

much anxiety attached to it, and no one can have the care, for good or for evil, of from 50 to 100 souls, without feeling the heavy responsibility attending it. Still it is work which any lady with common sense, command of temper, and some tact in the management of very bad tempers, can do well. There is no lack of work for ladies to do; it is the workers, not the work, which is lacking.

T. L.

Old Hymn-books.

SIR,—Will you allow me to ask clergymen who are changing from the old S.P.C.K. Hymn-book, or to Bickersteth's *Prayer-book Companion*, &c., if they would kindly present their old hymn-books to the mission clergy of the 'Missions to Seamen,' who wish to supply prayer and hymn-books to merchant ships, the captains of which will undertake to assemble their crews for public worship at sea. Donors of books should send their gifts to 'The Secretary, Missions to Seamen, 11 Buckingham Street, Strand, London, W.C.,' or ask him to put them in communication with one of the Chaplains.

WM. DAWSON, Commander R.N.

Queries.

'K. A. X.' wishes to know why, in churches where there is a surplised choir, some members of the congregation kneel again with the choir, having already said their usual prayer on entering church, and also after the departure of the choir? If there are any prayers published for such a purpose, 'K. A. X.' would be glad to know of them.

[A little reflection would surely have suggested the explanation, that the first prayer is for help and blessing in one's own devotions, and the second prayer is for the clergy and choir.]

SIR.—Can you, or any of your readers, recommend me a Magazine suitable for reading in a night-school? I have Power's *Home Visitor* and the *Parish Magazine*. *Work and Play* was capital reading for evening schools, very good but rather young and dull. A magazine is better than a book. Can you recommend also any history of the Church for reading in the village? D. T.

SIR.—Do you know any good work on the ringing of bells?—W. E. COGHIAN. [Our advertising columns in the No. for Sept. 5 will answer the question.]

SIR.—Will the Managers or Secretaries of Working Men's Clubs kindly say what their experience is of their working when a limited supply of intoxicants is allowed?—Please address, W. Rowbottom, Alfreton, Derbyshire.

Answers.

SIR.—'A Member of the Congress' asks in *Church Bells* of Nov. 7, 1874, p. 583, who is the publisher of Mozart's *Ave Verum*. He will find it set to 'Saviour, source of ev'ry blessing,' No. 160 *Musical Times*, published by Novello & Co. We have it set to a 8,7 hymn at our church, 'Sweet the moments, rich in blessing.' I may say that almost any 8,7 hymn might be arranged to the music.

J. GOODACRE.

'A. S.' recommends, as a cheap work on Church Architecture, *Churches, their Structure, Arrangement, and Decoration*, by the Rev. Geo. Ayliffe Poole, M.A. (James Burns.)

SIR.—Your correspondent, 'E. J. H.' wishes to know of a concise yet comprehensive History of the French Protestant Church, &c. I think the *Histoire des Protestants de France*, by the late Professor De Felice of Montauban, will give him satisfaction. There is an *Histoire des Eglises du Désert*, and an *Histoire du Pasteurs du Désert*, one by C. Coquerel and the other by N. Peyrat. The three works mentioned above have been, perhaps, translated into English.

J. G.

SIR.—The late Dr. Jelf's *Lectures on the Thirty-Nine Articles* (Rivingtons) would suit 'Governess' as far as tone goes; the price I do not know. *Questions and Answers on the XXXIX. Articles*, by the Rev. W. Trollope, 2s. 6d. (Parker, Oxford), also takes the only view tenable for sound Church people, i. e. that the Articles are Lutheran rather than Calvinistic, for which view he adduces proofs. At the end of each division are proofs from the Fathers: there are also copious Scripture proofs. Bishop Forbes's work on this subject is thoroughly Catholic, but perhaps its price is not exactly what 'Governess' wanted. It costs, I believe, 12s.

D.

'W. HAMPTON' writes to complain, that at the church to which he went on Sunday last with his wife he was desired to leave the women's side, on which he was sitting, and go to the men's side. He adds that this disturbed his devotions; but as he had previously been asked to change his place and did not do so, the second interruption was, it appears, his own fault. He wishes to know whether anyone had a right to part him from his wife in church, and to disturb his devotions.

'ENQUIRER' should consult a physician as to the proper temperature.

SIR.—In reply to a query in No. 203, Nov. 14th, there is an Association of which women (both English and Foreign) only are members, which, perhaps, the querist 'S. B. A.' would find suitable. By communicating with 'K. D.,' Chartreuse, Richmond, Surrey (who issues quarterly subjects for reading and prayer to his members), particulars may be learnt.

'M. J. S.' who inquired in the same number for a cheap and simple book on Miracles, will perhaps find *The Miracles of Christ*, with explanatory observations and illustrations from modern travels, intended for the young, and published by the Religious Tract Society, London, to answer her purpose.

M. E. W.

'HÉLÈNE.' The correspondence on the subject must now cease. By-the-by, is 'Hélène' sufficiently acquainted with Hebrew to say that there is no Hebrew equivalent for 'like?' We fancy that we know of a prefix with that meaning, and that a Jew when he wished to say 'A is like B,' was not reduced to say 'A is B.' Is 'Hélène' also quite certain that our Lord spoke Hebrew or Aramaic, and not Greek?

'A. P. HALSTEAD.'—Thanks. The churches will appear in due season. Portraits cannot always be obtained.

RECEIVED ALSO.—J. W. Hopkins; Anxious Parents; M. C. F.; C. E. S.; A. F. S. H.; P. M. D.; Xenophon.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

The Guild of the Christ Church, Southwark, Bell-ringers.

FOUNDED, 1874.

President:

Rev. Henry J. Desborough, M.A., Rector.

Vice-Presidents:

Rev. G. H. Butler, M.A.
Rev. H. H. Montgomery, M.A.
The Churchwardens.

Treasurer:

Rev. H. H. Montgomery, M.A.

Committee:

Mr. J. Everett.	Mr. W. I. Little.
" W. B. Faulner.	" J. Meeke.
" F. Faulner.	" Lowman.
" G. Hurrell.	" W. A. Smith.

Instructor, Mr. Mash, 20 Essex Street, S. E.
Usher Back, Hon. Sec.
77 Blackfriars Road.

A Tour among Bells in Town and Country.

No. IX.

THE three spires of Coventry are visible for many miles; seen from one point on the Trent Valley Railway they resemble wickets pitched for an eleven of giants. But at Coventry itself the spire of St. Michael's attracts all attention, the interior of Trinity Church taking its revenge by surpassing that of St. Michael's in everything but size. I imagine there is nothing of the kind in England which produces such an intense feeling of mingled admiration and awe as the graceful tower and spire of St. Michael's; it is far more imposing than that at Salisbury, although of course inferior in height, for whereas the latter springs from the intersection of transepts, nave, and choir, the former rises clear at the west end of the church. Centuries have touched the masonry with loving hands, smoothing the angles, and giving a roundness and grace which are simply perfect.

I was somewhat unfortunate on the occasion of my visit to Coventry; a public meeting was fixed to be held in an ancient hall only a few yards from the church, and the weekly practice was in abeyance; but the good ringers assembled before the meeting and kindly allowed me to hear their exquisite ring of 10. The tenor weighs 32 cwt., but (to use an old Norfolk expression) 'you may ring her with a twine-thread.' The belfry has an unusually large open space above the bells; these hang low down in the tower, level with the tower lights, and above all is open: thus the tone of the bells has much space in which to blend before it issues forth, and this, coupled with the excellence of the bells themselves, renders them a ring which cannot be surpassed. The ringing-chamber is rather dark, and is almost walled in with great beams, which assist to support the cage of the bells. There is an excellent clock with very musical chim's. Although, under the above circumstances, many of the ringers were absent, yet it is pleasant to know that this noble ring is in good and skilful hands, and is used in a worthy manner.

C. Y.

Calcutta, October, 1874.

(To be continued.)

Change-ringing at Aston.

ON the 23rd ult., seven members of the St. Martin's Youths, Birmingham with Mr. W. R. Small of Wednesbury, rang at Aston Church a true peal of Kent Treble Bob Major, containing 5088 changes, in 3 hrs. 25 mins., as follows:—J. Perks, treble; J. Joynes, 2nd; H. Johnson, sen. 3rd; C. H. Hattersley (Sheffield), 4th; W. R. Small, 5th; H. Johnson, jun. 6th; J. Spencer, 7th; A. Cressor, tenor. The peal was composed by W. H. Johnson, sen., and conducted by C. H. Hattersley. Weight of tenor, 23 cwt.—Communicated.

Waterloo Society, London.

ON Friday evening, the 27th Nov., the members of this Society met at St. John's Church, Waterloo Road, to ring a muffled peal, as a last token of respect and esteem for the memory of the late Rev. H. W. Bateman, Vicar of the parish. His sudden death on Sunday, the 22nd inst., will be greatly deplored throughout his parish, and by no class more than by the ringers, to whom his genial bearing and words of kindly encouragement were incentives to perseverance, unanimity, and good-feeling.

ON Saturday, Nov. 28th, ten members of this Society rang at St. Stephen's Church, Hampstead, a true and complete peal of Grandsire Caters, consisting of 5039 changes. The performance occupied 3 hrs. 40 mins., and is remarkable both from the fact that it is the first peal on the bells, and that the 2nd, 3rd, 8th, and tenor bells, were manned by members of the band who had never before rung a peal of Grandsire Caters. The men were stationed as follows:—W. Baron, treble; H. Nunn, 2nd; S. Holden, 3rd; J. M. Routh, Esq., 4th; J. W. Mansfield, 5th; D. Stackwood, 6th; G. Harvey, 7th; J. Barrett, 8th; S. Jarman, 9th; E. Chapman, tenor. Conducted by Mr. W. Baron. Weight of tenor, 28 cwt.—Communicated.

BANISTER'S CHANGE-RINGING. Second Edition.—We understand that this valuable work may now be had for 1s. 8d., with full instructions in elementary and practical Ringing in all its variations; the science of composition and proving. With a list of achieved performances from 1724. To be had of the Author, 10 Morrice Square, Devonport; or, Mr. J. R. Haworth, 13 Exmouth Street, Clerkenwell, London.

RECEIVED.—T. I.

Chelsea (Hatchards). There is also a pamphlet on the same subject, for the use of schools, published by S. P. C. K. C. E. S.

'J. J.' recommends to 'B. A.', in answer to his query of the 14th Nov., *The Bread of Life*, a Manual of Instruction and Devotion for the Blessed Sacrament, price 1s., and published by Simpkin, Marshall, & Co.—*The Christian Passover*, or Notes on the Holy Communion, price 3d., and published by G. J. Palmer, 32 Little Queen Street, Lincoln's Inn Fields.—*Preparation for Weekly Communion*, by the Rev. N. H. Ridley, M.A., price 3d., and published by Simpkin, Marshall, & Co.—*Manuals for the People*, No. 2, price 1d., and published by J. Hodges, 47 Bedford Street, Covent Garden.

'J. R. G.' recommends to 'D. T.' for reading at village-schools, *A History of the English Church*, by M. C. S., and published by Parker & Co.

'J. B. KING' tells us that 'Architect' (Nov. 21) was wrong in giving the weight of the tenor bell Ely Cathedral as 8 cwt. It is 10 cwt.

'REV. A. POTTER.'—Thanks. The suggestion has already appeared in our columns.

'XENOPHON.'—An article appeared in *Church Bells* of Nov. 14th, describing a plan for assisting proper persons to study for Holy Orders in the diocese of Lichfield. There have also been frequent advertisements of a Society to assist students. You should refer to these.

'H. S.'—Your inquiry is not of sufficient general interest for our columns.

RECEIVED ALSO.—Elop; An Essex Rector; F. R. G.; A Subscriber from the Beginning; A Resident in a Suburban District.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

A Tour among Bells in Town and Country.

No. X.

GREAT ST. MARY'S, the University Church of Cambridge, has a massive tower, containing 12 bells in the key of D: the tenor weighs 31 cwt. The ringing-chamber is well lighted by the upper portion of the west window of the church; it is a very low room, and any little accident with a rope would be likely to end badly here, for the top of the 'sallie' of the tenor, when set at back-stroke, is only just below the ceiling. The 12 are very seldom used, indeed the 2nd used to have no stay. The bells were put up in 1770, and the back ten are an excellent ring. Contrary to the usual custom, the bells are hung with the treble on the right-hand of the tenor, but as all the ropes are in due order a stranger does not find any difficulty. At Beccles, in Suffolk (where there is a fine ring of 10, tenor 28 cwt. in D), the ropes come down in the most irregular fashion, the 9th being opposite to the tenor, the treble to the 2nd, and so on. I fancy this would puzzle a strange ringer. The Cambridge men are very good in odd-bell methods—I have heard half a peal of Stedman triples rung at an ordinary practice. The even methods are not much patronised; they have lately lost a very good conductor. The clock when first put up, more than a hundred years ago, was considered a very fine piece of workmanship; at present, it is chiefly remarkable for the enormous labour required daily to wind it up. The Cambridge chimes for the quarters are now almost universally adopted, as the most musical which can be obtained with four bells. They consist of changes on the 3rd, 4th, 5th, and 8th bells (in a ring of 12), the hour being struck on the tenor; thus, in a ring in the key of C, the notes are e, d, c, and g; the first quarter musically represented thus:—



They are, of course, available wherever there are ten bells.

In former days there was generally a sprinkling of University men in the tower; when shall we hear the welcome news that a University Band has been organized? When Oxford and Cambridge contend annually at Putney, why should not two University Companies meet in friendly rivalry, and try their skill on the sweet bells at Fulham? C. Y.

Calcutta, Oct. 1874.

(To be continued.)

Note.—These are the four Quarters:—

2nd Quarter	{ 3 1 3 6 }	4th Quarter.
	{ 3 2 1 3 }	
	{ 1 3 2 6 }	
3rd Quarter	{ 6 2 1 3 }	1st Quarter.—ED.
	{ 1 2 3 6 }	

Change-ringing at the Abbey Church, Selby, Yorkshire.

On Saturday, Nov. 28th, a mixed company of Change-ringers from Leeds, Birstal, and Hull, paid a friendly visit to the above church, and rang a complete peal of Treble Bob Major, consisting of 5088 changes. The ringers were:—H. Jenkins, Hull, treble; T. Lockwood, Leeds, 2nd; W. Southwick, Hull, 3rd; G. G. Harrison, Hull, 4th; W. Walker, Leeds, 5th; C. Jackson, Hull, 6th; W. Warne, late of Ipswich, 7th; B. Parkinson, Birstal, tenor. The above peal was composed by H. Hubbard, sen., Leeds, and conducted by C. Jackson, Hull, and brought round in 3 hrs. 11 mins. Weight of tenor, 19 cwt. 3 qrs. This is the 58th time B. Parkinson, of Birstal, has rung in peals above 5000 changes.—Communicated.

Change-ringing at Chelsea.

On Saturday, 28th Nov., the following members of the St. James's Society rang at St. Luke's parish church, Chelsea, a true and complete peal of Grandsire Caters, containing 5039 changes, in 3 hrs. 28 mins. The performers were:—W. Lally, treble; J. Rogers, 2nd; G. Newson, 3rd; S. Reeves,

4th; E. Gibbs, 5th; J. Cattle, 6th; G. Breed, 7th; W. Hovord, 8th; E. Horret, 9th; J. M. Hayes, tenor. The peal, containing the whole of the eight nines and nine seven-eights, with the 5th and 6th bells exclusively behind the 9th, was composed and conducted by Mr. J. Rogers, and is the only recorded performance on the bells for nearly half a century.—Communicated.

St. Ann's, Highgate Rise, Middlesex.

On Saturday, December 5th, the following members of the Cumberland Society (being the parochial ringers of the above church) rang Holt's one-part peal of Grandsire Triples, with two doubles in the last four leads, containing 5040 changes, in 2 hrs. 51 mins:—T. Rowson, treble; G. Newson, 2nd; G. Harvey, 3rd; S. Holden, 4th; T. Gleed, 5th; N. Alderman, 6th; J. Page, 7th; J. Barrett, tenor. Conducted by G. Newson.—Communicated.

St. Peter's Church, Liverpool.

On Saturday, Dec. 5th, a company of St. Peter's Society rang on the first eight bells Mr. Holt's original one-part peal of Grandsire Triples, with two doubles in the last four leads, containing 5040 changes, which came round in the space of 3 hrs. The performers were:—J. Pritchard, treble; J. Moore, 2nd; R. Williams, 3rd; C. Williams, 4th; T. Hammond, 5th; R. Williams, 6th; J. Aspinwall, 7th; T. Jones, tenor. Conducted by J. Aspinwall. The peal was rung as a compliment to Mr. William Howard, a member of this Society, who is now in his eighty-second year, and is the oldest ringer in this town.—Communicated.

The Guild of Devonshire Ringers.

A MEETING of the Committee will be held at Exeter on Saturday, December 19, at 2 p.m.

Agenda.—To receive the Report of the Broad Clyst Local Committee; to add a clause to the regulations respecting the Performance-book; to receive proposed forms of prayer for use on New-year's Eve; to decide as to the entry of the peal reported from Huntsham, and of any other performances that may be sent, &c. &c.

J. L. LANGDON FULFORD, Hon. Sec.

BELFRY RECORDS.

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST, HALESOWEN, BIRMINGHAM.

(Tablet in the Belfry.)

696. On June 9th, 1776, was rung Holt's celebrated Peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples, in 3 hours & one minute, by the following persons:—
Thos. Warren, First. Will. Rose, Fourth. Wm. Warren, Sixth.
Benj. Taylor, Second (called). Benj. Smith, Fifth. Thos. Rose, Seventh.
Barz. Fiddian, Third. Geo. Warham, Eighth.

ST. ANDREW'S, SOHAM, CAMBRIDGESHIRE.

(Tablets in the Belfry.)

697. PEALS rung in this tower by the Society of Soham Youths:—
25th October, 1790.—51:20 of Oxford Treble Bob, in 3 hours 33 minutes.
Thomas Tebbit, First. Jh. Finch, Fourth. Robert Silver, Sixth.
Luke Goldsbrow, Second. Edward Tebbit, Fifth. Thomas Talbot, Seventh.
Thomas Tebbit, Third. Thomas Brown, Eighth.
1st Jan. 1795.—5040 of Norwich Court, in 3 hours and 30 minutes.
Edward Tebbit, First. Thomas Tebbit, jun., Fourth. Luke Goldsbrow, Sixth.
Thomas Tebbit, Second. Robert Tebbit, Fifth. Robert Silver, Seventh.
Robert Chevis, Third. Thomas Brown, Eighth.
17th Feb. 1800.—5152 changes of Imperial the third, in 3 hours and 34 mins.
Thomas Tebbit, First. Thomas Tebbit, jun., Fourth. Robert Chevis, Sixth.
Luke Goldsbrow, Second. Robert Tebbit, Fifth. Thomas Talbot, Seventh.
Joseph Finch, Third. Robert Silver, Eighth.

698. A COMPLETE peal was rung in this tower by three brothers and their sons, of the Society of Soham Youths, 50th of November, 1809—5280 of Oxford Treble Bob in 3 hours 35 minutes.

Thomas Tebbit, First.	John Tebbit, son of Thomas, Fourth.	Thomas Tebbit, son of Thomas, Seventh.
Robert Tebbit, son of Robert, Second.	Robert Tebbit, Fifth.	William Tebbit, son of Thomas, Eighth.
Benjamin Tebbit, 15 years of age, Third.	Edward Tebbit, Sixth.	

699. In honour of the Queen's acquital a complete peal was rung in this tower by the Society of Soham Youths, November 16th, 1820. 5040 changes of Oxford treble bob royal in 3 hours 43 minutes.

Thomas Tebbit, First.	Robert Staples, Fourth.	Benjamin Tebbit, Eighth.
William Tebbit, Second.	Thomas Tebbit, jun., Fifth.	Thomas Talbot, Ninth.
Robert Tebbit, Third.	Robert Talbot, Sixth.	John West, Tenth.
	James Seaber, Seventh.	

700. New treble bob royal.—5040 changes was rung in this tower 23rd November, 1821, in 3 hours and 42 minutes by the Society of Soham Youths.

William Tebbit, First.	Robert Staples, Fourth.	Robert Chevis, Eighth.
Thomas Tebbit, Second.	Thomas Tebbit, jun., Fifth.	Benjamin Tebbit, Ninth.
Robert Talbot, Third.	John Tebbit, Sixth.	John West, Tenth.
	James Seaber, Seventh.	

701. TEN of the Society of Soham Youths rang in this tower 22 Feb. 1830, in 3 hours 35 minutes, a complete peal, performed the first attempt, containing 5003 changes, Grandsire titum caters, conducted by William Tebbit.

William Tebbit, First.	Robert Staples, Fourth.	R. Chevis, Eighth.
John Tebbit, Second.	Thomas Tebbit, jun., Fifth.	C. Spring, Ninth.
Robert Tebbit, Third.	C. Elsdon, Sixth.	J. West, Tenth.
	J. Seaber, Seventh.	

[We are informed that the Tebbits, who were such clever ringers, were gardeners. None now remain, and there is now no ringing at Soham.—ED.]

WALTHAM, ESSEX. (Tablet in the Belfry.)

702. On February 1, 1824, was chimed on the steeple bells of the parish church of St. Lawrence, Waltham Holy Cross, Essex, four true and select touches of musical changes in the art of Ringing, comprising in the whole 1150, as follows:—

Changes.	Changes.
Oxford Treble Bob Major . . . 578	Grandsire Major . . . 112
Grandsire Triples . . . 350	Bob Major . . . 112

This arduous task was performed by two brothers, Messrs. William and John Carr, of Waltham Abbey, chiming four bells each; and it is believed by the most competent judges in this art to be the first time ever performed in this kingdom.

Rev. W. M. Whalley, Incumbent.

RECEIVED:—H. Warleigh; F. Francis.

Thanksgiving' would seem clearly to indicate that this is a thanksgiving for general mercies and blessings, as distinguished from the particular blessings of rain, plenty, &c., for which God is thanked in the other forms. There would seem to be no reason why our thanksgivings for particular blessings, as of fair weather, peace, &c., should not be offered aloud by the people, as well as for God's general blessings. The Prayer for all Conditions of Men, though not headed a 'General Prayer,' is of analogous character to the General Thanksgiving, and might be recited by the congregation with as much reason as the latter. But the fact is, that no prayer or thanksgiving is intended to be audibly joined in by the people, except where it is expressly so directed, as in the case of the General Confession, and the Lord's Prayer. In all other cases the minister offers the address to God in the name of the people, who are to signify their assent by their audible 'Amen' at the conclusion.

J. H. H.

NOTES AND QUERIES.

Pentecost and Trinity Sunday.

SIR,—Your correspondent, 'P. M. D.,' may find a solution of his difficulty by recollecting that in all the ancient Liturgies Trinity Sunday was looked on only as an octave of Pentecost; the observation of it as a Feast being probably not until the 13th century. Guericke has a foot-note at p. 162 to this effect:—'In the Western Church the Sundays from Trinity Sunday to Advent were usually reckoned as Dominica i. ii. iii. &c. post Trinitatis (sc. festum); though, however, in the old Latin terminology, which still frequently occurs in the Liturgical writings of the Roman Church, the Sundays are reckoned as Sundays post pentecosten.'

CHARLES WORTHY.

Ashburton.

School Attendance Cards.

IN reply to an inquiry as to a good plan for informing parents of the attendance of their children, we have been favoured by H. M. Holmes, Esq. with a card issued by the Derby School Board for use in all the efficient schools, and which Mr. Holmes (a member of the Board, and for many years an indefatigable manager of Voluntary schools) informs us answers admirably and causes very little trouble. The card is ruled for a quarter, and the first column gives the date, 'the week ending Friday, —th'; the next column shows 'the times absent' in that week; with a third column for the initials of the pupil teachers. The card is countersigned by the Head Teacher. The card has to be taken to the school each Friday morning for the purpose of being marked. If the card is lost before the end of the quarter a halfpenny is charged for a new one.

Queries.

'A RESIDENT IN A SUBURBAN DISTRICT' wishes to know whether a gentleman can fill the office of Churchwarden who resides in the parish, but is not a householder.

SIR,—Could you, or any of your correspondents, kindly give me the address of the Rebecca Hussey Trustees, who give grants to Parish Libraries?

X. Y. B.

Answers.

'O. R. B.' sends us a list of no less than eight questions which he requires to be inserted in this number. Some are not suited to our columns, and others would require a long treatise in answer to them. We cannot insert them.

'H. T. DEACLE.'—Some of the Bishops will not supply their portraits, or we should be glad to complete the series.

'A. H.'—You cannot do better than take *Church Bells*.

'H. L.'—The 'clear statement' is of course what all want. The worst of it is that no one will accept the 'clear statement' of any one else.

'R. J.'—Your letter opens up a large controversy, to which we do not wish to devote our columns.

'A. C. S.'—Not suitable for *C. B.*

RECEIVED ALSO:—Robert J. Acres; H. H. Letchworth; W. L. Low; M. E. M.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

A Tour among Bells in Town and Country.

No. XI.

ONE evening in 1871 I was dining at Putney, when all at once the music of most melodious bells was wafted to us across the river; our host explained that it was the practice-night of the Fulham Ringers: I had heard before of this ring, but was astonished at their surprising sweetness.

Some time after I had an opportunity of visiting the steeple by the kind invitation of the Vicar, who, having made some progress in change-ringing himself, had been able to take the management of the bells into his own hands. The church, with its handsome towers, is surrounded on three sides by beautiful trees, with the river on the fourth or south side; the ringing-chamber, most neatly kept, with texts here and there among boards recording the feats of former generations, was quite a model of what such a room should be: for the instruction of the band of young ringers collected by the Vicar the services of a well-known ringer of great experience and remarkable success in teaching had been secured. I am not able to name the founders of this fine ring of ten, but the bells were in existence in 1780, for in that year the College

Youths rang a peal at Fulham; indeed, the ring was such a favourite with the Society that no less than twenty peals were accomplished on those bells by the College Youths before the close of the eighteenth century. Several causes conspired to produce this result; the bells were easily accessible from London, they were marvellously musical, and of a very handy weight, for the tenor is only 19 cwt., although possessing a peculiarly rich tone for a bell of that amount of metal: indeed, the ring is said to resemble in quality, as it undoubtedly does in weight, the far-famed ring of Magdalen College, Oxford; while its position on the bank of a fine river is very flattering to the bells. The Vicar of Fulham has in his hands a very fine ring, which he quite appreciates, and he is determined that his ringers shall be real members of his congregation; no doubt in due time the new company will accomplish feats worthy of record beside the venerable boards which adorn the ringing-chamber at Fulham.

Just opposite, on the south bank of the Thames, stands Putney Church, an excellent picture of which will be found in the Extra Supplement of the *Illustrated London News* of April 5th, 1873. Here is a fair ring of eight bells, with a tenor of some 15 cwt. In 1873 a gentleman residing at Putney, himself a capital ringer, had collected a band which, under his instruction, had made a good start in acquiring the art of ringing.

C. Y.

Calcutta, November, 1874.

Change-ringing at St. Nicholas Church, Mitcham, Surrey.

ON Wednesday evening, December 2nd, the following company of ringers rang at the above church Mr. Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, comprising 5040 changes, in 2 hrs. 54 mins.:—S. Greenwood, treble; F. Baker, 2nd; G. Pell, 3rd; T. Jones, 4th; D. Springall, 5th; A. Brockwell, 6th; W. Bates, 7th; C. Walker, tenor. Conducted by S. Greenwood.—*Communicated*.

Bell at Moscow.

THERE is a bell at Moscow supposed to be the largest in the world. In a splendid volume published at Paris in 1840, with illustrations, M. Auguste Richard de Montferrand describes the mode by which it which it was removed from the pit in which it was cast in 1733, and placed on the stone pedestal in 1836, on which it now rests.

In 1651 a bell, weighing 320,000 lbs., was cast by order of the Czar Alexis Michaelovitch, which was destroyed by fire.

In 1733 the present great bell was cast by order of the Empress Emma Ivanovna, by adding 80,000 lbs. to the metal of the old bell of 1651. In 1737 a great fire took place, and communicated with the woodwork covering the great bell of 1733, and the water coming in contact with the heated metal, a large triangular piece, about 7 feet by 2 feet in size, was broken out.

There are two inscriptions on the bell, the translation of which I copy from Lyall's *Character of the Russians and History of Moscow* (London, 1832). He tells us that Mr. Murray, the engineer, examined the bell with the most scrupulous attention in 1817, by desire of Mr. Wilson of Alexandrovski, and that 'Mr. Wilson himself copied the inscription, which I have verified, and which, when compared with those on the same sheet with the drawing executed for the Emperor, were found to correspond, notwithstanding that a few words on the bell were almost illegible.'

The following are the inscriptions on the bell, as translated in the work above mentioned:—

'By order of the blessed and eternally worthy of memory, Great Gosudar, Tsar, and Great Duke, Alexis Michaelovitch, Autocrat of all Great, Little, and White Russia, this great bell was cast for the chief Cathedral, dedicated to the honourable and famous Assumption of the Most Holy Mother of God, containing 8000 poods of copper (and tin), in the year 7162 from the Creation of the World, and from the Birth by the Flesh of God the Word, 1654. It began to announce Divine Service in the year 7167 from the Creation of the World, and in the year 1668 [should be 1658] from the Birth of Christ, and continued to announce Divine Service till the year 7208 from the Creation of the World, and till the year 1761 (1701) from the Birth of our Lord, in which year on the 19th of June, in consequence of a great fire which happened in the Kremla, it was damaged.'

'Till the year 7239, from the beginning of the world, and the year 1731 from the Birth into the world of Christ, it remained mute.'

'By order of the most pious, most potent, and Great Gosudar, the Empress Anna Ivanovna, Autocratess of All Russia, in glory of God, in the acknowledged Trinity, and in honour of the Most Holy Mother of God, this bell was cast for the chief Cathedral of her famous Assumption from the 8000 poods of copper (and tin) of the former bell that was destroyed by fire, with the addition of 2000 poods of copper (and tin) in the year 7242 from the Creation of the World, and in the year of our Lord 1734, in the fourth year of her most prosperous reign.'

The bell remained in the pit till 1836.

M. Montferrand informs us that in 1701 the Emperor Paul I. desired the Engineer (J. Guist) to find out how the bell could be raised from its bed; and again, in 1819, the Emperor Alexander ordered General Bethancourt to devise means for raising it, neither of which projects were carried out.

In March, 1836, the Emperor, Nicholas I., gave orders to M. Auguste R. de Montferrand that the bell should be raised from the casting-pit and placed on a stone pedestal near the Kremlin, and which was most successfully accomplished on August 4, 1836, in the presence of the great Officers of State and to the inhabitants of Moscow to their great joy. An inscription on the stone pedestal records the transaction.

M. Montferrand, by order of the Emperor, published an account of the bell in 1840, imperial folio, with eighteen pages of letterpress and nine plates, showing the figure, ornaments, &c., on the bell, and the inscription, with plans showing the means adopted for raising such a gigantic casting, weighing 482,000 lbs., or 192 tons, 3 qrs. 2 cwt. and 14 lbs. The diameter is 21 feet 6 inches; it is 21 feet high, exclusive of the canons; the sound-bow is 24 inches thick.

Curfew.

THE Curfew is rung at Louth on the third bell at 8 p.m. every night, except Saturday, when it is rung at 7 p.m. From Christmas, for a fortnight, it is rung at 7 p.m. The day of the month is tolled after the ringing. M. C. W.

RECEIVED.—G. Harrison; Teilan.

the composer of the 'special form' once descend to plain prose his freedom has departed, and the law is frowning upon him.

I have ventured in another place to suggest—and I should be thankful if 'G. V.' would weigh the suggestion—that the simplest way of supplying this acknowledged want of the Church would be the insertion of a new rubric after the Ember Collect, or in any other more suitable place, to the following effect:—'The minister may add a prayer or prayers for the Missions of the Church, or for ———, at such times and in such words as shall have been approved by the Ordinary.' Let the main body of the Church's habitual devotions be prescribed and fixed, but let room be given to add occasional words as may seem fit to the rulers of the Church, without any attempt to anticipate once for all the wants of changing times or the operations of the Holy Spirit.

F. H. C.

SIR,—I have seen at times an advertisement of a book for learning to read the Greek Testament in the original in a few lessons. Can you, or any of your correspondents, kindly give me the publisher's name and exact title?

SIDEROPOLITES.

'G. MUSSELI.'—It is not always possible to obtain satisfactory views of interiors.

'CWMAYON SUBSCRIBER.'—Thanks for your suggestion. We must select portraits of widely known clergy rather than of those who, however worthy, are only known locally.

Another very Small Church.

CULBORNE CHURCH, on the borders of Exmoor, near the shore of Porlock Bay, is a perfect little Norman building. The chancel is 10 ft. wide by 11 ft. 3 in. long; the wall of the chancel arch is 2 ft. thick; the length of the nave is 21 ft. 6 in. in the clear; 12 ft. 3 in. wide. Total length, 34 ft. 9 ins.

A porch on the south side is 6 ft. by 4 ft. There is a western bell turret closed up containing two unlettered bells.

H. T. ELLACOMBE.

THE Rev. W. Barclay, Kingston, Hereford, sends the following short Form of Prayer for use after choir practice, in answer to a query in No. for Sept. 5.

¶ The practice being over, and all the books, &c. in their places, and the choir-desks made tidy, and all kneeling down.

Let us pray.

WE thank Thee, O Lord, that Thou permittest us to help in the services of Thy sanctuary;

PARDON, if Thou hast seen anything careless or irreverent (in any of us) in this our evening practising;

HELP us to offer unto Thee our choicest and our best, that we may sing Thy service with pure hearts and voices.

Through JESUS CHRIST our Lord. Amen.

Lighten our darkness, &c. &c.

Lord, have mercy, &c.

Christ, have mercy, &c.

Lord, have mercy, &c.

OUR FATHER, &c. (All joining.) Amen.

The grace of our Lord . . . evermore. Amen.

RECEIVED ALSO.—Rev. G. L. Woolcombe; D. W. B.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

A Tour among Bells in Town and Country.

No. XII.

To have been born within the sound of Bow Bells is generally considered the first qualification of a Cockney. Perhaps it was the desire to manufacture as many Cockneys as possible which induced the authorities of St. Mary-le-Bow to secure a tenor bell heavier than that of any other ring in London, surpassing as it does the tenor of St. Saviour's, Southwark, by about 1 cwt., although not quite so deep as the latter in tone. It is very seldom one hears these celebrated bells, and to listen to them amid the roar of Cheapside, or that of any of its numerous noisy tributaries, is very unsatisfactory to the hearer and not fair to the bells. In order to do justice to these, it is necessary to cross the river and proceed to some quiet lane among the gigantic warehouses which line the Southwark side of the Thames. Under these circumstances the excessive mellowness of this ring is so striking that the hearer at once admits that superiority which has been so long asserted; in particular, he cannot fail to notice the marvellous roundness of tone of the tenor. In visiting the tower, which is 'the crown of glory of modern Cheapside,' one is somewhat disappointed. The ringing-chamber is very high up, and so near the bells that the din is rather overpowering; it is very dark, and the rope of the eighth bell hangs in one corner, quite out of the proper circle. It is a matter of some delicacy to set the ponderous tenor at hand-stroke, and the visitor is sometimes recommended to perform the operation of setting at back-stroke: if he takes this advice he will surely be lifted well up in the air, and remain suspended, to the amusement of the ringers.

I have always wondered why this grand ring of ten has never been augmented to twelve, by the easy, and comparatively inexpensive, addition of two trebles. There is naturally among ringers an inclination to place rings of twelve in the very first rank, and the bells of St. Mary-le-Bow should surely hold a foremost place in that rank: this would be the immediate result of successfully splicing the ring with two trebles of a quality equal to that of the original ten.

C. Y.

Oulcutta, Nov. 1874.

(To be continued.)

Guild of Devonshire Ringers.

At a Committee meeting of ringers held in St. Paul's schoolroom on Saturday, C. A. W. Troyte, Esq., President, in the chair, arrangements were made for holding a meeting of the Guild at Broadclyst on the 28th inst., on

which occasion it was resolved to have a dinner at the Red Lion. A misunderstanding, it appears, had arisen between the President and Mr. Merson concerning a report of a recent performance of the Huntsham Band which appeared in the public press. The report was inserted by the President, and its accuracy had been called in question by Mr. Merson. The President seemed to have laboured under the impression that Mr. Merson had charged him with wilfully intending to mislead the public. Both parties expressed themselves at length on the matter at issue, in the course of which Mr. Merson said he never preferred such a charge against the President, and that the latter must have been under a mistake in entertaining any such idea. The matter was finally settled by both parties shaking hands. A motion was subsequently passed that nothing detrimental to the honour of the Huntsham Band was involved in the report, but that the performance could not be placed on the minutes, as one of the parties who participated in it did not belong to the Guild.—*Local Paper.*

At the same meeting the following business was transacted:—

1. The programme for the general meeting, to be held at Broadclyst on Dec. 28, was thus arranged:—Service at the church at 11 (at which it is hoped as many members as possible will be present); from 12 to 2 ringing in the steeple (the assignment of time to each band to rest with the President and Secretary, and to be notified in the room placed at the service of the Guild by Sir T. D. Acland); at 2 o'clock the members and friends will dine together (tickets for the dinner may be obtained at 2s. 6d. each; performing members will, however, have them supplied, on application to the Secretary, at 1s. each); at the conclusion of dinner the General Meeting will be held, to be followed by ringing in the steeple and some hand-bell performances.

2. A form of prayer for use in belfries on New-year's Eve was adopted, and ordered to be printed and circulated.

3. It was resolved 'that individual members may have the fact of their first performance in any method inserted opposite their name in the Members' Book, subject to the same conditions as were laid down respecting the record of any performance by a band.

4. Two performances were reported, but it was agreed that inasmuch as one ringer in each case was not a member of the Guild neither could be recorded.

5. With reference to one of these reports it was agreed 'that the Committee, after hearing the statements on both sides, are of opinion that there has been nothing detrimental to the honour of the Huntsham Band in what has occurred.'

J. L. LANGDON FULFORD, Hon. Sec.

Muffled Ringing at Dewsbury, Yorkshire.

ON Sunday, the 13th inst., a company of Change-ringers occupied the tower of All Saints' Parish Church, and rang a tribute of respect to the memory of three departed friends; namely, Benjamin Thackrah, Benjamin Thackrah, jun., and John Thackrah: the two latter being sons of Benjamin Thackrah. They had been ringers at this church for fifty-eight, forty-two, and forty-six years respectively. The changes were 1874, being the date of the present year, in 1 hr. 10 mins., Kent Treble Bob method. The following were the ringers:—T. Picklus, treble; W. Senior, 2nd; A. Beaumont, 3rd; G. Thackrah, son of Benjamin Thackrah, jun., 4th; H. Haigh, 5th; S. Smithson, 6th; J. Garforth, tenor. C. A. Fox, conductor. Composed by H. Hubbard of Leeds.—*Per Letter.*

Change-ringing at Sheffield.

ON the 14th inst., the Sheffield and Rotherham Society of Change-ringers rang at St. Mary's Church, Sheffield, 5040 changes of Stedman's Triples, in 3 hrs. 18 mins. The ringers were:—C. H. Hattersley, Sheffield, treble; J. Ashley, Rotherham, 2nd; J. Horner, Rotherham, 3rd; C. Bower, Sheffield, 4th; T. Dixon, Sheffield, 5th; C. Steer, Sheffield, 6th; T. Hattersley, Sheffield, 7th; A. Rodgers, Rotherham, tenor. The peal, which is the first ever rung on these bells, was composed by the late T. Tharston of Birmingham (see Hubbard's Work, p. 65), and was conducted by C. H. Hattersley. Weight of tenor, 25 cwt.—*Communicated.*

Liverpool Change-ringing.

ON Thursday evening, the 17th inst., ten members belonging to St. Nicholas Society of Change-ringers met in the belfry and rang a true peal of Kent Treble Bob Royal, consisting of 5000 changes, in 3 hrs. 20 mins. The ringers were:—J. Heron, jun., treble; G. Helsly, 2nd; A. Heron, 3rd; J. Egerton, 4th; W. Woodhead, 5th; I. Meadows, 6th; H. Brooks, 7th; W. Bastow, 8th; W. Burkinshaw, 9th; W. Gill, tenor. The peal was composed and conducted by Mr. John Heron, jun.—*Communicated.*

A Curious Phenomenon in the Sounds of certain Bells.

SIR,—The effect mentioned in the extract you publish, Sep. 12, under the above heading is not due to 'echo,' but is caused by the well-known and understood effect called by musicians 'Beats.' In the case of a bell, the beats are caused by different thickness or density at different parts of the sound-bow of the bell; and I should imagine very few bells do not produce beats. There is a very full explanation of beats, far too long to introduce here, in Tyndall's *Seventh Lecture on Sound*; but I may shortly say that they are caused by two vibrating bodies, or, in the case of a bell, two parts of the same body not vibrating in perfect unison. Thus, when the vibrations of the two nearly coincide, the united sound is greatly strengthened; and when the vibrations do not coincide so nearly they check each other's effect, and the united sound is weakened: hence beats.

J. J. SERJEANTSON.

'CHARLES COWPER.'—Hand-bells may be obtained from any of the London bell-founders. Second-hand ones are rarely worth buying.

HAND-BELL RINGING.—As a rule we do not notice such performances, unless they are something very uncommon.

CORRECTION.—The peal we recorded as rung at Mitcham on the 2nd inst. was rung at St. Peter's, not at St. Nicholas.

RECEIVED ALSO.—J. Alexander; Bob Major; G. Wilkinson.

The Rev. Father O'Keefe has in the press a book on Ultramontaniam, which will go far towards confirming the statements made in Mr. Gladstone's famous pamphlet. He proposes to trace the system to its source, to relate its rise, progress, and decline, and modern revival. The *Bulla Cœnæ*, and the claim of the Pope in jurisdiction in *temporalia regum*, will be amply discussed.

The excitement in connexion with the visit of Messrs. Moody and Sankey to Dublin is rapidly dying out, and we are now watching with an amount of interest their progress through England. At a large meeting of the city clergy on Monday, the 'revival' passed under review, and some very opposite opinions were maintained. On the whole, however, the judgment was adverse, and it is certainly against the 'American Evangelists' that the most hardworking, earnest, and wisest of our clergy, and men of pronounced Evangelical opinions, held aloof from taking any public part in their meetings.

Professor Haughton sends to the *Freeman* a correspondence which he says 'illustrates some of the fruits of the new gospel according to Lucretius, whose modern disciples are now shedding the mild light of science on the fair city of Florence and on its unhappy dogs.' It seems that the most cruel experiments in the way of vivisection are performed year after year in that city on these miserable creatures. 'Professor X.' says Dr. Haughton's correspondent, 'being a thorough Materialist, has a wild theory that magnetic currents are to be discovered in organized beings, in the action and combination of which the secret of life will eventually be found; and it is to prove that dust comes from dust, as well as returns to the same, that all these tortments are inflicted on the wretched and defenceless creatures which are handed over to him!' Professor Haughton in his reply urges his correspondent, who is a lady, to endeavour to secure the three following conditions for all such experiments:—'That there should be no unnecessary repetition of experiments on living animals in illustration of well-established facts; that the experiments, when necessary, should be guarded with every precaution to secure the minimum amount of suffering; and, thirdly, that all such experiments should be conducted under the superintendence of a public officer, responsible to public opinion and to the law. If,' adds Dr. Haughton, 'Professor X. were to attempt in Dublin what he does in Florence, he could be fined or imprisoned a thousand times a-year, or say three times a-day! and if his practices came to be known to the cabmen of Dublin, he would be flogged through the streets as General Haynau was by Barclay and Perkins's draymen.'

Professor Salmon has just published two sermons on *Theism and Science*, preached before the University. They are a reply to some of the positions of Dr. Tyndall.

Christmas has come and gone—a most genial season: it was dry and frosty; it has been succeeded, however, by unusually damp and murky weather.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Change-ringing at Clyst St. George, Devon.

SEVERAL members of the Guild of Devonshire Ringers from Exeter and the neighbourhood paid their respects to the Rector on Saturday, Dec. 26, and gratified him and the villagers by ringing eight peals of six scores of Grandsire Doubles. Each peal was struck in 5 mins. The ringers were:—W. C. Marsh and S. Mardon (interchangeably) treble; W. Bradford, 2nd; T. Moxhay, 3rd; W. B. Fulford, 4th; J. C. Palmer, 5th; W. J. Southwood, tenor. The bells were remarkably well struck, and great credit is due to the whole party for the progress they have made in scientific change-ringing. In an extra touch the Rector rang the treble. A move was then made to Woodbury, where, owing to an accident to the treble, very little ringing was done; but after refreshments at the schoolroom the party proceeded by break to East Budleigh, where several touches of Grandsire Doubles were rung, some of the Budleigh youths joining their brother Guildsmen; after which all returned home, highly delighted with their day's outing.

The Guild of Devonshire Ringers.

SIR,—In June last you gave your readers an account of the Inaugural Meeting of this Guild, which was held at Plymouth on the occasion of the opening of the augmented ring at St. Andrews Church: I have now to ask you to record the holding of a very successful General Meeting at Broad Clyst on Monday last, December 28th. The bands which were represented on the occasion were those of Budleigh, Huntsbam, Exeter, Uploman, Broad Clyst, Plymouth, and Woodbury, of which all but the two last mustered in sufficient strength to take part in the ringing; and though the striking was not always very good, most of the bands being accustomed to bells of much less weight than those of Broad Clyst, yet some very creditable Grandsire Doubles, Stedman's Doubles, and Treble Bob Minor, were rung by the different bands. Just before dinner a mixed party, consisting of Messrs. Landsell, W. J. Banister, Payne, Chilcott, Tucker, Norrington, and C. A. W. Troyte, rang half a peal of Treble Bob Minor, together with several excellently-struck Grandsire Doubles. After this the members and friends, numbering about seventy, sat down to a dinner at the Red Lion Inn, under the chairmanship of the President, C. A. W. Troyte, Esq.; and on the removal of the cloth a meeting was held, at which twenty-seven honorary and twenty-eight performing members were elected. Votes of thanks were unanimously accorded to the ministers and churchwardens of Broad Clyst, Poltimore, and Clyst Honiton, for placing their bells for the day at the disposal of the Guild; to

Sir J. D. Acland, M.P., for granting a room for the use of members; and to the Local Sub-Committee for their successful labours. The Secretary then proposed the insertion of a rule, as suggested by the Committee, prohibiting any communications reflecting on bands in union with the Guild being inserted in the public press without notice having first been given to the secretary. Mr. Banister then suggested that the prohibition should be extended to the case of individual members, and in this form the additional rule was accepted by the meeting. A very cordial vote of thanks to the President for his conduct in the chair, and to the Secretary for his exertion in the cause of Change-ringing, brought the meeting to a close, and after some hand-bell performances the different bands scattered, apparently well pleased with the first General Meeting of the Guild.

Woodbury, Dec. 20, 1874.

J. L. LANGDON FULFORD, *Hon. Sec.*

Ross Bells.

ON Tuesday evening, the 8th ult., Mr. Frank Buckland, Inspector of Fisheries, being attracted by the musical sound of the Ross bells, requested Mr. Superintendent Smith to introduce him to the belfry; where he was received by Mr. Humphrey Bird, and the rest of the ringers, who gave him a lesson on the art of ringing the peal called Grandsire Triples. He also inspected and admired the mechanism of the chimes, and the very curious old clock that bears the date 1720, which even now keeps true Ross time. On the following evening, Mr. Buckland, so interested by his previous visit, persuaded the gentlemen then on the inquiry into the Wye Salmon Fisheries to inspect with him the interesting process of ringing a peal. The gentlemen present on this occasion were Messrs. Frank Buckland and Spencer Walpole, her Majesty's Inspectors of Salmon Fisheries; Mr. John Paterson (barrister-at-law, the Government legal adviser on the subject), Mr. Baker (solicitor to the Duke of Beaufort), Mr. John Lloyd, jun., Huntingdon Court, Hereford; Mr. Lawrence (barrister-at-law), and Dr. Cocks of Ross. Mr. Bird explained the mysteries of 'rising' and 'falling' the bells, and also of 'hunting,' 'dodging,' and 'place-making.' The ringers were:—R. Clarke, treble; H. Bird, 2nd; J. Trotter, 3rd; R. Carwardine, 4th; A. Osaman, 5th; J. Bickerton, 6th; C. Goulding, 7th; W. Cole, tenor.—*Local Paper.*

Staverton, Devon.

ON Monday fortnight the new Vicar (the Rev. J. B. Hughes) was inducted to this benefice. A large number of the clergy having robed in the vestry, walked two and two down the church; the procession being brought up by the Deans Rural of Totnes and Ipplepen, and the Archdeacon of Totnes with the new Vicar. On reaching the porch, where they were received by the churchwardens, the clergy formed in open line, and the Archdeacon, looking the door and taking the Vicar's right hand, placed it on the key, inducting him into all the 'rights, properties, &c., of the parish.' The Vicar then opened the door, and proceeding to the ringing-loft tolled the great bell, while the clergy walked in procession to the chancel, the Archdeacon again closing the procession, the organ being played by Mrs. Downes. Many of the parishioners were present, and listened with earnest attention to the address which the Archdeacon delivered from the sanctuary steps; after which the Holy Communion was celebrated.—*Local Paper.*

[We have always understood that the act was not perfect if any person beside the Incumbent was in the church at the same time with himself—the tolling of the bell announcing to the outsiders that he was in sole possession. George Herbert was a long time in making his exit, when one, looking through the key-hole, observed the holy man on his knees in prayer for God's blessing—a good example.—Ed.]

Change-ringing at Witney, Oxon.

ON December 19th, the Oxford Society of Change-ringers paid a visit to Witney, Oxon, and rang at St. Mary's Church a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. They afterwards visited the Parish Church of Kirtlington, Oxon, and rang Mr. John Holt's original one-part peal of Grandsire Triples with the two doubles in the last four leads; which was well brought round in 3 hrs. 7 mins. The ringers were:—G. H. Philot, Esq., B.A., treble; J. Field, 2nd; H. Janaway, 3rd; T. Hill, 4th; W. Smith, 5th; R. Annis, 6th; J. M. Hine, 7th; C. Hounslow, tenor. Conducted by J. Field.—*Communicated.*

Ringling at Dorchester, Oxon.

ON Saturday, December 26th, seven members of the Oxford Society of Change-ringers, with the assistance of Mr. J. Hewett Bannister, of Dorchester, rang on the bells of the Abbey Church Mr. John Holt's one-part peal of Grandsire Triples, consisting of 5040 changes, with two doubles in the last four leads, in 3 hrs. 9 mins. The following were the ringers:—W. Thomas, treble; J. Field, 2nd; H. Janaway, 3rd; W. F. Williamson, 4th; C. Hounslow, 5th; R. Annis, 6th; H. Mills, 7th; J. H. Bannister, tenor. Conducted by Mr. Charles Hounslow.—*Communicated.*

Change-ringing at Steyning, Sussex.

ON Saturday, December 26th, the Ruspier ringers, assisted by two ringers from Horsham, paid a friendly visit to Steyning, and rang two true and complete peals of Oxford Bob Minor, consisting of 720 changes each. They were called with the greatest number of calls possible—34 bobs and 26 singles each. They were rung in 48 mins. by the following persons:—W. Merett, Ruspier, treble; P. Horleyn, Ruspier, 2nd; W. Gibson, Horsham, 3rd; J. Worsfold, Ruspier, 4th; G. Tullett, Ruspier, 5th; H. Burstow, Horsham, tenor. Called by H. Burstow.—*Communicated.*

Curfew.

THE Curfew is rung at Waltham, in Leicestershire, on the third bell, at 8 p.m. every night except Saturday, when it is rung at 7 p.m. The day of the month is tolled after the ringing.—*Query:* What is the reason for the change of hour on Saturday, as is the case both here, at Louth, and elsewhere? And for what reason is it rung at Louth at 7 p.m. for a fortnight after Christmas?

D. W. BARRETT.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Address to Bell-ringers.

THIS is a tiny little book, but it contains excellent advice which we strongly recommend for extensive circulation. It is issued by our publisher under the direction of the Committee of the London Diocesan Lay-Helpers' Association. We are thankfully allowed to reproduce it, as a suitable Article for our Bell Column:—

'BELL RINGERS. By a Ringer.

'In no department of Church work is there so much prejudice to be overcome in the popular mind as in that of Bell-ringing. It is, indeed, almost a new thing to suppose that Church Bell-ringers are in any religious sense Church helpers.

'This has arisen from two causes, which, as they have in the past entirely obscured the religious character of the office, are not unlikely to hinder the holders of the same office now from realising the sacred nature of the work committed to them. First, in the greater number of steeples the ringing-chamber is entirely separated from the body of the church, and often approached by a staircase opening into the churchyard: this has given the impression that the ringing-chamber is not a part of the church, and does not partake of its consecration; and hence practices have been allowed in it, and even excess committed, from which we would willingly believe the ringers themselves would have shrunk if they had remembered that it also was holy ground. Secondly, there is no denying that, in one aspect, bell-ringing has a secular side; in this it is very different from choir-singing. Choirmen, as such, are only called upon to exercise their office for distinctly holy purposes. If they sing on secular occasions, or for amusement, it is not in church. But the bells are in the church, and you cannot ring without them; hence you will often be asked to ring and, perhaps, paid for ringing on state occasions or at weddings, when the event celebrated has no immediate religious aspect for yourself. Besides this, the art of change-ringing requires immense practice, and the ringing of a peal is in itself an amusement, being to the ringers in some sense what a concert is to choirmen: a concert, as distinguished from a choir-festival.

'Now, in endeavouring to give a religious tone to your office as a ringer, you must keep the different kinds and occasions of ringing to some extent distinct in your minds; these are twofold: first, ringing as an amusement or an exercise, and secondly, ringing on Sundays and Holy-days to call the people to church.

'(1.) Ringing as an amusement or exercise: you must remember that, although from the exigencies of the case, you are permitted to use the consecrated bells for a non-religious purpose, yet for all that they are God's property, and in their use you must avoid all unseemly action. Those practices which, as has been said, have brought bell-ringing into disrepute must be discountenanced and excluded. There must be no peal-ringing on Sundays, or during the holy seasons of penitence. Allow the remembrance of the sanctity of the ringing-chamber to have a distinct influence on your thoughts. Avoid irritation: mistakes in a difficult art are often very annoying; avoid jealousy; some will learn more easily and be put in more important posts than yourself; be kind in helping others to master their difficulties; cultivate a feeling of brotherhood in the Lord.

'(2.) Ringing on Sundays and Holy-days: Bells have been put in our churches to be rung as an assistance to the people of God in their religious duties. Their first object was to call people to church; therefore, as you ring, think that you are making their voices heard in persuasive accents, where your own could never reach. Of course, when you have helped to call others, you will go to church yourself. Do not attempt to ring on Sundays until you can manage your bell well, or, if you ring by method, till you are sufficiently advanced; otherwise you will get flurried, and perhaps vexed with yourself, or you may annoy others, and so unhinge your own and their minds for the service in church afterwards. Do not forget the influence that the sound of the bells has in raising the hearts of the congregation, and fitting them for the offices of prayer and praise; it should have the same effect, only to a greater degree, upon yourself.

'Then there are a few general thoughts which may be useful to you. You are permitted to help God's ministers in their work; think of your privilege, not of the help you give; and remember, that punctual attendance and ready obedience are absolutely essential. If a touch has been practised, it cannot be rung at all if you are not there, and will not be finished in time if you are not punctual. Be punctual and regular in your attendance on Sundays and Holy-days. Your ringing at such times is the duty of your office, not a matter of amusement. Be careful, too, to observe strict order in the steeple, take the bell assigned you, ring your time, and then go quietly down to church. You must not gossip or trifle in God's house. Be obedient and helpful, remember that any jarring in the belfry is sure to be proclaimed to all the congregation by your bad ringing; and thus, through you, your art and office is evil-spoken of.

'In conclusion, you have many difficulties to contend with, and much prejudice to overcome, therefore for you above, perhaps, all Church workers, are the Apostle's precepts necessary, that you should "walk circumspectly" and "watch unto prayer."

A Tour among Bells in Town and Country.

No. XIII.

From contemporaneous writers we learn that thirty years ago Lewisham was a pretty country village at some distance from London, but now it has been fairly swallowed by the voracious monster, and probably in the course of a few years the process of digestion will have altered the place beyond all recognition. At present, however, while standing in the churchyard of St. Mary's, and facing the west, we look upon much the same scene as did the College Youths who, in 1706, visited the village and rang two peals, one of Bob Major and one of Treble Bob Major. The church stands on a gentle slope which terminates in a rivulet, which must in those days have been very pretty: on the further side of this rises a steep bank: in consequence of this position the tone of the bells appears to be very powerful. Desiring to visit this ring one summer evening with some friends, I applied for permission to the Vicar of Lewisham, from whom I received a most courteous assent: but because, forsooth, I had adopted this course instead of ignoring the Vicar, and applying to his worship the steeple-keeper, we found the greatest difficulty in obtaining access to the bells. It is only fair to state that this is the solitary instance of incivility which I met with from ringers in all my wanderings among bells. The ringing-chamber, a pleasant, well-lighted room, is high in the tower near the bells: the latter are in good order and the tenor is said to weigh 22 cwt.

A few miles south of Lewisham is the neat little town of Bromley: here the church occupies a commanding position on the edge of a bank, which slopes rapidly away on the west and south sides of the churchyard. Here is a very pretty ring of eight: the tenor weighs between 19 and 20 cwt.: the tone of the 7th bell is wonderfully round and sweet, so much so that the tenor, although a good bell, sounds poor in comparison with it. This is very noticeable when the bells are heard from a distance, when one cannot but think, 'What a ring it would be if the tenor were equal to the 7th!' In 1773 the old bells, five in number, were taken down and recast, the ring being then augmented to eight. A company of ringers was formed, who, after a short period of practice, amounting in all to little more than a year, rang 5040 changes of Bob Major, and a few months later 10080 changes in the same method. At the present time the old ringers have died out or become inactive, and as there has been no infusion of new blood, change-ringing at Bromley is practically extinct: but at least one good and active ringer remains, and, therefore, the re-formation of a company is still far from hopeless.

Calcutta, Advent, 1874.

(To be continued.)

C. Y.

Ringing at Llanfrecfha, Monmouthshire.

SIR,—I have read in the *Church Times* that the six bells at the restored church of this village were rung, for the first time, from 5 to 7 o'clock on the morning of Christmas Day, in which the Vicar took the lead. 'THE RINGING CONSISTED OF ROUND RINGING AND TWO CHANGES.' It will be instructive to myself, and probably to many of your subscribers, to be told in what method the two changes were produced. Did any ringer ever hear of such a performance? Is it some Welsh dodge, peculiar to the Principality? BOB MAJOR.

Change-ringing at Oldham, Lancashire.

ON Saturday, Nov. 14, 1874, eight members of the Society of Change-ringers of Ashton-under-Lyne met at Moorside Church, in the parish of Oldham, and rang a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major in 3 hrs. 23 mins. The peal, which consisted of 5184 changes, was composed and conducted by Mr. James Wood, and rung by the following ringers:—T. Moss, treble; D. Heap, 2nd; J. Wood, 3rd; T. Stopford, 4th; B. Broadbent, 5th; J. Gillott, 6th; J. Thorpe, 7th; C. Thorpe, tenor.—*Communicated.*

Change-ringing at Stalybridge, Lancashire.

ON Saturday, Dec. 26th, 1874, five of the Society of Change-ringers at Holy Trinity Church, Stalybridge, with three of the Society at Ashton-under-Lyne, rang at Stalybridge Mr. John Holt's ten-part peal of Grandisle Triples, consisting of 5040 changes; which was conducted by James Wood, sen., and brought round in 3 hrs. 3 mins. by the following ringers:—J. Lawton, Stalybridge, treble; H. Shaw, Stalybridge, 2nd; J. Wood, sen., Ashton, 3rd; J. Wood, jun., Ashton, 4th; T. Cocker, Stalybridge, 5th; S. Wood, Ashton, 6th; R. Williams, Stalybridge, 7th; J. Rose, Stalybridge, tenor. Weight of tenor, 15 cwt., in the key of F.—*Communicated.*

Muffled Peal at Silkstone, Yorkshire.

ON Monday, Dec. 28th, 1874, a company of change-ringers met at old Silkstone parish church, and rang a peal of 720 changes, in remembrance of William Mitchell, late of Silkstone, 79 years of age. The ringers were stationed thus:—C. Firth, treble; E. Bailey, 2nd; G. Taylor, 3rd; J. Horsfield, 4th; A. Wilson, 5th; C. Horsfield, tenor.—*Per Letter.*

Change-ringing at Benington, Herts.

ON Thursday evening, Dec. 31st, 1874, the undermentioned members of the Benington Ringing Society rang upon the occasion of ringing out the last departing hour of our past year, and with welcome joy ushering into the realms of life what is hoped for—the advent of a Happy New Year. They succeeded in bringing round, in admirable style, a most musical composition of Superlative Surprise Major, consisting of 1344 changes, full of music and melody, for which this scientific method is so well renowned. N. Warner, treble; Joseph Kitchener, 2nd; L. Proctor, 3rd; John Kitchener, 4th; L. Chapman, 5th; S. Page, 6th; C. Shambrook, 7th; T. Page, tenor. This excellent performance was most ably conducted by Mr. T. Page.—*Communicated.*

[We congratulate the Beningtonians on this masterly performance; it does infinite credit to all concerned in it. The method is by far the most musical of any known in the science of change-ringing; it requires great precision to ring it, and a thorough knowledge of the art, for without both of these attainments it cannot be done at all.—Ed.]

NOTES AND QUERIES.

The General Thanksgiving.

SIR,—I regret that I was in error in stating that the word 'may' in the General Thanksgiving occurs in all Prayer-books printed and published in Ireland up to the present time. I should have said that it occurs in one dated 1852, which is the latest published by the A. P. C. K. that I have seen.
Waterford. J. F. ROY.

Queries.

SIR,—Will you, or any of your correspondents, kindly tell me if there is any authority, traditional or otherwise, for the following symbolic reading of the stones in the wall of the New Jerusalem (Rev. xxi. 19, 20) beyond the exquisite fancy of a modern writer? I give the passage *verbatim* :—

'This crimson (jasper) that lies at the beginning—is the colour of passion, suffering. Out of the crimson we climb into the blue—that is, truth and calm. Beyond is the white, glistening chalcedony, for purity. And next flashes out the green—the hope of glory. Then they mingle and alternate—the tenderness and the pain, and the purifying: it is the veined sardonyx stands for that—the life-story.

'The blood-red sard is the sixth stone—the whole triumphant love that contains and overwhelms all passion; the blessedness intense with its included anguish. It is the middle band, the supreme and central type: crowning the human, underlying the heavenly. Then the tints grow clear and spiritual—chrysolite, golden-green, touched with a glory manifest; the blending of a rarer and serener blue; the wonderful sea-pure beryl. Then the sun-filled raptures of the topaz and the chrysoprase, where flame and azure find each other—the joy of the Lord, and the peace that passeth understanding. In the end, the jacinth purple and pure amethyst, into which the rainbow refines itself at last, hinting at the far distance of ineffable things—for it is the story of the rainbow, too: a sublime sentence that was written on the clouds to stand for ever.

'The wall of stones was like an alphabet, it gave you a key to the whole radiant language. Without such a key to its types no wonder people puzzle over the Apocalypse. It is a strange denoting of the aspect of the Son of Man, taken at the mere letter, "like unto a jasper and a sardine stone;" but read them as the fervent attesting colours of Suffering and Love, and how full the Face and Presence are, so briefly likened!

I should be glad to know, not only for myself, but for my Sunday-class of girls. I find that readings of this sort seem to make the words so real and living for them. At their approaching Confirmation I want to give them Bibles in which I could mark, not only such readings as this, but inaccuracies of translation, such as 'a judgment' for 'damnation,' &c. I think I saw a Bible with wide blank margins advertised some time ago in *Church Bells*: Can you tell me where I could obtain such a one, and if it would be very expensive?
E. L. F.

SIR,—Will any of your readers kindly answer me the following questions? Is it absolutely necessary that Churchwardens should be members of the Established Church? If not, and a Dissenter is appointed who refuses to find the elements for the Holy Communion, what is the penalty attaching to such refusal? Also, is it entirely compulsory, in a legal sense, that the Ten Commandments 'be set up at the east end of every church or chapel?' It is so set forth in Dale's *Clergyman's Legal Handbook* (5th edition), page 97, but they are not so set up in many churches. If they will enlighten me I shall be thankful.
ALFRETON.

SIR,—Can any one explain why, in some places in the Service, the Doxology is omitted from the Lord's Prayer, and in others used? I thought it might be expressive of special praise, as it is used after the Daily Absolution and in the Communion Service; but I find it is also used in the Communion Service.
OAK APPLE.

SIR,—Can any of your readers inform a Leicester Churchman where he can obtain a copy of a piece of poetry, of which the following is a quotation?—

'My dear old Church of England,
I love her ancient name;
And God forbid this heart should feel
One throb to do her shame.
A mother she has been to me,
A mother's love has shown:
Shall I despise a parent's love,
A stranger's call mine own?'

T. P. E.

SIR,—In *Church Bells* for 26th Dec. 1874, is a description of St. Margaret's Church, King's Lynn. Amongst the objects of interest is mentioned 'an almost unique rood-screen of the Jacobean period.' Is that statement correct? I thought all rood-screens were erected prior to the Reformation. I should be much obliged if you would tell me (in *Church Bells*) if it is really a Jacobean rood-screen, or if it was an old screen restored then.
H. S.

SIR,—If any of your readers know of a Society called, or answerable to the description of, the 'London Church Building Society,' the writer can, on the Secretary giving the Society's address in *Church Bells*, inform him of a large legacy left to the Society.
WELSHMAN.

SIR.—Can any of your correspondents inform me whether, under the recent 'Dilapidations Act,' the furniture and personal effects of a deceased clergyman can be seized and sold to pay dilapidations?
B. F.

SIR.—Can you tell me whether Canon Liddon's last course of Advent Sermons (notices of which have appeared in *Church Bells*) has been published, and if so, by whom?
A COUNTRY SUBSCRIBER.

[Probably they may be obtained from the Publishers of the *Penny Pulpit*, 1 Chapter House Court, E.C.—Ed.]

Answers.

SIR,—An inquiry was made lately in *Church Bells* (not yet answered), with regard to a good manual of private prayers. One of the best of its kind is Compton's *Devotions for Church Helpers* (Bell). There are so many popular manuals of prayer just now of a strongly Romanising tendency that great care is needed in the choice.
P. L.

'OAK APPLE' recommends to 'W. S. H.' *Short Readings for the Saints' Days*, S. P. C. K., price 1s., published under the direction of the Tract Committee. 'A. M. Z.' recommends *Festival Talks*, S. P. C. K.

'E. M. C.' 29 Saumarez Street, Guernsey, offers gratis to any reader wishing for back numbers of *Church Bells*, those for 1871, from Feb. 18 to Dec. 30; 1872, complete; and 1873, minus Sept. 13 and 20.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

A Tour among Bells in Town and Country.

No. XIV.

THE village of Beddington lies about two miles from West Croydon, nestling amid magnificent trees, and intersected by several bright and rippling brooks; the walk by a footpath beside a quiet mill-stream from Croydon to Beddington Church is, on a sunny day, a treat which will not be quickly forgotten.

This church, a building of considerable size and very elegant proportions, has been very thoroughly restored and refitted with exquisite taste, and in the most costly manner; every piece of furniture, from the magnificent organ in the chancel to the fittings of the choir-vestry, being the best that money can procure. When we see those who have this world's goods expending them thus for the glory of God and the honour of His house, we cannot but feel thankful that we live in times not altogether heedless of the voice calling, 'Sleepers, awake!' Ringing companies in and about London will find Beddington (as we found it) an excellent place to visit in the annual trip which every company should enjoy. The tower contained, in 1873, a fine ring of eight bells, with a tenor of about 20 cwt.; space had been left for two trebles, which were shortly expected. In the belfry, as elsewhere, all was in perfect order, and a London company had achieved a peal of 5000 changes here shortly before our visit. The one drawback was a considerable oscillation in the ringing-chamber when the eight bells were in motion, recalling unpleasantly the sensation experienced during the continuance of earthquakes. The Beddington ringers had learned to handle their bells fairly in rounds and call-changes, and have, I dare say, by this time mastered the first difficulties of change-ringing.

After several touches at Beddington we walked over to Carshalton, and tried the merry little ring of eight in that tower. The tenor is about 13 cwt., but the bells, although so light, are very musical, and go so easily, that it is a treat to ring them. The ringing-chamber is one of those old-fashioned, picturesque rooms, which artists love to depict in the Christmas Annuals in very fancy sketches, with the bells in full swing above, and the ringers holding the ropes with hands and feet, chiming fashion, in a manner which, if really adopted, must end in the speedy death or maiming of the whole band. A true picture of change-ringing, giving the varied expressions of the ringers, some anxiously intent on the intricacy of the method, some with the calm confidence of experience, would be quite original and very interesting.

Calcutta, Advent, 1874.

C. Y.

(To be continued.)

A New Ring of Bells at St. Stephen's, Hull.

For some time past the congregation of St. Stephen's Church have been employing themselves in raising funds to procure a new ring of bells. The bells hitherto in use (five in number) were much out of tune, and in other respects unsatisfactory. It was proposed to have a complete octave of new bells. The amount required was promised in a few weeks, and, with two exceptions, entirely by the congregation. The work was entrusted to Messrs. Wm. Blews and Sons, of Birmingham. The whole work was brought to a satisfactory issue this morning, immediately after the hour of midnight had passed, by the bells being rung out, announcing at the same time the birth of the new year and their own advent into the steeple of St. Stephen's. The approximate weights and diameters of the bells are:—Tenor bell, 39 inches, 10 cwt. 3 qrs., G; seventh, 36½ inches, 8 cwt. 3 qrs. 10 lbs., A; sixth, 33 inches, 7 cwt. 9 lbs., B; fifth, 32 inches, 6 cwt. 2 qrs. 26 lbs., C; fourth, 29½ inches, 6 cwt., D; third, 28 inches, 5 cwt. 2 qrs., E; second, 27 inches, 5 cwt. 14 lbs., F sharp; treble, 26 inches, 5 cwt. 5 lbs., G—total weight, 55 cwt. 17 lbs. The tenor bell has the following inscription upon it:—'Rev. John Deck, vicar; John Briggs, James Pyburn, M.D., churchwardens—1874.' The bells have been cast from Sir E. B. Denison's approved mixture of pure bell-metal.—*Eastern Morning News*.

Belfry Accident at Wellow, Somerset.

A TERRIBLE and extraordinary accident has occurred at Wellow, near Bath. Whilst a band of bell-ringers were engaged in ringing Christmas peals it was found that one of the ropes had slipped off the pulley. The bell was left in such a position that the men who went aloft to liberate the rope found that the bell was balanced mouth upwards, and secured by a self-acting clip. On the rope being liberated, however, the bell swung round and crushed a man named Peter Iles, who was beneath it, so severely, that he is not expected to recover. The bell was a heavy one. Another man, who, noticing it move, caught hold of the wheel to stop it, was thrown across the bell-loft.—*Local Paper*.

Memorial Bells at Cromer, Norfolk.

A **SPLENDID** new ring of six bells has lately been placed in the tower of the parish church in this pleasant little watering-place. The bells are the gift of Thomas Fowell Buxton, Esq., in memory of the late Dowager Lady Buxton, of Northrepps Hall, near Cromer. At the opening, ringers attended by invitation from Norwich, Yarmouth, Aylsham, Diss, &c., in all to the number of sixty. The bells were opened by the Worstead ringers ringing half-a-peal of Bob Minor; Aylsham and Marsham then rang 720 of Bob Minor; after which, St. Peter's (Norwich) rang a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor. Other companies followed, and ringing was kept up with great spirit during the day. At five o'clock the ringers and others sat down to a dinner in the Fishermen's Reading-room, T. F. Buxton, Esq. presiding, supported on the right by the Rev. F. Fitch, Vicar; on the left by J. G. Barclay, Esq. There were also present, F. W. Buxton, Esq.; B. H. Buxton, Esq.; Rev. J. Patterson; F. Hoare, J. Hoare, and T. W. Field, Esqs. Numerous toasts followed, which were given and received in a most kind manner.—*Local Paper.*

Memorial Bells at Alnwick, Northumberland.

On Christmas Eve, a ring of eight bells, placed in St. Paul's Church by public subscription, in memory of Charlotte Florentia, late Dowager Duchess of Northumberland, were formally opened by the Ripon, Sharow, and Hurworth-on-Tees Societies of Ringers united. The ringers met before Morning Service, raised the bells in peal, and rang a touch of 504 Grandsire Triples, as follows:—J. Strodder, sen., Ripon, treble; W. Carling, Sharow, 2nd; T. Clark, Sharow, 3rd; J. E. Hern, Hurworth, 4th; J. Hern, Hurworth, 5th; W. Pick, Sharow, 6th; J. Strodder, jun., Ripon, 7th; J. Horner, Sharow, tenor. W. Pick, conductor. Several other touches of Grandsire and Kent Treble Bob Major were rung during the day; the following ringers also taking part.—J. Thompson, Hurworth; W. S. Clark (aged 14 years), Sharow; J. Trevor, Ripon; and J. Bowman, Sharow. The ringers being engaged to stay over Christmas Day, they met at 7 a.m., when some fine ringing, conducted by Mr. J. E. Hern and Mr. T. Clark, was accomplished. It was pleasing to observe the great interest the Rev. J. J. M. Perry is taking in the matter; he intending to learn and make himself master of the really noble and scientific art of Change-ringing. At present the art is little known further north than Ripon, except what is now being done by Mr. J. E. Hern at Hurworth. We hope other clergy and gentry in this district will endeavour to learn this art, and thus help to remove some of the many gross abuses too prevalent in many towers in this district. While the ringers were en route to Alnwick on Wednesday, by permission of the Dean they rang some short touches on the fine peal of eight (tenor, 30 cwt. D) in Durham Cathedral. They had obtained permission to ring at St. Nicholas, Newcastle, but the bells being out of repair they could not ring there, but rang at All Saints' Church a peal of eight; tenor, 19 cwt.—*Local Paper.*

Change-ringing at Birstall, Yorkshire.

The young Society of Change-ringers belonging to the parish church, on the evening of Christmas Day rang a half-peal of Kent Treble Bob, which was brought round in 1 hr. 31 mins., the ringers being stationed as follows:—W. H. Crossley, treble; F. Crowther, 2nd; G. Thornton, 3rd; E. S. Jowitt, 4th; W. Stainthorpe, 5th; W. Elliott, 6th; H. Dodson, 7th; J. Dixon, tenor. Composed and conducted by W. H. Crossley. Also on New-year's Eve the above-named ringers brought the old year to a close and entered upon the new one by ringing a date touch of 1875, Kent Treble Bob method.—*Communicated.*

Change-ringing at Wollaston, Worcestershire.

On Saturday, Dec. 26, 1874, was rung at St. James's Church, Wollaston, by three of Handsworth and three of St. James's Societies of Change-ringers, 720 changes of Grandsire Minor on the bells of St. James. The ringers were:—W. Phillips, Handsworth, treble; E. Chapman, St. James's, 2nd; H. Dakin, St. James's, 3rd; W. Pugh, St. James's, 4th; J. Buffery, Handsworth, 5th; H. Bastable, Handsworth, tenor. Conducted by H. Bastable in 26 minutes.—*Communicated.*

Change-ringing at All Saints' and St. Andrew's, Hertford.

On Saturday, Dec. 26th, Leonard Proctor, Esq., and his party of ringers, visited Hertford, when they were met by several ringing friends from London, who had been kindly invited by Mr. Proctor to join them. After partaking of luncheon the company paid a visit to All Saints' Church and rang some masterly touches of Stedman's Caters, comprising in all 1149 changes, which was ably conducted by Mr. J. R. Haworth of London. The ringers then paid a visit to St. Andrew's, where the Bennington company rang some Double Norwich Court Bob, Superlative and Cambridge Surprise, under the skilful conductorship of Mr. Thos. Page; and we may here state that the Bennington company of ringers are, we believe, the best eight-bell company in England; and it reflects great credit on Mr. Proctor for having for so many years kept his society in such a state of ringing perfection. After a dinner the health of Mr. Proctor was proposed, thanking that gentleman for all his exertions in promoting the cultivation of the art of bell-ringing. Mr. Proctor, in reply, stated, that as his opinion has been asked respecting St. Andrew's bells, he wished to state that they certainly ought not to be re-hung in the new tower in their present state. They had been out and chipped about, were out of tune, and nothing could be done with them except recasting. Mr. Pollard said Mr. Proctor's statement ought to have great weight with the parish of St. Andrew, and he could not doubt that after the two noble gifts they had received within the last few days—from Earl Cowper and Mr. R. Smith—that the inhabitants would cheerfully join to have the bells recast; and whether they remained a ring of eight as now, or whether two were added to make ten, as had been suggested, he hoped that there would be a new ring for the new tower. Mr. Garratt followed and spoke to the same effect: he felt sure the parish would cheerfully subscribe to have the bells put in proper order; and as it seemed they must be recast to be in

tune, why it must be done. In his remarks, Mr. Proctor recommended all who felt an interest in the subject to take in that very valuable periodical, *Church Bells*, which was doing a deal of good all through England.—*Herts Guardian, Jan. 2.*

Opening of a New Ring of Bells at St. John's, Deptford.

On Thursday, Dec. 31 (New-year's Eve), eight members of the Society of College Youths (Messrs. Haley, Haworth, Cooter, Ferris, Greenleaf, Wood, Pettit, and Hayes) opened a ring of eight bells at the above church, and rang Grandsire, Stedman, and Treble Bob. About eighty ladies and gentlemen sat down to supper in St. John's Schoolroom, to which the ringers, with Mr. Waskitt, and several employees of the bell-founders (Messrs. Mears & Stainbank), were invited.—*Communicated.*

New-year's Peal at All Souls', Halifax.

On New-year's Morn, at 12 o'clock, the Society of Change-ringers of All Souls' Church, Halifax, met in the belfry of that church and rang a touch of Kent Treble Bob Major, consisting of 1875 changes, in 1 hr. 19 mins., being the same number of changes as figures of the present year of Our Lord. The ringers were placed:—G. Harper, treble; J. Lockwood, 2nd; P. Whiteley, 3rd; J. Clegg, 4th; J. Hirst, 5th; H. Heggingbottom, 6th; J. Shaw, 7th; and E. Harper, tenor. The peal was composed by William Sottanstill of Sowerby, and conducted by Jonah Clegg.—*Communicated.*

A Yorkshire Blow to Prize-ringing.

On Saturday, the 2nd of January, a Quarterly Meeting of the different Societies of Change-ringers in the West Riding of Yorkshire, comprising members from Bradford, Leeds, York, and several towns of larger and smaller note, was held at the Church Steps Inn, Bradford, after ringing a variety of touches at the parish church and St. John's in that town. Mr. Buckley, of Earlsheaton, was elected chairman; and Mr. Noble, of Bradford, the vice-chairman. The first business was to decide on the place of the next meeting, and it was settled to be at Leeds; after which, a proposal was made by Mr. Whittaker, of the Leeds Society, to form a Yorkshire Society, to include all ringers who would join, and to impart to all of them a full knowledge of the science. He fully advocated his views on the subject, by giving a fearful blow to the practice of prize-ringing, and ended by saying that he knew there were men in the room who would not shake hands with one another, through the envy occasioned by it. After several members had spoken on the subject, it almost received the full sympathy of those who were present, and, with one dissentient voice, prize-ringing in Yorkshire was denounced.—*Communicated.*

Change-ringing at St. Mary's, Whitechapel.

On Thursday, Jan. 7, eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang at St. Mary's, Whitechapel, Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, containing 5040 changes, in 2 hrs. 54 mins. Performers:—J. R. Haworth, treble; W. Jones, 2nd; G. Tanner, 3rd; E. Wallage, 4th; S. Reeves, 5th; W. Tanner, 6th; M. Hayes, 7th; W. Greenleaf, tenor. Conducted by Mr. J. R. Haworth. By a combination of circumstances the above persons had the pleasure of ringing the last peal on the bells, the demolition of the tower and church taking place a short time after, to make room for a finer structure.—*Communicated.*

Muffled Peal at St. Mary-le-Bow, City of London.

On Friday evening, Jan. 8, ten members of the College Youths rang a muffled peal in memory of the late Mr. John Mayhew, many years a ringer at the above church. They were stationed as follows:—J. R. Haworth, treble; G. Mash, 2nd; W. Greenleaf, 3rd; G. Muskett, 4th; G. Menday, 5th; G. Dorrington, 6th; J. Dwight, 7th; W. Grice, 8th; W. Breed, 9th; E. Horrocks, tenor. A touch of 395 Grandsire Caters was afterwards rung. Conducted by Mr. J. R. Haworth. Tenor, 53 cwt.—*Communicated.*

Change-ringing at Liverpool.

On Saturday, January 9th, eight members belonging to the Union Society of Change-ringers occupied the belfry of St. Peter's Church, and rang a peal of Kent Treble Bob Majors, consisting of 5088 changes, which came round in a masterly style in 3 hrs. 16 mins. The performers were:—G. Crute, treble; R. Williams, 2nd; J. Meadows, 3rd; C. Williams, 4th; G. Helsby, 5th; E. Booth, 6th; J. Egerton, 7th; R. Williams, tenor. Composed by Mr. G. Crute and conducted by Mr. R. Williams; and is the first 5000 Majors rung on the bells.—*Communicated.*

Change-ringing at St. Peter's, Hindley, Lancashire.

On Saturday evening, January 9th, was rung at the above church Mr. John Holt's ten-course peal of Grandsire Triples, consisting of 3040 changes. The peal was conducted by Mr. J. Prescott, and well brought round in 3 hrs. by the following ringers:—G. Grundy, Westhoughton, treble; E. Prescott, Hindley, 2nd; E. Brown, Hindley, 3rd; G. Higson, Hindley (his first attempt), 4th; J. Brown, Hindley, 5th; T. Tickle, Hindley (his first attempt), 6th; J. Prescott, Hindley (conductor), 7th; W. Westhead, Hindley, tenor. Weight of tenor, 14½ cwt.; key F.—*Communicated.*

Muffled Peal at St. Clement Danes, Strand.

On Monday, Jan. 11th, ten members of the St. James's Society rang a muffled peal at the above church in memory of the late Mr. R. Perry, at one time a well-known London ringer, who died at Boston, America, on the 27th of November, 1874. Performers:—J. R. Haworth, treble; W. Baron, 2nd; W. Lally, 3rd; J. M. Routh, 4th; S. Holden, 5th; G. Stockham, 6th; M. Hayes, 7th; J. Barrett, 8th; S. Jarman, 9th; H. Hopkins, tenor. Touches of Grandsire and Stedman's Caters were afterwards rung. Conducted by J. R. Haworth.—*Communicated.*

RECEIVED ALSO.—Wm. Ball; J. G. F. Chamberlain; Miss Warleigh. T. I. will find plenty of chimies in any peal of triples. Peals of round-ringing not worth inserting.

been abroad are aware that these fashions, like high pews, tall pulpits, pseudo-Roman architecture, and florid music, are not in the least, as is often supposed, Protestant, but simply seventeenth century. A return to earlier styles has been more strenuously opposed by Roman than by Anglican authorities. In the special case of St. Margaret's, King's Lynn, the choir is used only for the Holy Eucharist, and is parted off by a fine screen undoubtedly Jacobean.

E. C. C.

SIR,—There is a genuine one at Keynsham, co. Somerset. And I have seen others, but cannot now remember their habitats.

H. T. E.

NOTES AND QUERIES.

Queries.

SIR,—Will you, or any of your correspondents, kindly tell me why in some churches the congregation rises when the Lord's Prayer is read in the lesson for the day? Also, if the custom is peculiar to the High or the Low-Church party?

LINA.

[THE custom was probably adopted by worshippers to mark their reverence for the precious gift delivered to them. There appears to be no authority for it but usage. As to 'Lina's' second question, we would recommend her to give up the habit of looking for a party badge in every devotional practice. It is a most unwholesome state of mind to get into.—ED.]

SIR,—Can any of your correspondents inform me of the history of the Prayer for Unity in the Accession Service—by whom and when was it composed?

EARNEST.

P. S.—I should like to recommend to your correspondent, 'E. L. F.', the purchase of a periodical entitled *Life from the Dead*, where he or she would find most interesting articles on 'Light and Colour,' with respect to precious stones mentioned in Holy Scripture: the price of the bound magazine to which I allude, for last year, is 6s. 6d., and is well worthy of perusal and study. It is published by W. H. Guest, and Partridge and Co., Paternoster Row.

EARNEST.

Answers.

SIR,—If 'B. F.' means by his question to ask whether the goods of a deceased clergyman can be seized and sold to pay dilapidations in a summary way, as for rent, I can say decidedly 'No.' The Act makes the amount awarded for dilapidations a debt from the outgoing to the incoming incumbent. And if the executor of the deceased has not enough to pay all the debts due, a dividend must be paid in the usual way on the total amount, including dilapidations. Of course the furniture and all effects will be liable, and the executor must sell them; but they cannot be seized by any creditor until a judgment has been obtained and an execution issued in the ordinary way.

LEX.

SIR,—If 'T. P. B.,' who wishes any of your readers to inform a Leicester Churchman where he can obtain a copy of

'My dear old Church of England,
I love her ancient name, &c.'

will send me his direction, I will send him two or three copies. I enclose you one. Where the printer got it I do not know.

W. H. B. STOCKER.

Ovington Rectory, Alresford.

THE lines quoted by 'T. P. B.' last week can be obtained, post-free, at 1s. 3d. the hundred copies, from the author, the Rev. James A. Page, Hope House, Heald Grove, Manchester.

Incorporated Society for Promoting the Enlargement, Building, and Repairing, of Churches and Chapels.

Patron: THE QUEEN. President: THE ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY.

SIR,—My attention has just been called to a letter signed 'Welshman,' I presume in your last publication. If the legacy be intended for this Society, we should probably have heard of it ere now. All I can say, in reply to your correspondent is, that this is, *par excellence*, THE Church Building Society, established in London since 1818, though aiding in Church work throughout England and Wales.

THE SECRETARY.

7 Whitehall, S.W.

RECEIVED ALSO.—T. F. Buxton Scriven; Edwin Lord; N. H. Pownall; H. G.; L. S.; P. L.; J. A.; R. W.; J; W. Dawson.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

A Tour among Bells in Town and Country.

No. XV.

In the summer of 1872 I visited the pretty town of Dorking with a company of ringers, who had selected it on the occasion of their annual trip, and an excellent selection we found it. The church was being gradually rebuilt; the chancel had been completed and was an exquisite piece of work; the tower and nave remained in their original state—the latter with high pews and tremendous galleries—presenting, in contrast with the new chancel, a remarkable specimen of what was formerly, and of what is now, considered fitting in the House of God.

How a few months later a farewell peal was achieved in the old tower, how the foundation-stone of the new church was laid by Bishop Wilberforce a few weeks before his lamented death, and how the building was reopened by the present Bishop of Winchester, is duly recorded in back numbers of the *Church Bells*.

The old ringing-chamber was a dimly-lighted room, with a ceiling almost as low as that at St. Mary's, Cambridge; the bells are a remarkably fine ring of eight, with a tenor of 24 cwt. They were in excellent order, except the tenor, which was hard to ring: there was, however, nothing remarkable in this, for bells are often attacked with the disease of 'going badly,' a single atom of sand on a gudgeon being sufficient to cause the development of very acute symptoms. The steep and lofty hill just north of the town acts as a grand sounding-board for the bells, which obtain from their favourable situation unusual resonance.

On the way from London to Dorking we catch a glimpse of the fine tower of Croydon Church. The old church, which was for many years famous for its fine ring of bells and grand organ, was burnt down on the night of the 4th January, 1867; on the 5th January, three years later, the new church, a fine specimen of Sir G. Scott's work, was consecrated. The good folks of Croydon were determined that no pains should be spared to make their new bells and organ worthy to take the place of those destroyed by the fire. The new ring of eight has been cast on the modern theory, held by many able judges, that a bell of a given pitch should have about one-fourth more metal than was considered necessary by the old founders. I think this principle was first carried out at Doncaster, where the tenor in E flat weighs 30 cwt. At Croydon the tenor, which gives about the same note, is somewhat heavier. All the fittings of the ringing-chamber are of the best description, and in the room above is the fine clock and carillon machine supplied by Messrs. Gillett and Bland; in the bell-chamber itself all the arrangements are very perfect to the eye, but for some reason, which I am unable to give, all the bells above the fourth go so badly (I am writing of their condition in 1873) that even a short touch of 200 or 300 changes cannot be rung on them: as for the tenor, one of our company, who had handled with ease the great bell at St. Saviour's, Southwark, could not keep her up; nor could two of the Croydon ringers together, who kindly, but vainly, lent us their assistance. The result is that this grand and costly ring is practically useless for what I hold to be its highest purpose, viz. the ringing joyous peals on the great festivals of the Church.

Calcutta, Advent, 1874.

C. Y.

(To be continued.)

Change-ringing at Aldington, Kent.

ON Monday, December 28th, being the 100th anniversary of the Aldington bells being recast and rehung, the Aldington and Mersham Societies of Change-ringers rang three complete peals of 720 Bob Minor, and several touches of Bob and Oxford Treble Bob Minor. Messrs. F. Finn and E. Hyder were the conductors.—Communicated.

Two New Bells given.

THE year 1875 finds the fine old parish church of Hatfield with a delightful ring of eight bells. The work of restoration had been so far carried on that it was thought necessary to give a little attention to the belfry, for although the tower contained an excellent ring of six, the framework was in such a rotten state that it was considered dangerous to ring the bells. J. E. Roe, Esq., of Hatfield and London, kindly promised to give a new framework; Thomas J. Fox, Esq., promised the addition of a new bell; and G. Wright, Esq., owner of the Lindholme estate, promised another, so as to complete a delightful ring of eight. Under the direction of Sir Ed. Beckett, Messrs. Taylor have very satisfactorily carried out the same. The weight of the first bell is a little over 5 cwt., and the second a little above 6 cwt. On Friday last (New-year's Day), the ringers of St. George's, Doncaster, occupied the tower and rang out several merry peals, to the delight of the inhabitants. In the afternoon, at the Ingram Arms, a most excellent dinner was given. Amongst the guests were the Vicar, Rev. H. Hogarth; the churchwardens, T. Chatterton, Esq., and Mr. Haggitt; J. Bladworth, Esq., J.P., J. E. Roe, Esq., Mr. A. J. Wells, Dr. Cameron, Mr. Thomas Smith, Mr. Birdsall, &c.

—Local Paper.

Change-ringing at Radcliffe, Lancashire.

ON Saturday, January 2nd, a mixed set of ringers occupied the tower of the parish church, and rang a true and complete peal of Grandsire Triples, consisting of 5040 changes, in 2 hrs. 51 mins. The ringers were—W. Booth, Prestwich, treble; W. Pendlebury, Stand, 2nd; R. Ainsworth, Gorton, 3rd; W. R. Watson, Pendlebury, 4th; T. Worrall, Pendlebury, 5th; T. Cronshaw, Stand, 6th; W. Warburton, Stand, 7th; J. Woodcock, 8th. Weight of tenor, 12 cwt. Conducted by W. Pendlebury.—Per Letter.

Change-ringing at Chester Cathedral.

THE Cathedral Society of Change-ringers on Tuesday evening, January 12th, rang a variation of Mr. Taylor's twenty-four course, or six-part peal of Grandsire Triples, consisting of 5040 changes, and containing 194 Bobs and 46 Singles. The peal was brought round in 3 hrs. 33 mins., and was well struck throughout. The ringers were—W. Cross, treble; A. Bowden, 2nd; W. Woods, 3rd; J. Holthorn, 4th; W. Walton, 5th; G. Cross, 6th; F. Ball, 7th; J. Johnson, tenor. Composed and conducted by F. Ball. Weight of tenor, 33 cwt., in the key of C.—Communicated.

Waterloo Society, London.

ON Saturday, the 16th inst., the following members rang at St. Michael's and All Angels, Star Street, Paddington, a true and complete peal of Grandsire Triples, consisting of 5040 changes, in 3 hrs. 5 mins., being the first peal ever rung upon the bells. The performers were—W. Williams, treble; S. Holden, 2nd; W. Collings (late of Halesworth, Suffolk), 3rd; H. Driver, 4th; G. Newson, 5th; A. Newland, 6th; W. Baron, 7th; and J. Barrett, tenor. The above was Messrs. Williams and Collings' first peal, and was conducted by Mr. W. Baron.—Communicated.

Correction.—Soham, Cambridge.

MR. JOHN BULLMAN informs us that there is weekly ringing at this place.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Old Prayer-books.

SIR,—Will you allow me to ask those who possess Prayer-books or Church services rendered obsolete by having the old Lectionary, or from being bound up with disused hymns, to present them to the Missions to Seamen Society, 11 Buckingham Street, Strand, London, W.C., the clergy, readers, and lay helpers of which are anxious to promote the practice of public worship at sea in our mercantile marine by presenting Prayer and Hymn-books to such captains of ships as may be found willing to conduct divine service on ship-board? There is a large demand for Prayer-books at the thirty-one seaports at home and abroad, where honorary or mission clergy are working afloat.

WM. DAWSON, Commander, R. N.

Increase of the Episcopate.

SIR,—In *Church Bells* of Jan. 16 there is an account of a meeting held in Liverpool towards procuring a Bishop for that place. The 6 and 7 Will. IV. cap. 77, sec. 1, says, 'And that the sees of Carlisle and Sodor and Man be united, and that the diocese consist of the present diocese of Carlisle and those parts of Cumberland and Westmorland which are now in the diocese of Chester, of the deanery of Furness and Cartmel in the county of Lancaster, of the parish of Aldeston, now in the diocese of Durham, and of the Isle of Man; and that the diocese of Chester consist of the county of Chester, of so much of the county of Flint as is now in that diocese, and of so much of the county of Salop as is not in the diocese of Hereford; and that the whole diocese be included in the province of York; and that two new sees be erected in the province of York, one at Manchester and the other at Ripon; and that the diocese of Manchester consist of the whole county of Lancaster except the deanery of Furness and Cartmel.' Would you be so good as to inform me through your excellent paper how it is that, according to the *York Diocesan Calendar*, published by James Parker and Co., London, that the archdeaconry of Liverpool is in the diocese of Chester, and that part of Chester and Salop are in the diocese of St. Asaph; that the parish of Alston is still in the diocese of Durham? The bishopric of Sodor and Man has managed to retain its independence. The Isle of Man has its own parliament, why should it not keep its Bishop to itself?

L. S.

'Grand Competition of Choirs, &c.'

SIR,—I have received a circular headed as above, asking me to let our church choir compete for prizes of the value of 70*l.* and 35*l.*, in money or plate, on Easter Monday and Tuesday, at Pomona Palace, Manchester. In a long preface to the circular there is a lot of rubbish about Apollo, and Orpheus, and Bards, and martial music, finishing up with the prospectus and the secretary. What in the world will come next? It was bad enough to have prize-ringing—thank you, sir, for setting your face against it—now we are threatened with prize-singing. Cannot you raise your voice strongly against it? I suppose the next step will be prize-preaching. I thought members of choirs offered themselves to 'sing to the praise and glory of God,' as the old phrase ran; but now they are invited as choirs to sing for prizes and pride, and by rivaling the usual Easter attractions at the Bellevue Gardens to benefit somebody's pocket. Let glee-clubs, &c. do as they please, but let church choirs touch not 'the accursed thing.'

F. G. B.

NOTES AND QUERIES.

Apocalyptic Symbolism.

SIR,—If you can find a place for the following brief notes as to the symbolism of colour, taken wholly from Holy Scripture, they may be of interest to your correspondent 'E. L. F.' :—

1. *White*. (i.) Purity and innocence; hence the dress of the high-priest on the Day of Atonement (Lev. xvi. 4-32). (ii.) The Angels as holy (Mark. xvi. 5; John. xx. 12). The Bride, the Lamb's wife (Rev. xix. 8). (iii.) Festivity (Eccles. ix. 8). (iv.) Triumph (Zech. vi. 3; Rev. vi. 2). (v.) Glory (Matt. xvii. 2; Dan. vii. 9).
2. *Black*, as its opposite, was (i.) The emblem of calamity, mourning, affliction; e.g. Jer. xiv. 2; Lam. iv. 8. (ii.) Humiliation (Mal. iii. 14, margin). (iii.) Of evil; e.g. Zech. vi. 2; Rev. vi. 5.
3. *Red*. (i.) Bloodshed, war (Nah. ii. 3; Zech. vi. 2; Rev. vi. 4). Crimson and Scarlet, also symbolical of (i.) Life; hence Rahab was to bind a scarlet thread to her window (Josh. ii. 18); and the high-priest was to use it as a means of restoring those who had contracted defilement by contact with a corpse (Numb. xvi. 6-22).
4. *Green*. Freshness, vigour, prosperity (Ps. xxxvii. 35; Luke, xxiii. 31).
5. *Blue*, hyacinth, cerulean. The celestial colour. The symbol of the revealed God (Exod. xxiv. 10; Ezek. i. 26); sapphire, a clear bright blue, hence the colour which predominated in the Mosaic ritual, and prescribed as the riband of the border of the fringe of the garment every Israelite was to wear as a perpetual remembrance of all God's commands; e.g. Numb. xv. 38, 39.
6. *Purple*. Royalty and majesty (Judg. viii. 26; Esth. viii. 15; Cant. iii. 10; Dan. v. 7, margin).

God would educate His people by their eye, and so He fixed certain definite meanings to colour: thus, as they gazed around on the white, blue, purple, crimson, in tabernacle or temple, or on the flowing robes of their priests, they would learn a lesson. A host of other texts might have been adduced, but the above are ample to show there is in Scripture a recognised meaning in colour.

T. F. BUXTON SCRIVEN.

Osing Rectory, Bucks.

Queries.

SIR,—Will any one kindly inform me whether a clergyman can be legally appointed by a body of trustees as chaplain to a hospital situated entirely in my parish, without my consent and against my will? A salary is attached to the office, and the chaplain's duties are to teach the inmates, chiefly children, 'the principles of the Christian religion, and the doctrines of the Church of England.'

QUERY.

SIR,—Can any of your readers recommend me a book explanatory of the Holy Communion, of moderate, sound Church views, suitable for young ladies about to be confirmed?

A CONSTANT READER FROM THE COMMENCEMENT OF *CHURCH BELLS*.

[It is always best to consult your own clergyman on such a matter. Bishop Wilson's little book is a very good one. Bishop Oxenden's *The Lord's Supper Explained* and *The Earnest Communicant* (Hatchards), are also good, and there is a short explanation in *The Narrow Way* (Hodges).—ED.]

SIR,—Could any of your readers inform me of a penny monthly magazine suitable for adults among the labouring classes? I want one containing interesting stories; something after the style of *Home Words*, but of a better tone of Churchmanship. I am aware of the *Parish Magazine*. R. W. C.

[Would the *Penny Post* (Parker) suit you?—ED.]

SIR,—Can you recommend a weekly penny paper of a good Church tone, in which there is a sermon for a family of adults, who have a very poor service at their parish church? Their Vicar is a Low Churchman. M. L. B. B.

[We insert your query, though no Church paper, with sermon or without, could be a substitute for the Church service. You complain of the service being a 'poor one.' Does not that depend on the worshippers? Could not they convert any 'poor' service into a rich one by the earnestness of their prayers?—ED.]

SIR,—I shall be very much obliged to you if you would kindly tell me, through your valuable paper, the number of women who have been admitted by the Bishop to the office of deaconess in each diocese. ONLY A WOMAN.

[It would require much labour to ascertain these numbers, if, indeed, they could be found at all. The Diocesan Kalendars, in the dioceses where there are such, would give the particulars for each year.—ED.]

SIR,—Could you, or any of your readers, recommend me to a commentary, especially on the Old Testament, embodying the results of modern scholarship and research, in a portable and popular form? The S. P. C. K. has published what would answer this purpose in respect of the New; but the Old Testament is at once more difficult, and less elucidated by works not ponderous and costly. It was a labouring man asked me the other day after such a Commentary. He meant of the whole Bible. But if any one has done separately for the Old Testament what has been abundantly done for the New, I should, for my own sake also, be thankful to hear of it.

VICAR IN DIOC. NORV.

SIR,—Can you, or any of your readers, inform me if a marriage ceremony performed in the church by a *deacon* only be in accordance with the canon and rubric? Also, if such marriage be a legal marriage? J. A.

SIR,—Can you inform me in what book or magazine the passage quoted in *Church Bells* of Jan. 16, 1875, by 'E. L. F.' on the symbolic reading of the stones in Revelations can be found? E. L. W.

Answers.

SIR,—In most parishes a Nonconformist ratepayer, and probably even a Jew, may become churchwarden. Such is the anomalous condition of our ecclesiastical law. But in the case of 'New Parishes' it is happily provided by the Act under which they are formed that none but *bonâ fide* members of the Church of England are eligible as churchwardens. The right position for the Ten Commandments is not on the east wall, but on each side of the chancel arch. P. L.

SIR,—In answer to 'B. F.' by section 36 of the recent Dilapidations Act, 'The sum stated in the order as the cost of the repairs shall be a debt due from the late incumbent, his executors or administrators, to the new incumbent, and shall be recoverable as such at law or in equity.' The new incumbent has therefore no more power of restraint upon the furniture and effects than an unpaid butcher; his easiest remedy is through the County Court. H. G.

In answer to 'Minnie,' who asked for the name of a book of Private Prayers for girls of fifteen, 'M. S. W.' mentions *Prayers for Young Persons*, Part II., published by Masters, price 4*d.* *Pietas Quotidiana—Prayers and Meditations for every Day in the Week*, published by Peacock, Mansfield, and sold by Longman and Co. Also *Short Devotional Forms*, by the Dean of Norwich.

'JOHN T. BAKER.'—We do not, as a rule, admit appeals to charity in our correspondence columns. Yours should appear as an advertisement.

'IOTA.'—T. Fellows and Co. Ludgate Hill, London.

RECEIVED ALSO.—Lucy Singleton; Vernon Edlin (with thanks); M. E. C. William T. Mowbray.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Something about Church Bell-hanging, and the Vibration of Bell Towers.

I wish to make a few remarks on the Hanging of Church Bells and the Vibration of Bell Towers.

Notwithstanding what has been urged by myself and others in other places, on the great danger of allowing the bell-frame or cage to touch the walls of the tower, I believe that the danger is overrated. But if there be any, it arises solely from *wedging* against the walls, and from the forcible and

alternate hammerings of the frame if it gets unsteady; although, if the cage can be set several inches or feet away from the wall, whether it gets rickety or not, little damage can arise, though the ringers would have the harder work. But if of necessity the cage is fixed within an inch or less of the walls, and it gets rickety and full of life during the ringing, battering away, first one side and then the other, the danger is most imminent; and if wedges are inserted by an unskilful workman, the evil is increased by the downward and expanding tendency of the wedge. In such a case, I am free to confess that pieces of timber fixed to the cage, and *butted square and hard up* against the walls, so that cage and bells may all oscillate together in one compact body (like as a person in a rolling boat would try to keep himself steady by taking tight hold of the sides), little or no danger will occur to the tower, provided the walls are of thick and substantial masonry; but if they are flimsily built, and the bells are hung high up and in a high cage, the vibration of the tower would be so great, that in some mysterious way the bell-cage gets so affected, that it is found from experience a difficult thing to keep the bells up when ringing, to say nothing of the damage done to everything in connexion: therefore, in such a case, the cage must be kept clear of the side-walls. After all, do what you will, it is perhaps impossible to prevent the vibration of a tower, unless it is constructed with deep-faced buttresses on all sides, and therefore great care should be taken that the vibrations be not checked, but that they oscillate steadily like a pendulum. Scientific men have not yet determined how much the vibrations are caused by the soniferous waves from the sound of the bells, as well as by their motion.

Bell-hangers may say, that if the bells are made to swing at right angles to each other one will counteract the other, and the cage will be kept steady; but I am certain that is not the case. The cage may be a little stiffer from the cross-bracings which it involves, but it is contrary to all mechanical principles for two forces acting at right angles to neutralise each other at all. The only way for bells to swing and counteract each other is by making them all swing in directions opposite to one another; that would be all north and south, or all east and west, according as the tower may be buttressed, and then the bells would be pulled to follow each other *oppositely*; but this would only be in round-ringing, for when bells go off into changes then it may be that all the bells, just for one blow, would swing the same way, though the direction of their motion would be changed by the very next pull. I have seen several old towers (Lymstone is one, and the bells badly hung) in which the timbers are so abutted without wedging, and no damage done, and the tower is not a low one. It is so at Bitton, my old parish; and in this tower of Glastonbury all the original timbers were hard up against the walls: indeed there was evidence from the pinning that the old cage was set up before the walls were raised, and that they were built close against it.—*Extracted from my Paper read before the Exeter Diocesan Architectural Society, September 22, 1862.*

P.S.—It is now more than twelve years since the above remarks were made, therefore my judgment ought to be more matured: be that as it may, during that time I have visited about six hundred towers, in many of which I found the upper bell-timbers walled in, and wedges applied in many cases: but I have not found any instance of a tower being damaged thereby, provided the masonry was sound and substantial.

Very lately I was in the noble tower of L'Abbaye Auxhommes, at Caen, during the swinging (I cannot call it ringing—the bells being worked by the foot without wheel and rope) of two heavy bells for service; the cage of massive timbers was insulated, but the motion was so great as to produce the sensation of sea-sickness to one of my companions, and the oscillation of the lofty tower with its glorious spire was greater than I ever before witnessed, but without any apparent damage.

Therefore, after very mature consideration, I have come to this conclusion:—That it is not at all unsafe nor damaging to the tower, and better for the ringers, that the cage should be *BUTTED HARD AND TIGHT* against the walls; and as the vibration or rocking of a tower cannot be prevented, no harm whatever will arise from the same, provided there are no defects in the walls from old settlement or other cause, and that the whole building is of compact and solid masonry. The elasticity in such a building is so extraordinary, whether a tower, spire, or even a bridge,* that it is sufficient to counteract the disintegration of the materials of which it is composed.

Substantially the same opinion is expressed in Sir E. Beckett's *Treatise on Clocks and Bells*, p. 363 of 6th edition.

Well-constructed towers vibrate from the very basement. At Abingdon, Berks, there is a spur-stone against the tower, and when the bells are ringing boys amuse themselves by putting their knives between the stone and the tower, to be pinched as the vibrations go on.

I would here take occasion to say, that in old cages it will be found that the timbers do not fit close down on the shoulders of the braces owing to the shrinking, and arising from the mortices and tenons being pinned together. It is thought better not to pin any of the tenons, but to bolt the whole cage down to the beams below: in this way the bolts may be screwed tighter from time to time as the case may require: the bolts had better be put in bracingly, that is, not perpendicularly.

Rectory, Glastonbury, Devon. H. T. ELLACOMBE, M.A. Oxon., F.S.A. Advent, 1874.

Change-ringing at Gorton, Lancashire.

On Friday, January 1st, the ringers of Brookfield Church, Gorton, rang Mr. John Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, containing 5040 changes, in 3 hrs. 4½ mins. The ringers stood as follows:—J. Johnson, treble;

* A new bridge at Langholm, N.B., was shaking owing to an unusually high flood. Telford, who lived near, was sent for; his reply to the builder's wife, who was alarmed for the consequences, was, 'Never you mind, Tibby; there's no fear of the brig: I like it a' the better that it shakes; it proves it's well put together.' The bridge has stood the furious shakes of nearly a century uninjured.—See *Smiles' Lives*, vol. ii. p. 302, under 'Telford.'

J. Blakeley, 2nd; T. Sale, 3rd; J. Clarke, 4th; R. Ainsworth, 5th; T. Dawson, 6th; S. Andrews, 7th; J. Jones, tenor. The above peal was well conducted by J. Clarke, one of the young ringers.—*Per Letter.*

Ringling at Coventry.

On Tuesday evening, the 12th inst., a muffled peal was rung at St. Michael's Church, Coventry, as a tribute of respect for the memory of the late Rev. Thomas Sheepshanks, M.A., for more than forty years Rector of St. John's Church, and for many years Head Master of the Coventry Grammar School. The deceased gentleman was a kind patron of the ringers, and his removal from amongst them has left a void not easily to be filled up.

On Wednesday evening, the 13th inst., the eighty-sixth anniversary farewell peal was rung in memory of the late Mr. Edwards of Coventry, who left part of the interest of 100*l.* for that purpose. The peal included several touches of Grandsire Triples, with the bells muffled on one side. The ringers were:—S. Elliott, treble; T. Temple, 2nd; W. Johnson, 3rd; C. Lenton, 4th; T. Srawley, 5th; J. Bickerton, sexton of St. Mary's Church, Warwick, 6th; C. Horsfall, 7th; and T. Ebern, tenor. At the conclusion of the peal the ringers adjourned for refreshment, after which a very beautiful card, containing a history of St. Michael's bells from the year 1429, was presented to Mr. Bickerton by Mr. Temple. When presenting the card he said:—'It is the wish of Mr. Carter, a young gentleman belonging to the Holy Trinity Amateur Handbell-ringing Society, that this card should be presented to you at his expense, as a token of sincere friendship towards you.'—*Per Letter.*

Meeting of Ringers at Redenhall, Norfolk.

THE 139th anniversary of the Redenhall Ringers' Society was held on Wednesday, January 13th. Ringing began between ten and eleven o'clock, and was kept up till late in the evening. During the day touches of Bob Major, Oxford Treble Bob, Grandsire, and Stedman's Triples, were rung. Visitors came from Diss, Bungay, Beccles, Halesworth, Loddon, Pulham, Wenhaston, &c., and all seemed to enjoy the day. A capital dinner, as usual, was served at the Yew-tree Inn at two o'clock, when several friends, not ringers, joined the party.—*Communicated.*

Change-ringing at Earlsheaton, near Dewsbury.

On the 17th inst. the following company rang a true and complete peal of Kent Treble Bob Major, consisting of 5088 changes, in 3 hrs. 5 mins.:—M. Garforth, treble; J. Idle, 2nd; A. Beaumont, 3rd; I. Idle, 4th; J. Hirst (All Souls', Halifax), 5th; P. Whiteley (All Souls', Halifax), 6th; W. Preston, 7th; C. A. Fox, tenor. The peal was composed by W. Sottanstill, and conducted by C. A. Fox.—*Per Letter.*

[We are sorry to record the above pleasure peal. There could be no necessity for ringing it on Sunday.—*Ed.*]

Muffled Peal at Gravesend, Kent.

On Tuesday, 19th inst., the undermentioned members of the Ancient Society of College Youths met in the tower of St. George's Church, Gravesend, and rang a funeral peal, with the bells deeply muffled, as a last token of esteem for the late Mr. John Mayhew of London, who was for many years a much-respected member of the above Society. The company were as follows:—H. Allen, treble; H. Weeks, 2nd; H. D. Davis, 3rd; B. Spinner, 4th; W. King, 5th; J. W. Aitkin, 6th; S. Hayes, 7th; J. N. Chapman, tenor.—*Per Letter.*

Change-ringing at Holbeck, Yorkshire.

On Saturday, Jan. 23rd, the following company of Change-ringers met at St. Matthew's Church, Holbeck, and rang a true peal of Bob Major, consisting of 5760 changes, in 3 hrs. 38 mins. It was composed and conducted by Mr. T. West, late of York, and rung by the following band, viz.:—

W. Firth, Holbeck, treble.
S. Bassett, Holbeck, 2nd.
H. Moss, Holbeck, 3rd.
J. Mackintosh, Hunslet, 4th.
T. Dockwood, Leeds, 5th.
T. West, Holbeck, 6th.
H. Hubbard, jun., Leeds, 7th.
T. Matthews, Holbeck, tenor.

Weight of tenor, 10 cwt.—*Reported.*

THE PEAL.

By the Bob and Single Changes.

B 7 8 6 4 5 2 3
S 5 3 6 7 2 8 4
B 4 2 6 5 8 3 7
B 4 2 5 3 6 7 8

B 7 8 6 5 3 4 2
B 2 3 6 7 4 8 5
B 5 4 6 2 8 3 7
B 5 4 2 3 6 7 8

B 7 8 6 2 3 5 4
B 4 3 6 7 5 8 2
B 2 5 6 4 8 3 7
B 2 5 4 3 6 7 8

B 7 8 6 4 3 2 5
S 3 5 6 7 2 8 4
B 4 2 6 3 8 5 7
B 4 2 3 5 6 7 8

This part five times repeated. By substituting a single instead of a bob at the 24th and 28th course ends completes the peal.

Muffled Peal at St. Clement Danes, Strand.

On Monday, Jan. 25th, the members of the St. James's Society rang a muffled peal at the above church in memory of the late Mr. Thomas Barton many years ago a well-known ringer in London, who died at Sawbridgeworth on New-year's Day, about eighty years of age. Performers:—J. R. Haworth, treble; G. Breed, 2nd; G. Stockham, 3rd; H. Nunn, 4th; J. M. Routh, 5th; W. Danes, 6th; G. Harvey, 7th; A. Hayward, 8th; G. Banks, 9th; W. Baron, tenor. Conducted by Mr. J. R. Haworth.—*Reported.*

Date Touches.

At Almondbury, Yorkshire, on the 17th inst., 1875 of Kent Treble Bob Major, in 1 hr. 9 mins.

At Todmorden, Yorkshire, on the 20th inst., 1875 Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. 6 mins.

RECEIVED.—Treble Novice: F. Ball; Alfred Anderson; W. Sottanstill.

SIR,—Will you suggest to your correspondent in *Church Bells* for Jan. 30, 'Vicar in Dioc. Norw.', that Charles Baker, Head Master of Yorkshire Institute for Deaf and Dumb, has written a book called *Bible Class Book* (Macintosh & Hunt) which will, I think, meet the want he expresses. A TEACHER.

'A SUBSCRIBER'S' question could only be answered by the S. P. C. K., or other publishers, themselves.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

A Tour among Bells in Town and Country.

No. XVI.

AND now, my note-book being almost exhausted, I will conclude with a short notice of a few rings to which I have paid but flying visits. I trust, however, that other ringers may be induced to give descriptions of the towers they know, so that thus there will gradually be recorded in *Church Bells* a short account of all the more important rings in England and Wales.

In 1856 I peeped into the ringing-chamber at St. Margaret's, Lynn. Some variety of Major was being rung in good style. There are eight fine-toned bells. Although the tenor weighs but 30 cwt. its note is C, and the ring might advantageously be augmented by the addition of two, or even four, bells.

Saffron Walden, a quiet old town a few miles south of Cambridge, possesses one of the finest churches in the east of England. The bells have a great local reputation; they are eight in number, and the tenor weighs 24 cwt.

In the tower of St. John's, Waterloo Road, London, the young ringer has an opportunity of receiving the best instruction from the able conductor of the Waterloo Society. There is a fair ring of eight, with a tenor of about one ton. How the bells were ever hung in the very limited space in the tower is a marvel.

Shifnal, Shropshire, has a fine old church, in the tower of which hangs an excellent ring of eight bells: they were made in 1770 by Pack and Chapman. The tenor weighs 19 cwt., and all go admirably.

The last tower I visited before leaving England, in 1873, was that of the ancient church at Usk, Monmouthshire. There is a very sweet ring of six old bells (1713), of which the townfolk are deservedly proud. The best authorities there agree that the tenor weighs a ton: from its appearance and tone I estimate its weight at 12 cwt. C. Y.

Calcutta, *Advent*, 1874.

Bell-ringing in the Diocese of Lichfield.

WE have received the *Lichfield Diocesan Calendar* for 1875, and notice an addition to the varied information contained in it, what is of special interest to the readers of this paper, viz. a list of the churches in the diocese which have rings of four or more bells, the number of the bells in each church, the weight of the tenor, the date of the oldest, and any legends or inscriptions that are uncommon and interesting. There is also a column containing the method by which changes are rung in each church, and to this we wish particularly to call attention, as showing the state of Change-ringing in the diocese of Lichfield. We are certainly surprised at finding so many churches with rings of five and six bells in which proper change-ringing is not practised at all, but only called changes are rung; and also the number of churches at which only Grandsire is rung: indeed, we find in the whole list only five churches in which peals are rung by Stedman's method. The churches that are in the very front rank of change-ringing seem to be,—St. Edward's, Leek; St. Matthew's, Walsall; and the parish churches at Wednesbury and Staveley. The ringers at these churches are certainly to be congratulated on their skill. At the churches at Handsworth, Kingswinford, Sheen, Castleton, Hathesage, Repton, and Norton in Hales, the change-ringing seems above the average. We should think that there must be some other churches in that large diocese where scientific change-ringing is practised, for we notice that the compiler of these returns states in his preface that they are not complete, owing to the difficulty in obtaining returns from many places. We much hope that this recognition of change-ringing in a diocesan calendar may lead to many sets of ringers taking greater interest in the art, and that in future returns many more really scientific methods may be recorded: and we even venture to hope that some clergymen may be induced to follow the lead of the compiler of these returns, and themselves learn and practise the interesting art of change-ringing.

Uttoxeter Bells.

'We have already made reference to the intention of rehangng Uttoxeter church bells, and of the probability of two new ones being added to the previous set of six. The purpose has been carried out, and on Saturday last the town had an opportunity of judging how far the alterations and additions are an improvement. The ringers tried them the whole of the afternoon, and the result is equal to the anticipations entertained, and it is thought Uttoxeter has now a ring of bells equal to many places of greater pretensions. The gift of the large new bell has been made by G. Kirk, Esq., of Etruria, and the other by the churchwardens, Mr. Coulson and Mr. Bunting, and their names, with that of the Vicar, the Rev. H. Abud, appear on the bells. The founders are Messrs. Warner of London. The whole of the framework is also new, the old being much decayed. It appeared from the old woodwork that the tower of the church had originally four bells only, and that the diameter of one was about 6 ft. 6 ins. The old bells were recast in the seventeenth century, and six new ones were again introduced in 1720, and were founded by Rudhall of Gloucester. New climes have not yet been added, but it is hoped such may be the case ere long.'—*Derbyshire Advertiser*.

Change-ringing at St. John's, Horsleydown, Surrey.

On Saturday, Jan. 23rd, eight members of the Cumberland Society rang at the above church a true and complete peal of Grandsire Caters, containing

5039 changes, in 3 hrs. 20 mins. G. Newson, treble; W. Baron, 2nd; S. Holden, 3rd; C. Hopkins, 4th; H. Dains, 5th; E. Briggs, 6th; H. Hopkins, 7th; D. Stackwood, 8th; S. Jarman, 9th; J. Barrett, tenor. Composed by Mr. John Rogers. Conducted by Mr. G. Newson.—*Reported*.

Change-ringing at Lindley, Yorkshire.

On Saturday, Jan. 23rd, a mixed company of Change-ringers met at St. Stephen's Church, Lindley, near Huddersfield, and rang a true and complete peal, consisting of 5248 changes, of Kent Treble Bob Major, in 3 hrs. 14 mins. The men stood in the following order:—J. Pickles, Huddersfield, treble; F. Bailey, Dewsbury, 2nd; T. Haigh, Huddersfield, 3rd; T. Stead, Huddersfield, 4th; H. Ellis, Huddersfield, 5th; C. W. Clegg, Huddersfield, 6th; J. Garforth, Dewsbury, 7th; C. A. Fox, Dewsbury, tenor. The peal was composed by Mr. W. Harrison of Mottram, and conducted by C. A. Fox. Weight of tenor, 18½ cwt.—*Reported*.

Muffled Peal at Burnley, Lancashire.

On Tuesday, Jan. 26th, the Society of Change-ringers met in the tower of St. Peter's parish church, and rang a true and complete peal of 5040 changes of Mr. Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, as a tribute of respect to the memory of the late Joseph Pollard, who had been connected with the Society for the past twenty-five years. The peal was conducted by N. Smith, and admirably brought round in 3 hrs. 5 mins. by the following ringers:—N. Smith, treble; J. Hartley, 2nd; R. Greenhalgh, 3rd; J. Pollard, 4th; J. Gregson, 5th; M. Bridge, 6th; T. Holden, 7th; E. Shackleton, tenor. Weight of tenor, 17 cwt., in the key of F.

Change-ringing at Carshalton, Surrey.

On Wednesday, Jan. 27th, 1875, the Epsom Society of Change-ringers, assisted by Mr. Charles Gordon of Wallington, rang at the parish church Mr. Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, containing 5040 changes, in 2 hrs. 54 mins. The ringers were stationed thus:—W. Jupp, treble; G. Miles, 2nd; T. Miles, jun., 3rd; R. Harding, 4th; J. Easton, 5th; W. Sanders, 6th; S. Brooker, 7th; C. Gordon, tenor. Conducted by Mr. S. Brooker.—*Reported*.

Change-ringing at Chailey, Sussex.

On the 27th ult., the Chailey ringers rang on the bells of the parish church a true and complete peal of Bob Minor, consisting of 720 changes. The peal, which contained eighteen bobs and two singles, was conducted by Mr. O. Gatland. The ringers were placed as follows:—J. Reynolds, treble; A. Brown, 2nd; A. Gorrings, 3rd; J. Smith, 4th; W. Peacock, 5th; O. Gatland, tenor. Weight of tenor, 11 cwt.; key G.—*Reported*.

A Rare Wedding Peal at Durham.

On the 27th ult. was rung with hand-bells in the North Bailey, Durham, on the occasion of the marriage of Miss Marianne Brooksbank, a true and complete touch of Grandsire Triples, by the bride, her three bridesmaids, and the Rev. T. F. Fowler, M.A., immediately on their returning from the church to their residence.—*Per Letter*.

Waterloo Society, London.

On Saturday, Jan. 30th, the following members rang at All Saints', Fulham, a true and complete peal of Grandsire Caters (in four parts), containing 5075 changes, in 3 hrs. 33 mins. Performers:—A. Macey, treble; J. Nelms, 2nd; J. Cox, 3rd; C. Hopkins, 4th; H. Hopkins, 5th; E. Briggs, 6th; G. Banks, 7th; W. Baron, 8th; R. Rose, 9th; A. Hayward, tenor. The above is the first peal rung since the rehangng of the bells by Mr. G. Banks, and was composed and conducted by Mr. J. Nelms.—*Reported*.

Restoration of Church Bells.

WE are pleased to report, that after a lapse of forty years (four of the bells being broken) the ring of six, with the exception of one ancient, has been recast and rehung by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank of Whitechapel, in the venerable church of All Saints', Broadchalke, Wilts. They were chimed for the first time on Sunday, the 10th ult., and the next day were opened by ringers from the neighbourhood. Special sermons were preached on both days.—*Local Paper*.

Two Corrections.

SIR,—I wish to draw your attention to the following insertion in the last number of *Church Bells*, p. 103:—'At Todmorden, Yorkshire, on the 20th inst., 1875 Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. 6 mins.,' and beg to inform you that the ringing alluded to took place in the bell-chamber of a Unitarian Meeting-house. There is no church in Todmorden possessing more than one bell.

A. W. HEADEACH, Curate of Todmorden.

SIR,—In *Church Bells* for Saturday, Jan. 30th, there is a notice of change-ringing at Brookfield Church, Gorton. This place is no church at all, but a Unitarian Chapel, which has assumed to itself a name so much calculated to mislead strangers. The only churches are Gorton Church, St. James's, and St. Mark's, West Gorton, neither of which has a ring of bells. A LAYMAN.

Date Touches.

On Tuesday, Jan. 16th, the Waltham Abbey ringers rang the date of the year, which consisted of 1875 Stedman's Triples, in 1 hr. 12 mins. Composed by Mr. H. Johnson, sen., of Birmingham, and conducted by Mr. T. Powell.

At St. Luke's, Liverpool, on Jan. 23rd, 1875 Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. 11 mins. Conducted by J. Pritchard.

[THE Editor requests all contributors to say in what county their performances are done.]

RECEIVED ALSO.—'E. V.' who is advised to get A. B. C. from Warner's, Cripplegate. 'W. Kempton, who reports 5040 Stedman's Changes rung at Chesterton, Cambridgeshire, on 5 bells, in 3 hrs. 30 mins., which is an impossibility—without repetition of the same changes.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Ringling at Chesterton, Cambridgeshire.

On the 8th of December, 1874, was rung 5040 changes, Stedman's principle, containing 42 peals, in 3 hrs. 30 mins. The following were the Youths engaged:—W. Kempton, treble; Y. Green, 2nd; C. Stanbridge, 3rd; G. Taylor, 4th; H. Mansfield, tenor. Weight of tenor, 1 ton. Conducted by G. Taylor, one of the younger members of Great St. Mary's, Cambridge.—*Reported.*

Opening of the Church Bells, Clapton, near Woodbridge, S.

THE ring of six bells in this parish, which have for some time been in an unfit state for ringing, have, through steps taken by the Rector (the Rev. R. F. Palmer), been all taken up, and entirely rehung, with all new stacks, wheels, and fittings, with improved cast-iron chairs and brasses, by Mr. Day, of Eye. Thursday, the 28th, being the day fixed for the opening, ringers and others were invited. Ringing was kept up throughout the day; the date of the year, 1875, was rung in 1 hr. 10 mins., with 720 Oxford, 720 Kent Treble Bob, and the extra 435 changes in Bob Minor method, rung by the following persons:—J. Fosdike, Woodbridge, tenor; J. Jackson, Ipswich, 2nd; F. Day, Eye, 3rd; H. Howell, Ipswich, 4th; H. Birch, Woodbridge, 5th; H. Baldry, Brandeston, tenor. The peals were arranged and conducted by Mr. J. Fosdike. The ringers (about thirty in number) were refreshed by a luncheon at the Rectory, given by the Rector, Rev. R. F. Palmer, and at five o'clock sat down to dinner at the Crown Inn. Amongst the ringers present was Mr. Leech, aged eighty-one years, who rang his first peal of 720 on these bells in the year 1813.—*Reported.*

Change-ringing at Bradford, Yorkshire.

On Saturday, Jan. 30th, the young society of Change-ringers belonging to the parish church, Birstal, rang at St. John's, Little Storton, Bradford, a peal of Kent Treble Bob, containing 5120 changes, which was brought round in 3 hrs. 10 mins. It may be some encouragement to young ringers to know that this company has only been formed about fifteen months, and that not one of them had previously rung a peal of 5000. The following is the order in which the ringers were placed, with their respective ages:—W. H. Crossley, nineteen, treble; F. Crowther, eighteen, 2nd; G. Thornton, seventeen, 3rd; E. T. Jowitt, twenty-seven, 4th; W. Stainthorpe, nineteen, 5th; W. Elliott, twenty-five, 6th; H. Dodson, eighteen, 7th; J. Dixon, twenty-four, tenor. Weight of tenor, 15½ cwt. The peal, which had the sixth, its extent right and wrong, was composed by T. Day of Birmingham, and conducted by John Dixon. The ringers were taught for the first twelve months by J. W. Yates, one of the old ringers.—*Communicated.*

Change-ringing at Liversedge, Yorkshire.

On Saturday, Jan. 30th, 1875, the society of Change-ringers of the above place met in the belfry and rang a complete peal of Kent Treble Bob Major, consisting of 5184 changes, in 3 hrs. 10 mins., all extremes, or six-place bobs. (See the peal in Sottanstill's work on Bell-ringing, p. 429.) Performed by the following ringers:—J. Whitworth, treble; J. Knot, 2nd; Wm. Firth, 3rd; J. North, 4th; M. Ramsden, 5th; J. Illingworth, 6th; Wm. Collins, 7th; J. Wilson, tenor. Peal composed by Mr. Sottanstill of Sowerby, and conducted by Mr. J. Wilson of Liversedge, Yorkshire.—*Per Letter.*

FIRST PART OF THE PEAL.

2	3	4	5	6	4th in	out	5	w	h
2	6	4	3	5	-	-	-	1	-
3	5	6	4	2	-	1	1	1	-
3	4	5	6	2	1	-	1	-	1
4	5	3	6	2	1	1	-	-	2
2	3	6	4	5	-	1	1	1	-
5	6	4	2	3	-	1	1	1	-
3	4	2	5	6	-	1	1	1	-

Tenor to be twice repeated.

Wath, Yorkshire.

THE church of St. Mary in this parish was opened on the 2nd inst., after a thorough renovation. At the same time a new ring of bells, augmented from three to five, was opened by Mr. Mallaby of Masham (who had ably executed this part of the work) and his band, who rang a variety of peals and touches of Bob Doubles, Grandsire Doubles, Stedman's Doubles. But the most interesting part to us was the service of dedication of the new bells, in which the Bishop of Ripon took part: and in a sermon on the following Sunday the Rev. Canon Birch alluded to the prayers used on that occasion, and told the congregation that they ought to be bound up in their Bibles, so that they might be ever hereafter reminded of that solemn service. Though it differs very slightly from what we have before given in our columns, for the sake of new subscribers and others we gladly reproduce it:—

DEDICATION SERVICE.

After the Prayer for the Church Militant, the Bishop, with the Clergy, Choir, and Ringers, will proceed to the Tower, where he shall say,

In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Amen. Our Father, &c.

V. Our help is in the Name of the Lord:

R. Who hath made Heaven and Earth.

V. Blessed be the Name of the Lord:

R. From this time forth for evermore.

Then the Bishop, laying his hand on a bell-rope, shall say,

V. The Lord be with you.

R. And with thy spirit.

Let us pray.

O LORD God, who art pleased to accept the offerings of Thy Servants, receive we pray Thee these Bells, which we dedicate to Thee for Thine honour and glory, and the use and benefit of Thy holy Church. Amen.

GRANT, O Lord, we beseech Thee, that all they who have given to Thee of that which Thou hast given them, may receive it back an hundredfold now in this present time, and in the world to come life everlasting. Amen.

GRANT, O Lord, that whenever these Bells shall call Thy people to this House of Prayer they may not call in vain. Amen.

GRANT, O Lord, that whosoever shall by reason of sickness, or any other necessity, be so let and hindered that he cannot come into the House of the Lord, may in heart and mind thither ascend, and have his share in the communion of Thy Saints; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

GRANT, O Lord, that they who with their outward ears shall hear the sound of these Bells may be aroused inwardly in their spirits, and draw nigh unto Thee the God of their salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

GRANT, O Lord, that whenever the passing-bell shall toll, we may call to mind how short our time is. Amen.

GRANT, O Lord, that the glad sound of the full peal may remind us that all good things come from Thee, and all true joy and happiness is in Thee alone. Amen.

SEND, O Lord, Thy grace into the hearts of all those who shall work for Thee in ringing these bells, and grant that they may never forget the sacredness of Thy House, nor profane it by thoughtlessness and irreverence; and make them ever to remember that, when they ring, they ring for Thee, and for Thine honour and glory only. All this we beg in the Name and through the mediation of Thine only Son, our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen.

The Ringers will then sound one short Peal, after which will be sung,

HYMN.

When framed by Thine almighty hand Earth into being came, The morning stars for gladness sung, Angels returned acclaim.	Are by our peal's harmonious chime Called to assemble there. O may the joyful sound, our hearts To prayer and praise incline: While faith and life accordant move In harmony divine.
When to Thy Temple's awful shrine Thy Priest approached of old, His entrance to the Holy Place Was signed by bells of gold.	All glory to the Father be, All glory to the Son, All glory to the Holy Ghost, While endless ages run. Amen.
Thus we, as to Thy Courts we press, With voice of praise and prayer,	

Change-ringing at Huntsham, Devon.

On Tuesday evening, February 2nd, eight members of the Huntsham Society of Change-ringers, who are also members of the Ancient Society of College Youths, succeeded in ringing a true and perfect peal of Grandsire Triples, containing 5040 changes. The performers were:—A Davey, treble; H. Payne, 2nd; J. Norrish, 3rd; C. A. W. Troyte, Esq. 4th; W. Chilcott, 5th; H. Tucker, 6th; J. E. Troyte, Esq. 7th; S. Davey, tenor. Weight of tenor, 13½ cwt. The peal was ably conducted by J. E. Troyte, Esq., and was completed in 2 hrs. 55 mins. The above is the second performance of this kind which has taken place at Huntsham since the beginning of last September. Immediately after the first, and after the conductor had left England with his regiment, a dispute arose as to the right of the Society to claim and record it as a peal, in consequence of certain errors which were owned to. It was decided, therefore, as soon as it was possible, to get the same party together again, to ring a peal with which no fault could be found. It is satisfactory to be able to state that this, their first attempt, met with complete success. There was hardly a hitch in the striking, and not the slightest error in the work throughout the whole peal; though to six of the performers it was only a second 5000, and the arrangement (which is a variation of Taylor's Six-part) was one which the Society had never before attempted.—*Contributed.*

Change-ringing at St. Dunstan's, Stepney.

On Saturday, Feb. 6th, the following members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang, at the above church, a peal of Kent Treble Bob Royal, containing 5200 changes, in 3 hrs. 35 mins. Performers—W. Coote, treble; G. Muskett, 2nd; W. Jones, 3rd; S. Reeves, 4th; W. Tanner, 5th; J. Dwight, 6th; W. Greenleaf, 7th; E. Horrex, 8th; G. Breed, 9th; J. M. Hayes, tenor. Composed by Mr. H. Hubbard, and conducted by Mr. Hayes. Weight of tenor, 31 cwt.—*Reported.*

Change-ringing at Holbeck, Yorkshire.

On Saturday, Feb. 6th, the following company of Change-ringers rang at St. Matthew's Church, Holbeck, 5088 changes of Kent Treble Bob Major, in 3 hrs. 12 mins. The peal was composed and conducted by Tom Lockwood, the band being placed in the following order, viz.—W. Pawson, Leeds, treble; H. Moss, Holbeck, 2nd; H. Hubbard, jun. Leeds, 3rd; G. Firth, Holbeck, 4th; L. Senior, Earlsheaton, 5th; T. West, Holbeck, 6th; T. Lockwood, Leeds, 7th; R. Binns, Holbeck, tenor. Weight of tenor, 16 cwt.—*Reported.*

Muffled Peal at St. Clement Danes, Strand.

On Monday, Feb. 8th, ten members of the St. James's Society rang a muffled peal at the above church, in memory of the late Mr. Peter Coote. Performers—J. R. Haworth, treble; C. Hopkins, 2nd; H. Nunn, 3rd; G. Stockham, sen. 4th; J. M. Routh, 5th; G. Stockham, jun. 6th; W. Digby, 7th; D. French, 8th; J. Mansfield, 9th; G. Banks, tenor. Conducted by Mr. J. R. Haworth.—*Reported.*

Guild of Devonshire Ringers.

A MEETING of the Committee will be held at Exeter on Saturday, Feb. 20, at 2 p.m. Agenda—To receive the statements of expenses incurred by bands in attending the Broad Clyst meeting, and the report of the local committee; to make further regulations respecting the record of performances; to receive report of a peal at Huntsham; to arrange for the annual meeting.

J. L. LANGDON FULFORD, Hon. Sec.

RECEIVED ALSO:—J. W. H.; B. L.; J. R. J.; A Subscriber.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Lay Helpers at St. Paul's.

SIR,—Is there not a cause for 'the painfully irreverent behaviour of many of the congregation' of London Diocesan Lay Helpers at St. Paul's, reported in your columns?

St. Paul's is not a suitable building for listening to a performance, but it is eminently suitable for 5000 voices joining with one heart in our glorious, though misused, liturgy. I did not hear one word of the prayers or lessons, and don't know what was said or done after the sermon, for I couldn't even see a dumb show. Not a response was heard within earshot of me, and when I myself ventured to break the general silence 500 persons must have heard my single voice. The 'much chatting and talking' you report was doubtless as to what the people in the choir were uttering, or as to the people under the dome going home from a service which they could not hear, and in which they thought themselves not expected to take part.

What a glorious opportunity of heart-warming worship was thus thrown away! Imagine those 5000 dumb tongues loosened, and the whole joining heartily and lustily in our soul-stirring Liturgy. How our hearts would have been melted in readiness for the sermon, instead of being frozen into that 'painfully irreverent behaviour,' which quite lost us the quickening effect of Mr. Wilkinson's address!

Let the invitation, the admission-ticket and the programme, each contain an exhortation to join audibly in the responses and singing; and let the inevitable anthem be restricted to a less interminable length, and the other music be generally intelligible. Then, if the prayers were as audible as the sermon, or as on Thanksgiving Day, 1872, a hearty congregational devotion might awaken the echoes of St. Paul's, and our Lay Helpers' Dome Services become the most refreshing and devout prayer-meetings in London, as those in the little north-west chapel have ever been.

Such devout and reverent worship would be a most acceptable return to Dean Church, the Chapter and Staff, to whose courtesy and kindness the Lay Helpers are so largely indebted.

WM. DAWSON, *Commander R.N.*

Our Last, but still Precious, Resource.

SIR,—I am one of those who consider the present educational movement as certain to end in simply secular education.

Do me the favour, then, of inserting the following observations, which I made just nineteen years ago at a clerical meeting in Sussex, when I was a curate there. Few were willing, at that time, to believe that we should ever arrive even at our present condition of affairs in regard to education.

The subject of discussion was based on 2 Tim. i. 5 and Prov. xxii. 10. My copious notes used on that occasion I now beg you to insert, if you will do me this favour, in *Church Bells*. They are as follow:—

'It is of importance, at the present crisis in the education of the country, to bear this principle of early Christian influences in mind. Nothing can be more strongly asserted in Scripture than the importance of early religious influences, specially, of course, in reference to parents, but with truth also in respect to the parochial school. If the ministers of Christ once yield this point in their parishes, they seem to me to have given up the stronghold of Christianity. Every party and every sect universally, and without exception, are hoping more for the advancement of their peculiar opinions, from their influence upon the rising generation in schools, than from any other source.

'We are in danger of losing our great means for good herein. The highly trained schoolmaster is introduced into our villages, sometimes to be supported in actual opposition to the clergyman, and too often he teaches the philosophy of man in such a manner as rather to lead away the minds of the young from the simplicity which is in Christ, than to make it illustrate and confirm the great truths of the Bible. And with the principle of these two verses of the Sacred Scriptures before me, I would greatly prefer to fall back upon the almost obsolete practice of catechising in church, and of thus imparting religious instruction—even if I were obliged to throw up every school—than be mixed up with plans of education, in which the first desire was not to train children in the way in which they should go, both by precept and example.

'And I here throw out for discussion a thought which has come across my mind with more or less weight of late, viz. Whether we might not with the machinery we did possess, and still have, of teaching and catechising personally in the church, have done quite as much to impart sound Bible knowledge to the rising generation as is being now effected in the costly school buildings of the land. I here assume that the Sunday afternoon would have been devoted to this end by the clergyman, who would have service in the evening for the people. And I further suppose that, upon the same catechising principle, there would have been a constant training and preparing of persons before and after Confirmation by the clergyman in the church, once, or oftener, in the week-day.

'You will probably be surprised at these ideas. I merely suggest them as even yet affording us a method of securing Christian education to the young—and, indeed, to many others—if the present schemes of teaching should lead us to a system of Godless instruction, as I much fear they will.

'If the clergyman is the pastor of the parish he must act the pastor's part; and if the blessings which Timothy enjoyed are to be traced to early impressions, the pastor must on no account relinquish his duty of teaching the young, or depute the performance to another.'

Your readers can judge for themselves how far my vaticinations have proved correct, and how far we may meet a solemn difficulty in the way suggested.

Secularists would not rejoice in modern educational schemes as they do, if those schemes were not likely to prove injurious to religion.

Religious teaching is being rapidly driven out of our schools, but the ministers of Christ need not be silenced, and must impart it in every way in the church.

G. V.

The Education Act.

SIR,—We Churchmen value your paper, and we greatly respect 'G. V.,' but we cannot afford to meddle with the Elementary Education Acts as they now stand. Rather, let those interested in this great question study the returns respecting the religious education in Board Schools, and the comparative cost laid by each Board on their constituent ratepayers. There are two Boards, in no unimportant locality, over which the same chairman has twice been selected to preside. If any of your readers will then inquire into his educational relations with the poor during the last twenty years, and his experiences on School Boards, they will be ashamed (however 'thoughtful and respectable' they may be) to 'withdraw from scenes in which they are often exposed to insult.'

PATERFAMILIAS.

NOTES AND QUERIES.

Queries.

SIR,—Can any reader inform me if there is anywhere a Home for the reception of unruly boys, who are not orphans, but who from circumstances are deprived of proper home care and discipline? I believe I am right in thinking boys cannot be received into a reformatory unless they have been guilty of some criminal act.

F. J. G.

SIR,—Some time back I saw a sheet of patterns of monuments and headstones for churchyards. It was such as might be hung up in a vestry. The examples and designs were of a character becoming 'God's acre' and for the Christian dead. Will any one kindly give me the publisher's name?

Keyworth Rectory, near Nottingham.

A. POTTE.

SIR,—Surely 'H. G.' will not raise a question of *right* about a flower that fadeth, and the grace and fashion whereof passeth away? Rather by kind words let him check the unseemliness which he anticipates, and encourage his people so to show their love for their departed.

E.

SIR,—Can any of your readers inform me where I can obtain a second-hand bell for a Mission-room, and if to be purchased, the price?

Millom, Cumberland, via Carnforth.

WILLIAM BARTON.

SIR,—Can you, or any of your readers, inform me who is the author and publisher of a book called *Daily Steps unto Heaven*?

E. G.

SIR,—Will you, or any of your readers, send me a list of books suitable for the library of a Missionary Guild?

LIBRARIAN.

SIR,—My attention has been called to a letter signed 'Welshman,' and I beg to inform you that the office of the London Diocesan Church Building Society is at 46A Pall Mall.

PHILIP WRIGHT, *Hon. Sec.*

RECEIVED ALSO.—A. V.; E. A. B.; A. F. S. N.; Miss Rogers (with thanks); M. J. Hill.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

The Surprise Peals.

WE reproduce the following clever article on Surprise Peals from *Bell's Life*, Jan. 9, 1875:—

Although in several of the works which have been written on the art and science of change-ringing, the date and place of performance of some of the most interesting or complicated peals inserted therein are noticed in an appended foot-note, yet in none of these books has any attempt been made to give a complete list of the highest class of performances. On account of the remote period at which some of these achievements took place, every year will render this more difficult, and knowing that such a table will be of great interest to those who have made this fascinating art their study, we have been induced to attempt it, and will therefore, without further preface, proceed to the consideration of the 'Surprise Peals.'

Under this title the Cambridge, London, and Superlative Surprise Variations of Treble Bob are classed. As these are the most intricate peals that have yet been practised by change-ringers, a short account of the limited number of peals that have been rung will be especially interesting, as, should they attain a more extensive practice, a full list of these performances for reference will then enable any peal that may subsequently be rung at once to take its proper numerical order in such records. As, on account of their intricacy, these peals have only been practised by the very best companies of ringers, the attention of composers has probably not been generally directed towards obtaining great lengths in them; and this fact, coupled with the extreme precariousness of their composition, may account for no greater length than 6720 true changes in London and Superlative, and 5600 in Cambridge Surprise, having yet been recorded as accomplished.

As we purpose to deal with each variety in detail, and according to the order of the earliest performance in each, our attention will first be directed to Cambridge Surprise. Although next to London Surprise this is the most complicated of the three to ring, it is without doubt the most difficult system in which composition has yet been attempted, and consequently it is not surprising to find that of the peals rung only one has its truth undoubtedly established.

With regard to a well-known law among change-ringers, no false peal can claim to be recorded, and therefore, while noticing such performances, we shall only place on our list those of undoubted truth. At the same time it should be remembered, that as the composer only can be held blamable for the falseness of his work, and it is at any time just as hard to ring correctly a false peal as a true one; that, as a performance, the one is as much entitled to merit as the other, especially if the composer of the true peal is not one of its ringers, as in that case the band is but practically performing the work of another person, the merits or demerits of whose composition can hardly be

said to affect the actual ringing. While making these remarks we would not, however, wish to be understood in any way to detract from the general recognition of this law, because its enforcement must always tend to improve and encourage the science of composition, while its relaxation might retard it.

The first notices of Cambridge Surprise are to be found in *Clavis Campanologica*, where, after a peal of 5152 is stated, 'It was rung by the Ancient Society of College Youths (there were two societies of College Youths at that time) at St. Giles's-in-the-Fields, on Sunday, February 23, 1783, being deemed the greatest performance ever achieved in the Campanistean Art, as so intricate a method was never practised by any other set of men whatever; indeed the same people (except one) did ring a peal in this same method, and at the same place, on Sunday, January 30, 1780, they being then "London Youths;" but as this was rung with the tenors together, it proved false on the new discoveries, which happened about this time, and was the cause of their ringing another peal.'

Meeting with a statement in Shipway's writings that no peal of Cambridge Surprise which had been rung up to the time of his making the assertion had proved true in its composition, we looked over this peal of 5152 given in the *Clavis*, and found that it was very false, as at the commencement of our investigation we found similar changes in 5-6 down in the second lead of the second course, and in 5-6 up in the fifth lead in the third course.

The next notice is one existing on a tablet in the belfry of St. Peter's Church, Sheffield, which commemorates a peal of 6048 changes, rung on Nov. 5, 1787, stating it to be 'the first peal of this method rung in the country.' This date, however, is more than four years after the peal mentioned above had been rung in London, and may be accounted for by the fact that such news travelled but slowly in those days, and therefore the London peal had not been heard of in Sheffield at that time. As regards this peal there is nothing known of its composition, and most probably it would not bear investigation. The only similar length we know of is one given in the *Art of Ringing*, by Thackrah, published in 1852; this peal is obtained without parting the tenors, by the use of fourth and sixth-place hobs at the course ends. As this peal is from the collection of a Yorkshireman—Thackrah lived at Dewsbury, near Leeds—there is some possibility that it is the one rung at Sheffield: this peal, however, is a very false one, and as we have no record of any such length ever having been composed true, we cannot but admit that there is no probability of the Sheffield peal being a true one.

In the same work is noticed a peal of 6720 changes, composed by Thackrah, who rang and conducted it, assisted by seven of the ringers of St. Peter's, Huddersfield, on the bells of that church, on the 18th February, 1822. In this peal, which had the tenors together, singles were introduced when the treble was in 3-4, to remove the liability of false changes in these places; this however, was a perfectly unallowable alteration of the method of the peal. Therefore we cannot see that this performance has any claim to be classed as a peal in the acknowledged Cambridge Surprise Method.

Still another peal, which adds one more to this long list of false ones, was rung, viz. at Keighley, in Yorkshire, on August 18th, 1811. That this peal was a false one can scarcely be doubted, when we mention that it was composed by J. Tebbs, of Leeds, Yorkshire. Tebbs was after that time in communication with Shipway, many of the compositions of the Yorkshireman appearing in the works of the latter; and there can be no doubt that Tebbs would naturally be desirous that Shipway should introduce it in his book, especially as no true peal had then been placed before the public. Therefore if Tebbs had not already found it false, we may conclude that he would submit it to Shipway, and that after proof it would be rejected by the latter, who probably alluded to it amongst the false ones he mentions as having been rung.

The most recent peal, and the only further record, on eight bells, known to us, is the one lately rung by the band of Leonard Proctor, Esq., of Benington, Hertfordshire, on Tuesday, February 11, 1873. This peal, which is to the best of our belief the only true one yet accomplished, contained 5600 changes, and is the greatest extent which has been composed in this method.

To sum up all this, we have two false peals, two so doubtful that they cannot be numbered in a list of true ones, one mutilated in the system, whilst there is but one well-known true performance. We give a list of these below, distinguishing the false and doubtful ones by letters, and placing as number one on the list of true performances the Benington peal,

(a) A false peal rung by the London Youths on Sunday, Jan. 30, 1780, at St. Giles's-in-the-Fields, London.—*Clavis Campanologica*.

(b) 5152 changes (false) rung by the Ancient Society of College Youths, on Sunday, February 23, 1783, at St. Giles's-in-the-Fields, London.—*Clavis Campanologica*.

(c) *Tablet in Belfry of St. Peter's Church, Sheffield*.—On Monday, the 5th of November, 1787, was rung on eight bells at this church a peal of 6048 changes, of that intricate method called Cambridge Surprise, in four hours and eighteen minutes, by the following persons, viz.:—R. Owen treble, G. E. O. Wilde 2, Samuel Willey 3, W. Lee 4, Charles Fletcher 5, John Hill 6, Samuel Dutton 7, Thomas Babb 8. The weight of the tenor, 33 cwt. The above is the first peal of this method ever rung in the country.

(d) *Thackrah's Art of Ringing*.—Seven of St. Peter's Company, Huddersfield, and myself, rang at their parish church, on the 13th of February, 1822, 6720 changes of Cambridge Surprise, with the tenors together, in 3 hours 51 min. I composed and conducted the peal, and introduced singles when the treble was dodging in 3-4, to take away the false changes when liable.

(e) *Tablet in Belfry of Keighley Church, Yorkshire*.—In this steeple was rung on the 18th August, 1811, by eight ringers of this town, 5378 changes of that most intricate peal, Cambridge Surprise, eight in (composed by Mr. Joseph Tebbs, of Leeds), being the first true peal in that method ever rung in the North of England. It was performed with great correctness in 3 hours and 8 minutes, by Jeremiah Foulds treble, George Hattersley 2, James Baldwin 3, David Smith 4, Joshua Cawood 5, Thomas Iveson 6, Thomas Midgeley 7, James Inman tenor. The peal was conducted by Mr. David Smith. Weight of tenor, 14 cwt.

(1) From *Bell's Life*, Feb. 22, 1873.—On Tuesday evening, Feb. 11, eight members of the Change-ringing Society resident in the small village of Benington, Herts, succeeded, in admirable style, in accomplishing a feat not equalled by any known society of ringers in England. They rang the greatest extent of changes that can be produced upon the musical and intricate method, "Cambridge Surprise Major," consisting of 5600 changes, in 3 hours 25 min. Only three peals of this method have ever been rung in England. The band was stationed as under:—N. Warner treble, J. Kitchener 2, L. Proctor 3, L. Chapman 4, S. Page 5, C. Hollingsworth 6, C. Sharnbrook 7, T. Page tenor. The peal was conducted by Mr. T. Page. Tenor, 14 cwt., key F. sharp. This peal is the original composition of Mr. T. Miller, Cumberland Society of Change Ringers, London.

The statement made in the above paragraph, which was forwarded to us and we published, to the effect that only three peals had been rung in this method, caused us to look into the matter, and has resulted in the list we now bring forward. As regards 5600 being the greatest number of true changes that can be produced in this method—with the tenors together is meant, we suppose—while we admit that no greater length has been obtained, it has yet to be shown that it is impossible that a greater number may not some time be composed.

(To be continued.)

Change-ringing at Wordsley, Staffordshire.

ON Saturday, Feb. 6th, a muffled peal, containing 720 changes of Grand-sire Minor, was rung as a token of respect for the late Joseph Waldron of Clent, he being conductor of that band for many years. Time, 25 mins. Ringers—T. Darby, treble; W. H. Hughes, 2nd; C. Hatton, 3rd; G. E. Jones, 4th; W. Lawrence, 5th; W. Pugh, tenor. Conducted by W. Lawrence.—*Reported*.

West Malling, Kent.

ON Tuesday evening, Feb. 9th, the West Malling Change-ringers rang seven peals of Bob Minor, called in various ways, amounting altogether to 5040 changes. The time occupied was 2 hrs. 55 mins. The ringers were:—W. Driver, treble; C. Viggers, 2nd; E. Baldock, 3rd; F. Clarabut, 4th; G. Hillier, 5th; D. Hall, tenor. The bells were rehung last spring by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, in a most satisfactory manner.—*Reported*.

Muffled Peals at Walsall, Staffordshire.

To repeat this for seven successive years at the death's anniversary, however well intended, is an unreasonable service, of no benefit to the deceased nor any pleasure to the living. Fond as we are of muffled peals at the proper time—that is, immediately after a funeral or on the evening of the day—we think the use at Walsall had better be amended, which may be easily done without abolishing altogether. The friendly intention of the ringers is most praiseworthy.—ED.

Waterloo Society.

ON Thursday evening, the 11th inst., the Society rang a muffled peal as a mark of respect to the late Mr. Peter Cooté, who died on the 2nd February, after a severe and painful illness, aged 50 years. He had been a change-ringer for about thirty years, and was greatly respected by all who knew him.—*Reported*.

Carillons.

A NEW Carillon Machine, of exquisite and ingenious workmanship, has lately been set up at Christ Church, Weymouth, by Messrs. Lund & Blockley of 42 Pall Mall, London. The bells are not of the usual form for ringing, but are fixed hemispheres, called by the ancients *Petasi*, or Skull-caps, like that worn by Mercury. They are from the foundry of Messrs. Taylor of Loughborough, in B flat. They are the gift of Henry Edwards, Esq., M.P.; the cost of the machinery being paid for by a bazaar and subscription. For a detailed description of the machinery we beg to refer our readers to a most interesting paper read by Mr. Lund, in March last, before the Society of Arts, which is published in the *Transactions* of that Society.—*Reported*.

Change-ringing.

WE wish to call attention to a most instructive article on this subject by Mr. Jasper Snowdon in the *Hour* of Feb. 6th, which we advise all our readers to get and to circulate. We wish it could be reproduced and go the round of all the papers in town and country; it is calculated to do more towards dissipating the ignorance which prevails in the public mind on the noble science of change-ringing, as a manly and intelligent athletic amusement, than anything we have ever seen before. Our hearty thanks are due to Mr. Snowdon.—ED.

A Request for Bell Inscriptions.

MR. J. R. JERRAM (Engineer), of Sutton Bridge, Wisbeach, will be thankful for the Inscriptions in full on the bells of the following churches in London:—St. Mary-le-Bow; St. Martin-in-the-Fields; St. Dunstan, Fleet Street; St. Bride, Fleet Street; St. Saviour, Southwark; St. Michael, Cornhill; St. James, Clerkenwell; St. Mary, Islington; also Canterbury Cathedral. He would give in exchange any inscriptions he has, chiefly Lincolnshire.

Date Touch.

ON Tuesday, Feb. 9th, at St. Mary-le-Crypt, Gloucester, 1875 Grandsire Triples in 1 hr. 5 mins.

ON Wednesday, the 10th inst., at Walsall, Staffordshire, 1875 Stedman's Triples, muffled, being the anniversary of a ringer's death.

RECEIVED ALSO.—'J. W. Hopkins.' Rector, Vicar, and Curate, has each the full control. Wm. Crole; Edmund Lloyd; John Astbury. 'B. Littlewood.' We agree with 'A Layman,' and think that buildings for worshippers, not in communion with the Catholic and Apostolic Church in this country, are not churches but meeting-houses. To call them churches is an advance which we cannot accept.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

The Surprise Peals.

(Continued.)

SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE.—This variation, of which several performances have been recorded, is, in point of time, the next on the list for consideration. This system is first given in *Clavis Campanologica*, followed by these remarks:—‘The above is an original composition of our own on purpose for this work, and has never yet been rung.’ The principle upon which it is founded will, we doubt not, give it credit with the amateurs of the art, for on inspection it will plainly appear the most even *treble bob peal* that has hitherto been discovered, and, if practised, will produce most excellent music.’ Now, as the date of publication of the first edition of the *Clavis* is 1788, the time this variation has been before the public is at once arrived at. We would remark that practice has proved the truth of the eulogy of the originators on their system. Not only is the work particularly even, and therefore easily acquired, but those who, like ourselves, have heard this most musical of *treble bob* variations actually performed in the steeple, will also most readily assent to its producing ‘most excellent music.’

Although, as we have shown, this method was brought out in 1788, no notice of any performance can be found until 1821, when 5152 is mentioned in Thackrah’s work as having been rung at Huddersfield in that year. A tablet was not erected to commemorate this performance, and although we have made several inquiries we have been unable to gain any more information beyond that given in this work, which we shall presently place before the reader.

The next record of Superlative Surprise is to be found on a tablet erected in the belfry of St. Giles’s, Norwich, which gives particulars of the performance of 5376 changes in this variation by the ‘crack’ Norwich Company, which was then in its prime. The same board also enumerates the peal of London Surprise rung by the Norwich Scholars, and alludes to them both as ‘the first peals ever rung in the above variations.’ As in the case of Cambridge Surprise, the claim is made subsequent to the ringing of the first peal, and as our inquiries anent the Huddersfield peal did not lead us in any way to doubt the completion of the performance recorded by Thackrah, we must award the honour of priority to the Yorkshiremen.

Following this performance comes that of 5376 at St. Mary’s, Woolwich, in the year 1849, by the clever company of ringers then gathered together under the leadership of Mr. Wm. Banister, and three years later 5600 by the Society of St. James’s Youths, rung at St. Matthew’s, Bethnal Green, this latter peal taking its rank as the greatest number then recorded as rung in this variation. A few years after, however, this length was superseded by one rung at Benington, Herts, as the able band of Mr. Proctor first rang 5376, on May 20, 1855, and then, only ten days later, achieved 6048; which performance is not only the longest length yet rung of Superlative Surprise, but also the last recorded peal in this variation. Appended we give particulars of each of these peals in chronological order:—

1. *Thackrah’s Art of Ringing.*—‘Treble bob triples: this peal was composed by the author in the year 1821, and was first rung by him and seven of the St. Peter’s Company of Change-ringers at the parish church, Huddersfield, on the 5th of November the same year. Likewise 5152 changes of Superlative Surprise, at the first attempt, making a total of 10,192 changes in 5 hours and 56 minutes. Ringers: 1, W. Haigh; 2, J. Clay; 3, J. Thorpe; 4, J. Womersley; 5, J. Womersley; 6, J. Hanson; 7, B. Thackrah; 8, S. Gooder.’ Weight of tenor, 18 cwt.

2. *Tablet in Belfry of St. Giles’s, Norwich.*—‘On February 6th, 1835, was rung in this steeple 5376 of that intricate method, Superlative Surprise. This great achievement was perfectly completed (at the first attempt) in 3 hours and 16 minutes, and was rung by the following persons:—Joshua Hurry treble, Elijah Mason 2, Fredk. Watering 3, Henry Hubbard 4, Robert Burrell 5, James Truman 6, Chas. Payne 7, Saml. Thurston tenor.’ Weight of tenor, 14 cwt. in F.

3. *Tablet in Belfry of St. Mary’s, Woolwich.*—‘On Monday, Feb. 10, 1849, the following members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang on these bells a true and complete peal of Superlative Surprise Major, containing 5376 changes, in 3 hours and 15 minutes, as follows:—Henry Banister, sen. treble, Wm. Banister 2, Francis H. Banister 3, Samuel Teasel 4, John Banister 5, George Cleveland 6, George Banister 7, Edward West tenor. Composed and conducted by Mr. Wm. Banister.’ Weight of tenor, 14 cwt.

4. *Approximate Copy of Tablet erected in the Belfry of St. Matthew’s, Bethnal Green.*—This tablet was destroyed by the fire which consumed the whole of the interior of the church, and also the tablets and bells then in the steeple, in December, 1860. ‘On Saturday, Feb. 8, 1850, the St. James’s Society rang in 3 hours and 23 minutes, a peal of Superlative Surprise, containing 5600 changes:—George Woolf treble, Henry W. Haley 2, Charles Evnnett 3, George E. Ferris 4, William Cooter 5, Robert Jameson 6, James Dwight 7, Matthew A. Wood tenor. Composed and conducted by H. W. Haley.’

5, 6. *Tablet in Benington Church, Herts.*—‘On the 20th day of May, 1855, was rung a peal of Superlative Surprise Major, containing 5376 changes, in 3 hours and 15 minutes. James Flott treble, Luke Carter 2, Leonard Proctor 3, Thomas Page 4, John Aylott 5, Charles Hollingsworth 6, Joseph Kitchener 7, George Warner tenor.—On the 9th day of June, 1855, was rung a peal of Superlative Surprise Major, containing 6048 changes, in 3 hours and 44 min. James Flott treble, Thomas Page 2, Jeremiah Miller 3, James Collins 4, John Aylott 5, Charles Hollingsworth 6, Joseph Kitchener 7, George Warner tenor. The above peals were most ably conducted by Mr. Joseph Kitchener.’ Weight of tenor, 14 cwt. Key, F sharp.

(To be continued.)

The Bells of Colerne, Wilts.

A CORRESPONDENT says:—‘A few weeks since I was hospitably entertained in the neighbourhood of Colerne, on the borders of Wiltshire and Gloucestershire. I had often seen in the far distance the ‘stately, high, well-built tower of the very faire church’ at Colerne, as old Aubrey calls it, but had never been within hearing of the bells till on Sunday morning they sounded forth a most musical peal. A little later, ‘Rousseau’s Dream,’ in good time, summoned us to church. On my return home I was surprised not to find these bells alluded to either in Mr. Lukis’ account of Wiltshire bells, or in Mr. Godwin’s excellent description of the church; but on turning out ‘Colerne’ in Canon Jackson’s edition of Aubrey’s *Collections*, I found the following note, which may perhaps interest readers of *Church Bells*:—‘The late Mr. Bowles, in his *History of Bremhill* (p. 259), says, “A late friend of mine, Lawson Huddleston of Shaftesbury, with many and extraordinary accomplishments, had a kind of passion for bells. To oblige any clerical friend who had six bells in his church, he would pass days and weeks in the belfry, chipping, and modulating the sound of every bell, till they answered exactly the intervals of the monochord. I had often heard of the music of Colerne bells. No one could tell why their sounds were so pleasing. It is because they are perfectly tuned. Huddleston was sent to school at Colerne, and Colerne bells were the first he tuned.”’

Guild of Devonshire Ringers.

A MEETING of the Committee of the above Guild was held at St. Paul’s school-room, Exeter, on Saturday, the 20th inst., for the purpose of making the necessary arrangements for the annual meeting, and to dispose of any other business that might arise. In the absence of the president, the chair was occupied by the Rev. F. Sterry. The report of the local committee relative to the expenses incurred in connexion with the Guild was received and passed. The Hon. Secretary (Rev. J. L. Langdon Fulford) reported that four hon. and three performing members had been added to the Guild, amongst the former being the Right Rev. the Bishop of Exeter. The Secretary also gave notice that at the next annual meeting he should bring forward a motion for making the Bishop of the Diocese, when a member, *ex officio* Patron of the Guild. On the motion of the Secretary it was resolved, ‘That the previous restrictions respecting the record of performances by bands be rescinded, and in lieu thereof the following regulations be agreed to:—1. That a peal-book be provided in which shall be inserted all peals of 5000 and upwards (whether in one peal or several continuous touches), together with all date touches. 2. That a diary shall be kept in which shall be recorded, 1st, the ringing, either in the steeple or on handbells, of the bands who take part in the general meeting of the Guild; 2nd, the first performance of a band or individual, in any method, not being a peal.’ It was further resolved that the annual meeting of the Guild should be held in Exeter, on or about the 19th of April, and that the local officers of the Exeter branch, together with such members of the Committee as reside in the neighbourhood, be nominated to serve as a Local Committee. It was also decided to present an engraved shield to each band that shall accomplish a peal or date touch, or (in case of six bells only) a peal of minor. After a short discussion upon other matters connected with the Guild the proceedings terminated.—*Local Paper.*

Change-ringing at St. Mary’s, Ormskirk, Lancashire.

ON Shrove-Tuesday afternoon the ringers of the parish church, assisted by Mr. John Heron, jun., of St. Nicholas, Liverpool, rang a true peal of Grandire Triples, consisting of 5040 changes, in 3 hrs. 12 mins. viz.:—J. Heron, jun., treble; J. Leatherbarrow, 2nd; J. Eastham, 3rd; N. Spencer, 4th; J. Higham, 5th; R. Rothwell, 6th; J. Winrow, 7th; J. Prescott, tenor. The peal was composed and conducted by Mr. John Heron, jun.—*Reported.*

Muffled Peal at Waltham Abbey, Essex.

ON Monday, Feb. 15th, a muffled peal was rung at Waltham Holy Cross, in memory of the late Mr. W. Carr, who died on Monday, Feb. 8th, in his eightieth year. Performers.—J. R. Haworth (London), treble; T. Britten, 2nd; J. Barker, 3rd; W. Alps, 4th; R. Richardson (London), 5th; P. Cleverly, 6th; D. Tarling, 7th; T. Powell, tenor. Conducted by Mr. J. R. Haworth. Mr. Carr had been fifty-eight years parish-clerk and sexton of the above church, and sixty-eight years a change-ringer. About 1806 he rang, with Mr. Shipway and Mr. Huits from London, 1008 Grandire Triples. They considered him a wonder for his age, and wished him to ring another touch; but he made answer that he could not do so, as he had to go to school, wearing his pinafore at the time. The Carrs have upheld the art of change-ringing at Waltham Abbey for half a century.—*Reported.*

Muffled Peal at St. Bride’s, Fleet Street, London.

ON Tuesday evening, Feb. 16th, a few members of the Cumberland Society met at the above church, and, as a mark of respect, rang a muffled peal to the memory of the late Mr. Peter Coote, who died, after a protracted illness, on Feb. 2nd, aged fifty years.—*Reported.*

Cambridge Chimes.

SIR,—I understand that the Parliament-houses’ clock strikes the ‘Cambridge Chimes.’ May I ask what notes these chimes are, and the order in which they come for the several quarters of the hour? I think this information would be valued by a good many of your subscribers. I have frequently been asked, and do not know to whom I can refer my inquirers.

St. Saviour’s Parsonage, Eastbourne, Sussex. HENRY R. WHELTON.

[We hope that most of our subscribers are more careful readers of *Church Bells*, or have better memories, than our present correspondent. They will then be able at once to refer to No. 207, p. 19, where the information is given.—ED.]

RECEIVED from Messrs. Curtis and Beamish a very artistically-got-up card broadside about the tower and ringings at St. Michael’s, Coventry. We commend it to all who collect such bell memoranda. We believe the price is 2s. 6d.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

The Surprise Peals.

(Concluded.)

LONDON SURPRISE.—We now come to London Surprise, the last and the most intricate of the three peals which we are directing our observations towards. This peal seems to have engaged the attention of the College Youths at an early period, as Shipway says, 'It seems to have received some partial practice by the Ancient Society of College Youths, and was dropped probably in consequence of its complexity, or because a true peal of 5000 could not be obtained.' Eventually, however, 5280 was composed by Shipway, and in course of time rung by the Norwich Scholars at St. Andrew's, Norwich, on Nov. 17, 1835. This length was exceeded on Oct. 11, 1840, by Mr. Banister's company, who accomplished 5600 at St. Mary's, Woolwich. The Benington company, however, again came to the fore, and when they rang a peal in this intricate method on Dec. 26, 1870, the performance comprised 6048 changes, and, as in the case of Superlative Surprise, is the last record and also the greatest length yet accomplished. The following is a list of these peals, the belfry boards being selected for their notification:—

1. *Tablet in the Belfry of St. Giles's, Norwich.*—This tablet commemorates the Superlative Surprise peal given above, and then proceeds as follows:— 'Also, at St. Andrew's, in this town, on Nov. 17, 1835, was rung 5280 of London Surprise, the most difficult system in the art of Campanologia. This almost insurmountable task was accomplished in 8 hours and 24 minutes. The bold and regular striking of both peals must ever reflect great credit on the company; they were conducted by S. Thurston, and are the first peals ever rung in the above variations. Geo. Watering treble, Elijah Mason 2, Fredk. Watering 3, Henry Hubbard 4, James Truman 5, Robert Burrell 6, Charles Payne 7, Saml. Thurston tenor. Thomas King, Wm. Storey, Churchwardens.' Weight of tenor, 18 cwt. Key E.

2. *Tablet in the Belfry of St. Mary's, Woolwich.*—Curiously this tablet, like the Norwich one, also commemorates the Superlative Surprise peal given above, and then proceeds thus:— 'The same band, after diligent practice and steady perseverance, accomplished on October 11, in the same year'—(1840)— '5600 changes of London Surprise Major, which arduous task was completed in 3 hours and 27 minutes. Composed and conducted by Mr. Wm. Banister.' Weight of tenor 14 cwt.

3. *Tablet in Benington Church, Herts.*—'Benington Society of Change-ringers. This tablet is erected to record two of the greatest performances ever achieved by any society of change-ringers in England, by members all resident in this parish, and who rang in admirable style the greatest number of changes ever accomplished in the two under-mentioned peals, of the most intricate and melodious methods known in the science of change-ringing. On Monday, Dec. 26, 1870, was rung on these bells a grand peal of London Surprise Major, consisting of 6048 changes, containing 27 courses and 48 bobs, in 3 hours and 37 minutes. Nathan Warner treble, John Kitchener 2, Leonard Proctor 3, Joseph Kitchener 4, Samuel Page 5, Charles Hollingsworth 6, Charles Shambrook 7, Thomas Page tenor.' The tablet then commemorates the peal of Cambridge Surprise we have mentioned above, and then proceeds:— 'The above peals were most ably conducted by Mr. T. Page, and are the composition of Mr. Jeremiah Miller, member of the Cumberland Society of Change-ringers, London. The Rev. John Ede Pryor, Rector; Leonard Proctor and Frederick Allwood, Churchwardens.'

ROYAL.—Having exhausted the list of Surprise peals rung on eight bells, it might not unnaturally be supposed that our observations would be at an end. Although Shipway inserted a lead of Superlative Surprise Royal in his work, he remarks that it 'most probably will only serve for the speculation of the curious,' and concerning the other Surprise peals, says:— 'If at any time there should be found a set of ingenious men bold enough to attempt such difficult methods on 10 or 12 bells,' they would also be clever enough to apply the methods to the increased number of bells.

In 1822, however, a peal of Cambridge Surprise, 10 in, was rung at Wakefield, in Yorkshire, and all honour to the north countrymen who were bold enough to engage in such an undertaking, as a more difficult task is not recorded in the annals of change-ringing, and in following the old fashion, and pronouncing an eulogy on themselves on the tablet which they erected to commemorate this truly meritorious performance, the praise was in this case far removed from 'idle words and vain boasting,' a similar feat never having been accomplished, and, probably, not even attempted elsewhere. With particulars of this peal we conclude the result of our researches on the Surprise peals:—

1. *Tablet in Belfry of All Saints', Wakefield.*—'Cambridge Surprise Royal. On Saturday, Oct. 26, 1822, nine of the ringers of this church, with Joseph Tebbs, of Leeds, succeeded in completing a peal of Cambridge Surprise Royal, comprising 5400 changes, in 3 hours and 35 minutes. The first peal ever attempted in the above difficult method by any set of men in the kingdom, which will be a standing laurel for the society for ages to come. The above peal was composed and conducted by Mr. W. Woodhead. The band were as follows:—First, Mark Blackburn; second, J. Sugden; third, J. Tebbs; fourth, G. Pickering; fifth, J. Hall; sixth, James Gill; seventh, Joseph Gill; eighth, T. Netherwood; ninth, W. Woodhead; tenth, R. Collet. Weight of tenor, 32 cwt.

Guild of Devonshire Ringers.

SIR,—As an old Change-ringer, and a fervent admirer of the progress making by the newly formed 'Devonshire Guild,' I beg to be allowed, through your valuable paper, to make a few remarks on a resolution passed at the last committee-meeting, and reported in this day's issue.

All ringers, I am sure, who have noticed the commendable exertions of the Hon. Secretary, and other leading officials of the Guild, appreciate and esteem the progress made in the science, and the good effected in belfry reform, by

their efforts; and all lovers of law and order, and scientific amusement, will join in wishing them God speed in their good work: but none but those who have passed through the ordeal can form any idea of the difficulties attending the formation of new bands, and training them even to a moderate state of efficiency; it therefore behoves all change-ringers to interest themselves in the movement.

In the report referred to, following some very excellent suggestions and notices, is a resolution to rescind a former one (which, if I mistake not, was passed at a general meeting), restricting the records of performances to peals of 5000 changes and upwards, and insert date touches. To this, if allowed, I would observe that, until now, the peal-book, so called, of all ringing societies has been (I believe without exception) exclusively reserved for the entry of records of advanced performances, and the minimum limit fixed at 5000 changes, comprised in one peal on seven bells, and upwards; or, seven complete peals of Minor rung in continuous succession, and in as many variations of method. Is it not, therefore, a pity that a Society which possesses so many members of high education and social standing should be the first to degrade this time-honoured custom (it has held nearly 200 years) by the admission of date touches, which of all touches are the most imperfect, being generally obtained by a diversion from the method, and are consequently imperfect in composition and unacceptable as an advanced performance, irrespective of the number of changes? I have no doubt the Hon. Secretary in making the motion was actuated with good intentions, but I think that in this particular he has been ill advised, and would perhaps, on a little reflection, see the wisdom of an early return to the former resolution, and thus re-establish the status of the Guild, and avoid the exposure of its members to the ridicule of the ringing fraternity.

AN OLD VETERAN TREBLE BOB.

February 27, 1875.

A few Kind Words to Ringers about Lent.

WITH the most friendly feelings to all good ringers, for whose social and moral good, they must be aware, we have worked very hard, wishing to raise them in the esteem and respect of others in society, we would most earnestly entreat them to consider and think a little about this season of Lent, which the Church has set aside as a time for meditation and unusual solemnity; and we pray them to co-operate with us, and to avoid engaging in any ringing for mere amusement till Easter. They may depend upon it they will lose nothing by it, neither in their own estimation nor in the good opinion of their neighbours. We would further ask them to read our strictures on the meeting lately held at Sibsey, and as professed members of the Church we beg them to think and talk it over, and we doubt not they will say that our views are right and good.—ED.

Ringers' Holiday at Sibsey, Lincolnshire.

IT is reported to us from Sibsey, Lincolnshire, that a jolly meeting of ringers, for their own amusement and the entertainment of many kind friends, took place on Monday, the 22nd ult. We acknowledge ourselves to be deeply pained by reading it. It is most discouraging. We report the act, as it gives us the opportunity of repeating our disapprobation of all ringing for MERE PLEASURE during the solemn season of Lent. We are afraid that many of our ringing friends require screwing up to a more correct appreciation of the times and the seasons so pointedly defined by the Church of which all ringers profess themselves to be members. Excepting for services, we consider the bells of the church should remain silent from Shrove Tuesday to the blessed morning of the Resurrection; and then, how full of joy and gladness and common sense sound forth the joyous peals on Easter Day! We fear that many of our parish priests are to blame in the matter, as well as some ringers. Certainly we are rather surprised, we may say *grieved*, to find that the Vicar of Sibsey allowed the bells of his church to be so used during the Lenten season. Our affectionate advice to all such is to meditate on the subject.—ED.

Muffled Peal at Burnsall, Yorkshire.

On Friday, February 19th, the members of the Society of St. Wilfred's rang a muffled peal of Oxford Treble Bob, 720 changes, as a last tribute of respect to the Rev. Wm. Bury, of Chapel House, Kilsay, and Rector of Burnsall. The members were:—Jonathan Thompson, treble; J. Binns, 2nd; Joseph Thompson, 3rd; W. Whittaker, 4th; T. Thompson, 5th; J. Birch, tenor.—Reported.

Ringing Anniversary at Ashton-under-Lyne.

On Saturday, the 20th ult., the anniversary of the 8864 of Kent Treble Bob Major was rung at St. Peter's, Ashton-under-Lyne. The Society of St. Michael's Church visited Dunham-on-Massey, and rang a true and complete peal of Kent Treble Bob Royal, comprising 5040 changes, with the sixth bell seven courses at home, composed and conducted by John Thorp, and finally brought round in 3 hrs. 27 mins. by the following persons:—T. Moss, treble; T. Wroe, 2nd; J. Wood, 3rd; T. Stopford, 4th; B. Broadbent, 5th; D. Heap, 6th; C. Thorp, 7th; J. Gillot, 8th; J. Thorp, 9th; L. Broadbent, tenor. Weight of tenor, 28 cwt.—Reported.

Memorial Peal at Aston, near Birmingham, co. Warwick.

On Saturday, the 20th ult., the following members of the St. Martin's Association of Change-ringers rang a peal of Stedman's Caters, comprising 5077 changes. They were placed thus:—W. Haywood, treble; A. Cresser, 2nd; R. Joyes, 3rd; J. Spencer, 4th; T. Power, 5th; H. Johnson, sen., 6th; H. Bastable, 7th; F. H. James, 8th; H. Johnson, jun., 9th; J. Buffery, tenor. The above was rung as a tribute of respect to the memory of the late Mr. W. R. Roberts, formerly a member of the company. The peal occupied 3 hrs. 17 mins., and was composed by H. Johnson, sen., with the bells in the inverted titum position, and contains the 6th 24 courses behind the 7th, and 14 courses at home.—Reported.

RECEIVED ALSO.—F. Besant. R. Ettlewood.—We decline to make any promises one way or the other. The title of our paper and our motto are sufficiently expressive of our views.

Day of Intercession for Schools.

SIR,—I am desirous of suggesting that it would probably be very acceptable to a large portion of the community if the Archbishops and Bishops were to appoint a day of intercessory prayer for children, and for schools, colleges, and places of education. Our Liturgy contains scarcely any special reference to the young; and at the present time, when national education is undergoing changes which make many good people uneasy, such a day of intercessory prayer would be peculiarly appropriate.

I make this suggestion, under the impression that the days which have been appointed in the last two years for special prayer for missions have met with a hearty approval, but that there is a general feeling that it would not be wise to make them annual.

W. F. C.

NOTES AND QUERIES.

Queries.

SIR,—Will you kindly tell me, why the altar is considered the holiest part of the church; also why people turn to it when repeating the Creed? LINA.

[We are sorry to have to answer such questions as 'Lina's.' At the Lord's Table the devout communicant realises so much closer an approach to God than elsewhere, and knows that the presence of the Saviour is so manifested there, that he cannot do otherwise than regard the spot where this takes place as one of especial sanctity. We would exhort 'Lina' to an earnest and prayerful consideration of the great spiritual blessings vouchsafed in the Sacrament of the Holy Communion, and to a careful preparation to receive those blessings. If she were thus to communicate, we think she would find reason to regard the Lord's Table as especially hallowed. We do not know the original reason for the adoption of the practice of turning to the East in saying the Creed, unless it be that early Christians, in professing their belief in Christ, and in His coming again, turned naturally to that point where He lived on earth, where He was crucified, from whence He ascended to heaven, where also they expected His reappearing. At all events, there is evidence that it is a long-established Christian usage, and it may well express that those who with one mouth are professing one faith, are all of one mind and one purpose, and all have their faces Zionwards.—Ep.]

I also wish to ask some of your learned readers to give such reasons as they may think most convincing, whether for or against the administration (celebration) of the Holy Eucharist on Good Friday and Ash-Wednesday. I dare say this subject has received attention in your paper before; but in the interest of new readers, as well as on account of the importance of the subject, I ask for some notice of it in your next.

INQUIRER.

SIR,—We have a Burial Board in our parish, and I wish to ask you, if they can appoint the hours for burials absolutely? Or, can the Rector appoint the hour for the consecrated ground? If you would kindly tell me through your paper what power, if any, the Rector has, I shall feel obliged.

CHURCHMAN.

SIR,—Can any of your readers tell me of a small book, giving a description and explanation, or only the latter, of ecclesiastical symbols and phrases, such as are constantly met with in Church decorations and publications; as, for instance, the different kinds and positions of crosses, the interweaving of the triangle, such phrases as 'Gloria in excelsis?' &c. I feel the want of understanding them very much.

G.

[In vol. ii. of *Church Bells*, commencing on May 25, 1872, and ending on August 31, we gave 170 'Ecclesiastical Explanations,' and to these we refer our correspondent for an answer to many of his inquiries. An explanation of the 'Gloria' will also be found in the No. for Jan. 27.—Ep.]

SIR,—Can you advise me of a book (small desirable) suitable to put into the hands of a young man, a Roman Catholic, who is living a far from godly life, though attending mass weekly? Don't think he would read a distinctly Protestant, or even a very 'dry' book.

ANXIOUS.

'H.' would like to know of any work that is calculated to direct a young man, who has a wish to enter the ministry of the Church, who has had no classical education.

['H.' does not say on what point he wants direction, whether spiritually, or as to his studies, or as to being accepted by a bishop. We should think he had better consult his own clergyman.—Ep.]

Answers.

SIR,—In reply to 'Jno. Lane' I can say, that there is a large church at Higham Ferrers, Northamptonshire, in which the violin, violoncello, and flutes, are still used in leading the choir of boys, young women, and men. The organ does not seem to be appreciated in that parish.

J. W. E. CHUBB.

SIR,—Barrel organs are in use in the churches at Otterton and Ashford, in the county of Devon. In the former case it stands in a church, upon the rebuilding of which Lady Rolle spent some 7000*l.* or 8000*l.* about three or four years since. Alas! that no further provision was made for leading the musical portion of the service.

DEVONIENSIS.

SIR,—Your correspondent 'Jno. Lane' is informed that a fiddle is played on Sundays at Ozleworth church, and a barrel-organ at Alderley church, Gloucestershire.

W. B.

SIR,—Has 'Vic. in Dioc. Norv.' seen the *Critical Commentary* published by Collins? I think it is Jamieson, Faussett, and Brown's large Commentary condensed. Notes are brief, but, as far as I am able to judge, very good and complete. My copy has the text on one side and the comments on the other, and is in four pocket volumes (two O. T. and two N. T.), published at 3*s.* 6*d.* per vol. The comments can be obtained without the text, in two vols., same publishers, 1*s.*

GRAY.

RECEIVED ALSO.—Richard F. Mullan; H.; N.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Guild of Devonshire Ringers.

SIR,—As a member of the Devonshire Guild I should like to say something on the subject touched upon by your last week's correspondent, 'An Old Veteran Treble Bob,' respecting the entries to be made in the Peal or Record-book to be kept by the Guild. I do not know why the former resolution—stating that nothing less than a 5000 should be recorded in the principal book, while a smaller one should be kept for minor performances—was rescinded; but confess to being rather glad on seeing in your issue of the 27th ult. that this had been done.

'An Old Veteran' seems to place the Guild almost on an equal footing with such societies as the College Youths and Cumberlands in this matter; yet, however desirable it may be to see it thus placed, I fear that is a position which in point of ringing performances it can never attain to; though it may possibly excel them in its secondary object of Belfry Reform. Those great Societies never enter in their Peal-books anything less than 5000; but it must be remembered that they have their ringing centres in London and its neighbourhood, with, perhaps, only individual members scattered about in other parts of the country. Here, then, it is nothing very difficult for them, with their constant training and practice, and the many peals of bells at their command, to accomplish a peal, because, though they may have members here and there not always within reach, still, as far as recorded performances go, their ringing is confined almost solely to those who generally muster at head-quarters. With these, then, it would undoubtedly be degrading a 'time-honoured custom' to admit anything less than a 5000. But the Guild of Devonshire Ringers, from its very nature, cannot hope to aspire to such excellence; for, instead of being simply one compact Society, whose members are always at hand to practise, or go for a peal, it embraces many local bands and individual performing members hailing from each extremity of this large diocese. Yet of all these bands of young ringers, desirous as they may be to excel in their noble art, only three or four have peals of eight bells within their reach. So that the whole of our principal Record-book would be monopolised by Huntsham, Plymouth, and the other lucky few, while the many striving little parties, most of whom can only boast of having six bells at their command, would have their performances put into the shade of the minor Record-book, even though they may have accomplished the total number of changes to be produced on their bells; for to suppose that in our country parishes, where the most intelligent young men are constantly flocking away to the large towns, a party can be kept long enough together to ring seven 720's in seven different methods, is entirely out of the question. I for one, therefore, think it quite right, and not at all degrading to the Guild, that any Society belonging to it, and having no more than six bells, should be allowed to have their first peal of Minor recorded with the greater performances. I quite agree with 'Veteran Treble Bob' in his remarks as to 'Date Touches.' Any party with eight bells, who can get through the number of changes to correspond with the date of the year, can easily go on to a half and then a whole peal. They may, perhaps, reflect more credit on the conductor; but I should imagine that touches of this length, with such societies as that at Huntsham, would not be considered a very noteworthy performance, after having once achieved a 5000.

YOUNG TREBLE BOB.

Southport, Lancashire.

ON Saturday, Feb. 13, the ringers of Christ Church rang a peal of 720 changes Bob Minor in honour of the 80th birthday of their conductor, John Mason. Time, 25 mins. Tenor, 10 cwt. 3 qrs. The ringers were—J. Mason, treble; T. Blacktop, 2nd; W. Overton, 3rd; G. Heywood, 4th; C. Heywood, 5th; R. W. Barnes, tenor.—Reported.

The Church of St. John the Evangelist, East Witton, Yorkshire.

THE bells of this church, after a long silence, were heard once more on Wednesday, February 24th. They required extensive repairs. The work was entrusted to Mr. Thomas Mallaby of Masham, who has entirely rehung them with new fittings, &c. The work was completed on Monday, the 22nd of February; and Wednesday, 24th February, being the Feast of St. Matthias, the bells were reopened by the parish ringers, assisted by Mr. Mallaby and his son, who rang a peal of 720 changes of Bob Minor, conducted by Mr. Shields of East Witton. There was a good attendance in the church at Morning Prayer. After the service the Masham Society rang 720 changes each of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob Minor, and also several other touches during the day in other methods. The celebration of the occasion falling in Lent, was more quiet and strictly parochial than it would otherwise have been.—Reported.

Muffled Peal at Hyde, Cheshire.

ON Tuesday evening, the 2nd inst., the Society of Change-ringers, Hyde, met in the belfry of St. George's, Hyde, and rang with the bells deeply muffled 2520 changes of Grandsire Triples, as a last token of respect to the late Rev. Alex. Read, who was for twenty-six years incumbent of the above church. The ringers were—J. Wilde, sen., treble; J. Wilde, jun., 2nd; H. Rostron, 3rd; T. Wilde, 4th; P. Beard, 5th; W. Beeley, 6th; S. Bennett, 7th; G. Sale, tenor. Conducted by Mr. H. Rostron.—Reported.

Gift of a Bell.

At Royton, Lancashire, a free and open mission church has lately been opened. A bell—which for many years swung in the tower of a cotton-mill, which was destroyed by fire a few weeks ago—has been kindly and promptly devoted by the mill-owner, Mr. Buckley, for the use of this mission church.—Reported.

RECEIVED ALSO.—Robert Matthews; W. H. Hitchcock. Treble Novice is requested to send his address plainly written, and he shall be answered.

rising sun, as a type and likeness of Christ, the Light of their souls. Bingham, in his *Antiquities of the Christian Church*, quotes the Church historian Dionysius, as describing the practice thus,—"The priest bids the catechumen after he has renounced Satan, to turn about to the east and make his covenant with Christ, with hands and eyes lift up to heaven."

W. WALSHEAM HOW.

SIR,—In your last number a correspondent asks the old question about turning to the east when the Creed is said; and in reply you give the old reason—that the east is considered to be specially connected with our Lord and His appearing. May I suggest a much more satisfactory reason? The saying of the Creed was no doubt, in ancient times, the great profession of faith, by which persons proclaimed publicly their adhesion to the Christian Church. As the congregation followed the minister who led their voices in this profession of faith, naturally they turned towards him; just as men in a jury-box, when they are being sworn, turn to the officer of the Court who administers the oath: and as the place of the minister was usually east of the people, when they turned to him they turned towards the east. I cannot imagine that in ancient times, when the dignitaries of the Church sat in the form spoken of as the *Civitas Dei*, the Bishop on his throne at the end of the apse, and his presbyters in a semicircle on each side of him, that on the Creed being said they wheeled round with their faces to the wall behind them, in the awkward position taken now by many clergymen during the saying of the Nicene Creed. Very likely this suggestion as to the reason of turning to the east during the Creed is not a new one; but it seems to explain the practice far better than the reason usually given.

ORIENS.

SIR,—Allow me to call your attention to the reason given by Wheatley (in his book on the Common Prayer) for the custom of worshipping towards the east. In the chapter on the first rubric he says,—"The chancel was peculiar to the priests and sacred persons, and typified heaven, for which reason it always stood at the east end of the church, towards which part of the world they paid a more than ordinary reverence in their worship; wherein Clemens Alexandrinus tells us they had respect to Christ: for as the east is the birth and womb of the natural day, from whence the sun (the fountain of all sensible light) does arise and spring; so Christ, the true Sun of Righteousness, who arose upon the world with the light of truth when it sat in the darkness of error and ignorance is, in Scripture, styled the east. In Zech. iii. 8, and vi. 12, the Messiah is called the Branch, and in Luke, i. 7, 8, the Day-spring. In all which places the original words signify the east, and are so rendered in all other versions of the Bible. And, therefore, since we must in our prayers turn our faces towards some quarter, it is fittest it should be towards the east; especially since it is probable, even from Scripture itself, that the Majesty of God is in a peculiar manner in that part of the heavens, and that the throne of Christ and the splendour of His Humanity has its residence there." Writing of the practice of turning to the east whilst saying the Creed, Wheatley says,—"When we repeat the Creed it is customary to turn towards the east, so that whilst we are making profession of our faith in the Blessed Trinity, we may look towards that quarter of the heavens where God is supposed to have His peculiar residence of glory."

A.

Queries.

SIR,—Can any of your readers give me some practical rules for a self-supporting sick club for poor women?

SISTER CATHERINE.

SIR,—I should be much obliged if you, or one of your readers, would kindly recommend to me some book of sermons, suitable for a school in which the boys (of the lower classes) range from 10 to 15 years of age. H. D.

SIR,—A gentleman having kindly offered to ornament the Reading-room of a Literary Institute with maps, diagrams, engravings, &c., the Secretary would be greatly obliged if any reader of *Church Bells* would communicate with him privately, or in this column, on the most suitable way of effecting the object at a reasonable cost. The Institute is open to all denominations, and is used on Sundays for a Church Adult Bible Class. Address—Secretary, Literary Institute, Walkden, Bolton.

SIR,—Can you kindly recommend me any inexpensive book giving an outline of heathen religions, particularly those of India and China? A. G. L.

Answers.

SIR,—I see that no one has answered 'E. G.' as to the authorship of *Daily Steps towards Heaven*. I had thought of doing so, but have delayed, as I wished to be accurate. The book was translated and adapted by a very advanced saint, the late Arthur Acland Troyte. It is so extremely beautiful, and so helpful to the prayerful study of the Bible, that it cannot be too much recommended. It is published by Parker. It is always interesting to hear of the last hours of good men. A most touching account of the deathbed of Mr. Troyte is to be found in the preface to a delightful book, *Thoughts during Sickness*, by the late Dr. Brett. Having lent my copy to a sick person, I do not remember who is the publisher. Mr. Troyte devoted his time and ample means in his Master's service to the poor, the hospitals, the workhouse, and the prisons; indeed, he was called a Second Howard. H. F.

'C.' Bishop Reinkens was consecrated August 11th, 1873. A short account of the ceremony appeared in *Church Bells*, August 23, of the same year, and in the number for August 1st, 1874, there is a portrait of the Bishop and a short sketch of his life.

'N.'—The organist of Peterborough Cathedral is Haydn Keeton, Esq.; of Chichester, A. C. H. H. Stewart, Esq., B.A.; of Exeter, Alfred Angel, Esq.

'X. Y. Z.' Sodor is a small island on the west coast of Scotland.

'J. S. HULL.' Your request shall be borne in mind.

'G. D. W.'s' question has been answered again and again.

RECEIVED ALSO:—A Country Vicar; J. B.; M. H. T.; H. S.; W. A. N.; Passion-Flower; J. C. H.; R. H.; M.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Change-ringing at Hull, Yorkshire.

ON Monday, Feb. 23rd, there was rung at St. James's Church, Mr. Taylor's celebrated six-part peal of Grandsire Triples, comprising 5040 changes, with the bells half muffled, as a tribute of respect to the late Mr. J. H. Grassby (late a member of the Trinity Society of Change-ringers). The ringers stood thus:—J. T. Thackeray, treble; W. Stickney, 2nd; W. Leggott, 3rd; H. Henden, 4th; W. Southwick, 5th; C. Jackson, 6th; G. G. Harrison, 7th; H. A. Eastwood, tenor. Time, 3 hrs. 19 mins.

ON Tuesday evening, March 2nd, the following members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang at Holy Trinity Church Mr. Holt's original one-part peal of Grandsire Triples, comprising 5040 changes:—E. Prince, treble; C. Jackson, 2nd; H. Henden, 3rd; W. Stickney, 4th; W. Southwick, 5th; W. Warne, 6th; G. G. Harrison, 7th; A. Hayward (London), tenor. Weight of tenor, 25 cwt. Time, 3 hrs. 2 mins.

ON Friday evening, March 5th, the following members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang at St. James's Church, Hull, the last-named peal:—H. Wharfe, treble; C. Jackson, 2nd; J. T. Thackeray, 3rd; W. Stickney, 4th; H. Henden, 5th; A. Hayward, 6th; G. G. Harrison, 7th; H. A. Eastwood, tenor. Weight of tenor, 16 cwt. Time, 2 hrs. 58 mins. Conductor in all three peals, C. Jackson.

Change-ringing at Immanuel Church, Streatham, Surrey.

ON Monday evening, March 8th, the following company of ringers rang at the above church Mr. Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, containing 5040 changes, in 2 hrs. 55 mins.—W. Shepherd, treble; F. Baker, 2nd; S. Greenwood, 3rd; T. Jones, 4th; D. Springall, 5th; A. Brookwell, 6th; G. Pell, 7th; L. Walker, tenor. Conducted by Mr. S. Greenwood.—Reported.

Muffled Peal at St. Peter's Church, Liverpool, Lancashire.

ON Tuesday, March 9th, eight members belonging to St. Peter's Church rang a quarter peal of Grandsire Triples in 50 minutes, viz.:—J. Burkinshaw, treble; Rd. Williams, 2nd; W. Worthington, 3rd; F. Powell, Esq., 4th; G. Crute, 6th; Rt. Williams, 6th; W. Burkinshaw, 7th; J. Aspinall, tenor. Conducted by Mr. G. Crute. The bells were muffled in memory of the late Mr. John McDougal, aged 66 years old, who died suddenly after evening service on Sunday, February 28. Deceased had been sexton of this church for forty years.—Reported.

Change-ringing St. Nicholas' Church, Liverpool.

ON Thursday last, the 11th inst., was rung on the above bells, a true peal of Kent Treble Bob Maximus, consisting of 5040 changes, in 3 hrs. 38 mins. by the following members:—J. Heron, jun. treble; I. Meadows, 2nd; A. Heron, 3rd; H. Meadows, 4th; W. Woodhead, 5th; W. Heron, 6th; H. Brooks, 7th; G. Helsby, 8th; W. Bastow, 9th; E. Booth, 10th; W. Gill and T. Metcalf, 11th; J. Egerton and R. Thistlewood, tenor. Composed and conducted by J. Heron, jun.

New Bells at Leafield, Lancashire.

A new ring of bells and handsome clock have recently been placed in the church at this place. The clock is of superior workmanship, has all the latest improvements, strikes the hours, plays the Cambridge Chimes, and shows time upon two large dials. Mr. Smith of Derby erected the clock, and Messrs. Taylor & Co., Loughborough, produced the bells.—Reported.

Cambridge Chimes.

WE have met with the following history of those celebrated chimes in Dr. Raven's *Bells of Cambridgeshire*:—In 1793 the University set up a new clock with a chime-barrel. Dr. Jowett, Regius Professor of Laws, being expert at practical mechanics, was consulted by the authorities of the University. At that time Crotch and Pratt were pupils of Dr. Randall, Regius Professor of Music. Dr. Jowett consulted Crotch. It was said by Pratt, when the chimes were first heard, they were thought so strange that they were nicknamed 'Jowett's Hornpipe.' Very few, except those who had known Crotch, were aware that he had anything to do with their composition; and their merits were little appreciated, till they were copied for the Royal Exchange and Westminster clock-tower.—ED.

SIR,—Will you, or any of your readers, give an account of the substitutes for bells in use at Keble College, Oxford; whether they are similar to those *Petasi*, or fixed Hemispheres, described in your issue of the 20th as recently erected at Christ Church, Weymouth; or whether they were correctly described to me as 'steel bars'? Information as to the comparative cost, and superiority of tone, will be gratefully welcomed by W. H. HITCHCOCK.

Derry Hill Vicarage, Calne, Wilts.

[We cannot recommend the introduction of steel bells for Church uses, nor steel bars, which are not bells at all. *Petasi* will do for carillons, but not for genuine ringing. The clock chimes at Keble College are struck on hemispherical bells, or *Petasi*. Steel bars are not used.—ED.]

Date Touches.

At Bramley, Yorkshire, 1875 mixed variations of Bob Minors, in 60 mins. No date sent.

Colerne Bells.

SIR,—Your correspondent, on February 27, is mistaken. Lukis does refer to Mr. Lawson Huddleston's work in this tower and elsewhere, on page 22 of his work on *Church Bells*.—T. A. T.

RECEIVED ALSO.—Grandsire; John Blakeley; Gorton. E. F. is requested to send address.

'W. S. D.'—We have passed on your inquiry to the writer of the papers on 'Church Work and the Working Classes,' who will doubtless treat of the subject in one of his papers.

SIR,—Some few weeks since I noted a request for old and disused Bibles, &c. I have collected a small number, but having lent my *Church Bells* am not able to find out now where they were to be sent to. I should feel obliged by a line from you.

ALBERT BANISTER.

[The St. Andrew's Waterside Church Mission, Gravesend. Books will go free if sent *via* Bricklayers' Arms Station, or Fenchurch Street Station. Hymn-books may be sent to 'The Secretary, Missions for Seamen, 11 Buckingham Street, Strand, London, E.C.'—ED.]

SIR,—If 'W. B.' had attended the services in Ozleworth Church within the last few years, he would not have informed 'Jno. Lane' that a fiddle is played there on Sundays. A harmonium is the only instrument that leads the small village choir in the now beautifully restored church of Ozleworth. He is quite correct, though, with regard to the barrel-organ at Alderly Church.

J. C. H.

'V.' may find some information on the subject of Guilds in *Church Guilds*, by Rev. Henry Hogan, published by E. Pensonby, 116 Grafton Street, Dublin, price 3d.

RECEIVED ALSO.—Wm. Vincent; John Knight; A. Welshman; H. H. Letchworth; E.; S. H.; Nain; Didymus; H. B.; E. F.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

THE following appeared in *Bell's Life* of Saturday, March 6th:—
The Surprise Peals.

A FEW weeks ago we published an article under the above heading, in which we gave particulars of all peals known to us which had been rung in the Cambridge, Superlative, and London Surprise variations of Treble Bob. The interest this paper has excited in ringing circles has been a source of much pleasure to us, since a desire to search into the existing proofs of all the great performances of past days will probably be the means of ensuring a permanent place for all noteworthy achievements, by placing them in such a record. Although our article was as exhaustive as our information enabled us to make it, and we have but little doubt that every true peal that has been rung in these variations was recorded therein, yet there may be facts of interest connected therewith which have escaped us. Any such information, however, if communicated with, we shall be glad to bring before our readers.

An example of this has within the last few days come under our notice. In our article we stated, and quite correctly it seems, that the first true peal of Superlative Surprise, consisting of 5120 changes, was rung at Huddersfield on November 5, 1821. The only information regarding this peal was to be gleaned from Thackrah's *Art of Ringing*, but with a desire to give us further particulars on the subject we have been kindly favoured with the loan of a printed notice of a peal of Superlative Surprise rung at Huddersfield in 1821, a copy of which we annex:—

'Superior and unparalleled Change-ringing, August, 1821.—On Monday, the 6th instant, was rung at Huddersfield, by the Society of St. Peter's Youths, of that place, a complete peal of melodious changes on that grand peal called Superlative Surprise, consisting of 5600 changes, which was performed in 3 hrs. and 20 min., with the fifth bell at home ten times, and the sixth twelve times, being the greatest performance ever achieved in the campanian art in so intricate a method. The Bob Changes were composed by Mr. Benjamin Thackrah, who dexterously conducted the same, and was performed by the following persons:—William Haigh, treble; William Clay, 2, John Thorp, 3, Jonathan Womersley, 4, John Womersley, 5, John Hanson, 6, Benjamin Thackrah, 7, Samuel Goodier, tenor. Weight of the tenor, 18 cwt.' (After this course-ends of the peal are given.)

We were surprised to find that this was quite a different peal to the one with which we were already acquainted, and it was several hundred changes longer than any one which had been rung until some time after that date. Besides this, no mention is made of it in Thackrah's work; we were, therefore suspicious that the composition would not stand the test of proof, and at once investigated its truth, when we soon found that it was a false peal—a very false peal—as several of the treble lead ends at the 'middle' repeat. It is to be wondered at that Mr. Thackrah ever allowed such a false peal to be published as his composition, as its falsity could so easily be proved, even if suspected by the veriest tyro in the science of proving peals; and the reason why this performance had almost sunk into oblivion, and no mention is made of it in Thackrah's work, is at once accounted for by the fact that its falsity must, at some future time, have been proved, either by himself or some one skilled in such investigations. Therefore, whilst bringing this performance before our readers, it will be seen that our remarks and our list of true performances in Superlative Surprise ringing are in no wise altered.

We would remark that the recording the 'calling' of any intricate peal on any printed notice of its accomplishment is very much to be commended, as then, in years to come, the voice of any cavillers at its truth may at once be stopped by calling on them to show where its falsity is apparent, while in the case of a true peal, the old maxim, *Magna est veritas, et prevalebit*, is verified.

On the reverse of the printed notice of this peal is the rough draft, barely decipherable, of a reply to a challenge from the Middleton (Lancashire) ringers to ring any whole set, or a picked set, of ringers in the county of Yorkshire, for 20 gs. three treble peals—Oxford, College Pleasure, College Treble, and a fourth peal from the three, with 'Crown Bobs.' The reply goes on to state that they will not consider the matter, as if they (the Middleton ringers) do not know 'that such a peal with Crown Bobs will be false, they had better further study the art of ringing, as it shall never be said of them (the writers)

that they ring false peals.' This being written on the back of a false peal is a most appropriate realisation of the fable concerning the pan calling the kettle black.

The Guild of Devonshire Ringers.

A MEETING of the Committee will be held in Exeter on Friday, April 2, at p.m. Agenda: To receive the reports (1) of Local Committee; (2), of Secretary; (3), of Treasurer; to nominate Officers for the ensuing year; to agree upon the resolutions to be submitted to the Annual Meeting; to receive an application to hold a performance under the patronage of the Guild on the evening of the Annual Meeting, &c.

J. L. LANGDON FULFORD, *Hon. Sec.*

BELFRY RECORDS.

BENINGTON CHURCH, HERTFORDSHIRE.

(Tablets in the Belfry.)

703. 'GLORIA IN EXCELSIS, VOX TINTINNABULÆ VOXO.' A complete peal of 720 changes, 'College Single Bob,' was rung in this steeple, June 30th, 1793, by the following persons:—

John Cook, <i>Treble</i> .	William Deards, <i>Third</i> .	Jonas Cook, <i>Fifth</i> .
David Cook, <i>Second</i> .	William Baldock, <i>Fourth</i> .	Thomas Carter, <i>Tenor</i> .

704. The bells of this church having undergone a thorough repair, and two new trebles being added to make a complete peal of eight, the gift of George and Leonard Proctor, Esquires, were opened on Monday, Jan. 29th, 1833, by the Society of Cumberlanders from London; and on Tuesday, the following day, the above Society rang a complete peal of 'Grandshire Triples,' consisting of 5040 changes, which was performed in a masterly style in two hours and fifty minutes, by the following members:—

Mr. E. Giles, <i>Treble</i> .	John Whiting, <i>Fourth</i> .	William Kellitt, <i>Sixth</i> .
Charles Wilson, <i>Second</i> .	William Ludford, <i>Fifth</i> .	A. G. Frost, <i>Seventh</i> .
William Lobb, <i>Third</i> .		Leonard Proctor, <i>Tenor</i> .

The peal was conducted by Mr. Edmund Giles. These bells were improved, retuned, &c. by Hy. Symondson of London.

The Revd. John Pollard, *Rector*.
Mr. John King, *Churchwarden*.

705. Ye Benington bells, ye Benington bells,
How many a tale your music tells,
Of youth and home and that glad time
When last we heard your merry chime.
Now time will come, when we are gone,
Your tuneful peal will still ring on,
While other hands our ropes will anxious pull,
And strive to ring the peal, which on this tablet we write, in full.

On Tuesday, Nov. 20, 1840, a complete peal of Double Norwich Court Bob Major was rung in this steeple in three hours and one minute. This peal, one of the most difficult in the science of change-ringing, and the only peal in this intricate method ever rung in the county of Hertford, was accomplished in a masterly style by the undermentioned persons, all resident in this parish:—

James Flott, <i>Treble</i> .	William Collins, <i>Fourth</i> .	Charles Hollingsworth, <i>Sixth</i> .
Thomas Page, <i>Second</i> .	John Aylott, <i>Fifth</i> .	Joseph Kitchener, <i>Seventh</i> .
Leonard Proctor, <i>Third</i> .		George Warner, <i>Tenor</i> .

The peal was most ably conducted by Mr. J. Kitchener, is the production of Mr. J. Miller, of the Cumberland Youths, London, and contains sixty bobs.

706. This tablet to commemorate the undermentioned peals was erected by the Society of Change-ringers of this parish:—

1. On the 4th day of November, 1851, was rung a peal of Treble Bob in the Kent Variation, containing 5280 changes in three hours and eight minutes.

James Flott, <i>Treble</i> .	William Collins, <i>Fourth</i> .	Charles Hollingsworth, <i>Sixth</i> .
Thomas Page, <i>Second</i> .	John Aylott, <i>Fifth</i> .	Joseph Kitchener, <i>Seventh</i> .
Leonard Proctor, <i>Third</i> .		George Warner, <i>Tenor</i> .

2. On the 29th day of May, 1855, was rung a peal of Superlative Surprise Major, containing 5376 changes, in three hours and fifteen minutes.

James Flott, <i>Treble</i> .	Thomas Page, <i>Fourth</i> .	Charles Hollingsworth, <i>Sixth</i> .
Luke Carter, <i>Second</i> .	John Aylott, <i>Fifth</i> .	Joseph Kitchener, <i>Seventh</i> .
Leonard Proctor, <i>Third</i> .		George Warner, <i>Tenor</i> .

3. On the 9th day of June, 1865, was rung a peal of Superlative Surprise Major, containing 6048 changes, in three hours and forty-four minutes.

James Flott, <i>Treble</i> .	James Collins, <i>Fourth</i> .	Charles Hollingsworth, <i>Sixth</i> .
Thomas Page, <i>Second</i> .	John Aylott, <i>Fifth</i> .	Joseph Kitchener, <i>Seventh</i> .
Jeremiah Miller, <i>Third</i> .		George Warner, <i>Tenor</i> .

The above peals were most ably conducted by Mr. Joseph Kitchener.

707. Ye merry bells of Bonington, how beautifully do ye sound,
The changes clear and sweet but in none so grand as in Stedman's pretty round.

On Tuesday, March 7th, 1865, was rung in this steeple an excellent peal of Stedman Triples, of 5040 changes, in two hours and fifty-three minutes. This peal of triples is the first peal in this intricate method ever rung in the county of Hertford, by eight members of the Change-ringing Society, all resident in this parish.

John Kitchener, <i>Treble</i> .	Thomas Page, <i>Fourth</i> .	Charles Hollingsworth, <i>Sixth</i> .
Luke Carter, <i>Second</i> .	John Aylott, <i>Fifth</i> .	Joseph Kitchener, <i>Seventh</i> .
Leonard Proctor, <i>Third</i> .		Nathan Warner, <i>Tenor</i> .

The peal was most ably conducted by Mr. Joseph Kitchener.

The Revd. John Ede Pryor, *Rector*.
Leonard Proctor, *Churchwarden*.
Frederick Allwood, *Churchwarden*.

708. BENINGTON SOCIETY OF CHANGE-RINGERS.—This tablet is to record two of the greatest performances ever achieved by any society of change-ringers in England, by members all resident in this parish; and who rang in admirable style the greatest number of changes ever accomplished in the two undermentioned peals, of the most intricate and melodious methods known in the science of Change-ringing:—

1. On Monday, Dec. 26, 1870, was rung on these bells a grand peal of London Surprise Major, consisting of 6048 changes, containing 27 courses and 43 bobs, in three hours and thirty-seven minutes.

Nathan Warner, <i>Treble</i> .	Joseph Kitchener, <i>Fourth</i> .	Charles Hollingsworth, <i>Sixth</i> .
John Kitchener, <i>Second</i> .	Samuel Page, <i>Fifth</i> .	Charles Shambrook, <i>Seventh</i> .
Leonard Proctor, <i>Third</i> .		Thomas Page, <i>Tenor</i> .

2. On Tuesday, Feb. 11th, 1873, a peal of Cambridge Surprise Major was rung, consisting of 5600 changes, and containing 25 courses with 35 bobs, in three hours and twenty-five minutes.

Nathan Warner, <i>Treble</i> .	Leonard Chapman, <i>Fourth</i> .	Charles Hollingsworth, <i>Sixth</i> .
Joseph Kitchener, <i>Second</i> .	Samuel Page, <i>Fifth</i> .	Charles Shambrook, <i>Seventh</i> .
Leonard Proctor, <i>Third</i> .		Thomas Page, <i>Tenor</i> .

The above peals were most ably conducted by Mr. Thos. Page, and are the composition of Mr. Jeremiah Miller, of the Cumberland Society of Change-ringers, London.

Revd. John Ede Pryor, *Rector*.
Leonard Proctor, *Churchwarden*.
Frederick Allwood, *Churchwarden*.

RECEIVED:—S. Slater; Alfred Dennant.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

New Bells for the Parish Church of Dewsbury, Yorkshire.

THE 13th of March was a high holiday at Dewsbury, when the arrival of a new ring of eight bells, from Messrs. Warner, London, was celebrated by a great procession and grand demonstration. When the bells were removed from the waggons to the porch of the church, the Vicar used the service, with Dr. Neale's hymn, for the dedication of bells (the same as we have before published), in which a large congregation heartily joined; the Mayor, and many other leading Dissenters, being among the number. After the service a tea *à la fourchette* was served at the Wellington Hotel, and many speeches were made. The weight of the tenor is 14 cwt. 2 qrs. 14 lbs.—*Reported.*

Southport, Lancashire.

Our short report on March 13th, on the ringing at this place, omitted to state that the peal was rung in compliment to Mr. John Mason, conductor, who on that day entered his eightieth year. Mr. Mason rang his first peal at St. Mary's Church, Lancaster, in his eleventh year, and his first 5040 changes at St. John's Church, Preston, in 1822, in 3 hrs. 5 mins., having followed ringing more or less for sixty-eight years. Mr. Mason's father was a ringer at St. Mary's Church, Lancaster, over fifty years.—*Reported.*

Change-ringing at Huntsham, Devon.

ON Easter Monday; being the anniversary of the Huntsham Society of Change-ringers, seven members of the Society, assisted by Mr. W. Banister of Devonport, rang a true and complete peal of Kent Treble Bob Major, consisting of 5120 changes, in 3 hrs. 11 mins. The band was as follows:—J. Norrish, treble; H. Payne, 2nd; W. Banister, 3rd; J. E. Troyte, Esq., 4th; W. Chilcott, 5th; W. Chave, 6th; H. Tucker, 7th; C. A. W. Troyte, Esq., tenor. The peal was most ably conducted by Mr. W. Banister. It is worthy of notice that, with the exception of the conductor, not one of the above party ever stood in for a peal of Treble Bob before; and that one of them is only in his sixteenth year. It will be remembered that on Easter Monday of last year the opening of the Huntsham peal took place, it having been then augmented from six to eight.—*Reported.*

Change-ringing at Banbury, Oxfordshire.

ON Easter Monday, March 20th, eight members of the Oxford Society of Change-ringers visited Banbury, and by permission of the Vicar and Churchwardens met at St. Mary's Church, and rang Mr. John Holt's original one-part peal of Grandire Triples, with the two doubles in the last four leads, containing 5040 changes, in 3 hrs. 13 mins. The ringers were:—W. F. Williamson, treble; J. Field, 2nd; H. Janaway, 3rd; T. Hill, 4th; R. Annis, 5th; W. Smith, 6th; E. Harrison, 7th; C. Hounslow, tenor. Conducted by Mr. Charles Hounslow. This is considered the first instance of any conductor ringing the tenor bell and calling this peal. After refreshment the ringers returned to the belfry and rang a 'touch' of triples on Stedman's principle. Weight of tenor, 25 cwt. in E.—*Reported.*

A Monster Bell.

THE 'Emperor Bell,' which has been cast at the Frankenthal foundry, near Worms, is shortly to be transported to Cologne. The metal of which this colossal bell is cast weighed 50,000 lbs., and was obtained from the cannon taken in the French war. The bell is 12 feet in height, and ample enough to shelter fifteen men under its dome. It is adorned with a bust of St. Peter, as the patron of church bells. The dedicatory inscription round the margin proclaims that 'William, the high and mighty German Emperor, and King of Prussia, in humble gratitude for the help granted him from above in bringing to a happy conclusion his late war with France, has caused the enemy's guns, which were taken by the German troops, to be melted down into a bell for the cathedral church at Cologne.' It is added that the Committee have caused the bell to be hung in the southern tower of the church, with the concurrence and during the rule of the Roman Pontiff, Pius IX., and Paul Melchers, Archbishop of the see.—*Guardian.*

BELFRY RECORDS.

BRINKLEY, CAMBRIDGESHIRE. (Tablet in the Belfry.)

709. This tablet is erected to the memory of William Hart, who departed his life July 6th, 1827, aged 77 years. The subject of this Epitaph was an ingenious & skillful mechanic, a lover of Harmony, a convivial companion, and a truly Honest man. He lived beloved and died regretted. He was eminent in hanging church bells, and in the manly and scientific art of ringing he became a proficient. Many and intricate are the peals he hath performed in this tower. By his particular desire, and as a mark of respect, his mortal remains are under the centre of this tower deposited.

LONGNEY, GLOUCESTERSHIRE. (Tablets in the Belfry.)

710. On Sunday, 16th of January, was rung on these bells Mr. Cooper's new peal of Stedman's Triples, containing 5040 changes, by the following band, in two hours and thirty-six minutes:—

Wm. Longney, Junr. First.	Daniel Merrett, Fourth.	Wm. Longney, Senr. Sixth.
Wm. M. Soule, Second.	Samuel Sims, Fifth.	Richard Guilding, Seventh.
John Longney, Third.		John Prosser, Tenor.

Conducted by Mr. Wm. Longney, Senr.

711. ESTCOURT'S Peal of Grandire Triples, containing 5040 changes without a plain lead, was rung here January 1st, 1833, in two hours and 48 minutes.

Wm. Longney, Senr. Treble.	Charles Bullock, Fourth.	Wm. M. Soule, Sixth.
John Gingle, Second.	Wm. Longney, Junr. Fifth.	Richard Guilding, Seventh.
John Longney, Third.		John Hawkins, Tenor.

Conducted by Mr. Wm. Longney, Senr.

ABBEY CHURCH, ROMSEY, HANTS. (Tablet in the Belfry.)

712. MONDAY, JULY 18th, 1791, these Bells was opened by the Society of Colledge Youths, 5248 Oxford Treble Bobs, in 3 h. 29 m.

Mr. Thos. Blakenmore.	Mr. Wm. Willson.	Mr. Geo. Webb.
Mr. Wm. Lyford.	Mr. Josh. Holdsworth.	Mr. Ewd. Simmons.
Mr. Jno. Povey.		Mr. Saml. Muggridge.

ST. PETER'S, BURNLEY, LANCASHIRE.

(Tablets in the Belfry.)

713. The Society of Change-ringers, Burnley, with one from Oldham, ascended the Tower of St. Peter's Parochial Church, Burnley, on the morning of Easter Day, April 16th, 1865, and rung a true and complete peal in 10 equal parts of Mr. Holt's Grandire Triples, in a masterly style, containing 5040 changes, in two hours and 54 minutes. The ringers were placed as follows:—

Nehemiah Smith, Treble.	Joseph Pollard, Fourth.	Moses Bridge, Sixth.
James Gregson, Second.	Joseph Wilkinson, from Oldham, Fifth.	John Pollard, Seventh.
Richard Greenhalgh, Third.		Thomas Holden, Tenor.

Weight of tenor, 17 cwt.

The peal was conducted by Nehemiah Smith.

Rev. A. T. Parker, Rector.
Robert Munn,
Robert Roberts, } Churchwardens.

714. OCTOBER 21st, 1865, was rung at St. Peter's Parochial Church, Burnley, 1865, changes in 1 hour and 6 minutes, by the following band:—

Nehemiah Smith, Treble.	James Gregson, Fourth.	John Pollard, Seventh.
Joseph Hartley, Second.	Moses Bridge, Fifth.	Thomas Holden, Tenor.
Richard Greenhalgh, Third.	James Nicholl, Sixth.	Conducted by James Nicholl.

715. May 31st, 1866, was rung at St. Peter's Parochial Church, Burnley, 1866 changes of Grandire Triples, in 1 hour and 44 minutes, by the following band:—

Nehemiah Smith, Treble.	Joseph Pollard, Fourth.	Moses Bridge, Sixth.
Joseph Hartley, Second.	James Gregson, Fifth.	John Pollard, Seventh.
Richard Greenhalgh, Third.		Thomas Holden, Tenor.

Conducted by Mr. Nehemiah Smith.

ST. GILES, CRIPPLEGATE, MIDDLESEX.

(Tablets in the Belfry.)

716. ON Thursday, November 23rd, 1732, The Society of City Scholars Rang in this Steeple A Compleat Peal of Six Thousand and Twelve Cators.

Jno. Arnold, Treble.	G. Elton, Hill, Fifth.	Jno. Box.
Jona. Keate, Second.	Jos. Griffiths, Sixth.	Ed. Nodder.
Robt. Mobbs, Third.	Sal. Thompson.	Hy. Macfarland, } Tenor.
Thos. Nash, Fourth.	Wm. Hilliar.	Aarn. Newbolt,

Mr. John Mabatt,
Mr. Robert Wyrill,
Mr. John Rolson,
Mr. Thomas Sayers, } Churchwardens.

717. THE Society of London Youths did Ring in this Steeple on Thursday, May 22nd, 1777, a compleat Peal of 5200 Oxford Treble Bob Royal, in 4 Hours and 7 Minutes, being the Extent of Changes with bobs on 5 Bells in Nine Courses only, and first of this Composition.

Thomas Elven, Treble.	George Scarsbrook, Fifth.	Christopher Wells, Eighth.
Robert Pye Donkin, Second.	William West, Sixth.	Francis Baile, Ninth.
William Jones, Third.	Allen Grant, Seventh.	John Reeves,
John Canny, Fourth.		James Truscoat, } Tenor.

The Peal was called by Christopher Wells.

718. CUMBERLAND SOCIETY.—On Tuesday, Decr. 10th, 1844, A True & Complete Peal of Steadman Cinques, consisting of 5016 Changes, was Rung in this Steeple, Being the First Peal ever achieved upon these Bells, in this intricate Method. The Bells were admirably Struck and brought round in 3 Hours 43 Minutes by the following Persons:—

Henry Haley, Treble.	Jeremiah Miller, Fifth.	William Kellitt, Ninth.
John Fairbairn, Second.	John Oldfield, Sixth.	John Whiting, Tenth.
Charles Goozee, Third.	William Lobb, Seventh.	William Golding, Eleventh.
James Hewett, Fourth.	Thomas Michael, Eighth.	Charles Wilson, Tenor.

Composed & Conducted by Mr. H. W. Haley.

Rev. Dr. Blomberg, D.D. Vicar.
Edward Stillwell, } Churchwardens.
John Seeley,

719. SOCIETY OF CUMBERLANDS.—This Tablet is to Commemorate the two following performances in this Steeple by the above Society, viz.:

On Tuesday, 27th April, 1847, a Peal of Kent Treble Bob Maximus, Consisting of 5136 Changes, in 3 Hours & 53 Minutes.

R. Mirfield, Treble.	T. Michael, Seventh.
C. Goozee, Second.	J. Whiting, Eighth.
H. W. Haley, Third.	W. Kellitt, Ninth.
W. H. Burwash,	W. Brett, Tenth.
Fourth.	W. Golding, Eleventh.
Jerh. Miller, Fifth.	C. Wilson, Tenor.
W. Lobb, Sixth.	

On Tuesday, 15th February, 1848, a Peal of Kent Treble Bob Maximus, Consisting of 5376 Changes, in 4 Hours & 14 Minutes, being the greatest number of Changes in this Method upon 12 Bells that has been Rung in London. Performed by

J. Fairbairn, Treble.	R. Perry, Seventh.
T. Britten, Second.	J. Stichbury, Eighth.
H. W. Haley, Third.	J. Hewett, Ninth.
C. Goozee, Fourth.	T. Michael, Tenth.
J. Miller, Fifth.	M. Wood, Eleventh.
W. Lobb, Sixth.	J. Whiting, Tenor.

The above two Peals were Composed & Conducted by Mr. H. W. Haley.

720. CUMBERLAND SOCIETY.—On Tuesday, Decr. 3rd, 1850, the following Persons Rang an Excellent Peal of Cinques on Steadman's Principle, consisting of 5280 Changes, in 3 Hours & 52 Minutes. Performers:—

Mr. C. Goozee, Treble.	Mr. J. Miller, Fifth.	Mr. G. Marriott, Ninth.
" T. Britten, Second.	" J. R. Sharman, Sixth.	" R. Jameson, Tenth.
" T. Powell, Third.	" R. Perry, Seventh.	" W. Golding, Eleventh.
" J. Fairbairn, Fourth.	" H. Wheeler, Eighth.	" G. Hand, Tenor.

Composed & Conducted by Mr. C. Goozee.

The Venble. Archdeacon Hale, Vicar.
Mr. Samuel Godfrey Hall, } Churchwardens.
Mr. Joseph Hooke,

721. SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—On Monday, Jany. 6th, 1851, the Company achieved A True Peal of 7524 of Steadman Cinques in 5 Hours & 24 Minutes, Being the greatest number ever Rung. Performers:—

Jno Cox, Treble.	Jas. Mash, Fifth.	Edwd. Lansdell, Ninth.
Jno Bradley, Second.	Mattw. A. Wood, Sixth.	H. Littlechild, Tenth.
Wilm. Cooter, Third.	Rt. Haworth, Seventh.	Jas. Dwight, Eleventh.
Wm. Banister, Fourth.	Geo. E. Ferris, Eighth.	Jno. Austen, Tenor.

Composed & Conducted by John Cox.

Samuel Godfrey Hall, Esq., } Churchwardens.
James Hooke, Esq.,

722. ON Monday, Feby. 7th, 1853, Twelve Members completed a True Peal of Kent Treble Bob Maximus, containing 5088 Changes, in 3 Hours & 49 Minutes. Performers:—

Wm. Banister, Treble.	Robt. Jameson, Fifth.	Edwd. Lansdell, Ninth.
Wm. Cooter, Second.	Thos. Michael, Sixth.	Jno. Bradley, Tenth.
Chas. Goozee, Third.	Wilm. Lobb, Seventh.	Jas. Dwight, Eleventh.
Geo. E. Ferris, Fourth.	Geo. Stockham, Eighth.	Mattw. A. Wood, Tenor.

Conducted by William Cooter.

Ven. Archdeacon W. H. Hale, M.A. Vicar in both years.
Samuel Lowe, Esq., } Churchwardens.
John Sewell, Esq.,

This Tablet was erected in 1854 to commemorate Two excellent Performances in this Steeple.

RECEIVED.—Thos. Powell; T. Blackley.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

The Guild of Devonshire Ringers.

A MEETING of the Committee was held on April 2, when the following resolutions, among others, were agreed to:—

- ‘That the Annual Meeting shall be held on Monday, May 10, instead of on April 19.’
- ‘That rooms be engaged at the Victoria Hall for the use of Members.’
- ‘That the Bands who intend taking part in the ringing be told off by the Secretary in alphabetical order, the first half going to St. David’s, the rest to St. John’s; and that lots should be drawn in the Committee-room at the Hall at 9.15 a.m., May 10, for the hours of ringing.’
- ‘That a party of Bristol ringers be engaged to open the St. Sidwell’s ring.’
- ‘That this Committee is of opinion that the following addition should be made to Rule II.: “And that the Bishop of the Diocese, being a Member, shall always be patron.”’

The Reports of the Secretary and Treasurer were brought up and adopted, and officers for the ensuing year nominated for proposal at the Annual Meeting.

J. L. LANGDON FULFORD, *Hon. Sec.*

Carillons in Shoreditch.

On the 3rd ult., a new set of ‘chimes,’ supplied to the church of St. Leonard, Shoreditch, by Messrs. Gillett and Bland, was formally opened in the presence of as many of the parochial authorities and their friends as the chamber in which the machinery is placed could accommodate. From the same factory came the chimes at Rochdale Town-hall, St. Patrick’s Cathedral, Dublin, Worcester Cathedral, Bradford Town-hall, and Boston Church—examples which are well known to all who take an interest in what Charles Lamb called ‘the music nighest bordering upon heaven.’ The machine just set up in Shoreditch illustrates Messrs. Gillett and Bland’s latest improvements. Its chief constructive principle lies in the separation of the lifting and descent of the hammer. Formerly both actions were performed by the pins of the revolving barrel, the result being not only an enormous strain upon the machinery, but cumbrous working, and the impossibility of repeating any note with quickness. Messrs. Gillett and Bland, by a simple yet ingenious device, give to the musical barrel no more than the task of releasing the hammers, that of elevating them being performed by another barrel of peculiar construction, which, catching a finger thrown in its way simultaneously with the striking of the blow, achieves its task with speed and certainty. One result of this division of labour appears in a great reduction in the dimensions, weight, and cost of the machinery. The Shoreditch apparatus, for example, is scarcely larger than a harmonium of moderate size, and, moreover, has the advantage of being so simple in construction that no special skill is required to regulate it. At present it is fitted with two barrels, each playing seven tunes, mostly secular, but with a due allowance of sacred airs for Sunday. As one tune serves for a day—playing three times every three hours—it follows that the whole series extends over a fortnight, and thus carefully avoids the nuisance of monotony. All the airs were duly performed yesterday, the machinery in every case working with perfect success, and leaving a very decided impression that Shoreditch now possesses a set of carillons any parish might be proud to own. A new tenor, from Messrs. Blews of Birmingham, has been spliced to the peal. This is the first carillon machine set up in London in connexion with *genuine* church bells. Those at Victoria Park are hemisphericals, which are better suited for a small space, by Messrs. Lund of Pall Mall.

Bells at Barnsley, Yorkshire.

THE ring of eight, by Pack and Chapman, dated 1769, have lately been rehung by Mr. Mallaby of Masham, to the entire satisfaction of his employers. They were opened on Easter Eve, at six o’clock, the Barnsley Society of Ringers, assisted by Mr. Mallaby, his son, and two of the Masham Society of Ringers, took their places in the tower. Several touches of Oxford Treble Bob Major and Violet Treble were rung during the evening, and also during Easter Day; the first peal being rung at six o’clock, for the early celebrations at half-past six and a quarter past seven.—*Reported.*

Bells of St. Giles, Cripplegate, London.

Sir,—In your issue of No. 223 you have published a list of the peal boards the tower of St. Giles, Cripplegate: allow me to inform you that there have been some of the best performances of Stedman’s Cinques, and Treble Twelve rung by the College Youths and Cumberland Societies, some twenty, thirty, and forty years ago: but alas, I am sorry to say, that this fine peal of twelve bells are now in the hands of a band who ring nothing else but *set* changes, year after year. This band of bell-pullers ring ten bells very badly, and twelve bells they dare not look at: they belong to no Society and have no recognized rules, yet this job-lot of ringers occupy two twelve-bell towers in London (viz. St. Giles, Cripplegate, and St. Leonard, Shoreditch). How the authorities and inhabitants of the respective parishes can put up with the monstrous row that they sometimes make, I cannot understand.

AN ADMIRER OF GOOD RINGING.

All Saints’, Datchworth, Stevenage, Herts.

THIS ring of bells having been augmented from five by the addition of a treble, the gift of Mr. D. Pennyfather, an old parishioner, and the whole having been put in good ringing order, the Rector, the Rev. W. Williamson, invited Leonard Proctor, Esq., of Bennington, and his celebrated band of ringers, to open them on Easter Tuesday. They rang two peals of Kent Treble Bob Minor and several peals of Grandsire Five, comprising in all 2280 changes, in their well-known masterly style: the striking being excellent, conducted by Mr. Thos. Page. The new treble is from the foundry of Messrs. Warner, note F. The inscription on the bell is, ‘Daniel Pennyfather Did Me Give, 1875.’ On the old bells is, ‘Anthony Chandler Made Me (1673).’—*Reported.*

Belfries to be Cleaned and Beautified.
Hindley, Lancashire.

THE ringers of St. Peter’s Church, on the 15th March, gave a miscellaneous Concert, consisting of vocal, instrumental, and hand-bell music, for the purpose of raising funds to enable them to decorate the belfry, or ringing-room. Their friends liberally responded to this appeal, and they were enabled to decorate their room in a manner becoming the House of God. The room, which has just been completed, has been cleaned, carpeted, and furnished with a suitable clock, looks very neat and ornate. The Vicar, Churchwardens, and Sidesmen, unite in their praises of the very tasteful manner in which the work has been done. It has been successfully carried out under the direction of Mr. P. Johnson; and the ringers desire to thank their friends for having enabled them to carry out so laudable an object. We would recommend this plan to the consideration of other ringers, to try to get the belfries furnished and ornamented, and we cannot but think this one of the first steps in the right direction in belfry reform.—*Communicated.*

Change-ringing at Ormskirk, Lancashire.

ON Monday, March 29th, eight members of the Union Society of Change-ringers, Liverpool, visited Ormskirk, and rang at SS. Peter and Paul’s Parish Church a true peal of Kent Treble Bob Major, consisting of 5120 changes, which was completed in 3 hrs. 21 mins. The ringers were:—G. Crute, treble; R. Williams, 2nd; J. Meadows, 3rd; H. Meadows, 4th; E. Booth, 5th; R. Williams, 6th; W. Burkinshaw, 7th; J. Aspinwall, tenor. Weight of tenor, 20 cwt., key F. Composed by Mr. G. Crute, and conducted by Mr. J. Aspinwall; contains the extremes with the 5th and 6th bells right. The above is the first peal of Major rung on these bells, and allowed by competent judges to be the finest-struck peal ever been performed in the tower, although they have been a ring of eight over a hundred years.—*Reported.*

Clerkenwell Society.—Notice of Removal.

THE Clerkenwell Society of Change-ringers have removed from the Red Lion, Shoe Lane, to Mr. Graves’, the Harrow, Whitefriars Street, City.

BELFRY RECORDS.

ST. JOHN, OLD HACKNEY, MIDDLESEX.

(Tablet in the Belfry.)

728. SATURDAY, March the 9th, 1732, in this steeple was rung by the Society of Cumberland Youths a true and complete Peal, consisting of 5040 changes, of Grandsire Tripples reversed, being the first ever performed in this method; and completed in three hours and twenty-one minutes by the following persons, viz.:

Saml. Wood, <i>Treble.</i>	Isaiah Bray, <i>Fourth.</i>	Jno. Jackson, <i>Seventh.</i>
Francs. Nay, <i>Second.</i>	Abm. Smith, <i>Fifth.</i>	Wilm. Castle, <i>Tenor.</i>
Jno. Larne, <i>Third.</i>	George Gross, <i>Sixth.</i>	Petr. De Lufignie, <i>Tenor.</i>

The peal was composed and conducted by Mr. George Gross, with the bobs behind.

Mr. Joseph Pickles, } *Churchwardens.*
Mr. George Watson, }

In 1786 a new peal of 8 (tenor, D 24 cwt.) was cast by Robt. Patrick.

Note.—This church originally stood where the old tower stands, and was dedicated to St. Augustine, but becoming ruinous a new church was built, and the old one (except the tower) pulled down.

Copy of a Tablet over north porch door.—‘The first stone of this building was laid in the year 1792, and the Church consecrated and open’d for Divine Service on the Fifteenth day of July, 1797. The Steeple & porches were added in the years 1812 & 1813.’

John James Watson, D.D., *Vicar.*
Roger Hunt, } *Churchwardens.*
Thomas Wright, }
James Spiller, *Architect.*

The tablet given above has been moved into the new belfry, and the following also have been put up:—

724. ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS, ESTABLISHED A.D. 1637.—On Saturday, April 18th, 1863, the following members of the above society rang a true and complete peal of Grandsire Tripples, containing 5040 changes, in 3 hours & 11 minutes, being the quickest peal yet rang on these bells. Performers:—

J. Pettit, <i>Treble.</i>	T. Page, <i>Third.</i>	G. Page, <i>Fifth.</i>	M. A. Wood, <i>Seventh.</i>
G. Harrison, <i>Second.</i>	C. H. Jessop, <i>Fourth.</i>	C. Lee, <i>Sixth.</i>	J. M. Hayes, <i>Tenor.</i>

Conducted by M. A. Wood.

Rev’d. T. O. Goodchild, *Rector.*
J. J. Ronaldson, } *Churchwardens.*
A. G. Church, }

725. ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS, ESTABLISHED A.D. 1637.—On Monday, February 8th, 1869, eight members of the above society rang upon these bells Mr. John Holt’s ten-part peal of Grandsire Tripples, consisting of 5040 changes, in 3 hours & 10 minutes. Performers:—

W. E. Fidler, <i>Treble.</i>	C. H. Jessop, <i>Third.</i>	C. Lee, <i>Fifth.</i>	M. A. Wood, <i>Seventh.</i>
T. Page, <i>Second.</i>	J. Pettit, <i>Fourth.</i>	W. Page, <i>Sixth.</i>	T. Jackson, <i>Tenor.</i>

Conducted by James Pettit.

The Rev’d. T. O. Goodchild, *Rector.*
J. J. Ronaldson, } *Churchwardens.*
A. G. Church, }

ST. MARY, WILLESDEN, MIDDLESEX.

(Tablet in the Belfry.)

726. FRIDAY, February 1st, 1793, at the opening the bells in this steeple the Society of College Youths did ring

720 Treble Bob, by		720 Plain Bob by	
E. Rumball, <i>Treble.</i>	W. Jones, <i>Fourth.</i>	P. Neasby, <i>Treble.</i>	C. Barber, <i>Fourth.</i>
W. Kirke, <i>Second.</i>	J. Bartlett, <i>Fifth.</i>	W. Kirke, <i>Second.</i>	J. Bartlett, <i>Fifth.</i>
J. Brow, <i>Third.</i>	C. Barber, <i>Tenor.</i>	N. Lockyer, <i>Third.</i>	E. Simonds, <i>Tenor.</i>

Called by J. Bartlett.

Mr. William Nicholl, *Churchwarden.*

RECEIVED.—H. J. D. We decline to *tout* for any particular tradesmen; they should advertise in our columns. Wm. Muzzell; T. R. Jerram; J. Snowden; E. F. (address requested).

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

St. James's Society, London.

On Thursday, April 1st, eight members of the above Society rang at St. Mary's, Lambeth, a true peal of Kent Treble Bob Major, consisting of 5056 changes, in 3 hrs. 19 mins. The ringers were:—J. Cox, treble; G. Stockam, 2nd; C. Hopkins, 3rd; T. Greenwood, 4th, Norwich; G. Newson, 5th; D. Stackwood, 6th; S. Jarman, 7th; R. Rose, tenor. Composed and conducted by Mr. J. Cox.—*Reported.*

Stenfold, Sussex.

On Saturday, April 3rd, the following company of ringers rang at the above church nine peals of Oxford Bob, amounting to 6480 changes. They were called nine different ways. The first was called with 8 bobs and 6 singles; second, 9 bobs and 6 singles; third, 6 bobs and 14 singles; fourth, 15 bobs and 6 singles; fifth, 3 bobs and 18 singles; sixth, 22 singles; seventh, 26 singles; eighth, 30 singles; ninth, 40 bobs and 2 singles. The time was 3 hrs. 30 mins. The ringers were:—G. Jenkins, treble; E. Knight, 2nd; G. Rapley, 3rd; F. Knight, 4th; J. Francis, 5th; H. Burstow, tenor, from Horsham. Composed and called by H. Burstow. Weight of tenor, 12½ cwt. in G.—*Reported.*

Change-ringing at Ashton-under-Lyne.

On Tuesday, April 6th, ten members of the Society of Change-ringers of Ashton-under-Lyne rang at St. Michael's Church a true peal of Grandsire Caters, consisting of 5039 changes. Composed and conducted by Mr. J. Wood, senr., and completed in 3 hrs. 23 mins. by the following ringers:—T. Moss, treble; J. Bowcock, 2nd; J. Wood, senr., 3rd; J. Wood, junr., 4th; B. Broadbent, 5th; C. Thorpe, 6th; S. Wood, 7th; J. Thorpe, 8th; S. Andrew, 9th; J. Andrew, tenor. Weight of tenor, 28 cwt. in D.—*Reported.*

Ancient Society of College Youths, St. Matthew's, Upper Clapton.

On Thursday, the 8th inst., a true and complete peal of Grandsire Triples, comprising 5040 changes, was rung at the above church in 2 hrs. 48 mins. by the following members:—T. Benny, treble; H. Page, 2nd; S. Reeves, 3rd; T. Page, 4th; G. Tanner, 5th; G. Breed, 6th; W. Greenleaf, 7th; J. Pettit, tenor. The peal was Mr. J. Holt's original production, with two doubles in the last four leads, and it was conducted by Mr. J. Pettit.—*Reported.*

Friendly Meeting of Ringers at Leeds.

The last quarterly meeting of Yorkshire and Lancashire ringers was held at Leeds on Saturday, 3rd inst.: when ringers from Leeds, Bradford, York, Hull, Birstall, Otley, Calverly, Ripon, Sharow, Hurworth-on-Tees, &c., attended, to the number of about 120. Ringing was kept up with good spirit during the day, touches of Triples and Caters, and Kent Treble Bob Major and Royal, being rung. Holbeck was also visited by the York, Ripon, Birstall, and Hurworth ringers, where a touch of 704 of Kent was rung; conducted by J. Barraclough: tenor, 17 cwt. At the meeting Mr. Whittaker, of Leeds, presided, and gave some useful advice as to ringers and the science of change-ringing. Mr. Howard, of York, having obtained permission from the Dean, cordially invited them to hold their next meeting at York Minster on the first Saturday in July. This was almost unanimously agreed to.—*Communicated.*

A Devonshire Guild required for Durham.

STR.—The Devonshire ringers having made such good progress since the establishment of their Guild, tempts me to say something of the sort is wanted for the counties of Durham and Northumberland. Here there are several fine rings of bells, most of them in a wretched state of filth, and out of repair; nothing but call-changes rung, and that only when the ringers are paid, or treated with beer. In short, the bells and ringers seem to be looked upon as a necessary nuisance. Now I would ask, Is there no clergyman or gentleman in these counties that will take the initiative in this important matter, and bring it prominently before the clergy and public, that this gross abuse may be removed; that ringers may be acknowledged Church-workers; that their noble and interesting art may obtain a firm footing here; that justice may be done the bells; and that the clergy and others may be bound with their ringers in the bonds of brotherly affection, instead of looking upon each other (as is too often the case) with a contemptible sneer? Will some one please take this matter up at once? A COLLEGE YOUTH IN CO. DURHAM.

BELFRY RECORDS.

ST. MATTHEW'S, BETHNAL GREEN, LONDON.

(Tablets in the Belfry.)

The following tablets are now in the tower, but before the destruction of the church by fire, in 1869, there was a tablet in the steeple, commemorating the following peals, viz.:—5049 Grandsire Major, 3448 Kent Treble Bob Major, 5152 Double Norwich Court Bob Major, 5800 Superlative Surprise.

727. ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—On Friday, March 21, 1862, eight members of the above society rang in this steeple a true peal of Grandsire Triples, consisting of 5040 changes, in three hours and two minutes, being the first peal on these bells. Performers:—J. Mayhew, Treble. H. F. Wood, Fourth. M. A. Wood, Seventh. R. Peacock, Second. J. Pettit, Fifth. W. Hopcraft, Tenor. G. S. Shurt, Third. E. G. Loughton, Sixth. Conducted by M. A. Wood. Mr. G. Byford, Churchwardens. Mr. N. Hardingham, Churchwardens.

728. ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—On Friday, May 23, 1863, eight members of the above society rang in this steeple a true peal of Kent Treble Bob Major, containing 5053 changes, in 3 hours and 13 minutes, being the first peal in the method on these bells. Performers:—H. W. Haley, Treble. W. C. Middleton, Fourth. G. Grace, Sixth. W. Cooter, Second. R. Hopkins, Fifth. J. Pettit, Seventh. E. G. Longton, Third. M. A. Wood, Tenor. Composed and conducted by H. W. Haley. J. A. Goodwin, Churchwardens. W. Dyer, Churchwardens.

729. ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—On Wednesday, March 8th, 1865, eight members of the above society rang in this steeple a true peal of Steadman Triples, containing 5040 changes, in 2 hours and 57 minutes. Performers:—J. Pettit, Treble. H. Booth, Fourth. M. A. Wood, Seventh. E. G. Langton, Second. R. Hopkins, Fifth. A. Hartnell, Tenor. W. Cooter, Third. E. Horrob, Sixth. Conducted by M. A. Wood. The Revd. Septimus Hansard, A.M. Rector. Mr. W. Dyer, Churchwardens. Mr. G. Lacey, Churchwardens.

730. ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—On Saturday, Jan. 20th, 1866, was rung in this steeple a true and complete peal of Grandsire Triples, containing 5040 changes, in two hours and fifty-six minutes. Performers:—H. Edwards, Treble. M. A. Wood, Fourth. J. Pettit, Seventh. H. Haley, junr. Second. R. Hopkins, Fifth. J. Richardson, Tenor. H. Haley, senr. Third. J. M. Hayes, Sixth. Conducted by M. A. Wood. Revd. S. Hansard, A.M., Rector. Mr. G. Lacey, Churchwardens. Mr. James Paul, Churchwardens.

731. ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—On Saturday, March 3rd, 1866, was rung in this steeple a true peal of Kent treble bob major, containing 8448 changes, in five hours and fourteen minutes, being the extent with the tenors in union. Performers:—H. W. Haley, Treble. M. A. Wood, Fourth. E. Horrex, Seventh. J. Pettit, Second. R. Hopkins, Fifth. J. M. Hayes, Tenor. W. Cooter, Third. H. Booth, Sixth. Conducted by H. W. Haley. Revd. S. Hansard, Rector. Mr. G. Lacey, Churchwardens. Mr. James Paul, Churchwardens.

732. ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—On Monday, April 27th, 1863, was rung a true peal of Kent Treble Bob Major, comprising 15,840 changes, in 9 hours 12 minutes, being the longest peal ever rung by one set of men. Performers:—H. Haley, senior. H. Booth, Fourth. E. Horrex, Sixth. W. Cooter, Second. R. Hopkins, Fifth. M. A. Wood, Seventh. J. Pettit, Third. J. M. Hayes, Tenor. Conducted by Mr. T. Day of Birmingham, and conducted by Mr. H. Haley, Senior. Revd. S. Hansard, A.M. Rector. Messrs. Abraham Keymer, Churchwardens. Francis Heritage, Churchwardens.

733. ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—On Saturday, March 29th, 1873, was rung in this steeple Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, containing 5040 changes, in 3 hours and 2 minutes. Performers:—H. W. Elliscote, Treble. T. Hattersley, Sheffield, Fourth. J. Pettit, Sixth. W. Cooter, Second. M. A. Wood, Fifth. J. M. Hayes, Seventh. J. R. Haworth, Third. M. A. Wood, Sixth. J. West, Tenor. Conducted by M. A. Wood. The Revd. S. Hansard, A.M. Rector. Mr. J. F. Bradbrook, Churchwardens. Mr. J. H. Edwards, Churchwardens.

ST. MICHAEL'S, CORNHILL, LONDON.

(Tablets in the Belfry.)

734. THE SOCIETY OF LONDON SCHOLARS rang in this steeple a complete peal of 6204 Cinques, November 24, 1700. William James, First. Wm. Thompson, Sixth. Lance. Bland, Eleventh. Joseph Wintell, Second. Nicholas Smith, Seventh. William Saunders and Thomas Jonathan Broadhurst, Third. Robert Powell, Eighth. Warburton, Tenor. Wm. Underwood, Fourth. Samuel Moore, Ninth. William Price and Peter Merriyarts, Assistants. John Bishop, Fifth. William Gordon, Tenth. John Walthoe, Churchwardens. Geo. Serahan, Churchwardens. John Cook, Churchwardens.

The above tablet is not now in existence, but the three following are in the steeple, the one commemorating the long peal of Steadman Cinques being beautifully carved in stone.

735. CUMBERLAND SOCIETY.—On Tuesday, April 11th, 1837, was rung in this steeple an excellent peal of Grandsire Cinques, consisting of 5015 changes, which was completed in four hours. Performers:—Mr. William H. Burwash, Thomas Michael, Fourth. William Kellitt, Ninth. Jeremiah Miller, Fifth. John Whiting, Tenth. William Lobb, Sixth. Augustus C. Frost, Eleventh. John Fairbairn, Second. William Ludford, Seventh. William Brett, Tenor. Charles Gooze, Third. Charles Wilson, Eighth.

The above was the first peal rung on these bells after they had been taken down and re-hung, and was conducted by Mr. W. H. Burwash.

Revd. Thomas William Wrench, Rector. Messrs. Gercock, Viney, and Allnut, Churchwardens.

736. SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS, ESTABLISHED A.D. 1637.—On Monday, April 11th, 1858, the company rang in this steeple a true peal of Kent Treble Bob Maximus, containing 5222 changes, in four hours and seven minutes, being the first peal of Treble Bob upon the bells. Performers:—James Mash, Treble. William Cooter, Fifth. John Bradley, Ninth. William Banister, Second. William Lobb, Sixth. Edward Lansell, Tenth. George E. Ferris, Third. Thomas Michael, Seventh. James Dwight, Eleventh. Robert Jameson, Fourth. George Stockham, Eighth. Matthew A. Wood, Tenor. Composed and conducted by William Lobb. The Revd. Thomas William Wrench, M.A. Rector. H. J. Thornton, Esq., Churchwardens. George Hayter, Esq., Churchwardens.

737. ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS, ESTABLISHED A.D. 1637.—On Saturday, April 27th 1861 twelve members of the above Society rang on this noble peal of bells a true and complete peal of Cinques, on Steadman's principle, consisting of 8690 changes, in 6 hours and 41 minutes, being the greatest number of changes ever rung in that method on 12 bells. Performers:—H. W. Haley, Treble. William Green, Fifth. Matthew A. Wood, Ninth. Thomas Ray, Second. George Stockham, Sixth. Edward Lansell, Tenth. John Bradley, Third. Robert Haworth, Seventh. George Muscott, Eleventh. Robert Jameson, Fourth. George E. Ferris, Eighth. James Dwight, Tenor. The above is the first peal in that method performed on the bells, and was composed and conducted by H. W. Haley. Revd. Thomas William Wrench, M.A. Rector. Charles Edward Bailey, Esqre. Churchwardens. Charles Gimes, Esqre. Churchwardens. David Shrewsbury, Esqre. Churchwardens. Henry Hoppe, Esqre, Vestry Clerk.

RECEIVED.—SIDEROPOLITES.—Our columns are not yet opened to Bell poetry. Triples set to music.—With many thanks: can more copies be got?

A RINGER should write to all the Bell-founders.

H. JACKSON.—5040 changes of Bob Minor on six bells!—Impossible.

WILLIAM L.—Hand Bells are not Church Bells, and, therefore, clever performances with them are rarely admitted into our columns.

able to read at mothers' meetings. Indeed, the book was compiled for that very purpose, and is intended to give hints and practical suggestions to any one inexperienced in the first starting of these meetings.

X. Y. Z.

SIR,—In answer to 'Passion Flower,' there is a most admirable little book by Miss Wordsworth (daughter of the Bishop of Lincoln), entitled *Thoughts for the Chimney-Corner*, expressly written for Mothers' Meetings. It is simple, powerful, and thoroughly orthodox.

C. L. E.

SIR,—I think 'G.' whose query appeared in *Church Bells* of 15th March, will find a Lecture on Symbolism, delivered in the schoolroom of St. Matthias, Stoke Newington, by Charles Browne, Esq. (J. Masters, Aldersgate Street, publisher), very interesting and useful.

E. L. C.

SIR,—In answer to 'E.' I would recommend Hele's *Offices of Devotion*, published by the S.P.C.K. My edition contains the entire offices bound up together, but I believe it may be had separately in parts, or in an abridged edition. These offices were highly approved of by the late Joshua Watson, and this, I think, is a sufficient guarantee for their being loyal to the English Church.

G. H. F.

In reply to 'E.' 'MINNA' suggests the *Churchman's Manual* (Hamilton, Adams, and Co.).

'GEO. GARROW' informs 'Didymus' that there is a *Churchwardens' Manual* by Wm. Coley, published by W. Wells Gardner, price 6d.

'A. WILLIAMS.'—The *Speaker's Commentary* (John Murray), now in course of publication, and Bishop Wordsworth's (Rivingtons), are both works of the highest value. Canon Robertson's *History of the Christian Church* (John Murray) is as good as any.

A LAYMAN.—Your suggestion is one which has already been fully weighed. There are, as you are well aware, many practical difficulties in the way.

THE REV. ALFRED POTTER will find what he requires in *Seven Sermon Stories*, by Rev. Henry Houseman (J. Masters & Co.)

RECEIVED ALSO.—M. H. L.; C. L. E.; Herbert Nankivell.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

The Guild of Devonshire Ringers.

A MEETING of the Committee was held in Exeter on April 19, A. C. Sharland, Esq., in the chair, when the following resolutions were agreed to:—

- 'That in consequence of the delay in the execution of the work at St. Sidwell's, the Annual Meeting be held on the Tuesday in Whit-sun-week (May 18th), instead of on May 10.
- 'That the Guild undertake to pay not less than one-half of the travelling expenses of such members as shall apply to the Secretary for the same at least a fortnight before the meeting.
- 'That the Instructor be asked to test and comment upon the ringing of the different bands at the Annual Meeting.
- 'That this Committee, before finally deciding on the performances which may be recorded in the Peal-book, desires to take the opinion of a General Meeting.

J. L. LANGDON FULFORD, *Hon. Sec.'*

Opening of a New Ring of Bells at Newchurch, Lancashire.

A NEW ring of bells has recently been placed in the tower of St. Nicholas' Church, Newchurch, in Rossendale, and were opened on Saturday, the 27th ultimo, by the Society of Change-ringers of Musberry Church, Lancashire, who rang Mr. Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, containing 5040 changes, in 2 hrs. 51 mins. in the following order:—J. Pilkington (conductor), treble; J. Wolstenholme, 2nd; R. Wolstenholme, 3rd; E. Entwistle, 4th; J. Platt, 5th; J. Bentley, 6th; B. Daws, 7th; H. Daws, tenor. After which the Change-ringers of St. Peter's Church, Burnley, rang the same peal in 3 hrs. 12 mins. in the following order:—N. Smith (conductor), treble; J. Hartley, 2nd; R. Greenhalgh, 3rd; J. Pollard, 4th; J. Gregson, 5th; M. Bridge, 6th; T. Holden, 7th; E. Shackleton, tenor. The Todmorden Ringers then rang 1000 changes of Thurston's peal. The Preston Ringers followed, ringing part of Mr. Holt's Grandsire Triples. Then the Stand Ringers rang 1000 changes; these were followed by the Haslingden Ringers, who also rang part of Mr. Holt's peal. Immediately after the visiting ringers had finished, the Newchurch ringers rang 720 changes on six bells in 27 mins. Great credit is due to the founders of the bells, Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, Whitechapel, London. They are a beautifully-toned peal; the weight of the tenor bell (key F) is 15 cwt. The bell-frame and fixings have been executed at the works of E. Rostron, Esq. Myrtle Grove, Newchurch, under the superintendence of Mr. Daniel Halstead, and the ropes have been supplied by Mr. Fielding, Newchurch. On the tenor bell is the following inscription:—'Rev. J. B. Phillips, M.A. Rector. Lawrence Whitaker, George Pilling, Edward Rostron, John Kenyon, Churchwardens, 1874.' The visiting ringers were entertained by their Newchurch brethren and others during the day with substantial refreshments, &c. at the various inns in the village; and everything passed off in a very amicable and pleasant manner.—*Local Paper.*

Change-ringing at Tettenhall, Staffordshire.

ON Easter Monday, March 29th, 1875, the Woodsley Society of Change-ringers, with Mr. Wm. Pugh of Stourbridge, visited Tettenhall, and with the kind permission of the Rector they rang 720 changes of Grandsire Minor. The ringers were—T. Darby, treble; W. H. Hughes, 2nd; C. Hatton, 3rd; G. E. Jones, 4th; W. Lawrence, 5th; W. Pugh, tenor. Conducted by Mr. W. Pugh.—*Reported.*

Change-ringing at Bolton, Lancashire.

ON Saturday, April 3rd, six members of the Holy Trinity Church Society of Change-ringers rang seven peals of 720 changes in Bob Minor method

without intermission, and called seven different ways, consisting of 34 singles and 124 bobs, arranged and conducted by Mr. Henry W. Jackson. The ringers were as follows:—H. W. Jackson, treble; H. Bentley, 2nd; J. Walsh, 3rd; J. H. Jackson, 4th; Sergeant Gaskell, 5th; W. Hamer, tenor. Time, 2 hrs. 49 mins. Weight of tenor, 11 cwt.—*Reported.*

Change-ringing at Glemsford, Suffolk.

ON Saturday evening, April 10th, the Glemsford Society rang, at their parish church, 720 changes of Superlative Surprise Minor, stationed thus:—J. Slater, treble; C. Honeybell, 2nd; F. Wells, 3rd; Z. Slater, 4th; S. Slater, 5th; P. Adams, tenor. This is the first peal ever rung by any of the above ringers. Conducted by S. Slater.—*Reported.*

Change-ringing at St. Matthew's, Bethnal Green.

ON Saturday, April 10th, eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang, at the above church, Harstan's peal of Stedman's Triples (Brooke's alteration), in 2 hrs. 54 mins. Ringers:—J. R. Haworth, treble; W. Cecil, 2nd; R. French (Exeter), 3rd; W. Cooter, 4th; W. Greenleaf, 5th; G. Breed, 6th; M. A. Wood, 7th; G. Cook, tenor. Conducted by Mr. M. A. Wood.—*Reported.*

Change-ringing by College Youths.

ON Saturday, April 10th, eight members of the above Society rang a peal of Grandsire Triples at St. John's, Loughton, Essex, 5040 changes, in 3 hrs. 6 mins. Weight of tenor, 10 cwt. Ringers:—P. Cleverly, treble; H. W. Haley, 2nd; G. Dorrington, 3rd; G. Mash, 4th; H. C. Haley, 5th; M. Hayes, 6th; E. Horrex, 7th; J. Dwight, tenor. Called by Mr. H. W. Haley. This was the first peal on the bells.—*Reported.*

New Bells at Weybridge, opened by College Youths.

A NEW ring of eight bells from the foundry of Messrs. Mears & Stainbank has been presented to the parish of Weybridge, Surrey, by Mrs. and Miss Roberts of The Limes, Weybridge. The dedication service was held in St. James' Church on Wednesday, April 14th, at 8 p.m., under circumstances of melancholy interest. A hymn had been especially composed for the occasion by the late Rev. Dr. Monsell, Rector of St. Nicholas, Guildford. He had also promised to preach at the dedication service. His unexpected death occurred on the 9th, and his funeral took place on the day of the dedication. His place was supplied by the Rev. E. J. Rose, Rector of the parish. During the afternoon Harstan's peal of 5040 Stedman's Triples was rung by a band of the Ancient Society of College Youths, in 2 hrs. 54 mins. The following were the ringers:—H. Haley, sen., treble; R. Haworth, 2nd; J. Pettit, 3rd; W. Cooter, 4th; G. Ferris, 5th; M. A. Wood, 6th; J. M. Hayes, 7th; W. Greenleaf, tenor. Conducted by H. Haley, sen.—*Reported.*

We annex the hymn alluded to above, and also the names of the bells:—

O God! Whom veiled Angels	And on fond hearts united
And Archangels adore,	In pure and holy Love,
Around Whom Golden Harpings	With your 'Beati Omnes'
Their Floods of music pour:	Call blessings from above,
Accept the humbler homage	Ring out your 'Jubilate,'
That in our offering dwells,	Your merry Christmas chime,
And for Thy Church's Service	To hail the coming Saviour
Bless these sweet Sabbath-Bells.	Down the long reach of Time:
We name them by Thy mercies,	With sob of Lenten sorrow
The Joys of Prayer and Praise,	From many a sinful soul
The gift of Holy Baptism,	Your 'Miserere, Domine,'
Love's happy Wedding-days:	In mournful accents toll.
Thy glorious Second Advent,	With Eucharistic Anthem
Thy solemn Lenten Fast,	To Him Who did atone,
The Bread come down from Heaven,	Your 'Gloria in excelsis'
And Jordan safely past.	Ring out to Heav'n's high Throne:
Ring out, bright Bells, your gladness,	And when the journey's over,
Call Christian folk to Prayer,	And when the rest hath come,
'Venite, exultemus,'	Ring out your 'Nunc Dimittis'
Fills all the listening air:	To speed the wand'ers home.
Lift up your tuneful voices,	Glory to God the Father!
Ring out your peals of Praise,	And God th' Eternal Son!
To God, the God of mercies,	And God the Holy Spirit!
Your full 'Te Deum' raise.	Mysterious Three in One!
Ring out your 'Benedictus,'	As years roll on, their Praises
The Saviour's Voice to be,	These Bells to Thee shall pour!
'Suffer the little Children	Till Thou shalt come in Glory,
To come for bliss to Me.'	And Time shall be no more!

Treble F 'Venite Exultemus'	Prayer.
2 E 'Te Deum'	Praise.
3 D 'Benedictus'	Holy Baptism.
4 C 'Beati Omnes'	Holy Matrimony.
5 Bb 'Jubilate'...	Advent.
6 A 'Miserere, Domine'	Lent.
7 G 'Gloria in Excelsis'	Holy Communion.
Tenor F 'Nunc Dimittis'...	The Burial of the Dead.

Weight of tenor, 12 cwt.

ON the following day the party were engaged to ring for a wedding, when they successfully completed 5120 Kent Treble Bob Major in 2 hrs. 50 mins. Ringers:—H. Haley, sen., treble; J. R. Haworth, second; W. Cooter, 3rd; M. A. Wood, 4th; G. Ferris, 5th; W. Greenleaf, 6th; J. Pettit, 7th; J. Hayes, tenor. Composed and conducted by Mr. Haley.—*Reported.*

RECEIVED.—S. Slater.—His letter 'closed against inspection,' and therefore charged. J. P. Wood; Vigorniensis; Grandsire Major.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Set Change-ringing at Cripplegate and Shoreditch—commonly called 'Churchyard Bob.'

SIR,—I think the best thanks of your readers are due to an 'Admirer of Good Ringing' for bringing this matter before their notice. It is unfortunately a fact that two good rings of twelve bells are in the hands of set change-ringers. In our days of 'Belfry Reform' it is a wonder that such a state of things should be allowed to continue, for the church authorities must have seen the records of noble performances that adorn the walls of the ringing-chambers of both these churches, and surely the very fact of such records must have reminded them that a similar state of things might exist now.

I would respectfully suggest to those in authority at St. Giles, Cripplegate, and St. Leonard, Shoreditch, that bells should be to the parish as the organ is to the congregation; and we know they would not think of setting up a barrel-organ in their churches; neither should they allow set change-ringers to occupy their belfries. If they find it impossible to get those who at present ring the bells to push forward, and embrace the higher branches of change-ringing, let application be made to the chief scientific ringing societies in London, whose accomplishments in the belfry are recorded in these pages, and they will find ringers whose object will be to improve the music issuing from our church towers, and making our English home really 'a ringing Isle.'

GRANDSIRE MAJOR.

SIR,—The observations expressed by 'One who admires good Ringing,' which appeared in your issue of the 10th of April, merit the thanks of every half-pull ringer in the kingdom. Every one who has the encouragement and promotion of practical ringing in view will echo his cry to the utmost, and join with him in an emphatic protest against the present state of affairs existing in the belfries of St. Giles, Cripplegate, and St. Leonard, Shoreditch. It is bad enough, Sir, when these 'STONE' ringers (?) are allowed to practise their detestable 'CHURCHYARD BOBS' in a six or eight-bell tower; but to have the control of two twelve-bell steeples in the metropolis is a fact not to be thought of without feelings of the greatest indignation. These hands of 'bell-pullers,' if I may be allowed to use a phrase expressive of the greatest contempt, are a stumbling-block in the way of good practical ringing. If any of them happen to possess any ability, such is their idleness that they will not even attempt to learn change-ringing, if any one offered to teach them. Their conceit, bigotry, and jealousy of those who know how to ring, have often prevented good peals being achieved; and it is a well-known fact, Sir, that should a half-pull band obtain permission to attempt a peal in one of the steeples where these individuals are the acknowledged parochial ringers, the chances are that some untoward event will happen—either a rope slip wheel or break, or some other disaster occur to prevent the peal being obtained, thus creating a suspicion that something connected with the bell fittings had been displaced, purposely to stop the peal in its progress. Let me, however, do justice to some of these men: there are exceptions here; several I have known very friendly and obliging to half-pull ringers, and desirous to see change-ringing flourish, and who would scorn to resort to such dastardly tricks as I have indicated, but such are few and far between.

In the same issue of *Church Bells* I find an account of the chimes at St. Leonard's, Shoreditch. Now, after making this ring of bells complete, and adding chimes, it may reasonably be inferred that credit will be reflected on the church authorities by having the bells rung as they ought to be, not 'jangled,' and it is sincerely hoped that some practical change-ringing society will be invited to 'take possession' there.

The two steeples I have mentioned, Mr. Editor, are, I am sorry to say, not the only places in London where 'Stone' ringing is the order of the day. The question is, 'What can be done to bring about a better order of things?' I feel convinced that the proper persons to effect a change are the clergy themselves. With all due deference, I submit that it is as important to have a well-regulated belfry as a well-regulated choir, and to strive for the former is perhaps a much more praiseworthy proceeding than imagined at the present time. Let the clergy and church authorities, as a body, recognise only practical change-ringers, wherever they may be; let churchwardens give the weight of their influence towards a liberal patronage of the same; let influential Churchmen insist upon the belfry of their parish church being kept in a condition worthy of the other parts of the sacred edifice; then we shall see the true and genuine article brought to the fore, purged of its alloy, while a pleasant retrospect will be afforded to those who have laboured at any time to bring about so desirable a consummation.

VIGORNIENSIS.

A Devonshire Guild for Durham and Northumberland.

SIR,—In reply to the letter of 'A College Youth in Co. Durham,' which appeared in your No. for April 17, the following statement may not be altogether devoid of interest:—On the Sunday before Easter of last year the sum of half-a-crown was found in the offertory in my church, wrapped in a piece of paper, which stated that it was intended to be the foundation of a fund to erect a memorial in the church to her Grace Charlotte Florentia, late Duchess Dowager of Northumberland. Such an opportunity of doing something was not to be lost; and, not despising the day of small things, I saw in the half-crown a possible 500*l.*, if I could hit upon a scheme that would commend itself. Having three bells—the 1st, 4th, and 8th of a ring of eight, in a capacious and well-built tower—I determined to attempt the completion of the ring; and, so heartily was the proposal supported, that I had the satisfaction, in a few months, of seeing the half-crown grow, by public subscription, into 600*l.*, and a beautiful ring of eight bells, hung upon a new frame, formally opened on the Christmas Eve of last year, together with Ellacombe's chiming apparatus—the new bells being cast and hung, in the most satisfactory manner, by Messrs. John Taylor and Sons of Loughborough. Nor was my appeal for a voluntary band of ringers responded to less heartily than that for money. A Society of Church-

bell Ringers has been formed, of which I am President, and which numbers some fifteen or sixteen members. We had everything to learn; but, with our organist as conductor, we are now nearly all able to manage our bells, and can ring rounds fairly well, and a few simple changes. But the object we aim at is scientific change-ringing, as stated in our rules. My curate and I regularly take our places in the belfry with the ringers; and as nearly all of them are members of my voluntary surpliced choir—and we have, by our rules, excluded that arch-disturber of the peace, beer, from the belfry, and have devoted all monies which the Society may earn to form a fund for keeping the bells in repair, instead of pouring the same down our throats at the nearest public-house—I doubt not we shall in time attain our object. And I think that I may reasonably hope that, by God's blessing, our Society may do something, in this neighbourhood at least, to lift the whole subject of church-bell ringing into better repute, and elevate it into a higher region than that into which in some places it has unhappily fallen. Such is our desire, and such will be our endeavour; and if, either by forming the nucleus of such a society as your correspondent mentions, or by joining such a one—if it already exists in the diocese of Durham—we can forward the true interests of the noble art of Ringing, we shall be very glad. We practise with the church bells twice a week, and with hand bells once a week. In conclusion, allow me to say how heartily we sympathise with the desire of your correspondent; and I shall be glad if he will put himself into communication with me.

JEVON J. MUSCHAMP PERRY, Vicar of St. Paul's, Alnwick.

Prize-ringing in Devonshire.

We are grieved to learn by a local paper that an attempt has been made (originating, we doubt not, with the publicans) to get up a prize-ringing match at Moreton Hampstead. We rejoice to learn that the Rector has refused his consent, in which we trust he will have the support of all the parishioners whose opinion is worth anything. After what was said by the three Archdeacons of Devonshire in their Charges last year—urging the clergy and churchwardens to discourage ringing for prizes, but to encourage friendly meetings of ringers, without giving money, which is quite useless—we did not expect to hear any more of such a foolish throwing away of money in Devon; especially, too, since a Society has been formed in the county to promote ringing proper—which Ups and Downs and Rounds and Rounds for prizes never will be reckoned; but is rather the subject of laughter among those ringers who well deserve the name, from their ability displayed in ringing changes in every known method for the love and honour of such performances.—ED.

St. Peter's, Thetford, Norfolk.

THIS fine ring of eight bells has been rehung by the exertions of the Rev. Reginald Hay Hill, Rector. The work has been carried out by Messrs. George Day & Son, of Eye. Nothing has been done since 1791, when the bells were placed in the tower by Lord Petre. The opening day will be May 3rd. Ringing to commence at nine, dinner at two, divine service at four. The Rector will entertain the ringers; but no prizes will be given, as the ringers state that they cause only jealousy and bad feeling.—Per Letter.

Change-ringing at Leatherhead, Surrey.

ON Tuesday, April 13th, seven members of the Leatherhead Society of Change-ringers, assisted by Mr. G. Sayer, jun., of Ashted, rang at their parish church a true and complete peal of Union Triples, of 5040 changes, in six parts, containing 108 bobs and 2 singles: a production of the late Mr. J. Holt. The bells were struck with the utmost precision, and brought into rounds in 2 hrs. 58 mins. The ringers were:—H. Newnham, treble; T. Gadd, jun., 2nd; J. Hewett, 3rd; H. T. Lipcomb, 4th; W. Marks, 5th; G. Sayer, 6th; S. Brooker, 7th; J. Lisney, tenor. Conducted by Mr. S. Brooker.—Reported.

Muffled Peal at St. Peter Mancroft, Norwich.

ON Wednesday evening, April 14th, a muffled peal was rung on the bells of St. Peter Mancroft, as a last tribute of respect to the late Mr. George Watering, who died suddenly on the previous Friday; he was interred in the churchyard of St. Mark, Lakenham, being borne to the grave by six of his brother ringers. Deceased was sixty-eight years of age, and had been for upwards of forty years a member of St. Peter Mancroft Company of Ringers.—Reported.

Ancient Society of College Youths.

ON Friday, the 23rd of April, a party of the above Society met in the steeple of the parish church, Stepney, and rang in 3 hrs. 26 mins. a true and complete peal of 5021 Grandsire Caters, the composition of Mr. Henry Haley, sen. They were stationed as follows:—H. Haley, sen., treble; T. Denny, 2nd; H. Haley, jun., 3rd; S. Reeves, 4th; T. Hattersley, of Sheffield, 5th; C. A. W. Troyte, Esq., of Huntsham, 6th; W. Tanner, 7th; W. Greenleaf, 8th; G. Bond, 9th; J. R. Hayes, tenor. Conducted by H. Haley, sen.—Communicated.

Opening of a New Ring at St. James the Apostle, Islington.

A NEW ring of bells was opened at the above church on Saturday, the 24th of April, by the Islington Society of Ringers, to the great satisfaction of Mr. Porter the architect, and several other gentlemen. The bells are from the firm of Messrs. J. Warner & Sons, London. The ringers were:—W. Spicer, C. Spicer, J. Haines, F. Thomas, S. Young, J. Holland, J. Marshall, W. Quick.—Reported.

Change-ringing at All Saints, Edmonton.

ON Monday, the 26th of April, the following members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang at the above church the late Mr. John Holt's one-part peal of Grandsire Triples, comprising 5040 changes, in 3 hrs. 1 min.:—W. Tanner, treble; T. Benny, 2nd; W. Carter, Edmonton, 3rd; H. Page, 4th; S. Reeves, 5th; H. H. Hions, Edmonton, 6th; J. Pettit, 7th; W. Bird, Edmonton, tenor. Conducted by Mr. J. Pettit.

RECEIVED ALSO.—Jas. Windlay; W. Soltanstell; F. B. King.

NOTES AND QUERIES.

The Ter-Sanctus.

SIR,—Will you kindly permit me to say a word as to the repetition of the Ter-Sanctus? The question as to whether the people should join in at the Ter-Sanctus, or at any part of the preceding preface, hardly depends, I think, upon any construction of the word 'saying.' The ancient liturgies—those, for instance, of St. James, St. Mark, and the Clementine Liturgy—all expressly provide for the people to join in at the words, 'Holy, Holy, Holy.' Our own Prayer-books of 1549 and 1552 make the same provision. This, I think, is, and has been, the prevailing usage in other branches of the Church. No directions on this subject are given in our present Prayer-book, because probably the compilers considered the matter perfectly settled. This is a small matter, but what is worth doing at all is worth doing well, and there seems no good reason why we should have a peculiar manner of reciting this triumphal hymn.

G. J. A.

Queries.

SIR,—Can any of your readers suggest light employment for a youth of fifteen, who has very defective eyesight, but is not, we find, eligible for a blind asylum? He has some knowledge of music, and his relations could pay 10l. or 12l. a-year towards his expenses.

T. ROACH.

Northmoor Vicarage, Eynsham, Oxon.

SIR,—Would any of your northern readers be so good as to inform intending Scotch tourists where, halting for Sunday, they may hope to find the worship of the Episcopal Church, with a celebration of Holy Communion?

M. E. H.

'SONGSTRESS' would be grateful for the titles and publishers of any Sacred and Secular Songs which would be popular in parochial Temperance-rooms on Saturday evenings, where at present little is used besides Sankey's songs. Are there any easy and taking Easter carols?

Answers.

D. GRIFFITHS.—We cannot take up your subject at present.

RETTA.—There is no occasion to draw any such inference as you suggest. The lesson that is taught is, that every means should be used for strengthening and maintaining the union which exists between a Christian and Christ. You should consult a Commentary.

'M. E. S.' says 'Mozley publishes a very good tract, entitled, *Why are Infants Baptized?* which would suit "Mary."

'VICAR' recommends to 'Mary' *Forbid Them Not; Reasons for Infant Baptism*. By Rev. M. F. Sadler. (Geo. Bell and Sons.)

ANOTHER MARY.—Your answer to 'Mary' will be of little use without instructions how to make banners; and as you do not give these, and do not give your address for publication, we cannot print your letter.

RECEIVED ALSO.—A Churchwoman; S. A. S.; E. R. W. T.; Henry Foster; C. P. P.; The Rector of Oving.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

The Recent 'Opening' at Islington.

SIR,—In the last number of your excellent paper I find an account of the opening of a new ring of bells at the church of St. James the Apostle, Islington, but such account does not inform your readers what were the particular methods selected by the Islington Society of Ringers to display their talent and ability. What are the change-ringing fraternity to suppose respecting the nature of this performance, which gave so much gratification to 'the architect and several other gentlemen?' Did the methods rung comprise either Grandshire or Stedman Triples, Kent Treble Bob, or London or Cambridge Surprise? If so, why not announced? Compare the report of this opening with the one at Weybridge, recorded in *Church Bells* a week before, and at which the Ancient Society of College Youths rang on one day a peal of Stedman Triples, which peal was followed on the next day by a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major. There is only one conclusion at which I can arrive with any degree of accuracy, and that is, that the opening peals on the new bells at Islington consisted of nothing else but specimens of the wretched, miserable, contemptible Churchyard Bob performances! What a most delectable pastime! What a delightful gratification must have been experienced by 'Mr. Porter, the architect, and several other gentlemen!' and how must the inhabitants of 'merric Islington' have enjoyed so harmonious and so musical a treat!

But, Sir, there is the serious side to this picture. I should like to be informed the reason why a scientific band of change-ringers were not invited to open this ring of bells. Who are the parties responsible for allowing the presence of 'Stoney' ringers on the occasion of an opening? Surely it is idle for any one to inveigh against these 'bell-haulers' if they are to be tolerated in high places, and by those in authority. What were the bell-founders about? Why did not they interpose to prevent such a disreputable affair? An explanation is due from somebody to the science why a recognised band of half-pull ringers did not officiate at the opening peal at Islington, as is usual and proper on such occasions.

INQUIRER.

Some Peculiarities about Bells.

SIR,—This is the first of a series, if you choose to publish them, about what I will call 'some peculiarities' in the tuning, hanging, and construction, of some church bells in London and other places which have come under my personal observation. I will begin with St. Paul's Cathedral. In the south-

west tower, where the clock is, there are three bells, tuned 1, 5, 8. I do not say that this is *accurate*, because the bells have a double or chord sound, the musical 5th being heard in the second especially. The weight of the tenor, on which the hours are struck, is five tons. These bells have no wheels; the first and second are never used except by the clock chimers; and the big bell is only tolled by the clock-hammer on the occasions of certain very important deaths and funerals. The other tower contains only one bell, tolled for all the services, and weighing about one ton, this is hung with a wheel in the ordinary way.

I will now tell you something about the bells of St. James, Piccadilly, of which you recently gave an illustration. There are four bells altogether, one good large one in the lower part of the tower, about 18 cwt. The upper part, or spire, where the clock is, contains three bells, tuned 1, 3, 5; none of these have wheels; the two smaller ones are only used by the clock-hammers for the quarters; the biggest (being about four cwt., not more) is used for the hours, and also tolled for the services by the clapper, on Sundays and holydays, the large bell before mentioned being tolled for the first ten minutes.

I must not make my first letter too long, so subscribe myself

F. B. KING, Vicar of Burstwick, near Hull.

New Bells and Ringing at Bridford, Devon.

THREE out of four bells in this tower were unsound. They have been recast by Messrs. Warner of London, and two new ones added to make a ring of six. The work has been most satisfactorily carried out by Mr. Mallaby of Masham, Yorkshire. On the 22nd ult. twelve ringers were invited from two neighbouring parishes to open them. This was done in true Devonshire style, with ups and downs, and rounds, and a few call-changes. At the dinner Mr. Mallaby (who is a first-class ringer) endeavoured to explain to them how they ring half-pull changes in Yorkshire and other counties. Upon hearing some complaints that a check had lately been put to prize-ringing in Devon, he took the opportunity of reminding them that church bells were not put up for mere pleasure or prize-ringing; but were dedicated to the honour and glory of Almighty God, to call the parishioners together to worship in His House, and to join in all the holy services of the Church of England. He also reminded them, whenever they met for practice, not to forget that they were in God's House, and in His Presence: that no right-minded Christian would ever think of ringing the bells, so dedicated and so placed, for prizes, which he knew from experience generally ends in quarrels and disputes, heart-burnings and jealousies, and lowers the noble art and science of change-ringing altogether in the eyes of the public. The bells vary from 4 cwt. to 8 cwt. 3 qrs. 6 lbs., the tenor being in A.

Clashing Bells for a Fire.

SIR,—I should be glad, as an old reader of *Church Bells*, to elicit your opinion and advice on the following subject:—

What is the rule in small towns throughout the kingdom as regards summoning the local fire-brigade in case of fires, either in the town itself or in the country miles around it? Here it is the rule, wherever or whatever the fire may be, whether in a dwelling-house or a hay-stack, for any one who may be about, day or night, to go to the sexton, get the keys, and rush into the belfry of St. Mary Magdalene's Church and pull the eight ropes as hard as they can, much to the danger of the stays, much to the danger of the quondam ringers, much to the danger of the gas-burners, and greatly to the disturbance of the 15,000 inhabitants of the town. Lately one of the gas-burners in the belfry was wrenched off on such a performance, the gas left escaping, and, but for the fortunate arrival of one of the ringers, our beautiful tower might have been endangered.

Can you suggest any means to obviate this nuisance of the so-called 'fire-bells,' as our bells have lately been put in pretty good repair at considerable expense?

1. Either to do away altogether with the so-called 'fire-bells,' and suggest some substitute to call the fire-brigade together, discriminating between the town and country brigades.

2. If no substitute can be found for the so-called 'fire-bells,' to suggest some means how it can be shown clearly that the 'fire' is in the town, and not in the country; as the town fire-brigade is, I believe, distinct from the country brigade.

GEORGE B. CORNISH, M.D. Edin.

Taunton, May 3, 1875.

Steward of St. Mary's Belfry.

[The remedy is in your own hands. The sexton should be inhibited from giving up the key on such occasions: if he transgresses, let him be removed. If the belfry-door should be broken open, pains and penalties will await the transgressors. In such a small town a fire would soon proclaim itself, and clashing the bells can scarcely be necessary.—ED.]

Change-ringing at Bromley, Kent.

ON Saturday, April 24th, eight members of the St. James's Society, London, visited the above place, and rang on the bells of SS. Peter and Paul Holt's original one-part peal of Grandshire Triples, containing 5040 changes, in 2 hrs. 54 mins. G. Newson, treble; C. T. Hopkins, 2nd; H. A. Hopkins, 3rd; E. Gibbs, 4th; G. Harvey, 5th; S. Hayes, 6th; G. Sheppard, Chislehurst, 7th; D. Stackwood, tenor. Conducted by Mr. G. Newson.—Reported.

A Correction.

IN the peal of Caters rung at Stepney, on the 23rd ult., as reported in our issue of the 1st inst., for G. Bond, read G. Breed, 9th.

[We have reports of several muffled peals, but particulars are not given whether they were rounds or call changes.—ED.]

RECEIVED ALSO.—M. B. Grandstone; Robt. Langton; E. W. Fenwick; T. Windly.

Government and the Bishops drawing back (most unjustifiably, in my opinion), I immediately set to work to get up a petition, and obtained without any difficulty the signatures of, I believe, every incumbent and curate, except one who was absent, in the district of which I am R. D., and every resident gentleman whom I asked, besides a great number of churchwardens. Had time allowed, I believe I might have obtained the signatures of all the clergy in the deanery (a very large one) and most of the gentry; but as I then thought that the measure might be brought forward in the Commons any day, I did not like to risk the delay. In forwarding the petition to one of the representatives of the county (a Conservative) for presentation, I said that Churchmen had a right to expect from a Conservative Government support of the measure; and I added, that if the Government did not support it, they would probably find that the votes of many of the clergy who had hitherto supported them would be withdrawn at the next election, or words to that effect. The answer I received was not to my mind a satisfactory one, and I intend to watch carefully whether the members for whom I have a vote support the measure or not; and if not, to withdraw my vote from them in future. If others would do the same, I think we should have a little more interest displayed by the Government in support of this Bill than appears to be the case at present; it is a mere matter of the barest justice, the like of which, if Dissenters had asked for, would have been granted as a matter of course long ago.

Home Reunion.

SIR,—I observe in your report (p. 275) of services in connexion with the Home Reunion Society, that Mr. Body deprecated the discussion of schemes as to the mode of promoting reunion. While fully admitting the danger of propounding many schemes and *nostrums* for such a purpose, it is notwithstanding worth while to ask what it is that has gradually brought on attention to this subject so generally.

Has it not been the very discussions at Wolverhampton Congress, at large clerical meetings, and at other conferences, that have at length forced the subject before the minds of the people? For many years it was the custom to speak of 'a little competition' in religious things as the best and cheapest way of getting religion into the country. Discussions and conferences have brought about a different feeling, the evils of disunion are now confessed, and it is much to be desired that the subject of reunion be pleaded at the approaching Church Congress. If the Church is to become what she ought to be, and might be, she must look facts in the face, and inquire wherein she may herself be causing any portion of that terrible schism which has now, more than almost anything, imperilled the Christianity of our country. The marvellous 'freemasonry-like' power existing amongst most sects—especially the Papist and the Wesleyan—is almost unknown by us, and ought to be one characteristic of Church-folk of any rank of life.

Is it clear that the Church may not apply to herself the words, 'Now, therefore, there is utterly a fault among you?' And if so, ought she not to remove the scandal from the way of the erring brother's return to unity within the fold?

R. T. H.

NOTES AND QUERIES.

Queries.

SIR,—Allow me to follow up 'M. F. H.'s' question about Scottish Episcopal Church Services with another. Why during the summer months, when thousands of English Churchmen are in Scotland, are not more opportunities given them for contributing, as very many would gladly do, through the offertory to the sustentation and extension of the Episcopal Communion in Scotland? If a weekly offertory for this purpose were established throughout all the Episcopal churches during the months when tourists most abound, I cannot but think the result would be in every way satisfactory. Of course the contributions must go to a general fund, to be administered as the heads of the Scottish Church may see fit.

AN ENGLISH PARSON.

SIR,—May I refer your correspondent 'M. E. H.' to *The Tourist's Church Guide*, edited by J. Came Waram, published by the Church Printing Company, 13 Burleigh Street, Strand (price 6d.)? So far as it goes the information is very interesting, and would doubtless help to supply 'M. E. H.'s' want.

F. POWELL.

'S.' will be very much obliged if any one can tell her of an Orphanage or Home where a little boy of eight years old can be placed, to be taught a trade and apprenticed to it at a fit age. Church-of-England principles indispensable. Address 'Miss Scott,' 5 Hill Rise, Richmond, Surrey.

SIR,—Can any lady, who has tried holding a monthly devotional meeting to assist young Communicants in their preparation for the Holy Communion, inform me how to conduct such a one for young servants? I should be particularly glad to know if such a class has been found successful in promoting regular and devout attendance at the Lord's Table, or whether there is any danger of its superseding private preparation on the part of its members?

A BIBLE-CLASS TEACHER.

['A Bible-Class Teacher' would have done better to give her name and address for publication, that the information she invites might be sent direct to her.—ED.]

Answers.

'C. GORDON' had better obtain again the back Nos. of *Church Bells*.

'ELONA' had better write to the Secretary of the Society for a Report. We do not know it.

'F. S.'—The rule usually acted upon in singing is to pronounce the 'e' in 'the' long before a vowel, and short before a consonant, as in the phrase 'in the beginning.'

RECEIVED ALSO.—M. A. H.; C. A. Latter; Alfred Rudall; A Layman; G. P.; Inquirer.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

The Guild of Devonshire Ringers.

The First Annual Meeting will be held in Exeter on Tuesday next, May 18th. There will be divine service at St. Sidwell's, with a sermon by the Rev. H. T. Ellacombe, M.A., Rector of Clist St. George, at 10 o'clock, to be followed by the reopening of the eight bells of that church by a party of Bristol ringers. The bells at St. John's and St. David's will be at the use of members.

The dinner will take place at the Victoria Hall at 2.30 p.m., at the conclusion of which a General Meeting will be held.

Woodbury, May 12th, 1875.

J. L. LANGDON FULFORD, *Hon. Sec.*

Muffled Peal at St. Peter's Church, Sheffield.

On Thursday evening, April 15th, a muffled touch of Grandsire Caters was rung at St. Peter's Church, Sheffield, as a last tribute of respect to the late Mr. Henry Lomas, who died suddenly on Tuesday, the 13th ult. aged twenty-three years. The deceased was grandson to the late William Hudson, formerly a member of St. Peter's Society, Sheffield. Conducted by Mr. W. Ellis of Chesterfield.—*Contributed.*

Change-ringing at Sheffield.

On Monday, the 26th of April, a true peal of Grandsire Triples was rung at St. Mary's Church, Norfolk Row, consisting of 5040 changes, in 3 hrs. 20 mins. by the following members of the Sheffield Branch of the Ancient Society of College Youths, London:—C. G. Bateman, treble; C. Bolder, 2nd; T. Hattersley, 3rd; C. H. Hattersley, 4th; W. Booth, 5th; C. Steer, 6th; W. Ellis, Chesterfield, 7th; G. T. Hawley (his first peal), tenor. The above was Holt's original one-part peal, with two doubles in the last four leads. Conducted by Thomas Hattersley. Weight of tenor, 25 cwt.—*Reported.*

Change-ringing at St. Alphege, Greenwich.

On Friday, the 30th of April, eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths succeeded in ringing 5040 changes of Grandsire Triples, in 3 hrs. 12 mins. at the above church, in honour of J. Soames, Esq., Churchwarden. It was Holt's one-part peal, and conducted by Mr. J. Pettit. Performers:—W. Davis (sexton), treble; J. R. Haworth, 2nd; I. Shade, 3rd; W. Shade, 4th; A. Hayward, 5th; J. Pettit, 6th; G. Mash, 7th; J. M. Hayes, tenor. Among other kind and liberal things in connexion with the ringers, Mr. Soames is about to have a board placed in the ringing-room recording the above performance. T. W. Boord, Esq., M.P. for Greenwich, and H. Trollope, Esq. have shown a kindly interest towards the Greenwich ringers, many of whom belong to the Society of College Youths. It may be added that the ringing-chamber has been whitewashed and painted, the boards revarnished, cocoa-nut matting laid down, and new mats placed for the ropes to fall on, the whole of which is creditable to all concerned.—*Communicated.*

BELFRY RECORDS.

ST. MARY'S, WOOLWICH. (Tablets in the Belfry.)

738. On Tuesday, November 13th, 1821, the Society of Eastern Scholars rung on these bells a true peal of Grandsire Triples of 5040 changes, in 3 hours and 1 minute, as follows:—
Henry Brooks, *Treble.* Robt. Shersby, *Fourth.* Hy. Symondson, *Sixth.*
T. Smythers, *Second.* Henry Banister, *Fifth.* Wm. Smith, *Seventh.*
W. E. Wenman, *Third.* Robert Castle, *Tenor.*

Conducted by Hy. Symondson. First peal on the Bells.

Rev. Hugh Fraser, M.A. Rector.
G. P. Parkin, } Churchwardens.
P. Pusey.

739. On Monday, Novr. 13th, 1826, the following Members of the Society of Eastern Scholars rung on these bells a true and complete peal of Grandsire Triples, comprising 5040 changes, in 3 hours and 4 minutes, viz:—

Hy. Brooks, *junr. Treble.* Robt. Shersby, *Fourth.* Saml. Hoare, *Sixth.*
Hy. Banister, *Second.* W. Herbert, *Fifth.* W. Wenman, *Seventh.*
Robt. Castle, *Third.* Henry Coe, *Tenor.*

Conducted by Mr. W. Herbert.

Rev. H. Fraser, M.A. Rector.
R. Cullbert, } Churchwardens.
Jas. Watts.

740. On Thursday, Jany. 31st, 1828, the Society of St. Mary's, Woolwich, rung on these bells 5040 changes of Grandsire Triples, in 2 hours, 59 minutes, as follows:—

Hy. Brooks, *junr. Treble.* H. Brooks, *Fourth.* W. Wenman, *Seventh.*
W. Johnson, *Second.* T. Carr, *Fifth.* Ephm. Johnson, *Tenor.*
Hy. Banister, *Third.* H. Crutcher, *Sixth.* Conducted by Wm Wenman.

Rev. Hugh Fraser, M.A. Rector.
Joseph Pinhorn, } Churchwardens.
John Cox.

741. On March 22nd, 1829, the following persons rung on these bells 5040 changes of Bob Major, in 3 hours and 8 mins. viz:—

Hy. Brooks, *senr. Treble.* Robt. Shersby, *Fourth.* R. Allen, *Seventh.*
Thos. Moyce, *Second.* G. Stone, *Fifth.* Hy. Banister, *Tenor.*
W. Wenman, *Third.* W. Saunders, *Sixth.* Conducted by Robt. Allen.

742. On Novr. 12th, 1838, the Society of St. Mary's, Woolwich, rung on these bells a true and complete peal of Grandsire Triples, comprising 5040 changes, in 2 hrs. and 55 mins. as follows:—

G. Simmons, *Treble.* Chas. Brown, *Fourth.* F. H. Banister, *Seventh.*
R. Thimbleby, *Second.* W. Johnson, *Fifth.* H. Banister, *senr. Tenor.*
Hy. Brooks, *Third.* Geo. Barton, *Sixth.* Conducted by Chas. Brown.

Rev. W. Greenlaw, M.A. Rector.
G. Parsons, } Churchwardens.
J. Barr.

743. On Monday, Octr. 12th, 1846, the following Members of the Society of St. Mary's, Woolwich, rung on these bells an excellent peal of Grandsire Triples, comprising 5040 changes, in 2 hrs. and 49 mins. viz:—

Mr. G. Simmons, *Treble.* Mr. W. Keeble, *Fourth.* Mr. H. Banister, *senr. Seventh.*
John Banister, *Second.* G. Banister, *Fifth.* Ephm. Johnson, *Tenor.*
W. Banister, *Third.* F. H. Banister, *Sixth.* Conducted by Mr. W. Banister.

Rev. W. Greenlaw, M.A. Rector.
Mr. T. Moyce, } Churchwardens.
F. Sales.

(To be continued.)

RECEIVED ALSO.—A Lover of Bells.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Guild of Devonshire Ringers.

REOPENING OF ST. SIDWELL'S CHURCH BELLS, EXETER.

THE first annual meeting of the Guild of Devonshire Ringers, established for the cultivation of the art of change-ringing and for the promotion of belfry reform, was held in Exeter on Tuesday, and its visit was taken advantage of to reopen St. Sidwell's Church bells, which have recently been rehung by Messrs. Hooper and Stokes, of Woodbury. The work done includes entirely new frame-work and fittings, and provision is made for an addition of two bells to the ring as soon as the necessary funds are forthcoming.

The day was fitly inaugurated by Divine service held at St. Sidwell's Church; the sacred edifice, which had been most tastefully decorated for Whitsuntide, being about half filled. The service was choral, and was carefully rendered. The prayers were intoned by the Revs. D'Oyley W. Oldham and A. W. Ford, and the lessons were read by the Rector, the Rev. J. L. Galton. Hymn 311 *A. & M.*, 'Thy kingdom come,' was sung after the third collect. The sermon was preached by the Rev. H. T. Ellacombe, of Clyst St. George, who took for his text 1 Cor. xiv. 6-12. An appropriate hymn, composed by the Rev. F. Kilvert of Bath, was sung during the offertory, which was in aid of the fund for rehanging the bells, and amounted to 8*l.* 10*s.* 1*d.*

After the service a party of Bristol ringers, consisting of Messrs. A. Jones, J. Wilkey, D. Morgan, W. Dowling, J. Bryant, J. Davies, W. Stadon, W. Thomas, and J. Price, whose aid had been enlisted for the occasion, first of all rang a touch of Grandsire Triples, consisting of 504 changes, following this up with a touch of Stedman Triples of about 300 changes. Simultaneously with the ringing at St. Sidwell's, members of the Broadclist, Plympton, Budleigh, and Exeter bands, visited St. David's, and rang several peals of Grandsire Doubles. The performances varied in quality, but whilst, as might naturally be expected of bands whose acquaintance with the art of change-ringing dates from a very recent period, many faults could be detected, still, in a good many of the touches, the striking was good and the lead well marked.

At three o'clock the members and friends, to the number of about a hundred, dined together at the Victoria Hall, the chair being taken by the Rev. C. S. Bere, Rector of Uploman (one of the Vice-Presidents), in the absence of the President of the Guild, Mr. C. A. W. Troyte.

At the conclusion of the repast the *Chairman* announced that the proceedings would be of a business character, and after regretting the absence of the President and the three other Vice-Presidents—the Earl of Devon, the Rev. H. T. Ellacombe, and Mr. Banister—the rev. gentleman expressed his cordial sympathy with the objects of the Guild, and his appreciation of the good work which it was accomplishing in the county of Devon. At last ringers were beginning to feel that they were just as much the leaders of God's service as the choir had been, and the belfry was being looked upon not as a thing outside the church, but as really an integral part of it. He hoped that one little caution would not be thought amiss on such an occasion as the present. They were naturally inclined to boast of their skill, and of the distinction between themselves and the round-ringers, but he thought they would be acting wisely if they did not press this too strongly at any time, so as not to give the world the impression that they thought those who did not ring changes were not of the same class as themselves. The growth of the Guild since the last meeting had been perfectly surprising. Last year it was a little child, with tottering steps, and in one year it had grown almost into full manhood. He attributed all this to the care and attention bestowed on it by its energetic Secretary, the Rev. J. L. L. Fulford.

The *Secretary* announced that he had received letters expressing sympathy with the objects of the Guild, and regretting their inability to be present, from the Bishop, the Earl of Devon, the Sheriff of Devon, Archdeacon Woolcombe, and many other members of the Society. Mr. Arthur Mills had promised to attend, and Mr. Johnson, the other member for Exeter, would have been present, but for the fact that the inspection of the troops of Yeomanry to which he belonged had been fixed for that day. The Secretary then read the annual report, in which the Committee rejoiced to be able to state that the hopeful language they felt justified in using at the inaugural meeting had been verified by the progress of the Guild during the past year. At the Plymouth meeting 115 members were elected, and since that time an addition of 37 honorary and 37 performing members had been made to the number of those enrolled. This steady progress in number in both classes of members the Committee considered to be a sure indication that the Guild was likely to hold its own, and to be able to advance the two great objects for which it was formed, namely, the cultivation of change-ringing and the promotion of belfry reform. The Committee felt that the meetings of the Guild in different parts of the county would soon remove these impediments, and hence great improvement was looked for. At such meetings many faults were detected that at home would be unobserved, many useful hands were gained by mixing with change-ringers of experience, and the different hands returned better for the intercourse with their fellows, and stimulated to renewed efforts. The Committee determined to procure for that day the assistance of a party from Bristol in reopening the fine ring of St. Sidwell's, as among the members of the Guild there were not many able to get practice on eight bells. Further, it was thought that on the first appearance of the Guild in the Cathedral city it would be well to give the citizens a chance of hearing good change-ringing. The Committee had been informed of work done in belfries at Belstone, Widdicombe-in-the-Moor, Kingsteignton, Lustleigh, Chagford, Gidley, Cadbury, Aveton Gifford, Merton, St. Andrew's, Plymouth, Huntsham, Babbacombe, Ugborough, Chawleigh, St. Sidwell's, Briford, Moreton Hampstead, Hennock, and Kingston. This restoration involved an expenditure of 1000*l.*, and plainly indicated that a care for the condition of the bells and their frames was becoming more visible than heretofore. The Committee hoped that such work would be always placed in the hands of efficient persons, for there could not be scientific ringing without the apparatus was properly adjusted. It was

with peculiar pleasure that the Committee mentioned that to the President's Society at Huntsham belonged the honour of being the first among the members of the Guild to ring a true and complete peal.

On the motion of the Rev. M. Kelly, seconded by Mr. R. Merson, a vote of thanks was accorded the Bristol Society of Ringers for their kindness in attending to open the St. Sidwell's bells.

It was agreed, on the motion of the Rev. J. L. L. Fulford, that an addition should be made to the rules, to the effect that the Bishop of the Diocese, being a member, should be a patron of the Guild.

The Rev. P. Williams proposed that the following gentlemen, nominated by the Committee, be the officers of the Guild for the ensuing year:—President, C. A. W. Troyte, Esq.; Vice-Presidents, the Earl of Devon, Rev. H. T. Ellacombe, Rev. C. S. Bere, and Mr. W. J. Banister; Secretary, Rev. J. L. Langdon Fulford; Treasurer, Mr. W. B. Fulford; Committee, Rev. W. C. Gibbs, Rev. W. F. Gore, Rev. F. Sterry, Mr. C. H. Norrington, and Mr. J. W. Woolcombe, in addition to the *ex-officio* and representative members of the Committee.

The Rev. G. G. Monck seconded the motion, which was agreed to.

The *Secretary* proposed: 'That the best thanks of the Guild be given to the Rector and Churchwardens of St. Sidwell's, for their kindness in allowing the Guild to reopen the ring of that church; to the Incumbents and Churchwardens of St. David's and St. John's, for the permission given to members to ring in the steeples of those churches; to the Rector of St. Sidwell's, for affording the members the opportunity of attending Divine service; and to the Rev. H. T. Ellacombe for the sermon he delivered on the occasion.' The rev. gentleman said he was sure it afforded the members a great deal of pleasure to see their friend Mr. Ellacombe amongst them, and when they considered that he had reached his eighty-sixth year, the affection he retained for the art of change-ringing, and his exertion for the extension of the objects of the Guild through the county, were marvellous.

To this resolution it was added, that Mr. Ellacombe be requested to publish the sermon he had that morning delivered.

The motion was unanimously agreed to; and was followed by a discussion respecting the record of performances. In consequence of many members leaving the room to recommence ringing it was resolved, 'That the matter be referred back to the Committee; and that they be requested to take the opinion of the bands in union before coming to any decision.' After other business had been disposed of, the proceedings terminated with a vote of thanks to the Chairman.

In the evening the Bristol ringers paid a visit to St. David's, and rang a touch of Kent Treble Bob, consisting of 720 changes, whilst the Huntsham, Broadclist, and Budleigh bands performed some touches of Grandsire Doubles at St. John's, and also at St. David's after the Bristol men had left the belfry. The St. Sidwell's were also rung, continuing during the evening, mostly by members of the Exeter band.

Besides those bands which took part in the ringing, the Uploman, Plymouth, and Woodbury corps were represented, but not in sufficient numbers to take part in the ringing.—*Reported.*

A Ringing Farce in Devonshire.

WE learn from a local paper that another of these FARCES has been produced at a little place called Chawley. We are always glad to have an opportunity of amusing our ringing friends, and we know that nothing makes them laugh more heartily than the ringing for prizes, as done in the Western Counties. We know not whether they laugh more at the pulling bells up and down, and round and round, or at the good-natured folk who foolishly allow their pockets to be rifled, under the notion that they are promoting good ringing, and will be treated with 'something like it,' forgetting all the time that the publicans gain the best prize; and that the whole affair is only a check to all progress in the noble art of scientific change-ringing (the delight and the pride of other counties, elevating the ringer's character in the social scale of society), and lowering our belfries, and the occupiers thereof, in the estimation of the public. On turning to the *Clergy List*, we see that the reverend gentleman who presided at the dinner (we find no fault with that, but would rather encourage it) is Curate of the place, and, as such, he probably did not like to oppose the wishes of his aged Rector, seeing he must be far advanced in years, having been instituted in 1821. Be that as it may, all the Archdeacons of Devon in their last year's Charges dwelt much on the utter uselessness of prize-ringing, and advised the clergy and churchwardens to encourage friendly meetings of ringers instead thereof.

In a late issue we commended the action of the Rector of Moreton Hampstead, in the same county, who refused the bells of the parish church to be so desecrated; and if (as a first-class London ringer lately wrote to us) his example was followed by other clergy, such prize-ringing would become a thing of the past.

Change-ringing at Braughing, Herts.

ON Monday, May 10th, the Benington Society of Change-ringers visited the above village upon the occasion of the Annual Ringing Anniversary, where they were met by friends from London, and the towns adjoining, to the number of over sixty ringers. They succeeded in ringing 4272 changes, in seven distinct methods, all in admirable style.

Grandsire Triples, 672; Double Norwich Court Major, 672; Superlative Surprise Major, 448; London Surprise Major, 448; Cambridge Surprise Major, 448; Stedman Triples, 504; Treble Bob, Oxford Variation, 576; and concluding with a fine touch of Stedman Triples, containing 504 changes.

Mr. Miller, from the Cumberland Society, London; Mr. John Cox, from the same Society; and Mr. R. Haworth, of the College Youths' Society, London, were present, and expressed their great pleasure at hearing such a performance of real scientific change-ringing.—*Reported.*

RECEIVED.—Report of a muffled peal at St. Barnabas, Pimlico, on the evening of May 9th, but the number and method of changes not stated, An Old Bell-ringer. W. Optle.

a hymn, as a link between the first and second parts of the Communion Office, has been found a very fair solution of the difficulty. The organist accompanies the 'Amen' at the end of the Church Militant Prayer, and keeps his hands on the organ, playing very softly, till those about to depart have risen from their knees, when he simply plays over the air of the hymn (some soft and solemn Communion hymn, of which the number is on the pillars of the church—no giving out), the choir take it up—*pianissimo*—on their knees, and by the time it is finished the non-communicants are gone, and the service can proceed. The two points which make this so helpful a link is, that it is not given out as an official part of the service (merely taking the place of a voluntary), and that it is sung kneeling.

St. Mary's, Hull.

£30 Scholarships for Public Elementary Schools.

SIR,—I desire, through you, to call the attention of the clergy, and managers of Church Schools, to a paper issued by the School Board for London, and to be obtained from their office on the Victoria Embankment, regarding fourteen Scholarships of 30*l.* per annum to be competed for. These Scholarships, you will observe, are open to all the public elementary schools within the limits of the metropolis; and it is to be hoped the Church Schools will prove their efficiency by carrying off a great proportion of the Scholarships.

GEO. J. TOWNSEND.

20 Oakfield Road, Clapton, E.

NOTES AND QUERIES.

Queries.

SIR,—Can you, or any reader of *Church Bells*, inform the Incumbent of a small Gloucestershire parish whether the Vicar and Churchwardens are to any extent responsible for the rebuilding of a church destroyed by fire, and uninsured? The question is submitted by an Incumbent who has experienced some difficulty in procuring parishioners willing to accept the responsibilities of churchwarden where all church expenses are defrayed by voluntary subscription.

J. A. H.

SIR,—I have more than sixty copies of the *Church Psalter and Hymnal*, without Appendix, large and small sizes, compiled by the Rev. G. Harland, Vicar of Colwich. The books are quite new, and were bought for a church where they are not now used. I shall be glad to send them to any one who is willing to pay their carriage from Derby, if he will write, giving his full address, to 'Mrs. Hope, Kirk Langley, Derby.'

SIR,—Can you recommend me any book which contains an account of the office and duties of a Sidesman of a church?

NEOPHYTE.

SIR,—Can you, or any of your readers, give shortly the reasons which induce most good Churchmen to object to Evening Communion, or refer me to a good book on the subject?

S. H.

SIR,—Will you, or any of your correspondents, inform me whence the fee demanded at the Court for admitting Churchwardens is to come, in case the wardens elect be not willing to pay out of their own pockets? This fee used to be paid out of the church-rate in the parish.

INQUIRER.

SIR,—Can you recommend a good tract, to put into the hands of a Churchman, on the duty and happiness of living within one's income, and keeping out of debt?

T. E.

SIR,—I shall be very glad to be informed what is probably the best conclusion to the following difficulty in the observation of holy days. Blunt (*Annot. Prayer-book*) seems to lay down as a principle that every day, to be ecclesiastically observed, should be reckoned according to the Jewish system; in which case it would seem that the full Easter service would always begin on the Saturday evening, Lent would begin on the evening of Shrove-Tuesday, Rogation days on the evening of Sunday, Ember days would cease before service on Saturday, Saints' days would cease at the second Evensong of the Feast. On the other hand, Wheatley, taking another view, fails, owing to a certain exception which he cannot explain. Does it remain that the former view holds good?

RUBRIC.

('RUBRIC's' query is one of many that we have been obliged to postpone for want of space.)

SIR,—Will any of your readers kindly recommend an edition of the *Psalter pointed*, with chants suitable for use in a congregation consisting wholly of working people? The pointing in S. P. C. K. Psalter is not sufficiently distinct.

T. E.

'J. C. Cantab.' wants a good, cheap book containing hints for reading, preaching, &c. He has seen Helmore's book.

[We know of two, the Rev. D. Moore's *Thoughts on Preaching*, and *Lectures delivered in the Trophy-room at St. Paul's*. Hatchards.]

'J. LL. J.' would be glad to know of tunes suitable for Litany No. 2 in *Litanies and Special Services for Children*, now advertised in *Church Bells*. The Litany consists of verses of four lines of seven syllables, with a refrain, 'Hear us, O Child Jesu.'

Answers.

'FLORA' is referred to answers to correspondents in *Church Bells* for May 14.

'H. L.'—We are sorry we were not able to make use of your communication about the Episcopate Bill.

'S. R.'—There are special arrangements for a cheap education at St. John's Middle School, Hurstpierpoint. The Secretary would give you information. If you wish to hear of others you had better write again, giving your name and address for publication.

RECEIVED ALSO.—J. H. H.; Thos. Geo. Cree; William T. Mowbray.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Some Peculiarities about Bells.

SIR,—I will now speak of the large church of St. Pancras, Euston Square. Here are three very good bells, tuned 1, 3, 6, the largest weighing a ton. These are just right for the clock, 1 and 3 serving for the quarters, and 6 for the hours; but although so correct for the clock, they sound very odd when chimed for the Sunday services—1, 3, 6 : 1, 3, 6 : 1, 3, 6 : then, 3, 1, 6 : 3, 1, 6 : and so on. The large church of St. Marylebone, and several other churches in that neighbourhood, have the same peculiarity. In hearing their clocks strike, we should think they each had a peal of six or more bells. If they had been tuned 1, 2, 3, there would have been no deception, and they would have sounded so much better when chimed for church; but then they would not have been nearly so effective as used by the clocks. I have much more to say, but I will reserve it for next week and the following weeks. In my next letter I will speak of fixed bells, that is of bells worked by one man, where the bells are fixed with the ropes to the clappers.

F. B. KING.

Bell Nuisance at St. Barnabas, Pimlico.

SIR,—Being a lover of music, especially in bell-ringing, I should like to inform you of a fact which very lately has taken place at the above church, viz. that a new set of ringers which annoy the greater part of the neighbourhood besides myself very much, of which I now complain, is that on one or two nights a-week they begin to ring, or try to, as I sit at my dinner after business trying to get a few minutes to myself in quietness, and to my utmost disgust they commence with a few rounds, and then smash, smash, for about five minutes or so, and then they stop; then again, for the same period of time, and stop. I have said to myself over and over again, 'I wish those bells somewhere else!' and I dare say a great many of my neighbours say the same. It cannot be the same band of ringers who ring on Sunday evenings from 6 till 7, and oftentimes on Tuesdays from 9 till 10, for it gives me great pleasure to hear them. I think I may say for myself, and also for my neighbours, it is something very pleasant to sit and listen on Sunday, or at any other time, and hear a merry peal of bells keeping perfect time; and I am sure if these bells are rung properly, as they sometimes are, they are very musical to listen to. Trusting this great annoyance may soon reach its end, I am, &c.

AN OLD BELL-RINGER.

Bell-Casting in Bristol.—New Bells for St. Luke's, Bedminster.

MESSRS. LLEWELLYNS AND JAMES, the well-known engineers and brass-founders of Castle Street, are to be congratulated upon having once more introduced into this city the casting of church bells, an important branch of industry which for over a quarter of a century has not been carried on here. We believe we are right in stating that the last ring of bells manufactured in this city are those that now occupy the tower of St. Matthew's Church, Kingsdown, and they were cast over thirty years ago by Messrs. Jefferies and Price, a firm then carrying on business in Redcliff, the late W. Cary being foreman of the job. Since that time all local orders have been executed in other places, but about four years ago Messrs. Llewellyns and James determined to revive the art, and added this branch of industry to their already extensive business; and we are glad to say the success which has attended their new venture has been of a most gratifying character. The first bell made by the firm was for a place in Finland, and soon after several orders were executed by them for Wales, and their fame as bell-founders rapidly extending, they have since cast bells for Weston Zoyland, Middlezoy, Taunton, Glastonbury, Paisley, and many other places. An important work was recently executed by the firm in casting a *facsimile* of an ancient bell at Paisley, and the bell turned out from the foundry gave the greatest satisfaction. We need hardly say that the operation of bell-founding is one of considerable difficulty and delicacy, and to ensure perfection in the work not only must the materials used be of the best and finest quality, and the workmen skilled and intelligent, but the most intricate calculations have to be made in order to obtain the proper proportions, the required weight, and the necessary strength and purity of tone. Due attention is paid to all these details by the firm, and, under the supervision of Mr. Joseph Richards, the foreman of the foundry department, the bells turned out from the foundry in Castle Green are characterised by smoothness of surface and excellent tone. Messrs. Llewellyns and James have lately completed an order for a ring of six bells for St. Luke's Church, Bedminster, and they are a fine specimen of the art of bell-casting. The weights of the bells are—Tenor bell, 10 cwt. 1 qr. 23 lb.; fifth bell, 8 cwt. 2 qr. 1 lb.; fourth bell, 6 cwt. 2 qr. 24 lb.; third bell, 6 cwt. 0 qr. 27½ lb.; second bell, 5 cwt. 1 qr. 2 lb.; first bell, 5 cwt. 0 qr. 11 lb. They are in the key of G. On the tenor bell is inscribed,—

'The sum of 300*l.* was contributed towards these bells by Mrs. Jones, in accordance with the wish of a deceased brother; the remaining sum by the parishioners

D. A. DODDNEY, D.D., Vicar.

G. DUCK,

W. GOODRIDGE, } Churchwardens.'

The bells were hung by Mr. Alfred York of Bristol.—*Local Paper*.

Change-ringing at Braughing, Herts.

SIR,—Last week I saw an article about ringing at the above named place; it is stated that they rung 4272 changes in seven distinct methods. I hope the conductor will kindly explain how he gets it, and how many repetition changes there were. I cannot make in the whole number more than 3768, and there must be a great many which were rung over and over to count that number. I should be much obliged if the conductor would give the lead ends and bob changes of all the touches, which would enlighten me and other change-ringers who take great interest in the art.

W. A. TYLET, Change-ringer.

Doncaster.

RECEIVED ALSO.—M. R. T.; Treble Bob.

Christian England in the nineteenth century! We have got no further than this in our evangelizing of the masses! We are astonished and horrified at the awful outbreaks of crime that seem almost epidemic; but the root, the root is bad: the fountain of life in our young men and maidens is poisoned at the source. Before ever the clergyman can reach their opening minds to influence them for good, abominable institutions like these have overpowered them, and the first step downward has been taken. And madness is engendered in rural villages, and we wonder why; and suicides, and monstrous diseases, and broken hearts become rife, and we wonder why. Sir, I shall never wonder again. The hiring-fair I have just witnessed amply accounts for all. I hope we need no more than to have our attention called to it. A very few men in a neighbourhood acting in concert would suffice to put them down. It is not alone of moral evil that we speak, but of its more visible fruits—sanitary and social evil as well; the tendency these things have to degenerate the race, to depreciate the stamina of the men, to ruin the character of the women for fidelity and steadfastness, to upset and overturn every sort of institution for good of any kind. As for religious life—we cannot believe, since we know how many more than we dare count—towns suffer in like manner; but that the religious life of this country at large must suffer most fearfully by these things.

It is almost horrible to think of the preaching of Christianity in a town like the one I speak of, and then the next day the whole town being given up in this way. Everything is against vital religion, everything is in favour of vice. How can the minister of Christ contend against such odds?

I trust you will pardon my troubling you with this long letter. I only wish to point all who are interested to what I believe to be an unfailing source of wickedness in country parishes. The towns set the example, and the villages round about are infected with it.

X.

NOTES AND QUERIES:

Queries.

SIR,—Is it usual or necessary that, after a Charge from the Archdeacon, the churchwardens should go to a table placed near the altar-rails to take their oaths, and those writing should lounge on the altar-rails and talk to one another on affairs of business or pleasure? Such an arrangement does away with a year's teaching to 'Reverence My sanctuary,' and distresses those who witness this irreverent behaviour. Surely a Visitation might be a great opportunity of teaching what is fitting to churchwardens in this matter as well as to clergy.

S.

SIR,—The Absolution is invariably omitted in the parish church of Cheltenham (though a clergyman in priest's orders is present). Is this extraordinary omission justifiable? and, if not, what remedy has a

PARISHIONER AND REGULAR ATTENDANT?

SIR,—Will you kindly obtain for me, through your correspondence in *Church Bells*, the information whether back numbers of *Church Bells* would be of use to any one? There are several years complete, and the present year could be sent when concluded.

M. G. A. FITZROY.

St. George's Bank, East Molesey.

Answers.

SIR,—'Songstress' will probably find the music and the words of the following very suitable for her purpose. 'Go, when the morning shineth,' by 'H. B.' (Novello, 4d.). 'The Land beyond the Sea,' one of three sacred airs in the first number of Linter's *S. Michael's Hymns* (Masters, 6d.). 'Lord, Thy children guide and keep.' (S. P. C. K. Church Hymns, No. 425), when sung with spirit to 'Dix' (64 in *Hymns A. & M.*), is a special favourite wherever it is known, and is a hymn which working men and women heartily appreciate.

C. B.

'A. F. S. H.' recommends to 'T. E.' the Psalter by Ouseley and Monk, the pointing of which is very simple and natural, and the chants are almost all single Anglicans, and thoroughly suitable for Congregational use.

'S. H.' will find what is to be said about Evening Communion succinctly stated in a little three-halfpenny book, entitled *Morning and Evening Communion*, a letter to a friend, by the Rev. Thomas Fenton, M.A., Vicar of Ings, Kendal; and printed by T. Wilson, 28 Highgate, Kendal, who would probably send it on receipt of two penny stamps.

'S. H.'—I would recommend 'S. H.' to get 'Evening Communions,' reprinted from the *Literary Churchman*, with a letter by Canon Bright. (W. Skeffington, price 6d.)

W. W. H.

'S. H.' will find an excellent article on Evening Communions in *Words of Counsel* of Bishop Wilberforce. It is a concise statement of objections to 'that greatest of innovations which directly tends to the desecration of the highest act of our holy religion.'

ANGLICANUS.

SIR,—Whether a rate or not, fees for admitting churchwardens are not recoverable. In my parish we have a church-rate, but we refuse to pay such fees.

H. T. E.

RECEIVED ALSO.—X. Y. B.; M. P. D.; C. R. Cant.; S. A. S.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

The Great Yorkshire Gathering of Ringers at York.

GENTLEMEN,—You are earnestly invited to attend the Quarterly Meeting of the Yorkshire Association of Ringers, to be held at the 'Punch Bowl' Inn, Stonegate, near the Minster, York, on Saturday, the 3rd day of July, 1875, at two o'clock, when we hope to see as many from each Company as can make it convenient to do so.

The bells at the Minster will be ready for use at eleven o'clock.

The time for voting for the place of the next Quarterly Meeting is fixed for 4 p.m.

We have followed the plan adopted at Leeds by appointing Mr. W. H. Howard as Chairman and Mr. J. Underwood, Vice-chairman (York Members). This course we hope will be found acceptable, and conducive to good fellowship and ringing.

We particularly request all the members to let their Secretary know how many of each set are coming, and forward the same on or before the 24th day of June, so that the necessary preparations may be made.

All communications to be addressed to Mr. W. H. Howard, 30 Skeldergate, York.

We are, Gentlemen, yours faithfully,

York, June 1st, 1875.

THE CHANGE-RINGERS OF YORK MINSTER.

There will be a proposition before the Meeting to take into consideration the desirability of forming an Association for the County of York.

A Guild for Durham and Northumberland.

SIR,—It was with extreme pleasure that I read in your No. for May 1 that there is at least one clergyman in the diocese of Durham who takes a hearty interest in his bells and ringers. I may add, that when I first came to this town I found both the bells and the ringing in a very low condition, and found that neither Vicar nor Churchwardens ever showed the slightest interest in the subject. I have been the means of introducing change-ringing to a limited extent, and have attended all the practices from their commencement about two years ago, but have never yet seen the Vicar or Churchwardens in the tower. By establishing a guild for the diocese of Durham this state of things might be entirely changed, and the success of a society such as that of Alnwick become a means of stimulating not only the ringers of other places to better efforts, but also the clergy and churchwardens, to take a better interest in this noble art.

GEO. T. CLARKSON.

Stockton-on-Tees.

Some Peculiarities about Bells. No. III.

SIR,—Although somewhat out of the strict line, I wish to speak a little about the bells of the Clock Tower of Westminster, the Houses of Parliament. These bells are tuned 1, 2, 3, 6, 10; the tenor bell is much the heaviest bell in England, being fully fifteen tons. These bells, I need hardly say, are only used for the clock, and are in exact imitation of the chimes of Great St. Mary's at Cambridge, which are said to have been set by no less eminent a musician than Handel.* I may mention that the grand West Tower of St. Mary the Great, Cambridge, contains a ring of twelve bells—tenor 30 cwt. in the key of D flat or C sharp.

F. B. KING.

[We have omitted the latter portion of our kind correspondent's article, because it is only another version of what we published last week.—Ed.]

Prize-ringing at Sowerby, Yorkshire.

WHAT could have induced the Vicar and Churchwardens of this place to allow the bells of their parish church to be prostituted to such ungodly use? Surely very many of the inhabitants must have been driven half mad to hear the bells pulled about by ten different sets of ringers, from eight o'clock on the morning of Whit Tuesday to half-past twelve on Wednesday—more than twenty-eight hours!—as we learn from a local paper, to say nothing of the revelry carried on and the beer consumed by the multitude of outsiders. Have the ringers no feeling of self-respect to induce them to abandon the practice which leads to so much that is most objectionable, and which lowers them and the noble science of change-ringing in the estimation of the general public, and which we know is most deeply lamented by many of the best and most respectable ringers in their neighbourhood, and others far and wide? As Yorkshiremen, they cannot require money to induce them to maintain their position as the champions of the north, if not of all England. Twenty-three pounds wasted in prizes! Let ringers learn not to play into the hands of the publicans with the goods of the Church set up for holier uses, and then, they may depend upon it, they will rise the more rapidly in the social scale, and hold thus a higher position in society, to which it is our earnest desire and endeavour to raise them.

Change-ringing at Wigston, Leicestershire.

THROUGH the invitation of T. Ingram, Esq., churchwarden, who has recently given a new treble bell, the Stony Stanton and Sapcote ringers paid a visit on Whit Monday and rang two peals of Bob Minor and one of Treble Bob Minor (Oxford variation). The ringers were:—T. Holmes, treble; T. Lane, 2nd; R. Bishop, 3rd; H. Briggs, 4th; J. Noble, 5th; C. Lane, tenor. Conducted by C. Lane.—Reported.

Muffled Peal at St. Margaret's, Westminster.

ON Saturday evening, the 22nd ult. a muffled peal was rung at the above church, as a mark of respect to the late Mr. Henry Barret, for many years one of the parish ringers.—Reported.

1875 Grandsire Triples, as a Date Touch, were rung at York Minster on Tuesday evening, the 18th ult.

At New College, Oxford, on Monday, May 24th, three members of the Oxford University Society, with five members of the Oxford Society, rang 1875 Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. 13 mins. Composed by Mr. John Cox of London; conducted by Mr. C. Hounslow.—Reported.

RECEIVED ALSO.—T. R. Matthews; K. B. Nothing inclosed in last from Moreton Hampstead but a note of announcement.

* Dr. Raven gives us the history of these celebrated chimes in his *Church Bells of Cambridgeshire*, p. 63. They were composed by Dr. Jowett, Regius Professor of Laws; he was assisted by Crotch, then a boy, who might have taken a movement in the fifth bar of the opening symphony by Handel, 'I know that my Redeemer liveth.' When the chimes were first heard they were called 'Old Jowett's Hornpipe.'—Ed.

SIR,—I think there is a great want just now of some account of the Ecclesiastical policy of Bismarck in Germany during the last few years, up to the present date. The 'Falek' Laws are mentioned by some as being unjust towards Roman Catholics. I do not think it is generally known what these laws are, and an explanation of them would be most useful. I should be glad to know if any pamphlet has come out on the subject. If not, a letter in *Church Bells* throwing some light on the whole matter would be very valuable.

SHAMROCK.

SIR,—Will you, or any of your readers, kindly inform me whether the 'Constitutions and Canons Ecclesiastical' of 1603 have now the force of law? If not, is there any modern work published pointing out those that are obsolete, or that have been rendered void by subsequent legislative enactments, or any recent work treating generally on the subject? If so, who are the publishers, and what is the price? In the event of any real or apparent discrepancy between the Canons and the Rubrics, which has the higher authority? Is it a fact that the said laws are not binding on the laity, but only on the clergy, not having received the sanction of Parliament? N. E. S.

SIR,—The appearance of Mr. Aitken's letter on 'Assurance' in your paper of May 29th, induces me to write and ask if any of your correspondents could tell me of any work of moderate size, setting forth soberly and practically the true Scriptural doctrine, as held by the Church of England, upon this difficult subject. I enclose my card, and beg to sign myself,

A CONSTANT READER.

SIR,—The 20th of June falls on Sunday this year. The Accession Service is ordered to be used. Will any of the clergy inform me whether they will obey the second rubric, which says that 'if the day shall happen on Sunday the whole office shall be used'? J. H.

SIR,—Can any of your readers tell me of a good collection of music for the Responses after the Commandments; also, of a good arrangement of Marbeck's *Daily Prayer and Litany* for congregational use, and in a cheap form? P. L. J.

SIR,—'E. M. S.' will be obliged to any one who will tell her the legend of St. Veronica and the impression of our Saviour's face on the cloth, or in what book she can read it.

Answers.

SIDESMEN.—'Neophyte' (in our number for May 29) will find the information desired in Hook's *Church Dictionary*, under the heads of 'Sidesmen' and 'Churchwardens.'

'ANXIOUS INQUIRER.'—We do not at all understand the position of the 'ministers' of whom you write; but there is no doubt that Baptism administered by them, if with water and in the name of the Holy Trinity, is valid.

RECEIVED ALSO.—C. Mortimer.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Some Peculiarities about Bells.—No. IV.

SIR,—There is a standing peculiarity about the bells of the East Riding, and that is that they are, as a rule, incommensurate with the towers which contain them. I will give you two or three examples, among many within my knowledge. Cottingham, near Hull, has a most magnificent tower, quite capable of containing a heavy ring of 12: it only contains a ring of 4; tenor a little more than a ton, in the key of E. Hedon has a cathedral-like church with a central tower, indicating a grand heavy ring of bells: it contains a light set of 6; tenor 16 cwt., in G. St. Mary's, Beverley, has a most substantial central tower, that looks like 10 bells at least: it has 6 only; tenor 20 cwt., in E. Holy Trinity, in Hull, has an exceedingly grand central tower, not half filled by its ring of 8; tenor 23 cwt., in E. I might give you many other examples—and I shall reserve my own church for future comments—all tending to show that the towers and steeples were evidently built for more and heavier bells than they now contain. There is a fixed ring of 8 bells in St. Stephen's Church, Hull, which takes up only a small portion of the steeple; the tenor bell weighs not quite 11 cwt., in the key of A; the upper 2 bells are rather shrill and clangy, still they are beautifully in tune, and are rung, or rather sounded, by one person, and even fired, as it is called, with very great ease, not with external hammers, but the clappers are pulled against the sides by wooden handles placed close together. F. B. KING.

Change-ringing at St. Giles, Ashtead, Surrey.

On Saturday, May 29th, a mixed company of change-ringers rang at the above church Mr. J. Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, of 5040 changes, in 3 hours 5 minutes. The ringers were stationed thus:—G. Sayer, jun., Ashtead, treble; J. Wyatt (his first peal), Ashtead, 2nd; H. T. Lipscomb, Leatherhead, 3rd; R. Harden, Epsom, 4th; W. Marks, Leatherhead, 5th; T. Gadd, Leatherhead, 6th; S. Brooker, Leatherhead, 7th; W. Arthur, Ashtead, tenor. Conducted by Mr. G. Sayer. Weight of tenor, 14 cwt.—*Reported.*

Date Touches at Worcester.

On Monday, the 24th ult., 1875 Grandsire Caters were rung on the bells of All Saints in 1 hour 19 minutes. Conducted by Wm. Blandford.—*Reported.*

New Clock at Syston, Leicester.

A LARGE clock, striking the hours and playing the Cambridge chimes, has just been placed in the parish church here. At the starting of it a dedication service was gone through, and the day was made a holiday by the inhabitants. The movement is a fine specimen of mechanical skill, having all the latest improvements, including Denison's double three-legged gravity escapement. Mr. Smith, Midland Clock Works, Derby, has carried out the work.

BELFRY RECORDS.

ST. MARY'S, WOOLWICH. (Tablets in the Belfry.)

(Continued from page 283.)

744. On Monday, March 10th, 1847, the following members of the Society of St. Mary's, Woolwich, rung on these bells Mr. John Holt's original peal (in one part) of Grandsire Triples of 5040 changes, in 2 hrs. & 53 mins.

Mr. G. Simmons, <i>Treble.</i>	Mr. J. Johnson, <i>Fourth.</i>	Mr. H. Banister, <i>senr. Seventh.</i>
John Banister, <i>Second.</i>	G. Banister, <i>Fifth.</i>	Edwd. West, <i>Tenor.</i>
W. Banister, <i>Third.</i>	G. Cleveland, <i>Sixth.</i>	Conducted by Mr. W. Banister.
		Rev. W. Greenlaw, M.A. <i>Rector.</i>
		Mr. Thos. Morgan, } <i>Churchwardens.</i>
		Francis Salet, }

745. On Thursday, Feby. 10th, 1848, the following Members of the Society of St. Mary's, Woolwich, rung on these bells an excellent peal of Kent Treble Bob Major, containing 5120 changes, in 2 hours 59 minutes, viz:—

Mr. F. H. Banister, <i>Treble.</i>	Mr. T. Haggerty, <i>Fourth.</i>	Mr. H. Banister, <i>senr. Seventh.</i>
J. Banister, <i>Second.</i>	G. Banister, <i>Fifth.</i>	E. West, <i>Tenor.</i>
W. Banister, <i>Third.</i>	W. Keeble, <i>Sixth.</i>	Conducted by Mr. W. Banister.
		Rev. W. Greenlaw, M.A. <i>Rector.</i>
		T. Morgan, } <i>Esqs. Churchwardens.</i>
		H. B. Roß, }

746. On Monday, Sept. 18th, 1848, the following members of the Society of St. Mary's, Woolwich, rung on these bells a true and complete peal of Triples on Stedman's Principle, comprising 5040 changes, in 2 hours and 55 minutes, being the first in the method ever rung in Kent, viz:—

Mr. W. Banister, <i>Treble.</i>	Mr. Saml. Teasel, <i>Fourth.</i>	Mr. G. Banister, <i>Seventh.</i>
John Banister, <i>Second.</i>	Edwd. West, <i>Fifth.</i>	R. Jones, <i>Tenor.</i>
F. H. Banister, <i>Third.</i>	G. Cleveland, <i>Sixth.</i>	Conducted by Mr. W. Banister.
		Rev. W. Greenlaw, M.A. <i>Rector.</i>
		Thomas Morgan, } <i>Esqs. Churchwardens.</i>
		H. B. Roß, }

747. On Thursday, Nov. 16th, 1848, the following members of the Society of St. Mary's, Woolwich, rung on these bells an excellent peal of Real Double Norwich Court Bob Major, comprising 5040 changes, in 3 hours and 7 minutes, viz:—

Mr. John Banister, <i>Treble.</i>	Mr. S. Teasel, <i>Fourth.</i>	Mr. G. Cleveland, <i>Sixth.</i>
W. Banister, <i>Second.</i>	W. Keeble, <i>Fifth.</i>	G. Banister, <i>Seventh.</i>
F. H. Banister, <i>Third.</i>		Edwd. West, <i>Tenor.</i>

Composed and Conducted by Mr. W. Banister.

Rev. W. Greenlaw, M.A. *Rector.*Thos. Morgan, } *Esqs. Churchwardens.*

H. B. Roß, }

748. On Monday, Feby. 10th, 1849, the following Members of the Society of College Youths rung on these bells a true and complete peal of Superlative Surprise Major, containing 5376 changes, in 3 hours 15 minutes, being the first in this intricate method ever rung in Kent, viz:—

Mr. H. Banister, <i>senr. Treble.</i>	Mr. Saml. Teasel, <i>Fourth.</i>	Mr. Geo. Cleveland, <i>Sixth.</i>
W. Banister, <i>Second.</i>	John Banister, <i>Fifth.</i>	Geo. Banister, <i>Seventh.</i>
F. H. Banister, <i>Third.</i>		Edwd. West, <i>Tenor.</i>

The same band, after diligent practice and steady perseverance, completed on Oct. 11th in the same year 5600 changes of London Surprise Major, which arduous task was performed in 3 hours 27 minutes.

Each peal was composed and conducted by Mr. W. Banister.

Rev. W. Greenlaw, M.A. *Rector.*Thomas Morgan, } *Esqs. Churchwardens.*

Henry B. Roß, }

749. On Monday, March 27th, 1852, the following Members of the College Youths' Society rung on these bells a true and complete peal of Grandsire Triples, comprising 5040 changes, in 2 hours 57 minutes, viz:—

Mr. James Banister, <i>Treble.</i>	Mr. Wm. Banister, <i>Fourth.</i>	Mr. Henry Banister, <i>senr. Seventh.</i>
Thomas Banister, <i>Second.</i>	George Banister, <i>Fifth.</i>	Edwd. West, <i>Tenor.</i>
John Banister, <i>Third.</i>	Francis H. Banister, <i>Sixth.</i>	

Conducted by Mr. H. Banister, *senr.*

This is believed to be the first instance in which the whole of the changes, comprising a complete peal of Triples, were performed by a father and six sons.

Rev. H. Brown, M.A. *Rector.*Thomas Morgan, } *Esqs. Churchwardens.*

C. Jones, }

750. On Monday, Oct. 13th, 1856, the following Members of the Society of St. Mary's, Woolwich, rung on these bells a complete peal of Grandsire Triples, comprising 5040 changes, in 2 hrs. 52 minutes, viz:—

Mr. H. Bright, <i>Treble.</i>	Mr. Geo. Banister, <i>Fourth.</i>	Mr. Josh. Robinson, <i>Sixth.</i>
Edwd. West, <i>Second.</i>	R. Hopkiss, <i>Fifth.</i>	John Banister, <i>Seventh.</i>
T. Banister, <i>Third.</i>		Richard Jones, <i>Tenor.</i>

Conducted by Mr. John Banister.

Rev. Henry Brown, M.A. *Rector.*

751. On Wednesday, Feby. 1st, 1860, the following Members of the College Youths' Society rung on these bells a true and complete peal of Triples on Stedman's Principle, comprising 5040 changes, in 2 hrs. 52 minutes, viz:—

Mr. W. Banister, <i>Treble.</i>	Mr. Thomas Banister, <i>Fourth.</i>	Mr. John Banister, <i>Sixth.</i>
James Banister, <i>Second.</i>	Henry Banister, <i>senr. Fifth.</i>	George Banister, <i>Seventh.</i>
Francis H. Banister, <i>Third.</i>		Henry Bright, <i>Tenor.</i>

Conducted by Mr. W. Banister.

Rev. Henry Brown, M.A. *Rector.*

ST. JOHN'S, DEANSGATE, MANCHESTER.

(Tablets in the Belfry.)

752. CHANGE-RINGING.—On Wednesday evening, Feb. 27th, 1833, the Society of Change Ringers, St. John's Church, Manchester, ascended the tower, and had the honour of ringing the first peal of Triples on Stedman's principle ever rung in the North of England, consisting of 5040 changes, which they accomplished in 3 hrs. 2 mins. The Ringers were stationed as under:—

James Kelley, <i>Treble.</i>	Joseph Mason, <i>Fourth.</i>	Samuel Winterbottom, <i>Seventh.</i>
Samuel Robinson, <i>Second.</i>	Charles Smith, <i>Fifth.</i>	John Gregory, <i>Tenor.</i>
John Jones, <i>Third.</i>	William Royle, <i>Sixth.</i>	

The peal was composed by Mr. Tebbs of Leeds. It contains 600 Bobs & 20 Singles, and was conducted by Mr. J. Kelley.

Also, on Wednesday evening, Nov. 5th, 1834, the aforesaid Society had the honour to ring their second peal of Triples, Stedman's principle, consisting of 5040 changes, which they accomplished in 3.0 hrs. ringing, viz:—

John Holroyd, <i>Treble.</i>	Robert Howe, <i>Fourth.</i>	Charles Smith, <i>Sixth.</i>
Jeremiah Lord, <i>Second.</i>	James Kelley, <i>Fifth.</i>	William Royle, <i>Seventh.</i>
Joseph Winterbottom, <i>Third.</i>		John Gregory, <i>Tenor.</i>

The peal is the third composition of J. P. Powel, Esq. of Quex Park, Kent. Contains 382 calls, and was conducted by William Royle.

This Board was placed here by the authority of the Churchwardens.

John Wolliam.

John Moore, Jun.

RECEIVED ALSO.—G. H. Barnett; Jos. Hall.

Answers.

SIR,—Allow me to call the attention of 'A Constant Reader' to a little book called *Lent Lectures*, by the Rev. G. H. Wilkinson, St. Peter's, Eaton Square, pages 31, 32, and 38 especially. The whole book sets forth very clearly the teaching of our Church on 'Assurance.' (Macintosh, 24 Paternoster Row.) Also, *Way of Salvation*, by same Author. D. H. F.

ANOTHER correspondent says 'A Constant Reader' will find what he wants in *The Way of Salvation*, by Rev. H. W. Holden, 3s. 6d., published by E. Longhurst, 30 New Bridge Street, London, E.C. It is an admirable book on Conversion, Saving Faith, Faith only, Assurance, &c.

SIR,—P. L. J. will find a good collection of music for the Kyries in the *Westminster Chant-book*, edited by Turle, and published by the S. P. C. K. The Rev. R. Matthews, Rector of North Coates, Great Grimsby, has lately composed some very good Kyries, which are published, printed on a single sheet, price 6d. M. P. D.

SIR,—I was rather astonished at the query of your correspondent 'J. H.,' as to whether any of the clergy will obey the rubric directing the use of the whole Office for the 20th day of June. I do not know what my English brethren will do, but this I can answer for, that the whole Office will be read in its integrity by an IRISH VICAR.

ST. VERONICA.—Our correspondent of last week may read the legend of St. Veronica in Alban Butler's (Roman Catholic) *Lives of the Saints*, in which, however, it is acknowledged to be a pious fable. He may also find a short account of it in St. Mark's (North Audley Street) *Monthly Parish Paper* for April and May. (Price 1d. J. J. Cowens, 38 North Audley Street.)

'J. H.' is informed that the Queen's Accession Service will be used at St. Mary's, Todmorden, Lancashire.

'H. J. FREY' recommends 'A Cambridge Undergraduate' to read the *Lecture on Extempore Preaching*, delivered a short time ago by the Lord Bishop of Peterborough before the Church Homiletical Society.

RECEIVED ALSO.—A Churchman; M.; C.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Some Peculiarities about Bells.—No. V.

SIR,—Looking at your capital illustration of the new church of St. Mary Abbots, Kensington, and bearing in mind that there is going on in the parish a penny subscription for a grand ring of bells, one wonders where they will be placed, for there is no appearance or mention of any sort of tower or spire whatever. And this reminds me of the curious position in which some bells are placed about Bristol, which is the reverse of the East Riding: there, in several cases, the bells seem too much for the churches; in one case, where there is no steeple, the bells seem creeping up the roof, and even mere gables and turrets are made to support four and five bells. With the exception of Exeter Cathedral and St. Mary-le-Bow, London, St. Mary Redcliffe, in Bristol, has the grandest ring of ten bells of any church in the world—tenor, 48 cwt. in C. In my next I shall have something to say about the case of my own church and the grand church of Pattingham. F. B. KING.

Prize-ringing at Sowerby.

We are sorry to have incurred the displeasure of the parson and churchwardens of Sowerby for our reprobation of the prize-ringing which they allowed to take place on Whit Tuesday. It is evident that our views widely differ. We look upon church bells as musical instruments solemnly dedicated to the honour of God—as the organ and other goods of the church—and to allow them to be used for other purposes is to prostitute them to unholy uses.

It has been shown in our columns over and over again, that prizes are not necessary for promoting the noble science of change-ringing; no such stimulus as money is required. We acknowledge ourselves pleased to hear that the ten sets of ringers who competed on that day are the most respectable youths (all ringers are youths) in that part of the country, and such no doubt their conduct proved them to be; but what is to be said of the goings on at the public-houses during the contest—betting and drinking it may be among the outsiders who were attracted to the town for the holiday?

If our compositor made a mistake in his figure, setting up 28 for 16 hours, we must attribute the error to the bad writing of our correspondents, which is sometimes a puzzle to our whole staff to make out.

We cannot depart from our principles, which are to denounce prize-ringing, and to use our utmost to raise the respectability of ringers in the social scale of society as members and working officials of the Church.

We grieve to see that prize-ringing is advertised to take place at Brighouse and at Saddleworth in August. If the parsons and churchwardens do not like to discourage it, we think the higher authorities might interfere and persuade them to do so.—ED.

A Guild for Durham and Northumberland.

SIR,—I have read with much interest the letters that have appeared in *Church Bells* with respect to establishing a Ringing Guild in the diocese of Durham. I believe there is no change-ringing in these counties, except what is being done by G. J. Clarkson, Esq., of Stockton-on-Tees, by myself at Hurworth, and the attempts now being made at the belfries of St. Cuthbert's and St. John's, Darlington. Of the several towers I have seen in this district, few are what they might and ought to be, most of them being in a deplorable state of filth and rubbish. The bell-pullers (I can't call them ringers) drink, smoke, &c. in the belfry, and never think of ringing unless paid for it. There are exceptions to this, but they are very few.

If a Guild were established, every clergyman who has a ring of bells should become a patron, and, where possible, take the initiative in having change-

ringing, see that the ringers are respectable men, and the belfry kept decent and clean. I should like to see this matter further discussed in *Church Bells*, as it is a very important one; and as one of the ringers who opened the Alnwick bells, I thank the Rev. J. J. M. Perry for the interest he has taken and is taking, not only in Alnwick but in other places, in connexion with the development of the scientific art of change-ringing. J. E. HERN.

Hurworth-on-Tees.

Appleton Bells, Berks.

SATURDAY, the 5th inst., was a bright day in the annals of the Appleton Change-ringing Society. About a year ago the ringers wished to have one of their defective bells recast, and, having contributed what they could themselves, they appealed to their friends and the public for help. So they raised funds enough to pay for recasting of three more of their ring of ten. These four new ones are from the foundry of Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, London. All were hung in the tower by A. White and Son, of Besselsleigh. There is only one other ring of ten in the county (at Reading). Saturday was the opening day, and the conductor of the Society, Mr. F. White, thinking that new ringers might accord with new bells, brought out some of his young hands on the occasion, and the result was a true and complete peal of Grand-sire Caters, containing 5004 changes, which was brought round in 8 hrs. 15 mins. by the following persons:—G. Holifield (his first peal), treble; A. White, 2nd; J. Newman, 3rd; W. Bennett (first peal), 4th; B. Barrett, 5th; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 6th; J. Avery, 7th; F. White, 8th; H. Woodwards, 9th; T. Bennett (first peal), tenor. The peal was composed and conducted by F. White.—*Reported.*

Change-ringing at Melford, Suffolk.

ON Saturday, June 5th, the Glemsford Society of Change-ringers, by the kind permission of the Rector, met at the above church, and rang a touch of Kent Treble Bob Major, consisting of 1120 changes. J. Slater, treble; C. Honeybell, 2nd; C. Adams, 3rd; S. Slater, 4th; Z. Slater, 5th; F. Wells, 6th; P. Adams, 7th; G. Maxim, tenor. Conducted by P. Adams. Weight of tenor, 16 cwt. Key F. This is the longest touch of Treble Bob rung on these bells for upwards of ten years. Mr. H. Thompson, of Cavendish, and Mr. E. W. Downs, of Glemsford, were present and assisted in some Oxford Treble Bob Changes.—*Reported.*

Change-ringing at St. John's, Deptford.

ACCORDING to a promise made to the churchwarden at the opening of the bells at the above church on New-year's Eve (Dec. 31st, 1874), eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths, last Friday evening (June 11th), rang Thurstan's peal of Stedman's Triples, containing 5040 changes, in 2 hrs. 55 mins.—H. Haley, treble; J. R. Haworth, 2nd; G. Ferris, 3rd; W. Cooter, 4th; W. Greenleaf, 5th; W. Jones, 6th; M. A. Wood, 7th; M. Hayes, tenor. Conducted by Mr. Haley.—*Reported.*

Date Touch.

AT St. Peter's, Wolverhampton, on the 1st inst., 1875 Grandsire Triples, muffled, in memory of the late John Fox, an old Ringer.

BELFRY RECORDS.

OLDHAM, LANCASHIRE. (Tablets in the Belfry.)

753. ON the 30th day of September, 1783, was rung in the old Tower of St. Paul's Church 10,080 changes of Bob Major in 5 hours and 30 minutes. Performed by Thomas Kay, First (composer and conductor). William Dawson, Third. Joseph Mills, Sixth. Daniel Mills, Fourth. Joseph Jackson, Seventh. John Wolstencroft, Second. James Ogden, Fifth. James Mills, Eighth.

754. ON Monday, the 4th day of January, 1784, was rung in the old Tower of St. Paul's Church 14,480 changes of Bob Major, in 8 hours and 24 minutes. Performed by Thomas Kay, First (composer and conductor). William Dawson, Third. Joseph Mills, Sixth. Daniel Mills, Fourth. Joseph Jackson, Seventh. John Heywood, Second. James Ogden, Fifth. James Mills, Eighth.

755. ON Saturday, the 24th day of October, 1807, was rung in the old Tower of St. Paul's Church 15,120 of Bob Major, in 8 hours and 46 minutes. Performed by James Taylor, First. Joseph Newton, Fourth (composer and conductor). Joshua Kershaw, Sixth. Robert Cooper, Second. William Rigby, Seventh. John Newton, Third. Jeffrey Lomax, Fifth. John Whitehead, Eighth.

756. ON Monday, the 12th day of February, 1821, was rung in the tower of the old church Mr. Eversfield's peal of Kent Treble Bob, consisting of 14,016 changes, in 7 hours and 26 minutes, being the greatest number of changes ever rung in the United Kingdom in the above-mentioned peal. Performed by Joseph Newton, First (conductor). John Brierley, Third. Thomas Chadderton, Sixth. James Mills, Second. James Taylor, Fourth. John Whitehead, Seventh. James Rigby, Fifth. Edward Taylor, Eighth. Abraham Jackson, Seventh. James Jackson, Eighth.

757. ON Shrove Tuesday, February the 15th, 1825, was rung in the old Tower of St. Paul's Church 9999 changes of Grandsire Major, in 5 hours and 22 minutes. Performed by Joseph Newton, First (composer and conductor). John Brierley, Third. Edward Taylor, Eighth. John Jackson, Fourth. Abraham Jackson, Seventh. Thomas Chadderton, Fifth. James Jackson, Eighth.

758. THIS noble peal of 12 bells was first rung on September 2nd, 1830, on Christmas Day. The same year was rung a true and complete peal of Grandsire Cinques, consisting of 5126 changes, being the first peal of that length ever rung on these bells, which was well brought round in 8 hours and 28 minutes by the following persons:—Joseph Newton, First (conductor). Jeffrey Lomax, Fourth. James Jackson, Ninth. James Mills, Sixth. Moses Stopherd, Fifth. Abraham Jackson, Tenth. John Jackson, Second. James Mills, Sixth. Thomas Chadderton, Eleventh. John Newton, Third. William Rigby, Seventh. Samuel Siddall, Twelfth. John Brierley, Eighth.

BURTON, NEAR KENDAL, LANCASHIRE. (Tablet in the Belfry.)

759. THE peal of bells which this steeple contains was opened on the 18th of Sept. 1804, by the Kendal Society of Change Ringers, who rung a complete peal of 720 changes in 21 minutes.

The same peal was rung on the 1st day of Augt 1806, by the undermentioned Society, bearing the title of the Burton Volunteer Ringers (all of whom were entire strangers to the art at the time the bells were hung), viz:—

Thomas Remington, sen.	Thos. Remington, junr.	Rd. Wilson.
R. Remington.	John Heblethwaite.	John Armstrong.

RECEIVED:—W. Sottanstill; Beta, answered direct.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

ACCOUNT OF PEALS RUNG IN DIFFERENT METHODS

BY JAMES BARHAM, OF LEEDS, IN KENT,

In that and neighbouring Counties, from 1744 to 1813.

No.	Date.	No. of Changes.	Denomination of Peal.	Place where Rung.	Time in Performance.
1	1744. —	5,040	Plain Bob Triples	Harrietsham	—
2	1745. June 24	15,040	do.	do.	—
3	1746. Dec. 8	10,080	Bob Major Double	do.	7.0
4	1747. May 30	5,040	Bob Major	Wingham	—
5	1748. Dec. 1	5,040	do.	New Romney	—
6	1749. Jan. 25	5,040	do.	Harrietsham	—
7	" May 13	5,040	do.	Faversham*	—
8	" Oct. 10	5,040	Bob Major Triples	do.	—
9	1750. Easter	6,720	Bob Major	Harrietsham	4.18
10	" May 24	10,080	Bob Major Double	do.	6.50
11	" July 6	5,040	Bob Major	do.	—
12	" Nov. 24	5,040	Bob Major Triples	Maidstone	—
13	" Dec. 10	5,040	Bob Major	do.	3.30
14	1751. Mar. 23	5,040	Bob Major Double	Harrietsham	3.20
15	" May 17	5,040	Bob Major	Lenham*	3.14
16	" " 27	5,040	Bob Major Triples	do.	3.5
17	" Nov. 2	6,480	Bob Major Caters	Leeds	4.13
18	" " 30	8,100	Plain Ten In	do.	5.26
19	" Dec. 12	6,480	Bob Major Caters	do.	4.11
20	1752. Jan. 25	7,200	Plain Ten In	do.	4.40
21	" Dec. 30	14,600	Bob Major	do.	9.30
22	1753. Jan. 18	20,100	do.	do.	13.34
23	" Dec. 25	5,040	do.	do.	3.12
24	1754. Feb. 0	5,040	do.	Faversham	3.16
25	" Nov. 22	5,040	do.	Wrotham	3.16
26	" " 26	5,040	do.	Leeds	3.12
27	1755. Feb. 10	5,040	do.	do.	3.14
28	" " 22	5,040	do.	do.	3.15
29	" " 21	5,040	do.	Wye	3.10
30	" Mar. 31	do.	do.	Leeds	16.0
31	" May 20	5,040	do.	Wye	3.22
32	1756. Jan. 13	6,720	Oxford Treble Bob	Leeds	4.27
33	" " 20	5,040	Bob Major Double	Maidstone	3.20
34	" Feb. 7	5,040	London Court Bob	Leeds	3.17
35	1757. Feb. 10	6,720	Morning Pleasure	do.	4.21
36	1758. Aug. 6	5,184	Oxford Treble Bob	Harrietsham	3.16
37	1759. June 3	5,040	Bob Major	Leeds	3.10
38	" Dec. 25	5,184	Oxford Treble Bob	do.	3.16
39	1760. April 12	5,400	Oxf. Treble Bob Royal	do.	3.45
40	" May 25	5,184	Oxford Treble Bob	S. Mary's, Dover	3.20
41	" Dec. 25	5,184	do.	Leeds	3.17
42	1761. Mar. 28	5,040	Bob Major	do.	—
43	" Apl. 7 & 8	40,320	do.	do.	27.0
44	" Oct. 21	5,040	do.	Lenham	3.16
45	" " 26	5,400	do.	Leeds	2.54
46	" Dec. 5	5,184	Oxford Treble Bob	Chiddingstone	3.20
47	1762. May 31	5,184	Oxford Treble Bob	New Romney	3.22
48	" Dec. 1	5,040	Oxf. Treble Bob Royal	Leeds	3.16
49	" " 25	6,220	Court Bob	do.	4.34
50	1763. Jan. 1	5,184	Oxford Treble Bob	Maidstone	3.34
51	" " 8	6,720	London Court Bob	Harrietsham	4.27
52	" Mar. 15	5,184	Oxford Treble Bob	Ashford	3.23
53	" Nov. 17	5,184	Morning Pleasure	Leeds	3.16
54	1764. " 10	5,040	Bob Major	do.	3.10
55	1765. Jan. 25	6,720	Court Bob Ten In	do.	4.42
56	" Feb. 2	5,400	Morning Pleasure Ten In	do.	3.35
57	" May 22	6,000	Treble Ten In	do.	4.3
58	1766. Mar. 2	5,056	Morning Exercise	do.	3.17
59	" Dec. 26	5,184	Oxford Treble Bob	Headcour*	3.26
60	1769. April 30	5,184	do.	Headcour	3.22
61	1770. Mar. 14	5,184	do.	Sevenoaks*	3.24
62	" Nov. 17	5,184	do.	Leeds	3.20
63	" " 29	5,040	Bob Major	Maidstone	3.24
64	" Dec. 30	5,376	Treble Place Bob	Leeds	3.27
65	1771. Mar. 25	5,040	Bob Major	do.	3.17
66	" April 28	5,376	Treble Place Bob Double	do.	3.27
67	" " 30	5,040	Bob Major	do.	3.10
68	" May 20	5,184	Oxford Treble Bob	Tenterden	3.27
69	" June 15	5,184	do.	Leeds	3.17
70	" " 23	5,040	do. Ten In	do.	3.16
71	" Aug. 4	5,184	Oxford Treble Bob	do.	3.20
72	" Dec. 26	5,184	do.	Salehrst. Sus.*	3.15
73	1772. June 9	5,184	do.	Eltham	3.18
74	1773. Feb. 11	5,760	Bob Major	Leeds	3.34
75	" " 25	5,040	Court Bob	do.	3.10
76	" May 27	3,440	Bob Major	do.	—
77	" " 29	15,760	Court Bob	Leeds	3.42
78	" June 19	5,184	Oxford Treble Bob	Bromley	3.10
79	1774. " 4	5,088	do.	Leeds	3.9
80	" Aug. 7	15,184	do.	Rye, Sussex	3.7

Account of Peals, &c. (continued.)

No.	Date.	No. of Changes.	Denomination of Peal.	Place where Rung.	Time in Performance.
81	1775. Dec. 23	5,184	New Morning Exercise	Leeds	3.16
82	1776. May 27	5,184	Oxford Treble Bob	Goudhurst	3.14
83	" Dec. 26	5,184	do.	Wye	3.13
84	1778. Jan. 1	5,040	Treble Bob Ten In	Leeds	3.10
85	" " 10	5,184	New Place Treble Bob	do.	3.12
86	1780. Nov. 17	5,088	Treble Bob	do.	3.18
87	1781. Jan. 1	5,040	Bob Major	do.	3.13
88	1783. Nov. 1	5,088	Treble Bob	do.	3.11
89	" " 24	5,088	do.	Cranbrook*	3.16
90	1784. May 25	5,760	Treble Bob Ten In	Leeds	3.59
91	" Oct. 30	5,120	do.	Maidstone	4.6
92	" Nov. 8	5,088	Treble Bob	do.	3.34
93	1785. Mar. 25	5,120	do.	Biddenden*	3.35
94	" Nov. 17	5,040	Bob Major	Leeds	3.14
95	1786. Dec. 30	6,480	Bob Major Caters	Maidstone	4.22
96	1791. Mar. 21	5,000	Treble Bob Ten In	Leeds	3.12
97	1792. April 4	5,040	Bob Major	do.	3.14
98	" Dec. 25	5,088	Treble Bob	do.	3.17
99	" " 26	5,088	do.	Lenham	3.14
100	1793. Jan. 15	5,040	Bob Major	Leeds	3.10
101	" Mar. 20	5,088	Treble Bob	Faversham	3.11
102	1795. April 16	5,040	Bob Major	Leeds	3.10
103	1796. April 6	5,040	do.	do.	3.13
104	" June 3	10,080	Treble Bob	do.	6.26
105	1798. May 19	5,088	do.	do.	3.13
106	1799. May 28	5,760	Bob Major	Harrietsham	3.29
107	" Dec. 20	5,760	do.	Leeds	3.31
108	1800. Jan. 11	5,040	do.	do.	3.13
109	1803. Mar. 9	5,088	Treble Bob Double	do.	3.10
110	1809. Dec. 18	5,184	Old Oxford Bob	do.	3.16
111	1813. Oct. 25	5,040	Bob Major	do.	3.12

The above is nearly a correct copy from the manuscript of James Barham, which is in the possession of W. Lover, North End, Fulham, Middlesex. Some trifling emendations being necessary in a few instances, it is hoped the author (who is living) will see it was from no motive but to transmit his performances with more precision to his living friends and to posterity, he having rung peals for the space of 69 years.

No. 30. This number cannot be clearly ascertained, nor can it be deemed a peal in consequence of the breaking of a clapper. The said James Barham stood 14 hrs. 44 mins. under the seventh bell, drank two glasses of wine, and called all the bobs, for which the proprietor of this work has a certificate signed by a respectable person, who is willing to testify upon oath the truth of it.

No. 43. The whole peal of changes on eight bells having never been performed before or since.

No. 110 was rung by James Barham, aged 84 years; Thomas Bigg, 45; W. Tilly, 73 years; James Bolden, 41 years; W. Sweetlove, 40 years; Benjamin Bottle, 41 years; Thomas Austin, 74 years; George Tilly, 62 years. All these ages added together make 509 years.

No. 111 was rung by James Barham, 88 years, with two other men and five young hands, who never rung a peal of 5000 before.

NOTE.—Those marked * were first peals at the respective places.

HALL & SON, Printers, Bank Street, Maidstone.

Some Peculiarities about Bells.—No. VI.

SIR,—When I was a boy of 14 I lived at Craven Cottage, Fulham, and on festival or ringing-days I was always in our garden, if it was summer time, before 5 o'clock in the morning to hear the bells. Mortlake always began from 5 to 6. I do not know the weight of the 8 bells there, but they sounded like a musical box, and I feel sure they are light, but beautifully in tune. Then began Chiswick. There were 5 heavy bells in the minor key: very plaintive and curious they sounded. Then thundered out the 10 fine bells of Fulham, and the tuneful 8 of Putney. Sometimes I would hear the 8 of Hammersmith, and some others still more distant. It is not so in this neighbourhood. The only bells I can ever hear ringing from my present garden are the light but tuneful 6 of Hedon, and those who are within hearing of the bells of Patrington from any direction, are *not* within hearing of any other ring of bells whatever. The church of St. Patrick, Patrington, is one of the most perfect parish churches in all England. Both the transepts are doubly isled, and the graceful spire which rises from the centre of the building is about 180 feet high. Here is a ring of 5 bells, tenor 15 cwt., in the key of G. The steeple would well hold a very good ring of 8; and surely the present 5 might well be augmented to 6 at least. I now speak of my own church, All Saints, Burstwick. We have a tall, grand, square tower at the west end, which was surely built for a ring of bells. We are 3 miles from Hedon in the one direction, and 6 from Patrington in the other. We have but one bell, but it is nearly 1 ton in weight, and sounds the note of E natural. Its deep tone can be heard for several miles, and it is always rung at 8 o'clock every Sunday morning, with such careful accuracy that many a cottager looks up at his clock on the wall to see if it be right, and if not to put it right.

F. B. KING.

Date Touch at New College, Oxford.
1875 Stedman Triples, in 1 hr. 13 mins., by Oxford Society of Change-ringers, composed by H. Hubbard, sen., of Leeds, and conducted by J. Field; containing the extent of the 'Tittums' reversed.—*Reported.*

Assurance.

Sir,—In case the answers sent to 'A Constant Reader,' on the subject of 'Assurance,' should not be sufficient, I think an extract from a sermon by the late Dean Ramsay, on *Rightly Dividing the Word of Truth*, may not come amiss. It is dated 1828. This doctrine prevailed about fifty years ago, chiefly, I believe, among the followers of Edward Irving:—

'I shall allude to a case in which I conceive the precept of the text to be peculiarly applicable, and that is, to a doctrine which has been called the *full assurance*. This is not merely a strong view of the hopes and consolations of the Christian, but a *confidence* of final salvation, which is represented as essential to one who is in a state of grace, and, when once obtained, is a solution to all the doubts and difficulties which can possibly occur to the Christian in his spiritual warfare. The expression is derived from, "Let us draw near with a true heart, in *full assurance of faith*." But St. Paul's expression does not warrant the doctrine, for he does not certainly mean a full assurance of *possession*, but a firm belief of the truth of God's word, and that He will accept the persons and services of all those who come to Him in this appointed way. That the most animating promises and consolations are made to the Christian, and the brightest hopes held out to the faithful disciple, far be it from us to deny; and where they are kept back the word of truth is not rightly divided. God forbid that we should abridge any of the consolations, or limit any of the promises of God, beyond what He has done Himself. But I would, in all candour, ask, Are not the opinions to which we allude frequently stated in such a manner as to keep out of sight considerations equally important, viz. the necessity of caution, of watchfulness, and of humility? and, therefore, is it not, as I have already observed, a case of an over-statement of that which is in itself, and in its proper place, correct and Scriptural? The substance of the doctrine lately so strongly advocated, is, "that the believer is to *commence* his course by so strong a reliance on the promises of God as to feel a full assurance of his final salvation." I would again ask, Does not this approach to presumption, or tempting the Lord our God? and is it not founded on a partial view of the Holy Scriptures? For, however strong may be the passages by which the believer's confidence is warranted, are not others equally strong, of an opposite tendency, forgotten? as, "Let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall;" "Hereby do we know that we know Him, if we keep His commandments;" establishing a *test* of which we can only judge by the future. But take a lesson from St. Paul himself. We find him saying, "There is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord will give me." But when does he say this? not till he had *fought* the good fight, till he had kept the faith, till he had finished his course; for this declaration occurs in his last Epistle, when he was in the hands of Nero, expecting daily the summons which was to call him to martyrdom and to glory: his work was finished, and he saw the termination of his earthly trials. But when engaged in the warfare itself, how differently he speaks! He considers the necessity of personal diligence from this awful motive, lest, "having preached to others, he himself should be a castaway." Who shall say St. Paul was insincere in this language, or that he spoke of what could not happen? and who will use language stronger and more confident than he did? In the same manner we find St. Paul lamenting that Demas had "forsaken him, having loved this world;" and Demas surely was *once* a believer. So, likewise, even still more unequivocally, he speaks (Heb. iv. 6) of those who "were once enlightened," "have tasted of the heavenly gift;" "been made partakers of the Holy Ghost;" "tasted the good Word of God," and "the powers of the world to come;" as possibly "*fallen away*." In the Christian warfare, then, as in the warfare of the world, the wreath is not placed upon the warrior's brow till he return in triumph, the shouts of victory are premature till the enemy is vanquished, till the battle is won; nor does it appear the best preparation for any one wherewith to meet the remaining trials and temptations of life, to meet them with a full assurance of conquest, and to entertain a certainty that they can do him no injury. I know it will be answered, that, in the case of a true believer, the grace of which he is a partaker will preserve him to the end. But these instances show that "we may depart from grace given." (Xvith Article.)

I may mention, as bearing on the same subject, an admirable letter by the late Mr. Keble, which appears as the 153rd in the last edition of his *Letters of Spiritual Counsel*. This letter is given in full in the April number of the *Penny Post*. H. F.

RECEIVED ALSO.—H. R. B.; A Constant Reader; C. O. N.; E. J. Barry; O. E. R. S.; K.; J. Forte-Watson; A. F. S. H.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Some Peculiarities about Bells.—No. VII.

Sir,—There is a great peculiarity about the grand ring of bells in Exeter Cathedral. The tenor bell of that magnificent ring is reported to weigh no less than 67 cwt., in B flat, but there is a half-tone bell by which a minor ring of 8 is produced, beginning with the second of the 10 bells: this is very effective, and is in the grand key of C.

The church of St. Peter's, Leeds, has a ring of 12, tenor about 2 tons in C sharp; here there is also a half-tone bell, by which the upper 8 are rendered a perfect ring complete in themselves. With regard to the weight of bells generally I would take the church of St. Vedast, Foster Lane, London, as having exactly the middle ring of bells. Here are 6 bells, tenor 18 cwt. in F natural. There are just about as many smaller and lighter rings of bells in this country as there are grander and heavier. F. B. KING.

Chimes and Carillons for the New Town Hall.

THE Corporation of Manchester having decided upon placing a great clock and carillons in their new Town Hall, have selected Messrs. Gillett

and Bland, of the Clock Factory, Croydon, to carry out the work. The clock is to strike the hours upon a bell of seven tons, and to chime the four quarters on eight bells, the time to be shown upon four 16-ft. illuminated dials. An automatic gas apparatus will be fitted to the clock for turning the gas up and down, and so constructed as to suit all seasons of the year. The clock will also have an electric connexion with the Royal Observatory at Greenwich. The carillon machine, on Gillett and Bland's improved patented system, is to play 31 tunes (a fresh tune for every day in the month) on 17 bells, weighing altogether about 30 tons, and will also have barrels for changes similar to ringing a peal, and an ivory key-board the same as a pianoforte, attached to the machine, so that any musician can play tunes upon the bells with the fingers as easily as playing a pianoforte or organ. Taken altogether, this will be the largest work of the kind in the United Kingdom, and will cost about 7000*l*. The 7-ton hour-bell will be the largest struck upon by a clock in this country excepting Westminster, and about two tons heavier than the one at St. Paul's. The bells will be cast by Messrs. Taylor.—*Local Paper*.

St. Peter Mancroft, Norwich.

On Monday last, June 21st, a century having elapsed since the opening of this grand ring of bells, it was resolved by the ringers to celebrate the occasion: they were met in the tower by the churchwarden, E. S. Bignold, Esq., and several friends. Ringing commenced at half-past one, and was continued at intervals during the day, and consisted of several touches of Stedman's Cinques, Grandsire Cinques, and Bob Maximus: a touch of Treble Bob Maximus (Kent Method) was in contemplation, but the sixth bell becoming unmanageable the proceedings were unavoidably brought to an abrupt termination. It is to be hoped that repairs, which are greatly needed, will shortly be effected. The subjoined account of the opening of these bells from *The Church Bells of Norfolk*, by J. Le Strange, may be interesting to some of the readers of *Church Bells*:—"Wednesday, June 21st, 1775, was performed in the church a grand *Te Deum* and *Jubilate*, with the Chorus from the *Messiah*, and the Coronation Anthem, by a band consisting of about thirty gentlemen, accompanied with the voices of the Cathedral Choir, to a genteel and numerous audience; after this music the peal of twelve bells was opened by the ringers of the steeple, which, for sweetness of tone and melody in concert, has answered the expectation of the warmest promoters of the subscription, and given the highest delight and entertainment to all judges and admirers of ringing and other musical execution. It was at first apprehended that the note of the tenor was not deep enough to cover the peal with dignity, but her majestic and complacence-giving sound soon proclaimed her supremacy, and the execution of the whole has reflected honour on the founders and on the gentlemen who tuned these harmonious and silver-tongued bells."—*Contributed*.

Hand-bell Change-ringing.

Sir,—Will you kindly allow me the favour of soliciting the opinion of some practical ringers on the *hand* and *back* strokes in hand-bell change-ringing? I believe it is always the custom to strike the hand-stroke *upward* (or inward), and the back-stroke *downward* (or forward). Moreover, the open lead in the changes is marked by the hand-stroke. I have taught the elements of hand-bell change-ringing to some scores of men and boys, and in no single instance have I seen a tendency in the learner to lead a wide hand-stroke as above. He invariably leads a quick hand-stroke and a wide back-stroke, but why, I do not know. It therefore appears more natural that the downward should be the hand-stroke. And it certainly seems more reasonable to call the backward or upward stroke the back-stroke than the reverse, which is now done.

Broad Clyst, June 28th, 1875.

S. MARDON.

Change-ringing at Beeston, Notts.

ON Thursday, the 17th inst., the young Society of Change-ringers rang at the parish church a true peal of Bob Minor, viz. 720 changes, in 26 mins. Weight of the tenor, 19 cwt. The ringers as follows:—R. Mellors, treble; W. Clifford, 2nd; W. Towilson, 3rd; J. Spray, 4th; P. Burton, 5th; S. Mellors, tenor. Composed and conducted by W. Towilson.—*Reported*.

Change-ringing at Lichfield.

ON Friday evening, June 18th, 1875, five members of the Lichfield Amateur Society of Change-ringers, assisted by W. Walker, Walsall, rang at St. Michael's Church a complete peal of Grandsire Minor, consisting of 720 changes, in 28 minutes. The ringers were as follows:—T. Meredith, treble; J. Key, 2nd; Wm. A. Wood, 3rd; J. Harrison, 4th; F. J. Cope, 5th; W. Walker, tenor. Conducted by F. Cope.—*Reported*.

Woburn Company of Change-ringers.

ON Tuesday, the 22nd June, 1875, the Members of this Society presented to Mr. Charles Herbert, their foreman, a silver-mounted Malacca Cane, bearing the following inscription:—"Presented to Mr. C. Herbert by the Woburn Company of Change-ringers, as a token of their appreciation of his kindness and tuition as Foreman. Ascension Day, 1875;—accompanied with an illuminated address. This Society numbers about fifteen members, and has been liberally countenanced by the Marquis of Tavistock. It is to be hoped that ere long a suitable ring of bells will be placed in the noble tower of the new parish church. It was intended to have made the presentation on Ascension Day, but it was unavoidably deferred."—*Reported*.

Date Touch at Winchester Cathedral.

JUNE 21st. 1875 Stedman Triples, in 1 hr. 14 mins., by Oxford Society of Change-ringers. Composed by H. Hubbard, sen., of Leeds, and conducted by J. Field.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Established A.D. 1637).—Two Hundred and Thirty-eighth Anniversary Dinner, which will take place on Saturday, July 10th, 1875, at the 'Red Lion Inn,' Barking, Essex. Master: Mr. A. Hayward. Stewards: Mr. J. M. Hayes and Mr. W. Tanner. Hon. Sec.: Mr. Geo. Muskett. Tickets, 3s. 6*d*. each. Dinner on Table at 2.30.

endeavour to obtain a subdivision of their unwieldy diocese? Our own kind and zealous Bishop is working beyond his strength, but all his energies cannot accomplish a tithe of what men expect, and rightly expect, of bishops now-a-days. Surely a bishop ought to have leisure for originating new schemes of Church work, for personal oversight of various parishes, and direct communication with his parish priests; and thus he could stimulate the sluggish and encourage the active. We clergy long for our fathers in God to come and see after us, and tell us what we are doing wrong, and where we have shown discretion. And if we should be gainers by such a course, would not bishops also gain much by a more personal acquaintance with the wants, the work, the feeling of the clergy? We profess to believe in Episcopacy: we should give it more scope. Wherever a fresh Bishop is sent, if he be an ordinarily faithful man, experience shows that Church work makes rapid strides. And why should we fear to begin at the very centre? London needs more bishops, if any place does; and many, both of clergy and laity, would surely contribute liberally towards a fund for endowing one or two more bishops if some one could only start the project.

G. F. PRESCOTT.

St. Michael's, Paddington.

The English Church in Paris.

SIR,—Might I ask your correspondent, Mr. Cazenove, to inform your readers whether the chaplains of the new English church, which he tells us is being built in the Rue de Morny, are to be appointed by the S. P. G. or by the Colonial and Continental Society? If the former, I quite agree with him that no other English church is required in the French capital. It seems rather hard that when parties are so evenly balanced at home that in a place like Paris, visited by so many thousands of English, only one party should be represented, as at present. I fear it has the bad effect of inducing many to abandon the services of our own Church altogether. Even at Dresden, where, though there are many English residents, they must be few in comparison to those at Paris, there are two English churches—a High and a Low; so, I believe, there are at Brussels. Although I am aware the Cornish clergyman did not come to Paris to take up Mr. Gurney's work, I infer that, had not Mr. Gurney left Paris, there would have been no occasion for him to have given up his previous cure.

J. F. C.

Torquay, 6th July.

The Shortened Service.

SIR,—May I ask to be informed through your columns whether the Shortened Service, as lately authorised by Act of Parliament, is intended to be used exactly as it is there set forth, or whether the clergyman is at liberty to insert, in addition, any other parts of the usual Service? The latter one would consider the more reasonable course. For since we are not obliged to use the Shortened Order at all, but may have the full form of Matins and Evensong daily, it surely cannot be wrong to strike a compromise: for instance, to use all the Psalms for the day, or the Prayer for all Conditions of Men, or the General Thanksgiving, although they are not inserted in the authorised form of Shortened Service.

I ask this question because the clergyman of our parish on Saints' Days always uses the shortest possible form, and sometimes gets into confusion in the middle of a prayer through having to refer to the Act of Parliament, which he keeps in his Prayer-book, thus needlessly distracting both his own and the congregation's attention; whereas if he were less particular in following the exact provisions of the Act, this distraction would not arise.

A. F. S. H.

Queries.

SIR,—Would some of your readers who have had experience, especially in country towns, of the working of Young Men's Guilds, or Societies for Holy Living, kindly furnish me with their rules, and any hints as to the conducting of the meetings? We have a 'Society for Christian Young Women' which works very well, but there are difficulties which arise at Young Men's Meetings which are not met with in the other case. How can the time of the meeting be best occupied? Is it expedient to make it entirely a Bible Reading, or is it found advisable to have it partly religious and partly otherwise? Any hints will be very acceptable, as I am hoping to start one during the coming winter. Our population is about 4000.

EDW. B. TROTTER.

The Vicarage, Abwick.

SIR,—Could any of your readers inform me of a good effective tune for the hymn, 'I need Thee, precious Jesu,' No. 340 *A. & M.*? A CONSTANT READER.

RECEIVED ALSO.—S. A. S.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Some Peculiarities about Bells.—No. VIII.

SIR,—I believe that the very smallest and lightest ring of church bells are the eight at St. Ebb's, Oxford; tenor, 5 cwt. The largest and heaviest those of Exeter Cathedral, as mentioned in your No. for June 19th. St. Peter's, Mancroft, Norwich, is generally considered to have the very best ring of twelve in the kingdom; tenor, 41 cwt. in C.

In drawing these letters to a close I will now confine myself to those bells of the more remarkable type in this neighbourhood, of which I have very intimate knowledge. First, Preston, in Holderness. Here are three grand bells; tenor, 20 cwt. in E. They are tuned half a note apart instead of a whole note. The effect is more strange than painful. Each bell is good in itself, but there is a curious solemnity of sound in their ringing. It is a grand Gothic church, with a large and really magnificent western tower.

F. B. KING.

Presentation to a Veteran Change-ringer.

ON Thursday evening, the 24th of June, the Leeds St. Peter's Society of Change-ringers enjoyed a supper at the Thirteen Bells Inn, Kirgate, in

celebration of Christopher Isles attaining his eightieth birthday, when he was presented with a silver medal bearing an appropriate inscription, he having been a ringer over sixty-four years; and, as a member of the Leeds Company since 1827, he still attends twice every Sunday and rings when required. On Sunday last he rang the treble at St. Matthew's, Holbeck, for a service peal of 1152 changes, in the five following methods, namely:—Stedman's Triples, 168; Grandsire Triples, 168; Bob Major, 240; Kent Treble Bob Major, 288; Oxford Treble Bob Major, 288. He still enjoys good health, and seems to take as much interest in the noble art of change-ringing as many younger men.—*Reported.*

Ringling at Masham, Yorkshire.

THE ringers of St. Mary's Church, Masham, met on Tuesday, 20th June, and rang fine peals, 720 changes each, of Oxford, Kent, and Violet Treble Bob Minor, in good style, it being the unusual and auspicious event of a double wedding from the Vicarage. The peals were conducted by Mr. Thos. Mallaby.—*Reported.*

The Royal Hand-bell Ringers (Poland Street, London), at Windsor Castle.

THE Royal Hand-bell Ringers (Poland Street, London), Mr. Duncan S. Miller, Conductor, Messrs. H. Havart, W. J. Havart, F. B. Phillipson, and J. H. Williams, had the honour of giving a Campanological Concert on Friday evening, July 2nd, at Windsor Castle, by command of Her Majesty the Queen. There were present also the Princess Beatrice, Prince Leopold, the Duke and Duchess of Buccleuch, and the ladies and gentlemen comprising the Court. The programme, performed on a carillon of one hundred bells, consisted of ten pieces, and, including Costa's March from 'Eli' (66 bells), Handel's 'Harmonious Blacksmith,' and a selection from 'La Fille de Madame Angot,' occupied nearly an hour. On the Grand Quadrangle a handsome marquee was erected, about thirty feet from which chairs were placed for the royal party. Her Majesty descended about ten o'clock, and in the stillness of the night the music of the bells had a most charming effect. The Queen honoured Mr. Miller by conveying to him personally her appreciation of the performances, and evinced much interest in the explanations given by him. The band performed during the afternoon upon the large bells of Julius Caesar's Tower in the Castle.

Mr. Miller has received the following letter from Her Majesty's Private Secretary:—'Windsor Castle, July 3rd, 1875. Major-General Ponsonby is commanded by the Queen to inform Mr. Miller that Her Majesty was much pleased with the performance of his company of Hand-bell Ringers yesterday evening.'—*Per Letter.*

The Yorkshire Bell-ringers.

THE members of the Yorkshire Association of Bell-ringers held their Quarterly Meeting on Saturday, the 3rd inst. The reception given to the members by the York Committee was of the most liberal character. There were 200 present, representing the following companies:—Guiseley, South Dalton, Hunsingore, Otley, Birstal, Bradford, Hull, Ripon, Leeds, Doncaster, Earlsheaton, Malton, Kirk Deighton, Holbeck, Bingley, Shipley, Keighley, Scarborough, and Beverley. The chair was occupied by Mr. William Howard, York, and the vice-chair by Mr. Joseph Underwood, also of York. The object of the Association—to make good ringers—was laid before the meeting in several addresses. It was resolved that the next meeting be held at Birstal on October 2nd. The thanks of the meeting were most enthusiastically passed to the Dean and Chapter for the use of the bells of the Minster, and for the kind permission to inspect the crypt, chapter-house, and other parts of the Cathedral. Coupled with this resolution was a suggestion to the Dean and Chapter that the bells of the Minster be made to ring more easily, for the ringers who pulled them on Saturday found it very difficult to do so in their present state, the work of ringing them being very laborious, and the York ringers were therefore labouring under great disadvantage. For their very kind reception at York a most cordial vote of thanks was passed. During the day the city was enlivened by merry touches from the belfries of the Minster, St. Martin's, Coney Street, and other churches.—*Local Paper.*

Change-ringing at Birmingham.

ON the 3rd inst. the following members of the St. Martin's Society of Change-ringers rang at Bishop Ryder's Church Holt's celebrated one-part peal of Grandsire Triples, comprising 5040 changes, which was accomplished in 2 hrs. 57 min. The company being stationed as under:—W. Bryant, treble; H. Johnson, sen., 2nd; J. Joynes, 3rd; H. Bastable, 4th; J. Banister, 5th; W. Kent, 6th; F. H. James, 7th; H. Johnson, jun., tenor. Conducted by H. Bastable.

As this peal has latterly caused considerable excitement in the ringing world, it may be interesting to the lovers of the art to know that it was rung by the St. Martin's Company at Aston, on March 2nd, 1800, and again in the same year at Burton-on-Trent in the county of Stafford, conducted by the late Mr. Joseph Riley, who in both cases rang the treble bell. He afterwards (March 17, 1828) conducted the same peal at Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, on which occasion he rang the fourth bell.—*Reported.*

The Guild of Devonshire Ringers.

A MEETING of the Committee will be held in Exeter, on Friday, July 10th, at 2 p.m. *Agenda.*—To receive Report of the Local Committee. To decide upon the Regulations for the record of performances. To consider the propriety of holding Committee meetings in various places. To arrange for local meetings of members, &c. J. L. LANGDON FULFORD, *Hon. Sec.*

THE VOICE OF THE CHURCH BELLS. A Sermon preached at St. Sidwell's Church, Exeter, on Whitsun-Tuesday, May 18th, 1875. By the Rev. Henry Thomas Ellacombe, M.A., &c., Rector of Glast St. George, Devon. To which is appended an Office for the Dedication of Church Bells. Published by request. (London: J. Masters. Exeter: Henry S. Eland.) Price 1s.

work, not only as it would wish them to be. The inevitable result of the entire exclusion of the public-house will be that the outskirts of the 'city' will be beleaguered by them, wherever they can get a footing; and all their evils will flourish to the demoralization of the less disciplined of the inhabitants, just because they will be beyond the limits of any possible control, except that which regulates all such places, and which is confessedly insufficient for the suppression of drunkenness, much less for the encouragement of temperance. Whereas it seems to me that the grandest opportunity ever yet offered of inculcating habits of temperance amongst a population gathered together by the Company, with the express purpose of raising the standard of morality and social well-being, has been thrown away. The Company had the power completely in its own hands, and for the sake of a mere 'idea' has handed it over to outsiders, to thwart its best intentions. A public-house may easily become a nuisance to a neighbourhood; but, if well conducted, it may prove a blessing instead of a curse to the neighbourhood by the supply of a real necessity, without presenting the temptations which will be sought out elsewhere, if this necessity is not met at home. And a limited number of such houses in proportion to a given area ought to have been comprised in the scheme. They should be placed under strict supervision; and, with a severe agreement, any tampering with the drink, or any irregularity or proved incitement to tippling, might be visited on the publican by suspension. Houses of rational entertainment on the footing of clubs might then be promoted, not only without danger, but with positive gain to the people, who would thus be withdrawn from the influence of others outside the boundary, over whom the Company can, as I have said, have no influence or control.

You will, of course, understand that I have written this at length, not for the purpose of giving reasons, or excuses, for declining to take part in this great movement, but in the hope that my remonstrances may be laid before the proper authorities, and that in any further extension of the scheme these considerations may have their due weight towards inducing the promoters to initiate a change of policy in these respects; for I feel assured that they will not hastily be set aside.

WILLIAM WHITE, F.S.A.

Theological Students, King's College, London.

SIR,—I ask permission to call the attention of your readers to an advertisement in your columns.

We are very anxious to encourage residence of a certain number of our theological students, who would enjoy the advantages of collegiate life and discipline, and, under the guidance of our resident chaplain, take part in pastoral work in connexion with some one or two of the great London parishes. In order to do so we offer, at some considerable sacrifice of fees, to six resident students, our whole course of instruction, furnished rooms, and dinner in hall, for 60*l.* per annum. We especially desire, if possible, to have sons of clergy and other professional men, and we trust to be able to make their residence with us a happy and profitable one. Our conditions will be only certificates of moral and religious character, and the passing of an examination, equivalent to our regular entrance examination for the theological department, viz. general knowledge of Holy Scripture, the Four Gospels in Greek, and two Greek and two Latin books at the choice of the candidate.

As it is necessary for us to make our arrangements speedily, I shall be glad to hear at once from any gentlemen desirous of joining us on these terms; and I venture to commend the subject to the attention of any who are desirous of helping forward suitable candidates for the ministry.

King's College, London, July 10, 1875.

ALFRED BARRY.

London Diocese.

SIR,—Mr. Prescott has spoken for the clergy; I venture to endorse his appeal for the laity. Why should not Mr. Prescott himself be the 'one to start the project?' It needs a definite scheme. To form that, a meeting must be held of a few representative clergy and laity. I *can't* give money, but I can give time; and, pending the appointment of some person of influence, I will gladly give any help I can as a secretary *pro tem.* When the scheme is matured let an appeal be made to all the London churches for a simultaneous offertory.

LATICUS.

NOTES AND QUERIES.

Queries.

SIR,—In St. Dunstan's Church, Cranbrook, Kent, there is a baptistery for immersion, which is said to be the only one, with a single exception, in the kingdom. It is about five or six feet deep, is only large enough to contain one person, and has inside a flight of steps from top to bottom. It is raised above the floor of the church, and the summit is on a level with, and close to, a door leading into a chamber over the south porch.

Can any of your readers inform me what other church in the kingdom possesses a similar baptistery? It would be very interesting, also, to know at what period baptism by immersion was discontinued in the case of adults, and the reason of the change.

O. E. R. S.

SIR,—I shall be very glad if you, or any of your readers, can give me any information as to the date of erection of Chingford old church. ANTIQUARIAN.

Answers.

In answer to 'A Constant Reader,' 'J. J. Nettleton' recommends 'Magdalena,' by Dr. Stainer (No. 340 old edition of *Hymns A. & M.*, and No. 186 present edition); 'Königsberg,' in *Mercer's Tune-book*, a fine old German chorale, which Mendelssohn has adapted to the words, 'Cast thy burden upon the Lord,' and inserted in his oratorio *Elijah*; No. 643 in the *Hymnary* published by Novello and composed by Arthur Sullivan. 'H. H. B.' recommends 'Lausanne,' in Mr. E. J. Hopkins's *Temple Church Choral Service-book*. 'N. R. M.' mentions tunes 328 and 298 in *Hymns A. & M.* Another corre-

spondent suggests 'Aurelia' ('The Church's one Foundation') as a good tune for 'I need Thee, precious Jesu.' Another says, he would find second tune to Hymn No. 130, in part 2nd 'Crown of Jesus,' (music published by Thomas Richardson & Son, 20 Paternoster Row, London) very suitable.

'MARCUS H. LEWIS,' Wood Speen, Newbury, Berks, will send a tune on receiving 'C. R.'s name and address.

'D. S. J.'—We cannot enter into all the various reasons which may influence those who bow at the *Gloria*, but it seems to us a very fitting token of the reverence we owe to the Holy Trinity. The 18th of the Canons of 1603, published by royal authority, orders that 'when in time of Divine Service the Lord Jesus shall be mentioned, due and lowly reverence shall be done by all persons present, as it hath been accustomed.'

'R. D.'—We hardly know a thoroughly satisfactory book of family prayers. 'J. F. MORTON, JUN., Ainstable Vicarage.'—The subject seems now to have been sufficiently discussed.

ST. ANDREW'S WATERSIDE CHURCH MISSION.—A present of books and magazines from 'Miss F.' is gratefully acknowledged. Any kind of books or periodicals—except, of course, such as are positively mischievous or controversial—will be gladly received.

RECEIVED ALSO.—M. S. T.; K. B.; A. F. C. B.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Some Peculiarities about Bells.—No. IX.

SIR,—The church or chapel of the township of Yapham, near Pocklington, has two bells which are scarcely a quarter of a note apart in tone. The building and the bells are both very old; certainly, in this very unique case, either of the bells would have been better than the two. They would probably each weigh about 3 cwt. The Church of St. Botolph, Boston, has a ring of eight bells, tenor about a ton; besides this, its very lofty and beautiful steeple contains a set of small hemispherical bells, which play like the bells of Antwerp, in full chords and with semitone and minor variations. There are, I believe, altogether about thirty bells in this steeple. It is a magnificent church, grandly restored.

In my next, with your permission, I shall enter on the subject of notable and remarkable rings of bells.

F. B. KING.

Bungay, Suffolk.—Reopening of St. Mary's Bells.

THE fine ring of eight bells of this church have lately been rebung by Messrs. George Day and Son, of Eye, the expense of which will be paid by the town fund. On Monday, the 5th inst., the bells were opened by ringers from Norwich, Bungay, Redenhall, Beccles, Diss, Eye, Loddon, Halesworth, &c. In the evening fifty-four enjoyed an excellent dinner at the Fleece Inn. The Rev. G. Thorp, M.A., the Vicar, occupied the chair, supported by the churchwardens and other gentlemen. The tenor weighs 17 cwt. All were cast by Messrs. Mears, bell-founders, London, 1820.—*Reported.*

Anniversary of College Youths.

THE Ancient Society of College Youths celebrated their 238th anniversary on Saturday last, at the Red Lion Inn, Barking, Essex. Dinner was served in a style which gave satisfaction to all present. The chair was occupied by the Master, Mr. A. Haywarth; and Mr. G. Muskett, Secretary, acted as vice. After dinner various toasts were given and responded to, including the Queen and Royal Family, &c. A mixed band went to the tower and rang short touches of Grandsire Triples, Treble Bob, and Stedman's Triples, all of which were admirably struck. It will not be out of place to remark here that the bells are all in excellent ringing order and the belfry is thoroughly cleansed, and a company is making great progress in the art under the conductorship of Mr. Sewell, who spares no pains to make the belfry and his company respected and worthy of support from all the inhabitants of the town; and that, taking it altogether, the steeple is a model to all the surrounding towers, in many of which there is great need of reform. In the evening the company reassembled at the Red Lion, and some good specimens of change-ringing upon twelve bells were given by Messrs. Southwick (Hull), Wood, Dwight, Cooper, Haylett, and Booth; as was also a piece of Stedman's Triples, which brought forth loud applause from all present. The company numbered thirty-six, including Messrs. Jackson and Southwick of Hull. Thanks to the energetic labours of Mr. Sewell and his band, all present enjoyed a very pleasant day.—*Reported.*

Royal Cumberlands.—Notice.

THE Royal Cumberland Society of Change-ringers wish to give notice that they will hold their Annual Dinner at Hertford, on Monday, July 19th. The ringers will assemble at the parish church at 10.30 precisely.

Bell-hanging.

It is quite a mistake to talk about bells being hung on 'the most improved principles,' as country bell-hangers are very fond of doing and advertising. Ever since bells have been set up in our churches they have been hung on the same principle, viz. on timbers suspended on an axis, to which is attached a lever, or wheel (which is all the same) with a rope. By the cunning craft and long experience of workmen no doubt the details of the whole gear may be, and have been, improved, and little secrets found out for facilitating the *go* of the bells, but the principle remains the same.—*Ed.*

NOTICE TO JOHN DAY & SON, CHURCH-BELL HANGERS.—*Church Bells* does not *tout* for any particular tradesmen; but will be happy to advertise them as often as they please, on receipt of the usual payment.—*Ed.*

RECEIVED ALSO.—H. Bennett; J. J. Palleine. John R. Pritchard and R. L. Blee will be answered direct.

diocese of Chester. The question then, so far as concerns the deputations from the Liverpool Lay-workers' Association, is, 'Why is there a dearth of workers—clerical and lay—in Liverpool?' and again, 'Why has a special organization been formed, and a special appeal made to the Universities to remedy this?'

What the gentlemen who formed the deputation found here was—great surprise that Liverpool had any claim for University men to go there. They knew that London had a large population, but little more than the name of Liverpool was known, notwithstanding that it contains half-a-million of souls. Work in the East end of London had been going on for years, and is well organized, and the place is very different from what it was. Many invitations to join in it have come here, and doubtless, also, to Oxford, and have been accepted by earnest men, many of them of high capabilities. But why? Because they believed that there was room for real hard work there. This is just what exists in Liverpool, though it was not known to be so by Oxford and Cambridge men. The work in the poorer parts of Liverpool is now beginning to catch up the needs of the population, which has accumulated so rapidly during the last one hundred years; (for particulars see Dr. Hume's account of Church-work in Liverpool, published by A. Holden, Church Street, Liverpool). The special cry for help in this work is of no uncertain sound, though only lately made; and men here—earnest men and men of high qualifications—are beginning to hear it, and are going there in yearly increasing numbers.

Work for souls for Christ's sake is a motive stronger than either good preference or honorary advancement. This motive is what the hard-working clergy of Liverpool hold out. They fully deserve all the help which any one who knows how hard their work is will give them. They value much (as a letter received this morning shows) the encouragement with which they have already met, here and elsewhere, in coping with the great difficulties around them.

W. GRIFITH, one of the Secretaries of the Cambridge Committee.

The Creed on Sunday, 25th July.

SIR,—It was remarked to me yesterday evening, by one who had been examining the *Churchman's Almanack*, 'Next Sunday we shall have the Athanasian Creed.' 'You will not hear it in our church,' I replied. 'Why? it is St. James's Day!' 'Yes, but it is also the Ninth Sunday after Trinity; and as the Church leaves it to "the discretion of the minister" on such a day to read "the Lessons appointed either for the Sunday or for the Holy Day," so, I conceive, I am free to say either the Creed which would ordinarily be said on the Sunday, or the Creed which is appointed to be said on the Holy Day; and of these two courses I prefer the former.'

Perhaps I may learn through your columns whether the course which I have indicated, and which I have followed for many years, commends itself to others of the clergy as legitimate and advisable. I may as well add, that I should of course use the Athanasian Creed on Christmas Day and the other high festivals, when there is no alternative; my suggestion of non-use applies only to the seven holy days—SS. Matthias, John Baptist, James, Bartholomew, Matthew, Simon and Jude, and Andrew—when any of these days happen to fall on a Sunday.

F. H. C.

[The rule which you quote is one prefixed to the Table of Lessons, and intended to apply only to the order of reading the Holy Scriptures; and will not, we think, bear the application to any other part of the service. The rubric prefixed to the Creed of St. Athanasius is absolute, and admits of no alternative.—ED.]

Patronage in Canterbury Diocese.

SIR,—With reference to the exercise of the Archbishop's patronage on which you comment, I am in a position to state that the list circulated at the Patronage meeting, and taken, I believe, from a Church newspaper, is incorrect in at least two cases. The Rev. M. D. French, Vicar of Appledore, is stated to be a nephew of Mrs. Tait. This is not the fact. The Rev. F. Chalmers, Vicar of Nonington, is described as a 'stranger introduced into the diocese.' Mr. Chalmers had been Rector of Beckenham, in the diocese of Canterbury, for about twenty years, when he was appointed to his present charge.

A. G. H.

NOTES AND QUERIES.

SIR.—Can any of your readers answer the two following questions?—1. At the time of the celebration of the Holy Communion, ought the communicants of a surplised choir to communicate *before* or *after* the other members of the congregation? 2. Can the officers of a School Board claim the right of admission into a Public Elementary School under the management of Churchmen, but situate within the limits of their jurisdiction?

O. R. B.

[1. There is no rule. The clergyman would probably arrange as he thought best. 2. Yes.—ED.]

'M. S. T.' will be thankful if the Editor, or any reader of *Church Bells*, can tell her of an 'Orphanage,' or 'Home,' into which a girl, born Jan. 10th, 1864, the daughter of a deceased solicitor, could be received; the age disqualifying her as a candidate for 'St. Ann's,' 'The London Orphan Asylum,' or 'Christ's Hospital.' Address, 'M. S. T.,' Hawarden, Chester.

SIR,—In answer to 'O. E. R. S.,' I beg to inform him that there is a baptistery for immersion (similar to that he describes) in the newly-built handsome church of St. John at Torquay, of which Mr. Street was the architect. The baptistery is at the west end of the nave, near the font. An interesting and able description of St. John's church at Torquay and its services was published in *Church Bells* of May 22.

J. H.

RECEIVED ALSO.—Dokimastes; A Priest of 1841; J. H. R. Hebden; H. H.; H. Ditton-Newman.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Some Peculiarities about Bells.—No. X.

SIR,—I began my first series of letters with some remarks about the bells of St. Paul's Cathedral; I begin my second with the bells of Westminster Abbey. Here are six very good bells; tenor, 30 cwt. in D. There is a grand and solemn sound about these bells, a mellowness of tone and accuracy of tune. Then there is a fine ring of ten in the tower of St. Margaret's Church, so close at hand; tenor, 28 cwt. in D. When these two sets of bells are pealing forth together there is a wonderful and splendid confusion, which I have listened to with much admiration and delight. Not far off is the church of St. Martin-in-the-Fields, with its brilliant ring of twelve; tenor, 34 cwt. in D, and its clock chimes like those of Westminster. St. Clement Danes, in the Strand, has now a ring of ten bells: tenor, 24 cwt. in E flat. When I was a boy at St. Paul's School it had eight only. The clock chimes are nearly, but not quite, the same as those of the Westminster clock. They used to be on the upper four of the eight. In my next I will speak of some of the City bells. F. B. KING.

The Bishop of Manchester on Church Bells.

ON Wednesday evening, July 14th, at St. John's Church, Lytham, the Bishop of Manchester preached at a special service on the inauguration of a ring of bells just placed in the tower of that edifice. At the conclusion of the sermon, which was based on the latter part of the 42nd verse of the 11th chapter of St. Luke, his Lordship said:—

'I got a letter the other morning from one who signs himself "A Visitor to Lytham," asking me, I think, five questions about these bells. I don't know that I can answer them all, but I can say that bells are a proper adjunct to a church. Bells are in very strange and mysterious harmony with our mysterious nature. At one time they toll out some peal of joy—almost exuberant joy; at other times they remind us that we, too, are mortal; and so, whether bells are heard on the marriage morn, or after some solemn funeral, or for the more ordinary purpose of summoning Christ's people to worship, there is something in them in harmony with the truest and deepest affections of our nature; they have a power, a secret and mysterious power, over some of our finest and most elevating sentiments. In another letter I received this morning, the writer asks me whether I approve or disapprove of competitive bell-ringing for prizes. I have no hesitation in saying that I utterly disapprove of it. I know what it leads to; I know what it means. It means drink, and, what often goes along with drink, betting; and I earnestly hope that the bell-ringers at St. John's, Lytham, will never enter into such competitions, nor be allowed to do so. It does not seem to me to be a proper use to which to put any church bells. With regard to another part of the letter, you know that we in England are, and always have been, more or less divided into political parties, and you know that the triumph of one party means the defeat of another. One party is victorious, and its spirit rises, and the first thing they think of doing is to set the church bells ringing to announce their triumph. At the last Manchester election there was a very great deal of dissatisfaction with somebody—I don't know who—going in the middle of the night and ordering the Cathedral ringers to celebrate the return of three Conservatives. This naturally, more or less, offended the sentiments of the supporters of the Liberal candidates. Now, my own politics are of a very neutral colour. They sometimes call me a Radical Bishop. Perhaps I don't know myself my individual denomination, but I suppose I have, like most of you, a very strong Conservative element, and a very Liberal element also, in my mind. The one or the other will, of course, predominate according to education. But I feel that the Church of England is too precious an institution to be committed to the tender care of any one political party. We cannot allow any political party to use it as an instrument for their own purposes. I feel that it ought to be raised far above the level of these municipal or political controversies. She embraces, or ought to embrace, men of all political opinions. In these days the object of the Church of England is, or ought to be, to conciliate as far as possible all parties, and to spread over the troubled waters of political life the calm and blessed influence of peace and Christian charity.'—*Local Paper.*

St. Mary's Society of Ringers, Walthamstow, Essex.

ON Monday, July 12th, the above company (Mr. J. Wilkins, Secretary) had their first annual trip to Gravesend, accompanied by their instructor, Mr. J. R. Haworth, where they rang several touches of excellent striking on the eight bells, which, although not half-pulls, showed they were on the right road; because at Milton church, on the pleasing ring of six, they succeeded in ringing two peals of Grandsire Doubles, each containing 120 changes, conducted by their instructor. Performers—W. Coakham, treble; G. Grimwade, 2nd; T. Maynard, 3rd; J. R. Haworth, 4th; A. Estall, 5th; W. Crookford, tenor. The Society were much pleased with their first excursion, and express their thanks for having access to the bells of Gravesend and Milton.—*Reported.*

Anniversary Dinner.

ON Saturday last the St. Martin's Society of Ringers, Birmingham, held their 120th Anniversary at the Navigation Inn, in the rural village of Kingsnorton, Worcestershire, when upwards of thirty members and friends sat down to dinner. Among those present were,—J. T. Pritchett, Esq., and J. H. Snowdon, Esq., of Ilkley, Yorkshire. After inspecting the beautiful parish church the company passed a very pleasant evening in songs, recitations, tunes, and changes on the hand-bells.—*Communicated.*

Date Touch.

AT Liversedge, Yorkshire, on the 9th inst., the Society of Ringers rang 1875 Treble Bob Major, on the return of Mr. Sottanstill's 75th birthday.—*Reported.*

RECEIVED.—Wm. Lomas; J. R. Jerran; D. W. Barrett.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Peculiarities about Bells.—No. XI.

SIR.—In the lofty and symmetrical steeple of St. Bride's, Fleet Street, are twelve well-tuned bells, tenor 28 cwt. in D. St. Michael, Cornhill, has also a ring of twelve bells, tenor 41 cwt. in C, in its lofty pinnacled tower. St. Giles, Cripplegate, has twelve bells, tenor 36 cwt. in D. Christ Church, Spitalfields, and St. Leonard's, Shoreditch, have also each rings of twelve. The latter has a tenor of 31 cwt. in D, and the former 41 cwt. in C. We must not omit the grand church of St. Saviour's, Southwark, which has a splendid ring of twelve, being one of the heaviest and deepest-toned bells in England, tenor 52 cwt. in B. I believe I have now mentioned all the rings of twelve, and I shall come in my next to the most notable of the rings of ten, eight, and six in and about the metropolis, after which I propose to notice some of the most noteworthy bells in the provinces. F. B. KING.

SIR.—I hope your correspondent, 'F. B. King,' will not take it amiss if I offer a few corrections with regard to what he said concerning Boston bells in your issue for July 17, having personally visited the belfry. Firstly, there are eight bells in the ring, tenor about 20 cwt., and thirty-six carillon bells, making forty-four in all. Secondly, the carillon bells are not hemispherical, but of the usual form. They were cast in Belgium, together with the tenor, in 1867, by A. L. J. Vanerschodt, all of which bear his name. The tenor and the seven largest carillon bells having appropriate inscriptions as well. The smallest carillon bell is only about 8 in. in diameter. The tenor measures 4 ft. 2½ in. diameter. Of the other seven bells, the treble and 2nd are by T. Osborn, Downham, 1785; the fifth by G. Oldfield, Nottingham, 1657; and the sixth by Thomas Layre Kettering, 1758; of the other three, one was cast in 1710, and the other two in 1772. J. R. JERRAM.

The Guild of Devonshire Ringers.

A MEETING of the Committee was held at Exeter on July 16th, the Rev. F. Sterry in the Chair, when the following resolutions were agreed to:—

'That the full amount (3rd Class) of the railway expenses incurred by bands in attending the Annual Meeting be paid by the Guild, if they had previously been applied for.'

'That a peal-book be provided, in which shall be inserted all peals of 5000 and upwards, whether in one peal on seven or more bells, or in seven or more peals on six bells in as many variations.'

'That a diary shall be kept, in which shall be recorded (1) the ringing either in the steeple or on hand-bells of the bands which take part in the Meetings of the Guild; (2) the first performance of a band or individual in any 6-bell method, and such peals on six bells as bands may desire to record.'

'That the Secretary be requested to summon some of the Committee Meetings to be held at Plymouth, if the Members of the Committee resident in that neighbourhood will provide a room and an Assistant Secretary.'

'That the Secretary be empowered to arrange for a small local Meeting in Exeter.'

The Instructor's Report of the ringing at the Annual Meeting was ordered to be communicated to each band that took part in it.

The decision with reference to the peal-book and diary was arrived at after a full consideration of the votes recorded on the matter by the bands in Union.

J. L. LANGDON FULLORD, *Hon. Sec.*

Change-ringing at Newcastle-on-Tyne.

ON Thursday evening, the 19th inst., the Newcastle and Gateshead Society of Change-ringers met in the tower of St. Andrew's Church, Newcastle-on-Tyne, and rang a peal of Grandsire Minor in 30 mins. The ringers stood thus:—J. Weddle, treble; R. Simm, 2nd; F. Lees, 3rd; H. Simm, 4th; J. Simm, 5th; T. Denton, tenor and conductor. Weight of tenor 18 cwt. It is the first that has been rung in Newcastle for upwards of sixteen years.

The Society, noticing in *Church Bells* some few weeks ago, a letter from Hurworth-on-Tees, recommending a Guild for the two counties of Durham and Northumberland, beg to recommend the above to his notice, and hope to report something better very soon.—*Per Letter.*

Notice.

To the Bell-ringers of the North, East, and West Riding of Yorkshire.

I wish to remind you of a resolution that was passed at the York Meeting on the 3rd of July last—viz. that a Preliminary Meeting of Delegates from the various Companies in the North, East, and West Riding will be held at the 'Thirteen Bells Inn,' Church Row, Kirkgate, Leeds, on the seventh day of August next, at 5 o'clock, to draw up a code of Rules for the regulation of the proposed Society of Bell-ringers in the above county. We hope to see one from each company, with full power to act on behalf of their respective companies. The Rules will be submitted to a full Meeting, which will be held at Birstall on the second day of October next.

Any communication may be addressed to Mr. Wm. Whitaker, President of the Leeds St. Peter's Company, 22 Marsh Lane, Leeds. W. WHITAKER.

Cripplegate Society.

THE Cripplegate Society of Change-ringers intend holding their Annual Dinner at Hertford on Monday next, the 2nd of August. The ringers and friends will meet at the Bishopsgate Station (G.E.R.) at 8.30 punctual.

J. KIRLER, *Sec.*

SIR,—I shall be glad if you, or any of your readers, will kindly give me any hints as to the formation and working of 'A Society for Bell-ringers.'

Waltham, Melton Mowbray.

D. W. BARRETT.

RECEIVED.—F. Goodman's contributions with thanks, but not admissible.

BELFREY RECORDS.
BURTON-ON-TRENT, STAFFORDSHIRE.

(Tablets in the Belfry.)

760. On Monday, October the 4th, 1830, was rung Holt's peal of Grandsire Tripples, consisting of 5040 Changes, in 3 hours and 36 minutes, by the Burton-upon-Trent society of Change-ringers, Being the first ever Completed on these Bells. Conducted by David Gilbert.

John Keates, <i>Treble.</i>	David Allard, <i>Fourth.</i>	William Dooley, <i>Seventh.</i>
John Lills, jun., <i>Second.</i>	John Sill, <i>seur, Fifth.</i>	William Merry, <i>Tenor.</i>
Joseph Hill, <i>Third.</i>	David Gilbert, <i>Sixth.</i>	Weight of Tenor, 24 cwt.

The Rev. Hugh Jones, *Minister.*
Robert Elliot,
William Goodacre, } *Churchwardens.*

761. On Thursday, the 18th of June, 1830, was rung Holt's Original peal of Grandsire Tripples, consisting of 5040 Changes, in three Hours & one Minute, containing 150 calls with 2 doubles in the last 4 leads, by the following persons:—

William Hall, <i>Treble.</i>	John Keates, <i>Fourth.</i>	William Merry, <i>Seventh.</i>
Joseph Beale, <i>Second.</i>	Joseph Appleby, <i>Fifth.</i>	James Appleby, <i>Eighth.</i>
Joseph Hill, <i>Third.</i>	David Gilbert, <i>Sixth.</i>	Conducted by David Gilbert.

The Rev. John Metcalf, *Minister.*
W. B. Darley, } *Churchwardens.*
W. Atkin,
W. Shilton, *Clerk.*

PENKRIDGE, STAFFORDSHIRE. (Tablet in the Belfry.)

762. On the 31st Dec. 1832, was rang by S. Peter's Company of W'hampton a true peal of Grandsire eight, consisting of 5136 changes, in 3 hours and 15 minutes.

D. Biddulph, <i>Treble.</i>	J. Cox, <i>Third.</i>	T. Fallows, <i>Fifth.</i>	J. Butcher, <i>Seventh.</i>
S. Ashton, <i>Second.</i>	H. Roughley, <i>Fourth.</i>	J. Roughley, <i>Sixth.</i>	J. Walker, <i>Tenor.</i>

Called & Conducted by J. Butcher, being the first peal ever rang upon these Bells.

WALSALL, STAFFORDSHIRE. (Tablets in the Belfry.)

763. The solemn, sweet, harmonious bells,
All other music far excels.

On Monday, 30th June, 1788, was rung 6000 Bob Majors, in 4 hrs. and 1 minute, by the following persons, members of the Union Society of this town, viz.

Ben. Barber.	Jas. Cooper.	Willm. Barton.	Jos. Slater.
Edward Spink.	Willm. Hart.	Jas. Hodgkins.	Thos. Spink.
		Benjamin Wallace,	Joseph Day,
		} <i>Churchwardens.</i>	

764. On the Grand National Jubilee, Oct. 29th, 1869, was rung 3040 Bob Majors, in 3 hrs. and 24 minutes, by the Union Band of St. Matthew's Youths of this town.

Chas. Longmore.	Jos. Cooper.	Jas. Hodgkins.	Jno. Longmore.
Ben. Barber.	Willm. Hart.	Jos. Slater.	Thos. Spink.

Rev. P. Pratt, *Vicar.*

Also, Oct. 17th, 1859, the Walsall Ringers rung a true and excellent peal of Grandsire Majors, in one lesson, containing 5007 changes, in 3 hrs. and 13 minutes, with the sixth 24 times wrong and right, and the fifth nineteen times wrong and ten right. The band as stationed:—

D. Chapman.	J. Astbury.	J. Westley.	E. Hallsworth.
T. Perks.	H. Summers.	D. Westley.	W. Hallsworth.

Composed and conducted by W. Hallsworth.

765. Rung on the bells of this tower, June 9, 1825, an excellent peal of 5136 Grandsire Majors, by the following persons, namely:—

Jos. Hallsworth.	Jas. Knowles.	W. Chadwick.	H. Walker.
Thos. Mason.	J. Sam. Bates.	J. J. B. Lates.	H. Sadgwick.

This peal, which contains the whole of the eight six-sevens and eight sixes in the 40,320, or the six 24 times wrong and right, was completed in 3 hrs. 22 minutes.

Composed and conducted by J. Lates.

Rev. J. Baron, *Vicar.*
Mr. John Eld,
Richd. James, } *Churchwardens.*

766. On the 11th January, 1831, a true peal of Grandsire Majors, containing 5040 changes in 3 hrs. and 25 minutes, by the Walsall and Wednesbury Band of Change Ringers. The band as stationed:—

Jos. Hallsworth, <i>Treble, First.</i>	Sam. Aston, <i>Fourth.</i>	J. J. B. Lates, <i>Sixth.</i>
Thos. Mason, <i>Second.</i>	Jno. Gould, <i>Fifth.</i>	Geo. Lowbridge, <i>Seventh.</i>
Thos. German, <i>Third.</i>		Jno. Longmore, <i>Eighth.</i>

Composed and conducted by J. J. B. Lates.

Also, on the 20th June, 1845, a true and most excellent peal of Grandsire Majors, containing 7248 changes, which was completed in a masterly style in 4 hrs. and 23 minutes. This being the most in number ever rung on these bells or in this county, by the Walsall Union Band of St. Matthew's Youths. The band as stationed:—

Jno. Smith, <i>Treble.</i>	W. Hinks.	Ed. Hallsworth.	J. Longmore, jun.
Jno. Brittain	Thos. German.	Jno. Gould.	Geo. Lowbridge.

Composed and conducted in a very able manner by Geo. Lowbridge.

Mr. Jno. James,
Mr. W. Smith, } *Churchwardens.*

767. On January 24th, 1860, a true peal of Grandsire Majors, containing 8016 Changes, in 5 hrs. and 14 minutes. The band as stationed:—

C. Longmore.	T. Astbury.	D. Westley.	D. Chapman.
J. Brittain.	H. Summers.	J. Westley.	W. Hallsworth.

Also, Oct. 18th, 1860, a peal of Kent Treble Bob, containing 5038 changes, in 3 hrs. and 10 minutes.

Also, Dec. 25, 1860, a peal of Grandsire Triples, containing 5040 changes, in 2 hrs. and 55 minutes.

Also, Feb. 4, 1861, a true peal of Grandsire Majors, containing 10,032 changes, which was rung in a most excellent style, in 6 hrs. and 15 minutes. This being the greatest number of changes rung on eight bells in this method. The band as stationed:—

C. Longmore.	J. Astbury.	E. Hallsworth.	D. Chapman.
T. Perks.	H. Summers.	J. Westley.	W. Hallsworth.

The above peals were composed and conducted by William Hallsworth.

The Revd. J. H. Sharwood, *Vicar.*

768. The following peals were rung on the bells of this tower by St. Matthew's Campanologist Society, namely:—

March 10, 1864.—5001 Grandsire Caters, in 3 hrs 15 minutes.
May 20, 1864.—10,079 Grandsire Caters, in 6 hrs. 17 minutes.
May 9th, 1864.—5010 Kent Treble Bob Royal, in 3 hrs. 14 mins.
Aug. 17, 1864.—5021 Grandsire Caters, in 3 hrs 24 minutes.
Nov. 9, 1864.—5020 Grandsire Royals, in 3 hrs 20 minutes.
Dec. 7, 1864.—5003 Grandsire Caters, in 3 hrs 8 minutes.
Nov. 20, 1865.—5003 Grandsire Caters, in 3 hrs 5 minutes.
Nov. 27, 1877.—5040 Bob Royal, in 3 hrs and 3 minutes.
Oct. 24, 1870.—5001 Changes of Steadman's Caters, in 3 hrs. seven minutes.

W. Walker.	H. Summers.	J. Astbury.	W. Hallsworth.
D. Westley.	E. Hallsworth.	J. Lees.	H. Lawrence.
	D. Chapman.	J. Westley.	

J. H. Sharwood, *Vicar.*
Richard Hingham, *Vicar's Churchwarden.*
James Glover, *People's Churchwarden.*
Henry Taylor,

The peals composed and conducted by W. Hallsworth.

chief source of their country's sin and misery. Many High Churchmen and clergymen oppose teetotalers; ergo, all High Churchmen and clergymen protect the sin and misery of their country, argue total abstinents. Teetotal societies are bad things, asserts Mr. Pixell. Alcohol is a bad thing, assert total abstinents. I judge teetotal societies by their fruits, says Mr. Pixell; and we judge alcohol in the same way, say total abstinents. Who can say that the total abstinents are more illogical in their arguments, or more rash in their assertions, than their clerical opponent? For my own part I deeply deplore the extravagances of many teetotalers, but I do not think they are likely to be cured by the extravagances of Mr. Pixell.

8. The following will give some idea of his mode of reasoning. I say his mode of reasoning, because I know that he is quite incapable of intentionally making a false charge. He accuses me of having garbled a quotation from his sermon to suit 'the Creed.' But all that I did was to omit the conclusion of a sentence, which, so far as my argument was concerned, I might just as well have quoted. Let Mr. Pixell himself be the judge. Here is the whole sentence, with the argument which I based upon it: the words which I omitted are marked with brackets. 'If you suspected that a man was meditating self-destruction, it would be wrong to leave a razor about, or even to let it be seen: [but few would say that it was wrong to shave when his back was turned.] This is what we teetotalers maintain. In every part of the country, and in all ranks of life, men are bent on self-destruction, not by razors but by alcohol. Christian men do more than suspect it. They know it: and yet, not content with drinking when alone, they leave it about, and let it everywhere be seen.'

9. Mr. Pixell asks me where, the Church's rules of fasting being obeyed, drunkenness is rife? My reply is, In Ireland, and wherever a Roman Catholic community can be found on English ground.

For further information I refer my friend to Cardinal Manning, or the Pope, who has formally approved the formation of teetotal societies.

Rugley, July 28, 1875.

R. M. GRIER.

SIR,—As I am a total abstainer myself, it is not likely that I should lecture against total abstinence. Your correspondent, 'W. G.,' will see, if he will read my lecture on *The Wines of the Bible*, that it is not directed against total abstinence, either as adopted by an individual or by a society under proper regulations. There are, however, some aspects of the present teetotal movement, and arguments used in its support, with which I have no sympathy. These are referred to in the lecture. Had your correspondent appended his name and address to his letter, I should have had much pleasure in sending him a copy of the lecture without troubling you with this letter.

CHARLES BODINGTON.

St. Andrew's, Wolverhampton.

NOTES AND QUERIES.

Queries.

SIR,—Is there any book which would explain to laymen the devotional use of the Prayer-book, for private, occasional, family, mission, and ordinary public worship? There are many excellent services carved out of the Prayer-book; but laymen who are called upon to conduct services, whether on ship-board or on shore, and prefer to have the whole Prayer-book before them, would often be thankful for instruction and suggestions as to its devotional use.

WM. DAWSON, Commander R.N.

SIR,—Having been unable to procure satisfactory photographs of the Cathedrals of Lincoln, Ely, and Exeter, I shall be glad if any one can inform me where I can obtain good lithographic views of them, suitable for framing.

E. G.

Answers.

SIR,—The Rev. A. H. R. Hebdon, in your last number, quotes the Bishop of St. Asaph as mentioning in Convocation that a Baptistery existed in his diocese, and that it had once been used. I cannot help thinking that he is making a mistake for the Bishop of Hereford, who made the same remark at the meeting of Convocation in question. There is a baptistery at the parish church of Kington in the diocese of Hereford. Having been for some time curate of the parish, I believe I am right in saying that it was built for the purpose of the baptism by immersion of a girl about eighteen years old, about 1866, and that it has never been used, or applied for, since.

Ashton Rectory, Ludlow.

GEORGE HOLLIS CLAY.

SIR,—In answer to the query of 'Agnes,' there is a little book called *Golden Steps, Recollections of Lectures to Communicant Classes in Connection with St. Luke's, Torquay*, by the late Prebendary Harris, Vicar of St. Luke's. The first edition was printed by John Robinson, Torquay; the second edition was published, I believe, by Rivingtons, London.

M. P. D.

'R. D. C.' is thanked for his communication (with photograph) and his interest in *Church Bells*. He will see that another correspondent has furnished us with report.

'H. L.' informs 'M. M. C.' that as a general, though not absolute rule, *Amen* in italics signifies that the prayer immediately preceding is not to be said by the people.

'D. T.' had better inquire of Major Tillbrook, the Secretary of the Discharged Prisoners' Aid Society, whose address is 39 Charing Cross.

'A. H. HAMILTON.'—We would rather not discuss the doctrine in our Correspondence columns.

RECEIVED ALSO.—T. H. B.: W. G.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Peculiarities about Bells.—XII.

SIR,—I remember very well the church of St. Dunstan, Temple Bar, being built. It was when I was a school-boy, about the year 1830. I passed it every day, and watched its progress with the greatest interest; and I remember the bells being put up, and their very frequent ringing. There are eight, and I think the tenor seems about 23 cwt. They are very loud bells, and always give me the idea of the most exuberant joyousness. St. Magnus the Martyr, London Bridge, has a good ring of ten, tenor 21 cwt. in E. St. Sepulchre, Snow Hill, has also a grand ring of ten, tenor 32 cwt. in D. St. Andrew, Holborn, has a remarkably good ring of eight, tenor 28 cwt. in D. In London and its very immediate neighbourhood there are altogether about sixty rings of bells. The best and heaviest are the ten of St. Mary-le-Bow, Cheapside, tenor 53 cwt. in C; and the lightest those of St. Catherine Cree, six in number, tenor scarcely 12 cwt. in G. I must not omit the eight fine bells of St. Botolph, Aldgate, tenor 28 cwt. in D sharp. In my next I shall speak of some of the provincial bells, chiefly, however, confining myself to those of which I have had some personal experience. I shall begin with the county of Kent.

F. B. KING.

Change-ringing at Streatham, Surrey.

On Saturday, July 24th, the eight members of the Waterloo Society rang on the bells of Immanuel Church, at the above place, Holt's original one-part peal of Grandsire Triples, containing 5040 changes, in 3 hrs. G. Newson, treble; S. Greenwood (Streatham), 2nd; C. Hopkins, 3rd; W. Baron, 4th; H. Hopkins, 5th; G. Mash, 6th; A. Pell (Streatham), 7th; A. Macey, tenor. Conducted by Mr. G. Newson.—*Reported*.

Christ Church Cathedral, Oxford.

On Monday, July 26th, 1875 (date touch) Grandsire Triples, by Oxford Society of Change-ringers, in 1 hr. 16 mins. Compared and conducted by Mr. William Smith.—*Reported*.

Cripplegate Society.

On Monday last the Cripplegate Society of Change-ringers held their Annual Dinner at the 'Black Swan,' Hertford. Between twenty and thirty members and friends were present. After dinner the ringers adjourned to the parish church of All Saints, where some short touches were admirably performed on the beautiful ring of ten contained in this tower. The evening was spent with the hand-bells, when there were some good specimens of change-ringing; after which the company returned to London, highly delighted with the day's proceedings.—*Per Letter*.

Waltham Abbey, Essex.

On Monday, August 2nd, the Saffron Walden and Sawbridgeworth Societies of Ringers visited the Abbey Church, and during the day completed the following touches:—Bob Major, 1008; Grandsire Triples, 700; Treble Bob, Oxford variations, 576; and Grandsire Triples, 504.—*Reported*.

BELFRY RECORDS.

ALL SAINTS, GAINSBOROUGH, LINCOLNSHIRE.

(Tablets in the Belfry.)

769. ON Whitsun Tuesday morning, being the 24th of May, 1768, Mr. Holt's true whole Peal of Grandsire Triples, comprising 5040 Changes, was rung in this Steeple by a set of the 'Society of Sherwood Youths' from Nottingham.

Jno. Wright, Treble.	Wm. Dy. Crofts, Fourth.	Rt. Metheringham, Sixth.
Jno. S. Canner, Second.	Jas. Wilkinson, Fifth.	Rd. Statham, Seventh.
Frs. Draper, Third.		Wm. Frogat, Tenor.

The Time 3 hours 13 minutes. The Bobs were called by J. S. Canner. Labor Omnia Vincit.

770. ANNO DOMINI, 1848. CHANGE-RINGING.—On Saturday, Jan. 1st, The Sheffield St. Peter's Company of Change Ringers visited this town & ushered in the New Year with the First Peal of Kent Treble Bob Major ever rung in the County of Lincoln, comprising 5088 Changes, in the time of 3 hours & 20 minutes. Artists namely,

Wm. Hudson, Treble.	Jno. Lomas, jun., Fourth.	Geo. Wilson, Sixth.
Thos. Whaley, Second.	Cors. Andrews, Fifth.	Jas. Firth, Seventh.
Isaac Lomas, Third.		Jas. Taylor, Tenor.

Composed & Conducted by Wm. Hudson. Weight of the tenor, 20 cwt.

ST. WOLFRAN'S, GRANTHAM, LINCOLNSHIRE.

(Tablets in the Belfry.)

771. A COMPLETE Peal, consisting of 5040 changes of Grandsire Triples, was rung in 3 Hours and 29 Minutes, on the 23rd of April, 1764, being Easter Sunday. J. Scarborough, First; H. Camm, Third; S. Pickard, Fifth; J. Wildmore, Seventh. E. Holt, Second; J. Hand, Fourth; E. Peak, Sixth; J. Beck, Eighth.

772. A COMPLETE Peal, consisting of 5040 changes of Grandsire Triples, was rung in celebration of Peace, on the 20th of June, 1814, in 3 Hours and 35 Minutes.

W. Slater, First.	J. Taylor, Fourth.	J. Bellamy, Sixth.
J. Scarborough, Second.	W. Marshall, Fifth.	R. Bradley, Seventh.
W. Scarborough, Third.		E. Whaley, Eighth.

773. A COMPLETE Peal of Grandsire Triples, consisting of 5040 changes, was rung in 2 Hours and 56 Minutes, on the 12th of January, 1841, to celebrate the event of Mr. Wm. Marshall, Parish Clerk, having been on that day a Member of the Ringers' Society 50 years. R. Weaver, First; E. Edmunds, Third; J. Porter, Fifth; J. Jackson, Seventh. R. Faulkner, Second; J. Hatfield, Fourth; C. Faulkner, Sixth; J. Holmes, Eighth.

774. CAMPANOLOGY.—Three different Peals of Grandsire Triples was admirably rung by the Society of Ringers belonging to this Church. First Peal of 1260 changes in 45 minutes, November 9th, 1860, in honour of the New Mayor, J. F. Burbridge, Esq., Senior: Second ditto of 2520 changes, in 1 Hour and 30 Minutes, December 24th, 1860; and the complete Peal of 5040 changes in 3 Hours and 10 Minutes, February 4th, 1861.

T. Jackson, First.	J. H. Wyley, Fourth.	J. Holmes, Eighth (in Peals 1260 and 2520)
R. Weaver, Second.	W. J. Porter, Fifth.	
R. Faulkner (nearly 70 years of age), Third.	J. Challans, Sixth.	J. Cook (in Peal 5040), Eighth.

Conductor, J. Beecham. Weight of tenor, 32 cwt. The following verse is attached to the above-named Tablet:—

These Sabbath Bells shall still arise
And sound their notes to yonder skies;
The living to worship God they'll call,
And to the grave they'll summon all.

Certainly the end of the Teetotal movement, when advocated by Christian men, is the salvation of sinners; but Mr. Pixell does not seem to understand that it is an act of Christian charity to save a man from temporal want, and a woman from the oppression of a drunken husband, and children from the neglect and cruelty of a drunken father, and a whole parish from the annoyance and blasphemies of a drunken resident, even though the man himself be only delivered from one particular sin.

2. Again, Mr. Pixell reiterates his question, Where, the Church rules being observed, is drunkenness rife? I thought that I had answered him by saying to Ireland; but many Roman Catholics, he retorts, do not observe the Church's rules, therefore this is not a case in point. It comes then, to this, that there being no place where the Church's rules are observed, Mr. Pixell has been making a fool of me. I was, when I first read his question, quite at a loss to understand the triumphant tone of it. I understand it now. He might just as well have argued that, there being no proved cases of drunkenness in the moon, the proper remedy for the drunkenness of our country is for us all to go there. But though I cannot prove that localities in which the Church's rules are observed are drunken, inasmuch as no such localities exist, I can tell him, alas! of individuals who have kept all the Church's fasts, and still have been intemperate. In his own phraseology, the horse was put before the cart, and would not draw it. There is no necessary connexion between not eating meat and being sober. Liquidum non frangit jejunia sed tollit meritum et ducit ad infernum.

3. Once more. Mr. Pixell repeats the charge that I 'garbled a quotation to suit the Creed.' Now, evidently, Mr. Pixell does not understand how offensive such a charge is; nor that, granting that the quotation was garbled, I must be a better judge than he whether it was garbled to suit the Creed, or no; and consequently that, when I implicitly denied the charge, and he reiterates it, he accuses me of something very like a falsehood. I despair therefore of making him understand that when, in the course of an argument, words which are not necessary to it, but in no sense contravene it, are omitted from a quotation, this is not garbling the quotation; it is only saving space. But Mr. Pixell is mistaken in supposing that it is a matter of no interest to others whether he can reason or no. For if he cannot, and I think that I have proved that, to say the least, he does not reason fairly against Teetotalism, I hope that no one will be misled by his arguments to oppose a practice which, if generally adopted, would be most beneficial to this country and the world.

R. M. GRIER.

The Rubric before the Litany.

SIR,—May I be allowed to make a suggestion now that the Rubrics are under discussion?

In regard to the one before the Litany, it appears to be the intention that it should be used at the principal service of the day, 'After Morning Prayer,' but I should like to see these words altered, and for this reason. The Litany is often now left out of the morning service, and used only in the afternoon; and at our church we have taken a further liberty, as on the first Sunday in the month we leave it out in the morning, but read it after the 3rd Collect in the evening, which gives the people who do not come in the morning an opportunity of joining once a month in what is a most beautiful service. This has the advantage of shortening the service when there is a midday Communion, and is an excuse for using it in the evening, which is much liked.

The addition of putting the date to all the Saints'-day Collects would be a great advantage.

S. C. S.

NOTES AND QUERIES.

Queries.

SIR,—Can any of your readers oblige me with the original reference for the 'famous maxim' quoted by Dean Stanley in his recent address at Kidderminster? 'In necessary things unity, in doubtful things liberty, in all things charity?' I have found its authorship assigned to St. Augustine and to Melancthon, but the Dean evidently gives somebody else the credit. J. T.

SIR,—Will any of your correspondents kindly refer me to, or send me copies of, Rules of Church of England Young Men's Associations, or Church Institutes, or Mutual Improvement Societies, that have been found to work well? *The Rectory, Whitby.*

GEORGE AUSTEN.

SIR,—Could you, or any of your correspondents, kindly give me the address of 'The Trinitarian Bible Society,' and 'The National Bible Society of Scotland'?

H. W. LETT.

Ardmore Glebe, Lurgan, Ireland.

[The office of the Trinitarian Bible Society is 96 Newgate Street. We do not know the address of the other Society.]

SIR,—Can you tell me where I can obtain some simple illuminated texts fitted for permanent use on the walls, &c. of small country churches?

1 Downing Street, Farnham.

ROBERT ONE CLARK.

SIR,—It may interest some of your readers to know that at least one baptistry exists in this (Llandaff) diocese, in the parish church of Gelligaer, Glamorganshire. I believe it has somewhat taken the wind out of the sails of the Baptists in that parish.

R. F.

Answers.

SIR,—Commander Dawson and others will find a valuable help to the use of the Prayer-book for Family Worship in the excellent *Manual of Family Devotions* published by the National Society.

J. FERNIE.

'H.'—It appears to us that such a 'co-operative' society as you propose already exists in the Church of England Temperance Society.

'J. H.'s' letter would be better suited for the *Church of England Sunday School Magazine*.

RECEIVED ALSO,—Thos. B. Worth & Co.; D. H. Francis (Thanks); L. F. S.; H.; R. F.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Cripplegate Society.

SIR,—In last week's *Church Bells* (No. 241) there again appears an account of the Cripplegate Society of Change-ringers dining at Hertford, in which they quote they rang several touches of good change ringing on the hand-bells, and likewise in the tower of All Saints, which contains a good ring of ten bells, the company returning to London highly delighted with the day's proceedings; but, I should say, much to the disgust of the inhabitants of the town of Hertford, who have at times heard some splendid ringing by the Bennington, Cumberland, and College Youths Societies. How could these jobbers have the impudence to forward you such a statement when they know they cannot ring the ten bells in rounds?

G. A. M.

[The report alluded to was inserted by a mistake. We are sorry for it.—Ed.]

Shirland, Derbyshire.

THE ring of five bells, having been rehung by Messrs. Taylor, was reopened with a special service on the 28th ult. The Sermon was preached by the Rev. C. H. Ramsden, M.A., Vicar of Chilham, Kent, formerly Curate of Shirland. The service was in the evening. We append the Hymns and Lessons, as they may be useful to others who are engaged in similar good work:—

PROCESSIONAL, HYMN 323.—'Jerusalem on high,' &c.

SELECTED PSALMS—cxlv., cxlviii.

SELECTED LESSONS.—I. Numb. x. to v. 11. II. Heb. x. to v. 26.

ANTHEM.

I WILL magnify Thee, O God, my King: and I will praise Thy name for ever and ever. Every day will I give thanks unto Thee: and praise Thy name for ever and ever. The Lord is gracious and merciful: long suffering, and of great goodness. The Lord is loving unto every man: and His mercy is over all His works. Great is the Lord, and marvellous, worthy to be praised: there is no end of His greatness. One generation shall praise Thy works unto another: and declare Thy power.—Ps. cxlv. 1, 2, &c. (*Prayer-book Version*.)

HYMN BEFORE SERMON.

Loud voices in our church to-day,
Loud notes upon the air,
With willing echoes swell the sound
Of Praise and solemn Prayer.
Each bell in size and tone apart
Doth its own tale repeat,
And all attuned in order form
One harmony complete.

We too, or great or small, would do
Whate'er He doth command.

Each, with the force to him allowed,
A Herald of His Word,
All in one voice of blended might,
A peal of sweet accord.

All glory to the Father be,
All glory to the Son,
All glory to the Holy Ghost,
While endless ages run. Amen.

HYMN AFTER SERMON—325. 'Hark! hark, my soul,' &c.

Change-ringing at St. Botolph, Bishopsgate.

ON Thursday, July 29th, eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths succeeded in ringing a true peal of Kent Treble Bob Major, consisting of 5120 changes, on the bells of St. Botolph, Bishopsgate. H. W. Haley, treble; M. A. Wood, 2nd; A. Jones, 3rd; G. A. Muskett, 4th; W. Greenleaf, 5th; J. Snowdon, Esq., of Ilkley, near Leeds, 6th; E. Horrex, 7th; J. M. Hayes, tenor. H. W. Haley called the peal.—*Reported*.

Change-ringing at Bodelwyddan, North Wales.

ON Monday, August 2nd, ten members belonging to the Union Society of Change-ringers, Liverpool, through an invitation from the Rev. Watkin Williams, Rector, paid a visit to St. Margaret's Church, and rang on those fine-toned ring of eight bells several touches of Kent Treble Bob Major, Grandsire, and Stedman Triples. The ringers were:—G. Crute, conductor; E. Booth, H. Meadows, R. Williams, sen., R. Williams, jun., W. Heron, A. Heron, W. Burkinshaw, J. Egerton, W. Brooks. Afterwards the ringers and friends, to the number of thirty, adjourned to the Castle, the seat of Sir Hugh Williams, Bart., and partook of a sumptuous repast. After the cloth was drawn the evening's entertainment was enlivened with glee-singing, change, and tune ringing on the hand-bells, Sir Hugh and his guests being highly delighted with the performance.—*Per Letter*.

Dedication & Opening of a new Ring of Bells at Ivinghoe, Bucks.

ON Thursday, Aug. 5, a new ring of six bells, cast by Messrs. Warner and Sons, and hung by Mr. H. Boswell, were opened by the Oxford Society of Change-ringers. The ringing commenced with Stedman's and Grandsire Doubles, after which 720 of Kent Treble Bob were well struck, conducted by Mr. H. Boswell. Before the Dedication Service in the afternoon 120's of Stedman and Grandsire Doubles were rung. After the Service the Oxford Society rang 720 of Grandsire Minor (with a call every lead), which gave great satisfaction to the Vicar (the Rev. H. J. Rawlinson) and the company assembled: this was conducted by Mr. C. Hounslow; the other ringers being Messrs. T. Hill, E. Harrison, R. Annis, F. Smith, and F. Williamson. Weight of tenor, 15 cwt.—*Reported*.

Waterloo Society, London.

ON Saturday, August 7th, the following members visited High Parnet, Herts, and rang on the bells of St. John the Baptist a true peal of Grandsire Triples, containing 5040 changes, in 2 hrs 40 mins. Performers:—W. Baron, treble; C. Hopkins, 2nd; J. Mansfield, 3rd; H. Hopkins, 4th; G. Newson, 5th; D. Stackwood, 6th; J. Barrett, 7th; S. Jarman, tenor. The above was the first peal on the bells, and was conducted by Mr. W. Baron.—*Reported*.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Peculiarities about Bells.—XIII.

SIR.—It has been said that the county of Kent contains more rings of bells than any other county in England, but not one ring of twelve. I believe that saying is still true. The Cathedral at Canterbury has a very fine ring of ten, tenor 32 cwt. in D. The recently-restored Cathedral of Rochester has in its lofty four-pinnacled central tower a ring of six bells, tenor 20 cwt. in E. When I was twenty, until I was twenty-three, I lived at Bowman's Lodge, on Dartford Heath; and as I was then an enthusiast about bells, I will describe the bells I could hear and visit, and personally inspect, from that place. There were three rings of bells within very easy hearing—the very light six of Bexley, the deeper and heavier five of Crayford, and the grand ring of eight at Dartford. Many hours have I spent in our garden listening to these bells; and there was hardly ever a night in the week when the ringers of some were not practising. I believe now that Dartford can boast a very able set of change-ringers. Nothing could ever be made of the bells of Bexley; they were so very light, and the treble was so very sharp and clangy. Crayford might well have been augmented to six, and been a very good effective ring—the lower bells were sufficient even for eight. F. B. KING.

P.S.—I thank Mr. Jerram for his correction about the Boston bells. I rejoice that there are those who are ready to set right, and I also rejoice that in my case so little correction has been necessary.

Change-ringing at Pudsey.

ON Saturday, the 7th of August, the Birstall Young Ringers rang on the bells of Pudsey church a true peal of Kent Treble Bob, consisting of 5120 changes, in 9 hrs. 8 mins. The ringers were placed in the following order:—W. H. Crossley, treble; F. Crowther, 2nd; G. Thornton, 3rd; H. Dodson, 4th; W. Stainthorpe, 5th; A. Mortimer, 6th; E. T. Jowett, 7th; J. Dixon, tenor. The peal was composed by J. Dixon, and conducted by H. Dodson, it being his first attempt at conducting a peal.—*Per Letter.*

St. Luke's, Bedminster, Bristol.

ON Wednesday, July 21, a complete peal of Grandsire Minor, consisting of 720 changes, was rung for the first time on the six new bells of St. Luke's, Bedminster. The peal was composed and conducted by Mr. S. Salter.—*Reported.*

St. Sidwell's, Exeter, Society of Ringers.

THE members and friends of the above Society, after ringing some peals at St. Sidwell's, started early on Saturday last for their annual wayzgoose, and visited the towers of Dunsford, Bridford, and Christow. At Bridford, where the bells have been recently rehung, the ringing was especially good. The ringers stood in the following order:—S. Mardon, conductor; R. French and W. B. Bradford, alternately, 2nd; T. Moxey, 3rd; W. B. Fulford, 4th; W. C. Marsh, 5th; J. Alford, 6th. At each place several good touches of Grandsire Doubles, consisting of 120 changes, were well struck, each touch taking about 4 mins. 30 secs.; and also some thirty Grandsire Doubles were rung by the junior members. The party, at 3.30, dined together at Christow, where a substantial dinner was provided.—*Local Paper.*

BELFRY RECORDS.

SEDGLEY, STAFFORDSHIRE. (Tablets in the Belfry.)

775. CHANGE-RINGING. 1861, November 3rd.—The Ringers of this Church rung a true Peal of Grandsire Major in 3 hours & 11 minutes: it consists of 5376 Changes, & contains 230 Bobs & 106 Singles. It was composed by Mr. Johnson of Birmingham, and rung by the following persons:—
John Bowyer, Treble. William Baines, Fourth. George Devonport, Sixth.
George Johnson, Second. Thomas Goodman, Fifth. Charles Johnson, Seventh.
Charles Fellows, Third. Joseph Devonport, Tenor.

The above Peals were conducted by C. Johnson.
W. Lewis, Vicar.
C. Rolason, } Ch. Wardens.
W. Waterhouse, }

776. 1861. DECEMBER 22.—The Ringers of this Church rung a true Muffled Peal of Grandsire Triples as a Memorial of the Death of his Royal Highness the Prince Consort, in 2 hours & 51 minutes: it consists of 5040 Changes, & contains 194 Bobs & 46 Singles. It was composed by Mr. Taylor, and rung by the following:—
John Bowyer, Treble. William Baines, Fourth. Charles Johnson, Sixth.
George Johnson, Second. Thomas Goodman, Fifth. Henry Haywood, Seventh.
Joseph Devonport, Third. Simeon Slater, Tenor.

777. ON Sunday, April 8th, 1849, the Ringers of this Church rung a correct Peal of Mr. Holt's Grandsire Triples, consisting of 5040 Changes, in 2 hours & 54 Minutes, being the first ever rung on the bells of this tower by the Society, which consists of the following persons:—
George Devonport, Treble. Francis Roden, Fourth. Joseph Devonport, Sixth.
George Johnson, Second. Thomas Goodman, Fifth. Charles Johnson, Seventh.
Charles Fellows, Third. Benjamin Slater, Tenor.

The above Peals were called & conducted by Charles Johnson.
Rev. W. Lewis, Vicar.
W. M. Willets, } Ch. Wardens.
W. Perry, }

778. ALSO, on Tuesday, November 5th, 1850, a second correct Peal of Mr. Taylor's Grandsire Triples, consisting of 5040 Changes, with 194 Bobs & 46 Singles, in 2 hours & 41 minutes. The Ringers were in the following places:—
George Devonport, Treble. Francis Roden, Fourth. Charles Johnson, Sixth.
George Johnson, Second. Thomas Goodman, Fifth. Joseph Devonport, Seventh.
Charles Fellows, Third. William Baines, Tenor.

NEW COLLEGE, OXFORD. (Tablet in the Belfry.)

779. MARCH 27, 1815.—Rung in this Tower a complete Peal of Grandsire Caters, containing 10,008 changes, in 6 hours & 42 minutes, by the Junior Society of Cumberland Youths.
Thomas Pavier, Treble. George Pavier, Fourth. Edward Nickolls, Eighth.
William Parker, Second. Henry Carr, Fifth. Jonathan Pavier, Ninth.
John Tagg, Third. Charles Pavier, Sixth. Thomas Cook, Tenor.
Joseph Montague, Seventh.

This was the greatest number of changes ever rung in the University of Oxford. Composed and conducted by E. Nickolls. Tenor, 19 cwt.

CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL, OXFORD.

(Tablets in the Belfry.)

780. SEPT. 22nd, 1820.—Rung in this Tower a complete Peal of Grandsire Caters, containing 5303 changes, in 3 hours and 32 minutes, by the Society of Oxford Youths.
William Godfrey, Treble. Richard Cater, Fifth. William Parker, Eighth.
Henry Taylor, Second. Joseph Taylor, Sixth. Arthur Tyror, Ninth.
George Pavier, junr. Third. Thomas Godfrey, Seventh. Thomas Hanks, Tenor.
Henry Carr, Fourth. Tenor, 24 cwt.

In this Peal the 2nd was never behind the 9th. Composed & conducted by W. Parker.
781. JAN. 19th, 1828.—Rung in this Tower a complete peal of Grandsire Caters, consisting of 5165 changes, with only the 5th & 6th behind the 9th, in 3 hours & 36 minutes, by the Society of Oxford Union Scholars.

George Harris, Treble. Edward Whitbread, Fifth. Arthur Tyror, Ninth.
Edward Nickolls, Second. Robert Young, Sixth. Henry Pill, } Tenor.
Jonathan Pavier, Third. William Parker, Seventh. George Nunney, }
Henry Nunney, Fourth. Thomas Hanks, Eighth. Tenor, 42 cwt.

Composed & conducted by W. Parker.

ST. MARY'S, CHESTERFIELD, DERBYSHIRE.

(Tablets in the Belfry.)

782. ON Monday, June 2nd, 1800, was rung in this church a complete peal of Grandsire Trebles, containing 5048 changes, in 3 hours and 20 minutes, by the following persons, viz:—
W. Rollinson, Treble. Joseph Fogg, Fourth. Samuel Tetley, Seventh.
Edward Dean, Second. Isaac Siddall, Fifth. Peter Maden, Tenor.
John Pickard, Third. John Hearnshaw, Sixth. Called by John Pickard.

783. ON Saturday, March 31st, 1821, was rung a complete peal of Grandsire Caters, containing 5003 changes, in 3 hours & 8 minutes, by the Society of St. Mary's, Chesterfield.
George Wragg, Treble. George Turner, Fourth. William Carrington, Eighth.
Joseph Fogg, Second. William Forrest, Fifth. Robert Bradley, Ninth.
Edward Dean, Third. Elijah Bradley, Sixth. Peter Maden, Tenor.
Thomas Tetley, Seventh.

And on Thursday, July 19th, 1821, being the coronation day of his present Majesty, George IV., was rung by the same Youths a complete peal of Grandsire Caters, containing 7001 changes, in 4 hours & 16 minutes, being the greatest number of changes ever rung in the county.

N.B.—Both peals rung and conducted by Thomas Tetley.

784. ON Tuesday, September 12th, 1843, a complete peal of Grandsire Caters, containing 5059 changes, was rung in 3 hours & ten minutes by the Chesterfield Society of Change-ringers, consisting of the following persons, viz:—

William Edward, Treble. John L. E. Fifth. William Watson, Eighth.
John Reddish, Second. John Shipley, Sixth. John Oliver, Ninth.
William Forrest, Third. George Turner, Seventh. Edward Carrington, Tenor.
James Ellis, Fourth. Conducted by John Oliver.

785. ON Monday, March 28th, 1853, was rung by the Society of St. Mary's, Chesterfield, a complete peal of Holt's Grandsire Trebles, containing 5040 changes, in 3 hours and 1 minute, by the following persons, viz:—

John Ellis, Treble. John Shipley, Fourth. Wm. Ellis, Seventh.
John Reddish, Second. Henry Nuttall, Fifth. Edward Carrington, Tenor.
Samuel Carrington, Third. Samuel Watson, Sixth. Weight of tenor, 24 cwt.
Conducted by Edward Carrington.

786. ON Tuesday, Feb. 23rd, 1869, the Chesterfield Society of Change-ringers rang at this church a true and complete peal of Grandsire Caters, containing 5003 changes, in 3 hours & 30 minutes, by the following persons, viz:—

Isaac William, Treble. James Ellis, junr. Fifth. William Ellis, Ninth.
Henry Nuttall, Second. William Rhodes, Sixth. Edw. Carrington, sen., Tenor.
James Ellis, sen., Third. John Ellis, Seventh. Conducted by William Ellis.
Edw. Carrington, jun., Fourth. Samuel Watson, Eighth. Weight of tenor, 24 cwt.

ALL SAINTS, NOTTINGHAM. (Tablet in the Belfry.)

787. ON Saturday, February the 24th, 1866, Shipway's peal of 5040 Grandsire Trebles was rang by All Saints' Society of Change-ringers on the bells of the above church. Names as below:—

S. G. Henson, Treble. John Lennard, Fourth. Edward Hallsworth, Sixth.
Joseph Wibberley, Second. Robert Beeson, Fifth. George Middleton, Seventh.
Robert Metheringham, Third. Charles Bradbury, Tenor.

This was the first peal rang on these bells, and accomplished, at the first attempt (in good style), in 3 hours and 18 minutes; and was ably conducted by Mr. Middleton.

Rev. E. Gyles, Incumbent.
Rev. F. A. Wodehouse, Curate.
W. Windley, Esq. } Churchwardens.
C. Butlin, Esq. }

J. Wood, Clerk. W. Metheringham, Steeple-keeper.

ST. THOMAS'S, LEESFIELD, LANCASHIRE.

(Tablets in the Belfry.)

788. MERRILY RUNG THE BELLS OF ST. THOMAS'S.
ON Saturday, February 27th, 1869, the Society of Change-ringers, Leesfield, ascended this tower and rung Mr. John Holt's beautiful ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, consisting of 5040 changes. The peal was conducted by Mr. John Standing, and was truly brought round in 2 hours and 59 minutes, by the following ringers:—

John Standing, Treble. John Harrison, Fourth. John Ashworth, Seventh.
John Jackson, Second. William Ashworth, Fifth. Ben. Bailey, Tenor.
Joseph Burgess, Third. William Birkenshaw, Sixth. Weight of Tenor, 14 cwt.
Rev. Robert Whittaker, Vicar.

789. SUCCESS IS THE REWARD OF PERSEVERANCE.
ON Saturday, February 22nd, 1870, the Society of Change-ringers, Leesfield, ascended this tower and rung Mr. J. Reeves's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, consisting of 5040 changes, which was conducted by Mr. William Ashworth, and truly brought round in 2 hours and 56 minutes by the following ringers:—

John Standing, Treble. John Harrison, Fourth. John Ashworth, Seventh.
Joseph Burgess, Second. William Ashworth, Fifth. Ben. Bailey, Tenor.
John Jackson, Third. William Birkenshaw, Sixth. Weight of tenor, 14 cwt.

Mr. John Holme, } Churchwardens.
Edward Shaw, }

LOUGHBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE.

(Tablets in the Belfry.)

790. MARCH 1st, 1842.—The Loughboro' Band ascended this Tower, and rung Shipway's celebrated peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples, without a Single, in 3 hrs. & 15 mins, being the first 5040 rung in this Tower. The following are the names of the ringers:—

Thos. Grundy, Treble. Jas. Hood, Fourth. Mr. C. Morley, Seventh.
Alfd. Fewkes, Second. Henry Bramley, Fifth. Wm. Fewkes, Tenor.
J. W. Taylor, Third. Geo. Cook, Sixth. Conducted by Mr. C. Morley.

791. MARCH 1st, 1843.—The Loughboro' Ringers, with the assistance of Mr. Biggs of Leicester, rung a peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples, containing 124 bobs and 46 singles, in 2 hours and 50 mins.

Wm. Fewkes, Treble. Jas. Hood, Fourth. Mr. E. Biggs, Seventh.
Alfd. Fewkes, Second. Henry Bramley, Fifth. Jon. Geo. and Thos. Langham,
Geo. Cook, Third. Mr. C. Morley, Sixth. Tenor, 24 cwt.
Conducted by Mr. C. Morley.

RECEIVED.—F. B. King; J. R. Jerram, with thanks: will insert several in a group.

Let but *one* clergyman try the plan I suggest with but *two* selected students—selected, first, because bearing the highest character for diligence and steadiness; and, secondly, because they have no home or friends in London with whom to spend their leisure hours.

I would further suggest that clergymen in rural districts, or in our great manufacturing cities, should place themselves in communication with the medical practitioners in their respective parishes, and invite their co-operation, and that of their assistants, who would of course be former students of some London Hospital. More than twenty-five years ago I was led by circumstances to spend some time in the Charing Cross Hospital, and while there I was much interested in observing the manner in which several of the students ministered to the dying. In one case, a young person having been admitted from my own parish, I offered to read by her bedside, but the excellent Director, who was the Founder of the Hospital, told me that one of the students, the son of a clergyman, had already been with her during the night, reading and praying, as her death was hourly expected. This excellent man had given up his own share of the fees usually paid by students, to found scholarships for such young men as were unable to defray the expenses of their medical education, and he usually selected for these free scholarships the sons of very poor clergymen. Almost his last act was to obtain, at my request, one of these free admissions for the son of a medical man whose sudden death had left his widow and large family wholly destitute. I need not add, what must be obvious to all acquainted with the needs of a large parish, how invaluable to an overworked parish-priest would be the help of one of these young men—one whom he might trust to read and pray with the sick he was attending professionally.

Would not such young men, if hereafter found eligible for the ministry, be able to undertake missionary work with far more prospect of success than those who had not had the same previous training? A knowledge of medicine and surgery is almost indispensable to a missionary in remote regions, and his influence is doubled (as has been often proved by the narratives of missionaries) by his skill in relieving bodily suffering.

Our Lord Himself, by His own example, has taught us that the spread of the Gospel was mainly owing to His acts of love and mercy to the suffering; and in His charge to His Apostles He expressly commanded them 'to heal the sick.' (Matt. x. 8.) Let but the youthful student feel that he is treading in the footsteps of the Apostles, that though not, like them, endowed with miraculous power to cleanse the leper, or to raise the dead, he yet may, in the daily discharge of his duty, bring the sufferer nearer to his Saviour; and while he relieves the anguish of his body, cheer his spirit by directing him to seek for the help of the Great Physician of souls, who 'Himself took our infirmities, and bare our sicknesses.'

A medical man has many more opportunities of intercourse with his patients than a clergyman can have: Shall he not then be trained to use those opportunities for the good of the souls of those whose bodies he is striving to heal?

It has been almost too often the fashion to associate *materialism* with the medical profession. It is said to engender hardness and insensibility, but the many noble exceptions to this sweeping condemnation, both among living as well as formerly celebrated physicians, furnish the best answer to this calumny; and if the tone of the young student is raised, as you suggest, by an education which may hereafter qualify him for the highest service of the ministry, even if they conscientiously feel that they ought not to enter into Holy Orders, they will be as truly 'Deacons,' servants of the Church, ministering to the temporal wants of their brethren, as if formally admitted by imposition of the Bishop's hands. I would briefly refer to George Herbert's *Country Parson*, and to the example of the excellent Boerhaave, whose lives should be studied by every young medical man; proving, as it does, that the ministry of healing to the body is not incompatible with devotion to God's work. The secret of Boerhaave's success was his earnest piety. Disappointed in his hopes of becoming a minister of religion, he devoted himself to the study of medicine with the same diligence which he had evinced when preparing for the ministry. It was his daily practice, as soon as he rose, to retire for an hour to private prayer and meditation; this, he often told his friends, gave him spirit and vigour in the business of the day, and this he therefore commended as the best rule of life.

L. F. S.

'The Common Weal': a Daily Paper.

SIR,—If a paper such as we desire is to have any counteracting influence among the working classes against such publications as *Reynolds's Newspaper*, the *Illustrated Police News*, and the like, it certainly must not commence life in a goody-goody fashion, but must treat of the subjects most interesting to the working classes, *only in a better manner* than do the papers about which we complain. I see no reason why, as long as 'sporting' occupies so large a portion of the public attention, the proposed paper should not contain a fair proportion of sporting news; indeed, a daily paper which does not will stand little chance of a long life. At the same time an attempt should be made, though not too prominently, to lead public opinion to something higher and better. A paper which is *ostensibly* religious, or is in any way goody-goody, will have no chance with the majority of our artisans and labourers, who certainly would not buy, and would scarcely read, a paper in which they fancied an attempt was being made to thrust religion down their throats. I would suggest that a halfpenny daily newspaper would be much easier to establish than a penny one, and much more likely to be purchased by the working classes, and a large number of the classes just above them, who do not now indulge in the luxury (or otherwise) of a penny daily. If the paper were found to 'take,' an evening edition might be published, as suggested by 'Paterfamilias,' whose idea of a penny Saturday edition with illustrations seems to me a good one. Will any one start the thing? Perhaps an arrangement might be made with the proprietors for a morning issue of the *Sun* or the *Echo*; but, if so, the politics of the new issue, though necessarily 'Conservative,' must be strictly independent.

C. D. V.

SIR,—An indication in *Church Bells* as to where subscriptions may be paid towards the Church for the Deaf and Dumb in Oxford Street, would be gladly received by

AN INTENDING SUBSCRIBER.

[You had better address the Rev. Samuel Smith, 272 Oxford Street, W.]

In answer to 'H.' in *Church Bells*, August 21st, 'C. M. N.' gained the necessary information about Church Newspapers from Rev. I. E. Usherwood, Hurst, Bournemouth.

'S. WORTHINGTON.'—We do not know any such work.

RECEIVED ALSO:—F. H. C.; A Moderate Evangelical; Sunbeam; George Madan.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Peculiarities about Bells.—XIV.

SIR,—I am going now to speak about all the rings of bells in the town of Cambridge, as I was three years resident there; and my interest in the subject being as lively in the year 1846, when I took my degree, as it is now, I can speak 'knowingly,' as the saying is. But I must begin with the city of Ely, with its most interesting and beautifully restored cathedral. Here are two rings of bells. The cathedral has a ring of five only, tenor 16 cwt. in G; and St. Mary's Church, I believe, has a ring of eight bells. I now speak from personal knowledge on the Cambridge bells. First, Great St. Mary's. I spoke of these twelve bells in a former letter, and I expose myself to the charge of repetition in saying that the tenor is 30 cwt. in D flat, and that the clock chimes are the model from which the Westminster chimes are copied, St. Martin-in-the-Fields, St. Clement Danes, the Post-office clock in Dublin, and very many others. St. Benet's Church, in its ancient Norman tower, has a good ring of six, tenor about 20 cwt. St. Edward's Church has a very light ring of six. St. Andrew's has also a ring of six. This is comparatively a new ring, dating 1843; tenor about 17 cwt. St. Michael's has a ring of four, so also has St. Botolph. Trinity Church, with its graceful spire, has a light ring of five. The colleges have only one or two bells each, whereas several of the colleges of Oxford, as I will show in my next, have rings of their own. Jesus College here has a very substantial tower, like that of an old parish church, but it has only two bells. I must mention the town of Soham in this county. Here is a fine Gothic church, with a ring of ten bells, tenor 21 cwt. in E.

F. B. KING.

Ringers' Trip, Bolton, Lancashire.

On Saturday, August 7th, the ringers of Holy Trinity Church, Bolton, Lancashire, held their annual trip. This year they went to Lytham. After partaking of a good breakfast (provided by the Wardens of Trinity, Bolton) they went to the parish church, with permission of the Vicar, who welcomed them personally. The tower contains a ring of eight bells, lately augmented from six to eight by the addition of a tenor, about 14½ cwt., and a treble, by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank of London. After a short pull on the eight, two peals of 720 Bob Minor were rung on the last six. Leaving the parish church St. John's was visited, where there is a new ring of six bells by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, tenor 10 cwt., which were opened a few weeks ago, but no changes were rung. The first peal of 720 changes was rung on this occasion by the ringers, who stood thus:—H. W. Jackson, treble; H. Bentley, 2nd; J. Thornton, 3rd; J. H. Jackson, 4th; S. Gaskel, 5th; W. Hamer, tenor. Conducted by H. W. Jackson. Afterwards a second peal was rung, with J. Haworth on the 2nd bell and J. Walsh on the tenor. They then returned home, having had a very pleasant trip.—*Per Letter*.

Extraordinary Ringing.

SIR,—The following appeared in the *Lincolnshire Chronicle* of October 24, 1868:—

'The Maxey Society of Ringers rang, on Thursday evening, the 15th inst., a true and complete peal of Bob Minor Variations, consisting of 720 changes, with 138 bobs, 6 singles, and four extremes; the treble an extreme bell with the rest. This feat has never before been accomplished on church bells. This method was introduced in the year 1830 by Mr. Dixon of Stamford, who failed to produce more than 616 changes, and was extended in the present year, 1868, to a complete peal, with the tenors right way throughout, by Mr. John Hollis of Glington, who accomplished the extraordinary feat of ringing this intricate peal; likewise 360 changes of Oxford Treble Bob, and 360 changes of Court Bob, on the handbells at Maxey, without making the slightest mistake.'

Can you or any of your readers inform me how to get 720 changes with the above number of calls, and what is meant by ringing hand-bells *single-handed*?

J. SMITH, Sheffield.

[We are surprised that a *Ringer* should ask such a question. What can it mean, but that each performer handles only *one* bell, instead of two—one in each hand?—Ed.]

St. Nicolas' Church, Cork.

On Saturday, the 21st inst., the ring of eight bells—they having been tuned, re-hung, and put in perfect working order, by Mr. Alfred York of Bristol—were reopened by the Waterford Society of Change-ringers (established 1872). They are the only scientific change-ringers in Ireland. They rang several excellent touches of Grandsire Triples, the first ever heard in Cork.—*Per Letter*.

RECEIVED:—C. W. Vincent.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Dr. Mason's Manuscripts on Ringing.
No. I.

In the Third Report of the Royal Commission on Historical Manuscripts, published 1872, in the Appendix, p. 324, there is an account of the Bowtell Collection in Downing College Library, in which are three volumes on Bell-ringing—an elaborate work by Dr. Charles Mason, Fellow of Trinity College, Cambridge, and Woodwardian Professor. It appears that these volumes came into Mr. Bowtell's possession soon after the death of Dr. Mason in 1770 (aged 72). Bowtell was a flourishing bookseller, and a collector of books and manuscripts, the whole of which he bequeathed by will, dated September 22nd, 1813, to Downing College.

The Master and Fellows, with most generous courtesy, allowed me to examine these volumes at my own home, with a view to publication if the contents were worth it. For this very kind permission I return my most sincere thanks. As soon as possible I submitted them to the examination of my friend Mr. Jasper W. Snowdon, a well-known member of the Ancient Society of College Youths, London, an advanced proficient in the science of Change-ringing, and a practical performer of the art of ringing. I have much pleasure in presenting to the readers of *Church Bells* Mr. Snowdon's very able report and interesting analysis of these volumes, with many thanks for the trouble he has so kindly and willingly taken.

H. T. ELLACOMBE.

DR. MASON'S MSS.—From the records of the Society of Cambridge Youths I find that Dr. Mason was elected a member of that company February 15th, 1725. He is there described as 'D.D., Fellow of Trinity College, and Woodwardian Professor of Fossils.' From the same source I gather that he died December 18th, 1770. In looking over the original name-book of the Society of College Youths, now in the library of the British Museum, I found the following entry: '1727, Charles Mason, Cambridge.'

It therefore seems that Dr. Mason was probably well known in the ringing world about the middle of the last century, as it will be seen by these volumes he had frequent correspondence with the Norwich men. Unfortunately, however, the writings contain no memoranda concerning how the peals, &c., contained in these volumes came into Dr. Mason's possession; and, excepting what can be gathered and inferred from the arrangement of the contents, the books consist simply of a selection of treble leads of variations, with many touches in the best known of these methods; several peals of 5040 changes, all of which are of the greatest interest; many clever remarks on the science of change-ringing, and the proof of the peals given.

In consequence of the entire absence of any external evidence from the volumes themselves, it is quite impossible, except from an examination of the matter contained therein, to say in what chronological order they were produced. The two small volumes, however, are much more elementary in their opening pages than the other one, and their contents throughout point to the fact that they were produced first, and, as far as I can conclude, the order in which I place them is most probably the one in which they were written.

Volume I. commences with many representations of five and six-bell peals, constructed by the use of lines instead of figures, the distinction between the different bells being made by the use of full and dotted lines of black and red inks. The use of these diagrams seems to be an idea which presents itself to most persons, as when I commenced studying change-ringing I, without having previously seen anything of the sort, reduced all the familiar methods to diagrams very much of the same description. Another example, and one which will be well known to many ringers for its useful assistance in teaching Stedman, is the figure diagram given of the 'slow work' in that system in Mr. Troyte's work on Change-ringing.

After these diagrams, Dr. Mason devotes a good many pages to observation on Grandsire-ringing, all of which relate to the sequence of the in or out-of-course changes on different numbers of bells. I do not find throughout the work any place in which the changes are referred to under such names as *in* or *out* of course; and although Dr. Mason seems to have known the effect of these different conditions, it seems rather to have been gathered from the impossibility, after much trial, of obtaining certain results, than any logical deductions. From the following remark, however, I think the origin of the use of these terms is explained. Dr. Mason writes concerning Grandsire Caters, 'After two bells have changed courses, it is impossible that any change should come over again that was before the courses were changed, unless some two bells change again.' Probably at first the fact of a shift of course made by two bells preventing the bells ever coming round at back-stroke in Grandsire Triples, called attention to the *course* of the changes; and, therefore, while the bells were working in their right coursing order, they were called *in course*, in distinction from being *out*, which they would be if a shift of course had been made, and thus the terms *in* and *out* came to be applied even when this alteration was effected by means of a call.

'Stedman's, or St. Edmund's: severell ways.' This gives a pretty idea of the derivation of Stedman's name. The several ways consist merely of different ways of going off: the first is after the usual mode, that is, it commences with the last two changes of a quick six. Only five bell-peals are pricked.

'To finish a peal of seven extempore' in other words, how to call Grandsire Triples round: several rules for effecting this are stated. After this the following explanation of the way in which Dr. Mason pricked all his touches or peals is given. This is so different to that now in ordinary use, that a casual observer might easily fail to recognise in what method the examples were given, were it not perhaps for the fact that the bell in the hunt and that 'before' are in the same order as if pricked in the usual way. Dr. Mason writes as follows:—'In order to comprehend the effect that bobs and plain leads have upon the order of the bells, I make use, not of the real change, but of the order the bells take the lead of each other. Because that method makes pricking easier, and is very obvious to be seen in ringing.

What I mean will be best understood by example, making use of the second blow of the treble lead only:—

	IN THE COURSE.						
	Changes.						
'It may be perceived from hence that the difference between the change and order of leading is only putting the bell in fifth place late, and the variation from lead to lead is only putting the last bell next to the hunts, the rest lying in the same order, only advanced one place higher. At a bob the two last bells are put next the treble, the rest advanced two places higher, &c.'	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Bobs.						
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7

Although this way of pricking is one in which perhaps there is less liability for an error to arise from carelessness, yet as the real changes rung at the treble lead ends are not produced in those places, the result is not so satisfactory as when they are actually pricked. Of course there are many advantages in this way of representing the lead ends; still if the lead end is known the coursing order can be deduced from it, or *vice versa*. As another curious instance of how Dr. Mason forestalled many of our thoughts, if any one is desirous of learning more concerning this way of pricking by the order of leading, I would recommend him to turn to a paper which appeared in *Church Bells*, March 21st, 1874, where many interesting details on this subject are given.

'A table for Bob Magnus, or, as it is now called, Bob Major, follows, with the order of leading, and the variation made at a bob. Then comes 'For the whole peal of eight, by M. Windle,' and a peal of 40,320 Bob Major is given.

Further on follows one of the most interesting pages in the whole of the volumes. It is headed, '5040 Garthorn's Triples.' This is a copy of the veritable peal of Grandsire Triples composed by John Garthorn of Norwich, and rung there in 1718. A full account of this peal was reproduced from a contemporary in *Church Bells*, March 7th, 1874, where it was shown how, after having been unnoticed for many years, being considered a false peal, it had been brought to light, and was found true. In another volume this peal is proved by Dr. Mason, who also failed to find it false. This peal of Garthorn's is on the three-lead course plan, and is produced by means of several fifth's-place bobs and a bob single at the end of each half of the peal, in addition to the ordinary bobs. In Dr. Mason's copy the fifth's-place bobs are written in red ink, and at the half-lead ends 'S. in 4-5' is written, to signify that the single is made by the bells in 4-5 lying still. The discovery of this copy of Garthorn's peal in this volume places beyond all doubt the fact that the first true peal of Grandsire Triples was composed, as for many years it has been alleged, by John Garthorn of Norwich. Since now it has turned up from quite a different source, and under totally independent circumstances, there can be no longer any reason for doubting that this is the peal rung in Norwich on August 26th, 1718. Of course it can be said that this peal, from the use of additional calls, is not composed according to the strict rules of Grandsire ringing, yet I imagine no one would say the same of Mr. Holt's ten-part peal, to which the same objection, in a minor degree, might be made; and I think, allowing for the unpleasantness of setting aside the prejudice in favour of the priority of Mr. Holt's peals, so long insisted upon by many persons, that to say, although this is undoubtedly Garthorn's peal, that it cannot be admitted as Grandsire Triples, is merely an equivocal way of dealing with the matter. It seems to me that Garthorn's peal has never really been lost sight of entirely, as Mr. Johnson of Birmingham lately told me that Henry Cooper of that town, a noted composer some years ago, had said that Garthorn's peal contained fifth's-place bobs, which showed that he (Cooper) knew something about it. Again, on looking over the Osborne MSS. in the British Museum, I found, under a copy of the Norwich peal-board, the following note:—'The composition of this peal is still in existence. 1839. E. J. O.' This shows Mr. Osborne had also heard of it.

Several leads of 'Court Bob' are given; those on six and seven bells are Double Court Bob, as given by Shipway in his classification of the Court Bob systems. These are followed by Court Bob 'On eight bells,' 'Court Bob Caters,' and 'Court Bob on ten.' These are all what is now known as Double London Court Bob. Besides these there is 'Court Bob, Norwich way, on eight bells,' which is the ordinary Double Norwich Court. Touches and a peal of Court Bob Triples conclude this volume.

(To be continued.)

Magdalen College, Oxford.

ON Saturday, Aug. 21st, Mr. John Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, containing 5040 changes, was rung in 3 hrs. 7 min. by the following members of the Oxford Society of Change ringers:—W. Smith, treble; W. Thomas, 2nd; W. F. Williamson, 3rd; E. Harrison, 4th; H. Janaway, 5th; C. Hounslow, 6th; R. Annis, 7th; B. Foskett, tenor. Conducted by Mr. William Smith (first peal as Conductor).—Reported.

In Memoriam.

DIED, on Aug. 23rd, Mr. Arthur Tyror, aged 76. Muffled peals were rung at St. Aldate's (Mr. Tyror's parish) and at Christ Church Cathedral, on the day of the funeral; and on Monday evening, Aug. 30th, eight members of the Oxford Society rang the date of the year 1875, Stedman Triples, composed by Mr. H. Hubbard, sen. of Leeds. Conducted by Mr. Chas. Hounslow (1 hr. 10 min.), with the bells half muffled as a last tribute of respect to the deceased, who belonged to the old school of change-ringers.

RECEIVED.—J. Barraclough, deferred; E. G. Wyld; Leonard Procter; H. Hamilton; J. P. H.; F. B. King, deferred; Ipswich Journal.

d'Aumale) has said of England, 'Its entire history turns, as it were, upon a single idea. It has been able to believe sincerely that it was the people of God, the continuator of the Hebrews, the chosen people, the confident of Providence, the instrument of His hidden designs, His soldiers against the impostures, the idolatry, the vanity of the new Gentiles.'

Alfreton, Aug. 14, 1875.

W. ROWBOTTOM.

NOTES AND QUERIES.

Queries.

SIR,—Will any of your readers tell me where I can get any of the *Tracts for the Times*, including No. 90? Also a very simply-arranged copy of the music to the Nicene Creed, suitable for unison singing? H.

SIR,—Is Conversion instantaneous or progressive? Opinions and proofs solicited from readers of *Church Bells*. J. L. B.

SIR,—Will any of your readers inform me whether a work is published containing the three Prayer-books of 1549, 1552, 1662 respectively, and printed in *extenso* in parallel columns? H. C. J.

Answers.

SIR,—In answer to 'A Curate's Wife,' for mothers' meetings I recommend *Oil for Creaking Hinges; or, Help and Comfort for Hard Times*. (Pp. 212. Published at 2s. 6d. by Hunt.) W. F. COBB.

SIR,—In answer to 'A Curate's Wife,' I recommend *Homely Counsels for the Hardworking*, also, *Invitation and Promise*; both published by W. Macintosh. G. S.

SIR,—In reply to an inquiry in last week's *Church Bells* for suitable books to read at mothers' meetings, I venture to send you a list of some that have been used here:—*Janetta; or, the Little Maid of All Work*—S. P. C. K. *The Carpenter's Family*—S. P. C. K. *Tales for Mission Rooms*—S. P. C. K. *Pilgrim Street*, and other works by same authoress—R. T. S. *The Lost Piece of Silver*—Wells Gardner. *Drops of Oil*, Golden Ladder series—Nisbet. *Bright Glimpses for Mothers' Meetings*. *The Farmer's Daughter*, by Mrs. Cameron. *Whiter than Snow*. And many of the *Good Stories* published by Wells Gardner, Paternoster Buildings, London. H. J. M.

ANOTHER Correspondent sends the following list in answer to 'A Curate's Wife':—*Home Thoughts for Mothers and Mothers' Meetings*—Nisbet (small book, about 1s. or 1s. 6d.) *Kennerby Village*—S. P. C. K. (6 penny tracts). *Mother's Last Words, Our Father's Care*, Ballads, by Mrs. Sewell. Stories by author of *Jessica's Last Prayer, Alone in London*. Stories about children (written by those who understand the poor and their ways) are much appreciated by poor mothers.

SIR,—Is not a grant given towards school and parish libraries? If so, how is it to be obtained? C. S.

[Try the Christian Knowledge, or the Religious Tract, Society.—ED.]

'GEORGE' is advised to try *The Monthly Packet*, also *Old and New*, though the latter perhaps will not suit him as well. Both are published by Mozleys. —ED.]

RECEIVED ALSO.—Rev. T. G. Cree; A Church of England Clergyman; William Dawson; A Midland Rector.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Dr. Mason's Manuscripts on Ringing.

No. II.

VOLUME II. opens with a list of six-bell peals, all of which I recognize as the methods and variations to be found in the early Campanologies, from which they were probably extracted, as a few pages further on several touches are to be found headed, 'Peals from the Printed book.' After several touches coming round at hand, or, as it is here expressed, 'For calling bells out at the wrong stroke,' comes a very lucid explanation of what numbers of bells will come, and those that will not come round at hand. After this follows 'Imperial from Norwich,' and then a lead of a system on ten bells, under which is written 'Court Bob,' and as this is Double Norwich Court Bob Royal, it is probable it was also received from Norwich. There is a lead of Union Triples, and another explanation of the method of pricking adopted. This is so like the description in the other volume, that I think Dr. Mason was in all probability writing in both these volumes about the same time. After many pages of touches of Grandsire Triples again comes 'Garthrops Triples, 5040,' and Garthorn's peal is again given, the difference of the two ways used by Dr. Mason from the correct mode of spelling the name, shows that probably in default of definite information he spelt it as he heard it, or as near as he could to written copies. After several blank leaves, a page is headed:—

'Whose peals examined of Triples,
Garthorn's,
Vicars's.'

The remainder of the leaf is blank, and it is fully shown that the page was intended for a list of peals examined; and as Holt's peals are all examined, or as we should now say proved, in the remaining volume, and not added to the list, it is evident that the peals on the list were proved previously to Holt's peals, and consequently came into Dr. Mason's possession before those by Holt. The following right-hand leaf is headed 'Vicars's 5040,' and on it there is some pricking in an unfinished state, but on opening the following page is a 5040 of Grandsire Triples written out, by the bob changes, after Dr. Mason's manner. This peal is of the greatest interest, and is really

a remarkable one: where it came from, and who the composer was, there is unfortunately no means of ascertaining from these volumes, but it is such a wonderful improvement on Garthorn's peal, that it is astonishing, since it is a true peal, that it has not been more generally known and rung. The following is the first part of this peal, written by the bob changes, after the usual manner:—

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

The above four columns are the first part of the peal, to complete which this part must be five times repeated, calling a bob, however, instead of a single, at the third and sixth-part ends.

It will be seen that this peal is on the three-lead course plan, and is an improvement on the one given in Shipway, by the unknown author, and is substantially the same as the improvement by Mr. E. Taylor, also produced in the same work. Both these peals are given in *Church Bells*, March 7th, 1874. The only difference between Vicars' peal and the one by Taylor is a slight alteration in the number of the lead that the first single in the second and third column is called at. Now, as it is probable that there are many other places, if care be taken not to disturb the working of 5, 6, 7, where the singles might be placed, and yet 6 7 be at home at the end of each column and 5, 6, 7 at each part end, it is hard to believe that Taylor had not seen this peal by Vicars before he produced his improvement on the 'Unknown's.' Any one who is at all acquainted with many of our cleverest compositions will know how persons (and I am sorry to add authors) will, by the transposition of a few calls produce such piratical peals and endeavour to impose them upon the public as their own work—such proceedings cannot be too severely condemned.

Dr. Mason then proceeds to prove Vicars' peal, and after this 'Garthrop's triples' is again given, the fifth-place Bobs being marked with a ×; appended is also one of these Bobs, and a Bob single pricked out. These pages bring the second volume to a close.

(To be continued.)

New Ringing Society at St. Leonard's, Shoreditch, London.

WE are happy in being able to announce that a new Company has been formed, in connexion with the above church, for the purpose of practising half-pull change-ringing. As several strictures upon the proceedings in Shoreditch steeple have appeared from various correspondents from time to time in our columns, condemnatory of the style of ringing practised there, we hope that the news of the establishment of a new company for the express purpose of learning scientific ringing, under the tuition of a qualified instructor, will be in some degree welcome. Great difficulties will, without doubt, have to be surmounted, and unflinching perseverance will have to be exercised by the members of this young company, before they will be able to take their places amidst a band of competent ringers. We, however, heartily wish them success, which will depend upon their zeal, assiduity, and patience, and trust they will devote such attention to the rules of the science as may enable them at no very distant period to ring scientifically. We are glad to observe that the Rev. the Vicar of Shoreditch is the President of the Society; one of the curates, the Rev. T. G. Lynde, being the Honorary Secretary; while Mr. Harvey Reeves, of the Ancient Society of College Youths, has been engaged as instructor. We hope for something further, but we shall find cause for congratulation if only the steeple is rendered fit to ring in, and replete with every convenience for its occupants, and the bells properly looked after, and brought into condition fit for peal-ringing. Altogether, we affirm that the movement set on foot in Shoreditch deserves the best wishes of all true ringers in the country.

Hurworth-on-Tees.

THE funeral of the late Mrs. Colling, relict of Mr. T. Colling, J.P., of Guisborough, took place on Tuesday at Hurworth Church, the Rector, Rev. R. H. Williamson, reading the Burial Service. The deceased lady having placed a fine ring of six bells in the church tower three years since, in memory of her late husband, the ringers out of respect met and rang a muffled peal, this being the first on the bells. The completion of the ring to eight bells, by adding two small ones, at the expense of the parishioners of Hurworth, would be a most suitable memorial to the deceased, and make the bells a ring of which Hurworth might be proud.—*Local Paper*.

Change-ringing at St. Gabriel's, Pimlico.

ON Saturday, Sept. 4th, eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major, containing 5088 changes, at St. Gabriel's, Pimlico. It occupied 3 hrs. 13 mins., and was performed by H. Booth, treble; S. Reeves, 2nd; W. Cooter, 3rd; W. Greenleaf, 4th; J. R. Haworth, 5th; G. Muskett, 6th; G. Mash, 7th; M. Hayes, tenor. Composed by J. Reeves ('Campanologia'), and conducted by Mr. Booth.—*Reported*.

Date Touch at Oxford.

ON the 4th inst. 1875 changes of Stedman Triples were rung at Magdalen College (composed by H. Hubbard), by seven members of the Oxford Society, assisted by Mr. Brakespear, of Northampton. Time, 1 hr. 9 mins.—*Reported*.

RECEIVED ALSO.—The Ringers of Birstall; The Rector of King's Norton.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Dr. Mason's Manuscripts on Ringing.

No. III.—(Concluded.)

VOLUME III. begins with several observations on the plain-bob method, which I certainly agree with Dr. Mason is 'the natural basis of all ringing.' Then a page is pasted into the book, which has on one side a copy of an address from Mr. Holt to ringers, asking for subscribers to a broad-sheet of peals he intended to publish. This copy has a foot-note: 'In the *Ipswich Journal*, September 2, 1753.' This address was reproduced in *Church Bells*, October 4, 1873. It would seem that Dr. Mason had been endeavouring to aid Mr. Holt in obtaining subscribers to his peals, as the copy of this address is written on the back of a letter from Norwich, addressed 'To the Rev. Mr. Mason of Trinity Coll., Cambridge,' which is evidently in answer to one from Dr. Mason, soliciting the support of the Norwich Ringers. The following is a copy:—

Norwich, Aug. 27, 1753.

'Rev. Sir,—I desire you'll excuse my not subscribing to a work which I have some reason to fear will not answer to expectation. I must confess our company seem entirely to slight it, though, I must own, it is not a generous way of treating Mr. Holt's performance; but I believe they are induced to this by that ingenious ringer, Mr. Annable's, not encouraging of it. Had he approved of it, his influence on the Colledge Youths, I presume, would have been sufficient to have sent it to the press without any further subscriptions.

'Rev. Sir,—Give me leave to observe to you, that it is almost twenty years since I sent to the Rev. Mr. Windhall a whole peal of ten, with two inferior changes only, fully explaining, by an infallible rule, how to make any proper peal on all numbers that go with a quick hunt.

'For Self and Co. I am, sir, with due respect, your most humble servant,
'JOHN WEBSTER.'

From this it seems neither the Norwich men nor Mr. Annable supported Holt in the publication of his peals, though it would be interesting to have further particulars of their motives. Concerning Holt's address I would remark, that according to the literal reading he does not actually claim to have produced the first true peal of Grandsire, but the first with 'plain leads, bobs, and only two singles.'

In connexion with the mention of Mr. Annable's name, a foot-note is given in Dr. Mason's hand-writing on the Norwich letter, running thus:—'This worthy man (Mr. Annable) dying Feb. 1, 1756, a mourning peal was rung for him in Great St. Mary's Tower, Cambridge, and the under-mentioned character given of him in the newspapers at that time.' The following is a copy of a newspaper-cutting affixed:—

'A few nights ago was buried under the tower of St. Bride's Mr. Benjamin Annabel, the best ringer that was ever known in the world. Till his time ringing was only called an Art, but from the strength of his great Genius he married it to the Mathematics, and 'tis now a Science. This Man in Figures and Ringing was like a Newton in Philosophy, a Ratchliffe in Physic, a Hardwicke in Wisdom and Law, a Handel in Music, a Shakespear in Writing, and a Garrick in Acting. O rare Ben!'

This newspaper-cutting is also appended:—

'Reflections on Death, occasioned by hearing the Dumb Peal in Cambridge on Tuesday night last.

'The grave, the wise, the youthful, and the gay,
Out-brav'd by Death, resume their native clay;
Monarchs and plebeians undistinguish'd fall,
Yielding submissive to the tyrant's call.'

Next in the volume is one of Holt's broad-sheets, headed 'Mr. John Holt's four peals of tripple changes, of London College Youths, lately deceased.' This sheet has the treble leads of the first part of his six and ten-part peals of Grandsire Triples, his six-part peal of Union Triples, and his three-part peal of Plain Bob Triples without a single. The subscribers' names, as reproduced in *Church Bells*, October 4th, 1873, are given; it will be seen that Dr. Mason was one of them.

Following this are many pages devoted to the proof of Holt's peals. The mode adopted, however, is most laborious. After this is a written copy of Holt's one-part peal of Grandsire Triples, followed by its proof. Then several remarks on what is now known as the in and out of course of changes, and many pages of touches in illustration on numbers that will come round at hand. Further on a small piece of paper is pasted into the book, headed 'Vicars' whole peal of trebles.' This consists of the peal previously given. It is written by treble leads after the usual manner, and is probably an original copy forwarded to Dr. Mason. After 'The whole peal of plain bob eight in, by Mr. Windle,' got by extremes and other calls, the volume concludes with several sheets of diagrams of five and six-bell peals in black and red ink.

Ikley Vicarage, Leeds.

Peculiarities about Bells.—XV.

SIR,—I will say a little about the bells of Oxford, and then say something of the Cathedral bells of England. The Cathedral of Christchurch—perhaps the very smallest of our cathedrals—has a fine ring of ten bells, tenor 42 cwt. in C. Magdalen College and New College have also rings of ten. St. John's and Merton College have rings of eight. The beautiful minster of St. John, Beverley, of which your excellent illustration is now before me, has in one of its west towers a ring of eight, tenor about 25 cwt. in D; in the other west-end tower is a great bell, weighing 2 tons and 10 cwt. The Cathedral of Lincoln formerly had two rings of bells, six in the central tower and eight at the west end. It was the only instance in the world of two rings being attached to the same church. There is now only the ring of eight, tenor 24 cwt. in E, and the Great Tom, weighing 8 tons. York Minster has twelve bells, tenor 34 cwt. in C sharp, and the Great Peter, weighing 10 tons. The grand Cathedral of Durham has a ring of eight, tenor 30 cwt. in D. The Cathedral of Gloucester has also eight, and that of Hereford ten.—F. B. KING.

720 Single Bob Minor.

This composition is in 12 courses, 3 parts, 12 singles, made at the course ends of 5 leads.

COURSE ENDS.

Hand and back-stroke change.

1 2 4 3 6 5	1 2 5 4 6	1 2 6 3 5 4
1 2 4 6 3 5 S	1 2 5 4 3 6 S	1 2 6 5 3 4 S
1 2 6 4 5 3	1 2 4 5 6 3	1 2 5 6 4 3
1 2 6 5 4 3 S	1 2 4 6 5 3 S	1 2 5 4 6 3 S
1 2 5 6 3 4	1 2 6 4 3 5	1 2 4 5 3 6
1 2 5 3 6 4 S	1 2 6 3 4 5 S	1 2 4 3 5 6 S
1 2 3 5 4 6	1 2 3 6 5 4	1 2 3 4 6 5
1 2 3 5 6 4 S	1 2 3 6 4 5 S	1 2 3 4 5 6 S

part end.

part end.

part end.

Bell Street, Romsey.

E. PARKER.

The great Gathering of Yorkshire Ringers at Birstall.

Birstall, Sept. 1st, 1875.

GENTLEMEN,—You are earnestly invited to attend the Quarterly Meeting of the Yorkshire Association of Change-ringers, to be held at the National School, near the Parish Church, Birstall, on Saturday, the 2nd day of October, 1875, when we hope to see as many from each company as can make it convenient to be present.

The bells of the church will be ready for use from 8 a.m.

The time for voting for the place of the next Quarterly Meeting is fixed for 3 p.m.

We have followed the plan adopted at the previous meetings by appointing Mr. John Dixon as Chairman, and Mr. E. T. Jowett as Vice-chairman (Birstall members). This course we hope will be found acceptable, and conducive to good-fellowship and ringing.

We particularly request you to let us know through your Secretary how many from each company may be expected, as luncheon will be provided only for as many as signify their intention of coming on or before the 23rd day of September.

All communications to be addressed to William Elliott, High Street, Birstall, near Leeds.

We are, Gentlemen, yours faithfully,

THE CHANGE-RINGERS OF BIRSTALL.

The Minutes passed at a Delegate Meeting held at Leeds, on Saturday, August 1st, 1875, will be brought before the meeting at Birstall, to be confirmed or otherwise.

[We congratulate our Yorkshire friends on these friendly meetings. We hope the members will speak out fearlessly, and denounce unmistakably their disapprobation of prize-rings, which we so often hear of being carried on—wasting good money, engendering ill-feeling, promoting drinking and betting, and lowering the respectability of the ringers in the eyes of the public. We have just heard of 50l. being so wasted at Saddleworth. If the parish authorities (the parsons and churchwardens) will not inhibit such ungodly use of the goods of the Church, our advice is to memorialise the Bishops to use their influence to put a stop to such useless practices. We are pleased to see that the Bishop of Manchester lately spoke out very plainly upon the subject.—ED.]

Strangers required to pay for Ringing at King's Norton, Worcestershire.

SIR,—In reply to your note, I beg to inform you that it was decided some time since that ringers desirous of using the church bells here should make a payment of 5s. towards the expenses of keeping the bells in order. On hearing from you that you agree to these terms, I will give directions to Mr. F. Palmer, the head ringer here, to admit you to the belfry—the 5s. to be paid to him on applying for the keys.

I am, Sir, yours truly,

THE RECTOR.

[The above letter is a reply to an application by a party of first-class change-ringers to be allowed to enter the steeple and ring some touches of changes. Upon which we would observe, that when bells are put into good order all comers wish to have a pull at them; but new ropes and new hangings are very costly; and, therefore, it is surely not unreasonable to levy a small contribution to the repair fund from any strangers who may wish to have the pleasure of handling the ropes. Besides, it is a check to many outsiders, who might otherwise like to try how sweetly they go—pulling away to their heart's content, and caring nothing for the wear and tear they may create, leaving it to others to pay the cost.—ED.]

Muffled Peal at Sheffield.

On Tuesday, August 31st, the Sheffield Society of Change-ringers rang a half-muffled peal as a last tribute of respect to the late Thomas Whaley, who died August 27th, aged 56 years. He was a member of the Ancient Society of College Youths, London, and had been a ringer 38 years. The ringers were as follows:—J. Charlesworth, treble; J. B. Sandford, 2nd; W. Lomas, 3rd; C. H. Hattersley, 4th; W. Booth, 5th; C. Bower, 6th; G. Wilson, 7th; C. Steer, 8th; T. Hattersley, 9th; J. Heald, tenor.—Reported.

Ringing at Cambridge.

On Friday, September 3rd, 720 Kent Treble Bob was rung at St. Benedict Church by the following members:—J. Jackson, treble; Y. Green, 2nd; G. Taylor, 3rd; E. Stanbridge, 4th; W. Kempton, 5th; E. Andrews, tenor. Conducted by J. Jackson.—Reported.

RECEIVED.—John Ubbard; Thos. Storker; J. Strutt; Robt. Williams; St. James, Bermondsey.

life according to the Mosaic law, and in persecuting the Christians, thought he was doing God's will, believed on Christ and served Him. How different was a conversion like this from the two former! St. Peter, long before he denied his Lord, had given his heart to Him; but he was permitted to fall into faithlessness, and his turning back to Jesus was to be his conversion. But in all cases it is turning and turning to the Lord. This ever springs from belief—something must be believed; and above all things, God's love towards us. Many other things might be mixed up with it; there might be a weariness of the world or a deep sense of sin, which makes us flee to God for safety; but neither of these would be sufficient of itself. The man disappointed in the world might end at last in becoming a misanthrope, or a man deeply convinced of sin might sink into despair. When we feel that God loves us we are drawn to Him, and our hearts can scarce help loving Him who first loved us. This is really the teaching of the Catechism with regard to the necessity of faith and repentance. The necessity of instantaneous conversion has not the shadow of a countenance in the Word of God. Even in the case of the Apostles, how gradually their conversion was worked out! Years had to pass before they were entirely converted, and they had to pass through a long course of trial and discipline. Conversions, however, may be, and often are, instantaneous.

Rubrics.

SIR,—As a Presbyter and a decided Evangelical, I cannot forbear a line in reference to what a 'Midland Rector' says as to Evangelical clergy casting out the remaining 'consecrated elements.' I have above thirty years' experience as an Incumbent, some years in a northern, and many in a southern diocese, and I never knew of such an act. The nearest I have known to such a thing is the clergyman, at the conclusion, inadvertently covering the whole of 'the bread and wine,' instead of only 'what remaineth of the consecrated elements;' and where I have seen this, it has always been rectified on directing attention to the wording of the rubric. There may be individual cases of scandalous conduct on all sides, but I do not think that through this your correspondent is justified in bringing such a grave charge against his brethren before the public.

A VICAR.

A popular Church Newspaper.

SIR,—G. V. by his leader in your No. for Aug. 14 (as often before in other ways) has earned the thanks of all who protest against Disestablishment and Sacrilege, not merely in the interests of the Church, but of property generally and the nation. *Fiat injustitia ruat cælum.* 'Church Defence' will never be complete without the outlook he insists on, a really good Church Newspaper; I should say daily, if possible—at least weekly: if possible both.

I believe this feeling to be general, but the difficulty is, as usual, in the 'first step.' So I venture to suggest that 'G. V.' should draw up a statement. Nobody would do it more sensibly and tellingly. It should be sent by post to all the leading laity, bishops, and benefited clergy. A few of each could easily be got to bear this small preliminary expense. What 'G. V.' in his statements should suggest as the second step to be taken in the matter, I leave to himself to determine.

FIRST STEP.

Lending Libraries.

SIR,—As it is often the practice to look over the parish lending library before the winter evenings begin, may I plead for the sailors and emigrants, and ask for the books that are weeded out? We shall be glad, indeed, of all help we can get in this way. Books of which the sale value is very small are invaluable on board ship away at sea, and may become an effective missionary agency. Last month we supplied forty-two libraries to ships going on long voyages, besides sending supplies to our branches at the docks and abroad. Every year there is an increase in the number of ships which take books for service, and these we also supply free whenever they are wanted: the S.P.C.K. helps us to do so, but we want all other help we can get. Children's books are especially useful for emigrant ships, and they are excellent for giving to sailors in homeward-bound ships. We especially like copies of the *Sunday Friend* and *Chatterbox*, the illustrations of which attract attention. Whenever the address of the sender is put on the package sent, we try at once to return an acknowledgment. The railways kindly carry packages of books free for us from London. The best address is 'St. Andrew's Waterside Church Mission, Gravesend, via Bricklayers' Arms Station. By goods train. Books for sailors and emigrants.'

JOHN SCARTH, *Hon. Sec.*

Congregational Singing and Chanting.

SIR,—Some articles, more or less connected with the above practical and important subject, have lately appeared in a weekly paper of music known as *Concordia* (Novello and Co., Berners Street). They are written by Dr. Gauntlett, and will well repay any one who will peruse them. One, entitled 'Battle Hymns and Warriors' Choirs,' is admirable. The 'Battle of the Chant' is equally useful, and his severe, though not unkind, criticisms on the 'Worcester Festival Programme,' cannot but do good.

We ought to have, and we must have, much better chanting and singing generally throughout the Church of England than we now have. Our singing and chanting must be universal, thoroughly congregational, simple, and of the heartiest kind. Dr. Gauntlett's papers will do much in the promotion of better singing and chanting, for they teach the importance of appreciation and of adapting right music to right words.

It would be well if Messrs. Novello would republish them as a small pamphlet.

T. H. E.

SIR,—How can I obtain the Report of the last Church Congress at Brighton?

GODFREY DILLON.

[Published by Wells Gardner, 2 Paternoster Buildings. We ourselves gave at the time as full a report as our space permitted.—Ed.]

RECEIVED ALSO:—Albert; W. H. F.; E. R. Fagan; Earnest; Henry J. Church; G. D. W.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Change-ringing at Tue Brook, near Liverpool.

On Saturday, August 21st, seven members belonging to the Liverpool Union Society of Change-ringers, assisted by Mr. H. Johnson, jun., of Birmingham, rang at St. John the Baptist Church, Mr. Holt's Ten-part Peal of Grandsire Triples, containing 5040 changes, which came round in 3 hrs. 15 mins. The ringers were:—G. Crute, treble; R. Williams, sen., 2nd; H. Johnson, jun., 3rd; H. Meadows, 4th; R. Williams, jun., 5th; E. Booth, 6th; W. Burlinshaw, 7th; W. Brooks, tenor (first peal). Conducted by Mr. G. Crute. Weight of tenor, 20 cwt.—*Reported.*

Change-ringing at Galleywood and Widford, Essex.

On Friday evening, September 3rd, five members of the Society of College Youths (assisted by Mr. Rowland) rang some touches of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob and Cambridge Surprise. The ringers were:—W. Wood, treble; J. Daines, 2nd; T. Drake, 3rd; W. Rowland, 4th; J. Pammerton, 5th; J. Strutt (Kingston-on-Thames), tenor. Conducted by J. Daines.

On Saturday, September 4th, at Widford, five of the above, with Mr. G. Livermore (College Youth), rang a peal of Cambridge Surprise, containing 720 changes; also touches of Bob Minor, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, and Double Court Bob. Conducted by G. Livermore.

The ringers again visited Galleywood, and with the assistance of Mr. W. Hawks and H. French (College Youths), rang several touches of Bob Major, conducted by H. French, with several tunes and touches of change-ringing on the hand-bells, including a course of Bob Major by J. Strutt and G. Livermore.—*Reported.*

Reopening of the Ring of Ten Bells at St. James's, Bermondsey.

On Monday, September 6th, the members of the Ancient Society of College Youths—Haley, sen., Wood, Menday, Haley, jun., Haworth, S. Hayes, Dwight, Grice, Jones, and Greenleaf—had the honour of reopening the bells of the above church, after repairs by Messrs. Warner. During the day they rang Stedman's and Grandsire Caters, and the local newspaper says:—The performance on the bells on Monday last, by the members of the College Youths' Society, was in every way most creditable, and elicited marks of warm approval from those who assembled to listen to their manipulations. Great praise is due to Messrs. Porter and Willett, the churchwardens, for gathering the money to repair the clock and bells, which have been out of order for some time; the bells being the finest in South London (tenor, 25 cwt.), excepting St. Saviour's, Southwark. Mr. S. Austin, the eminent composer and ringer, has had the care of the bells for many years. The reopening was a great success, which was enhanced by the liberality and kindness of the churchwardens. The Rev. W. Allen, Vicar, was much pleased with the ringing and the bells, and in a sermon lately preached made some kindly allusions to the subject.—*Reported.*

Ringing-Match at Liskeard, Cornwall.

On Tuesday, September 13th, a ringing-match took place at Liskeard, for prizes amounting to 31l. The tower contains 6 bells; weight of tenor, 19 cwt. 3 qrs. 14 lbs., and the condition of the match to be treble rest or round ringing. It is over seventy years ago since the last match was held, and consequently the revival of an old custom attracted a large number of people, who came in from the country in droves, and by evening the large square in Church Street was crowded. Messrs. Elliott, Bond, and Sandercock acted as judges. The following sets of ringers competed and rang in the following order:—Lanreath, Roach, Stoke Damerel, Tywardreath, St. Kew, St. Dominick, Lanlivery, St. Mabyn, Linkinhorne, Newlyn (East), Stoke Climsland, Callington, St. Veep, St. Cleer, St. Neot, Kelley, St. Germans, Fowey, and St. Wenn. The judges awarded the prizes as follows:—1st, St. Cleer, 6l.; 2nd, Lanlivery, 5l.; 3rd, St. Mabyn, 4l.; 4th, Newlyn (East), 3l.; 5th, Callington, 2l.; 6th, St. Wenn, 1l. The decision gave general satisfaction. The St. Cleer set was made up of the following, viz.:—Treble, Mr. T. Jenkyn of Launceston; 2nd, Mr. R. Rowe, St. Cleer; 3rd, Mr. N. Symons, St. Cleer; 4th, Mr. J. Mallett, of Exeter; 5th, Mr. T. Hobling of Liskeard; tenor, Captain Rosewarne of Ashburton, who rang the best treble rest peal ever heard on the musical bells of Liskeard Tower. The rising and falling of the bells were excellent. The ringing concluded just before 10 p.m. The greatest order prevailed.

[For the information, or rather for the amusement of our more advanced ringing friends in other parts of England than the West, we reproduce the above from a local paper, that they may see what ringers in Cornwall pride themselves upon, viz. *ups and downs and rounds and rounds with treble rest!* Here, too, we have proof that for threescore years and ten they have made no further progress than this! Dear lovers of bells, as no doubt they are, they will never learn anything of the noble science of ringing as long as people are foolish enough to contribute—in this instance, as much as 21l.—to be thus uselessly thrown away. We believe it all arises from not knowing any better. The parochial authorities are to blame for allowing the goods of the Church to be so abused.—Ed.]

Lydney, Gloucestershire.

We are very pleased to hear that a young company of ringers has been formed here for the purpose of learning the science of Change-ringing, under the leadership of Mr. D. Thomas, and Mr. James Thomas as conductor. Under the tuition of these instructors, who are competent change-ringers, we may expect the young company to make good progress in proper ringing. We wish them every success. With patience and perseverance there is no doubt of it.—*Reported.*

RECEIVED.—E. Parker; Peter Johnson; Lutetbury.

celebrant and his assistant left the altar without even removing the 'fair linen cloth,' and after their departure the clerk, or beadle, or some such lay person, went to the altar and carried away the paten, on which was much consecrated bread—which I was near enough to see—and the chalice, in which there was, I feel equally sure, consecrated wine remaining. For the truth of these three cases I can positively vouch. A CURATE.

St. Cyprian.

SIR,—In your interesting notices of the Black-letter Saints I find it stated in your issue of September 25 that one church, that of Chaddeley, in Worcestershire, is dedicated to St. Cyprian. As I was once curate of that parish I am able to say that this is a mistake, for Chaddeley Church is dedicated to St. Cassian. Lewis's *Topographical Dictionary*, and the *Post-office Directory* for Worcestershire, are authorities which will bear me out.

THE VICAR OF BROMFIELD.

'F. H.' reminds us that there is dedicated to St. Cyprian a London church—that in Dorset Square, of which the Rev. C. Gutch is vicar; and 'F. C. F.' states that there is another dedicated to the same saint at Hay Mills, near Birmingham.

Harvest Festivals at Margate.

SIR,—Will you allow me to explain, in reply to your correspondent, 'E. S. T.', that the Holy Communion was celebrated at the parish church, and that there were fifty communicants. The church is certainly 'hermetically sealed' on week-days at present, because the builders are there restoring it. It is only opened temporarily on Sundays. But your correspondent would have found a daily service at St. John's Hall close by, well attended. And if he returns next year he will find, please God, daily prayer at the church, and the doors opened all day. Had he been here last Sunday he might have attended three services (one intoned), where there were very beautiful decorations with 'flowers on the Holy Table,' and every service was densely crowded.

W. BENHAM, Vicar of Margate.

[We congratulate the Vicar on the information he has given us. But the festival in Margate described by 'E. S. T.' was not the one held—subsequently—in the parish church.—Ed.]

RECEIVED ALSO:—A. M. Davidson; W. T. Mowbray; W. L. E.; X. Y. Z.; Petra; A. Parish Clerk; H. R. M.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

The Cathedral Carillon Machine, Worcester.

In order to secure a larger range in the selection of tunes, and to adopt the musical scheme to many compositions in popular favour, we announced some time ago that Mr. Charles W. Lea, of Parkfield, munificently offered to defray the entire cost—amounting to upwards of 300*l.*—of two additional 'half-tone' bells. We are happy to inform our readers that these bells, cast like all the previous ones by Messrs. Taylor and Co. of Loughborough, have during the present week been safely raised into the tower, and are now being fixed in their places. They are pronounced by competent judges to be excellent specimens of the founder's art. They sound notes B and G, and weigh respectively 11 cwt. and 19 cwt. We thus hope to announce during the autumn that several well-known tunes have been added to our melodious chimes.—*Local Paper.*

The First Peal of Grandsire Triples.

SIR,—Allow me to thank the Rev. H. T. Ellacombe and Mr. Snowden for the valuable information they have gleaned from the interesting writings of Dr. Mason, which has been lately published in *Church Bells*. To those of us intimately acquainted with Norwich and its celebrated ringers, it is indeed very gratifying to know for certain that the peal of Grandsire Triples composed by John Garthorn, and rung in Norwich in 1718, is quite true. I think there could not have been much doubt about it before, remembering what first-class ringers the Norwich men then were, and supposing the tablet recording the performance to be correct. I would like to hear the opinion of other ringers on the matter. OLD NORWICH YOUTH.

Strangers required to Pay for Ringing.

SIR,—Anxious as you undoubtedly are to raise ringers and their noble art in the estimation of the public, I must say I think you are wrong in backing up the Rector of King's Norton, who endeavoured to mulct a charge of 5*s.* from a set of first-class change-ringers before allowing them to ring. I have rung in upwards of 100 different church towers with visiting ringers, and was never asked for any money, and have never seen good change-ringers attempt in any way to injure the bells or their gear. It seems to me a very inconsistent thing to infer it is possible for them to do it. I know I frequently have had to get new pieces of rope and splice on to the old ones before we could ring, and also procure oil and lights. Why not charge a visiting organist before allowing him to play? I spend pounds every year on ringing at different places, but to charge me ever such a small sum to be allowed a friendly visit would be rather too much for. A LOVER OF CHANGE-RINGING.

Littlebury, Essex.

On the 12th September six of the Saffron Walden ringers rang a harvest peal of Oxford Treble Bob (720 changes) in 24 mins. upon these bells. The ringers were:—J. Freeman, treble; J. Miller, 2nd; G. Martin, 3rd; C. Freeman, 4th; N. J. Pistow, 5th; F. Pistow, tenor. Conducted by F. Pistow. This is the first peal of Treble Bob rung upon these bells.—*Reported.*

Change-ringing at Hindley, Yorkshire.

On Saturday, the 19th ult. the Hindley ringers rang at St. Peter's Church Mr. John Holt's Ten-course Peal of Grandsire Triples, consisting of 5040

changes. Conducted by Mr. Joseph Prescott, and brought round true in 2 hrs 49½ mins. The ringers were:—R. Calland, treble; E. Prescott, 2nd; E. Brown, 3rd; G. Higson, 4th; J. Brown, 5th; T. Tickle, 6th; J. Prescott 7th; W. Westhead, tenor. Weight of tenor, 14½ cwt. Key F.—*Reported.*

On Saturday, the 25th ult., was rung at St. Peter's Church, Hindley, by a mixed company, Mr. John Holt's Ten-course Peal of Grandsire Triples, consisting of 5040 changes. The peal was conducted by Mr. Joseph Prescott, of Hindley, and brought round in 2 hrs. 55 min. The ringers were:—Treble, G. Grundy, Westthroughton; 2nd, J. Higson, Leigh; 3rd, G. B. Walker, Preston (first peal); 4th, J. Vickers, Westthroughton; 5th, J. Roskell, Preston; 6th, W. Mawdsley, Preston; 7th, J. Prescott, Hindley; Tenor, H. Molyneux, Hindley. Tenor, 14½ cwt. Key F.—*Reported.*

Ringling at St. John's, Darlington.

On Tuesday, the 21st ult., six of St. John's ringers succeeded in ringing for the first time the extent of changes on six bells (720) in 29 minutes, in Bob Minor. The ringers were stationed as follows:—W. Hutchinson, treble; T. Oliver, 2nd; G. Overton, 3rd; R. Kay, 4th; W. Patton, 5th; R. Moncaster, tenor, and conductor of the peal. The tenor weighs 10 cwt. and is in the key of A. The first peal of Grandsire Minor ever rung in Darlington was also rung the same night by four of the above-named ringers, assisted by J. E. and J. Hern, of Hurworth. This beautiful peal, taken from Squire Troyte's work on Change-ringing, contains 38 bobs and 22 singles, *i.e.* a call at every treble lead, was rung in 28 minutes, and conducted by J. E. Hern. The ringers have thus, by strict application and perseverance in this interesting (though often much-abused) science, made themselves masters of these two methods, on six bells, in a very short time. As there are two pits left ready in the bell-frame for two more small bells to complete the ring, the addition of these now would be a great inducement to the ringers to make greater exertions, while the cost of the bells would be very little.—*Local Paper.*

5040 Plain Bob Triples.

This composition is in 60 courses, 3 parts 60 singles, made at the course ends of 6 leads.

COURSE ENDS.

Hand and back-stroke change.			
1 2 4 3 6 5 7 S	1 2 5 3 4 7 6 S	1 2 7 3 5 6 4 S	1 2 6 3 7 4 5 S
1 2 4 6 3 7 5 S	1 2 5 4 3 6 7 S	1 2 7 5 3 4 6 S	1 2 6 7 3 5 4 S
1 2 6 4 7 3 5 S	1 2 4 5 6 3 7 S	1 2 5 7 4 3 6 S	1 2 7 6 5 3 4 S
1 2 6 7 4 5 3 S	1 2 4 6 5 7 3 S	1 2 5 4 7 6 3 S	1 2 7 5 6 4 3 S
1 2 7 6 5 4 3 S	1 2 6 4 7 5 3 S	1 2 4 5 6 7 3 S	1 2 5 7 4 6 3 S
1 2 7 5 6 3 4 S	1 2 6 7 4 3 5 S	1 2 4 6 5 7 3 S	1 2 5 4 7 3 6 S
1 2 5 7 3 6 4 S	1 2 7 6 3 4 5 S	1 2 6 4 3 5 7 S	1 2 4 5 3 7 0 S
1 2 5 3 7 4 6 S	1 2 7 3 6 5 4 S	1 2 6 3 4 7 5 S	1 2 4 3 5 0 7 S
1 2 3 5 4 7 6 S	1 2 3 7 5 6 4 S	1 2 3 6 7 4 5 S	1 2 3 4 6 5 7 S
1 2 3 5 7 4 6 S	1 2 3 7 6 5 4 S	1 2 3 6 4 7 5 S	1 2 3 4 6 7 5 S

Twice repeated.

Part end.
E. PARKER.

[We insert the above as received, and in accordance with the request of the author; but observe, that the three descriptions of calls require distinctive names, and that two of the three are not in general use with this method.—Ed.]

Peal of Grandsire Minor.

2 3 4 5 0

B 6 5 2 4 3
B 3 4 6 2 5
S 2 5 3 6 4
B 4 6 2 3 5
B 5 3 4 2 6
B 6 2 5 4 3
S 4 3 6 5 2
S 5 2 4 6 3
B 3 6 5 4 2
S 4 2 3 5 6

Five times repeated, but with B for S at the end of 3rd and 6th parts.
Crayford, Kent. E. HAMMANT.

Bells in District Churches.

It is not true that a district church may not have a ring of bells. Any person may set up as many bells as he pleases, any where, if he choose to pay the cost; but after they are up, and have been heard, the law may silence them if it can be proved they are a nuisance to anybody. It might be advisable to obtain a faculty to set up one or more bells in a tower after a church has been consecrated.—Ed.

Postponement.

In consequence of the death of the Rev. Canon Heald, Vicar of Birstall, the Quarterly Meeting of the Yorkshire Association of Change-ringers, appointed to be held at Birstall on Saturday, the 2nd of October, is unavoidably postponed to Saturday, the 30th of October, 1875; by desire of the Clergy and Churchwardens. It is hoped this change will not put the members to any serious inconvenience: and all who intend to be present at the meeting are earnestly requested to communicate with the Secretary, not later than the 20th of October.—W. ELLIOTT, Secretary, High Street, Birstall, near Leeds.

RECEIVED:—'Lover of Bells' has omitted to send name and address; C. W. Wyld; Bob Major; A. B. C.; Peter Johnson.

where anything but a good Church spirit prevails, I have had frequent opportunities of observing celebrations of the Holy Communion; and, with the exception of two priests, I have never noticed either irreverence or violation of the rubrics by the celebrants. In time there was an improvement on the part of one of the exceptions, because the son appealed earnestly and kindly to his excellent father, who erred from habit, and not from a desire to treat lightly 'Divine mysteries.' In this case the objectionable 'black bottle' was no longer visible.

I write as a Moderate High-Churchman, anxious for peace, good-will, and mutual toleration to exist in our beloved Church. But, Sir, as Evangelicals have been attacked, I must, in all honesty, point out where Ritualists are irreverent concerning Divine mysteries.

In the large town before alluded to, I have met Ritualistic young gentlemen who were perfectly devout at the Holy Table, but were not devout at a semi-convivial breakfast-table immediately afterwards, where they flippantly ridiculed their Evangelical brethren for 'pecking and snapping' at the Consecrated Bread. Surely, a breakfast-table where loud laughter prevailed is not the fit place to discuss the most solemn service of our Church. IMPARTIALITY.

A Suggestion.

SIR,—A form has reached my churchwardens (in common, doubtless, with all others in England and Wales) for a 'Return to address of House of Commons' on the subject of 'Population and Burial Places.' In the column for 'Remarks,' my churchwardens have put, at my suggestion, the words 'No grievance.' If this were done in every parish where it can be said with truth, I believe it would be a most important help to our cause. My conviction is that the words would appear in the vast majority of the returns. Perhaps my brethren will allow me to make this suggestion? JOHANNES.

Queries.

A 'Curate in Charge' asks if the *Wigan Observer* is correct in stating that the Archbishop of York has publicly declared that 'he has every reason to believe that the recent decision (against the Eastward Position at the Altar) will be confirmed; if so, how far is it proper for one who is member of a Judicial Committee of Privy Council thus to give sentence before trial?

SIR,—Can you recommend a book (of moderate price) in defence of Holy Orders in the Church of England, with full list of names, if possible?

W. H. F.

SIR,—Would you or any of your readers kindly inform me of any forms for laying the foundation-stone of a school-church?

PETRA.

SIR,—Perhaps *Liturgie Britannica*, by W. Keeling (Will. Pickering, 1842), will be of use to 'H. C. J.'

SIR,—Where could I meet with *Liber Ecclesiasticus*, published in 1835, and at what cost? I believe it is out of print. It contains a list of Dedications of our Parish Churches, and I am anxious to know to whom our church is dedicated.

X. Y. Z.

SIR,—Can you recommend me a simple form of family prayer for distribution among the poor—such a book, for instance, as *The Penny Pocket-book of Prayers and Hymns*—only for family instead of private worship? Does any one know who is the publisher of a leaflet beginning *Desirest thou a Teacher's Work?* It is equally good for giving to week-day or Sunday-school teachers. A. H. C. R.—We are obliged to defer at present for want of space.

RECEIVED ALSO:—Dokimastes; Vicar in Dioc. Norv.; J. L.; W. H. A.; John Cumberbirch; J. T.; A. H.; J. H.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

The Bishop of Manchester on the Ringing of Bells at Elections.

SPEAKING at a meeting held on Saturday, the 2nd inst., for the purpose of explaining the object of some new schools about to be opened at Cheetham Hill, the Bishop of Manchester concluded his speech in these words:—'He was covered with shame when he saw in the newspapers that morning that the bells of Blackburn Church were set ringing on the previous evening to celebrate an election triumph. He thought that the Church of England had no right and no business to mix herself up in matters of that kind. It was often the case, that where there was a churchwarden who was a warm partisan he had colleagues equally warm with himself, and they, bringing their influence to bear, got a lot of wretched ringers, to whom they perhaps gave a couple of guineas, and opening the belfry-door sent them in to set the bells ringing for an election triumph; and no doubt, and with some justice, it gave the enemies of the Church of England cause to say that in so doing the Church was ringing her own death-knell. The Church of England had no right to allow herself to become the instrument of a party on such an occasion. The church bells had no business to be rung on an occasion of that kind—he did not care whether it was a Liberal or a Tory victory—and he said that both with regard to Blackburn and the Cathedral Church of Manchester, for in both instances it had been done, and on both occasions it had struck shame to his heart. Those were not things for which they wanted to maintain the Church of England.'—*Local Paper*.

Publicans' Revel and Ringers' Farce.

A CORRESPONDENT has sent us the annexed cutting from a local paper, by which it appears that another of those contemptible meetings has been allowed at a place called Slapton, in Devon, where, as we are informed, there are only five bells. These have been made available for the wasting of about 6l. for a few UPS AND DOWNS AND ROUNDS AND ROUNDS. Verily, it is sickening

to have such proof of the backward state of ringing in the south-western counties; and while people are so foolish to waste money for such prizes, there is no chance of progress in the noble science, as it is so admirably practised in other parts of our 'ringing island.' We blame the vicar and churchwardens for allowing the bells to be so prostituted for the benefit of a publican's pocket; especially after what their Archdeacon said in his last Charge, in which he pointed out a most unobjectionable way of promoting good ringing and friendly meetings of ringers.

CAMPANOLOGY.—A ringing-match came off at Slapton on Tuesday, when, notwithstanding the great downpour of rain, which continued nearly the whole of the day, six sets met together to compete for the prizes. After ringing a practice peal of 15 minutes each set in the morning, a capital dinner was done justice to at Host Peperell's, of the "Queen's Arms." The rules of the match were read at the table, and after drawing lots for order of ringing, the business began in earnest. Some first-rate ringing was made by Aveton Gifford, and also by Ashprington, both of which, it may be said to their credit, had no previous practice on the bells. The prizes were awarded as follows:—2l. 10s. Aveton; 2nd, 1l. 10s. Ashprington. Blackawton and East Allington tied for 3rd and 4th prizes, and 15s. and 10s.; Stokenham ringers took the 5th prize.

A Question about the Wear and Tear of Bell Gear.

MR. THOMAS MOORE asks the following questions:—1st. About how long after a peal has been hung (tenor, 32 cwt.) ought they to go badly, or be unringable for more than short touches? 2nd. Ought they—that is, the 6th, 7th, and 8th of the above peal—five years after they have been hung, to require two men to ring them, even in rounds? 3rd. Is it proper to place sand in the bearings to make them go better, or do you think the fault is in the hanging?

[If bells are properly hung and properly taken care of, they will 'go well' for many a long year; they might be rung with a whip-cord. We have heard of such peals going well over fifty years, though rung almost weekly; much depends upon the way the gudgeons and brasses are got up and fixed. As for the use of sand, it would be as mischievous as dust in a ringer's eye. We should like to hear what first-class and experienced hangers have to say on the question.—ED.]

Change-ringing at Woolwich.

ON Tuesday evening, Sept. 21st, eight members of the Woolwich Branch of the Ancient Society of College Youths (established 1637) rang on the bells of St. Mary's Church, Woolwich, an excellent peal of Grandsire Triples, consisting of 5040 changes (Holt's ten-part) in the short space of 2 hrs. 45 mins., being the quickest ever rung on these bells, and was performed by the following persons:—H. Bright, treble; H. Harman, 2nd; W. Banister, jun., 3rd; T. Banister, 4th; W. Hammant, 5th; G. Shade, 6th; E. Hammant, 7th; W. White, tenor. Conducted by E. Hammant.—*Local Paper*.

Change-ringing at Chislehurst, Kent.

ON Monday, Sept. 27th, seven members of the Chislehurst Society of Change-ringers, assisted by T. Richards of the Ancient Society of College Youths, rang a quarter-peal, containing 1260 changes Grandsire Triples, being the farewell peal to T. Richards before leaving England for New Zealand. The ringers were placed as follows:—J. Blackney, treble; T. Dunling, 2nd; F. Liley, 3rd; G. French, 4th; G. Sheppard, 5th; T. Richards, 6th; F. Englefield, 7th; J. Thomas, tenor. Conducted by G. Sheppard.—*Reported*.

West Middlesex Bell-ringers' Association.

THE above Association held their first Annual Festival on the 28th ult. About forty members from the various surrounding parishes assembled at the church at four o'clock, when touches of Grandsire Doubles and Triples were rung by members of the Association, assisted by their able and energetic instructor, Mr. Baron, of the Waterloo Society. The way in which the bells were struck did great credit both to his teaching and to the diligence of the members, most of whom were only beginners when the Vicar of Isleworth instituted the Association a little more than a year ago. At six o'clock the members partook of the hospitality of the Vicar in the Infants' School-room, and afterwards adjourned to an adjoining room, where a goodly number of the parishioners were assembled. The Rev. F. H. Fisher, Vicar of Fulham, a devoted bell-ringer, having been asked to take the chair, proceeded to explain the objects of the Association, viz. belfry reform and the cultivation of change-ringing, and friendly intercommunication amongst ringers in the neighbourhood. He was followed by the Rev. C. T. Mayo, Vicar of St. Andrew's, Hillingdon, himself also a practical ringer, who spoke words of sound counsel and encouragement to the members. The Rev. H. G. Hayden, of Brentford, addressed the audience from a musical point of view, and entered into some interesting details about bell-founding and the tone of bells. Between the speeches some tunes were very cleverly and agreeably executed on the hand-bells by some of the Isleworth company, and also by Mr. G. Banks, of Kennington Lane, who, with a most able assistant, very kindly came down from London for the occasion. Altogether, it was a very successful meeting, and much appreciated by all the members present; and we hope it is an earnest that this young Society will soon be well established, and not only gain itself a name by its scientific performances, but also do much to promote a good tone and feeling among bell-ringers in the district. We must not omit to add that every one present was rejoiced to see the energetic Secretary, the Rev. Dacre Craven, among them once more, and in a fair way to recover from the serious accident which has so long deprived them of his assistance.—*Communicated*.

RECEIVED:—Old College Youth; H. A. Marshall; Tim Bobbin; C. W. Bluland; B. H. Blacker; C. Barrett (Dr. Mason's manuscripts are not obtainable. With permission of the authorities they may be seen in the Library of Downing College, Cambridge.)

CORRESPONDENCE.

A Church Daily Paper.

SIR,—Mr. Thring will be glad to hear that the Church paper contemplated is to be very much what he desires; experience having shown, that if a paper is to do any good the first essential to its success is that it shall be read by people generally. We do not want so much to encourage our friends as to get at the general public, and to do that, we must offer the general public what they will buy.

The *Daily Express*, for that is the title registered, will aim at being in all respects as good and full a medium of general news as any of the existing daily papers. Church matters will receive attention in proportion to their relative importance among the facts of the day, and will be treated from a sound Church-of-England point of view. All expressions, of whatever school of Church opinion, will receive impartial attention, and all parties will have a fair hearing.

In the matter of politics the *Daily Express* will take an independent position, and will thus have an advantage over papers which, having a distinct political party *status*, are sometimes compelled to sacrifice Church interests to the supposed interests of the party.

It is hoped to introduce, at least partially, the system of signing leading articles with name, initials, or pseudonym.

A preliminary prospectus has been submitted, as private opportunity occurred, to various clergymen and laymen, and has secured the approval of such men as Lord Lyttelton, Dean Goulburn, Canons Gregory, Barry, Walsham How, Bright, and Curteis; Archdeacons Emery, Ffoulkes, and Johnson; the Rectors of Wolverhampton, Woolwich, Stafford, and St. Olave's, Southwark; the Vicars of Kensington, Lewisham, Battersea, and Great Yarmouth, and the Rev. S. Baring-Gould. Many other names might be given, but these will show that the list is not a party one.

The capital to carry on the paper is forthcoming, and will be ready so soon as promises of support come in in sufficient numbers to justify a venture of many thousand pounds. An appeal on a large scale will shortly be made to Churchmen to support the paper, and guarantees will be given that in so doing they will be supporting a truly Church enterprise.

I may frankly say, that all will depend upon the response to this appeal; for capitalists have a right to expect that their money shall not be thrown away; and it is, besides, worse than useless to begin and then fail.

Let me say, in conclusion, that the next few months will probably witness the birth of an Anti-Church daily paper, destined to unite the Liberal party, if possible, upon a Radical and Nonconformist basis. READY TO START.

SIR,—I am very anxious that the proposed Church newspaper should be a success, and am convinced that a false start would be most inimical to its future well-being. The remarks of Mr. Thring are very practical and useful; but to one I would take exception. Why admit sporting news? It is notorious that racing has fallen into very low hands, and the blackleg and professional book-maker have brought a good old English sport into disrepute. Two-thirds of the readers of the proposed paper would never bet on a race, and the other third, if they did, would consult a sporting paper. I would suggest the substitution of a good tale in place of this column, as I know that work-people and others are very fond of a 'story,' and often buy papers on that account alone. It would, I am sure, increase the circulation and add to the popularity of the paper, if once or twice a-week a chapter or two of fiction were introduced. WM. PEARCE.

Solihull, Warwickshire.

Faculty Pews.

SIR,—In your paper of Sept. 25, under the head of 'Faculty Pews,' attention is drawn to my 'cupboard without a top,' which is a stranger's designation of my seats in the church at West Farleigh. This large-hearted reformer seems to have obtained a faculty, perhaps without an expense, to brand systems as selfish, and persons as well, because they may not accede to every change that may be proposed. A pew is a vulgar addition to a temple, the word usually applied to pre-Christian times, but as it came with the Reformation, has a significance which may be read as a diminution of the power of ecclesiastics over the laity. The former, no doubt, cannot bear to see the bold offence of a sitting left high and dry, with the sublime consciousness of saying 'Thus far and no farther' of the levelling system. It is a protest against the exaltation of the clergy, and if the rank of the owner is able to prevent an annoyance to his fellow-parishioners, it has much more force than what he gives it credit for, but he has not the least idea of any annoyance being felt. Having seen a restoration of the church and addition to the tower in the late Dean of Rochester's time, if every quarter of a century the work is to be repeated, what will become of our churches? Bear in mind, there still remains the work of the Saxon, Dane, and Norman; the last is the style of West Farleigh Church. Is the recent change a restoration? Is the porch Norman, or the vestry? Was there not the original door at the west end, as an example for a south door? And was there not Patrick'sbourne, near Canterbury, as a model? I venture to say another large-hearted one will arise with a keener perception of what restoration is, and class these incongruities with churchwardens' work of the two last centuries, to which I am not inclined to subscribe. Thanks for your entertaining remarks on 'Faculty Pews.' W. FITZHERBERT.

Black-letter Saints of the English Kalendar.

SIR,—Your correspondent, 'G. S. O.' in his interesting article on the 2nd instant, under the above heading, states that 'there is no church which bears

the name of Jerome in England.' As an instance of a church dedicated to St. Jerome he may be referred to the parish church of Llangwm, in the county of Denbigh, diocese of St. Asaph. It is not known when the church was first founded. The following references to it are taken from the 554th page of the excellent history of the diocese, lately compiled and published by the Rev. D. R. Thomas, Vicar of St. Mary's, Cefn, St. Asaph:—'In the foundation charter of Oswestry Hospital, drawn up by Bishop Reyner, A.D. 1210-1215, we find that one mark was charged upon Llangwm for its support.' 'In the Taxatio of 1291, under Decanatus de Dymmael, we have Ecclesia de Llangwm rectoria, valet 5l.' 'The church, dedicated (according to Rees) in the name of St. Jerome, was rebuilt in the year 1747, and entirely renovated in 1873-4. ELLIS ROBERTS.

Llangwm Vicarage, Corwen, Oct. 11, 1875.

Deaconesses.

SIR,—May I be allowed to correct one or two false impressions, started at the late Congress, about the work of Deaconesses in the Anglican Church?

1. Both Archbishops and eighteen Bishops have given their cordial sanction to the Deaconesses' Institution.

2. The Deaconesses' work in the Chester diocese has been all along maintained, and is still working, although the house in Liverpool (a branch one) was closed. The Deaconess cause has certainly *not* failed in Chester diocese.

3. The Salisbury Church Deaconess Institution has only been opened a few months; and they who are friends of the movement see as yet no cause for its arbitrary condemnation. F. F. KELLY,

Hon. Sec. London Diocesan Deaconess Institution.

RECEIVED ALSO—H. M. C. P.; H. J. M.; H. O.; T. C.; W. J. Stanley Bond; S. B. T.; J. D.; Nain; E. M. S.; Dokimastes; L. M. R.; S. A. S.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

'Wretched Ringers.'

EXCEPTION has been taken to this expression by the Bishop of Manchester, as reported in our last issue; and very justly too, if it might be for a moment supposed that his Lordship intended to apply it sweepingly to all ringers. It could only be applied to certain loose fellows of the baser sort, who for mere drink—if admission to a belfry can be obtained—will go and ring the bells for anything. Such characters, we fear, may be found in most large places; and it is all owing to such low fellows that the whole ringing fraternity are most unjustly estimated by the public, and the noble science is, through great ignorance, depreciated. But we are convinced that the generality of ringers are of a superior class, and deeply deplore the conduct of such as may well be called 'WRETCHED RINGERS.' We are sure the Bishop would be most sorry to wound the feelings of any of the more respectable class of ringers, who are now very earnestly striving to reform such belfries as require it, and doing all they can to remove such a scandal to the Church by squeezing out, or not associating with, the low characters who in many places have too long disgraced themselves and lowered ringing in the eyes of the public. Both ringers and ringing will take their proper place in Church-work if the parsons and churchwardens will interest themselves in the matter, and then ringers will be among the best parishioners. Such youths (all ringers are youths) will never dream of ringing for an election or a race, nor will they touch a rope in a prize-match for the benefit of the publican.

The First Peal of Grandsire Triples.

SIR,—I agree with the 'Old Norwich Youth' that the Rev. H. T. Ellacombe and Mr. Snowdon deserve great praise for the valuable information gleaned from the writings of Dr. Mason, and also that it is gratifying to know that the peal composed by John Garthorn, and rung at Norwich in 1718, is true; but I wish to remark that the composition, though clever, is not the Grandsire Method pure and simple, because of the fifth's place being made. Whoever dreamt of composing touches or peals of Grandsire Triples with fifth's place occurring in them? No one; because it would be a mixture of the Union and Grandsire Methods. Holt's Original One-Part Peal is the pure Grandsire; and while praise will always be due to John Garthorn, John Holt must retain his place as the composer of the first true peal of Grandsire Triples. London composers and ringers have, and do now, sternly set their faces against intermingling one method with another, to achieve a something; and at the present time take no notice of many of Sottonstall's compositions, for instance, on that account. OLD COLLEGE YOUTH.

Eye, Suffolk.

ON Monday, the 4th inst., a company of ringers from Kenninghall, assisted by J. Rudd of Diss, occupied the belfry, and rang a true and complete peal of Oxford Treble Bob Major, containing 5120 changes, in 3 hrs. 14 min. The ringers were:—R. Hutton, treble; W. Nudds (1st peal), 2nd; J. Rudd, 3rd; C. Everett (1st peal), 4th; R. Nudds, 5th; G. Edwards, 6th; R. Stackwood, 7th; J. Mordey, tenor. Conducted by J. Mordey. Weight of tenor, 24 cwt. This is the first peal in this method ever rung in this tower. The bells have lately been rehung by Messrs. Day & Son of this town.—*Reported.*

Kirtlington, Oxon.

ON Saturday, the 9th inst. eight members of the Oxford Society of Change-ringers rang, at St. Mary's, Kirtlington, Mr. T. Thurston's peal of Stedman's Triples, containing 5040 changes (140 bobs and 2 singles), in 3 hrs. 11 min. The following were the company:—R. Annis, treble; W. Smith, 2nd; H. Janaway, 3rd; W. F. Williamson, 4th; C. Hounslow, 5th; J. Field, 6th; E. Harrison, 7th; B. Foskett, tenor. Conducted by Mr. Joseph Field. The Vicar (Rev. T. K. Chittenden), as is his usual custom, kindly granted permission for the above peal, and hospitably entertained the ringers after their task.—*Per Letter.*

fully expect he will reward me with the 'Order of the Medjidje' for offering the suggestion to him, which I do most respectfully. F. O. MORRIS.

Nunburnholme Rectory, Hayton, York.

SIR,—I think Church laymen will be very chary of exciting themselves, on behalf of a daily paper on Church principles, intended to reach the working classes. I have been intimately connected with the artisan and labouring portion of the community all my life, in their houses, and of late years, about fifteen, in the factories, both of the north and the south, and cannot think that a daily paper, such as that now projected, will reach them,—a weekly one might. But it must be very different to anything yet produced. I have exerted myself to push three weekly Church papers amongst workpeople, without any success whatever; the fault may be mine; I think it was in the papers, two of which came to untimely ends; the third, *Church Bells*, of course still survives, but while I can quite believe there may be scores of working men who read it, I am not so fortunate, at present, as to know even one.

I think 'Ready to Start' very unfortunate in the list of names he gives, as approving of the proposed *Daily Express*. I, with many others, think the papers I have named, have failed chiefly through clerical influence.

To what laymen has the prospectus been submitted? Has Mr. George Skey seen it, and approved? Is the Editor to be a clergyman or a layman? some confidence might be inspired if we knew who he was. Even 'R. T. S.' won't let us know who he himself is, though manifestly some one of note, by the prominence given to his letter in your paper.

May I suggest to those capitalists, who think of venturing their thousands, to first take counsel with some practical laymen, who are men of intelligence, as well as men of business. I entirely agree with your correspondent, R. T. S. that it is 'worse than useless to begin and then fail.' I think it is very mischievous indeed, and therefore I hope 'R. T. S.' and his friends will make very sure of their ground; very different names will have to appear in connexion with the *Daily Express*, to evoke much confidence in the undertaking, amongst the general run of Church laymen. J. D. P.

[J. D. P. finds fault with 'R. T. S.' for not giving his name. Why does he not give his own?—Ed.]

A 'WELL-WISHER,' writing on this subject, says, 'In our ecclesiastical organization we have at our command an admirable machinery for reaching every part of the country by means of our ruridecanal chapters. Why should we not make use of this means, ready to our hand, for the purpose at any rate of making the enterprise generally known? May I venture to throw out one hint? Is it too late to suggest that if there is to be a weekly reissue in addition to the daily one, it should be illustrated? Illustrated journals are undoubtedly more popular with the working-classes, and even two illustrations would serve as a makeweight to render the newspaper more attractive.'

Family and Private Prayers.

SIR,—As no one seems to have answered 'A.'s' inquiry for a simple form of family prayer for distribution among the poor, I venture to recommend *The Cottager's Family Prayers*, published by the Religious Tract Society, 164 Piccadilly. It is a small book, price 2d., or for parochial purposes 1½d., containing a short prayer of one page for every morning and evening in the week. There is nothing of a specially Church character about it, nor have the prayers the pathetic rhythm of the Prayer Book Collects, but on the other hand, it is free from that turgidity of expression which disfigures so many private compilations; and there is nothing designedly anti-Church about it. I have not a copy by me, but I only remember one objectionable clause, and that can easily be altered with a pen before the book is given away; it is this, 'Bless our children and make them Thy children.' This should, of course, be 'Bless our children who are also Thy children;' or 'make them Thy children in heart and life.' In fact and privilege, both by creation and adoption, they are God's children already, and what we ought to pray is that they may realise that blessedness, and live according to that privilege which they have all their lives been taught to say has been theirs since baptism, 'in which I was made the child of God.' With this alteration, I believe the little book will be found unexceptionable, and I have, for many years, given it (failing to find any distinctively Church book equally suitable) to young persons of the poorer classes after confirmation, as a book of private prayer, for which purpose it is available by the substitution of 'I' and 'my' for 'we' and 'our,' and the omission of a few special clauses already printed in brackets. J. MACONECHY.

The same error of oblivion of privileges already received, and of our standing in Christ is to be found in Thornton's *Family Prayers*, First Week, Thursday Evening, where forgiveness of sin is asked for thus:—'Be Thou pleased to receive us into Thy favour, and to adopt us into Thy family as members of Christ, as children of God, as heirs of the kingdom of heaven,' as though a Christian's daily transgressions placed him daily in the position of a heathen outside the Covenant, and annulled his adoption in Christ.

Free and Open Churches.

SIR,—I think the advocates of free and open churches have lost sight of one important view of the subject—namely, the inconvenience of the parishioners who happen to have a very popular preacher. I will just state my own case. For seven years I lived in the parish of one of our most noted divines of the time. I could not obtain a sitting, although the Vicar himself endeavoured to get one for me; and in consequence I had to sit on the chancel-steps, or where I could find a seat, often resulting in serious illness to me; while our church was crowded, others, less attractive, were nearly empty. Surely the parishioners have a right to consideration, and not be subjected to the invasion of an army of strangers. Where the preacher is such an one as I have spoken of, I may add I always was obliged to be in church fully half an hour before the time, to enable me to secure even the poor accommodation I have described. A SUFFERER.

RECEIVED ALSO.—T. L. B.; Curate; L. M.; Henry Wright, junior; A. J. F.; D. W. E.; A. P.; W. Rupert Cochrane; Rev. Kentish Buche; Horace W. Oxford; H. H. Letchworth.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

St. James's Society of Change-ringers, London.

THIS Society, which has now been established for upwards of fifty years, still continues to make rapid progress; at each meeting for practice, held every alternate Monday evening at St. Clement Danes, Strand, a numerous band can be relied upon. Last meeting-night, October 4th, the audit of the past year's accounts and election of officers took place, when the balance-sheet showed that the funds stood in a most satisfactory condition. Also the roll of members had considerably increased, certainly to a greater extent than any year previous since the formation of the Society—a convincing proof that a desire to study the noble science of Change-ringing is in the ascendancy. Mr. Henry Nunn was re-elected as Master for the ensuing year, together with Mr. J. T. Knight as Secretary; Mr. G. Stockham, Treasurer; and Mr. J. W. Cattle, Steward.

It may not be generally known among our country friends that the two venerable societies in London—the 'College Youths' and 'Cumberland Youths'—are separate and distinct; that is to say, while you are a member of the one you cannot belong to the other. Consequently, the St. James's Society was formed that members of both the above-mentioned might unite and ring peals together; and also do much to establish a mutual feeling and friendly intercourse between all lovers of the art, by admitting as members ringers from many other minor societies, both in London and country, thus embracing in one perhaps the greatest body of ringing talent to be found in the world. HENRY NUNN, Master.

An Old Change-ringer's Denouncement of Prizes.

SIR,—I read in Saturday's *Church Bells*, Oct. 9th, that there has been another of these senseless performances of prize-ringing at Slapton, Devon. Surely the inhabitants and those who provided funds for such an intellectual entertainment can never have heard good change-ringing, or they would never tolerate such a monotonous clamour—ups and downs, and rounds and rounds, and then the same thing over again, or at least a touch of churchyard bob—and that for a money-prize and in God's House, too! Good change-ringers do not require prizes to compete for; but they do require to be recognised by their clergyman and respectable inhabitants of their parish, as something above the refuse of mankind. Permit me, sir, to offer a few suggestions to clergymen how they may reform their belfries, and obtain in every parish having a ring of bells a respectable and efficient band of change-ringers. First, let the clergyman select his band from the most respectable young men that are likely to remain in his parish; then let him appeal to his wealthy parishioners to subscribe funds for paying a competent instructor, and in twelve months he will have a band that he need not be ashamed of. Or, if funds cannot be obtained sufficient to pay a good instructor in every parish requiring one, let three or four parishes where the towers are accessible join, and each parish pay its share for one or two practices a-week: the instructor, living in the centre, could reach each band without difficulty. Next, let the clergyman and his friends provide a set of hand-bells and a room to meet in for practice; one or two evenings a-week at the tower, and one or two evenings a-week at the practice-room, would very much reduce the visits to the beer-shop, and would very soon add considerably to the attractions of penny readings and other social gatherings. Then, sir, as to the payment of ringers. Ringing for weddings are always paid for by the persons requiring it, but there are times when the ringer's services are required that interfere with his duties as a bread-winner, and at such times he must be paid for at least his lost time. If you think that the above hints will be of any use, please give them a place in your very useful paper. AN OLD CHANGE-RINGER.

The First Peal of Grandsire Triples.

SIR,—With your permission I will ask 'Old College Youth' how it is that John Holt's peals are recognised as first true peals of Grandsire Triples, when all ringers know that 'the original' has in it some double changes, and that 'the ten-part peal' has some only single changes; while John Garthorn's and Mr. Sottanstaill's peals are not recognised, yet made up of all triple changes? This, as a young ringer, I cannot get over, and ask for information on this important subject, as at present I consider that the first peal of 'pure Grandsire Triples' has yet to be composed. YOUNG CUMBERLAND.

A Correction from Oxford.

SIR,—Seeing in *Church Bells* that the peal of Stedman's Triples rang by the Oxford Society at Kirtlington was reported as containing 140 bobs and 2 singles, I beg to say that the peal was the composition of T. Tharstan, taken from Hubbard (p. 65), and contains 240 bobs 2 singles. Though I have no doubt most change-ringers will know what peal was meant, yet I should be glad for it to be corrected. JOSEPH FIELD.

Wear and Tear of Bell-gear.

SIR,—All Mr. Moore's questions, I imagine, in your issue, Oct. 9, ought to be answered in the negative. Our bells here were rehung two years ago; they went well from the first, and they go better every day. The *Vicarage, Fulham*, Oct. 11, 1875. F. H. FISHER.

P.S.—I shall be glad to let Mr. Moore know who rehung them, if he will write to me personally.

Muffled Peal at Ilford, Essex.

ON Thursday, Oct. 14th, the Ilford Society of Bell-ringers rang a muffled peal as a last tribute of respect to the late Samuel Wright, who died Oct. 8th, 1875, aged 26 years. He was a member of the Ilford Society of Bell-ringers, and had been a ringer only a few years. The ringers were as follows:—J. Waters, treble; T. Bacon, 2nd; E. Hayden, 3rd; W. Blunden, 4th; H. Spencer, 5th; C. Green, tenor.—Reported.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

James Barham's Peal-book.

SIR,—In *Church Bells* of June 26th appeared a list of 111 peals rung by James Barham of Leeds, in Kent, from the years 1744 to 1813. This list was, I suppose, copied from one published many years ago, which was taken from the original book. As many of your readers well know, James Barham was a wonderful ringer, being a man of great endurance, as is shown by the fact that he rang in several peals of extraordinary length. Amongst these was the extent of the changes upon eight bells, a performance which occupied 27 hours; and although, of course, several extra ringers were required to relieve one another, yet Barham rang for 14 hrs. 44 mins. at a stretch, before he handed his rope over to his deputy.

Curiously enough, when this list appeared in *Church Bells*, I was at the same time endeavouring to find whether the book was still in existence. In a few notes appended to the printed list, it is described as being then in the possession of Mr. Lover, North End, Fulham. The first I heard of it, however, was from Mr. Proctor of Benington, who had had the loan of it, many years ago, from Mr. Robert Naunton, a well-known ringer, some years back, in the Ipswich district, who, he informed me, was now resident in California. I at once wrote to Mr. Naunton, who kindly sent me an immediate answer, and enclosed me a letter to a friend of his, who was also a relative of Barham's. From this correspondent I received a courteous reply, stating that the book had been handed down from Barham in their family, but, unfortunately, either from having been mislaid or from having passed out of the possession of their family, it could not now be found, otherwise I should have been obliged with the loan of it.

My object in addressing you is to make a request, that if this book is now the property of any of your readers, or its whereabouts known to them, that they will kindly communicate with me, as I am endeavouring to compile a list showing the gradually increasing lengths that have been rung in the different systems, giving details of all the most noticeable performances; and certainly, in Bob Major ringing, any account without particulars of James Barham's extraordinary feats would be very incomplete.

Ilkley, Yorkshire.

JASPER W. SNOWDON.

Bishop Lonsdale's Memorial Church at Derby.

ON Monday last Derby was enlivened by the opening of a ring of eight bells in the newly-erected church in this town, dedicated to St. Luke. The bells are from Messrs. J. Taylor and Sons, bellfounders, Loughborough. They are in the key D, and the tenor weighs 1 ton 9 cwt. As to quality of tone, they were pronounced to be good. The bells were first used by eight respectable men from Birmingham, who opened them in round peal occasionally going into thirds and fifths. In the after part of the day the Birmingham ringers went into some Grandsire Triples and Treble Bob. The bells had been dedicated to their sacred use by a short special service on the previous (Sunday) afternoon, when the church was filled with a large and influential congregation. The Rev. H. T. Ellacombe, Rector of Clyst St. George, Devon, was announced to preach the sermon, but, in his unavoidable absence, his MS. was read by the Rev. F. J. Lyall, incumbent of the parish. At the conclusion of the service the chiming machinery connected with the clock was started, and the sweet symphonies it produced gave general satisfaction.—On Monday (St. Luke's Day) special services were again held in the church, and at a harvest thanksgiving service in the evening, when the sacred edifice was most tastefully decorated, the sermon was preached by the Rev. Canon Lonsdale, son of the lamented prelate to whose memory the church has been erected.—*Local Paper.*

A Ringer and Composer Aggrieved.

SIR,—I wish to call your attention to that erroneous statement in yours of October 16th, 1875, by 'An Old College Youth,' as he calls himself, who states that the London composers and ringers have sternly set their faces against some of my compositions, inasmuch as I have made use of extremes, or different place-making, to achieve a something when it was necessary, which are very much approved of in Yorkshire at the present day. I know Mr. John Holt's name stands high in estimation. Very proper it should. Mr. Holt's one-part peal differs from his ten-part peal, inasmuch as the one-part peal is with two doubles, the ten-part is with two singles. I think any composer has as much right to make use of fifths-place bobs as Mr. Holt had to make use of doubles and singles in his peals: one is as much at fault as the other, if it may be called one. I once heard an old ringer say that ringers were foolish for learning more methods than one. I have known some musicians state that all music should be in the natural key. It is for want of a better understanding.

In our forefathers' days the minor key was the original, in our day the major key is much used among musicians, as well as the minor.

Handel, and all minor composers of music, make use of major and minor keys in their compositions, also sharps, flats, naturals, passing discords, and change of keys, to achieve what they wanted when no other plan would produce the melody required.

I think composers of bell music or peals have equally as much right to make use of si gles, doubles, and extremes, or fifths-bobs, as composers of music have to make use of sharps, flats, naturals, passing discords, and change of keys. So much for the 'Old College Youth!'

WM. SOTTANSTALL.

Sowerby, near Halifax, Yorkshire, Oct. 21st, 1875.

Muffled Peal (?) at Ilford, Essex.

SIR,—Will one of the gentlemen who took part in the muffled peal (?) at Ilford, Essex, as reported last week, kindly oblige with the name of the

system, number of changes, and time? I should like to know also the number of bobs or singles by which the peal was obtained.

B. KEEBLE, Conductor of the R. Y. H. B. R.

[Our readers would like to know the meaning of these five mysterious appendices to the above query.—R. Y. H. B. R.—Ed.]

Muffled Peal at St. Dunstan's, Fleet Street.

ON Wednesday, October 6th, the bells of St. Dunstan's-in-the-West, Fleet Street, were muffled and rung, as a mark of respect to the late Mr. Charles White, who was for some time past a member of the above belfry. The whole pull-and-stand was rung by the following persons:—J. Nelms, treble; A. Moggridge, 2nd; W. D. Matthews, 3rd; J. Howe, 4th; J. Godfrey, 5th; W. Lindley, 6th; H. A. Hopkins, 7th; J. W. Cattle, tenor. Conducted by Mr. J. Nelms.—*Reported.*

Change-ringing at Hull, Yorkshire.

ON Thursday evening, October 7th, on the occasion of the Harvest Thanksgiving Service at Holy Trinity Church, eight members of the Trinity Society rang a touch of Grandsire Triples, comprising 1875 changes, being the date of the present year. The ringers stood thus:—E. Prince, treble; G. Harrison, 2nd; W. Stickney, 3rd; H. Jenkins, 4th; W. Southwick, 5th; C. Jackson, 6th; A. Hayward, Master of the Ancient Society of College Youths, 7th; H. A. Eastwood, tenor. Weight of tenor, 25 cwt. Time, 1 hr. 10 mins. Composed and conducted by C. Jackson.—*Reported.*

Change-ringing at St. Luke's, Nutford Place, London.

AT the conclusion of the Harvest Festival Service, which took place on the 7th inst. six members of the St. James's Society rang the congregation out of church with a peal of Kent Treble Bob, striking the bells as to time to the nick. On the following Friday five of the same party, with the assistance of Mr. M. Hayes, rang a peal of Oxford Treble Bob with equal success. The ringers were:—R. French, treble; H. Nunn, 2nd; W. Collings, 3rd; H. Driver, 4th; S. Jarman, 5th; S. Hayes, tenor. Conducted by Mr. S. Hayes. In the second peal in the Oxford variation, S. Hayes rang the 5th and M. Hayes tenor. Conducted by Mr. M. Hayes. It is many years since a peal of Oxford Treble Bob was rung in London.—*Reported.*

Change-ringing at King's Norton, Worcestershire: an Example to be followed.

ON Thursday, October 14th, was rung on these bells the first peal of Grandsire Minor. The ringers were:—A. E. Clulee, treble; A. Pritchett, 2nd; W. Palmer, 3rd; W. Cooks, 4th; W. S. Pritchett, 5th; J. S. Pritchett, 6th. Time, 28 min. Conducted by J. S. Pritchett, member of the Ancient Society of College Youths. With the exception of J. S. Pritchett, all the above are under 20 years of age, and have never before rung in any peal. They have been under the tuition of Mr. Thomas Longmore of King's Norton, who, for the past year, has energetically worked to promote the interests of scientific change-ringing throughout the neighbourhood.—*Per Letter.*

Change-ringing at Waltham Abbey, Essex.

ON Tuesday, October 19, eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, containing 5040 changes, at the above church, in three hours. Performers:—J. Barnett, treble; J. Barker, 2nd (first peal); T. Powell, 3rd; P. Cleverly, 4th; W. A. Alps, 5th; J. R. Haworth, 6th; J. Pettit, 7th; D. Tarling, tenor (first peal). Conducted by Mr. Powell, who has lately been promoted to the office of steeple-keeper.—*Reported.*

Muffled Peal at St. Luke's, Liverpool.

ON Tuesday evening, the 19th inst. the ringers of St. Luke's Society paid the last tribute of respect to the late Mr. John Lloyd (who was a member of the Society). Several touches of Grandsire and Stedman's Triples were rung, with the bells half muffled. Deceased died on Friday, the 18th inst. and was interred at Childwall Parish Church on Monday, the 18th. He was followed to the grave by a large number of relatives and ringers, and was universally respected by all who knew him. The following were the ringers:—J. Aspinwall and J. R. Pritchard of the Ancient Society of College Youths, and S. Gough, T. Beacall, T. Jones, R. S. Mann, W. G. Mann, A. Nicholson, T. Hammond, J. Chapman.—*Reported.*

Dedication of New Bells at Long Eaton, Derbyshire.

A NEW ring of six bells was dedicated on Tuesday, October 19th, at St. Lawrence's, Long Eaton, Derbyshire. The number formerly was only three, two of them bearing respectively the dates 1612 and 1626; the age of the third was not known. These have now been replaced by a light ring of six, by Messrs. Taylor of Loughborough. They are in the key of A. Weight of tenor, 10½ cwt. The cost has been covered by a house-to-house subscription among the parishioners. The belfry has been well cared for and furnished. The service used on the occasion was similar to what we have published in former issues. In the afternoon a sermon was preached by the Ven. Archdeacon Fearon, Rector of Loughborough; that in the evening by the Rev. A. Eubule Evans, Vicar of Kirk Hallam. Notwithstanding the exceptionally miserable weather—the continuous downpour being only varied at intervals by storms of greater violence—there were two delightfully bright services, and the offertory amounted to 22l.—*Reported.*

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.—Peals at Birmingham.—No reports of any have been received.

RECEIVED.—F. Atkinson.—We have not yet opened our columns to bell poetry; Bob Single; Treble Lead; W. Banister.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Bells for St. Paul's Cathedral.

On Tuesday afternoon a meeting was held at the Mansion House in inauguration of a fund for furnishing St. Paul's Cathedral with a ring of bells and chimes for striking the quarter-hours. The Lord Mayor took the chair, and was supported by the Dean of St. Paul's, the Rev. Canon Gregory, Sir F. Beckett Denison, Q.C., Mr. Philip Cazenove, Dr. Stainer, Mr. F. C. Penrose, the Rev. J. Erskine Clarke, Vicar of Battersea, and others. The Lord Mayor, in opening the proceedings, remarked that it had always struck him as a curious anomaly that while many of the larger City churches, such as Bow Church, Cripplegate Church, St. Botolph Bishopsgate, St. Sepulchre's, St. Bride's, and St. Dunstan's, had excellent rings of bells, the largest cathedral in this country—St. Paul's—had but one bell. He had heard it stated that the citizens and those at work in the City would be distracted in their occupations by the sound of church bells, but he really believed very few people were of that opinion. He had been especially struck with the want of a ring of bells for St. Paul's when recently he escorted the foreign and provincial mayors and magistrates to Divine service in that Cathedral. Instead of the beautiful chimes and carillons which they listened to abroad with so much interest, they only heard one solitary, dismal bell. He trusted that the wealthy citizens of London would take this matter into their consideration. The steeples were ready to receive the bells, and it only required a comparatively small sum of money to give St. Paul's a ring of bells and chimes which many provincial and enterprising towns had readily contributed for their own parish churches. The Dean of St. Paul's said the want of a ring of bells for the Cathedral had struck almost everybody. St. Paul's was unique in its architecture; in its name it was unique among Cathedrals; and unique also in this, that there was no church of its rank on this side of the Alps which was so deficient in bells. On Thanksgiving Day the City was gaily decked, and the Cathedral was full within and without, but excepting the cheers of the populace there was no music to greet her Majesty on her approach to the Cathedral until she entered the western door, when the organ spoke both wisely and well. To all intents and purposes the fabric of St. Paul's was dumb on that occasion. He thought it was their duty to bring the matter before the citizens of London, and he believed they had only to mention their need to have it supplied. St. Paul's only desired to be put upon an equality with Worcester Cathedral, which had a splendid new ring of bells. Sir E. Beckett Denison, Q.C., in moving that it was desirable that a ring of bells should be supplied to St. Paul's Cathedral, and, in addition, a set of chimes, contended, that while so many of the large towns of the kingdom were providing—some of them even out of the rates—beautiful rings of bells for their parish churches, it was hardly creditable to the residents in London that St. Paul's Cathedral was to this moment absolutely destitute in that respect. He cited, as instances, Bradford, Rochdale, Manchester, Doncaster, Exeter, and Worcester, describing the ring in the latter Cathedral as the finest in England. He combated the impression that bells for churches could be founded better abroad than in this country. Mr. P. Cazenove seconded the resolution, and it was carried unanimously. Dr. Stainer, organist of St. Paul's, who entered into some details, suggested that they should have first a good English ring of bells, which would cost about 3500*l.* and with chiming apparatus 500*l.* additional, and next, if money were forthcoming, that they could have a ring of Belgian bells with chimes, at a further cost of between 3000*l.* and 4000*l.* more. The projects, however, were entirely separate; and for himself he should be glad, in the first place, to get the rings without the chimes. The Rev. J. Erskine Clarke moved that Dr. Stainer's proposal for a ring of bells and the arrangements of chimes be generally approved, and suggested that the Ringing Societies of London—the Ancient Society of College Youths, the Royal Cumberlands, the Waterloo Society—should be interested in the proposal, as he had great faith in the enthusiasm of ringers, whether rich men or poor men. This was seconded by Mr. Penrose, surveyor of St. Paul's Cathedral, who stated that the steeples and belfries were admirably suited for the proposed purpose; and it was adopted. Canon Gregory moved that a Committee be at once formed to promote the work, and to collect subscriptions; and the meeting closed with a hearty vote of thanks to the Lord Mayor for presiding.

Chimes at St. Luke's, Derby.

SIR.—Will you kindly allow us to state that the machinery we have applied to the fine ring of bells (tenor 29 cwt.) at the above church accomplished, we believe, the unparalleled feat of chiming a complete touch of Grandsire Triples (302 changes) after yesterday's evensong. The time occupied was twenty minutes; the number of blows struck, 3112; and the interval of time between each blow, about half a second. We think this marks such an important advance in the manufacture of carillon and chiming machinery that it may be of interest to many of your readers.

LUND & BLOCKLEY.

Ringing at Stockton-on-Tees, Durham.

On Saturday, October 9th, the ringers from Hurworth and Darlington. (St. John's Church) met at the parish church, and rang a peal of plain Bob Minor, consisting of 720 changes. The ringers were—G. T. Clarkson, Stockton, treble; J. E. Hern, Hurworth, 2nd; G. Overton, Darlington, 3rd; R. Kay, Darlington, 4th; J. Hern, Hurworth, 5th; R. Moncaster, Darlington tenor. Conducted by J. E. Hern. This was followed by a touch of Grandsire Minor, consisting of 360 changes; after which the Stockton company concluded the afternoon's ringing with a peal of plain Bob Doubles. Weight of tenor, 12 cwt.; key of G sharp. This is the first time, for upwards of thirty years, that a peal of six in has been rung on these bells.—*Reported.*

Muffled Peal at Dundee, Scotland.

On Friday, October 15th, the ringers in the old steeple, Dundee, rang a muffled peal as a last tribute of respect to the late Bishop of Brechin, who

died on the 8th ult., aged 59 years. The ringers were as follows:—T. Scott, treble; C. Geekie, 2nd; J. Sharp, 3rd; G. Paton, 4th; A. Stewart, 5th; A. Lawson, 6th; W. Hill, junior, 7th; R. Scott, tenor. Conducted by W. Hill.—*Reported.*

Muffled Peal at Fulham, Middlesex.

On Saturday, October 16th, a dumb peal was rung at Fulham Parish Church, in memory of Frederick Bourgier, who was killed by a fall from a tree. He was the sexton of the church, and had been captain of the Fulham Church Bell-ringers' Association since its foundation in 1871. The pall-bearers at his funeral in the parish churchyard were all members of the Association, and many ringers from other parishes were present to show their respect for one who, by his uniform kindness and good nature, had won many friends among all classes. He was a member of a bell-ringing family, and associated from childhood with the old traditions of the belfry; but he threw himself heartily into the formation of the above Association, which was founded on the principles uniformly advocated in the columns of *Church Bells*, and never flagged in his energy and good temper in teaching the new members. Of those who rang in his funeral peal, all but three had been taught by him.—*Communicated.*

New Bells at Gargrave, Yorkshire.

On Saturday, October 23rd, a ring of six bells was opened here. A large congregation assembled, when a full choral service was performed. The dedication service was then said by the Rural Dean, the Rev. Canon Boyd. Several touches of Oxford Treble Bob Minor and other peals were rung during the day, and on the Sunday following, by Mr. Mallaby and his company of bell-ringers. The bells are in the key of F. They were cast by Messrs. Warner of London, and hung by Mr. Mallaby.—*Reported.*

A Muffled Peal at Rawmarsh, Yorkshire.

On Sunday, October 24th, the Rawmarsh Society of Bell-ringers rang a muffled peal as a last tribute of respect to the late Henry White, who was buried at the Rawmarsh Cemetery on the same day, aged 46 years. He had been a ringer at the Parish Church for twenty-four years, and was greatly respected by all the members. The ringers were as follows:—James Ensor, treble; G. Briggs, 2nd; S. Whitworth, 3rd; J. Hawkins, 4th; W. Whitworth, 5th; J. Ensor, 6th; J. Furmery, 7th; R. Whitworth, tenor.—*Reported.*

Dedication of a New Ring of Bells at Bromham, Wilts.

On October 29th a new ring of six bells was dedicated at Bromham, Wilts. The old bells were worn and cracked, and the fittings so old that it had become unsafe to use them. These were the very bells immortalised by the late Thomas Moore, in his beautiful and well-known lines, 'Those evening bells,' &c. The work was entrusted to Messrs. Warner, and completed satisfactorily. The tenor weighs 18 cwt. The services of the day began at 9 a.m., when there was a celebration of the Holy Communion, at which there were about thirty communicants. Immediately afterwards the clergy, and choir, and others, went to the belfry, and sang the hymn, 'Lift them gently to the steeple.' The dedication service was then said by the Ven. Archdeacon Buchanan. A party of ringers from Bristol then took sole possession of the belfry, and rang several varieties of Doubles and, after a short pause, a touch of Minor. At 11.30 the clergy walked in procession up the church, the choir singing, 'Onward, Christian soldiers.' Prayers were said by the Rector, the Rev. E. Edgell, and the sermon preached by the Archdeacon, from Ps. xix. 3, 4, and Rom. x. 18. There was a large congregation, and those who came from a distance were hospitably entertained by the Rector. The bells were again rung, and were generally approved of. It is much to be wished that the unwonted sound of change-ringing may stir up the ringers of Bromham and other churches in the neighbourhood to learn the noble science.—*Reported.*

Change-ringing at St. Luke's, Liverpool.

On Saturday, the 30th October, eight members of St. Luke's Society rang in the above church the late Mr. John Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, consisting of 5040 changes, which came round in 3 hrs. 2 mins. The ringers were stationed as follows:—S. Gough, treble; R. S. Mann, 2nd; J. Moore, 3rd; W. G. Mann, 4th; J. R. Pritchard, 5th; T. Hammond, 6th; J. Aspinwall, 7th; T. Jones, tenor. Conducted by J. R. Pritchard (his first peal as conductor).—*Reported.*

New Bells and New Organ at Earl's Shilton, Leicestershire.

THESE musical instruments for the use of the church were dedicated to their holy uses on Tuesday, the 3rd of August last, by special services suitable to the occasion. The kind donor of the bells received his ideas, and was prompted to do this good work, by reading similar acts recorded in the columns of *Church Bells*. May the example induce others to go and do likewise.—*Per Letter.*

Answer to Thomas Moore about Bell-gear.

BELLS, after they are first hung, want constant attention, till the timber gets its bearings and shrinkings. The cause of the bells going badly would arise from either of the following:—1st. From the nuts and bolts of the gudgeons getting loose, which allows the gudgeons to get out of their places, which would cause them to bind in the brasses or bind endways. 2nd. Sometimes the stock gives to the weight of the bell, which causes the bottom of the stock to spread, and cause the bell to get end-bound. 3rd. The bolts of the frame get loose, and make the frame unsteady. 4th. The timbers of the top of the frame warp, and cause a bell to get end-bound. I think that you will find the bells going badly through one or more of the above causes.

A COLLEGE YOUTH.

RECEIVED ALSO:—F. Atkinson; G. Gutsch; 'A Constant Observer and Reader,' who has not given us his address; William Allen; Paul Adams; W. J. Lush; J. Spray, &c. &c.

come when there is more common sense displayed, bearing in mind that Mr. Gladstone says our parish churches in their different styles are equal to those of all Europe; and in following Mr. Petit's advice not to be always running to architects, who, whatever the style of the fabric may be, will almost to a certainty add a decorative feature or two, or be out of fashion, as is plainly visible in all directions. As titles and toys always give most pleasure when new, I change my subscription to

Tissington Hall, Ashbourn.

A FAITHFUL CHAMPION.

[We must leave to the architect, or those concerned, the particular question of the restoration of West Farleigh Church. A reference to our article of September 25 will show that this is only relevant to our subject, in giving, in this one case, a reason why the owner of an obstructive pew did not co-operate in the restoration of that church. But it is clear that if there be, as is alleged, an incongruity outside, it does not justify another inside. A restoration every twenty-five years would be indeed absurd; but large improvements in a church in twenty-five years' time may be loudly called for. We can, at least, bear witness to the gloomy, miserable, pewed-up appearance of West Farleigh before the late alterations.]

There are two points, however, which have to do with the general question. Our correspondent takes exception to the words, 'for a consideration,' and thinks, if fees were meant, 'compensation' should have been mentioned. No doubt a 'Faculty Pew Redemption Fund' would find some supporters, but we never knew of any one hardened enough to propose to be compensated if improvements were made upon his pew, while his neighbours were putting their hands into their pockets to beautify and adorn the church. Such there may have been, but even that would not need the case of prescriptive pews, which have grown up by the side of those pews without fees.

The nearest approach to this, which we have heard of, was the case of an old gentleman who had a gallery, which it was desired at the restoration of an ancient church to pull down. He could not be induced to consent to its demolition until some one, we were told, hit on the bright idea of perpetuating his self-sacrifice in a brass tablet, which was accordingly proposed to him. The old gallery is gone the way of many such inharmonious structures, and the old man lives in the eyes and memories of his friends more pleasantly in the brass tablet than in the old gallery.

Our correspondent further mentions aisles and side-chapels, and compares them with the right which the Rector has over his chancel. The Rector has rights, no doubt, over the chancel, but what is their extent and limit is a matter of some uncertainty. If he use the chancel merely as a private pew, he is unquestionably far more blameworthy than any private owner of a pew; but he has only a limited freehold in a chancel, for it is free to the parishioners for the purpose of worship; and he is, at all events, subject to the Bishop in the use which he makes of it.

Though the consideration of private aisles and chapels does belong to the question of faculty pews, and the same objections lie in good part against both, yet it is obvious that an adjunct to the church is not so conspicuously an intrusion on the original purpose, as a pew in the body of the church which lifts up its protest against all the rest.

Where they exist, we agree that it is an excellent plan to set the example of making them free seats, and that this has been done at Kirton is a gratifying fact, though in these days of free and open churches hardly a surprising one.—B. R. M. K.]

Non-Graduate Clergy.

SIR,—Will you be good enough to allow me to reply to one sentence in the comment of 'J. F.' upon the non-graduate clergy? The writer states: 'These gentlemen complain, not that they are not graduates of Oxford and Cambridge, but that, not having resided and graduated at either of these Universities, they are not allowed to change their black tippet into the white hood of Cambridge or the more gorgeous array of Oxford.' Now, Sir, it must be evident to your readers who are acquainted with the subject, that the non-graduate clergy, as a body, do not make this complaint. There may be a few, probably recently ordained, who occasionally write to the papers and regret their position; but the great majority of non-graduate clergy never trouble themselves about it. They have learnt from experience that a man is estimated, not by the colour of his hood nor by the degree he has taken, but by his real worth. What does an ordinary congregation care whether the black hood represents a 'learned' B.D. or a literate? The man is valued by his work in his church and parish, and not by a University degree which he obtained before he was ordained, or has since acquired by terms and money, which gives him the right to appear before his congregation with a crimson or white lining to his hood, usually supposed to be an indication of learning; for he carefully conceals the fact that, having once obtained the B.A. degree, even though he were placed at the bottom of the list, the only qualifications required for the higher degree and its accompanying hood are time and money. I should also be glad to be permitted to inform 'J. F.' that the graduates of Oxford and Cambridge have no exclusive right to the colours he mentions, as may be seen by referring to a little book on *Academical Colours*, published by Bemrose. At the present time, when there is an outcry for more clergymen, it is not good policy, if they love their Church, for a few non-graduates to parade their supposed grievances, nor for graduates to assert their supposed superiority. No other Church, sect, or denomination, recognises such distinctions, and when it is discontinued in the Church of England the more united and the stronger she will be.

AN UNDERGRADUATE CLERGYMAN.

SIR,—Had 'J. F.' said, 'Some of these gentlemen,' instead of 'these gentlemen,' I should not have had a word to say against his short article in Saturday's number, November 6th; but I do ask to be allowed to object to 'these gentlemen.'

A NON-GRADUATE WHO DOES NOT COMPLAIN.

NOTES AND QUERIES.

Queries.

BOOKS WANTED:—By 'Sigma.' A pamphlet or tract suitable to Organists; bringing before them the importance of the work they are engaged in, as part of the public service of God's house—not a musical performance or rehearsal.

'JOHN JACKSON' wishes to know the publisher of a *Catechism on the Church*, by the Rev. — Sweet, price 6d. It contains excellent tables, proving Apostolical Succession in the Church of England.

'G. W. K.' seeks for a book on the Collects, not expensive, for using in a class of junior Sunday-school boys.

Answers.

'S. H.' says, in answer to 'H. J. M.'—Though there is no very complete explanation of the old Church modes to be found in the English language, much information on this subject is given in Hawkins' *History of Music*. A terse and brief explanation of the ancient Church tunes, by J. A. Novello, may be had at Novello's, 1 Berners Street. And a complete collection (with Latin words) of early Plain Song Music may be procured from Richardson and Co. Strand, London, and Derby.

In reply to 'E. J. Barry,' 'S. H.' says:—'Simple settings, with repeating words, of the most useful offertory sentences, composed by E. H. Turpin, may be found in the *Musical Standard*, Nos. 505 and 513, April 4th and May 30th, 1874.'

COMMANDER DAWSON writes:—'H. M. C. P.' can procure copies of the *Special Service of Intercession for those at Sea*, approved by the Archbishop of Canterbury, &c., for use in churches in stormy weather, from the Missions to Seamen Society, 11 Buckingham Street, Strand, London, W.C.

SIR,—The leaflet entitled *The Teacher's Office*, and commencing, 'Desirest thou a teacher's work?' was (some years ago) published by J. Groom, 66 Paternoster Row, London, and 185 Broad Street, Birmingham.

L. E. ELLMAN.

'E. F. B.' recommends to 'A. J. F.' *Scenes in the Camp and Field* (S. P. C. K.), as an interesting book on the Crimean War.

'LUCY M. SMITHE.'—It is difficult to find such prayers as you desire. Do you know Bp. Oxenden's *Labouring Man's Book*?

'JOHN THOMPSON.'—Thanks for your suggestions, which have our best attention.

'M. S.'—Address them to the Secretary, Poor Clergy Relief Corporation, 36 Southampton Street, Strand, W.C.

'A. A. GREVILLE.'—We do not know them. Consult the *Clergy List*.

'F. O. N.' had better write to the Secretary of the St. Agnes' Orphanage.

RECEIVED ALSO.—J. Fernie; D. W. E.; E. F. B.; R. C. N. Z.; Enquirer; Senex; M.; J. W. C.; R. D. H.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

The First Peal of Grandsire Triples.

SIR,—If you can afford space for the following, I should like to say a few words with reference to the peals of Triples by Garthorn, Holt, and others, on the merits of which opinions appear to be widely at variance.

The date at which Garthorn's is said to have been produced (1718) is, in ringing history, a very remote one, as we have very little, if any, reliable data on which to satisfactorily determine the question of priority; but such as we have shows pretty clearly that peals of Grandsire Triples were rung in London, Norwich, and elsewhere, many years before Holt's first peal was produced and rung, viz. 1751. The production of this, however, we have been informed, caused a great commotion in the ringing world, and a pretty general admission that it supplanted all previous peals, as being false or mongrel compositions. In Mr. Snowdon's very able report, &c., in *Church Bells*, on Dr. Mason's MSS., we are told, 'The discovery of this copy of Garthorn's peal in this volume places beyond a doubt the fact, that the first true peal of Grandsire Triples was composed, as far long it has been alleged to have been, by John Garthorn, of Norwich.' Yet, side by side with Garthorn's in the same MSS. we have another peal by Vicars, and I fail to find that there is anything to show that it was not produced as early as Garthorn's, and rung among the many known to have been rung in England long before the date of Dr. Mason's work, and condemned on the production of Holt's first peal in 1751. All our records go to show that at that time there existed in London, Cambridge, Norwich, and elsewhere, many companies of excellent ringers; and it is said that they were pretty generally agreed that the introduction of calls foreign to the method should not be held admissible: and this appears to receive confirmation by the letter of John Webster, written for the Norwich Company, August 27th, 1753, and addressed to Dr. Mason, in which he 'desires to be excused not subscribing to Mr. Holt's work, which he has reasons to fear will not answer to expectation; that his own company seemed entirely to slight it, and he believed they were induced to do so by Mr. Anable.'

Seeing that these several correspondents were the most advanced ringers of that time, and that the remarks had no reference to Holt's first peal, but to those on the broadsheet in question, which contained innovations of the description complained of, it strongly supports the statement that such peals were condemned at that period; but the generosity or justice of such a policy may be questioned, and I am of opinion that, in the embryo or early days of ringing, such an innovation was fairly admissible, but not after it was shown to be unnecessary. I do not, however, think it just to resuscitate one of the

condemned peals, and positively assert it to be the first ever composed, on the authority of Dr. Mason's MSS., when, in the same work, another peal is given, without date, which may be one of the many known to have been rung about the same period. With regard to Holt's first peal, the date of its first production is well authenticated, and without doubt it is the most perfect peal of Grandsire Triples in existence. By referring to Vicars' peal in a former number of *Church Bells*, it will be seen that it contains common singles only, the same as used in Holt's first peal, and the least objectionable that can be used: it is, therefore, difficult to conceive why it was included in the common slaughter, unless exception was taken to the unnecessarily large number of them. But whether this was so or not, this same peal, with slight alterations, has been subsequently reproduced under another name, is frequently rung, and found to be a very useful one. Reverting to the said objection to place-making above thirds in Grandsire Triples, I would observe that it certainly does not appear to be in keeping with the method, as it reduces the number of dodging-places, and does not change the hunting-bell, two great essentials in Grandsire ringing; the fifth-place Bob, however, when used without a single, as in Shipway's peal, and Sottanstell's variation of the same peal, has had the effect of clearing away a doubt where it existed, viz. that the whole of the 5040 collective positions were obtainable in continuous triple changes. Therefore 'Young Cumberland,' in your late issue, is quite correct in saying that the first complete peal of pure Grandsire Triples has yet to be composed; but it is equally clear that Holt's first peal is the nearest approach to it, that it took the first position in the front rank in 1751, and holds it to the present day.

W. BANISTER.

Morice Square, Devonport.

Mr. John Holt and the London Ringing Societies.

SIR,—I, with others, had been given to understand that Mr. John Holt was a member of the Cumberland Society, and thought so until reading Mr. Snowdon's extracts of Dr. Mason's MSS., published in your *Church Bells* of September 13th, that he (Mr. Holt) was a member of The London College Youths; which seems rather a vague term, as I find by *Clavis* there were two societies of College Youths about that time. And as there are several of us who are curious to know all particulars of that truly remarkable man, I beg to ask some member of the present Society of College Youths which of these societies he actually belonged to, and if the name-book containing his name is still to be seen? An answer will be considered a great favour by many of your ringing readers, and especially to

YOUNG CUMBERLAND.

Barham's Peals.

SIR,—I wish to correct a statement in Mr. J. W. Snowdon's letter. It was not the 40,320 peal that James Barham stood 14 hrs. and 44 mins. under one bell. It was the peal No. 30 on the list, rung March 31st, 1755. On the inside of a cupboard in Farnham belfry is pasted this newspaper slip:—

'Country News, 1761.

'LEEDS IN KENT, APRIL 10.

'On Tuesday last, the 7th, the day of election for members to represent Parliament, when the Hon. Robert Fairfax, Sir W. Knatchbull, Baronet, were chosen, the Leeds Youths went off to ring a peal of Bob Major, consisting of 40,320 changes, being the whole number of changes upon 8 bells, which was completed in 27 hrs. by 14 men only:—James Thornton, Abraham Barham, Henry and Will Tilby, Thomas Lacy, John Cripps, Richard Masters, James Hampton, Will Davies, Edward Cook, Will Hatwood, Stephen Bayley, and John Bonab. The peal was never rung, or ever attempted to be rung, by any set of ringers in the kingdom. Whenever it is performed by any other set, the above-named Youths are determined to command their superiority to all other by ringing all the changes on 10 bells.'

G. H. BARNETT.

Woeful Catastrophe through Carelessness in a Belfry.

WE noticed in our No. for Oct. 30 that the old and interesting Norman church of Churcham, about five miles from Gloucester, had been destroyed by fire. The accident happened in the tower, on the 25th ult., the evening before which they were ringing what has proved a farewell peal. There was a wooden box with sawdust, underneath a suspended paraffin lamp: over this the lamp was usually trimmed; consequently, from occasional dropping, the sawdust was very inflammable. A spark, either from a lantern lighted to show the way downstairs, or from a pipe lighted in the belfry before leaving (not during ringing), is admitted by the ringers as what did take place. The fire broke out in the forenoon of the 25th, and has done the work of devastation most thoroughly. The five bells were melted—the metal recovered is supposed to be enough for recasting three, and has been sent off to a bell-foundry. A special subscription is opened. What a warning to ringers!—aye, and to the use of paraffin oil and a boarded flooring! If a belfry must be upstairs, it should be laid with *tiles*; but a far better plan is the old one, when the ringing took place on the lower pavement.

Since the above was in type, we learn from a local paper that the ringers were in the belfry two hours for weekly practice, but we are most grieved to learn from the same authority that they were *smoking and drinking*. The box with sawdust was used as a spittoon, into which the ends of lighted matches, &c. were thrown—hence this woeful catastrophe. Disgraceful conduct on the part of the ringers! and equally unwarrantable on the part of one of the churchwardens (who, it appears by the paper, was one of the party), to allow smoking and drinking to be indulged in in God's House, for the tower is a part of the consecrated building. The churchwarden well deserves to be made to pay for the damage by his sanction of such practices, but we fear there is no law that can touch him.

A Good Ancient Rule for Ringers.

THE Charter of St. Stephen's Ringers, Bristol, dates from the time of Queen Elizabeth. It contains thirty articles, which are still read at the annual meeting of the Society on November 17, among which it is provided

that 'None shall be of the said society, save those who shall be of honest, peaceable, and good conversation; and that they shall at all times be ready to defend the said society against all charges that may be brought against it; that they 'must endeavour to gain credit by the musical exercise (of the bells); that others of their rich neighbours, hearing these loud cymbals with their ears, may, by the sweet harmony thereof, be enlarged in their hearts to pull one string to make it more sweet.' The 22nd article is as follows:—'If any one of the said society shall be so rude as to run into the belfry before he do kneel down and pray, as every Christian ought to do, he shall pay for the first offence sixpence, and for the second he shall be cast out of the company.'

Walsall, Stafford.

CENTENARY OF THE PARISH CHURCH BELLS.—The centenary of the original ring of 8 bells in the parish church—augmented to 10 bells in 1863 through the exertions of Mr. D. S. Moore—was celebrated on Friday week. Early in the morning there was a short peal in honour of the day, and at 2 o'clock a peal of Grandsire Caters, consisting of 5075 changes, was rung with the utmost precision in 3 hrs. and 17 mins. The stations of the ringers were as follows:—D. Chapman, treble; H. Summers, 2nd; J. Astbury, 3rd; F. Hallsworth, 4th; E. Lightwood, 5th; S. Price, 6th; J. Lees, 7th; J. Westley, 8th; W. Hallsworth, 9th; C. Astins, tenor. The weight of the tenor is 24 cwt. The peal was composed and conducted by William Hallsworth. At 7 o'clock there was service, partly choral. The Psalms chosen, with the Bishop's approval, were the 90th, 127th, 128th, and 150th, having especial reference to the occasions on which the bells are used. The Lessons were Exod. xxxv. 30 to xxxvi. 8, and Rev. xix. 4–10. The hymns were, 'When morning gilds the sky;' the beautiful hymn, 'O God, whom veiled angels' (which was slightly altered and adapted), composed by the late Dr. Monsell; 'The time is gone beyond recall;' and 'Hark, hark, my soul!' The sermon was preached by the Rev. Canon Baynes, Vicar of St. Michael's, Coventry, who, without formally taking a text, eloquently directed the attention of his hearers to the advance which had been made in the national life, and the improvements in the condition of the National Church, during the last hundred years; also enforcing the lessons taught by the inscriptions on some of the bells: as, for instance, 'Fear God, Honour the King;' 'Prosperity to this parish;' 'I to church the living call, and to the grave do summon all,' &c. At the close a collection was made in aid of the tower and spire restoration fund. The idea of this centenary service was originated by Mr. Moore, a true lover of bells; and it was most heartily taken up by the Vicar and the Church Finance Committee.—*Reported.*

Chiming Gear.

A CORRESPONDENT, who hails from Herefordshire, writes, that he proposes to take out a patent for a simple mode of chiming. We advise him not to do so, unless he wishes to throw money away. No method more simple or cheaper can be adopted than Ellacombe's hammers, in daily use on the twelve bells at Worcester; and if he has a fancy for such jobs, we advise him to copy them.—*Ed.*

Winscombe, Somerset.

ON Monday week this quiet village was enlivened by merry peals from the tower of its romantically-situated church, the occasion being the opening of the bells, which have recently been rehung, by Mr. Alfred York of Bristol, who, with a company from that city and some gentlemen in the neighbourhood, assisted by himself and Mr. Staddon (members of the Society of St. Stephen's Ringers), rang a series of Grandsire Doubles in good style. The ringing was conducted by Mr. York, and the bells were well struck throughout. This beautiful ring of 6 bells, cast in the year 1770 (the tenor weighing 21 cwt.) by the renowned Bilbie, for melody of tone may be fairly said to be unsurpassed by any in the county. It is a subject for congratulation that the ancient and noble science of bell-ringing is being revived, and it is hoped that the example set by the Winscombe folks may be followed in other places, where the ruinous state of the bells and belfry is a matter of much regret to all lovers of ringing.—*Local Paper.*

Change-ringing at Glemsford, Suffolk.

ON Saturday, October 30th, the following members of the Glemsford Society of Change-ringers rang four complete peals of 720 changes each—viz. Oxford Single Bob, Double Court Bob, Kent Treble Bob, and Oxford Treble Bob—time, 2 hrs. The following were the ringers:—John Slater, treble; Jos. Slater, 2nd; C. Honeybell, 3rd; Z. Slater, 4th; S. Slater, 5th; F. P. Adams, tenor. Weight, 16 cwt. Key, F. Conducted by Samuel Slater, a member of the Ancient Society of College Youths.—*Reported.*

New Ring of Six at St. Laurence, Long Eaton, Derbyshire.

ON Saturday, Oct. 30th, the Beeston Society of Change-ringers, by the kind permission of the Rector met at the above church, and rang seven distinct peals of Grandsire Doubles, with 21 bobs and 28 singles, containing 840 changes, which came round in 32 mins. The ringers were:—R. Mallers, treble; W. Clifford, 2nd; S. Mallers, 3rd; J. Spray, 4th; P. Burton, 5th; T. Williams, tenor. Conducted by W. Clifford. Tenor, 10½ cwt. Key, A.—*Reported.*

Change-ringing at Babbacombe, Devon.

ON Saturday, November 6th, the following members of the Devonshire Guild of Ringers rang on the bells of All Saints' Church, Babbacombe, Torquay, a true and complete peal of Grandsire Triples, of 5040 changes, in 2 hrs. 55 mins., viz.:—J. Baxter (Devonport), treble; Rev. M. Kelly, M.A. (Plymouth), 2nd; W. Banister (Devonport), 3rd; J. Norrish (Huntsham), 4th; R. Ford (Devonport), 5th; H. Tucker (Huntsham), 6th; A. W. Troyte, Esq., J.P. (Huntsham), 7th; H. Norrington (Plymouth), tenor. Conducted by Mr. William Banister; and is the first peal ever rung on these bells.—*Reported.*

RECEIVED ALSO:—Wm. Allen; I. R. H.; D. Morgan; C. H. Jessop; Edwin Rogers; B. T. Copley; A. Ringer; G. G.; John Hannon.

view with men of a lower grade), but in many cases with an amount of self-sacrifice, which is itself the best proof of their fitness for the Diaconate, and after due probation for the Priesthood.

H. T. H., Rural Dean.

Pupil Teachers.

SIR,—A good deal is being said just now with regard to the defects of pupil-teachers, and the deficiencies of the present system of training. Wholesale remedies are not easy to devise, but might not some improvement be effected if more of the educated Churchmen and Churchwomen of the upper classes would take an interest in them, make friends with them, and gradually impart to them some of their own culture and moral tone? The school-training of these teachers is necessarily one of routine, and their own homes supply little enough to enlarge the mind; but some, at least, are glad to avail themselves of further opportunities, when such are offered them—for instance, Saturday or evening lessons in the extra subjects of the new code, such as drawing and languages. Worth more than all the information imparted would be the refining influence exercised upon them, and, the intercourse once begun, many ways would suggest themselves of extending it; e.g. helping them to gain facility of expression in composition, lending them standard works, and adding by various means to their narrow circle of ideas.

R. H.

St. Andrew's Day.

SIR,—As a clergyman of nearly thirty-five years' standing, upwards of thirty-two of which I have spent in the cure of small villages, I grieve to find that the Day of Intercession is again fixed for St. Andrew's Day, November 30, because I know full well, in this village—agricultural, and with under a hundred population—not above ten persons will attend, even if the service is in the evening, the only time in the week day when the labouring classes can attend. The worst time for invalids. I cannot but come to the conclusion, after failures each year, that it should rest with the clergyman of the parish whether it should be observed on November 30 or within seven days following; and that it should be compulsory that it should be observed on one of those days. A very necessary caution, as I know very well that no notice has been taken of the occasion, because it was said, and I think with truth, that there would be no congregation.

G. H. W.

Lay-Helpers' Associations.

SIR,—The St. Alban's Bishopric Bill will cause this, the South London portion of the Winchester diocese, and that portion of the London diocese south of the Thames, to be united to Rochester; and as I believe many members of the London Association reside at Newington and Kennington, and will by the above Act be severed from the London diocese, would it not be well to make them the nucleus of an Association for Rochester? which I doubt not would flourish and expand equally to that of London.

Geo. B. BRIGHTLING, Superintendent Sunday Schools.

Carshalton, All Saints' Day.

NOTES AND QUERIES.

Queries.

SIR,—Can any of the readers of *Church Bells* tell me where Sunday begins? It is Sunday at Malta an hour before Sunday comes to London; and at Jerusalem nearly two hours and a half before. Does Sunday come to Australia before it comes to us? Does it come to Kamtschatka before it comes to us? Does it begin at Behring's Straits, or where?

B. S.

BOOKS WANTED:—By 'Wm. Thomason, Blackburn,' a tract dealing with the evils of Spiritualism.

BOOKS RECOMMENDED:—By 'E. M. R.,' in answer to 'G. W. K.,' *Lessons on the Collects*, by Rev. John Kyle (Church of England Sunday-school Institute.)

'W. H.'—For your first want we recommend Canon Norris on *The Prayer-book*, a manual of religious instruction (Rivingtons). For the others you had better consult the S. P. C. K. Catalogue.

Answers.

SIR,—In answer to 'E. J. Barry,' W. H. Monk's *Offertory Sentences* (published, I believe, by Novello and Co.), though not very 'simple,' are extremely good, and quite within the capability of ordinary part-singers.

E. L. C.

'ENQUIRER.'—Yes.

'D.' can perhaps obtain the cards he wants from Messrs. Bemrose and Co. Paternoster Row. We cannot undertake to point out such a tract on Baptism as he asks for.

SIR,—I fear 'John Jackson' will find some difficulty in getting *The Catechism on the Church* by the Rev. J. B. Sweet. I believe it is out of print. The publisher was Cleaver, Vere Street. Some time ago, having failed in every other direction, I wrote to the author, who kindly gave me a copy. Should 'J. C.' wish it, I will lend it to him.

J. DEAR.

Abbott's Ann, Andover.

SIR,—I have frequently seen complaints in *Church Bells* as to the difficulty of finding a suitable book of family prayers. I desire, therefore, to bring to your notice a small book called *Daily Services for Christian Households*, compiled and arranged by the Rev. H. Stobart, M.A. Rector of Warleton, Northamptonshire. Published under the direction of the Tract Committee S. P. C. K. We have used it constantly for nearly six years, and have never wished for any other. The prayers consist of short collects, after the model of the Prayer-book; and our household being a small one, and our time limited, we have thought it sufficient to use these: but there are versicles besides, and acts of adoration, which are intended to make it a more thorough service, and give it a greater diversity.

E.

RECEIVED ALSO.—J. T.; Johannes; H.; A Derbyshire Vicar.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

The Improper Use of Church Bells.

At the Archidiaconal Conference held at Derby last week, the Bishop of Lichfield drew attention to a printed placard in his hand, on which it was announced that on a certain day 'Dr. Grant' would enter Chesterfield with a coach-and-four, accompanied by the Queen's piper and camels bearing sweet spices of the desert, and that the Chesterfield prize-bell ringers would ring merry peals during the progress of the procession. His Lordship said that he most strongly objected to the use of church bells for purposes of this kind, and said that though he had no doubt the announcement in question had been made without the knowledge or consent of the vicar and churchwardens of the parish, he mentioned the matter by way of warning to those who were present. Church bells were dedicated to certain holy uses, which ought to be adhered to; and he wished it to be borne in mind that every part of the church, including the tower, and every instrument in it, including the bells, was dedicated to God's service. To use them for such a purpose as was set forth in the bill before him was utterly at variance with the sacred purposes for which they were intended, and he was quite certain that it had been done without the knowledge of the vicar and churchwardens of the parish.—*Derbyshire Advertiser*.

[We heartily join our 'applause' and thanks to the Bishop for his outspoken language. If other Bishops would follow his example as opportunities occur, and also request their Archdeacons to adopt the same tone of language, we are confident that an immense amount of good would be done, and a check would be put to the improper use of the bells of the church throughout our ringing island. Belfry reform would follow, and none but the most respectable characters would be the occupants of our belfries. We repeat our most hearty thanks to the Bishop of Lichfield.]

We grieve to read in a Bristol paper that, on the 8th inst., 'The bells from various churches in the city sent forth jocund sounds in honour of a verdict given for a defendant in a case of libel.' Such peals could not possibly have been rung with the consent of the parson and churchwardens, and therefore the ringers are to be blamed for lending their services to such unwarrantable proceedings.—*Ed.*]

Muffled Peal at Hyde, Cheshire.

A MUFFLED peal was rung at Hyde, Cheshire, on Wednesday evening, October 20th, by the Society of Change-ringers of St. George's Church, Hyde, and 1344 changes of Grandsire Triples, as a token of esteem and respect for the late John Sidebotham, Esq., J.P., of Kingston House, Hyde. The ringers were:—J. Wilde, sen., treble; H. Rostrow, 2nd; R. Brierly, 3rd; T. Wilde, 4th; P. Beard, 5th; W. Beeby, 6th; J. Wilde, jun., 7th; S. Bennet, tenor. Conducted by Henry Rostrow.—*Reported*.

St. Mary's Church, Masham, Yorkshire.

ON Friday, the 5th inst., being the anniversary of the dedication of the ring of bells, the usual custom of ringing was duly observed. The first essay was a true peal of 720 changes of Oxford Treble Bob Minor. Conducted by T. Mallaby.—*Reported*.

Change-ringing at Leigh, Staffordshire.

ON Saturday, Nov. 6th, the Society of Change-ringers belonging to St. Mary's parish church, Leigh, assisted by Mr. Nathan Farnworth of St. Peter's, Halliwell, and Mr. William Warburton of All Saints, Whitefield, occupied the belfry of the above church, and rang Mr. John Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, consisting of 5040 changes. The peal was conducted by H. Smith of Leigh, and brought round in 2 hrs. 59 mins. The ringers were stationed as follows:—H. Smith, Leigh, 1st; N. Farnworth, Halliwell, 2nd; T. Smith, son of H. Smith, Leigh, 3rd; J. Curtis, Leigh, 4th; J. Hindley, Leigh, 5th; J. Smith, son of H. Smith, Leigh, 6th; W. Warburton, Whitefield, 7th; E. Arrowsmith, Leigh, 8th. Weight of tenor, 21 cwt., in the key of E.—*Reported*.

Change-ringing at Hull, East Yorkshire.

ON Tuesday, November 9th, eight members of the Yorkshire Association of Change-ringers rang on the bells of Holy Trinity Church, Hull, Mr. Holt's six-part peal of Grandsire Triples, comprising 5040 changes. The ringers stood thus:—E. Prince, treble; G. G. Harrison, 2nd; T. Jackson, 3rd; H. Jenkins, 4th; W. Southwick, 5th; C. Jackson, 6th; A. Haywood, 7th; H. A. Eastwood, tenor. Weight of tenor, 25 cwt. Time, 3 hrs. 7 mins. Conducted by C. Jackson.—*Reported*.

Cumberland Society.

ON Thursday, November 11, 1875, eight members of the above Society rang, at St. James's Church, Clerkenwell, a true and complete peal of Grandsire Triples, comprising 5040 changes, in 3 hrs. 7 mins. Performers:—J. W. Cattle, treble; W. Lally, 2nd; J. Howe, 3rd; H. A. Hopkins, 4th; G. Harvey, 5th; J. Barrett, 6th; S. Jarman, 7th; E. Bissmire, tenor. Conducted by J. W. Cattle.—*Reported*.

Change-ringing at St. Luke's, Nutford Place, London.

ON Friday evening, the 12th inst., the following ringers met at the above church to have a friendly peal on that merry little ring of six bells, and rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor in 25 mins. The ringers stood thus:—H. J. M., treble; H. Nuun, 2nd; W. Collings, 3rd; H. Driver, 4th; N. Alderman, 5th; S. Hayes, tenor. Called by S. Hayes. The above is the composition of Mr. E. Hamant, of Crayford, Kent, which appeared in *Church Bells* Oct. 2nd, and contains 38 bobs and 22 singles, being a call every lead.—*Reported*.

RECEIVED ALSO.—Geo. Gutsell; J. L. Fulford; G. Harrison; Dundee Advertiser; K. Baekke. R. Keeble is requested to write in *extenso*, and to explain the meaning of his five appendices.

CORRESPONDENCE.

'The Daily Express.'

SIR,—I find that among many people there is a misunderstanding as to the purport of the advertisement sent out with *Church Bells* last week.

There is no desire to bind people beforehand to a promise made blindfold, but the case is this: Before finally embarking a sum which will have to be counted by tens of thousands of pounds, even if it should not go into six figures, the projectors desire, in a rough sort of way, to find out what support they may rely upon, and for this purpose a form was issued containing all that was requisite for this. But the form, though most convenient, is not necessary, and if any one will send his or her name and address in a letter or on a post-card, intimating an intention to subscribe for the paper when it comes out, nothing more is asked. The taking of the paper through the local news-vendor, which is best, or by post, will be a matter to be arranged afterwards; all that is now wanted is a promise to support such a newspaper as is described in the prospectus.

I may say that during the past week most encouraging promises of support have been given from all parts of England, many of the forms sent in being accompanied by letters of a very cheering kind. These would have been much more numerous but for the idea that people intending to take the paper through local news-vendors were not asked to send in their names. Please let this wrong notion be corrected. Churchmen are not asked to give orders for the paper, but to give an approximate notion of the constituency to be provided for; and for this purpose either the form issued, or some equivalent, is desirable. The moment that this is done the paper will start, and the sooner the better, seeing that very stirring events are close in front of us, whether we look at home or abroad.

'THE DAILY EXPRESS.'

The Burials Bill.

SIR,—I. R. V. in the article on Burials on the 13th, does not seem to me, in his otherwise excellent remarks, to estimate correctly the position of those who wish to take a somewhat middle course between aggression and resistance. Expediency, compromise, and timidity, I should with him condemn, did I not see wisdom, method, and boldness in what he disapproves. Expediency may be right; a compromise on a disputed point of procedure does not always involve a compromise of truth; and it requires boldness to seize a passing opportunity to effect an important change.

Political Dissenters have ignored, and many Conservatives have too much forgotten, the original cause of the question being stirred. Have not the greatest troubles, if not the only ones, with Dissenters at funerals, arisen when no service was held over an unbaptized child? Would not these troubles have been tenfold, were it not that many of the clergy shrink from any inquiry as to Baptism? Making a silent interment legal will not prevent these, but will increase their irritation, for it will be long before additional burying-grounds will come into use, as proposed.

Mr. Osborne Morgan's Bill could be altered, or, better, a new Bill could be brought in, to give effect to these two important changes:—

1. Let the friends of a deceased person who has right of interment decline the Church service, and then have liberty at the grave to have prayer, sentences, Scripture, or hymn.

2. Let the clergy have a similar liberty, for why should they be denied that which others have in their churchyards?

Their liberty might be limited by two important checks, which Parliament would require—that it be exercised under the sanction of the Bishop, and that no existing rights to the use of the Prayer-book Service be taken away by such Bill.

It is unreasonable and uncharitable to insist on the precincts of our churches being thrown open to every one's will without limitation, but reasonable and charitable to allow those who must stand at a grave to have some guarded expression of devotion there, which will thus practically affect themselves alone.

In what way can silence be enforced if we make a point of it?

It is said that Dissenters will not consent to this, because it does not recognise as such their services, their ministers, or their denominations.

Very likely not; but the question is not 'What will satisfy them?' but, 'What is reasonable, charitable, and politic, and what is feasible?' and if we can decide on that, then we can look to moderate men of all parties to support this course from the conviction that it is right.

T. W. CARR.

Black-Letter Saints.

SIR,—Reverting to 'G. S. O.' in your issue of 2nd October, and to 'Ellis Roberts' in that of 16th October, I beg to say that the church at Shipton-on-Cherwell—the scene of that terrible railway accident of Christmas Eve last—though in some recent histories given as dedicated to 'St. Mary,' is rather generally supposed to bear the name of 'St. Jerome.' I may add that the village feast is regulated by 30th September (St. Jerome's Day). There are two ancient bells, of different date, in the tower: the treble has on it 'Johannes,' and the tenor has a jumble of black letters which are supposed to be a contraction for 'Ora pro nobis.' These are no sure guide in the matter under discussion. The church was rebuilt entirely in 1831-2 by the late William Turner, Esq., lord of the manor of Shipton; and possibly the new building may have been then dedicated to 'St. Mary.' The Lincoln archives would doubtless unravel the mystery.

THOS. ARCHER TURNER.

Drayton Parslow.

Where Sunday Begins.

SIR,—In answer to the question of 'B. S.,' as to where Sunday begins:—According to English reckoning, each week, year, or day, begins on meridian 180° from Greenwich. The nearest point of British possessions to this is the north-east of New Zealand; the residents there are therefore the first to keep Sunday, or to begin the New Year. When ships cross this meridian from

east to west, instead of one day of 24 hours being entered in the log-book, two days of 12 hours each are entered; and again, when ships cross it from west to east, one long day of 48 hours is entered. Thus, in the one case, Monday, November 22nd, becomes Tuesday, November 23rd, at noon on Monday: in the other case, Monday continues for 48 hours from midnight on Sunday, after which Tuesday, November 23, begins. If this rule were not observed, settlers coming from the east would find their reckoning a whole day different to that of settlers coming from the west.

J. J. SERJEANTSON.

RECEIVED ALSO.—A Domestic Chaplain; G. J.; H.; A. C.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Bells and their Uses.

A VERY interesting lecture on this subject was, on the 12th instant, given by Mr. Goslin—who is connected with Messrs. Warner of Cripplegate—before a large number of Sunday-school children at Upper Holloway, London. We are sorry to be prevented from want of space to give more than a passing notice of Mr. Goslin's lecture. We believe he is the author of the *A B C of Musical Hand-bell Ringing*.—Reported.

St. Thomas's Church, Moorside, Lancashire.

ON Sunday, Nov. 7th, the bells of St. Thomas were muffled and rung as a mark of respect to Mrs. Mellodew, wife of Thomas Mellodew, Esq., who built and gave us the Moorside church. The bells were rung by the following persons:—J. Tunstall, treble; J. Rostern, 2nd; W. Clarke, 3rd; W. Mellodew, 4th; J. Wilde, 5th; J. Dunkerley, 6th; J. Duxbery, 7th; T. Armstrong, tenor. Weight of tenor, 18½ cwt.—Reported.

Ringling at Bradford, Yorkshire.

ON Saturday, November 9th, the Bradford Parish Church Company rang at St. John's Church, Bradford, a half-peal of Bob Major, consisting of 2512 changes, the sixth being twelve times wrong and twelve right. The peal was composed by Mr. J. Barker, of Liversedge. This is the first half-peal which has been rung by this Company, and the first that has been rung in the above method on these bells. The ringers were stationed as follows:—A. Moulson, treble; W. Greenwood, 2nd; J. Scarr, 3rd; T. Pollard, 4th; H. Raistrick, 5th; T. Copley, 6th; J. Jennings, 7th; J. Drake, tenor. The half-peal was conducted by J. Jennings, and brought round in 1 hr. 30½ mins. Weight of tenor, 16 cwt.—Reported.

Change-ringing at Huntsham, Devon.

ON Saturday, the 13th inst., eight members of the Huntsham Society of Change-ringers met in the steeple and rang, in 2 hrs. 53 mins., a true and complete peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples (Holt's ten-part). The band were stationed as below:—J. Chase (aged 15, first peal), treble; H. Paine, 2nd; A. Davy, 3rd; H. Tucker, 4th; W. Chilcot, 5th; W. Chase, 6th; C. A. W. Troyte, Esq., 7th; W. Winsley (first peal), tenor. Conducted by C. A. W. Tyorte, Esq.—Reported.

Change-ringing at Dewsbury, Yorkshire.

ON Thursday, Nov. 18th, the following company of Change-ringers rang upon the bells of the parish church, Dewsbury, 5184 changes of Kent Treble Bob Major in 3 hrs. 10 mins:—W. Preston, treble; F. Bailey, 2nd; S. Senior, 3rd; J. Hardeastle, 4th; J. W. Snowdon, Ilkley, 5th; C. W. Clegg, Huddersfield, 6th; J. Garforth, 7th; C. A. Fox, tenor. Weight of tenor, 14 cwt.—Reported.

Change-ringing at Holbeck, Leeds, Yorkshire.

ON Monday, November 15th, eight members of the Yorkshire Association of Change-ringers rang, at St. Matthew's Church, Holbeck, 5088 changes of Kent Treble Bob Major, in 2 hrs. 58 mins. The ringers were stationed thus:—T. Harrison, Holbeck, treble; H. Hubbard, jun. Leeds, 2nd; H. Moss, Holbeck, 3rd; G. Barraclough, Holbeck, 4th; W. Whitaker, Leeds, 5th; J. W. Snowdon, Ilkley, 6th; T. West, Holbeck, 7th; R. Binns, Holbeck, tenor. This peal is the first Treble Bob peal accomplished by members of the Association. It was composed by Mr. H. Hubbard, sen., and conducted by T. West. Weight of tenor, 16 cwt.—Reported.

Change-ringing at Ilkley, Yorkshire.

ON Saturday, Nov. 20th, the following members of the Yorkshire Association of Change-ringers rang 5024 changes of Kent Treble Bob Major, in 3 hrs. 5 mins. on the bells of All Saints Church, Ilkley, being the first peal on the bells since their augmentation to eight:—H. Hubbard, jun., Leeds, treble; J. Lockwood, Leeds, 2nd; T. West, Holbeck, 3rd; R. Tuke, Ilkley, 4th; E. Snowden, Ilkley, 5th; J. C. Gill, Ilkley, 6th; J. Birch, Leeds, 7th; J. W. Snowdon, Ilkley, tenor. This peal, which was the third which J. W. Snowdon had rung during the week, was composed and conducted by J. Lockwood: it contained the twenty-four 6 7 8's and the twenty-four 8 6 7's. Weight of tenor, 18 cwt.—Reported.

Change-ringing at Edmonton, Middlesex.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS, ESTABLISHED A.D. 1637.—ON Monday, the 22nd instant, the following members of this Society rang Mr. Taylors Bob and Single peal of Grandsire Triples, comprising 5040 changes, in 3 hrs. 1 min., at All Saints, Edmonton:—J. Jefferson, treble; J. Cressey, 2nd; W. Carter, 3rd; C. H. Jessop, 4th; H. Page, 5th; A. Carter, 6th; J. Pettit, 7th; W. Bird, tenor. Conducted by Mr. J. Pettit.—Reported.

ERRATUM.—For 'Leigh, Staffordshire,' p. 607, read 'Leigh, Lancashire.'

RECEIVED.—Old College Youth; B. Koble; Robert Williams; G. C. Hall; C. H. Jessop; J. L. Fulford; J. W. Snowdon.