

IRELAND.

(From our own Correspondent.)

THE election returns for Supplemental Diocesan Nominators for Dublin were published this (Wednesday) morning. The Revs. Canon Peacocke and James Hewitt have received the largest amount of votes as clerical, and the Vice-Provost, Dr. Hart, as lay supplementalist. The first two reverse the order in which they stood three years ago, proving that more moderate counsels are prevailing; and Dr. Hart takes the place of Mr. Pakenham Law, an extreme Low Churchman.

Señor Cabrera, 'Bishop-elect of Madrid,' leaves this on Friday next, the 8th inst., for Spain; after an extensive tour of meetings held on behalf of the Spanish, Portuguese, and Mexican Church Aid Society, in the course of which he visited Belfast, Derry, Limerick, Cork, and Waterford. A large number of the bishops, it is reported, are in favour of the consecration of Señor Cabrera; but there are serious difficulties felt about their doing so. Some of these difficulties are pointed out in a learned letter addressed by the Rev. Canon Smith, B.D., to the *Irish Ecclesiastical Gazette*. The final meeting on behalf of Señor Cabrera's work was held in the Molesworth Hall, Dublin, when the Archbishop took the chair. Speeches were delivered by Lord Plunket, D.D., Bishop of Meath, Señor Cabrera, Dr. Salmon, and Judge Warren. The Archbishop was cautious in the remarks he made, as was also Dr. Salmon. The latter is reported to have spoken as follows:—

'If they felt they had been right themselves in separating from the Church of Rome, they must feel sympathy with other persons who thought as they had done that that Church teaches doctrines which they could not receive, and they must sympathise with them when casting off that which was erroneous, not parting with anything which had been handed down as truth from the time of the Apostles. There was always a great risk when people were shaking off erroneous opinions in which they had been brought up lest they should go altogether astray and adopt some wild opinions. He thought the great secret of our English Reformation had been the caution with which it was conducted.'

The Bishop of Limerick, writing to his Archdeacon to express his regret at not being able to attend a meeting of the Society in Limerick, thus expressed himself:—

'It may be that in some points we might wish that the institution of these infant Churches had been framed in more exact conformity with those of the Church of England, or our own Church of Ireland. But when we remember that allowances must be made for difference of circumstances, we shall be disposed to look with satisfaction upon an agreement in essentials which warrants us in maintaining a close and affectionate communion with the Churches whose history, and present state, and future prospects will be brought before you to-day.'

The Rev. Canon Weldon takes the Advent addresses to lay-helpers in the Cathedral of Christ Church. He takes the following subjects:—1st, 'The Call;' 2nd, 'The Work;' 3rd, 'The Reward.' The usual special Advent services are announced in most of the city churches.

The Cathedral of St. Patrick will be reopened on Sunday next, after undergoing extensive repairs within and without. The old stone flags have been removed from the nave, and are replaced with handsome encaustic tiling. New marble steps have been placed in the sanctuary, an open space of some twelve feet has been made all round the base of the building on the outside, and the foundations strengthened with solid beds of concrete. The buttress on the north side which was found to be in a dangerous condition has been temporarily shored up with massive timbers, preparatory to its being rebuilt along with the one which fell some time ago with such fatal results. Among the latest monuments erected within the Cathedral is a mural tablet to the memory of the late Right Hon. William Burke, LL.D.

The sixth annual meeting of the Diocesan Branch of the S. P. C. K. was held in the Clarence Place Rooms, Belfast, on the 23rd ult. The Very Rev. the Dean of Down presided, in the unavoidable absence of the Lord Bishop, who was prevented from attending by temporary indisposition. His Lordship, in a very kind letter to the Secretary (the Rev. T. P. Morgan), expressed his 'great disappointment' at his inability to be present, inasmuch as he 'took a great interest in the Society.' He further stated that 'he really thought if the clergy and laity of the diocese would only consider the various useful work the Society carries out on Church lines, it would receive a larger amount of support than it does.' The Chairman, in his opening address, referred, among other matters, to the publications of the Society which tend to counteract the infidelity of the age.

CANADA.

ARCHDEACON PINKHAM has visited Regina, or, as it is hereafter to be styled, Wascana, to inaugurate Church services there. This brand-new city, as the capital of the new civil province, is destined soon to be the seat of a bishopric. It is 400 miles from Winnipeg, on the river whose name it has taken. Last August there was on its site one solitary tent; this October there was a population of 800; next year 'several thousand people will be settled there.' At Brandon, another new centre, the Church 'has grown in two years from nothing to be self-supporting, and gives \$1500 a-year; at Wascana she will, we hope, grow even faster.'

PROFESSOR Goldwin Smith has founded at Toronto a Children's Day Home, 'with the object of caring for the children of women obliged to go out by the day, a nominal charge being made of two cents a-day.'

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Lancashire Association of Six-bell Change-ringers.

THE next Quarterly Meeting of the above Association will be held at Church, near Accrington, on Saturday, December 16th. The bells of St. James's parish will be open for ringing from two o'clock.

JOHN G. HIGSON.

Lancashire Association of Change-ringers.

A MEETING, for ringing purposes only, will be held on Saturday, December 16th, at St. Paul's Church, Ramsbottom. Ringing from 2 p.m.

W. J. CHATTERTON, } Hon. Secs.
JOEL REDFORD, }

Restoration of Bells at St. Andrew's, Kenn, Devon.

THE old ring of six bells in this church has lately been rehung by Mr. Harry Stokes of Woodbury—new cages of massive oak, new floors, and new wheels and fittings, with Ellacombe chiming-hammers. On the 30th ult., being St. Andrew's Day, several services were held, beginning with two celebrations at 8.15 and 10 a.m.; the latter was choral. At 3 was a children's service, and at 7 p.m. an appropriate sermon was preached by the Rev. A. Everett, vicar of Berry Pomeroy. The bells were rung throughout the day by the parish ringers and others from the neighbourhood, but nothing was done by them worthy of notice.

New Bells at Clyst Honiton, Devon.

THE old bells of this church, having been recast into a new ring of six by Messrs. Taylor and Co. of Loughborough, and rehung by a local tradesman, were opened on the 23rd ult. Divine service was held at 11 a.m. There was a numerous congregation, including many of the neighbouring clergy. After the reading of the third collect the clergy proceeded to the belfry, where the dedication prayers were offered up by the vicar, the Rev. H. B. Bullocke. While the clergy were retiring from the belfry the parish ringers rang a few rounds on the bells. An anthem followed, taken from the 150th Psalm, and was effectively rendered by the parish choir. An appropriate sermon was preached by the Ven. Archdeacon Woolcombe. At the close of the service the bells pealed forth. An evening service at six o'clock, with an impressive sermon by the Rev. W. T. Day of Stoke Canon, concluded the interesting events of the day. There was no ringing worth noticing.

Dedication of a New Ring of Bells at Egg Buckland, Devon.

ON Wednesday, the 29th ult., a special service was held at the parish church to inaugurate a new ring of six bells, which have been erected by subscription. The bells are a fine ring of six, in the key of E flat, and bear the following inscriptions:—Treble, 'Attendite populi'; second, 'Erected by subscription'; third, 'C. E. Turner, vicar'; fourth, 'B. Butland, W. Anthony, churchwardens, 1882'; fifth, 'W. Aggett, bellhanger, Chagford, Devon'; tenor, 'J. J. Elliot, Leigham.—Gloria in excelsis Deo.' The tenor bell was the gift of Mr. Elliot. For the opening service the bells were rung by the ringers of St. Andrew's, Plymouth. The church was crowded, and the following were the clergy present:—The Ven. Archdeacon Earle; the Rev. C. E. Turner (vicar); the Rev. Morton Smith (Plymouth St. Mary); the Rev. F. Roberts (Tamerton); and the Rev. W. Goode (St. Budeaux). A special form of service was used for the occasion, and a hymn was sung and prayers of dedication were offered in the belfry. The hymn before the sermon commenced, 'Hark! the bells with joyous sound wake the country all around.' The Archdeacon preached from Rom. xii. 15, 'Rejoice with them that do rejoice and weep with them that weep.' After the service the old inhabitants were entertained at tea in the schoolroom, and the bell-ringers had dinner provided for them at the expense of the committee. [It is an uncommon thing to record the name of the hanger; certainly it is not an inscription to be imitated. We presume that this bellhanger is an unexceptionally clever hand, as no other member of his trade has ever, we believe, had the honour of being so recorded as such in letters of bronze.]

[We have always been opposed to the melting down of old bells, therefore we are sorry to learn that in the above reconstructions—in that of Clyst Honiton, two sound bells of mediæval date (one, the tenor, being of special interest, as no bell like it is known to exist) have been ruthlessly destroyed. In the other place—Egg Buckland—one of the bells being cracked, it was necessary to melt it down; but in such a case the inscription might have been reproduced. Surely the tenor might have been preserved and spliced into a new ring, instead of being handed over to the bell-hanger, who advertises it as a fine bell for sale. Bell-hangers and bell-founders care nothing about the antiquity of bells; all they care for is to get the job. It has been well said by a French writer, 'An old bell by its inscriptions, its medallions, and its ornaments, relates the history of the past better than a mutilated stone.' (Translation from M. Pardiac's *Notice about the Bells of Bordeaux*, 1858.) We would therefore beg leave to take this opportunity of warning the clergy and other parochial authorities against being talked over by bell-founders or bell-hangers to melt down their old bells (unless they are cracked, and then the old inscriptions should be reproduced) to convert them into a new ring, part of a larger number. Legally they have no right to do such an act without a faculty. And then, let them not attempt to do the job cheap. Cheap bell-work is throwing money away. Clappers not being attended to very frequently cause the cracking of a bell, when it strikes below the sound-bow, or thickest part of the bell.—ED.]

Dedication of a New Ring of Bells at Heath, Derbyshire.

THE dedication of five bells at All Saints' Church, Heath, took place on Wednesday, the 22nd ult. Divine service was performed at 11.30 a.m., with a sermon by the Rev. J. E. Massey, rector of South Normanton. The South Normanton ringers opened the bells. The services were continued on the

following Sunday, when the ringers of St. Lawrence, Northwillingfield, rang for morning and afternoon services, by an invitation from the Rev. H. Catteringham, vicar of All Saints'. Twelve six-scores of Doubles were rung. G. Clough, 1; T. Millington (conductor), 2; J. H. Cook, 3; J. Atkin, 4; T. Clough, 5. The bells were cast and hung by Messrs. Taylor and Co. of Loughborough.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At St. John-in-Bedwardine, Worcester.

On Thursday, the 23rd ult., a peal of 720 Grandsire Minor was rung in 28 mins. F. Owon, * 1; G. Hobbs, * 2; S. Price, * 3; T. Gwynn, 4; H. Wilkes, * 5; G. Cleal* (conductor), 6. Tenor, about 16 cwt. [* Members of the Worcester Diocesan and adjoining Districts Association.]

At St. Nicholas, Chislehurst, Kent.

On Monday, the 27th ult., eight members of the Chislehurst Society rang a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 45 mins. C. J. Barham, 1; J. Durling, 2; G. French, 3; J. Fullux, 4; J. Thomas, 5; H. I. Shade (composer and conductor), 6; T. Phillips, 7; F. Miles, 8. Tenor, 18 cwt.

At St. John's, Penge, Surrey.

On Tuesday, the 28th ult., six members of the Surrey Association rang a peal of 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor, with 9 bobs, in 26 mins. H. Ladin, 1; J. Plowman, 2; D. Springhall, 3; J. Fayers, 4; G. Bell, 5; S. Greenwood (conductor), 6. Tenor, 9½ cwt., in C sharp.

At SS. Mary and Nicolas, Spalding, Lincolnshire.

On Thursday, the 30th ult., a peal of 720 Plain Bob was rung. G. Sheep, 1; A. Brown, 2; G. L. Richardson, 3; J. Brown, 4; J. S. Wright, 5; R. Creasey (conductor), 6.

Also on the 3rd inst., after evening service, a peal of 720 Oxford Bob, with the bells muffled, as a mark of respect to the late Archbishop of Canterbury. A. Brown, 1; R. Creasey, 2; G. L. Richardson, 3; R. Mackman (conductor), 4; J. S. Wright, 5; J. R. Jerram, 6. Tenor, 18 cwt. By the request of the vicar, the Rev. Canon Moore, Mr. Price, the Organist, played the Dead March in Saul as a concluding Voluntary after the service, the choir and congregation remaining in their stalls and seats.

At Christ Church, Aughton, Lancashire.

On Friday evening, the 1st inst., seven ringers of the above church, assisted by Mr. Peter Fairhurst of Ormskirk, rang the first half of Holt's Ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples (2520 changes) in 1 hr. 34 mins. G. Larkey, 1; J. Gardner, 2; J. Orme, 3; W. Fairclough, 4; P. Fairhurst (conductor), 5; C. Sharples, 6; J. Walker, 7; W. Bentham, 8. Tenor, 16 cwt.

At St. Matthew's, Bethnal Green, London.

On Saturday, the 2nd inst., eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang a peal of 5040 Stedman's Triples (Thurstan's, Brook's Variation) in 2 hrs. 58 mins. J. R. Haworth, 1; W. Cecil, 2; G. Muskett, 3; W. Cooter, 4; W. Meadows, Esq. (first peal), 5; E. Wallage, 6; M. A. Wood (conductor), 7; G. B. Crossman, 8. Tenor, 14 cwt., in F.

At St. Alphege's, Greenwich, Kent.

On Saturday, the 2nd inst., ten members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang a peal of 5130 Grandsire Cateters in 3 hrs. 26 mins. J. Pettit, 1; C. F. Winny, 2; G. Mash, 3; E. Gibbs, 4; R. French, 5; F. T. Gover, 6; J. M. Hayes, 7; A. H. Osborne, Bury St. Edmunds, Suffolk (his first peal on ten bells), 8; E. Horrex, 9; W. Prime, 10. Tenor, 25 cwt. Composed by the late H. Booth and conducted by James Pettit.

At St. Peter's, Brighton, Sussex.

On Saturday, the 2nd inst., eight members of the Brighton Societies rang a peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples (Holt's Ten-part) in 3 hrs. 3 mins. J. Jay, * jun., 1; E. Hilder (first peal with a bob bell), 2; J. Searl, 3; C. Tyler, * 4; H. Boast, * 5; G. P. Attree, 6; J. Jay (conductor), 7; E. Awcock, * 8. Tenor, 10½ cwt., in G. [* Their first peal.] This is the first peal on these bells, and the only one rung in Brighton during the past forty-nine years, the last having been obtained on the bells of St. Nicholas in November, 1833.

At All Saints', Whitefield, Lancashire.

On Saturday, the 2nd inst., eight members of the Lancashire Association rang Taylor's Six-part peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples, Bob and Single Variation, in 3 hrs. 2 mins. H. W. Jackson (conductor), 1; W. Warburton, 2; J. Redford, 3; T. E. Turner, 4; J. Curtis, 5; W. Marsden, 6; J. Harrison, 7; W. Hilton, 8. Tenor, 21 cwt. 1 qr.

At Mersham, Kent.

On Saturday, the 2nd inst., a peal of 720 Kent Treble Bob was rung in 26 mins. E. Ruek (conductor), 1; G. Finn, sen., 2; G. Finn, jun., 3; G. Pain, 4; F. Finn, 5; E. Finn, 6. [Tenor not mentioned.]

At Manchester Cathedral.

On Saturday, the 2nd inst., a peal of 5526 Grandsire Cateters was rung in 3 hrs. 40 mins. W. Smith, 1; J. Mellor, 2; G. Longden, 3; J. Adams, 4; J. Wood, junr., 5; T. Wilde, 6; J. Thorpe, 7; S. Wood (composer and conductor), 8; J. S. Wilde, 9; J. Withers, 10. Tenor, 25 cwt. The peal has the 5th, 3rd, 6th, and 2nd their extent behind the 9th.

At St. Saviour's, Leicester.

On Saturday, the 2nd inst., eight members of the St. Saviour's Society rang for the first time on these bells Holt's Ten-part peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples in 3 hrs. 17 mins. E. Garner, * 1; A. Miller (conductor), 2; A. Brown, 3; F. Ashwell, * 4; J. Needham, * 5; H. W. Needham, * 6; G. Dickenson, * 7; G. Needham, * 8. Tenor, 27 cwt., in E. [* First peal.]

RECEIVED ALSO.—W. J. Chatterton; J. Drinkwater; 'Looker-on in India' will be accepted with thanks. Several communications unavoidably postponed till next week.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The Cambridge Election.

SIR,—The return of Mr. Raikes as Member for the University of Cambridge naturally suggests inquiries in the minds of Churchmen as to the political principles and qualifications of the two candidates, the grounds upon which the contest was decided, and its probable effects upon the welfare of the Church. The two candidates were Churchmen—the one Conservative, the other Liberal. Mr. Raikes is a man who has acquired a fair reputation as a debater, a man of business, and administrator. His university course was sufficiently good to secure him against reproach, but not sufficiently high to establish of itself a claim for his election. He is known as an attached member of the established Church, who would resist all attempts to deprive her of her endowments or to separate her from the State. Professor Stuart has no antecedents of a political or administrative kind, beyond such as have been concerned with the university. His academical distinctions are of the highest, his allegiance to the Church as a Churchman has not been questioned, but doubts were raised as to the probable course he would follow when the question of disestablishment arose, if it should arise. A knowledge that these doubts were the subject of discussion among the electors induced his friend Canon Morse to invite a public confession from him on the subject of disestablishment. The confession was not sufficiently pronounced to satisfy the suspicions of the parochial clergy for whose information the inquiry was made, and so Professor Stuart was relegated to his academical employment, and Mr. Raikes was elected M.P. of the university.

The election, as it appears to us, has brought out no new political truths, nor suggests new conjectures as to the future position of the Established Church. It must have been well known that if the battle was fought upon political grounds, such a Conservative Churchman as Mr. Raikes would defeat such a Liberal Churchman as Professor Stuart. It is one misfortune of Liberal Churchmen, that they are identified with liberal political Dissenters in all questions connected with the endowments and establishment of the Church. The policy of Dissent is unquestionably disestablishment; the religious Dissenter on the ground that endowments and State patronage hinder the progress of true religion, the political Dissenter because the ministers and members of an Established Church necessarily enjoy pecuniary, political, and social advantages which the voluntarily supported bodies do not. It ought not, therefore, to be a matter of surprise that the parochial clergy voted as they did. One may be allowed to regret that as the battle was fought upon political grounds, and those grounds in great measure at least the narrow ones of establishment and disestablishment, neither of the candidates ventured upon a declaration of supporting a well-matured scheme of Church reform.

The progress of religion in the country at this present time is terribly hindered by reason of the scandals and dissensions and shortcomings of the national Church. We may thank God that matters among us in this respect are better than they were, and yet admit that there is very much still to be done. The settlement of ecclesiastical courts, the compelling of refractory and idle clergy to submit to the godly admonitions of their bishops, the reform of Convocation, the constitution of diocesan and parochial councils, the arrangement of patronage, the stopping of sales of livings,—these, and suchlike, require immediate attention; and it is not too much to say that Convocation, however enlarged or improved, is insufficient for these things. In all matters in which secular interests and vested rights are concerned, the aid of the legislature must be invoked. We can only hope that when the day for discussing these questions in Parliament arrives, Mr. Raikes may be found equal to the occasion, and assist in preserving that which is intrinsically good, in ejecting that which is bad, in correcting that which needs correction, and in adapting the national Church as far as is possible to the altered requirements of the times and the spiritual wants of the nation.

The Boycotted Parsonage in Connemara.

SIR,—The extraordinary interference of the Roman Catholic priest with the workmen engaged in building my new parsonage has been the subject of a paragraph in your paper of the 7th of October, from your Special Irish Correspondent. Your readers who have taken an interest in this matter (some of whom expressed their sympathy in a practical manner), will now be glad to learn that the Executive have at last resolved to interfere for my protection in the exercise of the very unquestionable right of carrying on this work without fear of molestation.

On last Friday, in the public Court House of this village, after the ordinary routine business had been dealt with, the presiding magistrate read a proclamation to the inhabitants of Roundstone and its vicinity, from Mr. Clifford Lloyd, the special magistrate in charge of the province, to the effect that those responsible for the peace of the district and the protection of the law-abiding, had determined to put an end to the boycotting and intimidation that had so long prevailed, and intimated that if this illegal conduct were persisted in a special levy of police would immediately be quartered in the district at the expense of the taxpayers. We hail with satisfaction this public expression of the Executive's displeasure of priestly interference, and hope that the penalty in reserve may prevent its recurrence.

In circumstances of considerable anxiety and difficulty, the sympathy extended to me from so many quarters has encouraged me to withstand the determined opposition arrayed against me, and to persevere in a work *absolutely necessary* for the continuance of a Gospel ministry in this important outpost. I have now every hope of success, and feel that new friends will be raised up to enable me to complete the building by generously contributing the needed balance of about 350*l*.

I have the pleasure of acknowledging in your advertising columns a list of

IRELAND.

(From our own Correspondent.)

ST. PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL was reopened on last Sunday, having been closed for the space of five months for repairs. The sermon was preached at the morning and afternoon service by the Rev. Charles Ovenden, M.A., succentor. In the course of his morning sermon the preacher said—

'It is, I am sure, with a feeling of real joy that you look around to-day and see the improvements which have been effected in this, the National Cathedral of the Church of Ireland. Some time ago we were filled with anxiety, lest through the inroads of damp the beautiful work of the restorer of this Cathedral should have fallen into decay. The floor was saturated with water, which by spreading upward was destroying and rotting the carved stone of the pillars and the beautiful carved oak of the choir. Had the devastation of ground damp been allowed to continue, in a few years the Cathedral would have fallen into the ruinous state in which its munificent restorer found it. You have only to look round and see how all this danger has been averted. The works have been carried out in a thorough and efficient manner.

'The foundation of the work was laid by Mr. Edward Guinness, who with great generosity constructed at his own expense a culvert of large dimensions, reaching from the level of high water in the Liffey to the Cathedral, eight feet below the level of the floor. An outlet being thus found for the water, a drain was constructed all round the Cathedral so as to intercept all water flowing towards it from the higher ground with which it is surrounded. In sinking this drain it was discovered that the foundations were enclosed in a mass of soft yielding mud, placing the whole Cathedral in danger of subsidence. The water had soaked through the walls, rotting and bursting the plaster on the inside, as you had doubtless often observed. This mud was removed and replaced with about 8000 tons of concrete, outside which the deep drain has been sunk. The floor was found to be resting on iron slag, which, being saturated with water and mixed with earth, was useless as a foundation. This was removed and replaced by a foot depth of sound concrete. The new floor which has been laid is a faithful reproduction of the ancient original tiles of St. Patrick's Cathedral, many of which are preserved in the floor of the baptistry. Not a single stock pattern tile has been introduced—all are original St. Patrick's Cathedral tiles; so that we may say that our national Cathedral has now a floor unsurpassed in beauty by any floor in the United Kingdom.'

The cost of effecting all these improvements is necessarily very heavy, amounting to nearly 10,000*l.* Towards this sum the Dean and Chapter have as yet received but a little over 4000*l.* The preacher stated, in the course of his sermon, that the late Sir Benjamin Lee Guinness was understood to have expended 150,000*l.* on the rebuilding of the cathedral. The pity is, that when that magnificent merchant undertook the work the necessity of thoroughly draining the foundations of the cathedral was not perceived. A great deal of the subsequent decay and the present expenditure might have been thereby avoided. However, what has been done now will place our national minster beyond all future anxiety on this score.

On Wednesday, the 29th ult., the Very Rev. John Gwynn, D.D., Dean of Derry, was duly installed in St. Columba's Cathedral, Londonderry. The morning service having been sung the Dean was escorted by the Chapter from the choir to his stall, where the Rev. Richard Babington, Diocesan Registrar, read the Bishop's mandate, and the new Dean was duly installed. The Bishop then said the installation prayer, after which the ceremony was brought to a close.

The death is recorded of the Rev. William Sandford, Rector of Clonmel, and Chancellor of Lismore Cathedral. He was a member of the General Synod, and of the Diocesan Council of Waterford and Lismore, where he also had a seat in the Diocesan Court. The Bishop of Cashel took part in the funeral service in Clonmel Churchyard on Tuesday, the 5th inst.

The Archbishop of Dublin last week inspected the pupils attending the National Board Model Schools, Marlborough Street, Dublin, who are members of the Church of Ireland. His Grace was accompanied by his private chaplain, the Rev. Francis C. Trench, the Revs. A. W. Ardagh and Thomas Greene; the paid catechists were present, together with the Revs. J. W. Tristram, the Inspector of the Dublin Diocesan Board of Education, and A. Purefoy, Rector of Lusk. The Archbishop afterwards visited the Training Department, where he was received by the Revs. Dr. Macmahon and W. K. Ormsby, catechetical instructors to the teachers.

The Rev. Canon Smith, in the course of his letter to the Irish *Ecclesiastical Gazette* on the proposed consecration of a Spanish bishop for the reformed congregations in Spain, writes—

'I shall be asked whether I think, then, that the Bishops ought to act in this matter without external help and advice? Certainly not; but their proper helpers, advisers, and even guides are the other Bishops of the Catholic Church. To submit their action to a Pan-Anglican Synod would be the nearest approach to the practical application of St. Cyprian's principles which would be possible under the circumstances; nor do I believe that the Pan-Anglican Synod at its last assemblage handled any matter half so important.'

Sergeant Danvers, of the King's Rifles, who so bravely came to the assistance of the police in the Abbey Street affray a few weeks ago, was presented, on Saturday last, by the Provost, several of the Fellows, and a large number of the students of Trinity College, with a silver salver and 'Tantalus,' as a mark of their appreciation of his pluck and presence of mind.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

St. Clement's, Grainthorpe, Lincolnshire.

THE bells of this marsh parish church for some years past have only been rung with fear and trembling, the framework (the greater part of which was probably that which was put up when the tower was built in the fifteenth century) being in a very bad condition, and the head-stock of the tenor bell badly cracked. Notwithstanding the bad times and the poverty of the district, the parishioners, who are justly proud of the possession of three such fine bells, and grateful to the voluntary ringers who have persevered in their work in spite of the great labour, determined to remedy the unsatisfactory state of things, and at last their patient efforts have been crowned with success, the bells being rehung in time to give forth the Advent summons. Mr. T. Mallaby, of Masham, Yorkshire, put up new oak framework, floor, and fittings throughout. The fact that, during the last six years of agricultural depression, the chancel has been restored at a cost of about 600*l.* by the lay rectors, the Master and Fellows of Magdalen College, Cambridge, while warming apparatus and a new organ have been supplied and the bells rehung with money raised strictly within the parish, holds out encouraging hopes of the completion of the restoration of the nave, which is greatly needed, and for which already many subscriptions have been promised.

CHANGE - RINGING.

At Gillingham, Kent.

ON Saturday, the 25th ult., eight members of the Kent Association rang a date touch of 1882 Grandsire Triples in 1 hr. 5 mins. B. King, 1; S. Hampshire, 2; H. Greaves, 3; W. Baker, 4; A. Haigh, 5; J. Baker, 6; E. Andrew (conductor), 7; J. Tullett, 8. Tenor, 18 cwt.

ON Saturday, the 9th inst., a peal of 720 Grandsire Minor, containing 88 bobs and 22 singles, was rung in 25 mins. H. Greaves, 1; E. Andrew, 2; A. Haigh, 3; J. Baker, 4; W. Baker (conductor), 5; J. Tullett, 6.

Also on Sunday, the 10th inst., with the bells deeply muffled, a quarter-peal (1260) Grandsire Triples was rung in 50 mins., in memory of the late Archbishop of Canterbury. O. Sullivan, 1; S. Hampshire, 2; H. Greaves, 3; W. Baker, 4; A. Haigh, 5; J. Tullett, 6; E. Andrew (conductor), 7; W. Haigh, 8. [All members of the Kent Association.]

At St. Mary's, Sheffield, Yorkshire.

EIGHT members of the Yorkshire Association, who also belong to the College Youths, London, rang a peal of 5040 Stedman's Triples in 3 hrs. 8 mins. C. H. Hattersley (conductor), 1; J. Mulligan, 2; T. Hattersley, 3; W. Mulligan, 4; E. Woodward, 5; J. Dixon, 6; A. Brierley, 7; H. Madin, 8. Tenor, 25 cwt. [No date has been given.]

At St. Mary's, Kidderminster, Worcestershire.

ON Saturday, the 2nd inst., five of the Bromsgrove and three of the Chad-desley Societies, also members of the Worcester and District Association, rang a peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples in 3 hrs. 15 mins., being the first peal since the rehanging of the bells by Taylor and Co. J. Crawford, 1; H. Broad, 2; G. Bourne, 3; W. Duffill, 4; E. Crump (conductor), 5; J. Perrens, 6; J. Broad, 7; J. Parry, 8. Tenor, 29 cwt.

At All Saints', Almondbury, near Huddersfield, Yorkshire.

ON Saturday, the 2nd inst., the Yorkshire Association rang a peal of 5024 Kent Treble Bob Major in 3 hrs. 3 mins. J. Stead, 1; J. G. Hardy, 2; T. Haigh, 3; R. Hill, 4; J. Barraclough, 5; F. Schofield, 6; J. Pickering, 7; J. W. Snowdon, Esq. (conductor), 8. The peal was composed by F. Pitstow. Tenor, 18 cwt.

At St. Mary's, Woolwich, Kent.

ON Sunday evening, the 3rd inst., for Divine service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes) was rung in 41 mins. H. Bright, 1; H. Harvey, 2; W. G. Shade, 3; C. Harvey, 4; F. Bidgood, 5; I. G. Shade (composer and conductor), 6; W. Aldridge, 7; J. Meaden, 8.

At Christ Church, Southport, Lancashire.—Muffled Peal.

THE Society of Change-ringers of the above church rang on Sundays, the 3rd and 10th inst., for Divine service, and on each evening during the week from 8 to 9 o'clock, muffled peals in memory of the late Archbishop of Canterbury. They also commenced at 12.30 on Friday (the time of his burial), and rang a muffled peal, consisting of 1652 Grandsire Triples. J. H. Heywood, 1; T. J. Fielding, 2; A. Fielding, 3; C. T. Heywood (conductor), 4; R. Hill, 5; H. Spencer, 6; G. R. Heywood, 7; E. Greenwood, 8.

At Hyde, Cheshire.

ON Monday, the 4th inst., eight members of the local Society rang a peal of 5120 Bob Major in 3 hrs. 2 mins. J. S. Wilde (composer and conductor), 1; R. Pritchard, 2; T. Bradley, 3; W. Slater, 4; J. Shaw, 5; S. Bradley, 6; T. Wilde, 7; D. Leigh, 8. Tenor, 16 cwt.

At St. Giles's, Norwich.

ON Monday, the 4th inst., the St. Peter Mancroft ringers, with the Rev. G. H. Harris, rang H. Haley's peal of 5120 Oxford Treble Bob Major in 3 hrs. 5 mins. W. Blyth, 1; J. Smith, 2; J. Fiddiment, 3; Rev. G. H. Harris, 4; W. Smith, 5; F. Knights, 6; J. Skinner, 7; G. Smith (conductor), 8. Tenor, 15 cwt.

At St. Margaret's, Westminster, London.—Muffled Peal.

ON Tuesday, the 5th inst., ten members of the St. Margaret's Society rang a half-muffled peal in memory of the late Archbishop of Canterbury. A. Smith, 1; T. Hewitt, 2; A. J. Rumbold, 3; W. Shapland, 4; W. Fogden, 5; J. Dod, 6; S. Smith (steeple-keeper), 7; A. J. Perriam, 8; A. Andrews, 9; J. Scowen, 10. Tenor, 28 cwt.

At St. John's, Loughton, Essex.

On Thursday, the 7th inst., a company of the Essex Association, assisted by Mr. H. Barnett of Tottenham, rang a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, containing 28 bobs and 2 singles, in 47 mins. W. Smith, 1; G. Akers, 2; J. Nunn (composer), 3; M. Ellsmore, 4; A. H. Gardom, Esq. (conductor), 5; H. Barnett, 6; H. Searlett, 7; J. Marks, 8. Tenor, 19 cwt.

Five times repeated, but substitute a single at end of 3rd and 6th parts.

At St. Ann's, Stamford Hill, Middlesex.—Muffled Peal.

On Friday, the 8th inst., a muffled peal was rung in memory of the late Archbishop of Canterbury. J. Blaby, 1; J. Grubb, 2; J. Chalkley, 3; J. L. Clark, 4; F. Clear, 5; W. Sweatland (conductor), 6. Assisted in the evening by Master F. Lettis (son of the Vicar), T. Davidson, C. Y., and A. Spooner.

At St. Paul's, Burton-on-Trent, Staffordshire.—Muffled Peal.

On Friday, the 8th inst., eight members of the St. Paul's Society rang a muffled peal of 5024 Kent Treble Bob Major, in memory of the late Archbishop of Canterbury, in 3 hrs. 23 mins. Rev. J. H. Fish, 1; J. Griffin, 2; H. Wakley, 3; E. I. Stone, 4; J. Jaggar, 5; G. Appleby, 6; A. Wakley, 7; W. Wakley (conductor), 8. This peal is the composition of Mr. J. Cox, and is a one-part peal in fifteen courses, having the 6th the extent in 5-6, the 4th the extent in 6th's, and the 5th the extent in 5th's place. Tenor, 26 cwt. All members of the Derby and District Association.

At Edinburgh Cathedral.—Muffled Peal.

On Friday, the 8th inst., the St. Mary's Cathedral Society rang, with the bells deeply muffled, a peal in memory of the late Archbishop of Canterbury. S. Bennett (conductor), 1; J. Rayner, 2; J. Johnson, 3; H. Hislop, 4; G. Hodgson, 5; J. Rayner, 6; W. Martin, 7; G. G. Cunningham, 8; P. Tuppen, 9; A. Crosbie, 10. All members of the Ancient Society of College Youths. [Neither time nor weight of tenor mentioned.]

At St. Michael's, Sittingbourne, Kent.—Muffled Peal.

On Friday, the 8th inst., six members of St. Michael's, all being full members of the Kent County Association, rang for an hour Plain Bob Doubles in single whole-pulls, the back-stroke deeply muffled, in memory of the late Archbishop of Canterbury, President of the Association. Tenor, 21 cwt.

At Holy Trinity, Newington, Surrey.—Muffled Peal.

On Friday, the 8th inst., eight ringers of the above church rang a muffled peal in memory of the late Archbishop of Canterbury. G. Woodage (conductor), 1; P. W. Lennard, 2; H. Langdon, 3; J. Fisher, 4; J. Jarratt, 5; H. Welch, 6; F. Perrin, 7; W. Field, 8.

And on Sunday, the 10th inst., for morning service, a mixed band rang a touch of 1100 Grandsire Triples in 40 mins., with the bells half muffled. Conducted by Mr. Bates. Tenor, 20½ cwt.

At Nutfield, Surrey.—Muffled Peal.

On Friday, the 8th inst., with the bells muffled in memory of the late Archbishop of Canterbury, a peal of 720 Grandsire Minor, with 34 bobs and 2 singles, was rung. C. Sendall, 1; T. Boniface, 2; E. Fuller, 3; J. Burkin, 4; L. Killick, 5; W. Burkin (conductor), 6.

Also a peal of 720 in the same method, with 38 bobs and 22 singles. J. Tidey, 1; T. Boniface, 2; L. Killick, 3; J. Burkin, 4; E. Snelling, 5; W. Burkin (conductor), 6.

Also on Monday, the 11th inst., a peal of 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor. C. Sendall, 1; T. Boniface, 2; L. Killick,* 3; J. Burkin, 4; W. Hawkins,* 5; W. Burkin (conductor), 6. Tenor, 13 cwt. [* First peal in this method.]

At Campsall, Yorkshire.—Muffled Peal.

On Friday, the 8th inst., in memory of the late Archbishop of Canterbury, was rung a muffled peal. R. Pearson, 1; J. Senior, 2; W. Butcher, 3; J. Senior, 4; E. Senior, 5; R. Thompson, 6; A. Jubb, 7; F. Briggs, 8.

And on Sunday morning following, for Divine service, the back six bells were rung muffled. A. Jubb, 3; E. Pearson, D. Lorrimer, 5; W. Butcher, 6.

And for the Sunday evening service the bells were rung muffled. A. Jubb, 1; D. Lorrimer, 2; W. Butcher, 3; E. Pearson, 4; E. Senior, 5; J. Senior, 6; F. Lorrimer, 7; F. Briggs, 8. [Neither time nor weight of tenor given.]

At St. Mary's, Cole-Orton, Leicestershire.—Muffled Peal.

On Saturday, the 9th inst., eight members of the Derby and District Association rang a muffled peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples (Holt's Ten-part peal) in 3 hrs. 1 min. in memory of the late Archbishop of Canterbury. J. Griffin, 1; W. Wakley (conductor), 2; J. W. Taylor, jun., 3; H. Wakley, 4; J. Jaggar, 5; G. Robinson, 6; A. Wakley, 7; R. M. Joyce, 8. Tenor, 14 cwt.

At St. James', Norton, Derbyshire.—Muffled Peal.

On Saturday, the 9th inst., six members of the Norton Society rang several peals of Bob Doubles, with the bells deeply muffled on one side, in memory of the late Mr. George Booker, Surgeon, Norton. F. Ward, 1; J. Goucher, 2; W. Biggin, 3; J. Allen (conductor), 4; J. Biggin, 5; W. Lee, 6. Tenor, 11½ cwt.

At St. Michael's, Cornhill, London.

On Saturday, the 9th inst., twelve members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang a peal of 5007 Stedman's Cinques in 3 hrs. 56 mins. H. W. Haley (composer and conductor), 1; W. Cecil, 2; H. C. Haley, 3; E. E. Dame, 4; J. W. Rowbotham, 5; C. F. Wimpy, 6; W. Jones, 7; G. Mash, 8; R. French, 9; E. Horrex, 10; J. M. Hayes, 11; W. Greenleaf, 12. Tenor, 41 cwt.

At Holy Trinity, Dartford, Kent.

On Saturday, the 9th inst., a mixed band rang a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes) in 44 mins. C. J. Barham, 1; T. Durling, 2; H. Peirce, 3; E. W. Snowden, 4; J. Thomas, 5; J. Blackman, 6; H. J. Shade, 7; C. Lambden (composer and conductor), 8. Tenor, 20 cwt.

RECEIVED ALSO.—Communications from Cheriton, Wanstead, and Woodford, without name or address; and others.

CORRESPONDENCE.

'Church Bells' Extension.

SIR,—On reading over the article which is addressed to the readers of *Church Bells* in issue of Dec. 9, the thought suggests itself to me to make known one very practical way in which many subscribers may be instrumental in extending the circulation of *Church Bells*, and a suggestion on which I may add that I have myself acted, both on this occasion and formerly. In the first place, to prevent any misconception, I would say that it is altogether from the fact of the genuineness of the 'ring' of the paper itself, and the guidance and instruction to be derived from its pages by every true son of the Church of God in the land, to whom that Church is dear, that the course suggested is advocated. Many regular subscribers may take or order say three or six extra copies of the commencing number of a new volume, and forward to friends to whom it is unknown with a recommendation. For such a purpose the number for Dec. 9 is specially appropriate and well adapted—indeed, speaks for itself—and I may say that, believing example to be better than precept, I have taken four copies of the issue referred to for this purpose, and believe that already I have at least two new subscribers and hopes of a third—a Presbyterian, too.

All this to some may appear trivial, but to very many the paper is unknown where it would otherwise be welcomed; and a slight effort would achieve much, remembering the while that great efforts are made to spread so-called Church literature among Church folk which is really pernicious or otherwise without any definite aim at all.

In conclusion, I would say, if the proprietors could see fit, or deem it expedient, to place at the disposal of any regular subscriber, willing to post them to friends with this end in view, a few copies of the number that begins a volume, to many a barrier would be removed, and an inducement given to admirers of the paper to extend its circulation. The commencement of the present volume presents a most suitable opportunity for considering the expediency of such an effort being made, and I for one should be glad, if thus at my disposal, to dispose in this way of half a dozen more copies.

NORTH BRITISH LAYMAN.

Work and Overwork.

SIR,—At the Sunday afternoon demonstration of shopkeepers and assistants, held at the Royal Albert Hall, South Kensington, the Rev. H. C. Shuttleworth is reported to have said, that 'whilst work itself is of God, overwork is of the devil.' Probably this was clear enough in the mind of the reverend gentleman, and I can see a sense in which it may be perfectly and absolutely true. If, in order to obtain a livelihood, overwork is forced upon persons and they suffer in health and falter in mental and spiritual energy, so that in time they become a burthen upon society, the fault and the sin is not theirs, but arises from causes which it may be convenient to lay to the charge of the devil. I am, however, of opinion, that if it be so it is by the instrumentality of beings in human form who are quite willing to be led captive by him at his will if they can only satiate their own grasping desires. If all willing workers, who had health and strength, had their due share of honest 'work,' I believe that all would be in their places, doing that which God would have them do and earning honestly the means God would have them earn, so that we should have none of those sights which we are almost daily compelled to witness, of evidently underfed people and overtaxed strength.

In Mr. Shuttleworth's article in *Church Bells* on 'Shorter Hours for Shop-assistants,' he generalises on cases where he thinks 'persuasion' is hopeless in bringing about shorter hours of labour, and he appears to be in favour of 'legislation.' Now, to see matters in the light in which Mr. S. sees them, and many others with him, it would seem to be almost useless to rely any longer upon moral force alone to effect the desired change; but whatever plea may be urged in favour of legislation, it should only be thought of as an extreme resort. Personally I am very much of Mr. Joseph Cowen's opinion, that we are in danger of being legislated out of our liberties. Moral force has done a great deal, is doing a great deal, and it is to be hoped will still become a more effective force in adjusting the conflicting elements of society. Many of the toil-grinders attend our churches and chapels, and those whose office it is to officiate should not fear to deal with the subject in a bold manner in places where the religious and moral should be cultivated, so as to have its due influence on home and business life. Much better would it be to omit the mysticisms of religious teaching, which are so unprofitable to the majority of hearers, and deal with the facts presented to us by everyday life and the times and circumstances in which we live.

Mr. S. says, 'I am no believer in salvation by Act of Parliament, but legislation can remove difficulties and clear the ground for future action.' Now, in attempting to remove difficulties by legislation, it requires great care that it is not a leap in the dark into greater evils than those to be removed. An Act of Parliament can do but little to reform abuses unless it is backed by popular moral force; and an Act of Parliament that brings into the public service so many official watchmen to seek out and overturn manufacturers' abuses, is not likely to be effective in the end. This craving for over-legislation is calculated to trench upon moral responsibility, and convey the idea that we are all natural enemies one of the other, instead of being members of one common family, responsible, in a great measure, for each other's welfare and happiness.

C. BROWN.

30 Rushhill Road, Lavender Hill, S.W.

The Old Palace, Croydon.

SIR,—A movement is on foot at the present moment to repurchase the whole or a portion of the buildings close to the parish church of Croydon, which originally formed part of one of the most ancient of the palaces of the Archbishops of Canterbury.

COLONIAL AND FOREIGN CHURCH NEWS.

CANADA.

THE Halifax *Church Guardian* welcomes the announcement that the Earl of Mulgrave will resign his work in England, to come out to our 'North West.' He is not a stranger to Canada, having spent much of his early life at Halifax, when his father, the Marquis of Normandy, was Governor of Nova Scotia.

The Scandinavian immigrants at 'New Denmark, Nova Scotia, are still remarkable for zealous Churchmanship, under the Rev. N. M. Hansen's pastorate. At a rural-decanal meeting there, on a week-day, it is stated that nearly fifty of the Danes communicated. *Every one* in the congregation sings.

UNITED STATES.

WHILE in London the decrease has been remarkable in the number of juvenile criminals—ascribed in a great degree to the advance of popular education—the case is far otherwise in the Republic. In New York there are at least 75,000 children for whose schooling no provision is made, and the increase of crime is three times greater than the natural increase of the population. There are a million criminals in the whole country.

The ill-treated Red Indians have found a fresh advocate in Mr. Herbert Welsh, son of the late excellent Minister to England. At Brooklyn he was invited by the Bishop to give an address one Sunday in a church, and fifteen places of worship were closed so that ministers and congregations might attend. The Washington Government owes these aborigines debts enough, if paid, to educate their 50,000 children.

AUSTRALIA.

It is stated that the Bishops of New South Wales have nominated for the See of Sydney Bishop Parry of Dover, and the Rev. Richard Appleton of Trinity College, Cambridge, one of whom the whole Australian Episcopate would now have to elect. As the Bishop of Dover would decline the offer of this Antipodean primacy, the final result now seems to rest with Mr. Appleton.

IRELAND.

(From our own Correspondent.)

HIS Grace the Archbishop of Dublin again visited the Central Model Schools, Marlborough Street, yesterday; this time to preside at the distribution of the prizes to those who had been successful at the October Examinations held by the Diocesan Board of Education. Among those present were, the Rev. F. Chevenix Trench, private chaplain to the Archbishop; the Revs. Dr. MacMahon, Ambrose Leet, James White, Canon Wynne, Francis Hayes, T. W. Tristram, organizing Secretary to the Board, and A. W. Ardagh and F. Greene, Catechists. Dr. Corbett, Inspector of the National Board, was also present. The proceedings were commenced by prayers, said by the rector of the parish, Rev. James White, after which the Rev. T. W. Tristram, the organizing Secretary, delivered an address. His Grace the Archbishop, addressing the students, said:—

'It afforded him very great pleasure to be able to preside over the meeting upon that occasion. He was very much pleased to see such a large attendance of the young people of the church. He believed that they would constitute its great strength in the future. He would not occupy their time with any lengthened address, but would merely say that, having striven so well to obtain these prizes, which were still only earthly gifts, they should all study the Holy Scriptures which would make them wise unto salvation, and labour hard to gain that priceless gift—the great prize of eternal life.'

At the conclusion of the distribution of prizes the *Te Deum* was sung, after which the Rev. Canon Wynne addressed the pupils. The Archbishop of Dublin, having apologised for the absence of the Provost of Trinity College, who was detained elsewhere by business, then brought the proceedings to a close with the Benediction.

The Bishop of Meath (Lord Plunket), in a recent address delivered before the Church of Ireland Young Men's Christian Association, referred in the following terms to the late Archbishop of Canterbury:—

'This was the first meeting held in connexion with the Church since the death of the great Primate who had occupied so important a position in the sister Church for so many years, he was sure he expressed the feelings of all present when he said they were deeply conscious of having sustained a great loss. As belonging to that United Kingdom—to that British Empire of which it was their privilege to form a part—they could not but feel the loss of one who, whether as a judicious adviser of our gracious Queen, or as a wise and weighty speaker in that august assemblage of which he was so distinguished an ornament, always gave his influence on the side of religion, of humanity, and of justice. As members of that great Anglican community, of which the Church of Ireland formed no unimportant part, they must feel the loss of one who, by his sagacity, his large-heartedness, and his firmness, had guided the sister Church through so many a dangerous storm; and as members of the Church of Ireland they must feel the loss of one who from the very first had shown a real sympathy with them in their time of trouble, and had shown that sympathy not merely in words, but in that practical form in which words do not always find expression, by contributing liberally from his own means to their sustentation funds. He would not allude to the loss sustained by those who had enjoyed the privilege of his acquaintance or friendship, though it was a loss he felt deeply himself; nor would he refer to that loss which was felt by his bereaved family—a family already visited by so many sore trials. That was a sacred region into which he did not desire on the present occasion to enter; but he was sure that he expressed the feelings of every one present when he prayed God that those who now mourned his loss might be supported in the hour of their trial.'

The death is announced of the Rev. Canon Maurice Cooke-Collis, D.D., late Rector of Queenstown, County Cork. The deceased clergyman for many years held a prominent position among the Evangelical party, and was a well-known and acceptable preacher and speaker. He entered Trinity College, Dublin, at the early age of fifteen, where he subsequently gained a classical scholarship. He took much interest in the 'Irish Society' for circulating the Holy Scriptures among the Roman Catholics, and also in the 'Irish Church Missions.'

Among benefactions made to our national minster just reopened must be recorded 1000*l.*, given by Mr. Cecil Guinness, in addition to the cost of the large culvert which will effectually drain the building; 250*l.* given by Lord Ardilaun, and 500*l.* given by an anonymous benefactor, who has also given 500*l.* towards the new tiles, which are exact fac-similes of the ancient tiles of the Cathedral, and who, in addition, has had the organ of the Cathedral thoroughly overhauled and improved.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Association of Change-ringers.

A CHANGE-RINGERS' Association has been formed for the Archdeaconry of Stoke-on-Trent, Staffordshire. There are in the Archdeaconry many churches possessing towers and rings of bells, but until a few days ago the ringers were in no way associated or united. The Rev. W. W. Bolton, one of the Stoke curates, was the first to see the need of some bond between this section of Church-workers, and, aided by the Committee of the Stoke Company of Ringers, he has formed 'The Stoke-upon-Trent Archidiaconal Association of Change-ringers.' Invitations to join the Association were sent to each of the belfries of the archdeaconry having more than three bells, of which there are forty-three. An inaugural meeting of the Association was held on Saturday afternoon in the Church-room, Stoke, when over eighty delegates from twenty towers attended. A substantial tea was provided at half-past four, after which a meeting was held, the Rector of Stoke (the Ven. Sir L. T. Stamer) presiding. The Chairman opened the meeting by pointing out the object for which they were met, and the need for some connecting bond of good feeling between the ringers of the archdeaconry. He also spoke of the energy which the Rev. W. Bolton had thrown into the scheme, and said they were indebted chiefly to him for what had already been done in the formation of the Association. The Rev. W. W. Bolton explained the objects and form of the Association, and stated that it was proposed to make Stoke the first head-quarters. The Rev. Ernald Lane then moved: 'That it is most desirable to form an Association of change-ringers for this archdeaconry, whereby the science may be cultivated, and order and friendship be brought about amongst ringers.' The Rev. O. W. Steele seconded, and the motion was carried. The Rev. T. P. Ring moved the second resolution: 'That the proposed rules as sent out with the invitation to this meeting be adopted as a basis of this Association, and that they be now read and discussed.' The rev. gentleman said this Association was just what the churches felt they wanted, that the ringers might come together and feel that they were working in a common cause, and doing a good work, and that they might reform the belfries. The promoters of the Association did not want to thrust reforms upon them, for the churches were grateful to them for past work. The belfries had been neglected to a great extent. Improvements had been made in the chancels, naves, and choirs of the churches, to make the services more beautiful, and those who took part in them more holy in their lives; but as yet very little had been done for the towers and those who rang the bells. They thus did not wish to come before them as forcing reforms, but as wishing them to be fellow-workers in making reforms which the ringers themselves desired. Mr. H. Page, leader of the Stoke ringers, seconded the motion, which was carried. The rules were then considered. It was decided to hold the first annual meeting in January to complete the arrangements. A vote of thanks to the Chairman closed the proceedings.

A very handsome present has recently been made to the Stoke company of ringers by Mr. Reginald Bolton, mining engineer, brother to the Rev. W. W. Bolton, in the form of a large illumination neatly framed in gilt and oak. Drawings illustrating the moulding, casting, melting, hauling, blessing, and ringing of the bells, form the top and bottom borders of the illumination; and in the centre are the words: 'Whenever our sweet church bell Peals over hill and dale, May Jesus Christ be praised. O hark to what it sings, As joyously it rings, May Jesus Christ be praised.' The illumination is to be hung in the belfry of the Stoke parish church.

St. Pancras, London.

THE new bells completing the ring of the above church, which have been cast by Warner & Son, Jewin Crescent, Cripplegate, as the result of a movement initiated for the purpose by Mr. Churchwarden R. Turnham, were lately successfully inaugurated, and the interesting occasion was solemnised by a dedicatory service which attracted an overflowing congregation. In anticipation of an event which so immediately concerned the locality, the thoroughfares in the vicinity were densely thronged with people, who awaited with eager interest the first notes from the belfry, and whose numbers betokened the widespread interest which the novel ceremonial inspired. The service within the handsome church was simple in its general character, though rendered with musical and choral aids, which exalted the solemn impressions it was intended to produce. It commenced at eight o'clock with the shortened form of evening prayer, which was followed by the ordinary lessons, at the close of which the clergy and vicar proceeded to the belfry, where the vicar and rural dean, the Rev. H. D. M. Spence, offered up a prayer asking the Divine blessing on the bells then dedicated to the service of God. The bells then chimed out a short peal, whose pure, tuneful melody delighted

every listener, and assured the metropolis at large that in their pleasant, joyous music it had made an acquisition on which it had reason to congratulate itself. On the return of the clergy the remainder of the service was proceeded with, and a series of collects appropriate to the occasion were impressively read. The rev. vicar then delivered a brief address, in which he dwelt on the various reflections which the event his hearers were assisting at was calculated to awaken in the contemplative mind, urging that the work whose successful completion they were thus celebrating was one which responded to a feeling deeply seated in the spiritual nature of man, and was therefore surely acceptable to the Deity. The service was followed by an offertory in aid of the Church-bell Fund, and as the vast congregation left the building the chimers executed a few airs on the new ring with excellent effect. The bells are not hung for ringing, as we understand there is not room for the purpose.

Lancashire Association of Six-bell Change-ringers.

THE usual Quarterly Meeting of the above Association was held at Church Kirk on Saturday, the 16th inst., but owing to the inclement state of the weather and the fact of there being another meeting the same day at Ramsbottom, only from fifteen to twenty put in an appearance. Several peals of Plain Bob were rung by mixed bands; an attempt was also made at Treble Peal Violet, but owing to the bad-going state of the 5th bell the peal was not completed. The meeting was held at the 'Thorn Inn,' when eight new members were elected, and it was proposed that the next quarterly meeting be held at Standish.

JOHN G. HIGSON.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At St. Nicholas', Great Yarmouth, Norfolk.—Muffled Peal.

On Friday, the 8th inst., a touch of 1344 Grandsire Triples was rung in 1 hr. in memory of the late Archbishop of Canterbury, by members of the St. Nicholas Society and of the Norwich Diocesan Association. W. Lee (conductor), 1; W. T. Blyth, 2; R. Christian, 3; W. Secrett, 4; W. Fletcher, 5; D. Hayward, 6; M. Long, 7; W. Chaplin, 8. Tenor, 30 cwt.

At St. Mark's, Leicester.—Muffled Peal.

On Friday, the 8th inst., eight members of the St. Margaret's Society rang a touch of 1882 Stedman's Triples in 1 hr. 15 mins., in memory of the late Archbishop of Canterbury. J. Wilson, 1; T. Wilson, 2; W. Cooper, 3; G. Burrows, 4; J. Cooper, 5; S. Cooper, 6; J. Buttery, 7; C. Biddles, 8. Tenor, 22 cwt. 3 qrs. 6 lb., in E flat. The touch was composed by Mr. H. Reeves and conducted by Mr. John Buttery.

At St. Saviour's, Leicester.—Muffled Peal.

On Sunday, the 10th inst., after evening service, eight members of the St. Saviour's Society rang, with the bells muffled, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes) in 48 mins., in memory of the late Archbishop of Canterbury. E. Garner, 1; G. Dickinson, 2; A. Brown, 3; E. Ashwell, 4; J. Needham, 5; H. W. Needham, 6; A. Millis (conductor), 7; G. Needham, 8. Tenor, 27 cwt., in E.

At St. Werburgh's, Derby.—Muffled Peal.

On Sunday, the 10th inst., after evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes) was rung in 48 mins., the bells being half-muffled in memory of the late Archbishop of Canterbury. G. Neal,* 1; H. C. Woodward,* 2; A. Taberer, 3; J. Newbold,* 4; R. Redgate,* 5; R. Bosworth* (conductor), 6; J. Howe, 7; L. Lomas,* 8. Tenor, 17 cwt., in E. [* Members of the Derby and District Association.]

Also on Thursday, the 14th inst., eight members of the Derby and District Association rang Holt's One-part peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples in 3 hrs. 7 mins. J. Ridgway, 1; H. C. Woodward, 2; A. Taberer, 3; J. Newbold, 4; R. Redgate, 5; R. Bosworth, 6; J. Howe (conductor), 7; L. Lomas, 8.

At St. Peter's, Hindley, Lancashire.—Muffled Peal.

On Sunday, the 10th inst., was rung for morning service, in 35 mins., a touch of 1008 Grandsire Triples, with the bells capped at the hand-stroke, in memory of the late Archbishop of Canterbury. R. Calland (conductor), 1; W. Fairclough, 2; J. Prescott, 3; C. Sharples, 4; E. Bentham, 5; S. Hall, 6; W. Bentham, 7; T. Tickle, 8. Tenor, 14 cwt. 1 qr.

At SS. Peter and Paul, Eckington, Derbyshire.—Muffled Peal.

On Sunday, the 10th inst., for Divine service, with the bells deeply muffled in memory of the late Archbishop of Canterbury, 720 changes each of Violet and Oxford Treble Bob were rung in 54 mins. G. Smith, 1; W. Price, 2; J. Shaw, 3; G. Norman, 4; G. Marsden (conductor), 5; T. Lunn, 6.

At SS. Mary and Nicolas', Spalding, Lincolnshire.

On Sunday, the 10th inst., for evening service, was rung a peal of 360 College Single, containing 6 bobs and 2 singles. Also after service a peal of 720 Oxford Treble Bob, in 26 mins. C. Creasey, 1; J. S. Wright, 2; G. L. Richardson, 3; R. Mackman, 4; R. Creasey (conductor), 5; J. R. Jerram, 6. On the 12th a peal of 720 Plain Bob with 26 singles. J. Brown, 1; J. S. Wright, 2; G. L. Richardson, 3; E. Mason, 4; R. Mackman (conductor), 5; J. R. Jerram, 6.

On the 16th a peal of 720 Oxford Bob and 720 College Single, containing 18 bobs and 2 singles. C. Creasey, 4; R. Creasey, 6; R. Mackman (conductor), 6.

And on the 17th, for evening service, three six-scores and after service six six-scores of Grandsire Doubles. G. Skeef, 1; G. L. Richardson, 2; R. Mackman, 3; J. S. Wright, 4; J. Brown (conductor), 6. Tenor, 18 cwt.

At Holy Trinity, Hulme, Lancashire.

On Sunday evening, the 10th inst., six members of the Lancashire Association rang for service a peal of 720 Plain Bob Minor in 27 mins. H. Diggle, 1; W. Diggle, 2; C. Woodward (conductor), 3; W. Hargreaves, 4; W. Savage, 5; W. Roberts, 6. Tenor, 15½ cwt.

At St. Andrew's, Netherton, Worcestershire.—Muffled Peal.

On Sunday evening, the 10th inst., before service, six members of the St. Andrew's Society, and also members of the Worcester Diocesan and adjoining Districts Association, rang in 33 mins., with the bells half-muffled, a peal of 720 Grandsire Minor in memory of the late Archbishop of Canterbury. B. Townsend, 1; R. Round, 2; J. Townsend, 3; J. Robinson, 4; J. Prestidge, 5; J. Smith (conductor), 6. Tenor, 12½ cwt.

At St. Mary's, Diss, Norfolk.—Muffled Peal.

On Monday, the 11th inst., eight of the Diss Company rang, with the bells half-muffled in memory of the late Archbishop of Canterbury, a touch of Bob Major in 45 mins. C. Webster, 1; J. Rudd, 2; W. Scales, 3; J. Cuthbert, 4; T. Ford, 5; E. Francis, 6; W. Ireland (conductor), 7; W. Brown, 8. Tenor, 24 cwt., in D.

At St. John's, Loughton, Essex.

On Thursday, the 14th inst., a peal of 720 Bob Minor on the back six, with 8 bobs and 6 singles, was rung in 28 mins. J. Nunn, 1; M. Ellsmore, 2; J. Gobbett, 3; J. Barry, 4; H. Scarlett, 5; A. H. Gardom, Esq. (conductor), 6. Tenor, about 19 cwt. [All members of the Royal Cumberland Society.]

At St. Martin's, Haverstock Hill, Middlesex.

On Sunday evening, the 17th inst., for Divine service, a peal of 720 Plain Bob Minor, containing 14 singles and 4 bobs, was rung in 25 mins. James Comb,* 1; James Page,* 2; James Nixon, 3; James Leach, 4; James Hannington* (conductor), 5; James Barrett, 6. Tenor, 12½ cwt. [* Members of the St. James's Society.]

At St. Mary's, Beddington, Surrey.

On Sunday evening, the 17th inst., for Divine service, six members of the Surrey Association rang a peal of 720 Grandsire Minor, with a call every lead, on the back six bells, in 26 mins. R. Chapman, 1; J. Zealey, 2; J. Plowman, 3; J. Cawley, 4; J. Harriss, 5; J. Trappitt (conductor), 6. Tenor, 21 cwt., in E flat.

At Eccles, Lancashire.

On Monday, the 18th inst., eight members of the Lancashire Association of Change-ringers rang Annable's peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples (bob and single variation) in 2 hrs. 45½ mins. E. Cook, 1; J. Barratt, jun., 2; R. Pierce, 3; J. Scott, 4; J. Scholy, 5; R. Ashcroft, 6; G. H. Johnson (conductor), 7; W. Ashcroft, 8. Tenor, 18 cwt. 3 qrs. Messrs. Cash, Barratt, Scholy, and R. W. Ashcroft, hail from Eccles; Scott from Manchester; and R. Pierce, Swinton.

At All Saints', Maldon, Essex.

On Monday, the 18th inst., 1882 changes, the date of the year, were rung in 1 hr. 10 mins. in the following methods—442 Bob Minor, 720 Double Court Bob Minor, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor. F. Fitch, 1; R. Hutson, 2; T. Mansfield, 3; G. Mansfield, 4; W. Chalk (conductor), 5; W. Mansfield, 6. Tenor, about 13 cwt. [All members of the Essex Association.]

At St. Nicholas', Chislehurst, Kent.

On Monday, the 18th inst., six members of the Chislehurst Society rang a peal of 720 Grandsire Minor in 28 mins. Composed by the late Mr. E. Hamment, 60 calls, having a call every treble's lead, containing 28 bobs and 32 singles. J. Miles (conductor), 1; G. French, 2; T. Durling, 3; C. J. Barham, 4; H. J. Shade, 5; F. French, 6. Tenor, 1 ton. This is the first rung on these bells. [In our issue for December 9 the tenor given was 18 cwt.: which is right?]

At St. John's, Newcastle.

On Monday, the 18th inst., six members of the St. John's branch of the Durham and Newcastle Association rang a peal of 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor in 27 mins. G. Herdman, 1; C. L. Routledge,* 2; F. Lees, 3; W. G. Routledge, 4; W. Story,* 5; R. S. Story (conductor), 6. Tenor, 14½ cwt. [* First in this method.] This is the first 720 rung in this tower in this method by all Newcastle men.

At St. Nicholas', King's Norton, near Birmingham.

On Tuesday, the 19th inst., seven members of the Birmingham District Association rang on the back seven a peal of Grandsire Minor, in 25 mins., the tenor being used as a cover. F. Palmer, 1; J. Wright, 2; W. H. Sumner, 3; F. Scrivens, 4; W. Palmer (conductor), 5; J. Cooks, 6; G. Cooper, 7. Tenor, 18 cwt.

At St. Mary-le-Tower, Ipswich, Suffolk.

On Tuesday, the 19th inst., the members of the Ipswich branch of the Norwich Diocesan Association rang the late H. Habbard's Two-part peal of 5200 Oxford Treble Bob Royal, in 3 hrs. 38 mins. J. Motts* (conductor), 1; R. H. Brundle, 2; J. Fosdike, 3; I. S. Alexander, 4; C. Saul, 5; E. Pemberton, 6; R. Hawes, 7; S. Tillett, 8; W. L. Catchpole, 9; E. Reeve, 10. Tenor, 32 cwt. [* First peal of Royal. All members of the Ancient Society of College Youths.] This is the first peal of Oxford Treble Bob Royal rung in the county of Suffolk.

At St. Michael's, Sittingbourne, Kent.

On Tuesday, the 19th inst., six members of the local Society, all being full members of the County Association, rang a peal of 720 Bob Minor, with 18 bobs and 2 singles, in 29 mins. W. Gordelier,* 1; F. C. Mattison (conductor), 2; E. J. Cooper,* 3; J. Bottle,* 4; S. Snelling, 5; W. Judd, 6. Tenor, 21 cwt. [* First peal.] This is the first peal performed on these bells, which have been hung since 1687.

* * A Correspondent informs us that the tenor bell at Deerhurst, Gloucestershire, weighs, according to Rudhall's List, 11 cwt., and not 15 cwt., as has been reported.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association of Change-ringers.

This Association will hold its next anniversary meeting at Wootton-under-Edge on Monday, Jan. 8. Divine service in the parish church at 11 o'clock; dinner at the 'Swan Hotel' at 1 o'clock. Any ringers or friends who may honour the Association with their presence will receive a hearty welcome. Wootton-under-Edge is very easy of access; two miles from Charlfield station on the Midland Railway, where omnibuses meet every train.

J. DRINKWATER, Master.

Opening of a Ring of Six Bells at Ford End, Great Waltham, Essex.

THE opening of this musical ring of six bells took place on Saturday, the 23rd inst., by a company of ringers from Braintree and Bocking, under the leadership of Mr. S. Hammond. This ring of bells has just been augmented from five to six. A new treble has been added by Messrs. Warner & Sons, London. The arrangements of the belfry are all that could be desired. During the day a peal of 720 Bob Minor was rung, another peal of 720 Kent Treble Bob, and touches of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, Court Single, and Bob Minor. S. Hammond* (conductor), 1; W. Moore,* 2; W. Bearman,* 3; C. Bearman,* 4; H. E. Hammond, 5; F. Calthorpe, 6. Tenor, 5 cwt. [*College Youths.]

CHANGE-RINGING.

At St. George's, Hyde, Cheshire.

On Tuesday, the 19th inst., a peal of 5024 Kent Treble Bob Major was rung in 2 hrs. 58 mins. J. Shaw,* 1; J. Hopwood, 2; R. Woolley,* 3; J. Adams, 4; J. Wood, 5; J. Mellor, 6; T. Wilde, 7; J. S. Wilde (composer and conductor), 8. Tenor, 16 cwt., in F. [*Their first peal in the method.]

At St. Philip's, Hulme, Manchester.

On Thursday, the 21st inst., Holt's Original Two-part peal of Grandsire Triples was rung in 2 hrs. 46 mins. T. Bradbury (first peal inside), 1; T. Heald, 2; A. Eggington, 3; J. Scott, 4; E. Ettock, 5; A. Wood (conductor), 6; J. F. Woods, 7; W. H. Reeves, 8. Tenor, 12½ cwt.

At St. Mary's, Woodford, Essex.

On Saturday, the 23rd inst., a peal of 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor, with 9 bobs (4th the observation) was rung in 27 mins. W. Manning, 1; M. Ellsmore, 2; R. Meadows, 3; H. Randall (conductor), 4; W. Doran, 5; H. Scarlett, 6. Tenor, 13 cwt.

Also, the same evening, a touch of 360 Grandsire Minor, with a call every lead (the first half of Mr. E. Hammond's own composition). M. Ellsmore (conductor), 1; W. Manning, 2; W. Doran, 3; F. Bines, 4; H. Scarlett, 5; H. Randall, 6. Tenor, 13 cwt.

Also on Christmas morning, for service, the local band rang the following peal of 720 Bob Minor, with 42 singles, in 26 mins. H. Nunn, sen., 1; H. Nunn, jun., 2; M. Ellsmore (conductor), 3; H. Scarlett, 4; J. Nunn (composer), 5; J. Marks, 6.

| 720 | | | | | |
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| 2 3 4 5 6 | 2 5 3 6 4 | 4 5 2 6 3 | 6 5 4 2 3 | | |
| S 3 2 5 6 4 | S 5 2 6 4 3 | S 5 4 6 3 2 | S 5 6 2 3 4 | | |
| 2 6 3 4 5 | S 2 5 1 3 6 | S 4 5 3 2 6 | S 6 5 3 4 2 | | |
| S 6 2 4 5 3 | S 5 2 3 6 4 | S 5 4 2 6 3 | S 5 6 4 2 3 | | |
| S 2 6 5 3 4 | S 2 5 6 4 3 | S 4 5 6 3 2 | S 6 5 2 3 4 | | |
| S 6 2 3 4 5 | S 5 2 4 3 6 | S 5 4 3 2 6 | 5 6 3 4 2 | | |
| S 2 6 4 5 3 | 2 3 5 6 4 | 4 2 5 6 3 | S 3 5 4 2 6 | | |
| S 6 2 5 3 4 | 3 6 2 4 5 | S 2 4 6 3 5 | S 5 3 2 6 4 | | |
| 2 3 6 4 5 | S 6 3 4 5 2 | S 4 2 3 5 6 | S 3 5 6 4 2 | | |
| 3 4 2 5 6 | S 3 6 5 2 4 | S 2 4 5 6 3 | S 5 3 4 2 6 | | |
| S 4 3 5 6 2 | S 6 3 2 4 5 | 4 6 2 3 5 | S 3 5 2 6 4 | | |
| S 3 4 6 2 5 | S 3 6 4 5 2 | S 6 4 3 5 2 | 5 6 3 4 2 | | |
| S 4 3 2 5 6 | S 6 3 5 2 4 | S 4 5 6 3 2 | 6 4 5 2 3 | | |
| S 3 4 5 6 2 | 3 2 6 4 5 | S 6 4 2 3 5 | 4 2 6 3 5 | | |
| S 4 3 6 2 5 | 2 4 3 5 6 | S 4 6 3 5 2 | 2 3 4 5 6 | | |
| 3 2 4 5 6 | | | | | |

At St. Mary's, Woolwich, Kent.

On Christmas Day, for morning service, seven members of the St. Mary's Society, assisted by Mr. James Searle, of the St. Nicholas Society, Brighton, rang a quarter-peal (1260) Grandsire Triples in 39 mins. W. Shade, 1; H. Harvey, 2; C. Harvey, 3; J. Searle, 4; W. Watchorn, 5; J. G. Shade (composer and conductor), 6; H. Shade, 7; J. Meadow, 8.

At St. John's, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

On Christmas morning six members of St. John's Guild rang a peal of 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor in 27 mins. G. Campbell, 1; C. L. Routledge, 2; W. G. Routledge (conductor), 3; T. G. Des Forges (first 720 of Treble Bob), 4; F. Lees, 5; R. S. Story, 6. This is the first 720 conducted by W. G. Routledge in the method. Also a 240 of Plain Bob Minor.

For morning service an attempt was made for another peal of Oxford Treble Bob, but it was interrupted in the last course; a 'Stand' was called. G. Campbell, 1; C. L. Routledge, 2; F. Lees, 3; W. G. Routledge, 4; W. Story, 5; R. S. Story (conductor), 6. Tenor, 11½ cwt.

At St. Mary's, Beddington, Surrey.

On Christmas morning, for early celebration, eight members of the above branch of the Surrey Association rang Johnson's musical quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes) in 48 mins. C. Martin, 1; J. Trappitt (conductor), 2; C. Bance, 3; J. Hariss, 4; J. Ployman, 5; J. Zealey, 6; C. Gordon, 7; J. Clarke, 8. Tenor, 21 cwt., in E flat.

At All Saints', Boyne Hill, Maidenhead, Berks.

On Tuesday, the 26th inst., by permission of the Rev. A. H. Drummond, eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang Thurstan's peal of 5040 Stedman's Triples in 3 hrs. 7 mins. J. R. Haworth, 1; R. Jameson, 2; H. Boswell, 3; M. A. Wood, 4; G. Dorrington, 5; J. Pettit, 6; Rev. F. E. Robinson (conductor), 7; W. Greenleaf, 8. Tenor, 19 cwt.

At Crawley, Sussex.

On Tuesday, the 26th inst., the local company rang Johnson's Twelve-part peal of 5040 Oxford Bob Triples in 3 hrs. 10 mins. E. Knight, 1; H. Chantler, 2; W. Short, 3; H. Wood, 4; T. Andrews, 5; F. Knight, 6; H. Burstow (conductor), 7; W. Wood, 8. Tenor, 14 cwt.

At Stradbroke, Suffolk.

On Tuesday, the 26th inst., eight members of the Norwich Diocesan Association rang a peal of 5120 Oxford Treble Bob Major, in five parts, taken from *Clavis*, in 3 hrs. 30 mins. H. E. Barber (conductor), 1; R. Huggins, 2; J. Fosdike, 3; W. Motts, 4; J. Motts, 5; W. Riches, 6; E. Pemberton, 7; W. Gobbett, 8. Tenor, 24 cwt., in E flat.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Dr. Benson's Appointment.

SIR,—Not one of the papers (as far as I have seen), in commenting with deserved approval on the elevation of Dr. Benson to the Primacy, has remembered, or has alluded to, one circumstance which may well have furnished perhaps the most potent reason of all with the present Premier for his selection when the path was clear. Great and various unquestionably as are Dr. Benson's qualifications for the high office he is called to, literary, theological, administrative power in the pulpit and on the platform, a breadth of view and a warmth of heart, combined with an 'initiative,' from which the Church may, at his time of life, fairly hope for many things through many years, it may be supposed that the Premier could not have forgotten that when a chorus of reclamation sounded through the land not many years ago—a cry in which many High as well as older Churchmen joined against the appointment of Dr. Temple to Exeter—and that with a force or gust equal to the Hampden cry of by-gone years, Dr. Benson ably and zealously, in the columns of the *Times*, supported the Premier of that day: that Premier was Mr. Gladstone. There is such a thing as political gratitude; I think we have an instance here, and it is worth notice. The choice in this case is as honourable to the chooser as to the chosen.

THOS. FIELD, B.D.

Bigby Rectory.

The Bishopric of Llandaff.

SIR,—If it be true of the Englishman that he may be led, but he will not be driven, it is yet more so of the Welshman. As has recently been pointed out in connexion with the late Bishop Ollivant, it was formerly the policy of our leaders, especially in Church matters, to discourage and crush out as far as might be the Welsh language and idiosyncracies—a policy whose baneful effects are now seen in the aversion with which the natives came to regard the Church of England, and the rapid growth of Nonconformity. Consequently, much energy that would otherwise be spent in widening the boundary of the Church has now to be concentrated upon regaining lost ground, and conciliating the Dissenters without the sacrifice of principle. In the position of a Welsh Bishop, especially the Diocesan of what may be called the Liverpool of South Wales, it forms no easy or insignificant share of his work to keep peace, and calm the religious strife so frequently begotten of the strong emotions which mark the Celtic race. He must thoroughly understand the people, not merely from the Welshman's own point of view, but also in their relation as fellow-subjects to the English, from which intercourse they have so much to gain and so little to lose. The influence which the late Bishop possessed was due to his tact in harmonising what would otherwise have been discordant elements, and his successor will need to be like him a true Christian gentleman—no scyphrant, no party persecutor, and a healer of breaches. As a defender of the oppressed, and an impartial judge, great wariness will be required of him. To choose a man who had nothing beyond his ability as a Welsh preacher and popularity among his countrymen to recommend him would be as fatal a mistake as to select an Englishman who had never heard a Welsh sermon, and was ignorant of the mutations of the Welsh alphabet. He must in either case be a scholar, as an Englishman unversed in Welsh literature, and devoid of what phrenologists term the 'bump of language' would be as useless as a Welshman who had not had the refinement of an university education, and had not passed some years of his life in England; for though the two races which people the diocese are in many respects closely interwoven, they are intrinsically distinct, and require very different handling. The special needs of the diocese ought to place political leanings in the background, and if the same spirit prompts this selection that has been displayed in the choice of the new Primate, the suggestions I have thrown out will have due weight in the appointment of the next Bishop of Llandaff. J. N.

Moral Checks.

SIR.—It seems a pity that no one has discussed what I advanced the other day with an eye to some really Christian plan for the moral regeneration of our neighbours. Modern civilisation is apt to be boastful enough of what it has done, but it can hardly take credit for anything beyond the intensity of its howlings over the vicious enormities of the times. At least enough has been elaborated on behalf of person and purse, through law and police, and regard for life and disease has been shown by Poor Law and Vaccination Acts, but if the Salvation and Blue-Ribbon Armies are its typical remedies for moral delinquency, posterity will have but a mixed recollection of what we have been doing in the nineteenth century. Even in the Middle

sympathy. They knew, indeed, that as such a token it would be kindly accepted. They, perhaps, hardly needed to say, yet it might be, perhaps, useful to say, that there was no jealousy on the part of these great institutions one with the other. If there be any rivalry of those who had one desire in respect of the work in which they were engaged—namely, that the service to which they contributed their part might not be wholly unworthy of Him to whom it was offered, and who, let them never forget also, dwelt not in temples made with hands, but in hearts which he had purified by His presence and His power.'

The National Cathedral of St. Patrick's never looked to better advantage than on Thursday, the Innocents' Day, when the nave was filled by about one thousand children, the prize-takers at the last examination in religious knowledge held under the Diocesan Board of Education for the united diocese of Dublin, Glendalagh, and Kildare. About 250*l.* worth was distributed in books, each successful candidate being presented with his prize by the Archbishop. The substitution of the present rich tiles for the cold flag-stones which formerly floored the building is a wonderful improvement, and gives a bright and warm aspect to the interior, which it wanted before. The ravages of the damp have also been effectually stayed, and altogether a great work of renovation has been accomplished. A debt of 5000*l.* hangs over the Dean and Chapter, which they are naturally anxious should be wiped out as soon as possible.

'Watch-night' services were almost universally held in the city on Sunday night, and after twelve o'clock the streets were quite full of people returning homewards. As the hour of midnight struck, the bells from the towers of St. Patrick's and Christ Church Cathedrals rang out their joyous peals, and as the air was very still their music was heard far and near. In Bray the Amateur Change-ringers' Society met at the Rectory shortly after eleven, and after a short service in the church adjourned to the belfry, where the requiem of the departing year was slowly tolled upon the tenor bell. As the first stroke of midnight was made upon the clock all the bells clanged out their music together, and a royal salute was fired in honour of the year of grace 1883. The peal of 720 changes of Plain Bob Major was then rung, being the same as on Christmas morning, after which the ringers separated amid mutual good wishes for the New Year. In the harbour of Kingstown H. M. ship *Belleisle* fired a gun, which was answered by the blowing of horns and ringing of bells on every ship in the harbour. The ring of bells in St. Paul's Church near Kingstown was also put into requisition in honour of the New Year.

A new Parochial Hall for the use of the united parishes of SS. Werburgh and John, Dublin, was inaugurated on Tuesday evening. St. Werburgh's is the parish church of the Castle of Dublin, and thither from time to time the Lords Lieutenant, when resident in the city, have been in the habit of repairing for Divine worship. Canon Greene, the estimable rector, is to be congratulated on what he has been able to effect for his parochial charge since he was elected to the incumbency of the united parishes. The Sustentation Fund has been made safe, St. Werburgh's Church has been repewed, the organ has been restored, and the new hall is now built.

The Hon. Mrs. O'Grady, Lexham Gardens, London, has just presented to the church of Kildysart, diocese of Killaloe, the following gifts in memory of her husband:—A set of Church books—Bible, Prayer-book, and two Communion books, bound in morocco, and a Communion set in silver—chalice, flagon, and paten—richly carved, and made from a specially chosen design by Jones and Willis, London. Both books and plate bear the following inscription:—'To the glory of God, and in memory of the Hon. Thomas O'Grady. 22nd January, 1882.'

The Dean of Clonmacnoise (Dr. Reichel) writes to the newspapers relative to the 'Confessions' of the unhappy men recently executed for the crime of murder in the west of Ireland:—

'The following extract, taken verbatim from a little book by Father Furniss, entitled, *What every Christian must know and do*, which book bears the imprimatur of the late Cardinal Cullen, and is circulated in hundreds of thousands, not only in Ireland by James Duffy and Co, Dublin, but in England by the same firm, in Paternoster Row, London, will serve to confirm the statements concerning "Protestations on the Scaffold," which you have copied from the London Times:—

"Remember that in the moment when the priest says over you the great words of pardon and absolution, your sins are forgiven, the pains of hell are taken away, your soul is made bright and beautiful like any angel of God, and the kingdom of heaven is yours."—Page 10 of the last edition.

'When, therefore, criminals on the scaffold protest their absolute innocence after receiving the ministrations of their priests, they only do what their Church authorises them to do, whether they have committed the crime or not.'

The Dean fairly argues, 'Whilst such teaching continues to be authorised by the highest dignitaries of the Roman Catholic Church in Ireland, it is not reasonable to expect much improvement in the habits of the people.' The Editor of *United Ireland*, Mr. O'Brien, is now being prosecuted by the Government for the republication of these 'Confessions' under the title of 'Accusing Spirits.'

COLONIAL AND FOREIGN CHURCH NEWS.

FRANCE.

A MOVEMENT is begun among the secular clergy for more liberty. They complain of having been for the last eighty years humiliated by being under the caprice and autocracy of the Bishop, and urge the restoration of the canon-laws, according to which they could not be ejected without a trial. A newspaper is to be set on foot in advocacy of the 'reformes necessaires.'

WEST AFRICA.

BISHOP PENICK, whom the American Church consecrated for Liberia, writes to the *New York Churchman*:—"To me the signs of the times speak of rapid strides towards Africa's unveiling, if not civilising. The greed for gold is turning men's minds and means in this direction, as history has never seen them before. The wails of millions "sitting in darkness, fast bound in misery and iron," have been heard by a few Christian souls who have come forth Christ-like to seek and save; but now the "yellow dust" utters its voice, and, lo! a mighty host is heard advancing. That "Africa's sunny fountains roll down their golden sands," has been a mere sentiment sung at Missionary Meetings as a kind of escape-valve for wrought-up feelings. But now that various surveys announce that gold is to be found on the Gold Coast in paying quantities, and several mines are actually at work, English professors of Christianity are all attention. Last January Captain Burton and Commander Cameron inspected this coast. On their return to England to report, the questions of native hostility, expense of transporting machinery, labour, and climate, were discussed in a way that "meant business." To meet the labour difficulty, a strong disposition was shown to import Chinese; if this be done, no man can estimate the consequences. The long-secluded negro will at last be forced to confront the white man in the very jaws of Africa's jungles, and there compete with him, leading on countless Mongolians in their cheap and economic toil. That great startling cry of "Work!" will in all probability rouse the black man here from his indolence, and this land may at last be reclaimed to the good of the world. . . . Along with the gold hunters will go civilisers, and with the civilisers fresh missionaries under fairer auspices than those had into whose labours they will enter. God moves in a mysterious way, and makes not only the "wrath of man," but the greed of man, to turn to His praise.'

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

St. Paul's Cathedral, London.

THE bells will be rung on all Sundays throughout the year 1883 at 10 a.m. and 2.45 p.m. Also on the following days:—

| | |
|---|-----------------------|
| Monday, Jan. 1 (New-year's Day) | 9 to 10 a.m. |
| Thursday, Jan. 25 (Dedication Festival) | 9 to 10 a.m. & 7 p.m. |
| Thursday, May 3 (Ascension Day) | 9.30 a.m. & 6 p.m. |
| Thursday, May 24 (Queen's Birthday) | 9 to 10 a.m. & 7 p.m. |
| Wednesday, June 20 (Queen's Accession) | 9 to 10 a.m. & 7 p.m. |
| Thursday, Nov. 1 (All Saints' Day) | 9 to 10 a.m. & 7 p.m. |
| Friday, Nov. 9 (Lord Mayor's Day) | 1 p.m. & 6 p.m. |
| Tuesday, Dec. 25 (Christmas Day) | 9.30 a.m. |
| On Christmas Eve and New-year's Eve | 11 to 12 p.m. |

And on the following Tuesday Evenings at 8 p.m. for practice:—Jan. 30, March 27, April 24, May 22, June 19, July 17, Aug. 14, Sept. 11, Oct. 9, Nov. 6.

Derby and District Association.

THE Quarterly Meeting of the above Association will be held at Leicester on Saturday, the 13th inst., in St. Margaret's School-room. Tea at 5 p.m. Tickets, 1*s.* 6*d.* All ringers are invited to attend. Annual subscriptions for 1883 are due as per Rule IV.

H. C. WOODWARD, Hon. Sec.
19 Morleston Street, Derby.

Worcester Diocesan and Adjoining Districts Association of Change-ringers.

A MEETING of the above will be held at Cradley, near Stourbridge, on Saturday, January 13th, when all members and friends are invited to attend. The tower will be open for ringing at 2 o'clock, p.m.

H. WILKES, Secretary.

English Bells and Bell-ringing in Spain.

ON Christmas Eve three of the bell-hangers of Messrs. John Warner & Sons, with their foreman, returned from Madrid, having been out there about twenty-six days, during which time they had the task to set up in new teak-wood frames nineteen bells in the Cathedral and Royal Church of San Francisco. Eleven of the bells with 45-inch tenor, Note F, about 15 cwt., were hung dead to chime with a chiming apparatus in one tower; and a ring of eight, tenor 36½-inch, A flat, weight about 8½ cwt., were set up in the other towers, with wheel slides and other fittings for ringing in true English style. From the reports given, it appears that the Ministers of State, as well as the Cardinal and priests, were more than pleased, and have certified to their satisfaction of the work executed, as well as to the tone of the bells. Never before, perhaps, has such a chime of bells, or such a ring of bells, been heard in Spain; and never before has a ring of eight been pulled to hand or back-strokes in English style in Madrid. Before the bells were lifted a number of English residents, and a clergyman of the Anglican Church from Toronto, came to inspect them. When the eleven bells were set up, and ready for chiming, numbers of the citizens congregated in the

streets to listen to the 'Home, sweet home,' and 'God save the Queen,' chimed by the Englishmen, which was listened to in the palace; but when the ringing eight were set going in rounds, and an attempt of changes made, the concourse of people in the streets to listen was immense. And to further satisfy their curiosity and pleasure, the bandmaster of one of the regiments, with the organist of the cathedral, chimed several of the national airs, much to their delight.

Messrs. Warner's men during the time took several hands into tuition, so that a start has been fairly made among the Spaniards to go in for hand-ringing with rope, and sally, and bells set, instead of the old method of men turning somersaults and round and round with the bells. The new bells are all inscribed with a chaste Jerusalem cross, and the words 'Iglesia, San Francisco.'

Bell-hangings.

THE advertisement of a most wonderful character has been brought before me, as full of puff and nonsense as ever Barnum, the American showman, could have concocted upon the above topic, in which the great triumph—extraordinary discovery and improvement—in the form of cast-steel gudgeons, are held forth as an inducement to try the discovery, with the assurance that such productions wear a thousand times longer, and go fifty per cent lighter (than—it is not said what), for the ringer. Now, as cast-steel is very liable to have flaws and break off short, as all large bell-gudgeons are generally case-hardened by men who understand their business properly, and as ordinary gudgeons will wear well for ten to twenty years, without being turned afresh in a lathe, I fail to see how any one can assert in truth, either from his own knowledge or reliable information, that steel gudgeons will last in wear from ten to twenty thousand years; and, further, I fail to comprehend how that such a one-handed ringing performance in Devon, as a 22 cwt. tenor, being rung on steel gudgeons, can compare with the St. Saviour's pull on ordinary gudgeons, where the tenor was and is 52 cwt., and one man rung it for a stretch of 6½ hours. The advertisement appeared, I think, in the *Western Times*, of December 21st last, and if any of your readers are desirous to see a good long puff, they will be satisfied with a perusal; but my humble advice to parties concerned in rehanging, or hanging, church bells, decidedly must be—Beware of steel gudgeons. I have heard of them breaking short off.

The Crescent Bell Foundry, Cripplegate, London.

S. B. GOSLIN.

Fall of a Tower, containing Five Bells, in Suffolk.

THE tower of the parish church at Freckenham, near Mildenhall, fell with a tremendous crash. The tower was a square one and contained five bells, which were rung as usual at Christmas time. It had been for some time past in a dilapidated state. No one was injured.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At Holy Trinity, Bengoe, Hertford.

THE dedication of a new ring of six bells, the gift of Mr. Robert Smith of Goldings, in memory of his father, took place on New-year's Eve. The space at command made a light set of bells most desirable; therefore the tuning is in the key of 'A,' the tenor weighing 7 cwt. They are very sweet in tone, and were cast and thoroughly fitted by Mears and Stainbank.

After the ordinary Sunday evening service and sermon by the Bishop Suffragan of Colchester, a special consecration service was conducted by the Bishop, and included four collects: the due setting apart of the bells in the name of the blessed Trinity for the holy service of Almighty God, six most appropriate psalms, the Lord's Prayer, and a special hymn; then a few rounds upon the newly consecrated bells, and the episcopal blessing. The ringers were selected from the Hertford College Youths. J. Staples, 1; J. G. Crawley, 2; A. Baker, 3; H. Baker, 4; T. Gathard, 5; J. Godfrey, 6. At the conclusion of the service several six-scores of Grandsire Doubles and a peal of Stedman's Doubles were rung. After supper, at eleven o'clock, they rang a few touches previous to a short service with sermon by the Rev. P. Deedes, at the close of which the bells again pealed forth to usher in the New Year. The bells bear the following inscriptions:—

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|--|--|
| 1. On earth bells do ring, In heaven angels sing Hallelujah. | 4. Whene'er the sweet church bell Peals over hill and dell, May Jesus Christ be praised. |
| 2. Ring out the old, Ring in the new. | 5. All glory to the Father be. |
| 3. Holy Spirit, praise to Thee, Now and through eternity. | 6. I toll the funeral knell, I hail the festal day, The fleeting hour I tell, I summon all to pray. |

At Mersham, Kent.

ON Tuesday, the 19th ult., a peal of 5040 Bob Major was rung in 3 hrs. 14 mins. E. Ruck (conductor), 1; G. Finn, sen., 2; G. Finn, jun., 3; W. Paine, 4; H. Hyder, 5; G. Payne, 6; F. Finn, 7; E. Finn, 8.

And on Thursday, the 28th ult., being the thirty-fourth anniversary of the old Treble (or 3rd now), the gift of the late Rt. Hon. Sir Edward Knatchbull, Bart., in 1847, was rung a peal of 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor. F. Finn, jun., 1; G. Finn, sen., 2; E. Ruck (conductor), 3; G. Finn, jun., 4; F. Finn, 5; E. Finn, 6. Also a peal of 720 Plain Bob Minor. E. Ruck, jun., 1; G. Finn, 2; E. Ruck, sen., 3; G. Finn, 4; F. Finn (conductor), 5; E. Finn, 6.

At Dorking, Surrey.

ON Saturday, the 23rd ult., at the parish church, eight members of the St. Martin's Society rang a date touch of Union Triples in 1 hr. 12 mins. H. Dobbinson, 1; W. Boxall (composer), 2; H. Boxall, sen., 3; H. Boxall, jun., 4; C. Boxall, 5; R. Harden, 6; S. Brooker (conductor), 7; G. Holden, 8. Tenor, 25 cwt., in E flat.

At SS. Mary and Nicholas, Spalding, Lincolnshire.

ON Christmas Eve, after service, a peal of 720 Bob Minor (18 bobs and 2 singles) was rung by A. Brown, 1; G. Harrison, 2; G. Richardson, 3;

M. Mackman, 4; J. Wright, 5; J. Brown, 6. Also at midnight, a peal of 720 in the same method. J. R. Jerram, 6; J. S. Wright conductor.

On the 31st ult., after Evening service, a peal of 720 Bob Minor (18 bobs and 2 singles) was rung by G. Skeef, 1; A. Brown, 2; G. Richardson, 3; J. Brown, 4; J. S. Wright, 5; R. Mackman, 6.

On the 1st inst., for early celebration, a peal of 720 Bob Minor; also at noon, another 720 Bob Minor (14 bobs and 2 singles), were rung by R. Creasey, 4; the others the same. Also in the evening, a peal of 720, same method (30 bobs and 2 singles), was rung by J. Rudd Whittlesea, 3; J. Brown, 4; R. Mackman (conductor), 6. Tenor, 18 cwt.

At St. Mary's, Chelmsford, Essex.

ON Tuesday, the 26th ult., by kind permission of the Rev. H. F. Johnson, eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths, who are also members of the Essex Association, rang Holt's Ten-part peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples in 3 hrs. 15 mins. R. Sewell, 1; H. F. de Lisle, 2; W. Hawkes, 3; F. E. Dawe, 4; E. Scotcher, 4; C. F. Winney, 6; J. M. Hayes (conductor), 7; Rev. H. A. Cockey, 8. Tenor, 22½ cwt. This peal, which is the first rung on the bells by College Youths since 1777, when the bells were opened by the Society with a peal of 5152 Bob Major, was arranged in order to give Master H. F. de Lisle (Galleywood), an opportunity of ringing his first peal, he being fourteen years old on the 14th of the month.

At Necton, Norfolk.

ON Wednesday, the 27th ult., five members of the Swaffham Society, assisted by R. Phillips of Necton, rang a peal of 720 Bob Minor in 25 mins. W. Tilly, 1; W. Matthews, 2; A. Overton, 3; R. Phillips, 4; J. Green, 5; W. Spencer, 6. Tenor, 14 cwt.

At Garboldisham, Norfolk.

ON Friday, the 29th ult., a peal of 720 Double Norwich Court Bob Minor was rung. [No time mentioned.] W. West, 1; Rev. C. L. Kennaway,* 2; J. Bason,* 3; J. Bennett,* junr., 4; H. Eavis, 5; J. Bennett (conductor), 6. This is the first peal in this method rung for many years by members of the Garboldisham Company alone. All the above are members of the Norwich Diocesan Association. [* First peal in this method.] Tenor, 12 cwt., in G.

At St. Martin's, Ruislip, Middlesex.

ON Saturday, the 30th ult., eight members of the St. James's Society, rang Holt's Ten-part peal (Reeves's Variation) of 5040 Grandsire Triples in 2 hrs. 55 mins. H. Langdon, 1; E. Horrex, 2; R. French (conductor), 3; B. J. James, 4; H. Cutter, 5; G. R. Banks, 6; C. F. Winny, 7; W. H. George, 8. Tenor, 15 cwt., in F. The above peal is the first on the bells, made into a ring of eight in May 1878.

At St. Paul's, Drighlington, Yorks.

ON Saturday, the 30th ult., six members of the Bradford Parish Church Company, with J. Wilkinson, Esq., and W. E. London of Shipley, rang a peal of 5024 Kent Treble Bob Major in 3 hrs. 2 mins. A. Moulson, 1; J. Naylor, 2; J. Angus, 3; T. Pollard, 4; J. Cheetham, 5; J. H. Hardcastle (conductor), 6; J. Wilkinson, 7; W. E. London, 8. The peal was composed specially for the occasion by W. Sottanstell of Sowerby. Tenor, 16 cwt.

At Christ Church, Aughton, Lancashire.

ON Sunday, the 31st ult., for afternoon service, J. Aspinwall's Six-part peal of 720 Grandsire Minor, with a tenor behind, was rung in 26 mins. G. Larkey, 1; J. Gardner, 2; W. Fairclough, 3; C. Sharples (conductor), 4; W. Bentham, 5; J. Walker, 6; H. Cave, 7. Tenor, 16 cwt., in F.

At Worcester Cathedral.

ON the 31st ult., and the 1st inst., touches were rung of 503 Grandsire Caters, with the bells muffled, and 828 changes after the New Year had commenced, with the bells open. F. Owen, N. Wale, G. Cleal, H. Pheasant, S. Price, W. Blandford, H. Wilkes, J. Reynolds, G. Hobbs, T. Malin, and J. Hinton. Conducted by H. Wilkes. Tenor, 50 cwt.

At Ormskirk, Lancashire.

ON Sunday, the 31st ult., the ringers of the parish church, after ringing out the Old Year, unmuffled the bells and rang in the New Year with a date peal of 1883 Grandsire Triples in 1 hr. 8 mins. T. Higham, 1; J. Winrow, 2; J. Eastham, 3; P. Fairhurst, 4; J. Leatherbarrow, 5; N. Spencer (composer and conductor), 6; R. Clayton, 7; J. Prescott, 8. Tenor, 25 cwt. 3 qrs. 25 lbs.

At St. Sidwell's, Exeter, Devon.

THE St. Sidwell's Society rang out the Old Year with two muffled peals of 700 Grandsire Triples, the New Year being welcomed by several merry peals, including a touch of 500 Grandsire Triples. J. F. Alford, jun., 1; F. Shepherd, 2; A. Shepherd, 3; H. Swift, 4; S. Herbert, 5; W. C. Marsh (conductor), 6; W. B. Fulford, 7; G. Townsend, 8. Tenor, 23½ cwt.

At St. John's, Newcastle-on-Tyne.—Muffled Peal.

ON Monday, the 1st inst., a muffled peal of 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor was rung in 31 mins. G. Herdman, 1; L. Routledge, 2; R. S. Story, 3; W. G. Routledge (conductor), 4; W. Story, 5; F. Lees, 6. The muffles were then taken off the bells and the New Year was rung in with a quick touch of 360 Plain Bob Minor, followed by 'firing' the bells. ['Firing' very objectionable, and unmusical.—ED.] The same touch was rung for morning service on New-year's Day, both being conducted by R. S. Story. Tenor, 14½ cwt.

At St. James's, Barrow-in-Furness, Lancashire.

ON the 1st inst., the members of the St. James' Amateur Society rang a date touch of 1883 Grandsire Triples in 1 hr. 18 mins. J. Kendall, 1; J. Hague, 2; B. M. Brown, 3; J. Dancer, 4; S. Brotherton, 5; J. Mercer (conductor), 6; R. M. Graham, 7; R. Bowker, 8.

ST. PHILIP'S CHURCH, HULME.—The peal rung at this church on the 21st ult. was Holt's original One-part, and not his Two-part peal, as mentioned in our last week's issue.

MESSRS. LLEWELLYN AND JAMES have restored and rehung the bells at Manorbier, near Tenby. At Caldicot, near Chepstow, Monm., they have recast and rehung the second bell, which was cracked, and also added a new treble, 6½ cwt., thus augmenting the ring from five to six bells. At Houghton, near Stockbridge, Hants, they have recast the treble bell; and the whole has been rehung by Messrs. Annett and Son, Andover.

FORD END, GREAT WALTHAM, ESSEX.—In the account which appeared in *Church Bells* of December 30th of the opening of a ring at the above church, it was omitted to mention that the band from Braintree and Bocking was sent as the representatives of the Essex Association to open the ring, by the kind invitation of the Rev. B. S. Yolland.

RECEIVED ALSO—No name attached to the peal from Swinton; F. B. King; and others.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Canon Wilberforce in Winchester Cathedral.

SIR,—As Canon-in-residence at the time of the service in Winchester Cathedral referred to in 'Home Reunion Notes' in your last issue, will you allow me to say a few words?

This service was of a special character, not one of the ordinary services, but an extraordinary one held in the nave at 8 p.m. It was designed to be a solemn conclusion to a series of meetings presided over by the parochial clergy, which had been held during the previous week in connexion with the so-called Blue Ribbon movement. On the Sunday following this week of combined and strenuous effort on the part of all denominations, the service in question took place in the Cathedral. The prayers, read by myself, were all from the Book of Common Prayer. 'The *Te Deum*' was chanted to Humphreys' grand chant by a special volunteer choir, and few will forget that *Te Deum*. The hymns, one of which was 'Crown Him Lord of all,' were sung by the whole of the vast congregation to tunes loved by and familiar to the majority. Dr. Arnold, the Cathedral organist, most kindly gave his services, recognising the special nature of the occasion. The choir had done their full day's work, and were neither asked nor expected to be present. The 'scare' is a figment. In our nave services a trumpet is almost a necessity, the organ being in the north transept, and Canon Wilberforce knowing this was prudent enough to bring with him from Southampton a young trumpeter, who was very helpful. The music and the hymns were of a character to suit the classes not generally found in a cathedral, and these classes were present. The congregation, nearer 4000 than 8000, filled the vast nave, the greater part standing. Mr. Basil Wilberforce's voice, powerful as it is, could not reach all his hearers; but where it reached it held them in close attention. Few can have left the Cathedral unimpressed. I was near enough to hear every word, and I have no recollection of the sentence to which you call special attention; and looking back on the whole service, and recalling its effect at the time, I should only with very great reluctance make the preacher an offender for a word; as it is, I have no feeling but one of thankfulness.

Crawley Rectory, Winchester. PHILIP JACOB, Archdeacon of Winchester.

[The description of the service was quoted from the *Methodist Recorder*, and the attention of the Editor will doubtless be called to the correction of his mis-statements.—ED. C. B.]

How to Warm Our Churches.

SIR,—Can any of your readers tell me and others interested the best way of successfully and securely warming a church? We want to maintain a large church in a cold neighbourhood at one moderate temperature. We do not wish for a grand firing operation on Saturday afternoon or Sunday morning, but to maintain an equally moderate temperature throughout the weeks of winter, so that none need 'shiver' if they come to church, or stop away 'because the church is so cold.' We have seen many schemes in full operation, but few are quite satisfactory. The various 'hot-air' or 'warm-air' systems have their advantages, and may seem to be philosophical, but they have the one serious disadvantage, that they do produce and must produce continuous draughts, and philosophy can tell us that it must be so. The large stove system is open to nearly the same objection, even if stoked (as we have seen) from outside the church—a plan which the clergyman insisted on to the great safety and cleanliness of the church. A good hot-water system seems to us the best method, *i. e.* a system by which a circulation of hot water is freely and rapidly maintained throughout every part of the church. If large coils are used in one or two parts of the building, the same objection arises which occurs with the hot-air system, because there must be a rush of hot air from the large heating surface, which must be supplied by a draught of colder air from the lower parts of the church; whereas if a system of rapid circulation of hot water be carried everywhere throughout the church, this serious evil is almost entirely got rid of, for as warmth rises from the pipes in every part of the church in a very small quantity, and although of course it ascends upwards, no draught is felt, and it warms by contact also, and coming in contact wherever it exists, the temperature is raised from the very surface upwards from the beginning.

The great desiderata, as far as I can learn, in regard to hot water, are: 1, a good boiler placed as low beneath the level of the church-floor as possible; 2, the pipes to be laid almost level over the church, the highest point being where they leave the boiler and the lowest where they return to the under-part of the boiler; 3, it is said to be an excellent plan to let the hot-water pipe, on rising from the boiler, ascend five or six feet, or more, even if it immediately curve downwards again; and one can quite recognise the benefit of this. But although tolerably certain that this hot-water system is the best,

any information will be thankfully received, both as regards other ways of warming the church, and also as to hot-water systems, sizes of pipes, shapes of pipes, plan of laying them, and the sort of boiler. All this is asked for in the interests of the Church, because it is most desirable to ascertain some really efficient way of properly warming a church all through the week, and also because, in the particular case before us, the example adopted, if successful, will probably be followed in many churches in the neighbourhood.

T. H. E.

Churches with Chapels.

SIR,—May I give yet a few words further in reply to 'H. H. M.'s' letter in your issue of Nov. 11? The numerous instances we have of most ingeniously planned churches prove that if such designs as 'H. H. M.' seems to ask for are not more numerous, it is not because architects of inventive genius and contriving faculty are wanting. The late G. E. Street was a brilliantly original planner. That he put so much invention into his design for Edinburgh Cathedral was probably one reason why he was not entrusted with the work. Instances, both ancient and modern, of sloping or peculiar sites being taken advantage of in the design abound; *e. g.* in the parish church of Knarborough the old slope upwards is considerable, and was retained when the church was restored; the effect is excellent. Another striking example is the grand old cathedral of St. David's, where, in the nave alone, the rise was 3 ft. 6 in., the bases of the pillars being stepped up to meet it, thus proving the slope to have been in the original design. At St. Albans, also, there is a rise towards the chancel; at East Dereham, in Norfolk, there is a great rise, and the capitals of the pillars are stepped up in proportion. There are similar slopes at Stoke-next-Guildford and at Buxted, in Sussex. I forget whether the ground slopes to the east at Canterbury, but there is a fairly well-lighted chapel (below the main floor), in which there is, or used to be, a service held by Dissenters, to wit, Huguenots, every Sunday morning.

Continental instances are still more uncommon. At Bayeux Cathedral the relations between the steeply sloping site and the varying levels of the church floor are managed with consummate ability. Let architects who strive to walk in such 'old paths' relate how they fare with their building committees. To turn to a few modern instances. This week's *Architect* illustrates St. Andrew's, Redruth, Cornwall, where a site, sloping steeply towards the west, affords space which is utilised for spacious rooms for vestries and other parish purposes. The churches of St. Mark and St. Michael, Battersea, where the sites are lowest towards the east, have spacious and convenient vestries under the chancel. At the newly built parish church of Bacup, in Lancashire, where the site at the east end is much the lowest, there are spacious groined vestries under the chancel, with a wide staircase leading up from them to the church, and here the nave floor slopes from its east end up to the west, where there is a baptistry, with a font still further raised by four steps. At St. Anne's, Haughton (near Hyde, in Cheshire), where the site slopes steeply down to the east, there is, occupying the whole of the space under the chancel a groined choir-vestry, with pillars, and under the crossing of the nave and transepts a large parish room, also arched in brick, with a row of many pillars down the centre. All Saints', Marple, in Cheshire, has its nave floor following the site, and sloping up toward the east. The site of the Hook Memorial Church at Leeds slopes to the east, and there, too, capital vestries are built under the chancel, with a convenient staircase into south chancel aisle.

J. M. T.

Observance of Saints' Days.

SIR,—I am one of a numerous class among the laity of our Church who not infrequently find themselves led by the pursuit of business or pleasure some distance from home and friends. At the close of the day time hangs heavy on one's hand, the resources of the hotel being soon exhausted, and looking round in search of some object of interest, the name of a street or the sight of a venerable tower or spire suggests profitable occupation for a portion at least of the leisure. Too often the patient searcher is rewarded by the discovery of a closed door and the announcement that the usual week-night service is on some other evening, and that the keys of the church are meanwhile with Mrs. Brown the washerwoman, up such and such a court or alley. Of recent years, however, an alteration has set in, and now it is rather the rule than the exception to find that the local Directory announces a service on each saint's day—often on each week-night during Advent and Lent; and in an increasing number of instances a regular observance of the plain directions of the Prayer-book. It is true that in too many cases the time is either in the morning only or both morning and evening, at hours when men of business cannot possibly attend; but there are still many churches in most of our large cities and towns where the bell sounds forth at 7.0 or 7.30 p.m., and the stranger being by this time weary of 'pounding out his heart by himself,' betinks him of the Psalmist who ages ago 'went with the multitude into the house of God in the voice of praise and thanksgiving among such as keep holy day.' With feelings like these he enters some stately fabric rich with the memorials of the piety of past ages and the wealth and munificence of the present, and hears a shortened form of service gone through at a break-neck pace, *sans* choir, *sans* organ, *sans* congregation, *sans* everything which can give life to the beautiful words, which the reader seems bent on getting over as quickly as possible. The Vicar and the rest of the clergy are conspicuous by their absence, and the whole affair (for it is a mockery to call it a service) is destitute of reality or devotion. Is it any wonder that the stranger's soul is full of heaviness, and he departs with very different feelings to those which brought him in? Is this as it should be?

Will any one say that the present method of observing saints' days in the vast majority of our churches is anything more than an idle form, except it be in some cases on the special day of the saint to whom the church is dedicated? Does any one doubt that these frequently recurring anniversaries might be made opportunities for devotion, means of edification, and occasions of special effort for the conversion of the ungodly? When the regular choir cannot attend (though I doubt if that would often be the case when invited), could

COLONIAL AND FOREIGN CHURCH NEWS.

UNITED STATES.

A BRANCH of the Italian Mission of New York is to be established at Brooklyn, under the Rev. Constantine Stauder. There are 10,000 Italians in that city, and already more than a hundred families of them have been brought into our communion by the effort centred in New York.

MEXICO.

THE Mexican Commission of the American Episcopate have requested Bishop Riley to revisit the United States in order to explain complaints which have reached them. From the *Living Church* we learn that a protest was made by seven Mexican clergy against the 'election' of another Bishop through Bishop Riley's influence. The protest contends that the election was utterly illegal, affirms that Bishop Riley 'has descended to calumniate the private life of such as do not go with him in his arbitrary acts,' and that his object is 'to avoid fulfilling Art. VI. of the Concordat'—i.e., his promise to provide a more adequate Mexican Liturgy, especially as regards the Sacraments. The *Living Church* thus describes the present situation:—'As we have seen, Bishop Riley, who had charge of the "diocese of the city of Mexico," resigned the care of the former, and Jose M. Gonzalez was chosen "Bishop of the city of Mexico" by a synod strangely, and, it is charged, illegally, constituted. Then a new "diocese of Hidalgo" was formed, and Antonio Carrion chosen Bishop of the same, so that now the clerical force of the "Mexican branch of the Church of our Lord Jesus Christ," so far as Bishop Riley and his adherents are concerned, consists of one Bishop, two Bishops-elect, and, at the most, five other clergy. Should now one of the latter be chosen to replace Bishop-elect Hernandez, in his diocese of Cuernavaca, the Bishops and Bishops-elect would be equal in number to the clergy subject to them!' Our informant adds—'Our [American Church] committee some years ago lent Bishop Riley a large sum of money on Mexican securities. It is, therefore, of interest to us to learn how he is conducting the work for which he was ordained by our Mexican Commission of Bishops.'

INDIA.

THE Chota-Nagpur Christians, by going out to work in the 'Tea-gardens' elsewhere, become efficient spreaders of the Faith. P. M. Mukerji, a native Presbyter, in relating the baptism of eleven converts in Cachar, remarks:—'There is no direct evangelising agency at work among these people, but one feature of the native Christian character has had great influence on the heathen. The Christians call upon God in times of sickness and trouble with remarkable earnestness and devotion, while the heathen under similar circumstances invoke evil spirits, and make offerings to them. When a heathen is in trouble, and other help fails, he solicits the Christians to call upon their God on his behalf. If he is relieved from his trouble, he invariably renounces devil-worship, and resolves to become a Christian.'

SERVIA.

THE Bill brought in to regulate the position of the Servian Church has been passed by the Skuptschina in one sitting. The Bill treats of the Synod, and fixes who are to be the members of it. It enacts that the Synod is to elect the Bishops. The Metropolitan will be elected by the Bishops, the Minister-President, the Minister of Public Worship, the President of the Council of State, and the President and two members of the Court of Appeal, who are to be added as lay members for that occasion. The elections of the Bishops and of the Metropolitan require the Royal sanction.

FRANCE.

THE tenth annual meeting of the Mission Home for English Women was held on Wednesday afternoon, Dr. Bishop presiding, at the Home, 77 Avenue Wagram, Paris. Letters were received from Lord Lyons and others, expressing regret at not being able to be present. The Report, which was read by Mr. Yeatman, stated that there had been this year 442 admissions to the Home, making a total of 3000 since it was founded on December 20, 1872. The Sanitarium had nursed thirty patients, and the free registry had had over 4000 visits. The Report reiterated the usual strong warning against the credulity with which situations are accepted on the other side of the Channel, and related several instances in which English girls had been rescued from starvation, and worse, through the Home. The Young Women's Christian Association, the Governesses' and Artists' Association, the Mission-hall, Kindergarten, and other various agencies for the good of our country people, showed an increased usefulness on the previous year. The expenditure had been 5875*l.*, the receipts 4772*l.*, leaving a large deficit. The Rev. P. B. Delom, chaplain of Christ Church, Neuilly, and of the institution, spoke in the strongest terms of the necessity for each branch of the work, and of the administrative ability with which it was carried on. The Rev. Dr. Pigou, vicar of Halifax, who has accepted the temporary charge of Christ Church, spoke of Paris as it was when he was there twenty-five years ago, when none of these agencies were at work, and said that it would be his privilege to help Miss Leigh and her co-workers in every way he could. The Revs. F. J. C. Moran and T. Baron Hart bore their strong personal testimony to the good that was being done, and wished the means of this Institution were increased tenfold. Allusion was made to the Orphanage, which has now thirty-six children, making a total of 230 admitted since its formation, and to M. Galignani's last visit to it, at which he expressed his entire satisfaction with the work. Just before the meeting commenced Miss Leigh received from his heirs a copy of the clause of M. Galignani's will, which will be most satisfactory to the friends of the Institution in England. The text is as follows:—'I will that my universal legatees continue to pay, in the same manner as I have during my lifetime, my annual subscription of 7500 francs to the English Orphanage, for at least ten years after my decease.'

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Norwich Diocesan Association.

THE next District Meeting of the above Association will be held at Bungay, on Monday, the 29th inst. Members wishing to attend should communicate with the Secretary on or before Tuesday, the 23rd.
Tunstead Vicarage, Norwich. G. H. HARRIS, Hon. Sec.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At Holy Trinity, Belbroughton, Worcestershire.

AFTER lying dormant for more than twelve months, the bells of this church were rung for service on Christmas Day; and on Sunday, the 31st ult., a peal of 720 Plain Bob was rung in 27 mins. A. Parton, 1; E. Hatton, 2; H. C. Goodyear, 3; G. Parton, 4; J. Baize, 5; H. Martin (conductor), 6. Tenor, 18 cwt.

At Hurworth-on-Tees, Durham.

On Saturday, the 30th ult., six of the Hurworth ringers rang a peal of Bob Minor in 27 mins. J. Simpson, 1; Rev. W. H. Deane (first peal with a working bell), 2; J. E. Hern, 3; J. Temple, 4; G. Garbutt, 5; H. Thompson (conductor), 6. Tenor, 17 cwt.

At Christ Church, Aughton, Lancashire.

On Tuesday evening, the 2nd inst., a peal of 720 Grandsire Minor was rung in 26 mins. G. Larkey, 1; J. Orme, 2; C. Sharples, 3; W. Bentham, 4; J. Walker, 5; W. Fairclough (conductor), 6. Tenor, 16 cwt., in F.

At St. John's, Newcastle.

On Tuesday, the 2nd inst., a peal of 720 Plain Bob Minor was rung in 29 mins. G. Campbell, 1; A. Moffatt, 2; W. G. Routledge, 3; Jas. Moffatt, 4; J. Moffatt, 5; R. S. Story (conductor), 6.

Also on Sunday evening, the 7th inst., a peal of 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor was rung in 27 mins. G. Campbell, 1; C. L. Routledge, 2; F. Lees, 3; W. G. Routledge (conductor), 4; W. Story, 5; R. S. Story, 6. Tenor, 14½ cwt.

At St. Mary's, Willesden, Middlesex.

On Thursday, the 4th inst., six members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang the following peal of 720 Bob Minor, with 34 bobs and 10 singles, in 24½ mins. J. Jackman, 1; F. Weare, 2; H. Cutter, 3; J. Basden, 4; J. Parker (composer and conductor), 5; R. Kilby, 6. Tenor, 9 cwt.

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This 720 has the 5th her extent in 2-3 in the first two courses, and her extent in 4, 5, 6, in the last three. It contains the 6-4, 4-2, 2-3, and 5-6, six times each the right way (the same as in the plain course).

At St. Peter's, Drayton, Berks.

On Thursday, the 4th inst., eight members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild rang a peal of 5040 Union Triples in 2 hrs. 50 mins. Rev. F. E. Robinson, 1; J. Avery, 2; B. Barrett, 3; E. Holifield, 4; W. Bennett, 5; G. Holifield (composer and conductor), 6; F. White, 7; T. Bennett, 8. Tenor, 9½ cwt.

At St. Mary's, Coddensham, Suffolk.

On Thursday, the 4th inst., six members of the Coddensham Society, assisted by the Rev. W. C. Pearson of Ayston, Leicestershire, and Mr. T. Sadler, Winesham, rang the first half of Holt's Ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples (2520 changes) in 1 hr. 35 mins. O. Waspe, 1; T. Sadler, 2; E. Wells (conductor), 3; G. Lummis, 4; J. Offord, 5; Rev. W. C. Pearson, 6; H. English, 7; S. English, 8. Tenor, 16½ cwt., in F sharp.

At Pontefract, Yorkshire.

On Friday, the 5th inst., seven of the Pontefract ringers, with W. Pearson of Campsall, rang a date-touch of 1883 Grandsire Triples in 1 hr. 13 mins. J. Smithes, 1; C. Watts, 2; H. Spurr, 3; S. Brook, 4; W. Stones, 5; R. Savile, 6; W. Pearson (conductor), 7; E. Waterton, 8. Tenor, 16½ cwt., in E.

At Eccles, Lancashire.

On Saturday, the 6th inst., a peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples, Taylor's Bob-and-Single Variation, was rung in 2 hrs. 46 mins. E. Cash, 1; J. Barratt, 2; L. Pearce, 3; J. Ridyard, 4; C. Cash, 5; J. Scott (conductor), 6; J. Edge, 7; E. Reddish, 8. Tenor, 13 cwt. 3 qrs.

At St. Mary's, Helmingham, Suffolk.

On Saturday, the 6th inst., eight members of the Norwich Diocesan Association rang Holt's Ten-part peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples in 3 hrs. 15 mins. J. Last, 1; G. Perry, 2; J. Knights, 3; G. Thurlow, 4; H. English, 5; E. Wells (conductor), 6; G. Sherman, 7; C. Mouser, 8. Tenor, 19½ cwt.

At Holy Trinity, Bolton, Lancashire.

On Saturday, the 6th inst., eight members of the Lancashire Association rang Holt's Ten-part peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples in 2 hrs. 55 mins. H. W. Jackson (conductor), 1; J. Lister, 2; J. Redford, 3; J. Curtis, 4; J. Walsh, 5; W. Marsden, 6; W. Hamer, 7; J. H. Jackson, 8. Tenor, 16 cwt.

At St. Lawrence, Northwingsfield, Derbyshire.

On Sunday, the 7th inst., for morning service, a peal of 720 Bob Minor, with 32 bobs and 2 singles, was rung in 30 mins. G. Clough, 1; T. Allibone, 2; J. J. Cook, 3; T. Millington (conductor), 4; J. Atkin, 5; T. Clough, 6. Tenor, 18½ cwt.

At Christ Church, Tunstall, Staffordshire.

On the 7th inst., the first Sunday after the Epiphany, after Evensong, 600 Grandsire Doubles, called in different ways, were rung in 25 mins. G. Gee (conductor), 1; George Gee, jun., 2; J. Gee, 3; W. Gee, 4; E. Horne, 5; W. Saunders, 6. Tenor, 12 cwt., in G.

At Tewkesbury Abbey, Gloucestershire.

On Monday, the 8th inst., Holt's Ten-part peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples was rung in 3 hrs. 5 mins. R. H. Witherington,* 1; S. Cleal,* 2; F. J. Moore,* 3; J. Hale,* 4; J. Wathen, 5; C. Halford,* 6; Josiah Wathen (conductor), 7; W. Haines, 8. Tenor, 23 cwt. 3 qrs. 19 lbs. [* First peal.]

RECEIVED ALSO:—Bishop Wearmouth—without name; J. R. Edmonds—answered direct; J. T. Raymond should advertise; and others.

CORRESPONDENCE.

A Bishop for Birmingham.

Sir,—Allow me to thank both 'G. V.' and 'A. J. B.' for expressing their opinions as to the division of the See of Worcester. We have all the one object at heart, although our plans for accomplishing it may slightly differ. Personally, I approve of the idea that the two divisions of our county—north and south—should each have its own bishop, although, practically, I fear the powers that be would not be liberal enough to sanction it; besides, I fear the Church has not the mind to ask for so much. As to Birmingham's claim for a bishopric being only one of population, I consider this is the most important point in the whole matter. What is the Church for, if not for the people, and the people for the Church? We want fishers where the shoals are, and not where the fish are few and far between. The interest of the Church should be to have a strong hold on our great towns, which grow stronger every year in governing the country for good or evil. Three dioceses have lately been formed, minus grand cathedrals, so that we have precedents to work on. Two of our churches—St. Martin's and St. Philip's—are both architecturally equal to some of our cathedrals, and the site of the latter one surpasses most of them. The one thing wanted is the living, apostolic leader, with and amongst us. The time has already arrived for Birmingham Churchmen to move and press the matter forward. May I ask your correspondents to offer suggestions as to promoting the thing devoutly to be wished for? I can assure 'G. V.' that nothing shall be wanting on my feeble part to assist in such a good work.

JAMES IVATTS.

66 St. Mary Street, Birmingham.

How to Warm Our Churches.

Sir,—Seeing the letter under the above heading in your issue of January 8th, I beg to inform 'T. H. E.' that three buildings in this town (Burnley, Lancashire) have been fitted with a heating apparatus (hot water) to the perfect satisfaction of all concerned. The system is one which, from its principle, cannot fail to thoroughly heat any building (and keep it at an even temperature) to which it may be applied. The first cost is more than that of most heating apparatus, but once fitted, the system can be worked at a minimum of cost for labour and fuel. I have fitted one of the buildings above referred to, a school, and I am now fitting a second school, and can guarantee satisfaction.

Culder Brass Works, Burnley.

WILLIAM COWELL.

Sir,—A friend of mine having sent me a copy of *Church Bells* in hopes that I might find time to reply to same respecting the above matter, may I beg to be allowed to say that the system as suggested by 'T. H. E.', viz., that of always warming, is indeed the right one, for it is an impossibility for any system to prove effectual that does not go in for the continually having a fire; hence, just to hurry up a heat on a Saturday, or worse still on a Sunday morning, is entirely out of the question, if one deserves to make the church comfortable. My plan is always to have a gentle, moderate heat, going as often as possible during the week. In many instances, where fuel is cheap and abundant, it is far better to have a slow fire on always; there you have no fear of damp or cold draughts; but first and foremost the hot-water pipes should be as far as practicable, 'always exposed,' not buried in the aisles, but if buried, then always near to and close to the outside walls. I stood the other day and noticed a plan in a shop-window in London, which made me laugh right out, as I never saw such an 'idiotic conception' in my life before, and feel ashamed to think that any one professing the art of heating by hot water, and calling himself an engineer, should ever be so far behind the times as to put all his hot-water pipes in the ground in trenches, and all in the middle or body of the church; hence you had the heat in the centre of the building, drawing all the cold draughts to it over the people's heads. Now my advice is this: Have your boiler in as good low position as possible, run all your pipes up from the boiler along floors, where possible 'dip' under doorways, and expose all your pipes. This is simple, and we have done several churches and public buildings most effectually this way; but if you cannot do this, then sink them in trenches, but always have another air chamber under the pipe-chamber, which admits fresh air from the outside, and which causes the hot air to leave its bed, else you lose half your heat. The way we arrange this we shall be pleased to give to 'T. H. E.', or anyone, if he, or they, will send their address to us; but as we find so many persons desire to know 'how to best warm their churches,' we have taken upon ourselves the task of showing them, as per our advertisement, in the pages of this journal.

Hartou.

W. AND S. DEARDS, Hot Water Engineers.

Metropolitan Church-Workers' Association.

Sir,—Will you allow me to inform your readers that one house with accommodation for eight ladies is now open near the South Kensington Station? It has been decided to begin work in the district of the Seven Dials Mission, where help is greatly wanted. By kind permission of the Bishop of London, this Association has been put in connexion with the Ladies' Diocesan Society, founded by Mrs. Tait, and now continued by Miss Jackson, by whom ladies will be put into communication with the clergy whose parishes are in urgent need of workers. About 150l. is wanted for preliminary expenses, towards which the following donations have been received:—Lord Brabazon, 10l.; Miss Barton, 6l.; Miss Jackson, 5l.; Miss Twyman, 5l.

M. A. BILLER, Hon. Sec.

LIVES OF THE SAINTS.—'M. C. Vizard' (Ferney Hill, Dursley), writes in reference to 'O. L. C.'s' query:—'There is a book called *Iustorum Semita*, or the Path of the Just, which gives a history of the saints and holy days of the present English Calendar. I do not know whether it is now in print or not; the date of the book I have is 1843, published by R. Grant, Edinburgh, and James Burns, London. Gilbert & Rivington, printers.'

PRIVATE PRAYER.—'F. H.' recommends to 'Catholicus' the *Armoury of Prayer* (Rivingtons), compiled by Rev. Berdmore Compton, as it has not yet been mentioned. To use the compiler's words, it is meant 'to help the private worship of those English Church-people whose spiritual temperament is rather sober than ecstatic,' and is varied and comprehensive in its contents.

RECEIVED ALSO:—An Old Subscriber; James Wright; and others.

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Illustrations, Similes, &c., for the 'Outlines.'
The Biblical Notices of Babylon Illustrated from Profane Sources, Ancient and Modern. By the Rev. Canon Rawlinson, M.A.
Working Men's Services. By Rev. George Tonge, M.A.
The London Churches and Foreign Missions. By Eugene Stock, Esq., Editorial Secretary of the Church Missionary Society.

Among the many Testimonials to the value of the *Clergyman's Magazine*, the Editor has received the following:—

The late Archbishop of Canterbury.

'I think the "Clergyman's Magazine" is likely to supply a need which is much felt, and that the teaching contained in many of the lectures will afford much help to the younger clergy. I heartily wish the Magazine all success, and an increasingly wide circulation.'

LONDON: HODDER & STOUGHTON, 27 PATERNOSTER ROW.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Society of Change-ringers.

A DISTRICT Meeting of this Society, which was founded on Jan. 8th, five years ago, was held at Wotton-under-Edge on Monday. It now numbers about 180 performing members and 78 honorary members, with the Bishop as president, the Archdeacons of Gloucester and Bristol, Sir M. H. Beach, M.P., and Colonel Kingscote, M.P., as vice-presidents; Mr. J. Drinkwater, master; the Rev. Pitt Eykyn, France Lynch, hon. sec.; and the Rev. F. E. Broome Witts, Norton, treasurer. The objects of the Society are belfry reform and the promotion of change-ringing. At the service the Vicar gave a long address. Some of the members rang a touch of about an hour's duration. The meeting of the members took place in the Boys' Church Sunday Schoolroom, the chair being taken by the Rev. F. E. Broome Witts. The Rev. Pitt Eykyn read the minutes of the last meeting, which was held at Bisley, and which were confirmed. A discussion followed as to the next place of meeting, and it was decided to leave the matter in the hands of the committee. Application had been made by some of the Wotton men to join the Society as performing members, but as they were unable to comply with the rules, viz., to be capable of taking part in a peal of 120 changes, they were not eligible. About thirty-five sat down to dinner at the 'Swan Hotel,' the chair being taken by the Vicar. The loyal toasts were given and responded to. The Rev. Pitt Eykyn gave 'The Vicar and Churchwardens of Wotton,' and in doing so announced that the Vicar and Mr. A. H. Turner, churchwarden, had been proposed as honorary members, and suggested their being elected at once, which was done. The Rev. H. Sewell expressed the pleasure it gave him to meet the Association. He had spoken in the morning as to his idea of ringers and ringing, and he was certain they would do a great deal of good, not only by teaching others to ring, but by promoting decency among the ringers. He proposed 'Success to the Association.'—The Master responded, and said that having arrived at the close of their fifth year of existence they could review their work, and although they had not done all they could wish they had done well. It was not change-ringing they were formed for solely, but belfry reform, and he hoped the ringers would not do anything to desecrate the church, of which the tower was a part. The Rev. Mr. Eykyn reminded the meeting that they ought to be extremely obliged for the kindness of the vicar and churchwardens in getting new ropes, and not forget their extreme kindness in welcoming the Society. Several courses on eight and ten handbells were given in the room, and the companies rang several touches on the church bells. The striking was good.

Change-ringing by the Waterloo Society.

THE Meetings of this Society for practice will be as follows:—At St. John's, Waterloo Road, at 8.30 p.m., on Wednesdays, Jan. 31st; Feb. 14th and 28th; March 14th and 28th; April 11th and 25th.

At St. Margaret's, Westminster, at 7.45 p.m., on Fridays, Jan. 26th; Feb. 9th and 23rd; March 9th and 23rd; April 6th and 20th. WM. COPPAGE.

Surrey Association of Change-ringers.

THE next meeting of this Association will be held at Kingston-on-Thames on Jan. 29th. Tower open for ringing at two o'clock. There will be a substantial meat tea provided for members. Friends, 1s. 6d. each. Members and friends intending to attend will kindly oblige by sending in their names to me not later than Friday, Jan. 26th. A. B. PERCIVAL, Hon. Sec.

Eagle House, Wimbledon.

Lancashire Association of Change-ringers.

A QUARTERLY Meeting will be held on Saturday, January 27th, at St. Michael's Church, Garston. Ringing from 2 p.m. Tea in the School-room at 6 p.m., price 1s. 6d. each. WILLIAM JOS. CHATTERTON, } Hon. Secs.
JOEL REDFORD, }

The Worcestershire Association.

THE January Meeting of this Society was held at Old Hill on Saturday, Jan. 13, when the bells of the parish church and those of Cradley were placed at the disposal of the Society. A resolution was passed that the next meeting should be held at Kidderminster on Easter Monday next, of which due notice will be given of time and place where members are to assemble. Votes of thanks were passed to the Vicar and Churchwardens of Old Hill and ringers of Cradley, where permission had been granted for ringing during the day; and a vote of thanks to the Chairman (Mr. Perks of Malvern) concluded the business of the day.

Sonning Deanery Branch of the Oxford Diocesan Guild of Ringers.

THE Annual Meeting of this branch was held at Wokingham on Saturday, the 13th inst. Ringers from Hurst, Sonning, Sandhurst, Wargrave, and Wokingham, assembled at 4 o'clock to ring at the churches of All Saints and St. Paul's. At 6 p.m. a short choral service was held in the parish church, and an excellent practical address given by the Rev. Dolben Paul on the words 'Prosper Thou the work of our hands upon us; O prosper Thou our handy work!' The evening concluded with the annual general meeting for the election of officers and other business. The Secretary, in his report, in speaking of the services of Mr. J. R. Haworth, the Guild's instructor, said that the branch now numbered fifty change-ringers, who had passed the test of 120 Grandsire Doubles against twenty-four the previous year, and that this with an increase of honorary members had increased the number from 96 to 118. No one could doubt that the Guild was doing a most useful work for the Church. The hearty service in the church and the general goodwill expressed was of itself an evidence of a higher tone among our ringers, and of a greater care for a long-neglected corner of our parish church.

Prize-ringing in Cornwall.

OUR corresponding agent in the West has sent us a paper which contains an account of Prize-ringing on five Bells!! We reproduce it for the amusement of our more advanced ringing friends, who will scarcely believe that persons can be induced to throw away 6l. 15s. in such a useless object. Of course people may spend their money as they please, but it is quite a mistake to suppose that, doing it as here stated, promotes Belfry Reform or the Science and Art of Ringing. Our opinion is, that nothing has checked progress in the right direction so much as such prizes for mere ups and downs and rounds and rounds.

'Prize-ringing at St. Teath.—A ringing match advertised to take place at Lanteglos-by-Camelford on New-year's Day was, in consequence of a death in the rector's family, transferred to the neighbouring parish of St. Teath, where it came off on a peal of five bells. Practice for the prizes commenced in the morning. At eleven o'clock a short service was held in the church, when an appropriate address was delivered by the vicar, the Rev. Mr. Rowe. The ringing for the prizes commenced about three o'clock, for which eleven sets contested. The contest was a close one, the ringers of Eglosayle, Blisland, and St. Mabyn, having to ring a second time, resulting as follows:—Blisland, first prize, 2l. 10s.; St. Mabyn, second, 2l.; Eglosayle, third, 1l. 10s.; St. Breward, fourth, 1l.; St. Wenn, jun., fifth, 10s.; and St. Kew, sixth, 5s. The umpires were—Mr. Chapman, Davidstow; Mr. Lean, St. Kew; and Mr. Menhinick, St. Mabyn. Notwithstanding the state of the weather, there was a large attendance.'

CHANGE-RINGING.

At St. John the Baptist's, Keyston, Hunts.

THE fine ring of five bells at this church have been rehung with entirely new fittings, including new cage and beams, and new floor. The bells have all been quarter-turned, and fitted with Ellacombe's chiming apparatus. The work was done by Mr. G. Eaton of Tichmarsh.

ON Wednesday, the 3rd inst., a band from Raunds rang 480 changes each, consisting of four six-scores of Old Doubles, and other peals in succession. G. Kirk, 1; T. Stubbs, 2; H. Stubbs, 3; J. Willmott, 4; W. Gilbert, 5. Conducted by the last four men alternately, one peal each. Tenor, 19 cwt., in E.

INSCRIPTIONS.

- 1st Bell.—'ADHERO . THE . LORDD . 1592.'
 - 2nd.—'Gloria Deo Soli. James Glitherow, Esq. William Marks, churchwarden. Henry Bayre, Fecit. 1748.'
 - 3rd.—'Remember the Ende, 1592.'
 - 4th.—'Give God the praise, 1592.'
 - 5th.—'Thomas Russell of Wootton, near Bedford, made me, 1733. Thomas Simonts, Churchwarden.' This bell is remarkable for the purity and richness of its tone; heard at a distance of four miles, it is simply superb.
- The inscriptions on the 3rd and 4th bells are in mediæval characters highly embellished, and interspersed with foliated crosses and other enrichments.

At Sandiacre, Nottingham.

ON Saturday, the 6th inst., the Long Eaton Ringers rang a peal of 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor in 27 mins. G. Bradley, 1; S. Clarke, 2; J. Ward, 3; R. Hickton, 4; W. Gilson, 5; J. Barrow (conductor), 6. Tenor, 17 cwt., in F. A peal of 720 Plain Bob Minor was also rung in 26 mins. J. Barrow (conductor), 1; G. Bradley, 2; J. Ward, 3; J. Copeland, 4; W. Gilson, 5; S. Clarke, 6.

At St. Mary's, Lewisham.

ON Thursday, the 11th inst., eight members of the St. James's Society rang a peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples (Holt's Ten-part peal) in 3 hrs. 2 mins. C. J. Barham, 1; W. Pead, 2; W. Weatherstone (conductor), 3; T. G. Deal, 4; A. G. Freeman, 5; T. Taylor, 6; H. Freeman, 7; E. Freeman, 8.

At Christ Church, Southgate, Middlesex.

ON Saturday, the 13th inst., eight members of the Royal Cumberland Society rang a peal of 5040 Stedman's Triples, (Brookes' variation) in 3 hrs. 23 mins. N. Alderman,* 1; G. Newson (conductor), 2; C. Hopkins, 3; J. Hannington, 4; H. Randall, 5; W. Doran,* 6; S. Jarman, 7; A. Dawes,† 8. Tenor, 25 cwt. [*First peal in the method. †First peal.]

At All Hallows', Tottenham, Middlesex.

ON Saturday, the 13th inst., eight members of the Royal Cumberland Society rang Penning's Original peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples in 3 hrs. 2 mins. J. Priest,* jun., 1; J. Gobbett, 2; M. Ellsmore, 3; H. Scarlett, 4; E. Moses, 5; E. Robbins,* 6; A. E. Gardom, Esq. (conductor), 7; J. Barry, 8. Tenor, 21 cwt. [*First peal.]

At the Parish Church, Harwich, Essex.

ON Saturday, the 13th inst., the following members of the Norwich Diocesan Association, who are also members of the Ancient Society of College Youths, rang a peal of 5024 Treble Bob Major, in the Kent variation, in 3 hrs. 1 min. W. L. Catchpole, 1; H. E. Bevan, 2; I. S. Alexander, 3; W. Meadows, 4; J. Fosdike, 5; E. Pemberton, 6; R. Hawes,* 7; R. H. Brundle, 8. Tenor, 15 cwt. The peal was composed by H. Dains and conducted by W. L. Catchpole. This is the first peal of the method upon the bells, and the second of any method ever rung upon the same.

At St. Saviour's, Leicester.

ON Saturday, the 13th inst., eight members of the Derby and District Association rang a peal of 5088 Kent Treble Bob Major in 3 hrs. 29 mins. J. Griffin (conductor), 1; J. Jagger, 2; H. Wakley, 3; H. C. Woodward, 4; A. Wakley, 5; T. Holmes, 6; J. Howe, 7; W. Wakley, 8. Composed by D. Prentice. Tenor, 27 cwt.

At St. Mary's, Hornsey, Middlesex.

On Sunday, the 13th inst., for divine service, a peal of 720 Plain Bob Minor (9 bobs and 6 singles) was rung in 27 mins. H. Nunn, 1; J. Hannington (conductor), 2; J. Leach, 3; J. Nunn, 4; T. Titchener, 5; T. Monks, 6.

Also, after divine service, a peal of 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 26 mins. (9 bobs). H. Nunn, 1; J. Leach, 2; J. Hannington (conductor), 3; T. Titchener, 4; J. Nunn, 5; A. Jacob, 6.—A peal of 720 Plain Bob Minor in 28 mins. (18 bobs and 2 singles). A. Dawes,* 1; G. Griffin, 2; A. Jacob, 3; J. Nunn, 4; J. Hannington (conductor), 5; T. Titchener, 6.—A six-score of Grandsire Doubles. H. Nunn, 1; J. Leach, 2; J. Hannington, 3; T. Titchener, 4; J. Nunn, 5; E. King, 6.—And another six-score Grandsire Doubles, with P. Parker, 1; G. Griffin, 2; A. Jacob, 3; J. Hannington, 4; A. Dawes, 5; W. Linge, 6. Tenor, 17½ cwt. [* First peal.]

At Mottram-in-Longdendale, Cheshire.—Muffled Peal.

On Saturday, the 13th inst., a peal of 5120 Kent Treble Bob Major was rung in 2 hrs. 55 mins. J. Sidebotham, 1; J. Harrop, 2; H. Shaw, 3; R. Wright, 4; W. Middleton, 5; T. Wilde, 6; J. Braddock, 7; J. S. Wilde, 8. Composed by the late James Wilde of Hyde, and conducted by Jas. S. Wilde.

Also on Sunday eight members of the Society of Change-ringers, St. George's, Hyde, rang at Mottram 1883 changes of Bob Major in 1 hr. 3 mins. J. Shaw, 1; R. Pritchard, 2; T. Bradley, 3; R. Woolley, 4; G. Fildes, 5; S. Bradley, 6; T. Wilde (conductor), 7; J. S. Wilde (composer), 8. Tenor, 14 cwt.

The above peals were rung with the bells deeply muffled, as a token of respect to Mr. John Bailey, a respected member of the Mottram Society of Change-ringers, whose remains were interred on Saturday afternoon last.

At St. George's, Gravesend, Kent.

On Saturday evening, the 13th inst., a peal of 720 Bob Minor with 7, 8, behind, with 18 bobs and 2 singles, was rung in 30 mins. J. Keeling, 1; W. Loft, 2; B. Spinner, 3; H. Weeks, 4; W. Harper,* 5; J. W. Aitkin, 6; J. H. Ryall, 7; J. W. Aitkin, jun. (conductor), 8. [* First peal.]

At Christ Church, Wanstead, Essex.

On Sunday evening, the 14th inst., after service, a peal of 720 Bob Minor was rung in 24½ mins. W. Smith, 1; J. Priest, 2; G. Akers, 3; G. Cornell, 4; A. H. Gardom, Esq. (conductor), 5; J. Marks, 6. Tenor, 9 cwt., in A.

At All Saints', Boyne Hill, Maidenhead, Berks.

On Sunday, the 14th inst., for evening service, a touch of 1680 Grandsire Triples was rung in 1 hr. 3 mins. J. Eldridge, 1; G. Wilkins, jun., 2; J. W. Wilkins, 3; H. Rogers, 4; R. Smith, 5; W. A. Garraway (conductor), 6; E. Rogers, 7; G. Wilkins, sen., 8. Tenor, 17½ cwt.

At Holy Trinity, Bengoe, Herts.

On Sunday, the 14th inst., for evening service (by kind permission of the Rev. J. C. Mansel-Pleydell, rector), six of the Hertford College Youths rang a peal of 720 Bob Minor in 25 mins., thus completing the first peal on the new bells, which were opened by the Society on New-year's Eve. F. G. Crawley, 1; J. Staples, 2; A. Baker, 3; J. G. Crawley, 4; T. Gathard, 5; H. Baker (conductor), 6. Tenor, 7 cwt., in A. After service several six-scores of Stedman's and Grandsire Doubles were rung by the same Society.

At St. Clement Danes, Strand, London.

On Monday, the 15th inst., ten members of the St. James's Society rang a peal of 5001 Stedman's Caters (composed by Mr. J. Cox) in 3 hrs. 29 mins. J. R. Haworth, 1; H. Boswell, 2; R. Jameson, 3; F. E. Dawe, 4; H. Dorrington, 5; M. A. Wood, 6; Rev. F. E. Robinson (conductor), 7; J. Pettit, 8; W. Greenleaf, 9; E. Albion, 10. Tenor, 24 cwt.

RECEIVED ALSO.—F. Grayling—thanks: Benilton; Long Eaton; and others.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Coventry or Birmingham?

SIR,—A correspondence having lately appeared in your valuable paper respecting the necessity of a division of the overgrown see of Worcester, and the claims of the modern town of Birmingham and the old Mercian city of Coventry to be made see-town of any bishoprics erected from such a division, I have ventured to ask you to give space in *Church Bells* for the following short historical paper, which, I think, will place this question in a clear light before your readers:—

In the middle of the seventh century the whole of the Midland portion of England, or, in other words, the kingdom of Mercia, was governed by one bishop. This bishopric was founded by Oswy, king of Northumberland, who had slain Penda, king of Mercia, in battle. The last of these Mercian bishops, Laruman, was succeeded by the great Bishop St. Chad, who became the first Bishop of Lichfield. He was consecrated about the year 670, and fixed the chief seat of his dioceses at Lichfield. The see remained at that city during the incumbency of twenty-seven bishops, when Bishop Peter, in 1072, removed the see to Chester, and styled himself Bishop of Chester and Lichfield. It remained at Chester about twenty years, until the death of Bishop Peter, when Robert de Limesey, second bishop, removed the see to Coventry in 1096, and Chester then remained without a bishop until the time of Henry VIII. This removal of the see to Coventry was caused, no doubt, by the desire of Bishop Limesey to gain the great riches of the Benedictine

Abbey of Coventry, which had been so liberally endowed by Earl Leofric and his noble and pious Countess Godiva. Six bishops of this see of Coventry styled themselves Coventry Episcopi only, without any mention of Chester or Lichfield. The last of this number, Gerard de Puella, was succeeded by Hugh de Nonant, a Norman, and Archdeacon of Oxford, who, in consequence of disputes with the monks at Coventry, removed the see to Lichfield, where it has remained ever since. But although the see was removed, an agreement was come to about the beginning of the reign of King John, that Coventry and Lichfield should choose the bishop alternately, and make one chapter, each having their cathedral, and that the precedence in the style episcopal should be given to Coventry. Thus, although the see was removed to Lichfield, we find the Englishman's great bill of rights, Magna Charta, signed by William de Cornhill, as bishop of Coventry, and Bishop Rowland Leo begging of Henry VIII. to spare Coventry Cathedral from destruction, as the chief, or mother church, of his dioceses. This arrangement lasted for nearly five hundred years, until the Restoration, when Charles II., out of spite to the city for its determined opposition to his father, not only destroyed the fortifications of the city, but reversed the bishoprics. The unity of these two old cathedral cities continued until the year 1836, when, after being joined together for nearly eight centuries, they were divided by the ill-advised measure of that year, and Coventry, with its great archdeaconry, was thrown into Worcester; and, in consequence of the apathy of the clergy, all title to the bishopric was lost. But it is quite clear it should have been bracketed with Worcester, and the see styled Worcester and Coventry. It was soon found out, however, that the mere redistribution, or rearrangement of the sees, as carried out by the Act of 1836, was a mistake, and, looking to the growing necessities of the Church, it would have been far wiser to have erected a see in Warwickshire, and restored to Coventry its ancient bishopric. For that city has something else to offer to the Church besides its historical associations and undoubted reversionary claim to the honour of being made a cathedral city, being geographically placed, not only in the centre of the county, but in the centre of England. And although her magnificent cathedral, crowned with its triple spires, is no longer standing, she is still possessed of noble churches, one of them, St. Michael's, being one of the largest and most beautiful churches in England, quite adequate to become a cathedral. And although Coventry may appear comparatively small beside Birmingham, it is no mean city, but a place of considerable commercial importance, and having a population of over 45,000 souls. There can be no doubt of Coventry having a prior claim over Birmingham in this matter. And what has Birmingham to recommend it, to justify the Church in depriving this old city of its just claim? It can be summed up in one word—Population. It is devoid of every other recommendation. And even that is, to a great extent, disposed of by its bad geographical position on the edge of the county. It has not even a church, ancient or modern, adequate to become the principal church of such a diocese as Warwickshire would be. Besides, the known political and religious characteristics of Birmingham are quite opposed to the Church. And I may safely say three-fourths of its present population would be opposed to the erection of a bishopric in their town. There is no doubt, in course of time population will so increase in the county of Warwick that there will be a necessity for a see of Birmingham as well as Coventry; but until that time arrives, looking to all the circumstances of the case, it would be to the best interests of the Church, and not beneath the dignity of even Birmingham, for that town to be bracketed with the ancient cathedral city of Coventry, which was the home of kings and residence of bishops when Birmingham was a village.

A. J. B.

Unity and Uniformity.

SIR,—The letters in your paper respecting 'Unity and Uniformity' are interesting, and it is well for the clergy to know what the amended Act of Uniformity allows on the Sundays and in the week. The one great hindrance to mission services in our churches on Sunday is the condition required, namely, that we first read through the prescribed Sunday services. Where incumbents are single-handed, as many are (in poor districts of recent formation), they are generally unable to do more than preach two sermons, administer Holy Communion, and go through the regular Sunday services, with baptism, &c. &c. In the great majority of our town churches a long morning service, consisting of Morning Prayer, Litany, and Ante-Communion service, still prevails, and objections are sometimes made to omitting the Litany at that hour. What is clearly needed, and would be objected to by very few (if any) is some power to omit repetitions when the three services are read together, which arrangement the American Prayer-book has long provided for. There one Creed, one Lord's Prayer, and the Collect for the day once read, is all that are required when the three services are united. Also in the Litany, after the words, 'O Lamb of God that taketh,' &c., the minister is allowed to omit what follows to the prayer, 'We most humbly beseech Thee,' &c. The ordinary Sunday morning service is thus shortened and all needless repetitions are avoided. What is further needed and desired by many incumbents working in districts where our services are unknown to many, is some power (with the Ordinary's permission) to use shortened services of a more mission character (in the place of our prescribed Sunday services), and more adapted for a lower stratum of society, and more likely to gather together a congregation in such districts. Until such elasticity is obtained, our Church must work at an immense disadvantage in districts where the people are estranged from our communion and unable to join in her regular services. This want has for years been recognised in mission services, but it is utterly ignored by the Act of Uniformity, although in many new parishes we have only mission work to carry on for years, until a congregation used to our Liturgical services has been formed, which is often the work of years. It surely cannot be desirable that mission chapels should be erected to the exclusion of consecrated churches, because in them we have greater freedom of worship; but until some greater elasticity is allowable in our consecrated churches, to meet the wants of neglected districts, where the services of the Church are unknown and unappreciated, some will be tempted to confine

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING

Derby and District Change-ringers' Association.

THE Quarterly Meeting of the above Association was held at Leicester on Saturday, the 13th inst., and was a great success. Ringers attended from Derby, Burton, Nottingham, Long Eaton, Lenton, Syston, Loughborough, and Leicester. The following towers were open to the Association by the kind permission of the Vicars and Churchwardens,—St. Saviour's, St. Mary's, and St. Mark's. It was, however, a matter of regret that the fine ring of ten at St. Margaret's could not be rung, the Vicar and Churchwardens having had advice of their dangerous condition, and it was deemed advisable that the bells should not be rung until they had been rehung and made secure. During the day a mixed band from Derby, and St. Paul's Society, Burton-on-Trent, rang at St. Saviour's Church a peal of 5088 Treble Bob Major (the account of which appeared in our ringing column of last week). At 5 p.m. about fifty ringers sat down to an excellent tea, provided in St. Margaret's schoolroom by Mr. Stephen Cooper, of the 'Alliance Inn,' after which the usual business meeting was held, the President, Rev. James H. Fish, vicar of St. Paul's, Burton-on-Trent, in the chair. The President congratulated the Members of the Association upon the number of peals that they had rung during the past quarter, and hoped they would still persevere in their attempts at peal-ringing; he was also pleased to inform them that the Association had, during the past quarter, rung the greatest number of changes that had yet been accomplished in the method of Double Norwich Court Bob, and which spoke well for the future of the Association. The following gentlemen became Honorary Members:—The Rev. Canon Broughton, St. Mary's; Rev. L. Clayton, St. Margaret's; and Mr. Stephen Cooper, Leicester; and Enoch Hintelcock, Esq., Syston, Secretary of the North Goscote Ringers' Association; also twenty-four ringing members joined the Association, which brings up the total number of members to nearly 100.

During the evening the ringers again visited the towers of St. Mary's and St. Mark's, when touches of Grandsire and Stedman's Triples, also Kent Treble Bob Major, were rung. The Annual Meeting of the Association will be held at Derby on Easter Monday, March 26th, 1883.

Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association of Ringers.

A GENERAL MEETING will be held at Stockton on Monday, February 1st. Members intending to dine are requested to apply to the Secretary for tickets on or before Thursday, Feb. 1. Ringing at Stockton parish church—six bells, tenor 12 cwt.; and at Middlesbrough—eight bells, tenor 12 cwt.

Post-office Chambers, Stockton-on-Tees.

G. J. CLARKSON, Hon Sec.

Visit of the Bennington Ringers to Baldock, Herts.

ON Wednesday, the 17th inst., the Bennington (Herts) Society of Change-ringers, with the Rev. F. E. Robinson, vicar of Drayton, Berks, visited the town of Baldock, and rang on the fine ring of eight bells (tenor, 28 cwt.) a fine selection of melodious changes, 3280 in number, which were contained in seven distinct methods:—Stedman's Triples, Grandsire Triples, Double Norwich Court Bob Major, Kent Treble Bob Major, London Surprise Major, Cambridge Surprise Major, and Superlative Surprise Major. On his return from visiting Squire Proctor at Bennington, on his way to Berkshire, the Rev. F. E. Robinson came to London, and rang at St. Clement Danes, Strand, on the 19th inst., 1190 of Double Norwich Court Bob Major. H. Tucker, 1; F. T. Gover, 2; J. W. Rowbotham, 3; R. French, 4; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 5; E. Gibbs, 6; E. Horrex, 7; J. M. Hayes (conductor), 8.

A Correction.

SIR,—In the notice in last week's *Church Bells* of the ringing at Keyston, the ringers are said to have rung 480 changes each. The report I sent stated—a band from Raunds rang two 'round' peals of 480 changes each, consisting of four six-scores of Old Doubles, &c.; which, of course, meant that there were 480 changes in each 'round' peal. I forgot to say that the time in each touch was 17 mins.

Titchmarsh, Thrapston.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At St. Lawrence's, Stroud, Gloucestershire.

ON Saturday, the 23rd ult., the Stroud members of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association rang a peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples in 2 hrs. 59 mins. G. Gregory, 1; W. F. Sloman, 2; C. King, 3; N. King, 4; J. Nash, 5; G. Latham (conductor), 6; F. Stephens, 7; A. Long, 8. J. Hewlett, umpire. Tenor, 21 cwt., in E flat.

Also on Tuesday, the 16th inst., the same company rang a selection of 1863 Grandsire Triples in 1 hr. 10 mins.

At the Parish Church, Bray, Co. Wicklow, Ireland.

ON Christmas morning, eight members of the Bray Amateur Bell Ringers' Society rang a peal of 720 Bob Minor, with 16 bobs and 2 singles, in 29 mins., on the first six bells, with 7 and 8 at home. H. Rickerby, 1; L. Bryan, 2; W. Parker, 3; A. Stone, 4; G. Matthews, 5; E. Davidson (conductor), 6; C. Harris, 7; C. Bryan, 8. This was the first regular peal rung by the amateurs (unaided) of this young Society, who acquired the art under George Longdon of Ashton-under-Lyne. The bells were supplied by Messrs. Taylor in 1881. Tenor, nearly 29 cwt.

At St. Mary's, Beddington, Surrey.

ON Saturday, the 13th inst., eight members of the Surrey Association rang a peal of 5120 Bob Major (from Shipway), in 3 hrs. 15 mins. J. Zealey, 1; J. Branch, 2; J. Harris, 3; J. Trappitt, 4; J. Plowman, 5; J. Fayers, 6; J. Cawley, 7; C. Gordon (conductor), 8—members of the Ancient Society of College Youths. Tenor, 21 cwt., in E flat. Previous to starting for the peal,

Messrs. Harris (formerly of St. Peter-at-Gowts, Lincoln), and Fayers from Mitcham, were elected members of the Ancient Society of College Youths. This is the first peal of Major by any of the above, and the first 5000 by Mr. Harris, and also the first peal of Major by the Surrey Association.

On Sunday, the 7th inst., six members of the above Branch rang on the back six bells a peal of Bob Minor in 26 mins. J. Zealey, 1; C. Gordon, 2; J. Trappitt, 3; J. Harris, 4; J. Plowman (conductor), 5; J. Cawley, 6.

At St. Peter's, Harborne, Birmingham.

ON Saturday, the 13th inst., eight members of the St. Martin's Society rang a peal of 6336 Kent Treble Bob Major in 3 hrs. 50 mins. A. Cresser, 1; S. Reeves, 2; H. Bastable, 3; H. Johnson, sen., 4; W. Small, 5; J. Dunn, 6; F. H. James, 7; W. Halesworth, 8. This is the greatest number of changes rung on the bells, and also the greatest number of changes in the above method rung in Staffordshire. Composed by Mr. H. Johnson, sen., and conducted by Mr. W. Halesworth, and will be found in Snowdon's *Second Treatise on Treble Bob*.

At SS. Thomas and Edmund, Erdington, Warwickshire.

ON Monday, the 15th inst., eight members of the St. Martin's Society of Change-ringers, Birmingham, rang Holt's Ten-part Peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples in 3 hrs. J. James, 1; J. Buffery, 2; H. Bastable (conductor), 3; A. Cresser, 4; S. Reeves, 5; J. Dunn, 6; T. Miller, 7; F. H. James, 8. Tenor, 14 cwt., in F. This is the first peal rung in Erdington, and was rung on the occasion of the reopening of the bells, which have been rehung by Messrs. Blews of Birmingham; after which the party were entertained at the 'Cross Keys' inn by the donor of the bells, where a number of plain courses and touches in different methods were performed on the hand-bells.

At Long Eaton, Derbyshire.

ON Monday, the 15th inst., six members of the Long Eaton Society rang a peal of 720 College Single Minor in 28 mins., being the first peal in that method rung on the above bells. S. Clarke, 1; G. Bradley, 2; J. Ward, 3; J. Copeland, 4; A. Widdowson, 5; J. Barrow (conductor), 6. Tenor, 11 cwt., in G.

At St. John's, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

ON Monday, the 15th inst., a peal of 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor was rung in 27½ mins. G. Campbell, 1; C. L. Routledge,* 2; W. G. Routledge (conductor), 3; T. J. Des Forges,* 4; W. Story,* 5; R. Smith, 6. [* First in the method.]

Also on the same night a six-score of Stedman's Doubles in 4½ mins. C. L. Routledge (conductor), 1; F. Lees, 2; R. Smith, 3; W. G. Routledge, 4; W. Story, 5; G. Herdman, 6.

On Thursday night, the 18th inst., a peal of 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor was rung for Divine service in 28 mins. G. Herdman, 1; C. L. Routledge, 2; W. G. Routledge, 3; T. G. Des Forges, 4; W. Story, 5; F. Lees (conductor), 6.

On Monday, the 22nd inst., a peal of 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor was rung in 27½ mins. G. Herdman, 1; C. L. Routledge, 2; W. Egglestone, 3; T. J. Des Forges, 4; W. Story, 5; F. Lees (conductor), 6. Tenor, 14½ cwt.

At All Saints', Benhilton, Surrey.

ON Tuesday, the 16th inst., six members of the Benhilton Society rang a peal of 720 Grandsire Minor, with 38 bobs and 22 singles, in 28 mins. L. Ferriges, 1; G. F. Scott, Esq., 2; G. Petrie, 3; C. Trendell, 4; James Trendell, 5; John Trendell (conductor), 6. First peal of Grandsire Minor on the bells, and by the ringers, who have practised six-bell work about two months. Tenor, 19½ cwt., in E.

At St. Mark's, Worsley, Lancashire.

ON Tuesday, the 16th inst., eight members of the Lancashire Association rang a peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples (Reeves' Variation) in 2 hrs. 58 mins. E. Cash, 1; C. Cash, 2; R. Pearce, 3; J. Ridyard, 4; G. H. Johnston (conductor), 5; J. Barratt, 6; F. Darbyshire, 7; W. Ashcroft, 8. Tenor, 21 cwt. 14 lbs.

At Southover, Lewes, Sussex.

ON Wednesday, the 17th inst., eight members of the Brighton Societies rang Holt's Ten-part peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples in 3 hrs. 5 mins. J. Jay, jun., 1; E. Hilder, 2; C. Tyler, 3; H. Boast, 4; J. Searle, 5; G. F. Attree, Esq., 6; J. Jay, sen. (conductor), 7; W. E. Beale, Esq. (first peal), 8. Tenor, 18 cwt., in F. The only other peal on record on these bells was rung by a mixed band about sixteen years ago.

At St. James's, Dover, Kent.

ON Thursday, the 18th inst., several of the Folkestone Society, with A. Robus and E. Potter of Dover, rang a peal of 720 Bob Minor in 30 mins. F. Finn, 1; J. Harrison, 2; J. Fisher, 3; E. Potter, 4; A. Robus, 5; S. Barker (conductor), 6.

Also 360 of Bob Minor. F. Finn, 1; S. Barker, 2; J. Fisher, 3; E. Potter, 4; A. Robus (conductor), 5; F. Slingsby, 6. Tenor, 12 cwt. This is the first peal rung here in the above method for several years.

At St. Mary's, Haddenham, Bucks.

ON Friday, the 19th inst., the first half of Taylor's peal of Grandsire Triples (2520 changes) was rung in 1 hr. 36 mins. by ringers from Long Crendon. R. W. Rose, 1; G. Cadle, 2; D. Warner, 3; G. Warner, 4; M. Warner, 5; John Warner, jun. (conductor), 6; W. Cadle, 7; James Warner, 8. Tenor, 19½ cwt., in E.

The same evening a touch of Holt's Six-part peal (896 changes) was also rung. H. Ricketts, 1; R. W. Rose, 2; G. Cadle, 3; H. Chapman, 8. The other bells as above. These are the first peals on record since the year 1809 at this church.

RECEIVED ALSO:—Bethnal Green; Chaceley; Cambridge; Crayford; Eccles; and others.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Lancashire Association of Change-ringers.

A QUARTERLY MEETING of the above Association was held on Saturday, the 27th ult., at Garston. Such was the extreme severity and stormy nature of the weather that not more than thirty members were able to attend. These, under the presidency of the Rev. J. Chambers, vicar of Halewood, did justice to the repast prepared for them by the local ringers. After the tea a short meeting was held. The Rev. J. Chambers expressed his pleasure in being able to attend, and also the kindness with which his inquiries had been answered, he being extremely anxious to gather all particulars with regard to bells and ringers, as a lady had kindly undertaken to provide his church with a tower and a ring of bells, which he hoped to see opened soon after Whitsuntide. He thought the objects of the Association, as tending to raise ringing and ringers, deserved the hearty support of all, and felt sure that the Association had already done good in the county, as he himself could well remember the time when belfries and bell-ringers were quite different to what they now were. He concluded by saying that he should be glad to become a member as soon as he was eligible. A vote of thanks to him was proposed by the Rev. W. Locke and seconded by Mr. Beacoll. Votes of thanks were also passed to the Vicar, Churchwardens, and Sidesmen, for their kindness in allowing the Association the use of the bells. During the day various touches of Grandsire Triples were rung, and also two peals of Minor.

New Ring of Bells at St. Andrew's, Kirk-Ella, East Yorkshire.

On Tuesday, the 9th ult., a service was held in the above church for dedicating to God's service a new ring of six bells, presented by Mr. Arthur Egginton, South Ella, cast and hung by J. Taylor & Co. The ceremony was gone through by the Vicar, Rev. James Poord, assisted by many of the clergy in the neighbourhood. During a pause in the service the ringers gave a round upon the bells. A sermon was preached by the Rev. H. L. Clarke, vicar of Hedon, who spoke of the change and improvement that had taken place amongst our ringers during the last fifty years, and the progress the art and science of change-ringing had made. The opening peal was rung by members of the Yorkshire Association of Change-ringers, from Holy Trinity Church, Hull; viz. A. Taylor, 1; W. Southwick, 2; J. Dixey, 3; J. W. Stickney, 4; C. Bennett, 5; C. Jackson (conductor), 6. They rang a peal of Yorkshire Court Minor in 29 mins. Tenor, 19 cwt.

New Bells at Tickenham, Somerset.

On the 13th ult. the restored and augmented ring of six were rung, having long been silent. They were originally a ring of five, two of which were cracked, and they are now made perfect, having been recast. The bells are now augmented to a ring of six, the new bell being presented by the late churchwarden, Mr. Samuel Coombs; the other bells have been completely rehung. A short service having been given in the church by the Rev. A. Atkinson, the St. Stephen's Society of Change-ringers from Bristol opened the bells by ringing a variety of methods, which included Stedman's Grandsire Minor, &c. They are all maiden bells, and the work was entrusted to the firm of Llewellyns and James of Bristol.

Funerals of Bell-ringers.

THE *Western Morning News* of the 25th ult. states that a serious accident occurred to Mr. G. Westcott, the sexton of the parish church of Thorvinton, near Exeter. He was adjusting the clapper of one of the bells when a ringer pulling the rope suddenly caught Mr. Westcott's hand between the bell and the beam. He was removed to the hospital at Exeter, where the hand was found to be terribly injured. And also that Mr. Martin West, of St. Columb, who was a member of the Institute and Guild of Ringers, died suddenly, and was buried in St. Columb cemetery. Muffled peals were rung after the funeral.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At St. Bride's, Fleet Street, London.

On Saturday, Dec. 16th, ten members of the Royal Cumberland Society rang a peal of 5001 Stedman's Caters in 3 hrs. 35 mins. J. Nelms (composer and conductor), 1; J. Rogers, 2; H. Dains, 3; A. H. Gardom,* 4; H. Randall, 5; E. Moses, 6; W. Hovard, 7; G. Flavell, 8; S. Jarman, 9; J. Mansfield, 10. [* First peal in the method.]

At SS. Mary and Nicolas, Spalding, Lincolnshire.

On Friday, the 12th ult., was rung a peal of 720 Oxford Bob, with 18 bobs and 2 singles. G. Skeef, 1; J. Brown, 2; G. Richardson, 3; E. Mason, 4; J. S. Wright, 5; R. Mackman (conductor), 6.

On the 18th ult., a peal of 720 Plain Bob, with 32 bobs and 2 singles.

On the 25th ult., two peals of 720 Bob Minor, one with 18 bobs and 2 singles, and the other with 14 bobs and 2 singles.

On the 28th ult., for morning service, a peal of 360 Plain Bob, with 15 bobs; also for evening service a peal of 360 Plain Bob, with 12 singles. G. Skeef, 1; A. Brown, 2; G. Richardson, 3; J. Brown, 4; J. S. Wright, 5; R. Mackman (conductor), 6. Tenor, 18 cwt.

[No time mentioned in either case.]

At St. Luke's, Chelsea, Middlesex.

On Tuesday, the 16th ult., ten members of the Royal Cumberland Society rang a peal of 5000 Kent Treble Bob Royal in 3 hrs. 54 mins. J. Rogers (conductor), 1; J. Cobbett,* 2; J. Nelms, 3; H. Dains, 4; H. Randall,* 5; W. Hovard, 6; E. Moses,* 7; W. Doran, 8; D. Stackwood, 9; S. Jarman, 10. [* First peal of Royal.] This is thought to be the first Treble Bob Royal on these bells. The composition has been in the conductor's hands about twenty years; it was handed to him by the late Mr. J. Miller, many years a member of this Society.

| | 23456 | M. | B. | W. | H. |
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four times repeated.

At St. George's, Camberwell, Surrey.

On Tuesday, Dec. 19th, eight members of the Royal Cumberland Society rang Holt's Ten-part peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples in 2 hrs. 51 mins. H. Windly, 1; J. Nelms (conductor), 2; W. Jones, 3; F. Bate, 4; J. Barry,* 5; T. Taylor, 6; G. Flavell, 7; J. Lewis,† 8. Tenor, 14 cwt. [* First peal on bob bell. † First peal.]

At the Parish Church, Mottram-in-Longdendale, Cheshire.

On Saturday, the 20th ult., a peal of 5056 Kent Treble Bob Major was rung in 2 hrs. 53 mins. J. Sidebotham, 1; J. Harrop, 2; R. Wright, 3; R. Woolley, 4; W. Middleton, 5; J. S. Wilde (composer and conductor), 6; T. Braddock, 7; T. Wilde, 8. Tenor, 14 cwt., in G. The above peal contains the 5th its extent in 5-6.

At St. Matthew's, Bethnal Green, London.

On Saturday, the 20th ult., eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang Holt's Ten-part peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples in 2 hrs. 52 mins. J. West, 1; W. Cecil, 2; J. Bonney, 3; W. Cooter, 4; T. Dupen, 5; E. Wallage, 6; M. A. Wood, 7; J. Monday, 8. Conducted by Mr. Wood, who has been steeplekeeper of the above church for forty years.

At Chaceley, Worcestershire.

On Sunday, the 21st ult., the Tewkesbury ringers, assisted by Mr. Davies, rang a peal of 720 Grandsire Minor. S. Cleal, 1; Rev. C. D. P. Davies, 2; F. Moore, 3; J. Hale, 4; John Wathen, 5; Josiah Wathen (conductor), 6. Also 120 Stedman's Doubles; and on the handbells three courses of Plain Bob Major and a touch of Union Triples.

[We presume there was some special reason for an outing to Chaceley on a Sunday—which is not a good day for change-ringers—and to leave their own church for a pleasure trip, taking their handbells with them.—Ed.]

At St. Martin's, Cheriton, Kent.

On Monday, the 21st ult., a peal of 720 Bob Minor was rung in 26 mins. R. Beal, 1; W. Driscoll, 2; the Rev. R. B. K. Hugessen, 3; A. Tanton, 4; F. Rolfe (conductor), 5; J. Nutley, 6. All members of the Kent County Association.

At Great St. Mary's, Cambridge.

On Monday, the 22nd ult., a peal of 720 Grandsire Minor, with 34 bobs and 2 singles, was rung in 27 mins. W. W. Baker, Esq., 1; W. Kempton, 2; J. Rocket, 3; G. Taylor, 4; E. Andrews, 5; M. C. Potter, Esq. (conductor), 6. Tenor, 17½ cwt. First 720 in this method by any of the above.

At Crayford, Kent.

On Monday, the 22nd ult., eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang Holt's Ten-part peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples in 2 hrs. 55 mins. W. J. Reeve, 1; J. Saxby (conductor), 2; G. Conyard, 3; C. Hammant, 4; C. F. Winny, 5; R. French, 6; F. M. Jacobs, 7; T. Webb, 8.

At Eccles, Lancashire.

On Monday, the 22nd ult., eight members of the Lancashire Association rang a Date Touch of 1883 Bob Major in 1 hr. 5 mins. J. Barratt, 1; J. Scholey, 2; W. Walton, 3; T. Yates, 4; J. Barratt, jun., 5; R. Ashcroft, 6; G. H. Johnson (composer and conductor), 7; W. Ashcroft, 8. Tenor, 13 cwt. 3 qrs.

At Holy Trinity, Hulme, Manchester.

On Tuesday, the 23rd ult., six members of the Lancashire Association rang a peal of 720 Plain Bob Minor in 28 mins. H. Diggle, 1; W. Diggle (conductor), 2; W. Savage, 3; C. Woodward, 4; W. Hargreaves, 5; W. Roberts, 6. Tenor, 15½ cwt. [First peal conducted by W. Diggle.]

At Christ Church, Wanstead, Essex.

On Tuesday, the 23rd ult., a peal of 720 Bob Minor (9 bobs and 6 singles) was rung in 25 mins. H. Nunn, sen., 1; J. Gobbett, 2; J. Nunn, 3; M. Ellsmore (conductor), 4; J. Marks, 5; J. Priest, 6.

Also a peal of 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor, 9 bobs (6th observation), was rung in 27 mins. J. Priest, 1; J. Nunn, 2; M. Ellsmore, 3; H. Scarlett, 4; A. H. Gardom, Esq., 5; G. Akers (conductor), 6.

Also on Sunday, the 28th ult., a peal of 720 Bob Minor was rung in 25 mins. J. King, 1; W. Smith, 2; G. Akers, 3; G. Allen, 4; A. H. Gardom, Esq. (conductor), 5; M. Ellsmore, 6. Tenor, 9 cwt.

At St. Margaret's, Lee, Kent.

On Wednesday, the 24th ult., a peal of 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor was rung in 26 mins. J. G. Shade, 1; E. F. Cole, 2; F. Fraser, 3; T. Taylor, 4; G. Shephard, 5; T. G. Deal (conductor), 6. Tenor, 12½ cwt. The first time the method has been rung on these bells.

At St. John's, Loughton, Essex.

On Thursday, the 25th ult., eight members of the Royal Cumberland Society rang Penning's One-part peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples in 3 hrs. 9 mins. W. Smith,* 1; G. Akers,* 2; J. Nunn, 3; M. Ellsmore, 4; J. Gobbett, 5; A. H. Gardom, Esq. (conductor), 6; H. Scarlett, 7; J. Barry, 8. Tenor, 19 cwt. [* First peal.]

At All Saints', Maidstone, Kent.

On Thursday, the 25th ult., eight members of the Kent County Association rang Holt's Ten-part peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples in 3 hrs. 20 mins. C. Relf, 1; F. G. Newman* (conductor), 2; E. Baldock, 3; A. Moorcraft,* 4; G. Pawley, 5; H. Pearce,* 6; A. H. Woolley, 7; G. Moorcraft, 8. Tenor, 31 cwt., in C. [* Members of the Ancient Society of College Youths.]

At Camberwell, Surrey.

On Tuesday, the 26th ult., eight members of the Royal Cumberland Society rang Penning's Original Grandsire Triples, which has five bobs less than Holt's ditto, in 3 hrs. 32 mins. A. H. Gardom (conductor), 1; F. Bate, 2; N. J. Pitstow, 3; D. Hopkins, 4; E. Moses, 5; J. Barry, 6; H. Hopkins, 7; W. D. Matthews, 8.

RECEIVED ALSO.—A. G. Smith: Thanks. The communications are sent to us, and we have no means of detecting improper ones; Garston; Farnham Royal; Stony Stratford.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Norwich Diocesan Association.

A DISTRICT Meeting of the above Association was held at Bungay on Monday, the 29th ult., and was well attended, the representatives of about twenty different companies being present. Various touches of Bob and Treble Bob Major, and Grandsire and Stedman's Triples, were given from time to time, and some of them were very fair. At 1.30 the members and friends assembled at the 'Fleece,' the ringers' quarters, for dinner. Sixty-six sat down, the chair being taken by the Vicar, the Rev. T. K. Weatherhead, the vice-chair being occupied by Gervas Holmes, Esq.; and amongst the company were H. Bellman, Esq. (churchwarden), the Revs. J. Greenall, N. Bolingbroke, H. J. Borrow, J. Scudamore, and G. H. Harris (Sec.), Captain Moore, &c. After dinner the usual loyal toasts were given by the chairman, and in proposing the toast of 'Success to the Association' he welcomed the members. The Secretary, in acknowledging the toast, spoke of the prosperous condition of the Association, and alluded to some of the difficulties that beset different companies, and the way in which they ought to be met. There were then five hon. members elected.

Prize-ringing in Cornwall.

Sir,—While fully agreeing with your remarks under the above heading in your issue of the 20th ult. relative to the above prize-ringing, I cannot permit them to pass without offering a few words in behalf of the Rev. J. A. Kempe, vicar of St. Breward (and late Secretary to the Devonshire Guild of Ringers), whose men competed and obtained the fourth prize at the ringing which took place at St. Teath.

Allow me to state that our Vicar, through whose instrumentality a well-ordered system of scientific ringing has been introduced into St. Breward, has, from the commencement of his connexion with his ringers, always most strenuously discountenanced prize-ringing among them, having by a very unhappy experience seen the evils arising therefrom. He never fails, when opportunity offers, to speak to his ringers against the practice of prize-ringing, and it was entirely without his sanction or approbation that they competed at St. Teath.

Further than this, our Vicar has arranged (D.V.) at the next Ruridecanal Conference to read a paper against the practice of competing for prizes at 'Ringing Matches;' and it is fervently hoped that his clerical brethren assembled with him on that occasion will readily second his efforts to do away with altogether a practice invariably productive of much strife and ill-feeling amongst men whose honourable duty it is to invite and welcome to the house of God His worshippers on His own day.

St. Breward, Bodmin.

W. E. PARSONS.

A Pleasant Gathering of Parochial Ringers.

On the 7th of October, 1882, the parochial ringers of St. Clement Danes, Strand, London, rang 5220 changes of Grandsire Caters (reported in *Church Bells*) to celebrate the birthday of the Rector, the Rev. J. Lindsay. On Friday, the 2nd inst., in return to that compliment, the Rector invited them to a supper, when he was supported by the Rev. J. L. Gardner (curate), Messrs. Wigg and Porter (churchwardens), and Mr. Worpell (ex-churchwarden). In the course of the evening the Rev. J. Lindsay spoke of the efficiency and attention of the ringers to the duties of their office, and the kindly observations made by the Rector elicited the good feelings of the company towards him. The evening was enlivened by the handbells. The ringers are Messrs. Haworth, Weatherstone, Chew, Winny, French, Margetson, Hopkins, Banks, Albone, and Brown.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At St. Michael's, Garston, Lancashire.

On Saturday, the 27th ult., a peal of 720 Grandsire Minor was rung in 26 mins. J. Davidson, 1; P. Barton, 2; F. Turner, 3; W. Brown, 4; J. T. Lowe, 5; C. W. Hughes (conductor), 6. Also a peal of 720 Plain Bob Minor, in 25 mins. P. Barton, 1; J. Davidson, 2; W. J. Chatterton, 3; F. Turner, 4; J. Latchford, 5; W. Hughes (conductor), 6. Tenor, 12½ cwt.

At St. Paul's, Drighlington, near Leeds, Yorkshire.

On Saturday, the 27th ult., eight members of the Yorkshire Association rang a peal of 5280 Kent Treble Bob Major in 3 hrs. 20 mins. A. Spurr, 1; W. Morton, 2; G. Crawshaw, 3; J. Chappel, 4; D. Stephenson, 5; J. T. Hollis, 6; G. Marsden, 7; W. Dixon, 8. Tenor, 16 cwt., in F. The peal, in three parts, with a double bob at home at each course-end, was composed by Henry Johnson of Birmingham and conducted by G. Marsden.

At St. Mary's, Farnham Royal, Bucks.

On Sunday, the 28th ult., six members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild rang a date touch of 1883 Grandsire Minor in 1 hr. 10 mins. The touch consists of two 720's, the first obtained in two parts with 44 bobs and 4 singles. The second contained 34 bobs and 2 singles, and a 443 round-at-hand with 23 bobs and 4 singles. C. Chapman, 1; F. B. Fells, 2; J. J. Parker (conductor), 3; A. P. Batten, 4; A. C. Fussell, 5; C. Clark, 6. Tenor, 12 cwt.

At All Souls', Halifax, Yorkshire.

On Sunday, the 28th ult., a peal of 720 Bob Minor was rung for evening service in 28 mins. (7 and 8 behind). G. D. E. Mercer, 1; T. Parker, 2; S. W. Stewart, 3; J. S. Ambler (conductor), 4; A. Parker, 5; F. A. Nicholl, 6; G. Standeven, 7; H. Reynolds, 8.

Also on Thursday, the 1st inst., a quarter-peal of Bob Triples (1260 changes) was rung in 45 mins. E. Kitson, 1; A. Parker, 2; G. D. E. Mercer, 3; J. S. Ambler, 4; A. Parker, 5; T. A. Nicholl, 6; S. W. Stewart (conductor), 7; G. Standeven, 8. Tenor, 26 cwt.

At St. Nicholas's, Brighton, Sussex.

On Monday, the 29th ult., eight members of the Brighton Societies rang a peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples (Holt's Ten-part) in 2 hrs. 53 mins. J. Jay, jun., 1; E. Hilder, 2; H. Boast, 3; J. Searle, 4; C. Tyler, 5; G. F. Attree, 6; J. Jay, sen. (conductor), 7; W. Robinson (his first peal), 8. Tenor, 18½ cwt., in F sharp. This is the only peal rung on these bells for nearly half a century (the last being recorded in November 1833), and is the third conducted by Mr. J. Jay, sen., and rung by the above band (excepting No. 8) since the 1st December last.

At Stony Stratford, Bucks.

On Tuesday, the 30th ult., five of the Stratford ringers, assisted by J. Read from Wicker, rang a peal of 120 Grandsire Doubles in 6 mins. J. Read, 1; G. Valentine, 2; W. Elms, 3; W. Smith, 4; A. Hardy, 5; W. Yates, 6. Tenor, 13 cwt., in F. This is the first peal rung on these bells by Stratford ringers.

At Mottram-in-Longdendale, Cheshire.

On Tuesday, the 30th ult., at the parish church, a peal of 5088 Kent Treble Bob Major was rung in 2 hrs. 51 mins. J. Shaw, 1; J. Sidebotham, 2; R. Wright, 3; J. Harrop, 4; W. Middleton, 5; T. Braddock, 6; J. S. Wilde, 7; T. W. Wilde, 8. Tenor, 14 cwt., in G. Composed by John Thorp, of Ashton-under-Lyne, and conducted by Thomas Wilde of Hyde. The peal has the 6th at home at nine different course-ends, and also its extent at home.

At St. Mary-le-Bow, Cheapside, London.—Muffled Peal.

On Thursday, the 1st inst., twelve members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang a half-muffled peal, with the usual pull and stand, as a last tribute of respect to the late Mr. Robert Stainbank, of the firm of Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, Bell-founders, Whitechapel, who died on Wednesday, the 24th January, at the age of sixty-eight years. Several ringers and friends stood in Cheapside listening with interest to the regular striking on the fine and heavy ring of twelve at the above church. H. W. Haley (conductor), 1; J. Pettit, 2; G. A. Muskett, 3; C. F. Winny, 4; J. R. Haworth, 5; G. Mash, 6; G. Dorrington, 7; M. A. Wood, 8; E. Horrex, 9; F. E. Dawe, 10; W. Jones, 11; W. Greenleaf, 12. A touch of Stedman's Cinques was rung afterwards.

At SS. Mary and Nicolas, Spalding, Lincolnshire.—Muffled Peal.
On the 1st inst., a peal of 720 Bob Minor, with 16 bobs and 2 singles, was rung in 29 mins.

Also on Sunday evening, after service, a peal of 720 in the same method, with 14 bobs and 2 singles, was rung in 28 mins., with the bells muffled, as a token of respect to Mrs. H. Stanley-Maples, Spalding. Only nine months since a joyous peal was rung on her return from her wedding tour. G. Skeef, 1; A. Brown, 2; G. L. Richardson, 3; J. Brown, 4; J. S. Wright, 5; R. Mackman (conductor), 6. Tenor, 18 cwt.

At the Parish Church, Burnley, Lancashire.—Wedding Peal.

On Thursday, the 1st inst., a touch of 630 Grandsire Triples was rung in 22 mins., to celebrate the marriage of Mr. Nicholas Waddington. N. Smith (conductor), 1; H. Clegg, 2; John Pollard, 3; J. Gregson, 4; M. Bridge, 5; T. Holden, 6; James Pollard, 7; W. Dale, 8. Tenor, 17½ cwt.

At St. Giles's, Camberwell, Surrey.

On Saturday, the 3rd inst., ten members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang a peal of 5555 Stedman's Caters in 3 hrs. 47½ mins. J. Pettit, 1; W. Greenleaf, 2; W. Cecil, 3; G. Mash, 4; G. A. Muskett, 5; M. A. Wood, 6; W. Jones, 7; W. D. Smith, 8; F. E. Dawe, 9; W. Prime, 10. The above peal, which has the 5th, 4th, 3rd, 2nd, and 6th, each ten courses behind the 9th, has never been previously performed; it was composed by Mr. H. Johnson of Birmingham and conducted by Mr. F. E. Dawe. Messrs. Smith and Prime's first peal of Stedman's Caters, and also the first peal the conductor has called in this method. Tenor, 25 cwt., in D.

At Glossop, Derbyshire.

On Saturday, the 3rd inst., a peal of 5088 Kent Treble Bob Major was rung in 3 hrs. 4 mins. W. Smith, 1; T. James, 2; S. Harrop, 3; J. Adams, 4; J. Mellor, 5; J. Robinson, 6; G. Longden (conductor), 7; J. Thorp (composer), 8. Tenor, 15 cwt., in E.

At All Saints', Fulham, Middlesex.

On Saturday, the 3rd inst., eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang a peal of 5040 Double Norwich Court Bob Major in 3 hrs. 12 mins. H. J. Tucker,* 1; F. T. Gover, 2; J. W. Rowbotham, 3; R. French, 4; C. F. Winny, 5; E. Gibbs, 6; E. Horrex, 7; J. M. Hayes, 8. Tenor, 21 cwt. Composed by the late Mr. Hubbard and conducted by Mr. Hayes. [*First peal in the method.]

At All Saints', Boyne Hill, Maidenhead, Berks.

On Sunday, the 4th inst., for afternoon service, a peal of 720 Grandsire Minor was rung in 25½ mins. J. Eldridge, 1; G. Wilkins, jun., 2; W. A. Garraway (conductor), 3; R. Smith, 4; E. Rogers, 5; T. W. Wilkins, 6. Tenor, 17½ cwt.

At St. Stephen's, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

On Sunday evening, the 4th inst., for Divine service, eight members of the St. Stephen's Branch of the Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association rang a date touch of 1883 Grandsire Triples in 1 hr. 20 mins. G. Allan, 1; R. H. Richardson, 2; E. W. Scott, 3; E. W. Pyle, 4; F. Ord, 5; E. Wallis (composer and conductor), 6; J. Power, 7; G. W. Stobart, 8. Tenor, 30 cwt.

At St. Mary's, Beddington, Surrey.

On Sunday afternoon, the 4th inst., six of the local Society rang on the back six for Divine service a peal of 720 Bob Minor, with 26 singles, in 28 mins. C. Martin, 1; J. Plowman, 2; J. Harris, 3; C. Gordon, 4; J. Zealey, 5; J. Trappitt (conductor), 6.

* * We request that peals rung in Roman Catholic steeples may not be reported to *Church Bells*.

RECEIVED ALSO:—St. Leonards; G. Overton (you have omitted both the name of the church and the town); and others.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Bell-ringers at Stockton.

A BELL-RINGERS' festival took place at Stockton on Monday, when the Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association met in the old Tees-side town. There was a capital muster, and the morning and early part of the afternoon were agreeably occupied by the members in change-ringing on the ring of six bells in the tower of the parish church. At three o'clock in the afternoon the company sat down to dinner at the 'Custom House Hotel.' The Rev. Canon Falconer presided, and Mr. W. Reed, solicitor, of North Shields, president of the Association, occupied the vice-chair. Above the mantelpiece of the room was a very neatly framed specimen of a certificate, which is about to be issued to the members of the Association. The certificate, which has been designed by Mr. George Geering, of Stockton, is composed of an allegorical figure and views of Durham and Newcastle Cathedrals, with illuminated text. After dinner the toast of 'The Queen' was heartily drunk. The Vice-Chairman proposed the healths of the bishops and clergy of the dioceses of Durham and Newcastle, and expressed his regret that the hope which was entertained at the last meeting in Stockton, that the members on their next visit to the old town would find a ring of eight bells in the tower of the old parish church had not been realised. The Chairman, with whose name the toast was coupled, and who was warmly applauded, expressed the pleasure he had in being present. A good deal had of late been done in Stockton in the way of church building and improvement, and a good deal remained to be done; consequently, the addition of bells to the parish church belfry must be regarded as extra work, which could not be pushed forward in the face of the other work he had referred to; but still he hoped the day was not far distant when there would be a ring of eight bells in the parish church tower. St. Peter's had an incomplete tower, but he had no doubt that when the work there was finished in this respect the parishioners would not rest content till they also had a ring of bells; and thereby the facilities of local bell-ringers, and of the Association generally, would be increased. He was glad to know that the habits of bell-ringers had greatly changed, and that instead of slipping off to the public-house after calling the people to God's House, they now remained in church, and he hoped, appreciated the services there just as much as the clergy appreciated the services of the ringers in the belfry. He quite agreed with Mr. Reed that the Association was working for the good of the Church, and he wished it every success. Mr. P. Lees (Newcastle) proposed the health of the president, who was highly esteemed by all the members, and who spared neither time nor money to promote the art of bell-ringing. The Vice-Chairman proposed the health of the hon. secretary and treasurer (Mr. G. J. Clarkson), who, 'without money and without price,' had worked indefatigably for the good of the Association. Mr. Clarkson expressed his solicitude for the prosperity of the Association, and said he thought they at Stockton might have a ring of eight bells as well as Northallerton, Thirsk, Barnard Castle, and Bishop Auckland. The tower was very spacious, twenty feet by twenty feet, and it was very strong; and he hardly thought it creditable to a town with upwards of 40,000 inhabitants that they should be content with no stronger ring than their forefathers put up 150 years ago when the town had a population of 1700 only. A ring of six was not adequate to the importance of the church in which they hung, and he hoped that ere long there would be an addition. Mr. Clarkson then submitted a very gratifying report, which showed the Association, in a numerical as well as a financial sense, to be in a capital position. Some fifteen new members were elected, amongst the new honorary members being Mr. J. A. Dain and Mr. R. Nix, sidesmen of Stockton Parish Church. It was decided that the Whit Monday meeting shall be held at North Shields. The ringing at Stockton consisted of a peal of 720 Minor in Plain Bob, Kent Treble Bob, Oxford Treble Bob, and various other touches. The ringing at Middlesbrough: Kent Treble Bob Major (about 800 changes), Grandsire Triples, and Bob Major. The fine tone of the Stockton tenor bell was much admired. The ringers present were:—From Darlington, 5; Durham, 1; Newcastle, 4; Jarrow, 8; Ripon, 2; North Shields, 4; Staindrop, 2; Sedgfield, 1; and Stockton.

Salisbury Diocesan Guild of Ringers.

At a Committee Meeting held in Salisbury on the 5th inst. Mr. J. R. Jerram was appointed Inspector of Belfries to the Guild for the Diocese. Clergy and churchwardens requiring advice as to repairs or alterations to bells or fittings, or inspection as to the state of the same, should apply to him at 'The Close, Salisbury.' The Committee also appointed Mr. Jerram Instructor in the art of Change-ringing. Companies of ringers requiring his services can apply to him for particulars, terms, &c., at the above address.

Lancashire Association of Six-bell Change-ringers.

THE usual Quarterly Meeting of the above Association will be held at Standish on Saturday, Feb. 24th. The bells of the parish church will be open for ringing from 2 o'clock.

JOHN G. HIGSON, Hon. Sec.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At St. Leonard's, Hythe, Kent.

On Monday, the 5th inst., eight members of the Kent County Association rang a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes) in 48 mins. F. Rolfe, 1; F. Finn, 2; J. Fisher, 3; E. Potter, 4; H. Croucher, 5; S. Barker (conductor), 6; F. Slingsby, 7; W. Marsh, 8. Tenor, 19 cwt.

At Durham.

On Tuesday, the 6th inst., six members of the Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association rang a peal of 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor in 26 mins. J. W. Blakiston, 1; W. Patton, 2; G. A. Overton, 3; J. H. Whitfield, 4; J. H. Blakiston, 5; R. Moncaster (conductor), 6. Tenor, 10 cwt.

At Bennington, Herts.

On Tuesday, the 30th ult., eight members of the Bennington Society rang a quarter-peal of 1334 London Surprise Major. N. Warner, 1; J. Kitchener, 2; L. Proctor, Esq., 3; L. Chapman, 4; S. Page, 5; Joseph Kitchener, 6; C. Shambrook, 7; T. Page (conductor), 8.

On Tuesday, the 6th inst., the above-mentioned members rang a musical and select quarter-peal of 1334 Cambridge Surprise Major. Tenor, 14 cwt., in F.

At St. Peter-at-Gowts, Lincoln.

On Tuesday, the 6th inst., a peal of 720 Grandsire Minor was rung in 26 mins. J. Cox, 1; G. Doughty, 2; P. Herrick, 3; E. Curtis (conductor), 4; J. Watson, 5; W. Knowles, 6. Tenor, 9 cwt.

Also on Sunday evening, the 11th inst., for Divine service, 540 Plain Bob Minor was rung in 20 mins. J. Cox, 1; P. Herrick, 2; E. Curtis (conductor), 3; W. Knowles, 4; J. Watson, 5; F. Rose, 6.

At All Saints', Benlilton, Surrey.

On Tuesday, the 6th inst., three members of the above Society, assisted by three members of the Epsom Society, rang a peal of 720 Grandsire Minor (38 bobs and 22 singles) in 28 mins. J. Trendell (conductor), 1; J. Francis (first peal), 2; G. Petrie, 3; J. Easton, 4; R. Harden, 5; T. Miles, 6. Tenor, 19½ cwt., in E.

At the Parish Church, Bletchingley, Surrey.

On Tuesday, the 6th inst., five of the Bletchingley Society, with three others, rang Taylor's Six-part peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples in 3 hrs. 4 mins. J. Bashford, sen., 1; T. Boniface, 2; L. Killick, 3; W. Hawkins, 4; J. Burkin, 5; W. Burkin (conductor), 6; W. Webb, 7; J. Balcomb, 8. Tenor, 19 cwt.

At St. Mary's, Wargrave, Berks.

On Tuesday, the 6th inst., six members of the Wargrave Parish Church Ringers rang a peal of 720 Grandsire Minor in 30 mins. W. Fuller, 1; A. Guy, 2; H. Barefield, 3; W. Townsend, 4; B. Robbins (conductor), 5; S. Daley, 6. Tenor, 16½ cwt. This was the first peal of Grandsire Minor rung by the village band, who were unassisted by any outside help.

At St. George's, Camberwell, Surrey.

On Saturday, the 10th inst., eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang Holt's Original One-part peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples in 2 hrs. 53 mins. H. C. Haley (conductor), 1; G. T. McLaughlin, 2; J. W. Rowbotham, 3; C. F. Winny, 4; H. Cutter, 5; F. T. Gover, 6; H. J. Tucker, 7; W. Prime, 8. Tenor, 14 cwt.

At St. Bartholomew's, Clay Cross, Derbyshire.

On Sunday, the 11th inst., for evening service, a touch of 240 Bob Minor (4 extreme singles) was rung for the first time on the above bells. G. Clough, 1; J. Brown, 2; J. J. Cook, 3; T. Millington (conductor), 4; F. Hoffman, 5; T. Clough, 6. Tenor, 9½ cwt., in A. The first 240 by all with extreme singles. Plain leads. Composed from a peal which appeared in *Church Bells* of Dec. 1881 by T. Millington.

At St. John's, Bromsgrove, Worcestershire.

On Sunday, the 11th inst., before evening service, eight members of the Worcester Diocesan Association rang a date touch of 1883 Grandsire Triples in 1 hr. 9 mins. G. Perry, 1; G. Bourne, 2; G. Hayward (composer), 3; R. Broomfield, 4; G. Morris, 5; W. Duffell, 6; E. Crump (conductor), 7; J. Parry, 8. Tenor, 20 cwt.

At St. Lawrence's, Northwingfield, Derbyshire.

On Monday, the 12th inst., a peal of 720 Bob Minor (9 Extreme singles and 3 Minor singles) was rung for the first time in 29½ mins. G. Clough, 1; T. Allibone, 2; F. Hoffman, 3; T. Millington (conductor), 4; J. Brown, 5; T. Clough, 6. First 720 by all with Extreme singles. All belong to the above Company except F. Hoffman, who hails from Kirkham in Lancashire. Opposite is given the last line in each call, which comes round at four plain leads. Composed from a peal which appeared in *Church Bells* of Dec. 1881 by T. Millington. Tenor, 18½ cwt., in F.

At Gawsworth, Cheshire.

On Monday, the 12th inst., five members of the St. James's Society of Higher Sutton, assisted by John Henshall of the Gawsworth Society, rang a peal of 720 Grandsire Minor (38 bobs and 22 singles) in 28 mins. W. H. Ingham (conductor), 1; J. Henshall, 2; W. Ingham, 3; J. M. Devanport, 4; W. H. Hardman, 5; T. Mottershead, 6. Tenor, 18 cwt., in G.

At Syston, Leicestershire.

On Tuesday, the 13th inst., three members of the St. Saviour's Company, Leicester, together with three members of the Syston Company, rang a peal of 720 Bob Minor (18 bobs and 2 singles) in 26 mins. J. Freeman, 1; J. Needham, 2; A. Mellis, 3; C. Needham, 4; J. Pickard, 5; Rev. W. Pearson (conductor), 6. Tenor, 15½ cwt., in F.

The following afterwards rang a six-score of Stedman's Doubles, being, it is believed, the first time for many years that this method has been rung on these bells. A. Mellis, 1; C. Needham, 2; J. North, 3; Rev. W. Pearson, 4; J. Needham, 5; J. Freeman, 6.

* * A CORRESPONDENT, dating from St. Albans, suggests that on the day of the enthronization of the Archbishop of Canterbury a peal of Stedman's Caters should be rung on the Cathedral bells. He says that it is many years since a peal—and perhaps never one in the Stedman's principle—was rung at the Cathedral.

CORRESPONDENTS are requested to send their names and addresses.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At St. Michael's, Bishopwearmouth, Durham.

On Monday, the 5th inst., a peal of 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor was rung in 27½ mins. by members of the Durham and Newcastle Association. R. Smith, 1; C. L. Routledge, 2; Wm. Reed, Esq., 3; W. Story, 4; R. Wignell, 5; F. Lees (conductor), 6. Tenor, 12 cwt.

At All Saints', Newcastle-on-Tyne.

On Thursday, the 8th inst., five members of the St. John's, Newcastle, Branch of the Durham and Newcastle Association, aided by three of the Old Society of Newcastle, rang a plain course of Stedman's Triples. C. L. Routledge, 1; W. G. Routledge, 2; F. Lees, 3; J. Simm; J. Power, 5; W. Story, 6; R. S. Story, 7; J. Gillings, 8. [First in this method by all except Messrs. Power and Simm.]

On Thursday, the 15th inst., the Newcastle Branch rang a plain course of Stedman's Triples. Also a 1008 of Grandsire Triples on the same night, in 40 mins. G. Waddell, 1; W. G. Routledge, 2; F. Lees, 3; C. L. Routledge, 4; J. Simm, 5; J. Power (conductor), 6; R. S. Story, 7; J. Dybald, 8. Tenor, 19 cwt.

At St. John's, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

On Sunday evening, the 11th inst., for service, a peal of 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor was rung in 33 mins. G. Campbell, 1; C. L. Routledge, 2; F. Lees, 3; W. G. Routledge, 4; W. Story, 5; R. S. Story (conductor), 6.

Also on Monday, the 12th inst., a peal of 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor was rung in 27½ mins. F. Lees, 1; C. L. Routledge (conductor), 2; W. G. Routledge, 3; T. G. Des Forges, 4; W. Story, 5; R. S. Story, 6. First peal for 2nd and 3rd cwt.

Also on Monday, the 19th inst., six members of the St. John's Branch of the Durham and Newcastle Association rang a date touch of 1883 changes in three methods, viz., 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, 720 of Kent, and 443 of Plain Bob, in 1 hr. 12 mins. G. Herdman, 1; C. L. Routledge (composer), 2; W. Egglestone, 3; W. G. Routledge (conductor), 4; W. Story, 5; F. Lees, 6. Tenor, 14½ cwt.

At Eltham, Kent.

On Thursday, the 15th inst., Parker's peal of 720 Plain Bob Minor (14 singles and 8 bobs) was rung in 25 mins., four of the ringers coming from Crayford and two of the Eltham Society. W. Fright (his first 720), 1; F. Fraser, 2; F. French, 3; G. Conyard, 4; J. Saxby, 5; G. Sheppard (conductor), 6.

At St. James's, Tong, Yorkshire.

On Saturday, the 17th inst., the Society of Change-ringers rang a peal of 6000 in 3 hrs. 32 mins. from twenty-five different methods, very intricate, 240 changes each method. The following are the peals performed:—Craven Delight; Oxford Delight; College Exercise; Royal Bob; Tong Delight; Evening Pleasure; Morning Pleasure; Ebor; Evening Exercise; Morning Delight; Morning Exercise; Cambridge Surprise; Symphony; Primrose; Tulip; College Trebles; London Scholars' Pleasure; Arnold's Victory; City Delight; College Pleasure; Kent Treble Bob; New London Pleasure; Duke of York; Violet; and Oxford. G. Carter, 1; H. Oddy, 2; E. Webster, 3; W. Bolland, 4; G. Bolland (conductor), 5; J. Haley, 6. Tenor, 12 cwt.

These were rung to celebrate the 72nd birthday of G. Carter, who has been a ringer of Tong Church over fifty years. Ringers present from Birstal, Liversedge, Bradford, Pudsey, Guiseley, &c., and all were highly pleased with the feat.

[We have several times requested that the county should be mentioned. There is a Tong in Salop, but we thought, from the other towns mentioned, that the locality of this one lay in Yorkshire.]

At St. Michael's, Haworth, Yorkshire.

On Sunday, the 18th inst., was rung a peal of 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor in 26½ mins. J. Stoncy, 1; W. Redman (composer and conductor), 2; E. Brown, 3; T. Bland, 4; J. Hindle, 5; J. Hartley, 6. Tenor, 11½ cwt. [Neither sender's name, address, or county accompanied this.]

Twice repeated.

At Great St. Mary's, Cambridge.

On Monday, the 19th inst., a quarter-peal of Stedman's Triples was rung on the back eight. W. W. C. Baker, Esq., 1; M. C. Potter, Esq., 2; G. Taylor, 3; J. Holiday, 4; J. Rockett, 5; J. Jackson, 6; E. Andrews (conductor), 7; W. Kempton, 8. Tenor, 30 cwt.

At St. Nicholas's, Brighton, Sussex.

On Tuesday, the 20th inst., the Brighton Society of Change-ringers, with G. F. Attree, Esq., rang a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (Shipway's) in 45½ mins. W. Searle, 1; C. Tyler, 2; H. Boniface, 3; J. Jay, jun., 4; J. Searle, 5; G. F. Attree, 6; J. Jay, sen. (conductor), 7; H. Boast, 8. Tenor, 19 cwt., in P.

Ringing in Lent.

We regret to hear of so much ringing for mere amusement going on now that the Church is keeping her Lenten season, and the more so because the reports from all parts of the kingdom are that the season is notably being better observed than usual.—Ed.

* Copy of the Clavis for sale. Apply to the Editor.

RECEIVED ALSO.—W. A. M. (Browhills) would be pleased if a date touch of 1883 were sent to be inserted in *Church Bells* by some composer.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Home Reunion.

SIR,—I have long been a reader of *Church Bells*, and have found many of its articles interesting and instructive. This week I notice with peculiar pleasure Earl Nelson's contribution to the cause of Christian union, which adds another illustration to the many already given of the noble writer's amiable and pacific disposition. And allow me here to say, that while Baptists are too intelligent to be cajoled, as they are too independent to be coerced, one word of manly reasoning will do more for the interests of union between us and our pedobaptist brethren than a thousand words of magisterial reprehension, such as we have often received from those who have treated us like babes, while we knew ourselves to be men, or have contemned us as inferiors when we should have been consorted with as equals. But my aim in writing this is to assure Earl Nelson and all of your readers that though at the present time the prevailing radicalism is rooting out of our Baptist churches some of those fragrant and fructuous plants which from apostolic times have been the glory of our religion, yet there are very many among us still who hold fast the three following principles. First, That while the heavenly birth incorporates the soul with Christ, making it a member of His spiritual body, baptism is the divinely authorised initiation into the fellowship of the Christian Church. An association of unbaptized persons may be an assembly of saints, and may do a vast amount of good; but a Church, if the New Testament supply the type, it assuredly cannot be. Secondly, That baptism should be observed invariably before communion. This would never have been denied, or even doubted, if Christian men had not departed from Scriptural precedent because it was thought to be inconvenient, or inexpedient, or unpopular, to conform. Much mischief will yet come out of this erroneous policy, for logical minds must revolt against that species of jealousy for the integrity and infallibility of Scripture which can accord with palpable violation of its simplest rules. Thirdly, That baptism is a visible vehicle of invisible grace. If not, it is useless, and its Author trifled in enjoining a profitless ceremony. Is it obedience? then surely in keeping His commandments there is great reward. Is it confession? then an apostle said 'confession is made to salvation.' Baptism conveys blessing, or it does not. If it does, then such passages as Acts, ii. 38, and xxii. 16; Rom. vi. 3, 4; Col. ii. 12; and 1 Pet. ii. 21, are full of meaning; but if it does not, then those passages must be evasively cut away, and the operation will strike another deadly blow at that tree of doctrinal truth whose leaves, its advocates claim, are for the healing of the nations. While the holding of these principles alone can never produce an organic reunion between pedobaptist and pistobaptist Churches, they may furnish valuable points of agreement for those who would be of one mind in resisting the spirit of the age, so far as it fights to free itself from all ritual, all religion, and all restraint.

TIMOTHY HARLEY.

John Street Chapel, Bedford Row, W.C.

Seasonable Advice.

SIR,—When I went from school to Oxford the last words of advice the head-master gave me at parting were these, 'When you go to the University you will hear a great deal about High Church, and Low Church, and Broad Church; take my advice and join no party, but be a good Churchman!' More than twenty-six years have passed since these counsels were uttered; I have never been a party man; I have joined neither the E. C. U. nor the Church Association. I have held views of which your paper has for some years past been a valuable exponent, and I do not wish to find myself and the great mass of clergy who think with us driven from our common field of action to hostile camps, which waste their strength and power in fighting against each other instead of standing shoulder to shoulder against the foe. In the diocese where I have spent more than twenty-one years of my life we had two zealous, hard-working incumbents, who were doing God's work in their respective parishes; they held similar views, and the use of each church was of an advanced type of ritual. One had gathered together the richer, the other the poorer classes—each pastor was beloved by his people. One incumbent was preferred by the Crown to a canonry, the other was sent to Lancaster Castle. If the services of the one be recognised and requited as they deserved, why should an outside Society be permitted to shut up in prison for weary months a man of blameless life, who deserves reward as much as the other? What I feel and desire to express with regard to our present position is, that unless we have peace, for the sake of justice and fairplay, a great many of us, who have throughout our lives prided ourselves upon not being party men, will most unwillingly be compelled to take sides. I do trust that the counsels of the late Primate may be followed, and that we may see no more of these miserable ritual lawsuits, and that our worthy diocesan, the Bishop of Manchester, may follow the advice given to him by the Dean of Durham—withdraw his opposition to Sir Percival Heywood's nomination, and allow Mr. Cowgill to minister to the people of Miles Platting, from whose charge he ought never to have permitted their late pastor, Mr. Green, to have been driven. Let it not be supposed for one instant that the feelings of the vast majority of Church people, clerical and lay, are expressed either in the utterances of the Church Association or in the columns of the *Rock*. If either the Bishop of Manchester or his Metropolitan think so they are grievously mistaken.

A LANCASHIRE VICAR.

The Bishop of Manchester's Letter.

SIR,—The question of 'solitary communion,' a contradiction in terms, and the thing meant, is as positively forbidden as it could be in the rubrics. Surely the priest is very much to be blamed if in a church full of people no one communicates! His teaching must have been very unfaithful to the English Church. Is there nothing Roman in the Mass? There is nothing about payments in the 31st Article, which 'J. C. H.' must have signed, and

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

New Bells at Bourn, Cambridgeshire.

THE above church possesses one of the finest rings of bells in the county. Unfortunately, two or three years ago, while practising, one of them was cracked. This has lately been re-cast and re-hung by Messrs. Taylor of Loughborough. It may be noted that the present ring of six bells was re-cast from the former ring of five bells about eighty years ago, and by the same firm.—*Herts and Cambs Recorder*, Feb. 16, 1883.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At St. Peter's, Brighton, Sussex.

ON Wednesday, the 21st ult., six members of the Brighton Societies rang a peal of 720 Plain Bob Minor in 26 mins. J. Jay, jun., 1; H. Boast, 2; C. Tyler, 3; G. F. Attree, Esq., 4; J. Jay, sen., 5; J. Searle (conductor), 6. This is the first peal in this method by all the above, and was rung on Seage's dumb-peal apparatus.

At St. Cadoc's, Caerleon, Monmouthshire.

ON Wednesday, the 21st ult., the following ringers, whose ages range from 10 to 14, rang their first peal of 120 Grandsire Doubles, with the 6th covering, in 5 mins. W. Tamplin, 1; A. H. Shearn, 2; W. H. Arnold, 3; H. Phillips, 4; J. Waters, 5. Tenor, 7½ cwt., in B flat. The peal was conducted by Mr. E. Davies, under whose tuition these youths have been for about eight months.

At St. John the Baptist's, Eltham, Kent.

ON Thursday, the 22nd ult., a peal of Plain Bob Minor (18 bobs and 2 singles) was rung in 25 mins. J. King, 1; T. G. Deal, 2; C. English, 3; J. Smith, 4; F. Fraser, 5; G. Sheppard (conductor), 6. Tenor, 9½ cwt., in D.

At Holy Trinity, Newington, Surrey.

ON Sunday, the 25th ult., a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung for morning service in 43 mins. H. Langdon, 1; F. Lennard, 2; G. T. McLaughlin, 3; J. Barry, 4; W. Jones, 5; M. Routh, 6; H. J. Tucker (composer and conductor), 7; F. Coxhead, 8. The touch contains the twelve 7-4's, the twelve 4-6's, and the twelve 6-7's, Queens and Tittums.

At St. Bartholomew's, Claycross, Derbyshire.

ON Sunday, the 25th ult., for evening service, a peal of 720 Bob Minor (16 bobs and 2 singles) was rung in 26 mins. The singles were called at the 20th and 50th leads. G. Clough, 1; T. Allibone, 2; J. H. Cook, 3; T. Millington (conductor), 4; J. Brown, 5; T. Clough, 6. Tenor, 9½ cwt., in A sharp.

At St. James's, Norton, Derbyshire.

ON Sunday, the 25th ult., six members of the Norton Society rang for service a peal of 720 Bob Minor in three parts, with nine bobs and six singles, in 30 mins. F. Ward,* 1; H. Ward,* 2; W. Biggin,* 3; J. Goucher,* 4; J. Atkin, 5; J. Allen* (conductor), 6. Tenor, 11½ cwt. [* Their first peal.] This is the first peal on the bells in this method, and the first 720 rung by a Norton company for the last twenty-five years.

At SS. Peter and Paul, Eckington, Derbyshire.

ON Monday, the 26th ult., six members of the Eckington Society rang a date touch of 1883 changes in 1 hr. 10 mins.: 360 of Duke of York, 360 of Oxford Treble Bob, 360 of College Pleasure, 360 of Violet, and 443 of New London Pleasure. G. Smith, 1; W. Price, 2; J. Shaw, 3; G. Norman, 4; G. Marsden (conductor), 5; T. Lunn, 6. Tenor, 16 cwt. 14 lbs.

At St. Peter's, Walworth, Surrey.

ON Wednesday, the 28th ult., eight members of the St. James's Society rang a peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples (Holt's bob-and-single) in 2 hrs. 42 mins. H. Langdon, 1; G. T. McLaughlin, 2; C. F. Winny, 3; M. Routh, 4; W. Jones, 5; H. J. Tucker (conductor), 6; R. French, 7; W. George, 8.

RECEIVED ALSO:—From Calcutta with thanks, T. W. J. Rees.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Coventry v. Birmingham as a See-town.

SIR,—I am not surprised at the remarks of your correspondent, 'James Ivatts,' respecting my historical sketch of the Bishopric of Lichfield and the claims of Coventry to be see-town of any Bishopric erected in Warwickshire, considering the scant respect I know Birmingham men generally have for historical rights or traditional dignities. He then says Convocation recommended Birmingham if convenient; but herelies the difficulty. Birmingham is not convenient, and Coventry is. He then admits Birmingham is in the worst position it can be, on the edge of the county; but says this would be no impediment to a Bishop doing his duty to the whole county. But this argument well admits of being worked two ways. If a Bishop could do his duty to the whole county by residing on the edge of the same, it is quite clear he could do his duty, not only to the whole county, but to the town of Birmingham as well, by residing in the centre at Coventry. For that city is only thirty minutes by rail from Birmingham, and has every necessary railway accommodation. And so the whole argument of population and the extraordinary solicitude of your correspondent for the masses falls to the ground. I am much obliged to 'James Ivatts' for his kind invitation to visit St. Martin's Church, but I know it well, and feel very much pleasure in returning the compliment in asking him the next time he is sent to Coventry to visit St. Michael's Church in that city. And if he does not stop comparing (as he did in his letter of January 13th) the churches of St. Martin and St. Philip in Birmingham architecturally with either the cathedrals of this country, or that noble fabric crowned with its magnificent tower and spire; the third in altitude among the spires of England, being 303 feet high; the chancel and nave of this truly grand old fourteenth century church being 297 feet long, and its greatest width 126 feet; I shall certainly give him up as a judge in these matters. What an immense sum of money would have to be spent, that is wanted for other good purposes, to build a cathedral that

must be conspicuously bigger and finer than this church! There is another point which your correspondent has introduced into this question, the great wealth of Birmingham to endow a bishopric. Now, according to the Report just issued of the Birmingham Church Extension Society, this wealth, if in the hands of Birmingham Churchmen—which I doubt very much, for I believe most of the wealthy men in Birmingham are Dissenters—is most urgently wanted for that Society, which is in process of threatened dissolution for want of money; the whole income of the Society from all sources last year being 587l., or very little more than a farthing per head of the population of the town. To show the strength of Birmingham Churchmen in money matters, the Committee of this Society, feeling very keenly the responsibility entailed upon them by the urgent applications for aid from various parts of the town, and encouraged by the liberal offer of 100l. from a member of the committee, issued a pressing special circular for the sum of 1000l. to be promised by the 1st of December last. And this was widely circulated, not only among the subscribers to the Society, but among the Churchmen of the town. In response to this appeal the Churchmen of Birmingham promised 650l. only. And this is the boasted town whose wealth could erect a bishopric, and afterwards build a costly cathedral! For there is no doubt one would have to be built, no church in Birmingham being sufficient for that purpose. This wealth that we have heard so much of, if it does exist in the right hands, I think all your readers, and your correspondents too, will allow, would be much better used in providing for the spiritual destitution of the town in building new churches, which are so much required, than spent in the ambitious project of a bishopric; especially when there is another more suitable town having a prior claim, and every natural advantage in its favour. By these means Birmingham would truly gain that spiritual strength and help to the building up of our beloved Church, which as a town it so much requires, and which, I believe, your correspondent so much desires. It must, however, be clear to all disinterested observers, that it is independent of the historical claims of Coventry, to the best interests of the Church under all the circumstances of the case, that Coventry should have its ancient bishopric restored to it, as recommended by the Additional Home Bishops' Fund Committee, who have thoroughly gone into this matter, and whose report from the character and ability of its committee cannot be treated in any light manner. And no doubt, in course of time, the Hardware village will have one, but it certainly has no claims to be the see-town for any bishopric for the county of Warwick. And now, Sir, I think I have proved, from ancient precedent and from present circumstances, that the 'fair city' of Coventry is not only entitled but worthy of the episcopal dignity.

A. J. B.

[The correspondence on this subject must now be closed.—ED. *Church Bells*.]

The Extension of the Diaconate.

SIR,—I read Mr. Sale's letter in a recent issue with much interest. It is a matter for thankfulness that the ground is cleared in this matter. So competent an authority as the Bishop of Durham has admitted that there can be no objection to the extension of the Diaconate on the ground of theological principle or general Church law. It is a great advantage to discuss it simply from the point of view of Christian prudence. It may be permissible for many to join issue with so high an authority as the Bishop of Durham on this ground, who might well hesitate to enter the lists with him on a question of scholarship. His chief objection is to the possibility of dissensions arising between a resident and irremovable deacon in a parish and his vicar, and the difficulty of dealing satisfactorily with a case of this kind on the part of the Bishop. But it may be questioned whether, 1, this danger may not find more than a counterpoise in the advantages which such an extension of the Diaconate would confer on the Church, and, 2, whether the dangers are not over-estimated.

To deal with the second question first. I doubt very much whether the removability of fellow-helpers, which is so great a relief to the Bishop when he is called upon to adjudicate upon a difference between an incumbent and his curate, is really such an advantage as at first sight it may appear to be. I happen to have been for some years in the position of an irremovable curate, and I can speak from experience of the happy effects of such a position in producing on both sides an amount of mutual forbearance and Christian charity which the present relations of incumbent and curate do not seem so far to have brought about. And next, if, as would seem desirable, the experiment were tried in towns, there could be no necessity whatever that the deacon should reside in the parish in which he ministers, though of course such residence would be infinitely preferable if possible.

The advantages of permitting deacons to be ordained while engaged in secular pursuits is too obvious to need discussion. The only question is, whether they more than counterbalance the disadvantages. The first advantage is, that even if these workers received some remuneration for their work, it would be possible to pay six of them for the same sum as a single priest. How immense a help this would be to many a hard-worked parish priest scarcely requires to be pointed out; and how great a help it would be to him to have all the work of Sundays taken off his hands except that of teaching and celebrating Holy Communion, to say nothing of private ministrations to the sick and whole, only those who have had to do all the work of a large parish can possibly know. Many a man who could not possibly pay a curate would be thankful to raise 25l., or even 50l., for a fellow-labourer or fellow-labourers who would read the service and the lessons, administer baptism, and take (if necessary) upon himself the catechising of the young. If, in addition, the deacon were fit to receive the Bishop's license to preach occasionally, it would be an untold assistance. He would hardly expect, as the curate would, to take the more important part of the teaching, or, if he did, in most cases the flock themselves would curb his ambition. They would, as a rule, prefer to be taught by one who had gone through a proper theological training to being instructed by one whom they regarded as not more than one step above themselves.

Another point should not be omitted. Many a man is debarred from giving his flock the number of week-day services he would wish from the difficulty of being able always to ensure the presence of a clergyman at the

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association.

THE Committee of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association of Change-ringers have fixed to hold their next District Meeting at Colerne, near Bath, on Thursday in Easter week, 29th March, when all friends of the Association who will honour them with their company will receive a hearty welcome.

J. DRINKWATER, *Master of the Association.*

Can any reader of *Church Bells* inform me when, where, and by whom, the 42 six-scores of Grandsire Doubles, arranged by the late Mr. Isaac Gaze of Gloucester, were first rung? They are 10 six-scores in the true Grandsire method, and 32 six-scores with extremes instead of plain leads.

Sandhurst, near Gloucester.

J. DRINKWATER.

Bedfordshire Association of Change-ringers.

THE first Annual Meeting of the Members of this Association will be held at Bedford on Easter Monday next. The fine ring of eight (tenor, 28 cwt.) at St. Paul's will be available for ringing during the day. A luncheon will be provided at the 'Swan Hotel.'

CHARLES HERBERT, *Hon. Sec.*

CHANGE-RINGING.

At St. Botolph's, Bishopsgate, London.

ON Thursday, the 22nd ult., eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang Holt's Original One-part peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples in 3 hrs. 9 mins. H. C. Haley (conductor), 1; J. Bonney, 2; F. E. Dawe, 3; E. Gibbs, 4; C. F. Winny, 5; R. French, 6; H. J. Tucker, 7; W. Prime, 8. Tenor, 19 cwt., in E.

At All Saints', Maidstone, Kent.

ON Monday, the 26th ult., eight members of All Saints' Society rang a peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples (Holt's Ten-part) in 2 hrs. 58 mins. C. Relf, 1; H. Pearce, 2; A. Woolley, 3; R. Simmonds, 4; G. Pawley, 5; A. Moorcraft* (conductor), 6; F. Newman, 7; G. Moorcraft, 8. [* Members of the College Youths.]

At St. Alban's Cathedral.

ON Thursday, the 1st inst., an attempt was made, with the assistance of Messrs. Haworth and Wood of London, to ring Holt's Ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples. After ringing about 4700 changes in a little over three hours a mistake occurred, which caused a breakdown. H. Lewis, 1; N. N. Hills, 2; J. G. Crawley, 3; J. R. Haworth, 4; H. Baker, 5; M. A. Wood, 6; T. Gathard, 7; H. Younger, 8. Tenor, 32 cwt., in E flat. A similar misfortune happened in the same belfry on Boxing Day, six or seven years since, when the same peal was attempted and completed within about thirty changes. Four of the above band were in the previous breakdown, viz. Messrs. Lewis, Haworth, Wood, and Younger. The ringing was conducted on both occasions by M. A. Wood.

At St. John the Baptist's, Eltham, Kent.

ON Thursday, the 1st inst., a peal of 720 Grandsire Minor (20 bobs and 34 singles) was rung in 26 mins. W. Goslings (first 720), 1; T. G. Deal, 2; C. Mussett (first 720 inside), 3; J. Smith, 4; G. Sheppard, 5; F. Fraser (conductor), 6.

Also a peal of 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor (9 bobs) in 26 mins. G. Conyard, 1; F. Fraser, 2; T. G. Deal, 3; J. Smith (first peal of Kent Treble Bob Minor), 4; G. Sheppard (conductor), 5; F. French, 6. Tenor, 9½ cwt., in A.

At St. John's, Capel, Surrey.

ON Friday evening, the 2nd inst., six of the Capel Society rang a peal of 720 Superlative Surprise Minor in 25 mins. A. Mills, jun., 1; R. Jordan, 2; G. Holloway, 3; R. Worsfold, 4; E. Jordan, 5; D. Jordan (conductor), 6. This is the first peal in this method by any of the Society, and the first in the neighbourhood.

At St. Mary's, Coddendam, Suffolk.

ON Saturday, the 3rd inst., six members of the Norwich Diocesan Association rang upon the back six bells a peal of 720 Bob Minor in 29 mins., being the first peal in this method rung upon the bells. O. Waspe, 1; H. English, 2; G. Lummis, 3; W. Whiting, 4; J. Offord, 5; E. Wells (conductor), 6.

Also on Monday evening, the 5th inst., the following members rang upon the back six bells 720 changes in the following methods:—The Fortune, April Day, London, Dunstan's, St. Simon's, and Stedman's Doubles. O. Waspe, 1; H. English, 2; G. Lummis, 3; J. Offord, 4; E. Wells (conductor), 5; S. English, 6. Tenor, 16½ cwt., in F sharp.

At St. John's, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

ON Sunday, the 4th inst., six of the St. John's Guild rang for evening service a peal of 720 College Single in 28 mins. G. Campbell, 1; C. L. Routledge, 2; F. Lees, 3; W. G. Routledge, 4; W. Story, 5; R. S. Story (conductor), 6. Tenor, 14½ cwt. This is the first peal in the method by all of the above, and is the first on the bells.

At St. John's, Staveley, Derbyshire.

ON Sunday, the 4th inst., was rung for evening service, by four members of the local society, with W. Price and G. Marsden, of Eckington, a peal of 720 Violet (21 bobs) and a peal of 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor in 54½ mins. W. Harris, 1; W. Price, 2; H. Madin, 3; W. Worthington (conductor), 4; J. Harris, 5; G. Marsden, 6. Tenor, 18 cwt. 3 qrs. 21 lbs.

At SS. Mary and Nicolas', Spalding, Lincolnshire.—Muffled Peal.

ON Monday, the 5th inst., a peal of 720 Plain Bob (9 bobs and 6 singles) was rung in 30 mins., in memory of the late Rev. R. Barlow Simpson-Barlow, who died at the age of thirty-eight years. G. Skeef, 1; A. Brown, 2; G. L. Richardson, 3; J. Brown, 4; J. S. Wright, 5; R. Mackman (conductor), 6. Tenor, 18 cwt.

At St. Mary's, Lewisham, Kent.

ON Monday, the 5th inst., eight members of the Cumberland Society rang a peal of 5120 Kent Treble Bob Major in 3 hrs. 15 mins. A. G. Freeman, 1; J. Gobbett, 2; T. G. Deal, 3; A. G. Gardom, 4; H. Randall, 5; T. Taylor, 6; F. Bate (conductor), 7; G. Newson, 8. Tenor, 22½ cwt., in E flat. [* First peal in this method.]

CORRESPONDENCE.

'Doubtless there is a God that judgeth in the earth.'

SIR,—We are called upon by some of the bishops to unite in special humiliation and prayer before God in reference to the continuance of unfavourable weather, and, they might have added, the general depression which pervades our country. All this will probably commend itself to the minds of most Christians, as it does to myself. Now I have no desire to write anything of a partisanship character as to politics. But I do most solemnly ask men to inquire of their own consciences as follows:—

1. Can this Nation expect the full blessing of God upon it when it has provided that an Infidel is just as eligible to fulfil the demands of the Nation's laws in regard to education as the most devout Christian? An Infidel school-master or mistress can do everything that the laws of England require in any public elementary school.

2. Can the Church of this realm expect the full blessing of God upon it when a rubric in the Prayer-book plainly directs the use of certain vestments; which rubric, however, is ordered to be interpreted as if it declared precisely the contrary of what it orders? Jesus Christ taught that they that worship God 'must worship Him . . . in truth.' Can it be said that we are worshipping God 'in truth' so long as that rubric continues as it is, and men are forbidden under dread of punishment to obey it? Can it be said that we are worshipping God in truth when Convocation, after ten years' deliberation, left the rubric standing as it is, and yet men are forbidden to act according to its direction? The question is not whether we like or dislike Ritualism, whether vestments are desirable or undesirable, or whether our way out of the difficulty be an alteration of the rubric or permission to obey it. All I say is, that it is a solemn sin, and an awful untruth before an all-holy God, that the Church of England should publish an order in her Prayer-book which is to be treated as if it ordered the contrary of what it declares. Such a state of things would not be endured in any other corporate body even of the most secular character.

I may be in error, but it has seemed to me, for many years past, that this state of things is much to be deprecated within the Church of Him who is 'Truth,' and who will be 'worshipped in truth'; and I own that it is no matter of amazement to me that God does not bless the Church or the Country. I have small hope that the Nation will rectify what I regard as her fearful blunder. But one might hope that the Church will cease to throw dust in her own eyes, and will come to some arrangement by which her inconsistency may be thoroughly rectified.

GEORGE VENABLES.

Great Yarmouth Vicarage.

Schismatic Episcopacy in Scotland.

SIR,—We have had in Glasgow a visit from the 'Superintending-Bishop of the Church of England Congregations in Scotland,' on Sunday, Feb. 5, as is evidenced by the following advertisement, which is taken from one of the daily papers of Saturday, February 4, viz.:—

'ST. SILAS'S ENGLISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH.—Rev. Frederic Peake, M.A., LL.D., Incumbent. Services to-morrow at 11 a.m. and 6.30 p.m. The Sermon to-morrow will be preached by the Right Reverend Bishop Beckles, R.D., late Lord Bishop of Sierra Leone, and now Superintending-Bishop of the Church of England Congregations in Scotland. At the Evening Service the Rite of Confirmation will be administered by the Bishop.'

I wish to draw attention, through the medium of your much-esteemed paper, to the perpetuation of this ill-advised and unwarranted intrusion, as the circumstances may not be known by English Churchmen generally that there is in this country (North Britain, or Scotland) a duly constituted and recognised Church, in full communion with that of England; and that the very existence of this so-called 'Church of England in Scotland' is a scandal to the Church at large that cannot be defended, and a stumbling-block in the way of the success of the legitimate claims of the (Episcopal) Church of the country and its consistent witness for the truth. Let us hope and pray that the day is not far distant when we can no longer be reproached by our Presbyterian friends and others with this, one of the most transparent inconsistencies that exist. In the meantime it is surely a case in which the Diocesan of the itinerant 'Superintending-Bishop' referred to should be informed, with a view to the suppression of his anomalous proceeding.

R. H. B.

The 'Pointing' Question again.

SIR,—The remarks and suggestion of 'C. E. M.' in your issue of the 24th ult. are only too true, but I am afraid the remedy is very difficult. Perhaps you will allow me to supplement his remarks, and make a further suggestion. Having lately migrated into a new diocese, I had reason to make some inquiries as to the various methods of 'pointing' in the neighbourhood, with a view to a rudecanal choral festival. The result of my inquiries, within a very narrow circuit of a few miles, was as follows:—Several churches used 'Mercer,' one 'Turle,' another 'Monk and Ouseley,' another 'S. Elvey,' another 'The Cathedral,' another 'Westcott's Cambridge,' and one 'Gregorian.' Here, then, are seven different methods—surely only wanting another, the *Psalter Ancient and Modern*, to complete the list. However, I tried to reduce this number, in order to arrive at one system which might be acceptable to all, as the best to be adopted for any such festival as that proposed. For one reason or other these eight were soon reduced to four; and by grouping two which have a strong similarity, except on one point to which I will refer again, they may be said to be three distinct systems, with strongly marked lines of demarcation:—(i.) The Gregorian; (ii.) the Anglican (of which the two selected representatives were 'Monk and Ouseley' and 'The Cathedral'); (iii.) the *Psalter Ancient and Modern*, which attempts to combine the two previous ones, by having a pointing which can be used for either Gregorian or Anglican; introducing, moreover, a new kind of single harmonised chant called the 'New Form,' which, again, endeavours to combine in one the peculiar features of the Gregorian and the Anglican. Perhaps, as the

Dublin, has been presented with a handsome silver salver on the occasion of his marriage by the members of the Richmond Club, Harcourt Street, Dublin, in the success of which he has taken the liveliest interest.

Some time ago the *Irish Ecclesiastical Gazette* admitted some letters into its columns reflecting on the management of the Irish Church Missions. In its last issue, however, an article appeared, founded on a favourable report of the Mission Schools in Dublin, furnished by a writer in the *Freeman's Journal*, who speaks of the solid character of the school-buildings and the comfort of the children, and contrasts them with the sordid nature of similar Roman Catholic institutions in the immediate neighbourhood, where 'breathing-room fails, and the infants are packed side by side in a manner compared with which the "sprats-in-a-barrel" condition is one of freedom and ease.' The change of tone towards the Mission adopted by the *Gazette*, though founded on what the *Freeman's Journal* has had to say on the subject, is too much for that newspaper, which thus writes in its issue of last Saturday:—

'The *Irish Ecclesiastical Gazette* seems to have received a monition from its patrons and authorities in regard of its exposure of the Irish Church Missions. This day's number of the *Gazette* reviles us for telling about the Coombe Church Mission Schools. In our articles on the Missions it was the *Gazette* that mainly briefed us, and it was in compliance with repeated requests from *Gazette*ites that we opened our columns to the ventilation of the subject.'

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Lancashire Association of Change-ringers.

A QUARTERLY Meeting of the above Association will be held on Easter Monday, March 26, at Christ Church, Southport. Ringing from 10 a.m. Meeting at 5 p.m. All ringers invited. Cheap tickets will be issued from Manchester, Bolton, and the various stations on the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway.

W. J. CHATTERTON, { Hon. Secs.
JOEL REDFORD, }

Essex Association of Change-ringers.

A SPECIAL Meeting of the Essex Association of Change-ringers will be held at Writtle on Easter Monday, when alterations in rules will be submitted for discussion. Also for the election of a Secretary, the Rev. J. B. Seaman being about to leave the diocese with his family for Manitoba. Belfry open at 10 a.m. Meeting at 2 p.m. Arrangements made for refreshments at the 'Cock and Bell,' Writtle Vicarage.

JOHN B. SEAMAN, Hon. Sec.

Derby and District Association.

THE first Annual Meeting of the members of the above Association will be held at Derby on Easter Monday, March 26th. The following towers will be open for ringing from 10 a.m.:—All Saints' (10), St. Andrew's (8), St. Luke's (8), St. Werburgh's (8), and St. Alkmund's (8). Committee meeting at 3 p.m. Service in St. Andrew's Church at 4.30. Tea in St. Andrew's School-room at 5 p.m.; tickets, 1s. 6d. each. General meeting and election of officers for 1883-4 at 6 p.m. All ringers and friends are earnestly invited to attend.

19 Morleston Street, Derby.

H. C. WOODWARD, Hon. Sec.

New Ring of Bells at St. Mary's, Harlow, Essex.

THE ring of eight bells (tenor, 20 cwt.), presented by Mr. Walford, once a resident in the parish, is expected to be hung by Easter Eve, the 24th inst., by Messrs. Warner & Sons of London. There will be shortened Evensong, together with a special dedication service and brief address, at St. Mary's Church, at 7 p.m. on Easter Eve. The sermon on the morning of Easter Day will be preached by the Rev. R. W. Hiley. On Easter Monday a dinner at the expense of Mr. Walford will be given to the ringers and others, and the parish will provide a substantial meal for the children of the schools and their mothers.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At Cheriton, Kent.

ON Saturday, the 3rd inst., the following peals were rung by members of the Kent County Association:—A peal of 720 Bob Minor, containing 12 singles and 21 bobs. E. Halliday, 1; W. Driscoll, 2; Rev. A. Hall Hall, 3; A. Tanton, 4; R. Beal, 5; F. Royle (conductor), 6.

A peal of 720 Canterbury Pleasure, with 18 bobs and 2 singles. E. Halliday, 1; W. Driscoll, 2; A. Tanton, 3; R. Beal, 4; F. Rolfe, 5; J. Marsh (conductor), 6. Tenor, 8 cwt.

At St. Mary's, Coddensham, Suffolk.

ON Saturday, the 10th inst., six members of the Coddensham Society of the Norwich Diocesan Association rang a peal of 720 Oxford Single Bob Minor in 29 mins. S. English, 1; D. Waspe, 2; G. Lummis, 3; H. English, 4; J. Offord, 5; E. Wells (conductor), 6. Tenor, 16½ cwt. This is the first peal in the method rung upon the bells, and the first in the method by any of the above, with the exception of the conductor.

At Hornsey, Middlesex.

ON Sunday, the 11th inst., for evening service, a peal of 720 Plain Bob Minor (18 bobs and 2 singles) was rung in 27 mins. J. Ward (first 720), 1; G. Griffin, 2; N. Alderman, 3; J. Hannington (conductor), 4; T. Titchener, 5; A. Jacob, 6.

After service a peal of 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor (9 bobs) was rung in 25 mins. J. Leach, 1; J. Hannington, 2; N. Alderman, 3; T. Titchener, 4; A. Jacob, 5; G. Newson (conductor), 6.

Also a peal of 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor (15 bobs) was rung in 26 mins. G. Griffin, 1; J. Leach, 2; N. Alderman, 3; A. Jacob, 4; J. Hannington (conductor), 5; G. Newson, 6.

And a peal of 720 Plain Bob Minor (14 singles and 4 bobs) was rung in 27 mins. F. Parker (first 720), 1; G. Griffin, 2; J. Hannington (conductor), 3; N. Alderman, 4; A. Jacob, 5; G. Newson, 6. Tenor, 17½ cwt.

At St. John's, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

ON Monday, the 12th inst., a peal of 720 Violet Treble Bob Minor was rung in 28½ mins. G. Campbell, 1; C. L. Routledge, 2; F. Lees, 3; W. G. Routledge (conductor), 4; W. Story, 5; R. S. Story, 6. Tenor, 14½ cwt. With the exception of F. Lees, this is the first in this method by any of the above on St. John's bells.

PROGRESS IN CHANGE-RINGING.

By a Looker-on in India.

A FEW years since I sent to *Church Bells* some papers showing what had been done in change-ringing since 1872. These were, on the whole, favourably received, and perhaps the time has now come round for taking stock again of our progress in the art. The retrospect on the present occasion will include the years 1878, 1879, 1880, 1881, and 1882; and as, in the remote part of the world where my lot is now cast, I have to gather my information almost entirely from back numbers of *Church Bells*, it must be understood that only achievements which have been reported in that excellent publication have a chance of being noticed in this review. On the last occasion I proceeded county by county, and I now propose to adopt the same plan; but such matters as seem to be of more than local interest may be with advantage mentioned in some preliminary remarks.

In the first place, then, we have to be thankful for many mercies. For instance, the number of accidents to ringers has been very small, and none of them has been of a very serious character. When we remember the amount of force stored up in a ring of bells which has been raised, the dark and crowded belfry, the frequent necessity of turning clappers, we may well say '*Nisi quia Dominus*'—If the Lord had not been on our side! Again we may be thankful for the continuance among us of good fellowship and unselfishness, which is shown by the general willingness to meet in order to oblige a stranger, no doubt often at great personal inconvenience. Of this good feeling I have myself had constant experience, in London, in the Eastern counties, in Berkshire, in Oxford, and elsewhere. Think how much kindness is implied in the not uncommon notification, 'Ringers will meet a stranger any night after 7 p.m.!' May this good feeling long continue and increase! As in the case of an individual there are few more legitimate causes for joy than the increase of respect and consideration in which he is held, so as a body we may properly congratulate ourselves on the increased attention and respect which is now bestowed on our art and its followers.

For the new books which have been published during the last five years we are chiefly indebted to Mr. Snowdon. In 1878 that gentleman brought out the first volume of his *Treatise on Treble Bob*. This volume, in addition to the history and proof of that popular method, gave an *intelligible* account of the 'In and Out of Course of the Changes,' and a chapter on the transposition of peals, which first invited the attention of the exercise to the fact that any given peal can be varied in several ways, and that these variations, even when discovered subsequently by independent study, had no claim to originality. Of the justice of this dictum no candid reader could entertain any doubt, yet some composers (to use an Americanism) reluctantly against a theory which deprived them of the fruit of their labour. The second volume, published in 1879, provides composers with a remedy for the future, for in it is found as complete a collection of Treble Bob peals up to date as could be made. As these are arranged according to their qualities, a new peal can at once be compared with those already in existence, and its originality tested once for all. In the same year Mr. Snowdon gave us *Rope Sight*, an admirable guide to the first steps in change-ringing, the method selected for instruction being Plain Bob. About the same time appeared a second edition of the Rev. W. Wigram's *Change-ringing Disentangled*. In it will be found, among many other matters, hints on Grandsire ringing, of the greatest service to those who prefer that method. In 1881 appeared Mr. Snowdon's *Standard Methods*. This is intended to introduce the beginner who has learned to ring one method to all the others which are in ordinary use; and as full directions are given in all methods from Plain Bob to London Surprise, it is a most complete handbook on the practical part of the art of change-ringing.

Attempts are still being made to obtain a peal of Grandsire Triples with bobs, that is, common bobs only. At present these efforts have not met with success. If it is really impossible to obtain a peal with bobs only, it is much to be desired that this should be demonstrated by some mathematician. When the exercise possesses a few more high mathematicians we may hope to have this much-disputed question settled. And this reminds me that a Society has at last been formed for promoting the practice of change-ringing among the students in the great Mathematical University of Cambridge. When it is remembered how much the progress of the art has been promoted by the Society formed some ten years ago at the sister University, this event may be regarded as one of great consequence, owing to the constant changes in the population of a university. It is not to be expected that the resident members will at any time attain to any extraordinary proficiency; but the Society will be constantly sending out to the four corners of England men of education and position, who as practical ringers will advance the art, raise the tone of local companies, and carry on the good work of belfry reform.

Mr. J. F. Penning of Saffron Walden has produced a peal of Bob Minor with no less than 35 bobs and 6 singles, and another with 28 bobs and 18 singles. Also a One-part peal of Grandsire Triples, with 10 calls less than Holt's Original.

Among mechanical discoveries made during this period should be noted the patent clapper invented by the firm of Moore, Holmes, and Mackenzie of Harleston, Norfolk. This clapper is removed to a short distance from the lip of the bell after its blow has been struck, and permits the vibrations to continue without any check. Also the useful dumb apparatus of Mr. Seage of Exeter, which gives an opportunity of instructing beginners and of constant practice without causing annoyance to the neighbourhood.

(To be continued.)

defect from the outset has been the excessive preponderance of one class. Shanars have joined us in numbers, but few of other castes. But our strenuous efforts to secure representatives from every caste are now at length beginning to bear fruit. Excellent results have been gained, for instance, through the superior English schools we have established in towns inhabited by Hindus of the higher classes.' Speaking of some young men thus influenced he writes: 'Many of these do not come to church regularly from fear of their heathen relatives and friends, but all of them know the Truth, and they say private prayers in their houses and take an interest in reading Christian books. Nearly every day a party of three or four of them go together to the bank of the river at Alvar-Tirunagari, and there in the dusk of the evening they join together in prayer. This reminds one of the custom of the early Christians who met together for prayer and praise in the catacombs during the time of persecution.' The following is another noteworthy passage in the Bishop's report: 'You will remember Jothianayagam Pillai of Alvar-Tirunagari. Long before he was baptized, he organized a Sunday class in connexion with his day-school. His Brahman and Vellala pupils attended the Sunday class, and Jothianayagam himself instructed them in Christianity. At that time he had no official connexion with the Mission, and the Sunday school he organized was purely his own idea. God has called him away to Himself, but the seed sown in the hearts of his forty pupils has remained. All the boys and young men who were instructed by Jothianayagam have learnt the custom of offering private prayer.'

ONE of Bishop Sargeant's native clergy, the Rev. S. G. Yesidian, adopts the following method to attract 'the higher sections of the agricultural classes':—He has adopted a lyrical, musical style of preaching, founded on precedents that have come down from Indian antiquity. He provides himself with a trained choir of boys, selects an open place in the village, and there after dark and after the people have dined he sets up a table with lights and sings a series of Tamil and Sanskrit verses, accompanying himself with a violin, and ever and anon explaining the meaning of what he sings and impressing it on the attention of his hearers. The singing abounds in choruses, which are sung by the boys and occasionally joined in by the people. The Bishop was present himself, 'one night, and was much struck by the appropriateness of this system to an Indian audience.' The most remarkable results of this style of preaching have been obtained in a village called Velidupatti, where a small congregation had been in existence for some years. Some families here had become inclined to Christianity, but lacked courage to act on their convictions. 'This difficulty was suddenly overcome one night in a wonderful manner, in the course of one of Mr. Yesidian's musical preachings. There was as usual a large gathering of people of all ages, and ranks, and of both sexes. Amid it all, one of the principal men in the village, suddenly got up and said with quivering voice, 'Sir, this is enough, please baptize me.' He was at once followed by another, then by a third, and then two youths of eighteen or twenty stood up; and all demanded immediate baptism. The pastor of the circle told them to think over the matter with prayer that night, and that as the next day was Sunday if they were still desirous and were found to have sufficient knowledge they might be publicly baptized. All that night there was much excitement in the village. At length the morning dawned, and three out of the five asked to be baptized at once. The younger two said that on account of the opposition of their relatives they preferred waiting a week and going over the next Sunday to Nagalapuram were baptized there.'

BISHOP CALDWELL writes to the S. P. C. K. respecting his intention to make Tuticorin the head-quarters of his missions in Tinnevely, instead of Edeyngudy, where he has laboured for forty years. Tuticorin is the principal emporium of the cotton trade in those parts, the terminus of the railway, and the chief port of communication with Ceylon. While in the possession of the Portuguese the fishing population became Roman Catholics. Besides these, there is a large number of Hindus, and a growing congregation of natives of our Communion under a native pastor. The Bishop proposes to plant here a college, transferring to this the higher education now given at Sawyerpuram. The estimated cost of the college is only 2500l.; of this sum the S. P. C. K. grants 750l.

PALESTINE.

THE Rev. H. J. Friedländer writes from Jerusalem that his fellow countrymen are showing increased interest in Christianity. The refugees from Russia are of a 'different stamp to the ordinary Palestine Jews.' 'Every morning we have now from 50 to 100 adult Jews present, and after morning prayers I address them daily. Every Saturday afternoon a special service in a hall outside the city gets an audience of over 100 Jews and Jewesses. These people, on arriving here, expected to be taken up by their co-religionists, but were utterly disappointed. We have now found work on a plot of ground belonging to the Church Jews' Society for ninety men; to pay them we require 10l. daily.' Aid will be forwarded by the Rev. C. M. Saunders of St. Peter's, Eaton Square.

ITALY.

The *Roman News*—a journal published at Rome in the English language contains the following paragraph in its Florence letter:—'During Lent, Monsignor Capel of Lothar fame and also, like Archbishop Purcell of Cincinnati, receiving and investing millions of money confided to his care, has like him lost all and become a bankrupt, is here preaching in Savonarola's pulpit in San Marco; a fascinating and powerful preacher.'

At Rome Count Campello held his first service—in the Italian language, mainly according to the English Prayer-book—on the Festival of the Conversion of St. Paul, in a mission-room in the Via Farini. The congregation, which numbered many Italians, joined heartily in the worship. The sermon was by the Count ex-canon, on the life of St. Paul at Rome. On subsequent Sundays, the attendance has continued encouraging: many soldiers are seen in the congregation.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Kent County Association of Change-ringers.

THIS Association intend holding a District Meeting at Rochester on Tuesday, April 3rd. Permission has been given to ring at the Cathedral, St. Margaret's, Gillingham, Frindsbury, Cliffe, and Gravesend. Members are invited to attend the Cathedral service at 3 p.m. R. B. KNATCHBULL-HUGESSEN, *Hon. Sec.*

Bradford-on-Avon, Wilts.

THE tenor bell of the parish church has just been recast and rehung, and the 3rd, 4th, and 7th bells retuned. The old chiming apparatus has also been renewed, having been out of order for many years, and other repairs effected to the bell-hangings, by Llewellyns and James of Bristol. Tenor, 31½ cwt. In a letter this week from the churchwardens to Messrs. Llewellyns they speak of the tone of the recast bell as 'magnificent.'

A New Touch of Grandsire Triples.

THE following date touch of Grandsire Triples is by James Baxter of Kendal: it starts from a given change, as will be seen by the first five changes:—

| | | |
|---------------|-------------|-------------|
| 4 2 5 6 7 1 3 | 4 7 3 6 5 2 | 3 5 4 2 6 7 |
| 2 4 6 5 1 7 3 | 5 2 4 3 6 7 | 5 4 3 2 6 7 |
| 2 6 4 1 5 3 7 | 2 4 5 3 6 7 | 2 4 5 7 3 6 |
| 6 2 1 4 3 5 7 | 3 4 2 7 5 6 | 7 4 2 6 5 3 |
| 6 1 2 3 4 7 5 | 7 4 3 6 2 5 | 2 5 7 4 3 6 |
| 5 4 3 7 2 6 | 3 2 7 4 5 6 | 6 4 2 3 5 7 |
| 7 4 5 6 3 2 | 6 4 3 5 2 7 | 4 2 6 3 5 7 |
| 5 3 7 4 2 6 | 4 3 6 5 2 7 | 3 2 4 7 6 5 |
| 6 4 5 2 3 7 | 5 3 4 7 6 2 | 2 4 3 7 6 5 |
| 4 5 6 2 3 7 | 3 4 5 7 6 2 | 7 4 2 5 3 6 |
| 2 5 4 7 6 3 | 7 4 3 2 5 6 | 5 4 7 6 2 3 |
| 5 4 2 7 6 3 | 2 4 7 6 3 5 | 4 7 5 6 2 3 |
| 7 4 5 3 2 6 | 4 7 2 6 3 5 | 2 3 4 5 6 7 |
| 3 4 7 6 5 2 | | |

CHANGE-RINGING.

At St. Mary's, Folkestone, Kent.

ON Tuesday, the 13th inst., eight members of the Kent County Association rang a half-peal of 2520 Grandsire Triples in 1 hr. 38 mins. F. Rolfe, 1; F. Finn, 2; J. Fisher, 3; E. Potter, 4; H. Croucher, 5; S. Barker (conductor), 6; F. Slingsby, 7; G. Millen, 8. Tenor, 25½ cwt., in C.

At Holy Trinity, Hulme, Manchester.

ON Thursday evening, the 15th inst., six members of the Lancashire Association rang their first peal of 720 Grandsire Minor in 28 mins. H. Diggles, 1; W. Diggles, 2; C. Woodward, 3; W. Roberts, 4; W. Hargreaves (conductor), 5; W. Savage, 6. Tenor, 15½ cwt.

At St. Lawrence's, Appleton, Berks.

ON Thursday, the 15th inst., eight members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild rang a quarter-peal of Double Norwich Court Bob Major, comprising 1344 changes. F. S. White, 1; E. Holifield, 2; B. Barrett, 3; W. Bennett, 4; J. Avery, 5; G. Holifield, 6; F. White, 7; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 8. Composed and conducted by the Rev. F. E. Robinson, Master of the Guild.

At St. Mary's, Coddendam, Suffolk.

ON Saturday, the 17th inst., six members of the Coddendam Branch of the Norwich Diocesan Association rang upon the back six bells the date touch of 1883 changes, in 1 hr. 20 mins., consisting of fifteen different peals of 120 changes each, and the 83 changes. The following are the peals: The Dream, The Fortune, The Morning Star, The Morning Exercise, Jolly Dick, Cambridge Journey and April Day, The Wedding Peal, London, Dunstan's, Siment, Old, Plain, St. Simon's, and Grandsire and Stedman's Doubles. O. Waspe, 1; H. English, 2; G. Lummis, 3; J. Offord, 4; E. Wells (conductor), 5; S. English, 6. Tenor, 16½ cwt., in F sharp.

PROGRESS IN CHANGE-RINGING.

By a Looker-on in India.

(Continued from page 288.)

AT the end of 1878 the north-west tower of St. Paul's Cathedral, London, was furnished with a grand ring of twelve bells from the foundry of Messrs. Taylor at Loughborough. As the tenor of this ring weighs 62 cwt., it is the heaviest ring of twelve in the kingdom. A peal of 5014 Stedman's Cinques was achieved on these bells by the Ancient Society of College Youths in 4 hrs. 17 mins. A lively discussion was raised regarding the quality of this ring, some persons holding that it was almost faultless, while others criticised it with severity. It struck the present writer as a fine and sonorous ring, not unworthy of its conspicuous position, but still not quite equal to one or two of the older rings of twelve.

The famous Bow bells (tenor, 53 cwt.) have been augmented to twelve by the addition of two trebles. The result of this splice has not been reported as yet. The attempt to add trebles to a fine ring of ten is too often a failure. The rings of bells at St. Albans, at Cambridge, and at Painswick, are well-known instances of this, the trebles in each case being quite unworthy of the original ten. Probably the best splicer we have had was Briant of Hertford, who at the end of the last century and at the beginning of this added trebles to many rings with excellent results; as at Soham, St. Albans (the present 3 and 4 were cast by him), Hertford, and elsewhere. Let us hope that the new trebles in Cheapside will be a success.

The most noteworthy feats during the period are the following:—In 1876 the Yorkshire Association rang a peal of 10,176 Kent Treble Bob Major in 5 hrs. 59 mins. at Bolton. Tenor, 15 cwt. In 1880 eight members of the Norwich Diocesan Association rang a peal of 10,272 Kent Treble Bob Major at Debenham, Suffolk, in 6 hrs. 35 mins. The tenor weighs 20 cwt. In

1881 a peal of 9238 Stedman's Cinques was rung in 6 hrs. 48 mins. by the St. Martin's Society of Birmingham. Weight of tenor, 36 cwt. This takes its place as the longest length yet rung in that intricate method, the Birmingham ringers having thus cut the 8580 accomplished by the College Youths at St. Michael's, Cornhill, in April 1861. In November, 1882, 10,080 changes of Kent Treble Bob Major in 5 hrs. 41 mins. at Mottram, Cheshire. In the same month the Beeston ringers, with Mr. Snowdon, rang a 'longest length' in Double Norwich Court Bob Major (7200 changes) in 4 hrs. 22 mins. at Beeston, Notts.

Death has removed several well-known ringers and composers. Among these, as of more than local fame, may be mentioned Mr. H. Hubbard, Mr. T. Day, Mr. H. Booth, and Mr. Wm. Harrison.

When I turn to my notes of what has been done in the several counties, I find the amount so great that I must adopt some concise mode of recording the same. The exercise owes a great debt to *Church Bells* for the space which it devotes to our interests; but I cannot help remarking that one class of ringers is taking up more than its share of the bell column. When I was writing some years ago I pointed out the injustice of excluding as unworthy of record everything under 5000 changes. I am still of the same opinion, and consider the first achievements of Doubles and Minors and short touches of Triples and Major by new and persevering companies well worthy of a note in *Church Bells*. But I am bound to say that the ringers of Minor take a most unfair advantage of the kindness of the venerable Editor when they send to him, week after week, reports of peals, and even of half-peals, of Minor. When the public and the exercise have once learnt that the ringers of Little Pedlington have rung their first peal of Plain Bob Minor they feel no interest in hearing of the repetition of what is, after all, such a very small feat, but which is announced with as much pomp as a peal of Treble Bob Maximus. There are hundreds of bands all over the country who ring Minor every week, and who do not think of chronicling this fact, and it is positively ludicrous to see the reports sent by some eight or ten companies week after week. But when there is reason to suppose that these petty trifles sometimes exclude matters of real interest to ringers, then one no longer feels inclined to smile. I would suggest to the ringers of Doubles and Minor that they should keep a note of the peals they ring, and at the end of the year send a concise report of the year's work. These reports arriving in the office of *Church Bells* about Lent would then be acceptable, and not stand in the way of more interesting matter. Even Date Touches and other touches of Triples and Major, except when they are the first achievements of companies, occupy rather more space than they deserve, and might with advantage be compressed into an annual report, such as that now and then furnished by some bands; e.g. by the Diss Branch of the Norwich Diocesan Association.

For the sake, then, of saving space, the following abbreviations will be used:—G. for *Grandsire*. St. for *Stedman*. K. for *Kent Treble Bob*. O. for *Oxford Treble Bob*. M. for *Major*. Max. for *Maximus*. T. for *Triples*.

One word more about reporting the weight of tenors. There seems to be an irresistible temptation to put down the weight of a tenor as rather heavier than it really is. For instance, at page 799, vol. x., the tenor at Crawley is given exactly as 13 cwt. 3 qrs. 12 lbs. On the very same page it is said to weigh 15 cwt. Again, Mr. Seage's dumb apparatus was recently applied to eight of the bells of Great St. Mary, Cambridge, the 9th of the twelve being made the tenor of the 8. This 9th is said in one place to be about 16 cwt., and in another place to be 17½ cwt. The real weight of the bell is given in Dr. Raven's book on *The Church Bells of Cambridgeshire*. It is 14 cwt. and 17 lbs.

BEDFORDSHIRE.

The foundation of a Diocesan Association or of a County Guild often gives a strong impetus to progress in change-ringing. It is, therefore, satisfactory to learn that steps have been taken to form a Guild for Bedfordshire. Meantime, changes are rung at Woburn, and when in 1881 a ring of six bells at Bromham was rehung, it was opened by a mixed band who rang Doubles. The fact that change-ringing is not extinct is an encouraging sign, and, looking at results which often follow the establishment of a guild or association, one may hope for considerable progress throughout the county in the immediate future.

There are several rings of eight in the county besides those at Bedford and Woburn; e.g. at Dunstable, Luton, Toddington, and Leighton Buzzard.

720 G. Minor was rung at Biddenham.

720 Bob Minor at Bedford; also G. Minor.

BERKSHIRE.

The Appleton Society has continued to do excellent work. In 1878 they rang two peals of G. T. In 1879 another peal in that method, and a peal of Treble Bob Minor by young hands. In 1880 another peal of T. B. Minor; 4 peals of G. T.; 1 peal of St. T.; 1 peal of G. Caters; and 2 peals of St. Caters. In 1881, 2 peals of St. Caters; 1 of St. T.; and 1 of K. M. In 1882, 1 peal of St. Minor; 2 of St. Caters; 1 of St. T.; 1 of G. T.

Change-ringing is, moreover, now practised at several other places. Peals of G. Minor have been rung at Maidenhead and at Reading; and of Doubles at Windsor and Wargrave. There are also ringers at Wokingham. Associations have been formed of ringers in East Berks and South Bucks, and of ringers in the Spinning deanery. Some part of the county is included in the Oxford Diocesan Guild formed in 1880. Towards the end of 1882 the Maidenhead ringers scored a peal of Grandsire Triples.

In 1880 the ring of six (tenor, 7 cwt) at Drayton was made eight by the addition of a treble and a new tenor just under 10 cwt., without recasting the old 4th to make a new 5th. The result is quite satisfactory, and the experiment is one of great interest, showing as it does how easily light rings of six can be augmented. Such rings are common all over England. The Whitechapel factory alone has turned out more than a hundred of them, and there seems to be no reason why, when opportunity occurs, any of these should not be made eight in the same manner.

(To be continued.)

CORRESPONDENCE.

The Blasphemy Trials and the Parliamentary Oaths.

SIR,—Will you allow me to thank Mr. Shuttleworth for his letter? It will have helped some to learn a lesson which the yearly recurrence of this week ought to have taught all Christians long ago: 'Put up thy sword into its place: for all they that take the sword shall perish with the sword.' If these men had been punished simply for a civil nuisance, and punished, as Mr. Shuttleworth says, by a few weeks' imprisonment, all would have been well. But I need not repeat what he has said, and said so excellently. I was thinking of writing to say thus much yesterday. To-day I have received, from the Church Defence Association, forms of Memorials to the Archbishop of Canterbury and the Prime Minister against the Parliamentary Oaths Bill. Here again, as I think, those who profess to be defending Religion are using a forbidden weapon. And it has not the excuse which such weapons had formerly. They used to succeed—for a time. Now they fail. No memorials are requisite to show that the Clergy think an Atheist an unfit person to be admitted to the Legislature. But the force at their disposal should be applied to the Northampton electors. I quite think that recent legislation, by ignoring religion, especially in elementary schools, has been doing enormous harm. Much of the increase in juvenile vice which Miss Ellice Hopkins and others have bravely brought into public notice, may be fairly accounted for by the withdrawal of the national sanction to religious education. Morals can no more stand without religion than a man can stand without a backbone. But the weapons of our warfare are not carnal. Our business is to persuade men to be Christians, and leave them to act accordingly; not to lay hold of men who are not Christians, and force them to act as if they were. The Church Defence Institution would, in my opinion, be much better employed in keeping unfit men out of pulpits rather than out of parliament. A paper of mine on the abolition of purchase in the Church was printed in *Church Bells* many weeks ago. Not one clergyman and only one layman has made any response. It has fallen quite flat. And Bradlaugh's are made by Church abuses.

JOSEPH FOXLEY.

SIR,—I very deeply regret, as a member of the Apostolic Church of England, that a clergyman of that Church should have written, as the Rev. H. C. Shuttleworth has done in your columns, upon the above subject. I believe that the coquetting with infidelity in its most repulsive form which some two or three of the London clergy have resorted to (in the vain hope of winning infidels over to the faith), cannot be too strongly condemned. I should like to ask the Rev. Mr. Shuttleworth the following plain questions on the above subject:—

1. Would it be loyalty, or disloyalty, to the King of kings to have *no law* on the statute-book of a professedly Christian nation, forbidding men to blaspheme His Name publicly and openly?

2. What is the use of having such a law on the statute-book if it is never to be put in motion, even in the most revolting cases of blasphemy?

3. Why should the blaspheming atheist, who poisons the *minds and souls* of young and old, be allowed to go scot-free, while the man who poisons the *body* of a neighbour is treated as a murderer and dealt with accordingly?

4. Has Mr. Shuttleworth forgotten that the very fact of blasphemy being regarded by law as a *crime*, shows that, in the eye of the law, it is regarded as being injurious to *man*, as well as insulting to *God*?

5. 'Mr. Foote was punished for publishing what no one was obliged to look at or read against his will.' So says your correspondent. Has he forgotten that these shameful pictures were so exposed that *young and unsuspecting* people would only too readily be attracted by them?

6. 'Mr. Foote and his friends are martyrs.' In the eye of the vulgar mob they may be; but certainly not in the eye of the thinking portion of the community. And I may add, no wonder that a certain class should look upon blasphemers as martyrs, when they are encouraged to do so by *ministers of God*!

7. Reference is made to the 'Inquisition.' Did two wrongs ever make a right?

In conclusion, I would respectfully suggest that it is high time to put the strong arm of the law in motion against atheism and infidelity, *refined and vulgar*. Too long have the minds of many of our people been poisoned by them. Let 'liberty' no longer be permitted to degenerate into *license*.

Liverpool, Monday before Easter, 1883.

R. McKENNY.

SIR,—It was with great regret that I read Mr. Shuttleworth's letter in last week's *Church Bells*, and I cannot help thinking that he has been led away by a false feeling of charity, and has not given this subject the full and careful consideration it demands. Blasphemy is an offence against God, and for this very reason it is also an offence against man and deserving of punishment. Mr. Shuttleworth says, 'Unquestionably the statute makes blasphemy to consist in the thing said, not in the manner of saying it, and regards it as an offence against God, not against the feelings of man.' This definition I deny. Whatever may be the letter of the various blasphemy statutes, the spirit and the accepted interpretation of them is that blasphemy consists in the thing said and in the manner of saying it, and regards it as an offence against God and against the feelings of man. Surely no one would for a moment contend that the draftsmen of the statutes intended that the punishment there provided should be a satisfaction to God for the offence? The suggestion is absurd. The blasphemer must answer for his offence hereafter before his God; here he is punished to prevent either himself or others from again offending. Starkie *On Libel* clearly shows this to be the reason of punishment for blasphemy. He says, 'The law visits not the honest errors, but the malice of mankind. A wilful intention to pervert, insult, and mislead others by means of licentious and contumelious abuse applied to sacred subjects, or by wilful misrepresentations or artful sophistry

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Essex Association of Change-ringers.

A SPECIAL meeting of the Association was held at Writtle on Easter Monday, when between twenty and thirty members assembled for the transaction of business, and to bid farewell to the founder of the Association, their Hon. Secretary, the Rev. J. B. Seaman, who in a few weeks leaves England for Manitoba. A number of friends were present. Ringing commenced at 10.30, and was carried on till one o'clock, when refreshments were provided at the 'Cock and Bell.' After the business meeting, and tea at the Vicarage, which was kindly provided by the Rev. J. B. Seaman, it was resumed and carried on till about seven o'clock. In the course of the day touches of Grandsire Triples, Bob Major, and Oxford Treble Bob were rung, and courses of Stedman's Triples, and Kent Treble Bob. Several courses and touches of Grandsire Triples, Bob Major and Bob Minor, &c., were rung double-handed on the handbells.

At 2 p.m. the business meeting was held in the Schoolroom, the chair being taken by the Rev. J. B. Seaman. The minutes of the last meeting having been read and signed, the following members were elected—Hon.: Mr. G. Hilliard, Writtle. Ringing: Master E. H. de Lisle, Galleywood, Mr. E. Bedford, Chelmsford, and Mr. J. H. Wilkins, Walthamstow. Mr. Seaman then proposed that the Hon. Assistant Secretary, the Rev. H. A. Cockey, be requested to undertake the duties of Secretary till Whit Monday. This proposition was seconded by Mr. Holmes, and carried unanimously. The Report for 1881-1882 having been read by Mr. Seaman, who said that its late appearance was due partly to the great quantity of private business which had fallen to his lot during the past year, and partly to the dilatoriness of some of the members, whom he could not get to send in their subscriptions till about a week ago, the following resolutions were passed:—That the Report be accepted. Moved by Mr. Perkins—That in future the Hon. Secretary's expenses at meetings of the Association be charged under the head of expenses at such a meeting. Moved by Mr. Seaman—That the election of Mr. F. E. Dawe in the belfry at Chelmsford on the occasion of the peal of Dec. 26th, and a similar election at Walthamstow on Dec. 30th, be confirmed. Moved by Mr. Cockey. Certain alterations were then made in the rules, and two new rules added, notification of which will be sent to each belfry at the earliest opportunity.

At the conclusion of the business, Mr. Seaman having resigned his Secretaryship, Mr. Cockey asked the members present to elect Mr. Seaman a life member of the Association, and this request having been unanimously acceded to, he proceeded in a short but expressive speech to bid farewell to their founder and late Secretary, the Rev. J. B. Seaman. After alluding in warm terms to the greatness of the work which Mr. Seaman had done, and the untiring way in which he had worked for the good of the Association, and having assured him of the high esteem in which he always had been, and always would be, held by every member of the Society, he asked him to accept from the ringing members of the Association, as a slight testimonial of their regard, a set of twelve handbells.

The bells were then brought forward, and rounds and 'Queens' rung upon the twelve. Mr. Seaman thanked the subscribers for their appropriate and most acceptable present, and bade them all farewell, assuring them that their faces would often rise before his mind's eye as he handled those bells in a distant land. Messrs. Huckson, Hammond, and Rudkin then rang two tunes on the bells, and Messrs. Pye, Keeble, Perkins, and Hammond a touch of Grandsire Triples. All who heard them agreed that they were one of the most melodious sets they had ever heard, and their fittings came in for a special word of praise. The tenor will bear the inscription: 'Presented to the Rev. J. B. Seaman by the Ringing Members of the Essex Association. 1883.'

The next meeting will be the Annual Meeting, which will be held on Whit Monday, May 14th. All communications are in future to be addressed to the Rev. H. A. Cockey, Rettendon Hall, Battles Bridge, S.O., Essex.

H. A. COCKEY, *Hon. Sec.*

Caldicot, Monmouthshire.

The bells of this old church were recast and the number augmented from four to six in the autumn of last year. The residents in the neighbourhood are so pleased with the result that they have been raising the funds for further augmenting the number to eight. These have been cast by Llewellyns and James of Bristol, who were the contractors for the previous work, and the opening peals were rung on Easter Monday to the satisfaction of all concerned.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At St. James's, Bermondsey, Surrey.

On Monday, the 19th inst., ten members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang a peal of 5040 Oxford Treble Bob Royal in 3 hrs. 29 mins. W. Rowbotham, 1; R. French, 2; G. Breed, 3; M. A. Wood, 4; C. F. Winny, 5; E. Gibbs, 6; E. Carter, 7; H. J. Tucker, 8; E. Horrex, 9; J. Hayes, 10. Composed by H. W. Haley and conducted by J. M. Hayes. It is more than forty years since a peal in this method was rung in London.

At St. Saviour's, Southwark, Surrey.

On Tuesday, the 20th inst., twelve members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang a peal of 5134 Stedman's Cinques in 4 hrs. 3 mins. M. A. Wood, 1; W. Cecil, 2; G. A. Muskett, 3; C. F. Winny, 4; G. Mash, 5; J. R. Haworth, 6; W. Greenleaf, 7; E. Gibbs, 8; G. Dorrington, 9; W. B. Jones, 10; F. E. Dawe (composer and conductor), 11; G. Breed, 12. Tenor, 52 cwt., in B flat. This peal was rung to commemorate the birthday of Mr. Dawe, who attained the age of twenty-one years on Friday, the 16th inst. Several prominent members of the science bore testimony to the regular striking on the melodious and heavy ring of twelve at the above church.

Mr. G. Breed hails from the city of York, and he returned home much pleased at having succeeded in the performance he came so far to take part in.

At St. Matthew's, Bethnal Green, London.

On Saturday, the 24th inst., eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang a peal of 5088 Kent Treble Bob in 3 hrs. 8 mins. M. A. Wood, 1; W. Cecil, 2; H. Page, 3; C. F. Winny, 4; W. Greenleaf, 5; T. Haigh, 6; R. French, 7; J. M. Hayes, 8. Composed by H. W. Haley and conducted by J. M. Hayes.

At All Saints', Boyne Hill, Maidenhead, Berks.

On Easter Eve a peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples was rung in 3 hrs. 11 mins. J. Eldridge,* 1; G. Wilkins, junr., 2; J. W. Wilkins, 3; H. Rogers, 4; Edward Rogers,* 5; W. A. Garraway (conductor), 6; Edwin Rogers, 7; E. Keeley, 8. Tenor, 17 cwt., 1 qr., 5 lbs. [* First peal of Triples.]

At All Saints', Hertford.

On Easter Sunday morning eight members of the Hertford College Youths rang a date touch (1883 changes) of Grandsire Triples in 1 hr. 10 mins., containing the Queens, Tittums, Whittingtons, and all the 6-7's. J. Cull, 1; W. L. Randall, 2; J. Staples, 3; J. G. Crawley, 4; H. Baker (conductor), 5; J. Godfrey, 6; T. Gathard, 7; F. George, 8. Tenor, 22 cwt., in E flat. The touch was composed by Mr. J. Carter of Birmingham.

On Easter Monday, Taylor's Six-part peal of Grandsire Triples was attempted at St. Andrew's, but owing to a shift the bells were brought round when more than half the peal had been rung. The ringers afterwards went to All Saints', where several touches of Grandsire and Stedman's Triples and Plain Bob Major were rung. A. Baker, H. Baker, F. G. Crawley, J. G. Crawley, Gathard, George, Godfrey, Randall, and Staples, of Hertford; Alps, Cleverley, and Pallett, of Waltham Abbey; Lewis and Hills, of St. Albans, were present.

At St. Martin's, Aldington, Kent.

On Easter Sunday, for afternoon service, a peal of 720 Plain Bob Minor (22 singles and 2 bobs) was rung in 27 mins. W. Post, jun., 1; T. Hodgkin, 2; P. Hodgkin, 3; E. Hyder, 4; W. Hyder (conductor), 5; W. Post, sen., 6.

Also after service another peal of 720 in the same method (14 singles and 4 bobs) in 27 mins. W. Post, jun., 1; T. Hodgkin, 2; D. Hodgkin, 3; E. Hyder, 4; W. Hyder (conductor), 5; P. Hodgkin, 6. All members of the Kent County Association except D. Hodgkin. Tenor, 14 cwt., in G. During the year 1882 this Society rang twenty-seven 720's, nineteen 360's, and four 240's, making a total of 27,240 changes in two different methods.

At St. John's, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

On Easter Sunday a peal of 720 Plain Bob Minor was rung in 28 mins. C. L. Routledge, 1; G. Campbell, 2; W. G. Routledge (conductor), 3; T. J. Des Forges, 4; F. Lees, 5; G. Herdman, 6.

On Tuesday, after the Easter Vestry Meeting at the above church, a peal of 720 New London Pleasure was rung in 27 mins. G. Herdman, 1; C. L. Routledge, 2; F. Lees, 3; W. G. Routledge (conductor), 4; W. Story, 5; R. S. Story, 6. Tenor, 14½ cwt. This is the first in the method on the bells, and the first by all the above company except F. Lees.

At St. Peter's, Hindley, Lancashire.

On Easter Sunday Holt's Ten-part peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples was rung in 2 hrs. 53 mins. J. Prescott, 1; E. Prescott (conductor), 2; E. Brown, 3; W. Chisnall, 4; E. Kay, 5; T. Tickle, 6; J. W. Hall, 7; T. Eccleston, 8. Tenor, 14 cwt., 1 qr.

At St. George's, Hyde, Cheshire.

On Easter Monday the local Society rang a peal of 5040 Bob Major in 3 hrs. 4 mins. H. Fildes, 1; R. Pritchard, 2; J. S. Wilde, 3; R. Woolley, 4; J. Fildes, 5; S. Bradley, 6; T. Wilde, 7; D. Leigh, 8. Composed by the late Benjamin Annable and conducted by Thomas Wilde. Tenor, 16 cwt., in F.

At St. Mary's, Barnsley, Yorkshire.

On Easter Monday eight members of the Barnsley Society, with a friend from Leeds, rang a peal of 5440 Kent Treble Bob Major in 3 hrs. 21 mins. W. Bedford, 1; C. Hollin, 2; J. Fox, 3; W. Richardson, 4; W. Ellis, 5; M. Tomlinson, 6; G. Tyas (conductor), 7; R. Sparks, 8. Tenor, 15 cwt.

At Alfreton and Pentrich, Derbyshire.

On Easter Monday the Ashover ringers had their outing, when they visited Pentrich and rang several peals of Grandsire Doubles (tenor, about 8 cwt.); after which they proceeded to Alfreton and rang six six-scores of Grandsire Doubles (tenor, about 19 cwt.), when, unfortunately, the treble rope broke, and, as there are only five bells, put a stop to any further change-ringing.

At St. Paul's, Burton-on-Trent, Staffordshire.

On Easter Monday eight members of the Midland Counties' Association (late Derby and District Association of Change-ringers) rang a peal of 5024 Kent Treble Bob Major in 3 hrs. 35 mins. J. Jaggar, 1; J. Griffin, 2; H. Wakley, 3; E. I. Stone, 4; G. Appleby, 5; F. W. Appleby, 6; T. Holmes, 7; W. Wakley (conductor), 8. Tenor, 26 cwt. This peal, which has never been previously performed, has the sixth six course-ends each way in 5-6, and was composed by N. J. Pistow.

At St. Andrew's, Litchurch, Derby.

On Easter Tuesday eight members of the Midland Counties Association rang a peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples in 3 hrs. 13 mins. R. Bosworth, 1; J. Ward, 2; J. Hardy, 3; J. W. Taylor, jun., 4; A. Archer, 5; H. C. Woodward, 6; J. Howe (conductor), 7; L. L. Lomas, 8. Tenor, 20½ cwt., in E flat.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Bedfordshire Association of Change-ringers.

THE first Annual Meeting of this body was held at the 'Swan,' Bedford, on Easter Monday. The proceedings began at two o'clock with a substantial repast, of which thirty-two practising and honorary members from Cambridge, Woburn, Biddenham, Bedford, &c., partook. The Rev. R. E. R. Watts presided, and, with Mr. Elger (treasurer) in the vice-chair, was supported by the Vicar of Bromham, Mr. Thomas Bull, Mr. Edwin Ransom, Mr. Baker (secretary to the Cambridge Society, and son of the Rector of Eversholt), Mr. Charles Herbert, the indefatigable Secretary, and later on by Mr. Bagnall of Milton Ernest Hall. After grace the Secretary read many letters of regret from absent supporters and friends, especially from the Bishop of the diocese, Mr. C. L. Higgins, the Archdeacon of Bedford, the Rector of Toddington (enclosing his subscription), Mr. Cary-Elwes, Mr. Blaydes, Mr. Hurst of Cavendish Grammar School, Suffolk, and the Rev. Canon K. H. Smith, Ely, who held out hopes of a change-ringing society being soon formed for the whole diocese.

Mr. Herbert then read the Report from the Committee, and Mr. Elger his financial report, which, on the motion of Mr. Bull and Mr. Chasty, were ordered to be printed and circulated.

Mr. Bull proposed that steps be taken to provide Seage's apparatus for the St. Paul's bells, by which means practice may be carried on by ringers without sounding the bells. He offered, from a fund at his disposal, 2l. towards the cost, which is nearly 20l., and on the motion of Mr. Hill and Mr. Ransom a like contribution was voted out of the Association's funds. Mr. Elger supported the proposal, which was agreed to, under the feeling that though bell-ringing was incidental to St. Paul's Square, the inhabitants who desire to have less of the sound should not be put to the whole cost of this apparatus, which was invented in the interest of scholars of the art. The Chairman mentioned the subject of a special 'bell' library, to which Mr. Ransom had given a few books by way of beginning. The interesting reunion continued till five, when a special service was held in St. Paul's Church.

Mr. W. West, Biddenham; Mr. Stafferton, Bromham; Mr. H. F. Turney, Woburn; Mr. Craddock, Biggleswade; and Mr. C. Clark, Bedford, were elected performing members, and the following as honorary ones:—The Rev. C. E. Haslam, J.P., Toddington; Mr. Thody, Mr. A. H. Allen, and Mr. T. French, Bedford; Mr. H. G. Fisher, Woburn.

The service was distinctively of Easter, the Vicar preaching from Col. iii. 1, starting with the appropriate gleam of sunlight after the heavy snow of the afternoon, and proceeding to 'improve the occasion' on behalf of bell-ringing and the study and practice of 'changes.'

Sowton, Devon.

THE fittings of the ring of eight bells in the church tower of this village having become much worn, they have been rehung with entirely new fittings, ropes, &c. A chiming apparatus, invented by the Rev. H. T. Ellacombe, rector of Clyst St. George, has been added. The work has been executed by Mr. Harry Stokes, of Woodbury, at the sole expense of J. Garratt, Esq., of Bishop's Court. Mr. Stokes has also on hand the re-hanging of the church-bells at Bishopslympton and at Stoke Rivers, in Devon.

The inscriptions on this ring of eight, cast by Messrs. Mears in 1845, are well worthy of imitation.

1. Ave sancta Trinitas.
2. Ave Rogans sine Fine.
3. Ave Simplex et Trine.
4. Ave Pax et Charitas.
5. Ave Fili Lux Salvator.
6. Ave Pater Rex Creator.
7. Sancta Trinitas Unus Deus Miserere nobis.

S. Deo et Ecclesie in honorem S. Michaelis Archangeli hanc adem sanctam funditis devoto edificatum et amplificatum via eum novis campanis huiusmodi obtulit Ioannes Garratt huiusmodi dominus A S 1845 Rector Georgio Barnes S. T. P. Archidiacono Barum Sacrorum Custodibus Ioanne Garratt et Ricardo Pydsley Architecto Ioanne Hayward.

Lancashire Association of Change-ringers.

A QUARTERLY Meeting of the above Association was held on Easter Monday, March 26, 1883, at Christ Church, Southport. Over sixty members attended from Manchester, Bolton, Ormskirk, Eccles, Walton-le-Dale, Westhaughton, &c. Ringing was commenced at 10 a.m., and continued at intervals during the day, by various mixed bands, who rang touches of Grandsire Triples principally; and there were rung also two peals of Plain Bob Minor. At 5 p.m. a meeting was held in the schoolroom, under the presidency of the Rev. Canon Clarke, vicar of Christ Church. He approved most heartily of the objects of the Association, as he thought it most desirable that all who were officially connected with a church should be known as sober, respectable, and God-fearing men. He trusted that in their several districts they would be able to work harmoniously with their clergy and churchwardens, as without unity very little good could be effected.

Five performing members were then elected, and an honorary member (Rev. Canon Clarke). A vote of thanks was proposed, seconded, and carried unanimously, to the Rev. Canon Clarke and Rev. H. R. Williams, M.A., for their kindness in allowing the Association the use of the bells. A cordial vote of thanks was also passed to the local ringers for the very kind manner in which they had received the Association, and for the very efficient arrangements made. Afterwards the Secretary showed to the meeting a copy of the certificate which it is intended to issue to the members of the Association. This certificate is the result of the deliberation of the committee of the Association and a sub-committee specially appointed at the last Annual Meeting. The certificate appeared to meet with general approval of the members present.

The Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association.

THIS Association held a Quarterly District Festival on Thursday, the 29th ult., at Colerne, Wilts, and was represented by ringers from Bristol. Two new trebles have been recently added to the ring of six, and the entire fabric, in-

cluding the tower and its accessories, have undergone a thorough restoration, so that it was a pleasure to ring in such a well-ordered belfry. Divine service was held on the arrival of the members, and the vicar, the Rev. J. J. S. Bird, gave a practical address.

At two o'clock the members of the Association, joined by the Colerne ringers, churchwardens, and several neighbouring clergy, sat down to an excellent dinner provided for them by the generosity of the Squire and Vicar, the latter gentleman presiding, and having on either side the Revs. J. A. Johnson (Biddeston); A. Law (Dauntsey); Pitt Eykyn (France Lynch); and E. Evans (Colerne); Dr. Sudlow (Box); Mr. J. Drinkwater (Master of the Association); Messrs. Pinchin and Weeks (churchwardens), &c. The loyal toasts were duly honoured, after which 'The Bishops and Clergy' were proposed by Mr. Churchwarden Pinchin and responded to by the Rev. J. A. Johnson. The Vicar gave 'Prosperity to the Change-ringers' Association,' coupled with the name of the 'Master,' who suitably replied. Mr. Staddon proposed the health of the Hon. Secretary, the Rev. Pitt Eykyn, who, briefly responding, remarked that the Association would long remember the hospitable way in which they had been entertained at Colerne. The health of the Colerne ringers was proposed by Dr. Sudlow and responded to by Messrs. Weeks and Dowding. The health of the Squire and Vicar were given with musical honours, and after the election of some honorary and performing members the ringers again ascended the belfry.

During the day some very creditable ringing took place, consisting of Grandsire Doubles, Grandsire Minor, Grandsire Triples, and Grandsire Major.

J. DRINKWATER, Master of the Association.

Worcester Diocesan and adjoining District Change-ringing Association.

ON Easter Monday a Quarterly Meeting was held by the kind permission of the churchwardens, in the absence of the vicar, in the school-room adjoining the church at Kidderminster, when a good number of ringers attended from various parts of the diocese. Ringing commenced about mid-day on the fine ring of eight bells at the old church, and was kept up till seven o'clock in the evening. The Association, which is newly formed, is making good progress. The financial position of the Association is over 7l., which is very good since its formation. Votes of thanks being passed to the presiding officers, and to the churchwardens for the use of the tower and school, the meeting terminated. After which the ringers adjourned to the 'Sailor's Return' Inn, where some tunes and touches of Grandsire Trebles, Treble Bob, and Cinques, were gone through on the hand-bells, and a very pleasant day was spent by all present.

J. SMITH.

[We have had some difficulty in deciphering the MS.]

Kent County Association of Change-ringers.

THIS Society held a District Meeting at Rochester on Tuesday, the 3rd. inst. Eighty-two ringers were present, and the towers of the Cathedral, St. Margaret's, Gillingham, Frindsbury, and Cliffe, were visited. Most of the members attended the 3 p.m. service in the Cathedral, where an excellent address was given by Canon Jelf.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At Holy Trinity, Hulme, Lancashire.

ON Easter Sunday evening was rung for service a peal of Plain Bob Minor in 26 mins. W. Diggles, 1; C. Woodward, 2; W. J. Chatterton, 3; W. Savage, 4; W. Hargreaves (conductor), 5; W. Roberts, 6. Tenor, 15½ cwt.

At St. Peter's, Tunbridge Wells, Kent.

ON Easter Monday the ringers paid a visit to Withyham, Sussex, and rang some six-scores of Grandsire Doubles. The bells went far from well, and as far as could be ascertained, it was the first half-pull ever done on the bells. J. Coulthorpe, 1; R. Sharvill, 2; H. Barefield,* 3; C. Latter, 4; C. Turner, 5; J. Muggridge, 6. Also G. Kimber rang 5th. Tenor, 18 cwt. [* Late of Wargrave, and Member of Oxford Diocesan Society and of the Ancient Society of College Youths.]

At Christ Church, Southport, Lancashire.

ON Easter Monday was rung on the back six a peal of Plain Bob Minor (18 bobs and 21 singles) in 26 mins. H. Diggles, 1; W. Diggles, 2; W. J. Chatterton, 3; A. E. Holme, 4; W. Savage, 5; W. Hargreaves (conductor), 6.

Also a peal of Plain Bob Minor (26 bobs and 2 singles) in 27 mins. W. Diggle, 1; P. Gregson, 2; W. Hargreaves, 3; J. Robinson (conductor), 4; E. Balshaw, 5; W. Savage, 6. Tenor, 10 cwt.

At St. Chad's, Saddleworth, Yorkshire.

ON Easter Monday the local ringers rang a peal of 5040, comprising 360 changes of each of the following Treble peals, viz., Westminster, College, Pleasure, London Scholars, New York, British Queen, Garnet's Victory, Holmfirth Surprise, Duke of York, Yorkshire Delight, Kent Treble Bob, Merchant's Return, New London Pleasure, Oxford, and Violet, the whole being brought round in 3 hrs. J. J. Brierley, 1; J. Holden (conductor), 2; F. Brierley, 3; J. Wrigley, 4; E. Buckley, 5; E. Wood, 6. Tenor, 12 cwt. All members of the Yorkshire Association, and Mr. Holden is President of the United Counties Association of Change-ringers.

At St. George's, Hyde, Cheshire.

ON Saturday, the 31st ult., Shipway's peal of 6160 Bob Major was rung in 3 hrs. 35 mins. J. S. Wilde (conductor), 1; R. Pritchard, 2; J. Shaw, 3; W. Slater, 4; J. A. Fildes, 5; S. Bradley, 6; T. Wilde, 7; D. Leigh, 8. Tenor, 16 cwt., in F.

WE beg to remind our readers that the Editors of all periodicals have the privilege of selecting, abridging, or rejecting, whatever contribution comes to their hand, without any explanation. MSS. are not returned.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Admission of a Ringer.

On Sunday last, according to notice, the Vicar of Beetham, Milnthorpe (Rev. G. W. Cole), immediately after evensong left his stall and proceeded with one of the choirmen to the tower during the singing of Hymn 242, 'We love the place, O God,' his object being to admit a probationer into the office of Ringer, vacated by another of the choir who is shortly leaving the parish. After inquiring of the conductor whether the young man was a competent, fit, and proper person for the office, and asking the candidate whether, being willing to undertake the post, he would obey the rules and make his daily conduct worthy of his sacred office, the Vicar laying his hand upon the rope admitted him in a few well-chosen words. The bells were then rung, after which, all kneeling, two Collects were said, and during the singing of an Easter Hymn the two returned to the choir. In preaching from the text taken from the 1st Lesson, which spoke of the investiture of Eleazar with Aaron's sacred robes, the Vicar quoted those beautiful lines 'The Ringer's Priesthood,' which appeared in our columns some time since, and referred to the great change for the better which was coming over everything connected with the bells and those who rang them. The war of restoration coming in at the porch had proceeded up the chancel, had lifted the altar to a place of higher dignity, wrecking on its way the three-decker; but often it had not been high enough to reach the belfry in the tower. Being cared for by nobody, too often ringers cared for nobody in return. Ringers' Associations were now common; he had been the president of two companies. By the sound of yonder tenor he had declared at his recent induction that the bishop had placed him as their vicar there. Might they never ring to all others, and then themselves go away from service! The effect of bells upon Napoleon was told. Though it was new, he believed no one in that full church would hesitate to allow, that, in the simple service which had been held good had been done by impressing the new ringer with the sanctity of his office, and gaining for him the prayers of that large congregation. Hymn 303, 'When morning gilds the skies,' was then sung, and the Blessing delivered from the altar.

St. Margaret's (Westminster) Society of Ringers.

On Tuesday, the 3rd inst., the members of the above Society rang a half-muffled peal, as a mark of respect to the late Ven. Archdeacon Jennings.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At St. Margaret's, Barking, Essex.

On Easter Monday, eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang a peal of 5040 Stedman's Triples (Brook's Variation) in 3 hrs. 6 mins. R. Sewell, 1; E. Gibbs, 2; C. F. Winny, 3; E. Carter, 4; R. French, 5; J. M. Hayes (conductor), 6; E. Horrex, 7; E. A. Davies, 8.

At St. John's, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

On Monday, the 2nd inst., a peal of 720 Duke of York was rung in 27½ mins. W. Eggleston, 1; C. L. Routledge, 2; F. Lees, 3; W. G. Routledge (conductor), 4; W. Story, 5; R. S. Story, 6. Tenor, 11½ cwt. This is the first in the method by Nos. 1, 2, and 5, and the first on these bells by members of the above Association.

At St. Mary's, Helmingham, Suffolk.

On Tuesday, the 3rd inst., eight members of the Norwich Diocesan Association rang a peal of 6048 Kent Treble Bob in 3 hrs. 55 mins. W. Dye, 1; G. Perry, 2; J. Knights, 3; G. Thurlow, 4; W. Whiting, 5; A. Whiting, 6; G. Sharnan, 7; P. Meadows, 8. Tenor, 19½ cwt. The peal was composed by Mr. H. Johnson (Banister's 2nd edition) and conducted by W. Dye.

At St. Alban's Cathedral, Herts.

On Wednesday, the 4th inst., eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang Holt's Ten-part peal of 5040 Grandshire Triples in 3 hrs. 15 mins. H. Lewis, 1; N. N. Hills, 2; J. G. Crawley, 3; E. P. Debenham, 4; H. Baker, 5; M. A. Wood (conductor), 6; W. A. Alps, 7; H. Younger, 8. Tenor, 28 cwt., in D. [*First peal.] The above is the first peal of Grandshire Triples on the bells, the only other peal known to have been rung being one of 5040 Bob Major in 1765.

At All Saints', Newcastle-on-Tyne.

On Thursday, the 5th inst., eight members of the Newcastle branch of the Durham and Newcastle Association attempted the six-part peal of Grandshire Triples composed by T. Day of Birmingham, but a shift-course occurred after ringing 2 hrs. 10 mins., about 3360 changes having been rung. J. Waddell, 1; W. G. Routledge, 2; F. Lees, 3; C. L. Routledge, 4; J. Simm, 5; S. Power (conductor), 6; R. S. Story, 7; J. Hara, 8. Tenor, 19 cwt.

At St. Peter's, Addingham, Yorkshire.

On Saturday, the 7th inst., a mixed band of ringers from Addingham, Burnsall, and Skipton, rang a date touch of 1883 changes in 1 hr. 5 mins., as follows:—443 of Oxford Treble Bob, 720 of Violet, and 720 of New London Pleasure. E. Town, 1; W. Phillips, 2; E. Inman (conductor), 3; W. D. Hillary, 4; W. Billows, 5; J. P. Birch, 6. Tenor, 11½ cwt.

At St. Andrew's, Netherton, Worcestershire.

On Saturday, the 7th inst., a peal of 720 Plain Bob was rung in 30 mins. F. Hotchkiss, 1; W. Micklewright, sen., 2; W. Micklewright, jun. (conductor), 3; J. Townsend, 4; J. Prestidge, 5; J. Smith, 6. Tenor, 12½ cwt. The above are all members of the Worcester Diocesan and adjoining District Change-ringing Association.

At St. Paul's, Burton-on-Trent, Staffordshire.

On Saturday, the 7th inst., eight members of the Midland Counties Association rang a peal of 5088 Kent Treble Bob Major in 3 hrs. 42 mins.

J. Griffin (conductor), 1; J. Jaggard, 2; H. Wakley, 3; E. I. Stone, 4; A. Wakley, 5; G. Ableby, 6; T. Holmes, 7; W. Wakley, 8. Tenor, 26 cwt. The peal is the composition of Henry Dains, and has the 5th and 6th the extent in 5-6 each, at five course-ends home, and rung for the first time.

RECEIVED ALSO.—J. S. Northcote; Heywood; Essex Association; Eckington; Alburgh.

PROGRESS IN CHANGE-RINGING.

By a Looker-on in India.

(Continued from page 308.)

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

This is a county in which progress has been made, for whereas formerly it was represented by one company only (that at Long Crendon), we now find that Doubles and Minor are rung at Farnham Royal and at Slough, and Doubles at Langley. The Long Crendon ringers, however, still keep the lead, having rung complete peals of G. T. in 1878, 1879, and 1882.

The fine ring of ten at High Wycombe is reported to be going badly. This is the ordinary penalty paid for neglect of change-ringing.

The ring of six at Hughenden was augmented to eight by the addition of trebles by Messrs. Warner of Cripplegate. This was effected in 1881.

CAMBRIDGESHIRE.

The most important event during the last five years is the formation of the University Society, which has already been mentioned in the introductory remarks. Mr. Seage's apparatus has been applied to eight of the twelve bells of Great St. Mary, Cambridge, and thus the 'men' have a handy ring on which they can practise without disturbing the neighbours. They have already rung six score of Bob Doubles in the steeple, and a peal of Bob Minor on the hand-bells; also 720 Bob Minor in the tower, and Treble Bob on the hand-bells.

It is a matter of regret that the Town Company, once so proficient, has for so many years ceased ringing peals. When some visitors went to Cambridge in 1882 a mixed band rang a short touch of St. Caters, said to be the first for nearly fifteen years. In the old days, before poor old Wilby and Maurice Rockett joined the majority, it was no uncommon thing to ring half a peal at an ordinary practice on a Monday evening.

The Oxford University Society is fortunate, for the City Company there can always make up a band to ring 5000. The new University Society at Cambridge will feel the want of a good town company when three or four members have become steady at Triples and Major, and want to ring a peal.

On the other hand it is gratifying to find that change-ringing is again reported from Soham, so famous for its ringers during the first half of this century. The Soham men, with help from Ely, rang a peal of Bob Minor in 1881.

The ring of eight at St. Mary, Ely (tenor, 18 cwt.), cast by Arnold of St. Neot's in 1781, and counted a very good ring, was rehung in 1882 by Messrs Day and Co. of Ely.

CHESHIRE.

Cheshire continues to report a fair amount of ringing.

CHESTER CATHEDRAL.—1878, 2 long touches of G. T.

" " " 1879, 1 peal of G. Minor; 2 half-peals and 1 peal of G. T.

" " " 1880, 1 half-peal and 2 long touches of G. T.; 1 half-peal of K. M.; and 960 changes of K. M.

" " " 1881, 2 half and 3 quarter-peals of G. T.; 1 peal of K. Minor; 1760 changes of K. M.

" " " 1882, 1 half-peal and 1 Date Touch of G. T.; also 1 peal of the same.

CONGLETON.—A mixed band, 1 peal of G. T. in 1878.

HYDE RINGERS.—1878, 3 peals of G. T.; 1 peal of G. M.

" " " 1879, 3 peals of G. T.; and 2 peals of G. M.

" " " 1880, 1 peal of G. T.; and 1 Date Touch of G. M.

" " " 1882, 1 peal of G. T.; and 1 Date Touch of Bob Major; 3 peals of Bob Major; and 1 of K. M.

MACCLESFIELD.—1878, 1 peal of G. T.; 1 Date Touch of G. T.; and 1 peal of St. T.

" " " 1880, 1 peal of G. T.

MOTTRAM.—1878, 2 peals of K. M.

" " " 1879, 1 Date Touch of K. M.; and 8896 K. M. by a mixed company.

" " " 1880, 1 peal of K. M.

" " " 1881, 2 peals of K. M.

" " " 1882, 2 peals and 1 Date Touch of K. M.; and 10,080 K. M. in 5 hrs. 41 mins. by a mixed band.

STALEYBRIDGE.—1878, 1 peal of G. T.; and 1 peal of K. M.

" " " 1879, 1 peal of G. M.

" " " 1881, 1 peal of K. M.

" " " 1882, 1 peal of K. M.

STOCKPORT.—1878, 2 Date Touches of G. T.; 504 changes of St. T.

" " " 1879, 2 Date Touches of G. T.

" " " 1880, 1 Date Touch of G. T.

" " " 1881, 2 Date Touches of G. T.

" " " 1882, 1 peal of G. T. at Cheadle.

NORTHERN SCHOLARS.—1879, 4 peals of G. T.; 2 of K. M.; and 1 peal of G. M.

SANDBACH.—1879, 1 Date Touch and 1 half-peal of G. T.

DARESBURY.—1881, 5040 changes in various minor methods.

Minor was also rung at St. Mary, Chester, and St. Michael, Chester, at Aldford, at Witten.

In 1880 a new ring of eight by Taylor of Loughborough was opened at Bollington; tenor, 17 cwt.

In 1881 a new ring of eight by the same founders was opened at Bromborough; tenor, 24 cwt.

(To be continued.)

confine ourselves to great and broad principles. Among the benignities we have enjoyed, *sub pietissima ac clementissima nostra Regina*, for whom we have just prayed, there is none more remarkable than the revival of Convocation. At the time it was viewed with jealous amusement; there was a jealousy of the possible result of the concentration of the Church's power, with considerable amusement at the thought that that power could come to anything; but what the promoters of the movement desired is coming to pass, and we have seen a great and sound moral influence of Convocation on the Church and the country. The work done has not been contemptible, and should Convocation cease to exist to-morrow the work left on record could not fail to be felt real, besides being, as it is, a great treasury of thoughts and hopes and plans of the present generation in the Church. The work of Convocation has hitherto been mainly directed to matters of Church organization and social influences. There are two or three Reports of Convocation which take the very lead in the great inquiry into the social manners and thoughts of the people; and now we are called upon to enter on a still higher and more definite work, and to throw ourselves as a Convocation, and not as individuals only, into the more spiritual part of Church life. We cannot always confine ourselves to matters of organization and social influence. We must, I know, do our work in the most businesslike way, and never hesitate to adopt new means if they are more practical and more businesslike. But my brethren of the Upper House have sent down to you a new work. The old committee on the Salvation Army is discharged, and in place of it is a joint committee, in which you will be asked to take the greater part, to consider all the spiritual wants of the people and the evangelistic work now necessary to be done amongst them, from the lowest to the highest. I anticipate from that committee results which shall have a great bearing on the spiritual life in England, even greater than that which has by the blessing of God been given to the work of Convocation hitherto in the minds and hearts of the people. The promise of God is to the Gospel—the great power of God. The promise is not simply to good plans; the special promise of Divine blessing is on the use of the Gospel. This is no thought of my own, for it is in all our hearts, and we are all looking up with head and heart to God with a firm love and true hope of that which can come of it. We place it before ourselves and say, This is the talisman we are told to work with in dealing with great social questions. There are questions rife as to the powers of Convocation and as to the way in which it should associate itself with the laity, and we commend these to God with the certain knowledge that He will guide us. Is it not the work of Convocation to establish itself now in the affections of men, as it has already done in their respect? Fresh growth is not to be achieved at once, for all real constitutional growth is to be found not in the creation of a body to which life is added, but in throwing a definite outline of organization around which is already living, and which displays all the phenomena of life. Next, as we bring to bear the spiritual power of the Gospel, we establish ourselves in the affections of Churchmen, and, as I believe, in the fairness with which English people regard abilities which are presented to them, I am sure that in gaining the affections of Churchmen we cannot fail to establish ourselves in the hearts of all Christians. We know that the Church will be attacked by the world, but we can afford to be unmoved, because we know that the world will not prevail against the gates of heaven; and if we can only go forward in the firm belief that the power and spirit of God will be shown to make the people of modern England holy children of Jesus Christ, we need care little at present as to forms of organization, for organization, whenever it is necessary, only needs a touch to make it spring into life. I thank you once again for your kind wish that we should thus come amongst you.

The Prolocutor—My Lord Archbishop, I thank your Grace on behalf of the members of this House for your kindness in coming here this morning, and still more for your encouraging and vigorous words. We look on the Bishops as the Apostles of the Church, and it is a special privilege that we are allowed to be the council of your Lordships. Such a privilege, I believe, exists in no other Church, and we are very glad thus to assist in the work of the Church. A great deal of that work is, no doubt, carried out by individuals, but here in council with your Grace we feel it to be our duty to assist your Lordships. I cannot allow this opportunity to pass without expressing the great gratification and joy we all felt in hearing of your advancement to the high position you hold. We can assure your Grace of the hearty prayers of the Church, and we trust that you will be enabled successfully to carry out your great work for God. With these few words I beg to thank your Grace.

His Grace and their Lordships then retired.

THE DIACONATE.

On the motion of *Archdeacon Hessey*, it was resolved to request his Grace to direct the joint committee on offices and orders in the Church of England to confer with a similar committee appointed by the York Convocation.

FREETHINKING AND RITUAL PROSECUTIONS.

Canon Gregory brought forward a *gravamen et reformandum* on these subjects, but after a somewhat lengthened and desultory discussion the debate was adjourned, and the House prorogued to the 3rd July.

The *Guardian*, speaking of the session, says: 'On the whole the proceedings were of much vigour and interest. The speeches are much shorter than they used to be, gaining much by compression; there is less of impracticability, more of appreciation of public opinion and of knowledge of human nature; we trace a greater interest in social and moral, as distinct from purely ecclesiastical, subjects; and certainly in ability and force the debates of Convocation may well challenge comparison with those of other deliberative bodies. Nevertheless, we still think that the Lower House may with advantage take the Archbishop's hint. The more it deals with the many topics of spiritual and moral interest pressed upon it at this most critical time, the better it will be for its own reputation and for its usefulness to the Church at large.'

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

The Reopening of St. Peter's Twelve Bells, Norwich.

THE above will take place on Monday, the 30th inst. Ringers wishing to attend should communicate with the Rev. G. H. Harris, Tunstead Vicarage, Norwich, not later than the 24th, mentioning the stations from which they will travel. Mr. Harris would then forward tickets, by showing of which the ringers could obtain railway tickets at cheap fares. The ringing will be restricted as much as possible to ten and twelve bell practice.

The Guild of Devonshire Ringers.

ON Saturday, the 7th inst., by the kind invitation of the Rector, the Rev. B. W. T. Wrey, several members of the Guild visited the little village of Coombeinteignhead, for the purpose of ringing on the six bells lately put in thorough order (so said) by Mr. Aggett, bellhanger, of Chagford, Devon. The party consisted of the Hon. Sec. of the Guild, the Rev. J. S. Northcote, G. F. Coleridge, Esq., and Messrs. Goss, Shepherd (3), Swift, and others. The ring, with the exception of the tenor and fifth, is comparatively a new one, the 4th, 3rd, and 2nd being added a few years ago, and a new treble, cast by Messrs. Taylor of Loughborough, and erected by the Rector in memory of his father, the late Sir Henry B. Wrey, Bart., only a few weeks ago. The work of hanging this bell, and of putting the others into thorough order, was entrusted to the said Mr. Aggett. The bells, however, were found to go badly, and the reason was quickly discovered. Neither the clappers of the fifth or tenor struck in their proper places, and both had so much play that it was almost possible to strike the lip of the bells all round the circumference with them; the 3rd was found to strike the frame badly twice in each revolution, while the gudgeons of the treble had no coverings over them (with the exception of a piece of paper over one), thus allowing plenty of March dust blown by the prevailing east winds to find its way into the bearings; lucky no bell was cracked. Owing to this state of things only Grandsire Doubles could be attempted, of which several six-scores were rung; but the striking, as can be imagined, was none of the best. On leaving the belfry, the party were hospitably entertained by the Rector at a tea in the schoolroom, together with the parish ringers. After the refreshment several touches of Grandsire Triples were rung on the handbells, and the party returned home.

A GENERAL Meeting of the Guild will be held at Exeter on Whit Monday, the 14th of May. The course of the meeting will be as follows: The Secretary will try to arrange that there shall be one tower open for every two bands to ring as they please during the morning. At 2 p.m. there will be a meeting of the Committee, and at 2.30 p.m. there will be the General Annual Business Meeting of the Guild, to receive the accounts, elect officers, and new members of the Guild. After this meeting each band will have an opportunity of ringing a short touch in turn, at the same tower, in the audience of the Guild. In the afternoon the bands can either return to their towers in Exeter, or arrange parties for ringing among themselves. It is hoped that the Guild will have the pleasure of hearing at least one peal of 5040 changes rung during the day by members of the Guild. The ringers' room at 160 St. Sidwell's will be open all the day, and information as to the course of the proceedings will be obtainable there. All members of the Guild who give notice to the Secretary one full week before the meeting that they intend to be present, can have their railway fares (third class) to Exeter from any part of Devonshire and back paid by the Guild. The Guild cannot pay any other expenses for individual members. All communications must be addressed to

REV. JOHN S. NORTHCOTE, Hon. Sec., Upton Pyne, Exeter.

Essex Association: Writtle.

ON Wednesday evening, April 11th, several of the Widford, Galleywood, and Chelmsford ringers, met to ring a touch on the bells of All Saints, as a farewell to the Rev. J. B. Seaman, who by the time this appears in print will have left England. There were present Messrs. J. Dains, T. Drake, W. Harvey, W. Hawkes, J. Parmenter, and W. Rowland, from Widford; E. Scotcher, C. Waskett, Master H. F. de Lisle, and the Rev. H. A. Cockey (Galleywood); E. Bedford of Chelmsford, and Mr. H. Bowell of Ipswich, who is at present engaged in rehanging the bells at Rottenden Church. A quarter peal of Grandsire Triples was rung in 44 mins. W. Harvey, 1; W. Rowland, 2; C. Waskett, 3; H. F. de Lisle, 4; H. Bowell, 5; W. Hawkes, 6; E. Scotcher (conductor), 7; Rev. H. A. Cockey, 8. Tenor, 18 cwt. 2 qrs. 2 lbs. Also a touch of Bob Major was attempted, but not brought round. E. Bedford, 1; T. Drake, 2; J. Dains, 3; W. Harvey, 4; H. F. de Lisle, 5; J. Parmenter, 6; H. Bowell, 7; Rev. H. A. Cockey, 8.

The ringing over, Mr. Seaman with his usual hospitality invited the ringers to adjourn to the Vicarage for refreshment. There some good ringing on the handbells lately presented to Mr. Seaman was done, three courses of Grandsire Triples, some Bob Minor, and several tunes being rung in good style. Soon after ten the party broke up, the ringers bidding a last and hearty farewell to their worthy and highly esteemed friend and his family.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At the Cathedral, Manchester.

ON Easter Monday ten members of the Manchester Cathedral Society rang 5580 Grandsire Caters in 3 hrs. 30 mins. S. Knight, 1; S. West, 2; J. E. Pollitt, 3; J. Lowcock, 4; G. Mee, 5; J. Grimshaw, 6; A. E. Wreaks, 7; J. Eachus (conductor), 8; J. Withers, 9; J. Parkinson, 10. Tenor, 25 cwt., in E flat. The peal was composed by Mr. J. Wood, sen., of Ashton-under-Lyne. The cathedral bells were opened as a ring of ten on Easter Monday, 1825, and this peal was rung to commemorate the 58th anniversary of that event.

At St. Luke's, Heywood, Lancashire.

ON Thursday, the 5th inst., eight members of St. Luke's Society rang a date touch of 1883 Grandsire Triples (bob-and-single variations) in 1 hr.

19 mins. W. Wharton, 1; G. Crossley, 2; John Millett, 3; T. Wharton, 4; J. Street, 5; W. R. Barrett, 6; J. Harrison, 7; Jas. Millett, 8. Composed by Carter of Birmingham and conducted by Mr. John Millett.

At Eckington, Derby.

On Monday, the 9th inst., were rung at the parish church, in 1 hr. 21 mins., 720 Violet, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor, and 720 New London Pleasure. G. Smith, 1; W. Price, 2; E. James, 3; G. Norman (conductor), 4; G. Marsden, 5; T. Lunn, 6. Tenor, 16 cwt. 14 lbs.

At St. Mary's, Frittenden, Kent.

On Monday, the 9th inst., eight members of the Kent County Association rang a peal of 10,080 Bob Major in 5 hrs. 34 mins. C. Payne (conductor), 1; J. Potter, 2; E. Baldock, 3; E. Potter, 4; F. G. Newman,* 5; T. Potter, 6; W. Brattle, 7; T. Daynes,* 8. Tenor, 14 cwt., in F sharp. [* Members of the Ancient Society of College Youths.]

At Alburgh, Norfolk.

On Tuesday, the 10th inst., eight members of the Norwich Diocesan Association rang a peal of 5312 Oxford Treble Bob in 3 hrs. 10 mins. The peal is a variation of one by Mr. Henry Dains. E. Smith (conductor), 1; J. Bentley, 2; G. Prince, 3; W. Sheldrake, 4; C. Candler, Esq., 5; W. Matthews, 6; G. Mobbs, 7; Captain Moore, 8. Tenor, 12 cwt.

At All Saints', Sudbury, Suffolk.

On Tuesday, the 10th inst., was rung a peal of 5040 Bob Major in 3 hrs. 35 mins. A. Scott, 1; M. Silvester, 2; G. Brown, 3; W. Griggs, 4; W. Bacon, 5; W. Howell, 6; C. Sillitoe, 7; H. Harper, 8. Tenor, 28 cwt., in D. This is the first peal ever accomplished on these bells, and also the first peal of Messrs. Silvester, Brown, Howell, and Sillitoe.

At Hurworth-on-Tees, Durham.

On Thursday, the 12th inst., six of the Hurworth ringers rang a peal of Grandsire Minor in 29 mins. J. Simpson, 1; Rev. W. H. Deane,* 2; H. Kirby, 3; J. E. Hern (conductor), 4; J. Temple,* 5; H. Thompson, 6. Tenor, 17 cwt. [* First peal in the method.]

At SS. Mary and Nicolas, Spalding, Lincolnshire.

On Thursday, the 12th inst., two peals of 720 Plain Bob (18 bobs and 2 singles) were rung in 28 mins. each. Also 720 same method (18 bobs and 10 singles) in 27 mins., on the occasion of the marriage of Henry D. S. G. Simes, Esq., Strood Park, Essex. G. Skeef, 1; J. Brown, 2; G. L. Richardson, 3; A. Brown, 4; J. S. Wright, 5; R. Mackman (composer and conductor), 6. Tenor, 18 cwt.

At St. Werburgh's, Derby.

On Saturday, the 14th inst., eight members of the Derby Branch of the Midland Counties Association rang Holt's Ten-part peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples in 3 hrs. 9 mins. J. Ridgway, 1; J. W. Taylor, jun., 2; A. Taberer, 3; J. Howe, 4; R. Redgate, 5; H. C. Woodward (conductor), 6; R. Bosworth, 7; F. Whiting, 8. Tenor, 17 cwt., in E.

At SS. Peter and Paul, Milton-next-Gravesend, Kent.

On Sunday, the 15th inst., six members of the Gravesend Society rang a peal of 720 Bob Minor (18 bobs and 2 singles) in 27 mins. J. H. Ryall, 1; T. Ellis (first peal), 2; W. Loft, 3; W. King, 4; W. Harper, 5; J. W. Aitkin, (conductor), 6.

RECEIVED ALSO.—A. W. B. Percival; P. Greenstreet; M. Ellsmore; and others.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Mr. Bradlaugh and his Apologists.—The Blasphemy Prosecution.

SIR,—It is, perhaps, just as well that Mr. Headlam has so speedily discovered that the cap which was designed for him fits, for it shows how few must be the supporters of Mr. Bradlaugh among the clergy. Mr. Headlam objects to my statement that Mr. Bradlaugh 'openly defies his Maker,' and that the platform on which Mr. Headlam appeared at Northampton was an infidel one.

In answer to these objections allow me to refer to the lecture delivered on the 3rd December last. About 200 persons were present. Of the audience on the platform some, including one or two past or present town councillors, were certainly atheists, the remainder (probably without exception) were political Dissenters of the most pronounced type, who, in opposition to the noble example set them by their leading minister, a Liberal, have made their religion subservient to their politics. Whether the earnest Churchman who was so anxious to receive Mr. Headlam was there I do not know. The lecture throughout was in support of Mr. Bradlaugh the atheist. At the commencement of his lecture Mr. Headlam said that 'nothing would have induced him to come to Northampton had it not been for his very great admiration for Mr. Bradlaugh's social and political works.'

To Bradlaugh's political works I shall not refer, and to show what sort of social views Mr. Headlam boasts of supporting, I need only mention the *Fruits of Philosophy*, which book has received the unanimous condemnation of five Judges, and a full bench of magistrates at Quarter Sessions. Mr. Headlam 'honoured Mr. Bradlaugh as an outspoken atheist, and he believed such a man was a more honest, healthy opponent than those who said, as was remarked by Mr. J. Mill and Mr. J. S. Mill, "There is no God, but it is a family secret." Whether Mr. Headlam makes a distinction between a Maker and a God or not, still, apart from mere technical quibble, his lecture plainly bears out my statement.

Mr. Headlam says he has known Mr. Bradlaugh seven or eight years; but he did not know him as 'Iconoclast,' under which name he used to give his

blasphemous lectures. Reverting to the social teaching of Mr. Bradlaugh, Mr. Headlam 'honoured him because, while Mr. Mill, Mr. Fawcett, and other great economists, kept dark, or would not carry to legitimate conclusion their Malthusian doctrines, he spoke plainly.' At the same time the lecturer 'thought, personally, that it was in Socialism and not Malthusianism that the remedy for the existing state of society was to be found.'

The lecturer concluded by alluding to his having 'got the sack' from St. Michael's, Shoreditch, in consequence of his political teaching. He might have added that he had previously 'got the sack' from another curacy. In replying to a vote of thanks Mr. Headlam, alluding to the attitude of the clergy and religious people, whose absence from the meeting he had previously lamented, 'recommended Mr. Bradlaugh's supporters to have a mission to them, in order to bring about their conversion to a right view of the Bradlaugh question. He further produced some tracts, which he said might be useful for the purpose.'

I think the above will show that Mr. Headlam's objections are groundless, and that far from my last letter lacking courtesy, I might fairly have spoken even more strongly.

A. S. BROWNE.

26 Bush Lane, Cannon Street, E.C.

SIR,—Mr. Headlam, in his letter of March 31st, asserts that Mr. Bradlaugh does not 'openly defy his Maker' by his atheism. Is not, then, atheism—loud-spoken, aggressive atheism—an open defiance of God? Are we to suppose that God has not supplied sufficient proof of His existence to satisfy any reasonable man? Is not Mr. Bradlaugh to blame for his ignorance and his unbelief? Mr. Headlam seems to think not. But what says the Bible? Does not that treat ignorance and unbelief as sinful on the part of those on whom the light has shined? What other meaning can we attach to such passages as these?—'This is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil.' 'If our Gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost; in whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them that believe not.' 'The wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold (Revised Version has "hold down," i.e., suppress) the truth in unrighteousness; because that which may be known of God is manifest in them; for God hath showed it unto them . . . so that they are without excuse.' 'The Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with His mighty angels, taking vengeance on them that know not God and that obey not the Gospel.' Many other texts might be quoted, but surely these are enough to show that Mr. Headlam is not working on Bible lines in making excuses for the atheism of a man like Mr. Bradlaugh, and flattering him for his views on 'political and social matters,' as if he were in no respect a worse man or reformer for being an unbeliever. In conclusion, there is a word which I would press upon Mr. Headlam's consideration: 'If any man . . . consent not to wholesome words, even the words of our Lord Jesus Christ, and to the doctrine which is according to godliness, he is proud, knowing nothing . . . from such withdraw thyself.' (1 Tim. vi. 3.)

C. W. S. T.

St. Padarn's Church, Llanbadarn Fawr.

SIR,—I must apologise to Mr. Thompson for not replying sooner to his queries. Certain time had necessarily to elapse before documents could be procured, and inquiries made, in order adequately to supply the information required. My note to the sketch which appeared in *Church Bells* was necessarily brief and incomplete. I am greatly indebted to the Rev. J. Pugh, the respected vicar of St. Padarn, and others, for the following particulars, which I hope will be of interest to a large portion of your readers. The following brief history of the ancient see of Llanbadarn Fawr (Latinised into Mauritania) accompanied the first appeal for subscriptions toward the Restoration Fund. 'The earliest notice of Llanbadarn Fawr in history is the arrival of St. Paternus in A.D. 524—("Padarn ap Petrw ap Enyr Llydaw, Cefnderw i Gadvan."—*Bonedd y Saint, Myf. Arch.*, vol. ii. p. 50.) He is said to have come over from Armorica, together with St. Cadvan, at the head of 847 monks. (*Lives of Cambro-British Saints*, published by the Welsh MSS. Society.) According to 'Achau y Saint,' he became a member of the college of Iltyd. He afterwards established a college of 120 members at Llanbadarn Fawr. Being abbot of the new institution, he appointed over it also a steward, a provost, and a dean. At the same place he founded an episcopal see, and was himself the first bishop. This office he held for twenty-one years, after which he returned to Armorica, and became Bishop of Vannes. He is said to have built monasteries and churches throughout the region of Ceredigion (Cardigan). The southern boundary of the diocese of Llanbadarn is supposed (*vide Rees's British Saints*, p. 216), to be indicated in the present day by churches bearing the name of the saint. The great church of Cardigan-shire, Llanbadarn Fawr, forming its central point, the limits of the see probably fluctuated with those of the principality of Ceredigion, while there is reason to believe that the district of Ceredigion extended at one time north of the Dyfi, so as to take in a part of Gwynedd, properly so called (*Vestiges of the Gael in Gwynedd*, by the Lord Bishop of St. David's). How long Llanbadarn continued to be a Bishopric cannot be ascertained. The last notice of it under that character in the *Welsh Chronicle* is in the year 720, when it is recorded (*Brut Tywysogion, Myf. Arch.* vol. ii., p. 44) that many of the churches of Llandaff, Mynyw, Llanbadarn, meaning the three dioceses of South Wales, were ravaged by the Saxons. The church of Llanbadarn Fawr, after the cessation of the episcopate, retained something of a coenobitic or collegiate character, to, at least, the beginning, or more probably the middle, of the thirteenth century, in spite of an attempt at the commencement of the twelfth century to appropriate its revenues to the abbey of St. Peter, Gloucester. We find Geoffrey de Henelawe, bishop of St. David's from 1203 to 1214, instituting a rector of Llanbadarn without respect to the rights of the canons: 'an unexampled act,' says Giraldus Cambrensis, 'on the part of a Bishop of St. David's.'—(*Hist. and Ant. of St. David's*, by the Lord Bishop of St. David's and E. A. Freeman, Esq.) Llanbadarn was finally

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

St. Alban's Cathedral, Herts.

SIR,—In your issue of March 10 you gave an account of an attempted peal on the fine old ring of eight at St. Alban's Cathedral, and you say, 'Tenor, 32 cwt., in E flat.' In your issue of the 14th inst. you insert a record of a peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples, rang upon Wednesday, the 4th inst., and you say, 'Tenor, 28 cwt., in D. . . . The above is the first peal of Grandsire Triples on the bells, the only other peal known to have been rung being one of 5040 Bob Major in 1765.'

The weight of the tenor is more likely to be 28 cwt. than 32 cwt. I measured it up many years ago, and came to the conclusion that the weight was from 29 cwt. to 30 cwt., but nearer the latter. The diameter of the mouth is 53½ inches. The note most certainly is *not* D; it is the old pitch of E flat, the seventh in the ring coinciding exactly with the old monkish tenor F so often met with. This tenor bell was recast by Philip Wightman in 1699, and a very fine one it is. The peal that you give as the *first* of Grandsire Triples upon these bells is not so, but the *second*, as may be seen from the annexed list of peals rung in St. Alban's on eight bells and upwards.

| No. | DATE. | PEAL. | COMPANY. | CHURCH. |
|-----|-----------------|----------------------------|--------------------|-------------|
| 1 | 27 Dec. 1729... | 5040 Bob Major | College Youths ... | St. Peter's |
| 2 | 23 May, 1763... | 5120 Treble Bob Major ... | ditto | ditto |
| 3 | 19 Dec. 1765... | 5040 Bob Major | St. Alban's Youths | Cathedral |
| 4 | 26 May, 1767... | 5040 Grandsire Triples ... | ditto | St. Peter's |
| 5 | 28 Dec. 1788... | 5200 Treble Bob Royal ... | College Youths ... | ditto |
| 6 | 4 July, 1808... | 5040 Grandsire Caters... | Cumberland ... | ditto |
| *7 | — 1808... | 5040 Grandsire Triples ... | St. Alban's Youths | Cathedral |
| 8 | 4 March, 1810 | 5040 ditto | ditto | St. Peter's |
| 9 | 8 June, 1840... | 5040 Treble Bob Royal ... | Cumberland ... | ditto |
| 10 | 26 Dec. 1857... | 5081 Stedman's Caters ... | College Youths ... | ditto |
| 11 | 21 Aug. 1865... | 5079 ditto | ditto | ditto |
| 12 | 1 July, 1867... | 5000 Kent Treble Bob Royal | ditto | ditto |
| 13 | 2 April, 1870 | 5040 Grandsire Triples ... | ditto | ditto |
| 14 | 4 April, 1883 | 5040 ditto | ditto | Cathedral |

34 Nutfield Road, Duwich.

JNO. HARRIS, C. E.

All Saints', Gainsborough, Lincolnshire.

THE ring of bells in this church was a short time ago, in consequence of its almost unringable state, placed in the hands of Messrs. Taylor of Loughborough. The sixth was found to be out of tune, and the seventh cracked in the waist. A new sixth and seventh have been supplied by Messrs. Taylor; the remaining six have been quarter-turned, the whole refitted and rehung, and the framework strengthened. The original ring (tenor, 20 cwt.) was cast by Lester and Pack of London, in 1764. The sixth was recast by C. and G. Mears in 1856. Three fourths of the cost have already, through the exertions of the Vicar and Churchwardens, been defrayed by public subscription. The bells were dedicated on Wednesday, the 18th inst., by the Right Rev. E. Trellope, Bishop-Suffragan of Nottingham and Archdeacon of Stow. The dedication service, in the course of which the Bishop gave a short address on the history and use of church bells, was the same, with slight alteration, as that used at the dedication of Great Paul, St. Paul's Cathedral, London. At the conclusion of the service the bells were rung by the parish-church ringers. In the course of the afternoon a peal of 5000 changes of Kent Treble Bob Major was rung by ringers from Dewsbury and Earlsheaton. •

The Guild of Devonshire Ringers.

THE Annual General Meeting of the Guild of Devonshire Ringers will be held at Exeter on Whit Monday, May 14th. It is proposed that a peal of 5040 shall be rung at St. Sidwell's, and that the different bands in connexion with the Guild shall have opportunities of ringing together. For further information apply to the Hon. Secretary, the Rev. J. S. Northcote, The Parsonage, Upton Pyne, Exeter.

Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association of Change-ringers.

A GENERAL Meeting of this Association will be held at North Shields on May 14th (Whit Monday). The bells at the disposal of the members will be the ring of ten at North Shields (tenor, 19 cwt.); the ring of six at St. Hilda's, South Shields (tenor, 10 cwt.); at St. Peter's, Jarrow (tenor, 8½ cwt.); at Christ Church, Jarrow (tenor, 17 cwt.). A dinner will be provided at half-past two o'clock at the 'Albion Hotel,' North Shields.

Members intending to be present at this meeting are requested to apply to the Secretary for dinner tickets not later than Monday, May 7th.

Post-Office Chambers, Stockton-on-Tees.

G. J. CLARKSON, Hon. Sec.

Essex Association.

THE Annual Meeting of the Essex Association will be held on Whit Monday, May 14th, at Chelmsford, by kind permission of the Rector. Belfry open at 10.30. Service, with an address, at 12.30. Dinner in the Charity School at 2 p.m. Business meeting immediately after the dinner.

Members intending to be present at the dinner are particularly requested to apply for tickets (price 1s.) before May 11th, to the Secretary.

Rettendon Hall, Battles Bridge, S. O. Essex.

H. A. COCKEY, Hon. Sec.

* This is the peal I more particularly refer to. I am unable to give the day and month as I have mislaid my record, and the peal-board has been lost during some restoration. Summary: eleven peals at St. Peter's, three at the Cathedral—eight by the College Youths, four by St. Alban's Youths, and two by the Cumberlands. St. Peter's original eight bells were increased to ten in 1787, and to twelve in 1868. Tenor, D, 24 cwt.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At St. John the Baptist's, Leytonstone, Essex.

ON Wednesday, the 11th inst., a peal of 720 Bob Minor (9 bobs and 6 singles) was rung in 26 mins. L. Pitt, 1; J. Gobbett, 2; M. Ellsmore, 3; J. Priest, 4; H. Randall (conductor), 5; Y. Green, 6. Tenor, 13 cwt.

At St. James's, Dover, Kent.

ON Thursday, the 12th inst., two peals of Bob Minor were rung by six members of the Kent County Association. E. Halliday, 1; W. Driscoll, 2; P. Greenstreet, 3; J. Nutley, 4; R. Beal, 5; S. Rolfe (conductor), 6. Tenor, 12 cwt. In the second peal R. Beal rang the 4th, and E. Potter (of Dover), took the 5th. The others in the same order as before, J. Nutley excepted.

At St. Edward's, Romford, Essex.

ON Saturday, the 14th inst., eight members of the Essex Association rang a quarter-peal of 1260 Grandsire Triples in 50 mins. G. Garnett, 1; W. Hawkes, 2; G. Stancombe, 3; A. J. Perkins, 4; J. Nunn, 5; M. Ellsmore, 6; A. Pye, 7; A. Porter, 8. Tenor, 17½ cwt. Composed by Mr. Reeves and conducted by Mr. Perkins.

At St. Mary's, Woodford, Essex.

ON Sunday, the 15th inst., three of the Woodford company, with three visitors from Romford, rang a peal of 720 Bob Minor (8 bobs and 6 singles) in 27 mins. F. Gillingham, 1; A. J. Perkins, 2; H. Nunn, sen., 3; J. Nunn, 4; M. Ellsmore, 5; A. Pye (conductor), 6. Tenor, 13 cwt. 3, 4, and 5 are of the Woodford company; 1, 2, and 6 from Romford.

At St. John's, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

ON Sunday, the 15th inst., for evening service, a peal of 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor was rung in 27 mins. F. Lees, 1; C. L. Routledge, 2; W. G. Routledge, 3; T. J. Des Forges, 4; W. Story, 5; R. S. Story, 6. Tenor, 14½ cwt. First 720 for W. Story as conductor.

ON Monday, the 16th inst., a peal of 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor was rung in 30 mins. W. Eggleston, 1; John Moffitt, 2; W. G. Routledge (conductor), 3; Jas. Moffitt, 4; W. Story, 5; F. Lees, 6. This is the first in the method by the 2nd and 4th ringers, who came from South Shields.

ON the same night, a peal of 720 in the same method in 27½ mins. C. L. Routledge, 1; W. Eggleston, 2; W. G. Routledge, 3; T. J. Des Forges* (conductor), 4; W. Story, 5; F. Lees, 6. Tenor, 14½ cwt. [* First peal as conductor.]

At All Saints', Northampton.

ON Thursday, the 19th inst., six members of the Voluntary Ringers' Society of the above church rang a peal of Grandsire Doubles on the back six bells. T. E. Kempster, 3; T. Higgins, 4; J. Henderson, 5; J. C. Thomson, 6; W. Thompson (conductor), 7; W. Smith, 8. Kempster, Higgins, and Henderson are each eighteen years of age; J. C. Thompson, 17; W. Thompson, 19; and W. Smith, 21. This is believed to be the youngest set of peal-ringers in this district, and promise to become very efficient in the art of change-ringing. Some few months ago several of the old members left the Society. The above members (with two exceptions) did not commence any attempt of change-ringing until two months ago.

At St. Nicholas', Long Crendon, Bucks.

ON Thursday, the 19th inst., a peal of 1260 Grandsire Triples was rung in 46 mins. R. W. Rose, 1; G. Warner, 2; G. Cadle, 3; D. Warner, 4; H. Ricketts, 5; Jn. Warner, jun. (conductor), 6; W. Cadle, 7; Jas. Warner, 8. Tenor, 19½ cwt., in E.

At All Saints', Fulham, Middlesex.

ON Saturday, the 21st inst., a peal of 5003 Grandsire Caters was rung in 3 hrs. 18 mins., with the 5th and 6th only behind the 9th. C. Martin, 1; S. Greenwood,* 2; C. Gordon, 3; E. F. Cole,* Esq., 4; E. Bennett (conductor), 5; J. Trappitt, 6; J. Plowman, 7; J. Fayers,* 8; G. Pell,* 9; W. Prime, 10. [* Their first peal of Caters.]

At Sowton, Devonshire.

ON the 21st inst., a band of ringers of the Devonshire Society visited this place, where the eight bells have lately been rehung by Mr. Harry Stokes of Woodbury, and rang the first half of Holt's Ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, conducted by F. Shepherd.

At St. Paul's, Burton-on-Trent, Staffordshire.

ON Sunday, the 22nd inst., for evening service, a quarter-peal of 1260 Stedman's Triples, from the *Clavis*, was rung in 50 mins. J. Griffen (conductor), 1; H. Wakley, 2; G. Appleby, 3; E. Stone, 4; J. Jaggard, 5; F. Appleby, 6; T. Holmes, 7; A. Wakley, 8. Tenor, 26 cwt., in F.

Correction.

THE ring of bells at Combeinteignhead, reported in our last issue to have been cast by Messrs. Taylor, was cast at the Whitechapel Foundry, London.

WILL any one very kindly send the Rev. A. Barber, Colwich, Stafford, a few tunes to be chimed on six church bells, or let him know how they may be obtained? 'We love the place, O God,' is already known to him.

Apply to Mr. Goslin, 27 Crescent, Cripplegate, London.

RECEIVED ALSO.—A. W. B. Perceval—Your announcement came too late for insertion last week. Cheriton—County not given, and we see there are six such places; perhaps more.

connected with it. On the central light and the chancel window the figure of Christ as the Good Shepherd appears in the upper portion, and David the shepherd king below. In a similar way the two side-lights contain a representation of the angels appearing to the shepherds on the morning of the Nativity, and of Christ's charge to Simon Peter to feed His sheep, while underneath are depicted Moses and the burning bush, and also Amos the prophet preaching to the people. The designs have been obtained from Mr. H. W. Lonsdale, and the glass was supplied by Messrs. Heaton, Butler, and Bayne, and the window is certainly a most beautiful addition to the church, and does credit to artist, glass-makers, and all concerned.

It is this church which was noted in days gone by for its sweet bells, and has given the title to Mr. Black's last book, *Shandon Bells*.

COLONIAL AND FOREIGN CHURCH NEWS.

PALESTINE.

THE Prussian Government, it is understood, finds it difficult to meet with a German suitable for nomination to the vacant Anglo-Prussian Bishopric at Jerusalem. England and Prussia appoint alternately, and it is now the turn of Prussia; the nominee is always to be consecrated by the Archbishop of Canterbury, but such of his clergy as are German are not to subscribe the Thirty-nine Articles, but to bring a certificate that they have signed at home the Augustine Confession; they are also to use the Prussian Liturgy. The Rev. T. Smith, late chaplain to Bishop Gobat, has written to the *Times*, explaining the object originally intended by the late King of Prussia in founding 'the Anglican Bishopric at Jerusalem.' He says: 'The late King had considerable leanings towards Episcopacy, and would have been glad of an opportunity of introducing it into Prussia. His attention and interest were much drawn towards Palestine, which, at that time, was resorted to more by Prussian subjects than any other Europeans. He found that every other religious community—Jewish, Greek, Coptic, Latin, Abyssinian, &c.—had its head and representative, excepting the Protestants. He therefore proposed that these also should have their head. I am fully aware that the Anglican Bishopric has been, by some amongst us, regarded as an "infringement of the rights of the Holy Eastern Church," but, speaking from fifteen years' experience as chaplain to the late Bishop Gobat, I can say that his kindly administration never raised any bitterness on the part of any of the other religious communities. Refraining, however, from expressing any opinion as to the benefits to be derived on other and higher grounds, I fully endorse the concluding remarks in your article as to the great comfort and convenience it would be for the European tourist "to find some spot in the city where he may feel himself at home and ask for guidance and protection."'

GREECE.

A NOTEWORTHY fraternisation of churches occurred in the island of Syros at the funeral of the Rev. F. Hildner, for many years British chaplain there. The local Archbishop Methodius—whose predecessor Lyeurgus, it will be remembered, visited England, and also took part in the second Old Catholic Conference at Bonn—placed his cathedral at the disposal of Mr. Newton, acting Legation chaplain at Athens, who (accompanied by the Archbishop and his clergy, and a vast concourse of the inhabitants of Syros) proceeded thither and read the English burial service, after which the Archbishop delivered a discourse and gave the benediction, when the body was taken to the cemetery and interred. These proceedings gave great satisfaction to the whole native community, and have heightened the wish for completing the intercommunion of Greek and Anglican Christendom.

GERMANY.

BISHOP WILKINSON presided at a numerous attended meeting at Darmstadt on April 4th, convened to discuss the question of a Bishop for Northern and Central Europe. It was resolved to endeavour to introduce the subject at the next Church Congress. The *Daily News* says that the Crown Princess takes great interest in the plan, which Bishop Wilkinson was to advocate by an address at a confirmation he was to hold in the English chapel at Berlin.

UNITED STATES.

THE *Churchman* closes its announcement of the appointment to the see of Canterbury as follows:—'Such are the antecedents of the man whom Mr. Gladstone has chosen as the next Primate of All England. Thoroughness, earnestness, sincerity, a single heart, a glowing mind, and spiritual power of no common type, have hitherto marked his somewhat unique and experimental career. He knows the heart of the Church, and the spirit which animates and controls modern England, as only those men know it who have lived in the very centre of the puissant life of our glowing epoch. His antecedents have been those of a singularly earnest and single-hearted man, who has lived from his boyhood in the best atmosphere of his mother Church. He adds to these intellectual and spiritual qualifications hardly youthfulness, because a man in his fifty-third year is no longer young, but that combination of energy and experience which make a ripe, strong, self-centred leader. He holds the best hopes of the Church of England, under God, in his hand; and the minds and hearts of the sons of the Church in England, hardly less than in the Church of the Colonies and in all parts of Anglican Christendom, will be drawn to him as one through whose agency the Established Church may be infused with fresh vigour and made to glow still more brightly with a strong Christian purpose. It seems as if, for once, the spiritual head of the Anglican Communion were to be in sympathy with all that is best in English Christianity.'

THE diocese of Indiana has elected a successor to the late Bishop Talbot. Several nominations were made, but after three ballots the Convention elected Dr. I. L. Nicholson of Philadelphia.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

St. Albans Cathedral, Herts.

SIR,—In answer to Mr. Harris's letter of last week, calling your attention to two different reports as to the weight of the tenor at St. Albans Cathedral, I beg to say that the two reports referred to were sent by two persons holding different opinions as to the weight of the tenor. As Mr. Harris says, it is more likely to be 28 cwt. than 32 cwt. The diameter is 53½ inches, but it is impossible to say the *exact* weight. I take it to be from 28 to 30 cwt.

Unless Mr. Harris, or any one else, can prove that a peal of Grandsire Triples was rung at the Cathedral previous to our peal of the 4th April, we are justified in saying that it *was* the first peal in the method rung there. It is mere supposition that a peal was rung in 1808, and Mr. Harris would have done well to have withheld his letter till he had found his mislaid record of the same. If he really can produce a true record we will willingly believe it, otherwise we cannot accept mere supposition for facts; and I can only add that old officials of the church know nothing whatever of a peal-board having been lost during some restoration.

Mr. Harris's list of peals rung in St. Albans is imperfect, as he has omitted one. I should also like to ask him what authority he has for assigning peals Nos. 3 and 4 in his list to 'St. Albans Youths.' Peal No. 8 in his list certainly was rung by a band calling themselves 'St. Albans College Youths,' or 'St. Albans Youths.' It is very improbable that there is any record of peals Nos. 3 and 4, rung in 1765 and 1767 respectively, beyond the tablets in the belfry, and the term is not used on them; but what the peals rung at St. Peter's have to do with the weight of tenor or peals rung at the Cathedral I fail to see.

N. N. HILLS.

3 St. Peter's Street, St. Albans, Herts.

Braughing, Ware, Herts.

THE Braughing Society of Ringers will hold their Annual Festival at the 'Bell Inn,' on the 10th inst., to which all friends are invited.

WALTER PHILLIPS.

Gilmorton Church, Leicestershire.

A LARGE clock has just been erected here by Messrs. John Smith & Sons, Midland Clock Works, Derby. It strikes the hour upon a 14 cwt. bell, and shows time on two large dials.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At Bishop's Waltham, Hants.—Muffled Peal.

TUESDAY last was observed here, it being the occasion of the funeral of the much-lamented Squire, Mr. George Atherley, J.P. The Royal Standard was hoisted half-mast high during the day on the tower of the church, and most of the tradesmen put their shutters up. At 8 p.m. four half-muffled peals of Grandsire Doubles were rung on the bells of St. Peter's Church. I. Shorney, 1; W. Shorney and J. Garnett, 2; W. Savage, 3; C. Brock, 4; E. N. Garnett, jun. (conductor), 5; W. Cooke, 6. [The writer has not sent his name.]

At Prestbury, Cheshire.

ON Saturday, the 21st ult., there was a large gathering of the ringers of this district at Prestbury, to celebrate the ninety-third birthday of Mr. John Wheelton, a ringer at the parish church for over seventy years. A peal of 5040 changes was rung in 3 hrs. 9 mins. J. Holt, 1; J. R. Henshall, 2; S. Smith, 3; J. Morledge, 4; W. H. Hardman, 5; E. Matthews (conductor), 6; W. Ingham, 7; H. Wheelton, 8. The old veteran then rang a short peal with the younger members, and was quite pleased with the opportunity. The company afterwards sat down to a capital dinner at the 'Black Boy.' [No county is given, but we suppose it to be Prestbury in Cheshire.]

At St. Mary's, Lewisham, Kent.

ON Tuesday, the 24th ult., six members of the Lewisham Youths rang a peal of 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor in 26 mins. A. G. Freeman, 1; C. J. Barham, 2; E. F. Cole, 3; T. Deal, 4; T. Taylor, 5; W. Weatherstone (conductor), 6.

At St. Paul's, Burton-on-Trent, Staffordshire.

ON Thursday, the 26th ult., eight members of the Midland Counties Association attempted T. Thurstan's peal of 5040 Stedman's Triples. After ringing 3 hrs. 17 mins. a shift occurred, and the conductor called 'Stand!' in the middle of the 19th part. J. Jaggard, 1; E. I. Stone, 2; H. Wakley, 3; J. Griffin, 4; A. Wakley, 5; G. Appleby, 6; W. Wakley (conductor), 7; T. Holmes, 8. Tenor, 26 cwt.

At St. Mary's, Woodford, Essex.

ON Thursday, the 26th ult., a peal of 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor (9 bobs, 3rd observation) was rung in 26 mins. H. Nunn, sen., 1; H. Scarlett, 2; G. Akers (conductor), 3; J. Nunn, 4; M. Ellsmore, 5; A. H. Gardom, Esq., 6. Also another peal of 720 in the same method (2nd observation) in 27 mins. M. Ellsmore (conductor), 1; G. Akers, 2; J. Nunn, 3; W. Manning, 4; A. H. Gardom, Esq., 5; H. Scarlett, 6. Mr. Manning belongs to the Walthamstow Company, and this is his first inside in Treble Bob.

ON Sunday, the 29th ult., a peal of 720 Kent Treble Bob was rung in 26 mins. H. Nunn, sen., 1; A. J. Perkins (conductor), 2; A. Porter, 3; J. Nunn, 4; A. Pye, 5; H. Scarlett, 6. Also another peal of 720 Kent Treble Bob in 24½ mins. M. Ellsmore, 1; J. Nunn, 2; A. Pye, 3; A. J. Perkins (conductor), 4; J. Priest, 5; A. Porter, 6. Tenor, 13 cwt. This last 720 was brought home in 24½ mins., as the youths drove their bells along as sharp as possible on account of time being up for service.

At St. James's, Birch-in-Rusholme, Lancashire.

ON Sunday, the 29th ult., after evening service, six members of the above Society rang a peal of Grandsire Minor in 25½ mins. E. Borrowghs, 1;

J. Hindle, 2; W. E. Ryder (conductor), 3; F. Ryder, 4; R. Borrowes, 5; W. H. Idle, 6. Tenor, 13½ cwt. This is the first peal for all except the 2nd.

At St. Peter's, Hindley, Lancashire.

On Sunday, the 29th ult., the first half of Reeve's Ten-part peal of 2520 Grandsire Triples, called reverse way, was rung in 1 hr. 29 mins., the occasion being the preaching of the annual sermons on behalf of the ringers. R. Calland, 1; E. Prescott, 2; E. Brown, 3; W. Chisnall, 4; E. Kay, 5; T. Tickle, 6; J. Prescott (conductor), 7; T. Eccleston, 8. Tenor, 14 cwt. 1 qr.

At St. Martin's, Salisbury.—Muffled Peal.

On Monday, the 30th ult., a muffled peal was rung as a last mark of respect to the memory of R. M. Wilson, Esq., J.P. W. Lanham, 1; J. R. Jerram, 2; W. Giffard, 3; C. Clements, 4; J. Parsons, jun., 5; T. Blackburn, 6; S. Dowling, 7; H. Dowling, 8. The deceased was a member of the Town Council, and held a great many public offices in the city. He expired suddenly in the Chapter House at the Cathedral on Thursday week, immediately after finishing his speech at the Diocesan Synod.

A Correction.

We have been requested to state that at the meeting of the Essex Association (noticed in our columns last week) the belfry will be opened at 11.15; and that the service, with an address by the Ven. Archdeacon Carey, will take place at 12.30.

RECEIVED ALSO.—C. Brock—we advise you to write to Mr. Goslin, 27 Crescent, Cripplegate, London.

PROGRESS IN CHANGE-RINGING.

By a Looker-on in India.

(Continued from page 368.)

CORNWALL.

CORNWALL is still very backward: prize-ringing is by no means extinct, and change-ringing has made little, if any, progress. The company at Penzance still struggles on, and during the year 1881 rang peals of Bob Doubles and of G. Doubles; also a quarter-peal of G. T. Grandsire is also practised at Whitechurch on a ring of six. Although there are no rings of ten and twelve in the county, yet it is fairly well off for bells, there being 8 rings of eight, and no less than 47 rings of six. Many of the latter, however, are in a bad condition.

In 1882 the ring of six at Camborne (by Rudhall, dated 1767, with tenor of 10 cwt.), was made eight by the addition of a new treble and tenor, the latter weighing 14 cwt.

CUMBERLAND.

Cumberland is still one of the few counties from which no change-ringing at all is reported. There are rings of eight at St. Bees, Carlisle, Cocker-mouth, and Crosthwaite. The last-named church, the Cathedral of the Lake district, had a ring of six, cast at the Whitechapel foundry in 1775. The foundry was at that time in the hands of Messrs. Pack and Chapman, and was turning out work of the greatest excellence. The old tenor weighed 10 cwt. In 1882 this was made a ring of eight by the addition of a new treble and tenor, the latter weighing about 15 cwt. The new ring thus formed is said to be the best in the county, and hopes are entertained that change-ringing will be practised on these charming bells.

DERBYSHIRE.

In 1878 the East Derbyshire Association was formed, and more ringing has been reported from the county than before.

DERBY RINGERS.—1879, 1 peal and 1 quarter-peal of G. T.

" " 1880, 1 Date Touch and 1 quarter-peal of G. T.

" " 1881, 2 peals, 4 quarter-peals, and 1 Date Touch of G. T.

" " 1882, 2 peals and 4 quarter-peals of G. T.

STAVELEY.—1880, 2 peals of G. T.; 1 of Bob M.; and 1 of K. M.

" " 1881, 1 peal and 1 Date Touch of K. M.

" " 1882, 2 peals of K. M.

CHESTERFIELD.—1881, 1 peal, 1 half-peal, and 1 Date Touch of G. Caters.

" " 1882, 6080 changes of K. Royal.

Minor was rung at Long Eaton, at Eckington, and at Derby, and North Wingfield. Doubles were rung at Norton, Ashover, North Wingfield, Sandiacre.

In 1881 a new ring of eight (tenor, 20½ cwt.), was placed in the tower of St. Andrew, Litchurch, Derby.

In 1882 an Association for the Archdeaconry of Derby and district was formed, and will doubtless do much to promote ringing in the county. The Association rang 5088 K. M. at Beeston, and a peal of G. T. at Cole Orton.

DORSETSHIRE.

During the last five years no ringing by local bands has been reported from this county. It is said that a peal of 5000 changes has never been rung up to the present time in Dorsetshire.

In 1880 a heavy ring of eight (tenor, 28 cwt.) was hung at Kingston, near Swanage. A deputation of the Ancient Society of College Youths visited Kingston and rang long touches on the new bells. They pulled off for a 5040, but, unfortunately, lost it after ringing nearly 4000 changes.

Another new ring of eight was hung in 1882 at Cattistock.

Besides these places, Poole, Dorchester, and Wareham, have rings of eight, and as change-ringing is advancing on the east, west, and north, in Devon, Somerset, Wilts, and Hampshire, it may be hoped that it will spread in Dorset also.

There is an 'Amateur Bell-ringing Guild' at Beaminster, but it is not quite clear whether they are half-pull ringers or not. The Cattistock bells are thirty-three in number. They were all cast in Belgium by Van Aerschoot of Louvaine. They will form a carillon, and eight of the set will be hung for ringing.

(To be continued.)

CORRESPONDENCE.

Preaching.

SIR,—May I be allowed to make a few remarks with regard to the strictures of 'V.' on Modern Preaching? He seems to take it for granted that preaching in the Church of England is, as a rule, below the average, and unequal to the demands which the occasion requires and the opportunity offers. He tries to trace this general defect to our habit of preaching from manuscript and neglect of the natural order of things, which is that of preaching extempore. I do not want to contest either of these two points. Some, perhaps, would be unwilling to admit the truth of the first—that the preaching of the Church of England was so very much below the average; and with regard to the second, doctors we know differ, many great and effective preachers constantly use a manuscript. The Bishop of Lincoln, for example, is strongly in its favour. Canon Liddon, the Archbishop of Canterbury, and other popular divines of the present day, all preach from manuscript; so I do not think it can be said that the use or disuse of a book-sermon makes the one great difference in the effectiveness of preaching—so far, at least, as the popularity of a preacher is concerned. What, then, makes the success or non-success of a sermon? Here, I fear, 'V.' will not help us much. There can be no doubt, I suppose, that a good deal of preaching fails to hit the mark, and falls unutterably flat; is—what a friend of mine in giving a lecture to a learned Society said he had to avoid being—'dull, very dull, awfully dull!' Now 'V.' places the fault entirely with the preacher. The preacher fails—such is the indictment—to warm the hearts of his hearers; he is wearisome and uninteresting in his matter; and as for his manner, why the less said about it the better. But I venture to think that this is only one side of the question. On the stage *applause* is said to be necessary to the actor's existence. With an enthusiastic audience he can do anything, amid their plaudits he can soar to any height of histrionic ability; but if this is withheld, if there is no sympathy between actor and audience, chillness and numbness reign in the air, the lights burn blue, and the actor's best periods and most striking declamations fall unreal and fruitless of effect. Now I would apply this by a parable to the alleged failure of modern preaching. As to the excellency of preaching from a critical point of view, very many in a congregation are quite unable to judge; but they are able to judge and to express a right opinion upon, as to the *fervour* of the preacher and the *earnestness* of the discourse. I remember once hearing a lady say of the preaching of the Bishop of Lichfield, 'I like to hear Dr. MacLagan, because he is so earnest.' So most people, if they are satisfied with the *fervour*, are satisfied with the sermon. But—and this is my point—how can we get earnestness in the preacher without a corresponding effort being made by the congregation? There must be the tie of sympathy between them, or else the electric spark will fail to be excited.

Here, then, I wish to say, must some portion of the blame be allotted and placed. The Bishop of Liverpool has told us that preaching extempore is by no means an easy affair. But how can young clergymen ever have the courage to attempt it, when they know that eyes and ears are on the continual watch—not to be edified and helped in the religious life, but to take advantage of the slips and mistakes of the would-be pulpit orator? So the manuscript instead is 'hugged'—taken to the preacher's heart. And the more he uses the manuscript, he finds the more he must. Naturalness gives way to artificiality, coldness begets coldness; and that which would, perhaps, have been done easily in the beginning becomes, with advancing strides, a more terrible strain. Would, then, our congregations realised how much they have the making of a preacher in their own hands! Their *sympathy* will call forth his fervour, his fervour will be reflected in their fruitful sympathy.

J. COWDEN COLE.

SIR,—Let us be fair. Do vicars in general give their deacon-curates proper assistance in preparing and in delivering sermons? When a vicar, I invariably, on giving a title to deacon's orders, came to an understanding that the deacon was to submit to a friendly 'coaching' from me in this most important branch of his work; and it was always cheerfully agreed in. We would have the church to ourselves; the novice from the pulpit delivered his sermon to me, who shifted my place from time to time, and gave advice, or criticised, upon matter, composition, enunciation, and the like. Occasionally, and with candidates for Orders, a printed sermon was read instead of an original one. The same treatment was adopted in the case of the Lessons, from the lectern. How can young men be expected to avoid faults of style, or to be cured of them, or to know when their words reach down the church, unless they are helped in this manner? And surely it is the simple duty of a vicar entrusted with the training, as well as benefited by the work, of a deacon, to deal with him as any other professional man deals with his artful pupil; and on the other side, it is as plainly the deacon's advantage to accept this assistance, and his duty to submit to every such friendly treatment as is calculated to improve him in his newly undertaken functions. The older clergy are to blame as the younger, perhaps more so, for defective preaching.

CORNELIUS WITHERBY.

Curate-in-charge of St. Matthew's, Lavender Hill.

The Diaconate.

SIR,—Although it is customary for the deacon to administer the cup only, there is neither canon, rubric, nor any other direction, legal or illegal, which forbids the administration by a deacon in both kinds. Indeed if we bear in mind the primary object of the diaconate—to serve tables—we cannot doubt for a moment that the administration of the cup only by the deacon is a comparatively modern custom, which has naturally arisen through the deacon being placed, as is now generally the case, as an assistant to a presbyter or incumbent who is a priest. Under such circumstances the incumbent would consecrate and administer the bread, the deacon 'assisting' by

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Reopening of the Ring of Twelve at St. Peter Mancroft, Norwich.

On Monday, the 30th ult., the reopening ceremony of this noted ring of bells was held. Ringers from Cambridge, Ipswich, Beccles, Bungay, Dereham, Yarmouth, Lynn, Saffron Walden, Kenninghall, Aylsham, Eye, Ditchingham, Redenhall, Halesworth, and other places in East Anglia, were present. Touches were rung in the course of the day in various methods: Grandsire Cinques, Grandsire Caters, Treble Bob Maximus, and Treble Bob Royal, both in the Oxford and Kent variations. While referring to the performances of the day, we must record that seven members of the Redenhall Company, with Mr. N. J. Pitstow of Saffron Walden, visited the church of St. Giles, and rang two courses of that intricate but musical method, Superlative Surprise. E. Smith, 1; J. Tann, 2; W. Matthews, 3; N. J. Pitstow, 4; G. Prime, 5; J. Smith, 6; G. Holmes, Esq., 7; Captain Moore, 8. Some touches of Stedman's Triples were afterwards rung at this church by mixed bands. At St. Peter's, the longest touch of the day was two courses of Kent Treble Bob Royal, called by E. Smith of Redenhall; the tenor was rung by Captain Moore.

The work of rehangng the ring was done by Messrs. Day and Son of Eye, Suffolk. The framework has been strengthened, and secured by iron ties at each angle. Ten of the bells have been turned. All the clappers, wheels, and stocks are new.

In the afternoon the St. Peter's Company and over one hundred visitors were entertained by subscription at a dinner, served at the 'White Hart,' the Vicar, the Ven. Archdeacon Nevill, presiding. Among the company were several citizens and local celebrities; Gervas Holmes, Esq., the Revs. Prebendary Sutton, C. F. Blyth, A. G. Blyth, and N. Bolingbroke, L. Procter, Esq., and others. After the loyal toasts had been drunk, the Vicar stated that members of seventeen companies were represented at that gathering. With the toast of 'The Visitors' he coupled the name of the Rev. A. Sutton, who responded. Gervas Holmes, Esq., in proposing 'The St. Peter's Company,' said that forty or fifty years ago they took the lead in the kingdom. There was no other company that could compete with them. He hoped they would regain the old position, for if they did not they ought not to have such a magnificent ring of bells to handle.

Now that the famed bells of St. Peter Mancroft are placed in a condition worthy of their historical renown, it is hoped the 'Norwich Scholars' of the present will endeavour to emulate the achievements of the past. We cannot refrain from complimenting the Vicar, churchwardens, and ringers upon so successful a restoration of their bells.

Salisbury Diocesan Guild of Ringers.

THE first Annual Meeting of the above Guild will be held in Salisbury on Wednesday, May 30th. There will be service in the Church of St. Edmund at 11.30 a.m., with a sermon by the Rev. A. D. Hill, vicar of Downton. Dinner will be provided at 1 p.m., at which the Right Hon. Earl Nelson (President of the Guild) will be in the chair. After dinner there will be a General Meeting for the purpose of electing officers for the ensuing year, and for transacting other business of the Guild. The following bellries have been kindly placed at the disposal of the Guild for the day:—St. Thomas's, 8 bells; St. Edmund's, 6; St. Martin's, 6; St. Paul's, 6. Dinner tickets, 2s. each, can be had of the Hon. Secretary, the Rev. F. Wright-Anderson, Warrminster. If obtained on or before May 16th, 1s. 6d. each. The third-class railway fares of ringing members attending the meeting will be wholly or in part repaid after the meeting out of the funds of the Guild.

St. Albans Cathedral, Herts.

SIR,—In answer to the letter from Mr. Hills in your last issue I would say, if Mr. Hills will refer to the peal-boards at the Cathedral, dated Dec. 19, 1765, and at St. Peter's, May 26, 1767 (being Nos. 3 and 4 of my list on page 408), he will find that the fourth bell on both occasions was rung by 'Mr. Richard Mason.' This gentleman was my maternal great-grandfather, and dying on Jan. 13, 1818, aged 81, he left his MSS. to his grandson (my uncle), the late Mr. John Mason. Upon Mr. John Mason's death, what were then left of the MSS. came into my possession. Amongst them were the registers of the Mercers' Company of the old Corporation, and a quantity of bell matter, including notices (more or less detailed) of the peals 1 to 8 inclusive; Nos. 3, 4, 7, and 8, being headed 'St. Albans Youths.' These MSS. I have unfortunately mislaid (*not lost*) amongst one to two hundredweight of matter relating to bells and bell inscriptions, mostly of my own collecting. I shall doubtless find it some day, and Mr. Hills shall see it. In the meantime I will produce other evidence as to the peal of 1808 now in dispute.

In the *St. Albans Times* (now called the *Herts Advertiser*) for Saturday, May 23, 1808, is an account of the opening of the ring of twelve at St. Peter's Parish Church on Tuesday, May 19, 1868. That article was written by the late Mr. John Lewis (who added the two bells to the old ten); and after giving a copy of the peal-board of 1765 at the Cathedral, he says: 'Another peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples was rung about the year 1808, but the record was lost when the old belfry was destroyed, about thirty-five years ago.' This destruction of the old belfry refers to the restoration of the lantern of the great central tower, and sending the ringers a loft higher up.

Again, I have now before me a document in Mr. John Lewis's own handwriting, in which he says: 'Another peal of 4040 Grandsire Triples was rung about the year 1808, but the record is lost.' Mr. Lewis, having been a ringer all his life, is not likely to be wrong. With regard to this particular peal, if my memory serve me, Mr. Richard Mason did not appear as a ringer; at that time he would be seventy-one years of age, according to the inscription in the north aisle of the Cathedral nave. Mr. Hills says that the 'old officials of the church know nothing whatever' of the lost peal-board. That

I can easily imagine; but as he throws some doubt upon any other records remaining than those upon peal-boards themselves, if he will call upon Mr. Nathaniel Turner, the Cathedral steeple-keeper, at his house, 1 Queen Street, I have no doubt Mr. Turner will show him a MS. book he once showed me, that being a register of matters belonging to the Cathedral, yet contains one, if not more, accounts of peals rung at St. Peter's. I can tell him what became of the 1808 peal-board: it was taken down from the old belfry during the restoration of 1833-35, and after knocking about for some years was at length used for a mortar-board—I think about 1846. I would further inform Mr. Hills that I have an account of the last peal that was rung in that old belfry, which was upon the passing of the Reform Bill, when the public dinner was held in St. Peter Street. If Mr. Hills now doubts my testimony, I hope he will believe when I find the MSS. It is nothing to me one way or the other, for, as far as I know, no one in whom I am interested rang in the peal of 1808. All I care for is to have a really correct list. Mr. Hills says I have omitted a peal from the list. I am very sorry, but I have no other record. It cannot be an old one, and probably comes in between Nos. 13 and 14. I offer no apology for quoting St. Peter's peals in an article upon the Cathedral. My list professed to be a 'list of peals rung in St. Albans on eight bells and upwards.'

Just a few words as to St. Peter's ring and I have done. In 1533, St. Peter's tower contained four bells and a Sanctus bell. The list of 1688 gives six bells. These remained till 1729, when they were recast, and two more added to make eight by Richard Phelps of Whitechapel. In 1787, John Briant of Hertford increased them to ten; and in 1868, by Mr. John Lewis's efforts, two more were added, making twelve, in cages already prepared by John Briant when the tower was rebuilt in 1805: these last two were cast by John Warner and Sons of Cripplegate, and were opened on Tuesday, May 19th, 1868. Mr. Lewis died on Wednesday, the 27th of the same month, and a marble tablet was erected to his memory in the belfry, and these facts recorded thereupon. On the evening of Wednesday, October 12, 1881, one of the best bells of the ring, viz. the *eleventh*, was cracked by the clapper being out of order, and coming into contact with the frame. A subscription has been raised to recast this bell, and the work entrusted to John Taylor and Sons of Loughborough. Upon taking the bell away recently to their foundry they made the discovery that the *tenth* bell was cracked also, and so they have taken that away likewise; but as there are no funds to recast this latter bell, I am told that the churchwardens intend to sell Mr. Lewis's two *trebles* to pay for it! I cannot conceive a greater insult to the memory of one so much respected. Perhaps they will also remove the marble tablet I have spoken of, or certainly the latter will tell tales of the missing bells. We shall very likely be told that the bells are not good ones, and do not harmonise with the rest of the ring. Granted; but that is a question between the authorities and Messrs. Warner, for the local paper of Saturday, May 23, 1868, congratulates the founders upon such a successful splicing of the ring. I would rather have hoped that these two trebles might have been recast, and an inscription inserted on them to Mr. Lewis's memory, as they now both bear nothing but the interesting sentence, 'Cast by John Warner and Sons, London, 1868,' the royal arms, and the magic word, 'Patent.'

34 Nutfield Road, Dulwich.

JNO. HARRIS, C.E.

Reopening of Bells at Christ Church, Bacup, Lancashire.

THE bells at this church have been re-hung and the fittings thoroughly repaired by Jas. Shaw, Son, and Co., Bell-founders, Bradford, Yorkshire. On Saturday, the 5th inst., various Societies being present, Padiham Society opened with a peal of Plain Bob Minor, coming round in 27 mins. Ringing was kept up until 8.30. An excellent repast was afterwards provided and a most enjoyable evening spent.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At All Saints', Newcastle-on-Tyne.

On the 19th ult. a touch of 592 Stedman's Triples was rung in 22 mins. by eight members of the Durham and Newcastle Association. C. L. Routledge, 1; W. G. Routledge, 2; F. Lees, 3; T. Denton, 4; J. Simm, 5; S. Power (conductor), 6; R. S. Story, 7; E. Wallis, 8. Tenor, 19 cwt.

At St. John's, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

On Monday, the 30th ult., a peal of 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor was rung in 23 mins. F. Lees, 1; C. L. Routledge, 2; W. Eggleston (first 720 as conductor), 3; F. J. Des Forges, 4; W. Story, 5; R. S. Story, 6.

On Sunday, the 6th inst., for evening service, a peal of 720 Oxford Treble Bob was rung in 29 mins. C. L. Routledge (conductor), 1; F. Lees, 2; R. S. Story, 3; W. G. Routledge, 4; W. Story, 5; G. Herdman,* 6. [*First in the method with a bob-bell.] It is worthy of note that the treble and tenor men are just seventeen years of age.

On Monday, the 7th inst., a peal of 720 Plain Bob Minor (22 singles) was rung in 28½ mins. F. G. Sneath,* 1; C. L. Routledge, 2; F. Lees, 3; T. J. Des Forges, 4; W. Story, 5; R. S. Story (conductor), 6. [*First peal, and fifteen years of age.] Tenor, 14½ cwt.

At St. Luke's, Liverpool, Lancashire.

On Tuesday, the 1st inst., Holt's Ten-part Peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples was rung in 3 hrs. R. S. Mann, 1; F. W. Moore (first peal as conductor), 2; J. Davidson, 3; J. H. Moore, 4; W. James, 5; T. Hammond, 6; J. R. Pritchard, 6; J. Brown, 8. Tenor, 16 cwt.

At Christ Church, Oxford.

On Saturday, the 5th inst., six members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild rang a peal of 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor in 30 mins. W. Finch, 1; O. Thomas, 2; C. C. Child, Esq., 3; S. Hounslow, 4; W. J. Washbrook (conductor), 5; G. F. Coleridge, Esq., 6. Tenor, 42 cwt.

RECEIVED ALSO.—Ipswich; Octave—apply to Mr. Goslin, 27 Crescent, Cripplegate, London

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

St. Albans Cathedral, Herts.

SIR,—In answer to Mr. Harris, I beg to say that I am perfectly well aware that Mr. Richard Mason rang the 4th on the occasions he mentions, but do not take that as any proof of a peal having been rung in 1808. Mr. Harris does not say that any direct proof of a peal in 1808 came to him in Mr. Richard Mason's MSS., but merely what were then left of them. As to the report in the *St. Albans Times* of May 23rd, 1868 (which I have seen), I beg to say, that although the late Mr. John Lewis said, 'Another peal of Grandsire Triples about the year 1808,' &c., it does not really prove that such was the case, as at that time (1868), as now, it was only supposition.

In St. Albans, a few years ago, the word 'peal' was very indifferently understood, as I have just seen an old inhabitant who has been a ringer and interested in bells for fifty years, and he tells me that it was considered a feat for eight men to ring call-changes for an hour, it being considered 'a peal.' He also remembers peals at St. Peter's, but never remembers hearing of one at the Abbey besides the 1765 one.

Mr. Harris's supposed lost peal-board was not a peal-board at all, but only a board containing some ringing verses. If Mr. Harris has an account of a peal rung on the passing of the Reform Bill, why did he not insert it in his list of peals? I have seen Mr. Nathaniel Turner, who informs me that Mr. Harris is entirely wrong in supposing that a peal-board was lost during any restoration. Indeed, seeing that Mr. Harris is not a ringer himself, I very much question whether he understands the meaning of the word 'peal.' If he does profess to be a ringer, will he kindly inform us what method he is proficient in? As to St. Peter's bells I will only say, that if the people interested in the matter are satisfied, it is not Mr. Harris's business to find fault. Also that the two trebles of the twelve were not added by the late Mr. John Lewis, but by public subscription raised through his praiseworthy efforts.

I have no more time to give to useless discussion, but will patiently wait till Mr. Harris finds his couple of hundredweight of bell matter, when he will no doubt be able to prove to our entire satisfaction that a peal was rung in 1808. Till then I beg to say, that although it is probable that one was rung, we are (in the absence of any real proof) justified in considering our peal of April 4th as the first in the method.

N. N. HILLS.

3 St. Peter's Street, St. Albans, Herts.

ERRATUM.—On p. 448, 7th line from bottom, for 4040 read 5040.

Annual Meeting of the Essex Change-ringers' Association.

The Annual Meeting was held at Chelmsford on Monday. A service was held at St. Mary's Church at half-past 12 o'clock, when a fair number of members were present. The prayers were read by the Rev. J. D. Narnie, curate of Chelmsford; the first lesson by the Rev. H. A. Cockey, curate of Rettendon and Secretary of the Association; and the second by the Rev. H. F. Johnson, rector of Chelmsford. The sermon was preached by the Rev. J. G. Le M. Carey, archdeacon of Essex, from the 134th Psalm. The preacher said that this was the last of the psalms which were known as songs of degrees, which meant stair songs. It seemed to him that nothing could be more appropriate than such a song as this to those who went into the belfry to call worshippers together from far and near. He did not know how long rings of bells had existed in England, but he believed it was something like 600 years. The rev. gentleman referred to inscriptions on different bells in the country; and said that after the ringers had called other people together to worship they should always be found in their places themselves.

After the service a dinner was held in the Charity schoolroom. The Secretary read the annual report, which showed that the number of members at the present time were:—life, 8; honorary, 52; and ringing, 172; being an increase during the year of 2 life, 7 honorary, and 12 ringing members. Only three peals had been rung during the year, and all of these were Grandsire Triples. They were respectively rung at Chelmsford, at St. Saviour's, Walthamstow, and St. Mary's, Walthamstow. District meetings had been held during the year at Barking and at Coggeshall. The report was adopted. The Secretary said that some little while ago at a funeral of one of the members a muffled peal was rung upon the bells at Chelmsford Church, and a person signing himself 'A Member of the Essex Association of Change-ringers' had written to the papers about it in what seemed to him to be rather a disagreeable spirit. He wished it to be plainly understood that such a feeling tended to do harm to the Society. The officers of the Association were all re-elected, with the exception of the Rev. J. B. Seaman, who has left the country. The Rev. H. A. Cockey was elected in his place.

Touques were rung in various methods during the day—Bob Minor, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob Minor, Bob Major, Kent Treble Bob Major, and Grandsire Triples. The day's ringing was concluded with a date touch of 1883 Grandsire Triples, rung in 1 hr. 6 mins. by the following:—S. Hayes, 1; W. Rowland, 2; A. Pye, 3; H. F. De Lisle, 4; J. M. Hayes, 5; H. Bowell, 6; Rev. H. A. Cockey (conductor), 7; E. Scotcher, 8. Tenor, 22½ cwt. This touch was composed by Mr. John Carter of Birmingham.

H. A. COCKEY, Hon. Sec.

Anniversary at Braughing, Herts.

On Thursday, the 10th inst., the 104th annual ringing festival was held to celebrate the peal of Bob Major, 12,240 changes, rung in 7 hrs. 34 mins., on the 10th of May, 1779. About thirty sat down to dinner, the Vicar, the Rev. P. G. Ward, taking the chair. Squire Proctor was present with his celebrated band, who rang Kent Treble Bob Major, Double Norwich Court Bob, Superlative Surprise, Cambridge Surprise, London Surprise, and Stedman's Triples. The evening was enlivened by merry tunes and change-ringing on the hand-bells. Among the visitors we noticed Messrs. J. R. Haworth and J. Smith (London), G. Rochester (Sawbridgeworth), F. Sworder (Great Hallingbury, Essex), and Lawrence (Furneaux Pelham).

CHANGE-RINGING.

At St. John's, Deritend, Birmingham.

On Thursday, the 3rd inst., eight members of the St. Martin's Society rang Thurstan's peal of 5040 Stedman's Triples in 3 hrs. 6 mins. H. Johnson, jun., 1; T. Miller, 2; H. Johnson, sen., 3; W. R. Small, 4; C. H. Hattersley, 5; S. Reeves (conductor), 6; J. Buffery, 7; A. Thomas, 8. Tenor, 12 cwt.

At SS. Mary and Nicolas, Spalding, Lincolnshire.

On Sunday evening, the 6th inst., after service, a peal of 720 Oxford Treble Bob (9 bobs) was rung in 27½ mins. J. W. Creasey, 1; J. S. Wright, 2; G. L. Richardson, 3; R. Creasey, 4; J. Willson (Member of Essex Association), 5; R. Mackman (conductor), 6.

Also on Sunday, the 13th inst., after service, a peal of 720 Oxford Bob (9 bobs and 6 singles) was rung in 29 mins. G. Skeef, 1; A. Brown, 2; G. L. Richardson, 3; R. Mackman (conductor), 4; J. S. Wright, 5; J. Brown, 6.

Also on the 15th inst., a peal of 720 Plain Bob (18 bobs and 10 singles) was rung in 28 mins. G. Skeef, 1; J. S. Wright, 2; G. L. Richardson, 3; J. Willson, 4; A. Brown, 5; R. Mackman (conductor), 6. Tenor, 18 cwt.

At Loughborough, Leicestershire.

On Sunday, the 6th inst., for morning service, on the occasion of a special sermon being preached in aid of the parochial Sunday Schools, the Loughborough Change-ringers rang a touch of 672 Grandsire Triples. T. Grundy, sen., 1; H. Bradley, 2; J. Hardy, 3; T. Cooper, 4; R. Lane, 5; J. W. Taylor, sen. (conductor), 6; J. W. Taylor, jun., 7; E. Wightman, 8. Tenor, 24 cwt. in D.

At St. Mary-le-Tower, Ipswich, Suffolk.

On Tuesday, the 8th inst., a peal of 5015 Grandsire Cinques was rung in 3 hrs. 38 mins. W. L. Catchpole (composer and conductor), 1; H. Bevan, 2; I. S. Alexander, 3; E. Pemberton, 4; J. Motts, 5; W. Meadows, 6; C. Saul, 7; R. Hawes, 8; E. Reeve, 9; S. Tillet, 10; R. H. Brundle, 11; J. Miller, 12. Tenor, 32 cwt. All the above are members of the Ancient Society of College Youths.

At Bletchingley, Surrey.

On Tuesday, the 8th inst., a mixed band rang at the parish church Holt's original One-part peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples, in 3 hrs. 1 min. A. Wallis, 1; W. Webb, 2; L. Killick, 3; E. Kenward, 4; J. Burkin, 5; W. Hawkins, 6; W. Burkin, (conductor), 7; W. Mayne, 8. Tenor, 19 cwt.

At Christ Church, Oxford.

On Saturday, the 11th inst., eight members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild rang at the Cathedral a date touch of 1883 Grandsire Triples in 1 hr. 16 mins. F. Castle, 1; J. Howse, 2; C. Boots, 3; G. Lapworth, 4; C. C. Child, Esq., 5; C. Hounslow, 6; W. J. Washbrook (composer and conductor), 7; G. F. Coleridge, Esq., 8. Tenor, 42 cwt.

At All Saints', Newcastle.

On Saturday, the 12th inst., eight members of the Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association rang the Six-part peal of Grandsire Triples composed by the late T. Day of Birmingham in 3 hrs. 14½ mins. J. Weddell, 1; W. G. Routledge, 2; W. Reed, Esq., 3; G. J. Clarkson, Esq., 4; J. Simn, 5; Sergeant Power (conductor), 6; R. S. Story, 7; J. Hara, 8. Tenor, 19 cwt. [* First peal.]

At St. John's, Newcastle.

On Sunday, the 13th inst., a peal of 720 Oxford Bob Minor was rung for morning service in 27½ mins. H. Lees, 1; C. L. Routledge, 2; R. S. Story, 3; W. G. Routledge, 4; W. Story, 5; G. J. Clarkson, Esq. (conductor), 6. Tenor, 14½ cwt. First in the method for all except the conductor.

At St. Peter's, Bournemouth, Hants.

On Whit-Monday several ringers from Salisbury visited Bournemouth, and rang several peals in company with some of the Bournemouth company. One or two peals of Grandsire Doubles were rung with the 4th, 6th, and tenor as a cover, by A. Grist, 1; C. Staden, 2; T. Blackburn, 3; W. Lanham, 4; S. Marret, 5; J. Tapper, 6; J. R. Jerram, 7; G. Davenport, 8; also with H. Garret, 3; and C. Clement's, 4. Tenor, 20 cwt.

At St. Peter's, Tunbridge Wells, Kent.

On Whit Monday were rung some six-scores of Grandsire Doubles, after which the ringers went to Frant (Sussex), and on the light ring of six at the parish church rang more Grandsire Doubles. J. Coulthorpe (conductor), 1; R. Sharvill, 2; H. Barefield, 3; W. Latter, 4; J. Muggridge, 5; J. Latter, 6. Also in the following order,—J. Muggridge, 1; H. Barefield* (conductor), 2; R. Sharvill, 3; W. Latter, 4; G. Kember, 5; J. Latter, 6. Weight of tenor not known. Bells very old, but go well. [* Member of the Ancient Society of College Youths, and of the Oxford Diocesan Guild of Change-ringers.]

At Castle Donington, Leicestershire.

On Whit-Tuesday six members of the Midland Counties Association from Long Eaton rang a peal of 720 Bob Minor in 28 mins. During the afternoon four six-scores of Bob Doubles and one six-score Grandsire Doubles were also rung. J. Pritchard, 1; G. Bradley, 2; J. Ward, 3; W. Gibson, 4; W. Grice, 5; J. Barrow (conductor), 6. Tenor, 17½ cwt. These bells have much improved in tone of late, and we are glad to say that a new Association has been formed, and the members are now practising diligently, and we hope soon to be able to record some of their performances.

RECEIVED ALSO.—W. I. Pickard—we advise you to write to L. Proctor, Esq., Bennington, Herts, dropping the mongrel word 'Campanalogists.' 'Curate in-Charge' is advised not to alter the custom of the ringing the three bells he finds in his parish. W. B. Dowdey; Deptford; and others.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

The Hertford College Youths.

On the 15th inst. the members of this Society paid a visit to Baldock, and were much pleased with the fine ring of eight bells which has been recently overhauled by Messrs. Taylor of Loughborough, and put into perfect going order, the tenor weighing about 28 cwt. After dining together in the parish room, which was kindly placed at their disposal by the Rev. Canon Kewley, the ringers went to Hitchin and rang several touches at St. Mary's Church, where there is another good ring of eight, the tenor weighing about the same as at Baldock. During the day touches of Stedman's and Grandsire Triples and Bob Major, amounting in the aggregate to more than 4000 changes, were brought round. The members present were, the Rev. Woomore Wigram, Messrs. A. Baker, H. Baker, F. G. Crawley, J. G. Crawley, J. Jull, F. George, J. Godfrey, J. Staples, C. Tyler, and H. J. Tucker. Messrs. Frossell and Biggs of Bedford, and Mr. W. A. Alps, of Waltham, joined the party at Baldock.

Bedfordshire Association of Change-ringers.

On Whit Monday some members of the above Association visited the village of Southill, Beds., and rang several six-scores of Grandsire Doubles, a peal of 720 Grandsire Minor (38 bobs and 22 singles), in 26 mins. W. Allen, 1; S. J. Cullip, 2; W. Biggs, 3; J. Adkin, 4; W. Hall, 5; J. Frossell (conductor), 6.—360 Plain Bob in 14 mins. W. Allen, 1; W. Biggs, 2; C. Clarke, 3; J. Adkin, 4; W. Hall (conductor), 5; C. Craddock, 6.—A peal of 720 Plain Bob Minor (18 bobs and 2 singles) was rung in 27 mins. J. Frossell, 1; W. Allen, 2; C. Clarke, 3; C. Craddock, 4; W. Hall (conductor), 5; I. Hills, 6.—An attempt was made to ring a peal of 720 Oxford Treble Bob in three parts (9 bobs), but after ringing nearly to the second part-end came to grief. W. Allen, 1; J. Frossell, 2; C. Craddock, 3; J. Adkin, 4; W. Hall (conductor), 5; I. Hills, 6. Tenor, 13 cwt. in G.

Lancashire Association of Change-ringers.

A RINGING Meeting will be held on Saturday, June 2nd, at Christ Church, Didsbury, Manchester. Ringing from 2.30 p.m. The Secretaries hope to see a good attendance of members, and also cordially invite all non-members. Ringing limited to half an hour until all have rung.

13 Barton Street, Moss Side.

W. J. CHATTERTON, } Hon. Secs.
JOEL REDFORD, }

The Guild of Devonshire Ringers.

THE Guild of Devonshire Ringers held their General Annual Meeting at Exeter on Whit Monday. There was a large gathering of members of the Guild, and the meeting was most successful. The Exeter Band, the Tiverton Band, the Huntsham Band, the Ilfracombe Band, and the Upton Pyne Band, were present, as well as representatives of several other bands in different parts of the county. The following church towers were kindly lent to the Guild for the day:—St. Sidwell's and Alphington, each containing eight bells; and St. David's and St. Petrock's, each containing six bells. Several touches were rung by the different bands, and the day passed off most agreeably. At three o'clock a General Business Meeting was held at 160 St. Sidwell's, the President of the Guild, Colonel Chas. A. W. Troyte, in the chair. The Treasurer's accounts were read and passed, and a loan of 20l., formerly made by Colonel Troyte to the Guild, was ordered to be repaid out of the balance in the hands of the Treasurer. The yearly Report was read and adopted. The Chairman impressed upon the meeting the importance of making determined efforts, both collectively and individually, to promote bellfry reform, and to encourage change-ringing in the county. The Hon. Secretary (the Rev. J. S. Northcote) was instructed to arrange a plan for sending out skilled teachers to any tower at which the ringers desired to study the art of change-ringing. A vote of thanks to Mr. W. B. Fulford, the late Treasurer, was carried unanimously, and a vote of thanks to the Chairman closed the meeting.

Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association of Ringers.

A GENERAL Meeting of this Association was held at North Shields on Whit Monday, and was attended by ringers from Darlington, Durham, Bishop Wearmouth, Jarrow, Newcastle, North and South Shields, Staindrop, Stockton, Winlaton, and Brampton in Cumberland; making up a company of eighty-three for dinner, over whom the Rev. J. R. Humble presided, in the absence of the vicar; the churchwarden of North Shields, Mr. J. Baker, and one of the curates, Rev. R. C. Russell, being also present. During the day peals and touches of Minor were rung at St. Peter's and Christ Church, Jarrow, and South Shields; as well as touches of Triples, Major, Caters, and Royal at North Shields. It was decided in future to hold the annual meetings at Durham and Newcastle alternately, the annual meeting of this year going to Durham.

How Ringers are treated at Southampton.

THE Churchwarden of Holy Rood Church, Southampton—Bishop by name—refused the other day to allow the ringers to ring for a wedding unless they paid a guinea for the use of the bells. This is certainly a most extraordinary way of remunerating ringers for their services. The above is from one of the Southampton company of ringers, and is inserted by his special request.

St. Margaret's (Westminster) Society of Ringers.

THE JOHN HOLT TABLET.

SIR,—Some time ago considerable interest was manifested in the condition of this Board of Holt's Original peal of Grandsire Triples in St. Margaret's bellfry and its proposed renovation, but unfortunately the subject has been allowed to drop. However, the Committee of the above Society have now decided to take the matter up with a view to restoring this ancient record. I am requested to make this known to ringers in your journal.

Subscriptions for the purpose may be sent to the Editor of *The Bells News and Ringers' Record*, or to our Treasurer, Mr. J. Dod, 52 Queen Anne's Gate, Westminster.

ALFRED SMITH, Hon. Sec.

St. Albans Cathedral, Herts.

SIR,—In this, my final answer to Mr. Hills (as I have no more time to spend on the matter), I will again state that amongst Mr. Richard Mason's MSS. which came to me, 'the bell matter contained notices (more or less detailed) of the peals 1 to 8 inclusive, Nos. 3, 4, 7, and 8, being headed "St. Albans Youths." This, of course, includes the peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples rang at the Cathedral in 1808, and which gave the names of the ringers; the matter is not one of *supposition*, but of *fact*. Further, that the old bellfry contained three boards—1, the peal of 1765; 2, the peal of 1808; 3, a board inscribed with some verses. Board No. 3 I remember well from my boyhood till about 1872, when I believe it was destroyed during the present 'restoration' by the same authorities that cut up and destroyed the old mediæval frame which held the five bells that were recast in 1699 by Philip Wightman. I fortunately have measured drawings of this frame, which I did about 1863. But to return to the No. 3 board: a duplicate copy of the verses was on a board in the bellfry of Redbourn Parish Church when I visited it on Friday, October 8, 1869. The board at Redbourn was signed at foot, 'Joseph Brown, 1764'; the Cathedral board, 'Nathaniel Turner,' with a date which I believe was also 1764; but it was somewhat damaged, and I cannot be sure. This Mr. 'Nathaniel Turner' was the same whose name is on the 1765 peal-board.

Just to show that the late Mr. John Lewis well knew the interior of the old bellfry when a boy, and is not likely to have made any mistake or '*supposition*,' I will transcribe an entry from my MSS. relating to the Cathedral: 'On the third Sunday in Advent, 13 Dec. 1829, two youths, John Lewis* and George Oakley† ascended the great centre tower at 6.45 a.m. to ring the seven o'clock peal (in the old bellfry, destroyed 1833-35). The treble was chimed on the swing by Oakley; the second by Lewis. They ceased to chime 7.10 a.m., when the treble, being raised by Oakley, was bumped, and instead of the stay or slide-bar giving way, the bell broke off at the cannons. The vestry afterwards employed James Earl, whitesmith, to bore four holes in the crown and rehang her. This was the treble by John Briant, and not that of 1730 by Richard Phelps, Briant having recast Phelps' bell.‡ The peal on the passing of the Reform Bill was nothing more than the joy-peal of a wedding, and not change-ringing, and is only interesting from its being the last peal rung in the old bellfry.

I think Mr. Hills has entirely missed my meaning. I am looking at the matter from an historical (shall I say from an archaeological?) point of view, and therefore I will give the reason why I stated that 'Mr. Lewis added the two bells,' which Mr. Hills says he did not do; viz. a copy of the marble tablet to Mr. Lewis's memory in St. Peter's bellfry. If that tablet be wrong, that is not my fault; there it is, and here is a copy of its inscription:—

* JOHN LEWIS of this parish—Nonconformist—added two bells to complete the peal of twelve, and rang them on Tuesday, May 19th, 1868. He died on Wednesday, May 27th, 1868.

H. N. DUDDING, Vicar.
"That I may win Christ and be found in Him. Let us, therefore, as many as be perfect, be thus minded."

My last did not say (as Mr. Hills puts it) that I had lost 'a couple of hundredweight of bell matter,' but merely that 'these MSS. I have unfortunately mislaid (not lost) amongst one to two hundredweight of matter relating to bells and bell inscriptions.' What I know or do not know about ringing has nothing whatever to do with the loss of the 1808 board—it is beside the question altogether. I am stating facts; if Mr. Hills will not believe, I have nothing further to say. The remainder of his letter will, on comparison with my last, be found to answer itself. As I said before, when I find the account of the 1808 peal I will publish it; and saying that, I have done, after asking you to insert the following additional errata in my last article:—Page 448, column 2, line 21 from top, for 1533 read 1553. Page 448, column 2, line 22 from top, for 1688 read 1698. JNO. HARRIS, C.E.

34 Nutfield Road, Dulwich.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At St. John's, Deptford, Kent.

On Whit Monday, the 14th inst., eight members of the Society of Trinity Youths rang a peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples (Holt's Bob-and-Single) in 2 hrs. 57 mins. J. Rose, 1; W. Pead, 2; T. Deal, 3; W. Weatherstone (conductor), 4; T. Taylor, 5; H. Freeman, 6; G. Freeman, 7; J. Laws, 8.

At All Saints', Loughborough, Leicestershire.

On Tuesday, the 15th inst., eight members of the Midland Counties Association rang a quarter-peal of 1260 Grandsire Triples in 49 mins. W. Billingham,* 1; H. Bradley,* 2; J. Hardy, 3; J. W. Taylor, jun., 4; S. Smith,* 5; J. W. Taylor, sen., 6; J. Howe (conductor), 7; E. Wightman,* 8. Tenor, 24 cwt., in D. [* Their first quarter-peal.]

At All Saints', Benhilton, Surrey.

On Sunday, the 20th inst., six members of the Benhilton Society rang for early celebration of the Holy Communion at 8 a.m. a peal of 720 Plain Bob Minor (21 bobs and 12 singles) in 29 mins. L. C. Ferrige, 1; J. Francis, 2; James Trendell, 3; G. Petre, 4; C. Trendell, 5; John Trendell (conductor), 6. The first 720 in this method ever rung on the bells, and also by the ringers.

At All Saints', Maldon, Essex.

On Monday, the 21st inst., a peal of 720 Bob Minor, and a peal of 720 Double Court Bob Minor, were rung in 52 mins. S. Cable, 1; F. Fitch, 2; T. Mansfield, 3; G. Mansfield, 4; W. Chalk (conductor), 5; W. Mansfield, 6. And at the same time 120 Grandsire Doubles, conducted by Mr. Cable. All

* Mr. Lewis was Mayor 1856-7, and died May 27, 1868.

† George Oakley was afterwards turnkey at St. Albans Gaol. I believe he still lives.

‡ Briant's treble was cracked, and recast in 1845 by C. and G. Mears.

members of the Essex Association. Tenor, about 13 cwt. The above peals were rung to commemorate the seventieth birthday of Mr. Stephen Cable, who has rung at the above church over forty years.

At St. Paul's, Burton-on-Trent, Staffordshire.

On Tuesday, the 22nd inst., eight members of the Midland Counties Association rang T. Thurstan's peal of 5040 Stedman's Triples in 3 hrs. 16 mins. G. Appleby, 1; E. I. Stone, 2; J. Jagger, 3; J. Griffin, 4; A. Wakley, 5; F. W. Appleby, 6; W. Wakley (conductor), 7; T. Holmes, 8. Tenor, 26 cwt.

At St. Paul's Cathedral, London.

On Tuesday, the 22nd inst., being the practice night, thirteen members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang a quarter-peal of 1306 Stedman's Cinques in 1 hr. 8 mins. J. Pettit, 1; H. C. Haley, jun., 2; W. Cooter, 3; J. R. Haworth, 4; M. A. Wood, 5; E. Wallage, 6; G. Dorrington, 7; E. Clark, 8; W. D. Smith, 9; E. Carter, 10; F. E. Dave (composer and conductor), 11; W. Greenleaf and W. Prime, 12. Tenor, 62 cwt., in B flat.

RECEIVED ALSO.—Henry Ballfield; Bob Major.

PROGRESS IN CHANGE-RINGING.

By a Looker-on in India.

(Continued from page 429.)

DEVONSHIRE.

WHEN change-ringing has become nearly extinct in a county, those who desire to revive the art can never despair when they see what has been accomplished in Devon. Fifteen years ago half-pull ringing was practically unknown, while at present it is successfully practised in every direction. At the same time rings are being augmented on all sides, and the work of re-hanging is constantly going on.

HUNTSHAM RINGERS.—1878, 3 Date Touches of G. T.; a mixed band rang 1 Date Touch of St. T.; and 1 peal of K. M.
 " " " 1879, 1 half-peal of G. T.; and 1 peal of St. T. by a mixed band.
 " " " 1880, 1 Date Touch of G. T.; and 1 peal of ditto by the County Guild.
 " " " 1881, 1 Date Touch of G. T.; and 1 ditto of St. T.
 " " " 1882, 1 Date Touch of G. T.

EXETER.—1878, Doubles and Minor.

" 1879, 1 peal of G. T.
 " 1880, 1 half-peal of G. T.; and 1105 changes of ditto.
 " 1881, 1 peal and 1 half-peal, and 1400 changes of G. T.

THE COUNTY GUILD.—1880, 5040 G. T. at Alington.

" " " 1881, 2 peals of G. T.

MONILEIGH RINGERS.—G. Doubles, St. ditto, and 720 G. Minor.

MERTON RINGERS.—St. Doubles, and 720 G. Minor.

Change-ringing is also practised at other places, e.g. at St. Mary, Plymouth, St. George Clyst, Ilfracombe, Budleigh, Broadclyst, Uploman, and elsewhere.

It would take too much space to tell what has been done in the case of rings of five and six bells. Suffice it to say that rings of eight at Plympton and Ugborough have been rehung; that rings of six at Chagford, Aveton, Chittlehampton, Ashburton, have been made eight by the addition of trebles; while at Teignmouth a ring of eight has taken the place of a ring of three.

DURHAM AND NORTHUMBERLAND.

These two counties can be considered conveniently together, because in both great progress has been made, owing to the same cause. This was the formation in 1877 of the Durham Diocesan Association. Ten years ago change-ringing was almost unknown north of the Tees. Now the two counties show the following excellent score:—

In 1878 the Association rang 1 peal and 1 quarter-peal of G. T.; G. Minor and Bob Minor were rung at Newcastle and at Stockton; while at Hurworth, whence the movement seems to have started, more difficult methods of Minor were accomplished.

In 1879 North Shields rang Minor and Treble Bob Minor; also 2 half-peals of G. T., and 2400 changes of Bob Major. Newcastle rang G. Minor, and 1008 G. T. Darlington rang O. Minor. Stockton rang much Minor, and South Shields rang College ditto.

In 1880 long touches of G. T. and K. M. at Newcastle; Minor, Bob Major, and Treble Bob Major, at North Shields; 1600 G. T. at Sunderland; Minor of sorts at Stockton, Darlington, and S. Shields; and College Single at Bishop's Wearmouth. The Association also rang 1512 G. T. at Hexham, and a peal of K. Minor at Newcastle.

In 1881 North Shields rang 2 peals of G. T., and 1880 Bob Major; Newcastle rang 1008 G. T.; a mixed band rang 1056 Bob Major at Bishop's Auckland; Darlington, Stockton, S. Shields, and Staindrop rang Minor; and Doubles were rung at St. Stephen's, Newcastle.

In 1882 Newcastle rang 1 half-peal and several long touches of G. T.; also Minor in various methods. North Shields 1061 G. T. Caters. Minor of sorts was rung at Hurworth, Jarrow, S. Shields, and Darlington.

Together with all this, much work has been done about the bells in the two counties. The ring of six in the parish church at N. Shields, which was made eight in 1874 by the addition of a treble and a tenor, was made ten in 1878, and has the honour of being the first ring of ten in the diocese. In 1880 a fine ring of eight (tenor, 30 cwt.), from the Loughborough foundry, was placed in the tower of St. Stephen's Church, Newcastle; and in the next year the bells of Bishop's Auckland were increased from five to eight. Two new rings of six were given to Jarrow.

The above excellent results show what can be done in backward parts of the country by energy and perseverance.

(To be continued.)

CORRESPONDENCE.

'Awake! Arise!'

SIR,—A Memorial lately appeared in *Church Bells* addressed to all the prelates individually. The petition with which it closed is a step towards recovering for the presbytery that share in Church government and discipline which, by warrant of the New Testament and by Apostolic example, is inalienably their right. It asks the Bishops to give, each to his clergy 'ample time to deliberate and make known to him the result of their deliberations' on Ecclesiastical Discipline, before any new legislation on that subject receives episcopal support. So utterly dispirited and *inopes concilii* the great mass of the clergy seem to have become, by the encroachments, through centuries, of the prelacy on one side and of the civil power on the other, that any stir or movement to resume, or even recognise, what, if they believe the New Testament, must be the primary duty of their sacred office, seems utterly beyond them. Our Church history for the last half century has been, if briefly told, an attempt to work a Church without its discipline; and to fill the gap by intervention of the temporal power. But Church discipline must ever come from within, and never from without. All spiritual functions have spiritual sources. I say nothing now of the doctrinal issues constantly found to be involved in disciplinary questions; but, assuming the discipline of the Church to be a spiritual function, an attempt, above all a *persistent* attempt for fifty years together, to make Acts of Parliament its mainspring, is at once an outrage on conscience and an insult to the Head of the Church Himself. The attempt is nothing short of a continued and defiant sacrilege. I lift up a nearly solitary voice against it, in amazement and almost in despair. I look round agast at the silent, heedless attitude of the great body of my brethren, and am reminded by it of the Neo-Christians at Ephesus, who had 'not so much as heard whether there be any Holy Ghost:' to such an extent has the remotest conception of their duty under 1 Pet. v. 1, 2; 1 Tim. v. 17; Acts, xv. 6, and xx. 28, faded apparently out of their minds. The whole of Hooker's *E. P.*, book viii., might as well have been never written. Men have signed protests in thousands against particular isolated acts of usurpation in respect of churchyards, ritual, and so forth; but the fundamental duty on which all such protests depend and which all such usurpations transgress, seems hardly to have the feeblest hold upon their minds. In hope that this may arouse some to recognise the duty and assert the right by signing the Memorial referred to, I remain, &c.

HENRY HAYMAN, D.D.

Aldingham, May 16th, 1883.

Empty Churches.

SIR,—I ask for a little space to reply to 'Non Recuso Laborem' in defence of our Bishop's Ten Churches scheme. If a new church is to be built in the neighbourhood of two half-empty ones, I can only say that this is a departure from the principles laid down at the Rochester Diocesan Conference. At that Conference several of our leading clergy—among others the excellent Vicar of Rotherhithe—distinctly told us that they did not want new churches in their parishes at present, other ways of Church extension seemed to them more desirable. But the point which decided my own judgment, and that, I am sure, of many others, in favour of the Ten Churches scheme, was the fact, known to all of us suburban clergy, of the great fringe of new suburb which is so rapidly encircling South London proper, and which consists largely of houses varying in rental from 40l. to 80l. or 100l. a-year. These, or the smaller of them, are largely inhabited by young business men, or young professional men, who cannot afford to build themselves churches, but who are sufficiently educated and sufficiently attached to the Church to value her ministrations and contribute to the offertory if once churches were planted among them. I see this to be the case in my own parish. A certain proportion of these young people will rise in life and succeed, and will henceforth be a great strength to the Church. This, too, I know by experience. These men and their families especially deserve consideration. And they do not count to be put off with makeshifts, mission rooms, lay preachers, and Sankey hymns. They want a regular 'place of worship'—if the Church does not supply it the Nonconformists will. This also I have seen.

In reply to another correspondent, who complains of our morning services being so much less careful than the evening, I may be allowed to say that, while I deplore the fact greatly, I think it can be accounted for. In my own case the 11 a.m. service is that attended by all the most Conservative (ecclesiastically) of my parishioners; they want a service such as they have been accustomed to; and it seems hardly fair they should not have a quiet congregational service at the hour which suits them best. I have at the same hour, in a second church, a carefully-rendered choral matins. Last Sunday this service (including choral celebration) lasted from eleven till half-past one. Let your correspondent hit his hardest at florid Kyries, followed by a monotoned or read Communion Service; I have nothing to say in their defence.

CLERICUS ROPFENSIS.

Preaching.

SIR,—The following passage from an essay of the late Canon Mozley's may be interesting to your correspondents who write on the subject of preaching. I send it in support of Mr. Cole's remarks on the supreme need of *earnestness*. In the multitude of counsels, this secret, which outweighs all excellencies of art, is apt to be overlooked. The passage is this: 'It may be asked how a preacher, who has none of what we may call the arts and accomplishments of preaching; who has not pliability of voice or command over accent, time, or tone; who does not change from fast to slow, or pause, or look off from his page; who, instead of facing an audience in the way in which extempore preachers can do throughout a sermon, and which most preachers try to do more or less, keeps his eyes fixed down, and sustains an unvarying note

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

St. Woolos Guild for the Promotion of Bell-Ringing, Newport, Monmouthshire.

THE Thirteenth Annual General Meeting of the members of the Guild was held on Friday, the 4th ult., at 8 p.m., the Rev. W. C. Bruce in the chair, afterwards taken by Mr. W. B. Barnett. The notice convening the Meeting having been read, the following Report of the Committee and Statement of Accounts were read:—Thirteenth Annual Report of the Committee.—Your Committee, in submitting their Thirteenth Annual Report, have to state that during the first six months of the year (May to October inclusive) there were regular weekly practices, at which the attendance was meagre. There have been no practices during the past six months (November to April inclusive) in consequence of the members preferring, apparently, to be present at the meeting of the Parliamentary Debating Society on Tuesday evenings. The attendance at the belfry during September and October was very small, and it was considered useless to alter the evening for practice. During the whole year there were only 18 practices, the attendance averaging 4.61, as compared with 36 and 37 practices in former years. It is needless to add that very little progress has, therefore, been made in Change-ringing; however, the Committee hope the ensuing year will be marked by better attendance at the belfry on practice nights, and that when the next Annual Meeting is held they will be able to report the Guild has much improved. The bells were rung on Whit Monday, the first Sunday the Rev. W. Conybeare Bruce officiated at St. Woolos Church; also upon six occasions when Fees were received, viz.—Opening Fancy Fair and New Street, at three Weddings (Rev. J. Rees, Miss Phillips, and Mr. J. Miller), and on the Freemasons attending Divine Service. Three muffled peals were rung upon the days of burial of the late Archbishop of Canterbury, the Bishop of Llandaff, and the late sexton, J. Gregory. The Committee have met four times, balloted for and elected six new members. They have also to announce that the Rev. W. C. Bruce, shortly after coming to Newport, presented the Guild with a set of seventeen richly toned hand-bells. Twenty-six regular members have subscribed to the fund. The abstract of the accounts from 30th April, 1882, to 30th April, 1883, were then read, and found correct. The Report having been adopted, and the accounts passed, Mr. Pearman was re-elected honorary treasurer, and it was proposed by Mr. Barnett, seconded by Mr. Pearman, and resolved, that Mr. Pickard be appointed honorary secretary (*vice* Mr. Nicholas resigned). It was proposed, seconded, and resolved, that Messrs. C. Kirby, J. K. Stone, R. J. Nicholas, W. J. Hollingdale, W. B. Barnett, and W. N. Stone, be elected lay-members of the Committee for the ensuing year. It was proposed by Mr. Barnett, seconded by Mr. Pritchard, and resolved, that a vote of thanks be tendered to the officers for their services during the past year. A vote of thanks to the Chairman concluded the meeting.

Dedication of a New Bell.

WHEN the Church of the Transfiguration, Loampit Hill, Lewisham, was built, the vicar and churchwardens removed the bell from St. Stephen's, Lewisham, to the new church, and appealed for funds for a heavier and more sonorous bell in its place. 150*l.* having been offered for this object, Messrs. Mears and Stainbank were commissioned to supply the bell, and they have accordingly cast and hung such a one as is a real credit to their foundry. The note is F sharp, the weight somewhat over 13½ cwt., and the diameter 3 ft. 7 in. On the 5th ult. at 5 p.m. there was a large gathering of the congregation and friends, including most of the neighbouring clergy, for a special service of benediction. There was a numerous choir under the direction of Mr. C. Warwick Jordan, Mus. Bac. Oxon, the organist of St. Stephen's. The service commenced with the chanting of the *De profundis*, arranged to a plain-song setting by Mr. Jordan. This was followed by the Lesser Litany, the Lord's Prayer, and Collects; and Sterndale Bennett's beautiful anthem, 'God is a Spirit,' was then admirably rendered by the choir. A procession was then formed, consisting of the clergy, church officers and congregation, to the tower, where the bell was ready, adorned with a garland of spring flowers. The Processional Hymn was, 'When morning gilds the skies,' and at its conclusion the bell was blessed by the Vicar in an appropriate prayer. At the words, 'Bless, hallow, and sanctify it with Thy heavenly benediction,' the bell was struck thrice. Other prayers followed for those who should hear the sound of the bell and should be hindered by sickness from coming, for those who should minister in ringing it, and for those 'for whose passing away from this world' it should be tolled. The procession then returned to the church, singing the same hymn, and when all had taken their places the well-known hymn, 'Lift it gently to the steeple,' was sung to an arrangement composed for the occasion by Mr. Jordan. It is much to be desired that Mr. Jordan would publish this for use on similar occasions, for it would be impossible to obtain a more appropriate setting of the hymn, nor one so likely to be appreciated. A sermon followed, the preacher being the Rev. J. P. Waldo, vicar of St. Stephen's, Kensington, and the service concluded with Mendelssohn's popular chorale, 'Now thank we all our God,' and a prayer for 'a blessing on the faithful who had supplied the bell, their families, and their substance.' The bell bears the inscription in Old English letters:—

'Mears & Stainbank made me to call to Prayer and Eucharist
the Faithful of St. Stephen's, Lewisham, A.D. 1883.
* The Pastor is come, and calleth for thee.'

A Peal by Holt.

Sir,—May I ask Mr. Weatherstone to kindly give some further description of the peal rung at St. John's, Deptford, Kent, on the 14th ult.? In none of the ringing books which I possess, and those are not a few, can I discover any Bob-and-Single peal by Holt. By 'Holt' I presume Mr. Weatherstone means the great John Holt.

C. D. P. DAVIES.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At St. Mary's, Woodford, Essex.

ON Friday, the 5th ult., after a Confirmation held by the Bishop of St. Albans, six members of the Essex Association rang a peal of 720 Bob Minor (42 singles) in 27 mins. F. W. Elbourn, 1; J. Nunn, 2; M. Ellsmore (conductor), 3; G. Cornell, 4; A. H. Gardom, 5; H. Scarlett, 6. [There is an error either in the day or the date.]

Also, on Thursday, the 17th ult., a peal of 720 Grandsire Minor, without a plain lead, was rung in 30 mins. H. Nunn, sen., 1; M. Ellsmore (conductor), 2; H. Scarlett, 3; J. Newman (Bishop Stortford), 4; F. W. Elbourn, 5; A. H. Gardom, 6. Tenor, 13 cwt. This peal of 720 contains 38 bobs and 22 singles, and is the composition of the late Mr. E. Hamman, of Crayford, Kent. [All members of the Essex Association except J. Newman.]

At St. Paul's, Wooburn, Bucks.

ON the 14th ult., by the local branch of the above Guild, a half-peal of 2520 Grandsire Triples was rung in 1 hr. 31 mins. J. Eldridge, 1; H. Rogers, 2; E. Rogers, 3; R. Flaxman, 4; R. Smith, 5; W. A. Garraway (conductor), 6; T. W. Wilkins, 7; E. Rogers and W. House, 8. Tenor, about 17 cwt. The band started with the intention of ringing the whole peal, but owing to the tenor being unmanageable the conductor brought them round at the halfway. It is forty years since a peal was rung at Wooburn, and it is said that no substantial repairs have been done to either frame or gear during that period; which is a great pity, as a good ring of bells is well worth taking care of.

At All Saints', Fulham, Middlesex.

ON Tuesday, the 15th ult., Holt's Ten-part Peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples was rung by eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths in 3 hrs. 5 mins. T. Hattersley (conductor), 1; J. W. Rowbotham, 2; R. French, 3; J. M. Hayes, 4; G. T. McLoughlin, 5; C. F. Winny, 6; E. Horrex, 7; W. Prime, 8. Tenor, 22 cwt.

At Staleybridge, Cheshire.

ON the 21st ult., seven members of St. George's Society, along with a Mr. Bennet, visited Castle Hall Church, Staleybridge, and rang a peal of 5976 Bob Major in 3 hrs. 15 mins. J. Shaw, 1; R. Pritchard, 2; T. Bradley, 3; R. Woolley, 4; T. Wilde (conductor), 5; S. Bradley, 6; J. S. Wilde (composer), 7; S. Bennet, 8. Tenor, 14 cwt.

At Garston, Lancashire.

ON Thursday, the 24th ult., being the sixty-fourth anniversary of the Queen's Birthday, the following gentlemen from Halewood, assisted by Mr. Samuel Gough, churchwarden of Garston Parish Church, rang, at intervals, Rounds, Queen's, Tittums, and other musical Cross-changes and Hips in honour of the event. S. Gough, Esq., 1; W. Neilson, Esq., 2; J. Leicester, Esq., 3; G. Abbot, Esq., 4; G. Richardson, Esq., 5; W. Hagne, Esq., 6; B. Lawrenson, Esq., 7; J. T. Woods, Esq., 8. The above gentlemen are just learning ringing, under Mr. Gough's tuition, preparatory to a ring of eight being put in their own church at Halewood. They hope as soon as this is concluded to record some change-ringing.

At Aughton, near Ormskirk, Lancashire.

ON Saturday, the 26th ult., five members of Christ Church Society, with three from Liverpool, rang at the above church Holt's Ten-part peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples in 2 hrs. 55 mins. J. R. Pritchard, 1; J. Davidson, 2; J. Orme, 3; C. Sharples, 4; W. Fairclough, 5; J. Aspinwall (conductor, 6; J. Walker, 7; R. Bentham, 8. [* First peal.]

PROGRESS IN CHANGE-RINGING.

By a Looker-on in India.

(Continued from page 489.)

ESSEX.

THIS is a county which has made good progress since 1877.

The Waltham Abbey ringers rang 1 peal of G. T. in 1878. In 1879 they rang 2 peals of G. T., and 1 peal and 1 quarter-peal of St. T. In 1881 a peal of G. T. (on hand-bells), and a quarter-peal of the same in the tower. In 1882 1 peal of St. T., 1 of G. T. in the tower, and another on hand-bells.

The men of Saffron Walden continue to do good work. In addition to peals of Minor in various methods they rang 3 peals of K. M., being sometimes helped by a visitor or two.

West Ham rang Bob Minor, and 1 half and 1 quarter-peal of G. T.; also a complete peal in the same method.

Writtle, 1 peal of G. T., and a long touch of Bob Major.

Romford, Doubles and Minor, and 1 half-peal of G. T.

Barking and Walthamstow, each 1 peal of G. T.

Galleywood, 1 peal of G. T., and 1 peal of St. Doubles.

Colchester, Bob Minor and Bob Major; also 1 half-peal and touches of G. T.

A mixed band rang 5056 K. M. at Belchamp Walter.

The Essex Association, formed in 1880, rang 1 peal of K. M. and 1 peal and 2 long touches of G. T.

Coggeshall, 1008 changes of Bob Major.

Minor of various kinds was rung at Maldon, Bocking, Hornechurch, Stanstead, Braintree, Leytonstone, South Weald, Wanstead, Belchamp Walters, Witham, Dagenham, and Great Bromley.

Woodford and Widford rang Cambridge Surprise Minor. The reporter from the last-named place is much to be commended for sending a concise report of what had been done during 1881. This is far better than taking up columns of valuable space with Minor performances.

Doubles were rung at Little Heath, Dagenham, Kelvedon, Stebbing.

(To be continued.)

RECEIVED ALSO:—W. J. Pickard, Malpas, Newport, Mons.—Answer sent by post: J. A. Whitlock; and others.

Both Missions will be mainly medical, medical Missions being especially useful in China by counteracting the enmity stirred up against England by the opium traffic. Sir Thomas Wade and the Hon. Cecil Smith, Colonial Secretary, Straits Settlements, strongly advise the multiplication of such Missions.

YUNG WING, a Christian and graduate of Yale College, who married an American wife at Hartford in the United States, has been appointed Chief Magistrate of Shanghai. Such an event is likely to have influence in the extension of Christian civilisation in China.

INDIA.

THE Bishop of Lahore has paid a visit to Persia, in order to obtain a better view of the present prospects of mission work in that neglected country. In his Pastoral, just published, his Lordship says of the recent letter of the Indian Bishops in conference:—'At a Synod of Bishops (nine in number) lately held in Calcutta, certain resolutions were arrived at unanimously, after careful and sifting discussions on several of the leading moral and social questions of the day, as touching our European and native flocks. A joint Pastoral was likewise drafted, but its final revision and acceptance was not completed before I was obliged to hasten back to my diocese to complete the programme of visitations required before my departure for Persia. This in good measure accounts for my name not being appended to the Synodical Pastoral of Bishops, with the general tone and tenor of which I concur, and should doubtless have subscribed it, only with some few modifications and additions which it required in my judgment in order to represent the united mind of the Episcopate of India. With this abatement, I commend it to the attentive perusal of that wide circle of thoughtful minds to whom it purports to address itself, both native and European.'

EAST AFRICA.

THE work of the C. M. S. on the coast is 'going on well' at Frere Town and Kisulutini (Rabai); and Mr. J. A. Wray has gone out with a view to extension inland. There is a medical department in addition to the usual features of a mission. At Frere Town there are 264 souls, mostly liberated slaves, of whom 157 are baptized. There are 33 communicants. A large class of candidates for confirmation await the visit of a Bishop. The people contributed in the year 57 dollars to the Native Pastorate Fund. The produce of the land acquired by the C. M. S. here is become valuable; above a thousand cocoa-nut trees, planted in the last seven years, are now bearing fruit. Kisulutini, however, has become the larger settlement—population, 600; the church is filled, and nearly all attend. The surrounding villages have repeatedly applied for teachers, being impressed by the order and progress of those who have received Christianity.

TURKEY.

MISS MATISTA NEWTON, an English Churchwoman, has for the last twenty years devoted herself to raising the condition of women and girls in Constantinople. She has an 'industrial training school' for poor children of all nationalities—Bulgars, Greeks, Armenians, Bosniacs, Jews. The work has so much increased that she wants 'a lady of small, independent means, to share it' with her. 'No other language than English is necessary.' Her home address is 94 Downs Park Road, Clapton, London.

THE dispute between the Greek Bishops and the Porte seems to become more intense. It is now alleged, on good authority, that should the Porte insist upon the abolition of the privileges hitherto enjoyed by the Greek Bishops of having judicial complaints against them tried by the Ecumenical Patriarch, the latter intends to call the attention of the signatory Powers of the Treaty of Berlin to the matter, on the ground that the privileges of the Christian Churches are guaranteed by that instrument.

RUSSIA.

A LAW has been sanctioned, granting more liberty of worship to the 'least harmful and immoral' of the Russian Sectarians. It is indeed true that some fanatics in Russia are offenders against all social propriety, so that it seems wonderful how they continue to exist. But the Orthodox Church must restore her pulpit to primitive activity before she can expect these results of ignorance to vanish.

ITALY.

A HANDSOME little church for English visitors at Alassio, a rising watering-place on the Riviera, was consecrated by the Bishop of Gibraltar on April 4th, and a Confirmation was held on the following day. The resident families, with visitors, have paid the cost of the building.

LAST month the Old Catholic Bishop Herzog came from Switzerland to Rome, to confirm by request in the American Church there. Count Campello and other ex-Papal priests took the opportunity of communicating with him.

SCANDINAVIA.

A DISCUSSION has arisen in Denmark respecting the proper limit of age for young communicants. The Bishop is empowered to sanction the admission of persons under fourteen, on recommendation of their parish priest; but recently a country incumbent has refused to be content with such dispensation, and has invited all little children to the altar, alleging that our Lord's declaration—in St. John, vi.—on the necessity of the Eucharist, is more binding than any Church regulations.

THE Rev. R. S. Ellis has resigned the British Embassy chaplaincy at Copenhagen. He was the senior of all our Continental chaplains, and had long advocated the erection of a Bishopric of Heligoland for their supervision, and as a means also of promoting closer intercourse between the Anglican and Scandinavian Churches.

FRANCE.

A GIFT of 13,000*fr.* has been made by one of the congregation of the Rev. J. B. Morgan, at Paris, towards the sumptuous American church now building in the Avenue de l'Alma.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

The Clock and Chimes and Bells of St. Michael's, Coventry.

ON Sunday, the 10th inst., the offertories will be devoted to the payment of the costs (85*l.*) of the repairs to the chimes and bells, which are rightly described as 'in all respects worthy of the name and fame of the noble structure with which they are connected.' The preacher in the morning will be the Rev. Canon Evans, M.A., rector of Solihull and rural dean—who was himself born within hearing of them; and in the evening the Rev. J. A. Nicholson, LL.D., incumbent of St. Alban's, Leamington. We may briefly supplement the interesting account given lately in the *Coventry Herald* by saying that our bells originally consisted of a ring of eight, and that some of the earliest inscriptions (in 1675) were more interesting even than those on the present bells. For example, No. 1 pealed forth,—

'O sing unto the Lord a new song.'

No. 4,— 'I ring at six, to let men know
When to and from their work to go.'

No. 7,— 'I ring to sermon with a lusty home,
That all may come, and none may stay at home.'

The present ring of ten bells (manufactured from the material of the originals) was contracted for in 1774, and made by Messrs. Park and Chapman. From time to time repairs were necessary; and in 1851 fears were expressed lest the continual ringing of the bells might jeopardise the safety of the tower, and their tongues were silenced. But in 1853 the citizens, regretting deeply the loss of the glorious peals, obtained from a competent authority an opinion that no danger was to be apprehended; and accordingly the practice of ringing and chiming was resumed and continued ever since.

'And so 'twill be when we are gone,
Those tuneful peals will still ring on,
And other bards shall walk these dells
And sing their praise: sweet evening bells.'

The Mayor has kindly consented to attend the morning service, and to make an offering of five guineas. The town clerk promises a donation. Invitations have been issued to the members of the police force and of the fire brigade, and have been accepted; and they will be played to church by the St. Michael's band, who will on that day have their first 'church parade.'

'How soft the cadence of St. Michael's bells,
Falling at intervals upon the ear
In cadence sweet! Now dying all away,
Now pealing loud again and louder still,
Clear and sonorous as the gale comes on,
With easy force it opens all the cells
Where memory slepeth.'

At Aspley Guise, Bedfordshire.

THE Dedication Service of the bells of the parish church took place on Tuesday, the 29th ult. At the morning service there was a good attendance of parishioners, and among the clergy were the Archdeacon of Bedford, Rev. R. E. R. Watts (Bedford), Rev. C. E. Haslam (Toddington), Rev. W. S. Baker (Eversholt), Rev. J. M. Hamilton (Woburn Sands). The Rev. M. B. Nepean presided at the organ. At the close of the dedicatory prayers and the singing of the hymn, 'Lift them gently to the steeple,' four of the local ringers, assisted by two members of the Beds Association of Change-ringers, raised the bells in peal. The Archdeacon preached the sermon, and it was intimated that the offertory would be devoted to the debt due upon the bells. At the close of the service touches of change-ringing proper were given by members of the Beds A. C. R. The clergy and ringers were entertained at the Rectory to luncheon. During the day peals were rung, including 720 of Grandsire Minor and 120 of Grandsire Doubles. Mr. Elger (Hon. Treasurer of the Beds A. C. R.) was present with the ringers during the day, and among them we noticed Messrs. Hills, Frossel, Cullip, Hall, Biggs (Bedford Company), and Herbert (Hon. Sec. B. A. C. R.), Wiseman, Morrison, Turney, Harbert, Archer, Chisnall, &c. (Woburn Company). The evening service was well attended, the sermon being preached by the Rev. S. Harvey Gem (a former rector of the parish), who obtained the nucleus of the fund which has so successfully realised the accomplishment of the very beautiful accessory to the church at Aspley, viz. a sweet little ring of six bells. The tenor bears the following inscription:—'To the Glory of God. J. C. Maltby, M.A., Rector; G. A. D. Mahon, W. Smith, Churchwardens. April 1883.' The collections during the day amounted to 11*l.* 4*s.* The service and the charge, which was faithfully delivered by the Archdeacon of Bedford, was calculated to lift the thought and inspire the hearts of all assembled. The Archdeacon based his remarks upon Eph. v. 16, and deduced from it many practical suggestions as to the spending of, or right use of time, calling upon all to use the passing moment well. He concluded by reminding his hearers that every toll of the bell was a call to us, and endeavoured to force home to all present the great responsibility that rests upon those who do not respond to the call, at the close of which services the bells were again rung.

At All Saints', Rettendon, Essex: Reopening of the Bells.

THE bells of this church having been rehung by Mr. H. Bowell of Ipswich, and the ring increased to six by the addition of two new trebles by Mears and Stainbank of Whitechapel, were reopened on Wednesday, the 30th ult., by a band of the Essex Association from Widford. Divine service was held at 3.30, the sermon being preached by the Rev. G. St. A. Godson, vicar of Moulsham, on the text Ps. ciii. 1. At six o'clock the ringers and most of the parishioners, to the number of thirty, sat down to a substantial meal at the 'Hawk Inn.' During the day 720's were rung in the following methods—Cambridge Surprise, New London Pleasure, and Bob Minor; and touches

of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, College Exercise, and Double Court; also some Stedman's and Grandsire Doubles. In most of these the ringers stood as follows: W. Hawly, 1; J. Dains, 2; W. Rowland, 3; W. Hawkes, 4; T. Drake (conductor), 5; M. Rolfe, 6. Tenor, 8 cwt. 1 qr. 7 lb. The following members of the Association also took part in the ringing—Messrs. E. Scoother, C. Waskett, H. F. de Lisle and E. de Lisle (Galleywood), the Rev. H. A. Cockey, and Mr. H. Howell. The bells were started at 2 p.m., and the ringing came to an end at about 10 p.m.

Annual Meeting of the Salisbury Diocesan Change-ringers' Society.

THE Annual Meeting was held at Salisbury on the 30th ult. The eight bells of St. Thomas were raised and rung in set changes by their own company at 9 a.m. At 10 a.m. the Trowbridge company, with one or two others, rang one or two touches of Grandsire Triples. W. Alley, 1; W. Lane, 2; J. Hayward, 3; T. Blackburn, 4; W. McCuffey, 5; J. R. Jerram, 6; W. Palmer, 7; J. Cooper and J. Head, 8. Tenor, 32 cwt. The bells were in very bad order, and it was with the greatest difficulty that 168 changes in the above method were rung through. The 2nd and 4th unfortunately got crossed in this. The plain course of Grandsire Triples was then rung by the same party.

At St. Martin's several peals of Grandsire Doubles were rung by J. T. Bennett, 1; C. Staden, 2; Rev. A. D. Hill, 3; S. Marrett, 4; J. R. Jerram, 5; W. Lanham, 6. Tenor, 15 cwt. Also by A. Grist, 1; Rev. E. G. Wyld, 2; C. Staden, 3; S. Marrett, 4; H. Vivash, 5; W. Lanham, 6.

At St. Edmund's two peals of 120 Bob Doubles were rung by J. Parsons, 1; T. Blackburn, 2; W. W. Gifford, 3; J. R. Jerram, 4; Rev. C. L. Bode, 5; A. Pinckney and J. Arnold, 6. Tenor, 30 cwt.

There was a service at St. Edmund's, at which a very impressive sermon was preached by the Rev. A. D. Hill. Dinner was provided at St. Edmund's School at 1 p.m., and about 200 dined. Earl Nelson presided, supported by the Archdeacon of Sarum, Rev. J. G. Cowley Brown, Rev. A. D. Hill, Rev. C. N. Wyld, Rev. E. G. Wyld, and several other clergy, including the Rev. F. Wright Anderson, Secretary to the Society, and the Rev. C. Hony. Some very telling speeches were addressed to the company. The afternoon was given up to round-ringing by the following companies:—Heytesbury, Mere, Westbury, Bromham, Seend, Great Bedwyn, Ludgershall, Bratton, Longbridge Deverill, Kingstone Deverill, Wilton, Dinton, Mildenhall, Fovant, Berwick, Downton, Sturminster, Pattistock, and Warminster.

At 6 p.m., two peals of Grandsire Doubles were rung at St. Paul's, Fisherton, by T. Blackburn, 1; H. Vivash, 2; J. G. Bennett, 3; S. Marrett, 4; J. R. Jerram, 5; W. Lanham, 6. Tenor, 13 cwt. The company separated at 7 p.m.

Lancashire Association of Change-ringers.

By the kind permission of Mr. Wm. Roberts, the donor of church and bells, a Ringing Meeting of the above Association was held at Christ Church, Barlow Moor, Manchester, on Saturday, the 2nd inst. Fifty-six ringers were present, principally from Stockport, Bolton, Ashton, Eccles, Northwich, and Manchester. During the day touches of Grandsire Triples, Stedman's Triples, Bob Major, and Bob Minor, were rung by various mixed bands from the aforementioned towns. All expressed themselves pleased with the tone and 'go' of the bells. The thanks of the Association are also due to the local ringers.

W. J. CHATTERTON,) Hon. Secs.
JOEL REDFORD,)

The Beds Association of Change-ringers.

A MEETING of the ringing members of the above Association will be held at Woburn on Saturday, the 16th June. Ringing on the tower bells at 3 p.m. Woburn, Beds.

CHARLES HERBERT, Hon. Sec.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At All Saints', Newcastle-on-Tyne.

ON Monday, the 28th ult., to celebrate the marriage of Mr. J. Donald, one of the Newcastle ringers, the Newcastle branch of the Durham and Newcastle Association rang a touch of 1008 Grandsire Triples and a touch of Treble Bob Major and Stedman's Triples. Tenor, 12 cwt. Practice of the above branch was held at St. Nicholas' Cathedral, and the bad going of these bells was so far overcome as to enable the ringers to ring a touch of Stedman's Triples and also of Grandsire. Tenor, 36 cwt.

At St. Luke's, Liverpool.

ON Tuesday, the 29th ult., a peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples, being a variation of Taylor's Six-part peal, was rung by members of the St. Luke's Society in 2 hrs. 50 mins. R. S. Mann, 1; J. R. Pritchard, 2; W. James (first peal as conductor), 3; F. W. Moore, 4; R. Branagan, 5; T. Hammond,* 6; J. Aspinwall, 7; J. Brown,* 8. Tenor, 16 cwt. [* Members of St. Peter's Pro-Cathedral Society.]

At Burnley, Lancashire.

ROYAL Oak Day was observed in Burnley with the usual ringing of the parish church bells, the ringers making the event one of special interest, and rung Holt's Ten-part peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples in 2 hrs. 54 mins. N. Smith (conductor), 1; H. Clegg,* 2; John Pollard, 3; J. Gregson, 4; T. Holden, 5; M. Bridge, 6; J. Harrison, 7; Jas. Pollard,* 8. Tenor, 17 cwt. [* First peal.]

At St. Luke's, Heywood, Lancashire.

ON Thursday, the 31st ult., eight members of St. Luke's Society rang a peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples in 3 hrs. 6 mins. (bob and single variations), composed and conducted by John Millett (his first peal). A. Schofield, 1; G. Crossley, 2; Jno. Millett, 3; T. Wharton, 4; W. R. Barrett, 5; J. Street, 6; J. Harrison, 7; Jas. Millett, 8. Tenor, 23 cwt., in E flat. All members

of the Lancashire Association. It being twenty years since these bells were opened, a meeting was held on Saturday, June 2nd, at which the present ringers, along with the ringer from Rochdale who opened them attended. After tea the chair was taken by the Rev. J. Pickup, who made some remarks on bells and bell-ringing; then a few words from one of the ringers on the occasion which had brought them together, followed by Mr. A. Wolstenholme, one of the churchwardens. Mr. Thomas Bamford, of Rochdale, a veteran ringer of sixty years' standing, made some observations on the art and science of bell-ringing and returned thanks on behalf of the Rochdale ringers. All then left for home highly gratified at their entertainment.

At St. George's, Camberwell, Surrey.

ON Saturday, the 2nd inst., eight members of St. James's Society rang a peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples (Holt's Ten-part) in 2 hrs. 59 mins. H. Langdon, 1; W. Pead, 2; W. Chew, 3; W. Jones, 4; E. Robins, 5; W. Weatherstone (conductor), 6; J. M. Routh, Esq., 7; J. Waghorn, 8.

At SS. Peter and Paul, Shorne, Kent.

ON Sunday, the 3rd inst., six members of the Gravesend company rang a peal of 720 Bob Minor (18 bobs and 2 singles) in 24½ mins. J. H. Ryall, 1; H. Weeks, 2; B. Spinner, 3; W. King, 4; W. Harper, 5; J. W. Aitkin (conductor), 6.

At St. John's, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

ON Monday, the 4th inst., a peal of 720 Kent Treble Bob (15 bobs) was rung in 26½ mins. C. L. Routledge (conductor), 1; R. S. Story, 2; W. G. Routledge, 3; T. J. Des Forges, 4; W. Story, 5; F. Lees, 6.

And a peal of 720 Oxford Treble Bob (12 bobs) was rung on the same night in 28 mins. C. L. Routledge (conductor), 1; W. G. Routledge, 2; R. S. Story, 3; T. J. Des Forges, 4; W. Story, 5; F. Lees, 6. Tenor, 4½ cwt.

To Church Bell-hangers and Others.

TENDERS are invited for—(1.) Putting the bells of Rose Ash Church in thorough order; (2.) putting a new roof to the tower. Separate tenders, free of all charge, with full particulars, to be delivered on or before July 2nd, 1883, to the Rector, Rose Ash, South Molton.

PROGRESS IN CHANGE-RINGING.

By a Looker-on in India.

(Continued from page 508.)

GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

EARLY in the year 1878 was established the 'Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association,' which has done much to promote change-ringing during the last five years. Eight members of this Society rang a quarter-peal of G. T. in that year at Stroud. Bristol scored 2 peals of G. T.; and Cheltenham 1 peal of G. T., and 1 quarter-peal of St. T.

In 1879 the Association rang a peal of G. T. at Upton; Cheltenham and Stroud each rang a quarter-peal of G. T.; while Upton and Gloucester each rang a Date Touch in the same method.

In 1880 the Association rang a half-peal of G. T. at Tewkesbury. The local ringers of the Abbey of Tewkesbury rang two long touches in that method. Bristol rang G. Minor, and a quarter-peal and a long touch of G. T. Cheltenham accomplished a quarter-peal of St. T.; and Stroud 1 half-peal, 1 quarter-peal, and 1 Date Touch of G. T.

In 1881 Cheltenham took a strong lead by ringing 1000 St. Caters, and a quarter-peal and a Date Touch of St. T. The other bands stuck to G. T., of which Tewkesbury rang 1 half-peal, 1 Date Touch, and a touch of 1638 changes; Longney and Gloucester each 1 quarter-peal; and Bristol 2500 changes. It is also particularly gratifying to note that the ringers of Cirencester achieved a Date Touch of G. T. To them I would commend the example of the men of Ipswich, who, too, having a ring of twelve, have by degrees advanced to methods on 9, 10, 11, and 12 bells. On the other hand, it is a pity indeed that nothing has been done at Painswick for so many years; and the ringers of Bristol are by no means so energetic as one could wish. They augmented their ring of ten at St. Mary, Redcliffe, to twelve some ten years ago, but as far as I know no peal has yet been rung on the augmented ring. The Diocesan Association should see to this, although, if one may judge by Norwich, it is to be feared that, however successful they may be in the county, they will fail in the city.

Minor was rung at Kemerton, Coln, Ashchurch, and Deerhurst; and Doubles at Elmore, Churcham, Sandhurst (peals of 5040 at each), at Willington, Windrush, Minsterworth, and Compton Abdale. In 1882 G. T. was rung at Gloucester and Tewkesbury, and a Date Touch of St. Triples at Cheltenham.

HAMPSHIRE.

A few years ago this was a very backward county, and although it has not yet much to report, yet a beginning has been made. In 1879 G. Doubles were rung at Fareham and Bishop's Waltham. In 1880 G. Doubles were again rung at Bishop's Waltham. In this year was formed the Winchester Diocesan Guild, members of which in 1881 rang a peal in the method of Union Triples; a method not much practised at present, but one which ringers of G. T. will find interesting for a change.

Change-ringing is also practised at Winchester, Basingstoke, Havant, Southampton, Swanmore, and West Meon.

The Isle of Wight is not very well off for bells and ringers. There is, however, at least one ring of eight, viz. at Carisbrooke. Perhaps there has been too much of what is commemorated in the rhyme,—

'Shall feet ringers, silly people!
Sold their bells to mend their steeple!'

The ring of five at Hursley has been made six, and a fine ring of six at Soberton has been put in order.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

THE BELLS OF ST. MICHAEL, COVENTRY.

PERHAPS never since the time that the grim Earl Ranulf of Chester, in the reign of the first Henry, gave to the Monks of St. Benedict at Coventry the tithes of his lands and rents in that city to found the Chapel of St. Michael, for the celebration of intercessory prayers for the repose of himself and his ancestors, there never has been seen a more impressive sight, or one more cheering to true Churchmen, even within the courts of this noble and stately fabric, than was witnessed last Sunday. The occasion was the preaching of special sermons for funds for the payment of the costs (85*l.*) of the repairs of the chime, clock, and bells, which are rightly described as 'in all respects worthy of the name and fame of the noble structure with which they are connected.' The preacher in the morning was the Rev. Canon Evans, M.A., rector of Solihull; and in the evening by the Rev. J. A. Nicholson, LL.D., incumbent of St. Alban's, Leamington.

The service in the morning was attended by the Mayor of the City, A. S. Tomson, Esq. (a Nonconformist, and who has given five guineas to the fund), the City Fire Brigade, and nearly all the police. These were played to church by the St. Michael's Band, who on that day had their first 'Church Parade.' When all was seated, with the soldiers of the Royal Horse Artillery who attend the church, and a congregation of over three thousand souls, under the carved oak roof of the grand old fifteenth-century nave, with its graceful arches, and its long line of slender clustered pillars and noble clerestory windows, partly filled with ancient painted glass, the whole made up a picture never to be forgot. The offertory amounted to 86*l.*, or one pound more than the sum asked for.

I have no doubt a short sketch of the history of the different rings of bells, clock, and chimes, which have marked the flight of time to the citizens of Coventry for nearly five centuries in the glorious tower of St. Michael's, will be acceptable to your numerous readers.

It appears that bells were first hung in this church as early as 1429, and it could not have been long after (if not at the time) when chimes were attached to them; for in 1577 there was paid for timber, and for making a new barrel for the chimes, 5*s.*; and in 1465 the Mayor and Council granted 40*s.* annually for keeping the clock and chimes of St. Michael's Church, to be paid by the wardens; and in 1650 these was paid for putting the clock and chimes in order, 3*l.*; and in 1680 George Tagg was allowed 3*l.* to make the chimes go on three tunes—most likely before this they only played one tune. No doubt this last change in the number of tunes arose from the first ring, which consisted of only six bells, having been recast into eight by order of the parish in 1674. The recasting of these bells was executed by Henry Bagley of Chacombe, in Northamptonshire, who was to receive 55*l.* for his work; and they were to be as heavy as the six, but they turned out to be much lighter. The six weighed 5 tons, 7 cwt., 7 lbs. The mottoes on the treble, 4th, 7th, and 8th were interesting:—

Treble.—'Cantat Domino o Canticum. Novem. 1675. H. B.'

4th. 'I ring at six to let men know

When to and from their work to go.'

7th. 'I ring to sermon with a lusty boom,

That all may come, and none may stay at home.'

8th. 'I am, and have been called, the Common Bell,

To ring when fire breaks out to tell.'

In 1774 these bells were condemned, and in that year a contract was entered into with Messrs. Pack and Chapman of London. According to the ensuing proposals made by them, namely, to recast the eight then present bells into a ring of eight musical ones, both in tone and tune, at 2*s.* per cwt., a contract which they faithfully carried out, producing a ring of the best ten then in existence (and there are few, if any, better now).

The following were the different items of the contract:—

| | |
|--|----------|
| Recasting, estimated at | £140 0 0 |
| Eight new clappers, 2 cwt. | 8 8 0 |
| Two new trebles, to make a complete ring of ten, at 6 <i>l.</i> per cwt. ... | 72 0 0 |
| Two new clappers, 50 lbs. | 1 17 6 |

£222 5 6

WEIGHT OF THE RING WHEN CAST.

| | cwts. | qrs. | lbs. |
|-----------------|-------|------|------|
| Treble | 6 | 3 | 2 |
| 2 | 7 | 0 | 8 |
| 3 | 8 | 1 | 13 |
| 4 | 9 | 0 | 0 |
| 5 | 9 | 2 | 21 |
| 6 | 11 | 2 | 16 |
| 7 | 14 | 0 | 26 |
| 8 | 17 | 1 | 23 |
| 9 | 23 | 0 | 20 |
| Tenor | 31 | 1 | 14 |

The above tenor was cracked in 1804, and recast by John Bryant of Hertford in 1805, weighing 32 cwt. 9 lbs.

The following inscriptions are cast on each bell:—

- 1st. 'Although I am both light and small,
I will be heard above you all.'
- 2nd. 'If you have a judicious ear,
You'll own my voice is sweet and clear.'
- 3rd. 'Such wondrous power to music given:
It elevates the soul to heaven.'
- 4th. 'Whilst thus we join in cheerful sound
May love and loyalty abound.'
- 5th. 'In honour both to God and King
Our voices shall in concert sing.'
- 6th. 'Music is medicine to the mind.'
- 7th. 'Ye ringers all who prize your health and happiness,
Be sober, merry, wise, and you'll the same possess.'

8th. 'Ye people all that hear me ring,
Be faithful to your God and King.'

9th. 'In wedlock's bands all ye who join,
With hands and hearts unite,
So shall our tuneful tongues combine
To hand the nuptial right.'

Tenor. 'I am, and have been called, the Common Bell,
To ring when fire breaks out to tell.'

Four years after the parish agreed (in 1778) to order a new set of chimes and a new clock (the present ones), and to prove the admirable way in which this order was carried out by Mr. Worton of Birmingham, the grandfather of the present celebrated bellhanger of St. Michael's, at the present moment they look none the worse for their hundred years' wear, and give good promise to send forth their tuneful notes from the highest of the tall and famous spires of old Mercian Coventry for another century of time.

'And so 'twill be when we are gone,
Those tuneful peals will still ring on,
And other bards shall walk these dells
And sing thy praise, sweet evening bells.'

A. J. B.

On the Saturday before these services there was rung as the opening peal, by the Society of St. Martin's of Birmingham, a peal of 5060 Stedman's Caters in 3 hrs. 33 mins. H. Bastable (conductor), 1; J. Saynes, 2; A. Cresser, 3; H. Johnson, sen. (composer), 4; J. Dunn, 5; T. Miller, 6; T. Buffery, 7; F. H. James, 8; H. Johnson, jun., 9; T. Reynolds, 10. Tenor, 32 cwt.

A New Society of Change-ringers.

A LAUDABLE movement has been set on foot for the establishment of a Society of Change-ringers for the Archdeaconry of Stafford. With this object a meeting was held in the Cathedral belfry on Saturday, June 2nd, the Ven. Archdeacon lies in the chair. Representatives were present from Lichfield, Brierley Hill, Wombourn, Wolverhampton, Darlaston, West Bromwich, Walsall, Willenhall, Tamworth, Burton, and Stafford. The object of the Society is, first, to recognise the position of ringers as church-workers; secondly, to promote the art of change-ringing; and thirdly, to assist belfry reform. A draft of rules concerning the admission and qualification of members was drawn up, and it is intended to call a general meeting to consider the question on the 30th of June. The Rev. J. R. Keble and Mr. W. A. Wood of Lichfield consented to act respectively as hon. secretary and treasurer in the meantime, and those gentlemen will doubtless be glad to receive offers of assistance. The meeting on Saturday concluded with the ringing of several touches of Grandsire Caters.

Midland Counties Association.

On Saturday, the 9th inst., a party of members of the above Association visited Lichfield and rang at St. Mary's, by the kind permission of the Vicar (the Rev. Canon Scott), a quarter peal of Grandsire Triples in 49 mins. J. Ridgway, 1; R. Bosworth, 2; A. Taberer, 3; J. Newbold, 4; J. W. Taylor, 5; H. C. Woodward (conductor), 6; J. Howe, 7; F. Whiting and L. Lomas, 8. Tenor, 20 cwt., in E. Two men were required to ring the tenor on account of its going so badly. After leaving St. Mary's the party proceeded to the Cathedral, the belfry being open to the visitors by the kind permission of the authorities, when another quarter-peal was attempted on the back eight; but after ringing over 40 minutes it came to grief through two of the bells shifting courses. The following mixed band of the Cathedral ringers and members of the Association then rang three courses of Grandsire Caters: R. Bosworth,* 1; J. Key, 2; F. Sedgwick, 3; H. Meacham, 4; F. Cope (conductor), 5; J. Howe,* 6; A. Whitely, 7; T. Meredith, 8; A. Greenwood, 3; L. Lomas,* 10. Tenor, 28 cwt., in D. The afternoon ringing was then brought to a close by seven of the Cathedral ringers and J. Howe of Derby ringing a 504 of Grandsire Triples, after which the party returned to Derby, well pleased with their afternoon outing. [* Members of the Midland Counties Association.]

A QUARTERLY Meeting will be held at Burton-on-Trent on Saturday, 23rd inst. Visitors on arrival are requested to proceed to St. Paul's Institute (five minutes' walk from the railway station), where bands may be formed prior to proceeding to the various towers. Committee meeting in the Parish-room, St. Paul's Institute, at four o'clock. Tea and subsequent business meeting in the large hall at five p.m. The following towers will be open:—St. Mpowen's, 8; St. Paul's, 8; Winshill, 6; Horninglow, 6.

JOSEPH GRIFFIN, Hon. Sec.

Oxford Diocesan Guild of Church Bell-ringers.

THE Annual Festival will be held at Windsor on Thursday, July 26th. Service at St. John's Church at 11.30, with sermon by Rev. Woolmore Wigram. Dinner at two. The Archdeacon of Bucks in the chair, and ringing afterwards. Free dinner tickets will be forwarded to all ringing and probationary members whose names are sent to the Secretary before July 20. Honorary members can have dinner tickets on payment of 2*s.* 3*d.* each to the Secretary. The railways will convey members who show their dinner tickets at reduced fares. Applications to be made to Rev. Dolben Paul, Bearwood Rectory, Wokingham.

It is proposed to hold a meeting in the Church Congress week—the beginning of October—in Reading, at which papers shall be read, and discussion invited, on the subject of Church Bell-ringers' Guilds and Associations, and it is hoped that all persons who are interested in the subject will make a point of attending it. The day and hour of the meeting, together with further details, will be published as soon as they are settled. Meanwhile, the following gentlemen have formed themselves into a committee for making the necessary arrangements, and any suggestion or other communication addressed to them or to the Secretary will receive attention and acknowledgement:—Mr. Jasper Snowdon, Old Bank Chambers, Leeds; Mr. C. A. W. Troyte, Huntsham Court, Devon; Captain J. E. Acland Troyte, 2 Chester Street, Belgrave Square, London; the Revs. C. D. P. Davies, Chacely, Tewkesbury; G. H. Harris, Tunstead Vicarage, Norwich; A. Du B. Hill, Downton Vicarage, Salisbury; F. E. Robinson, Drayton Vicarage, Abingdon; Woolmore

Wigram, St. Andrew's Rectory, Hertford. *Secretary*, Rev. Dolben Paul, Bearwood Rectory, Wokingham.

Lancashire Association of Change-ringers.

A QUARTERLY Meeting will be held at Whalley on Saturday, the 23rd inst. Ringing from 2.30 p.m. Tea at the 'Shoulder of Mutton' Inn, at 5.30 p.m. Tickets, price 1s. 3d. each, may be had from any member of the Committee, or from the Secretaries. Cheap trips are run from Manchester, Bolton, and various stations on the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway. All ringers invited.

W. J. CHATTERTON, } *Hon. Secs.*
JOEL REDFORD, }

N.B.—The new 'Certificate of Membership' will be shown and may be obtained at the meeting. Price 1s. each.

Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association of Change-ringers.

THE Annual Meeting of the above Association will be held at Gloucester on Monday, July 2nd, when the company of all ringing friends will be esteemed a favour.

J. DRINKWATER, *Master of the Association.*

Forty-two Six-Scores of Grandsire Doubles.

Sir,—Through the medium of your issue of 10th March last I inquired if any reader of *Church Bells* could inform me where, and by whom, the 42 six-scores of Grandsire Doubles, as arranged by the late Mr. Isaac Gaze of Gloucester were first rung, but I have had no reply. I therefore beg to send you a copy of a tablet in the belfry of Sandhurst Church, near Gloucester:—'December 25th, 1830, was rung in this tower a true peal of Grandsire Doubles, consisting of 5040 changes, or 42 peals of six-score changes each, in 2 hrs. 43 mins., by the following band:—Joseph Daniell, treble; John Drinkwater, 2; Wm. Daniell, 3; Wm. Brawn, 4; Shadrach Daniell, 5; Anselm Brawn, tenor. Conducted by Joseph Daniell.'

J. DRINKWATER.

Sandhurst.

Holt's Bob-and-Single Peal.

Sir,—I have to apologise for not answering the letter of the Rev. C. D. P. Davies before; neglecting to take *Church Bells* for three weeks I did not see his request. The peal that he asks for is found on p. 66 in a book entitled *Campanologia, or a Key to the Art of Ringing*, by Messrs. Jones, Reeves, and Blackmore (likewise called the *Clavis*), and contains 190 bobs and 50 singles. My reason for ascribing it to Mr. Holt is that on p. 17, in the preface, it says, 'Mr. Anable's next effort was at Grandsire Triples, and though unsuccessful he did not entirely fail, for if he did not obtain the whole peal complete, yet he went much further than his predecessors, and his peal was in most esteem until that of Mr. Holt made its appearance.' So I understand by that, that Mr. Holt composed the first peal of Grandsire Triples. Now, if you look on p. 60, after speaking in great praise of the One-part peal, he says: 'After which, as we suppose, he produced that in 504's and 840's.' There is a letter 's' at the end of these figures, which means more than one, and there is a Six-part peal on p. 65, with his particular Single at the half-way and at the finish; and the other peal, the one in question, on p. 66. Now, on p. 67 it says: 'We now take leave of this article, hoping that for copiousness and variety we have given general satisfaction. It will be easily perceived what an infinite variety Mr. Holt's systems are capable of producing,' &c. Now, in my opinion, this is one of Mr. Holt's original compositions, and that is the reason why I said, when the peal was rung on Whit Monday at St. John's, Deptford, that it was Mr. John Holt's Bob-and-Single peal.

WILLIAM WEATHERSTONE.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At St. Mary's, Penzance, Cornwall.

On Monday, the 4th inst., a peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples (Taylor's Bob-and-Single variation) was rung by members of the Devonshire Guild in 3 hrs. 17 mins. G. Sellers, 1; C. Boase, 2; J. Hodder, 3; W. H. Dale, 4; J. Richards, 5; T. Hicks, 6; J. Symons (conductor), 7; Rev. A. B. Berry, 8. Tenor, 21 cwt. in E.

At St. George's, Camberwell, Surrey.

On Thursday, the 7th inst., a peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples (Holt's Ten-part, Reeve's variation), was rung in 2 hrs. 48 mins. H. Langdon, 1; R. French (conductor), 2; J. W. Rowbotham, 3; C. F. Wimpy, 4; S. Hayes, 5; W. Jones, 6; J. M. Routh, Esq., 7; T. Coxhead (first peal), 8. This peal was rung to commemorate the twenty-sixth anniversary of the wedding of the vergers and steeple-keeper, Mr. T. Windley, the bells having been placed at the disposal of the Society for this purpose by the kindness of the Rev. Samuel Smith, the vicar.

At Benington, Stevenage, Herts.

On Friday, the 8th inst., the Benington (Herts) Society of Change-ringers rang on their musical ring of eight bells (tenor, 14 cwt. in F) a select and original composition in that most musical and intricate method, Cambridge Surprise Major, containing 1344 changes and 15 bobs. N. Warner, 1; John Kitchener, 2; L. Proctor, Esq., 3; L. Chapman, 4; S. Page, 5; Joseph Kitchener, 6; C. Shambrook, 7; T. Page (conductor), 8.

On Monday, the 11th inst., the same Society rang, with excellent time and precision of striking, a fine touch of Stedman's Triples, containing 1344 changes and 60 bobs.

At All Saints', Great Marlow, Bucks.

On Saturday, the 9th inst., a peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples (Bob-and-Single variation) was rung in 3 hrs. 1 min., by members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild. H. Rogers, 1; G. Wilkins, 2; R. Flaxman, 3; Edwd. Rogers, 4; J. W. Wilkins, 5; W. A. Garraway (conductor), 6; Edn. Rogers, 7; E. Keeley, 8. Tenor, 15 cwt. It is forty years since a peal was rung in the above steeple. A tablet recording one by the College Youths bears date June 3rd, 1843. The belfry is well cared for, and great credit is due to the steeple-keeper, Mr. Truss, and a volunteer band of ringers has lately been started under the superintendence of — Awdry, Esq., who, following the

example of C. A. W. Troyte, Esq., is learning himself and, at the same time, teaching others the art; and we wish them every success.

St. James's Society, London.

On Monday evening, the 11th inst., eight members of the St. James's Society rang the first half of Holt's Ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples in 1 hr. 27 mins. H. Lewis, 1; G. Stancombe, 2; H. G. Fairbrass, 3; S. Hayes, 4; N. N. Hills, 5; J. Barry, 6; H. J. Tucker, 7; W. H. George, 8. Tenor, 18 cwt. Mr. Fairbrass visited London to ring the whole peal, but as there was not time he had to be content with half. [Name of church omitted.]

At Heath, Derbyshire.

On Monday, the 11th inst., the Ashover, South Normanton, and Shirland ringers visited Heath, to ring on the new ring of five bells lately hung in the tower by Messrs. Taylor & Co., Loughborough, when Grandsire Doubles were rung by separate and mixed parties from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. Tenor about 15 cwt.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The Interchange of Pulpits.

Sir,—With reference to your article on 'The Interchange of Pulpits,' as you seem to invite discussion, I venture to think there is another class who would be benefited by it—the 'country parsons' themselves. It is we who stand in need of a little wholesome variety, even more than our 'hearers'; living in some 'sleepy hollow' from year end to year end, do we not often get into quite a narrow, distrustful, disheartened groove, both about the 'black-sheepedness' of our own flocks and the theological opinions of our neighbouring brother-shepherds? Speaking one day of the distorted medium through which some of the village clergy survey creation, and of their monotonous lives, I asked a country 'Father in Israel' why some such plan could not be adopted to bring a few freshening breezes across their path and brush away the cobwebs of prejudice and party intolerance? He sighed, and admitted that it would be indeed a blessed change, but added, 'It could never be brought about, at least not in this part of the world, because we are too distrustful of each other to admit one another into our pulpits or houses.' I believe that many a country clergyman has been led, in the first instance, to join 'extreme' societies (by the wire-pullers in the great centres) more because it afforded him a little pleasurable variety and mental 'fillip' to go up 'on duty' once or twice a year to some C. B. S. 'function' or Keswick 'Conference' (as the case may be, 'High' or 'Low'), than from any real conviction about the urgency of the 'crisis.' For my own part, were I again to find myself set down in a country parish, I should hail it as a thankful privilege to be called on to act, some half-dozen times in the year, as Saturday to Monday *locum tenens* in a brother's domain, while he was ministering in mine. To make the thing really practicable we must be willing to go through each other's Sunday agenda completely, and not be merely an idle 'peacock's-feather' preacher, since what painfully-put-together machinery of Sunday work could be suffered to take its chance in our absence, merely for the sake of a sermon? Of course, in matters of *ritual*, we must each 'do as Rome does' in our brother's church. I am sure we should return from such a blessed 'holiday of work' more hopeful, more large-hearted, and more loving.

I do not think such a movement as I have sketched out would tend to diminish regular church-going on the part of our people. There need be no previous announcement in God's house that on Sunday next the Rev. Dr. So-and-So would hold forth, still less any printed papers [how dreadful are those 'bills' which, 'read between the lines,' announce 'Advent (or Lent) attractions' of 'special preachers,' which desecrate our church-doors and the windows of the shops of the 'faithful' during holy seasons which the Church has set apart for special stillness and quietude!], if only we will be content that our brother shall minister in the presence of the normal congregation. I believe (for I have been told it in Gath) that the plan of a constant change of preachers, with placards announcing them, as adopted by many of our Dissenting brethren, has had the very unwholesome effect of crowding their chapels on 'gala' Sundays, while they are quite 'thin' on other occasions. From such man-worship in the house of God may we of the Church of England be long delivered! But here, as elsewhere, we might surely follow the 'golden mean' of moderation.

Nestor.

The Ornaments Rubric.

Sir,—Perhaps Dr. Littledale's law-reading would have been more accurate, and his condemnation of other people less hasty, if he had had the responsibilities of actual practice. If the four extracts now given by him from the Folkestone Judgment, and marked with inverted commas, had been correctly quoted, they would not have justified the accusations of his former letters. But the first extract omits the most important word in the sentence. I read in page 703 of the Report published by Kegan Paul: 'If the *only* law,' &c. Of course, if the rubric had been an entirely new thing in 1662, the question would have been very different from what it now is. Again, the fourth extract is only a part of a sentence which occurs in the course of the argument (see p. 726), and it is not fair to quote it as if it was a final conclusion standing by itself.

Of course, by taking a few detached sentences out of a long chain of reasoning, anything may be turned to ridicule. And that is what Dr. Littledale has done. Among other things on which the judgment depends, but which he has altogether ignored, I may mention this, that Elizabeth's Act of Uniformity was prefixed to the MS. Prayer-book as it passed through Convocation in 1661, and that it was re-enacted in the Act of 1662, so that it is now as much law as it was in 1559.

I had not intended to enter into the Advertisements question, but Dr. Littledale compels me. If at first Elizabeth refused to allow her name to be

IRELAND.

(From our own Correspondent.)

THE remaining vacant incumbencies in the city and suburbs of Dublin have been filled up by the appointment of the Rev. James Walsh, D.D. (Senior Curate), to the Rectory of St. Stephen; of the Rev. S. M. Harris, Curate of Harold's Cross, to that of the Holy Trinity, Rathmines; and of the Rev. J. Sandys Bird, Curate of St. John, Monkstown, to that of St. Kevin. The papers of this (Wednesday) morning announce the death of the Rev. Robert Vance, for many years Rector of St. Catharine, Dublin. This event creates another vacant incumbency, which will be filled up in the usual manner. St. Catharine's is a poor parish, as far as the resident population is concerned, but it has in its immediate neighbourhood the extensive brewery concerns of Guinness & Sons, and Henry Roe's distillery. The parish church is a gloomy, prison-like building, in the worst style of the Georges. The tower, which was never completed, is covered with a low wooden roof. The living was formerly in the gift of the Earls of Meath.

An interesting ceremonial took place in the Palace, St. Stephen's Green, on Saturday last, when the Episcopal Portrait Committee of the united diocese of Dublin, Glendalagh, and Kildare, presented the Archbishop with his picture, painted by Sir Thomas Watkins, R.A., the President of the Royal Irish Academy. The portrait, which is an admirable one, represents his Grace sitting within the altar-rails of Christ Church Cathedral in full episcopal robes, with the insignia of the Order of St. Patrick, of which his Grace is Chancellor. The address, which is as follows, was read by the Lord Chancellor of Ireland:—

'May it please your Grace,—Some of your many friends in your united dioceses of Dublin, Glendalough, and Kildare, being desirous of recording their high respect for your piety and personal worth, and their sense of the great services rendered by you to the Church of Ireland during the anxious period of your Archiepiscopate, resolved to have your portrait painted in your archiepiscopal robes, and presented to your Grace. As the committee appointed to carry out that object, we now beg your acceptance of the portrait; and we venture to request that it may be assigned a fitting place in the Palace, among those of former Archbishops of Dublin. It would be unbecoming in us, and, no doubt, distasteful to your Grace, if we were here to specify those high moral and intellectual qualities, literary attainments, and generous acts, which have prompted the desire thus to commemorate your tenure of the high office you have for so many years filled in our Church. We have now, therefore, only to add our prayer that the Church may long be permitted in the Providence of God to enjoy the blessing of your Grace's dignified and beneficent rule.'

His Grace, in reply, said:—

'My Lords and Gentlemen, my Brethren, partakers with me in the same high office and ministry,—I could heartily wish that I were worthy of the kindness which you on this day have shown to me alike by word and deed. Drawing, as in the necessity of things, my ministry among you now must be towards its close, it is not a small matter to receive at such a time an implicit assurance upon your parts that, so many omissions on my part notwithstanding, so many mistakes, so many shortcomings, your good will and regard remain what they were at the beginning, or are rather strengthened and deepened by the closer friendship of later years. Very gladly will I fulfil, as far as in me lies, your wish and intention that this picture, itself a most honourable example of what our Irish art can effect, shall remain an heirloom in the Palace, not indeed always occupying the exact place which it occupies provisionally to-day; and when it passes to other possessors may there cling to it for many a long day pleasant recollections of the thoughtful kindness which dictated the presentation of this morning. If I detain you a moment more it will be only for the expression of every hope and prayer that, by God's good hand upon us, the bonds of Christian love which bind us together shall, as years roll onwards, not grow weaker but stronger; and that we of the Church of Ireland shall know more and more of the blessing which rests on a Church whose members are thus bound together in the bonds of Christian faith and charity. I thank you very heartily each and all for the share in this work which you have severally undertaken.'

Professor Mahaffy took occasion on the last afternoon Lecture in Trinity College to reply to the attacks made on him for his disparaging remarks about the Apostle St. Paul:—

'I had put myself,' said the Professor, 'in the attitude of the Greeks, who saw an apparently mean and insignificant stranger seething with anger at their devotions, and branding their beautiful and revered statues as idols of wood and stone. I said he as a Semite had not, and could not have had, any sympathy for art, and of the plastic art, which was then before us. This is strictly true. But, though he appeared to the Athenians as a little ugly foreigner, I went on to show that this was not reported, that such was the power of his doctrine and his preaching that he not only overthrew the whole Greek religion and its gods, but that our scanty remains of these gods and temples are mainly due to the protection of the Christian faith. To attribute to me those angry feelings which I described—I fancied I did it graphically, now it seems too graphically—was a stupid blunder, from which my critics would have been saved if they had consulted those who were present and heard all I said.'

A correspondent in the *Irish Ecclesiastical Gazette* points out that the expression used towards St. Paul, of being 'a little ugly man,' has not even the merit of originality, the words being those of M. Renan.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Society of Change-ringers for the Archdeaconry of Stafford.

PATRON, the Lord Bishop of Lichfield; President, the Ven. the Archdeacon of Stafford; Hon. Sec., *pro tem.*, the Rev. J. R. Keble, Lichfield; Hon. Treasurer, *pro tem.*, Mr. W. A. Wood, Lichfield.—On Thursday, May 17th, 1883, a preliminary meeting was held at Archdeacon Iles's house, The Close, Lichfield, to consider the desirability of forming a Society of Change-ringers for the Archdeaconry of Stafford, similar to that already existing in the Stoke Archdeaconry. It was then decided to invite representatives from the principal steeples in the archdeaconry, for the purpose of founding such a Society. A meeting was accordingly held on June 2nd, in the Cathedral belfry, the Ven. Archdeacon Iles in the chair, the Rev. J. R. Keble acting as secretary. The following churches were represented: Burton Parish Church; Brierley Hill; Lichfield Cathedral, St. Mary's, and St. Michael's; Darleston; Stafford, St. Mary's; Tamworth; Walsall Parish Church; West Bromwich, All Saints' and Christ Church; Willenhall; Wolverhampton, St. Peter's; Wombourne. It was unanimously decided to found the Society, and a draft of the Rules was drawn up as follows: 1. That this Society be called 'The Society of Change-ringers for the Archdeaconry of Stafford.' 2. That the objects of the Society are, (a) To recognise the position of ringers as church-workers; (b) The promotion of the art of change-ringing; (c) Belfry reform. 3. That this Society consist of honorary and performing members. 4. That any person subscribing not less than 5s. be admitted as an honorary member. 5. That performing members be admitted by the committee, at a subscription of 1s. 6d. per annum, and an entrance fee of 1s. 6. That no person be admitted as a performing member until he can ring at least tenor or treble in 120 changes. 7. The committee to consist of the officers for the time being, together with one representative from every band, of which not less than five members belong to the Society. It was decided to hold the first General Meeting at Lichfield, on June 30th.

Ringling Match at St. Mabyn, Cornwall.

A RINGING match took place on Wednesday, when seven prizes were offered for competition. Seventeen sets entered, and the contest was very close throughout. Eglosayle and Golant rang a second time for the first, and secured prizes 3l. and 2l. 5s., Eglosayle winning. The third prize, 1l. 10s., was awarded to Lanreath; the fourth, 1l., to Lanlivery; the fifth, 15s., to St. Wenn; the sixth, 12s., to St. Tudy, and the seventh, 6s., to Eglosayle, second set. Practice on the bells commenced in the morning, and at half-past two there was service in the church, when an excellent sermon was preached by the Rector, the Rev. Canon Vautier, to a large congregation. The weather being fine, the attendance was unusually large, and all seemed to thoroughly enjoy the proceedings. The umpires were Mr. Lean of St. Kew, Mr. Bligh of Helland, and Mr. Menhinick of St. Mabyn.—*The Western Daily Mercury*, June 15.

We insert the above to let our ringing friends know how money is uselessly squandered in Cornwall for *ups* and *downs*, and *rounds* and *rounds*. We are surprised to see such gatherings patronised by those who might stamp them out. The excuse we have is, that Cornish people like it.

Good Advice about Belfry Rules.

SIR,—To any one about to organize a society and to frame rules, let me advise that they be as few and simple as possible. Do not be in a hurry to make any at all if you can get on without them. The orders of the incumbent and churchwardens should be sufficient as to ringing-days, pay, &c., and common decency will prevent smoking and drinking in the belfry, and other objectionable practices now-a-days. It is generally found that where there are elaborate rules and belfry appliances change-ringing flourishes least. I have rung in many belfries in different parts of England and seen all sorts of rules and appliances. I have even known some belfries where the ringers ring in some particular costume peculiar to that particular belfry; but I always find that where they have all sorts of 'whimwams' of this sort they can do nothing in the way of change-ringing. Real change-ringers are content to meet and pull off their coats and waistcoats and ring in their ordinary clothes, and the only rules that seem to be necessary are these; viz. That there is so much money paid for certain ringing-days, and whoever isn't there won't get it; and, 'Whoever doesn't behave when he is there will be turned out.' Of course, practice nights, ringing long lengths, &c., at other times for pleasure, must be arranged by the company themselves, with the sanction of the authorities. I beg to call the attention of your readers to this subject just now, because several new societies are being formed in various places, and I know of many who have saddled themselves with all sorts of elaborate regulations and wish they had not done so, yet do not like to alter them.

St. Mary's, Penzance.

J. R. JERRAM.

In our report of the ringing at this church, in our last issue, by some mistake it was omitted to state that the peal of Grandsire Triples rung then was the first peal of Triples ever rung in Cornwall. Thanks are due to Colonel Trelawny, by whose instructions the above has been accomplished. We are sorry to hear that his health prevents him from taking an active part in steeple ringing.

The Deptford Peal of Grandsire Triples.

SIR,—Allow me to thank Mr. Weatherstone for his letter. From the first I thought that the peal in question was most probably that which it actually turns out to be. Let me begin by clearly stating the point I wish to maintain with regard to it. It is this. Its author is unknown; therefore, on the one hand, no one has the right to say that it is positively not by Holt; while, on the other hand, the probability against its being his may be described as well-nigh overwhelming; and therefore still less has any one the right to take for granted that it is a production of that great composer. In support of my

assertion that its author is unknown may be mentioned the negative evidence that wherever it is given it is given anonymously, and the positive fact that Shipway, in Part III., p. 57, describes it as 'a peal on a curious construction, by an unknown author.' This much at least is certain,—we may not ascribe it definitely to any one. Next, let me reply to Mr. Weatherstone's arguments, adducing also some reasons which are strongly adverse to any connexion of this peal with the name of Holt. With regard to Mr. Weatherstone's quotation from the preface to the *Clavis*, either the authors of that work were not aware of the historical fact that Anable actually had, before Holt's day, composed a true and complete peal of what we now include in the name Grand-sire Triples, in which case their whole assertion is incorrect, for they leave one to suppose that Anable's peal was either false or incomplete; or, which is more probable, there is some confusion in the use of the term 'Grandsire Triples.' In former days this name was often refused to Bob-and-Single productions, which were frequently styled 'Gogmagog.' Now, if this is the case in the sentence under discussion, it will go some distance to prove that Holt never composed a peal of Gogmagog, for it then lays down that the first peal *not* on this plan was by Holt. In what he says of the '840's,' Mr. Weatherstone has surely mistaken the plain meaning of the words. The plural number merely refers to the fact that there is more than one 840 in a peal of 5040, and not to two six-part peals; for then, would not the sentence have run thus: 'He produced that in 504's and those in 840's?' Some specimens of the 'infinite variety' which Mr. Holt's peals are capable of producing may be seen on pp. 61, 62. In mentioning Holt's peals in their conclusion of Grand-sire Triples, it is necessary to suppose that the authors of the *Clavis* thereby meant that every peal they had given was the composition of Holt?—Surely not.

It is an indisputable fact that a true Bob-and-Single peal had been composed before the time of Holt. His One-part was his first peal, and an improvement upon the Bob-and-Single plan. Is it not most improbable that he was content to slide back after this into the Bob-and-Single groove? Was it not evidently his great aim to avoid every single that was possible? Witness all his peals—his One-part, his Ten-part, his Six-part, his peals of Bob Minor and Triples. And, lastly, is it acting fairly towards his wonderful ability to suppose that he would condescend to publish a mere variation of an old plan, after producing an infinitely superior plan of his own?

CHARLES D. P. DAVIES.

Kent County Association of Change-ringers.

THIS Association will hold its Annual General Meeting at Ashford on Wednesday, June 27. Service at 12 o'clock in the parish church, with sermon by the Rev. Canon Alecock. Dinner at 1 o'clock at the 'Saracen's Head,' when Lord Harris will preside. General Meeting after dinner. Hon. Members may obtain tickets from the Secretary, Rev. R. K. Hugessen, or at the 'Saracen's Head.'

CHANGE-RINGING.

At Holy Trinity, Hulme, Manchester.

On Thursday, the 7th inst., a peal of 720 Plain Bob Minor was rung in 20 minutes. H. Diggle, 1; W. Diggle, 2; C. Woodward, 3; W. H. Lockett (first peal), 4; W. Hargreaves (conductor), 5; W. Savage, 6. Tenor, 15½ cwt.

At St. Peter's, Bishop Waltham, Hants.

On Friday, the 8th inst., being the eve of the jubilee, the Rector, the Rev. W. Brook, the B.W.R. gave in the Rectory grounds a selection of music on their hand-bells, which they have only just had augmented to thirty-nine by Pawson of Leeds, and were highly commended by the few friends who were fortunate to hear them. And on Saturday morning they were again at their post to give honour to whom honour is due, for they were in the belfry and sending forth joyous peals at five o'clock in the morning, when they rang several six-score Grandsire Doubles, concluding the morning peal by firing 50 times; and in the evening they again rang more Grandsire Doubles. The first sermon preached by the Rector in this parish was on Sunday, June 9th, 1833. T. Shorney, 1; J. H. Garnett, 2; T. Savage, 3; W. Shorney, 4; E. N. Garnett, jun. (conductor), 5; W. Cook, 6. Tenor, about 17 cwt.

At St. John's, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

On Thursday, the 14th inst., for evening service, a peal of 720 Buxton Treble Bob Minor was rung in 27 mins. W. Egglestone, 1; C. L. Routledge, 2; R. S. Story, 3; W. G. Routledge, 4; W. Story, 5; F. Lees (conductor), 6. Tenor, 14½ cwt. The above method was invented by Messrs. Lees and Woodhouse in 1860, at Glossop. I have seen all Mr. Walker's peals or methods which have been published elsewhere, but not one corresponds with this method; I therefore send you a leaf of it for publication in *Church Bells*. It is simply a composition of Oxford and Violet. The bobs are made like those in Violet. This method has also been called 'Glossop Delight.'

At St. Luke's, Heywood, Lancashire.

On Thursday evening, the 14th inst., seven members of the St. Luke's Society, with Mr. James Pilkington, a former ringer, rang a half-peal of 2520 Grandsire Triples (Reeve's reverse) in 1 hr. 36 mins. J. Mullett, 1; G. Crossley, 2; A. Schofield, 3; W. R. Barrett, 4; J. Street, 5; J. Pilkington, 6; J. Harrison (conductor), 7; Jas. Mullett, 8. [Weight of tenor omitted.]

| BUXTON. | | | | | | | | | |
|---------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 5 | 6 | 4 | 2 |
| 3 | 1 | 4 | 3 | 5 | 6 | 5 | 2 | 4 | 1 |
| 1 | 2 | 4 | 6 | 3 | 5 | 6 | 2 | 5 | 1 |
| 2 | 1 | 6 | 4 | 5 | 3 | 2 | 6 | 1 | 5 |
| 2 | 6 | 1 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 6 | 2 | 5 | 1 |
| 6 | 2 | 5 | 1 | 3 | 4 | 6 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 6 | 2 | 1 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 6 | 1 | 3 | 2 |
| 2 | 6 | 5 | 1 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 6 | 3 | 2 |
| 2 | 5 | 6 | 3 | 1 | 4 | 6 | 1 | 3 | 2 |
| 5 | 2 | 3 | 6 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 6 | 4 | 3 |
| 2 | 5 | 3 | 6 | 4 | 1 | 4 | 6 | 3 | 2 |
| 5 | 2 | 6 | 3 | 4 | 1 | | | | |
| 5 | 6 | 2 | 4 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 6 | 4 | 3 |
| 6 | 5 | 4 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 4 | 6 | 5 |

Bob.

At Lyminge, Kent.

On Saturday, the 16th inst., the Aldington company visited this place, the occasion being the fiftieth anniversary of Mr. E. Hyder's first outing, when the following peals of Bob Minor were rung: 720 changes (9 bobs and 6 singles) in 28 mins. C. Slingsby, 1; D. Hodgkin, 2; A. Tanton (Lyminge), 3; P. Hodgkin, 4; E. Hyder (conductor), 5; W. Post, sen., 6.—120 changes (14 singles and 4 bobs) in 29 mins. W. Post, jun., 1; T. Hodgkin, 2; A. Tanton, 3; T. Hooker (Hastingleigh), 4; W. Hyder (conductor), 5; P. Hodgkin, 6.—720 changes (21 bobs and 6 singles) in 28½ mins. C. Slingsby, 1; T. Hodgkin, 2; P. Hodgkin, 3; E. Hyder, 4; W. Hyder (conductor), 5; W. Post, 6.—720 changes (22 singles and 2 bobs) in 29 mins. C. Slingsby, 1; T. Hodgkin, 2; A. Tanton, 3; T. Hooker, 4; W. Hyder (conductor), 5; W. Post, 6.—720 changes (22 singles) in 28½ mins. C. Slingsby, 1; D. Hodgkin, 2; A. Tanton, 3; T. Hooker, 4; E. Hyder (conductor), 5; W. Post, 6. Tenor, 18½ cwt. The ringers were all members of the Kent County Association of Change-ringers, with the exception of Mr. T. Hooker.

At St. Mary's, Farnham Royal, Bucks.

On Sunday afternoon, the 17th inst., for divine service, six members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild rang a peal of 720 Bob Minor in 26 mins. F. Fells, 1; J. Parker (conductor), 2; W. Fussell, 3; A. Batten, 4; A. Fussell, 5; C. Clarke, 6. Tenor, 12 cwt. This completes the 100th peal of 720 rung on these bells in the following methods:—3 Grandsire Doubles, 2 Bob and Grandsire Doubles, 1 Bob Grandsire and Stedman's Doubles, 1 Stedman's Doubles, 67 Grandsire Minor, 24 Bob Minor, and 2 Oxford Bob Minor. The following touches, chiefly Grandsire Minor, have also been rung for divine service on Sundays: 47, 95, 131. Also 252, 300, 335, 336, 408, 420, 443, 444, 503, 504, 552, and 600. Fifty-two 720's were rung during this last year.

The above band visited Old Windsor, Berks, on Saturday evening, the 16th inst., and rang a peal of 720 Grandsire Minor, the first on the bells. They also visited Wraysbury (Bucks), and rang a peal of 720 Bob Minor with Captain J. A. Troyte.

At St. Michael's, Lichfield.

On Monday, the 18th inst., a peal of 720 Grandsire Minor was rung in 28 mins. E. Gallimore, 1; F. Sedgwick, 2; H. Meacham, 3; H. King, 4; T. Meredith, 5; F. Cope (conductor), 6. Tenor, 14 cwt., in D.

Hand-bell Peal by Oxford Diocesan Guild of Change-ringers.

On Monday, the 18th inst., four members of the Oxford Guild (College Youths) rang on their musical hand-bells Holt's Ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples in 2 hrs. 22 mins. H. Baston, 1-2; C. Hounslow, 3-4; W. Washbrooke (conductor), 5-6; S. Hounslow, 7-8. This being the first peal rung two-in-hand by the Oxford Change-ringers. Umpires: Thomas Hill and Thomas Payne.

PROGRESS IN CHANGE-RINGING.

By a Looker-on in India.
(Continued from page 529.)

HEREFORDSHIRE.

THIS still continues to be a backward county. The good ringers of Ross rang 1 half-peal of G. T. in 1880, and a quarter-peal of the same in 1881, and a complete peal at the end of 1882. Their ring has been rehung, and it is to be hoped that they will persevere. In 1879 a mixed band rang G. Minor, G. Doubles, and St. Doubles at Staunton-on-Wye.

It is said that there are ringers at Hereford, but it is not stated what methods they ring.

HERTFORDSHIRE.

And now we come to a county which is showing many signs of life as regards bells and ringing. To begin with the *ne plus ultra* eight-bell ringers of Bennington: In 1878 they rang 1344 London Surprise, and the same number of Cambridge Surprise. On three occasions in 1879, 4536, 4956, and 2777 changes of various difficult methods; also 1344 of Cambridge Surprise, and 1008 of Double Norwich Court Bob Major. In 1880, 1344 of Superlative Surprise, and 3500 changes in various Major methods. In 1881, 1344 each of London, Cambridge, and Superlative Surprise. In 1882, 1344 of London Surprise, and Long Touches in other Surprise methods.

I still think it a matter of regret that this eminent Company has ceased to ring complete peals of 5000 and upwards.

BISHOP'S STORTFORD shows the following score:—

1880, 1 peal of Bob M.; 1 half-peal, and 3 Long Touches of G. T.

1881, 1 peal, 1 Date Touch, 1 quarter-peal, and 1330 of G. T.

1882, 2 quarter-peals of G. T.; 5056 R. M. by a mixed band.

SAWERIDGEWORTH.—1880, a Date Touch of Bob Major.

„ 1881, 1 peal of K. Minor; 1 peal of G. T.; Date Touches of G. T. and B. M.

But perhaps the best signs of progress have appeared at Hertford. The excellent ring of ten in the tower of All Saints' Church was rehung in 1870, and in the following year the present generation of Hertford College Youths rang their first quarter-peal of G. T. In 1881 they rang another quarter-peal. And in 1882, 3 quarter-peals and 2 complete peals of G. T. at home; and another peal at Ware. It is reported that they are getting on well with G. Caters, so we may soon hope to hear of a peal on the ten.

In 1878 the Hitchin bells (8; tenor, 28 cwt.) were put in order. In 1881 a new ring of six was given to Elstree. In 1882 the bells of Tring were made eight; also the old six at Balcock, the tenor of which weighs 35 cwt., and is the heaviest bell in the county.

A ring of six at Cheshunt wants repairs; an accident occurred lately, due to the bad state of the bells.

In 1882, G. Doubles were rung at St. Albans. This city has some fine rings, and formerly had change-ringers, so it is very cheering to hear that the practice of the art is being renewed.

(To be continued.)

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

The Bells of St. Sennen, Cornwall.

SIR,—In your issue of June 16th there appeared an engraving of St. Sennen's church, with a short account, in which it was said that the church was now in a thoroughly satisfactory condition. May I ask whether the bells have been restored? Mr. Dunkin, in his *Church Bells of Cornwall*, published in 1878, makes the following remarks about these bells. He says that there are three bells. The treble, inscribed 'The Rev. Richard Pearce, Minister; Thos. Nicholas, John George, Churchwardens; Cast by Thomas Bayley, Bridgewater, 1762;' is the only one which is ringable. The second is lying in a useless state on the belfry floor, and the tenor is completely broken to pieces. These two bells were cast in 1810, and bear the names of John Permewan and Nicholas Pascoe, Churchwardens, and that of C. Boney. He adds, 'Few Cornish belfries that have come under my inspection are in a worse state than that at Sennen. The floor is covered with rubbish to the depth of half a foot or more, and with fragments of broken bells scattered about presents a sad spectacle.' Now I am sure all the readers of *Church Bells* will be very pleased to hear of this state of things being altered, and I hope we may hear next week from some correspondent that such is the case. J. R. JERRAM.

Firing the Bells.—St. Peter's, Bishops Waltham, Hants.

SIR,—It is stated in the report of ringing at this place in your last issue that the bells were fired fifty times. There is no music in firing, and it is damaging to the whole tower and bell-gear, and should not be allowed.

AN OLD BELL-HANGER AND RINGER.

Holy Trinity, South Shields, Durham.

A VALUABLE acquisition has just been added to the above church in the form of a ring of bells. They were constructed and fixed by Messrs. John Taylor and Co. of Loughborough. Their total weight is nearly three tons—the F or tenor bell weighing within a few pounds of 18 cwt. On Sunday morning last the service used at the dedication of 'Great Paul' was read in the belfry by the Vicar, the Rev. John Coulson, M.A.; after which the choir sang 'When morning gilds the sky;' when, as the last echoes of their voices died away, the bells gave forth a joyous peal, which, being new to the neighbourhood, had a charming effect. The morning service was attended by the Mayor and Corporation of the borough, the sermon being preached by the Rev. F. Bromley, M.A., vicar of Benwell. The sermon in the evening was preached by the Rev. Jas. Steel, vicar of Hurworth.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At St. Peter's, Brighton, Sussex.

On Wednesday, the 13th inst., a date touch of Grandsire Triples was rung in 1 hr. 9 mins. E. St. John, 1; Z. Searle, 2; C. Tyler, 8; J. Jay, jun. 4; H. Boniface, 5; G. F. Altree (conductor), 6; J. Jay, sen. 7; —Butler, 8. All members of the Brighton Society.

At St. Paul's, Burton-on-Trent, Staffordshire.

On Thursday, the 21st inst., eight members of the Midland Counties Association rang Holt's Six-part peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples in 3 hrs. 18 mins. J. Griffin (conductor), 1; E. I. Stone, 2; G. Robinson, 3; H. Wakley, 4; A. Wakley, 5; W. Wakley, 6; T. Holmes, 7; J. Jaggard, 8. Tenor, 26 cwt.

At St. Albans, Herts.

On Friday, the 22nd inst., L. Proctor, Esq., of Benington, Herts, visited the city of St. Albans to ring on the bells of St. Peter's Church, two of which (8th and 9th, formerly the 10th and 11th, the trebles of the twelve having been removed) have just been recast by Messrs. Taylor and Co. of Loughborough. Double Norwich Court Bob Major (conducted by Mr. T. Page), and Stedman's Caters and Grandsire Caters (conducted by Mr. Haworth), were rung by L. Proctor, Esq., L. Chapman, S. Page, Jos. Kitchener, T. Page, C. Shambrook, and N. Warner (Benington); J. R. Haworth, M. A. Wood, C. F. Winny, and R. Jameson (London); H. Lewis and N. N. Hills (St. Albans); and W. H. George (Pinner, Middlesex). Mr. J. Smith of Hampstead was one of the visitors. The work of recasting the two bells gave great satisfaction to the ringers present.

PROGRESS IN CHANGE-RINGING.

By a Looker-on in India.

(Continued from page 569.)

HUNTINGDONSHIRE.

THIS is one of the few counties which has reported no change-ringing of any kind. The only bell news which I have been able to discover is the rehanging of a ring of six at Hemmingford Grey.

KENT.

Although during the last five years the practice of the art has spread much in this county, yet Kent is still remarkable for the large number of rings which it has without half-pull ringers. It is often said that Kent has no ring of twelve, but this is an error; there is a light ring of twelve in Waterloo Tower, Quex Park, Thanet. But the local band (mostly servants of the gentleman who had the tower built and the bells placed in it) has disappeared, and Quex is an out-of-the-way place, so the bells are rarely used; it would be good if they could be removed to some place where they would be of more use.

The fine rings of ten and eight respectively at Maidstone and Ashford are

again employed for change-ringing. The next step to be taken is to rescue from the hands of the ringers of 'Churchyard Bob' the fine ten at Canterbury. The County Association, which was formed in 1880, has seen to this, and six of the Cathedral Company, with two of Faversham, rang a Long Touch of G. T. lately.

LEWISHAM.—1879, 1 peal of G. Doubles, and 1 peal of G. T.

" 1880, 1 peal, 1 Date Touch, and 1 quarter-peal of G. T.

" 1881, 2 peals, and 2 quarter-peals of G. T.

" 1882, 3 peals of G. T.

MAIDSTONE.—1879, 2 quarter-peals of G. T.

" 1880, 4 quarter-peals of G. T.

" 1881, 3 peals, 1 half-peal, and 1 quarter-peal of G. T.

FRITTFENDEN.—1878, 2352 changes of Bob Major.

" 1879, 1 peal of Bob Triples, and 5760 changes of Bob Major.

" 1880, 1 long peal of Bob Major—9296 changes. Well done!

" 1881, 1 peal of Bob Major, and 1 peal of Bob Triples.

" 1882, 1 peal of Bob Major.

CRAYFORD.—1878, 1 peal of G. T.

" 1880, Minor only.

" 1881, Minor, and 2 peals of G. T.

" 1882, Minor, and 1 peal of G. T.

DARTFORD.—1879, 1 peal of G. T.

" 1880, 1 half and 2 quarter-peals of ditto.

" 1881, 2 quarter-peals of G. T.

" 1882, 1 ditto.

WOOLWICH.—1879, 1 peal of G. T.

" 1881, 1 Date Touch, and 3 quarter-peals of ditto.

" 1882, 2 peals, and 1 quarter-ditto.

DEPTFORD.—1879, 1 quarter-peal of G. T.

" 1880, 1 peal of ditto, and G. Minor.

" 1881, 1 peal, 1 half-peal, and 1 Date Touch of G. T.

" 1882, 1 peal of G. T.

BROMLEY.—1879, G. Minor; and (with help from Deptford) 1 peal of G. T.

" 1880 (with Greenwich), 1 peal of G. T.

" 1881 (with Deptford), Date Touch of G. T.

" 1882, G. Minor.

CHISLEHURST.—1882, a quarter-peal of G. T.

FOLKESTONE.—672 G. T. on the new bells.

" 1882, 1 peal of ditto.

GILLINGHAM.—1882, 1260 of G. T.; also another quarter-peal, and a Date Touch of G. T.

Mixed bands rang peals of G. T. and Bob Major at Chislehurst and Hadlow respectively, and G. T. were rung at Gillingham. Mersham rang Minor in 1879 and 1880, and in 1881 rang Bob Major, getting a peal in 1882. The County Association rang Bob Major at Ashford in 1881.

Minor was rung at Northfleet, Hunton, West Malling, Bexley, Sittingbourne, Rochester, Gravesend, Eltham, Bearstead, Hayes, and Cheriton. Much Minor was rung at Aldington, including 5040 changes in seven peals. New bands at Newington and Mereworth rang G. Doubles.

The old ring of eight at Folkestone was exchanged for a new one by Taylor of Loughborough (tenor, upwards of 25 cwt.). The Ashford bells were rehung, and the Cheriton bells were made six. Hythe has a ring of ten, and there are ringers there; nothing has been reported as accomplished by the ringers of Hythe during the last five years, except 1008 changes of Bob Major by a mixed band. A similar Touch was also rung at Leeds.

LEICESTERSHIRE.

In this county the ringers of Leicester continue to hold the lead. Their ring of ten at St. Margaret's, Leicester, is said to be one of the best in England; the back six (tenor, 30 cwt.) were the masterpiece of Hugh Watts, and were cast in 1633: five of these still remain, the second only having been recast.

In 1878 the ringers of Leicester rang 1 peal and 1 Date Touch of G. T. In 1879, 1 peal of G. Caters and 1 Date Touch of G. T. In 1880, 1 peal of St. T.; and 720 K. Minor. In 1881, 1 peal and 1 Date Touch of K. M.; 1 peal, 2 half-peals, and 2 Date Touches of G. T.; and 1 Date Touch of St. T. In 1882, 1 Date Touch of G. T. and 1 peal of the same; and a Date Touch of St. T.

This good score shows that the Leicester band can ring Grandsire, Stedman, and Treble Bob; they can therefore hold their own with most companies. Away from home, eight of them, with two from Coventry, rang a Date Touch of G. Caters at St. Michael's, Coventry.

Minor was rung at KEGWORTH, LOUGHBOROUGH, WYMESWOLD, and BARWELL.

A ring of eight (tenor, 26 cwt.) was given to the Church of St. Saviour, Leicester; and a ring of six (tenor, upwards of 17 cwt.) to Castle Donnington.

LINCOLNSHIRE.

Eight-bell ringing is at a low ebb in Lincolnshire, and the ringers of Grantham are entitled to great credit for their efforts to prevent its dying out: in 1881 they accomplished a peal of G. T. on their heavy ring. The South Lincolnshire Association was formed in 1879, but hitherto it has done little beyond six-bell work. The Spalding ringers have rung one or two short touches of G. T.

Minor was rung at Lincoln, also at a few places in the south of the county; but these latter peals have already had more space in *Church Bells* than they deserve.

A new ring of eight (tenor, 15 cwt., by Lewis of Brixton) was given to St. Paul's, Spalding, in 1880; and in 1882 the ring at Lea was made six.

Ring in the Grandsire method is practised at Gainsborough, but nothing has yet been reported from that town.

(To be continued.)

COLONIAL AND FOREIGN CHURCH NEWS.

UNITED STATES.

THE Bishop of Virginia having represented to his Diocesan Council that his failing health required him to have assistance, Dr. Alfred Randolph, rector of Emmanuel, Baltimore, has been elected Assistant-Bishop. The number of clergy in this diocese is now 146. A committee was appointed by the council to consider the question of subdivision. The council resolved, with regard to the relation of the Church to the coloured people, that 'separate organization' was an essential. On the other hand, in the adjacent diocese of North New Jersey the Bishop, amid much approval, urged on his council that any such ecclesiastical sanction of the 'spirit of caste' would be thoroughly improper and surely disastrous.

THE zeal of Bishop Whipple in Indian Missions is well known. Since he has been in Minnesota, a period of twenty-four years, over 100 churches have been erected. He has seven Indian clergy.

ISLANDS OF THE PACIFIC.

THE Report of the Melanesian Mission for 1882 has appeared in the *Auckland Church Gazette*. It begins by speaking on the State of Florida. Here the murder of Lieut. Bower and his boat's crew at the end of 1880 was followed by the visits of H.M.S. *Emerald* and *Cormorant*. The result was the surrender of four out of the five actual murderers, and the execution of three of their number. This produced a deep impression, not only of the power of men-of-war, but also of their justice. There is now a greater sense of security than before; people are no longer afraid to go to distant villages as a part of the Missionaries' boat's crew. And though, from the unavoidable part the Mission had to take, some of the natives may have considered it as identical with the man-of-war, this evil is more than counterbalanced by the universal feeling that the Mission has at heart the interests of the people, and has acted throughout as mediator. The Ordination of Charles Sapibuana, which was the Bishop's last act in Florida after his summer's stay there, was in striking contrast to the gloomy outlook of the year before. At Santa Cruz, also, 'there is great cause for thankfulness. For the first time since the days of Mendana a white man has stayed on shore. Mr. Lister Kaye spent seven weeks there during the past year, and was able in that time to visit and make friends with the people on the whole north of the island, from Graciosa Bay, where Bishop Patteson was killed.' On the other hand, the Mission has had several discouragements this year; such as the hurricane at Mota and the consequent sickness; and two accidents to the screw of the *Southern Cross*, which rendered a trip to Auckland necessary for repairs and a third voyage impracticable. The Bishop, therefore, was unable to inspect the southern schools, but this was done with great completeness by his chaplain, the Rev. C. Bice. Funds, again, have been very low during the year, and the number of scholars at Norfolk Island has had to be reduced considerably. There are now 128 males and 45 females. In the coming year, the mission will lose for a time the services of the Rev. R. H. Codrington, who, after more than sixteen years' continuous and gratuitous service, goes home to put into shape the result of his researches into the dialects of Melanesia.

AUSTRALIA.

THE new Bishop of Adelaide, Dr. Kennion, invited his clergy to a 'quiet day' at St. Barnabas' Theological College on the day preceding the session of the Diocesan Synod in April. The fact of the day being Monday, prevented the majority of the country clergy from attending the early Communion in the Cathedral, still the number of communicants was large. During breakfast, Bishop Wilberforce's address on 'The Inward Call' was read. Matins followed with the recital of *Veni Creator*, and the Bishop delivered a 'Study of the Charge in the Ordering of Priests.' In the course of this 'study,' he adverted to the hard problem of dealing with 'those who occupy a different theological platform,' referring to Dean Hook as an illustration of the possibility of showing a genuine appreciation of all real goodness, and yet a firm adherence to distinctive principles. The Bishop closed with a devotion of intercessory prayer. The various subjects for prayer were named in succession, with intervals of silence. In the afternoon the Litany was said, and the Bishop spoke on 'The Difficulties of the Ministry.' At five o'clock there was another service, and the Bishop turned to 'Encouragements in the Ministry.' Still later, after choral evensong, the Bishop inducted a large number of lay-readers in the presence of a full congregation, and preached to 'lay-workers.'

PALESTINE.

ON the ascent of the Mount of Olives is a burial-place, which from immemorial time has been regarded as containing the remains of Haggai, Zechariah, and Malachi. A Russian ecclesiastic has been endeavouring to purchase it to build a church upon, but the Turkish Government has, at the request of the Jews, deferred the completion of the sale.

AT Jerusalem, and also at Gaza, a remarkable spirit of inquiry on the part of the Jews is reported by English missionaries. 'Great regret, however, is expressed by the latter for the prolonged delay in filling up the vacancy in the Anglo-Prussian Bishopric, without which the whole of the German Protestant institutions in Palestine will become divided from them.'

GERMANY.

THE four hundredth anniversary of Luther's birthday is appointed by the King-Emperor to be observed by the Prussian 'Evangelic Church' in church and school on November 9th and the two days following. In the grand-duchy of Baden, the commemoration is bidden by the Supreme Church Council, with a caution that 'the clergy do refrain from unbecoming polemics against the [Roman] Catholic sister-Church.'

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

'Churchyard Bob' at Canterbury.

SIR,—I observe, in your last issue of *Church Bells*, an incorrect observation about 'Churchyard Bob' being practised at Canterbury. The Canterbury Cathedral Company of Change-ringers are sorry 'A Looker-on in India' should be so misled as to have caused false remarks to be inserted in *Church Bells* respecting Kent. In Canterbury the art of 'Churchyard Bob' has not been practised by the above company for upwards of sixty years. They cannot see how the Kent County Association has therefore rescued them.

HENRY G. FAIRBRASS,

3 London Road, Canterbury.

Conductor of the above Company.

North Goscombe Society of Bell-ringers, Leicestershire.

THE second annual meeting of the ringers of the North Goscombe Deanery was held at Asfordly on Monday, the 25th ult., when ringers were present from Asfordly, Great Dally, Ratcliffe, Syston (two companies), Thrusington, and Wymeswold. Ringing commenced at 10.15 and continued until 12.45, without intermission. At 1 o'clock the various companies adjourned to the village school, where they found an excellent dinner awaiting them, provided by Mr. Roberts, of the 'Temperance Hotel,' Leicester. After dinner the Secretary read his report and statement of accounts, and new members were elected, including the Wymeswold and Syston junior companies. Ringing again commenced at 3 o'clock and continued until 4.30, when all once more assembled at the school for afternoon tea. Several members of the Syston senior company afterwards performed on the hand-bells, and were warmly applauded. Ringing then again commenced at the tower, and the bells were kept going until 6.45. During the intervals of ringing there was ample amusement to be had in the pleasant grounds of Asfordly Rectory, where a choice could be had between the games of cricket or quoits, or boating on the river, which runs through the grounds. The day's proceedings concluded with a hearty service at the church, when the sermon was preached by the Rev. A. M. Rendell, rector of Coston, and Secretary of the Framland Society of Bell-ringers, from Numb. x. 10, in which the ringers were reminded how honourable an office they held, and what manner of men they should be who performed that office. In conclusion, we would warmly congratulate the different companies on the marked improvement shown during the past year. At our last meeting there was but one company that attempted anything like change-ringing, while this year only two companies were satisfied with ringing 'cross-changes.' This ought indeed to be an encouraging sign to the promoters of the Society. At the same time we hope that those companies who can ring a well-struck 'six-score' of Grandsire Doubles will bear in mind that this is not the only five-bell method in existence, and that it gets rather monotonous to those who are listening outside to hear nothing but the well-known changes of the Grandsire method rung out over and over again by each succeeding company. It is much to be deplored that there are not more rings of six bells in this deanery, as there are several fine rings of five that would be much improved by the addition of a treble, notably that of Sibley, the reputed weight of its tenor being 22 cwt. We hope that as the various companies advance the funds will be forthcoming to remedy this deficiency.

The Midland Counties' Association.

A QUARTERLY Meeting of the above Association was held at Burton-on-Trent on Saturday, the 23rd ult., when, by the kindness of their respective vicars, the bells of the parish church and St. Paul's, Burton-on-Trent, and also of the churches at Horninglow and Winhill, were placed at the disposal of the members. Tea was provided in the hall of St. Paul's Institute at 5 o'clock, and at the subsequent meeting the following, among other business, was transacted: 'That the next Quarterly Meeting be held at Nottingham on Saturday, October 6th.' The Chairman (the Rev. James H. Fish, vicar of St. Paul's, Burton-on-Trent, and President of the Association) stated that six peals had been rung since the last meeting; viz., by the Derby branch, two peals of 5040 Grandsire Triples; by the Leicester branch, one peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples; and the Burton-on-Trent branch the three peals following, —5008 Kent Treble Bob Major, 5040 Stedman's Triples, and 5040 Grandsire Triples.

The President read a letter from Mr. Henry Dains, of London, respecting Mr. John Cox's bell-ringing jubilee, and made an appeal for funds in aid of Mr. Cox, which resulted in a sum of 1l. 16s. 6d. being collected from the members present. The President also brought before the notice of the meeting the rules of the Society of Change-ringers for the Archdeaconry of Stafford, and advised the members of the Association to encourage by every means in their power the growth of societies having for their object the cultivation of change-ringing and the recognition of ringers as bodies of Church-workers.

Touches of Stedman's and Grandsire Triples, and of Kent Treble Bob Major, were rung during the day, and in the morning an attempt was made to ring Thurstan's peal of Stedman's Triples, which unfortunately failed at the tenth part, after 2400 changes had been rung in 1 hr. 30 mins.

The following officers of the Society were also present: Mr. William Wakley, Hon. Treasurer, Mr. J. Griffin, Hon. Secretary (both of Burton-on-Trent), Messrs. Dawson and Woodward (representing Derby and district), Messrs. Hickman, Henson, and Ward (representing Nottingham and district), Mr. Wilson (from Leicester and district), and Messrs. Jaggard and Dimbleby (Burton-on-Trent and district). The attendance of ordinary members of the Association was not so large as usual.

Stoke Archidiaconal Association.

AT a Committee Meeting held at Stoke on Saturday last, the point of instructors was considered at some length. It was finally decided to appoint one instructor to each of the four districts into which the Archdeaconry is

divided, leaving such instructor power to appoint a deputy in case of necessity. Application for such instructor is to be made through the tower's district secretary. The instructor's time and travelling expenses to be paid out of the general funds of the Association. The names are as follows: Mr. S. Spencer, 19 Sneyd Street, Tunstall, instructor for Uttoxeter district; Mr. W. Millar, Wolstanton, instructor for Wolstanton district; Mr. W. Carter, Biddulph, instructor for Leek district; Mr. H. Page, Mount Pleasant, Stoke, instructor for Stoke district.

The South Lincolnshire Association.

On Saturday last the quarterly meeting of this Association was held at Wainfleet St. Mary, Lincolnshire. The bells of the parish church were raised in peal at 10.30, and afterwards some very good ringing in Plain Bob, Oxford Treble Bob, and Double Grandsire methods, was rung by different members. At 3 o'clock the members sat down to dinner at the 'Angel Hotel.' After dinner several honorary and probationary members were elected, and Caythorpe was selected for holding the next meeting. A discussion then took place as to the propriety of forming a County Association, the general feeling being in favour of such, and each member was requested to communicate to absent members, and ascertain their opinion by the next meeting.

R. CREASEY, Secretary.

Lancashire Association of Change-ringers.

A QUARTERLY MEETING was held on Saturday, the 23rd ult., at St. Mary's Church, Whalley (six bells). Members were present from Manchester, Church, Walton-le-Dale, Bolton, Padiham, Blackrod, &c. Ringing was commenced by the Church ringers, who rang a 720 Plain Bob Minor, and was continued until 5.15, when tea was partaken of at the 'Shoulder of Mutton' Inn. Here ample justice was done to the very excellent tea provided by the hostess. After tea a short meeting was held, at which eight new members were elected and various routine business was transacted. Ringing was then continued till 8.30 by various mixed bands. The thanks of the Committee are due to the Whalley ringers for the reception and the efficient accommodation made for the comfort of the ringers in every respect.

N.B.—It is requested that all who desire copies of the 'Certificate' will kindly notify to that effect to the local Secretary of their own district, in order that the Certificates may be signed by the officers at the next Committee Meeting.

On Saturday, the 23rd ult., at Whalley, a peal of 720 Plain Bob Minor was rung in 27 mins. J. Horrocks (conductor), 1; H. Hayes, 2; J. Bullock, 3; J. Pickles, 4; W. Pattison, 5; T. Horrocks, 6. Tenor, 18 cwt.

Also on the same day, at the same place, a peal of Grandsire Minor was rung in 26 mins. H. W. Jackson, 1; W. Marsden, 2; J. Curtis, 3; W. Warburton, 4; A. Parker, 5; W. Hamer, 6.

Also, at Deane Bolton, on the 24th ult., was rung a peal of 720 Plain Bob Minor in 26 mins. H. W. Jackson, 1; W. Marsden, 2; J. H. Jackson, 3; J. E. Turner, 4; W. Hamer, 5; J. Peers, 6. Tenor, 14 cwt.

W. J. CHATTERTON.
JOEL REDFORD.

St. Thomas's, Salisbury.

WHEN the bells were raised on the morning of the Coronation Day, the 28th ult., the sixth was found to be so loose in the stock as to be unringable. It is many years since these bells have been screwed up, and the nuts were found to be quite set fast on the cannon straps, so that nothing could be done to improve matters.

Correction.

In *Church Bells* of May 5 it was stated that the East Derbyshire Association was formed in 1873, but a correspondent informs us that the Society was formed in 1870, and that the first meeting was held at Staveley on November 7 in the same year.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At St. Mary-le-Tower, Ipswich, Suffolk.

On Tuesday, the 26th ult., twelve members of the Ipswich Branch of the Norwich Diocesan Association (being members of the Ancient Society of College Youths) rang a peal of 5059 Grandsire Cinques in 3 hrs. 44 mins. W. L. Catchpole (composer and conductor), 1; I. S. Alexander, 2; H. Bevan, 3; R. Brundle, 4; J. Fosdike, 5; W. Meadows, 6; C. Saul, 7; H. Howell, 8; E. Reeve, 9; R. Hawes, 10; E. Pemberton, 11; S. Tillett, 12. Tenor, 32 cwt.

At Spalding, Lincolnshire.

On Thursday, the 28th ult., at 7 a.m., a peal of 720 Bob Minor was rung in 27 mins. And again at noon, a peal of 720 in the same method. G. Skeef, 1; J. Wright, 2; G. Richardson, 3; R. Mackman, 4; A. Brown, 5; J. Brown, 6.

On July 1st, after evening service, a peal of 720 Oxford Treble Bob was rung in 28 mins. J. Brown,* 1; J. S. Wright, 2; G. Richardson, 3; J. Willson (Essex Association), 4; J. Willson,* (Holbeach), 5; R. Mackman (conductor), 6. Tenor, 18 cwt. [* First peal in this method.]

At St. Guthlac's Abbey, Crowland, Lincolnshire.

On Thursday, the 28th ult., five ringers of the parish church, Spalding, visited here by kind invitation of R. Wyche, Esq., being the Sunday-school Festival, and rang several peals of Grandsire and Bob Doubles. R. Wyche, Esq., took part in the ringing. G. Skeef, J. Brown, A. Brown, J. S. Wright, R. Mackman. Tenor, about 15 cwt.

At Church-Kirk, Lancashire.

On Thursday, the 28th ult., being Coronation Day, six ringers of the Lancashire Association rang a peal of Plain Bob Minor (16 bobs and 2 singles) in 28½ mins. J. Horrocks (conductor), 1; H. Hayes, 2; J. Bullock, 3; J. Pickles, 4; T. Doran, 5; W. Pattison, 6. Tenor 15 cwt.

At Trowbridge, Wilts.

On Thursday, the 28th ult., two 336's and one 504 of Grandsire Triples were rung by members of the Salisbury Diocesan Society. W. Alley (conductor), 1; J. R. Jerram, 2; S. Webb, 3; J. Hayward, 4; W. McCaffrey, 5; W. Lane, 6; W. Palmer, 7; J. Cooper, 8. Also a peal and a half of Grandsire Doubles by some of the above and W. W. Gifford, 3rd (his first six-score in that method). Tenor, 21 cwt. Nearly all the above are members of the Trowbridge company, and are the only change-ringers in the county of Wilts.

At Eckington, Derbyshire.

On Sunday, the 1st inst., for divine service, a peal of 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor (15 bobs) was rung in 28 mins. J. Hunt, 1; W. Price, 2; W. Worthington (conductor), 3; H. Madin, 4; A. Knights, 5; G. Marsden, 6.

Also a peal of 720 Violet (21 bobs). A. Knights, 1; J. Hunt, 2; J. Shaw, 3; G. Norman, 4; W. Worthington (conductor), 5; H. Madin, 6. Tenor, 16 cwt. 14 lbs.

At St. Michael's, Sittingbourne, Kent.

On Monday, the 2nd inst., six members of the Kent County Association rang a peal of 720 Grandsire Minor (34 bobs and 2 singles) in 29 mins. F. Grayling, 1; F. C. Mattison (conductor), 2; E. J. Cooper, 3; J. Bottle, 4; S. Snelling, 5; W. H. Judd, 6. Tenor, 21 cwt.

RECEIVED ALSO:—South Gosport; Write again, with address, and an answer will be sent.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Attendance at Suburban Churches.

SIR,—I have seen a letter published in *Church Bells* giving statistics of attendance in suburban churches, collected, as I presume, on June 3 and June 10, and inferring that it is a mistake to build other churches in such populous neighbourhoods. As to the question whether it is right to remove City churches in order to place them in the suburbs I will say nothing; but I am persuaded that populations of 8000 and more, which abound in the East and North of London, do need churches, and that, among the classes inhabiting such districts, whether new or old, the eleven o'clock Sunday attendance is not the best or only way of judging the matter. I am convinced the parochial system has a much stronger claim to be preserved than is sometimes asserted, and that in a wide view of the ministrations of the Church, as distinct from this or that particular attendance, centres for worship, for teaching, and the administration of the Sacraments, should continue to be made. I have asked the clergyman of each parish, as far as the East and North of London are concerned, to let me know his opinion (1) as to the fact stated in the census; and (2) as to how far the eleven o'clock service exhibits the extent of the Church's ministrations.

The Rev. W. P. Insley, rector of the ancient parish of Bow, will be an instance on the one point; the Rev. W. Wallace, vicar of the more recent parish of St. Luke, Burdett Road, on the other. Mr. Insley has a population of 6600, and the attendance is put down at 130. He thinks this is misleading, for, inasmuch as the hour of service is not mentioned, 130 is made to represent the use for worship of the parish church. As on Sunday mornings the children have a separate service elsewhere, at least 70 may be considered as subtracted from the full congregation in the morning; and the floor of the church, which holds 400, is every Sunday evening well filled. The sittings let are 145, and the communicants' roll shows 46 non-seatholders and 120 different persons communicating within the last three months.

Mr. Wallace writes:—"My attention was first called to the census at choir practice on June 14, by Mr. Bradford, of George Yard. "If the census was made on June 10," he had said to his friend in the City who showed it, "the choir was left out. I was in it, and I think so. We are generally called officials." This choir has sixteen men, besides boys, and they have been members of it, on the average, eleven years each.

"I take it for granted," Mr. Wallace continues, "that the visit recorded was made at eleven o'clock on either June 3 or June 10, for no other would suit the number (60) specified. I think this number is "qualified," and certainly it is not the number I reckon as attending at that service. But the enumeration of that attendance, whether more or less than 60, does not prove that such a parish and church as St. Luke's, Burdett Road, has no reason for its existence. "Where," says the letter, "is the use of building new churches?"

"The following facts are certain:—On June 3 the communicants were 21; of these, 18 were at eight o'clock. On June 10 they were 24; of these, 16 were early. The Sunday evening service at seven o'clock averages more than 300. Baptism was on June 10 administered at three o'clock among a considerable number. That day the congregations gave 4/ 6s. to the hospitals, increased to 5/ 1s. by two communicants unable to attend, and the offering of a private communion.

"But again. Take one particular ministration since January 1883. The Holy Communion has been celebrated 69 times, attended by 168 different persons (75 men and 93 women), coming 705 times. These 168 communicants are equal to the whole adult population of some City parishes. My conviction is, that the building of St. Luke's Church is the cause and necessary appliance for obtaining these communicants. But once more—

In 1880, at 134 celebrations, 153 different persons (69 men, 84 women) received 1196 times.
 " 1881, " 139 " 185 " " 80 " 103 " " 1386 "
 " 1882, " 142 " 188 " " 80 " 108 " " 1443 "
 " 1883, " 69 " 168 " " 75 " 93 " " 705 "
 June 17 }

states that it is decidedly extending itself. Fresh communities are forming, old ones which had been dissolved have been reconstituted, and in several places the communities are a majority of the Catholic inhabitants, and so enjoy the use of the Parish Church. In the Catholic cantons no Old Catholic community is permitted to assemble for worship, each canton having full powers over its own religious concerns. Bishop Herzog has been privately welcomed at Luzern, and several influential persons there desire to have the privilege of Old Catholic worship. But they hesitate to brave the persecution which such a step would involve, and so remain nominal members of the Roman Catholic Church. There is nothing very heroic in this conduct certainly. But even yet it may be hoped that German honesty will triumph over German caution.

IRELAND.

(From our own Correspondent.)

THE parishioners of Bray, headed by the Earl of Meath, have presented an address of congratulation to the Ven. J. George Scott, D.D., on his elevation to the Archdeaconry of Dublin. The congregation of Baggotrath Church have also presented an address to the Rev. A. C. Thiselton, expressing their regret at the severance of the tie between pastor and people after an incumbency on Mr. Thiselton's part of twenty-one years. They accompanied the address with a presentation of four hundred guineas.

The Protestant Churchmen of Limerick have determined to perpetuate the memory of their late Archdeacon by erecting a mortuary chapel in the Cemetery. Immediately after the funeral subscriptions amounting to 1000*l.* were handed in. It is understood that the erection of such a building was a project very dear to the heart of the late Archdeacon Jacob. At the last meeting of the Limerick Young Men's Association the following resolution referring to the Archdeacon's death was unanimously adopted:—

'The Committee of the Protestant Young Men's Association desire to record those feelings of deep sorrow, which are shared by every member of the Society, at the death of their revered and beloved patron, the Ven. the Archdeacon of Limerick, and to convey to Mrs. Jacob the assurance of their sincere sympathy in her bereavement, praying earnestly that the God of all consolation may be her true support under so heavy a trial. They can never forget the unceasing interest which the Archdeacon took in the working of the Society from its foundation up to the very close of his life, and his memory will be long cherished as one of its best and most honoured friends. F. C. Hamilton, President; P. R. Toppin, Secretary.'

The handsome parochial schools just completed, at a cost of 3000*l.*, in connexion with St. Mary's Parish Church, Crumlin Road, Belfast, were formally opened by the Bishop of Down and Connor on the 28th ult. The Rev. C. H. H. Wright, D.D., incumbent of the parish, deserves much credit for bringing his undertaking to so successful an issue. Several handsome subscriptions were made towards the cost of erection, including 500*l.* from Mr. W. Ewart, M.P.; Mr. Houston, 250*l.*; Mr. Henry, 200*l.* The Bishop pronounced the schools to be 'a real credit to the town of Belfast.'

The vacant chair of Archbishop King's Lectureship in Divinity in Trinity College has been filled up by the appointment thereto of the Ven. John Gwynne, D.D., Dean of Derry. The Board in whose gift the appointment lies have made it a condition for holding the chair that the Professor appointed should discharge no pastoral duties, and the new Professor in consequence will resign the Deanery of Derry, to which is attached the cure of souls. The Very Rev. John Gwynne took a second Classical Scholarship in 1848, and third senior Moderatorship in Mathematics in 1849. He was elected to a Fellowship in 1853, which he subsequently resigned, going out on a College living. He took the place vacated by the present Archbishop of Canterbury on the staff of the *Speaker's Commentary*, to which he contributed the Commentary on the Epistle to the Philippians.

On St. Peter's Day the Bishop of Meath (Lord Plunket) preached a sermon in St. Patrick's Cathedral before the Incorporated Society for the Promotion of Protestant Schools in Ireland, on the occasion of the 150th anniversary of its foundation. In the year 1832 the annual Parliamentary grants made to the Society were withdrawn, from which date the Society has entirely depended on its private endowments. The 'High School,' Harcourt Street, is one of the most important educational institutions connected with the Society, which has done good service in the past on behalf of the Protestant youth of Ireland. 'A former pupil' (to quote the Bishop) 'is now a Fellow of Cambridge, another a Professor in an Indian College, another a District Judge in the Madras Presidency, another the governor and tutor of four native Indian Princes, another a Member of Parliament in a Colonial Legislature for the capital city of his province, another a Government District Surveyor in an independent colony.'

The annual Choral Festival of the diocese of Ossory took place at St. Canice's, Kilkenny, on the 27th ult. Over five hundred voices took part in the choral portion of the service, at which the Bishop, Dean, Precentor, and Chancellor, were present, besides a large number of the diocesan clergy. The sermon was preached by the Ven. Maurice De Burgh, Archdeacon of Kildare. Two days later the diocese of Cashel held its first Choral Festival in the Cathedral of St. Patrick, Cashel. The sermon was preached by the Ven. John Long, Archdeacon of Cashel.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Anniversary Meeting of the Ancient Society of College Youths. (Established 1637.)

THE 246th Anniversary Dinner of the above Company took place on the 7th inst., at Wallington, Surrey, when the Master, Mr. E. Gibbs, took the chair, and Mr. G. Mash the vice-chair. L. Proctor, Esq., of Bennington, Herts, was present. The pretty village of Beddington was visited, and Stedman's Caters, Grandsire Caters, Double Norwich Court Bob Major, and Grandsire Triples, were rung on the fine ring of ten bells, by the kind permission of the Rector, the Rev. Mr. Bridges. About fifty sat down to dinner. Afterwards some of the company went to Carshalton to ring. A pleasant day and evening were spent by the Society.

Mr. John Cox's Bell-ringing Jubilee.

SIR,—We venture to address you on behalf of Mr. Cox, who, through continued ill-health during the last fifteen months, has been scarcely able to attend to his duties as steeple-keeper of St. Bride's, Fleet Street; and other employment being out of the question, the remuneration for the work appertaining to such office is his only source of livelihood. Frequently, owing to his ailments, having to engage a deputy to perform these duties, a serious inroad is made upon his already too small salary. This year being the jubilee of his ringing career—having rung his first peal on October 7, 1833, at the parish church of St. Mary, Islington—it is thought a most fitting occasion to make an appeal to his friends, especially to those members of the exercise who have at various times benefited by his practical advice and counsel, to assist in making a provision whereby his personal comfort may be enhanced during the evening of his life. A subscription list has been going round among a small circle of friends, with fair results, but sufficient funds to prevent the worst reaching the attenuated old man are not, as yet, received. We therefore urgently appeal to your feelings of benevolence, and trust you will regard it as a pleasure to add your name to the subscription list, and advance the prospects we have in view as far as you are able. All subscriptions received will be acknowledged in the columns of *Church Bells* and the *Bell News*, in due course. We are, Sir, &c.,

G. R. BANKS, Kennington Lane, S.E.; W. BARON; A. H. GARDOM, Wanstead, E.; J. NELMS, Islington, London, N.; N. J. FITSROW, Saffron Walden; J. PERKS, Great Malvern, Worcestershire; H. DAINS, Barnsbury Road, Islington, London, N.; H. REEVES, Walthamstow, Essex.

SUBSCRIPTIONS AND PROMISES UP TO JULY 7TH, 1883.

| | |
|---|---------|
| Messrs. J. Taylor and Co., Bell founders, Loughborough | £1 10 0 |
| Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, The Old Foundry, Whitechapel | 0 5 0 |
| Leeds Parish Church Society, Yorkshire | 0 10 0 |
| Waltham Abbey Society | 0 16 0 |
| The Rev. H. T. Ellacombe, M.A. | 1 0 0 |
| R. A. Daniels, Esq., Kensington Amateur Society | 0 2 6 |
| Mr. Henry Boswell | 0 10 0 |
| Mr. Edwin Rogers, Maidenhead | 0 1 0 |
| Rev. G. H. Harris, Hon. Sec. N. D. Association | 0 10 0 |
| Wimbledon Branch (The Surrey Association) | 0 3 6 |
| Mr. James Hinton, Worcester | 0 1 0 |
| Mr. Charles Atlee, Ealing | 0 2 6 |
| Mr. George Hsley, Acton | 0 1 0 |
| Mr. George Flower, Ringsthorpe, Northampton | 0 5 0 |
| Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association | 1 0 0 |
| J. W. Snowden, Esq., President Yorkshire Association | 0 5 0 |
| Mr. G. R. Banks, Church Bellhanger | 0 10 6 |
| — Vincent, Esq. | 0 2 6 |
| Mr. W. Wilder | 0 1 0 |
| E. Cole, Esq., St. Margaret's, Westminster, Society | 0 10 0 |
| Long Melford Society, Suffolk | 0 4 0 |
| J. M. Routh, Esq., College Youths | 1 0 0 |
| Mr. John Perks, Gt. Malvern, Worcester Guild | 0 10 6 |
| | £9 12 0 |

Mr. W. Baron has consented to act as Hon. Treasurer, and Mr. H. Dains as Hon. Secretary. All communications should be addressed to the Hon. Secretary, 147 Barnsbury Road, Islington, London, N., to whom Postal Orders (made payable at the Post Office, Barnsbury Road) should be forwarded.

H. DAINS, Hon. Sec.

Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Change-ringers' Association.

THE Annual Meeting of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association of Change-ringers was held at Gloucester on Monday, the 2nd inst. The Bishop is the president, and the vice-presidents are the Archdeacons of Gloucester, Bristol, and Cirencester; Sir M. Hicks-Beach, Bart, M.P.; and Col. Kingscote, C.B., M.P. The master is Mr. John Drinkwater, of Sandhurst; the hon. sec., Rev. Pitt Eykyn, of France Lynch, Stroud; and the hon. treasurer, the Rev. F. E. Broome Witts. The members attended morning service at the Cathedral. The precentor, the Rev. B. K. Foster, intoned the prayers, and Canon Evans read the lessons. Owing to illness the Rev. J. P. Bowers, minor canon, was unable to carry out his intention of preaching a short sermon to the members of the Association. At the conclusion of the service the annual meeting for business purposes was held in the Chapter House. The dinner took place at the 'Spread Eagle Hotel,' the Rev. Mowbray Trotter presiding, the company numbering altogether about one hundred. After dinner the ringers visited the various churches which have rings of bells, and in the course of the day the citizens were treated to an almost unparalleled amount of scientific bell-ringing. By request of the Dean, the bells of the Cathedral were rung muffled as a mark of respect to the Bishop of the Diocese, in consequence of the death of his mother. The Tewkesbury Abbey company rang 462 Union Triples, conducted by Josiah Wathen; a

mixed band rang 504 Grandsire Triples; a mixed band rang 336 Bob Major, conducted by G. H. Gardner; at St. Mary de Crypt the Cheltenham band rang a very good touch of Kent Treble Bob Major, conducted by J. Belcher; and a mixed band rang 504 Stedman's Triples; at St. Michael's 360 Bob Minor, two courses of Kent Treble Bob Minor, and three six-scores of Grandsire Doubles, were rung, conducted by G. H. Gardner; and during the day Grandsire Doubles and Grandsire Minors were rung by mixed bands at St. Nicholas and St. Mary-de-Lode churches.

Essex Association of Change-ringers.

A DISTRICT Meeting of the above Association will be held at Waltham Abbey, by kind permission of the Vicar, on Tuesday, July 24th. Belfry open at 11 a.m. Tea at the 'Three Tuns' Inn at 4.30. Business Meeting immediately after. Members intending to be present are *particularly* requested to inform the Secretary of their intention at an early date. Tea tickets, price 1s., may be obtained of the Secretary. H. A. COCKEY, Hon. Sec.

Battles Bridge, S.O., Essex.

Kent County Association of Change-ringers.

THE Annual General Meeting of this Society was held at Ashford on the 27th ult., and attended by between seventy and eighty practising members. At the service at Ashford Church the sermon was preached by the Rev. Canon Alcock, from 1 Cor. xiv. 40. The dinner was held at the 'Saracen's Head,' when Lord Harris presided, eighty-six members being present. The Report was read, by which it appeared that there are now 340 practising and 130 hon. members in the Association, and that there are constant fresh applications for admission. The instructors have done satisfactory work, and the Association is becoming gradually recognised as a centre of information and influence in all matters connected with church bells and belfries. Ringing went on during the day at Ashford (8), Mersham (8), Great Chart (6), and Kennington (6).

Society of Change-ringers for Stafford.

THIS Society, recently formed for the Archdeaconry of Stafford, held their first General Meeting on Saturday in the Cathedral belfry, the Rev. J. J. Serjeantson, vicar of St. Michael, presiding. The business consisted of confirming and amending the rules, of which a draft had been drawn up at the previous meeting on June 2nd. The Rev. J. J. Serjeantson was elected treasurer, and the Rev. J. R. Keble and Mr. W. A. Wood secretaries, for the year. About fifty change-ringers joined the Society, representing Lichfield, Wombourne, West Bromwich (All Saints' and Christ Church), Wolverhampton (St. Peter's), Tettenhall, Wednesbury, Tamworth, and Burton-on-Trent. The following gentlemen joined the Society as hon. members:—Rev. W. J. Heale, vicar of Wombourne; Rev. R. Hodgson, vicar of Walsall; Rev. W. McGregor, vicar of Tamworth; Rev. H. E. Butler, curate, St. Peter's, Wolverhampton; Colonel Bagot Lane, King's Bromley; and Colonel Bagnall, Shenstone Moss. The evening was spent in ringing several touches at St. Mary's and St. Michael's towers, tea being served at the coffee-house.

Double Norwich Court Bob Major.

By HENRY DAINS.

| 5056 | | | | | | 8064 | | | | | |
|------|---|---|---|---|--|------|---|---|---|---|--|
| 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | |
| 6 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | | 3 | 6 | 4 | 5 | 2 | |
| 2 | 3 | 5 | 6 | 4 | | 6 | 2 | 4 | 5 | 3 | |
| 5 | 3 | 4 | 6 | 2 | | 2 | 4 | 6 | 5 | 3 | |
| 4 | 3 | 2 | 6 | 5 | | 6 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | |
| 3 | 5 | 2 | 6 | 4 | | 2 | 3 | 6 | 4 | 5 | |
| 2 | 5 | 4 | 6 | 3 | | 3 | 6 | 2 | 4 | 5 | |
| 4 | 5 | 3 | 6 | 2 | | 2 | 3 | 5 | 0 | 4 | |
| 3 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 6 | | 3 | 5 | 2 | 0 | 4 | |
| 4 | 5 | 2 | 3 | 6 | | 5 | 4 | 2 | 6 | 3 | |
| 5 | 3 | 2 | 4 | 6 | | 4 | 3 | 2 | 6 | 5 | |
| 4 | 2 | 3 | 5 | 6 | | 2 | 4 | 5 | 3 | 6 | |
| 2 | 5 | 3 | 4 | 6 | | 4 | 5 | 2 | 3 | 6 | |
| 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 6 | | 5 | 3 | 2 | 4 | 6 | |
| | | | | | | 3 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 6 | |

This part three times repeated, with the addition of a single at the last six of second and fourth parts. The peal contains the six 24 times each way in 5-6.

Five times repeated. Singles to be added at the last six of third and sixth parts. This peal contains the fifth and sixth bells their extent each way in 5-6, or 24 times wrong and 24 times right.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At Waltham St. Lawrence, Berks.

On Saturday, the 30th ult., a peal of 720 Grandsire Minor was rung in 26 mins. R. Smith, 1; R. Flaxman, 2; W. A. Garraway (conductor), 3; H. Rogers, 4; E. Rogers, 5; J. W. Wilkins, 6. Tenor, 11 cwt. This is believed to be the first true peal on the above bells, which are a musical little ring, augmented to six in 1822; but the 'go' of them is about equal to double their weight.

At St. Paul's, Burton-on-Trent, Staffordshire.

On Thursday, the 5th inst., eight members of the Midland Counties Association rang the first half of Mr. H. Johnson's peal of 5088 Double Norwich Court Bob Major in 1 hr. 47 mins. H. Wakley, 1; E. I. Stone, 2; A. Wakley, 3; J. Griffin, 4; J. Jagger, 5; F. W. Appleby, 6; T. Holmes, 7; W. Wakley (conductor), 8. Tenor, 26 cwt. The above had intended to attempt the whole peal, but were prevented from beginning until an hour after the time agreed upon, owing to the unavoidable absence of one of their company.

RECEIVED ALSO:—Veritas; Redenhall; I. B.; and others.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Side-Chapels in Churches.

SIR,—A few months ago there was some correspondence in these columns on the subject of small side-chapels in churches, for daily prayer and for occasions when a 'two or three' congregation only could be expected. It was suggested that many persons would not care to have such a chapel unless it were duly furnished with the Lord's Table; and in such a case this is generally believed to be illegal. At the last but one Consistory Court in the diocese of Manchester, Mr. Ashworth, one of the wardens of St. Benedict, Ardwick, applied for authority to erect a second Communion Table in the south-east chapel. The Chancellor adjourned the application in order that a precedent from the Consistory Court of London might be produced. At the last Consistory Court held in Manchester, Mr. Ashworth appeared again, and stated that he was unable to find such a precedent. The Chancellor said that he had looked into several cases, and was satisfied that to grant a faculty for the erection of a second Communion Table in a parish church would be inconsistent with precedent decisions. At the present time there is a second altar in a side-chapel at St. Albans Church, Manchester, and which has long been in use. J. M. T.

'Spirit' and 'spirit.'

SIR,—Some remarks of mine in your columns, deprecating the employment in the Revised as in the Authorised New Testament, of the capital S in Gal. v. 16, drew from Mr. Frome Wilkinson an adverse criticism to the following effect—viz. 'that the human spirit *per se* does not, alas! stand in direct antagonism to the flesh;—in other words, that the human spirit and the soul-animated flesh are not 'contrary the one to the other,' and that when St. Paul said, 'The flesh lusteth against the spirit, and the spirit against the flesh,' he must have meant the Holy Spirit indwelling in our regenerated human spirits.* That the human spirit, *per se*, apart from the indwelling of the Holy Spirit, is incapable of 'crucifying the flesh with the affections and lusts' (v. 24)—of overmastering and 'mortifying the deeds of the body' (Rom. viii. 13)—is, indeed, alas! experimentally as well as Scripturally true. For alas! the fall of man involved, not only the debasement and defilement of the soul and body, but also the enfeebling and marring of the spirit or mind and conscience. But that the human spirit, even in its fallen and unregenerate state, does stand, *per se*, in antagonism to the soul-animated flesh, to the extent of partially regulating it, and keeping it more or less in subjection, may, I venture to think, be shown, not only from Holy Writ, but likewise from prevalent ethical systems among the heathen of historic times.

And, first, from Holy Writ. St. Paul, speaking of the Gentiles (Rom. ii. 14, 15), says: 'These having not the law are a law unto themselves, . . . their conscience also bearing witness, and their thoughts the meanwhile accusing or else excusing one another.' And in giving us the result of his own experience and elaborate self-introspection (Rom. vii. 22, 23), he says: 'I delight in the law of God after the inward man; but I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind.' And again (25): 'With the mind I myself serve the law of God; but with the flesh the law of sin;' in perfect keeping with which the same Apostle (Rom. viii. 4, 5; Gal. v. 16) speaks of 'walking not after the flesh, but after the spirit,' *i.e.* the human spirit, as invigorated by faith in God's mercy through Christ, and as sanctified by 'the indwelling Spirit of God' (Rom. vii. 25; viii. 9, 13). That St. Paul is speaking of the potential effects of the human spirit when enumerating the fruits of the spirit (Gal. v. 22, 23) may be shown by his immediately adding, 'against such there is no law.' For these words are quoted from the same sentence in Aristotle's *Politics* (iii. 9), in which occur the words, 'for they are themselves law.' And these words, with a slight variation, are quoted (Rom. ii. 14) from Aristotle's *Ethics* (iv. 8), 'a law unto themselves.' Now, as in Rom. ii. 14, 15, St. Paul is speaking of the consciences of pagan Gentiles, so in Gal. v. 22, 23, he must be speaking of the potential results of the unregenerate human spirit or conscience. For, in either case, he quotes the same or corresponding words of the same pagan author in reference thereto.

And now for the proofs of antagonism between flesh and spirit to be drawn from Pagan ethics. Aristotle himself must first be named, and that with special reference to the two passages aforesaid—one showing the effect of self-command in the attainment, in the matter of sportiveness, of a just mean; the other showing how incontestably a State comes to be under the sway of men pre-eminent in virtue; for 'against such there is no law, for they are themselves law'—'a law unto themselves.'

(2.) Cebes, a disciple of Plato, in his beautiful Allegory of Human Life, carries the successful pilgrim through a course of moral discipline until he gains the victory over all forms of moral perversity, until he 'overcomes them and is no longer overcome by them,' until he becomes imbued with sundry specified virtues—virtues which in several instances, and specially in those of temperance and meekness, are identical with those enumerated as fruit of the spirit by St. Paul.

(3.) According to Seneca, it was an axiom common to Stoics and Epicureans, that a man's mind is capable of an absolute command (alas! how partial and how imperfect at best) over his passions, whether those of the body as fear of pain, or those of the soul as anger, and even pity. Distinguishing between them, he says: 'Epicurus ait injurias tolerabiles esse sapientis; nos injurias non esse;' and he declares that Cato was able, by his strength of mind (*magnitudine animi*), not merely to forgive but to ignore a slap in the face. (*De Constantia Sapientis*, c. 15.)

* Our Saviour said (John, iii. 6): 'That which is born of the Spirit is spirit.' In other words, that which is born again or regenerated by the Holy Spirit is the human spirit, not the human flesh, as had been misunderstood by Nicodemus.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Diocese of Ely.

It is proposed to hold a meeting in support of the establishment of a Diocesan Church Bell-ringers' Association, for the encouragement of change-ringing, at Cambridge, on August 6th—Bank holiday. Please to address Rev. K. H. Smith, The Cambridge Road, Ely.

Long Peal at Mottram-in-Longdendale, Cheshire.

We very much regret not having noticed sooner this marvellous peal of 16,608 changes of Treble Bob Major in the Kent variations, which was most successfully and masterly accomplished on Friday the 28th of May last, in 9 hrs. 48 mins. Thomas Moss, 1; James Adams, 2; James Wood, jun., 3; Samuel Wood (conductor), 4; Benjamin Broadbent, 5; Joseph Mellor, 6; George Longden, 7; John Thorp, 8. Tenor, 14 cwt., in G. Their names deserve to be recorded in letters of gold; as we cannot do that, we set them up in full. The peal is the composition of the late Mr. Thomas Day of Birmingham. We have been favoured with a large photograph of these now most renowned ringers. They are a nice-looking team of Youths, and we bid them God speed to their *Home*. The photograph may be obtained from Mr. Mellor, 46 Newman Street, Ashton-under-Lyne, price 2s. post free.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At St. Mary's, Redenhall, Norfolk.

On Saturday, the 7th inst., six of the Redenhall Society of the Norwich Diocesan Association, with Mr. J. E. Hern of Hurworth-on-Tees, and Mr. Gobbett of Pressingfield (also members), rang a peal of 5024 Oxford Treble Bob in 3 hrs. 18 mins. E. Smith, 1; W. Matthews, 2; F. Matthews, 3; J. E. Hern, 4; G. Mobbs, 5; R. Whiting, 6; W. Gobbett, 7; Captain Moore, 8. Tenor, 24 cwt. in E flat. Composed by Mr. H. Dains and conducted by Mr. Smith.

At Cattistock, Dorsetshire.

The ring of eight bells which was opened on October 10th, 1882, not having been satisfactorily hung, have been rehung by H. Bond and Sons, of Burford, Oxfordshire. The opening of the rehanging took place on Tuesday, the 10th inst. Several touches were rung at intervals during the day by the Cattistock Guild of Ringers. A. Wightman, 1; E. Anson, Esq., 2; J. Ellis, 3; E. Sprackling, 4; G. Pearce, 5; T. Tizzard, 6; E. Read, 7; J. Wightman, 8. Tenor, 1 ton.

At St. John's, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

On Tuesday, the 10th inst., a peal of 720 Plain Bob Minor (30 bobs and 2 singles) was rung in 28 mins. A. C. High,* 1; C. L. Routledge (conductor), 2; F. Lees, 3; W. G. Routledge, 4; W. Story, 5; R. S. Story, 6. [* First in the method.]

On Thursday, the 12th inst., for divine service, a peal of 720 Merchant's Return Minor was rung in 26½ mins. W. Eggleston, 1; C. L. Routledge, 2; F. Lees, 3; W. G. Routledge (conductor), 4; W. Story, 5; R. S. Story, 6. This is the first peal in the method rung in the two dioceses of Newcastle and Durham, and the first by all the above except Francis Lees.

On Sunday, the 15th inst., for evening service, a peal of 720 Plain Bob Minor (18 singles and 3 bobs) was rung in 28 mins. A. C. High, 1; C. L. Routledge, 2; F. Lees, 3; G. Herdman, 4; W. Story, 5; R. S. Story (conductor), 6.

And on Tuesday, the 17th inst., a peal of 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor was rung in 28 mins. G. Campbell, 1; F. Lees, 2; E. W. Scott,* 3; C. L. Routledge, 4; W. Story, 5; R. S. Story, 6. Tenor, 14½ cwt. [His first 720 of Treble Bob on an inside bell: he belongs to the St. Stephen's, Newcastle, Society.]

At St. Paul's, Bedford.

On Thursday, the 12th inst., the St. Paul's Company of Change-ringers, members of the Bedfordshire Association, rang various touches of Grandsire Triples on the occasion of the unveiling of the Harpur memorial window by S. Whitbread, Esq., M.P., at 3.30 p.m. At evening service the same company rang a touch of 672 Grandsire Triples, the longest length this company has rung in this method. W. Allen, 1; S. Cullip, 2; C. Clark, 3; W. Hall, 4; W. Biggs, 5; J. Atkins, 6; J. Fressell (conductor), 7; J. Hill, 8. Tenor, 28 cwt. And also on Sunday for morning service a touch of 504 in the same method. T. Foote, 1; W. Allen, 2; S. Cullip, 3; W. Hall (conductor), 4; C. Clark, 5; J. Atkin, 6; J. Hills, 7; J. Spencer, 8.

At St. Paul's, Burton-on-Trent, Staffordshire.

On Friday, the 13th inst., eight members of the Midland Counties Association (and St. Paul's Society) rang a peal of 5376 Kent Treble Bob Major in 3 hrs. 34½ mins. W. Wakley, 1; H. Wakley, 2; A. Wakley, 3; J. Griffin, 4; J. Jaggard, 5; F. W. Appleby, 6; T. Holmes, 7; F. E. Dawe (conductor), 8. Tenor, 26 cwt. in F. The conductor hails from London, and this is the first peal he has called in the above method.

At Matlock, Derbyshire.

On Friday, the 13th inst., the Ashover ringers visited Matlock parish church and rang several peals of Grandsire Doubles on the five largest bells. There is a ring of six bells in good ringing order here. [We should be glad to report some change-ringing from the Matlock ringers. We fear they make very little progress in the art.]

RECEIVED ALSO:—Veritas and R. Mack—The fault is not ours that the long peal was not inserted before; no Report had been sent to us.

PROGRESS IN CHANGE-RINGING.

By a Looker-on in India.

(Continued from page 588.)

LANCASHIRE.

A vast amount of ringing is reported from Lancashire, most of it is in the Grandsire method; the place of honour must therefore be given to companies who do not confine themselves to that method.

ASHTON.—1878, 1 peal of K. M.; 2 peals of Bob Major; 3 of G. T.; 1878, of K. Royal.

" 1879, 1 peal of G. Caters; 2 peals, 1 half peal, and 1 Date Touch of Bob Major; 1 peal of K. M.; 1 peal and 2 Date Touches of G. T.

" 1880, 1 peal of Bob Major; 2 peals of G. T.; and 1 Date Touch of K. Royal.

" 1881, 1 peal of K. Royal; 2 of K. M.; 1 of Bob Triples; 1 peal and 1 Date Touch of Bob Major.

" 1882, 1 peal each of K. M., G. T., and G. Caters; and 8000 of K. M.

LIVERPOOL.—1878, 1 peal of G. Cinques; 1 each of G. Caters and K. M.; 2 of G. T.

" 1879, 2 each of G. Caters and K. M.; 1 of G. Major; and 1 of G. T.

" 1880, 1 peal of G. Caters; 3 of K. M.; 1880 of K. Royal.

" 1881, 3 of G. Caters; 2 of K. M.; and 1 of G. T.

" 1882, 1 of G. Caters; 1 of K. M.

MANCHESTER.—1879, 1 peal of Bob Major.

" 1880, 2 peals and 1 Date Touch of G. Caters.

" 1881, 1 Date Touch of G. Caters.

" 1882, 1 peal of K. Royal; 1 of G. T.; 1 Date Touch of G. T.; 2 peals of G. Caters.

LYTHAM.—1879, 1 peal of G. T.

" 1880, 1 ditto.

" 1881, 1 peal of St. T.

HULME.—3 peals and 2 Date Touches of G. T. and peals of Bob Minor.

A mixed band rang a peal of G. T. and a peal of K. M. at Leesfield.

BOLTON.—14 peals of G. T.; 2 half-peals of ditto; and Bob Minor.

OLDHAM.—1 peal of G. Caters and 4 peals of G. T.

ORMSKIRK.—3 peals and 3 long touches of G. T.

GORTON.—2 peals of G. T.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS.—6 peals, 1 half, 1 quarter, 1 Date Touch, and, long touch of G. T.; also Bob Minor.

HINDLEY.—10 peals; 6 half-peals; 2 Date Touches of G. T.

WESTHOUGHTON.—5 peals and 1 half peal of G. T.

GLOWICK.—15 peals; 2 half-peals; 3 Date Touches of G. T.

LEIGH.—2 peals and 1 half-peal of G. T.

ROCHDALE.—11 peals; 1 half-peal; 6 Date Touches of G. T.

WIGAN.—2 peals; 4 Date Touches of G. T.

STAND.—1 peal and 2 Date Touches of G. T.

MILNROW.—2 peals; 1 Date Touch of G. T.

ECCLES.—8 peals and 3 Date Touches of G. T.; 1 Date Touch of Bob Major; and 1 peal of K. M.

GARSTON.—4 peals; 2 half-peals; 1 Date Touch of G. T.; also Minor.

SWINTON.—1 peal of G. T.

LEESFIELD.—1 peal; and 2 Date Touches of G. T.

LANCASTER.—1 peal of G. T.

KIRKHAM.—2 peals; and 1 Date Touch of G. T.; and Minor.

HEYWOOD.—2 peals; 1 half-ditto; 1 Date Touch of G. T.; and a Touch of Shipway reversed.

WHITEFIELD.—1 peal of G. T.

A mixed band rang a peal of G. T. at Gorton.

The County Association rang 3 peals; 3 half ditto; 4 Date Touches of G. T.; also Bob Triples and Minor.

PENDLEBURY, BURNLEY, and BROMLEY rang G. T.; also AUGHTON.

HIGHER WALTON rang 2 five thousands in Minor methods.

RIBCHESTER, TYLDESLEY, GRASSENDALE, PENDLETON, CHILDWALL, BLACKROD, MANCHESTER, PADIHAM, ACCRINGTON, CHURCH, COLNE, BOOTLE, HALLSALL, CHORLEY, rang Minor; WALTON-LE-DALE ringing 5040 changes; AUGHTON rang G. Minor; and WORSLEY G. T.; DALTON rang G. Doubles.

MONMOUTHSHIRE.

The ringers of Monmouthshire who used to ring 'a peal and two changes,' now ring 'thirds and Babylon.' It is not very clear what the last-named method really is; it is believed to be a kind of 'Stoney,' or 'Churchyard Bob.'

A new ring of six bells was placed during 1882 in the tower of Tredunnock Church; the whole of the work was done by Messrs. Llewellyns and James of Bristol.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.

Change-ringing has not spread much in this county, most of the work has been done by the Nottingham ringers.

NOTTINGHAM.—1878, 1 peal of G. Caters and 1 of G. T.

" 1879, 1 Date Touch of G. Caters.

" 1880, 1 quarter-peal of St. T.

" 1882, 1 peal of G. T. (Derby Association, Nottingham Branch).

The above shows that the Nottingham Company is well up in the odd-bell methods.

BEEETON rang 1 half-peal of G. T. with help, and subsequently without help; and a quarter-peal of the same in 1881.

Minor was reported from EVERTON.

(To be continued.)

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Annual Meeting of the Winchester Diocesan Guild of Change-ringers.

THE Annual Festival was held at Havant on the 18th ult. The service was at the parish church, the musical portion of which was well rendered by the choir, and an eloquent address was delivered by Archdeacon Wright of Greatham. The members, to the number of one hundred, dined together at the 'Dolphin Hotel.' The Rev. A. D. Hill presided, supported by the Rev. P. Thompson, the Rev. R. F. Tompkins, and several other clergy. At the conclusion of the dinner the officers for the year were elected—*President*, Charles Churchill, Esq., of Weybridge Park; *Secretary and Treasurer*, the Rev. H. A. Spyers; and C. C. Child, Esq., was placed on the Committee. During the afternoon some excellent ringing was performed at Havant, Chichester, Hambledon, and Petersfield. A party of six-bell ringers also visited Bosham, but the bells there were found to be in a state unsuited for change-ringing.

The following bands took part in the festival:—Ashted, Leatherhead, Dorking, Cranleigh, Hursley, Farnham, Fareham, Bournemouth, Bishop's Waltham, Winchester, Godalming, Southampton, Soberton, Swanmore, West Meon, and Weybridge. The members were much pleased with the noble bells and belfry of Chichester Cathedral, where several touches of Grandsire and Stedman's Triples were rung. Why has not Chichester Diocese an Association of Change-ringers, in which there are several good bands of change-ringers, and so many good rings of bells?

The Essex Association.

A DISTRICT Meeting of the above Association was held at Waltham Abbey on Tuesday, July 24th, by kind permission of the Rev. J. Francis, who also most kindly entertained the members at his house at one o'clock, a substantial cold dinner being provided in a tent on his lawn, to which about eighteen sat down. Ringing commenced at about 2.15 with a good touch of Stedman's Triples on the fine ring of eight at the Abbey. Tenor, 19 cwt. Two other touches of Stedman's Triples, and three of Grandsire Triples, were also brought round in the course of the day, and two touches of Treble Bob were attempted, but not brought round. At 4.30 the members sat down to tea at the 'Three Tuns,' Mr. Francis presiding. Tea over, the Business Meeting was held. The minutes of the Annual Meeting were read and signed, and the following members elected:—Honorary, The Rev. C. L. Payne, Writtle; Ringing, Messrs. F. Bumpstead, Braintree; W. Neverd and J. Taylor, Great Bromley; W. Keit, Walthamstow; E. Moat, W. Pavitt, G. Freeman, A. Jarvis, W. Jay, H. Jones, Rettendon; and Mr. H. Howell, of Ipswich, a distinguished ringer.

Some discussion took place as to certificates of membership, but it was decided that the matter had better stand over for the present. Mr. Maynard suggested that steps should be taken in order to lessen the expenses of members attending meetings of the Association. The opinion of the meeting was favourable to this suggestion, but that at the same time care should be taken not to put the Association to too much expense in this way. The hon. secretary drew attention to the trouble and perplexity caused by members who intend to be present at meetings of the Association neglecting to give notice to him, in order that provision may be made for them.

Mr. Francis, in answer to a vote of thanks to him for his hospitality and kindness, said that he was only too glad to receive the Association, and that he hoped it would not be long before the members met at Waltham Abbey again. Votes of thanks were passed to Mr. Powell for his excellent arrangements for the comfort of the members present and to the hon. secretary.

Amongst those present besides the Waltham Abbey members were Messrs. J. R. Haworth, London; T. Maynard, Walthamstow; E. A. Davies, Barking; A. Deards, Dagenham; Davidson and Smith, Hackney; Sharnbrook, Benington; M. Wood, London; Laffin and McDonald of the Surrey Association; A. Cockey, Esq., of the Lancashire Association; and L. Procter, Esq., Benington.

The Surrey Association.

THE Annual Meeting of the above Association will be held at Croydon, by the kind permission of the Vicar, on Tuesday, July 31st. Belfry open from 1 p.m. Business meeting at the 'Victoria Coffee Tavern,' Church Street, at 5.30 p.m. Tea at 6 p.m. A special service in the parish church at 7 p.m. The Vicar will preside. The tea will be free to ringing members; others, 1s. 6d. each. All ringers are invited to attend.

A. B. CARPENTER for A. B. PERCEVAL, *Hon. Sec.*

Opening of a New Ring of Bells at St. Mary Magdalen, Enfield, Middlesex.

THE consecration of the above church took place on Wednesday, the 18th inst. The church was built and endowed by Mrs. Twells in memory of her late husband, Mr. Twells, who for many years represented the City of London in Parliament. Mrs. Twells also presented a fine ring of eight bells, cast by Messrs. Warner & Sons, Cripplegate; tenor, 20 cwt. The following members of the Ancient Society of College Youths opened the bells: Messrs. Haley, Muskett, Jameson, Gibbs, Marshall, Hayes, Horrex, and Greenleaf. Touches of Grandsire Triples, Stedman's Triples, and Kent Treble Bob Major, were rung during the day.

Muffled Peal at Great Yarmouth, Norfolk.

WE regret having to record the performance of a painful tribute of respect to the memory of the late Rev. G. H. Harris, vicar of Tunstead, Norfolk, and secretary of the Norwich Diocesan Association of Change-ringers, whose untimely death, occasioned by the breaking of his thigh in a fall from his bicycle in April last, has cast a gloom over the whole Association. On the day of his funeral the St. Nicholas Company of Yarmouth, a branch of the above Association, met at St. Nicholas Church, Yarmouth, and with the bells muffled rang 1344 changes of Grandsire Triples in 1 hr. W. Lee (conductor), 1

W. T. Blyth, 2; M. Lang, 3; W. Secret, 4; F. J. W. Bray, 5; W. Fletcher, 6; D. Hayward, 7; W. Chaplin, 8. Tenor, 30 cwt.

At his funeral on the 18th about twenty clergymen attended, besides a great many other friends, and a muffled peal was rung after the service on the bells which he had augmented from five to eight.

Muffled peals were rung at most of the city churches in Norwich during the afternoon, and in the evening finished up on the twelve at St. Peter's Mancroft, ringing three courses of Grandsire Cinques. Ringing the bells down in peal, half muffled, had a grand and solemn effect. Muffled peals were rung at Ipswich, Diss, Yarmouth, Bungay, Redenhall, Alburgh, Aylsham, and Pulham, besides perhaps other places which we have not heard of. The melancholy event has cast quite a gloom over the ringers, amongst whom Mr. Harris was a very great favourite, and it will be a long time before they get over it. He will be a great loss to the Association, in which he took very great interest, and was indefatigable in his exertions to promote the science of change-ringing in any way that lay in his power. His age was fifty-seven.

Muffled Peal at Ipswich, Suffolk.

ON Wednesday, the 18th inst., eight members of the Ipswich branch of the Norwich Diocesan Association attempted a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major at St. Mary-le-Tower Church, with the bells half-muffled, as a mark of respect to the late Rev. G. H. Harris, who was Hon. Sec. to the above Association. After ringing for 2 hrs. 15 mins. it was brought to grief through a shift-course having occurred. E. Pemberton, 1; W. Mobbs, 2; C. Saul, 3; W. L. Catchpole (conductor), 4; I. S. Alexander, 5; R. Hawes, 6; E. Reeve, 7; R. H. Brundle, 8.

Muffled Peals at Aylsham, Marsham, and Buxton, Norfolk.

ON Wednesday, the 18th inst., the Aylsham and Marsham Companies, members of the Norwich Diocesan Association of Ringers, were represented at the funeral of their late Secretary, the Rev. G. H. Harris of Tunstead, by Mr. C. Clements, and on his return to Aylsham eleven ringers met in the belfry, eight of whom rang a muffled peal of 1008 changes, conducted by T. Greenwood. Seldom or ever have the ringers met with heavier hearts, and it appeared difficult to realise that one who was always kind, always genial, and who had a kind word for all, would meet them no more. Muffled peals were also rung by the same companies the following evenings at Marsham and Buxton (the latter a ring of five, lately rehung by Messrs. Day & Son of Eye).

CHANGE-RINGING.

At St. James's, Norton, near Sheffield, Derbyshire.

ON Sunday, the 8th inst., for morning service, a peal of 720 Bob Minor (8 bobs and 6 singles) was rung in 28 mins. J. Goucher, 1; J. Atkin, 2; W. Biggin, 3; H. Ward, 4; J. Biggin, 5; J. Allen (conductor), 6.

Also on June 17th a peal of 720 Bob Minor (16 bobs and 2 singles) was rung in 28 mins. F. Ward, 1; H. Ward, 2; J. Goucher, 3; J. Atkin (conductor), 4; J. Biggin (first peal), 5; J. Allen, 6. Tenor, 11½ cwt., in D.

At Christ Church, Liversedge, Yorkshire.

ON Monday, the 9th inst., the Society of Change-ringers met to celebrate the 83rd birthday of William Sottanstell of Sowerby, by ringing 1883 changes of Kent Treble Bob Major, but owing to a mishap with a wheel casting the rope they had to stand. They met again on the Tuesday night and rang it without a mishap in 1 hr. 10 mins. J. Whitworth, 1; J. Illingworth, 2; W. Firth, 3; T. North, 4; L. Illingworth, 5; J. Goodall, 6; A. Briggs, 7; M. Ramsden, 8. Tenor, 16 cwt. Composed by William Sottanstell, of Sowerby, purposely for the occasion, and conducted by Thomas North.

At St. Michael's, Mottram-in-Longdendale, Cheshire.

ON Thursday, the 19th inst., a peal of Treble Bob Major, in the Kent variation, was rung in 2 hrs. 58 mins. by the Ashton-under-Lyne Society. T. Moss, 1; S. Wood (composer), 2; J. Wood, 3; W. Middleton, 4; B. Broadbent, 5; G. Longden, 6; J. Thorp, 7; F. E. Dawe of London (conductor), 8. Tenor, 12 cwt.

At Castle Donington, Leicestershire.

ON Saturday afternoon, the 21st inst., several members of the Long Eaton Society, who are also members of the Midland Association, visited the above place, and by kind permission of the Vicar, rang the following peals:—720 Kent Treble Bob in 26 mins, called with 15 bobs. W. Grice, 1; W. Gibson, 2; R. Hickton, 3; G. Bradley, 4; J. Ward, 5; J. Barrow (conductor), 6. Also 720 Oxford Treble Bob in 27 mins. J. Barrow, 1; G. Bradley, 2; R. Hickton, 3; W. Gibson, 4; S. Clarke, 5; J. Ward (conductor), 6. Also 720 Bob Minor in 26 mins. G. Bradley, 1; S. Clarke, 2; J. Ward, 3; W. Gibson, 4; W. Grice, 5; J. Barrow (conductor), 6. Also 120 Bob Doubles. G. Bradley, 1; J. Hutchby (Member of Castle Donington Society), 2; S. Clarke, 3; W. Gibson, 4; J. Ward (conductor), 5; W. Grice, 6. Also 120 Stedman's Doubles. J. Barrow (conductor), 1; G. Bradley, 2; J. Ward, 3; R. Hickton, 4; S. Clarke, 5; W. Grice, 6.

At Kennington, near Ashford, Kent.

ON Saturday, the 21st inst., six members of the Mergham Branch of the Kent County Association of Change-ringers rang a peal of Plain Bob Minor in 26 mins. E. Ruck, 1; Rev. R. Knatchbull-Hugessen, 2; C. Paine, 3; G. Finn, jun., 4; F. Finn (conductor), 5; E. Finn, 6. Tenor, 12 cwt. This is the first peal rung on these bells since their number was augmented to six.

At Chester-le-Street, Durham.

LAST week this church, dedicated to St. Cuthbert, celebrated its thousandth anniversary, for an account of which we refer to our picture article and the Bishop of Durham's sermon. Two of the old bells were taken out during the restoration, and melted down with other metal, which has produced a heavy

but melodious ring of six bells:—tenor, 18 cwt. They have been hung in new frames, the whole of the work having been done by Messrs. Taylor & Sons of Loughborough. One old bell still remains. It is hung up above the new bells, and is tolled for curfew every evening at 8. This bell, which weighs between five and six cwt., is over 400 years old. The bells were rung during the day by W. and R. Story, F. Lees, and W. G. Routledge, of Newcastle; W. Reed and R. Smith of North Shields; and G. Clarkson of Stockton; all belonging to the Durham and Newcastle Association. Three 720's were rung during the day, comprising one each of Oxford and Kent Treble, and Oxford Single, Bob Minor.

On Saturday, the 21st inst., a ringing fête was held at this church, to which all members of the above-mentioned Association were invited, but owing to the extreme inclemency of the weather this Society was but poorly represented. There were six from Stockton, three from Newcastle, and two each from North Shields, Staindrop, and South Shields. Five different peals of 720 changes were rung—two of Plain Bob, and one each of Kent Treble Bob, College Single, and Double Court. Service was held in the morning at St. Cuthbert's, at which the Archbishop of York preached. A dinner was provided at the 'Lambton Arms' hotel. Courses of Bob Major and Grandsire Caters were given by the Stockton men on their hand-bells.

At St. John the Baptist's, Staveley, Derbyshire.

On Sunday, the 22nd inst., eight members of the Yorkshire Association rang a peal of 5184 Kent Treble Bob Major in 3 hrs. 22 mins. H. Mottershall, 1; H. Madin, 2; T. Hattersley, 3; J. Harris, 4; A. Knight, 5; W. Worthington, 6; J. Hunt, 7; F. E. Dawe, 8. Tenor, 18 cwt. 3 qrs. 22 lbs., in F. Composed by C. H. Hattersley and conducted by F. E. Dawe of London.

At St. Mary's, Sheffield, Yorkshire.

On Monday, the 23rd inst., eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths and the Yorkshire Association rang a peal of 5040 Stedman Triples (Brook's Variation) in 3 hrs. 8 mins. C. H. Hattersley (conductor), 1; J. Mulligan, 2; C. Bower, 3; J. W. Mulligan, 4; G. Flint, 5; T. Hattersley, 6; F. E. Dawe, 7; G. Wilson, jun., 8. Tenor, 25 cwt., in D.

At the Parish Church, Gainsborough, Lincolnshire.

On Tuesday, the 24th inst., a peal of Bob Minor was rung on the middle six with the tenor as a cover in 30 mins. W. W. Bust (first peal), 2; H. Tate, 3; J. C. Tinker, 4; M. W. Ashton, 5; W. D. Tinker, 6; E. Mason (conductor), 7; J. Giles, 8. Tenor, 20 cwt.

At All Saints', Sheffield, Yorkshire.

On Tuesday, the 24th inst., eight members of the Yorkshire Association rang Holt's Ten-part Peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples in 2 hrs. 52 mins. J. W. Mulligan, 1; S. Seed, 2; J. Mulligan, 3; F. E. Dawe, 4; C. H. Hattersley, 5; T. Hattersley, 6; G. Flint, 7; G. Wilson, jun., 8. Tenor, 15 cwt., in F.

At St. John's, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

On Tuesday, the 24th inst., a peal of 720 Woodbine Treble Bob was rung in 27 mins. W. Eggleston, 1; C. L. Routledge, 2; F. Dees, 3; W. G. Routledge, 4; W. Story, 5; R. S. Story (conductor), 6. Tenor, 14½ cwt. The first by all the above in this method and also on the bells.

RECEIVED ALSO:—C. L. Routledge—The want of order of which you complain was intentionally done, to accommodate the 'making up' of the pages. You will find it all right in the end.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The Crisis in Madagascar.

SIR,—The present position of the Church Mission to Madagascar calls for the active sympathy of all Churchmen. Will you be good enough to allow me to make public, through your columns, the following interesting details?

Our latest advices from Bishop Kestell-Cornish are dated May 31 from Antananarivo, the capital. The notables of the city had refused the demands of the French, and decided upon war. The excitement was intense. Troops were being despatched in different directions by the Prime Minister, who is also the Royal Consort and Commander-in-Chief. French residents, religious and secular, had been ordered to leave the capital, but the English had received a letter from the Prime Minister begging them to remain in the city, and promising to do his best to protect them. The feeling against the French clergy and sisters was so strong, and the outlook was so threatening, that, on May 25th, Bishop Kestell-Cornish wrote to the Prime Minister's son, a great noble, pointing out to him the evil that must certainly follow any ill-treatment of defenceless persons. On the following Sunday, May 27, he received a visit from this nobleman, and again urged upon him most earnestly the need of immediate protection being afforded them. The following day five of the Jesuit fathers called on the Bishop and implored him to use his influence with the Prime Minister to obtain bearers for the ladies of the Mission, and to get a letter conveyed to him, as he had refused to receive the sisters' letter. The same day the acting Secretary of the London Missionary Society saw the Bishop, and consulted with him as to the safety of British subjects, which resulted in the calling a meeting of British, and in the final formation of a Committee, with the Bishop as permanent chairman. At the meeting one of the London Missionary Society clergy was voted into the chair. There were thirty British subjects present, four Norwegians, and three American citizens, and it was resolved to invite all Norwegian and American citizens in the province of Imerina to associate themselves with them. On May 29, at the first meeting of the Committee, a resolution was passed that the Chairman and Secretary (Mr. Wilson) should use their influence with the Malagasy Acting Foreign Secretary to procure bearers for the French, which resulted in the safe departure of the Jesuit fathers and

sisters and other French subjects under a military escort. The Bishop had got into his new house; Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Smith and the students had gone in from the College; the St. George's ensign was floating from the roof of the Clergy House; and all were close together in the event of sudden disturbance. The Mission party were in good health, and though anxious as to the final result, in good spirits. On Trinity Sunday, May 20, Ignatius Rafilibera, a Hova, was ordained priest—the first native advanced to that holy order. The Bishop speaks of his having passed a very good examination, especially in *Pearson* and Book V. of Hooker's *Ecclesiastical Polity*. He speaks of the man as very good and spiritually minded, and much resorted to by the Malagasy. Thus at the moment of writing the Bishop entertained the brightest hopes of a future native ministry, whilst fears and anxieties as to our future position in the island were filling all minds. The Bishop was being universally respected, and leaned upon in the hour of distress.

Surely it is not too much to ask for the prayers of all the faithful at this juncture—(1), for the safety of the Mission party, of our own Communion, and of all, Europeans or natives, naming the name of Christ; (2), that the grace of perseverance and steadfastness may be granted to all Christian converts in the hour of trial; and (3), that the present political troubles may issue in the honour and glory of God and to the good of His Church. And, inasmuch as a special blessing is granted to united prayer, I would suggest that all interested in the welfare of Madagascar should unite their intercessions for Madagascar and its Christianity at the altar on Sunday, the 29th inst. And I shall further feel it a great kindness in any clergy who will concede my request sending me their names and addresses, that I may, by next mail, write and assure the Bishop of the deep sympathy we all feel for him at the present time. I do not dwell on the Tamatave bombardment, as the daily papers have given full details. In conclusion, may I be allowed to state that there is a Prayer Union for the Church Mission in Madagascar, the papers of which I shall be glad to forward to any persons who may be willing to join it? The Bishop of Winchester is the President, Prebendary Wood-Stephens is the Hon. Secretary. My address from July 21 to 31 will be to the care of Robert Frost, Esq., Queen's Park, Chester. I am sending a copy of this letter to the other Church papers.

RAYNES W. W. DICKSON, *Hon. Treasurer and Assistant Secretary*
Madagascar Prayer Union.

Church Attendance in the East End.

SIR,—In reference to Mr. Fillingham's misstatement as to East-end Church attendance, you may see fit to insert the following passage from a letter written by me to the *Echo*, the week before last:—

'1. He has, on a Sunday morning, credited six of the Haggerston churches with an average of 36—my own he puts down at 38—as a congregation. I am able to assert that our ordinary morning attendance is between 300 and 500, and in the evening between 500 and 800; and I am prepared to prove from our Church books that the average number of our communicants alone is on every alternate Sunday more than twice the number stated by him as the whole congregation, and with those who attend the first celebration, that it is about 100, and that on special days the morning communicants are always more than 200. At Easter we had 319, on Ascension Day (all before 9 a.m.) they were 214, and on Whitsun morning 256.

'2. We have on our roll—open to his or any one's inspection—over 400 *bona fide* communicants.

'3. It is childish for him to argue that other statistics are irrelevant. They are everything as regards the point at issue—the comparative utility or inutility of East-end churches. I ask your readers, therefore, to consider the following facts in relation to the point of contention, *i.e.*, Church work in the East End *v.* Church work in the City.

'(a) The Christian Faith is taught daily in this parish to 700 children; on Sunday to at least as many.

'(b) We have 74 unpaid adult church workers.

'(c) At the time of morning service in the parish church apothecary of a shorter kind is taking place at one of the schools for the younger children.

'(d) We have a mission church also, well used by the poorest of the people.

'(e) We have more than a dozen different agencies by which, as well as by fifteen weekday services, we do our best on weekdays to reach for good every class, age, and need of our thousands of parishioners.

'These, Sir, are a few facts open to the investigation of any of your readers. Mr. Fillingham has, on the other hand, merely made assertions which we declare to be unfounded and injurious. He may say, "I was not aware of these facts which you mention." Of course we reply, "You have no right to make damaging public assertions without having taken due pains to obtain full information." I am not an advocate for the demolition of City churches. If I could be persuaded, it would be by Mr. Fillingham. He is likely to do his cause a vast injury.'

S. J. STONE, *Vicar of St. Paul's, Haggerston.*

SIR,—Once more may I plead with you for a little space, for the letters of Mr. Fillingham and my own seem to have produced a great deal of argument, which it is to be hoped will prove beneficial to the Church. The reply of the Bishop of Bedford's must surely have caused him pain. He says it is 'unfair to judge East London churches by their morning service.' It is most unfair to judge by any other means. It is the morning service, whether it be North or East London, that we have a right to expect every one to attend. I fear we are not likely to get many while Bishops go out of their way to protest against such 'unfairness.' Which is the 'Divine service' that we are to attend, whether we live East or West, for I submit there is no difference as far as this is concerned? It seems difficult to understand the Bishop's protest, and at the same time to read the Divine command, 'Do this in remembrance of Me;' and if the great portion of London only come to church of an evening occasionally, what can be thought of those who speak of it without disapproval?

Only this morning I glanced at a book published by the Rector of

COLONIAL AND FOREIGN CHURCH NEWS.

UNITED STATES.

DR. PINKNEY, Bishop of Maryland, died suddenly on July 4th. He had previously been Coadjutor to Bishop Whittingham.

Last week we should have spoken of the Seabury commemoration in Connecticut, as a centenary of the proto-bishop's election, not consecration. The latter event occurred in October, 1784. The present Primus of the Scottish Church has thus adverted to it:—'That consecration by the Scottish Bishops took place at a time when not more than four persons might meet together in public worship—except members of a family—without being liable for a first offence to imprisonment for six months, and for a second offence to be transported for life. Our Scottish Bishops had been reduced in a century from 14 Bishops and 1000 clergy to 4 Bishops and 42 clergy. When we remember that in that period God so far honoured our small Church as to make her the instrument of conferring the episcopate upon the great and powerful Republic of America, I really think it is our bounden duty as a Church next year to commemorate in some way in Aberdeen the consecration of Bishop Seabury.'

CHINA.

FROM the island of Formosa Dr. Mackay writes to the *Canada Presbyterian*: 'A thousand aborigines have thrown away their idols. They are Malays and not Chinese, and are generally found on the mountainous parts. Their religion has a mixture of Mohammedanism; they are for the most part savages.'

JAPAN.

THE Report of the tenth meeting of the Evangelic Alliance of Japan shows that 'the Protestant Church' has in that empire 89 male missionaries, 56 female missionaries, 93 organized churches, 4987 members, 68 secular schools with 2546 pupils, 7 theological schools with 71 students, 109 Sunday schools with 4132 pupils, 49 ordained native preachers and pastors, 100 assistant preachers, catechists, &c., 37 Bible women, and 13 hospitals and dispensaries. Over 75,000 Testaments and Scripture portions were distributed during 1882; the Religious Tract Society circulated 48,690 volumes; the American Congregationalists have 13 'churches,' paying the salary of their pastors and all other expenses. The American Presbyterians report the largest membership, having 1211 members. The American missionary, Mr. G. W. Knox, writes 'that a prominent Korean who had come to Japan has studied Christianity and asked for baptism. This convert is very desirous that a mission be started in Corea, promising to protect and aid it; and as his friends are once more in the control of the Government, his influence will be considerable. A few days since he came to my house with a second Korean who is also interested in Christianity, and desires to stay in Tokiyo for a year or two for the express object of studying theology, with the purpose of returning as a missionary to his countrymen. Our Japanese Christians are themselves very desirous that a Korean mission be started; some of them would willingly go as missionaries.'

BORNEO.

ON Trinity Sunday the Bishop of Singapore, Labuan, and Sarawak, held an ordination at Sarawak, when the Revs. M. J. Bywater, C. W. Fowler, and L. W. Howell, were ordained priests. Archdeacon Mesney presented the candidates, the Rev. J. Perham preached the sermon. The choir was composed of Chinese and Dyak boys; to these nationalities also a large part of the congregation belonged. Missionary work in the island will, it is hoped, be shortly extended into the territory acquired by the new North-East Borneo Company. The appointment of a distinct Missionary Bishop for this fresh region is already proposed by some influential members of the S. P. G.

NEW ZEALAND.

THE ninth Provincial Synod met on April 3rd at Napier, the Primate of New Zealand (Bishop Harper of Christchurch, now in his eightieth year) presiding. The five other Bishops of New Zealand were present, as also the Bishop of Melanesia. The Primate, in his opening address, remarked on the recent sanction by the Colonial Legislature of marriage with a deceased wife's sister: 'The Maori members of the New Zealand Parliament described such a sanction as a return to their old heathen practice, which also allowed, as they stated, the marriage of a brother's wife: no severer condemnation can well be imagined.' One peculiar feature of the subsequent proceedings of the Synod was the report made by the Bishop of Dunedin as the Synod's appointed correspondent with the Church of Sweden. He produced correspondence with Dr. Grafstrom, dean of the Swedish chapels royal and rector of St. Clara, Stockholm, in which that dignitary expressed his strong wish for a fuller realising of Anglican intercommunion. With regard to the proposal of the Synod, that the Swedish Church should send to New Zealand a missionary for the Scandinavian emigrants, Dr. Grafstrom regretted that the Foreign Missionary Board was unable at present to incur the expense, inasmuch as the Norwegian mission to South Africa and Madagascar absorbed the whole of its funds, especially after the ruin caused by the Zulu war. The Bishop of Nelson stated, that on leaving England just after the appointment of the new Archbishop of Canterbury he received from his Grace the following reply to a congratulation: 'My dear Brother and Bishop of Nelson,—Let me thank you very sincerely and earnestly for what you say in your own person and in the name of others. The great Church had need be one; and I pray God that the vast and deep feeling between England and the daughter and kindred Churches may (as God seems to mean it to do) be the most mighty agent—like the Eagle flying with the Gospel in the Apocalypse—in making men know Him and the Word. Other Churches have tried, and have been tried, and found wanting. May we serve like a new bride the Lord Himself. Your mention of laity is delightful. How much to be done before laity means all it ought! You must take our prayers in exchange for yours left here. Yours sincerely and brotherly in Him, E. W. TRURO.' The Synod also resolved on an address to the Archbishop.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Surrey Association.

THE Annual Meeting of the above Association was held at Croydon on July 31st, the Rev. J. M. Braithwaite, vicar, in the chair. About twenty-five members sat down to tea, after which the business meeting was held. The business included election of officers and new members, and it was determined that the next district meeting (for ringing only) should be held at Ashstead early in September, and the next quarterly meeting at Reigate early in October. After a short service in the parish church, and an appropriate address by the vicar, the members proceeded to the tower, when several touches were brought round in the following methods: Stedman, Grandsire, Plain Bob, and Union Triples, and Plain Bob Major. Ringing ceased shortly before ten o'clock.

R. B. CARPENTER, Hon. Sec.

Bell-ringing Jubilee of Mr. John Cox.

| | Already announced | £9 12 0 |
|--|-------------------|---------|
| Waterloo Society, London | | 1 1 0 |
| The Rev. E. C. Hawkins, vicar, St. Bride's, Fleet Street, London | | 1 1 0 |
| The Society of St. Mary-le-Tower (Norwich Association), Suffolk | | 0 11 0 |
| Mr. Langdon, London | | 0 1 0 |
| York Minster Society (Yorkshire Association) | | 0 10 0 |
| J. W. Snowdon, Esq. (additional) | | 0 5 6 |
| Mr. M. A. Wood, College Youth | | 0 5 0 |
| Mr. E. J. Comb, College Youth | | 0 5 0 |
| St. Andrew's Society of Ringers (Worcester Association) | | 0 2 6 |
| Mr. Penymecure | | 0 2 6 |
| Mr. R. Flaxman | | 0 1 0 |
| Mr. W. Leader | | 0 1 0 |
| The Rev. H. Whitehead, Brampton Vicarage, Carlisle | | 0 5 0 |
| Mr. John Lewis, London | | 0 2 0 |
| Mr. J. R. Haworth | | 0 2 6 |
| The Rev. J. Francis, vicar, Waltham Abbey | | 0 2 6 |
| A. H. Gardom, Esq. | | 0 5 0 |
| R. Sewell, Esq., Barking | | 0 5 0 |

HENRY DAINES.

Worcester Diocesan and adjoining District Change-ringing Association.

THE first Annual Meeting of the above Association will be held on Monday, August 27th, in All Saints' Schoolroom, Worcester. Full particulars in next week's issue.

JNO. SMITH.

St. James's Day, St. James's Church (Clerkenwell, London), St. James's Society, and Eight Ringers whose names commence with James.

ON Wednesday, St. James's Day, the 25th ult., the following members of St. James's Society attempted to ring a peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples, but after ringing 3000 changes James No. 7 was taken ill. James Nixon, 1; James R. Haworth, 2; James Pettit (conductor), 3; James Page, 4; James Leach, 5; James Hannington, 6; James Barrett, 7; James Monday, 8. Thanks are due to the Churchwardens of St. James's Church for their kindness in permitting the peal to be attempted, which it is hoped will be accomplished next year.

Muffled Peal at St. Mary's, Helmingham, Suffolk.

ON Sunday evening, the 22nd ult., a muffled peal was rung, as a mark of respect for the late Rev. G. H. Harris, vicar of Tunstead, who was Secretary and Treasurer of the Norwich Diocesan Association of Ringers.

Change-ringing at Rettendon, Essex.

ON Saturday afternoon, the 21st ult., the All Saints' Company of Ringers from Maldon visited Rettendon, and by kind permission of the Rev. H. A. Cockey rang peals in the following methods:—720 Bob Minor, 720 Oxford Treble Bob, 720 Kent Treble Bob, 360 Double Court Bob. Rev. H. A. Cockey, Hon. Sec. of the Essex Association, 1; S. Coble,* 2; F. Fitch,* 3; R. Hutson,* 4; T. Mansfield,* 5; G. Mansfield,* 6; W. Chalk* (conductor), 7; W. Mansfield,* 8. Tenor, 8 cwt. Also 120 Grandsire Doubles with three of the Rettendon Company. Through the kindness of the Rev. H. A. Cockey the ringers were invited to the Hall, where a substantial repast was provided for them. After some tunes on the handbells about nine o'clock the party started for home, well pleased with their afternoon outing. [Marked thus * are members of the E. A. C. R.]

RECEIVED ALSO:—W. A. Sole—will reply.

PROGRESS IN CHANGE-RINGING.

By a Looker-on in India.

(Continued from page 648.)

MIDDLESEX AND THE METROPOLITAN COMPANIES.

COLLEGE YOUTHS.—1878, 2 peals of K. Royal; 4 peals of K. M.; 2 of St. Caters; 1 of G. Caters; 11 of G. T.: and 1 of St. T.
 „ „ 1879, 2 peals of St. Cinques and 1300 changes of ditto at St. Paul's; 3 peals of K. Royal; 2 of St. Caters; 2 of K. M.; 1 of St. T.; and 6 of G. T.
 „ „ 1880, 1 peal of St. Cinques; 1 of K. Max.; 1 of K. Royal; 1 of St. Caters; 3 of K. M.; 2 of St. T.; and 8 of G. T.
 „ „ 1881, a peal of 5014 St. Cinques in 4 hrs. 17 mins. at St. Paul's; 1 peal of St. Cinques; 1 of St. Caters; 1 of G. Caters; 1 of K. M.; 1 of St. T.; and 6 of G. T.

COLLEGE YOUTHS.—1882, 4 peals of St. Cinques; 1 peal of St. Caters; 4 peals of St. T.; 1 peal of K. Royal; 1 of K. M.; and 2 of Double Norwich Court Bob Major; 1 peal of G. Caters and 12 peals of G. T. in the tower, and 1 in hand.

CUMBERLANDS.—1878, 4 peals of K. M. and 5 of G. T.

1879, 1 peal of K. Royal; 2 of K. M.; and 1 of G. T.

1880, 1 peal of St. Caters; 2 of K. M.; and 2 of G. T.

1881, 2 peals of St. Cinques; 1 of K. Royal; 1 of G. Caters; 4 of K. M.; and 2 of G. T.

1882, 1 peal of K. Royal and 9 peals of K. M.; 3 peals of St. Caters and 3 of St. T.; 4 peals of G. Caters and 7 peals of G. T.

St. JAMES' SOCIETY.—1878, 8099 of G. Caters and 1 peal of G. T.

1879, 1 peal of St. Cinques; 1 of G. Caters; 1 of K. M.; and 1 of G. T.

1880, Nothing reported.

1881, 1 peal of K. Royal; 2 of G. Caters; 2 of St. T.; and 1 of G. T.

1882, 1 peal of K. Royal; 1 of K. M.; 1 of G. Caters; and 2 of G. T.

WATERLOO SOCIETY.—1878, 1 peal of G. T.

1879, 1 peal of St. Caters; 1 peal of G. ditto; and 4 of G. T.

1880, Nothing reported.

1881, 3 peals of G. T.

1882, 3 peals of G. T.

FULHAM rang a peal of G. Caters in 1879. Their charming ring has been rehanged.

ISLEWORTH rang a long touch of G. T.

TOTTENHAM rang Doubles in 1879, Minor in 1880; their ring was made

eight in 1881, and in 1882 they rang a peal of G. T.

THE WEST MIDDLESEX ASSOCIATION rang a peal of G. T. in 1882.

THE HACKNEY SOCIETY rang a Touch of G. T., 714 changes.

Minor was reported from Willesden, Chiswick, and Haverstock Hill.

In 1878 the light ring of ten in the tower of St. Dionis was removed to All Hallows, Lombard Street; a new ring of eight was given to Ruislip; and another to the Church of St. John, Wilton Road. In 1879 the ring at St. Mary Abbott's was made ten; and that at Southgate was made eight; a new ring of eight was given to the Chapel-of-ease, Islington. In 1880 a new ring of eight (tenor, 21 cwt., by Lewis of Brixton) was given to St. Andrew, Wells Street.

The fact that the Birmingham men have cut the long length of Stedman's Cinques rung by the College Youths in 1861 should lead to some healthy competition; the London ringers have practised Stedman's Cinques much of late years, and should be very hard to beat in that their favourite method.

NORFOLK.

In most counties Kent Treble Bob has taken the place of the older Oxford Variation: in Norfolk, however, Oxford Treble Bob is still much practised.

REDENHALL.—1878, 2 peals of G. T. and 1 peal of O. M.

1879, 3 peals of O. M. (1 of 8000 changes); 1 each of Bob M. and St. T.

1880, 3 peals of O. M.

1881, 5 peals of O. M. and 1 of Double Oxford Bob Major.

1882, 5 peals of Treble Bob Major.

Superlative Surprise Major is also rung by this Company, and on the whole we may say, 'Well done, Redenhall!'

DISS.—1878, 1 peal of Bob Major and 1 Date Touch of K. M.

1879, 1 peal and 2 Touches of Bob M.; 1 peal and 1 Date Touch of K. M.

1880, 2 peals and 1 Date Touch of K. M.; also 2 peals with Kenninghall and 4 peals with Eye.

1881, 2 peals of K. M. and 720 Double Court Minor.

1882, 1 peal of K. M.

KENNINGHALL.—1878, 3 peals of O. M.

1879, 2 peals and 1 Date Touch of K. M.; 1 peal and 1 Date Touch of G. T.

1880, 8 peals of Treble Bob Major.

1881, 8 peals of Treble Bob Major.

1882, 3 peals of Treble Bob Major.

YARMOUTH.—1880, 1008 of Bob Major; 1880 of ditto; 1 half-peal of G. T.

1881, 1 peal of G. T. This revival of ringing is most gratifying.

1882, a Long Touch of G. T.

ALBURN rang 3 or 4 peals of Treble Bob Major.

In 1879 **NORWICH** rang a peal of Bob Major, the first 5000 for upwards of 20 years—'How are the mighty fallen!' In 1882 1 peal of O. M.

AYSHAM rang Bob Major, and Bob Minor, and Bob Royal with help.

PULHAM and **BANHAM** each rang Minor of sorts, including Cambridge Surprise Minor.

Minor was rung at **GARBOLDISHAM**, **WHITWELL**, **SALL**, **HINGHAM**, **WOODTON**, and **EAST HARBING**. Also at many places which sent no reports.

ACLE ringers rang G. Doubles and St. ditto.

A mixed band rang a peal of O. M. at **TUNSTEAD**, in 1882. In 1881 six gentlemen in Holy Orders rang Bob Doubles, G. Doubles, St. Doubles, Bob Minor, and Treble Bob Minor.

A new company was formed in 1882 at **TERRINGTON**, who rang B. Minor.

During the period under report there has been no addition to the bells of the county which requires notice; on the contrary, Norfolk has lost one of its rings of eight, which was destroyed by fire at Wells-next-the-Sea in 1879.

In 1878 death removed that fine old ringer and conductor, **Truman** of **Norwich**: one of the formerly celebrated band of ringers of St. Peter, Mancroft; it was he who conducted the long peal of St. Cinques, 7126 changes.

He died at a good old age, and was much respected.

(To be continued.)

CORRESPONDENCE.

St. Albans.

SIR,—I have read with interest the article signed 'G. V.', p. 653, in your issue of 21st July. One matter I wish to call 'G. V.'s' attention to, viz., he states the population of St. Albans to be between 8000 and 10,000; he will see by the following table that he is not correct. I give the figures, 1801 to present time.

| POPULATION OF ST. ALBANS. | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|--------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| 1801. | 1811. | 1821. | 1831. | 1841. | 1851. | 1861. | 1871. | 1881. | | |
| Municipal City and Borough | 3038 | 3653 | 4472 | 4772 | 6497 | 7000 | 7675 | 8298 | 10,930 | |
| The present 5 Civil Parishes, formerly 13 Parishes and Precincts | ... | ... | ... | 6526 | 7245 | 9053 | 10,148 | 11,181 | 12,031 | 12,759 |
| 14,121 | 15,731 | | | | | | | | | |

I have given the total of the parishes, because several portions of the suburbs are not within the municipal boundary. The figures 1801 to 1871 are from the corrected census returns, those for 1881 from the preliminary report.

The church accommodation is as follows:—

| ESTABLISHED CHURCH. | The Cathedral (estimated as 1200 in the | No. Seats. |
|---|--|------------|
| Ritual Choir) and 4 others | ... | 5 3050 |
| NONCONFORMIST. | 3 Baptist, 1 Congregational, 1 Wesleyan, 1 Primitive | |
| Methodist (Trinity Chapel, formerly Presbyterian), 1 Plymouth | | |
| Brethren | ... | 7 2600 |
| POPIST CHAPEL | ... | 1 100 |
| Totals | ... | 13 5750 |

There are many cities smaller than St. Albans. I know of the following, with populations in 1881:—

| | | | | | |
|--------------------------|-----|------|-------------|-----|--------|
| Chichester | ... | 8072 | Truro | ... | 10,633 |
| Exeter | ... | 8172 | Wells | ... | 4,633 |
| Leamington | ... | 8380 | Bangor | ... | 8,240 |
| Ripon | ... | 7390 | Llandaff | ... | |
| Southwell (shortly to be | | | St. Asaph | ... | |
| made a city) | ... | 2866 | St. David's | ... | |

I have confined myself to England and Wales, having no details for Scotland, Ireland, and the Isle of Man.

The bells of St. Albans are as follows:—

| | No. | Key. | Weight of Tenor. | Date and Founder of oldest. |
|------------------|-----|-----------|------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. Cathedral | ... | 8 E flat | Cwt. 30, about | 1699. P. Wightman. |
| 2. St. Michael | ... | 6 G | 9 1 25 | 1739. S. Knight. |
| 3. St. Peter | ... | 10 D | 24, about | 1729. R. Phelps. |
| 4. St. Stephen | ... | 6 A | 9 3 24 | 1803. T. Mears. |
| 5. Clock Tower | ... | 2 F | 20, about | Medieval, about 1427. |
| 6. Christ Church | ... | 1 F sharp | 3 3 11 | 1858. G. Mears. |

NOTE.—That the Cathedral has also an ancient Sanctus bell, and that St. Peter's had 2 more bells, making 12 from 1863 till this present year, when they were barbarously sold. See *Church Bells*, April 28 and May 5, 12, 19, and 26, last.

It would make an interesting series of articles if some of your readers would 'work up' a city as I have done above, and thus we should get details of all in time.

34 Nutfield Road, Dulwich.

Early Service before Harvest.

SIR,—As harvest time is drawing near, will you allow me to repeat an inquiry which you kindly inserted in *Church Bells* last year, asking for information as to any parishes in which an early service before harvest was held; for, probably, few are aware how fully it is appreciated? The only reply it then elicited was from the Rector of Rollesby, which referred to an evening service, to which a 'popular preacher' would naturally attract a 'large congregation.' An interesting account of a 5 a.m. service was given in the October, 1875, number of *Sunday at Home*, at which an address was given by the Bishop, who afterwards proceeded to his own field, on which the labourers began their work. A similar 6 a.m. service has been held by the vicar of a small parish of five hundred inhabitants for the last twenty years, when upwards of a hundred, consisting of employers and labourers, attend and go from the church to their work.

Perhaps, in asking for information, the success which has so long attended this service may lead others to seek a blessing before harvest, to which the thanksgiving for the ingathering is a sequel.

A CONSTANT READER.

Attendance at East-end Churches.

SIR,—I was for seven years a curate in the East-end of London, and, judging from my experience, I should regard Mr. Fillingham's statistics as in the main correct. I preached in some thirty different churches in the parishes of Stepney, Limehouse, Bow, Poplar, and Bethnal Green: and even on Sunday evenings the congregations were deplorably small. I generally estimated the number present and found it vary from from 60 to 200, and in a few instances it reached 300. As regards the morning service, in many churches it might have been easily, and far more comfortably held in a small mission-room. I was told that on a certain Sunday evening there were but 900 persons present in the four churches in Bow Parish, which includes Old Ford, and has a population of 25,000. I know the four churches referred to, and believe the numbers stated were substantially correct. I think myself, more good would be done if less money were spent in erecting costly churches and schools, and more upon mission-rooms, where the poor could come in their ordinary dress, and where the services could be adapted to suit their needs.

EX-EAST-ENDER.

SIR,—Mr. Fillingham's charges against me in his letter to you are almost identical with those published in the *Echo*, and as the Editor of that paper inserted my reply in his issue of yesterday, I ask the same courtesy of you, and enclose the letter for the purpose. But when he further asserts that it is 'absolutely untrue' that, as I stated, there were 617 persons present on the morning of June 24th, I can only, without following him in his use of slanderous expressions, leave it to your readers to decide whether my two churchwardens and six sidesmen, who undertake this duty every Sunday,

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

The Contest for a Silver Cup at Sonning, Berks.

On the 4th of August, 1783, eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths were invited to a contest with the Oxford and Farnham Societies for a silver cup. It is now in the possession of the Company, and placed before the Master at every meeting at head-quarters (once a fortnight at St. Saviour's, Southwark, London). The following inscription on the cup will tell its own tale.

On one side:—

'This Cup, The Gift of Mr. Peter Bluck, of Sunning, in the County of Berks, was adjudged to the Society of College Youths for the Superior Style in which they rang 1008 Bob Major in a Contest with Oxford and Farnham Societies at the above Parish Church, on Monday, August the 4th, 1783.'

On the other side:—

'The Performers on this Singular Occasion were:—John Sigford, Treble; Willm. Sigford, 2; Winy. T. Richardson, 3; Jno. Povey, 4; Thos. Smith, 5; Jos. Holdsworth, 6; Jos. Monk, 7; Edmd. Silvester, 8. Mr. Geo. Flowman attended as Umpire.'

On the 4th of August, 1883, eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang a peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples (Holt's Original) in 3 hrs. 7 mins. to celebrate the anniversary of the above contest. J. R. Haworth, 1; J. Pettit, 2; G. Nash, 3; M. A. Wood, 4; W. Greenleaf, 5; J. Martin Routh, Esq., 6; W. Newell, 7; G. Payne, 8. A dinner was provided for about twenty guests, at which the Rev. C. Kerry (Reading) presided, Mr. J. M. Routh taking the vice-chair. Mr. Ford is thanked for so ably carrying out the programme of the day. A record of the event ought to be set up in the ringing-room.

Afterwards the following ringers from Reading, with Mr. Haworth, visited Tylehurst, and rang several peals of Grandsire Doubles, 120 changes:—Messrs. Newell, Egby, Newman, Swain, Bishop, and Hopwood. They were invited by Mr. J. M. Routh, who kindly entertained them. The bells are a fine ring of six, but out of order. The addition of two good trebles, which has been talked about, would make them one of the best rings of eight in the county.

On Monday, the 6th inst., some of the Reading ringers met at St. Mary's, and kindly obliged Messrs. Haworth, Greenleaf, and Dawe, from London, with several touches of Grandsire Triples; tenor, 28 cwt. Newell, Egby, Newman, Bishop, Hopgood, Gosseltine, and Hands.

The Oxford Diocesan Guild of Church-bell Ringers.

The third Annual Festival of this Guild, which now numbers over 500 members, was held on Thursday, July 26th, at Windsor. The proceedings of the day commenced with a special service at St. John's Church at 11.30. Morning prayer was said by the Rev. H. Lambert. The first lesson was read by the Rev. S. F. Marshall, the second lesson by the Ven. Archdeacon of Bucks. A thoroughly useful and practical sermon was preached by a change-ringer, the author of *Change-ringing Disentangled*, the Rev. Woolmore Wigram, from Ruth, ii. 4. He said that the meeting of the Guild that day was distinctly a religious one, for religion in good old times had had its place to control our occupations and purify our amusements. The care which the Church extended to the art of the ringer reacted on the Church herself. Thus a good band of change-ringers as part of the parochial machinery meant a church tower in proper condition. A band of change-ringers meant also an important page of local history preserved, for the bells with their inscriptions, the belfries with their ringing tablets, could often tell a tale which a parish could ill afford to forget. Experience had taught them that nothing checked belfry abuses so much as Guilds like this. The belfry could find headwork for hands, and handwork for heads. The bells, too, could form a link to bind together the various ranks of society. Ringing had also its discipline. It taught a man how to go 'behind,' and stay 'behind,' till he was required to come down in due course to take the lead, and not snatch it from his fellow-ringer; it taught him to keep his place, to be 'up' to time. Good ringing meant a quick eye, a trained ear, a careful hand, sustained attention, great perseverance, and mutual consideration.

After the service a business meeting was held in the Albert Institute under the presidency of the Archdeacon. After the election of officers for the ensuing year, a committee was elected to draw up a form of prayer to be used in belfries before the commencement of ringing, and also to consider what payment ought to be made for instruction obtained by belfries in union.

This was followed by an excellent dinner, well served by Mr. Layton, provided by the Guild for all ringing members free of charge, to which about 200 did good justice. The chair was taken by the Archdeacon of Bucks, the Rev. Leslie Randall, and among those present were ringers and clergy from Wokingham, Wargrave, Wantage, Oxford, Reading, Burford, Bampton, Sonning, Waltham St. Lawrence, Hurst, Englefield, Theale, Maidenhead, Slough, Farnham, Pangbourne, Appleton, Drayton, Abingdon, North Moreton, and other towns. The ringing at the various churches in the neighbourhood was the best evidence of the progress made by the Guild in change-ringing. Since the last meeting first peals of Grandsire Triples and Grandsire Minor have been rung at Boyne Hill, Maidenhead, at Burford, and at Wargrave, by local bands.

Two of the touches in connexion with the ringing during the afternoon may be mentioned, as they attracted the greater attention. One was 501 changes of Stedman's Triples, rung on the heavy ring of eight bells (tenor, 36 cwt.) at the Curfew Tower of Windsor Castle, supposed to be the first in that method on the bells, by J. R. Haworth, 1; J. Field, 2; L. Proctor, Esq., 3; J. Collier, 4; C. Hounslow, 5; C. C. Child, 6; Rev. F. E. Robinson (conductor), 7; D. Francombe, 8. The other was 741 of Grandsire Triples—Queen's, Tittums, and round-at-hand—at St. John's Church, by J. Parker, 1; W. H. Fussell, 2; A. C. Fussell, 3; Captain Acland-Troyte, 4; C. Hounslow, 5; J. R. Haworth (conductor), 6; W. Newall, 7; C. Clarke, 8. Tenor, 21 cwt.

General regret was expressed at the unavoidable absence through illness of the Rev. D. Paul, the hon. secretary, to whose exertions the Guild owes so much of its success. Secretaries of branches would do much to lighten Mr. Paul's labours if they would forward before December 1st their subscriptions and lists of members. The following clergymen attended the meeting:—Revs. J. T. Brown, F. J. Llewellyn, Woolmore Wigram, S. F. Marshall, A. H. Drummond, T. Spencer, H. C. Sturges, T. H. A. Houlton, A. Bonney, G. Copleston, E. Broome, F. E. Robinson, G. F. Purdue, R. Finch, E. Hamlet, W. H. Young.

St. John's Guild of Ringers, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

THE above Society held its annual excursion on the 6th inst. at Brancepeth, a pretty little village in Durham. There were about twenty members and friends present. Upon arrival the party went to the church, and this beautiful little structure with its antiquities was fully examined and admired. Then the tower and contents were inspected by all, and after a little oiling, &c., the bells were set in motion. Tenor, 9 cwt. After a few attempts a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob was accomplished in 27 mins. by G. Campbell, 1; W. Eggleston, 2; C. L. Routledge, 3; W. Read, Esq. (conductor), 4; W. Story, 5; F. Lees, 6. The day being beautifully fine, lunch was partaken of on the roof of the church, from which a splendid view could be obtained. After this a 720 of Merchant's Return was rung by six of the members, while the rest took a walk in the grounds of Brancepeth Castle. This peal was rung in 26½ mins. by G. Campbell, 1; F. Lees, 2; W. Eggleston, 3; W. Reed, Esq., 4; C. L. Routledge, 5; R. S. Story, 6 (conductor). Tea was provided at the house of Mr. J. Bird, the conductor of the Brancepeth ringers, at four o'clock, to which all present did ample justice. Lord Boyne being at home admittance could be gained to the castle, a very fine old structure, whose ivy-covered exterior was very much admired by all present. Some of the members again adjourned to the tower, and rang a 720 of Woodbine Treble Bob in 27 mins.: W. Eggleston, 1; W. Reed, Esq., 2; F. Lees, 3; C. L. Routledge, 4; G. J. Clarkson, Esq. (conductor), 6. Time 25 minutes. Several courses of Triples were rung on the handbells at the church and in the train.

The party returned to Newcastle at eight o'clock, and adjourned to the Alliance Temperance Hotel, where the annual dinner was held, to which about fifteen sat down; the vicar, Rev. W. E. Houldey, in the chair. The viands having been well partaken of, the usual toasts and speeches were given and replied to. The party separated for their homes at 10.30, having heartily enjoyed their outing.

St. Oswald's, Durham.

THIS church has lately undergone repairs under the superintendence of Mr. T. Mallaby. The reopening took place on Wednesday, the 1st inst., and during the day the members of the Durham and Newcastle Association accomplished several 720's in different methods, comprising Oxford, Kent, and Woodbine Treble Bob, Oxford Bob, and Plain Bob.

Meeting of Ringers at Mere, for Zeals, Wilts.

A MEETING of ringers took place at the above on Wednesday, the 8th inst. Several six-scores of Grandsire Doubles were rung at Zeals. C. Clements, jun., 1; J. R. Jerram, 2; Rev. E. G. Wyld, 3; Rev. A. D. Hill, 4; Rev. C. W. Hony, 5; W. Lanham, 6. Tenor, 12 cwt. Also at Mere by the same: W. W. Giffard, 2; J. R. Jerram, 4. Tenor, 27 cwt. The company were kindly entertained at the Vicarage by Rev. E. G. Wyld.

The Bells of Wargrave, Berks.

WE have much pleasure in inserting (from the *Wargrave Magazine*) the following letter written by the Rev. H. C. Sturges, who is a change-ringer, on the occasion of his wedding, to the inhabitants of Wargrave:—

'MY DEAR FRIENDS,—The very first letter I write on the magnificent writing-table you have been so generous as to give me I feel must be to you. Curiously enough, the first book I chanced to take out of the book-case, which is also a part of your kind present, was a bound copy of the *Wargrave Magazine*, and as it happened to open at a letter somewhat similar to this, I feel that I may make use of its pages to say how deeply grateful I am to you all for your great kindness to me on the occasion of my wedding. I cannot tell you what a pleasure it has been to me to carry away to my new home such lasting remembrances of the neighbourhood where I have lived all my life. The children and teachers of the Piggott Schools, the children and inhabitants of Crazies Hill, the Wargrave bell-ringers, and the village of Wargrave itself, I am sure will be glad to know that their beautiful presents are continually in use, and every day I am reminded of the happy years I have spent amongst them.

'This reminds me that there is a work I am very anxious to carry out for the belfry of Wargrave, which it may not be unfitting to mention here.

'People have often complained of the melancholy tone of the Wargrave bells; they hear the bright peals of Sonning and Henley in the distance, and cannot understand why it is that the Wargrave tower should not be sending forth the same beautiful music. Perhaps they do not consider that the Wargrave tower, though a very large one, and well able to carry a complete octave of bells, carries only an incomplete peal of six.

'A gentleman, one of the first opinions in England on the subject, on hearing the Wargrave bells, said, "I most strongly recommend you to have two treble bells added; the cost will not be much, and it will be an immense improvement to the peal." The Vicar and Churchwardens were accordingly consulted on the subject, and gave their hearty consent, if the necessary funds could be raised; at the same time they promised to give five pounds a-piece, and other gentlemen in the parish consenting to do the same, I felt justified in obtaining from a bell-founder an estimate of the work to be done, so as to lay the matter before the parish in a definite shape. The estimate is as follows:—"To provide English oak timber, and prepare pits for two new bells, the same to be of the best quality and in proper tune with the other

bells, to be left in good ringing order, for the sum of 135*l.* 10*s.*" I have no doubt whatever that the necessary funds can be raised, and the old ivy-mantled tower, which is a great feature in the parish of Wargrave, at last complete with a true octave of bells. I shall be only too glad to see that the work is properly carried out, and once more thanking you all most heartily for your many acts of kindness to me, I am, yours truly,

'A Parishioner of many years' standing.

'H. C. STURGES.

Filkins Vicarage.

'P.S.—Subscriptions may be forwarded to "The Wargrave Bell Fund," at Wargrave Vicarage, and Collecting Cards for the same may be obtained at the Post Office.'

CHANGE-RINGING.

At St. John's, Newcastle.

On Thursday, July 26, a 720 of Merchant's Return Treble Bob was rung in 26½ mins. F. Lees, 1; C. L. Routledge, 2; W. Eggleston,* 3; W. G. Routledge, 4; W. Story, 5; R. S. Story (conductor), 6. Tenor, 12 cwt. [* First in the method.]

At St. Paul's, Burton-on-Trent, Staffordshire.

On Thursday, the 2nd inst., eight members of the St. Paul's Society rang H. Johnson's Three-part peal of 5088 Double Norwich Court Bob Major in 8 hrs. 27 mins. H. Wakley, 1; E. I. Stone, 2; A. Wakley, 3; J. Griffin, 4; J. Jaggard, 5; G. Appleby, 6; T. Holmes, 7; W. Wakley (conductor), 8. Tenor, 26 cwt. All members of the Midland Counties Association. This is the first time of the performance of the above peal.

PROGRESS IN CHANGE-RINGING.

By a Looker-on in India.

(Continued from page 689.)

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

THIS county is still somewhat backward, though change-ringing is by no means extinct. The ringing by local bands is almost confined to Minor, but in 1881 visitors were invited to a ringers' festival at Peterborough, and some Touches of G. T. were rung on the fine ring of St. John's Church.

Minor is rung at IRTHLINGBOROUGH, HIGHAM FERRARS, TITCHMARSH, GLINTON, and RAUNDS; while a new company recently formed at NORTHAMPTON rang G. Doubles, and a plain course of G. T.

OXFORDSHIRE.

Change-ringing is still practically confined to the City and University Societies; but in 1880 a Diocesan Guild was formed, and if we may judge from the results which followed the formation of a Guild in Devon, Durham, and Essex, it is likely that the practice of the art will soon spread in Oxfordshire.

OXFORD CITY SOCIETY.—1878, 1 peal of St. Caters; 1 peal and 1 Date Touch of G. T.

" " " 1879, 1 peal of St. Caters; 3 peals of St. T.; and 2 of G. T.

" " " 1880, 1 peal of K. Minor; 2 peals and 1 Date Touch of G. T.

" " " 1881, Diocesan Guild, 1 peal of G. T. at Wokingham.

" " " 1882, 720 O. Minor; 1 peal of K. M. (at Kirtlington); and 1 of G. Caters at home.

OXFORD UNIVERSITY SOCIETY.—1879, Doubles, Minor, 2 quarter-peals of St. T.; 1 peal and 1 quarter-ditto of G. T.

" " " " 1880, Minor, and 1 quarter-peal of G. T.

" " " " 1881, Minor, and 1 peal of G. T., by a mixed band.

" " " " 1882, 1 peal of St. T. at Drayton, Berks.

RUTLANDSHIRE.

Nothing whatever seems to have been reported from this county, either as to change-ringing or with regard to work about the bells and belfries. The best hope for Rutland is that six-bell ringing may spread in a westerly direction from South Lincolnshire.

SHROPSHIRE.

There has been a great falling off in this county. The ringers of Shrewsbury were formerly very expert, but they have rung no peal for years; indeed, the only report of change-ringing which I can find is a six-score of Stedman's Triples at Whitchurch. This is the more to be regretted because the county, and more particularly the old county town, is so well furnished with rings of bells, which are sure to fall out of order now that the art is neglected: thus, in 1879, when some visitors attempted to ring changes on the fine ring of twelve at St. Chad's, Shrewsbury, they could not do much because the bells were going so bad; and in the following year some visitors rang a peal of G. T. on the first eight of the twelve, because the back bells were not pealable. The effect of this would be the same as if an organist, in performing the *Kyrie* from Mozart's *Twelfth Mass*, should play F natural all through instead of F sharp. When the tenor of a ring weighs 41 cwt., work in the tower cannot fail to be expensive, and it is probable that years may pass before the bells are again fit for ringing peals. A few years ago Mr. Snowdon, in his list of the rings of twelve, put down this ring as 'in good order;' and if half-pull ringing had been regularly practised since that time they would doubtless be in good order still. The present state of affairs will be regarded as deplorable by every one who has ever entered the almost perfect ringing-chamber of St. Chad's.

(To be continued.)

CORRESPONDENCE.

The Elements in Elementary Schools.

SIR,—There has been much talk lately about overwork in our Elementary schools. Pupil teachers have certainly been overworked to a frightful extent. They have been required to teach for as many hours as an ordinary reading man at Oxford or Cambridge would spend on his studies, and to do their own lessons and receive the head teacher's instruction in the over-hours. A schoolmaster whose health has lately broken down told me that in his apprenticeship his school-work began at seven in the morning and ended at six in the evening, and that he often had to take home registers and other work, including, I suppose, the lessons he had to prepare for his master and his annual examinations, which lasted him till twelve at night; and this, be it remembered, while he was a lad from the age of fourteen to nineteen, or thereabouts. I fear a very large proportion of elementary schoolmasters have come through the ordeal of pupil teachership and the training college with greatly impaired *physique*. Are such men the persons to whose training the children of the working classes ought to be committed? Instead of requiring the masters of elementary schools to cram themselves with foreign languages and other subjects quite above the range of the schools they are to teach in, would it not be better to devise some method of selecting the healthiest men and the best teachers, without regard to their knowledge or ignorance of many things for which they now endanger their health? It should be remembered that most of these men—and the women teachers, too—come from homes in which literature does not come in their way incidentally and as a matter of course, so that many things which a boy or girl of other classes picks up, he knows not how, have to be ground up with pains and cram-books by these unfortunate candidates for Government certificates. This last difficulty applies to the scholars as well as to the teachers, and I fear there is now a very unnecessary strain upon many little boys and girls to satisfy the troublesome requirements of the Education Act, and the bye-laws of the locality, and that terrible personage, H. M. Inspector. When a child's right to earn a few shillings a-week towards the family pot-boiling depends upon his passing this or that standard, and teacher or manager, or both, are also as deeply interested in the said pass, the poor urchins, ground between the upper and nether millstones, and not yet having been deemed worthy of the Parliamentary franchise, have mighty little chance of giving cram the slip. What good the cramming does them is another question; and still another question is, whether half of the cram might not be avoided, and the other half made much more completely and more permanently profitable, by a very easy simplification of the elements. I do not refer to Earth, Air, Fire, and Water, but to the A B C, the elements of all book-learning. 'Ah! now,' the reader will say, 'I need not go any further; I know what is coming—that stupid and impracticable crotchet called *Spelling Reform*.' Yes, that is it. But perhaps one or two of your readers may venture to finish what I write. The English language contains forty distinct sounds, and it has only twenty-six letters to express them, of which three, C, Q, and X, are superfluous; C being otherwise represented by K or S, and Q by K, while X is merely a contraction for KS or GS. We have therefore, properly, only twenty-three letters, or only three letters more than half the number required. Seventeen new letters—or thirty-four, including both capitals and small letters—would be difficult to devise of such a sort as to rank well with the letters we now have, while quite easy to distinguish from them. And here, no doubt, has been hitherto the main cause of the small progress which *Spelling Reform* has made. It must be confessed that some of the letters invented many years ago by Messrs. Ellis and Pitman, and still employed, with some modifications, by the latter of these veterans, are not pleasing to the eye, and a little confusing. Still they would answer their purpose, and better, I think, in their original forms and uses, than in some more recent. But better shapes may be expected to come by time and experience; and meantime, generation after generation of 'infants' and the 'standards' ought not to be left struggling and wasting so many precious hours out of their brief school years upon a perfectly absurd and accidental system, or, rather, no system, of spelling.

J. F.

Literates and University Degrees.

SIR,—Will you allow me to call attention through *Church Bells* to the want of means whereby men ordained as non-graduates may proceed to take a degree after ordination? Very many of our most hard-working and zealous clergy are men who, from the simple love of doing Christ's work and having that 'inward call,' but not endowed with much worldly wealth, have had a hard pinch to qualify themselves at the Theological College, or by private studies, often of necessity worked with other professions, for ordination as 'literates,' and yet these men, who have really proved their love for their Master and His work by a hard period of self-denial, find themselves heavily handicapped in almost every phase of clerical life, simply because they are literates. Once ordained there is no chance of taking a degree, because men cannot leave their parishes to go into a two or three years' residence at the University. True, there is London, but the subjects there are altogether foreign from theology. At Dublin the fees are much too heavy for an ordinary man. If the B.A. or B.D. could be taken (say at Durham) by men already in orders, by passing the terminal examinations without the residence, I am sure very many would gladly avail themselves of it. Of course the examinations would maintain a high standard; for the clergy, the higher the better.

invite the co-operation of 'the various religious organizations' in forming an Ohio Divorce Reform League.

THE Scandinavian congregation gathered by Bishop Whitehouse at St. Ansgar's Church, Chicago, is flourishing under the charge of the Rev. J. Hedman, the successor of Jacob Bredberg. The Bishop of Illinois lately confirmed there a class of forty-two. According to the national custom, they recited the whole Catechism in concert before the laying on of hands.

THE consecration of costly 'memorial altars' of stone is become quite common. The Bishop of Quincy has consecrated one in his Cathedral, using the following and other prayers:—We praise Thee, O Lord; we glory in Thy Cross. With humble and true faith in Thy one, full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice for the sins of the whole world, we consecrate this altar unto Thee, separating it, its stones, its vessels, and all that appertain to it, from every common use, and setting it apart for the due celebration of the Holy Eucharist, and for all that may religiously and fitly be joined thereto.

THE parish of Ascension, Chicago, has been resigned by the Rev. A. Ritchie. His Diocesan, Bishop M'Laren, had repeatedly blamed his ultra-ritualism; one of his latest developments was the setting forth of an 'order of solemn Mass when there is no communion of the people.' His parishioners, however, warmly supported him to the last.

ONE of the most signal among recent accessions to the American Episcopal clergy is that of Dr. Simonson, pastor of the large Carrol Street Methodist congregation at Brooklyn.

SOUTH AMERICA.

THE interesting Welsh colony on the banks of the Chuput in Patagonia has at last received the long-deferred boon of a Welsh missionary priest. On a recent day the Bishop of the Falklands—now on a visit to England—ordained at the Chapel Royal, Savoy, the Rev. Hugh Davies. The candidate was presented by the Rev. W. D. Thomas of Carmarthen, and the sermon on the occasion was preached by the Dean of Bangor, who said:—'To-day a reproach is wiped away from the Welsh Church. The maintenance of this minister is provided partly by Welsh Churchmen, partly by the South American Missionary Society. It may be that God has special work for the Welsh colony in South America. May we not hope that God, in leading some of this ancient race, so honoured in the annals of Church Missions, to settle in Patagonia, designs to make them His instruments for carrying the light of divine truth to many now walking in darkness?'

THE Bishop of Guiana has admitted to the diaconate Mr. Greathead, late superintendent of the Wesleyan Methodists at Demerara.

WEST INDIES.

FROM a statement which was read by the Bishop of Jamaica (Dr. Nuttall) at his Diocesan Council on the 12th of June, it appears complaint had been made that at St. Andrew's, Giltcock, the Rev. M. M. Deurwaarder had erected a 'high altar,' and used incense, lights, wafers, and wine ceremonially mixed with water. On the 15th of May the Bishop visited the church, but Mr. Deurwaarder refused to make any concession. Upon this the Bishop briefly addressed the people, stating that he was averse to referring the matter to an Ecclesiastical Court, though his reluctance in such cases would come to an end after the results he expected from the Royal Commission now in England sitting. After consideration, the Diocesan Council unanimously expressed an opinion that it would not be to the interest of the Church for Mr. Deurwaarder to be presented for trial by an Ecclesiastical Court for his ritual practices.

AUSTRALIA.

THE first sitting of the Conference for the North Queensland diocese was held at Townville on June 13. Present—the Bishop (Dr. Stanton), Archdeacon Plume, ten other clergy, and eleven lay representatives. The Bishop reviewed the career of the diocese since its formation five years ago, and expressed his obligations to the five clergy who had accompanied him from England. He recommended the formation of a regular diocesan synod. To this the Conference agreed unanimously, and then resolved itself into the first synod of the Diocese. The proposed standing orders were then adopted with some slight alteration.

SOUTH AFRICA.

AT Zuurbraak, on May 24th, was laid the corner-stone of the new school-chapel of St. Michael and All Angels. The congregation here, our readers may be reminded, consists of native converts to Christianity, to whom the London Missionary Society was unable for some years to send a pastor, and who in their need applied to Episcopacy for aid. The people are hearty in their new conformity. On this occasion a long procession, the children bearing tree-fern branches for banners, filed out of the old schoolhouse. On reaching the new building, the Rev. W. P. G. Schierhout, priest-in-charge, began a special service, in which also the Rev. G. W. Anderson, rector of Riverdale, took part. All, or most of this service, was in Dutch. Mr. Pattison of Caledon is about to succeed Mr. Schierhout here in permanent charge of the new work.

THE Bishops of the South African Province have held a 'Court for the Confirmation' of the election of Bishop Webb (late of Bloemfontein) to the diocese of Grahamstown, and of that of Mr. Key to the Coadjutorship of St. John's, Kaffraria. The consecration of the latter was intended to take place at Umtata on St. James's Day, July 25.

THE Crown, it is expected, will be petitioned by the adherents of the late Dr. Colenso to appoint 'a Bishop of the Church of England to succeed him.' The granting of such a petition would be a heavy blow to the work of the Bishop of Maritzburg and to the whole Province of South Africa. The Colensoites have in all seven clergy, of whom two are deacons, and all but two have been ordained by Bishop Colenso since his excommunication: not one is a missionary to the natives. On the other hand, Bishop Macrorie has thirty-four clergy, of whom seven are missionaries to the heathen. The Colenso party possess fifteen churches, of which three are closed, and two are used by Bishop Macrorie's clergy. The Orthodox have thirty-two churches, and three more are in course of erection.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

The 'Church Year-Book' and Ringers' Guilds.

SIR,—Allow me, through your columns, to direct the attention of ringers to chapter vi. of the *Church Year-book*, published by S.P.C.K. Also to request that they will communicate to me any mistakes or omissions made last year. And, in particular, that they will furnish me with the title, &c., of new guilds, or any other information which will tend to secure that the 'exercise' be properly reported in the *Official Year-book* for 1884.

W. WIGRAM.

Address during August, Rothbury, Morpeth.

Worcester Diocesan Change-ringing Association.

THE Annual Meeting of the above Society will be held at Worcester on Monday, August 27th. The members will meet at the 'Bridge Inn,' Bridge Street, at 11 o'clock, to arrange for ringing on the different rings of bells in the city. The meeting for business will be held in All Saints' Schoolroom at 2 o'clock. The members of each Society in the Association are invited to attend. Any Society not receiving a special invitation will please accept this as one, as I have not been furnished with the addresses of all the Societies in the Association. Any further information will be supplied on application to 21 Great Hill, Dudley.

S. SPITTLE, Secretary pro tem.

St. Nicholas, Halewood, Lancashire.

THE anniversary of the laying the foundation-stone of St. Nicholas Parish Church, Halewood, was recently celebrated by a service for the dedication of the new ring of bells presented to the church by Mrs. French of the Lindens, Gateacre, who is also the donor of the tower. It is twelve months since Mrs. French laid the memorial stone of the tower, which has been built of hand-some stone. The tower contains a large and powerful ring of eight bells; and a superior 48-inch dial clock by Rolls and Son, also the gift of Mrs. French, has been fixed in it by the firm of Bennett Bros., Victoria Street. Eight ringers can easily manipulate the bells under their charge, or a clever chiming apparatus can be used, by which one person is enabled to govern and ring the whole number. The largest bell is about 3 feet 3 inches in diameter, note G natural, weighing nearly 11 cwt. The bells, which are hung to heavy English oak framing, are made of the best metal. The eight-day turret striking clock has a dial 48 inches in diameter, of solid metal, and has a pendulum of nearly 3 cwt., and Sir Edmund Beckett's patent escapement and check action. The bearings are of phosphor bronze, and all are arranged and compensated to keep the clock going punctually in every variation of temperature. At the dedication service the congregation included Mrs. A. B. Forwood, Sir Thos. Earle, Bart., Colonel Wyatt (agent to Lord Sefton), Mr. R. Neilson, Mr. A. R. Gladstone, Captain and Mrs. Willis, (Halsmead Hall, Whiston), Mr. Nicholas Twigg, Miss Neilson, and Miss Todd, (Woolton). At the conclusion the Bishop of Liverpool said they were gathered together upon a solemn and very interesting occasion. They had assembled to dedicate to the service of God the bells which had been given by the munificence of a kind friend for the use of the church at Halewood. He pitied the person who could not regard the occasion with some deep feelings. He asked them to join with him in praying earnestly that when he and they had been gathered to their fathers those bells might always be used in such a way and produce such effects as would stand the investigation of God and be for the benefit of immortal souls. He thanked God that it had been put in the heart of any one to come forward so gladly and liberally in order to raise the tower and get the bells of that church. It was a revival again of the old custom, which he hoped might yet be revived more and more in this land, of single individuals coming forward to do something for the house of God. In days gone by, before the Reformation, men thought it an honour to be allowed to build a porch, or tower, or transept, or to give something very costly for the service of Christ's Church; and he trusted that in these modern days there would be more of that feeling amongst them, and that people would come forward individually and do what they could for the better adornment of the church. That the good old Church of England might never lack supporters, and that she might always continue to be what she had been handed down to them, unchanged and unaltered for the worse, and as some perhaps would alter her, was his heart's desire and prayer.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At Long Eaton, Derbyshire.

ON Sunday, the 5th inst., was rung for evening service a peal of 720 Treble Bob Minor (15 bobs). G. Bradley, 1; A. Widderson, 2; S. Clark, 3; W. Gilson, 4; W. Grice, 5; J. Barrow (conductor), 6. Tenor, 11 cwt. All members of Midland Counties Association.

At St. Matthew's, Walsall, Staffordshire.

ON Saturday, the 11th inst., a date touch of Stedman's Caters was rung in 1 hr. 10 mins. F. Hallsworth, 1; F. J. Cope (Lichfield), 2; J. Astbury, sen., 3; W. Walker, 4; T. Meredith (Lichfield), 5; D. Wesley, 6; J. Astbury, jun., 7; D. Chapman, 8; W. Hallsworth (conductor), 9; E. Taylor, 10. Tenor, 25 cwt. in E flat.

At St. Thomas', Rhyl, North Wales.

ON Monday, the 13th inst., on the occasion of the annual excursion of the united choirs of St. Paul's and St. Margaret's Churches, Burton-on-Trent, eight members of the St. Paul's Society, Burton-on-Trent, rang a Three-part peal of 5088 Double Norwich Court Bob Major in 3 hrs. 26 mins. H. Wakley, 1; E. I. Stone, 2; A. Wakley, 3; J. Griffin, 4; J. Jaggar, 5; G. Appleby, 6; T. Holmes, 7; W. Wakley (conductor), 8. Tenor, 17½ cwt. The above is the first peal of Double Norwich Court Bob Major rung in Wales. It is the composition of Mr. Henry Johnson, sen., and has never been previously performed. All members of the Midland Counties Association.

At All Saints', West Bromwich, Staffordshire.

On Saturday, the 11th inst., eight members of the St. Martin's Society of Change-ringers, Birmingham, and the Ancient Society of College Youths, London, rang the late Mr. T. Thuston's peal of 5040 Stedman's Triples in 3 hrs. H. Johnson, jun., 1; J. Joyns, 2; H. Bastable, 3; H. Johnson, sen., 4; W. R. Small, 5; S. Beeves (conductor), 6; J. Buffery, 7; A. Thomas, 8. Tenor, 14 cwt. This is the first true peal of Stedman's Triples ever rung at West Bromwich, and it is thirty-six years since the last was rung, which was false.

At the Parish Church, Cradley, Worcestershire.

On Monday, the 13th inst., eight members of the St. Martin's Society of Change-ringers, Birmingham, succeeded in ringing at the first attempt the late Mr. T. Day's Six-part peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples in 2 hrs. 57 mins. J. James, 1; J. Joyns, 2; S. Reeves, 3; H. Bastable, 4; T. Miller, 5; J. Buffery (conductor), 6; A. Thomas, 7; R. Jones, 8. Tenor, 12 cwt., in G.

A Correction.

Under the heading, last week, 'The Contest for a Silver Cup at Sonning, Berks,' the first three names of the performers in 1783 should be—John Lyford, William Lyford, and Winstanley R. Richardson.

PROGRESS IN CHANGE-RINGING.

By a Looker-on in India.

(Continued from page 709.)

SOMERSETSHIRE.

A new ring of eight bells (tenor, 21 cwt.) has been given to St. Andrew, Bath; this is well, but it would be more satisfactory to hear that changes were being rung on the grand bells of the Abbey. A new ring of six has also been given to Huntspill.

There is now room to hope that great progress will be made in this county, for recently a church bell-ringers' Association has been formed for the Bath and Keynsham deaneries. It will be very gratifying to hear that changes are once more being rung on the Abbey bells.

Meantime, the more honour is due to the few bands who have kept the art alive, viz. to the ringers of Bedminster, Porlock, Dunster, and Twerton. Bedminster rang Minor, Porlock and Dunster rang G. Doubles, and Twerton Doubles in the Stedman method.

SUFFOLK.

This county has continued to be conspicuous for its extensive practice of change-ringing. The following companies have been particularly industrious. IPSWICH.—1878, 2 peals and 1 Touch of G. Caters; 2 Touches of G. T.

" 1880, 1 peal and 1 Date Touch of K. Royal; 1 peal each K. M. and G. Caters.

" 1881, 1 peal of K. Max.; 1 of K. Royal; and 1 quarter-peal of St. T.

" 1882, 1 peal of Bob Major; 1 of O. M.; 1 of K. Royal; and 1 of O. Royal; 1 of G. Cinques; and 1295 changes of St. Caters.

The above score shows an acquaintance with a variety of methods which is quite unusual out of London, and which is most creditable to this young company.

GLEMSFORD.—1878, 2 peals of K. M.; Double Court Bob Minor and Bob Major.

" 1879, 2 peals of K. M.

" 1880, 2 peals of K. M. (with Walden); Minor of various sorts.

" 1881, 2 peals of Cambridge Surprise Minor.

" 1882, Minor of sorts.

This excellent little band has only six bells at home, and must go abroad to ring Major.

EXE.—1878, 1 peal of O. M.; also 1 of K. M. by a mixed band.

" 1882, 1 peal of O. M.

WIMBISHAM.—1882, 2 peals, each consisting of seven complete peals of Minor.

Bungay rang a peal of G. T.; Beccles, a Date Touch of G. T.; Sudbury, 2 Date Touches of G. T. and 2 of Bob Major Kelsale, Minor and a peal of Bob M.; Fressingfield, 3 peals of K. M.; Bury St. Edmunds, 1 peal and 1 long touch of G. T.; Coddennam, touches and 1 peal of G. T.; Helmingham, 1 peal, 1 half-peal, and 3 Date Touches of G. T., also Minor of several sorts; Woodbridge, 1 Date Touch of Bob Major and 1 of G. T. Mixed bands rang peals of Treble Bob Major at Framdsen, Framlingham, Coddennam, Debennam (three, one of 10,272 changes), Helmingham, and Lavenham. Framlingham rang a peal of Bob Major. Minor was rung at Otley, Gorleston, Yaxley, Stratford, Wimbisham, Somerleyton, and Rickinghall; and Doubles at Thurston, Oakley, and Henley. No less than 5040 Doubles of various sorts were rung in one peal at the last-named place. Late in the year 1882 a mixed band rang a peal of O. M. at Stradbroke.

In addition to this, much work has been done about the bells: for instance, the ring at Stradbroke was made eight in 1878; and the rings at Coddennam and Debennam were rehung. It seems that at present there is no local band at Lavenham, it is therefore no matter for surprise (though matter for regret) to hear that those famous bells are in very bad order. It has been the custom for years to hold a ringers' festival at Lavenham on the 21st of June, when ringers from all parts of the Eastern counties, and even from London, assemble; will anything be done to put the ring in order before the longest day of 1883?

Nothing has been reported as having been done on the ring of ten at Stonham Aspal. It has been explained that Stonham Aspal is a small village, and that it is too much to expect that the ring should be used by a local band. If that is the case, it is a thousand pities that the bells cannot be removed to some place where they would be properly rung. If they were hung at Glemsford we should soon hear of something being rung on the ten.

(To be continued.)

CORRESPONDENCE.

East-end Church Attendance.

SIR,—The latter part of Mr. Fillingham's letter, in which he refers to me and the number of my communicants, is a very shameful slander. The charge is, that I, or my brother clergy, or the churchwardens, who make the entries, have come straight from our Saviour's Sacrament to insert an untruth in the vestry-book.

It is only necessary, I trust, for the satisfaction of those who are strangers to us, to affirm that at no time, and under no circumstances, in all the history of this church, have any persons, communicating in parishes other than our own, been added to the recorded number of our communicants; nor are former communicants, now in other parishes, reckoned among the 'over 400' of whom I spoke as on our present roll.

Mr. Fillingham made an insinuation to the same insolent effect, though not so much after Mr. Pecksniff's manner, in the *Echo* a fortnight ago, to which I replied in that paper on July 23rd. I send a copy of my letter for your own inspection. Either he did not venture an answer, or the *Echo* refused to insert it.

How a person utterly unknown to us, or, so far as we can make out, to any of our people, can have conceived this calumny, it is vain to conjecture. He may have heard some communicant say that we liked still to reckon as children of our church those whom circumstances had taken elsewhere; but I need not say that this is an utterly different thing from including them at any time among the number of our home communicants. The first would be loyal and kindly thought; the latter wilful falsification. He has, however, made this accusation, and he must prove it, or he must apologise. If he does not do the one or the other, I think, Sir, you will allow that I have the right to call upon you, who have admitted his letter, to tell your readers that his assertion must be dishonoured.

Whoever he may be, not only does he not know what spirit he is of, in thus imagining wickedness and speaking unadvisedly, but he knows nothing really of the work which is being done in East-end parishes,—its hard, anxious, persistent conflict with unnumbered difficulties on the one hand; and on the other, its glorious success, first, in ministering to the various needs of thousands, church-goers or not, and then in gathering in to the truest religious life of a remnant out of these masses, an elect body of no mean number, loyal, devoted, and grateful; a true-hearted and high-minded people, 'in whom the pastor dares delight,' and for whom he loves to labour.

Is it too much to ask you, Sir, personally or by some representative, to visit us here and to examine those Church records which, after repeated challenge, Mr. Fillingham has not had the courage or the conscientiousness to inspect? Anyhow, I trust to you safely for justice in the settlement of this matter.

S. J. STONE, Vicar, St. Paul's, Haggerston.

SIR,—Mr. Fillingham's charge against Mr. Stone will probably appear to most of your readers to admit of a very simple explanation. One can hardly help thinking of George Herbert's proverb,—

'Who, by aspersions, throws a stone
At the head of others, hits his own.'

Without, however, commenting further on this happily singular method of dealing with an inconvenient adversary, I should like to contribute one or two facts towards settling the real matter in question, *i.e.*, What is the ordinary congregation of St. Paul's, Haggerston? Facts are worth more than insinuations. It happened that last Sunday (Aug. 5th), and also on Sunday, July 15th, I assisted at Mr. Stone's church in the absence of his curate. Last Sunday I administered the Holy Communion to sixty-eight persons at the midday service. As celebrant I am able to give the exact number. There had been a celebration at an earlier hour the same morning, at which I was not present. The congregation at Morning Prayer on that day I should—to be well within the truth—estimate as considerably above two hundred. I counted twenty-five in the first few benches of the nave on one side. A children's service was going on at the same time, I believe, in the schoolroom, and there were but few children in church. It must be remembered that this Sunday was the Sunday before the Bank Holiday. I cannot give exact figures for Sunday, July 15th. I should be inclined to say that there were rather more communicants. The congregation at Morning Prayer looked much the same. Mr. Fillingham would have us believe that the ordinary congregation at St. Paul's averages about thirty-eight. My figures give a very different estimate; and I leave it to those who are not advocates of a cause to judge between us. Mr. Fillingham has a right to further his cause by all means, but not at the expense of justice and truth.

G. C. BLACKLAND.

Fulham Palace, S.W., Aug. 11, 1883.

SIR,—Please allow me, through your columns, to ask Mr. Fillingham the following questions:—

1. If there are not two City clergymen associated with him in his efforts to disparage the East-end clergy, and whether they are prepared to certify to the accuracy of the so-called census?

2. Is it a fact or not that men were sent round to the Islington churches for the purpose of exposing the smallness of the morning attendances, but the numbers were so good the project of publishing the figures had to be abandoned?

3. Can Mr. Fillingham deny that some of the enumerators were seen to leave the churches five minutes after the service began? INQUIRER.

Literates and University Degrees.

SIR,—Permit me to express the hope that the letter in your last, bearing the signature of 'A Literate,' will not be overlooked by those who have it in their power to provide the suggested remedy. I am perfectly sure that it is simply the fact of six terms' residence (in the most favourable cases three terms) being required at Durham University, which prevents many men already

Government, in connexion with the Latin Church, is active in pushing its interests in Palestine, the Russian Government in connexion with the Greek Church is not less so. A large new church is just completed as part of the Russian establishment on the Mount of Olives, and at Ain Karim (St. John's) Russian houses, gardens, monks, and nuns, are everywhere conspicuous.

SCANDINAVIA.

ICELAND, long free from religious dissensions, has begun to suffer from modern errors. Not only have Mormons, travelling about, won proselytes, but within the Church herself dissenting views have been expressed. In two congregations in the east not a few have formally seceded, and even tried to hinder the parish priest in his services. Some months ago the Bishop wrote a pastoral to the malcontents, but without success. At Reykjavik a 'Free Church' has been projected, and Pastor Swinson has been grievously assailed. Within the ranks of the clergy, Rationalism has appeared. One of the most prominent priests, Mr. Jochmussen, who is noted as a poet, has avowed himself a disciple of Channing. Another, on the eastern coast, has refused to minister at the altar and wear the vestments, and ventured on other ritual deviations. On being remonstrated with by the Bishop he is said to have tendered his resignation. It is to be regretted that the proposal of the late Bishop, Dr. Thorderson, to the Archbishop of Canterbury, for the conjoint Anglo-Danish consecration of Dr. Pjeturson as his coadjutor *cum spe successionis* was thwarted by Primus Martensen; had it been carried out, as Bishop Wilberforce wished with especial earnestness, Bishop Pjeturson would probably have been enabled to grapple with the new sectarianism with better help.

SPAIN.

LORD PLUNKET, Bishop of Meath, perseveres in his advocacy of Mgr. Cabrera, as Bishop-elect of the new body calling itself the Spanish Reformed Church. It has eight congregations, with 686 communicants, and schools containing 602 children. There are four presbyters, and, in all, 23 workers. But the Canterbury Convocation has adversely noticed the proposal for Mgr. Cabrera's consecration, and the Irish Bishops have determined that the question shall for the present be shelved. He purposes visiting our shores again next month, to give information and get help.

BOARD SCHOOL PUPIL-TEACHERS.

'THE Secretary to the Examining Board for Church Training Colleges called our readers' attention some time since to the lamentable failure of Board School pupil-teachers in the examination in religious knowledge of candidates for admission into Church Training Colleges. The results, shortly stated, are as follows:—Of male candidates, whilst 8.6 per cent of pupil-teachers from Voluntary Schools obtained first-class, only one out of the 278 Board School pupil-teachers examined reached the same level; and, whilst 19.6 per cent of the former failed altogether, more than 52 per cent of the latter did so. The female candidates from both classes of schools did far better than the males; but still there is the same comparative inferiority in the work of those from Board Schools. The proportion of first-classes gained by the latter was 6 per cent, compared with 16 per cent gained by pupil-teachers from Voluntary Schools; and exactly the same ratio, only inverted, holds good of the failures—there being 6 per cent from Voluntary Schools compared with 16 per cent from Board Schools. A very significant exception points the moral. At Truro, only one Board School pupil-teacher failed out of 23. But then Truro is the diocese in which Board Schools and their pupil-teachers court Diocesan examination. It will, of course, be suggested that pupil-teachers from Board Schools are necessarily at a disadvantage in an examination which includes Church Formularies. This may be granted as regards obtaining a first-class, which, by a candidate ignoring the Paper on the Prayer-book altogether, would only be attainable by obtaining full marks for the Old and New Testaments. But by those who know their Bible well, even though they should be altogether ignorant of the Prayer-book, a second-class may be easily obtained, and a third-class very easily; whilst the majority of Board School pupil-teachers seeking admission to Church Training Colleges may be presumed to be members of the Church, and, therefore, not altogether ignorant of its Formularies. As a matter of fact, however, the analysis of the causes of failure given by the examiners in the pamphlet just published by the National Society does not leave any room for the suggestion that the failure of Board School pupil-teachers to pass the Entrance Religious Examination arises chiefly from ignorance of the Church Formularies. For out of the 203 total failures, 79 failed in each of the three papers, 31 failed both in the Old and New Testament, and 13 more in one or the other, though they passed in the Prayer-book; whilst 76 who failed in the Prayer-book failed also either in the Old or New Testament, leaving five only who knew the Scripture subjects passably, but failed in the Prayer-book. On the other hand, 11 of those who obtained a pass were shipwrecked both in the Old and New Testament, and only saved themselves by their knowledge of Church Formularies. So that, had the latter subject been eliminated, 16 fewer Board School pupil-teachers would have passed than actually did; and, so far from being an obstacle, this Paper on the Prayer-book proved an assistance to them. To those who might further contend that even Bible questions may be so shaped as to exclude candidates who have not received denominational instruction, we commend a glance at the Examination Papers. Three alternative questions of equal value set in each section of Holy Scripture, give the fullest scope to those who know their Bible and not the Prayer-book. The lamentable fact remains, for which School Boards ought to consider their responsibility, that, in 198 cases out of 646, Board School pupil-teachers failed to show even the most ordinary acquaintance with the books of Holy Scripture selected for the Entrance Examination.'—*The School Guardian*.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Surrey Association.

A DISTRICT Meeting of the above Association (for ringing only) will be held at Ashted on September 1st. Permission to ring at Leatherhead has also been obtained. A. B. CARPENTER, *Hon. Sec.*

Worcester Diocesan Change-ringing Association.

THE Annual Meeting of this Society will be held on Monday next, August 27th, in All Saints' Schoolroom, Worcester, at two o'clock, when Lord Alwyne Compton, D.D., dean of Worcester, will preside. All members who have not received an invitation to attend will please accept this as one. The Dean has kindly granted the use of the Cathedral bells on this occasion. S. SPITTLE.

The Essex Association of Change-ringers.

EXTRACT from the Report read at the Annual Meeting held at Chelmsford, May 14th, 1883:—During the past year our Association has been making steady and satisfactory progress, the number of members at the present time being 7 life, 52 honorary, and 166 ringing; the numbers at our last Annual Meeting being 6 life, 45 honorary, and 153 ringing, showing an increase during the past year of 1 life member, 7 honorary, and 8 ringing members. The actual number of ringing members elected was 29, but we have lost 1 by death, Mr. J. Dyer of Great Tey, and 20 have left the Association from various causes. We have lost 2 honorary members by death, T. M. Gepp, Esq., of Chelmsford, and Mr. W. Wyatt of Maldon. Our Funds this year again show a balance in hand, our receipts having amounted to 20l. 18s. 1d., and our expenditure to 16l. 16s. 10d., leaving a balance for the year of 4l. 1s. 3d. In addition to this there are still 10 subscriptions due from honorary members for the year 1882-83, and no less than 26 from ringing members, which together represent the sum of 3l. 16s. 0d. The balance-sheet will be found at the end of this Report. I must call the attention of members to these arrears of subscriptions, and remind them, as our late Secretary, Mr. Seaman, so often had occasion to, that this delay in the payment of subscriptions causes infinite trouble to the Secretary, not to speak of the extra expense in postage, &c., which it entails. The duties of the Secretary are at any time heavy, and occupy much valuable time, and as that time is freely given by the Secretary, often at great inconvenience to himself, with nothing in the shape of recompense beyond the knowledge that he is working for a good cause, those who by their carelessness make his already heavy work still more burdensome, show a great want of gratitude to one who is thus working for them. I trust that in future there may be no ground for complaint on this point. The Annual Meeting was held last year at Chelmsford; there being fifty-four members present. District Meetings were held at Barking (July 29th), and Coggeshall (October 19th); and a Special Meeting at Writtle on March 26th. Amongst belfry improvements we find a ring of six rehung at Stisted. They were opened by the Braintree Company on June 24th, the work having been satisfactorily done by Mr. H. Bowell of Ipswich, who is at present rehanging the ring at Rettendon. At Ford End the ring of five has been augmented by the addition of a new treble. This ring also was opened by the Braintree Company. At Harlow a fine new ring of eight has been put up by Messrs. Warner of Cripplegate, and at Basildon a ring of five has been rehung by a Mr. Latch, builder, under the direction of Mr. F. Chancellor, architect. A ring of six, augmented from five, will shortly be opened at Rettendon, and a new ring of six by Mears and Stainbank at Laindon Hills. H. A. COCKEY, *Hon. Sec.* Rettendon Hall, Battles Bridge, S.O., Essex, May 14th, 1883.

New Bells at All Saints' Church, Eastbourne.

THE new ring of bells lately placed in the tower of All Saints' Church were formally opened on the 11th inst. by eight members of the Royal Cumberland Youths, who visited Eastbourne for the purpose. These bells were supplied by Messrs. Warner of London. The first duty of our visitors was to get the bells in full working order, but before commencing their lengthened operations, on the invitation of the worthy Vicar they sat down to a capital dinner, provided by Mr. Vine, confectioner. The chair was taken by Mr. George Newson, captain of the Cumberland troupe, who was assisted by Mr. Ticehurst, captain of the All Souls' ringers. After this they adjourned to the church, where they rang the following changes:—571 of Kent Treble Bob, 504 of Stedman's Triples, 504 of Grand sire Triples, 331 of Bob Major, 224 Double Norwich, 224 Oxford Treble Bob—in all 2368 changes: after which the bells were lowered in peal. G. Newson, 1; E. Chapman, 2; T. Kitchener, 3; J. Gobbett, 4; A. Jacob, 5; W. Meadow, 6; J. Hannington, 7; J. Barnett, 8. They also rang changes on the five and six bells at All Souls' and Christ Church. It would be as well if the ringers of All Souls' Church would take a lesson from the excellent ringers who have just paid them a visit. The changes rung by these Cumberland Youths have been a great treat to lovers of bells.

Prize-ringing at Altnun, Cornwall.

THE first ringing match [it ought to be the last] ever remembered by the oldest inhabitant took place on a ring of five bells on Thursday, the 2nd inst., when five prizes were offered for competition. Ten sets contended. The first prize, 3l., was awarded to the ringers of St. Mabyn; the second, 2l., to Egloshayle; the third, 1l. 10s., to Laniverry; the fourth, 1l., to Duloe; the fifth, 10s., to Blisland. The decision of the umpires was made known by the Churchwarden in the Schoolroom, and Miss Power, the vicar's daughter, who was accompanied by several ladies, distributed the prizes. A vote of thanks to the ladies, the vicar, and the churchwardens closed the proceedings. Mr. Menhinick of St. Mabyn, Mr. Coombe of Northill, and Mr. Trays of Altnun, acted as umpires.

RECEIVED ALSO :--' First Annual Report of the Stoke-upon-Trent Archidiaconal Association of Change-ringers.'

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

The St. James's Society of Change-ringers, London.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS, Aug. 27th, 1883.—*Master*, Mr. W. George, *Steward*, D. Newton. *Treasurer*, Mr. E. Albone. *Secretary*, Mr. G. T. McLaughlin. *Auditors*, Messrs. J. Tucker and F. Newman. G. T. McLAUGHLIN.

Visit of the St. Mary-le-Tower Society, Ipswich, to London.

On Saturday, the 25th ult., eleven members of the above Society visited the metropolis. On leaving Liverpool Street the party was reduced to the number of nine, who were met by their friend, Mr. E. Horrex of the College Youths, at St. Dunstan's, Stepney, where an attempt was made to ring Riley's 5000 Kent Treble Bob Royal, but they only rang 1 hr. 7 mins., some of the bells going heavily. W. Catchpole, 1; W. Motts, 2; J. Fosdike, 3; R. Hawes, 4; J. Alexander, 5; J. Motts, 6; E. Pemberton, 7; R. Brundle, 8; E. Reeve, 9; E. Horrex, 10. The above are all members of the College Youths and the Norwich Association. On coming down they were met by Messrs. Hayes, Winney, Greenleaf, Jones, and others, and spent the rest of the evening in handbell-ringing. On Sunday morning two went to St. Paul's Cathedral, the other seven to St. Sepulchre's, where they rang touches of Grandsire and Stedman's Caters. In the afternoon they rang three courses of Grandsire Cinques at St. Paul's Cathedral, and in the evening 288 Oxford Treble Bob Major, 216 Stedman's Triples, and a short touch of Grandsire, at St. Gabriel's, Pimlico.

On Monday they were again divided, some going to Ware, Herts, Squire Proctor of Bennington, with three of his ringers, and Mr. Haworth of London, meeting them; and at St. Mary's Stedman's Triples and Grandsire Triples were rung by T. Page (conductor), 1; J. Kitchener, 2; L. Proctor, Esq., 3; L. Chapman, 4; J. R. Haworth, 5; J. Fosdike, 6; E. Pemberton, 7; E. Reeve, 8. Afterwards, at All Saints', Hertford, the following persons rung Stedman's Caters, Kent Treble Bob Royal, and Grandsire Caters:—Haworth (conductor), Kitchener, L. Proctor, Esq., Meadows, Fosdike, Pemberton, H. Baker, Esq., Page, Reeve, and Chapman. A. Baker, Esq., took part in the Grandsire Caters. The Ipswich ringers went home on Monday evening, and Haworth, Kitchener, Squire Proctor, Chapman, H. Baker, and Page (conductor), at Holy Trinity, Bengeo, near Hertford, rang 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor in 26 mins., the first on the bells. Tenor, 7 cwt.

Omissions by the 'Looker-on in India.'

SIR.—'A Looker-on in India' is slightly in error about Sussex. In 1881 four Brighton men, with four of the Waterloo Society, rang a peal of Grandsire Triples at Hurstpierpoint; in 1882 Brighton rang at St. Peter's a peal of Grandsire Triples, and at Lewes a peal; in 1883 a peal of Grandsire Triples at St. Nicholas's, also a date touch; all of which have been recorded in *Church Bells*. The two trebles from St. Peter's were not restored to St. Nicholas, and there is no ring of ten in Sussex.

H. BONIFACE,

Sec. of Brighton Society of Change-ringers.

A Question.

SIR,—Can you, or any reader of *Church Bells*, or any person connected with towers, inform me whether it is usual and safe to wedge the frames in which the bells are hung to the sides of the tower, or not?

JAMES MILLETT, 24 Hill Street, Heywood.

[We will reply freely to the above in our next issue.—ED.]

CHANGE-RINGING.

At St. John the Baptist's, Croydon, Surrey.—Muffled Peal.

On Wednesday, the 15th ult., eight members of the Croydon Society, assisted by Messrs. Bennett, Trappitt, and Zealey, of the Beddington Company, rang a touch of 1386 Grandsire Triples in 58 minutes, with the bells deeply muffled, as a mark of respect to Mr. C. Walker, who was for many years a member of the Croydon Society. H. Dudley, 1; G. A. Russell, 2; E. Bennett, 3; T. Verrell, 4; J. Trappitt, 5; W. Sanders (conductor), 6; A. Bruice, 7; J. Zealey and W. States, 8. Tenor, 32 cwt. These bells have just been rehung by Messrs. Warner & Sons, and this is the longest peal yet accomplished on them.

At St. George's, Dunster, Somerset.

On Thursday, the 23rd ult., Taylor's Six-part peal of Grandsire Triples was rung in 3 hrs. 8 mins. by members of the Dunster Guild of Change-ringers, conducted by J. Field of Oxford. J. Field, 1; W. Thorne, 2; J. Grabham, 3; W. Thrush, 4; C. B. Craze, 5; R. Hloc, 6; J. Utten Tod (Assistant Curate), 7; J. Pain, 8. Tenor, 20 cwt. 3 qrs. This is the first peal rung on the bells of Dunster Church, and the first by the members of the Guild, who have been under the instruction of Mr. Field.

At St. George's, Camberwell, Surrey.

On Thursday evening, the 23rd ult., eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang a peal of 5184 Treble Bob Major, in the Kent variation, in 3 hrs. 6 mins., to commemorate the 25th anniversary of the birth of the conductor. R. French, 1; S. Hayes, 2; C. F. Winney, 3; J. W. Rowbotham, 4; J. M. Hayes, 5; H. J. Tucker, 6; C. Jackson of Hull, 7; G. Longden of Ashton-under-Lyne, 8. Tenor, 14 cwt. Composed by H. W. Haley and conducted by H. J. Tucker.

At Pulford Parish Church, Cheshire.

This rich and beautiful church, which has just been erected by the Duke of Westminster, is nearly complete, and a new ring of six bells has been cast and fitted in the tower by Taylor of Loughborough. On Friday, the 24th ult., the Aldford Society, being invited to test the work, rang a peal of 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor in 27 mins. Also several touches of College Singles and Plain Bob. S. Manning, 1; C. Manning, 2; C. Price, 3; J. Manning, 4; C. Thomas (conductor), 5; W. Manning, 6. Tenor, 11 cwt.

At Middleham, Yorkshire.

On Saturday, the 25th ult., a party of ringers from the Stockton Branch of the Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association visited Middleham and rang a peal of 720 Oxford Bob. T. Whitfield, 1; G. J. Clarkson (conductor), 2;

J. Clarkson, 3; T. Burdon, 4; W. Newton, 5; T. Stephenson, 6. Also a peal of 720 Kent Treble Bob. G. J. Clarkson, 1; T. Burdon, 2; J. Clarkson, 3; W. Stephenson, 4; T. Stephenson (conductor), 5; W. Newton, 6. Each peal was well struck in 27 minutes. Tenor, 9 cwt. The bells are in excellent tune and very musical, and were supplied from the Whitechapel foundry.

At All Saints', Boyne Hill, Maidenhead, Berks.

On Saturday, the 25th ult., a touch of 2520 Grandsire Triples was rung in 1 hr. 32 min. R. Smith, 1; G. Wilkins, jun., 2; E. Rogers, 3; H. Rogers, 4; R. Flaxman, 5; W. A. Garraway (conductor), 6; E. Rogers, 7; J. Truss, 8. Tenor, 17 cwt. The band met with the intention of ringing a peal, but one of them feeling unwell signalled to the conductor to bring them round at half way.

PROGRESS IN CHANGE-RINGING.

By a Looker-on in India.

(Continued from page 748.)

YORKSHIRE—Continued.

LEEDS.—1879, 1879 K. Royal.

,, 1881, 1 peal of K. Royal.

SHEFFIELD.—1878, 1 peal of G. T.; 1878 St. Caters (with Rotherham).

,, 1879, 6 peals of G. T.; 1879 St. Caters; 1 peal of St. Caters with Rotherham.

,, 1880, 3000 G. Caters, 2 peals and 2 touches of G. T.

,, 1881, 1 peal of G. Caters, 2 of G. T., and 1 Date Touch of ditto.

,, 1882, 1 peal of G. Caters, 3 of K. M., and 1 of G. T.

Here the College Youths and the York Association rang a peal of St. Cinques, the first in the north of England.

HALIFAX.—1878, 1 half-peal of K. M.

,, 1879, 1879 of K. M.

,, 1880, 1880 K. Royal.

PUDSEY.—1878, 1 peal of K. M.

,, 1880, 1 peal and 1 touch of K. M.

,, 1881, 1 peal of K. M.

,, 1882, 1882 of K. M.

DENHOLME GATE.—3 peals and 1 Date Touch of K. M.

BOLTON.—2 peals and 1 Date Touch of K. M.

SHIPLEY.—1 peal and 4 long touches of K. M.

KIRKBURTON.—1 peal and 2 Date Touches of K. M.

BIRSTALL.—1 peal and 2 Date Touches of K. M.

BARNSELEY.—1 peal and 2 Date Touches of K. M.; 1 ditto, and 2 ditto of G. T.

LIVERSEDGE.—8 peals, 2 Date Touches, and 2 touches of K. M.

BEVERLEY.—2 peals and 1 Date Touch of G. T.

KNARESBOROUGH.—1 peal and 1 quarter-peal of G. T.

MIRFIELD.—3 long touches of K. Royal.

RIPON.—3 long touches of K. M.

OSSET.—1 peal and 1 Date Touch of K. M.

EARLSHEATON.—1 peal and 2 Date Touches of K. M.

DEWSBURY.—2 half-peals of K. M.

DONCASTER.—1 peal, 3 Date Touches, and 2 quarter-peals of G. T.

HULL.—1 peal of G. M., 1 ditto, and 3 Date Touches of G. T.

RAWMARSH.—4 peals, 1 half ditto, and 1 Date Touch of G. T.

WAKEFIELD.—1 Date Touch of G. Caters, 1 ditto, and 960 K. Royal.

ILKLEY.—1 peal of K. M. and 1 ditto of Bob Triples.

HOLBECK AND HUNSLLET.—Each 1 Date Touch of Bob Major.

GARGRAVE.—4 peals of K. M.; 2 touches each of K. M. and Bob Major.

DRIGHLINGTON.—2 peals of K. M. and 5040 in seven T. B. Minor methods.

GUISELEY.—1 peal of K. M.

KEIGHLEY.—1 ditto.

ALMONDBURY.—1 ditto.

Date Touches of K. M. at Bingley, Lindley, and 1 half-peal at Calverly.

Hatfield, Sharow, and Campsall, rang Grandsire Triples.

Burnsall rang a peal of 5040 Minor in seven methods.

Minor was rung at Gargrave, Headingley, Mytton, Tong, Masham, Fishlake, Tickhill, Clifton (Cambridge Surprise), Campsall, Haworth, Holbeck, Hull.

In 1879 the ring of six at Campsall was made eight. G. T. are rung.

In 1880 a new ring of eight was given to Rammoor, and the ring of six at Gargrave was made eight. A new ring of eight was given to All Saints' Church, Sheffield.

It is not uncommon to write of Staveley and Bawtry as if they were situated in Yorkshire. If my map is correct, the former is in Derbyshire and the latter in Nottinghamshire.

It must be admitted by all that the work done in Yorkshire during the last five years is most creditable to the county of Treble Bob.

WALES.

The Principality is very backward in change-ringing; hence great praise is due to the few companies who persevere in the practice of the art. Among these the ringers of Wrexham are the foremost. Their fine ring of ten was rehung in 1877, and after several long touches, which were not reported, they accomplished in 1879 a complete peal of Grandsire Triples. They then, in order to use the whole ring, set to work at Caters, and in 1881 rang 2500 changes in the Grandsire method. Nothing equal to this has been achieved elsewhere in Wales; but the Gresford ringers are entitled to great credit for a half-peal of G. T., which they rang in 1878. I have heard somewhere or other that the ring of eight at Gresford is one of unusual excellence. Will some one from that part of the world kindly report whether this is really the case, and if so, by whom the bells were cast, and in what year? These bells were well employed in 1882, for a mixed band rang a half-peal of G. T., and the Wrexham ringers 4200 changes of G. T. in an attempt to get a peal.

Beside the ringing at Wrexham and Gresford, I can only find one record of change-ringing in Wales, viz. at Penarth, where Doubles were rung in the Grandsire method.

RECEIVED ALSO.—Fisherton, Wiltshire.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Norwich Diocesan Association.

A COMMITTEE Meeting will be held on Saturday next, Sept. 15th, at twelve o'clock, in the private room of Messrs. Bolingbroke, Woodrow, and Co.'s office, 49 Upper St. Giles, Norwich, to consider final arrangements for Annual Meeting.

N. BOLINGBROKE, *Sec. pro tem.*

Surrey Association.

A DISTRICT Meeting of the above was held at Ashted, by the kind permission of the Rector, on Saturday, the 1st inst. Ringing began at about five o'clock, and was kept up until 9.30. Ringing took place at Leatherhead also, where the tower was kindly opened for the Association. About thirty members put in an appearance at Ashted, comprising representatives from the local band, from Croydon, Beddington, Kingston, Mitcham, Streatham, Leatherhead, Camberwell, and London. The following methods were practised: Grandsire, Stedman, Plain Bob and Union Triples, Plain Bob and Treble Bob Major (Oxford and Kent). The honours of conducting were divided between Messrs. Sayer, Bennett, Greenwood, and Strutt. The thanks of the Association are due to Mr. Sayer and to the steeple-keeper for the very excellent arrangements made for their pleasure and comfort. The ringing-chamber is in capital order, and the 'go' of the pretty little ring of eight is all that can be desired. Altogether the Association spent a very enjoyable evening.

ARTHUR B. CARPENTER, *Hon. Sec.*

Worcester Diocesan Change-ringing Association.

THE Annual Meeting of the above Society was held in All Saints' School-room, Worcester, on Monday, the 27th ult. The Dean of Worcester occupied the chair, supported by the Revs. J. P. Hastings and T. Brown, H. Baker, Esq., &c. There was a large number of members present from the various Societies in the Association; viz. Worcester, Malvern, Bromsgrove, Dudley, Netherton, Wollaston, Belbroughton, Halesowen, Kidderminster, Wolverley, Brierley Hill, Redditch, Droitwich, &c. The Chairman, in opening the meeting, expressed his pleasure at being present to preside over so large a meeting of members. He trusted their deliberations would be conducted throughout in a spirit of harmony and good feeling, and result in promoting a more fervent zeal in the principal objects for which the Association was formed; viz. belfry reform, and the cultivation of the art of change-ringing in the diocese.

The minutes of the Quarterly Meeting, held at Kidderminster on March 26th, also the minutes of the Committee Meeting held at Halesowen on June 9th, were read and confirmed. In discussing the business arising out of the minutes, it was suggested by the Chairman that a fresh start should be made from that date. The Secretary having stated that through the neglect of the late Secretary in not supplying the required information he was not in a position to give in a balance-sheet, nor could he give a correct number of members in the Association. A resolution was carried authorising the Secretary to provide books necessary for conducting the business of the Association.

The Rev. Dr. Cosens, the Rev. S. J. Marriott, Messrs. Frost and Hepkess, were enrolled as hon. members. Rule 5 was altered to admit of two Secretaries being elected; the diocese being so scattered, it was thought the work could be more successfully performed by having a Secretary at each extremity of the diocese. The Committee for the ensuing year were elected as follows:—*President*: the Dean of Worcester. *Vice-Presidents*: the Revs. Canon Catley, Dr. Cosens, S. J. Marriott, J. P. Hastings, E. W. Isaac, T. Rooke, from the clergy, and Messrs. H. Baker and T. Brown from the lay hon. members. *Master*, Mr. J. Perks. Mr. F. Owen, Secretary for the Western Division, and Mr. J. Smith for the Eastern Division, with one performing member to be selected by each Company. At the conclusion of the miscellaneous business the Rev. J. P. Hastings, in proposing a vote of thanks to the President, took occasion to speak in high terms of the good results which must be derived from Associations of the kind carried on in a proper spirit. He thought the belfry as much a consecrated place as other parts of the church, and he trusted those present, when they ascended the different towers to ring, would always be impressed with the feeling that they were entering the House of God. In conclusion, he must congratulate them upon having so able a Chairman, one who was indefatigable in all good work, and willing at all times to help forward any movement having for its object the well-being of any branch of Church work. The Dean suitably responded. Votes of thanks were given to the past officers, and to the Rev. A. B. Arthur, vicar of All Saints, for the use of the schoolroom.

Several touches were rung during the day at the different churches in the city, among them being a touch of 880 Treble Bob Royal at All Saints, by a mixed band. J. Perry, 1; G. Bourne, 2; G. Haywood (conductor), 3; F. Abbutt, 4; H. Martin, 5; E. Crump, 6; W. Rea, 7; R. Bloomfield, 8; J. F. Hastings, Esq., 9; W. Duffill, 10. Also 575 changes of Grandsire Caters on the same bells; four peals of Grandsire Doubles and several touches of Plain Bob at St. Martin's; and a touch of Grandsire Triples at St. Helen's. The Cathedral bells were raised by the kind permission of the Dean, but owing to the late hour, and in consequence of the number wishing to ring, nothing more was attempted than a course of Grandsire Cinques, and a course of Grandsire Caters. Several courses and tunes were performed upon the hand-bells, which brought a very pleasant meeting to a close.

The Essex Association at Witham.

On Sunday, the 2nd inst., six of the Braintree Company paid a visit to Witham, and were met by Messrs. J. M. Hayes, E. Carter, and C. F. Winny, from London. Permission being obtained by Mr. Sayer, the party proceeded to the tower, and rang a peal of 720 Cambridge Surprise for the morning service. H. E. Hammond,* 1; F. Calthorpe, 2; E. Carter, 3; S. Hammond (conductor), 4; F. Rudkin, 5; J. M. Hayes, 6. The company then adjourned to the 'Bee-Hive' for dinner, provided by host Sayer (who is himself a ringer).

After which the company proceeded to the church and rang a peal of 720 Double Court Bob. F. Bumpstead, 1; F. Calthorpe, 2; C. F. Winny (first 720), 3; S. Hammond, 4; F. Rudkin (conductor), 5; J. M. Hayes, 6. Also a peal of 720 Woodbine T. B. F. Bumpstead,* 1; F. Calthorpe,* 2; E. Carter (first 720), 3; S. Hammond, 4; F. Rudkin (conductor), 5; A. Hucksion, 6. Tenor, about 19 cwt. All are members of the College Youths except those marked *. During the day were rung a touch of Grandsire Triples, a course of Bob Major, and a course of Grandsire Caters, double-handed.

Peals of Bob Major.

| 5040 | | | | | | 5120 | | | | | |
|------|---|---|---|---|----------|----------------------|---|---|---|---|--------------|
| 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | W. M. H. | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | W. 5TH B. H. |
| 6 | 4 | 2 | 3 | 5 | - - - | 2 | 3 | 5 | 6 | 4 | - - |
| 2 | 6 | 4 | 3 | 5 | - - - | 5 | 2 | 3 | 6 | 4 | - - |
| 4 | 3 | 2 | 6 | 5 | - - - | 3 | 5 | 7 | 2 | 4 | 6 |
| 5 | 2 | 3 | 6 | 4 | - - - | 7 | 3 | 5 | 2 | 4 | 6 |
| 3 | 5 | 2 | 6 | 4 | - - - | 5 | 7 | 3 | 2 | 4 | 6 |
| 2 | 3 | 5 | 6 | 4 | - - - | 3 | 2 | 6 | 5 | 4 | - - |
| 4 | 5 | 2 | 3 | 6 | - - - | 6 | 3 | 2 | 5 | 4 | - - |
| 2 | 4 | 5 | 3 | 6 | - - - | 2 | 5 | 6 | 3 | 4 | - - |
| 5 | 2 | 4 | 3 | 6 | - - - | 6 | 2 | 5 | 3 | 4 | - - |
| 6 | 4 | 5 | 2 | 3 | - - - | Four times repeated. | | | | | |
| 5 | 2 | 6 | 4 | 3 | - - - | | | | | | |
| 6 | 5 | 2 | 4 | 3 | - - - | | | | | | |
| 3 | 2 | 6 | 5 | 4 | - - - | | | | | | |
| 6 | 3 | 2 | 5 | 4 | - - - | | | | | | |
| 4 | 2 | 3 | 5 | 6 | - - - | | | | | | |

Twice repeated.

The 6th twelve times wrong and right.

E. FRANCIS, *Diss.*

CHANGE-RINGING.

At St. Paul's, Fisherton, Wiltshire.

On Monday evening, the 27th ult., a peal of 120 Grandsire Doubles was rung by C. Clements, jun., 1; A. S. Dowling, 2; W. Gifford, 3; T. Blackburn, 4; J. R. Jerram, 5; J. Short, 6. Tenor, 12½ cwt.

Also at St. Martin's, on the following evening, nine six-scores of the same, six being rung consecutively, without stopping, by C. Clements, jun., 1; A. S. Dowling, 2; J. R. Jerram, 3; W. Gifford, 4; T. Blackburn, 5; W. Lanham and H. O. Dowling, 6. These are the first peals in this method ever rung by local men. Round ringing has hitherto been the only thing known here.

At St. Petrock's, Exeter, Devon.

On Monday, the 27th ult., six members of the Ancient Society of College Youths, being also members of the Oxford Diocesan Association, rang a peal of 720 Grandsire Minor in 22½ mins. D. Francombe, 1; J. Field, 2; C. Hounslow (conductor), 3; G. F. Coleridge, Esq., 4; G. H. Phillott, Esq., 5; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 6. Tenor, 5½ cwt.

At St. Michael's, Sowton, Devon.

On Tuesday, the 28th ult., eight members of the above Societies rang Thurstan's peal of 5040 Stedman's Triples in 2 hrs. 43 mins. J. Field, 1; R. French, 2; G. H. Phillott, Esq., 3; G. F. Coleridge, Esq., 4; C. Hounslow, 5; J. W. Rowbotham, 6; Rev. F. E. Robinson (conductor), 7; D. Francombe, 8. Tenor, 9½ cwt. These bells have lately been rehung by Mr. Harry Stokes of Woodbury, and reflect the very highest credit on him, the ringers agreeing that it was impossible to hang any ring in a better manner. This is the first peal ever rung on the bells.

At St. Sidwell's, Exeter, Devon.

On Friday, the 31st ult., the following members of the above Societies rang a peal of 5040 Stedman's Triples in 3 hrs. 10 mins.—Thurstan's well-known composition—being the first peal in that difficult method ever rung in the city of Exeter. J. Field, 1; R. French, 2; J. W. Rowbotham, 3; C. Hounslow, 4; G. H. Phillott, Esq., 5; G. F. Coleridge, Esq., 6; Rev. F. E. Robinson (conductor), 7; F. Shepherd and D. Francombe, 8. Tenor, 23 cwt., 3 qrs., 2 lbs., in D.

At Syston, Leicestershire.

On Saturday, the 1st inst., four members of the Loughborough Company rang, with the assistance of Messrs. J. North and J. Pickard of Syston, a peal of 720 Grandsire Minor in 29½ mins. J. Pickard (first peal), 1; H. Bradley, 2; J. Hardy, 3; S. Smith, 4; J. North (first peal), 5; J. W. Taylor, jun. (conductor), 6. Tenor, 15½ cwt. It is believed to be the first peal in this method rung on the bells.

At St. John's, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

On Monday, the 3rd inst., a Date Touch was rung in six different Treble Bob Minor methods. It was composed of a 360 each of Violet, New London, Woodbine, Merchants' Return, and Oxford, with an 83 of Kent to make the required number. This latter was composed by John Thackray of Armley, Yorkshire, and rung in 1 hr. 12 mins. W. Eggleston, 1; C. L. Routledge, 2; F. Lees, 3; W. G. Routledge, 4; W. Story, 5; R. S. Story (conductor), 6.

Afterwards a peal of 720 Kent Treble Bob was rung in 27 mins. F. Lees, 1; W. G. Routledge, 2; W. Eggleston, 3; R. Smith of North Shields (conductor), 4; W. Story, 5; R. S. Story, 6. Tenor, 12 cwt., in G.

At Aldford, Cheshire.

On Monday, the 3rd inst., the Aldford Society rang a peal of 720 Plain Bob Minor in 25½ mins. J. Bassnett, 1; S. Manning, 2; W. Williams, 3; J. Manning, 4; C. Thomas (conductor), 5; W. Manning, 6. Tenor, 14½ cwt.

Notice.—The reply to 'A Question' is postponed till next week.

an earnestness in the worship which was very cheering. The Psalms were chanted, the little village choir singing full lustily, with a good courage, and the people trying to make a joyful noise to the Lord.

On Monday morning I was summoned by the bell to morning prayer at eight; and though late, I attended the greater portion of the service. I found on inquiry that there is a daily service here, even although the Vicar is sometimes the only person in church. He states, however, that the daily service is a great help to him; and there are good reasons to believe that the influence of the use of the office is excellent, even on those who attend it but seldom. The congregation is often, however, fairly large. The effect on my mind of all I saw and heard on this Sunday in a remote country village and church is the conviction that, amidst all our many anxieties and causes for alarm, the Church can yet become a praise in the earth, if only her ministers are true to her principles, and faithfully minister them amongst the people. H. G. O.

IRELAND.

(From our own Correspondent.)

THE death is announced of the Rev. Edward Nangle, for many years connected with the reformation movement in Ireland known as the 'Achill Mission.' Many years ago he started and edited a newspaper devoted to the interests of the Mission under the title of the *Achill Herald*, which eventually lost itself in the *Church Advocate*. Mr. Nangle was an extreme Evangelical, but lived to see many of his principles develop into Plymouth Brethrenism. He then turned round and made use of his undoubted intellectual powers and facile pen to rebuke the errors of the new sect, but only after he had seen not a few of his people fall away from the Church. Of late years he had become a much firmer adherent to Church principles.

The death of the Lord Chancellor of Ireland, the Right Hon. Hugh Law, has come upon us with all the effects of a shock. A few days ago the distinguished Judge was in the full enjoyment of health and strength, but a cold caught while fishing at his seaside residence in the north of Ireland speedily developed into a severe attack of congestion of the lungs, which proved fatal after a very short illness. The late Lord Chancellor will be chiefly remembered in Ireland for the part he took in drawing up the Irish Church Act. That measure, which put an end to an ancient institution, was chiefly the work of Mr. Hugh Law. His clearness of vision and wonderful grasp of details were fully exhibited in the Bill as he drafted it. As Law Adviser to the Crown, it was his duty to assist the Prime Minister in a task which must have been more or less uncongenial even to a Liberal; but it must be acknowledged that he carried the measure through with consummate ability. His death leaves the highest piece of patronage at the Irish Bar in the hands of the Government. The name of Judge Lawson is mentioned as that of a probable successor. Certainly there is no Judge on the Irish Bench better suited to fill the vacant place. According to our etiquette in Ireland, the Attorney General has a kind of vested right to the appointment.

The appointment of an English clergyman, the Rev. A. Denning, to the valuable and important incumbency of Baggot Street Episcopal Chapel, continues to attract attention, and articles, severely commenting on the action of the trustees in the matter, have appeared in the *Evening Mail*, the *Freeman's Journal*, and other newspapers. It is not only that the new incumbent is an Englishman, but that he has had no parochial duty, and is without a University degree, are considered strong arguments against the wisdom of the appointment. It remains to be seen whether the action of the trustees will be justified by the result. If Mr. Denning fills the church and gets the pews taken, no doubt the trustees will be fully vindicated.

A Dublin clergyman, the Rev. B. W. Adams, D.D., has just set a good example to his clerical brethren by publishing a history and description of the united parishes of Santry and Clogran. The following extracts will show how exposed the county of Dublin was a hundred years ago to the marauding exploits of highwaymen. Dr. Adams takes these from the prints of the day:—

'1773, September 17th, about 4 p.m., the Drogheda stage-coach, coming to Dublin, was robbed at the wall of Santry by two young men of good address. Having secured all the cash and watches, except the purse of a priest, which they returned, they fled on the approach of some company. On the 15th inst. one of them, named Fleming, was arrested at Stradbally, in the Queen's County, and confessed, informing on his comrade. He was well educated, and on attaining the age of twenty-three was entitled to a fortune of 400l.'

'1798, March 24th, the North mail-coach on its way to Dublin was attacked near Santry by a party, who robbed the passengers of between 300l. and 400l., and took from them and the guard of the coach their arms.'

The Bishop of Tuam has nominated the Rev. D. P. Kinghan to the vacant canonry in Tuam Cathedral. The Bishop of Cork, Cloyne, and Ross, has bestowed the vacant treasurership of St. Colman's Cathedral, Cloyne, on the Rev. A. Jackson Nicholson, rector of Doneraile.

The Annual Report of the Irish Auxiliary to the Spanish and Portuguese Church Society regrets a serious falling off in the funds of the Society for the past year. The Auxiliary was able to send over some 700l., after paying all expenses. The Hon. Secretary expresses a hope that the decrease will be more than made up during the current year.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Worcestershire Diocesan Association of Change-ringers.

A COMMITTEE Meeting of this Association will be held on Saturday next, September 22nd, at 4 o'clock in the afternoon, in St. Thomas's Church School, Beauty Bank, Stourbridge, to make arrangements for next quarterly meeting, &c. Jno. SMITH, Hon. Sec., Eastern Division.

23 Church Road, Netherton, near Dudley.

Lancashire Association of Change-ringers.

As the Annual Meeting will be held early in October, it is particularly requested by the Secretaries that all notices of alterations of Rules—also nominations for the offices of President, Secretary, and two Committee-men—be received by them within the next few days. W. J. CHATTERTON, } Hon. JOEL REDFORD, } Secs.

Prize-ringing in Cornwall.

It is sickening to a genuine ringer to read in a local paper which has been sent to us the foolish waste of money squandered away in prizes (15l. 10s.!!) at St. Columb Major on the 4th inst. Our Cornish friends may rest assured, that so long as they rejoice in prize-ringing the science of change-ringing will not be acquired; because it is a well-known fact that 'money ringers make out nothing.' On this occasion it appears that a Cottage Garden Exhibition also took place on the same day, at the same time. Before the contest for the prizes commenced with eight bells, a special service in the church was held by the Rev. F. Partridge, the curate, in the absence of the Rector. It is a pleasure to us to report this part of the day's proceedings. It commenced with Hymn 166, followed by the Lord's Prayer, the Collects 15th, 16th, and 20th, and Hymns 270 and 215. The reverend gentleman addressed the congregation, founding his remarks on the lesson for the day, 2 Chron. v. 11. After pointing out that the Jews ransacked the world to obtain riches and treasure to decorate and beautify their temple, and after doing so employed every kind of musical instrument to glorify God, he remarked that the music of the Jews was rude and imperfect compared to that of our own day; that the bell was one of the best of instruments, because it sounded its voice over hill and vale, and reminded us of God's house, and called us thither to glorify and praise His holy Name. Our forefathers built their grand old churches and abbeys, intending that each part might teach some lesson; as, for instance, the tower or steeple, that it might be seen from all the country round pointing heavenward, and reminding us of a life beyond. Referring to the bell-ringing contest, the rev. gentleman remarked to the ringers that their object should be to improve their skill, so that they might employ it to improve the music of the many bells in the belfries of our parish churches, and he who put his whole heart to do this would best help to set forth the glory and love of God.

Muffled Peal at Great Yarmouth, Norfolk.

WE have to record the death of a veteran ringer, Mr. Thomas Gooch, at the age of eighty-seven years. Of his early history but little is known, but he was born on October 1st, 1795, at Richmond, Surrey, on an estate belonging to George III., in whose service his father lived, and his Majesty, on one occasion, meeting his mother in the grounds, shook his infant hand while in his mother's arms. At the age of two years he was removed with his parents to Stratton Strawless, Norfolk, where he learned the art of Change-ringing. Since then he has rung in fifteen peals of 5040 changes each, three of which were rung in London, and one of 10,080 changes at Marsham, Norfolk. He was a member of the Ancient Society of College Youths, and was intimately acquainted with many of the Norwich ringers, among whom were T. Hurry, S. Thurston, H. Hubbard, and J. Trueman—all noted men of their day. In 1854 he came to Yarmouth, Norfolk, where he resided till his death, August 27th, 1883. He was a member of the St. Nicholas' Company of Change-ringers, Yarmouth, and of the Norwich Diocesan Association of Change-ringers, with whom he continued to ring while he was able. The last occasion of his ringing was on October 1st, 1879, being his eighty-third birthday, when he assisted in ringing over 1000 changes. On the day of his funeral (August 31st) the St. Nicholas' Company rang two or three short touches of Grandsire Triples with the bells muffled, as a mark of respect to their late companion.

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

A QUESTION in our issue for Sept. 1st, by Mr. Millet, about wedging bell-frames, will be fully answered by the following article on the subject, which appeared in a local publication in 1862 and 1874:—

'Notwithstanding what has been urged by myself and others in other places, on the great danger of allowing the bell-frame or cage to touch the walls of the tower, I believe that the danger is overrated. But if there be any, it arises solely from wedging against the walls, and from the forcible and alternate hammerings of the frame, if its gets unsteady; although, if the cage can be set several inches or feet away from the wall, whether it gets rickety or not, little damage can arise, though the ringers would have the harder work. But if, of necessity, the cage is fixed within an inch or less of the walls, and it gets rickety and full of life during the ringing, battering away, first one side and then the other, the danger is most imminent; and if wedges are inserted by an unskilful workman, the evil is increased by the downward and expanding tendency of the wedge. In such a case, I am free to confess, that pieces of timber fixed to the cage and butted square and hard up against the walls, so that cage and bells may all oscillate together in one compact body (like as a person in a rolling boat would try to keep himself steady by taking tight hold of the sides), little or no danger will occur to the tower, provided the walls are of thick and substantial masonry; but if they are flimsily built, and the bells are hung high

up, and in a high cage, the vibration of the tower would be so great, that in some mysterious way the bell-cage gets so affected that it is found, from experience, a difficult thing to keep the bells up when ringing, to say nothing of the damage done to everything in connexion: therefore, in such a case, the cage must be kept clear of the side-walls. After all, do what you will, it is perhaps impossible to prevent the vibration of a tower, unless it is constructed with deep-faced buttresses on all sides, and therefore great care should be taken that the vibrations be not checked, but that they oscillate steadily like a pendulum. Scientific men have not yet determined how much the vibrations are caused by the soniferous waves from the sound of the bells, as well as by their motion.

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

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

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

'Therefore, after very mature consideration, I have come to this conclusion: That it is not at all unsafe nor damaging to the tower, and better for the ringers, that the cage should be BUTTED HARD AND TIGHT against the walls, and as the vibration or rocking of a tower cannot be prevented, no harm whatever will arise from the same, provided there are no defects in the walls from old settlement or other cause, and that the whole building is of compact and solid masonry; the elasticity in such a building is so extraordinary, whether a tower, spire, or even a bridge,* that it is sufficient to counteract the disintegration of the materials of which it is composed. Substantially the same opinion is expressed in Sir E. Beckett's *Treatise on Clocks and Bells*, p. 363 of 6th Edition.

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

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

'H. T. ELLACOMBE, M.A. OXON., F.S.A.

'Rector, Clyst St. George, Devon, Advent, 1874.'

CHANGE-RINGING.

At St. Thomas's, Lees, near Oldham, Yorkshire.

ON Saturday, the 8th inst., eight members of the Yorkshire Association rang a peal of 5120 Kent Treble Bob Major in 3 hrs. 2 mins. J. J. Brierley, 1; J. Holden, 2; J. G. Hardy, 3; R. Hill, 4; E. Buckley, 5; J. Wood, 6; J. Pickering, 7; B. A. Dodson (conductor), 8. Composed by Mr. H. Haley. Tenor, 14 cwt.

At Hurworth-on-Tees, Durham.

ON Sunday, the 9th inst., for morning service, a peal of Oxford Treble Bob Minor was rung in 26 mins. E. Hern (conductor), 1; J. Temple,* 2; H. Kirby,* 3; J. Hern, 4; G. Garbutt,* 5; H. Thompson, 6. Tenor, 17 cwt. [* First peal in the method.]

RECEIVED ALSO:—'Bell-ringer' has not sent his address; A letter from Bedford; St. Clement Dames; Darley Dale; Rusticus; B. Fakenham; C. A. Coventon; and others.

* 'A new bridge at Langholm, N.B., was shaking owing to an unusually high flood. Telford, who lived near, was sent for—his reply to the builder's wife, who was alarmed for the consequences, was: "Never you mind, Tibby; there's no fear o' the brig: I like it a' the better that it shakes—it proves its weel put t'gether."

'The bridge has stood the furious shakes of a nearly a century uninjured.'

See Smiles' *Lives*, Vol. ii. p. 392, under Telford.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Heredity.

SIR,—Having taken part in discussions on the interesting and very important subject of heredity as a branch of sanitary science, I may be allowed, perhaps, to say a few words in support of the view of your two correspondents in reply to an attack made upon it, evidently under a misapprehension of the true nature and objects of the inquiry. The theory of heredity is not being investigated out of a mere vain speculative curiosity, or a prying into the hidden mysteries of our nature without justifiable cause. It is a strictly scientific investigation into the facts and causes of degeneracy in individuals, and in communities, with a view to practical remedies. One aim of it would be to induce men—and women, too—to consider seriously how far it may be their duty to restrain their selfish passions, or their reasonable impulse, rather than knowingly perpetuate, and entail on their posterity, various probable evil consequences of thoughtless and improvident selections. In the religious life, many suffering souls have found even in their miseries and sorrows a theme for gratitude and praise. But this must not be used as an argument for consigning our own children to the misery and the sorrow, in the vague hope of its bringing about such a blessed result. Nay, we are bound, as citizens, as Christians, as Churchmen, to use in this the same prudence and discretion as we instinctively or advisedly use in other matters. Its lessons will be lost on those who would recklessly follow their own devices regardless of consequences. They will be highly prized by those who would, by the aid of the experience of the past and the investigations of scientific men, aim at building up a happy and prosperous home. Disregard of prudential motives in anything which bears upon the more important relations of life cannot be conducive to happy results. Incompatibility of age, temper, religion, relations, disposition, station, means, education, sympathies, or pursuits, and many other considerations, ought not to be put out of sight in the proposed formation of a family alliance. Those who believe the most firmly in the sanctity, and indissolubility of the marriage tie will be the most likely to avoid involving others in the consequences attaching to any improvidence on their own part. They will, moreover, be the first to endeavour to learn the supreme duty of patience, and a cheerful resignation to the lot which they have chosen—a first step towards the mitigation of its evils. But the evils ought to have been guarded against in the first instance. And when it is found that structural peculiarities and defects, as well as evil tendencies of various sorts are transmitted, even dysomania as well as monomania, there, is surely room for serious deliberation in taking the most important step in life. Many unhappy alliances, and consequent disruptions, might be avoided were the facts and laws of heredity better known and acted upon.

Wimpole Street.

WILLIAM WHITE, F.S.A.

SIR,—In an able pamphlet by J. M. Winn, Esq., M.D., M.R.C.P.S., he wrote as follows:—'The subtle sophistries of his (Huxley's) school are doing infinitely more mischief than the outspoken blasphemy of Bradlaugh.' This is the precious science, 'falsely so called,' of 'Evolution,' 'on the lines' of which that of 'Heredity' claims to stand, and which your correspondent, 'W. H.', fondly imagines will be swallowed by people of common sense. It will be a long time first. He tells us that madness has sometimes shown itself where it had not been suspected to exist, and where, I may add, there often might be no possible clue to trace it out, if it were desired never so much to do so. Surely we do not require a new 'ism' now-a-days to tell us this. According to him, 'Cælebs in search of a wife' must, it appears, set forth on his travels over the whole country—or farther afield, for ought I know—note-book in hand, like Dr. Syntax, or Mr. Pickwick, to inquire into the antecedents of Miss So-and-So, as to not only the date of her birth (which ladies generally are not particularly fond of giving), but also as to her 'intellect,' and that of her forefathers and foremothers, her 'weight at different ages,' 'vigour,' 'measurement of muscular force,' and 'quickness of limb,' 'sensation,' and so on to the end of the chapter. Also as to her descent from a Cornish, Welsh, Irish, Scotch, Jewish, Huguenot, or other race—possibly rather hard to trace. He will, I presume, be able to judge for himself as to her 'complexion,' the 'colour of her hair' and 'eyes,' 'form' and 'feature,' &c. &c. Also her 'competitive failures or successes' (often most fallacious, as we all know). Mr. 'W. H.' does not like his absurd *farrago* to be ridiculed. Very likely not (to be told so is just what I wanted), and I dare say for a very good reason. I took my stand, however, on the dictum of my old friend Horace: '*Ridiculum acri fortius ac melius plerumque secat res*,' and also on the following portion of a letter written to me by the late Lord Hatherley, Lord Chancellor of England, in reference to my *All the Articles of the Darwin Faith*, a copy of which I had sent to him:—

'I have received your valuable exposure of Darwinism, and most heartily thank you for it. I believe that your mode of treating the preposterous fictions of Darwin is the only way to shake the self-confident tone of would-be philosophers. Newton's grandest saying, after "*Deus non est Aternitas sed Aternus*," was "*Hypotheses non fingo*." Newton kept back his *Principia* for years, because a mistake had been made in an arc of the meridian, so closely did he keep to experimental truth. Now the crude fancy, nothing like so ingenious as the Ptolemaic cycles, because really the Darwin fancy stumbles at every step, is exalted to a rank exceeding that of the discovery of gravitation. In a clever sermon by Pritchard, new Savilian Professor at Oxford, and formerly President of the Royal Astronomical Society, preached before the British Association when Grove presided, he exposes the folly of this stuff, and in his appendix to a print of it proves that the chances against the eye being formed by development are more in number than Darwin's work being taken by the printer to pieces and tumbled into a bag, and then thrown back on the table in the same order that they came.'

I should be sorry to abuse any one, but I do not quite see how it is possible to abuse an 'ism,' or even a person who, for some good reason or other, does not give his name; and, further, a false charge of abuse is abuse itself, and of the worst kind. My one and only reason for attacking Dar-

a British chaplain. He had recently been in correspondence with Bishop Nevill of Dunedin with reference to the sending out to New Zealand of clergy for the Scandinavian emigrants of their own nationality, to be placed under the Anglican Episcopate there. A loyal son of the Swedish Church as settled in her Reformation by the Synod of Upsala of 1593, he cherished the widest sympathies for Catholic Christendom.—*Guardian*.

SWITZERLAND.

THE new English church at Davos-Platz, of which the Rev. R. R. Reskor is chaplain, has been 'dedicated' by Bishop Hellmuth, late diocesan of Huron, commissioned by the Bishop of London. This church, planned by Mr. Barber of London, has cost 3000*l*. The chancel windows were given by Mr. and Mrs. Gore-Langton; among other donors was the late Mr. J. W. Lord, the Nonconformist Senior Wrangler of 1875.

IRELAND.

(From our own Correspondent.)

THE Rev. George Cotton, rector of Carogh, and manager of an Orphanage in the same parish, has been fined by the local magistrate 10*l*. for 'chaining and logging' children to prevent them running away. Mr. Cotton has written to the press in self-defence, but has been replied to by the resident magistrate, who says that it was at his instigation the police interfered. He stigmatises Mr. Cotton's action as cruel and uncalled for. Fortunately Mr. Cotton's Orphanage is in no wise identified with the Church at large, and for its management he himself is solely responsible. The children located there are brought up in the strictest form of ultra-Protestantism. The unfortunate occurrence will, of course, be largely seized upon by Roman Catholics again for the purpose of depreciating our Church.

A noble work of church restoration is going on in the North, where the parish church of Coleraine is being thoroughly renewed at a cost of 5000*l*. The restoration of the building has been put into the competent hands of Mr. Drew, the architect of Christ Church Cathedral, Dublin. The ancient church of Cuil-la-thain (*Anglice*, Coleraine), that is, 'the ferny retreat,' from the large number of ferns growing thereabouts, stands at the mouth of the river Bann. It dates back to the remote times of the founder, who is said to have been St. Patrick himself. Towards the cost of the work the rector, the Rev. H. S. O'Hara, contributes 1000*l*., and promises another 1000*l*. provided a similar amount is made up before the end of 1884. The Hon. Irish Society of London promise 1000*l*. on condition that not less than 4000*l*. are expended on the work. It is proposed to put up a peal of bells which will cost between 700*l*. and 800*l*.

The friends and admirers of the late Sir Joseph Napier, ex-Lord Chancellor of Ireland, have just erected a tablet to his memory in the National Cathedral of Dublin. It bears the following inscription:— 'Sacred to the memory of the Right Hon. Sir Joseph Napier, Bart., Member for a time for the Dublin University, and afterwards Vice-Chancellor of the same, and Lord Chancellor of Ireland. He served faithfully his profession, his University, and his country, and they honour him alike. "Before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy."—St. Jude, 24.'

Several of our annual Church Synods have just been held. That of Ardagh met in Singfred on Tuesday, the 11th inst., when the Bishop of Kilmore, Ardagh, and Elphin presided. Quiet progress was reported in the three united dioceses.

St. John's Church, Sligo, was nearly ready for reopening after extensive repairs carried out chiefly through the untiring energy of the Archdeacon of Elphin.

The parish church of Florence Court has been completely rebuilt through the liberality of the Earl of Enniskillen, the Lord of the Manor. The restoration of Baillieboro' Church has been completed, and Cavan parish church was about to be improved. Several other parish churches in the united diocese were reputed to be either 'restored,' or in process of restoration.

The Primatial Synod of Armagh is announced to be held on the 23rd of October. The Archbishop of Dublin has announced his intention of holding his Annual Visitations of Dublin, Glendalagh, and Kildare in the closing days of the same month.

The Bishop of Down, acting for the Lord Primate, who is at present sojourning at Buxton, consecrated on the 6th inst. an addition to the graveyard of Kildress Parish, presented by the Countess of Castlestewart. On the same day the Bishop also consecrated the new cemetery at Cookstown, for the use of the inmates of the Poor Law Union of that district. It is observable that it has been so consecrated at the desire of a Board of Guardians largely composed of Presbyterians, and that the motion for its consecration was made by a member of the Presbyterian communion.

The weather has been everything that could possibly be desired for harvesting purposes, and there is every prospect of a glorious return for the work of last spring. Wheat, oats, barley, potatoes, and green crops, all alike appear to have prospered. In consequence of the continued dry weather most of the harvest has been already gathered in. Up to this date there are no complaints about the potatoes, and, to use the expressive language of a large farmer, 'not a leaf has been turned on them.' In the midst of all this agricultural prosperity, it is disheartening to read of fresh agrarian outrages.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Surrey Association.

A QUARTERLY Meeting of the above Association will be held at Reigate (by the kind permission of the Vicar) on Monday, October 1st. A plain tea will be provided at the 'Cross' at 6 p.m. Ringing members free; others 9*d*. a-head. Business meeting at 6.30 p.m. All ringers are invited to attend. Divine service, 4 to 4.30 p.m., before and after which the tower will be open for ringing.
ARTHUR B. CARPENTER, *Hon. Sec.*

The Midland Counties Association.

A QUARTERLY Meeting of the above Association will be held at Nottingham on Saturday, October 6th. Visitors on arrival are requested to proceed to St. Peter's Schoolroom, Broad Marsh (on the way from the station), where the Local Committee will be in attendance to assist in forming bands to proceed to the various towers. Committee meeting in All Saints' Schoolroom at 4 o'clock. Tea and subsequent business meeting in the Arboretum Refreshment Rooms at 5 p.m. The following towers will be open: St. Peter's, 8; All Saints, 8; Beeston, 8; Lenton, 6.

JOSEPH GRIFFIN, *Hon. Sec.*

Peals of Bob Major.

SIR,—The three-part peal of Bob Major inserted in *Church Bells* of Sept. 8 is, I presume, the work of a novice in peal composing, for he gives no heed to the fact that if rounds are followed by a bob-lead the course-ends 5 2 4 3 6 and 3 5 4 2 6 must be followed by a bob-lead also, or the work will be false. I find in this peal a bob at the W. in the first and tenth courses, but omitted in the seventeenth; and as the sixteenth course-end is 3 5 4 2 6 the result is a repetition of five leads in the seventeenth course, which are contained in the tenth. Similar results will be found from course-ends 4 3 2 6 5, 3 4 2 5 6, and 4 2 3 5 6.

B. FAKENHAM.

11 Milward Street, Woolwich.

Bell-tower Vibration.

SIR,—I am sure my old friend will pardon my presumption in venturing to supplement his remarks of now ten or twenty years ago on this subject, quoted in your last number, with a few further notes. He says truly that a tower will take almost any amount of swing, but not of concussion. But it is not always easy to determine the exact cause of failure in a tower, or how far it may have arisen from the action of the bell-cage. In many cases which have come under my own observation, injury has been continued and aggravated by the wedging of the upper part of the cage against the walls. The vibration has caused the walls to spread and loosen the wedges, which have then been again driven tight with a similar result. The true remedy seems to be the entire isolation of the upper part of the cage from the walls; the cage resting upon a thoroughly banded structure of solid beams, bearing tightly against the walls on corbels, or set-offs. The massive walls of the earlier towers seem to have failed chiefly from want of solidity in the interior filling, which has not united the inner with the outer casing. Here the concussion has shattered the wall itself.

But in speaking of the natural elasticity of a structure, 'whether tower, spire, or bridge,' it may be well to remember that spires and bridges have elements of resistance which the mere tower—unless carried far above the bell-cage—has not. The vertical pressure carried down upon the walls from a spire is enough to counteract an enormous amount of lateral pressure and vibration. It would be the same with the abutments of a well-constructed bridge. In a tower which I examined lately the east wall has been in a chronic state of disintegration, which has led to the serious injury of the other walls. I have now been able to satisfy myself that this has arisen almost wholly, if not quite, from the imperfectly constructed foundation of Norman date, composed as it is of clunch rubble thrown in without mortar or anything to give it cohesion to the depth of seven feet; the western portions having been well buttressed at a subsequent period with solid foundation, wide as well as deep. But very many towers were built originally without any idea of peal-ringing with heavy bells.

WILLIAM WHITE, F.S.A.

Wimpole Street.

Peals of Bob Major.

| 5600 | | | | | 5040 | | | | | | | | | | |
|----------------------|---|---|---|---|------|----|----|---|---|---|---|---|----|----|----|
| 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | W. | M. | H. | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | W. | M. | H. |
| 6 | 4 | 3 | 5 | 2 | | 1 | 1 | 4 | 3 | 6 | 5 | 2 | | 1 | |
| 3 | 6 | 4 | 5 | 2 | | | 1 | 2 | 6 | 4 | 3 | 5 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 4 | 3 | 6 | 5 | 2 | | | 1 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 6 | 5 | 1 | | 1 |
| 5 | 4 | 6 | 3 | 2 | 1 | | | 5 | 2 | 4 | 3 | 6 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 6 | 3 | 5 | 4 | 2 | 1 | | 1 | 4 | 5 | 2 | 3 | 6 | | | 1 |
| 4 | 6 | 5 | 3 | 2 | 1 | | | 2 | 4 | 5 | 3 | 6 | | | 1 |
| 5 | 3 | 4 | 6 | 2 | | 1 | 1 | 6 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | | 1 |
| 4 | 5 | 3 | 6 | 2 | | | 1 | 4 | 6 | 5 | 3 | 2 | | | 1 |
| 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 2 | | | 1 | 5 | 4 | 6 | 3 | 2 | | | 1 |
| 5 | 6 | 3 | 4 | 2 | 1 | | 1 | 6 | 3 | 5 | 4 | 2 | 1 | | 1 |
| Four times repeated. | | | | | | | | 5 | 6 | 3 | 4 | 2 | | | 1 |
| | | | | | | | | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 2 | 1 | | 1 |
| | | | | | | | | 5 | 3 | 4 | 6 | 2 | | | 1 |
| | | | | | | | | 4 | 5 | 3 | 6 | 2 | | | 1 |
| | | | | | | | | 3 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 6 | 1 | 1 | |

Four times repeated.

Twice repeated.

This peal has the 6th twelve times wrong and right.
BENJAMIN FRANCIS, *Diss.*

St. Clement Danes and St. Mary, Strand, London.

THESE two churches are, it is said, to be taken down, in connexion with the improvements about the new Law Courts. Of course they will be rebuilt in other parts of their parishes. St. Clement's tower contains eleven bells—a fine

ring of ten (tenor, 24 cwt.), and a saint's bell. A peculiarity is attached to the striking of the hour, it being struck twice—once on the tenor, and then on the saint's bell. The St. James's Society of Change-ringers has held its headquarters at this church for about forty years. St. Mary's has only one bell.

Visit of the Master of the St. Peter Mancroft (Norwich) Society to London.

On Monday, the 3rd inst., Mr. F. Knights, Master of the above Company, paid a visit to the headquarters of the Ancient Society of College Youths, to whom he was introduced by Mr. G. Mash, and was subsequently initiated a member of that company. Afterwards arrangements were made to start for Mr. H. Johnson's (Birmingham) peal of 5079 changes of Stedman's Caters at St. James's Church, Bermondsey, which was attempted, but after ringing 1 hr. 25 mins. a rope slipped from the wheel, which caused the whole affair to come to grief. J. Pettit (conductor), 1; G. Mash, 2; F. E. Dawe, 3; H. J. Tucker, 4; E. Gibbs, 5; C. F. Winny, 6; F. Knights (Norwich), 7; W. Smith, 8; E. Horrex, 9; W. H. George, 10. Tenor, 25 cwt. On Tuesday, under the guidance of Mr. E. Gibbs, St. Paul's Cathedral was visited, and 'Great Paul' was duly inspected, after which the opposite tower was ascended, and a peep obtained of the ring of twelve bells, whose tenor weighs 62 cwt.; afterwards the Fisheries Exhibition and South Kensington Museum. At St. Saviour's, Southwark, the twelve bells were raised, and some good touches of Kent Treble Bob and Stedman were rung, the tenor weighing 52 cwt. Their visitor wishes to express his thanks to Mr. G. Mash, Mr. Gibbs, and also the whole body of the Ancient Society of College Youths, who have proved themselves, as usual, most hospitable entertainers, and the compliments paid on this occasion to the Norwich ringer are much appreciated.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At Darley Dale, Derbyshire.

On Saturday, the 8th inst., six members of the Midland Counties Association rang a peal of 720 Bob Minor in 27 mins. R. Bosworth, 1; A. Taberer, 2; R. Redgate, 3; J. Newbold, 4; H. C. Woodward, 5; J. Howe (conductor), 6. Tenor, about 14 cwt.

Also on the same day, at Matlock old church, a peal of 720 Bob Minor in 27 mins. F. Whiting, 1; A. Taberer, 2; R. Redgate, 3; J. Newbold, 4; J. Howe, 5; H. C. Woodward (conductor), 6. Tenor, about 14 cwt.

Ancient Society of College Youths and the Salisbury Diocesan Guild.

On Saturday, the 15th inst., Mr. J. Davidson of London, and Messrs. J. R. Jerram and T. Blackburn of Salisbury (late of Spalding)—all members of the Ancient Society of College Youths—rang with several members of the Salisbury Guild. The latter have only just attempted six-bell work. At St. Martin's 180 Bob Minor was rung by J. Davidson, 1; C. Clements, jun., 2; A. S. Dowling, 3; T. Blackburn, 4; W. W. Giffard, 5; J. R. Jerram, 6. Tenor, 15 cwt. The same was rung at Wilton on Monday by the same party. Tenor, 7½ cwt. On Monday evening, at St. Thomas's, Salisbury, two six-scores of Grandire Doubles, with 7, 6, 8, covering, were rung by J. Davidson, 1; T. Blackburn, 2; A. S. Dowling, 3; W. W. Giffard, 4; J. R. Jerram, 5; W. Blake, 6; W. Lanham, 7; J. Short and C. Clements, jun., 8. Tenor, 32 cwt. The bells go very badly, and are almost unringable. It was with the greatest difficulty that the above was accomplished.

At Brighouse, Yorkshire.

The Society of Change-ringers of St. Martin's Church, Brighouse, assembled in the tower on Saturday, the 15th inst., and rang a peal of 5088 Kent Treble Bob Major in 3 hrs., with the 6th six times wrong and ten courses at home. Composed by William Sottanstell of Sowerby, Yorkshire, May 9th, 1883. The following are the Brighouse young set, and the first peal they have rung together. H. Wilson, 1; J. W. Rowlinson, 2; J. F. Person, 3; F. Crossley, 4; W. Wood, 5; J. Cockroft, 6; C. Nield, 7; W. F. Prince (conductor), 8.

| THE PEAL—5088 CHANGES. | | | | | | M. B. W. H. | | |
|------------------------|---|---|---|---|---|-------------|---|---|
| 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | | | | |
| 6 | 2 | 5 | 3 | 4 | | — | 2 | 2 |
| 3 | 5 | 2 | 6 | 4 | | | 2 | 2 |
| 5 | 6 | 3 | 4 | 2 | | — | | |
| 2 | 5 | 4 | 6 | 3 | | — | 2 | 2 |
| 2 | 4 | 6 | 5 | 3 | 1 | — | 2 | 2 |
| 4 | 5 | 2 | 3 | 6 | | — | | |
| 5 | 3 | 2 | 4 | 6 | 1 | — | | |
| 3 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 6 | 1 | — | | |
| 6 | 4 | 3 | 5 | 2 | | — | 1 | |
| 6 | 5 | 2 | 4 | 3 | | — | 2 | 1 |
| 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 6 | 2 | — | | |
| 4 | 2 | 3 | 5 | 6 | 1 | — | | |
| 3 | 2 | 5 | 4 | 6 | 1 | — | | 1 |
| 2 | 4 | 5 | 3 | 6 | 1 | — | | |
| 4 | 3 | 6 | 5 | 2 | 2 | — | | |
| 3 | 5 | 4 | 2 | 6 | | — | | |
| 5 | 2 | 4 | 3 | 6 | 1 | — | | |
| 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 1 | — | | |

At the Parish Church, Stockton-on-Tees, Durham.

On Saturday, the 15th inst., a peal of 5040 changes was rung by members of the Stockton Society in 3 hrs. 10 mins., in seven different methods upon six bells, being a 720 of each of the following: Double Court Bob, Stedman's Slow Course, St. Simon's, Court Bob, College Singles, Oxford Bob and Bob Minor, and containing 126 bobs and 14 singles. Tenor, 12 cwt., in G sharp. T. Whitfield, 1; G. J. Clarkson (conductor), 2; J. Clarkson, 3; T. Burdon, 4; T. Stephenson, 5; W. Newton, 6. This is the first 5040 by any of the above company (who are all members of the Durham and Newcastle Association) except the conductor, and is the first 5040 on six bells north of the change-ringing districts of Yorkshire or Lancashire.

NOTICE.—In the account last week of St. Michael's, Sittingbourne, 'the bells were cast by James Bartlett, 1687' (not 1587).

RECEIVED ALSO:—No name given with Pulford peal.

CORRESPONDENCE.

'The Marriage Question amongst the Poor.'

SIR,—In confirmation of what was said by your contributor in an article bearing the above title, may I be allowed to quote some instances of errors made by poor couples at the marriage service? What I have to say is an unvarnished account of my own experience; but I think the particulars might be matched by very many clergy officiating in poor parishes.

When the couple have been marshalled to their place, all, as a rule, goes on swimmingly until the parties have to repeat, after the clergyman, the declaration beginning 'I . . . take thee.' Several phrases in this paragraph are stumbling-blocks to the unlearned. One bridegroom, instead of declaring his readiness 'to have and to hold' his bride, changed the words into 'to 'ave and be'old,' probably regarding her only in the light of a thing of beauty. Another, who may possibly have been reading the fate of Mr. Caudle, expressed his willingness 'to have and be told.' When it comes to the words, 'and thereto I plight thee — or give thee — my troth,' a good many impromptu emendations are made by the parties. One bride, who was being united to a most villainous-looking spouse, may have had a prophetic insight into the future when she said, 'And thereto I give thee my throat.' 'I give thee my truth' is a very common change; so also is that of 'Till death us two part,' for 'till death we do part.' But the conduct of Timothy Duggan quite bears off the palm for originality at this stage. Timothy was a stevedore, a giant, threatening to weigh sixteen stone. He had brought a very pretty little bride to church, and all went well until this point. 'Say after me,' said I to the bridegroom, 'I, Timothy . . . ' But there was no response. 'Say, after me,' I again whispered, 'I, Timothy . . . ' Timothy looked at me in blank amazement, but made no reply. 'Say after me,' said I, for the third time. 'After you, sir,' said Timothy, with a polite duck of his bullet head.

The injunction to 'place the ring upon the third finger,' &c., is often misunderstood. I have seen bridegrooms try to place it upon every finger but the right one; and once a fairly dressed man deliberately put the ring on *his own* finger. The words accompanying the delivery of the ring are fraught with difficulty to many. As the word 'endow' is unknown in their vocabulary, the sentence, 'I thee endow,' is usually represented by the words, 'I thee do bow,' 'I thee and thou,' or phrases of like sound. But, perhaps, nothing can better illustrate the way in which many poor regard the marriage service than the fact that, through the carelessness of the parish-clerk, the father of a bridegroom and the mother of a bride were nearly being married before the eyes of their proper partners, who stood looking on. Had I not rushed out from the vestry, and dragged them away, the ceremony would have been completed, for a callow curate was just putting the words, 'Wilt thou, &c.' Remember, these people had been solemnly charged to say whether there was any cause or impediment why they should not be married, but they made no answer. The fact is, that at present many regard the words of the service as so many cabalistic utterances, the comprehension of which is quite unnecessary. A CITY PARSON.

Hereditism.

SIR,—The letter of mine, which you were so good as to print in last week's *Church Bells*, was a rather long one, and I have to thank you for having found room for it. I noticed in it, much more briefly than I might have done, the effusion of 'W. H.' only. Will you now allow me space for a very few words in reply to 'H. P.'? I only ask it because the truth of God's Word is at stake; for if Darwin is right, Moses cannot possibly have been so too; but the truth of the latter is borne witness to by our Lord Himself.

Mr. 'H. P.' tells us that, to his mind, 'evolution is a most marvellous evidence of the wisdom and providence of God.' How a *theory* can be 'evidence' is, I must own, at present beyond me to understand. It would be so if there was one single proof that it was the work of God; but its only evidence at present lies in the brains of the 'free-thinkers.' There is none, literally and absolutely none, not one iota, particle, or shred, of *proof* that any single *species* of created things has ever turned into another, or is in the act of doing so. We have, as I have said, eyes to see whether it is so or not. Can 'H. P.' tell us of *one? only one!* There are, I believe, some 500,000 species of insects known in the world, and the undescribed must be added to them; at all events, their number is very great. Let us assume that they, with all the other creatures in the world, may amount to 750,000. Here, then, are 750,000, or say, to be on the safe side, 500,000, chances to one in Darwin's favour to give us one such *present* instance. He has not done it, and for the best of all possible reasons.

In a letter I wrote in the *Guardian* a few years back, and which may be seen at length in my *All the Articles of the Darwin Faith*, I wrote as follows:—

'EVOLUTION.

'SIR,—As you have done me the honour of mentioning my name in connexion with the subject of Evolution, will you allow me space for a few lines on one part of the subject, the importance of which cannot, I think, be over-rated? Holding the opinion that I do about it, I could not keep silent. I allude to your remark that whether all animals and plants were called into existence by the *flat* of the Almighty Creator in the way that has from the first in all ages been believed, or by development from some few originals, or even from one, "can make no difference from the religious point of view." To my mind it makes, as Aristotle says, "not a little, but the whole difference." I have seen the same thing said before by others, but only to my amazement whenever I have seen it. I readily grant that, *a priori*, the one mode of creation would be just as wonderful a proof of the almighty power of God as the other, each perhaps even seeming more wonderful than the other, were we to think of it by itself. But where is the setting forth of the doctrine of Evolution in the Book of Genesis? I see no trace or sign of it; but I do see what is agreeable to the reason which God has given me, which most assuredly the Darwinian doctrine is not, when looked at in the light of the facts of nature, and put forth moreover as it is with the most flagrant, the most palpable, the most egregious self-contradictions, the most extravagant demands, contradicted by common sense, and in direct opposition, to the teaching of Astronomy, which proves that in the incon-

COLONIAL AND FOREIGN CHURCH NEWS.

CANADA.

CHURCH-PEOPLE in the new North-West are highly pleased by the announcement that Canon Anson has resigned his living of Woolwich to cast in his lot with them. He returns to England next month to gather like-minded colleagues with whom finally to depart for the North-west. The Rev. J. S. Holden, of Aston Rectory, Derby, is acting as hon. secretary to the movement. At present ten more clergy are needed for Rupertsland alone. At Winnipeg a rectory and school-house are now building for the new and handsome church of Holy Trinity.

The Bishop of Toronto lately ordained four priests and five deacons at St. Peter's, Coburg, of whom five were from Wycliffe College, Toronto, the rest from Trinity College; the first man in both priest's and deacon's examinations was from Wycliffe.

ACCESSIONS to the Church's ministry from the Methodists are especially frequent. In the diocese of Huron alone, out of 140 clergy, it is stated that fifteen were formerly Methodist ministers.

THE Halifax *Church Guardian* prints a letter from the Bishop of Moosonee which had been transmitted overland via Temiscaming. In June he ordained Mr. Lofthouse to a mission at Churchill among the Eskimos and Chipwyans. John Landers, the Ojibway pastor, has learnt English from the Bishop well enough to preach in it; besides assisting in the Bishop's Ojibway translations he has himself translated *The Peep of Day*; while the Rev. T. Vincent is making a Cree version of the *Pilgrim's Progress*.

CANON COOPER, who has been making a tour of inspection in the North-west on behalf of the S. P. G., has accepted the Bishop of Saskatchewan's offer of an archdeaconry in his diocese and the chair of Church History in the college at Prince Albert.

UNITED STATES.

THE *Episcopal Register* tells us that the 'Church Missions to Seamen' has been formed and incorporated at Baltimore, the Bishop of Maryland and eleven members of the Church being trustees. Its purposes are 'for the administering to the spiritual and temporal wants of seamen, by providing mission churches on land or water, a seamen's rest, a hospital, and other like instrumentalities for the accomplishment of the above purposes.' This originates in the indefatigable efforts of the Rev. G. A. Leakin, rector of Trinity Church, Baltimore, for years working to promote the true interests of sailors frequenting the Atlantic coast of America, where he desires to do for British and other seamen what is done by the English Missions to Seamen for British and foreign seamen in our own harbours. The ports of the United States have had a very evil reputation amongst seamen, who cannot but benefit by the spiritual provision which it is intended to make for them.

THE remarkable progress of the Church in Massachusetts is pointed out by the *Episcopal Register*. Fifty years ago the Puritan element was predominant in that State. The Church clergy have increased from 40 in 1882 to 170 in 1883, and their communicants from 1290 to 18,600—an increase far ahead of the population.

THE American Freethinkers' Association has just held its sixth annual convention. They complain of the countenance given by their Government to Christianity, and call for its abandonment.

AUSTRALIA.

THE new Bishop of Adelaide writes that he is in immediate want of at least eight or nine more clergy; for all of whom he offers a *minimum* stipend of 200*l.*, and in certain cases 250*l.* His commissaries are the Dean of Windsor and Canon Pelham of Halesowen Rectory.

SOUTH AFRICA.

IN Natal, the fraction of the Church which adhered to the late Bishop Colenso resumed the session of its 'diocesan Council.' It was resolved to petition the Queen; to address the trustees of the Colonial Bishops' Fund, requesting co-operation in the 'steps deemed necessary by the Council in order to fill the vacancy in the see of Natal;' and to ask the Colonial Secretary, Lord Derby, to advise the Queen 'to appoint a bishop in terms of the letters patent creating the see.' A committee in England was also sanctioned 'to watch proceedings.'

THE Rev. Bransby Lancelot Key was consecrated at St. James's Church, Umtata, as Coadjutor-bishop of St. John's, Kaffraria, on August 12th. The Metropolitan and Bishop Calloway, the Diocesan, were assisted also by Bishops Maerorie of Maritzburg and Mackenzie of Zululand. The preacher on the occasion was Canon Lightfoot from Capetown, himself once of St. Augustine's College at Canterbury, like the new Prelate. Small as is Umtata—the 'little city in the wilderness'—there were eighty-four communicants. In the afternoon Bishop Mackenzie preached in Zulu to a large native congregation. At an evening service, with sermon by the Metropolitan, the Wesleyans of the place attended wholly.

SCANDINAVIA.

THE *Times* correspondent writes from Copenhagen that the opening of the costly Russian church there has stimulated the wish of the English residents for a church of their own, the British chaplain officiating at present in a chapel hired from the Moravians. The Princess of Wales has promised her good offices with the Danish Government for getting a site granted at moderate price. Professor Stephens, the distinguished exponent of 'Runic lore,' has long worked for the realisation of this project, and also for some English special provision for the religious welfare of the numerous British seamen frequenting the port, who have hitherto been attended to only by a Danish Church Society.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

At St. Michael's, Sittingbourne, Kent.

FOR the Church services on the Harvest Thanksgiving and Church Dedication Festival, the following ringing took place:—Morning—Three 120's of Bob Doubles, varied; also the same of Grandsire Doubles, rung continuously. Evening—The same peals, further varied. After evening service an intended 720 was interrupted by one of the members having to leave. F. Grayling, 1; F. C. Mattison (conductor), 2; J. Cooper, 3; E. J. Bottle, 4; S. Snelling, 5; W. Saddleton, 6. A long touch of Minor was subsequently rung by the tenor-man taking treble, and W. H. Judd the tenor.

An intelligent correspondent (one of the ringers) writes:—'The ringing was really of the best possible kind, the coming round all right in each case. I was not afterwards sorry to have to go away, because it was a treat to hear them outside, struck in such a manner. Some comment ought to be made on the way our ringers all attend the church, having the last two benches on one side reserved; and although we have, as you know, hard work, no inconvenience is ever felt. It is an arrangement that might be copied elsewhere.' A very handsome English oak screen has been erected in the tower arch during the past week, executed by Mr. Tidy of Sittingbourne, from a design by W. L. Grant, Esq., of the same place. The work is original, but has a 14th-century feeling. The above band has only recently begun change-ringing.

Worcestershire and adjoining District Change-ringing Association.

A COMMITTEE Meeting of the above Association was held in St. Thomas's Schoolroom, Stourbridge, on Saturday, the 22nd inst. The Rev. H. Sherrard, M.A., occupied the chair, supported by the Master, Mr. Perks, Malvern; Messrs. J. Smith, Netherton; F. Owen, Secretary, Worcester; and Mr. Duffill, Treasurer, Bromsgrove. There was a good number of members present from the various Societies in the Association—viz. Worcester, Malvern, Bromsgrove, Dudley, Netherton, Belbroughton, Wollaston, Brierly Hill, Kidderminster, Stourbridge, &c. The Chairman, who became an hon. member of the Association in opening the meeting, expressed his pleasure at being present to preside over so important a meeting. He trusted that the good feeling which seemed to exist amongst the members of the Association would go on with more zeal in promoting the objects of the Association, and for ringers to remember that whenever they entered the belfry that it was a part of God's house, and when there on Sunday to appear decently, and after calling others to church not to walk away themselves, but to go inside the church to service.

The business of the meeting being gone into, the Master, Mr. J. Perks, was appointed delegate to attend the Ringers' Conference, to be held Oct. 4th at Reading; and the Secretary, Mr. J. Smith, instructed to give the required information to the Rev. W. Wigram, Hertford, concerning the Association, and have the same entered in the *Year-book of the Church*. At the conclusion of the miscellaneous business, Mr. Owen, Worcester, Secretary for the Western Division, proposed a vote of thanks to the Vicar for his services, and for the use of the schoolroom. Before the Chairman responded, several of the members spoke of the condition of the ring of eight bells at St. Thomas's, Stourbridge, which they all said were not fit for peal ringing, and after a few suggestions from various delegates in reference to rehanging, &c., the Vicar suitably responded. From the remarks he made, there is every reason to believe that ere long the Association will have good cause to be proud of this their first visit to Stourbridge, by finding the beautiful ring of bells in good condition, and so enliven the inhabitants of the town and neighbourhood. Owing to some of the delegates leaving early (and the sad condition of the bells), only a short touch of Grandsire Triples and a peal of Minor on the back six were gone through. The members parted highly satisfied with their evening's enjoyments.

JNO. SMITH, Hon. Sec. for Eastern Division.

Surrey Association.

At a meeting of the Committee of the above, held at Streatham on Monday evening, the 24th inst., it was determined that the Association should be represented at the forthcoming Ringers' Conference at Reading, and Mr. Edgar Bennett of Croydon was chosen, and consented to act as the representative of the Association.

ARTHUR B. CARPENTER, Hon. Sec.

A Correction.

SIR,—I hope you will pardon a mistake, the result of gross carelessness on my part, in the criticism of a peal of Bob Major by Mr. E. Francis, and if you will insert the following correction I shall feel very grateful.—It is the twenty-third course in which the repetition from the tenth occurs, the twenty-second course-end being 3 5 4 2 6.

B. FAKENHAM.

The Bell which Shakespeare Heard.

THE ancient custom of ringing the curfew bell was resumed at Stratford-on-Avon on Tuesday last. It may interest Shakespearian admirers to know that the curfew is rung upon the bell that was tolled at the poet's funeral, and which he must have heard when alive.

The Bells and Clock at the New Law Courts.

AN object which now daily attracts the notice of thousands passing along the crowded thoroughfare of the Strand and Fleet Street, at the junction of these two avenues, by the spot where Temple Bar formerly stood, is a huge wooden cage, like a projected packing-case, about 180 ft. above the pavement. It encloses the framework of the clock now in course of construction by the Croydon firm of carillon bell-founders and turret-clock manufacturers, Messrs. Gillett and Co., at whose works the six—[we understood it was five]—bells have recently been tuned and pronounced perfect in harmony and tone. The largest of these bells, which is to strike the hours, weighs upwards of three tons. At present the chief operation accomplished

has been the fixing of the white opal glass dials, each measuring 8 ft. 6 in. in diameter. They are a great improvement on the floridly ornate faces, which, being overlaid with superfluous mediævalism, were condemned on all hands as ludicrously impracticable. Without deficiency of appropriate ornament, the new dials are plain and neat, the iron frame being light, and scarcely perceptible on the glazed face. This part of the work, which includes the gilding, will be completed in a few days. Next will follow the constructive arrangement of the internal mechanism; and as soon as this is finished the scaffolding will be removed to allow the hoisting of the ring of bells, the entire sequence of operations bidding fair to reach a successful termination in good time for practical use before the reopening of the Royal Courts of Justice.

The St. James's Society.

On Monday, October 8, there will be ringing at St. Clement Danes, Strand, the head-quarters of the St. James's Society, at 8 p.m.

A new Ring of Bells.

At St. Mary's, Maiden Newton, Dorchester, Dorset, a new ring of six bells, hung by H. Bond & Son of Burford, Oxford, was opened on Friday last, the 21st inst., by the Cattistock Guild Ringers. The 'go' of the ring is all that can be desired.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At All Saints', Fulham, Middlesex.

On Wednesday, the 19th inst., the following members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang in 3 hrs. 20 mins. a peal of 5025 Stedman's Caters, composed by Mr. H. Johnson of Birmingham. J. Pettit, 1; J. W. Rowbotham, 2; F. B. Dawe, 3; C. F. Winny, 4; E. Gibbs, 5; J. M. Hayes, 6; Rev. C. D. P. Davies (conductor), 7; G. Mash, 8; E. Horrex, 9; W. Prime, 10. Tenor, 21 cwt., in F.

At St. Paul's, Burton-on-Trent, Staffordshire.

On Sunday, the 23rd inst., for evening service, a touch of 448 Superlative Surprise Major was rung in 18 mins. by eight members of the St. Paul's Society. H. Wakley, 1; E. I. Stone, 2; A. Wakley, 3; J. Griffin, 4; J. Jagger, 5; G. Appleby, 6; T. Holmes, 7; W. Wakley (conductor), 8. Tenor, 26 cwt. All members of the Midland Counties Association, the President of which has appointed W. Wakley (Churchwarden of St. Paul's Church) to attend the Reading Conference as a delegate from the Association.

At St. Mary's, Lambeth, Surrey.

On Monday, the 24th inst., eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang a peal of 5152 Double Norwich Court Bob Major in 3 hrs. 15 mins. E. Gibbs, 1; H. J. Tucker, 2; J. W. Rowbotham, 3; R. French, 4; E. Carter, 5; C. F. Winny, 6; E. Horrex, 7; J. M. Hayes, 8. Composed by Mr. H. W. Haley and conducted by Mr. J. M. Hayes. The above was rung on the occasion of the Harvest Festival.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The Eucharistic Blessing.

SIR,—The preliminary portion of this beautiful form of benediction is, unhappily, so punctuated in all our Prayer-books, the sealed copy inclusive, as to constitute it a prayer that those over whom it is pronounced may be kept in the Knowledge and Love of God, by virtue of 'the peace of God, which passeth all understanding.' Whereas it assuredly was meant to be a prayer for those over whom it is pronounced, that the blessing of Peace may rest upon them 'in,' or 'through,' or by virtue of 'the knowledge and love of God, and of His Son Jesus Christ our Lord.'

That this last was the original meaning of this part of the Benediction, as understood by the translators of the Authorised Version—subsequent by half a century to the Prayer-book Version—seems clear from their version of the passage which it embodies; viz. (Phil. iv. 7), 'The peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.' And albeit the Greek preposition is *ἐν*, and the revised version 'in,' the meaning cannot be that our hearts and minds shall be kept in the condition of being 'in Christ Jesus' by 'the peace of God,' but that they shall be kept in 'the peace of God'—in the condition of being at peace with God—by virtue of our being 'in Christ Jesus.'

And this—the true meaning—would have been conveyed had there been in the Eucharistic Benediction a comma between the words 'minds' and 'in.' It would, indeed, still be so conveyed if the officiating minister, whether Priest or Bishop, were to interpose, as some do, a momentary breathing, or *cæsura*, between those words, after this sort: 'The peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds . . . in the knowledge and love [query, is not this an *ἐν* *δια* *δου* for the knowledge of the love?] of God, and of His Son Jesus Christ our Lord.' I cannot help fearing lest, in the absence of such a comma or *cæsura*, the effect of this part of the Benediction must oftentimes be seriously diminished, if not altogether marred, by the perplexity involved in the sentence as it stands, and as it is too commonly pronounced.

N. S.

P.S.—The use of this Benediction is now, on good grounds, widely discontinued excepting after the Communion Office. On other occasions its latter clause alone is often allowably used. Would it not conduce to edification if sometimes, at least in the pulpit and in private acts of blessing, the first clause alone, and in the Pauline form, were used thus: 'The peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds through or in Christ Jesus?'

The Holy Communion without Music.

SIR,—Mr. Jerram repeats in your columns his censure on the above custom. Allow me to reply: (1) There are clergy so essentially unmusical

that they cannot learn to sing. (2) There are reasons, which many think conclusive, against the habitual presence at the Celebration of those members of the choir who neither are communicants nor have any immediate intention of becoming such. (3) A non-musical clergyman can receive from others far more assistance when officiating at Matins or Evensong than when celebrating. Here are reasons adequate for his allowing music in the former services but not in the Eucharist.

Mr. Jerram's first letter appears to endorse the fallacy that a service without music must be dead and cold. But there really is in the human voice so much flexibility and so much power, that, if a man will only take proper care with his reading, will speak plain, will throw himself into the prayers which he is using, and will allow the meaning of each sentence to find its natural expression, there is not the slightest danger of the service being dull or monotonous, even though organ and choir both be silent; and such a celebration will certainly be preferable to a musical service rendered badly.

Hertford.

Reading in Church.

W. WIGRAM.

SIR,—A great deal has been said lately about indistinct and bad reading in churches, especially in the Lessons. One of the most common failings seems to be the rise and fall of the voice in a certain monotonous cadence (in some cases amounting almost to a chant), to which each verse must be fitted in, irrespective of sense, or the special accent required—the emphatic word or clause of the sentence often being slurred over in order to preserve the accustomed rhythm; and question, quotation, or exclamation, all sacrificed to the apparent necessity of making each verse sound just alike! Now may not this, to a great extent, be owing to the habit of reading from a Bible broken up into verses? It is hard to read aloud intelligently anything divided in this way, so would it not be a good plan for clergyman to read the Lessons from a Paragraph Bible? If the eye of the reader were not being constantly distracted by apparent long pauses, where none are intended or needed, might we not hope for a more helpful and intelligent rendering of this important part of the service?

P.S.—If unable to do so in church, at any rate, clergymen might practise in private reading the Bible in connected paragraphs. J. E. C.

Has an Animal any Rights?

SIR,—It is a pity that 'A Student,' in his letter of Sept. 15, has complicated this question by introducing matters which he admits have nothing to do with it. He has, however, done so in such a manner that, in the interests of my dumb clients, I am constrained to notice his remarks. For, since the morality of most persons is formed more by feeling than by reason, his assertions—1st, that the 'pang of suffrance' is not as great in animals as in men; 2nd, that most experiments are rendered painless by the use of narcotics; 3rd, that we are 'on the verge of wonderful discoveries, particularly as regards the brain'—are likely to have more effect on the public mind than his admission that, after all, they do 'not affect the morality of the question.'

The first assertion is open to much doubt. For, as the nerves of sight and smell are more sensitive in animals than in us, it is not improbable that other nerves in their bodies may share this greater susceptibility. Professor Pritchard (Royal Veterinary College), in his evidence before the Royal Commission (Q. 846) said, 'I have performed some thousands of operations on them [i.e. dogs and horses], and I have never yet been able to detect any difference in sensation between the skin of either one or the other and the human subject.'

That experiments are rendered painless by narcotics is a common belief (encouraged by vivisectors) among unscientific people. Those who have studied the subject know that Professor Rolleston was right when he told the Commission (Q. 1349), 'It is not so easy a thing to know when you have an animal thoroughly anaesthetised.' Also, there are large classes of experiments in which, from their nature, anaesthetics cannot be used: e.g. all those which concern the nervous system; those on the effect of pain—flaying alive, starving to death, injecting poisonous acids into the blood, inducing painful diseases, and numerous others, including those on the brain by Ferrier, Goltz, and a score more operators, the effects of which last for weeks, months, and even years. If we speak only of England, the 'Student's' assertion that ninety per cent. of the experiments are painless is merely an assertion incapable of proof. Vivisection is not done openly, and we have no means of arriving at the truth about it. We know that the men whose acts and works so roused public indignation that legislation was demanded are the very same men who now hold licenses under our law; we know that they themselves supply the information about their own experiments from which the official Reports are drawn up. We know—for he has himself told us—that the Home Secretary, who grants the licenses, does so under the advice of the Medical Research Society, composed of the very men to whom he grants them. We know that the Inspector who 'makes up' the Reports is in league with the Vivisectors, for he has told us that he considers the movement against Vivisection 'a senseless and mischievous agitation.' We know, moreover, that his Reports do not represent the truth, for it has been proved. But even were the 'Student' right about the ninety per cent, would the torture of the other ten be one whit more justifiable?

Thirdly, I am told that we are 'on the verge of discoveries, particularly as regards the brain.' In the *British Medical Journal*, June 4, 1881, Dr. Althaus, senior physician of the Epileptic Hospital, Regent's Park, wrote, 'Experimental pathology, of which such brilliant results were at one time expected, seems to have been singularly unproductive in this special department. Vulpian, who is one of its chief apostles, accounts for this by 'the utter inability of the experimental pathologist to produce in animals maladies such as we see them in men.' The *Lancet*, too (June 16, 1883), in a leading article says, 'It is an interesting and noteworthy fact that pathological observation is doing more to advance our knowledge of cerebral functions than physiological experiment. At any rate this would seem to be true of the doctrine of cerebral localisation; for whereas physiologists agree to differ upon the interpretation of their experimental results in this matter, the clinical and patho-

homes, in support of long-settled principles of English law, in accordance with the teaching of the Word of God. So to fall brings no dishonour, leaves no stain, entails the loss of no friends whom an honest man would wish to keep.

I must not further trace the outline of our coming discussions. It will appear from the programme that we call your attention this year to grave subjects affecting the tone of national life, and the Church's relation to them, rather than to party questions or to those strictly ecclesiastical matters with which Synods and Convocations have a special right to deal. The question of the courts ecclesiastical is an exception to this remark. It was introduced into our programme at the last moment, when we had just learned that the Report of the Royal Commission would be issued before the Congress met. Into that subject I am precluded by personal reasons from entering. I may say, however, that the great majority of the members of the Royal Commission, on which I had the honour to sit, have not spared time or trouble in fulfilling the duty entrusted to them. The seventy-five meetings, at which most of them were present, represent only a portion of their labour. Of the work done by one member in particular, I may without impropriety speak. In the midst of the many duties, public and private, which belong to the offices he holds, Canon Stubbs prepared a full and most instructive account of the ecclesiastical jurisdiction in England from a very early period—an account with which all who profess to handle the subject ought to acquaint themselves. Churchmen owe him no small debt of gratitude for a labour which few other men in England could, or would, have performed. Of the recommendations in the Report itself it is enough for me to say that they provide for the reinforcement of the old ecclesiastical jurisdiction—cleared of some not very successful modern variations—while they do full justice to the supremacy of the Crown, and to the right of Englishmen to appeal for lack of justice in any court to the Sovereign in the last resort. It would be idle to expect that a Report, dealing with so many matters of detail, can be fully or effectively discussed at a Church Congress, when it has been only a few weeks in the members' hands. Some little contribution, however, may be made towards the formation of a sound and united opinion among Churchmen, without which no measure of amendment can be submitted to Parliament with any hope of success. Partisans will always estimate the merits of ecclesiastical courts according to the chances of a decision in their own favour, which this or the other constitution of them seems to afford. Good Churchmen ought to prefer that court—whatever it is—in which high character, competent learning, freedom from prejudice, all animated by affectionate loyalty to the Church of Christ, are most likely to adorn the seat of judgment, and to gain respect for its decrees.

The sight of this great assemblage of Churchmen suggests to its President that he should take some notice of the perils which now beset the Church of England in her temporal estate. I forbear to do so, not only because I should be reluctant to narrow the scope of a Congress within the limits of an institution for 'Church Defence,' but because the sources of hostility to the Church lie far deeper, in my opinion, than the surface present to our view. Moral evil is her real foe. Rival religionists, busy politicians, social theorists, are the apparent assailants; they have their various reasons, good or bad, for wishing to see the Church less honoured than she is. But behind them is the great, silent army of foes, who hate the Church because she is the prominent religious body in the land. How could they but hate the accredited exponent of those principles of righteousness against which they are in rebellion all the day long? Estimate, if you can, in any society well known to you, the number of lives uncontrolled by principles of honour and purity, of charity and truth. You have thought of the victims of moral corruption, as they are to be found in prisons and workhouses, in asylums and penitentiaries; you forget that there are more of them in stately dwellings, lingering on beds of sickness which their own vices have courted, or wasting selfish years in the false glitter of rayless homes. When an assault is made upon us, the watchword, indeed, is none of theirs; but to a man they are on our assailants' side. Our business is to reduce the number of these secret foes. When an evil-doer is converted, religion has one enemy the less, not seldom the Church has one loyal friend the more.

Meanwhile, looking abroad at the hostile movements which threaten us, I take the liberty—as we have all come here to speak our minds—of giving one piece of very homely advice to my brother Churchmen:—'Don't make yourselves disagreeable in little things.' There are many grave matters in which, for the sake of God and His truth, we must needs offend an uncongenial world. Why should we add to that inevitable odium the irritation which grows out of needless offences and trivial wrong? The Church, if it represents true religion, must be unpopular. Why should we make it more unpopular than the necessity of the case requires?

As for discord within the Church—alas! that internal discord should exist—the friendly intercourse and courteous debates of a Congress week may not be without their healing influence. We shall think too, as we see the faces of old friends from distant dioceses, of great works that are crying out for the zealous service of united Churchmen to accomplish them. I had hoped to be able to announce to you to-day the actual foundation of the See of Southwell. It is needed by a great population: its creation would fitly express the love and reverence which the whole Church of England bears to the honoured and learned Bishop who asks to be relieved of a burden too heavy for his declining strength—too heavy for the strength of the strongest prelate who may occupy the throne of Lincoln in future days. A deficiency of a few thousand pounds forbids the statement I longed to make,—which timely help would still enable me to make on Friday afternoon. Such hopes and enterprises as this, rather than the worn themes of party strife, will be in our thoughts this week. If we go back to our homes with some rough edges smoothed, some lessons of tolerance learned, some hints for fruitful and united work added to our store, we shall have met to some purpose at this good town of Reading; its friendly citizens and its hospitable and generous Mayor will not have received us in vain.

(Continued on page 876.)

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Bell-ringers.

WE have been requested to reproduce the following cutting, lately issued in the *Church Times*. We advise 'Rusticus' to get Ellacombe's *Belfries and Ringers*, published by George Bell and Sons, London, and to move cautiously in the much-needed reform:—

'SIR,—Many parish priests have doubtless a difficulty in making satisfactory rules for a belfry, and getting satisfactory ringers. I am at present very desirous of information and advice on the subject, and shall be thankful if you will allow me to state my difficulty (probably, also, a difficulty with others) in your columns. I have lately become the incumbent of a country parish where there is no regular company of ringers. There are some men who year by year have manifested great interest in the bells just before Christmas, have rung them regularly for several weeks, but whose interest has vanished as soon as the Christmas-boxes have been obtained. I am anxious to start a proper company with fixed rules, &c., but I do not feel I can enrol the majority of the above-named men, as they rarely attend church; and yet they alone understand bell-ringing. I had thought of enrolling some young men, and having them properly taught. I shall be very thankful for advice on the necessary (but often neglected) subject of ringers and belfries, and also if any correspondent can suggest suitable and concise rules. 'RUSTICUS.'

St. Mary's Church, Yate, Gloucestershire.

WE are informed that the six ancient bells of this church were recently rehung by Mr. Harry Stokes of Woodbury, Devon. Mr. Drinkwater, the Master of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Change-ringing Association, at the request of the Committee formed for carrying out the work, has inspected it, and reports the work done most thoroughly. The tenor, 26 cwt., now rings as easily as the fourth did formerly.

Surrey Association of Change-ringers.

A QUARTERLY Meeting of this Association was held at Reigate (by the kind permission of the Vicar) on Monday, October 1st. Representatives attended from most of the parishes in the union. At the business meeting, held at the 'Red Cross' after tea, it was determined that the next District Meeting should be held at Beddington in the middle of November, and the next Quarterly Meeting at Kingston-on-Thames on the first Monday in January. A hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar for allowing the use of the tower to the Association terminated the business. Ringing took place before the 4 o'clock service, from 4.30 to 6, and again after tea. It was confined to Triples in the four following methods:—Grandsire, Stedman, Plain Bob, and Union.

ARTHUR B. CARPENTER, *Hon. Sec.*

Lancashire Association of Change-ringers.

THE Annual Meeting will be held on Saturday, October 13th, 1883, at Holy Trinity Church, Bolton. *Agenda*: 3.45 p.m., service in Holy Trinity Church. 5 p.m., tea. 6 p.m., business meeting; (a), election of President, Secretary, and two Committeemen; (b), new members. 7.30 p.m., ringing. By the kindness of their respective Rectors, the bells of the following churches will be at the disposal of the members: (1), Holy Trinity Church; (2), Parish Church; (3), All Souls. Tickets for tea, 1s. each, may be obtained from any member of the Committee, or from

W. J. CHATTERTON, } *Hon. Secs.*
JOEL REDFORD, }

CHANGE-RINGING.

At St. Martin's, Salisbury, Wiltshire.

ON Saturday, the 22nd ult., 216 Bob Minor, and on Saturday, the 29th, being the festival of St. Michael and All Angels, 360 Bob Minor were rung. H. Dowling, 1; C. Clements, jun., 2; A. S. Dowling, 3; T. Blackburn, 4; W. W. Gifford, 5; J. R. Jeram (conductor), 6. Tenor, 15 cwt. The first half-peal ever rung in Salisbury by local men on six bells.

At Beaminster, Dorset.

ON Wednesday, the 26th ult., three six-scores of Grandsire Doubles were rung on the back six. W. Newman, 1; G. J. Pomery, 2; T. P. Coombs, 3; C. G. Purkis, 4; Rev. P. H. Jackson, 5; J. Trump, 6. Tenor, 28 cwt., in D. All first peals with the exception of Rev. P. H. Jackson, who, through the kindness of the Lytham ringers, was enabled to ring his first six-score there in the summer. The above is thought worthy of record, as it is the first change-ringing on the above bells, and the ringers, who are all local, have taught themselves: call changes only having been rung previously.

At St. George's, Doncaster, Yorkshire.

ON Saturday, the 29th ult., a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes) was rung in 52 mins. H. Fevre (conductor), 1; F. O. Moule, 2; H. Marwood, 3; T. Fevre, 4; J. Taylor, 5; J. White, 6; H. G. Wilson, 7; W. Howard, 8. Tenor, 31 cwt.

At St. Peter's, Drayton, Berkshire.

ON Monday, the 1st inst., eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths and of the St. Martin's Society, Birmingham, rang a peal of 5010 Stedman's Triples in 2 hrs. 45 mins. H. Johnson, jun., 1; J. Joyes, 2; H. Bastable, 3; H. Johnson, senr., 4; J. Buffery, 5; S. Reeves, 6; Rev. F. E. Robinson (conducted), 7; A. Thomas, tenor.

Notice.

WE are requested to state that the well-known ringer, Mr. H. W. Haley, has removed from 283 Globe Road, Bethnal Green, to 52 Atlas Road, Globe Road, Mile End, London.

RECEIVED ALSO:—Benjamin Francis; G. Stancombe; and others.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

The Bell-ringers' Conference at Reading.

IN connexion with the Bell-ringers' Conference at Reading (see page 903) Stedman's Caters, Kent Treble Bob Royal, and Grandsire Caters, were rung at St. Laurence by Messrs. Belcher, Haworth, Reeves, Rev. N. Bolingbroke, Bennett, Sewell, Rev. C. Davies, Baron, Rev. F. E. Robinson, Captain Moore, Nelms, Newell, and Davis, and Grandsire Triples at St. Mary's. Among the gentlemen interested in ringers and change-ringers were Earl Nelson, the Hon. the Rev. J. H. Nelson, Rev. Knatchbull-Hugessen, Rev. F. E. Robinson, Rev. Dolben Paul, Squire Proctor, Captain Acland-Troyte, Captain Moore, J. Martin Routh, Esq., G. Holmes, Esq., Rev. N. Bolingbroke, Rev. H. C. Sturges, Rev. F. G. Llewellyn, Rev. A. du Boulay Hill, Rev. C. Davies, Rev. T. A. Turner, Rev. C. Yerburgh, J. Taylor, Esq. (Loughborough), and Mr. J. Clark Truss. Mr. Newell kindly invited his friends to the 'Mitre' Hotel.

At Beaconsfield, Bucks.

THE ringers of Beaconsfield held a meeting on Monday last to consider what steps they should take to obtain funds for renovating the ring of bells there. The belfry and tower are now being repaired, so that the opportunity is favourable. Mr. Harry L. W. Lawson presided, and it was resolved to issue an appeal for subscriptions. It is proposed to add two new bells to complete the octave, one to be called the 'Burke bell' and the other the 'Beaconsfield bell,' as memorials of those two statesmen whose names are associated with the place. Mr. G. Allington Charsley, the Coroner for South Bucks, and a former ringer, was appointed Treasurer.

Death of Mr. H. Boswell.

It is reported that Mr. H. Boswell, the celebrated bell-hanger and change-ringer, who was formerly in the employ of Messrs. Warner & Sons, and latterly with Messrs. Gillott & Bland, Croydon, died very suddenly on Sunday week from heart disease. He was the youngest son of Mr. William Boswell, who died many years ago at Oxford—a noted bell-hanger in his day. He had served his time with Messrs. Lloyd, noted in their day for work connected with belfries. We sincerely hope this report may be unfounded.

Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association of Ringers.

THE Annual Meeting will be held at Durham on Monday, October 29th. Ringing at the Cathedral and St. Oswald's. All members of the Association are respectfully invited to attend Divine service in St. Oswald's Church at two o'clock. Preacher—the Rev. W. O. Blunt, M.A., rector of Chester-le-Street. Dinner will be provided at the 'Three Tuns' at three o'clock, tickets for which (at 1s. each to members and 2s. 6d. to non-members) should be applied for not later than Monday, the 22nd inst. After dinner the usual business meeting will take place. Members of the Committee to meet at the 'Three Tuns' at ten o'clock. G. J. CLARKSON, Hon. Sec.

Post-office Chambers, Stockton-on-Tees.

Belfry Fooleries in Cornwall.

ANOTHER of these, in the shape of Prize-ringing, is reported to us to have taken place on the 4th inst. at Blisland, when nine sets competed, and the umpires gave satisfaction.

RINGING-MATCH AT BLISLAND.—A ringing-match took place at Blisland on Wednesday last, when the following sets competed for the prizes:—St. Mabyn, St. Breward, St. Neot, St. Kew, Lanlivery, Egloschayle, Lanteglos, Roche, and St. Veep. The prizes were awarded as follows:—St. Mabyn, 1; Egloschayle, 2; Lanlivery, 3; St. Neot, 4; St. Kew, 5; Roche, 6. The umpires were Mr. Lean, of St. Kew; Mr. Levy, of St. Mabyn; and Mr. Rowe, of Blisland. The ringing was good throughout, and the umpires gave general satisfaction by their decisions.

Bell-ringers.

SIR,—In reply to the letter of 'Rusticus' with reference to the management of belfries and ringers, the blame for their not turning out satisfactorily is not always traced to its source. It appears only natural that a body of young people turned into a room, so to speak, each one thinking himself as good as his fellow, in an occupation where loss of temper is frequent on the occasion of blunders, causing eventually a disregard for the sanctity of the building, and oftentimes a desecration of the place. How can we be surprised at anything which follows? It is only a sequence that they shall have no reverence, or, rather, that it shall be deadened; and why? all for want of a restraining influence.

The fault lies in the method of management, for which the clergyman and the Sunday-school superintendent are responsible. And the remedy is in the making the body of ringers into an adult class, meeting in the belfry, with a suitable elderly teacher, taking the same course of lessons as in the Sunday School. The teacher must not by any means be a ringer, at any rate not until the matter is developed, and then he ought never to be more than an extra hand.

Perhaps if I quote a case in which I am interested it may serve as an illustration of how at least one belfry has been reformed.

Four years ago we had a body of ringers of the old school, who gave over through misconduct. In the difficulty six lads from school, aged 17 and 18, volunteered (our largest bell is 7½ cwt.). We obtained Snowdon's work on ringing, tied all the clappers, and practised with the help of a ringer from a distance for the first night, ignoring the old set as dangerous articles altogether, and at the end of two weeks were ready for Sunday duty, and could ring 120 changes by the end of six months.

Our qualification for admission is that a member must be a communicant, and our number is limited to seven (one in reserve). Soliciting Christmas-boxes is prohibited. We meet in the belfry at 9.15 on the Sunday morning, open with the same service as at school, except the hymn; then take the appointed lesson—this year the course is one half of Bethlehem to Olivet, by

Palmer, interspersed with catechism lessons. When the clock strikes ten we have the ringers' service, consisting of a few versicles from the service, arranged by the Lancashire Association of Change-ringers, and the Confirmation prayer adapted for the occasion; repeating the arrangement in the afternoon meeting at 2 o'clock. One point I have found particularly useful as conducing to reverence—we always kneel for prayers, each man being provided with a small square of carpet for the purpose. A pew is provided for the ringers in the gallery, fitted up with a kneeling form and squares of carpet.

The result is that we have a thoroughly respectable set of ringers, attending service, and fairly regular communicants. During the four years we have had five withdrawals, one is dead, and the others attend Sunday School either as teachers or in the adult class.

I shall have pleasure in giving either fuller details or in discussing the points of this subject, through the medium of *Church Bells*, if it is of interest to any of your subscribers.

R. J. FLETCHER.

Hazel Grove, near Stockport.

Peals of Bob Royal.

| 6000 | | | | | | 5000 | | | | | |
|------|---|---|---|---|----------|----------------------|---|---|---|---|----------|
| 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | W. M. H. | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | W. M. H. |
| 6 | 4 | 2 | 3 | 5 | 1 1 1 | 4 | 3 | 6 | 5 | 2 | 1 |
| 3 | 6 | 2 | 4 | 5 | 1 | 5 | 4 | 6 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| 2 | 4 | 3 | 6 | 5 | 1 1 | 6 | 3 | 5 | 4 | 2 | 1 |
| 3 | 2 | 4 | 6 | 5 | 1 | 5 | 6 | 3 | 4 | 2 | 1 |
| 6 | 3 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 1 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 2 | 1 |
| 4 | 2 | 6 | 3 | 5 | 1 1 | Four times repeated. | | | | | |

Four times repeated.

A Peal of Bob Major.

| 5040 | | | | | | | | | | | |
|------|---|---|---|---|----------|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | W. M. H. | | | | | | |
| 5 | 2 | 4 | 3 | 6 | 1 | | | | | | |
| 6 | 4 | 5 | 2 | 3 | 1 1 1 | | | | | | |
| 5 | 6 | 4 | 2 | 3 | 1 | | | | | | |
| 4 | 5 | 6 | 2 | 3 | 1 | | | | | | |
| 6 | 2 | 4 | 5 | 3 | 1 1 | | | | | | |
| 4 | 6 | 2 | 5 | 3 | 1 | | | | | | |
| 2 | 5 | 4 | 6 | 3 | 1 1 | | | | | | |
| 4 | 2 | 5 | 6 | 3 | 1 | | | | | | |
| 5 | 4 | 2 | 6 | 3 | 1 | | | | | | |

Four times repeated.

BENJAMIN FRANCIS, Diss.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At St. James's, Clerkenwell, Middlesex.

On Sunday, the 23rd ult., were rung about 1200 changes of Grandsire Triples, in 48 mins., the calling being taken from 'Holt's Original.' J. Deveraux, 1; W. Rumsay, 2; H. Hopkins (conductor), 3; E. Moses, 4; W. Meadows, 5; T. Taylor, 6; J. Barry, 7; C. Hopkins, 8.

At the Cathedral Church of St. John, Manchester.

On Saturday, the 29th ult., a peal of 5080 Treble Bob Royal, in the Kent variation, was rung in 3 hrs. 25 mins. T. Moss, 1; J. Bowcock, 2; J. Wood, 3; W. Smith, 4; B. Broadbent, 5; J. Mellor, 6; S. Wood, 7; J. Gillot, 8; G. Longden, 9; J. Thorp (composer and conductor), 10. Tenor, 25 cwt., in Ep.

At Quex Park, Birchington, Kent.

On Saturday, the 29th ult., a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes) was rung in 50 mins. at the Waterloo Tower in the above park. W. Andrews, 1; J. Small, 2; T. B. Reed, 3; H. G. Fairbrass, 4; A. Andrews, 5; R. E. Fiske, Esq., 6; G. Stancombe (conductor), 7; W. Emptage, 8. All are members of the Kent County Association, with the exception of the treble and seventh.

At Hurworth-on-Tees, Durham.

On Tuesday, the 2nd inst., the Hurworth ringers rang a peal of Kent Treble Bob Minor in 28 mins. J. Simpson, 1; Rev. W. H. Deane (first peal in this method), 2; J. E. Hern (conductor), 3; J. C. Thompson, 4; G. Garbutt, 5; H. Thompson, 6. Tenor, 17 cwt.

At Quedgley, Gloucestershire.

On Wednesday, the 3rd inst., at the parish church, a peal of 720 Grandsire Minor was rung in 22 mins. W. Sevier, 1; W. Crown, 2; T. Mansfield, 3; C. Lyes, 4; W. Bick, 5; T. Brown (conductor), 6.

At Cotherstone, near Barnard Castle, Durham.

On Saturday, the 6th inst., the Hurworth ringers rang at the parish church a peal of Grandsire Minor in 26 mins. J. Simpson, 1; Rev. W. H. Deane, 2; J. Temple, 3; J. C. Thompson, 4; G. Garbutt, 5; J. E. Hern (conductor), 6. This is the first peal ever rung on the bells. A peal of Oxford Treble Bob was next rung in 25 mins. J. Temple, 1; J. E. Hern, 2; H. Kirby, 3; J. C. Thompson, 4; G. Garbutt, 5; H. Thompson, 6. Mr. Blenkinsopp, the schoolmaster, and leader of the Cotherstone band, tried to ring the tenor through a peal of Grandsire Minor, but unfortunately it came to grief just on entering the last of the six parts. The bells—a memorial peal by Warner, given by Mrs. Pearson—are very sweet. Tenor, about 9 cwt.

At Burford, Oxfordshire.

On Sunday, the 7th inst., eight members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild of Bell-ringers, assisted by H. Bond, jun., of Burford, rang a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (260 changes) in 47 mins. J. Smith, 1; D. Francis, 2; T. Brown, Esq., 3; F. E. Ward, 4; W. Large, 5; H. Bond, jun., 6; W. Launchbury, 7; T. E. Granville (conductor), 8.

RECEIVED ALSO:—B. Francis; St. Werburgh's, Derby; and others.

as the best form; that is, the Catholicism of primitive Christianity, which Protestantism has not sufficiently retained. Nevertheless, I believe that all Christian bodies are working together towards the final Unity of the Universal Church. I believe with Le Maistre, who prophesied that the time would come when "Christ shall be all in all."

'To return to our little work here: Will it succeed? I desire it, I hope it, with all the fervour of my heart, and regret not the thought I have given it, nor the sufferings and trials it has caused me. But if it be of God, it will surely live. There are some souls which cannot repose in any Church; some souls which flourish in prosperity and sunshine, and others only in tempest. The work is now entering on a time of trial, and will be put to the proof. Hitherto, Frenchmen and strangers alike, have been attracted by the preaching of one who had gained some reputation in the pulpit of Notre Dame. But if the work does not stand the test of my absence; if the adherents do not continue to worship in this chapel for the work's sake—it is best to speak plainly—I can close the work and shut up the chapel, of which personally, I have no need. I am thankful to possess a domestic hearth, and a private chapel. If no longer here, I will travel through Europe to preach and propagate the work of Catholic reform. It is for the adherents to sustain the work if they wish it to continue. It costs 12,000 frs. per annum, of which I do not myself receive a centime, though I have the right to say to you with the Apostle: "If we have sown unto you spiritual things, is it a great matter if we shall reap your temporal things?" But, independent of the chapel, I can, like St. Paul, pursue my work. I can direct a school, or deliver conferences, or write sermons. The time is come when proof must be given of two things.

'First, Will the work be financially sustained? We have now the burdensome task of seeking every quarter the means of paying the rent and other expenses. This cannot last, and a permanent fund must be furnished.

'Secondly, The moral aspect has to be proved. It is true, that unfortunately there have been adventurers who have not proved loyal to the work. But you have now had proof sufficient of the ability and zeal and loyalty of the two vicars, Messrs. Lartigan and Goul, whom I leave to minister to you. If, therefore, you do not come while the rector is absent, if the chapel be not frequented as when I am here, my own personal feelings will be wounded to the very quick. The adherents are not yet numerous enough to require a Bishop of their own, and we hope never to have need of a French Bishop, as we are not schismatics and still look hopefully for the reform of the Roman Catholic Church. But you have need of a Provisional Bishop, and a truly Catholic one you possess in the Right Rev. Anglican Bishop Jenner, who will visit you during my absence. But you, my brethren, the adherents, must henceforth support the work materially and morally.'

Finally, the Pere concluded with a most eloquent and touching peroration, in the course of which he said, 'I am about to cross the mighty deep, of which it is written that in the Day of Judgment "the sea also shall give up her dead;" and now, should I never be permitted to see you again, I say solemnly, as in the presence of that God Who sees and hears me, that I have ever declared to you what I believe, with all the fervour of my heart and conscience, to be the truth of God, and the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.'

The attention of the large congregation was riveted to the last; and the departure of the Pere, though necessary and important, is greatly regretted by the adherents.

Père Hyacinthe Loyson, accompanied by the Abbé Canon Roca, will leave Liverpool on the 20th inst. in the *Alaska* for New York, to join Madame Loyson and his young son.

AUSTRALIA.

In Western Australia—as we learn from the *Perth Standard*—the 'Reformer,' Mr. Burnett, has been holding a highly successful Temperance Mission. A 'coffee-palace' and 'people's entertainments' have been started in order to keep up the good impression thus made.

SOUTH AFRICA.

GRAHAMSTOWN welcomed Bishop Webb to his new diocese last month. The 'select vestry' of the cathedral church invited him to that building, but he was of course unable to comply in consequence of Dr. Williams' maintenance of his position there in spite of his ecclesiastical condemnation. However, the new diocesan, in his reply, passed over this point in silence, advertising only in general terms to the evil results of attempting to set up a Church without discipline. Among the features of his reception was a social gathering at the Town Hall, which was attended by Bishop West Jones, the Metropolitan, he being on his way back to Capetown from the consecration of Bishop Key as coadjutor of Dr. Callaway, Bishop of Kaffraria.

At Capetown the malcontents who—without a single clergyman among them—have formed a 'Church of England Defence Association,' with the impossible aim of replacing the Colonial Church on an 'Establishmentarian' footing, have put forth a protest against the payment to the Bishop of Capetown of his official income, addressed to the Council of the Colonial Bishops' Fund, and threatening legal proceedings if it is not hearkened to. It affirms that this prelate, being an office-bearer in the 'Church of the Province of South Africa,' is not in a sufficient legal sense entitled to such income as a diocesan of the Church of England. It is unfortunate that this act of warfare should occur at Capetown, just when hopes of peace are brightening, not only at Grahamstown, but in Natal itself. In the last-named colony the coming over to Bishop Macorrie of two of the late Bishop Colenso's followers seems likely to be the precursor of a general reconciliation.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Opening of an augmented Ring at Hatherleigh, Devon.

ON Tuesday, the 9th inst., by the kind invitation of the Vicar, the Rev. J. W. Banks, the following members of the Devonshire Guild visited Hatherleigh, for the purpose of opening the ring of bells which have lately been rehung by Mr. T. Hooper, of Woodbury, and two trebles added from the Loughborough foundry:—F. Shepherd, A. Shepherd, H. Swift, S. Herbert, W. Goss, G. Townsend, J. Vanstone, with W. Banister, from Devonport, and G. F. Coleridge, Esq., of Cadbury. A Dedication Service was read by the Rural Dean (Rev. J. L. Francis), at the conclusion of which, and preceding the sermon, which was also preached by him, the eight bells were raised in peal by the above band. After the sermon a touch of 630 Grandsire Triples was rung, and during the afternoon numerous touches in the same method. It was found impossible to ring a full peal, owing to the fact that the front bells could not be heard except when the west door was open. The tenor weighs about 15 cwt., in G. The ring is badly out of tune, and when other matters are rectified Hatherleigh will then have a good ring for peals and long touches.

Beaconsfield, Bucks.

THE ringers of Beaconsfield held a meeting on Monday in last week to consider what steps they could take to obtain funds for renovating the ring of bells there. The belfry and tower are now being repaired, so that the opportunity is favourable. Harry L. W. Lawson, Esq., presided, and it was resolved to issue an appeal for subscriptions. It is proposed to add two new bells to complete the octave, one to be called the 'Burke Bell' and the other the 'Beaconsfield Bell,' as memorials of those two statesmen, whose names are associated with the place. G. Allington Charsley, Esq., the Coroner for South Bucks and a former ringer, was appointed Treasurer.

At St. Clement Danes, Strand, London.

ON Sunday, the 7th inst., being the birthday of the Rector (the Rev. J. Lindsay), the parochial ringers rang about 1000 changes to commemorate the event. If it had occurred on any day except Sunday, a long peal—about 5000 changes—would have been attempted, the parochial ringers wishing to testify their pleasure at the uniform kindness of the Rev. J. Lindsay towards them.

The Kent County Association of Change-ringers.

THIS Society will hold a District Meeting at Leeds on Thursday, the 25th inst., when the churches of Ulcombe, East Sutton, Chart Sutton, Bearsted, and Hollingbourne, will also be visited.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At St. Peter's, Raunds, Northamptonshire.

ON Monday, the 24th ult., the St. Peter's Society rang 5040 changes, in seven different methods upon six bells, being a 720 of each of the following, in 3 hrs. 10 mins.—College Single, College Little, Grandsire Bob, London Single, Oxford Bob, Grandsire Single, Double Court Bob Minor. G. Kirk, 1; F. Gillett, 2; W. J. Gilbert, 3; W. A. Hall, 4; J. Willmott, 5; H. W. Stubbs (conductor), 6. Tenor, 20 cwt. This is the first 5040 by this Society.

At St. John's, Bollington, near Macclesfield, Cheshire.

ON Saturday, the 6th inst., a peal of 5038 Treble Bob Major, in the Kent variation, was rung in 3 hrs. J. S. Wilde, 1; R. Prichard, 2; T. Bradley, 3; W. Slater, 4; J. Fildes, 5; W. Bail, 6; S. Bennett, 7; T. Wilde, 8. Composed by the late William Harrison of Mottram, and conducted by Thomas Wilde. Tenor, 20 cwt. The above ring of bells was opened in 1880, and this is the first peal in the method rung on them.

At St. Paul's, Shadwell, Middlesex.

ON Saturday, the 6th inst., a peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples (Holt's Original) was rung in 3 hrs. by the Ancient Society of College Youths. C. P. Belton (first peal with the treble), 1; W. B. Jones, 2; Y. Green, 3; C. Beech (first peal), 4; E. E. Clarke, 5; W. Tanner, 6; J. Pettit (conductor), 7; J. Jones (first peal), 8.

At St. Werburgh's, Derby.

ON Sunday, the 7th inst., after evening service, eight members of the Midland Counties Association rang a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes) in 48 mins. F. Whiting, 1; A. Taberner, 2; L. Lomas, 3; J. Newbold, 4; J. Howe, 5; R. Bosworth (conductor), 6; H. C. Woodward, 7; W. Tooby, 8. Tenor, 17 cwt., in E.

At Perry Barr, Staffordshire.

ON Thursday, the 11th inst., six members of St. John's Society rang ten six-scores of Grandsire Doubles in 44 mins. G. Smith (conductor), 1; E. Unitt, 2; W. Cooper, 3; H. Brown, 4; J. Cotterill, 5; W. Long, 6. Tenor, 13½ cwt., in F. The above were rung as a token of respect to Miss Bodington on her wedding-day, as for upwards of nine years she conducted the ringers' Bible-class.

At St. George's, Camberwell, Surrey.

ON Saturday, the 13th inst., eight members of the St. James's Society rang a peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples (Holt's Original One-part) in 2 hrs. 53 mins. H. Langdon, 1; W. Jones, 2; R. French, 3; E. Rogers, 4; G. McLaughlin, 5; H. Tucker (conductor), 6; A. Hayward, 7; W. Prime, 8. Tenor, 14 cwt.

At the Parish Church, Long Eaton, Derbyshire.

ON Tuesday, the 16th inst., Holt's Six-part peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples was rung in 2 hrs. 57 mins. G. Bradley, 1; R. Hickton, 2; J. Dickens, 3; W. Wells, 4; J. Ward, 5; W. Gibson, 6; J. Barrow (conductor), 7; W. Gries, 8. Tenor, 11 cwt., in G. Also on Sunday, the 15th inst., for evening service, a touch of 860 Kent Treble Bob Major. This Society had their ring increased to eight only three weeks since, and they hope to have the pleasure of recording 5000 changes of Treble Bob before the year closes.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

| 5016 Plain Bob Maximus. | | | | | | W. M. H. | | |
|-------------------------|---|---|---|---|----------|----------|---|-------|
| 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | W. M. H. | 6 | 4 | 5 2 3 |
| 6 | 4 | 2 | 3 | 5 | - | 5 | 2 | 6 4 3 |
| 2 | 6 | 4 | 3 | 5 | - | 6 | 5 | 2 4 3 |
| 4 | 3 | 2 | 6 | 5 | - | 3 | 2 | 6 5 4 |
| 5 | 2 | 3 | 6 | 4 | - | 6 | 3 | 2 5 4 |
| 3 | 5 | 2 | 6 | 4 | - | 4 | 2 | 3 5 6 |
| 2 | 3 | 5 | 6 | 4 | - | 5 | 4 | 3 2 6 |
| 4 | 5 | 2 | 3 | 6 | - | 2 | 5 | 3 4 6 |
| 2 | 4 | 5 | 3 | 6 | - | 3 | 4 | 2 5 6 |
| 5 | 2 | 4 | 3 | 6 | - | 2 | 3 | 4 5 6 |

The second kept away from the eighth at the wrong throughout.

E. FRANCIS, Diss.

Ely Diocesan Association of Change-ringers.

THIS Association, which was formed at a meeting at Cambridge in August last, held its Inaugural Meeting at St. Mary's, Ely, on Saturday, the 20th inst. A short service was held at the church at 12 a.m., the prayers being said by the Rev. J. Franey (vicar) and his curate, Rev. H. J. S. Gray, the lesson being read by the Hon. Secretary; and an able and pointed address of welcome was given by the Archdeacon of Ely. The venerable gentleman observed that restoration too often stopped at the tower arch, and while choirs and vestries were duly attended to, belfries and ringers were neglected. After some good touches, rung by companies from Bury, Bedford, Cambridge, Balsham, Burwell, and Woburn, an adjournment was made to luncheon, under the presidency of the Ven. Archdeacon Emery, supported by Gervase Holmes, Esq., and others. Toasts were briefly honoured, and business was then proceeded with. We wish the Association as true success as its sister Society in Norwich diocese. The Hon. Secretary will be glad to hear from all persons interested. Address Rev. K. H. Smith, The Cambridge Road, Ely, Cambs.

The Bells of St. Margaret, Barming.

SIR,—No one answered the appeal in *Church Bells*, September 8th, p. 790, to suggest inscriptions suitable for a ring of five bells, of which one only was a pre-Reformation bell. I venture, therefore, to send the following, which may interest some of your readers:—

- Treble ... '*Margaritam Margareta nuntio.*'
 2nd (old) '*Sancte Petre ora pro nobis.*'
 3rd ... '*Fili Dei te rogamus audi nos.*'
 4th ... '*Sancte Trinitas miserere nobis.*'
 5th ... '*Laus Domini in Ecclesia Sanctorum.*'

Any Rules for a Bell-ringers' Guild or Association, which have been found practical and good, would be gladly received.

Barming Rectory, Maidstone.

T. W. CARR.

[Some Rules will be sent.]

Oxford Diocesan Guild of Ringers.

ON Monday, the 22nd inst., a party of the above Guild took a trip, in company with the Rev. A. H. Drummond, vicar of All Saints, Boyne Hill, Maidenhead, to the metropolis, for the purpose of ringing a peal and visiting the Fisheries Exhibition. All Saints, Fulham, was chosen for ringing, and reached about 10.30. After taking lunch, and ordering dinner for 2.30, the party ascended to the well-arranged and well-kept belfry, accompanied by, and with best wishes of, the worthy vicar, the Rev. Mr. Fisher, who is himself a practical ringer and a conductor. The following members started for a peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples, which they rang in 3 hrs. 10 mins. H. Rogers,* 1; R. Flaxman,* 2; G. Wilkins, jun., 3; J. W. Wilkins,* 4; Edward Rogers,* 5; W. A. Garraway (conductor),* 6; Edwin Rogers,* 7; E. Keeley, 8. Tenor, 21 cwt. [*Members of the Ancient Society of College Youths.] Dinner being ready punctually at the time, and having done justice to the same, the party left for the Fisheries Exhibition in company with Mr. Lawrence, the obliging steeple-keeper; and after spending about three hours there, thanked him for his kindness and returned home, nothing having occurred to mar the day's enjoyment, except the unavoidable absence through indisposition, &c., of two or three members who fully intended to have been present.

Funeral of a Ringer at Tichmarsh, Northamptonshire.

ON Wednesday, the 17th inst., the remains of John Billings, jun., late a member of the Tichmarsh Association of Change-ringers, were laid to rest in the parish churchyard. Four of the bearers were ringers. The hymn, 'My God, my Father, while I stray,' was sung in the church at the Burial Service. In the evening four of the ringers, assisted by two from Raunds, rang a 720 of Plain Bob and half a peal of London Single, with the bells half-muffled, as a tribute of respect to the memory of their departed comrade, who had been a ringer about seven years. The ringers were:—J. Upchurch, 1; W. Upchurch, 2; H. Upchurch, 3; J. Willmot, 4; W. J. Gilbert, 5; J. T. Allen (conductor), 6. Deceased had led a quiet, unobtrusive life, and stood high in the estimation of his fellow-ringers.

CHANGE-RINGING.

'Surprise' Change-ringing at Benington.

THE Benington (Herts) Society of Change-ringers on Tuesday, the 16th inst., rang upon their musical peal of eight bells (tenor 14 cwt., key F sharp) an excellent and unique composition of 1344 changes, in those musical and

intricate methods, London Surprise Major and Superlative Surprise Major, in excellent style and precision of striking. Nathan Warner, 1; John Kitchener, 2; Leonard Proctor, Esq., 3; Leonard Chapman, 4; Samuel Page, 5; Joseph Kitchener, 6; Charles Shambrook, 7; Thomas Page (conductor), 8.

At St. Mary's, Battersea, Surrey.

ON Saturday, the 6th inst., eight members of the Royal Cumberland Youths rang a peal of 5088 Treble Bob Major, in the Kent variation, in 3 hrs. 4 mins. — Robins (first peal in the method), 1; J. Nelms, 2; J. Perks, 3; W. Baron, 4; E. Moses, 5; H. Dains (composer), 6; A. H. Gardom, Esq. (conductor), 7; H. Hopkins, 8. This peal was first rung at the Chapel of Ease, Holloway, and has now been rung in four different counties. This meeting was arranged in honour of Mr. John Perk's visit to London; who is Master of the Worcestershire Guild.

At All Hallows, Tottenham, Middlesex.

ON Monday, the 8th inst., a peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples (Holt's Original) was rung in 3 hrs. 4 mins. by the Ancient Society of College Youths, J. Davidson, 1; H. A. Barnett, 2; E. P. Strange (first peal), 3; T. Page, 4; W. D. Smith, 5; J. Pettit (conductor), 6; W. A. English (first peal), 7; P. A. Coard (first peal), 8.

At St. Peter's, Ashton-under-Lyne, Lancashire.

ON Monday, the 15th inst., a peal of 5184 Treble Bob Major, in the Kent variation, was rung in 3 hrs. $\frac{1}{2}$ min. J. S. Wilde, 1; G. Longden, 2; B. Broadbent, 3; T. Wilde, 4; C. Bennett, 5; C. Jackson, 6; J. Thorp (composer and conductor), 7; S. Wood, 8. Tenor, 20 cwt. This peal has the 5th and 6th their extent right, and the 6th at home at nine different course-ends. Messrs. Jackson and Bennett hail from Hull, Wilde Brothers from Hyde, the rest from Ashton-under-Lyne.

At St. Lawrence's, Long Eaton, Derbyshire.

ON Tuesday, the 16th inst., a peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples (Holt's Six-part) was rung in 2 hrs. 57 mins. G. Bradley, 1; R. Hickton,* 2; J. C. Dickens,* 3; W. Wells, 4; J. Ward, 5; W. Gilson, 6; J. Barrow* (conductor), 7; W. Grice, 8. Tenor, 11 cwt. in G. [Those marked * are also members of the Yorkshire Association.]

At St. Mary's, Beddington, Surrey.

ON Thursday, the 18th inst., six members of the Ancient Society of College Youths and Surrey Association of Change-ringers rang a peal of 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor in 28 mins. C. Bance, 1; E. Bennett, 2; J. Harris, 3; J. Plowman, 4; J. Trappitt, 5; C. Gordon (conductor), 6. The first 720 in the method by all the above, and the first 720 in the method by the Surrey Association.

AND on Saturday, the 20th inst., eight members of the Beddington Branch of the Ancient Society of College Youths and Surrey Association of Change-ringers rang a peal of 5120 Kent Treble Bob Major in 3 hrs. 26 mins. J. Harris, 1; E. Bennett, 2; C. Bance, 3; J. Trappitt, 4; J. Plowman, 5; J. Fayers, 6; J. Cawley, 7; C. Gordon, 8. Tenor, 21 cwt., in E flat. Composed by the late Mr. Harrison and conducted by Mr. Edgar Bennett. This peal has the 5th and 6th their extent in 5-6, and was taken from Snowden's *Treatise on Treble Bob*. This is the first time in the method by all of the above, and the first peal in the method by the Surrey Association.

At SS. Mary and Nicholas, Leatherhead, Surrey.

ON Friday, the 19th inst., Holt's Ten-part peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples was rung in 3 hrs. 2 mins. H. Wood, 1; C. Want, 2; W. Messam, 3; H. W. Nunn, 4; W. Marks (conductor), 5; E. Hull, 6; S. Brooker, 7; J. Lisney, 8. Tenor, 20 cwt.

At St. Andrew's, Enfield, Middlesex.

ON Saturday, the 20th inst., eight members of the Royal Cumberland Society rang a peal of 5056 changes Kent Treble Bob Major in 3 hrs. 9 mins. A. H. Gardom, Esq. (conductor), 1; M. Ellsmore, 2; H. Dains, 3; G. Newson, 4; H. Scarlett, 5; A. Jacob, 6; W. Doran, 7; S. Jarman, 8. Tenor, about 19 cwt. This is the first peal on the bells of the parish church for fifteen years.

At St. Martin-in-the-Fields, London.

ON Saturday, the 20th inst., twelve members of the St. James's Society rang a peal of 5019 Stedman's Cinques in 3 hrs. 51 mins. J. Pettit, 1; C. T. Hopkins, 2; C. F. Winny, 3; J. Hannington, 4; F. E. Dawe, 5; W. Greenleaf, 6; A. Swain, 7; E. E. Clarke,* 8; G. Mash, 9; J. M. Hayes, 10; H. A. Hopkins, 11; J. Mansfield, 12. Tenor, 32 cwt., in D flat. * First peal on twelve bells. Composed and conducted by Mr. F. E. Dawe, and is the first time of his calling a peal, at the same time ringing a 'working-bell.'

At Gainsborough, Lincolnshire.

ON Tuesday, the 23rd inst., the Gainsborough ringers, with Mr. E. Mason of Boston, visited Lea, and rang a peal of 720 Bob Minor in 24 mins. The bells have lately been augmented to six, and this is the first peal on them. W. D. Tinker, 1; H. Tate, 2; J. C. Tinker, 3; M. W. Ashton, 4; F. F. Linley, 5; E. Mason (conductor), 6. Tenor, 14 cwt.

At St. Paul's, Burton-on-Trent, Staffordshire.

ON Wednesday, the 24th inst., on the occasion of the opening of the new Market Hall, Burton-on-Trent, eight members of the St. Paul's Society rang a touch of 672 changes of Superlative Surprise Major in 28 mins. H. Wakley, 1; E. I. Stone, 2; A. Wakley, 3; J. Griffin, 4; J. Jagger, 5; G. Appleby, 6; T. Hohnes, 7; W. Wakley (conductor), 8. Tenor, 26 cwt. Touches of Grandsire and Stedman's Triples, of Double Norwich, and Kent Treble Bob Major, were also rung. [All members of the Midland Counties Association.]

IRELAND.

(From our own Correspondent.)

THE Bishop of Limerick held his annual visitation in his Cathedral, Limerick, on the 24th ult. An adjourned meeting of the Synod was held on the 26th to consider the amended financial scheme recommended by the Council for adoption. After considerable discussion the scheme was carried on a division. It is hoped that this amended plan will pull the diocese out of its present difficulties.

The Diocesan Synod of Dublin met in the Synod Hall on Monday last, after Divine service in the Cathedral of Christchurch, at which the Archbishop was present, attended by his chaplain, the Rev. F. C. Trench. In taking the chair, the Right Rev. President alluded in feeling terms to the death of his late Archdeacon, the Ven. William Lee, D.D., 'than whom,' said his Grace, 'there did not move a preacher among us, nor one whose memory will longer abide and continue, any mistakes into which he may have fallen notwithstanding.' The Archbishop then referred to his new Archdeacon, and expressed his great thankfulness in having secured the able services for that responsible position of the Rev. Canon Scott, rector of Bray, and now also Archdeacon of Dublin. After the Report of the outgoing Council had been received and adopted, a question arose as to the present anomalous position of two Trustee Churches in the extensive parish of St. Peter. On the motion of the Lord Justice of Appeal it was carried,—

'That the Council be instructed to communicate with the trustees of the churches existing in those parishes, inquiring as to their willingness to co-operate with the Council in seeking from the General Synod such legislation as may make arrangements possible which would give to the inhabitants the practical right to pastoral ministrations.'

The resolution of the Rev. J. Duncan Craig, D.D., deprecating Home Rule, was ruled by the Assessor to be in order, and led to an earnest discussion, some of the speakers deprecating the introduction of such a political question into the Synod. The resolution, which ran as follows, was eventually carried :—

'That the Synod of the diocese of Dublin, though remembering with pride the period of Ireland's Protestant Parliament and Volunteers, still feels that the sad experience of the last three years of terror points undeniably to the fact that the resumption of Ireland's Parliamentary independence must inevitably be followed by great peril to the Protestant Churches, confiscation of landed property, disruption of the Union, and at no distant date the horrors of civil war.'

The *Freeman's Journal* expresses pleasure at the resolution having been brought forward. It says: 'It is a bestirring of the growing conviction, even amongst such bodies as the Protestant Synods, that we are on the eve of a measure of Home Rule.'

The Synod of Glendalagh met on Tuesday in the Synod Hall, after Divine service in the Cathedral of Christchurch. His Grace the Archbishop of Dublin presided. The business, which was of the ordinary routine character, was speedily disposed of. At 2 p.m. the Synod of Kildare met in the same place, the Archbishop again presiding as Bishop of Kildare. The business was soon disposed of, and the Synod adjourned. The subscriptions for Church purposes within the diocese of Dublin for the past year were announced to be at the rate of 14s. a-head for every man, woman, and child; those for Glendalagh at the rate of 7s. 10d. per head. The joint Synods of Dublin, Glendalagh, and Kildare, are now (Wednesday) sitting. The Report of the Council states that there is every prospect that the Archiepiscopal Endowment Fund will be fully paid up in the course of another year, when five per cent at present charged for the purpose on the income of the united dioceses will be set free for other purposes.

The Diocesan Synod of Clogher also met on Tuesday in the Town Hall of Clones, Divine service having been previously celebrated in the parish church; and in the unavoidable absence of the Lord Primate, who is also Bishop of Clogher, the chair was taken by the Archdeacon. The Report of the Council showed the large increase over last year of 1800l. in the assessments.

The Bishop of Down has given notice of his intention to hold an Ordination in Holywood parish church on Sunday, December 23rd.

It having been stated in the public press by a member of a Dublin congregation that the Bishop of Lichfield was in favour of evening communions, the Rev. F. C. Trench, private chaplain to his Grace the Archbishop, and curate of St. Peter's parish, wrote to the Bishop to know if such were the case. Mr. Trench has since published in the newspapers a reply from the Bishop, through his chaplain, stating that so far from being in favour of evening communions he had steadily discouraged them. His Lordship's Charge was also forwarded, from which Mr. Trench publishes an extract, giving some of the Bishop's reasons for discountenancing the practice. The gentleman who made the erroneous statement has since written to the papers, expressing his regret for the mistake into which he was inadvertently led.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

THE LATE COLONEL TRELAWNY.

IN the 'Notes on Passing Events,' in our issue for last week, we briefly noticed the death of Colonel Trelawny. We are now enabled to give further particulars. We believe that Colonel Trelawny was the first gentleman in the West who threw himself heartily into belfry reform and scientific change-ringing, in which he made great proficiency, enlisting all his family in the use of hand-bells, extending to Bob Maximus. A local paper, the *Cornish Telegraph*, of October 27th, says :—

'We regret to record the death of Colonel Harry Reginald Salusbury Trelawny, which took place at 10.30 p.m. on the 24th ult., at Poltair, in the presence of his wife and all his children except one. For two or three years past he has been in failing health, suffering from a complication of diseases, including Bright's disease and chronic rheumatism. In August he became seriously ill and his life was despaired of, but about a fortnight since he recovered sufficiently to leave his bedroom, and even talked of going out. A week ago there was a relapse which has ended fatally. All day on Tuesday and Wednesday he was quite unconscious and at last peacefully passed away. Colonel Trelawny was the second surviving son of the late Sir William Trelawny, Bart., M.P., of Harewood on the Tamar, his eldest son being the present Sir John Trelawny, Bart., who for many years represented Tavistock, and during one Parliament East Cornwall. Colonel Trelawny, born in 1826, became a cadet at the Royal Military College at Sandhurst. Leaving there in 1845, he for three years served as a subaltern in the 36th Regiment, and then exchanged into the 6th Dragoons, of which he was a lieutenant for five years. Then he was appointed adjutant of the Cornwall Rifle Regiment of Militia, and in 1857 was promoted to be major of the Royal Cornwall Rangers Militia. In 1871 the colonelcy of the Rangers became vacant, and Lord Vivian, who was then lord lieutenant of the county, appointed to the vacancy Colonel Edgecumbe, brother of the Earl of Mount Edgecumbe, who sold out from the Guards on purpose. This passing over of Major Trelawny caused a great stir in the county, and the matter, brought before Parliament, was the subject of more than one heated discussion both in the House of Commons and the House of Lords. In the result the appointment of Lord Mount Edgecumbe's brother was disallowed by Her Majesty, and Major Trelawny was gazetted lieutenant-colonel commanding the Royal Cornwall Rangers' Militia. Under him the regiment fully maintained its efficiency, and a few years since he retired on account of age. Deceased was a justice of the peace and a deputy-lieutenant of Cornwall, and after he left historic Harewood (where he was born) and purchased Poltair a dozen years ago he was one of the most regular attendants on the West Penwith Bench. For a short time he was a member of the Madron Local Board, and as a trustee he frequently attended the meetings of the St. Just Turnpike Trust. In all his offices he ever displayed a sense of strict justice and a very marked outspokenness. Deceased was a great lover of music, was one of the committee of the Penzance Choral Society, and for many years played the double bass in its orchestra. He was also a member of a private orchestral society in Penzance, and was well known as a campanologist, having lectured on that subject, and, with his family, given hand-bell ringing entertainments at Penzance and elsewhere. As a member of the Ancient Society of College Youths he took an active part in all matters relating to bell restoration and belfry reform; and on the occasion of the opening of the present ring of St. Mary's, Penzance, he lectured on "Campanology" in the Corn Market, the fund being benefited to the extent of nearly 50l. Colonel Trelawny married at Kelly, in July 1853, Juliana, eldest daughter of the late Mr. Arthur Kelly, of Kelly. His eldest son, Harry, was born in 1858, and is at present in India serving with his regiment. There are three other sons and four daughters. Deceased has left written directions for his funeral, and secured a short time since a plot for a grave in the Penzance Cemetery, close to where the late Mr. Hearle Rodd was buried.'

At St. Mary's, Penzance, the following memorial peals were rung on Sunday evening, the 29th ult. A peal of Grandsire Minor, with 7 and 8 tenors, in 30 mins., the bells being half muffled. H. Mitchell, 1; C. Boase, 2; J. Hodder, 3; J. Richards, 4; J. Symons, 5; T. Hicks (conductor), 6; M. Bassett, 7; Rev. A. Berry, 8.

On Monday afternoon, immediately after the funeral, a quarter-peal (1260 changes) of Grandsire Triples was rung in 55 mins. E. Jenkyn, 1; C. Boase, 2; J. Hodder, 3; T. Hicks, 4; J. Richards, 5; G. Sellers, 6; J. Symons (conductor), 7; M. Bassett, 8.

A private correspondent supplies us with the following :—'On Tuesday, Aug. 22, 1877, when the College Youths visited Plymouth to open the ring of ten bells at St. Andrew's, under the superintendence of C. Troyte, Esq., they were invited to Plympton St. Mary, where they met Colonel Trelawny; the Rev. M. Kelly, a College Youth and change-ringer, and Rector of Plympton St. Maurice; Mr. Woolcombe; and Miss Trelawny, where they rang several touches on the bells. An incident then occurred which many readers will be pleased to have recorded. Under the porch of the church a course of Grandsire Cinques was rung, in which Miss Trelawny (about eighteen years of age) took the fifth and sixth bells, and rang them without a mistake before thirty or forty persons. H. Haley, 1, 2; J. R. Haworth, 3, 4; Miss Trelawny, 5, 6; W. Cooter, 7, 8; Colonel Trelawny, 9, 10; J. Pettit, 11, 12. Colonel Trelawny held a strong opinion about the beneficial effects of young persons (male and female) practising change-ringing on the hand-bells, both mental and physical exercise resulting therefrom.'

Kent County Association of Change-ringers.

A DISTRICT Meeting of this Society was held at Leeds, near Maidstone, on Thursday, the 25th ult., when upwards of seventy ringers were present. The other churches visited were Ulcombe, East Sutton, Chart Sutton, and Bearsted. Among the parishes represented were Aldington, Ashford, Bearsted, Folkestone, Frittenden, Hunton, Leeds, Maidstone, West Malling, Mersham, Rochester, Sittingbourne, &c. Mr. Haworth of London was also present, whose name figures in Leeds belfry as one of the performers in a peal of Stedman's Caters in 1859. Touches of Plain Bob, Grandsire, and Treble Bob, were rung at the above churches during the day.

After the meeting at Leeds, the Maidstone ringers returned home, and rang on the bells of All Saints' (tenor, 31 cwt.) a touch of Grandsire Caters. S. Kemp, 1; F. Newman, 2; E. Baldock, 3; R. Simmonds, 4; G. Pawley, 5; J. R. Haworth, London (conductor), 6; S. Snelling (Sittingbourne), 7; H. Pearce, 8; A. Woolley, 9; G. Moorcraft, 10. Afterwards a touch of Bob Major, and a touch of Grandsire Triples, conducted by Mr. Pearce.

The Lancashire Association of Change-ringers.

For the third year in succession the Lancashire Association of Change-ringers held their annual meeting on Saturday afternoon, the 13th ult., in Bolton, when Divine service was celebrated at Holy Trinity Church. This service over, the bell-ringers partook of a substantial tea in the adjoining schoolroom, after which they resolved themselves into a meeting. The chairman (the Rev. C. Lowe) thought that if bell-ringers did not attend Divine service, after they had taken so much pains to invite other people into the House of God, they were placing themselves in a position where they were capable of giving offence by putting a stumbling-block in the way of their neighbours, who, seeing them going out of church, would think they were acting in a certain sense inconsistently. They did not want anything savouring of 'sham,' but what they wanted was 'jannock' clergymen, 'jannock' choristers, and 'jannock' bell-ringers; and he hoped they would all try their best to be thoroughly 'jannock' and thoroughly real in the noble work in which they were engaged. The following officers were then elected:—President, the Rev. A. Turner; Secretary, W. J. Chatterton; Committee, G. W. Hughes (Garston), James Barratt (Eccles), J. Harrison (Heywood), and J. Curtis (Bolton). Fourteen new performing members were elected, and the usual votes of thanks were unanimously passed. Ringing took place during the evening at All Souls, at the parish church, and at Holy Trinity.

WM. JOS. CHATTERTON, } Hon. Secs.
JOEL REDFORD, }

Oxford Diocesan Guild of Church Bell-ringers,
Bradfield Deanery Branch.

On Saturday, the 27th ult., the yearly festival was held at Theale, by the kind permission of the Rector, the Rev. Thos. Butler. The members of the Guild, together with some friends, attended Evensong at the parish church, the choir of which acquitted themselves to every one's satisfaction, especially in the Anthem, which was short, appropriate, and well rendered. A very useful and earnest sermon was preached by the Rev. C. H. Sturges, vicar of Filkins, near Lechlade. Before practice in the belfry, the party, numbering above forty, took tea together in the schoolroom, and were further encouraged by some cheery words from the Rector, and from the rural Dean, the Rev. C. H. Travers. Mrs. Butler and some ladies sat down to tea with the members, increasing their enjoyment. This is believed to be the first occasion in the history of the Guild upon which such a compliment has been paid them.

The Raunds, Wellingborough, and District, Society of Church Bell-ringers.

We have received the printed Report of the above Association, which we are sorry that our space will not permit us to insert *in extenso*. At the business meeting, the Archdeacon presiding, the Rev. H. Bryan, the energetic hon. secretary, gave an account of the formation and origin of the Society, explained its objects, read the rules, and made some practical remarks on the subject of the reform of belfries, alluding to the evils that formerly arose, and in some cases still arise, from ringing-lofts. The thanks of the Society were given to the Archdeacon for the use of the church and bells. It was decided that the next meeting be held at Rushden, early in May next. At the conclusion of the meeting new members were admitted. The Society now numbers over 20 honorary and 42 ringing members. The following were present during the day: the Revs. Canon Barker (Rushden), R. S. Baker (Hargrave), F. B. Newman (Burton Latimer), J. P. Goodman (Keystone), F. Ball (Wollaston), G. M. Edmunds (Stoke Doyle), and the local clergy. Also W. W. Baillie, Esq. (Oundle), Mr. Henson (churchwarden, Finedon), G. H. Burnham, Esq. (churchwarden), and Dr. W. W. Clark, T. Cook, Esq., Mr. John Askham, and Mr. E. J. Dennes (sidesmen of the parish church, Wellingborough). There has not been such a gathering of ringers in Wellingborough for many years. The Irthlingborough men brought their hand-bells, which were kept going during the evening. All seemed to spend a most enjoyable day; and what may be considered the inaugural meeting of this newly formed Society was generally acknowledged to be a complete success.

Society of Change-ringers for the Archdeaconry of Stafford.

THE next Quarterly Meeting of this Society will be held at West Bromwich on Saturday, Nov. 10. Members and ringers desirous of joining the Society are requested to attend at All Saints' or Christ Church steeples at 2.30 p.m.; and to signify their intention of being present to Mr. S. Reeves, 10 Bull Street, West Bromwich, as soon as possible. Copies of the rules may be obtained on application to either of the Secretaries, addressed 'Lichfield.'

J. R. KEBLE, } Hon. Secs.
W. A. WOOD, }

Correction.

In our notice last week of the bells of St. Margaret, Barming, for 'Sancte' read 'Sancta'—*Sancta Trinitas ora pro nobis.*

CHANGE-RINGING.

At St. John's, Loughton, Essex.

ON Thursday, the 25th ult., eight members of the Royal Cumberland Society rang Penning's Original One-part peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples in 3 hrs. 10 mins. W. Smith, 1; G. Akers, 2; A. H. Gardom, Esq. (conductor), 3; G. Cornell, 4; M. Ellsmore, 5; J. Gobbett, 6; S. Jarman, 7; W. Truss, 8. Tenor, 19½ cwt. This is the second peal rung within five days by the 3rd, 5th, and 7th ringers.

At St. Michael's, Hathersage, Derbyshire.

ON Sunday, the 14th ult., four members of the St. Michael's company rang, with the assistance of Messrs. J. Allen and J. Atkin of Norton, a peal of 720 Bob Minor (16 bobs and 2 singles) in 28 mins. J. Linnycman, 1; J. A. Shinn, 2; G. Bagshaw, 3; J. Atkin (conductor), 4; W. Homes, 5; J. Allen, 6. Tenor, 15 cwt.

At Christ Church, Liversedge, Yorkshire.

ON Saturday, the 20th ult., the Society of Change-ringers rang a peal of 5184 Kent Treble Bob Major in 3 hrs. 5 mins., with the sixth four times wrong in 5-6 and twelve times at wrong behind, and ten courses at home out of the last thirteen. Composed by William Sottanstill, of Sowerby, Yorkshire, June 16th, 1883. J. Whitworth, 1; J. Nott, 2; A. Briggs, 3; S. Goodall, 4; H. Brook, 5; J. W. Lang, 6; L. Illingworth (conductor), 7; M. Ransden, 8. Tenor, 16 cwt.

| 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | M. | B. | W. | H. | | | M. | B. | W. | H. | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|----|----|----|----|---|---|----|----|----|----|---|---|---|
| 3 | 5 | 2 | 6 | 4 | — | — | — | — | 6 | 5 | 3 | 2 | 4 | 2 | — | 1 | 1 |
| 5 | 6 | 3 | 4 | 2 | — | — | — | — | 2 | 4 | 6 | 5 | 3 | — | 2 | — | — |
| 2 | 5 | 4 | 6 | 3 | — | — | 2 | 2 | 4 | 5 | 2 | 3 | 6 | — | — | — | — |
| 6 | 4 | 5 | 2 | 3 | 1 | — | — | 2 | 5 | 3 | 2 | 4 | 6 | 1 | — | — | — |
| 6 | 4 | 2 | 3 | 5 | — | — | — | 1 | 3 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 6 | 1 | — | — | — |
| 3 | 5 | 6 | 4 | 2 | — | — | 2 | — | 4 | 3 | 6 | 5 | 2 | — | 1 | 2 | — |
| 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 6 | — | — | — | — | 3 | 5 | 4 | 2 | 6 | — | — | — | — |
| 4 | 2 | 3 | 5 | 6 | 1 | — | — | — | 5 | 2 | 4 | 3 | 6 | 1 | — | — | — |
| 3 | 2 | 5 | 4 | 6 | 1 | — | — | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 1 | — | — | — |
| 4 | 3 | 5 | 2 | 6 | 1 | — | 2 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |

At Great Marlow, Bucks.

ON Saturday, the 20th ult., the townsmen of Great Marlow had an opportunity of hearing a complete peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples on the church bells. A band of ringers composed as follows:—E. Bishop, 1; H. Egby (conductor), 2; T. Newman, 3; S. Paice, 4; J. Potter, 5; J. M. Routh, Esq., 6; W. Newell, 7; and J. C. Truss (of Marlow), 8—met in the belfry at about 4.30 p.m. to ring a peal. They had a short touch before service at 5, after which they adjourned till after service, and then started for their work, which was satisfactorily done, and they completed their peal in 3 hrs. 9 mins., it being Holt's Ten-part peal; the weight of the tenor about 16 cwt. We take this opportunity of congratulating Mr. J. C. Truss on having attained his great desire of ringing in a complete peal, he being the first Marlow man who has ever done so. We were glad to see some of the young band listening with interest to the work, and at the conclusion of the peal those who came upstairs had the opportunity of seeing some change-ringing in a short touch rung for their special benefit. The ringers then adjourned to supper, where Mr. Truss's health was drunk on attaining his peal, and the thanks of the band were given to the Vicar and the foreman for the use of the bells, and to Mr. A. W. Truss, the steeple-keeper, for the excellent order in which the bells and belfry were found. There was some very pretty hand-bell ringing performed by Messrs. Egby and Paice before the party broke up.

At St. James's, Norton, Derbyshire.

ON Sunday, the 21st ult. (being the Harvest Thanksgiving), for morning service, a 360 of Bob Minor was rung in 14 mins. W. Lee, 1; J. Atkin, 2; W. Biggin, 3; J. Goucher, 4; J. Biggin, 5; J. Allen (conductor), 6. Also, in the evening, a peal of 720 Bob Minor (21 bobs and 12 singles) was rung in 28 mins. F. Ward, 1; J. Goucher, 2; W. Biggin, 3; J. Atkin, 4; J. Biggin, 5; J. Allen (conductor), 6. Also, after service, 360 (with 9 bobs) in 14 mins. J. Goucher, 1; H. Ward, 2; W. Biggin, 3; J. Atkin (conductor), 4; J. Biggin, 5; J. Allen, 6. Tenor, 11½ cwt.

At St. John's, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

ON Monday, the 22nd ult., six members of the Guild rang a peal of 720 Duke of York in 27 mins. R. Smith, 1; W. G. Routledge, 2; R. S. Story, 3; T. J. Des Forges, 4; W. Story, 5; F. Lees (conductor), 6.

Also on Sunday evening, the 28th, at the same church, a peal of 720 Kent Treble Bob was rung in 26 mins. G. Herdman, 1; C. L. Routledge, 2; F. Lees, 3; T. J. Des Forges, 4; W. Story, 5; W. G. Routledge (conductor), 6. Tenor, 12 cwt.

ON Monday, the 29th, on returning from the Annual Meeting of the Durham and Newcastle Association, six members of the above Guild rang on the heavy and sonorous peal of six at the parish church of Chester-le-Street a peal of 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor in 30 mins. G. Campbell, 1; W. G. Routledge, 2; W. Eggleston, 3; W. Story, 4; C. L. Routledge, 5; F. Lees (conductor), 6. Tenor, 20 cwt.

And on the same night a peal of 720 Plain Bob Minor was rung in 25 mins. at St. John's, with the assistance of Mr. R. Simn, jun. R. Simn, jun., 1; G. Campbell, 2; F. Lees, 3; C. L. Routledge, 4; W. Story, 5; W. G. Routledge (conductor), 6. Tenor, 12 cwt.

At St. Paul's, Burton-on-Trent, Staffordshire.

ON Thursday, the 25th ult., eight members of the St. Paul's Society rang a peal of 5088 Kent Treble Bob Major in 3 hrs. 33 mins. H. Wakley, 1; E. I. Stone, 2; J. Griffin, 3; R. Cartwright, 4; T. Meredith, 5; G. Appleby, 6; T. Holmes, 7; W. Wakley (conductor), 8. Tenor, 26 cwt. Composed by D. Prentice, and now rung for the first time. All members of the Midland Counties' Association.

the family at Mecca from which the Mehdi should come with an intentness that has already produced tragical results, and might any day produce a massacre. But a claimant to this dignity has already appeared in another and unexpected quarter. The head of the Sencussia community—having hundreds of monasteries in many lands—has quitted his dwelling in the Desert, south of Tripoli, and proclaimed himself the M.L.D. Proceeding eastward through the interior of North Africa, he is now engaged in a struggle with the Egyptian troops under English leading. His followers appeal for proof of his mission to a prophecy, which cannot, however, be traced back beyond 1850: 'In the year of the Hegira 1300 [A.D. 1882] shall appear the Mehdi. He shall be forty years of age, and of noble bearing. One of his arms shall be longer than the other; his father's name shall be Mohammed, his mother's Fatima, and he shall be hidden for a time prior to his manifestation.' Now this claimant actually has the bodily peculiarity spoken of, his right arm reaching to his knee, and he had for four years been hidden from all eyes in religious retreat. The reason why this Mehdi has entered the dominions of Egypt is plain, for without the possession of Egypt he cannot communicate with Arabia and Syria—unless, indeed, defeated in his present efforts, he contrives, nevertheless, to cut his way to the Red Sea with a small band. He might even thus rally the Arab race to his standard, overthrow the Turkish dynasty, and renew Moslem persecution of the Christians.

IRELAND.

(From our own Correspondent.)

MR. HENRY ROE writes to the *Daily Express* to say there is no truth in the statement that appeared in the *Record* to the effect that he has written to the Archbishop of Dublin offering to endow the Deanery of Christ Church Cathedral with 5000*l.* Considering what Mr. Roe has already done for the Cathedral, having expended on it over a quarter of a million, it may well be thought that he has done enough. If the Deanery is to be endowed, some other friend of the Church who has the means should come forward and do so. Mr. Roe, in addition to rebuilding it, has already endowed the Cathedral with an annual income of over 1000*l.*, having sunk for that purpose some 26,000*l.*

The opening meeting of the present session of the Dublin Clerical Association was held in the rooms of the Christian Knowledge Society on Monday last, the Rev. Dr. Ryder, Sub-Dean of Christ Church Cathedral, in the chair. After the usual study of the Greek Testament, the Rev. Canon Wynne read a paper on 'Subtle Influences of Indolence and Vanity on our Work.' There was an unusually large number of clergymen present to hear the paper, which was afterwards very favourably criticised by the Rev. Canon Smith, Archdeacon Scott, and others.

The Very Rev. John Gwynn, Archbishop King's Lecturer in Divinity in Trinity College, gave his inaugural lecture in the Divinity School on Monday last in the presence of the Provost and several of the Divinity Professors. The lecture, which was an able and eloquent one, was attentively received and warmly applauded at its close. The Rev. G. T. Stokes, B.D., the new Professor of Ecclesiastical History, gave his opening lecture on the following day. He is taking for his course of lectures 'The Ancient Irish Church.'

At the recent meeting of the Synod of Down and Connor Dr. Traill, F.T.C.D., referred to a misstatement in the *Freeman's Journal*, according to which he was made to say that their Church had been endowed by the State with seven millions of money, and that the Church still had that endowment. Dr. Traill showed that it was all the more necessary to point out that it was not the same millions—the original seven millions being gradually eaten away by the annuities—and that the original total was being kept up by the gradual accumulation of the voluntary contributions of the Church from year to year. The Rev. Dr. Wright moved, in the same Synod, a resolution on the subject of the Luther celebrations to the effect—

'That the Diocesan Synod of Down and Connor and Dromore hereby expresses its deep sympathy with the celebrations which have recently taken place in Germany in commemoration of the four hundredth anniversary of the birth of Martin Luther, and tenders its hearty congratulations to the great Protestant Churches of Germany on the coming anniversary of November 10.'

The motion was seconded by the Archdeacon of Connor, whereupon the Rev. R. C. Oulton moved the previous question. On the suggestion of the Dean of Down, the resolution was amended so as to leave out the last clause, and end at the words 'Martin Luther.' Mr. Oulton having expressed his willingness to accept the resolution in its amended form, it was therefore put to the meeting and passed.

The musical programme of St. Patrick's Oratorio Society for the ensuing winter is now published. It will embrace—1. Messiah (Handel), Nov. 18th, 1883. 2. Festival *Te Deum* (Sir A. Sullivan); Hymn of Praise (Mendelssohn), Feb. 1884, and 3. Elijah (Mendelssohn), May, 1884. The surplus funds are to be given to the Deanery Endowment Fund, or the Cathedral Sustentation Fund.

The Luther commemoration promises to be adequately kept in Dublin. There will be a public meeting in the Christian Union Buildings when the chair will be taken by General Guise, V.C., and addresses delivered by the Rev. Prebendary Chadwick and others. On Sunday afternoon the sermon will be preached in the same building at 4 p.m. by the Rev. Maurice Neligan, D.D. And on the Monday following, there will be a series of public meetings.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association of Ringers.

THE Annual Meeting of the members of the above Association was held at Durham on Monday last. The following companies were represented:—Brancepeth, Bishopwearmouth, Chester-le-Street, St. John's (Darlington), St. Oswald's (Durham), Heighington, Christ Church (Jarrow), St. Peter's (Jarrow), Staindrop, Stockton, and Winlaton (Durham); St. John's and St. Stephen's (Newcastle), Newton Hall, and North Shields (Northumberland); and Brampton, in Cumberland. During the day companies of the members proceeded to the Cathedral and St. Oswald's belfries, and rang touches upon the bells. At two o'clock a special service for members was held in St. Oswald's Church, which was largely attended, an admirable sermon being preached by the Rev. W. O. Blunt, M.A., rector of Chester-le-Street. About eighty afterwards sat down to dinner at the 'Three Tuns Hotel,' New Elvet. The chair was occupied by the Rev. A. W. Headlam, and the vice-chair by the President, Mr. W. Reed, North Shields. The company present included Canon Bruton, the Rev. V. K. Cooper, Rev. W. O. Blunt, and the Rev. C. C. Chevallier. In returning thanks, the President said he could assure them he had the welfare of the Association deeply at heart. He recently represented that Association at a meeting at Reading, and was extremely pleased to find so many take an interest in bell-ringing. It was proposed to form a national association of ringers, when every society would be called upon to send representatives to the annual meeting for the purpose of taking part in the deliberations and discussions. The Secretary (Mr. G. J. Clarkson) then read the annual report. About fifty-five new members were elected—Canon Body and the Rev. J. Bailey as hon. members; Revs. Blunt, Birley, Glyn, and Wadsworth, as hon. and performing members; J. Strodder, Ripon, and J. Cox, London, as life members; and the remainder as performing members. Darlington having been fixed upon as the place of the next meeting, the proceedings were brought to a close.

A collection in aid of the 'John Cox Fund' was made at the meeting, resulting in the sum of 19*s.*; to which will be added 11*s.*, the amount of sums held by the Secretary.

Surrey Association.

A DISTRICT MEETING of this Association will be held at Beddington (by the kind permission of the Rector) on Saturday, the 17th inst. Tower open for ringing from 2.30 p.m.

ARTHUR B. CARPENTER, *Hon. Sec.*

Essex Association. District Meeting.

A DISTRICT MEETING of the above Association will be held at Maldon on Saturday, November 24. Full particulars will be given in next week's *Church Bells*.

H. A. COCKEY, *Hon. Sec.*

Battles Bridge, S.O., Essex, Nov. 7th.

Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Change-ringers' Association.

ON Monday, the 29th ult., the Quarterly Meeting of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Change-ringing Association was held at Moreton-in-the-Marsh, the Tewkesbury Society being the selected representatives of the Association. Service was held at 11.30, with a sermon by the Rev. R. Mitford Taylor, the rector. Some touches of Grandsire, Union, and Stedman's Triples, were rung, in which the Rev. C. Davies, Messrs. Josiah Wathen (conductor), John Wathen, J. Hale, S. Cleal, F. Moore, H. Witherington, C. Axford, W. Haines, took part. The Master and Secretary accompanied the Tewkesbury Society. Some Union Triples were rung at Evesham on the journey home.

Renovation of the Beaconsfield Church Bells.

THE second meeting of the past and present Ringers' Committee for raising a fund to restore the bells in the church at Beaconsfield was held on Monday, the 29th ult. Mr. G. H. Charsley, the Secretary, stated that he had received a letter from Mr. Harry L. W. Lawson, the Chairman, regretting his inability to leave Oxford to attend the meeting; and in his absence Mr. W. Bolt was called on to preside. The Treasurer, Mr. G. Allington Charsley, reported having received, in response to the circular issued, several letters and subscriptions, the total amount of which was now 337*l.* It was resolved that the list of donors to date should be published in the London newspapers, and that four of the Committee should at once canvass the town itself for the convenience of those who were necessarily smaller subscribers. The circular which was issued at the previous meeting explains that the six bells in the parish church tower are in a very dilapidated state; and, as the tower itself is now being restored, the ringers have formed themselves into a Committee for putting the ring in a state worthy of the fine massiveness of this flint structure and its elevated position. It is estimated the work will cost 500*l.*, which includes adding two new bells to complete the octave. These, the Committee propose, should be hung in memory of Edmund Burke and the late Earl of Beaconsfield, whose names are associated with the place, and be called the 'Burke' and the 'Beaconsfield' bells. We understand further subscriptions have been received since the meeting.

A Gathering of Change-ringers at St. Albans, Herts.

ON Wednesday, the 31st ult., a pleasant meeting of change-ringers took place at St. Albans at the invitation of L. Proctor, Esq., of Benington, Herts. The ring of ten bells at St. Peter's has lately been repaired, and the eighth and ninth bells recast, by Taylor of Loughborough, and the result has been a great success. After luncheon at the 'Peahen Hotel,' Stedman's Caters, Grandsire Caters, and Stedman's Triples, were rung by J. R. Haworth (conductor), John Kitchener, Squire Proctor, J. Pettit, C. F. Winny, — Newman (Maidstone), H. Baker (Hertford), S. Page, T. Page, and N. Warner. J. Taylor (Loughborough), W. Baker (Woburn), — Chapman (Hampstead),

Lewis and Hills (St. Albans), took part in the ringing. After dinner, at which seventeen ringers sat down, Mr. Proctor's health was proposed and carried with much enthusiasm, both on account of his ability as a ringer and his kindness in inviting the party to St. Albans. The Abbey was then visited, and two excellent touches of Stedman's Triples and Double Norwich Court Bob Major were rung (tenor, 26 cwt.) by N. Warner, J. Kitchener, Squire Proctor, L. Chapman, S. Page, Jos. Kitchener, — Sharnbrook, and T. Page. In the evening merry tunes on the hand-bells enlivened the meeting, which terminated with a well-struck course of Grandsire Caters. Pettit, 1, 2; Squire Proctor, 3, 4; Haworth, 5, 6; Winny, 7, 8; Taylor, 9, 10. All present expressed themselves pleased with the day's meeting. Mr. Lewis, as usual, kindly made all the arrangements.

Bells and Ringing at Salisbury.

THE bells of St. Martin's Church, which before were seriously out of tune (the two trebles being each nearly half a note too flat), have last week been perfectly tuned by Mr. W. Greenleaf, of the Whitechapel Foundry, London. Salisbury has been noted for nothing else but 'Churchyard Bob' until lately. But an attempt has been made to introduce change-ringing, and several of the local ringers have been taught the methods of Grandsire Doubles and Bob Minor during Mr. Greenleaf's stay in Salisbury. Several courses of Bob Minor were rung at St. Martin's; also several six-scores of Grandsire Doubles at St. Thomas's, 7, 6, 8, behind, by W. Greenleaf,* 1; T. Blackburn,* 2; C. Clements, 3; W. W. Giffard, 4; J. R. Jerram,* 5; G. Blake, 6; W. Latham, 7; G. Devonport and J. Head, 8. Tenor, 32 cwt. Also on All Saints' Day at St. Paul's was rung 360 of Bob Minor by H. Dowling, 1; C. Clements, 2; W. Greenleaf,* 3; T. Blackburn,* 4; W. W. Giffard, 5; J. R. Jerram,* 6. Tenor, 13 cwt. [* Members of the Ancient Society of College Youths.]

A Disputed Claim.

SIR,—Seeing in *Church Bells* to-day that Mr. Truss, of Great Marlow, claims to be the first Marlow man that has ever rung a peal of 5040, I beg to contradict it, myself being a Marlow man, and having rung two peals, Holt's Ten-part peal on the 17th November, 1873, and in the One-part peal on the 11th January, 1878. They are reported in *Church Bells*.

HENRY ROSE, 15 St. Alban's Road, Dartford, Kent;
formerly of Dean Street, Great Marlow, Bucks.

The Bells of St. Margaret, Barming.

SIR,—Your correspondent, the Rev. T. W. Carr, has not received any reply to his note in your publication asking for suggestions for the names of a ring of five bells. When I first read the request I thought nothing could be more easily replied to, but when I began to consider I did not find it quite so simple. I asked several people to suggest suitable names, but none could give any. What do you think of the following?—No. 1, 'Quod petis hic est;' No. 2, 'Venite Exultemus Domino;' No. 3, 'Te Deum Laudamus;' No. 4, 'Benedicite Omnia Opera;' No. 5, 'Jubilate Deo.' C. J. S.

Belfry Rules.

SIR,—'The fewer,' said a speaker at the recent Ringers' Conference, 'the better.' But I think that the Rev. E. L. Berthon may find what he wants in Wigram's *Change-ringing Disentangled* (London: Bell & Sons). But I should like to ask the Vicar of Romsey if his ringers are members of the Winchester Diocesan Guild; and whether or not any half-pull *change-ringing* is done at his beautiful Abbey church? Mr. Berthon could not refer to a better authority than his neighbour, the Rev. A. Du Boulay Hill, vicar of Downton, Salisbury, the (I believe) former secretary of the Winchester Diocesan Guild.

JOHN JAMES HALL.

Award of Merit.

We have the pleasure to state that Messrs. Warner obtained a recognition for bells and an award of merit at the Fisheries Exhibition.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At Tewkesbury Abbey, Gloucestershire.

On Tuesday, the 23rd ult., eight members of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association rang a date touch of 1883 Union Triples in 1 hr. 10 mins. S. Cleal, 1; Rev. C. D. P. Davies (conductor), 2; F. J. Moore, 3; J. Hale, 4; J. Wathen, 5; C. Axford, 6; Jos. Wathen (composer), 7; W. Haines, 8. Tenor, 24 cwt.

At St. Mary's, Kidderminster, Worcestershire.

On Saturday, the 27th ult., the members of the Worcester and adjoining District Change-ringing Association assembled at the above church, when members from Malvern, Bromsgrove, Netherton, Kidderminster, Wolverley, Chaddesley-Corbett, Bridgnorth, Wollaston, Belbroughton, including the master, Mr. Perks, Mr. Duffill (treasurer), Mr. Smith (secretary); also Mr. E. F. Strange (College Youths), who became a performing member of this Association; Mr. King (Bath), and Mr. Morris (Birmingham). Ringing commenced with mixed companies about 3 o'clock p.m., when touches of (Grandsire Triples, Plain Bob, and Grandsire Minor, were gone through. This is the second visit paid to this place in this year, and we are pleased to say that since our last visit at Easter the objects of the Association have made some progress, the walls and ceiling have been whitened and coloured, and fair progress made in the art and science of change-ringing. The local company are to be congratulated on the improvements they have made; still there is ample room for belfry reform before it corresponds with the church to which it forms a part. About 7.30 o'clock p.m. the ringers adjourned to the

'Sailor's Return' inn, where touches in various methods were gone through on the hand-bells. Votes of thanks were passed to the Vicar and Churchwardens for the use of the bells. The meeting then terminated, and the members dispersed, highly pleased with their evening's enjoyment.

At St. Helen's, Lea, Gainsborough, Lincolnshire.

On Saturday, the 27th ult., the ringers of St. Botolph's, Lincoln, rang a peal of 720 Bob Minor in three parts (9 bobs and 6 singles) in 28 mins. J. Giles, 1; H. Maidens, 2; H. Hayes, 3; C. Johnson, 4; E. Curtis (conductor), 5; F. Rose, 6. Tenor, 14 cwt.

At St. Michael's, Hughenden, Bucks.

On Saturday, the 27th ult., six of the Hughenden ringers rang a peal of 720 Grandsire Doubles on the back six in 27 mins. W. Hussey (conductor), 1; J. Evans, 2; H. Stratford, 3; F. Free, 4; G. Bunce, 5; W. Goodchild, 6. Tenor, 12½ cwt., in G.

At St. George's, Doncaster, Yorkshire.

On Saturday, the 3rd inst., a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes) was rung in 50 mins. H. Fevre (conductor), 1; W. Newsome, 2; W. White, 3; G. Marwood, 4; T. Fevre, 5; J. White, 6; J. Jeff, 7; W. Howard, 8. The above is a part of the peal composed by W. Taylor.

At St. John's, Waterloo Road, London.

On Saturday, the 3rd inst., in commemoration of the 59th anniversary of the consecration of the church, eight members of the Waterloo Society rang a peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples (Holt's Ten-part) in 3 hrs. 52 mins. W. Coppage,* 1; D. Springale, 2; J. Mansfield,* 3; S. Greenwood (conductor), 4; T. Taylor, 5; G. Banks,* 6; G. Pell, 7; E. Bayford, 8. [* Members of the Yorkshire Association.] These bells have lately been put into thorough-going order by Mr. Banks, of Kennington, who has carried out the work to the entire satisfaction of the vicar, churchwardens, and ringers.

At St. Edmund's, Downham, Norfolk.

On Monday evening, the 5th inst., a peal of 720 Bob Minor (42 Singles) was rung in 25 mins. R. Chapman, 1; T. Gates, 2; G. Woodhouse, 3; W. Goodchild, 4; G. Neal, 5; G. Spencer (conductor), 6. Tenor, 12 cwt. This company is now practising Treble Bob.

Correction.

In the last paragraph of article last week on 'The late Colonel Trelawny,' for August 22, 1877, read June 16, 1874.

RECEIVED ALSO:—Bob Major; Wellingborough Bells; Stedman's Ghost, requesting that his composition may not be nicknamed Stedman but Stedman's, as Handel's, Holt's, and other composers are.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Disciplinary Rights of the Clergy.

SIR,—The Report of the late Commission on Ecclesiastical Courts affects to follow merely the lines of English history, with but a few glances at the elder universal Church. Consistently with this, it, while providing for Bishops' jurisdiction, Archbishops' jurisdiction, and a Supreme Court of lay lawyers to set aside the decisions of both on appeal, leaves the presbytery wholly outside, and assigns no weight to their judgment and no room to their voice on those disciplinary questions on which courts will have to decide. The great body of the clergy are so accustomed to this sort of treatment that they have no protest ready against proposals to override the oldest and most clearly Scriptural functions of their office. Read St. Paul's parting address to the presbyters of Ephesus in Acts, xx., and you will see that he solemnly charges them with the disciplinary oversight of the Church, with precisely those functions and duties which extend to and include the condemnation of false teaching, from which the Courts proposed to be constituted by this Report would wholly exclude them. The clergy ought to have, by all sound and early customs of the Church, the most powerful voice in the election of their bishop. They have none whatever. They ought to choose his assessor or assessors, if any are to be chosen; the proposed scheme limits the choosing power to the Dean and Chapter, if any, and takes no notice of the presbyteral body, whether any Dean and Chapter exist or not. They ought to have a voice, which could be easily managed by nominees from their own body, in the decisions arrived at by the Bishop's Court. In short, that Court should be a function of the Bishop in Synod, not of the Bishop as a solitary potentate. To erect him into this is to draw from the dregs of mediævalism, to follow precedents taken from the Western Church in its decadence and corruption, not from the individual Church in its comparative purity, and finally to repudiate, for human traditions, the principles and precedents of Holy Scripture itself.

HENRY HAYMAN, D.D.

The Church and the Masses.

SIR,—The great poet speaks of 'music married to immortal verse,' and when the grand words of many of our hymns are kept constant each to some one grand tune the effect of the double association makes both to be a life-long power. In churches (I know of one such at least) where this principle has for years been acted on, what is the effect? The people (hoping one day, as we all do, to join the songs of eternity) are able, so to speak, to practise for them now; every brother can take his part.

'With voice as full and strong
As ocean's surging praise,'

they

'Pour out the strains our fathers loved,
The psalms of ancient days.'

But contrast with this picture the 'Congregational' (?) singing in too many churches nowadays, where it seems to be deemed a point of honour that

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

The Ancient Society of College Youths.

ON Tuesday, the 13th inst., the first meeting at head-quarters (St. Saviour's, Southwark) after the 5th of November—on which day, in 1637, the Society was instituted—the election of officers for the ensuing year took place, when the following persons were chosen:—Master, Mr. W. Greenleaf; Secretary, Mr. G. Muskett; Treasurer, Mr. J. Pettit; Stewards, Messrs. Rowbotham and George; Auditors, Messrs. Bird and Tucker.

On this day, Nov. 17th, ten members of the Company will attempt to ring a peal of 11,000 Stedman's Caters at All Saints', Fulham.

The New Bells at the Law Courts, London.

THE five bells for the new clock in the tower of the Royal Courts of Justice, in the Strand, have now been placed in position, and the completion of the works is being proceeded with rapidly; but owing to the care which has to be exercised in the erection of the machinery, it is not expected that the clock will be finally set going until the end of the present month.

Canterbury Cathedral Company, Kent.

ON Wednesday, the 7th inst., at St. Stephen's, Canterbury, by the kind permission of Bishop Oxenden (the Vicar) and churchwardens, six of the above company, with the assistance of Mr. G. Stancombe from London, and R. E. Fiske, Esq. from Ramsgate, rang the first half of Holt's Ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples in 1 hr. 30 mins. Tenor, 18 cwt. It was the intention of the company to attempt the whole peal, but there was not time for more than half. W. H. Andrews, 1; G. Stancombe (conductor), 2; R. E. Fiske, Esq., 3; G. S. Ovenden, 4; A. A. Andrews, 5; H. G. Fairbrass, 6; T. H. Small, 7; R. Goodbourne, 8. This is the longest touch rung in Canterbury for the last thirty-six years.

Correction.

SIR,—In your account of 'Bells and Ringing at Salisbury,' which I sent last week, a very absurd mistake occurred through misplacing a full stop. As it is printed it runs, 'several of the local ringers have been taught the methods of Grandsire Doubles and Bob Minor during Mr. Greenleaf's stay in Salisbury. Several courses of Bob Minor were rung, &c.' Now, as Mr. Greenleaf was only here about four days, this seems a very remarkably short time for a set of round ringers to learn any method. The fact is, they have been practising the above for some time and the paragraph should have run thus:—'Several of the local ringers have been taught the methods, &c. During Mr. Greenleaf's stay in Salisbury several courses of Bob Minor were rung, &c.' J. R. JERRAM.

Plain Bob Minor.

SIR,—Not having seen a peal of the following description, will you kindly insert mine?

| 720 | | | |
|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| 2 3 4 5 6 | S 2 3 5 6 4 | S 4 2 5 6 3 | S 4 5 6 2 3 |
| S 3 2 5 6 4 | 3 6 2 4 5 | S 2 4 6 3 5 | S 5 4 2 3 6 |
| 2 6 3 4 5 | S 6 3 4 5 2 | S 4 2 3 5 6 | 4 3 5 6 2 |
| S 6 2 4 5 3 | 3 5 6 2 4 | S 2 4 5 6 3 | S 3 4 6 2 5 |
| 2 5 6 3 4 | S 5 3 2 4 6 | 4 6 2 3 5 | S 4 3 2 5 6 |
| S 5 2 3 4 6 | S 3 5 4 6 2 | S 6 4 3 5 2 | S 3 4 5 6 2 |
| S 2 5 4 6 3 | S 5 3 6 2 4 | S 4 6 5 2 3 | S 4 3 6 2 5 |
| S 5 2 6 3 4 | S 3 5 2 4 6 | S 6 4 2 3 5 | S 3 4 2 5 6 |
| S 2 5 3 4 6 | S 5 3 4 6 2 | S 4 6 3 5 2 | 4 5 3 6 2 |
| S 5 2 4 6 3 | 3 6 5 2 4 | 6 5 4 2 3 | 5 6 4 2 3 |
| 2 6 5 3 4 | S 6 3 2 4 5 | S 5 6 2 3 4 | S 6 5 2 3 4 |
| S 6 2 3 4 5 | S 3 6 4 5 2 | S 6 5 3 4 2 | S 5 6 3 4 2 |
| S 2 6 4 5 3 | S 6 3 5 2 4 | 5 4 6 2 3 | 6 4 5 2 3 |
| S 6 2 5 3 4 | 3 2 6 4 5 | S 4 5 2 3 6 | 4 2 6 3 5 |
| 2 3 6 4 5 | 2 4 3 5 6 | S 5 4 3 6 2 | 2 3 4 5 6 |
| S 3 2 4 5 6 | | | |

15 St. Alban's Road, Dartford, Kent.

B. W. ROSE.

Restoration of Bells at Pilton, Somerset.

The ring of six—tenor, 22 cwt.—at the above place have lately been rehung by Mr. Harry Stokes of Woodbury, Devon. The floors and cage are wholly new, of substantial oak; Ellacombe's chiming apparatus is also attached. The execution of the work has given the greatest satisfaction.

| 5152 | | | | Bob Major. | | | |
|-----------|----|----|----|---|----|----|----|
| 2 3 4 5 6 | W. | M. | H. | The following courses complete the peal:— | | | |
| 6 4 2 3 5 | — | — | — | | W. | M. | H. |
| 2 6 2 4 5 | — | — | — | | | | |
| 2 4 3 6 5 | — | — | — | 4 3 5 2 6 | — | — | — |
| 3 2 4 6 5 | — | — | — | 5 4 3 2 6 | — | — | — |
| 4 3 2 6 5 | — | — | — | 3 5 4 2 6 | — | — | — |
| 2 6 4 3 5 | — | — | — | 4 2 3 5 6 | — | — | — |
| 4 2 6 3 5 | — | — | — | 3 4 2 5 6 | — | — | — |
| 6 3 4 2 5 | — | — | — | 2 3 4 5 6 | — | — | — |
| 4 6 3 2 5 | — | — | — | | | | |
| 3 4 6 2 5 | — | — | — | | | | |

These ten courses three times repeated produce 52364.

BENJAMIN FRANCIS, Diss.

Society of Change-ringers for the Archdeaconry of Stafford.

THE Society held its autumn Quarterly Meeting at West Bromwich on Saturday, the 10th inst., which passed off most successfully. The following bands were represented:—Christ Church, West Bromwich; All Saints', West Bromwich; Lichfield Cathedral; St. Mary's, Lichfield; Tetterhall; and Wombourn. All the arrangements had been carefully made by Mr. S. Reeves of Christ Church, West Bromwich, and proceedings commenced at 2.30 p.m. with ringing at All Saints' and Christ Church. At 5 p.m. the members of the Society attended Evensong at Christ Church, the address being given by the Vicar. A Committee Meeting was afterwards held in the vestry, the most important business being the election of new members, amongst others the Vicar of All Saints', the Rev. M. M. Connor, and the Vicar of Christ Church, the Rev. C. H. Joberns, were elected hon. members of the Society. The Rev. C. H. Joberns had kindly asked all present (numbering thirty-two) to tea, which was served in the Coffee House at 6 p.m. The Secretary, Rev. J. R. Keble, stated that the prospects of the Society were most hopeful, and that it was being already recognised as a useful means of improving the condition of the steeples and of the ringing in the archdeaconry, and strongly urged all present to do their best to get fresh members to join. The rest of the evening was spent in the belfries till 9.30 p.m. The ringing consisted of touches of Grandsire and Stedman's Triples, Treble Bob, and Grandsire Major, Grandsire Caters, and a plain course of Grandsire Cinques, at Christ Church.

The next General Meeting of the Society will be held at Wolverhampton on Saturday, Jan. 5, 1884.

Essex Association.—District Meeting.

A DISTRICT Meeting of the above Association will be held at Maldon on Saturday, Nov. 24th. The towers of All Saints' and St. Mary's churches (six bells in each) will be open to members at 1 p.m. Business meeting at 4.30 p.m.; tea directly after. Members intending to be present are requested to inform the Secretary at an early date, as the Vicar and Churchwardens have kindly offered to contribute towards the cost of the tea.

Battles Bridge, S.O., Essex.

H. A. COCKEY, Hon. Sec.

Beds Association of Change-ringers.

ON Saturday, the 3rd inst., six members of the above company, with Mr. Craddock of Biggleswade, paid a visit to Arlesey, and, by kind permission of the Vicar, rang several six-scores of Grandsire Doubles in the following order:—J. Spenser, 1; C. Craddock, 2; C. W. Clark, 3; J. Atkin, 4; W. Biggs (conductor), 5; W. Allen, 6. Also a 720 Plain Bob, by the following:—J. Atkin, 1; C. Craddock, 2; W. Allen, 3; C. W. Clark, 4; J. Frossell, 5; W. Biggs (conductor), 6. Tenor, 12 cwt., in G. The ringers afterwards went to Biggleswade, and, by permission of Archdeacon Bathurst, rang several six-scores of Doubles.

ON Tuesday, the 13th inst., the Hitchin Society paid a visit to Arlesey, and rang several six-scores of Doubles. It was intended for a 720 Bob Minor, but one of the members was engaged another way, so five-bell work was the order. H. Gilsby, 1; F. Furr, 2; W. A. Tyler, 3; J. Hare, 4; W. Allen, 5. This was done in order to let the local ringers see how change-ringing is done, of which they are about to learn. It is believed they have engaged an instructor.

At St. James's, Warter, East Yorks.

Two new bells, cast by Messrs. John Warner and Sons of London, weighing respectively 7 cwt. and 6 cwt., have been recently hung, in stout and well-finished oak frames, in the tower of this pretty village church, by Mr. Thomas Mallaby, of Masham. The tone of each is admirably clear and very sweet, and it harmonises accurately with the note of the fine old tenor bell, which is G sharp. This tenor bell, which was first hung in 1699, has now been rehung, and has also been furnished with a new clapper, by Mr. Mallaby.

The parishioners of Warter and other friends have presented one of the new bells (together with a handsome gravestone), as a memorial to the late vicar of the parish, the Rev. Samuel Wilson: and the other is the gift of the generous Squire of Warter, C. H. Wilson, Esq., M.P., to whose liberality the church is indebted for several handsome articles of furniture, and a lately-constructed inner roof.

The Parishioners' bell bears the following inscription:—

'S. JAMES'S, WARTER.

'To the glory of God, and in Memory of the Revd. Saml. Wilson, who for 42 years was Vicar of Warter, this bell has been placed here by the parishioners of Warter and other friends. August 1883.

"Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised."

Mr. Wilson's bell bears this inscription:—

'For the glory of God, and the honour of His house, this bell has been placed here by Chas. H. Wilson, M.P. August 1883.

"One generation shall praise Thy works to another."

For the dedication of these bells a special service was held on Wednesday evening, the 7th inst., which was conducted by the Vicar of Warter, the Rev. R. D. French, M.A. He was supported by the Dean of York (who preached the sermon), the Revs. A. Grimston (rural dean), C. H. Burton, B. E. Wake, T. C. Westmorland, W. D. W. Rees, T. Collins, and J. W. W. Moeran. The first lesson was read by the Rev. A. Grimston, and the second by the Rev. C. H. Burton. The latter part of the evening prayer was read by the Rev. W. D. W. Rees. Special psalms (48th, 84th, and 150th), special hymns, and the anthem 'Behold how good and joyful,' were sung with great heatness by the choir, who were well followed by the congregation in the psalms and hymns. The preacher took for his text the words of St. John, i. 41, 'And he brought him to Jesus.' And in the course of a very elaborate

sermon on the employment of bells as agents or instruments of religion, he traced its history down from a very early date to the present time. He was, justly, unsparing in his censure of those who employ as church bell-ringers men of godless or disreputable character, and he denounced the negligence which permits church towers to be used, either as adjuncts to the public-house, or as receptacles for dirt and lumber. Towards the close of his sermon the Dean besought his hearers to look henceforth upon their church bells as 'Ministers of God,' whose loving voice of invitation would at all times lead them to Jesus for pardon of sin, comfort in seasons of sorrow, and strength under the trying circumstances of temptation or affliction.

It is hoped that, at some future time, at least three more bells, for which there is plenty of room, may be added, that so the pleasure which is now derived from the 'Music of the Tower' at Warter may be largely increased.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At Burnley Parish Church, Lancashire.

On Monday, the 5th inst., the usual custom was observed here, when 1000 changes of Holt's Ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples were rung by R. Smith (conductor), 1; J. Gregson, 2; John Pollard, 3; M. Bridge, 4; T. Holden, 5; W. Briggs, 6; Jas. Pollard, 7; W. Dale, 8. Tenor, 17 cwt.

Mr. HENRY CLEGG, a ringer at the parish church, has recently died, after but three days' illness, aged twenty-nine years. He rang the second bell in Holt's Ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples on the 29th of May last. This was his first peal. As a mark of respect, the bells were rung muffled for service on the Wednesday evening, and likewise for morning service on the Sunday following. The funeral took place at the Cemetery on the 25th of October. The service was said by the Rev. T. A. Turner, President of the Lancashire Association of Change-ringers. The ringers rang their bells muffled from 2 to 3 p.m., whilst the corpse of their brother was conveyed to its last resting-place.

At York Minster.—Muffled Ringing.

On Thursday, the 8th inst., a muffled touch of 1883 changes of Grandsire Caters was rung on the Minster bells in 1 hr. 23 mins., as a mark of respect for the memory of the late J. J. Leeman, M.P. for York. J. Cundall, 1; T. Hodgson, 2; G. Breed (conductor), 3; R. Thompson, 4; J. Underwood, 5; J. Thompson, 6; T. Haigh, 7; W. Morrell, 8; W. H. Howard (composer), 9; M. West and J. Daniel, 10. Tenor, 54 cwt.

THE TOUCH.

| | | |
|---------------------|-------------|----------------------------|
| 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 | 3 2 5 6 | 9 ³ |
| 2 1 3 5 4 7 6 9 8 | 5 3 2 6 | — |
| 2 3 1 4 5 6 7 8 9 | 3 6 2 5 | 8 ³ |
| 3 2 4 1 6 5 8 7 9 | 6 5 2 3 | — |
| 3 4 2 6 1 8 5 9 7 | 2 6 5 3 | 9 ³ |
| 4 3 6 2 8 1 9 5 7 | 5 2 6 3 | — |
| 4 6 3 8 2 1 5 9 7 | 2 3 6 5 | 8 ³ |
| 6 4 8 3 1 2 9 5 7 | 3 5 6 2 4 | — |
| 6 8 4 1 3 9 2 7 5 | 2 5 4 3 6 | 8th in and out and |
| B 8 6 1 4 9 3 7 2 5 | 5 3 4 2 | 8 ³ [home] |
| 8 1 6 9 4 7 3 5 2 | 3 2 4 5 | — |
| 1 8 6 4 9 3 7 2 5 | 4 3 2 5 | 9 ³ |
| 1 6 8 9 4 7 3 5 2 | 3 5 2 4 | 8 ³ |
| B 3 4 6 2 8 5 9 7 | 2 3 5 4 | 9 ³ |
| 3 2 4 5 6 7 8 9 | 4 3 6 2 5 | 8 in & out & home |
| 2 5 3 6 4 | 6 2 3 4 5 | 8 ³ with single |
| 7th in and out at 2 | 4 2 5 6 3 | 8 ² and home |
| [twice] | 3 2 5 4 7 6 | 9 in and out at 2 |

W. H. HOWARD.

At St. Sidwell's, Exeter, Devon.

On Thursday, the 8th inst., the members of the St. Sidwell's Society rang a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 45 mins. (1260 changes), being the occasion of the marriage of Miss J. Pope to Surgeon-Major Moore, A.M.D. The ringers were F. Shepherd, 1; G. Townsend, 2; W. Goss, 3; H. Swift, 4; S. Herbert, 5; A. Shepherd, 6; Ferris Shepherd (conductor), 7; T. Halse and W. Alfred, 8.

At St. Paul's, Burton-on-Trent, Staffordshire.

On Friday, the 9th inst., eight members of the St. Paul's Society rang Holt's Ten-part peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples in 3 hrs. 9 mins. Rev. J. H. Fish, 1; W. Wakley, 2; H. Wakley, 3; J. Griffin (conductor), 4; J. Jaggard, 5; A. Wakley, 6; T. Holmes, 7; G. Appleby, 8. Tenor, 26 cwt. All members of the Midland Counties' Association.

At St. Peter-at-Gowts, Lincoln.

On Friday, the 9th inst., two peals and a half of Bob Minor were rung. The first peal as follows:—J. Cox, 1; C. Wells (first peal), 2; J. Watson, 3; E. Curtis (conductor), 4; P. Herrick, 5; W. Knowles, 6. The second peal:—J. Cox, 1; E. Curtis (conductor), 2; J. Watson, 3; T. Keyworth, 4; P. Herrick, 5; W. Knowles, 6. A touch of 360 by J. Cox, 1; C. Wells, 2; E. Curtis (conductor), 3; G. Doughty, 4; P. Herrick, 5; W. Knowles, 6. Tenor, 9 cwt.

At New College, Oxford.

On Saturday, the 10th inst., the following members of the Oxford University Society of Change-ringers rang a peal of 720 Grandsire Minor in 30 mins. G. F. Scott, 1; F. A. H. Du Boulay, 2; J. R. Vincent, 3; W. Finch, 4; J. F. Hastings, 5; G. F. Coleridge (conductor), 6. Tenor, about 15 cwt. 546 Grandsire Triples were afterwards rung.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Church Feebleness at Sheffield.

SIR,—The above heading to a paragraph in *Church Bells* of last week, copied from the *School Guardian*, does not represent, I am glad to say, the real condition of things. The last Ruridecanal Chapter appointed a committee to make arrangements for the formation of a 'Church Day-school Aid Society,' which has already reported, and has 'unanimously decided to recommend [the adoption of the Huddersfield Scheme, with some modifications.] That at such a moment a Church school should be handed over to the Board causes both pain and surprise to Church people. Strangely enough, the Vicar of St. Barnabas is regarded as a 'strong Churchman.' I only wish to add that the Church schools of Sheffield are by no means in low water; and my own is at this moment in a sounder condition financially than I have ever known a school to be. A SHEFFIELD VICAR.

Conversion.

SIR,—Your correspondent, 'H.', invites communications on the subject of the heading of his letter, 'On what day and in what year did you give yourself up to the Lord Jesus Christ?' I know many people who can fix the date of their 'conversion,' who, as it were, had nailed themselves, or been nailed by mission-preachers, Sunday-school teachers, &c., to decide there and then whom they would serve, and to whom the 'valley of decision' was a strong reality. But I know many more who would shrink from (even if it were possible, which it is not), from trying to fix a time when they entered into life; to whom the change comes not as a sudden victory, but as a constant wrestling between the two natures. And I know others by whom the aspiration, 'We would see Jesus,' and the prayer, 'Lord, show us the Father,' are not understood, whose cry is, 'Show me the path of life,' who, groping in the darkness, cry, 'Lord, if Thou art there at all, fulfil Thy repented promises, and give me peace.' To preach the need of sudden, conscious conversion to either of these classes would be like speaking in an unknown tongue. They may desire 'the peace of God, which passeth all understanding;' they may understand the longing for rest from unavailing search; and they may appreciate Carlyle's phrase, 'reaching the harbour of the everlasting yes.' But if only one groove—sudden, conscious conversion—is presented to them my own experience is the weak become hypocrites, the strong agnostics.

Yet surely there is a change, a cleansing necessary—put it when and where different dispositions and different sects will—in the actual regeneration of infants in baptism, in the reception of the Holy Ghost at confirmation, in the appropriation of Christ's sacrifice and person at an epoch the soul calls conversion, in the awakening of a mighty though blind intellect to exclaim, 'Surely there is a God of this wondrous universe, and I knew it not;' or in the illuminating of the anxious soul in quest of peace having sought God in the book guided by Protestants, and in the bread instructed by Catholics, while missing the fact that He is everywhere. In whichever way this regeneration takes place, it is done once for all, and it is impossible for the enlightened to mistake the light, but it is equally impossible for him to be happy without the daily cleansing, the constant renewal.

M. E. W.

Mr. S. Gedge and the Ecclesiastical Courts Commission.

SIR,—The article in the *Churchman* upon the Report of the Ecclesiastical Commission was not written by me, as you suppose, and its views are not mine on the subject of the Bishop's veto upon prosecutions. I spoke at the Reading Church Congress in favour of that veto, but I would guard it from abuse by requiring that the Bishop's decision, whether to allow or to prohibit prosecution, be given formally, in writing under his hand and episcopal seal, and that his reasons be stated; and I would allow either party to appeal upon those reasons to the Archbishop, whose decision should be given in the same way. Nearly every prosecution does so much harm to the Church, that it can scarcely be made too difficult to take legal proceedings, especially as the Acts of Uniformity are being continually broken by every active clergyman, and must be broken unless his work is to come to a standstill. If your readers doubt this, let me refer them to the opinions of Sir J. F. Stephen and Mr. Droop, which are appended to my article on the 'Diaconate,' in the September number of the *Churchman*. SYDNEY GEDGE.

Bournemouth.

Vivisection (so called) and the Medical Profession.

SIR,—I cordially welcome the letter of Mr. Bell, as being a most refreshingly unhysterical contribution to the antivivisection side of the question. I cannot, however, allow that I have fallen into any errors in this matter, though I must confess that I have fallen into a trap. I ought not, for my own sake, to have written that to which he refers in his last paragraph, for it is clear that I cannot prove my words without laying myself open to an action for libel. So far, therefore, he has distinctly the better of me; though the fact that a person so evidently well informed in the matter should only be able to bring forward three names, almost amounts to a proof that my question cannot be answered.

His first paragraph contains exactly what I mean by the 'misconception and exaggeration' upon which the antivivisection movement is founded. I object to the matter being carried abroad at all. I have nothing whatever to do with what goes on on the Continent, and I do not trouble myself to defend Continental doctors. I have seen something of them, and they are a very different class of people to ours. I object to the universal use of the word *Vivisection*, for its use is a misrepresentation of the facts of the case. Experiments on animals by no means necessitate cutting them up alive, though in the opinion of some of the most tender-hearted, self-denying, and philanthropic of men, the human race, and also the lower animals, may be greatly benefited by operations which might be so characterised. Hence

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Death of an old Bell-ringer.—In Memoriam.

MANY of our readers will be surprised to hear of the death of Mr. Peter Johnson, engineer, late of Ince, near Wigan, which took place at the residence of his son, Well Bank, Haslingden. He had been in failing health for several weeks past; and after great and painful sufferings, fell peacefully and quietly to sleep on the evening of Tuesday, the 13th inst., in the seventy-sixth year of his age. Possessed of a brilliant intellect, and blessed with a robust and vigorous constitution, his whole life was one of active industry and progress. Many of the modern improvements in machinery are due to his ingenuity and skill. When, a few years ago, he withdrew from active life, as Chief Engineer of the Wigan Coal and Iron Company, a valuable and substantial testimonial was presented to him, in recognition of the uprightness which had always characterised his business proceedings, his zealous efforts for the promotion of industry and especially of engineering skill, and of many other virtues which had distinguished his character in every position which he had been called upon to occupy during the long period of fifty-eight years which he had devoted to his profession.

He had a passionate love for bell-ringing, and was well known amongst campanologists, having assisted in ringing peals at many of the Lancashire churches and the churches throughout the country. He also trained several bands in the art of ringing. He was a zealous promoter of 'Steeple Reform,' and inculcated the desirability of the attendance of ringers at Church services, and of their conducting themselves in a devout and seemly manner whilst engaged in ringing, and having their belfries furnished decently and becomingly. A few years ago, in connexion with the ring of bells at Hindley, he had the honour of receiving and entertaining the most distinguished gathering of campanologists in the kingdom. He had a warm and hearty attachment to the Church, and was a liberal supporter of all things connected therewith.

His funeral took place at the Parish Church, Haslingden, last Saturday morning. The mournful procession left the house at 11.45. The coffin was of polished oak furnished with brass mountings. The leading foremen and other of the workpeople, who were associated with him whilst engaged in his profession, carried him to his grave. The funeral service was conducted by the Vicar, the Rev. Mr. Champneys, assisted by the Rev. Jas. Cronshaw, vicar of St. Thomas, Wigan. The body of him who loved so dearly the sound of the 'church-going bells' was laid in a vault hard by the tower of the old church; there left 'in the sure and certain hope of the resurrection to eternal life through Jesus Christ.' A muffled peal was rung both before and after the funeral, and also on the following day. Muffled peals were also rung last Sunday on the bells of the Wigan Parish Church, and St. Peter's, Hindley; and at the conclusion of the service the Funeral March was played.

His unostentatious, unassuming life—a life of sterling integrity and humble piety, and possessed of a hearty, genial disposition—endeared him to all those who had the honour of his friendship. His visits to London are remembered by Messrs. Stockham and Haworth.

Surrey Association of Change-ringers.

A DISTRICT Meeting of the above was held at Beddington on Saturday, the 17th inst., by the kind permission of the Rector. Ringing began with Grandsire and Plain Bob Minor, and then the following members rang a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in about 50 mins. J. Plowman, 1; A. B. Carpenter (first quarter-peal), 2; C. E. Malin, 3; E. Bennett (composer and conductor), 4; T. Miles, 5; J. Zealey, 6; J. Trappitt, 7; C. Martin, 8. Bob Triples came next, and then Treble Bob Major. Grandsire Caters and Stedman's finished the evening, and the bells were lowered, at 9 p.m. The following parishes were represented (but the majority of those present were the members of the local band):—Beddington, Croydon, Epsom, and Streatham.

ARTHUR B. CARPENTER, *Hon. Sec.*

Ladock, Cornwall.

A NEW ring of six bells has just been erected in the tower of the parish church, to take the place of the three old ones. The old framework, as also the beams and floor, had become so decayed as to render it dangerous to ring the bells. The six new bells are in the key of G; the tenor weighs about 12 cwt. They bear the following inscriptions:—Treble, 'R. F. Wise, Rector, 1883;' second, 'S. R. Flint;' third, 'W. T. Michell, H. Benny, churchwardens;' fourth, 'W. Aggett, bell-hanger, Chagford, Devon;' fifth, 'Gaudemus cum gaudentibus, dolemus cum dolentibus;' tenor, 'R. F. Wise, Rector, 1883.' They were cast by Messrs. Taylor, Loughborough, and fitted and hung by Mr. W. Aggett, of Chagford, Devon. The bells were dedicated on Tuesday, the 13th inst., when Divine service was held in the church at 3 p.m. The Dedication Prayers were read by the Rev. Canon Wise, rector of Ladock and Rural Dean, and a sermon was preached to a large congregation by the Rev. Canon Moor, vicar of St. Clement, Truro, who chose for his text Ps. lxxxix. 15. During the afternoon and evening the bells were rung by ringers from the neighbouring parishes.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At Cardington, Bedfordshire.

ON Saturday, the 20th Oct., eight members of St. Paul's Company, Bedford, rang the first half of Holt's Ten-part peal in 1 hr. 38 mins. T. Foote, 1; W. Biggs (conductor), 2; S. Cullip, 3; C. Clark, 4; W. Allen, 5; J. Atkins, 6; J. Hills,* 7; J. Spencer, 8.

Also on Saturday, the 17th inst., eight members of the same company attempted to ring the whole of Holt's Ten-part peal; but after ringing some time the sixth rope became fixed in the sally-block, causing the peal to come to grief. A start was then made for the last half of the above peal, which

was brought home successfully in 1 hr. 40 mins. S. Cullip,* 1; W. Biggs (conductor), 2; C. Clark, 3; W. Allen, 4; J. Frossell, 5; J. Atkins, 6; J. Hills,* 7; J. Spencer, 8. Tenor, 21 cwt. [All members of the Beds Association of Change-ringers. * Also members of the Ely Diocesan Association.]

At Rainhall, Norfolk.

ON Thursday, the 8th inst., eight members of the Norwich Diocesan Association, being also members of the Royal Cumberland Society, rang a peal of 5056 Oxford Treble Bob in 3 hrs. 30 mins. The peal will be found in Snowdon's *Treatise*, Part II., and contains the 6th the extent in 5-6, and five course-ends each way. E. Smith (conductor), 1; W. Sheldrake, 2; W. Matthews, 3; G. Prince, 4; N. J. Pitstow (composer), 5; F. Smith, 6; G. Mobbs, 7; Captain Moore, 8. Tenor, 24 cwt.

At St. John's, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

THE following peals were rung by the Society of Ringers:—

1st.—On Monday, the 12th inst., a peal of 720 College Pleasure was rung in 27 mins. W. Eggleston, 1; C. L. Routledge, 2; F. Lees, 3; W. G. Routledge, 4; W. Story, 5; R. S. Story (conductor), 6.

2nd.—On Sunday, the 18th inst., a peal of 720 Kent Treble Bob was rung in 26 mins. G. Campbell, 1; C. L. Routledge, 2; F. Lees, 3; T. J. Des Forges, 4; W. Story, 5; W. G. Routledge (conductor), 6.

3rd.—On Monday, the 19th inst., a peal of 720 College Pleasure was rung in 26½ mins. R. Smith, 1; the rest as in the first peal.

4th.—On the same night a peal of 720 Buxton Treble Bob was rung in 27 mins. R. Smith, 1; C. L. Routledge, 2; R. S. Story, 3; W. G. Routledge, 4; W. Story, 5; F. Lees (conductor), 6. Tenor, 12 cwt., in G.

At St. Thomas ye Martyr, Oxford.

ON Thursday, the 15th inst., six members of the Oxford University Society of Change-ringers rang a peal of 720 Grandsire Minor in 27 mins. J. R. Vincent, Esq., 1; C. H. Griffiths, Esq., 2; G. F. Scott, Esq., 3; F. A. H. Du Boulay, Esq., 4; J. F. Hastings, Esq., 5; G. F. Coleridge, Esq., (conductor), 6. Tenor, 7½ cwt. A well-known composer and conductor belonging to the Diocesan Guild, who chanced to be outside, bore testimony to the splendid regularity of the striking throughout.

At St. Edmund's, Downham Market, Norfolk.

ON Thursday evening, the 15th inst., F. J. Penning's peal of Bob Minor, containing 46 calls (28 bobs and 18 singles), was rung in 26 mins. E. Harpley, 1; R. Chapman, 2; T. Gates, 3; G. Woodhouse, 4; W. Goodchild, 5; G. Neal, 6; G. Spencer (conductor), 7. Tenor, 12 cwt., in G.

At Holy Trinity, Staleybridge, Cheshire.

ON Friday, the 16th inst., Holt's Ten-part peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples was rung in 2 hrs. 52 mins. A. Marsden, 1; H. Shaw (conductor), 2; J. Pownall, 3; A. Byrom, 4; S. Hill, 5; I. Schofield, 6; M. Peilthorpe, 7; J. Andrew, 8. This is the first peal Marsden, Hill, and Peilthorpe have rung; the first for Pownall on the 3rd; and the first called by Shaw.

Also on Monday, the 19th inst., Holt's Original One-part peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples was rung in 2 hrs. 50 mins. J. Pownall, 1; H. Shaw, 2; J. Wood, 3; E. Schofield, 4; T. Hill, 5; S. Wood (conductor), 6; B. Broadbent, 7; J. Andrew, 8. Tenor, 15 cwt.

At St. Michael and All Angels', Galleywood, Essex.

ON Saturday, the 17th inst., eight members of the Essex Association rang Holt's Ten-part peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples in 2 hrs. 50 mins. W. Harvey, 1; A. H. Gardom, Esq., 2; W. Rowland (first peal), 3; Master H. F. de Lisle, 4; Rev. H. A. Cockey, 5; E. Scotcher, 6; H. Scarlett (conductor), 7; W. Battle (first peal), 8. Tenor, 14 cwt., 2 qrs., 16 lbs.

At Cole-Orton, Leicestershire.

ON Saturday, the 17th inst., eight members of the Midland Counties' Association rang Holt's Six-part peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples in 3 hrs. 10 mins. J. Griffin, 1; J. Jaggard, 2; H. Wakley, 3; E. I. Stone, 4; S. Smith, 5; W. Wakley, 6; J. W. Taylor, jun. (conductor), 7; Rev. J. H. Fish, 8. Tenor, 14 cwt.

At St. Andrew's, Hertford, Herts.

ON Saturday, the 17th inst., eight members of the Hertford Society of College Youths rang Holt's Original One-part peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples in 3 hrs. 5 mins. J. Cull (first peal), 1; J. G. Crawley, 2; J. Staples, 3; H. J. Tucker (conductor), 4; H. Baker, 5; J. Godfrey, 6; T. Gothard, 7; F. George, 8. Tenor, 16 cwt., in F.

At St. Peter's, Hindley, Lancashire.—Muffled Peal.

ON Sunday, the 18th inst., after morning service, the first half of Holt's Ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples (2520 changes) was rung in 1 hr. 32 mins., with the bells muffled at the hand-stroke, as a tribute of respect to the memory of the late Mr. Peter Johnson, of whom we have given a memoir in the opposite column. R. Calland, 1; E. Prescott, 2; E. Brown, 3; W. Chisnall, 4; E. Kay, 5; T. Tickle, 6; J. Prescott (conductor), 7; W. Westhead, 8. Tenor, 14½ cwt.

At All Saints', Boyne Hill, Maidenhead, Berks.

ON Tuesday, the 20th inst., a 504 Grandsire Triples was rung in 19 mins. J. Truss, 1; J. Eldridge, 2; W. A. Garraway (conductor), 3; R. Flaxman, 4; R. Smith, 5; G. Wilkins, jun., 6; E. Rogers, 7; E. Keeley, 8.

Also a 720 Grandsire Minor in 27 mins. J. Eldridge, 1; W. A. Garraway (conductor), 2; R. Smith, 3; G. Wilkins, jun., 4; E. Rogers, 5; R. Flaxman, 6. Tenor, 17½ cwt.

[MELTING down old bells, to make out of them an increased lighter ring of five or six, is a thing we reprobate, and would warn our friends against any such proposals.—Ed.]

Several communications have been received and left over for next week.

IRELAND.

(From our own Correspondent.)

THE Church of Ireland has, within the last few days, lost three of its most valued members. On Tuesday morning, the 20th inst., there passed away Mr. Lancelot Studdert, Barrister-at-Law, known as the 'LL.D.' of the *Irish Ecclesiastical Gazette*, in which paper he had served the clergy and laity of the Church for the last twenty-five years, giving them the results of his extensive acquaintance with ecclesiastical law, and answering all legal questions, without fee or emolument of any kind. He was in the office of the paper on the Thursday previous, where he was taken ill with a slight paralytic affection which was only too premonitory of what was to follow. He had a second attack before he reached his residence in Rathgar, and succumbed shortly after the midnight of the following Monday. Dr. Studdert was a distinguished student of Trinity College in his day, where he gained several classical and mathematical honours, culminating in a Scholarship. He was afterwards called to the Bar, and practised chiefly in the Old Consistorial Court. For some years he had confined himself altogether to Chamber practice, and to replying to those who sought his opinion through the columns of the *Gazette*. He was an insatiable student, and was most frequently to be met with in the library of Trinity College. His own collection of books was small, and he used to say it was foolish for anybody to accumulate volumes who had easy access to such a library. Dr. Studdert was also an accomplished musician and a practical chemist, and had a working acquaintance with one or two modern languages. He was a member of the General Synod, and also of the Diocesan Synods of Dublin, Kildare, and Killaloe, of which latter diocese he was Chancellor. He frequently sat as Assessor in our Synods. He was seventy-three years of age at the time of his death, but few took him to have reached so ripe an age. The *Daily Express*, *Irish Times*, *Freeman's Journal*, had all obituary notices of the deceased. It is proposed to erect some suitable monument to his memory, and the parishioners of St. Bartholomew's Church, where he worshipped and in whose choir he sang, will erect one of their own. Dr. Studdert was a decided Churchman, and held his opinions firmly; he was opposed to the revision of the Prayer-book, but loyally accepted the new Prayer-book when it had been duly sanctioned by Church authority.

Hardly had the grave closed over Dr. Studdert, Chancellor of the Diocese, when the papers announced the death of the Right Rev. Dr. Fitzgerald, Bishop of Killaloe, in his seventieth year. The late Bishop was one of the most eminent of our prelates; he enjoyed the confidence and respect of all, and was admired and looked up to for his religious and intellectual qualities. He was brought to the front early in his ministerial life by the late Archbishop Whately, who recognised his talents, and gave him preferment in his Diocese. Chiefly through his interest, Dr. Fitzgerald was promoted to the See of Cork, which he subsequently exchanged for that of Killaloe, in which Diocese we believe he was born. Dr. Fitzgerald was educated in Trinity College, Dublin, where he gained a Scholarship in 1833. As a writer the late Bishop was distinguished for the clearness of his thought; he edited Bishop Butler's *Analogy*, and his life of that writer is generally regarded as the best extant, while the notes are rich and diversified. He also edited the *Nicomachian Ethics* of Aristotle. He was a contributor to *Cautions for the Times*, a volume brought out by Archbishop Whately with a view to neutralising the effects of *The Tracts for the Times*. His wise and fatherly counsels were always exercised on the side of moderation; and whenever he stood up to address the General Synod, he was listened to with the utmost respect and attention, and his words never failed to carry weight with them. It is idle as yet to speculate as to the likely successor to the late Bishop. We are not aware that the sum required to endow the Bishopric with 1500*l.* a-year has yet been made up. The appointment lies altogether in the hands of the United Synods of Killaloe, Kilfenora, Kilmacduagh, and Clonfert. The See embraces the County of Clare and parts of Limerick and Tipperary, and is a portion of the poorest and most disturbed districts in the west of Ireland. The late Bishop was brother to the Hon. Baron Fitzgerald, of the Court of the Exchequer, who retired from the Judicial Bench when the Crime Prevention Act, which allowed the Irish judges under certain circumstances to try criminal cases without juries, was passed. The Judge considered the Act unconstitutional, and accordingly resigned.

We have also lost, within the last fortnight, the Rev. John Torrens Kyle, B.D., Rector of Clondrohid, and Canon of Cloyne, who died at Queenstown, co. Cork, on the 14th inst., in his sixty-ninth year. The late Canon Kyle was a son of the Right Rev. Dr. Kyle, formerly Bishop of Cork, and brother of the Ven. Samuel Moore Kyle, LL.D., ex-Arch-deacon of Cork, and Vicar-General in Spirituals.

It was reported last week that the Archbishop of Dublin, who is also Dean of Christ Church Cathedral, had offered the latter dignity, which it was in his power to do, to the Very Rev. H. H. Dickinson, D.D., Dean of the Chapel Royal, and Vicar of St. Ann's. The Archbishop only holds the Deanery until the endowment of the office is completed, and it is the want of a sufficient sum to complete the endowment that delays the appointment.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At Faversham, Kent.

On Friday, the 9th ult., being the election of the Mayor for this ancient borough, two of the Canterbury Cathedral Company, with Mr. G. Stancombe, paid a visit to the above place, and rang with the local company during the day touches of Grandsire Triples; and in the evening rang a quarter-peal in the same method in 51 mins. The following took part in the quarter-peal:—A. Biggs, 1; G. Stancombe (conductor), 2; A. Foreman, 3; J. Barnard, 4; H. G. Fairbrass, 5; Captain Wood, 6; W. Arnold, 7; E. Crosoer, 8.

At St. George's, Camberwell, Surrey.

On Saturday, the 17th ult., the Waterloo Society rang a peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples, Holt's Original, in 2 hrs. 50 mins. J. M. Routh, Esq., 1; T. Taylor, 2; T. G. Deal (conductor), 3; F. M. Smith, Esq., 4; J. C. Harvey, 5; H. Harvey, 6; E. Robins, 7; J. Crowder, 8. Tenor, 14 cwt. [* First peal of Mr. Smith, who is also a member of the Bedford Association.]

At Ranmoor, Sheffield, Yorkshire.

On Sunday, the 18th ult., the Norton Society of Change-ringers rang a peal of 720 Bob Minor on the back six in 28 mins., with 14 singles and 4 bobs. F. Ward, 1; H. Ward, 2; W. Biggin, 3; J. Goucher, 4; J. Atkin, 5; J. Allen (conductor), 6. Tenor, 15 cwt., 3 qrs. This is the first 720 on these bells.

At All Souls', Halifax, Yorkshire.—Muffled Peal.

On Sunday, the 18th ult., a muffled peal, consisting of 1883 changes Bob Triples, was rung for evening service in 77 mins., as a token of mournful and affectionate regret for the loss of the late Vicar, the Rev. C. R. Holmes, whose sad death has cast a great gloom over the parish and surrounding neighbourhood, where he laboured so many years. H. Reynolds, 1; T. Parker, 2; G. D. E. Mercer, 3; J. S. Ambler, 4; A. Parker, 5; A. F. Nicholl, 6; S. W. Stewart (conductor), 7; G. Standeven, 8. Tenor, 26 cwt.

At the Parish Church, Westhoughton, Lancashire.—Muffled Peal.

On Monday, the 19th ult., was rung in 1 hr. 36 mins. the first half of Holt's Ten-part peal (2520 changes), with the bells muffled at the hand-stroke, as a tribute of respect to the memory of the late Mr. Peter Johnson of Ince, near Wigan, who became connected with the ringers of the above church as their tutor when the bells were opened in 1870. G. Grundy (conductor), 1; W. Brown, 2; J. Woodward, 3; J. Vickers, 4; J. Partington, 5; A. Hodgkinson, 6; J. Whittingham, 7; H. Hodgkinson, 8. Tenor, 13 cwt. 1 qr. 14 lbs.

At New College, Oxford.

On Saturday, the 24th ult., four members of the Oxford University Society of Change-ringers, who are also members of the Diocesan Guild, with two other members of the Guild, rang on the Seage apparatus a peal of 720 Bob Minor in 27½ mins. J. R. Vincent, Esq., 1; F. A. H. Du Boulay, Esq., 2; W. Finch, 3; C. W. H. Griffith, Esq., 4; W. J. Washbrook, 5; G. F. Cole-ridge (conductor), 6. Tenor, about 13 cwt. Great praise is due to Mr. Griffith, who had never before attempted the method, but yet rang his bell throughout in a masterly manner.

At St. Stephen's, Canterbury, Kent.

On Saturday, the 24th ult., by the kind permission of Bishop Oxenden, Vicar, and the churchwardens, six of the Cathedral company, with the assistance of Mr. G. Stancombe from London, and Captain W. Wood from Faversham, rang Holt's Ten-part peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples in 2 hrs. 53 mins. W. Andrews, 1; G. Stancombe (conductor), 2; H. G. Fairbrass, 3; G. L. Ovenden, 4; A. A. Andrews, 5; Captain W. Wood, 6; J. H. Small, 7; R. Goodbourne, 8. It is about thirty-six years since a peal was rung at the above church and at Canterbury, and the third peal on these bells.

At All Saints', West Bromwich, Staffordshire.

On Saturday, the 24th ult., eight members of the Christ Church Society rang the first peal in connexion with the Association for the Archdeaconry of Stafford, viz., the late John Holt's Six-part peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples, in 2 hrs. 56 mins. H. Hipkiss, 1; T. Horton, 2; R. Hall, 3; W. Malin, 4; W. Beeson, 5; W. R. Small, 6; S. Reeves (conductor), 7; W. Ellsmore, 8. Tenor, 14 cwt.

At St. Matthew's, Bethnal Green, London.

On Saturday, the 24th ult., eight members of St. James's Society rang a peal of 5040 Double Norwich Court Bob Major in 3 hrs. 8 mins. J. R. Haworth, 1; T. Titchener, 2; J. Hannington, 3; M. A. Wood, 4; A. Jacob, 5; W. Meadows, 6; G. Newson, 7; J. Barrett, 8. Composed by Mr. N. G. Pistow, and conducted by Mr. Newson. The peal has the 6th twelve times wrong and right, and is the first in the method on the bells.

Twice repeated.

At the Cathedral, Worcester.

On Sunday, the 25th ult., on the occasion of the Mayor and Corporation attending morning service, the Worcester Society, with Mr. J. Perks, rang a

| | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 1 | 4 | 6 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 3 | 5 | 4 | 2 | 6 | — | — | — | — |
| 5 | 2 | 4 | 3 | 6 | — | — | — | — |
| 6 | 3 | 2 | 5 | 4 | — | — | — | — |
| 4 | 5 | 3 | 6 | 2 | — | — | — | — |
| 6 | 3 | 5 | 4 | 2 | — | — | — | — |
| 2 | 4 | 3 | 6 | 5 | — | — | — | — |
| 5 | 4 | 2 | 6 | 3 | — | — | — | — |
| 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 2 | — | — | — | — |
| 6 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | — | — | — | — |
| 2 | 5 | 6 | 3 | 4 | — | — | — | — |
| 4 | 3 | 5 | 2 | 6 | — | — | — | — |
| 3 | 4 | 6 | 2 | 5 | — | — | — | — |
| 4 | 6 | 3 | 2 | 5 | — | — | — | — |
| 5 | 2 | 6 | 4 | 3 | — | — | — | — |
| 3 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 6 | — | — | — | — |

touch of 828 Grandsire Caters; and after service rang at St. Helen's a quarter-peal (1260 changes) of Grandsire Triples in 47 mins. G. Cleal, 1; N. Wale, 2; J. Perks (Master of the Worcester and adjoining Districts Association), 3; H. Pheasant, 4; J. Reynolds, 5; H. Wilkes (conductor), 6; G. Hobbs, 7; T. Malin, 8. Tenor, 19 cwt.

Beds Association of Change-ringers.

A DISTRICT Meeting will be held at Luton on Saturday, December 15th. The bells of St. Mary's Church (eight) will be at the service of the ringers. Ringing at 2 p.m., or sooner if a company is made up.

Woburn, Beds.

CHARLES HERBERT, Hon. Sec.

A New Peal of 720.

| | |
|-------------|-----------------------|
| 2 3 4 5 6 | S 6 2 3 4 5 |
| S 3 2 5 6 4 | S 2 6 4 5 3 |
| 2 6 3 4 5 | S 6 2 5 3 4 |
| S 6 2 4 5 3 | 2 3 6 4 5 |
| 2 5 6 3 4 | S 3 2 4 5 6 |
| S 5 2 3 4 6 | S 2 3 5 6 4 |
| S 5 4 6 3 | 3 6 2 4 5 |
| S 5 2 6 3 4 | S 6 3 4 5 2 |
| S 2 5 3 4 6 | 3 5 6 2 4 |
| S 5 2 4 6 3 | S 5 3 2 4 6 |
| 2 6 5 3 4 | Three times repeated. |

15 St. Alban's Road, Dartford.

B. W. ROSE.

Peals of Bob Major.

| 5040 | | 5040 | |
|-----------|----------|-----------|----------|
| 2 3 4 5 6 | W. M. H. | 2 3 4 5 6 | W. M. H. |
| 4 3 6 5 2 | - | 5 2 4 3 6 | - |
| 2 6 3 5 4 | - | 4 5 6 2 3 | - |
| 4 3 2 6 5 | - | 6 4 3 5 2 | - |
| 5 2 4 3 6 | - | 3 6 2 4 5 | - |
| 4 5 2 3 6 | - | 2 3 5 6 4 | - |
| 2 4 5 3 6 | - | 6 2 5 3 4 | - |
| 6 5 2 4 3 | - | 5 6 4 2 3 | - |
| 2 6 5 4 3 | - | 4 5 3 6 2 | - |
| 5 2 6 4 3 | - | 3 4 2 5 6 | - |
| 6 4 5 2 3 | - | 2 3 6 4 5 | - |
| 5 6 4 2 3 | - | 4 2 6 3 5 | - |
| 4 2 5 6 3 | - | 6 4 5 2 3 | - |
| 5 4 2 6 3 | - | 5 6 3 4 2 | - |
| 2 5 4 6 3 | - | 3 5 2 6 4 | - |
| 3 4 2 5 6 | - | 2 5 4 6 3 | - |

Twice repeated.

Twice repeated.

The six twelve times wrong and right.

EDWARD FRANCIS, Diss.

The late Colonel Trelawny.

We have been favoured with the following additional particulars of the late Colonel Trelawny:—

Like so many other Englishmen, he was, as a boy, devoted to the steeple, and though his early life in the army prevented his doing very much in the ringing line, as a young man, he was at one time, when quartered in York, able to show not only his great strength, but his proficiency in the use of the rope by raising, single-handed, the large bell in the Minster, weighing 52 cwt. About the year 1863, however, his attention was called to the art of change-ringing, and he immediately became much interested in the matter. Change-ringing in half-pulls was at that time entirely unknown in Devonshire and Cornwall, the writer of this notice having heard the possibility of such a thing loudly denied in the tower. However, to a man of Colonel Trelawny's energy and determination, the discovery that a really beautiful science could be practised, instead of the dreary old 'Churchyard Bob' to which he had been accustomed, was most welcome. He at once set to work with the ringers of Calstock, and had soon succeeded in calling the first 720 ever rung in Cornwall. He also, with the able assistance of Mr. William Banister, succeeded in establishing change-ringing in Plymouth, Plympton, Kelly, and Walkhampton; but owing to the carelessness and want of interest shown by the clergy, and through the abominable habit of offering prizes for round-ringing and call-changes, coupled with Colonel Trelawny's removal farther west, the ringers have now in most of these places fallen back into the old groove.

Not the least remarkable success which he attained was the hand-bell ringing of his family. Well do we remember, when staying in his house, being fetched from our room in the morning by the discordant clashing of hand-bells at the bottom of the stairs, soon to be followed by an ordeal of no mean sort. As we descended, the clashing ceased, and we soon found ourselves seated, bells in hand, with him, Mrs. Trelawny, and the children—the youngest only ten years old—to make attempts at courses of Grandsire Cinques and touches of Grandsire and Stedman's Triples. We were younger in those days by some twenty years; and the way those children picked one up, and the disdain in their countenances when we broke the whole thing down, was something to be remembered. The same party often performed in public; and on one occasion illustrated a lecture by the Rev. H. T. Ellacombe (Sir Stafford Northcote in the chair) at Exeter, ringing various methods in hand, from Grandsire and Stedman's Triples to Grandsire Cinques. On that occasion he and his family were the guests of Mr. Ellacombe at Clyst St. George, and there, on the morning of their departure, in the porch of the Rectory, they rang with the hand-bells many touches of changes in various methods, finishing with Bob Maximus.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The Traffic in Livings.

SIR,—I was favoured by your insertion on Nov. 3rd of a letter on the above subject. The Liberation Society have just issued a pamphlet of twenty pages, entitled *Simony in the Established Church, &c.*, which consists of the more salient and important facts already printed in Blue Books, thus giving them a wider circulation (which is, so far, a gain to our cause), and also of an argument based on those facts, the goal of which line of reasoning is 'Disestablishment.' The argument is: the traffic must be abolished, but private patrons must be compensated; and this cannot be done till Disestablishment comes. 'It is estimated that the capitalised value of the various rights of presentation which are capable of sale is seventeen millions. Is it at all likely that rights of such great pecuniary value will be extinguished without compensation?' . . . 'When, however, the Church of England is disestablished, there will be a sufficient fund to compensate the patrons, as well as all others who have equitable claims.'

So when Disestablishment comes, the traffickers, who have betrayed their trust, sold what was not theirs to sell, caused these scandals, dragged the Church's honour in the dust, will get what they want, and be 'compensated.' And when is that day to come, which, we have so long been told, must come? Meanwhile, the better they traffic with their trusts, the more valuable their 'rights' will become, when the day arrives for the Church to be plundered, for them to be 'compensated.' Thus, if the Establishment fall, corruptions within will, in great measure, have brought on the fall. But shall nothing be done by us to stay the plague? What bearing the Traffic system may have on the question of Disestablishment is a matter that ought to be discussed. W. A. HULBERT, Hon. Sec. to National Committee, &c.

24 Netherwood Road, IV.

A 'Hearing' Sunday.

SIR,—Among the numerous suggestions (which I always read with the greatest interest) for the improvement of our Services, I have not seen one that has often occurred to me, viz., that all the clergy should occasionally take what, I think, may be best described as a *hearing* Sunday. It is as difficult to find a church, the services in which we can pronounce *perfect*, as it is individual perfection; yet most of us are fortunate enough to be able to select a small number—say three—of churches respecting which we feel that what is lacking in one is supplied by another. In one we are struck by the *reverence* of the worshippers, in the next with the *congregational singing*, and the exquisite *cleanliness* and *neatness* of a third shows that God's House is honoured by the care it should receive (I am only giving examples of what is attainable in the smallest village church); and yet those who almost alone have the power to promote these points largely, have the fewest chances of observing them—the clergy. They are seldom in another church than their own, except when taking some part of a service. It is the rarest thing to see an unofficiating clergyman at an ordinary service, and yet there is no doubt that the body of a church is a far better standpoint from which to observe the character of its services than the chancel. And we are all so prone to get into a groove, that it is no wonder that little peculiarities of manner and speech grow upon those who would be the first to check them could they see, and listen to, themselves. I know one clergyman (himself the *humblest* of men) who has acquired a slight *hauteur* in reading the Exhortation; and another (himself the *tenderest* of men) who often *scolds* a little in the early part of his sermons. Now, were each of these an occasional *hearer*, I believe that the little (and really unnatural) defects would vanish as unconsciously as they have arisen. The only persons who are likely to suggest the existence of any such 'growth' are a clergyman's own family, and they are of course as accustomed to it as himself. A *hearing* Sunday, now and again, I do not believe to be at all impracticable; most town vicars have curates, so that both might have a Sunday 'turn and turn about,' when most convenient; and in a country district, towns, and large villages, where there is evening service, have always near them small villages where it is in the afternoon, and then there is always (or ought to be) the yearly holiday. I hope no reader will be led from these remarks to think that the writer of them would advocate a sort of continuous change (my dislike of change amounts almost to a fault) in the conduct of our Church Services; the desire is that by some such means as have been suggested the rendering of them may as nearly approach perfection as the services themselves. C. E. M.

Numbering the Psalms.

SIR,—The question of altering the Roman numbers of the Psalms in our Prayer-book to the Arabic, may seem a very trifling one to many. Any one who will trouble to inquire amongst their friends as to their knowledge of the Roman numbers will be astounded to find the ignorance that exists, especially amongst the working class. If this is too inquisitive a task, let them notice their neighbours at church finding the special Psalms on a Feast or Fast Day. In giving a Prayer-book away I do two things, neatly number the Psalms 1, 2, 3, &c., and at commencement of them paste in a small piece of paper giving the proper Psalms for certain days. Not one in a dozen know where to find the latter in the beginning of their Prayer-book. I am very glad that the publishers of the *Teachers' Prayer-book* give the number of the Psalms in figures and not in letters. Will the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge have their Prayer-books and Bibles so? We must endeavour to use all legitimate means to make our Church service understood by the people. I am sure this alteration in the numbering would help. On many great days, when one would love to hear every voice join in the Psalms, I often notice more are silent than on an ordinary day. Sometimes the clergyman is to blame in giving out the numbers so inaudibly that many folks are quite lost, and sometimes he does not pause to give the old, young, and dull-fingered ones a chance to find the place. Pray, Sir, plead for the numbers to be altered, because it will pay. HAMPTON.