and distant agony were looking up at me. She had come back to ask me.

"You sent him away—they are all killing me with fair words, which I don't know how to believe. You have known him so long; you love him. Tell me, is the change in him so very, very great?"

"I bent my head over the poor, trembling little fingers' and said, 'He is changed; but the summer is before him; he may rally. God help you both!'

"Then through the silence of the place there was a single heavy, half-stifled sob; a faint voice calling to her from the old stone stairs, and she was gone.

To be continued next week.

Miscellaneous Reports.

LIMERICK CATHEDRAL BELLS.

On St. Stephen's Day, a band of eight from S. Patrick's Society of Amateur Change-ringers, Dublin, travelled down to Limerick to open the restored bells of S. Mary's Cathedral.

This Cathedral and its bells retain no little historic interest. The former was founded in the twelfth century by King Brian Boromhe (or Bôru), whose arms grace the chancel wall, and whose tomb and effigy, together with those of his wife, are preserved in the chancel also. It is in other respects of high interest to the antiquarian; but we must not digress too widely. The bells were cast in the seventeenth century by William Perdue, who is buried under the shadow of the Cathedral. Of the original bells but two remain; three were re-cast in 1829, while another was added about fifty years ago. They now number eight, tenor 20 cwt.

In 1876, the restored bells were opened, but structural defects necessitated their being *Struck*, and not swung. The recent restoration, however, included repairs to the fabric, and have given back the music of the tower to Limerick.

The making of a good belfry depends upon the efforts of two people—the architect and the bell-hanger. In Limerick Cathedral it seemed as if neither the one nor the other had made the effort. The ringing chamber was a fairly large one, but the only light was that which came through a very small splayed window and a narrow latticed door leading to one of the parapets, while a broad beam, stretching across the room at the height of the sallows, interfered with rope-sight. As to the bells themselves, we found at starting that the 4th, 6th and 7th had to be clappered “wrong” in order to get them to strike; while the ropes were dropped down in two straight rows of four each across the centre of the room, when by the simple expedient of dropping the inside pair of ropes in each row down from the outer side of their respective wheels, a very good circle might have been made.

Not being able to ring a peal in the time at our disposal, we gave some touches on the bells instead in Grandsire and Stedman Triples, concluding with “firing.” We next proceeded to ring the bells down but owing to three bells being “up wrong” the attempt was hardly a success. Each item in our programme was enthusiastically received by a “bumper house,” the ringing chamber being crowded out!

At 2-30 we were entertained to lunch, in a manner quite in keeping with the hospitality which attended us from our arrival till we started home again. Dean O'Brien presided, and afterwards spoke most kindly to the visitors. Mr. Robt. T. F. Greene replied on behalf of our association.

At 4 o'clock we were due at the Roman Catholic Redemptorist Church of S. Alphonsus, where there is a peal of eight, tenor 28 cwt. The genial rector, Father Hackett, met us upon our arrival and bid us welcome. This tower has the ropes ranged round the four walls of the ringing chamber,—the treble, 2nd, 3rd and 4th occupying one wall, with so small a space between them that one could hold the ropes of treble and 4th at the same time, almost without deflecting either from the vertical,—though the others are separated enough. This is due to the fact that the bells are hung upon a double level, five below and three above.

With less than an hour at our disposal, we could only give a short time each of Grandsire and Stedman, with some firing, after which we returned to the station for the 5-20 train.

We made arrangements with Mr. Wright, of the “Limerick Chronicle,” who has taken charge of the S. Mary's bells, to send a course of instruction in change-ringing for his ringers. It was gratifying to hear him say that he would share all such with the tower of S. Alphonsus, and endeavour to foster as spirit of friendly emulation between the two towers. With such promise for the future, we may expect to hear more of Limerick.

Our band was composed of Messrs. R. T. F. and H. R. Greene, G. Lindoff (conductor), C. Murray, R. S. F. Murphy, T. Grant, R. Tait and A. J. Corrigan.

The tower of S. George's, Dublin, is the latest addition to the ranks of change-ringers. They have discarded “stoney” for good, and having started at the beginning of November, can now ring the qualifying amount of change-ringing for admission to membership in the Irish Association—120 changes of Grandsire Doubles. Messrs. Grant and Greene, of S. Patrick's, have kindly assisted at the practices, and the ringers of S. George's accord them their best thanks,

THE HALIFAX & DISTRICT ASSOCIATION OF CHANGE-RINGERS.

The above Association held their quarterly meeting and eight-bell contest at Halifax Parish Church (the headquarters of the Association), on Saturday last, when about 80 members assembled to listen and take part in the contest, which was on the heavy peal of eight tenor 25 cwt.

Four companies competed for the honour of holding the Silver Cup of the Association, and after the draw for order of ringing had taken place, the contest was proceeded with at 3-15, and was completed at 7-15 p.m., during the progress of which a splendid tea was served to the visitors in the Church Schools, to which ample justice was done.

The test piece selected was 640 Kent Treble Bob Major, preceded by a plain course for practice, or 676 Grandsire Triples, preceded by 3 courses for practice, the officiating judges being Messrs. James Angus, of Bradford, D. R. Smith and Thos. Pollitt, of Halifax.

The General Meeting took place in the Schoolroom, at 8 p.m. The President, Mr. B. F. Lamb, in the chair, and was supported by the Vicar of Halifax, Canon Savage, M.A., and Mr. J. Cotterell, Hon. Sec.

The minutes of last meeting were read and carried on the proposition of Mr. Cundall, seconded by Mr. Sharman. The President read a circular received by the Secretary, relative to a proposed memorial to the late Mr. J. W. Taylor, of Loughborough, which after being discussed it was decided that each branch should bring same before their members, and forward any subscriptions to the Hon. Sec., who would then forward same in one sum towards the proposed memorial.

The President asked for invitations for place of next meeting in April, which was due to be at a six-bell tower. This was responded to by Mr. T. Robertshaw, with an invitation to Heptonstall which was accepted unanimously.

The result of the contest was given by Mr. Angus as follows:

No. 1 Company, Brighthouse,	252 faults.
No. 2 " Halifax "All Souls'	Rung out.
No. 3 " Bradford	257 faults.
No. 4 " Lightcliffe Parish	282 faults.

Brighthouse being declared the winner.

A vote of thanks to the Vicar for the use of his bells and schools, and for his kindly presence and encouragement, was proposed by Mr. Lawson and seconded by Mr. Drake, and carried with applause.

Canon Savage responded, and expressed his pleasure in taking a share in the proceedings, which he was sure created a healthy rivalry among the ringers, and tended to improve the ringing, and foster a true spirit of genuine love of the science, and wished the Association every success.

It gave him great pleasure to present the Cup to Mr. Drake, the conductor of the winning team, and complimented him on the success of his team.

Mr. Drake suitably acknowledged the gift, and expressed his disappointment that only four sets had taken part, which he was informed was from unavoidable causes.

Mr. Whitaker proposed and Mr. Stewart seconded that it be an instruction to the Hon. Sec. in future to send all notices and reports of meetings to “*The Bellringer*,” which was carried unanimously.

Votes of thanks were tendered to the Halifax branch, and the ladies for their kind hospitality, and to the judges, and responded to, which with a vote of thanks to the chairman brought a successful and profitable meeting to a close.

Wit and Humour.

“Uncle Rastus, where yo' get dat fine hat, ch?”

“Oh, from de store.”

“How much yo' gib for dat fine hat, ch?”

“Ahem, dunno, de storeman warn't lookin'!”

* * *

A fussy and inquisitive old lady was seeing London from the top of a bus, and had secured a front seat, immediately behind the driver. Soon she began to take a kindly interest in the man, and to ply him with all sorts of questions. Presently she asked him how much he was paid a week.

“Thirty bob,” he replied. “Oh, I'm a reg'lar Cræsus, and no mistake.”

“I hope, my good man, that you put some of it away in the bank for a rainy day,” she said, anxiously.

“No, ma'am; but I'll tell you what I do do. I pays the rent, coal, gas, rates, and keeps the missus and seven kids, and what's over I stacks away in barrcls.”

TOPICAL TOUCHES.

By "JINGLE."

WITH a view of forming a "Ringer's Calendar," I have been looking through the peals and touches when it occurred to me what a number of noble names the exercise possesses! There are Ringers bearing the political name of Pitt, Fox and Gladstone, and we cannot fail to notice the Literary names of Goldsmith, Johnson, Gray, Holmes, Byron, Thackeray, and C. Dickens—the latter of Birmingham. There may be many more but these caught my eye at a glance. Charles Dickens the original as my readers may probably gather from my *Nom-de-plume* is of course a favourite of mine. Those of my readers who are bookworms have no doubt read all his works, and yet I *have* known men who were not attracted by them. One needs to study the style of Dickens to thoroughly understand him and to understand him commend me to "David Copperfield." There the reader will gradually become conscious that he is reading the life story of the Author.

Other books of his of course are not only interesting but fascinating, once you get well into his stories, such as Barnaby Rudge, Old Curiosity Shop, or Oliver Twist, and each points a moral. Dickens drew his pen pictures from life. He would haunt the balcony of a Music Hall to watch—not the amusement—but the faces of those who passed in and out. In them lay the inspiration that made the name of Charles Dickens immortal. True it is that he could not—or did not, "Plot," his works will always take, and possibly very few know that he wrote verse as well as prose. I have one little poem by me somewhere hidden away in some remote corner of my desk where it has lain for eighteen or twenty years that he wrote when he was editing "All the Year Round." It is called "The Children's Hour," and the lines always awaken a peculiar feeling in my own breast. I will look up the poem and reprint it perhaps another week.

It was perhaps fortunate for the fame of Dickens that he lived when he did for one who followed close upon him was Wilkie Collins. That reminds me, we have a ringer or two named Collins, who took part in the 16.608 of Oxford Treble Bob at Debenham in 1892. They well bear the honoured name.

Wilkie Collins was undoubtedly a kindred spirit to Dickens. In fact had he had the good fortune to be born *before* Dickens it is not too much to say that he might have eclipsed him. Collins also drew from life, vivid pictures of humanity that haunt you when you finish the book. Collins could "Plot" and his pathos, while not coming quite within the realm of "Death of Little Nell" is as natural as that

of Dickens. When Collin's wrote his first book, "No Name," he took it to Charles Dickens who praised it highly, thus there was no rivalry between the two. I commend to my readers who are lovers of books, two of Wilkie Collins' in particular viz: "The Evil Genius, and a New Magdalen."

Dickens died in 1870 and only one of his original characters remain. Mrs. Cooper whose originality of "Little Dorrit," cannot be questioned is still alive and recently opened a "Boys' Training Home," in London. "The little Dorrit," of old is now in her *ninety-fifth* year and as she sat on the platform many a thrill must have been felt by the onlooker. The face was the attraction with its crown of silver hair. There were the wrinkles of old age and the falling in of flesh which shewed the relationship of old mortality to Yorick! This dear old lady not only knew Dickens but played with him as children and as she said in a trembling voice:—"I hope your efforts will be a success. I feel you have come chiefly to do honour to one of England's greatest authors, Charles Dickens"; one can imagine the spontaneous throb of sympathy that went out from the audience to the "Little Dorrit."



Here I am spinning a yarn over books and authors, when I ought to be talking ringing. It's a weak spot in me. Once I get started off there's no knowing when I shall stop. Still I hope my readers like something occasionally besides peal-ringing, and I *do* love a talk over literature and poetry occasionally. It's a very difficult matter to suit everybody and what one reader likes, another may dislike. For instance we have received letters that differ widely. One says "give us more of your fun," another reproves me for levity! One reader advises the editor to give up some advertisements and let Jingle have two pages instead of one, Another is shocked mildly—he admits—about my remarks anent the lay figures legs in the picture! Let me tell my friends that I don't want two pages. I am sitting up writing now at this moment when my readers have in all probability been snoring for two or three hours. As for more fun why I am the 'Solemnist,' man you ever met. I hope I am like good medicine—quite harmless—and should anyone think otherwise will he kindly investigate the Latin Motto that encircles that coin of the realm known as the half-crown?

There are some people who think that because a man is a ringer and a churchworker that he should go through life with a long face. I admit that circumstances sometimes make us do so, but innocent humour and a good hearty laugh, never hurt anyone yet. At least I think so.

Yorkshire of broad acres has always been noted for its Ringers. A hundred years ago Wakefield was wide awake or Superlative Royal and Cambridge Royal would never have been accomplished there. Hollis of Grandsire Composition is of Wakefield but ringing is on the ebb tide just now though Messrs Moorhouse and Scott are capable men, with loyal bands to support them ringing might boom again. Although the Cathedral has a ring of twelve, I don't recollect ever seeing a peal rung on them beyond Caters!

There are other men in Yorkshire who are destined to leave names behind them. One is known as Sam Thomas, who has rung and called everything worth ringing from Plain Bob to London. Some of the new Surprise Methods—"Peterboro," and "Yorkshire," to wit, were entrusted to him and safely negotiated.

Another gentleman whose abilities are beyond a doubt and who bids fair to become a leading light at bob calling is Clement Glenn. For a few years now I have watched his performances which include calling "Holt's Original" handbells all round, and numerous tenbell peals on the tower. Sheffield has of course a few prodigies to follow in the footsteps of the famous Hattersley's, but we will discuss these another time.

Our "Anecdote" Competition.

We offer a Prize of **Half-a-Sovereign** for the best Belfry Anecdote. It can occupy anything between one hundred to five hundred words.

Send it to us in your own style and we will put it into shape if necessary. Envelopes marked 'Anecdotes' should reach this office not later than the last day of the month.

The Editor's decision to be final.

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PRICE LIST ON APPLICATION.

Music.

SUNDERLAND.—The Choral Union has placed two more triumphs to its credit, first at the Subscription Concert, when Brahms' *A German Requiem* was sung, and the instrumental music played by Hallé orchestra, and secondly at the performance of the *Messiah* on the 19th ult. The Union is in a flourishing condition under the direction of Dr. Coward.—The Grand Organ in the Victoria Hall, Sunderland, was opened by Dr. Peace on the 28th of November who gave some fine interpretations of standard organ works by Bach, Widor, etc. Dr. Peace displayed the fine qualities of the organ to great advantage. On the 19th ult., David Clegg gave two recitals on the same organ. Mr. Clegg appeals more to the popular taste.—The South Shields Choral were successful with their Concert on the 12th ult. when they sang Dvorak's *Requiem Mass* and Schubert's *Song of Miriam*. Mr. Fairs had his forces well in hand, and the result was an enjoyable concert.

* * *

SIR EDWARD ELGAR, in his last lecture on orchestration showed how the orchestra developed until it arrived at certain pauses, exemplified in the works of Mozart, Beethoven, Wagner and Strauss. He expressed himself in favour of a revision of the works of the old masters; so that the omissions due to the deficiencies of the orchestras of their day might be supplied from our ampler resources. It was not from reticence, he observed, that Mozart or Beethoven did not employ certain natural effects, but simply because they were unattainable with the orchestral instruments of their time. He believed that, much as had been achieved, we were only on the verge of the possibilities of modern harmony.

* * *

ALEXANDRA PALACE.—The Competition movement has extended to Hertfordshire and North Middlesex, and the first festival covering this area will be held at the Alexandra Palace in May or June next. Miss Cecilia Hill called a number of musicians to a meeting at Broadwood's Rooms Conduit Street, W., on the 12th ult. Mr. W. H. Leslie presided, and Dr. Percy Buck, Dr. McNaught Dr. Somervell, Mr. Sydney Nicholson (Carlisle), Mr. J. Graham, and Wildsmith spoke of the advantages of competitive festivals. A committee was elected with Miss Hill as Hon. Sec. Open classes as well as local classes for choirs were suggested. Solos would be included and school work made prominent. The smaller halls at the Alexandra Palace, will be available for all but the combined performances.

Church News.

A peal of bells has been presented to Boldmere Parish Church by the Misses Inston in memory of their father, Mr. Thomas Inston. The Bells were recently dedicated by the Archdeacon of Aston, on behalf of the Bishop of Birmingham.

* * *

The Bells of St. Michael's Church, Shebbear, a North Devon village, about seven miles from the nearest town and station, have been rehung and were dedicated in the presence of a crowded congregation by the Archdeacon of Barnstaple.

* * *

Mr. Harry Burstow of Horsham who is eighty one years of age, has completed sixty-four years service as a bell-ringer of Horsham Parish Church. It is stated that he has never been once absent from his post, and he claims this to be a world's record in ringing.

* * *

Great concern is manifested concerning the Stability of the Spire which adorns the handsome church, at Peel, Isle of Man, erected mainly by the late Bishop Hill, at a cost of £12,000. Cracks have appeared at the basement of the spire, which make it practically certain that the church authorities will be advised to pull it down and rebuild it. This is one of the few churches in the Island if indeed there is another, which possesses a peal of Eight Bells.

* * *

The magnificent Parish Church of St. Pancras, Widdicombe-on-Moor, about five miles from Ashburton (Devon), is at present being repaired. This Church is known as the Cathedral of the Moor, i.e. Dartmoor. It has a splendid tower with pinnacles, which was struck by lightning during service one Sunday afternoon, in 1638, one life being lost. Some quaint lines by the village schoolmaster commemorating the event may be seen on two large boards on the inner walls of the Tower. The Tower and walls are being thoroughly restored and the bells are to be re-hung.

OUR COMPOSITION PAGE.

SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR,

By ARTHUR CRAVEN.

5120.

2 3 4 5 6 M W H

4 5 2 3 6	—	—
2 4 5 3 6	—	—
5 2 4 3 6	—	—
4 3 5 2 6	—	—
6 5 3 2 4	—	—
3 6 5 2 4	—	—
5 3 6 2 4	—	—
3 2 5 4 6	B	—
5 4 3 2 6	—	—
6 3 4 2 5	—	—
4 2 6 3 5	—	—
5 6 2 3 4	—	—
2 5 6 3 4	—	—
6 2 5 3 4	—	—
2 3 6 4 5	B	—
3 4 2 5 6	B	—
5 3 2 4 6	—	—
6 4 2 3 5	—	—
2 6 4 3 5	—	—
2 6 3 5 4	B	—
3 2 6 5 4	—	—
2 5 3 4 6	B	—
4 2 3 5 6	—	—
3 5 4 2 6	—	—
2 3 4 5 6	—	—

These two Peals contain the extent of 4th and 6th in 5-6 (using reverse courses) without 2nd and 3rd in 6th place.

5216.

2 3 4 5 6 M W H

4 5 2 3 6	—	—
2 4 5 3 6	—	—
5 3 2 4 6	—	—
6 4 2 3 5	—	—
2 6 4 3 5	—	—
2 6 3 5 4	B	—
3 2 6 5 4	—	—
3 2 5 4 6	B	—
4 3 5 2 6	—	—
6 5 3 2 4	—	—
3 6 5 2 4	—	—
5 3 6 2 4	—	—
4 2 6 3 5	—	—
5 6 2 3 4	—	—
2 5 6 3 4	—	—
6 2 5 3 4	—	—
2 3 6 4 5	B	—
3 4 2 5 6	B	—
2 5 3 4 6	—	—
4 2 3 5 6	—	—
5 4 3 2 6	—	—
6 3 4 2 5	—	—
5 2 4 3 6	—	—
3 5 4 2 6	—	—
2 3 4 5 6	—	—

SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088.

By CORNELIUS CHARGE.

2 3 4 5 6 B M W H

4 5 2 3 6	—	—
2 4 5 3 6	—	—
5 2 4 3 6	—	—
4 3 5 2 6	—	—
6 2 5 3 4	—	—
5 6 2 3 4	—	—
4 2 6 3 5	—	—
6 4 2 3 5	—	—
2 6 4 3 5	—	—
2 6 3 5 4	—	—
3 2 6 5 4	—	—
6 3 2 5 4	—	—
2 5 6 3 4	—	—
3 6 4 5 2	—	—
3 6 5 2 4	—	—
5 3 6 2 4	—	—
5 3 2 4 6	—	—
2 5 3 4 6	—	—
3 2 5 4 6	—	—
5 4 3 2 6	—	—
3 5 4 2 6	—	—
4 2 3 5 6	—	—
3 4 2 5 6	—	—
2 3 4 5 6	—	—

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES.

By G. LINDOFF, DUBLIN.

5040 (20 PART.)

2 3 4 5 6 7

7 5 2 6 3 4	1
5 2 7 6 3 4	4
* 4 6 5 3 2 7	1
2 7 4 5 3 6	2
4 3 2 7 6 5	3
6 5 4 2 7 3	2
4 7 6 5 3 2	3
2 5 4 3 7 6	1
4 7 2 5 6 3	3

Nine times repeated omitting before * in 2nd 4th, 6th, 8th, and 10th parts Single Half way gives.

3 2 4 5 6 7

S 5 7 3 6 2 4	1
2 4 5 3 6 7	2
6 7 2 5 3 4	2
4 5 6 3 7 2	1
S 2 7 4 6 3 5	2
5 6 2 3 7 4	1
4 3 5 7 6 2	1
S 7 2 4 6 3 5	1
3 5 7 4 6 2	2
S 4 2 3 6 5 7	1
* 7 6 4 5 2 3	1
3 5 7 2 6 4	1

This part Nine times repeated omitting before * in 12th, 14th 16th 18th and 20th Parts.

TREBLE BOB MAJOR

By HENRY DAINS.

5505

2 3 4 5 6 M B W H

2 6 3 5 4 2	1
2 6 5 4 3 2	2 1
2 5 4 6 3	1 2
4 5 6 2 3 1	x 1
5 2 4 3 6	x
5 6 2 3 4 2	1
5 2 3 6 4	1 2
5 3 6 2 4	1 2
2 5 6 3 4	1

Repeated. 4th and extent, in 5-6 in latter portion at 6 Course ends 2nd never there.

Call 2nd course of either part
2 1 1
M W H
reduce change to 5088

BOB MAJOR

By HENRY J. TUCKER.

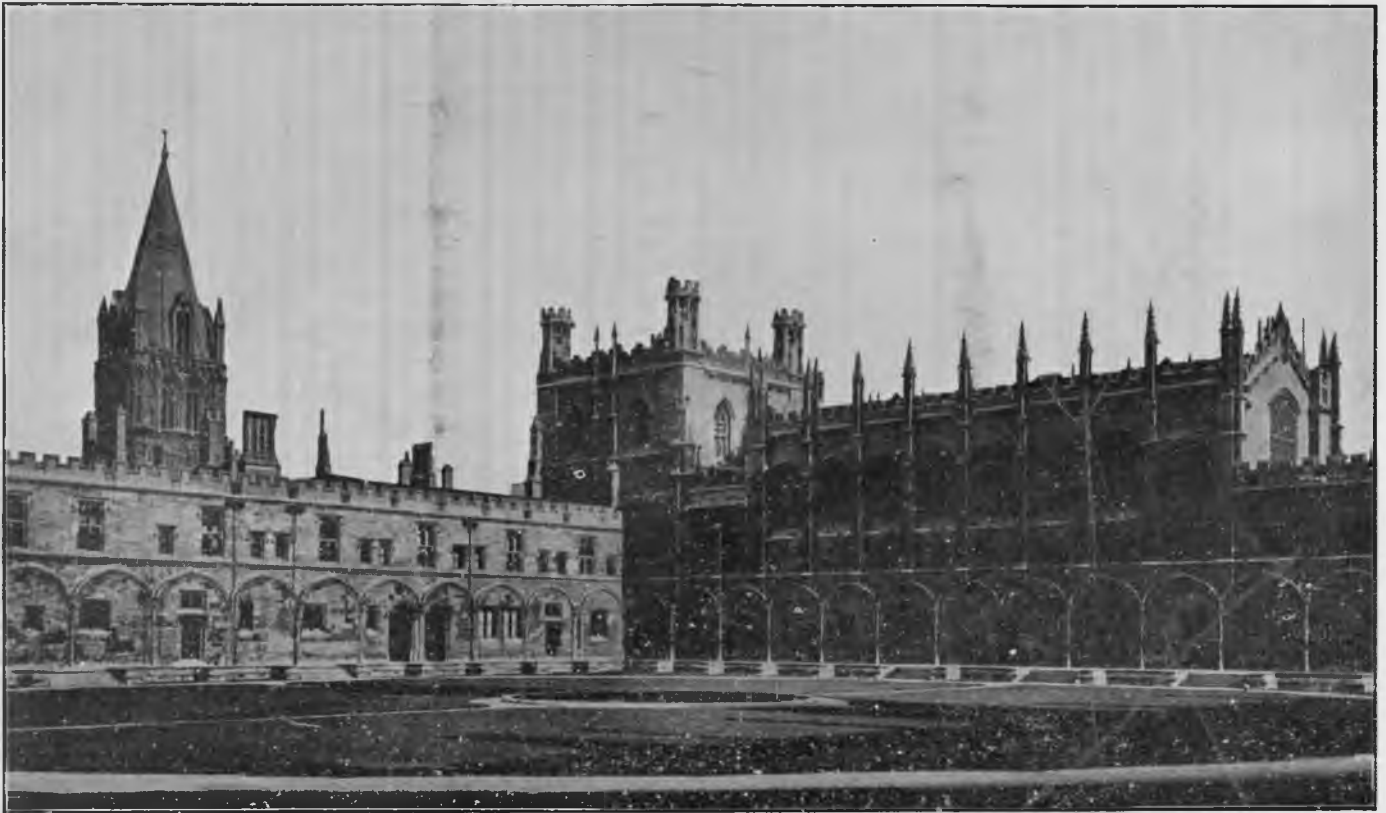
5056

2 3 4 5 6 W B H

5 2 3 6 4	x	x	x
3 5 2 6 4			x
2 3 5 6 4			x
6 2 3 4 5	x	x	x
3 4 6 2 5	x		x
6 3 4 2 5			x
4 2 6 3 5	x		x
6 4 2 3 5			x
2 6 4 3 5			x
4 3 2 6 5	x		x
2 4 3 6 5			x
3 2 4 6 5			x

3 times repeated adding a single for last Bob in in 2nd and 4th parts omit Bobs braced any two Parts.

Oxford University. Christ Church Cathedral.



THIS tower contains a ring of twelve bells. The back ten are by the famous Rudhall of Gloucester, the two trebles are by Messrs Mears and Stainbank of London, and are of modern mould; being cast in 1897. It is recorded that Christ Church bells came from Osney originally at the time the Abbey was dissolved by HENRY VIII.

The great bell of the Abbey was consigned to the "Gateway Tower," or "Tom Tower," of Christ Church but has been recast several times. At 9 p.m. every night 101 blows are struck on "Big Tom" and the gates of the University are closed. The tenor of the peal of twelve is 1 ton, 11 cwts, 33 lbs. The fame of Christ Church bells has been told in verse by Dean Aldrich, and was set to music in the year 1673. The words run as follows:—

Hark the bonny Christ Church bells

1 2 3 4 5 6

They sound so wondrous great and sweet
As they troll so merrily, merrily,

Oh, the first and second bell
That every day at Four and Ten
Cry's "Come! Come! Come to prayers"
And the Vergers troop before the Dean,

Tinkle, Tinkle, Ting goes the little bell at Nine,
To call the *beerers* home
But devil a man will leave his can,
Till he hears the mighty "Tom."

This was a rough skit upon the undergrad's of that time, but Dean Aldrich knew his men. Many peals of 5000 changes have been rung upon the back ten and one peal of London Surprise upon the back eight. The first peal on the twelve was Treble Bob Maximus, rung muffled in memory of the celebrated author "Lewis Carrol," who was one time a student at Christ Church. Three peals of Stedman Cinques have also been rung upon the twelve, one of them by the London College Youths. The dining hall is crowded with the paintings of National Celebrities including not a few Prime Ministers and famous Warriors. In the centre of the Quadrangle is a unique gold fish pond, and the grounds are well kept.

James W. Washbrook (Late of Oxford).



IN the ringing world J. W. Washbrook stands out alone on a Pedestal. A born genius in Ringing, Conducting and Composing, it is safe to say that the exercise has never seen his counterpart. He first saw the light on July 27, 1864, at Oxford, where the great part of his career was spent. When quite a boy he was found in the steeple and in 1880 he rang his First Peal which was conducted by his old friend Charles Hounslow. From then his extraordinary ability made itself manifest and peal-ringing tours that were organised always included J. W. Washbrook who was prophesied to be the coming man. Nor was prophecy wrong for neither intricate method nor heavyweight appeared to stop him. All Oxfordshire flocked to his standard and peal-ringing flourished as it never had done before.

All record lengths went down before him. 10,080 Double Norwich in 1888, also 13,265 Grandsire Caters; 12,041 and 15,041 Stedman Caters in 1889 during which year he rang no less than 121 peals. In 1892 he called 12,096 Double Norwich at Boyne Hill in an attempt for the extent with tenors together viz: 13,440. The Ringer of the third was taken ill when the subject of this sketch

not only kept the man in position but while ringing his own bell faultlessly he called the bells home true at 12,096! Many of his peals have been rung at Drayton with the Master of the Guild. It was there he rang and called a peal of Double Norwich, Superlative, and Cambridge Surprise all in one day, and in September 1893 he added the (then) longest length of London 11,328 to his list of trophies. In 1895 he visited Wells Cathedral and turned the great tenor of $57\frac{3}{4}$ cwts in to 5000 Treble Royal and as though this was not enough, the next morning found him ringing S. Cuthbert's tenor to 5040 Double Norwich. Yeovil tenor was also "turned in" and it was the conductors cherished ambition to ring Exeter tenor. In 1899, the much disputed Kidlington peal was rung occupying eleven hours and twelve minutes, which time is marvellous for a bell of 25 cwts. The same year J. W. Washbrook removed to Arklow, Ireland, where he since accomplished the unprecedented feat of ringing two bells in the steeple in grandsire, Stedman and Bob Major! He has recently turned the two tenors in for more than half a peal! His record of peals number between Six and Seven Hundred and as a composer he is second to none.

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PEALS. Maximus.

CHEAPSIDE, LONDON, E.C.
THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, January 19th, 1907, was rung in four hours

At the Church of S. Mary-le-Bow.

A Peal of TREBLE BOB MAXIMUS, 5088 changes

In the Kent variation. Tenor 53 cwt.

Challis F. Winney ...treble	William H. Pasmore	7
Samuel E. Joyce ... 2	Alfred B. Peck ...	8
Herbert Langdon ... 3	Edward P. O'Meara...	9
Harry R. Pasmore ... 4	Henry R. Newton ...	10
William E. Garrard ... 5	Richard T. Hibbert ...	11
Edwin Horrex ... 6	William T. Cockerill	tenor

Composed by H. W. HALEY, and

Conducted by W. T. COCKERILL.

First peal of Maximus on the bells, which have recently been rehung by Mears and Stainbank of Whitechapel Foundry. It may be interesting to add that these are the far-famed "Bow Bells" of Whittington renown.

Caters.

APPLETON, BERKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD, AND THE
OXFORD SOCIETY.

On Saturday, January 12th, 1907, was rung in three hours

At the Church of S. Lawrence.

A Peal of STEDMAN CATERS, 5002 changes.

Tenor 14 cwt.

Frank Tubb... ...treble	George R. Fardon ...	6
Alfred Fox 2	Edgar Humfrey ...	7
Harry Miles 3	William Finch ...	8
Thomas Payne 4	Richard White ...	9
Harry Holifield 5	William Stone ...	tenor

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF, and

Conducted by GEORGE R. FARDON.

Rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. F. White, Sen. His brother ringers wishing him many happy returns.

CHESTERFIELD, DERBYSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION

AND THE

SHEFFIELD DISTRICT SOCIETY.

On Saturday, January 19th, 1907, was rung in three hours and twenty-one minutes.

At the Church of S. Mary and All Saints.

A Peal of STEDMAN CATERS, 5021 changes.

Tenor 24½ cwt.

*William Bellamy ...treble	Samuel Wesley ...	6
Arthur Craven 2	Joseph Bailey ...	7
George Hollis 3	Walter Wallace ...	8
Benj. A. Knights 4	Charles W. Clarke ...	9
Arthur Knights 5	R. Wilfred Collier ...	tenor

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS, and

Conducted by CHARLES W. CLARKE.

*First peal of Stedman Caters. †First peal on ten bells.

*PEALS—continued.***Majors.****THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND
THE LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.**

(Christ Church Southgate Society).

*On Monday, January 14th, 1906, was rung in three
hours and sixteen minutes,*

At Christ Church, Southgate.

**A Peal of SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056
changes.**

Tenor 25 cwt.

William Pickworth ...treble	Norman A. Tomlinson 5
John Armstrong ... 2	F. G. Tegg ... 6
H. E. Balaam ... 3	J. E. Miller ... 7
Edmund G. Tomlinson 4	Sidney Wade ... tenor

Composed by CHARLES H. HATTERSLEY, and

Conducted by SIDNEY WADE.

First peal in method by 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th. First peal away from the Treble by 7th. First peal in the method as conductor, also by the local Society.

MANCHESTER.**THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.***On Tuesday, January 15th, 1907, was rung in three
hours and seventeen minutes.*

At the Church of S. John, Deansgate.

A Peal of TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 changes.

In the Kent variation. Tenor 20 cwt.

George E. Turner ...treble	Rupert Richardson ... 5
Walter Brown ... 2	William H. Cooper ... 6
Wilfrid J. Moss ... 3	Richard Newton ... 7
Robert Davies ... 4	Harry Chapman ... tenor

Composed by SAMUEL WOOD, and

Conducted by HARRY CHAPMAN.

This peal was arranged for Mr. R. Richardson, who hails from Spalding, Lincolnshire, and was elected a member of the Association previous to starting.

WOOLTON.*On Thursday, January 17th, 1907, was rung in three
hours and eleven minutes.***A Peal of OXFORD TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088
changes.**

Tenor 20 cwt.

John Aspinwall...treble	*George R. Newton 5
*Rev. B. Tyrwhitt Drake 2	Edward Paunce ... 6
John Turner ... 3	*Samuel Stewart ... 7
*Edwin H. Lewis ... 4	William Davies ... tenor

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS, and

Conducted by G. R. NEWTON.

*First Peal in the method. First peal in the method on the bells. For calling, see Midland Counties Report, No. 1130.

SELLY OAK.**THE ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESAN
OF BIRMINGHAM, AND THE
WORCESTERSHIRE & DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION***On Thursday, January 17th, 1907, was rung in two
hours and fifty-one minutes.*

At the Church of S. Mary.

**A Peal of SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR 5088
changes.**

Tenor 12cwt. 1qr. 13lbs.

George Pigott ...treble	*Joseph Pigott ... 5
Horace F. Street ... 2	Samuel Grove... 6
John Withers ... 3	James Dowler ... 7
Frank Withers ... 4	Arthur E. Pegler ... tenor

Composed by N. J. PETSTOW, and
Conducted by ARTHUR E. PEGLER.

* First peal in the method.

SUNBURY, MIDDLESEX.**THE LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**

Late S. James' Society.

*On Saturday, January 19th, 1907, was rung in three hours
and twelve minutes.*

At the Church of S. Mary

**A Peal of DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR,
5040 changes.**

Tenor 14½ cwt.

John H. B. Hesse ...treble	George F. Williams ... 5
Arthur Hardy ... 2	John Howes ... 6
William H. Hollier ... 3	Ernest Brett ... 7
Frederick G. Perrin... 4	James E. Davis... tenor

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW, and
Conducted by JAMES E. DAVIES.**ASHSTEAD, SURREY.****THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.***On Saturday, January 19th, 1907, was rung in two
hours and fifty-seven minutes.*

At the Church of S. Giles.

A Peal of KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5120 changes

Tenor 14 cwt.

George Marriner...treble	Alfred H. Winch ... 5
Henry Corbett ... 2	John Wyatt ... 6
John Hoyle ... 3	Arthur Dean ... 7
George W. Challice ... 4	James Hunt ... tenor

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW, and
Conducted by JAMES HUNT.

First peal of treble Bob as Conductor.

Triples.**CRAYFORD, KENT.****THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.***On Thursday, January 3rd, 1907, was rung in two
hours and forty-four minutes.*

At the Church of S. Paulinus

A Peal of STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 changes.

Ha'ey's variation. Tenor 12½ cwt.

Herbert Wood...treble	Frederick French ... 5
John H. Cheesman... 2	Edwin Barnett, jnr... 6
Edward Audsley ... 3	Edwin Barnett, sen. 7
*John Saxby ... 4	*William Bond ... tenor

Conducted by EDWIN BARNETT, Senr.

*First peal of Stedman Triples.

PEALS—Continued.

NEWPORT, MONMOUTHSHIRE.
THE LLANDAFF DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, January 3rd, 1907, was rung in two hours and forty-nine minutes

At All Saints' Church.

A Peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 changes.

Holt's Ten part. Tenor 15 cwt.

*Maurice Selbytreble	Benson W. Millard ... 5
Francis E. B. Charles ... 2	Arthur E. Morgan... 6
John Bullen 3	John W. Jones ... 7
*James Ford... .. 4	Cornelius Bowen ... tenor

Conducted by FRANCIS E. B. CHARLES.

*First peal. First peal as Conductor.

REDHILL, SURREY.

On Wednesday, January 9th, 1907, was rung in two hours and fifty-six minutes.

At the Church of S. John the Evangelist.

A Peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 changes.

Carter's 12 part. Tenor 14 cwt.

William Streeter... ..treble	John Sherlock 5
Joseph Kenward... .. 2	George H. Croucher ... 6
Henry Reeves 3	Peter Etheridge ... 7
William H. Card... .. 4	Harry W. Edwards... tenor

Conducted by HENRY REEVES.

Rung in honour of the anniversary of the opening of the bells, also a birthday compliment to W. H. Card.

BEDWORTH, WARWICKSHIRE.

On Saturday, January 12th, 1907, was rung in three hours and two minutes.

At the Church of All Saints.

A Peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 changes.

Taylor's. Tenor 14½ cwt.

*Edward Johnson... ..treble	*John Smallwood ... 5
Reuben Bosworth ... 2	Lewis Lomas ... 6
*Arthur Flowers 3	*Joseph H. White ... 7
Stephen Hope 4	Frederick Viles ... tenor

Conducted by JOSEPH H. WHITE.

* First Peal of Triples. Lomas hails from Derby. The ringers wish to thank the Rector for the use of the bells, also the Tower keeper for having everything in readiness.

THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

On Monday, January 14th, 1907, was rung in two hours and forty-two minutes.

At the Church of S. John the Baptist.

A Peal of STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 changes.

Lindoff's 12 part (No. 3). Tenor 12½ cwt.

Joseph Rowelltreble	Alfred F. Hillier ... 5
William Story 2	*William Baskill ... 6
Jack Foreman 3	Joseph E. R. Keen ... 7
John G. Hall 4	*James Kemp tenor

Conducted by JOSEPH R. KEEN.

* First Peal in the method. Rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. W. Story.

ORMSKIRK, LANCASHIRE.

THE LIVERPOOL DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tuesday, January 15th, 1907, was rung in three hours and one minute.

At the Parish Church.

A Peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 changes,

J. R. Pritchard's 6 part. Tenor 25½ cwt.

James Taylortreble	John W. Pilkington... 5
James Sholicar 2	Alfred Halton 6
John H. Sholicar 3	James R. Park... .. 7
James Pilkington ... 4	Peter H. Harvey ... tenor

Conducted by JOHN H. SHOLICAR.

Rung on the occasion of the 66th birthday of Lord Derby.

WOLVERHAMPTON, STAFFS.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Saturday, January 19th, 1907, was rung in two hours and fifty-eight minutes.

At the Church of S. Luke.

A Peal of STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 changes

Thurstan's four part.

John C. Adams... ..treble	William Fisher... .. 5
Robert Pickering ... 2	†Daniel Jones 6
Alfred J. Wallater ... 3	Herbert Knight ... 7
John Perry 4	†Alfred J. Smith ... tenor

Conducted by HERBERT KNIGHT.

† First peal of Stedman. Rung in honour of the induction of the Rev, Canon Allison to the vicariate of S. Jude's Church, Wolverhampton, which took place that day. The band were hospitably entertained by Mr. and Mrs. D. Jones after the peal.

HILLINGDON, MIDDLESEX.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND THE LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD,

On Saturday, January 19th, 1907, was rung in two hours and forty-eight minutes.

At St. Andrew's Church.

A Peal of STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 changes.

Heywood's Variation of Thurstan's. Tenor 13 cwt.

Bertram Prewett ...treble	William F. Hartshorne 5
Henry Waite 2	James George 6
John J. Lamb 3	Reuben Charge 7
Isaac G. Shade... .. 4	John R. Sharman ... tenor

Conducted by JOHN R. SHARMAN.

CURDRIDGE, HAMPSHIRE.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, January 19th, 1907, was rung in two hours and fifty-seven minutes.

At the Church of S. Peter.

A Peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 changes

Holt's ten-part. Tenor 26 cwt,

†Andrew Mears... ..treble	George Williams ... 5
John W. Whiting ... 2	Edwin J. Harding ... 6
*Sidney Churcher ... 3	William H. George ... 7
William T. Tucker ... 4	Henry C. Ingram ... tenor

Conducted by GEORGE WILLIAMS.

*First Peal. †First peal away from the tenor, and belongs to local band, and for whom it was arranged,

*PEALS—continued.***Minor.****BIDDULPH, STAFFORDSHIRE.
THE STOKE ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.***On Monday, December 24th, 1906, was rung in three
hours and ten minutes,*

At the Church of S. Lawrence.

A Peal of TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 changes.Being 720 each of Norwich Surprise, College Pleasure, Woodbine,
Duke of York, Violet, Kent and Oxford.

*J. Worth	treble	J. Cottrell	4
†J. Cheetham	2	H. Whitehurst	5
J. R. Burgess	3	W. J. Carter	6

Conducted by J. WORTH.

*First Peal as Conductor. †First Peal of Treble Bob. First
Peal of Treble Bob on the bells.**GREAT COMBERTON, WORCESTERSHIRE.
THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS
ASSOCIATION.***On Saturday, January 12th, 1907, was rung in two
hours and forty-seven minutes.*

At S. Michael's Church.

A Peal of MINOR, 5010 changes.Being 720 each of College Single, Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble
Bob, Oxford Bob, Plain Bob, Canterbury Pleasure and Grandsire.
Tenor Scwts. 3qrs. 22lbs.

Percy A. R. Gibbs	treble	William Ricketts	4
Claude G. M. Gibbs	2	Hubert Salisbury	5
Ernest Gibbs	3	Leonard Nichols	tenor

Conducted by LEONARD NICHOLS.

This is the first peal on the bells, and first peal by all the band
in seven methods, except the ringer of the 5th, and his first with
a Bob bell. Arranged to be rung as a birthday compliment to
ERNEST GIBBS on January 6th, but was postponed on account
of illness.**Doubles.****PAULTON.
THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN
ASSOCIATION.***On Saturday, December 29th, 1906, was rung in three
hours and fifteen minutes*

At the Church of Holy Trinity.

A Peal of GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 changes.Being 42 six-scores called differently, were rung by the Paulton
band as a compliment to Mr. G. BUTLER, Churchwarden, on the
occasion of his silver wedding.

Tenor 13 cwt.

A. Smith	treble	J. Hunt	4
G. Hall	2	E. Godurn	5
G. Maggs	3	C. Smith	tenor

Conducted by G. MAGGS.

This is the first peal on the bells, and by each of the band, and
was rung in 15 months after the art of change-ringing was com-
menced learning.**Hand-Bell Peal.****THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION
AND THE
LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.***On Sunday, January 20th, 1907, was rung in two
hours and fifty minutes.*At the Residence of Mr. W. PYE, 213 Canuhall Rd. Leytonstone.
On handbells retained in hand.**A Peal of STEDMAN CATERERS, 5043 changes.**

Bertram Prewett	1-2	Ernest Pye	5-6
William Pye	3-4	George R. Pye	7-8
Harry F. Dawkins 9-10.			

Composed by JOHN CARTER, and

Conducted by WILLIAM PYE. Umpire: W. KEEBLE.

Miscellaneous.**HALESWORTH, SUFFOLK.****THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**At the Parish Church, during the visit of T.R.H. the
Prince and Princess of Wales to Henham Hall, 1260 Bob
Triples, and 1008 Bob Major. S. Kerrison treble, P.
Foreman 2, F. C. Lambert (cond) 3, W. Pierce 4, E.
Easter 5, E. Chatten 6, J. Howard 7, A. Took 8, L. Ham-
mond tenor.**WEST DERBY, LIVERPOOL.****THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**On Tuesday, Dec. 17th, 1906, at the Church of St.
James, for practice, 720 Grandsire Minor, also on Sunday,
22nd, for Morning Service, 720 Grandsire Minor. R. Dil-
worth treble, J. Hudson 2, A. Taylor 3, W. Hargreaves
(cond), 4, R. Davies 5, J. Johnson tenor. J. Johnson's
first peal of minor.On Monday, Jan. 14th, at the (R. C.) Church of St.
Francies & Saviour, Liverpool, a 1260 of Stedman Triples.
J. Aspinwall treble, A. Lovell 2, E. H. Lewes 3, J. Martin
4, T. Hammond jnr. 5, W. Davies 6, E. Caunce (cond) 7,
T. Stewart tenor.**ST. PETER'S, THETFORD.****THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**For Sunday evening service, Dec. 30th, 1906, 1008
Bob Major, by E. Carter treble, L. Dickerson 2, W. Seeley
3, H. Hawes 4, Geo. Flatt 5, T. Fitzjohn (cond) 6, W.
Everett 7, C. Carter. For Evening Service, Jan. 6th, 1907
392 Grandsire Triples.**BOLSOVER.****THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.**On Sunday, Dec. 30th, for Divine Service at the Par-
ish Church, 228 changes Double Norwich and 304 Double
Norwich. C. Coupe treble, F. R. Barraclough 2, G. W.
Moss 3, H. Moss 4, W. Lambert 5, G. Moss 6, G. W. Bem-
rose 7, J. Flint (cond) tenor.**NARBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE.**On Saturday, Dec. 22nd, at the Parish Church, 2520
Grandsire Doubles. G. Hubbard treble, R. Stanley (cond)
2, E. Benford 3, J. Sharpe 4, C. Hubbard 5, T. Haines
tenor.

MISCELLANEOUS—Continued.**LEA.****THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD. (NORTHERN BRANCH.)**

On Sunday, Dec. 30th, 1906, at the church of St. Helen's, 720 Bob Minor. F. S. W. Butler treble, J. C. Tinker 2, T. Cragg 3, A. H. Wheeler 4, R. Dawson 5, G. Wilson (cond.) 6. Also 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor, F. S. W. Butler, Conducting.

LINCOLN.

On Sunday evening, the 13th Jan, 1907, for divine Service at the church of St. Peter-at-Arches, 672 Bob Major in 25 minutes. G. Flintham treble, Geo. Chester 2, Private G. Mackman 3, T. Pyle 4, C. H. Chester 5, F. Pyle 6, J. W. Watson 7, G. Wolf (cond.) tenor. Also 308 Grandsire Triples. G. Wolf 7, J. Musson tenor, others as before, G. Chester, conducting.

THE ALL SAINTS, FULHAM SOCIETY.

At midnight, Dec. 31st, 1906, at the church of All Saints' 1263 Stedman Caters. James W. Driver treble C. Charge 2, J. Herbert 3, E. V. Harvey 4, W. E. Judd 5, J. Attwater 6, J. W. Kelley 7, H. Adams 8, W. T. Elson (cond) 9, B. Harvey tenor. Also as a birthday compliment to H. Adams.

COALBROOKDALE, SHROPSHIRE.**THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**

On Saturday, Dec. 29th, 1260 of Stedman Triples after an attempt for a Peal. J. Overton treble, W. Short (con) 2, J. Elcock 3, E. Foxall 4, B. Head 5, W. Overton 6, H. Overton 7, H. Jones tenor. Also 503 Grandsire Triples with W. Saunders.

Meetings.**Leeds and District Amalgamated Society.**

The Monthly Ringing meeting will be held on Saturday Jan. 26th at Pudsey. Bells (8) available for ringing from 2-30 p.m.

FRED A. BARRACLOUGH, *Hon. Sec.*

* * *

Kent County Association, Tonbridge District.

The Annual Meeting of this District will be held at Hadlow (4 miles from Tonbridge) on Saturday January 26th 1907, Tower open at 3 p.m. Committee Meeting at 4-30, Tea at 5-30 at the Albion Hotel. Arrangements can be made for conveyances to convey members from and to Tonbridge, providing they give early intimation to the District Secretary. Members intending to be present are requested to notify the district secretary (also stating whether they will require conveyance from Tonbridge and at what time their trains arrive) not later than Wednesday Jan. 23rd.

Half travelling expenses up to but not exceeding 2/- each will be paid to members attending.

As the cost of the tea will be 3d. per head more than is allowed by the Association, that amount must be paid by members attending.

Subscriptions are now due and should either be sent to the District Secretary or paid at the Meeting.

W. LATTER,

Hon. Dis. Secretary.

The London County Association, late the S. James' Society. Established 1824.

The Annual General Meeting will be held on Saturday, Feb. 9th, at S. Luke's, Sydney St., Chelsea, S.W. Tower open for ringing 3 to 6 p.m. Service at 6 p.m.

Preacher the Ven. Archdeacon Bevan, D.D. Business meeting afterwards in the Church Schools near the Church. All members should endeavour to be present.

T. H. TAFFENDER, *Hon Sec.*

4, Selborne Road, Denmark Hill, S.E.

The All Saints' Fulham Society.

The Annual General Meeting will be held on Saturday, Feb. 9th, 1907—Tower open 4 p.m.—Tea in the Church room 6 p.m. Meeting after. Those expecting to be present are requested to notify their intention to Mr. J. W. Driver, 387, New Kings' Road, Fulham, not later than Feb. 7th.

WILLIAM T. ELSON, *Hon. Sec.*

Cleveland and North Yorkshire Association of Ringers.

The February meeting will be held at Stokesley (ring of 6, Tenor 8 cwt), including Whorlton-in-Cleveland (ring of 6 Tenor 9 cwt), on Saturday February 2nd.

Tea will be provided at the Bay Horse Hotel, at 5 p.m. 6d per head to members, 1/- per head to non-members.

Members requiring tea are requested to send in their names to the Reverend R. Hodgson, Skelton-in-Cleveland S.O., not later than 28th of January, including the names of friends who are not members.

Whorlton-in-Cleveland is about two miles from Potto Station and six miles from Stokesley.

Skelton-in-Cleveland.

January, 1907.

The Chester Diocesan Guild. Stockport Branch. The next Quarterly Meeting will (p.v.) be held at St. George's Stockport, on Saturday Feb. 2nd. Service at 4-30 at which an address will be given by the Vicar.

A. T. BEESTON, *Hon. Branch Sec.*

New Mills.

The Essex Association, South Western Division.

A Meeting will be held at St. Saviours' Walthamstow, on Saturday, February 9th, 1907. Bells available from 3-30 p.m. Tea 9d. each to those who advise me beforehand that they are coming.

GEO. A BLACK, *Dist. Sec.*

5, Grove Crescent,
Woodford.

The Surrey Association of Change Ringers.

The next Meeting will be held at The Mission Room close to All Saints' Church, Kingston-on-Thames on Sat. February 9th 1907. The Bells at all Saints' will be available from Three o'clock and tea will be provided in the Mission Room at 6 p.m. Free to Members.

CHAS. DEAN, *Hon. Sec.*

72, Lansdowne Road,
Croydon.

Pendleton, Manchester.

"After Jan. 14th the practice night will be Monday instead of Friday. Those who have their Annual Report please note."

THE LEARNER'S PAGE.

"From Rounds to London Surprise."

Last week we left off after shewing how to ring the "Plain Hunt." In change-ringing there are three steps to ascend, so to speak, or three parts that comprise the whole of change-ringing. These are 1st Hunting, 2nd Dodging, 3rd Place-making.

It is necessary for the young ringer who studies these lessons, that he should fully understand the phraseology—or language—that we use in the belfry, and what the words mean. From the previous lessons he will have learned that "Hunting" means threading his way one blow at a time, either up from the lead to behind, or down to lead *from* behind. Before we pass on to the second step :—Dodging, I want him to understand the meaning of the words "Course, Coursing or Course-bell." To "Course" another bell means to follow it either up or down to lead. But if the learner will look at the figures he will see it is impossible for him to hunt his bell close after the bell he is "Coursing," because it would leave no room for other bells to pass up or down. Therefore when he is "Coursing" another bell he is following it, it is true, but there is the space of one blow between his and the Course-bell, all the way from leading until he gets up behind. Here is an example :—

1	2	3	4	5	
2	1	0	0	0	... The 2nd after leading will
2	0	1	0	0	... 'course' 1. Notice that some
0	2	0	1	0	... other bells come between
0	0	2	0	1	... for a blow.
0	0	0	2	1	... The 2nd now catches up 1.
0	0	0	1	2	... The 2nd also lays pull and
0	0	1	0	2	... courses 1 down again, with
0	1	0	2	0	... one blow between until at
1	0	2	0	0	... the whole pull at lead allows
1	2	3	4	5	... 2nd to catch up again.

The learner will notice that he "takes off the lead," or "leads after the bell he is coursing. That is his "Course-bell." He will also strike over his course-bell when he reaches behind. Therefore while learning to "Hunt," if he bears this in mind it will guide him up and down, should he fail to catch sight of all the ropes or count his positions, for the bell he strikes over with his *first* blow behind, is the one he will take off the lead. I have spent more time and space upon "Hunting" perhaps than some would do, but as this is the FOUNDATION of all change-ringing, it is absolutely necessary that the beginner should master it fully and strike it correctly before proceeding to the:—

— 2nd STEP: DODGING. —

To "Dodge" is the act of striking your bell *under* and *over* successively with the bell that happens to be your partner in the work. When a bell "Dodges" it must always do it with its next-door-neighbour so to speak. Here is an instance :—

5	4	3	2	1	... Until the treble (1) leads all
5	3	4	1	2	... bells are "Plain-Hunting."
3	5	1	4	2	
3	1	5	2	4	... Watch the bells that are to
1	3	2	5	4	... make a dodge in 3-4.
1	3	5	2	4	... Draw a zigzag line through
3	1	2	5	4	... the figure 2 also 5 and see
3	2	1	4	5	... the "Dodge" made.

In the above example, the 2nd and 5th are required to make a 'Dodge' in the positions of 3-4. The 5th is dodging 3-4 *up*, and the 2nd is 3-4 *down*. The result is that the bells do not run round as they *would* have done if no dodge had been made, and instead of rounds, the row 1 3 5 2 4 is brought up, which is new material from which all bells start hunting again. During next week let each learner write out the "Plain Lead" (plain hunt) starting from 1 2 3 4 5. Each bell must lead whole pull

(2 blows) and lay whole pull behind, while the treble must be uninterrupted in its course. The nut in the dodge as shewn above, and continue hunting again.

The Editor's Post-Bag.

While a liberal opportunity is given to one and all to express their opinions, the Editor is in no way committed to the views expressed. The name and address of correspondents should be sent, not necessary for publication, but as a guarantee.

We invite our readers to co-operate with us by asking their Ministers to contribute any interesting matter for insertion in our Church News Column.

It is a great pleasure to note that some hundreds of our readers are working for the success of this Journal. Are you one of these? If so we shall be glad to record your name on our list.

Will our readers kindly communicate with us at once, if they experience any difficulty in obtaining copies of this Journal. We may repeat that "The Bellringer" should be in their hands not later than Saturday morning.

An envelope has reached us without contents, stamped as follows:—"Found at Manchester," Postmark; begins with H.O., and ends with N. (Posted 9-15 a.m., January 15th, 1907. It may be Horsmonden.

A reader has been good enough to forward us six stamps to insert Notice of Meeting. Will he kindly identify himself so that they may be returned.

Mr. H. Whittle's Composition (5376) Bob Major.

Sir,

You publish a peal in your last issue with the footnote. "It is a record peal for the last number of calls, yet it was rejected from the C.C. Collection." The peal in its shortened form (5056,) contains fifty-seven calls, forty-three bobs, and fourteen singles. It has the 2nd and 3rd together eleven times in 6th place, and the 6th twelve times only at home. A lot of peals can be had, and have been had with a few calls and fewer singles, with the 6th fifteen times at home, and 2nd and 3rd never in 6th place, and if I remember aright, all the combinations of 4-5-6 in 5-6 add to this, the fact that the arrangement of the bobs is to be found in Holt's Variation of Annables Three Part, and I may be pardoned for not thinking the peal a "record" not worthy of being included in a collection of the best peals in the method. There are no peals in the collection by John Reeves (1788) and Edward Francis without singles, which though they have three more calls than this peal, as much excel the latter on the grounds that its author claims it to be a record "as greatest does least." I am safe in saying I had at least five hundred peals, "yet they were rejected from the C.C. Collection," because they were no better than this peal, or very little.

Yours truly, J. A. TROLLOPE.

P.S.—Where does your leader-writer get the absurd idea that Superlative is the only good method handed down from early days? Wouldn't some of us be glad if we could claim Double Norwich, or Stedman, or Treble Bob, or London, or Cambridge, or Double Oxford, or Grandsire, or Plain Bob, as our very own.—J. A. T.

The Exeter Peal.

Sir,

I was much interested in reading the notes by Jingle of January 5th. Re the turning in of Exeter Tenor. If drip lubricators were fitted with a regulating cock to drip say 20 drops of castor oil per minute, and keep the gudgeons thoroughly lubricated for the whole time of the peal, I believe these and six men well known to the exercise to-day, are capable of turning her in to a peal of Plain Bob Royal, providing the band have practice on the bells before the attempt for the peal.

If one takes the trouble to look at the gudgeons of a bell after a peal, the wearing surface is always dry, no matter how much oil or grease there is round it. There are thousands of cases in engineering practice, when drip lubricator is used and needed, so why not the bearings of Church Bells, especially heavy ones.

Yours truly, JOHN H. B. HESSE,

NEXT WEEK

We shall Publish Photo of

R. R. CHERRY, Esq., K.C., M.P.

(The Attorney General for Ireland)

AND

St Patrick's Cathedral.

Ianthe's Grave.

I.

A BEAUTIFUL spot it is wherein
My lost Ianthe lies;
No fairer nook did ever win
A blessing from the skies.
Above it spreads no darksome yew
In everlasting gloom,
But with sweet types of early death
A sycamore o' shadoweth
Her daisy-spangled tomb—
A dim old tree that scattereth
A maze of golden lights beneath,
And leaves not Hope to die;
For there she sees with upward glance
Beyond the dreamy shade's expanse
Blue glimpses of the sky.

II.

There is a quiet in the place,
All sounds are soft and low;
All seems to wear the pensive grace
She wore who sleeps below.
There, on fair summer days, the bees
Hum their faint music in the trees;
Unseen, the skylark sings
Songs like an angel's melodies,
And a low murmur makes the breeze
As of an angel's wings.

III.

Sometimes a murmur deepens round
As of the distant main;
Sometimes the low sweet undersound
Of softly falling rain.
But when the shadowy veil they wove
The clouds draw off, and go,
Save one that lingers like a dove;
And with a softened glow
The sunlight falls; and when above
The calm-eyed Hesper comes,
And gazes with deep looks of love
Upon the place of tombs;—
I feel her presence close me round,
And hear her voice's low love-sound
Amid the dreamy glooms.

IV.

There, on still Sabbath afternoons
Of autumn, when the ray
Falls softly on the pinnacles,
And softly o'er the woods and fells
The music of the sweet church bells
Low chiming dies away;
Glimpses are mine of joys on high,
And in the calm unfathomed sky
An emblem of eternity.
But ho! when in the voiceless night,
The stars are sparkling clear
In all their deep unclouded might,
And Heaven to earth draws near;
Oh then faith almost fades in sight;
I know; and in a rapturous flight
My spirit seems to soar
Far, far beyond the starry height,
And up to where in God's own light
She dwells for evermore!

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Recently Bells have
been sent to Omaru Post
Office(N Z) consisting of
5 Bells (4 quarters and
hour (Hour 40 cwt).

Cape Town Hall, S. A.
(Hour 33 cwt.)

Hobart Town Hall,
Tasmania,

. . . And a Set of . . .

22 Carillon Bells to

Bournville to
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GEO. CADBURY, Esq.

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Founders of the Peals of Bells at the Cathedrals
of Worcester, Newcastle-on-Tyne, Edinburgh
(St Mary's) Dublin, (St Patrick's) Christ Church
New Zealand, and Singapore,

"Great John" and the ring of Ten at Beverley
Minster; and the ring of Ten at the Imperial
Institute.

The bells of Dundalk R.C. Cathedral, and "Great
Bede" of Downside Abbey.

Also for The Town Halls of Manchester, Preston
Bradford, Halifax, Rochdale, Wakefield, Middles-
brough, Kendal and Londonderry; and the
Sydney and Adelaide Post Offices in Australia,
Also the chimes of bells at Ames College, U.S.A.