

As an admirable 'tool' to lend to a Dissenter, let me mention *Church or Dissent* (John Hodges), well reviewed in your columns; also as a first-rate Sunday-School prize, *The Parish Church* (S. P. C. K.), both by T. P. Garner, M.A.

VICAR.

'To be Said or Sung.'

SIR,—In the discussion on this subject in *Church Bells* some months ago, one of your correspondents, writing on March 3, and signing himself 'A Prebendary,' gave some interesting particulars as to the results in his own church of his effort to promote reverence and hearty responding. The circumstances of his parish and mine being apparently much alike, I shall feel grateful to him if he will favour me with his address, that I may ask his friendly counsel.

J. F. MORTON, JUN.

Ainstable Vicarage, Penrith, Dec. 5, 1877.

RECEIVED ALSO.—X. T.; J. L. Clifford Smith; E. N. R.; F. F. Field; C. H. B. H.; A Lover of 'C. B.'; and many others.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

'What is a Peal?'

It is often asked, 'What is a peal?' and 'ringing a peal?' and it seems strange that there should be any difficulty in answering the question. The term is generally applied to any ringing of bells together—no matter whether of ten minutes' or ten hours' duration. Bells are first raised, either singly or in peal (that is, in ringing order); they may then be set or not, as the ringers please, or rung in changes, or round ringing, or muffled, and then ceased by setting or falling, and then would end a peal in common parlance; and in places where there are only three or four bells and scientific change-ringing is not known. Such was the meaning in pre-Reformation times, as may be seen by an extract from the *Lives of the Berkeleys*—a MS. consisting of three volumes, folio, in the possession of the College of Arms—an account of which may be seen in the fifth volume of *Notes and Queries*, page 616, first series.

On the death of Lady Isabel, wife of Lord Maurice Berkeley, who died in 1516 at Coventry, the following ringing took place:—'Rynging daily with all the Bells continually: that is to say, at St. Michael's xxxiii peles, at Trinitie xxxiii peles, at St. John's xxxiii peles, at Babyleak, because it was so nigh, lvij peles, and in the Mother Church xxx peles and every peale xii.'

But since the introduction of scientific change-ringing on the principle of permutations, early in the last century, the term is known and used as a performance of the full number of changes of which the bells are capable, or any number above 5000: any portion of changes under that number, with seven or more bells, is called either a short or long touch; in some places a piece of ringing, by others a flourish on the bells, &c. H. T. ELLACOMBE.

Reply to all whom it may concern.

SIR,—Although I am not myself a ringer, I should be extremely sorry if the columns in *Church Bells* devoted to Bell-ringing were discontinued. I believe that the news there given attracts the attention of a body of men for whom little has hitherto been done, and that, apart from the encouragement likely to be given to scientific ringing, it is likely that the perusal of those columns will lead to the reading of the whole paper, and so a healthy Church feeling may be originated and fostered amongst many of our church bell-ringers. By all means continue to give the ringing news.

THOMAS NORTH, F.S.A., Editor of 'Leicestershire Bells.'

Ventnor, I.W., Nov. 27.

Woodbine Minor.

SIR,—I have sent you the Minor Peal of Woodbine for insertion in *Church Bells*, if you should deem it worthy, as I think it is a very musical composition, and being such an even Treble Bob peal would be very interesting to six-bell ringers.

Glensford.

S. SLATER.

	BOB CHANGES.
1 2 3 4 5 6	2 3 4 5 6
2 1 4 3 6 5	4 6 3 2 5
1 2 4 3 5 6	6 3 4 2 5
2 1 3 4 6 5	2 6 5 4 3
2 3 1 4 5 6	2 6 4 3 5
3 2 4 1 6 5	6 4 2 3 5
3 2 1 4 5 6	3 6 5 2 4
2 3 4 1 6 5	3 6 2 4 5
2 4 3 6 1 5	6 2 3 4 5
4 2 6 3 5 1	4 6 5 2 3
4 2 3 6 1 5	2 3 4 5 6
2 4 6 3 5 1	
2 6 4 5 3 1	
6 2 5 4 1 3	
6 2 4 5 3 1	
2 6 5 4 1 3	
2 5 6 1 4 3	
5 2 1 6 3 4	
5 2 6 1 4 3	
2 5 1 6 3 4	
2 1 5 6 4 3	
1 2 6 5 3 4	
2 1 6 5 4 3	
1 2 5 6 3 4	
1 5 2 3 6 4	

Death Knells.

THESE are rung according to the custom of the place; but in every place three times three tolls for a man, three times two tolls for a woman, either at the beginning or the end of the passing bell, which would be the tenor or a smaller bell, according to the age of the deceased. The passing bell is now usually tolled half an hour, as soon as possible after death, and then rung out for half an hour (see Dr. Donne's *Meditations*), and then failed, and the age tolled and the sex announced, as may be.

Royal Cumberland Society (late London Scholars).

It is the intention of this Society to attempt a peal of Grandsire Caters at All Saints' Church, Fulham, on Boxing-Day. The object is to try and beat the 12,312 rung at St. Mary's, Painswick, by the Painswick Youths. The composition is to be by Mr. John Nelms, of the Royal Cumberland Society, the number of changes about 14,000 or 15,000. Meeting-time at the church, 11 o'clock.

[We wish you well through it.—ED.]

H. HOPKINS, Hon. Sec.

Durham Diocesan Association of Ringers.

THIS Association held its inaugural meeting at Christ Church, North Shields, on Saturday, Nov. 24. Shortly before 10 a.m. the ringing commenced, and several touches of Grandsire and Bob Minor were rung. At one o'clock the ringers sat down to dinner, returning to the belfry at two, when the ringing was again resumed until after four. A meeting was then held in the spacious belfry, the Vicar of Tynemouth presiding. The Secretary made a statement of the origin, progress, and purpose of the Association, and it was decided to form a committee to be composed of representatives from each band of ringers in union with the Association, and as many clergymen as are willing to join. At 5.15 a special service was held, and a very appropriate address delivered by the Vicar on 1 Cor. xiv. 7. After service some touches of Grandsire Triples and Kent Treble Bob Major were rung, and the bells were ceased at 9 o'clock. The Association at present numbers about ninety members, including several clergy, and the Archdeacons of Durham and Lindisfarne. On Monday morning, Nov. 26, a peal of Grandsire Minor was rung at Blaydon in 25 minutes, by Joel Hern, Hurworth, Treble; J. E. Hern, Hurworth, 2; W. Reed, Esq., North Shields, 3; E. Wallis, Newcastle, 4; J. Gaines, Hurworth, 5; F. Lees, Newcastle. Tenor, 7 cwt. Afterwards a peal of Bob Minor was rung at Winlaton in 27 minutes. Weight of tenor, 10 cwt. This is the first time a peal of six has been rung at either of these places, and was conducted at each place by J. Gaines.

In the afternoon a 5040 of Grandsire Triples was attempted on the All Saints' bells, Newcastle, but failed at the end of an hour, owing to the bells being out of order. It was conducted as far as it went by J. Power, Newcastle.

[We congratulate Durham on this beginning, but are very sorry to hear that more consideration was not paid to the requirements and wishes of the ringers from a distance as to time of holding the service, which many were unable to attend for fear of missing their trains.—ED.]

Change-ringing at Childwall, near Liverpool.

ON Friday evening, 16th ult., a meeting of Change-ringers from the neighbouring churches, assisted by ringers from Gressindale, near Liverpool, took place at All Saints' Church, and rang at intervals touches of Grandsire on the bells; after which Mr. Richard Meadows joined in, and rang the treble bell through two peals of Grandsire Doubles. The above meeting was to show the high esteem in which Mr. Richard Meadows is held, he having been a ringer for upwards of seventy years, and this day completed his eighty-sixth birthday.

Change-ringing at St. Paul's, Denholme, Yorkshire.

ON Monday, 19th ult., eight members of the Denholme Company rang 5124 changes of Treble Bob Major, in 3 hrs. 6 mins. Composed by Mr. Wm. Sottanstell of Sorby, and conducted by Mr. Jonas Foster. W. H. Tidswell, 1; J. Butterfield, 2; W. Lawrance, 3; A. Howarth, 4; W. Hoyle, 5; R. Rushworth, 6; Jonas Foster, 7; John Foster, 8. Tenor, 15 cwt. The above new ring of bells was opened November 4th, 1876. Since then the above Company has been formed, and for the last six months been under the tuition of Mr. J. Jenkinson, of the Bradford Old Company. The above is their first peal upon eight, having previously rung two peals of six, Oxford and Treble Bob Minor.

Change-ringing at North Shields, Northumberland.

ON Tuesday evening, 20th ult., six members of the North Shields Amateur Change-ringing Society rang a peal of 720 Bob Minor on Christ Church bells, North Shields, in 28 mins. G. Park, 1; J. T. Gibson, 2; J. Coulson, 3; R. Armstrong, 4; W. H. Park, 5; W. Reed, 6. Conducted by W. Reed. Tenor, 19 cwt.

Change-ringing at Cheltenham.

ON Thursday, 22nd ult., the following company, being members of the Cheltenham Society of Change-ringers, rang a true peal of Stedman's Caters, containing 5076 changes. This is the first peal of Stedman's Caters ever rung on these bells. J. Lawrence, 1; G. Phillott, Esq., 2; F. Musty, 3; W. T. Pates, 4; W. Morris, 5; S. Brice, 6; O. Arkell, 7; H. Pearn, 8; F. Belcher, 9; G. Acocks, 10. Time, 3½ hrs. Conducted by Mr. John Belcher.

Change-ringing at Ashton-under-Lyne, Lancashire.

ON Saturday, 1st inst., eight members of the Ashton-under-Lyne Society of Change-ringers rang at St. Peter's Church a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major, consisting of 5184 changes, in 3 hrs. 3 mins. Composed by Mr. H. Haley, of London; conducted by Jas. Wood, sen.; and rung by the following:—T. Moss, 1; J. Bawcock, 2; J. Wood, 3; D. Heap, 4; B. Broadbent, 5; J. Gillatt, 6; S. Andrew, 7; J. Thorp, 8. Tenor, 20 cwt. in E.

HAND-BELL RINGING.—Such performances have heretofore not been noticed in our columns, excepting special cases. We may occasionally notice them.

DISGRACEFUL CONDITION OF BELLS AND BELFRIES ABOUT BURY ST. EDMUND'S.—We advise 'O. L.' to lay his just complaints before the Archdeacon.

ESSEX SHEEP-BELLS.—If the writer who wants to ring hand-bells will send us his name and address, he may hear of something to his advantage.

ST. EDWARD'S, ROMFORD.—Our kind correspondent is requested to send his address to the Editor.

RECEIVED ALSO.—R. J. Cooper; G. G. Harrison; H. Johnson; Jasper W. Snowden; Beta; G. H. Harris; and others.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

To all whom it may concern.

SIR,—I should be glad another week to be permitted to make some remarks on the answers received. I am still much disappointed, and so, I fancy, will be many of my correspondents, when they see what a poor figure we cut. At the same time I must add, that whatever the number of those who subscribe for the sake of the ringing news may be, were the ringers assured that greater space would be given to that news, I am certain the number would be greatly increased.

Tunstead Vicarage, Norwich.

G. H. HARRIS.

How should Peals be Recorded?

SIR,—In my letter of Nov. 3rd, in commenting on a false peal rung by the Yorkshire Association, I remarked—'This is the only Society—London or Provincial—in which such a peal would not have passed muster as a true one.' As this remark is perhaps rather vague, and has, I find, been misunderstood, I wish to explain my meaning at further length. Of course I did not mean, nor does the sentence in any way signify, that the members of this Society are alone competent to give an opinion upon the truth of a peal. I simply meant, that when the calling of a peal is not before you it is impossible to tell whether it is a false or a true one. Suppose, for instance, that other friends as provincial members of the College Youths, I rang and called a peal, which I fully believed to be true, and in such faith forwarded particulars of the same to be entered in the books of the Society. As it would not be necessary that I should forward the composition of the peal, how could the falsity of it be afterwards proved? Now not only does the Yorkshire Association record the composition of the peals, as I hope other Societies do, but by the publication and sale to the public of these peals in the Report, they are open to the criticism of everyone, and thus a false peal will probably have only a temporary place in its records.

The question, therefore, arises, How should peals be recorded? I think that most ringers will agree with me that any record is very incomplete that does not include the composition of the peal. During part of the last century the Union Scholars, and other of the London Societies, entered the calling of the peals they rang in their record-books; the reason for doing this at the present day is much greater, as, owing to the advance of composition, old peals are now less frequently performed. As I feel I am advocating a necessary reform, I hope that some member of those Societies who do not already record their doings in this manner will take the opportunity of bringing the matter up for discussion, and that the Yorkshire Association will not long be the only Society with whom a false peal cannot be permanently recorded.

There is one pleasure I have in making these remarks, that is, not being a composer I cannot have any personal motive in advocating this reform. Let every one consider what particulars are recorded before saying that sufficient is already given. What would be said of anyone who—if such were not already the custom—were to suggest that the names of the performers be recorded, what an outcry of 'personal vanity' would be raised! Now, do not let it be supposed that I do not find much gratification in seeing my name recorded amongst the other performers in a peal, yet I must admit that in fifty years' time it will be much more interesting to those who then read the records to know the compositions of the peals we are now ringing than to be informed by whom they were rung. If the records include the names of the performers, is it not strange that such an interesting particular as the composition of the peal should be entirely unnoticed?

JASPER W. SNOWDON.

Old Bank Chambers, Leeds.

Funeral Knells.

SIR,—In reply to the Vicar of Willesbourne's inquiry about funeral peals, the custom at Gawsworth, Cheshire, is to ring the tenor up, and then set it each way for a quarter of an hour, and then ring it down again, and then chime all round. For males, three times on each bell and twice round; for females, twice on each bell and three times round—for another quarter of an hour.

JOHN R. HENSHALL.

SIR,—In reply to the Vicar of Willesbourne's inquiry, I beg to state the most complete system I have met with. Six or twelve hours after death the great bell is tolled slowly, once for each year of the deceased. When this is over, after a short pause, a lighter bell sends forth two or three triplets—two for a female, three for a male. In some places these are called 'tellers' or 'tailors,' which is very probably the origin of the saying that 'Nine tailors make a man,' which in itself has as little sense as civility. It is many years since I resided in the parish where the above usage prevailed, and I am not sure whether the single triplet for an infant was in use. If it was it could not indicate the sex, but might signify that the tolling indicated not years but months. Perhaps the Vicar of Colyton, Devon (the place referred to), might give this information.

A. H. HAMILTON.

Ringing after Morning Service.

SIR,—Can any of your readers name any parish in which the custom prevails of ringing the church bells after morning service whenever banns of marriage are published for the first time?

RECTOR.

[Is not the ringing in anticipation of beer hereafter?—ED.]

Change-ringing at St. Martin's, Birmingham.

ON Tuesday, 27th ult., the St. Martin's Society of Change-ringers, with C. H. Hattersley of Sheffield, rang at St. Martin's Church, Birmingham, a true peal of Stedman's Caters, containing 5079 changes, in 3 hrs. 20 mins. W. Haywood, 1; H. Johnson, sen., 2; J. Joynes, 3; J. Banister, 4; C. H. Hattersley, 5; H. Johnson, jun., 6; J. James, 7; F. James, 8; S. Jarman, 9; J. Buffery, 10. The peal was composed by Mr. H. Johnson, sen., and conducted by Mr. C. H. Hattersley.

Change-ringing at St. Peter's, Nottingham, by the Society of Sherwood Youths.

ON Thursday, 20th ult., Mr. Holt's peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples, in one course, with two doubles in the last four leads, was rung in 2 hrs. 59 mins. by the following ringers:—W. Lee, 1; L. Denman, 2; J. Hickman, 3; G. Ashworth, 4; W. Widdowson, 5; G. H. Johnson, 6; A. Smith, 7; A. W. Sadler, 8. Conducted by G. H. Johnson. Tenor, 23 cwt.

Change-ringing at Beeston, Notts.

ON Saturday evening, 1st inst., the All Saints' Company of Change-ringers (by special invitation and kind permission of the Vicar) visited the above village, and rang a quarter peal of Kent Treble Bob Major, and likewise a quarter peal of Stedman Triples. Those who took part in the above were Messrs. Metheringham, 1; Beeson, 2; Wibberley, 3; Towle, 4; Cooke, 5; Burton, 6; Langley, 7; Middleton, 8. The bobs were called by Mr. Middleton in the Treble Bob and by Mr. Langley in the Stedman. These were the first two peals of this method ever rung on the above bells. The ringing-room was full of spectators—a thing never to be allowed. The Beeston bells were cast by Messrs. Taylor and Co., Loughborough.

CONTRIBUTORS of church bell news are requested to address the Editor at the Printing-office; and if intended for the current week's paper must reach 28 Castle Street, Leicester Square, by Tuesday morning's post at latest.

RECEIVED ALSO.—A report of a peal of Grandsire Triples—no name or place, only 'Loveday Street,' and the church called 'Christ Church.' Wm. Reed.

BELFRY RECORDS.

PARISH CHURCH, KENDAL. (Tablets in the Belfry.)

668. THE First peal of 120 half-pull changes rung in this Belfry on the old heavy peal of 6 bells was in the month of February, 1765. By

William Brough, First.	Richard Carter, Third.	William Teasdale, Fifth.
John Wilson, Second.	William Simpson, Fourth.	Paul Holme, Sixth.

669. ON Friday, the 12th August, 1796, was rung for the first time upon this Peal 5040 Grand sire triples, complete in 3 hours and 20 minutes. By

James Wilson, First.	Robt. Warriner, Fourth.	William Simpson, Sixth.
Nicholas Wilson, Second.	William Salisbury, Fifth.	Gerard Huck, Seventh.
Edward Nicholson, Third.		John Jennings, Eighth.

670. ON Monday, the 22nd February, 1819, was rung here for the first time a peal of Grandsire Caters, consisting of 5147 changes, complete in 3 hours and 29 minutes. By

Joshua Atkin, First.	Thos. Preston, Fourth.	Thomas Atkin, Eighth.
Nicholas Wilson, Second.	Thomas Best, Fifth.	James Tyson, Ninth.
Robert Braithwaite, Third.	Robert Dennison, Sixth.	Jonathan Chorley, Tenth.
	Thomas Scott, Seventh.	

671. ON the 7th May, 1821, was rung here a true peal of Grandsire triples, consisting of 5040 changes, complete in 3 hours and 8 minutes. By

Joshua Atkin, First.	Thomas Scott (Composer and Conductor), Fourth.	Robert Wilson, Sixth.
Thomas Atkin, Second.	Robert Dennison, Fifth.	James Tyson, Seventh.
Thomas Preston, Third.		Wm. Bousfield, Eighth.

672. ON the 2nd December, 1849, was rung here a true peal of Grandsire triples, consisting of 5040 changes, complete in 3 hours and 20 minutes. By

Thomas Heap, First.	James Robinson, Fourth.	George Jennings (Conductor), Seventh.
Thomas Harrison, Second.	John Baxter, Fifth.	William Baxter, Eighth.
David Harding, Third.	Thomas Nicholson, Sixth.	

673. ON Sunday, the 23rd April, 1854, was rung here a peal of Grandsire triples, consisting of 5040 changes, complete in 3 hours and 20 minutes. By

Robert Braithwaite, First.	James Robinson, Fourth.	George Jennings (Conductor), Seventh.
Thomas Harrison, Second.	John Baxter, Fifth.	William Bousfield, Eighth.
David Harding, Third.	William Baxter, Sixth.	

674. ON Sunday, the 20 Decr., 1857, was rung here a peal of Grandsire triples, consisting of 5040 changes, complete in 3 hours & 15 minutes (that intricate peal by the late John Holt). By

Wm. Halhead, First.	Geo. Jennings, jun., Fourth.	Geo. Jennings, sen. (Conductor), Seventh.
Thos. Jennings, Second.	James Robinson, Fifth.	Henry Tyson, Eighth.
James Baxter, Third.	John Baxter, Sixth.	

675. ON Wednesday, October 16, 1867, was rung for the first time in this steeple a peal of 'Grandsire Six in,' consisting of 720 changes, Complete in 28 minutes.

Thomas Jennings, First.	Rev. W. G. Rigidon, Third.	John Braithwaite, Fifth.
William Halhead, Second.	Wm. Baxter, jun., Fourth.	John Baxter, Sixth.

Composed and conducted by the Rev. W. G. Rigidon, Curate.

676. ON Monday, Decr. 27, 1869, was rung in this Belfry a peal of Grandsire triples, consisting of 5040 changes, complete in 3 hours and 10 minutes, by

Thomas Jennings, First.	John Braithwaite, Fourth.	Geo. Jennings, senior, Sixth.
Wm. Halhead, Second.	James Baxter, Fifth.	John Baxter, Seventh.
Wm. Baxter, jun., Third.		Thomas Monkhouse, Eighth.

Composed and conducted by James Baxter.

677. ON Monday, Jan'y. 3, 1876, was rung in this Belfry a peal of Grandsire Triples, consisting of 5040 changes, true and complete in 3 hours and 3 minutes. By the following:

George Jennings, First.	John Braithwaite, Fourth.	John Brownrigg, Sixth.
John Baxter, Second.	Jacob Baxter, Fifth.	William Baxter, Seventh.
James Baxter, Third.		James Salmon, Eighth.

Composed and conducted by James Baxter.

The weight of the Peal is as under:—

No.		Date	cwt.	qrs.	lbs.	No.		Date	cwt.	qrs.	lbs.
1	..	1816	7	0	0	7	..	1816	14	0	15
2	..	1816	6	3	20	8	..	1774	15	3	0
3	..	—	8	0	4	9	..	1651	19	3	9
4	..	1775	8	1	20	10	..	1631	25	0	15
5	..	1774	9	1	0						
6	..	1774	10	2	11				125	0	10

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Norwich Diocesan Association of Ringers.

THE above Association held its first Quarterly Meeting at Lynn on Monday, December 10th, the Inaugural Meeting having taken place at Norwich, September 24th. The meeting was not a large one, as, with the exception of the company at Lynn, the ringers of the neighbourhood are but few, many of the bellrics being in a sorry condition. The town possesses two grand churches, each with a ring of eight bells.—St. Nicholas with a tenor of 19 cwt., and St. Margaret with a fine tenor of 30 cwt. After some touches of various methods had been rung the members adjourned to the 'Crown,' where they sat down to dinner under the presidency of Gervas Holmes, Esq. On returning thanks for the Bishop and his clergy, of whom there were six present, the Rev. J. Durst, the Vicar of Lynn, expressed himself as much pleased at being able to meet his ringers, and those from other parishes, in this friendly fashion, and said he felt sure that gatherings conducted like the present one must be beneficial in every way. There was afterwards an election of nine ringers and two honorary members—Sir Edward Kerrison, Bart., and the Rev. E. H. Paget. In the evening a mixed company pulled off for a peal of Oxford Treble Bob on the eight at St. Margaret's, but after two thirds of the peal had been rung an unfortunate slip brought some fine ringing to an abrupt termination. It is hoped that ere long two new trebles will be added to this ring: it well deserves the addition.

Lancashire Association of Change-ringers.

ON Saturday, 15th inst., the Committee of the above held a Meeting at 18 Major Street, Manchester, after which they met a deputation of ringers from various parts of the county in Holy Trinity Church Schools, Hulme, for the purpose of explaining the objects and the manner of working the Association. Mr. John Mason, of Southport, presided. A great many ringers were enrolled at this meeting, among whom were the Rev. B. Winfield, Curate of Holy Trinity Church, Hulme, and the Rev. H. W. Mason, Vicar of Kirkham. A vote of thanks was accorded the Churchwardens for the use of the schools, after the close of the meeting. During the evening a peal of Grandsire Minor, 720 changes, was rung on the bells of Holy Trinity by the following members:—H. W. Jackson, 1; H. Bentley, 2; J. Curtis, 3; J. Jackson, 4; J. Aspinall, 5; W. Hamer, 6. Conducted by H. W. Jackson. Tenor, 15½ cwt. Several touches of Grandsire Triples were also rung on the bells of St. Philip's Church. The Secretary takes this opportunity of informing the members and ringers generally, that at the next Annual Meeting, which will take place in May, a motion will be brought forward to make Manchester the headquarters of the Association.

JOHN R. PRITCHARD, Sec.

44 Roscoe Street, Liverpool.

How Peals should be Recorded.

SIR,—The reform advocated by Mr. Snowdon on this point is undoubtedly a necessary one, not simply as a means for the discovery of false peals, but for the preservation of compositions, &c. The records of our old Societies are very interesting as they stand, but who will not say that they would have been much more so if the composition of each peal rung could be added? Without this information, a man may next week find and ring a peal that was composed and rung twenty or even fifty years ago. Besides this, in some of those records the composer's name is not mentioned. Holt's name is generally attached to Grandsire Triples, but sometimes it is not said which of his peals was rung, the *one, six, or ten-part*. Composers and ringers are, as it were, complement and supplement to each other, and *vice versa*; the one useless without the other. Therefore, although I may be thought interested personally in the matter, I consider any peal that is worth ringing is also worth recording in the Society's peal-book; and I doubt not, if the opinion of our old composers could be obtained, there would be a majority in favour of this reform.

H. DAINS, *Royal Cumberland Youths*.

Funeral Knells.

SIR,—These vary very much in different parishes. Three tolls for a male and two for a female are the best, and follow ancient custom. In my forthcoming volume on *The Church Bells of Northamptonshire* I shall give this and many other bell customs, as at present prevalent in almost every parish in that county.

THOMAS NORTH, F.S.A.

[THE custom for knelling, in all old-fashioned country parishes, is, for children, to take the *smaller* bells, as the case may be, from *treble* upwards.—ED.]

Ringing after Morning Service.

SIR,—In reply to 'Rector,' and 'Ringing after Morning Service,' I may say it is unknown in this part of the country. Had 'Rector' given his name I should have thought better of him; he, 'Rector,' might have had too much Communion wine when writing to you, and quoting as he does, 'Is not the ringing in anticipation of beer?' I say 'No,' but in anticipation of pay, as the noble Rector goes to church to preach and pray in anticipation of a very large pay.

T. O., *a Manchester Ringer*.

'RECTOR' is informed that the custom referred to by him is followed at Humberstone and at Owston, both in Leicestershire.

THOMAS NORTH.

Ringing at Dinton, near Salisbury.

SIR,—I have addressed a letter to you to tell you how the ringers of this village church have attempted to ring changes. When the present clergyman came here, some years ago, the bells were in bad condition. Through his energy the bells have been rehung by Messrs. Warner, and a company of ringers formed, who are bound by some very good rules. I am pleased to say that they are a most respectable set, but, till lately, had no knowledge of ringing and could scarcely handle a rope. Our clergyman supplied them with

a copy of *Church Bells*, which very much enlightened and surprised them, and they were strongly incited to commence change-ringing. I came here about twelve months ago, but had not then rung for many years. (I used to ring a little under the late Mr. Lewis of St. Alban's, and Mr. Procter of Bennington.) The Dinton Youths were very anxious for me to help them, and I got Mr. Troyte's book. Not much was done last winter, and in the summer all hands were too busy to find time to ring. This winter we have made a fresh start, and last Monday we rang without stopping nine times through the old Grandsire plain course; which, considering that the men had never heard any change-ringing, was rather surprising. So *Church Bells* has created one set of change-ringers out of a lot of agricultural labourers, in a district where change-ringing is entirely unknown. The men, who are very proud of their feat, stood thus:—J. Geates (carrier), 1; An Amateur, 2; W. Barnes (labourer), 3; T. Wright (carpenter and parish clerk), 4; H. Wright (carpenter), 5; E. Barnes (labourer), 6. Tenor, 14½ cwt.

AN OLD RINGER.

Woburn, Bedfordshire.

A SET of Mr. Seage's 'Church-bell Dumb-practice Apparatus' has recently been affixed to the bells in the Woburn tower, under the personal superintendence of F. T. Tanqueray, Esq., son of the Rector of Tingrith and Treasurer of the Woburn Company of Change-ringers. In justice to Mr. Seage it is right to say that his invention deserves great praise, for it meets a difficulty of long standing, viz. that of obtaining an unlimited amount of practice for learners in the art of change-ringing, without annoying the neighbours, where the church bells are in close proximity to the houses. Much practice has of late been carried on in the steeple (a veritable school for young ringers), the 'Tell-tales,' as they are called, answering very satisfactorily. Persevering efforts are being made to master change-ringing in Woburn, the only place in this county where it is practised, and we are glad to hear that the work is steadily progressing.

Change-ringing at Worcester.

ON Thursday, 18th ult., eight members of the Worcester Change-ringing Society rang, at St. Helen's, Worcester, Mr. J. Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, comprising 5040 changes, in 3 hrs. 5 mins. Those marked with an asterisk rang their first peal. F. Owen, 1; H. Wilkes, 2; N. Wale, 3; *H. Pheasant, 4; *J. Reynolds, 5; *W. King, 6; *W. Webb, 7; *T. Malin, 8. Conducted by H. Wilkes. Tenor, 19 cwt.

Ringing at Beckenham, Kent.

ON Friday, 23rd ult., the Streatham Company of Bell-ringers visited Beckenham, and rang 720 changes of Single Bob Minor Reverse in 27 mins. J. Hitchcock, 1; H. Laffin, 2; T. Margetson, 3; S. Greenwood, 4; D. Springall, 5; C. Pell, 6. Conducted by S. Greenwood. Tenor, 19 cwt.

Change-ringing at West Bromwich, Staffordshire.

ON Saturday, 1st inst., the Christ Church Society of Change-ringers met in the tower of Christ Church, West Bromwich, and rang a peal of new Grandsire Triples, comprising 5040 changes, in 2 hrs. 55 mins. H. Hipkiss, 1; J. Russell, 2; W. Mallin, 3; T. Horton, 4; W. Beeson, 5; J. Carter, 6; S. Biddlestone, 7; H. Thyer, 8. Tenor, 23 cwt. The peal is in three parts, with eight courses in each part, and was composed and conducted by Solomon Biddlestone.

Change-ringing at St. Philip's, Birmingham.

ON Monday, 10th inst., six of St. Philip's and two of St. Martin's Company of Change-ringers rang Mr. Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, consisting of 5040 changes, in 3 hrs. 10 mins. The ringers were T. Payne, 1; G. Wiseman, 2; W. Brook, 3; J. Joynes, 4; R. Hunt, 5; G. Taylor, 6; S. Jarman, 7; H. Butt, 8. Conducted by R. Hunt. Tenor, 28 cwt.

Change-ringing at Burton-on-Trent.

ON Tuesday, 11th inst., a mixed set of Change-ringers from the Parish Church and St. Paul's, Burton-on-Trent, rang on the bells of the parish church a complete Date-touch of 1877 Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. 10 mins. G. Robinson, 1; T. Leach, 2; A. J. Oxford, 3; F. Bullock, 4; W. Royals, 5; J. Walker, 6; W. Potts, 7; J. Leach, tenor. Conducted by W. Royals. Tenor, 25 cwt.

Change-ringing by the Yorkshire Association.

ON Saturday, 15th inst., at All Saints, Otley, 8000 changes of Kent Treble Bob Major, in 4 hrs. 28 mins. C. Ralph, 1; R. Tuke, Esq., 2; F. Maston, 3; L. Cawood, 4; J. Barraclough, 5; G. Barraclough, 6; W. McGown, 7; J. W. Snowdon, Esq., 8. The peal—which is the first true exact 8000 of Treble Bob Major which has ever been composed or rung without parting the tenors—was a five-part composition by Wm. Harrison of Mottram, and was conducted by Jasper W. Snowdon. Tenor, 16 cwt.

Royal Cumberland Society (late London Scholars).

ON Saturday, 15th inst., eight members of the above Society rang at St. Ann's Church, Highgate Rise, the late Mr. Holt's original composition of Grandsire Triples (with two doubles in the last four leads), containing 5040 changes, in 2 hrs. 58 mins. G. Newson, 1; J. W. Mansfield, 2; G. Harvey, 3; H. Swain, 4; D. Stackwood, 5; A. Kirk, 6; J. Page, 7; J. Barrett, 8. Conducted by Mr. G. Newson.

Ringing at St. Mary's, Lewisham, Kent.

ON Saturday, 15th inst., eight members of the Society of Lewisham Youths rang at the above church Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, containing 5040 changes, in 2 hrs. 52 mins. G. Freeman, 1; H. J. Shade, 2; R. Smith, 3; W. Pead, 4; I. G. Shade, 5; T. Hall, 6; W. Weatherstone (conductor), 7; H. Freeman, 8. Tenor, 22½ cwt. This peal was rung to commemorate the one hundredth anniversary of the rebuilding of the church and the casting of the tenor, which was hung in December, 1777.

RECEIVED ALSO.—Wm. Reed; Diss, Norfolk; and others.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

American Cathedrals.

Sir,—As some of your readers may probably be aware, it is not every diocese of the Protestant Episcopal Church into which the territory belonging to our American cousins is divided that possesses a cathedral. During my trip to the Centennial Exhibition at Philadelphia, in 'the States,' I found that out of the 48 dioceses (a list may be found in the *Churchman's Almanac*), only 15 have such edifices, and most of these are mere chapels in size, and have no pretensions to grandeur. The only one at all like a British cathedral is that of the diocese of Long Island at Garden City, now in course of erection at the sole expense of Mrs. Alexander T. Stewart (widow of the celebrated draper), in memory of her husband. It is situate in the centre of a plot of ground of 24 acres, and will comprise, besides the church, a bishop's house, a library hall, a chapter-house, and other buildings, in the Decorated style of architecture, at an outlay of \$2,000,000, or 400,000*l.* It is 175 feet long by 96 feet across the transepts, with a tower and spire 197 feet high. Thus it is shorter than any British cathedral, except, perhaps, Oxford and Portrose. Under the edifice is a mortuary chapel, to contain the remains of Mr. Stewart. In the bell-chamber will be placed the *chime* of bells which were used in the machinery hall at the Centennial Exhibition—thirteen in number, weighing altogether 20,000 lbs. The tenor is D flat, 35 cwt. They were all cast by M^rShane, an American founder. I say advisedly '*chime*,' and not '*ring*,' for only the tenor will be furnished with a wheel, and this is the usual way they are hung in the States. I only found one set that could be rung, and that was the eight at Christchurch, Philadelphia; and they were cast at the White-chapel Foundry, London, by Lester and Pack, 1754. The tenor is 18 cwt.* This *chime* of thirteen for Long Island Cathedral were to my ear not nearly in tune; they did not seem to answer the exact intervals of the monochord. This, perhaps, may be remedied before they are hung. The fifteen cathedrals alluded to above are annexed:—

Diocese.	Cathedral City.	Dedication.
1. Albany	Albany	All Saints.
2. Easton	Easton	
3. Florida	Tallahassee ..	St. John.
4. Fond-du-lac ..	Fond-du-lac ..	
5. Illinois	Chicago	SS. Peter and Paul.
6. Indiana	Indianapolis ..	St. Paul.
7. Iowa	Davenport ..	Grace Church.
8. Long Island ..	Garden City ..	Incarnation.
9. Maine	Portland	
10. Minnesota ..	Fairbault	Our Merciful Saviour.
11. Nebraska	Omaha	Trinity.
12. Western New York..	Buffalo	St. Paul.
13. Texas	Dallas	
14. Western Texas ..	San Antonio ..	
15. Wisconsin ..	Milwaukee ..	

Those dedications not filled in I was unable to ascertain. New York diocese has no cathedral. Of the churches of the Episcopal communion in New York City, I found but about four with any sets of bells, viz. Trinity, eight, and one extra half-note; these were cast by Mears of London. Key, E flat; tenor, 25 cwt. Grace Church, ten; St. Thomas, ten; and Trinity Chapel, five. Most of the Episcopal churches in America have no bells. In Brooklyn (the largest city in Long Island) the only church with a complete *chime* is St. Ann's (Rev. Noah Hunt Schenck, D.D., Rector), the mother church of that city, founded 1784. This possesses one bell cast by Thos. Mears and Son of London, about 1805-9 (there is no actual date in the inscription), note, E flat; a *chime* of eight in F, tenor (the only one hung for ringing), 17 cwt. 3 qrs. 23 lbs., cast by Meneelys of West Troy, 1860; and an extra half-note in this *chime*, E flat, also from the same foundry. Many churches in Brooklyn possess single bells, but they are principally edifices belonging to other communions. The heaviest bell seems to be that at Strong Place Baptist Church—D flat, 36 cwt. 2 qrs. 12 lbs.—cast by Meneelys, 1855; but the finest-toned bell is at the 'Church of the Pilgrims' (Independents), F flat, 28 cwt. 1 qr. 11 lbs., cast also by the same firm. The engine-house-like structure called 'Plymouth Church,' where the celebrated Rev. Henry Ward Beecher ministers, has also in its tower one bell. Holy Trinity, Brooklyn (Rev. Chas. H. Hall, D.D.), Episcopal Church, although having a very fine tower and spire, has no bell whatever. JNO. HARRIS, C.E.

Bath, Christmas Eve, 1877.

To all whom it may concern.

Sir—The effort of sitting down to write a letter has evidently proved too much for many a ringer, so that, instead of being able to make my report a matter of fact, as I had hoped to do, I am left to draw conclusions. From answers received, and those which ought to have come to hand (several well-known companies and men are mysteriously silent), I gather that though those of the subscribers to *Church Bells* who are interested in the bell news are not a majority, as some fondly hoped, yet we form a very respectable minority. One and all take great interest in the bell news; most of them wish for more of it; and many add, that if more space were given to it, a greater number of their friends would become subscribers. We are not unreasonable in our desires; we ask that we may have two columns allotted to our news. With that we shall be satisfied (at all events for the present, until our numbers are increased ten-fold, and of that I see a probability), and I think that no one can reasonably grudge that space. Ringers are spoken of as 'a degraded set,' 'a bad lot,' &c. If such terms can with any degree of truth be applied to

them, I would ask, Is there not a cause? Some of my correspondents thank me heartily for taking up the cause of the poor ringers. This goes to prove that the ringers, as a class, are very much neglected. Would it not be as well if a few more of the clergy and others would show a little kinder feeling towards them, and endeavour to win them to better ways, not by insulting remarks and threats of 'turning them out,' but by undertaking a 'mission' of love to them? They are not far off; a few steps up the tower staircase will lead anyone in the midst of those whom they seek, and if the tower is occupied by *real ringers*, a would-be friend will meet with a hearty welcome. Farewell. G. H. HARRIS.

Bell-ringing and Longevity at Sudbury, Suffolk.

ON Saturday, 8th inst., seven members of the Sudbury company, with Samuel Slater of Glemsford, rang upon the fine bells of All Saints, in this town, a touch of Kent Treble Bob Major, consisting of 1024 changes, in 45 mins., as a compliment to John Baney, sen., who had just entered his 82nd year. J. Baney, sen., 1; J. Baney, jun. (conductor), 2; J. Campin, 3; W. Howell, 4; J. Morley, 5; A. Scott, 6; H. Harper, 7; S. Slater, 8. Tenor, 27 cwt.

Ringing at Gargrave, Craven, Yorks.

ON Monday evening, 10th inst., six members of the Gargrave Society rang a true peal of 720 changes Oxford Treble Bob Minor in 30 mins. The ringers were H. Shackleton, 1; R. Brown, 2; C. Lancaster, 3; W. Mallinson, 4; J. Gill (conductor), 5; J. McKell, 6. Tenor, 16 cwt. This is the first minor peal ever accomplished by the Gargrave band, and the first of all who took part except the ringer of the tenor.

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

ON Wednesday, 12th inst., a peal of Grandsire Minor, comprising 720 changes, was rung in 27 mins., by S. Gough, 1; H. Meadows, 2; T. Hammond (conductor), 3; R. Rowlands (first peal), 4; I. Meadows, 5; J. Aspinwall, 6. Tenor, 10½ cwt.

Ringing at St. Mary's, Eccles.

ON Thursday, 13th inst., the ringers of St. Mary's, Eccles, rang 1877 changes of Grandsire Triples, the date of the present year, in 1 hr. 4 mins. J. Smith, 1; J. Barratt, 2; W. Walton, 3; C. Royle, 4; J. Barratt, 5; R. Ashcroft, 6; T. Yates, 7; W. Ashcroft, 8. This musical touch, containing fifteen 6-4s, fifteen 7-4s, and twenty-four 6-7s, was conducted by Thomas Yates. Tenor, 13½ cwt.

Muffled Peal at St. George's, Hyde.

ON Saturday, 15th inst., six members of the Society of Change-ringers of Hyde, assisted by R. Ainsworth and T. Sale from Gorton, rang a muffled peal of Grandsire Triples, consisting of 1498 changes, in 51 mins. J. Wilde, sen., 1; M. Sale, 2; H. Roston (conductor), 3; T. Sale, 4; P. Beard, 5; W. Beebey, 6; R. Ainsworth, 7; T. Wilde, sen., 8. The deceased (James Wilde) was for upwards of twenty-two years a ringer, and assisted in ringing in upwards of one hundred peals of 5000 and upwards. His longest peal was a 9600 of Grandsire Major in 1856, occupying 5 hrs. 43 mins.

Norwich Diocesan Association of Ringers.

ON Monday, 17th inst., the members of the Diss Branch of the above Association rang at St. Mary's Church a peal of 7040 changes of Oxford Treble Bob Major in 4 hrs. 45 mins. The peal is a composition of Mr. H. Hubbard. The ringers were J. Rudd, 1; W. Scales, 2; W. Ireland, 3; T. Ford, 4; E. Francis (first peal), 5; T. Preston (first peal), 6; W. Brown, 7; T. Clark, 8. Tenor, 24 cwt. in D. Conductor, Jas. Rudd.

Change-ringing at Huntsham, Devon.

ON Tuesday evening, 18th inst., the following members of the Guild of Devonshire Ringers met at the above church, and rang Taylor's six-part peal of Grandsire Triples in 3 hrs. 2 mins., viz.:—W. Heard (first peal), 1; H. Payne, 2; H. Tucker, 3; C. Daniel (first peal), 4; W. B. Fulford (first peal at a dodging bell), 5; W. Chave, 6; C. A. W. Troyte, Esq., 7; H. Hipplesley (first peal), 8. Conducted by C. A. W. Troyte, Esq. Tenor, 13 cwt.

Change-ringing at St. John's Church, Capel, Dorking, Surrey.

ON Tuesday, 18th inst., six members of the Capel Society of Change-ringers rang seven peals of Minor; namely, three peals of Oxford Treble Bob, two of Court Single Bob, two of Oxford Single Bob, consisting 5040 changes, in 2 hrs. 57 mins., it being the first anniversary of the new treble. G. Mills, 1; A. Tidy, 2; G. Holloway, 3; R. Worsfold, 4; E. Jordan, 5; D. Jordan (conductor), 6. Tenor, 7½ cwt.

Lancashire Association of Change-ringers.

ON Saturday, the 22nd inst., the following members of the above Association rang on the bells of Holy Trinity Church, Bolton, the late Mr. John Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, comprising 5040 changes, in 2 hrs. 53 mins. H. Jackson (conductor), 1; H. Bentley, 2; J. Curtis, 3; J. Aspinwall, 4; J. H. Jackson, 5; W. Hamer, 6; S. Gaskell, 7; T. Morris, tenor. Tenor, 16 cwt. The Bolton ringers are all members of Holy Trinity Society.

Correction.—In the report of the above Association in our issue of 22nd inst., the peal of Grandsire Minor should have been stated as Bob Minor; time, 27 mins.

Change-ringing at the Parish Church, Wigan, Lancashire.

ON Monday, 24th inst., the ringers of the above, assisted by three of St. Peter's, Hindley, rang a date peal, consisting of 1877 changes of Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. 10 mins., in honour of the 80th birthday of the late Rector of Wigan, the Rev. Sir H. J. Gunning, who was then on a visit to the present Rector. T. Halliwell (conductor), 1; E. Prescott, 2; J. Leyland, 3; E. Bentham, 4; J. Prescott, 5; S. Hall, 6; J. W. Hall, 7; W. Westhead, 8. Composed by John Aspinwall, Liverpool. Tenor, 28 cwt.

RECEIVED ALSO.—J. R. Jerram; J. W. Snowden; and others.

* The only peal ever rung in the States was at this church, 9th June, 1850, by nine Englishmen. See *Church Bells*, September 8, 1877, p. 483.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Sponsorial System.

SIR,—I am thankful to see this matter is again attracting attention. Would to God that those in authority may see the great importance of taking measures to meet our difficulties, as they must be removed before the Church can thoroughly do all that Christ empowered her to do.

I have laboured for years to raise the Sponsorial system in the estimation of my parishioners, but it is plainly impossible that the theory of the Church can be practically carried out.

To do so would require every communicant to become a sponsor three or four times a-year, and in some parishes ten times yearly. But this is to make the whole proceeding anything except what it ought to be. It seems to me that any professedly Christian parent has a right to present his or her child for baptism; and that, so presented, the Church has no authority to refuse to baptize it. And further, that any Christian person, who has any sort of interest in a child (not illegal, or implying anything surreptitious), can present that child for baptism in the name of Christ, and promising to see that it is henceforth brought up as a Christian.

It will be a grand day for England when the present impossible Sponsorial Office is adapted to what is practicable, and when the Baptismal Service is very greatly shortened, so that baptisms may take place during public services.

G. V.

Seamen in the Port of London.

SIR,—In your number of *Church Bells* for Dec. 22nd, you mention 'the Clergy of the Archdeaconry of London met at Sion College this week, to consider the subject of the Missions to London Seamen.' Will you allow me to say what is done in a small, but very efficient way, by the 'Missions to Seamen' in the Port of London? The Rev. D. Gratorex, of St. Paul's, Dock Street, London, has under his care two of the most able and experienced readers of the Society, who are engaged every day in visiting the docks and canals, and lodging-houses frequented by sailors, and are successful in bringing to his church thousands of seamen during the year; and when there, they sit amongst them and find the places in the Prayer-books for them, and thus make them at home where otherwise they would be strange.

One of the readers also prepares the boxes for the ship's libraries, and sees the captain of each ship on which a library is put on board.

We find in all our ports, where we have either regular chaplains or honorary chaplains, these readers, many of whom, have been sailors themselves, and who, by God's grace, are truly Christian men, have a great influence over their fellow-seamen, and assist our chaplains and honorary chaplains very much in gathering them to their churches. This is the case at Cardiff, Swansea, Yarmouth, Hull, Whitby, and on the Tyne Mission-ships. The clergyman and reader thus working hand-in-hand together for the sailor's good.

R. B. BOYER, *Superintendent of Missions to Seamen.*

Holt Middle-Class School for Girls.

SIR,—I am very glad that the Chaplain to Holt School has set me right in one or two particulars concerning this excellent Institution. I see that he and I mean the same thing as to numbers. It is certain that the best number of scholars in a school is that which may fairly secure good teachers; and also form a 'world in miniature,' in which the social intercourse of the scholars shall help to fit them for the duties of after life. A school which secures these two points is large enough; and when these are secured, it is obviously better to begin a second school elsewhere, rather than enlarge No. 1. Localities are better served, the disaster in case of closing a school on account of outbreak of sickness is diminished, and the sickness is less likely to occur; and each district may hope to secure the interest of the ladies of the neighbourhood. May Holt School become the pattern of not a few similar institutions.

G. V.

South Wimbledon School of Church Embroidery.

SIR,—Will you allow me to inform those numerous ladies who have applied to me for work in consequence of my former letter, that, grieved as I am to refuse them, I have not sufficient orders to keep employed my workers in this parish. It seems hard indeed that gentlewomen, who, as they say, are prevented by straitened circumstances from offering gratuitously their time and money to God's service, should be denied even the happiness of doing work for His sanctuary as their means of livelihood; and we, who have been admitted behind the scenes in foreign workshops, have seen much of the employment for which they crave entrusted to the hands of persons of the other sex, and in communion with the Roman Church.

To prevent further disappointment, I will make known immediately the earliest chance of increasing our sphere of work, which depends not on me, but on Church people at large.

L. J. BENNETT.

SIR,—Allow me respectfully to request any subscriber to your most valuable paper, not caring to keep it, to forward it to the Rev. G. J. Woodward (an isolated missionary in the north of Madagascar), care of C. E. Bewsher, Esq., Oriental Bank, Port Louis, Mauritius. Any other papers, religious or secular, would, I feel sure, be very acceptable to him.

K. L.

SIR,—Allow me to acknowledge in your columns, with many thanks, the receipt of *Church Bells* from July 14th, sent by W. J. C., and also of some odd numbers from unknown donors.

HENRY LAURANCE.

Geraldton Parsonage.

SIR,—Please convey my best thanks to the kind lady who has now for some time sent me your valuable paper. It has reached me regularly. My good wishes for her welfare.

THOS. COOK.

Westbourne, White Mud River, Dec. 10, 1877.

Hoxton Home for Little Maids.

MRS. POLE CAREW begs to acknowledge the receipt of twelve stamps from 'H. G.' for the Hoxton Home for Little Maids.

Antony, Torpoint, Devonport.

'MARY' would be glad of the addresses of Refuges (such as Dr. Barnardo's) conducted by Church people, where the extremely destitute are received, and in which clothes would be acceptable.

CHURCHMAN.—We would rather not give an opinion, which might be wrong from insufficient knowledge of the circumstances, and which could not possibly do good.

J. F. MORTON, JUN.—The Hon. Secretary of the Operative Jewish Converts' Institution is Mr. William W. Willson, Palestine Place, Cambridge Heath, London.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

A Manchester Ringer's Letter.

WE owe an apology to our readers for the insertion in our columns, on the 22nd ult., of a vulgar and offensive letter from a Manchester ringer. It was by an untoward accident in our establishment that it appeared in our columns instead of in our *file*, for which it was destined, and into which it ought to have been thrown.

A Ring of Bells for St. Paul's.

IT so happens that our present St. Paul's Cathedral is wanting in the special feature which, according to trustworthy testimony, its predecessors possessed, and which the majority of its contemporaries now possess—a ring of bells. There can be no question but its eminent architect and those who approved his plan were under the impression that such a ring would be speedily forthcoming for the sister tower to that in which the great clock is set, for it is specially prepared for the reception of bells of the largest dimensions. On all festival occasions in the City the want of a ring of bells in St. Paul's has been sorely felt—as, for instance, on the visit of our own Sovereign, or of foreign potentates, to our capital, or on the occasion of the Lord Mayor and Sheriffs attending Divine service in the Cathedral. But never in immediately modern times was the want so nakedly apparent as on the memorable day when the Queen and all the Royal family went to St. Paul's to return thanks for the recovery of the Prince of Wales from a terrible illness. On that occasion, of almost all the sacred edifices in London, St. Paul's was the only one which could not peel forth a strain of rejoicing from its towers. It had one great bell, to be sure, but it was in thanksgiving of its silence that prayers were being offered that day to Heaven by the united heart of the nation. From that time the matter has persistently occupied the attention of those immediately interested in the fortunes of the stately structure, and it came to be regarded as a scandal that the great representative Cathedral of England should be wanting in that of which the remotest part of these islands could boast. The movement set on foot after Thanksgiving Day culminated in a meeting at the Mansion House during the mayoralty of Mr. Alderman Stone, and a committee, of which the Rev. R. Catley, who was so successful in procuring a ring of bells for Worcester Cathedral, and Sir Edmund Beckett, were members, was formed, who, with the advice of Mr. Penrose, the cathedral surveyor, and Dr. Stainer, the cathedral organist, were authorised to take necessary steps towards providing St. Paul's with that of which it has so long and inexplicably stood in want. Dr. Stainer was instructed to visit the cathedral towns of Belgium and other Continental countries, which he did, but found that the system of bells there was not adapted to change-ringing; and he came to the conclusion, in which his committee concurred, that, St. Paul's being a representative English church, it ought to be furnished with a set of English bells. On the Continent the bell is seldom swung, but being hung up by the end is struck with a hammer, and the English custom of swinging the bell so as to be struck by a tongue suspended inside is regarded as simply barbarous. But it must be clear to anyone who takes the trouble to consider the matter for a moment that there must be more volume of sound in the swinging bell than in that which is stationary; besides which it is so much better adapted to change-ringing, which is altogether an English invention. It was therefore decided that the bells for St. Paul's Cathedral should be English in fashion and manufacture. But the most important question to be decided was where the cost was to come from. Here the governing Companies of the City of London came to the front, and at once solved the difficulty by each defraying the cost of a bell or a set of bells, at a total of about 5000*l.*, each bell to bear the arms and motto of the Company by which it is presented. The first and second bells are given by the Drapers' Company, impressed with the triple crown and the motto, 'Unto God only be honour and glory'; the third, fourth, fifth, and sixth bells by the Baroness Burdett-Coutts and the Turners' Company, of which she is a member, with the Turners' motto, surmounted by a coronet, under which the words, 'By faith I abtineig'; the seventh bell by the Salters' Company, arms three saltcellars, motto 'Sal sapit omnia'; eighth, the Merchant Taylors' Company, motto 'Concordia parvæ res crescit'; ninth, Fishmongers' Company, 'All worship to God only'; tenth, Clothworkers' Company, 'My trust is in God alone'; eleventh, the Grocers', with its appropriate arms of doves, and motto, 'God grant grace'; the twelfth, and most important, the tenor bell, which weighs 60 cwt., the gift of the Corporation, bearing the City arms and its time-honoured motto, 'Domine dirige nos.' The weight of the whole ring will be eleven tons. On each bell as well will be impressed the arms of the Dean and Chapter, surmounted by the letter 'D,' each and every impression being enclosed in a shield-like framing, the design of the cathedral architect, Mr. F. C. Penrose, under whose direction also has been constructed the cage in which the bells will be enclosed. It would be well that the public

should here learn that the construction of this cage alone will require an outlay of 1000*l.*; and that that amount is not yet in hand. This cage is of necessity skillfully prepared, for otherwise there will be a danger of injuring the stability of the masonry. It will be supported by diagonals made of the finest oak, and the flooring has had to be rearranged for the accommodation of the ringers. The bells, which are being cast at the foundry of Messrs. Taylor of Loughborough, the makers of the bells at the Manchester Town Hall, supposed to be the purest of tone in England, are expected to be finished in about six months. At last we are led confidently to hope that a new and splendid ring at St. Paul's will ring out the year upon the threshold of which we stand, and ring in its young successor.—*Standard*.

Rehanging the Bells at St. Martin's, Dorking, Surrey.

The fine ring of bells belonging to the parish church of Dorking have lately been hung in the new tower by Messrs. Hooper and Stokes of Woodbury, near Exeter. We understand that the bells were rung for the first time on Friday, 21st ult., and that they were found to 'go' remarkably well. The tenor weighs about 25 cwt. The following is a copy of the inscriptions on the bells:—

- (1.) THOMAS MEARS OF LONDON FOUNDER 1837.
WM. SNAPE FULLER } CHURCH WARDENS.
JOHN RUDGE }
- (2.) GUILLIELMVS FENWICKE ARMIG: ME DEDIT R: PHELPS FECIT 1709
- (3.) M: MARGARET FENWICKE BENEFACITOR R. PHELPS MADE ME 1709
- (4.) JOHN HOELLER JOHN PINNEY BENEFACATORS RICHARD PHELPS MADE ME 1709
- (5.) JOHN WILNER MADE ME 1626
- (6.) THOMAS MEARS FOUNDER LONDON
JAMES JOYCE VICAR
JAMES DEWNEY } CHURCHWARDENS 1842
JOHN BARTLETT }
- (7.) T. MEARS OF LONDON FECIT 1827.
REV.^d GEO.^e FEACHEM M.A. VICAR.
JOHN MARSHALL } CHURCH WARDENS A.D. 1827
JAMES WHITE }
- (8.) THE REV.^d M.^r PHILLIP WALTON VICAR EDWARD ANSELL, RICHARD ROSE CHURCH WARDENS ROBERT CATLIN, FECIT 1746

Royal Cumberland Society (late London Scholars).

SIR,—No doubt most of your readers are anxious to learn the result of the long peal of Grandsire Caters attempted at All Saints, Fulham, on Boxing Day, 26th ult. The bells struck off into changes at twenty-five minutes past twelve. Some excellent ringing was heard by ringers from all parts till eight o'clock, when our conductor called 'Stand!' Two bells having changed courses two leads previous, the number of changes rung was 11,412. The time was 7 hrs. 35 mins. The ringers were J. W. Cattle, 1; G. Newson, 2; C. T. Hopkins, 3; W. Coppage, 4; H. Swain, 5; J. W. Mansfield, 6; G. Harvey, 7; H. Hopkins, 8; W. Baron, 9; J. Barrett, 10. Conducted by Mr. J. W. Cattle. After the ringing the ringers adjourned to the Vicarage, where a good tea was provided for them by the Vicar (the Rev. F. Fisher), and after thanking that gentleman for his kindness they departed for their different homes.
H. HOPKINS, Hon. Sec.

Ancient Society of College Youths. Established 1637.

On Saturday, 8th ult., ten members of the above Society rang a true peal of Kent Treble Bob Royal at St. Dionis Backchurch, Fenchurch Street, London, consisting of 5200 changes, the full extent of nine courses, in 3 hrs. 30 mins. It was composed and called by Mr. H. W. Haley, and rung by the following:—H. W. Haley, 1; W. Cooter, 2; M. A. Wood, 3; G. Ferris, 4; H. Haley, jun., 5; S. Reeves, 6; G. Muskett, 7; J. Pettit, 8; F. Bate, 9; H. Booth, 10. This is the last peal that will be heard from the above tower, as both church and tower are to be taken down in the course of the year.

Opening of Bells at Mileham, Norfolk.

On Tuesday, 18th ult., special services were held in the church of the above village, at 8 and 11 a.m. and at 7 p.m. to celebrate the opening of a new ring of bells. The old bells, four in number (tenor cracked), had been taken down and disposed of, wisely or unwisely (the two trebles were cast by Draper, in 1610 and 1608), and had been replaced by a new ring of five (tenor, 7½ cwt.) from Messrs. Warner's foundry. A new floor and cage had been made for them by Messrs. Crane and Son of Franscham, and on the day of the opening they went well. Ringers from Norwich, East Dereham, and the neighbouring villages, were present, and rang many peals of Old Doubles, Grandsire, and Stedman's Doubles. At 3 o'clock a dinner was kindly provided for the ringers. This was presided over by the Rev. C. M. Cartwright, Curate-in-charge, supported by the churchwardens and other friends. After the usual toasts had been duly honoured, the objects of the Diocesan Association of Ringers were set forth by the Secretary, and several ringers desired to be admitted as members.

Muffled Peals at Greenwich.

On Friday evening, 21st ult., eight members of the Society of Eastern Scholars rang at St. Alphege, Greenwich, a muffled peal to the memory of Mr. T. Frasher, for many years a member of the Society, who died at the age of sixty-nine years. Also to the memory of Mr. W. Andrews, for many years a ringer at St. Nicholas, Deptford, and also a member of the Ancient Society of College Youths. He was one of the first band of eight who rang Mr. Thurston's peal of Stedman's Triples with the half-way single. He died at the age of seventy years. The ringers were H. J. Shade, 1; W. G. Shade, 2; W. Foreman, 3; J. Cronk, 4; R. Shade, 5; I. G. Shade, 6; J. Foreman, 7; G. Thatcher, 8. Conducted by Mr. J. Foreman.

Change-ringing by the Yorkshire Association.

On Saturday, 22nd ult., at St. Chad's, Headingley, Leeds, 5056 of Kent Treble Bob Major, in 3 hrs. 8 mins. Although these bells have for some time been augmented to eight, they have never before been in such condition as to be fit for peal-ringing, this being the first peal ever attempted on the bells. T. Lockwood, 1; R. Tuke, Esq., 2; J. Lockwood, 3; J. Whitaker, 4; W. Snowdon, Esq., 5; G. Barradough, 6; J. W. Snowdon, Esq., 7; J. Winder, 8. The peal was the 'reverse' of one in two parts composed by H. Dains of London, having the sixth the extent each way in 5-6 and four course-ends home in each part, being the least number of changes in which these properties have been obtained. It was conducted by Jasper W. Snowdon. Tenor, 19 cwt.

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

On Saturday, 22nd ult., the following ringers rang at the above church Mr. John Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, consisting of 5040 changes, in 2 hrs. 50 mins. G. Grundy (conductor), 1; W. Brown, 2; J. Smith, 3; J. Houghton, 4; J. Vickers, 5; T. Smith, 6; J. Whittingham, 7; E. Arrowsmith, 8.

Change-ringing at Daresbury, Cheshire.

On Christmas morning the Daresbury members of the newly-formed Warrington District Association of Change-ringers met at their parish church, and rang in succession four peals of 720 changes each in the following methods, viz. College Single, Oxford Treble Bob, Plain Bob, and Kent Treble Bob, in 1 hr. 52 mins. The ringers were T. Houghton, sen., 1; P. Johnson, 2; T. Ellison, 3; P. Hamblett, 4; J. Ellison, 5; T. Houghton, jun., 6. Tenor, 12 cwt. Key of G. This is the first time that four peals have been rung together in different methods at Daresbury.

Ringling at Roystone, Yorkshire.

On the 30th ult., the Roystone Ringers, assisted by James Haigh of Wooddlesford, rang 1877 changes in 1 hr. 9 mins. in the three flowers: viz. Violet, Tulip, and Primrose. The following were the performers:—S. Cutt, 1; G. Wroe, 2; J. Haigh, 3; J. Haigh, 4; G. Cutt, 5; J. Cutt, 6. With the exception of G. Wroe, who is a native of Roystone, and late Sergeant-Major in the 16th Lancers, the above band are all members of one family. Conducted by J. Haigh.

BELFRY RECORDS.

ST. ANN'S CHURCH, WATH-UPON-DEAN.

(Tablets in the Belfry.)

978. On Shrove Tuesday, Feby. 27th, 1816, was rung the following 21 Peals, viz.:—Evening Delight, Evening Star, Cheapside, Cambridge, Symphony, Bob Royal, Morning Exercise, Morning Star, Morning Pleasure, Primrose, Tulip, College Treble, College Pleasure, London Scholars, Oxford Treble, St. Ann's Delight, Navigation Bob, Vilot, Duke of York, City Delight, and Rodney's Victory; making in all 15,120 Changes, which were brought Round in a grand and Masterly Style in Eight Hours and twenty Seven Minutes without a man quitting is Rope. The whole was performed by the following Persons, viz.:—

Christ: Taylor, Treble.	Joseph Myers, Third.	Matthew Blackburn, Fifth.
Joseph Blackburn, Second.	Edw. ^d Myers, Fourth.	William Blackburn, Tenor.

The whole was conducted by William Blackburn.

SS. MARY AND EANSWYTHE, FOLKESTONE, KENT.

(Tablets in the Belfry.)

979. On Sunday, Dec. 17th, 1815, was rung in this tower, a true and complete peal of 5040 Bob Major, in 3 hrs. 5 mins., being the maiden peal on these bells, and rung by:—

W. Keeler, Treble.	W. Greenstead, Fourth.	C. Pemble, Sixth.
H. Down, Second.	G. Francis, Fifth.	J. Arnold, Seventh.
W. Stokes, Third.		A. Newman, Tenor.

980. On the 17th Dec. 1816, was rung in this steeple, a complete peal of 5040 changes of Bob Triples in 2 hrs. 5 mins., with 90 Bobs & 2 Singles, by the undermentioned:—

R. Stevenson, Treble.	J. Page, Third.	D. Baker, Fifth.	A. Newman, Seventh.
J. Tart, Second.	B. Jones, Fourth.	E. Wiles, Sixth.	J. Hogben, Tenor.

Conducted by Anthony Newman.

981. Also Jan. 27th, 1818, was rung a complete peal of 6000 changes of Bob Major in 3 hrs. 42 mins., by the undermentioned:—

R. Stevenson, Treble.	J. Page, Third.	J. Tart, Fifth.	D. Baker, Seventh.
W. Grifbrook, Second.	B. Jones, Fourth.	E. Wiles, Sixth.	A. Newman, Tenor.

Conducted by Anthony Newman.

982. Also Nov. 21st, 1836, was rung a complete peal of 5040 changes of Bob Triples in 2 hrs. 54 mins., with 90 Bobs & 2 Singles, by the undermentioned:—

E. Wiles, jun. Treble.	A. Newman, Fourth.	H. Newman, Sixth.
J. Harris, Second.	T. Cook, Fifth.	J. Harrison, Seventh.
R. Hills, Third.		E. Hobday, Tenor.

Conducted by James Harrison.

983. On Saturday, Dec. 20, 1845, was rung in this tower a true and complete peal of 6720 Bob Major changes, with the 6th twelve courses right and wrong. The peal was conducted by Mr. John Friend of Hythe, and accomplished in 4 hrs. 18 mins.

C. Fowler, Treble.	J. Harrison, Third.	J. Chaple, Fifth.	E. Hyder, Seventh.
H. Down, Second.	J. Stokes, Fourth.	J. Friend, Sixth.	T. Post, Tenor.

984. On Saturday, Feb. 18th, 1860, was rung in this tower Mr. Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, containing 5040 changes. The peal was conducted by Mr. John Friend, sen. of Hythe, and accomplished in 3 hrs. 7 mins., being the first peal in the method on these bells. The Performers were:—

H. Down, Treble.	E. Ruck, Fourth.	A. Robus, Sixth.
J. Friend, sen. Second.	J. Laker, Fifth.	J. Harrison, Seventh.
J. Friend, jun. Third.		T. Miller, Tenor.

KELSALE, SUFFOLK. (Tablets in the Belfry.)

ENSAMPLE.

985. On the 2nd of April, 1892, was completed on the pre-eminent Peal of Eight Bells at Kelsale, 6016 changes of Oxford Treble Bob Major in 3 hours and 52 minutes, being the first and only extraordinary Changes ever completed here on this Peal. They were performed by the Kelsale Society of Youths, who had experienced only eight months' practice under the meritorious instruction of Benjamin Oldring. The following are the names of them that rung the above changes:—

Henry Drew, Treble.	Francis Samson, Fourth.	William Goddard, Sixth.
Henry Edward Dale, Second.	William Harsant, Fifth.	John Packard, Seventh.
George Oldring, Third.		Robert Nunn, Tenor.

The Peal was conducted by Henry Drew.

RECEIVED ALSO.—E. Price; Worcester Tablets; E. H. L. Tew; and others.

read over and over again and sung in cottage homes, and becomes a valuable means of maintaining associations and impressions after the Mission. W. P.

The New Lectionary.

SIR,—Among the remarks made lately in your paper about the defects and merits of the New Lectionary, I have not seen mentioned what seems to me one of the most glaring of the former, namely, the recurrence of certain chapters of the book of Isaiah *twice*, and in one case *three* times even, during a few days in November and December. There are no less than thirteen chapters which are read twice over during these two months. Beautiful as they are, the repetition of them seems to me unnecessary, and also unfair upon the rest of the Bible. The subjoined table will show what I mean. Of course the chapters mentioned are read sometimes in the morning and sometimes in the evening. I quote them from an almanack of the new year:—

ISAIAH, Chapter	November	December
i. ..	19th	1st
ii. ..	19th	1st
v. ..	21st	8th
vi. ..	22nd	27th
vii. ..	22nd	25th
xi. ..	20th	8th
xxv. ..	—	3rd and 15th
xxvi. ..	—	4th and 15th
xxx. ..	—	7th and 22nd
xxxii. ..	—	9th and 22nd
xxxv. ..	—	10th, 21st, 29th
liv. ..	30th	20th
lv. ..	30th	31st

Camerton Court, Bath.

F. L. GARRETT.

SIR,—A gentleman received not long since a letter from a publican, informing him that if he continued to support a neighbouring working-man's club he need not expect to be returned again at the next election. A pretty clear proof of the truth of your remarks on the selfishness of those who, for the benefit of *one*, are willing to sacrifice the *many*; and also a satisfactory testimony to the benefit of such helps to sobriety as clubs, where men may pass a social hour without the temptations from which they gladly escape when anything better is offered.

L.

SIR,—Can any of the readers of *Church Bells* tell me where St. Wenefrede's Chapel is, a view of which appears in the *Gentleman's Magazine* of August, 1804? Also St. Kenelm's Chapel, a view of which appears in the same journal for September, 1797? I have the views, but have no means of seeing the magazine and finding out the locality of these churches. M. O. C. R.

'REV. W. ODOM.'—Photograph and notes received with thanks. They are under consideration.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

The Cathedral Clock, Bells, and Chimes at Worcester.

WE understand that the Dean and Chapter at their last audit, having considered the circumstances attending the completion of the new Cathedral clock and chimes, unanimously passed the following resolution:—'The Dean and Chapter desire to express their deep sense of obligation to the Rev. R. Cattley for his unwearied exertions in raising no less a sum than 5500*l*. for these important objects; for the energy, time, and labour which he has bestowed on the superintendence of the clock, bells, and chiming apparatus; and for the skill and knowledge which he has brought to bear on the whole work. They feel that it is mainly to Mr. Cattley that they owe the possession of a clock, and a set of bells and chimes second to none in the kingdom, which they recognise as one important ornament of the restored Cathedral. 21st November, 1877.' We are sure that this well-merited acknowledgment will receive the cordial concurrence of everyone connected with Worcester-shire. Mr. Cattley, in carrying out to its complete fruition a darling project, has conferred a permanent benefit on the city with which he has so long been associated, and has raised for himself a memorial which will last as long as bells shall summon succeeding generations to worship at the shrine where the rev. gentleman has so long and so ably officiated.—*Worcester Herald*.

A Tenor Bell Cracked.

AT Milton-next-Sittingbourne, Kent, a few days since, the fine tenor bell was cracked, owing to the clapper having worked down and so struck the bell too low. We have heard of other bells being cracked in the same way, owing to the neglect of not occasionally examining the clapper gear.

Meeting of the Yorkshire Association at Shipley.

ON Saturday, the 5th inst., the quarterly meeting of this Association was held at Shipley. During the morning a peal of 5184 changes was rung at St. Paul's Church, after which various companies rang different touches on the bells. At five o'clock more than 300 ringers sat down to tea, after which the general meeting was held; and in default of an invitation to take the meeting to any other place, it was decided that the April meeting should be held at Leeds; and as the first Saturday in April will fall during Lent, the meeting was postponed until the Saturday of Easter week. The day was concluded with a handbell and vocal concert in the Victoria Hall, Saltaire, which passed off most successfully.

[We hope the above example of not ringing pleasure peals during Lent will be followed by other associations.—*Ed.*]

Change-ringing by the Yorkshire Association.

ON Friday, 7th ult., at St. Matthew's, Holbeck, 5040 changes of Bob Major in 2 hrs. 53 mins. T. Harrison, 1; S. Bassett, 2; J. Barraclough, 3; H. Moss, 4; A. Ackroyd (first peal), 5; J. Woodhead (first peal), 6; G. Barraclough, 7; T. Lockwood, 8. The peal was composed and conducted by Tom Lockwood.

ON Tuesday, 11th ult., at St. Matthew's, Holbeck, 5248 of Kent Treble Bob Major in 2 hrs. 57 mins. T. Harrison, 1; J. Lockwood, 2; H. Moss, 3; R. Tuke, Esq., 4; J. Barraclough, 5; T. Lockwood, 6; G. Barraclough, 7; J. W. Snowdon, Esq., 8. The peal on the two-part plan, with the sixth the extent each way in 5-6, all the 867's and 86's and the sixth three course-ends home in each part, being the first ever obtained with these qualities, was composed by H. Dains of London, and conducted by Jasper W. Snowdon. Tenor, 16 cwt. [The publication of these peals has been delayed.]

ON Saturday, 5th inst., at St. Paul's, Shipley, 5184 of Kent Treble Bob Major in 3 hrs. 6 mins. J. Lockwood, 1; R. Tuke, Esq., 2; H. Hubbard, jun., 3; W. Whitaker, 4; G. Barraclough, 5; T. Lockwood, 6; W. Walker, 7; J. W. Snowdon, Esq., 8. The peal, on the two-part plan, with the sixth the extent each way in 5-6, all the 867's and 86's and the sixth three course-ends each way in each part, being the first ever obtained with these qualities, was composed by T. Lockwood and conducted by J. W. Snowdon. Tenor, 15 cwt.

Change-ringing at St. Philip's, Hulme, Manchester.

ON Monday evening, 24th ult., eight members of the St. Philip's, Hulme, Change-ringers' Society, rang Mr. John Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, consisting of 5040 changes, in 2 hrs. 45 mins., at the above church, it being the first peal ever rung on those bells by a company all connected with the church. The ringers were (their ages ranging from nineteen to twenty-five years)—J. Hindle, 1; W. Barry, 2; A. Wood, 3; J. B. Rogers, 4; E. Ettock, 5; F. Barrow, 6; A. Eggington, 7; F. Heald, 8. Conducted by Mr. W. Barry. Tenor, 12½ cwt.

ON Friday evening, 4th inst., eight members of St. Philip's Society of Change-ringers rang a true and complete date-touch of Grandsire Triples at the above church, consisting of 1878 changes, in 1 hr. 6 mins. J. Hindle, 1; E. Ettock, 2; A. Wood, 3; A. Eggington, 4; S. Knight, 5; T. Ellis, 6; W. Barry, 7; T. Heald, 8. Composed and conducted by W. Barry. Tenor, 12½ cwt.

Keighley Parish Church.

ON Christmas morning (after the clock struck twelve, midnight), 720 changes of Bob Minor, with eighteen bobs and two singles, composed and conducted by Joseph Clegg, sen., were rung in 27 mins. by G. C. Crossley, 1; J. Clegg, jun., 2; J. Clegg, sen., 3; J. Emmott, 4; T. Grime, 5; A. Smith, 8. Tenor, 15 cwt. The above-named, with the exception of J. Clegg, sen. (their tutor), volunteered their services some two years ago, after the bells had stood several months because the Rector refused to let them be rung for the successful candidates of the School Board. We would say to others who would become ringers, 'Never despair!' for time and patience overcome difficulties, as in our case.

Gresford, near Wrexham, Denbighshire.

ON New-year's morning, 1878, the following members of the Gresford Society rang the first half of Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, 2520 changes, in 1 hr. 33 mins. W. Settle, 1; G. Williams, 2; J. Steen, 3; R. Lloyd, 4; H. Owens, 5; F. Evans, 6; S. Bethell, 7; T. Price, 8. Tenor, 25 cwt. Conducted by G. Williams. This Society commenced learning half-pull ringing fifteen months since, instructed by Mr. T. Hill of King Street, Oxford. This is their first half-peal rung.

Change-ringing at Bramley, Surrey.

ON New-year's Day the Slinfold Company of Change-ringers visited the above village, and, by kind permission of the Vicar, rang two peals of Minor; the first was Oxford Bob, and the second Court Bob. They were called in ten parts, with twenty-two singles, by W. Tate, and rung by J. Mills, 1; W. Alward, 2; E. Knight, 3; G. Rapley, 4; W. Tate, 5; H. Burstow, 6.

Funeral Peal at Christ Church, Spitalfields.

ON Friday evening, 4th inst., eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang (with the bells deeply muffled) a funeral peal, as the last mark of respect to W. Hoperaft, who met with his death by drowning on Dec. 26th, 1877. H. Booth, 1; E. Clark, 2; H. C. Haley, 3; G. Wright, 4; E. Wallage, 5; W. Moles, 6; S. Reeves, 7; W. Jones, 8. Conducted by H. Booth.

Norwich Diocesan Association of Change-ringers.

ON Saturday, 5th inst., being old Christmas Eve, eight members of the Redenhall Branch of this Association (being also members of the Royal Cumberland Society) rang at Redenhall two courses of Superlative Surprise, three courses of Double Norwich Court Bob, and three courses of Stedman's Triples—in all 1036 changes—during their evening's practice. B. Smith (conductor), 1; G. Prime, 2; Rev. N. Bolingbroke, 3; R. Whitney, 4; E. Smith, 5; G. Holmes, Esq., 6; J. Smith, 7; Captain Moore, 8.

Ringling at St. Peter's and St. Paul's, Eye, Suffolk.

ON Saturday evening, 5th inst., six members of the Diss and Eye Society, with Mr. S. Slater of Glemsford, and Mr. H. Thompson of Cavendish, Suffolk, rang an excellent peal of 5280 changes Kent Treble Bob Major in 3 hrs. 38 mins. Composed by Mr. H. Hubbard, conducted by Mr. George Murton of Eye. G. Murton, 1; J. Ridd, 2; W. Ireland, 3; H. Thompson, 4; J. Bumstead, 5; S. Slater, 6; W. Brown, 7; F. Day, 8. Tenor, about 24 cwt. Key, E flat.

SHIPWAY'S BOOK, 'NOTES ON RINGING.'—The Editor can supply a good copy.

RECEIVED.—A. B. C.; H. Hopkins; and others.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Ringing Association.

ACCORDING to previous notice (given by a circular, a copy of which appeared a few weeks back in *Church Bells*), a meeting, by the kind permission of the Dean and Chapter, was held in the Cathedral Chapter-room, Gloucester, on Tuesday, January 8, 1878, at 12 noon. The chair was taken by the Venerable Sir George Prevost, Bart., Archdeacon of Gloucester.

After prayers the Archdeacon stated the object of the meeting, and the following resolutions were carried *nem. con.* :—

(1.) 'That it is desirable to form in this diocese a Society for the promotion of change-ringing on church bells, and its introduction in those places where it has hitherto been unknown.'—Moved by Rev. Canon Madan, Dursley. Seconded by Rev. A. Kent, Coln St. Aldwyn's. Supported by Rev. T. Waters, Thornbury; Rev. H. Robeson, Tewkesbury.

(2.) 'That a Committee be appointed to settle the constitution and rules of the Society.'—Moved by Mr. Phillott, Cheltenham. Seconded by Mr. Davies, Cheltenham. Supported by Rev. H. Warleigh, Ashchurch; Rev. W. T. Allen, St. Briavel's; Mr. Drinkwater, Sandhurst.

(3.) 'That the following gentlemen be appointed members of the Committee.'—Moved by Rev. J. Emeris, Upton St. Leonard's. Seconded by Rev. T. Kettle, Bisley.

A Committee of fifteen was then appointed, with power to add to their number.

The Archdeacon then brought the meeting to a close with a short prayer and the blessing. A large number of those present gave in their names, together with their subscriptions, as honorary members. Mr. Emeris kindly accepted the office of Treasurer, and begged, before separating, to offer the thanks of the meeting to the Archdeacon for taking the chair.

The Cathedral bells were rung for a short space in the interval between the close of morning service and the commencement of the meeting. We may remark, in passing, that the arrangements in the tower are not satisfactory for ringing purposes; added to which, the bells—a remarkably fine ring—are sadly in want of rehanging. During the afternoon and evening several touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples, and some Grandsire Doubles, were rung at the church of St. Mary de Crypt.

Change-ringing at Colwich, Staffordshire.

ON Saturday, 29th ult., six members of the Lichfield Cathedral Society of Change-ringers rang a peal of Grandsire Minor, 720 changes, in 30 mins. T. Smith, 1; J. Key, 2; F. Cope, 3; A. Whitley, 4; E. Gallimore, 5; A. Greenwood, 6. Conducted by F. Cope. Tenor, 14 cwt.

Change-ringing at St. Alban's, Rochdale.

ON New-year's Eve the ringers of St. Alban's, Rochdale, rang their first peal of Grandsire Triples (Holt's ten-part peal), containing 5040 changes, in 3 hrs. 7 secs. G. Adshead, 1; J. Adshead, 2; W. Adshead, 3; J. Horrox, 4; W. Brierly, 5; J. Greenwood (conductor), 6; J. Harrison, 7; W. Mellett, tenor.

Date Touch at St. Peter's, Ashton-under-Lyne, Lancashire.

ON the eve of the New Year was rung at the above church a touch of Plain Bob Major, containing 1878 changes, in 1 hr. 15 mins. Composed and conducted by Mr. Charles Thorp. T. Taylor, 1; J. Hopwood, 2; J. Mellor, 3; W. Frith, 4; J. Stones, 5; E. Hall, 6; J. Andrew, 7; C. Thorp, 8. Tenor, 20 cwt.

ON Saturday, 12th inst., eight of the Ashton ringers rang at St. Peter's Church Mr. John Holt's ten-part peal, reversed, of Grandsire Triples, in 2 hrs. 54 mins. T. Taylor, 1; J. Hopwood, 2; J. Wood, jun., 3; J. Stones, 4; G. Longden, 5; E. Hall, 6; S. Wood, 7; J. Andrew, 8.

Muffled Peal at St. Peter's, Liverpool.

ON Sunday morning, 6th inst., the late John Burkinshaw was buried at Smithdown Road Cemetery. He died on the 3rd inst., aged sixty-five years, and had been a member of this Society for thirty years and Superintendent for half that period. In the evening, before and after service, the members rang two deeply muffled peals of Grandsire Caters, containing upwards of 2000 changes, as a tribute of respect to their deceased brother. F. Powell, Esq., 1; R. Williams, sen., 2; R. Williams, jun., 3; H. Meadows, 4; G. Crute (conductor), 5; E. Booth, 6; W. Litter, 7; H. Beck, 8; W. Brook, 9; G. Helsby, 10; J. Egerton, 11; H. Brooks, 12.

St. James's Society, London.

ON Monday, 7th inst. a Muffled Peal was rung at St. Clement Danes, Strand, as a last mark of respect to the late J. Osborne, aged 73, a much-esteemed member of this Society. G. Stockham, 1; J. Tingey, 2; R. French, 3; J. Rumsey, 4; W. Chew, 5; R. Williams, 6; H. Hopkins, 7; S. Hayhurst, 8; A. Kirk, 9; W. Wetherstone, 10. Conducted by Mr. G. Stockham.

Mr. John Cox's address in future will be No. 110 Fetter Lane, Holborn, E.C.

Diss, Norfolk.

THE 45th anniversary of St. Mary's Church bells was held on Monday, 7th inst., when ringers from Eye, Redenhall, and other parts, attended, and rang touches of Stedman, Grandsire, Kent, Oxford, and Bob Major. A dinner was provided at the 'Dolphin' Inn, at which the Rev. G. H. Harris presided. During the year 1877 the Diss Company have rung 38,086 Oxford; 25,342 Kent; 12,080 Bob Major; 10,630 Grandsire:—total, 86,744 changes, at their parish church; and at Palgrave, 29,620 changes, in five different methods, from March 18th to the end of the year.

Change-ringing by the Yorkshire Association.

ON Saturday, 12th inst., at All Saints, Otley, 5056 changes of Kent Treble Bob Major, in 2 hrs. 59 mins. C. Ralph, 1; J. Barraclough, 2; T. Lockwood, 3; W. Snowden, Esq., 4; F. Maston, 5; H. Hubbard, jun., 6; L. Cawood, 7; J. W. Snowden, Esq., 8. The peal, in one part, with the sixth the extent in 5-6 and six courses' ends each way, was composed by Tom Lockwood and conducted by Lister Cawood. Tenor, 16 cwt.

Waterloo Society, London.

ON Saturday, 12th instant, eight members of the above Society rang at St. Mary Magdalene, Richmond, the late Mr. John Holt's original one-part peal of Grandsire Triples (with two doubles in the last four leads), comprising 5040 changes, in 2 hrs. 50 mins. S. Hayhurst (first peal), 1; J. W. Cattle, 2; J. Perks, 3; C. T. Hopkins, 4; F. W. Appleby (Burton-on-Trent), 5; A. Kirk, 6; F. A. P. Knipe, Esq., 7; R. J. Williams, 8. Conducted by J. W. Cattle.

Lancashire Association of Change-ringers.

ON Saturday, 12th inst., eight members of the above rang on the bells of St. Peter's, Hindley, the late John Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, 5040 changes, in 2 hrs. 59 mins. H. W. Jackson (conductor), 1; H. Bentley, 2; J. Curtis, 3; T. Turner, 4; J. H. Jackson, 5; J. Aspinwall, 6; S. Gaskell, 7; T. Morris, 8. Tenor, 14 cwt.

St. Paul's Parish Church, Shipley.

ON Monday, the 14th inst., eight members of the Society of Change-ringers connected with this church rang, in 70 mins. 1878 changes of Kent Treble Bob Major. T. Lilley, 1; W. Wilks, 2; W. Kendall, 3; J. Wilks, 4; J. Crabtree, 5; T. Ives, 6; J. Wilkinson, 7; T. Palliser, 8. Composed and conducted by J. Crabtree.

Royal Cumberland Youths (late London Scholars).

ON Monday, 14th inst., at St. Peter's, Walworth, Surrey, a peal of 5056 Kent Treble Bob Major was rung in 2 hrs. 59 mins. G. Newson, 1; H. A. Hopkins, 2; H. Swain, 3; H. Dains, 4; G. Harvey, 5; D. Stackwood, 6; F. A. P. Knipe, Esq., 7; J. Burrett, 8. Conducted by Mr. George Newson. Tenor, 15 cwt. This peal has the same qualities as that reported in *Church Bells*, July 7, 1877, which is the first ever obtained with such properties, and was composed by H. Dains.

Repeated.

Ringing at Eye.

IT would be satisfactory to know in what respect the peal of Kent Treble Bob Major, rung at Eye on the 5th inst., was an *excellent* peal.

A COLLEGE YOUTH.

NOTICE.—Shipway's *Campanologia*, not *Notes on Ringing*, is the rare book offered by the Editor. Several have written for it.

RECEIVED.—H. Laffin; O. Laffin; R. Pearse; J. Barker; Jos. Scott; A. L. Oldham; J. Vickers; J. McK.; and others.

BELFRY RECORDS.

ST. HELEN'S, WORCESTER. (Tablets in the Belfry.)

986. PEALS rang in this Tower by the following persons of the Worcester Society :— On the 14th August, 1823, a true peal of Grandsire Triples, comprising 5040 changes, in the space of 3 hours & 10 minutes.

Willm. Hemming, *Treble*. Fredk. Bradley, *Fourth*. James Penn, *Seventh*.
Alexr. Stephens, *Second*. Tho^s. Price, *Fifth*. J. Allen & T. Hall, *Tenor*.
John Brush, *Third*. John Dovey, *Sixth*. Conducted by John Dovey.

987. ON the 27th December, 1836, a true Peal of Treble Bob Major in the Kent Variation, containing 5400 changes, in 3 hours and 16 minutes.

Willm. Hemming, *Treble*. Fredk. Bradley, *Fourth*. Tho^s. Turner, *Seventh*.
Alexr. Stephens, *Second*. John Allen, *Fifth*. John Dovey, *Tenor*.
John Brush, *Third*. James Penn, *Sixth*. Conducted by John Dovey.

988. ALSO on 26th of December, 1833, a complete Peal of Kent Treble Bob Major, comprising 8448 changes, being the full extent, with the Tenors together, in 5 hours & 10 minutes.

John Brush, *Treble*. John Hinton, *Fourth*. Fredk. Bradley, *Seventh*.
John Hunt, *Second*. Willm. Taylor, *Fifth*. John Dovey, *Tenor*.
Tho^s. Price, *Third*. Alexr. Stephens, *Sixth*. Conducted by F. Bradley.

989. ALSO, on October 6th, 1836, a true Peal of Kent Treble Bob Major, comprising 9240 changes, in the space of 3 hours & 16 minutes in One Main Course.

John Hinton, *Treble*. James Green, *Fourth*. Fredk. Bradley, *Seventh*.
John Roberts, *Second*. John Bush, *Fifth*. John Dovey, *Tenor*.
Chas. Vaughan, *Third*. Willm. Vaughan, *Sixth*. Conducted by F. Bradley.

990. WORCESTER CATHEDRAL CHANGE-RINGING SOCIETY. Rev. R. Cattley, M.A., President. On Thursday, May 21st, 1874, the following members rang Mr. J. Holt's Ten Part Peal of Grandsire Triples, consisting of 5040 changes, in 3 hours & 5 minutes.

Nathaniel Wale, *Treble*. Willm. Blandford, *Fourth*. Elijah Crump, *Seventh*.
John Morris, *Second*. John Barnett, *Fifth*. Edward Jones, *Tenor*.
Thomas Lewis, *Third*. George Hobbs, *Sixth*. Conducted by John Barnett.

Palman—Qui—Meruit—Ferat. Rev. J. B. Wilson, M.A., Rector.

ST. MARY'S, LICHFIELD, STAFFORDSHIRE.

(Tablet in the Belfry.)

991. ON December 26, 1837, The following Members of the St. Martin's Company of Ringers Rang on these Bells a Peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples, in 3 hours 5 minutes.

John Lates, *Treble*. John James, *Fourth*. Hy. Johnson, *Sixth*.
Wm. Andrews, *Second*. Willm. Chattell, *Fifth*. John Walker, *Seventh*.
Wm. Deer, *Third*. Conducted by H. Johnson, and the first Peal on These Bells.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Church Bells—What do they say?

THE following Leaflet on Church Bells has just been issued by the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge, No. 1354, and is reproduced in our columns by the permission of the Author and the Committee of the Society.

The Church Bells are the Church's Voice, by which the Church speaks to the world outside; just as the pulpit is that by which she speaks to those that come within.

The Church is 'the Body of Christ,' and must only speak that which is according to the mind of Him who is her Head.

Church Bells must never ring for anything that we cannot bring before God in praise or prayer. When the Bells sound on the Lord's Day, or on any Church Festival, or at any hour of Public Worship, it is to remind the world of the great things God hath wrought in Christ Jesus for us men and our salvation, and to call men together to worship Him and give Him thanks.

When year by year the Bells ring out at a Harvest Festival, it is *not* to add merriment to a mere feast, *not* to sanction revelling or excess, but to 'make a cheerful noise unto the God of Jacob,' who has again 'visited the earth and blessed it.'

If they 'ring the Old Year out and the New Year in,' it is to bid the forgetful world thank God for having borne with its worldliness for another year of grace, and 'to teach us so to number our days that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom.'

When they announce to us the Birth of some first born son of Christian parents, whom God has put in a place of power or honour, like the king of the country or the squire of the parish; or when they ring out to welcome the coming or the returning of such a one in health and peace,—it is the Church's Voice of thanksgiving to God Who has given or preserved a life that is precious to us all.

When it is for a Baptism, it is to welcome into the Family of God a new member, a younger brother or sister in Christ.

When it is for a Confirmation, it is to send up a sound of joy, because more young soldiers of Christ have pledged themselves to fight, by the grace there given, the great warfare against sin and Satan.

When the bells ring out merrily at a Wedding, they are calling us 'to rejoice with them that do rejoice,' because earthly love has been sealed and sanctified by the blessings of God in holy matrimony, 'which holy estate Christ adorned and beautified by His presence and first miracle that He wrought.'

'When the solemn death-bell tolls,' and when it repeats its knell at the funeral, it is the warning voice of the Church, saying to the thoughtless, 'Prepare to meet thy God;' 'In the midst of life we are in death;' and bidding all of us 'to weep with them that weep.'

In old and careless times Church Bells came to be rung on occasions where there was no thought of God—at sales, at fairs, at wakes or feasts, where drinking, and swearing, and lust, and all ungodliness and folly prevailed, as they do sometimes still. This cannot be right. The voice of God's Church must never join with the voice of sin—must never chime in even with the sounds of mere worldly pleasure.

It is to prevent this wrong use of Church Bells that the care of them is entrusted to the clergyman of the parish, and he will gladly allow them to be rung on any occasion which is to the honour and glory of God.

Clergy and Ringers.

SIR,—As a matter of curiosity, may I ask what is your opinion of a parson who neither knows nor cares anything about change-ringing; subscribes about 17. 10s. annually to the ringers' fund; never enters the belfry at ringing times; gives several suppers and breakfasts to the ringers in the course of the year; likes to hear the bells on festivals, but thinks ringing for practice at any other time all 'bosh' (though he does not prohibit it); is very particular about the liquor question; takes a great interest in the choir, and attends weekly at their practice; dislikes his ringers ringing anywhere else but at home, and objects to any non-parishioner being a ringer; thinks money spent on repairs to bell-gear all wasted; never comes near the ringers even at the suppers of his own providing (except once a year when the choir are included); expects his ringers, nevertheless, to be all model Churchmen; thinks chiming much better than ringing, and consequently regards the steeple-keeper as the only one of the company of any real use?

J. R. JERRAM.

Question about Date Touches.

SIR,—In your number of the 12th inst. I see there is a date touch of Grandsire Triples, and it is put in as 'true and complete.' Now, what myself and many other ringers would like to know is this:—(1.) Do they commence in rounds and finish in the same way? If so, I think it cannot be true. (2.) Or is it by commencing at a given change, and so bring rounds at 1878? No doubt some kind composer will oblige—

FRANK BIRTWISTLE.

Rochdale, Lancashire.

Date Touch at St. Michael's, Macclesfield, Cheshire.

ON Thursday, 10th inst., the change-ringers of the old church rang a date touch of 1878 changes of Stedman's Triples in 1 hr. 18 mins. J. Holt, 1; C. Bamford, 2; W. Hulme, 3; J. Morledge, 4; E. Flannagan, 5; E. Matthews, 6; J. Farrish, 7; J. Walmsley (aged 16), 8. Tenor, 1 ton. The above peal, composed and conducted by Mr. Matthews, is a fine specimen in the art of permutations; it has 6-7 at home every course end but one, and contains twenty-three 5 6 7's, and has only thirty-one calls in the peal, viz., twenty-four bobs, six singles, and one double. Should any of your readers desire to see it I will send you my manuscript.

E. MATTHEWS.

Norwich Diocesan Association of Ringers.

THE Redenhall and Fressingfield Anniversaries were duly observed, the one on the 14th inst., the other on the 15th. A goodly number of the Committee of the Association was present, and about thirty honorary and performing members were elected. Among these were Sir William Bagge, Bart., M.P., and the Yarmouth, Woodbridge, and Fressingfield Companies, &c.

The next Quarterly Meeting will be held at East Dereham on Monday, February 18th. Members wishing to attend should communicate with the Secretary as soon as possible, mentioning the stations from which they will travel. It is proposed to make some alterations in the rules at this Meeting, particularly in Rule IX.

Ringing at Coln, St. Aldwyn's, Gloucestershire.

ON Thursday, January 17th, 720 Plain Bob Minor in 30 mins. H. Mustow, 1; C. D. P. Davies, Esq., 2; C. Compton, 3; T. Witchel, 4; J. West, 5; J. Kitchener, 6. Conducted by Mr. Kitchener. Tenor 8½ cwt.

Ipswich Society of Change-ringers.

ON the 17th inst., ten members of the above society, also of the Norwich Diocesan Association, rang 1061 changes of Grandsire Caters, in fifty mins., by the following persons:—D. Prentice, 1; *T. Sadler, 2; *T. Alexander, 3; W. Meadows, 4; R. Hawes, 5; H. Bowl, 6; *H. Taylor, 7; *W. Kemp, 8; E. Reve, 9; J. Miller, 10. Conducted by D. Prentice. Tenor 32 cwt.

It will be seen by ringers that the above is no great skilful performance, but it is recorded merely to show the progress made since the formation of the company about twelve months ago, at which time they were scarcely able to ring a course of Grandsire Triples, but through the kindness and perseverance of the old members several young hands have been raised that are now able to acquit themselves creditably in various methods; so that, at last, it seems probable that this fine ring of twelve bells will have attached to them a good band of ringers, which they so richly deserve. The 2nd, 3rd, 7th, and 8th were young hands, who had never rung a thousand in the above method before, and besides these, the company has several more young hands who are rapidly advancing.

Date Touches at Eccles, Lancashire.

ON Saturday, January 19th, the ringers of St. Mary's Church, rang 1878 changes Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. 4 mins. J. Smith, 1; J. Barratt, 2; W. Walton, 3; C. Royle, 4; J. W. Rogers, 5; J. Barratt, 6; T. Yates, 7; W. Ashcroft, 8. Composed by Mr. J. Thorp, and conducted by T. Yates. Tenor 13½ cwt.

Change-ringing by the Yorkshire Association.

ON Saturday, January 19th, at All Saints' Wakefield, 5000 changes of Kent Treble Bob Royal, in 3 hrs. 35 mins. J. Lockwood, 1; T. Lockwood, 2; A. Hubbard, jun., 3; W. Morrell, 4; W. Howard, 5; J. Barraclough, 6; W. Walker, 7; C. Underwood, 8; J. W. Snowden, Esq., 9; G. Breed, 10. The peal, which has the sixth the extent each way in 5-6, was composed by J. Riley, and conducted by Tom Lockwood. Tenor 32 cwt.

Change-ringing at the Holy Trinity Church, Bolton, Lancashire.

ON Saturday, January 19th, the ringers of the Parish Church, West-houghton, rang Mr. John Holt's ten part peal of Grandsire Triples, consisting of 5040 changes, in 2 hrs. 56½ mins. G. Grundy, 1; W. Brown, 2; J. Woodward, 3; H. Heaton, 4; J. Vickers, 5; A. Hodgkinson, 6; J. Whittingham, 7; H. Hodgkinson, 8. Tenor 16 cwt. Conducted by Mr. G. Grundy.

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

ON Saturday, the 19th inst., eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang at the above church a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major, containing 5088 changes, in 3 hrs. 8 mins. H. Booth, 1; W. Cooter, 2; W. Cecil, 3; F. Bate, 4; R. French, 5; S. Reeves, 6; J. M. Hayes, 7; E. Horrex, 8. Composed by Mr. H. Haley, sen., and conducted by Mr. H. Booth.

Change-ringing at Ashton-under-Lyne.

ON Tuesday, 22nd inst., ten of the Ashton ringers rang a touch of 1878 changes of Kent Treble Bob Royal, in 1 hr. 22 mins., composed by Mr. John Thorp, and conducted by Mr. Samuel Wood. W. Burgess, 1; J. Adams, 2; J. Bowcock, 3; T. Wrae, 4; B. Broadbent, 5; T. Moss, 6; S. Wood, 7; J. Gillot, 8; S. Andrew, 9; J. Thorp, 10.

Ringing at Preston, Suffolk.

WE thank Mr. Oliver Laffin for his obliging letter and explanation. The 720 changes rang on six bells was a peal of Bob Minor. Bob Major is produced on eight bells.—ED.

NOTICE.—Shipway is sold.

RECEIVED.—Edward Matthews; John McKell; J. Drinkwater; W. Gordon; and others.

WE fear that in the fire which is mentioned elsewhere in our columns, some communications from our correspondents have been destroyed. In case neither communication nor acknowledgment should appear, we trust that this will be accepted as explanation.

declaratory one of authoritatively assuring God's forgiveness to those who truly repent and believe the Gospel. And to a perplexed and anxious soul, in such cases as are especially provided for in the Prayer-book, such personal application of God's promises of pardon in His Holy Word, with the ghostly counsel and advice of a faithful and experienced minister, will be no slight help towards a realising sense of God's pardon through Jesus Christ.

It is to be hoped that no revision of the Prayer-book will be authorised; for the experience of our Sister Church in Ireland teaches us that there is no knowing in what serious losses and changes the attempt to conciliate various schools of modern ideas might not issue.

We have our venerated Prayer-book undoubtedly framed on the basis of Scriptural truth and primitive doctrine; and if we will continue to accept and use it in the spirit and sense in which it was manifestly compiled, we may trust that, by God's blessing, it will still be, as it has been, the upholder of pure Gospel teaching, and the moderator of extreme opinions in any direction.

Jan. 29, 1878.

I am, yours,
J. H. H.

To Donors of Land for Churchyards.

If you would at once send Memorials to Parliament stating, what I know to be true in many instances, namely, that—

- (1) You gave the ground to the Church, and for Church purposes only;
- (2) You gave the ground in the faith that the State would preserve the ground to the use to which you gave it;
- (3) You would not have given it to be used in the way now proposed:

You will make people understand the honest truth of this matter, and hinder the passing of a cruel and unjust Bill.

T. H. E.

A Bishop for East London.

It would greatly help this effort, if people of all ranks and conditions were to show an interest in it. I venture therefore to suggest that in every parish and district which would be affected, there should be a meeting held by the clergy, churchwardens, and any people who care about the matter, to discuss it, and to draw up a Memorial in favour of it. If only half-a-dozen People were thus drawn together in a parish or district, it would be better than nothing.

It would secure and promote interest in the question, and the more the meaning of an extension of the Episcopate is known and understood, the more rapidly it will extend. Our truest Church defence consists in Church extension, and the addition of a dozen working Bishops at home to the present Episcopate would secure the addition of many thousands of people to the Church.

T. H. E.

Chant-Book.

SIR,—In reply to the inquiry of Mr. J. Fernie in your last issue for a Book of Chants suitable for village use, I beg to commend to his notice 'The Village Chant Book,' compiled by the Rev. T. R. Matthews, North Coates, Great Grimsby. For the low price of 6d. it supplies 105 chants, well printed, simple and effective.

I should advise Mr. F. to send six stamps to Mr. Matthews for a copy, and judge for himself.

T. W.

Hereford, Jan. 29th, 1878.

MR. FERNIE might well supply his want by the 'Westminster Chant Book,' edited by Turlie, published by Novello, price 1s. paper cover or 1s. 6d. cloth.

S. M. C. B.

Gloucestershire.

SIR,—I now write to tell Mr. Bartlet, that in answer to 'K. L.'s' request I am sending *Church Bells* every week to the Rev. G. J. Woodward.

Redland, Bristol.

J. HENRY WOODWARD.

SIR,—A Country Parson will find, in another book by Prebendary Sadler, what he wants, I think. The 'Church Teacher's Manual' is simpler than the 'Church Doctrine, Bible Truth.' It is catechetical, and expressly compiled with two sets of questions and answers; one for 'more advanced scholars; and the second or shorter is not only a subordinate exercise on the higher questions for the same class of pupils, but also a distinct and independent form of instruction for the less advanced.' See also the catechetical series in 'The Dawn of Day,' monthly magazine: S. P. C. K.

R. K. B.

Home for Inebriates, Rugeley, Staffordshire.

THE following additional subscriptions have been received towards the liquidation of the debt of 233l. on the above institution:—Samuel Morley, Esq., M.P., 25l.; the Bishop of Exeter, 10l.; Captain Colville, 2l.; J. Armistage, Esq., 2l. 2s.; the Rev. Steaton Eardley, 1l. 1s.; — Cresswell, Esq., 1l.; A Friend, 10s. These sums, with those which have already been acknowledged, make up 140l. Mr. Grier is greatly obliged for the help which has been so generously accorded to him, and earnestly hopes that the comparatively small sum of 95l. may be contributed to make up the remainder of the debt.

Hoxton Home for Little Maids.

SIR,—Mrs. Pole Carew would be much obliged to the Editor of *Church Bells* if he would acknowledge in this week's number the receipt of a P.O.O. for 12s. 6d. from E. Allen, Esq., and 5s. worth of stamps from some unknown person, for the Hoxton Home for Little Maids.

Antony, Torpoint, Devonport.

RECEIVED ALSO.—T. H. E.; and others.

THE BRITISH WORKMAN.

MR. BRASSEY, M.P., was lecturing last week on English and Foreign Labour. In his opinion English labour maintained its pre-eminence in nearly every branch of manufacturing industry. He did not attribute the present dullness of trade in England and elsewhere to the action of Trades' Unions and to strikes; but he showed how delusive were some of the advantages which the men proposed to themselves by strikes. He quoted from Dr. De Leeuw, a Continental statistician, figures showing the increase of wages in certain trades between 1867 and 1872, ranging from 25 to 100 per cent. Yet Dr. De Leeuw continued:—'According to the unvarying testimony of the employers, the actual wages earned in 1872 and subsequent years were scarcely in excess of the wages earned before 1867, the workmen taking the difference in idleness and dissipation.' In the Clyde shipbuilding trade, to prevent the fall in prices, the men advocated a diminution of production. They said, 'Let us work short time and keep wages at the old rate.' Assuming that an excess of tonnage had been built, the shipwrights on the Clyde might have argued that it was for the interest of all concerned to suspend for a time the construction of new ships. But that remedy, as the *Economist* pointed out, was costly in the extreme. In the cotton trade, where the average earnings of a family of operatives were 60s. per week, a reduction of one-third of the time involved a loss of at least 18s. per week. Yet this solution was preferred to a reduction of 10 per cent., or 6s. per week, as proposed by the masters. In the shipbuilding trade the application of that system would have led to similar results. It was further to be observed, that if our workmen allowed themselves to be deluded with the notion that by working at half-speed they would prevent over-production, British industry could not contend successfully against the free and vigorous efforts of our kinsmen in America. The only result of such a suicidal course must be that the people who imposed no artificial restrictions on their powers would take our place in every open market. He contemplated with more equanimity than some students, perhaps, of economical science, the increasing participation of other nations in trades which once seemed destined to be the monopoly of the United Kingdom. Would it be a thing to be desired that our island should become the universal workshop of mankind? Would it add to the felicity of its inhabitants that the population of this huge metropolis should be doubled in number? Would they wish to see all Lancashire and Yorkshire honey-combed with coalpits, every hill crowned with a monster manufactory, and the Black Country of Wolverhampton enlarged to twice its present limits? Was it not better that they should share with other nations in the development of those industries which, however admirable they might be as illustrations of the skill and energy of man, inevitably involved the destruction of much that was fair and lovely in nature? A life without trees, and flowers, and blossoms, which no breeze from the hills or the sea ever refreshed, was a life imperfect and wanting in the purest and the best pleasures which it was given to man to enjoy. Let them, then, abandon the idea that it was an irreparable misfortune for their country to share with others in the development of the commerce of the world.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

St. Mary Magdalene Chiming and Ringing Guild, Launceston, Cornwall.

THE members of this lately established body held their first supper at Messrs. Barrett and Wood's Temperance Hotel on Monday last. The President was Mr. William Wise, the Captain of the Guild, to whom its foundation is due. Mr. W. T. Geake was Vice-Chairman; the Rev. W. M. Birch and Rev. E. H. Marshall, with the organist, Mr. Dalby, and others were present.

Date Touches at Irthlingborough, Northants.

1878 changes of Oxford Single, Court Single, and Bob Minor, on Saturday, the 19th ult., by A. Cuthbert, 1; R. Neville, 2; J. Houghton, 3; J. Thompson, 4; A. Wright, 5; W. Parker, 6. Tenor, 19 cwt.

Ringling at Ashton-under-Lyne, Lancashire.

ON Saturday, 19th ult., the Society of Change-ringers of Ashton-under-Lyne visited Manchester and rang on the bells of the New Town Hall a Touch of Kent Treble Bob Royals, consisting of 1040 changes, which is the greatest number of changes that has yet been rung on the bells. Conducted by Mr. John Thorp. T. Moss, 1; J. Bowcock, 2; J. Wood, senior, 3; S. Wood, 4; B. Broadbent, 5; D. Heap, 6; S. Andrew, 7; J. Gillott, 8; C. Thorp, 9; J. Thorp, 10. Tenor, 52 cwt. They also rang 805 changes of Grandsire Caters. Conducted by Mr. James Wood, senior.

Date Touches at St. James's, Tong.

ON Sunday, the 20th ult., the following ringers at St. James's Church, Tong, near Leeds, being also members of the Yorkshire Association, rang for the afternoon's service 1878 changes, representing the present year of our Lord, from the following methods:—Oxford, Violet, and New London Pleasure. The party stood as follows:—W. Sugden, 1; G. Bolland, 2; E. Webster, 3; S. Longstaff, 4; G. Carter, 5; J. Haley, 6. Tenor, 12 cwt. The peal was composed and conducted by George Carter, Esq. and brought round in sixty-five minutes.

Muffled-ringing at Ashover, Derby.

ON Saturday and Sunday several peals of Grandsire Doubles were rung with the bells half-open as a last token of respect to the late Rev. Joseph Nodder, aged 88, for 42 years Rector of Ashover. J. H. Beardow, 1; T. Beardow, 2; W. Buxton, 3; G. Beardow, 4; W. Hopkinson, 5. Tenor, 19½ cwt.

RECEIVED ALSO.—Thos. Hattersly; and others.

your warning note was greatly needed. When divine service becomes a 'performance,' *adieu* to devotion; and this is the tendency in many of our churches. People go to a concert in church and delude themselves into the belief that they are doing a religious act, when they are really only amusing themselves. I was greatly struck with the contrast presented by the account in *Church Bells* of the service at St. Paul's, and the account in the next column of the opening of St. Maurice's New Church at York, at which we are told the music was very simple, but hearty, the Psalms and one or two old-fashioned congregation hymns being joined in by all with the greatest spirit and apparent devotion; and then followed the beautiful sermon of the Archbishop, with its good Church teaching. This is, in my opinion, the kind of service we want, in which the congregation are not spectators or an audience, but participants. This, I believe, to be the true principle of our Church worship, and in which we have an advantage over both the Church of Rome and Dissenters.

H. T. D.

Prayer for the approaching Pan-Anglican Synod.

It seems to be time that our Archbishops and Bishops might agree together to prepare and publish a short appropriate collect for use in our daily and Sunday services, at least once on each Sunday or week-day, in which the especial power and guidance of the Holy Ghost might be invoked upon the Synod, that it may be led to do whatever shall be pleasing unto God and shall work for His glory.

Such a collect need not be longer than the Prayer for the Clergy and people, and might be used perhaps with the sanction of the Archbishops and Bishops next after the prayer for all sorts and conditions of men.

T. H. E.

SIR,—We are proposing to form a Guild or Association of Church workers and others in our parish, and have got some information as to rules, &c., but we do not know how to manage about the periodical meetings. Can you recommend any manual or pamphlet that would give us the desired information about such societies, and especially as to the best way of managing the monthly or quarterly meetings, so as to keep up the interest of those who join? We wish not only to unite the various workers, but also to bring about more familiar intercourse and more united feeling among the members of the congregation generally.

H. B. S. WOODHOUSE.

41 Tavistock Place, Plymouth.

A LADY has sent her *Church Bells* for nearly 12 months to the Rev. A. Bayley, Bona Vista, Newfoundland. She would be glad to know if he has received them.

'A. M. L.' will be glad to know if it is considered desirable for a 'Working Man's Institute' to possess a billiard table, or if the excitement of the game would lead the members to seek it in other and undesirable places?

THE Rev. S. Ronaldson, St. John's Parsonage, Melton, Dunedin, Otago, New Zealand, would be glad to receive *Church Bells* from any English subscriber who may be willing after reading to post it to him. He also says, 'I believe there are many at home who would thus help us abroad, so as to let us know more of the work of the Church at home, as seen not only in publications such as yours, but also in kindly sending us one or more of the many valuable books on Church History—Commentaries, such as the Speaker's, &c., which we out here can hardly hope to buy, and have no opportunity of borrowing, or even seeing more of it than, it may be, an advertisement in some old paper.'

INQUIRER.—Many abuses sprang from the custom of evening celebrations in times past, and though we cannot enter fully into the subject, there are many objections to it at the present time.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Ringers, beware of an Impostor.

SIR,—Allow me through *Church Bells* to caution the ringing fraternity against being duped by a man of about 5 ft. 6 in. in height, age about 28, who has lately 'done' a stroke of business in the North, and who on Thursday last turned up here. His plan is first to make out some tradesman who does not employ any of the ringers; having obtained a suitable name, he goes to the ringers individually at their work, tells them he is a ringer from Leeds (he knows most of the names of the Leeds ringers), that he has just got work from Mr. So-and-so where he starts to-morrow morning (here he was a joiner, at another place a whitesmith), and having been so long out of work has no money, and would be so glad if the person applied to would lend him a shilling or two to get food and lodgings, as he intends joining the Ringers' Society. The Hurworth ringers having been warned about him he got nothing here, and I need scarcely say that the person of whom he said he obtained work had not seen him. I quickly sent him away, especially after he had told me that he could ring Grandsire and Kent Treble Bob, and could not tell me the rule for either.

JOHNSON E. HERN.

Hurworth-on-Tees, Jan. 28th, 1878.

Change Ringing by the Yorkshire Association.

ON Saturday, Feb. 2nd, at St. Mary's, Hunslett, Leeds, 5040 of Bob Triples in 3 hrs. 5 mins. E. P. Stead (first peal), 1; J. McIntosh, 2; H. Hubbard, jun., 3; T. West, 4; T. Lockwood, 5; J. Dixon, 6; J. W. Snowden, Esq., 7; G. Wilson, 8. The peal, which was in five equal parts without a single, being the first part ever obtained and rung on this plan, was composed by H. Hubbard, sen., and conducted by Jasper W. Snowden. Tenor, 21 cwt.

Change Ringing at St. Peter's, Hindley, Lancashire.

ON Saturday, 19th ult., was rung at the above church Mr. John Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, containing 5040 changes, in 2 hrs. and 48 mins. Richard Calland, 1; Edward Prescott, 2; Edmund Brown, 3; William Bentham, 4; Edward Bentham, 5; Joseph Prescott, 6; Joseph W. Hall, 7; William Westhead, 8; Tenor, 14 cwt. Conducted by Mr. Joseph Prescott.

Change Ringing at Willenhall, Staffordshire.

ON the 21st ult. a mixed band rang a Date Touch of Grandsire Triples in 1 hr. 7 mins. G. Parkes, 1; J. Astbury, sen., 2; E. Lightwood, 3; S. Simkins, 4; S. Dace, 5; J. Astbury, jun., 6; W. Walker, 7; H. Blanton, 8. Composed and conducted by John Astbury, jun.

Date Touch at Shipley, Yorkshire.

ON Tuesday, the 22nd inst., the Junior Society of Change Ringers rang at St. Paul's Church, 1878 changes of Kent Treble Bob Major. T. Lilley, 1; B. Lightfoot, 2; W. Kendale, 3; J. Wilks, 4; S. Clark, 5; W. Wilks, 6; J. Smith, 6. Conducted by W. Wilks. Time, 71 mins.

Date Touch at the Parish Church, Sheffield.

ON Tuesday, 22nd ult., ten members of the Sheffield and Rotherham Societies rang a touch of Stedman's Caters, containing 1878 changes, in 1 hr. 20 mins. C. H. Hattersly, 1; C. Bower, 2; J. W. Rowbotham, 3; W. Coates, 4; W. Booth, 5; T. Lee, 6; G. Wilson, 7; T. Hattersly, 8; A. Rodgers, 9; G. Potter, 10. Tenor, 41 cwt. Composed and conducted by Mr. Thomas Hattersly.

Date Touch at Milnrow, Lancashire.

ON Wednesday evening, 23rd ult., the Society of Change-ringers, St. James's Church, Milnrow (who are also members of the Rochdale and District Association of Change-ringers), rang a Date Touch of Grandsire Triple. in 1 hr. 11 mins. E. Clegg, 1; R. Buckley, 2; J. Filton, 3; J. F. Wild, 4; T. Platt, 5; A. Clegg, 6; J. Fielding, 7; W. Sutcliffe, 8. Tenor, 20 cwt. Conducted by A. Clegg.

Change-Ringing at Maldon, Essex.

ON Saturday evening, 26th ult., the All Saints' Company rang a peal of Bob Minor, 720 changes. This is the first peal by any Maldon ringers for upwards of thirty years. The ringers were—S. Cable, 1; T. Mansfield, 2; C. Baalam, 3; J. Baldwin, 4; W. Chalk, 5; W. Mansfield, 6. Tenor, 13 cwt. Conducted by W. Chalk.

Change Ringing at St. Paul's Church, Hammersmith.

ON Tuesday, 29th ult., by the kind permission of the Vicar, eight members of the St. James's Society rang Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, in 3 hrs. 1 min. G. Thurlow, 1; J. James, 2; W. Collings, 3; W. Howard, 4; R. Kilby, 5; J. M. Hayes, 6; H. C. Gardner, 7; W. Williams, 8. Conducted by J. M. Hayes.

Answer to Question about Date Touches.

SIR,—In reply to Mr. Birtwistle's inquiry, I send as example a new date touch of 1878 changes in five parts, commencing and finishing with rounds. The first treble lead (if I may so use the term) contains but two changes—

2135476

1253746

which, at a glance, will be seen to be the extremes of the first plain lead from rounds; afterwards the touch proceeds without any further deviation from the method, producing in its course many of the most admired musical positions, including the Queen's Change and the Tittums—

1st part. 2nd part.

2135476

1253746

*672453—1

*346572—1

*543267—5

*435267—4

*234756—5

*562473—2

*465327—5

*524673—3

26

27

This part three times repeated

Stockport.

WM. GORDON.

THE Editor has a bound copy of "The Bells of Devon," with Supplement, price three guineas.

SIR,—Having received numerous applications for our Date Peal, I wish to remind the applicants that I promised to send my manuscript to the Office, which promise I will fulfil as soon as I have taken a copy for myself. As a working man, my time is too limited to write a copy for each inquirer, and I hope it will not be taken as a want of courtesy in sending the copy to you.

EDWARD MATTHEWS.

110 Bond Street, Macclesfield.

RECEIVED.—X. T., answered direct. H. Laving, declined. Note the title of our paper. Shenstone Peal, name and address requested. G. H. Barnett.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Grandsire Triples.

Six.—Having lately, in my jottings of Grandsire Triples, discovered a slight peculiarity in a short touch, I now venture to address you on the subject, in the hope that it may interest a few of your readers, though probably already well known to most. The treble leads of the touch—or, more properly, touches—are these:—

84	84
7 5 2 6 3 4 (A.)	7 5 2 6 3 4 (B.)
4 6 7 3 5 2	4 6 7 3 5 2
S 3 2 4 5 6 7	S 2 3 5 4 7 6
7 5 3 6 2 4	6 4 2 7 3 5
4 6 7 2 5 3	5 7 6 3 4 2
S 2 3 4 5 6 7	S 2 3 4 5 6 7

The peculiarity here is, that although two very different so-called singles are employed, the changes of the touches are identical. The first half of each needs no comment, as the treble leads are the same and in the same order. But in the last half of each, that is to say, after the singles, the treble leads are quite different from each other. But if the handstrokes of these be pricked, the backstrokes of the one can be—if I may use the term—cancelled into the handstrokes of the other, and *vice versa*. This at once brings to light the peculiarity in question, viz. that the two contain the same changes. The difference, also, between them is rather remarkable, which is, that the changes in the one come in exactly the reverse order of those in the other.

It afterwards occurred to me that we might take advantage of this in another and very different composition. I refer to Holt's celebrated one-part peal. In this, we all know, the last five leads run the same as the last five in touch A above. Might we not, now and then, by way of variation, ring them as in touch B? Indeed, I am inclined to believe that for some reasons this would be not a bad plan. The reasons are these: The singles would be Holt's own, as the peal is his. We should get rid of what has seemed to me almost to mar a composition well-nigh perfect in every other respect. I allude to the fact that in the last four leads of the peal, as hitherto rung, both the second and the sixth are called before, these two bells being found thus in no other part of the peal. If we use Holt's singles this is no longer the case. The great beauty of these singles—one not shared by the common Grandsire Single—is that they do not put the bells out of course. As the whole of the peal, excepting the last four leads, is in course, why should not these leads be so, too, if possible? By so doing we should, I think, only be carrying out the general plan of our great composer, whose aim always seems to have been to keep the bells in course wherever he possibly could; to which rule the only exception, as far as I know, is in this his first and in some respects most wonderful composition.

HOLTOPHILUS.

Ringling at Shenstone, Staffordshire.

On the 26th ult., a mixed band of Change-ringers met at Shenstone, and rang on the bells of the parish church a true peal of Grandsire Major, containing 5040 changes, in 2 hrs. 55 mins. H. Argyle, aged 13, 1; J. Astbury, sen., 2; S. Cooper, 3; J. Argyle, 4; T. Merideth, 5; E. Lightwood, 6; J. Astbury, jun., 7; W. Fearneyhaugh, 8. This peal contains all the 857's, 867's, and 678's in the 40,320, or the 6th 24 times wrong and right, and the 5th 24 times right. Composed by J. Carter of West Bromwich, and conducted by J. Astbury, jun. Tenor, 12½ cwt.

Change-ringing at Appleton, Berks.

On Wednesday, 30th ult., was rung by the Appleton Society, 5040 Grandsire Triples, in 2 hrs. 57 mins. S. White, 1; E. Holifield, 2; B. Barrett, 3; G. Holifield, 4; W. Bennett, 5; F. White (Conductor), 6; H. Woodward, 7; R. Bennett (first peal), 8. Tenor, 14½ cwt.

Ringling at Mitcham, Surrey.

On Wednesday, 30th ult., four of the Mitcham Company, assisted by four of the Streatham Company, rang Mr. John Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, 5040 changes, in 2 hrs. 57 mins. D. Springhall, 1; F. Baker, 2; A. Brockwell, 3; S. Greenwood, 4; D. Denny, 5; G. Over, 6; W. Bates, 7; G. Pell, 8. Conducted by S. Greenwood. Tenor, 18 cwt.

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

On Thursday evening, 31st ult., the under-mentioned members of St. Paul's Society, Burton-on-Trent, rang a peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples in 2 hrs. 56 mins.—H. Argyle, 1; A. Oxford (first peal), 2; S. Cooper, 3; A. Wakley, 4; W. Wakley, 5; W. Potts, 6; W. J. Fearneyhaugh, 7; J. Argyle, 8. Conducted by W. Potts. Tenor, 26 cwt.

Ringling at St. Margaret's, Barking, Essex.

On Saturday, 2nd inst., eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang Mr. Holt's original one-part peal of Grandsire Triples, containing 5040 changes, in 3 hrs. 6 mins. H. Haley, sen., 1; R. Sewell, 2; H. Booth, 3; H. Haley, jun., 4; F. Bate, 5; S. Reeves, 6; J. Hayes, 7; T. Davis, 8. Conducted by H. Haley, sen. Tenor, 21 cwt.; note, E flat.

Change-ringing at Leigh, Lancashire.

On Saturday, 2nd inst., being the anniversary of the opening of St. Mary's Parish Church, Leigh, after having been rebuilt, and the bells being recently rehung and quarter-turned by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, London, a mixed band of change-ringers met and rang Mr. E. Taylor's six-part peal of Grandsire Triples, consisting of 5040 changes; with the sixth at home every 42 changes, and the sixth and seventh at home every 210 changes; and the fifth and sixth and seventh at home every 840 changes, or part end (*vide* W. Shipway's *Campanalogia*, Part iii. p. 59). The ringing was conducted by Mr. Jas. Eckersley of Bolton. J. Eckersley, 1; N. Farnworth, 2; T. Smith, 3; J. Houghton, 4; J. Hindley, 5; J. Smith, 6; R. Thornley, 7; E. Arrowsmith, 8. Tenor, 21 cwt.; note, E. The time was 3 hrs., this being the first true and complete peal rung since the bells were rehung.

Date Touch at Bradford Parish Church, Yorkshire.

On Thursday evening, the 7th inst., ten members of the Bradford contingent of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang at St. Peter's Church, in 1 hr. 20 mins., a touch of Kent Treble Bob Royal, consisting of 1878 changes. J. Angus, 1; J. Naylor, 2; J. H. Fisher, 3; T. Pollard, 4; N. Binns, 5; J. H. Hardcastle, 6; J. Cheetham, 7; J. Wilson, 8; J. Wilkinson, 9; J. H. Dickson, 10. Composed by Mr. Sottenstall of Sowerby, Halifax, and conducted by Mr. J. H. Hardcastle. Tenor, 27 cwt.

Ringling at St. Mary's, Walthamstow, Essex.

On Saturday, 9th inst., the following members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang at the above church a peal of Grandsire Triples (Mr. John Reeves's variation), comprising 5040 changes, in 2 hrs. 58 mins.:—W. Coakham, 1; T. Maynard, 2; J. H. Wilkins, 3; W. G. Clark, 4; H. Booth, 5; H. Reeves, 6; A. Estall, 7; W. Crockford, 8. Conducted by Harvey Reeves.

Change-ringing at Ashton-under-Lyne, Lancashire.

On the 2nd inst. the ringers of St. Peter's Church rang a complete peal of Plain Bob Major, containing 6944 changes, in 4 hrs. 15 mins. J. Mellor, 1; J. Hopwood, 2; T. Taylor, 3; W. Frith, 4; J. Stones, 5; G. Longden, 6; J. Andrew, 7; C. Thorp, 8. Composed by Mr. J. Thorp, and conducted by Mr. C. Thorp. Tenor, 20 cwt.

Date Touch at St. Mary's, Stockport, Cheshire.

On Sunday, 3rd inst., for Divine Service in the afternoon, a touch of 1878 Grandsire Triples was rung in 1 hr. 9 mins. W. Albinson, 1; W. H. Albinson (aged 16), 2; A. Gordon, 3; J. Meakin, 4; W. Gordon, 5; E. Leonard, 6; J. Sutcliffe, 7; T. Marshall, 8. Written and called by W. Gordon. Tenor, 25 cwt.

Change-ringing at St. Mary's, Wanstead, Essex.

THE PEAL.

1st Part.	2nd Part.
5 6 3 4 2	5 6 2 4 3
S 2 4 6 3 5	S 3 4 6 2 5
S 5 3 4 6 2	2 5 4 6 3
B 6 2 4 5 3	B 6 3 4 2 5
S 3 5 2 4 6	S 5 2 3 4 6
B 4 6 2 3 5	B 4 6 3 5 2
3 5 6 2 4	S 2 5 6 3 4
S 4 2 5 6 3	S 4 3 5 6 2
B 6 3 5 4 2	B 6 2 5 4 3
4 2 3 5 6	4 3 2 5 6

Each part twice repeated, with a single at the end of the 6th and 12th courses.

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

On Monday, 4th inst., four members of St. Margaret's Society and four of St. Mark's rang on the above bells a complete peal of Grandsire Triples, containing 5040 changes, in 3 hrs. 4 mins. The peal was in six parts. W. Walker, 1; T. Wilson, 2; J. Buttery (Conductor), 3; G. Burrows, 4; J. Wilson, 5; S. Cooper, 6; J. Cooper, 7; W. Cooper, 8. Tenor, 23 cwt.; key, E flat.

Change-ringing at Beeston, Notts.

On Monday, 4th inst., the Society of Sherwood Youths (St. Mary's Church, Nottingham), visited Beeston, and rang Mr. W. Taylor's six-part peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples, containing 194 Bobs and 46 Singles, in 3 hrs. 5 mins. W. Lee, 1; L. Denman, 2; G. H. Johnson, 3; G. Ashworth, 4; J. Hickman, 5; W. Widdowson, 6; W. Holroyd, 7; A. W. Sadler, 8. Conducted by G. H. Johnson. Tenor, 19 cwt.

Change-ringing at All Souls', Halifax.

On Tuesday, 5th inst., seven members of the All Souls' Society of Change-ringers, assisted by D. R. Smith of Halifax, rang 82 leads of Kent Treble Bob Major, consisting of 2624 changes, in 1 hr. 53 mins., as a mark of respect to Mr. John Crapper, who reached the age of 82 years that day, and the oldest ringer in the parish of Halifax. G. Harper, 1; D. R. Smith, 2; H. Higginbottom, 3; T. Robinson, 4; T. Hirst, 5; G. Clayton, 6; J. Shaw, 7; E. Harper, 8. Composed and conducted by D. R. Smith. Tenor, 26 cwt.

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

On Saturday, 9th inst., the following mixed band of ringers rang at the above church, in 2 hrs. 54 mins., Mr. John Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, consisting of 5040 changes. G. Grundy (Conductor), 1; E. Prescott, 2; E. Brown, 3; W. Chisnall, 4; J. Prescott, 5; T. Tickle, 6; J. Whittingham, 7; H. Hodgkinson, 8. Tenor, 14 cwt.

Change-ringing at St. John's Church, Kirkburton, Yorkshire.

On Sunday evening, 10th inst., for a service peal, was rung a date touch of 1878 changes of Kent Treble Bob, in 1 hr. 6 mins. E. Exley, 1; H. Kaye, 2; D. Copley, 3; L. Booth, 4; B. Smith, 5; J. G. Hardy, 6; R. Hill, 7; J. Pickering, 8. Composed by E. Exley and conducted by J. Pickering. Tenor, 13½ cwt.

Durham Diocesan Association of Ringers.

THE next meeting will be held, by permission of the Dean, at the Cathedral, Durham, on Monday, February 25th. A dinner will be provided (1s. per head), at one o'clock, at the 'Half Moon,' New Elvet. Members intending to dine are requested to send in their names to the Secretary not later than Monday, February 18th. Ringers desirous of receiving instructions in Change-ringing are requested to communicate at once with Mr. J. E. Hern, Hurworth-on-Tees, who will make arrangements for that purpose. G. J. CLARKSON, Sec.

7 Brunswick Street, Stockton-on-Tees.

N.B.—Members of the Committee are requested to meet at the 'Half Moon' at eleven o'clock.

RECEIVED ALSO.—A. P. Bone. Devon bells sold. Wm. Giles; and others.

from it. I mean, an idea of awfulness which amounts to a superstitious dread of it; not by any means a holy reverence, such as we all would fain see. This ignorant dread is best removed by the removal of the ignorance, and this is best done by giving them opportunities for seeing the office carried out. The choir-boys will, I think, generally be kept in a reverent tone by means of their constant contact with the other office-bearers of the church, and by being so close under the eyes of the administering clergy during the service. In the case of irreverence apparently incurable, the remedy is, not the expulsion of all, but of the irreverent only, from the Holy Eucharist, by expelling him from the choir.

One objection is, that to my mind the confession at the Holy Eucharist is only intended for the use of intending recipients, and that others ought to be left only to that more general and less explicit confession and absolution provided at Matins and Evensong. But this is not of much moment.

I have only to add, that, so far as I am concerned, the keeping of the choir or of the general congregation in during the celebration, is not from the Adoration view of the case. For I hold strongly that to adore in the Holy Eucharist, even as to 'show the Lord's death,' one must 'eat and drink.' And my experience goes to show that such occasional and periodical attendances of non-communicants, whether in the choir or in the nave, has not the slightest tendency, under careful watching, to induce (as 'W. W. H.' seems to fear) irreverence at Holy Communion, but rather to induce reverence at other offices.

R. K. B.

Choral Celebrations and Readjustment.

SIR,—There is no doubt that, practically, the Church of England Eucharist does, as your correspondent 'W. W. H.' implies, often seem more sombre and penitential than our Morning and Evening Prayer; and while I agree with him in shrinking from the indiscriminate employment of young boys as singers at choral celebrations, I am entirely in favour of his proposal to introduce such singing into the service as the communicants themselves may be able to sing. In my own church we have, for years, sung the *Ter Sanctus* to Marbeck's setting, as it is given by Mercer, with or without the harmony, according as persons were present or not who could sing it; and the *Gloria in Excelsis* we have sung to what I once saw advertised as the 'American Music,' said to be well known in the American Church. It is now published by the S. P. C. K. on a card, as Tract No. 1766; and, when sung in harmony, brightens up the Communion Office immensely. In many churches, where the presence of the choir at the Communion would be objected to, there must be women who could take the treble and alto easily enough, and at least one or two men for each of the other parts. People who sing only by ear would catch their parts perfectly in a few practices.

But, after all, must we not, in fairness, confess that our Communion Service, with all its excellences, does sadly lack some elements which, if they could have been retained at the Reformation without the superstitions which had overlaid them, would have done much to make the service, more than it is at present, a generally recognised expression of Christian joy? 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.' And yet in our Communion Service the idea of giving, beyond the customary shilling put into the alms' dish, is, I fear, with the greater number of our communicants, well-nigh extinct. They go merely to 'take' the Sacrament; a consequence only too exactly following from our Reformers' avowed design to change the mass from a sacrifice into a communion. In restoring and emphasizing the Communion they did well; and it is not for us, in our easy times, to blame them for what they did amiss. They found the sacrifice practically treated as a literal offering of Christ locally present in the priest's hands, although the words of the mass—at least, of the Roman mass—do not admit of such an interpretation. And in their vehement effort to rid the Church of so gross a superstition, they unfortunately failed to retain any full and prominent doing of that which our Saviour did, and commanded to be done, when He took the bread and wine and blessed them, and gave thanks over them.

Is not the time drawing near when Churchmen may, without the charge of rashness or disloyalty, set themselves calmly to revise the Reformation formularies? The discussions and controversies of the last forty years have provided a rich fund of material, not for destroying, but for completing the Reformers' noble but somewhat hasty and disproportioned work. On the one hand, primitive and scriptural features discarded or overlooked by them, might now be so explained and altered as to become generally acceptable; and on the other, some few features, better known now than then, to be of merely mediæval origin, might be removed without offending any unprejudiced scholar.

The Revision of the English Bible was begun, I believe, by the Revision of St. John's Gospel and some of the Epistles by 'five Clergymen,' on their own responsibility; and though their work, for many years, seemed to lead to nothing, the great object which they had from the first in view is now nearing its attainment. Might not a similar attempt succeed with the Prayer-book, especially if the similarity consisted in aiming at placing before the public, faithfully though without pedantry, not the aspirations of this or that party, but the honest results of Christian scholarship?

J. F.

Confirmation after Dissenting Baptism.

SIR,—The old-fashioned and kind-hearted prelate who, two years ago, confirmed me, an ex-Dissenter, asked me in the service whether I acknowledged myself 'bound to believe, and to do, all those things which godfathers and godmothers usually undertake?' So many Dissenters are joining the Church nowadays by Confirmation, that some such variation as this in the Order cannot be uncommon.

A PRIEST.

'M. C.' having, like 'H. E. T.' been baptized in infancy by a Dissenting preacher, and therefore without sponsors, felt scruples, in preparing for Confirmation, as to her right to enter the Church without re-baptism; and her Vicar not being able to satisfy her conscience, she communicated with her Bishop, who said this was not necessary, and that 'The Church discountenances iteration of baptism.' 'M. C.' will give 'H. E. T.' fuller particulars if she likes to apply to *Church Bells* for her address.

Rugeley Home for Inebriate Gentlemen.

THE following additional subscriptions have been received by the Rev. R. M. Grier, who is greatly obliged. There is now only 54*l.* needed to clear off the original debt of 234*l.*:—The Right Rev. Bishop Hobhouse, 5*l.*; J. Mackie, Esq., 5*l.*; C. A., 3*l.*; Rev. Ayscough Smith, 1*l.*; Rev. A. Holme, 2*l.* 2*s.*; Miss Williamson, 1*l.*; Mr. Wray, 5*l.*; Rev. A. Rawstorne, 1*l.*; Col. Feilden, 3*l.* 3*s.*; Mr. Giberne, 1*l.*

Rugeley.

'M. T.'s' letter on 'Band Music in Churches' will appear next week.

'S. R. H. N.'—It is quite open to you or any one to do what you suggest with *Church Bells* for July 11th; but the suggestion could not, with propriety, be made in our columns.

'H. T. D.' is somewhat impatient. He is wrong in stating that his letter was refused. It is now in type, with an appended note from our Irish correspondent, to whom it was first submitted. There is not room for it this week.

JANE WHEATLEY.—What you propose would be equally useful and equally welcome at the St. Andrew's Waterside Mission, or at the Missions to Seamen office, 11 Buckingham Street, Strand.

RECEIVED ALSO.—F. C. G.; J. F. (Wellington); Propriety; A. F. Hogan; Action to Front; R. Loxham.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

	A Date Peal.	SCALE.
SIR,—I enclose my original manuscript of our date peal of Stedman's Triples (composed December 30, 1877). The accompanying is the scale.	2 2 2, 11 ... 3 courses.	
Key to the Scale.—The figures denote the number of the six ends at which the bobs are made. Singles are marked S.	2 2 2, 11 S ... 6 "	
I do not know of any method of reporting Stedman, and if any composer can furnish me with a more concise plan than the above, I shall feel very much obliged.	2 2 2, 11 ... 9 "	
	2 2 2, 11 S, 11 S ... 12 "	
	2 2 2, 11 ... 15 "	
	2 2 2, 11 S ... 18 "	
	2 2 2, 11 ... 21 "	
	8 S, 11 S, then run out to four last changes, viz.—	
	3 2 1 5 4 7 6	Double.
	2 3 1 4 5 7 6	
	2 1 3 5 4 6 7	
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	

Change-ringing by the Yorkshire Association.

ON Thursday evening, 31st ult., eight members of the above Association met at St. Paul's, Denholme Gate, York, and rang 1878 changes of Kent Treble Bob Major in 1 hr. 3 mins. W. H. Tidswell, 1; J. Butterfield, 2; W. Lawrence, 3; A. Howarth, 4; W. Hoyle, 5; R. Rushworth, 6; J. Foster, 7; Jonas Foster, 8. Composed by J. H. Harcastle and conducted by Jonas Foster. Tenor, 15 cwt.

St. Mary's, Beddington, Surrey.

ON Saturday, 9th inst., eight members of the St. Mary's Society rang a quarter peal of Grandsire Triples, consisting of 1260 changes, in 48 minutes, being the greatest extent yet obtained. J. Plowman, 1; J. Branch, 2; J. Trappitt, 3; E. Bennett (Conductor), 4; F. Marter, 5; J. Cowley, 6; C. Gordon, 7; J. Zealey, 8.

Ringling Farce at Stokeclimsland, Cornwall.

ON Thursday, 14th inst., a ringing match was held at Stokeclimsland, on the fine ring of eight bells at the parish church. Great interest was taken in the contest, the church and churchyard being crowded during the competition. Five sets of ringers competed, viz. Lanlivery and Lanreath, united; South Sydenham, Callington, and Kelly, united; Launceston and Linkinhorne, united; and Liskeard. The Lanlivery men rang first, and a highly creditable round peal it was, the opinion of many being that it would not be excelled. They were beaten, however, by the Launceston and Linkinhorne team, who showed their superiority in rising and falling. They gave a peal of treble rest ringing, so well performed that the judges said that they had never heard it equalled on eight bells. The prizes were awarded as follows:—First, Launceston and Linkinhorne; second, Lanlivery and Lanreath; third, Liskeard; fourth, Callington and Kelly. The names of the ringers who won the first prize are—Mr. Jenkyn, 1; S. Ham, 2; A. Pope, 2; N. Hocking, 4; S. Symons, 5; W. Reynolds, 6; W. Penwarden, 7; J. Hockin, 8. The prizes were awarded to the satisfaction of all. The ringing being over early, the Rector, who is very partial to change-ringing, invited the successful ones to oblige him with a peal of changes. Mr. Jenkyn and party, who won the first prize, thereupon gave a capital peal of fifty-four cross changes.

[The above seems to be a good specimen of how ringing is done and enjoyed in the West: waste of money, and utterly useless in the way of belfry reform and progress in ringing proper. It is to us most inexplicable how persons so fond of ringing, and clever at 'ups and downs and rounds and rounds,' as the *pully-hawly* ringers proverbially are, do not get into the style of change-ringing practised in all other parts of the kingdom. As for prize-ringing, the parsons are to blame for allowing that. We believe it has been condemned by all newly-formed Associations and by ecclesiastics in authority, therefore this ought to help on such a desirable movement. Fancy 'fifty-four cross changes' being called 'a capital peal!'—ED.]

RECEIVED ALSO.—'A Royal Youth' has not sent his name and address, nor 'A Lover of Good Bells.'

Names and addresses of correspondents are required, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

A False Date Touch.

SIR,—In answer to Mr. Matthews's request, that some one would furnish him with a more concise plan of reporting Stedman's Triples, I send the enclosed, being the course-ends and method of calling his Date Touch, which unfortunately proves to be false, as changes occur in the third course which occur in the last.

J. FIELD,
Oxford Society of Change-ringers.

2 3 1 4 5 6 7	3	3	10	12
1 3 5 4 2	—	—	—	—
5 3 2 4 1	—	—	—	—
2 4 3 1 5	—	—	—	—
3 4 5 1 2	—	—	—	—
5 4 2 1 3	—	—	—	—
2 1 3 4 5	—	—	—	8
3 1 5 4 2	—	—	—	—
5 1 2 3 4	—	—	—	—
2 4 1 3 5	—	—	—	—
1 4 5 3 2	—	—	—	—
5 4 2 3 1	—	—	—	—
4 3 1 2 5	—	—	—	8
1 3 5 2 4	—	—	—	—
5 3 4 2 1	—	—	—	—
4 2 3 1 5	—	—	—	—
3 2 5 1 4	—	—	—	—
5 2 4 1 3	—	—	—	—
4 1 3 2 5	—	—	—	8
3 1 5 2 4	—	—	—	—
5 1 4 2 3	—	—	—	—
4 2 1 3 5	—	—	—	—
4 7 1 2 5 6 3	—	8	—	8
7 2 4 6 1 3 5	} Six ends.	—	—	—
7 2 6 3 4 5 1		—	—	—
2 3 7 5 6 1 4		—	—	—
2 3 5 1 7 1 6		—	—	—
3 2 1 5 4 7 6	} Double.	—	—	—
2 3 1 4 5 7 6		—	—	—
2 1 3 5 4 6 7	} Double.	—	—	—
1 2 3 4 5 6 7		—	—	—

Ringling at St. Albans, Rochdale, Lancashire.

On Tuesday, 19th ult., the ringers of the above church rang a date touch of Grandsire Triples (in four parts), consisting of 1878 changes, in 1 hr. 8. mins. G. Adshhead, 1; J. Adshhead, 2; W. Adshhead, 3; J. G. Holt, 4; W. Brierley, 5; J. Greenwood, 6; J. Horrax, 7; C. Sidebottom, 8. Composed by J. Adshhead and conducted by J. Greenwood. Tenor, 18½ cwt.

First Lead.	Part. First	Part. Last
1 2 3 4 5 6 7	1	1
1 6 4 7 2 3 5	2	5
1 4 6 2 7 5 3	3	5
4 1 6 7 2 3 5	2	2
4 6 1 2 7 5 3	1	3
6 4 2 1 5 7 3	5	2
6 2 4 5 1 3 7	5	1
2 6 5 4 3 1 7	2	5
5 2 6 3 4 7 1	5	5
5 2 3 6 7 4 1	—	5
5 3 2 7 6 1 4	—	5
3 5 7 2 1 6 4	} Twice Repeated.	—
3 7 5 1 2 4 6		—
7 3 1 5 4 2 6		—
7 1 3 4 5 6 2		—

Muffled Peal at Darlaston, Staffordshire.

On the 28th January a mixed band of ringers met at St. Lawrence Church, Darlaston, and rang a peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples in 3 hrs. The bells were muffled as a token of respect for two ringers, members of St. Peter's Society, Wolverhampton. S. Atkins, 1; B. Dalton, 2; J. Fulwood, 3; T. Pensley, 4; W. Smith, 5; J. Jones, 6; W. Johnson, 7; E. Beach, 8. Tenor, 20 cwt. Composed by Mr. John Day of Birmingham. Conducted by Mr. Jas. Jones of Wolverhampton.

Change-ringing at Beverley Minster, Yorkshire.

On Saturday, 9th ult., Taylor's six-part peal of Grandsire Triples, containing 5040 changes, was rung in 3 hrs. 19 mins. G. Witty, 1; H. Ushaw, 2; T. Campey, 3; W. Whitfield, 4; J. Campey, 5; W. Blaxton, 6; D. Roberts, 7; J. Witty, 8. Tenor, 29 cwt. Conducted by W. Blaxton. The above peal contains 194 Bobs.

Change-ringing at Stalybridge, Lancashire.

On Thursday, the 14th ult., eight of the Society of Change-ringers connected with Holy Trinity Church, Castle Hall, rang a peal of Grandsire Triples, containing 5040 changes, in 2 hrs. 59 mins. Composed by Mr. John Reeves in ten parts, and conducted by Mr. R. Williams. J. Pownall, 1; H. Shaw, 2; W. Fawcett, 3; A. Hague, 4; A. Byron, 5; R. Williams, 6; J. Bradley, 7; E. Schofield, 8. Tenor, 15 cwt.

Change-ringing at Birstall, Yorkshire.

On the 14th ult. six members of the Yorkshire Association of Change-ringers rang a Date Touch, consisting of 1878 changes of Kent Treble Bob, in 1 hr. 10 mins. W. Burrows, 1; B. Parkinson, 2; G. Thornton, 3; A. Mortimer, 4; W. Stainthorpe, 5; W. Elliot, 6; E. T. Jowett, 7; J. Kenyon, 8. Composed and conducted by E. T. Jowett. Tenor, 1 ton. The following is the peal:—

1st Course.—Omit the two first changes in the first lead; call 1 in the middle; call the treble to make an extreme; the lead after the tenor has gone off one and treble, which will bring the tenor into the hunt again, thus producing 1 8 5 7 3 2 4 6 from 1 5 7 8 4 2 6; 1 wrong; 2 home.

2nd Course.—2 M : 2 W : 2 H.

3rd Course.—2 M : 1 B : 1 W : 2 H.

4th Course.—1 B : 2 H.

5th Course.—1 B : 1 H, 2 extremes, and 1 H.

Thus it will be seen, by omitting the two first changes and calling the treble to make an extreme (which shortens the lead 8 changes), together with 57 full leads, will produce 1878 changes.

Change-ringing at Glemsford, Suffolk.

On Saturday, 16th ult., six of the Glemsford company rang Mr. Pilstom's peal of Double Court Bob, 720 changes, as appeared in *Church Bells* of the 16th ult. S. Slater, 1; J. Slater, 2; C. Honeybell, 3; Z. Slater, 4; J. Slater, 5; P. Adams, 6. Tenor, 16 cwt. Conducted by S. Slater.

Norwich Diocesan Association of Ringers.

THE Quarterly Meeting of the above was held at East Dereham on Monday, the 18th ult., and there was a good attendance of ringers and hon. members. There is a fine tower here, quite distinct from the church, containing a ring of eight bells (tenor, 24 cwt.), and on these the members, old and young, according to their several tastes and abilities, rang during the day touches of Plain Bob Major, Oxford Treble Bob, and Stedman's Triples. The dinner was held at 'The Nelson,' about 2 o'clock, and after dinner about forty new members were elected. Among these were the Revs. T. H. Marsh and D. Watt, and Mr. E. S. Steward, and the Kenninghall, Kelsale, and Downham Companies, &c. Several alterations were made in the Rules. The most important, in Rule IX., to the effect that for the future the Annual Meeting will be held in the month of September. The next Quarterly Meeting will be held, it is hoped, at Stradbroke, shortly after Easter.

Change-ringing at Tildesley, Lancashire.

THE ringers of St. George's Church, Tildesley, on the 18th ult., rang a peal of Plain Bob, containing 720 changes, in 23 mins., on a new ring of six bells cast by J. Warner and Sons, London. A. Darbyshire, 1; W. Allred, 2; J. Allred, 3; W. Jerret, 4; C. Oakes, 5; G. Eaten, 6. Conducted by A. Darbyshire. Tenor, 8 cwt.

Date Touches.

DATE Touches have been rung at Dorking, Surrey, on the 18th ult. Grandsire Triples, 1 hr. 15 mins.; at Pendlebury, Lancashire, 17th ult., Grandsire Triples, 1 hr. 6 mins.; at All Saints, Worcester, 21st ult., Grandsire Triples, 1 hr. 10 mins.

Change-ringing at Hyde, Cheshire.

On Wednesday, 20th ult., eight members of the Society of Change-ringers, Hyde, rang at St. George's Church Mr. Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples in 2 hrs. 52 mins. Jas. Wilde, sen., 1; M. Sale, 2; Jas. Wilde, jun., 3; T. Wilde, jun., 4; P. Beard, 5; Wm. Beeley, 6; H. Rostron, 7; T. Wilde, sen., 8. Conducted by Mr. H. Rostron. Tenor, 16 cwt.

Norwich Diocesan Association of Ringers.

On Wednesday, the 20th ult., eight members of the Redenhall Society (being also Members of the above Association and of the Royal Cumberland Society of London) rang Mr. John Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, consisting of 5040 changes, at St. Mary's, Redenhall, in 3 hrs. 20 mins. Conducted by Mr. E. Smith. E. Smith, 1; C. F. Blyth, 2; Rev. A. Bolingbroke, 3; G. Prime, 4; R. Whiting, 5; G. Mobbs, 6; G. Holms, Esq., 7; Captain Moore, 8. Tenor, 24 cwt.

Date Touch, Capel, Surrey.

On Saturday evening, 23rd ult., six members of the Capel Society of Change-ringers met at St. John's Church, Capel, and rang in 62 minutes 1878 changes in seven different methods, viz., Oxford Double Bob Minor, 360; Kent Treble Bob Minor, 360; Oxford Treble Bob, 360; Court Single Bob, 360; Oxford Single Bob, 360; Grandsire Minor, 48; Grandsire Doubles, 30. G. Mills, 1; A. Tidy, 2; G. Holloway, 3; R. Worsfold, 4; E. Jordan, 5; D. Jordan (conductor), 6.

Date Touch at Sudbury, Suffolk.

On Saturday evening, 23rd ult., the Sudbury ringers rang at St. Peter's a new touch of 1878 changes in five parts, commencing and ending with rounds, which was given in a recent number of *Church Bells*. The first treble lead contains but two changes, being the extremes of the first plain lead from rounds, afterwards the touch proceeds without any further deviation from the method, producing in its course the Queen's Change and the Tittums. It was communicated to the *Church Bells* by Mr. Wm. Gorden, of Stockport. The time was 1 hr. 20 mins. N. W. Taylor, 1; A. Scott, 2; J. Campin, 3; J. Bonney, 4; J. Morley, 5; J. Howe, 6; W. Cross, 7; W. Howell, 8. Conducted by J. Bonney.

Change-ringing at Frittenden, Kent.

On the 25th ult. the change-ringers of St. Mary's Church, with the assistance of Mr. Hillard of West Malling and Mr. Payne of Maidstone, rang a peal of 2352 changes Bob Major in 1 hr. 20 mins. On the same day they rang a peal of Bob Triples, consisting of 5040 changes, in 2 hrs. 40 mins. The peals were composed by Mr. Payne and conducted by Mr. Daynes. G. Hillard, 1; J. Potter, 2; C. Payne, 3; E. Potter, 4; J. Taylor, 5; T. Potter, 6; T. Daynes, 7; A. Hoar, 8. Tenor, 14 cwt. Key G.

'Where are the finest Bells?'

SIR,—It would be a great advantage to some of your readers to know where the finest bells really exist in this country. For myself, I think the ring at Lavenham, Suffolk, especially the tenor and treble, the most beautiful I have yet heard.

A LOVER OF GOOD BELLS.

RECEIVED ALSO.—H. Marshall; C. E. Thompson; and others. W. Agger has not sent the particulars of a muffled peal rung at King's Lynn. Devon Bells—sold. Name and address requested of 'Long Lengths of Change-ringing.'

mode of warming the building at a necessarily moderate cost. May I, in your columns, ask if any readers, who can give reliable information or suggestions on this subject, will kindly favour me therewith?

JOHN FERNIE.

Wellington Vicarage, Grantham.

SIR,—Should any of your readers wish for the *Guardian* of 1876, 1877, and the greater part of 1875, they can have all or part of the numbers free, on paying carriage. Address, M. A., 2 Foxton Terrace, Richmond, Surrey.

SIR,—I am sending the *Church Bells* every week to the Rev. S. Ronaldson, New Zealand, who mentions in your columns that he would be glad to have them.

C. ROBINS.

Hedder Rectory, Beaconsfield.

SIR,—Having received more than one request for my copy of *Church Bells*, I will send it to the first applicant, viz.—Rev. C. H. Chard, Mandalay, Burmah.

C. BROWN.

Falklands, Dorking.

THE Lady who has sent *Church Bells* since February, 1877, to the Rev. W. G. Lyster, Cape Cove Gaspe, Canada East, will be glad to know if it is regularly received by him.

THE Lady who has sent *Church Bells* for more than a year to the Rev. A. J. Balfour Hatley, Quebec, Canada, would be glad to know if it has been received.

'A.'—We cannot give particulars of the Society spoken of; but if you like to repeat your query with your name and address, we will insert it.

A LETTER has been sent to us for 'M. C.,' whose letter appeared in *Church Bells* of Feb. 23. If she will send her name and address we will post it.

'A VICAR.'—You had better address your proposal to the Ecclesiastical Commissioners. Land is, however, generally considered the safest and best investment.

RECEIVED ALSO.—H. B.; A. P., and others.

ERRATUM.—'The Shadow of Lent' should have had attached to it the initials J. B. D.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Request from New South Wales.

SIR,—Will some of your kind readers, who are well up in such matters, oblige me with the following information?—

1st. What is considered the most correct way of chiming for service? I know there are as many different ways as differences of opinion. Is it proper to toll the tenor five minutes, and then chime ten minutes, rest five minutes, chime another ten minutes, and conclude with ringing the treble up and down for five minutes?

2nd. Is it considered out of place to ring changes for a wedding? Many of our ringers contend that in England nothing but rounds are rung for a wedding.

3rd. What is the most orthodox way of tolling for a death in the parish? I am told that, for a man, to strike every minute three times; for a woman, twice; for a child, once. Others say, three times three, three times two, three times one, and so on. I should like to know the universal plan (if any) adopted in England.

4th. Which is the most correct way of ringing muffled peals—say, for a ringer, or a distinguished member of a congregation? I have heard of many ways, but cannot say that I should like to offend the relatives or friends of the deceased by adopting any of them.

If any of your readers will favour me with their views on the above topics, they will much oblige a youthful ringer and subscriber in

SYDNEY, NEW SOUTH WALES.

Proposed Collection of Treble Bob Peals.

SIR,—During last year peals of Treble Bob were frequently forwarded to me, and my opinion on them—as to whether they were original peals or had previously been composed—was requested. Having all the published works on ringing, I was able, by searching through them, to tell whether any peal had already been printed. This, however, required a good deal of comparison; so, in order to facilitate reference, I made a collection of all the peals that had appeared in these printed works; each of these peals I reversed and arranged under a regular classification. As I have added to these peals many additional MS. ones which have come into my hands from various sources, I have thus obtained a very large and interesting collection. In any case when the same peal has appeared in more than one of these works, I have endeavoured to ascertain who was the original composer, and in all doubtful cases have given the matter the most careful consideration. It appears to me that the collection of peals I have already got together would be of very great use for reference to all Treble Bob composers, and would give a very large variety of the most musical compositions, from which conductors could select peals; and as it would, therefore, be well received by the 'Exercise,' it might be published without any considerable loss on the part of the publisher. Before, however, I proceed further with the consideration of publication I wish to have the collection as complete as possible, and shall, therefore, be much obliged to any one who will send me copies of any Treble Bob peals on eight, ten, and twelve bells, which have not already appeared in print. Peals by any of our old composers which may have been preserved by any one will be most gladly received. I shall also be glad to have the date on which any peals forwarded were first performed. When the collection is in a more complete state I shall then be able to form some estimate of the cost of publication, when I hope to be able to invite subscribers for that purpose.

Old Bank Chambers, Leeds.

JASPER W. SNOWDON.

SIR,—Would you kindly ask, through your valuable paper, if any person (a bell fancier) would oblige by informing me whether the two following, lately composed, peals (if I may so call them) be true or not?—

GRANDSIRE TRIPLES.

I.—2nd observation.		II.—2nd observation.	
1st half.	2nd half.	1st half.	2nd half.
1	1	5	5
2	5	1	5
3	5	5	2
2	5	2	1
1	2	5	5
5	5	5	5
5	5	5	5
2	1	1	2
5	2	2	5
5	3	5	1
5	2	—	—

4 times repeated. 4 times repeated.

4 times repeated. 4 times repeated.

Part ends.	Part ends.	Part ends.	Part ends.
2 5 3 7 4 6	2 4 3 6 5 7	2 7 3 4 5 6	2 4 6 5 3 7
2 7 5 6 3 4	2 6 4 7 3 5	2 6 7 3 5 4	2 5 7 6 4 3
2 6 7 4 5 3	2 7 6 5 4 3	2 5 6 7 3 4	2 6 3 7 5 4
2 4 6 3 7 5	2 5 7 3 6 4	2 4 5 6 7 3	2 7 4 3 6 5
2 3 5 4 7 6	2 3 4 5 6 7	2 3 5 4 7 6	2 3 4 5 6 7

Mr. John Holt's mid. single and end single is used in both peals.

Rochdale.

JAMES ADSHEAD.

Birmingham.

ON Tuesday evening, 26th ult., three of St. Philip's and one of St. Martin's rang upon the hand-bells (retained in hand), at the 'Globe' Inn, 1878 changes of Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. 1 min. E. A. Taylor, 1 and 2; R. Hunt, 3 and 4; J. Carter, 5 and 6; G. Wiseman, 7 and 8. This musical touch contained the 24 67's, 18 46's, and 12 74's. Composed and conducted by John Carter.

Durham Diocesan Association of Ringers.

THE Quarterly Meeting of this Association was held at the Cathedral, Durham, on Monday, Feb. 25, and was attended by ringers from Brancepeth, Durham Cathedral, Hurworth, Newcastle, North Shields, Stockton, Willington, and Winton, and also by the Rev. T. Irwin, Rector of Hurworth, the Rev. J. T. Fowler of Hatfield Hall, and the Rev. Canon Rogers, Precentor. The ringers went to the belfry shortly before twelve o'clock, and rang a few touches of Grandsire Triples until one, when they adjourned to the Half Moon Hotel for dinner, under the presidency of the Rector of Hurworth. After the service they rang a touch of 504 Grandsire Triples. Tenor, 36 cwt. The heavy bells, not being hung for the purpose, are not well adapted to change-ringing. The Dean expressed himself very pleased with the ringing, and has invited the Association to hold its Annual Meeting at the Cathedral.

ON Saturday, March 2, the Hurworth and Stockton-on-Tees members of this Association met at the Parish Church, Stockton, and rang a 720 Grandsire Minor in 26 minutes. The ringers were G. Garbutt, 1; G. F. Clarkson, 2; J. C. Thompson, 3; J. Gaines, 4; H. Thompson, 5; J. Hern, 6. Conducted by J. Gaines. Tenor, 12 cwt. After this a 360 Bob Minor was rung by G. Garbutt, 1; G. J. Clarkson, 2; W. Newton, 3; J. C. Thompson, 4; W. Stephenson, 5; H. Thompson, 6. After tea at the Vicarage, the ringers returned to the tower and rang some touches of Oxford Treble Bob and Bob Minor.

St. Matthew's, Bethnal Green, London.

ON Saturday, 2nd inst., the following members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang at the above church a peal of Grandsire Triples (Holt's ten-part), 5040 changes, in 2 hrs. 56 mins.:—G. Dorrington, 1; G. Clarke, 2; J. R. Haworth, 3; J. Pettit, 4; E. P. Debenham (first peal), 5; M. A. Wood, 6; T. Waller (first peal), 7; J. West, 8. Conducted by Mr. Wm. Wood.

THE RINGER'S PRIESTHOOD.

BELLS in the steeple, altar in the quire,
Distant as far as in the church can be:
Rev'rend the priest; but the poor ringer, he—
Why, he's a man that pulls a rope for hire.
Call his work priesthood! then will he aspire
To priestly reverence, as, yonder, see,
Cared for and trained, a white-robed ministry,
Mere village lads, disgrace not their attire.
Was not the hem of Aaron's robe all hung
With fair-wrought pomegranates, and golden bells
Which, as he went, their music round him flung?
So, when a greater Aaron comes to meet
His gathered people, Christian ringing swells
In pride of ordered art, to kiss His feet.

J. F.

Market Weighton, Dec. 6, 1877.

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.—We are afraid that many contributions of Belfry Tablets were destroyed in our late fire. If so, we shall be thankful for other copies.

RECEIVED ALSO.—Jno. Harris, and several others. No name has been sent with 'Long Lengths,' which we request.

was only constituted a part of that service at the Savoy Conference in 1661. This shows, if such demonstration were necessary, that though, of all occasions, it is the most fitting time to acknowledge our Baptismal promises, and our need of help to keep them faithfully, when we are about to receive that help, yet that part of 'Confirmation' is not an essential part. Therefore, until we have a separate form for those not baptized according to the rites of the Church of England (and perhaps, also, for those not confirmed till late in life), silence (unless the clergyman of the parish, under the direction of the Bishop, order it otherwise) would be the best means of escaping a difficulty which is principally in the form. We do not believe that any one, thus silent, would afterwards say, 'I made no promise verbally; I am not bound to anything.' If he (or she) really desire Confirmation, he will endeavour to make up for the loss of the form by the increased fervour with which he throws himself into the spirit of the service, and will, through the strength given him, feel as much obliged and bound to 'renounce, to believe, and to do,' as those who have acknowledged it openly and verbally. It is a dangerous thing to meddle with forms, but, in such a case as this, the danger is very slight compared with the benefit to be gained; namely, that of not driving away those who wish to serve our Master because they 'followed not with us' at the beginning. UNITAS.

SIR,—May I add a few words to what has already been said on this subject in *Church Bells*?

I presume that baptism by an unbaptized person is admitted to be invalid. If so, our Church's view is the wisest, and should be strictly adhered to. She allows the validity of baptism by a properly baptized layman in cases of extreme necessity, but discourages baptism by any but a priest or deacon. Her wish, therefore, would seem to be, that where lay-baptism has been administered, the child should be (hypothetically) re-baptized at the first opportunity by a priest or deacon, unless the baptism of the lay person who administered the sacrament can be traced back to a priest or deacon.

Her view seems the wisest, not in that she disallows lay-baptism, but because if lay-baptism were at all universal, it would be very difficult to be sure that the person who administered the sacrament had himself (or herself) been properly baptized, *i. e.* baptized by a baptized Christian.

The only case, then, in which it seems to me that hypothetical re-baptism could be dispensed with, is where the baptism of the baptizing person can be traced back (immediately or mediately through baptized laymen) to a priest or deacon of the Catholic Church, as this alone would insure in the baptizing person the essential condition of being himself (or herself) properly baptized. B. P.

Christian Reunion.

SIR,—Whilst Churchmen cannot but feel grateful to Earl Nelson for his efforts to promote union amongst all who call themselves Christians, no one can wish an idea to gain hold of Dissenters that the Church can meet them in any way contrary to her teaching; (i.) as to her orders, 'It is evident unto all men diligently reading the Holy Scripture and ancient authors that from the apostles' time there have been these orders of ministers in Christ's Church: Bishops, Priests, and Deacons;' and (ii.) as to her doctrine and sacraments: which are expressed in her creeds, articles, and catechisms.

Within these limits the Church, as 'a witness and a keeper of Holy Writ,' must act in her endeavours to win her erring children back to her fold.

Whilst thus we keep and hold fast the truth and Christian order in love, we must set forth, with the authority of Convocation, the meaning of those phrases and statements which are apt to be misunderstood by, and so become stumbling-blocks to, sectaries. And next, the admission of their preachers into holy orders must be made a much simpler and inexpensive one than at present. How many of their earnest preachers have a faith, and zeal, and knowledge of God's Word in their mother-tongue which would render them faithful ministers of Christ, even though they possess no knowledge of Greek, &c. Let nothing more than testimony of a good and holy life, with thorough knowledge of God's Word, be required, and many would come forward, far more than are now doing so, to fill the many voids. To obtain sufficient knowledge to be accepted to the office of deacon is now an expensive matter, much greater than many of these earnest men, longing for the ministry, can afford. And I am assured by one of the leading preachers of his denomination that many would seek admission into Holy orders, if it were not for the impediment of the expense. Let such men be admitted to the office of Deacon for a few years, and when deemed sufficiently experienced, be advanced to the Priesthood. I would not have them desert their present work or meeting-house, but have these licensed, and themselves regarded as general preachers in their circuits. The leavening influence of their teaching, their friendly intercourse with their clerical brethren, and their ministering in church, would, sooner or later, produce 'unity of spirit.'

These suggestions are offered in the hope that they may aid in some small degree the cause of Christ, that all His people may be 'one.' A. P.
Feb. 26, 1878.

Convocation and Seamen.

SIR,—The Report of Convocation scarcely recognised Episcopacy. I felt anxious to speak of the need of Episcopacy, but I have no wish to urge it except so far as it shall be likely to promote the object in view, *i. e.* the spiritual welfare of the seamen. But, as it seems to me that we made a sad blunder in Missionary work by not placing every large new enterprise under the headship of a Bishop, so, when I see excellent efforts being made at sea, and along the seaboard, for seamen under the guidance and headship of sundry very excellent men, I feel that it would be well if that head were a Bishop. I think so still, although I have no intention of ever mooting the matter again. G. V.

Church Guilds.

SIR,—I have been much disappointed in not being able to obtain any information on the subject of Guilds, in reply to the letter in your issue of Feb. 9th. I had hoped, that as it is stated that one of the special features of *Church Bells* was the record of the formation and proceedings of guilds or associations

for uniting Churchmen together, many of its readers would have been in a position, and would have been willing, to give us information on the subject. Surely there must now be many such associations of a moderate type, formed in different parts of the country, and a few hints from any of these would be doubly acceptable, as the result of practical experience. I should have thought, too, that some manual on the subject would ere this have been published, but I cannot learn that this is so: perhaps some of your readers may be more fortunate than myself.

I trust I shall not be trespassing too much on your space by asking you to insert this appeal, and any replies it may evoke. H. B. S. WOODHOUSE.
Plymouth, March 7, 1878.

SIR,—A month ago 'A. M. L.' asked if a billiard-table is desirable in a Working Man's Institute. Experience has proved, in several clubs, that a good bagatelle-table has as great attraction and is not attended by any evil results, provided there are regulations as to gambling and possession of the table, strictly enforced by the Committee, one of whom should always be within reach in case of disorder. P. W. C.

SIR,—Will you kindly allow me to suggest the formation of a Theological Lending Library, to be established in London, for the use and benefit of clergy of small means, who do not possess, and cannot procure, standard works or divinity? If necessary arrangements and regulations could be made, I would most gladly contribute a gift of books. L. B. W.

Elm Hall, Wanstead.

SIR,—Will you allow me, through your columns, to express my thanks to a subscriber who is kind enough to send me *Church Bells*? It is indeed a welcome visitor to my isolated Mission. A. H. WEEKS,

Rector of Queensbury, diocese of Fredericton
Bear Island, county of York, New Brunswick, Feb. 26th.

THE Lady who has sent *Church Bells*, since February, 1877, to the Rev. T. Richardson, New Liverpool, Quebec, Canada, will be glad to know if it is regularly received by him.

THE Lady who sends her copy of *Church Bells* every week to the Rev. V. Lush, Shortland, Auckland, will be glad to hear whether he has received it regularly during the past year.

[We did not contemplate being asked to insert so many inquiries like the preceding. We must ask those ladies, and others who are kind enough to send their copies of *Church Bells* to missionaries, to write direct to them in future, if they desire the receipt of the papers to be acknowledged.—ED.]

WELLESBORNE CHURCH.—We do not recall the account about which you inquire. Unless there are some features of marked general interest about the church it would not be suitable for our purpose.

RECEIVED ALSO.—H. B.; H. T. D.; Verax; and others.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Reply to Mr. Adshead.

SIR,—Mr. Adshead has inserted in your last number two peals of Grancire Triples, lately composed, with a request that some person—'a bell-fancier'—would inform him whether they are true or false.

I will deal first with peal No. 2. This peal is quite true, but it is merely a simple and easily-apparent variation of Holt's ten-part production. To illustrate the slight difference, a brief examination of the calling will only be necessary. Thus, for the first half of Holt's peal it is 1 2 5 5 1 5 2 5 5 5; and if the first of these three figures, 1 2 5, are transposed to the end, the calling of the peal by Mr. Adshead, lately composed, appears to view. The original by John Holt, coming, as is well known, into plain course at each part end of the first half, has a peculiar property which this variation does not possess.

Peal No. 1 is a variation (though a trifle more complicated) of John Reeves's, and the part ends are the same. But the manipulation to which his composition has been subjected in this instance causes it to be FALSE in every part. That this variation would not prove to be true is manifest when examining the first part, as the observation-bell is not retained in the hunt the requisite number of leads. Should Mr. Adshead feel disposed to make another attempt on the ten-part plan, I would take the liberty of informing him that it is absolutely requisite to have the observation-bell sixty times in each place throughout the peal: sixty leads in the hunt; sixty times each before; 4-5 up and down, and 6-7 up and down; and that without these qualifications his attempts will be futile. From the nature of these remarks it will be inferred, that should the observation-bell be in each of the above places six times in every part, the composition will in all probability run true. Six leads in the hunt the observation-bell must be; and should she fail in any of the other positions, or exceed the requisite number, the reversal of the calling in the sixth part will probably rectify it, providing there is no repetition in the first half. But after attaining success in this direction, the peal will still be Holt's, his plan being borrowed, divesting it of all originality, and, in a great many instances, to the detriment of the peal. Many, many variations can be effected in the same manner, but very few indeed will bear comparison with the admirable construction of John Holt's ten-part peal. Perhaps the variation by the distinguished composer I have above alluded to is equally as good, or, to some tastes, a better production; but the same remarks apply in this case—the plan is still Holt's, and his it will ever remain, HARVEY REEVES.

London, March 11th.

SIR,—Of Mr. Adshead's two peals, the first is false, the second is Holt's ten-part peal begun at a different course. J. W. S.

Where are the finest Bells?

SIR,—It would be a great advantage to some of your readers to know really where the finest bells do exist in this country. 'A Lover of Good Bells' says he thinks they are at Lavenham, Suffolk. For myself, I think they are at Holbeck, Yorkshire. Not only are the treble and tenor good toned, but the whole ring of eight is the most beautiful I have yet heard.

A LOVER OF GOOD RINGING AND GOOD BELLS.

Half-an-hour with the Ringers.

SIR,—If any of your readers have made any Sunday experiments in the belfry, they may assist others by stating in your columns how they have proceeded, and with what result.

V. T. S.

Correction.

SIR,—I have just received a letter from Mr. H. Reeves, of Walthamstow, pointing out inaccuracies in our date of Stedman's Triples, mentioned in your issue of February 23rd, and I hasten to inform you of the fact, so that no other Society may ring it as a true peal. My thanks are due to Mr. Reeves for his letter, as I have learnt more from it than I should if the peal had been taken for true.

EDWARD MATTHEWS.

110 Bond Street, Macclesfield.

Change-ringing at Bishop Ryder's Church, Birmingham.

On Saturday, 23rd ult., 5012 Grandsire Triples were rung by the following members of St. Martin's Society, in 2 hrs. 57 mins.:—J. Saunders, 1; H. Johnson, sen., 2; H. Johnson, jun., 3; J. Buffery, 4; H. Bastable, 5; S. Jarman, 6; F. H. James, 7; T. Edgehill, 8. The peal, which has never before been rung, was composed by Mr. W. Gordon, Stockport, who presented the privilege of first performance to Mr. H. Johnson and party, and it was rung by them as a compliment to the composer.

THE PEAL.

1st part.	3 4 2 5 6 7 — 4	6 4 2 7 3 5 — 5
	7 5 3 6 4 2 — 1	3 5 6 2 7 4 — 2
	6 5 7 2 3 4 — 5	2 5 3 4 6 7 — 5
	2 5 6 4 7 3 — 5	4 5 2 7 3 6 — 5
	7 3 2 6 4 5 — 2	7 5 4 6 2 3 — 5
	5 6 7 4 3 2 — 1	3 6 7 2 5 4 — 1
	4 6 5 2 7 3 — 5	5 4 3 7 2 6 — 2
	2 6 4 3 5 7 — 5	7 4 5 6 3 2 — 5
	3 6 2 7 4 5 — 5	6 4 7 2 5 3 — 5
	4 5 3 2 7 6 — 2	3 2 6 5 4 7 — 1
	4 2 5 6 3 7 — 1	7th part end.
3 times repeated produces	5 4 6 3 2 7	3 times repeated produces
2nd part end.	6 5 3 2 4 7	6 3 5 4 2 7
3rd part end.	3 6 2 4 5 7	5 6 4 2 3 7
4th part end.	6 2 3 4 5 7 — 4	4 5 2 3 6 7
	7 4 6 5 2 3 — 1	3 5 4 7 2 6 — 5
	5 4 7 3 6 2 — 5	2 6 3 4 7 5 — 2
	3 4 5 2 7 6 — 5	4 6 2 5 3 7 — 5
	7 6 3 5 2 4 — 2	5 6 4 7 2 3 — 5
	4 5 7 2 6 3 — 1	7 6 5 3 4 2 — 5
	2 5 4 3 7 6 — 5	3 2 4 5 7 6 — 1
	3 5 2 6 4 7 — 5	6 5 3 7 2 4 — 1
5th part end.	2 4 3 5 7 6 — 3	2 4 6 3 7 5 — 2
	6 5 2 7 4 3 — 1	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 — 1
	7 5 6 3 2 4 — 5	1 plain lead.
	3 5 7 4 6 2 — 5	
	2 4 3 6 5 7 — 1	
6th part end.		

Norwich Diocesan Association of Ringers.

On Saturday, 2nd inst., eight members of the above Association rang at All Saints' Church, Alburgh, Norfolk, Mr. John Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, containing 5040 changes, in 3 hrs. 3 mins. This is the first peal on these bells since the 8448 Oxford Treble Bob in 1852, and the first of Grandsire Triples ever rung on the bells. E. Smith, 1; W. Sheldrake, 2; G. Prime, 3; J. Smith, 4; R. Whiting, 5; G. Mobbs, 6; Captain Moore, 7; F. Smith, 8. Tenor, 24 cwt. Conducted by E. Smith.

On Wednesday, 6th inst., eight members of the Diss Branch of the above Association rang at St. Mary's Church 5040 changes of Bob Major, in 3 hrs. 15 mins. The peal, in five parts, is a composition of Mr. H. Hubbard. W. Ireland (conductor), 1; T. Ford, 2; J. Rudd, 3; W. Stevens, 4; E. Francis, 5; T. Preston, 6; W. Brown, 7; T. Clark, 8. Tenor, 24 cwt. in D.

Change-ringing at Ashton-under-Lyne, Lancashire.

On Saturday, 2nd inst., the ringers of St. Peter's Church in the above town, assisted by Mr. J. Johnson of Droydsden, rang a peal of Bob Major, containing 5600 changes, in 3 hrs. 30 mins. Composed and conducted by Mr. C. Thorp. J. Johnson, 1; J. Hopwood, 2; J. Mellor, 3; J. Stones, 4; G. Longden, 5; E. Hall, 6; J. Andrew, 7; C. Thorp, 8. Tenor, 20 cwt. in E.

Change-ringing at the Parish Church, Bolton, Lancashire.

On Saturday, 2nd inst., the ringers of the Parish Church rang Mr. E. Taylor's six-part peal of Grandsire Triples, consisting of 5040 changes, and which contains 194 bobs and 46 singles, with the sixth at home every 42 changes, and the sixth and seventh at home together every 210 changes, and the fifth, sixth, and seventh at home together every 840 changes (*vide* W. Shipway's *Campanalogia*, part 3, page 59) Time, 2 hrs. 50 mins. The ringing

of such a difficult peal as the above (also their first) is highly creditable to the six amateurs engaged in it, and also to their tutor, Mr. J. Eckersley, inasmuch as it is under two years since the oldest, and under one year since the youngest, first entered the tower to learn the art of Change-ringing. P. Ince (aged 19), 1; W. Davies (aged 21), 2; W. Holden (aged 21), 3; W. Burgum (aged 20), 4; J. Whitehead (aged 20), 5; J. May (aged 20), 6; J. Eckersley (conductor), 7; T. Wharton, 8. Tenor, 15½ cwt.

The Dedications of our Cathedrals.

In *Church Bells* of May 6, 1876, at page 266, I gave a list of Cathedral Dedications. I have since discovered—

ENGLAND.

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. Bath—also St. Saviour. | 7. Coventry—also Peter, Osburg, and All Saints. |
| 4. Carlisle—also Holy Trinity. | 8. Durham—also Christ and Mary. |
| 5. Chester—at first Peter and Paul; then Werberg and Oswald; now Christ and Mary. Old Cathedral, St. John, is now a parish church. | 16. Manchester—also Christ. |
| | 11. Gloucester—also Holy Trinity. |
| | 18. Oxford—Osney Abbey was the first Cathedral of this see. |
| | 29. Truro—St. Mary. |

WALES.

1. Bangor—not David, but Mary and Daniel.

SCOTLAND.

8. Fortrose—also Boniface. 13. Lismore—Moulac.

EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

1. Aberdeen—St. Andrew.

IRELAND.

7. Cashel—Old Cathedral in ruins on the rock of Cashel; new one built in the city. 22. Glendalough—Keven. 35. Old Ross is not in ruins.

COLONIAL CATHEDRALS.

[Those omitted I have not found out at present.]

INDIA.

- Calcutta—St. Paul. Bombay—St. Thomas. Madras—St. George.

CHINA.

- Hong Kong—St. John. Shanghai—Holy Trinity.

AFRICA.

- Capetown—St. George. Durban—St. Cyprian. Natal—St. Peter. Maritzburg—St. Saviour.

AUSTRALIA.

- Sydney—St. Andrew. Auckland—St. Paul. „ —St. Philip, N. S. W. Christchurch—Christ. Newcastle, Morpeth—St. James. Rupert's Land—St. John.

BRITISH NORTH AMERICA.

- Montreal—Christ. Huron (London)—Paul. Toronto—James. New Westminster—Stephen. [Ottawa—George.

UNITED STATES.

- | | |
|-------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Albany—All Saints | Garden City—Incarnation. |
| Easton—Christ. | Portland—Luke. |
| Tallahassee—John. | Faribault—Our Merciful Saviour. |
| Fond-du-Lac—Paul. | Omaha—Trinity. |
| Chicago—Peter and Paul. | Burlington—Mary. |
| Indianapolis—Paul. | Buffalo—Paul. |
| Davenport—Grace Church. | Dallas—Matthew. |

THE BELLS.

Rings of Twelve.—London (4); Worcester (4); York (2).

Rings of Ten.—Bath; Canterbury (2); Durham; Exeter (4); Hereford; Lichfield (1); Manchester; Oxford (2); Dublin, Christ Church (3); Long Island (3).

Rings of Eight.—Chester (2); Chichester (1); Gloucester (1); Lincoln (1); Ripon; St. Albans (1 extra, and 2 more in a detached campanile on the North side); Wells (6); Winchester; Dundee, St. Paul; Inverness; Cork; Dublin, St. Patrick's; Limerick; Londonderry; Waterford; Capetown; Sydney, N. S. W.; Melbourne; Auckland; Toronto (1); Fredericton; New Westminster; Quebec; Burlington (2).

Rings of Six.—Carlisle; Rochester; Dunkeld; Kilkenny; Madras; Trinidad; Sydney; Bathurst; Huron (London).

Rings of Five.—Ely; Norwich; Peterborough (formerly a ring of 10 here); Calcutta; Kingston, Jamaica.

Four Bells.—Bristol; Kirkwall; Galway; Hong Kong.

Three Bells.—Bangor (formerly a ring of 5, and 1 extra); St. David's (formerly a ring of 8); Brechin; Cumbrae; Natal.

Two Bells.—Salisbury (formerly a ring of 8 and 1 extra); Truro; Llandaff; St. Asaph (formerly a ring of 4).

Edinburgh—St. Giles' Cathedral (Established Church)—has a chromatic carillon of 23 bells.

Glasgow—St. Mungo's Cathedral (Established Church)—has 1 great bell. I do not know whether a ring also.

Those marked thus (1) are bells extra to the ring.

Those omitted I have not yet found out.

Bath, March 4, 1878.

JNO. HARRIS, C.E.

RECEIVED ALSO.—Daniel Prentice; Subscriber (no name sent); A. T. Moore; and others. Belfry Tablets requested

35 Wellington Street, Strand. It is open to members of the E. C. U., who pay a further small subscription to borrow volumes for a stated time.

W. T. H.

Noiseless Hearsette.

SIR,—Your Correspondent asking a substitute for the present unseemly, and (in infectious cases) dangerous practice of 'Bearers,' can procure the exact, and I can say from experience a *perfect* substitute, at a very moderate price, by applying to C. Williamson, High Street, Leighton Buzzard.

AN ESSEX RECTOR.

EARNEST.—We hope we shall not in any degree check the flow of *Church Bells* to Missionary Clergymen; but there were indications that the kind of query lately addressed to us would multiply indefinitely, and we were therefore obliged to suggest another way of obtaining the information desired. No doubt other occasions will arise for recommending the useful practice in question.

'A. J. P.'—If you had read our articles on the stage with the fairness which you claim for your own letter, you would have seen that they did not at all tend to the indiscriminate condemnation of the dramatic art, especially of the dramatic art of Shakespeare.

'S. A. S.' should give his name and address, that answers may be sent to him direct.

RECEIVED ALSO.—R. S.; D. L.; Lex; J. R. T.; A. H. Hamilton; R. M.; and others.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Where are the Finest Bells?

SIR,—A 'Lover of Good Ringing and Good Bells' asks your readers a question, to which, in my opinion, no one could ever give an answer at once decisive and satisfactory.

To settle which of our many beautiful rings excels all the others is a problem presenting greater difficulty than to determine to every one's satisfaction which is the finest picture that our galleries possess, or the most beautiful passage of poetry in the language.

I say 'greater difficulty,' because, in the case of these latter, any number of either may be brought into immediate juxtaposition, and so compared; a thing utterly impossible in the case of most bells.

Again, one can hardly find any two individuals that entertain precisely the same notions of what a fine bell or ring of bells ought to be, one paying more attention to one point, another to another; such as, for instance, mellowness of tone, or duration of sound. Nay, more, I am often at a loss to satisfy even myself as to which is the finer of two rings of bells, so different are the sensations that they excite, one possessing the beauty of joy and cheerfulness, the other that of solemnity.

Still, although I cannot pretend to say which is absolutely the finest ring of bells in this country, I may perhaps venture to name one or two beautiful rings of my acquaintance; viz. the ring of ten at Magdalen College; the ring of eight at Pershore, Worcestershire; and the last ten of the Painswick twelve.

One great beauty of the two first of these is the perfect proportion that exists between the several members of the ring; a peculiarity that suggests a question which one of your readers may be able kindly to answer.

Why are so many of our tenors cast disproportionately thick, so that even in rounds and 'tenor behind' they come with a slight crash on the rest, and when 'turned in' absolutely drown them?

I may perhaps be pardoned if, in availing myself of this opportunity, I intrude further, by asking two other questions on a totally different subject; one of which was recalled to my mind by Mr. Gordon's peal of Grandsire Triples in your last issue.

I think that I have read or heard of a peal of 5012 Grandsire Triples with ordinary bobs only. Can some one kindly give the calling thereof, or even tell me whether it has any existence or no? The other question concerns the whole peal of 5040. I know for a fact that several have abandoned the idea of attaining it with the common Grandsire Bob only. Is any one in a position to furnish mathematical or other conclusive proof of its impossibility?

CHARLES D. P. DAVIES.

Pembroke College, Oxford.

SIR,—In noticing the correspondence during the preceding weeks in your issue, I thought it would interest some of your readers to know where they really are. The rings at East Retford, Notts (tenor, 24 cwt.); St. Mary's, Sheffield, and St. Peter's, Nottingham (both tenors, 25 cwt.); and Youghal, Derbyshire (tenor, 26 cwt.), are acknowledged by all who have heard them to be the finest rings in the kingdom.

COLLEGE YOUTH.

Muffled Peals at Mytton, Yorkshire.

On the 24th ult. a band of ringers met at the parish church and rang two peals of 720 Grandsire Minor in 26 mins., as a token of respect for John Altham, of Mytton. R. Embley (conductor), 1; E. Whitehead, 2; J. Dwarden, 3; J. Martin, 4; J. Houlding, 6; W. Boothman, 6. Tenor, 11 cwt.

Date Touch at St. Mary's, Leicester.

On Thursday evening, 28th ult., was rung on the above bells, in 1 hr. 9 mins., 1878 Grandsire Triples, by the following members of St. Margaret's Society:—E. De Quincey, 1; G. Burrows, 2; J. Wilson, 3; T. Wilson (conductor), 4; W. Cooper, 5; S. Cooper, 6; J. Cooper, 7; W. Walker, 8. Tenor, 17 cwt.; key F.

Change-ringing at Clyst St. George, Devonshire.

On Monday, 4th inst., the ringers of St. Sidwell's, Exeter, paid their respects to the venerable Rector, and, with his kind permission, assembled in the belfry, where they rang six peals of six-score Grandsire Doubles, also one peal of 720 Grandsire Minor, in 27 mins. H. Swift, 1; S. B. Peardon, 2; W. H. Marsh, 3; C. D. Daniel, 4; W. C. Marsh (conductor), 5; W. B. Fulford, Esq., 6. Tenor, 13 cwt. They were afterwards refreshed with tea, &c., at the Rectory, and returned to Exeter by the last train.

Change-ringing at Gargrave, Yorkshire.

On Tuesday, 5th inst., the Gargrave Society of Change-ringers rang a touch of 2520 changes in the following seven methods, in 1 hr. 40 mins.:—New London Pleasure, Duke of York, Craven Delight, Kent, Violet, Oxford, and Bob Minor. H. Shackleton, 1; R. Brown, 2; C. Lancaster, 3; W. Mallinson, 4; J. T. Middlebrook, 5; J. McKell, 6. Conducted by G. T. Middlebrook. The first six were Treble Bob even. Tenor, 16 cwt.

Change-ringing at St. Mary-le-Tower, Ipswich.

On Tuesday evening, 5th inst., eight members of the Ipswich Society, and also members of the Norwich Diocesan Association of Ringers, attempted to ring Mr. Taylor's six-part peal of Grandsire Triples, 24 courses, with 194 bobs and 46 singles. After ringing upwards of 4800 changes, unfortunately two of the bells got shifted, so that they had to jump into rounds. D. Prentice, 1; W. Catchpole, 2; R. Hawes, 3; H. Bowell, 4; H. Taylor, 5; W. Kemp, 6; E. Reeve, 7; E. Pemberton, 8. Conducted by D. Prentice. Time, 3 hrs. 27 mins. Tenor, 32 cwt.

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

CENTENARY of the great peal of 10,260 Grandsire Caters, rung at this church, March 3rd, 1778, in 7 hrs. 22 mins. Conducted by W. D. Crofts, solicitor.—On Thursday, 7th inst., the ringers of St. Mary's commemorated the above event by ringing a peal of 5219 Grandsire Caters (*Clavis*). This company having all been taught to ring by the conductor, and this being his last peal, it may be here remarked that it was as a mark of respect to him as well as commemorating the above. The ringers were—G. H. Johnson, 1; L. Denman, 2; J. Hickman, 3; A. Archer, 4; W. E. Holroyd, 5; G. Ashworth, 6; W. Widdowson, 7; W. Taylor, 8; A. Smith, 9; W. Lee and A. W. Sadler, 10. Conducted by W. Widdowson. Time, 3 hrs. 27 mins. Tenor, 34 cwt.

Change-ringing at St. Nicholas, Liverpool.

On Tuesday, 12th inst., the ringers of the above church rang a true peal of Grandsire Cinques, consisting of 5015 changes, in 3 hrs. 36 mins. J. Heron, jun., 1; I. Meadows, 2; A. Heron, 3; J. H. Moore, 4; W. Woodhead, 5; W. Heron, 6; H. Brooks, 7; G. Helsby, 8; T. Hammond, 9; J. Egerton, 10; W. Littler, 11; R. Thistlewood and T. Metcalf, 12. Tenor, 41 cwt. Composed and conducted by J. Heron, jun.

Change-ringing at Barnsley, Yorkshire.

On Tuesday evening, 12th inst., eight members of the St. Mary's Change-ringing Association rang at St. Mary's Church, in 1 hr. 10 mins., a date touch of 1878 changes on Grandsire Triples. Composed by Mr. T. Lockwood and conducted by G. S. Tyas. J. T. Bailey, 1; J. Goodworth, 2; J. Frost, 3; W. Richardson, 4; W. Ellis, 5; R. Sparks, 6; G. S. Tyas, 7; H. Pease, 8. Tenor, 16 cwt.

West Bromwich, Staffordshire.

On Saturday, 16th inst., a company of ringers met at Mr. Carter's, Churchfield, and rang upon hand-bells (retained in hand) Holt's original one-part peal of Grandsire Triples, with the two singles in the last four leads, in 2 hrs. 35 mins. G. A. Taylor, 1, 2; J. Carter, 3, 4; W. Bryant, 5, 6; J. Tinsley, 7, 8. It is the first ever rung in the county upon hand-bells.

A Correction.

SIR,—I see it stated in *Church Bells* of last week that Durham Cathedral has a ring of ten bells. There are only eight bells there, the tenor of which is reputed to be 36 cwt., in the key of D (old concert pitch). There is no ring of either ten or twelve in the diocese of Durham.

G. J. CLARKSON,

Secretary to the Durham Diocesan Association of Ringers.

Stoke Climsland, Devon.

In reply to the Rector we desire to say, that there can be no objection to 'ups and downs and rounds and rounds' before the services; in truth, they are more after the ancient practice than change-ringing, which is of comparatively modern introduction. What we object to is the offering of prizes for any ringing. All the best ringers in England confess that pleasure-ringers for money never make out anything. It must be studied and practised as a labour of love.—ED.

Yorkshire Association of Change-ringers.

At a committee meeting on the 16th inst., it was decided that the April meeting at Leeds should be held on Easter Monday, instead of the Saturday in that week. Arrangements were also made for a peal of Treble Bob Maximus, to be attempted during the morning.

'ED. MATTHEWS, Macclesfield.'—We do not know anything of the communication to which you refer unless it be an article on 'Long Lengths,' sent to us without a signature, for which we have more than once asked.

RECEIVED ALSO.—Worcester Belfry Records. Name of the writer of 'Long Lengths' requested. Thos. Platt; T. Maude; and others.

about their play, and the kind of things said and done therein; . . . and they informed him that Athanasius was their bishop and director, and that he had baptized some of the lads who were unchristened. Of these Alexander made careful inquiry what had been asked of them or done to them by him who was priest in their name, and what they answered and were taught to say. And finding that all the order of the Church had been accurately observed in their case, he deemed, on consulting with the priests about him, that there was no need to re-baptize such as had once for all received the grace of God in simplicity. Only he performed for them the other ceremonies which the priests alone may lawfully minister in the Sacraments. Moreover, Athanasius and the other boys, who in their sport were priests and deacons, he commended to their respective kinsmen, calling God to witness, to be nurtured for the Church, and trained to that which they had enacted.—SOZOMEN, *Ecc. Hist.* i. 17.

S. R. H. N.

The Agony on the Cross.

SIR,—It has become a fashion of late to speak of 'The Three Hours' Agony,' and I believe services have been compiled bearing that title and intended to last for that time. But surely the agony lasted *six* hours and not three only. St. Mark is clear on this point: 'It was the third hour, and they crucified Him' (xv. 25). 'And when the sixth hour was come, there was darkness over all the land until the ninth hour. And at the ninth hour Jesus cried, &c.' (v. 33, 34). There can, therefore, be no doubt that Jesus was on the cross from the third to the ninth hour of the day. Is there any reason for thinking that His 'agony' did not commence until the sixth hour? For the last two years I have distributed the Seven Last Words over the whole six hours, but I should like to know if I have been wrong.

A. H. HAMILTON.

SIR,—Will any of the readers of *Church Bells* kindly inform me what beverage is provided for the performers at parochial concerts in those parishes where the Church-of-England Temperance Society is at work? The scent of coffee makes it objectionable, and tea is bad for the voice.

R. M.

THE REV. W. KILDahl, Townsville, North Queensland, is requested to say whether he has regularly received *Church Bells*.

'J.'—The view of the Church of England on the validity of baptism by a baptized layman is discussed in an interesting manner in Blunt's *Duties of the Parish Priest*, Lecture x. Hooker also deals with the question at some length, but neither of them ventures to speak with absolute positiveness on the matter.

'H. K.' has raised a question of too great intricacy and difficulty to be treated in these columns. We can only refer her to commentators (who, however, will be found at variance on the subject), to Smith's *Dictionary of the Bible*, and to other similar works.

JOHN SPENCER.—If you like to send a good photograph of the church named, and an account of it, we will consider whether it is suitable.

'J. L. G.'—We have forwarded your letter to our reviewer.

RECEIVED ALSO.—M. A. Nicholl; H. Sharrock; S. R. H. N.; Cornubia; and others.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Where are the Finest Bells?

SIR,—In my letter published March 2nd, asking where are the best bells, I naturally expected very wide answers, knowing that many persons become so accustomed to the sounds they constantly hear that they really believe there is nothing else so good. I now wish to make a few remarks after reading the very sensible letter from Charles D. P. Davies in your last issue. I have only lately given my attention to the subject of bells, but I know from long experience in other matters that comparison is the only true test. I think, however, it may be admitted that a ring of bells should form something of an equivalent to the strings of a pianoforte, or the diapason of an organ, or any other musical sounds which form the groundwork of an instrument, and which tone has to be heard oftenest and for the greatest length of time. Such sounds must possess certain harmonies in certain proportions to be pleasant, and I quite agree with Mr. Davies, that I do not feel the bell-founders of the last hundred years have been right in trying to get the treble and tenor so extra large and out of proportion with the others that they should 'commence with a crash and finish with a bang.' Supposing it to be bearable for round-ringing, it cannot be right for changes. I believe, as far as my small experience has gone, that a ring of bells should have a properly proportioned scale, the same as a keyed musical instrument. I think the older bell-founders took somewhat this view, as their scales appear to have been better managed.

Perhaps the greatest evil of all is in the fact that, in most rings, two bells of an exactly corresponding curve cannot be found, for which reason bells are often more out of harmony than out of tune (by which I mean, do not correspond with each other in their harmonic tones). I know a ring of ten, having a fair repute, cast by an eminent firm, the scale of which being put upon a rod shows itself to be of the very worst description: a large, thick, fluty treble; third and fourth within a quarter of an inch of the same size, the fourth being hacked to pieces to flatten it to something like its note; the ninth and tenth twice the proper distance apart they should be, to correspond with the eighth and ninth; the ninth very fluty; and the eighth and tenth crazy in the extreme.

A LOVER OF GOOD BELLS.

Reply to Mr. Davies.

SIR,—It is curious and somewhat amusing to note the high character and splendid musical properties awarded to many rings of bells throughout the country by the inhabitants of the respective parishes which may be fortunate

enough to possess them. 'Our bells are one of the finest peals in England!' I have often heard remarked by those who were living in blissful ignorance of the defects of the molten voices of their parish steeples; and the weight and measurement of the bells, especially the former, are frequently the subjects of great exaggeration by uninformed persons, creating, in many instances, no small wonder and amazement amongst their auditors.

It is the prevailing opinion that the most musical ring of twelve is at St. Michael's, Cornhill, which vies with St. Peter's of Norwich in beauty of tone; and none of the recent 'twelves' are said to be so grand a peal as the one in question. For a ring of ten, those at St. Michael's, Coventry, surpass all I have heard, and old ringers, who are more competent to form an opinion than I am, agree with me in this respect. For rings of eight, St. Botolph, Aldgate, St. Stephen, Westminster, and St. John, South Hackney, are said to be very harmonious. I have frequently heard of the Lavenham Bells, the tenor of which is said to be a most extraordinary bell; but her companions not coming up to her standard, the exceedingly beautiful tone of the tenor is somewhat marred. This, however, I am not prepared to maintain, as I merely get the information secondhand.

I quite agree with Mr. Davies that the ring at Pershore Abbey are indeed splendid bells. Of this I can speak from personal experience, having spent a pleasant hour or two in the belfry. One of the most peculiar ringing-chambers—if chamber it can, indeed, be called—exists in this steeple. Each of the floors, right up to the one immediately beneath the bells, has been taken out of the tower, and to prevent the ringers standing in the porch, a veritable cage, consisting of wood and ironwork, is placed at a respectful distance from the bells, and the ringers, being in a position able to be witnessed by the clergy and congregation, seem to be literally suspended from the ceiling above them. A most complicated mode of ascent is required to get into this cage, appalling to those timorous and nervous mortals who may have a tendency to labour under their own obesity. The ring of eight at St. Helen's, in the city of Worcester, has always been considered a most musical octave; but this being the place where I essayed my infant skill, I had better leave to some one else, who may perhaps be more impartial, to sing their praises. It may be noted, that upon each of these bells appears a rhythmical couplet commemorative of the victories obtained by Marlborough in the reign of Anne. They are said to be a maiden peal.

With regard to the questions which Mr. Davies asks concerning the 5012 Grandsire Triples, I beg to inform him that in Shipway's *Art of Ringing* he will find a peal of the same number by Mr. Stephen Hill, of Kidderminster, but that peal has a peculiar kind of 'Single.' I know of no other peal, nor has there been one produced yet, without a variation in some way or other from the ordinary 'Bob.' I am of opinion, however, that the condition of the courses of the changes in Grandsire Triples does not preclude the possibility of an entire peal being produced by 'Bobs' only, though as yet this point has never been attained.

HARVEY REEVES.

Muffled Peal at St. James's, Tong, Yorkshire.

ON Tuesday, 12th inst., a deeply muffled peal of 720 changes of Oxford Treble Bob was rung in 26 mins., at the above church, as a tribute of respect to the memory of a late ringer of the Company, Edward Oddy, of Bowling, near Bradford. T. Roberts, 1; W. Sugden, 2; E. Webster, 3; J. Ross, 4; G. Carter (conductor), 5; G. Bolland, 6. Tenor, 12 cwt.

Change-ringing at Ashchurch, Gloucestershire.

ON Tuesday, 19th inst., the Ashchurch Society of Change-ringers rang 720 Grandsire Minor in 25 mins. T. Hampton, 1; W. Hampton, 2; T. Cummings, 3; C. Slatter, 4; T. Bayliss, 5; E. Wallace (conductor), 6. This is the first peal of the four first-named ringers, who are all under twenty-one, and the first peal of the Society, which has only been ringing five weeks.

Change-ringing by the Yorkshire Association at Ilkley.

ON Wednesday, 20th inst., during the ceremony of the consecration of the cemetery at Ilkley by the Bishop of Ripon, the Society rang 5040 changes of Bob Triples, in 2 hrs. 55 mins. 33 secs. J. Beaulands, 1; E. Batty, 2; J. Lockwood, 3; R. Tuke, 4; H. Hubbard, jun., 5; T. Lockwood, 6; J. W. Snowden, 7; A. Critchley, 8. The peal was composed by the late B. Annable, and conducted by Tom Lockwood. Tenor, 18 cwt.

Ancient Society of College Youths.

ON Thursday, 21st inst., the late Mr. John Holt's original one-part peal of Grandsire Triples, comprising 5040 changes, was rung at St. Matthew's, Upper Clapton, London, in 2 hrs. 59 mins. F. Rumens (first peal), 1; E. Clark, 2; J. Carmichael (first peal), 3; W. G. Clark, 4; R. Turner (first peal), 5; C. H. Jessop, 6; J. Pettitt (conductor), 7; H. Page, 8.

[Cannot our belfry friends, in London and elsewhere, practise a little self-denial during Lent, as is being done by other eminent ringers in the North?—An example worthy of imitation.—ED.]

Durham Diocesan Association of Ringers.

ON Tuesday, 26th inst., eight members of the North Shields Branch of the above Association rang on Christ Church bells, North Shields, a quarter peal of Grandsire Triples in 45 mins. R. Smith, 1; J. Gibson, 2; W. H. Park, 3; W. Waugh, 4; J. Coulson, 5; W. Reed (conductor), 6; R. Armstrong, 7; S. Knott, 8. Tenor, 19 cwt.

Ringling at St. Mary's, Nottingham.

WE omitted to mention, in our last issue, that our correspondent regretted that the ringing should have taken place in Lent, but it was to celebrate the centenary of a great peal rung on the same date in 1778.

NOTICE.—The author of 'Long Lengths' is requested to send his name and address, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

RECEIVED ALSO.—Bob Major; Timothy; X. Y. Z. (without any name); T. Wylde; C. Gregory; F. Osam; E. Matthews; A. Robeson; H. Bastable. Editors have the privilege of refusing, selecting, and abridging, as they think most suitable to their publications.

I went the silent Friends to see,
And there no bells could ring;
For how can any music be
Where nobody will sing?
But as we all were sitting hushed,
Uprose a Sister grey,
And said, with face a little flushed,
'This is a sunny day,
And Jesus is our inward light
To guide us on our way.'
'Ah! yes,' said I, 'this Sister pure
The old glad tidings tells;
And here, too, I am very sure
I've found a church with bells.'

Then by a door I heard men say,
'He is not "sound," we fear.'
Thought I, before I turn away
I'll try if bells are here.
'Quit you like men,' a strong voice cried,
'Not hang the bulrush head;
Our fathers' God is by our side,
For truth our fathers bled.
Let no man sell his liberty
For butter or for bread.'
Said I, 'That's no unholy note,
How loud and clear it swells!
St. Paul's a stirring man to quote,—
This too 's a church with bells.'

Oh, I have got of sweet bells eight,
And you may have the same;
I ring them early, ring them late,
And know them each by name:—
There's Faith, and Hope, and Love, and Peace,
And Joy, and Liberty,
And then, before the chime can cease,
Patience and Victory.
Come, neighbour, listen to the bells
That ring for you and me;
When windy skies are all aflame,
Of Rest their chiming tells.
We've never been since Jesus came
In want of Heavenly Bells.

THOMAS T. LYNCH,
In 'Memorials of Theophilus Trinal.'

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Where are the Finest Bells?

Sir,—Being a Norfolk man, my opinion on the point may not be considered much. I have, however, heard the rings of St. Peter's, Mancroft, Norwich, and St. Michael's, Cornhill, London, and for musical qualities consider the former the better of the two. This is, I believe, the opinion of several London ringers who have visited and rung upon the Norwich twelve. Ten-bell rings I leave out of the question; but if the opinion of London ringers could be taken on the point, St. Andrew's, Holborn, would, I think, have the preference of the London rings of eight.

In reply to Mr. Davies concerning Grandsire Triples, my opinion is—and I have given the subject some little attention—that the whole peal, obtained by means of common bobs only, is simply impossible. My reasons are as follows—but in attempting an explanation I must quote both the *Clavis* and Shipway.

Describing Grandsire Triples, Shipway says (page 49, part 3rd):—'It is in this method necessary to call or omit five (viz. places or changes), for if 284567 is called, so must 346572; and then 467523, which causes 672534 to be called; and this requires 723546. In like manner, if one be omitted, so must the five,' &c. It should be known that each of these changes has four concomitant changes, each of which requires the same attention, &c., until the 360 lead ends are absorbed. But the 'rub' is, if all are called or omitted as described, the inevitable repetition takes place before the extent of the changes of any bell is obtained.

Clavis has it thus, not concerning Grandsire Triples, but of Bob Major (page 98):—'There is another observation to be made, which is, when 5-6 come home the first time they are omitted; the next time they come home they are called, which is the grand reason you cannot come round at the sixty courses, which has been so long the wonder and study of the curious; for if they could be either all called or omitted, the thing would soon be done,' &c. Although it may not seem the case, yet Bob Major and Grandsire Triples in this respect are one and the same.

Holt, in his one-part peal, staved off the inevitable single as long as he could, and gained the longest length to come round in the ordinary method; and Shipway did the same in his '*Ne plus ultra*,' before deviating from the method, by using the sixth-place bob.

This, Sir, may or may not appear to be the required proof. Therefore, I would advise those who wish to pursue the subject further to get Shipway's peal, and prick down the lead ends of each part until the sixth-place bobs are used, and from that point try by the ordinary means to bring up the required part-ends without a repetition. Failing in that, try the above changes as part-ends of a peal; they will answer that purpose admirably, and so long as the observation-bell ('the fifth') is put into the hunt (12) the proper number of leads in each part, no notice need be taken of calls or omits, changes, concomitant or otherwise. The only thing to prevent is a repetition of changes; and the result will be the one required, I doubt not, be it considered mathematically or otherwise conclusive.

London.

H. DAINS, *Royal Cumberland Youths*.

Change-ringing at the Town Hall, Manchester.

On Tuesday, 19th ult., the Society of the Town-hall Ringers rang 1435 changes, the greatest length yet rung on these bells, in 1 hr. W. Cross, 1; W. Rose, 2; J. Winterbottom, 3; T. Brashaw, 4; R. Yates, 5; J. Grimshaw, 6; J. Openshaw, 7; J. Eachus, 8; Jno. Withers and Jos. Withers, 9; J. Moores and T. Ogden, 10. Composed and conducted by W. Cross. Tenor, 52 cwt.

Change-ringing at the Parish Church, Wigan, Lancashire.

On Saturday, 23rd ult., the ringers of the above church rang their first peal, viz. Mr. John Holt's ten-part Grandsire Triples, in 3 hrs. 12 mins. J. Prescott (tutor and conductor), 1; S. Turner, 2; I. Layland, 3; W. Bentham, 4; E. Bentham, 5; S. Hall, 6; J. W. Hall, 7; G. C. Hall, 8; R. Tyson and G. Linkman, 9. Tenor, 28 cwt.

Change-ringing at St. Mary-le-Port, Bristol.

On Tuesday, 26th ult., nine members of the united Societies of St. Mary Redcliffe and St. James's ringers rang at St. Mary-le-Port a peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples in 2 hrs. 45 mins. T. Salter, 1; W. Dowling, 2; C. Thomas, 3; G. Morgan, 4; W. Thomas, 5; R. Knill, 6; J. Brain, 7; J. Price and G. Hunt, 8. The peal has six parts, each part consisting of 840 changes, the sixth bell being the observation-bell, and contains 178 bobs and 62 singles. Composed and conducted by Mr. T. Salter.

St. Michael's, Hernhill.

As reported in *Church Bells* last week, the pretty little church of Hernhill, near Faversham, has been restored. We are glad to learn that in the work of restoration the bells have not been overlooked, but have been rehung and put into proper repair. The tower contains five very good bells, and upon them are the names of 'Henry Poole, vicar; William Mears, William Couch, John Johncock, Churchwardens, 1785.'

RECEIVED ALSO.—Tewkesbury Tablets; A. Robeson; P. Latham; West Yorkshire Tittums (no Name); Thos. Platt; C.

BELFRY RECORDS.

CHRIST CHURCH, WEST BROMWICH.

(Tablets in the Belfry.)

992. On Dec. 8th, 1861, a Peal of Grandsire Triples, 5040, in 2 hours and 47 minutes. The Peal is in 12 parts, the 7th the observation. Composed and conducted by Solon. Biddlestone.

Wm. Dewson, <i>Treble</i> .	John Hares, <i>Fourth</i> .	Saml. Parkes, <i>Sixth</i> .
Charles Bassett, <i>Second</i> .	James Lees, <i>Fifth</i> .	Solon. Biddlestone, <i>Seventh</i> .
James Bowker, <i>Third</i> .		Daniel Horton, <i>Tenor</i> .

993. On the 4th March, 1866, on the front eight of the twelve, a Peal of Grandsire Triples, 5040 changes in 2 hours and 30 minutes. Tenor, 9 cwt. The peal is in eight parts, with 202 bobs and 46 singles. Composed and conducted by Solon. Biddlestone.

Wm. Woodhall, <i>Treble</i> .	Wm. Beeson, <i>Fourth</i> .	Charles Shelley, <i>Sixth</i> .
Samuel Reeves, <i>Second</i> .	Henry Lawton, <i>Fifth</i> .	Solon. Biddlestone, <i>Seventh</i> .
George Parker, <i>Third</i> .		William Joy, <i>Tenor</i> .

994. RANG Octr. 14th, 1872, a Peal of West Bromwich Grandsire Triples, 5040 changes, in 2 hrs. and 44 mins.

Thomas Horton, <i>Treble</i> .	John Hares, <i>Fourth</i> .	Chas. Shelley, <i>Sixth</i> .
Charles Bassett, <i>Second</i> .	Wm. Beeson, <i>Fifth</i> .	Solon. Biddlestone, <i>Seventh</i> .
Wm. Elismore, <i>Third</i> .		Thos. Williams, <i>Tenor</i> .

The Bobs are made when the Treble is in second's place, with the bell in the hunt going up before the Treble. Composed and conducted by Solon. Biddlestone.

ST. JAMES'S, HULL. (Tablets in the Belfry.)

995. A Complete Peal of Grandsire Triples, consisting of 5040 changes, was rung on the Bells in this Steeple on Tuesday, August 2nd, 1842, by the following Youths, being the first Company appointed as St. James's Stated Ringers.

William Petty, <i>Treble</i> .	Thomas Newlove, <i>Fourth</i> .	Charles Petty, <i>Sixth</i> .
Joseph Harper, <i>Second</i> .	Edward Ackrell, <i>Fifth</i> .	James Ackrell, <i>Seventh</i> .
Thomas Stowe, <i>Third</i> .		Joseph Brown, <i>Tenor</i> .

The peal was brought round true and in neat style in two hours and forty-eight minutes, in the presence of William Knight, Minister.

996. On Tuesday, October the 24th, 1845, a Peal of Kent Treble Bob Major, consisting of 5088 Changes, was rung on the Bells in this Steeple by the following Youths, and was brought round in three hours and six minutes.

William Petty (Conductor),	Thomas Newlove, <i>Fourth</i> .	Charles Petty, <i>Sixth</i> .
Joseph Harper, <i>Second</i> .	Edward Ackrell, <i>Fifth</i> .	James Ackrell, <i>Seventh</i> .
Robert Petty, <i>Third</i> .		James Taylor, <i>Tenor</i> .

997. On Saturday, December 10th, 1848, another Peal of Kent Treble Bob Major, comprising 5440 changes, was rung on the same Bells, and was brought round true and in neat style in three hours and fourteen minutes, by the St. James's Company of Change-ringers, viz. —

William Petty (Conductor),	Thomas Newlove, <i>Fourth</i> .	Charles Petty, <i>Sixth</i> .
Joseph Harper, <i>Second</i> .	Edward Ackrell, <i>Fifth</i> .	James Ackrell, <i>Seventh</i> .
Robert Petty, <i>Third</i> .		Patrick Christie, <i>Tenor</i> .

N.B.—This is the first peal of the same length ever rung by an East Riding Company. Weight of Tenor, 15 cwt.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

A Musical Touch of Stedman, having Whittington's Tittums and Queen's-Hunts, 147.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	6	7	4	5	1	2	3	S	4th six.
-	2	4	1	5	3	6	7	2	1	4	3	7	5	6	B 13th six.
S	4	6	2	1	5	3	7	2	1	3	5	4	6	-	-
-	4	6	1	5	2	3	7	2	1	6	3	4	5	-	-
-	5	7	6	4	3	2	1	2	1	5	6	4	3	-	-
-	5	7	4	3	6	2	1	5	1	2	3	4	6	-	-
-	7	3	5	6	4	2	1	5	1	6	2	4	3	-	-
-	6	1	4	2	7	3	5	6	1	5	3	4	2	-	-
-	6	1	2	3	4	5	4	13	6	1	2	5	4	3	-
-	6	1	5	2	4	3	-	-	6	1	3	2	4	5	-
-	6	1	3	5	4	2	-	-	3	1	6	5	4	2	-
-	3	1	6	2	4	5	-	-	3	1	2	6	4	5	-
-	3	1	5	6	4	2	-	-	3	1	5	2	4	6	7
-	5	1	3	2	4	6	-	-	1	3	2	5	4	7	6
-	5	1	6	3	4	2	-	-	3	1	2	4	5	6	7
-	5	1	2	6	4	3	-	-	3	2	1	5	4	7	6
-	2	1	5	3	4	6	-	-	2	3	1	4	5	6	7
-	2	1	6	5	4	3	-	-	2	1	3	5	4	7	6
-	2	1	3	6	4	5	-	-	1	2	3	4	5	6	7

WEST YORKSHIRE.

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

On the 25th ult., Mr. Holt's original one-part peal of Grandsire Triples (with two singles in the last four leads), comprising 5040 changes, was rung at the above church in 3 hrs. 11 mins. G. Birstall, 1; G. Palmer, 2; J. W. Rowbotham, 3; C. H. Hattersley, 4; W. Ellis, 5; C. Steer, 6; T. Hattersley (Conductor), 7; R. H. Pease, 8. Tenor, 25 cwt.

Change-ringing by the Ancient Society of College Youths.
(Established 1637.)

On Saturday, 30th ult., eight members of the above Society visited Croydon, and rang at the church of St. John a true peal of Grandsire Triples (Holt's one-part peal), consisting of 5040 changes, in 3 hrs. 23 mins. It was called by Mr. H. W. Haley, and is the first peal on the bells. Tenor, 31 cwt.; key E. H. W. Haley, 1; W. Cooter, 2; G. Mash, 3; G. Muskett, 4; M. A. Wood, 5; E. Horrex, 6; J. M. Hayes, 7; T. Bugby, 8.

On the 1st inst., at St. James's, Bermondsey, ten members of the above Society rang a peal of Grandsire Caters, containing 5220 changes, in 3 hrs. 27 mins. J. Pettit, 1; G. Mash, 2; R. French, 3; S. Reeves, 4; G. Dorrington, 5; T. B. Hall, 6; F. Bate, 7; E. Horrex, 8; J. M. Hayes, 9; T. Bugby, 10. Composed by Mr. H. Hubbard and conducted by Mr. J. Pettit.

Muffled Peal.

On Monday evening, 8th inst., eight of the members of the St. Mary-le-Tower Society of Change-ringers rang a date touch of Grandsire Triples in 1 hr. 20 mins., as a mark of respect to the late Mr. John Bateman, being a member of the old Society, consisting of all the 'four sixes' and 'six fours' that can be obtained in the revolution of that method. The start was borrowed from Mr. Jordan. D. Prentice (composer and conductor), 1; W. Meadows, 2; I. Alexander, 3; H. Bowell, 4; R. Hawes, 5; W. Kemp, 6; E. Pemberton, 7; E. Reeve, 8.

Norwich Diocesan Association of Ringers.

A DISTRICT Meeting will be held at Beccles on Monday, May 6th. Members wishing to attend should communicate with the Secretary as soon as possible, mentioning the stations from which they will travel.

Tunstead Vicarage, Norwich. G. H. HARRIS, Hon. Sec.

A Question.

SIR,—Can any of your readers inform me why Mr. Taylor's peal of Grandsire Triples, with 194 bobs and 46 singles, is not a variation of the peal given at page 66 of the *Clavis*, the 6th (the observation in each peal) being at home every 42 changes, 6 7 every 210 and 5 6 7 every 840? F. PITSTOW, Saffron Walden.

Samuel and Robert Turner, Bell-hangers.

IN 1770 these two brothers had hung more than fifty rings of bells for Messrs. Lester and Pack of Whitechapel; this appears by a list published by them at the above date. They were employed all over England. Does any reader of *Church Bells* possess a copy, and if so, will he part with it to Clyst St. George, Devon. H. T. ELLACOMBE?

Vote of Thanks to the Rev. R. Cattley from the Corporation of the City of Worcester.

SIR,—At a special meeting of the above body held on Tuesday, the 26th ult., the Mayor presiding, the following resolution was proposed by Mr. Alderman Josiah Stallard:—

'That, considering that the Rev. R. Cattley, by the devotion of unstinted time, trouble, and energy, secured for the Cathedral Church of this city the possession of one of the best clocks and set of bells and chimes in the kingdom; considering that towards the achievement of this great work the reverend gentleman raised no less a sum than 5500*l.* sterling; considering the skill and acquirements the reverend gentleman generously dedicated to the service of the public in the accomplishment of his noble enterprise; this Council is of opinion that a lasting debt of gratitude is due to him for his successful work, and declares that the Rev. R. Cattley is well entitled to the thanks of the city for distinguished public services, and hereby accord to him their unanimous thanks.'

Mr. Alderman Longmore, in seconding the resolution, said that some time ago he had the satisfaction of going up the tower, under the guidance of Mr. Cattley, to see the clock and bells, and he was very much pleased, and surprised also, to see the extent of the labour which must have been entailed

upon the rev. gentleman by the carrying out of so great a work. As the resolution said, the time, trouble, and energy which he devoted to it must have been very great indeed; and he (the speaker) was sure, that the fact that no less a sum than 5500*l.* was raised showed what a mass of correspondence and trouble devolved upon him. Their thanks were justly due to the reverend gentleman for the trouble and time that he had devoted to the work. The motion, which was unanimously adopted, was warmly supported by Mr. Alderman Hill, M.P., who remarked that he had been associated with Mr. Cattley in raising the funds that were requisite for the undertaking in question; and he, therefore, was perhaps more able than any one else to bear testimony to the untiring labour with which Mr. Cattley devoted himself to the undertaking. So large a sum as was ultimately raised was scarcely contemplated at the outset, and it required no little energy on the part of Mr. Cattley to raise funds for the work. He (Ald. Hill) could not allow this opportunity to pass without bearing his testimony in accordance with the terms of the resolution. They could not too strongly repay their indebtedness to Mr. Cattley.

To the rev. gentleman, and to those who are cognisant of his associations and work amongst ringers, these proceedings of the Common Council of the 'faithful city' will have a peculiar interest. It was the good fortune of your humble servant to be honoured with the acquaintance of Mr. Cattley—about bells and belfries—at the time when the idea of a new ring for the Cathedral at Worcester first suggested itself to his notice, and also for some time previous, and I take the opportunity of recording my humble testimony to his disposition, both as a sound English Christian gentleman and a true and sincere friend to ringers and ringing. Through his instrumentality a steeple was reopened to the ringers after being closed (through the opposition of a churchwarden) for some years. The obloquy and misrepresentation to which the members of the ringing exercise have unworthily been exposed, has for a number of years past been speedily disappearing, and we owe to such men as possess the equitable and refined feelings of honour as the Rev. Richard Cattley, the establishment of a state of things between the occupants of the pulpit and those of the belfry not only desirable but just.

HARVEY REEVES.

Hand-bells for Sale.

THE REV. R. H. D. Acland Troyte will have for sale, shortly after Easter, a set of seventeen Hand-bells by Messrs. Warner. Two octaves in G, with two F naturals. Application may be made to him at Porlock, Somerset.

Friendly Hint to our Ringing Friends generally.

WILL you one and all take into consideration—unbiased by any party feelings—the propriety of ringing pleasure peals during the season of Lent? All ringers are supposed to be Churchmen, and therefore, as such, it would surely be more seemly to practise a little self-denial at this season, as the Church teaches us to do; after which you would relish the more heartily the joyous peals to be indulged in at Easter. Do think about it, and talk about it, and in the end you will probably agree with us, and by so doing you will add greatly to the respect which we desire should be awarded to you by your parishioners with whom you are associated.—Ed.

NOTICE.—Name and address of 'Long Lengths of Change-ringing' requested.

RECEIVED ALSO.—E. Wallis; W. Keldale; G. V. (no address.)

BELFRY RECORDS.

ST. PETER'S, THETFORD, NORFOLK.

(Tablets in the Belfry.)

998. THE Bells in this steeple were opened March 9th, A.D. 1791, and the first complete Peal of 5040 changes of Bob Major was rang September 10th, 1791, in 3 hours and 20 minutes, by the following persons, the Thetford Company. George Stearne called the Peal.

James Roper, Treble.	C. Willm. Drake, Fourth.	C. Willm. Drake, jun.
John Peak, Second.	John Calton, Fifth.	Seventh
John Stearne, Third.	Salmon Stearne, Sixth.	George Stearne, Tenor.

999. On Friday, April 13th, 1827, was rung in this Steeple a True and Complete Peal of Oxford Treble Bob, consisting of 5088 changes, and was performed by the following persons in 3 hours and 18 minutes:—

John Payne, Treble.	Elijah Mason, Third.	Charles Payne, Sixth.
Thomas Gooch, Second.	John Coulson, Fourth.	Wm. Chamberlain, Seventh.
	John Clarke, Fifth.	

The Tenor was rang and the Peal conducted by Mr. Samuel Thurstan of Norwich.

1000. ST. PETER'S Belfry, May 3rd, 1875. This Peal of 8 Bells was Rehung and Retuned to the Glory of God and the Honour of His Church by the exertions of the Rev. Reginald Hay Hill, Rector of the Parish. The Repairs were carried out most efficiently by Messrs. George Day and Son, Church Bellhangers of Eye.

J. Johnson, } Churchwardens.
W. Oldman, }

ST. PETER-AT-ARCHES, LINCOLN. (Tablets in the Belfry.)

1001. On the 20th June, 1756, was Rang at this Church a Compleat 5040 of Catharans Triples, being the first that was Rang in this City, and was Performed in 3 hours and twelve minutes, by the following Persons:—

Robert Bristowe, First.	John Robinson, Fourth.	Richd. Bunch, Sixth.
John Foster, Second.	J. Potterton, Fifth.	Willm. Robinson, Seventh.
Willm. Atkinson, Third.		Richd. Hooker, Eighth.

1002. AUGUST 18th, 1756 [or 8], was rang in 3 hours and 20 minutes, by:—

John Foster, First.	Thos. Taylor, Fourth.	Willm. Rayner, Sixth.
Willm. Forss, Second.	Richd. Bunch, Fifth.	Willm. Winn, Seventh.
Willm. Atkinson, Third.		Willm. Kirk, Eighth.

Both Peals was Called by Ion. Foster.

1003. On Friday, February 25th, 1780, was Rang a Compleat 5040 Grandsire Triples, in 3 hours and 12 minutes, by the following Persons:—

Willm. Kirk, First.	Will. Winn, Fourth.	Geo. Bristow, Sixth.
Willm. Kendall, Second.	W. R. Eastland, Fifth.	Richd. Hyde, Seventh.
Willm. Rayner, Third.		Jas. Simpson, Eighth.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Giving out the Lessons.

SIR.—The lesson read in church now often consists of more than a single chapter; the form for giving it out might well be altered. We now have, 'Here beginneth the eighteenth verse of the first chapter of St. Paul's first epistle to Timothy:' before the book is named the chapter and verse are apt to be forgotten. I would suggest, 'The Second Lesson is written in St. Paul's First Epistle to Timothy, beginning in the first chapter at the eighteenth verse.'—Is written in the first chapter' is not correct when the lesson forms part of two chapters. I have heard variations from the rubric similar to that which I have suggested in several churches, showing that some alteration is felt to be desirable.

T. B.

The Offertory.

SIR.—Before you proceed with the 'case' under the above heading you preface it with this paragraph:—

'The extended use of what is called the "Offertory" in church, will no doubt, in many cases, give occasion of differences of opinion as to the use which may legally be made of the money thus collected, and as to the person in whom the disposal of it is vested.'

In addition to the four questions discussed and answered by A. J. Stephens and Francis H. Jeune, in your last issue, will you kindly allow me to ask them, or any of your readers, a fifth question: Has an incumbent a right to exclude the churchwardens from *reckoning and keeping an account of any collections whatever made in church for 'pious and charitable uses?'* W. G.

Curates' Stipends.

SIR.—Is it both customary and legal for a vicar to appeal to his congregation in the name of his curate for a deficiency in the stipend of the latter? The vicar having promised to pay him a fixed sum for that year, could he (the vicar) even appeal in his own name, without stating his inability to pay what he had promised?

Lay Help.

SIR.—I am requested by the Committee of the London Diocesan Lay-Helpers' Association to ask you to make one of our wants known.

The office of reader is one which gives immense scope to the evangelistic energy of laymen. It enables a man, without examination, but on the approval of the Bishop, 'to conduct services for the poor in school and mission-rooms, and in the open air.' With the exception, in fact, of officiating in a consecrated building, and the administration of the sacraments, and any other duties confined by law to ordained clergy, it revives an Apostolical freedom of action for the spiritual efforts of the laity.

Many of the clergy in all parts of London are now starting mission-halls as adjuncts to their churches. We have continual applications from them for educated and earnest readers to conduct the services in these mission-halls.

There must be scores of barristers, clerks, or men or leisure, who would be willing to devote their Sundays to such missionary efforts as these. The want probably only requires to be known in order to be supplied.

We are in a great need also of a mission secretary, a man who would have time and zeal to make himself acquainted with the details of the parishes where the mission-halls exist, and would find out fit men for the office.

I shall be glad to answer any inquiries.

WILLIAM M. SINCLAIR, Chaplain to the Bishop of London, and Clerical Secretary of the London Diocesan Lay-Helpers' Association.

London House, St. James's Square, S.W., April 15, 1878.

CHURCH CHOIRS.—In answer to 'F. H. C.' a correspondent recommends a tract entitled, *How to Sing: A Few Words to Singers*, 1d., published by Poole, 12A Paternoster Row; 'A. C. N.' suggests *Thoughts for Members of Church Choirs*, published by Longhurst, 30 New Bridge Street, E.C.; and 'B. K.' says that *The Choir-Boys' Manual of Music*, by J. T. Field, published by Jefferys, Berners Street, will meet 'F. H. C.'s requirements.

THE AMERICAN CHURCH.—A correspondent at Alton, Illinois, U.S.A., points out that Dr. Chase, whose death was recently noted in *Church Bells*, was the nephew, not the son, of the first Bishop of Illinois. The college with which Dr. Chase was connected, and for which the Bishop collected funds, is, the writer states, no longer in existence.

EARLY-RISEING ASSOCIATION.—'E. R. A.' asks if there is an Early-riseing Association connected with any Church Society.

BISHOPS IN THE HOUSE OF LORDS.—Writing in reference to Lord Redesdale's proposal (which we may say was negatived without a division), that aged or infirm bishops should be allowed to resign their seats in the House of Lords, 'E. N.' suggests that, with the exception of the Primates and the Bishop of London, the bishops should each sit for a session by rotation, so that no prelate should be permanently excluded from their Lordships' house.

'Rev. F. K.'—Your first request is complied with.

'M.A., Constant Reader.'—The omission was purely accidental, and was much regretted.

RECEIVED ALSO:—Rev. W. P.; Miss M. Gregory; J. Harris; Rev. T. L. Ball.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Untrue Date Touch at St. Alban's, Rochdale.

SIR.—On proving the date touch at Rochdale composed by J. Adhead, which appeared in your issue of 2nd ult., I find that it is untrue. There are 142 false changes and 142 changes omitted, by the following changes being repeated; viz. the two first changes, a full course in the first part again coming up in the third part, with the 5th in the hunt; and a full course in the second part

again coming up in the fourth part, with the 7th in the hunt. It would be well for all composers, before ringing and recording their performances, to be certain of their accuracy.

R. S. BLEE.

Where are the finest Bells?

SIR.—It may be said that one who is somewhat interested in the practice of bell-founding as a matter of business and every-day life, is hardly the person to enter into the discussion which is to be found at the present time recorded in your Bells and Bell-ringing pages. But when it is seen that the 'Lover of Good Bells' has only lately given his attention to the subject of bells, and with his question as to 'Where are the finest bells?' says that he does not 'feel the bell-founders of the last hundred years have been right in trying to get the treble and tenor so extra large and out of proportion with the others,' so as to produce crashes and bangs, I trust that I may be pardoned for most respectfully suggesting that in my short experience of seeing some thousands of bells cast, I never heard of 'crashes' and 'bangs' before; nor do I think that the founders of the last hundred years, as a rule, have sought to put in the moulds bells of undue thickness or disproportionate sizes. Of course the 'Lover of Good Bells' has written from observation, and so condemns. What shall we say of Briant's bells? Lester and Pack's bells? Were these crashy and bangy? Letting the present bell-founders' bells tell their own tale, they doubtless would like to be put right, and know the 'Lover' personally, as they all agree upon the one point, that they should produce bells to give satisfaction in tune or in harmony.

And now for the question: 'Where are the finest bells?' and let the founders rest. The question naturally suggests two points for solution—What is meant by the finest? and, Where are they? Are we to understand by 'finest' the heaviest, cleanest, clearest, the most harmonious in peal and round, or as it is said in 'cadence sweet?' But of this who is to judge or tell, for who has heard all the rings in England? Or who is able to retain the sounds of the one ring in Scotland and the other in Cornwall for comparison? Or who has the musical ear to appreciate fully all tones and harmonies? It needs no great research to find that human ears are as human voices, delicate instruments, easily put out of order, and reckoning, and at the best, with only a certain range or scope of appreciation. And on this point my experience has shown me that good musicians, musical authorities, professors, may be able to judge of strings and pipes, but are neither able to catch the harmonics or fix the note of a bell by their ears. Again, I have heard those who have been among thousands of bells, with the experience of years, say of some, 'I can't catch it,' i.e. the sound of very small bells, when for bells of lower notes they were not behind the best for appreciation by the ear.

Again it is said, but 'we can judge by measurement.' Yes, so it was with a large bell once made for a large clock tower—it was judged by measurement both as to tone and size—it was made by design a thick bell, and was generally said to be a fine bell; it was made by design within half an inch of the opening of the high tower, up which it was to be lifted; but the fine bell was broken, and was recast into a smaller, and nobody has ever yet heard why, if the first measurement was correct for a fine bell, height and diameter, that another should have been made less for the same note? So much for measurement.

But where are the finest bells? Is it Holbeck, Lavenham, Exeter, Pershore, Beddington, Croydon, or where? This must remain a matter of taste, or appreciation, so far as your readers can gather. A child likes a scream; a soprano, soprano; an alto, alto; a tenor, tenor; a bass, bass; each to the pitch which their ears will appreciate, and the pitch of the sounds they hear will in many cases account for the choice and fame of bells in comparison. We, as your readers and friends, may hope to find the curves of harmony, and to this end would like to know where are those crazy bells of fair repute? Which is the eminent firm who cast them? And who may be able to guide us, as a lover of good bells? for, of course, he has had a ring cast as they should be with success.

ANOTHER LOVER OF GOOD BELLS.

Royal Cumberland Society (late London Scholars).

SIR.—Having been unsuccessful in our attempt for the long peal of Grand-sire Caters on Boxing Day last, I wish to inform your readers that we shall make another attempt on Easter Monday at the same church, viz., All Saints, Fulham.

HENRY HOPKINS, Hon. Sec.

Change-ringing at Stradbroke, Suffolk.

On Saturday, 6th inst., a mixed company of change-ringers from Diss, Eye, and Worlingworth, rang on the bells of the parish church 1008 changes of Grand-sire Triples and 1280 changes of Oxford Treble Bob Major. G. Murton (conductor), 1; J. Rudd, 2; W. Ireland, 3; W. Gobbett, 4; J. Bumpstead, 5; D. Collins, 6; E. Collins, 7; F. Day, 8. Tenor, 24 cwt.; key, E flat. These are the longest lengths rung on the bells since they were increased to eight a month previously.

Change-ringing at Ashton-under-Lyne.

On Saturday, 6th inst., the Ashton Society of Change-ringers, assisted by Mr. J. Johnson of Droylesden, Mr. T. Sale of Hyde, and Mr. J. Allsop of Marple, rang at St. Peter's Mr. John Holt's ten-part peal of Grand-sire Triples, consisting of 5040 changes, in 3 hrs. 12 mins. J. Johnson, 1; G. Longden, 2; C. Thorp, 3; T. Sale, 4; J. Allsop, 5; J. Thorp (conductor), 6; S. Andrew, 7; W. Frith, 8. Tenor, 20 cwt.; key, E.

Change-ringing at Shadwell.

On Saturday, the 13th inst., eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang at St. Paul's Church, Shadwell, a true peal of Stedman's Triples, containing 5040 changes, in 2 hrs. 55 mins. F. Bate, 1; W. Cecil, 2; T. Benny, 3; W. Tanner, 4; R. French, 5; T. Dixon, 6; J. Pettit, 7; S. Reeves, 8. The peal was Mr. Thurston's composition, with a single in each of the last two courses, and was conducted by Mr. James Pettit.

RECEIVED ALSO:—B. Keeble; H. Grove; A. Lambert.

Printers' Guild for Working Boys, 4 Kemble Street, Drury Lane, W.C.

SIR,—You were good enough two years ago to insert a letter of mine in *Church Bells*, which gave some account of the Printers' Guild for Working Boys. That letter, though not an appeal for funds, brought gifts to the institution from your readers to the amount of 11l. I thus feel encouraged to ask now for pecuniary help on behalf of an organization which has been doing good work for four years among a friendless class of boys. Yet they ought not to be neglected, for they stand in direct relation to ourselves. None of us, methinks, who read our daily paper, who enjoy the last new novel, who enrich our minds with the treasures of deeper thought which books afford, are free from obligation to those who, at an early age, when boys of another class are yet at their preparatory school, spend their days, and often also their nights, amid the whirl of machinery, in the dust, steam, and heat, of the printing office.

Many of these boys are well cared for by their employers. With others the case is different. I know many of the lowest class to be found in London, strangers to all that is good in our civilisation, types of all that boyhood should not be, imbued with low cunning and prematurely old in vice. I could tell of good boys living in desperate poverty—of motherless children who, after the day's work is over, clean up the home, wash the younger ones and put them to bed, before coming late to the Guild to get half a lesson or a short spell of play.

It is to help these printers' boys that the Guild has been formed. It aims at attracting them out of the streets and educating them. It has now about fifty members, having had more or less under its influence in the past four years some three hundred. As the Guild meets in a cellar situate in a Mission district of Saint Giles's, that was lately my cure, I saw much of the elder members. Some of them I prepared and presented for Confirmation; and have reason to think that all of these are living good and holy lives in the midst of terrible difficulties.

Many boys have learned at the Guild to read and write. Some frequent it for the sake of the games. All join in prayer before they separate. A few gentlemen, who need reinforcement, have long gallantly sacrificed their evenings to the welfare of these boys. Is it asking too much from your readers if I appeal for funds to pay the rent of the cellar in which the Guild meets, and the cost of lighting it? The weekly pennies of the boys are insufficient to meet these expenses. Cannot a number of your readers contribute each a small sum to so good a work?

The Hon. Secretary, Mr. H. Wills, 23 Florence Street, Islington, N., will be happy to receive contributions, or they may be sent to
Bowdon, Cheshire.

H. A. D. SURRIDGE.

'Priest' or 'Presbyter'?

SIR,—I am a regular reader of your very useful paper, and, as a general rule, its tone of peace in these days of strife, of loyalty in these days of disloyalty, of obedience in these days of self-pleasing, must please all faithful sons of the Church of England. Yet there is one little word which I grieve to see dethroned from its high position in Church phraseology by the authority of your leading articles. May I venture to suggest that the word *priest* is a good old English word, while *presbyter*, which you so often put in its place, is not English at all? It is surely a 'Puritan innovation' which has made the latter word known in our language; and it is not a 'Papal innovation' by which we, the elders of the Church of England, are called priests. I need not discuss any doctrinal significance which may attach to the use of either word, but I have a right, surely, to press the claims of that word which the Prayer-book uses to the exclusion of the other. To us, who have been called to the second order in the ministry, authority was given to 'exercise the office of a priest in the Church of God.' Why, then, should we shun the name of our holy office? Good George Herbert was of my way of thinking, or, rather, I follow him:—

'The Priest I say, the Presbyter I mean,
As nowadays he's called
By many men; but I choose to retain
The name wherewith install'd
He was at first in our mother tongue;
And doing so, I hope, I do no wrong.'

AN ENGLISH PRIEST.

New Lectionary.—Listening to the Lessons.

SIR,—I heartily trust that we shall have a new Lectionary, and that it will be, as it may easily be, a decided improvement upon both the old and the present Lectionary. A letter from one of your correspondents, against which I have no desire to say one word, set me thinking about the practice so common in some churches, of the congregation finding the lesson in their Bibles and reading it silently. After all, is *this* a wise plan? Would it not be more profitable to listen all attentively to 'him that readeth?' Would not the reading often be better if attended to? Would not the hearers profit much more? I incline to the opinion that it would be so.
T. H. E.

Easter Communicants.

SIR,—I have reason to believe that it is becoming increasingly common among the clergy to ask for the names and addresses of their Easter communicants. Would any of your readers that have had experience kindly inform me how far such requests are responded to, and whether any, and what, practical use is made of the results?
CHARLES GREEN.

St. Paul's, Beckenham.

CHURCHWARDENS AND THE OFFERTORY.—'Churchman' writes: 'Can any of your readers inform me which warden has legal right to receive or take charge of the offertory money—the minister's warden or the people's warden?'

FAMILY PRAYERS.—'D. G.' wishes to know of Family Prayers—not long—for the Christian seasons, Easter, Christmas, &c., if separate from daily family prayers, or otherwise. Publisher's name if possible.

TRACTS ON THE OFFERTORY.—'Agar' would be glad to know if there is any tract published on 'giving,' and especially at the weekly offertory.

RECEIVED ALSO:—Very Rev. E. M. Goulburn; Charles Green; Rev. R. C.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

New Ring of Six at Monk Bretton, Barnsley, Yorkshire.

ON Friday, the 12th inst., a gratifying event took place in the parish of Monk Bretton, the opening of a ring of six bells, munificently presented by Miss Bright of Monk Bretton, as a loving memorial to her two sisters. The first essay on the bells took place at ten o'clock p.m. by the ringers from the adjoining parish of Royston, under the leadership of Mr. Haigh, and consisted of different touches. 1. Raising in peal. 2. Touches of Treble Bob Minor, both Oxford and Violet. 3. Several touches of other noted compositions. Mr. T. Mallaby, from Masham, to whom the hanging of the ring has been entrusted by Miss Bright, being himself a ringer, superintended the whole series of performances. The village, as might be expected, was in a state of pleasurable and grateful excitement the whole evening up to ten o'clock—an interval of half-an-hour being taken for the refreshment of the ringers. The ringers from the Church of St. Mary, Barnsley, came twice on Sunday, which afforded much pleasure and satisfaction to Miss Bright and the villagers.

[Why was so much pleasure afforded in the Lenten season?—ED.]

St. Botolph, Aldgate, London.

A MUFFLED peal was rung here on Saturday evening, the 13th inst., as a tribute of respect to Henry Draper, who for many years previous to his illness was steeple-keeper. He died April 7th, at the age of 50 years, after a long, lingering illness of eight years. W. Mole, 1; J. Charters, 2; R. Lewis, 3; W. Scholes, 4; H. Brand, 5; J. Sinclair, 6; W. Clow, 7; J. H. Monday, 8. Conducted by Mr. W. Mole.

The Yorkshire Association of Change-ringers.

ON Monday, the 22nd inst., the Easter Meeting of this Society was held at Leeds, when a revised Code of Rules was passed, the next Meeting was appointed to be held at Wakefield in July, and the general business of the Association was transacted. The bells at Leeds, Holbeck, and Hunslet were at the service of the Association during the day, the Leeds bells having lately been put in order by Mr. T. Mallaby of Masham. During the morning twelve of the members rang 5040 changes of Kent Treble Bob Maximus in 3 hrs. 50 mins., being the first peal of Maximus rung on the bells. W. Pawson, 1; T. Lockwood, 2; J. Lockwood, 3; P. Snowden, 4; B. A. Dodson, 5; T. West, 6; G. Barraclough, 7; J. Whitaker, 8; W. Whitaker, 9; J. W. Snowden, 10; W. Walker, 11; G. Breed, 12. Tenor, 36 cwt. The peal was composed by H. Hubbard, sen., and conducted by T. Lockwood, and, it is supposed, is the first peal of Treble, twelve in, ever rung in the 'titmums.'

Change-ringing at West Bromwich, Staffordshire.

ON Easter Monday was rung upon the bells of Christ Church a muffled peal of New Grandshire Triples, as a lasting tribute of affection and respect to the memory of the late Dr. Selwyn, Bishop of Lichfield. The peal, containing 5040 changes, was brought round in 3 hrs. by the following Members of the Christ Church Society of Change-ringers:—H. Hipkip, 1; J. Russell, 2; W. Mallin, 3; T. Horton, 4; W. Beeson, 5; J. Carter, 6; S. Biddlestone, 7; H. Thyer, 8. Composed and conducted by Mr. Solomon Biddlestone. Tenor, 23 cwt. 3 qrs. 12 lbs.

Change-ringing at Saffron Walden, Essex.

ON Tuesday, the 23rd instant, the following rang on the parish bells a one-part peal of Plain Bob Minor, containing 26 singles and 16 bobs. J. Freeman, 3; J. Penning, 4; N. Pitstow, 5; G. Martin, 6; C. Freeman, 7; F. Pitstow, 8. Composed and conducted by John Penning.

Change-ringing at St. Mary's, Beddington, Surrey.

ON Tuesday, 23rd inst., the following members of St. Mary's rang at All Saints, Carshalton, the first half of Holt's ten-part peal of Grandshire Triples, 2520 changes, in 1 hr. 30 mins. R. Chapman, 1; E. Bennett, 2; J. Branch, 3; J. Trappitt, 4; J. Plowman, 5; J. Cawley, 6; C. Gordon, 7; J. Zealey, 8. Conducted by E. Bennett, being the greatest extent obtained by the above company. Tenor, 12½ cwt. Key, G sharp.

Carillons at the Parish Church of St. John, Peterborough.

MESSRS. GILLET & BLAND, of Croydon, have lately fixed their celebrated Carillon machine at the above church. They played for the first time on Wednesday, the 10th inst., to the great delight of the parishioners and all who heard them.

YOUNG BOB-CALLER.—No name.

B. KEEBLE.—You had better consult a surgeon.

H. GROVE.—We leave the archaeology of church bells to our friend the Editor of *Notes and Queries* and his numerous correspondents on the subject.

* * * We have again to request that the names and addresses of all correspondents accompany their communications, or they will not be inserted; it is for our safety, not for publication.

BELFRY RECORDS.

WHAPLODE, LINCOLNSHIRE. (Tablet in the Belfry.)

1004. FEB. 27th, 1775, was rung 10,080 changes, or 8½ Peals, by—
W. Jackson. Richard Harwood. Wm. Money.
Stephen Dairf. Richard Pottenger.
Rais'd and settled the bells in 7 hours and 26 minutes, Copel 2nd. 5 bells. Tenor, 13 cwt. All by Henry Penn of Peterborough, 1718.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

A Treatise on Treble Bob.

SIR,—A short time ago you were kind enough to allow me to announce my intention of preparing for publication a collection of Treble Bob peals. Since that time I have come to the conclusion that, as comparatively few ringers are sufficiently acquainted with the technical way of expressing such peals and their qualities, such a collection would be of more general interest if preceded by an explanation of such matters. I have therefore prepared, and have now in the printer's hands, Part I. of a treatise on Treble Bob, the contents of which will embrace the following chapters:—

The History of Treble Bob.—An account of the first peals rung in Triples, Major, Caters, Royal, Cinques, and Maximus, with all the different long lengths, up to the greatest length, yet rung on each of these numbers, with the various particulars of each performance from authentic records; also some remarks on the speed of ringing in long peals.

The In and Out-of-Course of the Changes.—An explanation of the meaning of these terms, with examples and all information necessary to form a full acquaintance with the course of the changes in any method, and to analyse the course of any given change.

The Mode of Pricking Touches and Peals.—A description of the different ways in which Treble Bob is pricked—(1) by the Lead-ends, (2) by the Bob Changes, and (3) by the Course-ends, with tables for pricking according to each manner.

The Qualities of Peals.—Showing the different musical qualities of peals, explaining the musical positions and their extents, also the extent that can be obtained with the tenors together, &c.

The Transposition of Peals.—An explanation of the manner in which peals can be transposed by the leads and course ends, by reversing the calling and by omitting or adding calls, with examples of each process.

The Proof of Treble Bob.—An elaborate explanation of the manner in which the 'General Proof Scale' for any variation of Treble Bob is produced, and the process of proving peals with the tenors parted and together, with directions for the proof of the treble leads and course ends, with tables and examples.

Lockwood's System of Composition.—An account of an original method of composing true peals, with several tables and examples showing the method by which Reeves's 8448 and other peals may be at once produced by the most inexperienced composer.

On Conducting and Calling Round.—A description of the various ways in which peals are conducted, either from an 'observation' or an 'inside' bell, with a variety of useful hints on conducting, and an explanation of the principles and mode of calling Treble Bob round.

As the work will run to about eighty or ninety closely printed pages, and I expect to be able to publish it at a shilling a copy, I hope it will be so successful as to allow me to publish Part II., which will then consist of the collection of peals mentioned in my previous letter. When Part I. is ready for issue, with your kind permission, I will notify the same to your readers through these columns. JASPER W. SNOWDON.

Old Bank Chambers, Leeds.

The Sanitary Influence of Bell-ringing and its Melodies.

SIR,—Under the above heading, in *Church Bells* of 1876, I gave theoretical reasons why bell-ringing had a most beneficial effect upon the health. I had then no facts to support these opinions, but have since gleaned some from the *Leisure Hour*. My object was, and is, to induce young men—especially those who engage in sedentary occupations—to become good ringers; considering as I then did, and still do, that such persons should esteem the opportunity of becoming experts in this art as a privilege—perhaps a duty—to be thankful for, rather than an office of pleasure or profit. GEORGE GREGORY, M.D.

Great Lever, Bolton, Lancashire.

In 1784 a peal of 14,480 changes of Bob Major was rung by eight men at Oldham, in Lancashire. One of the performers was a man, Daniel Mills, who was always ready to take part in any extraordinary feat of ringing. He died in 1851, aged ninety-one. In 1793 a party of Birmingham ringers surpassed the Oldham peal by ringing one of 15,360 changes in 9 hrs. 31 mins. at Aston Church, where the tenor weighs 21 cwt. In this peal the age of the oldest ringer was twenty-eight and the youngest twenty years; and as showing that this feat did not entail any injurious effects on them, the former of these men, who rang the heaviest bell, died in his sixty-eighth year, while the latter, who rang the next heaviest bell, lived until he completed his eighty-first year. There are ringers who have great ambition to assist in long peals. At no place has there been such an enterprising band of ringers as, some time ago, existed in Painswick, in Gloucestershire. At that place, at different times, they had held the lead for long-length ringing in several different systems: and, indeed, the lengths rung in Grandsire Caters (ten bells) and Treble Bob Maximus (twelve bells), in 1817 and 1833 respectively, have not yet been surpassed. A few remarks concerning the first of these performances may be of interest. In 1816 the Painswick men rang 10,278 changes of Grandsire Caters, which length a rival society at Bristol soon after "cut" by ringing a peal a few changes longer. Unwilling to be thus beaten, the Painswick men, in 1817, accomplished a peal of 12,312 changes in seven hours and forty-four minutes, which remains to the present date the longest length rung in this method by ten men only. The tenor bell at Painswick weighs 27 cwt. Records of long peals rung at Painswick date back to 1735, when change-ringing must have been quite in its infancy. The Painswick men who rang these peals may therefore be said to have been born ringers. Their fathers before them were mostly ringers, and they themselves devoted much of their leisure time to practising this art. It has been shown that Barham's comrades could muster in such an advanced

stage of life that eight of them, who were able to ring, averaged 72 years; and, in the same manner, the ages to which the Painswick men who rang in the peal just described may be cited in favour of the beneficial effects of ringing. The only survivor of this band is Giles Mansfield, who now, at the age of 85, is alive and hearty; the other nine men died at the respective ages of 89, 87, 78, 80, 84, 50, 71, 70, and 85 years. These numbers, with the age of Mansfield, make an average of nearly 78 years for each man; and if the age of the ringer who died at 50 be excepted, the average age of the remaining nine will be 82 years. As a warning to bachelors, it may be mentioned that the ringer who died at 50 was the only unmarried man amongst the band! These examples will show that ringing may be classed as one of the most beneficial of exercises, and may fitly be concluded by adding that the oldest ringer in England is Jonathan Pavier, who was born at South Hincsey, near Oxford, on May 31st, 1779. He rang his first 5000 in 1807, and in 1815 rang in a peal of 10,008 of Grandsire Caters at New College, Oxford. Although he has now been blind for many years, he is otherwise in full possession of his faculties.—*Leisure Hour*.

Bell-ringing in Cornwall.—Twenty-three Pounds fooled away.

On Easter Monday twenty-six teams of round ringers met at St. Stephen's, Launceston. The practice lasted from 10 o'clock till 4, after which each team was allowed ten minutes for *ups and downs* and *rounds and rounds*, for which prizes were given from five guineas downwards, making a total of 22l. 19s., as reported in a local paper! This report will create a good deal of laughter among our ringing friends, especially the greatest proficient, who are accustomed to meet weekly, without fee or reward, and, out of love for the thing, will ring for hours. If the Cornish people desire to introduce belfry reform and the best style of ringing, they must give up wasting their money in prizes; and let the parsons do their duty, by putting a stop to the desecration of God's house of prayer and the prostitution of the goods of the church, which were given for other uses. Prize-ringing is fatal to belfry reform. We do not blame the ringers so much as we do the parsons for allowing and encouraging such meetings.

Change-ringing at Ashted, Surrey.

On Easter Monday the Streatham Company of Ringers paid a visit to Ashted, Surrey, and rang 5040 changes of Grandsire Triples in 3 hrs. 2 mins. S. Greenwood (conductor), 1; G. Russell, 2; A. Brockwell, 3; D. Springhall, 4; F. Margetson, 5; W. Shepperd, 6; G. Pell, 7; C. Walker, 8. Tenor, 14 cwt. After the peal a mixed band of the Streatham and Ashted companies rang between eight and nine hundred Stedman's Triples.

Norwich Diocesan Association of Ringers: Redenhall Branch.

On Monday, 22nd ult., eight members of the above Company rang at St. Mary's, Redenhall, a peal of 8000 Oxford Treble Bob. After ringing 3900, the conductor, finding two bells had changed places, called them into rounds. E. Smith (conductor), 1; W. Matthews, 2; G. Prime, 3; J. Tann, 4; R. Whiting, 5; F. Smith, 6; G. Mobbs, 7; J. Smith, 8. Tenor, 24 cwt. Key, E flat. The peal was composed by Mr. Dains, of London.

Everton and Bawtry, Notts.

On Easter Monday the Hatfield Society of Change-ringers visited Everton, and rang a peal of Bob Minor, containing 720 changes, with eighteen bobs and two singles, in 26 mins. J. Foulds, 1; W. A. Tyler, 2; W. Gregory, 3; C. Philipson, 4; T. J. Smith, 5; W. Heselby, 6. After this several short touches were rung by a mixed set. Then the Hatfield Society visited Bawtry, and rang a peal with thirty bobs and two singles.

Change-ringing at All Saints, Fulham.

On Monday, the 22nd ult., ten members of the Ancient Society of College Youths visited Fulham, and rang at All Saints (by the kind permission of the Churchwardens and best wishes of the Vicar) a true peal of Stedman's Caters, containing 5079 changes, in 3 hrs. 26 min. H. Haley, sen., 1; W. Cecil, 2; M. A. Wood, 3; H. Booth, 4; R. French, 5; S. Reeves, 6; G. Mash, 7; F. Bate, 8; J. M. Hayes, 9; T. Bugby, 10. Conducted by Mr. H. Haley, and has the 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, regular behind the ninth, each part being called alike, except the first and last courses. The above peal is an original composition by Mr. H. Haley, sen., and was rung and conducted by him for the first time, May 16, 1842, at the above church.

Change-ringing at Holy Trinity, Privett, Hampshire.

On Wednesday, the 24th ult., eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths had the honour of opening a new ring of eight, cast by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank of Whitechapel, London, and rang Mr. John Holt's one-part peal of Grandsire Triples with two doubles in the last four leads, containing 5043 changes, in 2 hrs. 59 mins. H. W. Haley, sen., 1; W. Cooter, 2; H. Page, 3; R. Haworth, 4; W. Jones, 5; G. A. Muskett, 6; M. A. Wood, 7; W. Greenleaf, 8. Conducted by H. W. Haley.

Change-ringing at Reigate, Surrey.

On Saturday, the 27th ult., eight members of the Royal Cumberland Society (late London Scholars) visited Reigate, and rang at the parish church the late Mr. John Holt's original one-part peal of Grandsire Triples, with two doubles in the last four leads, comprising 5040 changes, in 3 hrs. 12 mins. G. Newson, 1; W. Coppage, 2; H. Hopkins, 3; J. Cox, 4; G. Banks, 5; J. Mansfield, 6; W. Baron, 7; J. Barrett, 8. Conducted by Mr. G. Newson. The above is the first peal since the re-hanging of the bells by Messrs. Gillett and Bland of Croydon.

Change-ringing at Beddington, Surrey.

On Saturday, the 27th ult., eight members of St. Mary's Society rang a half-peal of Grandsire Triples, 2520 changes, in 1 hr. 34 mins. R. Chapman, 1; E. Bennett, 2; J. Branch, 3; J. Trappitt, 4; J. Plowman, 5; J. Cawley, 6; C. Gordon, 7; J. Zealey, 8. Conducted by E. Bennett. Tenor, 21 cwt. Key, E flat.

RECEIVED ALSO.—J. R. Jerram—this subject is exhausted; James Townsend; X. Y. Z.; Joseph Haigh; Woodlesford—no name appended to letter.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Proposed Scheme for the Administration of the Funds of Ringing Guilds.

A Letter addressed to the President of the Guild of Devonshire Ringers.

MY DEAR PRESIDENT,—I wish to draw your attention to the subjoined scheme for the better administration of the funds of Ringing Guilds. The following suggestions, in a somewhat less developed form, were offered some little time ago to the editor of one of our weekly Church papers, but were rejected by him on account of the plan having been known of many years ago in the Midlands. Having since made inquiries of many of my friends, I cannot find that the plan proposed has been at all widely adopted, at all events in our part of the country, and I have therefore ventured to have the suggestions printed separately, in hopes that they may prove a help to some of my clerical brethren in the management of their ringers, who, if properly and carefully handled, ought to be a very important branch of 'Lay-help' in the working of a parish.

It is universally acknowledged that in bygone years the ringers, especially in country parishes, have been much neglected by the clergy, and have consequently, in many cases, fallen into bad ways, and have generally had a name in the parish for being a 'rough drinking lot.' This has also been increased by the prevalence of prize-ringing, which has been well called 'a benefit for the publicans,' as the money thus gained has been almost invariably spent in drink. The late revival of Change-ringing has done much to lessen this crying evil, but even change-ringers are liable to err, and the temptation to spend in drink the money gained by ringing will always exist as long as the funds are divided annually in equal shares among the ringers, and young men find themselves (perhaps at Christmas time, when such temptations are most frequent) with their pockets flooded with a large amount of ready money. To avoid this, it is suggested that Guilds should form, of the money they receive, a 'Ringers' Fund,' to be used subject to the control of the committee of the Guild, for the benefit of the members. The result of pursuing such a course is likely to be fourfold.

1st. It will ensure the funds of the Guilds being spent in a profitable manner, by taking out of the way all possibility of the money being spent at the public-house, even if any of the members are inclined to do so.

2nd. It will give an additional 'Benefit Club' to the members of the Guild, who being, as a rule, working men, may need such help to fall back on.

3rd. It will tend to increase the support given to the ringers by their fellow-parishioners: as it will be a guarantee to them that the money they subscribe will not be wasted. For persons are more likely to give when they know what use is going to be made of their money, than if they are left to suppose, as they generally do (wrongly, I allow, in many cases, but very often I fear rightly), that it is most likely to go in beer or spirits.

4th. And by no means least; it will tend to give each Member of the Guild a general, rather than an individual interest in the concerns of the Guild. Each man will feel that it is in common with the rest that he has at heart the prosperity of the Guild, and thus there will grow up a bond of union amongst the members that will be of infinite value.

It is perhaps a somewhat unworthy foundation on which to build one's hopes of a feeling of real unity growing amongst our ringers, but still small means sometimes lead to large results—at all events, there can be no harm in giving it a trial.

It is only fair for me in conclusion to state, that the original idea of a 'Ringers' Fund' is not my own. It was suggested to me by a friend, who, though not a practical change-ringer, is still much interested in the cause, and it is upon his foundation that my scheme is built. To make it more clear and definite how my proposed plan would work, I subjoin the following rules as a suggestion of what might be, leaving it to the various Guilds to modify them according to their respective circumstances. If they are of use to any one, I shall feel that my trouble, such as it is, has not been altogether vain.

R. H. D. AGLAND TROYTE, Assistant Curate of Porlock.

Porlock, 1878.

Suggested Rules for the Administration of a Parochial Ringers' Fund:—

1.—That instead of an annual division of all the funds of the Guild, in equal parts among all the members, the said funds be invested in the Post-office Savings' Bank, in the name of the Steward or Treasurer of the Guild, but that it be used for the benefit of the ringers, rather than of the bells or belfry.

2.—That in case of any special *week-day* ringing, by which the ringers, if working men, would lose their day's wages (e.g. ringing on New-year's Day, Holy Innocents' Day—where such is the custom—the Queen's Birthday, when the Bishop of the Diocese visits the parish, &c. &c.), they be paid at once from the funds of the Guild 2s. 6d. or 3s. (this according to agreement in different Guilds), as compensation for their day's work.

3.—That the remaining funds of the Guild be spent for the benefit of the ringers, as occasion demands:—

(a.) By occasional help to a member, in case of his being incapacitated for work by sickness; or to his family in case of his death.

(b.) By making a present at Christmas time to any member who should be in *actual want*.

(c.) By providing, or helping to provide, some annual ringing expedition and treat, when there is no one able or willing to give it.

(d.) By making a present to any member leaving the parish for good.

4.—That in making the above grants consideration be taken of the length of time a man has been a member of the Guild.

5.—That in order to make the funds available in case of sickness or death, &c., larger, the members be invited to contribute 1d. a-week to the common fund.

6.—That any member behaving badly *forfeit all claim* on the fund.

7.—That the fund be at the disposal of the Committee of the Guild.

N.B.—These suggestions have been published in the hopes of supplying a want sometimes felt, but also with the express intention of provoking criticism.

Otley, Suffolk.

A NEW Treble, the wedding gift of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Woolner, of Stoke-upon-Trent, has been added to the old ring of five bells in the church tower, making a very musical ring of six. The bell-opening took place on May 3rd, at 11 a.m., when a peal of 720 Bob Minor was rung by G. Sadler, 1; Dr. G. F. W. Meadows, 2; T. Sadler, 3; F. Day, 4; W. Degee, 5; G. Day, 6. The bells were then fired several times. A service was held in the church at 3 p.m., and a sermon preached by the Ven. Archdeacon Groom, and a collection of 6l. 10s. made towards the fund for rebuilding the church. At 5 p.m. the ringers sat down to dinner at the White Hart Inn, provided at the expense of the rector and churchwardens. The new bell, by Messrs. Warner and Sons, was hung by G. Day and Son, of Eye; it weighs 4 cwt. 2 qrs. 16 lbs. The tenor is in G sharp, weight about 11½ cwt., cast in 1576 by Stephen Tonne, of Bury St. Edmunds. Since the formation of the Norwich Diocesan Association, now twelve months ago, a great many young men in this district have attempted to learn change-ringing. Mr. T. Sadler, of Winesham, has about twenty pupils, some of whom are making considerable progress. There is probably no village in the country which has more rings of bells round it than Otley—one of ten at Stonham, one each of eight at Helmingham, Framsdon, and Debenham, one of twelve at Ipswich—several rings of six and five, all within a few miles. Surely this ought to be an inducement for the resident gentry and clergy to encourage the art of change-ringing as much as possible.

Ringling at Halesworth, Suffolk.

On Wednesday, 24th ult., eight members of the Bungay Society visited Halesworth, and rang 5040 changes of Grandsire Triples in 3 hrs. 10 mins. The peal contained 240 calls, namely, 194 bobs and 46 singles. I. Folkard, 1; F. Woods, 2; G. Adams, 3; J. Souther, 4; B. Spilling, 5; J. Crickmore, 6; R. Baker, 7; Captain Moore, 8. Composed by Mr. E. Taylor; conducted by Mr. R. Baker. Tenor, 19 cwt. Key, E.

Norwich Diocesan Association of Ringers.

On Thursday, 2nd inst., the members of the Kenninghall branch of the above Association rang at St. Mary's, Kenninghall, a peal of Oxford Treble Bob Major, containing 5088 changes, in 2 hrs. 58 mins. R. Nudds, 1; R. Hutton, 2; G. Edwards, 3; O. Everett, 4; H. Eagling, 5; J. Woods, 6; R. Stackwood, 7; J. Morley (conductor), 8. Tenor, 14 cwt. The peal is one composed by D. Woods, as given by Hubbard.

Change-ringing at St. Mary's, Barnsley, Yorkshire.

EIGHT members of the Barnsley branch of the Yorkshire Association of Change-ringers rang on the 2nd inst. a peal of 5040 changes of Grandsire Triples, in 2 hrs. 58 mins. Composed by C. A. W. Troyte, Esq., of Huntsham Court, Devonshire. T. Bailey, age 18 years (first peal), 1; J. Goodworth, 19 years, 2; J. Frost, 17 years (first peal), 3; W. Richardson (first peal), 4; W. Ellis, 5; G. S. Tyas (first peal), conductor, 6; R. Sparks (first peal), 7; R. Pease, 8. Tenor, 16 cwt. This is the first peal rung since the year 1851 when eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang 5024 changes of Kent Treble Bob Major.

Change-ringing by the Yorkshire Association.

On Saturday, 4th inst., at St. Matthew's, Holbeck, Leeds, 5056 changes of Kent Treble Bob Major were rung in 2 hrs. 57 mins. T. West, 1; J. Lockwood, 2; H. Moss, 3; R. Tuke, Esq., 4; J. Whitaker, 5; T. Lockwood, 6; G. Barraclough, 7; J. W. Snowden, Esq., 8. The peal, in two parts, with the sixth the extent wrong and right in 5-6, and also six course-ends in each of those positions, was composed and conducted by T. Lockwood. Tenor, 16 cwt.

Change-ringing at Runcorn, Cheshire.

On Saturday, 4th inst. (by the kind permission of Canon Barclay), the Chester Cathedral Society of Change-ringers rang on the fine-toned bells of the parish church, Runcorn, five parts of Mr. Taylor's peal of Grandsire Triples, containing 4200 changes, and consisting of 161 Bobs and 39 Singles, in 2 hrs. 24 mins. The ringers were:—W. Owens, 1; C. Price, 2; J. Mason, 3; W. Cross, 4; W. Woods, 5; P. Griffiths, 6; F. Ball (conductor), 7; F. Jarvis, 8. Tenor, 14½ cwt. Key, F. It may appear strange to ringers why the whole peal of 5040 was not obtained (as was intended), but owing to darkness intervening, which made it impossible to see the ropes, the bells had to be set at the above part end, which was attested by the Runcorn ringers.

Change-ringing by the Durham Diocesan Association of Change-ringers.

On Monday evening, 6th inst., six members of the Newcastle-on-Tyne branch of the above Association, with the kind permission of the vicar and churchwardens, met at St. John's Church for practice for the first time, and rang a true peal of Grandsire Minor, containing 720 changes, in 26 minutes; being the first peal rung on these bells for upwards of 80 years. J. Weddle, 1; J. Donald, 2; E. Wallis, 3; W. West, 4; J. Power (conductor), 5; F. Lees, 6. The peal is called with 84 bobs and 2 singles.

RECEIVED ALSO.—Joseph Haigh; John Cater.

by Act of Parliament be slightly enlarged upon: if adopted exactly it is too short. All the Psalms for the day should be used, as a rule, and *both* Lessons; and thus the grand hymn, *Te Deum*, is not thrust out: and all the Collects, perhaps, except the State prayers. But there is room for discretion here. Too short a service is a mistake; as people will not think it worth while to come out, e.g. for only ten minutes. Too long is equally a mistake. A short address, or meditation, on Fridays, perhaps, might be very helpful. A hymn serves to brighten the service wonderfully, and (as the Vicar of Winton remarks) is by no means impossible. If there be no musical power available, why not recite some simple verses in monotone, priest and people together? But a few good hymns, discreetly chosen, will bear repeating frequently, until all can join in singing them heartily.

By paying due attention to such little details as I have suggested, and by tact, and care, and perseverance—above all, by unflinching faith in the power of prayer—the Daily Services would, I feel sure, be found to answer. People would gladly attend them—perhaps not many, but at any rate the faithful two or three; and these would form, as it were, the salt of the parish, a nucleus round whom all good works might gather, and whose example would greatly help the parson's precepts. One earnest worshipper (being also a communicant of course) is a more real power for good than many a noisy professor. But even if it were the priest alone—and none of his flock would join him—what of that? There is the cloud of incense rising, blended, as it soars aloft, with the myriad other clouds from all God's saints, alive and dead, and wafted onward by the One prevailing Intercession, even to the throne of the Most High.

I trust, Sir, you will find room for these somewhat lengthy remarks, and will allow this important question to be discussed by your correspondents. Are my suggestions practical? If not, may we hear the objections to them? If they are, why should not many make a trial of them? And it is a question not for the clergy alone; the lay folk have a right to demand the daily services of the Church. Why should not some two or three, in any parish, send up a petition to their priest, begging him to open his church, and promising their support—say, for instance, during the summer months? Undoubtedly there is deep truth in that simple motto engraven over the porch of one of our college chapels in Oxford,—

Ascendat Oratio, Descendat Gratia!

Only let the Worship be true, and the Grace shall surely descend.

Compare St. John, ix. 31; St. James, v. 16; St. Matthew, xviii. 19, 20; St. Luke, xxiv. 53.

St. Mary's, Handsworth.

A. F. S. H. (Deacon.)

Churchwardens.

Sir,—A North Lincolnshire Vicar has started an important subject in your columns; can it be pushed to a satisfactory settlement? All will admit that a churchwarden, so far as his duties refer to the repairs and services of the Church and the management of its property, ought to be a Churchman. The name of the office implies this, and every other right consideration. But the law of the land says a Dissenter, or indeed almost any ratepayer, whatever his views, may be a churchwarden. This is simply monstrous; an insult to Churchmen. I suppose such provision is made because churchwardens are trustees of charities in many parishes, and *ex-officio* overseers. Thus they are civil as well as ecclesiastical officers. Every effort should be made to separate the two duties. Why not let the civil duties pass to the overseers, or to special wardens elected for such offices, and let the churchwardens retain Church matters only? To effect this would require agitation, but agitation must be entered on for this and many other reforms, or the number of Liberationists will increase from within. This would appear to be a matter for the Church Defence Association, viz. to move that Churchmen, and Churchmen only, shall be churchwardens. It is a matter, too, for Convocation to digest and put into form, and then to procure the authority of Parliament for the change.

N. E.

Sir,—Referring to the letter of a Lincolnshire Vicar in last week's *Church Bells*, I wish to mention another case in which Church people have practically no voice in the appointment of churchwardens. In the parish where I live local business is managed by a select vestry, composed of persons of all or no religious opinions as well as of Churchmen. These are elected by the votes of all ratepayers, and as the better educated take no interest in parish matters the election is left to the lowest class of voters, who are influenced by the clique that choose to consider themselves fit and proper persons to be vestrymen. Thus it happens that the majority of the communicants and regular attendants at the parish church may never once have recorded their votes for any member of the vestry, by whom the warden is appointed, and therefore they have no voice in the election of the officers who are to manage the business of the Church as well as that of the parish.

Surely, Sir, the time has come when one warden should be elected by Church people in a direct manner, and not through the select vestry. Better men would then take an interest in Church work, and the parish officers would more often be found a help to the clergy instead of opposing them, as is now frequently the case.

WANDLE.

Sittings in Church.

Sir,—The churchwardens of an old parish church, which is being restored and refitted with open seats, desire to obtain a plain and reliable statement of their duties with respect to the seating of the parishioners when the church is reopened. They will be thankful for such definite information or reference to authorities as any of your readers can give them; and wish to ascertain what (if any) sanction is required for seating the choir in the chancel. All interested in this matter unanimously wish to see the legal and most fitting arrangements carried out.

A COUNTRY VICAR.

RECEIVED ALSO.—A VICAR; F. C. G.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

How False Peals are produced.

Sir,—Knowing that you are at all times ready to give information in the art of change-ringing, and that your valuable paper has been the means of correcting several errors, I venture to submit the following to your notice. A short time ago a copy of the Second Annual Report of the Yorkshire Association of Change-ringers was handed to me. On perusing the same I find the peal numbered 40 on page 37 to be false in several particulars—viz., in the 1st, 7th, 13th, 14th, and 16th courses, as any practitioner will readily see by investigation. That false changes are produced with the treble going out and coming in in 5-6, in the 5th and 7th leads of the first course, with the 3rd and 5th leads of the 7th course, with the treble going out and coming in in both courses; and that false changes are produced with the treble going out and coming in in 1-2 in the 4th lead of the 7th course, with the treble going out and coming in in 1-2 in the 5th lead of the 14th course in the same leads, false changes are produced. False changes are also produced with the treble going out in 5-6 in the 3rd lead of the 13th course, with the 5th lead of the 16th course; also with the treble going out in the 3rd lead of the 16th course, with the treble coming in in 5-6 in the 5th lead in the 13th course, false changes are produced; also false changes are produced in 1-2 from 16534782 and 18672534 in both courses. By inserting the above for the information of my brother-ringers you will oblige

Sowerby, Halifax, 8th May, 1878.

WILLIAM SOTTANSTALL.

New Ring of Bells.

A NEW ring of six bells was dedicated to the service of God in Immanuel Church, Oswaldtwistle, near Accrington, on Easter Day. A short office for the dedication was said by the Incumbent, after the hymn in the anthem's place, the bells being chimed for a short time immediately before it: and at its close the hymn, 'Not idle are the fleeting sounds,' was very heartily sung by the overflowing congregation. The church was well filled at three services. The sermon in the morning was preached by the Rev. Boulby Haslewood, B.A., Incumbent; that in the afternoon by the Rev. R. N. Featherston, B.A., Vicar of Christ Church, Accrington; that in the evening by the Rev. William Pilling, M.A., one of the diocesan priests. The first complete peal, Plain Bob, of 720 changes, was rung by the Ribchester Parish Ringers, assisted by the Rev. Boulby Haslewood, who took the 5th bell. B. Walton, treble; T. Briggs, 2; L. Fletcher, 3; J. Eccles, 4; and B. Walton, jun., the tenor, being a son of the old man who rung the treble and conducted the peal. The bells, cast by Messrs. Taylor & Co. of Loughborough, were brought round in 37 minutes.

The Guild of Devonshire Ringers.

ON Easter Monday a band, selected from the Exeter Branch, on the invitation of the Rector, the Rev. C. W. Sillifant, reopened the ring at Wear-Gifford, near Bideford, after its augmentation to six, and complete rehanging by Messrs. Abbott & Co., of Bideford. The band was composed of Messrs. H. Swift, S. B. Peardon, W. H. Marsh, F. Shepherd, W. C. Marsh, W. B. Fulford, A. Shepherd, and J. Alford, who rang eight peals of Grandsire Doubles and a touch of Grandsire Minor before luncheon; and afterwards, being joined by W. S. Willet, Esq., of Monkleigh, several more six-scores.

On their way home the party visited Bideford, and rang a peal of Grandsire Minor, with 6th and tenor behind; the ringers stood as above. The different peals were conducted by W. B. Fulford, Esq. and Mr. W. H. Marsh, alternately.

On the 1st of May a band, consisting of Messrs. W. Banister, J. Baxter, C. Smith, E. Taylor, and J. Widdicombe, from Plymouth, together with the Rev. M. Kelly of Salcombe, reopened, on behalf of the Guild, the ring of six at Churchston, and rang two peals of 720 Grandsire Doubles, each six-score being called in a different manner.

Norwich Diocesan Association of Ringers.

ON Monday, 6th inst., the above Association held their Quarterly Meeting at Beccles. There was a fair attendance of members, and attempts were made to ring touches of Stedman's Caters, Oxford Treble Bob Major, and Plain Bob Major, but owing to the peculiar arrangement of the bells and the companies being very mixed, no great lengths were accomplished. At 2.30 the members sat down to dinner at the King's Head, under the presidency of the Rev. A. Sutton, who was supported by Gervas Holmes, Esq., and several other gentlemen. After dinner the minutes of the last meeting were read and eighteen new members were elected, three honorary and fifteen performing; among the former the Rev. F. F. Tracy, Vicar of Beccles, and among the latter the Bungay Company, &c. Responding to the toast of 'Success to the Association,' the Secretary touched upon one or two points of belfry reform, and concluded with begging the members to consult the wishes of their respective clergymen, and to co-operate as much as possible with them. He felt sure that it would be to their advantage in every way. The next Meeting is fixed to be held at Ipswich in October, but should any members meanwhile wish to have a meeting at any particular place, if they will communicate with the Secretary, he will do his best to further their wishes.

CORRECTION.—The peal of 5040 triples rung at Barnsley, as reported in our last issue, was composed by Mr. E. Taylor, not by Mr. Troyte.

RECEIVED ALSO.—Jasper Snowdon; F. Birtwistle; T. Marshall; J. Vickers; Long Crendon; and others.

INSTRUCTOR.—The Committee of the Guild of Devonshire Ringers is desirous of finding some competent ringer to act as Instructor to the Guild. No salary, except when training bands, can be guaranteed, but every assistance will be given to such a person in obtaining employment in Exeter. Address, Hon. Sec. G. D. R., Woodbury, Exeter.

Many suggestions have been offered, but one simple remedy, namely, to alter the Act of Parliament which requires a deacon to be 23 years of age to 21 years, or 22, has not, I think, received the attention it deserves. If this were done, and the age for a priest remained 24, the younger clergy would have a better opportunity of learning as deacons the requirements of a parish. As it is, very many get their B.A. before they are 22, and fill up their time in schools as tutors until they are old enough to be ordained, and so miss the opportunity of learning pastoral work, which a diaconate of two or three years would give them. Would it not be better to admit such men at 22 or 21 to the diaconate, and let them remain deacons until 24, rather than compel them to teach in schools, or seek a livelihood by some means, which affords no preparation nor insight into parish work? In my own family I have known four relatives thus fill up the interval between college life and 23 years of age as tutors, who would gladly have become deacons at 22 if they could have been ordained then. The license to preach in church might be withheld for a year, where it was thought desirable. If the bishops would seek an alteration of the Act which requires 23 years for deacons, the door would then be opened wider.

A VICAR.

HOW TO REMEDY AN ECHO.—The Rev. John Morris, vicar of Slebech, Pembrokehire, writes:—‘My church at Slebech is practically useless for reading and preaching in, as the echo is so great that, even when well filled, the words of the preacher are unintelligible. I shall feel very grateful if any of your readers will advise me how to remedy this.’

RECEIVED ALSO.—P. P.; A Churchman; J. H. T.; Fides; T. W. C.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Payment to Ringers—Reply to Mr. Troyte's Suggestions.

SIR,—May I, as one greatly interested in bell-ringing and bell-ringers—though no great bell-ringer myself—address a few words to you on the subject of a very interesting letter from the Rev. R. H. D. Acland Troyte, which appeared in your issue of May 11? He kindly says that his suggestions upon bell-ringers' funds were published to provoke criticism; and I would criticise them upon one point, viz. that there should be no annual payments, but that each ringer who loses time by ringing should be paid for that loss of time. I do think that men who practise twice a-week throughout the year, and ring on a variety of occasions, may fairly look forward, at the close of the year, to some recognition of their services.

Surely the safeguard against this money being put to a bad use is, that the clergy should be very careful whom they allow to become bell-ringers. Rather more than three years ago we were presented with a ring of eight bells, and we had to draw up rules for the bell-ringers, among whom I am proud to number myself. Our ringers are nearly all working men. We decided that they should be twelve in number. None are admitted who are not of steady character and regular attendants at church: in fact, nearly all are communicants. And the following is our arrangement with regard to the bell-ringers' fund:—All money, whether derived from weddings, or subscriptions, or fines, shall be paid into a fund to be held by the treasurer. At the yearly meeting (in August) any member may draw his share, which must not exceed 2*l.* Any surplus money at the end of the year shall be put into a reserve fund, to aid members of the Guild or their families in case of need.

If our subscriptions amount to less than 2*l.* each, the ringers cheerfully accept the twelfth part; if to more, they are still limited to 2*l.*, and the surplus goes into the Post-office Savings' Bank as a reserve fund. We have found this work capital for three years. The first year we had a large surplus; last year there was not 2*l.* each, owing to the usual expenses. This year I anticipate another surplus, and consequently an increase to our reserve fund, out of which already we have given material help to some of our ringers in cases of sickness.

The yearly share is greatly looked forward to, and I am confident it is never abused. We are slow at learning the method of ringing, but we plod away at its rudiments. I think our financial arrangements are a slight improvement on Mr. Troyte's suggestion.

WALTER B. MONEY, Curate of Weybridge, Surrey.

A Correction.

SIR,—My attention has been called to a report in your issue of the 11th inst. of ‘Change-ringing at St. Mary's, Barnsley,’ in which it is stated that the peal rung on the occasion referred to was composed by me. I think it as well to remark that this is a mistake. I have never composed a peal of Grandsire Triples, and the two given in the Appendix to my book are those generally known as Taylor's. In the earlier editions, unfortunately, this was not stated, but in my last I have inserted a foot-note to that effect.

Huntsham Court, Bampton, N. Devon.

CHARLES A. W. TROYTE.

Long Crendon, Bucks.

On Wednesday, 1st inst., the following members of the Crendon Society met at St. Mary's Church, and rang the late Mr. Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, containing 5040 changes, in 3 hrs. 9 mins. T. Hims, 1; L. Ing, 2; P. Turner, 3; J. Warner, 4; M. Warner, 5; D. Warner, 6; W. Cadle, 7; J. Warner and G. Cadle, 8. Conducted by J. Warner. Tenor, 1 ton.

Ringling at Aylsham, Norfolk.

On Tuesday, 7th inst., eight of the Norwich Diocesan Association of Ringers rang 1878 of Bob Major in 1 hr. 18 mins. T. Greenwood, 1; P. Cushion, 2; R. Sutton, 3; S. Mayston, 4; C. Clements, 5; J. Edridge, 6; J. Delph, 7; T. Smith, 8. Composed and conducted by T. Greenwood.

Muffled Peal at Rochdale Parish Church.

On Tuesday, 8th inst., the ringers of the Rochdale parish church, assisted by Mr. Albert Hurst, President of the R. D. Association of Change-ringers rang a muffled peal of Grandsire Triples to the memory of James Wrigley, apparitor at their church for upwards of twenty years. J. W. Healey, 1; J. G. Holt, 2; W. Seedel, 3; A. Hurst, 4; G. W. Greenwood, 5; C. J. Butterworth, 6; F. Birtwistle (conductor), 7; H. Birtwistle, 8.

They also rang on Saturday, the 12th inst., before the Confirmation by the Bishop of Manchester, 1878 Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. 8 mins. H. Ormerod, 1; J. G. Holt, 2; W. Seedel, 3; A. Hurst, 4; G. W. Greenwood, 5; C. J. Butterworth, 6; F. Birtwistle, 7; E. J. Stephenson, 8. Tenor, 17½ cwt. Note, E flat. Composed by W. Gordon of Stockport, and conducted by F. Birtwistle.

Change-ringing at Stockport, Cheshire.

On Friday, the 10th inst., the ringers of St. Mary's parish church rang 504 changes of Stedman's Triples, this being the first in this method. F. Marshall, 1; W. H. Albinson, 2; A. Gordon, 3; J. Meakin, 4; J. Barlow, 5; E. Leonard, 6; W. Albinson (conductor), 7; D. Pendlebury, 8. Tenor, 24 cwt.

St. Michael's, Headingley, Leeds, Yorkshire.

This church has lately been closed for several weeks, during which it has been cleaned and repaired: setting an example which might with advantage be followed by other churchwardens, the authorities also took the opportunity to have the bells and gear overhauled and repaired. This part of the work having been entrusted to Mr. T. Mallaby of Masham, the bells were reopened on Friday, the 10th ult., with several touches of Kent, Oxford, Violet, and New London Pleasure.

Change-ringing at Hindley, Lancashire.

On Saturday, the 11th inst., the following mixed band rang at St. Peter's Church, Hindley, Lancashire, in 2 hrs. 53 mins., Mr. John Holt's ten-course peal of Grandsire Triples, consisting of 5040 changes. G. Grundy (conductor), 1; W. Brown, 2; T. Smith, 3; J. Houghton, 4; J. Vickers, 5; J. Smith, 6; J. Whittingham, 7; E. Arrowsmith, 8. Tenor, 14 cwt. 1 qr.

Norwich Diocesan Association of Ringers.

On Wednesday, 8th inst., a peal of Plain Bob Minor, 720 changes, called in 88 singles, was rung at Garboldisham by the following members of the Garboldisham Company, assisted by Mr. Smith of Thelmetham, who conducted the peal. W. West, 1; Rev. C. L. Kennaway (Rector), 2; J. Chinery, 3; E. Smith, 4; H. Avis, 5; W. Reeve, 6. Tenor, 12 cwt. in G.

On Tuesday, 14th inst., the members of the Kenninghall Branch of the above Association rang at St. Mary's, Kenninghall, in 3 hrs. 20 mins. 5536 changes of Oxford Treble Bob Major, being the first part of Mr. T. Day's peal of 16,608. R. Nudds, 1; R. Hutton, 2; G. Edwards, 3; C. Everett, 4; H. Eagling, 5; J. Woods, 6; R. Stackwood, 7; J. Mordey (conductor) 8. Tenor, 16½ cwt.

City of London Society of Change-ringers.

On Wednesday, the 15th inst., the bells of St. Dunstan's in the West were rung muffled, as a token of respect to the late Mr. S. Tisley, many years vestry clerk. D. Lovett, 1; J. Rumsey, 2; T. Essen, 3; A. Vincent, 4; C. Clarkson, 5; J. Wheeler, 6; A. Jacobs, 7; W. D. Matthews, 8. Conducted by Mr. D. Lovett. Query—What peal was rung?

Change-ringing at St. Mark's Church, Glodwick, Oldham, Lancashire.

On Saturday, 18th inst., six members of the above Society, assisted by their tutors, Messrs. J. Whittaker and W. Ashworth, from Oldham Church, rang John Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples true and complete, consisting of 5040 changes, in 2 hrs. 54 mins. W. Haughton, 1; W. Ashworth (conductor), 2; J. Whittaker, 3; G. H. Beaver, 4; S. Stott, 5; J. Gartside, 6; C. Rothwell, 7; B. Ainley, 8. Tenor, 8½ cwt. Key, A flat. This is the first peal which has been rung by the members of the above Society, who have only been under tuition for ten months.

Ringling at Gargrave, Yorkshire.

On Saturday, 18th inst., six members of the Yorkshire Association rang at St. Andrew's Church, Gargrave, a peal of 5040 changes in the following seven Treble Bob methods—Duke of York, Craven Delight, New London Pleasure, Woodbine, Kent, Violet, Oxford—in 3 hrs. 18 mins. J. T. Middlebrook, 1; R. Brown (aged 17), 2; C. Lancaster (aged 19), 3; W. Mallinson, 4; J. Gill (conductor), 5; J. McKell, 6. Tenor, 16 cwt. It is only ten months since Brown and Lancaster first pulled a bell-rope. This is supposed to be the first true 5000 ever accomplished in Craven.

St. Michael's, Garston, near Liverpool.

On Saturday, 18th instant, eight members belonging to St. Nicholas Society, Liverpool, rang on the eight bells (recently cast by Messrs. Warner and Sons, London) in the above church, a true peal of Kent Treble Bob Major, consisting of 5088 changes, in 3 hrs. 22 mins. J. Heron, jun., 1; I. Meadows, 2; A. Heron, 3; H. Meadows, 4; W. Woodhead, 5; W. Heron, 6; T. Hammond, 7; G. Helsby, 8. Composed and conducted by J. Heron, jun.

ERRATUM.—In Mr. Sottanstall's letter of last week, for ‘16534782’ read ‘16584732.’

CONTRIBUTORS are requested to add the name of the County to the places whence they write to us.

RECEIVED ALSO.—J. Kell; Rev. John Morris; answered direct. We have a letter for Mr. Harvey Reeves: we request his address.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

The Fulham Peal.

SIR,—I wish to make a few remarks respecting the 5079 Stedman's Caters rung at Fulham on the 22nd of April last, the 16th of May, 1842, being the first time that it was completed at the same church, and it is to be rather regretted on my part that it was not called by myself seven years previously. For a certain reason in 1842, after its first completion, I did not reply in the paper, but having recently heard that the caller of the peal was spoken to on Easter Monday respecting its original composer (but not an original production), I state truthfully that the 5079 of Stedman's Caters was first composed by me at the commencement of 1835, which I gave to Mr. George Marriott, now of the Cumberland Society, who can verify this statement; the other ringer being the late much-respected Charles Goozee, who also had it. And I have only recently been informed (although Goozee died in 1858) that he happened on several times to mention it to another ringer, now living, of its being my peal; and I can say, without flattery, that it happened (fortunately) to be told to one with a character equally as exemplary as my late friend, Charles Goozee, viz., Mr. Robert Jameson, of the College Youths. I can also truthfully say that I first attempted it at St. Magnus the Martyr, on the 13th of August, 1836, and after ringing nearly three hours, lost it through illness on my part. On the 20th December in the same year, 5001 Stedman's Caters were rung at St. Saviour's, coming round for policy at 11 sixes from a course end instead of 18, as I could not go for my 5079 through the incompetency of one of the ringers, the former coming round being much easier.

It may not be amiss to mention that since the time of Messrs. Noonan and Gross up to 1845, the longest length of Stedman's Caters with the treble in 2nd's place, viz. 59 courses, was rung at St. Clement's, May 16th, 1845, composed and conducted by myself; the caller of the 5079 hearing it, in a few weeks added another course having 2 singles, which caused them to be out of course. This 60 was rung at Poplar, March 17th, 1846, but the first time a 60 courses was rung was at St. James's, Bermondsey, 25th Sept. 1845, and not in 1846, as stated in Mr. Hubbard's Book of 1854. This peal, an original, with bobs only by me, treble in 2nd's place, 2 sixes only excepted.

JOHN COX.

Payment to Ringers.

SIR,—I desire to reply to Mr. Money's letter in last week's issue on the above subject. He says 'that there should be no annual payment,' &c., and other remarks to the same effect. Surely this is unreasonable, for 'the labourer is worthy of his hire.' The organist, choir, sexton, vergers, and, I may add, the woman who cleans the church, and, in short, every one, is paid. Then why should ringers, who practise a very intricate science, be expected to give their services, and that on the bare chance of getting a paltry 2l. or so at the end of the year, when the organist, whose music can only be heard inside the church (and not by thousands, as steeple music is) gets his 50l. or 80l. per annum? All should be paid, and when ringers are only paid a miserable pittance of 10l. or so per annum, it is mean in the extreme to attempt to reduce it, and worse still to ask them to ring for nothing.

Now I would state what ringers have to do in this place, exclusive of practice:—

52 Sundays, 2 services	= 104
Queen's birthday, 3 peals	3
Accession, 3 peals; Coronation, 3 peals; Prince of Wales' birthday, 3 peals	9
Old Year out and New Year in	2

Peals . 118

If a merchant, tradesman, &c., employs any one, a salary is fixed; services are not expected to be given, with perhaps a possible something at the year's end. By payment at a fixed rate you have a control over those you employ, but not otherwise; and if not paid, the ringers would be justified in leaving the belfry at any moment, in case of any disagreement, and then where would you be, and what would be said of parsons or wardens for their treatment of the ringers? Why, they would be denounced by every parishioner.

As to what ringers do with their salary, it does not concern any one but themselves. If they like to found a club of their own accord, well and good, but it must be of their own free will, and no interference or coercion should be used.

If this idea of expecting gratuitous services goes on much longer, all ringing will soon cease, and we shall no longer hear that 'England is the ringing island.'

LIVERPOOL COLLEGE YOUTHS.

[We have always advocated payment to ringers when their services are required. Why should they not be paid as well as other officials of the Church? As for *firing* or *clashing* the bells as a token of rejoicing, we hold it to be a barbarous custom, and should not be allowed.—ED.]

New Cathedral and Bells at Grahamstown, Cape of Good Hope.

SIR George Gilbert Scott, R.A., having furnished designs and working drawings as a gift towards the object, a commencement was made in November, 1875, to build a Cathedral in the city of Grahamstown, the mother city and capital of the eastern province of the Cape of Good Hope. Grahamstown, founded by the English settlers in 1820, may be considered the centre of English influence in South Africa. The choicest site in the city—being its highest spot of level ground, in its centre, midway in its High Street, amid its courts, public offices, and chief stores, in Cathedral Square—is secured for the new Cathedral. No cathedral in Europe stands on a better site. The design is Early English, in Scott's best style. From west window and door to east window, 195 feet; chancel, transept, and nave roof, same height throughout, about 65 feet to open roof. The tower and spire, 200 feet high, are already finished and paid for. These are by far the heaviest and most difficult parts of

the work. About 12,000l. will finish the whole external work. The most liberal contributions have been given, in some instances by people not rich, and money has come from all classes (Churchmen and Dissenters) for the object. Even the Roman Catholic Bishop has subscribed privately 5l., to show his admiration of the work. 1300l. was raised in 100l. subscriptions, many 50l., and better subscriptions. The donors must number some four or five hundred. The working men, mechanics, and friendly societies of Grahamstown, contributed, by voluntary assessment on their own class and a bazaar amongst themselves, some 600l. The Governor of the Cape, Sir Bartle Frere, member of the Ancient Society of College Youths, has inspected and expressed the utmost admiration of the structure. There is nothing to compare with it in South Africa, and probably not in the southern hemisphere. There are funds in hand to make a commencement of the remainder of the building, and the best spirit is counted on, and may be safely looked for to aid the effort, as far as the means of a small city of about 12,000 people will permit.

A ring of eight bells is earnestly coveted, to furnish the magnificent bell chamber. When secured, it will be the only ring in South Africa. About 700l. perhaps, more or less, would be required to complete the bells. We have all done our very utmost for the present towards the object, and are just now overweighed with the burden. But there is happily a determination to pursue the object to completion as circumstances favour it and our poverty permits, and it is resolved to do everything in the very best style, or not to do it at all.

R. Ryall, Esq., Guildhall Chambers, London, will be happy to receive any contributions.

Privett, Hants.

A FEW weeks ago we noticed the opening, by eight members of the Society of College Youths, of a fine ring of bells in the new parish church of the Holy Trinity. Since then, through the kindness of Mr. Nicholson of Basing Park, the founder of the church, Mr. J. R. Haworth, a member of the above Society, has had under instruction several young men who have volunteered to form a company of ringers for the parish. Under his instruction they have made considerable progress, and with care and perseverance are likely to do well. A meeting was held on Monday last, under the presidency of the Vicar, the Rev. J. F. Falwasser, when the company was definitely formed and a set of rules unanimously adopted.

West Middlesex Bell-ringers' Association.

On Sunday, 12th ult., eight members of the above Association had the honour of opening the new ring of eight bells at Ruislip, near Uxbridge. The day's proceedings commenced by ringing several touches of Grandsire Triples during the afternoon and before evening service. W. Ayers, 1; W. Baron (instructor to the Association), 2; J. Buckingham, 3; W. Hetherington, 4; Rev. C. T. Mayo, 5; W. Bishop, 6; W. Allum, 7; W. Perryman, 8. The hymns at the service were special for the occasion, and the sermon was preached by the Rev. C. T. Mayo, of St. Andrews, from Ps. xix. 4—'Their sound is gone out unto all lands, and their words unto the ends of the world.'

Change-ringing at Mottram, Cheshire.

On Wednesday, the 15th inst., the ringers of the parish church rang a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major, consisting of 5120 changes, in 3 hrs. 2 mins. The ringers were:—R. Wright (conductor) 1; J. Harrop, 2; R. Shaw, 3; Wm. Middleton, 4; G. Braddock, 5; J. Nuttall, 6; T. Braddock, 7; J. Bailey, 8. Tenor, 14 cwt. The peal was composed by Mr. William Harrison, of Mottram. This peal is the more remarkable as seven of the ringers had never tried to ring a full peal before.

Ringing at Ashford, Kent.

THE bells of St. Mary's, Ashford, were re-opened on Monday, the 20th ult. by J. Larker, T. Foord, J. Friend, H. Down, F. Finn, G. Finn, sen., G. Finn, jun., H. Foreman, E. Ovendon, J. Harrison, and T. Post. During the day several excellent touches of Treble Bob Major, Grandsire Triples, and Grandsire Major (each conducted by Mr. Larker), were rung. At five o'clock the visitors, with the Ashford Ringers' Society, which is only in its infancy, and a few of the principal parishioners, altogether about thirty, dined together at the Saracen's Head hotel. During the evening several tunes were rung upon handbells and fairy bells, and the singing of the National Anthem by the company brought the day's proceedings to a close.

Cumberland Society (late London Scholars).

On Wednesday, 22nd ult., the following members rang at St. John's, Waterloo Road, London, Holt's original one-part peal of Grandsire Triples, comprising 5040 changes, in 3 hrs. 2 mins. G. Newson, 1; T. Sadler (first peal), 2; D. Stackwood, 3; W. Coppage, 4; E. Gibbs, 5; W. Baron, 6; E. Pemberton (first peal), 7; G. Isley (first peal), 8. The peal—a very good one—was conducted by Mr. G. Newson.

Durham Diocesan Association of Ringers.

SIR,—Will you oblige by stating that the next General Meeting of this Association will be held (by kind permission of the vicar) at the Parish Church, Barnard Castle, on Monday, June 10th (Whit-Monday). The ring consists of eight bells, in good order. Tenor, 17 cwt. A dinner will be provided at 1s. per head for members only, at the Turk's Head, at half-past one. Those intending to dine are requested to send in their names not later than Monday, June 3rd, to the Secretary, Mr. G. J. Clarkson, 7 Brunswick Street, Stockton-on-Tees. Members of the Committee are requested to meet at the Turk's Head at one o'clock.

RECEIVED ALSO.—A College Youth (we have not yet admitted bell poetry); Liverpool College Youth (on Records of Peals); Walthamstow; Long Melford; Birmingham; T. A. Turner; B. Keeble.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Payment to Ringers.

SIR,—No doubt Mr. Money will himself answer 'Liverpool College Youth,' who has confused my suggestion with Mr. Money's criticism on it with regard to annual payments. It is my proposal, not Mr. Money's, that there should be no annual division. But I, perhaps, may be allowed to remark, that I think both these gentlemen somewhat misunderstand the object of my scheme. 'Liverpool College Youth' certainly does. He talks of 'the labourer being worthy of his hire,' as though it was suggested that all ringing should be gratuitous, and that ringers should reap no benefit from their work; while Mr. Money says, 'I do think that men who practise twice a-week throughout the year, and ring on a variety of occasions, may fairly look forward at the close of the year to some recognition of their services.' And in the last number of *Church Bells* an Editorial comment asks, 'Why should not they (i.e. the ringers) be paid as well as other officials of the Church?' Now my suggestion, so far from being that ringers should not be paid at all, is, that they should not even wait until the end of the year, but that they should be paid at once from the funds of the Guild for the time lost from their work; and I said that each Guild might determine on a fixed sum (2s. 6d. or 3s., or whatever they like), to be paid to those who give up their day's work for ringing, which seems to me to be the nearest thing to regular payment of ringers that I have yet met with. I then suggested merely (for I have no wish that any 'interference or coercion should be used' in the matter) that the remaining funds of the Guild should be invested for the benefit of the ringers. A glance at No. 1 of my suggestions (See *Church Bells* for May 11, page 267) will show that I expressly state that I would not have the money used otherwise than for the men themselves, not even for the bells or belfry. Furthermore I left the whole management of the fund in the hands of a committee, formed of course from the ringers themselves; which is surely a guarantee that it will be disposed of in accordance with their own wishes, and for the furtherance of their best interests.

'Liverpool College Youth,' living in a large town, does not perhaps realise that in country parishes most of our officials, organist, choir, and ringers, are all volunteers. We get for them what we can by offertories and contributions, but they have no fixed salary, for the simple reason that no means are forthcoming, and so we have to depend on what voluntary assistance we can get. But if it was found impossible to get any funds at all (which I hope will never be the case anywhere), I do not believe that even then their services would be without music, or the iron tongues of the steeple silent.

Portock, June 3.

R. H. D. ACLAND-TROYTE.

The Guild of Devonshire Ringers.

THE annual meeting of the Guild of Devonshire Ringers, for the transaction of business, was held yesterday afternoon, in St. Paul's Schoolroom, Exeter. The Rev. J. A. Kempe presided, in the absence of the President (Major C. A. W. Troyte), who had to leave after the disposal of some committee business. The Rev. J. L. Langdon Fulford, Hon. Secretary, submitted the Committee's Report for the past year.

The Report stated that whereas there were last year 114 members attached to bands in union, and 100 members, honorary and performing, not so attached, there are now 100 of the former and 130 of the latter. The total number of members in 1876 was 196; in 1877, 214; and at the present time 230. The Committee referred to the death of Mr. C. H. Norrington, to whose exertions the Guild was so much indebted on the occasion of the inaugural meeting, and also of the general meeting held subsequently in Plymouth. During the past year two new bands had been formed in connexion with the Guild, namely at Monkleigh and St. Mary Church. There is a prospect of the belfry arrangements in the former case being shortly improved, and they trust the St. Mary Church band will make rapid progress in the science. The Committee had decided on advertising for an instructor, competent to conduct a peal, who could reside at Exeter, and render assistance when required to bands in union. During the past twelve months only two peals of 5040 Grandsire Triples have been rung by members, namely at Charles, Plymouth, and another at Huntsham. The restored ring at Loddiswell was reopened by members of the Guild, as well as the new ring of eight at St. Mary Church. Among the home performances of bands of less length than a peal, the Huntsham Society rang during the past year nine peals of Grandsire Minor; three peals of Treble Bob Minor; five touches, exceeding a 1000 each of Grandsire Triples; together with two touches, respectively 756 and 528 of Stedman Triples. The Secretaries of other bands had neglected to send in any report. Each band should in future forward an account in January in each year. Passing to more general matters, the Committee desired to call the attention of the members to a recently published letter addressed by one of the members to the President, on the subject of the management of the funds of societies of ringers. That the ordinary method adopted by even the best organized societies in the county, of dividing the year's receipts at the annual meeting, is open to objections all must feel, and the mere ventilation of the subject cannot but be beneficial; and hence the Committee asked the various bands in union to consider the propositions contained in the letter, and then to communicate their opinions about them to the Committee. It was hoped that the members of the Guild who reside in Cornwall will not withdraw; but at the same time the Committee were of opinion that ringers belonging to the diocese of Truro should set about the formation of a society somewhat similar to this one. The science of change-ringing has at present made but very little progress in Cornwall, while so-called prize-ringing is rife, and the true position of ringers as part of the organization of the Church in each parish is but little recognised. The Committee believe that a Guild might be formed in Cornwall, which would do much not merely to promote scientific ringing, but that also which is of greater importance, namely,

belfry reform, and they trust that in the midst of the organization of the new diocese the claims of the ringers may not be overlooked. Passing to the work executed in the bell-chambers of the county during the past year, the Committee reported the completion of the following additions to, or restorations of, the rings of Devon, involving an expenditure of rather more than 1200*l*. Messrs. Abbot and Co., of Bideford, have recast the old treble into a second, and rehung all the bells, as well as added a new treble at Wear Gifford. Mr. Aggett, of Chagford, has repaired the cage of the four at Gidleigh, has added two new trebles to the six at Chagford, and has rehung the three at Woodland. Messrs. Hooper and Stokes, of Woodbury, have hung the new ring of eight at St. Mary Church; and have rehung the six at St. Petrock's, Exeter, and the five at Feniton; have added two trebles to the six at Aveton Gifford; and have executed repairs at St. Thomas the Apostle and Rockbeare. Messrs. Taylor and Co., of Loughborough, have cast two trebles for Chagford; and have cast a treble, recast the fourth and sixth, and hung the six at Loddiswell. Messrs. Warner and Son have recast the six at Churchstow, have cast trebles for Buckland and Wear Gifford, and have completely rehung the six at Staverton.

The balance-sheet submitted by the Treasurer (Mr. W. B. Fulford) showed that the receipts were 59*l*. 15*s*. 8*d*., including a balance of 49*l*. 9*s*. 2*d*., the subscriptions being 30*l*., and after the disbursements of the year, there was a balance of 2*l*. 4*s*. 3*d*. On the motion of the Rev. J. L. Langdon Fulford the report and balance-sheet were adopted. It was resolved that a general meeting of the Guild be held on August 12th, at Bideford, Wear Gifford, and Northam. The officers for the ensuing year were appointed. Mr. John Baxter (Plymouth) was elected on the Committee in the place of the late Mr. Norrington, and the Rev. M. Kelly in succession to the Rev. W. F. Gore. The officers of the Guild for 1878 are therefore as under:—Patron, the Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of Exeter; President, Major C. A. W. Troyte; Vice-Presidents, the Ven. the Archdeacons of Exeter, Barnstaple, and Totnes (*ex officio*), the Earl of Devon, the Rev. H. T. Ellacombe, the Rev. C. S. Bere, Mr. J. D. Pode; Secretary, Rev. J. L. Langdon Fulford; Treasurer, Mr. W. B. Fulford; Assistant-Secretary, Mr. W. J. Woodcombe; Committee, Mr. W. Banister, the Rev. W. C. Gibbs, Mr. John Baxter, the Rev. M. Kelly, the Rev. F. Sterry, elected members, with representative members from Broadclyst, Budleigh, Huntsham, Exeter, Ilfracombe, Merton, Penzance, Plymouth, Plympton, Updown, and Woodbury.

Date-Touch at Walthamstow, Essex.

ON Wednesday, the 22nd ult., eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang at St. Mary's, Walthamstow, a touch of Grandsire Triples, comprising 1637 changes, being the date of the year in which the above Society was established. W. Cecil, 1; G. Grimwade, 2; J. H. Wilkins, 3; T. Maynard, 4; S. Reeves, 5; C. Lee, 6; H. Reeves, 7; W. Crookford, 8. Composed by Harvey Reeves and conducted by Thomas Maynard.

Change-ringing at Long Melford, Suffolk.

ON Saturday evening, 25th ult., seven members of the Glemsford Society, with Mr. J. Driver of Melford, now in his 72nd year, rang at the above church a touch of 1008 changes of Bob Major in 50 mins. S. Slater, 1; C. Honeybell, 2; Z. Slater, 3; J. Driver, 4; P. Adams, 5; F. Wells, 6; J. Slater, 7; G. Maxim, 8. Conducted by S. Slater.

Half-muffled Peal at St. Peter's, Hindley, Lancashire.

ON Saturday, 25th ult., the ringers of the above church, with other friends, rang the first half of Mr. John Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, containing 2520 changes, in 1 hr. 28½ mins. G. Grundy, 1; E. Prescott, 2; J. Higson, 3; H. Heaton, 4; R. Calland, 5; T. Tickle, 6; J. Whittingham, 7; J. Prescott, 8. Tenor, 14 cwt. The bells were muffled at the hand-stroke in memory of Mr. James Brown, late one of the ringers. Conducted by Mr. George Grundy.

Change-ringing at Birmingham, Warwickshire.

ON Tuesday, 28th ult., the following members of the St. Martin's Society occupied the belfry of the parish church, and rang, in 3 hrs. 20 mins., a peal of Cinques on Stedman's principle, comprising 5004 changes. J. Carter, 1; J. Joyes, 2; C. H. Hattersley, 3; H. Bastable, 4; J. Banister, 5; H. Johnson, sen., 6; J. James, 7; H. Johnson, jun., 8; J. Dunn, 9; H. H. James, 10; W. Hallsworth, 11; J. Buffery, 12. The above peal, which contains the sixth twelve times wrong and twelve times right, with the treble as second bell at the course ends, was composed and conducted by H. Johnson, sen.

Change-ringing by the Ancient Society of College Youths.
(Established 1637.)

ON Saturday, the 1st inst., eight members of the above Society rang at All Hallows Church, Barking, Middlesex, a peal of Grandsire Triples, containing 5040 changes in 2 hrs. 52 mins. S. Reeves, 1; W. Cecil, 2; J. Pettit, 3; F. Bate, 4; R. French, 5; J. M. Hayes, 6; H. Gardner, 7; T. Bugby, 8. Tenor, 1 ton. The peal was Mr. John Holt's one-part, with two doubles in the last four leads, and was conducted by Mr. James Pettit. It is nineteen years since the last peal was rung on these bells.

Muffled Ringing at Ashover, Derby.

ON Tuesday, 4th inst., several peals of Grandsire Doubles were rung with the bells half open as a last mark of respect to the late Rev. W. Kirkham, formerly curate of the parish. J. H. Beardow, 1; T. Beardow, 2; W. Buxton, 3; G. Beardow, 4; W. Hopkinson, 5. Tenor, 19½ cwt.

Notices.

LIVERPOOL COLLEGE YOUTHS.—Records of peals—One for Treble—as sent by the best ringers in the kingdom.

recognise and register, after due notice, whatever the parties being competent to marry consider a binding marriage. The Registrar should not marry. He should testify that he has witnessed a ceremony, or that it has been declared to him that a ceremony which the parties consider binding has been performed, whereupon he should certify that they are married. F. J. CANDY.

Solemnization of Holy Matrimony.

SIR,—As neither of your correspondents, 'T. H. E.' or 'F. C. C.' appears to fully understand the real wording of the law providing for marriage by Registrar's license or certificate, permit me to set them right on the matter. 'T. H. E.' is correct in stating the law only requires one clear day's interval for a license by Superintendent-Registrar, but this can only be granted provided one of the parties has resided for fifteen days in the district previous to giving notice. The Superintendent-Registrar can then grant a license for the marriage to take place, either in the Register Office or any licensed building other than the Church of England. By the ordinary certificate, if the parties reside in the same district they must have had their 'usual place and abode' therein seven days previous; then, at the expiration of twenty-one clear days, the Superintendent-Registrar can grant his certificate for the marriage to take place in any licensed building or church in his district. If the parties reside in different districts, notice must be given to each of their respective Registrars, and a certificate from both be produced at the time of marriage.

A solemn declaration has to be made and signed by one of the contracting parties at the time of giving notice, stating that the particulars given are correct; also that there is no impediment to the proposed marriage, 'well knowing that any person wilfully making any false declaration for the purpose of procuring any marriage under the provisions of the Act 19 Vic. cap. 119, shall suffer the penalties of perjury.' In the case of minors the declaration sets forth that the consent of the parents or guardian has been obtained. As to there being more secrecy in the method of marriage by a Registrar, my belief is that there exists a greater opportunity for deception by obtaining a license from the Surrogate, or even by banns, than by notice to the Superintendent-Registrar, as the particulars required are not so searching, but this might, I believe, be remedied by enforcing a similar declaration. A case which came under my immediate notice will, I think, illustrate this. I once took a notice from a young man who stated his intended wife was of full age, but when I read the declaration to him he declined to sign it, as really the required consent had not been given. He stated he was not aware he would have to make such a statement, and that he should go to a church, as there they were not so particular. I learnt shortly after that these parties were married in a church, out of the ecclesiastical district in which they lived; and had thus evaded the law simply because, as he stated, 'they were not so particular.' Now, Sir, I think this shows that marriage by a Registrar's certificate or license does not encourage the secrecy implied; on the other hand I believe, if the same scrutiny were observed by the Church authorities as by the Registrar, it would tend to lessen illegal marriages, which no doubt frequently take place in the Church. Of course I do not maintain that it is impossible for an illegal marriage to take place at the Register Office, but I believe the fact of the parties knowing that making a false declaration renders them liable to a term of imprisonment is a preventive; neither do I uphold altogether marriage in the Register Office, which, of course, is but a civil rite, and not a religious ceremony. But surely it is better to encourage marriage in any form rather than let immorality continue, and my experience is that many who have been leading a profligate life are married in the office who would not go to a church. Thus the law sanctioning marriages in the Register Office may, and possibly is, productive of more good than may appear at first sight.

AN EX-SUPERINTENDENT-REGISTRAR.

Chanting or Reading the Psalms.

SIR,—If we were not enjoined 'in meekness to instruct those that oppose themselves,' it would be difficult to keep one's temper from anger against some who do oppose. It will scarcely be credited by any educated person that there are those who, while the first page of the Prayer-book declares that the Psalms are 'pointed as they are to be sung or said,' and in spite of the fact that they are so 'pointed,' persistently refer to the introductory parts of the Prayer-book, and claim that there is to be found a direction, 'How the Psalter is appointed to be read.'

It is in vain to tell them that there is no sort of contradiction here; that 'reading' simply means to utter, or pronounce, or speak, without any allusion to the mode in which such utterance is made. It is in vain to refer to the rubric before the *Venite*, which any reasonably educated man must see, at once, conclusively sets the matter at rest, showing that 'read' plainly means 'said' or 'sung.' It is in vain to point out to them the first rubric at Morning Prayer, and show how words must be taken in their spirit and meaning, and not always literally—where that rubric orders the sentences to be 'read' and the address to be 'said,' but which terms the address 'that which is written.' More astounding still, it is in vain to tell them that, beyond doubt, Jesus and His disciples 'chanted,' on the night of the institution of the Lord's Supper, the 'Hallel' Psalms (or a portion of them); and it seems equally useless to suggest that the Psalms themselves constantly exhort us to 'sing':—'O come, let us sing.' 'Sing praises.' 'Take a psalm, bring hither the tabret, the merry harp, with the lute.' All I can get is a dogged reply, 'It says here that the Psalter is to be read.' Nor does it much alter the opposition to tell them that Cranmer chanted every Psalm, and desired such an arrangement of chanting as should give a note to each syllable. The answer to all is, that 'It says here that the Psalter is to be read.'

I own that it is very trying to witness such doggedness and obstinacy, and such a determination not to be taught; but some of these opponents appear to be good men, and conscientious in their objections, and for this reason it is that I venture to ask of your readers whether they can suggest a method of demonstrating to such folk how thoroughly they are in the wrong, and how, in obstinately resisting the chanting of the Psalms, they resist the mode in which their Redeemer used them.

P. P.

A Remedy Wanted.

SIR,—Allow me to call attention to what is a scandal to the Church of England, which lays claim to be the Church of the nation. I refer to the fact that in most of the outlying hamlets of our country parishes the Church has left the provision of places of worship to Dissent. In a local paper this week there is an account of the laying of memorial stones for a school-chapel belonging to a Methodist body, in such a hamlet as above described. No doubt your readers know of many similar cases. In a neighbouring parish to this there are two outlying villages, and both of them have become strongholds of Dissent through the lukewarmness of the Church; the only spiritual provision for years having been Methodist chapels. In one of these villages an effort is being made by the Church, now a gentleman has given 1000l. towards a curate's fund, but Dissent is almost supreme. In my native parish there are four or five such hamlets, containing one or more Dissenting chapels each, but there is no provision made by the Church. If some rich man will build a church and provide a clergyman, well and good; if not, Dissent seems the only alternative in the majority of cases. Now, why is this? Is it that the clergy have lost these places to the Church through a reluctance to employ lay-help? for by no other means can they all be worked; and surely a lay-Churchman is as competent to conduct a simple service as a lay-Dissenter. Or is it the fault of the Establishment, which makes so many professed Churchmen expect to have everything done for them?

There is another matter I would like to mention, and that is the point referred to by 'A. F. S. H.' viz. the gabbling through the prayers in some churches where 'decency and order' are supposed to reign supreme. It is shocking to hear the irreverent manner in which the Lord's Prayer is rattled through, so that it is impossible to follow the separate petitions. I read some time ago of one of the Evangelical Missionaries of last century who drew tears from his congregation by the way in which he read the Litany. I am afraid we are getting farther off this every day, for there often seems an effort made to get through the prayers as quickly as possible.

Y. Z.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

The Fulham Peal.—Answer to Mr. Cox.

SIR,—Will you kindly allow me to make a few remarks respecting the 5079 Stedman Caters rung at Fulham, the 22nd April last, and 59 and 60 courses, which appeared in a letter of your last issue? Mr. Cox states, that he attempted to call the same peal in 1836 at St. Magnus the Martyr, and that Mr. Charles Goozee had the peal. Now, Sir, I can truthfully say that I never heard of or knew any one that remembers Mr. Cox attempting to call the peal in question, nor was it rung till I called it at Fulham in 1842. Now, if Mr. Cox had attempted to call the said peal in 1836, it appears very strange that he did not claim it when I called it in 1842. It is further strange, inasmuch as Mr. Goozee rang in the peal in 1842, and when I handed him the peal to look at, he said (referring to a peal of his own) 'If I had omitted a call at 16 in the first course my peal would have been the same as this;' but he did not say one word about having seen Mr. Cox's so-called peal, so it appears very clear that he never saw the peal till 1842. It is also strange that Mr. Cox did not send the peal to Mr. Hubbard, who, I feel sure, would have put his name to it in the book he published in 1854, which was twelve years after the first time I had called it; therefore, as he did not, and the peal is in that book with my name to it, p. 124, I claim it to be my original peal. But Mr. Cox may have made a mistake in the peal; does he mean the 5079 which he called at St. Albans?

With regard to the 60 courses Mr. Cox is in error. He called 59 courses at St. Clement's in May 1845, which he states in his letter, and for which there is a tablet in the steeple, stating 'This is the greatest number of changes that can possibly be obtained with the treble in second's place,' &c. In three weeks after I obtained another course, making 60, with the treble in second's place at each course end, &c., with bobs only. The peal is in Hubbard's book, 1854, p. 179, which I can truthfully say is the first 60 courses ever composed true, with the treble in second's place, and the 7th, 8th, and 9th in the titulum position. This peal has never been rung or attempted.

283 Globe Road, Bethnal Green, E.

H. HALEY, Senior.

SIR,—Fulham seems rather a warm place for the College Youths, although I must say the Rector always treats the members of my company with due respect and kindness. Yet whenever we visit Fulham as a company we are sure to get into a mess and upset the Cumberland's equilibrium. The last peal the College Youths rang at Fulham was a peal of Treble Bob (Kent), which caused a great deal of controversy. Mr. John Cox had the honour of putting an end to all further correspondence about that peal.

The Cumberlands having advertised through your valuable paper that they would attempt a long peal of Grandsire Caters on Easter Monday at Fulham, a great many of my company went down to hear this said long peal, but, unfortunately, arrived there too late to hear any ringing. Through some mishap the ringers had got out, lowered the bells, and some of them had gone home—or gone to Putney. Not knowing how to occupy our time for the rest of the day, we asked permission to go for a peal of Stedman's Caters, which was rung, 5079 changes with the 2 3 4 5 6 in equal parts behind the 9th. This seems to have annoyed the Cumberlands exceedingly, for they not only taxed us with bribing the steeplekeeper to allow us to go up in the tower, but Mr. John Cox actually claims the peal as his composition, and informs us he attempted to call it at St. Magnus in the year 1836, and quotes two gentlemen's names, viz. Messrs. Marriott and Jameson, to verify his statement. Both these gentlemen at that time, I am certain, knew nothing whatever about the composition of Stedman, and I doubt if they know a very great deal now. As for the late Mr. Charles Goozee, he was

a man far advanced in the science and highly respected by all who knew him; but then—the man is dead. What is the use of bringing his name in question?

Mr. Haley composed the peal about the year 1842; rang and called it for the first time at Fulham in 1842, and it has been called thirteen times by different Bob-callers, each time with Mr. Haley's name attached as the composer. So, after a period of thirty-six years, Mr. Cox just now informs the ringing public that this said peal rung at Fulham was composed by him, and not Mr. Haley! I think for one that the man who produces a peal, rings the treble, and calls it for the first time, is entitled to the honour of being the composer.

G. MUSKETT.

A LIST OF THE RINGS OF TEN BELLS IN ENGLAND.

By Jasper W. Snowdon.

SOME time ago a list of the rings of twelve bells was given in these columns, this I now follow with one of the rings of ten. So far as I know this list embraces all those that are hung for change-ringing, and if the number of rings of twelve, which when the St. Paul's bells are completed will be twenty-five, is added, we find that there are 104 rings in England available for the practice of Caters or Royal.

So far as possible I have endeavoured to obtain accurate information with regard to the weights of the tenors, but the various discrepancies I have encountered when the weight of the same bell has been obtained from different sources have been sufficient to show me the great difficulty there is in obtaining reliable information on such points.

No.	Church.	Town.	County.	Tenor in Cwts.
1	SS. Peter & Paul	Aston	Warwickshire	23
2	St. Michael	Ashton-under-Lyne	Lancashire	20
3	St. Lawrence	Appleton	Berkshire	14
4	St. Michael	Aylsham	Norfolk	20
5	The Abbey	Bath	Somersetshire	40
6	St. Michael	Beccles	Suffolk	28
7	St. Philip	Birmingham	Warwickshire	29
8	St. Michael	Bishop Stortford	Hertfordshire	21
9	St. Peter	Bradford	Yorkshire	27
10	St. Nicholas	Brighton	Sussex	18
11	Christ Church	Bristol	Somersetshire	22
12	St. Nicholas	Bristol	Somersetshire	36
13	St. John	Bromsgrove	Worcestershire	20
14	St. James	Bury St. Edmunds	Suffolk	30
15	The Cathedral	Canterbury	Kent	32
16	St. Mary	Cheltenham	Gloucestershire	23
17	St. Mary	Chesterfield	Derbyshire	24
18	St. Michael	Coventry	Warwickshire	32
19	All Saints	Derby	Derbyshire	30
20	St. Thomas	Dudley	Staffordshire	21
21	St. Margaret	Dunham Massey	Cheshire	21
22	The Cathedral	Exeter	Devonshire	67
23	St. Wulfran	Grantham	Lincolnshire	32
24	The Cathedral	Hereford	Herefordshire	44
25	All Saints	Hertford	Hertfordshire	22
26	All Saints	High Wycombe	Buckinghamshire	23
27	St. Peter	Huddersfield	Yorkshire	18
28	Holy Trinity	Kendal	Westmoreland	25
29	St. Nicholas	Leeds	Kent	20
30	St. Margaret	Leicester	Leicestershire	30
31	St. Martin	Leicester	Leicestershire	22
32	The Cathedral	Lichfield	Staffordshire	28
33	St. Peter	Liverpool	Lancashire	25
34	Christ Church	Macclesfield	Cheshire	23
35	All Saints	Maidstone	Kent	30
36	The Cathedral	Manchester	Lancashire	25
37	Town Hall	Manchester	Lancashire	52
38	St. Mary	Mirfield	Yorkshire	30
39	Mary Magdalen	Newark	Nottinghamshire	33
40	St. Andrew	Norwich	Norfolk	18
41	St. Mary	Nottingham	Nottinghamshire	35
42	Christ Church	Oxford	Oxfordshire	42
43	Magdalen College	"	"	21
44	New College	"	"	19
45	St. Andrew	Plymouth	Devonshire	34
46	St. Lawrence	Reading	Berkshire	30
47	St. Ann	Rotherham	Yorkshire	32
48	St. Mary	Shrewsbury	Shropshire	21
49	St. Andrew	Soham	Cambridgeshire	21
50	St. Lambert	Stonham Aspell	Suffolk	24
51	St. Lawrence	Stroudwater	Gloucestershire	22
52	All Saints	Wakefield	Yorkshire	31
53	St. Matthew	Walsall	Staffordshire	24
54	St. Mary	Warwick	Warwickshire	28
55	St. Bartholomew	Wednesbury	Staffordshire	23
56	All Saints	West Ham	Essex	28
57	St. Peter	Wisbeach	Cambridgeshire	22
58	St. Peter	Wolverhampton	Staffordshire	28
59	All Saints	Worcester	Worcestershire	23
60	St. Giles	Wrexham	Denbighshire	25
61	St. Nicholas	Yarmouth	Norfolk	30

LONDON AND DISTRICT.

No.	Church.	District.	Tenor in Cwts.
62	St. James	Bermondsey	25
63	St. Giles	Camberwell	25
64	St. Mary-le-Bow	Cheapside	53
65	St. Luke	Chelsea	28
66	St. Dionis*	Fenchurch Street	19
67	All Saints	Fullam	21
68	St. Alphege	Greenwich	23
69	St. Stephen	Hampstead	27
70	St. John	Horsleydown	19
71	All Saints	Kingston-on-Thames	28
72	St. Magnus	London Bridge	22
73	St. Barnabas	Pimlico	20
74	All Saints	Poplar	25
75	St. Sepulchre	Snow Hill	32
76	St. John	Southwark	19
77	St. Dunstan	Stepney	31
78	St. Clement Danes	Strand	24
79	St. Margaret	Westminster	28

* Church pulled down: bells to be placed in All Hallows' Church, Lombard Street.

The Payment of Bell-ringers.

SIR,—Two things strike me in reference to the subject under consideration. One is, that no one cares enough for *round-ringing* to pay for the time spent in it; and the other, that it is quite impossible to pay for the time spent in learning to ring properly. Fifty pounds a man would not be too much to repay every member of a company for the time necessarily given to become a fair change-ringer. I believe change-ringing is nearly always done by volunteers. We are fond of hearing bells at our weddings, and generally pay the ringers liberally, and very few of us know or care whether the bells are jangled hideously or rung in the tittums. Ordinary round-ringers do not deserve paying at all (unless it is to leave off), and I think, as a rule, they get more than they deserve. Change-ringers are enthusiasts in their way, who never expect to get paid for their time lost (?) in their favourite amusement.

Very few people have ears good enough to appreciate change-ringing proper. We all love our bells, because they are connected with some of our most sacred and most tender feelings. In old-fashioned places the introduction of half-pull ringing is looked upon with disfavour, because it gives the bells a new sound; they seem no longer the bells of our childhood, they lose their close connexion with our cherished memories of old. The children in this village say the bells go 'Ding-dong alarum—boom.' So they do, rung by the village-ringers. The treble is high-pitched, the second rung wide, and the tenor too deep for the others. Far away from home, and after the lapse of years spent where change-ringing was unknown, I happened to be once more in the land of ringing, and the first time I heard the bells struck into the old Grandsire it brought back to me a thousand sweet, though painful memories, for since I rang with real ringers death has been busy among those with whom I used to stand. Coarse and vulgar though it may be, the Ding-dong Alarum-boom is as dear to many ears as 213546, &c., is to mine. We must deal tenderly with old institutions, old feelings, and old folks.

When I first came here the payment to each ringer amounted to over 20s. a man; since the men have partly become change-ringers it has fallen to 15s., and of this the parson gives nearly half, for he has doubled his subscription. The best way to pay ringers is by kindness, instruction, and love, by the parson joining with them in their work, and thus helping them to better thoughts and better things. To pay men worth having to ring is nearly impossible, and the paltry sum given only serves as a bait to a worthless set.

TREBLE BOB.

Royal Cumberland Society, late London Scholars.

ALL HAIL TO JONATHAN PAVIER, THE RINGER,		THE PEAL.		5 0 2 4.		M. B. W. H.	
AGED 100 YEARS!		2	3	4	5	6	
ON Saturday, 1st inst., the following peal of		4	6	5	3	2	2
Kent Treble Bob Major was rung at St. Matthew's,		4	5	3	6	2	1
Bethnal Green, in 3 hrs. 5 mins. J. Cox, 1;		5	2	3	6	4	2
C. T. Hopkins, 2; J. Rogers, 3; W. Hoverd, 4;		2	4	3	6	5	2
H. Swain, 5; H. Dains, 6; D. Stackwood, 7;		4	6	3	2	5	1
J. Barrett, 8. Composed by Mr. H. Dains, and		6	2	4	5	3	
conducted by Mr. John Cox. This performance		2	5	6	3	4	
celebrated a double event, being the anniversary		2	4	5	3	6	1
of the presentation of a handsome testimonial to		4	3	5	2	6	1
the conductor by his friends, and in commemora-		5	3	2	4	6	1
tion of Jonathan Pavier reaching his 100th		3	4	2	5	6	1
birthday on the 30th ult. He personally knew		6	4	5	2	3	2
the celebrated John Noonan, has been a Cumber-		4	2	3	5	6	2
land for nearly 70 years, and is thought to be the		2	5	3	4	6	1
first ringer who has lived to be a centenarian.		3	5	4	2	6	1
		5	2	4	3	6	1
		2	3	4	5	6	1

NOTICES.—All editors of periodicals reserve to themselves the liberty of choosing what they like for publication without any explanation, and rejected contributions are never returned.

RECEIVED ALSO.—E. Seage; W. B. Money; S. J. Clarkson, and others.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

The Fulham Peal.

SIR,—I am one of the Cumberlands who had not gone to Putney on Easter Monday, and can, I think, throw some light upon this subject of Caters generally.

In the first attempt at this long peal, ten of our Royal company rang a touch that lasted about seven hours and a half; and on the above-mentioned day they rang about three hours. It will thus be seen that these touches together equal about three such peals as the one rung with so much boast on Easter Monday by the College Youths. During this performance one other, at least, of the Cumberlands was in his place, who amused himself in some quiet spot by noting down the course ends and composition of this peal as it progressed, and thus it was found to be the very one Mr. Cox claims to have composed about the year 1836; at which time, I may say, he was a College Youth, and Mr. Haley a Cumberland Youth, and therefore each man has now his friends, &c., irrespective of the Society to which he at present belongs.

It is my intention to leave these gentlemen to settle this dispute themselves, simply stating a few facts that have come to my knowledge in connexion therewith. But at the same time it is impossible to say that this is a new question. London ringers are well acquainted with its details, few moving amongst them many months without hearing it repeated, and outspoken opinions upon it, stronger and in the reverse direction to that by my friend Mr. Muskett, in his letter of the 15th inst., in which he appears rather positive that Mr. Haley composed the peal about the year 1842, and that Messrs. Marriott and Jameson knew nothing about Stedman's composition in 1836. Now, Sir, this is retrospective indeed, and to a time when he, like myself, although perhaps in *embryo*, was not yet in swaddling-clothes. I must here, however, say that young Marriott—ten years Mr. Haley's senior—subsequently became the bob-caller of a Grandsire Triple peal, and a good Stedman Cinques ringer, and thus may, perhaps, be esteemed a man with more knowledge on such matters than my friend seems to imagine, and one rather above the ordinary ringer, who, when he has finished with the rope's-end, has also done with the science. Some blame Mr. Cox for not challenging this peal years ago. To this he is best able to reply. But if reference is made to the books of the Society of which he was then a member, it will, I think, be found that he was in but one or two of the few peals rung during the years 1839 to 1844, being on a provincial tour through the north of England for the benefit of his health. Thus, being indisposed, and subsequently finding a shorter peal with the same properties, the affair was allowed to pass until the present time; and I don't believe he would now have done so, had it not been for the regularity of 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, &c., being reprinted in your paper.

Now, Sir, like many others (to their disappointment, I doubt not), I know, by experience, how possible it is for two or more persons to find the same peal. I have composed old peals repeatedly, and might never have known the difference had it not been for that infallible principle of reversing peals, which, although I believe it is as old as Jonathan Pavier, is not, I fear, quite understood or recognised by all ringers, even now: of course I allude to Treble Bob peals, and the one rung at St. Dionis. Messrs. Cox and Haley may even have composed this peal of Caters, and easily so, as I have shown above, although not quite so in this method as Treble Bob. Mr. Cox, however, says that the composition of the peal is easy, and at the time he found it its qualities were in every one's mouth; so that any acute person, hearing such repeated again and again, could easily have written it down. H. DAINS.

Payment of Ringers.

SIR,—I had not intended to reply to the letter of 'Liverpool College Youth,' which obviously related to an entirely different state of things to that referred to in my letter, and as Mr. Adam Troyte has shown, he clearly had confused our two letters in his mind; besides which, 'Liverpool College Youth' fired such very big guns at me that I felt alarmed, and almost expected to see him heading a procession of desponding ringers about to leave this once-ringing island, to take possession of say a Melanesian island, and give to it England's lost ringing glory. I would, however, make a few remarks in answer to Mr. Acland Troyte's second.

In one way we act on his principle of paying ringers at once for lost time; i. e. when any ringer actually loses money by the time devoted to ringing, we repay it at once out of our funds; but ringers, such as gardeners, &c., can get away from work, and lose nothing by it—these have no immediate payment. Then at our yearly meeting all share and share alike in division of the funds, and my experience is that the men look forward with pleasure to this yearly recognition of their services in a lump sum. We head our rules with the statement that 'all the ringers offer their services voluntarily to the Church.' And parishioners like the spirit, and subscribe all the more willingly towards the ringers' fund, yet if such a fund were not forthcoming (an impossibility), the ringers would ring just the same. All necessary expenses connected with the fabric of the belfry and bells are paid by the Churchwardens; but the ringers gladly, out of their fund, beautified and adorned their belfry, and you will have to go far to see a prettier one. However, after the work was done a generous parishioner repaid them the money. We also pay for an instructor out of our own fund.

I would add for the benefit of 'Liverpool College Youth' that I am writing of a parish in which all the choir men in two churches give their services voluntarily; and I do not think that it is a thing either to be lamented or reproached that men, aye, and working-men, should make a voluntary offering of their services to the honour and glory of God. We have a guild for men, the last rule of which is 'to try and do some work for God.' Then follow a number of suggestions, amongst which are 'singing in the choir; bell-ringing.' No one interferes with us in the management of our fund; but whatever is done with it is the result of a decision of all the ringers.

Weybridge.

W. B. MONEY.

SIR,—I think that one obvious principle will do much towards settling this question. If I want work done to my order, I must expect to pay for it; and if I do pay for work, that is reason enough why it should be done wholly in my way. So, if I say to ringers, 'You are to come and ring at such and such services on a Sunday, on the Queen's birthday, and the like,' I must be prepared to pay them fair wages; but if men wish to practise change-ringing for their amusement, why are they to be paid for their pleasure? Is it not enough for them to be provided, gratuitously, with tower and bells? Do cricketers get their ground, their pavilion, bats, stumps, &c. for nothing? Is a cricketer paid, unless he be a professional and acting under the orders of those who do pay him? I say then broadly, If a man looks for payment, let him make a bargain beforehand; let him decline the work if he does not like the terms; but if a bargain be struck, let it be fulfilled without complaint. But 'it takes all sorts to make a world,' and a man who wishes to form a company of ringers, and keep them together, must deal with many sorts. There are, in all ranks, men who love ringing for its own sake, who will labour at it gladly, and spend their own money upon it also. There are good Churchmen who take it up as a branch of Church work, and will, for this reason, bestow on it as much ungrudging labour as their brethren bestow upon the choir. There are others, very useful ringers, who are quite willing to take a considerable amount of trouble, but who look for what is aptly called 'encouragement,' i. e. for a reward in some shape such as they value. This reward may come in money, and if so, let it be in a lump sum, not dribbles; two half-crowns are much more appreciated than five shillings at separate intervals. The reward may come in the privileges which the ringers obtain—as position in the parish, admission to parochial concerts, or other entertainments, occasional holidays, outings, or even suppers—but must come in a shape that the men shall like, and shall show that their efforts are valued. I quite agree that money once given, you must not attempt to dictate as to the manner in which it shall be spent. I think the proposal to help a ringer in illness out of the bell fund is a mistake. That is the work of a benefit club, and it is work too complicated to be done at all except upon the strict rules of a well-managed benefit society. Two objects so different must not be mixed together. W. WIGRAM.

Society of Framland (Leicestershire) Ringers.

THE Church bell-ringers of the Deanery of Framland banded together in this Society held their third annual meeting at Buckminster on the 31st ult. The Society has now assumed a position of considerable importance amongst the various bodies of Church workers of the deanery, and the gathering was one which had been looked forward to with much interest by all those in the neighbourhood who are concerned with the matter of Church bell-ringing. The anticipations of the success of the meeting were more than realised. The orders of the day were strictly observed throughout. Ringing began at 10 a.m.; the teams from Ashfordby, Buckminster, Croxton Kerrial, Eaton, Hose, Melton Mowbray, and Waltham, handled the ropes in succession, and made the merry peals of the bells sound clear and sweet. At 1 o'clock the vicar's electric bell fixed on the roof of his house sounded the invitation to dinner, which was provided in a tent in the vicarage grounds. When dinner was over, the men had the pleasure of listening to Mr. J. Truman, of St. Peter Mancroft, Norwich, the veteran ringer of England, who had been most kindly invited by the vicar to come and give the ringers the benefit of his experience. His words will not soon be forgotten as he spoke to the men of their training, their duties, and privileges. They had a good, true, loyal Church tone about them. He expressed himself highly pleased with the improving state of the various bands, and pointed out their several excellences and defects. As usual at these meetings Divine service was held in the parish church. On this occasion there was a very large congregation. The responses were sung, and the psalms and canticles chanted, by the choir. The preacher was the Rev. Henry Twells, rector of Waltham, on the Levitical dispensation, comparing their calling with that of the lay officers of the Church of Christ, with special reference to the office of Church bell-ringers. At 5 o'clock a business meeting was held, and the men had tea. Ringing occupied them again till 8. The day ended with a supper, and all left for their distant homes at 9.30. Several new members, honorary and performing, were elected. It was decided to hold the next annual meeting at Hose.

Chittlehampton, Devon.

THE church-bell dumb-practice apparatus, invented by Mr. E. Seage, of Exeter, has been fixed in the tower of this church, and has been successfully tested by the ringers. The apparatus, the object of which is to afford facility to learners in acquiring the art of scientific change-ringing, consists of a set of hand-bells corresponding in number and tone to the large bells in the steeple above, hung around the wall of the ringing chamber, and struck by the agency of a corresponding ingenious and delicately-contrived striking apparatus, regulated by the motion of the tower-bells above (the clappers of which whilst in use are lashed), acting upon apparatus which, by means of wire connexions, communicates with the striking machinery beneath. The apparatus proves of great benefit, not only to ringers, but to the public of the locality, as it obviates the unpleasant noise attendant upon the efforts of novices in the art of change-ringing. It is on the principle of a shopkeeper's door TELL-TALE.

Durham Diocesan Association of Ringers.

ON Wednesday, the 5th inst., at their usual meeting for practice, six members of the Stockton-on-Tees branch of the above Association rang at the parish church a peal of 720 Bob Minor, containing 18 Bobs and 2 Singles, being the first 720 ever rung by a Stockton company, although the bells were placed in the tower in 1714. T. Whitfield, 1; W. Newton, 2; T. Stephenson, 3; R. Alcock, 4; W. Stephenson, 5; G. J. Clarkson (conductor), 6. Tenor, 12 cwt. Time, 28 minutes.

Correction.

THE peal of Stedman Cinques, reported in a late issue, was rung in 3 hrs 35 mins. The 10th bell was rung by F. H. James.

RECEIVED ALSO:—Oliver Laffin, too late; Jasper Snowden; and others.

would at least cover the cost of production. At present such a demand does not appear to exist, and the reason probably will be found in the fact that the poorer classes have not yet become impressed with the importance and value of pure water. If those who are better educated in sanitary matters would use their influence with their poorer neighbours to show them how easily water becomes contaminated, and how often disease is produced and communicated by means of polluted water, no doubt a demand for cheap filters would arise, and I apprehend that the manufacturers would very soon respond to it.

BURIAL QUESTIONS.—'B. L. D.' says:—1. Can any readers of *Church Bells* give the names of the author and publisher of the best and most recent popular edition of the Burial Acts? 2. If six out of seven members of a Burial Board meet to transact business, and the voting on a question is equally divided into two threes, is not the chairman entitled to a second or casting vote? 3. If one member leaves the parish immediately after his election, and sends in his resignation, is it necessary to have the consent of a majority of the board before another member can be appointed? 4. If a churchyard be closed by an Order in Council, have the Burial Board any control over the said churchyard because they have to keep it in decent order?

REFORMATORY.—'W. M. B.' wishes to learn if there is any Reformatory or School where a girl, ten years of age, could be placed, in order to save her from bad home influences. A small sum might be paid for her maintenance.

FAMILY PRAYERS.—'Armigeri filius' writes:—With reference to the *Narrow Way* reviewed in your recent number of *Church Bells*, can any of your readers tell me whether the short prayers in the earlier part of it are original or selected; and if the latter, from what source or sources?

PROTESTANT DEACONESS' INSTITUTION.—'J. J.' will find particulars of this institution in *Low's Handbook to the Charities of London*.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Durham Diocesan Association of Ringers.

THE third general meeting of this Association was held on Whitsun Monday at the parish church, Barnard Castle, when the attendance of ringers was very large, as many as fifty-three, including the Rev. J. Irwin, Rector of Hurworth. The ringers were from Barnard Castle, Brancepeth, St. John's Darlington, Durham, Newcastle, North Shields, Hurworth, Stockton, and Willington. At the dinner it was announced by the President, W. Reed, Esq. that the Dean of Durham and the Archdeacons of Durham and Lindisfarne had become Patrons of the Association. The Secretary also read a list of the rules, which have been revised, and also a list of members, twenty-one of whom subscribe as honorary and eighty-eight as performing members. The ringing was commenced early in the morning by the local band, and continued by them until the arrival of the ringers from Stockton and Hurworth, who rang a 720 of Bob Minor. Later on, the ringing consisted chiefly of touches of Grandsire Triples, by Alcock, sen., 1; R. Simm, 2; E. Wallis, 3; F. Lees, 4; G. Overton, 5; J. Power, 6 (conductor); G. J. Clarkson, 7; R. Kay, 8. On the following day Messrs. J. Donald and E. Wallis, of Newcastle, visited Hurworth, and with the assistance of four of the Hurworth ringers rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor. The Association will hold its annual meeting at the Cathedral, Durham, on the last Monday in August.—G. J. CLARKSON, *Secretary*.

Ringling at Titchmarsh, Northants.

ON Whitsun Day a peal of 720 Grandsire Bobs was rung in 26 mins. J. Upchurch, jun., 1; J. Billings, jun., 2; W. Upchurch, 3; R. Billings, 4; H. Upchurch (conductor), 5; J. T. Allen, 6. Their first peal. Tenor, 21 cwt. Key E.

Gloucester and Bristol Change-ringing Association.

THE first Annual Meeting will be held at Bristol on Monday, the 1st of July.

ON Whitsun Monday the following members of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association of Change-ringers visited Stroud, and with the kind permission of the Vicar rang several touches of Grandsire Triples on the bells of the parish church. They also rang a quarter peal. T. Belcher, 1; J. Drinkwater, 2; W. King, 3; H. Gardner, 4; G. Latham, 5; G. Wanklin, 6; D. Marment, 7; G. H. Phillatt, Esq., 8. Conducted by G. Wanklin.

Helmingham, Suffolk.

ON Tuesday, June 11, eight members of the Royal Cumberland Society (late London Scholars) rang at the above parish church Holt's original composition of Grandsire Triples, with two doubles in the last four leads, viz. 5040 changes, in 3 hrs. 6 mins. G. Newson, 1; D. Prentice, 2; G. Murton, 3; F. Day, 4; J. Bumpstead, 5; R. Hawes, 6; E. Pemberton, 7; E. Oxborrow, 8. Conducted by G. Newson. Tenor, 19 cwt.

St. Mary, Kenninghall, Norfolk.

ON Thursday, June 13, six members of the Norwich Diocesan Association of Change-ringers, with Messrs. Newson and Gobbett of the Royal Cumberland Society, rang at the above church 5120 changes of Oxford Treble Bob Major, in 8 hrs. 8 mins. R. Hutton, 1; G. Newson (London), 2; G. Edwards, 3; C. Everett, 4; R. Stackwood, 5; J. Woods, 6; W. Gobbett (Stradbroke), 7; J. Mordey, 8. Conducted by R. Hutton. Tenor, 16½ cwt. The peal is one given by Hubbard from the *Clavis*.

St. Mary, Acton, Middlesex.

ON Sunday, June 15, eight members of the Royal Cumberland Society (late London Scholars) rang at the above church (by kind permission of the

Vicar, the Rev. C. M. Harvey) the late Mr. John Holt's original one-part peal of Grandsire Triples, with two doubles in the last four leads, viz. 5040 changes, in 2 hrs. 50 mins. W. Baron, 2; T. Hopkins, 2; W. Coppage, 3; J. Cox, 4; J. W. Cattle, 5; H. Hopkins, 6; F. A. P. Knipe, Esq., 7; G. Hlsley, 8. Tenor, 14 cwt. Conducted by W. Baron.

Change-ringing by St. George's Society of Change-ringers, Hyde, Cheshire.

ON the 15th inst. eight members of the above Society rang at Prestbury, Cheshire, Mr. John Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, containing 5040 changes, in 3 hrs. 5 mins. J. Wilde, sen. 1; H. Rostron, conductor, 2; J. Wilde, jun., 3; T. Wilde, jun., 4; P. Beard, 5; W. Beeley, 6; S. Bennett, 7; T. Wilde, sen., 8. Tenor, 18 cwt.

Change-ringing by the Yorkshire Association.

ON Monday, the 17th inst., at St. Matthew's, Holbeck, Leeds, 5408 of Bob Major in 3 hrs. 12 mins. J. Lockwood, 1; G. Barraclough, 2; J. Whitaker, 3; R. Tukey, Esq., 4; W. Walker, 5; T. West, 6; J. W. Snowdon, Esq., 7; J. Winder, 8. The peal, in two parts, with the sixth twelve consecutive course-ends wrong and twelve right, in 5-6 in each part, is the first peal obtained with these qualities by the use of ordinary bobs and singles only. It was composed and conducted by T. West.

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

ON Thursday, 20th inst., a band met at the above church, and rang 720 changes of Grandsire Minor in 28 mins. S. Lough, 1; T. Hammond, 2; J. Large (first peal), 3; R. Rowlands, 4; T. Fletcher (first peal), 5; J. Aspinwall, 6. Tenor, 10½ cwt.

Royal Cumberland Society, late London Scholars.

ON Thursday, the 20th inst., being the forty-first anniversary of her Majesty's accession to the throne, a band of these Youths rang at St. James's Church, Clerkenwell, 5120 Changes Kent Treble Bob Major, in 3 hrs. 19 mins. G. Newson, 1; C. T. Hopkins, 2; H. A. Hopkins, 3; D. Stackwood, 4; W. Hoverd, 5; H. Dains, 6; Dr. F. A. P. Knipe, 7; W. Baron, 8. Tenor, 20 cwt. The peal, as follows, has the 6th the extent each way in 5-6, and contains the least number of changes ever obtained with that bell at three successive course-ends each way in each part, and was composed by Hy. Dains and conducted by Geo. Newson, being the first peal on this plan ever rung in London.

Lavenham, Suffolk.

THE Anniversary of these eight bells took place on Friday, June 21st, when a large number of ringers took a part in the day's ringing. The College Youths were represented by Messrs. R. Sewell and J. R. Haworth; the Cumberland, by Messrs. J. Cox, J. Howe, and H. Hopkins; Mr. Rochester, of Sawbridgeworth; also Leonard Proctor, Esq. from Bennington, Hertis, brought his band and several ringers from Bildeston, Hitcham, Stowmarket, Glemsford, Sudbury, Cavendish, and Saffron Walden; also Captain Moore, and Gervas Holmes, Esq., from Redenhall; and Rev. A. Sutton, from West Tofts. The ringing during the day consisted of Touches of Grandsire and Stedman's Triples, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, Superlative and Cambridge Surprise Peals, &c. The bells were kept going in quick succession by the different companies. Dinner was served in a marquee close by the church. The chair was taken by F. S. Barkway, Esq., Churchwarden, the Rector being absent for benefit of health.

Correction.

SIR,—Will you kindly allow me to correct an error which appeared in my letter in your issue of June 15? Referring to the tablet for the 59 courses rung at St. Clement Danes, the following should have been omitted:—This is the greatest number of changes that can possibly be obtained with the treble in second's place, &c.

H. HALEY, SEN.

NOTICE.—The Editor would be very glad to receive the names of clergymen who are able to ring, and the methods in which they could take a part, that their names and residences may appear in *Church Bells*; so that possibly enough might be found within reach of each other to take part in a clerical peal, or that new rings might occasionally be opened by clergymen who had already taken part in the service. Address Editor; giving name, residence, and method practised.

BELFRY RECORDS.

ALL SAINTS, WORCESTER. (Tablets in the Belfry.)

1005. ON the 27th Novr. 1815, was rang in this Tower a true Peal of Grandsire Cators, consisting of 3081 changes, in 5 hours and 8 mins., by

T. Hall, Treble.	J. Griffin, Fourth.	J. Mason, Seventh.	W. Penn, Tenor.
T. Price, Second.	R. Hayes, Fifth.	J. Trout, Eighth.	Composed and Conducted by J. Penn.
E. Wicket, Third.	T. Pardoe, Sixth.	J. Penn, Ninth.	

1006. THE YOUTHS OF ALL SAINTS, WORCESTER.—On Monday, April 20th, 1840, was rang in this Tower a true and complete Peal of Kent Treble Bob Royal, comprising 6000 changes, which was performed in the space of 3 hours and 40 mins., by the following members of the above Society:—

J. Brush, Treble.	H. Page, Fourth.	C. Vaughan, Seventh.	J. Dovey, Tenth.
J. Roberts, Second.	J. Hinton, Fifth.	J. Green, Eighth.	Conducted by John Dovey.
W. Weaver, Third.	J. Hunt, Sixth.	J. Burford, Ninth.	

RECEIVED ALSO.—D. Barrett; H. Haley; Treble Bob; Edward Matthews; W. Banks; T. H. Bennett; L. Drinkwater; and others.

I have before me a summons of an Archdeacon to the Incumbent, and also a summons to the Churchwardens as to the visitation of a parish church. I can't help being struck by the magisterial language used in these documents—so inconsistent with Christian humility and the discipline of Christ's Church, and also by the apparent desire to stultify the position of the Incumbent. The Archdeacon's academical degree is set forth: why, I can't tell. The Incumbent is styled simply 'Minister'; a term which, I believe, legally applies only to the Incumbent of a district church. The Churchwardens are requested to show *their* church, whereas surely the church, if any one's, is his in whom the freehold resides. The Churchwardens are required to produce the Register-books. But one would think that these can only be produced by the Incumbent, who is bound by Act of Parliament, under penalty, to keep them, and to make entries in them, and who has a property in extracts made from them. The Incumbent is required also to show the Parsonage: but need he show more than the outside—or even this, seeing that now the law compels him to insure his Parsonage, &c., and at certain times to produce proof of his insurance? Feeling this amazement at the article referred to increase my longings for answers to these questionings, I venture to submit them to you.

C. PICKERING CLARKE.

Thornham, July 3, 1878.

A REFUDIATION.—Mr. Eugene Stock asks to be allowed to say in our columns that a letter which appears in this week's *Rock* with his signature, charging the new Vicar of Holy Trinity, Islington, with 'Ritualistic Practices,' is a forgery. Mr. Stock knows nothing of it, and entirely repudiates the sentiments it makes him express.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

The Payment of Bell-ringers.

Sir,—Your correspondent, of course, is right in saying that men must be paid when they are ordered to ring on certain days; but the only days on which they should be ordered to ring are wedding-days, and for these days they will expect to, and always do, receive payment. As to the Church festivals, such as Christmas, Easter, &c., the ringers ought to ring on these without pay, if it is only in return for the use of the bells at other times, when they use them for their own amusement or profit.

If bells go fairly well, and the tenor does not exceed 15 cwt., boys from fourteen to sixteen years of age can ring as well as men. We have a boy set here, the youngest is twelve and the eldest sixteen; our tenor weighs about 14 cwt. The boys chime on Sunday, and their performance reflects credit on their teacher, the clerk. They are volunteers. In very few places (if any) do the chimers who chime for service ever get paid, though they do twenty times the work of the ringers. The reason is simply this, that there being no pay for chiming, avaricious people are not attracted to the work; and there are always plenty of boys who are glad to chime, or ring, for the pleasure of it. Whereas in most places the bells, as far as ringing goes, have been delivered to a set who use them merely as instruments of gain, and who have quite succeeded in frightening all decent people from the belfry.

It seems horrible to me to think of men ringing the church bells, and then going round to beg beer, or money, for so doing. What should we think of a poor curate who went round begging? Your readers will say that there is a vast difference between a curate and a ringer; so there is, but they are both officers of the Church, though one is counted a humble one, and what would be disgraceful in a curate must be disgraceful in a ringer. As to the spiritual difference between a ringer and a curate it ought not to be very great. As to the abilities of the two, as far as mere talent goes, I should say it would require more brains, and a more gifted natural aptitude, in the ringer than in the curate. It is not every man of ordinary ability that can become a ringer.

I do not call a man a ringer who slashes a bell about and goes begging. The true ringer is a clever man and a volunteer.

TREBLE BOB.

The Fulham Peal.

Sir,—With your permission, I will make a few remarks respecting that very amusing (?) letter which appeared in your edition of the 22nd ult. by Mr. H. Dains, and then I will not trouble you again on the subject of the 5079 Stedman Caters rung at the above place on the 22nd April last, but will leave your readers to form their own opinion of my letter in answer to Mr. Cox. Now, Sir, I would advise Mr. Dains, when he writes again, to state facts and not fiction; or, in other words, to look before he leaps, and not jump over the hedge into the ditch. But what can be expected from one who was scarcely (if at all) in the world when the 5079 was rung at Fulham in 1842? Therefore, all he has written about is from hearsay and not proof. Mr. Dains states that Mr. Cox was a College Youth, and myself a Cumberland, in 1836. This is a fiction. I was made a Cumberland August 4, 1840. He also states that Mr. Cox went for a provincial tour through the north of England for the benefit of his health from 1839 to 1844. Now, Sir, this is another fiction. Mr. Cox went to the North with three others besides himself, all of whom I knew well, but it was on a tour with the hand-bells. They returned and were in London in 1842, and one of them (Mr. John Freeman) heard the peal at Fulham, after which he walked with myself and others to the City. Mr. Dains also states that one at least of the Cumberlands amused himself by noting down the course-ends at Fulham on Easter Monday. I flatter myself that he did not cause so much alarm to the caller, or the ringers, as the one did that noted down the course-ends at St. Albans.

H. HALEY, SEN.

[The Fulham peal has now run its full extent, and it is time for the conductor to cry 'Stand!'—Ed.]

The Meeting of the Durham Diocesan Association at Barnard Castle.

Str.—The eight names published in the report of this meeting were the names of those who took part in the attempt to ring 5040 Grandsire Triples, which proceeded correctly as far as 1812 changes, when they were brought to a stand. In addition to this there were not less than twenty other ringers who took part in the different touches of Grandsire Triples during the day. The science of Change-ringing is not in such a backward condition in this part of England as some former letters to *Church Bells* would infer.

G. J. CLARKSON, formerly of Wykestone Rectory, Suffolk.

Christ Church Cathedral, Oxford.

DATE TOUCH.—The following eight members of the Oxford Society rang 1878 changes of Stedman Triples, in 1 hr. 3 mins. E. Harrison, 1; — Ellicott, Esq. (Brasenose College), 2; H. T. Janaway, 3; F. Williamson, 4; — Davis, Esq. (Pembroke College), 5; R. Annis, 6; W. Smith, 7; G. Warner, 8. Composed by Mr. J. Field, Hon. Sec. O.S.C.R., conducted by Mr. W. Smith. This 'touch' was rung in honour of Mr. Jonathan Pavier, a member of the Society, having entered his 100th year on Ascension Day, 30th May.

Change-ringing at Kelsall, Cheshire.

ON Saturday, June 8th, the Kelsall Society of Ringers rang 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor in 28 mins. J. Coleman, 1; W. Gray, 2; W. Fisher, 3; W. Fletcher, 4; F. Thompson, 5; C. Ife, 6. The above is the first peal of Treble Bob Minor by the Kelsall Society for the last twelve years.

Secretary K. S. C. R., Member of N. D. R. A. F. THOMPSON.

5 0 8 8									
2	3	4	5	6	M.	B.	W.	H.	
3	5	2	6	4	-	-	-	-	
4	5	3	6	2	-	1	-	-	
5	4	2	6	3	-	1	2	-	
5	3	4	6	2	-	1	1	-	
5	2	3	6	4	-	1	1	-	
2	4	3	6	5	2	-	1	2	
2	3	6	4	5	1	-	2	2	
2	6	4	3	5	-	1	2	-	
3	2	6	5	4	-	2	-	-	
3	6	5	2	4	1	-	2	2	
5	6	2	3	4	1	-	1	-	
3	5	6	4	2	-	2	-	-	
5	3	2	4	6	2	-	2	-	
5	2	4	3	6	-	1	2	-	
5	4	3	2	6	1	-	2	2	
2	3	4	5	6	1	-	2	-	

Change-ringing at Long Melford, Suffolk.

ON Friday, 21st ult., four members of the Saffron Walden and four of the Glemsford Societies rang at this church the following peal of Kent Treble Bob Major, in 3 hrs. 17 mins. Tenor 16 cwt. The peal was composed by N. J. Pitstow, and conducted by F. Pitstow, contains the sixth its extent in 5-6, and is the first one rung in that method on the bells. Z. Slater, 1; J. Penning, 2; G. Martin, 3; S. Slater, 4; H. Thompson, 5; F. Wells, 6; N. J. Pitstow, 7; F. Pitstow, 8.

Change-ringing at St. Mary's, Woolwich, Kent.

ON Saturday, 22nd ult., eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang at the above church a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major, consisting of 5152 changes, in 3 hrs. 1 min. H. Bright (in his 70th year), 1; G. Ferris, 2; T. Dixon, 3; S. Reeves, 4; F. Bate, 5; R. French, 6; E. Horrex, 7; J. M. Hayes, 8. Composed by Mr. H. Haley, sen., and conducted by Mr. J. M. Hayes.

Ringling at Nocton, Lincolnshire.

THE ringers of St. Peter-at-Gowts Church, Lincoln, visited Nocton Church on Saturday, the 22nd ult., and rang a peal of Bob Minor, containing 720 changes, in 25 mins. O. W. Layng, 1; E. Curlis, 2; P. Herriek, 3; T. Keyworth, 4; W. Knowles, 5; F. Rose, 6. Conducted by E. Curlis. The first peal of Minor ever rang on these bells.

Notice to the St. James' Society of Change-ringers.

THE church of St. Clement Danes will be opened for practice-ringing on Monday night next, July 8th, at 8 p.m. E. ALBONE, Steeple-keeper.

CORRECTIONS.—In the report of the peal of Grandsire Triples rang at St. Mary's, Acton, Middlesex, for Sunday read Saturday;

" W. Baron, 2 " W. Baron, 1;

" T. Hopkins " C. T. Hopkins.

N.B.—This was the first peal on the bells.

In the peal of Kent Treble Bob Major rang at St. James', Clerkenwell, weight of tenor should have been 22 cwt. instead of 20 cwt.

BELFRY RECORDS.

ALL SAINTS, WORCESTER. (Tablets in the Belfry.)

(Continued from page 351.)

1007. ON Monday, 12th Novr. 1860, a true Peal of Kent Treble Bob Majors, comprising 5024 changes, was rang in this Tower in the space of 3 hours and 10 mins. by these, the undermentioned persons:—

J. Green, Treble.	T. Lewis, Fourth.	J. Burford, Seventh.	Composed and Conducted by James Burford.
C. J. Rice, Second.	H. Lawrence, Fifth.	E. Sprague, Tenor.	
W. Hunt, Third.	J. Robinson, Sixth.		

1008. AUGUST 11th, 1861, was rang in this Tower 5093 changes of Grandsire. Time, 3 hrs. and 17 mins. By

J. Fudge, Treble.	W. Hunt, Fourth.	H. Lawrence, Seventh.	Composed and Conducted by James Burford.
C. J. Rice, Second.	J. Burford, Fifth.	E. Sprague, Eighth.	
W. Duffill, Third.	T. Lewis, Sixth.	H. Payne, Ninth.	
		J. Holding, Tenor.	

RECEIVED ALSO.—F. E. Robinson; J. Woolfield; Παρθένος (answered direct); Rev. W. Bolingbroke; L. Proctor; and others.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The Rev. T. Scott the Commentator.

SIR,—A few weeks ago you gave an interesting account of the family of the Rev. T. Scott the Commentator, and ancestor of the great Church architect, Sir Gilbert Scott. I should be much obliged if any of your correspondents, who are in a position to know, would inform me, through your columns, if there is any truth in the following statement from 'Pioneers and Founders,' by Miss Yonge, in Macmillan's *Sunday Library*:—'The young shoemaker (Carey) thus struggling to instruct himself, fell under the notice of Thomas Scott, the author of the *Commentary on the Bible*, and it was from him that Carey first received any strong religious impressions. Scott was a Baptist, and young Carey, who had grown up in the days of the deadness of the Church, was naturally led to his teacher's sect.'

It is strange that so well-informed a writer as Miss Yonge should have fallen into such an error, if there is really no foundation for this statement. Persons who knew Mr. Scott and his family assure me he was always a Churchman; but I am anxious to know who is in the right. J. F. C.

THE EDITOR has a letter for the Lady who kindly sends *Church Bells* to the Rev. V. Lush, St. George's Parsonage, Thames, Auckland, New Zealand, which will be forwarded if she will send her address to the office.

COFFEE TAVERNS.—'A. B.' would be much obliged by hints respecting a small coffee tavern. Also as to newspapers, periodicals, &c., and any information useful to a manager.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Ringling at Lavenham, Suffolk, by Squire Proctor's Team.

SIR,—I beg to forward to you the statement of our ringling at the anniversary meeting at Lavenham, on Friday, June 21, where, from the excellence of the ringling, it makes the meeting to be noted as the best ever known at Lavenham, or ever before in the county of Suffolk. The methods and number of changes rung by the Bennington Change-ringling Society were:

Double Norwich Court Bob Major	...	...	1844
Superlative Surprise Major	...	...	876
Stedman Triples	...	...	2020
			4240

And on June 22, at Bury St. Edmunds, at St. Mary's:

Superlative Surprise Major	...	...	672
Stedman Triples	...	...	504

At St. James', Stedman Caters	...	...	1176
			1122

Total ... 6538

L. PROCTOR.

Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association of Change-ringers.

THE first Annual Meeting was held on Monday, July 1st, at Bristol. The proceedings began with service at St. Mary Redcliffe at 10.30 a.m., and a short appropriate address by the Rev. Canon Norris, at which nearly one hundred were present. A meeting was immediately afterwards held in the Colston Room, at which the Vicar kindly officiated as Chairman. About thirty honorary and performing members were elected.

The following are the officers for the ensuing year:—*Master*, Mr. J. Drinkwater, Sandhurst, Gloucester. *Secretary*, Rev. Pitt Eykyn, Francelynch. *Treasurer*, Rev. Mowbray Trotter, Gloucester.

After a vote of thanks to the Chairman, the members repaired to the tower of St. Mary Redcliffe, where a mixed band rang for a short space on the fine ring of twelve. Thence the different companies separated to the towers in which permission to ring had been kindly granted. Ringers from the following places were present:—Ashchurch, Barnwood, Bisley, Cheltenham, Gloucester, Quedgeley, Sandhurst, Stroud, Tewkesbury, Upton St. Leonards. During the day touches of Stedman Caters and Triples, and Grandsire Triples, Minor and Doubles, were rung. At half-past four, members and their friends, to the number of about 76, sat down to an excellent dinner provided at the 'Criterion.' This concluded, those members who lived at the greatest distance were compelled to retire to catch an earlier train. The remainder, after repairing for a short time to the tower of St. Nicholas, left by a train at 8.30, having spent a very enjoyable day. The thanks of the Association are due to the Bristol Companies for their kindness in getting the bells and towers in readiness.

New Ring of Bells for Llandaff Cathedral.

It has been decided to place a ring of bells in Llandaff Cathedral, to take the form of a memorial to the late Dean, and to which object £237. is already subscribed. We hear that Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, of the Whitechapel foundry, have been entrusted with the casting of the bells.

Lancashire Association of Change-ringers.

THE Annual Meeting of the above Society will take place on Saturday, the 27th July, 1878, at two o'clock, p.m., in Holy Trinity Church School-rooms, Hulme, near Manchester. *Business*:—1. The Adoption of New Rules. 2. Election of Officers. 3. Passing the Annual Report and Balance Sheet and other pressing business. Members are requested to bring their Cards of Membership with them, otherwise they may not be admitted. A Meeting will also be held at four o'clock for non-members and ringers who are desirous of joining the Association, when they will be met by the Committee.

JOHN R. PRITCHARD, *Secretary*.

44 Roscoe Street, Liverpool, July 8th, 1878.

A Treatise on Treble Bob.

SIR,—On May 4th last you kindly allowed me to announce that I had then placed in the printer's hands Part I. of *A Treatise on Treble Bob*. I hope I may now be allowed to inform your readers, and especially those who have written to me on the subject, that the work is now ready, and that I shall be happy to forward copies, post free, for 1s. 1½d. JASPER W. SNOWDON.

Old Bank Chambers, Leeds.

Ringling at Gorton, Lancashire.

On the 15th ult. a mixed company of ringers met at Gorton, and rang Mr. Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples in 3 hrs. 9 mins. J. Holt, 1; W. H. Albinson (conductor), 2; J. Whittaker, 3; E. Matthews, 4; W. Ashworth, 5; W. Albinson, sen. 6; T. Wilde, jun. 7; S. Bennett, 8. The above peal is somewhat remarkable for its being conducted by W. Albinson, who is only 16 years of age, and, so far as is known, the youngest person that ever conducted a peal.

Ringling at Carshalton, Surrey.

On Wednesday, the 26th ult., six members of the Beddington Society of Change-ringers rang at All Saints, Carshalton, 720 of Grandsire Minor in 30 mins. J. Plowman, 1; J. Trappel, 2; F. Master, 3; E. Bennett, 4; J. Cauley, 5; C. Gordon, 6. Conducted by D. Bennett. Tenor, 12 cwt.

Change-ringling by the Ancient Society of College Youths.
(Established 1637.)

On Monday, the 1st inst., at the Church of St. Matthew, Bethnal Green—eight members of the above Society rang Mr. John Holt's one-part peal of Grandsire Triples, with two doubles in the last four leads, containing 5040 changes, in 2 hrs. 58 mins.; M. A. Wood, 1; R. French, 2; J. W. Rowbotham (of Sheffield), 3; H. Haley, jun., 4; T. Hattersley (of Sheffield), 5; S. Reeves, 6; T. Dixon, 7; C. H. Rawson (of Sheffield), 8. The peal was conducted by Mr. Thomas Hattersley of Sheffield.

The Yorkshire Association of Change-Ringers.

On Saturday, the 6th inst., the July gathering of this Society took place at Wakefield, when there was a good attendance of members, and a variety of touches were rung on the fine ring of ten (tenor, 32 cwt.) at the parish church, All Saints. At the General Meeting, held during the afternoon, the Annual Meeting was appointed to be held at Hull on the second Saturday in October.

Ringling at Elford, Staffordshire.

On Saturday, the 6th inst., the ringers of St. Mary's, Lichfield, visited Elford, and rang on the parish church bells, by the kind permission of the vicar, a peal of Grandsire Minor, containing 720 changes, in 26 mins. F. Statham, 1; J. Key, 2; H. Meacham, 3; F. Sedgwick, 4; E. Gallimore, 5; T. Meredith (conductor), 6. Tenor, 8 cwt. The first peal of Grandsire Minor on these bells.

Change-ringling at Christ Church, Liversedge.

On Tuesday, the 9th inst., 1878 changes of Kent Treble Bob Major were rung in 1 hr. 11 mins., with titlums at hand and tenors inverted. This performance celebrated the 78th birthday of Mr. W. Sottanstell, Sowerby, Yorkshire. J. Whitworth, 1; W. Goodall, 2; W. Firth, 3; T. North, 4; J. Lodge, 5; S. Goodall, 6; L. Illingworth, 7; M. Ramsden, 8. Tenor, 16 cwt. Composed by Mr. Sottanstell, Sowerby; conducted by Mr. W. Goodall, Liversedge.

BELFRY RECORDS.

ALL SAINTS, WORCESTER. (Tablets in the Belfry.)

(Concluded from p. 363.)

1009. A TRUE Peal of Grandsire Caters, comprising 5022 changes, was rang in this Tower on the 4th August, 1866, in 3 hrs. and 13 mins., by the undermentioned persons:—

N. Wale, Treble.	W. H. Morriss,	H. Reeves, Sixth.	E. Moses, Eighth.
J. Wood, Second.	Fourth.	J. Noak, Seventh.	J. Burford, Ninth.
C. J. Rice, Third.	T. Lewis, Fifth.		W. Hale, Tenor.

1010. ON the 2nd of Decr. 1866, a true Peal of Grandsire Caters, comprising 5003 changes, was rang in 3 hrs. and 10 mins., on the bells of All Saints, Worcester, by the following persons:—

J. Fudger, Treble.	W. H. Morriss,	H. Lawrance,	W. Hale, Tenor.
J. R. Slack, Second.	Fourth.	Seventh.	Composed and Conducted by James Burford.
C. J. Rice, Third.	T. Lewis, Fifth.	E. Moses, Eighth.	
	J. Burford, Sixth.	H. Reeves, Ninth.	

1011. WORCESTER CHANGE-RINGING SOCIETY.—On Monday, Sept. 7th, 1874, the following members rang a true Peal of Grandsire Caters, consisting of 5003 changes, in 3 hours and 13 mins.

N. Wale, Treble.	E. Sprague, Fourth.	H. Wilkes, Seventh.	E. Jones and J. Holding, Tenor.
J. Morriss, Second.	T. Lewis, Fifth.	J. Barnett, Eighth.	Conducted by John Barnett.
W. Hunt, Third.	W. Blandford, Sixth.	G. Hobbs, Ninth.	

TO YOUNG COMPOSERS.—We shall always be glad to answer any questions, or to render any assistance in our power in connexion with the art of composition. Those young members of the exercise who may not possess the advantage of having friendly advice near at hand, we shall always be ready, as far as we are able, to assist in attaining some degree of proficiency in the theoretical part of the science. All correspondence in this direction must be legibly written, and each question plainly put. When necessary and convenient, we will send replies direct, but it may take time.

RECEIVED ALSO:—G. H. Muskett; J. J. Serjeanston; W. Ward; and others.

W. W. H.—Many Tablets are full of false spelling and false grammar; we print as they are copied, without alteration.

Fulham Peal.—We do not wish to continue the discussion.

Treble Bob.—Without name, which we request.

H. HOPKINS.—We are very sorry that mistakes should occur in our columns, but sometimes our compositors and readers find it very difficult to make out the copy owing to indistinct writing. All words should be plainly written without abbreviations, and the figures and changes should be written on lines, and on lined columns. The corrections have been made.

half-murdered mothers, and scores of thousands of ragged, half-starved, uneducated little children, are the best and truest answer to that question. Now what is 'L. L. D.'s remedy for the fearful drunkenness that exists? A five or nine-gallon cask of beer in the house would do much to check intemperance! I say, it would increase it considerably.

The man who found a cask of beer always at hand in his house, would be often tempted to take a glass when otherwise he would go without. This experiment has been tried in many instances, and the drinking habits have increased to a very great degree. Again, where this wonderful cure for drunkenness has been attempted, results have proved that the wife drank more than she did before she tried the 'cask' system; and the husband, after spending his evening at the public-house, thought it only fair that he should have a glass or two when he got home. Does 'L. L. D.' think for one moment that the drunkard would really drink less if he had it at home instead of going to the public-house for it? if so, he is greatly mistaken, for common sense at once says the poor fellow would have a ready supply at hand, and would never rest till the last drop is drained. SAMUEL HOOKER.

Great Yarmouth.

Disestablishment.

SIR,—Perhaps it is as well that you printed in your last issue Archdeacon Denison's letter to the *Times*, for there could hardly be found any stronger argument against the disestablishment movement which he has adopted. 'When English disestablishment comes,' he says, 'the first application of the spoil will be the relief of the English ratepayer from "education rate." God will be robbed again in tithes and offerings.' This is not, mind, a mere possibility, it is a 'sure concomitant' of disestablishment in England; which disestablishment is yet, in some unexplained manner, to be 'a means to a truer religion than that of the last three hundred years.'

So the position is this. The Archdeacon wants disestablishment. But that involves, by his own showing, a great national sin, viz. spoliation and robbery, and how he is to achieve the one without committing the other does not appear. The simple English Churchman, on the contrary, does not desire disestablishment, and certainly will have nothing to do with the proposed robbery. He does not believe that he can attain to the 'truer religion' by sinful means. He will not do evil that good may come.

It is not my business to defend the Irish Intermediate Education Bill; but Archdeacon Denison ought to remember that the members of the present Government did all they could to resist the policy of spoliation and robbery. They are hardly to be blamed for devoting a portion of the money of the disestablished Church to secular education, instead of spending it all upon idiots and lunatics, as Mr. Gladstone intended. S. G. B.

Organists' Appointments.

'A READER' asks,—When the organist of a parish church is paid by the churchwardens out of the offertory for Church expenses, with whom does the appointment rest—with the vicar solely, or with the vicar and churchwardens? An organist appointed originally twenty-five years ago by the parish vestry, and of late years annually confirmed in that appointment by a meeting of parishioners, is he liable to dismissal without due cause at the sole will of the Vicar?

The Works of the Bishop of Bath and Wells.

'AN INQUIRER' writes:—Can any one inform me if Lord A. Hervey's books are likely to be reprinted? It is strange that a work so lightly thought of as *The Genealogies of our Lord*, can only with difficulty be obtained, and I am at present unable to procure a copy of his *Cambridge Lectures on the Inspiration of Holy Scripture*. Both of these works are often highly spoken of by competent authorities, and some people would doubtless be glad if the Bishop could be induced to have them reprinted.

A CORRESPONDENT asks for the address of the 'Coffee Public-house Association,' and name of the publisher of a book issued by them *On the Establishment and Management of Coffee Public-houses*. A report of a meeting of the General Committee appears in the *Standard*, but no address was given of the Society's office.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Holt's 'One-part' Peal.

As this peal is now becoming extensively rung, we think that in any account of its future performance which may appear in our columns the reference to the 'two doubles in the last four leads' may with propriety be omitted. And to our mind the term 'one-part' seems to savour somewhat of a paradox, the definition 'one-course' appearing to be more appropriate. There is not the slightest doubt that the phrase, 'Holt's Original One-course Peal,' would be thoroughly understood by the exercise, and at the same time would be a more concise title by which this unique composition may be known. We shall therefore adopt this appellation for the future, when recording its achievement, unless any of our readers can adduce satisfactory reasons why the present cumbersome nomenclature now in use should be retained.

From Fleet Street to Fulham.

'A famous Coronation!' Such was the refrain of an old rhyme—requiring every note of the gamut in its vocalisation—that was popular in the good old times 'when George the Third was King,' and it came to my remembrance as I wandered up Fleet Street on Friday, the 28th ult., that day being the anniversary of Her Majesty's coronation. As I rambled westward it was manifest to me that some special occasion was being held in observance. The numerous ells of hunting, floating bravely in the breeze from the summits of

the various Government establishments and church steeples, publicly announced that a day having connexion with some historical period in our annals had arrived. At St. Martin-in-the-Fields, the head-quarters of the Royal Cumberlands (late London Scholars), the bells were ringing grandly, and when some time after I got into the vicinity of Westminster the bells of the Abbey of St. Peter were holding forth. But what a falling off was there! After hearing ten or twelve bells ring in peal, six bells produce anything but a lively impression. Why should not the ancient pile at Westminster boast of a good ring of bells? The present ring of six must evidently be in bad order, to judge from the 'striking,' which certainly was not everything that could be desired. From what I heard I could not help sympathising with the ringer at the 5th bell, who seemed to be powerless to keep her in her place long together. However, these bells shortly ceased, and after a little time the ring of ten from the church of St. Margaret, close at hand, struck out in a charming manner. It was hardly possible to believe, that some of those who were ringing at this church had just been performing at the Abbey. Yet I suppose it was so. I have been led to understand that the Royal Cumberlands (late London Scholars) ring at both St. Margaret's and the Abbey. Be that as it may, it was certainly a pleasure to hear the ten bells of the former steeple rung so well, causing many of the bystanders to halt and listen; and it was amid the rounds of firing that I wended my way to take ship up the river, to enjoy the lovely panorama of Father Thames. I landed at that beautiful spot where it was said by a great gun that the Royal Cumberlands (late London Scholars) had probably departed after their failure last Easter Monday—Putney. The church of St. Mary is pleasantly situated near to the banks of the river, and it was here where my versatile friend, H. Booth, nearly called a peal, the light in the last course becoming extinct (similar to a misfortune which is said to have occurred years ago to members of the same Society). Not all the vehemence and persuasion which Mr. Booth could use was sufficient to save his peal on this occasion. His colleagues in the belfry did not see their way clear to ring without light. Always for the future, Henry, see to your light when at Putney, and then we can 'book it,' i. e. the peal—if you get it, you know.

I cast a wistful glance across the river, and determine to go over to the Fulham shore. What a host of associations does the mention of the name of this beautiful suburb bring to the mind of a ringer! I am forbidden to open again either of the late controversies which have taken place regarding peals recently rung at All Saints' Church, and I do not wish to do so. That the correspondence which has appeared in connexion with the last peal here has not redounded to the praise of one of the parties concerned, I think, will be the opinion of many. The most careful and trustworthy persons are apt to make mistakes, and sometimes are liable to become the victims of delusion. But it was no mistake at St. Albans, when on one occasion the Royal Cumberlands (late London Scholars) attempted a peal there, and which peal would have been grandiloquently recorded had not some one outside the steeple pointed out that a false peal had been rung. Steady, John! Do you recollect the delusion you were labouring under when you made an assertion that in a peal of Treble Bob rung in the city of London a certain bell was in the hunt for two consecutive leads? Now you know that almost the greatest tyro in the science is aware that this could not be without a general derangement of the striking, and there was nothing of this kind at all. You afterwards honourably admitted you were in error. But, dear John, these errors from you have a tendency to impair that confidence which is felt in you, I firmly believe, by the exercise at large. Don't rush in where you ought to hesitate long before you enter, but be content to repose on your already well-earned laurels; and then, when in the course of time old age may prevent you from taking your honoured post in the steeple, we shall all have just cause to say on each occasion your natal day arrives, 'All hail to John Cox! of the Royal Cumberlands (late London Scholars).'

These were some of the reflections which occurred to me as I rested in the well-ordered churchyard of Fulham. And now, having arrived at the end of my journey, I conclude. PEEPING TOM.

Carillons at St. Andrew's Church, Plymouth, Devon.

THIS church has been furnished with a set of carillon bells, and also new Westminster Chimes. Both are the gift of Mr. C. Norrington, as a memorial of his son, who was a member of the Devonshire Guild of Ringers and of the Society of College Youths, London. The total cost is some 400l. An opening service was held in the church on Saturday, 6th June, at which the Mayor and Corporation attended. These carillons are the only ones in Devon and Cornwall, with the exception of those at Holsworthy. Messrs. Gillett and Bland, of the Steam Clock Factory, Croydon, are the makers. There are 10 bells on which are played 14 tunes, one each day, every 4 hours. At midnight a self-shifting apparatus changes the tune. The old tenor bell weighs 25 cwt. 14 lbs. The 14 tunes are arranged on 2 barrels of 7 tunes each, changed once weekly. The hammers which strike the bells weigh from 38 to 72 lbs. each, and the weight giving the motive power to the carillons is over 8 cwt. Mechanism of a similar character has been erected by Messrs. Gillett and Bland, both at the Sligo and Worcester Cathedrals, as well as in the town-halls of Rochdale and Bradford, and many other churches and public buildings elsewhere.

Ringling at New College, Oxford

ON Wednesday, July 10th, the following members of the Oxford Society of Change-ringers rang a true peal of Stedman Caters, containing 5001 changes, in 3 hrs. 14 mins. The peal was composed by Mr. John Cox, and conducted by Mr. Jos. Field. J. Field, 1; T. Hill, 2; H. Janaway, 3; R. Anniss, 4; W. Thomas, 5; W. Smith, 6; F. Williamson, 7; E. Harrison, 8; C. Hounslow, 9; G. Warner, 10. Tenor 19 cwt.

RECEIVED ALSO.—Treble Bob; A Well-known Ringer, J. P. Hardman will be written to.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

A Treatise on Treble Bob.—PART I.

MR. JASPER W. SNOWDON, whose name will be familiar to many of our readers as a contributor to our columns, has recently published, under the above title, a work of much interest to the practical or scientific students of change-ringing. This work is intended, as the author mentions in the Introduction, not only to give instruction in the composition and proof of peals, but also to give a simple explanation of many questions which will probably perplex any one who commences to study the science of change-ringing, and is without any well-informed friend to whom he can refer in cases of difficulty.

The first chapter is devoted to the 'History of Treble Bob,' and is revised from the papers on this subject that Mr. Snowdon contributed to these columns. Accounts of the first Treble Bob peals rung upon seven, eight, nine, ten, eleven, and twelve bells, are given, and from these first peals the gradually increasing lengths rung are traced until the longest length accomplished on each of these numbers of bells is recorded. The principal revision which appears is that the long peal of 16,608 changes of Major, which was supposed to have been rung at Earlsheaton in 1872, is now struck out of the list. The reasons why it was formerly allowed to appear, but is now discredited, are fully entered upon; and in connexion with this matter the chapter concludes with an interesting article on the speed of ringing in Treble Bob Major. In these pages the great difference in the speed at which peals are rung upon the same bells is shown; one ring is instanced in which so great a difference as three changes per minute had occurred in different peals. Chap. II. is a reprint of the papers on 'The in and out-of-course of the changes,' which appeared in these columns, and should be thoroughly mastered by any one who wishes to understand anything about the theory of such matters as proof and composition. Chap. III. explains the different ways in which peals or touches are pricked, either by the treble-leads, the bob-changes, or the course-ends, and leads up to the following chapter, in which the different qualities of peals are described. These explanations embrace the different technicalities of the tittum position, the sixth at home, the fifth and sixth the extent, the sixty course-ends, the sixty 7-8's before, and the extent with the tenors together. After this follows a chapter on the 'transposition of peals,' in which this subject is treated very fully and in an outspoken manner, which will draw attention to the abuses which are likely to occur if the mechanical treatment by which peals can be reproduced is not generally understood. Chap. VI. is an extended reprint of the articles on the 'Proof of Treble Bob,' which appeared in this paper, and perhaps the explanation is made as simple as possible. It is a subject, however, that requires a great deal of careful study to understand. The principal method explained is that known as the 'proof by the course-ends,' and forms a good introduction to the following chapter, which explains an ingenious system of composing peals which has been originated by Mr. James Lockwood of Leeds, which might be termed the reverse application of the course-end proof. Mr. Lockwood selects the course-ends, with which he intends to compose a peal, from a table containing thirty-three course-ends, and thus at once does away with the necessity for proving the internal changes of his peal. And as the tables of course-ends are also extended to embrace all the true treble leads that can be had at the M., W., and H., and as only these leads are used in the peal, it is also obvious that no proof is required for the treble lead-ends. The book concludes with a chapter upon conducting and calling round, and although nothing very new is to be found in this chapter, many hints are given which will be of great use to young ringers and conductors.

It may fairly be said of the work that it is an attempt to explain, in a more elaborate manner than has ever yet been attempted, the different subjects we have enumerated; and that although these explanations necessarily embrace many simple matters, it will prove invaluable to any ringer who is seeking for such information, or aspires to attach his name to a peal as its composer. The work, although closely printed, is in a clear type and tolerably free from mistakes, but in the copy before us we notice that the heading of the bob changes of the variation of Reeves's peal (p. 49) runs, M. H. W., instead of M. W. H. Our copy has also the length of Mr. T. Lockwood's two-part peal altered in MS. from 7424 to 7488: this peal is supposed to be the longest one of Treble Bob Major, with the tenors together, ever obtained in two parts.

Should the sale of this work be sufficient to repay the expenses of printing, Mr. Snowdon intends to publish Part II., which will consist of a collection of Treble Bob peals: we have therefore much pleasure in recommending the book to our readers, and to add that a copy may be obtained post-free for 1s. 1½d., by forwarding stamps to Mr. Jasper Snowdon, Old Bank Chambers, Leeds.

Payment to Ringers.

SIR,—Mr. Troyte started a discussion in *Church Bells* on May 12 on payment of ringers. Only two ringers, one from Liverpool, 'COLLEGE YOUTH,' and 'TREBLE BOB,' have so far entered the discussion. Now I know something of ringing matters and would like to say a word about it. Liverpool 'COLLEGE YOUTH' represents a class of ringers who seem to think that all interest in change-ringing centres in money, and that if payment for Sunday ringing ceased we should soon lose all good ringers. I do not share that opinion, but believe with 'TREBLE BOB' that if proper facilities are given to young men to learn to ring there will always be more than are wanted to do the work. I speak from long experience and some success in the work. I have been in as many belfries and seen as many ringers as most people, and know something of Liverpool, too, and can tell 'COLLEGE YOUTH' that where ringers get the

best pay, most of the evils that we deplore are most rampant, where there is no week-night practice and no attempt to teach young ringers.

Let me ask 'COLLEGE YOUTH' how many ringers he has taught to ring, or have been taught in his company, for the last ten years, and what efforts are now being made to keep up the fame of our ringing island, and whether the ringers ever attend church after ringing? I do not condemn money payments altogether; but I believe our belfries would soon be cleared of the objectionable elements if such men as Mr. Troyte, Mr. Money, and other well-known clergymen, were more numerous. A WELL-KNOWN RINGER.

Worcestershire.

SIR,—I am not a change-ringer—not a ringer at all, yet I have taken *Church Bells* in for several years, entirely for its ringing news, and the thought has often occurred to me—'Why has not Worcestershire its association of change-ringers?' The county boasts of some of the finest ringers in the land (some authorities give the palm to Pershore as the finest), while its ringers are equal to any. I am quite satisfied the matter only requires to be taken up by some of the clergy and leading ringers, to become an accomplished fact. Will some one do so? I could name several ringers who are anxious for the formation of such a Society, and are prepared to give it their warmest support. I am sure it would receive the cordial approval of the vicar of this parish, though, from advancing age, he would not perhaps be prepared to take any active part in its formation. Perhaps some ringer will, in your next issue, give his opinion on the subject. TREBLE BELL.
Bromsgrove.

Hasketon—Re-opening of Church Bells.

ON Thursday, July 4th, these bells were opened after being re-hung and put into thorough repair by Mr. Bowell of Ipswich. The work has given general satisfaction, and reflects great credit upon Mr. Bowell. There were ringers present from Woodbridge, Ipswich, and Grundisburgh. Through the liberality of Mr. Newson, churchwarden, the ringers were invited to partake of a dinner of good old English fare at the 'Turk's Head,' Mr. Newson occupying the chair. There were several good touches rung on the hand-bells during the evening. We hear it is the intention of this gentleman at some future time to increase the ring to six, and we shall be glad to have the pleasure of chronicling such an event as early as possible.

A New Ring of Six Bells at Cowesby, Thirsk, Yorkshire.

ON Thursday, the 4th inst., a gratifying event took place in this little village. The parish church of St. Michael, Cowesby, Yorkshire, was rebuilt in 1846 by the widow and children of the late Mr. George Lloyd, as a memorial, on the site of the old Saxon edifice. The six bells were cast by Messrs. Warner of London, and hung by Mr. T. Mallaby; the tenor about 9 cwt. in B flat. This ring of six has been given to the honour and glory of God, and for the benefit of His Church, by Mrs. Elizabeth Ann Lloyd of Cowesby Hall.

Change-ringing at St. Mary's, Barnsley, Yorkshire.

EIGHT members of the Barnsley Branch of the Yorkshire Association of Change-ringers rang a date touch of 1878 changes of Kent Treble Bob Major, in 1 hr. 12 mins., on Thursday, 12th inst. T. Bailey, 1; J. Goodworth, 2; J. Frost, 3; W. Richardson, 4; W. Ellis, 5; R. Sparks, 6; G. Tyas, 7; R. H. Pease, 8. Tenor, 15 cwt. The peal was composed by Mr. T. Lockwood of Leeds, and conducted by G. Tyas of Barnsley.

Norwich Diocesan Association of Ringers.

ON Saturday, 13th July, 1844, eight members of the Aylsham and Marsham companies rang at All Saints, Marsham, a peal consisting of 10,080 changes of Plain Bob Major. On Saturday, 13th inst., six of the seven survivors of the above company met in the same tower and rang a peal of Oxford Treble Bob Minor. T. Greenwood (conductor), 1; C. Clements, 2; T. Fox, 3; W. G. Crane, 4; J. Delft, 5; S. Maystone, 6. The above is thought to be a fair proof that ringing is conducive to health and longevity.

Change-ringing at Daresbury.

ON Tuesday evening six members of the Daresbury Society of Change-ringers met in the tower of their parish church and rang two peals of Bob Minor, of 720 changes each; the first being Mr. John Holt's ingenious production, containing 21 bobs without singles, rung for the first time at Daresbury. The second 720 was the composition of Mr. Peter Hamblett, of the above Society, having 30 singles without bobs. The time occupied in ringing both peals was 51 mins. The ringers were in the following order:—T. Houghton, sen., 1; R. Brazendale, 2; P. Johnson, 3; P. Hamblett, 4; J. Ellison, 5; T. Houghton, jun. (conductor), 6. Tenor, 12 cwt. Key G.

DATE TOUCH.—At St. Mark's Church, Glodwick, Oldham, Lancashire, on Saturday, the 20th inst., was rung a date touch of Grandsire Triples, comprising 1878 changes, in 1 hr. 5 mins. Composed and conducted by S. Stott.

SIR,—Can any of your readers recommend a place in the country, not very far from London (one to two hours), with the following advantages?—1. A good church, with frequent services. 2. A good school for day boys. 3. Good opportunity for change-ringing. 4. A river for boating and fishing.

COLLEGE YOUTH, *Returning from Bengal.*

RECEIVED ALSO.—A. H. Bridges; T. H. Fisher; H. I. Tilley; N. H. Pownall.

WANTED.—The address of Mr. John Mills, formerly a change-ringer of Painswick.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The Church and Cyprus.

SIR,—I was gratified to observe that the marvellous opportunity which Cyprus now affords the Church is not to be wholly lost sight of, and that certain suggestions which appeared in a Comment recently in *Church Bells* are likely to be somewhat acted upon. Whether this is a result of that Comment or not matters little, but it is important that the enterprise be not suffered to drop. It appears that the Eastern Church is unusually well represented in Cyprus. Let the Anglican Church take care to be well represented there too, not for the sake of making a single proselyte, but for the purpose of helping on such relations between the Eastern Church and ourselves as may be profitable to the whole Church. A thorough, honest, hearty Church of England Service ought to be secured in Cyprus forthwith, ministered by at the very least one priest and one deacon, each obeying the rubrics, and taking such portions of the services only as are permitted. The Deacon never, *e. g.* ought to be permitted those parts of an Office where the rubric states 'Then shall the priest say.' A few months' hearty intercourse between the clergy of the Eastern Church and some intelligent ministers and members of the Church of England, may be the means of very blessed results. T. H. E.

The late Rev. J. H. Saturley.

SIR,—As I observe in the *Church Bells* of Saturday a notice of the late Rev. J. H. Saturley, missionary in New Brunswick, perhaps you may not object to mention that one of his children is a candidate for admission into the Infant Orphan Asylum at Wanstead, and that those Governors who feel an interest in this most deserving case can effectually assist it by sending their proxies to Mrs. Saturley, the Cedars, Taunton, in time for the next half-yearly election, which will take place on the last Thursday in November next. Proxies sent to the office, 100 Fleet Street, will be equally available. W.

Church History.

SIR,—Will you kindly allow me to draw the attention of 'W. S. B. H.' to the March, April, and June numbers of the *Churchman's Companion* for 1878, wherein he will find some short papers on 'Church History Past and Present,' and also the names of valuable books of reference on the subject at the end of the concluding paper. The price of the magazine is sixpence. The books mentioned therein are all easy of access. The want of knowledge of the history of our Church is much to be deprecated, and the Bishop of Capetown has only lately borne testimony to the fact that the lack of definite Church principles in those calling themselves 'Church people' who go out to the Colonies is a matter of great regret. To quote the Bishop's own words,—'While the Roman Catholics, Wesleyans, and Scotch Presbyterians, went out well instructed in their faith, and rarely deserted it, the reverse was the case as a rule with Churchmen.' Why is it that people know so little of Church history? Is it because the books written upon it are so voluminous and so formidable in appearance? We have a single volume now in Miss Yonge's *Early Church History*, which book will doubtless prove most useful. Many would be surprised did they read of the attitude Charlemagne, William the Conqueror, and Archbishop Lanfranc, maintained towards the See of Rome, and mention of this will be found in the same number of the magazine before named. Blunt *On the Reformation* would also be found by 'W. S. B. H.' most helpful. C. L.

RECEIVED ALSO.—L. S. A.; E. J. A.; J. M.; D. D.; W. P.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

The Guild of Devonshire Ringers.

A GENERAL MEETING will be held at Bideford on Monday, August 12th. The steeples of Bideford (8), Wear Gifford (6), and Northam (6), will be open to members; but at Bideford a selected band only will be allowed to ring. The Bridge Hall will be reserved for members' use, and every member must, on arriving at Bideford, report himself there and receive a ticket, without which he will not be able to enter the steeples or obtain a place in the breaks which will be engaged to take members to Wear Gifford and Northam. There will be a short service at Bideford Church at twelve o'clock. Directly after service there will be a public luncheon at the Old Grammar School. Members' tickets, 2s. 6d. each, but performing members may obtain them from me before the service at 1s. Members not belonging to any complete band present, who would like to ring, are requested to give in their names to me on arrival at Bideford. The travelling expenses of members will be repaid by the Guild, provided (1) that application for payment, with a statement of the probable number which will attend the meeting, be made to me on or before August 3; and (2) that the directions as to railway arrangements appended hereto be acted upon. J. L. LANGDON FULFORD, Hon. Sec.

RAILWAY ARRANGEMENTS.—All members travelling from Exeter or above must start by the 9.10 train from Queen Street, and apply for excursion tickets at 4s. each. Those above Exeter must take tickets (3rd class) to Exeter. Members starting from any other stations must ask for excursion tickets (3rd class), which will be granted to Bideford and back at a single fare and a quarter for the double journey.

Rings of Ten Bells in England.

SIR,—In my list of the rings of ten bells in England, which you published a few weeks ago, I find that there are a few errors, and one is serious, which I now wish to point out to your readers. Of course, as I had very little assist-

ance in this matter, and merely trusted to my own memory and the help of one or two friends in different parts of the country to compile the list, the liability to error by omission is very easily comprehended. I shall, therefore, be glad to make any corrections of any importance which may, as in the following cases, be pointed out to me.

In the list, St. Nicholas, Brighton, is given; this church now only possesses eight bells. The original eight were at one time augmented to ten, but in consequence of the unsatisfactory result the trebles were afterwards taken down and disposed of to St. Peter's Church, where they are now used for the clock chimes.

Christ Church, Macclesfield, figures in the list of ten bells, but it now only possesses eight; but, as a correspondent kindly informs me, 'There was originally a maiden ring of ten in Christ Church, but the ninth bell getting broken, and the bells running badly through faulty hanging, the old bell and the two smaller ones were given in exchange for the present seventh. Through a dispute with the heads of the church at that time, the bells have not been rung for over forty years, and, unfortunately, the tenor was cracked about twenty-five years ago in tolling for a funeral.' The name of the church at Macclesfield, which possesses the ring of ten which is in that town is St. Michael's—the old church. My correspondent also informs me that the weight of the tenor in this ring is 20 cwt., and that the trebles were added to it in 1837, but through a mistake of the persons to whom was entrusted the duty of sending the pitch to the founders they are not in tune. I am glad to hear, however, that a project is on foot for having these bells recast.

It will thus be seen that in the list given Brighton should be struck out, and St. Michael's be substituted for the name of the church at Macclesfield. The following rings have been omitted:—

Church.	Town.	County.	Tenor in cwt.
St. Mary	Beddington	Surrey	21
St. James	Hythe	Kent	19
SS. Mary & Nicholas	Leatherhead	Surrey	20

This makes up the rings of ten bells, hung for ringing, to eighty-two. Further corrections or additions will be gladly announced.

Old Bank Chambers, Leeds.

JASPER W. SNOWDON.

Sudbury, Suffolk.

SIR,—In answer to 'College Youth' in *Church Bells*, I write to inform him that we have three fine old churches in our town, with three rings of eight bells, and some good ringers. We have daily service in our church, a good school, and a navigable river, with plenty of boating and fishing. About 2½ hours from London by rail. I should recommend 'College Youth' to come and see the town. Weight of tenors:—St. Gregory, 16 cwt.; All Saints', 27 cwt.; St. Peter's, 22 cwt.

Sudbury, 1 North Street.

Change-ringing at Wollaston, Northamptonshire.

ON Saturday, July 20th, the Higham Ferrers and Irthlingborough Ringers, with Mr. T. Henson of Wellingborough, met at Wollaston, and rang 720 changes of London Singles in 27 mins.; also Oxford Bob, Oxford Treble Bob, and Plain Bob, with several other scores: making in all about 3500 changes. Tenor, 1 ton.

BELFRY RECORDS.

ST. NICHOLAS, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

(Tablets in the Belfry.)

1012. NOVEMBER 15th, 1803, were rung in St. Nicholas Steeple by the union Society of this Town a true peal of Holt's Grandshire Triples, consisting of 5040 changes, in 3 hours and 20 minutes. This peal was never rung before on these Bells. The Bobs was called by John Stephenson, Junior, who rang the observation Bell, the Tenor, which weighed 36 cwt. and was rung Single Handed. The following are the names of the ringers:—

T. Bell, Treble.	J. Ireland, Third.	J. Preston, Fifth.	J. Buckham, Seventh.
J. Stephenson, jun.	J. Shipley, Fourth.	W. Stephenson, Sixth.	E. Smith, Eighth.

1013. OCT. 25th, 1809, Isaac Cookson, Junior, Mayor; R. H. Williamson, Esquire, Recorder; Job Bulman, Sheriff. Jubilee. On this day was rang in St. Nicholas Steeple a 5040 of Holt's Grandshire Triples, by the union Society of this town, in 3 hours and 20 minutes; being the only peal rung in England in commemoration of his Majesty King George the Third entering into his 50th year of his reign over a free and loyal people.

John Bell, First.	James Ireland, Third.	W. Stephenson, Sixth.
John Stephenson, jun.	James Shipley, Fourth.	J. Buckham, Seventh.
Second.	J. Preston, Fifth.	E. Smith, Eighth.

Weight of Tenor, 36 cwt. Conducted by John Stephenson.

1014. ON March 27th, 1842 (Easter Sunday), the union Society of N'Castle and Gateshead change-ringers, in company with J. Cox and J. Freeman, two members of the Society of St. James' Youghs, London, rang on the bells of this Tower a true and complete peal of Grandshire Triples, consisting of 5040 changes, in the unprecedented time of 2 hours and 59 minutes. Weight of tenor, 36 cwt. The Harmony produced by the Skill and Talent employed on this occasion displayed to the Science unequalled Specimen of the Sublime, beautiful, and intricate art of Change-ringing. The following are the names of the articles who rang the peal:—

E. Walker, Treble.	A. Stephenson, Third.	J. Cox, Fifth.	G. James, Seventh.
J. Elliott, Second.	J. Freeman, Fourth.	R. Balmora, Sixth.	R. Wanless, Eighth.

Conducted by Mr. Cox.

1015. ON Friday evening, December 8th, 1848, eight members of the Ancient Society of Change-ringers of N'Castle and G'Head rang on the bells of this tower a true and complete peal of Grandshire trebles, containing 5040 changes, which was accomplished in 2 hours and 55 mins., being the quickest peal on record. Weight of tenor, 36 cwt. This ingenious peal is a composition of Thurstan's of Birmingham, consisting of 170 Singles and 75 Bobs, and was ably conducted by Mr. Allen Stephenson. The names of the ringers:—

Wm. Pitt, Treble.	G. Dodsworth, Third.	J. Graham, Fifth.	G. James, Seventh.
J. C. Pearson, Second.	And. Lowe, Fourth.	A. Stephenson, Sixth.	W. H. Washington, Tenor.

It is but creditable to say this is the first peal since the Jubilee of King George 3rd by Native talent, 7 of the ringers being of this Church, and Allen Stephenson of St. Andrew's.

RECEIVED ALSO.—Godiva; N. H. Pownall; W. Reed; E. Rogers; W. Walton.

NOTICE.—Mr. Snowdon's book on Treble Bob may be obtained of Messrs. Warner, 8 Crescent, Crispigate.
John Mills, of Painswick, died at Wells two years ago. Mr. G. Davi 44 Cricklade Street, Cirencester, will answer further questions about him.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

A Few Minor Items.

THE practice of ringing Date Touches has for the past few years been on the increase; but in many instances I cannot compliment the composers upon the ingenuity displayed by them in the production of these questionable compositions. To merit any approbation, a Date Touch should possess some originality in its construction; and a little difficulty in procuring the exact number desired will generally reflect some credit upon the composer, especially when the bells are kept in approved and recognised musical situations. To mutilate the 'method' by any artificial process is, however, a proceeding of doubtful policy, and in my opinion ought not to be encouraged. Great effects at present considered unattainable could, no doubt, be got by employing these spurious agencies, but many composers would hesitate to acquiesce in such a mode of effecting the objects aimed at. Where the particular method selected will not allow, in an orthodox manner, the bells to run home at the exact number of changes required, better to give up the idea altogether, or have recourse to another method that will answer the purpose in view. Stedman's principle, on any number of bells, seems to be the only one which can be made available for any occasion.

Another addition to ringing literature has made its appearance. Mr. Jasper Snowden, of Yorkshire, has issued a *Treatise on Treble Bob*, and from the knowledge he possesses of this subject, he must be considered competent to throw light upon many of those mysterious intricacies which envelop the study of this particular method. Among Treble Bob composers now in the land of the living, Mr. William Banister occupies as high a position, perhaps, as any; but the somewhat brief manner in which he has treated the composition and proof of this method seems to be the only disappointment that the student—who may be searching for a copious explanation of this special matter—would experience in the perusal of otherwise so excellent a work as the volume submitted to the exercise by that gentleman. I make these observations with the greatest deference to so accomplished a master of the art of composition as Mr. Banister.

A correspondent, who describes himself as 'A Young Man from the Country,' makes a suggestion which, though the carrying out of the same may be impracticable, is, nevertheless, worthy of comment, and perhaps consideration. He advocates an Annual Meeting (Congress he calls it) of ringers from all parts of England, in order to afford the opportunity for an interchange of ideas upon ringing matters, on something of the same plan as that now adopted by various learned and scientific bodies, friendly societies, &c., and he prophesies that incalculable benefits and advantages would accrue to the exercise at large by the holding of these yearly assemblies. I submit this proposition to the *savants* of the ringing world.

I hear it is the intention of Mr. Newson, one of the churchwardens of Hasketon, in the county of Suffolk, shortly to increase the ring of bells in that steeple to six, there being only five at present. I venture to suggest to that gentleman that such an addition to his parish church would be a fitting memento of the period when he filled the important office he now holds, and if he could induce a couple of his wealthy neighbours to perform a similar action, thus securing a ring of eight, he would earn the gratitude of posterity.

Appropos of new bells, it is to be hoped that large-hearted Welshmen will increase their donations so that the Cathedral Church of Llandaff will be able to boast of a good ring of ten bells, and I shall be happy to hear of this project being brought to a successful consummation at an early date. The Principality possesses at present but little in the shape of practical ringers: this movement may, however, result in the formation of a company bent on mastering the principles of the art, rivalling the deeds of prowess performed by their Anglican brethren.

And this brings me to notice briefly the remarks of 'Treble Bell,' who wrote a fortnight ago with reference to forming an association of ringers for the county (Worcester) in which he resides. He wishes some one to commence the steps necessary for the formation of a ringing company, but I would recommend him to move in the matter himself. There are many ways to go to work to obtain the desired results, but every difficulty (and there will be many) must be overcome by the most determined, unflinching perseverance. Amongst my ringing correspondence of many years ago I find the following passage in a letter from a most talented member of the exercise, now deceased. He says: 'In my younger days we used to meet every night in the week, in fact, we might be said to be always at it; we were a persevering young band, determined to excel, and did so. Go and do likewise!' I suggest to 'Treble Bell' the wisdom of begetting and developing a similar determination, assuring him that it will bring forth results of a most gratifying character.

PEEFING TOM.

Payment to Ringers.

Sir,—Seeing in your No. for July 27th a letter from 'A Well-known Ringer' on payment to ringers, he thinks he should like to hear what others have to say. Like himself I have been a good deal about the country, and I think he is wrong in saying that 'College Youth' represents a class of ringers who seem to think that all interest in change-ringing centres in money. I have seen a good deal of country ringers; what would 'A Well-known Ringer' say if he had to work for 18s. a-week and lose half a day's work to ring for 1s. 6d., just the same he got at his work? I would ask him, Who are they that ring all the peals of great length? Are they not working men, who form nearly all the ringing societies in the country? If a company of ringers go for a peal of 5000 changes, do they expect pay for it? They do it for pleasure. 'A Well-known Ringer' has been to London, no doubt; I would ask him at how many churches would there be ringing on a Queen's birthday if there was no pay? Is there one ringer in London who would leave his work for 1s. 6d.? How is

it there are so few peals of 5000 changes rung on that day? Surely every man, no matter what he is employed about, if he leave his work to ring at the request of others, ought to receive not less than five shillings, no matter whether six or twelve bells. In the country—I can speak for the West of England—he will find the ringers often ring on Easter Sunday and Whit Sunday, and never think of pay, and at harvest thanksgiving and on several other days, and at any time when wanted to ring for Church purposes; but for days called *State days* let them receive five shillings a bell, and for a wedding what is usually given.

A COUNTRY RINGER.

The Ancient Society of College Youths.—Established 1637.

THE Two Hundred and Forty-first Anniversary Festival of this Society was celebrated last Monday, the 5th inst., by the usual *déjeuner*, at the Rose and Crown Inn, Croydon, Surrey. Our space, at all times valuable, will not admit of anything but a brief allusion to this event, which this year was a most successful gathering of old friends in the ringing exercise, many of whom (as this Company is wide-spread over east, west, north, and south) look forward to 'dinner-day' as the only opportunity now left to them to renew those courtesies, and furnish up those intimacies, created long ago. Among the 'old boys' we noticed many who had made their name not only as practical ringers, but as staunch opponents of anything calculated to deteriorate the position of ringers in the social scale, while at the same time not one whit less determined that every arrangement of the belfry shall 'be done decently and in order.' The 'old man eloquent,' who had remarked to us in the previous week that he had never missed but one festival of the 'Colls,' since he had been connected with them, was to the fore, and as usual contributed, by his pertinent and well-timed sentences, to the enjoyment and edification of those who were brought into close proximity with him. The *cognoscenti* of the company appeared for the time to have discarded the mathematical fancies of either Positive, Comparative, or Superlative, and gracefully waiving the privileges of their order, devoted themselves manfully to 'compositions' of an entirely different character. Of course ringing was a special feature of the day, as will naturally be surmised, but as no peal was rung, and the various methods that were performed having faded from our memory, we must be excused if we refrain from any further comment in this direction. We cannot close this notice without referring to the compliment which was paid us by the respected Secretary of the College Youths, Mr. Geo. Muskett, in forwarding the invitation to be present.

Ringing at Bramley, Surrey.

ON Monday, 22nd ult., the Capel Society of Change-ringers visited Bramley, and rang a peal of 720 changes of Oxford Treble Bob Minor in 25 mins.; and several touches of Kent Treble Bob and College Exercise, and some Grandsire Doubles. Calling at Ewhurst they rang 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, and then returned home, after spending a very pleasant day.

Muffled Peal at Eccles, Lancashire.

ON Tuesday, July 23rd, a mixed band of ringers rang at St. Mary's Parish Church a muffled touch of Grandsire Triples, containing 1008 changes, as a token of respect to the late Isaac Bayley, who had been a change-ringer at the above church over thirty years. W. Cross (Cathedral, Manchester), 1; J. Barratt, 2; W. Walton, 3; J. W. Rogers, 4; R. Yates (Cathedral, Manchester), 5; Jas. Barratt, 6; T. Yates (conductor), 7; W. Ashcroft, 8. Tenor, 13½ cwt.

Durham Diocesan Association of Ringers.

ON Monday, the 29th July, six members of the North and South Shields Branch of the above rang a 720 of Plain Bob Minor on St. Hilda's bells, South Shields, in 26 mins. *R. Hopper (conductor), 1; *J. Moffoot, 2; *R. Scrafton, 3; J. Gibson, 4; W. Reed, 5; R. Smith, 6. Tenor, 10 cwt.

ON Saturday, Aug. 3, a company formed from the Hurworth, Stockton, Newcastle, and North Shields branches of this Association met at the parish church, Stockton-on-Tees, and after ringing 720 Bob Minor and some touches of Grandsire Minor, 720 of Kent Treble Bob was rung in 25 mins., by J. Hern, 1; J. Gaines (conductor), 2; G. J. Clarkson, 3; W. Reed, 4; H. Thompson, 5; T. Denton, 6. Tenor, 12 cwt. This is the first 720 of Treble Bob ever rung on these bells.

Tunstead, Norfolk.—Opening of Bells.

THE ring of bells of the above village having been augmented to eight by the addition of two trebles, the Rev. G. H. Harris, the Vicar, who is the donor, invited the members of the Norwich Diocesan Association of Ringers to attend the opening on Tuesday, the 30th ult. Members came from Norwich, Ipswich, Woodbridge, Yarmouth, Diss, East Dereham, North Elmham, Kenninghall, Fundenhall, Aylsham, Marsham, Redenhall, Worstead, &c. The Norwich company, joined by the Vicar, first handled the ropes, ringing a touch of Oxford Treble Bob Major. They were succeeded by other companies until 1 p.m., when an adjournment was made to a tent in the Vicarage grounds, where the Vicar, supported by the churchwardens and other parishioners, entertained his guests, about ninety in number, at dinner. After dinner the Kenninghall company rang a touch of Oxford Treble Bob, preparatory to the afternoon service at 3 p.m. At that hour the church was filled with a goodly congregation. The Prayers were intoned by the Vicar, the First Lesson being read by the Rev. W. W. Hutt, the Second by the Rev. A. Sutton, who also preached a good practical sermon on Exod. iii. 5. The congregation, assisted by the choir, joined heartily in the hymns, 'They are lifted to the tower,' and 'Not idle are the fleeting sounds.' After service the Diss company rang a touch of Oxford Treble Bob. The new bells were cast by Messrs. Warner and hung by Mr. Skinner of Norwich. Several touches of Plain Bob Major, Oxford Treble Bob, Grandsire Triples, and Stedman Triples, were rung before the close of the day.

RECEIVED ALSO.—John Exlee; J. H. Harris; J. Barnett; W. S. Catchpole.

* Their first peal.

Bishop of Rangoon. (Sunday-school Institute.) Price 2s. 6d. An excellent book for young people and Church History classes. 3. *Turning points of English Church History*, by the Rev. E. L. Cutts. (S.P.C.K.) Price 3s. or 3s. 6d. An excellent and impressive book. 4. *Church History in England*, by the late Rev. A. Martineau. (S.P.C.K.) Price 3s. or 3s. 6d. A very complete and excellent history. 5. Bede's *Ecclesiastical History of the English Nation*, by the Rev. L. Gidley. (James Parker and Co.) Price 6s. A new translation and an excellent one. 6. Dean Hook's *Lives of the Archbishops of Canterbury*, 4 vols. The first volume contains an excellent history of the early British and Saxon Church to the Conquest, giving all the information contained in Bede and other early writers. The first four of these works cost only 11s., and are within the reach of many persons in humble life, and may very usefully be added to parish libraries. J. W. EASTWOOD, M.D.

Dinsdale Park, Darlington.

SIR,—A correspondent last week inquired why any person can leave our church and go to chapel. Having heard the reasons of several who have left, or attend both occasionally, I can perhaps throw a little light on a point which is well worth consideration.

I find that such persons still cling to the Church, and if a few reforms were made might be brought back. Many of them complain of our beautiful prayers being read without feeling or earnestness, and not as if they came from the heart, and that the fashionable intoning renders our service monotonous and wearisome, and does not impress the same as good reading with due emphasis would do. Others, again, find the sermons at chapels made more interesting than those at church, and the singing more hearty and congregational. Besides those who left for chapels, there are many gentlemen I know of who once regularly attended church have now, I regret to say, ceased to go to any place of worship, solely because the service was not made interesting to them—that is, not merely by fine singing for the ear or ornaments for the eye (of which they soon tire), but a service which appeals to the heart and mind, to attract men as well as the ladies and youths who go. I think that the question of how to keep up the interest of the congregation throughout a service, and to convey to them lasting benefit, is one of the most important that can engage the attention of our clergy. AN OLD SUBSCRIBER.

HOODS.—In reply to 'Student,' M.A. begs to say that none of the Theological Colleges named have any right to a hood at all. Such right is really confined to Universities and St. David's Coll., Lampeter, though several of the Theological Colleges have assumed the distinction. The Literate's badge is 'a decent tippet of black so that it be not silk.'

'W. W.' would be glad to learn through *Church Bells* if there is any hospital in Edinburgh, or in any part of Scotland, where ladies can be trained as nurses, and where, after the training is over, they will be kept on as permanent nurses with a salary?

RECEIVED ALSO:—A Leicestershire Layman, and others.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Payment to Ringers.

SIR,—I hope I am not troubling you on a subject which you do not wish to go on; but I think your correspondent, 'A Well-known Ringer,' has misstated this matter. Some five or six years ago Mr. Ellacombe wrote a letter to *Church Bells* on this subject, which gave great satisfaction to all to whom it was shown—to several companies of ringers: if that letter could be printed again I think it would do a great deal of good. J. BARNETT.

Waltham Cross.

Maidenhead, Berkshire.

SIR,—Kindly allow me to recommend Maidenhead as the place suitable for 'College Youth,' who made an inquiry a week or two ago, having, 1. Three good churches, frequent services at two of them; 2. Several good boys' schools; 3. Fine ring of eight bells at one church (new towers built ready at two others), and scientific ringing practised twice weekly; 4. River Thames close by, noted for boating and fishing. E. ROGERS.

Ringling at Framsdan, Suffolk.

On Saturday, the 3rd inst., a mixed band of ringers met at the tower of the parish church, and rang a true peal of Oxford Treble Bob Major, consisting of 5088 changes, in 3 hrs. 11 mins., as follows:—D. Prentice (conductor), 1; T. Sadler, 2; W. I. Catchpole (first peal), 3; J. Fosdike, 4; R. King, 5; D. Collins (first peal), 6; E. Pemberton, 7; E. Collins, 8. Composed by J. Nicholl. Tenor, 16 cwt.

Change-ringing at Bedford by Members of the Oxford and Cambridge Societies.

On Monday, 5th inst., eight members of the above Societies rang at St. Paul's, Bedford, a date touch of Stedman's Triples, consisting of 1878 changes, in 1 hr. 13 mins. Composed by J. Field, conducted by W. Smith.

New College, Oxford.

On Thursday, 8th inst., by permission, the following members of the Oxford Society rang at New College a peal of Stedman's Triples (5040 changes) in 3 hrs. 9 mins.:—T. Hill, 1; H. Janaway, 2; G. Warner, 3; W. Smith, 4; C. Hounslow, 5; J. Field (conductor), 6; E. Harrison, 7; A. Strange, 8. Tenor, 24 cwt.

Ringling at Market Rasen, Lincolnshire.

At Market Rasen, on Saturday 10th inst., six members of the Society of Change-ringers met in their ancient tower and rang 438 of Plain Bob Minor, 720 of College Singles, and 720 of that intricate peal Kent Treble Bob, making a total of 1878, the date of the year. The peal was true and the striking exceedingly good, as witnessed by Mr. Harper, late a member of the Hull Society of Change-ringers. Mr. Harper had all the back-stroke treble leads of

each peal before him, and marked off the 41 bobs and singles as they were called. As each peal came home the band struck into the next one from the back stroke of round. The peal was conducted by Mr. James Bertram, and brought round in 1 hr. 20 mins. Through the untiring energy of the conductor the company has been brought to this state of proficiency after only a year and a half's tuition. The ringers were:—M. Ashton, 1; A. Taylor, 2; H. Gadd, 3; H. Burkitt, 4; T. Gibbons, 5; J. Bertram, 6.

Durham Diocesan Association of Ringers.

The members of this Association will hold their Annual Meeting at Durham on Monday, 26th inst. The ring of eight (tenor, 36 cwt.) at the Cathedral will be at the disposal of the members between the hours of 11 a.m. and 3.30 p.m.; and also the ring of six (tenor, 18 cwt.) at St. Oswald's (which will be repaired for the occasion), throughout the day. A dinner will be provided (1s. per head to members) at the Half Moon Hotel. Members intending to dine are requested to send in their names not later than Monday, Aug. 19, to the Secretary, Mr. G. J. Clarkson, 7 Brunswick Street, Stockton-on-Tees.

BELFRY RECORDS.

CHACELEY, WORCESTERSHIRE. (Tablets in the Belfry.)

1016. DECEMBER the 26, 1842, 5040 changes rung by the Chaceley Ringers, in 2 hours and 37 min. By:—

Thos. Vine, <i>First</i> .	Wm. Holbrook, <i>Third</i> .	Robt. Vine, <i>Fifth</i> .
Wm. Field, <i>Second</i> .	Thos. Vine, <i>Fourth</i> .	Wm. Carter, <i>Sixth</i> .
		Ch. Coates.

1017. JANUARY 5th, 1865, 5010 changes was Rung by the Chaceley Ringers in 2 hrs. and 8 mins. By:—

Thomas Vine, <i>First</i> .	Walter Vine, <i>Third</i> .	Walter Healey, <i>Fifth</i> .
Stephen Hill, <i>Second</i> .	Thomas Webb, <i>Fourth</i> .	James Webb, <i>Sixth</i> .

ALL SAINTS, NEWCASTLE. (Tablets in the Belfry.)

1018. OCTOBER 11th, 1797. The Bells of this church were opened by the Union Society of Newcastle change-ringers with a peal of Holt's Grandsire Triples, consisting of 5040 changes, in 3 Hours and 1 Minute, being that Glorious day when Admiral Duncan gallantly defeated the Dutch Fleet off Camperdown, on the coast of Holland, and captured 9 Ships of the Line and two Frigates. The names of the ringers who rang the peal are:—

John Buckham, <i>Treble</i> .	Jas. Barnard, <i>Fourth</i> .	Jos. Stephenson, <i>Sixth</i> .
John Stephenson, <i>Second</i> .	W. Stephenson, <i>Fifth</i> .	John Williams, <i>Seventh</i> .
Jas. Ireland, <i>Third</i> .		Wm. Richardson, <i>Tenor</i> .

The Bobs called by John Stephenson. Weight of tenor, 19 cwt.

1019. On Tuesday, Oct. 12th, 1830, the Society of St. Andrew's Youths rang on the bells of this steeple a true and complete peal of Grandsire Triples, consisting of 5040 changes, in 3 Hours and 9 Minutes. The following are the names of the ringers:—

George Henderson, <i>Treble</i> .	J. Bennett, <i>Fourth</i> .	R. Balmbray, <i>Sixth</i> .
Allen Stephenson, <i>Second</i> .	J. Winter, <i>Fifth</i> .	G. James, <i>Seventh</i> .
J. Stephenson, <i>Third</i> .		R. Wanless, <i>Eighth</i> .

Conducted by Allen Stephenson.

1020. On Thursday, March 12th, 1842, the Union Society of Newcastle and G'Head Change-ringers having been visited by 4 Members of the Society of St. James' Youths, London, rang in this Steeple Holt's peal of Grandsire Triples, consisting of 5040 changes, which was completed in 3 Hours by the following artists:—

Joseph Gissing, <i>Treble</i> .	John Freeman, of London, <i>Fourth</i> .	G. James, <i>Seventh</i> .
Chas. Balle, <i>Second</i> .	Allen Stephenson, <i>Fifth</i> .	R. Wanless, of Newcastle, <i>Eighth</i> .
John Cox, <i>Third</i> .	R. Balmbray, <i>Sixth</i> .	Conducted by John Cox.

GATESHEAD, DURHAM. (Tablets in the Belfry.)

1021. 'ARS NON HABET INIMICUM, NISI IGNORANTEM.'

1850.

Rector.

Rev. J. Davis, D.D.

Churchwardens.

Cornls. Garbutt,	John Potts,
John Russell,	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 hours and 53 minutes. It was composed by Mr. Solomon Biddleston of West Bromwich, and contains 182 bobs and 58 singles. The ringers were stationed as follows:—

*George Weddle, <i>Treble</i> .	*William Pitt, <i>Fourth</i> .	*Christopher Liddle, <i>Sixth</i> .
Joseph C. Pearson, <i>Second</i> .	*Robert A. Whaley, <i>Fifth</i> .	*Andrew Lowrie, <i>Seventh</i> .
George W. Dodsworth, <i>Third</i> .		*John Alderson, <i>Tenor</i> .

The above peal was conducted by Mr. George William Dodsworth. It was a maiden peal of four, and those marked * were under 21 years of age.

1022. MAY 10th, 1790, was rang in this Steeple a complete peal of Grandsire Triples, consisting of 5040 changes, in 3 hours 20 minutes, by the Union Society of Newcastle and Gateshead. The author, Mr. Jno. Holt of London. The bells and names as follows, viz.:

James Ireland, N'castle, <i>First</i> .	William Stephenson, N'castle, <i>Fifth</i> .
John Stephenson, Bob Caller, N'castle, <i>Second</i> .	John Williams, Gateshead, <i>Sixth</i> .
James Shipley, Gateshead, <i>Third</i> .	Thomas Carr, N'castle, <i>Seventh</i> .
John Buckham, N'castle, <i>Fourth</i> .	William Richardson, Gateshead, <i>Eighth</i> .

Weight of the tenor, 15 cwt.

1023. NOV. 18th, 1794, 5040 changes was rang by the aforesaid Society in 3 hours 15 minutes.

Robert Shaftoe Hawkes, Wm. Train, } Churchwardens.

Jonathan Colling, Michl. Dobson. }

1024. [On two scrolls with a bell between] 'LAUDO DEUM VERUM, PLEBEM VOCO, CONGREGO CLENUM,' and 'DEFUNCTAS PLORO, PESTEM FUGO, FESTA DECORO.'

Gateshead, 1829.

The Revd. John Collinson, Rector.

The Revd. George C. Abbs, Curate.

John Fairbairn, } Churchwardens.

George Sowerby, }

Joseph Davie, }

Joseph Hawks. }

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 rang 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, <i>First</i> .	John Elliott, <i>Third</i> .	Joseph Stephenson, <i>Sixth</i> .
Allen Stephenson, B.C., <i>Second</i> .	Thomas Elliott, <i>Fourth</i> .	George James, <i>Seventh</i> .
	George Pearson, <i>Fifth</i> .	Edward James, <i>Eighth</i> .
		James Shipley, <i>Steward</i> .
		D. Preston, <i>Secretary</i> .

RECEIVED ALSO:—Reginald Acland Troyte; Tim Bobbin; G. Pope; Samuel Slater.

so I venture to observe that I am just completing a fifth edition of *Our Church and our Country*—(W. Wells Gardner. 6d.)—in which edition I am introducing all the references as given in the first edition, and not one of which has been copied secondhand. It will be ready probably in October, and may perhaps prove of some use to the working men of England, to whom I originally dedicated it.

GEORGE VENABLES.

Great Yarmouth Vicarage.

How is Church Building in France paid for?

SIR,—Can your readers give me reliable information touching the building of churches in France? Occasionally one sees, and reads of, very large and costly temples being built there, chiefly for Roman Catholics; and yet one rarely hears of efforts for church building such as we have recourse to in England. I am almost certain that under defined conditions the State builds most of the churches. Can any of your readers tell me if this is so? If so, is it out of funds taken from the Church? Are the funds also applicable to other places of worship than those of the Roman Catholic? Or in what way are funds usually obtained?

T. H. E.

Anglican, Greek and Eastern, and Romish Creeds and Dogmas.

SIR,—Would one of your writers do the Church a great favour? If it were well done, and then translated into many languages, it would do very great good. I want the three Creeds of the Anglican Church printed in consecutive order. Then the Creeds of the Eastern Churches. Then the Romish, in which the first line of the three Creeds might be given, adding, *in italic*, 'The same as the Anglican,' 'The same as the Eastern.' [Does the Eastern Church adopt the Creed of Athanasius?] Then ought to come the Creed of Pius IX. and the modern dogmas of Immaculate Conception and Infallibility, with their dates. The people do not know the truth, that the Roman Church abounds with novelties such as the Primitive Church knew not of. X.

MARA S. would be glad if any one would tell her of some tracts giving the reasons for Baptism in a simple way. Also for one on neglect of public worship.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

The Guild of Devonshire Ringers.

On Monday, 12th inst., a very successful meeting of this Guild was held at Bideford. On the arrival of the members a special service was held at the parish church, when a sermon was preached by the rector, the Rev. R. Granville, from Col. iii. 23. This was followed by a public luncheon at the Old Grammar School, when the President (A. W. Troyte, Esq.) occupied the chair, and between seventy and eighty members were present. A hearty vote of thanks was proposed and carried by acclamation to the President; for his kindness in presenting the plate from which certificates of membership could be printed. During the afternoon a party, consisting of the President, the Treasurer (W. B. Fulford, Esq.), the Instructor (Mr. J. Field), Revs. R. H. D. Acland-Troyte and A. du B. Hill; W. Banister, J. Baxter, R. Ford, and J. Easterbrook (of Plymouth); J. Norrish, H. Tucker, and H. Payne (of Huntsham); W. H. Marsh and F. Shepherd (of Exeter); D. P. Davies, Esq. (of Oxford); and R. French (of London), rang various touches of Grandsire and Stedman's Triples on the bells of the parish church. In the meanwhile the members present belonging to the Broad Clyst, Budleigh, Exeter, Ilfracombe, Merton, Monkleigh, and Woodbury bands, were conveyed in carriages to Wear Gifford and Northam, where various peals of Grandsire Doubles were rung. The members of the various bands left by the last train, well pleased with the first general meeting of the Guild in North Devon.

A List of Rings of Eight Bells in the County of Suffolk.

SIR,—As Mr. Snowden has kindly favoured the readers of *Church Bells* with a list of ten and twelve bells, I desire to send you a list of rings of eight bells in this county, hoping that ringers in other counties may do the same, and then we should know all the rings in England.

SAMUEL SLATER.

Glensford.

Town.	Church.	Cwt.
Boxford	St. Mary	about 24
Bungay	Holy Trinity	16
Bury St. Edmunds	St. Mary	about 26
Clare	SS. Peter and Paul	28
Coddenham	St. Mary	15
Debenham	St. Mary	20
Eye	SS. Peter and Paul	about 24
Framsden	St. Mary	16
Framlingham	St. Michael	18
Fressingfield	SS. Peter and Paul	18
Hadleigh	St. Mary	28
Halesworth	St. Mary	19
Helmingham	St. Mary	19
Horham	St. Mary	about 8
Kelsale	St. Peter	16½
Lavenham	SS. Peter and Paul	24
Long Melford	Holy Trinity	16
Southwold	St. Edmund	12
Stowmarket	SS. Peter and Paul	about 20
Stradbroke	All Saints	24
Sudbury	St. Peter	22
"	St. Gregory	16
"	All Saints	27
Woodbridge	The Virgin Mary	28
Total		24

Reopening of Bells at the Parish Church of Hinton, near Tewkesbury.

THE ring of five bells at this picturesque spot, after being silent for fifteen years, have recently been reopened. They have been rehung, at a cost of 100*l.*, by Mr. White of Besselsleigh, Abingdon. W. Laslett, Esq., formerly M.P. for the city of Worcester, generously gave 50*l.* towards this object, the remainder being supplied by local and other subscribers. A contemporary remarks, that 'it is a matter of rejoicing among the parishioners that the tones of the bells will again be heard in the district; and that in celebration of the reopening a luncheon was given by the Rector (Rev. R. J. Baker), on the Rectory lawn, to the subscribers and friends who interested themselves in the movement.' The news of bell and belfry restoration is to us always intelligence of a pleasing nature, but we should like to hear more frequently of an increase of power to those rings which are weak, from a numerical point of view. A ring of five seems a kind of hybrid—neither one thing nor the other; and it is to be deplored that the authorities at Hinton did not entertain the idea, in conjunction with the rehanging of their bells, of augmenting them to a ring of six at least.

Change-ringing at St. Mark's, Glodwick, Oldham, Lancashire.

On Saturday, the 10th inst., six members of the above Society, assisted by Mr. Wm. Ashworth and Mr. James Priestley, rang the late John Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, consisting of 5040 changes, in 2 hrs. 55 mins. J. Garlick, 1; W. H. Gibson, 2; J. Priestley, 3; G. H. Beever, 4; W. Ashworth (conductor) 5; J. Gartside, 6; C. Rothwell, 7; B. Ainley, 8. (J. C. Garlick and W. H. Gibson's first peal.)

Change-ringing at Congleton, Cheshire.

On Tuesday, 13th inst., a mixed band of Change-ringers rang at St. Peter's, Congleton, Mr. John Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, comprising 5040 changes, in 3 hrs. 5 mins. J. Wilde, sen., 1; J. Holt, 2; J. Wilde, jun., 3; R. Woolley (his first peal), 4; P. Beard, 5; H. Rostron (conductor), 6; T. Wilde, jun., 7; H. Williams, 8. Tenor, 17 cwt.

Change-ringing at Ashchurch, Gloucestershire.

On Wednesday evening, 14th inst., the following company of ringers rang at the above church a peal of 720 changes of Grandsire Minor in 25 mins. G. H. Phillott, Esq., 1; J. Drinkwater (Master of the Gloucester and Bristol Association of Change-ringers), 2; J. Bayliss, 3; J. Warthen, 4; J. W. Snowden, Esq., 5; E. Wallace, 6. The peal, which was without a plain lead, was conducted by Elisha Wallace. Tenor, 16 cwt.

Mourning Peal at Hyde, Cheshire.

On Thursday, 15th inst., the Society of Change-ringers of St. George's, Hyde, rang at the above church, as a token of esteem and respect to the late Mr. John Wilde, who for forty-six years was the parish clerk and sexton, 832 changes of Grandsire Triples (as many changes as deceased had lived months). J. Wilde, sen., 1; M. Sale, 2; C. Ashworth, 3; J. Wilde, 4; S. Bennett, 5; H. Rostron (composer and conductor), 6; T. Wilde, jun., 7; P. Beard, 8.

Change-ringing at Rugeley, Staffordshire.

On Saturday, 17th inst., the ringers of the Cathedral, Lichfield, visited Rugeley, and by the kind permission of the Vicar rang on the parish church bells a true peal of Grandsire Minor, containing 720 changes, in 28½ mins. F. Statham, 1; F. Sedgwick, 2; A. Whitby, 3; H. Measham, 4; E. Gallimore, 5; T. Meredith (conductor), 6.

Change-ringing at St. Peter-at-Gowts, Lincoln.

On Saturday, 17th inst., six members of the Market Rasen Society of Change-ringers rang at the above church several touches of Kent Treble Bob and Grandsire Minor; also 720 of College Singles in 29 mins. M. Ashton, 1; A. Taylor, 2; H. Gadd, 3; H. Burkitt, 4; T. Gibbons, 5; J. Bertram (conductor), 6; being the first peal of College Singles ever rung upon these bells. Tenor, 9 cwt.

Muffled Peal at Nutfield Church, Surrey.

On Monday, 12th inst., a muffled peal of 720 changes of Oxford Single Bob was rung after the funeral of James Bourne, a member of the Nutfield Society of Change-ringers.

BELFRY RECORDS.

HADLEIGH, SUFFOLK. (Tablets in the Belfry.)

1025. On Thursday, the 28th of February, 1714, Was rung in Hadleigh Steeple, by the Hadleigh Society of Ringers, A complete Peal of five thousand and forty changes of Bob Major, being the first yet ever was rung in the said Steeple, which was completed in 3 hours and 35 minutes by ye men whose names are undermentioned:—

Edmd. Mills, Treble.	John Corder, Fourth.	Thos. Windle, Sixth.
Rid. Beardwell, Second.	Willm. Newton, Fifth.	Eustace Watts, Seventh.
John Bunn, Third.		Saml. Cullum, Tenor.

N.B.—Euse. Watts call'd ye Bobbs.

1026. On Thursday, Nov. 14th, 1839, was rung in this steeple a complete Peal of Oxford Treble Bob, containing 5280 changes, in 3 hours and 8 minutes. It was the longest length of the above method ever accomplished in the county of Suffolk in that weight of metal, the tenor Bell weighing upwards of 28 cwt. It was finely struck and completely brought round by the following persons:—

T. Hurry, Norwich, Treble.	J. Warner, Goslingham, Fourth.	J. Naunton, Ipswich, Sixth.
J. Pettett, Hadleigh, Second.	J. Gurnham, Goslingham, Fifth.	J. Lewes, Brumford, Seventh.
J. Hurry, Norwich, Third.		J. Truman, Norwich, Tenor.

The peal was conducted by James Truman.

Thos. Gray, } Churchwardens.
Wm. Strutt, }

RECEIVED ALSO.—H. T. Tilley; John Raven; John Jones; John Cox. W. Scott should appear by advertisement.

NOTICES.—Belfry Records requested. 'Chasclay' is a Perpetual Curacy near Tewkesbury; Belfry Tablets were sent by a clerical ringer in the county.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Major Items.

SIR,—I desire to compliment the reverend donor on his liberality in the augmentation of the ring at Tunstead, Norfolk, from six to eight bells, and the ringers of that locality also on such an acquisition generally; and at the same time I would remind those gentlemen of that famous ringing county, that the practice of Kent is not only the most simple, but consists of and produces a better musical effect than Oxford Treble Bob, which by the touches named is, it seems, still the practised method in Norfolk.

Your correspondent, 'A Country Ringer,' several times hit the right nail on its head in his remarks on payment to ringers.

It was a jubilant affair at Croydon on the 5th ult., and by what I saw I rather fancy your correspondent is quite right about 'faded memory;' and, of course, there is something rather speculative in the 241st Festival.

In a former letter I pointed out some of the incongruous statements made by 'Peeping Tom,' and I now propose to review a part of his letter in your issue of the 10th inst. At the outset I must say that he makes a great blunder concerning Treble Bob composers now in the land of the living. The gentleman named holds high position among the *élite* of the science, I candidly admit; but, Sir, I submit that that gentleman would have been more honoured by silence than by the flattery of such statements. Those who wish to prove the right or wrong of this should search bell-ringing literature, and I venture to assert that it will be found that Mr. W. Harrison, of Mottam, Cheshire, is the most able composer of the mentioned method at the present time living. Not that I wish to be understood to speak the least slightly of the merits of any of the many eminent composers that the science can at present boast of: quite the contrary. But if the following explanation of what has been promulgated by the author I have named is read carefully, your readers will, I doubt not, think me justified in making these assertions.

Diverting for a while, I wish to say that I agree with your correspondent as to the *Treatise on Treble Bob* by Mr. Snowdon, and I wish to compliment him, not only for plain speaking, but for the display of such untiring exertions in the production of this work, and others on the same subject; and I strongly recommend Part I. to all who have the least inclination to form an opinion of their own on other matters connected with ringing besides tugging away at the rope's end, &c. Peruse its pages, and know a little of the truth, &c., of what you are asked to participate in at times. Then, Sir, we may look for a good and healthy opinion all round on the originality, qualities, &c., of peals, as such are brought forward.

I think, Sir, if 'Peeping Tom' had looked up the Annual Reports of the Yorkshire Association he could never have written as he has on 'Treble Bob' composition, but would conclude with myself. My reason and authority for which is as follows, viz.:—Ever since the time the *Clavis* made its appearance but little improvement has been made in the science of composition on Treble Bob until a few years ago; this improvement is in augmenting the number of course-ends hitherto allotted to the sixth bell in a peal. Formerly the number was eight, but now it is twelve; and, Sir, when it is thoroughly understood that it is when that bell is in either fifth's or sixth's place at a course-end of a peal, that the best and most musical changes are produced, it will be easily understood why the placing this bell at so many course-ends is considered such an improvement. Composers of the old school were content to obtain a peal with the sixth at four course-ends each way, with a few exceptions; and if by the rearrangement of the other seven or eight rough or make-up courses a variation did not appear, why something grand had been done. Now, however, Mr. Harrison and others find little difficulty in composing peals with the sixth six times each way, either in one or two parts; and peals have been reported in your paper with that bell at eight course-ends one way and four the other, and *vice versa*, and in the least possible number of changes of which a peal can consist. Others there are with this sixth seven times in fifth's and five times in sixth's place, and *vice versa*. Again, nine times H. and three times W., and even ten times H. and twice W., in peals of 5024 changes. This, Sir, being the case, and as sixteen or seventeen such courses will make a peal, it shows that such contains only four or five, 'instead of seven or eight,' of those 'rough or make-up,' or in other words, they may perhaps be called non-musical courses. The fact being that the sixth bell is in a musical position at about two thirds of such peals. Now, Sir, even the tyro must, I think, see some truth in my statement, which is also a good answer to the old story, that nothing fresh could be had in Treble Bob. Again, a good test of the ability possessed by a composer on this method is to try for a peal with fifth or sixth bells each the extent in 5-6, and is it not remarkable that only one or two out of about eight such peals seem to have been obtained in London? What, I ask, have they been doing? and where is 'Peeping Tom' with his flattery now?

There is, however, other work to be done. The tablet recording the performance of the 12,000 at Shoreditch has been much defaced; an endeavour has evidently been made to obliterate the name of the conductor and other of the prominent writing concerning that peal.

Again, the brass tablet recording a peal of Stedman's Caters rung at St. Clement's has received something on its face, and just where the composer and conductor's name appear; placed there with an intention, it seems, of obliterating his name therefrom. If 'Tom' could by any means show up the offending individuals, and bring them to book for such meanness, he would earn the gratitude of the Royal Cumberlands, and posterity generally, and I will favour him not only with another peep, but a squeeze of the delicate hand of

GODIVA.

Change-ringing at Huntsham, near Bampton, North Devon.

On the 15th inst. a party of gentlemen assembled at Huntsham Court, the seat of Chas. A. W. Troyte, Esq., and during the following week rang on the rings of eight at Oakford, Dunster, Taunton, Tiverton, and St. Sidwell's,

Exeter; and also completed the following performances on the bells of All Saints, Huntsham. Tenor, 13 cwt.

On the 17th inst. 1878 changes of Stedman's Triples, in 1 hr. 7 mins. J. Field, 1; G. H. Phillott, Esq., 2; L. Proctor, Esq., 3; Rev. R. H. D. Acland-Troyte, 4; Rev. A. Du B. Hill, 5; C. D. P. Davies, Esq., 6; J. W. Snowdon, Esq., 7; W. B. Fulford, Esq., 8. The touch was composed and conducted by J. Field of Oxford.

On the 20th inst. the following members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang a true peal of 5056 changes of Kent Treble Bob Major in 3 hrs. 4½ mins. J. Field (Oxford), 1; H. Payne (Huntsham), 2; G. H. Phillott, Esq., 3; Rev. R. H. D. Acland-Troyte, 4; J. Cleave (Huntsham), 5; C. D. P. Davies, Esq., 6; C. A. W. Troyte, Esq., 7; J. W. Snowdon, Esq., 8. The peal, which contained the same qualities, in a less number of changes, as a composition published in *Church Bells* of June 29th, was composed by T. Lockwood, of Leeds, and conducted by Jasper W. Snowdon.

5 0 5 6									
2	3	4	5	6	M.	D.	W.	H.	
5	2	3	6	4	2	1	2	2	
4	2	5	6	3			1		
4	3	2	6	5			1	1	
3	6	2	4	5	1				
6	4	3	5	2					
4	5	6	2	3					
4	3	5	2	6			1	1	
3	2	5	4	6	1				
4	5	2	3	6	1			2	

Repeated.

On the 21st inst. 1876 changes of Grandsire Triples in 1 hr. 2½ mins. G. H. Phillott, Esq. (Staunton-on-Wye, Herefordshire), 1; Rev. E. H. D. Acland-Troyte (Porlock, Somersetshire), 2; L. Proctor, Esq. (Bennington, Hertfordshire), 3; C. D. P. Davies, Esq. (Cheltenham), 4; Rev. A. Du B. Hill (St. Winnow, Cornwall), 5; W. B. Fulford, Esq. (Exeter), 6; C. A. W. Troyte, Esq. (Huntsham), 7; J. W. Snowdon, Esq. (Leeds, Yorkshire), 8. The touch was composed by W. Gordon of Stockport, and conducted by C. D. P. Davies, Esq.

Ringing at Hythe, Kent.

Touches of Bob Major, Treble Bob Major, Grandsire Triples, and Caters, were rung at the parish church on Friday, the 16th inst., by a select band of the leading ringers in East Kent, to celebrate the golden wedding of Mr. John Friend, who for fifty-five years has been the conductor of ringing at Hythe.

Waltham Abbey, Essex.

On Saturday, 17th inst., eight members of the Waltham Abbey Society of Change-ringers (members of the Ancient Society of College Youths) rang at Waltham Abbey Mr. E. Taylor's six-part peal of Grandsire Triples, containing 5040 changes, in 2 hrs. 59 mins. T. Pallet, 1; W. Alpes (conductor), 2; G. Hills, 3; T. Powell, 4; D. Tarling, 5; P. Cleverley, 6; J. Barnett, 7; T. Colverd, 8.

Change-ringing at Hunslet, Yorkshire.

On Sunday morning, the 18th inst. for divine service, eight members of the Hunslet Society rang at St. Mary's Church, Hunslet, 1878 Changes of Bob Major in 1 hr. 12 mins. Composed by H. Hubbard, sen. E. Stead, 1; W. Perkins, 2; H. Hubbard, jun., 3; W. Fothergill, 4; J. Macintosh (conductor), 5; C. Mathers, 6; J. Dixon, 7; G. Fothergill, 8. Tenor, 21 cwt.

Ringing at Pulham St. Mary, Norfolk.

The company of Pulham St. Mary met on Friday, the 23rd inst. for their weekly practice, and rang a peal of 720 changes in each of the four following methods: Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, Woodbine, and College Exercise.

New Bells at Lane End, Bucks.

The Church at Lane End, which has been entirely rebuilt, was consecrated by the Bishop of Oxford on Thursday, the 1st inst., and is now furnished with a new ring of six bells—Tenor, 8 cwt., by Mears and Co.—at the sole expense of H. W. Cripps, Esq., Q.C. And the first peals, comprising several 120 Doubles, were rung on them on Saturday, the 24th inst., by a mixed band of change-ringers from Maidenhead and Farnham Royal. The Vicar, Churchwardens, and many others being present, viewed and listened with pleasure, and hopes were expressed that the would-be ringers may proceed with a will to learn the art thoroughly, thereby showing how much they value the munificent gift to their church.

Change-ringing at Bolton Parish Church, Lancashire.

On Saturday, 24th inst., the undermentioned mixed band of Change-ringers rang on the bells of the Parish Church, Bolton, in 2 hrs. 56 mins., Mr. E. Taylor's six-part peal of Grandsire Triples, containing 5040 changes. P. Ince, 1; W. Davies, 2; T. Ridings, 3; W. Burgum, 4; N. Farnworth, 5; J. May, 6; J. Eckersley (conductor), 7; J. Thorp (first peal), 8. Tenor, 15 cwt. 2 qrs.

New Ring of Twelve Bells at St. Paul's.

We learn from an article in the *Church Times*, of the 23rd inst., that these bells are now being hung in the north-west tower in a new massive oak cage. 'None of the largest bells are to be swung; but will be rung by means of a turning V wheel, fixed in the front of the bell, and in the groove of the V the rope will pass and be attached to the clappers. By this means the largest bells can be rung easily by one man.' What do our ringing friends and others think of this new dodge?

Norwich Diocesan Association of Ringers.

The Annual Meeting of the above will be held at Ipswich on Monday, September 23rd. Members intending to be present should communicate as soon as possible with the Secretary. Return tickets will be available for two days. A Committee Meeting will be held at the Churchman's Club, Norwich, on Saturday, September 7th, at 12 o'clock, when the Annual Report will be discussed, and other business transacted. G. H. HARRIS, Hon. Sec.

RECEIVED ALSO.—J. Bloomfield; Ed. Matthews (similar old belfry rules are found all over England); Private; A. Sutton; J. Harris, C.E.

NOTICE.—Kings of Eight requested, stating which are not ringable.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

The Royal Hand-Bell Ringers.

THE Royal Hand-Bell Ringers (Poland Street, London)—Messrs. Duncan S. Miller (conductor), H. Havart, W. J. Havart, J. H. Williams, and A. G. Pritchard—were honoured by command of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales to give a Campanological and Musical Entertainment on board the Royal Yacht *Osborne*, lying in Cowes Roads, Isle of Wight, on the evening of Monday, 19th inst. The company included their Majesties the King and Queen of Denmark and the Princess Thyra, with their suite, Mdlle. D'Oxholm, Capt. Hedemann, and Capt. Hoskiver; their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales and suite, Prince Albert Victor and Prince George of Wales, the Princess Victoria of Hesse, Lord and Lady Charles Beresford, Lord and Lady Mandeville, who, with guests from other yachts, formed a numerous and distinguished audience. By means of awnings the bridges and quarterdeck of the magnificent steamer were converted into an apartment excellently adapted for the purpose of a concert; the decorations consisting of flags, among which the Danish Standard was conspicuous. The whole vessel was brilliantly lighted by lamps and lanterns. The audience were located on the bridge, while the performers with their tables and bells were just beneath on the quarterdeck, between the mainmast and the royal saloon. By special desire of the Prince, the whole of the crew, numbering 120 hands, were permitted to be present and occupied the space round the engine-room hatchway. The entertainment commenced at 10.30, and continued until midnight, the programme including renderings on the bells of compositions by Handel, Weber, Costa, Strauss, Godfrey, Lecocq, &c., and a selection of Old English glees of a humorous character which were much appreciated. The pianoforte accompaniments of the vocal performances were played by Messrs. Pritchard and Williams. The Prince sent for Mr. Miller and requested him to explain to the King and Queen of Denmark the peculiarities of the bells, and of the art of ringing them, while the instruments themselves were a source of much amusement to the younger portions of the company. The night was beautifully calm and moonlit. It was remarked by the Prince that, on this occasion, the tones of the bells appeared peculiarly sweet and mellow, and attributable to the surrounding water. The Danish and English National Anthems were performed by the band, and, at the conclusion, both His Majesty the King and the Prince of Wales honoured Mr. Miller with personal assurances that the entertainment had afforded great interest and pleasure to every one present. This is the ninth occasion on which the Poland Street Hand-Bell Ringers have been honoured by Royal command.

A Ringing Week in Devon.

DEVONSHIRE has always been celebrated for the beauty of its church bells, and of late years it has been making great strides in the practical work of belfry reform and scientific change-ringing. Through the energy of one of its most loyal sons, we believe Devonshire may now claim the honour of having been the means of introducing a new feature in the promotion of change-ringing. On August 15th, C. A. W. Troyte, Esq., the President of the Devon Guild of Ringers, welcomed at Huntsham Court a large party of the best gentlemen ringers from all parts of England, some of whom came great distances, solely to enjoy his hospitality and take part in the ringing festivities. The party at Huntsham was composed of the following ringers:—Mr. Troyte and his two brothers—J. Acland-Troyte, Esq., and Rev. R. Acland-Troyte—L. Proctor, Esq. (of Hertfordshire), J. Snowdon, Esq. (Yorkshire), Rev. A. Hill (Cornwall), G. Phillott, Esq., and G. Davis, Esq. (Gloucestershire), W. Fulford, Esq. (Exeter). Among the chief performances at Huntsham were a touch of 1878 changes of Stedman's Triples, another touch of the same number of Grandsire Triples, and a peal of 5056 changes of Treble Bob Major, which last occupied 3 hrs. 4 mins. The ringing party paid a visit to Dunster, Somerset, and were most kindly entertained by the Rev. R. Todd. Another day was spent in Tiverton, Mr. Troyte driving his guests there in his break. The neighbouring village of Oakford was also visited, where is a ring of eight. The week's proceedings concluded by a trip to Exeter, when St. Sidwell's bells were rung. From a rough 'score' kept by one of the ringers we gather that more than 50,000 changes were rung during the week, which would give an average of nearly six hours' ringing each day. This would prove beyond a doubt that the ringers' hearts were in their work, that their hands were hard and their heads clear. We wish them every success, and hope that either they may soon be amongst us again, or that we may hear of similar gatherings in other counties.

St. Botolph, Aldersgate, London.

SIR,—It will probably be within the knowledge of many of our readers that the church of St. Dionis Backchurch, in the City of London, was one of the ecclesiastical edifices intended for demolition, and the last peal performed on the bells (a ring of ten) was achieved by the Ancient Society of College Youths a short time ago. The greater part of the fabric has already been brought to the hammer, the tower being the principal portion now left for disposal. At a general vestry meeting of the parish of St. Botolph, Aldersgate, on Monday week, the Vicar (Rev. S. Flood Jones) in the chair, a communication was received from Mr. R. Payne, architect, suggesting 'that the tower of St. Dionis Backchurch, which was about to be disposed of, should be purchased by the parish of St. Botolph, and erected in lieu of the mean and unsightly structure of wood which now serves as the tower for the church,' and it was agreed to refer the communication to the churchwardens for them to report thereon. To those of our readers who consider the wholesale demolition of the sacred edifices of the City as little short of flagrant vandalism, this intelligence, especially if the architect's letter meets with a favourable response, will be somewhat of a consoling character, while imparting dignity to a structure which certainly lacks the nobility of appearance that in many instances we are accustomed to witness in the mother churches of such important parishes as St. Botolph, Aldersgate. The ring of bells from St. Dionis are destined, we

believe, for the neighbouring church of All Hallows, Lombard Street; but if the sensible suggestion of the architect above mentioned is ultimately carried out, it would be a matter for regret did the bells not remain in their old home. Aldersgate Street—the thoroughfare in which St. Botolph's is situated—is a highway of much greater dimensions than Lombard Street, and from an acoustical point of view would be a better situation for a ring of bells than the narrower and more crowded street. H. R.

St. Paul's Bells.

SIR,—I have very great pleasure in stating, on Messrs. Taylor's authority, that the extract from the *Church Times* in your issue of last week is entirely founded on some misapprehension of facts. The new bells at St. Paul's are all to be hung for ringing; in fact, the tenor has already been 'pulled up,' and is reported to go very well. CHAS. A. W. TROYTE.

Change-ringing at Enville, Staffordshire.

ON Monday, July 15, a mixed band of change-ringers from Wolverhampton and Darlaston rang, in the parish church of Enville, a peal of Grandsire Triples, consisting of 5040 changes, in 2 hrs. 52 mins., being the first peal on the new bells. E. Nicholls, 1; B. Dalton, jun., 2; J. Fullwood, 3; J. Jones, 4; J. Tinsley, 5; W. Johnson (conductor), 6; W. Smith, 7; E. Beach, 8. Tenor, 17 cwt.

Date Touch at York Cathedral.

ON Tuesday, the 20th ult., on the occasion of a visit of two of the Hull Society of Ringers to this city, and with the kind permission of the Very Rev. the Dean, was rung on the Minster bells 1878 changes of Kent Treble Bob Royal, in 1 hr. 21 mins., by the following members:—T. Hodgson, 1; W. Bean, 2; W. H. Howard, 3; T. Haigh, 4; G. Harrison (Hull), 5; A. Haigh, 6; C. Jackson (Hull), 6 5 4 3 2 1 1 1 1; 7; C. Underwood, 8; W. Howard, 9; G. Breed, 10. 2 4 5 3 6 1 1 2 Tenor, 54 cwt. The Touch by M. J. Underwood. 2 5 3 4 6 1 2 By omitting the Dodge with the Treble before 2 3 4 5 6 1 2 coming in in the first lead and calling,— completes the 1878 called by C. Underwood.

Durham Diocesan Association of Ringers.

ON Monday, the 26th ult., the members of this Association held their first annual meeting at Durham. The ringers were from Brancepeth, Durham, Hurworth, Newcastle, North Shields, Sedgefield, Staindrop, and Stockton. The ringing began at the Cathedral at eleven o'clock, and was continued until one, when the members adjourned to dinner. After dinner a meeting was held, at which the Secretary's report of the year's proceedings was read and the officers were elected for the ensuing year as follows:—W. Read, Esq., North Shields, President; Messrs. J. E. Hern, Hurworth, and F. Lees, Newcastle-on-Tyne, Vice-presidents; and G. J. Clarkson, Esq., Stockton-on-Tees, Honorary Secretary and Treasurer: the Patrons being the Dean of Durham, and the Archdeacons of Durham and Lindisfarne. The ringers afterwards proceeded to St. Oswald's and rang some touches of Grandsire and Bob Minor. The condition of the Cathedral bells is such that it is extremely difficult to ring changes on them, the 7th and tenor each requiring two men. The St. Oswald bells are also in very bad going order.

Change-ringing at Cheltenham, Gloucester.

ON Tuesday evening, the 27th ult., the following band, members of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association of Change-ringers, rang Mr. John Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples in 3 hrs. 8 min. W. Morris, 1; G. Phillott, Esq., 2; W. Pates, 3; C. A. W. Troyte, Esq. (conductor), 4; S. Price, 5; H. Karn, 6; G. Acocks, 7; Jasper Snowdon, Esq., 8. Tenor, 23 cwt.

Change-ringing at Oldham, Lancashire.

ON the 2nd inst. the Society of Change-ringers of St. Mary's, Oldham, rang Mr. John Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, consisting of 5040 changes, in 3 hrs. 2 mins. W. Kenworthy, 1; G. H. Beaver, 2; J. Whitaker, 3; P. Coop, 4; W. Ashworth, 5; W. Hincliffe, 6; J. Wilkinson, 7; J. Wolsenhulme (conductor), 8. Tenor, 16 cwt.

Correction.

SIR,—Allow me to correct a slight mistake, or error, which I have made in *Church Bells* in my list of rings of eight in Suffolk, viz. Stowmarket tenor should be about 24 cwt. instead of about 20 cwt. S. SLATER. Glensford.

BELFRY RECORDS.

HADLEIGH, SUFFOLK. (Tablets in the Belfry.)

(Concluded from p. 447.)

1027. ON January 10th, 1843, was rung in this Steeple a complete peal of 5008 changes of Bob Major, scientifically performed in 3 hours and 5 minutes by the undermentioned:—
Geo. Whittell, Bildestone, Treble. Edward Boutell, Kersey, Fifth.
Wm. Meadows, Hintlesham, Second. John Naanton, Ipswich, Sixth.
John Edwards, Bildestone, Third. Henry Hobart, Bildestone, Seventh.
John Pettitt, Hadleigh, Fourth. Wm. Garrod, Ipswich, Tenor, Conductor of the Peal.

1028. SATURDAY, Dec. 11th, 1847, being the 50th anniversary of the birthday of Mr. John Pettitt, of this Parish, a party of friends (the undermentioned) met to commemorate the same, and rung in this Steeple a complete peal of Bob Major, consisting of 6000 changes. It was admirably performed in three hours and 53 minutes, being placed as follows:—
John Pettitt, Hadleigh, Treble, who also conducted the peal. Robt. Rush, Hitham, Fifth.
Charles King, Lavenham, Second. Edwd. Boutell, Kersey, Sixth.
G. Whittle, Bildestone, Third. Wm. Snell, Preston, Seventh.
Robt. Sewell, Preston, Fourth. Henry Hobart, Bildestone, Tenor.
Joseph Rand, Churchwardens.
Wm. Grimwade, } Churchwardens.

RECEIVED ALSO.—Leonard Proctor; Norwich Court; John W. Hopkins; G. W. Coke; J. Kelly; T. Hill; J. Harris; Bath; Vox; F. J. Oran.

that I know of, but I want to understand how far they are owing to individual caprice, and are consequently without authority, and how much is the survival of ancient customs which our present rubrics neither authorise nor condemn.

RUBRIC.

Increase of the Episcopate.

SIR,—In common with many other members of the Church of England, I rejoice at the increase of the Episcopate by the addition of four new bishoprics; but having well considered the subject, it appears to me that at least four, or even six others, are still required to complete the matter, and provide for the proper supervision of the increased population. For instance: London ought, I think, to possess at least two other bishops, viz., for Westminster, with its glorious old Abbey as its cathedral, and the other for Southwark and the south of London generally, with the fine old church of St. Saviour's as its representative in architecture. Then, again, Manchester diocese, with its immense population of (by this time) two millions, is surely far too large, and ought to be curtailed by taking away the northern part of Lancashire, with Preston for its capital. (Chester, with its million and a half, has plenty to spare for the new diocese of Liverpool). Lichfield, too, although losing Derby, &c., is still much too populous for one bishop, and might easily spare the northern part of Staffordshire united to that part of Shropshire not included in Hereford, with a cathedral at Shrewsbury, thus relieving the overworked Bishop of Lichfield of the densely populated district of the Potteries. Surely, too, the recently restored and fine old Cathedral of Bristol ought now to possess, as formerly, its own diocese, which could easily be managed by adding to Bristol itself the adjoining county of Monmouth. The same may be said of the ancient city of Coventry (formerly endowed), which might well represent its neighbour Birmingham and the county of Warwick, for the diocese of Worcester has now one million of inhabitants, and could therefore well spare such a slice. Surely 500,000 souls are enough for one bishop to preside over, and that seems about the average of the other sees. There now only remains to be urged that the population of the country is rapidly increasing, for which due provision ought to be made, as it would indeed be by this procedure, and the bonds of the National Church would be thereby so strengthened that we could well afford to smile at all the efforts of would-be disestablishers.

W. HARRIS.

Wollaston.

'LYRA APOSTOLICA.'—'John Cumberbirch' will feel indebted to any reader of *Church Bells* who will kindly name the author or authors of *Lyra Apostolica*.

RECEIVED ALSO.—*Crux mea Lux*; K. C. L.; An Oxford Graduate; and others.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Rings of Eight Bells in the County of Norfolk.

Parish.	Church.	Tenor (about)
Aldburgh	All Saints	11
Dereham	St. Nicholas	22
Diss	St. Nicholas	24
Downham	St. Edmund	12
Fakenham	SS. Peter and Paul	20
Hilgay	All Saints	17
Loddon	Holy Trinity	11
Lynn	St. Margaret	30
"	St. Nicholas	20
Northwold	St. Andrew	16
Norwich	St. Giles	14½
"	St. Michael Coslany	14
Marham	All Saints	7½
Redenhall	St. Mary	24
Stow Bardolph	Holy Trinity	11
Swaffham	SS. Peter and Paul	20
Thetford	St. Peter	19
Tunstead	St. Mary	10½
Wells	All Saints	13
West Tofts	St. Mary	13

A. SUTTON, *West Tofts Rectory*.

Rings of Eight in Durham and Northumberland.

Town.	DURHAM.	Tenor—cwt.
Barnard Castle	St. Mary	17
Darlington	St. Cuthbert	17
Durham	Cathedral	36
Gateshead	St. Mary	14
Sunderland	St. Thomas	14
West Hartlepool	Roman Catholic (not ringable) ..	15

NORTHUMBERLAND.

Alnwick	St. Paul	18
Berwick-on-Tweed	In Town Hall	—
Hexham Abbey	St. Andrew	21
Morpeth	Tower in Market-place	(?) 18
Newcastle	St. Nicholas (very difficult to ring) ..	36
"	All Saints	19
North Shields	Christchurch	19

G. J. CLARKSON, *Stockton-on-Tees*.

Lists of Rings of Eight in Herts, Bucks, and Cumberland.

Town.	HERTS.	Tenor—cwt.
Aspenden	Church	—
Barnet	St. John	12
Bennington	St. Peter	12
Berkhampstead	St. Peter	17
Bishop Stortford	St. Michael	18
Braghin	St. Mary	18
Hatfield	St. Ethelreda	26
Hemel Hempstead	St. Mary	18
"	St. Andrew	16
Hitchin	St. Mary	27
Rickmansworth	St. Mary	23
Sawbridgeworth	St. Michael	24
St. Albans	Cathedral	30
Ware	St. Mary	22
Watford	St. Mary	22

Town.	BUCKS.	Tenor—cwt.
Aston Clinton	St. Michael	13
Aylesbury	St. Mary	21 3 18
Bletchley	St. Mary	17 0 18
Buckingham	SS. Peter and Paul	24
Denham	—	—
Haddenham	St. Mary	—
Long Crendon	St. Nicholas	19
Newport Pagnell	SS. Peter and Paul	22
Wooburn	St. Paul	—

Town.	CUMBERLAND.	Tenor—cwt.
Carlisle	St. Stephen	14
St. Bees	Abbey Church	14

JNO. HARRIS, C.E., Bath.

Rings of Eight in Staffordshire.

Town.	Church.	Tenor—cwt.
Burton-on-Trent	St. Modwena	20
"	St. Paul	24
Coseley	Christ Church	16
Cradley	St. Luke	12
Darlaston	St. Lawrence	19
Enville	St. Mary	17
Hanley	St. John	(about) 17
Harborne	St. Peter	12
Leek	St. Edward	(about) 15
Lichfield	St. Mary	20
Longton	St. John	" 16
Newcastle-under-Lyme	St. Nicholas	" 17
Old Hill	Holy Trinity	23
Pattingham	St. Chad	14
Penkridge	St. Michael	17
Perry Barr	St. John	13
Stoke-on-Trent	St. Peter	(about) 18
Tipton	St. Martin	12
Sedgley	All Saints	17
Shenstone	St. John	14
Stafford	St. Mary	(about) 19
Uttoxeter	St. Mary	" 16
West Bromwich	All Saints	15
Willenhall	St. Giles	12

SAMUEL MARSH, *West Bromwich*.

Death of the Oldest Ringer in York.

On the 3rd inst., the ringers of the Cathedral met and rang a muffled peal, after the funeral of the late Mr. Hy. Dodsworth, who died on Saturday, and who had been a ringer for the long space of 57 years, he having rung his first peal in the year 1821. At the grave-side, after the conclusion of the funeral service, four members rang a last course of his favourite system, to the gratification of the numerous friends who had assembled around his last resting-place.

Change-ringing by the Yorkshire Association at Otley.

On Saturday, 7th inst., at All Saints, Otley, 5376 of Kent Treble Bob Major, in 3 hrs. 10½ mins. T. Lockwood, 1; L. Cawood, 2; F. Maston, 3; H. Hubbard, jun., 4; J. Barraclough, 5; G. Barraclough, 6; J. McGoun, 7; J. W. Snowdon, 8. Tenor, 16 cwt. The peal, which is the first two-part peal ever composed with the fifth and sixth the extent each way in 5-6, was composed and conducted by T. Lockwood.

Change-ringing at Penge, Surrey.

On Tuesday, 9th inst., the Beddington ringers paid a visit to Penge, and rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor in 27 mins. R. Chapman, 1; J. Plowman, 2; J. Cawley, 3; J. Trappitt, 4; E. Bennett (conductor), 5; C. Gordon, 6. The above and other members of the Society also rang during the evening 360 of Bob Minor and several 120's of Grandsire Doubles. Tenor, 8½ cwt. Key, A.

St. Paul's Cathedral.

We find from an article in last week's *Church Times* that, as stated by Mr. Troyte in our last number, the statement we republished in a former issue was not correct. We now find that the heavy bells are to be swung, and that already the tenor has been pulled up and rung by two men.

RECEIVED ALSO.—Bob Major; F. Stedman; L. Proctor; J. J. Serjeantson.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Muffled Peal at Liverpool.

On Monday, 9th inst., the following members of St. Peter's Society rang a deeply muffled touch of Grandsire Caters, as a tribute of respect to George, eldest son of Mr. Churchwarden Fowler, who died on the 6th inst., aged 25 years. R. Williams, sen., 1; F. Moore, 2; W. Heron, 3; R. Williams, jun. (conductor), 4; G. Thistlewood; W. Littler, 6; J. Moore, 7; H. Beck, 8; T. Jones, 9; W. Brooks, 10. Rang with 5-6 at home, in the titmums.

Change-ringing at Brookfield Church, Gorton, Lancashire.

On Saturday, 14th inst., seven change-ringers from Stockport and one from Gorton rang 1878 changes Grandsire Triples in 69 mins. J. Warburton, 1; J. Blackley, 2; W. Gordon (composer and conductor), 3; D. Pendlebury, 4; J. Barlow, 5; E. Leonard, 6; J. Sutcliffe, 7; T. Marshall, 8.

Change-ringing at Glemsford, Suffolk.

On Saturday evening, 14th inst., six of the Glemsford Society rang at the parish church, 720 of Plain Bob Minor, with 42 calls.—J. Slater, 1; Jas. Slater, 2; F. Wells, 3; Z. Slater, 4; C. Honeybell, 5; S. Slater (conductor), 6. Composed by John Penning, of Saffron Walden, Essex.

Change-ringing at Barking, Essex.

EIGHT Members of the Ancient Society of College Youths lately rang at the Abbey Church a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major, containing 5088 changes, in 3 hrs. 14 mins. R. Sewell, 1; W. Cecil, 2; R. French, 3; W. Collings, 4; T. Dixon, 5; E. Horrex, 6; F. Bate, 7; J. M. Hayes (conductor), 8. Composed by H. W. Haley. Tenor, 22 cwt.

The Recent Catastrophes.—In Memoriam.

At St. Stephen's, Westminster (Baroness Burdett-Coutts' church), a deeply-muffled peal in three parts was rung on the bells, on the evening of the 16th inst., by the parochial ringers. First part, 78 rounds, then a pause of five minutes; second part, 1878 changes. Again a pause of five minutes. Finale, 78 rounds, same as part 1st. Arranged by G. F. Grimble, sexton of the above church, and conducted by Mr. Williams. Tenor, 24 cwt. 18 lbs. in D.

Proposed Association for promoting Change-ringing in South Wiltshire.

SIR,—Will you kindly inform your readers in South Wilts that the Dinton men are anxious to form an Association for promoting change-ringing proper in their county. The members must be volunteers, and at the service of the clergymen of their respective parishes. The distinctive feature of this Association will be that it is essentially a voluntary one. Gentlemen, artisans, or labourers, willing to join may obtain every information by applying to the Secretary to the Dinton Association, Salisbury.

TREBLE BOB.

THE PROOF OF THE SURPRISE PEALS.

By Jasper W. Snowdon.

SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR.

As, undoubtedly, the most interesting feats that have been recorded in the methods which, on account of their intricacy, require more than ordinary practice and attention, are the peals that have been rung in the Superlative, Cambridge, and London Surprise variations of Treble Bob, the systems of proof that have been adopted for these different variations will necessarily be of interest. I therefore now propose to investigate these variations, with a view to pointing out the most simple of the different methods of proof with which I am acquainted, and will, in the first place, proceed with Superlative Surprise Major, a treble lead of which is annexed.

In this lead the course of each row and the position of the treble is marked, because—as I explained in the article on the 'Proof of Treble Bob' which appeared in these columns—it will now be necessary to compare the different rows, and find out where it is possible for false changes to be produced. In the article referred to I showed that, on account of the extreme evenness of the construction of Kent Treble Bob, the rows which were liable to repeat in that variation repeated in sets of four. That is, if a row similar to that in one of the dodging-places going up was reproduced in another lead coming down, that all the four rows produced in the original dodging-place, going up, would then be reproduced coming down. In Superlative Surprise only two of the rows in 1-2, 3-4, and 5-6 repeat if one of them is reproduced; this causes four proof-scale rows to appear against each of these dodging-places. In 7-8, however, on account of the same bell being behind with the treble all the time, and the same two bells dodging in front, the rows are reproduced in a different manner, since, if the in-course row going up is reproduced coming down, then the row that originally appeared coming down

		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	in.	
Treble in	1-2 up.	2	1	4	3	6	5	8	7	in.	A.
		1	2	4	6	3	5	7	8	out.	C.
3-4 up.		2	1	6	4	5	3	8	7	out.	C.
		2	6	1	4	3	5	7	8	in.	E.
5-6 up.		6	2	4	1	5	3	8	7	in.	E.
		2	6	1	4	5	8	3	7	out.	G.
7-8 up.		6	2	4	1	8	5	7	3	in.	G.
		2	6	4	8	1	5	3	7	in.	I.
7-8 down.		6	2	8	4	5	1	7	3	in.	I.
		6	8	2	4	1	5	3	7	out.	L.
5-6 down.		8	6	2	4	5	1	7	3	in.	L.
		6	8	2	4	5	7	1	3	in.	N.
3-4 down.		8	6	4	2	7	5	3	1	in.	N.
		8	6	4	7	2	5	1	3	out.	P.
1-2 down.		8	6	7	4	5	2	3	1	in.	P.
		6	8	7	4	5	2	3	1	out.	O.
5-6 up.		6	8	7	5	4	2	3	1	out.	Q.
		8	6	5	7	2	4	1	3	out.	Q.
3-4 up.		6	8	7	5	2	1	4	3	in.	K.
		8	6	5	7	1	2	3	4	in.	M.
1-2 up.		8	5	6	7	2	1	4	3	out.	M.
		5	8	7	6	1	2	3	4	out.	F.
5-6 down.		5	8	7	1	6	2	4	3	in.	F.
		5	8	1	7	2	6	3	4	in.	H.
3-4 down.		5	8	7	1	2	3	6	4	out.	H.
		5	8	1	7	3	2	4	6	out.	B.
1-2 down.		5	1	8	7	2	3	6	4	in.	B.
		1	5	7	8	3	2	4	6	in.	D.
5-6 up.		5	1	7	3	8	2	6	4	out.	D.
		1	5	7	3	8	2	6	4	out.	D.
3-4 up.		1	5	7	3	8	2	6	4	in.	D.
		1	5	7	3	8	2	6	4	in.	D.

is now reproduced in going up; this only causes two false rows to appear against the position of the treble in 7-8. As in the case of Kent Treble Bob, I will now place before my readers a table in which the different rows of a lead are arranged and the possible reproductions noted, as well as the treble lead-ends from which these reproductions would be produced. The use of the letters which are affixed to certain of the rows in the lead previously given will now be understood.

Position of Treble.	Rows taken from First Lead.	Possible Reproductions.	Proof Row.
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8		
1-2	up	2 1 4 3 6 5 8 7 in. A .. A at B from 1 6 5 7 2 8 3 4	
	down	2 1 6 4 5 3 8 7 out. C .. C .. D .. 1 3 4 7 2 8 6 5	
3-4	up	5 1 8 7 2 3 6 4 in. B .. B .. A .. 1 5 7 8 3 2 4 6	
	down	5 1 7 3 8 2 6 4 out. D .. D .. C .. 1 5 2 3 8 7 4 6	
5-6	up	6 2 4 1 5 3 8 7 in. E .. E .. F .. 1 3 7 8 2 5 4 6	
	down	6 2 4 1 8 5 7 3 out. G .. G .. H .. 1 8 5 3 7 6 2 4	
7-8	up	8 5 7 1 6 2 4 3 in. F .. F .. E .. 1 5 2 7 6 8 3 4	
	down	8 5 7 1 2 3 6 4 out. H .. H .. G .. 1 5 4 7 3 8 6 2	
1-2	up	6 2 8 4 5 1 7 3 in. I .. I .. K .. 1 5 3 7 4 6 8 2	
	down	8 6 4 2 5 1 7 3 out. L .. L .. M .. 1 5 3 7 6 4 2 8	
3-4	up	6 8 7 5 2 1 4 3 in. K .. K .. I .. 1 8 3 5 2 6 4 7	
	down	8 5 6 7 2 1 4 3 out. M .. M .. L .. 1 7 3 6 2 5 4 8	
5-6	up	8 6 4 2 7 5 3 1 in. N { N .. O } .. 1 7 3 4 5 8 2 6	
	down	8 6 7 4 5 2 3 1 out. P { O .. N } .. 1 2 3 5 4 8 7 6	
7-8	up	6 8 4 7 2 5 3 1 in. O { P .. Q } .. 1 2 3 5 4 8 7 6	
	down	6 8 7 5 4 2 3 1 out. Q { Q .. P } .. 1 2 3 5 4 8 7 6	

These 'Proof Scale Rows' are the lead-ends which will bring in their interior changes rows which will correspond with those to be found in a lead from 2 3 4 5 6 7 8, and, therefore, when the tenors are parted, these rows will have to be used against every lead-end of the peal. If, however, the lead-ends of the plain course are transposed by these rows, the lead-ends and the proof scale rows that it is only necessary to use against them, when the tenors are kept together, will be found. This is done in the following table:—

Treble in	False with	First Lead.	Second.	Third.	Fourth.	Fifth.	Sixth.	Seventh.
		2345678	5738264	8674523	4263857	3527486	7856342	6482735
1-2	A at B	6572834	2865473	5428367	8354726	4783652	3647285	7236548
	C .. D	3472865	7365428	6728354	2654783	5283647	8547236	4836572
3-4	B .. A	5783246	8647532	4236875	3572468	7865324	6428753	2354687
	D .. C	5238746	8574632	4863275	3427568	7356324	6782453	2645387
5-6	E .. F	3782546	7645832	6238475	2574368	5863724	8427653	4356287
	G .. H	8532746	4875632	3468275	7324568	6753824	2687453	5246387
7-8	F .. E	5276834	8562473	4825367	3458726	7384652	6743285	2637548
	H .. G	5473862	8367425	4726358	3652784	7285643	6548237	2834576
1-2	I .. K	5374682	8763245	4627538	3256874	7582463	6845327	2438756
	L .. M	5376428	8762354	4625783	3258647	7584236	6843572	2437865
3-4	K .. I	8352647	4785236	3648572	7234865	6573428	2867354	5426783
	M .. L	7362548	6725834	2658473	5234367	8549726	4837652	3476285
5-6	N .. O	7345826	6738452	2674385	5263748	8527634	4856273	3482567
	P .. Q	2354876	5783462	8647325	4236758	3572684	7865243	6428537

The underlined rows in this table show the only positions in which repetitions can occur when the tenors are kept together, and the old-fashioned method of proof would be to arrange tables, either from the lead or course-ends, for extracting the actual rows and comparing them one with another. For instance, the row corresponding to that marked D, in the treble lead of this variation previously given, would have to be extracted from the second lead of each of the courses for comparison with the row, marked C, from the third lead of each course, and in like manner the other rows at which repetitions might occur would have to be extracted and compared.

I will, however, show how the course-end proof can be applied to this variation. For this purpose it is necessary to ascertain from what course-ends these leads which show false against the lead-ends of a plain course are produced.

False Lead-end.	False Course-end.	Plain Course.	False Course.
8 5 7 4 6 3 2 from	3 2 4 6 5 produces	D in 2nd lead at	C in 3rd lead.
6 7 3 8 4 5 2	4 3 2 6 5	N .. 2nd	O .. 2nd
6 7 2 8 3 5 4	3 2 4 6 5	C .. 3rd	D .. 2nd
7 8 6 5 3 2 4	4 3 2 6 5	B .. 5th	A .. 6th
3 6 4 7 2 8 5	4 3 2 6 5	A .. 6th	B .. 5th
7 8 6 5 2 4 3	3 2 4 6 5	P .. 6th	Q .. 6th

(To be continued.)

Additional Rings of Eight in Norfolk.

North Elmham, St. Mary. Tenor, 20 cwt.
 Hingham, St. Andrew. Tenor, 19 cwt.
 Kenninghall, St. Stephen. Tenor, 18 cwt.

RECEIVED ALSO.—A Native of Bishop Stortford; F. Dixon (no date); J. J. Serjeantson; Jasper Snowdon; Wharton B. Smith; Wm. Ed. Fidler.

freehold, and thus rendering the removal of the curate impossible, and to secure the solemn and *bonâ fide* performance of extra services, on Sunday and week-days, as a result. It is also quite essential to success that the incumbent alone select the curate. If these points were attended to, it would seem that great life might be introduced and permanently secured within the Church at comparatively small outlay.

It will be understood that the foregoing was written just fifteen years ago, and therefore the facts stated therein may have undergone some change subsequently.

The Churchyards Question.

SIR,—You would do our cause good service by allowing us to say that the 'Society for the Rejection of the Burials Bill' intends to take advantage of the Church Congress at Sheffield to hold an evening meeting there, on Wednesday, October 2nd, in order to afford an opportunity for an expression of public opinion against the shameless violation of public faith, as contemplated by the Burials Bill. We use the term 'Shameless violation of public faith.' Let the following figures speak:—During the last forty-five years 2760 presented as 'free gifts,' 1153 purchased by 'the Parish,' 392 purchased by voluntary subscriptions, 748 otherwise acquired: 5053 new churchyards—not to mention the old churchyards—have been accepted under the law of the land, consecrated to certain fixed, defined purposes. It is now proposed to hand them over to alien purposes. Is this to keep faith with the public? We invite those persons who consider this a grievous breach of faith to communicate with us.

J. W. EASTWOOD,

Offices of the 'S. R. B. Bill,' Torquay, September, 1878. W. H. KITSON.

The Irish Sunday-closing Act.

SIR,—Through you we congratulate all who sympathise with us, that on Sunday, October 13th, the Irish Sunday-closing Act will come into full operation; and we ask that on that day special thanks may be given to Almighty God for this great boon to Ireland, and that earnest prayer may be offered that England and Wales may soon be blessed by the rescue of our Sundays from the temptation of the liquor traffic.

We ask all who conduct public worship, kindly to bring this important subject before their congregations in the way they deem best fitted to excite the interest and earnest co-operation of their hearers.

ROBERT WHITWORTH, }
T. A. STOWELL, M.A., } Hon. Secs.
EDWARD WHITWELL, }
FREDC. J. PERRY, Secretary.

Central Association for Stopping the Sale of Intoxicating Liquors
on Sunday, 8 Corporation St., Manchester, Sept. 14, 1878.

Lay Readers.

SIR,—I observe you mention an article in the current *English Churchman*, which recommends that lay readers should, with the Bishop's sanction, be permitted to take Sunday-afternoon services, consisting of Litany and catechising, in churches. This seems a very practical suggestion; but it seems very desirable that some general course of action should be adopted with reference to lay readers. Each Bishop now seems to have his own rule. What is wanted seems to be that the united Episcopate should formulate a general scheme for employment of licensed honorary lay readers, and use them as freely as possible. Meanwhile, will some of your learned contributors say what lay readers may be permitted to do without infringing any law of the Church? We shall then see what new legislation is necessary. It is a matter of grave importance to the future work of the Church. LECTOR.

Life of G. Combe.

SIR,—The life of George Combe, the Phrenologist, shows how a Scotchman is driven by Calvinism into Infidelity. To him and his family, Orthodoxy and High Calvinism were synonymous, and they could not stomach the Assembly's Catechism. Some took refuge in so-called Unitarianism: he simply ignored revelation, though he lived in constant obedience and gratitude to the God of Nature, and perfect trust in His goodness. Could not the Church of Scotland do something, to help those in the Established Kirk who are longing to be delivered from the yoke of the Westminster divines, by proclaiming that Calvinism is not orthodox, and showing how much more practical is the Church Catechism than that of Westminster? F. J. CANDY.
Elgin Crescent.

The Prayer of St. Chrysostom.

SIR,—With regard to this prayer, may I be allowed to point out that the words 'at this time,' at the beginning, are very commonly read in the wrong clause, as though they referred to the giving of grace. They refer to the making of our supplications, as will be seen by referring to the original. 'Ο τὰς κοινὰς αὐτῶν καὶ συμπύκνους ἡμῶν χάρισμανος προσεύχεται, or the Latin translation, 'Omnipotens Deus, qui nobis gratiam dedisti, ut hoc tempore . . . te . . . invocemus.' The prayer should therefore be read exactly as if there were a comma after the word 'grace:' thus, 'Who hast given us grace, at this time with one accord to make,' &c.

A. M. WILCOX.

Endowment Fund.

SIR,—Would it not be possible for many parishes to open an Endowment Fund for the augmentation of the living wherever it is below a certain value? If once a-year a collection was made in church for the object the subject would thus be made known without cost; and in some instances a goodly sum would be raised, while in many cases large sums would be given, in time, as donations or as legacies. It would teach people also, practically, the origin of Church property. It seems to be well worth trying in many parishes, and it would cost nothing.

L. S. D.
The Rev. William Palmer.

SIR,—Is the Rev. William Palmer, author of *Origines Liturgicæ*, and the *History of the Church*, &c., still living? If not, when did he die? And did

he succeed to a baronetcy? If so, by whom is that baronetcy now held? He figures in *Crockford* for 1876 as the Rev. Sir William Palmer, Bart., and as living at the beginning of 1876, but one never hears of him now as living.

A. M. W.

A Church Bell for Seamen.

SIR,—Would you allow me to ask any of your readers who have a small church bell to spare to give it to the Missions to Seamen Society, 1 Buckingham Street, Strand, London, W.C., for St. James's Seamen's Church, Pierhead, Newport, Mon., which is greatly in need of a bell to sound over the docks and shipping.

WM. DAWSON, Commander R.N.

CLOTHES FOR EAST LONDON POOR.—'C. P. T.' (address, 21 Lushington Road, Eastbourne), on behalf of the members of a small working-party, carried on during the winter months, would be glad to hear through the clergyman of some very poor parish in the East of London, where a gift of useful clothing would be valued, and distributed with judgment.

AN OFFER.—We have received eleven applications for the volumes of *Church Bells* for 1875-6-7, and if 'M. E. S.' will send an address to the Editor, 2 Paternoster Buildings, the letters of application shall be forwarded for selection.

'LYRA APOSTOLICA.'—The letters on this subject shall appear in our next.

RECEIVED ALSO.—W. T. Freer; W. F. Wilberforce; and others.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

First Annual Report of the Durham Diocesan Association of Ringers, September 1878.

MR. PRESIDENT AND GENTLEMEN,—It is with considerable pleasure that I give a report of the proceedings of this Association during the first year of its existence. A Society like this, which undertakes to promote the practice and knowledge of change-ringing, to effect a general improvement in the subject of bells and ringers, and to create a feeling of respect between the ringers and the members of the church which they serve, more especially the clergy, must of necessity have its origin in men who not only understand the mysteries of the art of change-ringing, but who are also devoted to it, who wish to see both it and the beautiful bells on which it is performed hold that position to which, on their merits, they are justly entitled. I may therefore say, that so recently as four years ago the formation of this Society would have been impossible. I think it will, therefore, be both useful and interesting to show the progress made during that period. The only Society in the diocese which has any pretensions to a history is the Union Society of Newcastle and Gateshead. I may state that these two adjoining towns have a heavy 8 at St. Nicholas, a medium 8 at All Saints, and a light 8 at St. Mary's, Gateshead, a heavy 6 at St. Andrew's, and a light 6 at St. John's, all of which are out of repair, and a 5040 would now be an impossibility at St. Nicholas, and St. Mary's, Gateshead, and All Saints would require to be patched up for the occasion. From the records of this Society, several of which adorn the belfries of the 8-bell towers, it appears that change-ringing has been practised by it for not less than a century; for in 1790, and again in 1794, a 5040 of Grandsire Triples was rung at St. Mary's, Gateshead, and in 1797 the 8 at All Saints were placed in the tower, and were opened with a 5040; in each of the years 1808 and 1809 a 5040 was rung at St. Nicholas, and in 1829 a 5040 was rung at St. Mary's, Gateshead, and in the following year at All Saints. In 1842 two peals of 5040 were rung, one at St. Nicholas and the other at All Saints. Again, in 1847, a 5040 was rung at All Saints, and in the following year at Hexham Abbey, St. Nicholas, and All Saints; in 1850 a 5040 was rung at St. Mary's, Gateshead, and in each of the years 1851 and 1852 at St. Nicholas. Since 1852 no 5040 has been recorded at Newcastle, and from that time until recently the Society seems to have languished, for we find that on July 15, 1875, a 720 of Grandsire Minor was rung at St. Andrew's, and that it was the first for sixteen years. This was followed by ringing the date of the year at All Saints, February 29, 1876, and the Society has since given evident proofs of its revival by ringing a 5040 at North Shields. The incredible short space of time in which several of these peals were rung shows that both bells and ringers were at one time in excellent going order, a state of things which I sincerely trust may again be realised. In 1873 a society of ringers was formed at Hurworth, and under the able tuition of Mr. Hern rang their first 720 of Bob Minor on January 27, 1874, which was followed by a 720 of Grandsire Minor on September 8 of the same year. The success of this company evidently had an effect on that of the neighbouring tower of St. John's, Darlington, for on September 22, 1875, this Society rang its first 720 of Bob Minor; and on the 9th of October following a company from Hurworth and Darlington, with the assistance of myself, rang a 720 of Bob Minor at Stockton, the first for upwards of thirty years. On the following February a 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor was rung at St. John's, Darlington, by three Darlington and three Hurworth, and two weeks after a 720 of the same method was rung at Hurworth by four Hurworth and two Darlington. But the crowning success of the talent and perseverance of these two societies was the accomplishment on July 9, 1876, of 720 of the extremely difficult method of Double Stedman's Slow Course at Hurworth. With respect to Stockton, I will say that both bells and ringers were in a wretched condition when I came to the town in 1872; and although I got the bells put into a ringable condition, and established a weekly practice, I could never get that company beyond a 120 Bob Doubles. I had, however, paved the way for a better state of things, which this year's proceedings will show. At North Shields the old ring of 6 was increased to 8, chiefly by the exertions and liberality of our worthy president (W. Reed, Esq.), and were opened on July 25, 1874, and at the same time a

change-ringing Society was formed in connexion with them: this society rang its first 720 of Grandsire Minor at South Shields on August 16, 1877.

During the year 1876 considerable progress was made in change-ringing by the then recently formed Society at Morpeth, a 720 of Bob Minor being rung there on May 20th, and 720 Grandsire Minor on August 12th of the same year. During the early part of last year the leading members of these Societies communicated with each other on the subject of forming an Association for the two counties of Durham and Northumberland, similar to the one established a few years ago in Devonshire, and more recently in the diocese of Norwich. The result of this was, that a meeting was held at Durham on August 25th of last year. This Association was formed, and circulars and copies of rules were sent to several of the clergy, and to the ringers of every place having not less than five bells. I at once received a number of applications from ringers desiring to be enrolled as Performing Members, and from several of the clergy to become Honorary Members. The Association has during the year held three general meetings, the inaugural meeting being held at North Shields, on November 24th, when as many as forty ringers were present. The next meeting was held at Durham, on February 25th, the attendance being again over twenty, and several touches of Grandsire Triples were rung on the bells of the Cathedral. The third meeting was held at Barnard Castle, on Whit-Monday, when as many as fifty-three members sat down to dinner, and the greater lengths and better striking of the touches of Grandsire Triples gave evident proofs of progress on the part of the younger ringers. When we take into consideration the small number of rings in Durham and Northumberland, these numbers must be considered highly satisfactory; and the fact that each of the meetings at North Shields and Barnard Castle were attended by ringers from distances of thirty, forty, and even fifty miles, speaks strongly for the vitality of the Association. Other meetings worthy of note, held by members of the Association, are as follows:—On Monday following the North Shields meeting a company composed of the Newcastle and Hurworth branches visited Winton and Blaydon, ringing a 720 of Bob Minor at the former and Grandsire Minor at the latter place, and in the afternoon of the same day pulled off for a 5040 Grandsire Triples at All Saints, Newcastle: but the condition of those bells prevented the accomplishment of more than 1700 changes. On the Saturday following the Durham meeting the Hurworth members visited Stockton, and after ringing a 720 of Grandsire Minor had tea at the Vicarage. The first time for many years a Vicar of Stockton has ever entertained any bell-ringers at his table, and one of the direct results of the Association. On Easter Tuesday the Stockton members visited Hurworth, where two of them rang their first 722 of Bob Minor, and afterwards the Hurworth, Darlington, St. John, and Stockton rang a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor at St. John's, Darlington, the striking of which was above all criticism. On the day following the Barnard Castle meeting two of the Newcastle ringers visited Hurworth, and with the assistance of the Hurworth ringers rang a 720 Grandsire Minor. It is therefore plainly evident that the Association is rapidly drawing the ringers of the diocese together into one bond, and concentrating their united strength into one focus.

The progress of the different branches has been this:—At Stockton the Vicar and Curate joined the Association as soon as appealed to, and although no clergyman had ever been in that tower before for at least forty years, the Curate now frequently attends the practices, and is making a vigorous effort to master the science of change-ringing. In the early part of the year we raised the money and procured a set of twelve hand-bells, and having enlisted some apt pupils, soon passed from a 120 of Bob Doubles to 720 Bob Minor, the first ever rung by a Stockton company. At Hurworth the 5th bell, which was cracked, has been replaced by a new bell, which is in excellent harmony with the other five, and a 720 of Oxford Bob has been rung. I am also glad to state that the Rector occasionally takes part in the practices. This and the neighbouring Society of St. John's, Darlington, keep themselves up to the high state of efficiency to which they had attained before the formation of this Association.

The Newcastle ringers have put the St. John's bells into a ringable condition, and have rung a 720 of Grandsire Minor on them, the first for thirty years, and have also made several attempts to ring a 5040. The North Shields ringers have made considerable progress in Grandsire Triples, and have not only rung a 1260, but have also made several attempts at 5040, and it lies between them and the Newcastle branch which shall have the honour of placing the first 5040 on the records of the Association. The South Shields ringers have made considerable progress during the year, and can now ring 720 Grandsire Minor. With respect to the Durham branch I am glad to state that they have procured a set of twenty-eight hand-bells, and have succeeded in ringing a course of Bob Minor on them; and now that the St. Oswald's bells are ringable, I hope that they will have the use of them, and in due time ring a 720; but I am extremely sorry to learn that not only do the greater portion of the Cathedral ringers keep aloof from the Association, but that a considerable amount of ill-feeling has been exhibited to those who have joined it, and that they were not only refused the use of the Cathedral hand-bells, but the supernumeraries have been even excluded from the belfry; and I think it is greatly to be regretted that those ringers who hold the honourable position of serving the Cathedral Church should exhibit a feeling of hostility towards an Association which offers to them, as well as others, a means of improvement which has never before existed in this diocese. I will conclude by stating that I anticipate a most useful and successful career as the future of this Association.

7 Brunswick Street, Stockton-on-Tees.

G. J. CLARKSON, Hon. Sec.

A Question.

SIR,—Can any of your correspondents inform me where and when Church bells were first rung, and how many? also, when and where the first Diocesan Church Conference was first held?

X. T.

Oswestry, Sept. 23, 1878.

Bow Bells, London.

SIR,—I and my colleagues, on whose behalf with my own I now speak, are historical traditions in the annals of England. Individually, I have been perpetuated and immortalised in nursery rhymes; and, collectively, we are a great feature in connexion with one of the City's most famous magnates. Our glory has, and I deplore bitterly to record it, for some years been on the wane. Tourists and travellers from all parts of the world pass by our habitation, and content themselves by watching the spasmodic action of the senseless effigies at neighbour Bennett's; and not only never cast one longing glance towards us, but seem to be insensible to the superiority and grandeur of my note over that of our pigmy neighbours. And our old friends the ringers—how we love to see them! But even their behaviour towards us is not what it once was. There was a time when our friends could cause us to perform deftly thousands of changes without intermission; but it seems to be impossible now. They who have been associated with us for many years try their utmost, it is true: but the common complaint is that we are 'out of order.' The fact is, Mr. Editor, we want rehanging, entire—no patching or tinkering—because nothing but absolute rehanging will fit us to agreeably perform those duties for which we were placed in Sir Christopher's wondrous fane. Will you make our complaint known? At an estimated expense of 5000l. the sanctuary with which we are connected is about to be rehabilitated, restored, and reorganized. I have nothing to say in opposition to this; but could they not spare a few hundreds to reorganize us, the mightiest ring of ten bells in the whole metropolis? Do what you can for us, Mr. Editor, and you will earn the lasting gratitude of

THE BIG BELL OF BOW.

Progress of Change-ringing in Devon.

On Thursday and Friday evenings, the 19th and 20th inst., the Merton Society of Change-ringers (being also members of the Devonshire Guild of Ringers) succeeded in ringing several six scores of Doubles on Stedman's principle, also some plain courses of Grandsire Minor. The order of the men for Stedman's doubles was:—J. Field, Oxford, 1; J. Elliott, 2; A. Dicker, 3; W. Trickey, 4; Rev. J. A. Kempe, 5; J. Stacey, 6. The order for Grandsire Minor was:—W. Balkwill, 1; J. Elliott, 2; A. Dicker, 3; W. Trickey, 4; Rev. J. A. Kempe, 5; J. Field, 6. Mr. J. Field, of Oxford, who has been spending a week at Merton for the purpose of instructing the change-ringers, deserves the highest praise for the efficient manner in which he has given his lessons, and for the great pains he has taken in every way.

Muffled Touch at Peterborough, Northamptonshire.

On Friday, 20th inst., the ringers of St. John the Baptist rang a muffled touch as a tribute of respect to the memory of Mr. Charles Cutlack, the Vicar's churchwarden, who died on the 16th inst. at Margate.

Change-ringing by the Yorkshire Association at Knaresborough, Yorkshire.

On Saturday, the 21st inst., at the parish church, Knaresborough, 5024 changes of Kent Treble Bob Major, in 3 hrs. 16 mins. J. Lockwood, 1; T. Lockwood, 2; J. McIntosh, 3; R. Tuke, Esq., 4; H. Hubbard, jun., 5; G. Barracough, 6; W. Walker, 7; J. W. Snowdon, Esq., 8. The peal, which has the sixth ten course-ends at home, and also the extent in that position, in the least number of changes yet obtained, was composed by H. Dains of London, and conducted by Jasper W. Snowdon. Tenor, 20 cwt.

Royal Cumberland Youths (late London Scholars).

At St. Andrew's, Holborn, London, on Saturday evening, 21st inst., 5184 changes of Kent Treble Bob Major were rung in 3 hrs. 27 mins. J. W. Cattle, 1; J. Cox, 2; D. Stackwood, 3; C. T. Hopkins, 4; H. A. Hopkins, 5; H. Dains, 6; A. Kirk ('his first peal in the method'), 7; J. Barrett, 8. Tenor, 28 cwt. Conducted by J. W. Cattle, 'his first peal in the method.' The peal, in two parts, as here given, was composed by H. Dains, of Norwich, and is the first ever obtained with the 6th three times each way in each part. (See *Church Bells*, Jan. 12, 1878.) It is noteworthy to add, that twenty-one years have elapsed since a peal in this method was rung on those bells, and also that it is the two hundred and eleventh peal ring by Mr. John Cox, ten of which were rung on hand-bells retained in hand.

By calling the first course 2 m. - b. 1 w. 2 n., the next 1 m. - b. 2 w. 2 n. in either part, the third course-end is obtained, and the peal curtailed to the 5184 mentioned above.

5440

	2	3	4	5	6	M.	B.	W.	H.
6	4	3	5	2	2	-	1	1	
4	6	2	5	3	-	1	2		
3	4	5	6	2	-	2	2		
2	4	3	6	5	-	1			
2	5	4	6	3	-	1	1		
4	5	6	2	3	1	-	1		
3	4	5	2	6	-	1	1		
3	2	5	4	6	1	-			
4	5	2	3	6	1	-	2		

Repeated.

Change-ringing at St. George's, Hyde, Cheshire.

On Monday, the 23rd inst., six change-ringers from Stockport, and two of the Hyde company, rang 5025 Grandsire Triples, in 2 hrs. 52 mins. J. Warburton, 1; T. Sale, Hyde, 2; T. Wilde, jun., Hyde, 3; D. Pendlebury, 4; J. Barlow, 5; E. Leonard, 6; Wm. Gordon, 7; T. Marshall, 8. The peal, which contains one double only at the first change, and afterwards runs 5024 changes without deviation from ordinary Bobs, was composed and conducted by Wm. Gordon, of Stockport, and is the second ever constructed on that principle. The first was by Mr. H. Johnson, sen., of Birmingham.

[We should be glad to be favoured with a copy of this composition.—Ed.]

RECEIVED ALSO.—W. E. Fidler; W. B. Smith (write to Rev. H. T. E., Topsham enclosing a stamp); Jno. Harris.

*** Wanted: the address of Mr. John Wood, of Painswick.

*** Mr. Jasper Snowdon's article on the 'Proof of the Surprise Peals,' will be continued in our next issue.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Lyra Apostolica.

SIR,—Some years ago I asked my father, the late Archdeacon R. I. Wilberforce, who were the writers of the *Lyra Apostolica*? I made a note of his answer, which was the same as that of your correspondent, except in two points. He himself had written in it, and not his brother; and the name of one of the other authors was spelt Bowden. W. F. WILBERFORCE.
Ilulford, York.

SIR,—The names of the authors, together with the Greek letters which they used as signatures, are given by Dr. Newman in his *Apologia*. I have no copy at hand, but my impression is that α was Dr. Newman (whose 'Lead, kindly Light,' is in the volume), β Hurrell Froude, γ Mr. Keble, and δ Archdeacon Wilberforce—not Samuel, afterwards Bishop of Oxford and of Winchester but an elder brother—Henry, I think; who became a Romanist about 1854. A. M. W.

THE REV. JOHN JULIAN, Vicar of Wincobank, writes:—This work is composed of various translations of ancient hymns, which had been published anonymously by Dr. Newman, Mr. Keble, and others, in the *British Magazine*. It was first published in 1836. In the *Lyra Apostolica* Greek letters were added to the hymns, to denote their authorship. In the *Apologia* Dr. Newman thus explains the signatures: 'The signatures $\alpha \beta \gamma \delta \epsilon \zeta$ denote respectively the authorship of Mr. Bowden, Mr. Hurrell Froude, Mr. Keble, myself, Mr. Robert Wilberforce, and Mr. Isaac Williams.' The well-known hymn, 'Hail, gladdening light,' is given in later editions of the *Lyra* as being by δ , that is Dr. Newman. This is an error; it is by γ , that is Keble, as set forth in the earlier editions.

'G. D. B.' gives a similar list and adds, '110 out of the 179 hymns are by J. H. Newman.'

'C. H.' says that the above list was written in a copy of the first edition of 1836 by a friend of Keble, and that in another copy No. 129 was attributed to the Rev. Thomas Mozley. 'N. D.' and several others write to the same effect.

Catholicism: True and False.

SIR,—Will you allow me, while thanking your correspondent for the series of articles on 'Catholicism: True and False,' to demur to the 'alternative' suggested in 'Fasting Communion,' viz. that 'a clergyman who is under the necessity of celebrating late may lie in bed, or smoke a pipe to keep down his hunger, or take snuff?' I forbear to quote the rest of the sentence, to which Bishop Wilberforce's censure is applicable. The whole tone of the paragraph appears to be such a departure from the usual fairness and charity of *Church Bells*, as to mar and neutralise the good which might otherwise be the outcome. The enemies of the Church are in no need of additional weapons, or increased opportunities of blaspheming; the paragraph in question has, I fear, supplied both. By all means 'Ring out the false,' but let it be a true peal. *Derry Hill Vicarage.* W. H. HITCHCOCK.

How to conduct Bible Classes.

SIR,—In reply to 'H. M. B.'s' inquiry, may I suggest that useful hints for conducting such classes may be found in a little book called *Clerical Workshops*, by Miss Rumpf (Nisbet), and in *Village Sketches* by Rev. T. C. Whitehead, of Gawcott. (Routledge.) There is also a good article on the subject (worthy of being reprinted) by Bishop Wilberforce, in *Good Words*, April, 1868, page 255. For series of subjects suitable for such classes, none better could be found than *Lessons on the Life of our Lord* by Eugene Stock. (Church of England Sunday-School Institute, 160 Fleet Street.) But will not some one experienced in such work send a few practical hints on the subject, which might be of use if inserted in *Church Bells*? L. Y.

Help Needed.

SIR,—I ask you kindly to insert this letter at your convenience. I am a chaplain stationed at Belize, B. Honduras. My little church of St. Mary requires restoration and re-enlargement. It will cost 300*l*. We are disestablished and disendowed, and although I have written to two Societies, asking help, they may not give it. I ask, therefore, of your readers, (1) their prayers, (2) their alms. I am trying to do my best to do that work God has given me. I have introduced weekly communions and offertories, daily prayers, a surplined choir, and other changes. The congregations are indeed too large for the church, and yet by themselves they cannot enlarge it. We do our best, but everything is uphill. I am solitary and single-handed in my work, there being only one other priest besides myself in this far-distant and unknown colony of 9000 sq. miles, and with a population of 24,800 souls. In the name of Christ I ask for alms, that many may be brought into closer union thereby with our Lord and Master. If some godly layman would give us a little assistance God would not forget his work of love: or, if some priest would send out, of his charity, an offertory, the Lord shall deliver him in the time of need. The mail leaves England monthly, so that any kind help might be sent direct to me. J. HOLWELL GEARE.

Incumbent of St. Mary, and Chaplain of St. Andrew's Waterside Mission.

A Surgical Home Wanted.

SIR,—Could any of your readers inform me whether there is any Home or Hospital which receives patients on payment of a fixed sum? I have in view the case of a gentleman afflicted with paralysis, and requiring a male nurse and surgical attendance, who might be able to pay some 120*l*. or 130*l*. towards his expenses if such a place could be found. W. T. FREER.

Houghton Rectory, Leicester.

RECEIVED ALSO.—A. Hivite; Curate; Lay Reader; Presbyter Bristolensis: F. J. C.; H. D.; A. Subscriber; H. N.; H. W.; Mrs. G. W. T.; and others.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Third Report of the Yorkshire Association of Change-ringers.

WE have received a copy of the Third Annual Report of this Society, from which we learn that the number of members has during the past year, Oct. 1877-8, increased from 224 to 276. Although the number of performances of 5000 changes and upwards reported during the year is only 25 as against 45 in the previous year, the Committee in their Report console the members by reminding them that 'this number is still in excess of the greatest yearly number ever accomplished by any other Society;' and that while the larger number of peals rung in the previous year were accomplished at 13 different churches, that the smaller number rung this year comprises performances at 14, showing that the interest of the Society has been spread over a greater area. The different peals are made up thus:—Two peals of 5040 changes upon six bells, each consisting of seven Treble Bob Minor peals; five of Grand-sire Triples, two of Bob Triples, two of Bob Major, twelve of Kent Treble Bob Major, one of Royal and one of Maximus. It will therefore be seen, that the Yorkshire men have not neglected their favourite method of Kent Treble Bob; still, out of the fourteen peals in this variation, eleven of the major ones are compositions which had never been previously performed, while the peal of Maximus was the first ever rung in the 'tittum' position. The various particulars of all these peals, the calling of them included, is given in the Report, which the treasurer asks us to state will be forwarded to members on receipt of their subscription for the present year, and that copies can also be obtained by non-members by forwarding 7*d*. in stamps to Mr. Jasper W. Snowdon, Old Bank Chambers, Leeds.

Lancashire Association of Change-ringers.

A GENERAL MEETING of the above Society will be held on Saturday, 12th October, at six o'clock, in St. Philip's Schoolroom, Hulme, Manchester, and it is hoped that all Members who can possibly attend will do so, as some very important points will be considered. Non-members cordially invited to attend. By order of the Committee.

JOHN ASPINWALL, Vice-President.

Ringing at Hurworth-on-Tees, Durham.

ON Monday, the 28rd ult., the Hurworth Ringers rang a 720 of Double Court Bob Minor in 26 mins. G. Garbutt, 1; J. Gaines, 2; J. C. Thompson, 3; J. E. Hern, 4; H. Thompson, 5; J. Hern, 6. Tenor, 17 cwt. Conducted by J. E. Hern. It is the first in this method that has been rung in the county of Durham.

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

ON Saturday, 28th ult., three members of the Parish Ringers of Walton-le-Dale and three of Higher Walton met at the latter place and rang on the bells of All Saints' Church, without stopping, the following peals, viz.:—Double Bob Minor, 720 changes; Oxford Treble Bob, 720; College Single, 720; Oxford Bob, 720; Single Bob Minor (reverse), 720; Single Bob Minor, 720; Single Bob Minor (with 22 Singles), 720. Total, 5040 changes. The time occupied was 3 hrs. 6½ mins. The ringers stood as follows:—R. Dewhurst (Walton-le-Dale), 1; T. Mather (Higher Walton), 2; H. Robinson (Walton-le-Dale), 3; J. Robinson (Walton-le-Dale), 4; J. Mather (Higher Walton), 5; D. Mather (Higher Walton), 6. Tenor, 17 cwt. Conducted by Mr. R. Dewhurst.

Change-ringing by the Ancient Society of College Youths.

ON Saturday, 28th ult., at the parish church of St. Paulinus, Crayford, Kent, 5120 changes of Kent Treble Bob Major was rung in 3 hrs. 5 mins. H. Bright, 1; R. French, 2; T. Dixon, 3; W. Cecil, 4; E. Hammant, 5; S. Reeves, 6; F. Bate, 7; J. M. Hayes, 8. The peal, which is the first of Treble Bob rung on the bells, contains the 5th and 6th their extent wrong and right, was composed by H. W. Haley and conducted by Thos. Dixon.

Royal Cumberland Youths (late London Scholars).

AT St. Mary's, Lambeth, Surrey, on Monday evening, 30th ult., the following variation of 5120 changes of Kent Treble Bob Major was rung in 3 hrs. 9 mins. J. W. Cattle, 1; J. Cox, 2; D. Stackwood, 3; H. A. Hopkins, 4; H. Dains, 5; E. Gibbs, 6; J. N. Pitsof (of Saffron Walden, Essex), 7; W. Baron, 8. Conducted by J. W. Cattle. Tenor, 19 cwt. The peal, with the variation in juxtaposition, will illustrate the principle of reversing peals, and also the dissimilarity that may appear to exist therein. It has never been previously performed, and was composed by H. Dains of London.

5120

THE PEAL.								THE VARIATION.							
2	3	4	5	6	M.	B.	W. H.	2	3	4	5	6	M.	B.	W. H.
5	2	3	6	4	—	—	2	3	5	2	6	4	—	—	—
2	5	4	6	3	—	1	2	3	4	5	6	2	—	1	1
6	4	5	2	3	1	—	2	4	3	2	6	5	—	1	2
4	6	3	2	5	—	1	2	4	2	6	3	5	1	—	2
6	5	3	2	4	2	—	1	2	4	6	3	2	5	1	—
5	4	3	2	6	2	—	1	2	2	3	6	4	5	1	—
3	4	2	5	6	1	—	1	3	2	5	4	6	—	1	2
4	5	2	3	6	1	—	—	4	5	2	3	6	/	—	2

Repeated.

RECEIVED ALSO.—Ed. Turnor (answered direct); B. Keeble; Dr. Parr; E. Rogers; J. Barrow; J. Cox; Wm. Churchill (bells not to be rung for elections, nor dog shows, or such like); W. Wakley; W. Gordon; J. Gilson; A. J. B.; William Reed; Norwich Association; and others.

Owing to press of Congress matter we are again compelled to postpone the conclusion of Mr. Jasper Snowdon's article on the 'Proof of the Surprise Peals.'

from different circumstances, required a change or release from their duties. With regard to private patronage, he expressed himself in favour of the patronage going with the property, where the purchaser of it desired to exercise it. If they looked round the country and saw what kind of clergy were generally presented to livings under private patronage, they would bear favourable comparison as to their efficiency, and certainly as to the work they did, with those appointed under public patronage. If some organization or some permanent committee could be formed which should have the power to advise as to the best modes of improving that which was bad in the present system it would be well. Because they must remember, that in the purchase and exchange of livings there were at the present moment certain underhand proceedings which the law of simony, as it were, caused, and which gave rise to a trafficking in livings and exchanges which were of the worst possible description.

The Rev. F. F. Goe expressed the opinion that the subject was one that ought to be discussed by the laity rather than the clergy, because to the clergymen it was delicate, disagreeable, and difficult. The present system of patronage attached to the Church a large number of laymen of wealth, position, and influence, whose energies were secured to the Church because they felt that they had a solemn responsibility in its management. He did not think the transfer of patronage should be forbidden, especially in the case of advowsons appendant. He thought the transfer of patronage was not only equitable, but right. Then he maintained, that if advowsons were made inalienable the patronage would often find its way into improper hands. It was the condition under which the transfer of patronage was made that should become the subject of legislation. He maintained that the advertising agents were the great offenders, and knew far more about the matter than the bishops and archbishops. Their great opportunity was privacy, and their nefarious trade would be to a very great extent frustrated by rendering compulsory the publicity of every transfer. He also looked upon advowsons donative as an evil, because one of them in the hands of an advertising agent might be made to do any amount of dirty work. He would suggest, that in the case of sale a purchaser should not be allowed to present for a certain number of years, and if in the meantime any vacancy occurred it should be filled by the bishop. The exchange of livings, he argued, was not always a bad thing, but the general effect of it was to keep too many clergymen in a state of chronic restlessness. With regard to the parishioners' veto, a *Si quis* might be read on two or three successive Sundays, like the banns of marriage.

Mr. A. J. Beresford-Hope, M.P., who was received with loud cheers, said the first question he asked himself when an organic change was proposed, was, What is there to put in its place? In this case of patronage, that was a question which ought most emphatically to be asked. They saw the evils of the system; they were gross and palpable. Not one word that Mr. Oakley had said was too strong for the scandals of the agency system. But the best way to deal with patronage was to deal with the parson when they had caught him. They ought to draw up some scheme by which a man who was unlearned, or unscrupulous, or intemperate, or worn-out, and merely put in as a sort of stop-gap, should be kept out. Such a scheme as that, and publicity, the force of public opinion, would go very far to remedy the present evils. Mr. Oakley said he would forbid the selling of the presentations except with the estate. How, he would ask, would they deal with a presentation that was in wrong hands? or how would they prevent a man from acquiring a colourable ownership of property—a 40s. freehold—for the sake of purchasing a presentation? The question was not such a simple one as it might seem on the platform of a Church Congress. Then another gentleman advocated that the presentation should be delayed, but he hoped that course would not be taken. It would be found most deterrent in cases of gentlemen who wished to build churches or schools. Some people maintained the undesirability of College patronage, and that it was abusing patronage for an old fellow of a college, when he was getting worn out, to retire into a living, and take to himself a young wife, who had to learn the meaning of school, vestry, and nursery, in one and the same day. The University Act had put an end to that. In the secularisation of colleges it had sent the Universities far afield to find their parsons. He was sorry he could not agree with some gentlemen who had expressed an opinion that next presentations ought to be illegal. He had known cases in which the sale of next presentations had been of practical good in the parish. The abolition of legal sale would simply wipe out those cases where it had been desirable, and would leave the scandalous cases where they now were, only, unfortunately, more mischievous. It would still be the case that after a bad week at Newmarket, or at Doncaster, or after going into companies limited or unlimited, or 'plunging' in some other way—that the fellows who made scandalous presentations would offer their next presentation for sale, and would be able to sell it as long as there were touts, and agents, and scamps in the world to manage the transaction for them. The only thing would be, that instead of being done comparatively in the light, it would be done in the dark, and would be perjury *plus* corruption. The parson who would be put in under such a transaction would certainly be a blackguard. Publicity would be a great remedy in that case, as well as in the sale of advowsons. He strongly condemned the system of exchanges. With regard to bonds of resignation, he held them to be essentially an immoral thing. It often resulted in the introduction to parishes of an old, invalid, imbecile, intercepted from the undertaker man, who was put into a living to hold it for a few weeks for a man who wanted to keep it open for his son. If a man wanted to do that, why could he not declare it openly, and let the bishop have a right to put in a *locum tenens* for a limited number of years, with the rights and incomes of the parson, and also to let that *locum tenens* be chosen from among the incumbents or curates who had been in that parish for a dozen years.

The Rev. H. Jones, Mr. Collins (Knaresborough), the Rev. Canon Trevor (Beeford), the Rev. C. B. Jackson (Newton Wold), the Ven. Archdeacon Cust (Richmond), Mr. R. J. E. Fletcher (Atherton), Mr. Wiltshire (Welwyn, Herts), and the Rev. G. Lewthwaite (Adel, Leeds) also spoke.

(Continued on page 533.)

SELWYN COLLEGE.

An article in the September number of the *Contemporary Review*, by Canon Brereton, on Cavendish College at Cambridge, shows us what may be done, by way of a beginning, with the 16,000*l.* which has been either received or promised for the Selwyn Memorial Fund, over and above what is required for the local monument in the Lichfield Cathedral.

The capital required for building the College is estimated at 180*l.* per student, of which it is expected that 130*l.* will be required for building, 25*l.* for furniture, and 25*l.* for land; or in all, for 300 students, 54,000*l.* Out of the 84*l.* fixed for the annual charge to students, it is calculated that 14*l.* will be required for interest on the capital (this, of course, does not apply to Selwyn College) and reserve fund for repairs, &c. Of the remaining 70*l.* it is estimated that 40*l.* will suffice for the board of the students, leaving 20*l.* for tuition and 10*l.* for university fees. Two blocks, providing temporarily for eighty students, but ultimately (when the warden's house and permanent kitchen and dining-hall are built) for 109 students, are now complete, and have cost, under two successive contracts, 10,968*l.* They provide one room for each student, with a very liberal allowance of common room.

Supposing two rooms are provided for each student at Selwyn College, 10,000*l.* would go a long way towards the accommodation of fifty students, and that would be a good number to start with. '*Vires acquirit eundo.*'

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

THE PROOF OF THE SURPRISE PEALS.

By Jasper W. Snowden.

SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR.

(Continued from p. 495.)

In the table given at the end of the first portion of this article in No. 404, these false leads and the course-ends from which they will come are given, and also the positions in which the false rows will be found. A memorandum of these positions will be of use in proving a peal false should the prover wish to extract the actual false rows. It will be seen that the only false course-ends that appear against the plain course-end (23456) are 32465 and 43265. Each course-end of a peal would only have to be proved by these two course-ends to show that the interior changes were true, if the bobs used to produce the composition did not affect this method of proof. If bobs at the M and W are introduced, and the course finishes with a bob at H, different leads to those shown by the course-ends will be introduced in the fifth and sixth leads of such a course: the effect of the bobs in a peal have, therefore, to be considered.

Fortunately, with the tenors together, false rows do not turn up inside the fourth lead; that is, from the lead-end when the tenor is in the position for a bob at the M until it has come to the W lead-end. Therefore, in a touch of three courses in which only bobs at the W are called if the course-ends are transposed by the false course-ends, 3 2 4 6 5 and 4 3 2 6 5, this will be sufficient for the proof of such a touch, because the transposition of each course-end will prove the leads *backwards* from that course-end to the previous W, and *forwards* to the following W. To prove a peal, each course-end must therefore be transposed by the two false course-ends, 3 2 4 6 5 and 4 3 2 6 5, and if no repetition is to be found between the course-ends of the peal and their transpositions, the truth of the peal is proved as far as the W lead in each course. As bobs at H prevent the leads between the W and H from being proved in those courses in which bobs at M or W, and at H, are called, such course-ends (where the bobs at H occur) must be transposed to what they would be if a bob H was not called; that is, 2 3 4 5 6 must be transposed to 3 4 2 5 6. Then, by transposing this series of course-ends by 3 2 4 6 5 and 4 3 2 5 6, the leads are proved backwards to the W, which completes the proof of the peal.

In the practical application of the course-end proof of this variation it will seldom be necessary to prick anything more than a certain number of the course-ends of the peal, as it will then be easy to see if any course-end again appears with the two hindmost bells reversed, as 5 6 to 6 5, when an examination will be necessary. It will also be seen that it is seldom necessary to transpose for the bobs at H to produce the natural course-ends, because in many peals *all* the three course-ends, with the same two bells behind, are introduced, and in such cases one of the courses represents the natural course-end of the other course.

In the annexed three courses this is plainly shown, as it is obvious that it is unnecessary to transpose for the natural course-end that produces the leads between the M and H in the first course, because this natural course-end would be 4 3 6 5 2, which, being already introduced as one of the actual course-ends, will prove the leads that the bob H in the first course prevented appearing in that place. When, however, such transpositions are necessary, I generally—having transposed the ordinary course-ends of the peal by the false course-ends—cross out those which have to be transposed for bobs at H and add their 'natural' course-ends at the foot of those which do not require transposing, and then compare this series by the two false course-ends. An examination of a few peals will, however, suggest to my readers a variety of means by which they can satisfy themselves as to the proof by the false course-ends without actually pricking out their transpositions. I may add, that a bob 'before' will cut out the third, fourth, and fifth leads of a course, but will not make any difference to the false course-ends to be used. When a

2	3	4	5	6	M.	W.	H.
6	4	3	5	2	—	—	—
3	6	4	5	2	—	—	—
4	3	6	5	2	—	—	—

bob 'before' is followed by a bob H, the course-end must be transposed for the natural course-end in the usual manner.

As, of course, it is necessary to prove the truth of the treble leads at which bobs are called, I give the following scale for pricking the different leads of M, W, and H, the second line of figures being pricked from the preceding place as if a bob was called. The figures are in each case transposed from the previous position read as 2 3 4 5 6.

M.	W.	H.
4 2 6 3 5	5 6 3 2 4	4 2 5 3 6
6 4 2 3 5	3 5 6 2 4	5 4 2 3 6

The Norwich Diocesan Association of Ringers.

THE above Association held their Annual Meeting at Ipswich on Monday, September 23rd, the inaugural meeting having been held twelve months since at Norwich. The members began to arrive at an early hour, and as they entered the town they were welcomed by a touch of Grandsire Cinques, rung by the Ipswich Company on the fine bells of St. Mary-le-Tower. The visitors were soon at work on the same bells, with a touch of Stedman's Caters, followed by touches of Kent Treble Bob Royal and Maximus, &c., whilst various methods were rung on the six bells of St. Clement, St. Margaret, and St. Mary-at-Quay, and on the five of St. Matthew, St. Mary Elms, and St. Nicholas.

At 12.15 the ringing ceased in all the towers, with the exception of that of St. Mary-le-Tower, where it was kept up to summon the ringers to the service. This commenced at 12.30. The shortened form of service was used. The Venerable Archdeacon Croome preached, taking for his text Ps. xix. 4; and at the conclusion of the service the General Meeting was held in the Council Chamber of the Town Hall, which had been kindly placed at the service of the Association by the Mayor, C. S. Cowell, Esq. The Archdeacon took the chair, and in a few hearty words welcomed the Association to Suffolk, and expressed himself as much interested in its objects. The Secretary (the Rev. G. H. Harris) read the Report. From this we gather that the Association is rapidly growing in numbers and in influence, there being now at the end of about eighteen months 73 honorary members, 22 honorary and performing, 249 performing members, and a few probationers. Nine peals of 5000 and upwards have been rung by the members during the year—one at Alburgh, two at Diss, one at Framsdon, two at Kenninghall, and three at Redenhall, the first at Redenhall, a 5152 of Superlative Surprise, taking the post of honour. The bell-hangers have been well employed, renewing and strengthening frames and re-hanging bells, whilst several rings have been augmented. Those of Stradbroke and Tunstead from 6 to 8, Otley from 5 to 6, and Mileham and Walcott from 4 to 5. District meetings have been held at Lynn, E. Dereham, and Beccles. The finances were stated to be in a healthy condition. And it concluded thus:—'Our aim must be not simply to be good ringers, but good men and true; and whilst such is our aim, we are sure that our Association must prosper and flourish.'

The officers were re-elected; the Rev. J. R. Turnock's name being added to the Committee. Thetford, Diss, Stowmarket, and Kelsale, were chosen as the towns where the district meetings for the year are to be held. At 2.30 the members and friends adjourned to the 'White Horse,' where 100 dined, under the presidency of the Rev. W. W. Hutt (Rector of Hockwold). After dinner the members again betook themselves to the various towers, where they continued to ring as long as time permitted.

Change-ringing by the Durham Association at North Shields.

ON Tuesday, 1st inst., seven members of the North Shields Branch of the above Association, assisted by Mr. G. Overton of the St. John's Branch at Darlington, rang 5040 changes of Grandsire Triples at Christ Church, North Shields, in 2 hrs. 58 mins. G. H. Park, 1; J. Gibson, 2; W. H. Park, 3; R. Smith, 4; J. Coulson, 5; W. Reed, 6; G. Overton, 7; S. Nott, 8. Tenor, 19 cwt. This is the first peal rung by the above ringers, and was conducted by William Reed.

Change-ringing by the Yorkshire Association.

ON Friday, the 4th inst., at St. Mary's, Hunslet, Leeds, 5392 changes of Bob Major, in 3 hrs. 26 mins. J. E. Stead, 1; J. McIntosh, 2; G. Fothergill, 3; H. Hubbard, jun., 4; T. Lockwood, 5; C. Mathers (first peal), 6; J. Dixon, 7; J. W. Snowdon, 8. The peal, which has the sixth the extent wrong in the first twenty-four courses, and the extent home in the last twenty-four courses, by means of ordinary bobs and four common singles only, and is the first ever obtained and rung on the plan, was composed by Tom Lockwood and conducted by Jasper W. Snowdon, Esq. Tenor, 21 cwt.

ON Saturday, the 5th inst., at St. Matthew's, Holbeck, Leeds, 5248 changes of Kent Treble Bob Major, in 3 hrs. 5 mins. J. Lockwood, 1; H. Hubbard, jun., 2; H. Moss, 3; J. Whitaker, 4; W. Walker, 5; T. Lockwood, 6; T. Holmes (first peal in the method), 7; J. W. Snowdon, Esq., 8. The peal, in two parts with the sixth the extent each way in 5-6, and three consecutive course-ends wrong and the last three right, in each part, was composed and conducted by Tom Lockwood. Tenor, 16 cwt.

Reopening of Bells at Heddington, Wilts.

ON the 5th inst. the people of Heddington held the day for Harvest Thanksgiving, and for reopening the ring of five bells, which had long been out of order. The bells had been rehung by Mr. Alfred York, of Bristol. They were raised at 11 and rung frequently till 1 o'clock by A. York, Rev. A. Hill, Rev. A. Law, Rev. C. W. Hony, Rev. E. G. Wyld, C. Y. Goddard, Esq., N. Egles, H. Hunt, and others. Several peals of singles and a plain course of Grandsire Doubles were rung during the morning. After lunch at the Rectory they were again rung for service at 2.45. After the third collect three special collects were said, and the hymn, 'Lift them gently to the temple,' was sung. The bells were then rung for five minutes, after

which the sermon proceeded. The sermon was preached by the Ven. Archdeacon Buchanan, from Exod. xii. 26. There was a second evening service at 7, at which the sermon was preached by the Rev. J. H. Burges, D.D., Rector of Devizes.

Bell Dedication.

ON the 2nd inst. the ring of bells of St. John the Evangelist, Wilton Road, was solemnly dedicated by Bishop Piers Cloughton to the service and glory of God. At 7.30 p.m. the church was densely crowded by all classes of parishioners. Special Psalms (cxxii. and cl.) and Lessons (Numb. x. to ver. 11, and 1 Cor. xiv. 6-12) were used. During the anthem the Bishop and two of the parish clergy, the wardens, and the ringers of St. John's, went to the belfry, where by prayer and benediction the bells were set apart for their holy use. On the Bishop's return a beautiful special hymn, composed for the occasion by the Rev. Wharton Smith, was sung:—

'Set between the earth and heaven,
Now our bells are raised on high,
In the name of Him Who giveth
Skill, and strength, and industry.'

The services concluded with a short and appropriate address from the Bishop, in which he pointed out that bells might be regarded as a symbol of unity, because they are almost the only things about the use and beauty of which every one is agreed. Immediately after the blessing a peal of silvery music burst forth under the experienced hands of eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths. The bells were cast by Messrs. Warner and Co. of Cripplegate; each one bears a Latin inscription from the *Benedicite*. The weight of the treble bell is 4 cwt.; that of the tenor, 10½ cwt. The Rev. Wharton Smith, to whose exertions the work of raising the bells from first to last is due, sets a good example, which others of the clergy might well follow, by taking a bell himself, and so drawing priests and ringers together. 'Pulling together' in all things is one of the mottoes of this parish. Its newest illustration is from the belfry of St. John's.

BELLINA.

St. Paul's Ring of Twelve.

THESE bells were rung for a short time on the 4th inst. by a party of College Youths. It was a private trial. The object was to test the tones of the bells, to enable the committee (who were present) to give a certificate as to their efficiency, &c. According to a report in the *Globe* a few minor alterations are necessary before the public opening, which is expected to take place on All Saints' Day. The following are the weights and the names of the donors of the bells:—

	cwt.	qrs.	lbs.	
1.	8	1	16	Presented by the Drapers' Company.
2.	9	1	15	
3.	10	0	3	
4.	11	3	21	Turners' Company and the Baroness Burdett-Coutts.
5.	13	2	14	
6.	14	0	4	
7.	16	2	21	Salters' Company.
8.	22	1	18	Merchant Taylors' Company.
9.	28	0	7	Fishmongers' Company.
10.	30	2	22	Clothworkers' Company.
11.	44	2	0	Drapers' Company.
12.	62	0	0	The Corporation.
271	3	1		Total weight.

Huntsham, Devon.

ON Saturday evening, the 5th inst., six members of the above Society rang a date-touch of 1878 Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. 4 mins.; viz. J. Heard, 1; H. Payne, 2; J. Norrish, 3; H. Tucker, 4; J. Chase, 5; W. Heard, 6; C. A. W. Troyte, Esq., 7; S. Davey, 8. Conducted by C. A. W. Troyte, Esq.

Ringling at Knaresborough, York.

AT the Parish Church on Sunday morning, 29th ult., for service, the parish ringers rang 1260 Grandsire Triples in 52 mins. T. Ledgeway, 1; R. Ledge, aged 85 years, 2; G. Thompson, 3; I. Inman, 4; B. Wood, 5; W. Swain, 6; J. Hoy, 7; M. Wood, 8. Conducted by T. Ledgeway. Tenor, 20 cwt.

RECEIVED ALSO.—A. I. B.: I. W. Turner; Wharton B. Smith; E. W. Cole.

BELFRY RECORDS.

EAST DEREHAM, NORFOLK. (Tablets in the Belfry.)

1029. ON the 10th of November, 1766, was rung in this Steeple 5040 changes of Bob Major in 3 hours & 20 minutes, and not a Bell out in course, by the following persons of this parish:—

James Philo, Treble.	James Woodrow, Fourth.	John Payne, Seventh.
Dan. Harrington, Second.	John Ruddock, Fifth.	Wm. Secker, Tenor.
Wm. Woodrow (called Bob), Third.	James Moore, Sixth.	Weight of tenor, 24 cwt.

1030. ON the 24th of February, 1789, was also rung in this Steeple 6000 changes of Bob Major complete in 4 hours and 10 minutes, by the following persons:—

James Philo (called Bob), Treble.	Wm. Cushing, Third.	Wm. Rogers, Sixth.
Thos. Horseley, Second.	Zach. Ingleton, Fourth.	John Rogers, Seventh.
	Chris. Hornigold, Fifth.	Chan. Bulwer, Tenor.

1031. ON Friday, November 5th, 1841, a true and complete Peal of 5040 changes of Bob Major was rung in this Steeple in 3 hours and 15 minutes, by the following persons:—

R. Gunton, Treble.	C. Bulwer, Fourth.	H. Brown, Seventh.
E. Bryant, Second.	W. Hudson, Fifth.	J. Hudson, Tenor.
J. Beatty, Third.	H. Cooper, Sixth.	Conducted by H. Brown.

1032. ON Thursday, December 22nd, 1855, Holt's complete Peal of 5040 changes of Grandsire Triples, in Ten Parts, was rung in 3 hours and 5 minutes, by the following persons:—

A. Brown, Treble.	C. Bulwer, Fourth.	J. Hudson, Seventh.
S. F. Burleigh, Second.	R. Wyatt, Fifth.	W. Hudson, Tenor.
W. J. Larnier, Third.	W. A. Owen, Sixth.	Conducted by A. Brown.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

New Bells at St. Paul's Cathedral, London.

In our last issue we gave the weight of these bells as Taylor's contract. We have since been kindly favoured with their diameters, thickness of sound-bow, and notes.

No.	Thickness of Sound-bow.				Diameter.		Weight.				Note.				
	in.				ft.	in.	cwt. qrs. lbs.								
1	3	...	...	2	6 $\frac{1}{2}$	...	...	8	1	16	...	...	F
2	3	...	...	2	8	...	...	9	1	15	...	...	E flat
3	3	...	...	2	10	...	...	10	0	3	...	...	D
4	3	...	...	3	0 $\frac{3}{4}$	...	...	11	3	21	...	...	C
5	3	...	...	3	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	...	...	13	2	14	...	...	B flat
6	3	...	...	3	3 $\frac{1}{2}$	...	...	14	0	4	...	...	A
7	3 $\frac{1}{4}$	...	...	3	7 $\frac{1}{4}$	...	...	16	2	21	...	...	G
8	3 $\frac{3}{4}$	...	...	3	11 $\frac{3}{4}$	...	...	22	1	18	...	...	F
9	3 $\frac{3}{4}$	...	...	4	4 $\frac{1}{2}$	...	...	28	0	7	...	...	E flat
10	3 $\frac{3}{4}$	...	...	4	7 $\frac{1}{4}$	...	...	30	2	22	...	...	D
11	4 $\frac{1}{2}$	...	...	5	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	...	...	44	2	0	...	...	C
12	4 $\frac{1}{2}$	...	...	5	9	...	...	62	0	0	...	...	B flat

The bells are being furnished with Ellacombe's chiming hammers, as at Worcester Cathedral, which, we are informed, will be used for the daily services.

General Meeting of the Yorkshire Association.

THE Annual General Meeting of this Society was held at Hull on Saturday, Oct. 12th, when a very large number of members were present, who were kindly entertained by the Hull branch of the Association and its friends. The eight bells of Holy Trinity, which have been undergoing repairs, commenced ringing shortly after seven o'clock in the morning, and were handled by different companies until eleven o'clock, when a short reopening service was held, the sermon being preached by the Rev. Canon Pelham, Vicar of St. Mary's, Beverley. The eight bells of St. James's and the six of St. Mary's were also rung at intervals during the day. At four o'clock the Annual Meeting took place in the Hunter Street School-room, when the President—Jasper W. Snowdon, Esq., took the chair. The Report of the Committee was confirmed, and the treasurer's balance-sheet was passed. The returning officers handed to the chairman the result of the voting for the three posts on the Committee, and the latter announced that Mr. J. Underwood of York, Mr. J. Winder of Leeds, and Mr. T. Walker of Hull, were duly elected. It was decided that the next meeting should be held at Headingley on Saturday, Jan. 12th, 1879. Votes of thanks to the vicars and churchwardens of the different churches, and to the Hull ringers for their hospitality, concluded the business of the meeting. An adjournment was then made to another part of the schools, when about two hundred ringers sat down to tea, which was provided for those who had accepted the invitations of the Hull members.

A Question.

SIR,—Can you or any of your numerous readers kindly enlighten me as to the origin of the word 'Royal,' and also the phrase 'late London Scholars,' which the Cumberland Society of London have, during the past year or two, affixed to the title by which they were hitherto generally known? I have seen many of the belfry tablets belonging to this distinguished Company, as also very old cards of membership, but I do not recollect observing the above addenda on either. The celebrated SHURWAY, who was a Cumberland, in alluding to the Society in his book, uses, I think, merely the same definition by which until lately it was universally recognised. AN OLD RINGER.

Bell News from Kaffraria.

ON March 11th and 22nd, St. Mark's suffered from severe gales. The first unroofed St. Andrew's Chapel, the second grievously damaged the Arch-deacon's own church:—'It carried away the bell-tower and cracked the bell. This is a great loss to the Mission and to the neighbourhood, as it was not only useful, but its peculiar sweet tone reminded many of the church bells in the Fatherland. It could be heard distinctly for six miles around. Its tone has drawn tears from travellers; has suggested prayer to natives when far from the chapel. Some years ago a gentleman and lady travelling towards St. Mark's, were attracted by the prolonged chant of their Kaffir attendant, and, on inquiry, were told that St. Mark's bell was ringing, and that he was repeating Evensong. For the information of a gentleman bell-ringer in the North of England, I may state that St. Mark's bell was cast by Warner and Son, of London. Its tone was B flat, and that it weighed 224 lbs. A Venetian traveller, when speaking of a bell for this Mission, observed that St. Mark's was nothing without its campanile. The residents have authorized me to order a new and larger one. I allude thus specially to the bell in order to interest the readers of *Church Bells*, which publication is much valued here.'

Ringing at Hitchin, Herts.

ON Friday, the 4th inst., L. Procter, Esq. of Bennington, with his company of change-ringers, visited Hitchin, and rang during the day on the bells of St. Mary's, which have been recently put in order by Messrs. Warner of London, the following selection of changes—Stedman's Triples, 420; Double Norwich Court, 224; Superlative Surprise Major, 448; Stedman's Triples, 504; Stedman's Triples, 336; Kent Treble Bob Major, 448. Total, 2380. N. Warner, 1; J. Kitchener, 2; L. Procter, Esq., 3; S. Page, 4; L. Chapman, 5; Jos. Kitchener, 6; C. Shambrook, 7; T. Page (conductor), 8. Tenor, 28 cwt.

Ringing at Cassington, Oxon.

On the 4th inst. six members of the Appleton Society of Change-ringers visited Cassington, and rang at the parish church a 720 of Grandsire Minor.

F. S. White, 1; W. Bennett, 2; B. Barrett, 3; J. Avery, 4; H. Woodward, 5; F. White, 6. Conducted by F. White, who has lately rehung these bells. Tenor, 13 cwt.

Change-ringing at Christchurch, Aughton, Yorkshire.

ON Saturday, the 5th inst., the ringers of the parish church, Ormskirk, rang on the new bells cast by Messrs. Warner of London, a peal of Grandsire Triples, comprising 5040 changes, in 2 hrs. 41 mins. T. Higham, 1; J. Winrow, 2; J. Eastham, 3; R. Clayton, 4; J. Leatherbarrow, 5; N. Spencer, 6; J. Aspinwall, 7; J. Prescott, 8. Tenor, 16 cwt. The above peal was composed and conducted by Mr. John Aspinwall of Liverpool, and is the first peal on the bells.

Warrington District Association Change-ringing Society.

ON Monday, the 7th inst., six ringers from Farnworth met at Warrington parish church, and rang consecutively ten different six-scores of Grandsire Doubles, making 1200 changes, in 43 mins.:—J. Large (conductor), 1; P. Case, 2; J. Harrison, 3; J. Gallimore, 4; T. Fletcher, 5; E. Foster, 6. Tenor, 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ cwt.

New Bells at Lamerton, Devon.

THIS church, which was not long since destroyed by fire, has been rebuilt through the munificence of many friends, and the old bells have been recast and rehung by Messrs. Warner of London. On the 8th inst. they were first reopened by the village ringers, with 'rounds and rounds and ups and downs,' after which they were handled by a band of change-ringers from Devonport, who rang six six-scores of Grandsire Doubles. W. Banister (conductor), 1; W. Travers, 2; W. Baxter, 3; J. Easterbrook, 4; W. Ford, 5; J. Taylor, 6. Tenor, 11 cwt.

Ringing at Bennington, Herts.

ON Tuesday evening, the 8th inst., the Bennington Society rang at the parish church a touch of London Surprise Major, consisting of 1344 changes, and containing fifteen bobs. N. Warner, 1; John Kitchener, 2; L. Procter, Esq., 3; L. Chapman, 4; S. Page, 5; Jos. Kitchener, 6; C. Shambrook, 7; T. Page (conductor), 8. Tenor, 14 cwt.

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

ON Thursday evening, the 10th inst., eight members of St. Peter's Society of Change-ringers rang a peal of Grandsire Triples, consisting of 5040 changes, in 3 hrs. 12 mins.:—R. Williams, sen., 1; J. Brown (first peal), 2; J. Moore, 3; T. Jones, 4; T. Hammond, 5; R. Williams, jun., 6; W. Littler, 7; W. Brooks, 8. Composed and conducted by R. Williams, jun. This is the first peal of Triples on these bells for 25 years. Tenor, 25 cwt.

Change-ringing at Cheltenham, Gloucestershire.

ON Friday, the 11th inst., the Cheltenham Society rang a quarter peal of Stedman's Triples, as follows:—J. Lawrence, 1; H. Karn, 2; W. T. Pates, 3; S. Price, 4; C. D. P. Davies, 5; W. Morris, 6; J. Belcher (conductor), 7; O. Arkell, 8. The bells were muffled as a slight token of respect to the memory of the late Mr. Charles Freeman, who was buried that morning at Prestbury, where also muffled touches were rung immediately after the funeral. Mr. Freeman, who was born December 29, 1803, and died October 7, 1878, was a very smart and esteemed member of the Cheltenham Society, to which he belonged for just half a century, and where for many years he filled the office of Chairman. The following are among his tabulated peals:—

In October, 1826, Holt's original peal of Grandsire Triples.

In May, 1829, 5120 Kent Treble Bob Major, which he conducted.

In 1833 two peals of the same and one of 6000 Treble Bob Royal, conducted by Elijah Roberts.

In November, 1866, 5040 Stedman's Triples, his last peal.

He practised for a short time for the Stedman's Caters, which the Society rang last year, but failing health soon compelled him to retire. His loss will be very keenly felt, not only as a ringer, but as a good and kind friend, whose singleness of heart and unvarying cordiality ever had a firm hold on the esteem and affection of all.

Progress of Ringing in Devon.

THE bells of Monkleigh, which have been rehung by Messrs. Hooper and Stokes of Woodbury, and augmented to six, were reopened on the 5th Sept. last. The ringers have now accomplished several six-scores of Grandsire Doubles, and on Friday, the 11th inst., succeeded in ringing 120 Stedman's Doubles:—L. Ellis, 1; R. Nethercott, 2; W. S. Willett, Esq. (conductor), 3; J. Main, 4; W. Shute, 5; G. Main, Tenor.

Change-ringing by the Yorkshire Association at Hull.

ON Friday, the 11th inst., at St. James's, Hull, 5024 changes of Kent Treble Bob Major, in 2 hrs. 48 mins.:—H. Hubbard, jun., 1; G. Barraclough, 2; R. Tukey, Esq., 3; W. Southwick, 4; G. Breed, 5; T. Lockwood, 6; C. Jackson, 7; J. W. Snowdon, Esq., 8. The peal, in one part, with the sixth the extent each way in 5-6, was composed and conducted by T. Lockwood. Tenor, 15 cwt.

Date Touch at Huntsham, Devon.

WE are requested to state that this Touch, lately reported, was composed by Mr. Wm. Gordon of Stockport.

NOTICE TO HAND-BELL PERFORMERS.—Mr. G. Stockham, 35 Carey Street, Chancery Lane, London, has discontinued business until further notice, through illness.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Lay Readers.

SIR,—Having been admitted at a service in the private chapel at Farnham Castle by the Bishop of Winchester, as a lay reader in the parish where I lived, on the presentation of the vicar, I can say that my license authorises me 'to read the Word of God, and to explain the same, to such persons in the said parish as the incumbent thereof shall suggest and direct; to read the appointed lessons in the parish church; and also to read publicly within the said parish such portions of the Morning or Evening Service, in the Book of Common Prayer, as the Bishop shall appoint and direct; and also to read and explain some portion of Holy Scripture, or to read such goodly homily or discourse, as the incumbent of the parish may approve.' I have also administered private baptism, in emergent cases, and where the vicar has found it impossible to visit for such a purpose at a moment's notice. On a fresh admission to the benefice the license must be renewed, and may be revoked at the Bishop's pleasure. I also hold an afternoon service on Sunday in the reading-room of the Working Men's Club, being an unconsecrated building, consisting of the ordinary service of the Book of Common Prayer, with hymns, and either a short address or the reading of a sermon; the latter not my own. The form of admission was very solemn, and the holy Gospels were placed in my hands, kneeling, and in the very words of the Conne. Carthage, 408,—'Take thou authority to read the Word of God, and to minister in thy office, as shall be appointed unto thee by the Bishop himself in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost, Amen,' and concluding with the Episcopal benediction. I also act as Server. But in the church I do nothing more than read the lessons. I am also Superintendent of the Sunday-schools.

LAY READER.

St. Andrew's Waterside Church Mission.

SIR,—We are greatly indebted to many of your readers for gifts of books, magazines, &c., for distribution amongst seamen and emigrants, and I enclose copy of a letter recently received from Sydney, by which it will be seen what good may be effected by this simple agency. The noble offertory collected on board ship after Divine service is the best answer we could have as to the need for our work. I thought that those kind friends who have sent us books might like to know what use is made of them, and if you should kindly insert the letter, I trust it may excite others to help us in this important Church work amongst those who go down to the sea in ships.—W. EVAN FRANKS, *Secretary*.

'DEAR SIR,—When the Orient s.s. *Aconagua* lay off Gravesend, in May last, two of your colleagues, Messrs. Naish and Johnson, paid a visit to her. Finding that I had been disappointed in my expectation of receiving a parcel of Prayer and Hymn-books from the S. P. C. K., they very kindly gave me as many books as they had at their disposal for services on board; and also a large parcel of periodicals, tracts, &c., for distribution among my fellow-passengers. When we were nearing Australia I suggested that a collection should be made on behalf of St. Andrew's Waterside Mission, and I am glad to be able to tell you that I received, in answer to my suggestion, the sum of 12l. 3s. With this I have obtained a draft, value 11l. 19s., on the Bank of New South Wales, payable to you, which I enclose. I may add that we had daily service on board the *Aconagua* during almost the whole voyage, and we have had three services on Sundays. At these services we found your Prayer and Hymn-books of the greatest use to us—in fact, but for the help your books afforded us our services would have been to a great extent a failure. I cannot conclude without wishing you "God speed." Many a sailor and many a traveller has reason to bless God for the work of St. Andrew's Mission. May God bless you abundantly in your work, and reward you in it, by making the Mission increasingly a blessing to those for whom your efforts are put forth.

'Believe me, my dear sir, yours faithfully,

'Sydney, N.S.W., August 1, 1878.

(REV.) ALFRED YARNOLD.'

Communion of the Sick.

SIR,—I should be glad to learn how far it is the usual practice among clergymen in the case of administering the Holy Communion to the sick, to insist upon two communicants besides the celebrant and the sick man, and how far to be content with only one. The words of the rubric are as follows:—'The sick person' must give timely notice to the curate, signifying also how many there are to communicate with him (which shall be three, or two, at the least). It is, perhaps, natural at first reading to refer the word 'him' to the sick person; and if so, it would seem that two persons, besides the curate and the sick man, are required. But there seems no good reason why the word 'him' should not refer to the curate, and if so, one communicant besides the curate and the sick person would suffice. There are two subsidiary arguments in favour of the latter interpretation. First, that only three persons are required to communicate with the priest in the case of a celebration in church, and it is natural to suppose that some relaxation of this rule would be permitted in what may be an urgent case, even a deathbed. Secondly, it is allowed by another rubric that 'in the time of the plague, &c., when none of the parish or neighbours can be gotten to communicate with the sick in their houses for fear of the infection, upon special request of the diseased, the minister may only communicate with him.' This rubric certainly seems to imply that no special permission was needed for the curate to administer the Holy Communion to a sick man if there was one other communicant present. It must be allowed, however, that Wheatly and Proctor adopt the former view, viz., that two communicants besides the priest and the sick person are necessary. If the matter is looked at from a practical point of view, it would seem desirable to permit celebrations with only one communicant besides the priest and the sick man. It is often, especially in lonely houses, possible to find one to communicate, where it is not possible to find two; and it is manifestly undesirable to tempt some non-communicant friend of the sick to communicate for the nonce in order to make up the number required. A PRIEST.

How to conduct Bible Classes.

SIR,—May I be allowed to contribute my experience on this subject? Following the practice of the excellent Vicar of St. Peter's, Eaton Square, I hold a Bible Class weekly for adults in church, and not in the school. I believe that the Act of Uniformity Amendment Act gives full liberty for this, provided that the service commence with Collects from the Prayer-book, and that the lecture is of course entirely by the clergyman. The people are seated in the free seats and I stand before them, wearing only a cassock; we commence with a hymn, followed by a selection of Collects from the Prayer-book; then I give an exposition on a chapter, or part of a chapter, of Holy Scripture, which is followed by another hymn and concluding prayer. I do not believe that it is possible to overestimate the good arising from a Bible Class of this kind, and experience has taught me how much greater is the benefit when the church is substituted for the school. The latter on a winter evening is always a dreary place, and, to say nothing worse, has an odour of the three R's about it. Many people who do not care to go to the school are pleased to go to the church. May I express a hope that so important a subject will be well discussed in your paper? The wide-spread ignorance of Church principles, and indeed of Holy Scripture, is, I cannot help thinking, very largely due to the fact that the majority of our Church people hear nothing from one year's end to another but sermons upon special texts and special subjects. At a Bible Class, in which a book of the Bible is gone through verse by verse, an amount of knowledge is conveyed in twelve months which twenty years of sermons would not cover. Lastly, it would be infinite gain if in every church, Sunday afternoon (where there is an evening service) or one week-day evening were given up to an adult Bible Class.

WALTER R. CARR, *Vicar of Foleshill, Coventry*.

Bishop Alford on Baptism.

SIR,—I received this morning a pamphlet published by J. F. Shaw & Co., and entitled *Born of Water; an Exposition by the Right Rev. Bishop Alford, D.D., some time Bishop of Victoria*; and I presume that most of the clergy have received, or will receive, a copy, in which case it is to be hoped that some of them will be able to understand it, and to enlighten some of their more obtuse brethren, among whom is your humble servant. I am no advocate of Romanist or 'Ritualistic' views of the Sacraments, but I am none the less puzzled by the said pamphlet. It would be interesting to discover, if possible, precisely what the right reverend author is driving at, but this seems to me to be a question which will 'puzzle the country.' Is he arguing against *Baptismal Regeneration*, pure and simple, against Baptism as, in any sense, a *means of grace*, against *Infant Baptism*, against Baptism as a thing commanded, and hence *indispensable* to the complete obedience, and therefore to the acceptance of every Christian; or does he seek to prove that Baptism itself is 'like chips in broth, neither good nor harm,' and may be used or neglected, as it suits our fancy? Perhaps Dr. Alford will oblige us with another pamphlet as an 'exposition' of this, that we may let him know whether a third is necessary to explain the second. It will certainly be difficult to refute the first, until it can be discovered what it is intended to disprove or maintain. As to logic or lucidity, it appears to me to possess a very small stock of either; to be a kind of 'hotch-potch,' so inextricably stirred together that it is impossible to pick out the little that might prove digestible. Hoping you will grant a place in *Church Bells* to this appeal for light. I am, yours faithfully,

Chappel Vicarage, Essex.

J. P. BRITTON.

The Scotch Church.

SIR,—Your article in your issue of 14th ult., on the 'Church of Scotland,' was very encouraging to those that sympathise with her, with regard to the propositions you put forward. 1. Could not we Churchmen of England put forward a helping hand, and through the medium of the Additional Home Bishops' Fund endow the two Archbishops of St. Andrews and Glasgow, and the twelve other Bishops? 2. A Society should be formed, to be called the Scotch Church Mission Society, which could raise funds for the priests and others who would put in to effect your other propositions. I do not see why we in England should not support these missions, while we support the Irish ones. Other Churchmen with whom I have conversed about it, and others who have read your article, think it the most practical way.

A CONSTANT READER.

The Authorized Version.

SIR,—As some misapprehension appears to exist respecting the publication of the Revision of the Authorized Version of the Bible, which has been so long in hand, by the two companies sitting at Westminster Abbey under the auspices of the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge, I shall be obliged if you will allow me to state in your columns, that although the Revision is very far advanced, it is not yet completed, and that no part of the Version revised by these companies has as yet been published. Due notice will be given of the publication of this Version.

HENRY FROWDE.

RECEIVED ALSO:—H. G. O.; W. B. S.; J. F. C.; H. S. B. A; and others.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Reply to 'A Question.'

SIR,—In reply to your correspondent, 'An Old Ringer,' allow me to say that I am rather surprised. As to the title of 'Cumberland Youths,' he does not notice those words on old tablets or on old cards of membership. The latter, he should know, are abolished; and, as to the former, I beg, Sir, to ask him if he has ever noticed a College Youths' tablet shorn of 'Ancient' and the 'Established A.D. 1637?' In fact, I believe this was added about the year 1841, and the origin of which, if I mistake not, came through the same

channel as that which led the Cumberlands to add 'Royal' as a prefix and 'Late London Scholars' as a suffix. But, Sir, the word 'Cumberland' arose thus. The Duke of Cumberland was a royal one, and gained such victorious notoriety for success in Scottish battles in 1746, that the London Scholars are said to have not only rung his Royal Highness into London on the Shore-ditch bells, but changed their name to that after the Royal Duke himself; for this the Society received, and to the present day retain, a medal in commemoration of the event, upon which, mounted on his charger, is an image of the Duke, enamelled on gold—thence 'Royal' and 'Late London Scholars.' Should this not be sufficient for 'An Old Ringer,' let him come some meeting-night at head-quarters, 54 St. Martin's Lane, and after being duly proposed, and the usual month intervening, he will, if eligible, be admitted a member, and be initiated into the interesting historical associations and connexions of the Society generally.

ANOTHER OLD RINGER.

Problems Solved.

Sir,—I had a letter written to ask my fellow-readers to help me out of some difficulties I got into with Hubbard and Banister about calling round. But since then I have managed to solve those problems, and as I think my solution better and easier than those given in books, I send it to you for publication. I will extend it to Grandsire and Treble Bob at another time. I do not imagine it to be of any great practical value; but we must remember we have to deal with a science as well as an art, and the science of Change-ringing, involving as it does curious problems of the properties of numbers, is very interesting, independently of the numbers representing bells.

TO BRING ROUND ANY CHANGE IN BOB TRIPLES.

EXAMPLE 1.	
The O's stand for 2, 3, 4.	
7 0 0 0 5	
0 0 7 5 0 6	
0 5 0 6 7 0	
5 6 0 0 0 7	
6 0 5 7 0 0	
0 7 6 0 5 0	
0 7 0 0 6 5 B	
0 7 0 5 0 6 B	
0 7 5 6 0 0 B	
7 6 0 0 5 0	
7 6 0 0 0 5 B	
7 6 0 5 0 0 B	
7 6 5 0 0 0 B	
6 0 7 0 5 0	
0 0 6 0 7 5	
0 0 0 5 6 7	

(1) To bring 5, 6, 7 home.—Go on with plain leads till 7 comes in 3rds. Then call bobs till 6 comes in 5ths. A plain lead then brings 7, 6 before. Then call bobs till 5 comes in 4ths. Then three plain leads will bring 5, 6, 7 home.

(2) To bring 2, 3, 4, home.—This can be done with bobs and singles at home, thus:—

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

(1) 3 4 2 5 6 7 comes round with a B.

(2) 2 4 3 " " " " S.
 4 2 3 " becomes (1) " B.
 3 2 4 " " (1) " S.
 4 3 2 " " (2) " B.

If 6 be in seconds when 7 is in thirds a single will bring 7-6 before at once.

These are all the cases. Harder examples cannot be found than those given. Any row can be brought round in 28 leads, or 392 changes, at most. Remington Rectory. GEO. POPE.

Lancashire Association of Change-ringers.

A GENERAL MEETING of the members was held on Saturday evening, 12th inst., in the library of St. Philip's Schools, Hulme. The meeting was opened by the President, who read a letter from Mr. J. R. Pritchard, of Liverpool, announcing his wish to resign the office of Secretary to the Society, which, after some discussion, was accepted. There were two candidates proposed for the vacant office—Mr. Albinson, sen. (Stockport), and Mr. J. B. Rogers (Manchester). The latter was elected. After further discussion it was resolved to adjourn, and to call another general meeting to discuss matters of importance, notice of the same to be sent for insertion in *Church Bells*, and usual information circulated to the members. The meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the Rev. Canon Birley for the use of the room.

During the afternoon several members visited the Town Hall, and were received with great courtesy by the Cathedral ringers. A 720 of Bob Minor was rung upon the first six bells in 26½ mins. H. Jackson (Bolton), 1; H. Bently (Bolton), 1; — Curtis (Leigh), 3; J. H. Jackson, conductor (Bolton), 4; J. Aspinwall (Liverpool), 5; — Hamer (Bolton), 6. After the meeting several touches of Grandsire Triples were rung at St. Philip's, Hulme, by different bands.

The Secretary desires to give notice that he will summon the adjourned meeting as instructed, and will issue out notices twelve clear days previous to such meeting being held, stating the time and place; and so that each member may receive his notice in due form, all who have changed their address lately are requested to communicate with the undersigned at once.

JAMES B. ROGERS, Hon. Secretary, L.A.C.R.

65 Bold Street, Chorlton Road, Manchester.

Durham Diocesan Association of Change-ringers.

On Saturday, Sept. 14th, the Newcastle branch visited Whitley, Northumberland, and rang, at St. Paul's, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, containing 36 bobs and 24 singles, being the first rung on those bells by the above Society. J. Gillings, 1; J. Donald, 2; E. Wallis, 3; J. Simm, 4; J. Power (conductor), 5; F. Lees, 6. Tenor, 19 cwt.

Change-ringing at Burnsall, Yorkshire.

On Saturday, the 12th inst., the Society of Change-ringers met at St. Wilfrid's Church, Burnsall, and rang, in 3 hrs. 15 mins., 5040 changes in the following methods, viz. College Treble, Craven Delight, Kent Treble Bob, Duke of York, New London Pleasure, Oxford Treble Bob, and Violet. J. Binns, 1; W. Whitaker, 2; J. Thompson, 3; C. Inman, 4; T. Thompson, 5; J. P. Birch (conductor), 6. Tenor, 13 cwt.

Change-ringing at Bennington, Herts.

On Tuesday, the 15th inst. the Society of Change-ringers at Bennington rang a select composition, containing 1344 changes, of Cambridge Surprise Major. N. Warner, 1; J. Kitchener, 2; L. Proctor, 3; L. Chapman, 4; S. Page, 5; Jos. Kitchener, 6; C. Shambrook, 7. T. Page (conductor), 8. Tenor, 14 cwt., F sharp.

Change-ringing at St. James's, Barrow-in-Furness.

On Saturday, the 12th inst., for the first time in the district, one half of Mr. John Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, consisting of 2520 changes, was rung in the steeple in 1 hr. 28 mins. J. Hill, 1; J. Higginson, 2; C. Pass, 3; S. Kendall (aged fifteen), 4; S. Brotherton, 5; J. Mercer, 6; J. Wilson, 7; R. Bowker, 8. Tenor, 15½ cwt. These bells were obtained by public subscription, and dedicated on July 25th, 1877—St. James's Day. The bells were supplied, and the work done, by Mr. Thomas Mallaby of Masham.

Change-ringing at St. Luke's, Liverpool.

On Tuesday, the 15th inst., eight of St. Luke's Society rang Mr. Holt's original peal of Grandsire Triples in 2 hrs. 50 mins. R. S. Mann (conductor), 1; F. W. Moore, 2; G. H. Moore, 3; J. Brown, 4; T. Jones, 5; T. Hammond, 6; W. Litter, 7; W. Brooks, 8. Tenor, 16 cwt.

Change-ringing at Bolton, Lancashire.

On Saturday, the 19th inst., the following ringers met at the parish church, Bolton, and rang Mr. John Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples of 5040 changes. G. Grundy (conductor), Westhoughton, 1; W. Davies, Bolton, 2; J. Prescott, Hindley, 3; J. Houghton, Leigh, 4; J. Vickers, Westhoughton, 5; T. Yates, Eccles, 6; J. Whittingham, Westhoughton, 7; H. Hodgkinson, Westhoughton, 8. Tenor, 15½ cwt.

Change-ringing by the Yorkshire Association at Holbeck.

On Saturday, the 19th inst., at St. Matthew's, Holbeck, a peal of Bob Triples, comprising 5040 changes, in 2 hrs. 57 mins. J. Hutchinson (first peal), 1; H. Moss, 2; A. Ackroyd, 3; J. Lockwood, 4; J. J. Jackson (first peal), 5; T. Lockwood (conductor), 6; G. Barraclough, 7; G. Wilson, 8. The peal was composed by H. Hubbard, sen. Tenor, 16 cwt.

Change-ringing at Greenwich, Kent.

On Saturday evening, the 19th inst., ten members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang at the church of St. Alphege, Greenwich, a true peal of Kent Treble Bob Royal, in ten courses (Mr. John Reeves' composition), containing 5040 changes, in 3 hrs. 22 mins. J. Pettit (conductor), 1; R. French, 2; W. Cecil, 3; S. Reeves, 4; T. Dixon, 5; E. Horrex, 6; G. Ferris, 7; F. Bate, 8; G. Mash, 9; J. M. Hayes, 10.

Change-ringing at Croydon, Surrey.

On Saturday, the 19th inst., eight members of St. Mary's Society, Beddington, rang on the bells of St. John the Baptist, Croydon, a half-peal of Grandsire Triples (2520 changes) in 1 hr. 45 mins. R. Chapman, 1; E. Bennett (conductor), 2; J. Ploverman, 3; J. Trappitt, 4; F. Marder, 5; C. Gordon, 6; J. Cawley, 7; J. Zealey, 8. Tenor, 32 cwt.; key, E flat.

Change-ringing at Hornchurch, Essex.

On Saturday, the 19th inst., four of the Hornchurch ringers and two from a neighbouring parish rang at St. Andrew's a 720 of Plain Bob Minor in 35 mins. This is the first peal that has been rung by Hornchurch men for many years. W. Halls, 1; G. Newson, London, Cumberland Society (conductor), 2; A. J. Perkins, Romford, 3; S. Rush, 4; G. Dear, 5; I. Dear, 6. Tenor, 21 cwt.

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

On Sunday, the 20th inst., being the twelfth anniversary of the consecration of the above church, the Society of Change-ringers, assisted by two from the parish church, Wigan, rang Mr. John Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, containing 5040 changes, in 2 hrs. 49 mins. R. Calland, 1; E. Prescott, 2; W. Bentham, Wigan, 3; W. Chisnall, 4; E. Bentham, Wigan, 5; T. Tickle, 6; J. Prescott (conductor), 7; G. Higson, 8. Tenor, 14 cwt. 1 qr.

Change-ringing at Huddersfield, Yorkshire.

On Tuesday, the 22nd inst., the Society of Change-ringers connected with St. Stephen's rang 720 of Treble Bob Minor in 30 mins. R. Kitson, 1; F. Scholfield (conductor), 2; G. W. Scholfield, 3; E. Ellam, 4; J. Royston, 5; B. Shaw, 6.

Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Change-ringing Association.

On Tuesday, 22nd inst., the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Change-ringing Association held their quarterly district meeting at Mitcheldean, in the Forest of Dean. The members, accompanied by their master, Mr. John Drinkwater, the change-ringer of Sandhurst, near Gloucester, and the Rev. Pitt Eykyn, the Hon. Secretary, attended a short service in the parish church, at which an address was delivered by the Rev. C. S. Dighton, ex-Rector of Mitcheldean, now Vicar of Maisemore. The members then partook of refreshments at the 'George' Hotel, where the usual business of the Association was transacted; after which the belfry was visited, and some excellent Stedman's Triples rung by members of the various companies assembled. This Association is rapidly increasing in numbers and influence. The next quarterly meeting will be held (D.V.) at Cheltenham, in January.

ERRATUM.—In the account in our last number of the change-ringing at Cheltenham, in memory of Mr. Charles Freeman, for 'a very smart and esteemed member,' read 'a senior and esteemed member.'

* Several correspondents, in forwarding notices of peals, omit the time they took in their performance. This is a very important part of their publication, and perhaps our friends will see to it for the future.—Ed.

RECEIVED ALSO:—Marshall H. Vine (the writer will call); D. Gill; C. Paine; and others.

upon which to hope and work for the amalgamation of such a society as this with the historic Church of England, especially when we remember that its gradual separation was mainly caused by the indifference, short-sightedness, and downright opposition of the Church of a former day. May I therefore ask the Home Reunion Society, and Churchmen generally, to consider the opinions of Methodist theology upon some of the points on which they now divide from us? I will state them from Watson's *Theological Institutes*, the standard body of Methodist Divinity, and shall confine myself for the present to *Church Order*.

1. *The Church*.—The Church of Christ, in its largest sense, consists of all who have been baptized in the name of Christ, and who thereby make a visible profession of faith in His divine mission, and in all the doctrines taught by Him and His inspired Apostles. 'A visible and permanent society, bound to observe certain rites and to obey certain rules.' Methodists maintain Infant Baptism. Those statements, therefore, with the rest of our author's remarks upon the term 'Church,' will fit in very well with what is taught incidentally in the Catechism and directly in the Nineteenth Article.

2. *The Ministry*.—Whilst Watson calls Episcopacy an office rather than an order, he nevertheless regards it as an expedient form of Church government. Hence he says, 'The only Scriptural objection to Episcopacy, as it is understood in modern times, is its assumption of superiority of order, of an exclusive right to govern the pastors as well as the flock, and to ordain to the Christian ministry.' But 'it is not indeed to be doubted that at a very early period, in some instances probably from the time of the Apostles themselves, a distinction arose between bishops and presbyters; and the whole strength of the cause of the Episcopalians lies in this fact.' Do not some Low Churchmen hold precisely that view? I have myself heard broader Presbyterianism enunciated from the platform of the Church Association. In fact, Watson does not appear to be very far away from the Preface to our Ordinal, which says, 'It is evident unto all men diligently reading the Holy Scripture and ancient authors, that from the Apostles' time there have been these orders of ministers in Christ's Church—Bishops, Priests, and Deacons, which offices, &c.' 'Orders' and 'offices' seem to be there interchanged.

3. *Church and State*.—Watson questions the lawfulness and the expediency of Church establishments. 'Nor do the evils which arose to the Church of Christ appear so attributable to this form of government (Episcopacy) as to that too intimate connexion of the Church with the State which gave to the former a political character, and took it from under the salutary control of public opinion . . . an evil greatly increased by the subsequent destruction of religious liberty and the coercive interference of the civil magistrate.' 'It is not my design to consider a Church as at all allied with the State; but as deriving nothing from it except protection and that general countenance which the influence of a government professing Christianity and recognising its laws must afford.'

4. *The Seat of Authority*.—Watson is very strong in the position that ministerial authority never emanated from the people, and that the laity have no power of ordination. 'If we consult the New Testament this office (the ministry) was never conferred by the people. The Apostles were ordained by our Lord; the Evangelists by the Apostles; and Elders in every church both by Apostles and Evangelists.' But he proceeds to show that from early times the people were called upon to forbid the ordination of unfit persons (*Si quis*) and that they also had a voice in the election of pastors. 'The mode in which the people shall be made a concurrent party is matter of prudential consideration; but they had an early and certainly a reasonable right in the appointment of their ministers, though the power of ordination was vested in ministers alone, to be exercised on their responsibilities to Christ.' Once more, 'The ministerial office is not one of mere agency under the absolute direction of the votes of the collected Church.'

All this, I think, goes to show, that with respect to the Church, the clergy, and their authority, opinions are enough in common to justify hopes that Methodists and the Church of England may yet be reunited. In a future issue I will, with your permission, examine this interesting subject from other standpoints.

A. HAWKINS JONES, Curate of St. Paul's, Birmingham.

RECEIVED ALSO.—W. R. L.; A Parishioner of St. Mary's, Scarborough; Stand by the Rubric; T. H. E.; H. S.; J. F. C.; An Old Subscriber to *Church Bells*; A Parishioner of St. Mary's, Scarborough; and others.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

THE BELLS OF ST. PAUL'S.

THE Rev. H. R. Haweis, in a letter to the *Times*, passes a somewhat damaging criticism on the bells, in comparison with those of the Belgian firms. 'The true Belgian bell,' writes Mr. Haweis, 'when struck a little above the rim gives the dominant note of the bell; when struck two thirds up it gives the third; and near the top the fifth; and the "true" bell is that in which the third and fifth (to leave out a multitude of other upper partials) are heard in right relative subordination to the dominant note.' And then he proceeds—'I let alone the "fifth" in St. Paul's belfry—was glad to let it alone and try for the "third"—with the following results:—Large B bell No. 1, major "third;" No. 2, "fourth;" No. 3, "fourth;" No. 4, major "third;" No. 5, "fourth;" No. 6, major "third;" No. 7, major "third;" No. 8, "sixth;" No. 9, "fourth;" No. 10, "a fifth;" No. 11, "fifth;" No. 12, "fifth." Four of the bells, therefore, answer the primary Belgian test. Where the "fifths" are noted, the bells ought to have yielded the major "third." Upon the regular fifths, and the general peculiarities of tone, I have not space here to dwell; but upon the all-important question of tune the following facts must be evident even to outsiders. The first seven bells are fairly in tune, though in detail No. 2 is sharp with 1, 3 with 2, 5 with 4,

and 6 and 7 with 5. This will appear when the bells are tried in "thirds;" but it is most evident by the time the first octave is reached, when No. 8 is found to be painfully sharp with 1.'

Summing up, Mr. Haweis says, 'The first octave, if used only for peal ringing, may, on the whole, be let alone; it is good enough for a simple octave, though not for a chromatically tuned series, and a Belgian bell-founder would probably begin by re-tuning it, which would at once crush the upper bells or the second octave. All this would, perhaps, not force itself on a casual hearer in the ringing of a peal; but I believe it is proposed to utilise these bells in the future carillon, or even to play tunes on them as they are. What now passes as a rough octave will then be found intolerable, even in a simple air. What will it be when an attempt is made to add accompaniment in harmonies in full carillon? Still, I am quite clear that the radical imperfection of the octave and a half, as it now hangs, will appear whenever the first attempt is made to ring a tune on the first seven and last five of St. Paul's bells, or to work them into any series tuned in semi-tones. Our carillon for the sister tower will certainly have to come from Belgium. Two last remarks—1st. Why have the four large bells got their heads cut off, while two iron spikes have been run into their headless—or rather headless—trunks to swing them by, the wood-work lying flat on the top of the bell, and impeding the vibration? 2nd. Why, in spite of all that I and others have written, are wooden wedges rammed in between the tower walls and the rafters to stiffen the framework of the bell machinery, a practice which has already ruined some of the finest towers in the land? The bell-works should never even touch the tower walls.'

SIR E. BECKETT thus replies in the *Times* to Mr. Haweis's strictures on the St. Paul's Bells:—

'SIR,—The Dean and Chapter of St. Paul's, and the Bell Committee, who did me the honour to make me their chairman, will naturally expect me to notice Mr. Haweis's criticism of their new bells, except on that point which I told them I never presume to decide on—viz., the tuning of the bells. That I leave to Dr. Stainer and to Mr. Cattley of Worcester, who has vastly more experience in such matters in a practical way than Mr. Haweis, though he may have written less.

'Though I do not profess to write about dominants and minor thirds, or to guess how a Belgian bell-founder would probably begin to retune this peal, I have no hesitation in saying that no modern Belgian bells which have come over here and been heard in public are superior or equal to the best English ones, though they are superior to such as used to be made by the English firm which had a practical monopoly of the business until about twenty years ago. There has never been a really good large foreign bell in either of the English Exhibitions, and I have not heard of any conspicuously good ones in the foreign Exhibitions, which I have not visited myself. The tenor of the peal at Boston Church was recast in Belgium, when a great number of little bells were added for chimes a few years ago, and they are as unsatisfactory as I predicted. That is a good sound bell, but no better than many English ones of the same size, and in my opinion not comparable to the eleventh of St. Paul's, or several of the Worcester Cathedral bells. I omit the tenor of St. Paul's as yet, because the clapper was not right when I went to hear them rung the first time a few weeks ago, and I told the founder so. Of course, I agree with Mr. Haweis about the present condition of Big Ben of Westminster, which is a disgrace to the nation, as it was to its founders, and as their York bell was still more, and as the clock bells of St. Paul's were to their predecessors, and Tom of Oxford to its maker, which is the worst of all the great ones. These could easily be recast now into good ones, as I have explained in all the later editions of my book on clocks and bells.

'Leaving the musical part of the business to those who are more conversant with it, I turn to the mechanical, of which I ought to know something after forty-five years' experience in bell-hanging and designing, and twenty-five in tower building. Will Mr. Haweis be kind enough to tell us what is the objection to casting large bells without a "head," or bunch of loops called "canons" to hang them by, and to cut the stock to pieces? The idea used to be that bolts through the crown might check the vibration. But I defy anybody to distinguish any difference in the sound of large bells hung in those two ways; and as there are mechanical advantages in the simpler way, I quite approved it when Mr. Taylor proposed it for the large bell of this and some other peals.

'May I ask also why the designers and makers of bells and bell frames are to attend to "all that Mr. Haweis and others have written" against allowing the frames to touch the walls? And who are the "others"? Certainly not Mr. Ellacombe, an old pupil of the elder Brunel before he went into orders, and a well-known practical writer on bells. Perhaps Mr. Haweis will let us know the names of "some of the finest towers in the land" which he can prove to "have been ruined by this practice." If "wedges" have been "rammed in between the tower walls and the rafters," and if by "rafters" he means the upper beams of the frame, it is wrong. But I do not believe they have. Certainly there were no wedges there when I inspected the frame. If there are continuous thin boards to fill up the space between the frame and the walls, it is quite right. Even if there were discontinuous wedges they would do no harm in a tower of that enormous thickness, which does not vibrate the least under the ringing of this large peal, as nearly all church towers do merely by the elasticity of the fabric, and with no harm so long as it is confined to that. Bell frames ought never to be allowed to batter the walls by just touching them occasionally; and in weak towers the upper beams had better not touch at all. Perhaps Mr. Haweis will impart to us his secret for preventing the lateral thrust of bells from reaching the walls somewhere, except, indeed, by building up what is in fact an internal tower of wood from the bottom, as at St. Michael's, Coventry. Whether it was necessary or not in that tower, which is a weak one for its height, it would be an utterly erroneous proceeding in a tower half as strong as this of Sir Christopher Wren's, whose attention to all details was so admirable that not a bit of stone

has had to be cut or added, except (I think) a few corbels, to receive this grand peal and to provide all proper accesses to it. Only some louvres must be added to keep out rain and snow.

'Doncaster, Oct. 29th.

Yours obediently, EDM. BECKETT.'

The 'Royal' Cumberlands.

SIR,—I am afraid your correspondent, who writes under the *nom de plume* of 'Another Old Ringer,' has hardly understood my question. Perhaps I did not make myself sufficiently intelligible. Previous, however, to entering into the matter in hand, let me revert to the allusion he makes to the College Youths. I find, on referring to the *Clavis*, that the authors of that work make use of the word 'Ancient' when referring to this Society. So it will be manifest that the statement, viz. that this word was not added till 1841, is incorrect; and even if it were true, how could 'Ancient' have come through the same or a similar channel as that by which the Cumberlands claim the right to add 'Royal' and 'late London Scholars' to their title? But the matter in question has, in point of fact, nothing to do with the College Youths at all—there exists not the slightest reason why, in this simple inquiry, they should be alluded to in any way whatever. I beg my friend to keep to the subject, and if he will give me specific answers to the following I shall perhaps favour him with a call in response to his invitation, though I am too far from St. Martin's Lane to journey there expressly for that purpose. The gist of the information I seek is: 1. 'What is the origin of the phrase "late London Scholars," as applied to the Cumberland Society? and if they have a clear title to it, why is it that only within the last few years it has been, in company with the word "Royal," affixed to the definition by which they were generally known?' 2. 'Admitting that a certain company of ringers rung at Shoreditch in honour of the Duke of Cumberland returning from Culloden, was this company a contingent of the London Scholars? and did they obtain the permission from royalty to affix the word "Royal" to their new title?' 3. 'Was the medal spoken of presented to them by the Duke or not?'

It would be interesting could these particulars be known. Of course it is within the discretion of any tag-rag collection of bell-haulers to dub themselves 'Royal' if they could obtain a 'job' to exhibit their skill (?) on a ring of bells while a seion of the royal house was passing by, but they would not be fairly entitled to the honour. Tradesmen, merchants, &c., patronised by her Majesty are wont to state the same upon their business notices, but permission in the first place has to be granted. The inhabitants of one of the fashionable towns in England were desirous, owing to some favour being shown them from the House of Brunswick, of having the word 'Royal' prefixed to the name of their town, but they supplicated royalty in the first instance for permission. If the same procedure has been gone through by the Cumberland Society at any period of their history, they must have documentary evidence which would be religiously preserved amongst their records; if they have not this evidence, then sufficient proof ought to be forthcoming to convince those who are anxious to enter into these interesting matters that this affix of 'Royal' is not a mere phantom.

AN OLD RINGER.

Steinyng, Sussex.

The bells of the fine old Norman Church of St. Andrew at the above ancient town are in process of repair, and the curate, the Rev. M. G. Vine, who takes a warm interest in the ringing there, doing his best to encourage the ringers in their work, in reply to our inquiries, writes:—'Our bells, six in number, being found to be unsafe, have been entirely rehung with new wheels, stocks, stays, &c., by Mr. J. Dalby, builder of Steinyng, under the direction and supervision of Messrs. Creed and Dalby, architects and surveyors, &c., of 40 Great Marlborough Street, London. The work, which is being beautifully executed, is nearly completed; in fact, the bells, almost entirely silent for some months, have already been tested and rung with the greatest success. A little more yet remains to be done to strengthen and improve the frame-work, and the tower has yet to be supplied with fresh louvres for the windows. With regard to the ringers and the ringing in Steinyng, the regular, seemly, and proper use of the bells and belfry is duly provided for. Our ringers are well-behaved young men, chiefly mechanics, and are regular in their attendance at church. They are not paid any fixed salaries, but every Christmas they make, with the vicar's support and sanction, an appeal to the inhabitants for some recognition of their services. I am glad to say that they receive a hearty support. With regard to the ringing, I am glad to be able to speak in the highest terms. Through the kindness of Colonel Ingram, a resident in this town, the ringers were instructed some time back in Change-ringing by Mr. H. Burstow, of Horsham, and are now able to ring peals as well as to chime. As a general rule, the bells are only chimed for the Sunday services; but throughout the winter months Change-ringing is practised twice a week. Your valuable and interesting paper is not unknown amongst us, being regularly perused by the ringers and others in this parish.'

From the above interesting account it will be seen that this Steinyng company of young ringers are, to use a hackneyed phrase, 'on the right road' and it is to be hoped that, while endeavouring to maintain their good name, they will strive to excel in the grand exercise of half-pull ringing. It is refreshing to hear such intelligence as the above extract from the letter conveys, but it would have afforded additional pleasure to the ringing community had we been able to chronicle at the same time the increase of the ring to eight bells. Amid the wealth of the neighbourhood we imagine that a strenuous effort made in this direction would be crowned with success.

Norwich Diocesan Association of Ringers.

A COMMITTEE Meeting of the above Association will be held at the Churchman's Club, Norwich, on Saturday, Nov. 9th, at 12 o'clock. I have by me two imperfect editions of an old work on Ringing, by 'J. Patrick and others.' Can any one give me the date of this work? In the first edition, Stedman's Principle appears under the suggestive title of 'Crambo.'

Tunstead Vicarage, Norwich.

G. H. HARRIS.

Dumb-bell Apparatus at Monkleigh, Devon.

AN apparatus, known as the dumb-bell practice apparatus, instructed by Mr. E. Seage, of Exeter, to assist learners in acquiring the art of scientific change-ringing, has recently been fixed by him in the church steeple of this village. The appliance has been successfully tested by the village ringers. The apparatus has now become prevalent in Devonshire and the locality, and has proved itself a great boon to ringers.

Change-ringing at Wollaston, Worcestershire.

ON Monday, the 14th ult., the Society of Change-ringers rang at St. James's Church, Wollaston, in 2 hrs. 7 mins., 3600 changes in the following methods, viz., Plain Bob Minor, Kent Treble Bob, Oxford Treble Bob, and two of Grandsire Minor. R. Bidmead, 1; J. Lewis, 2; H. Dakin, 3; W. Pugh, 4; G. Howell, 5; J. Coker, 6. Tenor, 13 cwt.

Ringling at St. Lawrence Church, Pudsey, Yorkshire.

ON Saturday, the 19th ult., five of the ringers connected with the above church, assisted by Messrs. Haley and Bolland of Tong, and B. A. Dodson of Birstall, rang 5856 changes of Kent Treble Bob Major. W. Sugden, 1; G. Bolland, 2; J. Ross, 3; J. A. Ross, 4; B. Bean, 5; B. A. Dodson, 6; J. Child, 7; J. Haley, 8. The peal, in three parts, is a composition by the late W. Estcourt of Painswick, and contains the extent of the 6th wrong and right. It was conducted by W. Sugden, and brought round in 3 hrs. 33 mins. Tenor, 16 cwt.

Muffled Touches at St. Nicholas, Great Yarmouth, Norfolk.

ON Saturday, the 19th ult., at 1 o'clock, the ringers of this town rang two touches of Grandsire, as a mark of esteem for their late Vicar, the Right Rev. Bishop Mackenzie, who was Vicar of Great Yarmouth from 1844 to 1848.

Date Touch at Huntsham, Devon.

ON Tuesday evening, the 22nd ult., the following members of the Society rang a date touch (received from Mr. E. Matthews of Macclesfield) of 1878 Grandsire Triples:—S. Davey, treble; H. Payne, 2; J. Norrish, 3; J. Heard, 4; H. Tucker, 5; W. Heard, 6; C. A. W. Troyte, Esq. (conductor), 7. Time, 1 hr. 4 mins.

Change-ringing at St. Mary-le-Tower, Ipswich, Suffolk.

ON Tuesday, the 22nd ult., ten members of the St. Mary-le-Tower Society of Change-ringers, also members of the Norwich Diocesan Association, rang a peal of Grandsire Caters, consisting of 5021 changes, in 3 hrs. 26 mins., in honour of the 17th anniversary of the appointment of the Rev. J. R. Turnock as Vicar of the parish. D. Prentice, 1; J. Fosdike, 2; *I. S. Alexander, 3; W. L. Catchpole, 4; *R. Brundell, 5; R. Hawes, 6; *H. Taylor, 7; *W. Kemp, 8; *E. Reeve, 9; E. Pemberton, 10. Tenor, 32 cwt. The peal was composed by Mr. J. Cox, and has 5-6 the full extent behind the 9th in the 'tittum' position, and was conducted by D. Prentice. It is worthy of remark that this is the first peal that has been rung in the present tower, and it is upwards of twenty-eight years since one has been accomplished in Ipswich. Several attempts have been made but have proved unsuccessful. This is also the first peal rung by those marked thus *, and the first peal on Ten by any of the members.

Change-ringing by the Yorkshire Association.

ON Wednesday, 23rd ult., a muffled peal of 5024 changes of Bob Major was rung at All Saints', Otley, in 2 hrs. 54 mins., as a tribute of respect to the memory of the late Mr. J. Richardson, one of the Otley Society and also a member of the Association, who was on that day interred at the Cemetery. C. Ralph, 1; J. Barraclough, 2; F. Maston, 3; L. Cawood, 4; T. Lockwood, 5; C. Craven (first peal), 6; J. McGoun, 7; J. W. Snowdon, 8. The peal, with the sixth 20 courses wrong and 24 right, was composed by T. Lockwood and conducted by Jasper W. Snowdon, Esq. Tenor, 16 cwt.

ON Saturday, 26th ult., at St. Lawrence, Pudsey, 6144 changes of Kent Treble Bob Major in 3 hrs. 43 mins. T. West, 1; T. Lockwood, 2; H. Hubbard, jun., 3; J. Whitaker, 4; W. Walker, 5; G. Barraclough, 6; J. Winder, 7; J. W. Snowdon, Esq., 8. The peal, which was in three parts, with a double bob at home at each course-end, and the fourth, fifth, and sixth bells their extent each way in 5-6, and is the first ever obtained or rung with these qualities, was composed and conducted by Tom Lockwood. Tenor, 16 cwt.

Date Touch at Daresbury, Cheshire.

ON Friday, the 25th ult., the Daresbury members of the Warrington District Association of Change-ringers rang at the parish church, in 1 hr. 10 mins., 1878 changes in the following six methods, viz. 30 Grandsire Doubles, 408 Grandsire Minor, 360 Kent Treble Bob, 360 College Single, 360 Oxford Treble Bob, and 360 Plain Bob. The ringers were—T. Houghton, sen., 1; P. Johnson, 2; T. Ellison, 3; P. Hamblett (conductor), 4; J. Ellison, 5; T. Houghton, jun., 6. Tenor, 12 cwt.

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

ON Saturday evening, the 26th ult., ten members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang at the above church a true peal of Stedman's Caters, containing 5079 changes, in 3 hrs. 28 mins. This peal was an original composition by Mr. H. Haley, sen., with 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, in regular succession behind the 9th. H. Haley, sen. (conductor), 1; W. Jones, 2; W. Tanner, 3; W. Cecil, 4; H. Haley, jun., 5; W. Cooter, 6; S. Reeves, 7; J. Pettit, 8; E. Horrex, 9; T. Bugby, 10.

RECEIVED ALSO.—H. S. Johnson; E. F. Cole; Reader; H. Williams; W. Pugh; G. Pope; R. Williams.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

THE NEW BELLS AT ST. PAUL'S.

THE November air was keen and chill, yet any one approaching St. Paul's on All Saints' afternoon would have been struck with the unwonted stir in the open space around the Cathedral, and on entering the church itself not only the vast area under the dome, but almost the whole length of the nave, was seen to be closely packed with people. It was evident that the dedication of the bells had interest not only for Londoners, but very many had travelled up from long distances to hear the bells ring out for the first time from the Cathedral of the Metropolis.

The ring just placed in the north-west tower of Wren's Cathedral consists of twelve bells in B flat, of which the 'tenor' (so called in campanology, though musically one would say 'the bass') weighs a little over three tons, and speaks the keynote. The notes of the other bells constitute a regular scale series, without chromatics, extending upwards through and beyond the octave to F; and are consequently of successively smaller weight and size. All are of English make, cast by Taylor of Loughborough. Several are gifts of City companies, Baroness Burdett-Coutts joining in the donation: the tenor is given by the Corporation.

The *Guardian* gives a graphic account of the scene, by 'J. C.', to which we are indebted for many particulars.

Evensong was sung by a full choir, including the now established complement of thirty choristers; and in recollection of what the choral services at St. Paul's used to be, much might be said here, were space available, of the devotional and musical beauty which now characterises them. Nothing in the service, however, except the sermon had reference to the dedication of the bells. In his discourse upon the first verse of the last of the Psalms the Rev. J. Povah spoke of them, mentioning the influence they had had upon the architecture of churches, the omission for 200 years to realise Wren's design of placing a ring in the western towers, and the consequent inability of the Cathedral authorities, even when the news came of Nelson's victory and death at Trafalgar, to give voice to the nation's joy and sorrow except by the tolling of a single great bell. Considering the thousands within sight who could not hear a word of the sermon, it might perhaps have been 'taken as read,' but that did not seem to occur to the preacher, though an occasional note from the belfry, where the bells were being rung up with clappers lashed, and set at back-stroke ready for the opening peal, might have reminded him. The thought occurred that the bells might have spoken with fine and solemn effect, during the service itself, had it been so ordered, and the immense congregation might thus have been made participators in their solemn dedication.

But a less public ceremonial had been decided on. Evensong concluded, the choir, the Cathedral clergy, and the Bishop of London, made their way in procession through the dense mass of people to the south-western corner of the building, Dr. Stainer, the organist, leading the way, and Mr. Hodge playing the 'March of Priests' in Mendelssohn's music to *Athalie*. The procession passed through the door at the foot of what is called the Geometrical Staircase, and was lost to the sight or hearing of all but a few privileged persons, who followed the choir and clergy, not indeed to the ringing-chamber, where the dedication took place, but to a room immediately below, and separated from it by a wooden floor, through which the prayers and hymns were audible. The Bishop of London, with the Rev. F. H. Fisher (Vicar of Fulham, a well-known belfry reformer) as his chaplain, Dean Church, Bishop Cloughton (Archdeacon of London), and the Rev. Canons Russell, Milman, Povah, Simpson, Webber, Coward, Cadman, and Lupton, with organist and choristers, threaded their way in surplices up the narrow winding staircase, and, forming a group in the centre of the ringing chamber, took their appointed part in a form of service which had been printed and distributed.

Though we gave the principal part of the service last week, we think it well to repeat it, as it may be useful to our readers for future reference.

The service began with the versicles and responses which stand in the Prayer-book immediately after the Lord's Prayer: then followed four Psalms, chanted by the choir, *De Profundis*, *Deus misereatur*, *Afferte Domino*, and *Laudate Dominum* (cl.). The last, it may be observed, contains what is probably the nearest approach in Scripture to a reference to bells in the verse, 'Praise Him upon the well-tuned cymbals; praise Him upon the loud cymbals.' The Lord's Prayer was then said, preceded by the versicles which stand immediately before it in matins and evensong, after which the following versicles and prayers were used:—

V. O Lord, show Thy mercy upon us.

R. And grant us Thy salvation.

V. Sing we merrily unto God our strength.

R. Make a cheerful noise unto the God of Jacob.

V. O praise God in His holiness.

R. Praise Him in the firmament of His power.

V. Praise Him upon the well-tuned cymbals.

R. Praise Him upon the loud cymbals.

V. I was glad when they said unto me,

R. We will go into the House of the Lord.

O Everlasting God, Whom no man hath seen at any time, although Thou dost speak to the souls of men through the things that Thou hast made;

receive, we beseech Thee, these Bells which are offered by Thy people for the service of Thy Holy Church, and bless them to the spiritual well-being of Thy servants, that they may remind us of Thy presence in life and in death. Do Thou mercifully visit our souls with solemn and holy thoughts; sanctify our trials and sorrows; brighten and chasten our joys; so that amid the changes of this mortal life we may in heart and mind ever dwell with Thee, and may at the last enter into Thy eternal rest, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with Thee and the Holy Ghost liveth and reigneth, ever one God, world without end. *Amen*.

O Lord, Who by Thy servant Moses didst order that silver trumpets should be sounded at the time of sacrifice, to the end that Thy people Israel might be drawn to worship Thee; grant, we beseech Thee, that we who have been redeemed by the Blood of Thy only-begotten Son, may joyfully obey the call to meet together in Thy Holy Church, to render thanks for the great benefits which we have received at Thy hands, to set forth Thy most worthy praise, to hear Thy most holy Word, and to ask those things which are requisite and necessary, as well for the body as the soul. Grant this, O Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, Thy Son, our Lord. *Amen*.

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

Grant, O Lord, that whosoever, by reason of sickness or any other necessity, shall be hindered from coming into the House of the Lord, may, when he hears these Bells, in heart and mind ascend to Thee, and find with Thee peace and comfort, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen*.

Grant, O Lord, that all they who minister to Thy service in sounding these Bells, may be filled with all reverence and godly fear, and may be mindful ever of the sacredness of Thy house, putting away all idle thoughts and light behaviour, and continuing in holiness of life, so that they may stand with those who praise Thee evermore in the heavenly Jerusalem, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen*.

A hymn was then sung, No. 303 in *Hymns A. & M.*, 'When morning gilds the skies.' There is an allusion to 'the sweet church bell' in its second stanza; and its tune, if not actually bell-like, has an exceptionally constant motion of the parts—even at points where, in the *chorale* type of hymn-tune, there is no motion—which might bear distant comparison to the rhythm of chimes. The Collect for St. Paul's Day having been read, the Bishop of London gave the usual Blessing to the little kneeling congregation, above which there rose the stalwart forms of the ringers leaning on their ropes.

There was a moment's pause, then the Bishop of London gave the word 'Go!' to the circle of ringers; thirteen pairs of strong arms began to pull in concert, and down came a shower of music, bright, soft, and mellow. The bells had spoken. In and around the ringing chamber, to which the few persons invited were now admitted, men's tongues were loosened in delight, as the twelve bells, swinging this way and that, again and again ran down the gamut, not as yet disporting in changes, but trying their voices in a plain round peal. The ringers were thirteen men of the College Youths, two to the tenor bell; stalwart fellows all, and visibly possessed with that power of concentrated attention to work in hand, without which a man cannot be a good bell-ringer, and by means of which alone great or pleasing results can be achieved by a plurality of workers. Each man, stripped to his shirt, stood on a small square platform, with his foot in a leathern strap: to the tenor bell there was a branched rope, and one of its ringers stood on the platform, the other on the floor of the chamber. Up rushed the ropes through the ceiling, for the back-strokes; and down again danced the coloured 'sallies' for the handstrokes; each rope having a cushion placed on the floor for it to fall upon. In a few minutes the head-ringer gave a word of command, and the ringing came to a first period. 'Well stopped!' exclaimed Dr. Stainer, with delight; but it was a premature congratulation, for the tenor hesitated in the hands of his two ringers, and instead of leaning to rest on his stay, as a good bell should, came swinging round again, and spoke twice alone, breaking the neatness of the first performance, but giving the thousands of listeners an opportunity of hearing his voice clear of competition. He is a rich, sonorous fellow, filling the air with his big B flat, and fit in every way to play the part of perpetual pedal to the varying melodies of his lighter companions in round ringing, or to be 'turned in' for a 'touch' of a more advanced character.

After the first stop, a consultation between Dr. Stainer and the chief ringer resulted in fixing the programme of 'changes.' Change-ringing, the reader may need to be told, is a very different matter from round-ringing. Mr. Troyte, in his book on the subject, goes so far as to say that 'round-ringing, from its monotonous nature, in most cases leads to the ringers being drunkards;' while 'change-ringing, from the great mental application required, is almost sure to lead to steady and quiet behaviour.' Accordingly all present, except the ringers, were now given the alternative of strict silence or departure, and the more serious work began of ringing a peal of Stedman's Cinques, in regard to which, and similar advanced forms of ringing, Troyte says—'One mistake generally brings the whole thing to grief, it being almost impossible for the conductor to put a careless ringer in his place again.' These went on for over an hour. The air was clear, and the night fine; hundreds stood in St. Paul's Churchyard listening. Such a peal, or 'touch,' is, however, but a small leaf out of the musical repertory of such a set of bells: to exhaust Cinques, Troyte calculates, would take three years and sixty days; while to ring all the changes upon twelve bells ('Maximus') would take thirty-seven years; some say ninety.

The new bells at St. Paul's have not been connected with the clock, nor do they, in any proper sense, constitute a carillon. The fears frequently expressed, that the nightly rest of those who sleep in the City will be disturbed by the frequent discharge of a volley of tunes, have, therefore, no present foundation. To develop the plain English peal now inaugurated into a 'carillon,' as understood in Belgium, smaller bells, giving chromatic semitones, must be added, to the number of from ten to twenty, and further apparatus must be fixed.

The names of the first ringers of the bells of St. Paul's, who stood in the following order, were as follows:—H. W. Haley, sen.; H. Haley, jun.; W. Cooter; J. Pettit; G. Mash; R. Haworth; G. Ferris; J. Dwight; E. Horrex; G. A. Muskett; M. A. Wood; J. M. Hayes; with G. Dorrington, S. Reeves, and W. Jones. The tenor, 62 cwt., requiring two. Many bell-ringers were present from great distances; and amongst amateurs of the art, Mr. Troyte, the Rev. R. Cattley, and the Rev. Augustus Sutton.

THE Bishop of London sent the following manly and sensible letter to the *Times*, which had a foolish sneer at what it called 'blessing the bells':—

'The service at which I was present in the belfry of St. Paul's on Friday, and to which you have alluded in a tone half of banter, half of blame, has been called, and I suppose will be called, "the blessing of the bells." The bells, however, themselves were not blessed. The prayers used, which appeared to me, and I think were felt by all who heard them, appropriate and touching, asked that these bells might in their use be blessed to the spiritual well-being of God's servants, reminding them of His presence in life and death, suggesting solemn and holy thoughts, calling effectually to the services of the Church, and bearing to those detained at home by sickness or necessity reminiscences of the peace and comfort of the sanctuary. Who shall say that such hints as these, as from above, may not be helpful from time to time to many of the busy and anxious crowd which is perpetually hurrying round the cathedral of our great city? The service itself was of the same character with those in common use at the laying the first stone of churches, schools, and mission-rooms, and, indeed, at the consecration of churches and churchyards; and with that familiar "grace before meals" which most of us have heard repeatedly from our youth, and which I trust to hear at times as long as I live—"Bless, O Lord, these Thy gifts to our use, and us to Thy service." In all these cases the blessing asked is not on the material objects, but on the persons for whose use or advantage they are provided. If such prayers are superstitions, I gladly plead guilty to superstition.'

Dr. Stainer, Organist of St. Paul's, thus writes in reply to Mr. Haweis's criticisms:—"As one of the St. Paul's Bells Committee, whose name has been incidentally mentioned in connexion with the new peal, I shall be obliged if you will allow me to say a few words in reply to Mr. Haweis's letter. No one can deny that he is quite right in seeking for a third, fifth, and octave as a test of the tone of a good bell. But I cannot acquiesce in his theory, that these are to be found uniformly by tapping the bell two thirds up, near the top, and elsewhere. This may be found a fairly useful "rule of thumb" to a Belgian workman, but it certainly ought not to be dogmatically asserted in the *Encyclopædia Britannica* without some scientific support. The only place where a bell should be struck is on the sound-bow itself; if the bell is good, it will generally show the existence of a third or other harmonious partials; if it is bad, inharmonic partials will abound and the "beats" will result in discord. Would Mr. Haweis test a Stradivarius violin by bowing it below the bridge? When properly tested on the sound-bow, there will be found a remarkable purity of tone throughout the St. Paul's peal; all have a proper admixture of the "third." I confess that I am much surprised that Mr. Haweis thinks our bells get sharper as they ascend. He says 11 is sharp with 12, 10 with 11, 8 with 9, 6 and 7 with 8; or rather this is what he should have said; in reality he turned the peal upside down, and rendered his letter well-nigh unintelligible to ringers, calling No. 12, No. 1, and so on. This impression, that the bells are getting sharper and sharper, is the first criticism made by a novice when he stands for the first time close to a diatonic series of bells. The reason is obvious. It is found by experience that if the theoretical ratio of diameter and thickness is carried out, the tone of the upper portion of a peal becomes unbearably dull and weak. In order to remedy this, more metal is thrown into bells proportionately as they get smaller; hence their tone gets brighter and brighter as new high partial tones are brought into the composition of the tone. This alteration in *timbre* is constantly mistaken for an alteration in pitch, and the first lesson to be learnt in judging bells is to eradicate this very natural misconception. Lest Mr. Haweis should think this system of weights peculiar to English founders, I ought to say it was brought most forcibly under my notice when testing, in Louvain, S. Van Aerschoot's carillon cast for the Duke of Westminster. I believe any person without previous experience would have asserted, if standing by the bells, that they grew sharper as they grew smaller until they were positively out of tune. But they are in excellent tune, and when heard at Eaton Hall I am sure they will fully bear out the high praise I bestowed on them when giving my certificate under the contract. Indeed, I am not far behind Mr. Haweis in my admiration for Belgian bells, only I see no reason whatever why English bell-founders should not, if encouraged, produce just as good specimens, if only they will buy good metal, never let a doubtful casting go out of the foundry, give up the old short-waisted form, and bring the thickness of the sound-bow into a respectable ratio to the diameter. All this has been complied with in the St. Paul's bells, of which Londoners will some day be proud. They are in excellent tune, and capitally hung, and many of them, notably 5, 8, 10, and 12, not inferior in any degree to bells of the same weight in Belgium.

The following has also been sent to the *Times*:—

Sir,—I have hitherto abstained from taking any part in the controversy going on about bells, leaving the self-constituted authorities to settle their differences, and trusting to my bells to speak for themselves. I have no desire

to depreciate the work of other founders, but the allusion to my firm in Sir Edmund Beckett's letter in this day's *Times* compels me to break my silence. As regards 'Big Ben' of Westminster, which Sir Edmund Beckett criticises so severely, I will only say it was made under that gentleman's superintendence from metal sent here by Her Majesty's Commissioners of Works, and approved by Sir Edmund Beckett (then Mr. Denison) before it was hung.

In conclusion, I will refer to any peal I have made during the last ten years I have had the management of this foundry; and have no reason to be ashamed of the works of my predecessors, many of their bells being in London and the neighbourhood, amongst them the famous bells of Bow, Cheapside. I am willing to make a peal of bells of any size in competition with any English or Belgian founder, or all of them, and leave the award to competent judges. As Sir Edmund Beckett acknowledges he knows nothing about tune, I do not think he would be a competent judge of the quality of bells. The Worcester bells are evidence of Canon Cattley's knowledge of music.

ROB. STAINBANK (MEARS & STAINBANK).

Bell Foundry, Whitechapel, October 31, 1878.

Change-ringing at Long Eaton, Derbyshire.

ON Tuesday evening, 29th ult., six members of the St. Lawrence Society of Ringers met at the parish church, and rang a 720 of Plain Bob Minor in 25 mins., being a variation by Mr. Joseph Barrow on one originally composed by the celebrated Mr. Benjamin Annable of London, in the year 1735. S. Wilson, 1; A. Widdowson, 2; R. Daff, 3; S. Clarke, 4; W. Gilson, 5; J. Barrow, 6 (conductor). This is the first 720 rung by the Society.

Change-ringing by the Yorkshire Association.

ON Saturday, the 2nd inst., at St. Michael's, Headingley, Leeds, the Headingley branch of the Society rang, in 3 hrs. 1 min., a peal of 5040 changes, consisting of seven parts of 720 changes each, in the seven following Treble Bob Minor variations, being the first peal of 5000 ever rung on the bells:—Merchants' Delight, 1; Woodbine, 2; Duke of York, 3; Kent, 4; Violet, 5; New London Pleasure, 6; Oxford, 7. The ringers were:—J. Tooke, 1; J. Brittain (conductor), 2; W. Moxon, 3; W. Brittain, 4; H. Lord, 5; C. Moxon, 6. Tenor, 12 cwt.

Change-ringing at Lees, Oldham, Lancashire, by the Rochdale and District Association.

ON Saturday, the 2nd inst., four members from St. Mary's, together with four members from St. Mark's, Glodwick, Oldham, rang Mr. John Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, in 2 hrs. 54½ mins. J. Wilkinson, 1; W. Kenworthy, 2; J. Whittaker, 3; G. H. Beever (conductor), 4; S. Stott, 5; J. Gartside, 6; W. Ashworth, 7; B. Tinley, 8. Tenor, 14 cwt.

Change-ringing at Greenwich, Kent.

ON Saturday evening, the 2nd inst., the following members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang at the Church of St. Alphege, Greenwich, a true peal of Kent Treble Bob Royal, containing 5040 changes, in 3 hrs. 28 mins. E. Horrex, 1; W. Cecil, 2; S. Reeves, 3; W. Collings, 4; T. Dixon, 5; G. Ferris, 6; R. French, 7; W. Howard (of York), 8; F. Bate, 9; G. Breed (of York), 10. Composed by Mr. W. Garrard of Ipswich, and conducted by Mr. T. Dixon.

Change-ringing at Long Melford, Suffolk.

ON Saturday, 2nd inst., six of the Glemsford Society of Change-ringers, with H. Thompson and G. Maxim of Cavendish, rang at the above church a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major, containing 5120 changes, in 3 hrs. 20 mins. John Slater, 1; C. Honeybell, 2; Z. Slater, 3; S. Slater, 4; H. Thompson, 5; F. Wells, 6; P. Adams, 7; G. Martin, 8. The peal was composed by J. Reeves and conducted by P. Adams.

Warrington District Association of Change-ringers, Lancashire.

ON Saturday, the 2nd inst., the Daresbury members of the above Association met at St. Paul's Church, Warrington, and rang a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob in 27½ mins. T. Houghton, sen., 1; P. Johnson, 2; T. Ellison, 3; P. Hamblett, 4; J. Ellison, 5; T. Houghton, jun. (conductor), 6. Tenor, 16 cwt.

Change-ringing at St. Mary's, Stanstead, Essex.

AT the Afternoon Service on Sunday, the 3rd inst., four of the ringers connected with the above church, assisted by Messrs. Hayes of Gravesend, Kent, and Tucker of Bishop's Stortford, Herts, rang a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor in 26½ mins., and 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor in 27 mins. J. Cabel, 1; H. Prior, 2; J. Luckey, 3; C. Prior, 4; H. J. Tucker, 5 (his first in the above method); S. Hayes, 6. Tenor, 13 cwt.

Durham Diocesan Association of Ringers.

THE next General Meeting will be held on Monday, Nov. 25, at Newcastle-on-Tyne. A dinner will be provided (at 1s. per head to members only) at the Waverley Hotel, Pilgrim Street, at half-past one o'clock, and members intending to dine are requested to send their names to the Secretary not later than Monday, Nov. 18. Ringers arriving by the morning trains are requested to go to the Waverley Hotel, where the members of the Newcastle branch will be in attendance to conduct them to the different belfries of the town. Members of the Committee are requested to meet at the Waverley Hotel at one o'clock.

G. J. CLARKSON, Hon. Sec.

Brunswick Street, Stockton-on-Tees.

R. WILLIAMS, JUN., Liverpool.—The peal you have sent us appears to be merely a variation of the old 'Bob-and-Single' peal, with additional singles. As the same thing has been so frequently done by others, thereby divesting your work of any originality, we do not think it advisable to insert it. We are afraid that the method is exhausted so far as the production of a genuine new peal is concerned.

RECEIVED ALSO.—W. Ireland; G. H. Harris; Evesham; Huntsham; C. Clement; and others.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

ST. PAUL'S BELLS.

THE REV. H. R. HAWEIS has the following reply in the *Times* :—

'St. Paul's bells have sounded. I have criticised them. Sir Edmund Beckett has defended the hanging, Dr. Stainer the tuning. Alas! the bells seem quite good enough for the English people. I feared it might be so, and perhaps I should now keep silence; but, as I can give a little more useful information to the Bell Committee, I may as well do it in the form of a reply to Sir Edmund Beckett and to Dr. Stainer.

'The leader in the *Times* of the 31st of October assumes that, as regards the tuning of the bells, "Mr. Haweis is on one side and Sir Edmund Beckett on the other." Hardly. Sir Edmund knows nothing about music or tune, and says so. He "never presumes to decide" upon almost the only important question—the tune. He leaves that to Dr. Stainer. I should have been glad had this eminent authority on clocks also left the quality of Belgian bells to Dr. Stainer, who says he is "not far behind me in his admiration of them."

'Now, as to Belgian quality. Sir Edmund condemns the Belgian bells at Boston; but neither he nor Mr. Raven (see the *Times*, 9th of November, 1878), who is also down on the Boston bells, seems to know their curious secret history. *What is known* is this—that 36 new bells and the old tenor (recast) are by Van Aerschodt, and came from Louvain; that they are not very good, and do not mix well with the old peal of eight bells. *What is not known* is this—that the drawings and plan for the Boston bells were made by Severin van Aerschodt; but the bells were cast by his brother, André Louis, who, on the authority of Mr. Denyn, the greatest living carillonneur, "is a distinctly inferior maker." M. Severin van Aerschodt rubs his hands ament these bells. He once said to me, laughing, "My brother had my designs, but he could not cast my bells." I agree with Mr. Raven that there are good English bells; but I add—few such by contemporary makers—still fewer in tune with each other.

'I am surprised that Dr. Stainer thinks with Sir E. Beckett that if our bell-founders can only get the right metal and proportions they will be able to cast away briskly like the Belgians. Unfortunately, with all our "scientific support," we cannot turn out as briskly as we could wish violins like Stradivarius, or bells like Hemony and Van den Gheyn.

'But Sir Edmund writes as if he had never heard any good Belgian bells. One would almost think that he had never set foot in Belgium. I turn to his book, *Lectures on Church Building*, chapter on bells. I find no mention of Dutch or Belgian bells. He does not like French bells; and I agree with him as a rule; but of Hemony and Dumery and Van den Gheyn, the men who, after all, determined the grand pattern, he says not a word, as who should write concerning the violin, and forget to mention the Cremonese school.

'Now, as to English hanging. Sir Edmund asks, first, "What is the objection to casting large bells without a head or bunch of loops, called canons, to hang them by, and to cut the stock to pieces?" For I objected to the flat heads and bolts through the crown of the first four of St. Paul's peal. I answer in the words of Severin van Aerschodt, in a letter dated Louvain, 29th of October, 1878:—"Le système de suspension sans oreilles ou attaches aux cloches est nuisible pour la vibration et surtout pour l'octave, vu que le mouton en bois repose sur la cloche et l'empêche de vibrer. Les trous qui se trouvent dans la tête de la cloche sont souvent la cause qu'elle se fêle, et cette fêlure commence par le haut de la cloche." So that Sir Edmund's method ends in checking the vibration and splitting the bell, according to a founder who has had "vastly more experience in such matters in a practical way" than ever Sir Edmund Beckett.

'Second. "Why are designers and makers to attend to all that Mr. Haweis and 'others' (and who are the 'others?') have written against even 'thin boards' or 'discontinuous wedges' between bell-frame and tower, or 'allowing the frame to touch the walls?'" Well, by this post I have a letter from the churchwarden of Alrewas, Lichfield, saying that their tower wall, so wedged by Messrs. Taylor of Loughborough, has, in fact, so split.

'The names of other split towers which Sir Edmund Beckett demands are legion. Mr. Street writes,—"I have seen many so damaged." Mr. Gilbert Scott writes,—"I have scarcely ever examined an ancient church tower which I have not found shattered by the use of a bell-frame constructed on the ordinary principle." He sends me a list, "enlarged to hundreds if required"—Christchurch, Oxford (suffered); Crudwell, Wilts; St. Peter's, Ipswich (shattered); and others that had to be rebuilt—e.g., Driffield, York; Great Gaddesden, Herts; Reigate, &c. But, fortunately, one of the "others" after whom Sir Edmund Beckett inquires, is Sir Edmund Beckett himself, who in his book above referred to, page 271, says:—"Every architect, as well as every bell-founder, knows that a bell-frame ought not to touch the walls; and that many a tower has been seriously damaged by parish carpenters making the frame steady by wedging it against the wall."

'Third. "Will Mr. Haweis impart to us his secret for preventing the lateral thrust of the bells from reaching walls somewhere, except by building up what is, in fact, an internal tower from the bottom, as at St. Michael's, Coventry?" The italics are the answer.

'I am glad to hear from Mr. Gilbert Scott that this plan for the bell-frame

is to be, in fact, adopted in the hanging of Severin van Aerschodt's new carillons for Cattistock Church, Dorchester.

'And now as to tuning. I infer from my friend Dr. Stainer's letter that I am right and that I am wrong. I am right in seeking for a third, a fifth, and the octave in a good bell; I am wrong in asserting too generally, "without scientific support," that I shall get these by tapping the bell in certain places: but, still, it is admitted that my method, though scientifically unsupported, is "useful," and it is certainly the method adopted by Belgian experts. Why, then, "ought" I not "in the *Encyclopædia Britannica*" (a work written for practical purposes) to have given such a practical test?

'That, to elicit a pure tone, a bell should be struck on the sound-bow and a violin played on the right side of the bridge, are truths, not to say platitudes; though why a good bell should not always, but only "generally," show the existence of a third, is no more obvious than why Stradivarius (not Straduarus) should not always, but only "generally," have his name spelt right.

'My numbering of the bells from bottom to top, instead of from top to bottom, was intentional. Dr. Stainer complains that this confuses the bell-ringers. I was writing for musicians, who usually begin, "Do, re, mi," &c. When I point out that some of St. Paul's bells are too sharp, Dr. Stainer imagines that I mistake the *timbre*, or quality of a bell, for its *pitch* or tune. He has recently learned, correctly enough, in Severin van Aerschodt's foundry, which I have frequented for eight years, and was the first to make known to Dr. Stainer, how that we must beware of the sharp-bell trap into which a "novice" usually falls; how more metal in proportion has to be thrown in for small bells to increase the number of high upper partials, and make the bells sound "bright," and how "brightness" may be mistaken for "sharpness." Eight years ago M. Severin gave me a little bell illustrating this. All this, it seems, was pointed out to Dr. Stainer when lately inspecting the bells cast by my advice for the Duke of Westminster by Severin van Aerschodt.

'It may be, then, that Dr. Stainer, whose ear has been trained in more accurate musical progressions than we can perhaps ever hope to attain on bells, is himself a novice in bells, and as such he would be especially on his guard against pitfalls which more experienced travellers estimate at their right value. Thus, he would naturally be on the look-out for, and most lenient towards, all sharp bells, which he would have a tendency to call bright; but I would in that case ask him "to eradicate such a very natural misconception." If the first lesson a novice learns is to distinguish between bright *timbre* and sharp *pitch*, the second is to call things by their right names; and whatever weight of metal or proportions a little bell may have, if to the normal and experienced ear not "standing by the bells," but at the foot of the tower, it sound sharp with another bell when struck in a third of an octave, the novice must not assume that the ear is wrong, but that the bell is out of tune.

'I allow that the presence of certain upper partials in some bells will often confuse even a fine ear, and, as a rule, organists do not expect much from bells. I remember being struck, after my strictures on the Westminster quarters (*Contemporary Review*, 1870), at a saying of Sir Stensole Bennett, that he thought they were "in very fair tune"—he meant "for bells," no doubt—in short, he was a novice in bells, and hardly thought of them as musical notes at all. A distinguished musical critic in the *Athenæum* (December 30, 1871) ridiculed my notion that bells could be musically discussed. He thought it "odd." Yet my "odd" notions have been adopted for all that.

'But let me invite Dr. Stainer to go to Mechlin, where in the St. Rumbolt's Tower, among a very few obviously poor bells, he will find a large suit of Hemony's best small bells—and Petrus Hemony is famous for small bells, just as the Van den Gheyns (particularly Peter, c. 1630) are for large ones. There let him stand by the barrel and pull the wires of the last twenty bells in thirds or octaves, and he will see the difference between some little "bright" bells and those other little "bright" bells which, as he says, "seem to grow sharper as they grow smaller, and they are positively out of tune."

'Now, I like quality as well as Sir Edmund Beckett and Dr. Stainer. But, musically, I contend that good tune is even more important; and if I am to choose between a dull bell in tune and a "bright" bell out of tune, I prefer the dull bell; but Hemony's bells are bright and in tune. So are not Taylor's of Loughborough.

'It is no more apology for sharp bells to say that they seem sharp when they sound sharp, but are really "excellently in tune," as Dr. Stainer says. St. Paul's bells are, than to tell me that my boot is a comfortable fit although it seems to pinch; and I believe there is only one way of dealing with such an obstinate foot or such an obstinate ear—namely, by deforming the one and depraving the other.

'Lastly, peal-ringing is not the "aerial art" that I advocate, although it is a healthy and popular British exercise. In large towns it is barely tolerable even for a quarter of an hour before Divine service. We have still to learn that twelve heavy bells jangling triple bobs and grandsire caters may be torture, where twelve heavy bells, dividing the musical honours with thirty others varying in weight from one ton to a few hundredweight, in a fragment of Handel, Mozart, or Gounod, may be, as it is when it streams from the Mechlin steeple, delightful and recreative.

'Twelve bells are in St. Paul's north tower; the sister tower stands empty. I still hope to see Dr. Stainer (as I have seen M. Denyn at Mechlin) seated there at a noble carillon clavessin of forty Belgian bells, whose melodious tongues will then utter aloud the open secrets of the great Tone-poets, while the mute crowd below, instead of melting away beneath the scourge of treble bobs, shall be rapt in wonder,

'Listening to the lordly music
Flowing from the illimitable years.'

Evesham, Worcestershire.

THIS old-fashioned market-town contains some interesting features in connexion with its churches, those of St. Lawrence and All Saints being situated on either side of the parish churchyard, and separated only by a narrow but

picturesque footpath leading to the handsome square bell-tower, of magnificent dimensions, which, standing alone, afar off, fills a prominent position in the surrounding landscape. This tower, which has a ring of eight bells, is, with the exception of an old Gothic archway, all that remains of the Abbey of Evesham. Our reminiscences of this town, as far as ringing matters are concerned, are anything but agreeable. Scientific half-pull ringing, at the time we speak of (1866), was unknown in the place, the ringers and the system of ringing in vogue being veritably of the 'old sort'—a definition which our readers will no doubt understand—and no intelligence has yet reached us of any signs of a healthy movement being made in the direction of belfry reform in the town of Evesham. Our attention has been drawn to this part of the Midland district by the fact that a new clock and set of chimes, at a cost of nearly 2000*l.*, has just been erected in the Abbey Tower. Messrs. Gillett and Bland were entrusted with the work, and they appear to have given satisfaction. The quarter chimes are the 'Westminster,' and there are seven tunes 'pricked' upon the barrel, it being arranged that a change in the tunes can be effected daily, that for Sunday being the old favourite 'Hanover.' The clock faces (east and west fronts) have been regilded by a local artist; and the whole of the arrangement of the chimes and clock has been examined officially by the Church authorities, who expressed their satisfaction at the successful conclusion of the work. To fully complete their task, we beg to suggest to the worthy Vicar and Churchwardens the advisability of rehanging the bells, and organizing a new company of young ringers, who should be trained by an efficient person to ring at all times 'decently and in order.'

Muffled Peal at Aylsham, Norfolk.

On Friday, the 25th ult., the Aylsham and Marsham Company (members of the Norwich Diocesan Association of Change-ringers) rang at St. Michael's, Aylsham, a muffled peal of Bob Major, as a tribute of respect and regard to the memory of the late James Truman, one of the leading ringers of St. Peter Mancroft, Norwich, and a much-respected friend of the Aylsham Company.

It will be interesting, we feel sure, to many an old ringer to see a few lines in memory of one who used to be well known and respected in the ringing world—the late James Truman. The old man had been in failing health for the last two years, and on Sunday, Oct. 20, at the age of seventy, he died. On the following Friday he was buried in the Cemetery, and in the evening the St. Peter's Company rang a muffled touch of Stedman's Caters. We know but little of his early history, though he was born in Norwich; but he must have commenced ringing at an early age, for in 1831 we find him ringing with the St. Peter's Company in a peal of Double Norwich Court Bob Major in the tower of St. Michael Coslany. From this time his name repeatedly appears in the list of peal-ringers, and in 1841 we find him conducting a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major, while in 1844 he was the conductor of that far-famed peal of 7126 of Stedman's Cinques in the tower of St. Peter (tenor, 41 cwt.; time, 5 hrs. 17 mins.). He seems to have rung in various peals in different towers from time to time for several years after this; but gradually the peal-ringing of the St. Peter's Company became less frequent, and now it is many years since the last peal was rung. Mr. Truman was much pleased at the formation and progress of the Diocesan Association of Ringers, as he felt sure that it must tend to what he had long wished to see—a revival of the art of ringing. In his younger days—before he became the clerk of the parish—he was very fond of visiting the neighbouring churches when they were within a reasonable (to him) walking distance; but he always allowed himself time to reach the church before the commencement of Divine Service, and after the service he would join the ringers in a pull. May a worthy successor be elected to the post which he occupied so many years! G. H. H.

St. Paul's Cathedral Bells.

Sir,—In your last week's issue of *Church Bells* you favoured its readers with a copy of Dr. Stainer's letter to the *Times*, in which he states that the new ring of bells is in correct tune. Being a practical church-bell tuner myself, I beg to differ with the learned organist in that respect, and having sent a letter on the subject to the *Times* in reply, I consider the editor has not acted fairly to me, or to the public, in not publishing it. I therefore ask you kindly to allow me in your next paper the privilege of giving my opinion of the ring; and in doing so I am also echoing the opinions of many of the best ringers of England who have heard the bells. And I commence my criticisms by saying the bells are not in tune together. I am prepared to maintain that the treble is too sharp for the 2nd, and the 2nd too sharp for the 3rd; hence the disagreeable clang which is heard from those two bells, by any one with a sensitive ear who may be standing westward of the tower, listening to the ringing. The middle bells are fairly in tune with each other, although not the perfection of tuning, but the tenor bell is undoubtedly too flat for all the others. And although not so noticeable at the first ringing on account of the bell not being sufficiently heard, yet on the second occasion of being tried, and to test the power of its tone, the clapper being put on the 'wrong side,' the flatness was painfully evident, producing sensations of disgust rather than of pleasure expected. Of course Dr. Stainer, I take it for granted, is principally responsible for the tuning, and would wish to make his judgment right in the matter, but many organists and first-class musicians have most egregiously failed from time to time in their attempts to tune bells, so that the doctor does not stand alone in not being unquestionably successful. During more than forty years' experience in bell-founding, tuning, and hanging, I think I may say I have had not a few difficulties in deciding about the tune of bells, and can make allowance for minor faults in any ring, but that St. Paul's ring, which ought to have been as near perfection as possible, should be not only to my ear, but to all who can judge truly of bell-music, so very inferior in harmony to that of St. Saviour's, Southwark, is indeed a calamity. 267 Whitechapel Road. W. WARSKITT.

Date Touch by the Norwich Association.

On Tuesday evening, the 29th ult., the Diss Branch of the above Asso-

ciation rang at St. Mary's, Diss, 1878 changes of Kent Treble Bob Major, in 1 hr. 18 mins. Composed by Mr. W. Sottanstell, Yorkshire, and conducted by W. Ireland. Tenor, 24 cwt. Key D.

Date Touch at Huntsham, Devon.

On Wednesday evening, the 30th ult., eight members of the Huntsham Change-ringing Society rang 1878 Grandsire Triples in 1 hr. 6 min.—Composed by H. Tucker and conducted by C. A. W. Troyte, Esq.

All Saints, Sherburn, Yorkshire.

THE bells of this church, having long been in a dilapidated state, have lately been restored by Mr. Mallaby of Masham. Two of the ring of six have been recast and the others retuned, and all rehung in a new massive oak cage. The bells were opened on All Saints' Day, by the native ringers first chiming for an early celebration at 8 o'clock, and rung for the service at 10. During the day a select band from Leeds rang several 720's of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob Minor and Plain Bob Minor, and other touches. The tenor is 15 cwt. Festival services were held at 3 p.m., when the Ven. Archdeacon Hey was the preacher, and at 7 the Rev. F. Lawrence of York preached. Many clergy from the neighbourhood were present and took part in the services.

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

On Tuesday, 5th inst., the following members of the Burnley Society of Change-ringers rang the first half of Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, consisting of 2520 changes, in 1 hr. 29 mins.:—N. Smith (conductor), 1; J. Gregson, 2; J. Hartley, 3; John Pollard, 4; T. Holden, 5; W. Briggs, 6; M. Bridge, 7; Jas. Pollard, 8. Tenor, 17½ cwt.

Change-ringing at Barrow-in-Furness, Lancashire.

On Thursday evening, 7th inst., at St. James's Church, Barrow-in-Furness, was rung Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, consisting of 5040 changes, in 2 hrs. 48 mins. The amateur change-ringers were J. Hill, 1; J. Higginson (conductor), 2; C. Pass, 3; S. Kendall (aged 16), 4; S. Brotherton, 5; J. Mercer, 6; J. Wilson, 7; R. Bowker, 8. Tenor, 15½ cwt. This Society commenced the practice of Grandsire Triples on May 25, 1878, and succeeded in ringing a quarter-peal on Sept. 23, and a half-peal on Oct. 12. An effort is being made by this Society to form an Amalgamated Association of Change-ringers in this district, having for its objects the improvement of change-ringing generally, and also the status of ringers. It may also be stated that the above peal is the first that has ever been rung in this district, and that, with the exception of the conductor, none of the members knew anything of change-ringing previous to joining this Society.

Dedication of Church Bells, Charing, Kent.

THE dedication service of a ring of six bells (the gift of Bishop Tufnell) was held here on the 7th inst. There was a numerous attendance. Bishop Tufnell conducted the service, after which a peal was rung by the ringers from Mersham. The bells were cast by Messrs. Taylor & Co. of Loughborough, and hung by Mr. Henry Bond of Burford, Oxford.

Ringling at St. Paul's by College Youths.

On Saturday, the 9th inst., being the Lord Mayor's Day, touches of Stedman's Cinques were rung by the same band who rang on the day of the dedication; first, between one and two o'clock, when the procession passed the Cathedral, and again at six o'clock, when the Lord Mayor's guests passed. Thousands were present to see and to listen.

Change-ringing at Clitheroe.

On Saturday, 9th inst., the undernamed mixed band of change-ringers paid a visit to the picturesque borough of Clitheroe, and succeeded in ringing on the bells of the parish church a peal of Grandsire Triples (Taylor's well-known 'Bob-and-Single' variation), comprising 5040 changes, in 2 hrs. 53½ mins. J. Eckersley (conductor), 1; W. Davies, 2; J. Seddon, 3; T. Ridings, 4; R. Thornley, 5; N. Farnworth, 6; W. Rhodes, 7; J. Gregory, 8. Tenor, 15½ cwt.

Date Touch by the St. George's Society of Change-ringers, Hyde, Cheshire.

On Sunday last, for Divine service, eight members of the above Society rang 1878 changes of Grandsire Triples in 1 hr. 5 mins. Composed by E. Edwards of Macclesfield, and conducted by H. Roston.

Change-ringing at Shadwell, Middlesex.

On Monday, the 11th inst., the following members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang at the church of St. Paul, Shadwell, Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, containing 5040 changes, in 2 hrs. 52 mins.: S. Reeves, 1; E. Clark, 2; G. Tanner, 3; R. Turner, 4; R. French, 5; J. Pettit (conductor), 6; W. E. Fidler (of Stoke-on-Trent), 7; W. Jones, 8.

Lancashire Association of Change-ringers.

THE adjourned general meeting will be held on Saturday, Nov. 30, at 4 p.m., in the Holy Trinity Schools, Hulme, Manchester. *Agenda*: Auditors' Report; Election of Officers for the ensuing year; Revision of existing Rules. To facilitate business, the Secretary would be glad to receive all notices of motions before the 25th instant.

Notice.—Norwich Diocesan Association of Ringers.

A DISTRICT Meeting of the above will be held at Diss on Monday, Dec. 2nd. Members who intend being present should communicate as soon as possible with the Secretary. G. H. HARRIS.

Tunstead Vicarage, Norwich.

RECEIVED ALSO.—J. C. G.; K. Miller; J. A. T.; F. Noel; and others.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

ST. PAUL'S BELLS.

SIR EDMUND BECKETT writes thus to the *Times*:—"If you think people will care to read any more controversy about bell-hanging and making, here is my further answer to Mr. Haweis, who, remember, began it, and not I."

"He evidently does not yet understand the mechanical difference between the effect of the upper beams of the frame touching the walls and the lower; that in the former case the sudden thrusts of the large bells in swinging act directly on the wall in one place without either elasticity or diffusion, while in the latter the thrusts are diffused and their suddenness removed by the elasticity of the frame, which is always at least 4 feet high, and in large peals much more. As he quotes a little bit from my first book on church building which did not point out the difference, which is obvious to every mechanic, he might as well have noticed that in every edition of my later book on *Clocks and Bells* I have explained it fully, and at greater length than I can ask you to reprint, for the benefit of non-mechanics, as any one may see at p. 363 of the 6th edition.

"The idea of building up an internal wooden tower within any sufficiently strong stone one to put a bell-frame on is just another specimen of non-mechanical incapacity to distinguish between the expedient and the ridiculous. I said before that it may have been wise to do so for a large peal in the weak tower at Coventry. But I must know a good deal more about Cattistock church-tower and the intended bells, and how they are to be used and hung, before I give any opinion whether it is wise or foolish there. The fact that an architect is going to do that, or anything else with respect to either bells or clocks, goes a very little way with me after many of their exploits.

"I have no doubt plenty of towers have been cracked by driving in wedges between the upper beams of the bell-frame and the walls, and I have been writing against it ever since I began writing at all on these subjects. It is also true that many towers are unable to bear the ringing of their bells, however they may be hung, either from decay or bad building and thinness. But what then? Everybody has known all that for ages, and the ringing of the bells has often been stopped until towers were rebuilt. What has that to do with hanging these bells in a tower ten feet thick, which is probably the only one in the kingdom that does not even vibrate under the ringing by its own elasticity? Mr. Haweis wrote to condemn that, and not to inform us that weak towers will not bear the ringing of heavy bells. I find I was quite right in disbelieving that any wedges had been driven in between the upper beams and the walls; and further, that I had myself specified in the contract that the upper beams were to be clear of the walls, but the lower ones to fit tight, for the reasons in my book. Mr. Haweis evidently imagined when he wrote before, that there is some way of fixing bell-frames (without the absurdity of an internal wooden tower) so that the thrust should not reach the walls. I have known other non-mechanical people subject to the same delusion; only they confessed it, and he does not.

"In like manner he says that he reversed the invariable numbering of the bells in the order they ring round "intentionally." Of course he did. But with what intention? The intention either to puzzle or mislead everybody who is conversant with bells? or did he, *bonâ fide*, mean to reform the campanological world on that point? If he did, would he not have told them so instead of merely puzzling them, and if they found it out leaving them to suspect that this writer of articles and letters on bell-casting and bell-hanging actually did not know the invariable and natural language of the subject? It is not my business to select from this dilemma, but I have a pretty clear guess about the matter. If peals of bells were put up merely or chiefly for playing tunes upon, it would be better to number them according to the usual musical letters—*i.e.* from the low notes upwards. But they are not; and in spite of Mr. Haweis, who has a right to have his own taste, the English public think much more of the full sound of a fine peal of bells rung in "changes" than of the comparatively feeble tunes played on them by the very best machinery. So far from thinking a little bell-ringing before church "intolerable," the accidental omission of it is generally resented by a vast majority of any town that is used to it, as we of the north are more than in the south, where men are generally too lazy to ring proper changes, varying at every round according to scientific rules. But the ringing at St. Paul's last Saturday was the best I ever heard on twelve bells. Generally they sound worse than ten.

"Severin van Aerschoot would be the most ungrateful of men if he did not give Mr. Haweis a lift in return for his praises. But I do not know why I am to believe him rather than Mr. Taylor and my own senses, that hanging bells by bolts through a duly thick crown stops the vibration or makes them crack. Bells without number, which, moreover, were never cast for it with a properly adapted crown, have been ringing for years and centuries with bolts through their crowns, to hold in the clappers, when the bells have been turned in the stock, before I introduced the now common practice (except, I believe, at the oldest and worst of the foundries in England) of having the clapper-bolt independent of the bell; and many other bells have had their crowns cut off and are hung only by bolts. I do not believe a word of the story of their being cracked by it without some other cause. It is a very common form of bad reasoning to conclude that the cause of any given mischief or good is something which you happen to dislike or fancy merely because you find it there.

"Mr. Haweis may not only "almost think," but be sure from the very best authority that I have not been in Belgium. But I shall be glad to know what I could learn there about the hanging of large ringing peals, or even single bells. I have nothing to do with carillons of fixed bells, though I have heard a good deal about them, and that some people are by no means as much delighted with them as Mr. Haweis, and think them incomparably inferior to the grandeur of our ringing peals. If I am not much mistaken, they never ring even a single bell what we call "up," or "mouth upwards;" much less peals like ours.

"We seem to be beginning to agree that I was right in first predicting and then pronouncing the failure of the Boston Van Aerschoot carillons, designed (*i.e.* the patterns of the bells given) by the virtuous Severin, who has the advantage of Mr. Haweis' friendship, but cast by the wicked brother André who has not. I cannot help suspecting that the bad one would have something to say for himself as to the distribution of the blame, and I think I can guess what it would be. However, there is the fact, confirmed now by Mr. Haweis, that the only Belgian bells that have come here are a failure, as I said. I occasionally visit Chester, and I may be able some day to hear the new ones of the Duke of Westminster. Dr. Stainer has only heard them in the foundry. I know by experience the danger of committing oneself to approbation of bells in a foundry, and I always now refuse to do so. However, I hope he may be right; for the more good founders there are the better.

"Although Mr. Haweis is such a musician, I venture to dissent from his doctrine that the tuning of a peal of bells is more important than the tone or quality of each bell. I mean more important to 999 out of 1000 people who listen to them, which is the only measure of such things. A peal of cast-iron bells may be in perfect tune, and, indeed, there are a few cast-steel ones here and there, which people were tempted into for a time by their cheapness. Mr. Haweis has a right to prefer the horrible noise of them to the sound of a peal of individually good bells of the best bell metal, but a little out of tune to sensitive ears. But unquestionably his taste is singular. I say "a little out of tune," because the casting of bells in tune is a mere matter of calculation to those who understand it (though I once had to teach it to a firm of bell-founders who had only copied old bells before); and no bell-founder ever sends out a peal which is not considered in tune by some competent judges, and therefore very nearly right, at least. Messrs. Warner cast all the larger bells of the Doncaster peal, a very good one, from my designs, as "maidens,"—*i.e.* in tune without any cutting. It is better to make the smaller bells of a peal a little too thick at first than all the tuning may fall on them if necessary; for it is another important element in the case that small defects of tune can be cured; but no defect in tone is curable at all. The best musicians are no judges of tone without experience of what good bells are, and therefore ought to be; and I have known scandalously bad peals passed by them simply because they were in tune, and then had to be recast.

"Nor are they quite infallible guides even on that point. I really do not know what Mr. Haweis said about the tune of the Westminster bells in some review, but I conclude it was something very bad; but probably not worse than the two foreign musicians who helped the Astronomer Royal "with a fiddle tuned to the pitch of the Italian Opera," and a judgment embodied in his famous report that two of the bells were a note and a half out of tune. Mr. Turle, on whose report on that point they were paid for, pronounced them right, except that "the fourth bell is a shade too flat." Dr. Sterndale Bennett, as Mr. Haweis confesses, called them in "very fair tune." And in the last few days Dr. Pole has kindly sent me a report of his on them in 1860, which I never saw before, after trying them with a scientific apparatus for counting the vibrations, to the effect that they do not materially differ from the proper mathematical numbers, except that the first bell is too sharp, "but the defect would be scarcely observed by other than fine ears." He also said, what I quite agree with, that the fourth bell, which was cast first, is the worst, and the third, which was cast last, and from a slightly different pattern, is the best. The public judgment is, I know, that the fourth is rather flat, and I have little doubt that it is so, as a matter of general effect. I utterly disbelieve in minute trials by tapping bells here and there, and in little arbitrary rules that they ought to sound such and such notes when struck in places where the clapper or hammer never does strike. I had plenty of that kind of philosophy while we were finding out by experiments, not with little models, but with large bells, the best shape and composition for them, the results of which are fully given in my book, though the editor of the *Builder* said lately that no such information is to be found. He could hardly expect it to come down the chimney on to his desk, or expect me to send it him, that he might write an article with some knowledge of the subject.

"I am glad to be able to conclude by saying that the tenor bell of St. Paul's has been re-hung, in conformity with the principle I have been advocating for many years against the practice of what is called "tucking up," or putting a good deal of the weight above the pivots or "gudgeons," and that it now sounds well over the others, which it did not at the first two trials. And, on the whole, this is unquestionably the grandest ringing peal in England, and, therefore, in the world, though, for aught I know, somebody may yet be able to make a better."

SIR,—I am sorry to encroach upon your valuable space, but as an admirer of church music and of *Church Bells* (when they are good ones) I have been very much interested in the new bells at St. Paul's, and not a little surprised at some of the utterances of those who find fault with them. Now I have not yet had an opportunity of hearing the bells myself, and so cannot give an opinion founded on experience; still, the few remarks I have to make may not be the less interesting because they come, as it were, from an outsider.

In the first place, we should all remember that it is a very easy thing to find fault, and that neither bell-tuners, nor musicians generally, agree to a nicety as to what is or is not in tune; and it is quite natural that an undertaking of such a national character as that of placing a ring of bells in our metropolitan Cathedral should not be carried out to the complete satisfaction of everybody. It is just the same when a new church or school has to be built: there are, of course, various opinions as to the site, style of architecture, &c. The most sensible course seems to be, in all such things, to appoint as overseers of the work the best possible men, and to accept the result (although we may not quite like it) with equanimity, and with cheerfulness. Now, I would ask those who depreciate the new ring, what better authority there is on tune, who lays claim to possess a more completely-trained musical ear, than Dr. Stainer? He asserts that the new ring is in correct tune; and

although one of your correspondents makes a distinction between ability to tell whether a ring of bells is in tune, and whether a musical instrument is in tune, I hardly think the distinction will hold water, and should be inclined to trust the Organist of St. Paul's opinion on the matter. Speaking as one who has what is called a good musical ear, I think I should be able to tell whether the tone of a certain bell was in tune with the rest of the scale, and, therefore, I am very confident that an experienced practical musician like Dr. Stainer could.

Though I have not heard the new bell at St. Paul's, I have often heard the Worcester bells rung and chimed, to my intense gratification. I for one, then, should like to have Canon Cattley's opinion of the much-maligned ring at St. Paul's. Mr. Haweis gives himself up to calm despair, and says, with an exclamation of grief, that 'the bells seem quite good enough for the English people.' If so, well and good: they were intended for the English people. But the expression implies that Englishmen are very well contented with inferior musical productions, and have no taste or ear for music in general, and bell-music in particular. Now, Sir, I am not the only one who holds an entirely different opinion, and as an English amateur, I protest against such an inference. There is not evidence wanting that whatever may once have been the case, the English can now appreciate good music of any kind, and can distinguish, too, between bad and good.

I apologise once more for having taken up so much of your time and space.

F. H. FISHER.

Information required.

SIR,—In an attempt to obtain an approximately correct list of rings of eight in Kent, I was using, among other materials, the list of peals rung by Jas. Barham, published in *Church Bells*, No. 235, of 26th June, 1875. When I came to Peal No. 73, I found it to be 5184 Oxford Treble Bob, said to have been rung at Eltham. Now I have rung at Eltham, and know there are only six bells; and I am therefore unable to take it for granted (as I was at first inclined) that, because the list says that Barham rang a 5000 at a church, there must be eight bells in the tower.

Will you, or some of your readers, oblige me with the numbers of bells at the following churches in Kent? New Romney, Lenham, Dover (St. Mary), Chiddingstone, Headcote (sic in the list, perhaps a misprint for Headcorn), Tenterden, Goudhurst, Cranbrook, and Biddenden. Information with regard to weight or reputed weight of tenors is also requested.

F. W. J. REES.

Bengal.

The Ancient Society of College Youths (Established 1637).

THE Annual Meeting of this Society for the election of officers for the year ensuing, took place last Tuesday, at the Meeting-house, Southwark, near to St. Saviour's Church. Mr. Samuel Reeves was elected Master; Messrs. W. Cecil and T. Benny, Stewards; and Mr. George A. Muskett was again unanimously elected Hon. Secretary.

OPENING OF A NEW RING AT SEMLEY, WILTS.—Six members of the above company intend journeying to-day (Saturday) to the village of Semley, near Shaftesbury, Wilts, for the purpose of opening a partially new ring of bells from the Old Foundry (Messrs. Mears and Stainbank's), Whitechapel. In our next issue we shall furnish our readers with a report of the proceedings in connexion therewith.

St. Paul's Cathedral Bells.

SIR,—In Mr. Warskitt's letter, which you published in last week's issue of *Church Bells*, he speaks of the two small bells of the above ring as being too sharp for the others; and in that opinion I am prepared to agree with him: but I think he should have gone a little further in his remarks, and have pronounced them also wild in tone as well as out of tune. As a ringer of no little practice, and having paid great attention to the qualities of the bells, I may say that in my judgment the St. Paul's ring has failed in what was expected of it—a fine ring of twelve, and second to none in the kingdom. I certainly agree with Mr. Warskitt in reference to the St. Saviour's ring of twelve. The bells of St. Paul's I consider very inferior, not only in point of tune, but in their tone, to those of St. Saviour's; and such ought not to have been, considering that the latter ring, although in the same key as St. Paul's, yet, in respect of weight, are considerably lighter.

Nov. 8th, 1878.

AN OLD COLLEGE YOUTH.

Change-ringing by the Yorkshire Association.

ON Friday evening, 25th ult., eight members of the above Association rang at Holy Trinity Church, Hull, a touch of Grandsire Major, numbering 1878 changes, the date of the present year, in 1 hr. 14 mins. Composed and conducted by C. Jackson, and contained the twenty-four 6 7 8's, and 7 6 8's. Tenor, 25 cwt. Also, on Friday evening, 8th inst., at St. James's Church, Hull, a touch of Grandsire Triples, containing 1878 changes, in 1 hr. 5 mins. Composed by C. Jackson and conducted by J. W. Stickney. Tenor, 15 cwt.

ON Saturday, the 16th inst., at St. James's, Bolton, near Bradford, 10,176 changes of Kent Treble Bob Major in 5 hrs. 59 mins., being the longest peal ever rung by the society. T. Lockwood, 1; R. Tuke, Esq., 2; T. West, 3; J. A. Ross, 4; W. Walker, 5; H. Hubbard, jun., 6; J. Barradough, 7; J. W. Snowden, Esq., 8. Tenor, 15 cwt. The peal was composed by W. Harrison of Mottram, and conducted by Tom Lockwood. This is the first peal ever rung on the bells, which were opened by a special service on October 30th, and have been placed in the tower by the munificent liberality of Atkinson Jowett, Esq., who has also defrayed the entire cost of the erection of this church. The bells, which do great credit to their founders, were cast and hung by Messrs. Shaw and Son, of Bradford, and are the first entire ring ever cast in that town. They are hung in two tiers.

Muffled Peal at Appleton, Berkshire.

ON Saturday, the 9th inst., the members of the Appleton Society of Change-ringers paid a last tribute of respect to the memory of the late Mr.

G. White (the oldest member of the White family), by ringing on the muffled bells of the parish church a peal of Grandsire Triples, comprising 5040 changes, in 2 hrs. 58 mins. F. S. White, 1; E. Hollifield, 2; G. Hollifield, 3; W. Bennett, 4; J. Avery, 5; F. White (conductor) 6; B. Barrett, 7; R. Bennett, 8.

St. John's, Capel, Surrey.

ON Thursday, the 14th inst., six members of the Capel Society of Change-ringers rang 720 of College Pleasure in 24 mins. R. Jordan, 1; A. Tidy, 2; G. Holloway, 3; R. Worsfold, 4; E. Jordan, 5; D. Jordan, 6. This is the first peal in that method ever rung on the bells.

Change-ringing at Evesham, Worcestershire.

ON Friday, the 15th inst., by invitation of Rev. F. W. Holland, Vicar, nine members of the Worcester Cathedral Society visited Evesham, and rang touches of Grandsire Triples on the Abbey bells, it being the formal opening of the new clock and chimes. The bells were rehung and fitted with new frame some time since. Several touches were rung during the afternoon by the following ringers hailing from the faithful City. F. Owen, 1; N. Wale, 2; W. Blandford, 3; H. Wilkes, 4; J. Reynolds, 5; G. Hobbs, 6; W. Webb, 7; W. Turner and E. Jones, 8. Tenor, 30 cwt.

Bengeworth parish church was also visited, and several six scores of Grandsire Doubles and a 720 of Grandsire Minor were rung on the bells there by Messrs. Hobbs, Wale, Turner, Reynolds, Wilkes, and Webb. Tenor, 11½ cwt. The whole conducted by H. Wilkes.

Durham Diocesan Association of Ringers.

ON Saturday, the 16th inst., five members of the Stockton branch, with Mr. Joel Hern of the Hurworth branch, visited Sedgfield, and with the permission of the Rector and churchwardens rang on the bells of the parish church a succession of six scores of doubles in the Plain Bob and Grandsire methods, as follows:—T. Whitfield and T. Burdon (in turns), 1; W. Newton, 2; T. Stephenson, 3; G. J. Clarkson and Joel Hern, 4 and tenor interchangeably. The whole of the ringing was conducted by G. J. Clarkson, being the first time change-ringing has ever been heard on these bells, which are in a minor key. Tenor, 15 cwt.

Change-ringing at St. Michael's, Framlingham, Suffolk.

ON Saturday, the 16th inst., a mixed band rang 5088 changes of Oxford Treble Bob Major in 3 hrs. 27 mins. The peal was composed by the late J. Miller, Cumberland Society, London. G. Murton (conductor), 1; G. Day (Eye), 2; H. Baldry (Brandeston), 3; R. Huggins (Needham), 4; R. King (Framden), 5; D. Collins (Worlingworth), 6; E. Collins (Worlingworth), 7; F. Day (Eye), 8. This is the first peal in this method on the bells. Tenor, 18 cwt.

Change-ringing at Crewe, Cheshire.

ON Saturday, the 16th inst., the Macclesfield Society rang Taylor's peal of Grandsire Triples in 3 hrs. 17 mins. W. Hulme, 1; J. Holt, 2; C. Bamford, 3; W. McKinnell, 4; E. Flanagan, 5; E. Matthews (conductor) 6; J. Farrish, 7; J. Morledge, 8. Tenor, 20 cwt. Note E. This is the first peal rung on these bells.

St. Mary's, Lambeth, Surrey.

ON Saturday, the 16th inst., eight members of the Cumberland Society rang at the above church Holt's original one-course peal of Grandsire Triples, comprising 5040 changes, in 2 hrs. 58 mins. J. Barry (first peal), 1; J. W. Catle (conductor), 2; C. T. Hopkins, 3; H. Swain, 4; H. A. Hopkins, 5; J. Barrett, 6; E. Gibbs, 7; A. Kirk, 8.

Change-ringing at All Saints', Stand, Whitefield, near Manchester, Lancashire.

ON Saturday, the 16th inst., the Society of Change-ringers, Stand, rang Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, consisting of 5040 changes, in 3 hrs. 1 min. W. Hilton, sen., 1; W. Warburton (conductor), 2; H. Hilton, 3; T. Crawshaw, 4; R. Fray, 5; E. Bradshaw, 6; C. Bleakley, 7; W. Hilton, jun., 8. Tenor, 21½ cwt.

Change-ringing by the Rochdale and District Association.

ON Saturday, the 16th inst., eight members of the above Society rang at St. Thomas's, New Hey, Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, consisting of 5040 changes, in 2 hrs. 48 mins. R. Warburton, 1; J. Priestley, 2; A. Clegg, 3; G. H. Beever, 4; S. Stott, 5th; G. Hoyle (conductor), 6th; C. Rothwell, 7; W. Sutcliffe, 8. Tenor, 10½ cwt.

St. Martin's Parish Church, Dorking, Surrey.

ON Monday, the 18th inst., was rung by the Dorking Society of Change-ringers, 5040 Grandsire Triples, in 3 hrs. 20 mins., composed and conducted by Mr. Chas. Boxall. H. Dobinson, 1; W. Boxall, 2; T. Rose, 3; H. Boxall, jun., 4; H. Henden, 5; C. Boxall, 6; H. Boxall, sen., 7; W. Holden and S. Edwards, 8. Tenor, 25 cwt. First peal on the bells since they were placed in the new tower.

Hand-bell Ringing Club.

THE Rector of St. Peter-le-Bailey, Oxford, has established a Handbell-Ringers' Club in his parish, and has accepted the office of President.

A CORRECTION.—In the report which appeared in our last issue of the date touch at St. George's, Hyde, the name of the composer is given as E. Edwards of Macclesfield: it should be Edw. Matthews.

J. WHITEHEAD.—The same person; the popular way of spelling his name is, however, 'Stedman,' not 'Steadman.' He discovered one of the most elaborate 'methods' of half-pull ringing, which method will ever be a great favourite with the exercise, as it deserves to be. Fabian Stedman was a native of Cambridge, and, it is said, by profession a printer.

RECEIVED ALSO: C. Candlin; A Subscriber (no name sent); and others.

Wells, Truro, and Llandaff. It is now in the second edition, and is published in London by J. Masters and Co. I may add, it is arranged for both Anglican and Gregorian usage.

'T. H. LOWE' recommends *Litanies and Special Forms of Service for Children*, price 2d. or 15s. per hundred. Edited by E. G. Punchard, M.A. Published, or at least sold, by A. R. Mowbray and Co., London and Oxford.

'A Missionary Working Party.'

In answer to 'G. A. Robins,' 'C. M. N.' suggests *Under His Banner* (S. P. C. K.), by the Rev. H. W. Tucker, Assistant Secretary to the S. P. G., as a suitable book to be read; also that the Children's Hospital in Great Ormond Street is a very valuable institution where clothing would be very acceptable.

'Miss E. WIGRAM' says:—"G. A. Robins" will find the following books interesting to the workers described:—*Ventures of Faith: the Story of Hans Egide; Recollections of an Indian Missionary*; and the two stories, *Little Toja* and *Premideni*. Work in Africa is well described in *An Elder Sister; Mission Life among the Zulus; A Suffolk Boy in Africa; New Ground*. There are two Orphanages at the Cape, English children; both are grateful for clothing; this can be sent through the agency of the *Net*—see its advertisements. Details sent by post, if required.

AN OFFER.—'K. P.' 17 Cedars Road, Clapham Common, S.W., will be happy to forward *Church Bells* to any Missionary or Church-worker abroad or in our colonies.

RECEIVED ALSO.—W. S.; and others.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

ST. PAUL'S BELLS.

THE Rev. Mr. Cattley and the Rev. Mr. Ellacombe write thus to the *Times*:—

SIR,—I am told that I ought to express an opinion on the tone of these bells, having, as a member of the committee, been associated with Dr. Stainer in the responsible task of testing them. May I, therefore, ask the favour of your inserting a few lines from me in the *Times*?

On the occasion of our first examination of the bells in the founders' yard, we were fortunate in having the assistance of men who have made bells their study all their lives, and our joint verdict was that the peal was perfect and left nothing to be desired, the quality of the tone remarkably equal throughout the whole scale, and the trebles, or smallest bells, particularly bright and telling—a matter of much importance in a ring of this magnitude. I can say for my part, when I listened to the bells on the opening day, I heard nothing to cause me to change my opinion. I venture to differ from Mr. Haweis in the wish he has expressed that this peal had been ordered in Belgium. It is to supply an omission of more than two hundred years' standing that the Cathedral authorities determined to have bells placed in one of Wren's towers, and I think it would have been a matter of regret had such an order been given to a foreigner, when we have in England a firm able to supply such a peal as has recently been placed in Manchester Town Hall. Moreover, the munificent lady who has contributed so largely to the fund made it a *sine qua non* that the bells she gave should be cast in this country. No one more than myself appreciates the admirable article written by Mr. Haweis on the subject of Belgian Carillon in the *Contemporary Review* of April, 1871. All lovers of bells are familiar with it; still I cannot help regretting that while the writer lavishes such unqualified praise on Belgian bells he should be so unmercifully severe upon those of our own country.

I say, then, with Mr. Haweis, by all means let us in due time utilize the sister tower of St. Paul's with a set of sixty-five Belgian bells in honourable rivalry with Antwerp. Nevertheless, I contend that we have now begun at the right end of the work in erecting the noble peal just completed. We have secured the healthy and popular British exercise of peal-ringing with Triple Bobs, Grandsire, &c., and which, as practised by the London ringers, whether 'Cumberland' or 'College Youths,' is the finest the world can produce. The second step I venture to hope will be to obtain a grand Bourdon bell, on which the clock will strike the hours, utilising if it may be the lower bells of the new peal for the quarter chimes, which would have a fine effect. For the third and crowning part of the work, let us look forward at no distant date to the most perfect set of carillon bells that Belgium can produce. Meanwhile, how many a pilgrimage will be made to Eaton Hall to listen to the treat the Duke of Westminster has in store for us in placing a Belgian carillon in his new tower, and of which Dr. Stainer speaks so highly! I am glad of the excuse Mr. Haweis is able to offer for the Boston carillon; that was certainly not a happy specimen to be the first of Belgian skill in this country.

I remain, Sir, yours faithfully,

RICHARD CATTLEY.

Worcester.

P.S.—Of course, the new bells may well be used for tune playing, especially if two or three half-tones are added. This is done with excellent effect here, the machinery for the purpose being the munificent gift of the late Mr. Alderman Wheeley Lea.

SIR,—Will you kindly allow me a little space to say a few words on that part of Mr. Haweis' letter in your issue of the 14th inst. about bell-hanging? In the course of threescore years and ten of a longer life, I have gone up some hundreds of towers, most of them being of mediæval date. In many I noted the top timbers of bell-cages securely built into the walls, and no harm had come of it, though from early dates the bells had been swung up and down, and in pre-Reformation times they would have been rung daily—

mane, meridie, et vespere—to 45 degrees with the dead rope wheel, but no damage had occurred to the building, provided the walls were of substantial masonry and well buttressed. But where the walls of towers are flimsily and scampingly built, as most modern towers are, there, no doubt, damage may be expected to follow from the very bells themselves; for, do what you will, the cage will oscillate, and so will the tower; and if the two oscillations do not occur together the ringer will occasionally find his bell 'drop.' Tower and bells should oscillate steadily together; but this cannot be effected unless the cage is firmly secured against the walls, and then, in a well-built tower, the whole will oscillate together steadily like a pendulum from the very foundations, and no harm will follow; but if there be an old split, caused by lightning or settlement or bad building, so as to damage the masonry of a tower, then the bells should not be rung at all, and that has been my advice when I have been occasionally consulted on the subject. I have not seen St. Paul's bells, but the tower being an engaged building, the cage may without fear of damage be firmly secured to the walls: for damage to accrue it would be extended to the whole fabric, dome and all! A few years ago I was in the noble tower of l'Abbaye aux Hommes at Caen, during the swinging (I cannot call it ringing, the bells being worked by the foot without wheel and rope) of two heavy bells for service; the cage of massive timbers was insulated, and the motion was so great as to produce the sensation of sea-sickness in one of my companions, and the oscillations of the lofty tower with its glorious spire was greater than I ever felt before; but there was no apparent danger, though it must have been going on daily for centuries. In flimsily-built modern towers, with affected lofty spires, and small space within, there had better be no bells at all, but a single bell dolefully to lament its position by its solitary tollings, and standing as a dumb idol. In all such towers carillons might very safely and most effectively be set up. As to bells without canons: Among the noble ring of ten in the south tower of Exeter Cathedral, unrivalled in tone and weight, the tenor being 67 cwt., the seventh bell (I speak as a ringer), called 'Cophthorne,' is without canons, and so it was delivered by the founder Purdue in 1676, 'Without argent, pallat, or canons,' and hung up by bolts; and so it has continued ever since. There is a bell at Coleridge, in North Devon, as open at the head as at the mouth, and in good tune, in a ring of six. I cannot quote my authority, but I have seen it stated somewhere that the vibrations of a bell do not extend upwards above the radius of the lip, hence hemispherical bells, or PETARS, are as good as others for some purposes. I am, Sir, yours obediently,

Rectory, Chyst St. George, Devon.

H. T. ELLACOMBE, M.A.

SIR,—I fully expected to see an answer to Mr. Robt. Stainbank's letter, which appeared in your issue of the 9th inst., but as no one has replied thereto I beg to say a few words. I think no one can say but that it is a straightforward and honest letter. Mr. Stainbank says he has always refrained from making any comment upon other founders' bells, and simply asks for his bells to speak for themselves. I have heard and rung upon many rings of bells cast at the Whitechapel Foundry, and I can without any hesitation speak very highly of all that I have heard. Notably those of St. Paul's, Dundee, and the Protestant Cathedral, Waterford, both fine rings of 8; tenors about 21 cwt. each. The Catholic Church, Sheffield, a beautiful ring of 8; tenor about 24 cwt., highly spoken of by Yorkshiremen. Lady Burdett-Coutts' Church, Westminster, a splendid ring of 8; tenor, 25 cwt., without a fault. St. Dunstan's, Stepney, London, and Rotherham, Yorkshire, two beautiful rings of 10; tenors about 31 cwt. each. Yarmouth, a good ring of 10; tenor about the same weight. And, lastly, Bow; tenor 53 cwt., the very cream of all tenors, and the pride of London. I am fully convinced that Messrs. Mears and Stainbank are quite on a par with any bell-founder in the world, if not at a premium.

A. C. Y.

SIR,—An 'Old College Youth' dates his letter respecting the new ring at St. Paul's, Nov. 8, just a day too soon to have heard them in full swing. May I ask whether he was one of the band who rang them so beautifully on the 9th, Lord Mayor's Day, and consequently only heard them in the ringing chamber? If so, next time they are rung, let him hear them outside in various positions, and I cannot help thinking he will agree with me that they are simply magnificent, both on account of the volume of sound and grandness of tone. I say nothing of tune, because, with Dr. Stainer, with whom I heard them before they left the foundry, I consider them perfectly correct. I enclose my card, and beg to subscribe myself

A. SOUNDBOW.

The Bells of St. Michael's, Coventry.

SINCE Sir E. Beckett's letter appeared in the *Times* of November 20, he has received from Mr. Taylor, the founder of St. Paul's bells, some useful information about the timber-framing, or internal wooden tower, for carrying the bells in St. Michael's, Coventry. It is quite true that the frame-work was erected many years ago by some local genius, with the view of relieving the tower from the swinging of the bells; and also that the steeple-keeper is, or was, in the habit of assuring visitors that it does so, and is clear of the walls. But the fact is that it was found to oscillate so fearfully that the bell-frame battered the walls, so as to produce far more danger than was apprehended before; and that Bryant of Hertford, a famous bell-founder and clockmaker early in this century, being called in, carried the main beams under the bell-frame right into the wall as usual, and there they are now. So that this tower-framing only performs the useless function of carrying a little of the weight of the bells, and does absolutely nothing against their thrust. And so much for the intention of Mr. Gilbert Scott to copy it at Cattistock, according to Mr. Haweis.

Bells for Cattistock, Dorset.

SIR,—I have not heard the St. Paul's bells, and if I had I should not have ventured to have entered the lists with those who have taken part in that warm controversy; but in one of Mr. Haweis' letters he quotes with admiration the mode of hanging bells for ringing purposes adopted by a certain eminent architect at Cattistock, Dorsetshire. Does that gentleman know that

the method he thus commends has been *abandoned* chiefly on account of its impracticability? Such is the case, and it seems to me that Mr. Haweis should have ascertained this fact before, in a public controversy, he implies the success of that which never existed. I have seen the plan of the architect which consisted of a frame nine feet high, standing upon set-offs specially constructed for it in the tower, of which the timbers were to be not less than a foot square, and into this frame the bell-cage was to be bolted. Now when it is remembered how quickly a cage carrying a ring of fair weight begins to 'rake,' does it seem probable that an erection of about three times the height will remain firm? I do not believe it any more than I believe many other foibles of architects who think themselves capable of preparing plans for bell-hangers.

J. L. LANGDON FULFORD, M.A.

Woodbury, Devon, where the cage for Cattistock Church is being constructed by Messrs. Hooper and Stokes, bell-hangers.

Opening of a New Ring at Semley, Wiltshire.

THE little village of Semley, picturesquely situate near to the borders of Dorsetshire, was quite *en fête* on Saturday last, as that day was selected for the 'opening' of the new ring of six bells, lately placed in the tower of Semley new church by the eminent firm of Mears and Stainbank, of the Old Foundry, Whitechapel, London. As we briefly announced last week, a select band of the Ancient Society of College Youths were engaged for this service, and they having arrived upon the spot about midday, were, before entering the steeple, and in fact during the whole of their sojourn, right royally entertained at an adjacent hostelry through the generous liberality of the Hon. Member for Shaftesbury, A. J. Bennett-Stanford, Esq. This gentleman has, we believe, greatly assisted to promote the completion of the bells to their present number, four only having hitherto done duty in the steeple; and it is owing also to his foresight and judgment that the chief actors in the opening ceremony were men who have made ringing their careful study, who possessed the talent of performing the art upon scientific principles, and who could thus bring out, to the greatest advantage, the musical properties of the new ring. On this, as on other similar occasions, there were not wanting persons to predict that the bells when replete from the founders' matrice would prove a failure; busy-bodies, who somehow felt a delight in meddling with a branch of scientific industry they could not in the least degree understand, were indefatigable in promulgating the idea, that a ring of six bells of the calibre of those at Semley could never be rung by any body of men, and that an attempt to do so would prove disastrous to the fabric. These pedantic opinions, these lugubrious prophecies, have, however, been effectively shattered by the results of last week. On Saturday were rung by Messrs. H. W. Haley, W. Cooter, G. Mash, Ed. Horrex, Matt. A. Wood, and J. Murray Hayes, two 720's of Treble Bob Minor, in the Kent and Oxford variations respectively; also seven six-scores of Stedman, and a like number of Grandsire Doubles, making nearly 3000 changes in all. On the Sunday also were achieved similar displays of half-pull ringing, which was entirely new to the neighbourhood, and the leading inhabitants, several of whom paid a visit to the steeple, and appeared greatly interested during the whole proceedings. The style of ringing, and the easy and dexterous manner in which the ropes were manipulated, elicited from all the warmest praise, and apparently gave universal satisfaction. Mr. Bennett-Stanford and his lady were amongst the visitors, and they bravely ventured to the summit of the steeple while the ringing was in progress, which suggested to the minds of those below that the prognostications of the wise men (not from the East) who foretold the downfall of the tower when the ringing commenced, were viewed with feelings of the most sublime indifference.

A word or two about the history of these bells may not be unwelcome. Originally, as we previously observed, there were only four bells, the tenor being about 11 cwt., and fractured, but some four years ago the late Rector, the Rev. Henry Hall, had them taken out of the old tower, and instructed the founders to recast and augment them to a ring of six, with a 12 cwt. tenor in G. His wish, however, was to obtain for his church a powerful ring, and afterwards he determined to retain two of the old bells, and by adopting them as the treble and 2nd in the new ring, the old tenor being re-cast to make the 3rd, and adding three heavier bells, viz. 4th, 5th, and tenor, the present grand ring of six, tenor 26 cwt. 12 lbs., in D, is the result. The rev. gentleman was not spared to hear the result of his labour echoed from the church tower, but he paid a visit to the foundry, and inspected the bells, and was highly pleased with them. The two old bells (one of which is considered to belong to pre-Reformation times) have not been interfered with, the others being tuned to harmonise with them, and the 'splice' has been admirably accomplished, and the tones efficiently adjusted. They are hung in two tiers, and the plan of the framework is so designed, that with very little difficulty two trebles may be added, which should be done at the earliest opportunity. If this is carried into effect, there will be few better rings of eight in the country. The whole of the fittings are entirely new, the framework is composed of English oak, and the easy manner in which the bells were rung by the company who opened them sufficiently attest the fact that the representative on this occasion of the old Whitechapel Foundry, Mr. Vincent, has bestowed the greatest care in the execution of the work entrusted to him.

We hope that the tone of the Semley ringers will for ever be equal in quality to that of their bells.

Change-ringing at All Saints, Carshalton, Surrey.

ON Friday, the 8th inst., eight members of the Beddington Society of Change-ringers (being members of the Ancient Society of College Youths) rang on the bells of the above church Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, comprising 5040 changes, in 2 hrs. 53 mins. R. Chapman, 1; E. Bennett (conductor), 2; J. Trappitt, 3; J. Plowman, 4; F. Marter, 5; J. Cawley, 6; C. Gordon, 7; J. Zealey, 8. Tenor, 12½ cwt. G sharp. This is (with the exception of Gordon) the first peal by any of the above.

Change-ringing at Ashton-under-Lyne, Lancashire.

ON Sunday, the 17th inst., eight members of the Society of Change-ringers of Ashton-under-Lyne rang at the parish church, in commemoration of the sixtieth birthday of Mr. William Burgess, Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, consisting of 5040 changes, in 3 hrs. 10 mins. This was the first peal Mr. Wm. Burgess conducted, and it is thirty-four years since the eight large bells were rung a peal. W. Burgess, 1; J. Bowcock, 2; J. Adams, 3; B. Broadbent, 4; S. Andrew, 5; J. Gillott, 6; J. Thorpe, 7; J. Andrew, 8. Tenor, 28 cwt. Key, D.

ON Saturday, 23rd inst., the ringers of St. Peter's Church in the above town, assisted by Mr. J. Adams, rang a peal of Bob Major, containing 5600 changes, in 3 hrs. 27 mins. The peal was composed and conducted by Mr. Charles Thorp. J. E. Pickford (first peal), 1; J. Hopwood, 2; T. Taylor, 3; J. Adams, 4; J. Mellor, 5; J. Stones, 6; J. Andrew, 7; C. Thorp, 8. Tenor, 20 cwt. Key, C.

Change-ringing at St. Peter's Church, Liverpool.

ON Thursday evening, 21st inst., the joint Societies of St. Peter's and St. Nicholas' Change-ringers rang, as a compliment to Mr. William Howard (a member of St. Peter's Society who on the 1st inst. entered his 86th year), a peal of Grandsire Caters, consisting of 5040 changes, in 3 hrs. 16 mins. R. Williams, sen., 1; *J. Moore, 2; *J. Brown, 3; G. Helsby, 4; *J. Egerton, 5; *W. Littler, 6; *T. Hammond, 7; *H. Beck, 8; R. Williams, jun., 9; *W. Brooks, 10. Tenor, 25 cwt. Conducted by R. Williams, jun. *First peal of Caters. †First peal.

Change-ringing at Stanstead, Essex.

ON Thursday, the 21st inst., was rung by four members of the above parish, assisted by Messrs. S. Hayes of Gravesend, Kent, and H. J. Tucker of Bishop's Stortford, Herts, members of the Ancient Society of College Youths, 720 of Norwich Court Bob Minor, in 26½ minutes. J. Caval, 1; H. Prior, 2; J. Luckey, 3; C. Prior, 4; H. J. Tucker, 5; S. Hayes (conductor), 6. Tenor, 13 cwt.

Change-ringing at SS. Peter and Paul, Eye, Suffolk.

ON Friday, the 22nd inst., was rung at the above church a peal of Oxford Treble Bob Major, comprising 6080 changes, in 5 hrs. 12 mins. G. Murton (Eye), 1; G. Day (Eye), 2; R. Huggins (Needham), 3; H. Baldry (Brandeston), 4; R. King (Framsden), 5; D. Collins (Worlingworth), 6; E. Collins (Worlingworth), 7; F. Day (Eye), 8. Composed by the late Mr. J. Miller, of the London Society of Cumberlands, and conducted by G. Murton. Tenor about 24 cwt.

Change-ringing by the West Kent Guild.

ON Saturday, the 23rd inst., eight members of this Guild rang, at the parish church of St. Paulinus, Crayford, Holt's original one-course peal of Grandsire Triples, containing 5040 changes, in 3 hrs. 5 min., viz.: J. Sloper, 1; T. Dixon (conductor), 2; E. Hamant, 3; F. French, 4; A. Payne, 5; A. Coles, 6; J. Garard, 7; J. Foreman, 8.

Change-ringing at Holy Trinity, Bolton, Lancashire.

ON Saturday, the 23rd inst., seven of the Holy Trinity ringers, assisted by Mr. J. Curtis of Leigh, rang a true and complete peal of Grandsire Triples (Taylor's six-part Bob-and-Single variation), comprising 5040 changes, in 2 hrs. 56 mins. H. W. Jackson (conductor), 1; H. Bentley, 2; R. Gregson, 3; T. E. Turner, 4; J. Curtis, 5; W. Hamer, 6; S. Gaskell, 7; T. Morris, 8. Tenor, 16 cwt.

Change-ringing at St. Paul, Denholm, Yorkshire.

ON the 24th inst., 5184 changes of Kent Treble Bob Major were rung in 3 hrs. 7 mins., with the 6th twelve times wrong and twelve times right in 5-6, also the 6th six courses wrong and five courses right; in commemoration of the fine ring of eight bells cast by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank of London, opened November 4th, 1876, which gives great credit to them for their fine tone. J. H. Harcastle (Bradford), treble; J. Jenkinson (Bradford), 2; J. Butterfield (Denholm), 3; A. Howarth (Denholm), 4; W. Hoyle (Denholm), 5; R. Rushworth (Denholm), 6; J. Foster (Denholm), 7; J. Foster (Denholm), 8. Tenor, 15 cwt. The peal was composed by William Sottanstell, Sowerby, and conducted by Jonas Foster of Denholm.

Change-ringing by the Rochdale and District Association, Lancashire.

ON the 25th inst., at the Rochdale parish church, Taylor's Bob-and-Single peal of Grandsire Triples was rung in 2 hrs. 52 min. A. Hurst, 1; *W. Seedel, 2; G. Hoyle, 3; A. Clegg, 4; *G. W. Greenwood, 5; C. J. Butterworth (conductor), 6; F. Birtwistle, 7; E. J. Stephenson, 8. Tenor, 17½ cwt.; key, E flat. This is the first time the above peal has been rung in this district. * Their first peal.

A GUIDE TO THE CHANGE-RINGING STEEPLES OF ENGLAND is in course of preparation, and will be brought out at an early date by W. Wells Gardner. It would be a great assistance if those societies which have not yet been applied to *direct*, would send information on the following points. (1.) Name of Society (stating the county), and if in a town the names of church and street. (2.) Number of bells and weight of tenor. (3.) Methods practised, and usual days for ringing. (4.) Name and address of Secretary or head ringer. (5.) Nearest railway station. Address, Rev. R. Acland-Troyte, Porlock, Somersetshire.

NOTICES.—A 'Subscriber' is requested to send his name and address. Mr. F. H. Fisher is also requested to send his address. The Rev. F. H. Fisher, Vicar of Fulham, requests us to state that he is not the author of the letter which appeared in our last issue under the same name.

RECEIVED ALSO.—A Lover of Bell Music; J. L. Macdonald; and others.