

IRELAND.

(From our own Correspondent.)

THE remains of the late Bishop of Killaloe were interred in the graveyard of St. Nicholas Church, in the City of York, on last Wednesday week. The chief mourners were his sons, one of whom is a Fellow of Trinity College, and Erasmus Smith's Professor of Natural Philosophy. In St. Finbarre's Cathedral, on the following Sunday, the music was adapted to the occasion, and the Dean in the course of his sermon referred to the late Bishop who had commenced his episcopate in Cork. The speaker pointed out how the Bishops of the Establishment were all disappearing one by one from amongst us: 'They were great names—O'Brien, Butcher, Gregg, Fitzgerald. In His providence God will raise up successors to them; but scarcely such men as were these great men and great bishops.' St. Nicholas Church, of which Dr. Webster, private chaplain to the late bishop, is rector, was draped in mourning. Dr. Webster, at both morning and evening service, referred to the rare genius and real Christian life of the eminent prelate.

Special Advent Services are being held, as usual, in St. Patrick's Cathedral. The appointed preachers are the Revs. Canon Weldon, Henry Denning, and F. F. Carmichael, LL.D.

The Bishop of Cork has appointed the Rev. Canon Henry Woodroffe, rector of Leslie, to the archdeaconry of Ross, vacant by the death of the late Ven. Archdeacon Stuart.

The death is announced of the Rev. John F. Close, rector of the Union of Kilkeel, Annalong, Kilmegan, and Kilcoo. Mr. Close enjoyed a 'declared annuity' of 113*6*/. Under new arrangements these parishes will be divided, and the incomes will be 350*l*. for incumbent and a curate, 150*l*., 150*l*., and 200*l*. respectively.

Some of the Extreme Evangelical clergymen in Dublin have refused to act under the Committee recently appointed to carry on the proposed mission next Lent in the City of Dublin and its suburbs, because that Committee contains the names of two High Churchmen—the Revs. Canon Smith and F. C. Trench, all the rest being either Moderate or pronounced Low Churchmen. The Rev. E. Rambant, who leads this 'case,' will have but few followers.

Arrangements are on foot to erect a memorial to the late Dr. Studdert, and a committee is being formed for the purpose. It is believed it will take the shape of a window or brass in St. Bartholomew's Church, of the choir of which Dr. Studdert was a member. The *Irish Ecclesiastical Gazette* has secured the offices of a member of the English and Irish Bar to take Dr. Studdert's place on the staff of that paper, for the purpose of replying to the legal queries affecting the status and rights of the clergy.

The death is announced at the Archdeaconry, Aughnachry, of the Ven. John Whitley Stokes, aged eighty-three, and for forty-one years Archdeacon of Armagh, and Rector of Carneel. For the 800*l*. a-year received by the late Rector, the new Incumbent will receive 200*l*.

The united Synods of Killaloe, Kilfenorn, Kilmacduagh, and Clonfert, will shortly be called together to elect a bishop in the place of the late Right Rev. Dr. Fitzgerald. It is difficult, of course, to forecast the result, but amongst names mentioned are those of Archdeacon Chester (Killaloe), H. H. Dickinson, D.D., Dean of the Chapel Royal, Dublin, and R. P. Reichel, D.D., Dean of Clonmacnoise.

There was a very bad anti-Protestant riot in the town of Wexford on last Sunday, which was renewed on the following day. Two of Mr. Moody's preachers were announced to hold special Evangelistic services in the theatre. On approaching the building the Protestants were set upon by the Roman Catholic roughs, and pelted with stones and mud. The windows of the theatre, of the parish church, the Methodist chapel, and of several of the Protestant householders, were smashed, and personal violence offered to several. An attempt was made to throw one gentleman into the river. The police were perfectly helpless to prevent the rioting. Large reinforcements are now in the town. No offence of any kind had been given to the Roman Catholic population who thus rose up and showed their hostility towards their Protestant fellow-townsmen because they dared to attend these Evangelistic services. A short time previously the *Freeman's Journal* had drawn public attention to the fact that Mr. Moody's meetings were not interfered with by the Roman Catholics, who were in a majority, as an evidence of the toleration dealt out to Irish Protestants. Whether this was taken as a hint that such forbearance ought to be no longer exhibited it is impossible to say, but it is, to say the least of it, remarkable that this outbreak of fanaticism should have occurred immediately afterwards. Wexford is the city represented by Mr. Healy in the Imperial Parliament.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Meeting of Ringers at Dinton and Chilmark, Wilts.

On Saturday, the 1st inst., a meeting of ringers took place at the above villages, each of which possesses a goodring of six bells in fair going order. Several peals of Grandsire and Bob Doubles were rung at each church. Unfortunately there were not enough change-ringers present to do any six-bell work. The company consisted of Messrs. W. Greenleaf, J. R. Jerram, T. Blackburn, and C. A. Clements, all members of the Ancient Society of College Youths; Messrs. W. Lanham and J. Short, of the St. Thomas's Company, Salisbury; Mr. W. W. Gifford, of the St. Martin's Company; and Mr. J. Parsons, of the St. Edmund's Company, in the above city. Great praise and many thanks are due to Mr. T. Wright, the head ringer at Dinton, for the admirable way in which he arranged and carried out the day's proceedings.

A Peal of Bob Major.

6160						W.	M.	H.
2	3	4	5	6				
6	4	2	3	5		-	-	-
2	6	4	3	5				
4	2	6	3	5				
5	6	2	3	4		-	-	-
2	5	6	3	4				
6	2	5	3	4				
4	5	2	3	6		-	-	-
2	4	5	3	6				
6	5	4	3	2		-	-	-
4	6	5	3	2				
5	4	6	3	2		-	-	-

Four times repeated.

If the first ten courses be four times repeated, it will be reduced to 5600 changes.

B. FRANCIS, *Diss.*

Lancashire Association of Change-ringers.

A MEETING for ringing purposes only will be held on Saturday, December 15th, at the Parish Church, Blackburn, when it is particularly requested that all in the surrounding districts will endeavour to be present. Ringing from 3 p.m.

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

CHANGE-RINGING.

At Redenhall, Norfolk.

On Monday, the 26th ult., eight members of the Redenhall Branch of the Norwich Diocesan Association rang 5184 changes of Kent Treble Bob in 3 hrs. 13 mins. The peal was composed by N. J. Pistow (it will be found in *Snowdon's Treatise*, Part II., page 56). E. Smith (conductor), 1; W. Sheldrake, 2; W. Matthews, 3; G. Prime, 4; G. Mobbs, 5; R. Whiting, 6; F. Smith, 7; Captain Moore, 8. Tenor, 24 cwt., in E flat.

At St. Mary-le-Tower, Ipswich, Suffolk.—Muffled Peal.

On Monday, the 26th ult., after the funeral of Mr. T. C. Cobbold, twelve members of the Norwich Diocesan Association rang, in 3 hrs. 49 mins., a peal of 5136 Kent Treble Bob Maximus, with the bells fully muffled, as a mark of respect to the memory of the deceased and his father, J. C. Cobbold, Esq. (to whom the town is chiefly indebted for the bells). W. L. Catchpole, 1; E. Pemberton, 2; I. S. Alexander, 3; W. Motts, 4; J. Motts, 5; W. Meadows, 6; C. Saul, 7; H. Bowell, 8; R. Brundle, 9; E. Reeve, 10; R. Hawes, 11; S. Tillet, 12. Composed by J. Reeves and conducted by W. L. Catchpole.

At St. Mary's, Stratford-le-Bow, Middlesex.

On Wednesday, the 28th ult., Holt's Original One-part Peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples was rung in 3 hrs. S. Green,* 1; J. Pettit (conductor), 2; A. Cutmore,* 3; W. B. Jones, 4; H. Springhall, 5; R. Turner, 6; W. D. Smith, 7; D. Sutton,* 8. [Those marked * first peal.]

At St. Edmund's, Downham, Norfolk.

On Thursday evening, the 29th ult., another of Mr. F. J. Penning's peals of Bob Minor, containing forty-six calls, was rung in 26 mins. E. Harper, 1; R. Chapman, 2; T. Gates, 3; G. Woodhouse, 4; W. Goodchild, 5; G. Neal, 6; G. Spencer (conductor), 7, behind. Also a 360, called by G. Neal. Tenor, 12 cwt., in G. We regret being unable to record any performance on eight, as the treble is in an unringable condition.

At St. Thomas-ye-Martyr, Oxford.

On Thursday, the 29th ult., six members of the Oxford University Society of Change-ringers rang a peal of 720 Grandsire Minor in 23½ mins. J. R. Vincent, Esq., 1; C. W. H. Griffith, 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. This peal was rung in honour of the birth of a son to Capt. J. E. Acland-Troyte, who founded the Society and became its Master Feb. 2nd, 1872.

At St. John's, Penge, Surrey.

On Thursday, the 29th ult., a peal of 720 Plain Bob (thirty singles and six bobs) was rung by six members of All Saints', Benbilton, Sutton, in 26 mins. W. Walker, 1; J. Francis, 2; James Trendell, 3; G. Petrie, 4; C. Trendell, 5; John Trendell (conductor), 6. Tenor, 9½ cwt.

At All Saints', Alburgh, Norfolk.

On Saturday, the 1st inst., eight members of the Norwich Diocesan Association rang a peal of 5152 Kent Treble Bob in 3 hrs. 1 min. This and the peal rung on Monday last at Redenhall are the first in the method by all of

the band except the tenor-man, and the first peal of Kent Treble Bob ever rung at Alburgh. The peal was composed by Mr. John Cox, and will be found in *Snowdon's Treatise*, Part II., p. 50. E. Smith (conductor), 1; W. Sheldrake, 2; G. Prime, 3; W. Matthews, 4; R. Whitney, 5; G. Mobbs, 6; F. Smith, 7; Captain Moore, 8. Tenor, 11 cwt., in G.

At St. Michael's, Cornhill, London.

On Saturday, the 1st inst., twelve members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang a peal of 5005 Stedman's Cinques in 4 hrs. 2 mins. H. W. Haley, 1; F. T. Gower,* 2; W. Cecil, 3; C. F. Winny, 4; H. C. Haley, 5; J. W. Rowbotham, 6; R. French, 7; G. Mash, 8; H. J. Tucker,* 9; E. Horrex, 10; J. M. Hayes, 11; W. Prime,* 12. Composed and conducted by Mr. H. W. Haley. Tenor, 41 cwt., in C. [* First peal on twelve bells. † First peal in the method.]

We are pleased to find that Mr. H. W. Haley has so far recovered from his recent accident as to be able to follow his ringing career once more. Although his eyesight has almost left him, yet he had the pleasure of taking part and conducting the above peal.

At the Parish Church, Wellingborough, Northants.

By the kind permission of the Venerable Archdeacon Lightfoot, a mixed company of ringers met on Saturday, the 1st inst., and rang a peal of 720 Plain Bob Minor in 29 mins. H. Stubbs, 1; W. Hall, 2; J. Houghton, 3; J. Thompson, 4; W. E. Parker, 5; J. Stubbs (conductor), 6. Also a peal of 720 London Single in 28 mins. J. Stubbs, 1; H. Stubbs, 2; W. Hall, 3; J. Thompson, 4; J. Houghton, 5; W. E. Parker (conductor), 6. Tenor, 30 cwt. H. Stubbs, J. Stubbs, and W. Hall, hail from Raunds; J. Houghton from Irthlingborough; and J. Thompson and W. E. Parker from Higham Ferrers.

At St. Werburgh's, Derby.

On Saturday, the 1st inst., eight members of the Midland Counties Association rang a quarter peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes) in 48 mins. F. Whiting, 1; R. Bosworth, 2; L. Lomas, 3; J. Newbold, 4; R. Redgate, 5; W. Billingham, 6; H. C. Woodward (conductor), 7; W. Tooby, 8. Tenor, 17 cwt., in E.

At Christ Church, Wanstead, Essex.

On Sunday evening, the 2nd inst., a peal of Plain Bob Minor (14 bobs and 2 singles) was rung for Divine service in 27 mins. J. King (conductor), 1; W. Smith, 2; J. Priest, jun., 3; G. Cornell, 4; A. H. Gardom, Esq., 5; G. Akers, 6. Tenor, 9 cwt.

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

On Monday, the 3rd inst., a 504 of Grandsire Triples was rung by members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild. J. Truss, 1; W. A. Garraway (conductor), 2; R. Flaxman, 3; H. Rogers, 4; R. Smith, 5; G. Wilkins, jun., 6; E. Rogers, 7; E. Keeley, 8. Also another 504. E. Keeley, 1; G. Wilkins, jun., 2; W. A. Garraway (conductor), 3; H. Rogers, 4; E. Rogers, 5; J. W. Wilkins, 6; R. Flaxman, 7; J. Truss, 8. Each peal in about 19 mins. Tenor, 17½ cwt.

At St. Nicholas', Brighton, Sussex.

On Tuesday, the 4th inst., with the assistance of Mr. E. Hilder, Holt's Original One-part peal of Grandsire Triples was rung in 3 hrs. 1 min. E. Hilder, 1; T. Searle* (conductor), 2; T. Jay, jun., 3; C. Tyler, 4; H. Boniface, 5; T. Jay, sen., 6; H. Boast, 7; E. Butler, 8. Tenor, 19 cwt., in F. [* His second attempt at calling. † First peal.]

CORRESPONDENCE.

Sermons or Essays?

SIR,—It may be a delusion on my part, but I positively believe that many clergymen never preach a sermon at all! I am very much mistaken if reading can be called *preaching*. When a child reads a book, surely he does not preach a book; nor is reading a newspaper aloud, preaching a newspaper, in any sense of the word. St. Paul was a preacher, am I to understand that he read his address on Mars Hill; or did St. Peter read from a MS. when he preached his memorable Pentecostal sermon at Jerusalem? If so, I maintain that the 3000 souls would not have been added to the Church on that day. If Mr. Irving (whom I have never seen) were to read his parts, he would soon fail to draw large audiences. I have been wearied over and over again by being *read at* from the pulpit; but seldom has tediousness been found to result from a preached sermon. And then such reading, too! to say nothing of the matter read. Reading is an art, and when, as is so often the case, we are disqualified at the lectern, it is trying to every one for the reader afterwards to appear to less advantage in the pulpit. Then, Sir, why in the place of a preached sermon are congregations to submit to a Sunday essay, written in a peculiar, grandiloquent style, and read in a peculiar grandiloquent manner? Why are long words of Greek derivation to be substituted in the Sunday essay for the plain, intelligible, Saxon terms of every-day life? Is the pulpit manner, or pulpit language, to be forced, formal, and feigned? Are we compelled by any law or orthodoxy to speak of the Redeemer, of Eternity, and of sacred things in a stilted phraseology, an unnatural manner, or an assumed voice?

I must declare my firm conviction that the suspicion with which too many of us are regarded by the laity arises from our want of naturalness in manner and speech on Sundays. The power of the pulpit and the power

of the preached message is lost to our Church by the introduction and use of the MS. essay. Those clergymen who have not tried to preach a sermon, and who are content to read some MS. original, copied or purchased, are unfortunately inclined to be uncharitable towards extempore sermons and extempore preachers. This is not fair. Results prove something. A spiritual sermon, preached in a manly way, will fill a church with an interested congregation, whilst I always notice many who habitually slumber sweetly under the written essay. Then away with essays, I say! Confine them to magazines and schoolrooms. Let the pulpit be the vantage ground of the Gospel preacher, and let it not be usurped by the schoolmen and essayists. We need sermons on Sundays; simple, truthful, affectionate, and evangelical, spoken extempore from the heart to the hearts of the people, and delivered with the authority and power of inward belief and experiences. If the clergy will really and prayerfully preach the Word of God, as directed by the Bishop at ordination, and set forth Jesus Christ, His word, doctrine, and Atonement, as they know them and have felt them, our sermons will not be insipid, lifeless essays, but living and edifying preachments. Learned discourses, scientific essays, and specious disputations, couched in pompous preparations of *dictionary* words, carefully catalogued and strung together for the occasion, are but very poor tools wherewith to cut stones from the human quarry; and intellectual parades for the applause of so-called *educated* congregations will do very little towards polishing those stones for the adornment of God's temple. Ethical essays, merely, can never satisfactorily supersede Evangelical preaching, as the latter has the authority of God and the Church. We want stirring sermons from faithful men, or the Church will not successfully cope with an age, in which open antagonism to religion and creeds is in unholy alliance with base infidelity and communism. B.A. OXON.

Experiments on Living Animals.

SIR,—I have 'held my mouth as it were with a bridle,' while two or three of the correspondents of *Church Bells* have endeavoured to whitewash the cruelty-mongers; but at last the 'fire has kindled,' and I must 'open my mouth for the dumb,' but only with a word or two; I could fill your whole number with but too great an abundance of harrowing facts. I will ask them one question, and only one. What have they written in defence of the practice that could not be said, word for word, for the tortures of the Inquisition? Nay, much, *a fortiori*, in favour of the latter, in comparison. For the Inquisition tortured, or, at least, they said they did, for the sake of the eternal happiness of their victims. These, now, for the mere temporary alleviation, and even then most problematical, of some bodily ailments. Nor even that. It was but the other day that Claude Bernard (now named 'the infamous'), on his death-bed, went to his account with the words on his lips, 'Our hands are empty;' and only yesterday Mr. Lawson Tait, one of the most eminent scientific surgeons of the day, published a valuable pamphlet to prove the utter uselessness of the practice, he himself having once been an experimenter; but, with much feeling, he now expresses his remorse at the, I think only moderate torture, of I think only two poor dogs, and their looks and cries. No doubt the use of torture all along, down to the time of Elizabeth and James, may have done some occasional good, but does that make it *right*? Does any such end justify any such means? Is it not a flagrant instance of 'doing evil that good may come?'

I will conclude with the following extract from '*Land and Water*,' of the 3rd of this month:—'May I, in conclusion, tell your readers of the fidelity and sagacity of a dog in the earthquake at Casamicciola, if the story is not already too well known in England? A gentleman was sitting alone with his dog when the earthquake took place, and they were buried, but not crushed. The dog within twenty-four hours scratched a hole large enough to get out. He reconnoitred around, and saw a peasant carrying bread. He rushed at him, seized a large loaf, and ran away. Bread being scarce he was pursued with sticks and stones, but he flew till he reached the hole; he plunged in, and gave the bread to his master, and let us hope, for the honour of manhood, that his master divided it with him. The peasantry then understood that there was something there, and they dug until they rescued both master and dog alive. These are the creatures man sacrifices on the altar of vivisection. May God repay them both!!!'—ISABEL BURTON, Trieste, Austria. F. O. MORRIS.

SIR,—I am not aware of a Society ever having been established for the total abolition of printing; yet quite as strong an indictment might be framed against printing as against experiments on animals. Thus, a list might be compiled of obscene, immoral, and blasphemous books; isolated passages of unusual grossness might be selected, and duly advertised as a fair sample of literature generally; and a picture might be produced as one-sided, distorted, and over-coloured, as the one commonly drawn of vivisection. The opponents of vivisection pay no attention to the incalculable benefits which have resulted from experiments on animals; they ignore the fact that the Cruelty to Animals Bill of 1876 provides that no English physiologist can perform even the most trifling experiments on an animal without a license; and that with certain exceptions, the animal must be under the influence of an anæsthetic, and that it must be destroyed before recovery of sensation. Hence, in a vast majority of experiments, an animal suffers far less pain than it would if killed for food or sport without an anæsthetic. It would seem that the scientific object constitutes the cruelty, not the act itself.

The usual method adopted by anti-vivisectionists is to string together a patchwork of disjointed experiments and opinions, culled from various sources, English and foreign, preference being given to those which are apparently (not always really) the most cruel and the most revolting to the uninitiated. With garbled and incomplete extracts they appeal from the intelligence of the few to the ignorance and prejudice of the multitude. I

IRELAND.

(From our own Correspondent.)

THE important parish of Drumbanagher, Diocese of Armagh, vacant through the former Rector accepting a curacy in the Diocese of Canterbury, has been filled up by the appointment of the Rev. Henry Taylor, rector of Cloverhill, Diocese of Kilmore.

The Meath correspondent of the *Irish Ecclesiastical Gazette* says:—

'A much-needed improvement is about to be effected in Navan parish. Up to the present there has been no primary school superintended by the Rector, and consequently Church of Ireland children have in too many instances been obliged to attend the Convent School and the National School, under the Roman Catholic Bishop's patronage. We learn with pleasure that such a discreditable state of affairs will no longer continue to cast a slur upon, perhaps, the wealthiest parish in the diocese. A site near the church has been secured on which to erect a parochial National School, under the patronage of the Incumbent, and also a teacher's residence. The parishioners have come forward handsomely in subscribing towards the master's salary.'

On the afternoon of Saturday, the 1st inst., the Bishop of Down held a Confirmation in Christ Church, Belfast, when 143 children received the holy rite, 93 of the number being presented from Christ Church.

A lively correspondence has been going on for some time in the Belfast press on the subject of 'Reunion.' It arose out of the Luther celebrations. The Belfast correspondent of the *Gazette* writes:—

'Some advocated the licensing, as preachers, of Presbyterian Ministers, by the Bishop. Others suggested an interchange of pulpits without any special license. The more systematic in their propositions put forward the suggestion that Bishops should consecrate the Presbyterian Moderator for life, and that the latter should ordain Ministers among the Presbyterians. With regard to representation, the idea was put forward that the Presbyterians and Churchmen should each elect for their respective bodies delegates to a general synod. Others, again, suggested that the use of the Liturgy should be optional, in which case there would be a "Scotch" office and a Church of Ireland Office.'

A course of lectures is being preached during this Advent in St. Matthias' Church, Dublin, on devotional literature. The preachers are as follows: December 4th, Rev. W. E. Burroughs; subject, *The Imitation of Christ*, and Baxter's *Saints' Rest*. December 11th, Rev. H. E. Noyes; subject, Goulburn's *Personal Religion*. December 18th, Rev. Canon Peacocke; subject, 'Scripture Text-books as aids to Devotion.'

The Archbishops and Bishops of the Church of Ireland, at their annual meeting last week unanimously passed the following resolution, expressing their sense of loss in the death of the Right Rev. Dr. Fitzgerald, Bishop of Killaloe:—

'We, the Archbishops and Bishops of the Church of Ireland, desire to place on record our sense of the greatness of the loss which the whole Church has endured in the lamented death of the late Bishop of Killaloe. We cannot forget how wise, how true, how prudent a councillor he proved himself for us during the perilous years of our passage from things old to new. The course of these anxious years is not yet run out; but, under God, we do not doubt that the memory of William Fitzgerald for long times to come will be as precious to this Church as his presence has actually been.'

The election of Dr. Fitzgerald's successor will take place early next year. If the balance of the late Bishop's commutation money is allocated to the re-endowment of the see, as is believed will be the case, the sum of 44,000*l.* will be realised for the purpose.

At a special meeting of the Cork City Council, the Mayor presiding, the following letter was read in reference to the late Bishop of Killaloe:—

'Clariford House, Killaloe, Dec. 2nd, 1883.

'Dear Mr. Mayor—I beg to thank you and the Sheriff and the Corporation of Cork most heartily, in the name of the family of the late Bishop of Killaloe, for the very kind and spontaneous expression of your regard shown to him on the occasion of his funeral last Wednesday. My late father's official connexion with Cork having been comparatively short, and having ceased so many years ago, makes the attention you and the Corporation showed to his memory particularly grateful, because it was unexpected, and therefore the more honourable both to him and to you. Begging you and the Corporation again to accept our best thanks, which I have very inadequately expressed, I remain yours very faithfully, M. F. FITZGERALD.

'The Worshipful the Mayor of Cork.'

Alderman Paul moved that the letter be inserted on the minutes. Alderman Nagle seconded the proposition, and said he was sure they would only do what was right and proper, for the memory of such a man should not be lightly passed over. Whilst he was amongst them he gave every example of toleration and liberality, and he (Alderman Nagle) thought his learning and erudition reflected credit on the Church to which the late Bishop belonged. The Mayor said they were all unanimous in having it inserted on the minutes, and the matter dropped.

The Bishop of Ossory held a special Confirmation in the parish church of St. John, Kilkenny, on last Tuesday week, when, amongst others, six young soldiers of the 24th Regiment, presented for the purpose by the military chaplain, the Rev. Canon Rogers, were confirmed.

In my last week's letter the words City of Cork were by error printed City of York.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

At St. Mary's, Cheltenham, Gloucester.

AFTER a silence of some six months or so, the bells of St. Mary's Parish Church have now been rehung, and on Monday week they were formally rededicated to the public service by a ceremony in the belfry. A few months since the bells were condemned as faulty and unsafe, and Canon Bell made an appeal to the public in aid of a fund for their restoration. This appeal has met with a liberal response. The Cheltenham belfry contains ten bells, eight of which were erected in 1824, and the remaining two ten years later. All have been rehung, with new fittings, and two new bells have been placed in the tower—the second and fourth. The second was badly cracked, and the fourth was a bad bell, and it was thought well to recast both at the same time. The result of recasting has been two excellent bells, the purity and strength of the second (so competent authorities aver) being particularly noticeable. The work of recasting was done by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, Whitechapel. The bells first used in the church were cast by the Rudhalls, and one of the inscriptions on the old bells, which were recast at the commencement of the century, ran,—

'Abraham Rudhall cast all we,
One thousand six hundred and twenty-three.'

After the lapse of two centuries the bells were recast at the same establishment, and the connexion with the firm by the present recasting is still kept up. The tenor bell of the ring is a very fine one, of mellow tone. In 1821 it was cracked while ringing for service, and was recast with the others a short while afterwards. Originally it bore the inscription,—

'I to church the living call,
And to the grave do summon all;'

but when recast the inscription was altered to

'I call in prayer, the living to combine,
The Dead must hear a louder sound than mine.'

The new bells, now included in the ring of ten, have the usual inscriptions upon them, giving the date of recasting, the name of the founders, and so forth; and No. 2 bell also records that at the time Charles Dent Bell was Rector of the town, and George Parsonage was Mayor; and bears the inscription, '*In Nomine Dei. Hinc clarior et fortior.*' The fourth bell is inscribed with the names of the churchwardens of the parish, Messrs. R. Griffith and G. M. Kite; and the conductor of the ringers, Mr. J. Belcher; and F. White, bell-hanger. In addition to the restoration of the bells, a great improvement has been effected in the belfry. The ringing-room has been newly painted and coloured, and the floor and stairs repaired. It is proposed to fix a chiming apparatus in the tower, by means of which one man may chime all the bells for church on a Sunday, thus obviating the necessity of a number of ringers, as in the old-fashioned manner, when the clappers were pulled by a cord against the bell. The new apparatus will be erected about Christmas. The total cost of the whole work will be about 200*l.*, of which about 150*l.* has been subscribed and expended.

The re-dedication ceremony took place, as stated, on Monday week. The Rector having offered up prayer, a hymn was sung, and afterwards the Doxology. The Rector then called upon Mr. G. M. Kite, as parish churchwarden, to read a statement of the work accomplished, the general details of which have already been given. Mr. Kite spoke in terms of warm appreciation of the Rector's assistance in the work. He (Mr. Kite) was quite sure every one would be satisfied with the result of the recasting and rehanging, and he ventured to say that there was now no better ring of bells in the county than the parish church bells of Cheltenham, while he was sure there were no better or more practised ringers for many miles round than the ringers who rang those bells. Canon Bell, who was warmly received, thanked Mr. Kite for the kind reference made to himself in connexion with the work they had so well accomplished. There was only one thing he wished, and it was that all old bells might be recast like the bells of their parish church, so that the little discomforts of old age might be obliterated. In conclusion, the Rector congratulated all concerned on the successful completion of their labours. Mr. Gwynnett then proposed that the thanks of the meeting assembled in that peculiar manner in the belfry of the old parish church be given to the Rector of Cheltenham for his successful exertions in the work, the completion of which they were that day assembled to commemorate. The Rev. M. A. Smelt seconded the proposition, which, on being put to the meeting, was carried by acclamation.

The floor of the belfry was now 'cleared for action,' and the ringers, in the presence of the company, gave a Stedman's touch of 108 changes. The ringers were—J. Belcher (conductor), 1; G. H. Phillott, Esq., 2; H. Hodges, 3; F. Musty, 4; W. Morris, 5; G. Holifield, 6; H. Karn, 7; F. White, 8; G. Acock, 9; T. Bennett, 10. Mr. G. H. Phillott proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Belcher for the work he had done in connexion with the recasting and rehanging of the bells, and he added that he should like it to be known that the work of repainting the belfry had been carried out by the ringers themselves. Later in the afternoon a combined company of ringers from Gloucester, Malvern, Oxford, Cheltenham, and Monmouth, under the leadership of H. Karn (Cheltenham), gave a touch of Grand sire Triples, which was followed at intervals during the afternoon by other 'touches.'

On Tuesday a mixed band of ringers, in order to commemorate the re-opening of the bells, rang a true peal of Stedman's Caters, containing 5079 changes, in 3½ hrs. The ringers were J. Belcher, (Cheltenham), Mr. G. H. Phillott (Cheltenham), C. Hounslow (Oxford), F. Musty (Cheltenham), G. Holifield (Appleton), W. T. Pates (Cheltenham), the Rev. F. E. Robinson (Appleton), F. White (Appleton), T. Bennett (Appleton), and H. Karn

(Cheltenham), tenor. The peal was conducted by the Rev. F. E. Robinson, Master of the Oxford Diocesan Guild of Change-ringers, and was composed by Mr. H. Johnson of Birmingham.

At St. Peter's, Tiverton, Devon.—Reopening of the Bells.

ON Wednesday, the 5th inst., the tower and ring of eight bells were reopened for their holy use, after having undergone thorough repair. The bells were rehung by the late Mr. Henry Boswell, and most of them fitted with new wheels, stocks, and gudgeons. An excellent clock has been presented to the church, made by the firm of Messrs. Gillett and Co. of Croydon. The belfry, too, has been thoroughly renovated. At the reopening service a large congregation assembled. The first part of the service was conducted by the Rev. George Hadow, rector of Tidcombe Portion, a special form of prayer being used. The psalms chanted were the 150th and 122nd: after the latter, the ringers rang a plain course of Grandsire Triples, which was listened to with evident interest by the congregation. An appropriate hymn was sung before the sermon, the first verse being:—

'Now again our bells are mounted
To their holy place on high,
Ever to fulfil their mission
Midway 'twixt the earth and sky.'

The sermon was preached by the Rev. C. D. P. Davies, M.A., of Tewkesbury, from 2 Chron. xxix. 26. After the service several touches of Grandsire Triples, and a short touch of Stedman's Triples, were rung under the conductorship of Mr. Banister of Plymouth. Ringers from Plymouth, Huntsham, and Uplowman, assisted in the opening of the ring, which took place under the auspices of the Devonshire Guild of Ringers. The ringers were:—W. Banister, 1; H. Payne, 2; W. Heard, 3; E. Munday, 4; W. Baxter, 5; H. Tucker, 6; J. Easterbrook, 7; Colonel Troyte, 8.

A New Peal of Bob Major. 5040

	2	3	4	5	6	W.	M.	H.
	6	4	2	3	5	—	—	—
	5	2	6	4	3	—	—	—
	6	5	2	4	3	—	—	—
	4	6	2	5	3	—	—	—
	2	4	3	6	5	—	—	—
	5	3	4	6	2	—	—	—
	2	4	5	3	6	—	—	—
	5	3	2	4	6	—	—	—
	6	2	5	3	4	—	—	—
	4	5	6	2	3	—	—	—
	3	6	5	2	4	—	—	—
	4	5	3	6	2	—	—	—
	3	4	5	6	2	—	—	—
	2	5	3	4	6	—	—	—
	3	4	2	5	6	—	—	—
	Twice repeated.					—	—	—

Sm,—I shall feel obliged if
you will kindly insert the fol-
lowing peal of Bob Major.

B. W. ROSE.

15 St. Alban's Road, Dartford.

CHANGE-RINGING.

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

ON Monday, the 26th ult., a peal of 720 Oxford Treble Bob (with 15 bobs) was rung in 27 mins. F. Lees, 1; R. S. Story, 2; W. Eggleston, 3; T. J. Des Forges, 4; W. Story, 5; C. L. Routledge (conductor), 6.

ON Sunday, the 2nd inst., for evening service, a peal of 720 Kent Treble Bob was rung in 28½ mins. G. Herdman, 1; F. Lees, 2; C. L. Routledge, 3; T. J. Des Forges, 4; W. Story, 5; W. G. Routledge (conductor), 6.

ON Sunday, the 9th inst., a peal of 720 Plain Bob was rung in 25 mins. F. Lees, 1; C. L. Routledge, 2; G. Herdman, 3; T. J. Des Forges, 4; W. Story, 5; W. G. Routledge (conductor), 6.

ON Monday, the 10th inst., a peal of 720 College Pleasure was rung in 27½ mins. W. Eggleston, 1; C. L. Routledge, 2; F. Lees, 3; W. G. Routledge, 4; W. Story, 5; R. S. Story (conductor), 6. Also, on the same night, a peal of 720 Oxford Treble was rung in 28 mins. Called on the fifth bell with nine bobs. F. Lees (conductor), 1; W. Eggleston, 2; C. L. Routledge, 3; T. J. Des Forges, 4; W. Story, 5; W. G. Routledge, 6. Tenor, 12½ cwt., in G.

At Cuddesdon, Oxford.

ON Thursday, the 6th inst., six members of the Oxford University Society, by the invitation of Mr. C. C. Child of the Wilberforce Theological College, late Master of the Society, rang a peal of 720 Grandsire Minor in 27½ mins. J. R. Vincent, Esq., 1; G. F. Scott, Esq., 2; C. W. H. Griffith, Esq., 3; F. A. H. Du Boulay, Esq., 4; J. F. Hastings, Esq., 5; G. F. Coleridge, Esq. (conductor), 6. Tenor, 17 cwt.

Also a peal of 720 Bob Minor in 27 mins. J. R. Vincent, Esq., 1; F. A. H. Du Boulay, Esq., 2; C. W. H. Griffith, Esq., 3; J. F. Hastings, Esq., 4; C. C. Child, Esq. (conductor), 5; G. F. Coleridge, Esq., 6.

Previous to evening service a touch of College Singles was rung, and also a six-score of Grandsire Doubles. Touches of College Singles and Grandsire Triples were also rung on the handbells in Mr. Child's rooms.

At St. Lawrence's, Appleton, Berks.

ON Friday, the 7th inst., a peal of 5001 Stedman's Caters was rung in 3 hrs. 20 mins. F. S. White, 1; E. Holifield, 2; G. Holifield, 3; W. Bennett, 4; B. Barrett, 5; F. White, 6; Rev. F. E. Robinson (conductor), 7; J. Avery, 8; H. Woodwards, 9; T. Bennett, 10. Tenor, 14½ cwt. Composed by Mr. H. W. Haley.

At Heene, Worthing, Sussex.

ON Saturday, the 8th inst., eight members of the joint Societies of St. Nicholas and St. Peter (Brighton) rang Taylor's Bob-and-Single peal of

Grandsire Triples in 3 hrs. 10 mins., by kind permission of the Rev. McLeod Beckles. O. St. John, Esq., 1; H. Boast, 2; J. Searle, 3; C. Tyler, 4; J. Jay, jun., 5; G. F. Attree (conductor), 6; J. Jay, 7; E. Butler, 8. Tenor, 12½ cwt., in G sharp. This is the first peal in any method on these bells.

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

ON Saturday, the 8th inst., eight members of the Norwich Diocesan Association rang a peal of 5120 Kent Treble Bob Major in 3 hrs. 28 mins. H. English,* 1; I. S. Alexander, 2; E. Pemberton, 3; W. Motts, 4; J. Motts, 5; E. Wells,* 6; R. H. Brundle, 7; W. Catchpole, 8. Composed by H. Haley and conducted by J. Motts. [* Members of the Coddensham Branch.]

At All Saints', Fulham, Middlesex.

ON Saturday, the 8th inst., ten members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang a peal of 11,111 of Stedman's Caters in 7 hrs. 12 mins., being the greatest number rung in this method. J. Pettit (conductor), 1; F. E. Dawe, 2; G. Mash, 3; J. W. Rowbotham, 4; C. F. Winny, 5; E. Gibbs, 6; W. Greenleaf, 7; E. Horrex, 8; J. M. Hayes, 9; W. Prime, 10. Composed by Mr. H. Johnson, sen., Birmingham.

At All Saints', West Bromwich, Staffordshire.

ON Saturday, the 8th inst., eight members of the Archdeaconry of Stafford Association, by kind permission of the Vicar, rang Mr. J. Wilde's peal of 5023 Grandsire Major in 3 hrs. 7 mins. E. Cashmore, 1; F. Sedgwick, 2; S. Reeves, 3; R. Hall, 4; W. R. Small, 5; F. J. Cope, 6; T. Meredith (conductor), 7; A. Thomas, 8. Tenor, 14 cwt., in F. Mr. Thomas hails from Birmingham; Messrs. Meredith, Sedgwick, and Cope, from Lichfield; and the others from West Bromwich.

At Belgrave, Leicestershire.

ON Monday, the 10th inst., the newly formed Society at the above township rang six peals of Grandsire Doubles (720 changes), each called differently. This is the first performance of this band, and on the bells by local members. J. Pole (conductor), 1; H. Clayton, 2; C. Hubbard, 3; S. Pole, 4; W. A. Clayton, 5. Tenor, 14½ cwt.

At St. John's, Loughton, Essex.

ON Monday, the 10th inst., a peal of 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor was rung in 29 mins. by six members of the Royal Cumberland Society. A. H. Gardom, Esq. (conductor), 1; W. Meadows, 2; M. Ellsmore, 3; H. Randall, 4; W. Doran, 5; S. Jarman, 6. It was arranged for eight members of the above Society to meet for a peal of Treble Bob Major, but, owing to one of the party failing to appear, the above 720 was rung on the back six to while away time. While this was being rung the other member entered upon the scene, but it was then too late to attempt a peal of Major, so they had to content themselves with a touch of about 1760 changes of Kent Treble Bob. A. H. Gardom, Esq. (conductor), 1; G. Akers, 2; M. Ellsmore, 3; J. Priest, jun., 4; W. Meadows, 5; H. Randall, 6; W. Doran, 7; S. Jarman, 8. Tenor, 19½ cwt., in E. This is the first 720 in the method on the bells, and also the longest length of Treble Bob Major.

At Hitchin, Herts.

ON Monday, the 10th inst., for practice, the local ringers rang two six-scores of Grandsire Doubles, with 7, 6, 8, behind, conducted by W. Allen, by whose exertions change-ringing has commenced in this town, after a hard struggle. Also a 720 of Bob Minor, conducted by W. A. Tyler, with 6, 8, behind; and 168 Grandsire Triples. Grandsire Doubles:—H. Silsby, 1; J. Randall, 2; C. Creasey, 3; J. Hare, 4; W. Allen, 5; W. A. Tyler, 6; S. Hare, 7; W. Kitchener, 8. Bob Minor:—J. Randall, 1; C. Creasey, 2; F. Furr, 3; J. Hare, 4; W. Tyler, 5; H. Silsby, 6; W. Allen, 7; W. Kitchener, 8. Grandsire Triples:—H. Silsby, 1; J. Randall, 2; F. Furr, 3; J. Hare, 4; W. Tyler, 5; C. Creasey, 6; W. Allen, 7; W. Kitchener, 8.

We are informed that it is proposed to add two trebles to the heavy ring of six at Wellingborough, Northants, and also to recast the third bell, which is defective. The two new bells have already been promised.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Sermons or Essays?

SM,—The late Bishop Wilberforce gave the following advice as to preaching:—'When you preach be real. Set your people before you in their numbers, their wants, their dangers, their capacities. Choose a subject, not to show yourself off, but to benefit them, and then speak straight to them, as you would beg your life, or counsel your son, or call your dearest friend from a burning house, in plain, strong, earnest words.' This great authority shows us, then, that for successful preaching the preacher must, 1, be real; 2, speak straight to the people; 3, and that, plainly, vigorously, and earnestly. Your correspondent, 'B.A. Oxon,' seems to think that we can only do this by extempore preaching. I fail to see this; for, first, is the extempore preacher always or generally real? has he not great and special temptations, too often yielded to, to make 'points' and 'palpable hits' by extravagant expressions and affected gestures? Often have I listened to extempore sermons which have been most unreal,—mere 'sound and fury, signifying nothing,' artificial in the extreme, and, withal, wearisomely long, owing to many repetitions, the only thing real about them being the intense disgust they called up in my mind. Then, do extempore preachers always or generally 'speak straight to the people'? Is there not often much circumlocution about their addresses; so much so that one frequently hears a bewildered one exclaim, after hearing

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Essex Association.—District Meeting at Maldon.

A DISTRICT Meeting was held at Maldon on Saturday, Nov. 24th, at which thirty ringing and five honorary members were present. The business meeting was held at 4.30, the Rev. H. E. Horwood, vicar of All Saints', in the chair. One ringing member, Mr. J. Savill of Rayne, was elected, and the following suggestions were made:—'That the Secretary should communicate with the authorities of the Great Eastern Railway before the next meeting, with a view to obtaining cheap tickets for members attending meetings of the Association.' 'That certificates of membership might be printed on cards the same size as those used for the record of peals.' Mr. F. Rudkin gave notice of a motion to be brought forward at the next annual meeting, 'That a set of handbells shall be purchased for the use of members at the district and annual meetings.' After the meeting tea was provided at the 'White Horse.' The following companies were represented at the meeting:—Bocking, Braintree, Great Bromley, Boreham, Kelvedon, Maldon, Rettendon, Wedford, and Witham.

The Reopening of Bells at Tamworth Parish Church, Staffs.

SM.—Several ringers visited Tamworth on the above occasion, but were much disappointed by the privacy of the arrangements. A select band was appointed and a peal started, for the ringing of which lasted all the afternoon, but no other ringers were allowed to ring afterwards. It would be fairer to ring touches on those occasions, so that all who wish may get a chance.

Lichfield.

J. KEY.

At Fareham, Hants.

THE science of bell-ringing in all its intricate ramifications is little practised in Hampshire compared with some other counties. But the proposal made some time since by several amateur enthusiasts of Fareham, who had made bell-ringing a pleasurable study, to rehang and complete the fine set of bells in the ancient belfry of St. Peter's parish church was warmly taken up by the inhabitants. In the chancel of Fareham parish church Hampshire possesses one of its most ancient ecclesiastical monuments, built in the old English style, dating back some six hundred years. The tower and belfry were added in 1742, while the body of the church, as it now stands, was erected at the beginning of the present century, and lays claim to no special merit. Of late years the belfry, with its ring of six bells, has been sadly neglected. The proposal to rehang the bells and complete the octave emanated from the Rev. A. A. Headley, the senior curate, W. Kelsall, Esq., and Mr. Privett, and their appeal to the public for subscriptions was liberally responded to by all classes. A bazaar was also held, and some 250*l.* was raised. The work was entrusted to Mr. Thomas Mallaby, church bell-hanger, of Masham, Yorkshire. Mr. Mallaby found the fittings, except the frame, in a tender and worn-out condition. The bells were accordingly taken down, quarter-turned, and new clappers fitted to each. They were then rehung with new stocks, wheels, stays, sliders, pulleys, gudgeons, and bearings. Two new bells were added to complete the octave—a second note 'F', weighing 5 cwt., and a treble note 'F sharp', weighing 4 cwt. 2 qrs. On one first treble bell was placed the inscription, 'Cast by John Warner and Sons, London'; added A.D. 1888, by subscription.—'W. S. Dumergue, Vicar; W. T. Mainprize, R. Porter, Churchwardens'; and on the second, 'Cast by John Warner and Sons, London; added A.D. 1883, by subscription, promoted by Rev. A. A. Headley, W. Kelsall, C. Privett.' On each of the old bells suitable inscriptions appear, and these we quote:—Third—'Te Deum laudamus, 1742, Kipling fecit.' Fourth—'Mr. Daniel Lavington, Mr. John Merrit, Churchwardens, 1742, Kipling fecit.' Fifth—'Joshua Kipling, Portsmouth, fecit, 1742.' Sixth—'Soli Deo Gloria, 1742, Kipling fecit.' Seventh—'Cantate Domino, Cantium Novum, 1742, Kipling fecit.' Tenor—'Voco Veni Precare, 1745, Kipling fecit:—'

'In vain the rebels strive to gain renowne
Over our Church, the laws, the King and Crowne.
In vain the bold ingrateful (sic) rebels aim,
To overthrow when you support the same,
Then may great George our King live for to see
The rebellious crew hang on the gallows tree.'

The cost of rehang and completing the ring was about 180*l.* The balance of 70*l.* will be devoted to placing additional stops to the organ. The bells were reopened for public use by the local ringers, assisted by ringers from Gosport, Soberton, Southampton, and Bishops Waltham, when several touches of Grandsire Triples were rung.

In the evening there was a dinner at the 'Red Lion' Hotel, the company numbering seventy-eight. The room was prettily and appropriately decorated. The orchestra gallery was embellished with sprays of small ivy and shields, while plainly inscribed on festooned banners were the couplets, 'Hear the mellow wedding-bells—golden bells,' and 'Mirth and joy are on the wing—I ring.' The walls were hung with numerous banners bearing such suitable quotations as 'Hear the sledges with their bells—silver bells'; 'Hear the tolling of the bells—iron bells'; 'To call the folks to church in time—I chime'; and 'When from body parts the soul—I toll.' Over the top table was suspended the model of a silver bell, and above the lower end of the table that of the tenor bell. The chair was occupied by W. H. Deane, Esq., J.P., the chairman of the Committee, and there were also present the Revs. A. A. Headley and H. J. Lewis, Captain Ramsay, and several others. There were also some thirty ringers, sixteen members of the church choir, the vergers, sexton, and many others.

The Chairman, having proposed the loyal toasts, introduced that of 'The Bishop and clergy, and ministers of other denominations.' He might almost

call that the toast of the evening, because with it he should couple the name of one without whose energetic action they would not be together that evening. He referred, of course, to the Rev. A. A. Headley. They were met to celebrate the completion of an undertaking which would, he believed, never have been taken in hand but for Mr. Headley, although that gentleman had received every assistance and support. When the rev. gentleman severed his connexion with the town—and it would be a bad day for Fareham when he did—he would leave behind him a lasting memorial, which would prove a source of pleasure to the parishioners for many generations to come.

The Rev. A. A. Headley having spoken of the happy incident which gave rise to the undertaking, said that although he had taken active steps to attain the desired result he could never have been successful had it not been for the able assistance afforded him by the chairman of the committee, Mr. W. H. Deane, the treasurer, Mr. W. Kelsall, Mr. Privett, Mr. Whiting, and many others he could not name then. The toast of 'The Ladies,' that evening should not be merely of the ordinary complimentary character, but should include their hearty thanks for the material help the ladies had given them in preparing and conducting the bazaar. Now that they had a complete set of bells, what they must strive to do was to use them properly. He also spoke as to the importance of considering the belfry a part of the church, and inculcated on the ringers a high idea of their duty. Mr. J. P. Boorn, in suitable terms, proposed 'The Committee.'—Mr. W. Kelsall, in reply, took the opportunity of thanking all who had co-operated with the committee to bring about the desired result. As regarded the use to which the bells were to be put, he hoped the bell-ringers would maintain their character as an orderly, God-fearing, and steady body of men, and that they would strive to acquire increased knowledge in the art and ring more scientifically. Let them go in for 'change' ringing, and not confine their attention to six bells, but utilise the whole ring. The chairman having acknowledged the toast of 'The Subscribers,' the Rev. H. J. Lewis proposed the health of Mr. Mallaby, who, in response, hoped the ringers would make good progress in the art, as there was a wide field of usefulness open to them. 'The Ringers,' 'The Visitors,' 'The Ladies,' and 'The Press,' were suitably replied to. During the evening Messrs. D. Hill, C. Privett, Graffham, G. Passingham, and J. Whiting, played some changes, and some tunes with handbells, and the choir under Mr. W. Kelsall also contributed to the harmony.

CHANGE-RINGING.

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

ON Wednesday, the 5th inst., a peal of 720 Grandsire Minor was rung in 27 mins. E. Batten (his first 720 of Minor), 1; A. Fussell, 2; W. Fussell, 3; F. Fells, 4; J. Parker (conductor), 5; C. Clarke, 6.

ON Saturday, the 15th inst., several members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild rang the accompanying peal of 720 Bob Minor in 25 mins. Also a 720 of Canterbury Pleasure Minor in 25 mins., and one or two 120's of Stedman's Doubles.

ON Sunday morning, the 16th inst., for Divine service, a peal of 720 Grandsire Minor in 24½ mins. Also, for afternoon service, a peal of 720 Oxford Bob Minor in 26 mins.; and in the evening a peal of 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor in 26 mins. F. Fells, 1; J. Basden, 2; A. Fussell, 3; A. Batten (his first 720 in the method), 4; J. Parker (conductor), 5; W. Fussell, 6. Tenor, 12 cwt., in F#.

At St. Mary's, Rotherhithe, Surrey.

ON Thursday, the 6th inst., eight members of the Society of Trinity Youths rang a peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples (Holt's Ten-part) in 3 hrs. 2 mins. F. Thornton, 1; W. Pead, 2; T. Taylor, 3; T. Waghorn, 4; W. Weatherstone (conductor), 5; W. Bowles, 6; G. Freeman, 7; H. Freeman, 8. This Society was established in the year 1782, and consisted of foremen-shipwrights and master-calkers of the Dockyard at Deptford, Kent. The performances consisted of seventy-two peals, among which are Treble Bob Royal, Grandsire Caters, Treble Bob Major, and Grandsire Triples. James Dyer, a relative of one of the members of the original Society, is still alive—aged eighty-one years.

At St. George's, Camberwell, Surrey.

ON Saturday, the 8th inst., a peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples (Holt's Six-part) was rung in 2 hrs. 48 mins. H. Langdon, 1; E. Rogers, 2; Y. Green, 3; J. Basden, 4; F. T. Gover, 5; R. French, 6; F. G. Newman (conductor), 7; T. Coxhead, 8. Tenor, 14 cwt.

At St. Margaret's, Westminster.

ON Saturday, the 8th inst., a peal of 5003 Grandsire Caters was rung in 3 hrs. 24 mins. by ten members of the Waterloo Society. W. Baron (conductor), 1; J. J. Scowen,*† 2; C. E. Malim,*† 3; W. Coppage, 4; E. E. Robins,* 5; W. Jones,* 6; C. Hopkins, 7; G. Pell, 8; T. Taylor,* 9; S. Smith, 10. Composed by John Cox. Tenor, 28 cwt. [* First peal of Caters. † First peal with a bob bell.]

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

ON Saturday, the 15th inst., eight members of the St. Paul's Society rang a peal of 5088 Kent Treble Bob Major in 3 hrs. 29 mins. A. Wakley, 1; E. I. Stone, 2; H. Wakley, 3; J. Griffin, 4; J. Jaggard, 5; J. W. Taylor, jun., 6; T. Holmes, 7; W. Wakley (conductor), 8. Tenor, 26 cwt. Composed by N. J. Pitstow, and now rung for the first time. All members of the Midland Counties' Association.

RECEIVED ALSO:—J. Sheepshanks—Get the best bell you can for your money: Bob Major; W. Sottanstill; 720 Bob Minor; Faringdon; B. Francis; Ardsley; Somerleyton.

'Voluntary emigration is in effect natural selection in favour of the colonies and against the mother country. Its evil effects are already visible in the mining districts of Cornwall and in some of the agricultural counties. If it goes on, its effect will be but too obvious in another quarter of a century.

'Pauper emigration is both undesirable and impossible. State-aided emigration, judiciously controlled, should aim at sending out an average sample of English men and women.'

COLONIAL AND FOREIGN CHURCH NEWS.

UNITED STATES.

THE work of the General Convention is hardly less characterised by what it refused to do than by what it did. It declined to concur in a memorial from the diocese of Indiana, requesting the appointment of a Negro Episcopate for Negro congregations. The Conference of Southern Bishops at Seewanee had approved of this idea; but Bishop Wilmer of Alabama triumphed in objecting: 'Why draw a colour line, and have a rainbow Church?' Neither did the Convention consent to the erection of a Court of Appeal, though so far-seeing a prelate as the late Bishop Whitehouse of Illinois was strongly in favour of some such step. The Convention rejected, also, after considerable discussion, the proposal to abolish the title 'Protestant Episcopal'; the statement of the Committee of Bishops upon which the Upper House acted, seems important enough for quotation:—

'This name, "Protestant Episcopal," it is true, was forced upon us by external pressure of circumstances and by the laws of the land. We were known as "the Church of England," but that name was no longer appropriate, and was, moreover, opprobrious in a time of animosities and revenges. The necessity of taking the place which the law assigned to us, and of consenting to be, in the eyes of the law, only one of many Christian denominations, was the more obvious, because, having been associated with the royal Government and with a Church whose Bishops had seats in the House of Lords, the slightest token of arrogance or assumption would have proved an additional obstacle in the way of the Church's work and mission. We were called "Episcopalians;" popular prejudice confounded us with Romanism. The term "Protestant Episcopal" was supposed to assert at once our orthodoxy and our apostolicity, the two adjectives creating a composite epithet of which the force was this: If we are "Protestants" we are still "Episcopal" (that is, Apostolic and Catholic) Protestants; if we are "Episcopalians," we do not, therefore, any less, but rather more earnestly, protest against the pretensions of the Roman Hierarchy. The Greeks have always done this more effectually than many who have neither presbyters nor bishops. Such, then, was the external name imposed upon us and accepted under the new civil constitution. It indicated a cordial assent to the laws of the land, but it did not impair our essential catholicity nor diminish the force of our perpetual recitation of the creed which identifies us with the Holy Catholic and Apostolic Church of Christ. Among ourselves we are the American Church; even Bishop White constantly employs this term; and, understood as it is, *esoterically*, it should give offence to nobody. In the opinion of your Committee there is a higher view of the matter. The signal tokens of Divine Providence which have marked the whole course of this Apostolic seed in America forbid us to believe that the Hand Divine is not to be discerned in the award of a name which is, temporarily, a trial to faith and patience, but not less a note of the Kingdom which "cometh not with observation." It reminds us of Him who for thirty years was content to be known as the carpenter's son, and whose obscurity was entailed upon His mystical body, so long identified with him as the sect of the "Nazarenes." Let us remember that it was not till a comparatively late period that the Catholic formula of the Creed obliterated the names of local Churches. The Orientals to this day call themselves Orthodox rather than Catholic, when they mean to particularise the Churches which adhere to Nicene constitutions. Not less does the Papal Communion recognise local names as consistent with Catholicity. She has adopted the sectarian, if not heretical, Church of the Maronites into full communion, with that name retained and authorized and perpetuated. The divers sects called Uniates are part and parcel of her parti-coloured, pseudo-Catholic system. She perpetuates the name of the Melchites among her Oriental subjects, for the very purpose of asserting a superior antiquity and orthodoxy. The Gallican Church has often made that local and national title a patent and distinctive attribute of her qualified acceptance of the Papal sovereignty. De Maistre regards this assertion of a distinctive name essential Anglicanism. No impeachment of our Catholicity can be fairly based, therefore, upon the mere label of our Prayer-book, provided the Book itself is Catholic in all its component parts. Your Committee believes the Book to be Catholic essentially, and so does every candid and competent judge; and objections to its title-page must come with ill grace from the rival communion in America, which adulterates the name of the whole Catholic Church by the prefix Roman, even in her distinctive creed. Better for an outside misnomer than an internal canker which eats out the very core of Catholic unity, and substitutes a system of fables for the ancient constitution. That Providence on which we rely for the future will, doubtless, create some epoch when truth will naturally assert itself, and when the interior work in which we are now engaged will develop all the external notes of Catholicity which are our rightful heritage. The whole chaos of American Christianity awaits a future shaping into unity and beauty, and even now the Spirit of God is moving upon the waters. Meantime let "quietness and confidence be our strength." Your Committee have felt it a duty to make these suggestions as due to scrupulous consciences disturbed by the apparent conflict between our local name and our Catholic integrity.'

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Bedfordshire Association of Change-ringers.

A DISTRICT Meeting of the above was held at Luton Belfry on Saturday, the 15th inst., at 2 p.m., at which there was a good attendance. The church bells were kept going to Grandsire Triples and Bob Major, but owing to the state of the bells no long length was attempted. The question of the desirability of becoming associated with the newly formed Ely Diocesan Society was mooted, but the matter was referred to be dealt with at the Annual Meeting at Bedford, on Easter Monday next. The gathering was most successful.

Surrey Association.

A QUARTERLY Meeting of the above Association will be held (by the kind permission of the Vicar) at Kingston, on Monday, January 7th, 1884. Tea at the 'Leopold' Coffee Tavern at 5.30 p.m., and business meeting immediately afterwards. The Vicar will preside. Members are hereby reminded that their subscriptions for 1884 are due at this meeting, and are requested to hand them to their local representatives. The tower will be open for ringing.

A. B. CARPENTER, *Hon. Sec.*

Treble Bob Major.

THE following is the first part of 17,760 changes of Treble Bob Major, in three equal parts:—

FIRST PART.

2 3 4 5 6 7

5 2 7 3 4 6	Out, a six-place bob, the seventh lead, and one wrong.
3 5 2 6 4 7	{ A six-place bob, the sixth lead one out, one wrong, and a six-place bob at home.
7 5 6 2 4 3	Out, and the four twice, and one the fifth's.
4 7 2 5 6 3	Out, two wrong, and two at home.
4 7 2 3 5 6	Two, the middle out, and the four twice out, and two wrong.
7 2 4 3 5 6	Two, the middle in and out, two the fifth's, and one at home.
3 6 7 4 2 5	Out, and one the fifth's.
5 6 7 4 3 2	One, the middle in and one wrong.
2 3 7 5 4 6	In and out, a six-place bob, the sixth lead, and one at home.
3 5 7 6 2 4	One, the middle, and in.
6 7 5 4 3 2	In and out and one the fifth's.
7 6 3 4 5 2	Out, one wrong, and two at home.
6 5 4 3 2 7	{ Fourth's and in twice, one the fourth's and out, one the fifth's, one wrong, and one at home.
6 2 5 3 4 7	Two, the middle, and one at home.
2 3 5 6 4 7	One, the middle, and one out.
2 3 6 4 5 7	Out, and one at home.
3 4 2 5 6 7	Out.

To be twice repeated.

WILLIAM SOTTANSTALL, *Sowerby, Yorkshire.*

Reopening of Bells at Tamworth, Staffordshire.

ON Thursday, the 13th inst., the reopening of the bells at Tamworth parish church, took place, when eight members of the Association of Change-ringers for the Archdeaconry of Stafford made at attempt to ring Holt's Six-part peal of Grandsire Triples, but after ringing upwards of 4900 changes, a change-course took place, which brought the bells to a stand. H. Hipkiss, 1; T. Horton, 2; W. R. Small, 3; T. Meredith, 4; W. Beeson, 5; F. J. Cope, 6; S. Reeves, 7; W. Ellsmore, 8. Tenor, 18 cwt. A touch of Stedman's Triples was rung before, and a plain course of Grandsire Triples in the middle, of the service. The ringing throughout was conducted by S. Reeves.

A 720 Bob Minor, with 35 Bobs and 6 Singles.

- 2 3 5 6 4	- 5 2 4 6 3	- 4 5 3 6 2
3 6 2 4 5	2 6 5 3 4	5 6 4 2 3
- 3 6 4 5 2	- 2 6 3 4 5	6 2 5 3 4
S 6 3 5 2 4	- 2 6 4 5 3	2 3 6 4 5
- 6 3 2 4 5	6 5 2 3 4	3 4 2 5 6
- 6 3 4 5 2	- 6 5 3 4 2	- 3 4 5 6 2
3 5 6 2 4	5 4 6 2 3	- 3 4 6 2 5
- 3 5 2 4 6	- 5 4 2 3 6	S 4 3 2 5 6
- 3 5 4 6 2	- 5 4 3 6 2	- 4 3 5 6 2
S 5 3 6 2 4	4 6 5 2 3	- 4 3 6 2 5
- 5 3 2 4 6	- 4 6 2 3 5	3 2 4 5 6
- 5 3 4 6 2	- 4 6 3 5 2	- 3 2 5 6 4
3 6 5 2 4	6 5 4 2 3	- 3 2 6 4 5
6 2 3 4 5	S 5 6 2 3 4	2 4 3 5 6
- 6 2 4 5 3	- 5 6 3 4 2	- 2 4 5 6 3
2 5 6 3 4	6 4 5 2 3	- 2 4 6 3 5
- 2 5 3 4 6	- 6 4 2 3 5	S 4 2 3 5 6
- 2 5 4 6 3	- 6 4 3 5 2	- 4 2 5 6 3
S 5 2 6 3 4	4 5 6 2 3	- 4 2 6 3 5
- 5 2 3 4 6	- 4 5 2 3 6	2 3 4 5 6 J. PARKER.

A New Ring of Bells at East Ardsley, Yorkshire.

A NEW ring of seven bells has been erected in East Ardsley Church, one of which is dedicated to the Countess of Cardigan, the patroness of the living. We suppose it is a ring of six bells, and the seventh is dedicated to the Countess.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At Faringdon, Berks.—Muffled Peal.

ON the 13th inst. a muffled peal was rung at the parish church as a tribute of respect to the memory of the late Earl of Craven, of Ashdown Park, Berks. T. Sims, 1; E. Judd, 2; M. Haines, 3; J. Townsend, 4; O. Jackson, 5; A. Richings, 6; C. Beechey, 7; A. Ball, 8. Tenor, 16 cwt., in F.

COLONIAL AND FOREIGN CHURCH NEWS.

CANADA.

A DIOCESAN branch of the Church of England Temperance Society has been formed at Toronto: the Bishop has fixed on the first Sunday in Lent for 'Temperance Sunday,' and invites other religious bodies to concur herein. The Branch has resolved to ask the Provincial Government to provide for the imparting of temperance instruction in the common schools.

At Kingston Dr. Wilson, priest-vicar of the Cathedral, has gone to great lengths with the Salvation Army. He attended an 'all night' of prayer, at the close of which—5 a.m.,—he administered Holy Communion, assisted by a Major Moore. He afterwards explained to his Dean that no form of consecration was observed, and that the wine was unf fermented(?); however, an indignation meeting of the city clergy was held, and the priest will lose his license unless he expresses regret.

DEAN BALDWIN, of Montreal, the successor to Bishop Hellmuth in the diocese of Huron, was consecrated on St. Andrew's Day, at Montreal, by the Bishop of Ontario—acting for the Metropolitan—assisted by the Bishops of Quebec, Montreal, and Toronto.

The topic of Christian unity has of late been much discussed in the *Toronto Mail*. Correspondence was commenced by the aged Bishop of Niagara, and has since been participated in by Mr. Laing, a leading Presbyterian divine, the Rev. J. Langtry, a strong 'High Churchman,' and others. The writers all seem to desire the holding of inter-sectarian conferences to discuss differences.

UNITED STATES.

THE late General Convention divided the missionary episcopate of Dakota into two—North and South Dakota. The Bishop of Nebraska's title was altered to the latter of these two, and his jurisdiction was enlarged accordingly. For North Dakota the first Bishop, Dr. W. D. Walker, of Calvary chapel, New York, was consecrated at that chapel, on the eve of St. Thomas. The territory of Wyoming is temporarily retained within the jurisdiction of the Bishop of Colorado. The aged Bishop Green has resigned the diocese of Mississippi.

THE 'Book Annexed' is the title given to the results conditionally arrived at by the Prayer-book Committee of the late Convention. Referring further comment until its publication and receipt by ourselves, we may just add to what we have already stated that it offers a very greatly changed Lectionary, a new Office for Burial of Infants, and a new Canticle—*Benedictus es Domini*, consisting of the verses preceding the *Benedictus* in the Apocrypha.

CHINA.

At Hong-Kong, Bishop Burdon has ordained a catechist named Fong Yat-San, or Matthew, who formerly laboured heartily among the Chinese immigrants in the Australian colony of Victoria.

NEW ZEALAND.

In the diocese of Christchurch the Bishop has just licensed as a 'lay-assistant,' Mr. Thos. Hodgson, late a minister of the United Free Methodists.

THE Bishop of Dunedin proposes to constitute St. Matthew's parish church as the cathedral of his see: the plan will secure the services of two additional clergy at a spot where they are specially needed. Mr. Martin, a Wesleyan minister in this diocese, has asked the Bishop for ordination.

EAST AFRICA.

KING MTESA, of Uganda, has at present laid aside his religious inquiries for the more usual occupation of black potentates—war. Meanwhile the C. M. S. Mission keeps a hold on other shores of the Nyanza Lakes. The Rev. R. P. Ashe, leader of its last expeditions, who reached Rubaga in May, writes warmly of the work done by Messrs. O'Flaherty and Mackay.

BISHOP ROXBOROUGH, of Mauritius, has visited the C. M. S. Missions at Mombasa; he confirmed 104 persons at Freretown, 145 at Rabai, and seven at Kamlikeni.

PALESTINE.

Two Mohammedans have been baptized at Jerusalem by the Rev. T. F. Wolters, C. M. S. Missionary.

GERMANY.

ALTOGETHER, about 8000*l.* has been collected for building the intended new English church; but as much again is necessary to complete the church and provide the endowment.

SCANDINAVIA.

In Denmark, the Tract and Book Society founded by Dr. Kalkar, Dean Rothe, and Provost Vahl, has completed twenty-five years of existence. During that time it has put forth 209 publications, one of which is Provost Vahl's own elaborate work on *Christian Missions in the North-Polar Lands*. The Society has circulated translations of many English writings: those by Bishop Ryle have been among the most popular—one farmer, for instance, in Jutland, having purchased 500 copies of them for distribution in his own neighbourhood. The publications are now exposed for sale at most railway stations and in the cabins of steamships. This Society has proved a powerful factor in the present revival of religion in Denmark.

FRANCE.

NEARLY half-a-century ago a sum of money was collected by the late Rev. F. B. Gourrier to build at Paris a church wherein the Anglican service should be performed in French. This money, never having been expended, has accumulated to 6000*l.* The English Courts have sanctioned a scheme—a plan for this purpose proposed by the surviving trustee, deciding against a contention by Canon Cazenose, of Reigate, that the church should have service partly in English. The need of a church on Mr. Gourrier's plan seems very questionable.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

St. Paul's Cathedral, London.

The Bells will be rung on all Sundays throughout the year 1884, at 10 a.m. and 2.45 p.m. Also on the following days:—

Tuesday, Jan. 1 (New-year's Day)	9 to 10 a.m.
Friday, Jan. 25 (Dedication Festival)	9 to 10 a.m. & 7 p.m.
Thursday, May 22 (Ascension Day)	9.30 a.m. & 6 p.m.
Wednesday, May 14 (Sons of the Clergy Festival)	2.30 p.m.
Saturday, May 24 (Queen's Birthday)	9 to 10 a.m. & 7 p.m.
Friday, June 20 (Queen's Accession)	9 to 10 a.m. & 7 p.m.
Monday, Oct. 6 (Harvest Thanksgiving)	6 p.m.
Saturday, Nov. 1 (All Saints' Day)	9 to 10 a.m. & 7 p.m.
Monday, Nov. 10 (Lord Mayor's Day)	1 p.m. & 6 p.m.
Thursday, 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. 29, Feb. 26, April 15, May 13, June 10, July 8, Aug. 5, Sept. 2 and 30, Oct. 28, Nov. 25. No meeting-night in Advent.

Worthy of Record.

As usual the ringers of Clist St. George assembled to ring out the Old and ring in the New Year on Monday night at nine o'clock. The scene in the old redstone tower was most interesting and picturesque. Lighted up by the flickering rays of tallow-candles in the heavy iron sockets attached to the walls, a weird light was thrown upon the faces of the ringers, which rendered the *tout ensemble* very effective. On a side-bench sat the old Rector of ninety-four winters, his long grey beard descending over his cassock, and his venerable head covered by a skull-cap, his true Devonshire complexion and bright eyes lighted up by a little oil lamp that stood by; whilst opposite him sat a sturdy old ringer, alas! gripped by King 'Rheumatiz,' and only able to look on at others doing what he had done for fifty Old Years' nights before. He may well rest on his laurels, for he has passed the fourscore, and a good slice of same was spent in the most arduous of daily toil. With two exceptions, viz. the worthy old sexton and the young blacksmith, the ringers comprised a family party—Father Steer and his two sons, John and Henry, and his son-in-law George Davey, all good men and true ringers. Having rung peals and changes for an hour, we—for, though only a looker-on, I was amongst the number—adjourned to the Rectory, where a substantial supper of roast leg of mutton, with other adjuncts, and a first-rate plum-pudding, beer, and toddy, all taken in moderation and good-fellowship, refreshed the inner man, whilst jokes and conversation, and old saws and reminiscences, made the time pass rapidly until fifteen minutes to twelve, when an adjournment was made again to the tower, the candles relit, and the Old Year rung out. The peal ended, and twelve strokes given to bury the poor dear, dead old fellow, with all due honour, like so many kindly taps on his new green grave, we all knelt down for a short service. The good old Rector prayed that God would accept the service that was offered to Him, would blot out the sins and shortcomings of the past year, and give us strength to run with increased strength during the year we had just entered; and finishing with the Lord's Prayer and Benediction, we rose from our knees, and the ringers took their places to ring in the news of the birth of the infant year. The Rector propped his back against the wall and took the tenor, and pulling as lustily as a stripling, once more upon the still air rang out in joyful tones the sweet music of six tongues. It is worthy of record that the five times the peals were brought to an ending during the night, there was not a single jar to spoil the harmony of the stop. All honour being done to the Old, and a welcome given to the New, the 'glims were doused,' darkness reigned supreme, the Rector retired into his Rectory, with many good-nights and good wishes, and we went to our several homes. 1884? The thought must come, Where will be our homes in 1885? We missed old Henry, but failing health and old age have told their tale, and he had to bide by the hearth at home.

MULTIVAGANT.

P.S.—Should I have used any terms not in accordance with bell-ringing in what I describe about peals, changes, ringing, and stops, my ignorance of the art must be my excuse: I only describe what I saw and what I heard. I think it worthy of record that a Rector of ninety-four winters rang the New Year 1884 in.

Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association of Change-ringers.

The Anniversary Meeting of this Association will be held at Cheltenham on Monday, the 14th inst. The Parish Church—St. Mary's (ten bells), Prestbury (six bells), and Charlton Kings (six bells), will be open to members of the Association. All friends will meet with a hearty welcome.

J. DRINKWATER, *Master of the Association*.

Worcester Diocesan Association of Change-ringers.

The next Quarterly Meeting of the above Association will be held at Bromsgrove on Saturday, January 12th, 1884. Ringing will commence at St. John's Church at 2 p.m. Meeting for business at 4 p.m. in St. John's Schoolroom. Members are requested to note that all subscriptions are due (according to Rule 7) at this meeting, and are reminded to forward same by their representative.

On Sunday, the 30th ult., seven members of the St. Andrew's Society, Netherton, and members of the above Association, rang at the above church for early practice a peal of 720 Grandire Minor in 28 mins. B. Townsend, 1; F. Hotchkiss, 2; J. Townsend, 3; R. Round, 4; J. Prestidge, 5; J. Smith (conductor), 6. Also, for morning service, a peal of 720 Plain Bob in 27 mins. B. Townsend, 1; R. Round, 2; J. Townsend, 3; J. Robinson, 4; J. Prestidge, 5; J. Smith (composer and conductor), 6. Also, for evening service, with the same band, a date-touch of 1883 changes in 1 hr. 8 mins. The

touch contained 803 changes of Grandsire Minor and 1080 of Plain Bob. Composed and conducted by J. Smith. Tenor, 12½ cwt. The above were rung with the bells half muffled, it being the tenth anniversary of the death of the late Mrs. Blanche Skidmore, the donor of the bells, and in commemoration of the opening of a new reredos, which has been placed in the chancel to her memory by her son, H. P. Skidmore. The tenor bell bears the following inscription: 'This peal of six bells was presented by B. S., as a late thank-offering to God for many mercies.—J. J. SLADE, Vicar, M.A.'

JNO. SMITH, Hon. Sec., 28 Church Road, Netherton, near Dudley, Worcester.

Ringers' Outing at Poole, &c.

ON St. Stephen's Day the Bournemouth (St. Peter's) Company, consisting of Messrs. A. Grist, C. Staden, Merritt, Vivash, Scovell, Coleburn, and Green, accompanied by Messrs. J. R. Jerram, T. Blackburn, and C. A. Clements of Salisbury, visited Cranborne and Wimborne St. Giles, and rang several peals of Grandsire Doubles at each place. They were kindly entertained by the Curate of Cranborne, in the absence of the Vicar. On the following (St. John Evangelist's) day, they proceeded to Poole and Wareham, and rang one or two courses of Grandsire Triples at each place. The bells at Poole were cast by Wm. Dobson, of Downham, Norfolk, in 1821; tenor, 19 cwt. Those at Wareham by W. & T. Mears. On the next day (Holy Innocents') they rang a course or two of Grandsire Triples at St. Peter's, Bournemouth, and then separated, well pleased with their outing.

Reopening of Fishtoft Bells, Lincolnshire.

THE bells of the parish church were reopened on Thursday, the 27th ult., by five members of the South Lincolnshire Association, after having been silent for eighteen years. The bells were in a very dilapidated condition, and Mr. Rodgers, of Boston, was engaged in rehanging them. Seventeen six-scores of Grandsire Doubles and three of Lincolnshire Singles were rung. T. Rodgers, 1; J. King, 2; E. Mason (conductor), 3; J. M. Rylett, 4; W. Pepper, 5. Tenor, 10 cwt. Supper was provided at the 'Red Cow' Inn, Fishtoft, when about forty ringers and friends sat down.

A new Ring at East Ardsley, near Wakefield, Yorkshire.

A NEW ring of eight bells, tenor, 20½ cwt., in E (total weight of ring being 83½ cwt.), has just been cast and hung. A dedicatory service was held in the church on the 13th December last, when the bells were opened by the Wakefield ringers, who rang touches of Kent Treble Bob Major and Grandsire Triples. The bells bear the following inscriptions:—1st, St. Matthew: 'This bell is dedicated to the memory of the late William Wordsworth, jun., of Blackgates, donor of 100l. to the fund for rebuilding this church, A.D. 1883.' 2nd, St. Mark: 'This bell is dedicated to the memory of Kate and Augusta Hill, of Earl's House, London, who raised money for its erection, A.D. 1883.' 3rd, St. Luke: 'This bell is dedicated to Henry Longbottom, of Tingley Hall, donor of 100l. to the fund for rebuilding this church, A.D. 1883.' 4th, St. John: 'This bell is dedicated to the memory of John Daniel, B.A. Cantab., vicar of the parish from 1844 to 1875, and Mary Ann, his wife and presented to this church by their son, Charles Eckersley Daniel, A.D. 1883.' 5th, St. Jude: 'This bell is dedicated to the memory of the late Catherine and Dinah Dealtrey, ladies of the manor, and donors of 100l. to the fund for rebuilding this church, A.D. 1883.' 6th, St. James: 'This bell is dedicated to Mary Hague, of Crow Nest, Dewsbury, who was a great benefactress to this church, A.D. 1883.' 7th, St. Paul: 'This bell is dedicated to Adeline Louisa Maria, Countess of Cardigan de Lancastre, patroness of this living, and donor of 100l. to this church, A.D. 1883.' Tenor, St. Peter: 'This bell is dedicated to George Terry, donor of 100l. to the fund for rebuilding this church, A.D. 1883.'

St. Sidwell's, Exeter, Devon.

TUESDAY, the 18th ult., was the opening night of the belfry of the above church. The walls have been put in good order, nicely coloured, new wood-work added, and good substantial curtains have been placed around the belfry. The whole of the work, which has been done regardless of expense, has been defrayed out of the Society's funds. Besides the opening of the belfry, two new peal-boards, one recording a peal of Grandsire Triples, conducted by W. C. Marsh, this being the first peal ever rung by Exeter men; the other recording a peal of Stedman's Triples, rung by members of the Guild of Devonshire ringers, conducted by the Rev. F. E. Robinson, this being the first peal of Stedman's ever rung in Exeter. To celebrate the opening, a date touch (1883 changes) was attempted; but after ringing about 1870 changes the conductor called 'Stand!' owing to some unaccountable cause. After which about eighteen members and a few friends sat down to supper, provided by host Medland. The chair was occupied by Mr. Sydney Herbert, and the vice by Mr. Ferris Shepherd. After the usual loyal toasts, Mr. Herbert Swift gave the toast of 'Success to the St. Sidwell's Ringers,' and in so doing, spoke of the success of the company in change-ringing of late, and dwelt upon the fact that the members were well cemented together in unity, and in conclusion urged upon them the necessity of working together. Mr. Sydney Herbert responded. Mr. Ferris Shepherd then gave the health of the Rector and Churchwardens, and said the absence of the Rector that evening was unavoidable.

Bell Works by Llewellyn and James, Bristol.

ST. LUKE'S, BIRKENHEAD.—The bell of this church, weighing 5½ cwt., has just been recast and rehung.

STOKE PRIOR, NEAR LEOMINSTER.—The bells in this church have just been rehung by Llewellyn and James of Bristol, who have added a new treble weighing 3½ cwt. to the ring, thus augmenting it to a ring of four. They have also erected the frame for two more bells, as the number will be increased to six as soon as the necessary funds can be raised.

CLIFFORD, NEAR LEOMINSTER.—The bells of this church have recently been refitted and rehung. It is in contemplation to increase this ring by the addition of two new bells from the foundry of this firm.

CHANGE-RINGING.

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

ON Sunday, the 16th ult., a peal of 720 Plain Bob Minor was rung for Divine service in 28½ mins.; and also another in this method on Christmas Eve, in 28 mins. R. Simm, jun., 1; W. G. Routledge, 2; F. Lees, 3; T. J. Des Forges, 4; C. L. Routledge, 5; W. Story (conductor), 6.

ON Christmas Day, at 8 o'clock a.m., a peal of 720 Kent Treble Bob was rung in 27 mins. G. Campbell, 1; C. L. Routledge, 2; F. Lees, 3; T. J. Des Forges, 4; W. Story, 5; W. G. Routledge (conductor), 6. And another of Oxford Treble Bob for service on the same morning in 27 mins., with G. Herdman at the treble and the rest as before. And another peal of 720 Kent for service on Dec. 30th in 28 mins., in the same order as the last peal of Oxford.

With the bells muffled on New-year's Eve, a peal of 720 Oxford Treble Bob was rung in 29 mins. R. Simm, jun., 1; C. L. Routledge, 2; F. Lees, 3; T. J. Des Forges, 4; W. Story, 5; W. G. Routledge (conductor), 6. Called with 15 bobs. After the muffles were removed a 720 of Plain Bob was struck off in 24 mins. This was Hubbard's peal of 8 bobs and 6 singles. F. G. Sneath, 1, and the rest as before. And for morning service a peal of 720 Kent, with 12 bobs, was rung in 29 mins. G. Campbell, 1; W. Story, 2; F. Lees, 3; T. J. Des Forges, 4; C. L. Routledge (conductor), 5; W. G. Routledge, 6. Tenor, 12 cwt., in G.

At Holy Trinity, Newington, Surrey.

ON Wednesday, the 26th ult., a peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples (Reeves Variation) was rung in 3 hrs. 4 mins. H. Langdon, 1; W. Weatherstone, 2; J. Waghorn, 3; R. French (conductor), 4; W. Jones, 5; A. J. Hayward, 6; E. Wells, 7; T. Coxhead, 8. All members of the St. James's Society. Tenor, 20½ cwt., in E.

At St. James the Apostle, Islington, Middlesex.

ON Sunday, the 22nd ult., for Divine service, a peal of 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor was rung in 23 mins., two courses of Double Oxford Bob Minor, and a six-score of Stedman's Doubles. E. Moses, 1; W. Meadows, 2; T. Titchener, 3; A. Jacob, 4; J. Hannington (conductor), 5; G. Newson, 6. Tenor, 7 cwt., in A. This is the first peal ever rung upon these bells, although they have been hung for upwards of seven years.

At Huntsham, Devon.

A PARTY, consisting of present and past members of the Huntsham Society of Change-ringers, met for the usual ringing after service on the evening of Christmas Day, and rang Taylor's peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples in 2 hrs. 57 mins. J. Clave, jun., 1; H. Payne, 2; W. Heard, 3; J. Clave, sen., 4; J. Heard, 5; J. Davey, 6; H. Tucker (conductor), 7; B. Vickery, 8. Tenor, 13 cwt.

At St. Andrew's, Kingswood, Surrey.

ON Wednesday, the 26th ult., six members of the Society of Change-ringers from All Saints', Benhilton, Sutton, rang a peal of 720 Grandsire Minor (38 bobs and 22 singles) in 28 mins. W. Walker, 1; G. F. Scott, Esq., 2; J. Francis, 3; C. Trendell, 4; H. Bryant (first 720), 5; John Trendell (conductor), 6. Tenor, 18 cwt.

Also on the 31st ult., at St. Dunstan's Church, Cheam, Surrey, a peal of 720 Plain Bob Minor (30 singles and 6 bobs), was rung by the same Society in 26 mins. W. Walker, 1; James Trendell, 2; G. F. Scott, Esq., 3; G. Petrie, 4; C. Trendell, 5; John Trendell (conductor), 6. Also a peal of 720 Grandsire Minor (38 bobs and 22 singles) in 26 mins. G. Heather (first 720), 1; G. F. Scott, Esq., 2; G. Petrie, 3; John Trendell (conductor), 4; H. Bryant, 5; C. Trendell, 6. Tenor, 11½ cwt.

At St. Andrew's and All Saints', Hereford.

ON the 26th ult. the members of the Hertford College Youths and a few friends met at Hertford, when upwards of 4000 changes were rung, including Grandsire Triples, Stedman's Triples, and Plain Bob Major. In the morning at St. Andrew's a quarter-peal of Stedman's Triples was completed in 46 mins. J. G. Crawley, 1; W. L. Randall, 2; H. Lewis, 3; Rev. W. Wigram, 4; H. Baker, 5; P. Cleverley, 6; W. A. Alps (conductor), 7; F. George, 8. Tenor, 16 cwt., in F. After dining together at the 'Maidenhead Inn,' the ringers proceeded to the tower of All Saints, where there is a beautiful ring of ten (tenor, 22 cwt., in E flat). An attempt to ring a 504 of Grandsire Caters being unsuccessful, a well-struck 504 of Stedman's Triples was brought round, and after a few shorter touches of Grandsire Triples the company adjourned for tea; and a few touches on the hand-bells brought the day's ringing to a close. The members present were the Rev. Woolmore Wigram, Messrs. A. Baker, H. Baker, J. G. Crawley, F. George, T. Gathard, J. Godfrey, S. Knight, W. L. Randall, J. Staples, and — Jauncey; Messrs. W. A. Alps and P. Cleverley of Waltham, Mr. Lewis of St. Albans, and others. The Hertford ringers gratefully acknowledge the able assistance rendered by their Waltham friends, which added to the enjoyment of the day.

At St. Martin's, Salisbury, Wilts.

ON Saturday, the 29th ult., a peal of 720 Bob Minor (18 bobs and 2 singles) was rung in 29 mins., being the first six-bell peal ever rung by local ringers. H. Dowling, 1; C. A. Clements,* 2; A. S. Dowling, 3; T. Blackburn,* 4; W. W. Gifford, 5; J. R. Jerram* (conductor), 6. Tenor, 15 cwt. [* Members of the Ancient Society of College Youths, London.] This is the first 720 Bob Minor ever rung in Salisbury by local men.

At Christ Church, North Shields.

ON Tuesday, the 1st inst., seven members of the Durham and Newcastle Association, aided by Mr. J. E. Hern of Hurworth-on-Tees, rang a peal of 5088 Kent Treble Bob Major in 3 hrs. 7 mins. C. L. Routledge, 1; J. E. Hern, 2; J. Rossiter, 3; R. S. Story, 4; R. Wignell, 5; R. Smith, 6; W. Reed, Esq. (conductor), 7; J. Horn, 8. Tenor, 19 cwt. This is the first peal for the treble man, and the first in the method for the men at the 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, and 7th bells.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Ancient Society of College Youths (established 1637).

On Tuesday, the 7th inst., at their head-quarters, St. Saviour's, Southwark, notice was given that a silver cup would be presented to the Company on Tuesday, the 22nd inst., in connexion with a peal of 5040 changes which was rung at Sonning, Berks, on August 4th, 1883, to celebrate the centenary of the College Youths' victory over the Oxford and Farnham ringers on August 4th, 1783, when a silver cup was presented by Mr. Peter Black of that place, now in the possession of the Company.

Dedication of the Church Bells at Soberton, Hants.

'A golden bell and a pomegranate, a golden bell and a pomegranate, upon the hem of the robe round about' (Exod., xxviii. 34), was the text from which a most eloquent discourse was preached by the Rev. Mr. Saulez of Exton, on Thursday evening, the 20th ult., on the dedication to the service and glory of God of the two new bells just added to the ring of the church of this parish. The Rev. W. H. Morley read the prayers and the dedicatory service to an attentive congregation. Special hymns with others were sung, after which the now complete ring of eight bells rang out its joyful and beautiful notes; the ringers of this church being ably assisted by those from Fareham, Hambleton, and other parts, the ring being pronounced one of the finest in the county. Prior to 1878 two of the then ring of six were cracked, the second very much so, when Mr. G. H. Child of this place obtained subscriptions and got the latter bell recast by Messrs. Warner and Sons of London; the inscription thereon, 'The gift of Thomas Lewis, Esq., 1707,' being restored, and 'Recast 1878,' added. Upon the restoration of the church in 1880-81 the treble bell was recast by the above-named firm, and hung with the others on entirely new framework by Mr. Mallerby of Masham, Yorkshire, and the inscription, 'Prosperity to the worthy benefactor, A. R., 1709,' restored. The then third bell has inscribed on it, 'In God is my hope, 1647.' The inscription on the then fourth bell is in Latin, and the translation is, 'Pray ye for the souls of John Newport and Elizabeth the wife of him,' and this is repeated on the fifth bell. The tenor, a bell remarkable for the beauty of its tone, has inscribed on it, 'Pray ye the Lord, 1623.' No ring of six could be finer or more complete in every way than that above described. But our enthusiastic ringer, Mr. G. H. Child, became ambitious of having two other bells to complete the octave, and consequently, with permission of, and aided by, the Rev. W. H. and Mrs. Morley, subscriptions were solicited and obtained, and a first and second bell as a result added to the ring, being cast by Messrs. Warner & Sons, London, and erected by Mr. Mallerby of Masham, Yorkshire. Unknown to our worthy clergyman and his wife the undernamed inscriptions have been cast on the new bells. First bell or treble:—'To the contributors to the restoration of this church and bells. A.D. 1883. Praise ye the Lord.' Second bell:—'To the Rev. W. H. Morley, M.A., and Mary his wife, the restorers of this church. A.D. 1883. The Lord's name be praised.' And fondly it is hoped that the whole of the above, who have contributed in 'mind, body, or estate,' to the restoration of our beautiful church and bells, may live happily and long, and know that when our ring gives out its melodious notes, it expresses our thanks to the great Creator and to them for the great benefits He and they have conferred upon us, and upon our parish.

Opening of Bells at Rackenford, Devon.

On Saturday, the 29th ult., these bells were reopened by the St. Peter's Society of Tiverton, after a silence of seven years. Originally the tower contained five bells; of these the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th were recast, and a new tenor of 14½ cwt., the gift of H. C. Devon, added, the whole being the work of Messrs. Taylor of Loughborough, who also supplied the stocks, wheels, stays, &c.; but to Mr. H. Stokes, of Woodbury, was given the job of making the frame and hanging the whole. This, as usual, he has done to the complete satisfaction of all concerned. A special service was held at 2.30, with a special Lesson, psalms, and hymns, conducted by the Rural Dean, Rev. J. Matthews, the sermon being preached by the Rector, Rev. E. Pole, who based his discourse on 1 Cor. xiv. 40: 'Let everything be done decently and in order.' Ringing was afterwards kept up till the evening, Grandsire Doubles being chiefly indulged in.

The Proposed Addition of two Trebles to the heavy Ring of Six at Wellingborough, Northamptonshire.

We copy the following from *The Wellingborough Parish Church and St. Barnabas' Magazine*:—'Since our last issue an estimate has been received from Messrs. Taylor, the well-known bell-founders of Loughborough, for the two new bells proposed to be added to the ring, for the recasting of the present third bell, and for the additional framework that will be required. The two new bells, which will together cost about 110l., are now, we are glad to announce, both given; the new treble bell by Mr. William Pendered, and the new second bell by Mr. G. H. Burnham. These bells will weigh about 7 and 7½ cwt. respectively. The expense of recasting the present third bell will be about 30 guineas. Mr. W. J. Henry and Mrs. Henry have kindly come forward to undertake this part of the cost. It would certainly have been a great mistake to have lost this opportunity of securing a more tuneful note than the present one for our future fifth bell. A considerable expense will necessarily be incurred for the iron and wood framework required to receive the new bells, and in order to find sufficient room for them it will be needful to rehange at the same time the present first and second bells. To meet this, as well as the expense of taking down the third bell for recasting, the scaffolding, and masons' work, &c., it is calculated that a sum not much less than 100l. will be needed.'

Society of Change-ringers for the Archdeaconry of Stafford.

This Society held its Quarterly Meeting at Wolverhampton on Saturday, January 5th. Proceedings commenced with ringing in St. Peter's tower at 2.30 p.m. The members attended evening service at 5, when an address was given by the Rector (the Rev. J. T. Jeffcock), who took for his text Psalm lxxxiv. 11. After service a Committee meeting was held in the vestry, when several new members were elected and the date of the next meeting fixed. The Rev. H. E. Butler (one of the Committee) had kindly made arrangements for tea, at which thirty-four were present. The Willenhall and Tettenhall steeples were also open to members of the Society during the afternoon. It is remarkable that so large a town as Wolverhampton should only have one ring of bells, and that on these change-ringing should almost have died out. We are glad to find that an effort is being made to improve matters in this respect: several of the band are now members of this Society, and we hope that this meeting will not be without results. St. Peter's is one of the most beautiful churches in the diocese; it has a fine ring of ten bells, and its ringers should not be contented till they rank among the best bands of Staffordshire. The next meeting of the Society will be held at Walsall on Saturday, April 19th.

Reply to Mr. Rose.

SIR,—In your issue for Dec. 29th, B. W. Rose says he has not seen any peals with short calls. I suppose he means a few calls. I have this 720 in my collection, and it is, to me, an interesting one, as it was the first peal that I attempted to call, now fifty years since, and it was then at least one hundred years old, and supposed to be one of Benjamin Able's. The peal is in the 17th page of Shipway's book. For myself I prefer as few calls as possible, and those musical, not for the sake of mere curiosity. I maintain that the music is first to be sought for, and then the curiosity. Let every conductor ask himself this question, that he may please his performers.

Aldington, Hythe, Kent.

EDWD. HYDER.

New Ring of Eight at East Ardsley, Yorkshire.

By some unaccountable mistake in the report on these bells in our last issue, it was omitted to state that this fine ring of eight was cast and hung by Llewellyn and James, of Bristol.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At All Saints', Llanfrecfa, and at Tredunnoch, Monmouthshire.

On Sunday, the 23rd ult., a peal of Grandsire Doubles was rung in 5 mins. — Powell,* jun., 1; J. James,* 2; — Powell,* sen., 3; A. Harris,* 4; J. Brown* (conductor), 5; A. Ford,* 6 (covering.) Tenor, 7½ cwt., in B flat. This was the first half-pull peal on these bells, which were cast in 1863. [* Their first peal.]

On Monday, the 7th inst., the same team rang in 5 mins. the first peal of Grandsire Doubles on Tredunnoch bells, the first five of which were recast in 1882. Tenor, 10 cwt., in G sharp (a very old bell), covering. The team was well entertained after the ringing by the Rev. C. T. Salisbury, vicar.

At St. Mary's, Acton, Middlesex.

On Wednesday, the 26th ult., seven members of the Association, with Mr. Baron, their instructor, rang the first half of Holt's Ten-part peal (2520 changes) in 1 hr. 30 mins. W. Taylor, 1; W. Baron (conductor), 2; A. G. Thomas, 3; W. Fenwick, 4; G. Trinder, 5; W. Wilder, 6; F. Slade, Esq., 7; E. Gould, 8. Tenor, 13½ cwt. This is the first half-peal by this Society.

At St. Mary's, Sawbridgeworth, Herts.

On Wednesday, the 26th ult., a peal of 5024 Kent Treble Bob Major was rung in 3 hrs. 19 mins. N. J. Pistow (composer and conductor), 1; J. F. Penning, 2; E. Pistow, 3; Y. Green, 4; G. Taylor, 5; H. Prior, 6; N. Tailing, 7; F. Pistow, 8. This is the first peal of Treble Bob Major rung upon the bells. Tenor, 25 cwt.

At St. Mary's, Hitchin, Herts.

On Wednesday, the 26th ult., a peal of 720 Bob Minor was rung in 28 mins. on the first six. J. Randall, 1; F. O. Moule, 2; W. A. Tyler (conductor), 3; J. Hare, 4; J. Foster, 5; W. Allen, 6; S. Hare, 7; W. Kitchener, 8.

Also on New-year's Eve and Morning 350 and 336 Grandsire Triples. J. Randall, 1; F. Furr, 2; F. O. Moule, 3; J. Hare, 4; J. Foster, 5; W. A. Tyler (conductor), 6; W. Allen, 7; W. Kitchener, 8.

At St. Michael's, Cornhill, London.—Muffled Peal.

On Friday, the 4th inst., twelve members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang a deeply-muffled peal in memory of the late Mr. Thomas Britten of Waltham Abbey, who was one of the oldest of its members, and at one time one of the most prominent. The customary peal denoting the age of the deceased gentleman being rung by the following:—H. W. Haley, 1; J. W. Rowbotham, 2; W. Cooter,* 3; J. Pettit, 4; J. R. Haworth, 5; R. Jameson, 6; G. Dorrington, 7; C. F. Winny, 8; G. Mash, 9; W. Jones, 10; W. Greenleaf, 11; E. Horrex, 12. After which three leads of Kent Treble Bob Maximus and two courses of Stedman's Cinques were rung; the whole being conducted by Mr. H. W. Haley.

At St. Wilfrid's, Calverley, Yorkshire.

On Saturday, the 5th inst., the Yorkshire Association rang a peal of 5088 Treble Bob Major, in the Kent variation, in 3 hrs. 5 mins. H. Robinson, 1; H. Oddy, 2; E. Keighley, 3; W. Bolland, 4; W. Wilks, 5; W. Hollings, 6; G. Bolland (conductor), 7; J. Haley, 8. Composed by John Thorp, of Ashton-under-Lyne. Tenor, 11 cwt.

RECEIVED ALSO.—B. W. Rose (Dartford); E. Francis (Diss); and others.

with an attendance of about fifty, a Sunday school of somewhat smaller numbers, and a mothers' meeting with about twenty members. All this indicates a well-organized work, the progress of which, since its very recent inauguration, has been steady in every department. Its influence is not to be gauged by the number of Italians at any time instructed in London, for it must be remembered that each faithful convert becomes himself, in a greater or less degree, a centre of usefulness and testimony. From America, from France, as well as from their own country, come proofs that the lessons learned amongst us are not forgotten, nor the faith relinquished, when the converts leave our shores. The gratitude and affection shown by many of them towards those who have worked in this sphere, and shown them kindness, contrasts strongly with the indifference or matter-of-course acceptance of sympathy and aid so often characteristic of our own stolid countrymen.

As the Italian quarter of London is easily accessible from all parts, and the Mission House in Wells Street, Gray's Inn Road, together with the schools, may always be inspected by the curious or sympathetic, it is to be hoped that many more may be found ready to take a practical interest in this branch of our Church's work amongst the strange children in her midst.

IRELAND.

(From our own Correspondent.)

THE arrangements for the forthcoming Mission in Dublin are gradually assuming more complete shape. A committee meeting was held yesterday, at which the Archbishop presided. At the request of the committee the Vicar of St. Ann's, one of the most central parishes in the city, has arranged to have a short service for special prayer every Monday afternoon at 3 p.m., to which all the clergy and laity interested in the mission are invited. The committee have issued a series of hints and suggestions, approved of by the Archbishop, for the conducting of the mission; and have also made reference to several books on the subject likely to be of use to members. Shortened forms of services, approved of by the Archbishop, have been drawn up for the occasion.

The Secretary of the Central African Mission, the Rev. W. H. Penney, is about to visit the city and its neighbourhood for the purpose of preaching and holding meetings on behalf of the Society. He preaches in Christ Church, Bray, on the 20th inst., in the morning; and in St. Ann's in the evening. A meeting will be held in the Palace on Monday, at 4 p.m., and in various other places during the week.

On Tuesday evening the Archbishop of Dublin left for Limerick to preside at the election of a bishop in the room of the late Dr. Fitzgerald. Mr. Justice Warren acted as his Grace's assessor, and Archdeacon Chester of Killaloe has been elected. During his stay in Limerick the Archbishop has been the guest of Lord Massy at Castle Connell.

I regret to say that the Bishop of Kilmore, Dr. Darley, is seriously indisposed. His lordship is advanced in years, and it is feared will hardly rally from the attack under which he is suffering.

Here is a note of Home Reunion taken from the *Irish Ecclesiastical Gazette*:—

'In Coleraine, where the parish church is being rebuilt, the Christmas Day's service was held in one of the Presbyterian meeting-houses. Such kindly acts are evidence of a true Christian spirit, and help on that union for which all pious persons long for more than any bogus alliance meetings, whereat the Churchman must surrender everything and the Dissenter nothing.'

The Irish Church glebe tenants, who purchased their land under the Irish Church Act, consider they are labouring under a heavy grievance, having by no means obtained the same good terms as have fallen to the lot of purchasers under the last Land Act. The aggrieved parties, who have formed themselves into an Association, entitled 'The Irish Church and Glebe Lands' Purchasers' Association,' have prepared a memorial to the Lord Lieutenant, in which they state that under the Irish Church Act they, as occupying tenants, were compelled to purchase their holdings at a valuation arbitrarily fixed by the private valuer of the Irish Church Commissioners. In view of the general depreciation of the value of landed property and farm produce, they ask for relief by a revaluation of the land, or a reduction of the original purchase money by 25 per cent, or by certain other means which are set out in the memorial.

A new stained-glass window has just been erected in the southern transept of St. Mary's, Shandon-Cork. It is the work of Messrs. Heaton, Butler, and Co., London. A series of stained-glass windows has also been lately placed in Knockbreda Parish Church, diocese of Down.

A considerable sum of money has been bequeathed by the late Mr. J. Benjamin Ball, D.L. of Merrion Square, for church and other purposes. He has left 10,000*l.* to the Representative Body, and 10,000*l.* to the Bishops of Cashel and Meath and Colonel Pfolliot, in trust for charitable or educational purposes, besides other legacies of a similar nature.

COLONIAL AND FOREIGN CHURCH NEWS.

CANADA.

THE Bishop of Niagara is in very feeble health, and offers to resign the entire episcopal income to a suffragan. An effort is making to complete the endowment fund first.

AUSTRALIA.

At Sydney, it has been resolved to raise funds for erecting, as a memorial to the late Metropolitan, a Synod-hall and Chapter-house.

At Melbourne, Bishop Moorhouse has just concluded six lectures on the 'Principles of the Apocalypse,' in which he applied his subject mainly to the evils of modern society. At the same city Canon Pearce—formerly a solicitor, afterwards curate of Lambeth—has been giving evening addresses in the cathedral upon the chief Anglican divines. Dean Macartney has received from his friends on the completion of his sixtieth year a gift of a marble bust.

THE *Queensland Guardian* says of the Diocesan Synod of Brisbane:— 'The opening address by Bishop Hale was of more than usual interest. His great age and evident earnestness of purpose secured respectful attention to a charge which was singularly modest in tone.' Six clergy had been added to the diocese during the preceding twelvemonth. Despite his lordship's exertions and self-denying example, the General Church Fund continues to be but poorly supported; our informant remarks that 'the congregational spirit which has gained so unfortunate a hold on the Church, has something to do with this.' On the subject of Evening Communion, the Bishop repeated his opinion that it should be celebrated only when necessity compelled.

DENMARK.

THE Prince and Princess of Wales are giving their warm personal support to a proposal to build a British Church in Copenhagen, the birthplace and home in early life of the Princess of Wales, and one of the very few European capitals which does not possess a fitting place of worship for British subjects. The liberal example of the Prince and Princess of Wales has resulted, so far, in securing nearly 3000*l.* (about one-third of the amount required), which seems to be the utmost extent of the capabilities of the local residents, and is, in fact, as much as could be reasonably expected from them. Their Royal Highnesses have therefore determined to appeal for 'home contributions.' Between 6000*l.* and 7000*l.* are needed to complete the fund, and this sum would include the cost of a site. The permanent endowment of the chaplaincy is secured by the Government grant and the annual donations of the congregation; so that subscriptions from this country would be exclusively applied to the cost of providing the land and building. The following committee has been formed to give effect to the project:—The Prince of Wales (chairman), the Danish Minister, the Bishop of London, the Lord Mayor of London, Mr. A. J. Mundella, the Danish Consul-General, Mr. J. R. Somers Vine, and Sir Philip Cunliffe Owen, who will act as the honorary treasurer and secretary.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Change-ringing at Hertford.

On Wednesday, the 16th inst., L. Proctor, Esq., of Bennington, visited Hertford with his well-known band of ringers, and were joined by Messrs. Haworth, Pettit, and Winny, of London. The company met at All Saints' Church, and the day's ringing was opened by a touch of 759 Stedman's Caters, conducted by the Rev. F. E. Robinson of Drayton, Berks. Amongst the other touches rung during the day were 880 Kent Treble Bob Royal, 560 Double Norwich Court, and 448 each of London and Superlative Surprise Major; in all, upwards of 4000 changes were brought round during the day. The ringers present were, with those mentioned, the Rev. G. Proctor, and Messrs. T. Page, C. Shambrook, Jos. Kitchener, S. Page, L. Chapman, J. Kitchener, and N. Warner of Bennington; Messrs. T. Powell and W. A. Alps of Waltham Abbey; the Rev. Woolmore Wigram, and Messrs. A. Baker, H. Baker, F. G. Crawley, T. Gathard, &c., of the local ringers; and Mr. Lewis of St. Albans. After dinner at the 'Maidenhead Hotel,' at which twenty persons sat down, Mr. Haworth placed on the table the silver cup which is to be presented to the College Youths next Tuesday, as noticed in *Church Bells* last week, which was much admired by the company.

St. Albans Cathedral, Herts.

On Tuesday, the 1st inst., a meeting was held in the parish room, the Rectory, St. Albans, for the formation of a Change-ringing Society for St. Alban's Cathedral. The Rector (Ven. Archdeacon Lawrence) supported by the Rev. T. G. Gibbons, presided. Mr. N. N. Hills was appointed conductor, and Messrs. E. Hulks and H. L. Waddington were elected treasurer and secretary respectively. Although the Society has only just now been formed, the ringers have, under the instruction of Mr. Hills, been making progress in the art of Change-ringing for the past few months, and hope soon to be able to report something. On Thursday, the 3rd inst., Archdeacon Lawrence entertained the choir and newly-formed company of ringers at supper, when a very enjoyable evening was spent.

Lancashire Association of Change-ringers.

A QUARTERLY MEETING will be held on Saturday, the 26th inst., at St. Peter's, Swinton, near Manchester. Ringing from 2.30 p.m. Tea at 5.30 p.m. Meeting at 6.30, presided over by the Rev. H. R. Heywood, vicar. Tickets for tea, 1*s.* each, may be had from any member of the Committee.

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

Worcester and adjoining Districts Change-ringing Association.

THE Quarterly Meeting of the above Association took place at Bromsgrove on Saturday, the 12th inst., when members from Bromsgrove, Worcester, Malvern, Kidderminster, Belbroughton, Cookley, Brierly Hill, Wollaston, Dudley, and Netherton, were present. The chair was occupied by the Rev. A. G. Williams, curate of St. John's, Bromsgrove, who, in opening the proceedings, said he had been instructed by the Vicar (who was away from home) to inform them that he should have been very pleased to have been amongst them on the present occasion, as he was always very much delighted at the sound of the bells, and would at all times, when called upon, be pleased to help in every possible way he could the interest of the Association. The Chairman said, as far as he himself was concerned, he had often longed to meet the ringers, but did not like to go amongst them without some introduction. He was sure he was pleased to be amongst them, and would do all within his power for the good of the Association. He thought the ringers were of as much value to the church as the choir, and, although a little higher than the chancel, ought not to be neglected, and that all belfries should be considered a part of God's house. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed, and several performing and other members were admitted. The Master, Mr. J. Perks, next gave his report of the Bell-ringers' Conference, which was accepted. The meeting was a very hearty and lengthy one. Votes of thanks having been passed to the Chairman for presiding, and to the Vicar for the use of the schoolroom, the meeting terminated. Owing to most of the members having to travel long distances, only some short touches of Grandsire Trebles, and one course of Plain Bob Royal, were performed on the tower bells, and the members parted highly pleased with their evening's enjoyments.

JNO. SMITH, Hon. Sec.

23 Church Road, Netherton, near Dudley, Worcestershire.

Gloucestershire and Bristol Change-ringing Association.

THE fifth anniversary of this Association was held at Cheltenham on Monday the 14th inst. Forty-three ringers sat down to dinner. The ringing was thus: the Cheltenham Company met at ten o'clock and rang seven courses of Stedman's Caters—conductor, J. Belcher. The Gloucester Company rang 672 Grandsire Triples. Mixed band rang Grandsire Caters and Treble Bob Major. The other part of the day courses of Grandsire Cinques and Caters were rung on the hand-bells.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At All Saints', Carshalton, Surrey.

ON Wednesday, the 2nd inst., a peal of 5088 Treble Bob Major, in the Kent variation, was rung by members of the Ancient Society of College Youths and the Surrey Association in 3 hrs. 9 mins. C. Bance, 1; J. Branch (first peal in the method), 2; E. Bennett (conductor), 3; J. Trappitt, 4; J. Harris, 5; J. Plowman, 6; J. Cawley, 7; C. Gordon, 8. Composed by H. Haley, sen. The above are all members of the Beddington Branch of the above Societies, and the peal was rung as a New-year's compliment to its composer.

At St. George's, Hyde, Cheshire.

ON Thursday, the 3rd inst., a peal of 5088 Treble Bob Major, in the Kent variation, was rung in 2 hrs. 59 mins. J. Shaw, 1; R. Prichard, 2; T. Bradley, 3; W. Slater, 4; J. Fildes, 5; J. S. Wilde, 6; T. Wilde, 7; S. Bennett (conductor), 8. Composed by H. Hubbard. Tenor, 15 cwt. 1 qr. 24 lbs.

At the Parish Church, Burford, Oxford.

ON Thursday, the 3rd inst., a peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples (Holt's Ten-part) was rung by the Oxford Diocesan Guild in 3 hrs. 9 mins. T. Brown, Esq., 1; J. Field (conductor), 2; T. E. Glanville, 3; F. E. Ward, 4; W. Large, 5; J. Smith, 6; D. Francis, 7; W. Lanchbury, 8. Tenor, 20 cwt., in E.

At St. Wilfrid's, Calverley, Yorkshire.

ON Saturday, the 5th inst., a peal of 5088 Treble Bob Major, in the Kent variation, was rung by the Yorkshire Association in 3 hrs. 5 mins. H. Robinson, 1; H. Oddy, 2; E. Keighley, 3; W. Bolland, 4; W. Wilks, 5; W. Hollings, 6; G. Bolland (conductor), 7; J. Haley, 8. Composed by J. Thorp. Tenor, 11 cwt.

At St. John's, Newcastle, Durham.

ON Sunday, the 6th inst., a peal of 720 Plain Bob Minor was rung in 27½ mins. Conducted by W. Story.

Also on Monday, the 7th inst., a peal of 720 College Pleasure was rung in 27 mins. W. Eggleston, 1; C. L. Routledge, 2; F. Lees, 3; T. J. Des Forges (first in the method), 4; W. Story, 5; R. S. Story (conductor), 6. And on the same night, a peal of 720 Plain Bob in 27 mins. F. G. Sneath, 1; R. S. Story, 2; F. Lees, 3; T. J. Des Forges, 4; W. Story (conductor), 5; W. Eggleston, 6.

Also on Sunday, the 13th inst., a peal of 720 Bob Minor (22 singles) was rung for evening service in 28 mins. F. Sneath, 1; C. L. Routledge (conductor), 2; G. Herdman, 3; F. Lees, 4; W. Story, 5; W. G. Routledge, 6.

Also on Monday, the 14th inst., six of the St. John's Society rang a date-touch of 1884 changes in 1 hr. 11 mins. It comprised a 720 each of Violet and Duke of York, a 360 of Merchants' Return, and an 84 of Kent arranged by C. L. Routledge. G. Campbell, 1; C. L. Routledge, 2; F. Lees, 3; R. S. Story, 4; W. Story, 5; W. G. Routledge (conductor), 6. This was rung as a compliment to Mr. W. Story, who on this day attained his 24th birthday. Tenor, 12 cwt., in G.

At Holy Trinity, Hull, Yorkshire.

ON Tuesday, the 8th inst., a peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples was rung in 3 hrs. 5 mins. A. Taylor, 1; C. Jackson (conductor), 2; H. Cutter, 3; H. Jenkins, 4; W. Southwick, 5; J. Dixey, 6; C. Bennett, 7; F. Drabble, 8. Composed by J. F. Penning. Tenor, 25 cwt.

At Bennington, Herts.

ON Tuesday, the 8th inst., Mr. Proctor's celebrated band were visited by Mr. H. Baker, a Hertford friend, when 1472 changes in the following intricate methods were successfully brought round:—448 Double Norwich Court Bob Major, 448 Superlative Surprise Major, and 576 Kent Treble Bob Major. N. Warner, 1; J. Kitchener, 2; L. Proctor, Esq., 3; L. Chapman, 4; H. Baker, 5; Jos. Kitchener, 6; C. Shambrook, 7; T. Page (conductor), 8. T. Page rang the third in the Superlative and the fourth in the Treble Bob, the others remaining the same.

At Acton, Middlesex.

ON Wednesday, the 9th inst., eight members of the St. Mary's Association attempted to ring their first peal of Grandsire Triples, but after ringing 1600 changes in 1 hr. the conductor called 'Stand!' two bells having shifted courses. W. Taylor, 1; G. Isley, 2; W. Baron (conductor), 3; W. Fenwick, 4; G. Trinder, 5; W. Wilder, 6; F. Slade, Esq., 7; E. Gould, 8.

At Lavington, Wilts.

ON Wednesday, the 9th inst., 216 Bob Minor at East Lavington, and 720 Bob Minor at West Lavington, were rung by H. Dowling, 1; C. A. Clements, 2; A. Dowling, 3; T. Blackburn, 4; W. W. Gifford, 5; J. R. Jerram (conductor), 6. Tenors, 11 and 13½ cwt. respectively.

At Chitterne, Wilts.

ON Wednesday, the 9th inst., three six-scores of Grandsire Doubles were rung by O. Dowling, 1; C. A. Clements, 2; T. Blackburn, 3; W. W. Gifford, 4; J. R. Jerram, 5. Tenor, 7 cwt.

At St. Mary's, Woburn, Beds.

ON Thursday, the 10th inst., a peal of 720 Bob Minor was rung in 29 mins. M. Lane,* 1; C. Herbert, 2; H. Turney,† 3; W. Chibnall,* 4; W. W. C. Baker, 5; W. E. Turney, 6.

Also on Monday, the 14th inst., the same peal in 28 mins. M. Lane, 1; J. Carwell-Cooke,* 2; A. Morrison, 3; C. Herbert, 4; W. W. C. Baker, 5; W. E. Turney, 6. W. W. C. Baker, Esq., Eversholt Rectory, called the bobs. The above are all members of the Beds Association of Change-ringers. [* First 720 of any method. † First 720 on an inside bell.]

At All Saints', Loughborough, Leicestershire.

ON Saturday, the 12th inst., eight members of the St. Paul's Society, Burton-on-Trent, paid a visit to Loughborough, on the invitation of Mr. J. W. Taylor, jun., a partner in the well-known firm of John Taylor & Co., bell-founders, and an honorary member of the St. Paul's Society of Change-ringers, Burton-on-Trent. After inspecting the extensive premises belonging to the firm, the following proceeded to All Saints' Church, and rang a peal of 576 Kent Treble Bob Major in 3 hrs. 37 mins. J. Jaggar, 1; J. Griffin, 2; H. Wakley, 3; E. I. Stone, 4; A. Wakley, 5; J. W. Taylor, jun., 6; T. Holmes, 7; W. Wakley (conductor), 8. All members of the Midland Counties' Association. Tenor, 24 cwt. The peal is the composition of A. Knights, Chesterfield, and has never been previously rung. A large party subsequently dined with Mr. Taylor to meet the St. Paul's ringers, and to celebrate the accomplishment of the first peal of Treble Bob Major rung in Loughborough.

At St. Peter's, Ashton-under-Lyne, Lancashire.

ON Saturday, the 12th inst., eight members of the Ashton-under-Lyne Society rang a peal of 5040 Bob Major in 2 hrs. 58 mins. J. Collins, 1; J. Bowcock, 2; W. Smith, 3; W. Frith, 4; J. Wood, 5; G. Braddock (first peal in the method), 6; J. Thorp (composer and conductor), 7; J. Mellor, 8. Tenor, 20 cwt., in E.

At St. Peter's, St. Albans, Herts.

ON Saturday, the 12th inst., seven members of the Ancient Society of College Youths of London met Messrs. Baker (Hertford), Hills, and Lewis (St. Albans), and attempted a peal of Grandsire Caters. After ringing an hour a mistake occurred, and 'Stand!' was called. Another start was at once made, but the peal unfortunately came to grief when about a hundred changes from the end. The ringers stood thus:—H. Lewis, 1; J. R. Haworth, 2; F. C. Dawe, 3; J. Pettit, 4; N. N. Hills, 5; C. F. Winney, 6; H. J. Tucker, 7; H. Baker, 8; J. M. Hayes (conductor), 9; W. H. George, 10. Tenor, about 23 cwt., in D.

At Holy Trinity, Staleybridge, Cheshire.

ON Monday, the 14th inst., eight members of the United Counties Association rang a peal of 5088 Kent Treble Bob Major in 2 hrs. 58 mins., being the first peal recorded by this Association. J. Shaw, 1; H. Shaw, 2; J. Holden, 3; J. Wrigley, 4; T. Wilde, 5; S. Bradley, 6; S. Wilde, 7; T. Brocklehurst, 8. Tenor, 14 cwt. Composed by W. Harrison, and conducted by J. S. Wilde.

At SS. Peter and Paul, Swaffham, Norfolk.—Muffled Peal.

ON Monday, the 14th inst., the following members of the Swaffham Society rang a muffled peal of 720 Plain Bob Minor (26 singles, with 6 and tenor behind) in 35 mins., in memory of Stephen Loveless, who died at the age of eighty years. He was for many years an experienced change-ringer. He once belonged to the St. Peter's Mancroft Society in Norwich, and in 1842 joined the Swaffham Society, and had rung peals in many of the towers in Norfolk. W. Lilly, 1; A. Overton, 2; J. Green (conductor), 3; W. Matthews, 4; Rev. G. B. Smith, 5; G. Youngs, 6; W. Spencer, 7; H. Harper, 8. Tenor, 20 cwt.

At St. Michael's, Lichfield, Staffordshire.

ON Tuesday, the 15th inst., a peal of Kent Treble Bob Minor was rung by J. Key, 1; H. Meacham, 2; W. A. Wood, 3; F. J. Cope, 4; Rev. J. J. Serjeantson, 5; T. Meredith (conductor), 6. Tenor, 14 cwt. This is the first peal in this method rung by members of the Staffordshire Archidiaconal Association of Change-ringers.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

THE PRESENTATION OF A SILVER CUP TO THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

ON Tuesday, the 22nd inst., the Society's Meeting-room at St. Saviour's, Southwark, was crowded, in anticipation of an event of which due notice had been given. Among other property which it is customary to place in front of the Master stood, as usual, a silver cup, bearing the following inscription. On one side :—

'This Cup, The Gift of Mr. Peter Bluck, of Sonning, 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 where :—John Lyford, Treble; Willm. Lyford, 2; Winy. T. Richardson, 3; Jno. Povey, 4; Thos. Smith, 5; Jos. Holdsworth, 6; Jos. Monk, 7; Edmd. Silvester, 8. Mr. Geo. Plowman attended as Umpire.'

The ordinary business of the Society having been disposed of, Mr. J. R. Haworth rose and said :—'Mr. Master and Gentlemen,—It is now more than a hundred years since that cup which is now before you, and which it has from time immemorial been the custom to place before your predecessors in office, was won at Sonning, in Berkshire, by a band hailing from this Society. On August 4th, 1883, being the centenary of the contest in question, eight members of this Society, myself among the number, and who, as I am glad to see, are all present here to-night, rang on Sonning Church bells a peal of Grandsire Triples, to celebrate the victory gained on that occasion. I have great pleasure in placing in your hands, Mr. Master, this silver cup, as a present from me to the Society; and I hope that the Society will accept it, and preserve it not only as a record of the peal which we were fortunate enough to complete on the hundredth anniversary of the day on which the other cup was won, but also as a token which may help to preserve good fellowship between the present and future members.'

The cup, which is of solid silver, is of classic shape, with two handles, and is altogether a very handsome ornament. It weighs 15½ oz., and its dimensions are as follows :—Height, 7¾ in.; diameter of brim, 4¾ in.; from handle to handle, 8 ins. Cost :—Cup, 6l. 15s.; engraving, 1l. 10s.=8l. 5s. Rich chasings surround shields on its front and reverse sides, which bear the following inscriptions :—

'The Ancient Society of College Youths. Established 1637.—St. Andrew's Church, Sonning, Berkshire.—On Saturday, Aug. 4, 1883, the Company rang Holt's Original Peal of Grandsire Triples, consisting of 5040 changes, in 3 hours and 7 minutes. Performers :—J. R. Haworth, Treble; J. Pettit, 2; G. Mash, 3; M. A. Wood, 4; W. Greenleaf, 5; J. M. Routh, Esq., 6; W. Newell, 7; G. Payne, Tenor. Conducted by J. Pettit.—J. Ford, Steeple-keeper.'

On its reverse :—

'The Ancient Society of College Youths. Established 1637.—This Silver Cup was presented to the Society by Mr. J. R. Haworth, of London, to commemorate the peal recorded on the other side, rung to celebrate the Centenary of the victory of the College Youths over the Oxford and Farnham ringers at Sonning Church, Berks, on Aug. 4th, 1783, when the band was presented by Mr. Peter Bluck of that place with a silver cup, now in the possession of the Society.'

Mr. J. Martin-Routh said,—"Mr. Master and Gentlemen,—I have been asked to propose a resolution. It is, "That the unanimous thanks of this Society be voted to Mr. Haworth for his generosity on this occasion." You might search the annals of this Society in vain in order to find an instance of a more handsome present having been made to this Society by any one; but what enhances the value of it to us is the fact that it is the gift of a ringer to ringers. Mr. Haworth's fame as a ringer is well known to you all; in that capacity he needs no eulogy from me. Shoulder to shoulder, in the front rank of the College Youths, he fought his way during an epoch when they possessed a band whose names will live in the history, not only of this great company, but in the history of all bell-ringing; for the men who rang the long peal of Stedman's Cinques at St. Michael's, Cornhill, will never be forgotten. Gentlemen, I was much struck with the words of the Rev. C. Kerry, of St. Laurence's, Reading, who presided at dinner at Sonning after the peal. Taking this cup (the old one) in his hand, somewhat after the manner of Hamlet with Yorick's skull, and gazing on it with reverence, he reminded us in a most impressive address how this cup stands as a link—a bond of unity and brotherhood between ourselves and the departed members of our band, whose lips like ours have touched it; and he exhorted us to watch over it as a relic sacred to the men that are no more. With this cup (the new one) in my hand—I wish I could emulate Mr. Kerry's eloquence—Mr. Haworth has given us this token with his best wishes for the future of his company and ours. In this spirit I am sure we all receive it, and regard it as a fresh bond of union between us. In these days of progress and facility for learning, if this great Society is to hold its own we must be strapped together like the bundle of sticks; and must hold fast to the motto, "United we stand, divided we fall!" So may the lips which will touch this cup be never opened to the detriment of the Society or its members.'

Mr. M. A. Wood seconded the resolution, which was carried by acclamation. Three cheers were given for Mr. Haworth, accompanied by musical honours.

In reply, Mr. Haworth said that he was deeply gratified with the reception which had been accorded both to his gift and to himself. He had been a member ever since the year 1839, and had never left the Society. Years ago the Master always used the old cup to drink out of, and in describing the curious and various drinks which some Masters were in the habit of imbibing therefrom Mr. Haworth caused considerable amusement. He hoped the new cup would serve in the like capacity. In conclusion he trusted that the company

would continue to prosper, and that the members would go on in good fellowship as of old.

The Master (Mr. Greenleaf), in a few pointed remarks, observed that he hoped the new cup would be as well kept and preserved as the old one had been; and handing the cup, which at the suggestion of Mr. Crossman, and by his liberality and that of Mr. Newell and others, had been filled with wine, to Mr. Haworth for the first sip, it was then passed round as a 'loving-cup,' amid a perfect fire of toasts.

Mr. Pettit thanked Mr. Haworth on behalf of the other members of the band, and Mr. Albinson (of Stockport) proposed 'The absent members of the College Youths.' Mr. J. Ford (steeple-keeper, of Sonning), who was made a member in the course of the evening, said that he had great pleasure in welcoming the band to Sonning on the occasion of the peal, and that he hoped it would not be long before the College Youths went there again. Soon after this the members left, and so ended a very pleasant evening.

Norwich Diocesan Association of Ringers.

A DISTRICT Meeting will be held at Eye on Monday, February 4th, 1884. Members desiring to attend are particularly requested to inform the Secretary on or before Tuesday, January 29th, giving the name of the station from which they start.

N. BOLINGBROKE, Hon. Sec.

Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association of Change-ringers.

THIS Association, which has for its objects the promotion of belfry reform and the cultivation of change-ringing, held its anniversary on Monday week in Cheltenham, and was well attended by the members. The Association was founded in January, 1878, and its operations are based upon the belief that 'the belfry is part of the church, and is consecrated to the service of Almighty God,' and that 'the bells are instruments of sacred music; the office, therefore, of ringer is a holy office, and should ever be performed in a reverent manner.' The Association consists of 257 members, 104 of whom are honorary members, and 153 performing members, and it has already done good work in the diocese. Commencing at ten o'clock with seven courses of Stedman's Caters, under the leadership of Mr. J. Belcher, leader of the local ringers, touches were rung upon the restored bells of the old parish church throughout nearly the whole of the day. Morning service was held in the same church at eleven o'clock. The prayers were read by the Rev. Pitt Eykyn, and the Rev. C. D. P. Davies gave an earnest address to the members present upon their duties and responsibilities as ringers. Later on in the day the anniversary dinner took place at the 'Eight Bells' Hotel. The Rev. F. E. Broom Witts (Norton) occupied the chair, and among those present were the Rev. Pitt Eykyn, Mr. John Drinkwater, master (Sandhurst), Mr. G. H. Phillott, &c. Grace was said by the Rev. Pitt Eykyn. After dinner the chairman, in proposing the toast of 'The Church and Queen,' spoke of church ringers as a loyal body of men, and went on to thank the Rev. C. D. P. Davies for the excellent sermon he had preached. The toast was enthusiastically received. The chairman next proposed 'Success to the Association.' He remarked upon the increase in the number both of performing members and honorary members as compared with any previous year, and said that this increase augured well for the success of the Association. Instead of a party of thirty at that dinner, they were glad to have the pleasure of seeing more than forty, and that also was a proof that the Association was prosperous. He coupled with the toast the name of Mr. Drinkwater. Mr. John Drinkwater, in responding, expressed with pleasure his belief that the Association was doing a considerable amount of good in the diocese. On several occasions they had been instrumental in prevailing upon vicars and churchwardens to put their bells and belfries in something like decent order; but a great deal still remained to be done. And there was also another point they must not overlook. He would impress upon them that besides bells, and bell-ropes, and belfries, there was another matter which rested upon themselves. Were there not in their own lives some dusty cobwebs and corners that required to be swept out?—some rough knots that wanted rubbing out? He hoped that all would consider, when they went into the House of God to perform their duties, where they were and what they were doing. He was sorry to hear that ribald jests were sometimes heard in different belfries, and he hoped he would not have to complain of this again. Such a habit was not only degrading to any man who adopted it, but it also did the Association a very great amount of mischief. This was a matter which he hoped all ringers would consider. In conclusion he drank the health of the worthy chairman and the members generally, and thanked Mr. Davies for the excellent advice given by him in his sermon preached that morning in the parish church. Mr. J. Belcher, as leader of the Cheltenham ringers, thanked the company for their attendance. It was proposed, seconded, and carried unanimously in committee, that they should hold the present anniversary in Cheltenham. Some repairs to the parish-church bells had just been completed, and he thought they would find that all the bells, except the tenor, which did not go quite so well as he could wish, were now as they ought to be. The belfry also was in good order. The Rev. Pitt Eykyn next rose, and thanked the Rev. Canon Bell, the churchwardens, and their good friends, the Cheltenham ringers, for the kind welcome they had that day extended to the members of the Association. The ordinary business of the Association was then proceeded with, and during its progress an announcement was made by the Rev. F. E. Broom Witts (hon. treasurer), that his brother (Mr. G. B. Witts, of Leekhampton) had consented to become an honorary member of the Association. After the election of other members and the transaction of some further business the anniversary proceedings were brought to a close.

Accident at Bromborough Church, Cheshire.

WE are indebted to the *Globe* for the following :—'An alarming accident occurred in connexion with the Watch-night Service at Bromborough Church,

Cheshire. The ringers had been engaged a few minutes when the tenor bell, weighing 24 cwt., broke its bearings and fell. Fortunately the first floor had been substantially constructed, and the bell did not break through. When the congregation assembled a few minutes later, the clergyman thought it prudent to pronounce the Benediction and dismiss them.

Another Peal of Bob Minor.

SIR,—Not having seen a peal of 720 Bob Minor like the following, will you kindly insert this?

B. FRANCIS, *Diss.*

Two more Peals of Bob Major.

6160		5600	
2 3 4 5 6	W. M. H.	2 3 4 5 6	W. M. H.
4 3 6 5 2	-	4 2 6 3 5	-
6 5 4 3 2	-	5 6 2 3 4	-
3 6 4 5 2	-	2 5 6 3 4	-
4 5 3 6 2	-	6 2 5 3 4	-
6 4 3 5 2	-	4 5 2 3 6	-
3 5 6 4 2	-	2 4 5 3 6	-
6 3 5 4 2	-	6 5 4 3 2	-
5 6 3 4 2	-	4 6 5 3 2	-
3 4 5 6 2	-	5 4 6 3 2	-
5 3 4 6 2	-	6 4 2 3 5	-
4 6 5 3 2	-		

Four times repeated.

Each peal may be reduced to 5040 by four times repeating the first nine courses.

New Peals of Bob Minor.

720	720	720
2 3 4 5 6	2 3 4 5 6	2 3 4 5 6
S 3 2 5 6 4 ¹	S 4 6 2 3 5 ⁴	S 3 2 5 6 4 ¹
S 5 4 3 2 6 ⁴	S 5 3 2 4 6 ³	S 6 2 4 5 3 ²
S 4 5 2 6 3 ¹	S 4 3 6 2 5 ²	S 5 2 3 4 6 ²
2 4 3 5 6 ⁴ P. lead	S 3 4 2 5 6 ¹	S 2 5 4 6 3 ¹

Each 5 times repeated.

With addition of a bob at 2nd, 4th, and 6th parts, ends the first peal. Second peal, omit single half-way and end. Third peal, single in lieu of bob half-way and end.

B. W. ROSE, *Dartford.*

CHANGE-RINGING.

At Holy Trinity, Stow, Norfolk.

On Tuesday, the 15th inst., the Downham Company, by kind permission of the Vicar, the Rev. E. E. Blencowe, rang two 720's (1440) of Bob Minor in 55 mins. E. Harper, 1; R. Chapman, 2; G. Woodhouse, 3; T. Gates, 4; W. Goodchild, 5; G. Neal, 6; G. Spencer (conductor), 7, behind. Tenor, 11 cwt., in G.

At St. Michael's, Sittingbourne, Kent.

On Friday, the 18th inst., six members of the Kent County Association, for practice, rang a peal of 720 Bob Minor in 30 mins. F. Grayling, Esq., 1; F. C. Mattison, 2; W. C. Gordelier,* 3; J. Bottle, 4; S. Snelling, 5; W. H. Judd, 6. Tenor, 21 cwt. [* First peal with a Bob bell.]

At St. George's, Doncaster, Yorkshire.

On Saturday, the 19th inst., a date touch of 1884 Grandsire Triples was rung in 1 hr. 19 mins. H. Fevre (conductor), 1; F. O. Moule, 2; W. White, 3; G. Marwood, 4; W. Newsome, 5; J. White, 6; J. Jeff, 7; W. Howard, 8. Tenor, 31 cwt.

At St. Mary's, Redenhall, Norfolk.

On Saturday, the 19th inst., eight members of the Norwich Diocesan Association rang at the above church a peal of 5024 Oxford Treble Bob, in 3 hrs. 11 mins. The peal was composed by N. J. Pitstow. E. Smith (conductor), 1; J. Tann, 2; W. Matthews, 3; J. C. Allen, 4; G. Mobbs, 5; F. Smith, 6; W. Roope, 7; Captain Moore, 8. Messrs. Roope and Allen belong to Pulham Market, Norfolk, and this is their first peal. Tenor, 24 cwt.

At St. John's, Deptford, Kent.

On Saturday, the 19th inst., eight members of the Society of Trinity Youths rang a peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples (Rev. C. P. Davies' variations), in 2 hrs. 55 mins. J. Rose, 1; W. Pead, 2; W. Weatherstone, 3; T. Taylor, 4; H. Freeman, 5; W. Bawles, 6; G. Freeman (conductor), 7; J. Laws, 8.

At Wicken, Northamptonshire.

On Sunday evening, the 20th inst., a peal of Grandsire Doubles was rung three times by five of the Stony Stratford ringers, with Joseph Read (sexton) of Wicken. W. Cowley, 1; A. Hardy, 2; G. Valentine, 3; W. Smith, 4; W. Yeates, 5; J. Read taking 5 second time through and 2 third time. Tenor, 18 cwt., in F. The bells were rehung by Messrs. Taylor & Co., of Loughborough, in 1882. It is fifty years since this peal was rung in Wicken belfry.

RECEIVED ALSO:—T. W. Carr; C. L. Kennaway; Weathercock; F. F. Dennes.

CORRESPONDENCE.

A Real Diaconate the Absolute Want of the Church.

SIR,—Your readers, I am sure (at least those who take an interest in this burning question of the day), must be struck with astonishment at the profound skill and talent displayed by the Rev. Jackson Mason in his admirable and clever essay upon this all-absorbing topic. I would that every Bishop upon the Episcopal bench not only had a copy, but that they would 'read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest' every word of this masterly treatise; then, perhaps, they would no longer 'stand on the order of doing, but do' something at once, and thus effectually help their hard-worked and struggling brothers in Christ. It is a well-known fact that hundreds of poor striving clergymen, single-handed—not only in our large towns, but throughout the country—are, through over-fatigue during the week, quite incapable of conducting their services in a 'decent or orderly' manner upon the Sunday, who would receive with the deepest thankfulness the assistance of the very many gentlemen of birth, education, and capital, who are not only willing but anxiously waiting to be enrolled as permanent (not annual) Deacons of the Church. The question therefore is, have the Bishops really the welfare of their less fortunate and overwrought brethren at heart? If so, why, instead of talking upon this question for years, do they not come at once to the rescue, and, 'quitting themselves like men,' ordain into the Diaconate a number of gentlemen found to be proficient in the art of reading and preaching, and having the will and the ability—letting them at once assist in the beautiful services of our Church? For that something must be done, and that speedily, is an admitted and crying fact; therefore, 'put in the Diaconate sickle, for the harvest is now fully ripe.'

READER.

Friendly Counsels to the Clergy, by Canon Venables.

SIR,—Allow me for one to thank the Canon for his very excellent essay and advice to clergy in a recent issue. There is, however, one very important matter omitted by the rev. gentleman; viz., Walking. Now we know in this life first impression is everything. Hence, when the congregation at the commencement of the playing of the organ are 'all eyes' to see what clergy are to engage their serious attention, let the clergy show by their reverent aspect and 'walk' that they are fully alive to the solemn duties they are about to perform. Now, 'walk,' with a solemn, slow, and stately step, with legs thrown from the hip, not in the careless, slouching, rapid and arms-swinging manner usually seen, but in a meek and quiet way, with arms in position of standing at ease or hanging loosely at side. This first impressive look and gait will fill your beholders with veneration, and at once put them in mind of the fact they are in God's house, and are about to engage in His work. I say this is the first step towards a real spiritual life with us and our ministry. Try it.

Mill Hill, Hendon.

CHAS. H. EDWARDS, *Reader, or Lay Deacon.*

Christianity and Republicanism.

SIR,—I am well acquainted with Mr. Tomkins' papers on 'Politics and the Bible,' 'Politics and the Prayer-book,' and 'An Englishman's Politics.' (Gazette Office, Weston-super-Mare); all three being most admirable. Would that they were read by the million! In this week's *Church Bells* I read with great interest, 'The Rev. H. G. Tomkins on Church and State,' and with most of what he says I entirely agree; but when he speaks of the 'black tide of Republicanism and Communism,' I must for one take exception at the word 'Republicanism.' The Queen has no more loyal subject than myself, but is it *right, just, or Scriptural*, to identify any branch of the Catholic Church with the Monarchical form of government only? Where is it stated in Scripture, in Primitive Christian tradition, or records, that this is so? Surely the Anglican Church in America prays for the President of the American Republic, and I presume the Old Catholics pray for the Presidents of the Swiss and French Republics. *The National Church* and *The Banner* seem to have fallen into this error (as it seems to me). A true member of the Anglican Church, who is really so because he believes it to be a Divine society, with its succession of Bishops, and its continuity unbroken, would of course never desert her, or do anything to weaken her; but those of her members who are so merely from the force of circumstances, and not from principle, and who happen to be Republicans, would, I have no doubt, turn against their spiritual 'Alma Mater' and rend her. It does not seem to me that this is a point for consideration, for surely we must not let the country believe that the throne and Church are so linked together that the downfall of the throne—if, alas! it should come—would put an end to the Church likewise. I fear this is really the opinion of large numbers who are merely *nominal* members of the National Church, and have little or no knowledge of her claims, or of Christianity, and 'forms of civil Government.' I fail to find that any particular form of Government is attached to the profession of the Christian religion, or that a man who in the abstract or otherwise prefers a Republic is a worse man, or a worse member of any branch of the Catholic Church, than one who is attracted to the Monarchical system. Surely our wisdom is to teach the Divine authority and constitution of the Church, but at the same time to leave the forms of civil Government an open question, as I for one believe Christ did.

ANGELICAN.

The Sunday Post.

SIR,—Your correspondent, 'H. C. B.,' must have a mind very curiously moulded, for he says in effect (*Church Bells*, Jan. 5), 'Pity the souls of the poor letter-carriers: never mind the sorters—they have no souls to lose, and Sunday labour is nothing to them, "they are obliged to be at their posts on Sunday evening."' I would fain hope that your correspondent on reflection

revolution? that the wife will be no more required to live with the adulterous husband any more than the husband with the adulterous wife? Do we realise that the coarse jocularly that we are banding our young fellows to put down has existed from the time of Homer down to our own day; and that they may need to be braced up by mutual obligations and the strength of combination to fight such a growth of centuries as this? Do we realise that though we can point to civilised countries which are fairly free from intemperance, others that are free from the fever of money-getting and commercial speculations, we cannot point to a single civilised country where degraded womanhood does not turn its darkened face to us for deliverance? And do we really think that we are going to fight this world-wide enemy without an army, with no organized troops, with no disciplined strength of numbers, with no combination for a higher purpose?

All that makes life precious is at stake: the purity of the home, the sanctity of the family, the sacredness of marriage, the innocence of the children of our land, the honour of women, the manhood of our sons, yea, the crowning grace of all to which alone the vision of God is promised, to which alone the vision of God is possible: 'Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.' Shall we, in the face of these mighty issues, content ourselves with saying, 'We have got as many organizations as we can conveniently manage; and we don't mean to have anything to do with this "White Cross Movement"?'

Percy House, Brighton.

ELLICE HOPKINS.

COLONIAL AND FOREIGN CHURCH NEWS.

CANADA.

DR. HENRY WILSON'S fraternisation with the Salvation Army at Kingston is proving a cause of serious trouble to the Church. The 'Army' commenced proceedings there in March last, with three young women from Philadelphia. After a time, their success in winning some bad characters engaged Dr. Wilson's sympathies. In November the Dean of his Cathedral charged him with having celebrated the Holy Eucharist in the so-called barracks after an 'all-night' prayer-meeting. He explained that the ceremony was rather of the nature of a love-feast, as only unconsecrated bread and an unfemented liquid were handed round without any words; but his ecclesiastical superior and the other city clergy in vain exhorted him to break off connexion with the Army and its startling extravagances; and his license was at length withdrawn. The local newspapers, however, write in his favour, and the new Bishop of Huron says that the first suitable parish he has to fill up he will eagerly offer him. There is a rumour, indeed, that Dr. Wilson contemplates the formation of a 'Church Army,' after the example of the late Curate of St. George's, Kensington, England; and certainly the slow advance of our Communion in Canada makes it desirable to try something fresh.

THE endowment fund of St. John's College, Winnipeg, has received a grant of 1000*l.* from the S. P. C. K. The same Society will also give 2000*l.* towards endowing the new bishopric of Assiniboia, the formation of which is necessitated by the vast immigration into the British 'North West'—consequent on the building of the Canadian Pacific railroad and its branch lines to the Saskatchewan and Peace rivers; Canon Anson, late rector of Woolwich, is appointed Commissary of it until consecration.

UNITED STATES.

THE 'Adventists' are a recent denomination, which seems already breaking up. Its eminent minister at Salem, Massachusetts, Mr. Barnes, has applied for Episcopal ordination.

At Chicago Dr. Tolman Wheeler has again distinguished himself by his liberality. He lately presented to the bishopric a see-house; and now he has given land and \$500,000 for erecting a Theological College.

NEW ZEALAND.

THE Bishop of Auckland has brought before his Synod the question of a cathedral, for which a site was set apart by Bishop Selwyn years ago; it was accordingly resolved to commence the erection of a nave, which will temporarily serve for the parishioners of St. Mary's, who are at present overcrowded.

WEST AFRICA.

BISHOP PENICK has been compelled by failure of health to retire from the mission of the United States to Liberia. He reports, however, notwithstanding many adverse incidents, an advance in the work he has superintended since 1877. Every church-building is in good repair; the clergy now number eleven, three being native converts; the schools have been doubled; and, in addition to the increase of the baptized, there is a manifest abatement of cruelty and lust among the masses still heathen.

GERMANY.

Now that the Luther Commemoration has come and gone, its value is beginning to be correctly estimated, and is seen to be less than might be wished. Rationalists on the Continent, like Dissenters in England, vied with genuine Lutherans in celebrating the memory of a man whose whole theological life was as much opposed to them as to popery itself; but they will none the less renounce their errors. They are equally ready to honour in like manner the approaching four-hundredth birthday of Zuingli, whose anti-sacramental views even Calvin regarded as profane. The Lutherans, on their part, decline to return the compliment of festive mock-unity which they so lately accepted for the most part without hesitation.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

The Art of Making a Bell-ringer.

THE manner of admitting new ringers, lately practised at a ringers' supper in Lincolnshire, was most disgraceful. We hope the churchwarden will be reprimanded by the Archdeacon. Our informant writes this:—

SIR,—I almost shrink from detailing to you a circumstance in connexion with bell-ringing which came to my knowledge last Saturday—viz. that lately, at a bell-ringers' supper in a village near Boston, three new ringers were admitted into the office of ringers by the churchwarden of the parish in the following manner:—That officer threw a white table-cloth over his shoulders, and poured a quart of beer over the head of each of the men to be admitted, in the supper-room of the inn!

Lancashire Association of Change Ringers.

A QUARTERLY Meeting of the Association was held on Saturday, the 26th ult., at St. Peter's Church, Swinton. Probably such a storm of wind and rain has not been experienced in Swinton for many years, as visited Swinton on the afternoon of that day. Notwithstanding this, thirty-three members attended from districts surrounding Manchester. Tea was partaken of in the Schools at 5.30 p.m., and afterwards a short meeting was held, presided over by the Rev. P. L. Hesketh, B.A., curate, in the absence of the Rev. H. R. Heywood, M.A., vicar. Six new performing members were elected, and two honorary members; the Rev. P. L. Hesketh, B.A., and Rev. R. Fowler, B.A., Eccles. The members afterwards adjourned to the belfry, and the rest of the evening was occupied in ringing, principally Grandsire Triples and Treble Bob Major.

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

P.S.—A ringing meeting will be held at Burnley, on Saturday, Feb. 9th.

Kent County Association of Change-ringers.

A DISTRICT MEETING is fixed to be held at Wrotham on Monday, Feb. 18, when the following churches may be visited:—Wrotham (8), Sevenoaks (8), E. Malling (6), W. Malling (6), E. Peckham (6), Ightham (5), Seal (5).

Proposed Association of Ringers for Northampton.

A MEETING, having for its object the formation of an Association of Ringers for Northampton, was held on Monday evening in the Upper Vestry of All Saints' Church. The Rev. R. B. Hull presided, and was supported by the Rev. W. Chetwynd Atkinson and about thirty local ringers. The Chairman, after urging the necessity for unity amongst ringers, spoke of the changes that had taken place for the better in belfries of late years, and then called upon Mr. J. Thompson (All Saints') to address the meeting. Mr. Thompson, alluding to the number of ringers present, said it augured well for the future. In submitting certain plans for the consideration of the meeting, he spoke of the necessity for more unity amongst ringers in general. Northamptonshire, he said, was once famed for campanology, and they ought to try and regain that fame. In the course of his address he read an extract from a letter of a well-known ringer, in which the writer advocated the forming of a Diocesan Guild. He (Mr. Thompson) thought it would be best to first form a Town Association, and if it met with success, they might then consider the advisability of extending the Association. In conclusion, Mr. Thompson moved, 'That it is desirable that an Association of Change-ringers be formed for the town of Northampton.' Mr. Wood, leader of St. Giles' ringers, seconded the resolution, and in the course of his remarks fully endorsed the views of Mr. Thompson. The resolution was carried unanimously. The next resolution passed was to the effect that a Committee, consisting of two members from each Society in the town, be formed for the purpose of drawing up rules, &c., to be submitted at a general meeting. The Rev. W. Chetwynd Atkinson, in a few appropriate remarks, promised the movement his support, and further proposed that Mr. J. Thompson be elected Secretary to the Committee. This was seconded by Mr. T. Higgins (Sec. to All Saints' Ringers' Society), and carried unanimously. A vote of thanks to the Chairman for presiding concluded the proceedings, after which a number of members repaired to All Saints' belfry and rang a merry peal to celebrate the formation of the Association.

Hurworth-on-Tees, Durham.

MR. JOHNSON E. HERN, a name well known in the ringing world, and who for a considerable period has resided at this charming village, has just been presented with three testimonials on the occasion of his leaving the parish. The Rector (Rev. J. Irwin), on behalf of the parishioners, presented Mr. Hern with a beautiful silver-mounted oak inkstand, bearing a suitable inscription, together with a purse containing 12*l.*, subscribed as a mark of esteem and as a small acknowledgment of the valuable services rendered in the church, more especially in the belfry. Mr. Henry Thompson (one of the ringers) also presented Mr. Hern with a grouped photograph of all the bell-ringers, mounted in a handsome frame; and Mr. M. O. Matthews, one of the churchwardens, as President of the Hurworth Mental Culture Class, presented on behalf of that body a costly Viennese clock in black ebony, together with an aneroid barometer—all of which presentations were suitably acknowledged by the recipient.

Mr. Hern, who came out of Norfolk to reside in the North some twelve years ago, has been the medium for diffusing the art of campanology throughout the counties of Durham and Northumberland. To him the Northumberland and Durham Diocesan Association is indebted for its existence; an Association which, numerically speaking, commenced in a very humble way, yet now of considerable strength, and which is augmented every year, and which has for its object belfry reform and the spread of change-ringing. During

Mr. Hern's sojourn at Hurworth he has gathered together a band of youthful ringers who were, previous to his arrival, totally unacquainted with the art of change-ringing; but who are now, perhaps, second to none in the counties north of Yorkshire. To Hurworth, also, belongs the honour of being the place at which the first—or at least the second—peal of Double Stedman's Slow-course was rung. For the information of the innumerable friends of Mr. Hern we may say that he has gone to reside at Newnham, in Gloucestershire.

End of the good Old Days.

Sir,—There is great cause for thankfulness that the 'good old days' are passing away, when ringers, after they had finished ringing, put on their coats and left the church before service began. The writer has been allowed to see the statistics of the attendance at service and practice of the ringers of Alford Church, Lincolnshire, during the past year. The register has been accurately kept by Mr. Henry Wood, son of the late Rev. James Wood, vicar of Middlethorpe. He is himself, and has been for many years, a regularringer, and is most indefatigable in his efforts to keep the men together.

	Times late.	Attendance at service.
Mackinder, Joseph	0	107
Parsons, John	7	105
Parker, Charles	2	103
Thompson, Alfred	10	101
Robinson, Fred	0	97
Wood, Henry	0	96
Bemrose, Fred	1	66
Taylor, John	1	57

The two last named left the town some months before the end of the year, which accounts for their smaller score. Alford can boast of a ring of eight beautiful bells; and they are now most creditably rung, whilst the behaviour of the men in the belfry, and the good feeling existing amongst them, are all that can be desired.

W. H. W.

Questions.

Sir,—Is there a Change-ringing Society among the undergraduates at Cambridge? and if so, how is it possible to obtain admission? Also, is any knowledge of change-ringing required? For if there is a Society I should wish to join, though at present I only just know how to set a bell. Apologising for trespassing on your valuable space, &c.

A WOULD-BE RINGER.

Sir,—Could you inform me if the custom of 'firing' or 'clashing' bells is considered to be more injurious to the tower and fittings than ordinary ringing?

WEATHERCOCK.

[Clashing bells is very unusual. It may not do much harm, but it should be avoided.—ED.]

CHANGE-RINGING.

At St. Mary the Virgin, Stanstead, Essex.

ON Thursday, the 3rd ult., six of the local Company rang a peal of 720 Plain Bob Minor, with 42 singles, taken from *Rope Sight*, in 27 mins. J. Cavill, 1; J. Luckey, 2; H. Prior, junr., 3; G. Gray, 4; Isaac Cavill, 5; C. Prior (conductor), 6.

Also on Wednesday, the 9th ult., a peal of 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor in 27 mins. J. Cavill, 1; J. Luckey, 2; C. Prior, 3; G. Gray (first 720 in this method), 4; Isaac Cavill, 5; H. Prior (conductor), 6.

Also on Thursday, the 17th ult., a peal 720 Plain Bob Minor, with 9 bobs and 6 singles, taken from *Rope Sight*, in 27½ mins. J. Cavill, 1; H. Trigg, 2; H. Prior, junr., 3; G. Gray, 4; H. Prior, 5; C. Prior (conductor), 6.

Also on Tuesday, the 29th ult., a peal of 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor in 26½ mins. J. Cavill, 1; C. Prior, 2; H. Prior, junr. (first 720 in this method), 3; G. Gray, 4; Isaac Cavill, 5; H. Prior (conductor), 6. Tenor, 13 cwt.

At St. Peter's, Ashton-under-Lyne, Lancashire.

ON Saturday, the 12th ult., a peal of 5040 Bob Major was rung in 2 hrs. 58 mins. J. Collins, 1; J. Bowcock, 2; W. Smith, 3; W. Frith, 4; J. Wood, 5; G. Braddock (first peal in this method), 6; J. Thorp (composer and conductor), 7; J. Mellor, 8. Tenor, 20 cwt., in E.

	5 0 2 4	B. W. H.	3 6 4 5 2	1	B. W. H.
ON Saturday, the 26th ult., was rung a peal of 5024 Treble Bob Major in 3 hrs. 4 mins. J. Sidebotham, 1; J. Bowcock, 2; J. Wood (first peal as conductor), 3; R. Ainsworth, 4; B. Broadbent, 5; J. Mellor, 6; J. Thorpe (composer), 7; G. Longden, 7. Tenor, 20 cwt., in E.	2 3 4 5 6	1	3 6 5 2 4	1	1
	5 6 3 4 2	1	6 2 3 4 6	1	
	6 4 5 2 3	1	2 4 6 5 3	1	
	6 4 2 3 5	1	4 5 2 3 6	1	
	4 3 6 5 2	1	4 5 3 6 2	1	1
	3 5 4 2 6	1	5 6 4 2 3	1	
	5 2 3 6 4	1	6 2 5 3 4	1	
	5 2 6 4 3	1	6 3 4 2 5	1	2
	2 4 5 3 6	1	3 2 6 5 4	1	
	4 3 2 6 5	1	2 3 4 5 6	1	2

At St. Peter's, Soberton, Hants.

ON Thursday, the 17th ult., a peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples was rung in 3 hrs. 5 mins. G. H. Barnett, 1; G. Williams, 2; J. Hewitt, 3; F. Hill, 4; W. Marks, 5; T. Newnham, 6; S. Brooker (conductor), 7; J. Weaver, 8. Tenor, 12 cwt.

At Waltham Abbey, Essex.

ON Friday, the 18th ult., a peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples (W. Day's six-part peal) was rung in 2 hrs. 56 mins. W. Dymock (first peal), 1; W. A. Alps, 2; H. Baker (Hertford), 3; P. Cleverley, 4; D. Tarling, 5; T. Powell (conductor), 6; S. Hayes, 7; T. Colverd, 8. Tenor, 20 cwt.

At St. James's, Higher Sutton, Cheshire.

ON Wednesday, the 16th ult., the local Society, with Mr. Peter Brickell of Northenden, Cheshire, rang for practice a peal of 720 Bob Minor, with 42 singles, in 25 mins. W. Walmsley (conductor), 1; W. H. Ingham, 2; Walter Ingham, 3; J. M. Davenport, 4; P. Brickell, 5; T. Mottershead, 6. Also on Saturday, the above rang a peal of 720 Grandsire Minor, with 42 bobs and 6 singles, in 25 mins. Also a touch of Kent Treble Bob, with the band standing as above, conducted by William H. Ingham. Tenor, 12 cwt., in G.

At St. John's, Deptford, Kent.

ON Saturday, the 19th ult., a peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples was rung in 2 hrs. 55 mins. J. Rose, 1; W. Pead, 2; W. Weatherstone, 3; T. Taylor, 4; W. H. Freeman, 5; W. Bowles, 6; A. G. Freeman, 7; J. Laws, 8. Tenor, 14 cwt. Composed by the Rev. C. D. P. Davies and conducted by A. G. Freeman. [* College Youths. † Cumberlands.]

At St. Mary's, Redenhall, Norfolk.

ON Saturday, the 19th ult., a peal of 5024 Treble Bob Major (in the Oxford Variation) was rung in 3 hrs. 11 mins. E. Smith, 1; J. Tann, 2; W. Matthews, 3; J. C. Allen, 4; G. Mobbs, 5; F. Smith, 6; W. Roope, 7; Captain Moore, 8. Tenor, 24 cwt. Composed by N. J. Pitstow and conducted by E. Smith.

At St. John the Baptist's, Tue Brook, Liverpool.

ON Saturday, the 19th ult., a peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples was rung in 3 hrs. 20 mins. R. Williams, 1; H. Meadows, 2; E. Booth, 3; R. Williams (composer), 4; W. Booth (first peal), 5; T. Hammond (conductor), 6; E. Foster, 7; W. Brooks, 8. Tenor, 20 cwt.

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

ON Monday, the 21st ult., a peal of 5083 Treble Bob Major (in the Kent Variation) was rung in 2 hrs. 53 mins. J. Sidebotham, 1; J. Harrop, 2; H. Shaw, 3; R. Wright, 4; J. S. Wilde, 5; J. Nuttall, 6; T. Wilde, 7; T. Brad-dock, 8. Tenor, 12½ cwt. Composed by J. Thorp and conducted by T. Wilde.

At St. Mary's, Putney, Surrey.

ON Monday, the 21st ult., eight members of the Royal Cumberland Society rang a peal of 5088 Double Norwich Court Bob Major in 3 hrs. 20 mins. J. Page, 1; E. Chapman, 2; A. Jacob, 3; J. Hannington, 4; T. Titchener, 5; W. Meadows, 6; G. Newson, 7; J. Barrett, 8. Composed by H. Johnston, sen., and conducted by G. Newson. Tenor, 16 cwt. This is the first peal in the method by Messrs. Page and Chapman, and was rung to celebrate the thirty-third birthday of Mr. T. Titchener.

At Christ Church, Southgate, Middlesex.

ON Wednesday, the 23rd ult., the Royal Cumberland Society rang a peal of 5024 Kent Treble Bob Major in 3 hrs. 21 mins. G. Newson, 1; J. Nunn, 2; E. Pitstow, 3; G. Martin, 4; J. Gobbett, 5; H. Randall, 6; F. Pitstow, 7; S. Jarman, 8. Composed by N. J. Pitstow and conducted by G. Newson. Tenor, 25 cwt. This is the first peal in the method by J. Nunn, and was rung to celebrate his fifty-second birthday.

At Winterbourne, Wilts.—Date Touch.

ON Wednesday evening, the 23rd ult., a date touch of 1884 changes was rung at Winterbourne Earls for Winterbourne Dantsey (the church of the latter place having been pulled down, and the bells added to the former). The performances consisted of 24 singles, 5 six-scores of Bob Doubles, 9½ six-scores, and 90 and 30 of Grandsire Doubles. It was intended to ring ten peals of Grandsire, but one peal, through a mistake in a call being made too late, causing the bells to get misplaced, came out in 90 changes, and so 30 were rung at the end to make the number up. H. O. Dowling, 1; C. A. Clements, 2; T. Blackburn, 3; W. W. Gifford, 4; J. R. Jerram, 5. The time was 1 hr. 10 mins. Tenor, about 12 cwt.

At Bengoe, Hertford, Herts.—Muffled Peal.

ON Wednesday, the 23rd ult., six members of the Bengoe Society of Ringers met at the tower of Holy Trinity Church, and rang a funeral peal, 6 six-scores of Grandsire Doubles, as a mark of respect to the late Mr. David Akers, clerk at the above-named church. He was much esteemed by the ringers and all who knew him. E. Cains, 1; A. Wrangles, 2; T. Gathard (conductor), 3; J. Cains, 4; H. Phillips, 5; T. Barker, 6.

At St. George's Camberwell, Surrey.

ON Thursday, the 24th ult., the Royal Cumberland Society rang a peal of 5056 Double Norwich Court Bob Major in 3 hrs. 4 mins. E. Pitstow, 1; T. Titchener, 2; J. Gobbett, 3; A. Jacob, 4; J. Hannington, 5; W. Meadows, 6; F. Pitstow, 7; G. Newson, 8. Composed by H. Dains and conducted by G. Newson. Tenor, 14 cwt. This is the first peal in the method by Messrs. Gobbett and the brothers Pitstow.

At Garboldisham, Norfolk.

THE ring of six bells in the tower of the parish church has been much improved by the recasting of the second bell, which for some time has been cracked. The work has been done by Messrs. Moore, Holmes, & Mackenzie, of the Redenhall Foundry, Harleston; and it is the unanimous opinion that for depth and melody of tone the new bell will rank first in the tower. It bears the date of the year with the Rector's name, and the words, 'Fear God, honour the King.'

ON Thursday, the 24th ult., the first peal (since the recasting) of 720 of Plain Bob, was rung by the following:—W. West, 1; H. Davis, 2; J. Chenery, 3; James Bennett, 4; E. Bennett, 5; John Bennett, 6. The following also took part in the ringing:—Rev. C. L. Kennaway, rector; C. Cockerell, J. Bason, W. Bason.

To Correspondents.

PRINTED rules do more harm than good. When a belfry is well established, no written rules are required but those known as the etiquette in good society.

CLAVIS.—A fine uncut copy can be supplied by the Editor, price 10s. 6d. per post.

MANY Communications are unavoidably postponed till next week.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Celebration of a Birthday at Bennington, Herts.

AN esteemed correspondent, Leonard Proctor, Esq., sends the following:—On Tuesday evening, the 29th ult., being the anniversary of my natal day, my old company very kindly determined to welcome the return of the day by some attempt at having some good ringing; and T. Page, with the wishes of the others, came to me and asked me if I would unite with them in ringing a touch of ringing that might be considered as one worthy of the day and circumstances under which they had all kindly agreed to muster for. I at once met their kind wishes, and at seven o'clock we met for a length of Double Norwich Court Bob Major; and, without a single hitch of any sort or description, we rang a most beautiful touch of 5000 changes in 3 hours. A finer piece of scientific ringing and grand striking I have never heard. What say you to this little affair in our quiet village? It was intended to ring 6000 changes, but "Stand!" was called at 5000 exactly: so it was only a touch—rather a long one. It is intended to ring the peal of 6000 before long. The ringers were:—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.

'End of the good Old Days.'

SIR,—I see in your last week's issue a very satisfactory report of the attendance at service and practice of the Alford ringers, Lincolnshire; and further on I read, 'Alford can boast of a ring of eight beautiful bells.' Now I rehung the bells at Alford in December, 1881, and then there were only five and a 'ting-tang.' There was some talk then of adding a treble to make six, but I heard more than a year afterwards that this had not yet been done. So I should be very pleased to hear how they have managed to get eight there in so short a time; that is, if there really are eight, which I doubt, as I have never seen any account of the ring being augmented either in *Church Bells* or any other paper. If they really have got eight bells I am very pleased to hear it, and congratulate them.

J. R. JERRAM.

Essex Association of Change Ringers.

A DISTRICT MEETING will be held at West Ham on Saturday, the 23rd inst. Ringing will commence at 2 p.m. Business Meeting in the schoolroom adjoining the churchyard at 4.30. Tea at 5.30. H. A. COCKBY, Hon. Sec. *Rettendon Hall, Battles Bridge, S.O.*

A False Peal.

SIR,—I beg leave to state that the peal of Treble Bob Major by Mr. John Thorpe, given in *Church Bells* of the 2nd inst., is false. If the composition had been true Mr. Thorpe could hardly have claimed it, as it only differs slightly from one by Mr. Tom Lockwood of Leeds, and published more than a year ago. The difference between the two peals is confined to about ten leads.

N. J. PITSTOW.

Saffron Walden.

Date Touch of Bob Major.—1884.

ODD CHANGES.		W. B. M. H.
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8	2 4 5 3 6	—
2 1 4 3 6 5 8 7	5 2 4 3 6	—
2 4 1 6 3 8 5 7	4 3 2 6 5	—
4 2 6 1 8 3 7 5	2 4 3 6 5	—
4 6 2 8 1 7 3 5	3 2 4 6 5	—
6 4 8 2 7 1 5 3	5 4 2 6 3	—
6 8 4 7 2 1 3 5	2 5 4 6 3	—
8 6 7 4 1 2 3 5	4 2 5 6 3	—
8 7 6 1 4 3 2 5	3 5 2 6 4	—
7 8 1 6 3 4 2 5	2 3 5 6 4	—
7 1 8 3 6 2 4 5	4 5 3 6 2	—
1 7 8 3 6 2 4 5	3 4 5 6 2	—
1 7 8 3 6 2 4 5	2 5 3 4 6	—
8 6 7 4 3 5 2	4 2 3 6 5	—
6 4 8 5 7 2 3	3 5 4 2 6	—
4 5 6 2 8 3 7	2 3 4 5 6	—
— 4 5 2 3 6		

EDWARD FRANCIS, *Disc.*

CHANGE-RINGING.

At St. Mary's, Islington, Middlesex.

On Friday, the 25th ult., Holt's Original One-part Peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples was rung by the Royal Cumberland Society in 2 hrs. 51 mins. W. Meadows, 1; J. Hannington, 2; E. Pitstow, 3; A. Jacob, 4; E. Moses, 5; F. Pitstow, 6; G. Newson (conductor), 7; J. Barry, 8. Tenor, 18 cwt. This is the first peal in the method by E. Pitstow.

At All Saints', Fulham, Middlesex.

On Saturday, the 26th ult., a peal of 5040 Kent Treble Bob Royal was rung by the Royal Cumberland Society in 3 hrs. 22 mins. H. Randall, 1; J. Hannington, 2; E. Pitstow, 3; H. Swain, 4; A. Jacob, 5; W. Hovard, 6; F. Pitstow, 7; G. Newson, 8; J. Barrett, 9; W. Meadows (conductor), 10. This is the first peal in the method by E. Pitstow, he never having previously pulled a blow on ten bells. It is also the first peal on ten by the conductor, and also his first attempt at calling a peal of any kind; and also the fifth peal by G. Newson, and the fourth peal by Messrs. Hannington, Jacob, Meadows, and the brothers Pitstow, rung by them within six days.

[To make the last few lines understood, see the peals rung by the Royal Cumberland Society in last week's *Church Bells*.]

At St. Nicolas', King's Norton, Worcestershire.

On Saturday, the 26th ult., eight members of the King's Norton Branch of the Birmingham and District Association rang a peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples in 2 hrs. 54 mins. J. Ashmole, 1; W. H. Summers, 2; J. Carter (conductor), 3; J. Cooks, 4; J. Wright, 5; F. Scrivens, 6. The peal, which is in ten parts, is a Bob-and-Single Variation by Mr. J. Carter, and was rung for the first time. It is upwards of thirty-one years since a peal was rung upon these bells.

Also on Monday, the 28th ult., four members of the above met at Mr. J. Carter's and rang upon the handbells (retained in hand) Taylor's Six-part Peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples in 2 hrs. 25 mins. J. Carter, 1-2; J. Benn, 3-4; T. Miller (conductor), 5-6; R. Hackley, 7-8. Referees: Messrs. W. Baldwin, A. Hackley, and J. Callaghan, who marked every lead off as it was rung.

At All Saints, Alburgh, Norfolk.

On Saturday, the 26th ult., eight members of the Norwich Diocesan Association rang Holt's Ten-part peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples in 2 hrs. 55 mins. E. Smith (conductor), 1; J. Bently, 2; G. Prince, 3; J. Tann, 4; W. Matthews, 5; G. Mobbs, 6; F. Smith, 7; Captain Moore, 8. This is the first peal in the method by Messrs. Bently, Tann, Matthews, and F. Smith.

At SS. Mary and Nicolas, Spalding, Lincolnshire.

On the 27th ult. a date touch of 1884 changes was rung in six methods, as follows, in 1 hr. 8 mins.—360 Kent Treble Bob (3 bobs), 360 Plain Bob (9 bobs), 360 Oxford Treble Bob (3 bobs), 360 Oxford Bob (9 bobs), 360 London Single (9 bobs), 84 College Single (2 bobs and 2 singles). J. Wilson,* 1; J. S. Wright,* 2; G. L. Richardson,* 3; R. Mackman* (conductor), 4; E. Brown,* 5; J. Brown,* 6.

On Tuesday, the 29th ult., a peal of 5040 changes was rung in six different methods on six bells as follows, in 3 hrs. 10 mins.—720 Kent Treble Bob, 720 College Single, 720 Oxford Treble Bob, 720 London Single, two 720's Oxford Bob (each called differently), 720 Plain Bob. J. Wilson,* 1; J. S. Wright,* 2; G. L. Richardson,* 3; R. Mackman* (conductor), 4; E. Brown,* 5; J. Brown,* 6. [Those marked thus * are College Youths, and those thus marked + are Cumberland Youths.]

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

On Sunday evening, the 27th ult., for divine service, a peal of 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor was rung by the Royal Cumberland Society in 25 mins. J. Hannington (conductor), 1; T. Glead, 2; J. Leach, 3; T. Titchener, 4; A. Jacob, 5; T. Monks, 6. Tenor, 12½ cwt.

At All Saints', Edmonton, Middlesex.

On Monday, the 28th ult., eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang Holt's Original One-part peal of Grandsire Triples in 3 hrs. 2 mins. J. Davidson, 1; J. R. Jerram* (Salisbury), 2; H. A. Barnett, 3; J. T. Crouch, 4; H. Baker (Hertford), 5; W. A. Alps (Waltham Abbey), 6; J. Pettit (conductor), 7; E. S. Sawyer,* 8. [* First peal.]

At St. Alphege, Greenwich, Kent.

On Tuesday, the 29th ult., eight members of the Trinity Youths Society rang Holt's Ten-part peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples in 3 hrs. 2 mins., being the quickest ever rung on the bells. J. Lamb,* 1; W. Pead, 2; T. G. Deal, 3; W. Weatherstone (conductor), 4; T. Taylor, 5; W. Freeman, 6; G. Freeman, 7; F. Thornton, 8. [* First peal.]

At St. Werburgh's, Derby.

On Thursday, the 31st ult., eight members of the Midland Counties Association rang Holt's Ten-part peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples in 3 hrs. 9 mins. F. Whiting, 1; R. Bosworth (conductor), 2; L. Lomas, 3; J. Newbold, 4; R. Redgate, 5; W. Billingham, 6; J. Howe, 7; W. Tooby, 8. Tenor, 17 cwt., in E.

At St. Peter's, Ashton-under-Lyne, Lancashire.

On Tuesday, the 5th inst., a peal of 5024 Kent Treble Bob Major was rung in 3 hrs. 4 mins.

THE PEAL.									
2	3	4	5	6		M.	A.	W.	P.
5	2	3	6	4		—	—	—	2
2	6	4	3	5		2	—	—	—
3	2	6	5	4		—	—	—	2
6	5	3	2	4		1	—	2	1
5	4	3	2	6		2	—	1	2
4	2	3	5	6		1	—	—	—

By calling — 1 2, the first course in any one part brings up the third course-end, and reduces the peal to 5024, which number was rung.

At St. John's, Waterloo Road, London.

On Wednesday, the 6th inst., a peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples (Holt's Original) was rung in 2 hrs. 49 mins. W. Baron (conductor), 1; C. Hopkins, 2; W. Jones, 3; C. E. Malin, Esq., 4; D. Stackwood, 5; T. Taylor, 6; J. M. Routh, Esq., 7; W. Coppage, 8. Tenor, 20 cwt., in F. This peal was rung on, and in honour of the birthday of the Vicar, the Rev. A. W. Jephson, M.A. The Society desire to take this opportunity of thanking the Vicar for the peal-board placed by him in the tower, to commemorate a peal rung on the fifty-ninth anniversary of the consecration of the church.

At Widford, Essex.

THE following are the methods rung by the Widford ringers during 1883:—Plain Bob Minor, 9140; Cambridge Surprise, 3720; College Exercise, 3620; Oxford Treble Bob, 3220; New London Pleasure, 1920; Kent Treble Bob, 2240; Superlative Surprise, 1320; Double Court Bob, 360; Grandsire Doubles, 960.

F. DAINS, *Sexton, Widford.*NOTE.—The *Clavis* offered for sale last week is sold.—Ed.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

New Bells at Glympton, Oxfordshire.

Four bells have lately been presented to Glympton Church by Colonel Henry Barnett and family, of Glympton Park, in loving memory of his dear wife, who died March 12th, 1883, and was buried in that churchyard. The bells, weighing about 19 cwt., were cast by Messrs. Warner, and hung and fitted with chiming-hammers on Ellacombe's principle by Mr. Rogers of Maidenhead. The inscriptions on the bells are as follows:—

- No. 1. The gift of H. B. and F. H. B. to Glympton Church, 1883.
- No. 2. The gift of H. B. and H. B. to Glympton Church, 1883.
- No. 3. The gift of H. B., F. E. B., and A. K. B., to Glympton Church, 1883.
- No. 4. The gift of H. B., G. L. F., and E. A. B., to Glympton Church, 1883.
- No. 5. Robert Wells of Aldbourn fecit, 1784.

It is to be regretted that the parishioners of Glympton did not take part in the work, and have the bells hung with wheels, &c., proper for ringing, so as to bring out their full and powerful tone.

Visit of the Hertford College Youths to Hatfield, Herts.

On Thursday, the 7th inst., the Hertford College Youths paid a visit to Hatfield, where they were joined by the local company, and by Mr. Hills of St. Albans. It is to be regretted that although the tower of St. Etheldreda contains a fine ring of eight (tenor, about 27½ cwt.), the bells are scarcely ringable, in consequence of the ringing-chamber having some years since, for some extraordinary reason, been taken away. The ropes are now brought down to the floor of the tower, which gives a flight of about seventy feet. A good afternoon's ringing, however, was enjoyed; and some 2660 changes were brought round, including several touches of Stedman's Triples and a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, the latter being accomplished in 48 mins. by J. Cull, 1; N. N. Hills, 2; A. Baker, 3; H. Baker (conductor), 4; J. G. Crawley, 5; J. Godfrey, 6; T. Gathard, 7; F. George, 8. There were also present from Hertford, S. Knight, J. Jauncey, and J. Staples (Hon. Sec.). In the evening the company were hospitably entertained at dinner by J. R. Dagg, Esq., through whose kind invitation the two companies were brought together; and who, after the cloth had been cleared, expressed a hope that the two companies might more often meet, and eventually form a Society of Change-ringers for the district, which should be second to none in the county. The remainder of the evening was spent in a pleasant manner, and the hand-bells were brought into use. On the College Youths taking their departure by train, they were saluted by a merry peal from their Hatfield friends, who during the day had done all in their power to make the gathering an agreeable one.

A Ringers' Guild at Cambridge.

SIR,—I send a line to say that there is a 'University Guild of Change-ringers at Cambridge,' about which 'A Would-be Ringer' inquires in your issue of Feb. 2nd. I am not sure who are the officers of the Guild at the present time, but I am sure that one of the original members of the Guild, M. C. Potter, Esq., 10 Brookside, Cambridge, would furnish further particulars.

R. COPEMAN, *Hon. Mem. C. U. G. of C. R.*

Surrey Association of Change-ringers.

A DISTRICT MEETING of this Association (for ringing only) will be held at Weybridge on Saturday, February 23rd. Tower open from 4 o'clock.

ARTHUR B. CARPENTER, *Hon. Sec.*

Essex Association.

A DISTRICT MEETING will be held at West Ham (ten bells) on Saturday the 23rd inst. Ringing at the parish church to commence at 2 p.m. Business meeting in the parish schools, 4.30. Tea at the Langthorne Rooms, 5.30. The tower of St. John's, Leytonstone (six bells), will be open to members from 2 to 4 p.m., and after 6 p.m. Members communicating with the Hon. Sec. before Wednesday, February 20, and naming the station from which they start, will be conveyed by the G.E.R. to and from Stratford at a single fare and a quarter.

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

Battles Bridge, S. O. Essex.

Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association of Ringers.

THE February Meeting will be held on Monday, the 25th inst., at Darlington, the bells at the disposal of the members being the ring of eight at the parish church (tenor, 16 cwt.) and the ring of six at St. John's Church (tenor, 10 cwt.). A dinner will be provided at 2.30 p.m. at the Waterloo Hotel; 3s. to non-members and 1s. to members. Dinner tickets should be applied for not later than Monday, February 18th. Subscriptions for the year 1883-4 are now due, and should be paid at once to the Secretary. The Committee will meet at the Hotel at 1.30. G. J. CLARKSON, *Hon. Sec.*

Post-office Chambers, Stockton-on-Tees.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At St. John the Baptist, Bromsgrove, Worcestershire.

On Saturday, the 2nd inst., a peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples was rung in 3 hrs. 7 mins. G. Morris, 1; J. Hinton, sen., 2 (T. Alburt, tapper); G. Hayward, 3; G. Bourne, 4; E. Crump (conductor), 5; W. Duffill, 6; R. Broomfield, 7; J. Parry, 8. One strange feature in this peal is that James Hinton (of Worcester) is quite deaf, and cannot hear the sound of a bell or conductor. Thomas Alburt stood behind him, and gave him one tap on the shoulder at a bob and two at a single, and it is believed to be the first case on record of a man totally deaf ringing through a peal of 5040 changes.

Also on Sunday morning, the 3rd inst., a quarter-peal of 1259 Grandsire Caters was rung in 48 mins. J. Crawford, 1; G. Bourne, 2; T. Alburt, 3; J. Hinton, sen., (Master Broomfield, tapper), 4; E. Crump, 5; G. Hayward (composer and conductor), 6; G. Morris, 7; R. Broomfield, 8; W. Duffill, 9; J. Parry, 10. Tenor, 20 cwt.

At Ripon Cathedral—Date Touch.

THE Society of Change-ringers of this Cathedral assisted by Mr. Langley of Boroughbridge, met for practice on Tuesday evening, the 5th inst., and rang 1884 changes of Grandsire Triples in 1 hr. 10 mins. T. Metcalf, 1; J. Strodder, jun., 2; J. Strodder, sen., 3; T. Langley, 4; A. Ingleby, 5; T. Clark (composer and conductor), 6; G. Ingleby, 7; H. Rumbold, 8. Tenor, 21 cwt., in F.

At Wellingborough, Northamptonshire.

THE two choirs connected with the parish church, the St. Barnabas' and Church-room Choirs, and the parish-church ringers, together with most of the sidesmen, numbering in all nearly one hundred, sat down to their annual supper at the Drill Hall on Tuesday evening, the 5th inst. In honour of the event the bells were rung for half an hour previous. The Vicar (the Ven. Archdeacon Lightfoot) presided. The Revs. J. E. Woodrow and J. H. E. Bailey, and G. H. Burnham, Esq., and J. T. Parker, Esq., churchwardens, were also present. The toasts of 'Church and Queen,' 'The Choirs,' 'The Ringers,' and 'The Vicar,' were duly honoured and acknowledged. Three hearty cheers were given for the kind donors of the two new bells and the recast third bell (Mr. W. Pendered, Mr. G. H. Burnham, and Mr. and Mrs. Henry). The Archdeacon remarked that the bells had been rung that evening for the last time as a ring of six; as operations were to be commenced at once for the removal of the third bell, and the erection of a new frame, &c., to receive the two additional trebles. Mr. G. H. Burnham occupied the chair during the latter part of the evening. The singing of the National Anthem brought this most pleasant gathering to a close shortly after midnight.

At SS. Mary and Nicolas, Spalding, Lincolnshire.

On the 7th inst., a peal of 720 Yorkshire Court Bob was rung (being the first 720 in this method by this company), a 720 Kent Treble Bob, and a 720 College Single, in 1 hr. 22 mins. This was an attempt for 5040 in seven methods, but came to grief in the fourth peal.

On the 10th inst., after evening service, a peal of 720 Yorkshire Court Bob was rung with the bells half-muffled, as a token of respect to the late Mrs. Willmott, who was borne to her grave on Friday, the 8th inst., by four ringers. Mrs. Willmott was wife of Mr. John Willmott, sidesman of SS. Mary and Nicolas, Spalding, having held the office upwards of fifty years. J. S. Wright, 1; J. Wilson, 2; G. L. Richardson, 3; R. Mackman (conductor), 4; E. Brown, 5; J. Brown, 6.

On Tuesday, the 12th inst., a peal of 5040 changes, in seven complete methods, was rung in 3 hrs. 5 mins.; viz., Yorkshire Court Bob, Kent Treble Bob, College Single, Oxford Treble Bob, London Single, Oxford Bob, and Plain Bob. J. S. Wright,* 1; J. Wilson,* 2; G. L. Richardson,* 3; R. Mackman† (conductor), 4; E. Brown,* 5; J. Brown,* 6. This is the first 5040 changes ever rung in Lincolnshire in seven distinct methods. Tenor, 18 cwt. [* Cumberland Youths. † College Youths.]

At St. Mary's, Sheffield, Yorkshire.

On Friday, the 8th inst., eight members of the St. Peter's Amalgamated Society of Change-ringers rang a peal of 5040 Stedman's Triples (Brook's Variation) in 3 hrs. 12 mins. C. H. Hattersley, 1; Joseph Mulligan, 2; John Mulligan, 3; C. Bower, 4; E. Woodward, 5; J. A. Dixon, 6; T. Hattersley (conductor), 7; W. Smith, 8. Tenor, 25 cwt. [All members of the Ancient Society of College Youths and the Yorkshire Association.]

At St. Peter's, Sheffield, Yorkshire.

On Saturday, the 9th inst., the Ashton-under-Lyne Society, along with two from the Hyde Society, paid a friendly visit to Sheffield, and with the assistance of Mr. Thos. Hattersley rang a peal of 5040 Kent Treble Bob Maximus in 3 hrs. 46 mins. T. Moss, 1; T. Hattersley, 2; W. Smith, 3; J. Wood, 4; T. Wilde, 5; J. Mellor, 6; J. S. Wilde, 7; J. Gillot, 8; B. Broadbent, 9; G. Longden, 10; S. Wood, 11; J. Thorp (composer and conductor), 12. First peal of Maximus for all except second ringer. This is the first peal since the bells were rehung, and the 'go' of the bells reflects great credit on the bell-hanger.

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

On Saturday, the 9th inst., a peal of Grandsire Triples was attempted by the Oxford Diocesan Guild, but after ringing nearly 3000 changes the bells came round, two having shifted course, and 'Stand!' was called. Time, 1 hr. 35 mins. E. Keeley, 1; J. W. Wilkins, 2; R. Flaxman, 3; H. Rogers, 4; R. Smith, 5; W. A. Garraway (conductor), 6; E. Rogers, 7; J. C. Truss, 8. Tenor, 17½ cwt.

At St. George's, Doncaster, Yorkshire.

On Sunday, the 10th inst., for morning service, a peal of 1008 Holt's Bob-and-Single Variation of Grandsire Triples was rung in 41 mins. H. Fevre (conductor), 1; W. White, 2; F. O. Moule, 3; G. Marwood, 4; T. Fevre, 5; H. Marwood, 6; J. Jeff, 7; W. Howard, 8. Tenor, 31 cwt.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At St. Peter's, Walworth, Surrey.—Half-muffled Peal.

ON Sunday, the 3rd inst., after the evening service, a half-muffled peal was rung in memory of the Rev. Charles Bull, M.A., late assistant-minister of the church, to whose merits and long service in the Colonial Church ample reference had been made in a funeral sermon preached by the Rector at the morning service. H. E. Gummer (conductor), 1; H. Langdon, 2; F. Coxhead, 3; E. Drewry, 4; H. Flower, 5; J. Summers, 6; W. Prime, 7; J. Warwick, 8.

At Hurstpierpoint, Sussex.

ON Wednesday, the 6th inst., eight members of the SS. Nicholas and Peter's (Brighton) Societies rang Holt's Ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples in 2 hrs. 51 mins. O. St. John, 1; J. Jay, jun., 2; J. Searl, 3; C. Tyler, 4; H. Boniface, 5; G. F. Attree, 6; J. Jay (conductor), 7; H. Weston, 8. Tenor, 14 cwt.

At St. Luke's, Heywood, Lancashire.

ON Tuesday, the 12th inst., six members of St. Luke's Society of Change-ringers, assisted by Mr. Joseph Scot and A. E. Holme of Manchester, rang Holt's One-part peal in 3 hrs. 13 mins. John Millett (conductor), 1; G. Crassley, 2; W. R. Barrett, 3; A. E. Holme, 4; J. Street, 5; J. Scot, 6; J. Harrison, 7; James Millett, 8. Tenor, 22½ cwt., in E flat.

At St. George's, Dunster, Somerset.

ON Thursday, the 14th inst., on the back six, a peal of 720 Grandsire Minor was rung in 30 mins. J. Pitts, 1; W. W. Thorne, 2; R. Hole, 3; J. Grabham, 4; C. B. Craze (conductor), 5; W. W. Thrush, 6. Tenor, 21 cwt. This is the first peal of Minor by any of the Dunster Guild.

2	3	4	5	6	B. W.
3	5	2	6	4	-
5	6	3	4	2	-
6	4	5	2	3	-
3	4	6	2	5	- 1

At Ashton-under-Lyne, Lancashire.

ON Saturday, the 16th inst., a peal of 5024 Kent

Treble Bob Major was rung in 3 hrs. 8 mins.

J. Hopwood, 1; G. Longden, 2; J. Wood, 3; S.

Wood (composer and conductor), 4; E. Cash (first

peal), 5; B. Broadbent, 6; J. Thorp, 7; J. Scholey, 8.

Three times repeated produce					M. B. H.
5	2	3	6	4	-
2	6	5	4	3	-
6	4	2	3	5	-
6	4	3	5	2	- 1
5	2	4	3	6	- 2
2	3	4	5	6	1 -
5 0 2 4					

At St. Peter's, St. Albans, Herts.

ON Saturday, the 16th inst., another attempt was made to ring a peal of Grandsire Caters. After ringing about 3000 changes in 2 hrs. the peal was unfortunately cut short by the fifth rope breaking; which was much to be regretted, as the ringing was exceedingly good. Although there was not sufficient time to make another attempt, the rope was put on again, and some Grandsire and Stedman's Triples were rung. H. Lewis, 1; J. R. Haworth, 2; F. C. Dawe, 3; J. Pottit, 4; N. N. Hills, 5; C. F. Winney, 6; H. J. Tucker, 7; H. Baker, 8; J. M. Hayes (conductor), 9; W. H. George, 10. Tenor, 23 cwt.

At St. Michael's, Sittingbourne, Kent.

ON Sunday, the 17th inst., after evening service, 620 of Kent Treble Bob Minor (8 bobs) was rung in 23 mins. E. J. Cooper, 1; F. C. Mattinson (conductor), 2; G. Holmes, Esq. (Norfolk), 3; J. Bettle, 4; S. Snelling, 5; W. G. Gordelier, 6. Tenor, 21 cwt. The peal was lost by a slight accident. It is again in contemplation to make this fine ring into eight.

At St. Mary-de-Lode, Gloucester.

ON Sunday, the 17th inst., six members of the above Society rang six six-scores of Grandsire Doubles (720 changes) in 24 mins. W. Bowers, 1; P. Daniels, 2; R. Smith, 3; T. Hart, 4; W. Sevier, 5; W. Banks, 6.

Also four six-scores. D. Dix, 1; W. Sevier (conductor), 2; E. Smith, 3; F. Hart, 4; P. Daniels, 5; W. Banks, 6.

Also, at St. Nicholas Church, four six-scores of the above method. D. Dix, 1; W. Sevier (conductor), 2; E. Smith, 3; A. Smart, 4; R. Allen, 5; W. Banks, 6. The towers are open to all ringers. St. Nicholas, Tuesday evenings, 7.30; St. Mary's, Thursday evenings, 7.30.

R. ALLEN, W. SEVIER, Hon. Secs.

At Harborne, Staffordshire.

ON Monday, the 18th inst., eight members of the Birmingham and District Association rang a peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples (Penning's One-part Composition) in 2 hrs. 57 mins. G. Farmer (first peal), 1; J. Callaghan, 2; W. Brook, 3; B. Stevens, 4; J. Carter (conductor), 5; R. Hackley, 6; A. Hackley, 7; T. Chaytor (first peal), 8.

At St. Mary's, Battersea, Surrey.

ON Tuesday, the 19th inst., a peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples (Holt's Ten-part) was rung in 2 hrs. 54 mins. W. Ambrose, 1; W. Baron (conductor), 2; C. E. Malin, 3; A. G. Thomas, 4; O. Bliss, 5; H. S. Thomas, 6; C. W. Ludwig, 7; H. Hopkins, 8. Tenor, 15 cwt. [* First peal. Also first peal of the Society, and believed to be the first peal by St. Mary's ringers for a hundred years.]

At St. Michael's, Lichfield.

ON Wednesday, the 20th inst., a peal of Oxford Treble Bob Minor was rung. F. Sedgwick, 1; H. Meacham, 2; F. J. Cope, 3; J. Key, 4; Rev. J. J. Serjeantson (rector), 5; T. Meredith (conductor), 6. This is the first peal in this method rung by the members of the Association of Change-ringers for the Archdeaconry of Stafford. Tenor, 14 cwt.

Help for a celebrated Ringer.

SIR,—If you will kindly insert the enclosed few lines about our aged ringer I shall feel obliged to you. Giles Mansfield, the aged ringer of Stroud Parish Church, is upwards of ninety-one years of age, and is certainly one of the oldest ringers in the kingdom, if not the very oldest. Born at the close of the last century, in 1792, he entered the ringing-chamber of Painswick Church at the early age of ten, and, fond of the employment, he became an accomplished ringer and an enthusiast in the art. He rang, though a young boy, in the joyous peals of 1805, after the glorious victory of Trafalgar; and in the 'muff-peals' that told a broken-hearted country that their beloved Nelson was no more. Giles also rang in the long merry peals of 1816 that celebrated the peace. He was one of ten that rang at Painswick in 1817 a peal of Grandsire Caters, containing 12,312 changes, in 7 hrs. 44 mins. He says every man stood to his bell without flinching. 'About 10,000 persons were assembled to witness the grand attempt, which was completely successful.' Giles some years ago received two good-conduct prizes—the one for having lived thirty-three years in the same family, and the other for having brought up a family of twelve children without parochial assistance. He afterwards had five more children, in all seventeen. Though so aged he is still hale and healthy, and plods his way to church with a brave and patient spirit every morning, wet or dry, to ring for the daily prayers and to attend them. He enjoys the privilege of coming periodically to the Lord's Table, and is gladdened by the hope of everlasting life through his blessed Redeemer. It is not pleasant to know that having brought up a large family, and been unable to make any provision for old age, he is now compelled to receive that parochial pittance which in his earlier years he was able to refuse; and should Christian sympathy be disposed to send me any donations for him, I should gladly receive them for this very aged, sincerely good, and truly venerable ringer.

JOHN BADCOCK, LL.D., Vicar of Stroud.

Stroud Vicarage.

A Disputed Claim.

SIR,—Seeing in *Church Bells* of January 26 four Peals of Bob Minor, Mr. Francis says 'Another Peal of Bob Minor,' Mr. B. W. Rose says 'New Peals of Bob Minor.' His first peal is a three-part peal, one that I rang many years ago; and his second peal is one that was rung in the year 1819, being one out of seven peals rung in 2 hrs. 43 mins., and it is one out of the seven peals rung on January 14th, 1882, in 3 hrs. 18 mins. Mr. B. Francis's was rung on the day that the Prince of Wales was married.

Aldington, Hythe, Kent.

EDWARD HYDER.

Worcester and adjoining Districts Change-ringing Association.

A DISTRICT Meeting, for ringing only, of the above Association, will be held at Hanbury on Shrove Tuesday, the 26th of February, at 2 o'clock in the afternoon. Members are requested to meet at the School.

JNO. SMITH, } Hon. Secs.
F. OWEN, }

More New Peals.

SIR,—I beg to forward for your acceptance, for insertion in your valuable paper, two Date Touches of Bob Major.

FIRST TWELVE CHANGES OF BOTH TOUCHES.

1884											
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	6	8	4	7
2	1	4	3	6	5	8	7	8	6	7	4
2	4	1	6	3	8	5	7	7	8	1	6
4	2	6	1	8	3	7	5	7	1	8	5
4	6	2	8	1	7	3	5	1	7	5	8
6	4	8	2	7	1	5	3	1	7	8	5
(1.)											
8	6	7	4	5	2	3		8	6	7	4
6	4	8	2	7	3	5		6	4	8	2
B	6	4	2	3	8	5	7	B	6	4	2
4	3	6	5	2	7	8		B	6	4	3
2	6	4	3	5				3	6	2	4
4	2	5	6	3				2	6	5	4
5	4	3	2	6				4	2	5	6
3	5	6	4	2				5	4	3	2
6	3	2	5	4				6	3	5	4
4	2	6	3	5				5	6	2	3
6	4	5	2	3				2	6	4	3
5	6	3	4	2				3	2	4	6
3	5	2	6	4				4	3	5	2
4	2	3	5	6				6	5	4	3
3	5	4	2	6				4	6	2	5
4	3	5	2	6				5	4	2	6
5	2	4	3	6				3	2	5	4
6	4	2	3	5				5	3	2	4
2	3	6	4	5				2	3	6	4
2	3	4	5	6				2	3	4	5

[Bob Major peals next week.]

J. Hopwood, Ashton-under-Lyne.

IRELAND.

(From our own Correspondent.)

THE Consecration of the Ven. W. Bennett Chester, D.D., Archdeacon of Killaloe, as Bishop of Killaloe, in succession to the Right Rev. Dr. Fitzgerald, took place in the National Cathedral of St. Patrick, Dublin, on Sunday last. The consecrating prelates were the Archbishop of Dublin, and the Bishops of Cork and Ossory. The sermon was preached by the Rev. Theophilus Campbell, D.D., Rector of Lurgan. A large congregation was present to witness the interesting ceremony.

A second meeting of the Churchmen of Kilmore diocese has been held, at which the names of the Ven. Archdeacon Shone, Canon Peacocke, D.D., and Professor Gwynn (formerly Dean of Derry), were placed on a select list as nominees for the vacant bishopric. Each has his own supporters, and if the newspapers opened their columns for the purpose they would be, no doubt, swamped with letters from the supporters of these different clergymen. Up to this the public prints have exercised a wise discretion in refusing to allow the claims of the candidates—if I must call them such—for the vacant bishopric to be discussed in their columns. This course has, perhaps, some objections, since our bishops are, in a sense, the representatives of the entire Church, but it has also some undoubted advantages which are obvious.

The Dublin correspondent of the *Irish Ecclesiastical Gazette*, writing on the forthcoming simultaneous Mission for the city and suburbs of Dublin, writes:—

‘The arrangements for the coming Mission are now nearly complete. The suggestion made in the columns of this journal has, we are glad to say, been adopted, and several distinguished preachers from the sister Church of England have been invited over, and have generously placed their services at our disposal. The Rev. Francis Pigou, D.D., Vicar of Halifax, and Chaplain in Ordinary to the Queen, will be the Mission Preacher at Christ Church, Leeson Park. Dr. Pigou is a graduate of T.C.D. He is the author of several sermons, published under the title of “Faith and Practice,” “Two Sermons preached before the Queen, on Unostentatious Piety,” and “Private Prayer,” “Addresses at Holy Communion,” &c. Dr. Morgan, of Swansea, a distinguished graduate of Oxford, and formerly Vicar of Aldershot, is to preach at St. Matthias’s. At St. Peter’s and St. Stephen’s we shall have Canon Bullock, who has already paid us a preliminary visit, and addressed the Church workers of both parishes.’

The mission, as might be expected, has already created a deep interest, although there is not a unanimous feeling in its favour. The Rev. Richard Aulton, noticing what he considers some disadvantages, writes to the *Gazette*:—

‘Then there is the matter of excitement connected with the mission. I know that excitement will be generally discountenanced by the “missioner.” Messrs. Moody and Sankey also professed to do this; but did they succeed? Surely, three or four services held in a church daily, and these not of the ordinary character, will be a necessary cause of excitement. Indeed, it appears to me that if there were no excitement in the matter the services would not be attended at all. No doubt, this excitement will die out of itself, but it is reasonable to expect that it will survive the mission week, and that the craving engendered will have to be met for a while. As it subsides, however, some may try to galvanise it into a more prolonged existence, and then will come the inevitable reaction. There exists at present a certain restlessness of mind which makes men dissatisfied with what they have, and to crave after change and novelty. They seem anxious to get rid of whatever is old, and to hail with enthusiasm whatever is novel. The prevalent Radicalism of the day is in some measure, at least, due to this feeling. Theorists in politics press forward their crude fancies with a rash extravagance, and dream of an Utopia, while inferior minds aid and encourage them for their own more sordid purposes. It is but natural that the same spirit should invade religion, and that men dreaming of a millennium should forsake the “old paths” in their efforts to inaugurate it. For my own part, I cannot but feel some distrust in the coming mission, and beyond all doubt I do feel an anxiety about the results. These cautions may not, however, be altogether useless under the circumstances.’

The Earl and Countess of Enniskillen have recently presented a handsome font to the parish church of Cleenish, diocese of Clogher, of which the Rev. Edward Cowen is rector.

His Grace the Lord Primate, who has just entered his eighty-fourth year, is, I am glad to be able to say, in the enjoyment of good health, considering the advanced age at which His Grace has arrived. We all hope to see him presiding in due course at the opening of the general synod next April. His Grace has appointed Archdeacon Kearney as commissary for the diocese of Elphin during the vacancy of the united diocese of Kilmore.

The Bishop of Derry has conferred the two vacant canonries of St. Ennan’s Cathedral, diocese of Raphoe, on the Revs. R. Æ. Baillie and K. H. Thompson, two beneficed clergymen of the diocese,

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Kent County Association.

THIS Society held a District Meeting at Wrotham on Monday, the 18th ult., which was attended by seventy-two members. The churches visited were East Peckham, East and West Malling, Ightham, Seal, and Sevenoaks; besides Wrotham, where ringing was kept up until a late hour. Touches of Plain Bob and Grandsire were rung at all these places.

Lancashire Association of Change-ringers.

THIS Association held a ringing meeting at the parish church, Burnley, on Saturday, the 23rd ult., and was well received by the St. Peter’s Company. During the afternoon various touches were rung upon six and also upon eight bells—Grandsire Triples and Treble Bob. There were ringers present from Colne, Padiham, Haslingden, and Manchester; but the stormy weather, and a meeting of the Rochdale Association at Balderstone the same day, doubtless kept others from coming. Host Briggs of the ‘Talbot’—himself a ringer—provided a good tea, at the expense of a local gentleman, a great friend of the Burnley ringers. Mr. R. Munn and the Rev. G. W. Sale were elected honorary members of the Association; Messrs. J. Pollard, J. Gregson, G. Harrison, and W. Briggs, all of Burnley, and E. A. Baker, from Padiham, were elected ringing members. The first six were proposed by the president, the Rev. T. A. Turner, senior curate of Burnley.

CHANGE-RINGING.

Change-ringing by the Salisbury Guild.

Salisbury.—At St. Martin’s, on Wednesday, the 6th ult., a peal of 720 Bob Minor was rung in 27 mins. H. O. Dowling, 1; C. A. Clements, 2; W. Greenleaf, 3; T. Blackburn, 4; W. W. Gifford, 5; J. R. Jerram, 6. Tenor, 15 cwt.

Also on Friday, the 8th ult., on the occasion of the funeral of the late Lord Edward Thynne, whilst the *cortège* was passing down St. Ann’s Street to Fisherton Cemetery, several six-scores of Grandsire Doubles were rung with the bells half muffled. H. O. Dowling, 1; C. A. Clements, 2; T. Blackburn, 3; W. W. Gifford, 4; J. R. Jerram, 5; W. Lanham, 6. All are members of the Ancient Society of College Youths, London.

At *Warminster*, on Wednesday, the 13th ult., 180 Bob Minor on the front six, with 7, 8 behind. H. Dowling, 1; C. A. Clements, 2; W. Greenleaf, 3; T. Blackburn, 4; W. W. Gifford, 5; J. R. Jerram, 6; H. C. Flower, 7; W. Munday, 8. Also two six-scores of Grandsire Doubles. Tenor, 28 cwt.

At St. Martin’s, *Salisbury*, on the 22nd ult., six six-scores of Grandsire Doubles. H. Dowling, 1; C. A. Clements, 2; T. Blackburn, 3; W. Gifford, 4; J. R. Jerram, 5; H. C. Flower, 6.

On Thursday, the 21st ult., a meeting was held in the Board Room in the Close, for the purpose of passing the accounts of the Guild, and selecting places of meeting for the ensuing year, and transacting other business. The Ven. the Archdeacon of Sarum occupied the chair. The annual meeting was fixed for Trowbridge in May; and two other meetings were also proposed to be held during the year—one at Salisbury and another at Wimborne.

On Saturday, the 23rd ult., a meeting took place at *Broadchalke*, when six six-scores of Grandsire Doubles and three of Bob Doubles were rung in honour of the birthday of one of the ringers (Mr. C. A. Clements), the company being stationed as at St. Martin’s.

At St. James’s, Tong, Yorkshire.

ON Saturday, the 16th ult., a peal of 5040 changes was rung by the Tong members of the Yorkshire Association in 3 hrs. from the seven following methods: London Scholars’ Pleasure, Arnold’s Victory, City Delight, College Pleasure, Duke of York, Violet, and Oxford. The peal was rung to celebrate the seventy-third birthday of the veteran ringer George Carter, who has been a ringer at this church nearly sixty years. G. Carter, 1; S. Oddy (first peal), 2; E. Webster, 3; W. Bolland, 4; G. Bolland (conductor), 5; H. Oddy, 6.

On Monday evening, the 18th ult., a touch of 1884 changes was rung in 1 hr. 5 mins. from these methods: 720 New London Pleasure, 720 Violet, 384 Oxford, 60 Bob Minor. G. Carter, 1; S. Oddy, 2; E. Webster, 3; G. Bolland, 4; C. Salloway, jun., 5; H. Oddy (conductor), 6. Tenor, 12 cwt.

At St. Sidwell’s, Devon.

ON Tuesday evening, the 19th ult., the following members of the St. Sidwell’s Society rang Holt’s Ten-part peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples in 3 hrs. 4 mins. Frank Shepherd, 1; Ferris Shepherd (conductor), 2; S. Herbert, 3; H. Swift, 4; W. Goss, 5; E. Shepherd, 6; A. Shepherd, 7; W. Richardson, 8. Tenor, 23 cwt.

At Bletchingley, Surrey.

ON Tuesday, the 19th ult., a peal of 5040 Union Triples (Holt’s Six-part) was rung at the parish church in 2 hrs. 55 mins. A. Wallis, 1; F. Smith, 2; J. Bashford, jun., 3; T. Boniface, 4; J. Burkin, 5; L. Killick, 6; W. Burkin (conductor), 7; W. Mayne, 8. Tenor, 19 cwt. This is the first peal of Union Triples by all the above band, and also the first in that method by the Surrey Association, of which the above are members.

At Huntsham, Devon.

ON Saturday evening, the 23rd ult., eight members of the Huntsham Band of the Devonshire Guild rang the first half (2520 changes) of Thurstan’s peal of Stedman’s Triples in 1 hr. 34 mins. J. Chave, 1; H. Payne, 2; W. Heard, 3; J. Heard, 4; H. Redwood, 5; H. Tucker, 6; Lieutenant-Colonel Troyte (conductor), 7; S. Davey, 8. [Weight of tenor not given.]

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

On Thursday, the 21st ult., eight members of the Midland Counties' Association rang a peal of 5088 Kent Treble Bob Major in 3 hrs. 19 mins. A. Wakley, 1; T. Meredith, 2; H. Wakley, 3; J. Griffin, 4; A. Millis, 5; J. Jaggard, 6; G. Appleby, 7; W. Wakley (conductor), 8. Tenor, 26 cwt. The peal is the composition of D. Prentice, and was now rung for the first time.

Twice repeated.

On Monday, the 25th ult., eight members of the St. Paul's Society rang Thurstan's peal of 5040 Stedman's Triples in 3 hrs. 7 mins. G. Appleby, 1; J. Jaggard, 2; H. Wakley, 3; J. Griffin (conductor) 4; J. Rogers, 5; T. Holmes, 6; W. Wakley, 7; A. Wakley, 8. Tenor, 26 cwt. All members of the Midland Counties' Association. Mr. Rogers is also a member of the Royal Cumberland Society.

At St. Mary's, Kelvedon, Essex.

On Saturday, the 23rd ult., five members of the above Company rang for practice a Date Touch, consisting of twelve methods, viz.: St. Simon's, Nightingale, Old Doubles, Hudibras, St. Dunstan's, Dream, Ferring Doubles, Cambridge, Oxford, Sunshine, Antelope, and Grandsire. Time, 1 hr. 23 mins. C. Elliott (conductor), 1; H. Evers, 2; W. Elliott, 3; J. Elliott, 4; H. Elliott, 5. Tenor, 21 cwt., in E.

At SS. Peter and Paul, Aston, Warwickshire.

On Saturday, the 23rd ult., a peal of 5093 of Stedman's Caters was rung by the St. Martin's Society, Birmingham, in 3 hrs. 17 mins. H. Bastable, 1; G. H. Phillott, Esq., 2; W. R. Small, 3; H. Johnson, 4; H. Johnson, jun., 5; J. Jaggard, 6; Rev. C. D. P. Davies, 7; J. Buffery, 8; W. Wakley, 9; S. Reeves, 10. Tenor, 23 cwt. Composed by Mr. Johnson, and conducted for the first time by Mr. Bastable.

At Ruislip, near Pinner, Middlesex.

On Sunday, the 24th ult., after the afternoon service, eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang Holt's Original One-part peal of Grandsire Triples (5040 changes) in 2 hrs. 59½ mins. H. Langdon, 1; J. Basden, 2; H. J. Tucker (conductor), 3; J. J. Parker, 4; E. Rogers, 5; G. T. McLaughlin, 6; F. G. Newman, 7; W. H. George, 8. Tenor, 15½ cwt.

At Heywood, Lancashire.

On Tuesday evening, the 26th ult., eight members of the St. Luke's Society of Change-ringers rang a Date Touch of 1884 Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. 12 mins. W. Wharton, 1; G. Crossly, 2; J. Pilkington, 3; T. Wharton, 4; J. Millett, 5; W. R. Barrett, 6; J. Street, 7; J. Harrison, 8. Tenor, 22½ cwt., in E flat. Composed by J. Carter of Birmingham and conducted by John Millett.

A Peal of Bob Minor.—720.

The following calls complete the peal.

2 3 4 5 6	2 4 3 5 6
S 3 2 5 6 4 1	S 4 2 3 6 5 1
- 2 6 4 5 3 2	- 2 4 6 3 5 1
- 2 6 5 3 4 1	- 3 5 6 2 4 3
S 6 2 3 4 5 1	- 3 5 2 4 6 1
- 6 2 4 5 3 1	S 4 5 6 2 3 2
- 6 2 5 3 4 1	S 5 4 2 3 6 1
S 5 4 6 2 3 4	S 6 3 2 5 4 3
S 4 5 2 3 6 1	S 3 6 5 4 2 1
P. L. 5 3 4 6 2	S 4 6 2 5 3 2
Twice repeated with S at	S 6 4 5 3 2 1
last part end produces	S 2 3 5 6 4 3
2 4 3 5 6.	S 3 2 6 4 5 1
	S 2 3 4 5 6 1

B. W. ROSE, Dartford.

Plain Bob Major.

5040	5040	5040	5040
2 3 4 5 6 W. M. H.	2 3 4 5 6 W. M. H.	2 3 4 5 6 W. M. H.	2 3 4 5 6 W. M. H.
6 4 2 3 5 - - -	4 3 6 5 2 - - -	6 4 3 2 5 - - -	4 2 6 3 5 - - -
2 3 6 4 5 - - -	6 5 4 3 2 - - -	2 6 5 4 3 - - -	6 2 5 3 4 - - -
6 2 3 4 5 - - -	4 6 2 5 3 - - -	5 2 3 6 4 - - -	3 6 5 2 4 - - -
4 6 3 2 5 - - -	5 4 2 6 3 - - -	3 5 4 2 6 - - -	5 3 4 6 2 - - -
2 4 3 6 5 - - -	2 5 3 4 6 - - -	4 3 6 5 2 - - -	2 4 5 3 6 - - -
3 6 2 4 5 - - -	3 5 6 4 2 - - -	2 6 4 3 5 - - -	5 2 6 4 3 - - -
4 3 2 6 5 - - -	6 4 3 5 2 - - -	4 2 5 6 3 - - -	6 2 3 4 5 - - -
2 6 4 3 5 - - -	3 6 2 4 5 - - -	5 4 3 2 6 - - -	4 6 3 2 5 - - -
4 2 6 3 5 - - -	4 3 2 6 5 - - -	3 5 6 4 2 - - -	3 4 5 6 2 - - -
6 3 4 2 5 - - -	2 4 5 3 6 - - -	6 3 2 5 4 - - -	2 5 3 4 6 - - -
5 4 3 2 6 - - -	5 4 6 3 2 - - -	4 2 6 3 5 - - -	3 2 6 5 4 - - -
2 5 3 4 6 - - -	6 3 5 4 2 - - -	6 4 5 2 3 - - -	6 2 4 5 3 - - -
6 3 2 5 4 - - -	5 6 2 3 4 - - -	5 6 3 4 2 - - -	5 6 4 2 3 - - -
4 2 3 5 6 - - -	3 5 2 6 4 - - -	3 5 2 6 4 - - -	4 5 3 6 2 - - -
3 5 4 2 6 - - -	4 2 3 5 6 - - -	4 2 3 5 6 - - -	3 4 2 5 6 - - -

Each twice repeated.

Ashton-under-Lyne.

J. HORWOOD.

RECEIVED ALSO—N. J. Pitstow; Benjamin Francis; and others.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Lay Help practically put to the Test.

SIR,—Your correspondent's question is most important. For if laymen can do in Church all that is claimed for them by the Bishop of Lichfield, then are the 23rd Article and the Preface to the Ordinal of none effect. The former distinctly forbids any but a 'Minister,' i.e., a duly ordained man, to 'take upon him the office of public preaching, or ministering the Sacraments in the congregation.' That Bishop said in Convocation that this only refers to liturgical services. But he must have read 'and' instead of 'or.' Public preaching in church is independently forbidden. It is deplorable enough to find a Bishop confessing that he has allowed the breach of this plain Church law—so eminent lawyers, such as Sir J. F. Stephen and Mr. Droop, have ruled it. The kindest thing that any man could do him and the Church he so zealously but injudiciously serves, would be to take proceedings in Court against one of these licensed services, as a breach of the Act of Uniformity.

Your correspondent can now, if willing and able to satisfy the Bishops, enter the Diaconate. The more this Order is sought by earnest, experienced men, the less shall we hear of these nostrums and panic-stricken expedients.

JACKSON MASON.

Should Feudalism continue in the Church?

SIR,—The Hierarchy, in Apostolical days, appointed ministers to the needing localities; nor is there an instance in the New Testament of any other mode of appointment than by the Apostles. Private patronage is not of feudalism of necessity. I believe that the private patronage of the Church of England works now better than the Irish plan or the trustee method. And it is no secret that the method adopted by Nonconformists is far from satisfactory. I have heard bitter lamentations over the Irish Church method. Trustees take small interest in the subsequent welfare of the parish; whereas, private patrons often give largely to the benefit of the parishes of which they are patrons. All this is destroyed by the system of trust patronage. Dissenters have told me, again and again, that the appointment of a minister with them is practically a question of money, for that one or two rich folk of the congregation determine who shall be appointed, and all the others must submit to his selection. As to the appointment of a curate to the parish in which he has served: (a) It is not often wise to make such a selection, for it is far better that a curate who has learned his work in a parish, should go to any other parish than the place in which he acquired his experience, even although some of the parishioners may desire him to be settled amongst them. (b) The Rev. C. Simeon, a man of shrewd observation, distinctly forbade his trustees ever to appoint a man to any vacant parish who had served therein as a curate. I believe that no mode of patronage is practically so sound and good as that which we now have; and I believe that experience is not proving that the Irish Church system is so good as our own. We need no tinkering, but merely a straight and manly course of simple legislation, which would easily put an end to the abuses of what is, after all, a very good system.

G. V.

A Bishop for Warwickshire.

SIR,—So my old friend, if he will allow me to call him so, James Ivatts, thinks I have been sentimental in supporting the claims of the old Mercian city of Coventry to be made the see-town of the proposed new bishopric for the county of Warwick. Well, I for one do not think any of us are any the worse for a little sentiment, especially when it is of a good kind. But when sentiment is joined together with that which is practical it is in general acceptable to most thoughtful men. Now both in advocating the increase of the Episcopate in the English Church and the choice of see-town for this future bishopric, I have always endeavoured to be practical, although I have not taken the same view of the case, and am quite certain I never can, as James Ivatts.

In writing to the *Times* newspaper a few weeks since, the Bishop of Bath and Wells, referring to the taking away of the old city of Bath from the see of Wells, and tacking it on to Bristol, said, 'It is not the part of wisdom to despise feelings and associations which are the growth of a thousand years, and which tend to make the machine work smoothly and pleasantly; schemes for disturbing what is ancient when the ancient arrangements are well adapted for the modern requirements are simply foolish and mischievous.' And further, in respect to the supposed difficulty of the Episcopal supervision of Bath in consequence of Bath being like Birmingham, on the edge of its county, the Bishop further said—'An hour and twenty minutes brought me from Bath to Wells this morning.' Its connexion with Wells is, therefore, easy and natural. The Bishop can be at Bath, and the Bath clergy and laity can be at Wells, whenever occasion requires, at a very small expense of time and money.

How much more these remarks can be applied to the case of Coventry as see-town to Birmingham will be seen at once when we remember that Coventry is within thirty minutes by rail of Birmingham, is nearly in the centre of the proposed diocese, and has still standing a magnificent and very large parish church, ample in space, venerable in appearance, and possessed of such architectural beauty that it would be a worthy mother-church for any diocese. Let Birmingham Churchmen apply themselves to the task of carrying out the recommendations of their Church Extension Society, and build the many churches required in the town to provide for the spiritual necessities of the people in their midst, and for which is required nearly 30,000l.; and not seek to erect a Bishop's see in a town which is in every respect the most unsuitable of any in England, and where nine tenths of its population are by their political and religious history opposed to it. Your correspondent mentions one Dissenter in Birmingham favourable to a Bishop

clergymen in the Arrian Mission. There is now being raised a Native Pastorate Endowment, to be called the Henry Baker Memorial Fund.

In the diocese of Madras the Rev. A. Inman reports a remarkable advance in the Telugu Mission at Kalsapaud. Its baptized converts have risen to 1486—a gain of 286 upon last year—of whom 450 are communicants: there are also no less than 1318 catechumens. 'Virtually, the number of adherents is over 3000; more than double of 1880.'

FRANCE.

M. Loxson, while in America, explained the present position of his Church toward the State: 'The Government not only supports the Roman, Protestant, and Jewish Communions, but those of Mahommed in Algeria and of Buddha in Indo-China; whereas we Gallicans have now, after years of struggle, obtained a full legal right of meeting, but no money-grant whatever. We have now 1200 enrolled members, five clergy, and six candidates for Orders, under the temporary headship of Bishop Jenner.'

IRELAND.

(From our own Correspondent.)

THE *Church Advocate*, the organ of the extreme Evangelical party in Dublin, is opening fire against Mr. Aitken, who is coming over to Dublin to take a principal part in the Simultaneous Mission, because of the views he has promulgated on the subject of 'Conditional Immortality.' A writer in the *Daily Express* finds fault with the use of Mr. Aitken's Mission Hymn-book to the discarding of our own authorised Church Hymnal; in some places, again, Moody and Sankey's book will be the favourite.

The Dean of the Chapel Royal read a paper on 'Jonah' before the Dublin Clerical Association on Monday last, after which a most interesting discussion followed, in which some of our leading clergy took part, including Dr. Poole, F.T.C.D., Dr. Carmichael, &c.

The Rev. Phineas Hunt, the lately appointed incumbent of St. Kevin's Church, has removed the credence-table put up by his predecessor in charge of the parish. A similar table erected in St. Peter's parish church has been removed by the authority of the Select Vestry.

During the vacancy in the bishopric of Kilmore, Elphin, and Ardagh, the Lord Primate has appointed the Very Rev. Dean Orme to act as his Grace's commissary for the Diocese of Ardagh.

The seventh annual report of the Down and Connor and Dromore diocesan branch of the S.P.C.K. announces much good work done by this Church Society. The committee state that they were enabled, through the liberality of the parent Society, to distribute gratis throughout the various parishes in the diocese 12,000 Lent tracts and 5000 for the season of Whitsunside.

According to the *Irish Ecclesiastical Gazette*, on Sunday the 24th ult. at the close of his sermon at Bangor Church, the Rev. Edward Maguire announced the gratifying fact that the balance of debt (150*l.*) due on account of the new church building fund had been generously paid off by Mr. R. E. Ward, of Bangor Castle. The cost of the church as it stands, including lighting, heating, surroundings, &c., but not including memorial window, carved stone pulpit, font, lectern, and other costly gifts, amounts to 6400*l.*, of which every farthing has now been paid. About 4000*l.* would complete the structure as originally designed. With extension of nave, chancel, and belfry, a spire, this church will be second to none throughout the united diocese (Down, Connor, and Dromore).

The Bishop Berkeley Memorial Fund now amounts to 400*l.* It was originally intended to expend the money on a tomb, but in view of the contemplated restoration of Cloyne Cathedral it has been decided to devote the memorial to the erection of a screen.

The Kilmore Diocesan Council met in the Protestant Hall, Cavan, on the 21st ult., when the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:—

1. 'That at this, the first meeting of the Kilmore Diocesan Council since the lamented death of our revered and much-loved Bishop, we desire to place on record our high sense of the earnestness and devotion with which he exercised his episcopal office in this united diocese of Kilmore, Elphin, and Ardagh, during a period of nearly ten years, and the great loss which the united diocese and the Church at large have sustained in his removal. We would also express our deepest sympathy with his bereaved widow and family.' 2. 'That a committee be appointed to confer with the committee from Elphin and Ardagh to take steps to perpetuate the memory of our late beloved Bishop by the foundation of prizes, to be called the Darley Prize, to be competed for annually at the examination to be held under the Board of Religious Education, or in such other manner as may be approved of.'

A Lenten Pastoral from Cardinal McCabe was read in all the Roman Catholic places of worship on last Sunday. Having spoken of the Pope as crowned with thorns and as prisoner in Rome, his Eminence went on to denounce Trinity College and the 'godless' Queen's Colleges. Some severe words were uttered in the course of the Pastoral against drunkenness and taking God's name in vain. Two of the four clergymen mentioned by Mr. Sexton in his place in Parliament as having preached from their pulpits in favour of boycotting Roman Catholics, have written denying the truth of the charge. It is, no doubt, equally groundless in the case of the others.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Ringling in Lent.

The bells of St. Paul's Cathedral will be silent except on Sundays, for service.

Duffield Parish Church, Derby.

ON Saturday, the 23rd ult., the Lord Bishop of Lichfield dedicated a new ring of eight bells at All Saints' Church, Duffield. The success of the effort to replace the old bells is largely due to the energy of the hon. sec. of the movement, Mr. A. P. Heywood, J.P. It was resolved to accept a tender by Messrs. Taylor to provide a new ring of eight in place of the old ring of six. The committee have left no stone unturned to bring about the desired end, and the crowded congregation assembled at the dedication service on Saturday, the 23rd ult., testified to the great interest which had been excited in the event. Since 1720 four out of the six bells recast in that year have been again recast, the last being in 1799. For upwards of eighty years no repairs of importance would appear to have been made. The great interest was centred in the dedication service by the parishioners, intensified by its being the first and last occasion of the Bishop's visit to Duffield. The Bishop then took his text from Ps. l., part of ver. 5: 'Gather my saints together unto me.' The sermon was impressive, setting forth the adaptation of the bells in gathering together the people, and enjoining that they should be used with reverence and godly fear. As the processional hymn was sung, a signal to the ringers was given, who then commenced pealing forth, continuing at intervals most of the evening.

A Bell-ringers' Field Day.

THE Associated Ringers for the diocese of Durham and Newcastle had fixed upon Monday week for their meeting, and they had the use of the bells of St. Cuthbert's Church and St. John's Church granted to them. Representatives were present from Newcastle, North Shields, Jarrow, Stockton, Staindrop, Heighington, Hurworth, and St. John's, Darlington; and in the morning touches of Kent Treble Bob Major and Bob Major were given at the parish church, and peals of Minor at St. John's. After going through these exercises, a goodly company, consisting of some thirty ringers and a number of visitors, sat down to dinner at the 'Waterloo Inn,' under the presidency of the Rev. C. C. Chevallier, of Heighington, who was supported by Mr. C. Skidmore, the churchwarden of the Vicar of Darlington. Mr. F. Lees, the vice-president of the Association, was in the vice-chair. The Vice-Chairman said he should have liked to see some ringers present from St. Cuthbert's belfry. The Chairman remarked that it was his privilege to be connected with one of the nicest churches, prettiest villages, and the nicest and most courteous body of people, in occupying the living of Heighington. When he went there the church was in a bad condition, and it was understood that whoever entered into the living the church should be restored. But one feature in which he took the greatest interest was three old bells, dating from the year 1480, and which gave to Heighington the honour of having the most valuable specimens of bells in the whole of the diocese. These bells having been hung so many years were very much worn; but they were renovated, three new bells were presented, the belfry was filled with the latest and best appliances of all kinds, making it the most perfectly furnished belfry; and he thought that if that Association would visit the village it would be of very great use to the Heighington ringers. Mr. Skidmore, after expressing his pleasure at being present, observed, amid much laughter, that he knew a good deal more about seating the *bellies* in the chair than ringing the bells in the belfry; but he did regret that, for some reason or other, the St. Cuthbert's belfry was not represented. He did not know why they were not there; he was sure it was not from any ill-feeling, and if there was anything he could do to cement the belfry with that Association he should be only too glad to do it. The Secretary (Mr. Clarkson, Stockton) said, the fact that there was no unpleasantness between the two bodies made it a still greater reason for regret that the St. Cuthbert's ringers did not ally themselves with a movement for the promotion of the art which they professed. In 1879, when last the meeting was at Darlington, they were asked and refused. At that meeting large numbers of new members were enrolled, from which raw material practised ringers had been trained by the Association, and such results as those, he felt, should stimulate them to fresh efforts. Although he did not wish to say anything disparaging of St. Cuthbert's Church ringers, there was no doubt they had not progressed for some time; and if they were to join that Association, although they would not in the slightest degree surrender the control of their own belfry, they might find themselves imbued with a spirit of improvement, and would not have cause to regret the step. It was then decided to meet on Whit Monday at Sunderland, and the ringers adjourned to the belfry, where they continued the merry peals throughout the day.

A writer in the *Darlington and Stockton Times* thus comments on the above meeting:—

SIR,—I am not a bell-ringer myself, but I none the less admire, and wonder at, the knights of the belfry. It does one good, on a close, warm, summer's day, when the slightest exertion causes one to perspire with uncomfortable freedom, to see these individuals toiling away, pulling and bobbing with a heartiness and earnestness which is quite startling. Ask any one of them the weight of his bell, and his glee rises with the number of his hundredweights, as he smilingly shakes the sweat from his brow, gives another terrific tug, and jerks out his answer to your question. The bigger the bell the more they seem to enjoy it. No number of degrees of heat in the shade can reduce their energy, seas of perspiration fail to damp their ardour, and their muscles seem made of iron, while the enthusiasm lasts. They are indeed an eccentric genus.

But this is by the way. What I intended to draw attention to was the uncomplimentary remarks made by the Secretary of the Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association on Monday about the St. Cuthbert's Belfry, Darlington. He said in effect that this belfry had of late years not improved, while other belfries had progressed in the art. And he appeared to attribute this to the fact that the St. Cuthbert's belfry refused to join the Association. Of course the ringers in question will have their own reasons for exercising their right to refuse co-operating in the movement. But it is a good movement—belfry reform and a dissemination of the knowledge of bell-ringing—and should have the assistance of all those who care for the art. The Association sends experts to teach inexperienced ringers within the district, in this way having done a great amount of good, and this alone in my opinion vindicates their right to ask for the support of bell-ringers generally—for they ask for no assistance from the general public. It is to be hoped, whether they join the Association or not, that the St. Cuthbert's ringers will either show the groundlessness of the charge made by the Secretary, or will work themselves up to an equality with others.

CHANGE-RINGING.

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

On Monday, January the 28th, a touch of 1440 changes was rung, comprising a peal of 720 each of College Pleasure and Buxton Treble Bob, in 52 mins. R. Smith, 1; C. L. Routledge, 2; F. Lees, 3; W. G. Routledge, 4; W. Story, 5; R. S. Story (conductor), 6.

And on Sunday, the 10th ult., a peal of 720 Bob Minor, called with 26 bobs and 2 singles, was rung in 27½ mins. This peal was composed by W. Walmsley, of Higher Sutton, Cheshire, and was now rung for the first time. The composition is given below. F. G. Sneath, 1; F. Lees, 2; W. G. Routledge, 3; T. J. Des Forges, 4; W. Story, 5; C. L. Routledge (conductor), 6.

2 3 4 5 6			
- 2 3 5 6 4	4 2 5 6 3	4 5 3 6 2	
3 6 2 4 5	- 4 2 6 3 5	- 4 5 6 2 3	
6 4 3 5 2	- 4 2 3 5 6	5 2 4 3 6	
- 6 4 5 2 3	2 5 4 6 3	- 5 2 3 6 4	
- 6 4 2 3 5	5 6 2 3 4	2 6 5 4 3	
4 3 6 5 2	- 5 6 3 4 2	- 2 6 4 3 5	
3 5 4 2 6	- 5 6 4 2 3	6 3 2 5 4	
- 3 5 2 6 4	6 2 5 3 4	- 6 3 5 4 2	
- 3 5 6 4 2	2 3 6 4 5	3 4 6 2 5	
5 4 3 2 6	3 4 2 5 6	5 4 3 2 5 6	

Repeated.

On Monday, the 11th ult., a peal of 720 each of Buxton, Violet, and College Pleasure, making 2160 changes, was rung in 1 hr. 21 mins. This was rung as a last touch on this ring of six, which are about to be augmented to a ring of eight by the addition of two trebles. R. Smith, 1; C. L. Routledge, 2; F. Lees, 3; W. G. Routledge, 4; W. Story, 5; R. S. Story (conductor), 6. Tenor, 12 cwt.

At Canterbury Cathedral, Kent.

On Tuesday evening, the 26th ult., the following members of the Canterbury Cathedral Society rang Hol's Ten-part peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples in 3 hrs. 3 mins. on the last eight bells. W. Andrews, 1; A. Foreman, 2; G. Stancombe (conductor), 3; G. T. Ovenden, 4; A. A. Andrews, 5; H. G. Fairbrass, 6; J. H. Small and W. Bennett, 7; R. Goodbourn and A. White, 8. Tenor, 32 cwt. The above is the first peal rung on these bells since the year 1827, when a peal of 5093 Grandsire Carters was rung, and only two members who took part in it now survive—Mr. Small, sen., and Mr. Ovenden, sen.

At Eckington, Derbyshire.

On Saturday, the 1st inst., a peal of 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor was rung in 28 mins. G. Smith, 1; J. Shaw, 2; W. Biggin, 3; J. Atkin, 4; G. Marsden (conductor), 5; J. Allen, 6. Tenor, 16 cwt. Messrs. Biggin, Atkin, and Allen, hail from Norton, and this is the first peal in the method.

At St. George's, Camberwell, Surrey.

On Saturday, the 1st inst., eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang a peal of 5184 Double Norwich Court Bob Major in 3 hrs. 6 mins. R. French, 1; F. T. Gover, 2; J. W. Rowbotham, 3; H. J. Tucker, 4; E. Gibbs, 5; C. F. Winny, 6; E. Horrex, 7; J. M. Hayes (conductor), 8. Tenor, 14 cwt. Composed by the late H. Hubbard.

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

On Saturday evening, the 1st inst., eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang a peal of 5040 Triples, upon Stedman's principle, in 2 hrs. 55 mins. J. Bonney,* 1; W. Cecil, 2; I. G. Shade,* 3; M. A. Wood, 4; T. Maynard,* 5; H. J. Shade, 6; W. Cooter, 7; A. J. Hayward, 8. Tenor, 14 cwt. This peal was composed by T. Thurstan, rearranged by W. Brookes, and called by W. Cooter. [* Their first peal in this method.]

At St. Hilda's, South Shields, Durham.

On Sunday, the 2nd inst., was rung for Evening Service a peal of Double Court Bob Minor in 25 mins. R. Hopper,* 1; Jas. Moffitt,* 2; R. Scrafton,* 3; R. Willan, 4; J. T. Gibson, 5; Jno. Moffitt (conductor), 6. Tenor, 10 cwt. [* First peal in this method.]

At Appleton, Berks.

On Tuesday, the 4th inst., the Appleton Society of Change-ringers celebrated their sixty-sixth anniversary by ringing at the parish church a peal of 5035 Stedman's Caters in 3 hrs. 13 mins. F. S. White, 1; E. Holifield, 2; G. H. Phillott, Esq., 3; W. Bennett, 4; B. Barrett, 5; H. Karn, 6; Rev. F. E. Robinson (conductor), 7; J. Avery, 8; G. Holifield, 9; T. Bennett, 10. Tenor, 14½ cwt. Composed by Mr. H. Johnson.

CORRESPONDENCE.

A Bishop for Warwickshire.

SIR,—It is surely amazing that, in the nineteenth century, when we are face to face with the masses who are outside all religious influences in the great centres of industry, any one should seriously propose that Coventry instead of Birmingham should be the see-town for Warwickshire. The very reason which 'A. J. B.' puts forward about the weakness of the Church in Birmingham is the best argument for establishing the see there. Of course, the Birmingham *Echo* is opposed to it. Strange, indeed, if it were not. I have lived, until very lately, near Coventry, and it is from no want of admiration for its beautiful church that I declare my belief that to select Coventry for the see would be a blunder, which would make us the laughing-stock of the whole religious world. I doubt much the statement that 'most of the county families favour the claims of Coventry,' and I am sure that if the matter were laid before the clergy of the present Diocese of Worcester, the number who would advocate Coventry would be almost infinitesimal. These, Sir, are not the days when the wants of thousands in the third largest town in the kingdom can be set aside for the sake of a beautiful church.

W. R. C. (*Dio. Worcester*).

Live and Let Live.

SIR,—Although for many years a constant reader of your high, fair, and charitable Church paper, I have never before addressed you. But at a time when Christians are divided, and brother goes to law with brother, and one is of Paul, and another of Apollos, the following short episode may, by opening our eyes, enlarge our hearts. On Sunday, Feb. 24th, St. Matthias' Day, I was preaching, morning and evening, at a large church in a parish of over 8000. The vicar, an excellent man, and a friend of many years' standing, is a staunch member of the Church Association, and will not allow the use of offertory bags in his church because the Rubric says 'basin.' On the day in question we neither had the Creed of St. Athanasius, the Collect of St. Matthias' Day, and for some reason the whole of the Communion Service was omitted. This, I am told, is often done. The afternoon Mission Service was the Litany which we had said in the morning, and in the evening at the parish church the St. Matthias' Collect was again omitted. But this is not a solitary case, for the curate from this church was taking duty in my parish, and he also omitted both Creed and Collect. Now, Sir, if every Low Church clergyman is allowed such a liberty, or takes such a liberty, surely he ought to be more tolerant of his High Church brother. The omissions I imagine were illegal, certainly very distressing, for I was preaching on the Gospel in the morning, and referring to the Epistle at night. We may rightly abhor Roman Catholicism, but let us beware of going too far in the other direction, and by so doing, not only pander to Dissent, but fail to work on the Church's lines, and thus betray the trust committed to us at Ordination and Induction.

JUSTITIA.

Solitary Communion.

SIR,—I was glad to see the letter of 'E. B. S.' in your issue of Dec. 29th, as I have sometimes had doubts as to the manner in which I should act when there have been less than three present when it was intended to administer Holy Communion. I am thankful that it is not often that I am placed in this position. I remember one morning when only two were present besides myself (officiating priest), and on account of my desire not to break the rubric enjoining that 'When there shall be less than three present to communicate with the priest there shall be no communion,' I finished the service at the prayer for the Church militant. I could not help regretting very much having felt obliged to do so, as one of those present was a hard-working woman, with a large family of children, who, I felt sure, had come, with some difficulty, a considerable distance to obey the dying command of her Saviour, while many in far better circumstances, much nearer the church, were lying in their beds, or occupying their time even, perhaps, less profitably. On thinking the matter over, I afterwards came to the conclusion that I would always celebrate when there were two present besides myself, and for this reason; at the beginning of the Communion Service there stands the rubric enjoining that 'all who intend to communicate should signify their names to the curate at least some time the day before,' a rubric which I suppose, in the experience of nearly every parish priest, is kept more in the breach than in the observance, and as none ever do signify their names to the curate as a rule, it seems hard that those who do come to 'show forth their Lord's death' should be prevented from doing so sacramentally because there are only two instead of three present. Were the rubric respecting the giving of notice on the part of those who intend to communicate observed, then the case would be different. I have been placed in a similar position twice since the occasion I have mentioned, once when only two were present; on this occasion I celebrated, the two present, a brother and sister who had come some distance: the brother, having just recovered from the loss of one of his legs, came that distance on crutches. Even had I not reasoned with myself as above I do not think I could have turned them away without a celebration. On the second occasion there was only one present, and I did not celebrate, feeling with 'E. B. S.' that 'the Church does not intend the priest to celebrate when only one other is present.' I am a young priest, and would like to know what is the opinion of my elders upon this subject. CHAS. L. INGLIS, JUN.

Parkdale, Canada.

Should Feudalism continue in the Church?

SIR,—Your correspondent, 'G. V.,' replying to my criticisms on his article on 'Patronage Reform,' says, 'Private patronage is not of feudalism of necessity.' Is he correct in this statement? I would ask, What is feudalism? Well, I suppose we may describe feudalism as the system under which the

the words of Scripture, accepting them in their literal sense, as part of the deposit of the faith, which they claim to have preserved intact as handed down from the earliest times and the "three General Councils." They were much pleased with the words of our Prayer-book, which we quoted to them from the Prayer of Humble Access and the Catechism. They profess entire agreement with that portion of the Athanasian Creed which enunciates the Catholic faith concerning the Incarnation of Our Lord, while yet they persist in the use of the phrase "one Nature" (*tabeia wahid*), in describing the Person of Christ. The English delegates made several visits to the Coptic monasteries, into all of which they found ready access by favour of an introductory letter from the Patriarch Cyril. At Baramüs, the chief monastery, they were met by the monks in solemn procession, and were dismissed with prayers and intercessions for their safety. Our delegates placed themselves in communication with the lately established representative council of Coptic laymen, to whom the management of all secular business of the body has been entrusted; and with the exception of a contribution of a few tracts in defence of Episcopacy, likely to be useful against the proselytising efforts of the 'Americans'—i.e. sectarian missionaries from the United States—they recommend that no active steps be taken until the wishes and requests of that Council have been submitted to the English Association. The Report concludes with these words:—"There are many hopeful signs of revival among the Copts. Many of the younger laymen are anxious for religious instruction, in some cases meeting together for the study of Holy Scripture. At these meetings those who speak English use English commentaries for the instruction of themselves and their friends, and although the general condition of the churches and clergy is far from satisfactory, there are cheering indications of an earnest desire for a higher standard of religious life among their own people, as well as for the conversion of their fellow-countrymen."

TURKEY.

THE hope expressed a short time ago that a settlement of the vexed question of the privileges of the Greek Church would be made has not been realised. At a meeting of the Holy Synod and the mixed National Council a report has been drawn up and signed by all present, to the effect that, as the Orthodox Christians throughout the Turkish Empire are much excited in consequence of the misunderstanding with the Porte, they can no longer assume any responsibility, either to the Porte or the Patriarchate, for any eventuality to which the abnormal state of affairs may give rise.

GERMANY.

It is announced from Rome that the Pope has appointed Cardinal Ledochowsky as Secretary of Memorials, a step which is regarded as signifying his recall from the Archbishopric of Posen; and as it is understood that the Prussian Government will consent to the reinstatement of the Archbishop of Cologne, the question between Prussia and the Vatican concerning the two vacant archbishoprics will thus be settled.

SCANDINAVIA.

IN Sweden, Dr. Björling, Bishop of Westeras, has died; he was a distinguished theological writer. In Denmark, a more widely known prelate has deceased, Dr. Martensen, the Primus. His works on 'Christian Dogmatics' and 'Christian Ethics,' as translated in Clark's *Foreign Theological Library*, have won the high appreciation of English students. In his 'Ethics' he recorded his condemnation of the modern tendency to tamper with the Table of Prohibited Degrees of Marriage, especially opposing the legalisation of marriage with deceased wife's sister. In his 'Dogmatics' he took a line clear alike of German Rationalism and of the ultra-Lutheran extravagances of the *Formula Concordia*. The present Archbishop of Canterbury spoke warmly of Bishop Martensen's works to the deputation of Scandinavian clergy who visited England last year.

CHANNEL ISLANDS.

SOME letters have lately appeared in a contemporary advocating a Bishopric of St. Heliers, with jurisdiction over the Channel Islands, and also over Anglican congregations in certain parts of the Continent. The Rev. A. Bibby, an incumbent at St. Helier's, writes to the same journal in opposition to the scheme. Among other objections he urges: 'If the chief object is to secure the Continental superintendence, St. Helier's is very unfit for this purpose. Whether for France or for England, there is an intervening sea, with the delay of transit and postage. In winter the weather often delays the packets to France, so that it would often be impossible to reach Paris under two or three days. Paris must be his Continental centre, but to reach it there would be time, uncertainty, and expense, much greater than if he lived in London. In Jersey the Bishop would be separated from his Episcopal brethren, with whom he would wish to take counsel in emergencies, separated from the great Church Societies he would constantly need to invoke, separated and comparatively unknown to the British public, into whose goodwill he must insinuate himself, and separated from the English clergy, to whom he must look for supplying the Continental duty. Further, if it is thought that Jersey would be a good recruiting-ground for French-speaking clergy, I reply that there could not be a worse. Canon Clement, of St. Ouen's, has now been advertising for more than six months for a French-speaking curate, and unsuccessfully. The fact is, French, in the future, will only be an auxiliary language in Jersey; all the inhabitants learn, and a very large majority chiefly use English.'

A MEMORIAL, very largely signed, has been presented to the Archbishop of Canterbury by the clergy and lay officials of the deanery of Jersey, against this proposal to constitute the Channel Islands into a diocese. They deprecate any attempt to sever the Islands from the diocese of Winchester, to which they have belonged for more than three hundred years.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Giles Mansfield, the aged Stroud Ringer.

SIR,—You were so good as to insert in a recent number of *Church Bells* my few remarks about this venerable man, and I beg to thank you much for the kind insertion. Several sums have been sent to me for Giles, amounting in all to 3*l.* 16*s.*, which I have paid him, and for which he warmly expressed his gratitude. I must ask you kindly to add to my obligation to you by inserting in your next number, if convenient, the following list of the very kind contributions:—

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Country Curate, Ringwood ...	0	2	6	Mr. Drinkwater ...	0	1	0
Clyst St. George ...	1	1	0	Master Harry Cullip ...	0	1	0
Stamps (Adams) ...	0	5	0	Three Readers of <i>Church Bells</i> ...	0	3	6
Mr. Jasper Snowdon ...	0	5	0	Rev. J. and the Misses Godber ...	0	10	0
Mr. Varley and Acerrington Ringers ...	0	7	6	Miss Wilson ...	0	5	0
Lady at Brighton ...	0	10	0	Mrs. Parkinson ...	0	1	0
Mr. Lathey, Tisbury ...	0	3	0				

Giles Mansfield wishes to be allowed to add that he has received the 3*l.* 16*s.*, and wishes to thank God and his kind friends for it, and to say that the amount will make him comfortable for all the year. JOHN BADCOCK.

Peals of Treble Bob Royal.

5 0 8 0	M.	W.	H.	5 1 2 0	M.	W.	H.
5 2 3 6 4	2	2	2	5 2 3 6 4	2	2	2
2 4 3 6 5	1	2		2 5 4 6 3	2	2	
3 6 2 4 5	1	1		3 6 4 5 2	1	1	1
2 5 4 6 3	1	1	2	3 4 5 6 2	1	2	
5 3 4 6 2	1	2		4 3 2 6 5	2	2	
5 3 6 2 4	2	2	1	5 3 6 2 4	1	2	1
3 5 4 2 6	2	2		3 5 4 2 6	2	2	
2 4 5 3 6	2	2		2 4 5 3 6	2	2	
2 5 3 4 6	1	2		2 5 3 4 6	1	2	
2 3 4 5 6	1	2		2 3 4 5 6	1	2	

Saffron Walden.

N. J. FITSLOW.

A Peal of Bob Major.

5 0 4 0	W.	M.	H.	3 6 2 4 5	W.	M.	H.
2 3 4 5 6	W.	M.	H.	4 3 2 6 5	—	—	—
6 4 3 5 2	—	—	—	2 6 4 3 5	—	—	—
3 6 4 5 2	—	—	—	3 2 4 6 5	—	—	—
4 5 3 6 2	—	—	—	4 6 3 2 5	—	—	—
3 4 5 6 2	—	—	—	3 4 6 2 5	—	—	—
5 6 3 4 2	—	—	—	6 3 4 2 5	—	—	—
2 3 6 4 5	—	—	—	4 2 6 3 5	—	—	—
6 2 3 4 5	—	—	—				

The ten-course part three times repeated completes the peal.

Diss.

BENJAMIN FRANCIS.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At St. Mary the Virgin, Stanstead, Essex.

ON Tuesday, the 4th inst., six of the local company rang a peal of 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor in 27 mins. Also on the same evening a 360 of Double Court Bob Minor. J. Cavill, 1; C. Prior, 2; H. Prior, jun.,* 3; G. Gray,* 4; I. Cavill, 5; H. Prior (conductor), 6. Tenor, 13 cwt. [* First 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor.]

At St. Benedict's, Cambridge.

ON Thursday evening, the 6th inst., a peal of 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor was rung in 28 mins. J. Jackson, 1; J. Rockett, 2; H. J. Elsee, Esq., of St. John's College, 3; G. Taylor, 4; W. Kempton, 5; S. Hayes (conductor), 6. A peal of 720 Bob Minor was also attempted, but was lost at about half way, the 'go' of the bells being anything but good. J. Taylor, 1; J. Rockett, 2; H. J. Elsee, Esq., 3; J. Jackson, 4; W. Kempton, 5; S. Hayes, 6. This church, being the oldest in Cambridge, has a peculiar interest to ringers. It was the first where Fabian Stedman's peculiar method, known as 'Stedman's Principle,' was first rung.

At Beddington, Surrey.

ON Saturday, the 8th inst., eight members of the St. Mary's Society rang a date touch of 1884 Kent Treble Bob Major in 1 hr. 13 mins. J. Harris, 1; E. Bennett (conductor), 2; J. Branch, 3; J. Trappitt, 4; C. Bance, 5; J. Plowman, 6; J. Cawley, 7; C. Gordon, 8.

At Christ Church, Southgate, Middlesex.

ON Saturday, the 8th inst., eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang Holt's Ten-part peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples in 3 hrs. 18 mins. F. E. Dawe, 1; F. T. Gover, 2; R. French, 3; G. T. McLaughlin (conductor), 4; C. F. Winny, 5; J. M. Hayes, 6; H. J. Tucker, 7; T. Coxhead, 8. Tenor, 25 cwt., in D. The above is the first peal the conductor has called, and was rung on his twenty-sixth birthday.

At Woburn, Beds.—Muffled Peals.

ON Monday, the 10th inst., deeply muffled touches of Bob Major and Grandsire Triples were rung at Woburn by the local Company, assisted by two members from Aspley Guise (all members of the Beds Association), as a token of sorrow on account of the recent demise of Mr. Thos. Nerra, F.S.A., the author of the *History of the Church Bells of Bedfordshire*, and other similar admirable works.

RECEIVED ALSO:—St. Mary's, Cheltenham—No date given.

At the last meeting of the Diocesan Council of Killaloe East the following resolution was unanimously carried, on the motion of the Earl of Rosse:—

'Resolved—That we, the members of the Diocesan Council of Killaloe East, avail ourselves of the opportunity afforded by the presence of the Lord Bishop of Killaloe, at this the first Council meeting since his consecration, to express our sincere and hearty congratulations on his elevation to the See of Killaloe. We rejoice that the choice of the united diocese had fallen on one who has already so fully proved his fitness by many years of faithful and earnest labour in the Master's vineyard; we are persuaded he will find clergy and laity alike desirous of strengthening his hands, and of giving him loyal and warm support. We heartily wish his Lordship long years of useful and honourable service in the Church of Christ, and we pray that God may endue him with the needed grace and strength for his holy office.'

A resolution of thanks to the Dean for his valuable services as Commissary during the vacancy in the diocese was also carried. The Earl of Rosse then moved, and the Dean carried, the following resolution:—

'That this Council feel it incumbent on them to appeal to the members of the united diocese, and to the many friends of our late Diocesan, the Right Rev. William Fitzgerald, D.D., to contribute to expressing in some suitable manner their full appreciation of his great worth, and the veneration in which they hold his memory. And that, on the part of this section of the diocese, the following committee be now appointed to bring this appeal before the public, and to consider what would be the most suitable testimonial:—The Earl of Rosse, the Dean of Killaloe, Tolar Garvey, Esq., Rev. Canon Bowles, H. H. Poe, Esq., and Rev. Canon Jones.'

COLONIAL AND FOREIGN CHURCH NEWS.

SCANDINAVIA.

THE following important declaration concerning the Evangelical Alliance has been put forth by the Episcopate of the Church of Sweden and its leading theologians:—'In consequence of existing circumstances the undersigned beg to declare, (1), that we, on account of the peculiar relations within our Church, especially with respect to the position which certain Dissenters assume towards the Church, consider it particularly unseasonable for the Evangelical Alliance at the present time to summon a General Conference at Stockholm. (2), That if such a Conference should take place during the present year, we for our part decline partaking in it. (3), That we are sure that our conviction and position in this matter is that of the very greatest part of the Swedish clergy. A. N. Sundberg, Archbishop of Upsala; E. G. Bring, Bishop of Linköping; A. T. Strömberg, Bishop of Strängnäs; J. Andersson, Bishop of Wexiö; W. Flensburg, Bishop of Lund; G. D. Björck, Bishop of Göteborg; P. Sjöbring, Bishop of Calmar; C. H. Rundgren, Bishop of Carlstad; L. Landgren, Bishop of Hernösand; L. A. Anjou, Bishop of Wisby; Fr. Fehr, Pastor Dimarius of Stockholm; C. A. Torén, C. A. Cornelius, Martin Johansson, K. H. Ezelius von Schéele, U. R. F. Sundelin, C. J. Norrby, Professors of Theology in the University of Upsala; C. Olbers; Cl. Warholm, A. G. L. Billing, M. G. Rosenius, P. G. Eklund, Professors of Theology in the University of Lund. Stockholm, March 1884.'

ITALY.

MGR. SAVARESE is happily co-operating with Count Campello at Rome, and the services held in the Via Genova are brightened with an efficient choir. Of the former priest it may be added, to what we have already stated, that he was one of the committee of sixteen appointed by Pius IX. for preparation of the *Syllabus*.

THE recent work of the ex-Jesuit Curci, *Il Vaticano Regio*, is another heavy blow at Vaticanism; the whole first edition was sold out in the first few days.

EGYPT.

THE *Quarterly Review* contains an account of the history and prospects of the Coptic Church in Egypt. The Copts trace their descent from the ancient inhabitants, whose type of features they have preserved, as depicted on the monuments. Their name is derived from the Greek name of Egypt. The Coptic Church recognises the three first General Councils, but unhappily rejects the Council of Chalcedon. It has encountered great vicissitudes and endured violent persecution under the Mohammedan rulers of the country. At present they are said to be in a fair way of recovering their former position. They are fairly educated, and constitute the most industrious and enterprising class of the population. They number about 250,000 in Upper Egypt, and 50,000 in the Delta. They wear black or blue turbans, which distinguish them from the Mohammedans, who wear white, red, yellow, or green. The present Bishop of Gibraltar declares that the only way to introduce reforms into this old National Church is through the better education of its clergy. It is suggested that for this end schools should be established at Cairo and Assiut, superintended by learned and discreet English clergymen. It appears that the Copts were in imminent danger of massacre during Arabi's rebellion.

INDIA.

THE new Archdeacon of Madras is to be the Rev. J. Franke Browne, senior chaplain of the Madras Ecclesiastical Establishment. Mr. Browne was the first student in the London College of Divinity under the late Dr. Boulbee.

THE Duchess of Connaught has laid the foundation-stone of St. Stephen's Hospital for Women and Children at Delhi; the inscription on the stone included mention 'of Priscilla Winter, who for twenty-three years laboured among the women of India.'

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Choice and Hanging of Church Bells.

SIR,—Having been recommended by a friend to apply to you, in hopes that some of your correspondents may give me information about the choice and hanging of church bells, I shall be much obliged if you will kindly insert this letter in your paper. It is intended shortly to add a tower to our little country church; we are anxious to complete it with a ring of bells. The tower is to have internal dimensions of twelve feet square. How can this space be best employed? The bellfounders offer to hang a ring of eight; the tenor to be, I think, about 9 cwt. Would this be better for ringing purposes than fewer and heavier bells? Some of those who are taking part in providing the bells are strongly inclined to a carillon after the Belgian fashion. I should be very glad of any information on this point, as also whether chiming machines are generally considered desirable. It is extremely difficult to get unprejudiced advice about Belgian bells and their rival claims with English bells. They are, it is well known, sweeter and truer than English, and very suitable for chiming, but are they equally adapted for ringing? Lastly, any hints as to the construction of a tower destined to carry bells, the size of windows, or form and construction of bell-cage will be most gratefully received.

Lower Beeding Vicarage, Horsham.

C. E. HUBBARD.

Peals of Treble Bob Royal.

5360	M. W. H.	6000	W. M. H.	5200	M. W. H.
2 3 4 5 6		2 3 4 5 6		2 3 4 5 6	
5 6 2 3 4	2 1	5 2 4 3 6	1	3 6 4 5 2	1 2
6 4 2 3 5	1 2	2 3 6 4 5	1 2	6 2 4 5 3	1 2
3 2 4 6 5	2 2	2 5 3 4 6	2 1	2 6 3 5 4	2 2
4 6 3 2 5	1 1	4 2 3 5 6	1	2 3 5 6 4	1 2
2 3 6 4 5	2 2	2 5 6 3 4	1 2	3 6 5 2 4	2
3 4 6 2 5	2	2 4 5 3 6	2 1	6 4 5 2 3	1 2
4 3 5 2 6	2 2	3 2 5 4 6	1	4 3 5 2 6	1 2
2 5 3 4 6	2 2	6 3 4 2 5	2 1 2	2 5 3 4 6	2 2
3 4 2 5 6	1 1	3 5 4 2 6	1 2	3 4 2 5 6	1 1
5 2 4 3 6	2 2	6 4 5 2 3	1 1	5 2 4 3 6	2 2
2 3 4 5 6	2	6 5 2 4 3	1 2	2 3 4 5 6	2
		2 4 6 5 3	1 1		
		2 3 4 5 6	2 1		

5080

2 3 4 5 6	M. W. H.
3 6 4 5 2	1 2
2 6 2 4 5	1 2
6 2 3 5 4	2 2
3 5 2 6 4	1 1
4 2 5 6 3	1 1
6 4 5 2 3	1
4 3 5 2 6	1 2
2 5 3 4 6	2 2
3 4 2 5 6	1 1
5 2 4 3 6	2 2
2 3 4 5 6	2

6320 M. W. H.

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

Repeated.

JOHN THORP.

Ashton-under-Lyne.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At St. Peter's, Ashton-under-Lyne, Lancashire.

ON Saturday, the 8th inst., a peal of 5024 Kent Treble Bob Major was rung in 3 hrs. 6 mins. B. Broadbent, 1; J. Hopwood, 2; J. Wood, 3; W. Firth, 4; G. Longden, 5; W. H. Armitt, 6; J. Thorp (composer and conductor), 7; S. Wood, 8. The first peal for the sixth ringer, who belongs to Leek. The peal was rung to make Mr. Thorp's 100 peals that he has taken part in, being one 7000, two 8000, two 10,000, and one 16,608.

At Farnham Royal, Bucks.

ON Saturday, the 8th inst., a band of the Oxford Diocesan Guild from Maidenhead, in company with the Rev. A. H. Drummond, vicar of All Saints', Boyne Hill, paid a visit to Farnham Royal by kind invitation of the Rector, and after some touches of Doubles and Minor had been rung the Rector invited all present to take tea with him in the school; after which he returned with the ringers to the belfry, and proposed that a peal be rung in honour of the youngest lady in the parish, the daughter of Mr. R. Flaxman, born that morning: which was cordially agreed to, and a peal of 720 Grandsire Minor was rung in about 26 mins. J. J. Parker (conductor), 1; H. Rogers, 2; J. Basden, 3; A. Batten, 4; W. A. Garraway, 5; R. Flaxman, 6. Several touches of Stedman's Doubles and Bob Minor were also rung, and another 720 of Grandsire by six College Youths. J. Basden, 1; J. J. Parker, 2; H. Rogers, 3; W. A. Garraway (conductor), 4; E. Rogers, 5; R. Flaxman, 6. Tenor, about 12½ cwt. Messrs. J. C. Truss, E. Keeley, G. Wilkins, jun., and W. Wilder, were also present and took part in the ringing. The visitors regret that only three of the Farnham Company put in an appearance.

At St. Andrew's, Hornchurch, Essex.

ON Sunday evening, the 9th inst., for service, a peal of 720 Grandsire Minor (38 bobs and 22 singles), was rung in 31 mins. W. Halls,* 1; B. Keeble, 2; C. Waskett,* 3; A. J. Perkins (conductor), 4; A. Pye, 5; A. Path, 6. Tenor, 20 cwt. This is supposed to be the first in this method. [* First 720 in the method.]

At Eynsford, Kent.

On Saturday, the 15th inst., ten members of the Crayford, Erith, and Dartford Association rang a peal of 720 Bob Minor (9 bobs and 6 singles) in 25 mins. E. Saxby, 1; C. Hammant, 2; W. Fright, 3; J. Sloper, 4; F. French, 5; F. M. Jacobs, 6. Also a peal of 720 Kent Treble Bob in 30 mins. W. Fright, 1; C. Hammant, 2; F. M. Jacobs, 3; G. Conyard, 4; J. Sloper, 5; F. French, 6. Both peals conducted by F. French.

At Holy Trinity, Dartford, Kent.

On Sunday, for morning service, eight members rang a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 45 mins. E. Everson, 1; E. Snowden (Secretary), 2; W. Fright, 3; G. Wray, 4; B. W. Rose, 5; J. Saxby* (conductor), 6; J. Blackman, 7; H. Rose,* 8. Tenor, 20 cwt. [* College Youths.]

At St. Mary's, Lambeth, Surrey.—Muffled Peal.

On Monday, the 17th inst., eight members of the Waterloo Society rang a muffled peal as a mark of respect to the late Mrs. Nettlefold. W. Coppage (conductor), 1; J. W. Sanderson, 2; H. J. Davies, 3; G. Banks, 4; W. Jones, 5; H. S. Thomas, 6; — Ludwig, 7; J. Mansfield, 8.

At St. Mary's, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire.

A PEAL of 5120 Kent Treble Bob Major was rung in 3 hrs. 11 mins., being the first in this method ever rung by Cheltenham ringers only for fifty-one years. J. Belcher (conductor), 1; W. Morris (aged 75), 2; H. Hodges, 3; H. Karn, 4; F. Musty, 5; G. H. Phillott, Esq., 6; W. F. Pater, 7; G. Acocks, 8. All members of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association of Change-ringers. [No date given.]

CORRESPONDENCE.

Irish Society.

SIR,—Kindly permit me to direct the special attention of your readers to the appeal of the above Society in your advertisement sheet. The financial year ends on the 25th of March, but lists will be kept open till the 1st of April, and much may be done meantime to allay anxiety respecting the work of the old Society in Ireland. That work has been enlarged and strengthened, and great facilities for usefulness now exist. A gentleman, who already pays the entire salary of one Scripture reader in perhaps the most noted of the lately disturbed districts, offers 20*l.* a-year for five years towards the salary of another, provided the remainder of the salary, 30*l.*, be subscribed before Easter Day. May I earnestly entreat consideration for this old Christian Vernacular Education Society for Ireland, whose work is carried on in Apostolic lines, enabling men to hear and to read in their own tongue the wonderful works of God?

THOS. KEANE, Clerical Secretary for London and South England.
32 Sackville Street, W.

The Functions of Lay-Readers.

SIR,—Dr. Plumtree's argument in favour of the Bishop of Lichfield's revolutionary project of Upper Readers for Church services, demands plain speech from all who are jealous for the principle of Holy Orders, and have not forgotten the 23rd Article of our Church. (1) He quotes Origen as 'the leading case in antiquity,' but he omits to add that, so far as records go, it never led to another. It was strongly objected to by an orthodox Bishop at the time, and tamely defended on the part of the Bishops who had invited Origen to preach, by certain vague precedents. Eusebius himself intimates that Origen was thus allowed by special indulgence as a 'man of note.' As to the expression 'in the presence of Bishops,' his so preaching was urged as the gravamen; because such a liberty to the layman either in church or elsewhere was never allowed. (2) Canon iv. Carth. 'Laicus, clericis presentibus, docere non audeat,' is equally indefinite as regards the question of lay preaching in churches. For it may apply, *e.g.*, to catechists teaching, as Origen had done, in baptiseries, &c. No allusion whatever is made to the Church. (3) *b c d* are all orthodox protests against irregularities in unsettled times. Laud (N. B.) knew better than to allow of such. (4) The truth can be culled from the last sentence: 'Interpreted by the discussion which preceded it, Act 18 and 19 Vict., c. 86, was intended to give facilities for worship in unconsecrated buildings only.' This obviously appears from its terms. For it allows 'any congregation or assembly for religious worship to be held in any parish or ecclesiastical district (alternatively) by any person authorised by incumbent or curate.' Therefore, if interpreted irrespectively of the previous discussion and within its own 'four corners,' it would allow the ordinary congregation at matins and evensong to be thus laicallly served; and so 'amend' with a witness the evil Act of Uniformity! A new canon would soon be required—'Clericus, laicis presentibus præsertim eloquentibus, docere non audeat.'

JACKSON MASON, *Settle*.

The Medical Profession and Vivisection.

SIR,—I thank 'J. M.' for his friendly remarks on the article signed 'E. B.' for it is only through criticism that one can arrive at the truth. He is right when he says that the steady increase of disease does not prove that vivisection has done nothing to arrest its progress, though I personally believe that to be the case. It does, however, show that we must be very sanguine if we hope with Professor Humphry to stop the degeneracy of the species by such means. It shows, I think, as Dr. Allbutt said last week, that 'to contend daily with local troubles, which daily are regenerated by some vicious habit of the whole system, is to roll up daily the shameless stone of Sisyphus.'—*Brit. Med. Journ.*, March 15th.

How far vivisection is likely to help us in attaining health will become apparent from a glance through Richardson's *Diseases of Modern Life*. Or take these words of Dr. Dolan's (*Brit. Med. Journ.*, Feb. 2nd), 'Every observer may note in the street and the workshop the general stoop of our town population, their narrow, flattened chests, bent spines, unequal shoulders, and other evidences of defective diet and nutrition. Dr. Roth has brought forward some very strong evidence on the progressive degeneration of the physique of the population in Great Britain. He tells us that of 1600 recruits, after having accepted the shilling, 400 were rejected because they suffered from eye disease, small malformed chests, curvature of spine, varicose veins, varicocele, muscular tenuity, and other complaints.' Is there anything here which vivisection will help us to overcome? Its advocates can claim only that it may relieve in the individual the evil when done, and perhaps I may add, thereby increase the general degeneracy by prolonging life until the sufferer has bequeathed his physical ills to future generations. With regard to drugs, I think with Sir W. Gull, who, when asked by the Royal Commission (Q. 5545) whether he could enumerate many drugs discovered by the vivisectional method, replied 'I am not a great believer in drugs.' Certainly the little effect they have had in diminishing disease should, in my opinion, secure their wholesale condemnation also, did their use involve the objectionable cruelties that vivisection does. There is, however, this difference, that drugs injure only those persons themselves who are willing to take them on the chance of deriving benefit from them, while vivisection implies the torture of one creature against its will, for the benefit of another, which happens to be the more powerful.

'J. M.' thinks one must be profoundly ignorant if one is not aware of the useful knowledge gained by vivisection. My reading has all tended to make me feel that the method has been and must ever, from its very nature, remain unproductive of good results, except by chance. For it is unscientific in that it is inaccurate, and its results are all obtained under abnormal conditions, and thus cannot be relied on. I am, however, still open to conviction if 'J. M.' can give me any instances in which it has produced results of use in the treatment of disease. With regard to surgery, I cannot get out of my head the words of Sir W. Ferguson (Royal Commission, Q. 1092): 'I have thought over it again and again, and have not been able to come to a conclusion in my own mind that there is any single operation in surgery which has been initiated by the performance of something like it on the lower animals.'

Hampstead, March 17th.

ERNEST BELL, M.A.

Clerical Sympathy with the Working Classes.

SIR,—The present time, when such crowds of men are out of work and are fearfully hard pressed, offers the Church a splendid opportunity. A great deal is said about 'outcast London' and 'the lapsed masses,' and we clergy are always deploring that we cannot much reach the working men in our parishes, and especially the very lowest of them: they look on us with coldness, sometimes even with hostility. Now, however, they are in want and hunger, why should we not show them that we really do sympathise with them, and though we cannot do much, yet we will do all that lies in our power? These men at times leave their homes early in the morning with but little breakfast; they wander about all day half-starved, seeking employment, and they return to a cold, comfortless home at night, tired and exhausted. They want food, and they need also some recreation to break the dull monotony of their lives. Could not some of the clergy use their schools or parish rooms at times to feed and entertain them? If the food be made in large quantities it need not cost more than 2*d.* per head, and if this be followed by good recitations and songs, and they are encouraged to sing the choruses, and there be no attempt at patronising or preaching, but, on the contrary, all is evidently done with the desire to make them feel quite at home, and enable them to spend a few evenings brightly and happily, a great step would be taken towards breaking down the coldness with which the clergy are too often regarded, to say nothing of the pleasure which is sure to be the prize of any one striving to help these poor fellows, whose lot at present is so deplorable. I write this letter with the experience of the success that attends such a plan as that I have suggested, and with the earnest wish that so grand a chance for convincing the working classes that we have their welfare at heart may be fully grasped. Many a poor fellow turns aside from the Gospel as it is often preached, because he cannot realise Christ's sympathy; but let that Gospel be preached by actions that really help and cheer him, and there is small fear of his either misunderstanding or rejecting it.

St. Katharine's Mission, Rotherhithe, S.E.

T. C. JOHNSON.

The Marriage Question.

SIR,—In an edition, A.D. 1599, of the 'Breeches' Bible, under Leviticus xviii. I find two small tables; one headed, 'Consanguinitie hindring marriage,' which states as follows: 'Moses may not take to wife his father's sister, his mother, his mother's sister, his sister, his daughter, his daughter's daughter.' The other table is headed, 'Affinitie hindring marriage,' which states: 'Moses may not take to wife his uncle's wife, his father's wife, the wife of his brother, the sister of his wife, his sonnes wife or his wives daughter, the daughter of his wives sonne or daughter.' Then comes an important foot-note, which declares as follows: 'As Moses cannot contract matrimonie with the women that are so of kinne to him as is above specified, so also cannot Mary his sister marie with the men that are in like degree. Note also, that besides the persons here specified, there are also meant those that ascend or descend of the same line, be it of blood or kinned.'

I would venture to add here myself, that since a man is forbidden to marry his brother's wife, it follows that a woman is forbidden to marry her sister's husband. The thought of the one is as repulsive to the instinct as the thought of the other. But not alone does the instinct revolt from such an idea, the Holy Scripture (xviii. 16) teaches this,

T. H. E.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Choice and Hanging of Bells.

SIR,—In answer to your correspondent, 'C. E. Hubbard,' allow me to commend him to have a ring of eight, with a tenor as heavy as the tower will stand. It should not be less than 12 cwt., G: heavier if possible. Never mind about 'hoisting' the trebles if there is not room for all on a level. Have nothing to do with Belgian carillons. They are all very well in their way, but cannot come up to a good ring cast by a competent English founder who knows his work. After all, tune-chiming is but a very tame affair compared with change-ringing. Lastly, don't let the architect have anything to do with the arrangement of the bells beyond designing a tower of sufficient strength, and one which will allow a reasonable distance between the bells and ringers—say, not less than forty feet; this will allow a chamber between the bells and the ringing-floor. Windows should be of sufficient size, and the louvres such as will overlap sufficiently to keep out the rain: they should also be wired, to exclude birds. Decide on your bellhanger, and let him give you what space he requires, &c., before anything is done. J. R. JERRAM.

The Close, Salisbury.

The Oxford Diocesan Guild of Church Bell-ringers.

WE have received the Third Annual Report of the above Guild, which shows a prosperous state of things. The Archbishop of Canterbury is the Patron; the Bishop of the Diocese the President; the Archdeacons of Berks, Oxford, and Bucks, are Vice-Presidents; the Master of the Guild, the Rev. F. E. Robinson, Drayton Vicarage, Abingdon; and the Secretary and Treasurer, the Rev. Dolben Paul, Bearwood Rectory, Wokingham. The Report—a book of thirty pages—contains the rules, list of members, balance-sheet, and performances for 1883. We extract the following:—'Our readers will observe with pleasure on the first page of this Report the name of the Primate of All England as Patron of our Guild. Nothing will more advance the cause of Belfry Reform than the kindly interest which our spiritual rulers are beginning to take in such associations. We cannot announce, nor could we expect, such a large accession of members as that of last year, but it is noteworthy that while the change-ringing class has a considerable increase, the probationary class shows an actual decrease. This fact means that, chiefly owing to our system of instruction, many of the probationers of 1882 have become change-ringing members in 1883. A more frequent use of the advantages offered under the altered Rule XIV., towards payment for instruction, would produce still more satisfactory results in this direction. Five towers, viz., Binfield, Bladon, Finchampstead, Thatcham, and Wooburn, have joined the Guild during the past twelve months. Nine peals have been rung during 1883, but they are mostly by the same hands and in the same method. It is to be hoped that some new names and new methods may be entered on the record for 1884. In accordance with resolutions passed at the General Meeting, the Committee have drawn up and issued to all towers in union a form of prayer for use before ringing, and a belfry certificate, which last is intended to be framed and hung up in the ringing-chamber. The Annual Festival was held at Windsor, July 26th, and was attended by 185 members. After service at the parish church, a most admirable and useful sermon was preached by the Rev. W. Wigram, who was urgently, but unsuccessfully, requested to print it. Annual meetings have been also held by the Bradfield, East Berks and South Bucks, and Sonning Deanery Branches; opened in each case with service and sermon in church. Nothing is more likely than this practice to further the prosperity of the Guild, and to make its members realise their position as Church officers. Our record still shows that a large portion of the diocese is outside the Guild's influence. Are there no energetic members who will carry the much-needed light of belfry reform into the northern parts of Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire?'

The following are the instructors to the Guild:—Mr. J. Field, New College, Oxford, Principal Instructor; and Messrs. Newell, Friar Street, Reading; White, Appleton; Hounslow, 2a Ifley Road, Oxford; Haworth, 42 Exmouth Street, Clerkenwell, London; G. Holifield, Appleton; Garraway, Maidenhead; Washbrook, St. Thomas', Oxford; Parker, Farnham Royal, Slough; and R. Smith, Maidenhead.

Peals of Bob Major.

5040
2 3 4 5 6 W. M. H.

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

Four times repeated.

5040
2 3 4 5 6 W. M. H.

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

Four times repeated.

Each peal has 2 3 4 5 6 successively with the tenor at the wrong, with calls equal w. h. EDW. FRANCIS, *Diss.*

A Clever Hand-bell Performance.

On Friday, the 21st inst., four members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang at the meeting-house, St. Paul's Churchyard (with the bells retained in hand), Holt's Original One-part peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples in 2 hrs. 43 mins. E. Gibbs,* 1 & 2; F. T. Gover,* 3 & 4; C. F. Winny (conductor), 5 & 6; G. T. McLaughlin,* 7 & 8. Umpires: Messrs. J. Cox, J. W.

Rowbotham, and H. J. Tucker, who marked off every lead as it was rung. Messrs. J. R. Haworth, French, and other prominent ringers, were also present. The ringers take this opportunity of thanking those gentlemen for the kind interest they took in the peal. [* First peal on hand-bells.]

CHANGE-RINGING.

The St. James's Society, Higher Sutton, Cheshire.

On Sunday, the 9th inst., the above Society was favoured with a visit by Mr. James Holt of St. Michael's, Macclesfield, and rang with him a peal of 720 Grandsire Minor (34 bobs and 2 singles) in 25 mins. W. Walmsley, 1; W. H. Ingham (conductor), 2; J. Holt, 3; J. M. Davenport, 4; W. Ingham, 5; T. Mothershead, 6. Also a 360 of Bob Minor in 12½ mins., with W. Ingham (conductor), 1; J. Holt, 2; W. Walmsley, 3; and 4, 5, 6, as above.

Also on Tuesday, the 18th inst., the Society rang their first 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor in 26 mins. W. Walmsley (conductor), 1; W. H. Ingham, 2; W. Ingham, 3; J. M. Davenport, 4; W. H. Hardman, 5; T. Mothershead, 6. This performance was witnessed by three visitors from St. Michael's, Macclesfield, who bore testimony to the good striking. This was also the first peal in the method on the bells. After which the visitors assisted in ringing a peal of 720 Grandsire Minor (34 bobs and 2 singles) in 27 mins. W. Walmsley (conductor), 1; W. Hulme, 2; J. Holt, 3; W. Ingham, 4; C. Bamford, 5; T. Mothershead, 6.

Also on Sunday, the 23rd inst., for morning service, a 360 of Kent Treble Bob Minor; and for service in the afternoon a 720 of the same in 25 mins., the band as on Tuesday, 18th, conducted by W. Walmsley.

Also on the 23rd ult. at St. John's, Bollington, Cheshire, a touch of 2016 Grandsire Triples in 1 hr. 16 mins. W. Walmsley (conductor), 1; W. H. Ingham, 2; J. Holt, 3; W. McKenny, 4; J. M. Davenport, 5; W. H. Hardman, 6; W. Ingham, 7; T. Mothershead, 8. This tenor is 18 cwt., and that at Higher Sutton is 12 cwt., in G.

At St. Paul's, Spalding, Lincolnshire.

On Thursday, the 13th inst., a touch of 1260 Grandsire Triples was rung in 47 mins. G. Keal, 1; R. Skeef, 2; J. W. Creasey, 3; E. Quinton, 4; J. Rudd (of Whittlesea), 5; R. Creasey (conductor), 6; J. A. Croxford, 7; A. W. Walker, 8. Tenor, 15 cwt.

At Sutterton, Lincolnshire.

On Saturday, the 15th inst., by the St. Paul's company, Spalding, a touch of 1008 Grandsire Triples was rung in 40 mins. G. Keal, 1; R. Skeef, 2; J. W. Creasey, 3; E. Quinton, 4; A. W. Walker, 5; R. Creasey, 6; J. A. Croxford (conductor), 7; A. Creasey, 8. Tenor, 15 cwt.

5024									
2	3	4	5	6	M.	O.	W.	H.	
3	6	4	5	2	1				2
4	2	5	6	3	1		1		2
2	3	5	6	4	1				2
3	4	5	6	2	1				2
6	5	4	3	2	1				2
5	6	2	3	4			1		2
3	2	6	5	4					2
2	4	6	5	3	2				1
3	2	5	4	6			2		2
3	5	4	2	6					1
2	4	5	3	6					2
5	6	3	4	2	1				1
3	2	4	6	5	1				1
3	4	6	2	5					1
2	3	4	6	5					2

S. Wood.

5088 changes Kent Treble Bob Major were rung in 3 hrs. 12 mins. J. Wilde, 1; G. Longden, 2; J. Wood, 3; C. H. Hattersley (composer and conductor), 4; B. Broadbent, 5; T. Wilde, 6; S. Wood, 7; J. Thorp, 8. Tenor, 20 cwt.

5088									
2	3	4	5	6	M.	O.	W.	H.	
5	4	6	3	2	2				2
2	6	4	3	5	2			1	1
3	4	5	6	2	2				2
6	5	2	4	3	2				2
4	2	3	5	6	1				1

Twice repeated.
C. H. HATTERSLEY.

At St. Werburgh's, Derby.

On Friday, the 21st inst., six members of the Midland Counties Association rang a peal of 720 Grandsire Minor (34 bobs and 2 singles), in 27 mins. J. Thompson, 1; A. E. Thompson, 2; R. Redgate, 3; A. B. Ward, 4; J. Howe, 5; H. C. Woodward (conductor), 6. Tenor, 17 cwt., in E. First 720 by J. Thompson, A. E. Thompson, and A. B. Ward.

At St. George's, Hyde, Cheshire.

On Saturday, the 22nd inst., Shipway's peal of 6160 Bob Major was rung in 3 hrs. 39 mins. J. S. Wilde, 1; R. Prichard, 2; J. Wood, 3; W. Slater, 4; S. Wood (conductor), 5; T. Wilde, 6; G. Longden, 7; D. Leigh, 8.

CHOICE AND HANGING OF BELLS.—Our advice to you is to be very careful whom you trust, or you may be done. Don't be advised by any architect. Perhaps we cannot do better than call your attention to an article on the subject we published ten years ago—in our issue of Feb. 21, 1874.

RECEIVED ALSO.—Dartford; N. J. Pitstow; and others.

The Parochial Mission in Dublin is attracting great attention. In most of the churches there are services three times a-day. Mr. Hay Aitken is preaching daily at 3 p.m. in St. Ann's Church, and at 8 p.m. in the National Cathedral. Both edifices are thronged with listeners, especially the Cathedral at night with the working classes, and the missionary's earnest words appear to be making a deep impression. A mission more on Church lines is being carried on by Mr. Bullock in the parish churches of SS. Peter and Stephen, and by Mr. Keymer at St. Bartholomew's. The Archbishop and his family have been attending the Mission at St. Stephen's. Mr. Keymer seems to be doing a good work at St. Bartholomew's. Dr. Morgan, rector of Swansea, is at St. Matthias'; Dr. Pigou, vicar of Halifax, at Christ Church, Leeson Park; Mr. Rainsford, a London curate, at Zion Church; Mr. Andrews from Harrow at St. George's; Mr. Berguer from Islington at St. Andrew's; Mr. Cleworth of the Church of England Home Mission at Baggot Rath Church; and Mr. A. R. Davey from Stonehouse, Gloucestershire, at St. Kevin's. A good sprinkling of English clergymen are, therefore, at work amongst us at present. An attempt was made by writing letters in one of the newspapers to prejudice the public against Mr. Keymer as belonging to the C. B. S., but without effect.

The Ven. Samuel Shone, archdeacon of Kilmore, was elected Bishop of Kilmore, Elphin, and Ardagh, in room of the late Dr. Darley, by a majority of votes of the Diocesan Synod on last Thursday week. The Bishop of Down and Connor presided at the election, which took place in the parish church of Cavan after a celebration of the Holy Communion. The clergyman who had the next largest number of votes was the Rev. Canon Peacocke, D.D., rector of Monkstown, Co. of Dublin. Archdeacon Shone is also a Diocesan Nominator, Diocesan Treasurer, Bishop's Commissary, and member of the Diocesan Court. The day for his consecration has not yet been mentioned.

The newly consecrated Bishop of Killaloe has been appointing his chaplains. His Lordship has revived the Deanery of Killfenora, which was in abeyance since the death of the last dean in 1877, and has conferred the dignity on the Rev. Canon Humphreys, rector of Quin, Co. Clare. The Bishop preaches at Whitehall to-morrow (Sunday).

It may interest some of your readers to know that Mr. O'Donnell, M.P., has been writing a vigorous letter in the columns of the *Freeman's Journal* against Mr. Willis's defeated resolution for excluding the Bishops from the House of Lords. Why a Roman Catholic should take so much interest in this question, or take the side he does, may be a question; but there are those who shrewdly suspect that not a few Roman Catholics look forward to seeing their own Bishops in the House of Lords eventually, as a condition for upholding the Established Church of England. This consideration may also throw light on Mr. de Lisle's words at a recent meeting at Sheepshed, Leicestershire, who is reported to have said, although he was a Roman Catholic, he thought it would not be unbecoming of him to say he most heartily endorsed one of the resolutions adopted at the meeting of the Leicester Church Defence Association last week, to the effect that as the National Church formed an integral portion of the Constitution, and conferred very great benefits upon the nation, its disestablishment and disendowment would give rise to serious and widespread evils in the State.

COLONIAL AND FOREIGN CHURCH NEWS.

INDIA.

THE Bishop of Calcutta ordained at Trinity Church, Allahabad, on the Feast of the Epiphany, five deacons and two priests.

KALI MAHAN BANKRUJEE, of Bishop's College, Calcutta, and brother of the Rev. Dr. Banerjee, seceded to Romanism in 1875. Subsequent historic study has induced him to retrace his steps; in February he was received to Communion, and renewed his canonical engagements to the Bishop of Calcutta.

NEW ZEALAND.

THE Melanesian Mission is still ecclesiastically connected with the Province of New Zealand. The Archdeacon of Christchurch has recently described its present state as follows:—The operations of the Mission now extend over a square of about 1800 miles; from the equator on the north to 30° south latitude, and from 150° to 180° east longitude. But this area is not exclusively occupied by the Anglican Church. The London Missionary Society has formed stations on the coast of New Guinea; the large islands of New Britain and New Ireland are worked by Wesleyans from the Navigators' Group; New Caledonia is annexed by French Romanists; and the southern half of the New Hebrides is occupied by Presbyterians. But the inner part of the square described—including the northern New Hebrides, Banks' Islands, the St. Cruz Group, the Solomon Islands, and also the Loyalty Islands—are visited by our missionaries alone, from Norfolk Island as their head-quarters. The present staff of the Mission consists of the Bishop, seven English clergymen, seven native clergymen, and seventy or eighty native teachers. When the last report was issued, 173 Melanesians, including 128 males and 45 females, were under instruction in the mission school at Norfolk Island. The plan of operations is still that which was first decided

on by Bishop Selwyn, and afterwards carried out by Bishop Patteson until his martyrdom in 1871. The Bishop and his English clergy reside at Norfolk Island during the summer months, and take an active part in the instruction of the Melanesian scholars. During the winter months they visit the islands, and inquire into the state of the mission stations, of which there are now forty or fifty, one being established in the neighbourhood of the scene of Bishop Patteson's murder. On these occasions they take back those of their scholars who desire to return, and are fit to act as teachers among their own people; and bring away with them as many boys and girls as are willing to come under their care. At times both the Bishop himself and his English companions spend several weeks and even months on one or other of the islands. The Melanesian teachers trained at Norfolk Island are placed at the various stations, in many of which churches and schools have been built. The nature of the work of the Mission necessarily involves considerable outlay—about 5500*l.* per annum being required. The maintaining of the mission ship alone absorbs nearly 2000*l.* a-year. Only 800*l.* is derived from endowment; the balance has to be made up mainly by subscriptions. In 1882-3 the subscriptions amounted to 3800*l.*; of which 1719*l.* came from England, 1273*l.* from Australia, 719*l.* from New Zealand, and 96*l.* from Norfolk Island.

WEST INDIES.

THE Bishop of Guiana has collated the Rev. F. W. Austin to the Archdeaconry of Demerara, *vice* Archdeacon Wyatt, resigned; and the Rev. Thos. Farrar to that of Berbice.

THE Diocesan Synod of Jamaica has unanimously agreed to the changes in diocesan canons necessitated by the action of the first Provincial Synod of the West Indies. One feature of the Jamaica Synods is that they include a 'devotional meeting.'

THE Church Mission to Colon and the Panama Canal is proving very successful; the Canal Company has 'recognised its duty to do something for the ministrations of religion among the labourers they have collected on the Isthmus;' and the Roman Catholic Bishop of Panama has treated the Mission in a kindly spirit.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

St. Paul's Cathedral, London.

THIS evening, at 8 p.m., the celebrated band of change-ringers of the Cathedral, members of the Ancient Society of College Youths, will ring, with the bells deeply muffled, a funeral peal in memory of the Duke of Albany. Tenor, 62 cwt.

Christ Church, Mitcham.

A RING of six small bells has lately been given to this village church by its patron, W. J. Harris, Esq., of Mitcham. The bells, which were cast and hung by Messrs. Warner, were formally dedicated with a short service on Saturday, the 29th ult. Six members of the Cumberland Society of Change-ringers gave the opening peal, and several touches of Grandsire Doubles Stedman's Doubles, &c. were rung. The bells are fitted with Messrs. Warner's apparatus.

St. Michael's, Sittingbourne, Kent.

WE are pleased to learn that the ring of six bells at the above church is soon to be a ring of eight, by the addition of two trebles, which, if the latter are a success, will make them one of the best in the county. On Sunday, the 23rd ult., a mixed band rang a peal of 720 Grandsire Minor, being the last that will be rung on them before the change takes place.

Northampton.

A new ring of eight bells has been presented to St. Edmund's Church in this town, and were opened on Sunday, the 23rd ult., by the ringers from All Saints' Church, the St. Giles's team ringing them in the evening. The new bells are the gift of Mr. W. T. Tomes of this town, and were supplied and hung by Messrs. Taylor of Loughborough. The bells have on them the St. Edmund's shield and the following inscription: 'The gift of William Tomes, 1884;' and on the tenor, 'To the glory of God and in remembrance of His mercies this peal of eight bells was given by William Tomes, Churchwarden of this parish from 1880-1884.' The weight of the bells is—

	Cwt.	qrs.	lbs.	Note.
1.	4	1	21	F.
2.	5	0	2	E.
3.	5	2	4	D.
4.	7	0	3	C.
5.	8	1	7	B $\frac{1}{2}$.
6.	9	3	18	A.
7.	12	2	25	G.
8.	17	3	25	F.

On Tuesday, the 25th, various local teams rang them during the day, and all expressed themselves satisfied with the 'go' of the bells. In the evening a meeting of the parishioners was held for the purpose of making Mr. Tomes a present of a photograph of the Church, with an illuminated address below it, thanking him for the gift of the bells.

Beds Association of Change-Ringers.

THE Annual Meeting of the Beds Association will be held at Bedford on Easter Monday next; ringing at St. Paul's (8, Tenor 28 cwt., in good order) during the day. Any particulars will be cheerfully given by

Woburn, Beds,

CHARLES HERBERT, Hon. Sec.

The Midland Counties' Association.

THE Second Annual Meeting of this Association will be held at Derby on Easter Monday next. The following towers will be open for ringing from 10 a.m.:—All Saints', ten bells; St. Andrew's, eight bells; St. Luke's, eight bells; St. Werburgh's, eight bells; St. Alkmund's, eight bells. Visitors on arrival are requested to proceed to St. Werburgh's Sunday School (opposite Temperance Hall, Curzon Street), where the local committee will be in attendance to assist in forming bands to proceed to the various towers. Committee meeting in the above school at 3.30 p.m.; service in St. Werburgh's Church at 4.30 p.m.; tea in the schoolroom at 5 p.m.; general meeting and election of officers for the ensuing year at 6 p.m. All ringers and friends are earnestly invited to attend.

41 Shobnall Street, Burton-on-Trent.

JOSEPH GRIFFIN, Hon. Sec.

St. Leonard's, Shoreditch, Middlesex.

For some time past members of the Society of Royal Cumberland Youths anticipated a grand day here on the 27th of March, which is the date of one of the Society's most brilliant performances; and it may be added that this is one of the most brilliant feats in the annals of bell-ringing: In commemoration of the event on the 27th ult., at about 2 o'clock, the following members attempted a peal of Kent Treble Bob Maximus, and stood in the following order:—Messrs. Newson, C. Hopkins, Rundell, Hannington, Titchener, Jacob, Gardom, F. Pitstow, Doran, Meadows, Jarman, and Barrett. But after ringing five courses in 2 hrs. 50 mins., came to a stand unexpectedly.

At 7.10 p.m. another band successfully attempted a peal, and thus secured a record to commemorate the 12,000th Treble Bob Royal rung on March 27th, 1784. The method selected in this instance was Kent Treble Bob Royal. The time occupied was 3 hrs. 50 mins., and the men stood as follows:—G. Newson, 1; J. Nelms, 2; T. Titchener, 3; A. Jacob, 4; J. Hannington, 5; H. Dains, 6; W. Doran, 7; W. Meadows, 8; S. Jarman, 9; J. Barrett, 10. Tenor, 80 cwt. The composition is by Mr. N. J. Pitstow, a level 5000, and has the 6th the extent in 5, 6. Mr. G. Newson, conductor.

On Friday evening, the 28th, about thirty-six members of the Society sat down to an excellent repast at the 'Green Man,' St. Martin's Lane. After usual loyal toasts being duly received, the health of the 12,000 band was drunk in solemn silence. 'Our Vicars,' 'Our Churchwardens,' 'Steeple-keepers' and 'Societies' Officers,' each received due consideration.

On the 29th, six members of the Royal Cumberland, by invitation of Messrs. J. Warner and Sons, opened a new ring of six bells (Tenor, 7½ cwt. in B½) at Christ Church, Mitcham, Surrey. A dedication service took place at 5 p.m.; after which the ringers, Messrs. Nelms, Dains, Gardom, Newson, Mansfield, and Swain, rang Grandsire, Stedman's, Plain and Kent Treble Bob Minor. In each case the extent of the changes was performed. The ring had a very lively effect in the adjoining villages, and many ringers from neighbouring places were present on the occasion, who admired the bells and also the ringing.

Hy. Dains, Hon. Sec. Royal Cumberland Society.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At Holy Trinity, Dartford, Kent.

On Sunday, the 23rd inst., for morning service, a peal of Bob Minor (18 bobs and 2 singles) was rung in 29 mins., with 6-8 behind. E. Saxby, 1; J. Blackman, 2; G. May, 3; J. Saxby, 4; B. W. Rose* (conductor), 5; E. W. Snowden, 6; H. Harper, 7; R. Davis, 8. Tenor, 20 cwt. [* First peal as conductor.]

At St. John's, Waterloo Road, London.

On Wednesday, the 26th ult., eight members of the Waterloo Society rang a peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples, Holt's Ten-part, in 3 hrs. H. J. Davies,* 1; W. Baron (conductor), 2; J. M. Routh, Esq., 3; W. Jones, 4; G. Mash, 5; E. Robins, 6; W. Coppage, 7; J. Sanderson,* 8. [* First peal.]

The St. James's Society, Higher Sutton, Cheshire.

On Wednesday, the 26th ult., a peal of 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor (9 bobs) was rung in 25 mins. Wm. Walmsley (conductor), 1; W. H. Ingham, 2; W. Ingham, 3; J. M. Davenport, 4; W. H. Hardman, 5; T. Mothershead, 6.

On Sunday last, in the evening, a muffled peal of 720 Grandsire Minor (34 bobs and 26 singles) was rung in 26 mins. J. D. Wheelton, 1; W. H. Ingham (conductor), 2; W. Walmsley, 3; J. M. Davenport, 4; W. Ingham, 5; T. Mothershead, 6. Mr. Wheelton hails from Prestbury in Cheshire, and this is his first 720.

Also on Monday evening, a peal of 720 Bob Minor (18 bobs and 2 singles) was rung in 25 mins. W. H. Ingham (conductor), 1; W. Walmsley, 2; W. Ingham, 3; J. M. Davenport, 4; W. H. Hardman, 5; T. Mothershead, 6. These two peals were rung with the bells muffled, as a mark of respect to the late Duke of Albany.

At St. Peter's, Walworth, Surrey.

On Thursday, the 27th ult., eight members of the St. James's Society rang Holt's Original One-part peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples in 2 hrs. 41 mins. E. Robins, 1; H. Langdon,* 2; M. Murphy,† 3; G. T. McLaughlin, 4; W. Jones, 5; C. F. Winny, 6; R. French (conductor), 7; D. Newton, 8. [* First peal with bob bell. † First peal.]

At Church Kirk, Lancashire.—Muffled Peal.

On Sunday, the 30th ult., for morning and evening service, on account of the death of the Duke of Albany, the bells of the parish church were rung muffled. For evening service a peal of Plain Bob Minor (18 bobs and 2 singles) was rung in 28 mins. by the following members of the Lancashire Association. J. Horrocks (conductor), 1; T. Doran, 2; H. Hayes, 3; J. Pickles, 4; W. Pattison, 5; T. Horrocks, 6. Tenor, 15 cwt.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Good Friday Collections for Jewish Evangelisation.

SIR,—Allow me to suggest that on Good Friday, the one occasion in the year when the Church makes special mention of the Jews in her public intercessions, the offerings of congregations might with great suitableness be collected in furtherance of Jewish evangelisation, on the principle of alms and prayers going up together as a memorial to God in behalf of His ancient people. The tenth and eleventh chapters of the Epistle to the Romans may serve to convince gainsayers of the Church's serious responsibility in this matter, particularly towards those Jews who have become our fellow-countrymen, and who, in their respective parishes, have been committed, equally with other residents, to the pastoral care and ministry of their parish priest. May I refer your readers to a statement given elsewhere in your present issue, and setting forth the design, method, and work of the Parochial Missions to the Jews' Fund?

ROBERT SUTTON, Hon. Sec. of the Fund.

Pevensey Vicarage, Hastings.

Apostolic Succession.

SIR,—In answer to 'H. G. W.', I would refer him to Letter VIII, from 'Home Reunion Notes,' 1883, and the report therein referred to of the East Church Case. One of the accusations brought against Mr. Cooper was, that he claimed and taught Apostolic Succession. His answer was, that if he did not believe his Church possessed the succession he would feel obliged to leave it. And the Moderator ruled, that though the belief was not compulsory, no one could be proceeded against for holding or teaching it. The fact is, the Scotch have always held till now very firmly to the doctrine that the Church is the kingdom of Christ on earth. Presbyterians never thought themselves a man-made sect, nor of the ministry as anything but the gift of Christ to His Church; but of late these doctrines have almost been killed out by our unhappy divisions.

NELSON.

A New Society.

SIR,—During the debate on Lay Readers in the Upper House of Convocation, the Bishop of Lincoln stated that 'No class in the country was suffering so much and so patiently as the clergy of the Church from agricultural depression, and consequent impoverishment with regard to their endowments. . . . Incumbents, who ten years ago were supposed to be in possession of considerable endowments, had been obliged to resign their benefices by reason of extreme agricultural depression. . . . They were really passing through a most severe crisis.' Again, the Bishop of Exeter said it was impossible for incumbents to get money to pay curates. 'It was impossible for them to increase the endowments of the Church at all in proportion to the increase of the work to be done.' The Bishop of Truro felt that 'they were not justified in saying that a sufficient supply of clergy could not be found until a solemn appeal had been made to the laity by the united Episcopate, pressing upon them the duty of systematic alms-giving in general, and especially the need of proper provision for the clergy.' Allow me to remind your readers that it was incumbent on the Jew to give a tenth, besides offerings—that the Prophet Malachi pronounces a curse on those who rob God of His tithes and offerings, and a blessing on those who repent—that the early Christians had all things in common—that the ancient endowments of the Church are the tithes of our forefathers. I have never heard of this tenth being demanded in modern days as the right of the Church. I have never heard it denied that it is the duty of every Churchman to give at least a tenth of his income. Above all, I have never heard of any individual who has tested the promise of God by Malachi not reaping the blessing. Enormous sums have been given for Church purposes, but everywhere God's work is starved for want of money, because the more we give the more He blesses the work, and the supply ever goes on creating fresh demands. And so it must ever be until every Churchman obeys the command of God, and gives the minimum, viz., a tenth of his income. And when we attain to that many will not be satisfied to give less than a fifth. I suggest the immediate formation of a Society for

Revival of Tithes and Offerings.

CANADA.

Mockville, March 20.

Outcast London.

SIR,—The Rev. J. W. Horsley, Chaplain of Clerkenwell Prison, in his evidence given before the Evangelisation Committee of the London Diocesan Conference, says, 'there were 78,000 persons apprehended in 1882 in the metropolitan district, including 26,000 drunkards,' and adds, 'The weakness and strength of the Temperance movement is shown by the fact, that it is rare to find any prisoner who has not, at some time or other, been a total abstainer.' I can to this add, that the hymns of Messrs. Moody and Sankey and the songs of the Salvation Army are commonly sung in the streets here, in the day-time by boys and girls at play, and at night by men and women, when the public-houses close. Do not these facts witness rather to improper means being used to evangelise the masses, than to neglect of them?

EDWARD S. GREEN, M.A., Vicar of St. Saviour's, Bethnal Green.

Widows and Orphans in Outcast London.

SIR,—I hope many ladies who live in the country may be induced to follow Miss Chambers' admirable suggestion, and to undertake to board one or two poor London children in the villages in which they reside. I know the life of the poor in the agricultural districts, and I know that many a labourer's wife is glad to take in a child at 4s. weekly, and sometimes at 3s. 6d., though I believe they would look for a little assistance in clothing. The child attends the village school, and as she grows up becomes very useful to her foster-mother while she learns various bits of household work. The

IRELAND.

From our Special Correspondent.

THE condition of the Primate's health, which was a source of much uneasiness, has improved, and there is reason for hoping that a change for the better has set in. It must be doubtful, however, whether his Grace will be able to take any part in the next General Synod.

The Bishop of Meath, who is sojourning at Cannes, preached in the English church on the Sunday after the Duke of Albany's death. In the course of his sermon his Lordship affectingly referred to the great sorrow that had so unexpectedly fallen on their little community there, as well as on the nation at large. The bells in some of the Dublin churches were tolled on Saturday during the funeral, and altogether the exhibition of mourning was very real and universal. A resolution of condolence with Her Majesty and the Royal Family was passed, all but unanimously, by the Dublin Corporation on Monday last, there being only one dissident.

The Bishop of Cork has bestowed the Canonry of the Holy Trinity in St. Finbarre's Cathedral on the Rev. E. R. Emerson, D.D., incumbent of St. Edmund's, Dunmanway. The vacancy in the important parish of Lisburn has been filled up by the appointment thereto by the Board of Nomination of the Rev. W. Dawson Pounden, incumbent of Christ Church, Lisburn.

Miss Connolly, of Fitzwilliam Place, Dublin, has bequeathed the sum of 10,000*l.* to the Representative Church Body, in addition to a similar sum left by her sister a short time ago; both bequests to be realised at the death of their surviving sister. The money is left for the purpose of increasing the stipends of poor parishes.

THE DUBLIN MISSION.

By a Casual.

THE Mission is over, and it is for the clergy to get all the fruit they can out of it. It is hoped that there will be some result beyond a temporary excitement, and that the clergy will be cheered by larger numbers of communicants, fuller Sunday Schools, Young Men and Young Women's Bible Classes, a deeper and stronger tone of spiritual feeling, larger offerings for devout and charitable purposes, more regular and constant church-going, and altogether an improved tone of religious life and activity.

The eccentricities of the Mission were conspicuous. In fact, for the time being, the usual decorum of our Church services was largely in suspension. The Church prayers were dealt with after a fashion that left little to be desired as far as variety was concerned, and it was not always easy to follow or find a rule for the selection. In one or two churches, notably that of St. Stephen's, the lines of the Church were strictly adhered to; nothing could be more impressive than the short evening service and *congregational singing* in this church, added to the addresses of the Missioner, Canon Bullock. One little thought they would ever have heard some of the revival hymns of Denham Smith's time sung in St. Bartholomew's; but so it was, and the congregation then joined in 'Lord, I hear of showers of blessing,' sung to the old tune of twenty years ago, as if they loved it. The addresses here were most practical and heart-searching.

Dr. Morgan, in St. Matthias', succeeded in riveting on some of his hearers at least some deeply spiritual lessons. The calm, earnest teaching delivered in St. George's, must surely bear fruit. It seems a pity that a larger congregation was not present in St. Mary's to take advantage of the eloquent addresses heard in that church day after day. Sandford and Baggot Rath churches were well attended throughout the Mission; but the addresses somewhat lacked variety: having heard one you heard almost all. The doctrine preached was immediate present salvation and inevitable security for those who once for all believed that Christ died for them. Why were the people called on in the latter church to repeat the general confession of sin, without hearing after it the blessed assurance that 'God pardoneth and absolveth all them that truly repent and unfeignedly believe His holy Gospel,' and that with three clergymen present, any of whom was qualified to pronounce the Absolution? It seemed a matter *de rigueur* with many of the Missioners to get rid of the surplice as soon as possible, and some of the clergy preached and prayed (extemporary) from the reading-desk in their walking-coats; others appeared in their cassocks, which was an arrangement a little more suitable, ecclesiastically speaking. The black gown was conspicuous by its absence. In more than one instance the Mission, as far as it had any Church aspect, might have been a Methodist or Congregational meeting. Mr. Hay Aitken must be regarded as an exception; his references to the place of the Sacraments in the economy of salvation were striking and edifying, and on the whole his sermons, numerous as they were, were listened to with unflagging interest day after day in St. Ann's Church, and also in the Cathedral of St. Patrick. In the latter the *poor* crowded to hear him. I noticed that he was not afraid to speak of the parochial clergyman as the 'parish priest,' a term abhorred by the Irish clergy.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Surrey Association.

A QUARTERLY MEETING of this Association will be held (by the kind permission of the Vicar, the Rev. F. F. Kelly) at St. Giles's, Camberwell, on Monday, April 21st. The tower will be open for ringing in the afternoon until 4.45, and after the evening service from 5.20. The tea and business meeting will be held at the Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell New Road (near Camberwell Green), at 5.30 p.m. The tea will be free to ringing members; all others, 1*s.* 6*d.*

ARTHUR B. CARPENTER, *Hon. Sec.*

Society of Change-Ringers for the Archdeaconry of Stafford.

The next meeting of the above Society will be held at Walsall on Saturday, April 19th. Members who intend to be present are requested to meet at the Parish Church at 2.30 p.m., and to send in their names as soon as possible to Mr. W. A. Wood, *Hon. Sec.*, Tamworth Street, Lichfield.

J. R. KEBBLE, } *Hon. Secs.*
W. A. WOOD, }

Worcester and adjoining Districts Change-ringing Association.

A QUARTERLY MEETING of the above Society will be held (by the kind permission of the Vicar) in the Barn Schoolroom, King Street, Dudley, at 4 p.m., when the Rev. S. J. Marriott, M.A., vicar of Netherton, will preside. All Members are requested to meet at the 'Bee-Hive Inn,' Stafford Street, at 12 o'clock (noon) to make arrangements for ringing, &c. Members of each Society in union are respectfully invited. [No day is mentioned.]

23 Church Road, Netherton. J. SMITH, F. OWEN, *Hon. Secs.*

Hexham Abbey Church Bells.

At a recent meeting of the churchwardens, the question of the recasting two of the bells which are cracked, and generally restoring the ring, was under consideration. It appeared that the cost of taking down, recasting, and rehanging the two bells, &c., would entail an expenditure of 100*l.* It was unanimously decided that the work should be carried out as soon as the necessary funds could be raised, and that a notification to that effect be made to the public, and a subscription list opened forthwith.

New Peals.

5040										5080										5120									
2	3	4	5	6	M.	W.	H.			2	3	4	5	6	M.	W.	H.			2	3	4	5	6	M.	W.	H.		
5	6	2	3	4	2	1				5	4	6	3	2	1	1				6	3	5	4	2	1	2	1		
6	4	2	3	5	1	2				5	2	4	3	6	2	1				2	5	3	4	6	1		1		
4	5	2	3	6	1	2				3	5	4	2	6		1				4	2	3	5	6		1			
3	4	2	5	6		1				5	2	6	4	3	1	2				3	5	6	2	4	1		1		
5	6	3	4	2	2	1				5	3	2	4	6	2	1				5	3	4	2	6		2		2	
6	2	3	4	5	1	2				4	5	2	3	6		1				5	2	4	3	6		2			
2	5	3	4	6	1	2				5	3	6	2	4	1	2				2	5	6	3	4			1		
4	2	3	5	6		1				5	4	3	2	6	2	1				2	4	5	3	6					
5	3	6	2	5	1	1				2	5	3	4	6		1				3	2	5	4	6			1		
3	5	4	2	6	2	2				6	2	4	5	3	2	1	2			2	4	6	5	3	1		2		1
2	3	4	5	6		1				2	3	4	5	6	1	2				2	3	4	5	6					

Saffron Walden.

N. J. PITTSLOW.

MUFFLED PEALS IN MEMORY OF THE DUKE OF ALBANY.

At Netherton, Worcestershire.

On Sunday morning, the 30th ult., the company of St. Andrew's rang 360 of Grandsire Minor in 13 mins. On the same evening a peal of 720 of Plain Bob in 30½ mins. Also on Tuesday evening 360 of Grandsire Minor in 12½ mins; and on Saturday evening a peal of 720 of Plain Bob in 29½ mins. The ringers were—J. Robinson, J. Prestidge, J. Smith (conductor), F. Hotchkiss, J. Townsend, R. Round, B. Townsend, and T. Felton. The above were rung with the bells muffled. Tenor, 12½ cwt.

At Salisbury, Wilts.

MUFFLED PEALS were rung on Saturday, the 5th inst., viz., At St. THOMAS'S, rounds only, by J. Tapper, 1; W. Lanham, 2; J. Short, 3; W. Highman, 4; T. Blackburn, 5; J. Head, 6; J. R. Jerram, 7; G. Blake, 8. Tenor, 32 cwt.

At St. PAUL'S, by some of the same party, rounds only. Tenor, 13 cwt.

At St. EDMUND'S, by J. Parsons and his company. Tenor, 30 cwt.

At St. MARTIN'S, by E. Forster, 1; H. Dowling, 2; C. A. Clements, 3; T. Blackburn, 4; W. Gifford, 5; J. R. Jerram, 6. Also 120 Stedman's Doubles by the same, with J. Judd, 6. Tenor, 15 cwt.

At Aston-juxta-Birmingham.

On Saturday, the 5th inst., some members of the Holte Society of Change-ringers met at the parish church, and rang a peal of 5003 Grandsire Caters in 3 hrs. 25 mins., with the bells deeply muffled. The peal contains variations with the 'Tittums Inverted,' and was composed by Mr. H. Johnson, sen. H. Bastable, 1; W. Cartwright, 2; T. Hemming, 3; A. Jones, 4; W. Ansell, 5; W. Kent (conductor), 6; J. Plant, 7; T. Reynolds, 8; A. Thomas, 9; J. Buffery, 10.

At St. Clement Danes, Strand, London.

WITH the bells half muffled, ten members of the St. James's Society rang 5130 Grandsire Caters in 3 hrs. 40 mins. H. Langdon, 1; W. Weatherstone, 2; J. R. Haworth, 3; R. French (conductor), 4; G. T. McLaughlin, 5; W. H. Fussell, 6; F. Margetson, 7; J. Martin Routh, Esq., 8; G. Banks, 9; C. F. Winny, 10. Composed by H. Booth, and ordered to be rung by the Rector (the Rev. J. Lindsay) and the Churchwardens.

At St. Paul's Cathedral, London.

As announced last week, thirteen members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang the bells, half muffled, in memory of the late Duke. Afterwards, four courses of Stedman's Cinques, ordered by the Dean. Messrs. Pettit, Haley, Cooter, Haworth, Jameson, Mash, Dorrington, Clarke, Wood, Horrocks, Hayes, Musket, and Jones.

At St. John the Evangelist's, Pimlico, London.

On Saturday, the 5th inst., the following rang a funeral peal (the usual whole pull and stand) with the bells half muffled. F. E. Dawe (conductor), 1; F. W. Francis, 2; W. Chew, 3; C. F. Winny, 4; Rev. P. P. Yerburch, 5; G. T. McLaughlin, 6; R. Sparkes, 7; F. T. Gover, 8. Tenor, 10½ cwt., in G. A touch of Grandsire Triples was afterwards rung.

At St. Thomas's, Lancaster.

On Tuesday, the 1st inst., three and a half peals of Plain Bob Minor, consisting of 720 changes in each peal (in all 2520 changes), were rung with the bells deeply muffled in 1 hr. 30 mins. B. Edmondson (conductor), 1; W. Parkinson, 2; E. Middleton, 3; H. Coope, 4; R. Edmondson, 5; J. Rawlinson, 6. Tenor, 8 cwt.

At the Cathedral, at St. Mary's, and at St. Michael's, Lichfield.

On Saturday, the 5th inst., at the Cathedral, with the bells muffled, was rung a touch of Triples. And also a touch of Triples with a touch of Grandsire Major were rung at St. Mary's. E. Gallimore, 1; H. King, 2; F. Sedgwick, 3; J. Key, 4; H. Meacham, 5; T. Meredith (conductor), 6; A. Greenwood, 7; F. Cope, 8. Also at St. Michael's, a peal of 720 Grandsire Minor was rung in 20½ mins. E. Gallimore, 1; T. Sedgwick, 2; F. Cope (conductor), 3; H. King, 4; H. Meacham, 5; A. Greenwood, 6. All Members of the Society of Change-ringers for the Archdeaconry of Stafford.

At St. George's, Hyde, Cheshire.

On Saturday, the 5th inst., 5120 changes of Kent Treble Bob Major, with the bells muffled, were rung in 3 hrs. 5 mins. J. Shaw, 1; R. Prichard, 2; R. Woolley, 3; W. Slater, 4; R. Ainsworth, 5; S. Bradley, 6; T. Wilde, 7; S. Wood (composer and conductor), 8. Tenor, 15 cwt. 1 qr. 24 lbs.

At St. Paul's, Bedford.

On Saturday, the 5th inst., eight members of the St. Paul's Company of the Beds Association of Change-ringers, with the bells deeply muffled, rang a Date Touch of 1884 changes of Bob Major in 1 hr. 20 mins. C. West, 1; S. J. Cullip, 2; W. Biggs, 3; W. Hall, 4; C. W. Clark, 5; J. Atkins, 6; I. Hills, 7; J. Frossell (conductor), 8. Tenor, 28 cwt. [* Also members of the Ely Diocesan Association.]

At St. Nicholas's, Nuneaton, Warwickshire.

On Saturday, the 5th inst., the local company rang, with the bells muffled on both sides, 5 six-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently, with 7, 6, 8 behind; fifth bell the observation. W. Adler, 1; T. Lingard, 2; J. J. Mawby, 3; H. Horwood (conductor), 4; T. Bates, 5; G. E. Swain, 6; H. Bacon, 7; W. Swain, 8. After a few call-changes and rounds with the bells rung wide they were lowered at 12.30 p.m.

Also on Sunday morning, for Divine service, the same 5 six-scores were rung. G. E. Swain, 1; W. Swain, 2; J. J. Mawby, 3; H. Horwood (conductor), 4; T. Bates, 5; C. Draper, 6; H. Bacon, 7; W. Adler, 8. Tenor, 14½ cwt., in E.

At St. Edward's, Romford, Essex.

On Saturday evening, the 5th inst., a half-muffled peal of 720 Bob Minor was rung. J. Gillingham, 1; B. Keeble, 2; J. Porter, 3; A. Perkins (conductor), 4; A. Pye, 5; A. Heards, 6.

On Sunday, being Confirmation at this church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung in 47 mins. G. Garnett, 1; A. Pye, 2; B. Keeble, 3; A. Perkins (conductor), 4; J. Nunn (composer), 5; J. Pye, 6; A. Porter, 7; J. Gillingham, 8. This quarter-peal contains 30 bobs. Also a touch of 350 Grandsire Triples.

At St. Mary's, Islington, Middlesex.

On Saturday evening, the 5th inst., a muffled peal was rung by J. Haines, 1; W. Spicer, 2; C. Spicer (conductor), 3; W. Marshall, 4; F. Thomas, 5; W. Williams, 6; D. Liven, 7; J. Tingey, 8.

At St. Peter's, Walworth, Surrey.

On Sunday evening, after the service, a half-muffled peal was rung. W. Thripp, 1; H. E. Gummer (conductor), 2; H. Flower, 3; E. J. Studley, 4; E. Williamson, 5; H. Wilks, 6; W. Pinsent, 7; J. Warwick, 8. Tenor, 15½ cwt., in F minor.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At St. Paul's, Spalding, Lincolnshire.

On the 18th ult., in commemoration of Mr. Richard Creasey (the conductor's) forty-fourth birthday, a peal of 1260 Grandsire Triples was rung in 45 mins. by R. Skeef, 1; R. Creasey (conductor), 2; E. Mason, 3; E. Quinton, 4; A. W. Walker, 5; C. Creasey, 6; J. A. Croxford, 7; A. Creasey, 8. Tenor, 15 cwt.

At St. Peter's, Ashton-under-Lyne, Lancashire.

On Monday, the 7th inst., a peal of 5088 Kent Treble Bob Major was rung in 3 hrs. 4 mins. J. Hopwood, 1; J. Wood, 2; T. Bradley, 3; W. Slater, 4; J. Mellor, 5; G. Longden, 6; T. Wilde, 7; S. Wood (conductor), 8. Tenor, 20 cwt., in E. The above peal was rung in honour of Mr. Samuel Wood's twenty-seventh birthday, he having rung 87 peals and conducted 50 of them.

RECEIVED ALSO:—F. C. Mattison (on account of going to press one day earlier this week, your communication is postponed till next week).

CORRESPONDENCE.

The Sunday Morning Service.

SIR,—While the Americans are revising and enriching their Prayer-book, we in England can hardly hope at present for further improvement in our own. The Shortened Service Act has been very useful, but it does not meet all our needs, and it especially fails on Sunday mornings. It allows us to omit the Litany; just that part of the service which many people value, or used to value, above most of the rest. But it leaves in uncertainty whether the Morning Prayer may or may not be lawfully concluded at the third collect—a matter perhaps of small importance; and it leaves us with a service inartistic, ill-balanced, and loaded with needless repetitions. Thus we have two Creeds, the Collect for the day twice over, the Lord's Prayer three times, and three prayers for the Queen. If either the Litany is said or the prayers after the third Collect, the Queen is prayed for a fourth time; and various petitions occur which are repeated in the Prayer for the Church Militant. When there is a Celebration, as properly there always ought to be, we have in the course of the service two Confessions, two Absolutions, and a fourth or fifth Lord's Prayer.

The resource of separating the service into its three constituents of Morning Prayer, Litany, and Communion Office, and saying each separately, is practically unavailable in the great majority of parishes, and I doubt its full expediency where it can be done. I should be glad to hear from readers of *Church Bells* what they think of the following suggestions.

The principle to go upon should be, I think, to strike out of the morning service most or all of what recurs word for word at evening service, so as to have two distinct services for the two times of the day, when many of the same people are in the habit of attending. It will be found that these excisions would in almost all cases relieve us also of the repetitions in the Communion Service itself. Suppose, then, the Sunday morning service began with 'O Lord, open Thou our lips,' continued to the end of *Benedictus* or *Jubilate*; then, 'The Lord be with you,' 'And with thy spirit,' 'Let us pray;' the Litany to the end of the Deprecations, followed by the Supplications cleared of subjects which recur in the Church Militant prayer; and adding after 'O Christ, hear us,' the two daily collects, such of the occasional prayers, &c., as were required, and 'The Grace of our Lord.' The remainder of the Litany, most of which is always optional in America, would then be reserved for occasions when the Litany is said as a separate service.

Perhaps a more artistic, but more hopeless plan, would be to dispense with the separate form of Morning Prayer altogether, and to weave those parts which do not recur either at Evening Prayer or at Holy Communion into the Communion Office itself. Thus: Lord's Prayer, Collect for Purity, Commandments and Responses (a penitential opening, be it remembered by those who regret the daily Confession), Collect for the day, 'O Lord, open,' &c., Invitatory, Psalms, First Lessons, *Te Deum* or *Omnia Opera*, Epistle, *Benedictus* or *Jubilate*, Gospel, Nicene Creed, Sermon, &c., Offertory, Church Militant Prayer, Litany (shortened as above), Occasional Prayers, &c., the two Daily Collects, the Grace. The remainder of the service unaltered.

For the present, all this, and any of it, and anything like it, is, of course, out of the question. But the opportunity for revision will come some day, and it will be well to be prepared.

J. F.

The General Thanksgiving.

SIR,—Why need the repeating of this be made a party question? A few weeks ago in your paper you remark that the Low-Church party repeat it; about the same time the *Rock* mentioned, as one mark of Ritualism or High Church, I forget which, that the congregation were requested not to repeat it. It seems to me to be altogether a matter outside this, and one to be decided upon its own merits. The long, but not unrhymical sentences, occupying three times as many lines as any in the General Confession without a stop, the manner of printing with a small letter after the stops where they do occur, and above all the 'Amen' in italics, all point to the fact that it was not framed with a view to its being repeated. In the Revised Irish Prayer-book—partly, I imagine, to give leave for a custom which it would have been difficult to stop, and partly from a mistaken idea of the meaning of the word 'general'—there is inserted a rubric, 'which may be said of the whole congregation, after the minister.' In that book also there is the following sentence, 'and that we may show forth Thy praise.' The only other place I ever saw that 'may' is in a Prayer-book in an old church here, the date of which is torn out. It quite spoils the run of the sentence; I should like to know if it is original.

Abbey Leix.

WILLIAM O'N. LINDESAY.

Punctuation of the Nicene Creed.

SIR,—It is remarkable, I think, to say the least, that there should be such variation in the punctuation of the Nicene Creed, in those sentences which bear reference to the second Person of the Trinity. I will proceed at once to give the clauses from all the sources with which I am acquainted:—

Liturgy of St. Mark:—

'In one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only-Begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

St. Mary's, Hitchin, Herts.

On Easter Monday, five of the local ringers, with two from London and one from Doncaster, attempted a peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples (Holt's Ten-part); but owing to an accident—not serious—only about half a peal, or 2520 changes, were rung. W. Allen, 1; J. R. Haworth (London), 2; F. E. Moule (Doncaster), 3; J. Hare, 4; F. Turr, 5; W. A. Tyler, 6; J. M. Hayes (conductor, London), 7; W. Kitchener, 8. Tenor, 28 cwt.

After dinner, Mr. Allen (chairman) proposed a vote of thanks to the Vicar and Churchwardens, which was carried unanimously. He then proposed the health of the 'Visitors,' remarking that it was about a hundred years since change-ringing was practised in Hitchin. They did not know what it meant till he was introduced to Mr. Haworth some time since, who threw a light upon the subject, and he had endeavoured, with the assistance of Mr. Tyler, to instruct both himself and others in the art of change-ringing. Mr. Haworth, in replying, said he was pleased that he had made the acquaintance of Mr. Allen and been the means of doing something to introduce the art of change-ringing once more into Hitchin. Although they had been unfortunate to-day, it was a pleasing fact that five local ringers were in the attempt, and that it was good ringing, which proved that in a short time the pleasant town of Hitchin will possess a band of change-ringers. It may be remarked that Mr. Allen deserves great praise for the trouble he has taken in connexion with the above work.

St. Michael's Bells, Sittingbourne, Kent.

THE preparations for the addition of two trebles to this fine old ring of six have now been commenced, and it is anticipated that the eight will be ready for ringing on Whit Sunday. The work of hanging the new bells, which will be cast by Messrs. Warner, and of moving the others, has been entrusted to Mr. S. Snelling, the steeple-keeper, and the necessary alterations to the frame will be executed by a local builder, Mr. Tidy, under plans prepared by a member. Sunday, the 6th inst., was the last occasion on which the old six were used; and on that evening six members rang a peal of 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor in 29 mins. as a farewell peal. The peal is noteworthy as being the first in that method rung in Sittingbourne. W. G. Gordelier, 1; J. Cooper, 2; F. C. Mattison (conductor), 3; E. T. Bottle, 4; S. Snelling, 5; W. H. Judd, 6. Tenor, 21 cwt.

A muffled peal was rung on the 5th inst. at 11.30 a.m., the time of the funeral of the late Duke of Albany.

The Midland Counties Association.

THE second Annual Meeting of the above Association was held in St. Werburgh's Schools, Derby, on Easter Monday, at 6.30 p.m. The President, the Rev. James H. Fish, vicar of St. Paul's, Burton-on-Trent, in the chair. There were also present Mr. J. Griffin, Burton-on-Trent, hon. secretary; Mr. Wm. Wakley, Burton-on-Trent, hon. treasurer; the Rev. C. T. Bromwich, St. Werburgh's, Derby; the Rev. R. W. Pitt, St. Paul's, Burton-on-Trent; Rev. C. Brittain, Darley Abbey, Derby; the Rev. J. W. Kewley, Derby; Dr. Sellon, and about fifty other members of the Association. The following officers were elected for the ensuing year:—President, Rev. James H. Fish, Burton-on-Trent; Hon. Treasurer, Mr. Wm. Wakley, Burton-on-Trent; Hon. Secretary, Rev. R. W. Pitt, Burton-on-Trent. A vote of thanks was passed to the vicars and churchwardens of the Derby churches for placing their bells at the disposal of the Association during the day; also to the Rev. T. Berry, vicar of St. Werburgh's, for the use of his church and schools, and the Rev. C. Brittain for his excellent and eloquent address at the afternoon service. A letter from the Vicar of St. Peter's, Nottingham, testifying to the reform worked in St. Peter's belfry and the good work being carried on there by members of the Midland Counties Association, was read by the President amid loud applause. The following methods were rung during the day:—Kent Treble Bob Royal, Stedman's and Grandsire Caters, Kent Treble Bob Major, and Grandsire Triples. A touch also of 334 Superlative Surprise Major was rung on the musical bells of St. Andrew's, a belfry which it is a treat to enter, owing to the care bestowed upon it by Mr. Shardlow, an enthusiastic lover of ringing. The next quarterly meeting of the Association will be held at Leicester, on Saturday, June 28th, 1884.

Reopening of St. John's Bells, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

THIS ring, which has just been augmented to a ring of eight, was, on Easter Sunday, dedicated to the service of God. The service was held in the belfry, the vicar, the Rev. W. E. Houldley, officiating, a good number of ringers being present. At the conclusion the bells were struck off in rounds by G. Campbell, 1; G. J. Clarkson, 2; T. Lees, 3; C. L. Routledge, 4; W. G. Routledge, 5; W. Eggleston, 6; W. Story, 7; G. Herdman, 8. During the day the above ringers, assisted by Messrs. T. J. Des Forges and J. Simm, rang for the several services touches of Grandsire Triples, in which method the fine tone of the new bells was heard to great advantage, and most agreeable comments were made by both parishioners and ringers regarding the marked improvement in the whole ring. The additional bells are two trebles, and the old treble was also recast because its weak tone, owing to an insufficiency of metal, would not allow of the addition of others above it. The casting was placed in the hands of Messrs. Warner and Sons of London. The work of hanging has been carried out by Mr. Francis Lees, the conductor of the St. John's Guild of Ringers, assisted by several of the other ringers, who are to be congratulated on the success which has attended their efforts, for the 'go' of the bells leaves nothing to be desired.

On Monday, the 14th inst., the invitation issued to change-ringers of

the district by the Vicar and Churchwardens, brought representatives from Stockton, North and South Shields, Jarrow, and Newcastle, who rang at different times in the day touches of Grandsire and Stedman's Triples and Treble Bob Major. At 4.30 p.m. a substantial 'knife-and-fork' tea was supplied in the large vestry, to which full justice was done.

In the evening a reopening service was held, and was well attended, the Rev. Canon Lloyd, vicar of Newcastle, preaching, who took for his text Ps. xiv. 4. The congregation were rung out with a well-struck touch of 504 Grandsire Triples, which brought the day to a close in the way of ringing, every one seeming well satisfied with this new ring of eight. Tenor, 12½ cwt.

During the day a band visited St. Stephen's Church, Newcastle, and rang the first touch of Treble Bob Major ever performed on this heavy ring of eight. This touch consisted of 960 changes, and was rung by W. Reid, 1; H. F. T. Glover, 2; E. Wallis, 3; W. Stephenson, 4; T. Burdon, 5; W. Newton, 6; T. Stephenson, 7; G. J. Clarkson (conductor), 8. Tenor, 30 cwt.

The Northampton Church Bells.

In our issue for April 5th we recorded the gift of a ring of bells by Mr. Tomes to St. Edmund's Church, Northampton. This week we extract from the *Northampton Herald* the following particulars concerning the Northampton church bells, with the inscriptions thereon, which may be of interest to our readers:—

'St. Peter's. In 1734 eight new bells were put up at St. Peter's. 1. Peace and good neighbourhood. 2. A.R. 1734. 3. Fear God. Honour the King. 4. A.R. 5. Rudhal of Gloucester cast us all. 6. Prosperity to the Church of England. 7. Sir Arthur Hazelridge, Bart., and Nicholas Batten, Churchwardens. 8. The gift of Sir Arthur Hazelridge, Bart.—In 1782 eight new bells were put up at All Saints'.

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| 1. I mean to make it understood,
That tho' I'm little, yet I'm good. | 6. Such wondrous charms to music's given,
It elevates the soul to heaven. |
| 2. If you have a judicious ear,
You'll own my voice is sweet and clear. | 7. To honour both of God and King,
Our voices shall in concert sing. |
| 3. Whilst thus we join in cheerful sound,
May Love and loyalty abound. | C. Hillyard, Mayor.
J. Lucy, W. Marshall, bailiffs. |
| 4. Though much against us may be said,
To speak our minds we're not afraid. | 8. In wedlock's bands all ye who join
With hands your hearts unite, |
| 5. Ye people all, who hear us ring,
Be faithful to your God and King. | So shall our tuneful tongues combine
To land the nuptial rite. |

John Wye, Joseph King, Churchwardens.

There are two crown-pieces on the tenor bell—one on the head and the other on the reverse. In 1829 the Corporation gave a new set of chimes to the church, which were executed by Mr. Bryant of Hertford. They should play eight tunes. In 1783 eight new bells were put up at St. Giles's. 1. Long life and prosperity to our worthy subscribers. E. Arnold, St. Neot's, 1783. 2. *Omnia fiant ad gloriam Dei.* 3. While thus we join in cheerful sound, May love and loyalty abound. 4. Edward Watkin, Vicar. Edward Kirby and John Hesketh, Churchwardens. 5. Let everything that hath breath praise the Lord. 6. Six bells recast by rate and two trebles by subscription. 7. The joys of peace our infant voice proclaim, With Holland, France, America, and Spain. 8. Edward Watkin, Vicar; Edward Kirby and John Hesketh, Churchwardens.—St. Sepulchre's: 1. Thomas Russell made me. Robert Morris, William Butlin, Churchwardens, 1739. 2. Edward Ward and Joseph Dobson, Churchwardens, 1739. 3. Rev. George Watkin, Vicar; William Gooding, John Harris, Churchwardens. E. Arnold, Leicester, 1791. This bell being cracked was recast in 1857, and bears the following inscription:—Rev. W. Butlin, Vicar; Taylor and Son of Loughborough, founders. Joseph Colledge, Charles Ireson, jun., Churchwardens, 1857. 4. Henry Bayley made me, 1681. 5. William Loyde, Lord Bishop of Peterborough. This bell was broken and a new one cast with the following inscription:—Rev. Thomas Watts, Vicar; Thomas Armfield, John Harris, Churchwardens. John Briant, Hertford, 1805. 6. I to the church the living call, And to the grave do summon all.'

Worcester Diocesan and adjoining Districts Change-ringing Association.

A QUARTERLY MEETING of the above Association was held on Monday last at Dudley, when the Rev. S. J. Marriott presided. Members were present from Worcester, Bromsgrove, Kidderminster, Chaddesley Corbett, Hanbury, Brierly Hill, Sedgley, Dudley, and Netherton. At 10.30 part of the Bromsgrove company arrived at Netherton, when a short touch of Plain Bob and 360 of Kent Treble Bob were rung; and, what was most amusing, was to see and ring with a brother-ringer with one arm, who called 120 of Grandsire Minor. The party next proceeded to Dudley, some paying a visit to the ancient Castle. At 4 p.m. a business meeting was held. The Chairman said it gave him very great pleasure to be amongst such an important body of men belonging to the Church; and having some knowledge of ringing himself, could congratulate the members upon the noble art they were acquiring, and should always feel a pleasure in supporting the objects of the Society. The minutes of the last meeting being read and confirmed, several honorary and performing members were proposed. The meeting was brought to a close by votes of thanks to the Chairman, and to the Rev. Dr. Cosens for the use of the tower and schoolroom. The Chairman, in responding, thanked the Association for their kindness towards him, and pressed upon the local companies to visit their respective clergy, and not to let them rest until their church towers were put in a state of efficiency. The tower of St. Thomas's was open for ringing, but owing to the bells being out of ringing order (for want of rehanging), nothing was done except a short touch of Grandsire Triples. A mixed company went to Sedgley, and rang a touch of Grandsire Triples there. The whole of the evening was most enjoyably spent. Tunes were rung upon a beautiful ring of fifty-six hand-bells by the Dudley and Netherton companies, and some couples of Cinques, Caters, and Grandsire Triples, by mixed companies, brought the evening's entertainment to a close.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At St. Peter's, Tiverton, Devon.

On Wednesday, the 2nd inst., a local band of members of the St. Peter's Society of Change-ringers rang for the first time, in 1 hr. 43 mins., a half-peal of Grandsire Triples. The touch was the first half of Holt's Ten-part peal. R. Grater, jun., 1; E. Munday (conductor), 2; J. Babbage, 3; J. Grater, jun., 4; L. Mackenzie, Esq., 5; J. Grater, sen., 6; J. Davey, 7; J. Hosegood, 8. Tenor, 28 cwt.

On Monday, the 14th inst., eight members of the St. Peter's Society of Change-ringers rang, in 3 hrs. 25 mins., a peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples (Holt's Ten-part peal), the observation given for the second half being first. R. Grater, jun., 1; E. Munday (conductor), 2; J. Babbage, 3; T. Woodward, 4; L. Mackenzie, Esq., 5; J. Grater, jun., 6; J. Grater, sen., 7; W. Harvey, 8. This is the first time a peal has been rung by Tivertonians, and none of the above ringers had ever rung in a peal before.

At St. Mary's, Redenhall, Norfolk.

On Saturday, the 5th inst., the following members of the Redenhall Branch of the Norwich Diocesan Association rang touches of Oxford Treble Bob and Grandsire Triples, with the bells deeply muffled on one side, as a mark of respect to the memory of the late Duke of Albany. E. Smith, 1; G. Prime, 2; W. Sheldrake, 3; W. Matthews, 4; J. Tann, 5; G. Mobbs, 6; F. Smith, 7; J. Smith and Captain Moore, 8.

At All Saints', Emberton, Bucks.

On Saturday evening, the 5th inst., a muffled peal of 1884 changes (viz. fifteen 120's and 84 changes in fourteen different callings) was rung in 1 hr. 24 mins., as a token of respect to H.R.H. the Duke of Albany. G. Wilson, 1; W. Wright, 2; J. Brown, 3; W. Mynard, 4; H. Booth, 5. Tenor, 9 cwt., in G. This is the first date-touch known by the present ringers in the north of Bucks.

At St. Martin-in-the-Fields, Westminster, London.

On Saturday, the 5th inst., with the bells half muffled, the following members of the Royal Cumberland Youths rang a peal of Kent Treble Bob Maximus in 4 hrs. 15 mins., in memory of the late Duke of Albany. G. Newson (conductor), 1; C. Hopkins, 2; J. Nelms, 3; J. Hannington, 4; H. Dains, 5; T. Titchener, 6; H. Swain, 7; H. Hopkins, 8; W. Doran, 9; D. Stackwood, 10; H. Baron, 11; J. Barrett, 12. Tenor, 34 cwt. The peal was composed by John Cox.

At St. Albans Cathedral, Herts.

On Sunday, the 13th inst., for Divine service, the members of the St. Albans Cathedral Society of Change-ringers rang their first six-score of Grandsire Doubles. R. Fowler, 1; R. T. Kent, 2; E. Hulks, 3; F. Freeman, 4; H. L. Waddington, 5; T. Norman, 6; T. Grant, 7; N. N. Hills (conductor), 8. Subsequently another 120 was rung. T. Norman, 1; R. T. Kent, 2; G. W. Cartmel, 3; F. Freeman, 4; N. N. Hills (conductor), 5; E. Hulks, 6; T. Grant, 7; H. L. Waddington, 8. 6, 7, 8, were rung behind. Tenor about 30 cwt., in C flat. The above is the first 120 for all the above except the conductor.

At St. Werburgh's, Derby.

On Sunday, the 13th inst., after evening service, eight members of the Derby Branch of the Midland Counties Association rang a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes) in 48 mins. F. Whiting, 1; A. B. Ward, * 2; A. E. Thompson, 3; J. Howe, 4; R. Bosworth, 5; L. Lomas, 6; H. C. Woodward (conductor), 7; W. Tooby, 8. Tenor, 17 cwt., in E. [* First quarter-peal.]

At Honiton Clyst, Devon.

In 1882 the old ring of six bells was recast by Messrs. Taylor of Loughborough (tenor, 18 cwt. 3 qrs., in E.), and opened in November of that year. Since then the same firm have cast two new trebles, which were dedicated on Palm Sunday. This addition makes a full ring of eight. The cost of casting was defrayed by subscriptions. The bells were rung for the first time on Easter Sunday, at 6 a.m. And on Monday, the 14th inst., the St. Sidwell's Society of Change-ringers rang a peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples (Holt's Ten-part) in 2 hrs. 58 mins. S. Herbert, 1; F. Shepherd (conductor), 2; F. Shepherd, 3; H. Swift, 4; G. Townsend, 5; E. Shepherd, 6; A. Shepherd, 7; J. Moss, 8. Ringers from Alphington also rang some touches during the day.

At St. Mary's, Rickmansworth, Herts.

On Monday, the 14th inst., eight members of the St. James's Society rang Reeves variation of Holt's Ten-part peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples in 3 hrs. 9 mins.; the first on the bells for a period of sixty-five years. W. H. Manning, 1; R. French (conductor), 2; J. Parker, 3; A. C. Fussell, 4; W. H. Fussell, 5; J. Barry, 6; G. R. Banks, 7; W. H. George, 8. Tenor, 23½ cwt., in E flat.

At St. Mary's, Battersea, Surrey.

On Tuesday, the 15th inst., a peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples (Holt's Ten-part) was rung in 2 hrs. 56 mins. by the St. Mary's Bell-ringing Society. W. Ambrose, 1; J. R. Vincent, Esq., * 2; W. Baron (conductor), 3; A. G. Thomas, 4; C. E. Malin, 5; C. T. Hopkins, 6; C. W. Ludwig, 7; E. E. Robins, 8. [* First peal.]

NOTICE.—A Report of the great Meeting at Hunsdon, Ware, will appear next week.

CORRECTION.—On Jan. 26 last, a report of a peal of Bob Minor appeared, rang by six members of the Kent County Association at St. Michael's, Sittingbourne, Kent, where an asterisk is placed against the name of Mr. Gorderiel, thus indicating that this was his first peal on an inside bell. Mr. Mattison, the Secretary of St. Michael's Change-ringing Society, wishes us to say that it was not his first peal on an inside bell.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The Present Position and Work of the Church of England.

SIR,—Many circumstances have long pointed to the necessity and advantage of a more widely diffused knowledge of the efforts made by the Church of England to respond to the spiritual needs of the age. A Committee has at length undertaken to make itself the channel of communication, and has recently published the results of its labours in *The Official Year-Book*. This volume, which is published by the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge, is, I venture to assert, a very full and faithful record of Church work both at home and abroad. The statistics and information have in every detail been gathered with great labour from official sources, under the direct sanction and encouragement of the Councils of the Church in England, Scotland, Ireland, and America. This work has been a purely voluntary one on the part of those who have undertaken it, and so I venture to plead that the publication of this book may be regarded as a new development of Church organization, and to ask that those who have it in their power will take active steps to further its circulation. It has already done important service by its remarkable witness to the great activity of the Church in modern days, and by its emphatic contradictions, founded on facts, to many common misrepresentations and erroneous views concerning the true position of the Church of England among the people and in the world. W. L. EMEY,

The College, Ely.

Archdeacon of Ely, Chairman.

A Bishop for the City of Coventry.

SIR,—I am sorry to observe from the tone of the reply of your correspondent 'W. R. C.', that I have disturbed the equanimity of his temper. And he has rushed into print with the most extraordinary statement that I advocate Coventry being the See-Town of this proposed bishopric solely because it has a beautiful and magnificent church adequate to become a cathedral. Allow me, Sir, to tell your correspondent, that although that is undoubtedly a very great recommendation, especially when Birmingham has not one, and to buy the land in the centre of Birmingham and build one larger and grander than the glorious old pile of St. Michael's, Coventry, would cost little less than half a million of money, it is only one of the advantages the old city has to offer the Church for the restoration of its ancient Bishopric. It is the admirable geographical position of Coventry in the county of Warwick, surrounded as it is by the towns of Leamington, Warwick, Rugby, Nuneaton, Bedworth, and even Stratford-upon-Avon, and Birmingham itself, that constitutes its principal claim and makes it the best and natural place to erect a Bishop's See. Besides Coventry is not like Southwell, St. Albans, Truro, or Wakefield, a small place and of no importance, but has more population than nine tenths of the existing Cathedral cities and is rapidly increasing, having a population of nearly fifty thousand souls. No one, except a few friends of Birmingham, has ever suggested that, upon a division of the See of Worcester, there should be a Bishop for Birmingham; practical men, like Convocation in 1877, have always seen how inconvenient Birmingham would be as See-town for Warwickshire, and have have advocated a Bishopric for the county. Therefore the wishes and convenience of the people of the county must be consulted, and not one town only; Birmingham cannot dictate in this matter. In a letter which I received from the Bishop of Worcester, a few days since, his lordship says, 'If the people of Warwickshire desire the erection of a Bishopric in the County of Warwick, I am willing to co-operate with them.' Birmingham in Warwickshire is like Bristol in Gloucestershire, and when it has a Bishop the See should consist, like the proposed one for Bristol, of the town and suburbs. But it is well known that at present the people of Birmingham do not want a Bishop of the Church of England in their midst, many of them wishing this see to be erected at Coventry, knowing it to be a more suitable place. In fact, it is an open question whether a Bishop residing at Coventry within thirty minutes rail of Birmingham could not be in the centre of that town almost as soon as if he resided in the suburbs of Birmingham. For I suppose there would not be much probability of his residing in the hardware village. There is no doubt it is to the best interests of the Church that when Warwickshire forms a separate diocese Coventry should be the site of the Cathedral, and the centre of the diocese; everything in the way of precedent, history, geography, and general convenience, points in that direction.

A. J. B.

The Disestablishment Crusade in Wales.

SIR,—It may interest your readers to know the result of the Religious Census which was taken in the Borough of Swansea on Sunday, March 23rd. As you are aware, Swansea is represented by Mr. Dillwyn, M.P., who hopes to introduce this session a motion *re* the Disestablishment and Disendowment of the Church in Wales. The scheme was undertaken entirely by the agents of the Liberal Association. An offer was made to the Secretary of the Church Defence Association to co-operate, but was declined. I enclose the total numbers as supplied by the Secretary of the Liberal Association. From them you will find that the totals are as follows:—

	Morning.	Evening.
Chapels	14,159	23,624
Churches	4,091	4,743
Roman Catholics . .	1,860	1,097

In the result as published by the Liberationists the Roman Catholics are included in the ranks of Dissent. This, I think, is making a claim to allies whom they have no right to, for I presume that on a question of Disestablishment the Roman Catholics would be found on the side of the Church. The Bishop of St. David's, in whose diocese Swansea is situated, considers this district to be the darkest spot in his diocese. In his last Charge he says,

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

A Ring of Eight Bells at Hunsdon, Herts.

ON Easter Monday, the 14th inst., the Bennington (Herts) Ringing Society, by the kind invitation of Spencer Charrington, Esq., visited the fine church of Hunsdon. The bells were formerly five only, one being cracked for a great number of years. This bell has been recast; and, together with two new bells from the foundry of Messrs. Mears & Stainbank, Whitechapel, now make a most musical and excellent ring of eight bells. A new frame and all the hangings have been made successfully by Mr. John Gray, of Little Mundon, Herts. The ring is now an excellent one; tenor, 14½ cwt., in G.

The undermentioned members of the Bennington Change-ringing Society rang in excellent style 1260 changes (quarter-peal) of Stedman's Triples and 1000 of Grandsire Triples:—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.

A large company was present to hear the fine ringing. The kindness of Mr. Charrington to all the ringers, with their friends, who were treated with sumptuous hospitality, will long be remembered as a day of the utmost enjoyment and well-regulated arrangements in every way. The musical hand-bells were played with most excellent style to a large company assembled at Hunsdon House by Mr. J. Kitchener, L. Proctor, Esq., and Mr. S. Page. All returned home delighted at the almost unprecedentedly fine day's ringing proceedings.

A Ring of Bells promised by the Premier, Mr. Gladstone.

It is stated that Mr. Gladstone has promised to contribute a ring of bells to the tower which is about to be added to the parish church at Penmaenmawr, Carnarvonshire.

Peals of Bob Major.

5376	5152
2 3 4 5 6 W. M. H.	2 3 4 5 6 W. M. H.
4 3 6 5 2 - -	4 3 6 5 2 - -
5 4 6 3 2 - -	6 5 4 3 2 - -
6 3 5 4 2 - -	4 6 5 3 2 - -
4 6 5 3 2 - -	5 4 6 3 2 - -
5 3 4 6 2 - -	6 3 5 4 2 - -
4 5 3 6 2 - -	5 6 3 4 2 - -
3 4 5 6 2 - -	3 6 2 4 5 - -
5 6 3 4 2 - -	2 4 3 6 5 - -
2 3 6 4 5 - -	6 2 3 4 5 - -
6 2 3 4 5 - -	3 4 6 2 5 - -
3 6 2 4 5 - -	6 3 4 2 5 - -
4 3 2 6 5 - -	4 6 3 2 5 - -
2 6 4 3 5 - -	3 2 4 6 5 - -
3 2 4 6 5 - -	4 3 2 6 5 - -
4 6 3 2 5 - -	2 6 4 3 5 - -
3 4 6 2 5 - -	4 2 6 3 5 - -
6 3 4 2 5 - -	
4 2 6 3 5 - -	

The ten-course parts in each peal to be three times repeated.

Diss.

BENJAMIN FRANCIS.

Surrey Association.

A QUARTERLY MEETING of this Association was held, by the kind permission of the Vicar, at St. Giles's, Camberwell, on Monday, April 21st. The bells were set going soon after four o'clock, and a touch of 504 Grandsire Triples was rung. The party then adjourned to the Surrey Masonic Hall for tea, &c., which was thoroughly enjoyed, followed by the business meeting, at which the draft scheme for the formation of a National Association was read and discussed. After the conclusion of business by a hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar for kindly allowing the use of the bells, the party, which was now somewhat augmented by fresh arrivals, again visited the tower, and the following methods were practised:—Grandsire Caters, Stedman's Caters and Triples, and Treble Bob Royal. The party was composed of ringers from Beddington, Croydon, Kingston, Streatham, Sutton, and Haverstock Hill, and one or two well-known members of the College Youths. The meeting broke up at 9.30 p.m.

ARTHUR B. CARPENTER, *Hon. Sec.*

Bedfordshire Association of Change-ringers.

THE annual gathering of the members of this Association took place at Bedford on Easter Monday. During the day peals were rung on St. Paul's bells, and at two o'clock the members met at the 'Swan Hotel,' where lunch was provided, and afterwards the annual meeting was held. The Chairman called upon Mr. Herbert to read the annual report, but it is much too long for our limited space. Mr. Elger read the accounts, which showed that the income for the year amounted to 7l. 4s. 10d., while their expenses—including a contribution of 2l. for a Seage's tell-tale apparatus for St. Paul's, Bedford—had amounted to 9l. 15s. 9d., leaving a balance on the wrong side of 2l. 10s. 11d. They had in the bank 10l. 15s., which, with the interest accrued from June 14, 1882, to November 1883, amounted to 11l. 3s. 3d. That he did not take into account, but left it as a separate matter. By allowing the railway expenses to members they had a balance against them of 2l. 10s. 11d.; but he did not think that that mattered much, for he thought a Society got on better when they had a small balance on the wrong side, for if they were rich people would say they did not want money. They had kept their expenses well within the mark, and if they left out the cost of the apparatus they would be nearly within their limit.

The election of officers was then proceeded with. Archdeacon Bathurst

was re-elected president, and the Rev. R. E. R. Watts, Mr. C. L. Higgins, and Mr. T. Bagnall, vice-presidents. The Rev. R. E. R. Watts suggested that his place should be taken by another clergyman, for he thought a little shifting about would increase the general interest in the Society; but there was a generally expressed wish that he should retain his office, and he consented. The following gentlemen composed the retiring Committee—the Rev. J. Copner, the Rev. C. J. E. Smith, Mr. F. T. Tanqueray (Woburn), Mr. W. C. C. Baker (Eversholt Rectory), Mr. E. Ransom, Mr. J. Hills, Mr. J. Frossell (Biddenham), Mr. S. Cullip, who were unanimously re-elected. Mr. Elger was then elected hon. treasurer, Mr. C. Herbert hon. secretary, and Mr. Cuthbert and Mr. Bull auditors.

Among the numerous touches rung upon St. Paul's bells during the day were 248 of Bob Major, 280 and 350 of Grandsire Triples, and a course of Oxford Treble Bob Major.

Easter Ringing at Salisbury.

ON Easter Day, at St. Martin's, 216 and 180 Bob Minor were rung. At St. Paul's and St. Edmund's rounds and set changes. On Tuesday, 15th, at St. Martin's, 360 Bob Minor. On Wednesday, at St. Edmund's, 120 Grandsire Doubles, by Mr. J. Parson's company. On Friday, at St. Martin's, 720 Bob Minor, in 28 mins., by H. Dowling, 1; C. A. Clements, 2; S. Dowling, 3; T. Blackburn, 4; W. W. Gifford, 5; J. R. Jerram (conductor), 6. Also on Saturday, by the same, J. R. Jerram, 4; T. Blackburn (conductor), 6. Time, 28 mins.

Muffled Peal for a Chorister at Salisbury.

ON Monday, the 21st inst., a muffled peal was rung at St. Martin's, Sarum, on the occasion of the funeral of Master Herbert J. Mold, senior chorister, who died on the 16th inst., aged fourteen years, after a short but painful illness. The following plan was adopted: a whole pull all round and stand, then a whole pull with the treble repeated for half an hour. A 720 Bob Minor was then rung in 27 mins., with the bells half-muffled.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At the Parish Church, Tamworth, Staffordshire.

ON Easter Monday, the 14th inst., the following members of the Association of Change-ringers for the Archdeaconry of Stafford rang the late John Holt's Ten-part Peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples in 3 hrs. 6 mins. H. Hipkiss, 1; T. Meredith, 2; W. R. Small, 3; T. Horton, 4; W. Beeson, 5; S. Reeves (conductor), 6; F. J. Cope, 7; G. Woods (first peal), 8. This is the first peal rung in Tamworth. The 2nd and 7th men are from Lichfield, the tenor man from Tamworth, and the rest from West Bromwich.

NOTICE.—All conductors of peals in connexion with the Association of Change-ringers for the Archdeaconry of Stafford are requested to forward a report of the same, for insertion in the Peal-books, to Mr. Samuel Reeves, 10 Bull Street, West Bromwich.

At St. Mary's, Diss, Norfolk.

ON Wednesday, the 16th inst., a date touch of 1884 changes of Bob Major was rung in 1 hr. 12 mins. E. Hayward, 1; J. Rudd, 2; W. Scales, 3; W. Brown, 4; E. Francis (composer and conductor), 5; B. Francis, 6; W. Ireland, 7; J. Souter, 8. Tenor, 24 cwt., in D.

At Aldenham, Herts.

ON Wednesday, the 16th inst., the St. Albans Cathedral Ringers rang several 120's of Grandsire Doubles. The following members were present and took part in the ringing:—Messrs. Hills (conductor), Waddington, Fowler, Kent, Freeman, Norman, Cartmel, Grant, and Buckingham; also Mr. H. Lewis, an honorary member. An enjoyable evening was spent, and the ringers desire to thank the Vicar of Aldenham (Rev. C. L. Royds) for kindly allowing them the use of the bells.

ON Easter Tuesday, after the vestry meeting at St. Albans Abbey, a set of hand-bells, which have been subscribed for, were formally presented to the Rector and Churchwardens for the use of the ringers. The bells, sixteen in number, were supplied by Messrs. Taylor and Co., the tenor, in F, being inscribed as follows:—'Purchased by subscription, and presented to the Rector and Churchwardens of St. Albans Abbey, for the use of the Ringers, March 1884.' The Rector (Ven. Archdeacon Lawrence) suitably acknowledged the gift, and handed the bells over to the care of the conductor (Mr. Hills) for the use of the ringers.

* * The tenor at St. Albans Cathedral is in E flat, and not in C flat, as stated in our last issue.

At St. Peter's, Drayton, Berks.

ON Saturday, the 19th inst., the following members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild rang a peal of 5088 Double Norwich Court Bob Major in 3 hrs. 12 mins. T. Hounslow, 1; E. Holifield, 2; B. Barrett, 3; W. Bennett, 4; W. H. Washbrook, 5; G. Holifield, 6; C. Hounslow, 7; Rev. F. E. Robinson (conductor), 8. Composed by Mr. H. Johnson. Tenor, 9½ cwt.

At the Cathedral, Ripon.—Muffled Peal.

ON Sunday, the 20th inst., the bells were deeply muffled for morning service and rung as their last tribute of heartfelt respect due to their late Bishop (the Bishop of Ripon), who expired at his Palace, Ripon, on Tuesday week last, and was interred on the Saturday following, touches of Grandsire Triples (350, 168, and 70 changes respectively). A. H. Clark (only commenced to learn to ring since January last), 1; J. Strodder, junr., 2; J. Strodder, senr., 3; T. Langley, 4; A. Ingleby, 5; T. Clark (conductor), 6; H. Rumbold, 7; G. Ingleby, 8.

For afternoon service, with the bells muffled at back-stroke, a touch of 812 changes of Grandsire Triples was rung in 30 mins., the number of changes corresponding with the late Bishop's age in calendar months. Tenor, 21 cwt., in E natural. T. Metcalf, 1; J. Strodder, junr., 2; J. Strodder, senr., 3; T. Langley, 4; A. Ingleby, 5; T. Clark (composer and conductor), 6; G. Ingleby, 7; H. Rumbold, 8.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

A Peal of Kent Treble Bob Maximus, with a Tenor Two Tons Twelve Hundredweight.

ON Tuesday, the 29th ult., twelve members of the Ancient Society of College Youths (established 1637) rang, at St. Saviour's, Southwark, London, 5040 changes of Kent Treble Bob Maximus in 4 hrs. 12 mins. H. Haley, senr. (composer), 1; J. Pettit, 2; F. E. Dawe, 3; R. French, 4; C. F. Winny, 5; J. R. Haworth, 6; G. Mash, 7; E. Gibbs, 8; H. J. Tucker, 9; G. Musket, 10; E. Horrex, 11; J. M. Hayes (conductor), 12. Tenor, 52 cwt., in B. The ringing was first-class, and it is twenty-two years since a peal in the above method was rung on the bells.

The band take this opportunity of thanking the Rector (the Rev. W. Thompson, M.A.) and Churchwardens (Messrs. R. Hunt, W. J. Cloake, R. A. Gelson, T. Cooksey, F. Ashby, and C. R. Williams) for their kindness in giving permission for the peal to be rung; and no doubt a tablet will be erected in the ringing-room to record so great a performance by only twelve men. Mr. G. Mash, the steeple-keeper, deserves great praise for the fine condition of the bells, the proof of which consisted in the ringing of them for more than four hours.

A correspondent writes to say that his brother-ringers ought to think of the difference of ringing Treble Bob on rings of 14 cwt., 16 cwt., 20 cwt., and even 30 cwt., in comparison of doing the same on a ring of bells the tenor of which is 52 cwt. He also mentions the fact of Mr. Haworth having rung a peal (5088) in the same method, on the same bells, in 1846 (Jan. 27), nearly forty years ago, when the band were:—J. Merrin, 1; J. Cox (composer and conductor, now living), 2; G. Stockham (now living), 3; J. Mash (father of the steeple-keeper), 4; G. Mendey, 5; J. Hughes, 6; J. R. Haworth, 7; E. Sawyer, 8; J. Harper, 9; J. Bradley, 10; E. Lansdell, 11; A. G. Frost, 12. It was the first peal of Kent Treble Bob Maximus in London, and no Treble Bob Maximus had been rung on the bells for about forty years.

St. Mary's Bell-ringing Society, Battersea, Surrey.

ALTHOUGH St. Mary's belfry has for upwards of a century been a favourite resort for College Youths and Cumberlands, and its lively octave has resounded to a long list of peals unsurpassed, perhaps, in the annals of any suburban church, it is remarkable that the parish should have continued until most recently without a band of ringers capable of imitating the doughty deeds of their visitors. Two months ago, however, the report of a peal of Grandsire Triples in this paper proclaimed that the perseverance of the home team had at last been rewarded with success; and on Tuesday, April 22nd, a dinner was held in honour of the performance at host Wormsley's, at the sign of the 'Prodigal's Return,' where upwards of twenty members and friends sat down to table under the able chairmanship of Mr. James Spice, and did ample justice to an excellent and wonderfully well-arranged menu.

Dinner over, an interesting programme was gone through, Mr. Porter acquainting himself throughout at the piano as accompanist with great *éclat*.

The Chairman proposed 'The Queen and the Royal Family,' after Messrs. Durrant and Morant had opened the ball for the vocalists in a way which produced great applause. Mr. Richard's toast was also well received. In calling attention to St. Mary's Society, the speaker hoped that its present prosperity, which was mainly due to the energy of Mr. H. S. Thomas, might never wane. Mr. Thomas was indefatigably personified, and he (Mr. Richards) had discovered that it was impossible to decoy Mr. Thomas into other amusements, as he had a habit of excusing himself on certain nights of the week on campanological grounds. The recent concert given in aid of the Cox Jubilee Fund, and which had resulted in adding something like 18l. to that collection, and the erection of the peal-board, which now graced the ringing chamber, were both the result of his exertions; and he had great pleasure in coupling Mr. Thomas's name with the toast, which was drunk with musical honours.

In returning thanks, Mr. Thomas remarked that during the last year several propitious events had marked the career of the Society. They had recorded its first peal, probably the most interesting event which could befall any such Society, and a few weeks after they had rung another peal, in honour of which he would not rest happy until a board had been erected. Then the outing last year at Birchington and Mitcham had been most enjoyable. They had been fortunate enough to have helped an old and distinguished ringer, and he hoped they might be able to help others in the future. The Society had been honoured by visits from many prominent members of the London Exercise, and he was happy to state that, financially speaking, they had a balance in hand.

Mr. C. W. Ludwig then well sustained the reputation of the vocalists, when the Chairman called upon Mr. A. G. Thomas to propose the toast set opposite to his name; and, in a speech frequently interrupted by applause, that gentleman congratulated the Society upon the kindly interest taken in its welfare by the Rev. Canon J. Erskine Clarke, their worthy vicar, and by the Rev. E. L. Wise and E. Vaughan-Morgan, Esq., and he was glad to take this, the first opportunity he had had, of thanking them, and others, for their liberality to the Society. Then came the patrons, Messrs. O. V. Morgan, T. Whiffin, R. Hadfield, and Dr. Kempster, to whom they were also indebted, for their support; and last, but not least, Mr. Hiscox, the churchwarden, who had been most kind and liberal. He was glad to see three honorary members present, viz., their worthy Chairman, and Messrs. Coates and Daws. The facts he had mentioned indicated that the Society was well supported by the parish, which was a source of great gratification to its members. He concluded by coupling the names of the honorary members

present with the toast, and proposed 'The Health of the Chairman,' remarking that it would be impossible to find a more worthy gentleman to fill the post.

Mr. Spice, the Chairman, replied in a witty speech, in which he complimented the band on the 'mettle' shown by them, and observed that it was a curious fact that in proportion to the number of changes he produced, it behoved a ringer to keep the even 'tenor' of his way most carefully, and remain unchanged himself; otherwise, how could he possibly get through an ordeal which was sufficient, in his opinion, to knock the strongest man off his legs? With regard to the request conveyed to him to take the chair for a second time at one of the Society's gatherings, he looked upon it as a very great honour indeed. He had been connected with the parish for fifty-three years, and delighted in mixing with persons who had its welfare at heart. By shutting themselves up people did little good; besides, they lost the benefit of enjoyable society like that in which he now found himself.

Nothing daunted by the success of the speechmakers, the songsters came to the front once more, Mr. Martin Routh leading off, and Mr. Hopkins following suit with a song which brought down the house; after which Mr. H. S. Thomas proposed the health of 'Our Instructor,' and said that to Mr. Baron's energy, talent, and perseverance under great difficulties, they owed their success, which he was sure was only preliminary to greater things in other methods.

In replying, Mr. Baron said that his task had been rendered much lighter than usual by reason of the perseverance and willingness of his pupils. There were five novices in the peal in question, which was more than he had ever had in a peal before. He exhorted the band not to rest content until they had learnt other methods.

After some more harmony, Mr. Routh proposed the 'Churchwardens and Overseers,' calling attention to the cleanliness and comfort of the ringing-chamber, which, he said, was one of the best which he had ever met with, and might serve as a hint to other churchwardens. He was sorry they were unable to be present, but he had great pleasure in seeing Mr. Daws, one of the overseers, and would call upon him to respond.

Mr. Daws having suitably acknowledged the toast, Mr. Coppage, amid applause and much laughter, gave 'Butter and Cheese' with great vigour. Other toasts followed, including 'The Visitors'—Messrs. Routh, Richards, Morant, Mansfield, Rowland, and Coppage—and 'The Ladies,' about whom Mr. Durrant made some pertinent observations; after which the company broke up, well pleased with their entertainment and themselves.

A Presentation of a Ring of Bells.

AN organ and a ring of bells have been presented to the church of Monk Bretton, West Yorkshire, by Miss Bright.

Salisbury Bells.

SOME months ago an anonymous donor promised a bell towards augmenting the present heavy ring of six (tenor, 30 cwt.) to eight, if the Rector and Churchwardens could raise funds enough to supply the other bell and do the hanging. An appeal put forward has been liberally responded to, and the work has now been placed into the hands of Messrs. Mears and Stainbank of the Whitechapel Foundry.

St. Paul's bells have lately been repaired by Mr. T. Blackburn.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At St. Martin's, Aldington, Kent.

ON Saturday evening, the 19th ult., seven different peals of Bob Minor were rung in 3 hrs. 13 mins., consisting of 720 changes, each peal as an imitation of 5040 changes, in the following order. C. Slingsby, 1; D. Hodgkin, 2; F. Wanstall, 3; E. Hyder, 4; W. Hyder (conductor), 5; P. Hodgkin, 6. Tenor, 14 cwt. All members of the Kent County Association.

At St. Mary's, Diss, Norwich.

ON Tuesday, the 22nd ult., Holt's Ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples was rung in 3 hrs. 9 mins. W. Ireland (conductor), 1; W. Scales, 2; W. Brown, 3; B. Francis, 4; E. Francis, 5; E. Bartram, 6; J. Souther, 7; E. Hayward, 8. Tenor, 24 cwt., in D.

At the Parish Church, Loughton, Essex.

ON Thursday evening, the 24th ult., the local company of change-ringers rang in 30 mins. six six-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently. E. A. Bacon, 1; R. A. Sworder, 2; W. Lebbon, 3; F. Freeman, 4; T. Luffman, 5; W. Clark (conductor), 6. Tenor, 19½ cwt. This is the first 720 ever performed by a local company since the bells were hung in 1866, and it was rung in honour of the opening of the Public Hall.

At Holy Trinity, Staleybridge, Cheshire.

ON Saturday, the 26th ult., eight members of the Ashton-under-Lyne Society rang a peal of 5024 Oxford Treble Bob Major in 3 hrs. 3 mins. T. Moss, 1; J. Hopwood, 2; J. Wood, 3; S. Wood (composer and conductor), 4; B. Broadbent, 5; J. Mellor, 6; G. Longden, 7; J. Thorp, 8. Tenor, 14 cwt. This is the first peal of Oxford by all except Mr. Thorp, and the first peal in the method on the bells.

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

ON Monday, the 28th ult., eight members of the St. Paul's Society rang a peal of 5040 Stedman's Triples (Brook's Variation) in 3 hrs. 8 mins. C. H. Hattersley (conductor), 1; J. Griffin, 2; H. Wakley, 3; E. I. Stone, 4; J. Jagger, 5; G. Appleby, 6; W. Wakley, 7; T. Holmes, 8. Tenor, 26 cwt. All the above, with the exception of Mr. Hattersley, who hails from Sheffield, are also members of the Midland Counties' Association.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association.

THE Easter Quarterly District Meeting took place on April 29th at Bourton-on-the-Water, and the Association was represented by the company of change-ringers from the parish church of Windrush, assisted by one or two members from Cheltenham and Newnham. These gentlemen, with the respected Master of the Association (Mr. John Drinkwater of Sandhurst, near Gloucester), the Hon. Treasurer (Rev. F. E. Broome Wits, vicar of Norton, Gloucester), and the Hon. Secretary (Rev. Pitt Eykyn, vicar of Ashton Gate, Bristol), proceeded to the parish church of St. Laurence on their arrival, the Bourton ringers ringing them in from the station. The quaint old church tower was gaily decorated with flags; and in his address at the customary short service with which this Association always commences its proceedings, the Rector (the Rev. S. J. Hulme) gave the Association a hearty welcome. After service the bells were again set going. At dinner the Rector presided, supported by the Revs. A. Shilleto (curate), W. S. Hulme, F. E. Broome Wits, Pitt Eykyn, &c. The usual loyal toasts were given and received. The Master gave some sound advice to the ringers assembled, the Rector was thanked for his kindly welcome, some hand-bell ringing took place, and then the tower bells were once more set in motion; but owing to their condition nothing much could be accomplished upon them.

The Raunds, Wellingborough, and District Society of Church-Bell Ringers.

A MEETING will (D.V.) be held at the Parish Church, Rushden, on Monday, the 19th inst. The teams will ring in the following order: Rushden, from 9 a.m. to 9.45; Raunds, from 9.45 a.m. to 10.30; Finedon, from 10.30 a.m. to 11.15; Burton Latimer, from 12 a.m. to 12.45; — from 12 a.m. to 12.45. Luncheon punctually at 1 p.m. in the Coffee Tavern. Business meeting immediately after luncheon. Evensong at 3.15 p.m., with a sermon by the Rev. J. P. Goodman, rector of Keystone. Burton Latimer, from 4.30 p.m. to 5.15; Finedon, from 5.15 p.m. to 6; Raunds, from 6 p.m. to 6.45; Rushden, from 6.45 p.m. to 7.30; — from 7.30 p.m. to 8.15. This will be the third meeting of the above Association. There are now 23 honorary and 51 ringing members. HUGH BRYAN, M.A., Hon. Sec.

Birmingham Amalgamated Society and District Association.
A long Peal.

ON Monday next, the 12th inst., five members of the above Society intend starting for a peal of 13,000 Grandsire Caters upon handbells, at the 'Hope and Anchor,' Fisher Street, Birmingham. The start will be made at 9.30 a.m. Any friend wishing to be present will receive a hearty welcome.

A new Bell at Dulverton, Somerset.

ON Easter Monday a new treble bell was added to the ancient ring in the belfry of this church, being the gift of Mrs. Warren, in memory of her late husband, Samuel Hagman Warren, Esq., for many years senior churchwarden of the parish. Service was held, on the occasion of the dedication, at 3 p.m., consisting of the *Te Deum*, shortened form of Evensong, with selected psalms and lessons. The bell was then tolled and dedicated by the Vicar, the Rev. F. Tilney Bassett, M.A. The hymn, 'Raise it gently to the steeple,' was afterwards sung by the choir, followed by a sermon on Joel, iv. 16, by the vicar, who referred to the dates inscribed on the bells, three of them (Nos. 1, 3, and 5) bearing the date of 1619, and one (No. 2) of 1640. The bells of this church, it is evident, escaped the fury of the Parliamentarians in the days of the Civil War. The fourth bell is one of great beauty and value, having, by tradition, been brought from the neighbouring abbey of Barlynch, on the confines of the parish, at the dissolution in 1536. It was probably the Mary mass-bell of the convent, and it bears the legend, '*Protege, virgo pia, quos convoco, Sancta Maria.*' This bell is rung daily at 6 a.m. and 6 p.m., a custom probably retained ever since its transportation from the abbey to the church. The new bell, which makes the ring six in number, is a great improvement, as all felt when they heard the excellent performance of the ringers after the service. Among the many additions to the architecture and fittings of the church during the tenure of the present vicar, this is by no means the least.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At Prestbury, Macclesfield, Cheshire.

ON Monday, the 21st ult., a goodly number of ringers of the Macclesfield district assembled at Prestbury to celebrate the ninety-fourth birthday of the veteran ringer, Mr. John Wheelton, when a selection of 1128 changes (Grandsire Triples) was rung in 41 mins. A most sociable evening was afterwards spent at the 'Black Boy Inn,' where the venerable gentleman enjoyed himself equal to the youngest member present; and in reply to the toast of the veteran's birthday, hoped that those present would never fail to keep up what has now become an annual custom, of having a friendly meeting of ringers on each recurring birthday, so long as he lived. Since the last meeting, when a peal was rung to celebrate the old gentleman's ninety-third birthday, a beautiful tablet has been placed in the belfry of the parish church, Prestbury, in commemoration of the event. The tablet, which is composed of white enamelled earthenware, is surrounded by a massive oak frame, and bears a suitable inscription, which is neatly burned in, rendering it, so far as time is concerned, indestructible. This was a suggestion thrown out by Mr. Matthews, the conductor at Macclesfield, who thought of the requirements for future generations of ringers wanting space on the belfry walls, which in towns like Macclesfield are almost absorbed by the present style of painted boards.

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

ON Monday, the 28th ult., a touch of 576 changes of Kent Treble Bob Major was rung in 22 mins. G. Campbell, 1; F. Lees, 2; W. Eggleston, 3; C. L. Routledge, 4; R. S. Story, 5; T. J. Des Forges, 6; W. Story, 7; W. G. Routledge (conductor), 8. Tenor, 12½ cwt. This is the first complete touch of Major on the bells and by the Society.

On Sunday, the 4th inst., the bells of the above church were rung deeply muffled at back-stroke as a last mark of respect to one of their youngest and most promising members, George Herdman, who died on Friday, the 2nd of May, at the age of 17½ years, from typhus fever. He had learnt the art about three and a half years since, and rang in the first peal of minor on the old ring of six by the members of the St. John's Guild, and also in the first 720 of Treble Bob of that Society. A fortnight before his death he took part in the opening of the augmented ring of St. John's: therefore his death was as sudden as it was unexpected. Young as he was he was always noted, whether on a heavy or a light bell, for the excellence of his striking and his style of handling his rope. A large number of friends, relations, and ringers, attended his funeral, which took place on Sunday, the 4th, at St. John's Cemetery. The Burial Service was read by the curate, the Rev. A. M. McPhee.

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

ON Wednesday, the 30th ult., eight members of the St. Paul's Society rang Holt's Ten-part peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples in 3 hrs. 15 mins., with the bells half muffled, as a token of respect to the memory of M. T. Bass, founder of St. Paul's Church. J. Griffin, 1; W. Wakley (conductor), 2; A. Wakley, 3; H. Wakley, 4; E. I. Stone, 5; J. Jaggard, 6; T. Holmes, 7; G. Appleby, 8. Tenor, 26 cwt.

On Friday, the 2nd inst., eight members of the St. Paul's Society rang a muffled peal of 5056 Double Norwich Court Bob Major (being the first muffled peal in this method) in 3 hrs. 22 mins. H. Wakley, 1; E. I. Stone, 2; G. Appleby, 3; J. Griffin, 4; J. Jaggard, 5; A. Wakley, 6; T. Holmes, 7; W. Wakley (conductor), 8. The peal is the composition of Henry Dains, and is published in *Church Bells*, July 14, 1883. Rung in memory of M. T. Bass, founder of St. Margaret's Church, Burton-on-Trent.

On Saturday, the 3rd inst., eight members of the St. Paul's Society rang a muffled peal of 5088 Kent Treble Bob Major (the reverse of W. Harrison's Three-part peal, published in *Snowdon's Treatise*, p. 16), in 3 hrs. 18 mins., in memory of M. T. Bass, donor of St. Paul's bells. G. Appleby, 1; E. I. Stone, 2; A. Wakley, 3; J. Griffin, 4; J. Jaggard, 5; J. Rogers, 6; T. Holmes, 7; W. Wakley (conductor), 8.

On Monday, the 5th inst. (being the day of the funeral of M. T. Bass, benefactor of St. Paul's parish), eight members of the St. Paul's Society rang a muffled peal of 5120 Superlative Surprise Major (being the first muffled peal in this method) in 3 hrs. 20 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. Composed by H. Johnson, senr., Birmingham. All the above are also members of the Midland Counties Association.

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

ON Saturday, the 3rd inst., a peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples was rung in 2 hrs. 59 mins. by the following members of the Ancient Society of College Youths and of the Oxford Diocesan Guild of Ringers:—E. Keeley, 1; R. Flaxman, 2; J. W. Wilkins, 3; H. Rogers, 4; R. Smith, 5; W. A. Garraway (conductor), 6; E. Rogers, 7; J. C. Truss, 8. Tenor, 17½ cwt. The peal was in honour of the sixtieth birthday of Mr. R. Smith. Change-ringing in this neighbourhood owes its origin to Mr. Smith, he having some twelve years ago started a company in Maidenhead which resulted in a Society being formed in 1879, presided over by the Rev. A. H. Drummond, vicar of Boyne Hill. Kindred societies were afterwards soon formed, and in 1881 the Diocesan Guild was established, which has now about 550 members. Mr. Smith takes an active part in instructing several young bands in the district, and his brother ringers hope he may long continue to promote the belfry reform so much needed in many of the surrounding parishes.

At St. Mary's, Beddington, Surrey.

ON Saturday, the 3rd inst., ten members of the Surrey Association of Change-ringers rang a peal of Grandsire Caters in 3 hrs. 14 mins. J. Branch, 1; J. Harris, 2; C. Bance, 3; E. F. Cole, Esq., 4; E. Bennett, 5 (conductor); J. Trappitt, 6; J. Plowman, 7; C. Gordon, 8; J. Cawley, 9; J. Clark, 10. The above peal, which was composed by the late H. Hubbard, contains the whole of the 8, 9, and 9, 7, 8, with the 5th and 6th behind the 9th. Tenor, 21½ cwt., in E flat. [*First peal of Caters.] Number of peal omitted.

At All Saints', Carshalton, Surrey.

ON Monday, the 5th inst., eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths, being also members of the Surrey Association of Change-ringers, rang Reeves' variation of Holt's Ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples in 2 hrs. 55 mins. C. Martin, 1; E. Bennett (conductor), 2; A. B. Carpenter, Esq., 3; J. Trappitt, 4; J. Plowman, 5; J. Cawley, 6; C. Gordon, 7; J. Harris, 8. Tenor, 12½ cwt., in G. sharp. [*First peal. He was elected a member of the College Youths previous to starting for the peal.]

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

ON Monday, the 5th inst., eight members of the Derby Branch of the Midland Counties Association rang Holt's Ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples (5040 changes) in 3 hrs. 25 mins. F. Whiting, 1; A. B. Ward (first peal), 2; J. Howe, 3; J. Newbold, 4; R. Redgate, 5; R. Bosworth, 6; H. C. Woodward (conductor), 7; L. Lomas, 8. Tenor, 17 cwt., in E. The above peal was rung with the bells half muffled, as a token of respect to the late M. T. Bass, Esq., of Rangemore Hall, Burton-on-Trent, and late M.P. for Derby.

COLONIAL AND FOREIGN CHURCH NEWS.

UNITED STATES.

THE Bishop of Albany has licensed the ex-Quaker preacher, Mrs. Smiley, to read and explain the Scriptures 'in such parishes as she is invited to teach in by the rectors,' but only to women.

WE have received a specimen number of the *Temperance Friend*, the new organ of the Church Temperance Society. We wish it all success.

THE noted Congregationalist, Mr. Joseph Cook, in lecturing at Boston, has treated the subject of Divorce. After stating that Professor Dwight was alarmed in his time at Connecticut having one divorce for every hundred marriages, he said that within the last thirty years the ratio had doubled itself in most of the Northern States. In Connecticut there was, in 1878, a divorce to every 10.4 marriages; in Rhode Island, one to ten; and in St. Francisco, one to six. Concurrently with the degradation of marriage, the ratio of illegitimate births is rapidly increasing. Amongst the more potent causes of this disastrous collapse of family life Mr. Cook enumerated the propaganda of infidelity and immoral dogmas, and he added: 'Hundreds and thousands who belonged in Europe to Roman Catholic, Lutheran, or other State Churches, drift away after emigrating, and manage everything in their own lives for themselves; many of them becoming infidels. At the same time, our native-born Americans have among them some of the greatest rascals on earth; Mormonism and the Oneida community were both founded by New Englanders.' At the end of Mr. Cook's address the audience adopted a resolution to petition Congress.

WEST INDIES.

FROM Hayti Bishop Holly sends sad accounts of the havoc wrought by the recent unsuccessful insurrection and its ruthless suppression. Many innocent men have been slain, and much Church property wrecked. The Bishop has also deemed it proper to answer a charge brought against him in the United States. He writes: 'I am told that a writer in New York has attacked our Church of Hayti on the use of the Athanasian Creed, alleging that we have violated the terms of the covenant with the American Church in departing from the doctrine, worship, and discipline of the latter Church, which thing the Haytian Church is forbidden to do, saving only with such minor variations as local circumstances may render necessary. Help us by pointing out to that writer that the Athanasian Creed is one of the doctrinal formularies of the Church of England; that the American Church solemnly declares in the preface to her Prayer-book that she does not intend to depart from the doctrines of our Mother Church; that as a matter of fact the Athanasian Creed is used as a doctrinal formulary in her Divinity Schools; and that therefore a different use of the Creed in Hayti from that made in America is no departure from the doctrinal standards of either America or England. Local circumstances have made this variation in use wise and expedient for us in Hayti; for the English Prayer-book was here before our Mission was established, and in many ways we are constantly brought into connexion with English Church people.'

AUSTRALIA.

DR. BARRY was enthroned in the Cathedral of Sydney on the 24th of April as Bishop of Sydney and Metropolitan of Australia. Dr. Z. Barry writes to the *Sydney Herald*:— 'As a matter of fact the Bishop of Sydney has by law already the title of Archbishop expressly allowed; for Sec. 19 of the Church Act of this colony enacts that "no person shall be allowed to say or sing the Common Prayer, or minister the Sacraments, or preach in any church or chapel consecrated . . . unless he be first approved and thereto licensed by the Archbishop of the province or the Bishop of the diocese." The Archbishop of the province is now the Bishop of Sydney.'

THE *Sydney Church Record* complains of the 'enormous cost of the Educational system' of New South Wales. 'About 800,000*l.* is the amount set down upon the estimates for educational purposes for the present year;' it asks, 'Is this to go on increasing annually, in the ratio of the last few years?'

AT Goulburn the new Cathedral is on the point of completion. It was designed by the late Edmund T. Blackett, and will be only second in size to Sydney Cathedral.

THE *Bathurst Free Press* speaks highly of Soo Hoo Ten, the evangelist of the Chinese Mission. He not only scours attentive audiences of his countrymen, but speaks effectively to Englishmen who look into his hall from curiosity.

NORTH QUEENSLAND is a singularly progressive colony, and the Church keeps fairly abreast of the population. Bishop Stanton opened a second church at Townsville in December; the moneys contributed at the other church there doubled last year. To meet his gift of a site, the people of Normanton have subscribed enough to erect a church.

WE are hardly surprised, though sorry, to learn that Bishop Perry, ex-Bishop of Melbourne, has expressed his approval of an interchange of preachers in Anglican and Presbyterian pulpits.

IN New Guinea, the Bible Society reports that 'a beginning has been made in the circulation of the Scriptures in a native language.'

RUSSIA.

IT is not sufficiently known that the Russian Church carries on an active propaganda in Central and Eastern Asia. A large proportion of the population of the Asiatic dominions of the Empire are heathens, and, although not actual savages, many of the tribes of Siberia are in what may be called the

second stage of barbarism. The Society of Orthodox Missions is as active among the Mussulman as among the Pagan population. In 1882 the Irkutsk Mission made 1688 converts; that of the Altai, 427; that of the Trans-Baikal region, 225; of Kamtschatka, 1315; of Tobolsk, 45; of Yenesseisk, 55; Astrakhan, 22; Samara, 20; and Perm, 4; in all, 3801 converts. During 1883 the propaganda was first extended to the Kirghiz and the peoples of Turkestan. A convent has been founded on Lake Issik Kul, 600 versts from Vernoe, under the auspices of the Archbishop of Tashkend.

FRANCE.

THE committee for rebuilding the Marbœuf Chapel at Paris have hitherto done nothing more than buy a site for about 15,000*l.* and has erected thereon a temporary iron structure, and this too mainly out of the proceeds of the old chapel, while 3000*l.* of the purchase-money remains unpaid. They have, however, taken now a new departure, being about to become a 'Foreign Anglican Church and Educational Association, Limited.' In a lengthy prospectus this novel Company announce their intention to erect a church instead of the Marbœuf, with parsonage and schools; also to publish and sell books, and to acquire sites for Anglican chapels at any place in Europe.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Anniversary at Braughing, Herts.

ON Saturday, the 10th inst., the Annual Ringing Festival was held in the above parish. The object of this festival is to commemorate the celebrated peal of 12,240 Treble Bob Major, in 7 hrs. 34 mins., rung by the Braughing Youths on May 10th, 1779. L. Proctor, Esq., of Bennington, with his excellent team of ringers, kindly came over, and added much to the enjoyment of the day. The dinner at the 'Bell Inn' was attended by thirty-seven persons, the Rev. P. G. Ward, vicar of the parish, in the chair; and amongst the company, besides those already mentioned, were—Mr. Kirby and the Churchwardens; and Messrs. J. Smith (Hampstead, London); J. R. Haworth (London); and T. Lawrence (Furneux-Pelham, Herts), who was one of a band that rung 6160 Bob Major at Braughing on the 14th of May, 1829. The fine old ring of bells, under the skilful handling of Mr. Proctor's ringers, gave forth some very beautiful music during the day, the methods rung being as follows:—Superlative Surprise Major, Double Norwich Court Bob Major, Kent Treble Bob Major, Stedman's Triples, and Grandsire Triples. A good course of Grandsire Caters was rung by J. Kitchener, L. Proctor, Esq., J. R. Haworth, S. Page, and L. Chapman; and merry tunes were played on the handbells during the evening.

The Hertford College Youths at Hunsdon, Herts.

ON Saturday, the 10th inst., the above Society visited Hunsdon, and rang Holt's Original One-part peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples in 3 hrs. 5 mins. J. Cull, 1; H. J. Tucker (conductor), 2; A. Baker, 3; H. Baker, 4; J. G. Crawley, 5; J. Godfrey, 6; T. Gathard, 7; F. George, 8. This is the first peal on the bells, which were opened on last Easter Monday by L. Proctor, Esq., and his celebrated band of ringers. The bells, originally a ring of five, have now been augmented to a ring of eight, the new bells being cast by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, and the whole ring entirely rehung and put in thorough-going order by Mr. John Gray of Little Munden, Herts, who must be complimented on the 'go' of the bells. The entire expense has been kindly defrayed by Spenser Charrington, Esq., of Hunsdon, Herts.

Meeting of the Salisbury Diocesan Guild.

THE Annual Meeting of the above Guild was held at Trowbridge, Wilts, on May 8th. Service was held in the parish church at noon, at which the Rev. H. Trotter, vicar, preached from 1 Chron. xxv. 6. The meeting for business was held in the vestry at 11 a.m. Nearly all the old officers were re-elected, and Rev. A. D. Hill was appointed Master of the Guild. A sumptuous dinner was given by W. Mackay, Esq., in the public hall; about fifteen companies were present. Messrs. Lane, Hayward, Alley, and McCaffrey, gave some very good touches of Grandsire Triples with the bells retained in hand. 216 and 180 Bob Minor were rung on the church bells by the Salisbury companies, and 336 Grandsire Triples by the Trowbridge company.

A Peal of Grandsire Caters.

13121

2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	1 2 3 4 5	3 4 5 6 2	S
3 5 6 2 4 9 8 7	S —	2 6 4 3 5	—
6 3 5 2 4 9 8 7	— —	5 3 6 2 4	—
5 2 3 6 4 9 7 8	— —	4 2 3 5 6	—
4 6 2 5 3	—	6 5 2 4 3	—
3 5 6 4 2	—	4 5 2 6 3	S
2 4 5 3 6	—	3 6 5 4 2	—
6 3 4 2 5	—	2 4 6 3 5	—
2 3 4 6 5	S	5 3 4 2 6	—
5 6 3 2 4	—	6 2 3 5 4	—
4 2 6 5 3	—		
3 5 2 4 6	—		
6 4 5 3 2	—		

Last 20 courses 5 times repeat, only a single on 1, bob on 4, in each part. Single on 4, instead of a bob of the 3rd and 6th part, produce 6 2 5 4 3. Single on 2, bob on 3, round at hand. Contains the 120 course-ends in the tittums, without a call on 9 7 8, only 5 calls on 8 9's.

Birmingham.

J. CARTER.

A Peal of Superlative Surprise Major.

5120

2 3 4 5 6	B.	W.	H.	First rung on May 5th,
2 3 5 6 4	-	-	-	1884, at St. Paul's, Burton-
5 2 3 6 4	-	-	-	on-Trent, by the St. Paul's
3 6 5 2 4	-	-	-	Society. Conducted by Wil-
5 3 6 2 4	-	-	-	liam Wakley.
6 5 3 2 4	-	-	-	

Four times repeated.

Birmingham.

HENRY JOHNSON, Sen.

444

A Peal of Bob Minor.

2 3 4 5 6	
B 2 3 5 6 4	The touch with two 720's in
S 4 6 5 2 3	any method might answer for a
S 5 3 4 6 2	date 1884 on six bells.
B 4 5 3 6 2	
B 3 4 5 6 2	
S 5 2 3 4 6	
S 5 3 2 4 6	
S 3 5 4 6 2	
B 2 4 3 5 6	
S 2 3 4 5 6	

EDWARD FRANCIS, Diss.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At SS. Mary and Nicholas Parish Church, Nantwich, Cheshire.

THE first peal of Old Doubles was rung in this steeple on January 27th, and a double peal of Old Doubles and Grandsire Doubles combined was rung on April 21st in 9½ mins. by the regular parish ringers, viz., G. Sutton, 1; J. Pooley, 2; D. Houlding, 3; A. Stubbs, 4; A. Parkes (conductor), 5; S. Stubbs, 6.

At St. John's, Perry Barr, Staffordshire.

ON Saturday evening, the 3rd inst., eight members of the St. Martin's Society, Birmingham, rang a peal of Stedman's Triples (Brooks' Variation) in 2 hrs. 56 mins. C. H. Hattersley (conductor), 1; F. E. Dawe, 2; H. Bastable, 3; W. R. Small, 4; J. Sanders, 5; S. Reeves, 6; J. Buffery, 7; T. Reynolds, 8. Tenor, 13 cwt. 2 qrs. 10 lbs., in F sharp.

At Lichfield, Staffordshire.

ON Sunday, the 4th inst., after Morning Service at St. Mary's, a quarter peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes) was rung in 45 mins. H. King, 1; H. Meacham, 2; T. Meredith, 3; A. Thomas, 4; A. Whitby, 5; F. Cope, 6; F. E. Dawe (conductor), 7; E. Gallimore, 8. Tenor, 19 cwt. 2 qrs. 16 lbs., in E.

Also at St. Michael's, Green Hill, a peal of 720 Kent. Treble Bob Minor was rung in 26 mins. F. Sedgwick, 1; H. Meacham, 2; T. Meredith, 3; F. Cope, 4; A. Thomas, 5; F. E. Dawe (conductor), 6. Tenor, 11 cwt. 3 qrs. 9 lbs., in A.

The above party also chimed the ten for afternoon service at the Cathedral, Tenor, 29 cwt. 3 qrs. 14 lbs., in D.

At St. Werburgh's Cathedral, Chester.

ON Tuesday evening, the 6th inst., Holt's Ten-part Peal of Grandsire Triples was rung in 3 hrs. 20 minutes. A. Lea, 1; J. Williams, 2; J. Ellis, 3; J. Gibson, 4; E. Rowland, 5; F. E. Dawe (conductor), 6; F. Ball, 7; J. Kendrick, 8. Tenor, 33 cwt., in C.

At Wrexham, Denbighshire, North Wales.

ON Thursday evening, the 8th inst., the Wrexham Society of Change-ringers rang a peal of 5021 Grandsire Caters in 3 hrs. 19 mins. A. Lea, 1; R. W. Evans, Esq., 2; R. Jones, 3; J. Williams, 4; J. Ellis, 5; E. Rowland, 6; F. E. Dawe, 7; T. Newell, 8; E. Evans, 9; J. Kendrick, 10. Tenor, 28 cwt., in D. Composed by Mr. J. Cox, and conducted by Mr. F. E. Dawe of London.

At St. Martin's, Salisbury, Wilts.

ON the 10th inst., a peal of 720 Bob Minor (Annable's peal, with 26 singles) was rung. E. A. Foster, 1; C. A. Clements, 2; J. R. Jerram, 3; S. Smith, 4; W. W. Gifford, 5; T. Blackburn (conductor), 6. Time, 29 mins. Also a peal of 720 Bob Minor (18 bobs and 2 singles). H. Dowling, 1; C. A. Clements, 2; T. Blackburn, 3; S. Smith, 4; W. W. Gifford, 5; J. R. Jerram (conductor), 6. Time, 25 mins.

At Syston, Leicestershire.

ON Saturday, the 10th inst., three of the junior company, assisted by three of the other ringers, rang a peal of 720 Bob Minor (18 bobs and 2 singles) in 27 mins. W. Bail, 1; G. Freeman, 2; G. Walton, 3; J. Hall, 4; J. North, 5; Rev. W. Pearson (conductor), 6. Tenor, 15½ cwt., in F. (* First peal.)

At SS. Peter and Paul, Lavenham, Suffolk.

ON Monday, the 12th inst., for practice, a peal of 1008 Bob Major was rung. T. Bruce, 1; C. Fisk, 2; Rev. E. Symonds, 3; A. Symonds, 4; H. Smith, 5; W. Snell, 6; J. Boby (conductor), 7; W. Moore, 8. Tenor, 23 cwt. All of Lavenham. First 1008 of Bob Major by all except J. Boby.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Vegetarianism and Waterarianism.

SIR,—My letter on the above subject brought me, with three or four others, a letter from a lady in Kent, which, however, I only received on Friday, the day your paper is sent to press, so that I could not send my reply to it last week through your columns, which is the only way I can satisfactorily do so, as she wrote anonymously, and I am not competent to give her the information she asked for myself, but only to refer her to the proper quarter for obtaining it, which I now do; namely, 'To the Secretary, 75 Princess Street, Manchester.' He will send her a full list of the Vegetarian Society's publications, and they are very numerous, and many of them extremely interesting and valuable. I wish I had time or space to quote from the twentieth part of them, but that I cannot.

Among many others, there are the opinions, to refute the vulgar error that man is necessarily a carnivorous animal, of Professor Owen, Baron Cuvier, Linnaeus, Gassendi, Ray, Lawrence, Bell, and Dr. Lyon Playfair. The last-named says: 'The miners of Chili, who work like horses, live nearly like them; for two loaves in the morning, boiled beans in the day, and roasted grain at night, constitute, according to Darwin, their ordinary food.' The President of the Society is Professor F. W. Newman, a Double-First Classman of Worcester College, Oxford (my old college), and brother of John Henry Newman of Oriel, who was a Third Classman.

Most of the publications of the Society are very cheap, only a halfpenny or a penny each; but among others there is an abridgment, price 6d., by Professor Newman, of *Fruits and Farinacea the Proper Food of Man* (a thick volume by Mr. John Smith of Malton, whom I formerly knew). Also *Vegetarian Cookery*, &c. &c.

If my correspondent will send me her address, I will send her that of the lady I referred to, who, I am sure, will be happy to give her all the personal information she may wish to obtain. Thus much as to the first portion of the above heading.

F. O. MORRIS.

Nunburnholme Rectory, Hayton, York.

Confirmation.

SIR,—How is it that Confirmations add so few to our permanent communicants? Few things grieve serious Dissenters more than the wide interval between Church profession and Churchmen's practice as to Confirmation. Confirmation appears to them to be, in too many cases, a public perjury before God and the congregation, a formal release from parental control, a prelude to Sunday bicycling. Could we not act more as if gifts of the Spirit were believed to accompany Confirmation? Why should not family worship and Church worship be, during the confirmation season, a special waiting on God as before the Day of Pentecost? It was those who continued with one accord in prayer who first received the Holy Ghost; and it was the 'devout men from every nation' who subsequently received it. Might not the number confirmed at any one place be limited to one hundred persons, and the rite be made as personal and individualising as possible? Might not a roll of confirmees be kept in each parish, to be publicly called at periodical meetings of former confirmees, to which they should be individually invited? Might not one of these meetings for roll call annually be addressed by the archdeacon or rural dean, and the other meetings be occasions for special services? The leakage from Confirmation is enormous. If more permanence and more spirituality could be given to its effects, perhaps it would have a greater attractive power to young men. As it is, the more earnest and actively religious men slight Confirmation because of its unreality; and the others regard it as only fit for girls, but as quite beneath young manhood. Yet these morally cowardly young men have learnt their religion from the Church. Let us aim more systematically at a higher, and truer, and more spiritual standard in this holy rite, and it may please God to make it a real blessing to our parishes, as well as to the individual confirmees.

A LAY HELPER.

England and the Vatican.

SIR,—Does your correspondent, 'J. F.', really believe that any shadow of good would result from his suggested overtures to Rome? I always understood that, because Rome would not even acknowledge the orders of our clergy, therefore the advanced spirits of the Anglican Church sought for closer communion with the Greek branch of Western Christendom. But I doubt whether real good would ensue if she were, as 'J. F.' puts it, 'to acknowledge her mistakes and offer Christianity in a credible form.' One result would be to unsettle the minds of many of her subjects, while the even tacit admission that past pretensions were really untenable would cast not a few into the ranks of unbelief.

The protest of the sixteenth century was really against the gross and open abuse of religious forms as a cover to vice and depravity of the darkest hue; and this protest was strengthened, in the case of England, by the fact that our Stuart kings were led by a partiality for Rome towards alliances which were resisted by the people as unpatriotic. The morality of Rome revived and Protestantism ceased to spread. So with the Romanism of to-day; her system is honestly administered by a faithful and devoted clergy. Why should the Church of Rome come forward and offer her doctrine in a 'more credible form,' when, as a matter of fact, Christianity of all shades is advancing towards higher ritual rather than credible forms? Rome would probably say, 'Our system is for the faithful; every religious system supposes faith. If we reduce our demands at the bidding of those who seek the credible, where shall we stop?' But in fairness let us, as Anglicans, say whether we should be content to abridge our doctrinal views in order to encourage a

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Dedication of New Bells at St. Thomas à Becket's, Northaw, Herts.

THE above church is a very pretty stone-built Gothic structure, with an elaborate little tower of the same material, situated in the charming and picturesque village above named. It was, on Thursday the 15th inst., visited by the ringers from St. John the Evangelist's, Wilton Road, Pimlico (nearly all members of the Ancient Society of College Youths, and with Messrs. Tucker and Horrex as visitors), for the purpose of opening the new ring of six bells, tenor, 13 cwt. in G, cast and hung in an iron frame by Taylor & Sons, of Loughborough. At the Dedication Service the Bishop of St. Albans preached a most impressive sermon upon bells.

The church was crowded, and beautifully decorated with choice flowers, and the special hymn, 'Set between the earth and heaven,
Now our bells are raised on high,'

was sung, after which 3000 changes were rung during the day—three six-scores of Grandsire Doubles, conducted by Mr. F. T. Gover; 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor, conducted by Mr. H. J. Tucker; 720 Grandsire Minor, conducted by J. W. Taylor, Esq., jun.; 720 Bob Minor, conducted by Mr. H. J. Tucker; 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor, conducted by Mr. F. E. Dawe, who arrived in the afternoon. Three volleys of firing then followed, the opening being made in Rounds and Queens, which brought the ringing to an end.

The ringers were the Rev. O. P. Yerburgh (who had obtained the St. John's company for the day), Messrs. C. F. Winny, F. T. Gover, W. T. Beaton, G. T. McLaughlin, H. P. Walsh, G. Pullman, C. Gross, C. Teasdale, T. A. Sparkes, J. W. Taylor, Esq., jun., E. Horrex, H. J. Tucker, and F. E. Dawe. All those who handled the ropes, and the visitors, expressed themselves pleased with the tone and 'go' of the bells, and the way in which the arrangements were carried out; also as regards the ringing-room, which is a model of what such places ought to be, and as the Vicar (the Rev. W. E. Bonsey) is enthusiastic in the subject, there is abundant evidence of it always remaining so. The chamber is about ten feet square, easy draught, nicely matted, and the sides match-boarded up to a height of about five feet, above which some rows of hat-pegs are to be seen. It is lighted in the evening by a nice little chandelier in the centre, and in the day by three windows, two of which are made to open, so as to let out any foul air that may accumulate there; all the woodwork is stained a deep mahogany colour, and has every appearance of comfort, the circle being all that can be desired.

Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association of Ringers.

THE Whit-Monday Meeting will be held at Sunderland, the bells at the disposal of the members being the ring of eight at Sunderland Parish Church, tenor, 14 cwt.; and the ring of six at Bishopwearmouth Parish Church, tenor, 12 cwt. A dinner will be provided at 3 p.m., at the 'Palatine Hotel,' 3s. 6d. to non-members, and 1s. to members. Dinner tickets should be applied for not later than Monday, May 29th. The Committee will meet at the Hotel at two o'clock. G. J. CLARKSON, *Hon. Sec.*

Post-office Chambers, Stockton-on-Tees.

New Clock Bells at Salisbury Cathedral.

FOUR new bells have been placed in the central tower of Salisbury Cathedral, upon which the new clock, put up by Mr. Joyce, of Whitechurch, in 1883, will shortly be made to strike the Cambridge Quarters. The bells were cast by Messrs. Taylor & Co., of Loughborough; the largest weighing a little over 12 cwt.

New Bells at Sittingbourne, Kent.

SIR,—I have the pleasure to inform you that the work of augmenting these bells to the octave, and otherwise improving them, is now approaching a satisfactory termination; and that Wednesday, May 28th, has been fixed as the day of inauguration. A Dedication Service will be held at 4 p.m., preacher, the Rev. R. B. Knatchbull-Hugessen, Hon. Secretary Kent County Association of Change-ringers. All ringers able to be present that day will be heartily welcome. F. C. MATTISON, *Hon. Secretary.*

CHANGE-RINGING.**At Banham Church, Norfolk.**

ON Saturday, the 4th inst., the young ringers of Tibenham and Banham rang a peal of 720 Oxford Treble Bob in 26 mins. R. Hutton (conductor), 1; T. Wick, 2; G. E. Manser, 3; N. Nudds, 4; J. Woods, 5; E. Websdale, 6. Tenor, 11 cwt. 3 qrs.

The United Counties' Association, Saddleworth, Yorkshire.

ON Saturday, the 10th inst., eight members of the above Association rang a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major in 3 hrs. 6 mins. J. Brierley (composer), 1; J. Holden, 2; J. Sidebotham, 3; T. Wilde, 4; J. Sellars, 5; J. Nuttall, 6; J. S. Wilde (conductor), 7; T. Brocklehurst, 8. [Name of church not given, nor number of changes rung.]

At St. Paul's, Fisherton-Anger, Salisbury, Wilts.

ON the 12th inst. a peal of 720 Bob Minor was rung in 20 mins., the first 720 since 1877 and the second on the bells. E. A. Foster, 1; C. A. Clements, 2; S. Smith, 3; T. Blackbourn, 4; W. W. Gifford, 5; J. R. Jerram (conductor), 6. Tenor, 12½ cwt.

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

ON Thursday, the 15th inst., eight members of the St. Paul's Society rang touches of Grandsire and Stedman's Triples, Kent Treble Bob, Double Norwich, and Superlative Surprise Major, in honour of the marriage, at St. Paul's Church, of Mr. Edward Lees of Castle Donington, and Miss Ryle of Burton-

on-Trent. The Rev. A. S. Mammatt, vicar of Castle Donington, and the Rev. James H. Fish, vicar of St. Paul's, Burton-on-Trent, officiated. G. Appleby, 1; E. I. Stone, 2; A. Wakley, 3; J. Griffin, 4; H. Wakley, 5; J. Jaggard, 6; T. Holmes, 7; W. Wakley, 8. Conducted by J. Jaggard, J. Griffin, and W. Wakley. Tenor, 26 cwt. [All members of the Midland Counties' Association.]

At St. Martin's, Salisbury, Wilts.

ON the 15th inst. a peal of 720 Grandsire Minor (34 bobs, 2 singles) was rung in 28 mins. C. A. Clements, 1; J. R. Jerram, 2; T. Blackbourn, 3; S. Smith, 4; W. W. Gifford, 5; J. W. Taylor, of Loughborough (conductor), 6. Tenor, 15 cwt. First peal of Grandsire Minor by all except 4 and 6.

ON the 17th inst. a peal of 720 Bob Minor (18 bobs, 2 singles) was rung in 27 mins. H. Dowling, 1; C. A. Clements, 2; W. W. Gifford, 3; S. Smith, 4; T. Blackbourn, 5; J. R. Jerram (conductor), 6.

At SS. Mary and Nicholas, Wilton, Wilts.

ON the 15th inst. a peal of 720 Bob Minor (18 bobs, 2 singles), was rung in 26 mins. H. Dowling, 1; J. R. Jerram, 2; S. Smith, 3; C. A. Clements, 4; W. W. Gifford, 5; T. Blackbourn (conductor), 6. Tenor, 9 cwt.

The Ancient Society of College Youths and Yorkshire Association, Sheffield.

ON Tuesday, the 20th inst., a peal of 5301 Stedman's Caters was rung in 4 hrs. 2 mins. C. Bower, 1; Joseph Mulligan,* 2; W. Lomas,* 3; C. H. Hattersley (composer and conductor), 4; John Mulligan,* 5; G. Holmes,* 6; J. A. Dixon,* 7; T. Hattersley, 8; A. Brierley,* 9; W. Smith & E. Woodward, 10. This peal has the fifth and sixth their extent behind the ninth, with the treble a second's place bell. Tenor, 41 cwt. [* Their first peal of Stedman's Caters.]

NOTICE.—Last week, 'Anniversary at Braughing, Herts,' for 'Treble Bob Major' read '12,240 Bob Major.'

CORRESPONDENCE.

The Nicene Creed and Public Doctrinal Instruction.

SIR,—I have followed the correspondence in your columns on the subject of the Nicene Creed with much interest, and would venture to urge upon our ecclesiastical authorities the importance of bringing the punctuation of the Creed into accordance with orthodox teaching, as is proposed in the Prayer-book recently laid before the General Convention of the Episcopal Church of America. The comma after the word 'Father,' in the second section of the Creed, naturally leads a reader, guided only by grammatical construction, to refer the 'Whom' of the next clause to 'Father' as its antecedent. The teaching of the Bible and of the Church, however, shows conclusively that the antecedent is 'Jesus Christ.' This being the case, there ought clearly to be a semicolon after 'Father.' I entirely approve of the colon after 'made,' the previous section of the second division of the Creed having reference to our Lord's Godhead and to His work prior to His incarnation; the following section having reference to His work as Saviour and Judge. That the Creed is constantly misread and misunderstood, in consequence of the erroneous punctuation, is notorious. I have heard, again and again, clergyman and congregation say 'by Whom all things were made,' laying stress on the word 'whom.' The emphasis should, I venture to say, be laid on 'all' and 'made,' the clause being entirely independent of the one immediately preceding it, and co-ordinate with the other clauses that are dependent on the words 'Jesus Christ.' The musical settings of the Creed are frequently incorrect in this matter of emphasis, and, when thus incorrect, are the more mischievous, because the congregation are obliged to follow the music. I have before me Mercer's well-known *Church Psalter and Hymn-book*, and there I find, in Sir John Goss's harmonising of Marbeck, two notes of equal length assigned respectively to the two words 'by Whom.' In Sir John Goss's own setting of the Creed, in the same book, I find the same two words sung to one note. The latter seems to me to accord best with the sense.

At the risk of encroaching on your valuable space, I submit a brief statement of the evidence in favour of regarding 'Jesus Christ,' and not 'Father,' as the antecedent of 'Whom.' 1. The section in which the clause occurs relates to the Son. 2. The relation of the Father to the work of creation has been already stated in the first part of the Creed, and it is not likely that it would be referred to a second time in so short a composition. 3. The Bible expressly associates the Son with the work of creation. Thus St. John declares, both positively and negatively, that it was by the Son 'all things were made.' He says first, positively, 'All things were made by Him,' and then negatively, 'and without Him was not anything made that was made' (St. John, i. 3). St. Paul says, 'But to us there is but one God, the Father, of whom are all things, and we in Him; and one Lord Jesus Christ, by whom are all things and we by Him' (1 Cor. viii. 6); and again, 'For by Him were all things created, . . . all things were created by Him and for Him' (Col. i. 16). That the pronoun 'Him' in the latter quotation refers to the Son is clear from verse 13. See also Eph. iii. 9, and Heb. i. 2, 8, 10.

I purposely pass over several passages in both the Old and New Testament, pointing in the same direction, but susceptible of other interpretations. The passages that I have quoted seem to me absolutely conclusive.

4. And now with regard to the teaching of the Church. Bishop Bull, in his *Defensio Fidei Nicenae* (p. 21, ed. 1721), cites the following passage from Irenæus:—'Sed nec quicquam ex his, quæ constituta sunt, et in subjectione sunt, comparabitur Verbo Dei, per quem facta sunt omnia, qui est Dominus noster Jesus Christus,' *et seq.* (lib. iii. cap. 8). Irenæus, it will be remembered, was a disciple of Polycarp, and was probably born about A.D. 97. I take the

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Accident at St. Thomas's, Salisbury.

WHILE the bells were ringing the midday peal on the Queen's Birthday the clapper of the tenor, weighing about $\frac{3}{4}$ cwt., flew out with a crash upon the floor, smashing part of the barrel-chiming apparatus, so that the well-known four changes could not be played on Sunday last as usual.

A Question from Warwickshire.

SIR,—I should be much obliged if any of your correspondents could tell me something about a change or tune for five bells, which is traditional in this and other villages in Warwickshire. They call it 'The Shepherd's Aye,' and they pronounce 'aye' to rhyme either with *a* or with *i*; but I have never found any ringer who could tell me what it meant, or how to spell it. The tune is something like this:—Where I have put a dash, a pause is indicated of one beat in length; so please consider it (though written in lines, like changes) as two strains,—

3 1 2 -
3 1 4 -
3 1 2 -
3 1 4 5
3 5 2 4
3 5 4 -
3 1 2 -
3 1 4 5

Bilton Rectory, Rugby.

RIC. O. ASHETON.

Beds Association of Change-ringers.

SATURDAY morning last being the Queen's Birthday, an attempt was made by eight members to ring a 5040 of Bob Major; but after ringing for some time a shift occurred, and the conductor called 'Stand!' W. W. C. Baker, Esq., of Eversholt Rectory, who will shortly be leaving home for clerical duty in Nottingham, rang with the above, and very kindly invited all the members to spend the afternoon at Eversholt: about twenty attended, including the Rev. C. J. Maltby, rector of Aspley Guise. An excellent luncheon was prepared by the Rev. W. S. Baker at the Rectory; afterwards change-ringing upon the church bells until 7 p.m. Several 720's were rung, including one in the method of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, being the first in that method upon the bells. Tea followed also at the Rectory, on the lawn of which the ringers rang the handbells to touches of Grandsire Caters and Oxford Treble Bob Major. The afternoon was a most enjoyable one; nothing was spared on the part of the Rector, Mrs. Baker, and the Misses Baker, in ministering to the happiness of the ringers present, who will long remember with pleasure the celebration of the Queen's birthday at Eversholt in 1884.

CHANGE-RINGING.

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

On Thursday, the 15th inst., a 336 of Grandsire Triples was rung by members of the Guild of Ringers at the above church, and on the following Monday, the 19th, two 336's of Bob Major were rung. Tenor, 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ cwt., in G.

On Thursday, the 22nd inst., a peal of 720 Bob Minor was rung in 29 mins. C. L. Routledge, 1; F. Lees, 2; E. Wallis, 3; W. Bowes (first 720), 4; W. Story, 5; R. S. Story (conductor), 6. Afterwards, with the assistance of Mr. Wallis, who belongs to St. Stephen's, Newcastle, a course of Grandsire Caters was rung with hand-bells retained in hand.

On Monday, the 26th inst., a peal of 720 Plain Bob Major was rung in 27 mins. W. Bowes, 1; C. L. Routledge, 2; W. Eggleston, 3; F. Lees, 4; W. G. Routledge, 5; T. J. Des Forges, 6; W. Story, 7; R. S. Story (conductor), 8. And also a touch of 960 Kent Treble Bob Major. G. Campbell, 1; F. Lees, 2; W. Eggleston, 3; C. L. Routledge, 4; R. S. Story, 5; H. Thompson (of Hurworth, Durham), 6; W. Story, 7; W. G. Routledge (conductor), 8. And a course of Grandsire Caters entirely by the members of this Guild. W. Bowes, 1-2; F. Lees, 3-4; R. S. Story, 5-6; C. L. Routledge, 7-8; W. Story, 9-10.

At Spalding, Lincolnshire.

On the 22nd inst. (Ascension Day), for early Celebration, a peal of 720 Yorkshire Court Bob and also 360 Oxford Treble Bob were rung at 10.30 for second service. And a peal of 720 Kent Treble Bob on the 24th (Queen's Birthday); at 7 a.m. 720 Plain Bob. Also in the evening 5100 changes were rung in eight methods, viz., 60 Double Court Bob, 720 Kent Treble Bob, 720 College Single, 720 Oxford Treble Bob, 720 London Single, 720 Oxford Bob, 720 Plain Bob, in 3 hrs. 7 mins. Tenor, 18 cwt. J. S. Wright, 1; J. Wilson, 2; G. L. Richardson, 3; R. Mackman (conductor), 4; E. Brown, 5; J. Brown, 6.

At St. Martin's, Salisbury, Wilts.

ON Ascension Day, the 22nd inst., six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles on the back five bells were rung by H. Dowling, 1; C. A. Clements, 2; T. Blackburn, 3; W. W. Gifford, 4; J. R. Jerram, 5. Tenor, 15 cwt.

At St. Lawrence's, Reading.

ON Saturday, the 24th inst., in honour of the Queen's Birthday, eight members of the St. Lawrence Society rang Holt's Ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples in 3 hrs. 10 mins. W. H. Holloway, 1; Wm. J. Williams (conductor), 2; W. R. Pocock (first peal), 3; J. E. Willshire, 4; W. Johnson, 5; E. Bishop, 6; W. Newell, 7; W. Goselline, 8. Tenor, 24 cwt., in E flat.

At St. Mary-at-the-Tower, Ipswich, Suffolk.

ON Saturday, the 24th inst., in honour of the Queen's Birthday, the following members of the Ancient Society of College Youths and the Norwich Association rang a peal of 5079 Stedman's Caters in 3 hrs. 29 mins. J. Motts, 1; W. L. Catchpole, 2; E. Pemberton, 3; W. Motts, 4; I. S. Alexander, 5; H. Bowell, 6; E. Carter (from London), 7; S. Tillet, 8; R. Hawes, 9; R. Brundle, 10. This is the first peal in this method rung in Suffolk, and the first by the Norwich Diocesan Association. Composed by H. Haley and conducted by W. L. Catchpole.

At Redgrave, Suffolk.

ON Saturday, the 24th inst., the juvenile company commenced at 6 a.m., and rang courses throughout the day unknown to the parishioners. H. Murton, 1; P. Alger (aged 13), 2; S. Alger (aged 16), 3; S. Murton (aged 14), 4; A. Morley (aged 16), 5; E. Broome, 6. Tenor, 9 cwt. 3 qrs. There were also 224 changes of Bob Major on the hand-bells. P. Alger, 1-2; E. Broome, 3-4; H. Boyce (aged 14), 5-6; S. Alger, 7-8.

CORRECTION.—In the account of 720 Bob Minor at Fisherton-Anger, reported last week, for 20 minutes read 30 minutes.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The Services of the Church and Sunday Morning Service.

SIR,—While a good deal of being written on this subject in *Church Bells*, will you allow me to mention one way in which the service may be considerably shortened with advantage to all without omitting the Litany, or indeed curtailing the service at all? I have often thought it a strange waste of time in these days, when all possess hymn-books and can read, that the clergyman should, in announcing it, consider it necessary to read over the first verse of each hymn, however long. This is by no means an uncommon practice, and I submit one that admits of no sufficient justification. I know it to be done where the service has occasionally to be curtailed or otherwise hurriedly or slovenly said. Another unmeaning practice, and consequently waste of time, is the pulpit prayer before the sermon which is still too common, and is without the slightest authority. Why not proceed with the sermon at once, or preface it with the time-honoured salutation, 'The Lord be with you,' as is done in some churches? I think it is now-a-days sufficiently understood that the pulpit is not a place of praying, but of preaching. These are but small matters after all; but the laity must look to the clergy to do what they must know to be right regarding the ritual of the Prayer-book. I entirely agree with all that 'K.' has said (in *Church Bells*, May 3) about the unwarranted omission of the Litany from the Sunday services.

One word about another subject that has taken up considerable space in your valuable paper, and on which a good deal of energy is being wasted, viz. 'Incense in Worship.' I confess that on reading the allusions to the unhappy 'Ornaments Rubric,' and the 'House of Commons,' &c., in this connexion, I devoutly wished to see an article on the subject in your columns that would be sure to 'Ring out the false and ring in the true,' and silence at once all speculating and dogmatising about 'pure incense,' and 'strange incense,' and the use of 'the purest we can get,' as contrary to the teaching of the Prayer-book to which every loyal Churchman is attached, and the principles of which *Church Bells* is the able exponent. Awaiting this consolation in an early issue.

LAY CHURCHMAN.

The General Thanksgiving.

SIR,—It may be interesting to your correspondents on this subject to know that in *The Book of Common Prayer, with the Psalms of David Paraphrased*, &c., by Wm. Nicholls, D.D. (third edition), 1716, the sentence in question stands thus: 'That we may shew forth Thy Praise,' &c. Paraphrased, 'That we may let the remembrance of them sink into the very bottom of our hearts; not suffering our gratitude to terminate in a verbal thanksgiving, but purposing to make the best return we are able, by dedicating ourselves entirely to Thy service,' &c. In the Prayer-book of the Church in the United States the 'may' is to be found, the General Thanksgiving being printed before the Prayer of St. Chrysostom in Morning and Evening Prayer and the Litany.

M.

Nova Scotia.

SIR,—This is no more to be repeated aloud by the congregation than is the thanksgiving for Deliverance from the Plague or other common sickness. Prayers or thanksgiving intended for repetition aloud show this by the use of capital letters (see the Confession at Morning and Evening Prayer; also the Confession in the Communion Office and in the Communion). Moreover, the claim or endeavour to utter it aloud would deprive us, if successful, of one of those most solemn acts of *silent* praise and thanksgiving, in which a vast congregation solemnly unites in hallowed quietness when the minister alone recites the words, and which forms a most touching and beautiful characteristic in our varied Liturgical arrangements. I do very earnestly hope that we may never be deprived of this most affecting function, of uniting *silently* in a hallowed act of earnest praise and thanksgiving unto God. We praise Him aloud and together in the *Te Deum* and many other acts of praise. Let this habit of silent but united gratitude, also, be continued, even as it is quite certain it was originally intended to be used in earnest, solemn *silence*.

G. V.

SIR,—I have an old black-letter Prayer-book, printed in 1662. It must be one of the earliest editions of our present Book, and must therefore be a trustworthy witness to the text as settled by the Savoy Conference. Its authority may therefore be interesting, as throwing light upon some questions of 'various readings' which have lately been discussed in your columns. In the General Thanksgiving the disputed clause runs, 'that we may shew forth thy praise,' thus making it appear that the word 'may' has been improperly omitted in later editions. The 'Amen' at the end of the Thanksgiving is printed in the same type as the Thanksgiving itself (viz. black letter). This, however, is also the case with the 'Amen' after the Lord's Prayer and General Confession. On the other hand, Roman type (which is used throughout the book for Rubrics) is employed for the 'Amen' after the five last prayers in the Morning (but not in the Evening) Service. This leads me to doubt whether the type used for an 'Amen' has, as sug-

COLONIAL AND FOREIGN CHURCH NEWS.

UNITED STATES.

THE presiding-Bishop, Bishop Potter of New York, has at length died, at the good old age of ninety.

THE assistant-Bishop of New York has received a letter congratulating him on his consecration from Bishop Herzog of the Old Catholics in Switzerland, and has returned a cordial reply.

INDIA.

THERE is actually now a periodical published with the name of *The Anti-Christian*, evidently written by men who, knowing better, would prejudice the national mind against our religion by hideously misrepresenting the Atonement, &c. *The Epiphany*, a paper which appears with the *Indian Churchman*, does good service by inviting correspondence from non-Christians, with very temperately worded replies. Probably one great lever for removing idolatry will be found in the vernacular translations now being made of Professor Max Müller's Lectures on the *Origin of Religions*.

THE Lambeth degree of D.D. has been conferred upon the Rev. Imad-du-Deen, chief pastor of the native church at Amritsar, on the recommendation of the Bishop of Lahore, in consideration of his theological services in the Mohammedan controversy.

RUSSIA.

THE Bishop of Gibraltar, in his recent visit to the South of Russia, has held a Confirmation at Odessa, consecrated the Crimean graveyards near Sebastopol, and furthered the settlement of a chaplain at Mr. Hughes' coal-mines and iron-works near the port of Mariapol, the 300 British there having had until now only occasional services from the Rev. E. W. Ford, chaplain at Odessa.

GERMANY.

BISHOP TITCOMB, late of Rangoon, signing himself 'First Bishop of the English Church for the Chaplaincies of Northern and Central Europe,' has held a Confirmation at Coblenz. The chapel of the Palace is here assigned to Anglican use. The Old Catholic pastor in the city was present in robes with the other clergy, likewise the Lutheran pastors.

THE Old Catholics have been joined by a priest of distinction at Bonn University—Dr. Moog; he renounced Romanism in April.

SWITZERLAND.

AT St. Immer the progress is noteworthy. In 1881 a priest was elected by the votes of the majority of Catholics. The Christian Catholic candidate obtained 159, the Roman Catholic 148 votes. He has resigned, and on May 4th the election of his successor took place. The Christian Catholic candidate polled 217 votes; the Roman Catholics abstained from voting. On April 27th Bishop Herzog confirmed thirty-five children in this parish. St. Immer contains above 700 inhabitants, and the two churches are now in the possession of the Christian Catholics and the Protestants, the Roman Catholics having now, we believe, no place of worship.

ITALY.

THE Pope has canonised the philosopher Boetius, who died in 514. This act is almost as remarkable as the canonisation of Philomena—a martyr that never existed!—by his predecessor, Pius IX. It has long since been shown to be a groundless fiction that Boetius was a zealous orthodox, wrote in defence of the Nicene Faith, and was put to death by the Arian king, Theodoric, for his opposition to the Arians. The truth is that Boetius was not a Christian at all, and the cause of his imprisonment and execution was the charge of treason preferred against him by other jealous courtiers. His work, *De Consolatione Philosophiæ*, is wholly devoid of Christian tincture, though justly admired. Our own King Alfred translated this treatise, and amplified it with reflections of his own.

THE discovery has been made of a manuscript of the tenth century in the library of Arezzo, near Florence, containing several writings heretofore unknown of Saint Hilary of Poitiers, and another document of value. The writings of Saint Hilary consist of the treatise *De Mysteriis*, regarded previously as lost, and a collection of hymns relating to points of the faith, or eulogistic of sundry martyrs and confessors. The document joined to these works is an Itinerary to the Holy Places in Palestine and other sanctuaries of the East, by a woman of Gaul, in the latter half of the fourth century, dedicated to her convent in Provence, of which she appears to have been Superior. This pilgrim went from Constantinople to Jerusalem, then into Egypt. She visited the ruins of Pithom and Ramses, where the Israelites worked as slaves; went to Tanis and to Pelusium; thence to Mount Sinai. She likewise ascended Mount Nebo, where Moses died, and reached 'Carnia,' between Idumea and Arabia, with its 'tomb of the Patriarch Job.' At Solima, the ancient Salem, she saw 'the ruins of the palace of Melchisedec' and 'the place where St. John baptized.' Thence she proceeded to Edessa, to visit the tomb of St. Thomas. The Bishop of that city spoke to her of the 'letter of Our Lord to King Abgar, preserved there.' The traveller finally visited Charran in Mesopotamia, and returned to Constantinople by Seleucia and Chalcædon. The most important descriptions in this Itinerary are those of the Sanctuaries of Jerusalem; she relates the tradition of the discovery of the Holy Cross, stating that in 'the church of Golgotha' there was celebrated the memory of the day on which it was discovered. Professor Gamurrini, the discoverer of the manuscript, holds that this Itinerary is only a few years later than A.D. 363, since it relates as a quite recent event the cession of Nisibis to the Persians, which took place in 363.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

A Ring of Eight Bells at Sittingbourne, Kent.

AFTER the long period of nearly two hundred years, the old six Sittingbourne bells have shifted their positions in order to find a resting-place for two little strangers. James Bartlett cast them in 1687; tenor, 21 cwt. Popular opinion has long been agreed as to the desirability of completing the ring, but it has remained for the energetic members of the Ringing Society, who have now had the bells under their care for three years, to undertake that laudable task, and to bring the work to a successful issue. The extremely short time the work has been in hand is a proof of the zeal which has characterised the whole of the proceedings. We are correct in stating that, within a fortnight after it had been decided that the time had arrived to take the matter in hand, the requisite funds—about 150*l.*—had been raised; and a gratifying feature in connexion with the project is the fact that many Nonconformists as well as Churchmen were among the subscribers,—the bells being regarded, not merely as church bells, but as belonging to the whole parish.

On Wednesday, the 28th ult., scarcely six weeks having elapsed since the project was set on foot, a dedication service was held at St. Michael's Church, and the new bells were formally opened. An eloquent and appropriate sermon was preached by the Rev. R. B. Knatchbull-Hugessen, who took for his text the following passage: 'Praise him upon the loud cymbals, praise him upon the high-sounding cymbals' (Ps. cl. 5). At the conclusion of the service, merry peals were rung upon the bells by mixed sides from Sittingbourne, Faversham, Folkestone, Canterbury, &c. Among the visitors were some well-known change-ringers, including Mr. J. R. Haworth of London; Mr. Banister of Devonport; Leonard Proctor, Esq., of Bennington, Herts; and Mr. Chapman of Hampstead, London.

A public supper was held at the Town Hall at half-past eight, and the company numbered between seventy and eighty. Mr. Payne occupied the chair. After the usual toasts, Mr. Gibson proposed 'Success to the St. Michael's Change-ringing Society,' to which Mr. Mattison, the Secretary, responded. In the course of his speech he remarked, that other towns and villages had rings of eight, some even of ten bells, but what good was their possession if they were not rung, or, if rung, rung only in rounds or monotonous call-changes? The ringing of rounds was practically analogous to the playing of scales by a student of the pianoforte, and no one, he was sure, would venture to assert that the exercise of scales was the *Ultima Thule* of the art of music. The round was only one variation among 40,000 on eight bells, and it is the object of change-ringing to produce by scientific methods any number or all of these variations, taking care that no two are alike and that none are repeated. A variety of qualities were called into exercise to accomplish this. It required great application and perseverance, and also a fair amount of thinking power, for change-ringing was as exact as any of the mathematical sciences. He must say that the local band somewhat deserved the additional bells. Upon six bells they might obtain 720 variations, and they were able to ring the whole of these in three distinct methods. Now they had eight bells they had a practical infinity of work before them, for 40,000 were the extent of the changes, and there were all sorts of ways of producing some of them.

The Rev. R. B. Knatchbull-Hugessen made an excellent speech in response to the toast, 'The health of the Rev. R. B. Knatchbull-Hugessen, and success to the Kent County Association of Change-Ringers.'

Mr. Grayling, who is an active member of the committee of the St. Michael's Change-ringing Society, and was received with musical honours by the ringers, also returned thanks, and referred to the great improvement which would be effected in the clock-chimes now that the new bells had been added. The clock was put up thirteen years ago, and was one of the greatest improvements ever carried out in the town, but it had not been complete till that morning, when the Cambridge quarters were rung for the first time. That in itself was an improvement.

Mr. L. Proctor responded for the Visitors. His visit to Sittingbourne had afforded him much pleasure. He had no idea that they had such a fine ring of bells and such a capital set of ringers.

Previous to the ceremony taking place, L. Proctor, Esq., and Messrs. Harrison (Folkestone), J. R. Haworth (conductor), W. Banister, Finn (Mersham), Chapman, Snelling (Sittingbourne), and Booth (Folkestone), visited the pleasant village of Borden, about two miles from Sittingbourne, where they rang on the good ring of eight bells Kent Treble Bob Major and Grandsire Triples. [A picture of Sittingbourne appeared in No. 664.]

Change-ringing at Hunsdon, Herts.

ON Monday, the 2nd inst., the company of change-ringers resident in the village of Bennington, Herts, by the kind invitation of Spencer Charrington, Esq., visited Hunsdon House, where a ring of eight bells (four new and four old) has lately been restored by the munificent aid of Mr. Charrington. A large gathering of friends assembled to hear the fine ringing that was practised upon the excellent bells. Leonard Proctor, Esq., Mr. Haworth and Mr. Wood of the College Youths, London, and Mr. Rochester of Sawbridgeworth, Herts, together with many ringers from the neighbouring districts, all met together to enjoy this fine gathering, and thoroughly enjoyed themselves in hearing such admirable scientific change-ringing. The sumptuous hospitality of Mr. Charrington to all ringers present, and to a numerous assemblage of friends and neighbours, was arranged in excellent style, and accepted by all present with their united best thanks. Mr. Proctor, with some of his band, played musical tunes on his fine hand-bells to a large company of friends, and all returned home with a lively recollection of the memorable and happy day spent at the picturesque village of Hunsdon.

The fine ringing during the day consisted of six various methods, containing the most musical changes in the science of change-ringing: 3516 changes were rung in the following methods: Stedman's Triples, Kent Treble Bob Major, Double Norwich Court Bob Major, London Surprise Major, Cambridge Surprise Major, and Superlative Surprise Major.

In the ringing-chamber, which is on the ground-floor, the following is inscribed on a marble tablet:—

1883-1884.

'The tower and spire of this church was restored, the five old bells rehung on new timbers, one of them being cracked was recast, and three new bells—the first, second, and third—added. The whole of the work was carried out at the cost of Spencer Charrington, Esq., of Hunsdon House. Ven. J. H. Gray, D.D., Rector; Albert Deacon, W. H. Leger-ton, churchwardens.'

Kent County Association.

The Annual General Meeting will be held at Canterbury on Monday, June 16th. Cathedral service, 10 a.m.; Committee meeting in the Chapter House, 11.15; Dinner at 1, at which the Dean of Canterbury will take the chair. Application for dinner tickets to be made at once to the Secretary, Rev. R. K. Hugessen, Merstham Rectory, Kent.

The Archdeaconry of Stafford.

On June 21st the Annual Meeting of the Society of Change-ringers for the Archdeaconry of Stafford will be held at Lichfield. There will be ringing at the Cathedral and in the steeples of the city churches; and a special address will be given to the members in the Cathedral after the four o'clock evensong. This Society has now been formed for one year, and is gradually being joined by the ringing bands of the various parishes in the archdeaconry. Any incumbent desiring information on the subject is asked to communicate with the Rev. J. R. Keble, Lichfield, hon. sec. of the Society.

Surrey Association.

A DISTRICT MEETING of this Association (for ringing only) will be held at Battersea, by the kind permission of the Vicar, the Rev. Canon Erskine Clarke, on Saturday, June 14th. It is hoped that all who can do so will attend.

ARTHUR B. CARPENTER, Hon. Sec.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At St. Luke's, Derby.

On Sunday, the 25th ult., before evening service, a mixed band of members of the Midland Counties Association and the St. Luke's Society, Derby, rang a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes) in 52 mins., being the longest touch rung on the bells for nearly three years. F. Whiting, 1; T. Bancroft, 2; A. E. Thompson, 3; J. Newbold, 4; A. B. Ward, 5; F. Sephton (conductor), 6; J. Howe, 7; H. Longden, 8. Tenor, 24 cwt., in D.

At St. Mark's, Glodwick, Oldham, Lancashire.

On Tuesday, the 27th ult., a peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples (Reeves' Ten-part) was rung in 2 hrs. 55 mins. A. Clegg, 1; G. H. Beever (conductor) 2; C. Dronsfield, 3; J. Priesley, 4; G. Dunkerley, 5; J. Riley, 6; J. Kershaw, 7; W. Rhodes, 8. Tenor, 8½ cwt.

At St. Cadoc's, Caerleon, Monmouthshire.

On Wednesday, the 28th ult., a peal of 720 Grandsire Minor was rung in 25 mins. W. Powell, jun., 1; J. James, 2; F. Green, 3; E. Davies, 4; L. Jones, 5; W. Powell, sen., 6. The first, second, and sixth are Llan-fraehfa ringers; the others Caerleon ringers. 5th observation, 38 bobs, 22 singles. Tenor, 7½ cwt., in B flat. First 720 on these bells, which were recast in 1881 by Messrs. Warner, and the first 720 in any method by all the above.

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

On Thursday, the 28th ult., a touch of Plain Bob Major (560 changes) was rung for service, conducted by R. S. Story; after which a touch of 576 Kent was rung in 22 mins., by C. L. Routledge, 1; F. Lees, 2; E. Wallis, 3; R. S. Story, 4; S. Power, 5; T. J. Des Forges, 6; W. Story, 7; W. G. Routledge (conductor), 8. Tenor 12½ cwt.

At St. Leonard's, Shoreditch, Middlesex.

On Thursday, the 29th ult., ten members of the Royal Cumberland Youths rang a peal of Stedman's Caters in 3 hrs. 38 mins. S. Newson (conductor), 1; J. Gobbett, 2; A. J. Perkins, 3; W. H. Fussell, 4; T. Titchener, 5; A. Jacob, 6; W. Doran, 7; W. Meadows, 8; A. H. Gardom, 9; H. Benham, 10. Tenor, 31 cwt. [*First peal in this method.]

At St. Werburgh's, Derby.

On Friday, the 30th ult., six members of the Midland Counties Association rang a peal of 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor in 30 mins., being the first in the method rung by the local band. R. Bosworth, 1; A. B. Ward, 2; A. E. Thompson, 3; J. Howe, 4; J. Newbold, 5; H. C. Woodward (conductor), 6. Tenor, 17 cwt., in E. The above peal was rung on the occasion of Dr. Ridding's first visit to Derby since his installation as Bishop of Southwell, and who has become a patron of the above Association.

At SS. Peter and Paul's, Aston-juxta-Birmingham.

On Friday, the 30th ult., a peal of 5056 Grandsire Major was rung by the Holt Society in 3 hrs. 16 mins. T. J. Hemming, 1; A. Jones, 2; H. Bastable, 3; J. Benn, 4; J. W. Cartwright, 5; W. Kent, 6; C. Stanbridge, 7; A. Thomas, 8. Tenor, 24 cwt. Composed by Henry Johnson, sen., and conducted by William Kent.

At St. Edward's, Romford, Essex.

On Saturday evening, the 31st ult., eight members of the Essex Association, being also members of the Royal Cumberland Youths, rang a half-peal of Stedman's Triples in 1 hr. 33 mins. G. Newson (conductor), 1; A. J. Perkins, 2; W. H. Fussell, 3; J. Harrington, 4; W. Meadows, 5; W. Doran, 6; A. H. Gardom, 7; H. Randall, 8. Tenor, 17 cwt.

SEVERAL communications are unavoidably postponed till next week.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The Rev. H. W. Webb-Peploe and the Salvation Army.

SIR,—May I request you, by the publication of this note, to give an immediate and emphatic contradiction to the report which has reached you, and to which you have given circulation, that 'the Rev. H. Webb-Peploe has joined the Salvation Army.' There is no other clergyman bearing my name, and I have never for one moment thought of giving my adhesion to the Salvation Army, either in its doctrines or its practices. I conclude that the error has arisen from the fact that the Rev. W. E. Oliphant has been my curate, and has suddenly (to my great astonishment and pain) taken this distressing step.

H. W. WEBB-PEPLOE, Vicar of St. Paul's.

Onslow Square, S.W.

[It will be seen from a note in our 'Church News' that we quoted the paragraph, in which Mr. Peploe's name must have been accidentally substituted for that of his curate, from the *Pall Mall Gazette*.]

Home Reunion by Jettison.

SIR,—I sometimes wonder whether Earl Nelson would encourage some of us lubbers to sail in his company towards the very new Atlantis of English Home Reunion, under colours as yet unrecognised? We might be for adjusting our load-line by a deliberate jettison of nomenclature taken from modern 'Schools of Thought,' which seem to us to consist chiefly of people who think very little and scream a great deal. Having no leaning towards any Protestant or other heresy, we shall be ready to dispense with the imprimatur of Catholic orthodoxy. We shall, or should, act under the impression, that the uncomfortable associations cleaving either to the word 'Catholic' or 'Protestant' might fairly lead to their being mutually dropped. When the proper deductions have been made from their accuracy or misuse, we do not see why their disuse should be any great misfortune to anybody.

The so-called Catholic ages, those freebooting times for Italian ecclesiastics, had altogether a long innings of it for duration and supremacy, but now for three centuries they have given place to the Jesuit period, of which the less said the better. Catholic builders used to rear very fine structures with money which was certainly not any earned increment of their own; others of their date used to assert miracles which are not now credited, and doctrines far from accepted later on, while their institution of Catholic Councils affords us the exquisite irony of noticing that they have devolved their assumed infallibility upon the one articulately speaking mortal in the world who has the least power to open his mouth with effect, and who, instead of being able to take his own seat in his own *cathedra*, is only a mouthpiece. Believing that Catholic saints and writings would have been as good as they were under any other name, we shall not regret that their successors are otherwise designated. As for poor, dear, blatant Protestantism, it absorbs too many of the four well-known rules for our liking, inasmuch as it works by subtraction, multiplication, and division in Church matters, instead of such addition as would be desired by an advocate for Home Reunion. To realise one's own case as deserving to be called Protestant and nothing more would be to feel oneself sinking bodily downwards, and approaching Dantesque forms of Plymouthism and Hallelujah Sal. Rather than do anything of the kind, we would gently arrange with each fanatical Puritan to keep the name of Protestant from our ears, even as we should with the supercilious Ritualist to be silent over the word Catholic.

Another thing we should very likely be glad to jettison would be the profound depression of feeling that the fact of there being any unconverted people in England is simply the fault of our Church, and that if any square-jawed collier or heavy-eyed Hodge in our parishes escapes amendment, it is all owing to some mistake or class-distinction in us, the parsons, who have to deal with him. We think it makes a good deal of difference whether a labourer with an antiquated plough is set to work at a yielding fallow or a wilderness of granite boulders. We shall be satisfied if, under an impossible task, we did what we could, and as we thought that we should be allowed to do it.

SENEC.

Reunion.

SIR,—In answer to Mr. Alfred Simmons' letter I would say that his proposals for Reunion, in the possibility of which he does not believe, resolve themselves into—(1), An order of flashy preachers, (2), A system of strict uniformity—for it is in this sense that I read his recommendation 'to put down floral decorations, &c.,' and to 'remove all numblers of written sermons.' These things have been, and ever will be, the fruitful sources of schism and divisions. Our lines are somewhat different, though with him we would appeal to the non-political Dissenters—'that truly God-fearing people who make the Holy Scriptures their rule of life.' To such we fearlessly appeal, in the Name of our common Lord, for a restoration of that brotherly love between fellow-Christians which our miserable divisions have so heartlessly cast aside.

We plead for unity, not only in fulfilment of our Lord's Prayer that all who believe in Him may be truly one, but from the knowledge that love is of the very essence of Christianity, without which it is impossible for us, either individually or collectively, to give that true witness of the God of Love to the world, which it is our primary duty to make manifest.

We plead for unity, because of the sin, and misery, and waste of power, which our divisions cause; and in the presence of that real conflict with the powers of darkness now going on. These evils are really vital, and such as to paralyse all our efforts to maintain and to extend the kingdom of our dear Lord.

We plead for unity, on the basis of those great cardinal truths of Christianity which the original leaders of Dissent most decidedly held dear, but

At the Trinity ordination by the Bishop of Down, at Holywood parish church, on Sunday last, six deacons were made and four priests; at that of the Bishop of Cork, two deacons and three priests; at that of the Bishop of Cashel, one deacon; at that of the Bishop of Tuam, two deacons and one priest.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

A Summer's Holiday.

A PARTY of fifteen members of St. Mary's Bell-ringing Society, of Old Battersea, Surrey, started on their annual visit to East Kent, on Saturday, the last day of May, the day before Whitsunday. Their holiday was brief but very pleasant. They enjoyed the sea air, several very agreeable rides, were liberally entertained, and gave their friends a taste of their quality as bell-ringers. As on previous occasions, Birchington, in the Isle of Thanet, was the first place they visited, and there they were received by many old friends. That pleasant village—where so much that is quaint and old-fashioned is united with so much that is new and artistic, where some of the houses and the little market-place have probably altered little with the lapse of time; and where handsome villas in the 'bungalow' style have been built, and mansions, terraces, and promenades by the sea are springing into existence—was reached about half-past seven on Saturday evening; and the party having recruited their strength by needed refreshments, made their way to the Waterloo Bell Tower, in Quex Park, near the village. This tower contains a fine ring of twelve bells. As, on a previous occasion, the proprietor of the Park, H. H. P. Cotton, Esq., gave permission to the ringers to exercise their skill, they speedily got to work, and very soon the air resounded with several touches of Grandsire Triples and Caters. The party then returned to Birchington, and took up their quarters for the night at host Fright's, finding them very comfortable indeed. After a moderate enjoyment of the good things provided, they retired early, intending to rise betimes on the following morning, and do honour, in their own musical fashion, to Whitsunday. After breakfast the party paid another visit to the Park, and the Battersea Branch of the Royal Cumberland Society took the ropes in hand, and setting to work with will, accomplished a peal of Grandsire Triples. It was the first time for more than thirty years that such a peal had been rung on these bells, and the ringers may well be complimented on the energy and accuracy with which they achieved the performance.

ROYAL CUMBERLAND SOCIETY (Battersea Branch).

5040 changes of Holt's Ten-part peal were rung in 3 hrs. 1 min. W. Ambrose, 1; W. Baron (conductor), 2; W. Coppage, 3; A. G. Thomas, 4; H. Swan, 5; H. A. Hopkins, 6; C. W. Ludwig, 7; E. E. Robins, 8. Tenor, 15½ cwt.

Returning to Birchington, dinner followed, and then the party were taken for a ride in the host's brake. The weather was delightful, the breezes from the sea exhilarating, and the trip of eleven miles to Wingham was thoroughly enjoyed. From that place a start was made for Ash, where the Vicar kindly permitted several touches of Grandsire Triples to be rung. Tea having been partaken of, the party started homewards by way of Sandwich and Minster. Birchington was the resting-place for the night; and after breakfast on Monday morning, another visit was paid to the bell-tower, at the request of Mr. T. B. Reed, under whose charge it is placed, and whose attention to the visitors now, as many times before, was heartily appreciated. The first half of Holt's Ten-part peal (2520 changes) was rung in 1 hr. 32 mins. by the following. W. Baron (conductor), 1; T. B. Reed (first half-peal), 2; W. Coppage, 3; C. E. Malin, 4; H. A. Hopkins, 5; H. S. Thomas, 6; H. Swain, 7; E. E. Robins, 8. Refreshments were supplied by the proprietor of the Park; and this agreeable rest was followed by a game of cricket, in which considerable skill was shown. After dinner, in accordance with an established custom, there was a game of 'rounders' on the sands, followed by tea.

The party returned to the metropolis by the last train, after two days and a bit of most agreeable relaxation and the enjoyment of a real holiday. Friends at Birchington look forward with pleasure to the annual visit of the ringers from Battersea, who, on their part, preserve most agreeable recollections of the kind reception given them, and give their warmest thanks to Mr. Cotton, who so readily granted permission to use the bell-tower in Quex Park.

Extract from the Records of the Royal Cumberland Society:—'Quex House, Isle of Thanet, Kent, the seat of John P. Powell, Esq. On Wednesday, August 4th, 1819, the Society rang on that gentleman's new peal of twelve bells, in a steeple erected for the purpose in his park, a true peal of Grandsire Cinques, consisting of 5213 changes, composed in the titum position, having the 8th behind the 11th throughout; performed in 3 hours and 39 minutes. George Gross, Treble; Jas. Nash, 2; William Shipway, 3; John Hunt, 4; Peter Jones, 5; Jas. Blacklock, 6; Thomas Freath, 7; Thomas Hovendon, 8; Jas. Stickbury, jun., 9; Josh. Riley, 10; Thos. Grainger, 11; Frans. Matthew, Tenor. Mr. Geo. Gross, Conductor. This is the first peal on the 12 bells. The like is not to be found in the three kingdoms, of a private gentleman erecting a steeple and having a peal of 12 bells for his own amusement, nor likewise a peal of 12 of that light weight hung for ringing, viz. 15½ cwt. Key of F.'

Death of Two Ringers.

THE first we have to announce is that of Mr. Richard Greenhalgh, sexton of Burnley, Lancashire, who died recently, aged fifty-nine, and was buried on the 27th of May. He had been a ringer at the parish church for about twenty

years prior to his appointment as sexton in 1867. Though he then resigned his position as one of the regular ringers, yet he was always ready to take the place of an absentee or inexperienced ringer on any special occasion. He rang in several complete peals of 5040 changes, two of which—the one on Easter Day, 1865, and the other on 26th January, 1875—are recorded on boards in the ringing-chamber. In both of them—Mr. Holt's Ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples—he took the third bell. On 25th September, 1877, he was elected a member of the Ancient Society of College Youths. The funeral service was choral, and was attended by the surplined choir. The bells were rung muffled both before and after the burial.

The next death is that of Mr. William Holdsworth, sexton of Skipton, Yorkshire, whose age was sixty-six. He was buried at the old cemetery on the same day as the Burnley sexton above referred to. The deceased had been a choir-boy and bell-ringer from his earliest years, and formerly was choir-master at Christ Church. In 1855 he was appointed sexton of the parish church. At his funeral the ringers showed their respect to this old servant of the Church, who had taught so many of them the art and mystery of ringing. We fear there are many sextons to-day unversed in change-ringing, and, therefore, regret the more the loss of these two worthy officers of the Church.

Change-ringing at St. Mary's, Twickenham, Middlesex.

On Saturday, the 7th inst., eight members of the St. James's Society—Messrs. Haworth, Mansfield, Coppage, French (conductor), Barry, Banks, Hayward, and Albone—met at the above church to ring a peal of Grandsire Triples; but after two hours a change-course put an end to the ringing. Mr. G. B. Banks, who has repaired the bells, invited the party to supper, at which the churchwardens, Messrs. John M. Stedwell and G. Davis, took the chair and vice-chair. A pleasant evening was spent, the churchwardens being very kind to the ringers. The local party gave a merry peal during supper-time. The tenor is about 19 cwt., in E, and the churchwardens are well pleased with the going of the bells. Mr. W. Walker (a ringer) is proprietor of the hotel where the supper took place (the 'Two Sawyers'), which is near the church and the banks of the Thames, and was formerly the Rectory. In a short time another attempt will be made to ring the peal, the churchwardens having given permission.

Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association.

THE Whit Monday meeting was held at Sunderland, the attendance of members from various places being very large. The ringing consisted of a 1056 Kent Treble Bob Major, 352 Bob Major and some Grandsire Triples at Sunderland; 720 of Oxford Bob, and 720 of Plain Bob Minor, at Bishop Wearmouth; and various touches of Minor and six scores of Doubles were also rung by members of the younger branches. At the Committee meeting the draft scheme of the National Association was generally approved. Seventy-one sat down to dinner at the 'Palatine Hotel,' Canon Scott Moncrieff presiding; there were also present Revs. Boddington and Simmins, and Mr. J. P. Chapman, Churchwarden of Sunderland, who takes great interest in his bells, and was present in the belfry during the whole of the ringing. After the loyal toasts, that of the bishops and clergy of the dioceses of Durham and Newcastle was responded to by Canon Moncrieff, who expressed great interest in this Association, and although himself and many others regretted the necessity of separating Northumberland from the ancient see of Durham, he was glad to know that they were still tied together with bell-ropes. Other toasts followed, after which twenty-three new members were elected, including Rev. E. Boddington and Mr. H. Reeves. The Annual Meeting will be held at Newcastle-on-Tyne on the last Monday in October.

Kent County Association of Change-ringers.

THE Annual General Meeting will be held at Canterbury on Monday, the 16th inst.

Service in Cathedral 10 a.m., after which an address will be given by Canon Fremantle.

Committee Meeting in the Library, 11.15. Business—admission of new members; report and accounts; time and place of next district meetings.

Dinner 1 p.m. in the Foresters' Hall; the chair will be taken by the Dean of Canterbury. General Meeting (for appointment of officers, &c.) directly dinner is over.

The following belfries will be open to members from 8 a.m.:—viz. the Cathedral, 10 bells, except from 9.45 to 11 a.m., and 2.45 to 4 p.m.; St. Stephen's, 8; St. Dunstan's, 6; Holy Cross, 5.

By kind permission of the Dean, members of the Association will be admitted to visit the Cathedral free of charge.

Secretaries of bands who have not yet applied for the dinner tickets required must do so at once.

The attendance of hon. members at the dinner is earnestly invited, and will be esteemed a favour. Tickets (2s. 9d. each) may be had of the Secretary, who will be glad to receive the names of those who intend dining.

N.B. All subscriptions are due, and can be received in the Library after the Committee Meeting.

R. B. KNATCHBULL HUGESSEN, Hon. Sec.
Mersham Rectory, Ashford.

Midland Counties Association of Change-ringers.

THE next Quarterly Meeting will be held at Leicester on Saturday, the 28th inst. St. George's Schools will be the meeting-place for forming bands and committee. The clergy have kindly placed the following belfries at our disposal:—St. George's, 6 bells; St. Margaret's, 10 bells; St. Mary's, 8 bells; St. Mark's, 8 bells; St. Saviour's, 8 bells; All Saints', 5 bells; and probably St. Martin's, 10 bells. The tea is arranged for five o'clock in the Pavilion, Abbey Park, at the usual charge of 1s. 6d. each. W. H. LANE, District Sec.

CHANGE-RINGING.

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

ON Saturday, the 31st ult., twelve members of the Ancient Society of College Youths (being also members of the Norwich Diocesan Association) rang a peal of 5088 Kent Treble Bob Maximus in 3 hrs. 54 mins. E. Pemberton, 1; W. L. Catchpole, 2; C. Mee, 3; I. S. Alexander, 4; W. Motts, 5; R. Brundle, 5; J. Motts, 7; H. Bowell, 8; E. Reeve, 9; R. Hawes, 10; S. Tillett, 11; F. E. Dawe, 12. Tenor, 32 cwt., in C sharp. Composed by Mr. C. H. Hattersley of Sheffield, and conducted by Mr. F. E. Dawe of London.

5088						M. W. H.		
2	3	4	5	6		1	-	1
6	4	3	5	2		1	-	1
4	5	3	6	2		2	-	2
5	2	3	6	4		1	-	2
2	4	3	6	5		1	-	2
6	2	3	4	5		1	-	1
5	3	2	4	6		1	-	1
5	2	4	3	6		1	-	2
2	3	4	5	6		2	-	2

At the Parish Church, Bletchingley, Surrey.

ON Whitsunday, June 1, a half-peal of Plain Bob Triples (2520 changes) was rung by the local company in 1 hr. 30 mins. A. Wallis, 1; F. Smith, 2; J. Bashford, jun., 3; T. Boniface, 4; G. Potter, 5; L. Killick, 6; W. Burkin (conductor). 7; W. Mayne, 8. Tenor, 19 cwt.

At St. Lambert's, Stonham Aspal, Suffolk.

ON Whit Monday, the 2nd inst., ten members of the Ancient Society of College Youths and Norwich Diocesan Association rang a peal of 5000 Treble Bob Royal in 3 hrs. 25 mins. F. E. Dawe, 1; C. Mee, 2; I. S. Alexander, 3; E. Pemberton, 4; W. Motts, 5; C. Saul, 6; J. Motts, 7; S. Tillett, 8; W. L. Catchpole, 9; E. Reeve, 10. Tenor 24 cwt., in E flat. Composed by the late Mr. B. Annable and conducted by Mr. W. L. Catchpole. This is the first peal on the ten bells, the first and only peal being 5040 Bob Major on 4th January, 1768.

At St. Michael and All Saints', Writtle, Essex.

ON Whit Monday, the 2nd inst., eight members of the Essex Association rang 5024 Kent Treble Bob Major in 3 hrs. 13 mins. J. Dains,* 1; W. Rowland,* 2; A. J. Perkins, 3; W. Hawkes,* 4; A. Pater,* 5; A. Pye,* 6; W. Doran, 7; G. Newson (conductor), 8. Tenor, 18 cwt. Composed by Mr. J. Cox. [*First peal in this method.]

At SS. Peter and Paul, Bromley, Kent.

ON Whit Monday, the 2nd inst., eight members of the St. James's Society rang Holt's Original peal of Grandsire Triples in 2 hrs. 54 mins. H. W. Grout, 1; H. Langdon, 2; R. French (conductor), 3; J. Waghorn, 4; W. Weatherstone, 5; J. Barry, 6; F. W. Thornton, 7; J. Coxhead, 8.

At Christ Church, North Shields.

ON Tuesday, the 3rd inst., eight members of the Durham and Newcastle Association, rang a peal of 5440 of Kent Treble Bob Major in 3 hrs. 16 mins. F. Lees, 1; G. J. Clarkson, 2; C. L. Routledge, 3; R. S. Story, 4; W. Reed, 5; W. Story, 6; R. Smith, 7; J. Herne, 8. Tenor, 20 cwt. Composed by the late H. Hubbard and conducted by G. J. Clarkson. This is the first peal for the 6th ringer, the first inside for the 3rd, and the first peal of Major by the Association.

Messrs. Lees, Routledge, and brothers Story, hail from St. John's, Newcastle; Mr. Clarkson from Stockton; and the rest from North Shields.

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

ON Saturday, the 7th inst., eight members of the St. Paul's Society rang a peal of 5056 Kent Treble Bob Major in 3 hrs. 20 mins. A. Wakley, 1; C. H. Hattersley (composer and conductor), 2; H. Wakley, 3; E. I. Stone, 4; J. Jaggard, 5; W. Wakley, 6; T. Holmes, 7; A. Brierley, 8. Tenor, 26 cwt. Composed and conducted by C. H. Hattersley. All the above, with the exception of Messrs. Hattersley and Brierley, are members of the Midland Counties Association.

5056						M. R. W. H.		
2	6	3	5	4		2	-	1
4	2	5	6	3		2	-	2
6	4	2	3	5		1	-	2
4	5	2	3	6		1	-	2
3	4	2	5	6		1	-	2
3	6	4	5	2		2	-	1
2	3	5	6	4		2	-	2
6	2	3	4	5		2	-	2
2	5	3	4	6		1	-	2
4	2	3	5	6		1	-	2

These last five courses repeated complete the peal.

At Holy Trinity, Dartford, Kent.

ON Saturday, the 7th inst., eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang Holt's Original One-part peal of Grandsire Triples in 3 hrs. 1 min. G. May,* 1; J. Blackman,* 2; B. W. Rose,* 3; G. Conyard, 4; W. Wright,* 5; A. Cole, 6; F. French (conductor), 7; H. Rose, 8. Tenor, 20 cwt. Those marked thus * were proposed and seconded as College Youths before the start; also their first peal.

ON Sunday morning, the 8th inst., a peal of 720 Bob Minor was rung in 24 mins., with 6-8 behind, containing 35 bobs and 6 singles. S. Everson, 1; J. Blackman, 2; G. May, 3; E. W. Snowden, 4; B. W. Rose (composer and conductor), 5; H. Rose, 6; W. Harper, 7; R. Davis, 8.

At St. Sidwell's, Exeter, Devon.

ON Saturday, the 7th inst., the above Society rang, with the assistance of Mr. J. Rowbottom of London, Holt's peal of 5040 changes in 2 hrs. 53 mins. F. R. Shepherd, 1; F. Shepherd (conductor), 2; W. G. Goss, 3; E. Shepherd, 4; G. Townsend, 5; A. Shepherd, 6; J. Rowbottom, 7; J. Moss, 8. Tenor, 24 cwt., in D.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Where are the Men?

SIR,—In your 'Sunday Rambles' of the 7th inst., you mention a church in which not one in twenty of the congregation were of the 'male persuasion,' and this leads me to suggest a question which has long agitated my mind—the disproportion of male to female worshippers in our churches. In the church which I attend this subject is brought most strikingly under my notice. We have morning and evening services almost daily, a bright and hearty, but not extreme ritual. Vicar and curate excellent, energetic men, able, indeed eloquent, in the pulpit, zealous in visiting the poor, &c. The congregation is fairly numerous: but, oh! the preponderance of bonnets! Where are the men whose wives, sisters, and daughters, are sitting round me? I have come to the conclusion that this state of things is, in a measure, owing to the fact, that while the time of the clergy is absorbed by visiting the poor, and in the daily services, no time is left to make themselves personally acquainted with us poor middle-class Churchfolk. I live within five minutes' walk of the vicarage, have resided in the parish twenty years; but a pastoral visit is practically unknown, and I do not suppose if I were to intermit or cease altogether my present regular Sunday attendance any notice would be taken. Nevertheless I, and others similarly circumstanced, have our cares, our doubts, and would be all the better for a friendly visit now and then. But if a clergyman wishes to retain, or rather to increase, the number of his male worshippers (whether well-to-do or not should not matter), he must visit them at their homes in the evening, at such an hour as persons engaged in the City during the day are to be found. This, I take it, is quite as good and necessary a work—though more difficult perhaps—as conducting an evening service. One good result would be that the clergyman would be brought into contact with minds often as well cultured as his own; and in this respect the advantage would not be altogether on the side of the layman, for the preponderance of women in a congregation, and therefore, also, in the different organizations, &c., of a parish, has a tendency to emasculate the clerical mind. But, more important than all, such evening visiting as I venture to plead for would enable the clergyman to do much towards dispelling that mild contempt with which he, and the religion he serves, are so frequently regarded. They (the clergy) would also get more of that 'lay help' for which they are so constantly appealing. Let the men be brought to church; there is no fear of the women staying away. Let the clergy brace themselves to this task. It is easy to preach to men and women from the pulpit with no one to contradict or question you. It is easy to work on a woman's feelings, but it is another thing to influence a man's mind. This, I think, is a work to which the clergy should assiduously address themselves, especially those (and there must be many such) who look on the preponderance of women in a congregation as a grave scandal discreditable to themselves.

Dalston.

MALE COMMUNICANT.

A General Thanksgiving and the Nicene Creed.

SIR,—With reference to the first of the subjects named at the head of this letter—'A General Thanksgiving'—I may state that I have a Prayer-book printed in the reign of Charles II., apparently shortly after the revision of 1662. In this copy the clauses to which attention has been drawn read thus:—'That our hearts may be unfeignedly thankful, and that we may show forth Thy praise.' 'May' is expressed in each clause. In a Prayer-book printed in 1783 I find the words are exactly the same as in that of the reign of Charles II. It is a surprise to be told that a reprint of one of the 'Sealed Books' omits 'may' in the second clause. ('K.' Church Bells, May 10.)

II. The Nicene Creed. (a.) I think the inaccurate answer which young people so readily give when asked to whom the words 'By whom all things were made' refer, is due in a great measure to the statements following the Apostles' Creed in the Church Catechism: 'First, I learn to believe in God the Father, who hath made me, and all the world. Secondly, in God the Son, who hath redeemed me,' &c. When meeting with a slightly perplexing question, young persons very naturally fall back upon their earlier teaching in order to solve the difficulty. (b.) It is strange that the English Church should have dropped out the word 'holy' before 'Catholic and Apostolic Church' in what is commonly called the Nicene Creed. The word occurs in the Greek: *εἰς μίαν ἁγίαν καθολικὴν, κ.τ.λ.*; also in the Latin version in the Roman Service-book: 'Et unam sanctam Catholicam et Apostolicam Ecclesiam.'

G. W. M.

SIR,—None of your correspondents have adverted to the fact that the Nicene Creed was not composed in English, as with the New Testament. 'By whom' stands here for *δι' οὗ*, in Latin '*per quem*,' an expression appropriated in the New Testament to God the Son, by (or through) whom God the Father made the world: one being the Author, the other the Agent.

Ditton.

F. J. CANDY.

SIR,—My letter which appeared in *Church Bells* of 12th April last regarding the punctuation of the Nicene Creed has drawn forth several communications on the same subject.

One of your correspondents in your issue of 26th of the same month explains that the Cambridge Syndicate removed the semicolon before the word 'Father,' which change it struck him might lead people into the mistake that the words 'By whom' related to the Father. But the Cambridge version thus punctuated is in accordance with the ancient liturgies, the second Prayer-book of Edward VI., and the Prayer-book of Charles II., which last our present book is supposed to follow.

The Oxford book is at variance with the sealed copy, having the semicolon after 'Father' and a comma after 'made,' whereas it should be a colon in that place.

The Conference will be resumed on Wednesday, when the following topics will be discussed:—‘Inspection of Uncertified Homes for Destitute Children,’ ‘Moral Training,’ and ‘Day Industrial Schools,’ and on Thursday, when the following subjects will be discussed:—‘Penitentiary Work,’ ‘School Hours in relation to Industrial Employment,’ ‘Contributions by Boards of Guardians,’ ‘Reports on Discharge.’

A very populous outlet of Dublin is the district of Rathmines, on the south side. Since the new Incumbent of the Church of the Holy Trinity has been appointed the building has been found quite inadequate to accommodate the number of parishioners applying for seats. A very successful meeting was held in the Monship Schools on Tuesday, the 10th inst., when a number of the leading people inhabiting the district pledged themselves to undertake the work of enlarging and improving the parish church. Over 700*l.* were promised before the meeting broke up, and there can be little doubt that the entire sum necessary, about 3000*l.*, will be raised in the course of a few months.

The annual examinations in religious knowledge, conducted by the Diocesan Board, have just been carried out in the united diocese of Dublin, Glendalagh, and Kildare. A large number of children presented themselves for examination. Some of the extreme Low-Church clergy of the diocese are objecting to the new calendar of instruction drawn up by the Board, on the ground that too much attention is devoted to the study of the Prayer-book. However, the Diocesan Inspector has effectually disposed of their complaint by drawing attention to the fact, that the amount of Scripture to be studied in addition is quite enough to occupy the youthful intelligence during the forthcoming twelve months. A dislike to Church principles lies at the root of these objections.

The Irish Presbyterians have just lost a worthy minister by the death of the Rev. Dr. Robson, for twenty-four years missionary of the Irish Presbyterian Church to the Jews in Palestine. The ‘Pan-Presbyterian Synod’ comes off shortly in the city of Derry, and great preparations are being made for the event.

COLONIAL AND FOREIGN CHURCH NEWS.

CANADA.

THE Hon. and Rev. Canon Anson, late Vicar of Woolwich, has accepted the new Bishopric of Assiniboia, which comprises portions of the dioceses of Rupertsland and Saskatchewan, and is conterminous with the new provincial district of the same name lately defined by the Government of Canada.

THE Bishop of Saskatchewan has succeeded in completing the Bishopric endowment fund of 15,000*l.*, and the whole sum has been forwarded to the agents of the Synod of the diocese for investment.

UNITED STATES.

THE late Presiding Bishop did not continue his long life until the arrival of the present centenary celebrations of the commencement of the American Episcopate. He died at New York at the age of ninety. He had become Presiding Bishop on the death of Bishop Hopkins of Vermont, in 1868. The Bishop of Delaware—Dr. Lee—now succeeds, by priority of consecration, to the same title.

THE eighth meeting of the Church Congress of the United States will be held in Detroit, Michigan, this year, beginning October 7th, and continuing four days. The Bishop of the Diocese will preside. The opening address will be delivered by the Assistant Bishop of New York. Among the topics which will be treated are Authority and Conscience, The Cathedral System in America, Moral Education in Public Schools, The Confessional, Is our Civilisation just to Workmen? Agnosticism, and The Mission and Evangelistic Preaching.

AUSTRALIA.

THE Bishop of Riverina (Dr. Sydney Linton), who was last month consecrated at St. Paul's Cathedral, states that his new diocese is taken from the western position of those of Bathurst and Goulburn, within an area of 342 by 280 miles, and is called Riverina, because the great rivers Murray and Darling flow through it. The leading landowners are Presbyterians, but most of the immigrants are Church people. The Hon. J. Campbell, M.L.C., of Sydney, has given 10,000*l.* towards the Bishop's income, and the Colonial Bishops' Fund and the S.P.C.K. have each given 2000*l.*

BISHOP BARRY arrived safely at Sydney on the 5th of April in the *Valetta*. The Governor sent his carriage to convey him to Government House. In the afternoon he attended the Cathedral for a service of thanksgiving for safe arrival. The Bishops of Brisbane and Goulburn were also present, and the Dean of Sydney. At the conclusion of the prayers the Bishop ascended the pulpit, and for the first time lifted up his voice in his own cathedral. He took as a text the words, ‘Workers together with God.’ Immediately afterwards the congregation adjourned to a hall, where addresses from the clergy and laity of the diocese were presented, the former by Dean Cowper, the latter by the Lieut.-Governor, Sir Alfred Stephen. On the following day, Palm Sunday, the cathedral was full to overflowing, the Bishop being announced to preach. On each evening of the week he is to preach in the cathedral, and also on Easter Day. The installation ceremony was fixed for the 24th April. All the Bishops of Australia and Tasmania were to assemble for that occasion, and the Bishop of Goulburn was intending to seize the opportunity of their presence to invite them to the opening of his new cathedral.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Ancient Society of College Youths (Established 1637).

NOTICE TO MEMBERS AND FRIENDS.

THE Society intend holding their Anniversary Dinner on Saturday, July 5th, at the ‘Bell Inn,’ Walthamstow, Essex. Any Members wishing to have tickets sent to them, please send to the Company's meeting-house, ‘King's Head,’ Winchester Street, Southwark, addressed to the Secretary, Mr. G. Muskett. Tickets, 4*s.* each. Only those ordered can be entertained.

Notice.—Any Members ringing College Youths' Peals are requested to send all particulars to head-quarters, ‘King's Head,’ Winchester Street, Southwark, if they wish to have them inserted in the Company's Peal-book, as the Secretary cannot copy them from any ‘ringing paper.’

GEORGE MUSKETT, Hon. Sec.

Kent County Association of Change-ringers.

THE Annual General Meeting was held at Canterbury on Monday, the 16th inst., when upwards of 100 ringers from all parts of the county were present. Most of them attended the 10 a.m. service in the Cathedral, after which an excellent address was given by Canon Fremantle. At the Committee Meeting, which was held in the Cathedral Library, there were above thirty new members admitted; and the Report of the Secretary stated that the Society now numbers about 360 practising and 135 hon. members. At the dinner there were 130 present, and the Dean, who presided, congratulated the Association on the progress it had made since it was started at Canterbury in 1880. The usual business of the Annual Meeting was transacted and the officers re-elected. There was some very good ringing during the day, especially at the Cathedral. An enjoyable day was spent, the Dean having kindly allowed free access to the various parts of the Cathedral to all members of the Association.

Lancashire Association of Change-ringers.

A MEETING for ringing only will be held on Saturday, June 28th, at Radcliffe. Ringing from two p.m.

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

At Halesowen, Worcestershire.

THE fine ring at the parish church was reopened, after being carefully rehung by Mr. A. Stokes of Woodbury, on Friday, June 13th. A short special service was held to commemorate the reopening, consisting of prayers in the church, a short address in the churchyard by the Rector, and then the choir ascended the tower and sung two hymns from the tower, at the conclusion of which the bells rang out a merry peal. There was a good congregation of parishioners, both in the church and churchyard, who attended the special service to commemorate the event.

Bell Work in hand by Llewellyns and James of Bristol.

AT PAINSWICK, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.—It will be remembered that the spire of this church was some months ago struck by lightning, and that in its fall it damaged the celebrated ring of twelve bells—the finest, it is said, in Gloucestershire. The bells have now been taken down and put in thorough ringing order and rehung by the above firm, who also rearranged the chiming apparatus, which had been greatly damaged when the bells fell.

AT THURLINGTON, TAUNTON, SOMERSETSHIRE.—The bells of this church have been unringable for some time. The third is now to be recast and a new treble added, and a new frame and fittings supplied.

AT WESTWOOD, BRADFORD-ON-AVON, WILTSHIRE.—The whole of this ring of bells has been cracked for many years. As a beginning, one has been recast, and as soon as funds are forthcoming the remainder will be recast.

AT KNILL, PRESTEIGNE, HEREFORDSHIRE.—The second bell of this ring has been recast, and the bells rehung. Inscription: ‘Catherine de Knill, 1608: recast 1884.’

AT CHEDDAR, SOMERSETSHIRE.—A new treble bell, weighing 7 cwt., has been added to the fine ring of this church. Inscription: ‘Praise God. By public subscription. Jas. Coleman, Vicar, A.D. 1884.’

AT HASLEBURY, CREWKERNE, SOMERSETSHIRE.—The third bell of this ring has been recast, and the whole of the bells (5) refitted and rehung. Inscription: ‘G. A. Caley, M.A., Vicar. T. A. Rawlins, H. Hole, Churchwardens. Recast A.D. 1884.’

AT MEARE, GLASTONBURY, SOMERSETSHIRE.—The whole of these bells have been refitted and rehung.

AT ST. MICHAELCHURCH-ESLEY, HEREFORDSHIRE.—These bells are now being thoroughly overhauled and rehung.

AT TIRTINHULL, MARTOCK, SOMERSETSHIRE.—The third bell of this ring is now being recast. Weight 7 cwt.; and the whole ring will be rehung.

AT CREECH ST. MICHAEL, TAUNTON, SOMERSETSHIRE.—The third bell of this ring of five is cracked. The recasting and rehanging are now being done.

AT EBBESBORNE WAKE, SALISBURY, WILTSHIRE.—Augmentation of ring. A new treble and new tenor are to be added to the existing ring of three, making a ring of five, and a new frame and fittings for the whole. The work has been entrusted to the above firm.

CHANGE - RINGING.

At Saxmundham, Suffolk.

ON Saturday, the 14th inst., six members of the Norwich Branch rang a peal of 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor in 25 mins. C. Smith, 1; R. Wells, 2; T. Page, 3; W. Fisher (conductor), 4; F. Cooper, 5; S. Edmunds, 6. Tenor, 9 cwt.

At St. George's, Hyde, Cheshire.

On Saturday, the 14th inst., seven members of the St. George's Society, with John Thorp of Ashton, rang a peal of 5088 Kent Treble Bob Major in 3 hrs. 7 mins. J. Shaw, 1; R. Prichard, 2; T. Bradley, 3; W. Slater, 4; J. A. Fildes, 5; J. S. Wilde, 6; T. Wilde (conductor), 7; J. Thorp (composer), 8. Tenor, 15 cwt. 1 qr. 24 lbs.	5088							
	2	3	4	5	6	M.	B.	W. H.
	3	6	4	5	2	2	-	1 2
	4	6	5	3	2			2 1
	6	4	2	3	5	2		2
	4	5	3	2	6	1		2
	3	4	2	5	6	1	-	2

Twice repeated.

At Holy Trinity, Bengoe, Herts.

On Sunday evening, the 15th inst., a peal of 720 Grandsire Minor (34 bobs and 2 singles) was rung in 26 mins. A. Wrangles (first 720), 1: T. Gathard, 2; J. Staples, 3; M. Ellsmore, 4; H. Phillips, 5; H. Baker (conductor), 6. Tenor, 7½ cwt.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Flower Services.

SIR,—I have read with great pleasure the capital article on 'Flower Services' in your number for June 7th, and desire to add my testimony to its truth, and to the practicability and desirability of such services being universally adopted. My parish is a very small one, quite in the country, and some years ago we started a 'flower service' at our Dedication Festival on June 24th, St. John Baptist's Day, on which day also we hold our annual 'School feast.' Last year the church was filled at 2 p.m., and every one present, from the oldest inhabitant down to little tottering infants, came up to offer to Almighty God some of His fairest and sweetest gifts, and we were able to despatch that evening four large boxes of flowers, some to hospitals, and some to be distributed among the sick poor in London, and this year we hope to do the same. I am sure, if many clergy in country parishes would take a hint from your valuable article and have these 'flower services,' they would not only contribute vastly to lighten the burdens and brighten the lives of many and many who are sad, and suffering, and 'flowerless,' but also would find a grand opportunity placed in their hands for teaching our children unselfishness, sympathy, and love—lessons needed now as much as ever. Our form of service is very simple, and perhaps a slight sketch of it may be useful. The children assemble in the schoolroom, and are 'inspected' to see that all have bunches of flowers, and to supply them to those who have forgotten, or have been unable to get any; they are then formed up, and flags and banners are distributed, and they march to church and take their places while hymns are being sung; then a few short words in explanation may be said, and the flowers 'presented' (it is well to get this over at once, the temptation to play is thereby removed); then may follow another hymn and the sermon, which I need not say should be short, bright, and decidedly 'flowery,' and if the preacher can take a *real flower* or a *bunch of flowers* for his text so much the better, as he will be sure of attention; then a hymn and Collects to conclude, the whole lasting less than an hour. My plan of collecting the flowers is this: I provide two large trays, and get two pairs of choir-boys to hold one each on the chancel step; the children and others then pass up the aisle and hand their flowers to me, and they are laid on the trays, which, when full, are carried to the altar-step and relieved of their lovely burden by a clergyman within the rails, who will arrange the bunches inside the sanctuary, some specially arranged bouquets being placed on the altar: by having two trays and filling them alternately no time is lost. The best way to pack the flowers is to line tea or other boxes with wet brown paper, and to water each layer of bunches well with the watering-pot, and not to nail the lid too closely over the top, but to leave spaces large enough for air, *though not for fingers*. 'Flowers for Hospitals,' so labelled, are taken at half-rates by most railway companies.

CHARLES P. BERRYMAN.

Pitney Rectory, Langport.

PRAYER FOR CHILDREN'S FLOWER SERVICE.

'Almighty Father, we Thy children here present in health and strength desire to thank Thee for all Thy mercies. Accept, we pray Thee, our offering of flowers from the garden and the field; may they cheer and refresh the children who are sick and suffering. And may it please Thee, Who art the Father of the sick as well as of the whole, to bring us and all Thy children to the rest and joys of Paradise; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.'

'Where are the Men?'

SIR,—Your correspondent, 'Male Communicant,' in his letter of last week, speaks of the 'mild contempt' with which so many men regard both clergy-men and the religion they serve; and at the same time laments over the scarcity of 'male worshippers'—accounting for it by the statement that 'It is easy to work on a woman's feelings, but another thing to influence a man's mind.' Are there not, though, better ways of attracting to church the men who do not go, than by sneering at the women who do? Granted that more women than men may be church-goers from custom, even that does not account for the great disproportion between the sexes in so many congregations. (I was at an early celebration a few Sundays ago, for instance, where there were between seventy and eighty women present, with a sprinkling of about half-a-dozen men.) There must be some cause more below the surface. Then, though there is much truth in what your correspondent says about the desirability of the clergy being personally acquainted with the *men* of their congregation of all classes, yet, surely, friendship for the clergyman should not be the motive for going to the House of God. As to the 'parish organizations, &c.,' to which 'Male Communicant' refers, by all means let more laymen, young and old, come forward to strengthen the hands of the clergy

with their masculine vigour and energy; but let them forbear from making light of the unwearied services of the 'devout women not a few,' who, from St. Paul's day to the present, have always been ready to be faithful 'servants of the Church' and 'helpers in Christ' (see Rom. xvi. 1, 9). Would it not be better to recognise the fact that there is something in woman's nature which more easily responds to worship and devotion, and, instead of sarcasms about the 'preponderance of bonnets' in a congregation, to see what can be done to stir up more of the same feeling in the minds of men? Here is one suggestion which occurs amongst many others,—If our services were *shorter*, more frequent, and with less repetition in them, should we so often have occasion to ask, 'Where are the men?' J.

White Cross Movement.

SIR,—During the last eighteen months the White Cross movement has been extending itself in all directions in England, Scotland, and Ireland; and I have just learned that a vigorous effort is at the present moment being made in New York to carry it on in connexion with the Church in America. Not a week passes but the subject is brought before Ruridecanal Meetings and other important gatherings, and letters are continually reaching me from the clergy and others who desire information with a view to starting local branches. But the movement labours under a serious disadvantage so long as there is no public record of its progress to encourage those who are already engaged in the work, and to stir up others who at present hold aloof. As you have kindly allowed your paper to be regarded, for the time at any rate, as the organ of the White Cross Movement, may I, through your columns, ask those who have been able to do anything in connexion with the movement to notify for the sake of others, in *Church Bells*, the branches formed, and the meetings held from time to time? J. ARMITAGE ROBINSON,

Corresponding Secretary (pro tem.) of the White Cross Army.
Auckland Castle, Bishop Auckland.

The Wycliffe and Seabury Commemorations.

SIR,—The commemoration of the 21st of May has come and gone, and left but little mark behind. Why? Because this affair was merely a celebration got up by a party, some will say by the fag-end of a party, in the nation. I trust that Churchmen will regard it as merely a preliminary to some greater celebration which, I trust, they will hold later on in the year. It has aroused a little preliminary interest, and so far it is not amiss. Speaking of the orators of the 21st inst. a contemporary of rather Radical opinion says, 'Their mouths were full of Reformation platitudes, but their grasp of facts was very loose, and if they knew any thing of the real course of English Church history they carefully abstained from showing it. Unconsciously they illustrated one great fact about Wycliffe which is not creditable either to the English Church or the English nation—namely, that very extensive and minute historical research is needed before his work and teaching can be presented in a trustworthy light.' This is not the only instance which I have noticed of the secular press criticising the apathy of the English Church in not making the history of one of her greatest sons better known, and I think that such criticisms should be laid to heart by the authorities of the Church.

May I repeat my suggestion that it would be well to hold the commemoration of the five hundredth anniversary of the death of the great Oxford professor, so far as Churchmen are concerned, in October? It is certain that a number of the American bishops will be over here in England at that time in connexion with the Seabury centenary, and their presence would afford an excellent opportunity of joining the American Church with us in a commemoration which is one of the greatest possible interest to the whole Anglican communion, as it is also to the whole Anglo-Saxon race.

Books are being published which will certainly help to arouse public interest, and by the time October comes we shall all know very much more about John Wycliffe than we do now. I have only just now seen a very scholarly little *Life of John de Wicliffe*, just published in 'Shaw's Home Series.'

In conclusion, I venture to say that it will be a lasting disgrace to us, to Anglican Churchmen especially, if we do not duly celebrate the Wycliffe Commemoration.

H. C. RICHMOND.

22 Scarisbrick Street, Southport.

The Nursing Sisters of St. John the Divine, in Manitoba.

SIR,—Your readers are aware that recently at the request of several persons in Winnipeg, Sister Aimée, Assistant-Superior of the above order, accompanied by one Sister and two Nurses, started for this city to organize a branch of the Sisterhood. They have been received most cordially by all classes, and have had full work since they came. An aid association has provided the rent of a furnished house until June 1st, and will furnish a house then to be taken by the Sisters. A branch will be started at the town of Brandon, 180 miles distant, the town council generously giving a grant in aid to enable the first expenses to be met; and as two Sisters and three Nurses are shortly expected from England, two Sisters will be placed in Brandon, where a house has been rented large enough to take in patients. The Bishop of Rupertsland, the Dean and the Archdeacon of Manitoba, have become Patrons, and all the clergy have taken a warm interest in the Sisterhood: what we desire to do now is to secure a site and build a permanent Home in Winnipeg for the head-quarters of the Sisterhood, large enough to accommodate several private patients. We in this city will do all we can to promote this object, but our hands are very full. Every parish in this new city is either now building or has just built its church, and we have everything to provide for them. We cannot spare much, but we will furnish a suitable site for the new 'St. John's House,' and will raise something for the building. The estimated cost of a substantial building is £2000. I would beg most earnestly for contributions in aid of this object. Wm

The annual examination in Holy Scripture and Church Formularies of the children of the united Diocese of Cork, Cloyne, and Ross, has been in progress during the past fortnight. The number of children presented for examination is larger and the standard of answering higher than in any former year.

The instrumental music question in the Irish Presbyterian Church was disposed of in the General Assembly at Derry by an amendment, carried by 266 votes to 245, refusing to proceed against congregations who adopted instrumental music in their churches. The discussion on the question waxed exceedingly hot, and did not draw to a conclusion till two o'clock in the morning. The *Presbyterian Witness* says—'Let us hope that we have heard the last of this vexatious business. All sides agree it has damaged and is damaging the best interests of the Church, and of religion itself.'

The Pan-Presbyterian Council is now sitting in Belfast. By a mistake of the pen Derry was mentioned in a former letter as the place of meeting.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Anniversary at Lavenham, Suffolk.

The Seventy-second Anniversary of the augmentation of the ring from six to eight was held on Saturday, the 21st inst. An interesting feature connected with this year's proceedings was the invitation, by Mr. W. H. Making (proprietor of the 'Goose and Gridiron,' where the St. Paul's Cathedral ringers meet, and whose father was born at Lavenham), of thirteen members of the Ancient Society of College Youths to the festival, whom he accompanied and treated in a liberal and kindly manner. They were—Messrs. Haley, sen., Haworth, Muskett, Jameson, Mash, Jones, Gibbs, Cecil, French, Rowbotham, Haley, jun., Horrex, and Hayes. Many of them had never visited Lavenham, and were much pleased with their trip to Suffolk. Mr. R. Sewell, Barking, Essex, was present; and ringers came from Bury St. Edmunds, Sudbury, Ipswich, Glemsford, Ixworth, &c. Altogether, about fifty sat down to dinner at the 'Cook Inn'—F. T. Barkway, Esq., M.D., presiding. Some good ringing was heard during the day, and hand-bells enlivened the meeting. Dr. Mason of Sudbury, we understand, rang a course of Bob Major, and seemed pleased with the conversation he had with some of the College Youths about bells and bell-ringing.

Mr. Haworth and Mr. Sewell visited the pretty village of Hitcham on Sunday, at the invitation of Mr. Sewell's brother, the parish clerk and sexton, where, with the assistance of some of the Bildestone ringers, Oxford Treble Bob Minor and Bob Minor were rung on the good ring of six bells. Much praise is due to the parish clerk for the way in which he takes care of everything connected with the church and belfry.

On Saturday, the 14th inst., eight members of the Royal Cumberland Society rang 6016 Kent Treble Bob Major in 4 hrs. S. Slater, 1; G. Martin, 2; E. A. Pitstow, 3; F. Wells, 4; O. Garwood, 5; J. F. Penning, 6; G. Taylor, 7; F. Pitstow, 8. Tenor, 24 cwt., in D.

Surrey Association of Change-ringers.

On Saturday, the 14th inst., this Association held a District Meeting at Battersea, by the kind permission of the Rev. Canon Erskine Clarke. Mr. Thomas and Mr. Baron had kindly seen that everything was in readiness and the ringing-chamber was in its accustomed state of 'apple-pie order.' Ringing began soon after 5 p.m., and comprised touches of Grandsire and Stedman's Triples, Plain Bob and Treble Bob Major. Ringers attended from Beddington, Bletchingley, Croydon, Streatham, and other parts, and had a very enjoyable evening's ringing.

ARTHUR B. CARPENTHER, *Hon. Sec.*

New Bells at Wellingborough, Northamptonshire.

THE heavy old ring of six at the parish church, Wellingborough, has recently been made into a grand ring of eight by the addition of two treble and the recasting of the former 'third' bell, which was considerably out of tune. The work was placed in the hands of Messrs. Taylor & Son of Loughborough. The new bells are well in tune with the others, and give every satisfaction to the ringers and townsfolk generally. The following are the inscriptions on the new bells:—

On new treble bell: '*Sax du vocabam, diutius evocemus octo. Ad Majorem Dei Gloriam.* The gift of William Pendered, 1884.'

On new second bell: '*Sax du vocabam, diutius evocemus octo. Ad Majorem Dei Gloriam.* D. D. G. H. Burnham, 1884.'

On recast bell: '1884. *Hinc vox Consona, Longius Dissona* 1729. *Gloria Deo Soli.* The gift of W. J. and Harriet E. Henry.'

WEIGHTS, &c., OF THE RING.

Dates	Diam. inch.	exact weight	estm. weight	qrs.	lbs.	Cast by
1884	Treble (new)	32½		8	0 14	Taylor, Loughborough.
1884	Second (new)	33½		8	0 17	Taylor, Loughborough.
1640	Third...	37		11	0 14	Watts of Leicester.
1604	Fourth...	37½		9	2 11	Newcombe of Leicester.
1729	Fifth (recast)	41		13	0 21	Eayre of Kettering; re-cast by Taylor.
1764	Sixth...	44½	estm.	16	0 0	Islip Edmunds, London
1620	Seventh...	48		21	0 0	Watts of Leicester.
1689	Tenor (E flat)	54		30	0 0	Watts of Leicester.
(Before removal of Canons, said to be 35 or 36 cwt.)						
1708	Priest's bell	20	exact	1½	0 0	Penn of Peterborough.

Society of Change-ringers for the Archdeaconry of Stafford.

THE Second Annual Meeting of this Society was held at Lichfield on Saturday, June 21, 1884. The business was conducted in the Cathedral belfry, the Report of the Committee for the past year being submitted to the Society, and the officers elected for the ensuing year. The Rev. J. J. Serjeantson, rector of St. Michael's, Lichfield, was re-elected hon. treasurer, and the Rev. J. R. Keble and Mr. W. A. Wood, of Lichfield, were re-elected hon. secretaries. At 5 p.m. a special service was held in the Lady Chapel, which was attended by all the members present, to the number of about fifty. The Old Hundredth was sung, and after a few suitable Collects, read by the Ven. Archdeacon Iles, Canon-in-Residence and President of the Society, a stirring address was given by the Rev. J. H. Fish, vicar of St. Paul's, Burton-on-Trent, himself an accomplished ringer: it was listened to with the deepest attention throughout, and is well worth the consideration, not only of ringers, but of the clergy and all others who have to do with bells and belfries. After service a party of ringers was conducted round the beautiful Cathedral, which many of them had not visited before. Tea was provided for all at the coffee-house, at which Archdeacon Iles presided, and a most successful day was brought to a close by ringing touches of Grandsire Caters and Triples, Treble Bob Major and Minor, on the various steeples of the city. We rejoice to hear that there is a prospect of a Committee being formed, who will be willing and capable of giving advice to clergy or architects with respect to bell-hanging. The next quarterly meeting of the Society will be held at Burton-on-Trent on September 27.

A Peal of Bob Major.

5040											
2	3	4	5	6	W. M. H.		6	4	2	3	5
5	2	4	3	6	—		2	6	5	4	3
3	5	4	2	6	—		5	6	3	4	2
6	4	3	5	2	—		2	3	5	6	4
3	6	2	4	5	—		5	2	3	6	4
2	4	3	6	5	—		3	5	2	6	4
3	2	5	4	6	—		4	2	3	5	6
6	5	3	2	4	—		Twice repeated.				
4	3	6	5	2	—						

This peal has the 6th twelve times each way in 5, 6, and the 5th nine times.

BENJAMIN FRANCIS, *Diss.*

CHANGE-RINGING.

At St. James's, Trowbridge, Wilts.

On Saturday, the 14th inst., a touch of 504 Grandsire Triples was rung. W. Alley (conductor), 1; W. W. Gifford, 2; T. Blackburn, 3; A. Hayward, 4; W. McCaffrey, 5; W. Lane, 6; J. R. Jerram, 7; J. Cooper, 8. Tenor, 21 cwt.

At the Parish Church, Sandbach, Cheshire.

On Monday, the 16th inst., a peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples (Reeves Variation) was rung in 3 hrs. 6 mins. J. T. Elsbey, 1; S. Dickinson, 2; W. Hulme, 3; J. Holt, 4; W. Ingham, 5; E. Mathews (conductor), 6; T. Johnson, 7; D. Thornhill, 8. Tenor, 16 cwt.

At St. Martin's, Salisbury, Wilts.

On Friday, the 18th inst., a touch of 360 Grandsire Minor was rung. H. Dowling, 1; C. A. Clements, 2; Rev. A. D. Hill, 3; J. R. Jerram, 4; W. W. Gifford, 5; T. Blackburn (conductor), 6. Also several touches of Bob Minor, rung in commemoration of the battle of Waterloo, 1815. Tenor, 15 cwt. The band of the Wilts Rifle Volunteers played in the Market Place in the evening. The bells at St. Thomas's were rung on June 20th in honour of the Queen's Accession.

At Waltham Abbey, Essex.

On Saturday, the 21st inst., eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths and Essex Association rang a peal of Stedman's Triples (Brooks' Variation) in 2 hrs. 57 mins. F. E. Dawe (conductor), 1; J. C. Powell, 2; G. J. McLaughlin, 3; G. Thurgood, 4; D. Tarling, 5; H. Baker, 6; W. A. Alps, 7; J. Colver, 8. Tenor, 19½ cwt., in F. Messrs. McLaughlin and Baker's first peal of Stedman; also the first in the method by the Essex Association.

At St. Alkmund's, Derby.

On Saturday, the 21st inst., eight members of the Midland Counties Association rang Holt's Ten-part peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples in 3 hrs. 18 mins. J. Ridgway, 1; W. D. Smith, 2; A. E. Thompson, 3; H. C. Woodward (conductor), 4; J. Newbold, 5; A. B. Ward, 6; J. Howe, 7; J. Seal, 8. Tenor, 18 cwt., in F. First peal of the ringers of third and eight. Mr. W. D. Smith hails from London; the rest are of Derby.

At St. Michael's, Mottram-in-Longdendale, Cheshire.

On Saturday, the 21st inst., six members of the above Society, with T. and J. S. Wilde of Hyde, rang a peal of 5184 Kent Treble Bob Major in 2 hrs. 54 mins. R. Wright, 1; J. Harrop, 2; J. Sidebotham, 3; W. Middleton, 4; G. Braddock, 5; T. Wilde, 6; T. Braddock, 7; J. S. Wilde, 8. The peal has the 8th bell the extent home at nine course-ends. Composed by the late W. Harrison of Mottram, and conducted by R. Wright. Tenor, 12½ cwt.

At St. Mark's, Gladwick, Oldham, Lancashire.

On Sunday, the 22nd inst., for Divine service, a peal of 720 Grandsire Minor was rung in 26 mins. A. Clegg, 1; G. Dunkerley, 2; J. Riley, 3; C. Dronfield, 4; J. Kershaw (first 720), 5; G. H. Beaver (conductor), 6. Tenor, 8½ cwt.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Society of Change-ringers for the Archdeaconry of Stafford.

(Established June 30th, 1883.)

We have received the first Annual Report of the above Society, which consists of eighteen pages, with Rules, List of Members, Performances, &c. The Bishop of Lichfield is Patron, the Ven. the Archdeacon of Stafford President, and the Hon. Treasurer the Rev. I. J. Serjeantson, rector of St. Michael's, Lichfield.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE.

Your Committee, in presenting their first Annual Report, desires to congratulate the members of the Society upon the progress it has made during the first year of its existence. It may be well briefly to state the history of the origin of the Society. The flourishing state of the old London Societies, and of the new Diocesan Associations lately founded, made it clear that it was well, both for the work of the Church and for the benefit of the art of Change-ringing, that parish bands should be united together in larger societies. It had long been evident that Lichfield would form a fitting centre to such an Association, and as a Society had already been founded for North Staffordshire (the Archdeaconry of Stoke), it seemed advisable to found a similar Society for the Archdeaconry of Stafford. We have reason to hope that ere long a Society will be also formed for the third Archdeaconry of Salop, and that the three will work together, and thus embrace the whole Diocese of Lichfield.

On Thursday, May 17th, 1883, a preliminary meeting of certain clergymen and ringers of the city of Lichfield was held in Archdeacon Iles' house in the Close, to consider the desirability of forming such a Society for the Archdeaconry of Stafford, and it was then unanimously agreed that such an one should be formed, having for its objects—To recognise the position of ringers as Church-workers; the promotion of the art of Change-ringing; Belfry reform. It was further decided that a meeting should be held forthwith for the purpose of constituting such a Society. A meeting of change-ringers was accordingly held on June 2nd, in the Cathedral belfry, the Ven. Archdeacon Iles in the chair. Members of the chief ringing bands in the Archdeaconry were present, and it was unanimously resolved to form the Society, and a draft of the rules was drawn up.

The first General Meeting was held at Lichfield on June 30th, at which the rules were approved (as on page 3), and the officers and Committee for the ensuing year elected. It was decided that the year should run from midsummer to midsummer, and that the Annual Meeting should be held on the Saturday nearest to Midsummer day. Since then Quarterly Meetings have been held at West Bromwich, Wolverhampton, and Walsall, at which the steeples have been open to members of the Society, who have attended service in church, at which an address has been kindly given by the clergyman of the parish. It is felt that these Quarterly Meetings have done much to awaken an interest in the art of Change-ringing in various centres, and also to set forth to ringers the real nature of their work, as to be done to the glory of God.

Your Committee is also glad to record that the following peals have been rung by members of the Society:—Holt's Six-part peal of Grandsire Triples at All Saints', West Bromwich; a peal of 5023 Grandsire Major at All Saints', West Bromwich; and Holt's Ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples at Tamworth, in addition to several peals of Grandsire Minor.

An excellent suggestion has been made, which we hope before long may be carried out, that a Committee should be formed, who will be qualified and ready to act as advisers to clergy or architects with respect to bell-hanging, as it is felt that many churches suffer sadly from neglect or delay in this respect.

In conclusion, your Committee urge all members to do their best to induce others to join the Society, which will increase in power and usefulness as it extends. There is much yet to be done in many ways, and it is hoped that clergymen and churchwardens will do their utmost, by joining the Society and taking an interest in their parish bands, to help forward the work.

The Guild of Devonshire Ringers.

The Annual General Meeting of the Guild of Devonshire Ringers was held at Torquay on Saturday, the 21st ult. The President, Colonel Chas. A. W. Troyte, and ninety members of the Guild, were present, and all the bands in union were represented. The weather was fine, and the members of the Guild spent a very pleasant day. There was some good ringing at the towers of St. Mary Church and Babbacombe, which had been kindly lent to the Guild for the day. In the morning the St. Sidwell's men rang a touch of 700 changes with very good striking, and in the afternoon Colonel Troyte, with a selected band, rang 1036 changes in excellent time. The members partook of a good cold luncheon at Mr. Brelly's Hotel, St. Mary Church, where they were joined by Mr. Sampson Hanbury of Bishopstowe, the Rev. R. Porter of Kenn, and the Rev. R. H. Boles, of St. Mary Church, honorary members of the Guild. At the business meeting a few slight alterations in the rules were made, and the names of the following members of the Guild were added to the list of its Vice-Presidents:—The Very Rev. the Dean of Exeter, the Rev. C. T. Wilkinson, D.D., the Rev. A. Spencer, the Rev. J. A. Kempe, Mr. W. Banister of Devonport, and J. Symons, Esq., M.R.C.S., of Penzance. A pleasant feature of the meeting was the presentation of a handsome clock and pair of candlesticks to Mr. Mundy of Tiverton, given by the Tiverton ringers in recognition of his valuable services to their band. The following are the bands now in union with the Guild:—Broadclyst, Egg Buckland, Huntsham, Ilfracombe, Kenn, Monkleigh, Penzance, Plymouth, St. Sidwell's, Tiverton, Uplowman, and Upton Pyne. The Rev. J. S. Northcote, of Upton Pyne, Exeter, Honorary

Secretary to the Guild, is empowered to make arrangements for the instruction of any band of ringers who desire to learn change-ringing.

Worcester Diocesan and adjoining District Association.

The Annual Meeting of the above Association will be held at Worcester on Monday, July 14th. Members will meet at the house of an honorary member, Host Baker, the 'Old Greyhound,' New Street, at twelve o'clock, for ringing. The Cathedral tower, also the other towers, will open for ringing during the day. The Business meeting will be held as usual at All Saints' School at two o'clock. The Very Rev. the Dean (Lord Alwyne Compton, D.D.) will preside.

Lansdown Street, Worcester.

F. OWEN, Secretary.

The Midland Counties Association.

A QUARTERLY Meeting of the above was held in Leicester on Saturday, the 28th ult. The various branches of the Association were fairly represented, and ringing was general at the following churches—St. Margaret's, St. Mary's, St. Mark's, St. Saviour's, St. George's, and All Saints'. A Committee Meeting was held at four o'clock in St. George's Schools, Colton Street; and subsequently about forty members sat down to tea in the Pavilion, Abbey Park. At the General Meeting which followed, the Rev. James H. Fish (President) took the chair; the Rev. R. W. Pitt (Hon. Secretary) and Mr. Wm. Wakley (Hon. Treasurer) being also present. Four honorary and five ringing members were admitted. In the course of the meeting it was announced that the following peals had been rung during the quarter:—Five of Grandsire Triples, two of Kent Treble Bob Major, one of Double Norwich Court Bob Major, and one of Superlative Surprise Major. A vote of thanks to the vicar and churchwardens for the use of their bells was unanimously carried, and it was resolved that the next meeting be held at Nottingham on Saturday, October 4th.

The St. John's Company, Pimlico, London.—Presentation to Mr. F. T. Gover.

FRIDAY evening, the 27th of June, was an important one in the events of the above Society, it being a presentation to the first of its members on the occasion of his marriage. At 8.30 a short touch was rung in the tower, and all adjourned to the new parochial buildings, where an excellent tea was provided for them, to which eighteen sat down. Immediately after tea, Mr. F. W. Francis rose and read a nicely executed address with the signatures of the subscribers, at the same time presenting him with a handsome walnut side-table as a mark of their appreciation of his services, and begged his acceptance of it, not on account of its intrinsic value, but as a pledge of their esteem and a bond of friendship which they hoped would always exist.

Mr. F. E. Dawe, then addressing Mr. Gover, said, that this convivial gathering was called to invite him as their guest for the purpose of doing a little honour that all were pleased to assist in, as it was in a great measure owing to his exertions that so many young ringers had been encouraged there. He had always shown the greatest kindness in doing his best to instruct them, and also for the many services rendered by him in the tower; and also pointed out that by his ever obliging manner he had become not only popular but a general favourite. He then proposed 'The health and happiness, long life and prosperity, of Mr. and Mrs. Gover.' This was seconded by the Rev. W. S. Kelly, who passed some very kind and encouraging remarks in doing so. The toast was then drank amidst cheers.

Mr. R. A. Sparkes then proposed 'The St. John's Ringers,' coupling with it the Rev. O. P. Yerburch; who in return proposed the health of the steeple-keeper, Mr. C. Teesdale, mentioning the very efficient and obliging manner in which he always does his work in the tower. Mr. Sparkes also pointed out that the company always 'pulled together' well, and should feel proud of two or three of their oldest members who had learnt to handle a bell there, and who could now stand amongst the finest ringers in England.

Mr. F. T. Gover suitably responded to what had been said, expressing his most sincere thanks for their kindness in doing so.

Mr. Dawe next proposed 'The absent Friends.' Other speakers then followed, including speeches well to the point from Mr. C. F. Winny, Mr. E. Wright, and Mr. J. Pullman; the others present in addition to the above-named being Messrs. H. Comber, W. T. Ceaton, H. Garrett, F. Garrett, B. Gross, H. P. Walsh, and W. Chew; and after a vote of thanks to the Chairman a very pleasant evening was brought to a close by all standing up and singing 'Auld Lang Syne' with joined hands.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At St. Luke's, Derby.

On Thursday, the 26th ult., eight members of the Midland Counties Association rang a peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples in 3 hrs. 23 mins. F. Whiting, 1; T. Baneroff, 2; H. C. Woodward, 3; J. Newbold, 4; G. Lee, 5; W. D. Smith, 6; J. Howe (conductor), 7; W. Tooby and A. E. Thompson, 8. Tenor, 84 cwt., in D.

At St. Michael's, Cornhill, London.—Muffled Peal.

On Friday, the 27th ult., a muffled peal was rung by the Ancient Society of College Youths to the memory of a deceased member, the late Sir Bartle Frere. Although not a practical ringer, Sir Bartle took a deep interest in the Society and its objects, from the time when he first met several of its most prominent members at Exeter, in 1869. In that year he was elected a member, and his portrait, presented by himself, still occupies the place of honour at head-quarters. As recently as three years ago the members received from him a fresh token of the interest with which he regarded the Society, and the grand solemnity of the music which issued from the most melodious ring of the metropolis on Friday last seemed but a fitting expression of the regret felt by all the members of the Society for the loss of their illustrious friend and countryman. The band was stationed as follows:—H. Haley, senr.

(conductor), 1; H. Haley, junr., 2; W. Cecil, 3; J. W. Rowbotham, 4; T. M. Routh, Esq., 5; J. R. Haworth, 6; G. Dorrington, 7; J. Trappitt, 8; R. French, 9; E. Gibbs, 10; E. Horrex, 11; J. M. Hayes, 12.

At St. Werburgh's, Derby.

ON Friday, the 27th ult., six members of the Midland Counties Association rang a peal of 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor in 29 mins. R. Bosworth, 1; A. B. Ward, 2; W. D. Smith, 3; J. Howe, 4; J. Newbold, 5; H. C. Woodward (conductor), 6. Tenor, 17 cwt., in E.

ON Monday, the 30th ult., eight members of the Midland Counties Association rang Holt's Ten-part peal of 5049 Grandsire Triples in 3 hrs. 9 mins. L. Lomas, 1; R. Bosworth (conductor), 2; A. E. Thompson, 3; J. Newbold, 4; W. D. Smith, 5; H. C. Woodward, 6; J. Howe, 7; J. Thompson (first peal), 8. Tenor, 17 cwt., in E. Mr. W. D. Smith hails from London, the rest belong to Derby.

At Tettenhall, Staffordshire.

ON Saturday, the 28th ult., a peal of 720 Grandsire Minor was rung in 27 mins. by members of the Archdeaconry of Stafford Association. E. Nichols, 1; W. R. Small, 2; B. Dalton, 3; W. Smith, 4; J. Fowler, 5; J. Jones (conductor), 6. Tenor, 13 cwt. The ringer of the fourth bell was made a member of the Association previous to the bells being rung.

At St. Hilda's, South Shields, Durham.

ON Sunday, the 29th ult., for Divine service in the morning, a peal of 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor was rung by the Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association in 25 mins. Also a peal of 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor for evening service in 25 mins. R. Hopper, 1; A. Moffitt, 2; R. Scrafton, 3; Jas. Moffitt, 4; J. Hopper, 5; Jno. Moffitt (conductor), 6. Tenor, 10 cwt.

At St. Margaret's, Barking, Essex.—Muffled Peal.

ON Tuesday, the 1st inst., the following persons rang a half-muffled peal in memory of Mr. Theodore Carter, who was an old inhabitant of the town, much respected, and eighty years old:—E. Albone, 1; H. Langdon, 2; R. Sewell, 3; J. R. Haworth, 4; J. Waghorn, 5; E. Rogers, 6; R. French, 7; E. A. Davies, 8. Afterwards 952 Grandsire Triples—Tittums, Queen's, and Rounds. The ringing was conducted by Mr. Haworth.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Lichfield Diocesan Synod.

SIR,—I feel very grateful for your 'Notes on Passing Events,' which gives a wider circulation to certain passages from my letter to the *Guardian* on the 'Synodical Address of the Bishop of Lichfield.' Those quotations are so ample as to make it unnecessary for me to deal with the imputation that I 'miss the real meaning of the Bishop's contention' further than by saying that the Church has now, by the unanimous resolution of the Bishops, a new force at her command, in addition to the 'existing agencies,' proved insufficient. Permit me, however, a word on the more serious charge, that I utterly misrepresent 'his Lordship when I say he would employ the *uncommissioned* ministrations of laymen in our Church.' All turns on what is meant by *commissioned*. The whole context of my letter shows that I mean commissioned in accordance with the laws of Realm and Church. It would appear that your writer, and, I fear, the Bishop, claim that, though the laws of Realm and Church are in the way, some sufficient authority for *quasi* ministerial services in churches may be given by the Bishop's license of some sort. Will it be also claimed that these ministrations and these laymen are commissioned in the same sense as men in holy orders and their ministrations? Have we not here two essentially different things, and would it not create confusion to call them by the same name? And is not the Bishop of Lichfield confessedly at issue with the judgment of the majority of the Bishops and clergy, as expressed in the Convocations, as to these ministrations of laymen in our churches? My respectful contention is, Why not multiply the clergy and their ministrations by vigorously availing ourselves of the remedy for our 'overwhelming majority' suggested by the resolution of the Bishops?

C. H. SALE.

Kirby Hill.

SIR,—I enclose you Canon 78 of 'Constitution and Canons Ecclesiastical,' which I believe was the Canon which prevented some of the Lichfield Clergy attending the late Synod. I shall be glad to have the opinion of some one learned in the law upon it, on reading it it appears plain, but whether a Synod comes under its heading or not remains to be seen.—MINISTERS NOT TO HOLD PRIVATE CONVETICLES. Forasmuch as all Conveticles, and secret meetings of Priests and Ministers have been ever justly accounted very hurtful to the state of the Church wherein they live; we do now ordain and constitute, that no Priest or Ministers of the Word of God, or any other persons, shall meet together in any private house, or elsewhere, to consult upon any matter, or course to be taken by them, or upon their motion or direction by any other, which may any way tend to the impeaching or depraving of the doctrine of the Church of England, or of the Book of Common Prayer, or of any part of the government and discipline now established in the Church of England, under pain of excommunication *ipso facto*.

A SUBSCRIBER.

The Table of Affinity in Churches.

SIR,—In consequence of absence from home, I did not receive my copy of your paper till a week late. May I, in reply to 'H. G. O.'s' letter, ask whether it is not all wrong for defenders of the Christian marriage law to deal so exclusively with Leviticus? We have to do with the New Testament, as Christians, and the teaching in the New Testament, both of our Lord and

the Apostles, puts man and woman on a footing of perfect equality as regards marriage, both as to its rights and its restrictions. Well, in Leviticus a man is forbidden in distinct words to marry his brother's wife, or, in other words a woman is forbidden to marry her husband's brother. By parity of reasoning, if man and woman are still to be on equality as regards marriage, a man may not marry his wife's sister.

The Mosaic dispensation was an advance on the Patriarchal as regards marriage, and the Christian an advance on the Mosaic. The Deceased Wife's Sister Bill is simply a proposal which will place man and woman in a position of inequality where there has been perfect equality ever since the introduction of Christianity. It is still possible to teach the people. But then Prayer-books are published, even by such a firm as Rivingtons, without the Table of Prohibited Degrees; in nearly all 'restored' churches the table has been cleared away and the clergy do not put up new ones, and in new churches it has never been up at all. And the pulpit is silent as to marriage. If the law is changed, it will be owing to the apathy of the Church now and in the past.

H. C. R.

Boards of Patronage and Abolition of Purchase in the Church.

SIR,—In expressing my admiration of the sound common-sense of your article on 'The Church Patronage Bill,' in *Church Bells* of the 28th of June, perhaps you will afford me space to quote a few sentences from a leading article in the *Liverpool Daily Post*, shortly after the debate on Mr. E. A. Leatham's Church Patronage Bill. The article reads as follows:—

'If it were a race between Disestablishment and the Abolition of Purchase in the Church, which horse should we back? We fear that our choice would be the former. . . . It is not merely the abolition of the sale of livings which is needed, but also the putting of the right man into the right benefice and the securing of some relation between incomes and the capabilities and duties. . . . We fear that disestablishment will come long before reform within the Church, so that we shall never see the latter come about on any large scale. But if it could, the Church might be brought into a workable condition, in which . . . the best "Church workers" would be put to do the most difficult Church work; and in which a Board of Patronage would appoint men as suitable for their particular posts as is Archdeacon Farrar for St. Margaret's, Westminster, or the Rev. Richard Hobson for St. Nathaniel's, Liverpool.'

Such words from a strongly Liberal paper of very large circulation are very suggestive, and speak for themselves. As a Liberal Churchman, I may perhaps venture to say that these sentences represent the views of Liberal Churchmen, from Mr. Childers, Mr. Goschen, and Mr. Albert Grey downwards, both as to the reforms in the Church which are required and as to the need of these reforms being taken in hand pretty soon. Which is the better alternative? To vigorously set about the reforms indicated now, or to have disendowment twenty years hence?

The clergy hesitate to speak out as to the sale of livings, the system being so interwoven with the career of many of their brethren. The recent debate in the House of Commons is most suggestive, and marks a very great and very rapid advance in public opinion. Will the Church open her eyes? The alternative I have named is gravely spoken of by far-seeing and calm-minded laymen.

LIVERPOOLIENSIS.

'Where are the Men?'

SIR,—Referring to the above subject, allow me to suggest that if the Church's rule as to age of confirmation was more literally adhered to in the case of boys—(viz. 'so soon as they can say the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments, and be further instructed in the Church Catechism, &c.')—instead of, in many cases, waiting until the candidates are fifteen or sixteen years of age, we should probably have a great many more male communicants. Surely young boys at school are more easily impressed than those who are already subjected to the temptations common to youths entering upon a business life. If these boys were more often accustomed to communicating regularly at an early age, I think we should find that in many cases they would keep it up in after life. I am glad to hear that several of the Bishops, among, I may mention, the Lord Bishop of Argyll, are taking up this matter. It certainly seems a monstrous thing that these young ones for whom Christ died should be excluded from His Holy Feast.

John Wesley was admitted a communicant at a very early age, and in his diary he speaks of administering the Blessed Sacrament to various children whose ages ranged from ten to fourteen years. 'The denial of the Communion to infants,' says a well-known writer, 'proceeded from the same source as the denial of the Cup to the laity—the Church of Rome. It is now due to rationalistic unbelief, which makes Divine grace wait on intellectual apprehension.' Certainly in Salisbury, where I happen to be now located, the absence of males, not only at the Holy Eucharist, but at the ordinary church services, is most lamentable. Often among a congregation of fifty or sixty communicants not more than one or two males are to be found; and the week-day evening services are attended almost entirely by women. Happily this does not appear to be the case everywhere. A Lincolnshire vicar, who has lately been starting choral celebrations at his church, writes to me thus: 'We had a choral celebration yesterday, so that I hope it may now be considered a permanent institution. The attendance was very good considering the size of the place and the views which unhappily prevail among church-goers. I think these views are in a great measure the fault of the clergy. Celebrations have been made such hole-and-corner proceedings that one cannot wonder at people being frightened. . . . We often have more men than women at the celebrations. I am very glad to notice this.' Certainly this Vicar's experience must be very gratifying.

The Close, Salisbury.

J. R. JERRELL.

SIR,—Your correspondent 'Male Communicant' asks in *Church Bells* of June 14th, 'Where are the men?' and then goes on to say that the

'New Foes under an Old Face.' The picture it gives of the animosity of religious passions of the day is heartrending. (5.) Kingsley's last great novel—*Two Years Ago*—stands by itself, and shows the second phase of his life as a sanitary reformer. In this book he makes amends to the High-Church school for his severity in *Yeast*. The story centres round a brave young doctor who wages war against the cholera, and in doing so learns to subdue his own internal enemies of pride and coldness. Thus, again, Kingsley's fighting disposition shows itself, but we should note that it is always exercised against the enemies of God—outer and inner. This, in fact, is Kingsley's great lesson: that a great strife is being waged by Evil against Good, in which we must take our part for God. There are outer enemies—Evil, Crime, Pain, Sickness—which we must strive against; but there are also our own external and spiritual enemies. We are sent into the world (Kingsley tells us) with a mission to be soldiers of God—of Truth and Right. What, then, are we doing? There is also scope for us in the great city; there is a crying need for workers. What are we doing? This is Kingsley's great question to man and woman.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

TO RINGERS.

THE following address was given in Lichfield Cathedral to the members of the Society of Change-ringers for the Archdeaconry of Stafford, on the occasion of their Annual Meeting, June 21, by the Rev. J. H. Fish, vicar of St. Paul's, Burton-on-Trent, and President of the Midland Counties Association of Change-ringers. Mr. Fish is himself an accomplished ringer. The text was taken from Col. iii. 23: 'And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily as to the Lord, and unto men.'

'Now, first of all, let me read over the text to you—"And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men:" and I will read it over again to you, in the hope that the words of it may be fixed in your memories: "Whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men." This is the Bible remedy, and, therefore, the sure and sovereign remedy, for every mischief that assails us, and therefore, I once more repeat the inspired words of it—"Whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men."

'You may some of you, once in your lifetime, if not oftener, have been haunted, as it were, with a verse of music which you have heard; it may have been in church, or it may have been elsewhere out of it. Or it may be that some of you have rung your bell in a well-struck peal, and the beautiful music of the 8-6-7's and the 7-8-6's has echoed in your ears for days afterwards, so that you have gone to bed at night with it, and woke up in the morning with it still ringing in your ears. Now I want you to-day to let this verse of Holy Scripture take possession of you in the same way, brethren, and I pray to the Holy Spirit of God that He will reveal to you new meanings of this verse of Holy Scripture, which you are going to take away with you, and show you how it applies to bell-ringers and bell-ringing as well as to other things and other persons.

'Now the first requisite, as you all well know, for good ringing, is that people who attempt it should have their heart* in it. I well remember in October, 1877, a band of bell-ringers coming to my church, and starting for a peal. They all of them had their hearts in it, or they would not have travelled forty miles at their own expense after a hard day's work to ring on a ring of eight with a tenor of 26 cwt. What struck me, however, at that time most was this fact, that one of them carried with him into the belfry a workman's bag, which he deposited carefully under the seat before proceeding to take off his coat and strip to his bell. The bag contained his tools, brethren, and that man had come straight away from his bench at the end of his day's work, just as he was, black, and hungry, and tired, to take part in a peal rather than disappoint his companions. Now that is what is meant by the words, "Whatsoever ye do, do it heartily;" and such conduct is not at all uncommon amongst bell-ringers, as you all very well know.

'But the text goes on to say—"Whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men." The ringer must not only have his heart in his ringing; he must not only have a great love for it; he must not only be ready to spend much time, and money, and labour in the pursuit of it: but he must also learn to ring his bell as to the Lord. And that means that he must dedicate his ringing to God's service, and ring always as in God's presence.

'Now I ask you, as brother-ringers, to look well to this part of the text, and consider it. The ringer who is ringing as to the Lord will always be doing his very best, and striking his very best. He may be but a learner; he may be ringing rounds only; he may be ringing Plain Bob, or call-changes, or what not; but whatever he is engaged in he will have not only his heart but also his soul in what he is doing, and therefore he will be doing his very best in God's sight, and not as in men's sight only. Believe me, it is not heart that we lack so much as soul in our bell-ringing brethren; soul that will make a man humble and for-

bearing, and the company that he belongs to humble and forbearing one with another, because they are all engaged on—not man's work, but God's work; and are all occupied in seeking—not every man his own glory, but every man God's glory. Now let me tell you that the success of your Association will depend upon how much soul there is in it, for if it is to be a trades-union kind of thing, only to protect this or that bell-ringing interest, it will surely come to nought. The success of your individual companies, upon which so much depends, even the success of your Association itself, will be measured by the amount of soul you and they put into this business. It is no amount of pay, it is no amount of patronage, it is no amount of intricate methods, or long peals, or difficult achievements, that will keep a band together, but it is—and you may mark my words—the spirit of religion only in each one of you, and in each one of your company, that will bring forth satisfactory fruit. Before I end, however, there are one or two things more which I should like to say about this subject. Hitherto I have spoken to you ringers only, and have told you nothing which you have not heard before sufficiently often. It has been the fashion of late to preach to ringers, and I am afraid that as a body we ringers have deserved many of the hard things which preachers have said of us. But you know, and I know, that there are bodies besides ringers that want preaching to. Bodies connected with the Church, and the bells, and the belfries, and without whose co-operation heart and soul and whatever we do is vain and fruitless. We are only on the threshold of our undertaking yet, brethren, and I for my own part believe that the ringers of the bells are in many instances in advance of their surroundings at the present time. My own experience is that what with bad frames, badly managed belfries, badly constructed towers, badly hung and badly weighted bells, in the majority of churches, nothing better is deserved than is already done in the way of bell-ringing at the present time. For myself, I shall be thankful to any one who will tell me of a dozen towers in this diocese where I and my men can go and ring a peal with anything like reasonable comfort.

'There is one thing, however, I should like to advocate to-day in particular, as likely to advance the ringing to God's glory throughout your Archdeaconry, and that is, the more frequent adoption by the clergy of Sunday ringing instead of Sunday chiming. There are very few of the clergy as yet who know, and still fewer of their congregations who know, what you and I know very well, that a properly-struck touch on the bells before service by a competent band of change-ringers, so far from being a poor performance, is probably the most skilled thing in the whole service. You and I know, and the people of England will one day know, that it may have taken more time, more thought, more study, more application to compose and to ring that one touch properly than anything else in the church below has done. Then may I not reasonably plead for the opportunity of ringing more bells, and doing our best in God's service in the belfry on a Sunday, as well as at the week-day practice? The clergy should know by this time that the ringers are no more content to chime their bells only on a Sunday than the choir on a Sunday would be content to read the psalms or the service; and further, that it is as unreasonable to expect ringers to chime, as it is unreasonable to ask the choir to practise on the week-day and never let them sing on the Sunday what they had practised. Chiming and change-ringing are, as you and I know, as different as reading is from singing; and my experience of change-ringers is this, that if the bells are to be chimed and nothing more, then people may chime them who can do nothing better. I doubt not but that in some churches where Sunday chiming is made the rule the bell-ringers proper never attend on that day at all. I would therefore urge upon the clergy at large that they should see whether they cannot help us somewhat in this matter, and give us an opportunity which so few of us have at present of praising our God upon the loud cymbals with the best members that we have, both at morning and evening service.'

The Ancient Society of College Youths (Established 1537).

THE Anniversary Dinner took place last Saturday at the 'Bell Inn,' Walthamstow, Essex. Among the visitors were Squire Proctor of Bennington, Hert's, with his clever band of change-ringers, who rang at the old church Stedman's Triples, Kent Treble Bob Major, Double Norwich Court Bob, and Superlative Surprise. Messrs. Haworth, Hayes, and Horrex, took part in some of the ringing. The company adjourned after dinner till seven o'clock, when the chairman, in opening the meeting, said he felt great pleasure in having the honour to take the chair at the 247th anniversary dinner. He regretted that the Master, Mr. W. Greenleaf, was not able to officiate, having been away for several weeks in the country on business. In glancing over the records of the past twelve months, he found that the company had achieved no fewer than forty-eight peals, commencing with Kent Treble Bob Maximus at St. Saviour's, Southwark: it is twenty-two years since a peal in this method was rung on the bells, on which occasion the tenor (52 cwt.) was rung by Mr. J. Dwight, single-handed; and the last one was also rung single-handed and conducted by Mr. J. M. Hayes. There are recorded from Ipswich two peals of Kent Treble Bob Maximus. The tenor was rung in the first peal by Mr. E. Horrex; and in the second the tenor was rung, and peal conducted, by Mr. F. Dawe. We have also a peal of Kent Treble Bob Royal,

rung at Stonham Aspal by the Ipswich company, and the first one on the ten bells; a peal of Stedman's Caters at Ipswich, the first peal in the method in the county, Mr. E. Carter of London taking part in it; a peal of Stedman's Cinques at St. Michael's, Cornhill, London, conducted by H. W. Haley, senr.; 11,111 of Stedman's Caters at Fulham, the longest length in the method, conducted by Mr. J. Pettit. The Master had also great pleasure in announcing that ten peals of Stedman's Triples, five of which were rung by the Sheffield Branch of the College Youths; three peals of Double Norwich Court Bob Major, two rung in London, and one at Drayton, Berks, conducted by the Rev. F. E. Robinson; two peals on hand-bells, one conducted by Mr. C. F. Winny and rung in London, the other by Mr. Alps, and rung at Waltham Abbey, both Holt's One-part peal. Another very interesting ceremony took place during the year—the presentation of a fine Silver Cup, the gift of Mr. J. R. Haworth, to commemorate a peal being rung at Sonning, Berks, last August, in remembrance of a silver cup being won by eight members of the Company one hundred years ago. Afterwards a pleasant evening was spent, a vote of thanks having been passed to the Chairman (Mr. Gibbs), and to the Vice-Chairman (Mr. Muskett).

A Correction about Sir Bartle Frere and the College Youths.

I BEG to say that it was not at Exeter that Sir Bartle Frere met the College Youths, but when twelve members visited Exeter in August 1869, they very kindly favoured me with a visit and treated us with several peals on our six bells. Sir Bartle Frere happened to be staying with me as a visitor, and here, at Clyst St. George, it was that he was proposed and elected (*nem. con.*) as a member of the Ancient Society of College Youths. H. T. ELLACOMBE.

I annex the record of the ringing: 'Be it remembered, that on Monday afternoon, the 10th of August, 1869, the members of the Ancient Society of College Youths, established 1687, who came from London to ring the noble bells of the Exeter Cathedral, paid their respects to the Rector of Clyst St. George, and gratified him and the villagers by ringing the following peals:—720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor, one six score of Stedman's Doubles. These peals of Treble Bob were struck in a most even, masterly style in 25 mins. by the following performers: the first peal by H. Haley (conductor), 1; J. Pettit, 2; M. Wood, 3; G. Ferris, 4; H. Booth, 5; M. Hayes, 6. The second peal by C. Lee, 1; J. R. Haworth, 2; G. Muskett, 3; J. Dwight, 4; W. Cooter (conductor), 5; M. Hayes, 6. Tenor, 13 cwt., in G sharp.'

Muffled Peal at St. James's, Clerkenwell, London.

ON Monday evening, the 7th inst., the Clerkenwell Society of Change-ringers rang a muffled peal on the occasion of the sad death of the late John Richard Sutton, junr., which occurred through drowning in the River Thames on Tuesday, the 1st inst. The deceased was much respected as a ringer by all who knew him. J. T. Knight, 1; G. Freeman, 2; A. Cunningham, 3; E. T. Ricketts, 4; H. Mandeville, 5; J. Looker, 6; E. Bissmire, 7; J. Rayner, 8. Tenor, 22 cwt.

CHANGE-RINGING.

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

ON Monday, the 16th ult., a peal of 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor was rung in 26 mins. on the back six. G. Campbell, 1; F. Lees, 2; C. L. Routledge, 3; W. Bowes, 4; T. Denton (conductor), 5; W. Story, 6. This is Mr. Bowes' first attempt at Treble Bob inside, having only once before rung the treble in this method.

ON Monday, the 7th inst., a peal of 720 Bob Minor was rung, omitting the second and ringing the tenor at cover, in 28 mins. R. J. Robson (his first peal of Minor), 1; R. S. Story, 3; F. Lees, 4; W. Eggleston, 5; F. J. Des Forges, 6; W. Story (conductor), 7; W. Bowes, 8. Tenor, 12 cwt.

At St. Mary-the-Virgin, Stanstead, Essex.

ON Sunday evening, the 22nd ult., for Divine service, six of the local Company rang 360 of Kent Treble Bob Minor. J. Cavill, 1; J. Luckey, 2; H. Prior, jun., 3; G. Gray, 4; I. Carvill, 5; C. Prior (conductor), 6. Also on the 28th ult., being Coronation Day, a peal of 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor in 27 mins. J. Cavill, 1; J. Luckey, 2; H. Prior, jun., 3; G. Gray, 4; I. Cavill, 5; H. Prior (conductor), 6. Also 360 of Plain Bob Minor. J. Cavill, 1; J. Mumford, 2; H. Prior, jun., 3; J. Luckey, 4; C. Prior, jun., 5; C. Prior (conductor), 6. Tenor, 13 cwt.

At Christ Church, North Shields.

ON Thursday, the 26th ult., eight members of the Durham and Newcastle Association attempted a peal of Plain Bob Major, but came to grief after 1½ hrs. good ringing. About 2700 changes had been accomplished. S. Nott, 1; J. Moffitt, 2; J. Rossiter, 3; W. Reed, 4; J. Herne, 5; E. L. Routledge, 6; R. S. Story (conductor), 7; R. Smith, 8. Tenor, 19 cwt. The sixth and seventh are Newcastle men; J. Moffitt is from South Shields; and the rest are local men.

At St. Martin's, Salisbury, Wilts.

A PEAL of 720 Grandsire Minor (36 bobs and 24 singles) was rung in 28½ mins. E. A. Foster, 1; C. A. Clements, 2; J. R. Jerram, 3; C. Staden (of Bournemouth), 4; W. W. Gifford, 5; T. Blackburn (conductor), 6. Tenor, 15 cwt. All except Mr. Staden are members of the Ancient Society of College Youths. [No date given.]

ON the 28th ult., being Coronation Day, the bells of St. Thomas's, St. Edmund's, and St. Paul's were rung.

* * Several communications unavoidably postponed.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Bishop of St. Andrews' Pamphlet on 'Union or Separation?'

SIR,—I am sorry to learn from Lord Nelson's letter, which appears in 'Home Reunion Notes' for this week, that both he himself and others who have been in correspondence with him are inclined to take exception to the inference which I drew from a passage in Bishop Gray's letter to the ministers of the Dutch Reformed Church in South Africa, to the effect that 'he and his episcopal brethren must have considered Presbyterian orders valid.' I drop the former clause of the passage, because its precise meaning may admit of question; but there can be no question, I think, as to the meaning of the latter clause, which is as follows:—'Nor do we doubt that the Holy Ghost works in the conversion of souls to God in and through your ministry. It would in our judgment be sinful to doubt this.' The two pamphlets containing the correspondence referred to were printed at Cape Town, 1871, under the titles *Unity of Christendom* and *Union of Churches*, and copies of them were sent to me by Bishop Gray himself shortly before his death. The Bishop of Edinburgh, late of Graham's Town, in the first address which he delivered to the clergy of his new diocese, 1872, quoted the same passage, and in so doing added the following remarks. After insisting upon our duty to 'testify to that Apostolic order which, through the good providence of God, we have inherited,' he proceeded: 'Does this require of us that we shall cease to regard as brethren those who love and honour the same Divine Redeemer? Does it justify us in speaking of such men who have not caused divisions, but inherited them, as guilty of the sin of schism? Does it excuse us when we dishonour the Holy Ghost, who is pleased to work abundantly by their ministrations, by speaking of that work in the language of contempt? Nay, does it justify us in drawing a line of demarcation round ourselves, and saying, "The temple of the Lord are we?"' Now, our English word *valid*, according to Johnson, means *powerful, efficacious*; and if Lord Nelson and his complaining correspondents are able to draw a clear distinction between that meaning and the expressions used by Bishop Gray, and by Bishop Cotterill, I confess I should like to know what the distinction is. Let the reader look back, and see what the expressions are to which I refer:—'The Holy Ghost works . . . in and through your ministry.' 'The Holy Ghost is pleased to work abundantly by their ministrations.' That there may be *different degrees of ministerial validity*, and, further, that irregular ministration, though blessed to the recipients, may be justly open to reproof, I am quite prepared to admit; but I cannot allow that my deduction from the words used by Bishop Gray was 'surely not a justifiable one.' In another Charge of Bishop Cotterill (1877), entitled *The True Position of the Episcopal Church in Scotland*, there is a pregnant warning upon the same subject, 'lest, while we suppose ourselves zealous for Christ and His Church, we be found sinning against the spirit of that very law of unity which the Church represents, if not against the Holy Ghost Himself.'

CHARLES WORDSWORTH, *Bishop of St. Andrews.*

Bishopshall, St. Andrews.

The Poor Clergy Holiday Fund.

SIR,—I shall be much obliged if you will kindly help this useful Fund again this year, as you have done in past years, by allowing me to direct the attention of your readers to its appeal in your advertisement sheet. I wish to ask their special attention to the extract from the letter of its founder, the Bishop of Lichfield.

ARTHUR J. INGRAM, *Hon. Treasurer.*

St. Margaret's Rectory, 20 Finsbury Square, E.C.

Narrow-mindedness.

SIR,—I was indeed glad to read in your last issue the sensible protest of 'X. Y.' against narrow-mindedness. It is high time that we who do not hold the views entertained by the self-styled orthodox Churchmen on the Deceased Wife's Sister Bill should speak out. The fewness of those who have been so bold as to express their approval of that Bill is no measure at all of the number of those who sympathise with it. Of course, we are in the minority amongst the clergy, but I am of opinion that the majority is nothing like so large as is generally supposed. The fact of the matter is, we don't speak; the others do; and judgment goes by default. Silence is taken for consent. I lead a roaming life, and am thrown into contact with the clergy of all schools of thought, High, Low, and Broad. Often and often I have heard it said, in the course of a quiet conversation, 'Well, I cannot see any objection to the Bill, but then one must not say so in this diocese.' I often hear the clergy declaim against the Franchise Bill on the score of 'Hodge' not understanding politics. I wish some of these same good clergy-men would take the trouble on a Monday morning to go to 'Hodge,' and ask him what he means by the words, 'Substance,' 'Person,' 'Incomprehensible' (which, by the way, is a mistranslation), and 'The Damnatory Clauses of the Athanasian Creed?'

IOTA.

Mr. Oliver Heywood.

SIR,—In a notice of myself, which appears in *Church Bells* on Saturday last, I read: 'It is said in Manchester that it was owing to the influence of Mr. Heywood, who felt that his friendship with the Bishop was being imperilled, that Sir Percival was induced, after being defeated in the court, to

COLONIAL AND FOREIGN CHURCH NEWS.

UNITED STATES.

For several years Dr. Hopkins (son of the late Bishop of Vermont) and others have been advocating the arrangement of the dioceses into provinces, instead of leaving them to multiply with the advance of population under only one presiding Bishop, the senior of all in consecration. The General Convention has been induced to sanction the idea. In Pennsylvania, accordingly, the three dioceses within the State have confederated, a council being formed of sixty members, half clerical and half lay. The five dioceses in the State of New York have acted similarly, and likewise those of Illinois.

INDIA.

At Nazareth, Tinnevely, the special services of Holy Week and Easter were especially noteworthy. The *Indian Churchman* relates:—‘An interesting service also was held early in Lent, to render thanks for deliverance from cholera. In the months of December, January, and February, special services had been held for the removal of this dreadful plague. Many of the people being panic-stricken the clergy and choir went night after night through the chief streets of the town, repeating portions of the Litany, and singing Tamil lyrics. Many who had recovered from cholera now met in church for the Thanksgiving Service. It was a touching scene. Men, women, and children, just snatched from the jaws of death, humbly kneeling at the altar-rails, the *Te Deum* chanted by the choir, the special offerings made by the people for their recovery—all breathed a spirit of true religion, and showed the desirableness of the Church adapting her services to commemorate special occasions like this.’

GERMANY.

The Irvingites have been joined by Pastor Alpers in Hanover. The *Evangelisch-Kirchlicher Anzeiger* says: ‘It is to be feared that he will give more trouble to the Protestant clergy; at any rate they must feel the necessity of guarding their flocks from being led astray by a man who unites undeniable piety with great zeal.’

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

A Peal of Bob Major.

5040.					W. M. H.		
2	3	4	5	6	W.	M.	H.
6	5	3	2	4	-	-	-
3	2	6	5	4	-	-	-
6	4	3	5	2	-	-	-
3	6	2	4	5	-	-	-
2	4	3	6	5	-	-	-
5	3	2	4	6	-	-	-
2	5	3	4	6	-	-	-
3	2	5	4	6	-	-	-
6	5	3	2	4	-	-	-
3	2	6	5	4	-	-	-
6	4	3	5	2	-	-	-
3	6	2	4	5	-	-	-
2	4	3	6	5	-	-	-
5	3	2	4	6	-	-	-
2	5	3	4	6	-	-	-
3	2	5	4	6	-	-	-

Twice repeated.

This peal has the 6th twelve times each way in 5-6, and the 5th nine.

BENJAMIN FRANCIS, *Diss.*

Surrey Association.

The Annual Meeting of this Association will be held (by the kind permission of the Vicar) at Leatherhead, on Monday, July 21st. The tower will be open for ringing from 4 o'clock; but if any members can get to Leatherhead before that hour they are requested to communicate with the hon. sec., who will make the necessary arrangements. The business meeting will be held in the schoolroom at 6 p.m. All ringing members who attend this meeting will be allowed the sum of 1s. 6d. towards travelling expenses, &c., as it has been found impossible to arrange for the usual tea. At 6.30 there will be ringing for service, which takes place at 7. This is a short special service which the Vicar has kindly undertaken to hold for the ringers: it is hoped that there will be a good attendance. The Vicar has kindly consented to preside at the meeting, unless he is obliged to be away from Leatherhead on that day.

34 Dingwall Road, Croydon.

ARTHUR B. CARPENTER, *Hon. Sec.*

St. Mary's Bell-ringing Society, Old Battersea.

Very recently we recorded the excursion, by several members of this Society, to Birchington, in the Isle of Thanet, and the successful display of bell-ringing by them on that occasion. We have now the painful task of recording the death of one of the most active members, Mr. Ernest Ellis Robins, who on that occasion, his twenty-fifth birthday, rang the tenor in a 5040. On the 1st of July he was apparently in good health, in company with other members of the Society, and on the following day he died suddenly. His remains were removed to Chedworth, Gloucestershire, and interred in the churchyard of St. Andrew's. Had the funeral taken place at Battersea there would have been a numerous gathering of his brother-members and friends, anxious to show the last mark of respect to an associate so highly esteemed. On Tuesday, the 8th inst., eight members rang Holt's Ten-part peal, half-muffled (5040 changes), in 2 hrs. 52 mins. W. Orchard (first peal), 1; W. Baron (conductor), 2; A. G. Thomas, 3; C. J. Hopkins, 4; O. Bliss, 5; H. S. Thomas, 6; H. A. Hopkins, 7; H. Swain, 8. The coffin bore the inscription, ‘Ernest Ellis Robins, born June 1st, 1858; died July 2nd, 1884.’

Waterloo Society, London.

On Wednesday, the 9th inst., eight members of the above Company rang a muffled peal (the usual whole pull and stand) as a last mark of respect to

the late Mr. E. Robins, a much-respected and esteemed member of the Society, who died at the early age of twenty-four years. W. Baron (conductor), 1; H. Langdon, 2; C. Harvey, 3; W. Coppage, 4; W. D. Matthews, 5; W. Jones, 6; D. Stackwood, 7; J. Mansfield, 8.

New Bells at Murrurundi, New South Wales.—A Carillon.

The new ring of bronze bells which were ordered to supply the place of the old steel ones arrived very recently, and were chimed for the first time on the following Sunday. There are eight bells composing the ring, ranging from C to C. They are in perfect harmony, and are very sweet and pure in tone. They were cast by Messrs. J. Warner & Sons of London. They are rung by means of Ellacombe's apparatus, and a lady or child can easily chime them. Two more bells are expected soon, a semitone B flat, and an upper D, when a greater range of Church hymn tunes will be obtained. The large steel bell, which was the tenor bell in the old ring, will be kept to toll at deaths and funerals.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At Emmanuel Church, Streatham, Surrey.

On Sunday evening, the 6th inst., for service, a 630 of Grandsire Triples (with 18 bobs) was rung in 27 mins. H. Laffin, 1; D. Springall, 2; S. Greenwood (conductor), 3; W. Pell, 4; H. Daniells, 5; W. Sheppard, 6; G. Pell, 7; H. Pate, 8. Tenor, 27½ cwt.

At Belgrave, Leicestershire.

On Monday, the 7th inst., the St. Peter's Society of Change-ringers rang 720 six-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently (being a variation on the previous 720). J. Pole (conductor), 1; W. A. Clayton, 2; H. Clayton, 3; S. Pole, 4; W. Bennett, 5. Tenor, 14¾ cwt., in F.

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

On Wednesday, the 9th inst., eight members of the St. Paul's Society rang H. Johnson's Two-part peal of 5056 Kent Treble Bob Major in 3 hrs. 20 mins. J. Griffin, 1; E. I. Stone, 2; H. C. Woodward, 3; T. Meredith, 4; H. Wakley, 5; J. Howe, 6; T. Holmes, 7; W. Wakley (conductor), 8. Tenor, 26 cwt. This peal has the sixth the extent in 5-6. It is published in Snowdon's *Treatise*, Part II., p. 35, and has never been previously performed. All the above are also members of the Midland Counties' Association.

At Christ Church, Liversedge, Yorkshire.

On Wednesday, the 9th inst., the company of change-ringers of this church attempted to ring a peal in honour of the eighty-fourth birthday of William Sottanall, the veteran ringer of Sowerby, but owing to repairs then going on in the tower they were unable to proceed, and the peal was deferred till the following Sunday morning. It was then rung in 1 hr. 5 mins. J. Whitworth, 1; W. Goodall, 2; W. Firth, 3; T. North, 4; G. Illingworth, 5; S. Goodall, 6; L. Illingworth, 7; M. Ramsden, 8. The peal was composed for the occasion by Mr. William Sottanall [name omitted in MS.] of Sowerby, and conducted by Mr. Wm. Goodall of Liversedge.

The Peal—1884 changes of Treble Bob Major.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	You must in to change at hand.	
2	1	4	3	6	5	8	7	These four changes braced must be rung to make a start for the first treble leads.	
2	4	1	6	3	8	5	7		
2	4	6	1	8	3	7	5		
2	6	4	8	1	7	3	5		

5	2	3	6	4	M.	W.	H.	1882.
3	2	6	5	4	2	2	2	
3	4	2	6	3	-	2	1	
5	4	6	2	3	1	2	2	
3	4	6	2	5	1	2	1	By ringing the four changes braced to make a start reduces the peal to 1834 changes.
2	3	4	5	6	2	2	2	

At St. Sepulchre's, London.—Muffled Peal.

On Thursday, the 10th inst., ten members of the Cumberland Society rang a muffled peal as a last token of respect to the memory of Mr. Ernest E. Robins, a much-respected member of this Society, who died very suddenly July 2nd, aged twenty-five years. The peal, which consisted of the whole pull and stand, &c., was concluded with a touch of 500 changes of Grandsire Caters. J. Nelms (conductor), 1; C. Hopkins, 2; G. Church, 3; H. Dains, 4; J. Mansfield, 5; E. F. Cole, Esq., 6; W. Matthews, 7; D. Lovett, 8; J. Rumsey, 9; J. Barry, 10. Tenor, 32 cwt.

At St. Cuthbert's, Chester-le-Street, Durham.

The first anniversary of the opening of the ring of six bells, and of the millenary services held in July 1883, was celebrated on Monday, the 14th inst. By the kind invitation of the Vicar (Canon Blunt), the St. John's Guild of Ringers, Newcastle, visited this town, and rang the bells in the afternoon and for evening service. At 6 p.m. a tea was provided in the Mission-room, to both clergy and ringers, several of the former being present from neighbouring parishes. After tea, a course of Caters was given on hand-bells by the Guild. Ringing for service at 7.30 closed the day's ringing at Chester, all present having spent a most enjoyable day. The ringing comprised a peal of 720 Kent Treble Bob. G. Campbell, 1; R. S. Story, 2; F. Lees, 3; C. L. Routledge, 4; E. W. Scott, 5; R. Smith (conductor), 6. And a peal of 720 Oxford Treble Bob in 29 mins. W. Bowes, 1; C. L. Routledge, 2; F. Lees, 3; R. S. Story, 4; R. Smith, 5; W. Reed (conductor), 6. Tenor, 19¼ cwt. Messrs. Reed and Smith hail from North Shields. Tenor, 19¼ cwt.

After leaving Chester-le-Street, the ringers rang at St. John's, Newcastle-on-Tyne, a 504 of Grandsire Triples in 21 mins. G. Campbell, 1; C. L. Routledge, 2; R. Smith, 3; R. S. Story, 4; F. Lees, 5; W. Reed (conductor), 6; E. W. Scott, 7; W. Bowes, 8. Tenor, 12½ cwt.

north of the island, from whence messengers came to the English missionaries with the names of more than 700 families desirous of being taught the Gospel. A great number of these, on examination, have proved to be actuated by inadequate motives; still there were among them a certain number of sincere inquirers, and the city of Fukuoka (larger than Nagasaki) already furnishes congregations of hundreds of hearers.

CHINA.

A NATIVE newspaper at Shanghai is affirming that the religion of Confucius is the future religion of the world.

AUSTRALIA.

THE Sydney papers are still full of Bishop Barry's doings on his arrival. He has been presented with an *ad eundem* D.C.L. by the University of Sydney, that body giving no D.D. degree on account of its 'neutral' character. One only of the three affiliated colleges, St. Paul's, is connected with the Anglican Church: this was founded in 1856, and has made rather slow progress hitherto, comprising at present sixteen undergraduates, but a change is expected from Bishop Barry's characteristic energy. The see-town of Goulburn is about 130 miles north of Sydney, and enjoys a cooler climate. Bishop Thomas came here in 1863, and his toils are now encouraged by two events—the opening of his cathedral for worship, and the consecration of Bishop Sydney Linton to take charge of the western portion of his diocese under the title of Bishop of Riverina.

INDIA.

COLONEL OLCOTT, the 'Theosophist,' is about to visit Burmah, on invitation of the king, with a view, says the *Statesman*, of reviving and purifying Buddhism. He will then visit Siam, China, and Thibet.

THE Bishop of Madras ordained in his Cathedral in March seven native deacons, all S. P. G. men; the preacher was the Rev. W. T. Sathianadhan, the well-known C. M. S. pastor.

KAFIRISTAN has given its first fruits to the Church. A lad of its race—supposed by some to be relics of the Greek element brought in by Alexander and his successors—has been baptized at Peshawur by the Rev. T. P. Hughes.

In the Santhal Mission there are now over 2200 Native Christians, of whom 820 are communicants, while the day schools have 1800 children in attendance.

EAST AFRICA.

BISHOP HANNINGTON, who was lately consecrated for the superintendence of the C. M. S. Missions 'in Eastern Equatorial Africa,' will have his headquarters at Mombasa; the *Henry Wright* Mission steamer will take him to and fro between that place and Saadani and Zanzibar.

From the region of the Nyanza Lakes it is announced that there are now sixty-three baptized Christians in U-ganda; the communicants on Christmas Day numbered forty natives.

PALESTINE.

THE strange German settlement called 'The Society of the New Temple,' half colony and half mission, which has existed in the Holy Land for twenty years, was founded by Hoffman, the author of a book called *Orient and Occident*, a Protestant of Wurtemberg, who thus attempts to give effect to Bengel's interpretations of the Apocalypse—the weakest point, perhaps, in that eminent divine's commentary. Hoffman, however, well-nigh discards all dogma, while economical and social reforms hold a prominent place in his scheme. Palestine, according to Hoffman, must still be the centre of good for all lands; he and his disciple Hardegg have, in spite of the obstacles interposed by the Turkish Government, induced fresh settlers from Germany to join them. These now amount to about a thousand persons, at four places besides Jerusalem itself. They are all picked men, moral and industrious, and though they have not induced many natives to join them they have had marked effects on their neighbourhoods. They have introduced European methods in agriculture and vine-growing, and good inns and conveyances, and they have set up good schools, their 'Lyceum' at Jerusalem numbering fifty students. The religious cement, however, which has been holding these colonists together seems to be giving way, in consequence of a split between Hoffman and his old colleague Hardegg.

GERMANY.

UNTIL late years the Lutheran Communion presented a striking contrast to the disintegrating tendency of the Ultra-Reformed. Now, however, its state is in this respect less satisfactory. Even the Hermannsburg Mission in Africa has parted company with its Hanoverian mother-church. The change does not seem to have helped the work, for the Board itself laments that many of the missionaries have engaged in farming and cattle-dealing instead of keeping to their religious duties.

THE Prussian Protestants lament the decease of Dr. Dörner; he will be chiefly remembered for his admirable and profound *Christology*, or history of the Doctrine of the Incarnation.

SCANDINAVIA.

THE *Berlin Evangelisch Kirchlicher Anzeiger* says of the forthcoming International meeting of the Evangelical Alliance at Copenhagen that, 'as was to be expected, the sympathy shown in Denmark for the Alliance is but limited.' The meeting will continue from August 30th to September 7th. There are to be thirty *Vorträge*; of these only six are to be delivered by Scandinavians, while England will be represented by eleven addresses, the names being mentioned of 'Pastors' William Arthur and Patterson, and Professor MacVicar. Dr. Schaff, we also observe, is expected from New York, and Dr. Chustliel from Bonn. Danish Churchmen of both the Lutheran and the Grundtvigian schools will, it seems, hold aloof.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Bob Major.

5040						5040					
2	3	4	5	6	w. m. n.	2	3	4	5	6	w. m. n.
5	2	4	3	6	—	5	2	4	3	6	—
3	5	4	2	6	—	4	5	6	2	3	—
4	3	6	5	2	—	2	4	6	5	3	—
6	4	2	3	5	—	6	2	3	4	5	—
3	6	2	4	5	—	4	6	3	2	5	—
4	3	2	6	5	—	2	4	3	6	5	—
2	4	5	3	6	—	3	2	5	4	6	—
5	2	6	4	3	—	5	3	6	2	4	—
4	5	6	2	3	—	6	5	4	3	2	—
6	4	3	5	2	—	3	6	4	5	2	—
5	6	3	4	2	—	4	5	3	6	2	—
2	3	5	6	4	—	2	3	5	6	4	—
5	2	3	6	4	—	5	2	3	6	4	—
3	5	2	6	4	—	3	5	4	6	2	—
4	2	3	5	6	—	4	2	3	5	6	—

Twice repeated.

The 6 twelve times wrong and right.

Twice repeated.

EDWARD FRANCIS, *Diss.*

Salisbury Cathedral.

THE new chimes to the Cathedral clock were started on Tuesday, the 15th inst.

Meeting of the Salisbury Diocesan Guild at Wimborne Minster.

A MEETING of the above Guild took place at Wimborne Minster on the 16th inst. The bells were raised at about 11 a.m., and three six-scores of Grandsire Doubles, with 7, 6, 8, behind, were rung. Rev. A. D. Hill, 1; E. Parker, 2; J. R. Jerram, 3; W. Gifford, 4; T. Blackburne (conductor), 5; W. Coffin, 6; H. C. Flower, 7; T. Hart, 8. The dinner took place at the 'Crown Inn,' Rev. A. D. Hill (Master) occupied the chair; Mr. H. Moore (Churchwarden), Vice-Chairman. Cattistock, Cranbourne, Salisbury, and Wimborne ringers were present; Rev. H. J. Huysh (Vicar) was also present. In the afternoon the bells at Wimborne were handed over to the round-ringers, and some of the party went on to Poole, where one or two short touches of Grandsire Triples were rung.

Worcestershire Diocesan Association.

THE Annual Meeting of the above Association was held in All Saints' Schoolroom, Worcester, on Monday, the 14th inst. The Rev. Canon Melvill, D.D., occupied the chair, in the absence of the President, the Dean of Worcester. The Chairman was supported by the Revs. J. P. Hastings, W. R. Carr, B. Arthure, G. Munn, and G. D. P. Davies; T. Brown, churchwarden of St. Helen's; H. Baker, Esq., &c. Many members were present from the Societies in union, viz., Worcester, Malvern, Bromsgrove, Netherton, Stourbridge, Kidderminster, Brierley Hill, Hanbury, &c. The Chairman, in opening the meeting, said it gave him very great pleasure to preside over so large a meeting, and trusted that the business would be carried out in a good spirit, and that the objects of the Association would be attained, viz., belfry reform and the cultivation of the art and science of change-ringing. The minutes of the quarterly meeting held at Dudley, on April 14th, were read and confirmed. The Revs. Canon Melvill (Witley), G. S. Munn (Madresfield), C. W. N. Ogilvy (Hanbury), E. Robinson (Grimley), were elected hon. members, Mr. J. T. Horton (Colwall) and the Rev. C. D. P. Davies performing members of the Association.

The Committee for the ensuing year are: President, the Very Rev. the Dean of Worcester, Lord Alwyne Compton, D.D.; Vice-Presidents, the Revs. Canon Cattley, W. R. Carr (vicar of St. John's, Worcester); and Messrs. T. Brown (Worcester) and W. W. Frost (Netherton), lay Vice-Presidents. The Revs. Dr. Cosens (vicar of Dudley), S. J. Marriott (Netherton), J. P. Hastings (Worcester), E. W. Isaac (Upton), T. Rooke (Feckenham), from the clergy, and one member from each company in union. A resolution was passed that the Association agree to join the National Association of Bellringers. A balance-sheet was presented, which showed the Association to be in a good financial position. At the conclusion of the business the Rev. J. P. Hastings, in proposing a vote of thanks to the Chairman, spoke in good terms of the benefits which must be derived from the Association. The Chairman responded. Votes of thanks were given to the officers, all of whom were re-elected, and to the Rev. B. Arthure, rector 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 some Grandsire Caters, a course of Treble Ten, and a quarter-peal of Grandsire Trebles, by the following: F. Jelf, 1; R. Wale, 2; S. Cleal, 3; J. Hill, 4; G. Hobs, 5; J. Reynolds, 6; J. Wathen (conductor), 7; T. Malin, 8. Messrs. Cleal, Wathen, and Hill, hail from Tewkesbury, Jelf from Malvern.

The Cathedral bells were raised by the kind permission of the Dean, and several attempts were made to ring Grandsire Caters, but nothing could be attained.

The Bromsgrove company arrived at the city at an early hour, and there met Mr. J. Perks (Malvern), having made arrangements with our Worcester friends for a peal of Grandsire Caters on All Saints' (ten), but they found the ropes in a bad condition and the clapper out of the tenor bell. About mid-day, however, ropes were obtained from other churches, and put on All Saints' bells, and the clapper placed in the tenor again, when several touches

were rung. Touches also were performed on the handbells, which brought the meeting to a close.

Surrey Association.

THE Annual Meeting of this Association was held at Leatherhead, by the kind permission of the Rev. F. E. Utterton, on Monday, July 21st. Ringing began about 4.30 p.m. with touches of Grandsire Caters and Triples. At six o'clock the business meeting was held in the schoolroom, the Vicar presiding. The Secretary announced that during the past year the members of the Association had rung nine peals,—five of Grandsire Triples, two of Grandsire Caters, two of Treble Bob Major, and one of Union Triples. Although seven members had retired from the Association, there were ten more ringing members on the books than at the corresponding meeting last year. The Treasurer had sent in his balance-sheet for the year, showing a balance in hand of 11l. 2s. 6d. Three new members were elected. After a vote of thanks to the chairman, the members retired to the church and attended Divine service, followed by an earnest address to the ringers by the Vicar. After service the bells were set going again, touches being rung in the following methods: Grandsire Triples and Caters, Stedman's Triples and Caters, and Treble Bob Major. About thirty members of the Association and some visitors were present, ringers attending from Ashted, Beddington, Benhilton, Blethingley, Croydon, Epsom, Reigate, Streatham, and Wimbledon. The meeting terminated at about 9.30 p.m.—ARTHUR B. CARPENTER, *Hon. Sec.*

Muffled Peal.—St. Andrew's, Holborn, London.

THE ringers of the above church met on Friday evening, the 11th inst., and rang a muffled peal as a mark of respect to their late member, John Richard Sutton, junr., who was accidentally drowned in the River Thames on Tuesday evening, the 1st inst. In life he was much respected, and his sudden death was deeply lamented by all who knew him. J. T. Knight, 1; E. T. Ricketts, 2; W. Thornhill, 3; E. March, 4; G. J. Mehrtens, 5; J. Looker, 6; T. Essen, 7; J. P. Rayner, 8. Tenor, 28 cwt.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At Elstree, Herts.

ON Wednesday, the 9th inst., the St. Albans Cathedral Society rang a peal of 720 Grandsire Doubles in 34 mins., being six 120's, each called differently. T. Grant, 1; R. A. Fowler, 2; E. A. Hulks, 3; G. W. Cartmel, 4; N. N. Hills (conductor), 5; H. L. Waddington, 6. Tenor, 7½ cwt. The bells were put up about four years ago by Messrs. Warner & Co., and go very nicely, everything being in good order. The above is the longest touch yet accomplished by the Society.

At South Onston, Yorkshire.

ON Sunday, the 20th inst., the Society of Ringers of SS. Peter and Paul, Eekington, Derbyshire, rang for Divine service a peal of 720 each of New London Pleasure, Oxford Treble Bob, and Violet, in 1 hr. 14½ mins. G. Smith, 1; W. Price, 2; E. James, 3; J. Shaw, 4; G. Marsden (conductor), 5; T. Lunn, 6. Tenor, 12 cwt.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The Christian Evidence Society.

SIR,—There was a letter in *Church Bells* a few weeks back from the Secretary to the above-named Society, asking for further support to it.

No one can be more in favour of its professed objects than I am, and the best advice that I can give it is to dissolve itself, and for its members to join themselves to the Victoria Institute, which has the same ends in view, and is true to its colours, as well as much more able to advance the former.

Some time last year I wrote a note in the *Zoophilist*, strongly recommending the uniting in one of the Victoria Street Society and the International Association for the Prevention of Experiments on Living Animals; and the very next month it was announced in that excellent magazine that it was then an accomplished fact, the union having been made even while I was writing. I recommended it on the ground that 'Union is strength,' and also on account of the saving of the expense of two establishments, both as to premises and persons, as so much gained. The like reason applies to what I have said above.

I do not write without the book. About a couple of years ago I was able, through the kindness of Lord Shaftesbury, to offer to the former Society a considerable number of the third edition of my pamphlet, *All the Articles of the Darwin Faith*, for as wide distribution as might be; but the Secretary wrote, with all due civility, that he was not able to accept the offer, as the Committee were divided in opinion about Darwinism! some of them being in favour of it! I forthwith offered those pamphlets to the Victoria Institute, by which they were at once and thankfully accepted for distribution. This same Mr. Engström was reported, in the account of the Church Congress at Reading, as delivering himself of the opinion that there was 'some proof'—he did not say what—that there was no discordance between Scientific Evolution and Christianity! Against this empty assertion of his I will thank you, in defence of Sacred Scripture, to allow me to give the two or three following brief quotations:—

Doctor J. M. Winn, M.D., F.R.S.P., recently wrote in an able pamphlet that these 'subtle sophistries have done far more mischief than the outspoken blasphemies of Bradlaugh;' and, secondly, only last October, Doctor Lionel S. Beale, F.R.S., wrote in a London weekly contemporary of yours, of Darwinism, as 'one of the most cruel and mischievous misrepresentations of

scientific evidence that has ever been pressed into popularity and presented for the acceptance of the credulous and ignorant.' *This witness is true*, and well might Carlyle call it 'a Gospel of Dirt.'

The Duke of Argyll's new book, *The Unity of Nature*, demolishes that farrago of fancies, and in a still more recent article in *Good Words*, for January 1884, he concludes with the following words:—'I believe we shall always have substantially to rest in that magnificent and sublime account which has been given us by the great Prophet and Lawgiver of the Jews.'

Thus also wrote Heine on his death-bed, after a lifetime of Infidelity:—'In these last moments I go back to the simple faith of my childhood, where alone I find a resting-place for my weary soul.'

As to Darwin himself, it always seems to me that to a Christian believer it matters little or nothing whether one who is not such is an Atheist or an Infidel; but be that as it may, inasmuch as some have seemed anxious to whitewash Darwin, let him be judged out of his own mouth, and here is what he wrote himself, given on good authority, that of Miss Katharine Macmillan, in the *Pall Mall Gazette*, September 23, 1882:—

'SIR,—I am very busy, and am an old man in delicate health, and have not time to answer your questions fully, even assuming that they are capable of being answered at all. Science and Christ have nothing to do with each other, except in as far as the habit of scientific investigation makes a man cautious about accepting any proofs. As far as I am concerned, I do not believe that any Revelation has ever been made. With regard to a future life, every one must draw his own conclusions from vague and contradictory probabilities.—Wishing you well, I remain, your obedient servant, CHARLES DARWIN. *Down*, June 5, 1879.'

I published last year a penny pamphlet called *Opinions of Men of Light and Leading on the Darwin Craze* (London, Poole); and in it I gave the following of such adverse to that wild notion, which has not, literally and truly, one single fact to prove it:—Lord Selborne, Lord Chancellor of England; Professor Max Muller: Professor Virchow (5); Dr. Stokes, Professor of Mathematics in the University of Cambridge; Frank Buckland; the (then) Archbishop of Canterbury; D'Israeli; Charles Kingsley; Dr. Lancaster; Thomas Carlyle; Dugald Stewart; Bacon; the Duke of Argyll; Davidson; Dr. Carruthers; the Bishop of Gloucester and Bristol; Sir Isaac Newton; Agassiz; Dr. J. Winn; the Rev. Dr. Sinclair Paterson; Dr. Carpenter, President of the British Association; Ruskin; *Astronomicus* in the *Times*; *John Bull*; the *Quarterly Review*; the *Edinburgh Review* (7); the *Pall Mall Gazette*; the *Times* (19); and the *New York Observer*. To these I have various others ready to add in any future edition.

F. O. MORRIS.

The Prayer-book Made Easy.

SIR,—I am truly thankful, after many years' labour in vain, as it appeared, that any friends of the Church have begun to take up this subject. I believe that the difficulty of quickly finding the required places in the Prayer-book has kept many thousands of people from church. There is no book of importance in the world for which so little has been done to popularise it as this book. The Roman Missal in English is far easier to 'find the places' in than it. Shakspeare and most great writers have had their productions rendered easy to find by many methods. The books of God's Holy Word have been divided into chapters and verses. There is not the slightest difficulty in turning to the hymn, or verse of any hymn, of any Book of Praise; but the moment one comes to prayer, every obstacle to finding the part required remains. Very little experience can they have had who oppose any remedy. The most successful opposition which I have heard of is a little bit of funny ridicule which was thrown out about shouting or bawling out a number before every prayer in a church. I believe it was successful in hindering an edition being printed. Well, far better to do this bawling, than drive thousands to dissent, or render them cold and indifferent. Every word of every prayer we put up to God in church is uttered for us; where then, or what then, is the wrongdoing, even if the number of every such prayer were to be first openly declared by the minister who is about to read it? However, I never contemplated the constant repetition of the numbers of the prayers or parts of the Common Prayer-book, but that the minister should just possess the means, *whenever it was needful*, of enabling any of the congregation instantly (giving, of course, a moment's pause) to find the required place in the Prayer-book. Of all the people who shall be in church next Sunday, probably not more than one third will join in the responses, chiefly because it is not the habit to do it; and this want of a good habit has arisen from the difficulty which any one of our publishers could remedy, *for ever, completely*, at a cost not worth reckoning, in an edition of the Prayer-book. I have offered again and again to conduct an edition through the press, so far as my part is concerned, free of any charge, fee, or reward. I offered this to the Queen's printer, to the Oxford University printer, and to S. P. C. K., and I am willing (though almost unable to write for a time through an accident) to do so now. My plan, adopted by me many years ago, is all ready, and is quite simple and easy. I merely treat the prayers and paragraphs as we treat most other books. Every prayer, &c., is consecutively and clearly numbered. The beginning of the Communion is numbered 341, the conclusion is 348. Let clear, plain figures be attached, and let no portion be omitted.

The same plan of numbering must, of course, be adopted if the plan is to be universally successful. The ways of using it are diverse. If I were amidst a thousand folk who had never seen or used a Prayer-book, I will undertake to get far better responding with my book at the very first service than is heard in our 'fashionable' churches, or in many churches which are not fashionable. But in another place it would suffice now and then to quote a number, perhaps once or twice in a service; in another church, possibly, one quotation of one number once in a month would be all that is needed; while in a mission-room it would be wise to announce every num-

master of Middleton College, has been appointed first principal of the new Training College for Teachers of Church-of-Ireland Primary Schools. Mr. Moore, who has already done excellent work as Diocesan Inspector of Schools in Cork, graduated at Balliol, Oxford, and received Holy Orders in 1879.

COLONIAL AND FOREIGN CHURCH NEWS.

UNITED STATES.

Dr. N. S. RULISON has been elected Assistant-Bishop of Central Pennsylvania.

NEW ZEALAND.

THE Church papers give large space to biographical details respecting the late Henry John Tancred,—that 'most thoroughly typical Canterbury layman,' as the *Church News* styles him.

WEST AFRICA.

THE new Bishop of 'Cape Palmas,' Liberia, now expected back from the United States, was, when a boy, about twenty-six years ago, rescued with others from a slave-ship on the coast of Africa, and named Ferguson, after a zealous friend of negroes at New York. His missionary labours in Liberia have been very successful.

GERMANY.

WHILE the Old Catholic body has been introducing with wise deliberation many measures of reform, those who have clung to Rome are being led on to further developments of corruption. A volume by Dr. Korber has appeared at Ratisbon, in which the B. V. Mary is described as the 'cause of our salvation,' and the 'wisdom of God,' while the worship of the Sacred Heart and the like practices are defended with the Nestorian sophistries which Dr. Nicholson exposed in Abp. Manning some years ago.

SCANDINAVIA.

PROFESSOR HEGARD, in the University of Copenhagen, was till recently an avowed rejector of Christianity. In the introduction to a second edition of one of his works he writes: 'The experiences of life, its sufferings and griefs, have broken the foundation on which I formerly relied. I had thought science a sufficient refuge, but when the tempest came this illusion vanished; the cable of science snapped like a thread. Then I seized hold upon that help which many before me had laid hold of, I sought and found peace in God. I have certainly not abandoned science, but I have assigned it another place in my life.'

FREE AND OPEN CHURCHES IN AMERICA.

'L. C.' writing in the *Guardian*, says:—It may interest and encourage the friends of the Free and Open Church movement in England to know how largely it is gaining ground in the United States. I quote a few extracts from the report made at the recent annual meeting of the Free and Open Church Association—first, as to some of the chief cities of the Union. The following partial list shows the present condition of the parishes represented there:—

Cities.	Churches.	Of which there are free.
Philadelphia	90	38
New York	80	42
Brooklyn	37	12
Baltimore	34	17
Boston	22	13
Pittsburg	16	11
Newark	10	8
Washington	22	12
Providence	12	6

Taking the country by dioceses, the condition of affairs in this respect is still more encouraging:—

Dioceses.	Churches.	Of which are free.
Albany	211	151
Central New York	140	120
Central Pennsylvania	111	77
Fond du Lac	48	47
Easton	61	58
Florida	30	30
Iowa	60	52
Kansas	28	25
Maryland	193	166
Minnesota	96	92
Springfield	40	39
Tennessee	48	40
Virginia	207	188

These are some from among those which present the most favourable appearance, but they are enough to show how strong a hold the system has obtained in various parts of America, and that its advocates have much reason to be thankful and hopeful. Indeed, in the great centres of population and of Church life, where but a few years ago the practice of renting or selling pews was most strongly entrenched, the number of free (and, I may add, of open) churches is now rapidly increasing.

Oxford, July 4, 1884.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Winchester Diocesan Ringers' Guild.

THE Annual Meeting of the above Guild was held at Weybridge on Wednesday, the 23rd ult.; at 10 a.m. 459 Grandsire Triples were rung. J. Hewett, 1; J. H. Barnett, 2; G. H. Child, 3; F. Hill, 4; Rev. F. E. Robinson (conductor), 5; J. R. Jerram, 6; C. Williams, 7; a Farnham ringer, 8. Service was held in the church at noon, at which the Rev. R. Linklater, of Winchester, preached. Dinner afterwards took place in the 'Village Hall.' After dinner the various companies dispersed to the neighbouring churches, Bournemouth and Leatherhead remaining at Weybridge. The Bournemouth company rang 336 Grandsire Triples. A. Grist, 1; H. Vivash, 2; C. Staden, 3; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 4; T. Green (conductor), 5; T. Newnham, 6; J. R. Jerram, 7; G. Goulbourn, 8. The Leatherhead company then rang 840 Union Triples. H. Newnham, 1; E. Hull, 2; W. Marks, 3; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 4; J. Hewett, 5; J. Newnham, 6; S. Brooker (conductor), 7; J. Lisney, 8. There were ringers at this meeting from Alton, Bournemouth, Fareham, Farnham, Hursley, Leatherhead, Godalming, Guildford, Winchester, and other places.

The Bishop's Waltham and Westmeon Ringers at St. Mary's, Worplesdon.

THE fine six bells at the above church were merrily rung by the ringers of Bishop's Waltham and Westmeon, and several touches of Grandsire Doubles were well rendered.

The General Meeting of the Winchester Diocesan Guild of Ringers had taken place at Weybridge, and a bright but impressive service was held in the church of St. James. After the dinner in the 'Village Hall,' the Guild sent its various branches in sets of eight-bell and six-bell bands, by train or trap, to the neighbouring steeples. Let us follow the five of the Bishop's Waltham band, to whom are added four ringers from Westmeon (and their four tunes also), and mount with them the tower of St. Mary's Church, Worplesdon. Here, then, are six bells, the tenor, cast by Mears some fifty years ago, weighing 19 cwt. 3 qrs. The subjoined team pulled off and rang 120 changes of Grandsire. C. Brock (Bishop's Waltham), 1; J. H. Garnett (Bishop's Waltham), 2; J. Simmons (Westmeon), 3; J. Gregory (Westmeon), 4; E. N. Garnett, junr. (Bishop's Waltham), (conductor) 5; W. Cook (Bishop's Waltham), 6. The same band rang two Grandsire Doubles before 'stand' was called; Mr. E. Garnett, junr., calling the Singles and Bobs, as conductor.

Much credit is due to this energetic and patient instructor for his painstaking in 'breaking-in' the Bishop's Waltham Youths, and Mr. Brock owes much of his progress to Mr. Garnett's care. These two Grandsires were heard to advantage by the Vicar, &c., and also by Mr. James Gunner, who were not far from the church.

In the course of conversation with one of the visitors afterwards, Mr. J. Gunner gave much useful information, being an old ringer, and said, 'I very soon noticed "something different" in the ringing'—Method changes not being known at Worplesdon.

Later, Mr. George Gunner, brother to the listener, took a turn at the treble in a 'call change.' This worthy old ringer is in his seventy-ninth year, and rings like a veteran, but has not had opportunity to profit by 'Guild teaching' as to the method. Mr. Francis, the curate of St. Mary's Church, entered the belfry just as the second Grandsire ended.

Mr. Brock has composed a special hymn and tune for the use of the Guild, and we are indebted to him for a copy of the same; it was sung at Weybridge at the Special Service previously referred to in this account, and is tuneful, and the words well suited to the subject.

It is thought that next year's General Meeting will be held at Bournemouth, where there is a ring of eight bells. We trust that this may not be the last that we hear of the Winchester Diocesan Guild of Bell-ringers.

A Peal of Bob Major.						W. M. H.	
5376						6 5 2 4 3	- -
2 3 4 5 6						2 6 5 4 3	-
4 3 6 5 2	-					5 2 6 4 3	-
6 3 2 5 4	-					6 4 5 2 3	-
2 6 4 3 5	-					5 6 4 2 3	-
4 3 2 6 5	-					4 2 5 6 3	-
5 2 4 3 6	-					5 4 2 6 3	-
4 5 2 3 6	-					2 5 4 6 3	-
2 4 5 3 6	-					3 4 2 5 6	- -

Twice repeated.

This peal has the 6th twelve times each way in 5-6.

BENJAMIN FRANCIS, *Diss.*

CHANGE-RINGING.

At St. Martin's, Salisbury, Wiltshire.

ON St. James's Day, the 25th ult., a peal of 720 Bob Minor (9 bobs and 6 singles) was rung. H. Dowling, 1; C. A. Clements, 2; A. Dowling, 3; W. Gifford, 4; J. R. Jerram, 5; T. Blackburn (conductor), 6. Also a peal of 720 Bob Minor (18 bobs and 2 singles). E. A. Foster, 1; 2, 3, and 4, the same as before; T. Blackburn, 5; J. R. Jerram (conductor), 6. Tenor, 15 cwt.

At All Saints', Duffield, Derbyshire.

ON Saturday, the 26th ult., a peal of 5040 Bob Triples was rung by the Duffield Church Ringers' Society in 3 hrs. 20 mins. G. Dawson, 1; E.

Moreton, 2; G. Hingley, 3; W. Hickling, 4; O. Bembridge, 5; R. Johnson, 6; A. P. Heywood, 7; J. Johnson, 8. Composed by H. Hubbard and conducted by A. P. Heywood. Tenor, 16½ cwt. First peal by all, and the first on the bells, which were increased to eight five months ago; previous to which none of the above, who are all members of the local band, had rung on eight bells.

At St. Mary's, Stanstead, Essex.

On Saturday, the 26th ult., a peal of 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor (15 bobs, with 2, 3, 4, observations) was rung in 29 mins. C. Prior, 1; H. Prior, sen., 2; H. Prior, jun., 3; G. Taylor, 4; I. Cavill, 5; S. Hayes (conductor), 6. Also 360 Norwich Court Bob Minor (18 bobs) in 13 mins. J. Cavill, 1; H. Prior, sen., 2; C. Prior, 3; G. Taylor, 4; I. Cavill, 5; S. Hayes (conductor), 6.

On Sunday morning, for Divine service, a start was made for Norwich Court, which just after the half way single came to grief. Touches of Double Oxford Bob and Plain Bob Minor brought the morning ringing to a close. For evening service a peal of 720 Norwich Court Bob Minor (18 bobs and 2 singles) was rung in 26 mins. J. Cavill, 1; H. Prior, sen., 2; C. Prior, 3; F. Pitstow, of Saffron Walden, 4; G. Taylor, 5; S. Hayes (conductor), 6. Also, after service, a peal of 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor (9 bobs) was rung in 25½ mins. J. Cavill, 1; H. Prior, sen., 2; G. Taylor, 3; F. Pitstow, 4; I. Cavill, 5; S. Hayes (conductor), 6. Tenor, 13 cwt.

At St. James's, Norton, Derbyshire.

On Sunday morning, the 27th ult., for Divine service, six of the local company rang a 240 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, also 240 Bob Minor, and a plain course each of Grandsire Minor and College Singles. W. Lee, 1; H. Ward, 2; W. Biggin, 3; J. Atkin, 4; J. Biggin, 5; J. Allen (conductor), 6. Also in the evening three peals of 120 Bob Doubles, and one 120 of Grandsire Doubles. W. Lee, 1; J. Atkin, 2; W. Biggin, 3; J. Allen (conductor), 4; J. Biggin, 5; G. Butcher, 6. Tenor, 11½ cwt.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The Christian Evidence Society.

SIR,—Being away from London, the letter of the Rev. F. O. Morris in *Church Bells* of last Saturday has only just come to my knowledge; and not having access to official papers, a reply is not so easy as it would be under ordinary circumstances.

But as Mr. Morris some months ago objected to the policy of the Christian Evidence Society in the *Rock*, silence on this occasion may be prejudicial to the interests the Committee have at heart. I can, however, only offer a few words of explanation as to the letter written by myself to Mr. Morris, respecting his offer of a considerable number of copies of *All the Articles of the Darwin Faith*. I do not recollect the exact wording of that letter, but I know that it was exceedingly brief, and that it was written very hurriedly. Its object was to express to Mr. Morris, with all civility, that we could not avail ourselves of the offer he had so obligingly made; and the statement as to the Committee's view of 'Darwinism,' had distinct reference to that 'ism,' as understood and commented upon by Mr. Morris, both in his pamphlet and in his previous correspondence with myself, and was not intended to be, and ought not to be regarded as, any expression of opinion on Darwinism 'per se.' But as it may be important that the line taken by the Committee on all scientific questions may be thoroughly understood, I will ask you to be good enough to publish (as soon as I can procure and send it to you) a statement drawn out in consequence of Mr. Morris' letter in the *Rock*. In the meantime, by inserting this in your issue of August 2nd you will much oblige

Aberdeen, July 29th.

C. LLOYD ENGSTRÖM, M.A.
Secretary of the Christian Evidence Society.

The Prayer-book made Easy.

SIR,—While at Cardiff last spring I attended a service on board the old ship *Thïsbe*, lying in the dock, and fitted up as a mission church for sailors. A paged Prayer-book was handed to me on entrance, and at every change of the service the clergyman gave out distinctly the number of the page, making a short pause afterwards. The conduct of the congregation, consisting almost entirely of poor, sea-faring men, was reverent and orderly. They appeared to follow the service in their books with attention, and many joined audibly in the responses. The singing was hearty, the sermon plain and impressive, calculated to touch the hearts of men who 'see the works of the Lord and His wonders in the deep.' The service ended with a celebration of the Holy Communion.

A SAILOR'S MOTHER.

Preparation for Confirmation.

SIR,—After fourteen years' experience of teaching in Sunday Schools, out of which for the last six years I have had a large Bible class for lads between the ages of fourteen to twenty-two, I most entirely agree with 'A Sunday Teacher' in his or her letter on 'Preparation for Confirmation,' published in *Church Bells* on July 12th. I certainly think Sunday Schools are one of the great helps in making England not only the most prosperous, but also the most God-fearing country in the world; but I think there is a great want in most Sunday Schools of both power and earnestness. Most parents are only too anxious to send their children to the nearest Sunday School. They generally dress them as well as their slender means will allow, and meals are often made ready to suit the Sunday School; the children themselves are willing, and pleased, and happy. But—and here

comes the but—what do the teachers as a rule do? Of course, there are many, many exceptions, which may make us hope that if it were made evident to those teachers who are the rule, their teaching might be changed, and the future lives of thousands of men and women would be influenced for good in a measure which only an All-seeing Creator could tell.

In most parishes there are no weekly classes for Sunday-school teachers, and where there are these they are generally taken by the curate. I think as curates are generally supposed to know less than their vicar, the latter would find it well worth the trouble and time to take these classes regularly himself, and that every week. This would be a great help to the teachers. I think, also, if teachers, instead of teaching the children a verse of Scripture, the Collect of the day, part of a hymn (and the words only, very often the children not understanding the meaning of a single word they repeat), would teach the Church Catechism, so that every word was thoroughly understood, the boys and girls would have something in their minds and hearts when they went out of school, and be better prepared to fight against their little world, their little flesh, and the devil. If only teachers in Sunday Schools considered the vast opportunities for God they have with the children, opportunities which after a few years will never be offered either to the children or to the teachers again, they would, for the one hour, or at most two hours, that they have these 'children of God' with them, strive with all their strength to make those for whom our dear Lord died see the love of God, see the strength of earnest prayer, and see that they were created and gifted to prepare for another world, which no matter how young they may be is very near to them all, and that the younger they are the easier it will be to get nearer and nearer to a Father Who loves them with such an Almighty love.

Z. Z. Z.

P.S. I find it also very useful to teach the meaning of each word in the Prayer-book, so that the children can understand the meaning of the prayers, psalms, &c.

Church Extension Schemes and the Need of a Creed Census.

SIR,—In mentioning that the preliminary sum had been raised which the Government demanded before introducing the promised Bill for the re-establishment of the See of Bristol, you referred to the fact that church extension was about to be undertaken in the ancient city of Bristol. Now the Bishops of Newcastle and of Durham have also church extension schemes on hand, and one hears of the same thing in Nottingham and Birmingham.

Would it not be well if, before starting these undertakings, a census of religious beliefs were taken, such as was taken in Liverpool diocese three years ago, in order to ascertain the composition of the population? It is often a decided mistake to plant a new church in a district where, if a census had been taken, there would have been found to be perhaps 20 per cent of Roman Catholics and another 20 per cent of Nonconformists. The large Irish Roman Catholic element in all our large towns, and in colliery districts especially, must make us careful of taking merely the gross population in preparing for church or school extension. A census can very easily be taken, if Canon Hume's experience is to be relied on; as I am sure it is.

H. C. R.

P.S. Canon Hume, in his census of Liverpool diocese, found that not even one half per cent refused to 'ticket' themselves, as the Liberationists call it. The expense of the census was as surprisingly low as the difficulties were small.

Boards of Patronage and Peace within the Church.

SIR,—We have the best possible authority for saying that a large part of England has lapsed into heathenism. The Archbishop of Canterbury recently called attention in a pointed way to the fact, that of our population of 25,000,000 no less than 19,000,000 live in towns. The able and plain-spoken Bishop of Peterborough four years ago, at the Leicester Church Congress, bade us look somewhat away from disputes between parties within the Church, and (necessary, it may be, on our side) contentions with bodies outside the Church, who also name the name of Christ like ourselves,—to look away from these and consider the vast masses outside, 'impartially indifferent or impartially hostile to every form of Christianity.'

And with '43 per cent of our town population non-worshipping,' in other words, quite outside even the occasional reach of Christian agencies, we are busy quarrelling among ourselves in the Church in a fashion which strongly reminds one of the factions fighting each other inside the walls of Jerusalem, while the armies of the Roman Emperors, the 'impartially indifferent and impartially hostile' to each and all of these factions, were busy assailing the city from without. Surely this is a most melancholy state of affairs!

And one further inquires, Is this state of affairs inevitable? By no means. As things are now, it is indeed almost inevitable; there is practically no check upon a private patron. He may, and constantly does, appoint a clergyman of extreme views in one direction to succeed an incumbent of decided, and perhaps even equally extreme, views in the other direction. The patron appoints a High Churchman, perhaps even a decided Mediaevalist, to succeed a Low Churchman, and none can say him nay, from the M.P. for the town or county down to the poorest parishioner. What is the result? Simply this—perpetual friction. Now, if the appointment to parishes were in the hands of Boards of Patronage, we may be quite sure that a Low Churchman, or at any rate a moderate 'Evangelical,' would be sent to succeed a Low Churchman, and a High Churchman would be succeeded by a clergyman of similar ideas, and not by a man of Broad Church or Mediaevalist 'views,' though under Boards of Patronage the men who would get promotion would almost certainly be men who were distinguished by moderate 'views,' and a liking for hard work.

As to the constitution of Boards of Patronage opinions might probably

by Rev. W. Ball-Wright—"That this meeting desires to express its opinion that it would be very desirable to have the Irish incorporated members of the S.P.G. represented on the standing committee, according to the proportion of four representatives for each ecclesiastical province; and that the organizing secretary be requested to communicate with Mr. Tucker to that effect." 2. Proposed by Rev. Canon J. Grainger, and seconded by Rev. R. C. Oulton—"That a diocesan committee be formed, consisting of the Bishop, the Deans of the united diocese, the Archdeacons of Connor and Dromore, the local secretaries, and all clergy who support the Society; together with the following laymen, if willing to act:—Lord O'Neill, Lord Ashley, Sir J. M'Garel Hogg, M.P., Sir Thomas Bateson, M.P., Lord Templetown, General Smythe, Hon. Robert O'Neill, Messrs. H. H. M'Neill, E. Braddell, E. Allworthy, J. Armor, and J. T. Abbott."

The Rev. A. R. Barton, Rector of St. Paul's, has refused the incumbency of St. Thomas, Dublin, to which he was elected by the nominators. The parish of Lusk, Dublin, is vacant by the resignation of the Rev. Amyrald D. Purefoy.

COLONIAL AND FOREIGN CHURCH NEWS.

CANADA.

At the annual meeting of the Diocesan Synod of Fredericton, the committee appointed to report on the erection of a chapel in the parish of St. Paul's, Fredericton—with the license of the Bishop of the diocese, but against the protest of the incumbent of the parish—reported the opinion of Strachan Bethune, Q.C. (Chancellor of Montreal); and the Synod accepted it. The opinion upholds the protest of the Rector of St. Paul's, and declares the Bishop to have acted illegally in licensing the Rev. J. M. Davenport to officiate. The correspondent of the New York *Churchman* remarks on a want of confidence occasioned by the proceedings of this priest, 'which seem copied after those of medieval Rome;' and he complains 'that the diocesan contributions for the current year are largely deficient.' This is the more to be regretted, as not only is Bishop Medley as trustworthy as he is a learned theologian, but his coadjutor, Dr. Kingdon, has incurred the life-long hostility of the Ritualists by his treatise on 'Fasting Communion.'

'The first Bishop of Assiniboia' is thus spoken of by the Montreal *Church Guardian*:—"On St. John Baptist's Day, June 24th, Canon Anson was consecrated first Bishop of Assiniboia. It is a noticeable fact, as showing the growth and extension of the Colonial Episcopate, that at the same time and place, the Rev. James Hannington was consecrated to a new Bishopric in Eastern Equatorial Africa, having the oversight of the C. M. S. Missions at Uganda and other places. Thus the Anglican Church is continually "lengthening her cords" over the whole habitable globe, alike over the snowfields of our North-West and under the burning sun of the tropics. The consecration of Canon Anson marks an era in the North-West. The Church has wisely not waited until Assiniboia had a number of clergy before appointing a chief pastor. Last fall, when the district was set apart as a separate diocese, only three clergy were within its borders; to-day there are only seven; but a considerable addition will be made when the new Bishop comes. In less than a year one half of the endowment has been raised, and the S. P. G. has pledged for the present a yearly amount equal to the interest on the remainder, until that remainder is raised. The appointment has not come a day too soon. The settlements in Assiniboia are too far away from Winnipeg to be properly cared for from that centre; and we rejoice that a man of such activity and power as Bishop Anson is coming amongst us."

AUSTRALIA.

BISHOP BARRY, we observe, has been received as Primate of Australia and Metropolitan of New South Wales, the Bishops outside of New South Wales addressing him with only the former title. As he, in his turn, had plighted canonical obedience to the Archbishop of Canterbury, the latter prelate is, in respect to him, a 'Primate of Primates'; that is, a Patriarch in the Primitive Catholic meaning of the term. The fact that we usually speak only of the 'Archbishop of Canterbury' is no more opposed to this, than the retention of the name 'Archbishop of Constantinople' was at variance with the Patriarchal elevation of the 'New Rome.'

ISLANDS OF PACIFIC.

TAHITI, the scene of the labours of the London Missionary Society before its seizure by France, is still far from wholly Romanised. The French Protestants took up the work from which Englishmen were expelled, and they now number 2377 communicants in a population of 8000 souls, and 1160 children in Sunday schools. Their adherents read the Scriptures with great assiduity and devotion.

EAST AFRICA.

THE treaty between England, Egypt, and Abyssinia, is by no means devoid of religious importance. Provision is made in it for the removal of all obstacles to the coming of Abunas, or Metropolitan Bishops, from Egypt—where the Coptic Patriarch consecrates them, according to ancient usage. The hope of better relations with the Greek, and also with the Anglican, communions is brightened, while the intrigues of Romanism within the principedom of Shoa are hindered. It is also a gain for true religion in these parts that Berbera, a port opposite Aden, has been annexed to the British empire. We trust that the envoys of the Abyssinian King, now on their way to London, will be welcomed fittingly by the authorities of not only our State but our Church.

SCANDINAVIA.

PROVST J. VAHL (N. Alslev D.) writes:—"I hope you will permit me to correct some of the statements in your notice (page 801) on the Conference of the Evangelical Alliance at Copenhagen. As to the sympathy for the Alliance, 837 Danish tickets have been taken already, and every day more are taken. As to the expression, "Danish Churchmen of both the Lutheran and the Grundtvigian schools," no school in the Danish Church is known as Lutheran, all the schools of the Danish Church being Lutheran. The Grundtvigian school keeps at the whole aloof, that school seeing with mistrust everybody who does not accept its theory about the *symbolum apostolicum*. The school of Home Mission is friendly to the Conference. The third school, being represented by the late Bishop Martensen, keeping partly aloof, nevertheless will be represented at the Conference by the Bishops of Seeland and of Viborg, and several other eminent men. That so few of the addresses are to be given by Danes is owing to our opinion that the most ought to be given by the eminent foreigners who will be our guests."

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Two Peals of Bob Major.

SIR,—As I have not seen any peals like the enclosed, will you favour me by inserting them?

5040

2	3	4	5	6	W.	M.	H.
4	2	6	3	5	—	—	—
6	4	5	2	3	—	—	—
2	6	5	4	3	—	—	—
5	2	3	6	4	—	—	—
3	5	4	2	6	—	—	—
4	2	3	5	6	—	—	—
3	4	6	2	5	—	—	—
2	3	6	4	5	—	—	—
6	2	5	3	4	—	—	—
3	6	5	2	4	—	—	—
5	3	4	6	2	—	—	—
4	3	2	6	5	—	—	—
2	3	5	6	4	—	—	—
4	5	2	3	6	—	—	—
2	4	5	3	6	—	—	—

Twice repeated.

The 6th the extent 5-6, with the 2nd kept away from the tenor at wrong as much as possible.

Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association of Change-ringers.

This Association will hold their Annual Meeting at Bristol on Monday, the 18th instant.

Sandhurst, near Gloucester.

Oxford Diocesan Guild of Church Bell-ringers.

THE Annual Festival of this Guild was held at Great Marlow on Tuesday, the 22nd ult. The proceedings opened with a special service at the parish church, the sermon being preached by the Master, the Rev. F. E. Robinson, vicar of Drayton. At the conclusion, the Annual General Meeting was held at the clubroom of the 'Greyhound Hotel,' and was largely attended by the members. The officers of the Guild were re-elected, the Rev. E. Barber being chosen on the Committee in the place of the Rev. H. Harvey, who is in failing health. The Secretary, the Rev. Dolben Paul, rector of Bearwood, gave some interesting details showing the encouraging advance which the Guild was making in every direction. The number of change-ringing members admitted during the past half-year was 50, and of probationary members 58, making a total of 108. Six additional towers had placed themselves in union with the Guild, and twelve had made inquiries with a view to joining at some future time. The question of the advisability of a National Association of Bell-ringers being formed was discussed, and the draft scheme as drawn up by the Committee appointed at the Ringers' Conference at Reading was laid before the meeting by the Secretary. After some discussion it was resolved, 'That it is desirable such an Association should be formed, and that the scheme should be left to the existing Committee to settle.' The company then adjourned to a large tent which had been erected in the yard of the 'Greyhound,' where 170 members sat down to an excellent dinner, the chair being taken by T. O. Wethered, Esq., supported by the Master on one side and the Secretary on the other, the three having been, as was remarked by the chairman, at the same school forty years ago, and never having been together since. The toasts of 'The Church and Queen,' 'Prosperity to the Guild,' 'The Chairman and the Secretary,' were given and responded to. In the afternoon several touches were rung on the bells of the parish church by some members of the Guild, and Cookham Church was visited by others. It should be noted that one of the most beneficial objects of the Guild is being gradually attained, viz. that of advising the clergy on the best methods of hanging and rehangng the bells of their churches, which is often, through ignorance on the subject, allowed to be done in a slovenly and unservicable manner.

The attention of the members was directed to the board in the tower, which records the first peal on the bells on the 14th June, 1843: Holt's Ten-part. As one of the ringers was also present (Mr. Haworth), some interest was taken in the event. The band were:—J. Mason, 1; C. Clay, 2; J. Rogers, 3; G. Stockham (now living), 4; T. Tolladay (conductor), 5; T.

Burton, 6; J. R. Haworth, 7; H. Wall, 8. The next day they went to Wooburn, about four miles, and rang another peal of Grandshire Triples; and called and rang at Cookham on their way to London. On the present occasion, on Wednesday, Mr. Haworth walked through Bisham Woods with his friend, Mr. Truss (who remembers the events just mentioned, he being a boy then about ten years old), from Great Marlow to Cookham, meeting Mr. Keighley, and rang another touch on the good ring of six bells, the last being forty-one years ago. Mr. Truss, jun., is steeple-keeper of Great Marlow, and everything is in good order.

Reopening of Bells at Didsbury, Manchester.

On Friday, the 1st inst., the bells of this church were reopened, after having undergone repairs at the hands of Messrs. J. Shaw, Son, & Co., Bellfounders, Bradford. The whole of the ring has been quarter-turned, and rehung with entirely new fittings and new woodwork throughout. The bells were rung for about two hours with peals of Bob Major and Minor, and their 'go' was pronounced to be first-class. This is a fine ring of six, in perfect harmony, east by Rudhall in 1727; but it appears that bells were in this tower long before that date, as several tombstones bear witness that ringing has been going on for centuries; one of which gives particulars of a family named Woods, who have been ringers and parish clerks for 250 years in succession, one member of the same family being a ringer for over sixty-five years. At the present time one of the company has been a ringer at this church for over forty-five years. Last week was celebrated the 659th anniversary of the church.

Holy Trinity Church Ringers of Bolton, Lancashire.

On Saturday, the 2nd inst., the ringers of the above church, accompanied by their wives and friends, journeyed to York by the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway; and upon their arrival partook of a good breakfast, through the kindness of the ringers of York Minster. A waggonette was at hand, and the first church visited was Bishop Hill, where six members of the above company succeeded in ringing a peal of 720 Bob Minor. H. W. Jackson, 1; H. Bentley, 2; J. H. Jackson, 3; T. E. Turner, 4; W. Marsden, 5; W. Hamer, 6. Thanking the Vicar of Bishop Hill for his kind permission, and after a drive round the city, they went to Clifton village church, and through the kindness of the vicar again handled the ropes in a few short touches, with J. Leister on the 2nd and R. Lindley on the tenor. The bells ran very well, and there was some good ringing. Returning to the city after a three hours' drive, they partook of a good dinner. A very comfortable hour was afterwards spent in singing, &c. The next place of interest was York Minster, where most of the company attended afternoon service, and at the close, through the kindness of the Dean of York, the whole company ascended the tower, and rang several short touches upon the splendid ring of twelve bells: tenor, 53 cwt. Time would not permit for a long length. The bells ran very well, and were made by Mears & Stainbank of London. The company reached Bolton soon after ten.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At St. Mary's, Lambeth, Surrey.

On Saturday, the 26th ult., Holt's Ten-part half-peal was rung in 1 hr. 30 mins. W. Cecil, 1; G. Mash, 2; T. Blackburn, 3; R. French, 4; T. MacLaughlin, 5; F. T. Gover, 6; J. M. Hayes (conductor), 7; J. Coxhead, 8. Tenor, 20 cwt.

At St. Lawrence's, North Wingfield, Derby.

On Sunday, the 3rd inst., for afternoon service, two 6-scores of Bob Doubles were rung, one with bobs only and one with bobs and singles. In the first the ringers stood as follows:—T. Millington, 1; G. Beresford, 2; G. Tarlton, 3; G. Brown, 4; T. Day, 5; J. Green, 6. In the second 6-score J. Cook, 1; T. Millington, 2; T. Allibone, 3; G. Brown, 4; T. Clough, 5; J. Green, 6. Tenor, 18½ cwt. in F. The latter band started for a 720 of Bob Minor, but it unfortunately came to grief.

For evening service, at St. Bartholomew's, Clay Cross, two 6-scores of Bob Doubles were rung, each called differently. T. Walters, 1; T. Millington, 2; G. Brown, 3; J. Cook, 4; T. Allibone, 5; J. Green, 6. Conducted by T. Millington. Tenor, 10 cwt. in A.

At All Saints', Nottingham.

On Sunday morning, the 3rd inst., for Divine service, a touch of Stedman's Triples was rung. J. Wibberley, 1; T. Cooke, 2; R. Beeson of Peterborough, 3; J. Wilson, 4; E. Robinson, 5; W. H. Abbott, 6; W. Langley, Esq. (conductor and composer), 7; H. Pecker, 8.

At Holyrood, Southampton.

On Monday, the 4th inst., 504 Grandshire Triples were rung. E. W. Parker, 1; J. Newnham, 2; C. A. Clements, 3; E. Parker, 4; W. W. Gifford, 5; T. Newnham (conductor), 6; J. R. Jerram, 7; J. Curtis, 8.

Also at St. Michael's, 168 Grandshire Triples. S. Russell, 1; J. Newnham, 2; E. Parker, 3; C. A. Clements, 4; W. W. Gifford, 5; T. Newnham (conductor), 6; J. R. Jerram, 7; J. Curtis, 8.

At St. Lawrence's, Reading, Berks.

On Monday, the 4th inst., a peal of 5079 Stedman's Caters was rung in 3 hrs. 28 mins. by the following members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild and the Ancient Society of College Youths. T. Hounslow, 1; F. E. Dawe, 2; C. Hounslow, 3; J. Field, 4; G. Holifield, 5; J. M. Routh, Esq., 6; Rev. F. E. Robinson (conductor), 7; Rev. G. F. Coleridge, 8; W. H. Washbrook, 9; W. Newell, 10. Composed by Mr. H. W. Haley. Tenor, 22 cwt.

NOTICE.—Mr. J. R. Jerram, Instructor to the Salisbury Diocesan Guild, will be taking his holiday next week, and requests that all letters up to August 16th may be addressed to him, 'Care of Mr. C. Staden, Newsagent, Commercial Road, Bournemouth.'

CORRESPONDENCE.

Church Lectures.

SIR,—The article in *Church Bells* of August 2, signed 'A. R. B.', deserves the most careful attention of Churchmen. As the result of a varied experience I do not hesitate to say that popular and instructive lectures on the history and endowments of the Church of England are amongst the most urgent wants of the present day. They are not only wanted, but they bring to those who give them the reward of being appreciated. At least, that is my experience. Three or four years ago, partly at the suggestion of Prebendary Edwards of Trentham, Staffordshire, I drew up a syllabus of a lecture which he asked me to give in his schoolroom. I have repeated the same lecture in various parts of England, always with encouraging results, and therefore I send you the syllabus, hoping that some of your readers will act on 'A. R. B.'s' advice, and prepare for some lectures during the coming winter. They will find my original manuscript printed in the *National Church* for September and October, 1883. Of course it is too long and too elaborate to be read as it stands. If any of your readers are inclined to try this sort of thing during the coming winter, but think themselves unequal to the task, if they will communicate with me through Mr. J. Ralph, the Secretary of the Church Defence Institution, 9 Bridge Street, Westminster, perhaps I might be able in some cases to place my services at their disposal within a hundred miles of London, on the promise of a bed and travelling expenses.

G. F. CHAMBERS, of the Inner Temple, Barrister-at-Law.

THE HISTORY AND CLAIMS OF THE NATIONAL CHURCH.

General Statement of the Scope of the Lecture.—The History of the English Church the History of the English Nation—The Church of England much more than three hundred years old—Founded about the second century, and not by the Roman Monk Augustine—Strengthened and expanded in the sixth century—Its development in Anglo-Saxon times—Alfred the Great's influences—The monastic system—The encroachments of Rome before and after the Norman Conquest—Origin of Endowments—The Church's Tithe system imitated from the Jewish Church—Old English Parish Churches generally built by individual landowners and always a result of voluntary effort—Church patronage—Ethelwolf's Charter—The Norman Conquest—The Aggressions of Rome after the Conquest—Resistance more or less unceasing on the part of Kings—Particular instances—Extract from Shakespeare's King John—Dawn of the Reformation—Peter's Pence—Henry VIII.'s action at its outset personal and selfish, overruled for higher end—The Reformation shown to be conservative and not destructive—Many Romish doctrines quite modern additions—These removed and an old Church purified—No new Church formed—Papal Aggressions under Elizabeth—Date of the first Dissenting sects—Subsequent multiplication of the Sects—The Church of England specially a Biblical, civilising, and useful Church—Advantages of the Church and State principle generally—Present aggressions on the Church—How and why these should be resisted—If Church Endowments plundered Dissenting Endowments would go next—Church Statistics—Evil consequences certain to result from separating Church and State: (1) Direct, (2) Indirect—Mr. Gladstone opposed to Disestablishment—Other Liberal Leaders opposed to Disestablishment—Conclusion.

The Dean of York on Church Work.

SIR,—The most telling arguments in Church defence are, without doubt, clear and accurate statements of Church work. It is, however, a matter of regret that statements of Church work are not always correctly published. A paper publishes an inaccurate report. The report is copied, and so mis-statements are perpetuated. In the valuable remarks of the Dean of York, in a recent sermon on the subject, are three very prominent errors. It is stated that the Additional Curates' Society raises 180,000*l.* annually, and the Pastoral Aid Society more than 30,000*l.* But what are the facts as reported in *Church Bells*? The income of the Additional Curates' Society from subscriptions, donations, and collections during 1883, was 42,788*l.* This, with the amount locally raised to meet the grants, made up a total of 81,491*l.* (See *Church Bells*, June 7th.) As to the Church Pastoral Aid Society, the sum raised during 1883 from subscriptions, &c., was not 30,000*l.*, but 54,688*l.* Add to this, 41,362*l.*, raised locally to meet grants, and you have a total of 96,050*l.* (See *Church Bells*, May 10th.) The reporter also made the Dean say that 5,000,000*l.* have been spent on Church School building during the last twelve months! It should be the last twelve years. There are other slight errors which I will not name. Whoever may be responsible for the somewhat grave mistakes indicated above, it is at least due to the Dean and those who read the report that they should be corrected. This must be my apology for troubling you.

WM. ODON.

St. Simon's Parsonage, Sheffield.

A Prayer-book unaltered, but in which any Part may be found immediately.

SIR,—I do rejoice very sincerely at the news announced in *Church Bells* that Mr. Henry Frowde is about to publish a Church of England Sunday Service-book, pagged, and in continuous arrangement as it is to be used upon Sundays. I have no doubt that it will do very great good, that it will enable tens of thousands to enter into the Sunday services who are now perplexed about the use of them, and I most heartily wish it all success.

But notwithstanding all this, and while earnestly hoping that Mr. Henry Frowde will proceed with his scheme, I have much still to urge in favour of what I continue to regard as the best plan of all, and which I have vainly urged for many years. (1.) I have often talked over a similar scheme to Mr. Frowde's, but I felt, and I still feel, it must be a costly business. It will require fifty-two portions of the Prayer-book to be printed and put together separately. Morning Prayer and Evensong and the occasional prayers must each be printed fifty-two times instead of once. The occasional prayers will

COLONIAL AND FOREIGN CHURCH NEWS.

CANADA.

THE Synod of Fredericton has resolved to procure an amendment of the Local Church Acts, to the effect that none but persons in *priest's* orders shall henceforth be qualified for presentment to a benefice. This is a provision that has often been proposed in the mother country, though hitherto in vain.

At the same Synod a proposal to give women a vote at church meetings was negatived, Bishop Kingdon, the coadjutor, giving it strenuous resistance, as putting woman out of her befitting sphere.

UNITED STATES.

THE *Living Church* states that the Patriarch of Constantinople has sanctioned the coming to New York of the 'Very Rev. S. C. Hatherley, protopresbyter—a rank corresponding to that of the Dean of Canterbury in England.' He is holding services in the schoolroom of St. John's Chapel, Varick Street. The Greek Church people in that city have had no pastor since Archpriest Bjerring's retirement.

ISLANDS OF THE PACIFIC.

THE Bishop of Honolulu has sent some interesting notes of progress: 'To show that we are aiming to become self-supporting in this kingdom of Hawaii, I may point to the existence of two missions now being carried on without any external aid, that on the Island of Kausi by the Rev. R. Wainwright, and that in the district of Kohala, on the Island of Hawaii, by the Rev. H. E. F. Whalley. Not only do the people of this district support their minister, but during the last year they raised 400*l.*, with the assistance of a grant of 50*l.* from the S. P. C. K., for the erection of a wooden church, which is now ready to be consecrated. I may add that in this same district of Kohala there is a Chinese congregation with a Chinese lay-reader, who knows a little English. At my visit to Kohala in May last I found twenty-five communicants in his congregation, most of whom had been confirmed either in Demerara or in Hong Kong. The large numbers in which the Chinese now come to these islands makes it important that there should be amongst us a priest conversant with the Chinese language. On the 4th Sunday in Advent, the Revs. H. E. F. Whalley and W. A. Swan, both of St. Augustine's College, Canterbury, were admitted to the priesthood.'

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Prize Ringing-match in Cornwall.

A PRIZE ringing-match took place at St. Martin's-by-Loose on Tuesday week on a ring of six bells, which have been recently cast by Messrs. Taylor, Loughborough, and hung by Aggett of Chagford. There was a short service at twelve, and the Rev. J. King delivered a most impressive address to the ringers from the words, 'Their sound is gone forth into the ends of the world.' This text was coupled to the naming of the six bells—Faith, Hope, Charity, Prayer, Praise, and Thanksgiving.' At the conclusion of the service nineteen sets competed, and the ringing was very good throughout, with the exception of a peal by the Antony set. The prizes were awarded as follows: 1st, Lanreath, 3*l.* 12*s.*; 2nd, Egloshayle, 2*l.* 17*s.*; 3rd, St. Mabyn, 2*l.* 2*s.*; 4th, Golant, 1*l.* 12*s.*; 5th, St. Neot, 1*l.* 3*s.*; 6th, St. Wenn, 15*s.* The umpires were—Mr. Hicks, St. Austell; Mr. J. Lobb, St. Neot; and Mr. Menhenick, St. Mabyn. The arrangements were most ably carried out by Mr. Jeffery and Mr. J. G. Henwood, assisted by a committee of farmers, all of whom were entertained most hospitably at the Rectory by the Rev. J. King, the esteemed rector.—*Plymouth Weekly Mercury*.

Skelton-in-Cleveland, Yorkshire.

A HANDSOME new church has lately been built in this village. The massive square tower contains a ring of six bells (tenor, 22 cwt.), cast by Taylor & Co. of Loughborough. It is the heaviest ring in the district. W. H. Wharton, Esq., of Skelton Castle, bears the cost of tower and bells.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At Wellingborough, Northants.

ON Monday, the 4th inst., by kind permission of the Ven. Archdeacon Lightfoot, the ringers from St. Paul's, Bedford, rang a quarter-peal of Grand-sire Triples. C. West, 1; W. Biggs, 2; W. Hall, 3; S. Culiff, 4; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 5; J. Atkins, 6; J. Frossell, 7; J. Hill, 8. Tenor, 30 cwt. in E flat. This is the first change-ringing on these bells since the ring was increased to eight. The townsfolk were much pleased with the music, and the Bedford men were equally pleased with the reception accorded to them. G. H. Burnham, Esq., Vicar's Churchwarden, very kindly contributed 10*s.* towards the visitors' expenses.

At St. Michael's, Mottram-in-Longdendale, Cheshire.

ON Wednesday, the 6th inst., eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths and St. George's Society, Hyde, rang a peal of 5088 Kent Treble Bob Major in 2 hrs. 52 mins. I. G. Shade (conductor), 1; B. Broadbent, 2; T. Bradley, 3; H. J. Shade, 4; J. Fildes, 5; S. Bradley, 6; T. Wilde, 7; J. S. Wilde, 8. Tenor, 12½ cwt. Composed by the late William Harrison of Mottram.

At All Souls', Bolton, Lancashire.

ON Wednesday, the 6th inst., eight members of the Society of Change-ringers rang their first 500 Grand-sire Triples in 17 mins. J. Curtis (conductor), 1; W. Smith, 2; W. Farnworth, 3; W. Hodson, 4; A. Crankshaw, 5; T. Honeyford, 6; P. Pilling, 7; R. Devenport, 8. Tenor, 23½ cwt., in E.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The London Mission.

SIR,—The London Mission, which is to be held in the eastern portion of this diocese in November, and in the western portion in February next, will necessarily be attended with considerable expense, which many of the poorer parishes are not in a condition to meet. The cost of additional services in the winter months, when light and warmth are essential, the charges for printing local information, and for hymns, books, tracts, and handbills, as well as the expense of bringing Missioners from long distances, and in some instances of supplying clerical assistance to their parishes during their absence, together constitute a burden which the clergy in the poor districts of this diocese are quite unable to bear. If the Mission is to be effectually conducted in these districts help must be rendered to them from without. We therefore appeal to all who are interested in this important movement, and are anxious for its success, to contribute to a general fund, under the management of the special Committee, which is making arrangements for the Mission. Offertories from the wealthier parishes, and donations from individual Churchmen, are earnestly requested, and may be paid to any of the following members of the London Mission Committee: Rev. E. H. Bickersteth, Rev. Chapel Cure, Rev. H. W. Deardon, Rev. Canon Furse, Rev. J. F. Kitto, or to the Rev. L. E. Shelford (Hon. Sec.), Office of the East London Church Fund, 26 St. Mary Axe, E.C. J. LONDON.

WM. WALSHAM BEDFORD.

Home for Ladies of Infirm Health, Summertown, Oxford.

SIR,—We should be deeply obliged if you would grant us a small space in your widely circulated paper to say a few words concerning the above Home. When first started by the Society of St. Luke the Physician it was not intended to be a charity, excepting in so far as it was to be a home for ladies of infirm health, who, while possessing sufficient income to maintain themselves, had not enough to support house and servants of their own, or to pay for the services of a trained nurse in lodgings. Scarcely a week passes, however, without an application from one or more *homeless and incomeless* lady pleading to be admitted free, or at so nominal a cost as to be insufficient to meet one quarter of her actual expenses. The Society have for a very long time past admitted as many of these as their funds warranted, but there are countless cases of real distressing need that have constantly to be refused for lack of means. They (the Society) would be very grateful, therefore, to any charitably disposed ladies and gentlemen who would become yearly subscribers or donors of any sum, however small, towards creating a fund for the benefit of some of these poor sufferers. England is very loving and good towards its lower-class poor, but these unfortunate ladies who cannot beg are too often left out in the cold, not so much from want of will to help them, as from not knowing in what manner to set about it without hurting their feelings. Such a home as this is therefore just the thing that is wanted. The Vicar of the parish is chaplain, and one of its churchwardens is a trustee. Subscriptions and donations can be paid in to the account of the Hon. Secretary at the above address.

SARAH, Hon. Sec.

P.S.—The Home is nicely situated in its own grounds, opposite the church, and a pony-carriage is kept for the use of the invalids.

The Wimbledon Art College for Ladies.

SIR,—One of the objects of this College, with which I have the honour to be connected, is to train young gentlewomen of limited means for ultimate employment in decorative work, ecclesiastical and secular. In no other case can young ladies obtain a sound art education for girls alone—combined under one roof with the comforts and securities of a home conducted on sound Church principles. As far as it has gone, the College is a decided success. The teaching, under the supervision of the Royal Academicians who kindly consent to visit it, is so thorough, that a large number of orders are received, and still more promised, by leading firms, on the distinct ground that they find the drawings so correct and of such a superior quality to the usual amateur work which they are so often obliged to refuse. To maintain this high standard of work, all students requiring to be trained for remunerative employment are expected to go steadily through the two years' course; although, if talented and persevering, they are allowed to do work under the master's eye one day a week as soon as possible. The College is open to young ladies about twenty-three, but none entering above that age can be promised training for remunerative employment. The charge of 35*s.* a-week, including board, residence, and instruction, is as low as it can be put at. This, I fear, is above the means of many, who might wish to benefit. To meet this want two exhibitions of 30*l.* per annum, to be held for the two years, have already been given; and surely many more might be found willing to help the talented daughters of our hard-working and ill-paid clergy, or the daughters of others who from no fault of their own have been reduced from affluence to comparative poverty. Miss Bennett, the Honorary Lady Superintendent, of South Wimbledon, Surrey, would willingly give further particulars, and is empowered by the Committee to receive donations and subscriptions.

NELSON.

Trafalgar, Salisbury.

Clerical Benefit Society.

SIR,—I read with interest in your issue of the 14th June 'A Scheme for a Clerical Benefit and Insurance Society.' It is stated to be of a threefold character: '1. For the relief of members in times of sickness; 2. For giving pensions to members in infirmity or old age; 3. For insuring a sum of money to be paid on the death of a member to the widow, children, or executors.' Several attempts to establish a Society for the last-named object have been

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Prize-ringing in Cornwall.

SIR,—In the *Plymouth Weekly Mercury's* report of the prize ringing-match on the 29th July at St. Martin's-by-Looe, as copied into your paper last week, it is stated 'nineteen sets of ringers competed, and the ringing was very good throughout, with the exception of a peal by the Antony set.' Any one who reads this highly coloured report will be surprised to learn that the art of ringing is at so low an ebb in East Cornwall that there was no competition in change-ringing by any of these sets, and that it took several different parishes to make up many of the nineteen sets which competed in round-ringing. Until clergy and churchwardens encourage change-ringing, and set their faces against these combinations of ringers, and refuse to allow any parish to compete at a ringing-match which cannot bring its own set of six ringers, they may be certain that they will not have good parish ringing, and that prize-ringing will continue to be a job.

CHURCH BELLS.

[It is painful to read such a report of a prize ringing-match. It was such a wasteful expenditure of money—over 12*l*.! Why was it patronised by the authorities? at a time, too, when such an amount would have been well added to the fund for the Truro Cathedral!—Ep.]

Reopening the Bells at Great Torrington, Devon.

THE formal opening of the new bells and rehanging of the old in the tower of the parish church was celebrated on Tuesday last. The event was made one for general rejoicing and thanksgiving, the programme including a short service in the parish church in the morning and numerous peals by the Exeter Cathedral ringers. The work which was completed on Tuesday was commenced a few months ago, when the ladies of Torrington held a bazaar in the Guildhall, with a view to raise funds for rehanging the ring of six and recasting the tenor bell. The work was extended, and two new bells were added to the ring. A subscription list was started, and the necessary funds quickly came to hand. The Hon. Mark Rolle, lord of the manor, put his name down to supply the oak for the frames, which was valued at 50*l*.; the feofees of the town gave a sum of 50*l*.; and, with this encouraging start, the vicar (Rev. S. Buckland), the late curate (Rev. J. Mantle), Mr. Fisher of the National Provincial Bank, Mr. Haverfield, and others of the Committee, were soon in a position to proceed practically to work; and Messrs. Warner & Sons, of London, gave an estimate, which was accepted. The work actually done has been to recast the tenor, add two new bells, rehang the whole ring, and fix a chiming apparatus, which will enable one man to chime the eight bells. The ring, tuned in F, about $\frac{1}{2}$ sharp, is sweet in tone, the tenor being undoubtedly the best of the whole eight. The bells are by Rudhall, 1716; the tenor recast by Warner. At 11.30 there was a short service in the parish church, with special prayers and appropriate psalms, after the second of which the ringers gave a few rounds on the bells. The hymn commencing

'Now at length our bells are mounted
To their holy place on high'

followed; the sermon being preached by the Rev. H. J. W. Buxton, of St. Giles, from Rom. x. 18, 'Their sound went into all the earth.' A collection in aid of the bell fund was then made.

At the close of the service the bells rang merrily, and in the Square the volunteer band played several lively pieces. At one o'clock a large number sat down to the public luncheon. The Vicar presided, and there were also present the Mayor and members of the Town Council, the Rev. Prebendary Barnes (rural dean), Revs. Geo. de C. Guille, W. A. Tute, H. J. W. Buxton, Dennis, Young, J. M. Morrell (curate of Torrington), J. H. Kemp, Finch (Newton), Dr. Colby, &c. The toast list was a short one. After the loyal toast, Mr. Haverfield gave 'The Mayor and Corporation.' The Mayor having responded, Mr. Fisher (secretary and treasurer) proposed the health of Messrs. Warner & Sons, speaking of the excellent behaviour of the men representing the firm, and the satisfaction the firm and all connected with them had given. It was to be regretted that one of the men had met with an accident which might result in the loss of two fingers; and it was thought that the committee, knowing the liberality of Torrington, should pay the doctor's bill. They would have to go a great many miles to hear such an excellent ring of bells as they now had; but they must not forget what remained to be done—the old clock had done its work and they must contribute a new one, with an apparatus which would play several tunes. At Holsworthy he believed the clock was the means of playing about fourteen tunes, and he hoped they would not be behind Holsworthy. Mr. Dunn, representing Messrs. Warner, responded briefly, and Mr. Quick, who had met with the accident, was also called upon, and after a few remarks from him a collection was made in his behalf. The Rev. J. M. Morrell proposed 'The Donors,' including the lord of the manor, whose name, he said, was a synonym for all that was generous. He also referred to the preacher at the morning service as having given them an excellent sermon on a difficult subject. The Rev. H. J. W. Buxton responded. Mr. Fisher proposed the health of 'The Ladies,' which Mr. Reginald Buxton acknowledged. Mr. Haverfield then proposed the health of 'The Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. Fisher,' which was heartily received and responded to; and the list concluded with the toast of 'The Visitors,' which was acknowledged by the Rev. Prebendary Barnes. During the afternoon the Cathedral ringers gave several touches on handbells in the Guildhall.

Essex Association.

A DISTRICT Meeting will be held at Witham (six bells) on Saturday, Sept. 6th. The tower will be open at 11 o'clock. Tea at the 'Albert Hotel' at 5 o'clock. Business Meeting immediately after. Members sending their

names to the Hon. Sec. before Sept. 2nd will be admitted free to the tea. The G. E. R. will convey Members to and from Witham at a single fare and a quarter. Each Member must show the E.A.C.R. receipt for this year's subscription when asking for his ticket. The schoolroom will be open for Handbell ringing.

H. A. COCKEY, Hon. Sec.

Rayleigh, S.O., Essex.

St. James's Society, London.

THE above Society meet every fortnight at St. Clement Danes, Strand, and on Monday, the 28th ult. (every fortnight after this date), the following gentlemen were elected officers for the ensuing year:—*Master*, Mr. G. T. M'Laughlin; *Steward*, Mr. H. Langdon; *Treasurer*, Mr. E. Albone; *Secretary*, Mr. E. F. Strange.

A Peal of Bob Major.

5280											
2	3	4	5	6		w.	5th.	4th.	B.	M.	H.
5	2	3	6	4		-			-		-
4	3	2	6	5					-		-
3	5	2	6	4		-	-	-	-		-
2	3	5	6	4					-		-
4	5	2	3	6		-			-		-
2	4	5	3	6					-		-
5	2	4	3	6					-		-
3	4	2	5	6		S				S	

Five times repeated.

With a bob instead of a single at home in last course of 3rd and 6th part-ends. This peal has the 6th twenty-four times wrong and right.

BENJAMIN FRANCIS, Diss.

Quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples.

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

P.E.s.

Holt's Single	2	5	3	4	-	-
	2	3	5	4	7	6
	2	5	4	3	-	-
	2	4	3	5	-	-
Holt's Single	2	3	4	5	6	7

Five times repeated.

Call the 3rd and 6th part-ends with Holt's Singles.

Hitchin, Herts.

JOHN HARE.

Hymn for the Dedication of a Bell.

(Translated by Dr. Neale.)

A CORRESPONDENT sends us the following copy of the full text of the hymn:—

Lift it gently to the steeple, Let our bell be set on high; There fulfil its daily mission, Midway 'twixt the earth and sky.	Year by year the steeple-music O'er the tended graves shall pour, Where the dust of saints is garnered Till the Master comes once more;
As the birds sing daily matins To the God of Nature's praise, This its nobler daily music To the God of Grace shall raise.	Till the day of sheaves' ingathering, Till the harvest of the earth, Till the saints arise in order, Glorious in their second birth;
And when evening shadows soften Chancel-cross, and tower, and aisle, It shall blend its vesper summons With the day's departing smile.	Till Jerusalem, beholding That His glory in the East Shall, at the Archangel trumpet, Enter in to keep the Feast.
Christian men shall hear at distance, In their toil or in their rest, Joying that in one Communion Of one Church they too are blest.	Lift it gently to the steeple, Let our bell be set on high; There fulfil its daily mission, Midway 'twixt the earth and sky.
They that on the sick-bed languish, Full of weariness and woe, Shall remember that for them too Holy Church is gathering so.	Christ, to Thee, the world's Redemption, Father, Spirit, unto Thee, Low we bend in adoration, Ever-blessed One and Three. Amen.

A Remarkable Bell.

In the Lespamt tel Kroto, Japan, is a great bell, which swings in a huge wooden tower. The bell is a huge bronze cup, with nearly perpendicular sides and a flat crown, and it is sounded by bringing a big beam against the rim. It needs twelve natives to ring it. It used to be rung once a-year, but it may now be heard twice or thrice a-month. It is 18 ft. high, 9½ in. thick, 9 ft. in diameter, and weighs almost 74 tons. It was cast in 1633, rim upwards, and the gold that entered into its composition is estimated at about 1500 pounds. The tone of the bell is described as magnificent, and when struck with the open hand the vibration may be heard a hundred yards off.—*Little Folks' Magazine*.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At All Saints', Duffield, Derbyshire.

On Saturday, the 16th inst., eight members of the Midland Counties Association rang Holt's Ten-part peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples in 3 hrs. 8 mins. F. Whiting, 1; H. C. Woodward, 2; A. B. Ward, 3; J. Howe (conductor), 4; R. Redgate, 5; J. Newbold, 6; J. W. Taylor, jun., Esq., 7; J. Seal, 8. Tenor, 16½ cwt., in F.

RECEIVED ALSO:—James Hinton, sen

the congregation belonging to the Orange body, the pall-bearers being four Masons and four Orangemen. Preceding the hearse were the Sunday-school children, walking three deep, followed by the clergymen in attendance, two deep. Then came the hearse, on the right side of which were the officers of Portrush L.O.L., and on the left the officers of Portrush Masonic Lodge, each walking two deep. The relatives of deceased came next, and then the Masons and Orange brethren, a number of carriages being last. The streets along the route and every available spot contained persons eager to witness the mournful procession, which slowly made its way up Church Street, and by Spring Hill, to Ballywillan graveyard. On arriving at the graveyard the coffin was taken out of the hearse and borne to the grave on the shoulders of four Masonic brethren, in the same order as from the church, when it was laid on the side of the open grave. The Rev. C. W. Frizell, rector of Dunluc, having read the remainder of the Burial Service of the Church of Ireland, the coffin was deposited in its last resting-place, and the Masonic members, with the Orangemen, marched round the grave, which was filled in the presence of a sorrowing assemblage, who attended to testify how greatly they esteemed one who had so faithfully laboured in the ministry of the parish for nearly thirty years.

By the death of Canon Ffolliott, Canon Grainger, D.D., succeeds to a seat in the General Synod as a clerical representative for the diocese of Down and Connor, and the Bishop has appointed to the vacant Chancellorship the Rev. H. S. O'Hara, rector of Coleraine.

I regret to say that the Very Rev. H. Leech, dean of Cashel, who but lately recovered from the effects of a severe accident while driving, has been unfortunate enough to meet with a second accident by the breaking of the shafts of his car, and is now in London under skilled medical care.

The Diocesan Synod of Killaloe met in the Cathedral Church of St. Flannan on the 14th inst., the Right Rev. Dr. Chester, bishop of the diocese, in the chair. On the motion of Mr. W. R. Reeves, seconded by Mr. Toler R. Garvey, the following resolution was passed: 'The Diocesan Synod of Killaloe and Kilfenora, at this their first meeting after the death of the Right Rev. William Fitzgerald, late Bishop of Killaloe, desire to place on record their deep sense of the loss sustained by his decease, both to the Diocese and to the Church; and to express their sorrow for a father in God, in whose sound judgment, ripe wisdom, and fatherly counsel they could at all times trust; assured that they would be exercised for the good of the Church and the best interests of those over whom he presided with so mild, yet firm, a rule.' It was announced that the full sum required to endow the Bishopric with 1500*l.* had been completed, leaving a margin over towards the purchase of the palace and see-grounds of Clarisford House. About 500*l.* were still required for the latter purpose.

The controversy raised in the columns of the *Irish Ecclesiastical Gazette* in connexion with the circulation of the pamphlets of the Rev. Hely Smith, rector of Market Rasen, diocese of Lincoln, attacking the S. P. G., may be said to be closed with a final letter from the Rev. W. Ball Wright, Organizing Secretary of the Society in Ireland. Mr. Ball Wright writes to the *Gazette*:—

'1. I have been, and am, away on deputation work, but as Mr. Smith seems to think himself aggrieved by the words "surreptitious method by which he must have obtained them," I do not care to cling to the expression, and now, as he desires it so much, withdraw it. What I meant was plain enough—that Mr. Smith had not the authority of the Societies for making any use of lists which, it is well known, are only printed for the private use of the members. Such conduct in private life would not be considered honourable. I never accused Mr. Smith of bribing the printers, and therefore have nothing to withdraw. I merely said that it was stated by a secretary that those two lists could not be obtained by any other means. Of course, by "printers" was meant some hired workmen, not the proprietors of a printing establishment. I know it was not in that way that the lists were obtained, but will Mr. Smith say that they were obtained from a person who had a moral right to dispose of them?

'2. Mr. Smith says he has expunged the fourteen names of quondam S.P.G. missionaries from his last edition; but though a prominent member of the Church Association, he allows that edition published by them in 1882 to be still sold without protest. Is this right?

'3. I consider that the chief point made by me has not been explained clearly by Mr. Smith, viz. the suppression of the full number of the S. P. G. missionaries, 527. Persons who have read his pamphlet have assured me that they could come to no other conclusion than that Mr. Smith meant it to be inferred "these seventy names are a sample of the whole." I certainly would have thought so myself had I not known better. I must protest against the un-Christlike way in which Mr. Smith, in conducting a controversy with an official of the Society which he has grievously and wantonly injured, rushes to his attorney and in a bullying manner threatens proceedings.'

The Editor adds a rider at the foot of the letter: 'We have been in communication with Messrs. Clowes, to whom Mr. Smith refers. That respectable firm of printers and publishers express "much surprise" at the tenor of Mr. Smith's communications. They say—"We do not know of any copies of Roll Lists of Priests Associate having been sent to any other person than the one for whom we printed them." It was generally felt that it was as well to pick a hole in the mischievous war-balloon hoisted in Ireland by Mr. Hely Smith, and let it gravitate at once by its own unworthiness. The discussion has done the Society good on the whole.'

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

The Bristol Ringers in Worcester.

On Monday, the 11th inst., the members of the St. Stephen's Company of Change-ringers visited Worcester, and after inspecting the Royal China Works and some of the most interesting buildings they made their way to the Cathedral, to its magnificent ring of twelve bells. They first rang a course of Grandsire Cinques with a mixed band. F. Owen, Worcester, 1; A. G. York, Bristol, 2; G. Duckham, Bristol, 3; J. Hinton, sen., Worcester, 4; G. Morgan, Bristol, 5; J. Norton, Bristol, 6; H. Portch, Bristol, 7; W. Parsons, Bristol, 8; H. Wilkes, Worcester, 9; F. Price, Bristol, 10; J. Hinton, jun., Bristol, 11; W. Emery, 12. Tenor, 50 cwt., in D. Afterwards they rang a good touch of Grandsire Caters, lowering the bells in peal. They then adjourned to an eating-house for dinner. Afterwards they proceeded to All Saints' and St. Helen's, the bells of which responded to their practised arms for about three hours.

Surrey Association.

THE next District Meeting of this Association will be held at Mitcham (by the kind permission of the Vicar) on Saturday, Sept. 6. Tower open for ringing during the afternoon and evening.

34 Dingwall Road, Croydon.

ARTHUR B. CARPENTER, Hon. Sec.

A Correction.

THE 'Hymn for the Dedication of a Bell,' printed in our last, was written, not translated, by Dr. Neale, and was inserted by him in an *Office for the Dedication of Church Bells*, which was used for the first time by the late Bishop Wilberforce at Bampton, Oxon, on December 2nd, 1865.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At Fordingbridge, Hants.

On the 6th inst. several six-scores of Grandsire Doubles were rung by E. A. Foster, 1; J. R. Jerram, 2; J. Parsons, 3; W. W. Gifford, 4; C. A. Clements, 5; W. Ianham, 6. Tenor, 16 cwt. The company were afterwards kindly entertained at the Vicarage by Rev. W. J. Boys.

At St. John the Baptist's, Bromsgrove, Worcester.

On Tuesday, the 12th inst., a peal of 5111 Grandsire Caters was rung in 3 hrs. 23 mins.. G. Morris, 1; G. Bourne, 2; T. Albut, 3; J. Hinton, sen. (E. Crump, tapper), 4; J. Hinton, jun., 5; W. Duffill, 6; G. Hayward (composer and conductor), 7; W. Bey, 8; R. Broomfield, 9; T. Parry, 10. Tenor, 20 cwt. J. Hinton, sen., is deaf, and required a tapper—one tap on the shoulder at a bob and two at a single.

At St. Chad's, Birmingham.

On Wednesday, the 13th inst., a peal of 5040 Grandsire Major was rung in 3 hrs. 5 mins. W. Baldwin, 1; T. Callaghan, 2; G. Hayward, 3; W. Brookes, 4; T. Carter (composer and conductor), 5; J. Hinton, jun. 6; A. Hackley, 7; T. Miller, 8.

At St. Anne's, Highgate Hill, Middlesex.

On Thursday, the 14th inst., eight members of the Royal Cumberlands rang a peal of 5040 Stedman's Triples in 2 hrs. 56 mins. G. Newson (conductor), 1; C. Hopkins, 2; A. Jacob, 3; J. Hannington, 4; T. Titchener, 5; E. Chapman, 6; J. Barrett, 7; T. Gleed, 8. Tenor, 14 cwt. The first peal in the method on the bells.

At Beddington, Surrey.

On Thursday, the 21st inst. a peal of 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor was rung by the Surrey Association in 29 mins. C. Martin,* 1; A. B. Carpenter,* 2; E. Bennett (conductor), 3; J. Plowman, 4; J. Harris, 5; J. Cowley, 6. (* First 720.) Tenor, 21 cwt., in E flat.

At SS. Mary and Nicholas, Wilton, Wilts.

On the 22nd inst. a peal of 720 Bob Minor (9 bobs and 6 singles) was rung in 27 mins. by E. A. Foster, 1; J. R. Jerram, 2; W. Greenleaf (London), 3; C. A. Clements, 4; W. W. Gifford, 5; T. Blackburn (conductor), 6. Tenor, 9 cwt. 120 Grandsire Doubles were also rung by some of the same party, with A. Musselwhite, 6.

At Holy Trinity, Bengoe, Herts.

On the 22nd inst. a peal of 720 Grandsire Minor (34 bobs and 2 singles) was rung in 27 mins. E. Cains, 1; H. Phillips, 2; M. Ellsmore, 3; S. Knight, 4; T. Gathard, 5; H. Baker (conductor), 6. Tenor, 7½ cwt.

At Tredunnoch, Monmouthshire.

On Saturday, the 23rd inst., six members of the Caerleon and Llanfrechfa ringers walked over to Tredunnoch and enjoyed a pleasant afternoon, ringing the following changes:—24 Plain Bob Singles; 120 Grandsire, with 5th observation bell; 720 Grandsire Minor, ditto; 120 Plain Bob Doubles, with 4th observation bell; 120 Plain Bob Doubles, with 2nd ditto. W. Powell, 1; J. James, 2; F. Green, 3; E. Davies, 4; L. Jones, 5; W. Powell, sen., 6. Tenor, 10 cwt., in A sharp. The striking was accurate when the men had become used to the weight of the bells, but we would recommend them to adopt the method of giving a lead at hand-stroke, i.e., a pause sufficient for another bell to strike at the termination of the back-stroke: this marks the time, and gives a finish to the ringing. The men were entertained at tea in the Rectory garden, and expressed themselves very pleased with their visit. It was suggested that a Bell-ringers' Association should be formed for the district, there being several churches in the neighbourhood whose belfries and bells have been put in good ringing order.

At St. Martin's, Salisbury, Wilts.

On the 23rd inst. a peal of 720 Bob Minor was rung (18 bobs and 2 singles) in 28 mins. E. A. Foster, 1; C. A. Clements, 2; W. Greenleaf, 3; T. Blackburn, 4; W. W. Gifford, 5; J. R. Jerram (conductor), 6. Tenor, 15 cwt.

At St. George's, Hyde, Cheshire.

On Saturday, the 23rd inst., a peal of 6048 Bob Major was rung in 3 hrs. 39 mins. J. S. Wilde (conductor), 1; R. Prichard, 2; T. Bradley, 3; T. Dixon, 4; T. Wilde, 5; S. Bradley, 6; G. Longden, 7; J. Thorp (composer), 8. Tenor, 25 cwt. 1 qr. 24 lbs. The peal has the 5th and 6th their extent each way in 5-6, and was now rung for the first time.

At Caversham, Oxfordshire.

On Saturday, the 23rd inst., a peal of 720 Bob Minor by the local band, who are also members of the Diocesan Guild of Church Bell-ringers, on hand-bells, being the first 720 by the Society, which was only formed on July 20th. J. Butler, 1; E. Menday, 2; G. Essex, 3; T. Newman, 4; Rev. G. F. Coleridge (conductor), 5; E. Pottinger, 6.

On Sunday, the 24th inst., being the Feast of St. Bartholomew, six members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild rang a peal of 720 Bob Minor in 27½ mins. G. Essex, 1; G. Gibbard, 2; E. Pottinger, 3; H. Egby, 4; T. Newman, 5; Rev. G. F. Coleridge (conductor), 6. Tenor, 16½ cwt.

At St. Mary's, Hitchin, Herts.

THERE is a rather heavy ring of eight bells in the tower of the church at Hitchin (tenor, 28 cwt.), and during the late hot weather the change-ringers, who are beginners, have left the tower to practise on the hand-bells, and have lately rung the following, owing to the constant endeavours of Messrs. Allen and Tyler, who have followed the instructions given by Mr. Haworth of London, and resuscitated the art of change-ringing in the town, which has been in abeyance nearly a hundred years, a peal of Bob Triples having been rung in 1782 by the local band, and not another till 1880, when eight members of the College Youths rang 5040 Grandsire Triples, Mr. Allen ringing the tenor:—A peal of 720 Bob Minor (18 bobs and 2 singles). H. Buckingham (aged 15), 1; A. Squires, 2; J. Hare, 3; S. Hare, 4; W. A. Tyler (conductor), 5; W. Allen, 6. Also two 120's Grandsire Doubles. H. Buckingham, 1; W. A. Tyler, 2; J. Hare, 3; A. Squires, 4; W. Allen (conductor), 5; W. French, 6. And 360 Bob Minor. The same band, excepting W. French, with W. Allen (conductor), 6.

On Monday, the 25th inst., for practice, on hand-bells, the first part of Holt's Ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples was rung. H. Buckingham, 1; J. Randall, 2; W. French, 3; W. A. Tyler (conductor), 4; A. Squires, 5; S. Hare, 6; J. Hare, 7, 8.

A Quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples.

	1260
	2 3 4 5 6 7
A bob to be substituted for a single at the end of	7 5 2 6 3 4 1
the 2nd and 5th part ends.	6 5 7 4 2 3 5
	4 5 6 3 7 2 5
	2 3 4 7 5 6 1
	S 5 4 2 3 6 7 3
	5 times repeated.

ALFRED SQUIRES.

Hitchin.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The Bishop of Bedford on the Church Service.

SIR,—Your readers are all, I am sure, grateful to the Bishop of Bedford for the first part of his 'Notes on the Church Service.' His suggestions on the best mode of conducting what may be termed 'the introductory portion' of the Church's service are most excellent. It will perhaps be interesting, as bearing upon this subject, if I mention the 'use' that obtains in the Church of Durham-on-Trent. It tallies closely with the suggestions contained in his Lordship's notes. The service is commenced with the minister reading the Introductory Sentence, and addressing the congregation in the words of the Exhortation, said distinctly and audibly, on F; F being taken as a note sufficiently high to be resonant throughout the church, without being strained. The Exhortation being ended, as the congregation fall upon their knees the organ sounds on a soft stop—hardly louder than sufficient to give the note to the choir—E; and upon this note the Confession is quietly and reverently repeated with a 'humble voice,' and, we hope, with 'a pure heart.' The 'Amen' at the close of the Confession is *not* harmonised. The priest then rises, and, returning to the note on which the Exhortation was taken, pronounces the Absolution on F; and the 'Amen' at the close of the Absolution is *harmonised*; for, is there not joy—the joy of the pardoned—in the hearts of the penitent believers, who have now received authoritative assurance of God's pardon? The Lord's Prayer is then taken 'boldly' (Heb. iv. 16) on G; and from this point throughout Tallis's service is followed. It will be seen how closely this use is in accordance with the suggestions put forward by Bishop How. In one other point also our service tallies with his recommendations. After the Anthem (or hymn sung in the place of the Anthem) the prayers are for the most part monotoned on F, as this note is, with most men, easier to sustain than G, and certainly does not lessen, if it does not increase, the reverence and solemnity of the service.

Durham-on-Trent.

JAMES FRANCIS.

St. Paul's Cathedral.

SIR,—The subject for which I beg to occupy a space in your next issue of *Church Bells* is, I think, one which has for too long been dormant, as regards the services and the people at St. Paul's Cathedral. I have had the happy

privilege of attending the Cathedral services on Sundays for the last three and a half years, but the confusion of the people, almost during the whole time of Divine service entering and leaving the Cathedral, must, I feel sure, be a grievous disturbance to any devout worshipper, as I very seldom can enjoy a sermon unless early enough to procure a seat near the pulpit. I do not say that in a cathedral some little confusion can be avoided, but I do think some steps might be, and should be, taken to keep order and ensure silence as much as possible. Indeed, a great many people appear to regard it almost as a general promenade or wayside rest, as long as they feel disposed to stay, and are not particular as to a little conversation in the meantime. For instance: many so-called ladies and gentlemen, who should set a good example, I have noticed to enter and lounge upon the seats, using the hassocks for a cushion to sit upon, and fold their arms, never rising with the rest of the congregation or attempting to kneel during prayers. The greatest number may, perhaps, remain during the first musical part of the service, but at the conclusion of the prayer before the sermon there is a general tumult, and a greater portion of the congregation disperse, completely drowning the words of the text. Now I ask, if order and quietness is observed in all our churches, in chapels, and even persons employed at the doors of the Salvation Army during service to keep order and admit persons quietly, why is it that no notice seems to be taken for the quiet and sacred enjoyment of such a beautiful service as is conducted at St. Paul's Cathedral? I can scarcely conceive what is filling the minds of so many, Sunday after Sunday, when they enter this beautiful place of worship; surely, the chiming of the bells ought to be sufficient to fill the mind with gladness, and make them think, 'Truly, this is the house of God! Oh, praise the Lord; let us magnify His name together.' I would suggest that a notice be placed on the doors, or in some conspicuous place at each entrance, something after this kind: 'All persons wishing to attend and remain in the Cathedral during the time of Divine service, are earnestly requested to enter as quietly as possible; those wishing only to view the building will not be admitted until after the service, in order that the congregation may not be disturbed.' I venture to state, that if some such steps were taken, simple as it would be, we should gradually see improvement, and a more devout congregation would gather together every Sunday, with heart and mind aright to praise God in His Sanctuary, and as the words of the true Gospel were preached would reach the ears of young and old, rich and poor, to gladden the heart and strengthen the faith of all true believers of the word of life, which lead to everlasting happiness.

A. WOMACK.

City Churches.

SIR,—If any justification were required for my (and other correspondents') strictures upon the tone adopted in the very interesting series of papers entitled 'Sunday Morning Rambles' towards our London City churches, it is to be found in the number published on August 16th on Haggerston churches. In four very commodious churches your correspondent found congregations of a few dozen adults—42 in one church, 100 in another, 50 in another, and 100 again in the fourth. All these churches seat at least 800 each, one 1200, and one 1000. Then why rail at the existence of churches elsewhere, because only small congregations are found in them, though infinitely larger in proportion to the population than in these suburban churches? Surely the moral to be drawn from this correspondence is, that we ought thankfully to utilise to the best of our abilities, and according to existing circumstances, all the means of grace provided for us, either by our ancestors or our contemporaries, without attempting to adapt them to the shifting requirements of the hour, and thus, perhaps, letting them slip through our fingers in the process of adaptation and remoulding.

A SUBSCRIBER FROM THE FIRST.

Sunday Morning Rambles.

SIR,—Your correspondent has a great opportunity before him. If he would go through the churches at a less rapid rate, and would observe all,—service, sermon, and congregation; and having considered a sufficient number of particulars would generalise therefrom, and tell us what seemed most successful in getting people to church—he would confer a great benefit upon us. It would, moreover, be very useful if he would occasionally look into the Dissenting chapels in the same neighbourhood, and compare their methods, preaching, and congregations with ours.

With regard to the letter of Mr. Browne of St. Columba's, I cannot help thinking that if we would preach the whole Gospel we must, to some extent, 'treat each man in his self-hood as the centre of the system of grace.' We are baptized individually: we insist on the right of each communicant to receive the Holy Communion individually. Our Lord says that 'there is joy in heaven over one sinner that repenteth;' and St. Paul is selfish enough to say of his Saviour, 'He loved me and gave himself for me.' We sometimes wonder how it is the average (so-called) Evangelical teaching holds its own in spite of the clearer knowledge which we now have of the doctrines of the early Church. I believe the reason is, that it appeals more to individual hearts than much of our (so-called) Church teaching. When will Churchmen see that the heart is all-powerful, and that if we can once persuade a man that God loves him individually, we have a lever to raise him to even better things than church-going? If the Haggerston and other churches will look to their subjective as well as objective Church teaching, they will have larger congregations. There is no need to divorce the two; but I have often noticed the lack of one or the other. In some churches one never hears what the poor call a Gospel sermon. The hem of Christ's garment is put forward instead of Christ Himself. In other churches the people are never taught the value of the Sacraments as means of union with Christ; nor how to apply religion in daily life, as good citizens of the Kingdom. If the Church of England is truly Catholic, all her clergy will teach individually what is now taught by

COLONIAL AND FOREIGN CHURCH NEWS.

CANADA.

THE Provincial Synod of Rupertsland, which embraces the dioceses of Rupertsland, Saskatchewan, Assiniboia, the two Athabascas, and Moosonee, will meet in Winnipeg on October 1st. In the same month the session of the second Church Congress will be held in Toronto. The following are the subjects already announced for discussion:—The Adaptation of the Cathedral System to the Needs of the Canadian Church; the Increase of Clerical Incomes; the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society; the Church and Modern Thought; the Religious Character of Public School Teaching; the Proper Observance of the Lord's Day; the Best Means of Retaining Children after Confirmation; the Development of the Diaconate and Lay Help in the Church; the Church of England Temperance Society; the Agencies best adapted for Attracting the People into the Church. The chair will be taken by the Bishop of Toronto, and there will be Holy Communion each morning at 9 o'clock in the Cathedral.

UNITED STATES.

AMERICAN Churchmen are expected to attend the English Church Congress this year in unusual number, as it will be closely followed by the remarkable gathering at Aberdeen in commemoration of the consecration of Bishop Seabury. The Scottish Primus, Bishop Eden, has secured the promise of sermons on the 7th of October from the Archbishop of Canterbury, and from the Right Rev. Dr. Williams, bishop of Connecticut. The American Bishop, as a delegated representative of the American Church, will have the precedence, and will preach at St. Andrew's Church, the quasi-cathedral. Bishop Perry, of Iowa, had also promised to preach on the occasion, but he has written to excuse himself on account of unforeseen work connected with his diocese. He is required to open a new and important educational institution at Davenport purchased by the trustees of Griswold College, and to be known as St. Catherine's Hall.

THE Moravians are about to commence a mission in the west of Alaska. This vast region, when bought from Russia in 1867, contained a Greek church mission, but this has been 'practically discontinued.' The Presbyterians have now a flourishing mission in the neighbourhood of Sitka, in Eastern Alaska. The vast region is by no means the valueless ice desert which it has been represented as being: its fisheries and mineral resources are beginning to be developed. The Moravian *Periodical Accounts* say that the Eskimoes on the coast north of the Aleutian Peninsula, near Bristol Bay and south of the Youcon river, have kept aloof from all intercourse with the whites and refrained from their vices, earning by their industry, quiet, and sobriety, the name of 'the Quakers of Alaska.' It is to the villages of these people that the Moravians are going.

WEST INDIES.

THE Attorney-General of Jamaica has given his opinion to the Registrar-General of births, deaths, and marriages in Jamaica, that marriage with a deceased wife's sister is not illegal in that colony. He affirms that the Act of Parliament passed in the reign of King William IV., declaring such unions *ipso facto* void, 'has no force in Jamaica, and that it is doubtful whether there is any ecclesiastical court that would have jurisdiction to declare such 'marriage void.' However, this can hardly be thought the last word on the question.

THE Bishop of Jamaica has lately performed a visitation of the parishes in the eastern parishes of his diocese. At Manchionel he took part in a 'fruit-offering service,' offerings being received on the occasion towards repairing the church both in fruits and money.

AUSTRALIA.

In the diocese of Ballarat in 1876 there were thirty-seven clergy; there are now forty-four. The Bishop of Melbourne held an ordination at his seat in June, when one deacon and five priests were made.

At Brisbane a ring of bells has been placed in the tower of St. John's, the pro-cathedral, at a cost of 1050*l*.

ITALY.

ANOTHER Roman priest has made his abjuration of the Papal additions to the Catholic faith in the sacristy of St. Paul's American Church. He was received on probation by the Rev. Dr. Nevin, and sent to assist Monsignor Savarese in the Italian Catholic Church, in the Via Genoa, Rome. This priest, Sigismondo Marchesi, was a chaplain in ordinary in the Church of St. Ignazio, the mother-church of the Jesuits in Rome. He is a native of North Italy, twenty-seven years old, and well spoken of as a parish worker.

FATHER CORCI is at length suspended *a divinis*. His *Vaticano Regio* gave great offence to the Ultramontanes, who cling to hopes of regaining for the Papacy its lost temporal power. The book having been condemned, he 'repudiated' it, in as far as it had 'given scandal,' but on being asked to accept the condemnation purely and simply he declined.

THE *Foreign Church Chronicle* contains an account by the Rev. F. J. Varnier of a 'Reforming effort in Sicily,' carried on by himself and the Rev. G. Scuderi, both priests who have been forced out of the Roman Catholic Communion. In some parishes the incumbents countenance their visits and gatherings.

FRANCE.

WE regret that one of the most respected Anglican clergy in Paris, Dr. G. Aberigh Mackay, has declared that he could not 'officiate longer under the self-appointed laymen who for eighteen months have been exercising a quasi-episcopal jurisdiction over the iron church in the Rue des Bassins.' On

Sunday week, instead of two celebrations as usual, there was Matins only, said by a deacon.

SCOTLAND.

THE 'Association of English Episcopalians' consists of a few congregations in Scotland who decline to use the Scotch Communion Office. To perform the rite of Confirmation for their younger members it was found impossible to get an English Bishop to cross the border. The Incumbent of St. Peter's, Hackney Road, London (Dr. Beckles), the retired Bishop of Sierra Leone, came to the rescue, and 3000*l*. were subscribed towards a fund which was to pay his travelling expenses, and in the end pay him 500*l*. per annum. The English Bishops unanimously disapproved of his action as an unwarranted invasion of the jurisdiction of a sister-Church. And now the members of the Association have before them a resolution to the following effect:—'That looking to the change of circumstances that has taken place in regard to the congregations of English Episcopalians, and their relation to this Association since its formation, it is no longer expedient to continue the same, and that the funds be returned to the contributors, after paying the annual expenses for this year only of Bishop Beckles.' We hope that this indicates the end of a serious ecclesiastical scandal.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Two Peals of Bob Major.

5040						5040					
2	3	4	5	6		2	3	4	5	6	
4	3	6	5	2	—	4	2	6	3	5	—
6	3	2	5	4	—	6	2	5	3	4	—
2	6	4	3	5	—	3	6	5	2	4	—
4	3	2	6	5	—	2	3	5	6	4	—
5	2	4	3	6	—	5	2	4	3	6	—
4	2	6	3	5	—	4	5	6	2	3	—
6	2	5	3	4	—	6	5	3	2	4	—
5	6	4	2	3	—	2	6	3	5	4	—
4	2	5	6	3	—	5	2	3	6	4	—
3	5	4	2	6	—	3	5	4	2	6	—
4	3	5	2	6	—	4	3	6	5	2	—
6	5	4	3	2	—	6	3	2	5	4	—
4	6	2	5	3	—	5	6	2	3	4	—
2	5	4	6	3	—	3	5	2	6	4	—
3	4	2	5	6	—	4	2	3	5	6	—

Twice repeated. This peal has the fifth and sixth each twelve times at home.

Twice repeated. This peal has the fifth twelve times at home.

BENJAMIN FRANCIS, *Disse.*

A Quarter-Peal of Grandsire Triples (1260).

2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
S	5	7	2	6	3	4	1
S	7	6	5	4	2	3	5
S	4	3	7	2	6	5	1
S	3	2	4	5	7	6	5
S	2	5	3	6	4	7	5
S	6	7	2	4	5	3	1
S	7	4	6	3	2	5	5
S	4	3	7	5	6	2	5
S	5	2	4	6	3	7	1
S	2	6	5	7	4	3	5
S	6	7	2	3	5	4	5
S	3	4	6	5	7	2	1
Bob	5	4	3	5	7	2	5

Part end repeated.

ALFRED SQUIRES.

Hitchin, Herts.

Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association of Ringers.

THE following extract from the *Durham Diocesan Clergy List*, 1884, will interest many of our readers:—

'This Association was formed August 25th, 1877, at a meeting of ringers held in the choristers' room of Durham Cathedral, for promoting Change-ringing and Belfry Reform, in what was then the Diocese of Durham. Rules were drawn up to admit all ringers desirous of promoting these objects on the payment of an annual subscription of 1*s*. The clergy and others interested in the matter are admitted as honorary members on payment of 5*s*. per annum. The Association now includes the two Dioceses of Durham and Newcastle, and has for its patrons the Bishops of the Dioceses, the Dean of Durham, and the four Archdeacons. Its affairs are managed by a President, two Vice-Presidents, an Hon. Secretary, and an Hon. Treasurer, and a Committee, partly representative and partly composed of hon. members. The President is Mr. Reed of the North Shields Company of Ringers; the Vice-Presidents are Mr. Leeds of the St. John's Guild, Newcastle, and Mr. Overton of the St. John's Company, Darlington; the Hon. Secretary and Treasurer is Mr. Clarkson of the Stockton Company. The annual meeting is held alternately at Durham and Newcastle, on the last Monday in October, at which a special service is held, the Secretary's annual report is read to the meeting, and the officers elected for the ensuing year. Two district meetings are held at various places, one on the last Monday in February preceding Lent, and one on Whit Monday. The Committee send instructions to those branches requiring them, and issue certificates of membership to members who can ring an inside bell into two methods of doubles (five bells), or the treble through a peal of Minor (six bells), and to hon. members. They have also drawn up a list of rules suitable for the regulation of a belfry, and will give information and advice upon all matters relating to bells, belfries, and ringing. Distinguished ringers not living in the Dioceses of Durham and Newcastle are admitted as life members on payment of 5*s*. The Association now numbers forty-seven hon. members, ten hon. and performing members, eight life members, 145 performing members; and has branches at Barnard Castle, Bishopwearmouth, Brancepeth, Chester-le-Street; St. John's, Darlington; St. Oswald's, Durham; Heighington; Christ Church, Jarrow; St. Peter's, Jarrow; the Cathedral and All Saints', Newcastle; St. John's, Newcastle; St. Stephen's, Newcastle; Newton Hall, North Shields, Sedgfield, South Shields, Staindrop, Stockton, Sunderland, Willington, and Winlaton.'

Visit to Cookley, Worcestershire.

ON Saturday, the 23rd ult., several members of the Dudley and Netherton companies, with some of their wives, paid a visit to the above place. Starting by brake from Dudley about 8.30 p.m., a beautiful drive through Kingswinford brought us to that noted place, the 'Stew-poney Inn.' After a little refreshment was partaken of here another start was made, and was much enjoyed by one and all, the great number of pheasants seen attracting much of our attention. Arriving at the 'Eagle and Spur' Inn, Cookley, refreshments were again partaken of. A visit to the church, which is dedicated to St. Peter, followed. On ascending the tower a start was made on the bells; after they were raised a six-score was rung to feel the 'go,' and when learning that there was no record of a 720 having been ever rung on the bells, a start was made for a peal, and in 23 mins. one of Grandsire Minor was rung by the following members:—J. Townsend (Netherton), 1; S. Spittle (Dudley), 2; W. Micklewright (Dudley), 3; J. Robinson (Netherton), 4; J. Prestidge (Netherton), 5; J. Smith (Netherton, conductor), 6. Tenor, 13½ cwt. Owing to the bad condition of the bells the performers had a good sweating, and were quite satisfied with what had been done. Returning to the above inn we were here met by our Cookley and Wolverley brother-strings. The handbells being brought into requisition, some touches of Trebles, Caters, &c., were gone through by mixed companies and some tunes played by the Dudley and Netherton friends, some good songs being rendered by several of the company assembled. The result of our visit is that the members have promised to join the Worcestershire Association. About 8.30 p.m. a start was made for home, which was reached in safety. JNO. SMITH.

23 Church Road, Netherton.

Killed while Ringing a Wedding Peal.

EDWARD HART, aged thirty-four, has died at Sturminster Marshall, near Blandford-Forum, Dorsetshire, from injuries received in a somewhat singular manner. He was assisting in the ringing of a wedding peal at Winterbourne Kingston, when he got his neck entangled in the rope, and was suddenly jerked to a height of nearly twenty feet, striking his head against a beam, and afterwards falling heavily to the floor of the belfry. Medical aid was obtained, but the unfortunate man died. The coroner did not deem an inquest necessary.

A New Ring of Bells.

THE parishioners of Hagley have resolved to erect a ring of bells in the church tower as a memorial to their late rector, Canon Lyttelton, who was rector of Hagley for thirty-seven years. Contributions are limited to three guineas, and the treasurer of the memorial fund is Major Williams, J.P., Rockingham Hall, Hagley, the Rector's Churchwarden.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At Holy Trinity, Cookham, Berks.

ON Monday, the 4th ult., a peal of 720 Grandsire Minor was rung in 28 mins. by members of the Society of College Youths. R. Flaxman, 1; W. A. Garraway, 2; Edward Rogers, 3; Edn. Rogers, 4; G. T. McLaughlin, 5; H. J. Tucker (conductor), 6.

Also on Wednesday, the 27th ult., another peal of 720 was rung in 29 mins. E. Keeley, 1; H. Rogers, 2; W. A. Garraway (conductor), 3; R. Smith, 4; Edn. Rogers, 5; C. Gardom, 6. The above are believed to be the first peals of Minor ever rung on the bells of Cookham, which were augmented to six by adding a treble by Paok and Chapman, date 1777. And they go remarkably well considering no repairs have been done for about a quarter of a century. Tenor, 16 cwt.

Change-ringing in Devonshire.

ON Wednesday, the 27th ult., eight members of the Guild of Devonshire Ringers visited Sidmouth, and rang at the parish church a peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples (Holt's Original), in 2 hrs. 55 mins. S. Herbert, 1; H. Langdon, 2; F. T. Gover, 3; G. T. McLaughlin, 4; T. Townsend, 5; R. French (conductor), 6; A. Shepherd, 7; F. Shepherd, 8. The first peal ever rung on these bells, and the first time this composition has been rung in the western counties. Tenor, 15 cwt., in F.

On Saturday, the 30th, Sowton was visited, when Holt's Original One-part Peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples was rung in 2 hrs. 45 mins. by H. Swift, 1; R. French (conductor), 2; H. Langdon, 3; Frank Shepherd, 4; G. T. McLaughlin, 5; G. Townsend, 6; F. Shepherd, 7; J. Moss, 8. It is the first peal that has been rung in this method on these bells. Tenor, 9½ cwt., in G.

The same band also started for a peal at St. Sidwell's, Exeter, on Tuesday evening last, but after ringing 2 hrs. 50 mins. the seventh rope broke. This misfortune happened just before the finish, and was the means of spoiling what would evidently have been one of the best-struck peals of the many that have been rung on those splendid bells. Messrs. French, Gover, McLaughlin, and Langdon, are from London. The others are from Exeter.

At St. Mary's, Hitchin, Herts.—Handbell Ringing.

ON Thursday, the 28th ult., a peal of Bob Minor, containing 16 bobs and 2 singles, was rung in 27 mins. H. Buckingham, 1; J. Hare, 2; A. Squires, 3; S. Hare, 4; W. A. Tyler* (conductor), 5-6. [* First 720 in the method by the conductor double-handed.]

At Caversham, Oxfordshire.

ON Sunday, the 31st ult., after evening service, six members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild of Church-bell Ringers rang a peal of 720 Bob Minor in 27 mins. G. Essex, 1; Rev. G. F. Coleridge, 2; E. Pottinger, 3; H. Egby, 4; W. Newell, 5; T. Newman (conductor), 6. Tenor, 16½ cwt., in F.

NOTICE.—*Campanologia Improved*. 5th Edition, by J. Monk, 1766. The Editor of this column can supply a clean copy of this rarity, in calf, price 10s.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The Bishop of Bedford on the Church Service.

SIR,—The valuable notes on the Church Service which the Bishop of Bedford is now publishing in your paper are very interesting and instructive. He has, I think, by his suggestions, directed the attention of all interested in Church Music to two very important facts, upon which there is much divided opinion. (1.) The pitch to be taken for the reciting note in monotonizing which is most satisfactory to the ear, and at the same time most conducive to devotion. (2.) Whether inflections and harmonies in what are known as 'uses' are, or are not, admissible from a devotional, though agreeable from a musical aspect. As to the first, the practice which generally prevails of monotonizing on a high note, is, I am sure, a mistaken one. Priests very often commence intoning on A, or even B flat, thus throwing the trebles in their response up to F sharp or G—too high a great deal, especially with ordinary choirs. Besides, the introductory portion of the service being of a penitential character, a low tone of voice seems not only more consistent but also more in obedience with the rubric before the Confession, which directs it to be said 'with an humble voice.' Again, if a low note be taken the congregation have a greater opportunity offered them of joining in the prayers. Moreover, it has this further advantage, that the penitential portion of the service taken on a low note is in greater contrast to the voice of praise and thanksgiving when the tone is naturally raised. It is to be remembered that ancient ecclesiastical usage has fixed what the correct reciting note should be, viz., the note which a voice can sustain for the longest time in the easiest manner. Writing on this subject the late Professor Hullah says: 'Whether of speaker or singer the part of the voice most often to be called into requisition, and therefore most important, is that which is farthest from the extremes.' In the bass voice this part will consist of the notes D E F G, in the tenor G A B C. One or other of these will be, to borrow a term from mediæval practice, the *dominant* note—that note on which the vocalist can 'speak and sing with the best effect, with the greatest ease, and for the greatest length of time.' G is a note which is common to the mean registers of both voices. It was the reciting note of the ancient plain song. And Tallis has given it as the reciting note for the priest in his Responses and Litanies. It seems to me, therefore, that G is the most correct and satisfactory note to take in monotonizing the prayers. As regards the second point, the use of inflection in the Confession, all ancient uses point to a change of note at the Confession. The ancient use of Winchester and Exeter prescribed the rise, that of Bristol and Durham the fall. Canon Jebb, in his work on the Choral Service, remarks on this practice, that 'it is indifferent, abstractedly considered, whether the change is made by ascending or descending, as either is consistent with the natural expression of penitence, for the Scriptures speak of "lifting up the voice and weeping." Harmonised Confessions, as the 'Ely Use,' or that the Bishop mentions, the 'Mechlin,' may be musically correct and artistically beautiful, but I doubt whether the penitential character of the words allows of such treatment, and whether the rich and varied harmonies are more productive of devotion than the simple and unbroken monotone. There is one other important point touched upon by the Bishop in his last paper. He condemns, and rightly, the practice of choirs omitting the first words of the Creed and Lord's Prayer, leaving the priest to announce them alone, and then picking him up at the next words. This mode of chanting is incorrect and slovenly, and is the result of carelessness and bad teaching. If the following rules were attended to in chanting the Creed and Lord's Prayer, I venture to think a more harmonious result than we hear in some choirs would be the result: The words to be repeated *with* not after the priest; chanter and choir to have a distinct understanding with each other as regards the time at which they intend to sing the words; the choir to pause until the priest has given out the first word, then commence it also, and keep exactly with him during the remainder of the prayer. This can only be accomplished by the priest singing the first word on a note double the length on which the choir commence singing theirs—this brings them together at the second word. Each clause should have its proper accent and time value. And lastly, what is generally forgotten, punctuation duly regarded.

PRIEST-VICAR.

The Poor and the Haggerston Churches.

SIR,—I am more than prepared to admit that there are great defects in my own preaching, but Mr. Gausson of Bristol made a bad guess as to the nature of the sermons at St. Columba's, as well as broke the rule, 'Never prophesy unless you know,' when he wrote, 'If the Haggerston churches will look to their subjective as well as objective Church teaching they will have larger congregations.' There is plenty of preaching of the love of God and His personal care for each, and this, of course, is enforced in our visits to the sick, &c., in that dealing with individuals which I spoke of in my former letter. But what I mentioned as a difficulty in the way of our effecting much is, that people are already familiar with the truth that Christ 'loved me and gave Himself for me' without being in any real way moved to 'live by the faith of the Son of God' as St. Paul was, because St. Paul was not self-centred, but felt that the great God had acted in wonderful love, and of His own free grace. The truth has been partially taught, but has not been used as a lever. A priest of experience in the Black Country, when afterwards a curate in London, told me that he never realised what the 'wayside,' in the parable of the Sower was till he came to London, and found how the minds and hearts of people were daily trodden by fresh news and emotions, which seldom sank in, but only beat the track harder and more impervious. I do not wonder that Mr. Gausson, if he has not had a similar experience, should have failed to understand what I wrote, and should have replied

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At St. George's, Hyde, Cheshire.

On Saturday, the 30th ult., six members of the local Society, with W. Walmsley and W. Ingham of Higher Sutton, rang a peal of 5152 changes of Kent Treble Bob Major in 3 hrs. 7 mins. W. Walmsley, 1; J. Shaw, 2; G. Longden 3; W. Slater, 4; J. Fildes, 5; S. Wilde, 6; W. Ingham, 7; J. S. Wilde (conductor), 8. Composed by J. J. Brierley of Saddleworth. Tenor, 15 cwt.

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

On Thursday, the 4th inst., at their weekly practice, eight members of the St. Paul's Society rang a touch of 1344 Superlative Surprise Major in 55 mins. Also on Sunday, the 7th inst., touches of 448 in the same method for Morning and Evening Service. 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.

* * To-day (Saturday) the above intend to meet at St. Paul's Church at three o'clock in the afternoon, and attempt Shipway's peal of 6720 (?) St Paul's Church is five minutes' walk from the railway station.

At Swindon, Wilts.

On Thursday, the 4th inst., eight members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild rang Taylor's peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples in 3 hrs. 12 mins. F. S. White, 1; J. Avery, 2; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 3; W. Bennett, 4; F. White, 5; G. Holfield, 6; G. H. Phillott, Esq., 7; T. Bennett (conductor), 8. Tenor, 15 cwt. These bells have lately been rehung by Mr. White of Appleton.

At All Saints', Nottingham.

On Saturday, the 6th inst., Holt's Ten-part peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples was rung in 3 hrs. 7 mins. by the following members of the Midland Counties Association: J. Wibberley (conductor), 1; J. Wilson, 2; W. Grice, 3; W. Gillson, 4; J. C. Dickens, 5; J. Ward, 6; W. H. Abbott, 7; H. Picker, 8. Tenor, 17 cwt. The two first and two last are members of All Saints' company, and the others of St. Lawrence's, Long Eaton.

At Trowbridge, Wilts.

On Saturday, the 6th inst., a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes) was rung in 48 mins. by the Salisbury Diocesan Guild and South Lincolnshire Association. W. Alley, 1; C. A. Clements,*† 2; W. W. Gifford,* 3; A. Hayward, 4; W. McCaffrey (conductor), 5; W. Lane, 6; J. R. Jerram,*† 7; J. Cooper, 8. Composed by Uriah Woodman of Trowbridge. Tenor, 23 cwt. [Those marked * are College Youths; marked † South Lincolnshire Association.]

At All Saints', Glossop, Derbyshire.

On Saturday, the 6th inst., eight members of the St. George's Society, Hyde, and also members of the United Counties Association, rang a peal of 5184 Kent Treble Bob Major in 2 hrs. 55 mins. J. S. Wilde, 1; R. Prichard, 2; T. Bradley, 3; G. Longden, 4; J. Fildes, 5; S. Bradley, 6; T. Wilde (conductor), 7; S. Bennett, 8. Composed by the late William Harrison of Mottram. Tenor, 15 cwt.

At All Saints', Fulham, Middlesex.

On Monday, the 8th inst., ten members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang a peal of 5000 Stedman's Caters in 3 hrs. 15 mins. J. Pettit (conductor), 1; W. Greenleaf, 2; G. Mash, 3; F. E. Dawe, 4; J. W. Rowbotham, 5; E. Gibbs, 6; F. Knights (Norwich), 7; W. Smith, 8; Edwin Horrex, 9; W. H. George, 10. Composed by Mr. H. W. Haley.

Great Torrington, Devon.

THE Committee under whose directions the bells of the parish church of St. Michael were recently made a complete ring, have now put the finishing touches to their labours. To enable the ringers to practise frequently, and to encourage the art of scientific bell-ringing among young men especially, Mr. Seage of Exeter, by the direction of the Committee, has just fixed his 'Dumb-bell Practice Apparatus.' By means of a comparatively simple arrangement the large bells, when set in motion (having their clappers fixed), ring a small set of bells fixed within sight and hearing of the ringers. The clappers of the large bells being fixed, no annoyance is caused by the practice of learners or of the ringers who may engage in change-ringing. The arrangement of Mr. Seage has been approved by the President of the Guild of Devonshire Ringers, Mr. Chas. A. W. Troyte, of Huntsham. The new apparatus was completed on Tuesday week, and some ringing was given during the afternoon and evening. The Committee are especially pleased with the apparatus. It is hoped that Torrington may soon boast of a band of ringers equal to any in Devon.

New Bells at Maismore, Gloucestershire.

Six new bells by Messrs. Warner, of London, were dedicated by a special service on Sunday, the 31st ult. A sermon was preached by the Rev. C. E. Dighton, the vicar, from which we extract the following, as of peculiar interest:—'It is curious to observe how an incident now and again turns the current of our thoughts, or even directs our ways. Thus it is that we are engaged in the special service of this day; and well indeed may we say "special," for after to-day we shall never again take part in a similar service in this church. Last Monday, when I came down to see how the work was progressing, the foreman inquired if we proposed to have a dedication service for our bells, and my first reply in the negative seemed to strike me with reproach, and on his giving me a form of service for dedication of church

bells as used last week in Devonshire I was pleased with the idea, and at once said, "This can be done next Sunday." I mentioned it to a few, and, feeling it would meet with general approval, I have done my best to carry it out, and can only trust and pray that our service may be acceptable to Him in whose presence we meet. The restoration of our church bells has been before us for three years. After our first bazaar, in 1881, it remained a dead letter, and I had almost despaired of ever seeing it carried out, when a circumstance occurred which gave a fresh impetus to the work. Last Christmas a bell in a neighbouring church tower fell, fortunately without any fatal result, but sufficiently near to cause us to set our belfry in order. A renewed effort was made: two of the bells were taken down and sent to London to Messrs. Warner's to be recast. It has been a most pleasing duty to me to bid you join in the service this day, in which we ask the Lord to bless, sanctify, and accept these bells, which we consecrate in His name and to His honour and glory. May He grant that all whom they call to worship in this church below may hereafter adore Him for ever in heaven. We have introduced a new feature into our service this morning respecting which I desire to say a word, the ringers having rung a peal after our special prayers. I trust that this ceremony may prove of use to ourselves and to those who may follow us—that it may prove a sign of unity between the belfry and the chancel—that for the future the ringers may consider themselves one with us and we one with them, having as our common purpose to worship in spirit and in truth the one true God, and Jesus Christ whom He hath sent.'

A New Ring of Eight Bells at Beaconsfield, Bucks.

THE village of Beaconsfield was on Tuesday, the 8th inst., the scene of an interesting ceremony, upon the occasion of the opening of the restored tower and dedication of the bells of its church. The sacred edifice stands in a burial-ground adorned with some stately walnut-trees. The service, at three o'clock, was attended by a large congregation, and was conducted by the Rev. S. J. Bowles, the rector, the Ven. Archdeacon of Buckingham preaching the sermon. Later on the clergy and choir went in procession to the tower, opened the belfry, and dedicated the bells, touches upon which were immediately rung by the ringers. The touches were limited to 20 mins. each, and consisted of a 459, 336, 168, 504, and 168 Grandsire Triples. The members who took part in them were the Revs. F. E. Robinson and G. F. Coleridge; Messrs. R. Smith, E. Rogers, W. A. Garraway, E. Keeley, J. Truss, R. Flaxman, G. Wilkins, sen., G. Wilkins, jun., J. W. Wilkins, T. Woolford, and C. Chapman. The ringing was conducted alternately by Rev. F. E. Robinson and W. A. Garraway. The new ring, which consists of eight bells of rich tones in E flat, cost 520l., the amount being subscribed by the residents. They came from the foundry of Messrs. Mears & Stainbank. The company were subsequently entertained by the Rector in the gardens of Hall Place.

Worcester Diocesan Change-ringing Association.

A COMMITTEE Meeting of the above Association will be held on Saturday, the 20th inst., at 4 p.m., in the National Church School, Halesowen. The Rev. C. C. Nation will (if convenient) preside. All members of the Committee are respectfully requested to be present. The tower at the above church will be open for ringing the bells, which have recently been rehung.

23 Church Road, Netherton.

JNO. SMITH, Secretary.

A Complimentary Meeting of the College Youths, London.

On Tuesday evening, the 9th inst., the following ringers met Mr. Knights, of Norwich, at St. Michael's, Cornhill (tenor, 41 cwt.), and rang four courses of Stedman's Cinques:—Messrs. Jale, sen. (conductor), Pettit, Knights, Mash, Winney, Trappett, Haworth, Clarke, Horrex, Gibbs, Greenleaf, and Prime. Afterwards, at St. Paul's Cathedral (tenor, 62 cwt.), being the monthly meeting-night, two courses of Stedman's Cinques were rung.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The 'G. F. S.'

SIR,—I do not think 'A Candid Friend' quite understands the idea of the Girls' Friendly Society—the very soul of it, so to speak,—or he would not complain of, but rather rejoice, in its 'inclusiveness.' The chief aim of our Society is to cherish and maintain the purity of woman's life. As the Bishop of Winchester, who has always been our devoted friend, once said (I quote from memory), 'If it is a blessed work to go after that which is lost and bring it back rejoicing, surely it is an equally blessed work to keep the little ones of Christ's flock safe within the fold, untorn by the cruel wolf, white and unspotted from the world.' It is this last, this keeping some of Christ's own safe within the blessed fold of His Church, which is the work of our Society. The friendliness is the natural outcome of this work. We cannot choose but love and help those whom we carefully guard and tend. Now, this purity of life at which we aim is surely the standard that should be set before every girl and woman, gentle or simple. For the daughters of the upper classes it is generally upheld most loyally in the shelter of their own homes, and we do not ask them to become members; that they should do so was merely a suggestion, not acted upon: but for the girls of the lower middle class, and for the children of the poor, some friendly helping hand is needed to enable them, amid this world's mire, to 'walk in white.' The girls who serve in our shops, who are milliners or dressmakers, or who work in factories, are exposed to fearful temptation from the mere fact that their only recreation-time is in the evening. People whose daughters never go out after dark without a proper escort can hardly imagine what are the dangers to which other girls are exposed. And here I may say that your correspondent is wrong in saying that 'Working girls of all sorts are supposed to be influenced by the same

IRELAND.

(From our Special Correspondent.)

On Thursday, the 11th inst., his Grace the Archbishop of Dublin consecrated the new parish church of Church Celbridge, diocese of Glendalagh. The new building is a handsome Gothic structure, and is remarkable for a side chapel, into which has been built a splendid organ by Foster of Hull, the gift of a lady parishioner, who also contributed towards the erection of the side chapel. Mr. Shaw, Mrs. Connolly, Mr. Maunsell, and others also contributed rich and handsome gifts towards the completion and decoration of the new church. The tiles which are laid down in the chancel are an exact counterpart of the ancient tiling reproduced in Christ Church Cathedral, Dublin. It is not so long ago since the Archbishop took his part in the consecration of another new and beautiful sanctuary for the worship of God in the adjoining diocese of Kildare. These are among the best evidences of the vitality of our Church, and an answer to those who would see only decadence and Puritanism in the Irish Church. A recent article in the *Church Times*, written in this strain, has been reproduced for the use of the readers of the *Irish Ecclesiastical Gazette*, in order that they may see the worst that can be said against us here. The article has been replied to in the columns of the *Church Times* by Archdeacon Murray, Archdeacon Hamilton, and Canon Smith, whose vigorous letters leave little to be desired. Archdeacon Hamilton might, had he so desired, have said a little more about the advance of Church life in his own city of Limerick, where there is now a weekly celebration in all the parish churches save one.

A very sad and painful circumstance has thrown a gloom over Armagh and its neighbourhood. A few days ago Mrs. Milner, the daughter of the aged Primate, was found in one of the apartments of the palace suspended from the ceiling. In a fit of temporary insanity the unfortunate lady had put an end to her existence. Mrs. Milner, who was a widow, had been in bad health for some time past, but there had been no reason to fear so tragical an end to her life. Dr. Cumming, his Grace's physician, announces the venerable Primate to be keeping up fairly well under his heavy affliction. Lady Durham and the Hon. Mrs. Gerard, the daughters of the deceased lady, have arrived at the palace. The greatest sympathy is felt with the Primate and his family, and all the shops in the city have their shutters closed.

The Diocesan Synod of Tuam met in the Synod Hall on the 9th inst., the Bishop in the chair. Lord John Broune, before the regular business of the Synod had commenced, moved a vote of condolence with the Bishop, who has recently lost a son. It was passed to this effect: 'That the Synod tender to their beloved Bishop, to Mrs. Bernard, and to Mrs. J. Boyle Bernard, their sympathy and condolence in their deep affliction, and prayed to the Great Giver of All Good that He will grant them comfort and consolation, and preserve them from all misfortunes in the future, and grant them long lives, happiness, and enjoyment.' The Bishop, in reply said: 'I know you will excuse me from doing anything more than thanking you for this mark of your sympathy and kindness, which, coming from the assembled Synod, is doubly grateful to me. Lord John has alluded to what our feelings were, and I know you will excuse my dwelling upon them. Thank you very much.'

The Bishop of Cork has nominated the Rev. C. S. Bruce, rector of Monkstown, to the stall in St. Finbarre's Cathedral, vacant by the death of the late Canon Freke.

The feud in Dungarvan still continues, and the parishioners refuse to attend divine service in the parish church. They have invited a Presbyterian minister to hold a meeting for them every Sunday in the school-house. Mr. Rain, the rector, who has returned after his three years' leave of absence, ministers to a handful of people in the parish church.

The Rev. George Webster, D.D., Chancellor of St. Finbarre's Cathedral, Cork, is to be congratulated on the completion and opening of the Berkeley Hall, intended as a Residence House for students, members of the Church of Ireland, who are graduating in the Queen's College, Cork. The Bishop presided at the opening of the Hall on Wednesday, the 10th inst., and speeches were delivered by his lordship and others. Several handsome donations were announced including 50*l.* from the Bishop towards clearing off the debt that remains on the building.

The Dean of Waterford has promised 300*l.* towards the improvements contemplated in the Cathedral of that city.

His Excellency, Earl Spencer, who has been making a tour through the south of Ireland, was present at Divine Service in Killarney Parish Church on Sunday week. The Rector of the parish, the Rev. G. R. Wynne, read prayers and preached. The pretty church was crowded with visitors on the occasion.

The Rev. Dr. Morgan Jellett, Canon of Christ Church Cathedral, Rector of St. Peter's, and one of the Hon. Clerical Secretaries of the General Synod, will speak at the ensuing Church Congress on the subject, 'What can the Church of England learn from the Irish Church?' No Irish clergyman is better qualified to speak on this subject than Canon Jellett, who, we may observe, is the compiler of the Irish Church portion of the Church of England *Year Book*.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

A Presentation.

On Monday, the 15th inst., the Rev. T. Archer Turner, B.A., president of the Lancashire Association of Bell-ringers, was presented with a beautiful Bible and a purse of gold by the congregation and friends of the parish Church, Burnley, upon his leaving, after holding his curacy seven years. On the same evening, Mr. Turner was presented with a marble timepiece by the teachers and scholars of Pickupcroft Sunday School, of which he has had charge.

A Peal of Bob Major.

A 5376 and 5040.

2	3	4	5	6	W.	M.	H.	5	4	6	3	2	-
4	3	6	5	2	-	-	-	6	3	5	4	2	-
2	6	4	3	5	-	-	-	5	6	3	4	2	-
4	2	6	3	5	-	-	-	3	4	5	6	2	-
6	4	2	3	5	-	-	-	5	3	4	6	2	-
5	2	4	3	6	-	-	-	4	5	3	6	2	-
4	5	2	3	6	-	-	-	3	4	2	5	6	-
2	4	5	3	6	-	-	-						
6	5	4	3	2	-	-	-						
4	6	5	3	2	-	-	-						

Twice repeated.

Has the 6th twelve times at home.

If the first nine courses be four times

repeated it will be reduced to 5040 in five parts. BENJAMIN FRANCIS, *Diss.*

CHANGE-RINGING.

The Huntsham Society at Chard, Somerset.

On Thursday, the 4th inst., this Society had the pleasure of assisting in the day of Thanksgiving for work done in the parish church of St. Mary, Chard, by the invitation of the Rev. W. E. Buller, vicar, who specially desired the attendance of the Huntsham ringers for the occasion, and to give his people an opportunity of hearing what scientific change-ringing is. The striking throughout was excellent, and met with most hearty and kindly appreciation from a large assemblage of clergy (including the Lord Bishop of the Diocese), laity and ringers from all parts of the neighbourhood. The ringing took place after morning service, and by special announcement at 4 p.m., touches of Grandsire and Stedman's Triples were rung, amounting in all to about 2500 changes. At 5.30 p.m., after an inspection of the bells and cage (which were found to be in apple-pie order), the party, with the ringers of the parish, sat down to an excellent dinner at the 'Crown' Hotel, presided over by the Vicar. At the conclusion of the repast, a short explanation was given by Colonel Troyte, of the method by which changes are rung, and illustrated by lapping; and this was followed by courses in hand of of Grandsire Triples and Caters. The party consisted of Colonel Troyte, J. Norrish, H. Payne, H. Tucker, W. Heard, J. Heard, H. Redwood, and J. Chave, with Messrs. Banister, Field, and Easterbrook, honorary members. The weight of the tenor is 28 cwt.

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

On Monday, the 8th inst., seven members of the Durham and Newcastle Association, with Mr. H. Thompson, late of Hurworth-on-Tees, attempted a five-part peal of Plain Bob Major by the late H. Hubbard, but came to grief after ringing 2940 changes in 1 hr. 40 mins. F. Lees, 1; C. L. Routledge, 2; H. Thompson, 3; W. Bowes, 4; E. W. Scott, 5; J. McGoun (North Shields), 6; W. Story, 7; R. S. Story (conductor), 8. Tenor, 12½ cwt.

On Thursday, the 11th inst., a peal of 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor was rung on the last six bells in 26 mins. W. Bowes, 1; W. Story, 2; C. L. Routledge (conductor), 3; F. Lees, 4; S. Power, 5; J. Simm, 6. Also a touch of Grandsire Minor (400 changes), and a course each of Triples and Caters on hand-bells retained in hand.

On Monday, the 15th inst., a peal of 720 Plain Bob Minor was rung in 25 mins. W. Eggleston, 1; W. Bowes, 2; T. J. Des Forges, 3; W. S. Grey (first 720), 4; C. L. Routledge, 5; W. Story (conductor), 6.

At Wymeswold, Leicestershire.

On Thursday, the 11th inst., a peal of 720 Plain Bob Minor was rung in 28 mins. E. D. Taylor (first 720), 1; J. Brookes, 2; M. Brown, 3; J. W. Taylor, sen., 4; C. A. Fox, 5; J. W. Taylor, jun. (conductor), 6. Also another peal of 720 in the same method, but called differently, was rung in 26 mins. J. Brookes (conductor), 1; S. Brookes, 2; 3, 4, 5, and 6, as before. Tenor, 13 cwt., in F. sharp.

At Huntsham, Devon.

On Monday, the 15th inst., Holt's Ten-part Peal of Grandsire Triples was rung in 2 hrs. 50 mins. by the following members of the Guild of Devonshire Ringers:—J. Chave, 1; H. Payne, 2; W. Heard, 3; H. Tucker (conductor), 4; H. Redwood, 5; J. Heard, 6; E. Bishop (Reading), 7; S. Davey, 8. Tenor, 13 cwt.

At St. Peter's, Sheffield, Yorkshire.

On Monday, the 15th inst., ten members of the Ancient Society of College Youths and the Yorkshire Association, rang a peal of 5021 Grandsire Caters in 3 hrs. 36 mins. C. Bower, 1; Joseph Mulligan, 2; John Mulligan, 3; J. W. Rowbotham, 4; J. A. Dixon, 5; E. Woodward, 6; S. Leed, 7; G. Holmes, 8; T. Hattersley (conductor), 9; A. Bready, 10. Tenor, 41 cwt. Composed by C. H. Hattersley. [* First peal of Grandsire Caters,

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Harvest Festival at St. Michael's, Sittingbourne, Kent.

THE usual annual Harvest Festival Thanksgiving Services were held here on Sunday, the 21st inst. Busy hands had been hard at work during the preceding week in decorating the fine old building with fruit and flowers, as well as other emblems of the harvest, which has been so exceedingly bountiful in that neighbourhood. An especial feature of the occasion was the bell-ringing. Determined to have some really good ringing, a prominent member of the local Society invited three members of the Ancient Society of College Youths (Messrs. French, McLaughlin, and Langdon), under the direction of Mr. J. R. Haworth, to come down and assist. Arriving on Saturday evening, it was resolved to go for a peal of Grandsire Triples that night. The Sittingbourne ring of bells having only been augmented to the octave in May last, no touches of any great length had as yet been rung. Attempting a peal was, therefore, more or less of an experiment; but so far as the going of the bells was concerned it proved entirely successful; for although the peal itself was not completed, sufficient of it was rung to show that the bells are thoroughly 'pealable.' Holt's Original was attempted; but after ringing two hours and five minutes, and having run through rather more than 3200 changes, a stand was called, a shift-course having unfortunately occurred. The striking throughout was exceedingly good, and was much admired by the people of the town, who have fair reason to be proud of their ring of bells. The band stood in the following order:—J. R. Haworth, 1; H. Langdon, 2; F. C. Mattison (Sittingbourne), 3; F. G. Newman, 4; R. French (conductor), 5; G. McLaughlin, 6; S. Snelling (Sittingbourne), 7; W. H. Judd (Sittingbourne), 8. Tenor, 20 cwt.

On Sunday many touches of Grandsire Triples, as well as Bob Major and Kent Treble Bob Major, were rung, conducted by Mr. Haworth, before and after the services, which consisted chiefly of five and six hundreds, most of them with Queens, Tittums, and Round-at-hand, excepting a long length of 1820 Grandsire Triples. Other local members, besides those ringing on the preceding evening, were Messrs. Bottle, Greensted, Saddleton, Missom, Gordelier, and Cooper.

The visitors from London were well satisfied with the result of their visit, expressing admiration at the appointments of the belfry and ringing-chamber, and they wish to thank the 'prominent member' of the local Society for his kindness towards them. Messrs. Haworth and French went to Faversham on Monday.

Basingstoke, Hants.

THIS church possesses a splendid ring of eight bells; tenor, 17 cwt. The belfry is fitted up with every convenience for change-ringing, which I am sorry to say is not yet practised. Some of the ringers have a very good knowledge of the art, if they could only put it into practice. A week or so ago I happened to hear the bells ringing, and as a lover of bells I could not restrain from going into the steeple, where I received a very warm reception from the captain (Mr. Geo. Capon) and his company. He asked me to take a bell, which I accepted. We went through the plain course of Grandsire Triples by calls, and considering that they had strangers in the ring, it was struck remarkably well. The bells are inscribed thus:—

1. Recast by John Warner & Sons, London, 1878. Pec : Lester & Pack, London, 1766.
2. Edwd : Read : at : Albourn, Wilts, Fecit, 1751.
3. Cast by John Warner & Sons, London, 1878. The young men and maids gave this Bell for to make this ring sound well, 1812. Recast at the expense of the young men and maids, 1878.
4. Thomas Mears, Founders, London, 1841.
5. Henry Knight made me, 1670.
6. Sanc ta mar gri ta ora Pro no bis.
7. John Smith, Churchwardens, C. W. John Blundene, 1607. God Be our Gyd. Richard Colle, William Cowdry, R. W., H. S.
8. John Coleman, Henry Barfoot, Ambrose Cleeve, Robert Kew, H. K., 1670. H. O. DOWLING, C.Y.

A New Society.

SIR,—Not having seen any account of our Society in your paper, I venture to send you some particulars. A meeting was held at Lincoln on July 4th, and a Society formed under the title of 'The North Lincolnshire Change-ringers' Association, for the encouragement of change-ringing (which is at a very low ebb about here) and belfry reform.' Rules were passed, but are not out yet.

The first meeting of this Society will be held at the parish church, Gainsborough, on Saturday, October 4th. There are 8 bells, the tenor being 20 cwt., in good going order, and there are six at Lea (1½ miles), tenor, 14 cwt.; and five at Corringham (4 miles off), tenor, 12 cwt. The bells will be at our service all day except the daily service time, and I hope we shall have a good muster and give the Society a good start. The President of the Society is F. A. Dorrington, Esq., and the secretary F. B. Cousins, solicitor, Caistor. W. D. TINKER, *Leader*.

[We shall always be pleased to have a line from Mr. Tinker.]

Royal Cumberlands at Fulmere, Berkshire.

On Saturday afternoon, the 20th inst., the pretty village of Fulmere was visited by a party of Royal Cumberland Ringers, for the opening of a ring of bells, augmented from four to six by Messrs. J. Warner & Sons, the cost of the whole work contributed by Major Gaskell, a former resident. The dedication service was at 3 p.m., arranged by the Vicar, the Rev. C. Joyce. Many clergymen from neighbouring villages attended. The Rev. C. T. Mayo, of St. Andrew's, Hillingdon, was the preacher; he gave some well-timed remarks in his short but excellent discourse from Ps. xix. 4. During

the service the bells struck a short touch, and the following special hymn was sung:—

'Lifted safe within the steeple,
Now our bells are set on high;

There fulfil their sacred mission,
Midway twixt the earth and sky.'

At evensong some Grandsire and Stedman's Doubles were rung, conducted by Mr. J. Nelms, followed by a peal of 720 Kent Treble Bob, conducted, in 23 mins., by Mr. H. Dains, J. Mansfield, 1; J. Nelms, 2; J. Rogers, 3; H. Rundell, 4; W. Doran, 5; H. Dains, 6. An adjournment was now made towards the 'Black Horse,' where an excellent refreshment was prepared. The Vicar was interviewed by the ringers, Mr. Dunn, foreman of the above firm, and who has made an excellent job at Fulmere, introducing them. A plain course of Caters, under one of the trees in the churchyard, was well rendered by Messrs. Dains, Rundell, Nelms, Rogers, and Mansfield. After dinner, a peal of 720 Plain Bob was conducted.

Bob Minor.

720						720					
	2	3	4	5	6		2	3	4	5	6
S	3	2	5	6	4	S	3	2	5	6	4
S	6	2	4	5	3	S	6	2	4	5	3
S	2	6	5	3	4	S	5	2	3	6	4
S	6	2	3	4	5	S	2	5	4	6	3
S	5	4	3	6	2	S	4	3	2	5	6
S	4	5	6	2	3	S	3	4	5	6	2
S	5	4	2	3	6	S	5	4	3	2	6
S	4	5	3	6	2	S	4	5	2	6	3
S	3	2	4	5	6	S	4	2	5	6	3
S	3	4	2	5	6	S	6	2	3	5	4

Twice repeated.

Repeated.
EDWARD FRANCIS, *Diss.*

CHANGE - RINGING.

At Menheniot, Cornwall.

THE bells were reopened on Tuesday, the 2nd inst., having been most satisfactorily rehung by Mr. Harry Stokes, Church Bellhanger of Woodbury, Devon. One bell has been recast by Messrs. Warner, and a new treble added. All have been rehung in new oak cages, and with all new fittings complete; also the Ellacombe chiming-hammers fixed.

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

On Thursday, the 18th inst., eight members of the St. Paul's Society of Change-ringers rang a peal of 5040 Stedman's Triples (Brook's Variation) in 3 hrs. 4 mins. T. Meredith, 1; E. I. Stone, 2; A. Wakley, 3; J. Griffin (conductor), 4; J. Jaggar, 5; T. Holmes, 6; W. Wakley, 7; Rev. James H. Fish, 8. Tenor, 26 cwt. All the above are also members of the Midland Counties' Association.

At Manchester Cathedral.

On Saturday, the 20th inst., nine members of the Manchester Cathedral Society, with Mr. T. Heald, of the St. Philip's Society, Hulme, Manchester, rang a peal of 6012 Grandsire Caters in 3 hrs. 44 mins. J. E. Pollitt, 1; G. E. Turner, 2; T. Heald (first in this method), 3; S. West, 4; J. Grimshaw, 5; J. Thorpe, 6; A. E. Wrecks (conductor), 7; G. Mee, 8; J. Eachus, 9; H. Mee, 10. Tenor, 25 cwt., in E flat. Composed by Robert Williams, of Liverpool.

At St. Mary-the-Virgin, Stanstead, Essex.

On Sunday morning, the 21st inst., for Divine service, it being the Harvest Thanksgiving, six of the local company rang a peal of 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor in 26 mins. J. Cavill, 1; J. Luckey, 2; H. Prior, jun., 3; G. Gray, 4; J. Cavill, 5; H. Prior (conductor), 6. Tenor, 13 cwt.

At St. Martin's, Salisbury, Wilts.

On Sunday, the 21st inst., several peals of Grandsire Doubles were rung. J. Short, 1; C. Clements,* 2; H. O. Dowling,* 3; J. Wilton, 4; S. Blackbourn* (conductor), 5; J. Judd, 6. [*Members of the College Youths.]

At St. Mary's, Faversham, Kent.

On Monday, the 22nd inst., eight members of the St. James's Society, London, rang Holt's Original peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples in 3 hrs. 3 mins. Capt. W. Wood (Faversham), 1; J. E. Haworth (London), 2; G. Stancombe (Canterbury), 3; F. G. Newman (Walthamstow), 4; R. French (London, conductor), 5; H. G. Fairbrass (Canterbury), 6; S. Snelling (Sittingbourne), 7; E. Crosser (Faversham), 8. Tenor, 20 cwt., in E.

The above is the first peal on the bells for fifty-eight years, the last (Grandsire Triples) being rung by the Canterbury Cathedral Society on the 15th of May, 1826. J. Marshall, 1; J. Small, 2; H. Ovenden, 3; S. White, 4; C. Spied, 5; J. White, 6; J. Francis (conductor), 7; W. Leech, 8. At the end of the tablet:—

'You ringers all, prize health and happiness;
Be sober, merry, and wise, and you'll the same possess.'

The Churchwardens have kindly promised to put a tablet in the ringing-chamber to record the last performance, which was remarkably well struck. The board in the tower recording the former peal is in good preservation.

NOTICE.—The Editor of the Bell columns can supply a good copy of *Campanologia Improved*, 1766, also a copy of the *Clavis*, each at 10s. 6d., by post.

question of legislation which has been specially propounded for discussion. When Parliament meets, does the Church wish, does the nation wish, that action should be taken upon the Report or not? There will be wise and honest men on each side of the alternative, and it is well that wise and honest men should have the opportunity of expressing their opinions frankly and endeavouring to persuade others to adopt them. We cannot have monster meetings such as are held upon secular questions, but we may help to form public opinion: and Church Congresses may endeavour to teach not only the House of Lords, but, what is almost as necessary, the House of Commons, how it ought to behave itself.

The Spirit of the Congress.

Speaking generally of our programme, I will say that we have endeavoured to act in the spirit of the admirable motto of the City of Carlisle, which has been adopted by the Congress, 'Be just and fear not.' We have shrunk, so at least we believe, from no subject because it was unpleasantly warm; we have blackballed no suggested speaker on the ground of party; we have tried to hold an even balance with regard to both men and things; if there are some names which might have been expected to appear on our list and do not, I may remind you that the list indicates not all those who were invited, but only all those who were able to accept the invitation; and if there be subjects the non-appearance of which causes surprise, I can only fall back upon the classical example of the groom who, being required to put five horses into a four-stalled stable, frankly threw up the problem.

Church Prospects.

And so much for the proceedings which are to take place within our two Congress Halls. But before passing to actual business, I should like to invite you to look with me for a moment outside the Congress, upon the Church from which the Congress takes its name, and the people for whose benefit the Church exists. When the Congress met seven years ago at Croydon, there were few passages in the opening address of the late Archbishop of Canterbury which more completely carried his audience with him than the following:—'The work before us,' he said, 'is great; the prospects of this Church of ours are not dark. . . . They are bright. Look abroad. What other country in the world would you change Churches with? Look at home. Which of the denominations would you prefer? Look back. What age are you prepared to say it would have been more satisfactory to have lived in? For my part, I thank God and take courage. . . . God knows the age has its difficulties, and those very difficulties will, I doubt not, make you more ready to unite more closely in the great work which Christ has committed to this Church of England—that grand old historical Church, happily preserved to us in its distinctive features as they have come to us from the fathers of the Reformation.' I thankfully take up such words as these, emphasized as they are by the thought that the lips and heart which uttered them are now cold in the grave; and I shall be thankful if anything seen, or heard, or done in this Church Congress shall, by God's blessing, tend to make men feel more deeply the privilege of having in our midst such a branch of the Catholic Church as the Church of England is and may be. I have quoted the bright, hopeful language of Archbishop Tait; let me quote a few words spoken in a very different tone, more than forty years ago, by one who was then, what I would that he were now, a Priest of the English Church—I mean John Henry Newman. 'O mother of saints!' he cries, 'O school of the wise! O nurse of the heroic! of whom went forth, in whom have dwelt, memorable names of old, to spread the truth abroad, or to cherish and illustrate it at home! O thou, from whom surrounding nations lit their lamps! O virgin of Israel! wherefore dost thou now sit on the ground and keep silence like one of those foolish women who were without oil on the coming of the Bridegroom? . . . O my mother, whence is this unto thee, that thou hast good things poured upon thee and canst not keep them, and hearest children, yet darest not own them? why hast thou not the skill to use their services, nor the heart to rejoice in their love? how is it that whatever is generous in purpose, and tender or deep in devotion, thy flower and thy promise, falls from thy bosom and finds no home within thine arms? Who hath put this note upon thee, to have "a miscarrying womb and dry breasts," to be strange to thine own flesh, and thine eye cruel toward thy little ones? Thine own offspring, the fruit of thy womb, who love thee and would toil for thee, thou dost gaze upon them with fear, as though a portent, or thou dost loathe as an offence:—at best thou dost but endure, as if they had no claim but on thy patience, self-possession, and vigilance, to be rid of them as easily as thou mayest. Thou makest them "stand all the day idle," as the very condition of thy bearing with them; or thou biddest them begone, where they will be more welcome; or thou sellest them for nought to the stranger that passes by. And what wilt thou do in the end thereof?' I am not going to criticise or weigh these terrible words: but that they should ever have been spoken by such a man is a fact of tremendous significance. What I should like to do, however, is this: to pass from the denunciation of barrenness and the prophecy of evil, which I have quoted from a sermon preached forty years ago, to the later utterance of Archbishop Tait and to our own experience of to-day. Look upon that picture and on this. Which corresponds more nearly to the actual truth of things? Where is the indication of the miscarrying womb and the dry breasts? where the jealousy and fear and distrust which are represented as paralysing all healthy action? where the evidence of children compelled to stand idle, or cast out, or sold to strangers? Let the answer be found in the work actually going on in our own country and throughout the world: let our churches and our mission-rooms, with all their varied services and their efforts to bring the Gospel into contact with the souls of men, our organizations in favour of sobriety, temperance, and chastity, the self-sacrificing labours of holy

women to lift the fallen and to save those ready to fall; let India and Africa, and the isles of the Southern Sea,—let all these give answer: nay, let us appeal to the programme of this great Church gathering, and when we have examined the catalogue of subjects to be discussed and the names of the men who are to discuss them, and still more the fact that men and women come from all parts to listen, then let us ask with hearts of thankfulness and gladness, Where are the signs that God has put the curse of barrenness upon our dear spiritual mother? Causes for anxiety, sources of weakness, calls to watchfulness, the presence of enemies in divers forms, dangers from the allurements of the world and the flesh, and from the craft of the devil,—these things and the like belong to the condition of the Church Militant in our own country and time, as in all countries and in all times; but these sorrows are different in kind from the sorrow of sterility; they involve no curse, they imply no sin; they are simply the conditions under which the great battle is to be fought, for the fighting of which the Church exists. Why then should we quail with fear, or sink despondent, or lose heart and hope concerning the Church of England? Why not rather praise God for what she is, and what she is able to do, and pray for increased blessing upon her?

O my mother! sorrows have been thine in times past and are thine now! thou hast foes without, lukewarm hearts, divided counsels, and too much of the world within: thy face is scarred, thy garments are soiled and torn: but thine is not the curse of the miscarrying womb and the dry breasts: God hath given thee the blessing of sons and daughters, and the wide world is their possession and inheritance. In days of trouble, of rebuke, and of blasphemy, thy testimony to the truth is the chief bulwark of the Church of Christ: the best hopes of the world are bound up with thee and thy steadfastness in the faith once delivered to the saints: we thy children are not ashamed, but we rejoice in thee and praise God for His goodness. 'We will not fear though the earth be moved, and though the hills be carried into the midst of the sea.' God is in the midst of thee, therefore thou shalt not be removed; God shall help thee, and that right early. The Lord of Hosts is with thee; the God and Father of the Lord Jesus Christ will be thy refuge now and for evermore.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

The National Association of Change-ringers.

SIR,—It will be within your recollection that at the Conference of Ringers at Reading, during the week of the Church Congress last year, a Committee was appointed to frame a scheme for the formation of a National Association of Bell-ringers, and to send such scheme for the opinion of the various ringing societies hitherto formed. The Committee consisted of the following gentlemen:—Rev. F. E. Robinson, Rev. R. Knatchbull-Hugessen, Captain J. E. Acland Troyte, C. C. Child, Esq., Messrs. Pettit, H. Johnson, Nelms, and myself. A meeting of this Committee was held early this year, at which a draft scheme was drawn up, which has since been laid before most of the existing Guilds and Associations throughout the country. Of twelve answers which have been received eight were favourable to the formation of such a National Association, but suggest slight alterations in the proposed rules, while four think it unnecessary or premature. Would you kindly find a place in your columns for the insertion of the aforesaid draft scheme, in order that the subject may be thoroughly discussed before any further action is taken by the Committee in the matter?

DOLBEN PAUL.

Bearwood Rectory.

DRAFT SCHEME.

1. *Name.*—The National Association of Bell-ringers.
2. *Object.*—(a) To connect existing Bell-ringing Associations; (b) To hold an annual meeting; (c) To collect and publish information of interest to the exercise; (d) To offer advice in all matters connected with belfries and belfry reform.
3. *Management.*—The management of the Association to be vested in a President, Master, Secretary (who shall also act as Treasurer), and a Council.
4. *Membership.*—Existing Associations to join by payment of an annual subscription, and appointment of a representative member on the Council; individuals to join on payment of an entrance-fee only, having been proposed and seconded by two members. The annual payment for Guilds and Associations to be in proportion to their numbers—say 10s. per cent. The entrance-fee for individuals to be 5s.
5. *Annual Meeting.*—To consist of (a) Church service; (b) Lecture; (c) Dinner; (d) Ringing (one steeple being set apart for a previously selected band); (e) Arrangements to be made for peal-ringing in the neighbourhood, on days immediately preceding and following the annual meeting.
6. *Local Committee.*—The Council will select the place of annual meeting, and will be prepared to receive invitations from places where a Local Committee can be formed to arrange details.

(Signed)	F. E. ROBINSON.	C. C. CHILD.
	R. KNATCHBULL-HUGESSEN.	DOLBEN PAUL.
	J. E. ACLAND TROYTE.	

Surrey Association.

THE next Quarterly Meeting of this Association will be held at Dorking (by the kind permission of the Vicar) on Monday, October 13th. The tower will be open for ringing in the afternoon and evening. There will be a tea in the Church Room, close to the Church, at 5.30, and business meeting immediately afterwards. It is requested that all who intend to be present at the tea will send in their names to the Hon. Secretary by the evening of Thursday, October 9th, at the latest, as it is necessary to know how many to provide for. The tea will be free to all ringing members who send in their names; all others, 1s. 6d. Any ringers will be welcome.

34 Dingwall Road, Croydon.

ARTHUR B. CARPENTER, *Hon. Sec.*

NOTICE.—Owing to the pressure of the Church Congress reports, several communications are unavoidably postponed.

occasions, nor the anxious perspiration of another speaker, because it was to him a great pleasure to address the men in East London, or wherever he could get them. Mr. Monckton told the meeting many points on which the State recognised religion, and the mention of the House of Lords and its oath to support the Sovereign did not evoke any demonstration. Indeed, though several references to the increase of the franchise were received with a burst of cheering, there was nothing to show that the great meeting assembled felt any of the white heat on the subject which a Cornishman assured me on the journey spread all over the country. Certainly the meeting was too orderly to go beyond the subject before them, but all must have felt that the Church represented there had no strong feeling against the enfranchisement of the masses considered in itself.

Mr. Mackeson spoke very well, and described a Harvest Service in a laymission room in London, to be held the next Sunday, when the men there would have laid their own country friends under contribution for corn, and fruit, and flowers. He and others exhorted the men to come up to the churches and claim their right as worshippers. He told capitally a story of a very portly beadle resting himself on the font as he looked at the ladies in the gallery going behind the red curtains of the singers. Meanwhile a lady came in and walked up the aisle and took a seat. The beadle turned in astonishment, and eyed her as a cat looks at a mouse. He let her take her seat and say her prayer, and then he approached her with the query, 'Madam, who pewed you?' The lady was equal to the occasion, and said, 'As you did not pew me, I pewed myself.' So the speaker urged the working men to come up to the house of God, and if the churchwardens did not pew them, to pew themselves somewhere, when they would find a hearty welcome from the clergy.

Another layman spoke some very telling truths as to the value of religion, and earnestly urged those present to begin family prayer. I think it was the Bishop of Bedford who said that some people talked of religion as if it was only a thing to help us to die, and that to remind a man that he might die to-night, and ask if his soul was saved, was not so likely to do him good as to make him feel that religion was a thing to live by with comfort. The manly character of religion, and the example of the Saviour as the model for men, was insisted on in reference to the occasional taunt that religion was for women and children.

The meeting lasted for three hours, and it is not wonderful if the working men like myself have got good, but have got it, as to the speakers, rather 'mixed up!' But there was no sign of weariness to be noticed in the floor, the sides, the end of that great assembly. Many a listener on the platform must have felt himself touched and helped by the words of the speakers and the patience of the hearers. Many reasons for working men's absence from church were plainly touched upon, but one could not have guessed from this meeting that length of sermons had to do with it. The Bishop said that there was to be a meeting of women in the Hall on Saturday, and provoked much laughter by confessing himself to be afraid of it. They knew at home, he said, what the 'missus' sometimes was, and to speak to 2000 was serious. He also told the men that there would be a service in the Hall on Sunday evening, at which he would preach, and the notice was met with cheering. These meetings would not be good in churches; they must, in spite of their object, mar the quiet, devotion, reverence, and separation from ordinary life which should characterise the house of God; but held in a room, the good, by the blessing of the Holy Spirit, surely must be great.

FUNERAL REFORM.

The Church of England Funeral and Mourning Reform Association availed itself of the meeting of the Congress, last week, at Carlisle. Sermons were preached in three of the churches on Sunday, Sept. 26th. On Monday, a working-men's meeting was held under the Presidency of the Town Clerk of Carlisle, when, among others who spoke in favour of the Society's propaganda, was the Rev. J. Christie, Presbyterian minister. On Tuesday, a conference was held under the presidency of Lord Muncaster, the Lord-Lieutenant of Cumberland. Among those who advocated the Society's aims were the Bishop of East London, the Mayor of Appleby, and Mr. F. J. Munby, of York. Among many who had given their approval, but regretted their inability to attend, were the Earl of Glasgow, the Earl of Lonsdale, the Lord Bishop of Carlisle, Lord Norton, the High-Sheriff of Cumberland, the Rt. Hon. A. J. Beresford Hope, the Bishops of Derry and St. Andrews, the Dean of Carlisle, and the Archdeacon of Carlisle. On Wednesday a sermon was preached on Funeral Reform in Christ Church. On Thursday a conference was held under the presidency of Mr. J. G. Talbot, M.P., at which Sir Percival Heywood, Bart., the Dean of Manchester, the Rev. Canon Erskine Clarke, and others were present. Among those who have recently become patrons are the Duchess of Montrose and the Earls of Glasgow and Lonsdale. During the week addresses were given at the Atlas Works to upwards of 150 operatives, when the Honorary Secretary claimed for the Society that it would become the handmaid of the various Religious, Temperance, Thrift, Relief, and Sanitary Societies throughout the land.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Kent County Association.

A DISTRICT Meeting will be held on Monday, the 27th inst., at Folkestone. Leave has been obtained to ring at Folkestone (8 bells), Cheriton (6), St. James's, Dover (6), Saltwood (5), and Newington (5). A Committee Meeting will be held in the Town Hall, Folkestone, at 1 p.m., for admission of members, and to fix the date of next District Meeting.

R. B. KNATCHBULL-HUGESSEN, *Hon. Sec.*

Lancashire Association of Change-ringers.

THE Annual Meeting of the members of the above Association, held at Eccles on Saturday week, Sept. 27th, was largely attended by members, almost exclusively ringers, from Manchester, Ashton, Bolton, Burnley, Bury, Eccles, Farnworth, Horwich, Hulme, Heywood, Swinton, Walkden, Worsley, &c. Divine service was held in the parish church at four o'clock, on which occasion an excellent and appropriate sermon was preached by the Rev. T. M. Nugent Owen, M.A., vicar of Rhodes, Middleton. He said he was glad to notice that of late years a great improvement had taken place in the conduct and behaviour of ringers. It was the custom in many belfries to open and close their meetings with prayer, and he strongly urged its general adoption. Their Association had been organized to promote a reform, not only in the belfry, but also in the science of their calling. He was glad to notice that much good had been accomplished, and ringers had now come to look upon the belfry as an integral part of the church. It was well that they should recollect that their calling was an important one, one that formerly devolved upon the parson himself and his assistants; and in pursuance of that calling they should strive to realise the fact that they were performing a strictly religious act, calling men to the worship of God. It was, therefore, their bounden duty, in their everyday life, to set a good example for sobriety and probity of conduct to their fellow-men. This could be carried out in many ways in word and deed—in their conversation and in attending punctually and regularly the services of the Church. What an objectionable sight it was to see ringers, on the completion of their labours in the church tower, walk off instead of attending Divine service. Not only did they do wrong, but sometimes they led others away from the precincts of God's house. Let them remember that the bells were part of the church fabric, and were used for holy purposes, and that the ringer himself was an important worker in connexion with the Church. He urged them not to join the Association merely to become proficient in the art of bell-ringing, but through God's grace to become instruments to the glory of God and the salvation of their fellow-men.

After tea in the Eccles Parish School, Albert Street, the chair was taken by the Rev. Canon Pitcairn, rural dean, who offered the ringers a cordial welcome to the parish of Eccles. Canon Pitcairn having left, the chair was occupied by the President, the Rev. T. A. Turner, and the meeting proceeded to the election of officers. Mr. W. Jos. Chatterton having sent in his resignation, which he now supported, Mr. A. E. Holme, B.A. (Manchester Grammar School), was elected to the position of corresponding secretary; Mr. Joel Redford (Bolton) was re-elected ringing secretary; Mr. H. W. Jackson (Bolton), treasurer; Messrs. J. Robinson (Walton-le-dale) and J. Millett (Heywood) re-elected auditors; and Messrs. James Barratt (Eccles), J. Harrison (Heywood), S. Wood (Ashton-under-Lyne), A. Wreaks (Manchester), and R. Pearce (Swinton), were elected a committee for the ensuing year. The following were elected honorary members of the Association:—The Very Rev. the Dean of Manchester; the Rev. Canon Pitcairn, M.A., rural dean (Eccles); Rev. T. M. N. Owen (Rhodes); Rev. W. Thursby, M.A. (Burnley); W. Dugdale, Esq. (Burnley). Twenty-four additional performing members were also elected from the districts of Bury, Radcliffe, Aughton, Manchester, and Walkden. After a vote of thanks to Mr. Chatterton, the meeting terminated.

Over sixty members were present at the service, and over ninety at the meeting. The Society now numbers 39 honorary members and 216 performing members. During the day, touches of Kent and Oxford Treble Bob, Grandsire Triples, and Plain Bob Minor, were rung by various companies and mixed bands.

WM. J. CHATTERTON.

Midland Counties Association of Change-ringers.

THE second Quarterly Meeting for the year of the above Association was held at Nottingham on Saturday, the 4th inst., when the towers of St. Peter's (8 bells) and All Saints (8 bells), Nottingham, and the towers of Beeston (8 bells) and Lenton (6 bells), were accessible for ringing during the day, through the kindness of the several clergy and churchwardens, and touches of Grandsire Triples, Stedman's Triples, and Treble Bob Major, were rung.

At the General Meeting held immediately after tea in the Arboretum Refreshment-rooms, the President (Rev. J. H. Fish, vicar of St. Paul's, Burton-on-Trent) in his Report congratulated the Association upon its achievements, 7 peals having been rung during the quarter, viz., 4 of Grandsire Triples, 1 of Stedman's Triples, and 1 of Kent Treble Bob, making a total of 17 for the half year. It was decided that the third Quarterly Meeting should be held in Burton-on-Trent.

North Lincolnshire Society.

THE first Quarterly Meeting of this Society was held at Gainsborough on Saturday, the 4th inst., when there was a good muster of members and friends from Retford, Lincoln, Market Rasen, Caistor, Horncastle, &c. About thirty members were enrolled. Ringing commenced at two o'clock, and Grandsire Triples and Bob Minor were rung by mixed companies, interspersed with hand-bell ringing, until 7.30. In the morning, the Lincoln and Market Rasen contingent visited Lea, and rang a peal of 720 Bob Minor on

the six bells in 30 mins. Tenor, 14 cwt. After tea a meeting was held, the President (F. A. Dorrington, Esq.) in the chair, when it was decided to hold the next meeting at Market Rasen on the 10th of January next.

Society of Change-ringers for the Archdeaconry of Stafford.

A MEETING of the members of this Society was held on Saturday, the 27th ult., at Burton-on-Trent, the towers of the various churches having been kindly placed at the disposal of the visitors. Representatives of the Society from Tipton, Tamworth, Lichfield (Cathedral and St. Michael's), Tettenhall, and Burton Parish Church, were present, and some touches were rung, amongst which may be mentioned Grandsire Major and Triples at St. Paul's Church, a peal of Grandsire Minor at Winhill, and a short touch of Grandsire Triples at the Parish Church. The Rev. J. H. Fish (vicar), and the Rev. R. W. Fitt (senior curate), and several members of St. Paul's band, made the visitors welcome at their belfry. A short service took place in St. Paul's, when the Rev. J. J. Serjeantson, rector of St. Michael's, Lichfield, gave an excellent address. The members had tea together at the Midland Coffee House. The meeting, although a small one, was particularly hearty and pleasant, the remark being made by an old gentleman present that in all his experience as a ringer for over sixty years he had never seen such interest taken in ringers and ringing as seemed to be shown in connexion with the Society.

St. Albans Cathedral Society.

A MEETING of this Society was held at the Rectory, under the presidency of the Ven. Archdeacon Lawrance (rector), on Friday, the 26th ult., when Messrs. W. H. L. Buckingham and H. Stephens were elected members. The desirability of forming a County Association for Hertfordshire was discussed, and the Secretary was instructed to write to the change-ringing societies in the county, asking them to send representatives to a meeting to be held at St. Albans on Wednesday, Oct. 29th, for the purpose of forming such an Association.

Reopening of the Church and Bells at Bishops Cannings, Wilts.

On Monday, the 29th ult., the church of Bishops Cannings was reopened after restoration. A company of change-ringers was engaged for the day, consisting of Messrs. Alley, McCaffrey, Hayward, and Cooper of Trowbridge; and Messrs. Clements, Gifford, Blackburn, and Jerram of Salisbury. As soon as the company arrived, 1960 Grandsire Triples was started for, but after ringing about 1600 changes in over an hour the seventh bell, which had been gradually going worse as the touch proceeded, became unringable in changes, the man who rung her finding it impossible to keep it up, and consequently the conductor was obliged to call 'Stand!' Two touches of 336, and one or two of 168, were afterwards rung, but no other long lengths were attempted. The company were kindly entertained to dinner and tea by Rev. C. W. Hony, vicar, and returned home in the evening.

The New Chiming Apparatus at Hornby, Lancashire.

On Friday, the 12th ult., Mr. H. Stokes, church bell-hanger, of Woodbury, Exeter, completed the work of fixing a chiming apparatus, invented by the Rev. H. T. Ellacombe, rector of Clyst St. George, Devon, whereby the ring of six bells in St. Margaret's Church is brought under the control of one person. The apparatus has been fixed in numerous belfries, amongst others York Minster, where there are twelve bells chimed by one man. It has also been in constant use for some years at Kirkby Lonsdale. The apparatus may be briefly described as follows:—Ball hammers are suspended beneath the mouths of the bells, out of the way of the swing of the bells, and by an ingenious system of pulleys the ropes connected with these hammers are all brought down in parallel lines to a manual fixed on the belfry wall. By this contrivance the bells are always ready to be chimed, and it may be done, the inventor claims, by man, woman, or child. In a letter to the Vicar of Hornby, the inventor, speaking of his own parish, says, 'A lady often chimes here.' The tones of the bells are brought out with a soft, mellow sound, and all the harmonies are clearly generated, for nothing lies against the side of the bell, the hammer falling away at once by its own weight. The above apparatus has been given to the church by Mrs. Foster, of Hornby Castle.—*Local Paper*. [It was fixed in one day, at 1*l.* per bell, besides travelling expenses.]

Sudden Death of a Ringer at Bray, Maidenhead, Berks.

On Thursday, the 2nd inst., a bell-ringer of the parish church, while engaged on a wedding-peal, fell down unconscious and died before medical aid could arrive. The bells have lately been put in repair by Warner & Sons, and are a heavy ring of six.

Caution to Ringers.

In our issue of Sept. 6, p. 946, we reported the death of a ringer (Edward Hart). We are able now to publish a more correct report, as a caution to ringers. He had the rope twisted round his hand, and giving a hard pull, the bell broke the stay and went over, pulling him up, and striking his head against the beam: he was killed by concussion of the brain, and fell fifteen feet.

CHANGE-RINGING.

A Peal of 5040 by a Team of Eight Parsons, the first on record, at St. Peter's, Drayton, Berks.

On Thursday, the 2nd inst., the following members of the Oxford University Society and the Ancient Society of College Youths rang Thurstan's peal of 5040 Stedman's Triples in 2 hrs. 51 mins. Rev. G. F. Coleridge, 1; Rev. F. A. H. Du Boulay, 2; Rev. A. D. Hill, 3; Rev. W. S. Willett, 4; Rev. C. C. Child, 5; Rev. C. D. P. Davies, 6; Rev. F. E. Robinson (conductor), 7; Rev. J. H. Fish, 8. Tenor, 93 cwt.

NOTICE.—Many communications are unavoidably postponed till next week.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Subjects for Sermons.—The Guild of St. Matthew.

SIR,—A remarkably interesting letter on Sermons appeared in your paper for September 27th. Perhaps you will allow me to endorse as earnestly as I can the advice which it contains. I have been in Holy Orders for more than twenty-seven years, and during that time I have hardly ever preached on any Sunday without at least *once* preaching from some part of the service for the day. More often than not I have done so at each service of the day. The Church of England—so it has always struck me—is weak in this matter of Biblical exposition. It stimulates intelligent, though unlettered, attendants at public worship, to search and study the Scriptures for themselves, when the general bearing of a portion of the Holy Book is explained and its special lessons enforced. Perhaps it may not be well to bind ourselves too rigidly, both at morning and evening services, to the chapters or psalms which are used. It may make us stiff and formal, and throw us into danger of neglecting other parts of the Bible. But if preachers will only study very thoughtfully beforehand the Scriptures which are to be read, and will think of their flocks while they do so, they will soon find that their hearers are not ungrateful. For many years I have made it a rule to look at least a week beforehand at what Scripture is before me, and my people know that I do so, and come to church prepared. If the minister appear to his flock to take a sermon out of his 'tub' at haphazard, is it not likely that they will have forgotten all about it by the time they get home? I go so far as to say that, where such a thing is practicable, a clergyman who desires to speak of a subject which does not occur in any of the services for the day ought to take an opportunity on a week-day of giving an address about it. He can have a collect or two and then give his exposition, and if he does it well the hearers will be permanently enriched, and will ever after remember that portion of Scripture with fresh pleasure.

And now let me take the opportunity of saying a word on a totally different subject. I see that my name is mentioned by you in connexion with the Guild of St. Matthew. With the three expressed objects of that Institution I heartily sympathise, and shall continue, I trust, to do so. I do not agree with the opinions expressed by some of the speakers nor with the 'Report.' For Mr. Headlam, personally, I have both respect and regard; but it seems to me that some of the principles he inculcates amount to robbery, and would end in national disaster. He does not see that, of course; but he is blinded by furious zeal, and I am grieved to read what he is represented as saying. No doubt there is much provocation. One sees frivolity and idleness daily, until it might almost seem as if lawn tennis were the business of life, and men and women created for no purpose but to eat, drink, and be merry. I hope the sight of the carelessness of Dives over the misery of Lazarus shocks me as much as it does Mr. Headlam, and that I am no more afraid than he to raise my voice in warning. But as with other sins so with this, the remedy of the Church should lie in her appeal to the conscience of mankind, not in preaching confiscation and destruction, which would be more cruel to the poor than to any members of the commonwealth, and would not in any wise destroy selfishness. If Mr. Headlam ever lived in a country village he would, I believe, come to the conviction that the Disestablishment of the Church would be a terrible injury and wrong to the nation, especially to the poor. However, I do not write in argument, only to disclaim opinions which certainly do not come within the objects enunciated in the original plan laid down by this Guild.

W. BENHAM.

32 Finsbury Square.

The Bishop of Bedford on the Church Service.

SIR,—The Bishop of Bedford writes in a style which provokes a reply, and I shall be much obliged if you will allow me, as one who has been used to double chants all his life, to take up the cudgels in their behalf, and plead for a more unrestricted use of them than that which meets the Bishop's approval. He lays down the law with regard to them so very emphatically, that at the first blush one feels rather uncomfortable at ever having had the presumption to use one's own liberty in the matter. He says: 'Do let me protest against the double chant where there is an uneven number of verses. . . . This is musically bad. The *Venite* will not lend itself to a double chant at all. The *Te Deum* was murdered, *i.e.* by being sung to a double chant. The *Magnificat* is very painful to a double chant, which should never be used for it,' &c.

Now, in the first place, let me admit that a double chant does sometimes, though by no means always, fit in rather awkwardly with a psalm of an uneven number of verses. But even when it does it is, to my mind, far more tolerable than a long psalm or canticle sung straight through to a single chant. There is a swing about a double chant which carries you pleasantly on; while with a single chant you seem to wade drearily through, and there is a decided sense of relief when you come to the end. Next, I would strongly protest against the Bishop's dictum with regard to double chants for the *Venite*, *Te Deum*, and *Magnificat*. He intimates that when a change of thought occurs in the middle of a canticle with an odd verse a double chant is utterly out of place. But I submit that it is not only in place but really serviceable. The way to sing such a canticle is not to go straight on, but to repeat the latter half of the chant wherever the odd verse occurs, and begin the chant afresh with the new tone of thought. This plan not only removes the incongruity complained of, but emphasises the change of idea in the canticle.

In the *Venite* I venture to question the correctness of the Bishop's division. The new tone of thought does not come in at verse 6, which only carries on the idea expressed in verses 1 and 2, but in verse 8. The first

COLONIAL AND FOREIGN CHURCH NEWS.

UNITED STATES.

THE Bishop of South Dakota has fixed upon Sioux-Falls city as his See, a place at which the Church is becoming very strong, the communicants having increased 300 per cent, and the contributions 500 per cent in three years.

ANOTHER adherent of the late Bishop Cummins has returned to our Communion—the Rev. J. K. Dunn, in the diocese of Kansas.

A STRIKING addition to the architecture of New York is the marble spire of Grace Church. This spire, which can be seen for two miles along Broadway, rises to a height of 230 feet, being surmounted by a cross carved out of a single block, nine feet by five.

WEST INDIES.

THE Report of the proceedings of the late Synod of Nassau having been sent us, we are enabled to congratulate that diocese on its struggle against poverty, and such added misfortunes as the death of several of its best clergy. The Bishop hopes to return next month. One resolution of the Synod referred to 'the demise of Miss MacLachan of Bath, England,' that 'valuable friend and helper of this diocese and other mission-fields of the Church.' The parish returns appended to the Report show considerable differences as to Church efficiency; they record some pleasing instances of local munificence, though the aid of the home Church must for a long time continue essential. One device for improving finance is the planting Church land with cocoa-nut trees.

NEW ZEALAND.

WE have already adverted with regret to the appearance of Bishop Suter of Nelson as an apologist for marriage with a deceased wife's sister. We are reminded by the *Church News* that his lordship thus addressed his Diocesan Synod, after that body—during his absence in England—had unanimously resolved, 'That in order to strengthen the hands of the clergy, in refusing to marry a deceased wife's sister to her brother-in-law, the General Synod be requested to reaffirm that such marriages are expressly forbidden by the law of the Church of England, in accordance with the teaching of Holy Scripture.' The Synod was therefore deeply moved by the Bishop's antagonistic utterance. With the idea of strengthening his case, his lordship, after the Synod's dispersion, added to his address that the Church could get over this prohibition as she had 'got over' that of marriage of cousins; but the Roman Catholics themselves do not assert that the latter is forbidden by Scripture.

AUSTRALIA.

BISHOP MOORHOUSE, preaching recently at St. Peter's, Melbourne, made a striking allusion to the seizure of some profane and blasphemous publications by the Custom officials:—'I once knew a man who lost even his faith in the living God, but no blatant infidel could ever make him say a single word against the one whom he called "the pure man, Christ Jesus;" and I had hope of that man; and my hope was justified, for, through his love of the Son, he came back again to the arms of the Father. I am told,' the Bishop continued, 'that there are people in this city of Melbourne who revile and even caricature the most perfect sacred figure of human history. Call Him God, or call Him man, call Him what you please, at least He is that—the most perfect sacred figure of human history. All the great ones of the earth, the men who have stood upon the heights, have bowed willingly before His throne. I am told that there are people who can revile and even caricature Him. Well, then, I pronounce judgment on these men. If they have read their New Testament and studied it—if they know what they are doing—God forbid that I should judge them otherwise—but if they know what they are doing, I say, and I am clear in my judgment, those that revile the Lord Jesus must needs be of a diabolical disposition, and those poor wretched beings that can caricature Him are lower morally than the beasts that perish. You may think that, perhaps, a harsh judgment, but I repeat, if the men know what they are doing—I cannot tell that, only God knows that—but if they know what they are doing, I am as certain that my judgment is true as if I saw the light of the eternal judgment roll in full blaze upon their souls.'

THE sum of 1000*l.* has been given by the widow of the late Bishop Barker of Sydney, for founding a scholarship at Moore College as a memorial of him. Mrs. Barker had already disbursed a like sum, in various ways, for Church purposes since her husband's decease.

INDIA.

BISHOP FRENCH of Lahore is returning immediately to his diocese. He needs 1000*l.* for the roof of his Cathedral, and 1000*l.* for the Sisters' School at Murree: but, more than money, he wants men. He had hoped to be able to announce that the whole sum required for erecting the 'mother-church at Lahore' had been gathered; but 'a disappointment has befallen us by the too-late discovered worthlessness of the timber for roofing, presented us by the Maharajah of Cashmere, who is blind and gradually sinking from illness; whereby we are involved in the additional outlay of 1000*l.*' He adds: 'It is true that of the work of demolition and disintegration of faiths very much has been already done; but now the time is come for the harder and higher work of constructing and fortifying the walls and bulwarks of truth, which work calls for exceptionally "holy and humble men of heart," mighty in the Scriptures, richly stored with doctrinal learning, like Dornier (whose recent loss orthodox Germany deplores). Since the days that Hippolytus and Origen wrote for the Greeks, there have been no such doors, perhaps, thrown open wide as now, for such highly developed tongues and races to have transgressed into them the truth of truths and that which is "the life indeed."'

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

After Harvest, at Braughing and Aspenden, near Buntingford, Herts.

A CORRESPONDENT sends the following pleasing account: On Thursday, the 9th inst., the Benington Society of Change-ringers visited the fine ring of eight bells at Braughing, and rang an excellent touch of Stedman's Triples upon the well-tuned bells. Mr. Haworth, of the College Youths' Society, London, kindly met them, and with them drove to the picturesque village of Aspenden, where they were met by the Rector (the Rev. A. P. Sanderson) and numerous ringers and friends. A bountiful dinner was provided, at which the worthy Rector presided. The excellent ring of bells, recently so ably rehung by Mr. John Gray, Little Munden, were visited; and some very fine ringing was well brought round by the ringers assembled and by the conductorship of Mr. Thomas Page. *Braughing*: Stedman's Triples, 420. *Aspenden*: Stedman's Triples, 504, 420, and 336; Kent Treble Bob, 224; Double Norwich Court Bob, 448; and Superlative Surprise Major, 448: total, 2600. The ringers were: Nathan Warner, J. Kitchener, L. Proctor, Esq., L. Chapman, S. Page, Jos. Kitchener, C. Shambrook, T. Page, and J. R. Haworth. The above-mentioned was an excellent day's ringing, and was thoroughly enjoyed by a numerous assemblage of friends and hearers, and by the ringers themselves. By order of Mr. Churchwarden Fordham, a new set of ropes was supplied by Mr. Haworth, with blue sallies, and as they can be seen from all parts of the church it produces a very pleasing effect.

Birthday Peal at St. Clement Danes, Strand, London.

On Tuesday, the 7th inst., ten members of the St. James's Society rang a peal of 5130 Grandsire Caters in 3 hrs. 36 mins. J. Pettit, 1; E. Horrex, 2; J. W. Robotham, 3; R. French (conductor), 4; W. Weatherstone, 5; F. G. Newman, 6; J. R. Haworth, 7; F. Margetson, 8; G. Banks, 9; E. Albone, 10. Composed by Mr. H. Booth. The above was rung to celebrate the birthday, (which has been done for some years past) of the Rector, the Rev. J. Lindsay, on account of his kindness towards the parochial ringers.

The Rector, on the following Friday evening, invited the above band—Messrs. Haworth, Albone, Weatherstone, French, Margetson, Robotham, (the others were unavoidably absent), likewise Messrs. George and Albone, junr.—to dinner at the Rectory; and after his health had been proposed the Rev. J. Lindsay, in kindly words, expressed his gratification at meeting the ringers at his house, and hoped it would often be the case in future. Mrs. Lindsay was present and much pleased with the hand-bell ringing and the meeting.

Emmanuel Church, Clifton, Bristol.

THE new ring of bells just placed in the tower of this church were rung for the first time on Tuesday, October 7, on the occasion of a marriage. Before the wedding, the Vicar, the Rev. T. G. Luckock, M.A., the choir, churchwardens, and some of the congregation, ascended the belfry. The 100th Psalm was sung, and a special dedication service was read. The tenor bell was sounded, and its tone was exceptionally pure and sweet. After the marriage ceremony several touches of Grandsire Triples and Grandsire Major were rung: the ringers being Messrs. Sladon, Duckham, York, Norton Price, Parsons, Hulton, Emery, and Stallard. The bells, which are eight in number, were supplied by Messrs. Taylor & Co., Loughborough. The tenor weighs a little over 16 cwt., and bears the inscription—'T. G. Luckock, M.A., Vicar; William Spark, Samuel Jones, Churchwardens.' On No. 7 is 'John Woodwell Dodd; on No. 6 'is Eliza Dod; on No. 5, 'The Gift of J. W. Dod, in Memory of Jane Dod, died June 29th, 1883; on No. 4, 'William Webb; on No. 3, 'In Memoriam, J. G. Mortimer Luckock, M.A., ob. Nov. 12, 1880; No. 2, no inscription; Treble, 'Gloria in excelsis Deo.' It is intended to use Seage's dumb-practice apparatus when the ringers are practising. By this ingenious contrivance the bells will remain silent, but their swinging rings a miniature set in duplicate hung over the heads of the ringers, by which the latter are apprised of the nature and result of the practice without the near residents being annoyed by a constant practice of the real ring of bells.

The Bray Ringer.

SIR,—May I ask you to correct an error which appeared in your last week's issue relating to the death of a ringer in Bray belfry? The evidence given at the inquest proves that he was not actually ringing, but having rung for about twelve minutes, was sitting with other ringers on a form, conversing about ringing, &c., when, without any complaint, he suddenly fell forward unconscious and died in a few minutes. Doubtless the cause was heart disease, and the verdict was natural causes. In justice to the bell-hangers, I would state that the bell deceased had been ringing is about 12 cwt., and goes fairly well.

Maidenhead.

EDN. ROGERS.

Midland Counties' Association.

SIR,—I find that in the account of the Midland Counties' Association Quarterly Meeting, held at Nottingham on October 4, there is a numerical error which I wish to correct. The paragraph alluding to the President's Report should be as follows:—'The President in his Report congratulated the Association upon having rung seven peals during the quarter, viz., 4 of Grandsire Triples, of Stedman's Triples, and 2 of Kent Treble Bob; making a total of 16 for the half-year.'

R. W. PRATT, Hon. Sec.

The West Middlesex Bell-ringers' Association.

THE Meetings are arranged as follows:—Saturday, Oct. 18th, at St. Andrew's, Hillingdon, 7 p.m.; Thursday, the 23rd, at St. Mary's, Acton, 8 p.m.; Saturday, the 25th, at St. Mary's, Isleworth, 7.30 p.m.; Saturday, Nov. 1st, at Ruiship, 7 p.m.; Thursday, the 13th, at St. John Baptist, Hillingdon, 7.45 p.m.; Saturday, the 15th, at Slough, 6.30 p.m.; Thursday, the 20th, at St. Mary's, Acton, 8 p.m.; Saturday, the 29th, at St. Andrew's,

Hillingdon, 7 p.m.; Saturday, Dec. 6th, at St. Mary's, Isleworth, 7.30 p.m.; Thursday, the 11th, at St. John Baptist, Hillingdon, 7.45 p.m.; Saturday, the 20th, at Slough, 6.30 p.m.

W. BARON, *Instructor.*

HENRY S. THOMAS, *Hon. Sec.*

Society of College Youths.

SM.—Is it possible to become a College Youth? To whom should application be made, and what qualifications are necessary? I am a ringer, and take a great interest in bell-ringing generally. I do not aspire to become one of a 'picked team' at present, but would content myself merely with the privilege of belonging to the 'Ancient Society of College Youths.'

AMATEUR.

Surrey Association.

A QUARTERLY Meeting of this Association was held at Dorking, by the kind permission of the Ven. Archdeacon Atkinson, on Monday, the 18th inst. The use of the Church-room was very kindly allowed by the clergy for this occasion, and here about eighteen members sat down to tea. After tea, the necessary business was got through, the Rev. L. H. Burrows being in the chair; and then the party adjourned to the tower and spent the rest of the evening in ringing. Touches in various methods were rung, but in each case Triples was the order of the day. The methods practised were Grandsire, Stedman, Plain Bob, Union Triples, and Oxford Bob Triples. The towers represented were Bletchingley, Benhilton, Ashstead, Epsom, and Leatherhead; and good help was afforded by some of the Dorking ringers, with friends from Farnham and Walthamstow. The ringers take this opportunity of thanking all those who so kindly got everything ready for them at Dorking.

ARTHUR B. CARPENTER, *Hon. Sec.*

CHANGE-RINGING.

At All Saints', Glossop, Derbyshire.

On Saturday, the 20th ult., a peal of 5024 Kent Treble Bob Major was rung by the Glossop Junior Society in 3 hrs. 7 mins. S. Harrop, 1; F. Lees, 2; W. Harrop, 3; H. Cooper, 4; C. Brooke, 5; R. Winterbotham, 6; S. Knott, jun. (conductor), 7; J. Pye, jun. 8. Tenor, 15 cwt. First peal for all except F. Lees.

At Walkden Parish Church, Lancashire.

On Sunday, the 21st ult., a peal of 720 Bob Minor was rung before service in 26 mins. W. Baker, 1; E. Cash (conductor), 2; J. Worthington, 3; J. Welsby, 4; J. Brookes, 5; A. Potter, 6. Tenor, 13½ cwt. This was the first peal rung by Mr. Potter.

A peal of 720 Bob Minor was also rung after service in 26½ mins. E. Cash, 1; C. Cash, 2; J. Worthington, 3; J. Welsby (conductor), 4; J. Brooks, 5; W. Denner, 6. This was the first 720 in the method for Mr. C. Cash on an inside bell. All are members of the Lancashire Association of Change-ringers.

At St. George's, Gravesend, Kent.

On Sunday, the 21st ult., on the occasion of the Harvest Festival, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung by the local company, assisted by Mr. S. Hayes of Forest Gate, Essex. G. Hayes (first quarter), 1; J. Atkins, 2; M. Lambert, 3; W. King, 4; B. Spinner, 6; W. Harper, 6; S. Hayes, 7; J. Chapman, 8.

At Beverley Minster, Yorkshire.

On Monday, the 22nd ult., eight members of the Yorkshire Association rang Holt's Ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples in 3 hrs. J. W. Stickney, 1; W. Southwick, 2; R. Chaffer, 3; H. Jenkins, 4; F. Drabble, 5; J. Dixey, 6; F. E. Dawe (conductor), 7; E. Bennett, 8. Tenor, 29 cwt., in D.

At the Parish Church, Leek, Staffordshire.

On Saturday, the 27th ult., six members of the St. George's Society, Hyde, with Mr. Greenleaf of Stoke-upon-Trent (late of London), and Mr. Thorp of Ashton-under-Lyne, rang a peal of 5120 Kent Treble Bob Major in 3 hrs. 17 mins. J. Shaw, 1; J. S. Wilde, 2; T. Bradley, 3; T. Wilde, 4; J. A. Fildes, 5; S. Bradley, 6; W. Greenleaf, 7; J. Thorp (composer and conductor), 8. Tenor, 18½ cwt. First peal of Treble Bob on the bells. The bells at the above church have just been returned by Mr. Greenleaf, who deserves credit for the excellent tune which they are now in.

At St. James's, Trowbridge, Wilts.

On Saturday, the 27th ult., 854 Grandsire Triples were rung by W. Alley (conductor), 1; C. A. Clements,* 2; W. W. Gifford,* 3; J. Hayward, 4; W. McCaffrey, 5; T. Blackburn,* 6; J. R. Jerram,* 7; J. Cooper, 8. Also 112 and 111 Grandsire Triples, conducted by W. McCaffrey. Tenor, 23 cwt. [* College Youths.]

On the Sunday evening following some of the party proceeded to Bradford, and rang some six-scores of Doubles on the front five of the heavy ring of eight, with 6, 7, 8 covering. Tenor, 32 cwt.

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

On Thursday, the 2nd inst., a 644 of Grandsire Triples, taken from Holt's Original, was rung in 22 mins. C. L. Routledge (conductor), 1; W. Eggleston, 2; R. S. Story, 3; W. Bowes, 4; W. G. Routledge, 5; F. Lees, 6; W. Story, 7; R. J. Robson, 8. Tenor, 12 cwt.

On Monday, the 6th inst., at practice, a 120 Bob Doubles was rung on handbells. R. S. Story, 1-2; C. L. Routledge, 3-4; W. Story (conductor), 5-6. First 120 in this manner by all.

Also a peal of 720 Plain Bob Minor (14 bobs and 2 singles) was rung in 26 mins. H. Ferguson,* 1; W. Bowes, 2; C. L. Routledge (conductor), 3; R. S. Story, 4; F. Lees, 5; W. Story, 6. Tenor, 12½ cwt. [* First 720.]

At St. Martin's, Salisbury, Wilts.

On Thursday, the 2nd inst., a peal of 720 Bob Minor was rung in 27 mins. E. A. Foster, 1; W. W. Gifford, 2; A. S. Dowling, 3; C. A. Clements, 4; T. Blackburn, 5; J. R. Jerram, 6. Tenor, 15 cwt. Time not given.

At St. Paul's, Wokingham, Berks.

On Saturday, the 4th inst., eight members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild of Church bell-ringers rang Holt's Original One-part peal of Grandsire Triples in 3 hrs. 9 mins. R. Hopgood,* 1; G. Gibbard,* 2; W. Houlton,* 3; W. R. Pocock, 4; E. Bishop, 5; H. Egby (conductor), 6; Rev. G. F. Coleridge, 7; T. Houlton,* 8. Tenor, 18 cwt. [* First peal.]

At St. Werburgh's, Derby.

On Sunday, the 5th inst., being the Harvest Festival at the above church, a mixed band of change-ringers rang after evening service a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes) in 46 mins. G. Neal, 1; T. Bancroft, 2; A. E. Thompson, 3; J. Newbold, 4; R. Redgate, 5; R. Bosworth (conductor), 6; L. Lomas, 7; G. Slack, 8. Tenor, 17 cwt., in E.

At Hitchin, Herts.

On Monday, the 5th inst., at St. Mary's, 350 Grandsire Triples were rung. H. Silsby, 1; J. Randall, 2; J. Hare, 3; W. A. Tyler, 4; A. Squire, 5; S. Hare, 6; W. Allen (conductor), 7; J. Foster, 8. Also 168 Grandsire Triples. H. Buckingham, 1; the rest as above.

On Tuesday, the 14th inst., eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang Holt's Original peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples in 3 hrs. 16 mins. W. Allen, 1; J. Pettit (conductor), 2; N. N. Hills, 3; J. Hare (first peal), 4; W. A. Tyler, 5; H. Baker, 6; H. G. Fairbrass, 7; J. Kitchiner (first peal), 8. Tenor, 28 cwt., in D.

At All Saints', Fulham, Middlesex.

On Monday, the 6th inst., ten members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang a peal of 5160 Kent Treble Bob Royal in 3 hrs. 30 mins. J. Pettitt, 1; G. Mash, 2; E. F. Strange, 3; E. Gibbs, 4; C. F. Winny, 5; E. Horrex, 6; Rev. C. P. Davies (conductor), 7; W. D. Smith, 8; J. W. Rowbotham, 9; F. G. Newman, 10.

At All Saints', Huntington, near York.

On Wednesday, the 8th inst., the Harvest Festival was celebrated at this church, after which the dedication of the new treble bell, in the room of one which was erected in 1779, took place. A correspondent communicates the following: 'The inscription on the shoulder of the new bell, is 'In Honorem omnium Sanctorum,' having the spaces between the words filled with a running border of the 'Herba Benedicta.' This bell takes the place of an old one cast in 1779 by Dalton of York. The note of the new bell is A, the same as that of the old one, which weighed 2½ cwt., and was sold, being too light to form part of the ring, and the amount, 10*l.*, funded for the purchase of the new one. The new one (3 cwt. 3 qrs. 8lbs.) has been cast by Messrs. Warner and Son, of London, and hung by Mr. T. Mallaby, of Masham, in this county. The Dean of York preached from Ps. xc. 8, after which an offertory was made on behalf of the new bell fund and the York County Hospital.

At Whitwell, near York.

On Thursday, the 9th inst., the Harvest Thanksgiving Service was held, when the church was decorated with cereals, fruit, and roots, &c. Previous to service, two 720's of Plain Bob were rung by ringers from York Minster, one of which was rung before tea, and one after. T. Hodgson, 1; J. Cundall, 2; J. Underwood, 3; J. Daniel, 4; W. H. Howard, 5; W. Morrell, 6. Also a six-score of Grandsire Doubles, the Rector ringing the tenor, which is said to weigh 14 cwt.

At All Saints', Benhilton, Surrey.

On Thursday, the 9th inst., for the Harvest Festival, a peal of 720 Bob Minor (6 bobs and 30 singles) was rung in 28 mins. W. Walker, 1; T. Gaiger, 2; G. F. Scott, 3; Jas. Trendell, 4; Chas. Trendell, 5; John Trendell (conductor), 6. Tenor, 11½ cwt., in E.

At St. Mary's, Harrow-on-the-Hill, Middlesex.

On Saturday, the 11th inst., eight members of the St. James's Society rang Holt's Ten-part peal (Reeves's Variation) of 5040 Grandsire Triples in 3 hrs. 22 mins. J. R. Haworth, 1; W. Coppage, 2; J. Mansfield, 3; R. French (conductor), 4; W. H. Fussell, 5; G. B. Banks, 6; A. Hayward, 7; E. Albone, 8. Tenor, 24 cwt., in E flat. The Rev. F. Hayward Joyce, vicar. The bells have lately been repaired by Mr. G. B. Banks of Lower Kennington Lane, Lambeth; and the proof of the efficient work was manifested by the ringing of the above peal. Messrs. Horley and Dell are the churchwardens; and Mr. Dell, when the ringing was finished, came into the belfry, and congratulated the ringers on their success, saying it had given great pleasure to the inhabitants, and created surprise that men could ring so long a time and so well without any perceptible sign of being tired. The last peal was rung by eight members of the St. James's Society on Oct. 9, 1837, and, a little curiously, in the same month and the same time—3 hrs. 22 mins. W. Showell, 1; T. Tolladay (conductor), 2; G. Stockham, 3; W. Lobb, 4; W. Young, 5; J. Fairbairn, 6; W. Dunn, 7; J. Durrant, 8.

At St. Albans Cathedral, Herts.

On Saturday, the 11th inst., eight members of the St. James's Society rang Holt's Original peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples in 3 hrs. 10 mins. H. Lewis, 1; J. Pettit (conductor), 2; H. Baker, 3; W. D. Smith, 4; N. N. Hills, 5; J. G. Crawley, 6; H. G. Fairbrass, 7; T. Gathard, 8. Tenor, about 30 cwt., in E flat.

At St. George's, Camberwell, Surrey.

On Saturday, the 11th inst., eight members of the St. James's Society rang Holt's Original One-part peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples in 2 hrs. 55 mins. A. E. Church (first peal), 1; H. Langdon, 2; J. M. Hayes, 3; M. Murphy, 4; J. Barry, 5; G. T. McLaughlin (conductor), 6; E. Rogers, 7; T. Coxhead, 8. Mr. McLaughlin deserves great praise for conducting the peal, being the first time he has called Holt's Original.

IRELAND.

(From our Special Correspondent.)

By the direction of his medical advisers the Archbishop of Dublin will take no public part in Church matters beyond the visitation of his clergy and the delivery of his Charge until after Christmas. Meanwhile all necessary diocesan business will be transacted by his Grace's private chaplain, the Dean of the Chapel Royal, and the Archdeacon of Dublin. The visitation is announced for the first week in November.

On the second day of the Derry Diocesan Synod a motion by the Rev. T. L. F. Stack against the Deceased Wife's Sister's Bill was carried. It is the first resolution of the kind carried in the Irish Church, and runs as follows:—

'(1) That this Synod earnestly desires the maintenance in its integrity of the Table of Prohibited Degrees set forth in the year of our Lord 1563, and sanctioned by the Canons of the Church of Ireland, and contained in the Book of Common Prayer, as issued by the authority of the General Synod of the said Church. (2) That a committee be now formed for the purpose of forwarding petitions to the Legislature, and taking such other steps as may be necessary in accordance with the foregoing resolution.'

The Bishop was strongly in favour of the motion.

Up to the present the bodies of the unfortunate crew who perished in the wreck of the *Wasp* gunboat, on the coast of Donegal, continue to be washed ashore. One of the last recovered, and identified by his uniform, was the body of Lieutenant Guppy, who was navigating the ill-fated vessel when she was lost. The Bishop of Derry addressed the following letter to the clergy whose parishes lay on the sea border in the neighbourhood:—

'MY REVEREND BRETHREN,—Our hearts have lately been touched by the loss of so many of the gallant crew of H.M.S. *Wasp*, and letters which I receive prove to me that the affection of survivors still watches for the poor remains which may be washed upon our shores, and earnestly longs that the Church's glorious service of hope should be pronounced over them, and some memorial of them possibly marked with their names. We believe, indeed, with one of old, that "no place can be far from God, and that there is no fear but that He will know His own on the day when He maketh up His jewels." But I express a wish, that I am sure you will fulfil, that in any case when a body may be washed ashore within the bounds of your parish you will place yourself in communication with the Naval authorities, read the Burial Service, and write to myself or to the friends of the deceased if you wish for further information or instruction.'

Harvest Festivals are now being carried out in all parts, and the most Puritanical of the Bishops are seeing their way to being present, and even pronouncing an approving sentence on the decorations. At St. Bartholomew's, Dublin, there was literally no room for another individual on Sunday last, the church being filled to the doors, and numbers being obliged to remain outside. The sermon in the morning was preached by the Vicar, Canon Travers Smith, and that in the evening by the Curate, Canon Weldon. The offertory (over 70*l.*) was given to the St. Patrick's Cathedral Mission.

The Rev. Richard Townsend, Senior Fellow of Trinity College, Dublin, died on last Friday week. On the following Sunday an obituary sermon was preached in the College Chapel by the Rev. Canon Peacocke, rector of Monkstown. It is now published by request. The late Mr. Townsend was one of the best known and most popular of our College Dons. He was a mathematician of a high order in the region of pure mathematics, and his published works on the subject of the Circle, Point, and Line are highly appreciated. He was a F.R.S., and Examiner in Mathematics at the London University. He is succeeded on the Board by Dr. Ingram, and the Rev. Dr. Hewitt Poole goes to the head of the Junior Fellows. Mr. Townsend's funeral took place on Monday last at Mount Jerome Cemetery. The service at the grave was said by the Bishop of Ossory and Canon Peacocke.

At the close of the 'Christian Convention,' in the Union Buildings, Abbey Street, Dublin, there was a celebration of the Holy Communion at 3 p.m. It is reported that the consecration prayer was said by an Irish Church clergyman, the Gospel for the day being read by a Methodist, the Epistle by a Moravian, while a Presbyterian minister delivered an address. It is also said that the Archbishop of Dublin intimated a desire that none of his clergy should take part in these proceedings. The Cork correspondent of the *Ecclesiastical Gazette* writes:—

'A Meeting of the city clergy, convened and presided over by the Archdeacon of Cork, was held on Tuesday to consider a proposal to hold a Mission in the city in Lent, 1885. All the city clergy were present, with the exception of the Rev. F. W. Ainley, incumbent of the Free Church, who is from home. The Rev. Dr. Webster forcibly, and at great length, expressed his views, which were in opposition to the proposal, and his opinion seemed, in some measure, to be that also of his curate, the Rev. W. Fitzgerald. Eventually, with these two clergy as dissentients, a resolution proposed by the Dean of Cork, and seconded by Precentor Warren, was carried in favour of holding the Mission. A subsequent resolution, referring the matter to the Bishop for his opinion and advice, was adopted unanimously, and arrangements as to details connected with the Mission, selection of Mission preachers, character of services, &c., were postponed for the present.'

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association of Change-ringers.

THE twenty-fifth Quarterly District Meeting of this Association was held on Monday last at Tetbury. An address suitable to the occasion was delivered in the parish church, after which the ringers ascended to the belfry, where they found the usual state of things always to be met with where there is nothing but a pully-haully set of ringers; although the vicar and churchwardens had employed Mr. Miles of Tetbury Newton to do what he could to put them in something like going order in the limited time at his command, still they were in a very bad state; but with the good old English pluck of the band selected to represent the Association, 504 Grandsire Triples and 336 Bob Major, conducted by H. G. Gardner, were rung. Dinner took place at the 'White Hart Hotel,' the Vicar in the chair, supported by the Master of the Association (Mr. J. Drinkwater) and the Rev. Pitt Eykyn, Hon. Sec. The vice-chair was occupied by one of the churchwardens of Tetbury. The usual loyal toasts being disposed of, Mr. Drinkwater, in responding to his health and 'Success to the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association of Change-ringers,' said that, somehow or other, many ringers in the diocese, and several of their own members, had got it into their heads that the Association was trying to deprive them of every enjoyment that they ought to possess. Now the very opposite was the fact; the Association was doing all in its power to induce the clergy, churchwardens, and well-to-do portions of congregations, to assist in making every band of ringers in the diocese as well cared for and as well paid as the choir. He did not ask for high pay for the ringers, but something by way of recognition and encouragement is necessary. To the ringers he would say, that if they meant that the Association was trying to prevent the belfry being made into something worse than a pot-house the information was quite correct; and he hoped the day was not far distant when all those who desecrated the House of God by drinking, smoking, or using profane or indecent language, would find admission to the belfry a difficult affair. The Rev. T. G. Harwood (vicar of Tetbury) and one of the churchwardens were elected hon. members of the Association, and Painswick chosen as the place for holding the next anniversary meeting on Monday, 5th January next. The ringers again ascended the tower, and rang 360 Grandsire Triples, conducted by A. J. Aston; and 336 Bob Major and 168 Grandsire Triples, conducted by H. G. Gardner. The ringers who took part in the day's proceedings were the Upton St. Leonards and Barnwood bands, viz. R. Barrett, A. J. Aston, W. Service, J. Middlecote, A. A. Wait, H. Mitchell, H. Barns, J. Yeates, H. G. Gardner, E. King, and G. Miles. J. DRINKWATER, Master of the Association.

A New Peal.

THE following is the first part of 5088 changes of Oxford or Kent Treble Bob Major, which being twice repeated completes the peal, with the fifth twelve times at home, and the sixth nine times wrong and nine courses at home.

To be twice repeated.

By William Sottanastall, Sowerby, Yorkshire, July 9th, 1884, being his eighty-fourth birthday.

* * * A copy of Sottanastall's work on Change-ringing can be supplied at 8*s.* by post; he has a number on hand.

720						Bob Minor.					
2	3	4	5	6		6	5	2	4	3	
S	3	2	5	6	4						2 3 5 6 4
S	2	3	6	4	5	S	5	6	4	3	2
S	3	2	4	5	6	S	6	3	5	2	4
	2	5	3	6	4		3	2	6	4	5
S	5	2	6	4	3		2	4	3	5	6
S	2	5	4	3	6	S	4	2	5	6	3
S	5	2	3	6	4		2	6	4	3	5
	2	6	5	4	3	S	6	2	3	5	4
S	6	2	4	3	5		2	5	6	4	3
S	2	6	3	5	4	S	5	2	4	3	6

Repeated.

EDWARD FRANCIS, Diss.

A New Ring of Eight Bells at St. James's, Whitefield, Derbyshire.

WE had no space for the following last week:—On Thursday, the 9th inst., a ring of eight bells was opened at the above church by the ringers of All Saints' Church, Glossop. There had formerly been one small bell in the tower, but a subscription was opened with gratifying results, the order for the bells being entrusted to Warner & Sons, of the Crescent Foundry, Cripplegate. No time has been lost in the matter, for in less than three weeks the bells have been cast and hung in the tower. They are a remarkably sweet and powerful ring, the trebles being especially good, the back four being maiden bells. Tenor, 12½ cwt. (G.) The bells were conveyed from the railway station to the church on three luries, the passing of which through the streets with their novel freight excited much curiosity on the part of the Glossopians, who perhaps above any other townspeople are noted for their interest in matters connected with bell-ringing. They were deposited in the churchyard, and the spot was visited by hundreds of persons eager to see the bells and to read the inscriptions thereon. The bells are hung in two separate frames of English oak, four above four, the size of the tower being under ten feet square.

They were erected under the personal supervision of Mr. G. Dunn, foreman of the bell department, and proved very satisfactory, the go of the bells leaving nothing to be desired. The utmost enthusiasm prevailed, no less than two bands of change-ringers practising at Glossop church. On the opening day several 576's, 224's, and 1152 of Treble Bob Major, were rung, the bells also being raised and lowered in peal in first-class style. On Thursday evening, the workmen and ringers, together with the vicar and churchwardens, dined together at the 'Surrey Arms,' Victoria Street, the Vicar occupying the chair. The customary loyal toasts were duly honoured, and also the subscribers to the bell fund; the curate's and churchwardens' healths. The Chairman proposed 'The Health of Mr. G. Dunn and his workmen,' in eulogistic terms. Mr. Dunn responded in his usual pleasing manner on behalf of himself and workmen, and also expressed a wish that Mr. J. Pye, one of the Glossop ringers, would give his opinion regarding the new bells. In response Mr. Pye said that he had rung on many rings of bells, both new and old, but he had never rung on one that harmonised so nicely, or went as well as this ring, and he considered it a great credit to all concerned in the making and hanging of the bells. Various other toasts and handbell ringing concluded a most enjoyable evening, the proceedings of which were characterised by the utmost enthusiasm and good order, the room being crowded all the latter part of the time.

CHANGE - RINGING.

At Garston, Lancashire.

On Monday, the 13th inst., eight members of the L. A. C. R. rang Hollis's five-part peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples in 3 hrs. 5 mins., with the bells half-muffled, in memory of the late Miss Lightbody, the donor of the bells, who was interred September 17th at St. James', Liverpool. S. Gough, 1; J. Alexander, 2; W. Turner, 3; C. Newton, 4; F. Turner, 5; W. Hughes, 6; G. W. Hughes (conductor), 7; T. Morris, 8. Tenor, 12½ cwt. [Church not named.]

At St. Hilda's, South Shields.

On Monday, the 13th inst., a peal of 720 plain Bob Minor was rung in 27 mins. by members of the Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association. R. Hopper (conductor), 1; J. Hopper, 2; R. Scrafton, 3; C. Wawn,* 4; J. R. Wheldon,* 5; J. Moffitt, 6. Tenor, 10 cwt. [* His first 720.]

At Alburgh, Norfolk.

On Saturday, the 18th inst., eight members of the Norwich Diocesan Association rang a peal of 5088 Kent Treble Bob in 2 hrs. 43 mins. The peal was composed by Mr. N. J. Pitstow. It has the 4 and 6 bells the extent in 5-6. E. Smith (conductor), 1; W. Sheldrake, 2; G. Prince, 3; W. Matthews, 4; J. Tann, 5; G. Mobbs, 6; R. Whiting, 7; F. Smith, 8. Tenor, 11 cwt.

At SS. Mary and Sexburgha's, Minster-in-Sheppey, Kent.

On Saturday, the 18th inst., five members of the Sittingbourne branch of the Kent Association rang four six-scores of Bob Doubles. This is, probably, the first change-ringing done in the oldest abbey-church in England. F. Grayling, S. Snelling, F. C. Mattison, E. J. Bottle, and W. H. Judd. Tenor, 12 cwt.

At St. Mary's, Twickenham, Middlesex.

On Saturday, the 18th inst., eight members of the St. James's Society rang Holt's Original peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples in 2 hrs. 56 mins. J. R. Haworth, 1; J. Mansfield, 2; W. Coppage, 3; R. French (conductor), 4; Jos. Barry, 5; G. R. Banks, 6; A. Hayward, 7; E. Albone, 8. The first peal after repairing of the bells by Mr. Banks.

At St. Peter's, Hindley, Lancashire.

On Sunday morning, the 19th inst., being the eighteenth anniversary of the consecration of the above church, the first half of Holt's Ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples (2520 changes) was rung in 1 hr. 25 mins. R. Calland, 1; S. C. C. Turner, 2; E. Brown, 3; W. Chisnall, 4; E. Bentham, 5; T. Tickle, 6; J. Prescott (conductor), 7; G. Lang (first half-peal), 8. Tenor, 14½ cwt.

At St. Mary's, Stratford, Bow, Middlesex.

On Tuesday evening, the 21st inst., eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang Holt's Original peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples in 2 hrs. 50 mins. L. Green, 1; W. D. Smith, 2; H. Springall, 3; I. G. Shade, 4; H. J. Shade (conductor), 5; C. Beech, 6; R. Turner, 7; T. Baker, 8. Tenor, 14 cwt.

At Stanstead, Essex.—Handbells.

On Tuesday evening, the 14th inst., four of the Junior Handbell Ringers rang 216 of Stedman's Triples; a course of Kent Treble Bob Maximus with Senior and Junior band; a course of Somersetshire Treble Bob Major by Junior band—W. Prior, H. Prior, C. Prior, Wm. Prior—also a course of Stedman's Cinques; this was rung for the farewell of Mr. C. Prior, who leaves for Stratford, Essex.

John Warner and Sons.

We are pleased to see that remarkable honours in the form of medals have been awarded to the above firm at the late Calcutta Exhibition for bells, and braziers of sorts.

College Youth.

If 'Amateur' will give his name and address, he shall be instructed how to become a College Youth by A COLLEGE YOUTH.

NOTICE.—The Editor of the Bell columns can supply a good copy of *Campanologia Improved*, 1766 also a copy of the *Clavis*, each at 10s. 6d., by post.

CORRESPONDENCE.

English Church History and Parish Almanacs and Magazines.

SIR,—The parochial clergy just now will be busy preparing their Parish Almanacs for 1885. May I be allowed to make a suggestion—that a parochial almanac would be greatly improved if it were to show the spiritual ancestry, if I may so say, of the parish? Very few, so far as I have seen, do this at present. But it would be very easy to find room, say, at the top left-hand corner in a sheet almanac, or on the outside page of a parish magazine, for a list of the Bishops of the diocese, while a list of the Rectors of the parish might be very easily placed at the corresponding right-hand corner of the almanac. I am writing this letter in the diocese of Liverpool, and let us suppose that I am preparing an almanac for St. Catherine's, one of the daughter-churches in the ancient parish of Wigan. In such dioceses as Canterbury, or Bath and Wells, no change has taken place, I believe, for over 1000 years, but in the north it is different, and the very changes in the list of dioceses would be instructive as to the continuity and yet progressive-ness of the Church, Lancashire having been first under the pastoral care of Lichfield, and afterwards of Chester, before the foundation of the sees of Manchester and Liverpool, and the transference of Westmoreland and the northern section of Lancashire to Carlisle. Thus the list would be as follows:

Bishops of Lichfield.		Rectors of Wigan.	
Diuma	656	John de Mansel	1245
John Brown (say)	1530	Robert de Cliderhon	1303
Bishops of Chester.		Richard Falsbagh	1309
John Birde	1542	John de Langton	1334
George Cotes	1554		
Cuthbert Scott	1556	Henry John Gunning	1833
William Downham	1561	Hon. G. T. O. Bridgeman	1864
John Bird Sumner	1828	Vicars of St. Catherine's.	
(See of Manchester founded 1847)		William Coombes	1843
John Graham	1848	J. Whitehead	1851
William Jacobson	1865	T. Higham	1863
Bishop of Liverpool.		E. A. Dury	1876
John Chas. Ryle	1880		

I do not know the order of the succession of the Bishops of Lichfield and Coventry, nor who was the occupant of the see when Lancashire and Cheshire were cut off and united with Westmoreland and half of the West Riding to form the diocese of Chester, but I do think that such lists as these would teach the history of the Christian Church in this land in a very practical way.

H. C.

By-paths of Clerical Failure.

SIR,—I shall esteem it a great favour if you will allow me to make a few remarks upon the last paper in *Church Bells* under the above heading. The writer of these able papers slightly errs, I think, on the subject of preaching. I, for one, contend that the pulpit is not the place for a display of learning. When we go to church we do not go to hear how well 'read' up Mr. So-and-So is, and to come away with only one impression, viz. that the preacher must be a very clever man: rather, we want to hear and learn something which will stay in our minds during our hours in the workshop. Such teaching and such preaching is not got from books, but by close living to God. Of course I give learning its due and right place. The clergy seem to think they must sit down in their study, read up this book or that, and then the ideas which they have thought out there put down on paper, and read like a schoolboy to their congregation next Sunday. If the clergy would throw their MSS. to the winds, and speak, after careful thought and prayer, to their people from their heart, the Church would be more successful. Further, I maintain that if a man cannot preach without his MS. (which all the time may be some one else's composition), God never intended that man to preach, and that, were the social status taken from the Church, he would soon don the dress of an ordinary civilian.

VINCIO.

Restoration of St. Mary's, Holme-next-the-Sea.

SIR,—I have been interested in the letter of your correspondent, Mr. Curtis, relative to the restoration of the church of Holme, near Hunstanton, Norfolk. I first saw the church two years back, and again a few days since, and I can fully confirm all that Mr. Curtis says as to its need of substantial repair and internal rearrangement, as well as of the inability of the small population of farmers and labourers to undertake so costly a work. On my recent visit I was glad to see that something had been done to render the church less unworthy of its character as a house of God. The roof had been made watertight and secured from danger of falling; it had been new ceiled, and other necessary repairs had been executed. It is gratifying to learn that the labourers of the parish have taken part in so good a work, and that Mr. Le Strange has promised to restore the chancel. This union of the highest and the lowest in their care for God's house is most encouraging.

Few churches have suffered more from neglect and decay than this once noble edifice, which now shows small evidence of its former grandeur. Its stately square tower, erected towards the end of the fourteenth century by the Judge-Itinerant, Henry Nottingham, and his wife, is the only unaltered relic of the ancient church. The chancel has been shortened, and its Early English windows built up. These were discernible beneath the plaster on my former visit. On the rebuilding of the nave in 1778 both its aisles were sacrificed, and its length was curtailed to the west. The tower, which origin-

independent of any control but that of the Church itself, and in which at all times, and throughout all its branches, the Word of God may have free course and be glorified.

The resolutions were seconded by the Rev. Thomas Good. They were opposed by the Rev. J. W. Tristram (Diocesan Instructor in Religious Knowledge) in a very conclusive speech, and were finally disposed of by the Lord Justice of Appeal, who pointed out that the resolutions if carried would be fatal to the new Training College which they had just started with the help of the Government. He also pointed out that the Training College was as absolutely under the control of the Church as any Church building could be. It was in no sense under the control of the National Board. He did not think that the Protestants of Ireland were aware of the extent to which the National Board had already gone in for denominational education. There being no further business to transact the Benediction was said and the Synod closed.

A special service in connexion with the Mullingar (Diocese of Meath) branch of the Girls' Friendly Society was held in All Saints' Church, Mullingar, on Friday, October 24th, at 12 o'clock. About 100 members of the branch (which includes ten parishes and numbers about 120 members) assembled in the church. A short service specially appointed for G. F. S. services was used. The prayers were read by the Rev. F. Swift, vicar of Mullingar. An able and instructive address was given by the Rev. Hill Wilson White, LL.D. The Right Hon. and Most Rev. Lord Plunket, bishop of Meath, and Lady Plunket (who is the President of the Girls' Friendly Society in the diocese of Meath), had arranged to be present at the service, but in consequence of the sudden death of Lord Plunket's brother, the Hon. Arthur C. Plunket, they were unable to attend. Lady Plunket kindly sent to each of the members a prettily bound Text-book. In each book she had written the member's name and the following inscription—'In remembrance of Friday, 24th October, 1884. Annie Lee Plunket.' In the absence of Lady Plunket the Countess of Longford presented the books to the members. Luncheon was afterwards provided for those present at the Rectory.

COLONIAL AND FOREIGN CHURCH NEWS.

UNITED STATES.

MR. HALL, pastor of the 'First Presbyterian Church' at Brooklyn, has brought out an 'Evangelical Hymnal, with tunes' of rare excellence. The New York *Churchman* pronounces it quite superior to the compilation authorised by the American Episcopate; 'the strictest Churchman would reject hardly a dozen hymns in the 610.' This is therefore a token of improved tone in one of the leading denominations—in sympathy, we may add, with their brethren in Scotland.

ISLANDS OF THE PACIFIC.

THE report of the Hawaiian Mission for 1883 speaks of the progress made towards the completion of the Cathedral of Honolulu. The island stone being found harder than was anticipated, the builder undertook to furnish from England the stone required, at the same cost. The maintenance of St. Cross School and of the Mission in Wailuku have entailed a heavy burden on the funds of the Mission, owing to the withdrawal of a Government grant and the increased price of provisions. In other parts, as the Island of Kanai, the Church is now self-supporting.

AUSTRALIA.

THE Archdeacon of Colombo has accepted the Deanery of Hobart, Tasmania.

THE Sydney *Church Record* remarks, that the returns sent in to the Convocation of York show that 'wherever there is more than one public-house to every 600 inhabitants the accommodation is in excess of natural wants and tends to a diseased craving for drink; therefore in this colony (New South Wales) there must be about four times too many public-houses.'

SPAIN.

THE Bishop of Gibraltar, who takes an active personal interest in the spiritual needs of British shipping visiting his vast diocese, has placed 100l. a-year at the disposal of the Missions to Seamen, for the support of a Scripture-reader, for the exclusive service of the 62,000 British seamen who annually visit Bilbao. The chaplain of the Missions to Seamen at that port has long been urgently desirous of additional aid, for which funds were not forthcoming. A reader, who has acquired eighteen months' experience, under the Chaplain of the Missions to Seamen ship at Cardiff, has been selected for the post. The Bishop has, moreover, consented to become a trustee for the Missions to Seamen Institute, built at Bilbao, at a cost of 1550l., so as to be able to afford that institution the benefit of his wide experience during his Lordship's periodical visitations of that port.

FRANCE.

THE 'anti-clericals' continue abusing their present political preponderance. The Roman Catholics have, however, succeeded in replacing the 4178 'Commercial schools' taken from them by as many as 4053 new 'free schools.' The State is now bent also on 'laicising' the church bells; having directed them to be rung to summon to the State school, to mark the times for cabarets to close, for workmen's meals, for the meeting of town-councils, for balloting, for the opening of the vintage, and for the arrival of the tax-gatherer.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

The Ancient Society of College Youths of London.

ON Thursday, the 23rd ult., at the church of St. Giles-in-the-Fields, Holt's Original One-part peal of Grandsire Triples was rung in 2 hrs. 56 mins. H. W. Haley, 1; Rev. C. D. P. Davies, 2; J. Pettit, 3; H. J. Shade, 4; C. F. Winny, 5; R. French, 6; T. Hattersley, 7; H. Gardner, 8. The whole of the ringing was performed in complete silence, not a single call or other sign being made from beginning to end. It was intended to ring this peal in the tower of St. Margaret's, Westminster, where in 1751 it was rung for the first time, the composer himself being seated in the belfry and calling it from his MS. In those days, and for a considerable period afterwards, it was thought that the number of calls to be committed to memory would prevent its ever being conducted by one taking part in the actual ringing. As, unfortunately, permission could not be obtained at St. Margaret's, application was made to the authorities of St. Giles-in-the-Fields, where, on Oct. 23rd, 1791, the conductor succeeded in being the first to call the bobs while also ringing a bell. The College Youths venture to congratulate themselves that on the 93rd anniversary of this performance, and in the same tower, eight of their number, who had previously called the peal, were enabled to meet together and ring it, each one performing his part without any outside aid or direction. The referees, both of whom noted each lead as it came up, were Mr. Dawe of the College Youths, and Mr. Marriott, of the Royal Cumberland Society, who called 'Go' at the commencement, and 'Stand' at the end. Messrs. Haworth, W. G. Shade, sen., H. J. Shade, jun., and A. Hayward, were present, and congratulated the clever party on their success.

A New Ring of Bells at St. Nicholas, Cuddington, near Aylesbury, Bucks.

DURING the past week a new ring of six bells has been placed in the tower of the above church, from the foundry of Messrs. Warner and Sons, Cripplegate, London, and is a fine ring in the key of G sharp; tenor, 9 cwt. They take the place of five old bells, two of which were badly cracked, two bearing the date of 1610, one the date of 1612, the others being undated. New beams and flooring, with massive English oak frame, have been placed to carry the new bells. On Friday evening last they were rung for the first time by the bell-hangers and one of the local ringers, to the great delight of the villagers, who thronged the church, and expressed their delight with the tone of the bells. It is to be hoped that a half-pull band will soon be formed, as the 'go' of the old bells rendered change-ringing impossible. A band of Grandsire Triples ringers exists at Long Crendon, the neighbouring village, who, we trust, may use their influence to promote the spread of scientific ringing. The dedication of the bells took place on Thursday, on the occasion of the Harvest Festival. The whole of the work connected with the bells, which were erected in eight days, was under the charge of Mr. G. Dunn, foreman of the bell-hanging department.

Kent County Association.—At Folkestone, Kent.

ON Sunday, the 26th ult., a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes) was rung in 46 mins. for evening service; and 672 changes for afternoon service. Messrs. C. Relf, J. Fisher, J. Harrison, S. Barker, S. Snelling,† A. H. Wooley,* R. Simmons,* and H. Croucher. Tenor, 25 cwt. 1 qr. [* Maidstone; † Sittingbourne; the rest local company.]

ON Monday, the 27th ult., the Kent County Association held a District Meeting at Folkestone. About sixty members attended from Cheriton, Newington, Dover, and Saltwood. The bells at Folkestone were kept going throughout the day with touches of Grandsire and Plain Bob; they being the only eight bells in the district. A Committee Meeting was held at one o'clock, and decided the next meeting to be held at Ash, and the Annual General Meeting at Sittingbourne.

Oxford Diocesan Guild of Church Bell-ringers.

THE Bradfield Deanery Branch of the above Guild held its third Annual Festival at Pangbourne on Saturday, the 25th ult. There was service in the parish church at 3 p.m., the Rector, the Rev. R. Finch, officiating; the Rev. C. H. Travers, rector of Englefield and Rural Dean, reading the Second Lesson. A very appropriate and impressive sermon was preached from 1 Cor. x. 31, by the Rev. F. E. Robinson, vicar of Drayton, Berks, Master of the Diocesan Guild. After the service a short peal was rung on the sweet bells, six in number, of the parish church; and, that done, the ringers and a few others repaired to the schoolroom, where a substantial tea awaited them. About forty sat down, among whom were, besides the above mentioned, the Revs. T. Butler and D. Morgan, Dr. and Mr. Morrell, &c. After tea, the Rev. C. H. Travers, who, as Rural Dean, presided, read part of a letter from the Rev. J. B. Burne, rector of Waring, the Honorary Secretary, expressing his regret for being unavoidably absent. The Rural Dean then read a satisfactory financial statement, showing a small balance in hand. After thanks had been voted to the preacher and the Rector, &c., and had been duly acknowledged, the Chairman proposed 'Success to the Deanery Branch of the Guild.' All thoroughly enjoyed themselves; and, tea ended, the members returned to the belfry, where, conducted by Mr. Robinson, some good peals were rung by the Englefield, Pangbourne, and Theale ringers.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At Hertford.

ON Thursday, the 16th ult., Holt's Ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples was rung in 2 hrs. 57 mins. †H. Lewis (St. Albans), 1; †H. Baker,* (conductor), (Hertford) 2; †H. G. Fairbrass (Canterbury), 3; †N. N. Mills (St.

Albans, 4; + J. G. Crawley (Hertford), 5; J. Godfrey (Hertford), 6; + W. A. Alps (Waltham Abbey), 7; F. George (Hertford), 8. [Name of church not mentioned.] [* First peal as conductor. † College Youths.]

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

On Monday, the 20th ult., the last 700 of Holt's Original peal of Grandsire Triples was rung in 26 mins. by members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild. R. Smith, 1; W. A. Garraway (conductor), 2; R. Flaxman, 3; H. Rogers, 4; W. C. Parker, 5; J. W. Wilkins, 6; E. Rogers, 7; E. Keeley, 8. Tenor, 17½ cwt.

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

On Tuesday, the 21st ult., four members of the St. Modwen's Society, together with four members of the St. Paul's Society, rang Holt's Ten-part peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples in 2 hrs. 59 mins. J. Hicklin,* 1; W. Wakley (conductor), 2; J. Jagger, 3; J. Walker, 4; H. Wakley, 5; R. Cartwright,† 6; G. Robinson, 7; W. A. Orme,* 8. Tenor, 22 cwt. [* First peal. † First peal of Triples.]

At St. Mary's, Lichfield.—Muffled Peal.

On Tuesday evening, the 21st ult., eight members of the Society of Change-ringers for the Archdeaconry of Stafford rang several touches of Grandsire Triples, with the bells muffled, as a last mark of respect to the late Col. Bagnell, of Shenstone Moss, near Lichfield. He was an honorary member of the Association, and took great interest in bells and bell-ringing, and by his death the Association has lost one of its best supporters. E. Gallimore, 1; J. Astbury, senr., 2; J. Key, 3; H. Meacham, 4; A. Whithy, 5; T. Meredith (conductor), 6; A. Greenwood, 7; C. North, 8. Tenor 19 cwt. 3 qrs., in E.

At St. John's, Windsor, Berks.

On Tuesday, the 21st ult., eight members of the St. James's Society rang Hollis's Five-part peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples in 3 hrs. 8 mins. A. H. Gardom (conductor), 1; G. F. Coleridge, 2; W. S. Willett, 3; A. C. Fussell, 4; W. H. Fussell, 5; J. Barry, 6; A. Hayward, 7; G. Perryman, 8. Tenor, 22 cwt., in E. The first peal for thirty-four years.

At All Saints', Fulham.

On Saturday, the 25th ult., ten members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang a peal of 6666 Stedman's Caters in 4 hrs. 25 mins. J. Pettit, 1; C. H. Hattersley, 2; G. Mash, 3; J. W. Rowbotham, 4; C. F. Winny, 5; F. E. Dawe, 6; E. Gibbs, 7; W. D. Smith, 8; E. Horrex, 9; W. Prime, 10. Tenor, 21 cwt., in E flat. Composed by H. Johnson, senr., of Birmingham, and conducted by F. E. Dawe. The peal, which has never been previously performed, probably enjoys the fame of being the first of this length ever achieved, and was rung on the occasion of fixing a tablet in the tower to commemorate the 11,111 Stedman's Caters performed by this Society on 8th December, 1883, in which eight of the above gentlemen had the honour of taking part.

6666									
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
2	4	6	8	1	5	3	9	7	-
4	8	5	9	2	1	6	7	3	-
7	6	2	5	9	8	3	4	1	-
6	5	8	4	7	9	2	1	3	-
4	1	3	2	5	6	9	7	8	-
3	1	4	6	5	2	-	5	-	16
3	1	2	4	5	6	-	-	-	16
2	1	3	6	5	4	-	5	-	16
2	1	4	3	5	6	-	-	-	16
2	1	6	4	5	3	-	-	-	16
6	1	2	3	5	4	-	5	-	16

2 1 4 5 6 3 4 16
4 1 2 3 6 5 5 16
4 1 5 2 6 3 - 16
4 1 3 5 6 2 - 16
3 1 4 2 6 5 5 16
3 1 5 4 6 2 - 16

The last 6 courses 8 times repeated, with a single at the last 16 in the 5th and 10th parts, produce—

5	1	4	6	2	3	9	7	8	-
1	6	5	3	4	9	2	7	8	-
6	9	1	4	3	4	5	8	2	-
6	9	7	4	1	5	3	8	2	-
4	8	9	2	5	7	6	3	1	-
4	8	2	7	9	6	5	3	1	-
8	7	6	3	4	9	2	1	5	-

Round at 5 sixes.

At St. Mary's, Lambeth, Surrey.

On Saturday, the 25th ult., being the thirtieth anniversary of the charge of Balaclava, eight members of the Cumberland Society rang Hollis's Five-part peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples in 3 hrs. 8 mins. A. H. Gardom (conductor), 1; J. Searle (of Brighton), 2; H. A. Hopkins, 3; J. Gobbett, 4; J. Barry, 5; W. H. Doran, 6; S. Jarman, 7; J. Andrews (of Eastbourne, first peal), 8. First time the peal has been rung in London.

At St. Andrew's, Litchurch, Derby.

On Monday evening, the 27th ult., five ringers of the above church, assisted by Mr. R. Bosworth as conductor, rang a peal of 720 Grandsire Minor in 30 mins. W. Shallow, 1; A. E. Thompson, 2; C. Hart, 3; W. Midgley, 4; H. Found, 5; R. Bosworth (conductor), 6. Tenor, 20 cwt. 2 qrs. 14 lbs., in E-flat. The above peal is the first 720 of Grandsire Minor performed by the St. Andrew's ringers, and since the opening peal it is the first time of its performance.

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

On Monday, the 27th ult., eight members of the St. Paul's Society of Change-ringers rang Brook's Variation of Thurstan's peal of 5040 Stedman's Triples in 3 hrs. 2 mins. E. I. Stone, 1; A. Wakley, 2; H. Wakley, 3; J. Griffin, 4; J. Jagger, 5; R. Cartwright, 6; W. Wakley (conductor), 7; T. Holmes, 8. Tenor, 26 cwt. All members of the Midland Counties Association.

NOTE.—Owing to press of matter we have been compelled to let several important communications stand over.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Forms for Church Offices.

SIR,—In *Church Bells* for October 18, my good friend and neighbour, Mr. Foxley, writes as if on the supposition that there were not printed cards ready for Christenings, &c.; but he, and perhaps others, will be glad to hear that there are already such, published by the S.P.C.K., of most excellent size (royal 8vo.), of very large and plain type, light and handy, bound in thin cloth. Only yesterday I had them, as before, in use, one for each Sponsor and myself, at a Christening in our little Church; and a more gratifying Christening I never saw, though all are vastly improved from what they used to be. It is but seldom, or at least not often, that we have Christenings here, our normal population, by the last census I took of it, being under 210—just at present, temporarily, about 240, in consequence of some extra work being carried on at Warter Priory close to here. I had a wedding here last May, one of the pair being from a neighbouring parish, and with this semi-exception, it is the first there has been since November 1879. I hope therefore that it will be thought excusable, my work not being over-burdensome, that I so often as I do *illudo chartis* in various papers, magazines, &c., lime enough for such being thus *datum oti*. I should like also to mention that on the occasion of Christenings, I always give a tract to each of the Sponsors, entitled *Ought I to stand for this Child?* (S.P.C.K.), or some other such; and to the mother when Churched, which is generally, but not always, at the same time, one called *The Penalty and the Promise* (R.T.S.), or some such. So, also, at funerals: I give the clerk some suitable ones to give away to the head of each household who may be present, such as *A Churchyard Scene* (R.T.S.), *To the Spectators of a Funeral* (R.T.S.), or other; as at such times they cannot but be expected to be of benefit to the persons themselves, and, it may be hoped, to others, through them. There is also a similar Card of the S.P.C.K. for private Celebrations of the Holy Communion—most useful—which I had occasion to use only the week before last.

F. O. MORRIS.

Nunburnholme Rectory, Hayton, York.

The Church Service.

SIR,—On reading the letter in *Church Bells* on the above subject, I was reminded of the fact that Mr. Frowde of the Oxford University Press has just published a very useful and valuable work, which, from its adaptability to the wants of many, is destined to become exceedingly useful and popular. I refer to the *Church of England Sunday Service Book*. The morning and evening services are given, without omission or alteration of any kind, in the precise order in which they are used in our churches throughout the year. The plan adopted is very similar to one which I suggested in *Church Bells* some years ago, and I am glad to see that it has been followed. It will meet a pressing want, and is designed especially for those attending our churches and mission-rooms, who find the present arrangement of the Prayer-book somewhat intricate. As a mission-worker, I have had abundant experience of the difficulty manifested by working men and women in fully and thoroughly engaging in the services, simply because they were not able to find the collects, &c., and thus they gradually, in many cases, ceased their attendance at the means of grace. The book is designed with a view to meet a recognised want, and the compilers and publishers deserve every encouragement at the hands of Churchmen of all shades of opinion.

Eccles.

G. P. EDWARDS.

The Bishop of Bedford on the Church Service.

SIR,—Those who are, like myself, interested in the subject which the Bishop of Bedford has been discussing in your columns should pay a visit to St. Andrew's Church, Fulham. I happened to be there on a recent Sunday evening—it was the harvest festival—and was much struck by the method of rendering the Psalms. A plain Anglican chant was used, but the music was varied in such a way that the meaning of the words was not obscured, as it so often is in chanting, but impressed upon the minds of the hearers with a vividness that would scarcely be obtained by the best of reading. As an instance I may point out the way in which two verses of a well-known Psalm were taken. The arrangement was as follows:—

Men's voices only.—'Lift up your heads, O ye gates, and be ye lift up, ye everlasting doors, and the King of glory shall come in.'

Boys' voices only.—'Who is the King of glory?'

Men's voices only.—'It is the Lord strong and mighty, even the Lord mighty in battle.'

This is but one instance out of many possible ones. Not only the quality of sound but the pace of singing was changed in accordance with the sentiment to be expressed, and great care was taken to preserve the proper emphasis of the words.

I think it is a great pity that such a method of chanting is not more largely adopted. It is often pain and grief to those who have endeavoured to understand the meaning and appreciate the beauties of the Psalms to hear them hurried through, without the least attention to the different language of different verses, as if the only object in view were to get over a necessary nuisance. Of course some taste on the part of organist and choirmaster must be postulated. At St. Andrew's its existence was evident, but there is no reason why vicar and organist should not lay their heads together over the matter in other churches, the one contributing his knowledge of the text and the other his musical ingenuity. I am sure, were such a plan tried, the Psalms would no longer be grumbled at as 'not understood of the people,' and the brightness of the service would be largely augmented.

R. J. F.

COLONIAL AND FOREIGN CHURCH NEWS.

CANADA.

THE Bishop of Athabasca has visited Rampart House, the last post of the Hudson's Bay Company in the Far North of British America, and the most remote of all the C. M. S. stations. It is within the Arctic circle, on Porcupine River, near the borders of Alaska. The Rev. V. C. Sim is missionary there to the Tukudh or Loucheux Indians, of whom some 2000 are Christians. The Bishop found him quite well at his solitary post, and also the Rev. T. H. Canham at Fort McPherson, on Peel River, whose special mission is to the Eskimoes.

ISLANDS OF THE PACIFIC.

WE learn from the island kingdom of Hawaii that the third Anglican Synod was held in August at Honolulu, in Iolani College. Union with the province of New Zealand was discussed, and eventually it was left with the Bishop to make arrangements, if possible, to this end. The Queen-dowager Emma has had another attack of apoplexy, but is happily recovering. She is universally beloved, and is a tower of strength for the Native Church.

INDIA.

THE *Indian Churchman* states that among non-Christian Singhalese marriage with a deceased wife's sister is by no means uncommon; but that, in consequence of this, public opinion does not permit a young unmarried woman to reside in the house of her brother-in-law, even during her sister's lifetime.

EAST AFRICA.

MR. BOYCE, a chaplain in the United States navy, having spent two weeks in Zanzibar, has contributed two papers on the Mission to the *New York Churchman*. He says: 'The services of the church at Zanzibar and the school at Kiungani are very hearty. In the city the morning service is in Swahili, and choral throughout, as is also the English service at 4 o'clock in the afternoon. Most successful is the manner in which the cathedral choir of negro boys and men, vested in red cassocks and white cottas, render the choral service in English. On one Sunday, Mr. Goodyear, one of the Missionary staff, officiated on board the U. S. Flagship *Brooklyn*, then in the harbour. Mr. Boyce emphasises the fact that the Mission has steadily set its face against any denationalisation of the people of Africa. It has been anxious to teach them in their own language, and to keep them to their own style of food and dress. Mr. Boyce appeals to American Churchmen to join in prayers for a blessing on the work of the new Bishop sent forth to succeed the devoted Dr. Steere.

SOUTH AFRICA.

A CONFERENCE between the two sections of the Anglican Church in Natal, with a view to discussing the feasibility of fusion under one Episcopal head, closed last week, moderation and harmony having been displayed.

BISHOP MACKENZIE of Zululand, in a Pastoral Letter to his clergy, dwells on the position of Catechumens, who have been for some time in this Mission a clearly marked body. Since 1870 they have been recognised (1) by permission given to marry a Catechumen in church, only withholding till after Baptism the 'Sacramental Benediction'; and (2) by the provision of an office for their formal admission. He advises that Catechumens should also be admitted to special prayers after the Sermon at Holy Communion, from which unbelieving hearers are excluded.

WEST AFRICA.

WE have observed with much satisfaction that the territory of Bonny has been taken under British protection. Just now there seems to be a race among European nations for possessions in Africa, and it is well that England should have forestalled other Powers in making sure her foothold in the Niger Delta. Consul Hewett, who has been the agent in recent proceedings, knows the chiefs of Bonny and the neighbouring places well, and no man could be better trusted to do everything justly and fairly. It is especially satisfactory that in the treaty which he laid before the chiefs for signature there is a clause providing for full liberty for Christian missionaries and native converts. Bishop Crowther writes that great joy and thankfulness prevail among the Bonny Christians.—*C. M. S. Gleaner*.

PALESTINE.

THE Archbishop of Canterbury has given a commission to execute episcopal functions in Palestine (the Anglo-Prussian Bishopric being still vacant) to Bishop Hannington on his way out to East Africa. He hopes to ordain two C. M. S. native agents, and also to hold confirmations.

RUSSIA.

THE Russian Episcopate seems alarmed at the progress of Dissent; they have held a conference at Kieff to take measures for preventing it. In the province of Ekaterinoslav, over one hundred persons are about to be 'tried for heresy,' who belong to a new sect of seceders which, though sober-living and industrious, 'recognises neither spiritual nor temporal authorities, and disbelieves in the Sacrament and the virtue of holy pictures.' The Russian Church is well-nigh as blind as the Russian State in discerning the signs of the times, and forestalling revolution by reform.

ITALY.

THE growing importance of the Catholic Reform movement may, we hope, be inferred from the circumstance that the Cardinal-Vicar at Rome has seen cause to warn against joining the 'so-called congregation of St. Paul,' a 'new sect,' which, 'pretending to be Catholic and Italian, is really only heretical and foreign.' But while calling the ex-prelates Campello and Savarese 'apostates,' his Eminence recognises that they 'retain the sacerdotal character,' and thus 'parody every Sunday the Divine mysteries.'

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

The Church Year-Book, 1885.—Chapter on Ringers' Guilds.

SIR,—Allow me to request that the Secretaries of any Diocesan or County Associations omitted as yet will be so kind as to write to me. My list at present includes the following:—*Diocesan Associations*: Ely, Gloucester and Bristol, Norwich, Oxford, Salisbury, Winchester, Durham, Lichfield.—*County, &c., Associations*: Essex, Herts, Surrey, Kent, Devonshire, West Middlesex, Lincoln, North and South, the Midland Shires, the Framland Ringers, Higham Ferrers, the Raunds, North Gosport, Lancashire, Rochdale District, Worcester and adjoining districts, the Yorkshire Change-ringers.

The Rectory, St. Andrew's, Hertford.

W. WIGRAM.

Bell Metal.

SIR,—We are about to procure a ring of bells for our church, and I am surprised to find that none of the firms who have tendered state what is the composition of the metal which they would use. Ought they not to be explicit on this point? Or is there but one composition and one quality of bell metal? Will you or some of your readers kindly inform

AN IGNORANT PARSON.

P.S.—Is there any little book affording useful guidance to intending purchasers of a ring of church bells?

New Association of Change-ringers for Hertfordshire.

ON Wednesday, the 29th ult., a meeting was held at the Rectory, St. Albans, for the purpose of forming an Association of Change-ringers for Hertfordshire. Ringers were present from St. Albans, Hertford, Sawbridge-worth, Bishop Stortford, Ware, Baldock, and Great Hallingbury. The Ven. Archdeacon Lawrance, rector of St. Albans Abbey, presided. The Rev. W. Wigram (Hertford) proposed, and Mr. N. N. Hills (St. Albans) seconded, that an Association be formed, to be called 'The Hertfordshire County Association of Change-ringers.' This was agreed to. The Rev. T. G. Gibbons (St. Albans) suggested that the Bishop be asked to become the President. Ven. W. J. Lawrance was elected as Vice-President, and several other names were mentioned, the Committee being left to write to them. Mr. H. L. Waddington was elected as Treasurer, and Rev. W. Wigram Secretary, with Mr. H. Baker (Hertford) as his assistant. The first quarterly meeting was fixed for Jan. 21st, 1885, to be held at Hertford, when Rules, &c., will be submitted by the Committee, which will be composed of the conductor and one elected member from each Society in union. Before the meeting some Grand sire Caters and Treble Bob Major were rung at St. Peter's Church, and afterwards some Grand sire Triples at the Cathedral.

A Ring of Eight Bells at the Parish Church, Neston, Cheshire.

ON Thursday, the 23rd ult., a new ring of bells lately subscribed for by the parishioners, at a cost of 370*l.*, was rung for the first time at the special service held for their dedication at 3.30. A large congregation filled the beautiful church, the sanctuary of which was effectively decorated with choice flowers and ferns for the occasion. A shortened form of evensong was used, with special Psalms and Lessons, and after the dedication prayers which followed the Collect for the day, the Bromborough band of ringers, who kindly gave their services, sounded one short peal, during which the choir and congregation remained standing, and with admirable precision took up the keynote of the bells, as they gradually died away, to the words of the hymn. 'Now, at length, our bells are mounted.' The effect was most solemn and touching. An eloquent and forcible sermon was preached by the Rev. C. Hylton Stewart, precentor of Chester Cathedral, from the text, 'Blessed are they that dwell in Thy House; they will be always praising Thee. Selah.' The offertory was collected during the singing of the hymn, 'Now thank we all our God,' and the service closed with the Blessing, pronounced by the Vicar, the Rev. Canon Gladowe. In honour of the event, in the evening a public tea-party was held in the National Schoolroom, where about 160 guests assembled, representing the leading families and tradespeople in Neston. The chair was occupied by the Rev. Canon Gladowe, supported by Mr. Christopher Bushell and Mr. Uvedale Corbett. Excellent speeches were made, and in proposing votes of thanks to the Vicar and Churchwardens, and members of the Bells Committee, praises were passed on their perseverance and energy, and their manner of furthering the interests of that committee and bringing its labours to a successful termination. In responding for the churchwardens, Mr. Reginald Bushell highly commended the conduct of the contractors for the bells, Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, and favourably mentioned the name of Mr. Oliver, their representative, as carrying out the contract of his firm with the utmost care, and in workmanlike manner. Various other speeches and votes of thanks followed, to the Curates, the Organist, and the Choir; and in the course of the evening the bell-ringers, eight in number, favoured the company with a selection of hand-bell ringing.

Annual Gathering at Newcastle-on-Tyne of the Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association of Ringers.

ON Monday, the 27th ult., ringers visited the above town from nearly all the neighbouring towns and villages where a ring of bells exists, including Stockton, Ripon, Staindrop, Carlisle, and Brampton, numbering over eighty. The rings of bells at the disposal of the members during the day were St. Stephen's, the Cathedral, St. John's, and All Saints'. Ringing commenced at 9.30 a.m., and continued steadily throughout the day. A special service was held at St. John's Church at 2 p.m., the Rev. W. E. Houldey, vicar of St. John's, preaching from 'Do all to the glory of God.' A dinner was supplied at the 'Crown and Mitre.' The chair was taken by the Rev. Canon Blunt of Chester-le-Street, and afterwards by the Rev. F. N. Thicknesse of Jarrow, and the vice-chair by Mr. R. S. Story of Newcastle. In proposing the health of the Queen and Royal Family the chairman made some choice remarks

suitable to the occasion. The healths of the bishops and clergy of the dioceses, coupled with the name of the rev. chairman and of the officers of the preceding year, were also drunk. The annual report was read by the hon. sec., Mr. G. J. Clarkson, and formally adopted. The following officers were elected:—Mr. R. S. Story, of St. John's, Newcastle, to be president, in the place of Mr. Reed of North Shields, who has most satisfactorily filled that post since the Society's commencement in 1877. Of the vice-presidents, Mr. F. Lees was re-elected, and Mr. Whitfield, of Stockton, took the place of Mr. Overton of Darlington. The secretary and treasurer, Mr. Clarkson, of Stockton-on-Tees, was also re-elected. The election of members, and the choosing of Winlaton as the next place for the February meeting, followed. After a vote of thanks to the rev. chairman the company dispersed to the various towers to indulge in some scientific ringing, which brought to a close an enjoyable meeting. The following are the touches brought round during the day:—For service at St. John's, a 1024 of Kent Treble Bob was rung in 42 mins. by a representative band. F. Lees, 1; W. Newton, 2; R. S. Story, 3; T. Clarke, 4; W. G. Routledge, 5; E. Wallis, 6; T. Stephenson, 7; G. J. Clarkson (conductor), 8. At the same church at night a 720 of College Single by a Winlaton man, 1; C. L. Routledge, 2; R. Wignell, 3; J. McGoun, 4; H. Ross, 5; F. Harrison (conductor), 6. Also a touch of 1120 of Kent Treble Bob Major in 44 mins. by W. Bowes, 1; J. Moffit, 2; R. Smith, 3; E. Wallis, 4; C. L. Routledge, 5; F. W. Appleby, 6; W. Story, 7; F. Lees (conductor) 8. Tenor, 124 cwt. At the other churches Grandsire, Stedman's, Plain, and Treble Bob, were rung.

The West Riding of Yorkshire Change-ringing Association.

On Saturday last the Annual Meeting of the West Riding of Yorkshire Change-ringers' Association was held at St. Mary's and St. Paul's Churches, Mirfield, when the following companies were represented:—St. Mary's and St. Paul's, Mirfield; Brighouse, Low Moor, Tong, Halifax (late parish), Liversedge, Haley Hill, Birstal, Dewsbury, and Kirkheaton. The welcome peal was rung by the All Souls ringers. During the afternoon and evening short peals in various methods were given upon the rings of six and ten bells. Selections upon the hand-bells were also given. At five o'clock the whole of the ringers were most hospitably entertained to a good knife-and-fork tea at the Church House by the Vicar, the Rev. Mr. Greenside, who in a few well-chosen words pointed out to them the honourable part they took in the Church service by calling people to church, and hoped it was not the only part they took in public worship. After this an adjournment was made to the 'Dusty Miller Inn,' where a meeting was held, at which it was decided to hold the next meeting at Low Moor in April next. The following were appointed officers for the ensuing twelve months:—Mr. Joe Peacock of Mirfield, President; Mr. Sidney Goodhall of Liversedge, Vice-President; Mr. Sam. Wright Stewart of Halifax, Treasurer; Mr. G. D. E. Mercer of Halifax, Secretary, along with a committee of five, consisting of Mr. Luke Illingworth of Liversedge, Mr. James Lockwood and Mr. Greenwood Clayton of Halifax, Mr. Joseph Briggs of Low Moor, and Mr. Cyrus Leeves of Kirkheaton. Votes of thanks to the host and to the retiring officers, and a special vote of thanks to the Vicar for his kindness in entertaining them—which it was resolved to forward to him signed by the officers—brought a most successful meeting to a close, after which ringing was resumed until a late hour.

New Bells at St. Edmund's, Salisbury, Wilts.

THE heavy ring of six at the above church has recently been augmented to eight by the addition of two trebles. The second bell was given by a member of the St. Edmund's company of ringers, and the treble was purchased by public subscription. The new bells were cast and hung by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, and are most satisfactory in tone. The opening took place on Oct. 30th. About noon on that day the local company rang a few doubles on the old six bells. Then followed a short dedication service, after which the St. Edmund's company rang all the eight bells in rounds for a short time. A luncheon took place at the St. Edmund's Home at 2 p.m. The Rector (Rev. W. J. Tait) presided, and was supported by Rev. Dr. Bourne, Rev. A. D. Hill, Rev. F. E. Robinson, Rev. C. L. Bode, the Churchwardens, the Mayor of Salisbury, and other gentlemen. The local company of ringers, and a select band engaged for the occasion, were also present. After dinner the Rector and several other gentlemen made a few appropriate remarks, thanking the donor of the new second bell for his generosity. At 3 p.m. the select band engaged for the occasion rang 1008 Grandsire Triples. W. Alley, 1; W. W. Gifford,* 2; C. A. Clements,* 3; Rev. A. D. Hill,* 4; T. Blackburn,* 5; J. R. Jerram,* 6; Rev. F. E. Robinson,* 7; J. Cooper and Rev. C. L. Bode, 8. Tenor, 30 cwt. [* College Youths.] 336 and 489 Grandsire Triples were also rung, Rev. F. E. Robinson conducting in each touch. After the ringing the company went again to the St. Edmund's Home and partook of tea, after which the proceedings terminated.

CHANGE - RINGING.

At St. Martin-in-the-Fields, London.

On Friday evening, the 31st ult., twelve members of the Yorkshire Association and St. James's Society rang a peal of 5014 Stedman's Cinques in 3 hrs. 50 mins. H. W. Haley, sen. (composer and conductor), 1; C. H. Hattersley, 2; J. W. Rowbotham, 3; R. French, 4; C. F. Winny, 5; F. E. Dawe, 6; H. Dains, 7; W. Baron, 8; H. A. Hopkins, 9; G. Newson, 10; E. Horrex, 11; J. Mansfield, 12. Tenor, 32 cwt., in C sharp.

At Ashover, Derbyshire.

On Tuesday evening, the 4th inst., at the parish church, sixteen six-scores of Grandsire Doubles were rung in 1 hr. 12 mins. J. H. Beardow, 1; T. Beardow, 2; T. J. Beardow, 3; W. Buxton, 4; J. Holmes, 5. Tenor, 19½ cwt.

* Several Communications and Peals unavoidably postponed.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Prayer-book Made Easy.—Action Needed.

SIR,—In *Church Bells* for September 20th appeared a letter signed 'F. A. V.' urging Canon Venables, of Great Yarmouth, to bring out a 'part-numbered' edition of the Prayer-book himself, and in a more recent number a Deaconess asked if this cannot be effected in time for the East London Mission. Now the readers of your paper seem all agreed, so far as your Correspondence column goes, as to the excellence of the plan. I formerly used to suggest a series of facsimile Prayer-books, but now that I understand this plan, I think it far preferable to my own, and I write to urge those who wish to see the use of the book made easy to take steps at once to influence public opinion. Three weeks ago I decided to see a member of the Diocesan Conference, who is a good speaker, to ask him to bring the subject forward at the Conference. The way to get the matter put into shape for action is evidently for clergymen or laymen who are members of Diocesan and Ruridecanal Conferences to bring the subject forward and to move some such resolution as this:—(1.) That this Conference of the Rural Deanery of A desires to see the use of the Prayer-book rendered easy by the numbering of the parts. And (2) that a copy of this resolution be sent to the S. P. C. K., to the Additional Curates' and Church Pastoral Aid Societies, to the Bishop of the Diocese, and the Archbishop of the Province.

Perhaps (1) might be worded 'by the numbering of the parts, as proposed by the Vicar of Yarmouth.' This would definitely explain what system was desired.

I obtained, a few days ago, a copy of the *Church of England Sunday Service-book* for 1885, with the prayers reprinted fifty-two times, arranged in continuous order. It is, indeed, a wonderful work which the Oxford Press has brought out, and I, for one, shall keep my copy as one of the curiosities of literature. But as to the use of such a book. . . . Fancy having a row of annual prayer-books on one's shelf, just like one's row of *Whitaker's Almanacks*! And in a free and unappropriated church or mission-room where books are provided, how could such an annually recurring expense be borne? It is the more to be regretted that Mr. Frowde should have incurred expense for what can scarcely be a success, when one thinks what an excellent production his *Church Service Bible* is. The subject of rendering the Prayer-book easy to use among the young and uneducated is one of great practical importance and deserves immediate attention. I do hope the Church Army will take up this question.

H. C. RICHMOND.

22 Scarisbrick Street, Southampton.

The Numbered Prayer-book.

SIR,—I regret to say that I have failed to persuade any of our 'privileged' publishers to undertake the publication of a Book of Common Prayer, without one word changed, without one paragraph or line transposed, but with the addition to prayer and paragraph of a successive numeral to be placed near the top of each of such prayers or paragraphs just in the proper place for seeing it. I feel this the more, as nearly a quarter of a century has passed since I made the successful experiment. But, at the request of many friends, I have now entered into an arrangement with the Oxford University Press, by which I hope to have 20,000 copies ready by Christmas, at my risk. The Oxford Press have offered me, through their courteous representative, Mr. Henry Frowde, Amen Corner, London, terms which I cannot but regard as liberal, while Mr. Frowde has also manifested much kind sympathy which has encouraged me greatly. I regret, however, that Oxford did not see its way to make the work its own. As it is, I shall be involved to an extent which, though little enough with some men, is very large for a man of my resources. The misfortune is, that we cannot publish a good edition under one shilling per copy, although I am pretty sure that for cash, with the order and carriage not paid, quantities of 500 or 1000 copies can be supplied for perhaps sixpence each, direct from Mr. Frowde. I expect that all will be ready by the first week of 1885. And if the London Mission will bear this in mind, they will, I am confident, find this Prayer-book of enormous utility.

The Rev. F. Pigou, D.D., vicar of Halifax and Chaplain to Her Majesty, no mean authority on missions, said, at the Carlisle Congress, that the Prayer-book and no other book of prayer should be used at all our missions. With this simple addition of consecutive numbers, missionaries and all helpers will find that the whole book is at their disposal for use in almost any way they can desire.

I may trouble you another day with a further letter on 'How, without uttering a word, the whole service of the morning, or any time, can be found by any one who can read, and without difficulty,' also about sundry indices of no small value. I will only here remark further, that in *Church Bells* of October 18, a friend (I believe) of mine asks, 'Is there any need to find the places?' And after throwing doubt on this question, he, nevertheless, proceeds to suggest a way of doing it by mutilation of the Prayer-book, and by Cards. Now I once laboured, unworthily, in what I still call 'Grand old Yorkshire' (whence I believe he hails), and I found there that the 'Card system' was in frequent use in many churches for weddings, baptisms, churchings, &c. But I soon found also that this method annoyed the people, who did not like a huge piece of printed mill-board stuck into their hands, and I actually substituted Books for the Cards! But there is no need for any disputation. Within a few weeks my method will, I trust, be in the hands of 20,000 folk, who will try it. And I will undertake to meet 1000 people who can read, and know nothing of the Prayer-book, and are willing to be taught, and to conduct a service with them at once, in all heartiness and solemnity with the use of my plan, either (1) by announcing the needful

The Diocesan Synod of Down, Connor, and Dromore, met for the transaction of business in the Clarence Hall, Belfast, on the 28th ult., the feast of SS. Simon and Jude. There was previously a celebration of the Holy Communion in the Parish Church of St. Ann. The Bishop presided, and gave an encouraging account of Church matters in that important diocese. His Lordship is reported to have spoken as follows:—

‘The average morning congregations throughout the diocese now numbers 33,347; the average evening congregations, 22,794; being a total increase of 2596. The number of communicants at one monthly communion is 5391, and at festivals 7887, showing an increase of 534. The number of children on the roll of our Sunday schools, under the superintendence of the clergy of the dioceses, now amounts to the large number of 37,568, making an increase of 3949; and when you consider that ten years ago there were only 26,500 children on our Sunday-school rolls, I think the result is most satisfactory. The collections in our churches, not including the assessment, now amounts to 17,619*l.*, showing an increase of 3379*l.* In the year 1863 our offertory collections only amounted to 5885*l.*, and so lately as 1880 to 14,000*l.*, whilst they have now reached, as I have stated, 17,619*l.*, and the collections, donations, &c., throughout the entire diocese for Church purposes, assessments, home and foreign missions, and different local societies, produced last year the large sum of over 59,000*l.*’

An increase of over 7000*l.* was reported compared with the balance to credit at the end of the previous year. There was an animated debate on the proposed 50,000*l.* grant to the Trinity College Divinity School. The following resolution was moved by the Archdeacon of Down:—

‘That this Synod, while fully recognising the importance of a Divinity School, yet, considering that its needs are still future and hypothetical—that some provision should be made for augmenting the value of the smaller incumbencies in the cases of clergymen of long standing in the Church; that it is highly desirable to vest in the episcopate some power of rewarding long and faithful service, and that many unforeseen circumstances may yet arise profoundly affecting the interest of the Church of Ireland—is of opinion that the allocation of the 50,000*l.* from the Reserve Fund to the Divinity School should be reconsidered by the next General Synod.’

The Archdeacon of Connor moved the previous question, and on a vote by orders it was discovered that a quorum of laymen was not present. On the whole, in this diocese as elsewhere, this proposed voting away of the Church's capital for educational purposes is unpopular with the majority of the clergy and with a large body of the laity.

Sunday last was our ‘Hospital Sunday’ in Dublin. The weather happened to be very propitious, and there were large congregations in most of the churches. The result will be looked for in an increase of the fund. The total amount raised for this purpose since the collection was started ten years ago exceeds 40,000*l.*, or a yearly average of over 4000*l.*

It has been arranged to hold a Mission in the city of Cork and the port of Queenstown in Lent 1885. It is proposed to invite eight Mission preachers for the work.

In the absence of his Grace the Archbishop of Dublin, the Bishop of Meath presided at the distribution of prizes to the Church children attending the model schools of the National Board of Education in Marlborough Street on Tuesday. The Rev. J. W. Tristram, Diocesan Inspector of the Board of Religious Education, and the Rev. J. J. Robinson, addressed those present.

The Bishop of Ossory held his visitation in St. Canice's Cathedral on the 29th ult. At 6.30 a conference of the clergy was held; about seventy clergymen were present from the united diocese. The Bishop entertained the clergy at the palace.

The first of a series of monthly clerical meetings was held at Clarisford House, Killoale, under the presidency of the Bishop, on Tuesday last. Steps are being taken to establish a Clerical Book Club, which, doubtless, will prove a great boon to the clergy in that rather distant and secluded diocese of the West.

Of the extraordinary lengths to which opposition can go in this country to comely arrangements for Divine service in public worship, the following may be taken as an amusing illustration. I am copying from a publication called the *Church Advocate*, which, however, I believe, is better supported in England than in Ireland. The writer is giving an account of the recent improvements made with the Mariners' Church in Kingston, and goes on to say,—

‘But I altogether dissent from the modern fashion adopted here, of so placing the reading-desk that the minister is partly turned away from the people during the prayers. I think it is promised as a blessing to Israel that “their eyes should see their teachers,” that is, *see their faces*. In many of the English churches, and some Irish, during the greater portion of the time of Divine service, many of the congregations do not “see” their minister. When Paul ministered, whether in praying or preaching, as at Ephesus at least, he must have ministered with his face to the people, for when taking leave of them, after prayer, they sorrowed most of all that they should “see his face no more.” According to the new style in our churches the people can, during prayer, see only the side-face of their minister. The same remarks apply to prayer in the pulpit. Here, again, Archdeacon Scott turned sideways—the little brass lectern in front preventing prayer so as to be heard by the people. In the pulpit, indeed, during prayer, many of the very High (English) Church clergy completely turn their backs to the people.’

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

The Ancient Society of College Youths (Established 1637).

The annual election of officers took place on Tuesday, the 11th inst., at the head-quarters, St. Saviour's, Southwark. Master, Mr. J. W. Rowbotham; Stewards, Messrs. W. H. George and G. T. McLaughlin; Treasurer, Mr. J. Pettit; Secretary, Mr. G. Muskett; Auditors, Messrs. Horrex and Bird.

Bell Metal.

SIR,—‘An Ignorant Parson’ will find that on page 64 of our 1884 edition of our Bell Catalogue, we mention the composition of metal we use for certain sizes of church bells; and on pages 46 and 48 of the same, the opinions of Sir E. B. Denison and Mr. Mallaby upon the quality of metal and moulding we adopt and produce. And we would suggest that quality of metals used has as much to do with tone produced, as proportions of mixtures or composition. We shall be pleased to send the Catalogue to the gentleman if he desire it.

JOHN WARNER & SONS, *per* S. B. GOSLIN.

Surrey Association.

A DISTRICT Meeting of this Association will be held—subject to the approval of the Vicar—at Epsom, on Saturday, the 22nd inst. This meeting will be for ringing only. Further information will be supplied next week.

34 Dingwall Road, Croydon.

ARTHUR B. CARPENTER, *Hon. Sec.*

CHANGE-RINGING.

At St. Mary's, Hitchin, Herts.

ON Monday, the 27th ult., for practice, 350 Grandsire Triples were rung; also 168; and 350 on hand-bells: W. Allen, conductor. A few friends from Baldock took part in the ringing. It has been nearly settled by Mr. Allen of Hitchin (captain), and Mr. Jackson of Baldock (captain), that the Hitchin and Baldock ringers should meet occasionally at each place to forward the art of change-ringing.

On Tuesday evening, the 28th ult., 224 Grandsire Triples on hand-bells. H. Buckingham, 1; J. Randall, 2; J. Hare, 3; W. A. Tyler, 4; A. Squires, 5; S. Hare, 6; W. Allen (conductor), 7 and 8.

At St. George's, Hyde, Cheshire.

ON Friday, the 31st ult., eight members of the United Counties Association rang a peal of 5184 Kent Treble Bob Major in 3 hrs. 4 mins. J. S. Wilde, 1; R. Pritchard, 2; R. Woolley, 3; W. Slater, 4; G. Longden, 5; T. Wilde, 6; J. Thorp (composer), 7; F. G. Newman (conductor), 8.

Also on Saturday, the 1st inst., five of the local company, assisted by three from Worsley, Lancashire, rang 1568 changes of Bob Major. J. S. Wilde (composer and conductor), 1; R. Pritchard, 2; J. Ridyard, 3; W. Slater, 4; R. Ridyard, 5; R. Woolley, 6; F. Derbyshire, 7; T. Wilde, 8.

On Sunday evening, for Divine service, the local company rang 420 changes of Stedman's Triples. J. Shaw, 1; R. Pritchard, 2; T. Wilde, 3; R. Woolley, 4; S. Bennett, 5; S. Bradley, 6; S. Wilde (conductor), 7; D. Leigh, 8.

And on Monday, the 3rd inst., eight members of the United Counties Association rang 5184 changes of Oxford Treble Bob Major in 3 hrs. 5 mins. T. Bradley, 1; J. S. Wilde, 2; J. Wood, 3; R. Woolley, 4; B. Broadbent, 5; G. Longden, 6; J. Thorp (composer), 7; G. Newman (conductor), 8. Tenor, 15 cwt., 1 qr., 24 lbs.

At St. Michael's, Sittingbourne, Kent.

ON Monday, the 3rd inst., for practice, eight members of the Kent County Association rang a quarter-peal of 1260 Grandsire Triples (Tittums, Queens, and Rounds) in 45 mins. J. Greensted, 1; F. C. Mattison (conductor), 2; J. Harrison (Folkestone), 3; J. Cooper, 4; W. G. Gorderier, 5; Capt. Wood (Faversham), 6; S. Snelling, 7; W. H. Judd, 8. Tenor, 21 cwt.

On Thursday, the 6th inst., an attempt was made by eight members of the Kent County Association to ring Holt's Original peal of Grandsire Triples; but after ringing 2 hrs. 1 min. it suddenly came to grief. Capt. W. Wood, 1; G. Stancombe (conductor), 2; A. Foreman, 3; F. C. Mattison, 4; H. Pearce, 5; H. G. Fairbrass, 6; S. Snelling, 7; W. H. Judd, 8. Messrs. Fairbrass, Stancombe, and Foreman, belong to Canterbury; Pearce, from Maidstone; Capt. Wood, from Faversham; the rest belong to Sittingbourne.

At St. James's, Norton.

ON Tuesday evening, the 4th inst., was rung a peal of 720 Grandsire Minor in 28 mins. W. Lee, 1; H. Ward, 2; W. Biggin, 3; J. Goucher, 4; J. A. Atkin, 5; J. Allen (conductor), 6. Tenor, 13 cwt. This is the first peal of Grandsire Minor by the above ringers. [Name of county not given. There are upwards of forty Nortons.]

At St. James's, Clerkenwell, London.

ON Thursday, the 6th inst., eight members of St. James's Society attempted Holt's Original peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples—Messrs. Haworth, Fussell, Langdon, French, Barry, Banks, Allen (Hitchin), and Newton; but after ringing two hours and a half ‘Stand!’ was called, owing to Mr. Allen's hands being very much blistered.

At St. Clement Danes, Strand, London.

ON Monday, the 10th inst., ten members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang a peal of 5070 Stedman's Caters in 3 hrs. 28 mins. J. W. Rowbotham, 1; Rev. G. F. Coleridge, 2; F. E. Dawe, 3; C. F. Winny, 4; W. Weatherstone, 5; H. Baker, 6; Rev. F. E. Robinson (conductor), 7; R. French, 8; W. D. Smith, 9; W. H. Judd, 10. Tenor, 24 cwt., in D sharp. Composed by H. W. Haley. [* First peals in the method. † First peal.]

At Salisbury.--Muffled Peals for the late Postmaster-General.

THE late Right Hon. H. Fawcett being a native of Salisbury, muffled peals were rung on Monday, the 10th inst., as follows:—At St. Thomas's Rounds and Queens, by C. A. Clements, 1; W. Lanham, 2; W. Highman, 3; J. Head, 4; J. R. Jerram, 5; G. Blake, 6; C. Gaisford, 7; G. Devonport, 8. Tenor, 32 cwt. Also at St. Paul's by some of the above band; also at St. Martin's, six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, by J. Short, 1; E. A. Foster, 2; C. A. Clements (conductor), 3; W. W. Gifford, 4; J. R. Jerram, 5; C. Gaisford, 6. Tenor, 15 cwt.

The ringing for the Mayor's Day was postponed.

At St. Mary's, Faversham, Kent.

ON Monday, the 10th inst., eight members of the Kent County Association rang Holt's Original peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples in 3 hrs. 11 mins. Rev. F. J. O. Helmore, 1; A. Biggs, 2; A. Foreman, 3; G. Stancombe (conductor), 4; C. L. Graham, 5; Capt. W. Wood, 6; S. Snelling, 7; E. Crosoer, 8. First peal for the 1st, 2nd, and 5th ringers. Rev. F. J. O. Helmore, G. Stancombe, and A. Foreman, hail from Canterbury; S. Snelling, from Sittingbourne; the rest belong to the local band. Tenor, 20 cwt.

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

ON Tuesday evening, the 11th inst., 504 Grandsire Triples were rung in 18 mins. by members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild. J. C. Truss, 1; H. Rogers, 2; W. A. Garraway (conductor), 3; R. Smith, 4; W. C. Porter, 5; R. Flaxman, 6; E. Rogers, 7; T. Woolford, 8. Also 910 Triples in 33 mins. O. Fasey, 1; H. Rogers, 2; W. C. Porter, 3; R. Flaxman, 4; R. Smith, 5; G. Wilkins, jun., 6; W. A. Garraway (conductor), 7; J. C. Truss, 8. Tenor, 17½ cwt.

At All Saints', Banstead, Surrey.

ON Tuesday, the 11th inst., six members of the Benhilton Society of Change-ringers rang a peal of 720 Grandsire Minor (38 bobs and 22 singles) in 28 mins. W. Walker, 1; G. Petrie, 2; C. Trendell, 3; James Trendell, 4; H. Bryant, 5; John Trendell (conductor), 6. Weight of tenor not known.

CORRESPONDENCE.**Reverence in Divine Worship.**

SIR,—Remembering the motto of your valuable paper, taken from the Will of Bishop Ken, I must say, the tone of your correspondent 'Zeno's' letter, in your issue of the 18th ult., somewhat surprises me. In that letter he endeavours to stir up what may prove to be a bitter strife by employing a word, which his legal acumen—if his *nom de plume* does not belie him—must compel him to admit is open to great misconception. Theological terms such as transubstantiation are 'caviare to the general;' and when any individual is 'named' by a term not 'understood of the people,' they, like the historic fish-wife when assailed by the long words such as 'preposition,' 'paralleliped,' &c., conclude that such unknown terms bode no good, and without staying to inquire further, are prejudiced against the person to whom they are applied. One would prefer to leave 'Zeno's' letter to the silent contempt which it deserves; but, alas! as such 'silence' is often interpreted to mean 'consent,' I venture to take up arms, for 'Zeno's' letter is not aimed only at Mr. Puttock (who, by the way, is a perfect stranger to me), but is a covert attack upon all who hold the doctrine of the Real Presence in the Holy Eucharist, or, in other words, against all who reverence as their mother the Church of England as described in the motto above mentioned.

Indeed, if 'Zeno' would examine the question—that most 'burning question' which he has so gratuitously raised, for I cannot exculpate him by supposing him to be playing with edged tools in child-like guilelessness—he must allow that all clergymen who have subscribed 'the Thirty-nine Articles of Religion and the Book of Common Prayer' are committed to the doctrine of a Real Presence. If, then, we are to insinuate that all persons who hold the doctrine of a Real Presence, therefore hold the doctrine of Transubstantiation, we should be adopting an analogous principle to that upon which those persons act who are content to leave the devil in undisputed possession of 'all the best tunes,' and should be traitors to our own Church. For the Church of England clearly asserts the doctrine of the Real Presence, e.g. when in her Catechism she teaches her children that the 'outward sign' is also the 'means' and 'pledge' of our reception of the 'inward and spiritual grace,' not to mention the third answer relating to the Lord's Supper, and many passages in her Communion Service, which I need not quote. But though she asserts the *Reality* of the Presence, she does not venture to define the *manner* of that Presence; but in her Articles alike repudiates the doctrines of Transubstantiation, i.e. real absence of the 'substances,' but not the 'accidents,' i.e. form, colour, taste, of the bread and wine of Consubstantiation, i.e. that the natural substances and our Lord's natural Flesh and Blood are kneaded together into one substance, and also the figuration theory which holds that only the substances of bread and wine are present both before and after consecration. Fairly examined, Mr. Puttock's words do not suggest any erroneous doctrine, but only express the reverence which he and thousands must feel. We do not as yet see 'eye to eye,' there are 'schools of thought' among us, and, much as we long for unity, we must remember that an individual does not tend to hasten the coming of that much-to-be-wished-for time, by aiming anonymous shafts barbed with an insinuation of insincerity and disloyalty to the Church of England, our common mother, against those who differ from him and believe in a Real Presence of Christ's Body and Blood in the Holy Eucharist 'without questioning how,' like those Jews of Capernaum (St. John, vi. 52).

In this age we need to cultivate a spirit of reverent faith towards *all* holy

things, and above all, towards the Sacrament of the Altar. The seeing 'eye to eye' would come if we all gave ourselves to earnest prayer, that we and 'all who profess and call themselves Christians' may be led from our hearts to join in the hymn,

'We love the place, O God,
Wherein Thine honour dwells;'

especially that verse which Mr. Puttock is seeking to carry out—

'We love Thine altar, Lord; | For there, in faith adored,
Oh, what on earth so dear? | We find Thy presence near.'

This letter has grown to a greater length than I intended; but so important is the doctrine at stake, I dare not cut it down. R. COPEMAN,
Sopley, Ringwood.

'Where are the Poor in our Churches?'

SIR,—Many reasons have been adduced to account in some manner for the non-attendance of men at our churches and chapels, and much light has been thrown on this subject by the many who have endeavoured to unravel the mystery. In the first place, some members of the lower classes are deterred by the assumed shabbiness of their attire, and, imagining themselves unwelcome and out of place, prefer to spend their time and waste their money in the public-houses, which thrive so well on Sundays, when travellers seem to abound everywhere; and no doubt the Sunday Closing Bill would be a boon in this respect as in many others. Again, the want of clergy risen from their own ranks is acutely felt. The success attending the Salvation Army, due in a great measure to this circumstance, and the affection and regard which the lower Scottish classes evinced towards their ministers in the Stuart period, tend to prove this fact. No doubt the small personal experience possessed by many of the clergy concerning the troublesome sorrows of the poor forms a great obstacle to progress in the Church; for how can he to whom hunger is unknown feel for those to whom the want of a meal, or the want of two meals, is no novelty, but an everyday occurrence?

ANON.

'Where are the Men?'

SIR,—'An Old Subscriber' may see that, in my last letter, the men would be found, as I supposed, where the greatest amount of earnestness in the clergy was to be found, outside as well as inside the church. But my opinion and experience, of the wants of human nature materially differ from his. The explanation given for the men's absence by 'A Subscriber from Commencement,' in the first part of his letter, is, as I consider, ample. It is altogether weakened by the last part. We cannot penetrate the ear of the earthly sovereign without the most strict formality, howsoever great and real our grievances may be. The argument, therefore, of 'An Old Subscriber' will tell wholly in my favour, not in his. In our social intercourse the case is quite different. For orderly and united public worship I have been convinced, for forty years of my life, that musical tonation is the only proper and effective vehicle for the words of the Church services. In the little church at Littlemore I discovered that musical services were not necessarily the formal, unmeaning expressions of devotion, which hitherto I had thought them.

LONDON LAYMAN.

Reformatory and Industrial Schools.

SIR,—There is an interesting account of the Anerley School in your last number, but it contains a paragraph so misleading, that I must ask you to afford me space to correct it. The writer exclaims: 'What a contrast between the happy position of these lads and the poor boys who, at sixteen years of age, are turned out of Industrial Schools and Reformatories! They, after spending six years in chopping firewood for the benefit of the schools, find themselves thrown upon the world, with no chance of getting an honest living but by a day's casual labour at the Docks.'

Now, I am not concerned with Industrial Schools, though any of your readers who have visited, for example, the School at Feltham, know how utterly contrary to fact the above statement is. But speaking solely of Reformatories, I am surprised that any one can at the present day be so ill-informed as to make it possible for him to write the above lines. Boys are not kept at Reformatories for six years, and sixteen is the limit of age under which they can be admitted, not at which (as the writer appears to think) they must be 'turned out,' or 'thrown upon the world.' If the writer will visit this Institution he may indeed occasionally see one little boy chopping wood, not 'for the benefit of the schools,' but to light the fire at which his own hands are to be warmed and his own dinner cooked. But he will also see some 300 boys learning to be carpenters, smiths, tailors, shoemakers, bakers, gardeners, bricklayers, cowmen, grooms, and farm-labourers. And so far from 'throwing our boys on to the world to get a day's casual labour at the Docks,' we send about half of them, at great expense, to places found for them in the Colonies, and find employment in England for many others whose parents allow us to interfere on their behalf. Moreover, we keep watch over all of them for at least four years after they leave us.

I venture to suggest that the writer of the article should procure the Report of the recent Royal Commission on Reformatories and Industrial Schools, and so obtain some accurate information as to the real nature and work of these institutions. The Commissioners say: 'After having heard a large number of witnesses of every description, visited many schools, and taken the best means in our power to ascertain their results, we do not hesitate to assert our opinion that over and above their effect in reducing the amount of both juvenile and adult crime, these schools are successfully training a vast number of children for honest and useful lives. . . . It was not unusual to find that, such was the confidence inspired by the treatment and training of girls in all respects proper inmates of reformatories, that there was no difficulty in finding for them, the moment they became fit for license or discharge, employment as domestic servants in respectable families, where they conducted themselves, in most cases, to the satisfaction of their

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

New Bells at St. Elvan's, Aberdare, Glamorgan.

THE ring of eight bells having been sadly out of repair for some time, the work of taking them down and rehangng them has now been completed by Llewellyns and James, bell-founders, Bristol.

New Bell at St. Peter's, Clifton, Bristol.

A NEW tenor bell, to form one of a proposed ring of six, has just been cast and hung in the tower of this church by the same founders.

The New Ring of Bells at St. James's, Whitfield, Derbyshire.

SIR,—I have been a regular subscriber to your excellent paper ever since its commencement, and I was much gratified by the notice that appeared in No. 722, for October 25, of the new ring of eight, by Messrs. Warner and Sons, which has been recently placed in the steeple of St. James's Church (Whitfield), Glossop. The bells were first rung on Thursday, October 9, as you have already announced; and on the following Sunday, October 12, advantage was taken of the harvest thanksgiving services, which had been previously fixed for that day, and a short dedication service was held with much impressiveness. The old set of ringers from All Saints' Church, Glossop, have been most obliging in teaching our young men how to ring, and in coming themselves twice on Sunday to invite our people to worship, with one accord, in the courts of the Lord's house. These short peals are admirably executed, and usually occupy about 45 mins. Certain alterations have just been effected in the belfry, in accordance with the recommendations of these experienced men, and on Saturday afternoon last, the 15th inst., they rang the first complete peal on these bells of 5088 Kent Treble Bob Major in 2 hrs. 58 mins. J. Lawton (conductor), 1; J. Robinson, 2; J. Harrop, 3; J. Maloney, 4; J. Sellars, 5; S. Knott 6; W. Sandham, 7; J. Pye, sen., 8. Tenor, 12½ cwt., in G.

CHARLES BRUCE WARD, *T'car.*

A Peal of Bob Minor.

720									
2	3	4	5	6					
S	3	2	5	6	4				
S	2	3	6	4	5				
S	3	2	4	5	6				
	2	5	3	6	4				
S	5	2	6	4	3				
S	2	5	4	3	6				
S	5	2	3	6	4				
	2	6	5	4	3				
S	6	2	4	3	5				
S	2	6	3	5	4				

Twice repeated.

EDWARD FRANCIS, *Dis.*

The Change-ringers of Mersham, Kent.

THE annual outing of the above band took place on Saturday last, the towers in and around Tonbridge being selected as fresh ground on which to try their skill; and leave being obtained through the Rector (Rev. R. B. Knatchbull-Hugessen), we started by an early train to Tonbridge, thence to Hadlow by road. Here we partook of a substantial breakfast, very kindly provided by the Rector (the Rev. J. T. Money Penny). We then made for the belfry, where a touch of Bob Major was rung by E. Ruck, jun., 1; J. Harrison, 2; E. Ruck, sen. (conductor), 3; Rev. R. B. K. Hugessen, 4; D. Paine, 5; G. Paine, 6; T. Finn, 7; G. Finn, jun., 8. Then a touch of 462 Grandsire Triples, by J. Harrison, 1; G. Finn, sen., 2; W. Jay, 3; E. Ruck, sen. (conductor), 4; G. Finn, jun., 5; G. Paine, 6; F. Finn, 7; D. Paine, 8. The bells being in good order, these were followed by other short touches. Tenor, 15 cwt.

Leaving Hadlow we proceeded to East Peckham. A peal of Bob Major was then rung on the six bells by E. Ruck, sen., 1; W. Jay, 2; D. Paine, 3; E. Ruck, jun., 4; G. Paine (conductor), 5; G. Finn, jun., 6. This was followed by a peal of Treble Bob Minor in 27 mins. J. Harrison, 1; G. Finn, sen., 2; E. Ruck, sen. (conductor), 3; G. Paine, 4; F. Finn, 5; G. Finn, jun., 6. Tenor, 16½ cwt.

We then returned to Tonbridge on our way to Speldhurst, at the kind invitation of C. Poyle, Esq. On approaching the village, where there is a capital band of ringers, the sound of the church bells greeted our ears, and Mr. Poyle gave us a hearty welcome; then conducted us to the inn, where he had an excellent dinner provided, at which the Speldhurst band joined, and the Squire himself took the chair. Dinner being over, a few kind appreciative words were addressed to us by the Chairman, expressing his belief of the great good now being done by the Association, the Rev. R. B. Knatchbull-Hugessen responding. Our next visit was to the church, some making their way to the belfry, others to a survey of the building, which is a beautiful structure, and well kept in every part. It is worth a visit. The Speldhurst band now rang a peal, that being the qualification for full membership of the Society. This was succeeded by another peal (Grandsire Doubles) from same band, and both were extremely well struck. Ringing was kept up with great spirit till the time drew near for our return journey. On reaching Tonbridge we directed our steps to that belfry, where our party rang touches of Bob Major and Grandsire Triples—E. Ruck, sen., conductor—but the bells going so badly, ringing was almost impossible. We reached home about 9.30. Thus ended a pleasant day.

Surrey Association.

A DISTRICT Meeting of this Association will be held at Epsom (by the kind permission of the Vicar) this day, Saturday, the 22nd. The tower will be open for ringing from 4 to 9 p.m. A. B. CARPENTER, *Hon. Sec.*
34 Dingwall Road, Croydon.

Death of a well-known Ringer.

MR. G. STOCKHAM, who was for many years steeplekeeper of St. Clement Danes, Strand, London, and was celebrated as a handbell-maker as well as a ringer, died on Saturday, the 15th inst., aged seventy. He has rung about two hundred peals, from 5000 to 12,000 changes. Many of his Lancashire and Yorkshire friends will remember him.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At the Parish Church, Basingstoke (Hants).

ON Sunday, the 9th inst., being the Prince of Wales' birthday, the bells were rung throughout the day; also on Monday, the 10th inst., under the leadership of Mr. Geo. Capron, Queens, Rounds, and Calls alone were done, the Society being at present in its infancy with change-ringing.

On the 17th inst., the Poland Street Hand-bell Ringers visited the town, giving a very fine selection of tunes; one especially, 'Morceaux,' from Mozart's VI. Sonata, was all that could be desired. Mr. Miller explained the difference between the ordinary bell and the hand-bell, and the ringers' art generally. He probably made a slight mistake when he said that 479,001,600, being the number of changes that can be rung on twelve bells, would take seventy years to ring; but, according to Troyte and others, it will take 37 years 355 days, being a little more than half the time.

At St. George the Martyr, Southwark, London.

ON Tuesday, the 11th inst., eight members of the St. James's Society rang Holt's Original peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples in 3 hrs. 3 mins., in honour of the Rector's birthday. A. E. Church, 1; E. F. Strange, 2; H. Langdon, 3; W. Jones, 4; W. H. Fussell, 5; M. Murphy, 6; R. French (conductor), 7; T. Coxhead, 8. Tenor, 18 cwt., in F.

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

ON Tuesday, the 11th inst., eight members of the Durham and Newcastle Association attempted a peal of Plain Bob Major, but after ringing 3100 changes in 1 hr. 50 mins. the bells were set, owing to a mistake on the part of one of the band. W. Eggleston, 1; C. L. Routledge, 2; W. G. Routledge, 3; W. Bowes, 4; F. Lees, 5; H. Thompson, 6; W. Story, 7; R. S. Story (conductor), 8.

At the same place, on Monday the 17th inst., a peal of 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor was rung in 29 mins. W. Story, 1; W. Bowes, 2; F. Lees, 3; C. L. Routledge, 4; T. Denton (Cumberland Youth), 5; W. G. Routledge (conductor), 6. Tenor, 12½ cwt., in G.

At the Parish Church, Nuneaton, Warwickshire.

ON Thursday, the 13th inst., the local Company rang ten six-scores of Grandsire Doubles, called differently, in 45 mins.; 3rd and 5th bells the observation bells. G. E. Swain, 1; W. Swain, 2; H. Bacon, 3; H. Horwood (conductor), 4; T. Lingard, 5; W. Adler, 6; J. J. Mawley, 7; J. Ballard, 8. Tenor, 14½ cwt., in E.

At St. Mary's, Beddington, Surrey.

ON Saturday, the 15th inst., ten members of the Surrey Association rang a peal of 5003 Grandsire Caters in 3 hrs. 12 mins. W. Shepherd, 1; S. Greenwood, 2; C. E. Malini, 3; G. Russell, 4; E. Bennett (conductor), 5; A. Springhall, 6; E. F. Cole, 7; J. Plowman, 8; G. Pell, 9; T. Verrall, 10. Tenor, 20½ cwt., in E flat. Composed by H. Johnson, sen.

At St. Mary's, Redenhall, Norfolk.

ON Saturday, the 15th inst., eight members of the Norwich Diocesan Association of Ringers, being also members of the Royal Cumberland Society of London, rang a peal of 5024 Oxford Treble Bob in 3 hrs. 8 mins. E. Smith (conductor), 1; J. Smith, 2; W. Matthews, 3; F. R. Surridge (first peal), 4; J. C. Allen, 5; R. Whiting, 6; W. Roope, 7; Capt. Moore, 8. Tenor, 24 cwt. The peal was composed by Mr. J. Thorp (see Snowdon's *Treatise*, Part 2, p. 47).

At the Parish Church, Tipton, Staffordshire.

ON Sunday, the 16th inst., was rung by members of the Society of Change ringers for the Archdeaconry of Stafford T. Day's Six-part peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples in 2 hrs. 58 mins. J. Jones,* 1; T. Bennet,* 2; W. R. Small,* 3; T. Horton,* 4; W. Mallin, 5; J. Fullwood (conductor), 6; W. Ellesmore, 7; H. Winfield, 8. Tenor, 12 cwt. 3 qrs. The above peal was rung at the first attempt, and is supposed to be the only peal on the bells for nearly thirty years. [* First peal. + College Youths.]

At Caversham, Oxon.

ON Sunday, the 16th inst., for Divine service in the morning, six members of the St. Peter's Society rang a peal of 720 Bob Minor in 27 mins. J. Hands, 1; J. Butler, 2; E. Menday, 3; G. Essex, 4; E. Pottinger, 5; T. Newman (conductor), 6. Also after evening service a like peal in 29 mins. E. Menday, 1; J. Butler, 2; G. Essex, 3; E. Pottinger, 4; T. Newman, 5; Rev. G. F. Coleridge (conductor), 6. Tenor, 16½ cwt., in F.

At Peterborough, Northamptonshire.

ON Tuesday, the 18th inst., the St. John Baptist's Company rang a peal of 720 Bob Minor (18 bobs and 2 singles, 7th and tenor behind) in 30 mins. W. Johnson, jun., 1; R. Beeston, 2; H. Plowman, 3; W. Johnson, sen., 4; G. Baker, 5; E. F. Read (conductor), 6; J. Binks, 7; T. Ellington, 8. Tenor, 28 cwt. [This is the first peal accomplished by the Company.]

NOTICE.—An 'Ignorant Parson' is requested to send his address to the Editor.

NEW CHURCHES AT MANCHESTER.

On Thursday, the 20th inst., the Bishop of Manchester consecrated the new church of St. Mark, Holland Street, Butler Street, Newton Heath. The sentence of consecration sets forth that the church is for the spiritual accommodation of a portion of the inhabitants of the parish of St. Philip's, Bradford Road. The site comprises 2493 square yards, and has been given by the Dean and Canons of Manchester, being by them conveyed to the Ecclesiastical Commissioners. Application will be made to constitute and assign a district to the new church, under the provisions of the Parish of Manchester Division Act, in order that it may become an additional parish. The patronage has been vested in the Bishop of Manchester and his successors in perpetuity. Accommodation is provided for 508 worshippers, and all the seats are intended to be free and unappropriated for ever.

In the course of his sermon the Bishop said, that now that they had got their church they had to enter upon the more difficult task of gathering the people into it. The first thing they would have to do was to get something like a sound and sufficient parochial organization. The idea that the clergy wanted to exclude the people from a share of Christian work was a most erroneous one. The clergy did desire that they should help, not merely with money help, though they needed that because they were not rich, and because the maintenance of Christian works costs money. He hoped, also, that the services within the church would be characterised by heartiness. People sometimes complained, and not unjustly, that the services of the Church of England were too cold, particularly where there was a supplied choir and that choir was an accomplished one; in that case they very often—not, perhaps, unnaturally—wanted to display their musical gifts, and that sometimes beyond the comprehension of ordinary congregations, who did not understand those elaborate compositions with which the great musicians had enriched sacred music. We were living now in very difficult times. Large masses of our people, from one cause or another—sometimes because they had been neglected, and sometimes because they had suddenly sprung up in great masses at a rate which rendered it impossible to make sufficient spiritual provision for them—had broken away, not only from the Church of England, but from all religious bodies and all acts of public worship. It had become an exceedingly difficult thing to awaken those people, and to make them 'hunger and thirst after righteousness.' They hungered and thirsted after other things; as, for instance, for three good meals a-day, and for beer, for gin, or for whisky, as the case might be; but to make them 'hunger and thirst after righteousness,' to make them feel that they had immortal souls, duties to discharge and responsibilities to fulfil, were matters of exceeding difficulty. He would not despise any agency that was within lawful and reasonable limits, which sought to win such alienated hearts back to Christ, but care must be taken to see that the results were sound and wholesome. The aim of Christianity, it must be remembered, was not merely to stimulate the feelings, but to change the heart, and character, and mind, and unless they could produce evidence to show that men and women were living better, purer, and stronger lives—were more able to resist temptation, and were not simply slipping back the moment the influence which had stimulated them had been withdrawn—they would be hardly producing the results which they hoped to produce. He desired to see the clergy working loyally and within their proper limits, and using the best methods to reach that end, but he was sure they would see with him that mere excitement was no true test of the influence of religion. The parish in which they had consecrated that church was a poor one, and he thought that poor parishes had special claims upon those Churchmen whose business lay in Manchester, but who lived in pleasant suburban villages where they had not many calls upon them. Sympathy between class and class, and the helpful influence of educated men and women in such parishes as that, shed a little more brightness into the lives of the people, and were amongst the things which helped to make society strong, healthy, and safe, and enabled the Church to do her work in the winning of souls.

On Saturday the Bishop consecrated the new church in Upper Chatham Street, Chorlton-on-Medlock, which is to be dedicated to St. Ambrose. It has seats for 400 persons, and is in the Early English style. The interior consists of nave and aisle, chancel and chancel-aisle, and vestries. The reredos has been executed by Messrs. Burke, Salviati, and Co. of London, the central portion of the mosaic work representing the Paschal Lamb, with the emblems of the four Evangelists on either side. The mosaics are continued across the whole length of the east wall, divided into six compartments on either side of the altar, with corbel course of Bath stone above. The contractor for the fabric of the church was Mr. Robert Carlyle of Manchester, the amount being 18917., but the total cost of the church and its fittings complete, including reredos, is about 26000. Mr. Henry C. Charlewood of Manchester is the architect.

The Bishop, in the course of his address, said this was the second new church within the limits of the old parish of Manchester that he had consecrated within a week. The population of All Saints' parish was about 11,000, and it was thought that it would admit of division. The idea

was entertained about eleven years ago, and the result was that the school in Tuer Street was licensed for Divine worship. There had been difficulties in the way of further carrying out the idea, but these had been overcome by the exercise of kindly feeling and consideration. The population of the new parish of St. Ambrose was about 2000, so that to the mother parish there would still be left about 9000. The Church of St. Ambrose and the new church in Holland Street, consecrated two days before, had both been built with all due regard to economy; and another good feature about them was, that they were opened, the Church of St. Mark entirely free of debt, and that of St. Ambrose nearly so. St. Mark's, with accommodation for 800 persons, had cost 34000., which was about 71. a-sitting. St. Ambrose's had been even more economically built. A considerable outlay had necessarily been incurred for a site, from which St. Mark's was free, having received the gift of a site from the Dean and Chapter, who were the owners of some property in the neighbourhood. The site in the case of St. Ambrose's had cost 13000. The church itself had been built at a very moderate cost—about 23000., or about 61. a-sitting. Gifts of material to the value of 5500. had been given by friends. There still remained a debt of a little more than 2000. The Diocesan Church Building Society had made a grant of 2000. towards the purchase of the site, and 2500. towards the building fund. But for the Society he did not know how the work of church building could possibly go on in the diocese. This new church made the number of churches 111, erected within the limits of the old parish of Manchester since the principle of dividing it first began. All the sittings in the new church were free. That was also the case with St. Mark's, and it ought to be so in all parishes of this description in which there were not many wealthy people. Of the 111 churches now standing within the limits of the old parish of Manchester thirty-two had been built in the fifteen years of his episcopate. Two or three were in place of old ones. Those thirty-two churches had cost 260,000., so they could estimate what had been the liberality of the Churchmen of Manchester in those fifteen years.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Surrey Association.

A District Meeting of this Association was held at Epsom (by the kind permission of the Vicar) on Saturday, the 22nd inst. About five o'clock there was a sufficient muster to ring Triples, and the ringing began with some Grandairs. Afterwards touches were rung in Stedman's, Plain Bob, and Union Triples, and Bob Major. The party was made up chiefly by members from Beddington and Croydon, with the local representatives, and one or two from London and Sutton. The members who were present desire to express their thanks to the Vicar of Epsom, for his kindness in allowing them to ring there. The meeting dissolved shortly before 9 p.m., for the purpose of catching its train.

ARTHUR B. CARPENTER, *Hon. Sec.*

Two 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	-	4	3	6	5	2	-
2	6	4	3	5	-	2	6	4	3	5	-
5	4	6	3	2	-	5	4	6	3	2	-
6	5	2	4	3	-	6	5	2	4	3	-
2	6	3	5	4	-	4	6	2	5	3	-
3	2	4	6	5	-	2	4	3	6	5	-
4	2	5	6	3	-	3	4	5	6	2	-
5	2	3	6	4	-	5	4	2	6	3	-
4	3	5	2	6	-	3	2	5	4	6	-
5	2	4	3	6	-	5	3	2	4	6	-
4	5	2	3	6	-	2	5	3	4	6	-
6	2	5	3	4	-	6	3	5	4	2	-
5	6	4	2	3	-	5	6	2	3	4	-
4	5	3	6	2	-	3	5	2	6	4	-
3	4	2	5	6	-	4	2	3	5	6	-

Twice repeated.

Each peal has the 6th twelve times each way in 5-6.

Twice repeated.

BENJAMIN FRANCIS, *Diss.*

Two Touches of Bob Minor.

360						300					
S	3	2	5	6	4	S	3	2	5	6	4
S	2	3	6	4	5	S	2	3	6	4	5
S	3	2	4	5	6	S	3	2	4	5	6
	2	5	3	6	4	S	2	3	5	6	4
S	5	2	6	4	3		3	6	2	4	5
S	2	5	4	3	6	Four times repeated.					
S	5	2	3	6	4	Composed by W. Redman, stationed ringer at St. Michael's Church, Haworth.					
S	2	5	6	4	3						
S	5	2	4	3	6						
	2	3	5	6	4	Twice repeated.					

