

SIR,—Can any of your readers kindly send me a copy of a set of rules that have been found to work well for, (1) a Working Men's Club and Reading-room; (2) a Clothing and Boot Club; (3) a Coal Club; and (4) for the Belfry?

Moreton Pinkney, Banbury.

THE VICAR.

SIR,—Will you allow me through your columns to thank those who have so kindly replied to my letter of the 18th inst.? J. S. H. CHAMBERLAIN.
Hornsea Vicarage, Buntingford.

'A. E. J.' will be much obliged if any one could give her the address of any establishment where fancy-work done by ladies is sold, and what commission they charge for selling it.

'A CONSTANT READER' desires a Commentary upon the Epistles of St. Paul in plain, easy language, suited to young servants and agricultural labourers.

['Constant Reader' does not say what Commentaries he has already tried. We should have thought that the S.P.C.K. *New Testament Commentary*, vol. ii., would have suited any persons who are at all able profitably to use a Commentary. There are clearly some to whom no Commentary would be of any use, and these would be best instructed in Bible classes.—ED.]

SIR,—In answer to Mr. Chamberlain's inquiry in your Number of Nov. 18, about Penny Banks and Lying-in Clubs, I would recommend him, and all your other readers who take interest in such matters, to refer to the Rev. H. B. Blogg, Ch. Ch. Oxford, Hon. Secretary of the Oxfordshire Provident Knowledge Society, for the best information as to the former; and to the Hon. Secretary of the Oxford Provident Dispensary, No. 6 Church Street, St. Ebbe's, Oxford, for a plan in connexion with that Institution for the latter. A letter appeared in the *Church-of-England Sunday-school Magazine* for Nov. giving very full details for the management of Penny Banks. They should always be in connexion with the Post-office Savings' Banks.

St. Mary Magdalene, Oxford.

H. A. HARVEY.

'L. C. F.'s' query shall be inserted if she will repeat it with her name and address for publication.

'F. C. G.'—We cannot undertake to forward letters. If you wish to invite a correspondence you had better let your full name and address appear with your letter.

'W. G. W.'—Write to the Church-of-England Sunday-school Institute for their Catalogue, or to the S. P. C. K.

'W. STONE.'—We cannot say whether they are likely to be published separately.

'J. W. GIBBS.'—No.

'H. H. H.'—The verses by A. E. Hamilton are published, under the name of *Octaves*, by William McGee, 18 Nassau Street, Dublin.

'REV. FREDERICK G. M. POWELL.'—We fear we could do no good by noticing the abominable practice of which you complain.

If 'Margaret' will read the Notices of Books which appear in our columns nearly every week she will probably find some book suitable to her purpose.

'JOHN S. MAYSON.'—'A. H.' and 'A. E. Hamilton' are the same.

RECEIVED ALSO.—G. B. Brightling; E. W.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Ringling at St. Stephen's, Westminster.

ON Monday, Nov. 13th, eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang a true peal of Stedman's Triples, consisting of 5040 changes, in 3 hrs. 10 mins. at the above church. The ringers were:—J. Pettit, treble; G. Musket, 2nd; F. Bate, 3rd; S. Reeves, 4th; R. French, 5th; M. Hayes, 6th; B. Horrex, 7th; T. Bugby, tenor. Mr. M. Hayes conducted the peal.—*Reported.*

Change-ringling at York Minster.

ON Tuesday, Nov. 14th, on the Minster bells, a true peal of Kent Treble Bob Major was rung by eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths, established 1637, containing 5184 changes, composed by Mr. H. Hubbard of Leeds, with the 24-867's, 24-786's, and 24-678's, and was completed in 3 hrs. 9 mins. by the following band:—M. West, treble; Wm. Bean, 2nd; Wm. West, 3rd; C. Underwood, 4th; Wm. Howard, 5th; Wm. Morrell, 6th; Thos. Dixon, 7th; Wm. H. Howard, tenor. The peal was conducted by Thos. Dixon. Weight of tenor, 18 cwt.—*Reported.*

Also, on Thursday following, in honour of the election of the Lord Mayor, Mr. Alderman Melrose, eight members of the York Minster Society of Change-ringers rang on the Cathedral bells a true peal of Kent Treble Bob Major, consisting of 5184 changes, in 3 hrs. 9 mins. The members were stationed in the following order:—T. Dixon, treble; Wm. Bean, 2nd; G. Breed, 3rd; J. Underwood, 4th; Wm. H. Howard, 5th; Abraham Haigh, 6th; Wm. Howard, 7th; C. Underwood, tenor. It was composed by T. Lockwood of Leeds, and conducted by C. Underwood. Weight of tenor, 18 cwt.—*Local Paper.*

Muffled Peal at St. John's, Manchester.

ON Saturday, Oct. 14th, were buried the remains of Mr. William Royle, of the Ancient Society of College Youths, London. For more than forty years he was a ringer at St. John's Church, Manchester: he and his father together had been connected with the church for little less than a century. Mr. Royle's fame, not only as a ringer, but as one of the greatest composers of the day in ringing, attracted a large number of ringers from the city and the adjoining towns, to pay the last tribute of respect to one so much respected. After the service at the grave, in accordance with the custom, five of the oldest ringers rang, with hand-bells, a plain course of Grandsire Caters over his grave; and on Saturday, Nov. 11th, a touch of Grandsire Caters was rung at

the Cathedral in 35 mins., consisting of 756 changes (corresponding with the number of months that Mr. Royle lived). The ringers were:—Messrs. W. Cross, treble; Leather, 2nd; Holdgate, 3rd; Yates, 4th; Lowcock, 5th; Brazier, 6th; Grimshaw, 7th; Astbury, jun. 8th; Cadius, 9th; Withers, tenor. Conducted by Mr. Cross. Weight of tenor, 25 cwt.; key, D.—*Reported.*

Ringling at St. Giles's, Cripplegate.

ON Monday, Nov. 20th, twelve members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang at St. Giles's, Cripplegate, a true peal of Stedman's Cinques, consisting of 5014 changes, in 3 hrs. 52 mins. The band was as under:—H. W. Haley, sen. treble; H. Haley, jun. 2nd; G. Muskett, 3rd; J. Pettit, 4th; R. Jameson, 5th; G. Mash, 6th; R. Haworth, 7th; M. A. Wood, 8th; E. Horrex, 9th; J. M. Hayes, 10th; H. Booth, 11th; W. Greenleaf, tenor. Weight of tenor, 36 cwt.; key, C. The above was composed and called by H. W. Haley.—*Reported.*

St. Saviour's, Walthamstow, Essex.

ON Friday, Nov. 24th, the following members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang the late Mr. John Holt's original peal of Grandsire Triples, consisting of 5040 changes, having two doubles in the last four leads, in 2 hrs. 49 mins.:—J. C. Davidson, treble; T. Page, 2nd; G. Grimwade, 3rd; S. Reeves, 4th; H. Page, 5th; C. H. Jessop, 6th; J. Pettit, 7th; H. Greenleaf, tenor. Weight of tenor, 16 cwt. The peal, which is the first rung on these bells, was conducted by Mr. J. Pettit.—*Reported.*

Ringling at St. George's, Camberwell, Surrey.

ON Monday, Nov. 20th, eight members of the Royal Cumberland Society (late London Scholars) rang at the above church Holt's original one-part peal of Grandsire Triples, containing 5080 changes, in 3 hrs. 3 mins. The ringers were:—H. Windley (his first peal), treble; G. Newson, 2nd; D. Stackwood, 3rd; T. Gleed, 4th; F. P. Knipe, Esq. 5th; E. Gibbs, 6th; J. Page, 7th; A. Kirk (his first peal), tenor. Conducted by Mr. G. Newson.—*Reported.*

Ringling at Redenhall, Norfolk.

ON Friday, Nov. 17th, eight members of the Redenhall Society, being also members of the Royal Cumberland Society of London, rang 5040 changes of Double Norwich Court Bob on the bells of St. Mary's Church, Redenhall, in 3 hrs. 20 mins. The peal was composed and conducted by Mr. Benjamin Smith, and rung by the following band:—B. Smith, treble; G. Prince, 2nd; Rev. N. Bolingbroke, 3rd; R. Whiting, 4th; E. Smith, 5th; G. Holmes, Esq. 6th; J. Smith, 7th; Capt. Moore, tenor. Weight of tenor, 24 cwt.; in the key of E flat.—*Reported.*

St. James's Society, London.

ON Saturday, Nov. 18, eight members of the above Society rang the late Mr. John Holt's one-part peal of Grandsire Triples, comprising 5040 changes, in 2 hrs. 47 mins. The ringers were:—J. W. Cattle, treble; C. T. Hopkins, 2nd; H. Hopkins, 3rd; R. French, 4th; J. M. Routh, Esq. 5th; F. A. P. Knipe, Esq. 6th; D. Stackwood, 7th; W. Best, tenor. Conducted by Mr. J. W. Cattle, who is supposed to be the youngest conductor in the kingdom.—*Reported.*

Ringling at St. Matthew's, Upper Clapton, Middlesex.

ON Monday, Nov. 27th, the following members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang a true peal of Grandsire Major, comprising 6000 changes, in 3 hrs. 30 mins. viz.:—J. C. Davidson, treble; C. Lee, 2nd; S. Reeves, 3rd; T. Page, 4th; H. Page, 5th; W. Greenleaf, 6th; C. H. Jessop, 7th; J. Pettit, tenor. The peal, which is the first in this method rung on the bells, was composed by Mr. E. Stokes, of Birmingham, and conducted by Mr. C. H. Jessop.—*Reported.*

St. Matthew's, Holbeck.—Yorkshire Association.

ON Tuesday, Nov. 21st, the Society rang at the above church 5088 changes of Kent Treble Bob Major, in 2 hrs. 55 mins. The ringers were:—T. Harrison, treble; T. Lockwood, 2nd; H. Moss, 3rd; R. Tuke, Esq. 4th; W. Elliott, 5th; W. Whitaker, 6th; J. W. Snowdon, Esq. 7th; R. Binns, tenor. The peal, which was composed by Mr. W. Harrison, of Mottram, and conducted by Jasper W. Snowdon, is in one part, and has the sixth 18 times wrong and 24 times at home. This bell is at home at nine out of the last ten course ends. Weight of tenor, 16 cwt.—*Reported.*

Ringling at Hulme, Lancashire.

ON Saturday, Nov. 11th, the following members of St. Philip's Hulme Amateur Change-ringers rang a peal of Grandsire Minor, containing 720 changes, at the above church, being the first peal in the method on these bells; also the first peal of any of the undermentioned ringers:—A. Wood, treble; J. Hindle, 2nd; T. Hindle, 3rd; T. Ellis, 4th; E. Ettock, 5th; W. Barry, tenor. The peal was conducted by W. Barry. Weight of tenor, 12½ cwt.—*Reported.*

Reopening of a Ring of Bells at Bishopstone, Wilts.

THE bells of the parish church of Bishopstone, Wilts, having been thoroughly refitted by Mr. F. White, of Besselsleigh, Berks, were reopened with a whole peal of Grandsire Triples on Saturday, Nov. 25th, by the Appleton Society of Change-ringers, viz.:—F. S. White, treble; E. Holfield, 2nd; F. White, 3rd; W. Bennett, 4th; G. Holfield, 5th; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 6th; H. Woodwards, 7th; T. Bennett, tenor. This peal (of 5040 changes) was composed by F. White, and conducted by the Rev. F. E. Robinson.—*Reported.*

Change-ringling at Burton-on-Trent, Staffordshire.

ON Thursday, Nov. 23rd, eight members of St. Paul's Society of Change-ringers rang a touch of 1876 Grandsire Major in 1 hr. 15 mins. The ringers were:—W. Newton, treble; S. Cooper, 2nd; W. Wakley, 3rd; J. Argyle, 4th; W. Royals, 5th; W. Potts, 6th; A. Wakley, 7th; W. Fearneyhough, tenor. Conducted by W. Potts. Weight of tenor, 26 cwt.—*Reported.*

Lesson. But if time fails for both, surely the study of the simple meaning of the Morning and Evening Services is the more important? To be used intelligently and heartily, they must be understood. We cannot, indeed, give our scholars that spirit of praise without which our glorious *Te Deum* will be but an empty form; but we can raise their imaginations towards realising the joy of united worship with angels and the blessed company of the faithful in earth and heaven; and we can teach them so to enter into the spirit of confession, supplication, and thanksgiving, that, with God's blessing upon our efforts, in the hearts of some there may arise a desire and longing to enter into the courts of the Lord.

R. H.

Working Lads' Institutes.

SIR,—A London Curate states in a letter on 'Working Lads' Institutes,' published in your issue of the 4th ult., that boxes of books can be had on loan from the 'Working Men's Club and Institute Union,' at a charge of 2s. 6d. a quarter. Your correspondent was probably not aware that this privilege is confined to institutions which are affiliated to our Society, as is necessarily the case, seeing the large number of clubs and institutes which seek association with us. As the letter in question has brought us a great number of applications for the loan of books from our circulating library, I shall feel much obliged if you will insert this communication, so that readers of *Church Bells* may not be disappointed and have the trouble of calling at our office on the subject.

Our Council are heartily rejoiced to learn that Youths' Institutes are rapidly springing up, for they are as necessary to the cause of social progress as the men's clubs. Indeed it may be expected, that those who have graduated in the former will afterwards become members of the latter. The subject of Youths' Institutes has not been lost sight of by our Union, and they form the subject of one of our Occasional Papers, a copy of which we shall be glad to send to any one who desires to see it.

HODGSON PRATT, Chairman of the Council.

Club and Institute Union, 150 Strand, W. C.

SIR,—I read with much interest the sensible letter in your valuable paper of November 11, signed 'J. R. T.', in which he speaks of five 'Institutes for Lads' in his own parish in full operation. May I bring before the notice of your readers a similar Institute in one of the worst parts of London—Drury Lane? The Institute, under the name of the 'Guild for Printers' Boys,' has been conducted for some years in the most self-denying manner by Mr. H. W. Wills, who holds the Bishop's commission as lay reader. The Guild is intended to instruct boys engaged in printing-offices during the day, and for that purpose one night in the week is devoted to secular instruction; on another night a service is conducted by the Rev. H. Surridge, who kindly lends the small room they have at 2 Princes Street, Drury Lane; a third night is devoted to amusements; and on Saturday afternoons Mr. Wills leads his little band off to Primrose Hill for cricket, &c.

On account of the smallness of the room and the want of funds, the number of boys is obliged to be limited. Now if the committee lately formed at the Mansion House for the 'establishment of Institutes,' instead of spending money in obtaining new rooms, were to give help to Church Institutes already started, such as the above, the good effect would be great.

I believe Mr. Wills is anxious to obtain a house, so as to offer a home to the lads, and should any of your readers feel disposed to help him in this work, they should apply to him at 24 Florence Street, Islington, N. S. A. S.

Village Churches—Light and Heat.

SIR,—In reply to a query in your issue of November 18th I hope I may be of some service to your correspondent, by recommending him to obtain Wright and Butler's 'Eclipse' lamps. I have got them for my church—1-inch burners, single-hanging lamps—suspended by brass chains from the cross-beams of the roof and the centres of the arches in the aisles. They cast a light equal to fifteen wax candles. They have no chimneys (my pine-shaped globes I paid more for, as I had them ground plain to the top); they are very little trouble, and burn about a pint of oil each a-month. I use the best petroleum, which I buy by the barrel, and keep in an outhouse at the Vicarage. I will gladly answer any questions as to trimming, &c. My twelve lamps and very long chains cost me 6l. 15s. It is important to keep them well trimmed. This I do myself every Saturday. The lamps hang out of people's way, and do not mar the fabric. I can strongly recommend Musgrave's slow-combustion stoves. They are very safe, very simple, extremely economical, and have a great heating power, and diffuse the hot air (which is supplied by a pipe to the centre of the stove from the outside) over the building. W. H. OXLEY.

Grevelthorpe Vicarage, Ripon.

P.S.—Since I got my lamps W. and B. have brought out what I had tried vainly to obtain—clear glass oil-reservoirs for the lamps. Mine are opal; but it is obvious that the clear ones are better for church purposes in every way. I may add that I have a week-night service, at which the lamps are used as well as Sunday.

SIR,—Will any reader of the *Church Bells* give me a legal definition of 'Member of the Church of England?' Suppose any person had the audacity to call himself a 'Member of the Church of England' who was no communicant (at least in the parish church), and who rarely attended the Church's service, would such an one be eligible for the office, say, of churchwarden, if he were proposed, &c. by the parishioners in vestry?

S.

SIR,—May I, through your columns, ask if any of your readers can suggest any scheme for bringing together young men for purposes of mutual improvement and general instruction? It is one of the great problems of the day. I shall be very grateful for any hints.

WALTER R. CARR.

Foleshill Vicarage, Coventry.

SIR,—The Superintendent of a Girls' Sunday School will feel obliged by any hints for the amusement of girls from six to eighteen years of age at a Christmas tea-party, either by titles of games-books and their price, and their publishers, or otherwise.

E. L.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Ringling at Woburn, Beds.

A SOCIETY of Young Ringers has lately been formed in this place, under the patronage of the Duke of Bedford; and on the occasion of a late marriage in the family they performed several touches of changes, to the entire approbation of all who had the pleasure to listen to the sweet music of the bells. We hope soon to be able to report more advanced performances. Many thanks are due to their energetic leader, Mr. C. Herbert.—*Reported.*

Ringling at Kegworth, Leicestershire, and Thanks to 'Church Bells.'

ON Monday, November 13th, the Kegworth United Bell-ringers' Society rang some touches of Grandsire Doubles, consisting of 120 changes. The ringers were:—W. Hardy, treble (conductor); Wm. Pym, 2nd; S. Buckley, 3rd; Wm. Marsh, 4th; W. J. Lush and D. Taylor, tenor alternately.

Thanks to the stimulating influence of *Church Bells*, our Society was formed last year, the bells being first used on 30th Nov. 1875, and some of those who took part in the above ringling had not at that time pulled a bell-rope, and only one had attempted change-ringing.—*Reported.*

Ringling at Horninglow, Staffordshire.

ON Saturday, Nov. 18th, a mixed set of ringers rang on the bells of St. John's Church, Horninglow, a true and complete peal of 720 Grandsire Minor in 25 mins., being the first peal completed on these bells. The ringers were:—H. Whitehead, treble; F. Bullock, 2nd; T. Leach, 3rd; W. Potts, 4th; W. Royals, 5th; and W. Fearnelybough, tenor. Weight of tenor, 15 cwt. W. Potts conducted.—*Local Paper.*

Reopening of Five Bells at Otley, Suffolk.

THESE bells and their cage have been thoroughly repaired by Messrs. Day, of Eye, and on the 19th ult. many ringers from places adjoining assembled. A service was held at the church in the afternoon, on which occasion the Rev. R. C. M. Rouse, M.A., Rector of Woodbridge, preached from Zech. xvi. 20. About forty dined together, under the presidency of the Rector. The local papers state that 'these bells have been rebung upon the newest and most improved principles.'

It would be gratifying to us and our readers to know what these New principles are, because (in our ignorance, perhaps) we consider that the principles on which church bells are hung have not been altered since the introduction of *whole wheels*, and the sally—about 250 years ago. The workmanship is vastly improved, but the principles remain the same.—*Ed.*

Change-ringing at Tunstead, Norfolk.

ON Tuesday, Nov. 21st, five members of the young company belonging to the above parish rang a true peal of Stedman's Doubles. The ringers were:—T. Bambridge, treble; E. Felstead, 2nd; Rev. G. H. Harris, 3rd; W. Robinson, 4th; J. Gower, tenor. Now that this peal is learnt, the ring is at once to be increased to six, by the gift of a new tenor.—*Reported.*

Change-ringing at St. Paul's, Warrington, Lancashire.

THE ringers of Daresbury Parish Church rang a true and complete peal of Bob Minor, 720 changes, in 26 mins., on the St. Paul's bells, on Saturday, Nov. 25th, under the conductorship of Mr. J. Houghton, senior. The home band rang Grandsire Doubles, and repeated six times; after which the company adjourned to the Infant School-room, where they were met by the Vicar and his lady, and the churchwarden. A good tea was provided for them.—*Local Paper.*

Change-ringing at Glodwick, Lancashire.

ON Saturday, Nov. 25th, eight members of the Society of Change-ringers of Ashton-under-Lyne rang at St. Mark's Church, Glodwick, a true peal of Kent Treble Bob Major, consisting of 5088 changes, composed and conducted by Mr. James Wood, sen., and rung by the following in 3 hrs. 6 mins.:—T. Moss, treble; J. Thorpe, 2nd; J. Wood, sen. 3rd; J. Wood, jun. 4th; B. Broadbent, 5th; S. Wood, 6th; S. Andrew, 7th; J. Gillot, tenor.—*Reported.*

Ringling at Diss, Norfolk.

ON Monday evening, Nov. 27th, six members of the Diss Company of Change-ringers, assisted by Messrs. F. Day and J. Bumstead, of Eye, rang at St. Mary's Church a peal of 5088 changes of Kent Treble Bob Major in 3 hrs. 20 mins. The peal, a composition of Mr. J. Miller, Royal Cumberland Society, was conducted by Mr. Jas. Rudd, and is the first rung in this method on the bells. The ringers were:—J. Rudd, treble; T. Ford, 2nd; W. Ireland, (first peal), 3rd; W. Scales, 4th; J. Bumstead, 5th; F. Day, 6th; W. Brown, 7th; T. Clark, tenor. Weight of tenor, 24 cwt.; in key of D.—*Reported.*

Change-ringing at St. Peter's, Nottingham.

ON Wednesday evening, Nov. 29th, eight members of the St. Mary's Society, Nottingham, rang at St. Peter's Church, the late Mr. John Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, containing 5040 changes, in 3 hrs. 3 mins. Mr. G. H. Johnson conducted. The ringers were:—W. Towle, treble; G. H. Johnson, 2nd; A. Archer, 3rd; G. Ashworth, 4th; J. Hickman, 5th; S. Burton, 6th; A. Smith, 7th; A. W. Sadler, tenor. It is twenty-six years since a peal was rung on these bells. Weight of tenor, 23 cwt.—*Reported.*

Change-ringing at Bingley, York.

WE have to thank a correspondent for kindly sending us a small brochure, giving an account of extraordinary and 'cramp' performances on the six bells at Bingley from 1773 to 1873, since which the ring has been augmented to eight. The booking may be had of Mr. Green, Bingley, and deserves the notice of all ringers.

The Guild of Devonshire Ringers.

A GENERAL MEETING will be held at Plymouth on Wednesday, Dec. 27th. Particulars as to arrangements will be sent to each member.

Woodbury.

J. L. LANGDON FULLORD, Hon. Sec.

The Cox Testimonial Fund.

SIR,—The Committee beg to acknowledge the receipt of the following sums, and to say that the list must close with the present year:—

Already announced	£32 3 6
The St. Botolph, Bishopsgate, Society of Bell-ringers, London, inclusive of Mr. R. Coper, 2s. 6d.; Mr. W. Williamson, 2s. 6d.; Mr. J. H. Stevens, 2s. 6d.; Mr. Elstead, 2s.	1 9 0
Wm. Antill, Esq., Shepherd's Bush, London	0 5 0
R. E. Gibbs, Eyo, Suffolk	0 2 6
H. S. Thomas, Hon. Sec. the Amateur Society of Bell-ringers, Battersea	0 2 6
Hy. Thackery, Dundee	0 2 6
G. Rochester, Sawbridge	0 2 0
Westham Bell-ringers, Messrs. Steel and Sand, inclusive of 1s. 6d. Mr. Doram	0 5 0

Total to present time £34 12 0

HY. DAINES, Hon. Sec. and Treasurer.

54 St. Martin's Lane, London, W.C.

Notice.

Correspondents are requested to give the name of the county as well as of place.

RECEIVED ALSO.—J. Ladin. Wm. Giles. Wm. Barry: each Society has a certificate, &c. of its own, to be obtained by members. James Moore: no damage can occur to bells by muffling; send your bells to England to be recast.

ANNABLE'S MS.

By Jasper W. Snowdon, Ilkley, Yorkshire.

In April, 1868, a very interesting manuscript book came into the possession of the Rev. H. T. Ellacombe, of Clyst St. George, Topsham, Devonshire, it being nothing less than an actual MS. note-book of Benjamin Annable's, to whom, probably more than any one else, we are indebted for the great advances made in the science of composition during the first half of the last century. How, where, and by whom this curious book has been preserved will, I doubt not, ever remain a matter of conjecture, as, at the time above mentioned, Mr. Ellacombe purchased it of Mr. Stewart, a London bookseller, who could tell nothing further than that it came into his hands with a 'lot' of books at an auction.

This book has now passed from the hands of Mr. Ellacombe into my possession, with the proviso that when I have done with it, or at my death, it shall revert to the British Museum. From the almost inexhaustible nature of its contents, the latter alternative seems the most likely to occur. I therefore hope that it may be some time before the nation comes in for its property.

As some particulars of the writer of this MS. may be of interest, I append the following extract from the *Clavis*, but would remark that some of the credit here given to Annable must be apportioned to Fabian Stedman, who, so early as 1669, published his *Tintinnologia*, and several other editions and books on the same subject were printed before the beginning of the next century, and these contained lengths probably in advance of the capabilities of the performers of those days.

"The honor of the invention of changes, or regular peals, is said to belong to Mr. Benjamin Annable, who first divided them into all their regular parts and proportions with that taste and judgement which surprised the practitioners of his time. What improvement he made in five and six-bell peals is unimportant; but on seven bells there is every reason to believe that he was the first who produced 5040 changes, which was the peal of plain Bob Triples, with two singles—i. e. one at the end of each half. This was looked upon as a very great acquisition, as undoubtedly it was, until Mr. Holt's peal without a single appeared. But notwithstanding Mr. Holt deserves every eulogium, it must be admitted that he was greatly indebted to Mr. Annable for laying so correct and firm a foundation.

"Mr. Annable's next effort was at Grandsire Triples, and though unsuccessful he did not entirely fail; for if he did not obtain the whole peal complete, yet he went much further than his predecessors, and his peal was in most esteem until that of Mr. Holt made its appearance. In Bob Major he found considerable room for improvement. He saw no necessity for parting the tenors in a peal of either five or six thousand. He made the sixth perform her proper revolution in five courses, and five-six to come home together every fifteen: this was undoubtedly a very great addition to Bob Major; for those who did not admire the music of it before now confessed that it was considerably improved. Caters and Cinques, which he found in a rude and jumbled state, he threw into the harmonious titmuses, where they still continue, and most likely ever will remain.

"The time these improvements took place we cannot exactly determine. Mr. Benjamin Annable died in the latter part of the year 1755, between sixty and seventy years of age."

I cannot, however, but think that considerable improvement in composition was made between the time of Stedman and Annable, as we have records of peals rung in 1715 and 1718 at Norwich, and in these compositions Annable is not likely to have assisted; still he was, without doubt, the earliest composer of note, and in the main the authors of the *Clavis* were right in their eulogy of his great powers.

The date of Annable's death is more accurately stated as Feb. 1st, 1756, in Dr. Mason's MS., from which, in my report (see *Church Bells*, Sept. 18th, 1875), I extracted several notices of the occurrence that show the great estimation in which Annable was held by his contemporaries. Annable was a member of the Ancient Society of College Youths, and in the earlier pages of their peal-books his name is to be found connected with nearly all their great performances. He joined the Society in 1721; in fact, was the only member admitted in that year. He was elected a steward in 1737, and made master in 1746. The last mention of his name in the books of the Society occurs in the peal rung by the College Youths at St. Leonard's, Shoreditch, in 1754. It is worthy of remark that Annable and Holt never rang together. Whether this was a design or merely a coincident is hardly conclusive, as Holt only rang twice with the College Youths, and these two peals both occurred in the year 1752, and were the only peals the Society recorded during that year.

To return, however, to the volume. It is of good thick paper, most substantially bound in leather, and contains about 300 pages, being paged up to 251, and there is not a blank leaf in the book, and although the last fifty leaves or so have been given up to scribbling touches, &c., the rest of the book is beautifully written and the figures very neatly made. On the first page, besides other scribbling, is written, 'London College Youths,' 'Amsterdam Coffee House,' and 'Benjamin Annable, Baker.' The two following pages have probably been left blank for some time, and then filled in with a five-bell peal 'accident,' and a six-bell peal produced from it, with an explanation of the deduction. After this the book proceeds for some time in a regular gradation of five, six, seven, and eight-bell methods. First the two three-bell peals are given, and then four-bell peals follow. These four-bell peals are pricked to the extent of the twenty-four changes, and occur in double series of four peals each, the second set being deduced from the first. For instance, eight peals are had from the ordinary method of Bob Singles, as in the first series of four, the treble, second, third, and fourth, respectively perform the duties of the plain-hunt bell, the reversal to obtain the second series of four being thus described:—

'These four are the same method as the last, only in these you prick from the others thus:—You take the bottom change of those first, and so gradually ascend into the top or first change, which will be the last in these.'

The following extract will show how thoroughly four-bell peals were examined:—

'These four I pricked to make up just 120, which has convinced me that there are a great many more pricked than there has been allowed by most of the ringers in London; and I do believe there is to be pricked by methods with one plain hunt in them 192, without those which every bell are alike.'

This sentence perhaps explains why such a clever man as Annable bestowed so much time on so useless a matter as four-bell peals.

Following the four are the five-bell peals, of which sixty-five peals are pricked to the extent of the 120 changes. To some of these I would call attention, as further on I shall refer to them, and endeavour to show what the opinion of Annable was concerning the calls to be used in Grandsire compositions. Grandsire Doubles is pricked with the prefatory remark:—

'This peal are all doubles except two singles, the one at the half and the other at the end of the peal.'

The full extent is pricked, and the Bobs which are called when the fifth is behind are marked with a cross. Further on we have:—

'GOGMAGOG.—In this peal there are six singles, and the rest are all double changes.'

Gogmagog is, however, only Grandsire called with a single every alternate lead; but there is no mark prefixed to the leads where the calls would occur, as is the case in the other peals—such as 'Old Doubles,' &c. I therefore conclude that Annable considered that when more than two singles were used in a peal of Grandsire Doubles that it became a new method, and that in Gogmagog the method ran the 120 changes.

After the five-bell come the six-bell peals, and the first leads of about sixty plain and fifty Treble Bob methods are given. Some few have 'false' written to them: which I consider means that they would not run to 720 changes by any method of calling known to Annable. 'Peals on seven bells' commence with 'RESTORATION TRIPPLES,' which is merely Plain Bob Triples, the extent being obtained with 'Single, double, and tripple extremes'; a variety of touches produced with these calls is also given.

A lead and a bob change is given, with these remarks on:—

'GRANDSIRE TRIPPLES.—All the different number of changes pricked in this method are tripple changes. The natural course goes 70 changes, and three bobs successively brings them round.'

Now this, taken with the description of subsequent methods, is positive evidence that Annable did not recognise the use of single or double changes in Grandsire Triples; and corroborative evidence is to be found in the numerous selection of touches which follow, only bobs being used in their composition. These touches include the numbers obtained by increasing one lead each time from 210 to a touch of 700 changes. A quarter and a half peal are included in the longer touches given, and observations on calling round, with a table showing how to call the bells home from any of the eleven in course rows with 6-7 home, conclude this method. No mention is made of calling round at hand, nor is any allusion made to the extent of the changes.

'BALDWIN'S UNION TRIPPLES' follows, which is ordinary Union Triples. It seems from this that the origin of the method may be attributed to the Baldwin who rang in the first peals rung by the Society of Union Scholars. A lead of Union Triples is given, and also *exactly* the same remark about being all tripple changes, as quoted above concerning Grandsires. Besides this, however, is added,—

'This peal goes 5040 changes complete with two doubles.'

A description for calling a peal by the hunts, which are 1, 6, 7, 5, is given, but I have been unable to make it run to that extent: but for those better able to investigate such matters I extract the description:—

'The method to call 5040 thus:—Every time the half hunt is in the middle, and every time the quarter hunt is behind, without the half or half-quarter hunt. At 12 o a bob when the half and quarter hunts are behind. At 2520 the double is made at the hand change of the treble, the bells in 3rd, 4th, and 5th's places lying still. The last half exactly the same.'

Now it seems strange and inconsistent that Annable should allow the use of two 'doubles' in Union Triples, and—as he does at a subsequent page—in Double Grandsire Triples also, and yet object to them in ordinary Grandsire Triples. Still, as at this time there was no peal of Grandsire composed with 'two singles only,' it does not, therefore, show that Annable might not have recognised such a peal; yet we know from the letter to Dr. Mason from the Norwich Scholars (see *Church Bells*, Sept. 18th, 1875), that he threw discredit on the productions of Holt when they appeared. I therefore conclude that Annable had set up a theory that the 5040 of Grandsire Triples should be obtained with ordinary bobs only, and that even when Holt's 'original' appeared he would not renounce his theory in favour of that peal, but probably classed it with the other bob and single peals which existed before its appearance.

(To be continued.)

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Ringling at Lytham, Lancashire.

ON Saturday, Dec. 2, a peal of Grandsire Triples, containing 5040 changes, was rung by the parish-church ringers in 2 hrs. 57 mins. The peal was composed by Mr. William Taylor, and contains 104 bobs, 46 singles, and 120 dodges. The ringers were:—W. Knowles, treble; Jno. Fisher, 2nd; J. Miller, 3rd; Jos. Fisher, 4th; R. Allanson, 5th; H. Gregson, 6th; R. Atkinson, 7th; W. Miller, tenor. Conducted by Mrs. Henry Gregson. Weight of tenor, 14½ cwt. It is only two years last September since the tower contained a ring of eight bells. The ringers are all self-taught, and have not rung in any peal before.—*Reported.*

Change-ringing at Walton-le-Dale, Lancashire.

ON Sunday evening, Dec. 3rd, a muffled peal (on the occasion of the death of Sir H. de Hoghton, Bart.) was rung on the bells of St. Leonard's Church, Walton-le-Dale, by the parish ringers, kindly assisted by Mr. J. Mather of Higher Walton. The peal rung consisted of 720 changes of College Single, and has not been rung on these bells since the death of the Duke of Wellington in 1852, when the parish ringers at that time rang a complete peal of 5040 in seven different methods, including College Single. The ringers on this occasion were:—R. Dewhurst, treble, conductor; P. Gregson, 2nd; H. Robinson, 3rd; J. Robinson, 4th; J. Mather, 5th; and James Robinson, tenor.—*Reported.*

Change-ringing at St. Mary's, Grassendale, near Liverpool.

ON Saturday, Dec. 9th, was rung on the bells of the above church, 720 changes of Grandsire Minor, in 27 mins. by the following persons:—S. Gough, treble; A. Nicholson, 2nd; W. G. Mann, 3rd; T. Hammond, 4th; J. R. Pritchard, 5th; J. Aspinwall, tenor. Conducted by J. R. Pritchard. Weight of tenor, 12 cwt.—*Reported.*

Change-ringing at Appleton, Berks.

ON Monday, the 11th inst., ten members of the Appleton Society of Change-ringers rang on the bells of the parish church a peal of Stedman's Caters, comprising 5184 changes. It was brought round in 3 hrs. 30 mins. by the following persons:—F. White, treble; E. Holifield, 2nd; J. Newman, 3rd; W. Bennett, 4th; B. Barrett, 5th; G. Holifield, 6th; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 7th; J. Avery, 8th; H. Woodward, 9th; T. Bennett, tenor. Conducted by F. White.—*Reported.*

Change-ringing by the Yorkshire Association.

ON Saturday, November 18th, the above Society rang 5056 changes of Kent Treble Bob Major at St. Matthew's, Holbeck, in 3 hrs. 7 mins. C. Ralph, treble; L. Cawood, 2nd; F. Marston, 3rd; J. Whittaker, 4th; W. McGowan, 5th; T. Lockwood, 6th; H. Hubbard, jun., 7th; J. Winder, tenor. The peal—which has the sixth its extent wrong and right in 5-6—was composed by S. March and conducted by T. Lockwood. Weight of tenor, 16 cwt.—*Reported.*

Muffled Peal at St. Mary's, Battersea.

ON Tuesday, the 21st Nov., were buried the remains of Mr. J. Jenkins, one of the ringers at the above church. He was ringing on the 9th (Lord Mayor's Day), caught cold on leaving the belfry, and died on the 16th. Mr. Jenkins was in his 30th year, and greatly respected among the ringers of London. He leaves a widow and four young children. As a tribute of respect the ringers of St. Mary's rang a muffled peal. J. Potter, treble; J. Longhurst, 2nd; G. Ambrose, 3rd; J. Taylor, 4th; W. Ambrose, 5th; J. Ambrose, 6th; F. Ambrose, 7th; G. Chesterman, tenor. Conducted by J. Ambrose.—*Reported.*

Muffled Peal at Nutfield, Surrey.

ON Tuesday afternoon, Nov. 28th, a muffled peal of Oxford Single Bob, containing 720 changes, was rung, as a mark of respect, after the funeral of Mr. John Scarlett, one of the Nutfield Society of Change-ringers, who died on Nov. 22nd, aged fifty-four years. The corpse was carried to the parish churchyard by six ringers of the same Society. Mr. Scarlett had been a member of the College Youths' Society, London, from March 4th, 1851. The ringers of the muffled peal were:—C. Sendall, treble; J. Bone, 2nd; E. Fuller, 3rd; T. Fuller, 4th; J. Burkin, 5th; W. Webb (conductor), tenor.—*Reported.*

Bell-ringing in Ireland.

THE consecration of the Bishop-elect of Meath, the Lord Plunket, took place in the Cathedral of Armagh on the second Sunday in Advent. When the news of his Lordship's election reached the Cathedral in Dublin, where he holds the office of Precentor, the Amateur Society of St. Patrick's Bell-ringers assembled and rang a series of changes. *A propos* of this, a similar society has been formed in the steeple of Waterford Cathedral; but at Limerick, where there is, according to the Dean, a splendid set of sweet-toned bells, there are no persons able or willing to ring them. At Lurgan, in the diocese of Dromore, it is intended at once to obtain a ring of eight bells, at an expense of 1000*l.*, the greater part of which has been contributed.—*Guardian.*

The Great Bell at Cologne.

AFTER many more or less unsuccessful attempts the 'Emperor's bell' in the Cathedral of Cologne, cast out of French cannon, has been made to give forth a clear sound. The previous failures appear to have been in part attributable to the insufficient weight of the clappers used, though the largest weighed 1500 cwt. Now a huge clapper, weighing over a ton, has been put up, suspended by leather straps, and the sound evoked is deep and clear.—*Guardian.*

RECEIVED ALSO.—H. B. Hawkins: there are many instances of self-taught ringers—youths of intuition and perseverance. Conductor, J. R. Jerrum.

ANNABLE'S MS.

By Jasper W. Snowdon, Ilkley, Yorkshire.

'COURT BOB MAJOR,' a lead of which is pricked, is our ordinary Double London Court Bob, and a peal by the treble lead ends is given. With the exception of the fourth lead in every course and the first in some of them, every lead is called throughout the peal. Very curiously, *exactly* the same peal is given in the appendix to Shipway's work, where it figures as the composition of G. Fisher of Bath. I have certain reasons for thinking that this book may probably have been at Bath since Annable's death; but the reasons are too long to enter upon at present. Certainly the peal is so simple that it *may* have been produced by Fisher without any knowledge of Annable's peal. This composition is given in the last edition of Mr. Hubbard's work on Change-ringing, as are also some of the subsequent peals in this book.

'COLLEGE TRIPLES' follows with a treble lead and a description of a peal by the hunts, and the information,— 'The first 5040 was rung by the College Youths, in 1727, at St. Olave, Southwark.'

'LONDON' or 'FULHAM TRIPLES' follows, and with 'GRANDSIRE TRIPLES-DOUBLE,' it is also stated that they will go '5040 changes, with two doubles, without two changes alike.' Annable, therefore, admits the use of two singles in Double Grandsire Triples.

'DUNSTAN'S TRIPLES' has a note to the effect that—

'The first 5040 was rung by the College Youths.'

'CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR' follows, but is pricked in a slightly different manner from the variation now practised. A 5120 is given, but its truth is hardly worth investigating.

After this comes 'DOUBLE CATORS'—Grandsire—and a note:—

'The first Peal of 5094 was rung by the College Youths, 1732.'

On the following page there is 'Double Cinques,' and a peal given, as in the case of the Cators; but as I cannot at all explain these peals I give them as they appear, hoping some person better able to analyse them may translate them into plainer language:—

5058	5060
DOUBLE CATORS.	DOUBLE CINQUES.
One in 4th's place and one in 7th's	One in 4th's place and one in 9th's
One in 4th's	Two in 6th's
5th's	7th's
6th's	One in 6th's } Four times
5th's	5th's
Two in 6th's	Two in 6th's
6th's	7th's
One in 6th's	One in 6th's
One in 8th's, one before and a double	10th's
One in 6th's	One before, one in 6th's, one in
Two in 5th's	8th's, and one in 6th's.
One in 7th's	
One in 5th's	

The latter peal has the following remark appended:—

'5060 Double Cinques rung by the College Youths at St. Bride's, Nov. 29, 1738.'

'PLAIN BOB MAJOR' next appears, and, after the usual lead and description, Annable's well known peal of 5040 is given. As this is of interest, I give his own words:—

'To call 5040 is thus:—One in 5th's and 6th's, G. D.: One in 7th's and 8th's, G. U.: Four times. One in 5th's and 6th's, G. D.: Three courses, 1680. Then a bob makes it go 5040, three courses.'

This peal is followed by a 40,320 of Bob Major in twelve parts, the treble lead ends of the first part being pricked. This is followed by 'BOB MAJOR TRIPLES,' in which the seventh is the whole hunt. This is the description given:—

'This peal is called thus, because the treble leads of the 40,320 Bob Major is the complete number of this peal as it is here pricked, change after change, and no other difference but by making the 1 2 3 4 5 6 7—2 3 4 5 6 7 8, then adding the 1 shows all the treble leads.'

The first lead of three Treble Bob Minor peals which follow are headed. 'Sam Jeacock's three peals,' and at some subsequent time 'false' has been added. Sam Jeacock was a contemporary of Annable's, as may be known from the fact that they both rang in the peal of Treble Bob Royal at St. Sepulchre's in 1741.

On the following pages come several Treble Bob Minor peals, 'COURT BOB MAJOR SECOND WAY' (this is different from any of the Courts now pricked), a Treble Bob Major peal called 'THE COLLEGE YOUTHS' PLEASURE,' and a plain peal called 'LONDON TRIPLES.' These are followed by several five-bell peals, and then rules for calling the bells round in Double Grandsire Cators, several touches in that method, and a few uninteresting pages. Double Cinques is treated in the same manner as the Cators. After this the treble lead ends of the eight courses of Treble Bob Major, which end with two bobs at home, are pricked; and following them comes 'PLAIN BOB TRIPLES,' with a 5040 given by the description of the hunts. It is followed by this remark:—

'This peal was first rung by the Society of College Youths at St. Saviour's in Southwark, in December, 1780.'

On reference to the peal-book of the College Youths, I find that this peal was composed and conducted by Annable. This peal, written out in the usual manner, from this description by the hunts, will be found in Mr. Hubbard's edition of his work on Change-ringing, and I think that any one acquainted with Annable's composition in Bob Major will see how in style this resembles the masterly manner in which that peal is constructed: a simpler production in Bob Triples it would be hard to imagine. Probably this is the peal alluded to by the writers of the *Clavis*. It is a great pleasure to me to have been in any way able to assist in the resuscitation of this peal. It is worthy of remark, as tending to show the probability that many other of the earliest compositions, and ones of considerable merit, may have been utterly lost sight of, that this peal has been totally forgotten for a great number of years, and its place usurped by much inferior compositions. When Shipway wrote in 1816 there was not a peal known to be compared with this one; and, with the exception of the recent improvements without singles by Mr. Hubbard, I consider it is a long way the best one still to be found.

(To be continued.)

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

The Guild of Devonshire Ringers.

A GENERAL MEETING will be held at Plymouth on Wednesday, December 27th, 1876. *Order of proceedings*:—10 a.m. Meeting of the Committee at Royal Hotel, to allot time and place of ringing to each band, and to transact other business. 10.30. Divine Service at St. Andrew's Church. 11.15 to 1.45, and 3 to 6, ringing at St. Andrew's, Charles, Stoke, Plympton St. Mary, Plympton St. Maurice, and (after 4) H.M. Dockyard, Devonport. 2. Public Dinner for members and their friends at the Royal Hotel.

Members who intend being present are requested to inform me *not later than December 21st*, so that suitable arrangements may be made. The Guild undertakes to pay the travelling expenses of members, provided *application* be made for the same *before* the day of meeting. The railway companies will issue cheap tickets, provided previous notice be given, and this circular be shown at the station from whence members intend starting. Dinner tickets (2s. 6d. each) may be obtained at the Committee-room between 10 and 10.15, or 1.30 and 1.45. Performing members may have them at 1s. each. Incomplete bands, or members not attached to a band, who wish to ring, are requested to give me previous notice, so that parties may be arranged.

Woodbury, Dec. 13th. J. L. LANGDON FULFORD, Hon. Secretary.

Change-ringing at Sheffield.

On Saturday, December 2nd, five members of the York Minster Society visited Sheffield, when arrangements were made to start for a peal of Kent Treble Bob Maximus at the parish church of St. Peter. This they accomplished in 3 hrs. 55 mins., being the first peal of twelve-in ever rung on these bells:—C. H. Hattersley, treble; T. Dixon, 2nd; C. Underwood, 3rd; W. Howard, 4th; T. Lee, 5th; C. Bower, 6th; W. Booth, 7th; W. Morrell, 8th; G. Wilson, 9th; C. Steer, 10th; T. Hattersley, conductor, 11th; G. Breed, tenor. This peal of 5040 changes is the composition of H. W. Haley. Weight of tenor, 41 cwt.—*Reported*.

Ancient Society of College Youths. Established 1637.

On Saturday, December 9th, eight members of the above Society rang at St. Matthew's, Bethnal Green, J. Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, containing 5040 changes, in 2 hrs. 55 mins., viz.: G. Dorrington, treble; S. Reeves, 2nd; R. French, 3rd; T. M. Hayes, 4th; E. Horrex, 5th; M. A. Wood, 6th; H. Gardner, 7th; W. Wilson, tenor. Conducted by M. A. Wood.—*Reported*.

Change-ringing by the Yorkshire Association.

On Tuesday, December 12th, this Society rang at St. Mary's, Hunslet, Leeds, 5184 changes of Kent Treble Bob Major in 3 hrs. 18 mins. H. Hubbard, jun., treble; R. Tukey, Esq., 2nd; J. Haigh, 3rd; W. Pawson, 4th; J. Whittaker, 5th; J. Dixon, 6th; J. W. Snowdon, Esq., 7th; G. Fothergill, tenor. The peal, which has the sixth its extent in 5-6, was composed by W. Harrison of Mottram, and conducted by Jasper W. Snowdon. Weight of tenor, 21 cwt.

On Thursday, December 14th, the Society also rang 5280 changes of Kent Treble Bob Major at St. Matthew's, Holbeck, Leeds, in 3 hrs. 4 mins. T. Lockwood, treble; S. Bassett, 2nd; H. Moss, 3rd; J. Whittaker, 4th; W. Walker, 5th; H. Hubbard, jun., 6th; J. Winder, 7th; R. Binns, tenor. Composed and conducted by T. Lockwood. Weight of tenor, 16 cwt.—*Reported*.

Change-ringing by the Waterloo Society, London.

On Saturday, December 16th, ten members of this Society rang at St. Margaret's, Westminster, a true peal of Grandsire Caters, comprising 5003 changes, in 3 hrs. 25 mins. Ringers:—W. Lally, treble; J. Nelms, 2nd; J. Mansfield, 3rd; C. Hopkins, 4th; J. W. Cattle, 5th; W. Baron, 6th; H. Hopkins, 7th; A. Hayward, 8th; G. Banks, 9th; W. Best, tenor. The above peal is in two parts, and has the 5th and 6th bells 24 courses each behind the 9th, and contains the 48 eight-nines and the 48 seven-eights. Composed and conducted by J. Nelms.—*Reported*.

RECEIVED ALSO.—Wm. Knight. Parry Morgan: you are the best person to make your own rules for hand-bells; J. S. Fritchett; and others.

ANNABLE'S MS.

By Jasper W. Snowdon, Ilkley, Yorkshire.

(Continued from page 27.)

A FEW pages further on in the MS. another remarkable page turns up; it commences thus:—

'GAWTHORNE'S HIC TRIPPLES.—A bob every time but when the half hunt is before. A Hic every time the quarter hunt is in third or fourth's places, when the half hunt is before, except the half-quarter hunt be in one of those places with her.'

The changes at a 'Lead,' a 'Bob,' and a 'Hic' are given. These are respectively merely a lead, a bob, and a fifth's-place bob of the ordinary Grandsire description.

Of course this must be Garthorn of Norwich, and these are the calls he used to produce the first half of his peal of Grandsire Triples that was rung in that city in 1710. This half-peal, it may be remembered, was repeated to the extent by the use of singles at the half-peal ends. I am sorry that it does not seem possible from the above description to identify Garthorn's 5040 by these remarks, but a very curious matter presents itself in connexion with this extract. It will be seen that the fifth's-place bobs are called Hics. Now Hic is the Latin for 'here,' and probably the word was chosen as an emphatic call whereby to notify the making of such a bob, and it is very likely that fifth's-place bobs may have been known as 'hics' at that time.

Now some of my readers may remember, that when there was a discussion on the claims for priority concerning the first peal of Grandsire Triples going on in these columns, Mr. Banister (*Church Bells*, Dec. 18th, 1875) called at-

tention to a peal rung by the Union Scholars which he, following his authority, called Hick's triples, and stated was rung in 1713. Although I had a memorandum in my note-book at that time, that the *oldest* existing records of peals rung were the Norwich peals of 1715 and 1718, and that this peal by the Union Scholars was the *oldest in writing* only, I was just then unable to refer to any reliable source to check my memorandum, and as I was only contending for the priority of producible peals, I passed the matter over. When, however, I came across the 'Hic Triples,' in Annable's MS., I thought that it was probable there might be some connexion found between this method and the 'Hick's Triples' rung by the Union Scholars. Consequently, when in London last Easter, I carefully examined the record-book of this Society, which is amongst the MSS. in the library of the British Museum. I then found that the peal is recorded as 'Hick Trebles' and not Hick's, and also that it was performed on Sept. 12th, 1718. I may here remark that the Norwich peal was rung on Aug. 26th, 1718, and Mr. Banister's authority has confused the date of the formation of the Union Scholars' Society (1713) with that of their first performance. Now, will not these 'Hick Trebles' and the 'Hic' triples given by Annable be identical? and does it not seem probable that the Norwich and the Union Scholars were acquainted with each other, and the peal was handed to the Union Society either before or immediately after its accomplishment at Norwich? It is all the more probable that its having been first performed at Norwich would lead the London ringers to throw doubts upon its being consistent with Grandsire ringing to use fifth's-place bobs. At the time this matter was discussed I mentioned that the Union Scholars called a peal they rang, in 1736, 'the first complete peal of 5040 Grandsire Trebles.' From the remarks I made concerning the Union Triples in the MS. it is shown that the Union Scholars were well acquainted with fifth's-place Grandsire Bobs, and I think that some connexion between the Norwich and London peals of 1718 is very apparent, although there is no direct evidence to show the extent of their similarity.

Another fact to be gathered from this MS. of Annable's is, that at this time the three-lead Grandsire Triples' plan was eagerly worked upon, as I shall show in several instances: in fact, directly following these 'Hic Triples' is 'THE COLLEGE YOUTHS' TRIPPLES,' which is a method composed of single and reverse Grandsire in courses of fifteen leads each.

On the following pages 'BOB MAJOR ROYAL DOUBLE,' 'BARKING' or 'EASTERN TRIPPLES,' 'WESTERN TRIPPLES,' and 'LONDON BOB MAJOR,' are to be found; after which there are the treble-lead ends of '5040 Bob Major, with 678 twelve times.' This peal Mr. Hubbard has given in his book, at page 70. Then follow SURREY, SUSSEX, SOUTHERN, and SIMON'S triples. To the last is the following note:—

'To call 5040 is the same as Plain Bob Triples. This peal was first rung by the Society of College Youths at St. Bride's, on the eight small bells, in April 1732. New book, page 15.'

From this I conclude that—considering this is the 170th page, without a blank leaf—about this time Annable commenced writing some of his notes in a 'new book,' into which he probably copied the more interesting of the peals, and which, if it only could be found, might show more of the work of this indefatigable man. I doubt, however, that this long-since 'new book' may have gone the way of many better and worse books, and its contents are lost for ever. The interest in finding that Annable had another book is counterbalanced by the fact that its contents will, doubtless, ever remain a mystery.

'MORNING EXERCISE MAJOR' is given, and a reference is made to another page, where touches and a 5120 are given, also a note:—

'5120 was rung first at St. Bride's by the College Youths on Wednesday, the 28th of December, 1737.'

CAMBERWELL, KINGSTON, 'CROYDEN,' LAMBETH, DEPTFORD, WINDSOR, and CLEMENTS Triples are next to be found. A lead of 'COLLEGE BOB MAJOR' is given, and an explanation of how to call 5040, and this remark:—

'This peal, the first 5040, was rung by the College Youths on St. Bride's 8 biggest bells. 1736.'

After 'FULHAM BOB MAJOR' comes 'MIDDLESEX TRIPPLES,' with this note:—

'The first 5040 was rung by the Twickenham Ringers, January 22d, 1733. Composed by B. A.—Page 14, N. Book.'

This is the only reference that is to be found to show that any of the peals were actually composed by Annable. Still I do not doubt that they were nearly all of his doing, as I think that, had they been the work of several persons, some reference to the fact would have been made.

Following this is a 5040 of 'TEN IN DOUBLE.' This peal, however, is false.

A course of 'Stedman Triples' is pricked next, and following it is the false peal of 5040 which I alluded to in my recent paper on this method. Then comes 'ANNABLE'S TRIPPLES,' or, as it is called at a subsequent page, 'Annable's Principle,' a course being given of the method, which is a variation on Stedman.

'SUFFOLK TRIPPLES,' and then a variation—something similar to Reverse Stedman—called 'NONE SUCH TRIPPLES,' follows. Then come a good many scribbled pages of short touches, &c. On one of them the annexed 720 of Plain Bob Minor appears. This peal is

rather a curious one. The first thing that struck me when I looked at it was its similarity to a false peal in Shipway. On comparing the two, I found that the calls were made exactly at the same distances apart, and the only difference was the disposition of the singles. As I hastily concluded that in a peal with two singles only they might be placed in any position so long as there was half a peal between them, I thought this 720 of Annable's would also be false. On further investigation, I found that this was not the case, although the position of the single is the only alteration, yet by that means Annable's is a true, whilst Shipway's is a false peal. The occurrence of this peal in Shipway's book is rather singular. At the foot of Annable's peal is written 'Good,' and by the side 'B. A., 1735,' which is probably the date of the pricking on this page.

(To be continued.)

23450	
35642	2
35426	1
64352	4
36452	5
43652	5
13526	1
51326	5
S36542	
part end	
at 3 leads	
25436	
repeated	

CORRESPONDENCE.

Boys' Institutes—A means of retaining our Elder Scholars.

SIR,—Having read with interest the various letters which have appeared in *Church Bells* 'on Boys' Institutes,' I have for some years past been under the impression that such institutions, if carefully watched, will tend to solve the question so often put by those Sunday-school teachers who are grieved to witness the constant drifting away of our elder pupils, viz. how to retain them after a certain age? Very few are to be found in our Sunday schools above the ages of fourteen or fifteen years of age.

On taking to a class of fourteen boys, who were of an average age of fourteen years, I determined that no effort on my part should be wanting to retain those committed to my charge, also to add to their numbers from time to time. During a period of nearly six years I had the pleasure of seeing a gradual increase, until on resigning my class I had a hundred, whose ages ranged from fourteen to twenty-four years of age, some of whom remained in the class after marriage. The members of my Bible-class consisted of clerks, pupil-teachers, mechanics, seamen, &c., the majority being employed in the iron-works of the district. Now, in answer to the question, how were these results attained? I reply, first, by having them from the first in a room separate from the Sunday school, but granted by the committee of our flourishing Church Institute and Working Man's Club, of which I was Honorary Secretary for some years. Secondly, I made it a point of ambition that senior scholars attending our school should be admitted to the 'Institute Bible-Class' after presenting themselves as candidates for confirmation. Although none were refused admission who had not attended our Sunday school, many having joined the class who formerly attended the Sunday schools belonging to other denominations, many had never been connected with any Sunday school; many were mere waifs whom I had picked up, and persuaded to join us. Absentees were looked up; the parents visited; a system of teaching adopted rather different to the usual Sunday-class routine; a portion of the Church service being used, together with an extemporary address, rendered as interesting and instructive as possible. Music entered largely into the Sunday programme. The Sick Club, the Savings' Bank, the Bible-class Magazine, with our own page—all lent an interest to the class; and last, but not the least, ingredient of success, was the 'Boys' Institute' candidates not being admitted to membership in the Church Institute until an age which would have excluded the majority of my class.

I was permitted to occupy the room in which we meet on Sundays. Here, from six o'clock till 9.30 every evening might have been seen groups of young men and boys variously occupied. A library furnished the reading portion with suitable books. A table was furnished with monthly and weekly periodicals, supplied by the Pure Literature Society. After reading time, games of various kinds were provided. Those who were fond of music could form a circle round an excellent organ harmonium. After recreation, work began in earnest, in reading, writing, and arithmetic; in the latter I was assisted by a kind friend.

I fear I have trespassed on your space, or I could tell of the good results of these efforts to reach a section of our population, who but for these endeavours would have drifted from me into the public-house, or to indulgence in questionable amusements, baneful reading, &c. Everything was free and under my own supervision, and I was sufficiently repaid by the happiness imparted to my class, none but members of the class being admitted to its Week-Evening Institute. A goodly number of the members were usefully employed in extending the welfare of the Church. This I look upon as the highest object attained, viz. that some of its members who have exchanged earth for heaven have reached there, under God's blessing, through the seed sown in the Bible Class.

JOHN W. C. JOHNSON.

Collect for the Fourth Sunday in Advent.

SIR,—I am unable to agree with the appropriateness of altering the Collect for the Fourth Sunday in Advent, which your correspondent 'J. S. G.' advocates. He speaks of the Collect as having been originally addressed to the Second Person of the Blessed Trinity, and finds fault with later alterations: its history, as far as I have been able to read it, differs from this statement. The collect in the *Sacramentary* of Gelasius, Bp. of Rome (492), is addressed to the First Person of the Trinity. Now Gelasius did not invent: he was only a compiler, and there is no reason why the Collect should not have had a similar address in the *Sacramentary* of Leo the Great (440). To Liturgical students it is also well known that the Liturgy of the British Church was derived, through the Gallican, from the Ephesine, not from the Roman 'use.' Into the Roman Liturgy, as it was from time to time revised, were introduced many peculiarities and novelties. The *Sacramentary* of Gregory differs much from that of Gelasius, and the present Liturgy from that of Gregory's time. When Augustine came to England in 597, he found a Liturgy already in use, which differed from the Roman. This he revised and Romanised. Was it not then that the Latin form referred to by 'J. S. G.' was first introduced? It is at this time that we first find it in the *Sacramentary* of Gregory, then Bishop of Rome. At this distance from books, I am unable to refer to the Gallican and Spanish Liturgies; but if in either of these a collect can be found addressed to the First Person of the Trinity, the argument that Augustine found a collect so addressed, and altered it in accordance with the Roman 'use,' is greatly strengthened. The compilers of the Reformed Prayer Book wisely returned to the older form, and greatly increased the beauty of the collect by enlarging it. 'J. S. G.' is mistaken in thinking (with Wheatley) that the words 'through the satisfaction of Thy Son our Lord' were first added in the Prayer-book for Scotland: he will find them in the Books of 1549, 1552, 1559, nearly a hundred years earlier than the Scotch Book. In passing, let me remind your correspondent that the beautiful words 'in running the race that is set before us' are not in the books of the above dates.

In conclusion, it is surely inconsistent with the spirit of the Prayer-book

to increase, without great hesitation, the number of the collects addressed directly to the Son. The rule is to address the Father through the Son; and it is only broken through when the special event commemorated by the day seems almost imperatively to require it (*vide* St. Stephen's Day and First Sunday in Lent). How opposed this spirit is to that which pervades many books of private prayers, your readers will doubtless many of them feel.

St. Margaret's, Dover.

J. FROME WILKINSON.

Diaconate or Subdiaconate.

SIR,—As I understand it, the thing required is not a modification of the existing Diaconate, but the creation of a sub-order. The scheme suggested by 'J. F.' seems open to grave objections, chiefly because it is a dangerous thing to begin tinkering the Book of Common Prayer through the ordinal. The action proposed seems also unnecessarily elaborate and cumbersome.

All that would appear to be required is that the Bishops should agree as a body to the principle of a sub-diaconate; next, that they should authorise a special form of consecration to the office; and, thirdly, that this should receive the sanction of Convocation and the Queen in council. Let our Fathers in God only show an active interest in the matter in some degree proportionate to the urgency of the need for an extension of Church machinery, and it can scarcely be supposed that any ecclesiastical impediment will prevail to stop the way, while many earnest men will thus find an opening for congenial work in the Church from which they are at present debarred.

F. W. A. B.

Wooden Structures.

SIR,—If 'J. Z.' will send me particulars as to the size he requires, I shall be glad to give him all the information he needs. We have lately erected two wooden churches, and have others in progress.

THOMAS T. PONSONBY, Acting Secretary.

Leeds Church Extension Society, Leeds Church Institute, Albion Place.

Hymns.

SIR,—'Clericus' will find the information he asks for in *Miller's Singers and Songs of the Church* (Longmans and Co.)

J. F. W.

SIR,—Can you tell me in what form the Coronation Service is to be had, or whether it is published by the Parker Society?

PAROCHUS.

'THOS. PRIOR.'—Your letter should be addressed to the paper in which the report of the sermon appeared.

'ROBERT FARRANT.'—Thanks for your offer and suggestion. We fear we cannot accept them.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Question about Annable's MS. and Aged Ringers.

SIR,—May I ask Mr. Snowdon to settle a disputed point, and state whether College Triples, a lead of which is given in Annable's MS., are the same as College Single Triples, of which two peals have been rung at Appleton?

In the peal of Stedman's Caters at Appleton, Berks, J. Newman, who rang the third, is now in his eighty-first year, and is the same person of whom you published a short biography some time ago. Can any of your readers supply another instance of such a veteran change-ringer?

J. S. PRITCHETT.

King's Norton.

Belfry Reform.

SIR,—Now that belfry reform is happily the subject of general discussion, I should like to make a few remarks on a part of the subject which I have not as yet seen touched upon by any one, viz., the class and position of the ringers. Now I know it sounds very well in theory to say, 'Let a clergyman, or other influential person, get together a band of steady young men, good Churchmen, communicants, &c.; which is, of course, right enough, where practicable. But I have had some experience in the matter, and generally find that young men, soon after they have been taught to ring decently, leave the parish, if they be apprentices, shopmen, and such-like, and then you have all your trouble over again. I find that the only way to keep a band together is to get either married men, or men who have some tie in the parish in the way of occupation.

Now, in a country parish one must not be too particular; that is, if you can get men morally respectable and fairly regular attendants at church, you must be satisfied. Much as I should wish to see all ringers communicants, I find it next to impossible to make this a positive rule. I find also, in my own case, that most of the lads in our parish are afraid to touch the bells when they are up, though I have often got one into the belfry and tried to teach him to set a bell—but in vain; they nearly always fight shy, and refuse to touch a rope again after their first trial. I think it is quite impossible to keep a band together unless they are fairly paid (my men get about 1*l.* 15*s.* to 2*l.* per annum). I must not trouble you further.

Fleet, Lincolnshire.

J. R. JERRAM, Churchwarden and Leader.

Change-ringing by the Yorkshire Association.

ON Wednesday, Dec. 20th, this Society rang at St. Matthew's Church, Holbeck, Leeds, 6016 changes of Kent Treble Bob Major in 3 hrs. 28 mins. T. Harrison, treble; S. Basnett, 2nd; H. Hubbard, jun. 3rd; T. West, 4th; W. Walker, 5th; G. Barraclough, 6th; J. Winder, 7th; J. W. Snowdon, Esq., tenor. The peal, which was in one part with the fifth and sixth their extent wrong and right in 5-6, was composed by Mr. W. Harrison, of Mottram, and conducted by Jasper W. Snowdon, Esq. Weight of tenor, 16 cwt.—Reported.

Date Touch at Worcester.

ON Tuesday, December 5th, eight members of the Worcester Society rang at St. Helen's Church 1876 changes of Grandire Triples, being the date of

the present year. The ringers were:—F. Owen, treble; J. Perks, 2nd; H. Pheasant, 3rd; W. Webb, 4th; J. Reynolds, 5th; H. Wilks, 6th; G. Hobbs, 7th; J. Allen, tenor. Composed by H. Pheasant and conducted by H. Wilks. Time, 1 hr. 10 mins. Weight of tenor, 10½ cwt.—*Reported.*

Change-ringing at Horsham, Sussex.

On Monday, December 11th, the following mixed band of change-ringers rang at St. Mary's Church a peal of 5040 Oxford Bob in 3 hrs. 8 mins., namely: G. Jenkins, treble; E. Knight, 2nd; W. Alward, 3rd; F. Knight, 4th; G. Rapley, 5th; J. Jeal, 6th; H. Burstow, 7th; J. Hopkins, tenor. Conducted by H. Burstow, with 104 bobs and 94 singles.—*Reported.*

Change-ringing at Cavendish, Suffolk.

On Saturday evening, December 16th, some members of the Glemsford Society of Change-ringers visited the above village, and rang 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor. Conducted by S. Slater. Tenor by G. Maxim of Cavendish. Then a peal of 720 of Cambridge Surprise Minor was rung by the following:—Jno. Slater, treble; Jos. Slater, 2nd; C. Honeybell, 3rd; T. Wells, 4th; S. Slater, 5th; F. P. Adams, tenor. Conducted by F. P. Adams. Weight of tenor, 12 cwt., in F sharp; the gift of Ambrose Smith, Esq., of Nether Hall, Cavendish.—*Reported.*

Muffled Peal at St. Peter's, Liverpool.

On Sunday, December 17th, after evening service, ten members of the Union Society rang a muffled peal of Grandsire Caters, as a token of respect to the late Miss Mary Ann Louisa Ashburner Phillips, who died December 15th, aged twenty-seven years. Deceased was a member of the choir, and highly respected throughout Liverpool by the musical societies. The ringers were:—F. Powell, Esq., treble; R. Williams, sen., 2nd; J. Meadows, 3rd; H. Meadows, 4th; G. Crute, 5th; G. Helsby, 6th; J. Egerton, 7th; R. Williams, jun., 8th; E. Booth, 9th; W. Lither, tenor. Composed and conducted by G. Crute.—*Reported.*

Augmentation and Opening of Bells at Tunstead, Norfolk.

On Monday, Dec. 18th, a Special Service was held in the church of the above parish at 2.30 p.m., to celebrate the opening of a new Tenor Bell, which had been added to the ring of five by the Vicar, Rev. G. H. Harris. The prayers were intoned by the Vicar; and special Psalms and the Hymns, 'They are lifted to the Steeple,' and 'Not idle are the fleeting sounds,' were used, the service concluding with the 100th Psalm, during the singing of which a collection was made for the Additional Curates Society. The preacher, the Rev. A. Brown, Rector of Calfield, took as his text Ps. lxxxi. 1-3, and founded thereon an exceedingly appropriate and telling discourse. Despite the unfavourable weather there was a goodly number of ringers from St. Peter's, Norwich, and the surrounding villages. The opening peal, Bob Minor, was rung by a mixed band, as follows:—J. Edridge, treble; W. Smith, 2nd; T. Greenwood, 3rd (conductor); R. Sutton, 4th; W. Freeman, 5th; J. Skinner, tenor. The new bell (10½ cwt., key G) was cast by Messrs. Warner and Sons, and hung by Mr. Skinner of Norwich, and completes a very musical ring.—*Reported.*

Change-ringing at Manchester.

On Tuesday, December 19th, eight ringers rang at the Cathedral of Manchester a touch of Grandsire Triples, containing 1876 changes (the date of the present year), in 1 hr. 15 mins. The band stood thus:—W. Cross, treble; J. Greatrix, 2nd; J. Lowcock, 3rd; T. Brazier, 4th; J. Winterbottom, 5th; J. Astbury, jun. (38th regiment), 6th; J. Eachus, 7th; J. Withers, tenor. This touch, which contains the 24 6-7's, was composed and conducted by J. Astbury, jun. (38th regiment). Weight of tenor, 25 cwt. Key, E flat.—*Reported.*

Meeting of the Yorkshire Association.

On Saturday, Jan. 6th, the usual Quarterly Meeting of the Society is appointed to be held at Hunslet. All companies intending to be present are requested to send notice to the Hunslet Society of Change-ringers, so that preparations for entertaining them may be made. A General Meeting of the Society will be held at five o'clock. On payment of the subscription for the present year each member will be entitled to his certificate of membership. A resolution for the admission of honorary members will be brought before the Society.

Felkirk Church, Barnsley, Yorkshire.

The bells of this old church have recently been rehung with new fittings complete, the tenor and fourth bells have been quartered, and the fourth retuned, and new clappers have been fitted to the three old bells. Three new bells, the gift of Thomas Dymond, Esq., of Burntwood Hall, Barnsley, have been added to form a ring of six. The new bells were supplied by Messrs. Warner. The entire work has been done in a most satisfactory manner by Mr. Mallaby, of Masham. The bells were opened (on the day of the reopening of the church after restoration) by ringers invited from Barnsley and Dewsbury, assisted by Mr. Mallaby and his son, who rang several touches throughout the day of Oxford Treble, Kent Trebles, Violet Trebles, New London Pleasure, London Scholars' Pleasure, Bob Minors and Grandsire Doubles.—*Reported.*

Addition and Correction.

THE peal of Grandsire Triples rung by the St. James's Society on Saturday, November 18th (see *Church Bells* for December 2), took place at St. Mary's, Mortlake, Surrey.

Question.

WHAT is the age of J. W. Cattle, the youth who conducted the Triples on the 18th, rung by the St. James's Society?

ANNABLE'S MS.

By Jasper W. Snowdon, Ilkley, Yorkshire.

(Continued from page 39.)

On the subsequent leaves are more methods on 5, 7, and 8 bells, none of which are particularly interesting, until a page is reached headed 'UNION BOB, 5120.' Under it is written out, by the lead ends, the original peal of Treble Bob—viz. four before, two wrong, and two at home. Unfortunately there is no evidence as to whether Annable composed this peal himself or not. In 1718, when it was rung, he would be between twenty and thirty years of age; and so he *might* have done it. Still, I think it would probably have been found in this book at an earlier page had it been his work.

A few pages after the different course ends produced, with various bobs, in 'PLAIN BOB TRIPPLES,' are given, with the information, 'Posted N. B. page 21,' the similar courses of 'LONDON SURPRISE on 8' follow.

The next thing of interest is 'PLAIN BOB CINQUES, 5016 changes.' This peal will be found reproduced in Mr. Hubbard's new edition, page 132. This note is appended:—

'By calling 3 bobs at the courses end it goes 5456 changes.'

Further on the most interesting page in the whole book is reached; it is headed 'GOGMAGOG TRIPPLES.' Now, I drew attention to the fact that Gogmagog on five bells was only Grandsire with several singles introduced; and this is exactly the same thing in Triples: it is merely a 5040 of Grandsire on the three-lead course plan, as practised and rung at the present time. Among the great number of methods described Gogmagog *triples* is not to be found, or it would be shown how Annable distinguished it from Grandsire. The fact is evident that he did not consider it what may be called a three-lead method, as the 5040 is written out by the lead ends, and the bob leads are distinguished from the plain leads by having a dot prefixed, and the singles are marked by a cross in front of them, while the plain leads have not any sign before them.

From this I conclude that Annable did not consider the use of ordinary singles in Grandsire was consistent with the method, and that he, at least, did not recognise such peals which are now considered Grandsire to be entitled to that name; and probably, having set up this standard, he would not even abate his opinion when Holt's peal, with only two singles, was produced. By this means the unfavourable opinion which the Norwich men in their letter to Dr. Mason (see *Church Bells*, Sept. 18th, 1875) stated that Annable held of this production is accounted for. The following are Annable's peal and his remarks:—

2 3 4 5 6 7

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

'840 changes 3 (sic) times repeated goes 2520, at which time the double change which will bring them round must be omitted, and a bob called in the room of it.'

This peal I may remark is, in the irregular disposition of the singles—something like that by the Unknown Author in Shipway and the *Clavis*. Annable's peal having a single at the end of each part, it has to be omitted at the half-lead ends; and therefore the number is 46 only, as against 48 in that by the 'Unknown.' I think it probable that this peal was composed about 1737-9, because a few pages back is the 'B. A. 1735,' and between that and the page on which is the peal there is the note about the ringing of Morning Exercise in 1737, and on the next page to the peal is scribbled 'Easter Day, 1739.'

That Annable was a very practical composer is evident from the fact that on the next page he gives a reference to the peal of 5040 Bob Major with the 678 twelve times at home, and shows how, by commencing at different course ends, 16 peals with the same property may be produced.

After exhaustive tables of course ends in Bob Major, comes 'St. George's Bon Major,' with a description of the method and the way to call 5040 of it, with this note:—

'This peal was first rung by the College Youths at St. George's in Southwark, 1750.'

On the next page there is a false peal of 6336 of TWELVE IN DOUBLE, and also a true peal of 5016, which will be found in Hubbard's new edition, page 143; the following is appended to this peal:—

'19 courses 12-In Double, rung by the College Youths at St. Saviour's, Southwark, 1739.'

After leads of 'Grandsire Court' and 'Court Bob 2nd way,' both on eight bells, several touches of Grandsire Caters are given, and then a peal of 5076 changes of the same method, with an alternative mode of calling, by which the last nine leads may be reduced one lead and the changes will number 5058. The former of the peals is reproduced in Hubbard's work, page 107. This peal, from the note—

'5076 rung at Fulham, March 16, 1745,'

is identified with a performance of the College Youths on that date.

At the head of the next page is written, 'Michaelmas Day, 1739,' and on the opposite leaf the course ends of short courses of Bob Major; that is, those in which the tenors make bobs are given; and then a peal of Bob Major, wherein the tenors are parted in several courses, is picked. At the side of this peal is written, '5088, A. F. 1739.' Probably the initials are those of the composer; if so, this is the only instance of any one's name or initials, except the cases mentioned where Annable's occur, being attached to any of the peals in the book.

(To be continued.)

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Yorkshire Association of Change-ringers.

On Saturday, January 6th, the quarterly meeting of this Society was held at Hunslet, Leeds, when a large number of ringers assembled. In the morning eight of the members rang on the bells of St. Mary's a peal of Grandsire Triples, and subsequently many different touches were rung by the various companies. A committee meeting took place during the afternoon, and also the general meeting was held, when the President, Jasper W. Snowdon, Esq., took the chair. It was then decided to admit honorary members to the Society on one payment of 10s. 6d., and the April meeting of the Society was also arranged to be held at Bingley. A vote of thanks was also passed to the Ilkley Amateur Society for the plate presented to the Association for printing the certificates of membership, and further votes of thanks were accorded to the Vicar and Churchwardens for the use of the bells, and to the Hunslet Ringers for their preparations and hospitality. The certificate of membership—a copy of which is presented to each member—is executed in chrome-lithography, in gold and several colours. Besides the inscription, setting forth the name of the Society and such matters, the prominent objects are four vignettes which occupy the corners of the sheet, and illustrate the four twelve-bell churches to be found in the county of Yorkshire, viz. Sheffield, Halifax, Leeds, and York Minster. A pair of crossed hand-bells, and a large bell on which is the legend, 'Founded 1875,' serve to fill up the remainder of the card, and also to record the date of the foundation of the Society.—*Contributed.*

Change-ringing in Ireland.

At midnight of Dec. 24 the Waterford Society of Change-ringers rang in Christmas morning with a touch of Grandsire Triples, consisting of 1008 changes. After which they fired several times, opening into Queen's, Tittums, and Whittingtons. The ringers were:—Livermore, treble; G. Atherton, 2nd; R. S. Blee, 3rd; G. Clappett, 4th; R. Cherry, 5th; G. J. Mackesy, M.D., 6th; T. Atherton, 7th; T. Cherry, tenor. The various members of the above Society are in the habit of ringing for the services held in the Cathedral on Sundays and holy days. Perhaps it is not generally known that Waterford, and St. Patrick's, Dublin, are the only places in Ireland where the art of change-ringing is practised. Attempts have been made to establish it elsewhere, but so far without success.—*Irish Ecclesiastical Gazette.*

Muffled Peal at St. Peter's, Liverpool.

On Thursday, December 28th, eight members of the Union Society rang half a peal of Grandsire Triples (Mr. Holt's ten-part), containing 2520 changes, in 1 hr. 43 mins. The ringers were:—G. Crute, treble; R. Williams, sen., 2nd; A. Heron, 3rd; H. Meadows, 4th; J. Egerton, 5th; G. Holsby, 6th; R. Williams, jun., 7th; W. Brooks, tenor. G. Crute, conductor. The above was rung with the bells muffled, as a last tribute of respect to the memory of the late Mr. William Royle of Manchester, who was highly respected by the members of the Union Society.—*Reported.*

Change-ringing at St. Bartholomew's, Westhoughton, Lancashire.

On Saturday, December 30th, the ringers of the above church, assisted by their tutor, Mr. Prescott of Hindley, rang Mr. John Holt's ten-part peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples, which were brought round in 2 hrs. 50 mins. The ringers were:—J. Prescott, treble (conductor); W. Brown, 2nd; J. Woodward, 3rd; H. Heaton, 4th; J. Vickers, 5th; A. Hodgkinson, 6th; J. Whittingham, 7th; J. Partington, tenor. All being their first peals, excepting J. Vickers.—*Contributed.*

Muffled Peal at Netherton, Worcestershire.

On Saturday evening, December 30th, a muffled peal was rung at St. Andrew's, Netherton, consisting of 1876 changes, in different six-scores, as a token of respect for the late Mrs. Blanche Skidmore, who presented these bells to the church in 1871. A muffled peal has been rung on every anniversary of her death, Dec. 30, 1872. The ringers were:—R. Round, treble; J. Townsend, 2nd; J. Smith, 3rd; J. Robinson, 4th; J. Prestidge, 5th; F. Hodgkiss, tenor. Conducted by J. Smith. Time, 1 hr. 20 mins. Weight of tenor, 12 cwt.—*Contributed.*

Change-ringing at Glemsford, Suffolk.

On Saturday, December 30th, the following members of the Glemsford Society of Change-ringers rang upon the bells of the above church four peals of Minor, 720 changes each; viz. New London Pleasure, Oxford Bob, Yorkshire Court, and Double Court Bob, in 2 hrs.:—F. Slater, treble; S. Slater, 2nd; C. Adams, 3rd; Z. Slater, 4th; F. Wells, 5th; F. P. Adams, tenor. Conducted by F. P. Adams.—*Contributed.*

Change-ringing at Wolstanton, Staffordshire.

On Sunday evening, Dec. 31st, the Vicar, in accordance with his annual custom on the last day of the old year, entertained the ringers at the Vicarage; after which they proceeded to the belfry, and opened the new year by ringing a Date Peal of 1877 changes, consisting of 437 changes in the Court Bob method, 720 changes of Grandsire, and 720 changes of Plain Bob. The ringers were:—J. Poinson, treble; J. Wootton, jun., 2nd; W. Miller, jun., 3rd; J. Bowyer, 4th; R. A. Ledward, 5th; S. Spencer, tenor. The peal was conducted by S. Spencer, and brought round in 1 hr. 14 mins.—*Contributed.*

[We wish the generous Vicar a happy New Year: but if, in God's mercy, his life should be spared to another New-year's Eve on a Sunday, we would suggest his deferring his entertainment to the next day. Let him meet his clever ringers at midnight in the belfry, and there, on their knees, join with them in thanksgiving for past mercies, and prayers for God's blessing through the coming year.—*Ed.]*

Change-ringing in Worcestershire.

On the morning of the New Year a mixed Society from Tewkesbury, Worcester, and Cheltenham, visited Pershore Abbey, with the intention of starting for a peal of Grandsire Triples; but were unable to effect anything further than a few short touches, owing to the awkward arrangements made in the tower at the late restoration of the church. In the afternoon they visited Worcester, and rang at St. Helen's, in 1 hr. 32 mins., the first half of Holt's ten-part peal. Ringers:—G. Cleal, treble; C. Davies, 2nd; W. I. Pates, 3rd; J. Wathen, 4th; J. Reynolds, 5th; H. Wilkes, 6th; E. Wallis, 7th; N. Wale, tenor. Conducted by H. Wilkes.—*Contributed.*

[Are 'the awkward arrangements' alluded to at Pershore owing to the architect's meddling with the bells? If so, it strengthens us in our opinion that architects should not be allowed to interfere in such matters: let all bell arrangements be left in the hands of the bell-hanger.—*Ed.]*

Change-ringing at Mirfield, Northorpe, Yorkshire.

On Monday, Jan. 1, the Society of Change-ringers of St. Mary Church rang a true peal of Kent Treble Bob Royal, consisting of 5040 changes, which was brought round in 3 hrs. 46 mins. It is the first peal rung on these bells. The ringers were:—J. Holt, treble; T. Crawshaw, 2nd; H. Hinchcliffe, 3rd; T. Oxley, 4th; B. Robinson, 5th; D. Charkson, 6th; S. Dawson, 7th; H. Firth, 8th; J. Peacock, 9th; E. Firth, tenor and conductor. Weight of tenor, 31 cwt.—*Contributed.*

Date Touches.

1877 of Kent Treble Bob Major was rung at Bradford, Yorkshire, on the 1st inst. Also, on the same day, the same touch was rung at Halifax, Yorkshire.—*Contributed.*

Change-ringing at Halsall Parish Church, Lancashire.

On Tuesday, Jan. 2, a peal of Grandsire Minor was rung at the above church, comprising 720 changes, in 23 mins., by the following ringers:—J. Prescott, treble; R. Clayton, 2nd; H. Winrow, 3rd; N. Spencer, 4th; J. Winrow, 5th; J. Aspinwall, tenor. Conducted by Mr. John Aspinwall.—*Contributed.*

Ringing at Tewkesbury, Gloucestershire.

On Thursday, January 4th, the Society of this town rang at the Abbey Church the first half of Taylor's six-part peal of Grandsire Triples in 1 hr. 33 mins., as follows:—G. Cleal, treble; C. Davies, 2nd; G. Haines, jun., 3rd; S. Mayall, 4th; E. Tusall, 5th; J. Wathen, 6th; E. Wallis, 7th; W. Haines, tenor. Conducted by J. Wathen. Weight of tenor, 23 cwt. Key D. This is believed to be the greatest length yet achieved by native ringers.—*Contributed.*

Change-ringing at Appleton, Berks.

On the Eve of the Feast of the Epiphany the Appleton ringers celebrated the holy season by ringing on the bells of the parish church—first, eighteen score of Grandsire Minor, and then a true quarter-peal of Stedman's Triples, comprising 1260 changes, with the Queen's, Tittums, and the fifteen 6-7's. The band for the latter touch was as follows:—J. Newman, treble; E. Hollifield, 2nd; G. Hollifield, 3rd; B. Barrett, 4th; J. Avery, 5th; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 6th; H. Woodwards, 7th; R. Bennett, tenor. Conducted by the Rev. F. E. Robinson.—*Contributed.*

St. John's, Capel, Surrey.

THE bells of this church have been relunged, and a new treble added, by subscription, to form a ring of six, cast by Messrs. Warner and Sons; and on Monday, the 16th of December, the first peal was rung by the Capel ringers, viz. 720 of Court Bob, composed by Mr. H. Burstow, of Horsham, with 24 singles. The ringers were:—R. Worsfold, treble; A. Tidy, 2nd; G. Holloway, 3rd; G. Mills, 4th; E. Jordan, 5th; D. Jordan, tenor and conductor. Also, 720 of Plain Bob Minor and 720 of Oxford Bob Minor; also touches of Oxford Double and Triple Bob Minor, and some Grandsire Doubles, were rung, with the assistance of some friends from Horsham, Ruspur, and Ockley.—*Contributed.*

Gift of a Bell by a Parish Clerk.—Alrewas, Staffordshire.

A NEW tenor has been added to the ring of five. This bell is the gift of William Thomas, who has been clerk of the church for nearly fifty years. On New-year's Day this noble gift was dedicated at a special service in the church, after which peals and touches of Grandsire, Plain Bob, and Stedman's Doubles, and Grandsire Minor, were rung by a band of amateur ringers from the adjoining parish, St. Michael's, Lichfield.—*Contributed.*

Annabell's MS.

SIR,—Allow me to suggest that Mr. Snowdon should give us a lead of each system, with an example of Bob or Single, as it appears in the MS. I have no doubt but that a number of ringers—although they never before heard of some of the systems that have been mentioned, and would not attempt to ring them—would be delighted to see a lead of each. B. KEEBLE.

Remford.

A Young Conductor.

THE Youth who is reported to have conducted the Triples on the 18th December, tells us that he will be twenty-three next February. He wishes to know if there be a younger conductor?

A Correction.

THE peal of Triples lately rung at Lytham was conducted by Mr.—not Mrs.—Henry Gregson.

RECEIVED ALSO.—S. Marsh: we have had no space for Tablets lately; all in due time. C. G. Locker: we don't understand 112 changes of Kent Treble Bob. Were they call changes? Jos. Morrison: bells cannot be rung by machinery—they may be chimed; to be rung they must be swung. Joseph Scott: for books on Ringing, see our advertisements.

Dean Howson.

SIR.—No truer word was ever uttered in your leading articles than the conclusion of the contribution of 'M.' about Dean Howson. To one who has known him for fifteen years, and who used to look up to him with reverence as a brave and liberal-minded Churchman, his line the last few years has appeared perfectly inexplicable. Being such a public man, and so much respected for the very qualities I have mentioned above, the disappointment of his admirers (of whom I confess I am one) is extreme. I have heard laity without the slightest taint of Ritualism about them express the same regret. Surely the unreasoning bigotry of Liverpool Orangism cannot have more weight with him now than it used to have when a resident in its midst?

C. S. H., ANGLICAN.

What is the English Church but a Creation of the State?

SIR,—I have an idea that 'The Priesthood and Legislation' contains many wholesome truths; take the following, for instance,—'All was decided by the Bishops.' And since the Bishops are the Heads of the Church, and have sanctioned 'the Bill,' Lord Penzance's Court is, whether people like it or not, a Church Court. But what I am most concerned to know is, whether the Archbishops and Bishops ever had any spiritual authority or jurisdiction other than that derived from the State, or from Acts of Parliament? This is a pertinent question, and it appears that it cannot be answered save in the negative; and granted that the negative answer is the right one, and that the State cannot give what it does not possess—spiritual authority, &c.—it follows that what is called the English Church is no Church at all, but (as she has been, perhaps aptly, described) merely a department of the Civil Service, a creature of the State, and has been so from the time of the so-called Reformation.

This being the case, what is the duty of English Catholics? Simply this: to 'come out' of the State-created thing, reorganize themselves, elect and consecrate Bishops, and form a Canonical Church, which would be the English Catholic Church. The only other thing they can do is to go to Rome.

This is quite a personal view and opinion on the matter, and I should like to see the subject further ventilated through the medium of your columns.

Guernsey.

MEDLAND LETHBRIDGE.

[We think we may answer the question which our correspondent asks in his letter, by saying that Archbishops and Bishops have an authority in things spiritual derived from God, and in accordance with Holy Scriptures, which is binding upon the consciences of the faithful, and this authority no secular State can ever give or take away; but the power of enforcing their authority by temporal measures affecting the property or persons of those subject to it is derived from the State. It is quite clear that to some measure this must be so, whether there be an establishment or no establishment, as long as the position of any one as a member of the Church or an officer of it involves the use and enjoyment of certain property.]

When, however, our correspondent seems to imply that the question in his letter is the same as that at the head of his letter, we must point out to him that the power of enforcing spiritual authority by temporal measures is not synonymous with the words 'the English Church.'

The Bishop of Lincoln (*Elements of Instruction in the Church*, Part iii. chapter v.), to the question, 'Do spiritual persons derive their spiritual power from kings, i.e. the State?' answers, 'Spiritual persons derive their spiritual power from CHRIST alone, but in Christian countries the authority to exercise that power upon particular persons, in particular places, such as dioceses and parishes, is derived from laws, ecclesiastical and civil, and from the sovereign, who, by his royal assent, is the efficient cause of law.'

We earnestly recommend the little book from which we have quoted, which is published by Rivingtons, price sixpence, to the careful study of our correspondent, and to all others who wish for some clear guidance in the present difficult position of affairs.—ED.]

Temperance and Total Abstinence.

SIR.—Having established a branch of the Church Temperance Society in my parish, I wish to buy some stirring tracts on the subject of Temperance, leaving open the question as to moderation or abstinence, as the Society professes to do. But the Society's tracts seem all to take the same view as the letter of 'A Clergyman's Wife,' in your paper of January 13th, who says that 'the experience of all who have worked in earnest among the drunken is this,—"I lose all power if I cannot say, 'Follow me,' with Christ;" and who then takes for granted that our advice must be, 'Give up all drink.'

Now, Sir, in all reverence, let me ask, Is it fair to speak of following Christ as only to be done by those who 'give up drink,' when Christ made wine? Is it not rather presuming to tell the clergy as a body what the experience of all earnest workers is?

If your paper is to be open to moderate drinkers, as the Church Temperance Society professes to be, let me ask for a little help to be given to me in finding good Temperance tracts against drunkenness.

S. WIGAN.

East Malling Vicarage, near Maidstone.

P.S.—The one great difficulty in my way (besides, of course, the love of drink so common) is, that men are afraid we are teetotalers. My sub-committee tell me it is the same with them.

'Sleep better than Wine.'

SIR.—The advice given by 'A Clergyman's Wife,' that overworked or hardworked men should try sleep as a restorative, is an excellent suggestion. It is far better than wine. I have perhaps, harder work than most clergymen, and have been a total abstainer for some time; but my practice is, when I want rest of thought as well as rest of body, to lie down anywhere—on the rug or on a sofa—and go to sleep. If very busy, I give directions that I wish to be awake in five minutes, ten minutes, or whatever time I can spare, and having been asleep I am then ready at once for work again. I may state that I am at work from eight o'clock in the morning to midnight nearly every

day, and Sunday, with three or four services, is generally my easiest day. Sleep is an antidote to many disorders, and sound sleep is one of the rewards of temperance and trustfulness.

NAP.

SIR,—Can any of your readers inform me of a home, refuge, or similar institution, where a young girl (18) can be placed for a short time who has recently been convicted (the first offence) of obtaining goods under false pretences? Or, what is better still, would any strict but kind Christian lady undertake a work of love in training her? I shall be happy to give full particulars. I send name and address, so that answers may be sent to me direct.

5 Tennis Court Road, Cambridge.

ERNEST J. BARRY.

'R. H. SMITH,' 20 Downshire Hill, Hampstead, N.W., has all the numbers of *Church Bells* for the past year, excepting those for Jan. 1 and 8, May 20 and 27, June 3 and 10, Nov. 4 and 11, and will be happy to help subscribers in receiving volumes by sending to any address one or more of the other parts.

'M. D.' would be glad to know if *Church Bells*, sent regularly by her since July 15th, 1876, has been received by the Rev. Jeffrey Hill, Parsonage, Meaford, Ontario, Canada.

MR. W. J. S. HORTON, Talbot Villa, Rugeley, begs to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of 5l. for the 'Home for Inebriates' from 'T. H. T.'

RECEIVED ALSO.—A Curate.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

ANNABLE'S MS.

By Jasper W. Snowdon. Ilkley, Yorkshire.

AFTER reading the description of the contents of this book, many persons will, I dare say, wonder where it can have been hidden away for so many years. I have often puzzled over this matter, and the only solution that I can arrive at—though only a conjecture founded on very slight circumstantial evidence—is, I think, not without interest. To understand it, it is first necessary to give an account of the discovery of the original peal-book of the Union Scholars, the Society who rang the first peal of Treble Bob Major, and who rang the 'Hick' Triples which I have lately mentioned. To describe this I cannot do better than quote the words of the discoverer, Mr. E. J. Osborne:—

'The following historical account relates to the singular discovery of the Ancient Society of Union Scholars' peal-book, which was supposed to have been lost or destroyed very many years since, but was perchance found and purchased by me while on a visit to Bath in Dec. 1846.

'Whereas Mr James Albion, a native of Hackney, Middlesex, who, in or about the year 1727, by profession a Mercantile Clerk and professional writer, resided in London till the year 1753, when he went to live at Bath and there opened a school, which he carried on with great reputation to the year 1805 (the year of his death). During his time in London he wrote all the late peals in the Union Scholars' book, and when that Society became extinct (about the year 1757) this book was sent to him as a present (being the writer thereof) which he kept till his decease, when the same was presented to the Bath Abbey Ringers' Society by his only surviving son—James Albion—who made this statement to me in 1846 above mentioned, and was then residing at No. 1 Chapel Court, the City of Bath, in the 80th year of his age. This book was intrusted to the care of one John Bush (a Bath ringer), to hand to his Society, instead of which he kept it for himself to the time of his death, which event occurred in 1821. Afterwards it remained in the hands of different members of that Society as private property, till it was purchased by me on the 2nd day of December, 1846. At this period the book was in a very dilapidated state from age and ill usage. I brought it to London in its original state and afterwards took it to pieces, cleaned all the leaves, mounted them on new paper, and made all defects good about the writing, &c., with a title-page to the peals—there being no original.'

And now, after all these vicissitudes, the book is among the Osborne MSS. in the British Museum library, from which source the foregoing statement has been copied. The conjecture I have already hinted at concerning Annable's book is, that it also passed into the hands of James Albion. In any case this would not seem improbable, as, whilst Albion left London in 1753, the Union Scholars only became extinct about 1757, and Annable died in 1756; therefore Albion would probably be acquainted with Annable, and so might in some means become possessed of his MS. Were this the only evidence I could offer, I should not have thought it worth while presenting it here; but the following points to a closer connexion between Bath and the MS. Among the prominent peals in the MS. is one of 1040 of 'Court Bob Major,' or, as it is now called, 'Double London Court Bob.' Every treble lead end of this is written out in a very neat and clear manner; the bobs are all marked, and it appears that nearly every lead is called throughout the peal, the omits being made in the fourth lead in every course, and generally in the first lead also. In this way the peal runs in a remarkably even manner, the sixth comes home every fifth course-end, and 5-4 at every fifteenth course, or one third of the whole. This peal was at once selected to appear in Mr. Hubbard's last edition (page 78), as a tribute to Annable's attainments. As soon, however, as I saw it written out, by the observation of the omits, I knew it was no stranger to me, and turning to the Appendix of *Shipway's* work, there was the very same peal, with the composer's name appended—'G. Fisher, Bath.' This peal may have been composed by Fisher, but London Court Bob is not a method in which composition is much practised, and it seems to me more probable that it has been reproduced from Annable's book, which had found its way to Bath, than that in such a method as Court Bob both Annable and Fisher should have stumbled across the same peal. In favour of Fisher, I must remark that in *Shipway's* book there is also a peal of Bob Major, and one, with the tenors parted, of Treble Bob Major, neither of which can I find in Annable's book. Still, he may have been tempted to send this peal in for the Appendix, although it was not strictly his own. I should like to know something more about Fisher, and whether anything is now known concerning any such books having been in Bath. *Shipway* came from Bath, but he does not mention any of the peals to be found in Annable's book. I therefore think he cannot have seen it, as otherwise some of them would surely not have escaped his discriminating eye.

When examining the Union Scholars' peal-book with my friend Mr. Tuke, we copied it *in extenso*, and have thought of reprinting it for private circulation. Other matters have, however, engaged our attention. Still, to those who take an interest in the early records of change-ringing, the contents—consisting of records of the peals, many with the calling, together with the names of members enrolled in the Society and the rules—could not fail to be of interest. When, however, we have leisure to return to the matter, so as to estimate the cost, it will be a consideration as to whether our endeavours in the interests of the public will meet with sufficient support to carry the work out, as, if we solicit subscribers, it must be remembered that *we* have all the information already in our hands, and we shall act merely from a wish to place others in the possession of the same information.

In answer to the question (Dec. 30th) concerning College Triples, I may say that the places made are fifth's places from before, and that, therefore, I suppose, it is the same as that which has been rung at Appleton. The College Bob Major, 5040 of which was also rung by the College Youths, is the same variation on eight bells, and has, therefore, sixth's place from before made. Concerning the other question, about the age of a ringer, I expect, when I have found time to write a short paper for these columns, to show to what great ages many ringers live, that there will be at once an enormous increase of learners in our bellfries! Without looking up many facts, I have instances of different men ringing in peals of over five thousand changes at 81, 82, and 88 years of age; but perhaps the most extraordinary instance is that of a tough old veteran who turned out and tackled the tenor in 5040 of Bob Major at the age of 86! As I hope, some time, to put all my memoranda on this matter into a readable form, I shall be glad to receive, at the above address, any records of veteran peals, or instances of old ages that are probably unknown to me. I may mention that the ages of the foregoing *different* persons are taken from peals in which James Barham took part.

Annable's MS.

SIR,—The Rev. H. T. Ellacombe is deserving the congratulation of all ringers for his discovery of this invaluable MS., the contents of which, with that of other equally valuable MSS. brought forward recently by Mr. Jasper W. Snowdon, has removed much erroneous opinion hitherto existing, and for placing bell-ringing history on a more proper basis.

Such facts fall very hard on London ringers, and the friends of Holt generally, as they must now give up all claim of having composed and performed the first peal of Triples; and that also of priority for the peal known as Holt's Original; another having been found many years its senior, and the 'Hicks Triples' question disposed of completely.

Much of this misrepresentation of facts is, I believe, to be traced, and is due, to the authors of the *Clavis*, 1788; whether by design or negligence it is hard to say, but certain circumstances point strongly to the former. The book sings praises to Holt almost throughout its pages, and only mentions the names of Annable and others, seemingly for the purpose of placing 'the poor unlettered youth' upon 'the summit of fame.' Such are almost their own words, and in order to do this they omitted the names and compositions of others quite as praiseworthy as those of the celebrated author so much commended.

Now, it is well known that ringing was very generally practised in the city of Norwich at an early date, and long before the publication of the *Clavis* there were in that city persons who had composed and rung peals in various methods; and be those peals *true* or *false*, these persons were so far advanced in the art in 1788 as to entitle them to a position second to none in 'The Ringing Island.' But the authors of the *Clavis* were apparently bent on overthrowing everything in favour of Holt, and the result was, that although Norwich had been such a ringing centre, not a *single* subscriber came from that city, and only one from the whole county of Norfolk! The truth of this may be proved by referring to the list of subscribers to the first edition of that work, which proves also that it was not then considered a fair and just representative of ringing matters.

My opinion of the Note-book is, that it has been quietly kept out of sight for many years—perhaps for some special purpose; and also that the peal of Triples by 'an unknown author,' found in the *Clavis*, is one that might have suggested itself to any one who had read that Note-book. I heartily thank Mr. Snowdon for bringing these matters to light. NORFOLK DUMPLING.

Change-ringing by the Yorkshire Association.

On Friday, Jan. 5th, the Society rang at St. Matthew's, Holbeck, Leeds, 5040 changes of Grandsire Triples, in 2 hrs. 50 mins. H. Hubbard, jun., treble; C. Jackson, 2nd; J. Lockwood, 3rd; W. Whitaker, 4th; W. Walker, 5th; T. Lockwood, 6th; J. Winder, 7th; R. Binns, tenor. The peal—Holt's original one-part—was conducted by C. Jackson. Weight of tenor, 16 cwt.

On Saturday, Jan. 6th, the Society rang at St. Mary's, Hunslet, Leeds, 5040 changes of Grandsire Triples, in 3 hrs. 6 mins. W. Pick, treble; C. Jackson, 2nd; H. Hubbard, jun., 3rd; R. Tuke, Esq., 4th; J. Lockwood, 5th; W. Whitaker, 6th; W. H. Howard, 7th; J. Buckley, tenor. The peal—Holt's ten-part—was conducted by C. Jackson. Weight of tenor, 21 cwt.

On Saturday, Jan. 13th, the Society rang at St. Matthew's, Holbeck, Leeds, 5056 changes of Kent Treble Bob Major, in 2 hrs. 56 mins. T. Harrison, treble; S. Bassett, 2nd; H. Moss, 3rd; R. Tuke, 4th; G. Barraclough, 5th; T. Lockwood, 6th; T. West, 7th; R. Binns, tenor. The peal—a curtailed two-part composition, with the sixth 24 times home at the last four-course ends of each part—was composed by W. Harrison of Mottram, and conducted by T. Lockwood. Weight of tenor, 16 cwt.—*Contributed*.

Ancient Society of College Youths.

On Saturday, Jan. 13th, eight members of the above Society rang at St. Matthew's, Bethnal Green, a true peal of Stedman Triples, containing 5040 changes, in 2 hrs. 58 mins. The performers were:—G. Dorrington, treble;

M. A. Wood, 2nd; G. Muskett, 3rd; H. Booth, 4th; H. W. Ellicott, Esq., 5th; R. Haworth, 6th; W. Cooter, 7th; G. Mash, tenor. W. Cooter called the peal.—*Communicated*.

Redenhall, Norfolk.

On Saturday, Jan. 13th, the Redenhall ringers celebrated the 141st anniversary of their Society. The company included Gervas Holmes, Esq., the Rev. N. Bolingbroke, Captain Moore, the Rev. J. Bligh, E. C. Hopper, Esq., C. Downton, Esq., and other friends, with the ringers from Loddon, Beccles, Bungay, Diss, Kelsall, Topcroft, Alburgh, Mendham, Pulham, and other places. The Rector (the Rev. T. T. Perowne) also came and spoke a few kindly words, but was unable to stay for dinner, having a previous engagement. During the day touches of Double Norwich Court Bob, Stedman's Triples, Oxford Treble Bob, and Bob Major, were rung by the various companies assembled.—*Contributed*.

Dedication of a Ring of Bells at St. Luke's, Deptford.

On Sunday week an interesting service was held in the church of St. Luke's, Deptford. This was the dedication of a ring of eight chiming bells, which have been cast and fixed in the tower of this church by Messrs. Warner of Cripplegate. These bells have been procured by the subscriptions of the congregation of St. Luke's, and the amount required (320l.) has been all but realised. The church was suitably decorated for the occasion by Mr. Clarke, of the Royal Victoria Victualling Yard. Those who have visited this church will remember that the tower rises over the chancel arch, between the nave and the chancel apse. Mr. Clarke had arranged a frame immediately beneath the tower on the floor of the church, and temporary cords, with tassels, were united to each of the bells, the whole being surrounded by a collection of choice plants and flowers. The Psalms selected for the occasion were the 19th, 47th, and 81st. Suitable lessons were likewise read, and after the third collect the Rev. J. Malcolmson, the Vicar of the church, and the Rev. H. Small, the curate, took their places immediately beneath the tower, and, kneeling down beside the framework, recited the special service for the occasion. After this, Sir Antonio Brady (who was born in what is now St. Luke's new district), escorted by the churchwardens (Messrs. Pakes and Sheppard) and sidesmen, laying hold of the temporary cords, rang a peal, which was afterwards taken up by Mr. Haley, from Messrs. Warner's, who played on the bells the tune of the hymn 'Rock of Ages.' The first special hymn was then sung, 'They are lifted to the tower,' &c. After the Communion Service the Rev. J. Malcolmson, the Vicar, preached a suitable sermon from Ps. lxxxix. 15, 'Blessed is the people that know the joyful sound.' At the close of the service a merry peal was rung. The collections in aid of the bell fund amounted in the day to about 17l. Great praise is due to Mr. Morris, of the Surrey Commercial Docks, for the way in which he has worked up the bells' fund.—*Kentish Mercury*.

Ringling at Benington, Herts.

SIR,—We send you programme of our proceedings during the past year, which have been most accurately recorded in our ringing register last year, beginning from January 1st, 1876, and ending January 1st, 1877. During the last twelve months, inclusive of our regular meetings, with our weekly and ordinary ringing meetings, this our village company of Change-ringers has rung during the last twelve months the large number of 120,420 changes in eight distinct methods, on seven or eight bells. This is now mentioned, as we wish to know what may be the relative number of changes that have been rung by any other of our friends belonging to different societies in other parts of England. It would be satisfactory to ask this curious question in *Church Bells*; and it would be a great pleasure to us if, by the question being canvassed by all friends in this amusing science of change-ringing, the art could be benefited by an increased desire of becoming proficient in the science of change-ringing. LEONARD PROCTOR.

Ringling at Georgeham, Devon.

A SERVICE in celebration of the rehanging of the church bells was held here on Thursday, the 11th inst. The bells have been successfully rehung by Messrs. Hooper and Stokes, of Woodbury, near Exeter, who have also placed Ellacombe's chiming apparatus, by which the six bells can be chimed by one person, the machinery not interfering in any way with the ringing. The Guild of Devonshire Ringers accepted an invitation to give the bells their first sounding. They rang a peal of Grandsire Doubles before service, to the delight of the astonished villagers. At one o'clock the members of the Guild, the local ringers, and others, dined at the Rectory, under the presidency of the Rev. W. G. Morcom. After dinner a move was made to the church for afternoon service, before which the Guild gave a touch of Minor, consisting of 216 changes. The order of Evening Prayer was used, with selected psalms and lessons, to the end of the third collect, when special prayers were offered up on the occasion of the rededication of a ring of church bells. After the singing of an appropriate hymn a pause was made, and for some minutes all sat quietly and listened to the voices of the bells, which now were pealing forth. The ringing over, the Rev. J. L. L. Fulford preached on the uses of church bells, founded on the text, 'We be, being many, are one body in Christ, and every one members one of another' (Rom. xii. 5). The members of the Guild who rang on this occasion were—W. G. Goss, H. Swift, W. H. Marsh, C. Daniels, W. B. Fulford, F. Shepherd, W. C. Marsh, conductor—all from Exeter—with G. Bowen from Ilfracombe.—*Contributed*.

New Bells at Crayford, Kent.

WE are pleased to record the dedication of a ring of eight new bells, as a memorial gift of the late David Evans, Esq., of Crayford. The bells are by Messrs. Mears of Whitechapel. The dedication, with the usual appropriate prayers and hymns, took place at the parish church on Thursday, the 10th inst. The Rector, the Hon. Canon Smith, preached an appropriate sermon, his text being Rom. x. 18. Various touches of Grandsire Triples were rung by members of the West Kent Guild of Ringers.—*Communicated*.

RECEIVED ALSO.—G. Squer; J. Astbury; B. F. Smith; and others.

possible way the Bishop. Now, sir, I have only given you a few specimens of the interior working of our Nomination system; and I ask you, Is it any wonder young men prefer other spheres, where independence of thought, at least, will be secured to them, and honest work rewarded without the imposition of wretched shibboleths and party cries? Were I beginning life again I fear I should act as they are doing, for surely the Church which passes by its ablest divines, like Drs. Salmon, Jollett, MacDonnell, Byrne, &c., and elects to its highest positions, bishoprics, &c., comparatively unknown men, provided only they be Revisionists, has no right to complain if the ablest of its Divinity students transfer their services to a more promising sphere.

AN IRISH VICAR.

Evangelists.

SIR,—Much has been said by many writers to your paper respecting a Sub-diaconate. The inference to be drawn from your correspondents is, that there is a vast number of earnest, fairly-educated, gifted Churchmen, who are able to do a work for Christ and His Church, but who are precluded by circumstances from so doing. Talents are buried in the earth; lights are put under a bushel.

May I offer a suggestion for a remedy—one which will in no way interfere with any existing arrangements, and one which will at once lead to a satisfactory solution of the difficulty? My case will make plain what I suggest.

Some years ago I felt strongly moved to seek Holy Orders, but under my circumstances it was almost useless to entertain the idea. I could not conscientiously remain silent, and, seeing no opening of any description for me in my own beloved Church, I became associated with the preachers who conduct revival services in theatres, halls, &c. These services are largely attended, and, I hope, good is done by them; but they have these three great disadvantages,—(1.) The Truth, as declared by our Church, cannot be fully stated for fear of incurring suspicion; (2.) People impressed at these services generally continue to attend them, and consequently never become communicants, or even get beyond the most elementary truths; and, (3.) The clergyman of the parish not having been consulted, they generally partake of a Nonconformist character.

For the information of your readers let me say that these services are generally arranged by some Society. Now, could not those who earnestly desire to do some real work for Christ be formed into a 'Church-of-England Evangelisation Society?' To improve upon a well-known advertisement, why should not the C. E. S. be prepared to send a duly qualified evangelist to any part of England or Wales, upon due notice being given to the honorary secretary?

Humanly speaking, the success of such a movement would depend upon the support of the clergy, but I have no doubt myself that many, of all shades of opinion, who desire to reach the masses, would open their halls and schools for the evangelist's services. Of course, no preacher would visit a place without the express invitation of the clergyman of the parish.

If such an effort could be accomplished, a host of faithful preachers, without infringing on the rights of others, would be at the service of the Church. Churchmen of all shades of opinion would, for the cause of Christ, associate together, and learn to regard each other on the broad basis of love for souls. The advantages of such a movement would be incalculable.

I will not trespass on your space by showing how the idea may be matured, but I will communicate with any who desire information on the subject.

10 Arlington Road, Camden Town, N.W.

W.

Suggestions.

SIR,—In large parishes we are obliged to consider how we may economise the time and energy of both parson and people. May I make a few suggestions? We want,—

1. An authorised shortened form of administering the Holy Communion, to be used at the discretion of the clergyman when there are large numbers to communicate.

2. An authorised shortened Baptismal Service, so that baptisms could really take place after the last lesson, as directed by rubric.

3. To know how best to arrange, or combine, Holy Communion, Morning Prayer, Litany, Sermon, and Catechising, without unduly lengthening or multiplying the services on Sundays. When added to all these there are baptisms and Sunday schools, the parson's Sunday becomes a regular scramble.

4. To make use of the Wednesday evening by having missionary addresses, &c. (when needed), instead of sermon, thus avoiding the multiplication of week-night meetings.

5. In all small churches, and especially in villages, we need common sense in the musical department. It is becoming the fashion to attempt to intone the service on G. the psalms are then monotoned on the same high note, and then Tallis' Festival Responses crown the medley. The use of a high note is, that the voice may travel; thus, in a cathedral A is often the right note, in a large church G is suitable, but in a small one F or E is quite sufficient. The responses should be simple and subdued, in the same low key; and for reciting the Psalms E should never be exceeded. Again, it is the fashion to race through the hymns, the Lord's Prayer, and Creed, the commas in the most solemn part, 'Crucified, dead, and buried,' being entirely neglected, while, as a contrast, all the 'Amens' are drawn out to an absurd length.

When will English people learn not to attempt (in public at least) what they cannot do passably, not to say well? I am convinced that much prejudice is excited against the present happy revival of decency and order, not only by the excesses of extreme men, but by the want of practical common sense in the conducting of our services.

E. H. Y.

The South London Diocese.

SIR,—No one has a good word to say for the monstrous arrangement by which the teeming millions of South London are to be handed over to the ministrations of a distant country town in another county, with which South London has no civil connexion whatever. Divorce is written on the

face of such an ill-assorted union, and divorce from an accustomed diocese is a great nuisance to parochial organization. Is it too late for the Surrey clergy to get up a petition to the Bishop of Winchester, asking his Lordship either to get a Bishop for Surrey alone, or else to keep on South London until the way is made plain for a Surrey bishopric? Winchester has historical associations and a Bishop universally beloved, and in losing these Surrey gains nothing whatever by a union with Rochester. Will no one speak out what everybody feels as to this great mistake, whilst it is yet retrievable?

A LAY CHURCHMAN.

Temperance and Total Abstinence.

SIR,—I know of no better paper on the subject of Temperance than one that might be constructed from the preface and concluding remarks of a little book on *The Ministration of Public Baptism of Infants*, with Explanatory Observations, by Mr. Venables, the Vicar of Yarmouth. These remarks and observations are, as you said not long ago of another little book by the same author, 'Clear, well written, and interesting,' and if put into the form of a Temperance tract, would be most valuable as such.

We sadly want 'some stirring tracts' on the subject; but they must have for their basis the fact that *Temperance*, like every other Christian virtue, must proceed from a sense of the relationship in which, as Christians, we stand towards God.

THO. FENTON, Vicar of Hugil or Ings.

Ings, Kendal.

Tea and Coffee at Railway Stations.

SIR,—Allow me to endorse the complaint of a correspondent a fortnight ago as to the high charge made at railway stations for tea and coffee, and the generally inferior quality of the beverages supplied under those names. For myself, I have frequently taken beer or stout at refreshment-rooms simply because I could not trust the water, and I did not care to give sixpence for a cup of scarcely drinkable tea or coffee.

AN ABSTAINER.

SIR,—Will you permit me to supplement the information respecting St. Luke's Church, Kilburn, with the important fact that schools for the education of 550 children are now completed, and will be opened immediately? They are close to the church, and are indeed built on a portion of the site given by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners and Sir John Need for Church purposes. I am proud to add they are a practical proof of the abhorrence in which School Boards are held in the parish of Willesden, and that Churchmen are ready and willing to fulfil those obligations that they owe to their humbler fellow-parishioners.

J. E. BONNETT.

Cricklewood, near Kilburn.

SIR,—It is perfectly horrible to read in *Church Bells* of Jan. 20, p. 82, of it being said at a Clerical Conference that any party in the Church of England were 'doing the work of Satan'!!! Surely it is a wrong report? I hope so. If it was spoken, God forgive the man, and deliver this poor, distressed Church of England, in her present distracted state, from all envy, hatred, and malice, and all uncharitableness, such as exhibited at Islington.

ONE WHO OWES MUCH TO AN EVANGELICAL CLERGYMAN OF THIRTY YEARS AGO.

AN INCUMBENT would feel very grateful to any subscribers to *Church Bells* who can furnish him with information relative to any burial guilds or societies of a like character, with which they may be acquainted. Rules of such associations and any other replies may be directed 'T. M., Post Office, Poole, Dorset.'

THE REV. Richard Johnson, Liscomb, Nova Scotia, desires to thank an unknown sender of *Church Bells* for the past year.

If 'J. Z.' likes to give his name and address, that answers may be sent to him direct, we will insert his inquiry.

RECEIVED ALSO.—An Enquirer.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Meeting of Old Bell-ringers at Lang Kirk, in Craven, Yorks.

ON Sunday, the last day of the old year, a very interesting meeting of old bell-ringers took place at the Lang Kirk in Craven. The meeting was to celebrate the eighty-fourth anniversary of the birthday of Mr. Henry Dickinson, the oldest ringer in the neighbourhood, who had been invited to meet a party of his old friends and associates at this place. A desire had been expressed that a company should ring on this occasion, all of whom had rung together fifty years ago, and it was a remarkable sight to witness this ancient set as they entered the tower, how they took their places, adjusted the ropes, &c. Morning Pleasure was selected as the method, because it was stated that the bells were opened with that peal in the last century, and that a 720 on the same method was rung on them by the Bingley ringers when the bells were rehung twenty-five years ago. Though some of the old stagers expressed doubts as to their abilities before starting, yet they not only performed two lengths in the above almost-forgotten peal, but the 'oldest ringer' had the audacity to call out for Bob Minor, and, though the others were only expecting to have a slight touch, he prolonged the peal by giving out Bob. The united ages of the party amounted to 431 years, or an average of more than 71, and a very confident opinion was expressed by several experienced persons present that in all probability the same kind of thing would never be witnessed again by any one now living. Besides this very pleasing affair of the old man, other sets were formed by the various visitors from Bingley, Holmfirth, Skipton, and other places, assisted by the Kidwick ringers, and some excellent ringing was rendered on Yorks and Trebles in the closing moments of the old year.—*Local Paper.*

[We hope they all went to church and returned thanks for mercies granted to them through so many years.—ED.]

Change-ringing by the Yorkshire Association.

ON Saturday, January 20th, the Society rang at St. Oswald's, Guiseley, near Leeds, 7008 changes of Kent Treble Bob Major, in 4 hrs. 1 min. C. Ralph, treble; T. Lockwood, 2nd; F. Maston, 3rd; J. Whitaker, 4th; W. McGowan, 5th; H. Hubbard, jun., 6th; L. Cawood, 7th; J. Winder, tenor. The peal was composed by S. Marsh and conducted by L. Cawood. Weight of tenor, 11 cwt.

On the 22nd eight members of the above Association rang at St. Matthew's, Holbeck, Leeds, 5036 of Kent Treble Bob Major, in 2 hrs. 55 mins. The ringers were—H. Hubbard, treble; T. Lockwood, 2nd; H. Moss, 3rd; J. Lockwood, 4th; W. Walker, 5th; G. Barraclough, 6th; W. Whitaker, 7th; R. Bluns, tenor. Weight, 16 cwt. Composed by J. Lockwood and conducted by W. Whitaker.—*Contributed.*

Young Conductors.

C. H. JESSOP, a College Youth, called Mr. John Holt's one-part peal of Grandsire Triples twice before he was 21 years of age. On the first occasion, at South Hackney, he rang the 7th bell—weight of tenor, one ton; the next, at St. Matthew's, Upper Clapton, when he rang the 2nd bell.

Mr. Mann informs us that John R. Pritchard, of Liverpool, a member of the Ancient Society of College Youths, London, rang and conducted a peal of 5040 changes at the age of 17 (see *Church Bells*, January 10, 1874); and again when 19 (see our issue of November 6, 1875).

Wm. Royals, aged 19 (see below), conducted 5040 at Burton-on-Trent on the 15th inst.

John Carter, in his 21st year, conducted 5040 changes at West Bromwich, February 22, 1874.

John Dixon writes, that at Birstall, Yorkshire, the average age of the ringers in 1875 was only 20, ranging from 17 to 27 years.

Change-ringing at Aston, near Birmingham.

ON Monday, Jan. 15th, ten members of the St. Martin's Society met at Aston Church, and rang a peal of Stedman's Caters, containing 5050 changes, in 3 hrs. 10 mins. The members were—J. Perks (conductor), treble; W. Haywood, 2nd; J. Joynes, 3rd; J. Day, 4th; H. Johnson, sen. (composer), 5th; J. S. Pritchett, Esq., 6th; H. Johnson, jun., 7th; H. Bastable, 8th; S. Jarman, 9th; J. Buffery, tenor.—*Contributed.*

Change-ringing at Tewkesbury, Gloucestershire.

ON Monday, January 15th, the Tewkesbury Abbey Society of Change-ringers rang Taylor's six-part peal of Grandsire Triples in 3 hrs. 3 mins. G. Cleal (aged 15), treble; C. Davies, Esq., 2nd; G. Haines, jun., 3rd; E. Insall, 4th; John Wathen, 5th; Josiah Wathen, 6th; E. Wallis, 7th; W. Haines, tenor. Conducted by Josiah Wathen. Weight of tenor, 23 cwt. Key D.—*Contributed.*

Change-ringing at Burton-on-Trent, Staffordshire.

ON Monday, January 15th, was rung at the parish church a peal of 5040 Taylor's six-part peal of Grandsire Triples, in 3 hrs. 5 mins., being the first complete peal rung there since 1839. The ringers were—F. Broughton, treble; T. Leach, 2nd; W. Royals, 3rd; F. Bullock, 4th; J. Walker, 5th; W. Potts, 6th; W. Fearnough, 7th; J. Leach, tenor. Weight, 25 cwt. Conducted by Wm. Royals, 19 years of age.—*Contributed.*

Ringling in Lent.

MR. PHILLIPS may ring as usual on Sundays, but should abstain from pleasure peals on week-days.

Ringling at Asbourne, Derbyshire.

WE are sorry and surprised to hear that the ringers at this beautiful church can only ring 'CALL CHANGES.' If they wish to appear in *Church Bells*, they must learn a more excellent way of using the bells.

Date Touch.

AT Walsall, on the 10th inst., 1877 Stedman's Caters.

Six Bells not to be despised.

THE particulars of some of the performances on the ring of six bells at Bingley, Yorkshire, are abridged from an account lately published by one of the craft. They will be appreciated by all true ringers, and will be interesting to ringing friends.

The first to record is a peal that was rung in 1798, on the occasion of William Busfield, Esq., of Myrtle Grove, attaining his majority. The company on that day rang seven whole peals of 720 changes each, in all 5040 changes, on the most difficult of known methods, all 'Snappers,' namely, Chester, London, Carlisle, Chelsea, Lincoln, Lichfield, Wells. The ringers were stationed as follows:—James Tillotson, treble; Isaac Rhodes, 2nd; Hezekiah Briggs, 3rd; William Moulding, 4th; Henry Moulding, 5th; Joseph Longbottom, tenor. Weight of tenor, 11 cwt. 3 qrs. This will be acknowledged to be a most remarkable and uncommon feat, all the performers being members of the Bingley Company. Leaving out minor, though praiseworthy results, during the intermediate periods, the next greatest achievement took place in 1826.

ON Shrove Tuesday, February 7th, 1826, the Society rang, without a single break-down or a false change, the extraordinary number of 36 twelve scores, in all 8040 changes, on the following various methods, viz.:—Oxford, Violet, New London Pleasure, Duke of York, Kent, College Pleasure, College Treble, City Delight, Tulip, Primrose, Oxford Reverse, London Scholars' Pleasure, Morning Exercise, Cambridge, Morning Star, Evening Star, Coventry, Ely, Rochester, Treble Bob Reverse, Morning Pleasure, Symphony, Cheapside, College Delight, Royal Bob, Worcester, Chichester, Durham, York, Bristol, Lichfield, London, Wells, College Exercise, London Delight, Evening Exercise. The ringers on this occasion were stationed thus:—John Briggs, treble; David Bailey, 2nd; Hezekiah Briggs, 3rd; James Lilley, 4th; Henry Dickinson, 5th; Isaac Rhodes, tenor. The peals were conducted by Hezekiah Briggs and Isaac Rhodes. Time occupied in ringing, 6 hours and 11 minutes. The above is the greatest number of peals on record rung by one company, all living in the same town; and was acknowledged to be a masterpiece by the

best authorities of the time. The performance, so far as is known, is without a parallel in the history of change-ringing.

In this wide field the Bingley Society continued to range, with occasional extra 'Touches,' and red-letter days, which cannot be enumerated.

ON the 18th April, 1843, the remains of John Nicholson, the Airedale poet, were interred in the Bingley parish churchyard, and the company rang a solemn slow-beat mourning peal, with the bells muffled on the occasion, in respect to the memory of the bard, who had so often made the bells his theme. The poet was a frequent visitor to the belfry and a warm friend of the ringers, who have treasured up many of his quaint sayings, when he was enjoying a social chat with them.

ON the 17th August, 1849, 'Touches' from the following 'Taking Peals' were rung during the day:—College Pleasure, College Treble, City Delight, Primrose, Tulip, London Scholars' Pleasure, Morning Exercise, Cambridge, Evening Star, Coventry, Ely, Rochester, and Royal Bob; followed by a 'Crown Bob' on the 'Three Flowers.' The company at this time consisted of three fathers and their three sons, who rang the above stationed as follows:—David Bailey, treble; Joseph Dickinson, 2nd; T. Wilkinson Green, 3rd; Henry Dickinson, 4th; William Bailey, 5th; Thomas Green, tenor. Conducted by Henry Dickinson and David Bailey. The performance of these difficult pieces was considered noteworthy at the time, on account of the youth of three of the party.

ON the 16th November, 1851, the company went successfully through various 'Touches' on some of the most intricate peals, including 'Snappers,' and after that rang two 'Crown Bobs' on the following arrangements:—Oxford, College Pleasure, College Treble, and Violet, Tulip, Primrose. The following were the performers:—David Bailey, treble; Henry Dickinson, 2nd; T. Wilkinson Green, 3rd; Edward Walbank, 4th; William Bailey, 5th; Thomas Green, tenor. Conducted by David Bailey and Henry Dickinson. The latter portion of this feat (that is, the two 'Crown Bobs') is admitted by the best judges to be a most severe test, and is rarely attempted where the performers are all members of the same company.

Again, on Shrove Tuesday in the following year, 1852, the Society rang twelve and eighteen scores on each of the following peals:—Oxford, Violet, Duke of York, City Delight, Primrose, Tulip, Cambridge, London Scholars' Pleasure, Coventry, Ely, Morning Pleasure, Symphony, Cheapside, Chichester, and Worcester. The company were stationed in the following manner:—D. Bailey, treble; H. Dickinson, 2nd; W. Bailey, 3rd; E. Walbank, 4th; T. W. Green, 5th; T. Green, tenor. Conducted by H. Dickinson and E. Walbank. The excellence of the above performance consisted in the fact that so many of the methods come under the head of 'Surprise Peals.'

During the next few years the Society rang several 'Five Thousands;' in one case on seven 'Taking Peals.' Date peals on 'Cramp methods' were rung in 1871 and 1872.

ON the 26th December, 1872, the Society rang 1872 changes, in the following broken-lead variations:—College Pleasure, College Treble, Tulip, Primrose, City Delight, Cambridge, Morning Exercise, Evening Exercise, London Scholars' Pleasure, Ebor, Echoes of Airedale. This meeting was held to celebrate the eightieth anniversary of Henry Dickinson, the oldest ringer. It would be difficult to refer to any similar performance by a ringer eighty years of age, and it is not improbable that it may be the only instance of an octogenarian being equal to the mental and physical strain required to accomplish this task. The whole composition was effected without a stoppage, and the bells brought round in one hour and twenty minutes. After its completion, and a short interval of rest, an additional 180 changes of Bob Minor were rung. The band were stationed as follows:—Jonas Ainsworth, treble; Henry Dickinson, 2nd; Thomas Walbank, 3rd; Samuel Green, 4th; Thomas Green, 5th; T. W. Green, tenor. Composed and conducted by T. W. Green.

ON Sunday, 26th October, 1873, the following seven intricate peals were rung by the Society, varying from 120 to 360 changes. They were called in succession, and performed without any difficulty:—Ebor, Evening Exercise, Ely, College Pleasure, Primrose, London Scholars' Pleasure, Cambridge. The following composed the band:—B. Lightfoot, treble; H. Dickinson, 2nd; T. Walbank, 3rd; T. Green, 4th; T. W. Green, 5th; S. Green, tenor. Conducted by T. W. Green. The above, which was rung in the order given, will be appreciated by all true lovers of the art. The company simply met for ordinary service, and, without any previous arrangement or conversation, pieces from these difficult compositions were called and accomplished with ease. The actual number of changes was 1536. This was the last ringing on the old six. A short time previously it had been decided to increase the number of the bells, but the company were quite unaware that this would be the last ringing on the well-used old ring, until a workman unexpectedly arrived on the following day to take away one of the bells. The fact of the above 'Cramp' methods being performed in this accidental manner gives it an additional interest, as showing how thoroughly the Society had made themselves conversant with the critical peals.

Thus, for precisely a century, and up to the very last day of the existence of this ring, change-ringing, in the higher branches of the art, was strenuously cultivated on the Bingley bells; and, as will be seen from the records, without any assistance from any other Society.

In 1873 the order was given for two new bells; and one of these being of large size for a new tenor, one of the old six was reduced in tone to suit the alteration, and that process may be said to have closed the history of the old bells as a ring in themselves.

These few notes on the bells and the ringing on them from 1773 to 1873 have been suggested by frequent inquiries from bell-ringers and others; and to the initiated will be amply sufficient to show that during the whole of that time the science of change-ringing was well maintained at Bingley, and that this Society has contributed not a little towards meriting and preserving for England the title of 'The Ringing Island.'

The New Home Dioceses.

SIR,—A 'Lay Churchman' only expresses the general dissatisfaction with the proposal to put South London into Rochester diocese. The present Rochester diocese, with half of Canterbury (the Primate having more than enough work in the way of general supervision and administration), with a more fitting development of THAMES MISSIONS, and coming as high as Deptford, would be quite enough work for any man realising what is expected of a Bishop now-a-days, without Southwark, and it has its own cathedral. St. Saviour's, Southwark, on the other hand, would be a fitting cathedral for the diocese of Southwark, embracing the whole of Surrey.

London diocese should embrace a radius of four miles (except river-wise) from its cathedral. The whole of Middlesex, except this radius, would form the diocese of, say, Harrow. Herts would form the diocese of St. Alban's, including eventually the southern portion of Ely, urgently needing relief, and well able to contribute to the endowment. Essex coming up to the London radius, and embracing a vast suburban population, would give ample scope to the strongest and best of living Bishops. To embrace, like St. Alban's, a southern portion of overgrown Ely: name and cathedral, Chelmsford or Colchester.

The preposterous union of Herts and Essex is an absurdity, and is being treated as such. The delay and difficulty of endowing the proposed see and restoring the venerable abbey intended for its cathedral, can only be accounted for in this way, viz., by the thing *not commending itself to people's common sense*—a fact not to be lost sight of in the Government proposal of four new sees in next session.

I submitted the above scheme to the late Lord Lyttelton, who honoured it with his general approval, though he did not see his way to carrying it out then. For myself, I should like to know 'the reason why' Government should not begin with it, or something like it. W. P., Stifford.

'Our Unhappy Divisions.'

SIR,—Few congregations are aware of the existence of the Prayer for Unity. Lawfully or not, ought it not to be offered up in every church at the present juncture? Might it not be added to family and to private prayer with advantage? Its public use might lead us all 'seriously to lay to heart the great dangers we are in by our unhappy divisions.' The Church is being shaken to its foundation by the lawlessness of presbyters in the dioceses of Colombo, Rochester, &c.; by the carnal intolerance of godless laymen; by the strifes of rival societies for Church Disunion, and for Church Persecution; by the slanderous rancour of partisan Church newspapers; and by a superabundance of zeal not according to knowledge. Meanwhile the world mocks, souls perish, Christ's name is derided, and nobody reflects how utterly opposed the spirit of all this carnal strife is to the Spirit of God. Is it not, then, a special time for this prayer to be offered in every church that God will 'take away all hatred and prejudice, and whatsoever else may hinder us from godly union and concord'?

There is no greater foe to Mission-work at home and abroad, to converting the unconverted, and to bringing others to the knowledge of the truth as it is in Jesus, than these carnal envyings, factions, and partyisms, which are essentially of the world (1 Cor. ii. 3). Let us rather pray one for the other (2 Thess. iii. 2).

A LAY CHURCHMAN.

SIR,—Will you kindly allow me to acknowledge, with many thanks (as requested by the donor), the receipt of P. O. order for 11. 1s. for the Home for Printers' Boys, from the Rev. S. T. Girdham, St. George's, Kingston, Jamaica. Your readers will be glad to learn that there will be ten boys out of our Guild presented to the Bishop for Confirmation this year. I am very greatly in need of helpers who would share with me the work in which I am engaged. I do hope that God will put into the hearts of some to come forward, and in His name I can promise them the pleasure of seeing their self-denial fully appreciated by our boys.

Thanking you for all your kindness to my boys and myself, I am,

HENRY WILLS,

Secretary and Treasurer to the Printers' Guild for Boys.

23 Florence Street, Islington, N.

Wooden Buildings.

SIR,—In your issue of Dec. 23rd you kindly inserted an inquiry about the cost, &c., of wooden buildings for church or parish purposes, and in reply your next number contained a letter from Mr. Thomas T. Ponsonby, offering gladly 'to give all the information' I needed. I immediately wrote to him, but have received no reply! After waiting nearly a fortnight I wrote again, and again have had no answer! As it would be waste of time to write a third letter to so fabulous a person, may I ask if there are any other of your readers who can tell me anything about the probable cost (and the maker's name) of wooden buildings? J. Z.

Post Office, Thurlow Terrace, Lower Norwood.

SIR,—The following occurs in an article in *Vanity Fair* of the 20th ult.:—'He (Dr. Newman) has twice distinguished himself of late in a way which shows that the old spirit and power are still in him, once by declaring the dogma of Infallibility "a lie forced on the Church by an insolent and aggressive faction;" and still later by answering Mr. Gladstone's pamphlet on *Vaticanism* through a letter, whereby he practically threw over the Vatican decrees altogether.'

May I ask where to find the first declaration alluded to, and also by whom the letter containing the second was published? PAROCHUS.

Guernsey, 26th Jan. 1877.

[We fancy that *Vanity Fair* will have been found to have 'freely translated' Dr. Newman's language. The first declaration will, probably, be found in Mr. Gladstone's pamphlet, and the letter was published, we believe, by B. M. Pickering, Piccadilly.—Ed.]

WILL any of the readers of *Church Bells* be good enough to inform M. D. if 'Mrs. Kitchener's Calendar' still exists, or any list of Examinations for Women, of the same kind?

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Composing made Easy.

SIR,—Some little time ago a letter appeared under the above heading, signed 'Another aggrieved Composer.' In this letter it was shown that from any true composition several others could be obtained. Now, Sir, some composers tell us that such is not the case, and that it is ridiculous to talk such nonsense. I wish, therefore, to ask a question on the point, and shall feel obliged if some one of your readers will answer the same. I have found a peal containing 6720 changes, and the 60 course-ends in 20 courses, and I also find that my peal has the same relation to Mr. John Cox's peal, which has the same qualities as S. Austin's 8448 has to that of J. Reeves' 8448. What I want to ask is, Can I claim to be the composer of the peal in question, or not? For the purpose of making my question easily understood by all, and for the information of some of your readers, I give the four peals, A, B, C, and D; and by the side of each place where bobs are called I have placed letters, which should be read alphabetically in each case, commencing at the bottom of peals A and C and at the top of those of B and D, and in each two compositions it will be seen that the double and single bobs correspond exactly, and which, I think, is what is meant by pricking backwards.

I have also another question to ask, viz., Is it possible to alter a one-part peal, with fifth and sixth extent wrong and right, so as to retain those qualities in the peal when altered? I may say that these remarks apply only to Treble Bob Peals, and the last one to peals of about 5024 or 5120 changes, or thereabouts.

A.					B.				
*8 4 4 8	M	B	W	H	*8 4 4 8	M	B	W	H
3 5 2 6 4	.	1 ^v	.	.	3 5 2 6 4	.	1 ^A	.	.
3 5 6 4 2	.	1 ^v	.	1 ^r	5 6 3 4 2	.	1 ^B	.	.
5 3 2 4 6	.	1 ^s	1 ⁿ	2 ^q	6 5 2 4 3	.	1 ^G	1 ^D	2 ^e
5 3 4 6 2	.	1 ^P	.	1 ^o	5 3 2 4 6	2 ^F	1 ^G	1 ⁿ	2 ⁱ
2 6 4 3 5	2 ^s	1 ⁿ	2 ^C	1 ^K	5 3 4 6 2	.	1 ^J	.	1 ^K
3 2 6 5 4	.	1 ^r	.	2 ⁱ	2 6 4 3 5	2 ^r	1 ^M	2 ^s	1 ^o
3 6 5 2 4	1 ⁿ	1 ^G	.	2 ^F	3 2 6 5 4	.	1 ^P	.	2 ^q
6 2 5 3 4	1 ^D	1 ^o	.	.	6 2 5 3 4	1 ⁿ	1 ^S	.	1 ^r
2 3 6 4 5	.	1 ^u	.	.	2 3 6 4 5	.	1 ^v	.	.
3 4 2 5 6	.	1 ^A	.	.	3 4 2 5 6	.	1 ^v	.	.

This peal is by JOHN REEVES.

And the name of S. AUSTIN is attached to this.

C.					D.				
6 7 2 0	M	B	W	H	6 7 2 0	M	B	W	H
3 6 4 5 2	1 ^r	.	.	2 ⁱ	2 4 5 3 6	1 ^A	1 ^D	2 ^C	2 ^D
5 4 6 3 2	1 ⁿ	1 ^G	.	2 ^F	4 6 5 3 2	1 ^S	.	.	2 ^F
5 6 3 4 2	.	.	1 ^E	2 ^D	6 4 2 3 5	.	1 ^G	1 ⁿ	2 ⁱ
6 2 3 4 5	2 ^C	1 ⁿ	1 ^A	2 ^K	6 2 3 4 5	.	.	1 ^J	2 ^K

This peal is by Mr. JOHN COX.

NOVICE.

Now, as peal A is to peal B, so is peal C to peal D; and therefore, if peal B is not a copy of peal A, then peal D is not a copy of peal C; but should Mr. Cox think that I have copied his peal, then it becomes evident that peal B is a copy of peal A. These (*) two compositions may be found side by side in Mr. W. Banister's book, from which I copied them. NOVICE.

Ringling at Christ Church, Pendlebury, Lancashire.

ON Saturday, January 13th, a mixed band rang Mr. J. Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, consisting of 5040 changes, in 3 hrs. 7 mins. The ringers were:—W. Booth, treble; J. Hixon, 2nd; J. Greenhalgh, 3rd; R. Ainsworth, 4th; T. Worrall, 5th; W. Warburton, 6th; J. Clarke, 7th; J. Woodcock, tenor. Conducted by T. Worrall.—*Contributed*.

Change-ringing at Almondbury, Yorkshire.

ON Saturday, January 20th, eight change-ringers met in the tower of Almondbury Church and rang Mr. William Harrison's five-part peal (Kent Treble Bob Major), consisting of 6080 changes, in 3 hrs. 43 mins., being the greatest number of changes ever rung on those bells. J. Brook (19 years old), treble; A. Kaye (20 years), 2nd; J. E. Jenkinson (19 years), 3rd; R. Hill, 4th; J. Pickering, 5th; W. Womersley (19 years), 6th; W. Boothroyd, 7th; A. Womersley, tenor and conductor. Weight of tenor, 18 cwt.—*Local Paper*.

Change-ringing at Hurworth-on-Tees.

ON Monday evening, Jan. 22nd, five of the Hurworth ringers, assisted by W. Reed, Esq., Solicitor, of North Shields, rang a peal of Bob Minor, and a peal of Grandsire Minor (1440 changes), in 58 minutes. The ringing was conducted by Mr. J. Gaines, the ringers being J. E. Hern, treble; J. Gaines, 2nd; W. Reed, 3rd; W. Loveday, 4th; H. Thompson, 5th; Joel Hern, tenor. Weight of tenor, 17 cwt. Key of F.—*Contributed*.

Rochdale, Lancashire.

ON Monday, January 22nd, the ringers of St. Chad's, Rochdale, rang their maiden peal (Holt's ten-part), in 3 hrs. 2 mins. A. Metcalfe, treble; J. G. Holt, 2nd; J. W. Healey, 3rd; H. Birtwistle, 4th; H. Ormerod, 5th; C. J. Butterworth, 6th; F. Birtwistle, 7th; E. J. Stephenson, tenor. Conducted by H. Ormerod. Weight of tenor, 17½ cwt. Key, E flat.—*Contributed*.

RECEIVED ALSO.—Durhamite; Tim Bobbin; and others.

of these men were most sincere, but he believed that they were none the less unconsciously doing the work of Satan. They laid a true foundation, it might be, but they overlaid it with wood, hay, and stubble.

Now it may be, and no doubt is, 'perfectly horrible' to read such a plain and strong statement, whoever may be responsible for causing the horror. But as the speaker evidently believed what he said, it seems hard to say of him, as your correspondent does, 'God forgive the man!' and to implicitly charge him with exhibiting envy, hatred, malice, and uncharitableness. I do not gather from the report any great want of charity when I read, 'Many of these men were most sincere.' We are at least bound to give the speaker equal credit for sincerity.

If it be true that the men spoken of by Bishop Perry teach a 'plain delusion,' as your reviewer last week but one says of the *Plain Guide*, which, by the way, is advertised in *Church Bells*; if it be true, as he hints, that they teach a doctrine of a Local Presence 'as unreal as any idol god,' that this is a 'central blunder,' and that these men are 'retrograde friends,' then there seems to be no great wickedness in saying that they build wood, hay, and stubble upon the foundation which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. (1 Cor. iii.) And if such work is a hindrance, and Satan is a hinderer, the well-meaning does of it may be said to be 'unconsciously doing the work of Satan'; so that from his point of view the speaker was right. But even if he was wrong in his accusation, and Satan is an accuser, the worst that could be truly said of him would be that he is 'unconsciously doing the work of Satan,' and not that he exhibits envy, hatred, malice, and uncharitableness; for that would be consciously doing Satan's work.

On both sides of this central question let the truth be spoken in love. It can do no good to lift the hands in pious horror. W. G. Liverpool.

'Our Unhappy Divisions.'

SIR,—Your correspondent 'A Lay Churchman' opens up a subject in connexion with 'our unhappy divisions' which must have already occurred to many others—viz. 'The Prayer for Unity.' The Church of England is not yet so disorganized but that it may be united on a day of intercession for itself. Ash Wednesday is at hand, with services appropriate to such an occasion—'Let the priests, the ministers of the Lord, sweep between the porch and the altar, and let them say, Spare Thy people, O Lord, and give not Thine heritage to reproach, that the heathen should rule over them. Wherefore should they say among the people, Where is their God?'

If we have faith as a grain of mustard-seed, may we not all, to whatever party we belong, put away during Lent our 'bitterness and wrath, and anger and clamour, and evil speaking,' and offer up the prayer for unity with the hymn—

'Lead, kindly Light, amid the encircling gloom,
Lead Thou us on.
The night is dark, and we are far from home—
Lead Thou us on.

We were not ever thus, nor prayed that Thou
Shouldst lead us on.
We loved to choose and see our path; but now
Lead Thou us on.'

All Saints, Winterbourn Down, Bristol.

AN ENGLISH CHURCHMAN.

The Position of the Holy Table.

SIR,—The two following extracts from John Evelyn's *Diary* may have some interest:—

'1660—4th June. . . . I then returned home to meet Sir Richard Browne, who came not till the 8th, after a 19 years' exile, during all which time he kept up in his chapel the liturgy and offices of the Church of England, to his no small honour, and in a time when it was so low, and as many thought utterly lost, that in various controversies both with Papists and Seculars our divines used to argue for the visibility of the Church from his chapel and congregation.

'1662—April 6th. Being of the vestry, in the afternoon we ordered that the Communion-table should be set as usual *altar-wise*, with a decent rail before it, as before the Rebellion.'

A STUDENT.

Wooden Buildings.

SIR,—My reply in your columns brought me a large number of applications, to which I had thought I had replied; but, as my time is much occupied with Church business, it may be the application from 'J. Z.' has passed unanswered. I am sorry it should be so; but if he will apply to the person we employ—viz. Mr. D. Hainsworth, builder, &c. Shipley, near Bradford—I think he will obtain satisfactory information. THOMAS T. PONSOMBY.

Church Institute, Allion Place, Leeds.

MARTHA.—It would be difficult to give in these columns cases of women reclaimed from intemperance with sufficient detail to serve your purpose. But no doubt some of our readers would be ready to enter into correspondence with you, and furnish you with the information you ask, if you like to repeat your query with your name and address for publication. The Secretary of the C. of E. Temperance Society, Adam Street, Adelphi, could recommend tracts.

SIR,—Two ladies will be happy to send their copies of *Church Bells* to two clergymen abroad (any place where the postage for the same would not exceed one penny), if names and addresses are furnished in *Church Bells*. LINA.

REV. HENRY LAYTON, St. Stephen's, Hounslow, will feel very greatly obliged to any friend who will send him any information, or rules of Working Men's Clubs, *British Workman*, &c.

THOMAS ALAN—W. L. Hope; Medland Lethbridge; Henry Wright, Jun.; An Old Magistrate, E. &c.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Change-ringing by the Yorkshire Association.

On Thursday, Feb. 10, the Society rang at St. Matthew's, Holbeck, Leeds, 6000 changes of Kent Treble Bob Major, in 2 hrs. 57 mins. T. Harrison, 1st; N. Hasnet, 2nd; H. Moss, 3rd; R. Tuke, Esq., 4th; H. Hubbard, jun., 5th; T. Lockwood, 6th; J. W. Snowden, 7th; R. Binns, tenor. The peal, a one-part composition, with the fifth and sixth their extent in 5-6, was composed by H. Dains of the Cumberland Youths, and conducted by Jasper W. Snowden. Weight of tenor, 16 cwt.—Contributed.

Dunstable, Bedfordshire.

On Monday, January 22nd, the eight sons of Mr. John Franklin, in the presence of their revered father, rang several touches of changes on the bells of the Priory Church, it being the 30th birthday of one of the eldest sons.—Local Paper.

Ringling at Ashchurch, Gloucestershire.

On Tuesday, Jan. 23rd, a mixed band of Tewkesbury and Ashchurch ringers rang in 27 mins. a peal of Grandshire Minor, viz. T. Franklin, treble; G. Cleal, 2nd; J. Baylis, 3rd; John Wathen, 4th; E. Walls, 5th; Josiah Wathen, tenor and conductor. This is believed to be the first peal of Minor ever rung here by ringers of the immediate neighbourhood.—Contributed.

Muffled Peal at Diss, Norfolk.

On Saturday evening, Jan. 27th, the Diss Company rang at the parish church muffled touches of Plain and Oxford Treble Bob Major, as a mark of respect to the memory of Mr. J. Newby, who died on the 23rd ult., in the 78th year of his age: an old member of the Company. The ringers were:—J. Rudd, T. Ford, W. Ireland, W. Seales, W. Brown, J. Gaffir, J. Bumstead, G. Merton, T. Preston, T. Clarke, and E. Francis. Conducted by J. Rudd.—Contributed.

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

On Saturday, January 27th, a mixed band rang at the above church Mr. J. Reeves' (on-part) peal of Grandshire Triples, in 2 hrs. 51 mins.; the first time this peal has been rung in the district. The ringers were:—G. Grandy, treble; E. Prescott, 2nd; J. Eckersley, 3rd; J. Vickers, 4th; J. Houghton, 5th; W. Warburton, 6th; J. Prescott, 7th; E. Arrowsmith, tenor. Weight of tenor, 14 cwt. 1 qr.—Contributed.

Ringling at Darlington, Durham.

On Tuesday, January 30th, the ringers of the St. John's Guild, Darlington, rang a peal of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, and a peal of Grandshire Minor, in all 1440 changes, in 53 mins. The ringers were:—W. Eggleston, treble; W. Hutchinson, 2nd; R. Moncaster, 3rd; B. Key, 4th; W. Patton, 5th; G. Overton, tenor. Conducted by Overton and Kay.—Contributed.

Change-ringing at Royston, Yorkshire.

On Wednesday evening, January 31st, the Royston ringers assembled in the tower of their fine old church, and rang 1877 changes in 1 hr. 8 mins., in six different methods (all on the College principle), as follows:—London Scholars, Royston Delight, Sandal Delight, Arnold's Victory, City's Delight, and College Pleasure. The ringers stood in the following order:—G. Haigh, treble; G. Wroe, 2nd; H. Cutts, 3rd; J. Haigh, 4th; G. Cutts, 5th; I. Cutts, tenor. The peal was arranged and conducted by J. Haigh, the sexton of the parish.—Contributed.

Change-ringing.—Tell-tales.

MR. A. SEAGE, a mechanical engineer of Exeter and conductor of a hand-bell band, has lately perfected an ingenious contrivance, which, in addition to being a great aid to bell-ringers, will save the public the annoyance experienced from the clang of church bells when in the hands of novices. The method consists in small bells being placed in the belfry, immediately over the ringers' heads, and connected with the larger bells by wires and cranks, acted upon by a point attached to the top of the larger bell, so as to be silent, and instead of their tones being heard at every pull, the smaller bells are struck, the sounds being heard only by the ringers. Errors are thus easily detected, and various experiments may be tried without annoyance to outsiders. The idea, we believe, originated with Mr. C. A. W. Troyte, of Huntsham Court, and its practical utility has been tried by several persons, and has been brought to a successful issue by Mr. Seage, who has erected a set of these tell-bells at St. Sidwell's, to the great advantage of the ringers usually officiating there, who will be enabled to perfect themselves in the art of change-ringing before giving the public the benefit of their experience.—Local Paper.

A Date Touch at Lindley, Yorkshire.

1877 changes of Kent Treble Bob Major were rung here on the 20th ult., composed and conducted by J. Haigh.

Change-ringing in Ireland.

MR. R. LANGRISH informs us that change-ringing is practised at the Cathedral of St. Canice, Kilkenny. Mr. K. R. Cherry, of the Waterford Society of Change-ringers, writes to the *Irish Ecclesiastical Gazette* to say that Waterford is the only town in Ireland where change-ringing has been accomplished. In St. Patrick's Cathedral, Dublin, they have never got beyond call changes.

RECEIVED ALSO—J. W. Snowden; W. D. Gains; several letters and documents. H. Simpson, of Beccles, writes about something we cannot make out, owing to the paleness of his ink.

always seen in poor people's faces when the sermon begins, fades away into disappointment, and this happens when it is dull or beyond their comprehension. But I would suggest, at least in country parishes, that the greatest pains should be taken to make the Sunday-morning sermon attractive and useful. It need not exceed fifteen minutes; for when a man is in earnest he can say a great deal in that time.

I think even highly-educated congregations would not grudge the time so spent if they could only feel that somebody was getting good, and that the teaching was practical. Surely, if a clergyman would look through the next Sunday services a week beforehand, and during that week would try to pick up hints and illustrations for his sermon in his work, he would be able to make it more practical and useful. If he would carry it with him in his parish, as well as in his prayers, he would make his sermon telling, without interfering with the service of prayer and praise.

F. E. H.

SIR,—Your correspondent, in his letter headed 'Preaching v. Praise,' has raised an interesting question; but is not the *versus* rather misleading? Surely there is no antagonism between these two ordinances: each has its appropriate place, each an equal importance; and although we have 'but one rubric enjoining a sermon,' yet the mind of the Church on the subject is very plainly declared in her formularies. In the 19th Article it is stated, 'The visible Church of Christ is a congregation of faithful men, in the which the pure Word of God is preached, and the Sacraments be duly administered.' Here preaching is put before the Sacraments, agreeably with the declaration of Archbishop Whitgift—'Men must first be converted to Christ by the preaching of the Word, before the Sacraments be ministered unto them.' Again, in the Ordination Services the Bishop, after exhorting the candidates 'to teach and to premonish, to feed and to provide for the Lord's family,' delivers a Bible into the hand of each, saying, 'Take thou authority to preach the Word of God.' Our Reformers laid great stress on preaching. Latimer, in his quaint, trenchant style, exclaims, 'How necessary preaching is! The preaching of the Gospel is the power of God to every man that doth believe. Beware, beware ye diminish not this office; for if ye do, ye decay God's power to all that do believe. This is the thing that the Devil wrestleth most against. It hath been all his study to decay this office.' The translators of our Authorised Version of the Holy Bible are witnesses to the estimation in which the divines of our Church then held preaching. They thus address his Majesty:—'Amongst all our joys there was no one that more filled our hearts than the blessed continuance of the preaching of God's Sacred Word amongst us.' We may all, I think, agree with your correspondent that preaching should not be exalted to undue prominence; but, on the other hand, we must not forget that the Divine injunction is, *Preach*; the Apostolic precept is, *Preach*; and the echo of the English Church is, *Preach*; while the cessation of this ordinance is declared a special curse in the solemn words—'Behold the days come, saith the Lord God, that I will send a famine in the land, not a famine of bread, not a thirst for water, but of hearing the words of the Lord.'

WILLIAM LEGGE.

Derby, Feb. 6, 1877.

Mr. Spurgeon on Revision of the present Translation of the Bible.

SIR,—In an Edinburgh periodical of a religious character, intitled *Times of Blessing*, which has come into my hands quite by accident, I find an article headed, 'Mr. Spurgeon's Temporary Farewell to his Congregation.' The report commences thus: 'At the outset of his discourse the preacher referred to a peculiarity in the rendering of this passage (Isa. xxxviii. 17) by the translators, and said that, after all, the good old Book would hold its own against all comers; and the best thing we could do with the new Bible, when it makes its appearance from the hands of the Revisionists, would be to light our fires with it!' No one, I suppose, will dispute that to effect, at this epoch, a satisfactory revision of the translation of the Holy Scriptures, is a work of peculiar difficulty and delicacy. But what possible ground there can be for Mr. Spurgeon's gratuitous insult to those who have undertaken so onerous and responsible a duty, or justification for his irreverent suggestion as to disposing of the result of their labours, I, for one, am entirely at a loss to conceive.

W. W.

Clergy Houses.

SIR,—I observe that 'Clergy Houses' are now common in many places, and shall feel very much obliged by any hints respecting their general result, as well as by some few particulars as to the mode of working them. I refer to houses for, say, half-a-dozen clergy. Does each gentleman have a separate sitting-room? Are all meals in common? How do matters go on if, unfortunately, a new arrival turns out to be not that of quite a gentleman? for such a misfortune may sometimes occur. Any hints will oblige.

T. H. E.

SIR,—In answer to 'Lina's' kind offer to send her copy of *Church Bells* to a clergyman abroad, I should like to name the Rev. W. G. Lyster, Cape Cove, Gaspe, Canada East, *per Canadian packet*. The postage is one penny. His Mission is in an out-of-the-way place, and papers are much valued by him.

WILLIAM R. TAGART.

Crownfield Parsonage, Needham Market.

A CORRESPONDENT wishes to hear of good, short, concise Church histories, suitable for ordination candidates, for the following periods—viz. from 3 B.C. to 461 A.D. and from 1625 to 1662 A.D.

'HENRY WRIGHT, Junior.'—Your letter has not been preserved. We insert all such as appear of sufficient general interest, so far as space permits; but we cannot undertake a private correspondence with those whose letters are not inserted.

'E. G. W.' should advertise.

'A. G.' had better send her proposal as an advertisement.

RECEIVED ALSO.—H. R. M.; John Fretton; M.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Change-ringing at Kelsall, Suffolk.

ON Saturday, February 3rd, a touch of Bob Major, consisting of 1008 changes, was rung by the following band:—W. Andrews, treble; F. Samson, 2nd; W. Chatten, 3rd; G. Cooper, 4th; F. Thompson, 5th; W. Fletcher, 6th; J. Avis, 7th; J. Edmunds, tenor. Conducted by W. Fletcher. Weight, 16½ cwt. Key, F. Three of the above are over 70 years old.—*Contributed*.

Muffled Peal by the St. James's Society at St. Clement Danes, London.

ON Monday, February 5th, the following members rang at St. Clement Danes a muffled peal of Grandsire Caters, comprising 5039 changes, in 3 hrs. 45 mins., as a token of respect to the late Mr. James Pratt, many years a member of the above Society. J. W. Cattle, treble; C. T. Hopkins, 2nd; J. Mansfield, 3rd; W. Coppage, 4th; D. Stackwood, 5th; R. French, 6th; F. A. P. Knipe, 7th; G. Harvey, 8th; A. Hayward, 9th; W. Baron, tenor. The above was in the Tittum position, and had the 5th and 6th bells placed throughout the peal. Composed by Mr. John Nelms and conducted by J. W. Cattle. Weight, 24 cwt.—*Contributed*.

Change-ringing at Huntsham, Devon.

ON Monday evening, February 5th, the Huntsham branch of the Ancient Society of College Youths (London) and of the Guild of Devonshire Ringers met in the belfry of the parish church for the ordinary weekly practice, and rang the late Mr. John Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, containing 5040 changes. The ringers were:—J. Chave, treble; H. Payne, 2nd; W. Chave, 3rd; A. Davey, 4th; W. Chilcott, 5th; H. Tucker, 6th; C. A. W. Troyte, Esq., 7th; S. Davey, tenor. Weight, 12½ cwt. Conducted by C. A. W. Troyte, Esq., and brought round in 2 hrs. 57 mins. What a reply to an assertion made a short time since, that 'not a bauld could be taken from any one tower in the counties of Devon and Cornwall that could ring a 5040!'—*Local Paper*.

Ringling at St. Sidwell's, Exeter.

ON Tuesday, February 6th, eight members of the Guild of Devonshire Ringers met in the steeple of the above church, and rang Holt's ten-part peal in 3 hrs. 9 mins. The band stood as follows:—W. B. Fulford, Esq., treble; H. Payne, 2nd; C. A. W. Troyte, Esq., 3rd; W. Banister, 4th; J. Banister, 5th; H. Tucker, 6th; W. Chilcott, 7th; J. Baxter, tenor. Conducted by C. A. W. Troyte, Esq. Weight, 23 cwt. 3 qrs. This is the second peal ever rung in Exeter.—*Contributed*.

Muffled Peal at Waterford, Ireland.

ON Tuesday evening, February 6th, eight members of the Waterford Society of Change-ringers rang a half-muffled peal, as a mark of respect to the Very Rev. E. N. Hoare, who was for a period of 26 years Dean of Waterford Cathedral. He was visiting at Norwood, Surrey, where he died at the advanced age of 75, and at which place he was on that day buried. The ringing was the whole pull and stand, finishing up with a touch of Grandsire Triples, by the following:—J. Roy, treble; G. Clampett, 2nd; J. Pollard, 3rd; R. S. Blee, 4th; G. Livermore, 5th; G. J. Mackesy, Esq., M.D., 6th; G. Atherton, 7th; W. G. D. Goff, Esq., B.A., tenor. Conducted by R. S. Blee.—*Contributed*.

Ringling at St. Michael's, Lichfield.

ON Wednesday, February 7th, a complete peal of Plain Bob Minor was rung by F. Sedgwick, treble; H. Meacham, 2nd; W. A. Wood, 3rd; J. Key, 4th; Rev. J. J. Serjeantson (Rector), 5th; T. Meredith, tenor and conductor. This is the first peal ever rung by this method in Lichfield, and also the first complete peal of Plain Bob Minor in which any of the above-named ringers had taken a part.—*Contributed*.

Waterloo Society, London.

ON Saturday, February 10th, at St. Giles-in-the-Fields, Mr. John Holt's one-part peal of Grandsire Triples, with two doubles in the last four leads, containing 5040 changes, was rung in 2 hrs. 57 mins., by J. W. Cattle, treble; H. Hopkins, 2nd; W. Coppage, 3rd; W. Oakes (first peal), 4th; C. T. Hopkins, 5th; F. A. P. Knipe, 6th; J. Barrett, 7th; S. Hayhurst (first peal), tenor. Weight, 18 cwt. Conducted by J. W. Cattle.—*Contributed*.

Date Touches.

AT Bingley, Yorkshire, on the 6th inst., 1877 changes of Kent Treble Bob Major.—At Sheller, Yorkshire, on the 10th inst., 1877 changes in mixed variations. Time, 1 hr. 7 mins.—At Christ Church, Oxford, on the 7th inst., 1877 Stedman's Triples, in 1 hr. 17 mins., by the Oxford Society. Composed by Mr. W. Smith.

Appeal for the Church Bells, Churcham, Gloucester.

WILL any ringers assist us in restoring our ring of bells, which, together with our church, were lost by fire, October 26th, 1875? Any sum, however small, that can be collected among ringers, or other lovers of bells, will be most thankfully received and acknowledged by either T. Gambier Parry, Esq., Highnam Court, Gloucester, or J. H. C. Hall, Churcham, near Gloucester, and advertised in *Church Bells*. Although our funds are very small, we have placed the bells in the hands of Warner and Sons, trusting that the sympathy we may meet with will enable us to replace what has been a very great loss, and fallen heavily upon our shoulders. Post-office orders should be made payable at Gloucester.

Churcham, January 13th, 1877.

RECEIVED ALSO.—R. W. B. Sanderson: similar ancient belfry rules are found in many belfries. Henry Tofts. G. H. Harris. Underley has not sent name and address.

Ecclesiastical Legislation.

SIR,—Mr. Grier thinks it right that when a clergyman is condemned in an ecclesiastical court he should have an appeal to a secular court, but if he is acquitted in the ecclesiastical court then his accuser should have no appeal to the secular power. This is rather one-sided justice. If the civil power can rightly be invoked on behalf of a condemned priest, with equal right, certainly, can it be invoked on behalf of his defeated accuser. In each case the civil court simply sees that justice is done between the two parties.

Mr. Grier says, 'One thing is absolutely certain, that the Ornaments rubrics, literally and naturally interpreted, enjoin the use of vestments. If, then, the Committee forbid their use, they will simply convict themselves of gross injustice.' This seems to me rather cool. If the Committee presume to differ from Mr. Grier's opinion on the legality of vestments, 'they will convict themselves of gross injustice!' But I think the majority of English Churchmen will be of opinion that judges, skilled and practised in the legal interpretation of words of all kinds, will be more likely to be right than any clergyman biased by his own feelings and prejudices.

Mr. Grier says, "The Church," not the State, we are told in the 20th Article, "hath power to decree rites and ceremonies, and authority in controversies of faith." Would it not be better to wait until the State does attempt to 'decree rites and ceremonies' before raising a protest against it? The State has not 'decree any rites or ceremonies,' nor has it interfered in 'controversies of faith.' The Public Worship Act was intended not to make, but to enforce the law of the Church against rebellious priests. The Bishops of the Church appealed to the State for protection for the Church against those who, while they eat her bread, would defy her authority and break her laws. If the Ritualistic clergy had been willing to obey their Bishops, there never would have been a Public Worship Act; and even now, when they will submit to the judgment of their Bishop, the Act cannot touch them.

I think there is greater likelihood of decisions strictly just to all parties from lay judges, who interpret the laws of the Church on legal and technical principles and evidences, without any feeling or bias in the matter, than from ecclesiastics who must be personally interested in their decisions, and who, therefore, cannot help but be more or less biased.

JOHN WOOD.

Luton, Beds, Feb. 19th, 1877.

Who are the Church?

SIR,—Will the Rev. R. M. Grier kindly inform the readers of *Church Bells* who now constitute 'the Church,' which, according to the 20th Article, 'hath power to decree rites and ceremonies, and authority in controversies of faith?'

Bellefield, Trowbridge.

T. CLARK.

Home for Inebriates.

THE REV. R. M. Grier begs to acknowledge the receipt of the following donations in aid of the Home for Inebriates at Rugeley, towards the 400*l.* you were kind enough to allow him to appeal for in your paper:—

Per Church Bells	£5 0 0
" Stamps	0 2 6
" 'Rio Tongas'	0 10 0
Rev. E. Samson	5 0 0
Bishop Abraham	5 0 0
Bishop Hobhouse	2 2 0
Mrs. Webb	0 10 0
Mr. Blane	1 0 0
Dr. Monkton	1 1 0
Mr. Owen	2 0 0
A Friend	5 0 0
Lady Willoughby de Broke	5 0 0
Miss Margaret Lloyd	5 0 0

Further donations are earnestly requested.

The Vicarage, Rugeley.

SIR,—I should be very grateful to any of your readers who, having had experience in parochial libraries, would furnish me with a short list of cheap and popular standard books, such as are not commonly known yet of undoubted merit, and such as ought to be in every village library.

Sibton Vicarage, Yoxford, Feb. 20th, 1877.

W. BROMLEY.

'A MODERATE MAN,' who comments on the articles headed 'English Atrocities,' advances no arguments which have not already been answered by the writer of the articles.

'REGULAR SUBSCRIBER.'—We do not at present recollect much beyond the usual commentaries especially dealing with the subject. Sermon 2, Vol. ii., of Newman's *Parochial Sermons*, touches on the point.

RECEIVED ALSO.—J. Crummack.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Composing made Easy.

ANY one who took the trouble to read carefully the letter on the above-named subject (*Church Bells*, Feb. 5, 1876) cannot, I think, doubt that the respective peals given by 'Novice,' in your last issue, are similar, and that he has not the slightest claim to be considered the composer of the 6720. In fact, so well is this principle now recognised, that I would not occupy these pages in any further discussion on the subject, had not 'Novice' inquired whether Treble Bob peals with the fifth and sixth their extent could be varied in this manner, and their musical qualities retained. Of course, the simplest way a 5-6 extent peal can be varied and the extent retained is by commencing with a different course; still there is only one course that such a peal can begin at, and this is the one following that in which 5-6 are in each other's places, and come 6-5 at the course end. This is such a perceptible 'vari-

ation' that an example is unnecessary. To show, however, that these peals can be pricked backwards and the extent of 5-6 preserved, I give the two following 'variations,' with the original peal:—

	M	B	W	H		M	B	W	H		M	B	W	H
3 6 4 5 2	1			2	3 6 4 5 2	1			2	5 4 3 2 6				2 2
6 2 4 5 3	1			2	6 2 4 5 3	1			2	5 3 2 4 6				1 2
2 6 3 5 4	2			2	2 6 3 5 4	2			2	5 2 4 3 6				1 2
2 3 5 6 4		1		2	6 5 2 4 3					2 0 4 3 5	1			2
3 4 5 6 2	1			2	6 5 4 3 2				1	3 4 6 2 5				2 2
4 2 5 6 3	1			2	3 4 5 6 2				2	3 6 2 4 5				1 2
2 4 3 6 5	2			2	4 2 5 6 3	1			2	3 2 4 6 5				1 2
6 3 4 2 5		2		2	2 3 5 6 4	1			2	2 5 4 6 3	1			2
6 4 2 3 5		1		2	3 2 4 6 5	2			2	5 3 4 6 2	1			2
6 2 3 4 5		1		2	6 4 2 3 5		2		2	3 5 2 6 4	2			2
6 5 2 4 3	2			1	6 2 3 4 5		1		2	5 6 3 4 2				
5 4 6 3 2					6 3 4 2 5		1		2	5 6 4 2 3				1
3 5 4 2 6			2		3 5 4 2 6	1			2	2 4 6 5 3				2 2
2 4 5 3 6		2		2	2 4 5 3 6		2		2	4 3 6 5 2	1			2
2 5 3 4 6		1		2	2 5 3 4 6		1		2	3 2 6 5 4	1			2
2 3 4 5 6		1		2	2 3 4 5 6		1		2	2 3 4 5 6	2			2

H. W. HALEY.

First Variation.

Second Variation.

The original peal is by Mr. H. W. Haley, and is, I think, one of the best peals of this description yet composed, as the bells work in such a remarkably even manner. Now the first variation is this peal pricked backwards, and the second is a 'variation' from the first 'variation' by commencing at the course after the one ending 6 5, and has even still less the look of the original peal. Anyone wanting a capital 5120 of Treble Bob could not, I am sure, select any better peal than one of these; at the same time, as I have never even attempted to compose a peal of Treble Bob, let me assure 'Novice' that all the credit and authorship of these 'variations,' on the 'composing-made-easy principle,' is entirely due to the original author of the peal.

As a matter of interest in showing how this principle can be applied to the improvement of a composition, I may mention that the 9120 of Treble Bob, with the tenors together, lately rung by the Yorkshire Association, and which went 9119 changes without any alteration from the true method, was merely the peal of 9120 of Mr. James Lockwood's, given in Hubbard's *Art of Ringing*, pricked by the bob changes backwards.

JASPER W. SNOWDON.

P.S.—Since writing the above, I find that in Sottanstell's work on ringing there is a peal by Mr. T. Day, which has exactly the same course ends as the first variation here given, only by calling the sixth course 1M, 1B, 2H, instead of 2W, 2H, the peal consists of 5088 changes.

Change-ringing by the Yorkshire Association at Otley.

ON Shrove Tuesday, Feb. 13th, the Society rang at All Saints, Otley, 5152 changes of Kent Treble Bob Major in 2 hrs. 58 mins.—C. Ralph, treble; J. Lockwood, 2nd; L. Cawood, 3rd; W. Whitaker, 4th; W. McGoun, 5th; T. Lockwood, 6th; H. Hubbard, jun., 7th; J. W. Snowdon, tenor. The peal, a one-part composition of Mr. W. Harrison's, with the 6th the extent each way in 5-6, was conducted by J. W. Snowdon, Esq. Tenor, 16 cwt. This peal was rung to commemorate the fiftieth anniversary of a peal of 9600 changes of Shipway's Method of London Treble Bob, rung on Shrove Tuesday, Feb. 13th, 1827, at this church. At Otley also, in 1814, was rung Shipway's 12,320 of Treble Bob; and Mr. C. Isles, who heard this length rung and took part in the peal of 9600 above mentioned, is now living, and in his eighty-second year.—Contributed.

Ancient Society of College Youths.

ON Monday, February 12th, the following members of the above Society rang at St. Stephen's, Westminster, the late Mr. John Holt's original peal of Grandshire Triples, containing 5040 changes, having two doubles in the last four leads, in 3 hrs. 17 mins.—H. Haley, sen., treble; E. Horrex, 2nd; H. Haley, jun., 3rd; M. A. Wood, 4th; F. Bate, 5th; G. Gardener, 6th; J. M. Hayes, 7th; S. Reeves, tenor. Conducted by Mr. Haley, sen.—Contributed.

Change-ringing at All Souls, Halifax, Yorkshire.

ON Monday evening, Feb. 5th, 81 leads of Kent Treble Bob Major, consisting of 2592 changes, was rung in honour of Mr. J. Crapper's eighty-first birthday, the oldest ringer in Halifax, in 1 hr. 52 mins.—G. Harper, treble; J. Shaw, 2nd; H. Higginbottom, 3rd; T. Robinson, 4th; J. Barlow, 5th; E. Smith, 6th; J. Lockwood, 7th; E. Harper, tenor. Composed by Mr. T. Robinson and conducted by Mr. J. Lockwood. Weight, 26 cwt.—Contributed.

Change-ringing at St. Thomas's, Oxford.

ON Wednesday, February 7th, the following members of the Oxford University Society of Change-ringers rang 720 Grandshire Minor in 25 mins.—W. C. H. Burne (Keble), treble; J. S. Pritchett (Balliol), 2nd; J. R. Keble (Keble), 3rd; F. A. Milne (Keble), 4th; C. Davies (Pembroke), 5th; H. W. Ellicott (B. N. C.), tenor. Conducted by H. W. Ellicott. This is the first 720 rung by the Society for more than three years.—Contributed.

Change-ringing at St. Bartholomew's, Westhoughton, Lancashire.

ON Saturday, February 10th, a mixed band of ringers rang Mr. John Holt's ten-part peal of Grandshire Triples, consisting of 5040 changes, in 2 hrs. 49 mins. The ringers were:—G. Grundy, treble; E. Prescott, 2nd; J. Prescott (conductor), 3rd; H. Heaton, 4th; J. Houghton, 5th; A. Hodgkinson, 6th; J. Whittingham, 7th; E. Arrowsmith, tenor. Weight, 13 cwt. 1 qr. 14 lbs.—Contributed.

RECEIVED ALSO.—John Layton: pancake bell is general in and around Bath and Bristol. Clement Elsmore; and others.

alcoholic drinks does no harm to themselves or to others, the answers are:—Firstly, that the returns made out and published by one of the largest Life Assurance Companies in London prove that—taking an equal number of assured persons in the Temperance and General sections—the death-rate during the last ten years has been vastly greater among the Moderate Drinkers than among the Teetotalers!

Secondly, those who are strictly moderate exercise a bad influence over others *simply by this very moderation*, as it induces persons of weaker resolution, or differently constituted in body, to imagine they can follow with safety the example thus set them; but the result too often is, that the moderation of the latter class gradually leads on to excess, and finally these drinkers merge themselves in the vast host of misguided beings by whom most of the crime committed and misery now existing in Great Britain are produced.

It is computed that, at the present rate at which the Holy Scriptures are issued by the Bible Society, 615 years must elapse before the whole world can be supplied with copies; whereas, if every moderate drinker in the British Isles would but refrain from beer, wine, and spirits, *for only six months*, the money thus saved would be sufficient to buy 700 millions of Bibles—i. e. one copy for each of the benighted heathens at present without the means of grace!

To conclude,—it will henceforth be my constant aim to try and induce employers of labour, ministers of religion, and other influential persons, to join together in a holy war against Alcohol, as one of the most malignant agents of the Evil One; and that the blessing of the Almighty will rest on our efforts, especially if the great army of total abstainers is officered by the principals in business firms, and led on by Christ's chosen preachers of His Gospel, is the firm conviction of

A LONDON MANUFACTURER AND PLEDGED TEETOTALER.

The Australian Synod.

SIR,—Not many of your readers, I am afraid, are interested in the proceedings of an Australian Synod, but those who are will be glad to have a correct report of such proceedings. Will you allow me, therefore, to correct a report which appears in your issue of this week? Noticing the session of the General Synod of the dioceses of Australia and Tasmania, which was held at Sydney last October, you state that a motion made by Sir William Stawell, Chief Justice of Victoria, 'that for the confirmation of a Bishop the Metropolitan's consent should be indispensable,' was eventually disposed of by a count-out. I learn both from private correspondence and also from the official report of the Synod published in the *Australian Churchman*, that Sir W. Stawell's aim was precisely the opposite of that which you attribute to him. I quote from the *Australian Churchman's* report of the debate upon the second reading of the proposed 'Determination':—'Sir W. Stawell explained that his object was . . . to dispense, in the case of a newly-elected Bishop, with the double approval, first of the Metropolitan and afterwards of the Bishops, and to provide instead that the appointment should be confirmed by the Metropolitan and Bishops together, or a majority of them, giving the Metropolitan a second vote in the event of an equality of votes.' The Dean of Melbourne seconded the motion for the second reading, which was carried by the clergy and laity without division, and by eight to one of the Bishops. The 'Determination' afterwards passed through committee of the whole Synod with but slight amendment. But there still remained the final stage, the adoption of the Committee's Report, upon which the 'Determination' would be passed as an Act of Synod; and before this could be arrived at Sir W. Stawell had been compelled to return to Melbourne, and his proposal was debated for the last time in a thin house, composed, as it seems, chiefly of those who were not friendly to it. Hence the discreditable conclusion—it was 'disposed of by a count-out.'

F. H. COX.

Tulney Vicarage, Norfolk, Feb. 27.

Parish Councils as a Cure for Parish Quarrels.

SIR,—Mr. Tooth may be a benefactor after all. When things have come to the worst they begin to mend. How are they to mend? One way of preventing, I dare not say all, but many of these unseemly disputes and scandals, would be, in my opinion, the general establishment of Parish Councils, which have been organized, and are found to work, wherever tried, most successfully. I have one in my eye at this moment; the population, rural, about 500; the council twelve, consisting of past and present churchwardens, the squire, and other most influential parishioners. These meet at the Rectory whenever the Rector thinks it expedient to talk over any matter affecting the parish, in a friendly and informal way. Thus, to mention only a few things of the sort—(1) the introduction of the weekly offertory, or a surpliced choir; (2) any change in the hour or ordering of the services; (3) any improvement or alteration in the sittings, or appropriation of them; any improvement of the music, placing a clock, improvement of parish school, &c. These twelve generally carry the parish with them, and in the direction suggested, after due consideration, by the Rector.

I merely suggest this as a general idea, which each incumbent can modify in any way he thinks best. A further advantage of the plan is, that it is good training for lay representation in diocesan councils or otherwise—representation which, in my opinion, the laity must have if the Church, as by law established, is to stand.

W. P., Stifford.

'JAMES STANLEY.'—Of course we cannot enter into the subject you propose in these columns. Probably you know some clergyman who could lend you a Commentary, or, still better, Pearson's *Exposition of the Creed*. You will find an account of the origin, &c. of Monachism in Robertson's *History of the Christian Church*, vol. ii. chap. 1, published by John Murray, price 6d.

'E. C. HOPPER.'—Many thanks for your offer. We could not use the photograph at present; but if we should have an opportunity later we will apply to you for the loan of it.

** Other interesting correspondence we are compelled to defer for want of space.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Ancient Society of College Youths (established 1637).

ON Saturday, February 10th, ten members of the above Society rang at St. Margaret's, Westminster, a true peal of Kent Treble Bob Royal, consisting of 5200 changes, in 3 hrs. 31 mins. M. A. Wood, treble; G. A. Muskett, 2nd; R. French, 3rd; G. Dorrington, 4th; G. Mash, 5th; S. Reeves, 6th; R. Haworth, 7th; E. Horrex, 8th; J. Dwight, 9th; J. M. Hayes, tenor. Weight, 28 cwt. Conducted by Mr. Matthew Wood.—*Contributed*.

Reopening of Bells at Wrexham, Flintshire.

ON Monday, February 5th, the Manchester Cathedral ringers reopened the old ring of ten bells at Wrexham, rehung by Messrs. Taylor of Loughborough. Several touches were rung during the day, by W. Cross, treble; J. Holgate, 2nd; J. Wood, 3rd; J. Winterbottom, 4th; R. Yates, 5th; T. Brayshaw, 6th; J. Grimshaw, 7th; J. Eachus, 8th; J. Withers, 9th; Joseph Withers, tenor. Weight, 25 cwt.

ON Tuesday, the 6th, the same ringers were engaged to open a new ring of eight at Rhyl, Denbigh, cast by Messrs. Taylor. Tenor, 17 cwt., in the key of F. Several peals were rung during the day, consisting of Grandsire Triples and Bob Major.—*Contributed*.

Change-ringing at Burton-on-Trent, Staffordshire.

ON Monday evening, February 12th, the Society of St. Paul's rang Mr. John Holt's original ten-part peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples in 3 hrs. 7 mins. The ringers were:—W. Newton, treble; S. Cooper, 2nd; W. Wakley, 3rd; J. Argyle, 4th; W. Royals, 5th; W. Potts, 6th; W. Fearneyhough, 7th; A. Wakley, tenor. Conducted by S. Cooper, aged twenty-one years. Weight, 20 cwt.—*Contributed*.

Macclesfield (Cheshire) Society of Change-ringers.

ON Monday, February 12th, the ringers of the Old Church rang a true peal of Grandsire Caters, consisting of 6011 changes, in 4 hrs. 12 mins. The members were:—W. Hulme, treble; J. Morlidge, 2nd; W. Ashworth, 3rd; J. Holt, 4th; C. Bamford, 5th; W. McKenny, 6th; E. Matthews, 7th; E. Flannagan, 8th; J. Farrish, 9th; H. Williams, tenor. Weight, 20 cwt. Composed and conducted by Mr. W. Hulme, sexton.—*Contributed*.

Change-ringing at Wigan (Lancashire) Parish Church.

ON Monday, February, 12th, was rung the first half of Mr. John Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, consisting of 2520 changes, in 1 hr. 32 mins. Conducted by Mr. T. Halliwell. The ringers were as follows:—T. Halliwell, treble; G. B. Walker, 2nd; J. Layland, 3rd; W. Bentham, 4th; E. Bentham, 5th; S. Hall, 6th; J. W. Hall, G. C. Hall, 7th; R. Tyson, G. Linkman, tenor. Their first peal. Weight, 28 cwt.—*Contributed*.

A New Ring of Bells at Market Lavington, Wilts.

THESE were opened on Feb. 13th. The old bells had become unserviceable. The work was entrusted to Messrs. Llewellyn and James of Bristol. At 8 o'clock there was a celebration of the Holy Communion. At 11, Morning Service, with appropriate prayers introduced, and a sermon by the Ven. Archdeacon Buchanan, who took for his text Exod. xxviii. 33. After briefly alluding to the fact that this was the only instance in early times of a connexion between bells and public worship, he spoke of the use that from the third century had been made of bells in the Christian Church, and closed with the hope that these new bells might never be rung for anything but Church services, or for subjects of rejoicing in which all could join; at any rate, not for party or political triumphs. He also exhorted the ringers to remember that the bells were instruments of sacred music, and to exercise their office with reverence. Ringers from Bristol were engaged for the day. After the midday service they rang seven six-scores Grandsire Doubles in succession.—*Contributed*.

Oxford University Society of Change-ringers.

SIR,—It is with much reluctance that I send the enclosed account of a peal of Minor recently rung by our Society, for you will at once see that it was rung in Lent, and I know well that you disapprove of ringing in that season. Now, Sir, there are many practical difficulties which prevent us from suspending ringing during the season of Lent. In the first place, our terms are so short that, to suspend ringing in Lent, it would be necessary to cease from ringing for nearly a whole term; but this Lenten term is our best term for ringing, for in the October term 'the men' are generally out of practice, and in the summer term it is very difficult to get 'the men' together; in the second place, 'the men' who join the Society are as a rule novices, consequently we are obliged to ring as often as possible, so as to enable these 'men' to become proficient before they go down. There is a further excuse for ringing at this particular time: at present we have a much better lot of 'men' than usual, but, as two or three of these intend to take their degrees at Midsummer, we are obliged to do what we can while they remain with us. I hope, Mr. Editor, that the reasons I have given above may induce you to insert the enclosed.

Brasenose Coll., Feb. 28th.

H. W. ELLICOTT.

['Men' is the name by which all University students are called, though most probably they are all COLLEGE YOUTHS.—Ed.]

ON Thursday, February 22nd, the following members of the above Society rang at St. Thomas's, Oxford, 720 Bob Minor, in 25 mins.:—W. C. H. Burne (Kemble), treble; C. Davies (Pembroke), 2nd; J. R. Kemble (Kemble), 3rd; F. A. Milne (Kemble), 4th; H. W. Ellicott (Brasenose), 5th; —, tenor. Conducted by H. W. Ellicott. The above is the first 720 Bob Minor ever rung by this Society.

* The gentleman who rung tenor objects to his name appearing in such an insignificant performance as a 720.

RECEIVED ALSO.—F. Moss: we have no space for reporting suppers to ringers, accompanied with toasts and speeches. P. Cleverley; and others.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Belfry Reform.

SIR,—There appeared in *Church Bells* of December 20th a letter under this heading. With your permission, I should like to make a remark or two upon it. I will take the subject of payment first. This is a rock on which not a few companies, I suspect, are wrecked, and that simply because there is not a proper understanding between the ringers and those from whom the funds are expected to be forthcoming. Many people say, 'If there is one time more than another on which I like to hear the bells, it is on the Sunday. Their music seems to suit the day so well, and yet that is the day on which we hear very little of their music, and that little badly performed. By-and-by the ringers will be coming round for a Christmas-box, or something of the kind. I do not see why I should give them anything: they ring just when they please, and for their own amusement; but when I want to hear the bells go nicely, the ringers are almost all absent, or only two or three of the company left to chime them for service as best they can. It is too bad!' Ringers ought to understand that the first and foremost use of the bells is to call the people to God's house. Ringers stand in their own light in this matter. If they wish to obtain payment for their services, it must be not so much by learning to ring elaborate peals for mere amusement, which but few understand and appreciate, but by being regularly at their posts on the Sunday, chiming or ringing the people into church, and then taking their places among the congregation. People would then say, 'What a steady, respectable set of men our ringers are!—we ought to encourage them.' If ringers would adopt this plan, there would be, I think, an end to the grumbling. Each party would be satisfied. The other point in Mr. Jerram's letter I must leave for the present.

[G. H. H.' is requested to favour us with his name and address, which have been unfortunately mislaid.—Ed.]

Architects are not Bell-hangers.

SIR,—Allow me in a few words to caution persons contemplating having new bells, or rehanging old ones, against having the work done by the designs of an architect. Architects, as a rule, know nothing whatever about bell-hanging. In new churches, especially when they are small ones, an architect generally designs a 'nice, long, narrow steeple,' about nine or ten feet square inside, which no doubt looks graceful and elegant outside, but is totally incapable of carrying more than three or four bells without hoisting some. In restoring old churches, he not unfrequently puts the ringers up into a clock-chamber about ten feet from the bells, for fear of the ropes hanging down and spoiling his western arch, as he thinks. I have frequently known even small single bells at district churches almost unringable because the architect persisted in carrying the rope round corners or through a wall to be out of sight. About a year ago I was compelled to hang two school bells according to an architect's plan, although I protested against it and told the authorities they would never act so. And they did not, and one had to be altered afterwards. Why not in all cases consult a bell-hanger first, as to size of steeple, &c., and insist on the architect furnishing one of the required dimensions? Lastly, in the case of small single bells, I would urge persons concerned never to have them hung in turrets, accessible only by a fifty or sixty-staved ladder, which may, perhaps, have to be borrowed from some builder several miles off. Why not provide irons in the wall, about two feet apart, inside the church, and a trap-hole at the top, where there is no room for a staircase? and then a bell would be able to be got at, at a few minutes' notice, for oiling, or in case of a rope breaking, or any other accident. I know of a steeple containing four bells accessible only by ladder from the roof of the church. I will not trouble you further.

Fleet.

Composing made Easy.

SIR,—I beg to thank Mr. Snowden for his answer to my questions on this subject, and I believe, as he says, that I have no claim whatever to the 6720 I sent you, although I actually found the 120 course ends in question. The peal, however, is a variation of the original by John Cox, and that being so, the 8448 by S. Austin will in future stand as a variation of the original by J. Reeves.

It is, however, very easy for a 'Novice' to fall into such an error, but it is surprising that such things are allowed to be published; and even more so when they are passed by without any commentation. Such is, however, the case, and in a very recent publication on Bell-ringing; and if asked, I will point out the publication and peals alluded to.

Mr. Snowden's answer and illustration of Mr. Haley's 5-6 extent peal is indeed a good one, and one that will, I hope, be found useful to every novice; for which I thank him kindly. But, Sir, the 'P.S.' thereto is so very suggestive that I beg to ask another question or two on the same subject. Now, Sir, almost any one can see that the peals by Mr. Haley and the one by Mr. Day, as mentioned in that 'P.S.', are variations of each other: therefore I ask, Who composed the original peal on that particular plan? The composers of these peals are all living, I believe, and the question could be easily settled; otherwise, each man may be thought to have varied the other's peal. There are but three of these peals, viz. a 5120 by H. W. Haley, a 5088 by T. Day, and a 5056 by H. Dains; and as some of the old ringers tell us there are no new peals to be got, that all has been done, and so on, is the last-mentioned of these three peals a variation of either of the others? An answer will be interesting, especially as the composing-made-easy principle is so well understood and generally recognised.

NOVICE.

The Anonymous Tenor Man.

THE Oxford 'MAN' (*alias* Youth) who declined to allow his name to appear as ringer of the tenor in a peal of 720 Minor at St. Thomas, Oxford, as reported in our last issue, writes to us that, having on a former occasion

expressed his disapproval of our inserting any peals of Minor, it would appear inconsistent in him to have joined in any such peals in future. Be it so. We now take leave to advise him not to think so disparagingly of *Bob Minor*, which may be rung about in 1400 different variations. However, entertaining such views, we hope he will succeed in settling down in life where he will be able to show his skill in *Bob Major* and *Maximus* to his heart's content, and to the gratification of his brother-ringers.

The Norwich Diocesan Association of Ringers.

At a preliminary meeting held in Norwich last month, under the presidency of the Rev. A. C. Copeman, Rural Dean, it was determined to form an Association with the above title, for the purpose of promoting belfry reform and change-ringing throughout the diocese. Since then the Dean of Norwich has kindly consented to become the President, and the three Archdeacons Vice-Presidents, and every post adds fresh names to the list of members. Our next meeting, when our rules will be drawn up and our officers chosen, will probably be held early in the next month; but of which due notice will be given.

G. H. HARRIS, *Secretary pro tem.*

Tunstead Vicarage, Norwich.

Appeal for Help.

Will those who enjoy the sound of church bells in England help to send a set of six hemispherical bells to St. Paul's Church in Chola, Nagpore, which is the central church of some 10,000 Christian people belonging to the aboriginal tribes of India, commonly called Kohls? If those who can help will do so, and will ask friends to help, I shall be able to take these bells out to India when I return shortly. The smallest donations will be very acceptable. There is no ring of bells within hundreds of miles of our church.

S. P. G. House, 19 Delahay Street, Westminster.

J. C. WHITLEY.

Muffled Change-ringing at Streatham, Surrey.

At Immanuel Church, Streatham Common, on Friday, February 16th, the bells being muffled, Mr. Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, containing 5040 changes, was rung in 2 hrs. 57 mins., as a token of respect to the late Matthew Henry Coulthurst, Esq., who was buried on that day in the family vault. He was for nearly twenty years churchwarden of the above church, and much respected by all who knew him. The ringers were:—W. Shepard, treble; W. F. Pell, 2nd; G. Russell, 3rd; H. Daniels, 4th; G. Pell, 5th; S. Greenwood, 6th; D. Springall, 7th; W. Ely, tenor. Conducted by Mr. S. Greenwood.—*Contributed.*

Ringing at Harborne, Staffordshire.

On Saturday, February 24th, seven members of the St. Martin's Society of Change-ringers, assisted by Mr. H. Boswell, of London, met at St. Peter's, Harborne, near Birmingham, and rang a true and complete peal of Steadman's Triples, containing 5040 changes, in 2 hrs. 52 mins., by—J. Perks, treble; J. Day, 2nd; H. Boswell, 3rd; J. Joynes, 4th; S. Jarman, 5th; J. James, 6th; H. Bastable, 7th; H. Johnson, jun., tenor. Composed by Mr. T. Thurstan and conducted by Mr. H. Bastable. The odd ring of six bells have just had two new trebles added, and most satisfactorily, by Messrs. Warner of London.—*Contributed.*

Ringing at Ashton, Lancashire.

On Saturday, February 25th, the change-ringers of Ashton rang at St. Peter's Church a true and complete peal of Kent Treble Bob Major, consisting of 5120 changes, which was composed and conducted by Mr. J. Thorp, and rung in 2 hrs. 52 mins. by the following:—T. Moss, treble; J. Bowcock, 2nd; J. Wood, sen., 3rd; S. Wood, 4th; B. Broadbent, 5th; J. Gillot, 6th; C. Thorp, 7th; J. Thorp, Tenor. Weight, 20 cwt.—*Contributed.*

Ringing at East Malling, Kent.

On Wednesday evening, February 28th, the East Malling ringers met at Mereworth, and rang several touches of Plain Bob, concluding with a true and complete peal of 720 changes, in 25 mins. The ringers were as follows:—H. Newman, treble; T. Pett, 2nd; E. Bonner, 3rd; W. Waller, 4th; G. Hilliard, 5th; W. Leonard, 6th; G. Hilliard (conductor), 7th.—*Contributed.*

Change-ringing at Appleton, Berkshire.

On Monday, March 5th, the Appleton Society of Change-ringers celebrated their 50th Anniversary by ringing on the bells of the parish church a true peal of Stedman's Caters, comprising 5079 changes. It was brought round in 3 hrs. 22 mins. by the following persons:—F. S. White, treble; E. Holfield, 2nd; B. Barrett, 3rd; W. Bennett, 4th; G. H. Philott, Esq., 5th; G. Holfield, 6th; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 7th; J. Avery, 8th; F. White, 9th; T. Bennett, tenor. Composed by Mr. H. Johnson of Birmingham, and conducted by the Rev. F. E. Robinson. It is believed that the ringers of the treble and 2nd bell in the above peal are the youngest ringers of Stedman's Caters on record, being respectively of the age of 14 and 15 years. The ringers regret that their anniversary falls in Lent.—*Contributed.*

Date Touches.

At Christ Church, Liversedge, on February 8th, the parish ringers rang 1877 of Kent Treble Bob Major in 1 hr. 10 mins.—At Shelley, Yorkshire, the Kirkburton ringers rang 1877 variations of Grandsire Doubles in 1 hr. 7 mins.—On the 21st ult. an 1877 Grandsire Triples was rung at Tewkesbury Abbey, Gloucestershire.

RECEIVED ALSO.—Edward Taylor, Crowther and Dixon. C. Harkness. W. H. Kilner: ring, certainly. H. Simpson: this correspondent thinks that Mr. Day of Eye, bell-hanger, has done a job 'without precedent'—he having lately hung the tenor at Beccles, which weighs 28 cwt. and can be raised by one man, and *rise true*. We know several heavier bells which 'rise true'. To mention only one:—In January 1866, the recast tenor at Sherborne, weighing over 46 cwt., was hung by Mr. Henry Boswell. He raised her by himself, and she *rose true*. C. O. Smith: such belfry rhymes are common. G. W. Cole will be answered direct. F. Powell. S. Slater. T. Hattersley. Denholme Gate not received.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Honour to whom Honour is due.

SIR,—When any long or notable peal is rung, it is seldom that there is not a good deal of talk about it, and generally some cynical individual has something to say concerning its title to be called a peal, and it is often found that those who know the least talk most. With some fear of being classed amongst these latter persons, I address you on a subject in which South countrymen are especially interested.

I understand that it is said to be now a matter of notoriety in the North that the long peal of 16,608 changes of Treble Eight, rung at Earlsheaton in 1872, is not entitled to the name of a peal, as in the latter half of the peal a call was missed. Now, if this be a fact, the 15,840 rung in 1868 by the Society of which I have the honour to be a member still remains the longest length ever completed, on this or any other number of bells, by one set of men.

I have heard—how true it is I know not—that when the long peal of Treble Twelve was rung at Painswick, that at one period, for about half an hour, you could not have told whether ten or twelve bells were ringing. Of course I do not hold that a peal should be disqualified even for a good 'jumble,' and when Mr. Daniel Woods, the umpire of the Painswick peal, took an oath of attestation that the peal was true, I consider that, although there may, at one time, have been a desire on the part of some of the performers to occupy the same place at the same time, that in taking this oath Mr. Woods wished to confirm the fact that the peal was rung by one set of men, the calling was correct, and that no shift of course took place.

Now, I do not call for such a demonstration on the part of any of the Earlsheaton performers; but if they cannot come forward and state that these rumours are without foundation, I say, Let them *ring* the peal or let them keep silent, but only let there be 'honour to whom honour is due.'

COLLEGE YOUTH.

Royal Cumberland Society.

THE following is a valuable curiosity, extracted from the Osborne MSS., British Museum, as being, possibly, an allusion to the traditional connexion existing between this and the Society of London Scholars, the antiquity of which is great, when it is considered that a ringing society, under the title of *City Scholars*, existed in Cheapside in the year 1602:—

'A true and complete peal of Oxford Treble Bob was rung on Monday, June 5th, 1843, in the tower of St. Mary, Chiddinston, Kent, in 3 hours & 10 minutes, conducted by H. W. Haley, being the birthday of H.R.H. the Duke of Cumberland, the Society having been known by that title for nearly 250 years.'

R. C. Y.

Change-ringing at St. Margaret's, Leicester.

ON Monday, February 20th, the Society of Change-ringers of St. Margaret's rang a true peal of Grandsire Caters (in the Tittums), consisting of 5075 changes, in 3 hrs. 28 mins. The ringers were:—J. Jarvis, treble; W. Cooper, 2nd; A. Brown, 3rd; T. Wilson, 4th; S. Cooper, 5th; E. Biggs, 6th; J. Cooper, 7th; A. Millis, 8th; J. Buttery (composer and conductor), 9th; W. Walker and J. H. Crossley, tenor. Weight, 30 cwt. Key of D.

The peal was rung to celebrate the centenary of one rung at St. Margaret's on February 25th, 1777, consisting of 10,080 changes, and occupying 7 hrs. 12 mins., the longest peal on record ever rung in Leicester. The following were the names of the ringers:—W. Ryder, treble; B. Warburton, 2nd; T. Armstrong, 3rd; T. Scott, 4th; W. Thacker, 5th; J. Martin, 6th; M. Graham, 7th; J. Smith, 8th; W. Bull, 9th; J. Slack and R. Wright, tenor. The peal was composed by J. Martin and conducted by W. Bull.

JOHN BUTTERY, Secretary.

Change-ringing by the City of London Society of Change-ringers (late Senior Clerkenwell Society).

ON Saturday, March 10th, eight members of the above Society rang at St. Dunstan's, Fleet Street, the late Mr. John Holt's one-part peal of Grandsire Triples, with two doubles in the last four leads, comprising 5040 changes, in 3 hrs. 6 mins. Ringers:—J. Knight, treble; C. Hopkins, 2nd; J. Nelms, 3rd; W. Oakes, 4th; H. Hopkins, 5th; F. Knipe, 6th; J. Cattle, 7th; D. Lovett (first peal), tenor. Conducted by Mr. J. Nelms. The above peal is the first accomplished by this Society, which is progressing under the tuition of Mr. J. Nelms.—Contributed.

Change-ringing by Members of the Universities.

ON Saturday, March 10th, seven members of the Oxford University Society of Change-ringers, assisted by Mr. C. A. W. Troyte, of Trinity Hall, Cambridge, and Huntsham Court, Devon, rang at the parish church at Appleton, Berks, Holt's six-part peal of Grandsire Triples, comprising 5040 changes. It was brought round in 2 hrs. 58 mins. by the following:—J. R. Keble (Keble), treble; F. A. Milne (Keble), 2nd; C. D. P. Davies (Pembroke), 3rd; H. W. Ellicott (Brasenose), 4th; G. H. Phillott (Ch. Ch.), 5th; Rev. F. E. Robinson (Exeter), 6th; C. A. W. Troyte (Trin. Hall, Camb.), 7th; W. C. H. Burne (Keble), tenor. Conducted by the Rev. F. E. Robinson. This is the first peal ever rung by members of the two Universities without the assistance of any other persons.—Contributed.

[The above unprecedented band regret to have been as it were obliged to ring in Lent: they might never again have an opportunity of pulling all together, for after Easter each would be scattered, one to this place and another to that, and therefore permission was yielded.—Ed.]

Curfew.

THIS ancient custom has lately been revived at Stratford-upon-Avon, to the great delight of the inhabitants.—*Local Paper.*

RECEIVED ALSO.—Miss Gibson: get Ellacombe's *Bells of the Church*.

GRANDSIRE RINGING.

By Jasper W. Snowdon, Ilkley, Yorkshire.

IN most of the methods practised in the earlier days of change-ringing there is an absence of definite information concerning the peals accomplished at such times that compels me, when treating of the Grandsire method, to abandon the attempt to show, with any degree of accuracy, how the different longer lengths have supplanted each other. I purpose, therefore, to point out the first peal rung on the different numbers of bells, and then to allude to some of the notable peals subsequently rung.

GRANDSIRE TRIPLES.—Having, at different times, made a good many remarks in these columns concerning the earlier peals of Grandsire Triples, I do not at present propose to summarise these statements, more especially as I hope that more information may yet come to light concerning this subject. It seems that a certain statement has for many years been accepted as the true one, without being questioned, and such being the case, it is very probable that the real state of the case may have long been overlooked. As an example of further information which may be forthcoming at some time I will give an instance. In the tower of Painswick Church there is a tablet which commemorates different peals of Triples and Caters rung from 1731 to 1737: these peals were, doubtless, Grandsire. Several months ago I was favoured with the loan of the Painswick manuscript Peal-book, from which I ascertained that on February 19th, 1831, this Society rang a peal of Grandsire Triples to commemorate one of the peals of triples rung in 1731. That the latter performance was rung as a 'centennial' peal is evident from the note appended to the record; it runs thus,—'Composed by Mr. Richard Butler in the year 1731.' This is the sort of clue that wants following up. I have inquired whether this composition can now be brought forward, but, unfortunately, nothing seems to be known about it; and whether, like all those yet known to have been rung before Holt's original, it was on the three-lead-course plan, or whether it was even a true peal, is yet uncertain. Still, if the composition of this peal had been preserved at Painswick for a hundred years, it may again come to light at some future time; and until this matter and several others which I could mention are thoroughly investigated, the whole question can hardly be considered as definitely settled.

GRANDSIRE CATERS.—Before entering on the exact details of the various performances in this method, I would mention that these Caters seem to be generally chosen by those 'practitioners' who are desirous of ringing a peal of ten thousand changes. In fact, I dare say that there have been more peals of this length rung in Grandsire Caters than in all the other methods taken together, if those that have been rung in Bob Major be excepted. A large proportion of the long peals in this method have been rung double-handed, especially those accomplished in the earlier days of the art, as it does not seem to have been accepted as a recognised principle until the middle of the last century, that to exceed any previous performance each bell should be rung single-handed.

With regard to the first known peal of Grandsire Caters I cannot do better than quote the remarks of Mr. Osborne concerning the Society of 'London Scholars,' which company is said, at a subsequent period, to have changed its name to the 'Cumberland Youths':—

'The first known performance of the London Scholars was a peal of 5040 Grandsire Caters at St. Bride's in Fleet St., Friday, Jan. 11th, 1716-17. The frame put up was taken down and destroyed when the church was repaired in 1796. This was supposed to be the only peal of Caters rung whilst St. Bride's contained ten bells, and was said to be the first known peal of Caters ever completed by any company in the kingdom; which was probably the case, as no other peal upon ten bells appears upon record to precede this performance.'

Unfortunately, the information to be gathered from this account, and two tablets recording the skill of the 'London Scholars,' is nearly all that is now known of this distinguished Society; the next reliable performances I take from the annals of the College Youths, who rang the following peals in London: 5058 at St. Magnus, in 1724; 5098 at St. Giles, Cripplegate, in 1726; and 5684 at St. Dionis, in 1729. In 1732 the Society of 'City Scholars' rang 6012 at St. Giles, Cripplegate; in this peal there were three men to the tenor.

Following these performances come three long lengths rung at Painswick, namely, 8064 in 1734; 10,080 in 1735; and 12,006 in 1736. As at that time it was customary in going for great lengths not to be particular as to the number of times the ropes changed hands, I think—although there is no direct evidence—that it may fairly be assumed that these were not single-handed performances. In 1736 two trebles were added to the old ring of eight at St. Peter's, Mancroft, Norwich, and the Norwich men went in for ten-bell ringing with a will, as in the following year they rang 12,600 of Grandsire Caters, the longest length that has ever been rung in this method. In this peal—as the tablet records—the tenor was rung 'singly,' by a young ringer, 8000, then a second rung her to the end of the peal.' The record, however, is very particular in stating that the changes were 'rung by nine men of the company then belonging to the steeple,' and the emphasis on this point certainly raises the question whether, in peals with the tenor behind, this bell should of necessity be rung single-handed; because in this manner the test thus becomes one of mere physical endurance, and does not, as in even-bell methods, require a combination of bodily and mental energy. Certainly the Norwich performance was a very creditable one in every way. In 1762 the College Youths rang at West Ham 10,188, which is probably the first authenticated single-handed peal of 10,000 changes rung in Grandsire Caters. In 1778 a peal of 10,368 was accomplished at St. Mary's, Nottingham; and in 1803, at Kingston-on-Thames, 10,388 was rung single-handed. In 1816 the Painswick men rang 10,278, which was soon after, I believe, beaten a few changes by their rival neighbours the Bristol men: this started the former company to practise for a still further length, which they accomplished on May 5th, 1817, when they placed 12,312 changes to their credit in 7 hrs. 44 mins. This still remains the greatest number of changes ever rung in Grandsire Caters by ten men, and, indeed, is also the highest number accomplished, under these conditions, upon ten bells.

(To be continued.)

'A. C. S.' wishes to know of some hospital, workhouse, institution, &c., where a parcel of papers, consisting of numbers of *Church Bells*, *Church Times*, *John Bull*, and others, miscellaneous, published during the last year, would be acceptable—carriage paid.

'E. F. W.' would be glad to send her copy of *Church Bells* weekly to any clergyman abroad.

49 Connaught Square, Hyde Park.

'F. W. W.' would feel obliged if any of the readers of *Church Bells* could recommend him a good book of chants suitable for a village choir.

'L.'—We regret the expressions which appeared in the review of the *Plain Guide*, but we think it desirable not further to discuss so mysterious a subject.—ED.

RECEIVED ALSO.—K. H. A.; F. B. D. C.; Edward M. Stuart: with thanks.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Belfry Reform is one thing; Progress in Change-ringing is another.

OUR correspondent 'G. H. H.,' in our issue of March 10, has hit the right nail on its head when he says that 'the first and foremost use of the bells is to call people to God's House.' He might have added—and to honour the Festivals; and such was their use in early days. 'Ringing elaborate peals for mere amusement, which but few understand and appreciate,' is an accident arising from the happy and clever discovery, in post-Reformation times, that the science of PERMUTATIONS may be practically worked with the various numbers of bells, productive of an endless variety of numerous and intricate musical performances. But I would ask, What have they to do with our Church services? And can it be good for the ringers' mind to be occupied with *bobs and singles, place-making and dodging*, as a preparation which is so desirable before joining in public worship? Neither can it be decent to enter God's House of Praise in a state of excessive heat. Belfry reform does not consist only in stamping out the round-ringers and introducing the study of scientific change-ringing, but the main object should be, as I ventured to advocate (in common with Mr. Blunt and Mr. Lukis) nearly thirty years ago in my *Practical Remarks on Belfries and Ringers*, to clean and adorn the belfry, bring the ropes down *ad pavimentum* and *in conspectu ecclesie*, and stamp out the drunkard and other immoral characters from the upper dirty chambers, who, through the indifferent conduct of the authorities, had got possession of the belfries, defying those who might attempt to interfere with them, and caring to ring for nothing but what money they might get for this, that, or the other, and occasionally gambling with the bells for prizes—a gold-laced hat or a copper kettle. At the same date I addressed a private circular to every Archdeacon in the kingdom, with a view to arouse their attention to these abuses.

Such scandals have often been as dominant among the greatest proficient in scientific change-ringing as among the low and ignorant pullers of rounds and rounds and ups and downs; and therefore scientific changing of *itself* will not necessarily work the desired reform, though indirectly it may. Most happily guilds and associations are now being formed—some under high patronage—which will turn their attention to these old scandals in the abuse of church bells, and by working gradually and judiciously, and with friendly feelings towards those who have erred through ignorance, will by-and-by introduce a better state of things. But in this movement it must not be forgotten that reform has to be carried out in EVERY belfry—even where there may be only two or three bells,—and such reform is of greater importance than progress in the science of change-ringing, which can only be attempted when the bells number from five to twelve.

Some advanced proficient in the mysterious science may scoff at any number less than eight; it is to be feared that such 'Youths' would care little for the reform of belfries when there are only three or four (and they are far more numerous than fuller rings), which, for the honour of God's House of Prayer, have an equal claim to be cared for—cleansed and adorned as any other part of the same building.

H. T. ELLACOMBE, M.A.

Rectory, Clyst St. George, North Devon.

Change-ringing at York.

On Saturday, February 24th, eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths, London, also of the Yorkshire Association from St. John's, Bradford, visited St. Paul's Church, Denholme Gate, and rang a true and complete peal of Sowerby's Exercise Major, consisting of 5184 changes, in 3 hrs. 5 mins. The ringers were:—J. Angus, treble; J. Jenkinson, 2nd; J. H. Fisher, 3rd; W. Swaine, 4th; N. Binns, 5th; J. H. Hardcastle, 6th; J. Cheetham, 7th; J. H. Dixon, tenor. This peal is the first ever rung in this method. Composed by Mr. W. Sottenstall, of Sowerby, Yorkshire, and conducted by Mr. J. H. Dixon. This ring from the Whitechapel foundry was opened by the above company on the 4th and 5th of November, 1876.—Contributed.

Change-ringing at Glodwick, Lancashire.

On Saturday, March 17, eight members of the Ashton ringers met at St. Mark's Church, Glodwick, and rang a true peal of Kent Treble Bob Major, consisting of 5120 changes. Composed and conducted by Mr. John Thorp, and rung in 3 hrs. 5 mins. by the following:—T. Moss, treble; J. Bowcock, 2nd; J. Wood, sen., 3rd; S. Wood, 4th; B. Broadbent, 5th; J. Gillot, 6th; C. Thorp, 7th; and J. Thorp, tenor. Tenor, 8 cwt.—Contributed.

[We hope that these clever Youths from Bradford and Ashton may be spared to enjoy many another piece together; but they will add greatly to our respect for them if, on a future occasion, they will show some respect for

the feelings of others, and of the Church observances of Lent, practising a little self-denial on their part by deferring till after Easter an outing to York or elsewhere to ring for mere pleasure.—ED.]

Muffled Peal by the Yorkshire Association at Holbeck.

On Saturday, March 17th, the Society rang at St. Matthew's, Holbeck, Leeds, a muffled peal of 5088 changes of Kent Treble Bob Major in 3 hrs. 10 mins., as a tribute of respect to the memory of the late J. E. Woodhouse, Esq.—the donor of the bells in 1871—who died on the 7th inst. J. Lockwood, treble; T. Lockwood, 2nd; H. Moss, 3rd; J. Whitaker, 4th; R. Binns, 5th; H. Hubbard, jun., 6th; W. Whitaker, 7th; J. W. Snowdon, Esq., tenor. The peal, which is a one-part composition by Mr. T. Day of Birmingham, with the fifth and sixth their extent each way in 5-6, was conducted by Mr. W. Whitaker. Tenor, 16 cwt. The following is the inscription on the tenor:— 'This peal of bells was erected by J. E. Woodhouse, Esq., and Ann, his wife, to the glory of God, and in pious memory of John Woodhouse, Esq., of Woodlands Hall, who died A.D. 1871.'—Contributed.

The Cox Testimonial Fund.

SIR,—I beg to acknowledge the following subscriptions received in favour of this fund:—

Already announced	£34 12 0
Some Royal Cumberland Ringers of St. Stephen's Church, Hampstead, per Mr. Chapman ..	0 18 0
Royal Cumberland Ringers of St. Ann's Church, Highgate Rise, per Mr. Page	0 15 0
Parochial Ringers of St. Mary's Church, Battersea, 'Royal Cumberland Members'	0 10 6
Waterloo Society of Change-ringers	0 10 6
Society of Ringers of the Old Steeple, Dundee, Scotland, per Mr. W. Hill	0 10 6
Mr. Geo. Day, Church Bell-hanger, Eye, Suffolk ..	0 2 6
Mr. A. Haywood (a London College Youth) ..	0 2 6
Jno. T. Commins, Esq., London	0 2 6
Mr. Jones, London	0 2 0

Total to present time £38 6 0

HY. DAINS, Hon. Secretary and Treasurer.

Committee Room, 54 St. Martin's Lane, London, W.C.

GRANDSIRE RINGING.

By Jasper W. Snowdon, Ikley, Yorkshire.

(Continued from p. 183.)

HAVING followed Grandsire Caters up to the long peal at Painswick my task would be concluded, did I not wish to call attention to a peal which, although of a subsequent date and a smaller number of changes, is still worthy of remark. Especially is this the case when an endeavour is made to state correctly the precise lengths attained in the method, as the following example will certainly show the necessity of all ringers co-operating to definitely arrive at correct conclusions in such matters. Indeed the incompleteness of the information possessed by those persons who it will probably be thought would be in full possession of such particulars, will be a matter of surprise, and were it not that the facts are before us, they might not readily be credited. In 1837 the St. James's Society, after ringing unsuccessfully over 9000 changes on a previous date, accomplished, on May 15th, 12,096 changes at All Saints', Fulham. This peal they recorded as 'the greatest number of changes ever performed by ten men only,' and as such the performance was generally accepted by London ringers. Unfortunately, just twenty years ago, the Painswick men had rung their peal, which was 216 changes longer than this one; and thus, by the want of correct information on the point, this arduous performance stands only second on the list of single-handed lengths, and by the lack of a few hundred changes its original purpose was entirely defeated. It is, indeed, very hard to go so far and yet not get over the wall. Appended are fuller particulars of some of the most prominent of the peals I have mentioned:—

Osborne MS.—'St. Bride's, Fleet St., London. On Friday, Jan. 11th, 1717, a peal of 5040 Grandsire Caters was rung by the London Scholars. Said to be the first ever completed.' *Tablet in St. Giles, Cripplegate.* 'Surmounted by the City arms.' Thursday, November 23rd, 1732. The Society of City Scholars rang in this steeple a complete Peal of six thousand and twelve Caters. Jno. Arnold, 1; Jona. Keate, 2; Robt. Mobbs, 3; Thos. Nash, 4; G. Elton Hill, 5; Jos. Griffiths, 6; Sal. Thompson, 7; Wm. Hilliar, 8; Jno. Box, 9; Ed. Nodes, Hy. Macfarland, Darn. Newbolt, 10. Mr. John Mabatt, Mr. Robert Wyrill, Mr. John Robson, Mr. Thomas Sayers, Churchwardens.'

Painswick Church, Gloucester.—A tablet gives, amongst other matter, the following particulars:—

'March 1st, 1734	a peal of { 8,064	in y ^e { 4: 45
March 1st, 1735	{ 10,080	space { 6: 27
April 18th, 1737	{ 12,006	of { 7: 55'

Tablet in the belfry of St. Peter's, Mancroft, Norwich.—'On March the 8th, 1737, was rung a peal of Grandsire Caters, which for excellency of its ringing, Harmonious changes, and y^e number of them, was certainly superior to anything of its kind ever done in the World: and to Remove all doubt of the truth of the performance several ingenious Ringers were abroad the whole time with proper rules to prove the certainty of y^e same. Thus was this great peal perfectly completed, to the entire satisfaction, surprise, and amazement, of thousands of hearers, in the space of 8 hours 15 minutes. The number of changes were 12,600, rung by 9 men of the company then belonging to the steeple. The tenor singly, by a young ringer 8000, then a second rang her to the end of the peal. The persons' names and the bells they rung are as follow:—Thos. Melchior, 1; Wm. Pettingall, 2; John Gardiner, 3; Tho. Barrett, 4; Robert Crane, 5; Wm. Porter, 6; Tho. Blofield, 7; Edwd. Crane, 8; Chrisr. Booty, 9; James Jerom, Robt. Liddaman, tenor.'

Tablet in the belfry of Painswick Church, Gloucester.—'This tablet records the greatest Achievement of Change Ringing in England, by ten men only, in the Musical Composition of Titum Grandsire Caters, comprising 12,312 changes, rung in this steeple by the Painswick Youths, being on the 5th day of May, 1817. It was performed in 7 hrs. 44 mts., and the Artists were stationed as follows, viz:—Danl. Glyde, 1; Giles Mansfield, 2; Geo. Harding, 3; Wm. Estcourt, 4; Jno. Tunley, 5; Jas. Savory, 6; Robt. Selwyn, 7; Thos. Bethell, 8; Thos. Handy, 9; Jno. Wood, 10. Weight of the tenor, 26 cwt. 2 qrs. 22 lbs. neat Bell Metal.'

(To be continued.)

reasonable of those at present connected with both the Church Association and the Church Union? Some time since an estimable clergyman of the diocese of Lichfield was described in a local paper as a 'Church Bells clergyman.' I think we may justly describe the energetic and able, and withal moderate, Bishop of Lichfield, as a *Church Bells* Bishop. A CHURCHWARDEN.

Scripture Manuals.

Sir,—Mr. 'H. C. Bright' will find the Scripture Manuals, published by Murby, Bouverie Street, E.C., at 6d. and 9d. each, admirable helps for preparation of pupils for examination. There is a separate Manual for each of the historical books of the Bible. I have used them with advantage for the last eight years. H. J. M.

Collegiate School, Buckhurst Hill.

'H. C. BRIGHT'S' attention is directed to *Aids to the Study of the Books of Samuel*, of which a short notice appeared in our last issue, and which is the first of a series designed to meet such requirements as he indicates. *Aids to the Study of the Books of Kings* and the *Acts of the Apostles* are in course of preparation.

'S. N.' calls the attention of 'H. C. Bright' to an advertisement in the *Guardian*, for March 14, announcing that *The Cambridge Annotated Bible* is to come out in sections, specially with the view of helping those preparing for examinations. Further information he can obtain by applying to the Cambridge Warehouse, 17 Paternoster Row.

Sir,—I am very glad 'A London Vicar' has asked the question as to the legality of an Incumbent refusing to allow another clergyman (perhaps a personal friend) to administer the Holy Communion to a sick woman in his parish. I hope you will ventilate the question, especially as the Public Worship Regulation Act, sec. 6, defines a 'parishioner' as 'a male person of full age.'

ONLY A WOMAN.

CAN any one inform 'A Reader' of any Children's Service suitable for use in church on Sunday afternoon, of which printed copies could be got at a reasonable rate? 'A Reader' knows the S. P. C. K. service, but wishes something with rather more variety.

Sir,—In answer to 'F. W. W.' I beg to recommend, for those who like Gregorians, *The Canticles Pointed, with accompanying Harmonies*, by the Rev. H. W. Sargent. (Novello, Ewer, and Co.) W. W. H.

[For those who like Anglicans there is a book of *Canticles Pointed, with accompanying Chants*, by W. Walsham How. (W. W. Gardner, price 1s.)—Ed.]

ZENAS.—Your signature to your first letter was not so distinct as to the second, which we hope to print next week, and we were under the impression that you were a distinguished foreigner.

If 'E. F. W.' will write to the Rev. E. I. Usherwood, Hurst, Bournemouth, he will give all information; he keeps a list of clergy abroad, and arranges for papers to be sent.

ELIZA HOBBS (?), should forward her address to the *Publisher*. The post-mark on her letter is Bournemouth.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

GRANDSIRE RINGING.

By Jasper W. Snowdon, Ilkley, Yorkshire.

(Continued from p. 195.)

GRANDSIRE CINQUES.—In Catter ringing Grandsire is more than two thousand changes ahead of the length of any peal rung on the same number of bells on Stedman's principle; but on eleven bells, as there does not seem to have been much rivalry provoked in Grandsire ringing on eleven bells, the facts are reversed; and in late years Stedman has invariably been chosen for all great feats in Cinques. At an early period, however, there seems to have been a certain amount of feeling in this matter, but as all the long peals then accomplished were rung with some of the bells double-handed, these contests have not created the same interest as have some of the great performances in other methods, and in some measure from this cause it is hard to arrive at a clear account of the subject. I will, however, endeavour to place the matter as clearly before my readers as the few facts which I have been able to gather together will allow me.

On Tuesday, January 19th, 1724-5, the College Youths rang at St. Bride's, Fleet Street, 5060 Grandsire Cinques, being the first that ever was done; besides being the first peal ever rung on eleven bells, it is note-worthy as being also rung single-handed. As of the three peals known to have been rung by the London Scholars, while one is the peal of Grandsire Caters previously mentioned, the two others are Grandsire Cinques: it seems, therefore, that this Society must have comprised a very able body of ringers, and our limited knowledge of their doings probably deprives us of the particulars of many interesting performances during these early days. I am inclined to think that the London Scholars were the ringers connected with St. Martin-in-the-Fields, as they rang the opening peal at that church. The building was consecrated on October 27th, 1726, when an item for the entertainment of the ringers appears in the churchwardens' accounts; and on March 14th, 1727, the London Scholars rang a peal of 6006 Grandsire Cinques, the first peal on the bells. I also imagine that they kept the bells to themselves until they had accomplished the first peal, because, on the day following, the College Youths rang 6314 of Grandsire Cinques, 'the longest that had been rung at that time.' It is pleasing to see that at this time, whatever may have been the rivalry between these two societies, it was confined to a wish to supplant each other's performances, and that when one company had the privilege of admission to a steeple, that its rights were not exercised to the exclusion of others from that ring. This fact may also be gathered from the following extract from *Foy's Journal* for Saturday, November 15, 1729:—

'London, Nov. 15, 1729.—Yesterday night at St. Michael's, Cornhill, the Society of Ringers call'd the College Youths rung the peal of 5000 changes in 4 hours and 8 minutes,

and on Monday last the London Scholars began to ring the changes on the same bells at 55 minutes after XI. in the forenoon and continued ringing until 5 minutes after 3 in the afternoon, in which time they rung 4200 changes.'

Here it would seem that the College Youths had the place of honour, but the fact is gathered that when either Society could not be the first to ring a peal on the bells that they were contented to take their turn, and did not hold themselves aloof altogether. The above extract is interesting, as it furnishes the time in which the College Youths rang their peal, which, by the way, was one of 5126 changes, and is entered in the Society's books as 'the first that was done in that steeple;' it also affords another record of the doings of the London Scholars, but although the performance was not completed, we may gather their intentions from the fact that the only other known achievement of the Society is a peal of 6204 Grandsire Cinques, rung at St. Michael's, Cornhill, on November 27th in the same year; that is, a little more than a fortnight after their unsuccessful attempt. The further doings of this Society form a matter for contemplation, as perhaps they may have in some way been the incentive to the next performances of note. The peals I allude to are those rung by the College Youths at St. Michael's, Cornhill, and St. Saviour's, Southwark. The former, which was accomplished on February 14th, 1731, was 7018, 'the longest peal that had been rung on twelve bells at that time;' and the latter, which was also the longest at that time and since, in Grandsire Cinques, was 8008 changes, rung on December 15th, 1735, and is supposed to be first peal rung on that mighty ring of twelve. These peals were, however, both rung double-handed. It will be seen from the appended details that they were both called by Benjamin Annable, as indeed was also the 6314 at St. Martin's, he also rang in all those I have mentioned by the College Youths.

As Grandsire Cinques has not promoted the competition remarkable in many other systems, the honour of having rung the longest length by twelve men has, as far as I can ascertain, fallen safely into the hands of the St. James's Society, as the 7325 rung by that company on October 26th, 1837, at St. Martin's, does not seem to have been surpassed. The particulars of this peal I give, with the others, below:—

Tablet in the Belfry of St. Bride's, Fleet Street.—On Tuesday, the 10th of January, 1724, the Society of College Youths rung completely a peal of 5060 Grandsire Cinques, being y^e first that ever was done. Y^e persons that performed the same were as follows, viz:—Wm. Woodruff, 1; Benjn. Annable, 2; Edward Chadwell, 3; Jno. Ward, 4; Jno. Pearson, 5; Robt. Catlin, 6; Robt. Carter, 7; Wm. Thompson, 8; Wm. Jackson, 9; Petr. Merrygarts, 10; Math. East, 11; Thos. Rowland, 12. Abraham Goodwin, Aaron Jex, Churchwardens.

Tablet in the Belfry of St. Martin-in-the-Fields.—Thursday, March 14th, 1727, the Society of London Scholars rung in this steeple the first complete peal of six thousand and six. Wm. James, 1; Wm. Underwood, 2; Jos. Wintitt, 3; Wm. Rendall, 4; Fras. Billtop, 5; Fras. Preston, 6; Mich. Shott, 7; Tho. Warburton, 8; Robt. Powell, 9; Wm. Gordon, 10; Lant. Bland, 11; Wm. Sanders, Wm. Price, 12.

From the College Youths' Records.—St. Martin's-in-the-Field. The company rung on Friday, March 15, 1727, a complete peal of 6314 Grandsire Cinques, being the longest that was rung. Mr. Wm. Woodrove, 1; Robert Catlin, 2; James Richardson, 3; John Dearmor, 4; Wm. Laughton, 5; Wm. Thompson, 6; Mr. Wm. Jackson, 7; Saml. Jeacocke, 8; Jno. Edwards, 9; Peter Merrygarts, 10; Benjn. Annable, 11; John Trenell, and Andrew Milham, 12. Mr. B. Annable called bobs.

From the College Youths' Records.—St. Michael's, Cornhill, London. The Company rung on Monday, Feb. 14th, 1731, a complete peal of 7018 Grandsire Cinques, being the longest that ever was done, and in 5 hours and 19 minutes it was completed. Wm. Pickard, 1; Jno. Hayward, 2; James Richardson, 3; Jno. Dearmor, 4; Wm. Laughton, 5; Anthony Goodwin, 6; Jno. Ward, 7; Richd. Spicer, 8; Saml. Jeacocke, 9; Jno. Trenell, 10; Jno. Cundell, 11; B. Annable (call'd bobs), Matthew East, and William Coster, 12.

From the College Youths' Records.—St. Saviour's, Southwark. The Company rung on Monday, Dec. 15, 1735, a complete peal of 8008 Grandsire Cinques, being the longest peal that has ever been done on 12 bells, and in 6 hours and 25 minutes it was performed. Wm. Pickard, 1; Saml. Lee, 2; Jno. Dearmor, 3; Wm. Watson, 4; Robt. Mobbs, 5; Saml. Jeacocke, 6; Jno. Edwards, 7; Jno. Trenell, 8; Geo. Elton Hill, 9; Benjamin Annable, 10; Jno. Cundell, 11; Richd. Spicer, Matthew East, and Richd. Wendleborough, 12. Mr. Benjamin Annable call'd bobs.

Tablet in the Belfry of St. Martin-in-the-Fields.—On Monday, Oct. 26th, 1837, was rung in this steeple by the Society of St. James's Youths, a true and complete peal of Grandsire Cinques, containing 7325 changes, in 5 hours and 35 minutes, which was executed in a masterly manner by the following persons:—J. Fairbairn, 1; C. Clay, 2; J. Mash, 3; T. Tolladay, 4; H. Burwash, 5; R. Turner, 6; J. Harrison, 7; G. Stockham, 8; T. Clayton, 9; C. Wilson, 10; H. Smith, 11; A. Frost, 12. Conducted by Mr. Thos. Tolladay. J. Smith, Esq., R. Cuff, Esq. Churchwardens.

(To be continued.)

St. Paul's, Shadwell.

On Thursday, March 22nd, the following members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang the late Mr. John Holt's original peal of Grandsire Triples, consisting of 5040 changes, with two doubles in the last four leads, in 2 hrs. 58 mins.:—W. Clark, treble; H. W. Elliott, 2nd; R. French, 3rd; T. Benney, 4th; A. H. Webber, 5th; S. Reeves, 6th; J. Pettit, 7th; T. Bugby, tenor. The peal was conducted by Mr. J. Pettit.—Contributed.

Waterloo Society, London.

On Saturday, March 24th, the following members rang at St. Mary's, Battersea, Mr. Holt's original one-part peal of Grandsire Triples (with two doubles in the last four leads), consisting of 5040 changes, which was accomplished in 2 hrs. 52 mins.:—W. Coppage, treble; J. Perks (of Worcester), 2nd; J. Shade, 3rd; I. Shade, 4th; W. Baron, 5th; E. Briggs, 6th; F. Knipe, Esq., 7th; A. Hayward, tenor. The above peal was Mr. Perks' first, and was conducted by Mr. W. Baron.—Contributed.

[Why could not our good friends delay their pleasure peal till after Lent?—Ed.]

RECEIVED ALSO.—Paul Adams; J. Wilkins; and others.

J. Beacall suggests notice to be given of peals intended to be rung, that critics may attend to criticise and verify.

Plain Bob.—The parson of Appleton told us that the request to ring in Lent was yielded for the reasons we stated. We are not aware of our having objected to ringing on Sundays in Lent, where the custom of ringing for services obtains, and where the people like to have it so. Pleasure peals and ringing for mere amusement on Sundays—having nothing whatever to do with Church services—are what we have always raised our feeble voice against, such peals having nothing whatever to do with Church work. Controversy on the question will be useless, the question having been already much discussed in our columns.

MADAGASCAR.

Miss Florence Nightingale asks for a hospital at Tamatave, subscriptions to be received at Messrs. Coutts' Bank. The nurse praised in the following extract from Bishop Cornish's letter to her is Miss Emily Gregory:—"Tamatave contains about 10,000 inhabitants; of these, from 8000 to 9000 are natives, while the remainder are principally Creoles from Mauritius and Bourbon, with a sprinkling of European traders. Smallpox has decimated its native population, and has not wholly spared the Creoles and Europeans. The authorities send away to the forest every infected person, so that those who escape death by disease are likely to be starved to death. I secured a piece of ground on which was a small wooden house, and placed there a lady who was staying with me—a Nightingale nurse of large hospital experience. She has had as many as ninety patients under her care at one time. Our efforts have been seconded by Dr. Davidson, the physician of the Scotch Medical Mission at Antanrivo, who happened, providentially, to be detained here, owing to the quarantine. This terrible epidemic has forced on us the conviction that it is our duty to establish a permanent hospital in this town; and if this is to be done at all, it must be done from England. If we can obtain 400l. a-year for five years we shall be safe in commencing operations. In this part we are the only missionaries except the Jesuits. Our Bishop hopes that many not zealous for missions in general will yet gladly assist a purely philanthropical work.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

GRANDSIRE RINGING.

By Jasper W. Snowdon, Ilkley, Yorkshire.
(Concluded from p. 207.)

GRANDSIRE MAJOR, ROYAL AND MAXIMUS.—Upon even numbers of bells Grandsire has received a fair amount of patronage, especially in the Birmingham district. The first peal of Major that I have been able to find is one of 7552 changes rung at Aston, near Birmingham, on July 30th, 1792. From the length, however, I am inclined to think that there must have been some shorter peal previously accomplished. On Jan. 4th, 1794, eight of the Birmingham St. Martin's Company rang 8000 at Deritend, which length does not seem to have been beaten until Feb. 15th, 1825, when the curious number of 9999 changes was rung in the old tower (St. Paul's) of St. Mary's, Oldham, in Lancashire. This peal continued the longest on record until Feb. 4th, 1861, when 10,032 was accomplished at Walsall, in Staffordshire. This length has not yet been beaten.

Grandsire Royal had an unfortunate start, inasmuch as the peal of 5020 changes, which I believe was the first in the method, rung by the St. Martin's Company, on Oct. 17th, 1814, at the opening of the ten bells at Aston, turned out to be false. In consequence of this the same Society, in the year following, viz. Oct. 23rd, 1815, rang at this church a peal of 6000 changes, which is the longest length accomplished in this method on ten bells. In August, 1815, the Painswick ringers rang 5099 of Grandsire Royal, which is probably the first true peal ever rung.

Although the ringing of odd-bell methods on an even number of bells is what may be termed merely a 'fancy' performance, still there is some interest in ringing the first of any such peals, and I understand that about twelve or fourteen years ago, thinking that a peal of Grandsire Maximus had not been rung, a company in London began to practise it, intending to go for a peal on the Southwark twelve. In the meantime, however, they learnt that a 5040 had already been rung on the twelve bells at St. Martin's, Birmingham, on June 12th, 1815; which performance was considered, in that town, to be the first ever completed. In looking into this matter, however, I find that an earlier peal had been rung, and that it was also performed on the Southwark bells, as on May 7th, 1792, the Society of Cumberland Youths rang at that church 5112 of 'Grandsire Bob Maximus, being the first in that method.' This peal being longer than the Birmingham one is consequently the first, and the longest length rung in the method. From the foregoing remarks on Grandsire Maximus it will be seen that, through an incomplete knowledge of the doings of their predecessors, the Birmingham men rang a peal which might easily have been increased a hundred changes, and made to take its place as a longer length than had hitherto been accomplished; while the London men, not even knowing of either of these performances, contemplated a peal which, had it been rung, would have been the third, and not, as they imagined, the first of its kind. These instances show, I think, how necessary it is that a complete and accurate statement of these matters should be arrived at; and in my endeavours to accomplish this, as I have said several times previously, any one who can forward me particulars of peals which may supplant any of those I have cited will receive my best thanks. I will now conclude with further particulars of some of the peals I have named:—

GRANDSIRE MAJOR.—"St. Peter's and Paul's, Aston. On July 30th, 1792, a peal of 7552 changes of Grandsire Major was rung in 4 hours 34 mins."

From the Birmingham St. Martin's Youths Records.—"On Saturday, Jan. 4th, 1794, a complete peal of 8000 Grandsire eight in was rung at St. John's, Deritend, by the Society of St. Martin's Youths, in five hours. Jas. Taylor, 1; Benj. Pugh, 2; Wm. Bennet, 3; Wm. Coton, 4; Sam. B. Smith, 5; Thos. Betts, 6; Silus Fieldus, 7; Alex. Sanders, 8. Composed and conducted by Silus Fieldus. Weight of tenor, 11 c. 2 qrs. 0 lbs."

Tablet in the belfry of St. Mary's, Oldham.—"On the 15th day of February, 1825, was rung in the old tower 9999 changes of Grandsire Major, in 5 hours 22 mins. by the following persons:—Joseph Newton, composer and conductor, 1; James Mills, 2; Jno. Brierley, 3; Jno. Jackson, 4; Thos. Chadderton, 5; Edward Taylor, 6; Abram Jackson, 7; James Jackson, 8. Tenor, 14 cwt."

Tablet in the belfry at Walsall.—"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 mins. This being the greatest number of changes rung on eight bells in this method. The band as stationed.—G. Longmore, T. Perks, J. Astbury, H. Summers, E. Hallsworth, J. Westley, D. Chapman, W. Hallsworth. Composed and conducted by William Hallsworth. The Rev. J. H. Sharwood, Vicar."

GRANDSIRE ROYAL.—"Extract from Peal-book of Painswick Youths."—August 6th, 1815, was rung 5099 changes of Tithum Grandsire Royal, in 3 hours 5 mins. Danl. Glyde, 1;

Giles Mansfield, 2; Geo. Harding, 3; Jno. Mansfield, 4; Jno. Tunley, 5; Chrstr. Webb, 6; Robt. Selwyn, 7; Thos. Bethell, 8; Jas. Savory, 9; Jas. Marlton, 10. Conducted by Jno. Tunley."

Extract from St. Martin's Youths' Record-book.—"Oct. 23rd, 1815. Aston Parish Church, 6000 changes of Grandsire Royal in 4 hours 6 mins. Jas. Jarvis, 1; Jas. Phipps, 2; Jno. Edmonds, 3; Thomas Vorrall, 4; Thos. Chapman, 5; Ben. Baylis, 6; Hy. Cooper, 7; Thos. Stubbs, 8; Joshua Short, 9; Wm. Newman, 10. Composed and conducted by Henry Cooper."

GRANDSIRE MAXIMUS.—"From the Cumberland Youths' Records."—"St. Saviour's, Southwark. On Monday, May 7th, 1792, the Society rang a true peal of 5112 Grandsire Bob Maximus, in 4 hours and 10 mins., being the first in that method. Called by J. Reeves, 1; Ed. Bartell, 2; Will. Gibson, 3; Will. Richardson, 4; John Darby, 5; J. Frazier, 6; Thos. Reeves, 7; Wm. Shipway, 8; Abrahm. Smith, 9; Malli. Channou, 10; W. Stephens, 11; Thos. Marriss, 10."

The Union Scholars' MS.

In *Church Bells* of January 20th a short account of the discovery of this book was given. We understand that Messrs. J. W. Snowdon and R. Tuke of the Yorkshire Association of Change-ringers are having printed the MS., consisting of the rules, members' names, and peals, together with the account of the Society written by the late Mr. E. J. Osborne, and intend, should they be supported by the 'exercise' generally, so that the actual cost of printing will be defrayed, at some future time to publish the existing particulars of other of the old Societies. To give an idea of the contents of the MS., we append an account of the Society from the Rev. H. T. Ellacombe's *Bells of the Church*:—

"This Society was established (according to Mr. Osborne's MS.) in the 13th year of the reign of Queen Anne, 1713. The peal-book, name-book, and rules, the latter adorned with much ornamental writing, are among Mr. Osborne's MS. in the British Museum. The peal-book contains a record of peals rung from 1718 down to 1757. The first commemorates a peal of 5040 "Hick Triples," rung at St. Dunstan's-in-the-East (the church at which this Society seems principally to have rung), and this record is stated by Mr. Osborne to be the oldest known record of the kind upon paper. In December following is entered a peal of 5128 "Union Bob." Union Bob is no other than is now called Treble Bob. It was called Union Bob from the Union Scholars being the first to introduce it. The celebrated John Holt was an Union Scholar, and when Master of the Society he accomplished his celebrated long-course peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples, which was first rung at St. Margaret's, Westminster, on the 7th of July, 1751. He afterwards composed the same peal in parts, for the convenience of the conductor; this Mr. Osborne believes was rung for the first time by the Cumberlands at St. Leonard's, Shoreditch, on the 12th of September, 1754. In 1752 Mr. Holt left the Society and joined the Ancient College Youths."

"The Union Scholars, after flourishing for many years, became extinct in 1757, and the names of its then members occur for the most part in the name-books of other Societies."

In 1754 Mr. Albion, an active member of this Society, left London to take the Mastership of a school in Bath, and when the Society became extinct the peal-book was given to him, he having been the writer of the peals. When Mr. Osborne was in Bath for his health in 1846, this book was shown to him, and by purchase he became the possessor of it. Mr. Albion continued to be master of the school till 1805, when he died. He occasionally rang at the Bath Abbey, and recorded any correct peals in the same style as the book of the Union Scholars."

A limited number only of the MS. will be printed, and persons wishing to secure copies, which will be ready in a few days, should forward their names, and 7½d. in stamps, to Mr. Jasper W. Snowdon, Old Bank Chambers, Leeds.

Change-ringing at Betchworth, Surrey.

On Sunday, March 25th, six members of the Chapel Church bell-ringers met at Betchworth Church, and rang true peals of the following for morning service:—720 of Warnham Court Bob, with 24 singles, rung in 24½ mins. by the following:—G. Mills, treble; A. Tidy, 2nd; G. Holloway, 3rd; R. Worsfold, 4th; E. Jordan, 5th; D. Jordan, tenor and conductor. After the morning service a peal of Oxford Bob Minor—18 bobs and 2 singles—conducted by A. Tidy; also a peal of Oxford Treble Bob, conducted by E. Jordan; and several half peals of Oxford Single Bob and Grandsire Doubles were rung. Each peal was rung in about the same time as the first. The Oxford Treble Bob had never been rung on these bells. Tenor, 12 cwt.—*Contributed.*

Change-ringing at Hull, East Yorkshire.

On Monday, April 2nd, eight members of the Yorkshire Association of Change-ringers rang at St. James's Church, Hull, Mr. Sottanall's peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples, in 2 hrs. 48 mins., with the men thus:—E. Prince, treble; W. Southwick, 2nd; H. A. Eastwood, 3rd; T. Jackson, 4th; W. Stickney, 5th; C. Jackson, 6th; G. G. Harrison, 7th; F. Merrison, tenor. Weight, 16 cwt. Conducted by C. Jackson.—*Contributed.*

Witney, Oxon.

On Easter Monday the following members of the Oxford Society of Change-ringers visited Witney, and rang on the bells of St. Mary's Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, in 3 hrs. 3 mins.:—C. Hounslow, treble; J. Field, 2nd; W. Thomas, 3rd; R. Annis, 4th; F. Williamson, 5th; W. Smith, 6th; J. Breakspear, 7th; H. Warner, tenor. Conducted by J. Field.—*Contributed.*

The Guild of Devonshire Ringers.

A MEETING of the Committee will be held at Exeter on Friday, April 15th. *Agenda:*—To fix the time and place for annual meeting; to decide upon the form of member's certificate; to receive report of peals, &c.; to consider a proposal to reserve one steeple at general meetings for the use of proficient only, &c. &c. J. L. LANGDON FULFORD, Hon. Sec.

An Example to be followed.

WE are pleased to hear that there has not been any ringing in York during Lent. We hope our kind correspondents who have sent us Lenten peals, if they are spared to 1878, will follow this example.—Ed.

A Correction.

DENHOLM GATE is not in York, but in the West Riding of Yorkshire. We repeat our request to have the counties added to places. Some places are unheard of by Londoners.—Ed.

RECEIVED ALSO.—Some person from Shipley, whose name we cannot decipher; W. R. Jerram; Paul Adams; P. Dixon; Member of Yorkshire Society.

Of course, I also maintain the abstract lawfulness and propriety of the use of wine, &c., for the purpose of enjoyment, wholly apart from medicinal uses. None of the arguments I have met with seem to touch this point. But an enjoyment may lawfully be surrendered for love's sake, only not so as to cast reproach on any of God's gifts.

AN ENGLISH CHURCHMAN.

SIR,—Will you allow me to supplement your valuable extract from the *Times* as to the elections of churchwardens with the following question:—

Does the law as there laid down respecting (1) the chairman, (2) the fixing of time and place of meeting, (3) the qualification of voters, apply equally to other vestry meetings for parish business, as well as to the Easter vestry for electing churchwardens?

J. M.

THE Vicar of a populous parish wishes for suggestions from his brethren who have tried the plan of having Night-prayers for the poor in a Mission room. What prayers are most suitable, how often, and at what hour used?

C. C.

'A LANCASHIRE LAYMAN.'—We do not think we can do any good by reproducing the article you have sent.

'NISI DOMINUS FRUSTR.'—Your communication is too decidedly personal.

RECEIVED ALSO.—Honour to whom honour is due; A Constant Reader; R. A. S.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Change-ringing at Coventry.

ON Easter Monday, April 2nd, several members of St. Martin's Society of Change-ringers, Birmingham, visited Coventry, and with four of the Coventry ringers rang a true and complete peal of Grandsire Caters, containing 5003 changes, which were brought round in 3 hrs. 17 mins. on the fine-toned bells of St. Michael's Church. J. Buffery, treble; W. Bryant, 2nd; J. Joynes, 3rd; T. Srawley, 4th; W. Kent, 5th; H. Bastable, 6th; S. Jarman, 7th; C. Lenton, 8th; C. Horsefall, 9th; W. Gilbert, tenor. Composed by Mr. H. Johnson, sen., and conducted by Mr. H. Bastable.—*Contributed.*

Change-ringing at Quedgeley, Gloucestershire.

ON Monday, April 2nd, the ringers of Quedgeley rang at their parish church 42 six-scores, 10 with plain leads and 32 with extremes, the whole comprising 5040 changes, in 2 hrs. 36 mins., by the following band:—T. Brown, treble; A. Harris, 2nd; W. Brown, 3rd; C. Lyes, 4th; H. Wren, 5th; G. Davies, tenor. Conducted by T. Brown.—*Contributed.*

Ringling at St. Stephen's, Westminster.

ON Monday, April 2nd, eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang at the above church a true peal of Kent Treble Bob Major, containing 5088 changes, in 3 hrs. 20 mins. The band stood thus:—G. Mash, treble; T. Lockwood, 2nd; W. Cecil, 3rd; S. Reeves, 4th; R. French, 5th; F. Bate, 6th; E. Horrex, 7th; J. M. Hayes, tenor. Composed by Mr. T. Lockwood, jun., of Leeds, and conducted by Mr. J. M. Hayes. Weight, 25 cwt.—*Contributed.*

Ringling at North Shields, &c., Co. Durham, and a New Guild for that Diocese.

ON Monday, April 2nd, the bell-ringers of Hurworth (accompanied by Messrs. Overton and Moncaster of St. John's, Darlington) visited North Shields, and gave touches of change-ringing on the bells of Christ Church. Whitley Church, containing six bells, was the next visited, where a peal of Oxford Treble Bob Minor was rung. Later on a peal of Grandsire Minor was rung at St. Hilda's, South Shields; Mr. W. Reed, hon. organist, North Shields, and Mr. G. Overton, Darlington, taking part in this peal by ringing the third and fourth bells respectively. A peal of Kent Treble Bob Minor was also rung on the same bells the next morning, the ringers stationed thus:—J. C. Thompson, treble; H. Thompson, 2nd; J. E. Hern, 3rd; R. Moncaster, 4th; J. Gaines, 5th; J. Hern, tenor. The peal being conducted by J. Gaines. By boat the party then proceeded to Hebburn, where a peal of Bob Minor was rung. All Saints', St. Nicholas', and St. Andrew's, Newcastle, were next visited, but, owing to the bells being out of repair, nothing worthy of notice was done. A meeting was afterwards held to consider the project of establishing a Guild of Change-ringers for the diocese of Durham, Mr. W. Reed, solicitor, North Shields, being appointed President *pro tem.*, the object being to cleanse belfries, reform ringers, and promote the cultivation of the beautiful art of change-ringing, at present so little known in the diocese.—*Local Paper.*

Change-ringing by the Yorkshire Association.

ON Tuesday, April 3rd, the Society rang 5024 changes of Kent Treble Bob Major at St. Matthew's, Holbeck, Leeds, in 3 hrs. T. Harrison, treble; H. Moss, 2nd; J. Whitaker, 3rd; R. Tuke, Esq., 4th; W. Walker, 5th; H. Hubbard, jun., 6th; W. Whitaker, 7th; J. W. Snowdon, Esq., tenor. The peal—a one-part composition by Mr. J. B. Lates of Birmingham, with the fifth and sixth their extent each way in 5-6—was conducted by Jasper W. Snowdon. Weight, 16 cwt.

ON Friday, April 6th, the Society rang 5040 Grandsire Triples at St. Matthew's, Holbeck, Leeds, in 2 hrs. 53 mins. J. Lockwood, treble; T. Lockwood, 2nd; W. Whitaker, 3rd; R. Tuke, Esq., 4th; W. Walker, 5th; C. Jackson, 6th; J. W. Snowdon, Esq., 7th; H. Hubbard, jun., tenor. The peal—on the three-lead course plan—was composed by E. Taylor and conducted by Mr. C. Jackson. Weight, 16 cwt.—*Contributed.*

Change-ringing at St. Bartholomew's Church, Westoughton, Lancashire.

ON Saturday, April 7th, a mixed band of ringers met at the above church, and rang Mr. John Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, consisting of

5040 changes, in 2 hrs. 58 mins. The ringers stood thus:—G. Grundy, treble; W. Brown, 2nd; J. Woodward, 3rd; J. Prescott (conductor), 4th; E. Bentham (first peal), 5th; T. Tickle, 6th; J. W. Hall (first peal), 7th; J. Partington, tenor. Weight, 13 cwt. 1 qr. 14 lbs.—*Contributed.*

St. James's Society, London.

ON Saturday, April 7th, eight members of the above rang at the old church, St. Mary, Richmond, Mr. John Holt's original one-part peal of Grandsire Triples (with two doubles in the last four leads), consisting of 5040 changes, in 3 hrs. 2 mins. The ringers were:—R. Williams, treble; R. French, 2nd; J. W. Cattle, 3rd; W. Williams, 4th; W. Oakes, 5th; C. Hopkins, 6th; H. Hopkins, 7th; S. Hayhurst, tenor. The above was the brothers Williams' first peal, and is the only recorded performance on the bells for twenty-three years. It was conducted by Mr. J. W. Cattle.—*Contributed.*

Change-ringing at Manchester.

ON Saturday, April 7th, a mixed band met in the tower of St. Philip's Church, Hulme, and rang Mr. John Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples (their first attempt) in 2 hrs. 56 mins. This is the first peal of Triples by any of the company, and the first peal on the bells for upwards of sixteen years. The band stood thus:—R. Horrocks, treble; J. Astbury, jun. (38th Regiment), 2nd; F. Barrow, 3rd; W. Barry, 4th; D. Cayton, 5th; R. Proffitt, 6th; E. Ettock, 7th; J. Withers, tenor. Conducted by J. Astbury, jun. Weight, 13 cwt.—*Contributed.*

The Royal Cumberland Society (late London Scholars).

THIS Society reopened its peal-ringing season on Monday evening, April 6th, by ringing at St. George's Church, Camberwell, Surrey, a peal of Double Norwich Court Bob Major. It comprised 5040 changes, and was performed in 3 hrs. It is nearly thirty years since a peal in this musical method was rung in London. The ringers were:—G. Newson, treble; H. Dains, 2nd; J. W. Cattle, 3rd; H. Swain, 4th; G. Harvey, 5th; E. Gibbs, 6th; D. Stackwood, 7th; J. Barrett, tenor. Composed and conducted by Mr. G. Newson. Weight, 14 cwt.—*Contributed.*

Opening of New Bells at Holy Trinity, Bolton, Lancashire.

A RING of eight bells was completed about three weeks ago, but (being the season of Lent) the bells were only opened on Easter Day, by an early peal inviting the parishioners to an eight-o'clock celebration of the Holy Communion. After evening service the ringers of Trinity rang 1000 changes of Holt's ten-part peal, Grandsire Triples. The ringers were:—H. W. Jackson, 1st and conductor; H. Bentley, 2nd; R. Gregson, 3rd; T. E. Turner, 4th; J. H. Jackson, 5th; W. Hamer, 6th; S. Gaskel, 7th; T. Morris, 8th. Weight of tenor, 16 cwt. These bells are by Mears and Stainbank, of London. On Easter Monday the bells were well tested by ringers from Liverpool, Halliwell, Wigan, Hindley, Westhoughton, Swinton, Pendlebury, &c., numbering in all about 100. During the afternoon a substantial tea was provided in the school.—*Contributed.*

Bells at Kelvedon, Essex.

THESE bells (how many we are not told) were rung on Easter morning, after having been rehung and tuned by Messrs. Mears of London. On Easter Monday, the real opening day, a succession of *Doubles* were rung by ringers from many places in the neighbourhood. The bells had long been out of repair, and consequently have been silent over six years.—*Reported.*

Woburn.

THE belfry of the old tower is now complete with a ring of eight bells, two additional ones having been recently added, and the old bells and the belfry thoroughly renovated, through the liberality of his Grace the Duke of Bedford. The opening of the bells will take place on Monday, the 16th inst.

Honour to whom Honour is due.

SIR,—Will you allow me a small space in your valuable paper to say a few words to a 'College Youth' about 'Honour to whom Honour is due.' In your publication of the 17th March, 1877, he makes a remark about it being said that it is now a matter of notoriety in the North that the long peal rung at Earlsheaton, in 1872, is not entitled to be called a peal, as a call was missed in the latter half of the peal. I ask 'College Youth' for his proof. I believe that the peal varied about eight minutes between the first part and the third part. But what of that? I find that the College Youths have varied as much as twenty minutes in a 5000 on one peal of bells. I was witness to the peal, if you will believe my attestation, and I say that it was true. If the College Youths will ring the same length, we will attempt the longest length on record. Both peals shall be witnessed by one man from each company.

A MEMBER OF THE YORKSHIRE SOCIETY OF CHANGE-RINGERS.
Earlsheaton, March 27th, 1877.

Belfry Rules.

WE have been favoured with some *protocols* of Rules for Belfries and Ringers. In all there are too many for *practical* purposes, and some utterly useless. The fewer rules the better, and each set should be adapted to local circumstances: it is impossible to generalise beyond the unwritten rules of etiquette in good society.—*ED.*

Notice to Contributors.

WE adhere to the privilege of all Editors to publish or not what may be sent, at the same time declining to enter into controversies or correspondence about inserting, or rejecting, or abridging MSS. None can be returned.

RECEIVED ALSO.—S. Whitworth, G. P. Bennett, J. Rich. N. Hill: in due course. J. McKel: answered direct.

our Lord is not everywhere to be found, and if we seek ways for gratifying it not appointed by the Church of our baptism. The girl in the story never said, because I, the writer, never imagined, that 'God was not in her parish church;' but she did say, as many young people have done, that she liked one particular way that the Roman Church chooses of realising His presence and nearness; and she was reproved for liking and seeking any other ways of realising His presence than those appointed by her own Church. I must venture to hope that you will see that I have been judged unfairly, and given the credit of an opinion the farthest possible from my real thoughts: but, as I said before, I am more anxious to clear the Editor and Publishers of the *Churchman's Companion* from so unjust an imputation than to be cleared myself. I shall feel grateful if you will publish this letter.

THE AUTHOR OF 'CASTING THE NET.'

Visiting the Poor by the 'London' Clergy.

SIR,—As you have quoted the *Times* as to impressions that the 'London' clergy have given up the good habit of 'visiting the poor,' perhaps you will allow me first to question the assertion as given broadly by the *Times*, and secondly, to plead 'extenuating circumstances,' if by any possibility there seems an apparent relaxation of duty in this important particular.

I am responsible for 'visiting,' so far as practicable, 11,500; and yet, with the solitary exception of one nurse, paid by my wife, I am entirely single-handed. No curate, no Scripture reader, no Bible woman! And yet there are to be provided for three full services weekly, with sermons at each; schools (500 daily attendance) to be cared for; poor to be relieved, so far as funds will permit, at their own homes; and the sick and dying presenting a continuously long list. As one of the 'London' clergy I would ask, 'Is there not a cause' if no propagandist work is undertaken? And what amount of general visiting can be expected? I append, however, a summary that will startle some unacquainted with 'London' clergy, and especially those of the 'East End.' A summary that I venture to say is a very sad commentary upon the assertion made in the *Times*.

A Bethnal Green Parish, pop. 11,500.

1860.	1877.
One church.	One church.
One 'mission' church.	—
Three clergymen.	One clergyman.
Two Scripture readers.	—
One Bible woman.	—

Look on this picture—and on this.

J. D. MCGACHEN, M.A.
Vicar of St. Bartholomew, Bethnal Green.

'A. J. DARBY' (New Hincsey, Oxford) wishes to know where, and at what price, he can obtain a copy of the *Apocryphal Gospels*, as translated by B. Harris Cowper? The translation is referred to in Farrar's *Life of Christ*.

'A LAYMAN' should procure *Plain Words* by the Rev. W. Walsham How, published by W. Wells Gardner.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Grandsire Triple Compositions.

SIR,—In *Church Bells* of April 7th was recorded a peal of Grandsire Triples rung by the Hull Society, which, it was stated, was composed by Mr. W. Sottanstill. The peal is to be found in Mr. Sottanstill's work, and is also given in Mr. Banister's book on Ringing. As peals rung or published are always open to criticism, I wish to state that I cannot see what claim Mr. Sottanstill has to call this peal his composition. It is merely Shipway's five-part peal, which has a fifth's-place bob in each part, and the only difference made is that it is commenced at a different lead. The two peals were contrasted in a letter headed 'Composing made Easy,' in *Church Bells*, February 5th, 1876.

Although in Mr. Sottanstill's work there are thirteen peals of Grandsire Triples to which his name is attached, I do not see how any one of them can be called his composition. No. 1 is a 5012, to which is appended, 'By Wm. Sottanstill, Feb. 13, 1865.' This is Hill's peal from Shipway commenced at a different lead. Three more variations are obtained from this peal. No. 5, dated 'Feb. 20, 1865,' is Reeves' Variation, by an additional bob, of Holt's ten-part peal; the only difference Mr. Sottanstill makes is that the halves are reversed. Nos. 6 and 7 are slight variations of 'Holt's Original,' which peal is not even mentioned in this work. Nos. 8 and 9 are from Shipway's five-part peal, one being dated 'Feb. 2, 1865,' the original being neither given nor alluded to. The remaining four are very simple variations of a peal by Mr. Lockwood, the original of which is given a few pages further on.

Only one peal of Mr. Holt's, viz. his ten-part peal, is given, and a quotation from the *Clavis* is appended. This extract, however, stops short of a portion which is, I think, especially noteworthy. The authors have been acknowledging Mr. Holt's ten-part peal as the foundation of one of theirs, and then remark:—'We must beg leave to observe, that we do not mean to obtrude peals of our own, either to cloud the merit of this author nor yet to arrogate to ourselves merit that is not due. Indeed, it may be no very difficult task for some to produce variations of Mr. Holt's peal and pass them for their own. But the discerning part of the exercise are not to be so deceived, and we will be bold to say, that if anyone will produce a peal of Grandsire Triples with two singles, and will say he did not borrow his plan from Mr. Holt, he is an impostor, and will be branded as such by every judicious professor of the art.'

I think that if conductors would take care that when they call a peal, if they cannot get a really new one, they call some standard composition, we should not be troubled with these reproductions. JASPER W. SNOWDON.

The Peal at Earlsheaton.

SIR,—I have been anxiously waiting for a reply to a letter that appeared in *Church Bells* about a month ago, signed 'College Youth,' relative to the accuracy of a long peal of Treble Eight, erroneously called the longest peal rung at Earlsheaton in Yorkshire.

I am informed authoritatively that this so-called long peal rung at Earlsheaton, as the greatest number of changes ever accomplished in Treble Bob, is false, and for this reason:—The first part end came up true at proper time; the second part came up twenty-five minutes before its time, according to the rate they were ringing the bells; and the last part they jump rounds with the second in the hunt. Consequently, the London Eight (members of the College Youths) have still the honour of having achieved the greatest number of changes in Treble Bob on eight bells, and this event they will commemorate by dining together on the 27th of this month, that being the anniversary of the day on which the College Youths rang the greatest length in Treble Bob and the longest length in Stedman's Cinques, viz. 15,860 Treble Eight and 8580 Stedman's Cinques. Should I have been misinformed in my statement, I shall esteem it a great favour if some of my Yorkshire friends will contradict me and set me right in this matter. GEORGE A. MUSKETT.

Society of College Youths, London, April 13, 1877.

New Bells for St. Mary-Church, Devon.

THE parish church was reopened, after rebuilding, on July 23rd, 1861, and on November 18th, 1873, the newly-erected tower was dedicated to the glory of God, as a memorial to the late Bishop of Exeter, who for many years resided in this parish and was buried in the churchyard. It is now intended to hang a ring of eight bells, to be supplied by Messrs. Warner and Co., at a cost of 746l. 15s. About 150l. has still to be raised. The Bishop of the diocese has kindly consented to preach on Monday, July 23rd, on the occasion of the dedication of the bells.

Payment of Ringers.

IN reply to an inquirer from Bournemouth, nothing but the love of scientific change-ringing will keep a band together. Round-ringers look for money, and such money-ringers never make out anything. All the most proficient ringers in the kingdom meet regularly to ring, without fee or reward; but if they are expected to ring or chime for services, they should be paid by the churchwardens; and if called from their daily occupation to ring for weddings, they must be paid. It is a bad thing for ringers to collect Christmas-boxes, neither should they ever be allowed to ring on *spec*. All the long and intricate peals which we have the pleasure to record in our weekly issues are not rung for money's sake, but for the pleasure of being engaged in such performances.—Ed.

Ringling at SS. Mary and Nicholas, Spalding, Lincolnshire.

THE six ringers of the above church rang on Good Friday a muffled peal, three times during the day, consisting of a half-peal of Dixon's Variations, adding greatly to the solemnity of the day. On Easter Sunday they also rang the half-peal for Holy Communion at eight o'clock. They also rang the same for the second morning and evening services. This is the first attempt of these ringers, who have only been established since last September. Weight of tenor, 20½ cwt.—Contributed.

Ancient Society of College Youths.—Established 1637.

ON Saturday, April 7th, twelve members of the above Society rang at St. Michael's, Cornhill, a peal of Stedman's Cinques, consisting of 5140 changes, in 4 hrs. 1 min. H. W. Haley, treble; W. Cooter, 2nd; H. Haley, jun., 3rd; R. Haworth, 4th; S. Reeves, 5th; R. Jameson, 6th; G. Dorrington, 7th; G. Mash, 8th; J. Pettit, 9th; G. Muskett, 10th; J. M. Hayes, 11th; E. Horrex, tenor. Weight, 41 cwt. Composed and called by Mr. H. W. Haley.—Contributed.

Bromley, Kent.

THE bells of Bromley Parish Church having been rehung, were reopened by the Society of Bromley Youths on Easter Sunday. On the day following a company of Cumberland Youths, under the conductorship of Mr. Cox, rang touches of Grandsire Triples, Stedman's Triples, and Oxford Treble Bob.—Contributed.

Muffled Touch at All Saints, Kingston-on-Thames, Surrey.

ON Friday evening, April 6th, a muffled touch of 500 Grandsire Triples was rung as a mark of respect to the late Mr. John Duffell, who died on the 1st inst., in his 56th year. T. Gaiger, 1st; G. Sayer, 2nd; T. Gadd, 3rd; J. Strutt, 4th; J. Hewett, 5th; S. Brooker, 6th; W. Phillips, 7th; J. Chester, tenor. Conducted by S. Brooker.—Contributed.

Ringling at Ashton-under-Lyne, Lancashire.

ON Saturday, April 14th, ten of the Ashton ringers rang a peal of Kent Treble Bob Royal, containing 5040 changes, which was composed and conducted by Mr. J. Wood, sen., in 3 hrs. 24 mins. J. Moss, treble; J. Bowcock, 2nd; J. Wood, sen., 3rd; J. Wood, jun., 4th; B. Broadbent, 5th; S. Wood, 6th; S. Andrew, 7th; J. Gillot, 8th; C. Thorp, 9th; J. Thorp, tenor. Weight, 28 cwt.—Contributed.

Change-ringing at West Bromwich, Staffordshire.

ON Saturday, April 14th, the Christ Church Society of Change-ringers rang 5040 changes of New Grandsire Triples, which was accomplished in 2 hrs. 43 mins. The band stood thus:—H. Hipkins, treble; J. Russell, 2nd; W. Mallin, 3rd; T. Horton, 4th; W. Beeson, 5th; J. Carter, 6th; S. Biddlestone, 7th; J. Hipkins, tenor. The peal is in twelve parts, with the bell in the hunt going up before the treble in every lead. It was composed and conducted by Mr. S. Biddlestone.—Contributed.

RECEIVED ALSO.—A. Spurrier; W. B. Fulford; and others.

SIR,—I should feel very much obliged to any of your readers who could give me information on the following points:—To whom does the chancel of a district church legally belong? Has the patron any rights in or control over it? Also, Can a clergyman legally refuse to take burials on a Sunday?

COUNTRY PARSON.

CAN anyone inform 'E. F.' who was the author of *The New Week's Preparation for the Lord's Supper*?

'R. A. S.' recommends to 'A Seaman's Chaplain' *The Christian Passover; or, Notes on the Holy Communion*, published by G. J. Palmer (price 3d.), as an instructive little book, and excellently adapted to the purpose for which he wants it.

'W. F. D. L.' (Instow).—Canon Norris's *Manuals of Religious Instruction* (Rivingtons), would, we should think, meet your want. One volume (3s. 6d.) is on the Prayer-book. It is also published in five parts (1s. each).

'CATHOLICUS.'—You should have quoted Bishop B. *verbatim*. We cannot insert your letter as it now stands.

'E. MANNERS SANDERSON.'—There are objections to the course you suggest, into which we cannot enter in our Correspondence columns.

'A. E. H.'—Poem, with thanks.

'F. P. W.'—We fear we cannot find space for your letter.

'A. H. II.'—We regret that we cannot make use of your thoughtful comment on a difficult passage.

'LUCY SINGLETON.'—We cannot find space for the petition.

RECEIVED ALSO.—Walter Greening; Dunelm; A. Z.; G. H.; John Napleton; Thos. Geo. Cree; Medlands Lethbridge; W. A. Wall.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Genuine Compositions.

SIR.—The remarks by Mr. Jasper Snowdon, published in your last issue, must commend themselves to all lovers of fair play and genuineness in Composition. It is rather humiliating to find, that amongst members of the exercise there are to be found those who twist and disturb the compositions of some of the old authors, and then, with the most unblushing effrontery, attempt to palm them off as their own. Such proceedings, I do not hesitate to say, are nothing but acts of *piracy* upon the labour and research of others. Nor are the ancients the only ones whose productions have been maltreated in this manner. In the volume published by Mr. Sottanstill are to be found—I cannot say the exact number, not having his book at hand at the present moment—at any rate, several peals of Treble Bob Major, which are merely transpositions of Reeves' peal of 8448, and, therefore, as far as the authorship of Mr. Sottanstill is concerned, are counterfeit. I believe, also, that a peal of Mr. Haley's has been 'appropriated' in the same way—if, indeed, in this instance, a greater irregularity has not been committed—by the same gentleman. I don't think this is hardly 'Yorkshire.' The abilities of Mr. Sottanstill as a composer I am not going to call into question, but I can only wonder he did not display a similar exhibition of candour as did the authors of the *Clavis*, when they gave specimens how the composition of various peals, not their own, could be varied without affecting their harmony and truth, and without arrogating to themselves the credit of being the original authors.

I have reason to fear that some of the various peals rung from time to time in the provinces would not always, if brought to light, bear the strictest investigation. Could a close scrutiny be made of many so-called true compositions (I am speaking simply of composing) the result would, I think, be anything but satisfactory to their producers. I recollect once writing to a ringer for a copy of *something* which had been rung, and which was described in the paper as a very clever composition, but not all the persuasion I could use would induce him to send it to me. Probably he had had warning from some kind friend at hand that his ingenious, never-to-be-forgotten production, would not bear the light of day, and no doubt considering that discretion was the better part of valour, wisely determined, after his reply to my first letter, not to correspond with me any more on the subject.

And this brings me to notice, Sir, with your permission, the letter of Mr. Muskett in the same issue of your excellent paper. For the honour of the Yorkshiremen, if for that only, I hope they may have a satisfactory explanation to make to the charge; but all who know the respected Secretary of the Ancient Society of College Youths are unflinchingly convinced that he would not utter such a sweeping condemnation of any performance unless he had the strongest reasons for so doing. He is to be credited, in this instance, with a laudable desire to establish truth and expose error amongst that exercise of which he is so eminent a practitioner, and though, as I have just observed, my sympathies at present are with the performers at Earlsheaton, should they fail in making good their case scarcely any language will be too severe to be visited upon them for having foisted a spurious performance upon the ringing fraternity. Be this mystery solved as it may, it must ever be remembered that to Mr. Haley belongs the everlasting honour of having called the longest peal on record, while it is a noteworthy fact that the truth or quality of the ringing of the London peal has never been called into question, but, on the contrary, has always been spoken of in terms of universal and unqualified admiration.

VIGORNIENSIS.

Long Peals rung in April.

APRIL seems to be a month very prolific for the ringing of long peals. The first was by the Norwich Youths, who, on April 1st, 1727, rang 10,080 Oxford Treble, eight in; and on the 7th and 8th of April, 1761, the band at Leeds, in Kent, rang the full extent of Plain Bob on eight bells, in which the

renowned Jas. Barham took a prominent part. But on the 'never-to-be-forgotten' 27th of April many long peals have been achieved, and both Cumberland and College Youths may most justly celebrate the day, let the Earlsheaton peal be true or false. The following is from the *Camberwell and Peckham Times* of the 21st inst., being, perhaps, the only record of a remarkable, although an unfinished, performance:—

'April 27 (Friday).—The *Annual Register* for 1800 chronicles the extraordinary attempt made by eight members of the Society of Cumberland Youths, to ring 15,136 changes of Oxford Treble Bob Major, on Edmonston Church bells. It requires upwards of ten hours to perform the task, at 25 changes per minute. They had entered the ninth hour, when an unlucky accident befell Mr. George Goss, the composer of the peal. Making an attempt to slacken his knee-buckle his leg entangled in the coil of the rope, by which he was elevated to a considerable height, and thence falling down on his head he broke his collar-bone. Had it not been for this accident, no doubt the feat would have been accomplished, and the performers crowned with perpetual honour, as nothing to be compared with such an achievement of strength and skill can be found in the records of the campanologist's art.'

Twelve months ago, when the Cumberlands rang Mr. Harrison's peal, 8896 changes, with the tenors together, at St. Ann's Church, Highgate, little was it thought to be anniversary of such a serious but interesting event as the above extract describes.

HY. DAINS.

Camberwell, London.

Opening of the Ring of Eight Bells at Woburn, Beds.

Two additional bells having been added to the old ring of six by his Grace the Duke of Bedford, were opened on Monday, the 18th inst. The old bells have been rehung, the ringing-chamber painted, mottos in illuminated letters executed over the four window-arches, &c. Persevering efforts are being made to accomplish real ringing in Woburn. Change-ringing is not practised elsewhere in the county; and as the Woburn Society have taken the advance in this matter, the new bells were opened in a manner likely to encourage others to follow the practice. Leonard Proctor, Esq. of Benington, with his clever band of ringers, rang during the day the following excellent touches:—504 Grand sire Triples; 924 Stedman's Triples; 570 Kent Treble Bob Major; 448 Superlative Surprise Major. The new work has been executed by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank of London.

Change-ringing by the Yorkshire Association.

ON Tuesday, April 10th, the Society rang at St. Matthew's, Holbeck, Leeds, 5040 changes of Bob Major in 3 hrs. 1 min. T. Harrison, 1; S. Basnett, 2; H. Moss, 3; J. Lockwood, 4; W. Whitaker, 5; T. Lockwood, 6; H. Hubbard, jun. 7; R. Binns, 8. The peal was composed by T. Lockwood and conducted by R. Binns. Tenor, 16 cwt.

ON Tuesday, April 17th, the Society rang at St. Matthew's, Holbeck, Leeds, 5056 changes of Kent Treble Bob Major in 2 hrs. 29 mins. T. Harrison, 1; S. Basnett, 2; T. Lockwood, 3; W. Whitaker, 4; W. Snowdon, Esq. 5; R. Binns, 6; H. Hubbard, jun. 7; J. W. Snowdon, Esq. 8. The peal—a one-part composition, with the fifth and sixth their full extent in 5-6—was composed by P. Cashmore and conducted by Jasper W. Snowdon. Tenor, 16 cwt.

ON Saturday, April 21st, the Society rang at St. Matthew's, Holbeck, Leeds, 5040 changes of Bob Major in 2 hrs. 55 mins. T. Harrison, 1; S. Basnett, 2; E. Snowdon, Esq. 3; R. Tuke, Esq. 4; H. Hubbard, jun. 5; W. Snowdon, Esq. 6; J. Winder, 7; J. W. Snowdon, Esq. 8. Tenor, 16 cwt. The peal was conducted by Mr. Jasper W. Snowdon, and was taken from the peal-book of the Society of Union Scholars, having been rung by that company on Dec. 9, 1748, when it was called by John Holt.

ON Saturday, April 14th, the Lindley Branch of the above Association rang a peal of 5024 changes of Kent Treble Bob Major with the 6th bell twelve times wrong and twelve times right in 5-6, also in one continued course, in 3 hrs. 10 mins. The ringers were:—E. Ellam, 1; J. Royston, 2; G. W. Schofield, 3; T. Haigh, 4; C. Craven, 5; F. Schofield, 6; T. F. Drake, 7; W. Brogden, 8. Tenor, 18½ cwt. Composed and conducted by T. Haigh.

Muffled Date Touch at Hulme, Lancashire.

ON Saturday, April 14th, a mixed band rang a muffled touch at St. Philip's Church, Hulme, containing 1877 changes of Grand sire Triples, in 1 hr. 3 mins., as a token of respect for the late Mr. Henry Royle (of the Society of College Youths, London). J. Hindle, treble; F. Barrow, 2nd; R. Yates, 3rd; E. Ettock, 4th; W. Barry, 5th; J. Asbury, 6th; John Withers, 7th; Joseph Withers, 8th. This musical touch—containing 15 6-4's, 15 7-4's, and 24 6-7's—was composed by Mr. J. Carter and conducted by J. Asbury. Weight, 13 cwt.—Contributed.

Ringling at West Malling, Kent.

ON Wednesday, April 18th, the East Malling Ringers met at St. Mary's, West Malling, and rang a peal of 720 Minor in 25 mins. The ringers were:—H. Bonner, 1; T. Pett, 2; J. White, 3; G. Waterman, 4; E. Bonner, 5; H. Williams, 6th.

Ringer's Funeral.

THE remains of the late Isaac Illingworth were interred in Bradford parish churchyard on Tuesday afternoon last. He had been a ringer at the parish church over fifty years. The parish church bells were muffled on Sunday, and on the day of the funeral ringers met from various parts and rang muffled peals. It may be interesting to mention that the last peal rung by Mr. Illingworth was at Guiselev, on August 23rd, 1863, when the following veteran company rang a peal of 5088 changes in 3 hrs. 4 mins.:—J. Hanson, aged 78, 1; J. Kendall, 73, 2; C. Iles, 74, 3; W. Senior, 68, 4; H. Hubbard, 64, who conducted the peal, 5; T. Dawson, 62, 6; Isaac Illingworth, 68, 7; and W. Dumbleton, 66.

RECEIVED ALSO.—D. W. Barrett; R. Cleasby; G. W. Cole: you and yours are the best judges, or consult the founders.

our Church; on the contrary, we are steadily though quietly advancing. The clergy of the Irish Church are as zealous, perhaps more zealous, than ever. Her people are loyal, and have shown their loyalty by denying themselves to support her clergy; nor, in the general anxiety to provide incomes for the clergy at home, have the Missionaries among the heathen been forgotten. It was publicly stated, in a meeting of the C. M. S. held in Dublin a few days ago, that the subscriptions given in Ireland to that Society last year were larger than they had ever been before. We are not then forsaken, God is still with His Church in this country. The Saviour's promise, we feel, is still being fulfilled to us: 'Lo, I am with you' always, even to the end of the world.'

LL.B.

'To be Said or Sung?'

SIR,—I am really unaware of anything in my last letter calculated to provoke the very 'snappy' reply of your correspondent, 'W. P. B.' So far from 'summing up,' I merely replied to some of the correspondents who commented on my letter. To prevent any misapprehension, I may inform 'W. P. B.' that my 'unhappy lot of birth' was to be born in Ireland (which, I dare say, he considers *in partibus infidelium*), and that, therefore, I was bred in 'the United Church of England and Ireland,' and of the portion of it which the British Parliament cut off from the main body by the Irish Church Act I am still a warmly and loyally attached member. I think, therefore, Sir, that I have some right to express an opinion upon the manner of conducting Divine worship in the Church of England. In commenting and commending the hearty services of the church described by 'A Presbyterian,' I certainly did say that I thought it was 'in the interests of the Church and true religion' that there should be more of such services, but I am at a loss to see how that language leaves me open to the charge of 'arrogance' made by your correspondent; or why, because I dare in your columns to express an opinion favourable to reading instead of singing the prayers, I should be told by 'W. P. B.' to 'keep silence.' He says he has found that it is not conducive to 'a satisfactory expression of the devotion of a congregation, the agglomeration of a mass of untrained voices in all keys being most disagreeable, undevotional, and difficult to sustain.' That, no doubt, is his opinion; but allow me to assure him it is not 'the end of the controversy' on this subject, and that many other people think differently, and notwithstanding his imperious command I will take the liberty of saying so, if I have your permission. I may add that the speaking voice is no more in any musical key than the songs of most birds, and that human voices being heard together, therefore, causes no more musical discord than the chorus of 'the songsters of the grove,' which most of us have listened to with pleasure, but whom your correspondent would probably compel, if he could, to sing in a monotone. He says politely that what I have written about women being part of a surpliced choir is 'nonsense,' yet the only practical contribution he makes to the subject under discussion is a suggestion that two women, with contralto voices, should be placed as *near as possible* to either side of the choir, to supply the deficiency of this voice amongst the boys. Your readers will judge of the consistency of his observations on this point, and also whether I have merited the exceedingly caustic criticisms which his letter contains.

ZENAS.

Sunday Interments.

SIR,—In reply to 'Country Parson,' in your last issue, about Sunday funerals, undoubtedly they cannot legally be refused, 'convenient warning' being given. These two words out of Canon 68 (a penal one) have, however, been interpreted to mean that the people may fix the day and the clergyman the hour. My Bishop (Ripon) advises us to punish Sunday interments by not taking the corpse into the church at all—an option which the rubric gives to every clergyman at any time. I doubt the wisdom of this advice—at any rate, where no evening service follows.

S. H. I.

SIR,—In reply to the 'Country Parson's' inquiries, the freehold of the chancel as well as the nave of a district church legally belongs to the incumbent for the use of the parishioners, and I apprehend that the patron, as such, has no rights in or control over it.

With respect to the question whether a clergyman can legally refuse to take burials on a Sunday, the answer depends on the proper construction of the 68th Canon, which directs that no minister shall refuse or delay to bury any corpse that is brought to the churchyard, convenient warning being given to him thereof beforehand; and what is a convenient warning must be considered, as Sir H. Jenner Fust said in a case before him, 'in reference to the time, distance, and the various vocations of the clergyman.' I do not think that a clergyman can lay down a positive rule not to take burials on a Sunday, at all events if his time is not fully occupied by services in the church; but with a little tact on his part it is not probable that his parishioners will insist on burials on the Sunday to his inconvenience, or contrary to his expressed wishes.

C. H. B.

CAN any one inform 'E. B. B.' whether the sermon by Canon Liddon, dealing with the doctrine of 'Conditional Immortality' (referred to by a correspondent last week under the head of 'Three Sermons') can be obtained in any printed form? Also whether there be any book (in answer to those which have been written of late) upon the subject, by a writer thoroughly acquainted with the views maintained?

[A tolerably full report of Canon Liddon's sermon appeared in the *Guardian* for April 25.—Ed.]

SIR,—Having only promised one copy of *Church Bells* to a clergyman abroad, we shall be very glad to send the other to Seabury Divinity Hall, as suggested in the last number. Would some former numbers of *Church Bells* be acceptable to any mission or institution in England? I have the years 1875 and 1876 nearly complete.

LINA.

'F. J.' had better write to the Editor of the *Sunday School Magazine*. We may mention, however, the S. P. C. K. *Commentaries* on the Old and New Testaments, Mr. Stock's *Lessons on the Life of Our Lord*, and Prebendary Sadler's *Church Teacher's Manual*.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Ancient Society of College Youths. Established 1637.

ON Saturday, April 28, eight members of the above Society met at St. Mary's Church, Islington, and rang a true peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples in 2 hrs. 49 mins. Ringers:—J. Pettit, 1; H. Edwards, 2; S. Reeves, 3; R. French, 4; M. A. Wood, 5; F. Bate, 6; J. M. Hayes, 7; T. Bugby, 8. The peal was Mr. John Holt's Original, with two double in the last four leads. Conducted by Mr. J. Pettit.

Change-ringing by the Yorkshire Association.

ON Tuesday, April 24, the Society rang at St. Mary's, Hunslet, Leeds, 5568 changes of Kent Treble Bob Major in 3 hrs. 22 mins. G. Fothergill, 1; R. Tuke, Esq., 2; H. Hubbard, jun., 3; G. Barraclough, 4; T. Lockwood, 5; J. Dixon, 6; J. W. Snowden, Esq., 7; R. Binns, 8. The peal, which has the curious feature of being in three parts, with the sixth its extent each way in 5-6, was composed by Mr. T. Day and conducted by Mr. T. Lockwood. Tenor, 21 cwt.

Change-ringing at Bingley, Yorkshire.

ON Saturday, March 24, the Bradford Society of Change-ringers rang at the parish church, Bingley, 5024 changes of Kent Treble Bob Major, with the sixth bell twelve times each way in 5-6, in 3 hrs. 16 mins. Composed by Mr. Sottenstall of Sowerby, and conducted by Mr. J. H. Hardcastle. Tenor, 17½ cwt. J. Angus, 1; J. Naylor, 2; J. H. Fisher, 3; W. Swain, 4; J. Cheetham, 5; J. H. Hardcastle, 6; J. Wilkinson, 7; J. H. Dixon, 8.

Change-ringing at Mirfield, Yorkshire.

ON Tuesday, April 10th, the Society of Change-ringers of St. Mary's, Mirfield, rang 1877 changes of Kent Treble Bob Royal in 1 hr. 21 mins., being the date of the present year. It was composed by J. Lodge, of Heckmondwike. The ringers were:—J. Holt, 1; T. Crawshaw, 2; H. Hinchliffe, 3; T. Oxley, 4; B. Robinson, 5; D. Clarkson, 6; S. Dawson, 7; H. Firth, 8th; J. Peacock, 9th; E. Firth (Conductor), 10. Tenor, 31 cwt.

Change-ringing at Shipley, Yorkshire.

ON Saturday afternoon, April 21, eight members of the Yorkshire Association of Change-ringers rang at St. Paul's Church 5088 changes of Kent Treble Bob Major in 3 hrs. and 2 mins. The ringers were:—A. Moulson, 1; H. Raistrick, 2; W. Kendall, 3; T. Pollard, 4; J. Wilks, 5; W. Wilks, 6; J. B. Jennings, 7; J. Wilson, 8. Composed by Mr. J. Barker of Liversedge, in three equal parts, the sixth being twenty-four times each way in 5-6. Conducted by Mr. J. B. Jennings.

Ringling at Bawtry, Yorkshire.

ON Monday evening, April 23, a peal of 720 Bob Minor was rung by the Bawtry Society for the first time; and one, a new treble, was added by Mr. Taylor of Loughborough. Time, 27 mins., with 18 bobs and 2 singles. The ringers were:—J. N. Taylor, 1; F. H. Cartwright, Esq., 2; F. J. Oram, 3; W. Sanderson, 4; C. Swindon, 5; H. Wilson, conductor, 6. Tenor, 12½ cwt.

Ringling at Chester Cathedral.

ON Tuesday evening, April 24, eight members of the Chester Cathedral Society of Change-ringers rang on the Cathedral bells half a peal of Grandsire Triples in 1 hr. 45 mins., containing 2520 changes and 50 bobs. The ringers were:—W. Owens, 1; W. Woods, 2; P. Griffiths, 3; W. Cross, 4; W. Walton, 5; A. Bowden, 6; F. Ball, 7; F. Jarvis, 8. Tenor, 33 cwt. in C. Conducted by F. Ball.

Change-ringing at Westhoughton, Lancashire.

ON Saturday, April 28, Mr. John Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, consisting of 5040 changes, was rung in 2 hrs. 54 mins. G. Grundy (Conductor); W. Brown, 2; J. Woodward, 3; H. Heaton, 4; J. Vickers, 5; A. Hodgkinson, 6; J. Whittingham, 7; J. Partington, 8. Tenor, 13 cwt. 1 qr. 14 lbs.

Reopening of the Bells of Magdalen College, Oxford.

THE bells of Magdalen College, Oxford, having been refitted by Mr. F. White of Besselsleigh, Berks, were on Saturday, the 28th ult. reopened by the Appleton Society of Change-ringers, who rang on them eight courses of Stedman's Caters. The band stood as follows:—F. S. White, 1; E. Holifield, 2; B. Barrett, 3; W. Bennett, 4; G. Holifield, 5; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 6; J. Avery, 7; F. White, 8; H. Woodward, 9; T. Bennett, 10. Conducted by F. White.

Change-ringing at Plymouth.

ON Monday, April 30, the following members of the Guild of Devonshire Ringers met in the belfry of Charles the Martyr, Plymouth, and rang a true and complete peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples in 3 hrs. 14 mins.:—C. Brock, 1; E. Taylor, 2; W. Banister, 3; R. Ford, 4; J. Baxter, 5; C. Smith, 6; J. Eastbrook, 7; J. Widdicombe, 8. Conducted by Mr. W. Banister. It is the first peal ever rung in the borough of Plymouth, although the bells were hung in 1782. Tenor, 24 cwt. 1 qr.

Churcham, Gloucester.

WE are pleased to report that six new bells from Messrs. Warners' Foundry have been delivered at this village, to replace those lately destroyed by fire. We shall be more pleased when we can announce that they are paid for, and have been dedicated to the honour of God and opened by a talented band of ringers.

RECEIVED ALSO,—R. L. Biec; H. Dastabee; Peter Johnson; and others.

help young men who are preparing for ordination. One has, from time to time, been advertised in our columns. But had you not better consult some clerical friend, or even write to a Bishop, rather than seek to attain your object by correspondence in the columns of a newspaper?

'H. PERTSON' asks for a cheap book of instructions for entering the Church 'as a clergyman.' We do not know of such a book; but if he has reason to think himself distinctly moved by the Holy Ghost to take orders, he had better put himself in communication with some Bishop, who would tell him on what conditions he would ordain him.

'SARAH TENNANT.'—We are interested to hear that the plan of administering the elements for which Mr. Venables petitions is found to work well. But it is clear that the rubrics at present do not warrant a clergyman in putting it into practice.

'GUANENSIS.'—Thank you for your letter. We doubt whether the time has come for such a diagnosis and prognosis of the Eastern Question as you ask for, and it is certain that no one has yet shown the calmness and dispassionateness necessary in order that they may be properly performed.

To 'LINA.'—Mrs. Ledger, Monkton Road, Jarrow-on-Tyne, Durham, Librarian to the British Workman Reading-room, would gratefully accept your 1875 and 1876 *Church Bells*, and would have them bound.

'ARMIDALE.'—A paragraph in our columns some time ago has already called the attention of our readers to the fact which you kindly point out.

THERE are some friends of the Church who will not believe that the political Nonconformists, in seeking as of right to hold their services for burial in our churchyards, are at the same time seeking for the admission of their services into our churches also. Last year Sir Wilfrid Lawson, advanced Radical though he be, warned us that this would be the case. 'I admit fully,' said he, 'let us be honest about it, that if you let the Nonconformist into the churchyard it is only a step towards letting him into the church.' Now we have Mr. R. W. Dale, one of the accredited Liberationist leaders, openly avowing that this is their intention. Speaking at a meeting at Birmingham on April 18, he made this unequivocal statement:—'Nonconformists had not concealed what their real intentions were. What they were going in for was complete religious equality in life as well as in death; and as they asserted that the graveyards belonged to the parish, so they asserted that the church belonged to the parish. They did not intend to disguise how far their principles carried them.' Let Churchmen, who think concessions to Nonconformists in the matter of burial services will bring peace, mark this well. The present attack is on the church as well as the churchyard. Surrender the latter, and the whole force of Nonconformist agitation will be turned on the former. If Nonconformity once gains access to our churchyards it will not rest there. It now tells us plainly it will try to force its way into the church. This can never be permitted, whatever resistance may cost. The only way, then, to prevent a deadly struggle is to keep the Nonconformists, as at present, outside our churchyards. Thus only can we be safe from internecine warfare between Church and Dissent in every parish in the land.—*National Church.*

CASTLE DONNINGTON.—A two-light Munich stained-glass window has just been erected at Castle Donnington Church, near Derby, to the memory of Mrs. Elizabeth Ann Wyer. The subject is, 'The Presentation in the Temple.' It is from the studio of Messrs. Mayer & Co. of Munich and London.

THE parish church of Overton, in the county of Wilts, which is in a dilapidated state, is about to be rebuilt and enlarged at a cost of between three and four thousand pounds. The trustees of Sir H. Meux, Bart. have contributed very handsomely towards the fund.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Genuine Compositions, &c.

SIR,—I am glad to find that 'Vigorniensis,' in your issue for April 28, supports my protest against the variation by others of original compositions. At the same time I can bear him out in his remarks upon the closeness with which the calling of certain peals is guarded. The remedy for this, however, is at hand, if only there is sufficient breadth of mind amongst ringers to adopt it. Already a large number of societies of ringers exists, and as each year this number is increasing, I hope that before long the time will arrive when few peals will be rung the performers in which will not belong to some such society, which will record their doings in its books. Now if each society will consider it as necessary to record the calling of its performances as any other of the details, it will then—so that its honour cannot be questioned—become a personal matter for the executive of each society only to admit true and genuine compositions. At the same time, the more accessible to the public these records are, the more effectively will the remedy be worked.

Anyone who has seen the records of the Society of Union Scholars, which Mr. Tuke and I have lately had printed, will see that this is no new idea, and can also form some idea of how extremely interesting such records as those of the College and Cumberland Youths would be had the calling of each peal, on its first performance, been noted. I believe that of the hundreds of peals performed by these societies the calling only of one rung by the Cumberlands is given, whilst I do not know that even one by the College Youths is recorded: in fact, in many instances the composer's name is not even mentioned.

The Yorkshire Association of Change-ringers is, I am glad to say, endeavouring to carry out to the full the principles I am now advocating. As the calling of each peal, on its first performance by the Society, is recorded, the yearly printed report places a copy of each year's doings in the hands of each member, whilst any of the public can, for a very small sum, obtain

similar copies. This, I may add, so far as the experience of the Society shows, can be done for a very small expenditure.

The paragraph in your issue for April 28, which Mr. Dains sends you from the *Annual Register*, is one which I have had a copy of for some time, having found it in an old note-book of Mr. Osborne's lent me by a ringing friend. This note, in Mr. Osborne's writing, is appended,—'The above is all false. E. J. O.' Even without this note I should not myself have believed it, as it was not until many years after this date that such a length was composed. The Cumberlands rang a long length on the Edmonton Bells on April 28th, 1800, and particulars of this peal, and Shipway's remarks several years afterwards on the lengths composed in Treble Bob Major at that time, may be found in my paper on Treble Bob in *Church Bells*.

It is remarkable why these endeavours are made to impose on the public; and while I could quote many instances in which fictitious performances have found their way into print, I will give one further example from the same source as the one quoted by Mr. Dains:—

Annual Register, 13 Oct. 1804.—'A singular accident happened at the new church, Dagenham, Essex. The Society of Cumberland Youths were invited to open the new peal of bells, on which they performed in the morning by ringing 7008 changes of Oxford Treble Bob in 4 hours and 49 mins. but in the evening Mr. Channon, Master of the Society, wished to oblige the inhabitants of the village with another peal, when, unfortunately, his leg got entangled in the rope, which drew him up to the next loft, and, falling thence on his head, was killed on the spot, the part of the skull being beat in so that the brains oozed out through the cavities.'

Mr. Osborne adds, "6 Bells, tenor 13 cwt. The above is all false. Mr. Channon read this account himself in 1825.—E. J. O.'

JASPER W. SNOWDON.

A Question.

SIR,—Is George Goss, whose death was mentioned in your issue for April 28, a misprint for George Gross, of whom there were father and son? For I find, on reference to the Edmonton tablets in *Church Bells* for June 2, 1872, that these ringers, belonging to both the Cumberlands and the College Youths, rang in Edmonton tower in 1794, 1795, and 1798. I also find that the elder George rang at St. Leonard's, Shoreditch, on April 1, and at St. Mary-le-Bow on January 3, 1803 (see *Church Bells* for March 2 and June 15, 1872). And also that he was both composer and conductor. If this be the man meant, then his death could not have happened as described by you.

SIMON COX.

Ancient Society of College Youths. Established 1637. Testimonial to Mr. Haley.

ON Friday, April 27th, the members of the above Society met at their house, the 'King's Head,' Great Winchester Street, Southwark, to celebrate the anniversary of their two great performances; viz. the 15,840 Kent Treble Eight, rung by them at St. Matthew's, Bethnal Green, and the 8580 Stedman's Cinques, rung at St. Michael's, Cornhill. Neither of these peals has yet been surpassed. Both were called by Mr. H. W. Haley, and their truth and merits have never been called in question.

The members sat down to an excellent repast. The cloth having been removed, the Chairman, after a short complimentary speech, handed to Mr. Haley, on behalf of the Society of College Youths, a purse of sovereigns, as a token of their esteem and of their appreciation of his abilities as a ringer, bob-caller, and companion, who has used his utmost endeavours to advance the science of ringing and to improve the position of ringers. Mr. Haley heartily thanked the members of the Society, both London and country, for this token of their good feeling, which he fully reciprocated.

G. A. MUSKETT, Secretary.

Tadcaster, Yorkshire.

ON Thursday week the inhabitants of this town were charmed by hearing once more the music of their church bells, after a dismal silence of many months. The church has been rebuilt, and likewise the tower from the bell-chamber upwards, and the opening day is fixed for the 29th of this month. The work of taking down and replacing the bells was intrusted to Mr. Mallaby, of Masham. They were cast in York, rather more than ninety years ago. They are six; the tenor about 14 cwt., in F.

Change-ringing at Hindley, Lancashire.

ON Wednesday, April 18, Mr. John Holt's ten-part peal of 5040 Grand-sire Triples was rung by R. Calland, 1; E. Prescott, 2; E. Brown, 3; W. Chisnall, 4; G. Walker, 5; T. Tickle, 6; J. Prescott, 7; W. Westhead, 8. Conducted by Mr. J. Prescott. Tenor, 14½ cwt. Time, 2 hrs. 52 mins.

Change-ringing at Aldford, Cheshire.

ON Saturday, April 28, the village Society rang a peal of 720 Grand-sire Minor in 28 mins. The ringers were:—R. Barlow, 1; T. Bassnett, 2; W. Manning, 3; J. Manning, 4; C. Thomas (conductor), 5; C. Price, 6. Also three peals of Stedman's Doubles were rung the same evening, consisting of 360 changes. The ringers were:—W. Manning, 1; T. Bassnett, 2; C. Price, 3; J. Manning, 4; C. Thomas (conductor), 5; J. Boughiey, 6. These being the first peals ever rung on these bells, or by any of the above-mentioned, in Stedman's principles. Tenor, 14 cwt. 3 qrs.

Muffled Peals at Liversedge, Yorkshire.

THESE peals were rung by ringers from many places on the 28th ult., as a token of respect for Mr. Obadiah Long, an old and well-known ringer in Yorkshire, who died on the 28th ult., aged 75 years.

Date Touches.

AT Waterford, on the 27th ult., 1877 Grand-sire Triples, in 1 hr. 6 mins. At Glemsford, Suffolk, on the 28th ult., 1877 Variation touches in several methods, in 1 hr. 25 mins.

RECEIVED ALSO.—S. Barker. H. Bastable. F. B. King. H. Sibthorpe: did not enclose stamps. Your bell is bad—return it.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Genuine Compositions, &c.

SIR,—Referring to the observations I made in my letter, which appeared in your issue of the 28th ultimo, and also to Mr. Snowdon's letter of last week, I may say that in the course of my own personal experience in the exercise, several cases have occurred in which I have, unwittingly of course, been concerned in attempts at peals the compositions of which were afterwards found to be erroneous. As the above-named gentleman truly observes, the 'calling' of peals, in frequent instances is so jealously kept close, that it becomes impossible for anyone anxious to be on the safe side, to have access to a copy of the production in time to prevent what may turn out to be a misfortune. The vanity and obstinacy of some in endeavouring to substantiate error against truth cannot be too severely deprecated.

In my letter before alluded to, I hinted that these evils existed, as I believe, in the provinces. As a rule, I hold that such irregularities could not and do not abound in the metropolis. Solitary instances have however been known of London ringers performing peals which proved to be false on examination, but such cases have been few and far between. Woe be to the bob-caller of a false-peal should his performance take place within earshot of that gentleman whom the other night the College Youths delighted to honour! He may safely calculate upon being 'bowled-out,' should a fitting opportunity ever present itself.

As to the records of the composition of peals rung by the College Youths and Cumberlands, referred to likewise by Mr. Snowdon, I think he will find, in the old peal-book of the first-named company, several instances where the peals are given.

Ringers are accused sometimes of being conservative in their notions, as regards the exercise. Not altogether undeserved, perhaps. For example:—St. Matthias' steeple is closed to anyone—but the favoured few—for a peal of Stedman; or the same barrier exists at St. Silas' if a company—not the would-be monopolists—wish to attempt a peal of Treble Bob; or at St. Anthony's, 'No peal can be allowed unless I am one of the party,'—says the steeple-keeper and major-domo of the belfry. These restrictions, unless good reasons can be advanced for their existence, are merely contemptible. To those who desire to maintain such a deplorable state of affairs I would recommend them to emulate the respected steeple-keeper of St. Matthew, Bethnal Green, who is at all times most happy and willing to assist any young ringer in the pursuit of the object of his wishes—it may be at great personal inconvenience—and who will render that assistance which is not to be found at very many places throughout the land.

And now one more remark about the Earlsheaton performance. The gentlemen of that place, not having replied to the various strictures recently passed on their so-called peal—their opponents must be considered to have made good their case—the Yorkshire fiction must therefore be consigned to limbo, and will hold no place among the annals of change-ringing. By the Ancient Society of College Youths, the palm of victory will, then, still be held, and any successful attempt to deprive them of it must be characterised, not only by a few hundred more changes, but the same precision of striking that distinguished the peal at Bethnal Green, which performance—had those gentlemen engaged in it afterwards retired from the ringing arena—has won for them that renown which will only perish with the science itself.

VIGORNIENSIS.

Bell-ringers on Strike.

THE bell-ringers of the parish church of St. Mary, Twickenham, are now on strike. It appears that on Saturday, May 5th, notwithstanding the consent given them by the parish churchwarden (Mr. Lindsey) to ring three peals during the afternoon on that day to commemorate the opening of the new club (the Orleans) at Orleans House, the Rev. H. T. Limpus, vicar of Twickenham, declined to allow the bells to be used for such a purpose. The ringers thereupon announced that as they were not permitted to earn a few shillings by ringing the bells on that day they should not ring on the Sabbath, and on Sunday they kept their word, and still remain on strike. It was urged on the part of the ringers that the club would be a good thing for Twickenham; but the Vicar failed to see that, because a few tradesmen in the place would be benefited, this should be deemed a sufficient reason to set the church bells ringing.

[We are sorry to record the above untoward occurrence, but we commend the Vicar for his conduct; and if the ringers are of the right sort they surely will soon see that they made a mistake, as the church bells were not set up for the uses to which they wished to apply them.—Ed.]

Chagford, Devon.

THE addition of two bells to the tower of the parish church was celebrated with a special dedication on Sunday, May 6th. The sermon was preached by the Rector, the Rev. G. H. Hames, from 2 Chron. iv. 17, 'On the plain of Jordan did the king cast them, in the clay ground between Succoth and Zeredatha;' after which short prayers were offered up, the eight bells chiming a few rounds between each. The effect was good. The church was crowded. The weight of the new treble bell is 6 cwt., and the second, 6 cwt. 2 qrs. 4 lbs., by Messrs. Taylor, Loughborough. The contract has been carried out by Mr. W. Aggett, bell-hanger.

Tunstead, Norfolk.

AFTER the evening service on Ascension Day, the following members of the company belonging to this village rang their first 720 of Plain Bob Minor:—T. Ward, 1; Rev. G. H. Harris, 2; J. Shreeve, 3; J. Gower, 4; W. Robinson, 5; S. Pratt (conductor), tenor. The ring was increased to six only last Christmas, so that the company, who were all novices at six-bell work, have done fairly well in accomplishing the above.

The Cox Testimonial Fund.

SIR,—In acknowledging a few other subscriptions to this fund I am requested to inform members and friends generally that the Royal Cumberland Society's Annual Supper will take place at the 'Green Man,' St. Martin's Lane, on Friday evening, June 1st, and that on this occasion the presentation of the Testimonial will also take place, the subscription list being closed.

Already announced	£38 6 0
Messrs. Gillet and Bland, clock-makers, &c., Croydon ..	1 1 0
Rev. J. Stewart, Spilsby, Lincolnshire	0 16 0
Dr. Stainer, St. Paul's, London	0 10 6
St. Lawrence Amateur Society of Bell-ringers, per ..	
Rev. J. Stokes, Hon. Treasurer	0 10 6
Shepherd's Bush Campanological Band, per Mr. ..	
W. Antill	0 10 6
Mr. W. Shade, 2s. 6d.; Mr. G. Shade, 2s. 6d.; Mr. ..	
H. Shade, 2s. 6d.; Mr. Foreman, 1s.; and ..	
Mr. Robinson, 1s.—Greenwich Ringers	0 9 6
Mr. Potter, 2s. 6d.; Mr. R. Jameson, 2s. 6d.; and ..	
Mr. A. Haywood (2nd), 2s. 6d.	0 7 6

Total £42 11 6

HY. DAINS, Hon. Secretary and Treasurer.

P.S.—Allow me to apologise for sending you the quotation from the Annual Register for 1800, and I regret that my credulity led me into the error which caused Mr. Snowdon the trouble of writing you on the subject.

Date Touch.

ON the evening of the 4th inst., 1877 Grandsire Triples were rung at St. Peter's Church, Hindley, Lancashire, as a welcome to the curate, who had returned home with a bride.

BELFRY RECORDS.

ST. MARY'S, BURY ST. EDMUND'S, SUFFOLK.

900. APRIL 16th, 1799, Was Rung in this Steeple By the Bury Company the whole Peal of Grandsire Triples, 5040 changes, in 3 hours and 15 minutes. Performed By the Following Persons:—

Jas. Marshall, Treble.	Robt. Pawsey, Fourth.	Thos. Gurney, sen. Seventh.
Thos. Robinson, Second.	Robt. Martin, Fifth.	James Man, Tenor.
Dan. Webber, Third.	Jams. Rawlinson, Sixth.	Robt. Martin Called the Peal.

N.B. this Peal was Never Before Completed in this County.

901. MARCH 5th, 1779, Was Rung in this Steeple By the Bury Company a Complete Peal of 5040 changes of Bob Major, in 3 hours and 5 minutes, which was Never Done in this Town Before. Performed By the Following Persons:—

Wm. Wright, Treble.	Chas. Sculpher, Fourth.	Winw. Frost, Seventh.
Jas. Winn, Second.	Thos. Gurney, Fifth.	Wm. Digbey, Tenor, and Called the Peal.
Robt. Martin, Third.	John Simpson, Sixth.	

John Cook, } Churchwardens.

Thos. Rutter, }

The Bells was Rehung By Wm. Smith of Bradfield.

CLYST ST. GEORGE, DEVON. (Tablets in the Belfry.)

902. BE it remembered, that on Monday, the 24th of November, 1862, the Ring of musical Bells lately augmented to six by the addition of a new Treble to the Memory of Prince Albert, was inaugurated by a solemn service at the Church; and opened, in a masterly style, by a band of Ringers from Bristol, viz:—

John Wilkey, Treble.	James Mawditt, Third.	William Thomas, Fifth.
Alfred York, Second.	William Dowling, Fourth.	William Stadden, Tenor.

Weight of Tenor, A flat, 11 cwt.

Assisted and attested by Mr. H. Boswell, of the Cumberland Society, London. James Mawditt, Conductor.

Peals before the Service.—Two six scores of Grandsire Doubles, two courses of Kent Treble Bob, two six scores of Steadman's minor. Peals after the Service:—720 Kent Treble Bob minor, two six scores of Steadman's, three six scores of Grandsire Doubles, 720 Grandsire minor, one six score of Grandsire Doubles.

These are the first peals of scientific Changes ever rung in this part of the County.

LAUS DEO.

H. T. Ellacombe, M.A., Rector.
William Helliier, } Churchwardens.
Thomas Warren, }

903. BE it remembered, that on Monday Afternoon, the 10th of August, 1869, the members of the Ancient Society of College Youths, established 1637, who came from London to ring the noble Bells of the Exeter Cathedral, paid their respects to the Rector of this Parish, and gratified him and the Villagers by ringing the following peals:—720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor, one six score of Steadman's Doubles. These Peals of Treble Bob were struck in a most even masterly style in twenty-five minutes, by the following performers. The First Peal by

H. Haley, Treble & Conductor.	J. Pettit, Second.	G. Ferris, Fourth.	M. Hayes, Tenor, 13 cwt, G sharp.
	M. Wood, Third.	H. Booth, Fifth.	

The Second Peal by
C. Lee, Treble.
R. Haworth, Second.

G. Musket, Third.
J. Dwight, Fourth.
W. Cooter, Fifth, Conductor.
M. Hayes, Tenor.H. T. Ellacombe, M.A., Rector.
John Helliier, } Churchwardens.
John Page, }

904. BE it remembered, that on Friday, the 26th of December, 1873, the Huntsham Society of Change-ringers paid their respects to the Rector of this Parish, and gratified him and the villagers by ringing Three six scores of Grandsire Doubles, 720 Kent Treble Bob minor, three six scores of Steadman's Doubles, and other touches in each method. The Ringers (who changed the stations in each peal) were

C. W. Troyte. R. Troyte. H. Payne. R. Fry.
T. E. Troyte. T. Norrish. A. J. Davey.
Conducted by C. W. Troyte, Esq., and Mr. W. Banister, from Devonport, all but one being Members of the Ancient Society of College Youths.

In one of the Grandsire Touches the Rector rang the Treble.

BE it also remembered, that on Saturday, the 26th of December, 1874, several members of the Guild of Devonshire Ringers, from Exeter and the neighbourhood, visited this Belfry and rang Eight Peals of six scores of Grandsire Doubles. The Ringers were:

S. Mardon & W. C. Marsh (interchangeably), the Treble.	T. Moxey, Third.	J. C. Palmer, Fifth.
W. Bradford, Second.	W. B. Fulford, Fourth.	W. J. Southwood, Tenor.

Conducted by I. C. Palmer.

In one of the Touches the Rector rang the Treble.

H. T. Ellacombe, M.A., Rector.
John Page, } Churchwardens.
W. M. Helliier, }

RECEIVED ALSO.—G. W. Cole.

who nominally interpret, and really to a great extent make, laws for her, as for the nation at large. It is really much more important, and that for the following reason:—When the Legislature of the nation is dissatisfied with the interpretation put on its enactments by the judges, it has nothing to do but to substitute a new clause, clearly expressing its will, for that which has been misunderstood.

It is perfectly free to repeal, alter, re-enact, in whatever direction, and to whatever extent, it likes. Hence, judge-made law is never in civil matters any great grievance. Directly it injuriously affects any interest sufficiently important it is revised. Not so in ecclesiastical matters. The only legislative body which in any way represents the Church—Convocation—cannot freely take upon itself the revision of such judge-made law by State officials, as does not represent its will: firstly, because it cannot move without receiving permission from the State; secondly, because, when it has that permission, it cannot speak with authority, owing to its need of reform, and its authorities are doubtful whether it can reform itself without the permission of Parliament; thirdly, because, if it gave expression to its will in a matter, *e.g.*, so entirely within its proper sphere, as the ornaments of the priest and the Church at the celebration of the Holy Eucharist, it fears with only too good reason lest it should come into collision with Parliament, and provoke counter-legislation. If this state of things is not one in which the authority of the State is exercised over the Church, and riveted upon the Church, I should be truly glad for Mr. Gurney to point it out. If it is, I claim him as a malcontent with myself and an increasing number of Churchmen. I think he will hardly contest that the ordering of the Church's ritual is a spiritual matter. But I have only taken the Ornaments question as an illustration of my position, which from the interest just now attaching to it all will understand. It is just the same in things more sacred than ritual. Does Mr. Gurney think that if the Church, being aggrieved by the judgment in *Flavel v. Cook*, wishes to define more clearly the terms of communion with her, her intentions will not be overridden by Parliament? It seems to me that no one can read the speeches in Committee on the Burial Bill in the House of Lords, and entertain any doubt on the subject. And, if so, can it be maintained, because the Church knowing the issue avoids the collision, that the State does not exercise authority over the Church?

This letter has run to such a length that I must reserve, with your permission, a few more words I have to say on Mr. Gurney's letter for your next issue. I will only add now that, if I misrepresented what he said about the religion of four-fifths of the M.P.'s, I tender him my sincere apologies. But I can't help thinking he will find it was *Church Bells* that made the error, not I, for I was very careful in referring to his words as they are printed. Unfortunately I cannot verify my impression, as I do not keep my old numbers. *Brighton, May 22nd, 1877.* W. JEFFERYS HILLS.

The Sunday Question.

SIR,—A few days ago (last Tuesday I think it was, but no matter) I was on board a Thames steamer belonging to the London Steamboat Co., and the so-called Sunday question being in my mind I bethought me to try and learn how it affected the second officer of the boat, he happening to be standing near me. So I asked him how many Sundays he was off duty now: his reply was, that he had to work every Sunday: that during the four winter months he got a holiday every third Sunday, but that for the other eight months of the year he had about thirteen hours a-day of it, weekdays and Sundays alike. He told me he was fond of good beer and grog, and that he could not agree with me as to the merits of plain water as a beverage.

My arrival at my destination interrupted the conversation, which I regretted, for my friend was an intelligent, respectable sort of a man. But what must be the religious and moral chances of a man who day by day, for eight months in succession, is deprived of every possible opportunity of attending even the most elementary form of public worship, and probably, under the circumstances of only six or eight Sundays per annum free, has never been inside a place of worship for years?

I often think that if some of those who are well-meaning men, and yet abet the Sunday opening of places of amusement for plausible reasons, would institute from time to time a few inquiries of their own below the surface, they would soon leave this anti-Christian movement to its only honest and consistent patrons: namely, the Bradlaughes, and Holyokes, and Baxter-Langleys; in other words, to the Secularists and Infidels generally. It is essentially an Infidel movement, and I think it a matter of grave misfortune that Dean Stanley and a handful of London clergy should have degraded themselves the other day by joining hand-in-hand with various Materialistic philosophers, &c., in an effort to undermine not only one of the most valuable of English customs, viewed socially, but one of the fundamental points of Christianity, and a barrier of no ordinary strength against Infidelity.

I would strongly urge those who profess a desire to befriend the working classes as to this matter, to begin by investigating for themselves, as I have done, what are the wishes of the working-classes herein. Let them ask some railway engine-drivers, porters, London cab and omnibus men, how they like the present system of Sunday amusements and excursions, and whether they would wish it to be extended in all directions? My own researches lead me to express strongly my concurrence in what Lord Sandon said to the Crystal Palace Sunday-closing deputation on May 4, to the effect that, as a member for a large industrial constituency, he was perfectly certain that the working classes as a rule had no desire to see existing Sunday restrictions removed, believing that the introduction into England of the French Sunday would ultimately mean seven days' work for six days' pay. G. F. CHAMBERS.

Eastbourne, May 21, 1877.

P.S.—I might as well add that another London steamboat man a fortnight previously gave me almost the same account of his Sunday toil and little rest. The fact that Hampton Court Palace and the Kew Botanic Gardens are open on Sundays seems to have much to do with the excessive summer Sunday-work on the Thames steamers.

St. Andrew's Waterside Church Mission.

THE Hon. Sec. begs to acknowledge, with thanks, a package of books from 'F. A. M.' with 2s. 6d. in stamps to pay carriage. *Depôt, 36 City Chambers, Fenchurch Street Station, E.C.*

'J. H. H.'—It appeared to us that one expression of (substantially) the same views was sufficient for the purpose. At the same time we thank you for both your letters.

'W. B. PRATT.'—Thanks. It is not our rule to admit poetry in *Church Bells*, but we may find other use for it.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Change-ringing at Braughing, Herts.

ON Friday, May 11th, the Benington Society of Change-ringers—it being their ringing anniversary—visited the town of Braughing and rang:—Stedman's Triples, 1008; Double Norwich Court, 448; Superlative Surprise, 448; London Surprise, 448; Cambridge Surprise, 448; Kent Treble Bob, 570; total, 3370. Tenor, 19 cwt., in F. N. Warner, 1; J. Kitchener, 2; L. Proctor, Esq., 3; L. Chapman, 4; S. Page, 5; J. Kitchener, 6; C. Shambrook, 7; T. Page, 8. Conducted by T. Page.

Change-ringing at St. Sidwell's, Exeter.

ON Sunday morning, May 13th, the St. Sidwell's ringers (members of the Devonshire Guild) rang a peal of Grandsire Minor, consisting of 720 changes. The bells were taken as follows:—T. Shepherd, 1; S. Pearden, 2; W. H. Marsh, 3; C. D. Daniel, 4; W. C. Marsh, 5; W. B. Fulford, 6. This is the first peal of Grandsire Minor ever rung on St. Sidwell's bells. Conducted by Mr. Walter Marsh.

Muffled Peal at Daresbury.

ON Friday, May 18th, the remains of Miss Chadwick, of Runcorn, were interred in the family vault in Daresbury Church. The ringers after the burial service rang a muffled peal as a last tribute of respect to her memory. The peal consisted of 1227 changes, being as many changes as the number of weeks in the late Miss Chadwick's life. The bells were brought round in 46 mins. by T. Houghton, conductor, 1; P. Johnson, 2; T. Ellison, 3; P. Hamblett, 4; J. Ellison, 5; T. Houghton, Junr., 6.

Date Touches.

AT Rotherham, on the 12th inst., 1877 Stedman's Caters, in 22 mins. —At Hull, on the 8th inst., 1877 Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. 3 mins.

BELFRY RECORDS.

DOCKYARD CHAPEL, DEVONPORT. (Tablets in the Belfry.)

905. ON Saturday, Nov. 2nd, 1867, the society of ringers of this establishment accomplished on these bells a true and complete peal of Grandsire triples, comprising 6040 changes, in two hours and 55 minutes, as follows, viz.:—
Hy. Goodhind, *Tripple*. Chas. Percival, *Fourth*. Chas. Smith, *Sixth*.
Elisha Parling, *Second*. Richd. Ford, *Fifth*. John Baxter, *Seventh*.
Wm. Banister, *Third*. Robt. Smith, *Tenor*.

The peal contained 194 Bobs and 46 Singles, was conducted by Wm. Banister, and is the first complete peal of Triples rung by any society in the Western Counties.

Admiral the Hon. J. R. Drummond, C.B. Superintendent.

A. Moore, Esq., *Master Shipwright*.

T. Miller, Esq., *Chief Engineer*.

Rev. R. B. Home, B.A., *Chaplain*.

906. ON Saturday, Jan'y. 11th, 1868, the following members of the Ancient Society of College Youths, established in London in 1637, rang on these bells a true and complete peal of Grandsire triples, comprising 5040 changes, in three hours, viz.:—
J. Baxter, *Tripple*. J. C. Troyte, Esq., *Fourth*. Chas. Smith, *Sixth*.
E. Parling, *Second*. Joseph Dixon, *Fifth*. H. R. Trelawny, Esq., *Seventh*.
W. Banister, *Third*. J. Eastabrook, *Tenor*.

Composed and conducted by W. Banister.

Admiral the Hon. J. R. Drummond, C.B. Superintendent.

Capt. J. C. Pullen, *Master Attendant*.

A. Moore, Esq., *Master Shipwright*.

J. Keven, Esq., *Staff Surgeon*.

Rev. R. B. Home, B.A., *Chaplain*.

ST. MARGARET'S, LEICESTER. (Tablets in the Belfry.)

907. THE following peals have been rung by the Society of Leicester Scholars:—
May 3rd, 1773, a complete peal of 5000 Grandsire Triples, in 3 hours and 18 minutes.
Jan. 21st, 1775, Mr. Holt's complete peal of 5040 Grandsire triples, in 3 hours and 20 minutes.

Aug. 12, 1776, a peal of 6012 Grandsire Caters in the titoms, in 4 hours and 20 minutes.
And on Feb. 25th, 1777, was rang a peal of 10,080 Grandsire Caters, in the titoms, in 7 hours and 12 minutes, by the following persons, viz.:—

William Ryder, <i>Treble</i> .	William Thacker, <i>Fifth</i> .	Joseph Smith, <i>Eighth</i> .
Benjamin Warburton, <i>Second</i> .	John Martin, <i>Sixth</i> .	William Bull, <i>Ninth</i> .
Thomas Armstrong, <i>Third</i> .	Mark Graham, <i>Seventh</i> .	James Slack and Richard Wright, <i>Tenor</i> .
Thomas Scott, <i>Fourth</i> .		

908. ON Monday, the 30th May, 1803, was rang a true and complete peal of 5040 Bob Royals in the titoms, in 3 hours and 82 minutes, by the following persons, viz.:—

Samuel Wise, <i>Treble</i> .	Richard Catling, <i>Fifth</i> .	Thomas Stringer, <i>Eighth</i> .
Thomas Willis, <i>Second</i> .	Thomas Clark, <i>Sixth</i> .	George Taylor, <i>Ninth</i> .
John Skelton, <i>Third</i> .	John Warburton, <i>Seventh</i> .	Thomas Sibson and John Clark, <i>Tenor</i> .
Thomas Scott, <i>Fourth</i> .		

Composed and called by Thomas Sibson.

909. ON Tuesday, June 12th, 1832, was rang a peal 5507 Grandsire Caters, in 3 hours and 43 minutes.

And on Easter Monday, April 24th, 1848, was rang a peal of 6012 Grandsire Caters, in 4 hours and 3 minutes. The last peal by the following persons, viz.:—

John Smart, <i>Treble</i> .	Joseph Pickard, <i>Fifth</i> .	William Langley, <i>Eighth</i> .
James Johnson, <i>Second</i> .	Thomas Langham, <i>Sixth</i> .	Edward Biggs, <i>Ninth</i> .
James Ruffell, <i>Third</i> .	Thomas Millis, <i>Seventh</i> .	Frederick Hubbard and Thomas Johnson, <i>Tenor</i> .
John Siddons, <i>Fourth</i> .		

The above peals were conducted by Edward Biggs. Weight of tenor, about 30 cwt.

RECEIVED ALSO.—Vigilans.

A PLEA FOR RINGERS AND RINGING;

OR,

Change-ringing, why not more Cultivated and Encouraged?

By the Rev. G. H. Harris, Vicar of Tunstead, Norfolk.

RINGING and Drinking were for many years so closely associated together in men's minds, that if a man happened in conversation to let fall that he was a ringer the bystanders at once looked upon him as a doubtful character, ready, when occasion offered, to imbibe any amount of beer. Possibly there were fair grounds for this accusation; but if so, let not the blame rest entirely on the shoulders of the poor ringers. They merited, doubtless, a goodly portion of it; but much ought to fall upon those who utterly neglected—nay, too often despised—the ringing fraternity. The ringers were, for the most part, left entirely to themselves to ring when and how they pleased; the right hand of fellowship was never held out to them; they were looked upon as black sheep, not worth caring for. The consequences may be easily imagined: they verified the old saying, 'Give a dog a bad name,' &c. If they were not the characters that they were deemed to be, they too frequently became such. Despised by their neighbours, they took their revenge by despising them, and associating with all the choice spirits to be found in the tap-room hard by the tower.

This state of things is now, to a great extent, past and gone, but it is not entirely forgotten. When urging men to take up and encourage the science of change-ringing, one is often met with the remark, 'But ringing must be such hard work; ringers require so much beer,' &c. This is not the case. Ringing, to begin with, is not very laborious; otherwise we should not find, as we do every week, men ringing peals which occupy three hours and more in the ringing, and that without any expectation of a fee or a reward; and then, as for the beer afterwards, there will, of course, be some refreshment required, and naturally so, after a long peal or a long practice; but, generally speaking, ringers—especially men who are able to ring and take a delight in ringing these long peals—require no more beer, perhaps not so much, as men of the same class who simply follow their usual occupations. Another remark one meets with is, 'But ringers do not like to be interfered with; they are a jealous set of men; they like to go on in their own way, and would much prefer being left to themselves.' On the contrary, those best acquainted with ringers believe that they would gladly welcome the presence of any who take an interest in them and their science. It is their common complaint, 'No one cares for us or takes any notice of us; we never see our clergyman or churchwardens in the belfry, they seem to be afraid to come near us; no doubt we are not a perfect set of men, and there is room for improvement in many ways, and we wish to see our way to it; and if these and other gentlemen would come among us many of our difficulties would shortly disappear.' No gentleman need fear that he is intruding if he ventures into the belfry, or expect a rebuff if he says he should like to join the company. On the contrary, he would be heartily welcomed. For want of encouragement, to the sorrow of the ringers, the greater portion of the companies are shorthanded—so much so, that when a good peal is to be rung the assistance of neighbours is obliged to be sought for. Did but the clergy or churchwardens, or any of the leading gentry in a parish, encourage the ringers, or, better still, learn to handle a rope, there would be no lack of willing recruits.

A gentleman thinks that if he ventures into the belfry he will at once be expected to put his hand into his pocket to find the wherewithal for drink. That is a great mistake; and it is to be feared that some such an idea has prevented many persons from going to see the ringing. It would be an evil day for ringing if such a custom prevailed. No! ringers—real ringers—do not ring for what they can get. Men who ring for money and suchlike are, generally speaking, men who cannot or will not take the trouble to ring anything more than a number of set changes or a portion of some easy peal. Men of this description deserve but little encouragement; they are, as a rule, worth but little. They are often encouraged simply because the gentry know nothing about them or their art; they hear the bells going a certain time, and principally about Christmas, and that is enough for them. If gentlemen went up into the belfry they would, in too many cases, very soon find out what they might do for the ringers—how they could show them a kindness. It is something painful to go into some of the belfries and hear the lumbering overhead while the bells are swinging round. You know what it all means: discouragement to the ringers; real hard work for them; and, worst of all, a terrible amount of mischief to the bell-frames and possibly to the tower. 'Why don't you get your bells repaired?' says the bystander. 'Oh, we cannot do it ourselves,' is the answer; 'and it is no use our making any complaint to the churchwardens or others: they say they cannot afford to spend any money on such things as bells; and so we must go on till something breaks down, and then probably we shall have a stop put to our ringing altogether. It is a great pity; the bells are very good, and if a little money were wisely laid out they might go for many a year.' It is a sad fact that most of our belfries are out of order, whilst some of them are in a disgraceful condition—dirt and filth abounding, and the rain permitted at all times to play without let or hindrance into the chambers. All these things are a terrible discouragement to ringers, and the wonder is, not that there are so few, but that there are so many men who, notwithstanding these drawbacks, still take up the art of change-ringing. Yet the state of our belfries is not to be wondered at when we call to mind into what a woful state of disrepair many of the bodies of our churches—the parts which men could see from week to week—had fallen. The lower portions of our churches are now, we may thankfully say, with but few exceptions—and these are gradually becoming fewer—restored to something of their ancient glory, and men are turning their attention to the towers of their churches and their belfries; and not before it was needed, as many of the clergy could testify if they would venture

amongst the bells or see the neglected appearance of the ringing-chambers—no hat-pegs, a broken chair or two, and the floor covered with dirt and pieces of old rope.

There is a move taking place in the right direction, and there seem to be brighter and better days in store for the ringer. He and his art are beginning to be looked upon with favour, and in many instances respect; people are beginning to find out there is something in ringing after all—that it is not simply the result of brute strength, that strength to pull the rope is of no use unless there accompany that strength some skill in handling it, and that if a man is to become a skilful change-ringer much thought, attention, and practice are required.

But though much is being done to encourage the ringers and ringing, there is room for much more energy in the work. Many of the clergy and laity seek to promote the game of cricket in their several parishes, as a healthy recreation for the younger portion of the community. Nothing is to be said against this—far from it. But if cricket is deemed worthy of encouragement, why not bell-ringing? It is not encouraged as it ought to be, partly because of the prejudice against it, but principally because so few persons, comparatively speaking, know anything about the art.

Were people to seek to become acquainted with it they would soon find that it is, to take the lowest view of it, one of the best means of recreation that can be found; and it can be had all the year round, but particularly at the time when it is most needed—namely, during the long winter evenings. The occupation is a most healthy one for the mind as well as the body; and, when under proper supervision, the ringing-chamber may become a school for acquiring or strengthening the habits of regularity, self-denial, forbearance, and brotherly kindness. And thus—a point to be particularly observed—a number of young men (and these perhaps morally, for good or for evil, of great influence in a parish) may be trained to become habitual worshippers in the House of God who otherwise might grow up in utter disregard of the blessings of the Lord's Day.

This is no fanciful picture: the truthfulness of it may be verified in many cases. May it be realised in many more! And surely the hope of such a result will be incentive enough to induce many to take the matter up heartily and earnestly. Yes; heartily and earnestly! For let not any one imagine that he is likely to do any good unless he personally interests himself in his ringers. If he does this he may effect much good, but not otherwise: one instance may be quoted of what beneficial results may be attained in this way. A friend writes: 'When I went into my parish I found a lawless drinking set of ringers; but now we have two sets of as respectable men as one could wish to meet with. This I take to be the result of entering into the spirit of the thing myself, and being present at the practisings as often as possible.'

Every parish, with the exception doubtless of those containing but one or two hundred persons—and these probably have only two or three bells, the remainder of the ring having been sold in bygone days as useless—ought to have its company of ringers as well as its choir—the former ready and anxious to call the people to God's House, and the latter to lead them when there in singing the praises of God. And why should not this be the case? It might be so if we would all, clergy and laity, work together; if each one would ask himself, What more can I do for my church and parish? or, Ought I not to be doing something? Here is an opportunity for the churchwardens and the leading young men in a parish. What a happy thing it would be for them and their respective parishes if they could be induced to lend a helping hand, and to put on one side for a time the too-often all-engrossing cares, or business, or pleasures of this life! The handling a bell-rope may lead on to still higher and nobler work.

By way of encouragement to beginners, it should be added that, though there is a certain amount of comparatively hard work at first, the worst is soon over; and as soon as the method of ringing a peal, or a portion of it, is mastered, the learner finds his pleasure and interest in the art increasing day by day, so much so that he scarcely, if ever, tires of it, and, as long as health and strength permit, he will be sure to be at his post on practice evenings. There are many to be seen at this day enjoying their pull who have attained the ripe old age of fourscore years and upwards. One old man, not many years since, when he could no longer stand to his work, had his chair brought into the belfry, and there seated pulled in many a touch.

It might be well, especially in towns where the tower is surrounded by houses, for the learners, ere they commence their work, to lash the clappers of the bells (*vide* Troyte). They may then pull away to their hearts' content, and the more so that they can have no fear that they are disturbing the equanimity of even their most sensitive neighbours. A company may thus learn, as Mr. Wigram tells us has been done, to ring a peal without anyone outside the tower knowing what is going on within.

One word of caution to would-be ringers. Don't be hurried on—*festina lente*. Should there happen to be six or eight bells in your tower, don't be persuaded to try your hand at change-ringing in any peal when those bells are all brought into use. Follow Mr. Troyte's advice, and begin at the beginning. You will find at first quite enough to do to follow with your eyes four ropes, or even three, in addition to having to manage your own. Many a would-be ringer has been utterly ruined, as far as change-ringing is concerned, by neglecting this precaution. It seems grand to be flying high—to be taking a part in ringing in a peal of six or eight bells—but be sure that here and at all times humility has its reward. Begin badly, and failure may be written after all your attempts. Begin well, master the rudiments, and you have then every chance of making rapid progress and becoming a proficient in the art of change-ringing.

The concluding words shall be some which fell from Mr. Troyte's lips at the Church Congress at Plymouth:—'I may say, without, I trust, being charged with egotism, that I have enjoyed and been proficient in many sports and pastimes. I am at least a keen sportsman, and for the encouragement of would-be change-ringers I may say that some of my happiest and most exciting moments have been in the church tower.'

And all this we shall infallibly get, because the force of fact and logic must prevail. Convocation will become a living reality, in which many of our leading statesmen will take a part, and yet not a single prerogative of Parliament will be touched in any wise. The union of Church and State will be thereby consolidated for centuries to come. I must be pardoned for speaking positively on what seems to me self-evident.

It is greatly to be wished that good men and good Churchmen would make up their minds to this unavoidable reform without delay. Let them not fear the admission of the laity because the Irish laity are fiercely Protestant. Englishmen are not Irishmen, and nothing revolutionary is to be apprehended from the English laity; and even if it were, the English bishops and clergy would have two votes to one; and besides, the lay brother has an absolute right to a direct share in the Church's councils.

St. Mary's Rectory, Castlegate, York.

ARCHER GURNEY.

A Rallying-point.

SIR,—This is a time of darkness and trouble; the extreme men say they will not obey the late Judgment, and are now more bent than ever on destroying the National Church: their voice is loudly heard, and outsiders would be quite justified in believing, from the silence of the moderate, yet good and staunch Churchmen, who form the bulk of the clergy, that the extreme Ritualists represent the prevailing mind. I ask, then, whether a declaration, setting forth the views of those whose Churchmanship is that of *Church Bells*, could not be drawn up? It would, I am convinced, be very largely and influentially signed. How the extreme men, whose watchwords seem to be Disloyalty, Disobedience, and Selfwill, delude themselves that they are truly advancing their Master's Kingdom, I am at a loss to understand. Disestablishment would not be merely the loss of money and position, it would be a grievous blow to the Christianity of our country.

P. H. P.

To 'LINA.'—The Librarian of the British Workman, Men's Reading-room, Jarrow-on-Tyne, Durham, begs to acknowledge, with many thanks, the gift of *Church Bells* for 1875 and 1876.

M. L.

Would any of your readers kindly inform 'Rusticus, D.D.,' where he may purchase Prayer-books authorised by the Scotch, American, and Irish Churches?

'COLL. REG. LOND.' should get Parker's *Handbook of Gothic Architecture*, published by Parker at 6s.

'ZENAS.'—We do not remember to have seen your letter on the Sunday Question. The tract you send has been noticed in our columns some time ago.

RECEIVED ALSO.—Insignificance; F. J. Candy; W. Jefferys Hills.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Genuine Compositions, &c.

SIR,—'Vigorniensis' in his remarks has several times hit the right nail on its head, but, unless he is in possession of more information than has been published concerning the Earlsheaton peal, I, for one, cannot share his confidence in that affair. By the removal of that peal from the list of accomplished performances is certainly a splendid laurel retrieved for the College Youths. But why it has taken all these years to let the cat out of the bag about that peal I, with many others, cannot at all understand, and I doubt if all the truth on the point has yet been spoken. It is, I think, lamentable that some competent person was not present at the time, so that he could now speak out on the subject.

I can go the whole distance with him as to the variation business, which, however, principally applies to peals of Major; and for the recording and preserving of good compositions, the Yorkshire Association is doing much with its annual reports, and I doubt not but much more good would accrue were other societies of ringers to fall in with the same view. But, Sir, even by this plan a composition has to be rung before it is secure, and composers know by bitter experience, from one cause and another, how often compositions are lost before they are rung.

'Vigorniensis' very truly says in one place, 'Woe be to the bob-caller of a false peal should his performance take place within earshot!' &c. Well, now, any man with such excellent qualities is no doubt an acquisition to any Society he may belong to, and such Society ought to honour any member with the qualifications that enable him to pick up the course ends of a peal while it is being rung; and again I say it is a pity that some such person was not at Earlsheaton during the performance so much complained of. But, Sir, when such a person uses those abilities for the purpose of obtaining possession of the composition of another, the thing becomes even worse than the variation business itself. However, such is said to have been done, and at one time it was woe to any composer who unsuccessfully attempted to ring a new composition with any special qualities, if such a performance took place within earshot of one with the abilities above described, as the peal was sure to be caught up; and unless the original composer had another opportunity of going for his peal at once, he would stand a good chance of losing it entirely, or, at best, of taking second's place in the race.

Therefore, I believe, to put an effectual check to these anomalies, nothing short of registration, by the publication of all compositions, will do it. What matter whether they have been rung or not? Any true composition is, I presume, as well worth a record as a peal rung on bells. The Editor of *Church Bells* would, I doubt not, be pleased to allow such a pleasant interchange of ideas to pass in his paper, and if such a system were adopted, with the understanding that those who first publish a peal, 'not already in print,' should receive all the honour for such a peal, it would be no use another saying he had had that peal for years, as the answer would of course be, 'That is your

own fault; you should have secured it by publication, for it's mine now,' and so on. Well, Sir, again I say, if this plan is adopted, composing and proving will become promoted; the value of its knowledge will be considerably enhanced; and a fair, open, and above-board system will effectually remove the old-fashioned, grope-in-the-dark, mysterious one, that has characterised, and even stigmatised, bell-ringing—if not the ringers themselves—from the very foundation of the science. Few would then have the audacity to attach their name to any peal obtained by variation, and few others would be found to write 'composer' to their bob-calling without submitting their peal for publication.

Compliments, too, are freely awarded by 'Vigorniensis'—and, indeed, compliments are just now quite fashionable to ringers. The one about to be presented to Mr. Cox represents, perhaps, one of the most extensive kind ever exhibited in the exercise at large, and I hope Mr. Cox may live long to enjoy it, deserving as he undoubtedly is, having sacrificed—whether rightly or wrongly—his whole life to the advancement of the science, and having hit at least some original ideas in composition, &c. 'And never,' says the old man, 'did I attempt to get possession of another's composition, either by variation or otherwise.' The conservative notions of some steeple-keepers mentioned are not the only anomalies to be complained of, and while I have nothing to say against our old friend at Bethnal Green, yet I do say that if there is another of the old school worth any kind of recognition in the shape of a testimonial it is, I think, our venerable old friend the steeple-keeper of St. Clement's Church in the Strand. He has been tried for many years, and has always been found ready to oblige all comers, if possible, not only by an open tower, but with a ring of ten good-going bells; and that keeping bells in good going order by constant attention is as well worthy emulation as any other of a steeple-keeper's duties, no one can deny.

VIGILANCE.

New and Improved Principle of Bell-hanging.

COUNTRY bell-hangers are very fond of boasting that they hang church bells on improved principles. We wish to assure our readers that no alteration has been made in the principle of bell-hanging for many centuries. The invention of the 'Sally' was an improvement in the principle at the beginning of the last century. Modern improvements consist in superior workmanship, both in iron, and wood, and ropes. The better the workmanship, the longer bells will last in ringing order, and will prove the cheapest in the end, though at the first it may be more costly: but at bell-work nothing cheap should be thought of.—ED.

Halesworth, Suffolk.

THE ring of eight bells in the tower of St. Mary's Church have lately been repaired by Messrs. Day and Son, of Eye, and on Friday, the 18th ult., 'those merry bells' again sounded at frequent intervals, to the gratification of the inhabitants. Invitations to a large number of ringers to attend the opening were accepted from Beccles, Bungay, Redenhall, Diss, Ipswich, Woodbridge, Yarmouth, Fressingfield, Mr. Craftfield, Kelsale, Loddon, Wangford, and Wenhamston. Jasper Snowdon from Ilkley, Yorkshire, Mr. G. P. W. Meadows and the Rev. H. Wilkinson, from Otley, were also present. Dinner was provided at the Tuns Hotel, at which 80 were present. Jervas Holmes, Esq., J.P., of Brockdish, a well-known amateur ringer in the Eastern counties, explained to the company a projected formation of a Diocesan Ringers' Association, for the better furtherance of the art of ringing. Mr. Snowdon, as secretary to a similar Association in Yorkshire, further explained the benefit to be derived from the formation of such a Society, after which some touches on the hand-bells were performed.

Change-ringing at St. Clement Danes, Strand, London.

ON Friday, May 25th, ten members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang a peal of Grandsire Caters, containing 5098 changes, at the above church, in 3 hrs. 35 mins. The peal was taken from the *Clavis* (1784), and it was Mr. Holmes's first peal on ten bells. J. R. Haworth, 1; R. French, 2; G. Stockham, 3; R. Jameson, 4; C. H. Jessop, 5; H. Page, 6; J. Pettit, 7; T. Holmes (from Burton-on-Trent), 8; W. Greenleaf, 9; T. Bugby, 10. Conducted by Mr. Haworth.

Ringling at Wrexham, Derbyshire.

ON Friday, May 25th, the ringers of Ashton-under-Lyne visited Wrexham, and rang a true peal of Kent Treble Bob Royal, consisting of 5080 changes, with the seven courses at home (composed and conducted by Mr. John Thorp), in 3 hrs. 35 mins. T. Moss, 1; T. Wroe, 2; J. Wood, sen., 3; J. Gillot, 4; B. Broadbent, 5; S. Wood, 6; S. Andrew, 7; L. Broadbent, 8; C. Thorp, 9; J. Thorp, 10. Tenor, 28 cwt.

THE PEAL.

	M.	W.	H.
5 4 6 3 2	1	1	—
4 3 5 2 6	2	2	—
6 2 5 3 4	1	1	1
4 5 2 3 6	1	—	1
3 4 2 5 6	—	1	—
6 3 5 4 2	2	1	2
2 5 3 4 6	1	—	1
4 2 3 5 6	—	1	—
6 4 5 2 3	2	1	2
3 5 4 2 6	1	—	1
2 3 4 5 6	—	1	—

RECEIVED.—Iota: the parson must be mad who would think of sanctioning such an abuse of the bells of his church. No parson has authority to order the bells to be rung without the consent of a churchwarden; neither have the churchwardens such authority without the consent of the parson.

Obituary: no name nor place.

Vicar of Market Rasen: nothing enclosed.

tion and on principles calculated to break her continuity with the great Catholic Church, and to commit her more and more to the narrow grooves of an insular Puritanism. I have great hopes that, if her inherent right of self-government were restored to the Church, we should see a great alteration for the better in this respect; I am very sure that things couldn't be worse than they are under a system as practically mischievous as it is theoretically indefensible. Many thanks for your courtesy in allowing me so full a hearing.

Brighton, May 29th, 1877.

W. JEFFERYS HILLS.

The Words of Administration.

SIR,—Reviewing the letters on this subject in a recent issue, signed 'R. K. B.' and 'K.' respectively, may I be permitted to express a hope that the views of the latter may prevail, to strengthen the hands of the Vicar of (Great Yarmouth—hands very far from Puritanical, as I should judge, by having visited Yarmouth annually of late years? When 'K.' tells us, 'that the words repeated by a minister when he delivers the bread or the chalice are not essential to the Communion in the remotest degree,' he does seem to me nearer to the redress of the Vicar's *gravamen*, whilst saying 'content' as to his proposition, than 'R. K. B.,' who traverses High, Puritanical, Calvinistic, Evangelical, and Anglican grounds by turns, without propounding a remedy of universal adaptability. Early Celebrations, however multiplied, will not meet the case in point, except in-so-far as 'R. K. B.' and those who think with him, might, at such services, be spared the detriment which they seem to deprecate, and be provided, as heretofore, with individual administration. The case appears to stand thus: not only at Yarmouth parish church, where the people assemble in their thousands, but at every church in the land, the people, if faithfully spoken to from the pulpit, are dejected from considering their worship complete until they have participated in the Holy Communion. Well, then, what would be the result if all thus tutored were to take the preacher at his word? Could the service be completed by the time the bells should ring for the service next ensuing? Rather, under the existing system, may not the greater part of the congregation be tempted to palliate their negligence by pleading their considerate behaviour in not insisting on the impracticable? But, then, is it right to provide hundreds of negligent souls with anything so nearly like an excuse as this?

Thus viewing the matter, I do not perceive that anyone has shown a better way of securing attention to the duty of making Eucharistic participation the rule, and not the exception, in our churches than has the Vicar of Great Yarmouth, by boldly advocating a method, which, of course, is looked upon in some quarters as dreadfully far from 'correct,' but which, nevertheless, seems to me far more correct than to urge that a thing be done, yet to object to the doing thereof in the only manner at present discovered to be possible.

AN INSIGNIFICANT PERSON.

SIR,—A copy of the *Church Bells* has just come for the reading-room and library of this School. It is very welcome, especially if it be the harbinger of a regular visit. The unknown friend to whom we are indebted for this favour has our sincere thanks.

GEO. L. CHASE, Warden.

Seabury Divinity School, Faribault, Minn., U.S., May 16, 1877.

RECEIVED ALSO.—A London Layman (with apologies for not acknowledging the letter last week); C. J. L.; Verite. Lavenham Church: photograph received with many thanks.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Yorkshire Association of Change-ringers.

On Saturday, 19th ult., eight members of the above rang at St. James's Church, Hull, Mr. Annable's peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples, with the bells full muffled, as a mark of respect to the late Mr. W. Petty, who was clerk at that church for forty-five years, and also a ringer. Thus:—A. Taylor, 1; T. Stockdale, 2; R. Chaffey, 3; H. Wharf, 4; T. Jackson, 5; C. Jackson, 6; H. Jenkins, 7; F. Merrison, 8. Tenor, 16 cwt. Time, 2 hrs. 59 mins. Conducted by C. Jackson.

And on Friday, June 1st, a date touch of 1877 Grandsire Triples, containing all the 6,7's and 7,0's of the 5040, in 1 hr. 3 mins. Composed by C. Jackson and conducted by W. Stickner.

Muffled Peal at St. John's, Waterloo Road, Surrey.

On Wednesday, the 2nd ult., eight members of the Waterloo Society met at St. John's, for the purpose of ringing (with the bells half muffled) the late Mr. John Holt's original one-part peal of Grandsire Triples, with two doubles in the last four leads, as a last mark of respect to the late Caleb William Coppage, jun., aged 22, and William Best, aged 26, both of Chiswick. The ringers were:—W. Baron, 1; H. Hopkins, 2; J. Mansfield, 3; C. Hopkins, 4; J. Cattle, 5; F. A. P. Knipe, 6; A. Hayward, 7; D. Stackwood, 8. After ringing 4700 changes in 2 hrs. 53 mins. the treble rope broke, leaving them 340 changes to complete the peal. Both the deceased ringers worked at the same business, both died on Monday, April 23rd, and both were buried on Thursday, April 26th. The peal was conducted by Mr. W. Baron.

Ringling at Beddington, Surrey, by Ten Members of the Ancient Society of College Youths.

On Saturday, the 12th ult., was rung at St. Mary's, Beddington, by permission of the Rector, a peal of Stedman's Caters, comprising 5007 changes, in 3 hrs. 22 mins. The ringers were:—H. Haley, sen., 1; W. Cooter, 2; G. A. Muskett, 3; W. Jones, 4; S. Reeves, 5; H. Page, 6; J. Pettit, 7; F. Bate, 8; M. A. Wood, 9; W. Greenleaf, 10. This is the first peal since the ring was augmented to ten by the addition of two trebles. Composed and conducted by H. Haley. Tenor, 21 cwt.

Change-ringing at Keighley, Yorkshire.

On Whit Monday, 21st ult., a peal of 5184 changes of Kent Treble Bob Major was rung at the Parish Church, Keighley, in 3 hrs. 10 mins., by the following:—W. Senior, 1; F. Bailey, 2; J. Illingworth, 3; J. Clegg, 4; W. Goodall, 5; C. A. Fox, 6; J. Garforth, 7; W. Collins, tenor. Weight, 15 cwt. Conducted by C. A. Fox, and composed by the late O. Lang, of Liversedge. The bob changes were:—

2	3	4	5	6	M.	W.	H.
5	2	3	6	4	2	2	2
5	6	4	2	3	2	1	1
6	2	3	4	5	1	2	—
2	5	3	4	6	1	—	2
X-4	2	3	5	6	1	2	—

Framland Ringers, Leicestershire.

THE members of this Society held their second Annual Meeting at St. Mary's Church, Melton Mowbray, on Thursday, 24th ult. The ringers of the various parishes in union mustered in strong force, and a marked improvement had evidently been made in the style of ringing since the winter meeting. The programme of the day was as follows:—1st. Practice, 11 to 2; luncheon at 2; Evensong and Sermon at 3.30. 2nd. Practice at 4.15; supper at 7.30. The remainder of the evening was spent in discussing the business of the Society and various subjects connected with the science and practice of ringing. Many of the local clergy were present on the occasion.

Dedication of New Bells at Bearsted, Kent.

On Tuesday, the 29th ult., six new bells by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, London, the gift of H. Tasker, Esq., were opened with hymns and prayers, and an able sermon preached by the Rev. Canon Smith, and ringers from East Malling, who rang peals of 720 Treble and Kent Bob. The local paper says that the congregation was dispersed 'amidst the pealing of the organ' and 'merry clashing of the bells.' Does this mean that the organist and ringers contested which could make the greater noise? There certainly could not be any harmony in such a combination of sweet sounds, and if we had been among the listeners we should have sped our way as quickly as possible beyond the jarring discord. Perhaps it was the object of the organist and ringers to disperse the assembled crowd in that way. We solemnly protest against the clashing of bells; it can only be compared to the unmeaning jargon of uncivilised people. There could be nothing 'merry' in the performance.

Change-ringing at Westminster Abbey.

On Saturday last, June 2, on the occasion of celebrating the birthday of our Gracious Queen, the undermentioned band met in the tower of Westminster Abbey and rang a peal of 120 Grandsire Doubles, which, from the great difficulties attending the ringing these fine bells, is very rarely to be accomplished:—G. Stockham, 1; R. Hopkins, 2; L. Proctor, Esq., 3; J. R. Haworth (Conductor), 4; W. Weatherstone, 5; E. Albone, 6. Tenor, 36 cwt.

[The Editor requests an explanation of the difficulties attending the ringing of the Abbey bells.]

Date Touch.

At Burton-on-Trent, on the 18th ult., 1877 Grandsire Triples, muffled, after the funeral of an old ringer.

RECEIVED.—Lavenham Bells; Warner and Sons; T. Larkin; C. Gordon.

BELFRY RECORDS.

KETTERING, NORTHAMPTON. (Tablets in the Belfry.)

910.

'If list'n'ng traveler to music be inclined,
Concordant sounds Produced will captivate the mind,
From bells melodious, when move with art sublime,
Variety of numbers beating in mude time;
Let clamour cease because of dire mischance,
And solomon silence lead the mystic Dance,
So music Raising her majestic strains
While notes harmonious extend to Distant Plains.

911. FEB. 28th, 1720, the whole Peal of Grandsire Tripples, Containing 5040 Changes was Rung here in 3 hours and 18 minutes by the following persons, viz. —

Tho. Howard, First.	G. Bayre, Fourth.	Rob. Booth, Sixth.
Tho. Woodford, Second.	Hen. Parker, Fifth.	Jno Carley, Seventh.
John Law, Third.		Henry Lades, Eighth.

912. SINCE it was ascertained our first Performance could not be Rung in less than 3 hours & a half, for an Experiment and before satisfactory judges on 12th of April, 1731, the whole peal of 5040 was completed at 30 changes each minute in 2 hours 48 minutes by the persons underwritten:—

Tho. Howard, First.	G. Bayre, Fourth.	Rob. Booth, Sixth.
Tho. Woodford, Second.	Hen. Parker, Fifth.	Jno. Carley, Seventh.
John Law, Third.		Jona. Barlow, Eighth.

913. MONDAY, 16th April, 1750, was rung the whole Peal of 5040 Grandsire Tripples, in 111. hours & 11. minutes, by the following Persons:—

George Denton, 1.; William Hanger, 11.; Richard Lane, 111.; Anthony Hames, 111.; Joseph Warner, v.; Joseph Parker, vi.; Daniel Altkorpe, vii.; John Carrington, viii.

914.

MUSICA MENTIS MEDICINA.

On Monday, May 4th, 1840, A Complete Peal of Grandsire Triples, containing 5040 changes, was Rung at Kettering in Three hours and Ten minutes by the following Persons, all of the aforesaid Parrish, viz. —

John Wish, Treble.	William Mawby, Fourth.	John Scott, Sixth.
Thomas Dilks, Second.	Thomas Enfield, Fifth.	John Henson, Seventh.
Samuel Tilley, Third.		James Hawthorn, Tenor.

First Single.	Last Single.
1 3 2 5 4 7 6 8	1 3 2 4 5 6 7 8
1 2 3 5 4 7 6 8	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

Ye Ringers all who prize
Your health and happiness,
Be sober, merry, wise,
And you'll the same possess.

those Jewish regulations as to not gathering up sticks, &c., we, as Christians, have simply nothing to do. The seventh day means, and has surely always meant, one day out of seven; for we have not the slightest knowledge as to which was the first day of the week to Adam. The Israelites observed, as we all know, the seventh day, from the coming out of Egypt; but this was plainly accidental. Saturday was never intrinsically better or holier than Sunday. But it was accepted as the seventh day for the Jew. This is what was changed by the Christian Church, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit. The Church did not presume to set aside the ordinance of the Sabbath-day, God forbid! It could not choose one day out of eight, or nine, or six, or five, but only one out of seven; but it kept its Sabbath on the Lord's Day. For a time it was permitted to Christians to keep both Saturday and Sunday holy, but this soon ceased to be the case; and the Lord's day, Sunday, or the first day of the week, became the Christian Sabbath, or one day out of seven. Any other opinion is illogical and essentially mischievous. The opinion here maintained is that of the whole Latin Church, and emphatically of the Anglican, which Calvin, with his usual effrontery, called 'the Anglican superstition.' And, Sir, I must not hesitate to say, that in spite of all drawbacks and exaggerations, I believe the moral greatness of Britain to be chiefly founded on her reverence for the Sabbath day. To her pre-eminently among Christian Churches pertain the words of Divine promise: 'If thou turn away thy foot from the Sabbath, from doing thy pleasure on My holy day, and call the Sabbath a delight, the holy of the Lord, honourable, and shalt honour Me, not doing thine own ways, nor finding thine own pleasure, nor speaking thine own words, then shalt thou delight thyself in the Lord, and I will cause thee to ride upon the high places of the earth, and feed thee with the heritage of Jacob thy father: for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it.' Let us then hold fast, lest we lose the recompense of the reward. Yet let us remember our Lord's teaching and example. 'The Sabbath was made for man;' is, therefore, of perpetual obligation, and rather more needed in our day than in Paradise. But works of charity are lawful on it. Such a work may it well be to minister the sense of beauty and delight to hardworked men and women. This is a difficult practical question; I cannot profess to solve it in a few words. But one thing is clear,—the Sabbath, not Jewish, but Paradisaical and universal, is of perpetual obligation, and is to be to us one with the Lord's day, a feast of holy joy and gladness; and whatever work is wrought that day is to be wrought in the spirit of charity and for the glory of God.

ARCHER GURNEY.

Ashley's Hotel, Henrietta Street, London.

P.S.—I need not carry on a controversy with Mr. Jefferys Hills, as we seem to be practically of one mind; that State tyranny can only be guarded against effectually by the addition of a lay element to Convocation.

Sir,—Allow me to explain that I have signed an address to the Archbishop of Canterbury, approving his Grace's action in the Committee on the Burial Bill. This has been taken, in a subsequent circular, to be a support of Lord Harrowby's amendment. I differ from this, and wish, therefore, to withdraw my name, as I was looking only to the amendment introduced by his Grace, of which I approved.

T. W. CARR.

Barming Rectory, June 13.

THE Rev. Reginald M. Johnson asks to be allowed, through *Church Bells*, to gratefully acknowledge the receipt of a valuable box of (chiefly) books forwarded anonymously; also, of the *Monitor* and several other interesting and useful periodicals, regularly mailed (postmark, Dover) by an unknown friend.

The Parsonage, Pouch Cove, Newfoundland, May 3rd, 1877.

'CLERICUS.'—We are sorry to pain any of our friends. The views you express have, in the course of the pleadings before the Privy Council, and in articles and correspondence since, been heard in our columns, and it is not necessary to repeat them.

'S. G. WOOD.'—We were under the impression that the photographs of Holy Trinity, Toronto, which you kindly sent, had been acknowledged. Accept our best thanks for them. We fear we shall not be able to use them at present.

'P. L. J.'—The only rule as to the elision or non-elision of the 'e' in reading the words 'declared,' &c., is that of usage. No uniform or greatly preponderating use has been established, and it must, therefore, be left to the reader's taste and judgment.

'C. C.'—Your name and address have not reached us.

RECEIVED ALSO.—G. F. Chambers; A Lonely Shepherd; A former Chaplain Thames Church Mission; Edward Liddell; A Layman.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

'First Steps to Bell-ringing.'

WE hail the publication of this useful pamphlet by Mr. Goslin. We have no hesitation in saying that it is the best 'Elementary Introduction to the Exercise of Bell-ringing in Rounds and Changes' that we have met with. We commend it to all would-be ringers, and those who have already learnt something will pick up a good deal of useful information from this beautifully illustrated tractate. It is to be had of John Warner and Sons, Cripplegate.

The Guild of Devonshire Ringers.

A MEETING of the Committee will be held at Exeter on Thursday, June 21st, at 2 p.m., to be followed by the annual meeting for transaction of business. Agenda:—Reception of Reports of Committee and Treasurer; election of officers for 1877; arranging for general meeting in July, &c.

J. L. LANGDON FULFORD, Hon. Sec.

Royal Cumberland Society (late London Scholars). Presentation of the Cox Testimonial.

ON Friday evening, the 1st inst., several members and friends of this Society met at the 'Green Man,' St. Martin's Lane, for the purpose of doing honour to a veteran change-ringer. Grace was said by the Rev. J. H. Stewart, of Lincolnshire, before and after the repast provided for the occasion; and on the removal of the cloth, with a few remarks from the Chairman, Master Newton, the Secretary handed Mr. Cox a roll of bank-notes, the result of the several subscription lists that have appeared in *Church Bells*. Mr. Cox thanked his several friends most heartily, never, he said, expecting to realise such a proof of their esteem and kindness; and took his seat amid a round of applause. The toast, 'Prosperity to the Science,' coupled with the health of the clergy, was responded to by the Rev. Gentleman present, who was, he said, pleased to see the clergy making a move in the right direction, viz. by taking an active interest both in ringing and ringers also. The testimonial picture, enlarged to full size from a carte de visite, a copy of which has been forwarded to each subscriber of 10s. to the fund, will remain on the walls of the Society's meeting-room, as a memorial of John Cox and his connexion with the science of bell-ringing generally.

H. DAINS, Hon. Sec.

Ringling at Cradley, Worcestershire.

ON Whit Tuesday, the Christ Church Society of Change-ringers, West Bromwich, visited Cradley Church, and rang a true peal of new Grandsire Triples, 5040 changes, in 2 hrs. 52 mins. The ringers were:—H. Hipkiss, 1; T. Horton, 2; W. Mallin, 3; W. Beeson, 4; S. Biddlestone, 5; J. Carter, 6; J. Tinsley, 7; J. Hipkins, 8. The peal is in twelve parts; composed by Mr. S. Biddlestone and conducted by Mr. J. Carter. This is the first peal rung upon these bells, the gift of the late Lady Aston of Cradley.

Change-ringing at Wollaston, Worcestershire.

ON Tuesday, the 29th ult., six of St. James's Youths rang at St. James's Church, in 50 mins., two 720 changes of Grandsire and Plain Bob Minor, being their first attempt. It was the twelfth anniversary of the bells. W. Pugh, 1; R. Bidmead, 2; G. Howells, 3; H. Dakin, 4; J. Coaker (conductor), 5; J. Lewis, 6.

New Bells opened at St. Martin's, Bradley, Worcestershire.

ON the 31st ult. a ring of six bells, by Taylor of Loughborough (tenor, 24 cwt.), were opened by the donor, Mr. Pugh, who by himself rang out the tenor. His example was followed by some ladies, pulling away at the other bells. Afterwards they were handled by ringers from the neighbourhood. There was a large assemblage and a supper, at which, among other good things, Mr. Pugh stated that 'fifty-one years ago he came into the neighbourhood, and worked from six o'clock in the morning until seven o'clock at night, and went to bed in a wet shirt all the week round.' The donor—as he richly deserved—was most enthusiastically received; the Vicar of the parish being present, with the churchwardens and many other parishioners. We regret not to be able to gather from the report of the proceedings in the local paper that any appropriate service of dedication, with prayers and hymns, was held in the church.

Muffled Peal at St. Mary's, Sheffield.

ON Wednesday, the 6th inst., eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths, conducted by Thomas Hattersley, rang a peal of Grandsire Triples, with the bells half muffled, as a last mark of respect to Mr. John Charlesworth, the respected steeple-keeper of the above-named church, who died after a few days' illness, aged 43 years.

Jubilee at Steeple Aston, Oxfordshire.

AT Steeple Aston, June 6th was the jubilee of the completion of the ring of six bells in the church tower, the fourth of which, after hanging cracked and useless sixty years, was recast in 1827, and replaced June 6th in that year. From three o'clock to night-fall ringing was kept up, with short intervals, by the ringers of the village, of whom there are several more than 'a full side,' assisted by others from elsewhere, among whom were the Rev. F. P. Burnett, Messrs. Merry (Souldern), Baughan and Merry (Aynho), Preston, and Wingrave.

St. Mary's Amateur Ringers, Battersea, Surrey.

ON Saturday, the 9th inst., several members of the above Society, with their professional teacher, Mr. W. Baron, of the Waterloo Society, visited the bell-tower of Sir Stephen Lakeman, in Quex Park, Birchington, Kent, and rang several touches on the bells.

Willesden Campanology Society.

ON Tuesday, the 12th inst., six members of the above Society rang at St. Mary's Church their first complete peal of 720 Bob Minor in 25 mins., viz.: L. J. Jackman, 1; F. Weare, 2; G. C. Hawkins, 3; J. Jackman, 4; H. Cutter, 5; R. Kilby, 6. Tenor, 10 cwt. Called by R. Kilby.

Harmony Restored at Twickenham.

EIGHT out of nine of the ringers of St. Mary's Parish Church, Twickenham, who several weeks ago struck through not being permitted to ring three peals to commemorate the opening of the Orleans Club, and were discharged in consequence, have apologised to the Vicar and been reinstated by the churchwardens, and on Sunday last the usual morning peal was resumed.

New Bells in Barrow-in-Furness.

A NEW ring of eight bells is shortly to be placed in the tower of St. James's Church, Barrow-in-Furness, and it is hoped that the bells will be dedicated on St. James's Day, 25th July next. As this is the first ring which will be heard in this now important town, much interest attaches to the movement.

RECEIVED.—Edward Marsh; S. Drake; Vigorniensis; Vigilance. B. Keeble is requested to write copy in extenso.

the larger proportion—and those often the most serious-minded—were not professed members of our Church. The administration of Holy Communion was as often as circumstances would allow; our rule being to celebrate monthly. One's own Church principles were in advance of some of our most influential Committee, but I was never hindered, but rather encouraged, in the line I took.

A slur seems to be cast upon the present 'young' chaplain in the article in your issue of the 9th inst., for having expressed opinions at the Canterbury Conference diverse from what appear the experiences of others. But why may not both opinions be honest? Mr. Scarth, with his peculiar opportunities which a 'parochial' Mission gives him, is brought more frequently in contact with the same men, so can add to the 'principles of the faith.' The Chaplain of the Thames Mission—if his work be at all like mine—addresses his hearers (from the very fact of their shifting life) generally for the first and last time at once. Can any one hesitate as to what ought to be the burden of that necessarily limited address? With such persons to deal with as I have before explained, would it be fitting to be lecturing them upon the surpassing importance, and beauty, and meaning of the English Book of Common Prayer?

I am very sorry that absence from the meeting at the late Congress at Brighton prevented me from personally defending the Thames Church Mission from aspersions there also sought to be cast upon her fair fame, for I know the Society is, and has long been, highly prized by seamen visiting the Thames.

A FORMER CHAPLAIN OF THE THAMES CHURCH MISSION.

Youths' Friendly Society.

SIR.—Some months ago a letter appeared in the columns of the *Guardian*, from the Rev. Charles P. Ford, Royston, Barnsley, advocating the establishment of a 'Youths' Friendly Society,' similar in form and object to the Girls' Friendly Society, now happily becoming so well known. The unexampled success of the Girls' Friendly Society, the rapid increase of its members and of its branches, forces one to believe that Mrs. Townsend and her friends have grappled with an acknowledged want, and encourages those who feel the same need of a Friendly Society for Young Men to gird themselves to the work of forming it at once. A central bond for the whole Church, with the simplest possible central rules, and branch rules adapted to different localities, to which Bible-classes, and brotherhoods, and guilds could, if they wish, be affiliated, seems to be the likeliest organization for effecting the purpose in view; viz. that of never losing sight of a youth who has once been under religious influence or instruction. Mr. Ford has received many warm and approving letters on the subject, and will be glad to receive any fresh communications, containing hints, or names of those who approve. The countenance and advice of Christian women who have already engaged in work with youth—such, for instance, as the authoress of *Ploughing and Sowing*—would give great strength and confidence. Dr. Gott, the Vicar of Leeds, has expressed his approval of it, and his wish to be instrumental in furthering it. It is hoped that a meeting may be arranged at Leeds, or some other central place, when it is found that sufficient interest is excited to make it fairly successful.

JOHN SCOTT, M.A.

Prebendary of York; Vicar of St. Mary's, Kingston-upon-Hull.

Old Times in Yorkshire.

SIR.—I was very much pleased with the remarks of 'S.A.' on Lord Houghton's letter. It might be easy to have a good impression of Archbishop Harcourt's times, because they were a great improvement on those before him. In earlier times there seems a little uncertainty how often Confirmation was administered. Those who have spoken about it have never professed that it was oftener than once in seven years. I have heard it maintained that it was considered sufficient to confirm once in the Minster during the whole course of a man's episcopate.

Whichever of these was the rule of times before Archbishop Harcourt, we cannot wonder that the clergy, as 'S.A.' says, were often drunkards. Nor, again, can we wonder at this, which I have heard of: if any one wanted his duty done he went to the meet, as the regular place for finding clergy, and agreed with someone to come, on the understanding that there was a heap of sermons in the pulpit, of which he might take the topmost, and afterwards put it at the bottom.

We often find the laity speaking of those times as good ones. I am sure that the upper classes do not always know much about the state of their own neighbourhoods even now; how much less would they know, then, about other parts of the diocese!

A YORKSHIRE VICAR.

Elision of 'e.'

SIR.—In your reply to 'P.L.J.' you say that 'the only rule as to the elision or non-elision of the "e" in reading such words as "declared" is that of usage.'

I am told by a friend who ought to know, that it is correct to sound it in reading old English; in fact, that where you find 'declareth' instead of 'declares,' consistency requires you to say 'declar-ed' and not 'declard.'

I should be glad to know whether this view approves itself to the learned. If it be a fact, it is desirable that it should be known, as it would often encourage readers to adhere to a practice which they might hesitate to keep to or adopt if it seemed to them meaningless.

B.

'ZENAS.'—You will see that another correspondent has taken up the subject of Private Confession from your point of view. You had better write to the publisher for the copies you want: we do not remember when the reviews appeared.

'C.C.'—Name and address received. We regret that we cannot insert the letter. We do not think that it would tend to remove the difficulties pointed out.

ORMSKIRK CHURCH will, we hope, appear soon on our front page. We thank the sender of the photograph.

RECEIVED ALSO.—Puzzled Presbyter.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

JAMES BARHAM'S BOOK.

By Jasper W. Snowdon, Ilkley, near Leeds.

ON October 30th, 1875, I explained in these columns that I wished to borrow, if it was in existence, the book in which James Barham had entered particulars of all the peals in which he had taken part: I also explained, at the same time, how I had progressed in my search for the same. Although I have been unsuccessful in getting hold of the original book, Mr. Slater, of Glemsford, in answer to my appeal, kindly forwarded me a copy which he had made from a copy of the original, and as far as I can ascertain this copy is a reproduction *in extenso* of the veritable book.

Lately I have been collecting my memoranda on Plain Bob ringing together, so that I might treat this matter in the same way that I have the several other systems that have been laid before the readers of *Church Bells*. When, however, I came to arrange the different lengths rung, I found that the performances of James Barham were so extraordinary, and at the same time so dissimilar in their conditions with the other long peals that I proposed to mention, that I concluded it would be best first to give my readers an account of what James Barham had done, and then proceed to describe the further general performances achieved in this method. Some few of Barham's peals I shall probably introduce in their places in my article on Plain Bob ringing; but as these will only be such as are well-authenticated single-handed performances, the remainder may be considered or not, at the inclination of the reader, to eclipse the best performances I shall otherwise mention. In certain other of the systems I have described, mention has been made in their order of long peals in which some of the bells were rung double-handed, and I should probably have proceeded in the same way with the system under notice had it not been that the particulars before me of Barham's peals are extremely scanty. For instance, several of the long peals are merely mentioned as quadruple and triple changes; and, indeed, it seems very doubtful indeed as to whether some of them were strictly correct. Of course, the difficulty of getting men to ring in such an undertaking as the 40,320 without some of them towards the end in their later turns getting 'muddled' would be very great; the calling of such a peal would also entail the presence of several first-rate conductors; and when the other many chances which would all operate against the accomplishment of such a feat are considered, everyone would naturally wish to have the most ample details of the performance. Now the only criticism upon this matter is to be found in the *Clavis*, and as this was published only twenty-seven years after the 40,320 was said to be rung at Leeds, it may be regarded as a contemporaneous opinion. The following is an extract of the reference there made, when treating of the extent in Bob Major:—

'To be sure it is recorded in a frame at Leeds, in Kent, as being performed by thirteen men in 27 hours and some minutes. One man having rung eleven hours, another nine, &c. but those of the performers who have been spoken to on the subject, give such unsatisfactory accounts, that it is very little thought of, and it is generally believed, that if they did keep the bells going the length of time, the truth or regularity of the changes were very little attended to.'

Before proceeding to go through the book, noticing the different peals worthy of mention, I may state that the following is what I have been able to learn concerning James Barham. He was born in 1725, and died on January 14th, 1818, aged ninety-three years. He rang in considerably over 100 peals of 5000 changes and upwards, and must have been a man of great physical endurance, as in one instance he stood ringing fourteen hours and forty-four minutes, and called all the bobs. This must have been a very considerable mental effort, as, unfortunately, the harassing effect of calling increases as the peal progresses, since a mistake or omission, which may at any time so easily occur, is much more to be deplored towards the end of any performance. The tablet in the belfry of St. Nicholas, Leeds, in Kent, at which church most of Barham's peals were rung, states that during his lifetime he rang on two rings of twelve bells, five of ten bells, thirty-six of eight bells, and thirty-nine of six bells. Perhaps the most curious feature of the whole of Barham's exploits seems to be, that not only did he live to so great an age himself, but that his companions also were not only long-lived also, but, as if to show the extremely beneficial effects of ringing, they were able to take their part in long peals when far past that age at which most men seem to have grown weak and feeble. An account of the peal rung by veterans, which made Barham's hundredth performance, is also to be gathered from the copy of a tablet in the church at Harriets-ham, Kent, and although a few discrepancies in the two accounts may be observed, in the main the particulars are similar. An extract from this tablet is appended:—

'The above ringers first instituted the Leeds Society, whose performances in ringing has not been equalled by any Society of Ringers, and there is now surviving. Saml. Grayling, John Freeland, Abm. Thos. and James Barham, & John Hunt, who new created this inscription; and these six ringers, with the assistance of Thos. Lacy & Willm. Davis, rung at Leeds, Jany. 1st, 1793, 5040 Bob Major, in 3 hours 12 minutes, whose ages when added together is 577 years: and it is remarkable that this peal compleats one hundred peals rung at different places, not less than 5040 changes each, by the above James Barham.'

Should Barham's original MS. be in possession of any person reading this, I need hardly say how much gratified I should be to have the loan of it for a short time, and that I should treat in confidence any information concerning it.

The following are such extracts from the copy which I have as, I think, form the principal features of the memoranda. The book commences:—

'Abram Barham, Fecit, 1748.—James Barham, May 24, 1752. This account was given to William Holland by James Barham, 1817.'

A memorandum of all the long peals that were rung by James Barham, both at home and abroad. With the Lenham Society 20 peals and with the Leeds Youths 95 peals, making in all 115—5000 changes and upwards. Each peal rung at home with the Lenham Society—at Harriets-ham. Peals rung at home with the Leeds Youths—at Leeds, near Maidstone, Kent.'

(To be continued.)

Answer to 'Vigilance.'

SIR,—In your excellent paper, No. 330, appears a letter signed 'Vigilance,' in which he seems to think 'Vigorniensis' is very free in bestowing compliments on a certain few; but I think I can return him the compliment by saying he is very free in casting insinuations and innuendoes upon other people. From the tone of his letter I presume he alludes to my old friend, Mr. Haley. I will quote one line in his letter, viz., 'And never,' says the old man, 'did I attempt to get possession of another's composition, either by variation or otherwise.' Of course that is a matter I cannot decide; but there is one thing I do know, that Mr. Haley never rang or called a false peal in his life—and he has rung a good many; nor did he ever make an assertion that a peal was false if it were a true one, and that is what cannot be said of some good ringers and composers. However, I will pass that over, and go on to something else.

Another quotation of 'Vigilance' is, 'By the removal of that peal from the list of accomplished performances is certainly a splendid laurel retrieved for the College Youths.' Now, Sir, I beg to differ from our friend as to the Earlsheaton peal being an accomplished performance, because I am given to understand at times it was rough-ringing, and if 'Vigilance' wants my authors I will tell him.

In another line our friend wants to know why it has taken all these years to let the cat out of the bag respecting the truth of the peal? Some many years ago, the Elland ringers, in Yorkshire, started for a peal of 15,168 Treble Eight (the then full extent of Treble Bob), and it went forth to the public as a very great performance; but then, after a period of twelve years, it oozed out that the said peal was rung by ten men instead of eight. Perhaps 'Vigilance' cannot understand that, but it's true; and as far as the last performance at Earlsheaton being achieved, it is quite certain it was never done, and they know it, and I cannot be silent and see my eight companions and my company robbed of one of the two brightest gems the College Youths have recorded in their peal-book. I have asked through your paper to know if the Earlsheaton ringers really did accomplish this long length, and I cannot get an authentic answer; and I can only say that it's a disgrace to any band of ringers to try and palm off on the public a performance that was never truthfully done. I sign my name to this letter, and if I have uttered one word untrue or unjust, I hope I shall elicit a severe rebuke from someone, and by that means we may perhaps get at the truth of the peal, and thereby put an end to further correspondence on this matter.

G. MUSKETT.

London, June 16th, 1877.

The Earlsheaton Peal.

SIR,—'Vigilance' writes, 'Why it has taken all these years to let the cat out of the bag about the above peal I, with many others, cannot understand;' and he doubts if all the truth on the point has yet been spoken. I can assure him that a great deal has been said on the subject that he has never heard; but I consider it a duty I owe to myself, as well as the ringing public, to say a few words on the point. I was invited to go and hear the peal, arriving there at about 7 a.m. They struck off into changes within a few minutes of eight o'clock. I was by myself at this time—no strangers having arrived; however, others soon came. Mr. Sottenstall was the first person I saw, and we kept together until the first part-end came up; the ringing had been very good all the time. As I noticed the time they were ringing, about 28 per minute, I was able to tell very nearly the time to expect the 2nd part-end. Soon after this Mr. S. went away; I also went to get some refreshment. I might be absent about an hour; on my return, the ringing was about the same as when I left. Soon after this Mr. Jasper Snowdon came. As the time for the 2nd part-end was drawing near, I wanted him to hear it, and we went to a retired place away from the crowd. It wanted about 15 minutes to the time then. But to our disappointment no part-end came up. We waited 15 or 20 minutes, but in vain: they were ringing 28 changes per minute. I considered the peal was lost, though they still went on ringing; and when they struck round there was a great shout of astonishment. It was so sudden, no one expected it. The fact is, they were jumped round. This was admitted a short time ago in the presence of five of our company by one who knew: thus inadvertently letting the cat out of the bag, and confirming what I had said from the first. The same person also said, if they had let the old treble man have the calling to himself it would have been conducted right; he called the first half. This was another admission. The above are facts as they occurred at the time. I will now leave your readers to come to their own conclusion, and give honour to whom it is due.

JAMES LOCKWOOD.

Leeds.

Genuine Compositions, &c.

SIR,—'Vigorniensis' did not, I think, hit the right nail on its head when he named the *Clavis* as a specimen publication of candour, and if the name of Shipway had been named instead, I doubt if you would have been troubled with this letter. However, these authors of the *Clavis* were candid as to their variations of Holt's ten-part peal, and particularly so; and if they had been as particular on other points, posterity would have served them better undoubtedly. The *Clavis* is, however, an invaluable book, especially as being an early publication, and also for the matter contained in its pages. But, Sir, after reading the following quotation, with the recent discussion on Grandshire Triples, Court Bob Royal, &c., fresh in their memories, your readers will, I think, agree with me that this book (the *Clavis*) has done much towards placing the history of the science in the unsatisfactory position in which it was recently found, and it is useless further to discuss the probability of the ignorance of this work concerning those peals, and perhaps other equally important historical events, as no one can doubt full particulars were among the papers, &c. copied by Mr. Blakemore:—

While Blakemore was staying at Norwich, lodging with one Christopher Lindsey, he found that his host, in conjunction with Thomas Burton, both members of the Norwich company of ringers, was preparing a treatise on the art of ringing; and Blakemore, having easy access to Lindsey's papers, in a

most dishonourable and clandestine manner made copies of the whole collection, and on his return to London, in conjunction with Messrs. Jones and Reeves (both College Youths), wrote a book on ringing, and in the year 1788 brought out the celebrated *Clavis Campanology*. Such conduct at the time gave great offence. On referring to a list of subscribers to that work, not one Norwich person appears among them.—*Osborne MSS.*

Now, Sir, if you consider it fair for me to say anything on the probability of what this collection consists of, I should like so to do, and I think we can get over it without much speculation. To require a clandestine removal, then, the matter must have been valuable; and as a list of churches and bells, what is known of the origin of ringing, or the old poetry, nor the elements of ringing itself, or all combined, would not be of such value as to require this treatment. I therefore conclude that it must have been new methods, or compositions, of which this book abounds without a signature. Or was it 'proof of Treble Bob Major,' evidently one or two, or perhaps some of these three combined, when a removal on the quiet would be imperative?

And after thus quietly removing from Norwich the very cream of the science (I doubt not) then extant, these authors added insult to injury by entirely discountenancing the ringers of that city, who had composed and rung peals half a century before this book was thought of; except, forsooth, the meagre notice in the following extracts from that publication:—

Clavis, page 115.—'This peal is distinguished by the appellation of DOUBLE NORWICH COURT, by reason (we suppose) of its being first composed in that city.' Again, at page 225 it says:—'N.B. The first and only peal that has been rung hitherto in the above method was by the St. Peter's Company in the city of Norwich, on the old peal of ten bells which formerly occupied that steeple.'

This, Sir, is all those authors seemed to know of Norwich, and by what is now known it is indeed a fine specimen of candour.

The letter by the respected Secretary mentioned by 'Vigorniensis' is not quite the thing, as the ringing in the last half of the long peal of Stedman's Cinques was very rough indeed, and which good ringers who heard the peal rung, and are still living, can testify. Such a statement has not before appeared in print, simply because occasion has never required it. Frequently a peal of 5000 or so will be a rough one, having, perhaps, two or three colts in the band; but for a long peal the best of ringers are generally selected, and many conductors call 'Stand!' when the ringing is so very bad.

VIGILANCE.

Warner's New Catalogue.

We have received a Bell Catalogue, lately issued by John Warner and Sons, with beautiful illustrations, and full of useful information about bells. It exceeds everything of the sort we have ever seen before, even the bumptious catalogues issued by American founders. In the *Builder* of the 15th we are pleased to find a letter of apology from John Warner and Sons on the subject of Chiming Hammers. In justice to all parties concerned it cannot be too widely circulated, therefore we annex a copy, and congratulate all on the restoration of peace:—

'Reply of John Warner & Sons to Mr. Ellacombe's Letter of May 4th, 1872.

'SIR,—When we first saw Mr. Ellacombe's letter in the *Builder* of May 4th, 1872, headed "Warner's Plagiarism," we were led to look into the facts therein alluded to, and we found it difficult for us to reply, because we had been misled by false representations made to us by persons whose names the public need not be told.

'But we now wish the public to know, and we are glad of this opportunity, in issuing another edition of our Bell Catalogue, to say that we have cancelled a plate we never should have reproduced, nor called it our Improved Chiming Apparatus, had Mr. Ellacombe's former correspondent been in the firm when the new catalogue was compiled in 1872.

'We hope that this will be considered by Mr. Ellacombe as ample amends for our involuntary errors.

'We shall be ready to set up his hammers for any who may be pleased to give us the order.

JOHN WARNER & SONS.'

Change-ringing at All Saints, Fulham, Middlesex.

On Saturday, the 16th inst., by the kind permission of the Vicar (Mr. Fisher), ten members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang at the above church a true peal of Kent Treble Bob Royal, containing 5200 changes, in 3 hrs. 31 mins. H. Haley, sen., 1; W. Cooter, 2; M. A. Wood, 3; S. Reeves, 4; G. Mash, 5; R. French, 6; G. Musket, 7; J. Pettit, 8; E. Horrex, 9; J. M. Hayes, 10. Composed and conducted by Mr. H. W. Haley, sen.

THE PEAL.

2	3	4	5	6	M.	W.	H.
2	5	6	3	4	2	1	1
3	2	5	4	6	2	2	2
4	3	2	6	5	2	2	2
6	4	3	5	2	2	2	2
5	6	4	2	3	2	2	2
3	5	2	6	4	2	1	2
6	3	5	4	2	2	2	2
3	4	6	2	5	2	2	—
2	3	4	5	6	2	2	2

Change-ringing by the Waterloo Society at Putney, Surrey.

On Saturday, the 16th inst., eight members of the above Society rang at St. Mary's, Putney, the late Mr. John Holt's original one-part peal of Grandshire Triples, 5040 changes, in 3 hrs. 13 mins. J. W. Catle, 1; C. T. Hopkins, 2; W. J. Williams, 3; J. Perks, 4; J. W. Mansfield, 5; H. Hopkins, 6; A. Hayward, 7; R. Williams, 8. Conducted by Mr. Catle.

RECEIVED.—J. R. Jerram; R. Sanderson; J. Ashstead; Old String; John Pritchard.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

The Guild of Devonshire Ringers.

THE Annual Meeting of this Society was held in Exeter on Thursday, the 21st inst., the Rev. C. S. Bere, one of the Vice-Presidents, occupying the chair. The following report of the Committee was read by the Hon. Secretary (the Rev. J. L. Langdon Fulford), and agreed to:—

'Steady growth has marked the third year of the Guild's existence. On reference to last year's list of members, it will be found that there were 94 honorary and 102 performing members, while the number of names in the subjoined list, corrected to this day, is 97 of the former and 118 of the latter. This progress is the more satisfactory for two reasons: first, that it is chiefly among those who can carry out both the objects of the Guild, namely, the performing members; and secondly, that the vacancies caused by the withdrawal of those who merely joined the Society to give it, when first started, a little pecuniary help, are more than filled up by new members, showing that the principles advocated by the Society are gaining ground in the county. First among the events of the past year, your Committee consider the successful attempt made to bring the subject of "Church Bells" before the Congress held at Plymouth in October last. The fact that it was the last meeting of the session caused the attendance to be smaller than it would have otherwise been, but the number present was an unmistakable witness to the truth that the attention of Churchmen is becoming rapidly drawn to the all-but-neglected belfries of a few years since. Your Committee met four times during the year, and among the matters which occupied their attention was the question of the form of certificate of membership, which, after having been considered by the Committee, had been referred back at one time to a general meeting, at another to the Committee. It has now been definitely decided upon, and will, it is hoped, be ready for distribution at the next general meeting. Among the resolutions come to by the Committee are the following:—1. "That the Secretary be requested to endeavour to obtain permission of the Guild to inspect and report upon the work done in hanging and rehanging bells, or repairing cages, in the diocese." In several cases, during the past year, this has been acted upon; and the best thanks of the Society are due to the well-known member of the Committee who has, at considerable personal inconvenience and loss of several days, placed his valuable services at the disposal of the Guild. The Committee would urge members to endeavour to get this resolution acted upon in all cases where money is to be expended upon bells. They need hardly remind them that the difference between a low and high estimate of the cost of work in our steeples is very generally caused by a difference of scanting, and the particular dimensions of timber required in any case can only be known by persons acquainted with the requirements of ringers. The assistance of the Guild may thus prevent much waste of money. 2. "That a report of the ringing of all members who take part in general or district meetings shall be sent by the secretary or conductor of each band to the Secretary, within one week of the date of such meeting, stating the calls of, at least, one peal or touch, whether true or not, and the position of the ringers. These reports shall be brought before the Committee, and all peals or touches certified to be true shall be ordered to be entered in 'The Diary.'" The Committee felt that in cases where the expenses of members were wholly or in part borne by the Guild, the Society had a right to be informed what had been done in the steeples at these meetings. During the past year only two peals have been rung by members, namely, a 5040 at Huntsham, and another at St. Sidwell's. The Diary, however, shows that the bands in union have not been idle. The rings—either new, augmented, or rehung—at Uplyme, Kingsbridge, SS. Philip and James, Ilfracombe, Meavey, Bideford, and Georgeham, were opened on behalf of the Guild by members selected in accordance with the Committee's rule for "special ringing," and it is believed that by bringing change-ringing into new districts much good will be done. From the Diary, too (of course records of true and complete peals must be looked for in the 'Peal-book'), we gather that the Huntsham band has rung one half peal and seven touches exceeding a 1000 each of Grandsire Triples, a touch of 704 Treble Bob Major, four peals of Treble Bob Minor, and two touches (respectively 504 and 588) of Stedman Triples. The records of the Exeter branch show that they have mastered Grandsire Doubles, and have commenced the practice of Grandsire Minor and Triples. The Broadclyst and Merton bands both report the performance of peals of Grandsire Doubles. The patronage of the Guild has been sought, and willingly granted by the Committee, for the apparatus applied by Mr. Seage (a member of the G. D. R.) to the bells at Huntsham, Dunster, and St. Sidwell's, whereby, at a small expense, the annoyance to the neighbourhood caused by ringers—especially young ones—learning new methods is avoided, and at the same time the ringers do not lose the help of the sound, as is ordinarily the case with lashed clappers. The returns received from bell-founders and bell-hangers show that the past year has seen considerable sums spent in the belfries of Devon. Messrs. Abbott and Co., of Bideford, have added two trebles to and completely rehung the ring of six of St. Mary's Church in that town; Messrs. Blews and Co., of Birmingham, have cast a treble for Cadbury, and recast the third at Exminster; Messrs. Llewellyn and James, of Bristol, have cast and hung five bells for SS. Philip and James, Ilfracombe, and a new treble at Kentisbeare; Messrs. Mears and Stainbank have cast and hung the eight at Kingsbridge, have added a treble at Mordard Bishop, have recast the fifth at Bideford, have cast a ring of five for Thornbury, and recast all but the fifth in the ring of six at Meavey; Messrs. Warner and Sons added a treble and recast the second at Dolton, and have cast a ring of eight for St. Mary Church; Mr. Aggett, of Chagford, has executed repairs to the cages at Widdicombe-in-the-Moor and Drewsteignton; Messrs. Hooper and Stokes, of Woodbury, have rehung the rings of six at Chittlehampton, Exminster, and Georgeham, repaired the ring of eight at Alington, rehung the tenor at Colyton, and hung a new treble at Cadbury; Mr. Luxton, of Winkleigh, has rehung the three at Huntsham and the four at Iddesleigh.'

The Treasurer's Report was next presented, and showed that the income of the Guild for the past year had been 60*l.* 5*s.* 4*d.*, and that there was a balance in hand of 19*l.* 9*s.* 2*d.*

It was unanimously resolved that the officers of the past year should be re-elected; namely, C. A. W. Troyte, Esq., President; the Archdeacons of Exeter, Barnstaple, and Totnes, the Earl of Devon, Rev. H. T. Ellacombe, Rev. C. S. Bere, and J. D. Pode, Esq., Vice-Presidents; Rev. J. L. Langdon Fulford, Secretary; W. J. Woolcombe, Esq., Assistant-Secretary; W. B. Fulford, Esq., Treasurer. Four honorary and fifteen performing members were then elected, and, after deciding to hold a general meeting at Torquay on July 23rd, the meeting broke up.

Reply to Messrs. Muskett and Lockwood.

SIR,—Although 'tis better late than never, I have no doubt but the letter of Mr. James Lockwood will do much towards removing existing doubts as to the Earlsheaton peal, and any aspiring band may now find ample room for skill and perseverance by ringing the peal correctly. In reply to the remarks of 'Vigorniensis' I beg to say, that I am not the only person who throws out *oblique hints*, as someone is continually doing so towards a particular old friend of mine. But, Sir, I shall wait until I get a reply to the long ear-shot business before I throw out but one other; and although 'our friend,' as he designates me, considers his letter an answer to mine, I beg to inform him that I find no answer in it. By the tone of that letter he would, I presume, stifle all discussion and criticism. But after all these years, and an account of that peal having appeared in the papers several times, let alone its mention from the pulpit, are we, I ask, to believe the very first few printed words to the contrary? Certainly not; for by that means we should have to believe one thing one day and another the next. No, Sir; let us fish the thing to its foundation, where, of course, the truth is only to be found.

I thank Mr. Lockwood for his outspoken letter; and although I wish to remain friends with Mr. Muskett, yet I would ask him to study the Fulham peal, and the different works on bell-ringing, and see whether the former is not a variation of one to be found in the latter.

VIGILANCE.

Lancashire Association of Change-ringers.

ON Saturday, June 9th, the Annual Meeting of the above took place in the parish church schoolroom, Swinton, when about thirty of the members were present; Mr. John Aspinwall, of Liverpool, presiding, in the absence of the President (Mr. W. G. Wray, Kirkham). The Report and balance-sheet were read over by the Secretary, and were unanimously adopted. The election of officers was then proceeded with, with the following results:—President: Mr. J. Mason, Southport. Vice-Presidents: Messrs. W. Bowling, Leyland; and J. Aspinwall, Liverpool. Committee: Messrs. J. Prescott, Ormskirk; H. Bentley, Bolton; E. Cash, Swinton; H. W. Jackson, Bolton; J. Rothwell, Pendlebury; W. G. Wray, Kirkham; and J. Higson, Blackrod. Mr. J. R. Pritchard, Liverpool, Secretary; and Mr. G. Higson, Blackrod, Treasurer, were unanimously re-elected for the present year. Votes of thanks were then passed to the late officers for their services during the past year, and to the Chairman (Mr. Aspinwall), and the proceedings terminated.

After refreshment in the schoolroom they visited the parish church, and rang several touches of Grandsire Triples, conducted by Messrs. H. W. Jackson and J. R. Pritchard. A select band afterwards visited Worsley Church, and rang 1008 changes of Grandsire Triples, conducted by Mr. H. W. Jackson.

J. R. PRITCHARD, Secretary.

Change-ringing at Guisborough, Yorkshire.

ON Saturday evening, the 16th inst., a mixed company of ringers visited Guisborough, and by permission of the Rector rang a peal of Grandsire Minor, being the first peal completed on the bells. The ringers were—G. J. Clarkson, Esq., 1; J. Gaines, 2; J. E. Hern, 3; H. Thompson, 4; W. Reed, Esq., 5; G. Overton, 6. Tenor, 11 ext., in A. Conducted by Mr. J. Gaines.

Ringers' Meet at Lavenham, Suffolk.

ON Thursday, the 21st inst., being the birthday of Lavenham bells, many ringers from various places met to honour this grand ring of eight. Leonard Proctor, Esq., brought his talented company; a company, also, of sixteen came from Sawbridgeworth, Herts; the College Youths were represented by Messrs. R. Sewell and J. R. Haworth; the Cumberlands by Messrs. J. Cox, J. Home, and — Hopkins; besides many from the neighbourhood. Ringing began at 6.30, by the Lavenham company, and was kept up till a late hour by visiting companies. Dinner was served as usual, to which about fifty sat down. During the day Stedman's, Grandsire, Norwich and Double Norwich Court, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, and Superlative Surprise, were the principal methods rung on the steeple bells. Next morning, at 7.30, Mr. Proctor's company struck some touches of London Surprise and Stedman's, and returned home. The companies afterwards visited Bury St. Edmund's, where they were joined by Captain Moore and G. Holmes, Esq., of the Redenhall company, and rang Stedman's Caters; and at St. Mary's (8), Stedman's Triples and Superlative Surprise.

The College Youths at Fulham, on the 16th inst.—Postscript.

THE first person who entered the belfry after the peal was brought round was the Rector, the Rev. F. H. Fisher, and he congratulated the members upon having completed their peal. He shook hands with all before leaving the belfry, and we certainly look upon this as a mark of good feeling; and I take this opportunity of thanking Mr. Fisher, through your columns, for his courtesy towards us.

G. A. MUSKETT, Secretary.

NOTICE.—The continuation of 'James Barham's Book' has been postponed for want of space.

RECEIVED.—Vigorniensis; Vigilance; Listener.

Church Property.

SIR,—Some gentlemen have recently offered to put up some very handsome ornaments within the church of which I am the incumbent. The cost would probably be over 700*l.* I have told them, that since the declaration by the House of Lords touching the churchyards I cannot consider that any church is safe, and I have recommended them to abstain from entrusting any money to any church building whatever. It is true that the church has been restored within twenty years at enormous cost, but I hardly think this will secure it, after what the House of Lords has declared. I shall greatly value the opinion of some of your readers.

J. S.

A Possible Solution of the Burials Question.

SIR,—Could not much be done during the next nine months of respite towards solving the Burials Question by closing as many as possible of our unclosed churchyards? The sanitary reasons for shutting out all burials are strong as ever. Most country churchyards are full, and more than full, and we may reasonably expect that the Home Secretary will not put needless obstacles in our way. Only let us set to work in earnest, and, above all, at once. The process is simple, and need not be tedious. Such a book as Baker's *Laws relating to Burials* will furnish all the information needed. The important point to keep before us is that time is everything, and it is pressing.

R. B.

Barrow-on-Humber.

Hay-making Drink.

SIR,—I have noticed in *Church Bells* of the 30th June a letter from 'C. H. B.' I have given to all employed in my hay-field cold coffee four times a-day, instead of beer. All men and women alike, expressed their great appreciation of it, and said they could do more work on it than with beer. I trust my experiment may be tried elsewhere.

PARISHIONER OF HATFIELD BROAD OAK, ESSEX.

SIR,—Will you permit me, as an old Curate of Jarrow, to say that the plan of letters commendatory spoken of by Mr. Liddell, Rector of Jarrow, is quite an old one in his parish, and in my day was acted upon pretty freely. We both gave and received such letters, especially from the Scotch clergy, and I can give testimony to their great value in such places as Jarrow, Hebburn, and Hebburn Quay, and trust the plan may be extended to even small parishes.

J. NOON MUNFORD, Rector of St. Allen, Cornwall.

SIR,—May I be allowed to call attention to an advertisement in your paper of Bursaries at the Schola Cancellarii at Lincoln, so well known in connexion with the work of the Bishop of Truro during his chancellorship? These bursaries are due to the liberality of Churchmen in the diocese, who are anxious to assist (as far as possible) young men desirous of preparing for Holy Orders, who are unable to meet all the expenses connected with their residence here. We have at present twenty-six students, and attention is bestowed on the practical as well as on the theological training necessary for the ministerial life.

E. T. LEEKE.

The Chancery, Lincoln.

'Who for the spangles wears the funeral pall?'

Who is so dazzled by the funereal trappings as to be willing to be enshrouded by them?

No one.—'But catch a gleam beyond it, and 'tis bliss.'

Look beyond death and the grave, beyond the pall, and then ye who are baptized into Christ's death see bliss, glory, and all ye can desire.

So paraphrases

G. V.

P.S.—It is curious that, in the second line of the preceding verse, *where* may be read *were*, and the meaning of the whole sentence will not be changed.

ONE 'W. W. H.' begs to answer another 'W. W. H.', and to paraphrase Keble's well-known line,—

'Who for the spangles wears the funeral pall?'

The sense is this:—Who (if this life were all) would accept the sorrows and sadness of life for the sake of its brief and paltry pleasures? The argument of the poet is, that the only true joys of this world are such as are lit up by a light from the world beyond.

SIR,—Though neither an interpreter of riddles or rhymes, I venture, in reply to 'W. W. H.'s' query of last week, to paraphrase Keble's line,—

'Who for the spangles wears the funeral pall?'

thus: 'Who as a coffin's tenant would don the coffin's livery for the sake of that livery's fair broideries?' This suits the context. MARTIN AB ANTO.

SIR,—Your correspondent, 'W. W. H.', cannot better be answered than by quoting from Robertson's *Life*, page 226:—'You ask what is the meaning of Keble's line,—

'Who for the spangles wears the funeral pall?'

He has just said that earth would not be worth having if it were all, even though affection's kiss brightens it often, and then compares those kisses to spangles on the pall. Who would be in a coffin for the pleasure of having a velvet pall with spangles over him? &c. Perhaps the shortest paraphrase would be,—

'Who for "the sake of" the spangles wears the funeral pall?'

G. W. C.

[Many other correspondents have sent explanations—all of them to the same effect.—ED.]

'VICAR,' who some little time ago inquired for a design for an oak chest, would find one in Messrs. Cox and Sons' Church Furniture Catalogue, Southampton Street, Strand, London.

'F. WRIGHT' would be obliged to anyone who can recommend a book of prayers for mothers' meetings.

'W. T. HYATT.'—The building does not appear to possess any special interest.

RECEIVED ALSO.—H. P. H.; Senex; B. M.; A Worker; L. W.; F. C. G.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Belfry Deformation.

SIR,—As a great deal has lately been written on Belfry Reform, I think it is only right that attention should be called, as it has been before, to cases of 'deformation,' if I may use the expression. Two such cases have occurred within the last few years in my neighbourhood, I am sorry to say, and doubtless many more might be found in other parts of the country. The first case I will mention is Tydd St. Mary, Lincolnshire. Here the ropes used to hang down, as Mr. Ellacombe recommends, '*ad pavementum*.' The belfry was then well kept and open to the church; but lately the ringers have been put up into a dusty, noisy chamber under the bells, to gain access to which they have to ascend the spiral staircase nearly as high as the bell-chamber, and then descend into the ringing-room by means of a step-ladder. The tenor rope, which formerly used to hang in the arch opening into the church, thereby giving the ringer room to stand, is now thrown close to the wall, by being taken up so that the ringer cannot stand behind it. I may add, that there used formerly to be a fair company of change-ringers here for a country village, but now they are all disbanded; the bells are never rung, and only chimed by an apparatus. The old belfry is now the vestry.

The other case is that of Moulton, Lincolnshire, where at the restoration of the church, some few years ago, the ringers were put up into the clock-chamber, close under the bells. Here the rope of the fourth bell was thrown close to the wall, and a huge clock-case effectually prevents the second and third ringers from seeing one another. The curate told me that he thought the ringers 'a rough lot,' and 'better up there out of the way,' which only shows how little they are thought of or cared for there.

J. R. JERRAM.

[The curate would have formed a different opinion if he had kindly treated his 'rough lot,' and with regard to the position of the ropes, the bell-hanger don't deserve to do another belfry job.—ED.]

Guild of West Kent Bell-ringers.

THIS new Association held its first meeting at Dartford on June 15th, under the presidency of the Rev. F. S. Forster. Several clergymen and ringers were present: in all about forty. Nothing is reported to us of progress in ringing or belfry reform; but, according to the *Kent Advertiser*, the meeting seems to have been for the enjoyment of a good supper and listening to members' speeches.

Royal Cumberland Society (late London Scholars).

ON Saturday evening, the 30th ult., eight members of this Society rang 5248 changes of Kent Treble Bob Major at St. George's Church, Camberwell, in 3 hrs. 4 mins. The peal performed is a variation by H. Dams on a two-part composition of his own, particulars of which are here given. The band was—G. Newson, 1; J. Gobbett (first peal), 2; D. Stackwood, 3; H. Dams, 4; H. Swain, 5; E. Gibbs, 6; W. Baron, 7; J. Barrett, 8. Conducted by Mr. G. Newson. Tenor, 14 cwt.

N.B.—It is fair to add, that this idea of placing the 6th—viz., retaining her in one position at so many successive course ends—belongs to Mr. W. Harrison of Mottram, although this is the first peal rung with so many titum courses.

THE PEAL.

2	3	4	5	6	M.	B.	W.	H.
6	3	5	4	2	2	—	1	
4	5	3	6	2	1	—	2	
5	4	2	6	3	—	1	2	
4	6	3	2	5	2	—		
6	2	4	5	3	—			
3	4	2	5	6	2	—	1	1
4	5	2	3	6	1	—		
2	5	3	4	6	1	—	1	
5	4	3	2	6	1	—		

THE VARIATION.

2	3	4	5	6	M.	B.	W.	H.
2	6	3	5	4	—	1	1	
5	4	2	6	3	—	2		
5	3	4	6	2	—	1	1	
2	3	5	6	4	—	1		
2	4	3	6	5	—	1	1	
6	2	3	4	5	1	—	2	
2	4	6	5	3	—			
3	2	5	4	6	—	2	2	
4	5	2	3	6	1	—	2	

Change-ringing by the Yorkshire Association.

ON Saturday, the 30th ult., the Society rang at All Saints, Ilkley, 5024 changes of Kent Treble Bob Major, in 2 hrs. 59 mins. C. Ralph, 1; L. Cawood, 2; P. Marston, 3; R. Tuke, Esq., 4; J. Baldwin (first peal), 5; T. Lockwood, 6; J. Barraclough, 7; J. W. Snowdon, Esq., 8. The peal, which has the sixth its extent both ways in 5-6, all the 8 6 7's and 8 9's, was composed by W. Harrison of Mottram, and conducted by Jasper W. Snowdon. Tenor, 18 cwt.

Ringing at Liversedge, Yorkshire.

ON Saturday, the 23rd ult., eight ringers of Liversedge rang a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major, consisting of 5088 changes, in 3 hrs. 4 mins. J. Whitworth, 1; W. Goodall, 2; J. Illingworth, 3; L. Illingworth, 4; G. Illingworth, 5; S. Goodall, 6; A. Briggs, 7; M. Ramsden, 8. The peal was composed by the late Mr. J. Barker, and conducted by W. Goodall.

Opening of a Ring of Six New Bells at Arlesley, Bedfordshire.

ON the 27th ult. the Ancient Society of College Youths had the honour of being appointed to open a new ring of six at Arlesley, cast by Messrs. Warner and Sons. The party were Messrs. Haley, sen. and jun., Cooper, Muskett, Wood, Greenleaf. The tower was consecrated and the morning sermon preached by the Bishop of Ely; that in the evening by the Vicar of Hitchin.

NOTICE.—We advise our ringing friends not to attempt any pleasure peals during these hot summer months. Ringers, metals, timbers, ropes, and the whole gear, are affected by the heat, so as to make ringing a *toil*, and not a *treat* of pleasure.

RECEIVED.—W. B. Fulford, and others. Mr. Keeble has not favoured us with 'copy' in extenso.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

JAMES BARHAM'S BOOK.

By Jasper W. Snowdon, Ilkley, near Leeds.

(Continued from p. 349.)

THESE peals, the first twenty of which were rung with the Lenham Society, at Harriestham, commence with a 5040 of Plain Bob Triples in 1744, and amongst other peals with this Society, Barham rang 10,080 of Double Bob Major in seven hours, in 1746; and in 1747—the first eight-bell peal that we ever rung abroad—was accomplished, being a 5040 of Bob Major at Wingham, in Kent. In 1748, 5040 of 'Fulham Triples,' one of the methods in Annable's book, was completed—and the striking was very fair.' The Wye ringers certainly never found favour in Barham's eyes, as when he rang 5040 of Bob Major at Faversham, in 1749, 'Wye ringers were here at the same time, but rung nothing to talk of at all.' There is an entry to tell that on 'Sunday, January 21st, 1750, we went to London, to ringing, and came home on Thursday.' I always wonder where they went to, and whether they saw Holt, Annable, Reeves, or any of the men whose names we now hold in esteem. It was evidently an event, as it is about the only note in the MS. which does actually relate to peal-ringing.

Prize-ringing was not unknown in Barham's day, as in 1750:—

'There was eight velvet caps of three pounds value rung for at Faversham in Kent, which was carried off by we—the Lenham company—without opposition; but we, to entertain the hearers, rung the following eight different peals methodically thus.'

The number of changes amounted to 5324, and comprised Treble Bob, and variations of Bob Triples and Bob Major, and 'each peal was rung the first trial, and without any bells changing course.' On Whit Monday, 1750, Barham assisted in 10,080 of Bob Major, and in the same year rang in 5040 of the same method—'the first peal ever rung on them bells the new peal,' at Maidstone. A peal of 5040 Bob Major Reverse, rung in 1751, is described as 'The first ever rung in England.' In 1751 a ring of bells seems to have been placed in the church at Lenham, as the following entry shows:—

'On Friday, May 17th, 1751, was rung at Lenham in Kent, 5040 Bob Major in 3 hours 14 minutes, the bells never being all rung before, so that the first change ever rung on them all was the first change of a 5040.'

In November, 1751, he assisted in a peal of 6480 Bob Caters at Leeds, in Kent, which is, however, called 'the method of Bob Major Triples in the tittums;' and in the same month '8100 of ten in.' In December of the same year the performances commence, under the name of the Leeds Youths, the first entry being a peal of 6480 of Bob Caters, and in the following January he assisted in a peal of 7200 of the same method. About this time the Leeds men seem to have been thinking of nothing but long peals, as the two following entries show. What is the reason that the method is not named, and the changes are called 'quadruple and triple changes,' is a mystery to me, unless it can mean that so many changes were rung but that the truth was not vouched for. However, these are the entries as they stand:—

'Saturday, December 30, 1752, was rung at home between fourteen and fifteen thousand Quadruple and Triple changes in 9 hours and 30 minutes.

'On Saturday, fortnight after, being the 13th of January, 1753, was rung 20,160 Quadruple and Triple changes in 13 hours 34 minutes. This being the greatest performance of ringing by several thousand changes. This peal includes Abraham and Thomas Barham.'

After this only one other peal was rung during the same year by Barham, and in 1754 he only recorded two 5000's, but in the following year five peals are entered, viz. on February 10th and 22nd, 5040's of Bob Major, and,—

'Monday, February 24th, 1755, being the day the Wye ringers came to ring us for half-a-guinea a man. We rung 5040 Bob Major in 3 hours 10 minutes, the first trial, and they about 2160 of the same peal, though very badly.'

The remaining peals were, an attempt for the full complement of Bob Major and the return match with the Wye men. The former of these performances is the one owing to which, probably, the name of Barham is now so well known in the ringing world, and shows what prolonged exertion a strong man is capable of enduring. The following are the entries:—

'Monday, March 31st, 1755, we attempted at 40,320 quadruple and Triple changes, Bob Major, and ended thus, viz.:—at 2 o'clock in the afternoon began, and on Tuesday morning at 6 o'clock the 6th bell clapper broke, after ringing 24,800 changes, this never been attempted before, and the greatest performance of ringing ever known. In this peal James Barham stood 14 hours 44 minutes under the 7th bell, drank two glasses of wine and called all the bobs.

'On Monday, May 26th, 1755, was rung at Wye, 5040 changes of Bob Major in 3 hours and 22 minutes, against the ringers of that place for half-a-guinea a man, so we beat them both at Leeds and Wye to the great dishonour of that company.'

In 1756 Barham rang '5040 changes of that hard peal called Court Bob, which was never rung in Kent before,' and '6720 changes called Morning Exercise, in four hours and twenty-one minutes, although a very hard peal, and never rung before,' so it seems that he was an advocate for advancement, and was not contented to ring all his peals in one or two methods.

On Whit Monday, 1760, a peal of 3184 of Oxford Treble Bob Major was rung at St. Mary's, Dover, 'which was the greatest performance of ringing ever done in that steeple, notwithstanding the organ—which is only shifted from the belfry by a light deal partition—played for three quarters of an hour at the latter end of the peal.' Probably many of my readers can recall similar troubles. I remember being 'attacked' by an organ in this way in a peal of Grandsire Triples, but as it was under our feet I think we should have held our own had it not been ably seconded by a band, which sounded as if principally composed of drums, starting in the street.

(To be continued.)

Genuine Compositions, &c.

Sir,—I have nothing to complain of, as regards myself, in the remarks of your correspondent 'Vigilance,' inserted in your issue of the 2nd ult.; in fact, he seems to agree with me upon most of the points I have alluded to in the observations I have thought proper to make, and which you have kindly allowed to appear at various times in the columns of *Church Bells*. Notwithstanding, I beg to take the liberty, Sir, with your permission, of making a few comments on his letter.

First, with reference to the affair at Earlsheaton. In connexion with this, 'Vigilance' desires more information than has been published. What does he require? Mr. George Muskett has informed us that a certain bell was, by some unorthodox manipulation, brought into the hunt in order to force the bells home. That gentleman would not have made such a statement if he had not been satisfied of its correctness. From 'information received' there is not the slightest doubt but that the peal was false; in fact, the occurrence I have just mentioned would prove it to be so. Besides, amidst all the condemnation that has been passed upon it, the gentlemen of Earlsheaton have remained profoundly silent: they have, in fact, allowed judgment to go by default. Would 'Vigilance,' had he been one in the peal, have remained silent if he knew there was not the slightest foundation for such an amount of unfavourable criticism? I think not. I take leave of this subject, hoping never again to have cause to revert to it, unless the Yorkshire gentlemen should prove, to the satisfaction of the exercise, that their peal was true; in which case, no one would be more happy than your humble servant to congratulate them on the event.

Now for the other part of the letter. 'Vigilance,' in referring to such excellent qualities a man may possess as enable him, though outside the steeple, to pick up the course-ends of a peal during its progress, intimates that these abilities, though a great acquisition to the persons themselves, and also to the Society to which they may belong, have been used for the purpose of 'cribbing' the compositions of other composers, who had unsuccessfully attempted to get them rung for the first time. This is a serious accusation against any composer. There seems to be an attack made upon some one here. I trust your correspondent speaks advisedly, but I think that unless he is cognisant himself of the matter he alludes to he ought to have remained silent. Though this letter is written in a friendly spirit towards him, I cannot refrain from saying that, in my humble opinion, it shows very questionable taste on his part in bringing such a subject before the exercise. It is not my province to take up the cudgels on behalf of anyone who is hinted at by the letter of 'Vigilance,' neither do I think it advisable to pursue this subject, especially in the columns of this paper, but will pass on to notice what he proposes as a check to 'these anomalies.' Such a system of registration as he advocates in the fourth paragraph of his letter may answer very well to a certain extent, but I have yet to learn that it would prevent false performances being foisted upon the ringing exercise as genuine peals. Besides, what sort of a time would the editor of *Church Bells* have if his columns were opened to receive productions from all comers? The very idea seems to fill one's mind with dismay. Look at the bastard date touches we should be obliged to have thrust under our very noses; and examples of defunct and 'favourite' touches of that chaotic kind of ringing yelet 'Churchyard Bob' would probably be brought into print by some opinionated professor. That there is room for improvement in this matter, however, I can cordially agree with your correspondent.

In the last paragraph of his letter 'Vigilance' seems inclined to be petulant, because I award compliments too freely. There is an old proverb, something about 'glass houses and throwing stones; let me beg of him to ponder on it. I don't think I uttered anything far from truth. I gladly add my testimony to his with regard to the esteem in which our old friend at St. Clement Danes is held; likewise Mr. John Cox, who has well deserved the compliment just paid him. I could enumerate others if I pleased, but my object in my last was to point out, to those exclusive persons who wish to debar others from the steeple, a gentleman as an example for them to follow, and by their ringing principles to imitate. I pass over lightly no one's endeavours for the benefit of the science, but give, or try to give, everyone his due; but if I unintentionally made what appeared to 'Vigilance' an invidious distinction, may I hope he will not be angry, but suffer me to expiate my offence, which I shall be truly glad to do in any manner he wishes.

One word more. In the last paragraph of his letter he says: 'And never, says the old man' [meaning, I presume, Mr. Cox], 'did I attempt to get possession of another's composition, either by variation or otherwise.' This is negative praise. Has anybody said Mr. Cox did? I have not read anything in any paper accusing that gentleman of appropriating to himself anyone else's compositions. Then why, and to what purpose, is this remark? Has anyone else done so? Let 'Vigilance' speak out, not shelter himself under vague and mysterious innuendos, but come boldly forward and proclaim in plain English who is the individual that has done so, and then take upon his own shoulders alone the responsibility of the accusation; having a care, however, that he 'hits the right nail on the head.' VIGORNIENSIS.

Meeting of the Yorkshire Association of Ringers.

On Saturday, July 7th, the quarterly meeting of this Society was held at Calverley, near Leeds, when there was a large attendance of ringers, and a most pleasant day was passed. During the morning eight of the officers rang 5024 changes of Kent Treble Bob Major at the church (St. Winifred's), in 2 hrs. 54 mins. J. Lockwood, 1; H. Hubbard, jun., 2; W. Whitaker, 3; R. Tuke, Esq., 4; W. Elliott, 5; T. Lockwood, 6; C. Jackson, 7; J. W. Snowdon, Esq., 8. The peal, which has the 6th twelve times home and nine times wrong in 5-6, was composed and conducted by T. Lockwood. Tenor, 10½ cwt.

During the afternoon committee and general meetings took place; the President, Jasper W. Snowdon, Esq., occupying the chair. The October meeting was appointed to be held at Haley Hill, Halifax. Votes of thanks to the Vicar and Churchwardens of Calverley for the use of the bells, and to the Calverley ringers for their preparations and kind hospitality, were passed.

Guild Notice.

THE Change-ringers of Newcastle-on-Tyne, Hurworth-on-Tees, North Shields, and neighbourhood, will hold a meeting in the city of Durham on Monday, July 16th, for the purpose of forming a Guild for the two counties of Durham and Northumberland, when some influential gentlemen are expected to attend. All ringers in the district are kindly invited.

Theophilus Lynch.

SIR,—Theophilus Trinel Lynch, the author of those quaint and suggestive *Letters to the Scattered*, so deservedly praised by 'I. R. V.' in *Church Bells* of July 7th, was an Independent minister, and died about six years ago. He preached at Mornington Church, in the Hampstead Road, to a small congregation of devoted adherents; and his reputation, deep if not wide, attracted occasional hearers of various communions, including some well-known literary men. I, for one, think him the best preacher I have ever heard. His published sermons do no justice to the way in which his thoughts worked themselves out before his hearers, and his hands, his pain-worn face, his whole body, seemed to join in their utterance. His preaching was most suggestive, without being dogmatic; he put living words into men's minds and souls, and there they worked as seeds of Christian hope. Men, who would not be found at any other place of worship, who laughed at orthodoxy, there received unconsciously the germs of renewed life. I cannot think of any other London preacher whose sermons have been so germinative. And he was a delightful spiritual poet. One of his hymns is in the *Book of Praise*; but the *Rivulet* contains many better than this one, some full of quaint beauty, and others overflowing with passionate zeal and sympathy. I know some receptive poets who like some of these religious poems better than any in the *Christian Year*. When he died, an appreciative notice of his work appeared in the *Spectator*; indeed, his great worth had long been recognised in that paper. His biography has been written, but it is disfigured by too much polemical matter. This notice may be of use to your readers.

H. J. BULKELEY.

Letchwick, Evesham.

P.S.—The *Rivulet* is, or at least was, published by Longmans.

Poor Livings.

SIR,—I am too poor even to take in *Church Bells*, but a kind friend sends it to me. I have to-day received the number for July 14. Speaking of the income of the Vicar of Leverington you say, 'The benefice, which is stated to be of the value of £350l. a-year, is one of those which by some are regarded as coveted prizes, by others as blemishes in the financial system of the Church, which should be remedied as soon as possible by a distribution of income more in accordance with the distribution of population.' At the end of the same number is an appeal in aid of 'the Church of England Incumbents' Sustentation Fund,' and this appeal states that nearly 4000 benefices have an income of less than 200l. Now, a large number of these are in the gift of the Bishops. Passing over private livings, can nothing be done towards equalising the incomes of the livings in public patronage? I hold a Bishop's living; population 900; parish about four miles long; no one to help me; income 100l. All my people are poor, save and except one man, and he has contributed 5l. towards our Church work. By dint of hard work we have managed to put our church in order, and get an organ, the cost of the whole being 444l., of which sum only 35l. could be raised in the parish. Some little interest attaches to the church, as it was, I believe, the second built as the result of the 'Oxford Movement.' We must enlarge our churchyard very shortly. We have the ground; still, there must be a heavy expense for walling and levelling. My people cannot meet the expense, neither can I. What is to be done? Am I to tell my poor folk that 'we are full, and they must go for a resting-place for their dead to the Wesleyan burial-ground at the other end of the village?' If my income were 200l. instead of 100l., this difficulty would not be staring us in the face, neither would some of my poor folk have to go to the neighbouring clergy for the help I cannot give them. I must resign, and hope that the Bishop will give the living to a rich man who can pay all such expenses: but how hard that I should be compelled to do this! I am glad to say that my people do not wish me to leave them. We are happy together, and they are continually asking me if 'in a rich Church like ours nothing can be done to help us.' I am convinced that such instances as this are encouraging the poor to indulge very hard thoughts against those who govern the Church. I enclose my card.

G. T. C.

Fees.

SIR,—The following is a list of fees I am requested to pay on institution to a benefice of 150l. per annum:—

Preparing presentation ..	£3	2	0
Vicar-General or Chancellor ..	0	16	8
Registrar ..	2	2	4
Secretaries ..	1	4	0
Apparitor ..	0	3	6
Sealer ..	0	4	6
Record Keeper ..	0	2	6
Paid parchment, postages, &c. ...	0	3	8
	£9	10	2

This may be news to some who are obliged to consider whether it is prudent to take a benefice of the above value. Of the officials, one secretary alone appeared on the scene at institution.

A VICAR.

Hint to Country and Seaside Churches.

SIR,—I have been visiting a small watering-place on the east coast of Yorkshire, and whilst exploring the place and seeking out the churches, of which there are two, I looked, but looked in vain, for a list of the services, hours for service, &c. This omission induces me to ask you if I may be allowed to suggest that strangers should be informed everywhere, by means of boards suitably placed, of the various times for services, &c. It would be a great boon, and would, no doubt, induce many persons to attend, who from want of such information cannot do so, and perhaps find out, when they are on the point of leaving, that they have lost opportunities they would otherwise have gladly embraced. I speak from experience over and over again.

FARNEST.

Books Wanted.

AN effort, as yet in its infancy, is being made for the neglected police force in the Mauritius, by Mrs. Prince, the invalid widow of their late super-

intendent, and daughter of the missionary, Rev. P. Ansoergé. She would be grateful for copies of the *Parish Magazine*, *Hand and Heart*, *British Workman*, *Leisure Hour*, *Sunday Reading for the Young*, *Chatterbox*, *The Prize*, for men and their families; either sent out monthly to her at Plaisance, Rose Hill, Mauritius, or directed to her, care of Mrs. Malaher (who will forward them once a-year), 5 Tyndale Place, Upper Street, Islington. Information about the work will be gladly given by Miss Clark, 3 Upper Rock Gardens, Brighton.

Haymaking Drink.

SIR,—On this subject, which has drawn forth several letters in your columns lately, I should like to call your attention to a pamphlet, *Hard Work in the Fields in Hot Weather*, published by J. Kempster & Co., St. Bride's Avenue, Fleet Street, price one penny.

W. G.

Liverpool.

SIR,—I send a receipt, which may be either the same as 'C. H. B.' means, with fuller directions, or equally good: it is called 'Skilley.' Take a gallon of water, and three ounces of coarse oatmeal. Throw the oatmeal into boiling water, with white sugar to taste. Let it boil an hour and strain it off. When cold, add orange or lemon juice to taste. Rhubarb, currants, apples, or any fruit, could be used to flavour, and the peel of orange or lemon will do if boiled in the skilley.

L. L.

Woodspen, Newbury.

'D. C. L.' will feel obliged if any reader of *Church Bells* can inform him whether it would be more advantageous to offer a benefaction to Queen Anne's Bounty or the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, by way of augmenting a living of 200l. per annum, with three separate churches. The living is in private patronage.

SIR,—Can you inform me of a Home or Institution where a poor person of the following description could be received? She is a blind woman, middle-aged, in utterly destitute circumstances, and in weak health; lately become a widow. I should be most grateful for any information on this subject. Answer to be sent to F. B., 18 Pembroke Road, Kensington, W.

'R. B.' on July 7, mentions Baker's *Laws relating to Burial*, but will he kindly next week give the price and publisher's name?—A COUNTRY VICAR.

'A READER of *Church Bells*,' who asks about Confirmation and makes reflections on 'clergymen who are strong sticklers for such portions of the rubrics as fall in with their own views,' is referred to the rubric at the end of the Confirmation Office, as laying down the rule which directs that the Holy Communion be not, except in a specified case, administered to the unconfirmed. If they are ready and desirous to be confirmed they would be admitted; if they are not ready and desirous they would be excluded; and probably most Church people would agree that those who would not accept this Apostolical rite could hardly be fit recipients of the Sacrament.

'H. G.'—It is very desirable that the work of which you write should be prosecuted, and there are societies and individuals who make it their special object. The Girls' Friendly Society takes up, as you observe, a different branch, for which experience has shown that there was a great opening; and the results have, we believe, been very happy.

'E. M. S.' informs 'J. P. S.' that *Cottage Readings in Genesis* is published by S. W. Partridge, Paternoster Row.

RECEIVED ALSO.—G. Ryan; P. S. P.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

JAMES BARHAM'S BOOK.

By Jasper W. Snowdon, Ilkley, near Leeds.

(Concluded from p. 387.)

In 1761 two wonderful performances were recorded, but, unfortunately, only the following very scanty particulars are given:—

'Easter Monday, March 28, 1761, we attempted to ring at home 40,320 of Bob Major, but had the misfortune to overturn a bell after ringing 17,000 changes.

'TO THE HONOUR OF THE LEEDS YOUTHS. On Tuesday April 7th and 8th, 1761, they attempted at that surprising undertaking to ring the whole peal of Bob Major, consisting of 40,320 changes, being the total number of changes upon eight bells, which was completed in 27 hours with only fourteen men, viz—

James Barham.	William Davis.	James Hampton.
Thomas Barham.	William Attwood.	Edward Cook.
Abraham Barham.	Thomas Lacy.	Stephen Bayley.
William Tibby.	John Crisp.	And John Barnah.
Henry Tibby.	Richard Masters.	

From a copy of a newspaper cutting which Mr. G. H. Barnett kindly forwarded to *Church Bells*, November 13th, 1875, it will be remembered that the occasion of the ringing of the 40,320 was when the Hon. Robert Fairfax and Sir W. Knatchbull, Bart. were chosen as members of Parliament.

On Christmas Day, 1762, he rang 6720 of Court Bob, 'the most extraordinary thing of its kind ever done'; and a similar peal is entered as having been rung at Harrietsham a short time after, 'notwithstanding its difficult and abstruse method.' A peal of Oxford Treble Bob, 'on that celebrated peal of eight bells at Ashford,' is entered with this observation, 'The truest and best ringing I ever heard for so long a time. Wye ringers, at the same time, was there, and rung a short bit or two, but very badly indeed.' On January 20th, 1765, there was rung by the men at Leeds 6720 of Court Bob, ten in, 'this being the most of this method yet rung.' It would, therefore, be very interesting if, at this time, we could tell which variety of Court Bob the ringing was in. On February 2nd in the same year, the same men rang '5400 complete changes of a Treble Bob peal Ten In, called Morning Pleasure,' and on Whit Monday they 'attempted to ring 10,080 changes Oxford Treble Bob ten in, and rung about 6000 and lost it.' In the following year 'was rung at home 5056 changes of Morning Exercise.'

During 1707-8 Barham did not ring in a peal, in 1709 only in one peal, in 1770 he rang in three peals, and in 1771 he recorded seven. One of the peals rung in 1770 was 'at Sevenoaks, the first trial—5184 changes of Oxford Treble Bob,' and the following note is appended to the record:—

'N.B. The College Youths rung at the same time 5056 of the same peal in 3 hours 22 minutes, but they turned 5 bells out of course, which is not all owned.'

Amongst the records for 1773 is 5088 of Treble Bob rung at Bromley, which has the following note:—

'This is the first long peal ever rung on them bells, though there has been two companies from London to try.'

Another of the peals rung in that year by thirteen men, was:—

'19,440 of Bob Major in 7 hours and 36 minutes. This being one third of the 40,320, and includes all the 18's, and the 678, and the 5678's.'

In 1774 a peal of '5088 complete changes of New Oxford Treble Bob,' to which is added, 'and never rung before,' is recorded. This is evidently Kent Treble Bob, of which many peals were afterwards rung by the Leeds Youths in the following years. The next peal of interest is one which, some time ago, I alluded to in these columns:—

'Monday, 1st January, 1781, was rung at home 5040 changes of Bob Major in 3 hours 13 minutes, by the following young boys, and their ages:—

Age, years.	Age, years.	Age, years.
Henry Tilby ... 61	Abraham Barham ... 65	James Barham ... 55
Richard Masters ... 55	John Crisp ... 55	Thomas Lacy ... 53
Thomas Barham ... 58	John Freeland ... 69	

All their ages amount to 491 years.'

The average age is, therefore, nearly 61½ years. In 1784 Barham rang in three peals of New Oxford Treble Bob ten in, to one of which—5760 at Maidstone, on November 8th, 1784—this remark is appended:—'This peal was never rung before, only by the Leeds Youths.' This is rather indefinite, as it may apply either to the method or the number of changes. The following entry is next recorded:—

'Monday, 15th November, 1784.—At Maidstone the College Youths rung 5040 changes of Old Oxford Treble Bob in 3 hours 40 minutes.'

On Tuesday, 25th December, 1792, James Barham, William Davis, and Thomas Lacy, with five others, rang in a peal of 5088 Treble Bob at home, and the following day the same company rang the same peal at Lenham. These peals were evidently rung so that the next record might be the 100th peal which James Barham performed; and when it is noticed that his two friends also took part in this peal, it will, I think, be allowed, that for men aged respectively one 67 and two 65 years the three peals in eight days made a very creditable performance. The following is the performance alluded to, the average age of the performers being nearly 73 years:—

'Tuesday, 1st January, 1793, was rung at home 5040 changes of Bob Major in 3 hours 12 minutes by:—

Years.	Years.	Years.
Samuel Grayling ... 82	William Davis ... 65	Thomas Lacy ... 65
Thomas Barham ... 70	James Hunt ... 70	James Barham ... 67
Abraham Barham ... 77		James Freeland ... 86

The whole making 582 years. This peal completes the hundred rang at several places by James Barham.'

By reference to the tablet, previously given, which describes this peal, it will be seen that it is there stated that John Freeland rang in it. Now, in the Veterans' peal on January 1st, 1781, John Freeland was 69 years of age, and if it was the same man as is here called James, he would be 81 years old, and the united ages would be 577, as stated on the tablet, which is an average of a little over 73 years for each man.

On June 3rd, 1796, Barham rang in 10,080 of Treble Bob, when he would, therefore, be 70 years old. In the peals recorded about this time there is one thing which will, I suppose, always be found in the records of any heavy-bell ringer who continues to ring until he is well advanced in life; that is, his name begins to be found more frequently amongst the light bells. During all his earlier peals Barham nearly always rang the seventh bell, and now and then, but very seldom, the tenor; still he was always towards the heavy end; but as he grew older nature would not be denied, and he began to take his place very frequently at the treble, and the names with which his performances used to be associated gradually disappear from the lists and other generations take their places. I also notice in the peals I have before me that one or two are inserted which are not given in the list that was printed during the life of Barham; both, however, agree with regard to the two following, which are the last I shall quote, being, indeed, the last in which James Barham rang:—

'Monday, 18th December, 1809, was rung at home 5184 changes of Oxford Treble Bob in 3 hours 16 minutes, by:—

Jas. Bolden, 46, fourth;	Thos. Austin, 74, seventh
Thos. Barham, 84, first;	Mr. Sweetlove, 49, fifth;
Thos. Bigg, 45, second;	Geo. Tilby, 62, tenor.
Wm. Tilby, 73, third;	Benj. Bottle, 46, sixth;

All these ages added together, 479 years.

'Monday, 25th October, 1813.—The Leeds Youths, to exercise five young hands, rung a complete peal of 5040 changes of Bob Major in 3 hours 12 minutes, by—James Barham, 88, 1; Richd. Gibbon, 2; Thos. Bigg, sen. 3; Wm. Holland, 4; Jas. Bolden, 5; Jas. Holland, 6; Thos. Bigg, jun. (called the Bobs), 7; and Thos. Cook, tenor.'

At the end of the book is written:—

'James Barham died January 14th, 1818, aged 93 years.

'The aforesaid peals were copied from James Barham's book, written by himself, into a book by John Naunton, of Ipswich, 1866. The book was lent him by a person at Maidstone.'

Genuine Compositions, &c.

SIR,—I gladly recognise and heartily reciprocate the friendly expressions by 'Vigorniensis' in his letter of the 14th inst. I observe also in this letter a kind of negative interest: he don't intend to defend anyone, and yet by the time he reaches the end of his letter he fights furiously. He questions my taste at bringing this matter before the exercise. And then asks, Who is the offending individual? closing his letter with a caution to myself.

Well now, at the outset, let me tell him in a friendly way, that as a gentleman he must allow me to speak in my own way: 'oblique fashion,' if he so chooses to term it, for I don't mind. Concerning 'the nail'—well, I think I have not only hit the right one, but driven it nearly home, where I intend to

leave it—for a time, anyhow. Should this not please 'Vigorniensis,' let him finish the work. I think he could do it—perhaps better than myself; anyhow, I know he cannot say I invented the story. I beg also to tell him, that by his mention of negative praise, in my opinion that praise has become positive, and therefore I say, 'Well done, Vigorniensis!'

His careful regard for compositions, legitimate or illegitimate, coming in contact with the Editor's nose, is ludicrous in the extreme; and although I have been a ringer all my life, I never heard of but one composition or touch on Churchyard Bob: that, I believe, was left in Dundee, for the edification of a promising young band of ringers of that place, some time ago, and therefore I doubt if any fear can be apprehended on that score. I confess, however, that I don't understand that method; but I am told that it contains some most musical changes, although he speaks of it in such a burlesque manner.

As to my taste—well, really, I thought I had, anyhow I tried, to suit both my taste and palate to his in what I said, and if I have failed I am sorry; but 'one cannot please everybody.' Taste, moreover, appears to change at times, especially when one's appetite is appeased.

Amongst his exclamations at the close of his letter, 'Vigorniensis' says, 'Has any one else?' To this I answer as follows:—Let my friend refer to Mr. Banister's work on Change-ringing, and he will find amongst others a peal of Triples obtained by means of bobs only. Then let him refer to Shipway, page 60, 3rd vol., there he will find the same peal, the 'Ne plus ultra.' Then let him turn to page 135 of the same work, and the 6720 rung by the Cumberlands at St. Giles, Camberwell, is the same peal as the last two of that number to be found on page 88 of the latest work on the science. Don't shut Shipway without looking at page 153. There he will find a peal of Treble Bob Royal, the extent in nine courses, rung by the Cumberlands at St. Mary-le-Bow, composed by Jno. Reeves, and is a very old one, being in the *Clavis*. 1788. That, I have to inform my friend, is the same peal as was rung at Fulham on the 16th ult., printed by its course-ends in *Church Bells* of the 23rd ult. He may think it strange, but it is so. Others could be mentioned. Whether these peals were obtained by the variation process I will not pretend to say; but I do say that old birds are not easily caught. A lesson or two on this point has appeared in *Church Bells*: let me advise my friend and his companions to study them before I am again questioned. Now I think I have made out my case for registering peals; but as to ringing false ones, let me tell my friend that until all men grow honest he will never put that matter straight.

VIGILANCE.

Anniversary of the Ancient Society of College Youths.

THE Ancient Society of College Youths celebrated their 240th anniversary at Hertford, on the 14th inst. During the day several pieces were rung at St. Andrew's, by permission of the Rev. W. Wigram, Rector, and at All Saints, by leave of the Rev. T. Lingley, Vicar. The Rector of Ware sent an invitation to ring on his bells, but the unfavourable state of the weather prevented the company availing themselves of his kind offer. Mr. Mash presided (in the unavoidable absence of the Master), and gave a short account of the Society's transactions during the past year. The company returned to London highly pleased with their outing.

Muffled Bells at St. Clement Danes, London.

ON Monday, 9th ult., the bells of this church were rung muffled, as a last token of respect to the late G. Stockham, son of Mr. George Stockham, steeple-keeper of the church. The ringers were:—J. Cox, 1; R. French, 2; J. T. Knight, 3; C. T. Hopkins, 4; W. Chew, 5; D. Lovett, 6; T. Essex, 7; S. Hayhurst, 8; E. Gibbs, 9; E. Albone, 10. Conducted by Mr. John Cox.

Muffled Peal at St. George-the-Martyr, Southwark.

ON Sunday, the 24th ult., seven members of the Society of Southwark Youths, assisted by Mr. D. Stackwood of the Camberwell ringers, rang a muffled touch, as a last mark of respect to their Rector, the Rev. Hugh Allen, D.D., who died at the age of 71 years. G. Woodage (conductor), 1; D. Stackwood, 2; H. Langdon, 3; S. Savidge, 4; J. Fisher, 5; H. Welsh, 6; J. Green, 7; H. Goodman, 8.

Change-ringing at Feckenham, Worcestershire.

ON Saturday, the 30th ult., several members of the St. Martin's Society of Change-ringers, Birmingham, visited Feckenham, and rang at the parish church Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, containing 5040 changes, in 2 hrs. 50 mins. W. Bryant, 1; H. Johnson, jun., 2; J. Buffery, 3; W. Small, 4; W. Kent, 5; H. Bastable, 6; F. H. James, 7; J. Ward, 8. Conducted by Mr. H. Bastable. Tenor about 13 cwt.

Norwich Diocesan Association of Change-ringers.

A MEETING of the Committee was held in Norwich on Saturday, July 14th, when eleven honorary members were elected and the following companies received into union with the Association:—Alburgh, Aylsham, Brockdish, East Dereham, Diss, North Elmham, Garboldisham, Grundisburgh, Hockwoldcum-Wilton, Loddon, Lynn, Marsham, Norwich (St. Peter, Mancroft), Pulham St. Mary, Worstead. G. F. W. Meadows, Esq. and the Rev. H. J. Coleman were added to the Committee. The Annual Meeting was fixed for September 24th, when it is expected that there will be a strong muster of ringers, and it is hoped, some first-class ringing.

G. H. HARRIS, *Hon. Sec.*

Guild of Devonshire Ringers.

THE Anniversary Festival will be held at St. Mary-Church, Devon, on Monday, 23rd July, on which occasion a new ring of eight bells, by Messrs. Warner, hung by Hooper and Stokes of Woodbury, will be dedicated, and rung for the first time by members of the Guild of Devonshire Ringers. Holy Communion celebrated at 8 a.m. Morning Service, with special Office of Dedication, 11; Preacher, the Lord Bishop of the Diocese. Evening Service, 7; Preacher, the Ven. Archdeacon Woolcombe. The offertories throughout the day will be for the Bells Fund, about 100l. being required.

offices of the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge, 48 Piccadilly. At page 122 of the pamphlet Dr. Parkes gives the following receipt:—

"The proportions are a $\frac{1}{4}$ lb. of oatmeal to two or three quarts of water, according to the heat of the day and the work and thirst; it should be well boiled, and then an ounce or one and a half ounces of brown sugar added. If you find it thicker than you like, add three quarts of water. Before you drink it shake up the oatmeal well through the liquid. In summer, drink this cold; in winter, hot. You will find it not only quenches thirst, but will give you more strength and endurance than any other drink. If you cannot boil it, you can take a little oatmeal mixed with cold water and sugar, but this is not so good; always boil it if you can. If at any time you have to make a very long day, as in harvest, and cannot stop for meals, increase the oatmeal to $\frac{1}{2}$ lb., or even $\frac{3}{4}$ lb., and the water to three quarts, if you are likely to be very thirsty. If you cannot get oatmeal, wheat-flour will do, but not quite so well."

"The 'Curate' will find many other hints given in this excellent little work by Dr. Parkes, who was one of the most eminent physicians this country ever produced. Country clergymen will find it most valuable."

'1 Walton Place, Chelsea, S.W., July 19.

JOHN COLEBROOK.

'Theophilus Trinal Lynch.'

THIS heading of a letter, which appeared in our last, may lead others into the same mistake into which we confess we were led ourselves. Mr. Lynch's name was Thomas Toke Lynch: Theophilus Trinal was the name of one of his works. The correspondent who is so good as to set us right on this point gives us two extracts from Mr. Lynch's memoirs, which are beautiful enough to make one wish to read the whole work. We subjoin them:—

'What a delight to wake up in another world with a *Man's Mind* and a *Child's Heart*!'

'I have often thought, that as we commonly say that there is *no rose without a thorn*, we might, in relation to God's providence, more truly say, there is *no thorn without a rose*.'

Flower-growing in Towns.

SIR,—Could you, or some of your readers, oblige me with some rules and hints for getting up and managing a Flower-growing Society in the midst of a large town?

B. S. E.

[You should send your name and address for publication, that what you want may be sent to you.—ED.]

'AN EX-VICAR' omits to state whether the charges of which he complains were previous or subsequent to the recent Ecclesiastical Fees Act.

If 'F. W. W.' will repeat his query, with name and address, so that answers may be sent to him direct, it shall be inserted.

RECEIVED ALSO.—G. Ryan, a working man; A Layman; A diligent Reader.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Fulham Peal.

SIR,—In your last issue an anonymous correspondent writes,—'That, I have to inform my friend, is the same peal as was rung at Fulham on the 16th ult.' I herewith place the peals in juxtaposition:—

REEVES.					HALEY.				
5	6	3	4	2	1	2	2	2	5
6	4	5	2	3	2	2	—	—	3
2	6	4	3	5	2	2	2	2	4
3	2	6	5	4	2	2	2	2	6
5	4	2	6	3	1	2	2	2	5
6	5	4	3	2	2	2	2	2	3
3	6	5	2	4	2	2	2	2	6
2	3	6	4	5	2	2	2	2	3
2	3	4	5	6	2	2	1	—	2

I contend that the peals are not like each other: should any person think they are alike, let him sign his name, the same as

WILLIAM COOTER.

52 Jane Street, E.

Ringling at Spalding, Lincolnshire.

On Thursday, the 5th inst., the Fleet ringers visited Spalding. Under the leadership of Mr. J. R. Jerram they rang one or two peals of Grandsire Doubles and two or three of Singles, tenors behind. This was followed by a half-peal of Dixon's Variations by the Spalding ringers, after which both companies adjourned to the Vicarage, where, by the kindness and liberality of the Vicar (the Rev. Canon Moore, M.A.), they had dinner, after which ringing was resumed and continued till six o'clock. Before the company broke up Mr. Jerram suitably thanked the Vicar for the kindness and hospitality shown them on their first visit to Spalding.

Opening of the Augmented Ring of Bells at Beeston, Nottinghamshire.

Two Trebles having been added to the original ring of six, the Society of Sherwood Youths (St. Mary's ringers, Nottingham) opened these bells by ringing, on the 9th inst., Mr. John Holt's ten-part peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples, containing 98 bobs and 2 singles, in 2 hrs. 59 mins. The ringers were:—A. Archer, 1; G. H. Johnson, 2; J. Hickman, 3; G. Ashworth, 4; W. Holroyd, 5; W. Widdowson, 6; A. Smith, 7; A. W. Sadler, 8. Conducted by Mr. G. H. Johnson. The bells are from the foundry of Messrs. Taylor and Son, Loughborough. Tenor, 19 cwt.

Progress of Change-ringing at West Hallam, Derbyshire.

On Saturday evening, the 14th inst., six members of the newly-formed Society of Change-ringers, Long Eaton, visited the above place, and rang three six-course peals of Grandsire Doubles (360 changes), being the first change-ringing that has taken place since the bells were augmented from three to six.

Change-ringing at St. Paul's, Shadwell, Middlesex.

On Monday, the 16th inst., eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang at the above church Mr. J. Holt's one-part peal of Grandsire Triples, with two singles in the last four leads, containing 5040 changes, in 2 hrs. 58 mins. J. Russell, 1; T. Horton, 2; H. Page, 3; W. Greenleaf, 4; T. Benney, 5; F. Bate, 6; J. Pettit, 7; S. Reeves, 8. Conducted by Mr. J. Pettit.

Change-ringing by the Yorkshire Association at Guiseley.

On Saturday, the 21st inst., the Society rang at St. Oswald's, Guiseley, 5024 changes of Bob Major in 2 hrs. 58 mins. J. Barraclough, 1; R. Tuke, Esq., 2; F. Maston, 3; D. E. Rhodes, 4; J. Baldwin, 5; J. Yeadon, 6; L. Cawood, 7; J. W. Snowdon, Esq., 8. The peal, which has the sixth 22 course-ends wrong and 22 right, was composed by J. Barker, Liversedge, and conducted by Jasper W. Snowdon. Tenor, 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ cwt.

RECEIVED.—A Wanstead Ringer; Bob Major; W. Everett. Inquirer will be answered direct.

BELFRY RECORDS.

WELLINGBORO', NORTHAMPTON. (Tablet in the Belfry.)

915. On a square stone inserted in the wall of this steeple is to be seen the following inscription:—

Peter Horn.	Richard Hodges.	Daniel Page.
William Page.	John Page.	Thomas Aller.

These were y^r first, then, with a nod,

That on these bells learned Grandsire Bob.—1741.

The weight of the tenor, or sixth bell, is 20 cwt.; they hang in two tiers.

TROWBRIDGE, WILTS. (Tablet in the Belfry.)

916. TUESDAY, March 28, 1826, was rung in this Tower Holt's esteemed Peal of Grandsire Triples, in ten changes with two singles, containing 5040 changes, completed in three hours and sixteen minutes, by the following youths of this town, viz.:—

James Bendall, Conductor of the Peal, First.	John Wicks, Third.	Jacob Hawkins, Sixth.
William Dyer, Second.	James Pollard, Fourth.	William Drowett, Seventh.
	Isaac Parsons, Fifth.	James Earle, Tenor.

ALDBOURNE, HUNGERFORD, BERKSHIRE.

(Tablets in the Belfry.)

917. MAY 3rd, 1791, was rung 5040 Grandsire Triples, By

John North, Tripple.	Levi Pizze, Fourth.	Broom Witts, Sixth.
William Gwyn, Second.	Wm. Lawrence, Fifth, called	James Wells, Seventh.
Edw. Witts, Third.	Bobs.	Joseph Orchard, Tenor.

3 hrs. 28 mins.

918. JANUARY 21st, 1806, Was Rung the Peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples by

John North, Tripple.	Thomas Shepherd, Fourth.	James Bridgeman, Sixth.
Levi Pizze, Second.	called the Bobs.	William Flower, Seventh.
Stephen Wentworth, Third.	Mark Brown, Fifth.	Joseph Dennis, Tenor.

3 hrs. 18 mins.

919. THE Peal of 5040 Grandsire triplices was rung March 20th, again, March 27th, 1837.

By James Barrett, Tripple.	John Baxter, Fourth.	March 28th.
James Palmer, Second.	William Andrews, Fifth.	George Barrett, Tenor.
William Taylor, Third, called the Bobs.	Joseph Palmer, Sixth.	March 27th.
	James Smith, Seventh.	John Beesley, Tenor.

3 hrs. 20 mins. 3 hrs. 15 mins.

BELBROUGHTON, WORCESTERSHIRE.

(Tablet in the Belfry.)

920. On Tuesday, April 29th, 1862, was rung in this tower three successive peals of 720 each, by following methods:—Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob, and Plain Bob, containing 2160 changes in the short space of an hour and twenty minutes, by following persons:—

Mr. C. Goodyer, Treble.	John Bate, Third.	R. Bate, Fifth.
James Bate, Second.	Edwd. Hatton, Fourth.	James Higgs, Tenor.

This noble art and science despised by the ignorant.

HAWORTH, YORKSHIRE. (Tablets in the Belfry.)

921. This peal of bells was rung by Wm. Wood, Joseph Redman being architect, and were opened and prizes given, March 10th, 1846.

CHANGE-RINGING.

922. On April 6, 1849, the following persons, viz.:—Thomas Bland, treble; John Redman, 2; Edwin Feather, 3; Robert Brown, 4; Joseph Redman (Clerk), 5th; John Brown (Sexton), Tenor, ascended this tower and rang seven Treble Bob peals: viz. Primrose, College Treble, Kent, New London, Oxford, Violet, and Duke of York. In all, 5040 changes, in 2 hours 55 minutes. The peal was ably conducted by Thomas Bland.

923. On November 22, 1853, A company of Haworth ringers, in 3 hours and 6 minutes, rang on these bells the following peals: viz. Cambridge Surprise, College Treble, Tulip, College Pleasure, City Delight, Primrose, and London Scholars' Pleasure, making in the aggregate 5040 changes, which were performed in a masterly style by the following persons: viz. John Stoney, Treble; Enoch Brown, 2; John Hartley, 3; Robert Brown, 4; William Redman, 5; John Redman, Tenor. The peal was ably conducted by John Redman.

LEEDS, YORKSHIRE. (Tablets in the Belfry.)

924. RE-INSTATED at the expense of the Leeds Youths, 1860 [i.e. repainted, &c.].

By Leeds Youths were rung:

On Thursday, Dec. 12, 1751, 6480 Changes of Bob Caters in the Titum position, in 4 hours 18 mins. by, viz:

Thos. Lacey, Treble.	Henry Tilby, Fourth.	Edwd. Cook, Eighth.
James Hampton, Second.	John Crispe, Fifth.	Wm. Hattwood, Ninth.
Edwd. Mason, Third.	James Barham, Sixth.	Wm. Davis, Tenor.
	Robt. Smith, Seventh.	

On Jan. 25, 1752, 7200 Changes of Bob Royal, in 4 hours 40 mins. This peal includes James Barham.

On Jan. 19, 1758, 20,160 quadruple and triple changes, in 13 hours 34 mins., being the greatest performance of change-ringing ever known, by several thousands. This peal includes John Freeland, James Barham, Sen., and James Barham, Jun.

There is a small memorial board in Leeds tower very illiterately inscribed as follows:—925. To James Barham, a Leeds Youth, who from the year 1744 to 1804 assisted in ringing one peal of 40,320* changes, two of 20,000, six of 10,000, and one hundred & twelve peals of 500 and upwards. In one of the above peals he stood 14 hours and 44 mins. The peals were of different sorts. The above peals were rung by 61 different men, at several times; he has rung 2 peals of 12 bells. 5 of ten, 36 of 8 bells, 29 of 6 bells. Forty-one of the peals were rung at other places to the honour of the Leeds youths.

* On James Barham's tombstone (he died in 1812, and the stone was probably put about that time) it is thus stated: 'He assisted in ringing 40320 Bob Major on Leeds bells in 27 hours, without any date to the performance.'

perhaps obtained by comparing the distinctly Protestant districts of Ireland with the almost exclusively Roman Catholic parts of the same country, the returns for 1870 and 1871 proving the superior morality of the latter in the proportion of the figures 19 to 96.

Mr. Chambers also makes an interesting quotation from one who was certainly not a Ritualist, for he wrote in 1790. With your leave I will transfer a very few words to your columns:—'It has been oftentimes the subject of complaint that no people are so prone to the crime of *suicide* as the English, and this has been more frequently observed of late years. . . . Many have also inquired why it should be so prevalent here, while it is not at all so on the Continent. Amidst the various sources which combine to produce this great evil, there is one that strikes me in a very forcible manner as having swept away the only powerful remedy ever provided for preventing wounded minds from sinking into despair and the gulf of perdition.' That remedy, he says, is Auricular Confession; and he adds that he is not a Papist because he sees some of the evils which have grown out of the Reformation. 'Amongst these disadvantages I cannot help reckoning the abolishing of Confession, which a careful observation of human nature must have declared necessary, salutary, and every way beneficial.'

I hope *Church Bells* and its supporters will yet be led to say the same.

St. Paul's, Brighton, July 31st, 1877.

T. OWEN S. DAVIES.

Haymaking Drink.

SIR,—You probably thought that, having received from another correspondent directions for making skilley, whose communication you inserted, it was unnecessary to insert mine, which was in some degree to the same effect. As, however, 'A. F. H.' in your impression of the 14th July, requested me to inform him how the skilley was made, I should like him to know that I was not guilty of the discourtesy of not answering his inquiry. I would wish, also, to point out that, though the skilley may be made with coarse oatmeal, it is made with much less trouble with fine oatmeal. I tried at first with the coarse, and it then took nearly two hours' boiling, and had at last to be carefully strained. I now mix the fine, in the first instance, with from half a pint to a pint of cold water, added gradually, and then pour it into hot water and boil for about ten minutes. Thus made it requires no straining. The 'Parishioner of Hatfield Broad Oak' advocates cold coffee; but, as pointed out in the letter which you reprint from the *Guardian* in your last impression, the oatmeal drink not only quenches the thirst, but 'gives more strength and endurance' than such drinks as tea and coffee. To quote the remark of my haymakers, 'It is meat and drink too.'

C. H. B.

[Our only reason for not inserting your reply to 'A. F. H.' was that we did not receive it.—ED.]

'Under the Southern Cross.'

SIR,—In reply to 'A Lonely Shepherd' may I say that I did *not* intend, by the words quoted, that baptized Dissenters of good moral life should be admitted to Holy Communion without being confirmed, or ready and desirous to be confirmed, and I regret that I expressed myself so incautiously as to lay myself fairly open to the query. But I was thinking only of England and ordinary cases. In a wide Australian 'parish,' such as your far-off correspondent describes, it would be great presumption on my part to say what ought or ought not to be done. But would not the 'Lonely Shepherd' find sympathy and advice in his Over-shepherd, the Bishop of the diocese? There are very serious objections against Evening Communion, and the argument against them by Canon Ashwell, in his pamphlet published by Skeffingtons, appears to me conclusive—for England. But in Australia, if the Bishop thinks the rule should be relaxed, no more need be said. Celebrations by laymen—although Tertullian seems to speak of them as a matter of course in the absence of a priest—would, I fear, in these days of lost discipline, do more harm than good, and it is not likely that any bishop would approve.

J. F.

Wesley's Sermons.

SIR,—If your correspondent, 'F. C. G.' will write to the Rev. Dr. Osborn, Richmond Wesleyan College, near London—probably the best living authority on such matters—or to the Editor of the *Methodist Recorder*, 161 Fleet Street, London, E.C., he will no doubt receive full answers to his questions.

A WESLEYAN MINISTER.

SIR,—Can you, or any of your readers, inform me of the title, price, and publishers of any tract suitable for young women who have taken a false step and are anxious to return into the paths of virtue? I am attached to a dispensary where such cases not unfrequently come under treatment, and should be thankful to be of any service to them in leading them back into the right way.

MEDICUS.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

PLAIN BOB RINGING.

By Jasper W. Snowdon, Ilkley, Yorkshire.

THE consideration of the first peals rung on each of the different number of bells in the Plain Bob Method carries us back to the earliest days of change-ringing, and for this reason I must confess that the first record of Bob Major I have been able to find does not at all satisfy my mind as to its being the first ever rung. Still I think it is probable, that if any peal had previously been accomplished it was not at a much earlier date. Norwich and London seem to have been the first places where changes were rung to the extent of the complement on seven bells, and the 5040 of Bob Triples, rung at Norwich in 1715, is, so far as I can ascertain, the first authentic record of such a length. The ring of ten at St. Bride's, however, was cast in 1710, and as the London

Scholars rang the first peal of Grandsire Caters in 1717, it is probable that they would have rung some eight-bell peal previous to that date; and again does it seem, that had the records of this Society been preserved we should have been in the possession of very valuable information. The Union Scholars rung 5120 of Treble Bob Major in 1718, and it is unlikely that, as this shows even-bell methods were then practised, a peal of Bob Major should not have preceded this performance. I think, the more this matter is considered, the more it seems that the earliest performance of Bob Major I give details of cannot be considered as the first that was accomplished.

In my remarks upon James Barham's peal-book I explained that only a few of the long peals in which he took part could be compared with the long lengths rung under ordinary conditions by other societies: anyone, therefore, who wishes to compare these inordinate lengths, rung with extra men to relieve any of the original performers, is referred to that article for such information. As in this account of Plain Bob ringing I shall only include such of Barham's peals as seem to have been rung under the ordinary conditions of long-length ringing; and to pursue the consideration of this method in the way I have observed in other systems, I shall commence with the consideration of performances on even, and then proceed to those on odd, numbers of bells.

BOB MAJOR.—Although I have stated above my belief that, in all probability, an earlier peal may have been rung, the first record I can find of a peal in this method is one of 5040 changes, rung at St. Bride's, Fleet Street, by the College Youths, in 1725. In 1726 the same Society rang at St. Mary's, Lambeth, 6832, which, it is stated in the record, was 'the longest that ever was rung;' and in 1728 almost exactly the same company rang 10,800 of this method at St. Mary Magdalen, Bermondsey. In 1737 the Society of Eastern Scholars rang at West Ham 15,120; at least so their Peal-book, which is in the British Museum, states. But in the *Clavis*, after describing a peal of 13,440 changes, the authors state:—

'We think and recommend it as a good peal for those who wish to ring a greater length than has ever been done by any one set of men; notwithstanding there is a frame (West Ham, in Essex) for upwards of 15,000, it is well known, by the time mentioned and the weight of the bells, they could scarce ring *thirteen*.'

The time was eight hours and forty minutes; and is certainly rather short, and seems especially so when it is known that the very next record of the Society is a peal of 5040 Bob Triples, rung at the same church, the time for which is given as three hours and seven minutes. Although I give below further particulars of this peal I think that, as its performance is doubtful, it is best also to give the record of a peal of 12,240 of Bob Major, which was rung at Braughing, in Herts, in the year 1779. This peal was supplanted by one of 14,480 changes, rung at Oldham in 1784.

About this time the Birmingham St. Martin's Company seems to have gone into competition with the Aston Company; as on Feb. 16th, 1789, the former Society rang 14,224 changes of Bob Major at Aston: this peal, it is said, was intended to have been over 15,000 changes, but the men found themselves too fatigued to go the intended length, and the conductor therefore brought them round when they had rung eight hours and forty-five minutes and completed the above number of changes. The Aston men were more fortunate; as on Oct. 1st, 1793, they completed a peal of 15,120, which occupied them nine hours and thirty-one minutes, and is still the longest length ever rung in Bob Major, and also the longest peal accomplished on so heavy a ring by one set of men. The tenor of this ring weighs twenty-one cwt.; and when we compare this with the light ring, on which the only longer, single-handed length, in another method, has been rung, it shows that it is a feat which will not soon be surpassed. The most remarkable circumstance connected with this peal, however, is the fact, that the ages of the performers only varied between twenty and twenty-eight years; William Hassell, who rang the seventh, being the former, and Joshua Short, the tenor man, the latter age. It is also of great interest to know that the latter lived until he was sixty-seven years of age, while the former completed his eightieth year before his death, which occurred on May 12th, 1853, he being the last survivor of the band.

Appended I give such further details of the performances enumerated above as I have been able to secure:—

College Youths.—St. Bride's, Fleet St. On Monday, April 26th, 1725, 5040 Bob Major, being the first peal. John Ward, 1; Francis Geary, 2; Edmund Chadwell, 3; William Laughton, 4; William Woodrove, 5; Peter Merrygarts, 6; William Thompson, 7; Benjamin Annable, tenor. Composed and conducted by B. Annable.

College Youths' Records.—St. Mary, Lambeth. The company rung on Monday, June 27th, 1726, a complete peal of 6832 Bob Major, being the longest that ever was rung. W. Woodrove, 1; J. Ward, 2; F. Geary, 3; J. Dearmor, 4; S. Jeacocke, 5; P. Merrygarts, 6; W. Laughton, 7; B. Annable, 8. Mr. B. Annable called Bobs.

College Youths' Records.—St. Mary Magdalen, Bermondsey. The company rung on Sat. May 18, 1728, a complete peal of 10,800 Bob Major, being the longest that ever was rung. W. Laughton, 1; J. Ward, 2; James Richardson, 3; S. Jeacocke, 4; J. Dearmor, 5; P. Merrygarts, 6; John Trenell, 7; B. Annable (called Bobs), 8.

Eastern Scholars' Peal-book.—Monday, Novr. the 21st, 1737, was rung at the Parish Church of West Ham, in Essex, a complete peal of 15,120 Bob Major, being the longest ever rung. The performers:—John Braly, 1; Thos. Hart, 2; Robt. Goodyer, 3; Jno. Bradshaw, 4; Thos. Bennett, 5; Jno. Long, 6; Fras. Popham, 7; Phn. Mainwaring called Bobs, 8. The time, 8 hours and 40 minutes.

Tablet in the Belfry, Braughing, Herts.—May 10th, 1779, was rung by the Braughing Youths a complete peal of 12,240 Bob Major, which was performed in 7 hours and 34 minutes. Lawrence Tottingham, Wm. Pryor, Wm. Hoy, George Beadle, Jas. Hubbard, James Walker, Jos. Walker. Composed and called by James Walker.

'It was long each man did stand with zeal,

And ardent Union performed the peal.'

Tablet in the Belfry of St. Mary's, Oldham.—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 (composer and conductor), 1; John Heywood, 2; William Dawson, 3; Daniel Mills, 4; James Ogden, 5; Joseph Mills, 6; Joseph Jackson, 7; James Mills, 8.

Aston Company.—October 1st, 1793, at Aston Parish Church, 15,360 of Bob Major in 9 hours 31 minutes. Wm. Bonin, 1; Thos. Smith, 2; Jas. Pratt, 3; Benj. Bayliss, 4; Thos. Willmott, 5; Jos. Sylvester, 6; Wm. Hassell, 7; Joshua Short, 8. Composed and conducted by Joshua Short. Weight of tenor, 21 cwt.

(To be continued.)

St. Mary Church, Torquay.

THE completion of a work which has been in progress twenty-five years was celebrated in Torquay on Monday week, by the opening of a new ring of bells in the tower of St. Mary Church. The parish is of great antiquity, but the church was rebuilt in 1861, and the new tower, erected at a cost of 3155*l.* in memory of the late Bishop of Exeter, whose remains are interred in the churchyard, was completed in November, 1873. The total restoration of the fabric, including the hanging of the new bells, occupied twenty-five years, and cost 12,000*l.* The old bells, four in number, which have been replaced by the present fine ring of eight, were cast about the end of the 17th century, and on them appear the names of James Saltar, Vicar, James Aywell and Robert Waymouth, Wardens, with the date 1676. The old bells have been sold for 201*l.* and the new ones, which are the work of Messrs. Warner and Co., cost 777*l.* They were hung by Messrs. Hooper and Stokes, and were rung on the present occasion for the first time by members of the Guild of Devonshire Ringers. The service consisted of Morning Prayer with anthems and a new hymn, a sermon from the Bishop of Exeter, and a celebration of the Holy Communion. The service was preceded by several touches of Grandsire Triples by a mixed band, composed of members of the Huntsham, Plymouth, and Exeter branches. After the singing of one of the offertory sentences a pause was made, during which the bells were rung for a few minutes, as a token that from henceforth they were dedicated to God. There was a public luncheon afterwards, at which the health of the Bishop and clergy was one of the toasts. To this, in the absence of the Bishop, Archdeacon Earle responded. After a reference to the late Bishop of Exeter, he remarked that he could not help feeling that the Church at the present moment needed a man fashioned after the fashion of the late Henry of Exeter. When he compared his solid, manly intellect, his consistent catholicity, and his thorough knowledge of the English character, with much of the triviality of present controversy, he felt, deep down in his heart, that there was a great loss sustained in the loss of such a man from the Church at such a time as this. If they compared his manly utterances, his wide comprehensiveness, his thorough grasp of English theology, with much of the rubbish which was now issuing from some persons who thought they were leading religious thought in England, they would stand aghast to think that such things were now being put forth, and that they had to listen to them, or to turn over their foolish pages. That about which the late Bishop of Exeter contended was for something great and grand; that which he ever set before those who followed him was something worth contending for. But it was not so now. In conclusion, the Ven. Archdeacon advised the working clergy to consult more frequently with their Bishop. During the afternoon the bells at St. Mary Church sounded forth many touches of Triples, Messrs. W. Banister and H. Tucker conducting; while the other hands went to All Saints, Babbacombe, and kept up a succession of Grandsire Triples and Doubles. There was a well-attended sermon in the evening, at which the Ven. Archdeacon Woolcombe preached.

The Fulham Peal.

SIR,—In answer to Mr. Cooter's letter on July 28th I beg to state, that when the Fulham peal appeared in your paper, as I noticed it was not any longer than Reeves' extent of nine courses, I thought it might perhaps be the same peal. I therefore first pricked it out backwards, and then opened my Shipwre, when I found it was the same as Reeves' peal reversed, and beginning with the calling of the last course first. Having satisfied myself in this way, I took no further interest in the matter, and wish to state that I have not been connected in any way with the late discussion in your columns. As Mr. Cooter, however, wishes to know of any person who thinks the peals are alike, I hope to escape the intellectual libel that silence would imply by making the foregoing statement.

It will not, I hope, be supposed that I think Mr. Haley obtained the peal in question in any other way than by legitimate composition; but I consider that as an old composer he should have been more careful in such a matter. Anyone may easily compose an old peal, but when one is found to possess the same properties as an existing one, it should be carefully compared before it is sent forth as original. For my own part I prefer Mr. Haley's variation to the original peal, as it is more musical, having the sixth in better positions at the course ends. This is, however, simply a matter of variation, and not of composition.

Mr. Cooter's letter shows that the reversing of peals does not seem to be generally understood in London. It is, however, a simple principle, easily explained, and is not, like composition, a matter of ability. The laws of this principle were set forth at considerable length in *Church Bells* of February 5th, 1876, and unless anyone can refute them he is not competent to speak on the matter. I believe there are persons who do not believe in reversing peals, and yet have not read, and, probably, will not read, the explanation then given of this principle: of course, it would be useless to discuss the matter with such persons.

Old Bank Chambers, Leeds.

JASPER W. SNOWDON.

Death of Mr. Jeremiah Miller.

WE regret to announce the death of this veteran ringer, which took place at his residence, Spencer Street, Clerkenwell, on the 13th ult., at the advanced age of 74 years. His remains were buried at Highgate on the following Wednesday, and on Thursday, the 19th ult., some members of the Royal Cumberland Society rang a half-muffled funeral peal at St. Bride's Church, Fleet Street, as a mark of their respect for his long connexion with, and valuable services rendered to, the Society. Mr. Miller joined the Society in 1830, and in 1832 he rang his first peal, being the first performance of Shipway's Stedman's Triples, and in which the celebrated author assisted. His last peal was one of Treble Eight-in, at St. Gabriel's, Pimlico, in 1873. As a memento of him, his name may be found at the foot of several compositions, in various methods, in all modern works on bell-ringing.

Appeal from the Colonies for Bells.

SIR,—Will you allow me to make a brief appeal? I am Rector of the parish of Moncton, New Brunswick, a small railway town between St. John, N.B., and Halifax, N.S. The church was destroyed by fire in 1873. We have now a church which will seat about 350. The tower (of wood) with the spire will be 75 feet high. A number of English mechanics have been attracted to the place by the Dominion Government having placed the railway machine shops in the town. I am very anxious to procure a ring of *three bells*, as a beginning of a larger number. The church has been built by small contributions, mostly from working men. Will some of the readers of your paper kindly help their brethren across the water, and gladden the hearts of the English emigrants by hearing once more the sound of a ring of bells? I may be addressed until the middle of September at Stony Stratford, Bucks.

EDWIN S. W. PENTREATH, Rector of Moncton, N.B.

Reopening of Bells at Acton by the Waterloo Society.

ON the 17th ult., Messrs. Baron, Cox, Coppage, Mansfield, Cattle, Hopkins, and Williams, were appointed to reopen this ring, and before service the Rev. F. Fisher took part in about 1000 of Grandsire Triples, being the first touch on the bells since their augmentation to eight. After service the band performed a second touch of about 1000 Stedman's Triples, when the Vicar entered the belfry and thanked the ringers kindly. Afterwards they were hospitably entertained at the Vicarage.

Norwich Association of Ringers.

ON the 20th ult., ringers from many parishes met at Felmingham, on the occasion of the reopening of the parish church, and rang various touches of Plain Bob, Treble Bob, and Double Court.

Waterloo Society, London.

ON Saturday, the 21st ult., eight members of the above visited St. Andrew's Church, Uxbridge, when (by kind permission of the Vicar) they rang Holt's original one-part peal of Grandsire Triples, with two doubles in the last four leads, viz. 5040 changes, in 3 hrs. 7 mins. W. Baron, 1; C. Hopkins, 2; J. Mansfield, 3; F. A. P. Knipe, Esq., 4; W. Coppage, 5; A. Hayward, 6; H. Hopkins, 7; J. W. Allum, 8. Conducted by Mr. W. Baron. After the peal the ringers were most hospitably entertained by the Vicar, Rev. C. Mays.

Change-ringing at St. Paul's Church, Shipley, Yorkshire.

ON Saturday, the 21st ult., eight members of the Yorkshire Association of Change-ringers, residing in Shipley, rang a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major, consisting of 5120 changes, in 3 hrs. 2 mins. T. Lilley, 1; W. Wilks, 2; W. Kendall, 3; J. Wilks, 4; J. Crabtree, 5; W. E. Loudon, 6; J. Wilkinson, 7; T. Palliser, 8. Tenor, 15 cwt. This peal, in five equal parts, is the composition of Mr. Sottenstall, of Sowerby.

Muffled Peal at Ipswich.

ON Saturday, the 21st ult., several members of the St. Mary-le-Tower Company, Ipswich, rang several touches of Grandsire Triples, consisting of the first part of Mr. Holt's ten-part peal and 700 of the same method; also a touch with the bells half open, as a last token of respect to the late Mr. Wm. Garrard, for many years a member of the old Company.

Muffled Ringing at St. Clement Danes, Strand, London.

ON Monday, the 23rd ult., the bells were rung muffled, as a mark of respect to the late Mr. Jeremiah Miller. J. Cox, 1; R. French, 2; G. Stockham, 3; H. Shade, 4; J. G. Shade, 5; W. D. Matthews, 6; T. Essen, 7; H. Swain, 8; G. Banks, 9; W. Weatherstone, 10. Conducted by Mr. J. Cox.

Canterbury Cathedral Change-ringers.

THE annual outing of the Cathedral Company of Change-ringers came off on Tuesday, the 24th ult., Faversham being selected as the place of resort for this year's trip. The ringers were kindly allowed the use of the church tower and bells by the vicar and churchwardens. Sundry peals having been rung during the day, an adjournment was made for rest and refreshment, after which a friendly reunion was held, forming an agreeable finale to a very enjoyable excursion.

Change-ringing by the Yorkshire Association at Guiseley.

ON Saturday, the 28th ult., the Society rang at St. Oswald's, Guiseley, 6016 changes of Kent Treble Bob Major in 3 hrs. 31 mins. C. Ralph, 1; R. Tuke, Esq., 2; L. Cawood, 3; F. Maston, 4; J. Baldwin, 5; T. Lockwood, 6; J. Barraclough, 7; J. W. Snowdon, Esq., 8. The peal, which has the sixth its extent each way in 5-6, was composed and conducted by Mr. T. Lockwood. Tenor, 10½ cwt.

Ringing at St. Mary's, Walthamstow, Essex.

ON Saturday, the 28th ult., the following members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang at the above church Mr. John Holt's original peal of Grandsire Triples (with two doubles in the last four leads), containing 5040 changes, in 2 hrs. 57 mins. J. Nunn (first peal), 1; S. Reeves, 2; J. Wilkins, 3; G. Grimwade, 4; J. Pettit, 5; T. Maynard, 6; R. French, 7; W. Crockford, 8. Conducted by Mr. J. Pettit.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

PLAIN BOB RINGING.

By Jasper W. Snowdon, Ilkley, Yorkshire.

(Concluded from p. 422.)

BOB ROYAL.—There seems to be little doubt that the peal of Bob Royal rung at St. Bride's, London, in 1725, by the College Youths, was the first peal on ten bells in this method. Although amongst my notes on Plain Bob ringing I find very few peals worth mentioning of Bob Royal, I dare say that a few further provincial performances might be found. In 1751 a peal of 8100 of Bob Royal was rung at Leeds, in Kent; but whether this, or the peal of 7200 rung at the same place, was rung by one set of men I have been unable to ascertain. In default of a longer single-handed performance to hand, the longest length I can give in this method on ten bells is a peal of 6440, which was rung at Painswick in 1816; and with particulars of the first and the last peals mentioned above I will conclude my remarks on Bob Royal:—

College Youths.—St. Bride's, Fleet St. On Monday, November 22nd, 1751, a peal of 5040 Bob Royal, being the first peal. John Ward, 1; Robert Catlin, 2; John Hardham, 3; Francis Geary, 4; Edmund Chadwell, 5; William Laughton, 6; William Woodrove, 7; Peter Merrygarts, 8; William Thompson, 9; Benjamin Annable, 10. Composed and conducted by B. Annable.

From the Peal-book of the Painswick Youths.—November 27th, 1816, a peal of 6440 changes of Bob Royal, in the titlums, in 4 hours 48 mins. Daniel Glyde, 1; Edwd. Savory, 2; Wm. Estcourt, 3; Jno. Mansfield, 4; Jno. Tunley, 5; James Savory, 6; Giles Mansfield, 7; Thos. Bethell, 8; Robt. Selwyn, 9; James Mariton, 10. Composed and conducted by James Mariton.

BOB MAXIMUS.—On this number of bells a fair number of Plain Bob peals have been rung, although most of them have only been of convenient numbers above 5000. Several peals of Reverse and Double Bob Maximus have also been accomplished. Upon these peals, however, I do not purpose to comment. The first peal of Plain Bob Maximus, which was also the first performance with the tenor rung in upon twelve bells, was a peal of 5280 changes rung by the College Youths at St. Bride's, London, in 1725. During the year 1749 the Society of Eastern Scholars rang 6072 changes at the same church. In the *History of St. Saviour's Church, Southwark*, particulars are given of a peal of 6336 Bob Maximus, rung by the Ancient Society of London Youths on April 10th, 1758. This peal, however, does not appear in either of the record books of the Society of London Youths, and it therefore seems not quite certain whether it was ever really performed. The greatest length rung in this system is the peal of 6600 changes, which was accomplished at St. Mary's, Cambridge, on Jan. 21st, 1788; and further particulars of this and other of the peals of Maximus mentioned are given below.

From the College Youths' Records.—The company rung, on Saturday, February 26th, 1726, a complete peal of 5280 Bob Maximus, being the first that was done. William Woodrove, 1; Robert Catlin, 2; Edmund Chadwell, 3; John Ward, 4; John Hardham, 5; Francis Geary, 6; John Dearmor, 7; Samuel Jencock, 8; William Laughton, 9; Peter Merrygarts, 10; William Thompson, 11; Benjamin Annable, tenor, called Bobs.

From the Eastern Scholars' Records.—Tuesday, December 26th, 1749, was rung at the Parish Church of St. Bridget, in Fleet Street, 6072 Bob Maximus, being the longest peal ever rung of that kind. The performers:—Edward Dicks, 1; Joseph Dickinson, 2; Samuel Vaughan, 3; Robt. Butterworth, 4; William Lovell, 5; George Meakins, 6; James Fitchborne, 7; John Newman, 8; Wm. Phillips, 9; Thomas Bennett, 10; Thomas Batt, 11; John Blake, tenor, and called the Bobs. The company never before attempted this peal, and completed it the first trial, in 4 hours and 45 minutes.

Tablet in the Belfry of St. Mary-the-Great, Cambridge.—On Monday, Jan. 21st, 1788, was rung in this tower, a true and exquisite peal, consisting of 6600 Changes Bob Maximus, in 5 hours and 5 minutes, without a false change, by the under-mentioned Cambridge Youths:—J. Smith, 1; W. Bland, 2; B. Laughton, 3; J. Lawson, 4; J. Cox, 5; T. Steers, 6; T. Jones, 7; P. Goudie, 8; C. Day, 9; W. You, 10; J. Hazard, 11; J. Boustell, tenor. Bobs by C. Day, J. Willmott, R. Wheeler, Churchwardens.

PLAIN BOB TRIPLES, CATERS, AND CINQUES.—The oldest record of any complete peal of 5000 changes is the Tablet in St. Peter's, Mancroft, Norwich, which records a peal of 'Gransir Bob Triples,' as Plain Bob Triples was then called. This peal was performed in 1715. It is stated that this was the first true peal ever rung, and that two peals only had ever been previously accomplished in Norwich. Our thanks are due for the care which was taken in recording these early peals at Norwich, as, in giving such elaborate descriptions of the first peals which were rung at St. Peter's, we can gather much evidence as to what very little had evidently been previously done with regard to peal-ringing. It is curious and fortunate that, whilst the Norwich Tablets for Plain Bob and Grandsire Triples are the oldest records we have, at the same time they are the most detailed descriptions of such performances that have ever yet been erected.

Very few peals of Caters have, I believe, been rung; and, so far as I can ascertain, there has not been any performance upon eleven bells in this method. The only peals of Caters that I can mention are two of 6480, rung in Nov. and Dec. 1751, at Leeds, in Kent, and also one of the same number at the same place in 1786. As of the above-mentioned peals particulars of the Norwich Tablet would only seem to be of interest, a copy of it alone is appended:—

Tablet in the Belfry of St. Peter's, Mancroft, Norwich.—May 2nd, 1715. Here was rung by the ringers call'd Norwich Scholars, that most incomparable Peal call'd Gransir Bob Triples, it being the 3d whole peal that they have rung, but the first whole peal that ever was rung to the truth by any ringers whatever. It has been Studied by the most Acute Ringers in England (but to no effect), ever since Triple changes were first rung, but now at last it's found out to the truth by John Garthorn, one of the said Society, and rung by him and the rest of the Society in 3 hours 18 minutes, which is about 1550 changes in an hour, the whole peal being 5040 changes, and not one Bell misplac'd or out of Course. The names of which ringers are underwritten against their respective Bells as they Rung:—John Garthorn, ; Isaac Pearce, 2; John Briggs, 3; James Brooke, 4; David Sannervill, 5; Tho. Gardiner, 6; William Dixon, 7; Robert Woodcock, 8.

The Fulham Peal.

SIR,—As a ringer who has grown mouldy, and perhaps out of date, in the exercise, I presume my voice will carry but little weight with it, and my

ideas will be condemned as old-fashioned and out of date also; yet I would fain raise my voice in support of Mr. Haley, who, it appears to me, is unjustly attacked in your columns, with reference to the peal of Treble Bob Royal composed by him, and rung at Fulham. I have not the pleasure of Mr. Haley's acquaintance, but I have met him in the belfry, and admired his ability as a ringer and conductor, and think also his compositions are not unworthy of favourable notice. In comparing the peal rung with the one it is said to have been copied from, I fail to see any resemblance, except in number of changes; or anything to justify the assertion that the one is a varied copy of the other. Anyone acquainted with the Treble Bob method must be aware, that where the number of courses and changes are the same, and all the bobs made with the tenor above 4th's, the number of bobs must necessarily be the same, but in the case in question they are very differently arranged, and with better effect; and if the assertion of our latest modern authority is to stand, at least two thirds of our 'Treble Bob' compositions must be condemned as variations only, or, in other words, disguised pilferings from the works of other authors.

Whilst troubling you on this subject, perhaps you will allow me to make a few remarks on other matters that have appeared in your columns from time to time of late. No one interested in the exercise can feel other than grateful to Mr. Snowdon for his reports, kindly furnished through you to the readers of your bell-ringing columns, of the doings of our ancestors, which could not have been gathered without great trouble and some expense. I for one have read them with much pleasure and concern, but I regret his decision (as reported in your last issue) to exclude from future reports such long peals as were not wholly performed single-handed; as by that, many instances of individual ability will be undeservedly excluded from future history; and many a company, whose misfortune it is to have badly-hung or ill-conditioned bells to practise upon, will be deterred from efforts to distinguish themselves in the only way open to them, if their performances are not to be allowed a place in history. Again, I would submit, with reference to the performance at Earlsheaton, that a fresh list of long Treble Bob peals be published in justly arranged order of merit; as from recent exposures it has been made apparent that it was unworthily placed in first position: and perhaps a few words would not be out of place explaining why it was so placed, if the compiler was present at the performance, and heard the fabrication. U. W.

Change-ringing by the Yorkshire Association.

On Monday, the 30th ult., the Society rang at St. Matthew's, Holbeck, 5248 changes of Oxford Treble Bob Major in 3 hrs. 3 mins. T. Harrison, 1; J. Whitaker, 2; J. Lockwood, 3; W. Snowdon, Esq., 4; H. Hubbard, jun., 5; T. Lockwood, 6; J. W. Snowdon, Esq., 7; J. Winder, 8. The peal, which has the extent of changes to be had in thirteen courses, was composed by J. Reeves and conducted by Tom Lockwood. Tenor, 16 cwt.

On Saturday, the 4th inst., the Society rang at St. Wilfred's, Calverley, 5088 changes of Kent Treble Bob Major in 3 hrs. 1 min. H. Hubbard, jun., 1; F. Keighley, 2; W. Hallings, 3; T. Robinson (first peal), 4; G. Barraclough, 5; T. Lockwood, 6; T. West, 7; J. W. Snowdon, Esq., 8. The peal, which has the sixth its extent each way in 5-6, and home the last twelve courses, all the 86 7's and 86's, was composed by H. Johnson of Birmingham, and conducted by Jasper W. Snowdon. Tenor, 10½ cwt.

Change-ringing at Aspenden, Herts.

On Wednesday, the 1st inst., the Benington Society of Change-ringers, by kind invitation, visited Aspenden, where they were met by a large number of amateur ringing friends from London and the surrounding district. They rang 3136 changes on the eight bells, lately rehung by Mr. Gray, of Munden. The ringing consisted of Grandsire Triples, 336; Double Norwich Court Bob Major, 448; Cambridge Surprise Major, 448; Superlative Surprise Major, 448; London Surprise Major, 448; Stedman Triples, 1008: total, 3136.

South Hackney, Middlesex.

On Friday evening, the 3rd inst., eight members of the South Hackney Society rang at St. John of Jerusalem a muffled peal, as a mark of esteem for the late Robert Turner, who died July 31st, 1877, aged 29 years. F. Hesse, 1; J. Holland, 2; J. Sumpter, 3; J. Carmichael, 4; C. Jarvis, 5; G. Clark, 6; W. Heritage, 7; C. Lee, 8. Conducted by Mr. Charles Lee.

Royal Cumberland Society, London.

On Saturday, the 4th inst., the members of this Society rang at St. Margaret's Church, Westminster, 5003 changes of Grandsire Caters in 3 hrs. 11 mins. J. Cox, 1; W. Hovers, 2; J. W. Cattle, 3; J. W. Mansfield, 4; W. H. Jennaway, 5; H. Swain, 6; C. Hounslow, 7; E. Harrison, 8; J. S. Breakspear, 9; W. Strange, 10. Composed and conducted by Mr. John Cox.

Date Touches.

At Liversedge, Yorkshire, on the 9th ult., 1877 changes of Kent Treble Bob Major in 1 hr. 10 mins., with titlums at hand and tenors inverted.—At Sowerby, Yorkshire, on the 28th ult., 1877 changes of Grandsire Triples in 1 hr. 2 mins.

Opening the Bells at Acton.

In our last issue Mr. Hayward's name was omitted; also that the bells had been recast by Messrs. Warner.

Correction.

In our issue of July 28th, 'L eds. Yorkshire,' should have been 'Kent.'

RECEIVED.—James Brown; Tim Bobbin; W. Baron; H. Woodman.

looking towards that Holy Table (surely in some sense an altar), which speaks to us, as no other portion of a church can speak, of Him in Whom for our rescue and salvation we believe? It is something that 'H. T. D.' as he assures us, considers the whole building to be sacred; but I trust that the theology of *Church Bells* is not likely to be watered down so as to suit one to whom it would clearly matter little whether our altar tables were placed, to use his own words, 'in the east, west, north, or south of the building.'

H. T. H.

Sacramental Confession.

'The thing which we reject is that new picklock of Sacramental Confession, obtruded upon men's consciences, as a matter necessary to salvation, by the Canons of the late Conventicle of Trent. . . . This doctrine, I say, we cannot but reject, as being repugnant to that which we have learned both from the Scriptures and from the Fathers.'—*Archbishop Ushe's Answer to a Jesuit*, p. 75.

SIR,—As a working man, I was very much surprised to read the following bold and misleading statement of the Rev. T. Owen S. Davies in the last issue of *Church Bells*. He says:—'Everywhere the peoples using Confession appear to maintain freedom from crime and immorality.'

Now, Mr. Editor, 'if this were true it would be a very momentous fact' indeed. But is it so?

Why is it that the Parliamentary Reports on Reformatory and Industrial Schools show that in England and Scotland there were 4545 boys and 1143 girls, of whom 1163 boys and 305 girls, being nearly one fourth of the entire number, were Romanists; whilst the Romanists are only one twentieth of the population of England, and about one fourteenth of the entire population of Great Britain? As regards Ireland, the tenth and eleventh reports of H.M.'s Inspector show that about 90 per cent of the juvenile offenders are Romanists, and about 10 per cent Protestants. Whilst the proportion of Romanists under detention is thus about nine to one of the Protestants, the Romish population of Ireland is only about three and a half to one!—*Wide Monthly Letters of the Protestant Alliance* for May, 1874, and May, 1876, &c.

'Sacramental Confession,' far from fulfilling the end that is ascribed to it by the Rev. T. Davies, destroys all modesty and subverts the principles of all morality, and practically has been, and is, the fruitful source of the greatest evil, corrupting both 'priests' and people. Liguori, Rome's pet saint and doctor—to whom the Ritualists are so greatly indebted for their *Priest in Absolution*—admits that the priest often succumbs to temptation in carrying out his duty. He goes so far as to say that the 'priest, who oftentimes may have fallen into sin in hearing confession,' is not therefore bound to resign his office. 'Oh, how many priests,' he says, 'who before were innocent, on account of similar attractions, which began in the spirit, have lost both God and their own souls!'

The Rev. M. Hobart Seymour, writing to the *Record*, Feb. 17, 1871, says:—'I had compiled a letter containing the official and Governmental returns—the latest that have been published—both of England and France, as to the number of murders, &c.' After giving the various 'Judicial Statistics,' he sums up the result of all as follows:—'The murders are, in each million of population, England, 5; France, 17; Austria, 29; Spain, 87; Italy, 121; Papal States, 186.'

Whatever conclusions various minds may draw from these facts, which are official and governmental, and which are the only safe data on which to proceed, it must be admitted that the contrast of England, so essentially a Protestant population, with five murders, and the Papal States with one hundred and eighty-six murders, in each million of people, is a contrast that is not to the advantage of the Papacy and the Confessional. This, Mr. Editor, is 'a very momentous fact.'

WILLIAM VICARY, Carpenter and Joiner.

Stonehouse, Plymouth.

[We have printed those parts only of our correspondent's letter which bear on the facts of the case.—Ed.]

Service on Shipboard.

SIR,—I should be much obliged if any of your readers could inform me of any short form of service which has been adopted on board sailing ships where no chaplain is carried; also of any short readings or sermons which have interested and instructed sailors in the rudiments and doctrines of the Christian religion, such as the captain or officers of the ship might read. I should like to know if any tracts have been published specially adapted to meet the wants of our seafaring population.

A. J. I.

SIR,—In reply to your correspondent, 'S. E.,' I would recommend to his 'hearty sympathy and support' the Home for Homeless Boys at St. Stephen's, Poplar, E. The Vicar, without sufficient funds to build (though he has secured a site) or hire even a house for their accommodation, has for the last two and a half years provided (chiefly with the assistance of his parishioners) board and lodging for homeless boys at his own vicarage; and there, at the present time, twelve boys are finding a most comfortable home and sound Church education. Your space forbids me saying more, if more need be said, beyond this simple tale of self-denial and devotion to God's poor. The Vicar, the Rev. R. Elliott, would, I am sure, give further information, and so would gladly

H. G. SPRIGG, Curate of St. Mary, Newington.

'F. WITHERNY'S' letter abounds with such expressions as 'it is notorious,' 'it is indisputable,' 'it is a common and every-day remark,' &c.; but he does not quote any established facts or figures, nor does he quote any authentic published opinions. We are quite of his way of thinking, but more than mere impressions are wanted in order to establish his view.

SIR,—The Rev. Geo. Jas. Athill might find *The Railway Ticket*, No. 1646 (a tract on Infant Baptism), published by the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge, suitable.

M. C. H.

THE Librarian of the British Workman, Jarow-on-Tyne, Durham, begs to acknowledge, with many thanks, the receipt of 535 unbound numbers of magazines, from G. H. Young, Esq., for above library.—August 13th, 1877.

RECEIVED ALSO.—F. A.; B.; J. C. T.; Leslie M.K.; J. M. L.; J. B. O.; T. G. C.; X. Z.; A. J. J.; Filius evangelici cleri; M. C. H.; F. C.; R. C. S.; W. H. Ridley, and others.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

The Fulham Peal.

SIR,—The significant silence of your correspondent, 'Vigilance,' has prompted me to cull the following—5600 London Surprise.

Clavis, p. 178.	HUBBARD, 1854 ed. p. 103; also BANISTER, p. 117.
6 5 4 3 2	6 5 4 3 2
4 6 5 3 2	4 6 5 3 2
2 3 5 6 4	5 4 6 3 2
5 2 3 6 4	2 3 6 4 5
3 5 2 6 4	6 2 3 4 5

In Hubbard (1854 edition), p. 150, and Banister, p. 194, is a peal of 5014 Stedman's Cinques, precisely alike, yet there are two authors given. Can plagiarism go further?

WILLIAM COOTER.

Muffled Peal at Ixworth, Suffolk.

On the 18th ult., 720 changes, with the bells muffled, were rung as a token of respect to Mr. J. Miller, who died in London on the 13th July, aged 74 years. E. Lambert, 1; J. Thorpe, 2; S. Peck, 3; W. Carter, 4; H. Lambert, 5; G. Lambert, 6. Conducted by W. Carter. Mr. Miller was one of the oldest Ixworth ringers, and first learned to ring six bells at that place. In 1825 he went to reside in London, where he joined the Cumberland Society of Ringers. He made it a rule to visit his old native tower once a year to ring a peal, and with the only remaining ringer of his early days talk of the days of yore: he paid his farewell visit in 1876.

Ringing at St. Matthew's, Bethnal Green, Middlesex.

On Saturday, the 4th inst., eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang at the above church Mr. John Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, containing 5040 changes, in 2 hrs. 53 mins. F. Owen, 1; G. Dorrington, 2; G. Mash, 3; W. Blandford, 4; M. A. Wood, 5; H. Wilks, 6; F. Bate, 7; S. Reeves, 8. Conducted by Mr. M. A. Wood. The first, fourth, and sixth bells were rung by visitors from Worcester.

Muffled Peal at Plymouth.

On Thursday, the 9th inst., the Plymouth and Devonport Companies of the Devonshire Guild of Ringers met at Charles Church, Plymouth, and rang a funeral peal and touches of Grandsire Triples, with bells deeply muffled, as a last token of respect to the late C. H. Norrington, Esq., a prominent and esteemed member of the Society, who died of typhoid fever on Monday, 10th inst., aged 25 years.

Ringing at South Shields, Durham.

On Monday evening, the 16th inst., six members of the North Shields Amateur Change-ringing Society rang a peal of 720 (Grandsire Minor in 28 mins. G. H. Park, 1; J. T. Gibson, 2; J. Coulson, 3; R. Armstrong, 4; W. H. Park, 5; W. Reed, 6. Tenor, 10 cwt. Conducted by W. Reed. This is the first peal on six bells ever rung by a North Shields band.

New Bells at Clogher Cathedral.

THE *Irish Ecclesiastical Gazette* says,—'A splendid ring of bells has been erected in Clogher Cathedral, by the exertions of the Rev. Dr. Bailey, the Rector, who has contributed out of his own pocket over 150*l.* to this object.'

RECEIVED.—Ch. Lafin. Epitaphs declined with thanks. To prevent blunders in names, contributors are requested to write plainly.

BELFRY RECORDS.

ST. MARY, GATESHEAD, DURHAM. (Tablets in the Belfry.)

926. [Figure of a bell with scrolls on each side containing] Laudo Deum Verum, Plebem voco, congreco Clerum, Defunctos ploro, Pestem fugo, Festa Decoro. [Below is] Gateshead, 1829.—The Rev. John Collinson, Rector; the Rev. George A. Abbs, Curate; John Fairbairn, George Sowerby, Joseph Davie, Joseph Hawks, Churchwardens.

Jan. 29th the anniversary of his Majesty King George the Fourth's Accession to the throne, a complete Peal of Holt's Grandsire Triples, consisting of 5040 changes, was rung upon these Bells, by the Union Society of Change-ringers, in 3 hrs. 17 mins. Tenor, 15 cwt. The names of those who rang the peal:—

John Stephenson, First.	Thomas Elliott, Fourth.	Joseph Stephenson, Sixth.
Allen Stephenson, B.C. Second.	George Pearson, Fifth.	George James, Seventh.
John Elliott, Third.		Edward James, Eighth.
		James Shipley, Steward.
		D. Preston, Secretary.

927. [A Cross.] Ars non habet Inimicum nisi Ignorantem, 1850. Rector, Rev. J. Davis, D.D.; Churchwardens, Corns. Carbutt, John Russell, John Potts, Wm. Henry Brockett.

On Tuesday evening, January 15th, Eight members of the St. Nicholas Youths' Society of Change-ringers of Newcastle rang on the bells of this tower a true and complete peal of Grandsire Triples, consisting of 5040 changes, in 2 hrs. and 53 minutes. It was composed by Mr. Solomon Middleton of West Bromwich, and contains 182 bobs and 53 singles. The Ringers were stationed as follows:—

*George Weddle, Treble.	*William Pitt, Fourth.	*Christopher Liddle, Sixth.
Joseph C. Pearson, Second.	*Robert A. Whalley, Fifth.	*Andrew Lowrie, Seventh.
George W. Dodsworth, Third.		John Alderson, Tenor.

The above peal was conducted by Mr. George William Dodsworth. It was a maiden peal of four, and those marked thus * were under 21 years of age.

928. MAY 10th, 1790, was rung in this steeple a complete Peal of Grandsire Tripplos, consisting of 5040 changes, in 3 hrs. 20 mins., by the Union Society of Newcastle and Gateshead. The author, Mr. John Holt of London. The bells and names as follows, viz.:—

James Ireland, N'castle, First.	William Stephenson, N'castle, Fifth.
John Stephenson, Bob-caller, N'castle, Second.	John Williams, Gateshead, Sixth.
James Shipley, Gateshead, Third.	Thos. Caw, N'castle, Seventh.
John Buckham, N'castle, Fourth.	William Richard, Gateshead, Eighth.

Weight of the Tenor, 15 cwt.

929. Novr. 18th, 1794, 5040 changes was Rung by the aforesaid Society in 3 hrs. 15 mins. Robert Shaftoe Hawks, Wm. Train, Jonathan Colling, Michl. Dobson, Churchwardens.

cases the action was that of a small worldly clerical oligarchy, seeking for high position and preferment, and which lent the name of the Church of England to the leaders of party. The Church all this time was helpless, because duped, misrepresented, and betrayed, by what called itself the Church party.'

Now if the readers of *Church Bells* will take the trouble to re-read 'J. F.'s quotation from the *Times*, and add to it the lines I have above given, how different will be their impression of what the *Times* writer really thought and said about the matter!

I trust you will pardon this trespass upon your space, and that 'J. F.' will forgive me for thus pointing out what I believe to be an important error in his otherwise admirable article.

H. BYRON REED.

Southwold, Suffolk, August 20th.

Service on Shipboard.

SIR,—Allow me to inform 'A. J. I.' in answer to his questions in the last number of *Church Bells*, that one of the best Short Forms of Service to begin with, when there is no chaplain on board, is the latter part of the Litany, beginning at the Lord's Prayer and adding the General Thanksgiving. This soon leads on to the whole Litany being said, and when the ice is broken portions of Morning and Evening Prayer can be used. There is a short Form of Prayer to be used at Sea, and also, *Prayers for Use at Sea*, published by W. Wells Gardner, 2 Paternoster Buildings, all compiled from the Book of Common Prayer. Thousands of these are given by the St. Andrew's Waterside Church Mission in vessels where the officers undertake to hold service. Hymns and selected Lessons are inserted. By-and-by, when Convocation approves of a particular Form which has already been recommended, that Short Form may become general; but I must confess that I think the latter part of the Litany, as above mentioned, is the most handy as well as the most encouraging to diffident officers. The beginning with the Lord's Prayer forms a bond of union among many who may have been brought up to different forms of religious service; they join at once in common prayer.

The short sermons that we distribute with most pleasure are *Plain Words* (first series), by Rev. W. Walsham How. The sermons at the end of the *Parish Magazine* are always pointed out for use in emigrant and passenger-ships. They are generally very good, and a year's volume just makes a sermon a-week for a three-months' voyage: if this is doubled, so much the better, then, if two volumes can be given. We are always glad of *Parish Magazines* when we find them among other books and periodicals that are sent to us. The Rev. W. Buxton's *Waterside Mission Sermons* (Skeffington) are much liked in emigrant ships. All short, straight, clear sermons, are capital gifts. As for Tracts, it is not always the tract that is written for sailors that is the best. The general run of S. P. C. K. Tracts are useful and do good, also *British Workman* and the *Gospeller* (Mowbray). It appears to me to be a mistake to press upon sailors tracts written in semi-nautical terms; the terms are criticised and the lesson lost. Address the sailor as a man and a Christian; you will be more successful than if you hail him as a jolly tar or preach at him as a heathen. There are few better tracts than good hymns. If I can be of any further service to 'A. J. I.' or others interested in sailors, it will be a pleasure.

JOHN SCARTH, Hon. Sec.

St. Andrew's Waterside Church Mission.

Depot: 36 City Chambers, Railway Place, Fenchurch Street, London. E.C.

'Pain Bénit.'

SIR,—Some months ago a correspondence took place in *Church Bells* concerning *Pain bénit*. One of the writers, who had witnessed the distribution of it at Rouen last autumn, and the year before at Milan, stated his impression that it probably took the place, in the minds of very many, of 'the reception of Holy Communion itself.' Other writers suggested other thoughts upon the subject, and the original correspondent, who writes this letter, promised to make further inquiries on the matter. All he has been enabled to do by correspondence confirms the idea that very many persons practically regard the *pain bénit* as, in some sort, a substitute for Holy Communion.

In a very complete and exhaustive work, however, the subject is fully treated upon under the head of 'The Eulogia, or Antidoron.' This work is, *Notitia Eucharistica*, by the Rev. W. E. Scudamore, Rector of Ditchingham, a publication which seems well calculated to satisfy reasonable men, and to render them careful that 'all things be done decently and in order,' while they be not 'cumbered about much serving.' The chapter is too long for insertion, and contains much that is interesting and instructive. A quotation, however, is given from Bonner, at his Visitation in 1554, where he states, concerning holy bread which was used here at that time, 'For lack of which Communion this Holy Bread is now given men, to understand that they should have done the other, and for lack of the same do now receive this for a memory thereof.'

When will the day come that Holy Communion shall be so valued and so ministered that the communicants shall be the great majority of the parishioners, communicating not infrequently; and so communicated that priest and people shall not be wearied by a needless lengthening out of what is too sacred and blessed a service to be neglected, as it now is, by myriads?

THE WRITER OF THE FIRST LETTER ABOUT 'PAIN BÉNIT.'

Chairs for Churches.

SIR,—It is quite certain that many good Church people, who wish to use chairs for various church uses, do not know how to procure good and seemly chairs, otherwise we should not see such very miserable articles in use in churches, schools, and even cathedrals, as are to be met with. Let me recommend to your readers' notice an advertisement very often found in your columns, headed 'West and Collier.' Threepenny worth of stamps will bring to the reader a book of patterns and prices that may be of the greatest service to him.

Hambleton Rectory, Henley-on-Thames.

W. H. RIDLEY.

SIR,—Can any of the readers of *Church Bells* recommend a place of sale for work in aid of parish charities, at a percentage of one penny in the shilling?

F. C.

'S. F. A.' would be glad to know if *Church Bells*, sent regularly by her since May, 1876, has been received by the Rev. F. Schurr, Coromandel, Mauritius.

HOME FOR DESITUTE BOYS.—St. Saviour's Home, Park St. Taunton. Any information will be given by the Hon. Sec., Dr. Kelly, The Crescent, Taunton.

'H.' is thanked for the extract. We may perhaps find use for it.

RECEIVED ALSO.—H. S. W.; R. N.; R. N. R.; Christopher Laffin; A. J. Poultney; J. N. S.; G. Ryan; E. P. (We do not think it worth while to draw further attention to the subject.)

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Proposed Guild of Ringers in the County of Durham.

THE following has been extensively circulated:—'Gentlemen,—It has been proposed to hold a meeting at Durham on the 25th inst., about four o'clock in the afternoon, for the purpose of forming a Guild or Association of Change-ringers for the diocese of Durham under the patronage of Archdeacons Hamilton and Prest, at which your presence and co-operation is most respectfully requested. It is a fact that, with only very few exceptions, the bells and belfries of most of the churches in the diocese of Durham are in a most deplorable state of dirt and disorder, and, as a matter of course, the ringers are anything but what they ought to be; the beautiful and interesting art of change-ringing is almost unknown; and the bells which have been given by our pious forefathers to call the parishioners to God's house are left to rust and decay. We therefore earnestly ask you to attend this meeting, and by your presence and support join in the good work of removing such a scandal from our churches.—We remain yours respectfully, GEORGE J. CLARKSON, JOHNSON E. HERS, WILLIAM REED.'

The Fulham Peal.

WE have received several more letters on this disputed composition, but it is quite time to bring the clappers round to a close: therefore we say, 'Stand!' In the meantime perhaps some kind friend will study the evidence, and favour us with a verdict which may be taken as final.

Change-ringing by the Yorkshire Association.

ON Monday, 13th inst., the Society rang at St. Matthew's, Holbeck, Leeds, 5056 changes of Kent Treble Bob Major in 2 hrs. 56 mins. T. Harrison, 1; J. Lockwood, 2; H. Moss, 3; W. Snowden, Esq., 4; H. Hubbard, jun., 5; G. Barraclough, 6; T. Lockwood, 7; J. W. Snowden, Esq., 8. The peal, which has the fifth and sixth their extent each way in 5-6, the sixth being five course-ends each way, and the fifth five course-ends in fifth's and four in sixth's place, was composed and conducted by Tom Lockwood. Tenor, 16 cwt.

Ringling at Newhey, Lancashire.

ON Saturday, 28th ult., the ringers of St. James's Church, Milnrow, met at St. Thomas's, Newhey, and opened a new ring of bells by Llewellyn and James, Bristol, by ringing a peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples in 2 hrs. 49 mins. R. Warburton, 1; R. Buckley, 2; J. Fitton, 3; J. F. Wild, 4; E. Clegg, 5; T. Platt, 6; A. Clegg, 7; W. Sutcliffe, 8. Tenor, 10½ cwt. Conducted by Mr. E. Clegg.

New Bells at Christ Church, Lurgan, Ireland.

ON the 31st ult., a new ring of eight were first opened in a most unusual and unmusical way at 8 o'clock a.m. by a grand crash, commonly called 'firing,' after which there was an hour's ringing of some sort of changes. Two special services took place at the church. The Rev. Dr. Chadwick preached on both occasions. Between the services the following band from Manchester rang a peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples. W. Cross, 1; J. Halgate, 2; J. Lowcock, 3; T. Bryshaw, 4; R. Yates, 5; J. W. Withen, sen., 6; T. Eachen, 7; J. Wilkin, 8. Tenor, 20 cwt. Conducted by W. Cross. We have not been favoured with the name of the bell-founder.

Ringling at Pudsey, Yorkshire.

ON Saturday, 11th inst., eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths, London, also of the Yorkshire Association from Bradford, met at St. Lawrence Church, Pudsey, and rang a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major, consisting of 5248 changes, in 3 hrs. 12 mins. This peal, which has the 6th nine times wrong and twelve times right in 5-6, with the 6th at home nine courses out of the last ten, was composed by Mr. W. Sottenstall of Sowerby, and conducted by J. H. Dixon. J. Angus, 1; J. Naylor, 2; J. H. Fisher, 3; J. Jenkinson, 4; N. Binns, 5; J. H. Hardcastle, 6; J. H. Dixon, 7; J. Wilson, 8. Tenor, 16 cwt.

Ringling at Holy Trinity Church, Bolton, Lancashire.

ON Saturday, 18th inst., Mr. John Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, consisting of 5040 changes, was rung in 2 hrs. 51 mins., by H. W. Jackson, 1; H. Bentley, 2; R. Gregson, 3; T. E. Turner, 4; J. H. Jackson, 5; W. Hamer, 6; S. Gaskel, 7; T. Morris, 8. Tenor, 16 cwt. The above is the first peal on this new ring of bells from Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, London. Conducted by Mr. H. W. Jackson.

RECEIVED.—Aylsham and Marsham Tablets; C. D. P. Davies; Card; C. H. E. White; P. C. O.

Some Notes on Public Worship.

SIR,—Will you kindly allow me to put in a protest and offer some explanation in answer to Mr. Wilson's disapproval of the custom in some churches of the members of the congregation kneeling whilst the clergy and choir do so on their first entering the church? I can hardly believe that many thinking members of a congregation would employ those silent minutes in repeating their own ordinary prayer, or would reserve their preliminary private devotions for then. I myself have always felt it to be a most fitting opportunity, as a member of the congregation, for praying for the clergy and choir, that they may be delivered from all wandering thoughts and enabled to perform a service acceptable to God and profitable for ourselves. Surely we all firmly believe in that great and blessed means of helping each other, Intercessory Prayer? and is not the custom of praying for our clergy before the service in accordance with that part of our beautiful Church Liturgy where, in answer to the priest's 'The Lord be with you,' the whole congregation are directed to reply, 'And with thy spirit?' E. C. S.

SIR,—Allow me to offer a word of expostulation on the remarks of Clause XVII. in Mr. Wilson's 'Notes on Public Worship' (Aug. 11). I do so in the name of many busy people—notably the poor hardworking mothers of large families in small crowded houses, who are thankful to be allowed a quiet quarter of an hour after service for (so-called) 'private devotions' before returning to the 'rattle and the roar' of life. Is it right or wise to dishearten them, and lay down rules about their prayers in that House which should ever be the 'People's Home?' No, let us rather welcome every means by which the masses can learn to feel more truly at home there. Souls differ in their complexions, and if others find means of grace where we may not, why should we take upon ourselves to forbid them, or judge them for it?

Holme Bridge Vicarage.

FRANK HARPER.

SIR,—My impression has always been that when the worshipper, in repeating the Creed, turned to the East: he did so that he might look towards Jerusalem, as Daniel the prophet did when he prayed at Babylon: the intention being to express by act the belief that Our Lord came to His own people and the Temple at His first coming, and that He will come a second time to judgment. The oneness of our faith with the elder Church, and the certainty of the judgment, are shown by our expression of belief in the historical fact of the first advent.

But whatever may be the symbolical significance of this act of worship, it surely is most necessary to any true idea of common worship that all the congregation should, as if they were one, join quietly and reverently in all the usages of the place in which they may be. J. C. T.

[It would be interesting to know what is the practice east of Jerusalem. Would the people in Calcutta churches, for instance, turn east or west?—ED.]

The Church Press.

SIR,—I beg to thank Mr. H. Byron Reed for his correction of what is indeed a grave error. Much as the *Times* has often vexed me in its treatment of Church matters, I see I have, in this case, done it an injustice. I cut the paragraph from a highly respectable country paper, which I thought could be trusted. One more lesson on good old Dr. Ronth's excellent advice—'Verify your quotations.' J. F.

SIR,—Can any of the readers of *Church Bells* lend or give me any coloured pictures—prints—of foreign places of interest, such as views in the Holy Land, or of the chief towns of Europe, with the costumes of the peasants? I am anxious to get some such for illustrating simple lectures to a class of young women. I should be glad, too, to know of any place where I could buy prints of this description. If anyone will have the kindness to lend me any I will take the greatest care of them. Address E. H. J., care of Mrs. Dove, 20 Ball's Road, Oxtou, Birkenhead.

SIR,—I should be glad to have the title, price, and publisher, of any pamphlets, tracts, articles, or books, which prove, (1) the Nag's Head incident to be a fable, (2) Anglican Orders to be valid, and (3) Apostolic Succession to be true. I believe some such proof was published by the late A. W. Haddan, but I do not know under what title. E. J.

SIR,—Will any of your correspondents or readers kindly inform me what book for Memoranda ('Where is it?') for the pocket is the most serviceable to a young clergyman? Also, can any particular form of Index Rerum be recommended for general reading, such a book being a great desideratum for reference? Publishers' names, &c., of each would oblige

A CANDIDATE FOR HOLY ORDERS.

'WILLIAM VICARY.'—Your figures do not give any further light on the subject. We have already, on various occasions, stated our view of Confession and the Confessional, and we do not desire to pursue the subject further.

'MR. T. OWEN S. DAVIES' must also excuse us for not inserting his letter or pursuing the argument further. We were willing to see what was the bearing of criminal statistics on the question of the Confessional. But if these are to be modified by considerations of national temperament or of the classes who probably do or do not attend Confession, we are drifting into a region of mere hypothesis.

'F. R. S.'—Todd's *Lectures* are published by Milner, Paternoster Row. The other information can be obtained probably from your bookseller.

'H. W.'s' request shall be printed if he likes to add his name and address for publication, that lists may be sent direct to him.

'H. T. D.'—Both sides have had their say, and your letter is really very long.

RECEIVED ALSO.—E. H. J.; J. Giraud; S. M. C. B. (Thanks).

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Arundel Ringers at Brighton.

THE members of the Arundel Society of Change-ringers visited Brighton on Wednesday, the 22nd ult., and rang at the old parish church (St. Nicholas) several touches of Grandsire Triples. At dinner the Rev. Mr. Tompkins, of Arundel, who takes great interest in the Society, occupied the chair, supported by Messrs. Warner and Drury, the two oldest members of the Brighton Society.

Ringing at St. Mary's Parish Church, Stockport, Cheshire.

On the 27th ult. (by kind permission of the Rector, it being Sunday), the sixtieth anniversary of the opening of the bells, a reversion of Mr. John Holt's peal of Grandsire Triples in ten parts, &c., was rung in 3 hrs. and 5 mins., by W. Gordon, 1; W. H. Albinson (aged 15), 2; A. Gordon, 3; E. Leonard, 4; W. Albinson, 5; T. Marshall, 6; J. Sutcliffe, 7; J. Brown, 8. Tenor, 25 cwt.

BELFRY RECORDS.

ALL SAINTS, HIGH WYCOMBE, BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.
(Tablet in the Belfry.)

930. APRIL, 1792. On the evening of the eighth inst. was rung in this steeple a complete peal of Grandsire Caters, consisting of five thousand one hundred and eleven changes, by a party of the Society of London College Youths, which they completed in three hours and forty-two minutes in that masterly style for which they are famous. Performers—
Mr. John Povey, Treble. Mr. Wil. Wilson, Fourth. Mr. Edwin Silvester, Eighth.
Jas. Holdsworth, Second. Rich. Wilson, Fifth. Dan. Jenkins, Ninth.
James Lance, Third. John Wooster, Sixth. John Lyford, Tenor.
John Juvill, Seventh.

The peal was called by Mr. John Povey.

ASHTON-ON-LYNE, LANCASHIRE. (Tablets in the Belfry.)

931. 'Merrily rang the Bells of St. Michael's Tower.'
On the 2nd of March, 1823, was rung in this steeple a true peal of Bob Royal, consisting of 5040 changes, composed and conducted by Mr. Robert Stanfield, and was brought round in 3 hours and 22 minutes by the following artists, viz.:—
John Hobson, Treble. Samuel Moss, jun., Fifth. Samuel Moss, Senr., Ninth.
James Turner, Second. William Burgess, Sixth. Aaron Walker, Tenth.
Robert Stanfield, Third. Abraham Ogden, Seventh. Weight of Tenor, 27 cwt.
William Spence, Fourth. John Eaton, Eighth. 3 qrs. 21 lbs.

932. 'O praise the Lord upon the loud cymbals.'
On Easter Sunday morning, April 10th, 1840, was rung in this Tower a true and complete peal of Kent Treble Bob Royal, comprising 5040 changes, which was composed and conducted by James Wood, and finally brought round in a masterly style in 3 hours and 22 minutes by the following ringers, viz.:—

Abm. Ogden, aged 71 years, First.	George Burgess, Fourth.	John Eaton, Eighth.
James Ogden, Second.	William Burgess, Fifth.	Aaron Walker, aged 66 years, Ninth.
James Wood, Third.	Samuel Farron, Sixth.	Bryan Vernon, Tenth.
	Samuel Moss, aged 63 years, Seventh.	

933. 'Praise him upon the loud cymbals.'—Psalm 150 ver. v.
In consequence of Mr. Charles Baile, of the senior Society of College Youths, London, paying us a friendly visit, there was rung in the Tower on the 14th February, 1841, a true and complete peal of Grandsire Caters, comprising 5021 changes, which was composed and conducted by Mr. James Wood, and was beautifully and scientifically struck, and finally brought round in 3 hours and 17 minutes by the following persons:—

John Hobson, First.	Richd. Graham, Fourth.	John Eaton, Eighth.
Joseph Burgess, Second.	Jas. Wood, Fifth.	George Burgess, Ninth.
Charles Baile, Third.	Saml. Farron, Sixth.	Bryan Vernon, Tenth.
	Aaron Walker, Seventh.	

This Tablet was erected by the Ashton Change-ringers as a testimony of their respect for Mr. C. Baile.

934. This day each man did do his duty.
On the second of January, 1847, was rung in this Tower a true and complete peal of Kent Treble bob Royal, comprising 5240 changes, which was performed in 5 hours and 27 minutes. This celebrated peal was composed and conducted by Mr. James Wood, and will long stand pre-eminent as a splendid master-piece in the Campanalogian art. The persons who had the distinguished honour in performing in this Herculean achievement were stationed as follows:—

William Burgess, Junior, Treble.	James Ogden, Fourth.	John Eaton, Eighth.
Joseph Burgess, Second.	James Adams, Fifth.	George Burgess, Ninth.
James Wood, Third.	William Burgess, Senior, Sixth.	Bryan Vernon, Tenth.
	Luke Broadbent, Seventh.	

935. Accomplishment is the crowning fruit of perseverance.
On the 27th of January, 1855, the society of Change-ringers connected with this Church (Ashton-on-Lyne), paid a visit to Oldham and rang on the fine peal of 12 Bells of the parish Church in the above Town a true and complete peal of Grandsire Cinques, comprising 5160 melodious changes, which was composed and conducted by Mr. James Wood, and brought round in a masterly style in 3 hours and 37 minutes. The above was the first peal that was ever accomplished on these bells by an entire band from any one town, with the exception of the Oldham company themselves. The Gentlemen who had the honour to perform their respective parts in the above superlative feat were as follows:—

James Barber, First.	James Ogden, Fifth.	Luke Broadbent, Ninth.
Joseph Burgess, Second.	William Burgess, Sixth.	John Eaton, Tenth.
James Wood, Third.	William Barber, Seventh.	James Adams, Eleventh.
Joseph Gillott, Fourth.	Charles Walker, Eighth.	Bryan Vernon, Twelfth.
	Weight of Tenor, 34 cwt.	

936. Perseverance is the element of success.
The morning of the first of January, 1858, was ushered in and the birthright of the newborn year was proclaimed in this town by ringing in this tower a true and complete peal of Grandsire Caters, comprising 10,277 changes, which was composed and conducted by Mr. James Adams, and finally completed in 6 hours and 8 minutes, which are the greatest number of changes that was ever accomplished in the above method in this or the adjoining counties. The following were the persons who performed in this truly herculean feat:

James Barber, Treble.	James Ogden, Fourth.	Luke Broadbent, Ninth.
Thomas Wroe, Second.	Joseph Gillott, Fifth.	James Adams, Tenth.
Joseph Burgess, Third.	William Burgess, Senr., Sixth.	William Barber, Twelfth.
	John Eaton, Seventh.	

937. May the sons of Harmony never split upon the rock of Discord.
On Christmas Day morning, 1863, was rung in this Tower a true and complete peal of Grandsire caters, comprising 7037 harmonious changes, which was composed and conducted by James Wood, and finally brought round in a masterly style, in 4 hours and 35 minutes, by the following ringers, viz.:—

John Hobson, First.	James Wood, Fourth.	John Eaton, Eighth.
Samuel Moss, Second.	R. Whitworth, Fifth.	George Burgess, Ninth.
James Ogden, Third.	Samuel Farron, Sixth.	Bryan Vernon, Tenth.
	William Burgess, Seventh.	

RECEIVED.—J. Cox; S. B.; W. Gordon. Friends are requested not to report peals or touches rung on Postal Cards.

'*Adeo ubi Ecclesiastici Ordinis non est consensus, et offers, et tinguis, et sacerdos es tibi solus.*' The Bishop's paraphrase is: 'In places where there are no clergy, any single Christian may exercise the functions of the priesthood, may celebrate the Eucharist, and baptize.' Tertullian's words, however, go beyond that. What Bishop Kaye describes as permitted, Tertullian describes as done. Yet, in so rhetorical a writer, it is dangerous to take passages like this literally; and if, as may be the case, Tertullian was writing not of the Christian Church at large, but only of some practice, or theory, of his heretical friends, the value of his testimony in this case becomes very small indeed. And we have a practical rule sufficient for all cases in our own country, whatever may be the exigencies on shipboard or abroad—'We have no such custom, neither the churches of God.'

Still, in these days, the priesthood of the laity needs to be faced, and, as far as may be, revived. We should be less troubled than we are now with defective or exaggerated theories of Absolution and the Real Presence if the connexion of both with the gathering together of two or three in Christ's name were more generally recognised according to Matt. xviii. 15-20. J. F.

Sheffield and the Diocese of York.

SIR,—In your account of the Consecration of the Bishop of Sodor and Man there is some allusion to the line taken by the Churchmen of Sheffield about the foundation of a new diocese in South Yorkshire. I must say I regret exceedingly that a great town has thought fit to pursue such a course as that. It is very well that Church people in Sheffield should feel a great personal attachment to their Archbishop, but they surely ought to think of the interests of the Church in general more than of their own partialities. The case stands thus. Wakefield is the most central place for a Bishopric of South Yorkshire, in which Sheffield would be the principal town, as Leeds is in Ripon. If Sheffield is left out of the diocese which is formed, and remains in York, it will have to go through the heart of the new diocese in order to reach by the straightest way the capital of its own. Is not this a great complication? And does it not hinder that increase of the Episcopate which we in the North so much need? I have always heard that when the railway was first made into Yorkshire, Sheffield opposed the then plan of the railway going through it. If so, the cost of altering the railway since, that it might pass Sheffield, has been very considerable. But if, in the present day, a great town uses its political influence to hinder a measure of great good to the Church, it will supply a tremendous argument to the advocates of Disestablishment.

A YORKSHIRE VICAR.

Church Temperance Society's Bazaar.

SIR,—Allow me to call the attention of your numerous readers to the special effort, in aid of the work of the Church of England Temperance Society, which is now being made in the Northern Province, or, in other words, throughout all the North of England. The work increases rapidly, and the more the Society does the more it finds to do. A Bazaar is to be held in Manchester in October, to which I earnestly ask your readers to render any aid they can. In this special effort an opportunity is given to all of showing their sympathy with Temperance work in a practical way. Subscriptions or donations will be gladly acknowledged by me, or by Mr. Graham, the General Secretary, 16 Mount Street, Albert Square, Manchester. HERBERT BIRCH, The Vicarage, Blackburn, Lancashire. Hon. Bazaar Sec.

Kneeling before beginning of Service.

SIR,—Some years ago it was agreed in the Ruri-decanal Chapter of Kingston-upon-Hull, that the clergy should ask all their people to kneel down with them when they knelt for private prayer before the service, and intercede silently for their ministers. I believe this is very generally done; at any rate it is in my church, and I am sorry the Vicar of Tottenham has written against the practice.

JOHN SCOTT.

Vicarage, St. Mary's, Hull.

Canons and Honorary Canons.

SIR,—In common with other newspapers you state that three Bishops have been appointed lately; two, Canons of York, and one Honorary Canon. There are no Honorary Canons of York. There are Residentiary and non-Residentiary; but all the Canons are members of the Chapter, it being an old foundation.

CANON (NON-RESIDENTIARY) OF YORK.

SIR,—In answer to the inquiry of 'A Candidate for Holy Orders' in *Church Bells* of Sept. 1, I can state that Canon Pinder used to recommend to the students of Wells Theological College, *Aid to Parochial Visiting, or a Manual for Keeping a Record concerning each Parishioner*, by Rev. A. Denne Hilton. It has reached a sixth edition, and is published by J. & C. Mozley, of 6 Pater-noster Row, in cloth, at 1s.; in roan, at 1s. 6d. It was dedicated by permission to Bishop Wilberforce, who also recommended it to his clergy.

SIR,—Your correspondent 'E. J.' will find the following pamphlet contain a good deal of the matter he requires:—*The Succession of Bishops in the Church of England Unbroken; or, the Nag's Head Fable Refuted. With a Postscript, &c.* By E. C. Harrington. It was published in 1846 by Rivingtons, London; and Hannaford, Exeter. The price, I believe, was 3s.; but it may have been less.

T. H.

'MARY' has four or five old Church Services. She would be glad to know if there is any place she could send them where they would be of use.

[The Rev. J. Scarth, of the Thames Mission to Seamen, Milton-next-Gravesend, makes good use of such books; which should, of course, be sent carriage paid.—ED.]

'H. W.' who is desirous of preparing for the Cambridge Preliminary Examination of Candidates for Holy Orders, would be much obliged to any one who would kindly furnish him with a list of books best adapted for the purpose.

17 Rawlins Street, Fairfield, Liverpool.

RECEIVED ALSO.—J. W. W.; H.; Albert Bannister; An Anxious and Saddened Vicar; T. Jackson; Eaton Terrace.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Change-ringing by the Yorkshire Association.

On Saturday, 25th ult., the Society rang at St. Lawrence's, Pudsey, 5088 changes of Kent Treble Bob Major in 3 hrs. 5 mins. W. Greenwood, 1; H. Rastrick, 2; J. Whitaker, 3; T. Pollard, 4; G. Barraclough, 5; T. Lockwood, 6; J. B. Jennings, 7; H. Hubbard, jun., 8. The peal was composed and conducted by Tom Lockwood. Tenor, 14 cwt.

Also, on Friday night, the 31st ult., eight members of the above Association met at St. James's Church, Hull, and rang the Vicar's Peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples in 2 hrs. 57 mins. A. Taylor, 1; H. Wharf, 2; R. Chaffer, 3; W. Stickney, 4; T. Stockdale; C. Jackson, 6; G. Harrison, 7; F. Merri-son, 8. Tenor, 15 cwt. Conducted by C. Jackson.

Royal Cumberland Society, late 'London Scholars.'

THE Annual Meeting of the Society will take place on Friday evening, September 28th, at the Meeting-room, 54 St. Martin's Lane, London, W.C. The business of the evening being the receiving of the auditors' account for past year, re-election of officers for the coming year, and general business, members and friends will kindly accept this notification, and be in attendance as early as possible.

GEO. NEWSOM, Master.
H. DAINS, Hon. Sec.

An Association of Ringers for the Diocese of Durham.

On Saturday, 25th ult., a Meeting was held at Durham for the purpose of forming an Association of Ringers for the diocese. Ringers were in attendance from the Cathedral, Alnwick, Hurworth-on-Tees, North Shields, Newcastle-on-Tyne, and Stockton-on-Tees, the chair being occupied by the Rev. T. Rogers, M.A., Precentor and Minor Canon of the Cathedral. Mr. Reed, North Shields, was elected President; the Rev. J. J. M. Perry, M.A., Vicar of St. Paul's, Alnwick, Treasurer; and Mr. Clarkson, Stockton-on-Tees, Secretary. These gentlemen form the Committee, with power to add to their number. Rules were drawn up, and a Meeting arranged to take place at Durham on Saturday, November 24th. The Dean of Durham, Dr. Tristram, Archdeacons Hamilton and Prest, and several clergy of the diocese, express their sympathy with the object of the Association, which is for the promotion of change-ringing and belfry-reform.

Verdict on the Fulham Peal.

SIR,—Although a few weeks ago Mr. Snowdon gave a lucid explanation respecting this peal, still, with due respect to him, I send you the two peals placed side by side, with the bobs in Reeves's peal marked alphabetically. By commencing with the bobs under the w marked *a*, placing them under the *m* in a new peal, and reversing the whole to the letter *z*, the Fulham Peal will be produced.

REEVES'S PEAL.						THE FULHAM PEAL.					
	M.	W.	H.				M.	W.	H.		
5 6 3 4 2	1b	2a	2z			2 5 6 3 4	2	1	1		
6 4 5 2 3	2y	2x				3 2 5 4 6	2	2	2		
2 6 4 3 5	2w	2v	2u			4 3 2 6 5	2	2	2		
3 2 6 5 4	2t	2s	2r			6 4 3 5 2	2	2	2		
5 4 2 6 3	1q	2p	2o			5 6 4 2 3	2	2	2		
6 5 4 3 2	2n	2m	2l			3 5 2 6 4	2	1	2		
3 6 5 2 4	2k	2j	2i			6 3 5 4 2	2	2	2		
2 3 6 4 5	2h	2g	2f			3 4 6 2 5	2	2	—		
2 3 4 5 6	2c	2d	1c			2 3 3 5 6	2	2	2		

Respecting the 5600 London Surprise extracted from the *Clavis* by my old friend Wm. Cooter, I can truthfully say that I never knew that a peal similar to the one I had composed was in existence until I was presented with a copy of the *Clavis* some eighteen months ago. As it seems necessary, in order to secure a peal nowadays, to give publicity to it, I now send you a 6720 of London Surprise with 60 bobs.

JOHN COX.

6720 London Surprise.

	M.	W.	H.
6 5 4 3 2	—	—	—
3 6 4 5 2	—	—	—
5 4 2 6 3	—	—	—
3 2 4 6 5	—	—	—
5 6 4 2 3	—	—	—
4 5 6 2 3	—	—	—

Four times repeated.

Ringers' Excursion in Kent.

THE Gravesend ringers had a pleasant excursion on the 27th ult., accompanied by the Churchwardens and Sidesmen, ringing touches at various places, with the kind permission of the several Rectors and Churchwardens.

BELFRY RECORDS.

CHRIST CHURCH, PHILADELPHIA. (Tablet in the Belfry.)

938. On June the 9th, 1850, was rung in this Steeple Mr. Holt's celebrated ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, consisting of 5040 changes, in 3 hours. The performers were stationed as follows:—

Thos. Le Sage, Treble.	W. H. Haley, Fourth.	Edward Sawyer, Seventh.
Charles Rahill, Second.	James Hewitt, Fifth.	Richd. Dodd & John Davy, Tenor.
Frederick Wade, Third.	William Lobb, Sixth.	

This Tablet is erected to commemorate the above performance, which was executed in a masterly style, and conducted by W. H. Haley with consummate skill, and being the first peal of change-ringing in the United States of America was duly appreciated by many attentive listeners.

Benjamin Dow, Rector.
W. C. Kent, Churchwardens.
Moses Kempton, C.

Note.—Of the above band Rahill was from Kent, Wade from Norfolk, Dodd from Northampton, Davy from Devonshire; the other four from London.

RECEIVED ALSO.—C. Lavin; H. Luffin; J. Lockwood; W. Gordon (with P.O.O.); W. Cooke; J. H. Ryall; G. J. Clarkson (your trebles are badly hung; apply to a proper bellhanger).

me recommend, then, the overwrought London parson to take a ticket (third class, 12s.) to Matlock Bridge Station. A four-miles' drive in a fly will bring him to the pretty village of Ashover, in the heart of lovely Derbyshire. Here is a water-cure establishment, which for cleanness, situation, and courtesy of servants, is unsurpassed. The climate is a happy mean between the extremes of Buxton and Matlock, being less bracing than the former and less relaxing than the latter. I need not add that no one is obliged to take the baths, but some of them are very pleasant as well as wholesome.

C. E. S. RATCLIFFE, B.A., Curate of Downham, Brentwood.

'Three Stray Sundays from his Parish Church.'

SIR,—Permit me to ask, in reference to the pain of 'Rampage' at the Saint's-day Evensong, 'because the service was so hurried,' &c., how long has your worthy contributor been accustomed to attend daily service (not, of course, choral)? The very frequent repetition of the office must result in some amount of increase in the speed. It was only the other day that I remarked to a clerical friend, who was sitting with me at early matins close to a great dignitary of the Church, against whom it would be impossible to bring the charge of irreverence, 'How fast he said the Psalms this morning!' Those accustomed to preach the prayers, or to hear them preached, would, I feel sure, have been shocked.

PRESEBYTER.

Dr. Harrison's Letter to Dr. Pusey.

SIR,—Your reviewer charges Dr. Harrison with neglect in not taking the trouble to see that Dr. Pusey has not misquoted Irenæus; but the fact is, that Dr. H. admits in his treatise, *The Fathers v. Dr. Pusey*, that Dr. P. may have translated 'from an incorrect reading.' But is the reading 'quod offertur,' instead of 'per quod offertur,' incorrect? There is reason to believe that it is so, from internal evidence, as the latter reading certainly is more in harmony with the preceding words of Irenæus (*per Jesum offert Ecclesiam*, iv. 17, 5). It is true, indeed, that Massuet rejects 'per,' and so does Stieren, who follows him; it is true, too, that two (not three) of the best MSS. (Clermont and Voss) likewise reject it; but the latter Codex generally follows the former, and the *Codex Vaticanus*, in which it is said not to be found, has, as Mr. Harvey tells us, 'disappeared from the Vatican,' and cannot be considered as one of the three best. The 'per' is found, however, if I mistake not, in the important *Codex Arundel*, and is adopted by Mr. Harvey in his very valuable edition of Irenæus, published at Cambridge in 1857, for which he carefully collated the two best MSS. in existence, the Clermont and the Arundel. I cannot but think, too, that Dr. Pusey, who had access to all the editions of Irenæus, ought unquestionably to have noticed the different reading; while Dr. Harrison, living in a country parish, with probably but one edition before him, cannot justly be censured, especially as he has candidly admitted the possibility of another reading.

A LATE FELLOW OF ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE.

Orientalizing.

SIR,—The following extract from the writings of the celebrated Missionary, Dr. Wolff, strengthens the suggestion lately given in your paper by the Rev. N. T. Garry, on the attention which the practice of the Eastern Church deserves:—

'Before Wolff set out as a missionary, in the year 1821, to the East, he had the happiness of becoming acquainted with that mighty genius, the Rev. Robert Hall, the Baptist preacher, who said to him, "Now, Wolff, you are going out as a Missionary to the East, let me therefore give you some hints. First of all, do not imagine that wisdom has died out with us Protestants, and that all you see among the Eastern nations is folly and superstition because they are not in accordance with your preconceived opinions. On the contrary, direct your attention to the customs and practices of the Eastern Churches, and depend upon it that those customs, opinions, and practices which are universal, are of Apostolic origin, for the East is not called without reason 'the Unchangeable East.' And be not afraid if those customs are also practised by the Papists; for the Papists wear shoes, and the Protestants do so likewise."'

H.

SIR,—In your last there was given an account of a peculiar Harvest Service at Farnlish, Bedfordshire; perhaps it may be as well to give the sequel. Since then (seven days) there has been no rain, neither is there the appearance of any, though previously it was seldom fine for three days together. Farnlish is a small village, of only seventy-five inhabitants, but in this instance it has set an example worthy of being followed by other and larger places. Too often in our various pursuits we are apt to forget the Disposer of all events. 'Him that honoureth Me I will honour.'

WM. HARRIS.

Wollaston, Sept. 10.

Queries.

SIR,—Will you, or any of your readers, kindly inform me if a layman, who frequently reads the Lessons, could also read or intone the Litany as far as the Lord's Prayer?

CATHOLICUS.

[At Lincoln, if not in other cathedrals, two lay clerks have been wont to sing the Litany down to the Lord's Prayer, when a priest takes it up. Some say, moreover, that as the Litany is not, strictly speaking, an office or service (being therefore said, not in the choir but at a faldstool outside the screen), the whole of it may be recited in church by a layman.—ED.]

SIR,—Is it legal for a deacon to administer the 'Bread' at a celebration of the Holy Communion?

AGAR.

[No. In primitive days, however, even a man in minor orders was permitted to carry the Reserved Eucharist (the one kind dipped in the other kind) from the church to a sick bed, in case of need.—ED.]

RECEIVED ALSO.—H. E. J.; Rev. Dr. H.; T. Jackson; An Anxious and Saddened Vicar; Albert Bannister; J. T. Raymond; A. C. MacLachlan; W. W. H.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Change-ringing by the Yorkshire Association at Ilkley.

ON Saturday, Sept. 8th, the Society rang at All Saints, Ilkley, 5120 changes of Kent Treble Bob Major in 3 hrs. 1 min. C. Ralph, 1; L. Cawood, 2; F. Maston, 3; H. Hubbard, jun., 4; G. Barraclough, 5; T. Lockwood, 6; J. Barraclough, 7; J. W. Snowden, 8. The peal, which has the fifth and sixth their extent each way in 5-6, was composed and conducted by Tom Lockwood. Tenor, 18 cwt.

Change-ringing at Almondbury.

ON Saturday, the 25th August, eight members of the parish ringers rang a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major, consisting of 5088 changes, in 3 hrs. 9 mins. J. Brook, 1; A. Kaye, 2; J. E. Jenkinson, 3; A. Womersley, 4; T. North, 5; Wm. Womersley, 6; W. Boothroyd, 7th; A. Haigh (conductor), 8. Tenor, 18 cwt.

SS. Mary and Nicholas, Spalding, Lincolnshire.

THE newly-formed Society of Ringers of the above church rang on Thursday evening, August 30th, a peal of Bob Minor (Dixon's Variations) in 28½ minutes. This is the first peal of the above method that has been rung on these bells, and contains 138 bobs, 6 singles, and 4 extremes. The ringers were, A. J. Ridlington, 1; W. H. Branson, 2; F. Ridlington, 3; R. Mackman, 4; J. S. Wright (conductor), 5; R. Clarke, Tenor, 20 cwt.

Ringling at Milnrow, Lancashire.

THE Society of Change-ringers of St. James's Church, Milnrow, rang at St. Mary's, Buerist, on Saturday, 31st ult., Mr. Holt's ten part peal of Grand-sire Triples, consisting of 5040 changes, in 2 hrs. 58 mins. The ringers were, A. Hurst, 1; R. Buckley, 2; J. Fitton, 3; J. F. Wild, 4; E. Clegg, 5; T. Platt, 6; A. Clegg, 7; J. Fielding, 8. Conductor, Mr. J. Platt. Tenor, 16 cwt. This is the first peal rung on these bells, from the foundry of Messrs. Mears, of London, in 1872.

Correction.

In the Philadelphia peal read 'H. W. Haley,' instead of 'W. H.,' and the other 'five' from London, instead of 'four.'

BELFRY RECORDS.

MARSHAM, NORFOLK. (Tablets in the Belfry.)

939. THIS tablet is erected to commemorate the following Peals which have been rung in this Steeple since the year 1837. A Touch, consisting of 7 different Peals, each containing 720 changes, was rung December 14th, 1837, in 3 hours and 3 minutes. Names of Peals as follows:—London Surprise; Cambridge do.; Kent Treble Bob; Oxford Treble Bob; Oxford Double Bob; Double Court Bob; and Stedman's Slew Course. Conducted by Thomas Edridge, and rung by the following persons:—

John Edridge, Treble.	Thomas Greenwood, Third.	John Delph, Fifth.
Thomas Gooch, Second.	Charles Middleton, Fourth.	Thomas Edridge, Tenor.

940. A PEAL of 5280 changes of Oxford Treble Bob Major was rung July 23rd, 1842, in 2 hours 56 minutes. Conducted by T. Greenwood, and rung by the following persons:—

Francis Goodwin, Treble.	Zachariah Hunt, Fourth.	Thomas Greenwood, Seventh.
Thomas Gooch, Second.	Samuel Maidstone, Fifth.	John Delph, Tenor.
Chas. Clements, jun., Third.	William Crane, Sixth.	

The above was the first Peal after being made into Eight.

941. A PEAL of 6400 changes of Oxford Treble Bob Major was rung October 25th, 1842, in 3 hours 43 minutes. Composed and conducted by T. Greenwood, and rung by the following persons:—

Thomas Greenwood, Treble.	Edward Fitt, Fourth.	William Crane, Sixth.
Thomas Gooch, Second.	Samuel Maidstone, Fifth.	John Delph, Seventh.
Charles Clements, jun., Third.		Thomas Edridge, Tenor.

942. A PEAL, consisting of 10,080 Changes, Oxford Treble Bob Major, was rung in a masterly style July 13th, 1844, in 5 hours 43 minutes. Composed by Evershed, Esq., of Gravesend. Conducted by Thomas Greenwood, and rung by the following persons:—

Th. Greenwood, First.	S. Maystone, Fourth.	W. Crane, Sixth.
T. Gooch, Second.	T. Fox, Fifth.	J. Delph, Seventh.
C. Clements, jun., Third.		T. Edridge, Tenor.

943. A PEAL of 5088 changes of Kent Treble Bob Major was rung April 7th, 1846, in 3 hours 2 minutes. Composed and conducted by Thomas Greenwood, and rung by the following persons:—

T. Gooch, Treble.	Zachariah Hunt, Fourth.	S. Maidstone, Sixth.
C. Clements, jun., Second.	T. Greenwood, Fifth.	J. Delph, Seventh.
E. Fitt, Third.		T. Edridge, Tenor.

944. ON Tuesday, the 18th February, 1851, the Aylsham and Marsham Society of Change Ringers ascended the Tower and rung 5152 changes of Norwich Double Court Bob Major, in 2 hours and 56 minutes. This is the only peal rung in the county, except by St. Peter's Society, Norwich, on this intricate method. It was composed by Mr. I. Hurrey, of Norwich, conducted by T. Greenwood, and rung by the following persons:—

T. Greenwood, Treble.	J. Edridge, Fourth.	T. Gooch, Sixth.
H. Edridge, Second.	E. Fitt, Fifth.	S. Maidstone, Seventh.
C. Clements, Third.		T. Edridge, Tenor.

GRAVESEND. (New Tablets in the Belfry.)

945. ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS. ESTABLISHED 1637.—On Saturday, September 19th, 1863, the following members of this Society rang on these Bells a true peal of Triples, consisting of 5040 changes, upon Stedman's principle, in excellent style, in 3 hours, being the first peal in this method on these Bells.

Henry W. Haley, Treble.	William Cooper, Fourth.	Samuel Hayes, Sixth.
Wm. C. Middleton, Second.	James Dwight, Fifth.	George Muskett, Seventh.
William Loft, Third.		Henry Allen, Tenor.

Conducted by Mr. Henry W. Haley.
Rev. Robert Joyney, M.A., Rector.
E. F. Jewell, Churchwarden.
Charles Spencer, Churchwarden.

946. ON Saturday, January 24th, 1874, the following members of this Society rang a true peal of Kent Treble Bob Major, containing 5088 changes, in 3 hrs. 7 mins, being the first peal in the Kent Variation on these Bells.

Henry Booth, Treble.	Wm. Jones, Fourth.	Edm. Hamman, Sixth.
Wm. Tanner, Second.	Saml. Hayes, Fifth.	Geo. Bred, Seventh.
Jos. W. Aitkin, Third.		Jno. M. Hayes, Tenor.

Rev. Robert Joyney, M.A., Rector.
Rev. Robert Strong, B.A., Curate.
John Palmer, Churchwarden.
James Davies, Churchwarden.

RECEIVED ALSO.—J. Hall; H. N.; Liverpool College Youth; St. James's P. H.; J. A. C.

would be shown in addressing a magistrate; and when God's Word is read to us, it seems right that it be read distinctly, as being God's message to God's people. 'Let all things be done decently.'

RAMPAGE.

Lay Recital of the Litany.

SIR,—The question raised by 'Catholicus,' whether a layman may legally read or intone the Litany, receives illustration from the subjoined extract from a sermon of Dr. Bisse, author of *The Beauty of Holiness*. He is speaking only of cathedral churches; but it is needless to say that there is only one law for the services of the Church, whether in cathedrals or parish churches.

Dr. Bisse says:—'I cannot omit this opportunity of removing a stumbling-block at which many well-affected to our liturgy have stumbled; that the singing of the Litany, so solemn a parcel of our service, is sometimes performed by lay persons, which belong to and are embodied in our choirs.'

'Now, though this practice may seem to have a wrong appearance when priests are present, and for that reason hath been abridg'd in these later days; yet in vindication of the Church, which admits of no irregularity, it is proper to shew this offence to be grounded on a mistake. For in the present case the voice of the singer, whether Ecclesiastic or Laic, is to be considered not as of a priest, but prætor; *vox prætoris*, going before and leading on the Congregation; in general Confessions, as well as Supplications or Litanies, has been allowed. Inasmuch, that in the Confession in the Communion-office, surely the most solemn and upon the most solemn occasion, the old Rubrick directed it to be "said either by one of the Communicants in the name of the rest, or else by the Minister himself." In both cases the Priest becomes as one of the Congregation: and as after that Confession, he is ordered to resume his Office in pronouncing the Absolution; so when the Litany is sung it is directed, "the Priest, &c., shall say the Lord's Prayer." The same is the case, when the Creed is said or sung jointly by the Priest and People embody'd as one, after which by direction of the Rubrick they return to their distinct and appointed parts. But farther in the Litany, the several Deprecations and Intercessions (which two chiefly make up the body of it,) contain each but one entire petition, tho' divided in such manner, as separately to be said between the Priest and People in Parish Churches, or sung between the Chaunter and Choir in Cathedrals. Now the Petition being but one, tho' thus distributed, it imports not which begins, or which ends. And the old objection has been the reverse of the present, that the petitionary part has been allotted to the People; tho' without its correspondent it cannot indeed be called a petition.'

'Let us hence admire that spirit of unity and charity of our Church, so conspicuous in these its principal offices; which are so contrived, that in the offering them up the People are admitted into an equal part and partnership with the Priesthood.' (P. 41.)—*A Rationale on Cathedral Worship, or Choir Service. A Sermon preach'd in the Cathedral Church of Hereford at the Anniversary Meeting of the Choirs of Worcester, Gloucester, and Hereford, Sept. 7, 1720.* By Tho. Bisse, D.D., and Chancellor of the said Church.

The Cathedral of Lincoln is, I believe, the only one where the custom for the Litany being said or sung by laymen survives. From Dr. Bisse's remarks it is evident that it was once much more customary.

E. V.

SIR,—I can confirm your reply to 'Catholicus' in last week's *Church Bells*. There seems to be little doubt but that the Litany may be sung or said by a layman,—at any rate I believe no one would have the audacity to question its legality. I have myself heard the Bishop of London say that in Lincoln Cathedral, from whence he came, and in a parish in the same diocese, the Litany was rendered by a lay clerk; but, if my recollection serves me, he seemed to be under a cloud whether it is within the law, though he strongly approved of it. Dr. Jackson, in both his dioceses, has done a great deal towards bringing the laity to the front in the Church by the large number of lay readers he has licensed. It would be of interest to know whether his Lordship is prepared to go further, and support the scheme for restoring the diaconate to a permanency, which it seems to me the Bishops will soon have to do in spite of themselves, as the supply and demand of clergy are, and will be, so at variance with one another. I am glad to read, in the same issue, the letter from 'A Vicar of a large Parish,' advocating the movement so strongly. I do hope you will not let the subject drop. I cannot help thinking this revival would go a great way in preventing the severance of the Church from the State. Perhaps some clergyman may be inclined to allow one of his lay communicants to say the Litany, in order to test the question of legality.

Can you inform me the price and publisher of *Ecclesiastical and Academic Colours*, by Rev. J. W. Wood, alluded to by a Curate in your issue of the 8th May? I also, through your columns, inform some of your readers that I possess *Church Bells*, from No. 1 to the present time, unbound, and shall be glad to hear of anyone wishing to have them; and also to hear from some one who would like to have it sent weekly to him after I have read it. In the latter case, a clergyman abroad will be preferred.

Alexandra Villas, Lower Edmonton, N.

HENRY WRIGHT, Lay Reader.

The Nag's Head Fable.

SIR,—Your correspondent 'E. J.' who desires to have authorities on the Nag's Head fable, may be interested in studying pp. 1-232 of vol. iii. of Archbishop Bramhall's Works (Oxford: J. H. Parker, 1844); and the account of Archbishop Parker's consecration in Dean Hook's *Lives of the Archbishops of Canterbury*, vol. iv. new series, Chapter viii. and Appendix. N. D.

'W. A. C.' sends the following extract from the Guildhall Free Library Catalogue:—'Brown (Thos.), B.D. The Story of the Ordination of our First Bishops, in Queen Elizabeth's Reign, at the Nag's Head Tavern in Cheapside, thoroughly examined; and proved to be a late-invented, inconsistent, self-contradicting, and absurd fable. 8vo. London, 1731.'

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Bell-ringing for Non-Church Objects.

SIR,—The Vicar of Great Yarmouth, in his article on 'Sidesmen,' in your issue of the 8th inst., says, 'Bells certainly ought never to be rung except in connexion with religious things belonging unto the Church.' Permit me to ask, through your paper, if Mr. Venables would not allow, or does not allow, his bells to be rung on public occasions, such as the usual 'State Days,' viz. Queen's Birthday, Accession, Coronation, Prince of Wales's Birthday, &c., or such as we had here last week, the opening of the Art Gallery, when all Liverpool did honour to the occasion? Ringing for races is wrong, but ringing for such occasions as I have mentioned is, I think, not only not wrong, but quite right; and people would grumble if the bells were silent, and Incumbents and Wardens would come in for a great deal of ill-will, and quite right if they did.

LIVERPOOL COLLEGE YOUTH.

Bell-hanging on Improved Principles.

WE have on former occasions assured our readers that the so-called 'improved principles' are altogether a myth—the mere puffing advertisements of persons ignorant of the principles of mechanics. There has long been improved WORKMANSHIP—and that is still going on—but the principles remain the same. If bells are well hung by experienced workmen above all scamping, they will go for fifty years and more, if they are carefully looked after.

Norwich Diocesan Association of Ringers.

THE Inaugural Meeting will be held in Norwich on Monday, Sept. 24th. The companies will commence ringing in the various towers soon after 10 a.m. At 12.30 a short service will be held at St. Andrew's Church, the Venerable Archdeacon Nevill being the preacher. At 1 p.m. there will be dinner at the Royal Hotel (2s. 6d. per head), after which the Report will be read, &c. Ringing will then be resumed. Return tickets at single fares will be issued to members, if they will acquaint the Secretary on or before Sept. 15th with the name of the station from which they will travel.

Persons wishing to dine should communicate with the Secretary not later than September 15th.

G. H. HARRIS, Hon. Sec.

Tunstead Vicarage, Norwich.

FULHAM PEALS.—After a verdict is given it is not usual to reopen a discussion.—ED.

PRESTON CORRESPONDENT.—On turning to the Clergy List we find 18 Prestons, so we are unable to answer our friend direct; but ringers, whose services are required regularly, need be paid regularly—the custom of the locality will be a guide to the amount.—ED.

BELFRY RECORDS.

LAVENHAM, SUFFOLK. (Tablets in the Belfry.)

947. This Peal was augmented from six to eight, Dec. 23, 1811, by subscription.

J. Buck, Rector.

Wm. King,

J. Mumford,

Churchwardens.

Ringers:

Wm. Smith.	Jno. Westrop.
Isac. Brazier.	Jno. Smith.
Robert Pinder.	Jno. Boby.
Robert Everard.	Jno. Hayward.
Thomas Smith.	Thomas Stearn.*
*Wm. Mills.	Ben. Stearn.
Jno. Mills.	Wm. Mills.
Daniel Webber.	Thos. Turner.

* Daniel Webber stands No. 6 on this side. Thos. Turner stands No. 5 on this side.

948. On Monday, Dec. 12, 1853, a select party of friends (the undermentioned) met and rung on these harmonious bells an excellent peal of Oxford Treble Bob, consisting of 5000 changes, in 3 hours and 45 minutes, being placed as follows—

Charles King, Lavenham, Treble.	John Boby, Lavenham, Fifth.
John Pettit, Hadleigh, Second.	Edward Bontill, Kersey, Sixth.
Robert Porry, Glemsford, Third.	William Snell, Perston, Seventh.
John Edwards, Bildestone, Fourth.	Henry Hobart, Bildestone, Tenor.

The peal was taken from Messrs. Jones, Reaves', and Blakemore's *Campanologia*, and ably conducted by Henry Hobart.

'LABOR IPSE VOLUNTAS.'

The conductor of this peal was a very able ringer: he rung the tenor bell at Bildestone in a peal, weighing only 8 stone at the time, the bell weighing 18 cwt.; and could ring four bells (hand).

949. On the 29th of May, 1820, a complete peal of 5024 harmonious changes of Oxford Treble Bob was rung in this steeple in 3 hours and 7 minutes, by the ringers whose names are hereunto subjoined:—

Thomas Hayward, Treble.	Charles King, Fourth.	John Shipp (Conductor) Sixth.
Jno. Mills, Second.	John Boby, Fifth.	William Smith, Seventh.
William Webber, Third.		John Smith, Tenor.

950. Dec. 2nd, 1813, was rung in this steeple a complete peal of Six Thousand Bob Major changes, composed by the late Mr. John Warren of Copdock, and performed in four hours and 3 minutes by the following:—

Thomas Hayward, Treble.	John Boby, Fifth.	Jno. Nanton, bellhanger of Ipswich, tenor, who called the peal.
William Miles, Second.	Jno. Mills, Sixth.	
Daniel Webber, Third.	William Smith, Seventh.	
Jno. Smith, Fourth.		

NOTE TO LAVENHAM BELLS.—Weight, treble 7 cwt. 4 lbs., cast 1811. Second, 6 cwt. 2 qrs. 8 lbs., cast 1811. Third, 7 cwt. 2 qrs., cast 1702. Fourth, 8 cwt., cast 1693. Fifth, 10 cwt., cast 1708. Sixth, 13 cwt., cast 1603. Seventh, 17 cwt., cast 1702, recast 1801. Tenor, 24 cwt., cast 1645. Inscriptions.—On treble, William Dobson founded me, 1611. Second, ditto, 1811. Third, Henry Pleasant founded me, 1702. Fourth, Jacob J. Fuller et Antonios Hornesby, Guardian Ecclesie de Lavenham (i.e. James Feller and Anthony Hornesby, Churchwardens of Lavenham), me fecit, 1603. Fifth, Henry Pleasant made me, 1703. Sixth, Hic menus, bone erit pro pulo ni clamore vocare (i.e. This bell shall be my use to call the people by my voice). This bell is dated 1603, and below this date, on another line, is, Richard Bowles me fecit. This bell is beautifully embellished in four different places with a dwarfish figure, having its arms and legs extended, and also otherwise handsomely embellished. Seventh, Henry Pleasant made me, 1702; recast, John Warner and Sons, London, 1851. Tenor, Myles Gray made me, 1625.

A Bishop for the Navy.

SIR,—Great injustice would surely be done to the very careful and judicious Report of the Committee of the Lower House of Convocation on the Spiritual Provision for Seamen of the Royal Navy, if it were to be judged by the article signed 'R. N.' in your last week's issue.

Many of your readers will, I think, regret that in this instance there has been a departure from the excellent spirit which generally prevails in *Church Bells*, and that personal attacks upon officers of the Royal Navy have been allowed to appear in its columns.

I am inclined to think that the Naval Superintendents of Dockyards are unjustly singled out for complaint; and I am sure the present Chaplain of Chatham Dockyard would be the last to endorse all that is said of them, and also the sweeping and most unfair charge brought against commanding officers generally.

I venture to think that it is not true that 'when a chaplain seeks to make himself the father of his people, the pastor of his flock, and, in short, to earn his pay by executing the real work of his office, every impediment is thrown in his way by his immediate naval superior, and excused by the Admiralty.' To imply that such a case is even common in the Royal Navy is to do a grievous wrong to naval officers. So far from accepting the statements of 'R. N.' I believe that a high-minded Christian gentleman, devoted to the duties of his sacred calling, rarely, if ever, fails to secure the sympathy and co-operation of his commanding and brother-officers.

The fact is, there is another side to the Naval Chaplain Question; and before your readers accept the statements of 'R. N.' they should have the views entertained on the subject by naval officers generally. It is possible they might welcome an ex-Colonial Bishop, full of life and vigour, as Chaplain-General; that they desire a change in the present condition of things is beyond a doubt; but they might welcome the one, and surely do desire the other, on grounds and with an object which are not quite those set forth in your article of last week.

A SAILOR'S SON AND BROTHER.

St. Margaret's, Laugharne.

SIR,—Will you kindly, once again, allow me to appeal through your columns? Not this time for the chancel of my church, but for the nave roof exterior, which is, indeed, in a sad state. The estimated cost is about 50l. My parishioners are all too poor to do anything, and it grieves me to see an ancient edifice for the want of so small a sum going rapidly to decay. A thousand subscribers of 1s. each could cancel this difficulty, or five hundred of 2s. each. I have not a resident gentleman in the parish, and the whole burden of appeal and collection devolves on myself. Will all clergy whose churches are dedicated to St. Margaret help? all whose Christian name is Margaret send 1s.?

Post-office Orders payable at Laugharne or St. Clears. Subscribers will oblige by saying in their notes, 'Through *Church Bells* of —', and then supply the date.

J. T. RAYMOND.

Upton House, Laugharne, Carmarthenshire, Sept. 10, 1877.

P.S.—Received for the chancel in answer to appeal:—Julia, 2s.; Rochester Postmark, 1s.; Sheffield Postmark, 1s.; L. G., 5s.; A. B., 2s.

The Nag's Head Fable.

SIR,—There is a full account of Archbishop Parker's Consecration in the *Defence of the English Ordinations* by Dr. Courayer, Canon Regular and Librarian of St. Geneviève. This book was printed at Paris, in French, and afterwards translated into English by Daniel Williams. (London: printed by H. P. for Charles Rivington, A.D. 1728.) I have a copy of this translation at No. 7 Railway Terrace, Salford, Manchester.

JOHN ASTLEY.

SIR,—In answer to 'E. J.' I would recommend Hugh James Rose's admirable Sermons and Appendices, published by Rivington, St. Paul's Churchyard, under the title, *The Commission and Consequent Duties of the Clergy*. Second edition, 1831. Price 9s.

W. S.

SIR,—The *Apostolical Succession of the English Clergy, traced from the Earliest Times, and in the four dioceses of Canterbury, London, Norwich, and Ely, continued to the year 1866*, by the Rev. Richard Hart (price 1s.; Samuel Miller and Co., Norwich), would help to meet the want of your correspondent, 'E. J.'

X.

Lay Recital of Litany.

SIR,—I heard the Litany sung at Exeter Cathedral last year by a priest-vicar and a lay clerk together, as far as the Lord's Prayer.

H.

Queries.

SIR,—May I ask some of your readers to be good enough to tell me, per post, the names of any Societies that give grants to Sunday Schools towards cost of building them, or materials used therein?

T. JACKSON.

Dunwich, near Yoxford.

SIR,—Will any of your correspondents or readers kindly inform me of any Homes or Refuges for unruly and immoral girls under fifteen or sixteen years of age? In my large and poor parish I am often appealed to by distressed parents, who, in most cases, would be unable to make any payment.

AN ANXIOUS AND SADDENED VICAR.

SIR,—Will any of your readers be kind enough to tell me of a periodical of good Church tone, suitable for lads and lasses recently confirmed? O. C. A.

SIR,—May I ask you to let me know what is the exact meaning of the word 'guerdon' in Hymn 254, v. 4, of *Hymns A. & M.* Revised Edition? Does it mean in this case a present reward, or the pledge of a reward to come?

W. A. C.

MR. W. H. KITSON, Torquay, Hon. Sec. of the Society for the Rejection of the Burials Bill, will be grateful for information respecting new churchyards, or additions to old churchyards, in different parts of England, made by Churchmen within the last few years.

RECEIVED ALSO.—W. H. M.; W. W. H.; A Vicar; Albert Bannister; A. C. MacLachlan; Rev. Dr. H. (We regret we cannot add to the Patristic criticisms which have already appeared, and must suffice for vindication.)

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Bell-ringing for Non-Church Objects.

SIR,—I had no intention of implying that church bells might not be rung on the 'State Days,' for I regarded them as connected with 'things religious.' The coronation of the monarch is an eminently religious ceremony, and there is a service specially appointed for the 'Queen's Accession.'

GEORGE VENABLES.

Change-ringing at St. Gabriel's, Pimlico, London.

ON Saturday, August 22nd, eight members of the St. James's Society of Change-ringers rang at the above church a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major, containing 5280 changes, in 3 hrs. 15 mins. F. Bate, 1; S. Reeves, 2; W. Hovard, 3; W. Collings, 4; H. Swain, 5; E. Horrex, 6; R. French, 7; J. M. Hayes, 8. The peal was composed by Mr. H. Hubbard, sen., and conducted by Mr. J. M. Hayes.

Ringling at St. Paul's, Warrington, Lancashire.

ON Saturday, the 15th inst., a friendly gathering of the following bands of ringers met in the tower of St. Paul's, and rang the following:—Darsbury, Grandsire Bob Minor, a touch of Oxford Treble Bob, and four peals of Grandsire Doubles. At St. Thomas's, St. Helen's, various touches.

Muffled Peal at St. Mary's Church, Woodford, Essex.

A MUFFLED peal was rung on Saturday, the 15th inst., as a last tribute of respect to the late Thomas Scarlett, who for upwards of thirty-five years was a ringer of the same, and died on the 9th inst., after a long and painful illness, at the age of fifty-three years. The ringers were, H. Nunn, sen., 1; A. Pledger, 2; W. Nunn, jun., 3; M. Ellsmore, 4; G. Burbridge, 5; H. Nunn, jun. (conductor), 6.

Change-ringing for the Harvest, Worth, Sussex.

ON Sunday, 16th inst., the Ruspier Society of Change-ringers rang Shipway's ten-course peal of 720 changes, Oxford Bob method, called with 22 singles, in 24 mins. The ringers were, J. Dale, 1; P. Horley, 2; G. Tutlett, 3; F. Knight, 4; J. Worsfold, 5; H. Burstow, 6.

Ringling at St. John's, Hackney, by Amateur Change-ringers.

ON Sunday evening, the 16th inst., eight members of the above Society rang a muffled peal, as a mark of esteem for the late Rector, T. O. Goodchild, thirty-eight years Rector of this parish. The following rung:—W. Smith, 1; W. Rument, 2; G. Clark, 3; J. Carmichael, 4; G. Page, 5; R. Turner, 6; C. Lee, 7; J. Pettit, 8. Conducted by Mr. J. Pettit.

Muffled Peal at Greenwich.

ON Monday evening, the 17th inst., eight members of the Society of Eastern Scholars rang at St. Alphege Church, Greenwich, a deeply muffled peal as a last token of respect to the memory of Mr. John Jones, for many years a ringer of this church, and who held the office of parish clerk at St. Mary's Church, Lewisham, for over fifty years. He died on the 13th inst., at the age of eighty-one years. The ringers were, H. J. Shade, 1; W. G. Davis, 2; R. Shade, 3; J. Cronk, 4; J. G. Shade, 5; J. Forman, 6; W. G. Shade, 7; G. Thatcher, 8. Conducted by Mr. J. Forman.

Ringling at Newmarket, Cambridgeshire.

ON Friday, the 21st inst., the Benington Society of Change-ringers, by special invitation from the Vicar and authorities of the parish, visited Newmarket, and reopened the new ring of eight bells in the recently-built tower of All Saints' Church. They rang a select composition, consisting of 2212 changes, in the several intricate methods of Stedman's Triples, 756; Double Norwich Court Major, 448; Kent Treble Bob Major, 560; Superlative Surprise Major, 448: total, 2212. Tenor, 11 cwt.; key G.

Ancient Society of College Youths.—Established 1637.

ON Monday, the 24th inst., eight members of the above Society rang at St. Matthew's Church, Bethnal Green, Mr. John Holt's one-part peal of Grandsire Triples, with two doubles in the last four leads, containing 5040 changes, in 2 hrs. 56 mins. H. Booth, 1; R. French, 2; S. Reeves, 3; J. Pettit, 4; W. Duffill, 5; H. Haley, jun., 6; F. Bate, 7; T. Bugby, 8. Conducted by Mr. James Pettit.

Steeple-Keeper Wanted.

WANTED a Steeple-Keeper (a Ringer) for Waterford Cathedral. To ring in peal for two services on Sundays, and practice one or two evenings in the week. The day-time would be his own. Salary 1l. per week and fare paid. Apply to R. S. BLEE, Waterford.

BELFRY RECORDS.

BURGH-LE-MARSH, LINCOLNSHIRE.

(Tablets in the Belfry.)

951. DECEMBER 25th, 1821.—Grandsire Bob was rung on these bells 25 times 120, equal to 3000 changes, in 1 hour and 52 minutes, by

William Wakeling, First.	Edward Charlton, Third.	and
Thomas Showler, Second.	Edward Doughty, Fourth.	Joseph Wakelin, the Tenor.

952. JAN. 15th, 1864.—Grandsire Bob was rung 27 times through in 2 hours and 11 minutes.

W. E. Grantham, First.	W. Doughty, Second.	H. Stoakes, Third.
F. Falkinder, Fourth.	J. Wakelin, Tenor.	

RECEIVED ALSO.—A. Tidy; Jas. Dixon.

on, and the music makes a muddle of the sense all through. The very next pair of verses are sung each to the wrong half of the chant—'Thou art the everlasting Son of the Father' belonging to, and concluding the thought of, the verse before, and 'When Thou tookest upon Thee,' &c., beginning a new train of thought. So in the next pair of verses, 'When Thou hadst overcome,' &c., is in form and tone linked with the verse before, and not with the verse after; but the music links it with the verse after. A little farther on, after several verses of supplication, occurs the grand outburst of praise. 'Day by day we magnify Thee; And we worship Thy Name ever world without end.' These are a pair of triumphant verses breaking into the midst of the vein of supplication, to which the next verse returns. Yet, according to the mode of singing in the church I refer to, the first of these triumphant verses ends the musical strain, being sung to the concluding half of the chant, while the second of the pair of verses is sung to the first half of the music, and with this is linked the most penitential verse of the whole canticle, 'Vouchsafe, O Lord, to keep us this day without sin!' It only remains to say that, there being an uneven number of verses, there was no escape from that most unmeaning and unmusical repetition of the second half of the chant, which I always marvel that musicians have so long endured.

Now I have brought a charge of murder against the double chant. 'Gentlemen of the jury, what say you? Is the prisoner guilty, or not guilty?'

Just a few words more. I am no bigoted enemy of the double chant in its proper place. For a long psalm or canticle, with an even number of verses, and with no marked breaks or changes of tone or subject, it may be very well employed. But for the *Te Deum* it is utterly unsuitable, and serves only to destroy the sense and ruin the exquisite interchange of tone and feeling. It was misery to me to hear it the other day. I do not advocate 'Services'—and, indeed, few of them rise to their true conception, and bring out all the beauty and variety of the *Te Deum*. The best arrangements of the *Te Deum* for parish churches are those which use several single chants, varied for the different parts, or else a single chant varied from major to minor, according to the verse. Some of Dr. Stainer's arrangements of Gregorian Tones, with harmonies and variations, are excellent; and for very simple singing nothing is better than F. Helmore's *Te Deums*, especially Nos. 1 and 2.

Let me only add that the *Fenite*, which requires a change of tone at the 6th verse, and has an uneven number of verses, is also spoilt by a double chant, though not so fatally as the *Te Deum*, the whole construction of which seems to say, 'Sing me to anything but a double chant!' W. W. H.

A Bishop for the Navy.

SIR,—A Sailor's Son and Brother misquotes the article on 'A Bishop for the Navy,' which nowhere states that every impediment is thrown in the way of zealous chaplains, but that impediments which *may* be so thrown are excused; and he does not observe that the chaplain's failings are also stated; whilst he fails to disprove matters of fact easily tested, viz.:—

1. That about four fifths of the vessels are seldom visited by a naval chaplain.

2. That the chaplain of the fleet is not permitted to visit the home ports, or to make himself acquainted with the spiritual condition of this fourth fifths of the fleet, or to communicate by pastorals or otherwise with the fleet.

3. That of that portion of the naval church which is in public view, the dockyard chapels, some are parcelled out like private proprietary chapels, are very unfrequently used, and are seldom voluntarily attended by men-of-war men on shore, although these men are accustomed to daily service when at sea.

4. That the responsibility rests between the Admiralty, the Commanding Officer, and the Chaplain, of whom the Chaplain is the least powerful.

Nobody questions that service at sea generates a conscientious and noble body of gentlemen, with whom 'duty' is the mainspring of life; but life at sea withdraws officers from personal acquaintance with Church progress, and they are, therefore, the last persons to be constituted the sole judges of the spiritual provision necessary for sin-sick souls. When many of the most devout seamen are going over to Dissent, the commanding-officer system cannot be regarded as a success. R. N.

Christianity or Heathenism?

SIR,—The *Times* of the 25th of September contains a report of the proceedings of the Social Science Congress, embodying amongst other things an address upon sanitary science by Mr. Edwin Chadwick, C.B., one of the concluding paragraphs of which opens thus:—'If the beneficent principle worshipped as Vishnu the Preserver should command, we can undertake to erect a city which shall be in time the reverse of all this, and in which the death-rate shall not exceed 10 in 1000,' &c. Whether practicable or not, the object thus suggested for attainment is most desirable and praiseworthy; but as Mr. Chadwick is not supposed to have addressed himself to an assembly of Brahmins, but to a professedly Christian audience, the nature of his appeal excites some surprise and curiosity. Surely, to say the least, the beneficent spirit of Christianity might have been as appropriately invoked as one of the deities of the Hindu Pantheon; but perhaps Mr. Chadwick may fall back upon the precedent of Pope's 'Jehovah, Jove, or Lord.' A PEDESTRIAN.

SIR,—I would recommend 'An Anxious and Saddened Vicar' to apply to Mr. Daniel Cooper, 85 Queen Street, Cheapside, for a Classified List of the Homes connected with the Rescue Society, of which he is Secretary. It is not a purely Church Society, but I believe it does much good and might meet the need mentioned. Low's *Handbook to the Charities of London* (Sampson Low and Co., price 1s.) also gives much useful information respecting Refugees, Homes, &c. L. R. P.

If a 'Perplexed and Saddened Vicar' is within reach of Kent he may apply to 'The Rev. the Warden, St. Mary's, Stone, Dartford,' in the case of immoral girls of any age. There is no charge for admission. J. G. T.

RECEIVED ALSO.—H. E. J.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

New Bells at Inverness.

SCOTLAND is to be congratulated on having another goodly ring of eight bells, set up at the Cathedral of St. Andrew, cast by Messrs. Warner, and hung by their agent, Mr. Henry Boswell.

The Service of Dedication took place on the 26th ult., when the Bishop, with the clergy and choir, &c., met in the belfry, where the Bishop offered up two prayers, one being of a general character, the second having reference to the dedication, which we reprint, as it may be useful to others on a similar occasion:—

'O Almighty God and most merciful Father, Who hast designed for Thy glory the craftsman's art and music's measure, we present ourselves before Thee at this time, again to offer to Thy Divine Majesty gifts and sacrifices for the service of Thy sanctuary, humbly beseeching Thee to accept them at our hands. We call to mind, O Lord, how that by Thy Divine command bells of gold were attached to the robe of the ephod of the high priest of Thy ancient Church, in order that his sound should be heard when he went in unto the holy place of the Lord, that the people, at this notice, might fall to their prayers, and join with him while he was offering incense to Thee; and further, calling to mind that Thy Holy Church has ordained that a bell shall be tolled to call Thy people together daily to pray to Thee and to hear Thy Holy Word, we are encouraged that Thou wilt be pleased to accept these bells, which for these and other sacred purposes we now present, dedicate, and consecrate to Thee and Thy service. Grant, O Lord, that when we hear their welcome sound, we may regard it as Thy voice calling us to prayer. When they send forth peals of jubilee for mercies received, may the hearts of all who hear be lifted up to Thee in grateful unison for all Thy goodness and loving-kindness; and when their deep and solemn toll shall announce that a spirit is passing away, or has passed away, let all who hear be, at that notice, led to remember the dying, and how short and uncertain their own time is; and, calling to mind the words of Him Who is "the Resurrection and the Life," "Whosoever liveth and believeth in Me shall never die," may in the silence of their hearts pray, "Spare me a little, that I may recover my strength before I go hence and be no more seen."

Finally, O Lord, remember for good all those of Thy servants who have willingly offered to Thee of their substance for this addition to Thy sanctuary. And may those who shall stand in this place and be employed in this special ministration ever remember that this place is none other than part of the House of God, and never, by thought, word, or deed, profane His holy sanctuary.

'Blessed be Thou, O Lord God, for ever and ever. Thine, O Lord, is the greatness, and the glory, and the victory, and the majesty; for all that is in the heaven and in the earth is Thine. Thine is the kingdom, O Lord, and Thou art exalted as head above all; both riches and honour come of Thee, and of Thine own do we give unto Thee; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.'

The choir then chanted the 150th Psalm, and, after the invocation of the Holy Trinity, the first peal was rung. The bells were rung at different intervals during the evening.

On the following day, a peal of Treble Bob Major, consisting of 5184 changes, was rung by a band of the Ancient Society of College Youths, London; viz. H. W. Haley, sen., 1; H. Haley, jun., 2; W. Cooter, 3; H. Boswell, 4; G. Fenn, 5; W. Greenleaf, 6; M. A. Wood, 7; J. G. M. Hayes, 8. Composed and conducted by Mr. Haley, sen. This is the first peal of Treble Bob ever rung in Scotland.

The splendid tenor of the above ring—in E, and over 48 cwt.—was set up by Messrs. Warner in 1809. Three more bells are to be added for chiming purposes. This happy event took place on the fiftieth anniversary of the Bishop's wedding-day. Most of the bells are gifts, as memorials of deceased relatives.

Ringling at Hales Owen, Worcestershire.

ON Saturday, the 29th ult., the Christ Church Society of Change-ringers from West Bromwich visited Hales Owen, and by the kind permission of the Venerable Archdeacon Hone rang a peal of New Grandire Triples, comprising 5040 changes, in 3 hrs. 2 mins. The band stood thus:—H. Hipkiss, 1; J. Russell, 2; W. Mallin, 3; T. Horton, 4; W. Beeson, 5; J. Carter, 6; S. Biddlestone, 7; J. Hipkins, 8. Composed and conducted by S. Biddlestone.

A Minor Performance at St. Bride's Church, Fleet Street, London.

ON Wednesday evening, the 25th ult., Mr. John Cox, steeple-keeper at this church, accomplished quite a feat in connexion with the science. by chiming a peal of 720 changes of Double Norwich Court Bob Minor on the six large bells of this church. The truth of this interesting affair was attested by J. W. Cattle, H. Dains, H. A. Hopkins, and F. Knipe, Esq.; the two first-mentioned persons being each provided with the lead ends of the peal, which they checked severally as Mr. Cox correctly and distinctly brought them up. The time occupied was 27 mins., and the performance is thought to be the first ever done in London.

Muffled Peal at Woodford, Essex.

'SUBSCRIBING INQUIRER' requests to know what method of change-ringing was struck under the conductorship of Mr. Nunn?

Ringling at Preston, Suffolk.

How did the ringers manage to ring a peal of *Bob Major* in 26 minutes? We never before heard the like.

RECEIVED.—W. Wing; Curate of St. Mary's, Ely; Inquirer.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Turkish Missions Aid Society.

SIR,—For the last two weeks a paper concerning some Society, calling itself the Turkish Missions' Aid Society, has been inserted in my copy of *Church Bells*. As there is no printer's name on the paper I cannot, of course, tell or guess by whose authority this is done; but I am sorry that it has happened for many reasons, and chiefly because I regret that the *Church Bells*, which in general, if not always, ring true on the subject of Schism, should be made the means of propagating the cause of a Society which is causing acts of schism in a sister branch of Christ's Church. Feeling, as I suppose most of your readers do, an intense longing that the prayer of our dear Lord, 'that we may be all one,' may be realised, and reunion be brought about in the divided fold, I grieve to think that men should be so mistaken as to think that Christ's cause is furthered by proselytising amongst the members of other branches of Christ's Church. The fatal step with respect to the Bishopric of Jerusalem has done great harm to the cause of reunion, and one need but read the last part of Neal's *History of the Patriarchate of Antioch* to see the harm the so-called missions of Romanists and Protestants have done to the work of the Eastern Church, to which branch of the Church the care of the souls of men in those lands has been entrusted. I will not prolong this letter more than to express a wish that English Churchmen would study more the history of the eldest branch of the One Church, and the one which has been engaged in the same struggle with our own branch against Papal encroachments.

Kirkby Lonsdale.

THOS. GEO. CREE.

[The papers alluded to were circulated in *Church Bells* without the knowledge of the Editor.]

The Aggression on our Churchyards.

SIR,—I am much struck with the constant pitiable and heart-rending appeals of such writers in your valuable periodical as 'G. V.' and others on the Burials Question, and as in his last Comment he says in conclusion, 'Have our Bishops thought of this? Is it too late to do so?'—it occurs to me to ask through your columns whether an appeal of the clergy could not be got up to the Archbishop of Canterbury, to relent, and give up his own private judgment, and listen to the earnest voice of the clergy in this matter.

I am sure it is little known how little the laity care for the proffered boon. I have been much struck with this, and if the Bill became law, it would have come upon the country with surprise, not to say astonishment. Now, the people may be getting used to it.

Probably 14,000 clergy would be found to memorialise the Archbishop. One penny from each might perhaps pay for the cost. Would you organize it, or should the Church Defence?

R. E. R.

Skirbeck, September 17th.

Murdering the Te Deum.

SIR,—Under the familiar initials 'W. W. H.' appears a letter, in your issue of 6th October, in which the singing the *Te Deum* to a double chant is represented as murdering it. Without entering into the question of the relative merits or beauties of single and double chants, may I plead that the couplet system generally pervading the Psalms, and happily preserved in the *Te Deum*, does, to my mind, suggest the fitness of a double chant, though of course it is Anglican, and comparatively a modern innovation.

The great objection to its introduction in the *Te Deum*, 'W. W. H.' finds in the difficulty of disposing of the triplet. May I suggest that if the last of the three lines, 'The Holy Ghost the Comforter,' be sung to the last half of the chant repeated (and it must be repeated somewhere), the confusion which he so justly condemns in the after verses wholly disappears? By adopting the same plan in the *Venite*—that is, repeating the second half of the chant at the fifth verse instead of at the last, the couplets are undisturbed, and the sense unbroken.

J. CAYE-BROWNE.

Sextons' Fees.

SIR,—We pay our sexton five shillings a-week for taking care of a new church capable of holding 300 people. I should be glad to know if, in other churches of the same size, a more or less sum is given for the purpose. I may add that he receives sixpence a-week extra for cleaning the bell-chamber, and has the washing of the choir surplices.

A VICAR.

SIR,—Will you kindly allow me to use your columns to inform those persons who have written to me unsuccessfully (respecting my offer of disposal of *Church Bells* in your issue of 22nd inst.), and who have not heard from me direct, that I have not time to answer their letters, &c.; and, as they were not successful, I did not deem it necessary to reply to all. I regret I have not had a single application for my weekly copy to be sent abroad after my perusal of it. Surely some of your readers are friends of clergymen abroad, who would be glad of it.

HENRY WRIGHT, Lay Reader.

Alexandra Villa, Lower Edmonton, N.

SIR,—Is there any instance of a church dedicated to St. Mary having a 'Ladye chancel' distinct from the chancel of the church? Our Lady chapel is at the end of the north transept. Does this prove the church to be dedicated to St. Mary and St. — somebody?

F. G. B.

SIR,—I should be much obliged if any of your readers would forward to me any rules of a Communicants' Union, or Guild, that binds a mixed congregation (rich and poor) closely together.

ALBERT BANNISTER.

5 Bodney Road, Hackney, E.

'A. A. F.'—We shall be happy to make known your offer accompanied by your name and address for publication.

'CAMPANARUM PULSATOR' must give name and address for publication.

RECEIVED ALSO.—H. J. D.; An Old Subscriber; Laicus; W. A. W.; Anne Stowe; E. C. H.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

A Misstatement.

SIR,—There is in your issue of the 22nd ult. a record of the bells at Lavenham which contains an error: it states the 7th bell was recast by Messrs. Warner & Son in 1851, and professes to give the inscription upon it. The misstatement cannot be accidental, as there is not the least foundation for saying Messrs. Warner made a new bell in 1851. To assure ourselves that the 7th bell had not been recast since it was made at this foundry in 1846, we have been at the trouble and expense of sending to Lavenham. The inscription on the bell is as follows:—'C. & G. Mears, founders, London; Richard Johnson, M.A., Rector; James Knight Jennings, M.A., Curate; George Mumford and Robert Howard, Churchwardens, 1846; Thomas Turner, woolstapler; Charles King, shoemaker.' We should not trouble you by writing only that the Lavenham Tenor is considered the finest bell in the county, and many competent judges (Sir Edmund Beckett amongst them) consider our 7th bell equal in quality to the tenor.

Bell Foundry, Whitechapel, Oct. 3rd, 1877.

[We are sorry for the errors, but if correspondents send us false statements we cannot help it.—ED.]

Norwich Diocesan Association of Ringers.

THIS Association held its first meeting in Norwich on the 24th ult., and was attended by ringers from various places in the neighbourhood. Soon after 10 a.m. the bells of St. John began, and the bells of the other churches were heard on every side. At 12.15 the ringing ceased for a while, and the ringers wended their way to St. Andrew's Church. Here a short service was held, Canon Copeman reading the Prayers, and the Rev. G. H. Harris the Lesson. The Ven. Archdeacon Nevill preached a most appropriate sermon on Rom. xii. 1. At 1.30 the ringers and friends, about 110, dined at the Royal Hotel under the presidency of Gervas Holmes, Esq. The Secretary (the Rev. G. Harris) read the Report. From this we gather that the Association has made a very satisfactory start, having gained in seven months the support of eighty honorary members and 141 performing; among the former are the Dean of Norwich (President) and the three Archdeacons of Norwich, Norfolk, and Suffolk, and many other leading men among the clergy and laity.

General Meeting of the Yorkshire Association at Halifax.

ON Saturday, Oct. 6th, the second annual meeting of this Society was held at Haley Hill, Halifax, when there was a large attendance of members. During the morning a company rang a peal of 5088 changes on the bells of All Souls' Church; and during the rest of the day many touches were rung by different bands. In the afternoon the general meeting was held, when the Committee's Report and the Treasurer's Balance Sheet were read and adopted. The election of officers resulted in the re-election of all the principal officials to their former posts and the addition of three members to the committee. Shipley, near Bradford, was chosen as the place where the January meeting should be held, and the committee were requested to prepare a more extensive code of rules for the working of the Society, to be presented for consideration at the January meeting. A vote of thanks to the vicar and churchwardens of All Souls for the use of the bells, and to the ringers for their kind hospitality, closed the meeting.

Report of the Yorkshire Association.

WE have received a copy of the Second Annual Report of this Society, and from it find that between Oct. 10th, 1876, and Aug. 31st, 1877, forty-five peals have been performed by the members: full particulars, with the calling of these peals, are given. Besides this, the Report contains the rules, a list of the members, short notices of the quarterly meetings held during the year, the committee's report, and the treasurer's balance-sheet, and a tabular list of all the performances of the Association for the two years during which it has existed. It seems hardly necessary to state that the Yorkshire Association is a success; for when a Society publishes a Report of its proceedings during one year which occupies 65 printed pages, the fact speaks for itself. For those who would wish to see how Change-ringing is progressing in Yorkshire we may add that copies of the Report may be had from Mr. Jasper W. Snowdon, Old Bank Chambers, Leeds, post free for 7d.

New Church and Bells at Whorlton, Yorkshire.

ON Thursday, the 4th inst., the new parish church of Whorlton, Yorkshire, dedicated to the Holy Cross, was consecrated by the Archbishop of York. A new ring of bells was provided by the Vicar, the Rev. A. H. Cumming; five of these bells are new, and one is an ancient bell from the old parish church recast by Messrs. Warner of London, and hung by Mr. T. Mallaby of Masham; they were opened by Change-ringers from Masham, who commenced ringing at 9 a.m., and rang peals of Bob Minor, Oxford Treble Bob Minor, Kent Treble Bob Minor, and several touches in other methods, during the day. An apparatus has been fixed to the bells for chiming for the services by one man or boy.

Date Touch.

ON the 24th ult., ringers from Netherton and Dudley rang at Netherton, Worcestershire, 1877 Grandsire Minor in 1 hr. 4 mins.

NOTICE.—We are sorry to have aggrieved our Tooting friends—in general *Church Bells* renounces to report Ringers' convivialities and table speeches, limiting reports as much as possible to work done in belfries.

CORRECTION.—Inverness tenor is not 48 cwt., but over 48 ins. diameter.

RECEIVED ALSO.—H. R. Baylio; W. Walker; G. J. Clarkson; C. H. Channing; South Essex Ringers (no name).

The Church in India.

SIR,—Your readers interested in Indian Missions will be glad to learn (especially just now, while, owing to the dire calamities incidental to famine, there seems little but distress and suffering), that, 'by the generosity of a single donor, the money wanted for the Medical Mission (*i.e.* the Cottage Hospital and Dispensary at Poona) has been supplied.' I quote from a letter received from the Bishop of Bombay. He continues: 'What I should be thankful to get money for is an Industrial School, which I want to start in Poona under a Parsi Christian, whom I hope to ordain shortly. The Christianity of most native Christians is sadly wanting in disinterestedness. They are mostly very poor, and they lose in many cases what means of subsistence they have by becoming Christians. Some of them come of a class which ekes out its wretched earnings by stealing or by poisoning the cattle of their wealthy neighbours. Cattle which die of themselves are taken by the outcast Mahars as a perquisite, and eaten; and so they take care the supply shall not fail. All this makes it almost impossible for them to support themselves after they become Christians, and so they hang about the missions and expect us to feed them. Of late the failure of the crops all over the diocese has reduced them to great distress. I want to teach their children to earn their own living, and this is the way that I am going to try and do so. The school might, and I hope will, be self-supporting, or nearly so, in time.'

One could hardly imagine a graver responsibility than that resting upon us to provide for these children, many probably bereft of every blood relation. These children may render immense service to their heathen brethren, and to our own missionaries, for they will have grown up in the true Gospel faith, instead of all that is anti-Christian. They would be a ready-made nucleus from which to draw pupil-teachers, schoolmasters, &c. With other advantages, this would save a great deal that is now expended upon carrying Europeans out to fill such posts.

Moneys for the Industrial School may be sent to the Bishop of Bombay's Commissary, the Rev. Berdmore Compton, All Saints, Margaret Street, W.; to Messrs. Crawford, Colvin, and Co., 71 Old Broad Street, E.C. I shall also be glad to acknowledge any sums sent to me. As there are other school 'collections,' all offerings should be marked 'Industrial School, Poona.'

2 Great Stanhope Street, Bath.

A. C. MACLACHLAN.

Disused Prayer and Hymn-Books, &c.

SIR,—Within the present year 3010 disused Prayer-books, 6895 hymn-books, and some 63,000 old books, magazines, &c. have been put on board merchant-ships by the Missions to Seamen chaplains and readers.

As our supply is exhausted, would you allow me to say how thankful we should be if your readers would send their disused books or magazines, in boxes, bampers, sacks, or parcels, by rail or parcel delivery, to the Missions to Seamen Society, 11 Buckingham Street, Strand, London, W.C., where book-notices for church-boards can be had.

WM. DAWSON, Commander R.N., and Secretary.

SIR,—I shall be happy to send about eighty copies of the *Hymnal Companion* to any quarter where they would be valued. They are in fair condition, but mostly bearing the name of our church on the cover. They are copies of the edition lately superseded.

A. A. F.

SIR,—Will you kindly grant me space in your columns to request some Latin scholar to translate (literally) for me a few hymns, of about five verses each, into English? I shall feel very much obliged to you and to him.

41 Ashew Road, Gateshead.

CLEMENT ROBSON.

SIR,—I should be obliged if any of your readers would forward to me any rules of a Cabmen's Mission.

A. F. RUDGE.

20 Oxford Square, W.

RECEIVED ALSO:—G. H.; A Yorkshire Vicar.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Change-ringing at St. Peter's, Coggeshall, Essex.

On Saturday, 22nd ult., eight members of the Glensford Society of Change-ringers visited the above town, and, with kind permission of the Vicar, rang several touches of Kent Treble Bob Major, amounting to about 2000 changes. Several touches were rung by other friends. The Vicar kindly entertained the whole party at the Vicarage with tea, &c.

Reopening of Bells at Guilden Morden, Cambridgeshire.

On Sunday, 23rd ult., the six bells of the above place, having been rehung, &c., by Day and Son, of Ely, were rung for service, and three appropriate sermons were preached. On the 24th, the bells were rung throughout the day by ringers from Cambridge; but what number or method of changes they rang is not reported to us.

Ringing at Burton-on-Trent, Stafford.

On Monday, 1st inst., some members of St. Martin's Society, Birmingham, visited Burton-on-Trent, and with two of the Burton Society rang at St. Paul's Church Mr. Holt's ten-part peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples in 3 hrs. 5 mins. J. James, 1; W. Potts, 2; W. Wakeley, 3; H. Bastable, 4; J. Buffery, 5; H. Johnson, junr., 6; F. H. James, 7; S. Jarman, 8. Conducted by Mr. H. Bastable. Tenor, 25 cwt.

Change-ringing by the Yorkshire Association.

On Tuesday, 2nd inst., at St. Matthew's, Holbeck, Leeds, 5024 of Kent Treble Major, in 2 hrs. 56 mins. J. Lockwood, 1; T. West, 2; W. Whit-

aker, 3; G. Barraclough, 4; W. Walker, 5; T. Lockwood, 6; J. W. Snowdon, Esq., 7; R. Bains, 8. The peal, which had the sixth its extent in 5-6, was composed and conducted by T. Lockwood.

On Friday, 5th inst., at the same church, 5088 of Kent Treble Bob Major, in 2 hrs. 59 mins. T. Harrison, 1; S. Bassett, 2; H. Hubbard, jun., 3; T. West, 4; G. Barraclough, 5; R. Bains, 6; J. W. Snowdon, Esq., 7; C. Jackson, 8. The peal was composed by W. Harrison of Mottram, and conducted by C. Jackson. The sixth was its extent home, and also in that position in the three last courses of each of the three parts of the peal. Tenor, 16 cwt.

On Saturday, 6th inst., at All Souls, Holey Hill, Halifax, 5088 of Kent Treble Bob Major, in 3 hrs. 16 mins. J. Lockwood, 1; T. Lockwood, 2; H. Hubbard, jun., 3; W. H. Howard, 4; G. Barraclough, 5; C. Jackson, 6; J. W. Snowdon, Esq., 7; R. Bains, 8. The peal was composed by W. Harrison of Mottram, and conducted by J. W. Snowdon. It possessed the same qualities as the foregoing peal, the two being the first ever composed and rung on this plan. Tenor, 25 cwt. This was the third peal of 5000 changes in which Messrs. Barraclough, Bains, and Snowdon, took part during the week.

On Tuesday, 9th inst., the following members of the above Association rang upon the bells of St. James's Church, Hull, in 2 hrs. 51 mins., Mr. J. Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, of 5040 changes:—A. Taylor, 1; G. G. Harrison (conductor), 2; R. Chaffer, 3; W. J. Stickney, 4; T. Stockdale, 5; C. Jackson, 6; W. Southwick, 7; P. E. Dickinson and P. Morrison, 8. Tenor, 15 cwt.

Change-ringing at Ashton-under-Lyne, Lancashire.

On Thursday, 11th inst., the ringers of St. Peter's Church rang a peal of Bob Major, comprising 5040 changes, in 3 hrs. 9 mins. J. Mellor, 1; J. Hopwood, 2; T. Taylor, 3; J. Stones, 4; G. Langden, 5; E. Hall, 6; J. Andrew, 7; C. Thorp, 8 (conductor). Tenor, 20 cwt. The above is reported to be the first attempt to ring a peal by seven of the band.

Change-ringing by the Royal Cumberland Society (late London Scholars).

On Saturday, 13th inst., ten members rang at St. Margaret's, Westminster, a peal of 8099 changes of Grandsire Caters, in 5 hrs. 20 mins. J. W. Cattle, 1; C. T. Hopkins, 2; E. Gibbs, 3; W. Coppage, 4; H. Swain, 5; G. Newson, 6; F. A. P. Knipe, Esq., 7; H. Hopkins, 8; W. Baron, 9; J. W. Mansfield, 10.

THE PEAL.

	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Single	
	4	5	3	2	6	—	—	—	7 in and out at 2	<i>with a 5</i>
3	3	4	5	2	6	—	—	—	9 in 3	
	5	3	4	2	6	—	—	—	9 in 3	
6	4	3	6	2	5	—	—	—	89	
	6	3	5	2	4	—	—	—	89	
	5	6	3	2	4	—	—	—	9 in 3	
	3	6	4	2	5	—	—	—	89	
	4	6	5	2	3	—	—	—	89	
	5	4	6	2	3	—	—	—	9 in 3	
	6	5	4	2	3	—	—	—	9 in 3	

8th in 2 in place of first course, and single at 7-8 in the 41st course, seven times repeated, produces

3 4 5 6 2 *W* { 9th in and out at 2 and a 79
2 3 4 5 6 *W* { Rounds at hand.

The above peal was composed by Mr. John Nelms, of the Royal Cumberland Society, and conducted by Mr. J. W. Cattle. Tenor, 28 cwt., in D.

Ringing at 'Preston.'

In what county we are not told, and we find in the *Clergy List* twenty-three parishes under that name. Be it where it may, the ringers lately rang there 720 changes, and having only five bells, it must have been by some method peculiar to themselves, as it requires six bells for a peal of 720.

MUFFLED PEAL AT TONG, YORKSHIRE.—Changes not reported.

'J. MAUDE' does not say in what method the muffled peal was rung.

NOTE.—Contributions are inserted or delayed, or abridged or thrown aside, as the Editor willeth, and none returned. Such is the general rule.

BELFRY RECORDS.

ORMSKIRK. (Tablets in the Belfry.)

953. On Sunday evening, the 26th of April, 1807, was rung by the undernamed Ringers, 2520 changes in Two Hours and one Minute, being half peal of Seven Bells.

John Balshaw, <i>Sen.</i> , Treble.	John Balshaw, jun. <i>Fourth</i> .	Henry Seddon, <i>Sixth</i> .
Ralph Balshaw, <i>Second</i> .	Henry Marpinson, <i>Fifth</i> .	Richard Gregory, <i>Seventh</i> .
Charles Balshaw, <i>Third</i> .		James Wilson, <i>Eighth</i> .

N.B.—The above peal was called by R. Gregory.

954. The College Youths of Ormskirk rung on first day of January, 1813, a peal of 5040 changes in the method of Grandsire Triples, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes.

Joseph Gregory, <i>Treble</i> .	John Balshaw, jun. <i>Fourth</i> .	Ralph Balshaw, <i>Seventh</i> .
John, Son of C. Balshaw, <i>Second</i> .	Charles Balshaw, <i>Fifth</i> .	James Wilson,
Richard Gregory, <i>Third</i> .	Henry Seddon, <i>Sixth</i> .	William Helsby, } Tenor.

Conducted by R. Gregory, aged 63.

955. The Junior Youths of Ormskirk rung on Saturday, February 7th, 1874, a True and Complete peal of Grandsire Triples, 5040, in 3 hrs. & 5 mins.

Peter Fairhurst, <i>Treble</i> .	James Leatherbarrow,	Robert Rothwell, <i>Sixth</i> .
Nathan Spencer, <i>Second</i> .	<i>Fourth</i> .	John Aspinwall, <i>Seventh</i> .
James Earham, <i>Third</i> .	John Higham, <i>Fifth</i> .	John Prescott, <i>Tenor</i> .

Thomas Alty. Robert Edge. } Churchwardens.

Evan Heaton. James Draper. }

Conducted by Jon. Aspinwall. Weight of Tenor, 25½ cwt.

RECEIVED ALSO.—John Smith; W. Nunn; B. Keeble; Christopher Laffin.

SIR.—As I am one of those who belong in reality to the working classes, and as one of those who have witnessed the revival of Church music and Church work since the year 1844, and having witnessed the service of our Church entirely read, except a portion of Nahum Tate and Brady's Psalms sung before the sermon, I wish to plead, on behalf of the musical services, for the noble hymns of our beloved Church, the *Te Deum* and the *Magnificat*. I think, if there are any hymns fitted or suitable for a good and superior class of music, it is these grand hymns. I certainly think it is a very great mistake to imagine that the people, especially the working classes, are not more favourably impressed with services and double chants than they are with single chants; and I think myself that the term 'simplicity,' when applied to these bodies of Churchmen and Churchwomen, is a great misnomer and a great mistake. It was only yesterday week that I had the opportunity of hearing the grand hymn, the *Te Deum*, sung to Oakeley's Quadruple Chant, by simple villagers in their old village church of Worminghall, near Thame; and sung well, too, by most every voice. I think we ought to give the Creator the best of all we possess, and to give the best music in the drawing-room and music-hall, and the most meagre and the most simple in the Sanctuary of His Holy Presence, should not be. We may most surely depend upon it, when we have good gospel preaching, hearty and good services, and the House of God free to all comers, then the phrase will come true, 'Let all the people praise Thee.' May that day arrive soon!

J. BALDWIN.

The Thanksgiving of Women.

A CORRESPONDENT asks an opinion on the following. Perhaps some of our readers can help him.

The Rubric for the Churching of Women says,—'The woman that cometh to give her thanks must offer accustomed offerings, and if there be a Communion, it is convenient that she receive the Holy Communion,' without saying of what the offerings should consist, or how they should be applied. The Rubric clearly suggesting or inferring that the offering must be of such alms as the woman is accustomed to offer, according to her ability, at the offertory, when she partakes of the Holy Communion, and to be applied to the relief of the poor, as the Rubric for the Holy Communion enjoins.

In this parish the accustomed offerings are looked upon, in every case, as a surplice-fee of one shilling, demandable and receivable by the vicar for his own use and benefit, as are the marriage and burial fees. What is the meaning of accustomed offerings? Are they voluntary, or demandable? How are they to be applied? Can the officiating clergyman refuse to church a woman who makes an offering of less amount than one shilling? or makes no offering at all?

THE lady who has sent regularly the *Church Bells* to the Rev. T. Cook, Westbourne, White Mud River, Minnitoba Pro., would be glad to know through *Church Bells* if it be regularly received?

THE Rev. W. Stokes Shaw, The Vicarage, Twerton-on-Avon, Bath, would be obliged to any readers of *Church Bells* who would send him some good Rules for Penny Banks.

[We think you cannot do better than apply to Mr. Bartley, at the Chief Office for Penny Banks, 269 and 270 Oxford Street, London, W.]

'A. A. F.'—We have some letters for 'A. A. F.' asking for the hymn-books which he has to give away; but we are unable to forward them to him, not having his name and address.

'A CLERGYMAN'S WIFE.'—Our reviews of books from time to time mention some suitable for your purpose. If, however, you like to give your name and address for publication, so that answers could be sent direct to you, we should not object to insert an inquiry from you in our Correspondence columns.

RECEIVED ALSO.—C. F. Wilkinson, Clk.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

To all whom it may concern.

SIR,—I ventured, the other day, to complain of the small space allotted to Bells, &c., in *Church Bells*, and that in consequence our reports, &c., had to be mercilessly cut down to a record of 'bare facts.' I was told that very many gentlemen (terribly ignorant, doubtless, of our noble art, to say the least—but let that pass) have complained that that little corner was too good for us—that we did not deserve any notice at all! It would be interesting to know how many of the subscribers to *Church Bells* are interested in the ringers and ringing. Anyhow, be they few or many, those gentlemen who think that the space occupied by the *rubbing* Bell news might be devoted to some better purpose may rest assured that that same Bell corner is quietly doing a vast amount of good. Frequently we find it recorded that a new Guild or Association has been formed for the purpose of promoting change-ringing and belfry reform. That means that there are men being stirred up, by reading the Bell-news in *Church Bells*, to take in hand a work which has been lying neglected these many years. Most people like, on fitting occasions, to hear the joyous music of the bells; but if there is to be ringing there must be ringers, and ringers should meet with some little brotherly care and attention; and this, thanks to *Church Bells* and the Bell-corner, they are now beginning to receive throughout the length and breadth of the land.

G. H. HARRIS, Sec. to the Norwich Diocesan Association of Ringers.

Carillons at Croydon.

MANY persons being under the impression that these carillons were a failure, Messrs. Gillett and Bland write to us that they have been again started, and seven fresh tunes added, after a silence of over two years, the hammers having been removed to allow the bell-hangers to rehang the bells, which have only recently been satisfactorily completed; so that it has not been from any fault of theirs that the carillons had been silent so long, as attributed to them in a former issue of *Church Bells*, which they did not see at the time owing to absence from home.

Second Annual Report of the Yorkshire Association.

SIR,—I have received through a friend a copy of this Report, as mentioned in *Church Bells* of the 18th inst., and am much pleased to see the progress that it shows has been made in Treble Bob composition. For a long time nothing new has appeared in the plan of peals in this method; but the book shows that there is plenty of variety to be had yet, and peals on totally new plans to be obtained, when any impetus is given to useful composers. But I notice that the peal of Treble Bob, No. 44 on page 41 of the Report, given as 5024, but which has 5216 changes, and composed by Mr. Sottenstall, is a false one, as the treble-leader repeat at the M's following the course ends 23645 and 53246. I simply draw attention to this, being but a small matter in connexion with the whole collection; but it shows that conductors should have some little knowledge of the proof of composition. Upon the whole, however, I think the formation of this Association deserves congratulation upon the success gained.

H. DAINS of London.

Norwich Diocesan Association of Ringers.

THREE years since the town of Cromer had its ring increased from one to six bells. Tuesday, the 16th inst., was the anniversary of the opening. On that day the Aylsham and Marsham members of the above Association met there, and rang several peals of Plain Bob Minor, Oxford Treble Bob, and Court Bob.

On Saturday, the 19th inst., a Committee meeting of the above Association was held at the Churchman's Club, Norwich, when W. M. Hazzard, Esq., was elected an hon. member. It was determined that a district meeting should, if possible, be held at Stradbroke, on the occasion of the opening of the increased ring there; and the Secretary was requested to see whether arrangements could be made for meetings at East Dereham, Lynn, and Beccles.

Change-ringing at Staveley, Derbyshire.

On Wednesday evening, 10th inst., the ringers of the parish church rang a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major, consisting of 5184 changes, composed by E. Hubbard of Leeds, containing all the 24,867's, 24,786's, and 24,678's, in 3 hrs. 16 mins., the band being, H. Mottershall, 1; H. Madin, 2; J. Hunt, 3; J. Harriss, 4; W. Worthington, 5; N. Young, 6; T. Dixon, 7; J. Broadhead, 8. Tenor, 18 cwt. Conducted by T. Dixon.

BELFRY RECORDS.

AYLSHAM, NORFOLK. (Tablets in the Belfry.)

956. APRIL 27th, 1817, was Rang in this Steeple 5264 Changes of Bob Major, in 8 Hours and 12 Minutes. It was allowed by Judges to be a Masterly performance, a bell not being misplaced, nor the repetition of a Single change. It was conducted by Samuel Thurston, of Norwich, and rung by the following persons:—

J. Clark, Treble.	J. Turner, Third.	T. Edridge, Fifth.	H. Bunn, Seventh.
J. Mitchell, Second.	T. Gooch, Fourth.	J. Warnes, Sixth.	S. Thurston, Tenor.
		William Repton, John Warnes,	Churchwardens.

957. On Tuesday, January 9th, 1833, was Rang in this Steeple a true and complete peal of Oxford Treble Bob Major, consisting of 5440 changes, in space of 3 hours 31 minutes, by the following persons:—

C. Clements, Treble.	T. Gooch, Third.	C. Middleton, Sixth.
S. Clements, jun., Second (aged 17).	S. Maystone, Fourth (aged 16).	T. Greenwood, Seventh.
	J. Delph, Fifth.	J. Ulph, Tenor.

Conducted by Thos. Greenwood.

William Repton,
John Warnes, } Churchwardens.

958. MAY 24th, 1852, being her Majesty's birth-day, the Aylsham and Marsham Company of Ringers ascended the Tower and rang in capital style 5000 changes of Bob Royal in the space of 3 hours 20 minutes. Conducted by Thomas Greenwood, and rung by the following persons:—

Charles Clements, Treble.	Charles Clements, jun.	Thomas Edridge, Seventh.
Thomas Greenwood, Second.	Fourth.	Samuel Maidstone, Eighth.
John Edridge, Third.	Edward Pitt, Fifth.	John Delph, Ninth.
	Thomas Gooch, Sixth.	John Ulph, Tenor.

(This Peal was made into ten in 1775.)

HORNCHURCH, ESSEX. (Tablets in the Belfry.)

959. 17th MARCH, 1822, a True and complete peal of Oxford Treble Bob was performed in this Tower by the following ringers:—

William Adams, Treble.	Thomas Oxley, Third.	James Wheatley, Fifth.
George Mead, Second.	Thomas Matthews, Fourth.	Joseph Wiggins, Tenor.

The above peal was called by Mr. Thomas Wiggins.

960. APRIL 23, 1830, was in this tower performed, by the Hornchurch Youths, 3 true and complete peals. 1st, Oxford Treble Bob; 2nd, Court Bob; 3rd, Stedman's Slow Course. Ringers:—

Thomas Oxley, Treble.	Joseph Fry, Third.	Joseph Morgan, Fifth.
Joseph Wright, Second.	John Spencer, jun. Fourth.	James Dear, Tenor.

The above peals were called by Mr. Thomas Oxley.

961. 29th MAY, 1842, were performed in this tower, by the Hornchurch Youths, 4 true and complete peals. 1st, Court Bob; 2nd, Oxford Treble Bob; 3rd, Minor Bob Doubles; 4th, Minor Bob. Ringers:—

James Smith, Treble.	John Cressey, Third.	John Spencer, jun. Fifth.
Samuel Rush, Second.	Henry Bright, Fourth.	James Redgell, Tenor.

The above peals were called by Mr. John Spencer, jun.

LONG MELFORD, SUFFOLK. (Tablet in the Belfry.)

962. September 28th, 1768.

WITHIN this steeple was Rang complete a peal of treble bob, and the music sweet, by the Melford company, as doth appear, and if their Names you'd know, why hear they are:—

James Ward as first the Treble He did ring;
Samuel Scott the second he did nicely swing;
Young Cutts the Miller with the third did play;
Jeremias Heard the Fourth did Sway;
And the Fifth was Rang by John Pearson;
William Smith the sixth being next in turn;
John Carder the seventh and the Peal did call;
George Gadge the tenor which completed them all;
Within three hours and ten minutes' space
it all was over, and each Bell had Runn its Race.
The changes where five thousand and six Score;
Them being doone, there was no neede for more.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Second Annual Report of the Yorkshire Association.

SIR,—On the day following the publication of this Report my attention was drawn to the fact—since pointed out by Mr. Dains—that the peal No. 44, by Mr. Wm. Sottanstill, was false, and that the Society should, therefore, have chronicled one performance less than the number announced for the past year. Although the example is drawn at the expense of the Society itself, I think this plan of inviting public criticism upon the performances cannot be too highly commended, when it is considered that this is the *only* Society—London or provincial—in which such a peal would not have passed muster as a true one. Perhaps, however, it may be a question whether all the members of any Society would regard this publicity as so very advantageous. Some members, I dare say, might prefer to record their doings without courting such critical inspection in regard to the truth of their performances. I am glad, however, to think that the Report of the Yorkshire Association is not the place for the performances of members of such a retiring disposition.

Although writing unofficially, I may remark that the Committee of the Society is not responsible for the truth of these performances; they are entered as forwarded, and the only matter the committee investigate is any question that may arise concerning the originality of the compositions, so that the Society may not assist in palming upon the public any reproduction or unfair variation as an original peal. The truth of the peals is, therefore, a matter for the consideration of those who forward them; and, certainly, any one who—like myself—often calls a peal without having proved it, should feel a certain degree of confidence in the ability of the composer.

Old Bank Chambers, Leeds.

JASPER W. SNOWDON.

Ringing at St. John's Church, Capel, Surrey.

On Friday evening, Oct. 20th, it being the Harvest Festival, the ringers rang for service a peal of Court Bob Minor, consisting of 720 changes. After the service they rang a peal of Kent Treble Bob Minor, 720 changes, the first peal in that method ever rung on the bells, and the first time that five of the members attempted it. The ringers were: G. Mills, 1*; A. Tidy, 2; G. Hollaway, 3*; R. Worsfold, 4*; E. Jordan, 5*; D. Jordan, 6* and conductor. Those marked thus * first peal.

Change-ringing at Ashton-under-Lyne, Lancashire.

On Saturday, Oct. 13th, ten members of the Society of Change-ringers of Ashton-under-Lyne rang at their parish church a peal of Grandsire Caters, consisting of 5003 changes, in 3 hrs. 8 mins. T. Moss, 1; J. Adams, 2; J. Wood, sen., 3; T. Wroe, 4; B. Broadbent, 5; C. Thorp, 6; L. Broadbent, 7; W. J. Gillott, 8; J. Thorp, 9; S. Andrew, 10. Tenor, 28 cwt., in D. Conducted by Mr. J. Wood, sen.

On Saturday, 27th ult., eight members of the Society of Change-ringers of Ashton-under-Lyne rang at St. Peter's Church Mr. Holt's ten-part peal of 5040 changes, in 3 hrs. 1 min. Conducted by Mr. Charles Thorp. J. Mellor, 1; J. Adams, 2; G. Longsdon, 3; J. Thorp, 4; B. Broadbent, 5; C. Thorp, 6; S. Andrew, 7; W. Frith, 8. Tenor, 20 cwt.

Ringing at Streatham, Surrey.

On Monday evening, Oct. 22nd, the Streatham Society of Change-ringers met at Emmanuel Church, and rang a muffled peal, containing 5040 changes, in 3 hrs. 5 mins., as a mark of respect to the late Wm. Evil, Esq., of Bushey House, Streatham Hill. It was Mr. John Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, by these ringers:—W. J. Pell, 1; G. Russell, 2; H. Daniells, 3; S. Greenwood, 4; D. Springall, 5; W. Sheppard, 6; G. Pell, 7; W. Daniells, 8. Conducted by S. Greenwood.

RECEIVED ALSO.—Christopher Laffin; J. Jerram; and others.

BELFRY RECORDS.

ST. NICHOLAS CHAPEL, LYNN. (Tablets in the Belfry.)

963. This peal of bells was opened on 5th July, 1870. The following companies competed:—Lynn, Norwich (St. Peter, Mancroft), Dereham, and a mixed company. 1st Prize, Lynn; 2nd Prize, Norwich; 3rd Prize, Dereham.

J. Taylor, Treble. H. Holland, Third. T. Bryant, Fifth. E. Lockwood, Seventh.
J. W. Taylor, Second. M. True, Fourth. T. Taylor, Sixth. W. Agger, Tenor.
Conducted by W. Agger.

L. W. Jarvis, Esq. } Chapelwardens.
E. M. Beloe, Esq. }

964. On the 27th Dec. 1872, a complete peal of 5040 changes of Bob Major was rung on this peal of bells, in 3 hours 26 minutes, by the following members of the Lynn company:

J. Taylor, Treble. H. Holland, Third. E. Lockwood, Fifth. T. Bryant, Seventh.
J. W. Taylor, Second. M. True, Fourth. J. Taylor, Sixth. D. Greeves, Tenor.
Conducted by J. W. Taylor.

L. W. Jarvis, Esq. } Chapelwardens.
E. M. Beloe, Esq. }

PARTICULARS OF THE FIRST KNOWN PEAL RUNG IN THE METHODS USUALLY PRACTISED.

By JASPER W. SNOWDON, Ilkley, near Leeds.

METHOD.	DATE.	CHANGES.	SOCIETY.	CHURCH.	TIME.	TENOR, in cwt.	COMPOSER.	CONDUCTOR.	COMPOSITION
					H. M.				
Plain Bob Major . . .	April 26, 1725	5040	College Youths . .	St. Bride's, London . .	—	28	B. Annable . .	B. Annable . .	Unknown
” ” Royal . . .	Nov. 22, 1725	5040	” ” . . .	” ” . . .	—	”	” . . .	” . . .	”
” ” Maximus . . .	Feb. 26, 1726	5280	” ” . . .	” ” . . .	—	”	” . . .	” . . .	”
” ” Triples . . .	May 2, 1715	5040	Norwich Scholars.	St. Peter's, Norwich . .	3 18	23	J. Garthorn . .	Unknown . .	”
” ” Caters . . .	Dec. 12, 1751	6480	Leeds Youths . .	St. Nicholas, Leeds, Kent	4 13	20	Unknown . .	” . . .	”
Grandsire Triples . .	Aug. 26, 1718	5040	Norwich Scholars.	St. Peter's, Norwich . .	3 30	20	J. Garthorn . .	Unknown . .	True.
” Caters . . .	Jan. 11, 1716-7	5040	London Scholars .	St. Bride's, London . .	—	28	Unknown . .	” . . .	Unknown.
” Cinques . . .	Jan. 19, 1724-5	5060	College Youths . .	” ” . . .	—	”	W. Jackson . .	M. East . .	”
” Major . . .	July 30, 1792	7552	Aston Company . .	St. Peter and Paul's, Aston	4 34	21	Unknown . .	Unknown . .	Unknown.
” Royal . . .	Oct. 17, 1814	5020	St. Martin's Youths	St. ” Saviour's, ” Southwark.	3 20	21	H. Cooper . .	H. Cooper . .	False.
” Maximus . . .	May 7, 1792	5112	Cumberland Youths	St. Saviour's, ” Southwark.	4 10	52	Unknown . .	J. Reeves . .	Unknown.
Treble Bob Major . .	Dec. 27, 1718	5120	Union Scholars . .	St. Dunstan's, London . .	—	24	Unknown . .	Unknown . .	True.
” ” Royal . . .	April 7, 1741	5200	Eastern Scholars .	St. Sepulchre's, London .	3 57	32	” . . .	P. Mainwaring	Unknown.
” ” Maximus . . .	Mar. 12, 1758	5040	College Youths . .	St. Saviour's, Southwark.	4 12	52	” . . .	J. Meakins . .	”
” ” Triples . . .	Nov. 5, 1821	5040	Local Band . . .	St. Peter's, Huddersfield.	2 45	18	B. Thackrah .	B. Thackrah .	True.
” ” Caters . . .	Jan. 7, 1817	5004	St. Martin's Youths	St. Martin's, Birmingham	3 28	35	T. Thurstans .	T. Thurstans .	”
” ” Cinques . . .	Feb. 1, 1832	5104	” ” . . .	” ” . . .	3 47	35	H. Cooper . .	H. Cooper . .	”
Stedman Triples . .	Oct. 25, 1731	5040	Norwich Scholars.	St. Peter's, Norwich . .	3 40	20	T. Melchior .	T. Melchior .	Unknown.
” Caters . . .	May 28, 1787	5076	College Youths . .	St. John's, Horsleydown.	3 27	20	J. Reeves . .	J. Reeves . .	True.
” Cinques . . .	Oct. 6, 1788	6204	” ” . . .	St. Martin's, London . .	4 47	34	T. Blakemore .	T. Blakemore .	True.
” Major . . .	Feb. 17, 1856	5037	St. Martin's Youths	St. Peter and Paul's, Aston	3 7	21	H. Johnson . .	H. Johnson . .	True.
” Royal . . .	Oct. 21, 1876	5184	” ” . . .	” ” . . .	3 27	”	” . . .	” . . .	True.
Superlative Surprise Major	Aug. 6, 1821	5600	Local Band . . .	St. Peter's, Huddersfield.	3 20	18	B. Thackrah .	B. Thackrah .	False.
” ” ” Royal . . .	Jan. 16, 1825	5400	Local Society . .	All Saints', Wakefield . .	3 28	31	— . . .	W. Woodhead .	False.
Cambridge Surprise Major	Jan. 30, 1780	5088	London Youths . .	St. Giles in the Fields, Londn.	3 26	18	J. Reeves . .	J. Reeves . .	False.
” ” ” Royal . . .	Oct. 26, 1822	5400	Local Band . . .	All Saints', Wakefield . .	3 35	31	W. Woodhead .	W. Woodhead .	True.
London Surprise Major	Nov. 17, 1835	5280	Norwich Scholars.	St. Andrew's, Norwich . .	3 24	18	W. Shipway . .	S. Thurstons .	True.
Double Norwich Major .	Apr. 11, 1786	5440	Cumberland Youths	St. Matthew's, Bethnal Grn.	3 35	14	G. Gross . . .	G. Gross . . .	Unknown.
” ” ” Royal . . .	Feb. 28, 1801	5040	Miscellaneous Band	Christ Church, Spitalfields	3 37	44	J. Noonan . .	J. Noonan . .	True.
” ” ” Maximus . .	Jan. 20, 1817	5016	Norwich Scholars.	St. Peter's, Norwich . .	4 2	41	— . . .	R. Chesnutt . .	Unknown.

In the above list I have placed the first known peal upon each number of bells, in each of the methods generally practised. Although it will be seen that some of these are records of false peals, I have given them in preference to the *first true* peals, as I consider—in Cambridge Surprise, for instance—it is of greater interest to know that a peal of it was rung in 1780, than that it was 93 years later before an undoubtedly true peal was actually accomplished in the method. This list, in fact, is intended to show the

origin of practical ringing, rather than the progress of composition. Besides this, as the composition of many of the first peals, which are generally accepted as correct, is now unknown, it would be unfair to give them the precedence, and to reject others—the Stedman Triples, for instance—because it is improbable that they could be true. This list I hope to follow with one giving the longest single-handed authenticated length in each of the above methods; when, of course, in such a table, only true peals will appear.

known to his parishioners and congregation, I believe it would only take a few months to complete such improvements as I suggested in my previous letter, to the satisfaction of all.

In reply to 'A London Layman' respecting the prayers, I am afraid I did not make myself quite understood. 'Monotone or sung,' referred more especially to the clergyman's part; the choir in responding must, of course, adopt a 'musical intonation,' and I suppose 'monotoning' is the correct term to use. I know from experience the difficulty in some churches of following the prayers audibly, and the ease with which one can do so in others (but the former are, I think, much more numerous than the latter), and the reason is, I believe, as your correspondent says, in the 'pitch' being too high for the large majority of a congregation. I do not think the clergyman need intone the prayers unless the church be very large; if he has a musical ear he can modulate his voice so as to accord with the responding.

81 Lichfield Road, E.

AN OLD SUBSCRIBER.

Mumbled Services.

SIR,—I cannot admit that the question of monotoned services is one of 'fashion.' It is essentially one of principle, and secondarily of predilection. My taste, or sense of fitness, I am sorry to see, is different to that of 'H.T.D.' Our aim is the same so far as heartiness is concerned, but his experience is not the same as mine, and we are not agreed as to principle: nor is it possible for us to be so if he would have a prayer, or a psalm, uttered in the same manner as 'the soliloquy in *Hamlet*.' The very essence of 'united' worship in public is that of uttering 'with one voice,' as the Apostle seemed to intimate, the words of our common worship. And the monotone was continued in the Church till the end of Queen Anne's reign, when a certain dramatic clocutionist urged the very argument employed by 'H. T. D.' who will no doubt take comfort in such support to his view as this gives. He might, however, use it with more effect if our public worship consisted of extempore declamatory prayer by the minister alone, without reference to the united voice of the congregation taking up the responses, or joining with him. To myself the manner of 'emphatic reading,' with the unharmonious response, is simply distracting; and I confess that I ought to make to others the same allowances which I demand from them in the case of such differences of opinion on such an important matter, when I find that they are equally distracted by the opposite. Still, I think, the argument is on my side.

LONDON LAYMAN.

Mr. T. Hughes and our National Church.

SIR,—It seems to me, as one who was at the Congress, and somewhat resented Mr. Hughes' language, though no extreme partisan, that you have not done justice to the motives of those who dissented from his view of the National Church.

The basis of his view, as he then expressed it, was, that every Englishman is, *ipso facto*, a member of the Church. This may have been the view of his old master, Dr. Arnold, and Mr. Hughes may have adhered to it out of devotion to his memory; but it is one so manifestly opposed to Christian doctrine, as well as to common sense and the logic of facts, that the resentment of the Congress, which was composed mainly of clergy and instructed persons, was most natural. The view of your article was not that put forth by Mr. Hughes, as far as we could judge at the time; at least you have considerably modified and watered down his statements, which appeared studiously to tread upon the toes of every Churchman untainted with Erastianism.

The good taste of his revival of the old, forgotten, and to be lamented 'Reverend' controversy, with Bishop Wordsworth sitting by his side, and his studied importation of all Nonconformist opposition to the faults of the clergy—these things your article is wisely silent about.

To all who respect Mr. Hughes and admire his work and character, his appearance was somewhat painful, though happily good temper was not disturbed.

Pauper Children.

C. G.

SIR,—Your contributor, 'J. N. H.,' has ventilated a very important subject in last week's *Church Bells*; but I submit his article has too destructive a tone to be very helpful. From an intimate knowledge of 'the Mettray system,' to which he refers, in its native French arrangements, and its still more valuable and effectual form at the Redhill Reformatory, it has long appeared to me that this plan, properly adapted to pauper schools, would meet the wishes of true reformers, and remove most of the objectionable features of the present system. I venture to say, that if 'J. N. H.' will pay Redhill Schools a visit, he would find nothing there 'fantastical and sentimental,' but the family system practically adapted to large numbers, with such grand results that it has become the model for many other schools, dealing both with convicted and unconvicted children. There he will find subdivision enough to gain domestic character, with centralisation enough to bring large numbers under one head authority, and, what is most important, nothing artificial in the arrangements, so that experience there resembles actual life, such as the inmates should lead afterwards. The pauper children are the most difficult class of society to handle satisfactorily, but there is no reason why they should remain so.

VIGILANS.

THE 'Rev. Alfred S. Porter,' Redditch, asks for the address of Lord Wharton's Bible and Prayer-book Charity.

'ANXIOUS' could relieve his anxiety by consulting our advertisement sheets on October 27.

'G. F. L.'—Many thanks. We hope to find an opportunity to use your excellent paper.

'A COUNTRY VICAR'S WIFE.'—Havergal's Chant Service, referred to by 'H. T. D.,' is published by Novello.

'LAIOUS.'—We certainly shall not encourage anything of the sort.

'AN IRISH CHURCHMAN.'—Had you not better address your letter to the Editor of the *National Church*?

RECEIVED ALSO.—Vicar; J. J. F. Neville Rolfe

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

To all whom it may concern.

SIR,—Following up my letter which appeared on the 27th ult., I now ask those of your subscribers who would be sorry to see the Bell news discontinued, and, (2), those who take in *Church Bells* principally for the Bell news, to be so good as to send me a line by card or by letter. This is no mere matter of curiosity. I wish to discover whether we (especially those of the second class) be few or many in number. If few, we would know the reason why; if many, we should prove that our corner is not too good for us.

Tunstead Vicarage, Norwich.

G. H. HARRIS.

Apology and Explanation.—Second Annual Report of the Yorkshire Association.

SIR,—I wish to call attention to peal No. 44, page 41 of the Report, given as 5024, also to the third peal, page 395, of my work on Change-ringing, that the thirteenth course be called one wrong and two at home, which produces a peal of 5152 changes, as stated in the manuscript, instead of one the middle one before two wrong and two at home, that the peal be rung no more in the same way. It seems to be an oversight, and I am sorry that it has been rung with the thirteenth course, as stated in the above Report.

WM. SOTTANSTALL.

Ringling at Hull by the Yorkshire Association of Change-ringers.

On Friday, 26th ult., eight members of the above rang at St. James's Church, Hull, East Yorkshire, Mr. J. Holt's six-part peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples. A. Taylor, 1; R. Chaffer, 2; H. Wharf, 3; H. Jenkins, 4; G. G. Harrison, 5; C. Jackson, 6; J. W. Stickney (conductor), 7; F. Merrison, 8. Tenor, 15 cwt. Time, 2 hrs. 55 mins.

New Bells at Manchester.

By the kindness of Messrs. Taylor, of Loughborough, we are able to supply our readers with the particulars of the noble ring of twenty-one bells lately cast and hung by them in the new Town Hall at Manchester.

Note.		cwt.	qrs.	lbs.		Initials cast on one side in the waist.
F#	...	6	3	14	...	J. G. L.
F	...	7	1	5	...	J. K.
*E	...	7	2	7	...	B. N.
D#	...	7	3	14	...	P. F. W.
*D	...	8	2	9	...	J. M. B.
C#	...	8	3	0	...	W. B.
*C	...	9	3	14	...	J. G.
*B	...	10	0	14	...	J. B.
*A	...	14	1	3	...	J. J. II.
G#	...	16	0	6	...	J. T.
*G	...	17	1	7	...	G. B.
F#	...	21	1	7	...	J. W.
*F	...	23	0	11	...	J. A.
*E	...	27	0	4	...	J. C.
D#	...	31	2	0	...	C. S.
*D	...	39	0	0	...	J. M.
C#	...	43	2	0	...	J. L.
*C	...	52	0	0	...	J. H.
B	...	71	0	0	...	W. H. T.
A	...	100	2	0	...	M. C.
G	...	129	0	0	...	A. H.
Total	...	652	2	3		

Those marked * are hung for ringing.

MOTTO ROUND THE SHOULDER.

1. 'Ring in the Christ that is to be.'
2. 'Ring out the darkness of the land.'
3. 'The larger heart the kindlier hand.'
4. 'Ring in the valiant man and free.'
5. 'Ring in the thousand years of peace.'
6. 'Ring out the thousand wars of old.'
7. 'Ring out the narrowing lust of gold.'
8. 'Ring out old shapes of foul disease.'
9. 'Ring in the common love of good.'
10. 'Ring in the love of truth and right.'
11. 'The civic slander and the spite.'
12. 'Ring out false pride in place and blood.'
13. 'With sweeter manners purer laws.'
14. 'Ring in the nobler modes of life.'
15. 'And ancient forms of party strife.'
16. 'Ring out a slowly-dying cause.'
17. 'Ring in redress to all mankind.'
18. 'Ring out the feud of rich and poor.'
19. 'For those that here we see no more.'
20. 'Ring out the grief that saps the mind.'
21. 'Ring out the false, ring in the true.'

Each bell is also inscribed, 'John Taylor and Co., Founders, Loughborough, MDCCCXXXVII,' on the waist on the opposite side to the initials of the Members of the Corporation.

Change-ringing at Dewsbury, Yorkshire.

ON Saturday, 3rd inst., a company met at Dewsbury parish church and rang a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major, consisting of 6080 changes, in 3 hrs. 45 mins. This peal, in five equal parts, was composed and conducted by J. Buckley. The ringers were, W. Preston, 1; M. Curforth, 2; I. Idle, 3; J. Idle, 4; L. Senior, 5; G. Marsden, 6; A. Beaumont, 7; J. Buckley, 8.

THE PEAL.									
6	0	8	0						
2	3	4	5	6	M.	B.	W.	H.	
6	3	5	4	2	2	1	-	1	
6	5	4	3	2	-	1	2		
6	4	3	5	2	-	1	2		
5	6	3	4	2	-	1	-		

Four times repeated.

Change-ringing at Glemsford and Lavenham, Suffolk.

ON Saturday, 20th ult., six members of the Glemsford company rang at their parish church 720 changes of Woodbine Minor in 30 mins. J. Slater, 1; S. Slater, 2; C. Adams, 3; Z. Slater, 4; F. Wells, 5; P. Adams, 6.

ON Saturday, 27th ult., six members of the Glemsford company, assisted by Messrs. Maxim and Thompson from Cavendish, rang at Lavenham a half peal of Kent Treble Bob Major, containing 2528 changes, in 1 hr. 48 mins. J. Slater, 1; S. Slater, 2; Z. Slater, 3; F. Wells, 4; C. Adams, 5; H. Thompson, 6; P. Adams, 7; G. Maxim, 8. Conducted by P. Adams. Tenor, 24 cwt.

Change-ringing at Kirkburton, Yorkshire.

ON Saturday, 27th ult., a peal of 5120 changes of Kent Treble Bob was rung at St. John's, Kirkburton, in 3 hrs. 5 mins., by the following:—E. Exley, 1;

D. Copley, 2; T. North, 3; L. Booth, 4; R. Hill, 5; W. Whomarsley, 6; J. Pickering, 7; A. Haigh, 8. Composed by Mr. Sottanstell, and conducted by A. Haigh. Two trebles, by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, London, have lately been added, and all rebung by J. and S. Midgley, Almondbury, and opened on Saturday, the 20th September last.

BELFRY RECORDS.

ST. MARGARET'S, LYNN. (Tablets in the Belfry.)

965. JAN. y^e 20, 1740, there was rang y^e 5 Thousand and Forty Changes of Garthing's Trebles in 3 Hours and 40 minutes by Ringers of y^e Steeple, named—

Jn. Atkin, Treble.	Jn. Parkings, Fourth.	Wm. Moore, Sixth.
Jn. Streets, Second.	Jos. Raven, Fifth.	Ant. Berry, Seventh.
Mw. Atmore, Third.		Chas. Hill, Tenor.

966. FEB. 23rd, 1770, was rung in this Steeple a compleat Peal of 5040 of Bob Major by the undermentioned persons:—

Robt. Field, Treble.	Thos. Killingbank, Third.	Nathl. Williamson, Sixth.
Jno. Parkinson, Second.	Jno. Bell, Fourth.	Thos. Crane, Seventh.
Who call'd the peal.	Jos. Raven, Fifth.	Jno. Squires, Tenor.

967. Nov. 5th, 1796, was rung a complete peal of 6000 changes of Bob Major in 4 Hours and 10 minutes, by the ringers of this Steeple, viz:—

Willm. Russell, Treble.	Benjn. Seaman, Fourth.	Henry Smith, Sixth.
John Bell, Second.	Willm. Jackaman, Fifth.	Edwd. Bodham, Seventh.
John Bodham, Third.		Thos. Balls, junr., Tenor.
Who call'd the peal.		

LONGEST AUTHENTICATED LENGTHS RUNG, SINGLE-HANDED, IN THE METHODS USUALLY PRACTISED.

By JASPER W. SNOWDON, Ilkley, near Leeds.

METHOD.	DATE.	CHANGES.	SOCIETY.	CHURCH.	TIME.		TENOR, in cwt.	COMPOSER.	CONDUCTOR.
					H.	M.			
Plain Bob Major	Oct. 1, 1793	15,360	Aston Company	St. Peter and Paul's, Aston	9	31	21	J. Short	J. Short.
" " Royal	Nov. 27, 1810	6,440	Painswick Youths	St. Mary's, Painswick	4	48	28	J. Marlton	J. Marlton.
" " Maximus.	Jan. 21, 1788	6,600	Cambridge Youths	St. Mary's, Cambridge	5	5	29	Unknown	C. Day.
" " Caters	Dec. 12, 1751	6,480	Leeds Youths	St. Nicholas, Leeds, Kent	4	13	20	Unknown	Unknown.
Grandsire Caters	May 5, 1817	12,312	Painswick Youths.	St. Mary's, Painswick	7	44	28	J. Reeves	J. Savory.
" Cinques	Oct. 26, 1837	7,325	St. James's Youths	St. Martin's, London	5	35	34	T. Brook	T. Tolladay.
" Major	Feb. 4, 1861	10,032	St. Matthew's Yths.	St. Matthew's, Walsall	6	15	24	W. Halls-worth	W. Halls-worth.
" Royal	Oct. 23, 1815	6,000	St. Martin's Youths	St. Peter and Paul's, Aston	4	6	21	H. Cooper	H. Cooper.
" Maximus.	May 7, 1792	5,112	Cumberland Youths	St. Saviour's, Southwark.	4	10	52	Unknown	J. Reeves.
Treble Bob Major	Apr. 27, 1868	15,840	College Youths	St. Matthew's, Bethnal Grn.	9	12	14	T. Day	H. W. Haley.
" " Royal	Mar. 27, 1784	12,000	Cumberland Youths	St. Leonard's, Shoreditch	9	5	31	G. Gross	G. Gross.
" " Maximus	Dec. 9, 1833	10,224	Painswick Youths	St. Mary's, Painswick	6	50	28	W. Estcourt	W. Estcourt.
" " Caters	Jan. 7, 1817	5,004	St. Martin's Youths	St. Martin's, Birmingham	3	28	35	T. Thurstans	T. Thurstans.
" " Cinques.	Feb. 1, 1832	5,104	" "	" "	3	47	35	H. Cooper	H. Cooper.
Stedman Caters	Mar. 8, 1859	10,047	St. Martin's Youths	St. Peter and Paul's, Aston	6	16	21	H. Johnson	J. Perks.
" Cinques	April 27, 1861	8,580	College Youths	St. Michael's, London	6	41	41	H. W. Haley.	H. W. Haley.
" Major	Feb. 17, 1856	5,037	St. Martin's Youths	St. Peter and Paul's, Aston	3	7	21	H. Johnson	H. Johnson.
" Royal	Oct. 21, 1876	5,184	" "	" "	3	27	21	H. Johnson	H. Johnson.
Superlative Surprise Major	June 9, 1855	6,048	Local Society	St. Michael's, Benington	3	44	14	J. Miller	J. Kitchener.
" " Royal	Mar. 27, 1826	5,400	" "	All Saints', Wakefield	3	26	31	J. Tobbs	W. Woodhead.
Cambridge Surprise Major	Feb. 11, 1873	5,600	" "	St. Michael's, Benington	3	25	14	C. Middleton.	T. Page.
" " Royal	Oct. 26, 1822	5,400	Local Band	All Saints', Wakefield	3	35	31	W. Woodhead	W. Woodhead.
London Surprise Major	Dec. 26, 1870	6,048	Local Society	St. Michael's, Benington	3	37	14	J. Miller	T. Page.
Double Norwich Major	Nov. 1, 1831	6,160	Norwich Scholars.	St. Michael's, Norwich	3	45	14	S. Thurston	S. Thurston.
" " Royal	April 7, 1801	5,220	Cumberland Youths	St. Leonard's, Shoreditch	3	37	31	G. Gross	G. Gross.

In the foregoing list I have given particulars of the longest authenticated lengths that have been rung, single-handed, in such methods as have been generally practised. During the last few years, in short articles in this paper, I have given the fullest particulars I have been able to collect of the gradual progress made in each of these systems, and have now prepared this table in order that reference may be more easily made to the various 'longest lengths.'

Of course peals have been rung in many other variations, but with the exception of perhaps 'London Court Bob,' and 'Double Oxford Bob,' it does not seem to me that any other than these can be called 'standard' methods. What advantage is there in a band of ringers meeting to practise some method which no other band of ringers attempts? If a man can ring Grandsire and Stedman in odd-bell methods, and Bob Major and Treble Bob in even methods, he can hold his own in nearly every tower in the kingdom. If, however, with his friends, he wishes to practise some other variation, let Double Norwich Court or Superlative, Cambridge or London Surprise, be selected; because, in the event of their accomplishing a peal in any of these variations, their performance will then take a recognised place in the annals of ringing, and receive the credit due to such a feat; and there are places—very few they unfortunately are—where he may have an opportunity of ringing some of these methods. Should, however, some less known or merely local variation be selected, whatever is accomplished in it will meet with no credit, from the simple fact that, with a very few exceptions, no one will be able to form an opinion of the qualifications of the performance; and as it cannot be placed in contrast with other feats in intricate ringing, it is most probable that in a few years the performance will be totally forgotten.

Long-length ringing, as it stands at present, may be said to afford an opportunity for the display of either physical or mental ability. Should an attempt be made to beat any of the lengths in Bob Major, Grandsire Caters, Cinques or Major, Treble Bob Major, Royal or Maximus, Stedman Caters, or Cinques, it is evident that the band must be composed, at least at the heavy end, of men of endurance. A display of scientific ringing, which would result in cutting the present longest length, is, however, yet possible to men of but moderate physical qualifications, in any of the Surprise variations or in Double Norwich Court.

Connected with the above list one question arises which, I dare say, has never been discussed,—Who was the composer of the 12,000 the Cumberlands rang at Shoreditch? It appears that Shipway attributed it to Reeves; and, indeed, to almost all of the peals that he extracted from the *Clavis*, where it is not definitely stated therein they were the composition of some one else, he has affixed Reeves's name. In the *Clavis* there are several peals to which a name is not attached which we know—as in the case of Annable's peal of Bob Major—were not the composition of Reeves. Was this 12,000, then, his? In the records of the Cumberland Youths, and also on the tablet erected to commemorate the event in St. Leonard's Church, it is stated that it was composed and conducted by G. Gross. Has any statement been handed down from old ringers on this matter?

In concluding this article, I may state that several peals of 'Court Bob Major,' which were probably 'Double London Court Bob,' have been rung, and that the longest peal of Double London is the 6000 rung on March 12th, 1817, at Gravesend. The longest peal of Double Oxford Bob is also a 6000, rung at St. Giles's, Norwich, on July 26th, 1832.

which has been the custom in case of poor people. Verily, the conclusion of 1 Sam. ii. 17 is not too strong in deprecation of such a state of things.

I have from time to time during the last eight years endeavoured to work a reformation in this, but without success. Perhaps you will allow me to put before your readers a letter which I addressed to my dear old rector in April 1871. He appreciates the objections which I have raised, but does not quite see his way to the abolition of 'vested interests,' which, he thinks, would be to some extent involved.

A LONDON LAYMAN.

[COPY.]

'MY DEAR MR. —,

'I am sure you will allow me to say a word upon a parochial matter referred to in your pastoral. I am glad to see that you wish to restore to its proper condition, as an "offering," that which has been fixed and paid as a "fee for churchings." As a parishioner, however, I cannot acquiesce in any remission of the fee in case of poverty. It seems to me very wrong to "pauperise" anyone by the remission of that which can have no legal claim. It is wrong to deprive anyone of the power of making a "freewill offering" by the fixing of a fee which is in itself an illegality.

'The "customary" offering is the offering made after the accustomed manner; it is not the fixity of the amount. And there ought to be some facilities for making the offering to the minister, for it is an offering to God through him. I know of instances of the fee taking place of larger offerings on this account, whilst I believe that in other instances it has stood in the way of the Church's rule.

'I am aware that, as regards the amount received, it is your own concern alone, even though you may apply the whole to some charitable purpose, and not to the emoluments of your office as parish priest or rector. But for the sake of others it is one of the many matters which ought to be put on a proper footing.

Yours very sincerely,

SIR,—Will any brother-student, who either has passed, or is preparing, for the Cambridge Preliminary Examination for Holy Orders, kindly suggest as to the best books for securing a pass in the subjects, particularly in the criticism and introduction of the Old and New Testament? PERPLEXED.

SIR,—Can any of your correspondents tell me of a cheap but effective set of prints illustrating our Lord's Miracles? I want something that would add to the interest of a Sunday-school course on that subject. J. L. L. F.

THE MISSIONS TO SEAMEN, 11 Buckingham Street, Strand, London, W.C., begs to acknowledge in *Church Bells*, as desired, the receipt of a gift of books from 'Memo,' Hastings.

'T. CLARK.'—The *Te Deum* was received. We do not remember the letter.

'C. L. E.'—If possible, we will try to find room for extracts from your paper.

RECEIVED ALSO.—An Old Churchman; A Sunday-school Teacher; One of Mrs. Senior's Assistants; H.; P. M. Dunn; C. L. E.; A Yearly Purchaser; A Country Rector; T. H. V.; A High Churchman; C. Poynder; Vicar; L. J. Bennett; and others.

[Our correspondents have been very active during the last week, and we have been obliged to defer some of their letters till next week, or later. Among the subjects on which they have written are the *Te Deum*, *Monotoned Services*, *The Daily Express*, *Pauper Children*, *Tracts*.—ED.]

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

To all whom it may concern.

SIR,—Those of your readers who take special interest in bells, belfries, and bell-ringers—and I am of opinion that their number is not few, judging from what, as a matter of engagement, I am compelled to see daily, in correspondence—will be glad to find that a move is being made to devote a larger space to such matters in your valuable paper. I have seen your paper from its beginning, and I have also seen the extended interest in bells, from peers to villagers, with the greater care of the clergy, since your paper was started. It is true, no doubt, that many look upon bell-ringing as a noisy clatter, and bell records as rubbish. This has been the case for years. It is, and must be, a matter of time to get this put in order. As it is now it is a matter of taste, and we may say with Phœdrus, '*Quale caput est talis sapor præstatum*.' I think that I may say that we who love bells are obliged to you for the extension of our corner this week, and which, if continued, will prevent the communications being cut down and left out, as well as the idea of a rival paper being started, which is talked of. To those who think that our corner is too good for us we might answer,—

'Church bells give grateful sounds, adoring God
For hourly blessings which His hand supplies;
Sending their cheerful peals of praise abroad,
Which gladden earth as up to heaven they rise.
Within His temple let no voice be dumb,
Nor muffled in its tone by sordid care:
The sweetest notes from saddest hearts may come;
Our thankfulness will save us from despair.'

Crescent, Cripplegate.

S. B. GOSLIN.

The Bishop of Sodor and Man at Liverpool.

SIR,—On Monday evening, the 29th ult., St. Luke's Church, Berry Street, in this town, was well filled with a congregation who, no doubt, were anxious both to see and hear the new Bishop of Sodor and Man, who (as had been previously announced) would preach a sermon in aid of the Liverpool Church of England Sunday-school Institute.

The above-named is one of the few churches in this town possessed of a ring of bells, and I naturally thought that they would certainly be brought into 'active service' on that occasion; not only as a means of making known to the public that something special was to have taken place within the walls of the sacred edifice that evening, but also as a means of conveying to his

Lordship those feelings of love and welcome which ought to have, and, I trust, did exist. Yet, strange to say, such was not the case (so far as the bells were concerned), not even the sound of *one* bell being heard, much less the whole ring. But what seems still more strange is, that on the following night the bells were ringing for nearly two hours—a matter which I think ought to be fully explained.

I thought, judging from the name of your paper, that it would be the best one I could address on the subject, thinking that very likely some of the bell-ringers, or other members of the congregation, might be subscribers to the same; therefore, hoping that such is the case, and that some satisfactory explanation may be forthcoming, I think it more prudent (*pro tem.* at all events) to reserve any further remarks, although as matters stand at present they are anything but satisfactory to

A LOYAL CHURCHMAN.

Belfries Scandalised by the Gross Conduct of Ringers.

A SUSSEX Rector complains that the ringers who ring the bells for Sunday services walk off from the belfry and do not join in the service, as he requires them to do. In reply, we advise the Rector to inhibit the ringing of the bells by any such characters who are guilty of such a scandal, and are a disgrace to themselves. They cannot be a respectable lot, and the sooner they are removed the better. The Rector has the power in his own hands, in the exercise of which, no doubt, he would be supported by the churchwardens.—ED.

Muffled Peal at Trowbridge, Wiltshire.

A MUFFLED peal was rung on the bells of the Parish Church, Trowbridge, on the evening of the 1st inst., containing 840 changes of Grandsire Triples, by the following members, under the direction of Mr. U. Woodman:—W. Alley, 1; D. Doel, 2; S. Webb, 3; W. Lane, 4; W. McCaffrey, 5; S. Crook, 6; J. Cooper, 7; A. Palmer, 8. Bob-caller, W. Alley. The peal was rung after the funeral of Mr. William Henry Tucker, who had long been connected with the cloth trade of the town, and had taken a great interest in the restoration of the parish church.

Muffled Peal at St. John's, South Hackney, Middlesex.

ON Tuesday, 6th inst., eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang a muffled peal as a mark of esteem for their much-lamented friend, Frank Francis, a member of the above Society. F. Hesse, 1; G. Clark, 2; J. Sumpter, 3; J. Carmichael, 4; T. Page, 5; R. Turner, 6; E. Turner, 7; C. Lee, 8. Conducted by Mr. Charles Lee.

Ringling at Redenhall, Norfolk.

ON Tuesday, 6th inst., eight members of the Redenhall Society, being also members of the Royal Cumberland Society of London and of the Norwich Diocesan Association of Change-ringers, rang 5152 changes of Superlative Surprise at St. Mary's Church, Redenhall, in 3 hrs. 27 mins. The peal, composed by Mr. John Cox, was conducted by Mr. Benjamin Smith, and rung by the following:—B. Smith, 1; G. Prince, 2; Rev. N. Bolingbroke, 3; R. Whiting, 4; E. Smith, 5; G. Holms, Esq., 6; J. Smith, 7; Captain Moon, 8. Tenor, 24 cwt. in E flat.

ON Saturday, 10th inst., a second eight of the above Society rang 5120 changes of Oxford Treble Bob at the above church, in 3 hrs. 29 mins. The peal was composed by the late Mr. J. Miller, and conducted by Mr. Edward Smith, and rung by the following:—E. Smith, 1; W. Mathews (aged 18), 2; G. Prince, 3; J. Tann (aged 19), 4; F. Mathews (aged 16), 5; R. Whiting, 6; G. Mobbs, 7; J. Smith, 8.

Bell-ringing and Longevity.

ON the Prince of Wales's birthday (Friday, 9th inst.) a peal was rung on the largest eight of the ten bells of Great Yarmouth Church. The second bell of this peal (8 cwt.) was rung throughout the day, at due intervals, by Thomas Gooch, who is in the eighty-third year of his age.

Ancient Society of College Youths.—Established 1637.

ON Saturday, 10th inst., ten members of the above Society rang a true peal of Stedman's Caters, consisting of 5001 changes, in 3 hrs. 30 mins., at St. James's, Bermondsey. It was composed and conducted by Mr. H. W. Haley, and rung by the following:—H. W. Haley, 1; W. Cooter, 2; J. Pettit, 3; R. French, 4; R. Jameson, 5; F. Bate, 6; R. Haworth, 7; G. Muskett, 8; H. Booth, 9; T. Bugby, 10. The above peal was rung with the bells muffled, as a mark of respect to the late Mr. Samuel Austin, who had been a member of the College Youths and other Societies for upwards of fifty years. He held the post of Steeple-keeper at St. James's, Bermondsey, for forty-six years. His qualifications as a ringer and composer were rather above the ordinary standard: he has several times transmitted to paper, *in extenso*, the peal of Grandsire Triples and the 8448 Treble Eight.

Change-ringing at St. Bartholomew's Church, Westhoughton, Lancashire.

ON Saturday, 10th inst., the ringers of the above church, assisted by Mr. John Houghton, of Leigh, rang Mr. John Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, consisting of 5040 changes, in 2 hrs. 50 mins. The ringers were—G. Grundy, 1; W. Brown, 2; J. Woodward, 3; J. Houghton, 4; J. Vickers, 5; A. Hodgkinson, 6; J. Whittingham, 7; H. Hodgkinson (first peal), 8. Tenor, 13 cwt. 1 qr. 14 lbs. Conducted by Mr. G. Grundy.

Huntsham, Devonshire.

ON Sunday, 11th inst., at the usual ringing after evening service, the following members of the Huntsham Change-ringing Society succeeded, at the first attempt, in striking a true and complete peal of 720 Grandsire Minor, without any calls or indication of the calling being made, viz.:—W. Heard, 1; H. Payne, 2; W. Chave, 3; J. Chave, 4; H. Tucker, 5; C. A. W. Troyte, Esq., 6.

RECEIVED ALSO.—Waltham Abbey, and others.

Boarding Out, &c.

SIR,—Would it be impossible to make a sort of fusion of boarding out destitute children and the huge district school, by having a very simple Orphans' Home (if but a couple of old cottages gutted into one large one) in each district of a Union, near the National School, and with a kind Christian matron in each home? I think it might be managed at little (if at any) more expense than at present, if Poor-law Inspectors would be contented with having the children kindly cared for and well taught, though with the simplest lodging, homeliest food, and commonest clothing. Boys and girls would be quite as happy in patched trousers and patched frocks (happier, if taught to put on those patches themselves) than in the most approved uniform; and as these children are expected to rough it in after life, and would rough it if in Cottage Homes, why not let them rough it in Orphan Homes, and look and be like other poor children, only kept clean, and in obedience to 'pastors and masters?' H.

'Those at Sea.'

SIR,—The stormy weather of last Sunday evening, and the appropriateness of the occasion for using the authorised Service of Intercession for those at Sea in church on that evening, induce me to call your readers' attention to that service, which may be legally used in church in the following dioceses, viz. Canterbury, Rochester, London, Oxford, Lincoln, Winchester, Hereford, Exeter, Manchester, Ripon, St. Alban's, Truro. In the other dioceses the general consent of the Bishop should be asked. Congregations are found to take a great interest in this service when invited to use it in stormy weather, especially in seaport towns. Should any parishes be unable to afford the small cost of the copies from Mr. Wells Gardner, Paternoster Row, I have reason to believe that the energetic Secretary of the Seamen's Mission Society, whose heart is set on procuring the most wide-spread intercession for sailors, would supply them gratis. H. F. PHILLIPS.

St. Peter's, Rochester, 25th Sunday after Trinity.

Mission Churches.

SIR,—Will you permit me to call attention to the advertisement columns of your present issue, where a notice of our 'Special Mission Church Fund' appears?

Those whose lot it is to work in our large wide-spread rural parishes, or in the densely-crowded parts of our towns, know full well the very great importance in many cases of having a Mission Church.

In such buildings, with the licence of the Bishop, services are held for congregations who cannot or will not come to the parish church. More than this, they serve for classes, mothers' meetings, night schools, and for many other purposes connected with the efficient working of a parish. It will be seen how many cases this Society has aided; and it is a great matter for regret that the Committee of this Society is so crippled by want of funds in its earnest desire to promote such excellent undertakings.

R. MILBURN BLAKISTON, Secretary.

Incorporated Society for Promoting the Enlargement, Building, and Repairing of Churches and Chapels, Whitehall, London, S.W.

The 'Clergy List.'

SIR,—Everyone who uses the *Clergy List* must have observed the numerous mistakes in this year's issue. Perhaps this may be due to the change of publishers, but may we hope that care will be taken that this expensive book for 1878 be free from such inaccuracies? A YEARLY PURCHASER.

SIR,—I thank you for your article in last week's issue of *Church Bells*, on 'Working Men's Clubs.' We are shortly about to start a Reading-room and Working Men's Club in this parish, containing a population of 530. May I ask you to be so kind as to allow me, in the columns of your paper, to appeal to such of your readers as have practical experience for any hints likely to be of use to us in insuring success to our undertaking? W. H. C.

Eydon Rectory.

SIR,—Do any of your readers know the names of any Orphanages where an utterly destitute boy, of seven years old, can be received? Müller's, of Bristol, is at present full. J. MORRIS.

Ben Lomond Cottage, Narberth.

SIR,—Can any of your correspondents direct me to some graphic and thoughtful sermons or essays on Old Testament characters, especially those of Genesis, suitable for homiletical purposes? Those of Evans and Monro are known. P. O. L.

'T. CLARK.'—Your letter is found. It would need the printing of the music to make it intelligible. We cannot say we much like Gibbons 'adapted.'

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

To all whom it may concern.

SIR,—I have received a fair amount of letters in answer to the appeal which appeared in our corner on the 10th, but it is very far short of what it ought to be. Surely ringers—especially such men as subscribe to *Church Bells*—will not allow it to be said that they are indifferent in the matter (I know it is not so), or are too idle (as has been likewise suggested) to write a couple of lines? Let me once more beg those who have not written to sit down at once and write off these two lines; and I would ask the Masters or Secretaries of Companies to let me know, not how many of their Company are interested in the news contained in *Church Bells*, but how many subscribe to *Church Bells*—that is the point just now. G. H. HARRIS.

Tunstead Vicarage, Norwich.

Bell-ringing and Longevity.

SIR,—Are the ringers of Great Yarmouth Change-ringers? And by the word 'peal' are we to understand that the aged Mr. Gooch rang his 8 cwt. bell through a 5000 on the 9th inst.? The report in your last issue does not give us that information, without which we are unable even to form an idea of the intellectual capacity of either the veteran or of the band. And I think all reports of peals or touches (muffled or otherwise) that are considered worthy of the Bell column should state the number of changes and time they were rung in, without which they are of little or no interest to real ringers.

Maidenhead.

EDWIN ROGERS.

Norwich Diocesan Association of Ringers.

A DISTRICT Meeting of the above Association will be held at Lynn on Monday, December 10th. Members intending to be present should communicate with the Secretary.

G. H. HARRIS.

Tunstead Vicarage, Norwich.

Change-ringing at Waltham Abbey, Essex.

ON Saturday, 10th inst., eight members of the Waltham Society of Change-ringers (also members of the Ancient Society of College Youths) rang a peal of Grandsire Triples, consisting of 5040 changes, at the above church, in 2 hrs. 58 mins. J. Barker, 1; P. Cleverly, 2; G. Hills (first peal), 3; D. Farling, 4; J. Barnett, 5; T. Powell, 6; W. A. Alps, 7; J. Button (first peal), 8. The peal was a six-part composition by Mr. T. Day of Birmingham, and was conducted by Mr. T. Powell. It may be worth mentioning that it is a little more than fifty-eight years since a company of Waltham ringers succeeded in ringing a peal by themselves, although peals by the College Youths and Cumberlands have been rung at this church.

Muffled Peal at Sharow, Yorkshire.

ON Saturday, 10th inst., a muffled peal was rung at St. John's Church, Sharow, as a token of respect to the memory of William Ascough Auton, aged 20, a member for two years of the Sharow Society of Ringers. After the corpse was interred the bells were muffled on one side, and a peal of College Single, consisting of 720 changes, was rung in 20 mins. H. Rumbold, 1; W. Pick, 2; T. Clark, 3; J. Trevor, 4; J. Strodder, junr., 5; J. Strodder, senr., 6. Tenor, 18 cwt.; key of G. Conducted by T. Clark.

Ringing at Warrington, Lancashire.

ON Saturday, the 10th inst., was the opening of the Warrington and District Association of Change Ringers, when a peal of Plain Bob Minor was rung at St. Paul's, Warrington, in 28 mins., by the following mixed members:—J. Webb, 1; P. Johnson, 2; T. Ellison, 3; G. Bebbington, junr., 4; E. Edwardson, 5; T. Houghton, junr., 6. Tenor, 16 cwt. Conducted by J. Webb. This is the first peal of Bob Minor ever rung on these bells by local members. Afterwards there were peals of Grandsire Doubles by ringers from Farnworth, Warrington, and Daresbury.

P.S.—Had it not been for 'rubbing bell news' this Society might have never been formed.

Muffled Peal at Appleton, Berkshire.

ON Wednesday, 14th inst. (the day of his funeral), the Appleton ringers paid a last tribute of respect to the memory of their late Rector, the Rev. W. J. Butler, by ringing on the muffled bells a true half-peal of Grandsire Triples, comprising 2520 changes. It was brought round in 1 hr. 27 mins. by the following persons:—F. S. White, 1; E. Holifield, 2; B. Barrett, 3; W. Bennett, 4; G. Holifield, 5; F. White, 6; H. Woodward, 7; T. Bennett, 8. Conducted by F. White.

The Guild of West-Kent Ringers and Ancient Society of College Youths.

ON Saturday evening, 17th inst., eight members of the above Societies rang on the new bells of St. Pauline's Church, Crayford, Mr. J. Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, containing 5040 changes, in 2 hrs. 59 mins., being the first peal on the new bells, opened on the 10th of January last, and the gift of the family of the late David Evans, Esq., of Shenston, Crayford. The following were the ringers:—J. Sloper, 1; E. Hammant, 2; W. J. Reeve, 3; F. French, 4; A. Payne, 5; A. Cole, 6; J. Garard, 7; J. Foreman, 8. Conducted by Mr. E. Hammant.

Change-ringing by the Yorkshire Association.

ON Saturday, 17th inst., at All Saints, Otley, 5248 changes of Kent Treble Bob Major, in 3 hrs. 2 mins. C. Ralph, 1; R. Tuke, Esq., 2; F. Maston, 3; L. Cawood, 4; J. McGoun, 5; J. Barraclough, 6; T. Lockwood, 7; J. W. Snowden, 8. The peal, in two parts, which has the sixth its extent each way in 5-6, and also four course-ends home in each part, was composed by H. Dains (Cumberland Youths), and conducted by Jasper W. Snowden. Tenor, 16 cwt.

[We consider the above a good form of reporting a performance. It contains no unnecessary matter, which we are so often obliged to strike out.—ED.]

St. Edward's, Romford.

THE Church has a ring of eight; tenor, F sharp, about 19 cwt. It was rehung recently, and has now a remarkably harsh tone, and in order to be heard in round ringing is rung the wrong way up. In 1764, 1767, and 1794, the London Scholars rang peals here, according to their records at King Edward the Confessor's. There is a tablet recording a peal by a local company in 1813; but at the present time the ring is much out of order, and requires overhauling, often proving beyond the capabilities of round ringing by a local company.

[What do you mean by being 'rung the wrong way up'?—ED.]

RECEIVED.—Wednesbury Tablets. H. Shrine: apply to our publisher, Jas. Dixon, Jas. Broadbean, and others. Subscriber without name and county: there are eleven Bradleys in the *Clergy List*.

Vestments.

SIR,—I beg to be allowed to comment on two points in your last week's article on the Vestments. It is impossible to make all be content with the surplice without causing a distressing schism. It is intolerable that the Romish vestures should be worn in the English Church. If the cope were legalised by Convocation many would use it who now use the plain surplice. A coloured cope might very probably give serious offence to many persons unused to it. Let it then be provided that it be of white silk or linen, or of a cream-colour. I have noticed that the chasubles of the Ritualists are almost universally of a rather deep creamy hue. If any congregations desired a flaming scarlet one, by all means let them have it; but I venture to say that if legalised without any restriction as to colour, &c., fresh difficulties might arise.

In the next paragraph of the article I read: 'The Ritualist objects to the cope as not being the Eucharistic dress.' I ask whether these good people assent to the 20th and 24th Articles. If they unfeignedly believe that the 'Church hath power to decree rites and ceremonies,' and that 'every particular or national Church hath authority to ordain, change, and abolish, ceremonies and rites of the Church, ordained only by man's authority,' then I say their objection vanishes away.

I am almost ashamed to waste time on such trivial topics, but they force themselves on one's attention. I am a member of the E. C. U., and was till lately of the C. B. S., and have been brought up amongst Ritualists, so I know their peculiar idiosyncrasies, and have every hope that what Convocation enjoined in this matter would be by all faithful Churchmen cheerfully obeyed.

Oxford.

Working Men's Clubs.

W. H. MEREDITH.

SIR,—In reply to 'W. H. C.' in your paper of Nov. 24th, asking for hints as to the carrying on successfully of Working Men's Clubs, allow me to write a few lines. I have carried on a club and reading-room in my parish since the year 1868. Beginning with nine members we now number, on an average, from quarter to quarter, 200. We have a committee of management entirely appointed by our members at a general annual meeting. All officers of our society, from the President downwards, are elected by the popular vote. The Club has done me the honour to elect me President each year from our beginning; but it is in their power to make a change at any general meeting. I am of opinion that our great secret of success is the purely democratic character of our institution. Each working man is equally influential in the management. I notice that clubs in neighbouring parishes, carried on under would-be benefactors, but, in reality, self-seeking patrons, languish. And for this reason—working men, if properly treated, will help themselves in this matter, but they rather object (and wisely) to be patronised. Our charge for membership is 1s. per quarter, paid in advance. We have a room expressly for games, draughts, chess, &c. We also have two bagatelle tables. Our charge for a game of bagatelle is one halfpenny, to be paid by the loser; all other games are free. Our income from these two bagatelle tables amounts to about 26l. per annum. I must not take up more of your valuable space, but will gladly give any information to inquirers.

The Vicarage, Fowey, Cornwall.

HANDFIELD NOEL PURCELL.

The Bother of Glebes.

SIR,—Letters in the *Guardian* from worried incumbents have lately shown us that glebe lands are sometimes 'more bother than they are worth.' Can any of your readers, clerical, legal, or lay, throw any light upon a bother as yet untouched by any *Guardian* correspondent? It is as follows:—A vicar let all his glebe in January. He was suddenly presented to another living in February. There was no agreement on the part of the tenants to give up the land at the end of the current year. His successor was appointed in April, and he finds that he cannot get his glebe into his own hands until December 31st, 1878! That is to say, the tenants can hold it, in spite of him, for one year and nine months. Is this really so?

BOTHERATION.

Sunday-school Library.

SIR,—We are about to form a library for our Sunday School, but as ours is an extremely poor parish there are no funds applicable for the purpose. Can you, or any of your readers, inform us of any Society from whom we might obtain a grant of suitable books? Perhaps some of your readers have such books at present occupying the shady corners of their libraries, and if they would kindly transfer them to us they would be doing a real good, and such gifts would be much appreciated.

A SUNDAY-SCHOOL TEACHER.

12 York Place, Northam, Southampton.

'For those at Sea.'

SIR,—As some of the clergy hesitate to use the whole *Special Service of Intercession for those at Sea*, authorised for use in churches, may I suggest that, where time presses, the beautiful first 'prayer to be used at sea,' as altered in the *Special Service*, might be offered up as a short addition to the customary daily service? The *Missions to Seamen Society*, 11 Buckingham Street, Strand, London, W.C., would supply the clergy with single copies gratis. 25,000 copies have been issued, showing that a felt want is being supplied.

WM. DAWSON, Commander R.N.

IF 'Perplexed' will send his address to the Curate, St. Paul's, Tipton, Staffordshire, who passed the Cambridge Preliminary Examination last April, he will be happy to give him all the information on the subject he can.

G. W. JOHNSON.

SIR,—Will your readers kindly recommend temperate and learned pamphlets and books on the question of the final restoration of the Jews, and their return to Palestine? Also materials for a list of missionary works and books (such as Ellis's *Madagascar*) bearing on it, for village libraries? Interesting books.

I. R. V.

'B. A.' asks to be recommended some really earnest and hearty Mission Hymns and Tunes, suitable for Cottage Lectures.

RECEIVED ALSO.—J. W. Gibbs; L.; A. B. C.; W. A. W.; Apocrypha (we hope to give attention to your inquiry shortly); H. B.; O.; and others.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

The Bells of Christ Church Cathedral, Dublin.

(From our Irish Correspondent.)

FIVE new bells have been cast for this restored Cathedral by Mr. Murphy, of Dublin, which, with the eight already hung, will make a total of thirteen. The largest bell of the old ring of eight gives the note D below the treble stave. Six of these bells bear the following inscription:—'*Carolo Cobbe, S. T. P., Episcopo Darenis Decano, 1788.*' One of them—the A bell—has in addition the letters 'A. R.', the initials of Abel Rudhall, bell-founder, of Gloucester. The largest of the new bells is C, being the same note as that of our College 'Tom,' which it is believed was also cast by Rudhall: its weight is two tons. The other new bells cast by Mr. Murphy are F natural, A sharp, C natural, and E natural. The thirteen bells afford complete scales in C and D major. The great C bell bears this inscription:—'This bell presented to the Cathedral by Henry Roe, restorer, 1877. J. Murphy, founder, Dublin.' These new bells have been well 'spliced' to the old ring by the same party.

New Guild of Ringers.

THE following circular has been issued to the clergy of Gloucestershire:—'Rev. and dear Sir,—It is proposed to form, in the diocese of Gloucester and Bristol, an Association of Church Change-ringers, similar to those already established in Devonshire, Durham, and Norfolk.

'The Archdeacon of Gloucester has already signified his approbation of the scheme, and promised to preside at a preliminary meeting on the subject.

'The following clergy have also kindly promised their co-operation, and, if possible, their attendance:—Rev. Canon Bell, Rector of Cheltenham; Rev. John Emeris, Rector of Upton St. Leonard's; Rev. Thomas Keble, Vicar of Bisley; Rev. Alfred Kent, Vicar of Coln St. Aldwyn's; Rev. Hemming Robeson, Vicar of Tewkesbury.

'It is hoped that you may be able to give your aid, and, together with any of your parishioners interested in the science of Change-ringing, to be present at the meeting, which will be held in the Cathedral Chapter-room, Gloucester, on Tuesday, the 8th of January, 1878.

'The chief objects of the Association would be—(1st) The promotion of change-ringing on church bells in the diocese, and its introduction in those places where it has hitherto been unknown. (2nd) To offer facilities for gatherings among the various Societies of Ringers already existing. (3rd) The recognition of ringers as Church workers.

'Communications on the subject are earnestly invited, and may be addressed to—

'G. H. PHILLOTT, Trevor House, Leekhampton Rd., Cheltenham } Hon. Secs.

'C. D. P. DAVIES, Eton House, Wellington Street, Cheltenham } pro tem.'

Bell-ringing and Longevity.

SIR,—The history of Thomas Gooch's performance was written in popular language, and not in the technically accurate language which Mr. Edwin Rogers desires. I know not how far he is right or wrong in his view. It would be discouraging to those who like music, but do not understand it, if all records of musical performances were given in strictly musical language. At the same time, one sympathises with Mr. Rogers in his desire that the record should be so given as to be of practical use to real ringers.

But in reply to his inquiries: The ringers of Great Yarmouth are change-ringers. On the occasion, however, referred to, the word 'peal' was certainly inaccurate. Joseph Gooch rang 'touches' of 500 and upwards of Grandsire Triples five or six times throughout the day. So much for his actual performance. The man is a well-known ringer, as the tower of Marsham can best testify.

But a statement can here be added which fully corroborates the heading of the previous communication. On the 5th January, 1843, a peal of Grandsire Caters, composed by James Burman—then, and now, a ringer of Great Yarmouth—was duly and properly rung for the first time. On that occasion James Lamb, being then in the 84th year of his age (a year older than Gooch), rang the same (8 cwt.) bell throughout that peal, and which bell was rung by Gooch on the 9th November last.

O. C. T.

Reporting Peals.

SIR,—There is one very important item which E. Rogers has unfortunately omitted. Not only should the number of changes be given and the time of ringing them, but also (as always appears in the Yorkshire Association reports) the weights of the tenor. Without this we cannot arrive at the true merits of a peal.

H.

Change-ringing at Tong, Yorkshire.

ON Saturday, 17th ult., six members of the Yorkshire Association of Change-ringers met at St. James's Church, Tong, and rang 5040 changes in the following intricate methods, viz., Arnold's Victory, City Delights, London Scholars, Duke of York, New London Pleasure, Oxford, and Violet. The ringers were—W. Sugden, 1; G. Bolland, 2; E. Webster, 3; B. A. Dodson, 4; J. H. Dixon, 5; J. Haley, 6. Conducted by J. H. Dixon. Time, 3 hrs. 2 mins. Tenor, 12 cwt.

Funeral Peals.

THE Vicar of Willesbourne, Warwick, would be glad to receive some directions or hints as to the most correct way of announcing a death or a funeral on church bells; he asks if there is any settled number of strokes on the bell to announce the death respectively of a man, woman, and child?

Notice to our Readers.

FOUR most interesting articles on Bells and Change-ringing will be found in the number of the *Leisure Hour* published to-day. We advise all our readers to secure a copy, and thank the Editor for enabling us thus to call attention to the issue.

RECEIVED ALSO.—North Shields; and others.