

CHINA.

A WRITER in the *Living Church* points out the wide bearing of the question concerning the proper name for the Deity, now brought into prominence by the American missionaries. Bishop Schereschewski, he says, would have resigned if his clergy had resisted his injunction to use henceforth *Tien-Chu*, which they had previously avoided because they found it employed by the Romanists. Some of the C. M. S. missionaries, the writer hints, adhere to the 'Protestant' term *Sen*; if so, intercommunion between the proselytes of the English Church and those of our American sister will be hampered by a fear that they worship two distinct Deities.

MADAGASCAR.

THE Norwegian Mission is steadily advancing. In 1885, 2567 natives were baptized; in 1886, 3000. The schools contain 25,000 children, taught by 733 teachers, foreign or native. The Norwegian work has hitherto been mainly in the interior of this vast island, but two stations have now been established on the western coast. It is much to be desired that the Norwegian and English Missions should be united into one National Malaguese Church, in accordance with the procedure of Bishop Heber of Calcutta with regard to the Scandinavian Mission, aided by the S. P. C. K. in Tranquebar.

SOUTH AFRICA.

THE Capetown *Church News* does not approve of the recent action of the Lower House of Canterbury Convocation in adding to the Catechism: 'It is preposterous to think of a Province putting forth Twelve Articles upon the Church and its Government in this fashion, without the authority and consent of one of its Bishops. At an early stage of the proceedings the question of having the Bishops' consent was discussed, but Canon Gregory and his friends preferred to do without it. They were quite satisfied if they could get the *imprimatur* of a book and tract society! The real upholder of Bishops' rights in the assembly was the Evangelical Dean of Llandaff.' And the Rev. James Baker, writing on the subject to the same paper, thus criticises the Answer proposed to a Question on the duty of belonging to the Church of England: 'Canon Gregory says he does not care about any others, but only about members of the Church in England. In the Colonies various denominations would assert priority of settlement. At the Cape, the Dutch Reformed Church was not only before the "Church of England," but was actually "the Established Church" of the Colony.' The same paper honours *Church Bells* by reprinting remarks recently made in our columns upon Sunday schools.

At the diocesan Synod of Maritzburg, the Bishop introduced for consideration the treatment of polygamy in applicants for baptism, in view of the question being brought next year before the Lambeth Conference. A report was presented which stated that they had not arrived at a conclusion how far polygamy was allowed under the Old Dispensation. A discussion followed, in which one of the speakers said that the present rule made 'divorce' a qualification for baptism. Another said that it was not legal divorce, for the women would still have a right to support and shelter from their husbands. Another argued that such separations were not always contrary to native custom. Another spoke of the lack of peace and love among polygamists. Dean Green, in conclusion, said that Church laws must not be formed on the basis of native customs. The Synod then agreed to his motion, 'That the Bishop be requested to direct that prayer be made for the guidance of the Holy Spirit in the matter of dealing with polygamists.'

ITALY.

THE monstrous Romish corruptions of Indulgences and Pilgrimages have survived the exposures of the Reformation. Leo XIII. offers to all pilgrims to his Jubilee (next month he will have been in Priest's Orders fifty years), 'by virtue of the authority of the Holy Apostles, Peter and Paul, a perfect indulgence and absolution from all sins.' This blessedness can be obtained without any journey, if his adherent performs twice a nine-days' devotion (*novena*), and on New-year's Day recites a third part of the Rosary, receives the Sacraments, and prays for the extinction of heresy. Nay, he who needs not deliverance from Purgatory for himself can apply the merit of his observing this prescription to prevent another from suffering.

SWITZERLAND.

At Yverdon a French author, M. Simonin, has put forth a 'Letter to the Pope,' in which he declares himself compelled to withdraw from his communion, in consequence of being required to accept the new dogmas of Vaticanism—Infallibility and the like. He calls on all Gallican-minded men to do the like.

FRANCE.

BISHOP JENNER states that during the last five years the influence of M. Loyson has materially increased, not in Paris alone, but in every part of the country. He now invariably finds a respectful hearing. He lately visited Lille to give two conferences, the first of which was attended by 2000, the second by 3000. In places, especially in the south, where a few years ago he was hooted, he is now received with respectful welcome. 'The American episcopate are coming forward with substantial help' to 'a cause which, as a well-known American clergyman long resident in Paris has lately declared, has become to the most thoughtful minds in France the one hope of religious reform.'

GERMANY.

THE death is announced of Professor Schlottmann of the University of Halle. Himself of the Evangelic Prussian Establishment, he was an especially warm friend of the Old Catholic cause, besides being an eminent Biblical critic.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

The Surrey Association.

A DISTRICT Meeting of this Association will be held at Streatham Common (by the kind permission of the Vicar) on Saturday, December 10th. The tower will be open for ringing from 4.30 p.m. A Committee Meeting will be held at 6 p.m. to consider the sketches which have been drawn for the proposed certificate of membership. ARTHUR B. CARPENTER, *Hon. Sec.*
34 Dingwall Road.

The Midland Counties' Association.

THE autumn quarterly meeting of the above Association was held at Burton-on Trent on Saturday, the 5th ult.. Touches in various methods were rung on the rings of eight at St. Modwen's and St. Paul's. At 5.30 some forty members sat down to a substantial tea, which, thanks to the local Hon. Sec., Mr. John Jaggard, was provided at one shilling per head. The following gentlemen were elected honorary members of the Association:—The Very Rev. the Dean of Lichfield, the Rev. F. H. Beaven, the Rev. T. H. Freer, the Rev. G. Woodyatt, the Rev. T. V. Evans, and W. E. B. Farnham, Esq., Quorndon House. Two life members and two ringing members were also elected. The President (A. P. Heywood, Esq.) congratulated the Association on the large accession of clergy to its ranks, adding that he felt sure the work of the Society only required to become known to ensure the support of all those incumbents whose churches contained rings of bells, a support than which none was more valuable to the progress of ringing. He then recapitulated the peals rung during the quarter, noting with especial pleasure the arrival of their hosts, the St. Paul's Society, at the summit of eight-bell ringing by their achievement of a peal of LONDON SURPRISE. He urged those companies who had not already done so to endeavour to score a peal of some kind before the close of the Jubilee year, and concluded by moving a vote of thanks to the clergy, whose bells had been so kindly placed at their disposal during the day, expressing also the gratification it gave him to welcome the new Vicar of St. Paul's (the Rev. F. H. Beaven) among them. The Rev. F. H. Beaven in reply said how wishful he was to do all in his power to promote the well-being of the Association, and offered an ever-ready welcome to its members. The next meeting has been fixed to take place at Ashby-de-la-Zouch, on Saturday, January 7, 1888, and all notices as to any proposed 'alteration of rules, &c.' must reach the Hon. Sec., Mr. Joseph Griffin, 5 St. Paul's Street East, Burton-on-Trent, at least one month before the meeting.

The Curfew at Wellingborough, Northants.

THE ancient custom of ringing the Curfew at eight o'clock each evening has been revived at Wellingborough during the past month. Formerly the old fourth bell (now the sixth) was used for the purpose, but it will now be rung on the present fourth bell (the old second), the senior bell of the ring. Cast by Newcombe, of Leicester, in the reign of James I., 1604, it has remained in the tower for over 280 years uninjured, but bearing many a dint from clapper and chime-hammer. The ringing of Curfew is supposed to have been instituted by King Alfred; but was, as is well known, enforced by William the Conqueror.

Reopening of Elham Bells, Kent.

ON Monday, the 7th ult., some members of the Folkestone branch of the Kent County Association visited Elham to reopen the bells after a silence of twelve years. The proceedings commenced with a Dedication Service, during which a course of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES was rung, and at the conclusion of the service 840 in the same method. F. Finn, 1; S. Binfield, 2; J. Fisher, 3; F. Rolfe, 4; H. Croucher, 5; S. Barker (conductor), 6; F. Slingsby, 7; W. Booth, 8. Ringing was continued during the afternoon until 5, when an adjournment was made for dinner. The bells are a handy ring in F; tenor, about 18 cwt. They had been quartered and rehung by Messrs. Warner and Sons.

Reopening of the Bells of Harwell Church, Berks.

THE bells of the parish church of Harwell, Berks, having been rehung by Messrs. Bond and Son of Burford, Oxon, were reopened on Thursday, the 24th ult. Evensong, at which the sermon was preached by the Rev. F. E. Robinson, master of the Diocesan Guild, was said at 3 p.m., several of the neighbouring clergy being present. Immediately afterwards, two 720's of GRANDSIRE MINOR were rung by the following members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild. T. Hibbert, 1; H. D. Betteridge, Esq., 2; F. Field, 3; W. Napper, 4; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 5; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 6. Tenor about 18 cwt. Several 120's of STEDMAN and GRANDSIRE DOUBLES were also rung.

Reopening of the Bells of the Parish Church, Newbury.

ON Saturday, the 26th ult., these bells having been rehung by Mr. White of Appleton, were reopened with a peal of STEDMAN TRIPLES, rung by members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild. They were cast by Wells of Aldbourne, Wilts, and make a respectable ring of eight, with a tenor of about 25 cwt., in E fiat. The ringers were kindly entertained by the Rector and Churchwardens.

A Ring of Eight Bells for Mossley, Lancashire.

WE have received the following paragraph:—'We are pleased to hear that we are now within a measurable distance of having a ring of bells at Mossley Church. Five of the eight bells have already been promised, and a contract has been entered into with Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, bell-founders, London, to supply a ring of eight. Each of the following gentlemen is giving one: the Mayor (Councillor John Mayall, J.P.), Councillor Andrew Beswick, the Vicar of Mossley (the Rev. Anthony Hall, M.A.), Mr. John Knott, and the young men of St. George's school. We expect the

there will now be a rush of ladies and gentlemen to immortalise themselves by 'giving the remaining three bells. We do not consider that in giving these bells to St. George's they will in any way be the exclusive property of that church. Their sweet melody will be enjoyed by all, and thus this is a work in which men of all creeds can join.'

A Visit to Chilmark and Dinton, Wilts.

On Sunday, the 20th ult., in response to an invitation from their Chilmark friends, several ringers from Salisbury, viz., Messrs. Short, Highman, Devonport, Gaisford, Lush, Barkus, Tydeman, Goddard, and Gifford, visited this place and spent a very enjoyable afternoon. Ringing commenced with some rounds and call-changes, and six 120's of GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, each called differently. J. Short, 1; A. W. Barkuss, 2; A. Goddard, 3; W. Tydeman, 4; W. W. Gifford (conductor), 5; C. Gaisford, 6. Tenor, 18 cwt. The ringers take this opportunity of thanking Mr. Viney and their other Chilmark friends for the trouble they took to make the meeting a success. On the way to the station they called on Mr. Tom Wright of Dinton, who, with his usual kindness, quickly had everything in readiness for a ring at this church. Here only four 6-scores of GRANDSIRE DOUBLES were rung, as time would not allow of more being done. Few places can boast of such excellent rings of six bells as Chilmark and Dinton.

* * A NEW treble bell is being added to Trull Church, Somerset, with this inscription:—Added 1887, to commemorate the Jubilee of Queen Victoria. Funds raised by William Billett, Sexton. *Laus Deo.*

CHANGE-RINGING.

At All Saints' Parish Church, Wigan, Lancashire.

On Thursday, the 17th ult., Holt's Ten-part peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES was rung in 3 hrs. 1 min. G. B. Walker (conductor), 1; S. C. C. Turner, 2; J. Layland, 3; G. Turner, 4; J. T. Hall, 5; S. Hall, 6; R. Fisher and A. Shaw, 7; E. Gomerson and J. Meadow, 8. First peal as conductor for G. B. Walker, and first peal for J. Meadow. Tenor, 28 cwt. The above peal being recorded on a tablet (presented to the ringers for such purposes in 1879 by the Rev. D. S. Murray), on the following Thursday, having met for their usual practice, they were content with a short touch only, as, by arrangement, they were due at the house of Mr. Gilbert Hall, an ex-ringer, where a repast was awaiting them; after which Mr. T. Halliwell was called to the chair, and Mr. Harrison to the vice-chair. The toast of 'The Queen' was proposed by the Chairman and heartily responded to. 'The Lord Bishop of Liverpool and the Clergy of the Diocese,' coupling with it 'the health of their worthy friend and ringer, the Rev. H. F. Lloyd,' who, in responding, spoke in warm terms of congratulation on their success, and at the same time, on behalf of the ringers, presented the chairman with an elaborate silver pendant, bearing on the front a bell with the monogram 'T. H.,' and on the back, 'Presented to Mr. T. Halliwell by the All Saints' Ringers as a mark of their esteem. Wigan, November 24, 1887.' On accepting the present, an altogether agreeable surprise, he expressed a hope that other of his pupils then present would follow the example set them, and so do their best to promote the science.

At Ipswich, Suffolk.

On Thursday, the 17th ult., at the Society's meeting-house, a peal of 5120 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR was rung on hand-bells retained in hand. W. Mott, 1-2; C. Mee, 3-4; J. Motts (composer and conductor), 5-6; F. Mee, 7-8. Referees: S. Tillett, F. Tillett, A. Durrant, and others. Messrs. Tillett and Durrant had the peal, and marked off the leads as they were rung.

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

On Saturday, the 19th ult., eight members of the Midland Counties' Association and the St. Paul's Society, rang Brooke's variation of 'Thurstans' peal of 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES in 3 hrs. 8 mins. C. H. Hattersley, 1; J. Carter, 2; H. Bastable, 3; Jos. Griffin, 4; S. Reeves, 5; A. Heywood, Esq., 6; W. Wakley, 7; A. Thomas, 8. Tenor, 26 cwt. The above was rung to celebrate the anniversary of the silent peal of STEDMAN TRIPLES on November 20th, 1886, the performers being the same, with the exception of A. P. Heywood, Esq., who on this occasion took the place of Mr. J. Jaggard. The first three courses of the peal were conducted by Mr. Hattersley, each ringer in turn calling the same number of courses until the peal was completed.

At the Abbey Church, Dorchester, Oxon.

On Thursday, the 17th ult., eight members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild rang Thurstans' peal of 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES (reversed) in 3 hrs. 1 min. A. Hawes (first peal of STEDMAN TRIPLES), 1; F. Field, 2; C. Trinder, 3; H. C. Betteridge, Esq., 4; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 5; H. Cobb, 6; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 7; W. Cobb, 8. Tenor, 19 cwt.

At the Abbey National Infants' School, St. Albans, Herts.

On Saturday, the 19th ult., four members of the St. Albans Cathedral Society, the Ancient Society of College Youths, and the Essex Association, rang, on handbells retained in hand, Holt's Original peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 26 mins. J. C. Mitchell, 1-2; G. W. Cartmel (conductor), 3-4; W. H. L. Buckingham, 5-6; A. Barnes (first peal on handbells), 7-8.

At St. Botolph's, Bishopsgate, City of London.

On Saturday, the 19th ult., eight members of the James' Society rang a Birthday peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES (Taylor's bob-and-single variation) in 2 hrs. 58 mins. H. W. Grout, 1; E. E. Richards, 2; W. Bedwell, 3; H. A. Barnett, 4; G. B. Lucas, 5; W. H. Freeman (birthday, and first peal as conductor), 6; A. G. Freeman, 7; W. J. Williamson, 8. Tenor, 20 cwt.

At All Saints', Loughborough, Leicestershire.

On Friday, the 25th ult., a peal of 5021 GRANDSIRE CATERS was rung in 3 hrs. 30 mins. by members of the Midland Counties' Association, Loughborough Branch. A. Cresser, 1; W. T. Billingham, 2; C. Smith, 3; J. W. Taylor, sen., 4; S. Smith, 5; E. D. Taylor, 6; J. Hardy, 7; W. Birkinshaw, 8; J. W. Taylor, jun., 9; R. Lane, 10. Tenor, 28 cwt., in D. Composed by J. Cox, and conducted by J. W. Taylor, jun. This is the first peal upon the bells since the addition of the two trebles and the recasting of the five tenors (the Jubilee gift of Mr. Taylor), which were dedicated by Bishop Mitchinson October 28th, 1887. Mr. Taylor, sen., rang the third bell at the age of fourteen in the first peal (GRANDSIRE TRIPLES) on the old ring of eight, on March 1st, 1842, and also in the last peal (TREBLE BOB MAJOR) on them on March 15th, 1887, and has now had the pleasure of assisting in the first peal of CATERS.

At St. Sidwell's, Exeter, Devon.—Jubilee Peal.

On Saturday, the 26th ult., a peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES (Hollis' Five-part) was rung in 2 hrs. 58 mins. C. Carter (first peal), 1; W. Stocker (first peal), 2; W. Mundy, 3; F. Davey (first peal), 4; F. Shepherd (conductor), 5; E. Shepherd, 6; J. Moss, 7; T. G. Lake, 8.

At St. Mary's, Prestbury, Gloucestershire.

On Monday, the 28th ult., the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Change-ringers' Association rang Holt's Original peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 54 mins. D. Davis, 1; F. E. Ward, 2; G. H. Phillott, 3; T. Steel, 4; F. Musty, 5; W. T. Pates (conductor), 6; T. Davis, 7; A. W. Humphrys, 8. Tenor, 14½ cwt., in F.

At the Spicer Street Schoolroom, St. Albans, Herts.

On Tuesday, the 29th ult., four members of the St. Albans Cathedral Society rang on handbells retained in hand Holt's Original peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 31 mins. J. C. Mitchell (conductor), 1-2; G. W. Cartmel, 3-4; W. H. L. Buckingham, 5-6; T. Waller (first peal on handbells), 7-8. Umpire, Mr. H. Brewer of the St. Peter's Society.

At Bisley, Gloucestershire.

THE Gloucester and Bristol Association rang Holt's Original GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 3 hrs. 2 mins. A. Trigg, 1; W. T. Pates, 2; F. E. Ward, Esq., 3; W. Hale, 4; H. Karn, 5; F. Musty and J. Sevier, 6; G. H. Phillott, Esq., 7; A. Smith, 8. Tenor, 17 cwt. Messrs. Trigg, Hale, and Smith, come from Painswick, the others from Cheltenham. F. Musty, now belonging to the Cheltenham band, is one of the few remaining members of the old Painswick party, and rang in the last peal of STEDMAN ever rung there for twenty-five years. A young and promising band of ringers is now rising up at Painswick, and they will, it is hoped, revive the old traditional fame of that once celebrated tower. (No date given.)

At NUNEATON, WARWICKSHIRE.—On Wednesday, the 2nd ult., the local company rang, as a welcome touch for the return of their Vicar, Canon Bellairs, after an absence of eighteen months, 600 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, called differently, with 4-6-8 behind. W. Adler, 1; J. Clarke, 2; T. Lingard, 3; E. Rowley, 4; H. Horwood, 5; G. Winter, 6; T. Bates, 7; T. Chapman, 8. Also on Thursday, the 3rd ult., for practice, Ten-sixes of GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, in 45 mins., called differently, with 4-6-8 behind. J. Ballard, 1; J. Clarke, 2; T. Chapman, 3; J. George (Coventry), 4; H. Horwood (conductor), 5; G. Winter, 6; T. Bates, 7; E. Rowley, 8. First ten six-scores by all except H. Horwood.

At ST. MARTIN'S, SALISBURY.—On Wednesday, the 9th ult., 720 BOB MINOR. J. Short, 1; A. W. Barkus, 2; H. D. Adams, 3; W. E. Tydeman, 4; J. R. Jerram, 5; W. W. Gifford (conductor), 6. On Saturday, the 12th inst., a 720 in the same method. A. Goddard (first 720), 1; A. W. Barkuss, 2; H. D. Adams, 3; J. R. Jerram, 4; T. Blackburn (conductor), 5; W. W. Gifford, 6. On Sunday, the 13th ult., for Divine service in the morning, a quarter-peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES (1260 changes) in 42 mins. A. Goddard (first 1260), 1; A. W. Barkuss, 2; W. E. Tydeman, 3; T. Blackburn (conductor), 4; H. D. Adams, 5; C. A. Clements, 6; W. W. Gifford, 7; W. Tryhorn, 8. And after service in the evening another 1260 by the same band, conducted by C. A. Clements.

At ST. THOMAS', SALISBURY.—On Mayor's Day, the 9th ult., 700 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. A. Goddard, 1; W. E. Tydeman, 2; C. A. Clements (conductor), 3; A. W. Barkuss, 4; H. D. Adams, 5; J. R. Jerram, 6; W. W. Gifford, 7; C. Gaisford, 8. Tenor, 32 cwt. And at St. Martin's, 720 BOB MINOR. J. Short, 1; A. W. Barkuss, 2; H. D. Adams, 3; W. E. Tydeman, 4; J. R. Jerram, 5; W. W. Gifford (conductor), 6. (Rung on the back six bells.) Also on Sunday, the 6th ult., for Divine service, 504 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 16 mins. S. Lawrence, 1; A. W. Barkuss, 2; W. E. Tydeman, 3; T. Blackburn, 4; H. D. Adams, 5; C. A. Clements (conductor), 6; W. W. Gifford, 7; C. Gaisford, 8. Tenor, 15 cwt.

At ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN, BALDOCK, HERTS.—On Thursday, the 10th ult., 120 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES. T. Webb, 1; J. Cawdell, 2; J. Smith, 3; G. Spicer, 4; Rich. Jackson, 5; G. Waylett, 6; Robt. Jackson, 7; G. Gentle, 8. 6, 7, 8 behind. Also 224 BOB MINOR. Robt. Jackson, 1; G. Spicer, 2; J. Cawdell, 3; J. Phillips, 4; Rich. Jackson (conductor), 5; J. Smith, 6. Also 350 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. T. Webb (conductor), 1; G. Spicer, 2; J. Cawdell, 3; J. Phillips, 4; J. Smith, 5; Rich. Jackson, 6; Robt. Jackson, 7; G. Gentle, 8. Also two 120's STEDMAN DOUBLES. T. Webb (conductor), 1; G. Spicer, 2; J. Cawdell, 3; Robt. Jackson, 4; Rich. Jackson, 5; J. Smith, 6. Tenor, 28 cwt., in D. On Handbells, 112 BOB MAJOR. W. Bidnell, 1; T. Webb, 2; J. Cawdell, 3; G. Spicer, 4; J. Smith, 5; Rich. Jackson, 6; J. Phillips, 7; Robt. Jackson, 8.

At St. Sidwell's, Exeter.—On Saturday, the 12th ult., with the bells muffled, 518 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. C. Carter, 1; W. Stocker, 2; F. Shepherd, 3; F. Davey, 4; W. Mundy, 5; J. Moss, 6; E. Shepherd (conductor), 7; B. Mundy, 8. On Sunday, the 13th ult., for Divine service in the morning, 504 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. C. Carter, 1; E. Shepherd, 2; A. Shepherd, 3; F. Davey, 4; W. Mundy (conductor), 5; J. Moss, 6; F. Shepherd, 7; B. Mundy, 8. And for Divine service in the evening 1386 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 47 mins. C. Carter, 1; A. Shepherd, 2; F. Shepherd (conductor), 3; F. Davey, 4; W. Mundy, 5; J. Moss, 6; E. Shepherd, 7; B. Mundy, 8.

MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION AND ST. ANDREW'S SOCIETY, DERBY.—On Thursday evening, the 17th ult., six members of the above Society rang 720 KENT TREBLE BOB MINOR in 28 mins. H. C. Woodward (conductor), 1; T. Alton, 2; C. E. Hart, 3; J. W. Thompson, 4; A. E. Thompson, 5; G. Mottashaw, 6. On Sunday evening, the 20th ult., eight members of the above Societies rang 576 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR in 21 mins. C. Draper, 1; T. Alton, 2; J. W. Thompson, 3; W. B. Midgley, 4; C. E. Hart, 5; A. E. Thompson, 6; H. E. Woodward (conductor), 7; G. Mottashaw, 8. Tenor, 20½ cwt. in E. flat.

At THE PARISH CHURCH, ST. MARY'S, DALTON-IN-FURNESS.—On Sunday, the 20th ult., for morning service, a peal of 720 GRANDSIRE MINOR (38 bobs and 22 singles). J. Spencer, 1; T. Townson, 2; T. Watson (conductor), 3; J. Burrows, 4; T. R. Jackson, 5; M. Caddy, 6. Tenor, 11 cwt. 1 qr. 19 lbs. And for evening service, 300, 120, and 120 of GRANDSIRE MINOR, ringers standing as above.

At St. Mary Matfelon, Whitechapel, London.—On Sunday evening, the 20th ult., for Divine Service, eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang 1376 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR in 54 mins. J. Pettit (conductor), 1; W. Cecil, 2; S. E. Joyce, 3; H. Springall, 4; E. Wallage, 5; E. Horrex, 6; E. Carter, 7; W. Greenleaf, 8. This is the longest touch in the above method on the bells since they have been hung in the new tower.

At THE PARISH CHURCH, MARLOW, BUCKS.—On Sunday evening, the 20th ult., 336 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES were rung. J. C. Truss, 1; J. Gibson, 2; H. Buckingham, 3; C. Smith, 4; W. H. Badger, 5; C. H. Yates, 6; H. Collins (conductor), 7; A. W. Truss, 8. Tenor, 18 cwt.

CORRESPONDENCE.

S. P. C. K.

SIR,—It is rather late in the day to refer to a notice of the S. P. C. K. which appeared in your issue of August 5th, 1887, but as I was on holiday at the time I could not well deal with some of the questions in it sooner.

1. Your correspondent, 'J. F.', is puzzled that at the end of the financial year there should be outstanding debts to the amount of 25,335l. 8s. 6d. owing to the Society, and he is not quite clear as to any distinction between these debts and those which appear under 'Bad Debts.' Does 'J. F.' think that the Society gets ready money for all its sales, and that at the end of the financial year no bookseller, no depôt, should owe it a penny?

2. 'J. F.' fears that the value ascribed to the stock in the balance-sheet of the bookselling account is a problematical one, and evidently has little faith in the possibility of its realising that sum. I think he may rest assured that the valuation is not overstated. The assigned value is subject yearly to the writing off of a considerable percentage for depreciation, and it is, therefore, more likely to be below than above the realisable value. As it stands it is only about the amount of one year's sales.

3. 'J. F.' seems to think that the Committees have exercised little commercial prevision in publishing such works as *Ancient History from the Monuments*, *The Fathers for English Readers*, *Early Britain*, *Early Chronicles of Europe*, *Non-Christian Religious Systems*, and the *Diocesan Histories*. He will be pleased to learn that all these series have been commercially successful. It is not usual for publishers to advertise the numbers sold of their publications, but as it will relieve 'J. F.'s mind to have some definite figures before him, I give typical instances of the sales of volumes of these series of *Ancient History from the Monuments*. 9186 copies of *Assyria* have been sold, 9247 of *Egypt*, 6268 of *Persia*, 5622 of *Babylonia*. Of the *Fathers for English Readers*, 6200 copies of the *Apostolic Fathers*, 4700 of the *Defenders of the Faith*, 4700 of *St. Jerome*, and others in proportion according to date of publication. Of *Early Britain*, published comparatively recently, 3000 copies of *Anglo-Saxon Britain*, 3500 of *Celtic Britain*, and 2100 of *Roman Britain*. Of *Early Chronicles of Europe*, 2000 copies have been sold of *England*, 1600 of *France*, and 800 of *Italy*, lately published. Of *Non-Christian Religious Systems*, 10,550 copies of *Buddhism* have been sold, 8700 of *Hinduism*, 7250 of *Islamism*, and others proportionately according to date of publication. Of the *Diocesan Histories*, 2200 copies of *Canterbury* have been sold, 2200 of *Durham*, 2000 of *Salisbury*, 1800 of *York*, 1500 of *Oxford*, and others proportionately to date of publication.

4. 'J. F.' fears, because only 2000l. were handed over to the Charity at the end of the financial year 1887, that there is some fear of our bookselling business becoming bankrupt some day. He need not alarm himself. The profits average each year over 6000l., after paying interest on money involved in the business, rent, salaries (including a paid Secretary), taxes, &c. The transfer to the Charity is merely a matter of book-keeping, and 'J. F.' seems somewhat disingenuous in stating that the available profits have fallen in one year from 6000l. to 2000l. If he examined the bookselling account at all, he must have seen that the profit for 1886-87 was 4704l. The capital in the bookselling business, 70,000l., has been paid, over and over again, to the Charity by accumulated profits, and the bookselling business neither requires, or is ever likely to require, any aid from the Charity to meet

its liabilities. 'J. F.' sneers at a Charitable Society being carried on by paid agents. Would he apply this principle to clerical duties?

EDMUND MCCLURE, *Editorial Secretary*.

Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge.

'The Last Libel of Delicate Dissent.'

SIR,—I should like, with your permission, to make a few comments on 'W. H.'s' article of November 11th. The remark, 'a sample of the attacks made by political Nonconformists,' is liable to misconception in Mr. R. F. Horton's case. I well remember the strong impression made by Mr. Horton in 1877 as an undergraduate at the Union Debating Society, when he skillfully first evoked the applause of Mr. Tooth's sympathisers, and then, to their astonishment, turned round and exposed the fallacies of their position. All that 'W. H.' writes of Mr. Horton's powers is more than justified, but he does not care a straw for party politics. Doubtless the Independents are to a man Liberals or Radicals, whereas 'political' Churchmen are mostly Conservatives. But he is a profoundly religious man of spotless character, one of the few men who is gathering young men of thought and knowledge around him in the profound belief that from their point of view all ecclesiastical organization, pomp and ritual, has been, and is, a gigantic mistake. They do, I think, propose some notions of their own about a free and independent federal brotherhood of all Christian congregations and may be apt to pity Churchmen as those who take 'the Communion of Saints' to mean a stiff outward recognition of fellow-Churchmen and a tabooing of all Dissenters. Their opinions and proposed outward means should not be confounded with their aim, which is exactly that of the devout Churchman to bring the world of individuals and communities to Christ. Let us try to understand them and beware of underrating them.

Certainly Mr. Horton should be asked what his authorities are for misleading ignorant people; but let him be asked as a deeply earnest and thoughtful Christian gentleman. It will probably be found that he adopts the lines of the remarkable manifesto by Dr. Fairbairn in 'The new Puritanism and the new Sacerdotalism,' and is familiar with the utterances of extreme individuals, giving them a logical interpretation which the Prayer Book does not bear out. Only last week an undergraduate wrote to the *Oxford Magazine* saying it was proposed 'to form a Catholic Society' and inviting 'catholics' to send their names to him, the object primarily being social gatherings. Doubtless he does not think of the Corn Exchange or the Cathedral in connexion with such catholic society. Do not then let us confound the utterances of Dr. Fairbairn and of Mr. Horton, who spent over five busy years in Oxford with those of what are often called 'political Dissenters.' They are rather Ultramontane Puritans, intensely desirous of promoting Christian life in every individual in the nation, but reading ecclesiastical history and current affairs in the most emphatic antagonism to most English Churchmen. Their ideal is in the direction of the so-called Free Churches; but they are also very dissatisfied with them, as all thoughtful men must be. They seem to be idealists in the exactly opposite direction to Cardinal Newman, so far as the earthly organization and unity of Christians is concerned.

Mr. Horton appeals to experience, and the work of English Churchmen will furnish the best answer to his standpoint. The 'Appeal to Wavering Nonconformists' must tell its own story; but let it be answered in the spirit so constantly inculcated by Earl Nelson. Mr. Horton claims to be the plainest of laymen, and yet as a minister, practically, all that those mentioned in the New Testament (unless he excepts the eleven Apostles) were. Then he further claims that this is all that all ministers, presbyters, priests, and bishops should be, if society is to be regenerated and personal religion not confounded with social membership with a set of respectable people or indifferent assent to ill-considered propositions, or a convenient non-negation of the smaller claims of Christianity in face of selfishness, unrighteousness, and unbelief, much of which those who think with him assign as the fault of our Church system, and not, necessarily, of individuals. There is nothing new in this; but it is different to the simple logic of Garibaldi, to the effect that as all priests and clergy caused evil in his country they should, in his opinion, be put to death 'without exception' and 'without delay.' Would it not be wise and charitable to discuss the principles of Nonconformity when they have to be discussed without insinuating base political motives to leading Dissenting ministers? There are those among them who attack, not the money, but the spiritual efficiency, as it were, of the Establishment, and hence the whole territorial system of the Church. Let this be recognised.

J. F. HEXES.

Oxford, November 1887.

SIR,—Is not 'Mr. Horton, of Haverstock Hill' the young Oxford don who some time ago considered himself competent to examine undergraduates in the doctrines of the Church of England? The don I speak of was very indignant when the Senate rejected him as examiner on account of his pronounced dissenting opinions, and it would be interesting to know whether it is the same man who is guilty of the ignorance you exposed on November 11th.

H. P.

Irish Society.

SIR,—Kindly allow me to direct the attention of your readers to the remarkable statement of the above Society in your advertisement sheet. The paragraph relating to the Society's work among the Irish populations in Lancashire cannot fail to be a cause of pleasurable surprise and deep interest to many. I can, however, myself vouch for its accuracy, as I was one of the examiners on the occasions referred to. Moreover, within the last few days examinations were held in Liverpool and Manchester, when the work of the previous four months was passed in review. More than three hundred Irish Roman Catholics presented themselves for inspection in

Dublin United Diocesan Synods of Sherrard's Catechism, which contains only a very moderate statement of Church doctrines and discipline, and which is a text-book in the dioceses of Cork and Meath. The fact is, that the spurious unionism now diligently propagated in Dublin and encouraged by some of our clergy is breaking down the barrier between Church and Dissent, but, unfortunately, only at the expense of the former. On the platform of the Christian Union buildings there are to be found some ministers of the Church who openly declare that the 'orders' of Presbyterians and Methodists, &c., are just as good as theirs, and 'that the only difference between them is a minor one of Church government, &c.' An attempt to extend this kind of unionism to Cork and so disturb the present harmony of the Church in our Southern capital was recently made and conspicuously failed. The Cork people are sound Church men and women; they love their Church, and from Bishop downwards offer no encouragement to break through the ranks.

A large number of the clergy were present on the platform at the great Unionist meeting held in Dublin on Tuesday week. The list includes the Bishops of Cork and Kilmore, the Provost and Vice-Provost, T. C. D., a large number of the Fellows and Professors, Canon Neligan, and many of the city and country clergy.

The announcement that our weekly Church paper, the *Irish Ecclesiastical Gazette*, is to be reduced from 3d. to 1d. at the beginning of next year has given the greatest satisfaction. In these hard times it was not so easy to produce 10s. 10d. a-year, but now it will be got post free for 6s. 6d. A large number of the Irish clergy who are serving the Church in England will, doubtless, be glad to see this announcement. If the English clergy generally wish to support Church principles in Ireland they have no better way of doing it than by taking in our paper. It is published at 61 Middle Abbey Street, Dublin.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

The Late Colonel Akroyd.

ON Saturday, the 19th ult., the above-named gentleman died at St. Leonards-on-Sea. He was the founder of All Souls' Church, Halifax, which he erected from designs by the late Sir Gilbert Scott at a cost of about 100,000l. The funeral took place on Wednesday, November 23rd, when the people of Halifax did all that was possible to show respect for his memory. He was buried in the family vault at All Souls' Cemetery. After the funeral, a half-peal of KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR (2624 changes) was rung with the bells deeply muffled in 1 hr. 50 mins., being the longest touch rung by the following persons:—H. Payne, 1; T. Parker, 2; G. D. E. Mervet, 3; J. S. Ambler, 4; A. Parker, 5; C. E. Stewart, 6; A. F. Nicholl, 7; S. W. Stewart (conductor), 8. At the Colonel's expense a fine ring of eight bells was placed in the tower. Tenor, 25½ cwt., in D.

The Surrey Association.

A DISTRICT Meeting of this Association will be held at Streatham Common (by the kind permission of the Vicar) on Saturday, December 10th. The tower will be open for ringing from 4.30 p.m. A Committee Meeting will be held at 6 p.m. to consider the sketches which have been drawn for the proposed certificate of membership. ARTHUR B. CARPENTER, *Hon. Sec.*

34 Dingwall Road.

The Essex Association.

THE subscriptions of some members of the Association for the year 1886-7 (ending at Whitsuntide last) are still in arrears, and I hereby give notice that unless these arrears are paid by December 31st inst., it will be assumed that the members in question do not wish their names to remain any longer upon our books. I may also remind members of the Association that the subscription for the current year, 1887-8, was due last Whit Monday, and should be paid as soon as possible by those who have not already forwarded it. T. L. PAPILLON, *Hon. Sec.*

Writtle, Chelmsford.

The St. James' Society, London.

I AM instructed to give notice in *Church Bells* that the peal of Grandsire Triples rung at St. Botolph, Bishopgate, on the 19th ult., was not a St. James's Society peal, one performer not being a member. J. BARRY, *Hon. Sec.*

CHANGE-RINGING.

At St. Andrew's, Hagbourne, Berks.

ON Friday, the 25th ult., eight members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild rang Thompson's Three-part peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 3 hrs. 8 mins. E. Pether, 1; D. Napper, 2; F. Napper, 3; T. Hibbert, 4; E. E. Napper, 5; W. Napper, 6; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 7; A. Woodley, 8. Tenor, 23½ cwt. The first time this composition has been rung, and is the first three-part peal.

At St. Margaret's, Lee, Kent.

ON Saturday, the 26th ult., eight members of the Society of Royal Cumberland Youths rang a Jubilee Peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES (Holt's Original) in 2 hrs. 50 mins. F. Fraser, 1; W. Baron, 2; C. E. Malim, 3; T. G. Deal (conductor), 4; J. Crowder (first peal with a bob-bell), 5; T. Taylor, 6; W. W. Thorn, 7; G. Wild, 8. Tenor, 15 cwt.

At the Parish Church, Newbury, Berks.

ON Saturday, the 26th ult., eight members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild rang a peal of 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES (Thurstans' Composition Reversed) in 3 hrs. 3 mins. W. Bennett, 1; E. Holfield, 2; F. Field, 3; H. D. Beteridge, 4; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 5; G. Holfield, 6; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 7; S. White and F. Webb, 8. Tenor, 25 cwt. The first peal in any method on the bells.

At the Parish Church, Sheffield, Yorkshire.

ON Saturday, the 26th ult., twelve members of the Yorkshire Association rang a peal of 5019 STEDMAN CINQUES in 3 hrs. 52 mins. G. Briggs, 1; J. Dixon, 2; W. Lomas, 3; Jos. Mulligan, 4; W. Coates, 5; C. H. Hattersley (composer), 6; J. Mulligan, 7; G. Holmes, 8; C. Bower, 9; A. Brierley, 10; J. Hattersley (conductor), 11; A. Rogers, 12. Tenor, 41 cwt.

At St. Andrew's, Hertford, Herts.

ON Tuesday, the 29th ult., eight members of the Hertford College Youths and the Hertfordshire Association rang Holt's Original peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 53 mins. J. Jauncey, 1; H. Phillips, 2; Jos. Pomfret (first peal of GRANDSIRE with a bob-bell), 3; M. Ellsmore, 4; S. Knight, 5; H. Baker (conductor), 6; J. G. Crawley, 7; F. George, 8. Tenor, 16 cwt.

At St. Albans, Herts.

ON Tuesday, the 29th ult., four members of the St. Albans Cathedral Society, the Ancient Society of College Youths, and the Essex Association, rang, on handbells retained in hand, Holt's Original peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 31 mins. J. C. Mitchell (conductor), 1-2; G. W. Cartmel, 3-4; W. H. L. Buckingham, 5-6; T. Waller (first peal on handbells), 7-8. Umpire, Mr. H. Brewer, of the St. Peter's Society.

AT ST. MARY'S, HITCHIN, HERTS.—On Monday, the 28th ult., the last 742 changes of Holt's Original peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. J. Randall, 1; G. Spicer (Baldock), 2; F. Furr, 3; J. Smith (Baldock), 4; A. Squires, 5; W. Allen, 6; J. Hare (conductor), 7; J. Foster, 8.

* Many communications are unavoidably postponed.

COLONIAL AND FOREIGN CHURCH NEWS.

UNITED STATES.

IN Tennessee the Church has gained especial strength at Chatanooga. Another church has been erected there to accommodate 1100 worshippers, with school buildings, rectory-house, &c.

THE *Churchman* says:—'Amid all discouragements, there is much to be thankful for in the quickened life of the Church in these latter days. Witness the redoubled services and faithful instructions given in many quarters and on similar lines, since the memorable Advent mission in New York. Witness the extent to which more frequent Communion are being instituted in many parishes, and the growing tendency to open churches during the week and to the revival of daily prayers. In all these ways religion is coming to lay a more practical hold upon men; and being a member of the Church is apprehended as something far more profound and spiritual than a formal profession of attachment to one among many denominations.'

AN eminent Congregationalist minister declares that there is not one of his brethren at Boston—'with possibly one exception'—who does not hold that the unevangelised heathen, instead of being all hopelessly lost for ever, 'will have a second probation;' and the *Living Church* affirms that this milder view is that of most 'orthodox' Denominationalists now. Yet their American Board of Foreign Missions has been directed by its 'prudential committee' to employ henceforth no missionaries who hold such a 'second probation.'

AUSTRALIA.

MEASURES are being taken by the Church for a due commemoration next year of the British nation at the Antipodes having lived its first century. In the Diocesan Synod of Sydney, Archdeacon Gunther obtained the commencement of a Centennial Fund. He observed that in looking back he could not discover that there were any prayers at the inauguration of the colony of New South Wales—that absurd misnomer. The first Anglican clergyman was Richard Johnson, 'the hero of an unheroic age.' For six years he ministered alone, until Samuel Marsden joined him. Even in 1814 there were but four clergy. In 1836 the first Bishop, Broughton, was consecrated; his clergy mounted up to about forty. In Australia and New Zealand at present there were 20 bishops, 900 clergy, 2000 churches, 1500 Sunday Schools, with over 100,000 scholars. In the diocese of Sydney, after all its successive contractions, the Church's income was now 84,000l. The speaker suggested, as meet works for the centenary in that diocese, the enlargement of the insufficient Cathedral, a Site Fund, a new Clergy and Lay-agency Fund, and a Debt Extinction Fund; and there should also be held a Centennial Church Congress. The Bishop of Sydney engaged to urge the Provincial Synod to make the proposed commemoration universal throughout Australia.

THE reredos lately erected in Sydney Cathedral having been made the occasion of much dispute on the part of the so-called Church Association recently formed in the colony, the Chapter has resolved to disarm the opposition by substituting for the Crucifixion in the central panel the subject of the Transfiguration, having first ascertained that the more respectable of their critics would hereupon be content to stay strife.

IN Queensland, near Bundabergh, Miss Young has started a mission to the Kanakas, imported from Melanesia, under the Rev. C. F. Johnson. About 450 of these people, hitherto Pagan, are gladly accepting instruction, and will be all baptized.

fittings, is about 2000*l*. The architects are Messrs. W. G. Habershon and Fawcner, London and Newport; contractors, Messrs. H. Hilton and Sons, Swansea, Birmingham, and Oxford.

At the luncheon, after the Consecration Service, the Bishop expressed his pleasure at coming to Swansea once more to consecrate a new church. That church had been a sort of bold experiment, but, as far as he was able to judge, a successful one. It was the experiment of a cheap church. Some of them were old enough to remember what ridicule was thrown, some thirty or thirty-five years ago, by a witty dignitary of the Church—Dr. Paget (Mr. Compo)—on cheap churches. But there was no compo there. They could not wait to build costly churches either in Swansea or elsewhere in that diocese. He had heard the Church of England found fault with because it was so slow in building churches, and that was supposed to be a fault of the Church system. But it was nothing of the kind; it was rather the fault of the architects, who insisted on giving them costly churches. He was glad to see Mr. Habershon set his brethren such a good example in that respect. The progress the Church had lately made in that town and neighbourhood was very marked. It was extremely difficult to get trustworthy facts to show the ratio Churchmen bore to the rest of the population. Sometimes gentlemen became amateur census-takers, and sometimes the results did not suit their ideas. The last had not been published *in extenso*. There was one test which was, however, infallible, and that was the record of the Bishop's confirmations. He kept a complete record of those occasions, and he had lately derived from that source very satisfactory evidence of the progress of the Church in his diocese. He had just made up his numbers for the past year, and found that he had confirmed over 3000 persons, a larger number than he had ever confirmed before in a single year. The numbers relating to Swansea had been remarkably large, and showed favourable comparison with other dioceses in England. In past years East Gower had pulled down the average of the returns; this year it had increased it. What did that mean? It meant hard work by the clergy and laity. As regards census-taking, they only wanted the truth to be known, and before any disestablishment proposal was carried they had a right to demand, not an amateur, but an official census. Were they, he asked, to be allowed to part with their inheritance through a surprise census here and a 'pop' census there. They had a right also to demand that the census should apply to England and Wales alike, because he was convinced that the disparity between the two was not so great as was generally assumed. In several counties of England the proportion of Churchmen was as small, if not smaller, as in many counties of Wales. He heartily thanked them for their vote.

An emphatically 'cheap church' was consecrated at Walsall on St. Andrew's day. The cost of the building has been about 3800*l*. It consists of chancel, nave, north, south, and west aisles, west porches to the aisles, a spacious organ-chamber, and vestries. The north aisle of the chancel is arranged for a morning chapel. The walls internally are faced with pressed red bricks, except dados in the aisles, the spandrels of the arcades, and the lower walls of the east end of the church, which are all plastered for decoration. The external walls are faced with a commoner, but good brick; all door and window jambs and quoins being of pressed brick. Red stone from the Penkridge quarries is used for the pillars, window-sills, and tracery; and white stone for the caps and bases. The roofs are framed with principals and purlins, &c., of pitch-pine, with plaster ceilings, and are covered with Broseley tiles. The seat-floors throughout are paved with wood block, and the passages of the nave and aisles with the new granite concrete paving. The sittings are chairs, which, with the font and altar rails were provided by Messrs. Jones and Willis, of Birmingham. The fittings of the chancel and the pulpit are of Canadian elm, and were made by the Bennett Furnishing Company. The main dimensions of the church are as follows:—Nave, 84ft. by 25ft.; chancel, 30ft. by 25ft.; aisles, 10ft. 9in. wide; vestry, 30ft. by 10ft. (divided by a curtain into two); and a lofty organ-chamber, 15ft. by 11ft. The nave is 27ft. 6in. high to the plate, and 51ft. high to the ridge. The architect is Mr. J. E. K. Cutts, of London, and the builder Mr. Alfred Lynex, of Walsall. The Bishop of Lichfield preached at the Consecration Service, and noted with satisfaction that the Rev. S. March, vicar of St. Peter's, for the sake of the good of the parish, had surrendered his undoubted right of patronage, which would legally have belonged to him as the vicar of the mother district, and had agreed to place the selection of the minister in the hands of the Bishop for all time, merely reserving to himself the first appointment, and appointing the devoted mission priest (the Rev. F. Parrett), who had been in charge of the parish for the last few years.

A BISHOP'S OPINION OF 'VINO SACRO.'—'I am glad to testify to the excellence of "Vino Sacro," as in every essential particular adapted to its sacred purpose. I know of no other.'—Signed, 'J. N. Staley, D.D., Vicar of Croxhall, formerly Bishop of Exeter. To Messrs. Hicks and Co., Plymouth.'—[See Advt. at end.]

'WATCHES, JEWELLERY.'—Midland Counties Watch Company.—Ladies' or Gents' Fine Silver Crystal Glass heavy-cased Watches, 25*s*.; Ladies' heavy case Gold Levers, 70*s*.; Gents' ditto, 3*s*. Send for Catalogue, beautifully illustrated, 1000 copper-plate Engravings, 1000 Testimonials, gratis and post free to any part of the world. A. PERCY, Manager, Vyse Street, Birmingham.—[Advt.]

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

A Wonderful Bell.

A CORRESPONDENT of the *Philadelphia Press*, writing from Kroto, in Japan, thus describes a wonderful bell:—'The temples here are few of them painted, and though, in some cases, furnished with gorgeous paraphernalia, are not to be compared with those of Nikko and Shiba. Their distinguishing feature is the great bell, which swings in a monster wooden belfry, half way up the hillside, back of the buildings proper. This bell is a huge bronze cup, with nearly perpendicular sides and a flat crown, which, like all the other Japanese bells, is sounded by means of a huge beam, kept in place by ropes, but when occasion requires brought against the rim of the bell with great force. It requires twelve coolies to manipulate this beam. Formerly it was only rung once a-year, but now it may be heard two or three times every month. It is eighteen feet high, nine and a half inches thick, nine feet in diameter, and weighs 125,000 catties, or nearly seventy-four tons. It was cast in a monster mould in the year 1633, so that it is about 250 years old now. I forget how much gold entered into its composition, but I have strong conviction that it was 1500 pounds *avoirdupois*. As the bell was cast with the rim up, this gold is all in the crown, but time has dimmed any lustre which it may have originally lent to the alloy. Only a miracle of casting could have ended in such a magnificent tone. I struck the rim of the bell softly with an open palm, and I suppose the vibration could have been heard one hundred yards away. I was almost impelled for the moment to believe that the affair was hollow after all.'

The Ring of Six Bells at Mayfield, Sussex.

ABOUT three miles from Rotherfield (a pleasant walk) is the interesting old village of Mayfield. The church is in excellent order. The tower is the usual Sussex low, spacious structure, with shingle spire, the lower part having lancet windows, which are, unfortunately, closed up with red bricks. The belfry is partly shut off from the church, and is, seemingly, used as a sort of lumber-room. Signs of reform are, however, apparent, in the shape of a new floor to the clock-room, fresh clock-face, &c., and we were pleased to learn that new chimes to supersede the old apparatus were talked of. But, before having chimes fixed, the parishioners would do well to get their bells rehung and put in proper order, for they need it very much. There is a heavy ring of six with a tenor measuring 50 inches across the mouth, and weighing possibly about 23 cwt. The bells bear the following dates:—Treble, 1724; second, 1724; third, 1502; fourth, 1629; fifth, 1712; tenor, 1630. The tenor was cast by a founder named Eldredge. At some time or other it has had a good-sized piece knocked out of its lip on the clock-hammer side.

A Peal of 5015 Grandsire Cinques.

By JOHN ROGERS, Society of Cumberlands. 8 9 lie still at start.

Bobs at							
1	6	7	2	3	4	5	6
11 th	4		3	5	4	2	6
10	11		4	5	6	2	3
			6	4	5	2	3
			4	2	5	6	3
			2	6	5	4	3
			5	2	6	4	3
			6	5	2	4	3
11 th	3		3	4	5	6	2
8 th	4		5	3	4	6	2
8 th	4		4	5	3	6	2
11 th	4		5	6	3	4	2
11 th	4		6	4	3	5	2
8 th	4		3	6	4	5	2
8 th	4		4	3	6	5	2

This part three times repeated.

Produces 2 3 5 4 7 at 5th lead. Round at hand by bobs at 1 2 4 5.

First rung as a Jubilee Peal on the bells of St. Martin-in-the-Fields by the Society of Royal Cumberlands. Conducted by its author.

The Bells of Willingdon, Sussex.

THE ancient Church of Willingdon, near Eastbourne, has a ring of five bells of the following dates:—Treble, 1860; second, 1732; third, 1875; fourth, 1618; tenor, 1732. The diameter of the tenor is thirty-eight inches. It weighs probably about 10 cwt. Sir Walter Parker of Ratton gave this bell, and his ancestor, Sir Nicholas Parker, was the donor of the fourth bell, Treble, second, third, and tenor, were cast at the Whitechapel Foundry. Owing to the belfry being so small several of the ropes are led to the ceiling by means of wooden 'shoots.' A clock, supplied by Messrs. Gillett & Co., Croydon, has been placed in the tower during this Jubilee year, which must be a great boon to the inhabitants. It strikes the hours on the tenor bell with a hammer weighing about 20 lbs., bringing out the fine tone of the bell admirably. The church contains several interesting monuments and brasses to the Parker and Thomas families.

The Waterloo Society, London.

NOTICE is hereby given that the two peals of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES rung at Holy Trinity, Newington, on the 29th April and the 13th May last, and recorded in this paper as Waterloo peals, will not be entered in the Society's peal-book, owing to the Society being unable to recover the entrance-fees of the three persons elected in the tower; namely, Messrs. Waghorn, jun., Barnett, and Lucas.

The Benington Ringers at Watton, Herts.

ON Monday, the 12th inst., upon the occasion of the Consecration of the Burial Ground, by special invitation, the Benington (Herts) Society of Change-ringers visited the parish church of Watton, and upon its musical ring of six bells rang 1800 changes, raising the bells in musical order and

falling, in good striking. The methods were KENT TREBLE BOB MINOR, STEDMAN, and GRANDSIRE DOUBLES. J. Kitchener, Jos. Kitchener, L. Proctor, Esq., Jabez Warner, L. Chapman, C. Shambrook, and S. Page (conductor). Tenor, 16 cwt., in F.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At the Parish Church, Stowmarket, Suffolk.

ON Saturday, the 26th ult., eight members of the Norwich Diocesan Association rang Holt's Original peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 3 hrs. 6 mins. C. Mee (Ipswich, conductor), 1; J. Motts (Ipswich), 2; I. S. Alexander (Ipswich), 3; H. English (Coddendam), 4; W. Motts (Ipswich), 5; A. H. Osborn (Bury), 6; E. Pemberton (Ipswich), T. Steward (Ipswich), 8. The ringers thank the Vicar and Churchwardens for the use of the bells.

At St. Albans, Herts.

ON Friday, the 2nd inst., four members of the St. Albans Cathedral Society, the Ancient Society of College Youths, and the Essex Association, rang, on handbells retained in hand, Holt's Original peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 41 mins. H. Lewis, 1-2; G. W. Cartmel (conductor), 3-4; W. H. L. Buckingham, 5-6; T. Waller, 7-8. Umpire: Mr. E. Hull, of the St. Peter's Society, who followed every change with the MS.

At the Parish Church, Appleton, Berks.

ON Friday, the 2nd inst., a peal of 5184 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR was rung in 3 hrs. 7 mins. by the following members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild:—F. S. White, 1; E. Holfield, 2; B. Barrett, 3; W. Bennett, 4; J. Avery, 5; J. W. Washbrook, 6; G. Holfield, 7; Rev. F. E. Robinson (conductor), 8. Composed by Mr. H. Johnson.

At All Souls', Loughborough, Leicestershire.

ON Friday, the 2nd inst., ten members of the Midland Counties Association (Loughborough branch) rang in 3 hrs. 30 mins. a peal of 5003 GRANDSIRE CATERS; from the *Clavis*. A. Cresser, 1; R. Lane, 2; G. Draycott, 3; J. W. Taylor, sen., 4; S. Smith, 5; W. A. Tyler, 6; J. Hardy, 7; W. Birkenshaw, 8; J. W. Taylor, jun. (conductor), 9; E. Wightman, 10. Tenor, 28 cwt.

At St. Mary's, Prestbury, Gloucestershire.

ON Saturday, the 3rd inst., eight members of the Gloucestershire and Bristol Diocesan Change-ringing Association, in 3 hrs. 5 mins., rang a peal of 5024 BOB MAJOR, composed by A. Percival Heywood, Esq. T. Steel, 1; H. Karn, 2; F. Musty, 3; H. Roberts, 4; W. T. Pates, 5; F. E. Ward, 6; G. H. Phillott, 7; Rev. C. D. P. Davies (conductor), 8. Tenor, 15 cwt., in F. First peal of BOB MAJOR by all the band.

At the Parish Church, Hagley, Worcestershire.—Jubilee Peal.

ON Saturday, the 3rd inst., a peal of 5024 GRANDSIRE MAJOR in 3 hrs. 10 mins. J. Prestidge* (Netherton), 1; J. Smith* (Netherton), 2; W. R. Small (Tipton), 3; G. Hayward (Bromsgrove), 4; H. Martin* (Belbroughton), 5; W. Micklewright* (Dudley), 6; S. Spittle (composer and conductor, Dudley), 7; J. Goodman* (Dudley), 8. * First peal in the method. Tenor, 9½ cwt. This is the first peal of Grandsire Major (which had a call at each lead) on the bells, and was rung by officers of the above Association.

At the Parish Church of St. Mary-Abbott's, Kensington.
Jubilee Performance.

ON Saturday, the 3rd inst., a peal of 5003 GRANDSIRE CATERS in 3 hrs. and 20 mins. R. A. Daniel, Esq., 1; W. Baron, 2; A. Jacob, 3; J. W. Mansfield, 4; J. Hannington, 5; H. Swain, 6; J. Rogers, 7; G. Newson, 8; H. Dains, 9; H. Hopkins and G. Wild, 10. Tenor, 33 cwt., in D. Composed and conducted by John Rogers. It was in this parish the Queen was born, and it was thought fitting before the close of the Jubilee year that a peal should be rung on the bells, permission being obtained from the Vicar and Churchwardens by the kindness of R. A. Daniel, Esq., Captain of the Kensington Guild. The recent death of Lord Wolverton, brother to the respected vicar, the Hon. and Rev. Carr-Glynn, and other causes, delayed the performance to the present time, it being the nearest available date to Her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales's forty-third birthday, and was thought a suitable opportunity for the attempt. This peal, the second on these grand-toned bells, was also the first in the method. It was also the first performance on bells by R. A. Daniel, Esq.

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

ON Saturday, the 3rd inst., eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang Holt's Original peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 52 mins. G. Dorrington, 1; W. Cecil, 2; J. West, 3; J. Bonney, 4; W. Cooter, 5; M. A. Wood, 6; T. Hattersley (conductor), 7; J. Monday, 8. The above makes Mr. M. A. Wood's 300th peal, comprising the following methods:—Grandsire Triples 90 peals, called 38, without calling 1, 3 peals on hand-bells; Grandsire Caters 9 peals, composed and called 1; Grandsire Cinques 1 peal; Stedman Triples 52 peals, called 10, 2 peals on hand-bells, 1 without calling; Stedman Caters 39 peals, 4 peals on hand-bells; Stedman Cinques 20 peals, 2 peals on hand-bells; Treble Bob Major, 41 peals, called 6; Treble Bob Royal, 19 peals, called 2; Treble Bob Maximus, 9 peals, called 1; Grandsire Major, 5 peals; Grandsire Royal, 1 peal; Double Norwich Court Bob Major, 2 peals; Superlative Surprise Major, 1 peal. Out of the above he has rung 100 peals at the above-named church.

At All Saints', Fulham, London.

ON Saturday, the 3rd inst., ten members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang a peal of 5093 STEDMAN CATERS in 3 hrs. 20 mins. J. Pettit, 1;

H. Springall, 2; W. Greenleaf, 3; E. Horrex, 4; W. D. Smith, 5; S. E. Joyce, 6; H. R. Newton (first peal of CATERS), 7; R. T. Woodley, 8; W. Davies, 9; S. How, 10. Composed by Mr. Johnson of Birmingham and conducted by Mr. Pettit.

ON Thursday, the 13th inst. (the 4th anniversary of the famous ring of 11,111 STEDMAN CATERS, rung by the Ancient Society of College Youths), the following members of the All Saints', Fulham, and St. James' Societies rang Holt's Ten-part peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 53 mins. J. G. Green (first peal), 1; F. W. Kelley (first peal on inside bell), 2; J. Nicholls (first peal), 3; J. W. Kelley (first peal as conductor), 4; J. W. Driver, 5; W. H. George, 6; C. W. Winny, 7; S. How, 8. Tenor, 21 cwt., in E flat.

ON Thursday, the 24th ult., an attempt was made for a peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, but came to an end after ringing one hour; the last half of Holt's Ten-part peal was then rung in 1 hr. 29 mins. J. G. Green, 1; F. W. Kelley, 2; J. Nicholls, 3; J. W. Kelley (conductor), 4; W. Bidwell, 5; W. H. George, 6; J. W. Driver, 7; S. How, 8. Tenor, 21 cwt., in E.

At All Saints', Duffield, Derbyshire.

ON Saturday, the 3rd inst., ten members of the Midland Counties' Association (Duffield Branch) rang a peal of 5040 KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL in 3 hrs. 18 mins. G. Dawson, 1; J. C. Dicken, 2; S. Johnson, 3; J. Howe, 4; J. W. Taylor, 5; H. C. Woodward, 6; G. Hingley, 7; J. Ward, 8; B. Sugden, 9; A. P. Heywood, Esq. (composer and conductor), 10. Tenor, 17 cwt. This peal contains six 'full' courses out of the nine of which it is composed.

At SS, Peter and Paul, Foxearth, Essex.

ON Monday, the 5th inst., a mixed band of eight members of the Essex Association of Change-ringers rang a peal of 5088 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR in 3 hrs. G. Maxim (Foxearth), 1; R. Mingay (Foxearth), 2; J. Lee (Foxearth), 3; F. Wells (Glemsford), 4; W. Gridley (Foxearth), 5; S. Slate (Glemsford), 6; O. Garwood (Glemsford), 7; C. Sillitoe (Sudbury), 8. Composed by the late Mr. W. Garrard of Ipswich and conducted by Mr. Sillitoe.

At St. Lawrence, Stroud, Gloucestershire.

ON Tuesday, the 6th inst., eight members of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Change-ringing Association rang Holt's Six-part peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 3 hrs. 1 min. J. Hinton, 1; C. King, 2; W. Sloman, 3; W. Hale, 4; F. E. Ward (conductor), 5; Rev. C. D. P. Davies, 6; F. Stephens, 7; G. Smith, 8. Tenor, 24 cwt., in E flat.

At St. Martin's, Salisbury.

ON Saturday, the 10th inst., eight members of the Salisbury Diocesan Guild rang Holt's Ten-part peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 48 mins. S. Lawrence (first peal), 1; A. W. Barkus (first peal inside), 2; H. D. Adams, 3; C. A. Clements, 4; J. R. Jerram, 5; T. Blackburn (conductor), 6; W. W. Gifford, 7; W. Tryhorn (first peal), 8. Tenor, 15 cwt. Rung in honour of the unveiling of the tablet recording the first peal in Salisbury in September last.

AT HERTFORD, HERTS.—ON Friday, the 4th ult., at Holy Trinity church, Bengoe, 720 KENT TREBLE BOB MINOR was rung by W. Odell, 1; M. Ellsmore, 2; J. Channer, 3; H. Phillips (conductor), 4; H. Brown, 5; W. Bennett, 6. ON Friday, the 11th ult., 720 GRANDSIRE MINOR (thirty-four bobs and two singles). T. Barker, 1; E. Cains, 2; W. Bennett, 3; J. Channer, 4; J. Pomfret, 5; M. Ellsmore (conductor), 6. Also 720 DOUBLE COURT BOB. M. Ellsmore, 1; J. Pomfret, 2; H. Phillips (conductor), 3; Rev. Canon Wigram, 4; W. Bennett, 5; W. Odell, 6. ON Wednesday, the 9th ult., at All Saints' Church, a quarter-peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, in honour of Alexander P. McMullen, Esq., being elected Mayor of Hertford, with the Queens and Titmuss (twenty-eight bobs and two singles), in 47 mins. F. G. Crawley, 1; W. L. Randall, 2; J. Jauncey, 3; Rev. Canon Wigram, 4; M. Ellsmore (conductor), 5; J. G. Crawley, 6; S. Knight, 7; F. George, 8. Composed by J. Nunn of Walthamstow.

AT KEMERTON, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.—ON the 7th ult., 720 KENT TREBLE BOB MINOR were rung (16 six-scores of GRANDSIRE DOUBLES and 11 six-scores of STEDMAN DOUBLES). The ringers were as follows:—E. Devereux, A. Devereux, H. Payne, F. Potter, C. Smith, A. Attwood, and E. Wallace in the MINOR and in the DOUBLES. C. Wittle, treble in the GRANDSIRE (first attempt), and H. Franklin tenor in GRANDSIRE and STEDMAN. ON Sunday, the 4th inst., there were 720 KENT TREBLE BOB MINOR rung in 25 mins. by A. Attwood, 1; E. Devereux, 2; A. Devereux, 3; H. Payne (conductor), 4; C. Smith, 5; F. Potter, 6. Tenor, 12 cwt. E. Devereux (conductor) in seven of MINOR and DOUBLES.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH, SAWBRIDGEWORTH, HERTS.—ON Sunday, the 13th ult., for morning service, 504 STEDMAN TRIPLES were rung by G. Rochester (conductor), 1; A. Brown, 2; T. Saban, 3; W. J. Pleasance, 4; J. Tarling, 5; W. Morris, 6; N. W. Tarling, 7; P. Springham, 8. For practice, on Tuesday evening, 546 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. G. Rochester (conductor), 1; G. Camp, 2; N. W. Tarling, 3; A. Brown, 4; F. W. Tarling, 5; W. J. Pleasance, 6; W. Morris, 7; P. Springham, 8. Also 504 STEDMAN TRIPLES (forty-five bobs), in 19 mins. G. Rochester (conductor), 1; A. Brown, 2; N. W. Tarling, 3; W. J. Pleasance, 4; J. Tarling, 5; W. Morris, 6; H. Saban, 7; F. W. Tarling, 8. ON Friday, 18th ult., for Confirmation Service, 504 STEDMAN TRIPLES. N. W. Tarling (conductor), 1; A. Brown, 2; T. Saban, 3; W. J. Pleasance, 4; J. Tarling, 5; W. Morris, 6; P. Springham, 7; F. W. Tarling, 8. ON Sunday, the 20th ult., for evening service, 504 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. N. W. Tarling (conductor), 1; A. Brown, 2; T. Saban, 3; W. Morris, 4; F. W. Tarling, 5; W. J. Pleasance, 6; P. Springham, 7; H. Saban, 8. Lastly, for practice, a plain course of KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR. J. Freeman, 1;

A. Brown, 2; J. Tarling, 3; G. Rochester, 4; W. Morris, 5; H. Saban, 6; P. Springham, 7; N. W. Tarling, 8. First Treble Bob by Messrs. Saban, Morris, and Springham.

At ST. PAUL'S, WALKDEN, LANCASHIRE.—On Sunday morning, the 13th ult., a 720 BOB MINOR was rung before service in 23 mins. W. Denner (conductor), 1; J. Ridyard (Worsley), 2; S. Oakes, 3; A. Potter, 4; J. Potter, 5; J. Brookes, 6. Also on Sunday evening, the 4th inst., 720 BOB MINOR, 32 bobs and 2 singles, was rung in 24 mins. J. Welsby (Worsley), 1; J. Ridyard, 2; S. Oakes, 3; J. Williamson, 4; J. Potter, 5; J. Brookes (conductor), 6. Tenor, 13½ cwt.

BIRTHDAY-PEAL.—On the evening of the 11th ult. the bells rang out merrily to celebrate the first birthday anniversary of the baby-son of the Rev. C. Heath, M.A., vicar. In addition to QUEENS and firing, 720 BOB MINOR (22 singles) was rung in 25½ mins. W. Denner, 1; J. Worthington, 2; S. Oakes, 3; J. Williamson, 4; J. Potter, 5; A. Potter, 6. Tenor, 13½ cwt. The peal was composed and conducted by Mr. J. Potter of Walkden.

At THE PARISH CHURCH, AXLESFORD, KENT.—On Saturday, the 19th ult., eight members of the Kent County Association attempted to ring Holt's Original peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES (non-conducted), but came to an end after ringing about 1000 changes. C. Willshire, 1; A. Moorcraft, 2; H. Pearce, 3; H. G. Fairbrass, 4; F. French, 5; G. Pawley, 6; F. G. Newman, 7; S. Snelling, 8. Messrs. Hayes and Winny were in the tower, and marked the leads off as they came up. Tenor, 14½ cwt.

At ST. MARY'S, ROCHESTER, KENT.—On Sunday evening, the 20th ult., for Divine service, and also as a farewell to Mr. E. Andrews, late of the Royal Engineers' Band, Chatham, 720 BOB MINOR was rung in 26 mins. E. Raynor, 1; W. Tuffey, 2; J. Raynor, 3; O. Sullivan, 4; J. Tulett, 5; E. Andrews (conductor), 6. Mr. Andrews has instructed several bands of ringers in the Rochester district, and was the first who introduced change-ringing in Rochester, where he will be greatly missed. Also on Sunday evening, the 27th ult., for Divine service, 360 BOB MINOR. E. Raynor, 1; W. Tuffey, 2; A. Osborne, 3; J. Kidd, 4; J. Tulett, 5; G. Chandler (first as conductor), 6.

At CAVERSHAM, OXON.—On Sunday morning, the 20th ult., for Divine service, members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild rang 720 YORKSHIRE COURT. H. Simmonds, 1; Rev. C. D. P. Davies, 2; E. Menday, 3; J. Hands, 4; H. Smith, 5; T. Newman (conductor), 6. Also 120 STEDMAN DOUBLES. T. Newman, 1; E. Menday, 2; Rev. C. D. P. Davies, 3; H. Smith, 4; J. Hands, 5; H. Simmonds, 6. For evening service, 360 KENT TREBLE BOB. H. Simmonds, 1; J. Hands, 2; E. Menday, 3; G. Essex, 4; H. Smith, 5; T. Newman (conductor), 6. After evening service, 360 PLAIN BOB. F. Simmonds, 1; J. Hands, 2; H. Simmonds, 3; E. Menday, 4; G. Essex, 5; T. Newman (conductor), 6. On Tuesday evening, the 22nd ult., for practice, 720 DOUBLE BOB. H. Simmonds, 1; J. Hands, 2; Rev. C. D. P. Davies, 3; Rev. G. F. Coleridge, 4; E. Menday, 5; T. Newman (conductor), 6. The bells were then lowered in the Queen's change. Tenor, 17 cwt.

At THE PARISH CHURCH, MARLOW, BUCKS.—On Sunday, the 27th ult., for evening service, a touch of 336 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES was rung by H. Buckingham, 1; J. Gibson, 2; C. Smith, 3; J. C. Truss, 4; W. Badger, 5; H. C. Lees, 6; H. Collins (conductor), 7; A. W. Truss, 8.

At ST. SEPULCHRE'S, SNOW HILL, CITY OF LONDON.—On Monday, the 28th ult., the following rang a muffled peal (the usual whole-pull and stand), as a last token of respect to the late Mrs. Hart, who was a well-known and esteemed parishioner. J. Nelms (conductor), 1; A. E. Church, 2; W. J. Moore, 3; C. Holmes, 4; H. J. Davies, 5; J. Rumsey, 6; C. J. Clarkson, 7; W. D. Matthews, 8; J. H. Wheeler, 9; D. Lovett, 10. Tenor, 31 cwt.

At SS. PETER AND PAUL, MILTON, KENT.—On Tuesday, the 29th ult., for practice, 720 GRANDSIRE MINOR in 26 mins. G. Avis, 1; J. Allen, 2; W. H. Royston, 3; C. Waterman, 4; F. Hayes (conductor), 5; J. W. Aitken, 6. Also 720 KENT TREBLE BOB in 26 mins. H. D. Davis, 1; J. W. Aitken, 2; B. Spinner, 3; W. Saxby, 4; C. Waterman, 5; W. Harper (conductor), 6.

THE WATERLOO SOCIETY, LONDON.—HARBELL RINGING.—On Wednesday, the 30th ult., at the Society's meeting-house, a plain course of GRANDSIRE MAJOR by the following:—A. E. Church, 1-2; S. G. Davies, 3-4; W. Moore, 5-6; F. L. Davies, 7-8. Also a plain course of GRANDSIRE CATERS by the following: C. H. Scriven, 1-2; A. E. Church, 3-4; F. L. Davies, 5-6; W. Baron, 7-8; W. H. George, 9-10. Also a plain course of GRANDSIRE CINQUES by the following:—C. H. Scriven, 1-2; S. G. Davies, 3-4; G. T. McLaughlin, 5-6; F. L. Davies, 7-8; W. Baron, 9-10; G. Wild, 11-12. Mr. Scriven comes from Oakley, Suffolk, and was elected a member of this Society on the occasion of his visit to London. The above record his first attempts at CATERS and CINQUES.

At NETHERTON, WORCESTERSHIRE.—On Thursday, the 1st inst., 720 GRANDSIRE MINOR in 24 mins. B. Townsend, 1; C. Daniels,* 2; C. Beasley,* 3; R. Round, 4; J. Prestidge, 5; J. Smith (conductor), 6. * First peal. Messrs. C. Daniels and C. Beasley came from Cradley.

At ST. ANDREW'S, FARNHAM, SURREY.—On Sunday morning, the 4th inst., for Divine service, 504 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. R. Le Clercy, 1; H. Garforth, 2; R. Mallam, 3; G. H. Barnett, 4; J. Hawkes, 5; O. Fry, 6; A. White (conductor), 7; E. Clapshaw, 8. All of Farnham.

At ST. SIDWELL'S, EXETER.—On Sunday, the 4th inst., for Divine service in the evening, a quarter peal of 1260 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 42 mins. C. Carter, 1; W. Stocker, 2; F. Shepherd, 3; S. Binfield, 4; W. Mundy (conductor), 5; E. Shepherd, 6; F. Moss, 7; B. Mundy, 8. This quarter peal contains the twenty-four 6-7ths, composed by Mr. J. Carter, Birmingham, and is W. Mundy's first quarter peal as conductor.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The (so-called) Eirenicon of the Eighteenth Century.

SIR,—The *Eirenicon of the Eighteenth Century* was written most probably by Joshua Bassett, Master of Sidney-Sussex College, possibly by one Cornelius Deane. Both of these men were Romanists. The author took the equivocal appellation of a minister of the Church of England for the purpose of deception. Immediately on its publication in 1704 it was denounced as a Popish fraud by Grasseome (*Concordia Discors*), by Spinckes (*The Essay by a [pretended] Minister of the Church of England*) and by Stephens (*An Essay, &c., the Whole Mystery and Artifice Detected, and the Secret Design Exposed and Defeated*). The learned Thomas Hearne, assistant librarian at the Bodleian Library, wrote in the Bodleian copy, 'The following essay, written by Mr. Bassett, a Papist, and Head of Sidney College, Cambridge.' The fraud being detected the book sank into oblivion for the eighteenth century, but in the nineteenth century its history was forgotten, and it was republished by a Roman Catholic editor in America in 1841, calling forth a letter from Dr. Adams of Nashotch, who wrote: 'That book is not by an English clergyman at all, but by a Roman Catholic layman; it bears a lie upon its title-page and it is a lie throughout.' In England it was republished by Mr. H. N. Oxenham in 1879. Its character was at once exposed by the *Foreign Church Chronicle* (December, 1879). Mr. Oxenham made an attempt to excuse and defend himself (*F. C. C.*, March, 1880), the futility of which was demonstrated by Dr. Gibbings (*F. C. C.*, June, 1880). Mr. Oxenham has not withdrawn the book from circulation, although he allows that if written by a Roman Catholic it is 'a deliberate imposture from beginning to end, and an imposture garnished with a copious array of detailed and explicit falsehoods.' Among others, Hartwell Horne (*Papery Delineated*) and Arthur Haddon (*Life of Thorndike*) have declared its Roman Catholic origin. Who can doubt it, when he finds the author advocating the reordination of the English clergy by Romanist Bishops, on the ground of the possible truth of the Nag's Head Fable and of a report that Tillotson was unbaptized?

Blickling, November 26.

F. MEYERICK.

Banns of Marriage.

SIR,—My former letter was written to correct A. M. W.'s misinterpretation of the banns rubric as it appears in the present editions of the Book of Common Prayer in use in our churches and chapels. It was strictly confined to that object. Out of regard for your space I refrained from entering into details respecting the Marriage Acts by which the rubrics have been altered and modified. As, however, I am challenged by your correspondents, Messrs. Melville and Kempe, to prove my assertion that the post-Nicene publication of banns is illegal, I readily accept their challenge and join issue with them, though I refrain from retaliating by quoting another old proverb, which is quite as applicable to 'W. J. Melville,' as the one which he throws at my head.

Unless your correspondents are prepared to prove that it is lawful to disobey the statute law so far as it relates to banns their arguments fall to the ground. Why are not the rubrics to be brought into agreement with the Marriage Acts? Is the rubric enjoining the publication of banns on 'three several Sundays or holy-daies' in force or valid in its entirety? What legal force can there be in those parts of the rubrics which have been expressly, or by implication, repealed by Act of Parliament? I am asked by what authority the rubric was altered. I reply, by that of sundry Acts of Parliament.

Prior to March 25th, 1754, the publication of banns was regulated by the rubrics of the Book of Common Prayer, which had been agreed to by both Houses of Convocation in December 1661, and ratified by Parliament in 1662 by 13 Car. II. c. 12, commonly called the Act of Uniformity. This book is known as the 'Sealed Book.' Many years ago I consulted a copy of the Prayer-book in the British Museum, which had been carefully collated with the 'Sealed Book' in the Tower of London, and took note of the singular fact that the rubric immediately following the Nicene Creed was inconsistent with that preceding the Form of Solemnisation of Matrimony. The former directs the banns to be published before the sermon or homily; whereas the latter enjoins the publication of banns 'immediately before the Sentences for the Offertory,' and consequently after the sermon or homily. For ninety-two years the clergy were left to determine for themselves which of these two rubrics they should obey.

In 1753, the 26th Geo. II., c. 33, known as Lord Hardwicke's Act, was passed for the better prevention of clandestine marriages. The interpretation of that Act, and of 4 Geo. IV., c. 76, which now regulates marriages in churches, seems so clear that it is only at Mr. Melville's desire that I proceed to give further evidence as to the illegality of the course which he and Mr. Kempe recommend. An *obiter dictum*, not a judicial decision, of a learned judge, and the astounding assertion of a right reverend prelate in the House of Lords—that 'the Marriage Act made no alteration in the rubric: it cautiously abstained from doing so'—which was promptly refuted by an ex-Lord Chancellor, have apparently misled Messrs. Melville and Kempe.

In reply, then, to Mr. Melville's demand for 'evidence other than my own dictum' of the illegality of the post-Nicene publication, I would call attention to the following weighty authorities, one of which dates from the first alteration of the rubrical injunctions of 1661. In the *Gentleman's Magazine* for September 1753, two months only after the passing of the first Marriage Act, vol. xxiii. p. 399, are these words:—'By this statute it is enacted that banns shall be published in the church or chapel, where the parties dwell, three Sundays in the morning; except when morning service is not performed, immediately after the Second Lesson.'

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

'Rang' and 'Rung.'

SOME of our contributors seem at times to be in a little hesitation as to when to use the word 'rang' and when 'rung.' These two are by no means interchangeable. 'Rang' is the past tense of the indicative mood; 'rung' is the past participle. And therefore it is correct to say—

I he we you they	rang	the peal. the bells, &c.	But	The bells were	} rung.
			The peal was		
				The peal, &c., having been	
		He has, or had They would have Having	rung	the peals. the bells, &c.	

[EDITOR C. B.]

The Bells at Alfriston, near Berwick, Sussex.

THE Parish Church of this quaint old town is a large cruciform building, dating from the fourteenth century. Its low central tower is supported by four lofty arches, and capped by a shingle spire. Owing to the bell-frame resting upon the floor immediately above the tops of the tower-arches there is no possibility of making a ringing-room, hence the ropes fall in the centre of the church. This makes an unpleasantly long pull for the ringers, and were it not for the iron guides about half-way up it would be most difficult to keep the ropes under control. There is no turret-stair up to the bell-chamber, so access to the bells is obtained by means of a ladder running up the side and across the roof of the north transept. The six bells are in anything but good order. They need rehanging, and the third bell (which is cracked in the shoulder) recasting, for its wretched flat sound sadly mars the harmony of the ring. We have heard an old Sussex ringer say that there was originally a ring of five, but that early in the present century the Alfriston folk bought a bell belonging to Berwick church, and added it to their own, after some little 'tuning' by a local ringer. This may be true, for the second bell (a rather rough casting) is evidently a stranger. It has been much cut away at the lip to reduce its diameter, doubtless to make its tone in unison with its new companions. As will be seen from the dates here given, the fourth bell is the oldest of the ring, having been cast in the year 1587, and a very fine-sounding bell it is too. Treble, 1819; second, 1628; third, 1811 (cracked); fourth, 1587; fifth, 1698. The tenor is not dated, but is evidently an old bell. It measures 36½ inches across the mouth, and is reported to weigh about 12 cwt., but we question if it weighs more than 10 cwt., as it is not a particularly thick bell. There is no church clock.

The Six Bells at Hellingly, Sussex.

HELLINGLY CHURCH is a spacious building of considerable antiquity, some portions of it, particularly the chancel, bearing evident marks of Early English architecture. It is always understood to be the 'mother church' of Hailsham. The tower is comparatively modern. The church has been well restored and is in excellent order from chancel to belfry. An iron ladder leads up to the bells, a ring of six, mostly of different dates, but all from the Whitechapel Foundry. Treble, 1751; second, 1751; third, 1816; fourth, 1813; fifth, 1752; tenor, 1828. According to Messrs. Mears & Stainbank's list the tenor weighs 12 cwt. These bells need attention. We believe a movement is now on foot to rehang them. An additional clock dial has lately been fixed on the tower.

A Strange Affray in the Belfry Tower of Cordova Cathedral, Spain.

LATELY (Dec. 8th), an extraordinary affray in the belfry tower of Cordova Cathedral took place between Dr. Middleton and a Spanish gipsy, which resulted in the death of the latter. The doctor has been for some years the medical attendant of Lord Deramore (better known, perhaps, as Sir Thomas Bateson), who was travelling through Spain with his brother and nephew, on their way to Tangier. Dr. Middleton has made a declaration to Mr. Poole, the British Consul at Cordova, in which he states that he had begun to descend the narrow winding staircase of the tower, followed by his gipsy guide, a man named Heredia; when suddenly the latter threw one arm round the deponent's neck, nearly throttling him, whilst with the other hand he took two dollars from his pocket and wrenched his stick away. Whereupon Dr. Middleton drew his revolver and fired twice behind him. The gipsy loosed his hold on receiving the second bullet, which passed through his body. The first shot struck him in the lower jaw. The dead thief still held in his hand the stick and the dollars when the judge and the police appeared upon the scene.

The Lancashire Association.—Manchester District Branch.

THE first meeting of the above recently formed District Branch took place at Eccles on Saturday, the 10th inst. There was a very fair number of ringers, representing the following places:—Manchester, Eccles, Worsley, Walkden, Bolton, and Northenden. Ringing commenced at 4.30, and was continued at intervals until 8.30 p.m., during which time touches in the following methods were indulged in:—GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, PLAIN BOB MAJOR, KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, and STEDMAN TRIPLES. There were also various courses rung on the handbells, after which the following business was transacted. Mr. W. Diggle was initiated a member, and it was proposed that the next District Meeting be held at St. James's Church, Birch, Rusholme, of which due notice will be given. Quite a gloom was cast over the meeting, owing to the death of Mrs. Wood of Ashton, a lady who was greatly respected by all ringers with whom she came in contact, her amiable disposition and generous hospitality were among the pleasant reminiscences of a ringer's visit to Ashton. It was proposed by Mr. Wreake, seconded by

Mr. Cash, and unanimously carried, 'That the Secretary be requested to forward a letter of condolence to Mr. Samuel Wood.' A vote of thanks to Mr. John Curtis (Bolton) for his services in the chair brought a very satisfactory meeting to a close.

JOHN E. POLLITT, *Local Sec.*

The Surrey Association.

A DISTRICT MEETING was held at Streatham Common on Saturday, the 10th inst., by the kind permission of the Vicar. At 6 p.m. a Committee Meeting was held at the Beehive Coffee Tavern, to which all the members present were invited. One of the sketches for the certificates of membership was selected, and a few minor alterations decided upon. This finished the business of the meeting, which then adjourned to the tower, where change-ringing in several methods was practised.

ARTHUR B. CARPENTER, *Hon. Sec.*

The Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association.

A BAND composed of members of this Association will again make an attempt to ring the long peal of STEDMAN CATERS (12,345 changes), at the Parish Church, Cheltenham, on Boxing Day, December 26th, 1887. The peal is the composition of Mr. Henry Johnson. F. F. WARD, *Master*.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At St. Mary's, Woodbridge, Suffolk.

ON Saturday, the 3rd inst., eight members of the Norwich Diocesan Association rang a peal of 5088 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR in 3 hrs. 20 mins. W. A. Ward, 1; A. E. Aefeld, 2; W. P. Garrett (Ipswich), 3; E. Sherwood (Wickham Market), 4; J. T. Howard, 5; A. Ward, 6; C. Ward, 7; P. Meadows, 8. Composed by Mr. J. Reeves and conducted by Mr. Meadows. Tenor, 28 cwt., in D.

At St. Martin's, Salisbury.

ON Saturday, the 10th inst., eight members of the Salisbury Diocesan Guild rang Holt's Ten-part peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 48 mins. S. Lawrence (first peal), 1; A. W. Barkus (first peal inside), 2; H. D. Adams, 3; C. A. Clements, 4; J. R. Jerram, 5; T. Blackburn (conductor), 6; W. W. Gifford, 7; W. Tryhorn (first peal), 8. Tenor, 15 cwt.

On the above date a tablet, recording the first peal ever rung in Salisbury, was unveiled at St. Martin's Church by Mr. T. Blackburn. This tablet was executed by Mr. J. R. Jerram, and is a black board with gold letters. There is a representation of a bell at the top with an ornamental scroll, then follows the peal rung on September 10th last, and below are the names of 'John Wordsworth, D.D., Bishop of Sarum; Frederick Griffin, Mayor; C. N. Wyld, Rector; A. Tucker and W. T. Webb, Churchwardens;' these being the officers in this the Jubilee Year.

At St. Albans, Herts.

ON Saturday, the 10th inst., five members of the Ancient Society of College Youths and the Essex Association rang on hand-bells, retained in hand, a peal of 5003 GRANDSIRE CATERS in 2 hrs. 47 mins. J. C. Mitchell, 1-2; C. F. Winny, 3-4; G. W. Cartmel, 5-6; W. H. L. Buckingham, 7-8; E. P. Debenham, 9-10. Composed by Mr. J. Reeves and conducted by Mr. Buckingham. Umpires: Messrs. T. Waller and A. Sibley. Who ticked off every lead. In an unsuccessful attempt on November 30th, 4200 changes were rung with H. Lewis 1-2, and J. C. Mitchell 9-10; but owing to business H. Lewis was unable to be present. * First peal of Caters.

At St. Peter's Church.

ON Wednesday, the 14th inst., eight members of the above Societies rang Holt's Ten-part peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES (Jubilee peal) in 3 hrs. 7 mins. E. J. Mitchell, 1; E. P. Debenham (conductor), 2; H. Lewis, 3; W. H. L. Buckingham, 4; W. Battle, 5; G. W. Cartmel, 6; T. Waller, 7; S. Preston, 8. Tenor, 21 cwt. in D. This is the first peal on the bells since they were rehung, and the first called by the conductor. It is also the first rung at the church by a local band since 1810. Mr. Preston was elected a member of the Ancient Society of College Youths and the Essex Association before starting for the peal.

At St. George-the-Martyr, Southwark, London.

ON Thursday, the 15th inst., eight members of the St. James' Society rang Brooke's Variation of Thurstans' peal of 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES in 3 hrs. 5 mins. H. Langdon, 1; F. Bate, 2; W. Cecil, 3; W. Weatherstone (first peal of STEDMAN TRIPLES), 4; W. W. Thorne (first peal of STEDMAN TRIPLES), 5; R. French (conductor), 6; A. Hayward, 7; G. Woodage, 8. A Jubilee peal.

AT CHRIST CHURCH, BARLOW MOOR, LANCASHIRE.—On Tuesday, the 29th ult., for practice, 560 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. J. Shaw, 1; W. Holbrook, 2; G. Pearson, 3; W. Mellor, 4; J. Wilde (conductor), 5; T. Brickell, 6; J. Darbyshire, 7; J. Gadd, 8. Also on Sunday evening, the 11th inst., seven members of the above local company visited Rusholme, and rang at St. James' church for service 504 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. J. Shaw, 1; W. Woodhead, 2; G. Pearson, 3; W. Holbrook, 4; J. Wilde (conductor), 5; T. Brickell, 6; J. Darbyshire, 7; J. Gadd, 8.

AT MARLOW, BUCKS.—HANDBELLS.—On Wednesday afternoon, at the house of Mr. J. C. Truss, St. Peter's Street, Marlow, the first 546 of Holt's Ten-part peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. W. Truss, 1; H. Buckingham, 2; J. W. Washbrook, 3-4; J. C. Truss, 5-6; J. C. Truss, sen., 7-8. Also 336 of the same method, with QUEENS, TITMUS, and ROUNDS. C. Smith, 1-2; H. Buckingham, 3-4; J. W. Washbrook, 5-6; J. C. Truss, sen., 7-8. Also two courses of GRANDSIRE CATERS, first by W. Truss, 1-2; H. Buckingham, 3-4; J. C. Truss, 5-6; J. W. Washbrook, 7-8; J. C. Truss, sen., 9-10. Second by H. Buckingham (Hitchin), 1-2; J. C. Truss, 3-4; J. W. Washbrook, 5-6; J. C. Truss, 7-8; J. C. Truss, sen., 9-10.

brook, conductor (Oxford), 5-6; C. Smith, 7-8; J. C. Truss, sen., 9-10. Also a course of GRANDSIRE CINQUES. W. Truss, 1-2; H. Buckingham, 3-4; J. C. Truss, 5-6; J. W. Washbrook, 7-8; C. Smith, 9-10; J. C. Truss, sen., 11-12.

AT ST. PETER-IN-THE-EAST, OXFORD.—On Thursday, the 1st inst., 720 OXFORD TREBLE BOB. J. West, 1; C. Tolley, 2; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 3; W. Baston, 4; W. Jeffery, 5; A. E. Hind, 6. Also on Sunday, the 11th inst., 720 SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE. W. Jeffery, 1; C. Tolley, 2; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 3; A. Browning, 4; W. Baston, 5; A. E. Hind, 6. This is the first time the last-named method has ever been rung in Oxford.

AT ST. MICHAEL'S, LICHFIELD, STAFFORDSHIRE.—On Monday, the 5th inst., 720 KENT TREBLE BOB MINOR in 27 mins. E. Gallimore, 1; H. Meacham, 2; F. J. Cope (conductor), 3; J. Key, 4; A. E. Greenwood, 5; W. Fearneyhough, 6. The above was rung with the bells half muffled as a mark of respect to the late W. Holland, Esq., churchwarden, who was interred that day.

AT ST. PETER'S CHURCH, HINDLEY, LANCASHIRE.—MUFFLED RINGING.—On Saturday, the 10th inst., the last half of Holt's Ten-part peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES (2520) was rung in 1 hr. 32 mins., with the bells muffled at the hand-stroke as a tribute of respect to the memory of the late Mr. William Hatton, who had been clerk at the above church for the last fourteen years. G. B. Walker (conductor), 1; A. Shaw, 2; J. Leylands, 3; S. Hayes, 4; J. Gummerson, 5; J. Prescott, 6; E. Bentham, 7; W. Gregory, 8. Tenor, 14½ cwt. 1, 2, 3, 5 and 7, came from Wigan, 6 from Hindley, 4 and 8 from Leigh.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH, WARMHAM, SUSSEX.—On Sunday evening, the 11th inst., for Divine service, a quarter peal of STEDMAN TRIPLES in 43½ mins. E. Jordan, 1; J. W. Whiting, 2; T. Stedman, 3; R. Jordan, 4; G. Baker, 5; W. L. Chamberlain, 6; G. Williams (conductor), 7; H. Chandler, 8. Tenor, 14½ cwt.

AT ST. ANNE'S, BAGSHOT, SURREY.—On Sunday morning, the 11th inst., for Divine service, 240 BOB DOUBLES. A. Harding, 1; F. Francis, 2; H. Houlton, 3; H. Stapleton, 4; T. Gould (conductor), 5; W. Harding, 6. And 300 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES. H. Houlton, 1; T. Gould, 2; F. Francis (conductor), 3; H. Stapleton, 4; E. Lee, 5; W. Harding, 6. Also in the evening, for Divine service, 360 BOB DOUBLES. A. Harding, 1; T. Gould, 2; H. Houlton, 3; H. Stapleton, 4; E. Lee (conductor), 5; W. Harding, 6. And 360 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES. H. Houlton, 1; E. Lee, 2; F. Francis (conductor), 3; H. Stapleton, 4; T. Gould, 5; W. Harding, 6. Also on Monday evening, the 12th inst., 720 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, called differently, in 28 mins. A. Harding (first 720), 1; E. Lee, 2; F. Francis (conductor), 3; H. Stapleton (first 720 with a bob bell), 4; T. Gould, 5; W. Harding, 6. Tenor, 21 cwt.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH, HORLEY, SURREY.—On Sunday, the 11th inst., an attempt was made for Shipway's Ten-part peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, but after ringing 1442 changes in 49 mins. a change-course occurred, and the conductor called 'Stand.' G. Wickens, 1; T. Whitmore, 2; E. Dewey, 3; W. Edwards, 4; J. Taylor, 5; B. King, 6; P. Wickens (conductor), 7; T. Sparks, 8.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH, TIPTON, STAFFORDSHIRE.—On Monday, the 12th inst., for practice, 1008 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. H. Mills, 1; W. R. Small, 2; A. Hill, 3; E. Goodreds, 4; W. Micklewright, 5; W. Pardoe, 6; G. Hughes, 7; B. Starky, 8. This touch was composed by Henry Johnson, sen., of Birmingham, and conducted by G. Hughes. It contains the 5-6-7's in all positions.

AT ST. MARTIN'S, DORKING, SURREY.—On Monday, the 12th inst., by the local company, 1260 OXFORD BOB TRIPLES in 47 mins. F. Sanders, 1; R. Arnold, 2; F. Arnold, 3; W. T. Boxall, 4; W. Sadler, 5; G. Boxall (composer and conductor), 6; H. Boxall, 7; C. Dudley, 8.

AT ST. GREGORY'S, NORWICH.—On Monday, the 12th inst., six members of the St. Peter Mancroft Society rang 720 BOB MINOR in two parts (14 bobs and 2 singles), in 25 mins. J. Skinner, 1; F. H. Knights, 2; F. Knights, 3; G. Smith, 4; J. Smith, 5; E. Francis (composer and conductor), 6. Tenor, 17 cwt. Also on Friday, the 9th inst., on handbells, 720 BOB MINOR (18 bobs and 2 singles), in 20 mins. A. G. Warnes, 1-2; F. Knights (conductor), 3-4; F. H. Knights, jun., 5-6. Umpire, Mr. J. Skinner.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH, CHEVINGTON, SUFFOLK.—On Monday, the 12th inst., for practice, five 6-scores of GRANDSIRE DOUBLES. F. Newman, 1; A. Smith, 2; G. Sparrow (conductor), 3; J. Smith, 4; W. Smith, 5. Also two 6-scores of GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, each called differently. J. Sharpe, 1; A. Smith, 2; E. Nunn (conductor), 3; G. Sparrow, 4; W. Smith, 5. Tenor, about 13 cwt. On handbells a 6-score. A. Cooper, 1; S. Ashman, 2; G. Sparrow, 3; E. Nunn (conductor), 4; W. Smith, 5.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH, SAWBRIDGEWORTH, HERTS.—On Thursday, the 15th inst., eight members of the local company of the Hertfordshire Association rang a date touch (1887 changes) of STEDMAN TRIPLES in 1 hr. 10 mins. G. Rochester (conductor), 1; N. W. Tarling, 2; T. Saban, 3; W. J. Plessance, 4; W. Morris, 5; H. Saban, 6; P. Springham, 7; F. W. Tarling, 8. This touch was composed by Mr. H. Johnson, sen., of Birmingham, is the longest touch of STEDMAN rung on the bells, the longest by all the ringers except Mr. Rochester, and the longest in the method by him as conductor. Tenor, 25 cwt.

A CORRECTION.—In our account last week of the ring at Mayfield, the date of the third bell was given as 1502; it should have been 1602.

REMOVED ALSO.—Nuneaton, Warwickshire; and others.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Christmas Boxes.

SIR,—According to my yearly custom, I will ask you kindly to give me room to suggest to those who will be giving Christmas gifts to lads and others who bring goods to their houses during the year, that it is a very good and useful practice to procure (free) at the Post Office the proper forms on which to stick penny stamps (each sheet is divided to hold twelve), and stick on these in stamps the amount they mean to give. Then these gifts will either start or increase an account in the Post Office Savings' Bank, and will go to encourage thrift and providence. For years I have seen the good result of this simple matter of custom; so much better than the old fashion of spending the Christmas gifts on self-indulgence. HENRY GEORGE TOMKINS.

Weston-super-Mare, December 16.

The Jubilee Christmas and Decorations.

SIR,—May I suggest to readers of *Church Bells* that as this is the 'Jubilee Year' the British flags might appropriately be used in the Christmas decoration of churches? As mottoes and texts require a background of some sort, the red ensign would do quite as well as the usual Turkey red. Flags would also look pretty festooned from pulpit or lectern, and looped up with holly or laurel wreaths. R. H. ROBERTS.

Kirkby-on-Bain, Horncastle, Dec. 5, 1887.

Edna Lyall's and Ouida's Novels.

SIR,—In the issue of your paper this week there is an article in which these two writers are referred to. As to Edna Lyall's works, *Donovan* and *We Two*, written with wonderful power as they admittedly are, one could not help discovering her mistake. No one denies that there are Atheists, like 'Luke Raeburn,' better than their creed; no one maintains that there are not baptized Christians fully as worldly as some of those whose characters Edna Lyall so graphically portrays; but what a believer holds is this, that whether a man is conscious of it or not, every virtue he possesses is the work of God's Holy Spirit. With regard to the strictures on Ouida's novels I cannot tell what effect they may have had on other people's minds, but I can assert that the three I read—*Under Two Flags*, *Two Little Wooden Shoes*, and *Moths*—deepened in me the hatred of vice. H. G. W.

SIR,—Your correspondents seem to take up the cudgels so warmly against 'I. R. V.' that I trust you will permit a word or two to be said on his behalf. Surely, without in any way impugning the gifted authoress of the two, it must be seen that a book which displays such even fencing between Christianity and Infidelity, and ends in a drawn game, must surely be rather distracting to the 'weaker brethren.' Had the infidel seen the beauty of holiness when he died, then certainly a victory would have been gained for the cause supposed to be advocated; but he thus hardened in sheer self-will. What are we to draw from it? The infidelity we are expected to sympathise with is not patient, heart-searching after truth, but downright hardened bigotry of utterance. If the priestcraft of conventional religion in sumptuous robes offended this man who fell among thieves, what had the Samaritan of Nazareth done, who was willing to help him? but with such men Jesus in His tattered robes and crown of thorns seems to be as detestable a sight as the pure proud priest of Mammon arrogating the temple of God. Why should our sympathy be called up on behalf of such unbelief as this? By all means extend the hand of charity and love to the poor bewildered seeker after truth, but not to such as Luke Raeburn. You will not find him in the flesh, he is but a phantom. There may be plenty of 'infidel saints,' I dare say, though there are few among Christians. But your Luke Raeburn in the flesh is in no danger of losing his life, for the gospel of *nothingness* you need not fear for him. He hates slavery of course, but you will not find him, e.g. at Zanzibar or Nyassa, striving to rid Africa of its open sore. He leaves that to 'Right Reverends' like Mackenzie and Steere and Hannington, and he leaves the support of such philanthropy to common-place, narrow-minded Christians, very inconsistent often, by no means ideals. But, thank God, we are not all ideals either in belief or unbelief yet, and much practical good yet remains ever among your nominal Christians. W. M. R.

SIR,—'I. R. V.' has struck a note in your columns which will arouse sympathetic echoes in the hearts of all true men. It is utterly shameful that the miserable sneers of every scribbler of three-volumed inanity against a faith which has been the groundwork of all noble thought in every age should be allowed to poison the minds of the young and simple unchallenged, even in this age of cosmopolitan, pseudo-Catholic ink-splashers. But also too often do we find even the sworn Knights of the Red Cross wantoning and toying with this vile hag Atheistic Catholicity, the false Duessa of that cunning Archimage, Modern Unbelief. Whatever is fraught with peril to sickly souls seems good and desirable. Better the few scraps of tinsel adorning the nests of iniquity than the infirmities of poor earthly vessels burdened with the weight of responsibility that Atlas could not bear; systems of religion which appeal to every passion of the human heart, and therefore naturally marked by consistent worshippers, highly preferable to Christianity, which at the best is an awkward fit for human flesh. Mahomet, the prophet of oppression and licentiousness, should be the forerunner of Christ, and not the ascetic Baptist; the cold-blooded system of Budoha better than the hard toil of Christian self-denial. The ballet with its whirl of sinuous sensuality, a sermon in brief, the mimicking with painted lips of paltry vice and every-day selfishness, the elevating influence of the drama—'Are not Abana and Pharpar better than all the rivers of Israel?' says the leprosy of modern England. W. M. R.

Clan Forest.

IRELAND.

(From our Special Correspondent.)

THE following is a record of our Advent Ordinations:—By the Lord Primate, in his Cathedral Church of St. Patrick's, Armagh, three deacons (two on letters dimissory from the Bishop of Clogher) and one priest. The sermon was preached by the Archdeacon of Armagh, the Ven. Dr. Meade. By the Archbishop of Dublin, in the Cathedral Church of the Holy Trinity (commonly called the Church), three deacons and four priests. The sermon was preached by the Rev. S. M. Harris, M.A., rector of the Church of the Holy Trinity, Rathmines. By the Bishop of Down, Connor, and Dromore, in the Cathedral Church of St. Saviour's, Lisburne, three priests. The sermon was preached by the Rev. Canon Sayers. By the Bishop of Kilmore, in his Cathedral Church of Kilmore, three deacons and one priest. The sermon was preached by the Dean of Kilmore. By the Bishop of Killaloe, in the Cathedral Church of St. Flannan, Killaloe, four priests on letters dimissory from the Bishop of Tuam, who is ill. The sermon was preached by the Bishop of Killaloe, and the candidates presented by the Dean of Tuam. By the Bishop of Waterford, in the Cathedral Church of the Holy Trinity, Waterford, four priests. The sermon was preached by the Archdeacon of Waterford. In all nine deacons were made, and sixteen priests: total, twenty-five. At the English Ordinations there were ordained from Trinity College, Dublin, twelve deacons and nine priests: total, twenty-one.

The new Dean of Christ Church Cathedral, Dublin, is beginning to make his influence felt. The congregations have increased, and on the Feast of the Circumcision a new departure will take place. A second altar will be erected, to be placed in the beautiful side-chapel of St. Lawrence, in the south transept, where early celebrations will be held throughout the year, chiefly to accommodate the poorer Church people of the Cathedral district. We believe some years ago an innovation of this kind would have created a disturbance in the city.

Our Bishops do not often mix themselves up with politics, but there is a time to speak as well as a time to keep silence, and the Bishop of Ossory was in the right place at the Unionist gathering in Kilkenny Castle last week, when the chair was taken by its noble owner, the Marquis of Ormonde, and a resolution carried against Separation. The meeting was remarkable as being held in the southern centre of Ireland, and also for the presence at it of several tenant-farmers. The Bishop's speech was one of the best that has been uttered on this question, and deserves wide circulation for its downright common sense. According to the report in the *Daily Express* the Bishop said:—

'He was as much of an Irishman as any on the opposite side in this question; he was born in Ireland, he hoped to die in Ireland, he loved Ireland well, and if he honestly believed the measures that had been proposed for the dissolution of the Union would be for the lasting benefit and advantage of Ireland, he would be ready to forego a great many things, and even to see England submit to some small minor losses. But he was not concerned to fight the battle for England. She could fight the battle for herself; but, if he knew England at all, he did not think she was so foolish as to pass a measure that would be detrimental to herself. But they must look at this matter from an Irish point of view. They in Ireland felt that while such a measure would be injurious to both countries, it would be even more disastrous to Ireland than to England. He was sorry, as an Irishman, to say that he believed it would augment their difficulties.'

The Bishop pointed out that the shrewd men of business, the merchants and manufacturers of Ireland, who were always on the *qui vive* to advance their own interests, were opposed to Home Rule, because they were convinced that a measure of the kind would destroy the trade and commerce of the country.

It is a remarkable fact that two of the Roman Catholic Bishops, Dr. O'Dwyer of Limerick, and Dr. Healy, Coadjutor-Bishop of Clonfert, have both had the courage to speak out at last, condemning the manner in which the agitation has been carried on in Ireland, and, by implication, 'the Plan of Campaign.' The Nationalist prints are very indignant with the two Bishops.

The Bishop of Cork, Dr. Gregg, also spoke last week on the question of the day in Ireland, especially as it affected the interests of education.

The great undertaking of removing the organ of St. Finbarre's Cathedral, Cork, from its place in the west gallery to the north transept, is proceeding satisfactorily. The cost of removal and setting up again, in addition to some necessary rearrangement of the heating apparatus, will reach the sum of 1500*l.* The decorations of the chancel of the beautiful parish church of Crossham are now completed, and have given great satisfaction. The Bishop preached in the church on Sunday week, and expressed himself well pleased with what he saw.

Several of our religious societies working through the country are seriously crippled for want of means, owing, in a large measure, to the depression of trade and the land agitation. The Irish Society especially, which has always done a good work in the way of spreading religious knowledge among the Roman Catholic population, is languishing, and has been compelled to place many of its readers on a reduced scale of payments.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

The Bells of St. Andrew's, Swavesey, Cambridgeshire.

LATELY, Mr. J. R. Haworth, at the invitation of the Vicar, the Rev. T. G. L. Lushington, visited the above-named village to inspect the bells and belfry, and give a few lessons on the art of change-ringing. The bells are a good ring of six, tenor about 18 cwt., in the key of F.; and the ringers are trying to become change-ringers in a village where, for many years, there was a half-pull band, six of them having rung 720 changes in seven different methods in 1828; a tablet recording the fact. Mr. Haworth also visited St. Ives, where there is a fine ring of eight bells, tenor about 20 cwt., in a handsome tower and spire, meeting the Rev. L. Pollock in the belfry. The bells are in one frame, but so closely packed that the stonework and the frame are partly cut away to make room, and in one case the stay of a bell goes into the groove of the wheel of another bell, of course not touching it. The Rules, hung in the belfry, are of the date 1637.

The Lancashire Association of Six-Bell Ringers.

ON Saturday, the 17th inst., the Quarterly Meeting of the above Association was held at St. Mark's, Preston. Shortly after three o'clock a mixed band ascended the tower, and rang 720 BOB MINOR, after which the Leyland Company rang 720 LONDON SINGLE BOB. The members then adjourned to the schoolroom, where the usual meeting was held, Mr. William Bowling in the chair, and Mr. George Higson vice-chair. After the business was gone through it was decided to hold the next Monthly Meeting at Chorley. The meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the Vicar and Churchwardens for the use of the bells and schoolroom. The bells were again set in motion, and 720 BOB MINOR and other touches brought the afternoon's ringing to a close.

The Gloucestershire and Bristol Diocesan Association.

THE Anniversary Meeting of the above Association will be held at Almondsbury (eight bells), near Bristol, on Monday, January 9th, 1888. The nearest station is Patchway, two miles. Divine service at the parish church of St. Mary at 11 a.m. Short address by the Vicar, Rev. Canon Cooper. Dinner at the 'Swan' at one o'clock, at 2*s.* 6*d.* per head; 1*s.* 6*d.* allowed by the Association to all members who inform the Hon. Secretary of their intention of being present by the 4th inst.

The Midland Counties' Association.

THE third Quarterly Meeting of the year will be held at Ashby-de-la-Zouch on Saturday, January 7th, 1888, and the bells of the parish church (eight) will be open for ringing from 2 p.m. Committee Meeting in the vestry at 4.30 p.m. Tea at the 'Queen's Hotel' at 5 p.m.; tickets 1*s.* 6*d.* each. General Meeting immediately after tea, to which all ringers and friends are invited. It is particularly requested that those members who intend being present at the tea will send their names to the local Hon. Secretary, Mr. John Jaggar, 145 Shobnell Street, Burton-on-Trent, on or before Wednesday, January 4th, 1888.

JOSEPH GRIFFIN, Hon. Sec.

5 St. Paul's Street, Burton-on-Trent.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At Christ Church, West Bromwich, Staffordshire.

ON Saturday, the 10th inst., ten members of the Society of Change-ringers for the Archdeaconry of Stafford rang a peal of 5003 GRANDSIRE CATER in 3 hrs. 10 mins. H. Hipkiss, 1; T. Horton, 2; S. Reeves, 3; R. Hall, 4; W. R. Small, 5; J. Plant, 6; T. Reynolds, 7; M. Murphy, 8; C. Price, 9; J. Hall, 10. The peal, which has the sixth, 24 courses at home and 24 courses behind the ninth without an 8-9 or a 7-8 being called, was composed by Mr. Johnson, sen., of Birmingham, and conducted by Mr. Reeves.

At All Saints', Fulham, London.

ON Saturday, the 17th inst., ten members of the Society of Royal Cumberlands rang a peal of 5006 STEDMAN CATER in 3 hrs. 15 mins. G. Newton (composer and conductor), 1; J. Hannington, 2; C. J. Malim, Esq. (first peal in the method), 3; H. Davis, 4; A. Jacob, 5; J. Rogers, 6; H. Hopkins, 7; W. Baron, 8; H. Swain, 9; J. Mansfield, 10. The composition has the 5th and 6th only behind the 9th in the Tittum position.

At the Parish Church, Halifax, Yorkshire.

ON Saturday, the 17th inst., ten members of the Yorkshire Association rang a peal of 5000 KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL in 3 hrs. 29 mins. J. Angus,* 1; J. H. Fisher,* 2; H. Raistrick, 3; T. Pollitt* (composer), 4; J. Broadley, 5; T. Haigh,* 6; J. Barraclough, 7; J. H. Hardcastle* (conductor), 8; F. London, 9; W. Darbey, 10. This composition, now rung for the first time, is the first Association peal on the bells, and is the first rung here by any company for sixteen years; it has the bells in the Tittum position throughout. Messrs. Haigh and Barraclough came from Huddersfield; Mr. London, Shipley; the remainder from Bradford. * College Youths.

At the Cathedral, Manchester.

ON Saturday, the 17th inst., ten members of the Lancashire Association rang a Jubilee peal of 5280 KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL in 3 hrs. 28 mins. J. Gratrix,* 1; G. E. Turner, 2; W. Walmsley,* 3; T. G. Downs, 4; J. E. Pollitt, 5; E. Cash, 6; A. E. Wreaks, 7; G. Longden, 8; W. Ingham,* 9; J. Eachus, 10. Composed by Mr. Thorp and conducted by Mr. Wreaks. Tenor, 25 cwt. Messrs. Walmsley and Ingham came from Macclesfield; Longden, Ashton; the others belong to Manchester. The composition has the 5th and 6th their extent at home at five course-ends. * First peal of TREBLE BOB ROYAL.

At the Parish Church, Newchurch, Lancashire.

On Saturday, the 17th inst., eight members of the Lancashire Association rang a Jubilee peal (Holt's Ten-part) of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 3 hrs. 10 mins. J. Curtis (conductor), 1; T. Harrison, 2; H. H. Nutter, 3; J. Ashworth, 4; J. B. Taylor, 5; G. Lord, 6; J. T. Stott, 7; J. Tattersall, 8. Tenor, 16 cwt. First peal by all but the first and third men. Mr. Curtis came from Bolton; Messrs. Nutter and Tattersall, Ramsbottom; J. Ashworth, Waterfoot; the others belong to the local company.

At St. Martin's, Salisbury.

On Monday, the 19th inst., eight members of the Salisbury Diocesan Guild rang a peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES (Thompson's Three-part), in 2 hrs. 37 mins. S. Lawrence, 1; A. Goddard (first peal), 2; H. D. Adams, 3; C. A. Clements, 4; J. R. Jerram, 5; T. Blackburn, 6; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 7; W. W. Gifford, 8. Tenor, 15 cwt.

At St. Thomas'.—On Monday, the 19th inst., after the above peal, 1260 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 47 mins. W. W. Gifford, 1; T. Blackburn, 2; W. E. Tydeman, 3; J. R. Jerram, 4; H. D. Adams, 5; C. A. Clements, 6; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 7; C. Gaisford, 8. Tenor, 32 cwt.

On the 12th inst., on hand-bells, 518 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES was rung by A. W. Barkus, 1-2; W. E. Tydeman, 3-4; W. W. Gifford (conductor), 5-6; A. Goddard, 7-8.

At St. Mary's, Slough, Bucks.

On Tuesday, the 20th inst., eight members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild and the St. James' Society, London, rang a Jubilee peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES (Reeves' variation of Holt's Ten-part) in 2 hrs. 59 mins. W. Leader, 1; A. C. Fussell (conductor), 2; T. W. Udell (first peal with a bob-bell), 3; A. Andrews, 4; Rev. W. S. Willett, 5; W. H. Fussell, 6; W. Wilder, 7; R. Flaxman, 8. Tenor, 9 cwt., in A. Mr. Leader has been steeple-keeper for thirty-two years, and this is his first peal. All members of the Society of Royal Cumberland, except the Rev. W. S. Willett and Mr. Andrews.

At Christ Church, Oldbury, Worcestershire.—Jubilee Peal.

On Tuesday, the 20th inst., eight members of the Society of Change-ringers for the Archdeaconry of Stafford rang a peal of 5040 STEEDMAN TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 52 mins. T. Reynolds, 1; J. Astbury, 2; W. R. Small, 3; T. Horton, 4; J. Plant, 5; S. Reeves, 6; A. Thomas, 7; R. Hall, 8. Tenor, 10½ cwt., in G. This peal, which is now rung for the first time, is the composition of the late Mr. J. B. Lates, was conducted by Mr. Reeves. The composition has 240 bobs and 10 singles, and is the first peal on these bells.

At CHRIST CHURCH, BRISTOL.—On Monday, the 12th inst., ten members of the St. James' Society, with the assistance of Messrs. A. and J. York, rang a quarter peal of STEEDMAN CATERS (1260 changes) in 50 mins. W. Paddock, 1; H. Tucker, 2; A. Howell, 3; J. York, 4; G. Pym, 5; G. Pearce, 6; W. V. Porch, 7; A. York, 8; H. Porch (conductor), 9; F. Gooding, 10. This is the first quarter peal of CATERS in the method in Bristol since the year 1860, when a peal of 5001 changes was rung on the bells of the above church, Mr. A. York taking part in it.

At SS. MARY AND CUTHBERT'S, CHESTER-LE-STREET, DURHAM.—On Wednesday evening, the 14th inst., for practice, 720 CANTERBURY PLEASURE in 32 mins. A. Meyers, 1; W. Brown, 2; J. Swinburn, 3; J. Anderson, 4; J. Huntley, 5; F. Harrison (Yarrow, conductor), 6. Tenor, 20 cwt.

At ST. ANDREW'S, LITCHURCH, DERBY.—On Thursday, the 15th inst., eight members of the Midland Counties' Association (Derby Branch), rang a touch of BOB MAJOR (1008 changes), in 42 minutes, being the fifty-seventh birthday of the sexton: as there was sickness near the church they were unable to go for a peal, the above having to suffice. W. Shardlow, 1; C. Draper, 2; W. Poyser, 3; J. W. Thompson, 4; C. E. Hart, 5; W. B. Midgley, 6; A. E. Thompson (conductor), 7; R. Bosworth, 8. Tenor, 21 cwt., in E flat.

At SS. PETER AND PAUL, BOUGHTON, NEAR FAVERSHAM, KENT.—On Friday evening, the 16th inst., 720 BOB MINOR (18 bobs and 2 singles) in 25 mins. W. Hope, 1; J. Burch, 2; G. A. Ransom, 3; W. W. Boulden, 4; F. T. Harriss, 5; S. Snelling (conductor), 6. This is the first 720 in the method by all except Mr. Snelling, who came from Sittingbourne; the rest belong to the local company. Also on Sunday, the 18th inst., for Divine service, four six-scores of BOB DOUBLES, each called differently. W. Hope, 1; J. Burch, 2; W. W. Boulden (conductor), 3; G. A. Ransom, 4; F. T. Harriss, 5; W. Clackett, 6. Tenor, 12½ cwt.

At ST. LEONARD'S, DEAL, KENT.—On Friday, the 16th inst., five members of the Lyme branch, with Mr. E. Potter of Dover, visited this place, and rang two 720's of BOB MINOR, the first with 18 bobs and 2 singles, and the second with 14 singles and 4 bobs, each in 27 mins. H. Cheeseman, 1; J. Andrews, 2; T. Beer, 3; E. Potter, 4; C. Laker, 5; A. Tanton (conductor), 6. Tenor, 9½ cwt., in G. These are the first 720's rung on the bells.

At ST. MARY-LE-BOW, CHEAPSIDE, LONDON.—On Friday, the 16th inst., twelve members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang ten courses of STEEDMAN CINQUES (1318 changes) in 1 hr. 4 mins. J. Pettit (conductor), 1; S. E. Joyce, 2; R. French, 3; W. Cooter, 4; C. F. Winny, 5; M. A. Wood, 6; H. Springall, 7; E. Carter, 8; R. T. Woodley, 9; F. E. Dawe, 10; E. Horrex, 11; W. Prime, 12. The above was taken from a peal by the late H. W. Haley. On Tuesday, the 20th inst., at St. Saviour's, Southwark, four courses of STEEDMAN CINQUES. J. Pettit, 1; J. R. Haworth, 2; H. Springhall, 3; H. Shade, 4; G. Mash, 5; S. Joyce, 6; C. F. Winny, 7; E.

Horrex, 8; J. W. Taylor, Esq. (Loughborough), 9; R. T. Woodley, 10; J. M. Hayes (conductor), 11; F. G. Newman, 12. Tenor, 52 cwt.

At THE PARISH CHURCH, NUNEATON, WARWICKSHIRE.—On Saturday, the 17th inst., six members of the local company rang their first touch of BOB MINOR (120 changes), with 2 singles. W. Adler, 1; J. Clarke, 2; G. Winter, 3; T. W. Chapman, 4; T. Bates, 5; H. Horwood (conductor), 6. Also on Sunday morning, the 18th inst., for Divine service, 168 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, with 3 bobs twice repeated. W. Adler, 1; J. Clarke, 2; T. Lingard, 3; W. Swain, 4; T. W. Chapman, 5; T. Bates, 6; H. Horwood, 7; G. Winter, 8. Tenor, 14½ cwt., in E. Also a plain course of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES on handbells retained in hand. J. Clarke, 1-2; T. W. Chapman, 3-4; H. Horwood, 5-6; G. Winter, 7-8.

At THE PARISH CHURCH, COSEBY, STAFFORDSHIRE.—On Sunday, the 17th inst., seven of the Tipton band, with the assistance of Mr. J. Goodman of Dudley, rang a quarter peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES (1260 changes) in 45 mins. H. Mills, 1; W. Pardoe, 2; E. Goodred, 3; W. R. Small, 4; A. Hill, 5; G. Hughes, 6; J. Goodman, 7; B. Starky, 8. Composed by Mr. Johnson, sen., of Birmingham, and conducted by Mr. Hughes. Tenor, 20 cwt.

At THE PARISH CHURCH, POSLINGFORD, SUFFOLK.—On Monday, the 19th inst., six members of the local company rang a six-score of MORNING DELIGHT, for the first time, as follows:—D. Gridley, 1; G. Basham (conductor), 2; F. W. Hicks, 3; H. Burling, 4; C. Howe, 5. Also for practice, 3 six-scores of BOB DOUBLES, called with the tenor, 4th, and 3rd, the observation bells. W. Atkinson, 1; G. Basham, 2; H. Burling, 3; D. Gridley, 4; C. Howe, 5. Also two six-scores of GRANDSIRE DOUBLES. D. Gridley, 1; G. Basham, 2; F. W. Hicks, 3; H. Burling, 4; C. Howe (conductor), 5.

At ALL SAINTS', LOUGHBOROUGH.—On Tuesday, the 20th inst., the Loughborough Branch of the Midland Counties Association rang for practice a quarter peal (1260 changes) of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 50 mins. on the back-eight of the augmented ring of ten bells. T. A. Underwood, 1; J. W. Taylor, sen., 2; J. Hardy, 3; A. Cresser, 4; S. Smith (conductor), 5; W. A. Tyler, 6; W. Birkinshaw, 7; E. Wightman, 8. Composed by W. T. Billingham. Tenor, 28 cwt., in D.

At ST. CLEMENT DANES, STRAND, LONDON.—On Christmas Day, after evening service, a touch of 504 GRANDSIRE CATERS was rung by H. Alford, 1; J. R. Haworth (conductor), 2; W. Chew, 3; C. F. Winny, 4; H. Langdon, 5; H. Hale (Painswick), 6; G. T. McLaughlin, 7; G. Banks, 8; R. French, 9; F. Bate, 10.

RECEIVED ALSO:—J. Vickers, Westhoughton (next week); and others.

CORRESPONDENCE.

A Garden 'Star of Bethlehem.'

SIR,—A curious incident has come under my notice which may be interesting to those of your readers who, like myself, are lovers of plants and flowers. I have in my garden a clump of *Ornithogalum nutans*, a variety of the well-known Star of Bethlehem. The last three summers I have saved the seed, and sown it in a pot, and carefully watched for the seedlings to come up. On Christmas Day, 1885, my patience was rewarded by the appearance of two or three tiny green blades, which were shortly followed by several others, which duly developed. The same thing occurred the following 25th December; and on this Christmas Day just past, I was delighted to find the seeds I sowed last summer pushing their tiny heads through the mould. The fact of my little Star of Bethlehem seedlings making their first appearance on three successive Christmas Days is too quaint a coincidence to pass unrecorded by.

AN OBSERVER OF NATURE.

Petworth.

Banns of Marriage.

SIR,—Mr. C. J. Monk is very authoritative in your issue of November 4th on the subject of the proper place in the service for publication of banns, but he argues entirely from the rubric as it stands in modern Prayer-books. Can he tell us why, and by what authority, the rubrics have been altered of late years? I have before me a Prayer-book of 1762, printed at the Cambridge University Press. In it the rubric before the 'Form of Solemnization of Matrimony' directs the banns to be 'published in the church three several Sundays (or Holy-days) in the time of Divine Service, immediately before the sentences for the Offertory.' And in the rubric in the Communion Office following the Nicene Creed, I read 'And there also, if occasion be, shall notice be given of the Communion, and the banns of Matrimony published, and briefs, citations and excommunications read.' I am aware that Lord Hardwick's Marriage Act forbade banns to be published on Holy-days, and allowed the publication at evening service, if there should be no morning service; but that is very different from altering an existing rubric which prescribed the place in the service where notices should be given. The omission of the direction from the rubric in the Communion service is clearly the doing of the printers, without any authority, for there has been no revision of the rubrics of either of the offices in question since the date given above. Speaking from memory, I believe that the late Baron Alderson, or Lord Wensleydale (Baron Parke), once laid it down that after the Nicene Creed was the proper time for publication of banns. J. B.

November 18th, 1887.

SIR,—Appended to the last appearance of letters on this subject was the Editorial warning that 'This correspondence must now cease.' However, it

being all voluntary workers to the best of their power, and bound to support one another only after the ability for work was past. They differed from the monks of the same period, inasmuch as the latter were only partially self-reliant, while the friars were wholly supported by the labour of others. The Brethren of the Common Life earned a comfortable and absolutely independent livelihood for themselves, and also maintained their superannuated members by their industry, chiefly as copyists and schoolmasters. They were the principal producers of Bibles and good books in the century previous to the invention of printing. Why should not similar guilds, entirely self-supporting and not necessarily celibate, be more often instituted in our own day? The Belgium institution of Beguines is in some respects an interesting surviving example of such associated life. Our own trade unions, by their useful charity and co-operative spirit, also furnish some modern exemplifications of the same principle. But that thorough co-operation of the Brethren of the Common Life, with their combination of shrewd practical economy, with the powerful aids of a genial and hopeful Christianity, was one of the most valuable contributions yet furnished by our excellent neighbours the Dutch to the social experiences of the world.'

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Dedication of Church Bells at Settle, Yorkshire.

THIS Craven town, so effusive in loyal demonstrations at midsummer, has been happy enough to secure a more permanent memorial of the Queen's Jubilee. The dedication of a ring of eight new bells, which took place recently, in its church of the Holy Ascension, is, we believe, an unique occurrence this year in the diocese of Ripon, and up to the last moment it was hoped that the Bishop himself would be present. The bells have been raised by subscription. The scheme originated at a vestry meeting, where a Jubilee Bells' Committee was formed, and the Vicar promised one bell. The success of the project was largely due to the prompt and unexpected liberality of Mr. Christopher Beverley of Staningley, who gives the tenor bell in memory of his father, Christopher Lodge Beverley, a Craven man, and formerly educated at Giggleswick Grammar School. Thus stimulated, local interest followed, and the Committee were speedily encouraged by several handsome donations in the town, and by the cordial help of W. Morrison, Esq., M.P. The bells, which promise to be a musical peal, were cast by Messrs. Warner of London, and hung by the Yorkshire firm of Mallaby Bros. They average in weight from 6 cwt. to 14 cwt., and bear the following inscription in Latin, pentameter verse:—

'Pro te, Ecclesia, adit vox renovata Deum,
Qui Domini ascendit in iuga sancta rogo.
Pura quibus manus est puraque cardo, cano.
Christe, poli clavus, te celebramus, adi.
Jubilat ascendens voce tubaque Deus.
Integra sit patrie pax, sine tæbe fides.
Vox mea, presbyteri voce tacentæ vocat. I.M.
Vox mea Christopherum Lodge Beverley memorat (with crest).'

On the four walls of the belfry are four rhyming scrolls illuminated by ladies in the parish:—

Numerat aurea.
Lustria Victoria.
Pax ei laurea.
Sit Deo gloria.

Also a brass plate bearing the inscription:—'This peal of bells was raised by subscription in 1887, the fiftieth year of the reign of Queen Victoria, and dedicated to the glory of God and the welfare of His Church.—Jackson Mason (vicar), Thomas Clark, John Handby (churchwardens).'

The ceremony of the day began in the belfry, where Canon Pulleine, receiving the ropes from the churchwardens, dedicated the bells to the glory of God, and then delivered them as a sacred trust to the vicar as custodian. Then followed a musical service in church, which, with the sermon by Canon Pulleine, was most impressive. The bells were first heard during the service, and 5440 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR was afterwards attempted by the Gargrave ringers, under the conductorship of Mr. James McKell, but after ringing for 2½ hours they were interrupted by a would-be onlooker, who by accident gained access to the belfry. Had they not been thus disturbed there is little doubt but the peal would have been completed.

The Church Tower, Irthlingborough, Northants.

AN appeal is very reluctantly made for funds to take down and rebuild this well-known structure. The tower has, notwithstanding the erection of large and costly buttresses during the early part of the present century, and further efforts at preservation made some forty years ago, become so unsafe that it has been resolved, after obtaining the advice of the best authorities, to remove the whole building. Mr. Pearson examined the tower in 1883, and reported as follows: 'The tower is a most interesting work, and I have the strongest feeling in favour of keeping it up; yet in spite of this, I cannot arrive at any other conclusion than that it must come down and be rebuilt.' The cracks in the tower have continued to widen year by year, and the fall of stones from time to time has given the clearest warning of a quickly impending catastrophe, if the building be not taken down. Its fall would not only have endangered life and property adjoining, but would also have rendered the expense of rebuilding immensely greater. To avoid this contingency the upper stage has been already removed, and the lower stages are now in process of pulling down. The greatest care is being taken to stack and mark the stones as they are brought down, so as to render their exact replacement possible; and it need hardly be stated that the most careful drawings and measurements of every part of the building have been taken.

The Committee are most anxious to commence the re-erection of this extremely interesting tower, which formed part of the conventual buildings of the College of Irthlingborough, and contained in its upper stages arrangements for domestic occupation. They therefore do not hesitate to appeal far and wide to all interested in the preservation of ancient and historical buildings, to aid in providing funds to enable them to carry out the work in 1888, believed to be the 500th anniversary of the original erection of the building.

Bell-ringers' Festival at Westhoughton, Lancashire.

IN commemoration of the seventeenth anniversary of the splendid ring of bells to St. Bartholomew's Church, Westhoughton, by the late Richard Haddock, Esq., the ringers connected with the church celebrated the event on Saturday week with a friendly gathering. Assembling in the belfry at an early hour in the evening, together with Messrs. Henry Heaton (Eccles), Edward Kay and Joseph Prescott (Hindley), the latter having officiated as instructor to the Westhoughton ringers since some time after the bells were erected, the first half of Holt's Ten-part peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES was rung in 1 hr. 26 mins. G. Grundy (conductor), 1; H. Heaton, 2; J. Prescott, 3; J. Vickers, 4; E. Kay, 5; A. Hodgkinson, 6; J. Whittingham, 7; H. Hodgkinson, 8. At the conclusion of the peal an adjournment was made to the 'Red Lion Inn.' After dinner the duties of chairman were undertaken by Mr. George Grundy, who during his remarks referred to the fact that out of the many who had learned to ring since the church was erected only one had been taken from them by death. An enjoyable evening was spent, many of the campanologists giving a display of local training, and all contributing to the evening's pleasure. At a later hour they again ascended the belfry and hailed Christmas morn with a merry peal.

A New Bell for All Hallows' Church, Leeds.

THE old year was rung out, and the new rung in, by a bell which has just been placed in the tower of All Hallows' Church, and which was dedicated and used for the first time just before midnight on Saturday. Weighing 12½ cwt., it is a tenor bell, of powerful but mellow tone, and has been cast by Messrs. Taylor & Co., of Loughborough, according to specifications approved by so great an authority as Lord Grimthorpe. The bell can form the basis of a ring, and provision is made for the addition of other bells if necessary. It has cost about 112l., including fittings and fixtures, and the whole of this has been raised by subscription. The dedication ceremony took place shortly before the commencement of the watch-night service, when the Vicar, the Rev. M. R. Allnutt, the Curate, the Rev. C. H. Lowe, the churchwardens, the sidemen, and other officials of the church and the choir proceeded to the ringing chamber. Mr. Chambers, the hon. secretary of the bell fund, in the name of the subscribers, presented the bell to the church, and the Vicar, on behalf of the churchwardens and himself, accepted it for the service of God; and prayer having been offered, the bell rang its first call to worship. While it was ringing, the clergy, choir, and officers entered the church singing a special dedication hymn, after which the midnight service was held. At twelve o'clock the hour was struck upon the bell, and at the conclusion of the *Te Deum* and Benediction it pealed out an intimation that the service of prayer and praise was ended, and a new year begun. The church was crowded for the midnight service.

The Worcestershire and adjoining Districts Change-ringing Association.

A QUARTERLY Meeting of the above Association will be held at Stourbridge on Saturday, January 21st, 1888. Particulars next week.

JOHN SMITH, 37 Simms Lane, Netherton, Dudley.

The Essex Association.

A DISTRICT MEETING will be held at Colchester, on Saturday, the 7th inst. The tower of St. Peter's church (eight bells) will be open for ringing after 1 p.m. Tea (price 6d. to members who give notice beforehand), at No. 19 Head Street, at 4 p.m. To be followed by the usual business meeting.

Writtle Vicarage, Chelmsford.

T. L. PAPILLON, Hon. Sec.

The Chester Diocesan Guild.

NOTICE.—The first meeting of the Macclesfield branch of the above Guild will be held in St. Michael's choir vestry on Saturday, January 14th, at 3.30 p.m., to elect a Chairman and a representative from each band to form a Committee, and to elect members, besides other important matters. It is hoped that all will be present. After the meeting a tea will be held at a moderate figure at the 'Black Horse' Inn, and those who intend having tea must inform the undersigned on or before January 10th.

WILLIAM WALMSLEY, Local Sec. and Treasurer.

Gurnett, near Macclesfield.

The Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association.

THE Anniversary Meeting of the above Association will be held at Almondsbury (eight bells), near Bristol, on Monday, the 9th inst. The nearest station is Patchway, two miles. Divine Service at the parish church of St. Mary, at 11 a.m. Short address by the Vicar, Rev. Canon Cooper. Dinner at the 'Swan' at 1 o'clock, at 2s. 6d. per head; 1s. 6d. allowed by the Association to all members who inform the Hon. Secretary of their intention of being present by the 4th inst.

PETE EYKYN, Hon. Sec.

Magor Vicarage, Newport.

Society of Change-ringers for the Archdeaconry of Stafford.

THE next Quarterly Meeting in connexion with the above Society will be held on Saturday, January 7th, 1888, at Bilston. Ringing at 2.30. Tea at six o'clock. 1s. per head. Kindly let me know on or before the 4th instant how many of your band will attend, and oblige

S. REEVES, Hon. Sec.

10 Bull Street, West Bromwich.

Meeting of Ringers at Cambridge.

It is proposed to hold a meeting of ringers at Cambridge on the 21st inst., to commemorate the centenary of the long peal of 6600 of Bon MAXIMUS rung at Great St. Mary's, on January 21st, 1787. There will also be a meeting of the Ely Diocesan Association on that day. Further arrangements will be announced. Ringers who will attend the meeting are requested to communicate with M. C. Potter, 17 Fitzwilliam Street, Cambridge.

An Old Change-ringer at Rochdale, Lancashire.

ON Tuesday, the 22nd ult., at St. Alban's Church, eight members of the Lancashire Association attempted Holt's Original peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, in honour of the eighty-fourth birthday of Mr. Thomas Bamford, an old ringer at the Rochdale Parish Church for over sixty years. It was unfortunately lost. Mr. Bamford is an exceptional ringer, as we do not hear of many at that advanced age ringing for Divine service every Sunday; he at seventy-eight years having rung 5000, another on his eightieth birthday, on his eighty-second birthday 2520 for Divine service, and now he thinks he could ring another. Mr. Bamford possesses a wonderful memory and is able to ring any pair in a course of CATERERS, and will talk as well about events in ringing which took place when he was a young man as if it only took place yesterday. He is a member of the Ancient Society of College Youths. The band was as follows:—G. Hoyle, 1; J. Adshead, 2; F. Birtwistle (conductor), 3; J. Pilkington, 4; W. H. Walmsley, 5; W. R. Barrett, 6; J. Millett, 7; S. Brierley, 8.

At Roborough, Torrington, Devonshire.

For the past few days the six bells have at intervals been ringing, to the great delight of the inhabitants, who for many years have been deprived of the pleasure as well as the use of them on account of the dilapidated framework. At last, by the efforts of a few of the parishioners, subscriptions were solicited throughout the parish and among other kind friends, resulting so satisfactorily as to guarantee the renovation and rehanging. The work was entrusted to Mr. Stokes of Woodbury, Devon, who has carried out his engagement to the satisfaction of all who have viewed the workmanship and who have engaged in the ringing. The Hon. Mark Rolle, with his wonted liberality, contributed the oak necessary for the principal framework.

CHANGE - RINGING.

At St. Paul's, Bedford.

ON Thursday, the 22nd ult., eight members of the Bedfordshire Association rang a peal of 5056 BOB MAJOR in 3 hrs. 25 mins. C. Pass, 1; S. J. Cullip, 2; F. Keech, 3; H. Chapman, 4; M. Warwick, 5; W. C. Allen, 6; W. G. Biggs (conductor), 7; C. W. Clarke (composer), 8. Tenor, 27 cwt., in D. This peal, which is now rung for the first time, has the 6th its extent right and twenty times wrong. The first in this method by the Bedford Association, the first on the bells, and the first in the method by the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 5th ringers.

At All Saints', Loughborough, Leicestershire.

ON Friday, the 23rd ult., eight members of the Midland Counties' Association (Loughborough Branch) rang in 3 hrs. 23 mins. a peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES (Snowdon's Variation of Hollis's Five-part peal). F. A. Underwood (first peal), 1; A. Cresser, 2; G. Draycott, 3; J. Hardy, 4; S. Smith, 5; W. Birkinshaw, 6; J. W. Taylor, jun. (conductor), 7; E. Wightman, 8. Tenor, 28 cwt., in D. This was Mr. Taylor's fiftieth peal, of which he has conducted twenty-four, consisting of—Treble Bob Royal, 2; Stedman Caters, 3; Grandsire Caters, 4; Treble Bob Major, 19; Double Oxford Bob Major, 2; Stedman Triples, 1; Grandsire Triples, 19.

At St. Peter's, Brighton.

ON Saturday, the 24th ult., eight members of the Sussex County Association rang Thurstan's peal of 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES in 3 hrs. 6 mins. H. Weston, 1; E. A. Fuller, 2; J. Reilly, 3; G. A. King, 4; C. Tyler, 5; G. T. Attree, 6; J. Searle (conductor), 7; W. F. Vernon, 8. Tenor, 10½ cwt. The above is the first peal in the method by the Sussex County Association, the first by all the ringers, and the first peal of STEDMAN TRIPLES rung by a Sussex band.

At the Parish Church, Saddleworth, Yorkshire.

ON Saturday, the 24th ult., eight members of the United Counties' Association rang a peal of 5120 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR in 2 hrs. 58 mins. J. Holden, 1; F. Brierley, 2; E. B. Shaw (first in the method), 3; J. Dicken (first in the method), 4; J. T. Holden, 5; M. Bradbury, 6; J. T. Dicken, 7; J. Buckley (first peal), 8. Composed by Mr. J. Reeves and conducted by Mr. Holden. Tenor, 12 cwt.

At St. Margaret's, Leiston, Suffolk.

ON Tuesday, the 27th ult., eight members of the Norwich Diocesan Association rang a peal of 5376 BOB MAJOR in 3 hrs. 8 mins. W. Taylor, 1; H. Button, 2; F. Wilson, 3; A. Lincoln, 4; R. W. Stannard, 5; J. Button, 6; G. Lindoff (composer and conductor), 7; T. E. Shearing, 8. Tenor, 20½ cwt., in E.

At Bloxwich, Staffordshire.—Jubilee Peal.

ON Tuesday, the 27th ult., six members of the Lichfield Cathedral Society, assisted by two members of Editha's, Tamworth, rang Harrison's Bob-and-Single Variation peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 3 hrs. 3 mins. F. Cope (conductor), 1; H. Meacham, 2; A. E. Greenwood, 3; J. Key, 4; H. Slaney, 5; G. Woods, 6; W. Feareybhough, 7; E. Gallimore, 8. All the above are members of the Society of Change-ringers for the Archdeaconry of Stafford. The ringers take this opportunity of thanking the vicar and churchwardens for the use of the bells (the 'go' and general arrangements of which are perfect), and also for the kind manner in which they were received.

At St. Martin's, Birmingham.

ON Tuesday, the 27th ult., twelve members of the St. Martin's Society rang a peal of 5002 STEDMAN CINQUES in 3 hrs. 35 mins. H. Bastable, 1; J. Jones, 2; H. Johnson, jun., 3; W. Kent, 4; C. Hounslow (Oxford), 5; W. R. Small, 6; J. W. Cartwright, 7; B. Wittell, 8; C. Stanbridge, 9; S. Reeves, 10; A. Thomas, 11; T. Holmes (Burton-on-Trent), 12. Composed by Mr. Johnson, sen., and conducted by Mr. Bastable. Tenor, 36 cwt.

At Bennington, Herts.

ON Tuesday, the 27th ult., the Bennington Society of Change-ringers met for their weekly practice, when, after raising their ring of eight in musical order, the undermentioned members rang a musical touch of CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, consisting of 1792 changes, which was brought home in excellent order. N. Warner, 1; Jos. Kitchener, 2; John Kitchener, 3; L. Chapman, 4; W. Hobbs, 5; J. Warner, 6; C. Shambrook, 7; S. Page (conductor), 8. Tenor, 14 cwt., in F sharp.

At St. Paul's Cathedral Meeting-House, London.

ON Thursday, the 29th ult., four members of the Ancient Society of College Youths and the Essex Association rang, on handbells retained in hand, Thurstan's peal of 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 21 mins. J. C. Mitchell, 1-2; W. H. L. Buckingham, 3-4; C. F. Winny (conductor), 5-6; G. T. M'Laughlin, 7-8. Umpires, Mr. W. Baron and Mr. G. Wild, of the Royal Cumberland Society.

At St. Albans, Herts.

ON Friday, the 30th ult., four members of the St. Albans Cathedral Society, the Ancient Society of College Youths, and the Essex Association, rang, on handbells retained in hand, Holt's Original peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 22 mins. G. W. Cartmel, 1-2; J. C. Mitchell (conductor), 3-4; W. H. L. Buckingham, 5-6; T. Waller, 7-8. Umpire: Mr. T. Grant.

At Wellingborough.—Muffled Peals.

THE late Mr. W. H. Henson (Churchwarden), Finedon, having been an influential member of the Raunds, Wellingborough, and District Ringers' Society, the church bells at Wellingborough and Raunds were rung muffled on Tuesday evening, the funeral taking place at Finedon in the afternoon. Born at Kettering in 1826, Mr. Henson was one of a noted family of Kettering ringers, and learned to manage a bell when quite a boy. All through his life he took great interest in everything appertaining to the belfry. As churchwarden of Finedon he was leader of the ringers there, and was instrumental in bringing about the recasting of the tenor and rehanging of the bells in 1875. His father was present at the opening of the bells in 1825, fifty years previously. Mr. Henson was particularly well known to, and much respected by, the Wellingborough men, for he often rang at the parish church in the 'old days,' and frequently expressed a wish to have a pull on the increased ring of eight. He generally rang the 7th bell (the old 5th), therefore this was, according to custom, raised and rung by itself, previous to the muffled peal.

AT ST. PETER'S, WALPOLE, NORFOLK.—ON Tuesday, the 13th ult., by the Voluntary Band, 960 changes in 36 mins., being 240 in each of the following methods: PLAIN BOB, OXFORD and KENT TREBLE BOB, and GRANDSIRE MINOR. R. Grimes, 1; W. Day, 2; H. Hill (conductor), 3; H. Allen, 4; H. Merrishaw, 5; W. Wright, 6. Also 720 of PLAIN BOB MINOR. J. Brett, 1; W. Wright, 2; H. Hill, 3; H. Allen (conductor), 4; H. Merrishaw, 5; R. Grimes, 6. ON Tuesday, the 20th ult., 720 BOB MINOR (30 bobs and 2 singles), in 27 mins. W. Wright, 1; Dr. Seccombe, 2; H. Allen, 3; J. Brett, 4; H. Merrishaw, 5; R. Grimes (conductor), 6. Tenor, 17 cwt.

AT ST. MARY'S, HARLOW, ESSEX.—ON Tuesday, the 20th ult., the local company rang for practice 720 of BOB MINOR, with the seventh covering (18 bobs and 2 singles). H. Perrin, jun., 1; R. Tabor, 2; A. Germey, 3; C. French, 4; T. Ellis, 5; A. Perrin, sen. (conductor), 6; A. Bass, 7. This is the first 720 by the local company.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH, KINGSTON-ON-THAMES, SURREY.—ON Tuesday, the 20th ult., 1050 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, being the fourth and fifth part of Reeves' Ten-part peal. H. Parslow, 1; G. Woodis (conductor), 2; J. Parslow, 3; J. Wright, 4; G. Gray, 5; J. Strutt, 6; J. Smith, 7; C. Slade, 8.

AT THE CATHEDRAL, RIPON, YORKS.—ON Tuesday, the 20th ult., 720 STEDMAN TRIPLES, for practice, in 30 mins. A. Pratt,* 1; J. Baines,* 2; J. Strodder, jun., 3; A. H. Clark,* 4; A. Ingleby,* 5; J. Flower,* 6; T. Clark* (conductor), 7; H. Rumbold, 8. *Members of the Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association.

AT ST. MARY'S, BEDDINGTON, SURREY.—ON Thursday, the 22nd ult., eight members of the Surrey Association rang a Date touch of STEDMAN TRIPLES (1887 changes) in 1 hr. 11 mins. Dr. A. B. Carpenter (composer and conductor), 1; E. Bennett, 2; W. Burkin, 3; G. Welling, 4; J. Plowman, 5; J. Fayers, 6; J. Trappitt, 7; J. Hartley, 8. This touch is an adaptation of one of 1875 by Hubbard, given on page 65 of the fourth edition.

AT ST. GILES', READING, BERKS.—ON Saturday, the 24th ult., on occasion of the marriage of Miss Sweetzer, sister to one of the local ringers, 720 BOB MINOR. H. Bonney, 1; F. Simmonds, 2; A. H. Evans, 3; J. Hands, 4; G. Essex, 5; A. E. Reeves (conductor), 6. Also several peals of GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, in which H. Smart and A. Hind took part. Tenor, 19 cwt.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH, HANLEY CASTLE, WORCESTERSHIRE.—ON Saturday, the 24th ult., a quarter peal (1260 changes), consisting of four 6-scores with extremes, and six and a half scores of GRANDSIRE DOUBLES (each called differently), in 47 mins. T. Hill, 1; R. G. Knowles (conductor), 2; W. Tarling, 3; A. Pitt, 4; A. Aspey, 5; W. Turner, 6.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

St. Paul's Cathedral, London.

THE bells will be rung on all Sundays throughout the year 1888 at 10 a.m. and 2.45 p.m. Also on the following days:—

Sunday, Jan. 1 (New-Year's Day)	6 to 7 p.m.
Wednesday, Jan. 25 (Dedication Festival)	9 to 10 a.m. & 6.30 to 7.30 p.m.
Wednesday, May 2 (Sons of the Clergy Festival)	2.30 & 5 p.m.
Thursday, May 10 (Ascension Day)	9.30 a.m. & 6 p.m.
Thursday, May 24 (Queen's Birthday)	9 to 10 a.m. & 7 p.m.
Wednesday, June 20 (Queen's Accession)	9 to 10 a.m. & 6 p.m.
Monday, Oct. (Harvest Thanksgiving Service—date not fixed)	6 to 7 p.m. and after the service.
Thursday, Nov. 1 (All Saints')	9 to 10 a.m. & 7 p.m.
Friday, Nov. 9 (Lord Mayor's Day)	1 p.m. & 6 p.m.
Tuesday, Dec. 25 (Christmas Day)	10 a.m. & 2.45 p.m.
On Christmas Eve and New-Year's Eve	11.15 p.m.

On the following Tuesday evenings at 8 p.m. for practice:—Jan. 24, April 17, May 15, June 12, July 10, Aug. 7, Sept. 4, Oct. 2, Oct. 30, Nov. 27.

The Ancient Society of College Youths.

MEMBERS are requested to attend the meeting at St. Saviour's on Tuesday evening next, the 17th inst., as an important question will be discussed.

RICHARD T. WOODLEY, *Hon. Sec.*

The Surrey Association.

THE next Quarterly Meeting will be held at Kingston-on-Thames, by the kind permission of the Vicar, on Monday, January 16th. The tea will be held at the 'Leopold Coffee Tavern' at six o'clock precisely. Those who wish to be present are requested to send notice of their intention to the Manager, 'Leopold Coffee Tavern,' Kingston-on-Thames, before Friday, the 13th inst., in order that proper provision may be made for them. The tea will be followed by the usual business meeting. Members are reminded that their subscriptions for the current year are due at this meeting.

34 Dingwall Road, Croydon. ARTHUR B. CARPENTER, *Hon. Sec.*

The Worcestershire Change-ringing Association.

THE next Quarterly Meeting of the above Association will be held in Beauty Bank Schoolroom, Stourbridge, on Saturday, January 21st, 1888, at 5 p.m. prompt. The Rev. H. Sherrad, Vicar, has kindly consented to preside. All subscriptions are due at this meeting according to Rule 7. Tea will be provided at 1s. per head. The Secretary will be pleased to know how many of each company will take tea on or before Wednesday, January 18th. The tower of St. Thomas's will be open for ringing during the afternoon.

JOHN SMITH, *Hon. Sec.*

37 Simms' Lane, Netherton, near Dudley, January 9th.

Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association.

ON Monday, the 9th inst., the Anniversary Meeting of this Association was held at Almondsbury. About thirty members were present. Divine service was held at 11 a.m., with a sermon by the Vicar, Canon Cooper. After dinner at the 'Swan' the business meeting was held, the Vicar being in the chair, and it was decided to hold a District Meeting at Westbury-on-Severn in May. Hearty thanks were tendered to the clergy and churchwardens for the kind reception held out to the Association. Ringing took place at intervals during the day.

South Lincolnshire Change-ringers' Association.

THE Annual Meeting of the members and friends of this Association was held at Morton, Bourn, on Saturday last. Ringers from various churches in Lincolnshire were present. Change-ringing was indulged in from nine to twelve o'clock, and from 12.15 to one o'clock a shortened service was held, with an address from the Rev. W. W. Layng of Rippingdale. Shortly after one o'clock a dinner was provided at the 'Five Balls,' the chair being taken by Mr. J. C. Lawrance, Q.C., M.P., who was supported by various clergymen of the district. During the evening changes were rung on different parish church bells in the neighbourhood. The aim of the Association, which is to encourage the art of bell-ringing, is being pursued with considerable energy in the different churches throughout South Lincolnshire.

St. Woolo's Guild, Newport, Monmouthshire.

THE majority of the members of this Guild received their first lesson in the management of a bell early in 1887, and their praiseworthy efforts to become change-ringers have been rewarded by their commencing the New Year by accomplishing several six-scores of GRANDSIRE. The striking was very good, considering the rickety state of the frames. Hopes are entertained that before 1889 the ring will be increased to eight. H. A. Millard and J. N. Wreford (alternately), 1; G. Pincott, 2; W. J. Pickard, 3; F. Attewell, 4; W. Gower, 5; J. Trowbridge, 6.

The Bells of St. Martin's, Ellisfield.

Barrow's Worcester Journal says that the bells of St. Martin's, Ellisfield, near Basingstoke, which had lain for fifteen years in a barn, have been hung in the new tower. These bells, being of undoubted Spanish workmanship, are supposed to have been brought to Ellisfield by a Mr. Crandford, a Spanish merchant.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At St. Lawrence, Appleton, Berks.

ON Monday, the 26th ult., eight members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild rang a peal of 5040 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR in 2 hrs. 57 mins. F. White, 1; E. Holifield, 2; W. C. Baston, 3; W. Bennett, 4; J. Avery, 5; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 6; G. Holifield, 7; J. W. Washbrook (composer and conductor), 8. Tenor, 14½ cwt. The composition, which is now rung for the first time, is half of a 10,080, with the 4th, 5th, and 6th their extent, and the 3rd eighteen times in 6th's place without the 2nd ever being there.

At the Parish Church, Ottery St. Mary, Devon.

ON Wednesday, the 28th ult., eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths and the Devonshire Guild rang Hollis's Five-part peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 3 hrs. 2 mins. W. Stocker, 1; E. Shepherd, 2; F. Gover, 3; S. Binfield (first peal), 4; F. Shepherd (conductor), 5; W. Mundy, 6; J. Moss, 7; T. Lake, 8. Tenor, 20 cwt. The first peal on the bells. The ring of eight bells has had the Ellacombe Chiming Apparatus fixed to them by Mr. Harry Stokes of Woodbury, and were used for the first time for the services on New-year's Day.

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

ON Thursday, the 29th ult., eight members of the Midland Counties Association and the St. Paul's Society rang a peal of 5056 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, in the Burton Variation, in 3 hrs. 26 mins. J. Austin, 1; C. Hounslow (Oxford), 2; A. Wakley, 3; J. Griffiths, 4; E. I. Stone, 5; H. Wakley, 6; T. Holmes, 7; W. Wakley, 8. Composed by Mr. N. I. Pitstow and conducted by Mr. J. Griffin. Tenor, 26 cwt.

At Christ Church, Liversedge, Yorkshire.

ON Saturday, the 31st ult., a Jubilee peal of 6720 CUMBERLAND EXERCISE MAJOR was rung in 4 hrs. 3 mins. J. W. Lang, 1; J. Knott, 2; A. Briggs, 3; S. Goodall, 4; H. Brooke, 5; M. Ramsden, 6; L. Illingworth, 7; W. Collins, 8. Composed by Mr. Sottanstell of Sowerby and conducted by Mr. Illingworth. Tenor, 15 cwt. This is the third peal of CUMBERLAND EXERCISE rung at Liversedge by Liversedge men; the first on April 16th, 1838, composed by Joseph Tebbs of Leeds and conducted by Mr. J. Firth of Liversedge, 5600 changes; the second on October 26th, 1867, composed by Mr. Sottanstell of Sowerby and conducted by Mr. W. Goodall of Liversedge, 6240 changes; and the above is the third.

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

ON Saturday, the 31st ult., ten members of the Norwich Diocesan Association and the Ancient Society of College Youths rang a peal of 5000 KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL in 3 hrs. 27 mins. W. E. Tydeman (Salisbury, first peal on the bells), 1; F. Gillett, 2; R. Hawes, 3; W. P. Garrett, 4; I. S. Alexander, 5; H. Bowell, 6; W. Motts, 7; J. Motts, 8; R. H. Brundle, 9; W. L. Catchpole (conductor), 10. Tenor, 32 cwt.

At St. Giles', Rowley Regis, Staffordshire.

ON Saturday, the 31st ult., eight members of the St. Martin's Society, Birmingham, rang Brooke's Variation of Thurstan's peal of 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 50 mins. H. Bastable (conductor), 1; A. Thomas, 2; S. Reeves, 3; A. J. Jones, 4; C. Stanbridge, 5; W. H. Small, 6; J. Buffery, 7; T. Reynolds, 8. Tenor, 12½ cwt. The first peal in the method on the bells.

At Prestbury, Gloucestershire.

ON Saturday, the 31st ult., eight members of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association rang Holt's Original peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 3 hrs. 5 mins. D. Davis, 1; W. Morris, 2; G. H. Phillott, Esq., 3; T. Steel, 4; F. Musty, 5; W. T. Pates (conductor), 6; T. Davis, 7; A. W. Humphreys, 8. Tenor, 15 cwt. This peal was slow, but the striking throughout was excellent; and was rung to oblige G. H. Phillott, Esq., in order to obtain his fiftieth peal in the Jubilee year. He begs to return his best thanks to the friends who kindly rang with him, and wishes them and all brother ringers a happy new year and plenty of true peals.

AT ST. PETER-AT-ARCHES, LINCOLN.—On Wednesday, the 21st ult., 890 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 35 mins. D. W. Brown, 1; J. W. Watson, 2; Hy. Maidens, 3; Hy. Hoyer, 4; C. Wells, 5; J. Vickers, 6; T. Shearing (conductor), 7; J. Ellard, 8. The above band met for a peal, which, unfortunately, did not finish. On Monday, the 26th ult., 720 BOB MINOR on the middle six. H. Maidens, 1; J. W. Watson (conductor), 2; D. W. Brown (first 720), 3; C. Wells, 4; J. Vickers, 5; W. Knowles, 6; J. Ellard, 7.

AT HORSMONDEN, SUFFOLK.—On Christmas Day, for early service, 720 BOB DOUBLES, in 28 mins., by the local band. T. Lambert, 1; A. Miles, 2; W. Lambert, 3; G. Hodge (conductor), 4; F. Lambert, 5; J. Hicks, 6.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH, WRITTLE, ESSEX.—On Christmas Day, for morning service, 720 BOB MINOR, and one course of the same, with 6-8 covering. J. Everard, 1; A. Edwards, 2; R. Wood, 3; Rev. T. L. Papillon, 4; F. Radley, 5; C. J. Dennison, 6; W. Lincoln (conductor), 7; A. Bonnington, 8. And on Boxing Day, five of the above, with Messrs. De Lisle (Galleywood), Piper, and Tarbun (Widford), attempted Holt's Original, but lost it through a change-course after about an hour's ringing.

ON New-year's Eve, with the bells deeply muffled, two 360's PLAIN BOB MINOR, 6-8 covering. At twelve, to welcome the new year, 720 with the bells open. J. Everard, 1; A. Edwards, 2; R. Wood, 3; Rev. T. L. Papillon, 4; F. Radley, 5; C. J. Dennison, 6; W. Lincoln (conductor), 7; A. Bonnington, 8. On Sunday, the 1st inst., before evening service, Mr. J. Carter's date touch of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES (1888 changes) was attempted, but the bells ran round through a shift. A quarter peal in the same method was then rung in 44 mins. W. Harvey, 1; A. Tarbun, 2.

A. Edwards, 3; F. Radley, 4; W. J. Piper, 5; H. F. de Lisle, Esq., 6; W. Lincoln (conductor), 7; C. J. Dennison, 8.

At St. MARTIN'S, SALISBURY, WILTS.—On Tuesday, the 27th ult., 720 BOB MINOR. S. Lawrence (first 720 of Minor), 1; H. D. Adams, 2; A. P. Goddard, 3; A. W. Barkus, 4; T. Blackburn (conductor), 5; W. W. Gifford, 6. On Sunday, the 1st inst., 720 BOB MINOR. S. Lawrence, 1; C. A. Clements, 2; A. P. Goddard, 3; H. D. Adams, 4; T. Blackburn, 5; W. W. Gifford (conductor), 6. On Wednesday, the 4th inst., a 1512 of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 53 mins. S. Lawrence, 1; A. P. Goddard, 2; J. R. Jerram, 3; A. W. Barkus, 4; W. E. Tydeman, 5; C. A. Clements, 6; W. N. Gifford (conductor), 7; H. O. Dowling, 8. Tenor, 15 cwt.

At St. THOMAS'S.—On Friday, the 6th inst., a 1260 of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 50 mins. J. R. Jerram, 1; W. E. Tydeman, 2; A. W. Barkus, 3; T. Blackburn, 4; H. D. Adams, 5; C. A. Clements, 6; W. W. Gifford (conductor), 7; C. Gaisford, 8. Tenor, 32 cwt.

At THE PARISH CHURCH, HALEOWEN.—On Thursday, the 29th ult., a quarter-peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES (1260 changes) was rung in 43 mins. by eight members of the Halesowen Parish Church Change-ringing Society. On New-year's Eve 1092 in the same method, in 35 mins. H. Lea, 1; E. Hackett, 2; J. P. Heckingbottom, 3; G. Cockin, 4; E. White, 5; R. A. Eaton, 6; H. Raybould (conductor), 7; M. Hackett, 8. On Monday, the 2nd inst., a date touch of 1888 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES was rung in 1 hr. 3 mins. H. Lea, 1; H. Raybould, 2; J. P. Heckingbottom, 3; G. Cockin, 4; E. White, 5; R. A. Eaton, 6; E. Hackett, 7; M. Hackett, 8. Tenor, 1 ton. Composed by Mr. Carter of Birmingham and conducted by R. A. Eaton.

At THE PARISH CHURCH, BRITFORD, WILTS.—On Friday, the 30th ult., a date touch, consisting of 1287 of GRANDSIRE and 600 of BOB DOUBLES, in 1 hr. 7 mins. H. D. Adams, 1; A. W. Barkus, 2; C. A. Clements, 3; W. W. Gifford, 4; T. Blackburn (conductor), 5. This is the longest touch on the bells.

At St. ALBANS, ROCHDALE, LANCASHIRE.—On Saturday, the 31st ult., an attempt was made to ring Hol's Original peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, but after ringing half an hour it ended; and time not permitting to commence again, the last half of Mr. John Carter's Ten-part peal was rung in 1 hr. 34 mins. F. Birtwistle, 1; J. Millett, 2; W. R. Barrett, 3; J. Pilkington, 4; W. H. Walmsley, 5; J. Harrison (conductor), 6; J. Wauch, 7; J. J. Hartley, 8. Mr. Wauch was elected a member of the above Association previous to starting.

At RADCLIFFE, LANCASHIRE.—On New-year's Eve the following members of the local Society started for a peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES (Reeves's Variation), but owing to the treble man being taken ill the bells had to be brought round at the half-way single, in 1 hr. 23 mins. F. Rudman, 1; J. Hardman, 2; J. Morris, 3; E. Bishop, 4; A. Hardman, 5; John Hardman, 6; A. Barrett (conductor), 7; W. Fielding, 8. Tenor, 12½ cwt.

At THE PARISH CHURCH, HUDDERSFIELD, YORKSHIRE.—On Sunday, the 1st inst., for evening service, a date touch of 1888 KENT TREBLE BOB in 1 hr. 8 mins. in seven courses. H. Wilkinson, 1; A. Crosland, 2; A. Sykes, 3; G. W. Schofield, 4; C. Craven, 5; B. Shaw, 6; C. W. Clegg, 7; F. Schofield (composer and conductor), 8.

At ALL SAINTS', FULHAM, LONDON.—The All Saints' Society rang for practice, on the 5th inst., 540 GRANDSIRE CATERS, being the first touch of CATERS by the above company for a considerable time. J. G. Green (first touch), 1; J. W. Driver, 2; F. W. Kelley, 3; H. Gale (first touch), 4; A. H. Taberton, 5; J. W. Kelley (conductor), 6; C. F. Winney, 7; W. H. George, 8; C. H. Porter, 9; S. How, 10.

At WROTHAM, KENT.—On Sunday, after evening service, 720 BOB MINOR in 25 mins. F. Taylor, 1; F. Shoobridge, 2; W. Taylor, 3; A. Phyll, 4; G. Osborn, 5; R. Edge (conductor), 6; E. Taylor, 7; T. Wilstead, 8. Fourth and tenor cover.

THE BELLS OF ST. MICHAEL'S, CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA.

By the Rev. Theodore E. Dowling of the Diocese of Fredericton.

PERHAPS the most interesting ring of bells in the United States is in the old 'Parish Church of St. Michael's in Charles Town, in the Province of South Carolina,' founded 1752. They were cast by Lester and Pack of London in 1764, and are described in the founder's offer as 'a peal of eight bells, the tenor 18 cwt. The whole will weigh, more or less, 80 cwt., and to cost, with clappers, &c., in London, 581l. 14s. 4d.' After the order was sent the Vestry became alarmed at their weight, many thinking them too heavy for the steeple, and so a request was sent that only six bells be cast, or that the eight be sold, and six others bought. For some unexplained reason the original order was carried out, and thus by good fortune was obtained one of the sweetest sets of bells in the world. Putting them up, frames, &c., cost about 700l. currency, so that the total cost was 681l. sterling.

During the Revolution, when the English forces captured Charleston, the bells, having hung peacefully in their tower for eighteen years, were taken down by Major Traille, R.A., who claimed them as a perquisite of his corps, and carried them back to England, probably to Bristol or Hull, on the last fleet that sailed from Charleston on December 14th, 1782. The Vestry appealed to Sir Guy Carleton, the British Commander-in-Chief, who was in New York, and he ordered their restoration; but too late, for the bells were now on the high seas. An appeal was next made to the Right Honourable the Secretary-for-War, at Whitehall, but without effect.

Mr. Ryhiner, a merchant, formerly of Charles Town, bought the bells, and shipped them back again as a commercial adventure in the *Lightning*, which arrived on November 20th, 1783, so that the bells were absent only about eleven months. When landed at the wharf the overjoyed citizens took possession, and hurried them up to the church, and into the steeple, without thinking that they might be violating a private right. In June, 1785, Mr. Ryhiner applied to the Vestry for payment. He received the following quaint reply: 'This Vestry having never interfered in any shape in the matter, Mr. Ryhiner is perfectly at liberty to do what he pleases with the bells.'

So the bells rang every evening, and for all fires, besides calling the people to church on Sundays and holy days, and playing patriotic tunes on June 28th and July 4th, till, in 1832, two of them became cracked, and one Amity Baile undertook to mend them. Failing to do so, these two bells were sent to Whitechapel in 1833 in the ship *Chichora*, to be recast, and were returned the following year, the cost being \$428.04.

During the war between the Northern and Southern States, soon after the battle of Secessionville (between Charleston, S.C., and Savannah, Georgia), in June, 1862, when Charleston was threatened by the Union forces, the bells were again taken down and sent to Columbia, the capital of South Carolina, for safe-keeping. When that city was burned, by order of General Sherman of the Union army, the building in which the bells were was destroyed by fire in February, 1865, and the bells were partly melted. As soon as the war was over the metal was found in the ruins, the fragments were collected, and in the spring of 1866 at least five of the bells were shipped to Mears and Stainbank of Whitechapel, and the bells were actually recast of the same alloy, and in moulds made with the same trammels. They reached Charleston in the Norwegian barque *Gladstone*, February 1867, when an import duty of about \$2,200 was demanded. This sum not being forthcoming, not only the citizens generally contributed, but a sacred concert at the Citadel Square Baptist Church yielded \$361.50, so that on March 21st, 1867, the old familiar music once more delighted the Charlestonians as the bells played—

'Home again, home again, from a foreign shore!'

The total cost of recasting and rehanging the bells was \$7723.01 currency—gold being at a premium of about 30; of which sum the City Council contributed nearly \$3000. In 1873, by an Act of Congress, the duty was graciously refunded.*

Aiken, South Carolina, U.S.A., December 17th, 1887.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Lay Help in Church.

SIR,—I see on the 6th inst. letters from 'S. H. W.' in both of which schoolmasters—presumably national—are referred to as suitable men for this work. Doubtless there are able and devout men now in holy orders, who have distinguished themselves as clergymen, and who are ornaments and blessings to the Church. But I venture to think that you will find very few educated and cultured laymen or women who do not regard it as a misfortune that there are so many quondam national schoolmasters now in charge of parishes as curates or incumbents. There never was a time when it was of more importance to the Church that her ministers should be—all of them—well-educated, well-informed, cultured gentlemen. Such will ever do the best work in any district, provided always that they were moved by the Holy Ghost to take the office and ministry. It may be so, doubtless, with the national schoolmaster; but too often the conviction is borne in on one that with him the first motive is to get a remove up in the social scale. Level up the congregation to the highest class of men. With national schoolmasters in orders there is apt to be much levelling down. Will any one disagree with me—except those who are or who have been national schoolmasters? Let them abide in their calling. It is honourable and useful—if the work be well done. LAYMAN.

Male and Female

SIR,—It is evident that St. Paul, in Gal. iii. 26-28, is simply stating that God is no respecter of persons and adopts all alike as His children, if they believe in Christ Jesus and are baptized, of every race and of both sexes. But this is quite different from the novel doctrine that God does by the Gospel destroy the natural distinction between Jew and Gentile, master and servant, man and woman. He is not contradicting Himself nor St. Peter, speaking as they do very plainly in the passages appointed to be read in the Marriage Service, and in Titus, ii. 5; and more pointedly and with an emphatic argument in 1 Cor. xi. 3-10, and in 1 Tim. ii. 11-14, where there is no mention of the married state, but of the headship of man generally. How can we believe that the above passages of God's Word were only written in accommodation to the Oriental prejudices and traditions of the Apostles' times? It has been the belief of the Church all along, that they are the revelation of God's will to mankind at large and for all ages. Such belief is not to be altered by the writings of Mr. Llewelyn Davies or any one else.

With regard to Gen. iii. 16, 'W. E. J.' will find the very same words in Gen. iv. 7; and they are retained in the R. V. in both places. But we have no right to interpret, nor would it make any sense to interpret, that, if Cain would offer a sin-offering, he would show a bad spirit of domineering over

* Most of the above information is extracted from a *Historic Sketch of St. Michael's Church, Charleston*, 1887.

a theory concerning the *authority* of orders, it does not matter which is established. In either case the succession necessarily excludes all so-called ministries not thus descended. It is a theory founded upon the necessity of valid succession. It is an excellent feature of the question that several great historic denominations are thus already committed to a theory of the "divine right" of orders transmitted alone by tactual succession.'

CHINA.

THE *Living Church* remarks on the too-little-known difficulties which attend the ministration of the Eucharist in China, as stated by Bishop Burdon, and alleges that the biscuits sometimes are not made merely of flour and water, but contain a good deal of grease.

THE *New York Churchman* says:— 'It seems evident that the future national Churches of both China and Japan will, under God's Providence, be the creatures of the combined efforts of the English and American Churches. But if white is the mourning colour in those lands, why should their Christian clergy be required to wear vestments of white?' And in all other matters which involve no point of Gospel faith, the same American journal advises every possible compliance with established local sentiments.

THE LEVANT.

By the decease of the well-known London divine, the Rev. W. Denton, the cause of Greek Intercommunion has lost one of its most *able* and *judicious* advocates. His attention was especially 'attracted' to the Greek Churches independent of the Patriarchates, as presenting the most hopeful prospects of revival and reformation. The Servian Legation in London was represented at his funeral, and respectful honours have been paid to his memory in Servia itself. He was decorated some years ago with the Servian orders of Takovo and St. Saba.

SWITZERLAND.

THE Swiss Federal Council has, in pursuance of the new Swiss Marriage Law, abolished the custom which existed for many years at Neuchâtel of allowing the celebration of marriages there between Englishmen and their deceased wife's sisters. This custom used to bring a good deal of money to the Canton. But henceforth this avenue of escape from the laws of England, the canons of the Anglican Church, and the teaching of the Reformers, will happily be closed.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

A Jubilee Clock at Goldington, near Bedford.

A LARGE Jubilee Memorial Clock has just been completed at the above place, which strikes the hours and shows the time on one large dial. John Smith and Sons, Midland Clock Works, Derby, carried out the work. They are also making a large jubilee memorial clock at Gravesend; and a very large clock and chimes have just been erected in the church tower of Mayfield, Sussex, by the same firm. It is fitted with all the latest improvements, the hours are struck with a 60-lb. hammer, has a double three-legged gravity escapement, and a very heavy compensated pendulum. Messrs. Smith have also just completed a similar clock at Myland church, near Colchester.

An Old Ringer at Lewes, Sussex.

As usual, the new year was ushered in by the ringers at Southover church. Under the conductorship of Mr. E. C. Goldsmith the bells were started at a few minutes before twelve. Following the example of the Brighton ringers they were rung the reverse way, starting with the tenor instead of the treble. This style was kept up until the clock struck twelve, when a merry peal was rung in the ordinary way. Mr. B. Burfield, the veteran ringer, again assisted. He is now eighty-six years of age, and has been connected with the bell-ringers at Southover Church for no less than sixty-four years, and during that period has only on one occasion missed ringing in the new year. Another peal was rung early on Sunday morning.

Anniversary at St. Mary's, Diss, Norfolk.

THE fifty-first anniversary of these bells was held on Friday, the 6th inst., when ringers from Eye, Banham, Kenninghall, and Aylsham, attended and enjoyed a pull on its fine ring. At 2.30 the ringers sat down to a substantial dinner, the Rev. A. A. Wilkinson, the esteemed curate of the parish, presiding. The healths of 'The Queen,' 'Chairman and Vice-chairman,' were duly honoured, and some good ringing in Oxford Treble Bob was done during the afternoon and evening.

Society for the Archdeaconry of Stafford.

THE Quarterly Meeting in connexion with the above Society was held at Bilston on Saturday, January 7th, when the following towns were represented: West Bromwich, Wednesbury, Wolverhampton, Wombourn, Perry Barr, Darlaston, Willenhall, Tipton, Tamworth. Some touches of GRANDSIRE and STEADMAN TRIPLES and GRANDSIRE MAJOR were rung, and an excellent address was delivered by the Rev. C. Lee of Bilston; after which a committee meeting was held in the vestry, when it was decided to hold the next meeting at Bloxwich on Saturday, April 14th.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At All Saints', Carshalton, Surrey.

ON Wednesday, the 4th inst., eight members of the Surrey Association rang Holt's Six-part peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 56 mins. A. J. Plowman (age, 13 years), 1; E. Bennett, 2; C. Martin, 3; C. E. Malin, 4; J. Plowman (conductor), 5; C. Bance, 6; W. Buskin, 7; H. Brooks (birthday, 63), 8. Tenor, 14 cwt., in G sharp. A. J. Plowman was elected a member of the Association.

At Christ Church Cathedral, Oxford.

ON Friday, the 6th inst., eight members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild rang Thurstans' peal of 5040 STEADMAN TRIPLES in 3 hrs. 22 mins. C. Hounslow, 1; C. Tolley, 2; R. Browning, 3; W. Smith, 4; Rev. F. E. Robinson (birthday, 55), 5; T. Payne, 6; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 7; G. Tolley (Headington, Oxon), 8. Tenor, 42 cwt.

At the Parish Church, Dewsbury, Yorkshire.

ON Saturday, the 7th inst., eight members of the Yorkshire Association rang a peal of 5088 OXFORD TREBLE BOB MAJOR in 3 hrs. 7 mins. G. Taylor, 1; W. Idle (birthday, 23), 2; W. Ainley, 3; I. Idle, 4; J. A. Idle (first peal as conductor), 5; G. H. Hardy (composer), 6; W. Byrom, 7; D. Stephenson, 8. Tenor, 114½ cwt. First peal in the method by all the ringers. Messrs. Idle, Byrom, Taylor, and Hardy, came from Earlsheaton; Stephenson, Ossett: the others belong to Dewsbury.

At St. Martin's, Tipton, Staffordshire.

ON Monday, the 9th inst., eight members of the Association for the Archdeaconry of Stafford rang Holt's Ten-part peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 57 mins. H. Mills, 1; G. Hughes (conductor), 2; A. Hill, 3; J. Horton (West Bromwich), 4; W. Micklewright, 5; S. Jesson, 6; W. R. Small, 7; B. Starkey, 8. Tenor, 12½ cwt. Mr. Micklewright (Dudley) was made a member of the above Association.

At St. Margaret's, Leiston, Suffolk.

ON Monday, the 9th inst., eight members of the Norwich Diocesan Association rang Holt's Six-part peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 3 hrs. 1 min. W. Taylor, 1; A. G. Rodwell, 2; F. Wilson, 3; H. Button, 4; A. Lincoln, 5; T. Staulkey, 6; G. Lindoff (conductor, Kent County Association), 7; J. Flegg, 8. Tenor, 20½ cwt., in E.

At St. Peter's, Stoke-upon-Trent, Staffordshire.

ON Tuesday, the 10th inst., eight members of the Stoke-upon-Trent Archidiaconal Association rang a peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES (Holt's Original) in 3 hrs. A. Brindley, 1; H. Bailey, 2; A. Pennington, 3; S. Churton, 4; H. Page (conductor), 5; W. B. Allison, 6; J. Austin, 7; T. Rose, 8. Tenor, 22½ cwt. This is the second complete peal known to have been rung in the Potteries, the first on Stoke bells, and the first in the Potteries accomplished by a local band of ringers.

At Christ Church, Oldbury, Worcestershire.

ON Saturday, the 14th inst., eight members of the Society for the Archdeaconry of Stafford rang Holt's Original peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 58 mins. E. Cashmore, 1; S. Reeves (conductor), 2; T. Horton, 3; E. Woodhall, 4; C. Timms, 5; A. Hill, 6; W. R. Small, 7; S. Slater, 8. Tenor, 10½ cwt. The first peal on the bells.

At the Parish Church, Braughing, Herts.

ON Tuesday, the 17th inst., an attempt was made to ring 5056 SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, but it failed after ringing eleven courses. J. R. Haworth, 1; Jos. Kitchener, 2; John Kitchener, 3; L. Chapman, 4; S. Page, 5; Jabez Warner, jun., 6; C. Sharnbrook, 7; Rev. F. E. Robinson (conductor), 8. Afterwards, three courses of CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR.

AT MERSHAM, KENT.—The old custom of ushering in the Christmas morning was observed as usual. The band met at 6 o'clock and rang a touch of 1056 BOB MAJOR. On Wednesday, the 28th ult., a touch of 960 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR; on Saturday, the 31st ult., a touch of 912 BOB MAJOR; and on Sunday, the 7th inst., 1036 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, conducted by E. Ruck, sen. The following took part in the ringing: E. Ruck, sen. and jun., D. Paine, G. Paine, W. Jay, E. Gower, F. Finn, E. Finn, and S. Finn.

AT ST. EDITHA'S, TAMWORTH, STAFFORDSHIRE.—On Sunday, the 1st inst., a date touch of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES (1888 changes), in 1 hr. 7 mins. J. Windridge, 1; C. Chapman, 2; J. Wainwright, 3; J. Timms, 4; F. Chapman, 5; H. Slaney (conductor), 6; G. Woods, 7; R. P. Brindley, 8. Composed by Mr. Carter of Birmingham.

AT ST. SIDWELL'S, EXETER.—On Sunday, the 1st inst., a date touch of 1888 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES composed by Mr. J. Carter, of Birmingham, in 1 hr. 5 mins. C. Carter, 1; W. Stocker, 2; A. Shepherd, 3; S. Binfield, 4; W. Mundy, 5; E. Shepherd (conductor), 6; F. Shepherd, 7; B. Mundy, 8.

ON Sunday, the 8th inst., for morning service, 420 STEADMAN TRIPLES. F. Shepherd, 1; S. Binfield, 2; A. Shepherd, 3; F. Davey, 4; W. Mundy, 5; J. Moss, 6; E. Shepherd (conductor), 7; C. Carter, 8. Also in the evening, 1260 STEADMAN TRIPLES in 44 mins. F. Shepherd (conductor), 1; S. Binfield, 2; A. Shepherd, 3; F. Davey, 4; W. Mundy, 5; J. Moss, 6; E. Shepherd, 7; J. Lake, 8.

AT LOUGHBOROUGH.—On Sunday, the 1st inst., for Divine service in the morning, a date touch of 1888 GRANDSIRE CATERERS. F. A. Underwood, 1; A. Cresser, 2; A. R. Aldham, 3; J. W. Taylor, sen., 4; S. Smith, 5; E. D. Taylor, 6; W. A. Tyler, 7; W. Birkinshaw, 8; J. W. Taylor, jun. (conductor), 9; W. T. Billingham, 10. Composed by Mr. T. Hollis.

AT EASTBOURNE, SUSSEX.—On Sunday, the 1st inst., a date touch of 1888 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 1 hr. 10 mins. J. Rollison, 1; E. Willoughby, 2; H. Bennett (conductor), 3; L. Huggett, 4; W. Avann, 5; J. Potter, 6; T. Lewis, 7; T. Hart, 8.

AT ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST'S, CROYDON, SURREY.—On Tuesday, the 3rd inst., an attempt was made to ring a muffled peal of UNION TRIPLES as a last token of affection and respect for the late Mr. Urban Holman, a member of the Croydon Society, the Surrey Association, and the College Youths, who died on Thursday, December 29th. It was found to be impossible to finish the peal when nearly half had been rung, so the bells were allowed to come round

in 2352 changes, which were accomplished in 1 hr. 35 mins. H. Dudley, 1; G. Russell, 2; H. C. Haley, 3; A. B. Carpenter (conductor), 4; W. States, 5; T. Verrall, 6; A. Bruce, 7; S. Fisk and S. Mayhew, 8. After which the usual whole-pull and stand was rung. All the ringing was performed with the bells deeply muffled.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH, WALTON, CHESHIRE.—On Tuesday, the 3rd inst., a date touch (1888 changes) in 1 hr. 15 mins.—viz., 720 LONDON NEW BOB, 720 COLLEGE SINGLE, 360 OXFORD BOB, 60 PLAIN BOB, and 28 OXFORD TREBLE BOB. G. Thornley (conductor), 1; J. Harwood, 2; H. Hunt, 3; H. Brewer, 4; J. Eccles, 5; J. Mather, 6. Tenor, 16 cwt., 3 qrs., 26 lbs.

AT SS. PETER AND PAUL, MILTON-NEXT-GRAVESEND.—On Tuesday, the 3rd inst., for practice, 720 GRANDSIRE MINOR in 26 mins. W. Tiple, 1; H. D. Davis, 2; W. Ansell (first 720 on an inside bell, and first 720 in any method), 3; C. Waterman, 4; F. Hayes, 5; G. Hayes (conductor), 6. W. Ansell came from Cobham; C. Waterman, Shorne; G. Hayes, Swanscombe. The rest belong to the local company.

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. PETER, LIVERPOOL.—On Thursday, the 5th inst., eight members of the Liverpool Youths' Society started for Thurstan's peal of STEDMAN TRIPLES, when in the tenth part the ringer of the second wished the bells to be called round, which was done at the half-way, after ringing 1 hr. 37 mins. Richard Williams, 1; W. Davies, 2; J. R. Pritchard, 3; C. Williams, 4; W. Booth, 5; T. Hammond, 6; Robert Williams (conductor), 7; W. Brooks, 8. Tenor, 25 cwt.

AT ST. SEPULCHRE'S, HOLBORN VIADUCT, CITY OF LONDON.—On Thursday, the 5th inst., a muffled peal was rung in memory of Mr. C. Rolfe, the late Vestry Clerk, by D. Lovett (conductor), 1; N. Davis, 2; W. Moore, 3; C. Holmes, 4; J. Nemes, 5; J. Wheeler, 6; A. Church, 7; W. Matthews, 8; J. Rumsey, 9; Jos. Barry, 10.

AT ST. CHAD'S, SADDLEWORTH, LANCASHIRE.—On Friday, the 6th inst., a date touch of 1888 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR in 1 hr. 7 mins. J. J. Brierley (conductor), 1; J. Radcliffe, 2; E. Buckley, 3; J. H. Shaw, 4; J. L. Buckley, 5; James Radcliffe, 6; J. Wood, 7; B. Wood, 8. Composed by the late Mr. W. Harrison.

AT CHRIST CHURCH, WEST BROMWICH, STAFFORDSHIRE.—On Sunday, the 8th inst., after evening service, a touch of GRANDSIRE CATERS (1888 changes) was rung in 1 hr. 10 mins. J. Hares, 1; T. Horton, 2; S. Reeves, 3; J. Frisby, 4; W. R. Small, 5; J. Hall, 6; C. Timms, 7; R. Hall, 8; C. Price, 9; H. Hipkiss, 10. Composed by H. Johnson, sen., of Birmingham, and conducted by Samuel Reeves.

ST. EDMUND'S SOCIETY, EXETER.—On Sunday, the 9th inst., eight members rang a date touch of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES (1888 changes) in 1 hr. 3 mins. A. Searle, 1; S. Herbert, 2; H. Swift, 3; E. Pitt (composer and conductor), 4; W. Goss, 5; W. Marsh, 6; W. Richardson, 7; S. Meadows, 8.

AT ST. GILES', NORWICH.—On Tuesday, the 10th inst., a date touch of 1887 OXFORD TREBLE BOB MAJOR in 1 hr. 12 mins. F. H. Knights, 1; J. Smith, 2; G. Moy, 3; W. Bales, 4; A. Neale, 5; F. Knights (conductor), 6; J. Skinner, 7; G. Smith, 8. Composed by S. Marsh, West Bromwich. Neale and Moy came from Aylsham.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH, LANCASTER.—On Tuesday, the 10th inst., a half peal of 2520 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 1 hr. 35 mins. R. S. Hirst (conductor), 1; W. Clayton, 2; R. Walker, 3; R. Smart, 4; H. Wilcox, 5; W. H. Hirst, 6; T. J. Parker, 7; W. Jackson, 8.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Sunday Schools.

SIR,—In reply to 'T. H. K.' I feel that we owe much gratitude to the Church Sunday School Institute, and I have, on many occasions, expressed this feeling. I am acquainted with many of the manuals of the Church Sunday-school Institute, and consider most of them to be very good. Whether the remark that 'some people have a mania for all sorts of pet schemes and fancy hobbies' is intended for me in any way I cannot tell, except that I see no meaning to the phrase where it occurs, if it is not intended for a rebuke for me. Be it so. I still say, and am very glad of this opportunity to reassert what I have often stated before, (1.) That our Sunday Schools need graduated lesson-books, and far more system than generally pertains to the teaching within them. (2.) That a whole year ought to be devoted to preparation within them for candidates for Confirmation. I believe that Confirmation, carried out aright, would become a spiritual power of immense force amongst us. I am no admirer of Popery, and indeed I believe in the ultimate downfall of the Roman Catholic system and its special uncatholic beliefs. But I think the life of Dupanloup, late Bishop of Orleans, will, if studied, bring many Churchmen to recognise the preciousness of catechisms and catechising. I have followed the habit of catechising now for over thirty years, and I say, (3.) catechising ought to become general, but that the catechist must thoroughly prepare himself for his work beforehand. (4.) As to the paged Prayer-book (S. P. C. K.) it was at my most earnest request, during the cotton famine, and after some trying experiences, when I and my valuable Scripture-reader (now at Brighton, Mr. George Martin) had numbered the Prayer-books with our own hands, and could speak with authority upon the excellence of the scheme (the original is with me now), that the S. P. C. K. were good enough to 'page' the Prayer-book. Unfortunately, the method was adopted with many editions of various sizes, and this greatly interfered with the utility of the plan. I then published a still better plan, applicable to Prayer-books of any size and any edition, numbering not the pages but the paragraphs—a plan which must ultimately prevail. I risked the publication of 20,000

copies, and met with small encouragement. Mr. Henry Frowde kindly came to my rescue or I should have been a very serious loser by a scheme by which I never could have gained anything. As it was it cost me, not many months ago, a loss of more than one hundred pounds.

I rejoice as much as any one in the marvellous improvements making in the supply of Sunday-school lessons, and extra services in church (unwisely called children's services). But they are a small and very imperfect instalment of what must come. The lessons ought to be more graduated and systematic. Each lesson should have a little practical turn given to it. Confirmation classes should be formed in which too (according to Dupanloup) real personal conversion is to be much aimed at. As to finding the places in the Prayer-book, the numbered paragraph plan renders this easy enough. But if churches are to be attended, as they ought to be, every Sunday, for Matins and for Evensong, by the same people, I am satisfied that this needless sameness which exists in these two offices must be removed.

I always endeavoured to urge that time be given to turn out any required 'place' in Prayer-book or Hymn-book. But in many churches not a moment is given, even for kneeling or for rising from kneeling.

G. V.

A New Mode of Reading.

SIR,—I do not understand whether 'A Layman' would like the clergyman to precede the reading of any Lesson by reading 'the subjects of which each chapter treats,' as they are placed in many Bibles just before the chapter? If this is so, I venture to suggest that in very many instances the instruction afforded in this manner would not be by any means sufficient. It was after following the practice of a three-minutes' commentary at the close of the Old Testament daily Lesson for several years that I introduced the plan of a prologue of two to three minutes in length, and my experience leads me to write now—'By all means adopt this method.' I venture to declare my conviction, that 'he that readeth and they that hear' will all derive great benefit from the practice. I am sure the reading would often be greatly improved by the reader having to give a brief statement of what he was about to read. I will try to give at foot, if it be not too presumptuous, a specimen of what I mean, to precede the first Lesson of this (Jan. 13) morning's prayer:—

E. S.

'You know that at the S.E. of the Land of Promise is a sea or lake of very salt water. Thirty-seven centuries ago this site was one of the most fertile spots in that country. It had four or five flourishing cities and a large population. The whole land seems to have sunk, perhaps by an earthquake, and at the same time a fearful volcano probably burst forth and the cities were destroyed. The Lesson tells us the moral cause of this physical disaster—how God uses natural events to bring forth at the right moment His judgments. It also contains an account of one of the most beautiful pleadings in prayer of one man for others that can be found anywhere. Nor was the prayer altogether lost. God granted all that Abraham requested. And the spirit of his prayer was fulfilled in the safety of Lot. Probably Abraham felt sure that not less than ten righteous would be found in Lot's family. It is a solemn evidence of the fearful influences of sin that Lot's family had fallen so low. Some men think little about dwelling at a distance from church.'

A Working Woman's Plea for Working Women.

SIR,—I have never written a letter to an editor before, but when one has a grievance I think one is supposed to air it in a newspaper, and I have chosen *Church Bells* to air mine; that is, of course, if you will allow it. I am very fond of reading *Church Bells*—it is almost the only paper I do read—for I can read that on a Sunday, and I have very little time for reading through the week. But to come to my grievance. There is so much said and done now-a-days for the working men, Institutes and Clubs are always being opened for their benefit; but who ever says or does anything for the working-man's wife, the working woman? Now I am a working-man's wife, and we have seven children, ranging in age from just over twelve down to five months, so I know what I am talking about. These places are said to be opened to give the poor man a chance of spending his evenings away from his cheerless home. Now we are not all slatterns—at least I know I am not: my fireside is as bright at the present moment as it can be, and my kitchen tidy, and the little ones all in bed, but my husband is not here. The dear man requires a little change and recreation after his hard day's work, and of course he is gone to seek it. He can read his paper and play his game of whist or crib much better at the coffee-house. I know there are a great many homes, even in this small town, that are far from comfortable, but what can a poor woman do? How can she keep a good fire if she has no coals? and how can she get plenty of coal when there are eight or nine mouths to be filled, and backs to be clothed, and rent to be paid, all out of a pound a-week? And if the home is cheerless for the man is it not equally so for the poor woman? She is always in it; she doesn't leave it all day to do her work in peace as he does; she has to keep leaving her work to attend to the children, who are always more or less fretful: it is only in story-books the children play prettily in the corner of the room, and the baby crows in the cradle, while the washing is being done. And what a miserable day washing-day is in a cottage home at this time of the year, when it has all to be dried in-doors! The man can leave it to his poor drudge of a wife, to do her worst and best, while he warms his toes and abuses Mr. G. or Lord S. at the bright fireside of the Institute.

Now why is there not a room for women at these places? and why cannot the husbands stay at home at least one night a-week, and let the wife have a turn-out? There would be no need to provide amusements for her: she would most likely take it with her in the shape of a little needlework. But only think what a relief it would be to get away for a few hours, and have a friendly chat or bit of gossip with any neighbour she might meet! I am sure suppose the women's gossip would be more harmful than their husbands'.

IRELAND.

(From our Special Correspondent.)

THE correspondence between the Primate and the Rev. Professor Galbraith, Senior Fellow T.C.D., has ended as might have been expected. On Wednesday, the 18th inst., at an unusually full meeting of the Representative Body in St. Stephen's Green, the Primate in the chair and the following prelates being present, the Archbishop of Dublin, and the Bishops of Meath, Cashel, Cork and Kilmore, together with Dr. Ball, ex-Chancellor of Ireland, the Recorder of Dublin, Earl Courtown, Viscount Gough, Sir W. Ewart, Bart., M.P., Right Hon. A. M.M. Kavanagh, &c., the following resolution was unanimously adopted:—'That the Representative Body, having considered the correspondence between the Lord Primate and Mr. Galbraith, entirely concur in the views expressed by the Lord Primate, and desire to add that, while they disclaim the idea that politics are, or ought to be, considered in the election or co-optation of members, they are of opinion that there is a clear incompatibility between the position of a member of the Finance Committee of the Representative Body and a member of the National League.'

The Primate, who originally took up the subject, having communicated the above resolution to Mr. Galbraith, that gentleman replied to the effect that the distinction drawn between being a member of the Finance Committee and of the Representative Body was one which he could not acknowledge. He goes on to say, 'It would be impossible for me, as an honourable man, to retire from the Committee and remain a member of the Representative Body. In accordance, therefore, with the statement I have made in my letter of the 12th inst., that "I held myself at the disposal of the Representative Body, ready to retire on their wish being openly made known to me," I now place my resignation as a member of that body in your Grace's hands.'

So ends a very painful episode, but the action taken by the Primate and the Representative Body appears to have been imperatively called for. It was impossible that Mr. Galbraith could continue to guide the affairs of the Finance Committee, which at present, unfortunately, has much to do with collecting rents, and be at the same time a member of the National League backing up the Plan of Campaign, which forbids rents to be paid. It was only on Saturday last that the papers announced the arrest of the Rev. Father M'Fadden, Roman Catholic priest in Armagh, on the charge of having delivered a speech in connexion with the League, in which he exhorted the tenants to pay no rent. On the evening of the same day, in the same town, Mr. Blaine, M.P., was arrested on a similar charge. Mr. Galbraith, it must be confessed, was originally a most devoted and sincere Constitutional and good Churchman, but Mr. Gladstone's Irish Church Act embittered and soured him, as it did many others. Then the Home Rule Association was formed, with the late Mr. Butt, M.P., at its head, by those who felt that the dissolution of the State union of the two Churches was also breaking the political union of the two countries. With that tenacity of purpose which has characterised him through life, Mr. Galbraith remained firm to the repeal ideas he then embraced and which have now landed him in the National League, while others not so resolute and seeing the breakers a-head retired from the organization.

The Rev. F. W. Wigram, Hon. Secretary of the Church Missionary Society, is now in Ireland. The reverend gentleman, who is staying with the Bishop of Ossory at the Palace, Kilkenny, preached on Sunday last in the Cathedral of St. Canice, and in the evening in St. Mary's Church, Kilkenny, on behalf of the Society. Mr. Wigram has been invited to plead the cause of the Society in many parts of the country.

On Friday morning, the 20th inst., at morning service in Christ Church Cathedral, the monumental brass erected to the memory of the late Archbishop Trench, D.D., on the north side of the Cathedral Sanctuary, was unveiled by his Grace, Lord Plunket, D.D., Archbishop of Dublin. An address was delivered on the occasion by his lordship, who enlarged on the many virtues of his predecessor in the Archiepiscopal See. The following is the inscription beneath the memorial:—'In piam memoriam RICARDI CHENEVIX TRENCH, S.T.P. per annos xxi. Archiep. Dublin. qui fidem Christi sinceram, Antistes, Doctor, Poeta, illustravit corde, coluit moribus, ornavit in vitam, transivit ampliore ante diem v. kalendas Aprilis. A.S. MDCCCXXXVI. aetatis lxxix. Clerici sui et Laici posuerunt.' The figure of the late Archbishop is represented in the episcopal robes standing under a pinnaced canopy, together with figures of St. Patrick, Apostle of Ireland, and St. Lawrence O'Toole, Prior of Christ Church and first Archbishop of Dublin. Below are the episcopal arms of Dublin, Glendalough, and Kildare. The Trench arms and the seals of the cathedral churches of St. Patrick, Christ Church, and St. Bridgid's, Kildare, are also emblazoned. The association with Westminster Abbey is also perpetuated by a device representing that venerable fabric. Among those present at the ceremonial were the Very Rev. the Dean of Christ Church, the Ven. Archdeacon Scott, Rev. Canons Monaghan, Smith, Ryder, Morgan Jellert, Staveley, Bagot, Hamilton, &c. Having delivered his address, the Archbishop declared the memorial unveiled in the name of the Blessed Trinity. Spohr's anthem, 'How blest are the Departed,' was then sung, and the Benediction given by his Grace.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

A Farewell Meeting at Ringmer, Sussex.

On Thursday, the 5th inst., the local ringers met in the tower to have a farewell pull with the Rev. F. H. Fisher, the courteous and hardworking curate of the parish, who has been appointed to a living in Dorsetshire. Ever since the bells were dedicated, about two years ago, Mr. Fisher has taken the greatest interest in the ringers and all that appertained to the belfry. His departure will therefore be keenly felt by all the ringers, and his kindness and liberality will not soon be forgotten by them. The chief touch consisted of four 6-scores of GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, each called differently. C. Painter, 1; A. E. Paris, 2; A. Slarks, 3; H. Jones, 4; G. C. Hammond (conductor), 5; Rev. F. H. Fisher, 6. Before separating, the ringers heartily wished Mr. Fisher success in his new sphere of work. On the following Monday evening the ringers, in conjunction with the members of the Cricket Club and Working Men's Club, presented Mr. Fisher with a handsome Gladstone bag, in appreciation of his services among them. In making the presentation, Mr. Jackson, on behalf of the above Societies, eulogised on the great interest Mr. Fisher had always taken in everything for the welfare of the parish, and heartily wished him health and happiness, and that God might bless him in his new work. The reverend gentleman responded in feeling and suitable words, and thanked the subscribers for their kind and valuable present. Alluding to the ringers, he said the ringing needed little comment from him, as the admirable way in which the bells were rung certainly spoke for itself.

The Midland Counties' Association.

THE Third Quarterly Meeting of the above Association was held at Ashby-de-la-Zouch on Saturday, the 7th inst. After ringing touches of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES and STEDMAN TRIPLES, BOB MAJOR, DUFFIELD MAJOR, and NEW CUMBERLAND SURPRISE, about fifty sat down to tea at the 'Queen's Hotel.' The President (A. Percival Heywood, Esq.), took the chair, supported by the Vicar (the Rev. John Denton), and E. F. Maninott, Esq.; C. Matthews, Esq., officiating at the opposite end of the table. The President, in reviewing the performances of the Association, remarked that eleven peals had been rung during the quarter, bringing up the total for the year 1887 to forty-three; and that although this number did not, numerically, bear comparison with the Society's record of sixty-seven peals in 1885, and fifty-five in 1886, still the present year's work might be considered finer, as peals had been achieved in a larger number of methods; namely, in three methods on seven bells, in eight on eight bells, in two on nine bells, and in two on ten bells. He congratulated the local band on their progress, and hoped soon to see them score a peal. Mr. W. Wakley proposed a vote of thanks to the Vicar for the use of the bells, and expressed the pleasure that that gentleman's presence among them gave to the Association. The Vicar, in returning thanks, heartily congratulated the Association on their success, and spoke of his deep appreciation of the work, assuring them of his continued support. Two honorary members and ten ringing members were proposed and elected. A vote of thanks to the Chairman, proposed by Mr. J. Griffin, brought the meeting to a close. The handbells having been brought into requisition, a well-struck touch of 336 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES was brought round by Messrs. Howe, Ward, and Woodward, of Derby, assisted by Mr. J. Jagger. After which the majority of the company adjourned to the tower and concluded the evening with a few touches.

The Lancashire Association.

THE Quarterly Meeting of the above Association will be held at Radcliffe, on Saturday, January 28th. Ringing from 2 p.m. Meeting in the school at 6 p.m. All ringers are cordially invited.

A. E. WREAKS, JOEL REDFORD, Hon. Secs.

The Norwich Diocesan Association, Redenhall, Norfolk.

ON Friday, the 13th inst., the Redenhall branch of the above Association celebrated the 152nd anniversary of their Society. The present Society was founded in 1736, when the ring was augmented to eight bells. There had been a six-bell company from 1717, when the present third bell was added by John Stephens of Norwich, and previous to that there had been a five-bell company, but for how long is not known. The tenor was put in about the year 1514. On Friday there was rather a short muster, but a pleasant day was passed. There was some very good ringing, consisting of OXFORD TREBLE BOB, STEDMAN and GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, and DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB. The dinner took place at the 'Yew Tree' Inn, at which the Ven. Archdeacon Perowne presided, and was attended by ringers from Norwich, Diss, Alburgh, and Topcroft. The Rev. N. Bolingbroke, Secretary of the Association, and the Rev. A. G. Blyth, came from Norwich.

The Surrey Association.

A QUARTERLY MEETING of this Association was held at Kingston-on-Thames, by the kind permission of the Vicar, on Monday, the 16th inst. Soon after six a company of forty members sat down to tea at the 'Leopold' Coffee Tavern. At seven o'clock the chair was taken by the Rev. A. S. W. Young, vicar of Kingston and Hon. Treasurer of the Association, and the necessary business of the evening was despatched. A finished drawing by Mr. W. H. Fussell for the proposed certificate was exhibited and much admired. Nine new members were formally elected. E. E. Strange, Esq., was elected to act as Assistant Secretary. It was arranged that the next district meeting should be held at Putney, and the next quarterly meeting at Wimbledon. During the day there were present members from Ashted, Beddington, Betchworth, Croydon, Epsom, Kingston, Reigate, Streatham,

Thames Ditton, Wimbledon, and London. In the course of the day some excellent ringing took place at the parish church, including a well-struck touch of about seventeen courses of *GRANDSIRE CATERS* by the Kingston band, conducted by Mr. Strutt. Later on touches of *GRANDSIRE TRIPLES* and *CATERS*, *KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR* and *ROYAL*, and *STEDMAN TRIPLES* and *CATERS* were rung; and in the evening some good handbell ringing was given under the auspices of Mr. Buckingham, one touch of *GRANDSIRE TRIPLES* (365) being noticeable as the first in the method upon handbells for the ringers of the trebles and tenors. J. Smith, 1-2; W. H. Fussell, 3-4; W. H. L. Buckingham, 5-6; T. Miles, 7-8.

ARTHUR B. CARPENTER, *Hon. Sec.*

The Yorkshire Association.

THE February Meeting will be held at Lightcliff, near Halifax, on Saturday, the 4th. By permission of the Rev. V. R. Leonard, M.A., and the Rev. S. Pearson, a ring of eight (tenor, 20 cwt.) and a ring of six (tenor, 15 cwt.) are available for the use of members on that day. All ringing friends from the surrounding districts are cordially invited. W. WHITAKER, *Hon. Sec.*

CHANGE-RINGING.

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

ON Thursday, the 12th inst., eight members of the Midland Counties' Association and the St. Paul's Society rang a peal of 5088 *NEW CUMBERLAND SURPRISE MAJOR* in 3 hrs. 26 mins. G. Robinson, 1; J. Austin, 2; A. Wakley, 3; Jos. Griffin, 4; E. I. Stone, 5; H. Wakley, 6; T. Holmes, 7; W. Wakley, 8. Composed by A. P. Heywood, Esq., and conducted by Mr. J. Griffin. Tenor, 26 cwt. This is the second peal accomplished in the above method, the first having been rung by the same company on May 31st, 1886; and it is also the conductor's hundredth peal.

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

ON Saturday, the 14th inst., eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths and Essex Association rang a peal of *STEDMAN TRIPLES* (Haley's Variation) in 3 hrs. H. Lewis, 1; G. W. Cartmel, 2; F. G. Newman, 3; W. H. L. Buckingham, 4; C. T. Winny (conductor), 5; G. T. McLaughlin, 6; R. T. Woodley, 7; T. Waller, 8. Tenor, 22 cwt. This is the first peal of *STEDMAN TRIPLES* in the city. It was arranged to start for *GRANDSIRE CATERS*, but meeting one short, Mr. E. P. Debenham kindly stood out, and the above peal was rung.

At the Parish Church, Radcliffe, Lancashire.

ON Saturday, the 14th inst., eight members of the Lancashire Association rang Reeves' Variation of Holt's Ten-part peal of 5040 *GRANDSIRE TRIPLES* in 2 hrs. 52 mins. J. Hardman, jun., 1; E. Bishop, 2; J. Gratrix (Manchester), 3; J. Harrison (Heywood), 4; A. Hardman, 5; J. Hardman, 6; A. Barrett (conductor), 7; W. Fielding, 8. Tenor, 12 cwt.

At the Town Hall, Manchester.

ON Saturday, the 14th inst., eleven members of the Ashton-under-Lyne Society rang Hubbard's peal of 5129 *GRANDSIRE CATERS* in 3 hrs. 35 mins. J. Taylor, 1; J. Hopwood, 2; T. Wroe, 3; J. Wood, 4; B. Broadbent, 5; J. Mellor, 6; S. Andrew, 7; J. Thorp, 8; S. Wood (conductor), 9; G. Longden and J. Harrison, 10. Tenor, 52 cwt. The first peal on the bells, which have now been hung ten years.

At St. Andrew's, Farnham, Surrey.—Birthday Peal.

ON Monday, the 16th inst., eight members of the Winchester Diocesan Guild of Ringers rang Reeves' Variation of Holt's Ten-part peal of *GRANDSIRE TRIPLES* in 3 hrs. 4 mins. E. Jordan, 1; G. Williams (conductor), 2; D. Jordan (first in the method), 3; Rev. H. A. Spyers, 4; G. H. Barnett, 5; W. L. Chamberlain, 6; A. White (first on an inside bell), 7; E. Clapshaw, 8. Tenor, 21 cwt., in E. flat. The brothers Jordan came from Capel; Chamberlain, Petworth; Williams, Midhurst; Rev. H. A. Spyers, Purbrook; the rest were of the local band. This peal was rung to celebrate the birthday of the Rev. H. A. Spyers, hon. sec. of the above Guild.

At St. Chad's Cathedral, Birmingham.

ON Saturday, the 21st inst., a peal of 5040 *STEDMAN TRIPLES* (Brooke's Variation) was rung by the Holt Society, Aston-juxta-Birmingham, in 2 hrs. 55 mins. T. Miller, 1; H. Bastable (conductor), 2; T. Reynolds, 3; C. Stanbridge, 4; T. Russam, 5; J. Buffery, 6; H. Johnson, jun., 7; J. Quarterman, 8. Tenor, 15 cwt., in F. The ringers desire through *Church Bells* to thank the Cathedral authorities for the use of the bells, and the tower-keeper for having everything in readiness.

At All Saints', Fulham, London.

ON Saturday, the 21st inst., ten members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang a peal of 5130 *GRANDSIRE CATERS* (composed by the late Henry Booth of London) in 3 hrs. 16 mins. J. Nicholls (first peal),* 1; F. G. Newman, 2; F. W. Kelley* (first peal inside), 3; H. R. Newton, 4; J. W. Kelley,* 5; C. F. Winny,* 6; J. W. Driver* (first peal), 7; W. H. George,* 8; J. M. Hayes (conductor), 9; S. How,* 10. Tenor, 21 cwt., in E. flat.

* Members of the Fulham Association.

At St. Martin's, Salisbury.

ON Saturday, the 21st inst., eight members of the Salisbury Diocesan Guild (St. Martin's Company) rang Holt's Ten-part peal of 5040 *GRANDSIRE TRIPLES* in 2 hrs. 52 mins. S. Lawrence, 1; A. P. Goddard, 2; A. W. Barkus, 3; C. A. Clements, 4; H. D. Adams, 5; T. Blackburn (conductor), 6; W. W. Gifford, 7; W. Tryhorn, 8. Tenor, 15 cwt.

At St. Luke's, Heywood, Lancashire.

ON Saturday, the 21st inst., eight members of the Lancashire Association rang Holt's Original peal of 5040 *GRANDSIRE TRIPLES* in 3 hrs. 7 mins.

A. E. Wreaks, 1; W. R. Barrett, 2; H. H. Nutter, 3; Rev. C. S. Rowland, 4; J. Millett (conductor), 5; J. Harrison, 6; F. Birtwistle, 7; S. Brierley, 8. Tenor, 22½ cwt. Mr. Birtwistle and the Rev. C. S. Rowland came from Rochdale; the Rev. C. S. Rowland is a member of the Oxford Guild, and was elected a member of the above Association previous to starting. Mr. Wreaks came from Manchester; Mr. Nutter, Ramsbottom; Mr. Brierley, Milbrook; the rest belong to Heywood.

AT BETCHWORTH, SURREY.—On Sunday, the 1st inst., 720 *BOB MINOR*; J. Robinson, 1; E. Moses, 2; F. Arnold, 3; R. Arnold, 4; F. Saunders, 5; W. Sadler (conductor), 6. Also 720 *VIOLET TREBLE BOB*, in 25 mins. F. Saunders, 1; E. Moses, 2; F. Arnold, 3; F. Bridger, 4; R. Arnold, 5; W. Sadler (conductor), 6 (the first 720 in the method by all except the conductor). 120 *STEDMAN DOUBLES*. E. Moses, 1; R. Arnold, 2; F. Arnold, 3; F. Sanders, 4; W. Sadler (conductor), 5; J. Box, 6. On Tuesday, the 17th inst., 720 *OXFORD TREBLE BOB MINOR* in 25 mins. F. Sanders, 1; G. Croucher (first in the method, Reigate, 2; F. Arnold, 3; W. Sadler, 4; R. Arnold, 5; E. Moses (conductor), 6.

AT ALL SAINTS', BENVILTON, SURREY.—On Friday, the 13th inst., for the week evening's practice, six members of the Benilton Society rang a peal of 720 *KENT TREBLE BOB MINOR* in 29 mins. G. King, 1; E. Trindell, (aged 15), 2; T. Gaiger, 3; G. Petrie, 4; H. Bryant, 5; J. Trindell (conductor), 6.

AT HOLY TRINITY, LONG MELFORD, SUFFOLK.—On Saturday, the 14th inst., the bells of the above church were rung in honour of the birthday of the Rector, the Rev. C. J. Martyn. A capital touch of 1008 *BOB MAJOR* was performed by P. C. S. Scott, 1; A. Ambrose, 2; Z. Slater, 3; S. Slater, 4; H. Duce, 5; F. Wells, 6; J. Bird, 7; O. Garwood (conductor), 8.

RECEIVED ALSO.—W. H. L. Buckingham—thanks. W. W. Gifford, Salisbury; G. Maclean; S. Slater, Glemsford, Suffolk (you are nearly right—a letter will be sent); and others. All communications for the current number must be either at the publishing office or the printing office on Wednesday morning.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The Church in East Anglia.

SIR,—I read the article on the above in your issue of the 20th inst. with much interest, and, while agreeing with it in the main, still I think we may have bishops, like other things, too cheap. I am of opinion that while there are canonries of 1000*l.* per annum and deaneries of 2000*l.* men would look askance at bishoprics of 1800*l.* A man with a canonry of 1000*l.* would be in a much better position than a bishop with 1800*l.* I think 3000*l.* per annum is quite low enough considering what is expected of bishops in the present day. With a revision of capitular as well as episcopal incomes, with the sale of some of the episcopal residences, there ought not to be much difficulty in raising the funds necessary for creating eight or ten new sees, which I think would be sufficient to meet all requirements for many years to come. I do not, however, agree in thinking that Suffolk requires two bishops; one would surely be sufficient for that county. And also in the case of Wales, one new see would be sufficient; but let us have no increase in the number of archbishops or metropolitans. I quite agree with the suggestion as to seats in the House of Lords. I would only have the occupants of the old sees there, giving back to Bristol the place of which it was deprived on the union with Gloucester. But all those which have been created by the Manchester and subsequent Acts should be deprived of any such seat, of course allowing those who may have taken their seats to continue to hold them during the remainder of the time they occupy the see. D. G. S.

Tithes.

SIR,—It seems to me that the clergy could not, as 'J. F.' appears to suggest, simply give up the tithes to which, by the law of the land, they are entitled. They would rather obtain a repeal of the law which enables them to enforce the recovery of tithes from the owners of land, and this, in equal justice, could be effected only under two conditions: 1. This repeal must deprive every lay impropiator also of his legal remedy. 2. The clergy must enforce the moral obligation on every man to devote a proportion of his income (no less than a proportion of his time) to the service of God, at the same time acknowledging the Nemesis which has overtaken their own order, having during so many years limited this to income from land only. Is not this a subject for the next Church Congress? A LAYMAN.

Cloveshoo.

SIR,—I am greatly obliged by the letter concerning this place by Canon Venables, the Precentor of Lincoln, and also by a statement of much interest (Nov. 18, 1887) by the Rev. Evelyn White, F.S.A., whose statements deserve consideration and further examination. But I have been greatly disappointed that no one has taken up the subject. I hoped that antiquaries of Suffolk, or connected in some way with Mildenhall, would, for the possible honour of that locality, and still more for the sake of helping to discover the truth of the question, have tried to find out whether any further traces could be found to identify the place where the Church Councils appear to have assembled so frequently. The discovery would probably do good service in many ways to the Church of England of the present hour. And as the fact of the Church Council often assembling at Cloveshoo seems to be regarded as certain, so, too, I hope that by means of traditions, names of places, and other references, the locality may ultimately be discovered. Has the Mildenhall theory been discussed and cross-examined in former times? H. G. O.

army because he had had his child baptized by a Protestant clergyman. Delegates from the Holy Synod, accompanied by the police, visited the Prince's house, and announced that the child would be taken from its mother if she opposed the rebaptism of her son according to the "Orthodox" rite.'

GERMANY.

BREMEN CATHEDRAL is to be restored, including the western tower which perished in the seventeenth century. This restoration is of especial interest, inasmuch as the first Bishop of the see, founded by Charlemagne after conquering the Old Saxons, was the Englishman St. Willehad. The see was afterwards united with that of Hamburg, and its prelates, who held for a while the title of Primate of the North, contested with the Archbishops of Canterbury the right to consecrate for the young Churches of Scandinavia.

IRELAND.

(From our Special Correspondent.)

HIS Grace the Archbishop of Dublin, who is just now taking a rest in Scotland, preached in the Cathedral Church of St. Mary, Edinburgh, on Sunday week, on behalf of the Irish Society, an excellent organization; which has for its object non-controversial mission work among the Irish-speaking population, of whom there are still about one million, some 70,000 of whom only know the Irish tongue, the rest being bilingual. On the following day his Grace spoke on behalf of the Society at a meeting held in the Royal Hotel, Princes Street. The meeting was presided over by Dr. Skene, Historiographer Royal of Scotland. In the course of his remarks the Archbishop observed that it gave him great pleasure to be present there, and that he felt that at the present time it was of very great importance that he should seize an opportunity of doing what was in his power to strengthen those ties of sisterly affection which, he was happy to say, bound together the Episcopal Church of Scotland and the Church of Ireland. Dealing next with Reformation work in Ireland more particularly, his Grace set himself to refute an assertion once made by an American Churchman, to the effect that the Irish Church had been lacking in missionary spirit and motive power; and also to rebut the charge sometimes made against them that their missionary work partook of the nature of proselytism. His Grace concluded by drawing attention to the admirable work effected by their old Missionary Society in Ireland, and urged its claims on Scottish Churchmen who had originally received their Christianity from Scotland.

The Bishop of Edinburgh (Dr. Dowden) also spoke on behalf of the Society's work, and moved a resolution pledging the meeting to use every effort to advance the cause of Scriptural knowledge in Ireland. According to the report of the meeting in the *Scottish Guardian* the Bishop said:—

'The evils of Ireland which bulked most largely in their minds at the present moment were agrarian troubles, attended, as they all knew, with sad dishonesty, and often with terrible violence; and yet they knew that there were places, not so very far removed from Scotland, where there were agrarian troubles, where there was dishonesty, where there was violence, and where they had an open Bible and had been taught that excellent manual of morality, the Shorter Catechism. Let them not be too ready to throw stones. When they, the people of Bible-loving Scotland, threw stones at the poor Irish peasant, he could not but remember the proverb about living in glass houses. Bible-loving Scotland, alas! was not chastity-loving Scotland. And Bible-loving Scotland was not sobriety-loving Scotland. Let them cast no stones. Let them do their duty, and leave the results to God.'

The Bishop of Ossory has given notice of his purpose to hold an ordination in St. Canice's Cathedral, Kilkenny, on Sunday, February 26th. The examination of candidates will commence on the Wednesday previous.

The Rev. F. W. Wigram, Hon. Sec. C. M. S., has been on an extensive tour on behalf of the Society in the South and West of Ireland. Mr. Wigram preached in St. Canice's Cathedral, Kilkenny, twice on Sunday week, and in St. Mary's Church, Kilkenny, in the evening of the same day. He subsequently visited Cork and Limerick in the interests of the Society, and this coming week will speak in Dublin in the Gregg Memorial Hall and the Metropolitan Hall, as well as at a Drawing-room meeting to be held in the house of the Very Rev. the Dean of Christchurch Cathedral. The C. M. S. is certainly very well worked in Ireland generally, and the funds of the Hibernian Auxiliary, notwithstanding the pressure of the times, keeps at a high level.

A shocking outrage was perpetrated on the 21st ult. in the County of Fermanagh, where some persons broke into the church which stands on the demesne of Mr. J. C. Bloomfield, at Castlecaldwell, and endeavoured to set fire to the building. Sticks were lighted in the middle of the church, and the large Bible from the lectern placed in the centre of the fire. Fortunately the weight and density of the sacred volume extinguished the flames, and the church was saved. An indignation meeting has since been held, and the Roman Catholics of the neighbourhood have been called on to discover the miscreants who attempted the sacrilege.

The Vice Chancellor of Oxford has nominated the Rev. C. H. H. Wright, D.D., Incumbent of the Bethesda Church, Dublin, to preach the annual University sermon founded by the late Dr. Macbride, Principal of Magdalen Hall, on the 'Jewish Interpretation of Prophecy.'

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Rochdale and District Association.

THE above Association will hold its Annual Meeting on Saturday, February 4th, at the parish church. The bells will be open for ringing at 3 o'clock; meeting at 5 in the old schoolroom, Church Lane. Teas can be had close by.
J. HOGGARD, Sec.

Kent County Association of Change-Ringers.

A District Meeting will be held at Faversham on Monday, the 13th inst. Allowance, full member, 2s.; probationer, 1s. Committee meeting at twelve noon, for admissions, and to decide whether any and what charge shall be made for entering peals in the book. It is proposed to visit Sittingbourne, Sheldwich, Boughton, and Hernhill. Those who wish to attend are requested to communicate with the Secretary, Rev. R. K. Hugessen, Wrinsted Court, Lenham.

The Annual Dinner at Folkestone, Kent.

ON Friday, the 6th ult., the ringers of the parish church held their annual dinner. Major Penfold was the founder of the feast about five years ago, and kindly assists, among others, in providing the annual dinner. Afterwards the evening was spent with tunes and touches of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, GRANDSIRE CATERS, and BOB MAJOR, on the handbells. Mr. Samuel Barker, captain of the band, proposed the health of Major Penfold and all supporters of change-ringing. The vacant chair of Mr. J. Harrison was noticed, and the silver snuff-box which he carried so many years was passed round.

The Chester Diocesan Guild.—Macclesfield Branch.

THE Second Meeting of the above branch was held in St. Michael's vestry on Saturday, the 14th ult. There were present the Rev. Canon Turner (St. Michael's, Macclesfield), in the chair, the Rev. J. T. Penrose, Gawsworth; and twenty-four ringing members from the following belfries: St. Michael's, Macclesfield, Bollington, Prestbury, Gawsworth, Alderly, Poynton, and Chelford. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed, and letters of apology were read from the Vicars of Poynton and Chelford and the Rural Dean of Alderly. The Rev. Canon Turner was then elected chairman of the branch, and William Warnsley instructor. A Committee was formed, one from each belfry, and an election of members took place. It was agreed that the meeting be held quarterly, and the next one be held at Bollington on April 14th. This branch has now forty members, including four honorary members. At the end of the meeting, which lasted nearly two hours, a vote of thanks was accorded to Canon Turner for occupying the chair.

The Birmingham and District Association.

THE Fifth Annual Meeting of the above Association was held at Selly Oak on Saturday, the 21st ult., when the election of officers for the ensuing year took place. During the afternoon several touches of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES were rung on the bells of St. Mary's, which previous to June last only boasted of a ring of six, the augmentation being a Jubilee gift of the parishioners. In the evening the business portion of the proceedings was conducted under the presidency of Mr. C. Carmell, vice-president of the Association. The Rev. Canon Bowlby, rector of St. Philip's, Birmingham, was elected President for the third time, Mr. J. Wright Hon. Sec., and Mr. J. Carter Hon. Treasurer, being elected for the sixth year in succession. The next quarterly meeting will be held at Harborne, Staffordshire. The ringers take this opportunity of thanking the Rev. C. Price for the use of the bells, which well merit the encomiums passed on them by all assembled.

Worcester and Adjoining Districts Association.

ON Saturday, the 21st ult., a Quarterly Meeting of the above Association was held in Beauty Bank Schoolroom, Stourbridge. In the absence of the Vicar, the Rev. C. W. Tibbetts (Coseley) presided. The meeting was well attended, with members from Bromsgrove, Brierley Hill, Coseley, Chaddesley Corbett, Cradley, Dudley, Kidderminster, Netherton, Old Hill, Stourbridge, Tipton, &c. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed, and eighteen new members were admitted. Instructors were appointed to the Chaddesley Corbett and Stoke Prior companies. In the course of the miscellaneous business remarks were made by several members in reference to the St. Thomas' Society, Stourbridge. The present band, which is only a young one, are desirous of becoming good change-ringers, but the bells are in such a dilapidated condition that nothing can be achieved without a great deal of laborious work; and as some extensive alterations are going to be made to the church, it was resolved to ask those in authority to take into consideration the bad state of the bells, and to put them in good ringing condition. Votes of thanks having been passed to the reverend Chairman for presiding, and to the Rev. H. Sherrard for the use of the schoolroom, tower, and bells, the meeting terminated. Some of the members afterwards went to St. James', Wollaston, where there is a ring of six, and others to St. Thomas', Stourbridge. Three courses of TREBLE BOB TRIPLES were rung. G. Pagett, 1; E. Crump (conductor), 2; W. R. Small, 3; G. Hayward, 4; R. E. Grove, 5; W. Rea, 6; S. Spittle, 8; the wheel of the seventh bell having collapsed. An adjournment was made to the meeting-house of the ringers, where several courses of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES and CATERS were rung, and several tunes played by the Stourbridge and Bromsgrove companies.

The Ring of Six Bells at Westbury Church, Somerset.

THE bells of this newly restored church were rung for the first time on Thursday, the 26th ult., by the Wells Amateur Ringers. There was a special service; and during the singing of the hymn, 'Now at length our bells are

mounted,' the ringers ascended to the belfry, escorted by the churchwardens. After an hour and a half of change-ringing, the Wells men, together with a newly-formed band of Westbury ringers, were entertained at supper at the Vicarage. These bells were presented by Mrs. Knyton, of Uphill Castle, who also rebuilt the tower in memory of her late husband. The bells were recast and hung by Messrs. Llewellyns & James of Bristol, and the work has given great satisfaction. Formerly there were four bells, now there is a light ring of six; the tenor, the only remaining old bell, weighing 8 cwt. 2 qrs.

Oxford Diocesan Guild of Bell-ringers.

EAST BERKS AND SOUTH BUCKS BRANCH.

The Annual Meeting of the above branch was held at Boyne Hill on Saturday, the 28th ult. The Master, President, and officers of the branch, and about fifty honorary and ringing members, were present. After the minutes of the last meeting had been read and signed, the President offered a cordial welcome to those present, and urged improvement in the attendance of members at the Festival Service.

The Secretary (*pro tem.*) then read the balance-sheet for the year, and observed that the number of members remained about the same. Several members had left the diocese, but one new belfry (Bray) had brought in eight additional members, whilst other belfries had increased. He took the opportunity of welcoming amongst them the Rev. C. A. Raymond, the preacher of the day. The balance-sheet and report were then adopted, and the President, Officers, and Committee having resigned their offices, the following appointments were made:—President, Rev. A. H. Drummond; Secretary, Rev. R. P. Newhouse; Treasurer, Mr. Edwin Rogers; Committee, A. H. Cocks, Esq. (Marlow); Messrs. J. W. Wilkins (Boyne Hill), C. Hanlon (Bray), Parker (Farnham Royal), W. Wilder (Slough), J. Howard (Wooburn), and E. Keeley (Cookham), unattached. The other belfries not being represented at the meeting no election was made for them. A vote of thanks to the late Secretary (Rev. R. E. Spencer), who has left the diocese, was carried unanimously. Mr. Newhouse read a letter from the Guild Secretary (Rev. Dolben Paul), recommending the consolidation of the offices of Branch Treasurer and Secretary, but it was decided to keep to the present arrangement. Evensong was at 6 p.m., and was attended by a large number of the members and their friends. The preacher, taking for his text Ps. cxxii. 1, dwelt on the religious aspect of bells and bell-ringing. Ringing began at 2.30 p.m., and before tea and after evensong many successful and harmonious touches were executed by the local ringers, assisted by the master and members of other belfries.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At St. Mary's, Woodbridge, Suffolk.

On Thursday, the 19th ult., eight members of the Norwich Diocesan Association rang a peal of 5008 BOB MAJOR in 3 hrs. 9 mins. W. A. Arnott, 1; J. Fosdike (composer), 2; W. Ward (conductor), 3; W. Burch, 4; H. Burch, 5; A. Ward, 6; C. Ward, 7; P. Meadows, 8. Tenor, 28 cwt.

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

On Thursday, the 19th ult., eight members of the Midland Counties' Association and the St. Paul's Society rang a peal of 5024 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR (Burton Variation), in 3 hrs. 24 mins. J. Austin, 1; H. D. Betteridge, 2; A. Wakley, 3; J. Griffin, 4; E. I. Stone, 5; H. Wakley, 6; J. Holmes, 7; W. Wakley, 8. Composed by Mr. Dains and conducted by Mr. Griffin. Tenor, 26 cwt. This peal, which contains the 4th and 5th each eight times, and the 6th nine times in 6th's place, with no other bell there, is the first 5024 rung in the method. H. D. Betteridge, Esq., comes from Drayton, Oxfordshire, and this is his first peal in the method.

At St. Mary's, Old Battersea, Surrey.

On Saturday, the 21st ult., eight members of the Society of Royal Cumberland Youths rang Holt's Original peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 42 mins. T. W. Comley (first peal), 1; S. Baker (first with a bob-bell), 2; W. Baron (conductor), 3; A. G. Thomas, 4; C. E. Malim, 5; H. A. Hopkins, 6; C. W. Ludwig, 7; G. Wild, 8.

At the Parish Church, Melbourne, near Derby.

On Saturday, the 21st ult., eight members of the Midland Counties' Association rang a peal of BOB MAJOR in 3 hrs. 11 mins., in honour of the birthday of Thos. Hollingworth, one of the Melbourne Society. J. R. Wood, 1; J. Vickers, 2; F. W. Cook, 3; H. Hollingworth, 4; J. Warren, 5; G. C. Tunnelcliff, 6; G. A. Fish, 7; H. C. Woodward, 8. Tenor, 16½ cwt., in F sharp. Composed by H. Hubbard and conducted by H. C. Woodward. It was rung at the first attempt, is the first peal of MAJOR by all except the conductor, and also the first on the bells.

At St. Mary-le-Crypt, Gloucester.

On Tuesday, the 24th ult., eight members of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association rang the Rev. C. D. P. Davies' Five-part peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 52 mins. T. Belcher, 1; S. E. Romans, 2; H. Mitchell, 3; R. J. Wilkins, 4; G. Mills, 5; F. E. Ward, Esq. (conductor), 6; W. T. Pates, 7; A. A. Waite, 8. Tenor, 14½ cwt.

At St. Mary's, Prestbury, Gloucestershire.

On Friday, the 27th ult., by the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association, in 2 hrs. 58 mins., Thurstan's peal of STEDMAN TRIPLES. W. T. Pates, 1; W. Morris (aged seventy-eight), 2; F. E. Ward, 3; H. Roberts, 4; F. Musty, 5; Rev. C. D. P. Davies (conductor), 6; G. H. Phillott, 7; A. W. Humphris, 8. Tenor, 13 cwt.

AT EMMANUEL CHURCH, BRISTOL.—On Thursday, December 22nd, 1260 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 52 mins. J. Hinton, 1; E. Duckham, 2; W. Sevier (Gloucester), 3; F. Perrin, 4; E. Beake, 5; G. Daltry (conductor), 6; F. Price, 7; G. Stallard, 8.

AT ST. MICHAEL'S, BUNWELL, NORFOLK.—On Saturday, the 7th ult., for practice, 720 BOB MINOR (26 singles). R. Hutton, 1; G. Smith, sen., 2; J. Hilling, 3; A. Dunnett, 4; G. Smith, jun., 5; J. Hinchley (conductor), 6. On Sunday, the 8th ult., for Divine service, 360 BOB MINOR. R. Hutton, 1; G. Smith, sen., 2; J. Hilling, 3; A. Dunnett, 4; G. Smith, jun., 5; J. Hinchley (conductor), 6. On Wednesday, the 11th ult., for practice, 720 BOB MINOR (8 bobs and 6 singles). R. Hutton, 1; G. Smith, sen., 2; J. Hillings, 3; A. Dunnett, 4; G. Smith, jun., 5; J. Hinchley (conductor), 6.

AT BUCKLAND, SURREY.—On Wednesday, the 11th ult., 720 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES. J. Robinson, 1; Fredk. Sanders, 2; J. Poplett, 3; W. Sadler (conductor), 4; F. Sanders, 5. Also two 120's BOB DOUBLES. J. Robinson, 1; Fred. Sanders, 2; J. Poplett, 3; F. Sanders, 4; W. Sadler (conductor), 5. On Sunday, the 15th ult., for morning service, 360 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES. J. Robinson, 1; Fred. Sanders, 2; J. Poplett, 3; W. Sadler (conductor), 4; F. Sanders, 5. Also 240 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES. W. Bowyer, 1; F. Sanders, 2; W. Sadler, 3; F. Sanders, 4; J. Poplett (conductor), 5. Tenor, 10 cwt.

AT ST. SIDWELL'S, EXETER.—On Sunday, the 15th ult., for Divine service in the morning, 546 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. C. Carter, 1; F. Shepherd, 2; W. Mundy (conductor), 3; S. Binfield, 4; A. Shepherd, 5; J. Moss, 6; F. Shepherd, 7; W. Carmell, 8. On Monday evening, the 16th ult., seven members met the Rev. G. F. Coleridge for a peal of STEDMAN TRIPLES, but on reaching the midway single the conductor called 'Stand,' owing to a change-course. W. Mundy, 1; E. Shepherd, 2; A. Shepherd, 3; S. Binfield, 4; Rev. G. F. Coleridge, 5; J. Moss, 6; F. Shepherd (conductor), 7; B. Mundy, 8. On Sunday, the 22nd ult., in the morning, 504 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. C. Carter, 1; S. Binfield, 2; A. Shepherd, 3; F. Shepherd, 4; W. Mundy (conductor), 5; J. Moss, 6; E. Shepherd, 7; B. Mundy, 8. In the evening 1886 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 47 mins. C. Carter, 1; S. Binfield, 2; A. Shepherd, 3; W. Mundy (longest touch as conductor), 4; E. Shepherd, 5; J. Moss, 6; F. Shepherd, 7; B. Mundy, 8. On Sunday, the 29th ult., for Divine service in the evening, a quarter peal of STEDMAN TRIPLES in 44 mins. W. Stocker, 1; S. Binfield, 2; F. Shepherd, 3; F. Davey, 4; W. Mundy, 5; J. Moss, 6; E. Shepherd (conductor), 7; B. Mundy, 8. This is E. Shepherd's first quarter peal in the method as conductor.

AT CRAYFORD, KENT.—On Sunday, the 15th ult., before evening service, a quarter peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES (1260 changes) in 45 mins. W. J. Cook, 1; J. Sloper, 2; E. Saxby, 3; F. French, 4; G. Conyard, 5; J. Saxby, 6; J. Garard, 7; W. Saxby, 8.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH, ARELEY KINGS, WORCESTERSHIRE.—On Sunday morning, the 15th ult., for Divine service, a quarter peal of GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, being 5½ six-scores with plain leads and five with extremes, each called differently, in 38 mins. T. Griffiths, 1; J. F. Hastings, 2; H. Oldnalls, 3; [C. Beaman (conductor), 4; W. Martin, 5; F. Hinton, 6. Tenor, 9 cwt.

AT ST. MARY'S, PRESTON, SUFFOLK.—On Sunday, the 15th ult., after Divine service in the afternoon, 720 TREBLE BOB MINOR (9 bobs) in 25 mins. H. Symonds, 1; H. Smith, 2; A. Hollocks, 3; J. Moore, 4; W. Snell, 5; A. Symonds (conductor), 6.

AT ST. MARY'S, HITCHIN, HERTS.—On Monday, the 16th ult., for practice, 560 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. J. Randall, 1; W. Allen, 2; F. Furr, 3; A. Squires, 4; J. Foster, 5; S. Hare, 6; J. Hare (conductor), 7; G. Halesbury, 8. Tenor, 28 cwt., in D. On Monday, the 30th ult., for practice, 1050 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, being the last part of the Rev. C. D. P. Davies five-part peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. J. Randall, 1; W. Allen, 2; F. Furr, 3; A. Squires, 4; J. Foster, 5; S. Hare, 6; J. Hare (conductor), 7; G. Halsey, 8.

AT ST. THOMAS', SALISBURY, WILTS.—On Tuesday, the 17th ult., 1064 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 40 mins. W. E. Tydeman, 1; T. Blackburn (conductor), 2; A. W. Barkus, 3; A. P. Goddard, 4; J. R. Jerram, 5; C. A. Clements, 6; W. W. Gifford, 7; C. Gaisford, 8. Tenor, 32 cwt. On Sunday, the 22nd ult., for morning service, 518 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. W. Wise (first touch), 1; H. D. Adams, 2; A. P. Goddard, 3; A. W. Barkus, 4; W. E. Tydeman, 5; T. Blackburn, 6; W. W. Gifford (conductor), 7; C. A. Clements, 8.

* * * A RINGER writes us a letter in a grumbling tone, to correct a mistake which he asserts was made in the notes appended to our illustration some time back of Rev. F. E. Robinson. He complains that we there ascribed to Mr. Robinson the gift of a treble bell to St. Cross, Holywell, Oxford; whereas in 1874 Mr. George Hanks, of Holywell Street, presented the treble of the present six bells. This last fact we are only too glad to know, and most willingly accord full credit to Mr. Hanks for his generosity. But the reference in our notes was solely to the contemplated addition of two new trebles to complete the octave; and our impression is that we said Mr. Robinson had 'promised to give,' not 'had given,' the treble of the projected new pair. 'A Ringer' further wishes to know what has become of the scheme, of which nothing has been heard for two years. This, we admit, is a legitimate question to ask, and we shall be glad to insert an answer to it.—Ed. C. B.

P.S.—On reference, we find that the words used were, 'Among the bells presented by him are the two tenors at Appleton and the treble and tenor at Drayton, while he has kindly promised the gift of a new treble to St. Cross, Holywell, Oxford.'

RECEIVED ALSO:—W. H. L. Buckingham; and others.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

A Social Gathering at Calne, Wilts.

On Tuesday evening, the 24th ult., eight members of the local company were present at a social gathering of the Calne Abstiners' Union, at the Castle Street Schoolrooms, all of whom are total abstainers, and rang several melodies on handbells retained in hand in capital style, and were much applauded. The company comprised Messrs. J. Burgess, T. Knight, A. Davis, W. Bromham, J. Bromham, F. Burgess, T. Gale, and W. Seager (conductor). Mr. Seager, an old ringer, deserves great praise for the perfection to which the company has attained under his; raining, who are young men, and will doubtless become clever ringers. The performance added considerably to the enjoyment of the company, and the room was crowded. The Secretary of the Union, Mr. A. Webb, said it was one of the most enjoyable meetings the Society had known, and they all said 'The bells did it.'

CHANGE-RINGING.

At Salisbury, Wilts.

On Wednesday, the 25th ult., four members of the Ancient Society of College Youths and the Salisbury Diocesan Guild rang, on handbells retained in hand, Holt's Ten-part peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 35 mins. W. E. Tydeman, 1-2; T. Blackburn (conductor), 3-4; W. W. Gifford, 5-6; H. D. Adams, 7-8. Umpires: Messrs. C. A. Clements, A. W. Barkus, and W. Wise.

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

On Thursday, the 26th ult., eight members of the Midland Counties' Association and the St. Paul's Society rang a peal of 5024 SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR in 3 hrs. 19 mins. G. Robinson, 1; J. Austin, 2; A. Wakley, 3; J. Griffin, 4; E. I. Stone, 5; H. Wakley, 6; T. Holmes, 7; W. Wakley, 8. Composed by Mr. N. J. Pitstow and conducted by Mr. W. Wakley. Tenor, 26th cwt. This composition, which is the first 5024 in the method, has the 5th and 6th their extent at home, and is the first peal composed with these qualities in this number of changes.

At the Meeting-house, St. Paul's Churchyard, London.

On Thursday, the 26th ult., four members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang on bells retained in hand Holt's Original peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 32 mins. G. T. McLaughlin, 1-2; C. F. Winny, 3-4; W. H. L. Buckingham (conductor), 5-6; W. Greenleaf, 7-8. The above peal was rung on account of meeting one short for STEDMAN TRIPLES.

At St. Martin's, Salisbury, Wilts.

On Saturday, the 28th ult., eight members of the Salisbury Diocesan Guild rang Hollis' Five-part peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 50 mins. S. Lawrence, 1; A. P. Goddard, 2; A. W. Barkus (birthday), 3; H. D. Adams, 4; C. A. Clements, 5; T. Blackburn (conductor), 6; W. W. Gifford, 7; J. R. Jerram, 8. Tenor, 15 cwt.

At the Parish Church, Blethingley, Surrey.

On Saturday, the 28th ult., eight members of the Surrey Association rang a peal of 5024 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR in 3 hrs. 15 mins. J. Plowman, 1; E. Bennett, 2; J. Branch, 3; E. Moses, 4; G. Welling, 5; J. W. Trappitt, 6; W. Burkin, 7; C. Gordon, 8. Composed by Mr. J. Cox and conducted by Mr. W. Burkin. Tenor, 19 cwt., in E. All members of the Beddington Company except Mr. Moses, who came from Reigate.

At St. Mary-le-Tower, Ipswich.

On Saturday, the 28th ult., eight members of the St. Mary-le-Tower Society and the Ancient Society of College Youths rang Thurstan's peal of 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES in 3 hrs. 18 mins. T. Steward, 1; W. L. Catchpole (conductor), 2; I. S. Alexander, 3; C. Mee, 4; F. Mee, 5; B. H. Brundle, 6; F. Tillett, 7; W. Motts, 8.

At St. Lawrence, Appleton, Berks.

On Saturday, the 28th ult., eight members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild rang a peal of 10,080 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR in 5 hrs. 58 mins. F. White, 1; E. Holfield, 2; C. Hounslow, 3; W. Bennett, 4; J. Avery, 5; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 6; G. Holfield, 7; J. W. Washbrook (composer and conductor), 8. Tenor, 14½ cwt. The above is the longest peal rung in the method; it has the 4th, 5th, and 6th each the extent in 6th's place; the 3rd eighteen times, and the 2nd never there.

At St. George-the-Martyr, Southwark, London.

On Monday, the 30th ult., eight members of the St. James' Society rang Holt's Original peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 3 hrs. 5 mins. W. W. Thorne, 1; H. Langdon, 2; W. Cecil, 3; R. French (conductor), 4; Jos. Barry, 5; F. Bate (birthday), 6; A. Hayward, 7; W. H. Judd, 8. Tenor, 18 cwt.

At St. Edmund's, Exeter.

On Monday, the 30th ult., eight members of the St. Edmund's Society rang Reeves' Variation of Holt's Ten-part peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 54 mins. T. Townsend (first peal), 1; E. Pitt (conductor), 2; S. Herbert, 3; H. Swift, 4; W. G. Goss, 5; W. C. Marsh, 6; W. Richardson, 7; A. W. Searle, 8. Tenor, 18 cwt. The above was rung on the occasion of the marriage of Mr. Parkin to Miss Upright. It is the first peal rung on the bells, and the first recorded by this Society, which was formed about seven months ago.

At St. Albans, Herts.

On Tuesday, the 31st ult., four members of the St. James' Society, London, rang, on handbells retained in hand, Holt's Original peal of 5040

GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 3 hrs. 27 mins. J. C. Mitchell, 1-2; W. H. L. Buckingham (conductor), 3-4; G. W. Cartmell, 5-6; A. Sibley (first peal), 7-8. Umpire: Mr. T. Waller.

At the Cathedral, Lichfield, Staffordshire.

On Saturday, the 4th inst., ten members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang a peal of 5005 STEDMAN CATERS in 3 hrs. 23 mins. J. Pettit, 1; H. Springhall, 2; W. Cecil, 3; S. Joyce, 4; C. F. Winny, 5; F. E. Dawe (composer and conductor), 6; M. A. Wood, 7; W. D. Smith, 8; J. M. Hayes, 9; E. Horrex, 10. Tenor, 29 cwt. 3 qrs. 14 lbs., in D. This is the first peal in the method on the Cathedral bells. The ringers take this opportunity of thanking the Dean for kindly granting permission, and Mr. E. Gallimore, the steeple-keeper, for having everything in readiness and the belfry in excellent order. Mr. A. E. Greenwood also deserves credit for the easy manner in which the bells can be turned about.

At St. Mary's, Beddington, Surrey.

On Saturday, the 4th inst., nine members of the St. Mary's Society, with Mr. J. Zealey of Sevenoaks, rang a peal of 5021 GRANDSIRE CATERS in 3 hrs. 19 mins. J. Trappitt, 1; J. Branch, 2; W. Burkin, 3; C. E. Malim, Esq., 4; E. Bennett (composer and conductor), 5; G. Welling, 6; Dr. A. B. Carpenter, 7; C. Bance, 8; C. Gordon, 9; J. Zealey, 10. Tenor, 21 cwt., in E flat. This peal was rung previous to the Annual Dinner of the Company, provided by the liberality of the Rev. Canon Bridges, rector of Beddington, when an enjoyable evening was spent by the members and friends, twenty-two in number.

At the Parish Church, Oxhey, Herts.

On Monday, the 6th inst., eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths and the Essex Association, rang Holt's Original peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 46 mins. G. W. Cartmell, 1; J. C. Mitchell (conductor), 2; W. H. L. Buckingham, 3; A. Barnes, 4; E. P. Debenham, 5; C. F. Winny, 6; T. Waller, 7; A. Hall (first peal), 8. Tenor, 8½ cwt. This is the first peal on the bells, which were opened on June 18, 1887, and, through the kindness of the Vicar, a tablet recording the performance is to be placed in the belfry. It was rung in commemoration of the anniversary of the peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES at Christ Church, Southgate, last year, which was the first peal the conductor called.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH, STROUD, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.—On Tuesday, the 17th ult., five members of the Painswick Society, assisted by three of the local society, rang 504 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. A. Trigg, 1; C. King, 2; W. Ryland, 3; W. Hale (conductor), 4; J. Wager, 5; F. Stephens, 6; G. Smith, 7; H. Jordan, 8. Also on the handbells two courses of GRANDSIRE MINOR and two of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. A. Trigg, 1-2; G. Latham, 3-4; W. Hale, 5-6; F. Stephens, 7-8.

AT ST. ANDREW'S, DERBY.—On Thursday, the 19th ult., eight members of the Midland Counties Association and St. Andrew's Society, Derby, rang for practice a date touch of 1888 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR in 1 hr. 21 mins. C. Draper, 1; T. Allon, 2; J. W. Thompson, 3; W. B. Midgley, 4; C. E. Hart, 5; A. E. Thompson, 6; H. C. Woodward (conductor), 7; G. Mottashaw, 8. Tenor, 20½ cwt., in E flat.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH, POSLINGFORD, SUFFOLK.—On Thursday, the 19th ult., the local company rang a date touch in the following methods:—12 six-scores of GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 3 six-scores of BOB DOUBLES, and 88 changes of BOB DOUBLES with extremes. Total, 1888, in 1 hr. 15 mins. W. Atkinson, 1; G. Basham, 2; F. W. Hicks, 3; H. Burling, 4; E. Howe (conductor), 5.

AT ST. GREGORY'S, STDBURY, SUFFOLK.—On Saturday, the 21st ult., the following members of the Sudbury Bell-ringers' Company rang for practice a date touch of 1888 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR in 1 hr. 15 mins. F. Tolliday, 1; H. Harper, 2; W. B. Ransom, 3; J. Campin, 4; W. Cross, 5; W. Griggs, 6; W. Howell, 7; A. Scott (conductor), 8. Tenor, 16 cwt. Composed by Mr. Charles Price of Eccleston.

AT RAWMARSH, YORKSHIRE.—On Sunday, the 22nd ult., for evening service, a quarter peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, composed by H. J. Tucker, in 45 mins. T. Whitworth (conductor), 1; S. Whitworth, 2; V. Hawkins, 3; J. Hawkins, 4; J. Ensor, 5; J. Farmery, 6; B. Whitworth, 7; J. Schofield, 8. The above was rung with the bells half muffled as a mark of respect to the late Thomas Oxley, a Rotherham ringer.

AT PAINSWICK, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.—On Monday evening, the 23rd ult., seven members of the Painswick Society rang the following touches, assisted by the Rev. C. D. P. Davies, who is leaving Gloucestershire for his new sphere of labour at Ringmer in Sussex, the Painswick Company wishing him all success in his labour and ringing there. A touch of 518 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES was rung by A. Trigg, 1; A. Gwinnett, 2; W. Rylands, 3; W. Hale (conductor), 4; J. Wages, 5; Rev. C. D. P. Davies, 6; G. Smith, 7; J. Powell, 8. Also 1008 in the same method. A. Trigg, 1; A. Gwinnett, 2; Rev. C. D. P. Davies, 3; D. Marment, 4; J. Wager, 5; W. Hale (conductor), 6; G. Smith, 7; J. Powell, 8.

AT KINGSTON, SURREY.—On Tuesday, the 24th ult., for practice, 504 STEDMAN TRIPLES. J. Strutt (conductor), 1; J. Parslow, 2; H. Parslow, 3; C. Slade, 4; J. Wright, 5; G. Gray, 6; J. Smith, 7; G. Naish, 8. Also fifteen courses of GRANDSIRE CATERS, J. Strutt, conductor. On Sunday, the 29th ult., 840 STEDMAN TRIPLES, J. Smith, 5; J. Wright (conductor), 7; the others as before. On Tuesday, the 31st ult., 630 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, J. Wright, conductor. Also twelve courses of GRANDSIRE CATERS, J. Strutt, conductor.

AT ST. MARY'S, BALDOCK, HERTS.—On Thursday, the 26th ult., a quarter peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES (1260 changes), taken from Holt's Original.

T. Webb, 1; G. Spicer, 2; J. Cawdell, 3; J. Smith, 4; A. Squires, 5; Richd. Jackson (conductor), 6; J. Hare, 7; W. Bidnell, 8. Also 350 in the same method, and on handbells a course of STEDMAN TRIPLES. T. Webb, 1; G. Spicer, 2; J. Cawdell, 3; Robt. Jackson, 4; J. Phillips, 5; Richd. Jackson, 6; J. Hare, 7; G. Gentle, 8. First course of STEDMAN TRIPLES by all. On Sunday, the 5th inst., for service in the morning, 180 BOB MINOR. Robt. Jackson, 1; T. Webb, 2; J. Cawdell, 3; J. Spicer, 4; A. Squires (conductor), 5; Richd. Jackson, 6; G. Gentle, 7. Rung with 7th covering. Also 120 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES. F. Webb (conductor), 1; A. Squires, 2; J. Cawdell, 3; J. Spicer, 4; Robt. Jackson, 5; Richd. Jackson, 6; G. Gentle, 7. 6, 7, covering. Also for evening service, 448 of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. T. Webb (conductor), 1; J. Spicer, 2; J. Cawdell, 3; J. Smith, 4; Robt. Jackson, 5; A. Squires, 6; Richd. Jackson, 7; A. Bygrave, 8. And 350 with J. Phillips, 5; G. Gentle, 8; the rest as before. Conducted by A. Squires. Tenor, 28 cwt., in D.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH, GAINSBOROUGH, LINCOLNSHIRE.—On Thursday, the 26th ult., eight members of the North Lincolnshire Association rang a quarter peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 47 mins., with the bells muffled as a mark of respect for the Rev. T. P. Holdich, rector of Linwood, and a member of the above Society. T. Pattison, 1; F. W. Atkinson, 2; W. W. Bust, 3; J. C. Tinker, 4; W. Pattison, 5; C. Brevin, 6; W. D. Tinker (conductor), 7; T. Hollingsworth, 8. Tenor, 20 cwt.

AT ST. MARY'S, CHELMSFORD, ESSEX.—On Saturday, the 28th ult., after an unsuccessful start for a quarter peal, 546 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, with the bells deeply muffled, in respect for the memory of Mr. T. Drake, a member of the Essex Association and of the Ancient Society of College Youths, and for many years one of the Widford Company of Ringers, whose funeral had taken place that afternoon. W. Harvey (Widford), 1; W. Rowland (Chelmsford), 2; W. J. Piper (Widford), 3; A. Tarbun (Widford), 4; W. Hakes (Springfield), 5; Rev. T. L. Papillon (Writtle, Hon. Sec. of the Essex Association), 6; W. Lincoln (Writtle, conductor), 7; J. Parmenter (Chelmsford), 8. Afterwards, with the bells half-muffled, 168 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. The deceased was also a member of the Chelmsford and West Essex Band since its commencement, and Trumpeter to the Judge at the assizes.

AT ST. JOHN'S, PERRY BARR, STAFFS.—On the 29th ult., for afternoon service, six members of the Association for the Archdeaconry of Stafford rang 720 GRANDSIRE MINOR in 26 mins. W. H. Godden, 1; G. Smith, 2; E. Unitt, 3; H. Brown, 4; W. Long, 5; J. Saunders (conductor), 6.

AT ST. STEPHEN'S, ROCHESTER ROW, LONDON.—On Sunday evening, the 29th ult., for Divine service, the local company rang a quarter peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES (1260 changes) in 48 mins. J. Reed (first quarter peal), 1; J. Willshire, 2; J. N. Oxborrow, 3; T. R. Bell, 4; E. Duff (first quarter peal), 5; H. S. Ellis, 6; J. M. Hayes (conductor), 7; W. Carter, 8.

AT ST. MARY'S, HITCHIN, HERTS.—On Monday, the 30th ult., for practice, 1050 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, being the last part of the Rev. C. D. P. Davies's Five-part peal. J. Randall, 1; W. Allen, 2; F. Furr, 3; A. Squires, 4; J. Foster, 5; S. Hare, 6; J. Hare (conductor), 7; G. Halsey, 8. Tenor, 28 cwt., in D. On Monday, the 6th inst., a quarter peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES (1260 changes) in 49 mins. J. Randall, 1; G. Spicer (Baldock), 2; F. Furr, 3; A. Squires, 4; W. Allen, 5; S. Hare, 6; J. Hare (conductor), 7; J. Foster, 8. This quarter peal contains QUEENS AND TITMUS, and was taken from Shipway.

AT ST. PAUL'S, WALKDEN, LANCASHIRE.—On Tuesday, the 31st ult., 720 GRANDSIRE MINOR (38 bobs and 22 singles) in 24½ mins. W. Denner (conductor), 1; J. Ridyard (Worsley), 2; S. Oakes, 3; J. Williamson, 4; A. Potter, 5; J. Brookes, 6. This being the first 720 in the method for Messrs. Ridyard, Oakes, Williamson, and Potter; also the first 720 as conductor for Mr. Denner. 720 BOB MINOR was also rung in 24½ mins. J. Worthington, 1; Jos. Potter (first 720), 2; S. Oakes, 3; J. Williamson, 4; Jas. Potter, 5; J. Brookes (conductor), 6. Tenor, 13½ cwt.

RECEIVED ALSO.—C. W. Gordon (thanks); and others.

THE GALLOPING READER.—Mr. Baring-Gould has just made a humorous, yet withal an earnest, protest against being asked to write for what he calls the gallopers—the people who rush through a book, passing over the chapter-heads, splashing through the descriptions, skimming the conversations, skipping the moralisings, and, generally, trying to get to the end of the volume as soon as possible. There are such persons, and let us hope they have their reward. They are not usually pressed for time. If they were they might be entitled to sympathy. For there can be no doubt that there is a great temptation now-a-days to 'bolt' a book. It proceeds from the best of motives. You want to make acquaintance, if you can, with all the best that is published, in whatever department of literature. But, unfortunately, time flies; and, going at an ordinary pace, one finds it simply impossible to keep up with modern authors. There are so many of them, and they write so much! If one desires to be abreast of them, one must do what Mr. Baring-Gould so keenly derides—one must literally run through the volumes set before one. It is physically out of one's power to read them all; and the only rational thing would be not to attempt to do so. But the galloper has usually no excuse of the kind. She (it is generally a she) has no desire, as a rule, to cover the whole field of contemporary literature. It is no noble rage for 'culchaw' which consumes her. It is a craving after intellectual excitement. There are those who read (if one may call it reading) one three-volume story after another without a single pause for rest or refreshment. Often there is no idea, not even any anxiety to know, who is the author of the work. It is a story—that is sufficient. And so things go on, the appetite apparently growing by what it feeds on.—*Globe*.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Confirmation.

SIR,—I think 'G. V.'s remarks concerning Confirmation are excellent, and deserve very careful consideration by all who have to prepare candidates for this solemn rite. Instead of a year being given to the work, in some instances the candidates are hurriedly got together, and the ruling motive seems to be how many can be presented to the Bishop. Speaking of catechising, I entirely agree with him when he says that the catechist must thoroughly prepare himself for his work beforehand. I know a case of a clergyman, who is an able man in many respects, yet failed repeatedly to get satisfactory answers from the children, and therefore believed that they knew very little, while another clergyman who was holding a mission in the parish expressed himself as being highly pleased with the ready and intelligent answers which the same scholars gave. This gladdened the heart of some of the teachers, who for a long time had been doing their best. In speaking of a practical turn being given to each lesson, I should think that is the aim of every earnest and sincere teacher, and nothing will supply the knowledge to do so better than one's own experience of the trials and temptations and life, along with the assurance that God's loving care is over them, and is sufficient to keep them in all their ways. I think the parents of the scholars might help the teachers more than they do at present if they would take more interest in their children's progress at school. I think we ought to try to establish a closer bond of sympathy and intercourse with the parents and children in their homes. Doubtless it is a very good thing to have systematic and definite teaching, and to get all the help one possibly can to this end, but surely each teacher does try to make the teaching given bear practically on the lives of the children, and by God's help to put life into the form of words, or method of teaching which is considered best to use, that shall lastingly influence them.

SAMUEL ARBLASTER.

Spiritual Work in Sunday Schools.

SIR,—I have been hoping that the subject of Sunday Schools, opened this new year by 'G. V.,' would be followed up in your valuable little paper; but as it has not I venture to send you a few lines to endorse most heartily (with my twenty-five years' experience in Sunday Schools) 'G. V.'s remark, that 'Confirmation classes should be formed, in which *real, personal conversion*, is to be much aimed at:' that is, I quite think, what will make our Sunday Schools all over the world a mighty power for good, checking and encouraging the great spirit of unbelief and sin which civilisation and luxury are working amongst God's children. But for children to be taught to love God during the time they are in the Sunday School, for perhaps one hour each Sunday, the teachers must work hard, not only with their minds (that, I believe, most do) but with their hearts, for their teaching to act on the *lives* of the children. To influence and instruct the teachers of a Sunday School is the work of the clergy, a work which in some parishes takes a great place in their time, but in others is left entirely undone.

Z. Z. Z.

Is there Room for another Guild?

SIR,—The growing magnitude of two social sins impresses me with the conviction that the influence of public opinion ought to be in some way brought to bear upon them, if individual effort proves (as it seems hitherto to have been) unavailing to check them. I allude to gambling, betting, and the use of bad language. With regard to the first, the readers and hearers of the papers on this subject at the Church Congress and recent Diocesan Conferences will be in possession of all the facts and opinions concerning this now sadly prevalent evil. I have been writing in the hope that some of those influential and powerful advocates would by this time have formulated some scheme by which, at least, an attempt might be made to grapple with the sin, and by some endeavour to warn the young of its dangers. But as yet I have seen no notice taken, and no result in action has appeared.

It may be said, this is not a matter for a woman to take up, as it chiefly concerns men and boys; but are *we* to be indifferent on that account? A lady writes to me of her distress at the growth of this 'gambling spirit,' of which, as she travels much in omnibuses and third-class trains, she sees such sad proofs. And, alas! there is still another reason why we should not keep silence, for the former at least, of the two evils we are considering does affect women as well as men, though they might perhaps be loth to confess it. For is there no gambling taking place in the many shows and displays of vanity that are called indeed by various names, but which minister to the evil spirit that is abroad under the veil of raffles and lotteries, which, as has been well said, would be illegal in a tradesman's shop? Alas! that we should have to record the fact, that some women of the upper classes are heard to exclaim in triumph, that 'they always win!' That this is a real and growing evil amongst us surely no one will be able to dispute.

And may we not say the same of the other subject also? I have lived in London all my life, and have been amongst the poor in different parishes, and I can hardly be deceived in my conviction that the use of bad language by men, and especially by boys, far exceeds what it was formerly. No one who walks through the streets of London can deny this. But it is not here alone that the fact is noticed. In country towns and villages it is the same: sitting at the inn-window of a provincial town I could not escape the evil sounds from passers-by, labouring men, carters, and boys. The latter were on one occasion watched at play, and shocking indeed it was to hear the words that came so readily to their lips (and which have even been heard from a child of three years old!). I remarked, 'Can the clergyman know of this habit?' and the reply was, 'It would not occur in his hearing.'

And this is, I believe, partly the reason why I hear and see so much

IRELAND.

(From our Special Correspondent.)

THE question of the allocation of 50,000*l.* out of the funds of the Church for the purposes of a Divinity School in the University of Dublin has again come to the front. The question was discussed before the Court of the General Synod on Saturday, when eminent counsel were engaged on both sides. This opened the argument whether the General Synod has any power to direct the Representative Body to allocate any moneys in its hands to the purposes of a Divinity School at all. Dr. Ball, ex-Chancellor of Ireland, for example, is very dubious as to the legality of an act of the kind. Mr. Bewley, Q.C., contended that the General Synod had that power; and this was the view ultimately taken by the Court. Another question then arose as to the disposal of funds in the hands of the Representative Body upon which there were certain reversionary claims. The Legal Committee of the General Synod has already determined that these interests are reversionary. The Representative Body thereupon turned the balance of the 500,000*l.*, given in lieu of private endowments by the Irish Church Act, into a reserve fund, which has been added to since by the accumulation of interest, and for the benefit of the parishes which had a claim on this money during the lifetime of the present annuitant clergymen. The reserve fund, after all charges had been met, was found to amount to the sum of 65,286*l.*; out of which it was proposed to allocate the above sum of 50,000*l.* in the interests of a Divinity School. Serjeant Jellett, Q.C. (for the Primate), contended that this surplus was impressed with a distinct trust for the augmentation of benefices, the buying of glebes, the improvement of small benefices; and that it was not reversionary, and could not be applied to other uses. His argument was emphasized by Mr. Twigg, Q.C., representing the dioceses of Armagh, Derry, and Raphoe. If eventually the Court decides that the sum of 50,000*l.* may be legally allocated to a Divinity School, this will be done to the great detriment of the poorer benefited clergy, who, of course, will be deprived of any advantages that might have come to them out of the surplus.

The Roman Catholic Bishop of Cloyne has seen fit to issue a Lenten pastoral, which, instead of directing the minds of his flock to the sacred subjects which are suggested by the penitential season we are entering upon, is only calculated to inflame them still more and encourage them to break the law. In the course of it the Bishop says:—

'Neither your duty as Christians nor subjects require unresisting submission to a harsh and oppressive law, framed to deprive you of your rights as free subjects of a free state. No law, human or divine, prohibits us from struggling against wrong, by every means consistent with the law of God. All that is required is avoidance of crime and outrage condemned by the Divine law. Not even the greatest good could justify means of this kind, and those who employ them are enemies of God and of their country as well.'

The most reverend Prelate suggests that his flock must judge for themselves what laws are to be obeyed, and they must form their own conclusions as to what crime and outrage are condemned by the Divine law; apparently the cruel practice of boycotting does not come under this category, for it is almost universal now in the South and West of Ireland. The Roman Catholic Primate in his pastoral condemns the Gaelic Athletic Association, as leading to a general desecration of Sunday, and a disturbance of public worship.

The Rev. F. W. Wigram, Hon. Sec. of the Church Missionary Society, has just concluded his tour in Ireland on behalf of the Society. Mr. Wigram's earnestness and sincerity of purpose will do much to stimulate the interests of Irish Churchmen on behalf of this, their favourite Missionary Society. On Tuesday week Mr. Wigram addressed a large body of the Dublin clergy at considerable length in the drawing-room of the Dean of Christ Church, when the Bishop of Ossory presided in the absence of the Archbishop of Dublin. He also addressed a meeting of students in Trinity College on the evening of the same day, when his Grace was able to take the chair.

On Sunday last the Bishop of Derry, who seems to have recovered his usual health, preached at St. Bartholomew's Church, Dublin, to an overflowing congregation. At the close of his sermon his Lordship made some touching allusions to the Crown Prince of Germany, who, it seems, is nursed by an Irish lady. The church was so crowded that many were unable to gain admission, and additional accommodation, in the shape of chairs and forms, had to be obtained from the adjoining Parochial Hall.

On yesterday (Monday) his Grace the Archbishop of Dublin laid the foundation-stone of a new church for St. Kevin's parish, Dublin, which will be built out of the 'Shannon Fund,' which has already contributed two other churches. The patronage of the parish will henceforth rest, not in the ordinary Board of Nomination, but in a body of trustees, of whom the Bishop of Cashel and the Rev. James Hewitt, the trustees of the fund, are a portion.

The Dean and Chapter of Hereford Cathedral, in making its selection of special preachers for Lent, have invited two Dublin clergymen from Dublin; namely, the Rev. Dr. Stokes, Professor of Ecclesiastical History in the University of Dublin, and the Rev. Canon Carmichael, LL.D.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Dedication of Bells at St. John the Baptist's, Lindfield, Sussex.

ON Thursday, the 9th inst., a special service of dedication of the octave of bells was held at the above church. There was a large congregation. The service was conducted by the Rev. E. F. d'Auvergne (vicar), the Ven. Archdeacon Mount preaching an appropriate sermon from 1 Chron. xvi. 29. The hymns, 'Now at length our bells are mounted,' and 'Our day of praise is done,' were sung during the office. Following the service, Holt's Ten-part GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 changes, was rung by visitors from Brighton, Eastbourne, &c., in 3 hrs. 6 mins. Previous to 1887 there were only five bells in the tower. Last year, however, a new tenor and three new bells were given, and the four others re-toned, in honour of the Queen's Jubilee, the work being done at Messrs. Taylors', Loughborough. The inscriptions are interesting. New tenor: 'Remember all benefactors of this church who have caused these bells to be hung in the 50th year of the reign of our Sovereign Lady Queen Victoria, Anno Domini 1887, and especially William Sturdy of Paxhill, who caused me to be made.' The three new bells (the gift of Mr. C. E. Kempe): 'A.D. mdcclxxxvii. Felici Lmo Regni Victoria, Lavs Deo,' also makers' name and Mr. Kempe's crest (a sheaf of corn). The old bells: (1.) 'William Hvl made mee, 1682. Iohn Board, Esquire. Mr. Thomas Burrell. Edward Pyke, Churchwarden.' (2.) 'An. Dni. 1603, Reg. I., Jacobi I.' (3.) 'Gloria Deo in Excelsis 1631 B.E.' (4.) 'Edmond Giles, Bellfounder, 1599.' The old tenor, now used for the clock to strike on, was made by a founder named John Cole, and is inscribed, 'All honer, lavd and prais be vnto the, O God, 1573.'

Anniversary Meeting at Cambridge.

SATURDAY, January 21st, being the anniversary of a long peal of 6300 BOB MAXIMUS rung at Great St. Mary's, by J. Smith, 1; W. Bland, 2; R. Laughton, 3; J. Lawson, 4; J. Coe, 5; J. Steers, 6; T. Jones, 7; P. Goode, 8; C. Day, 9; W. Young, 10; J. Hazard, 11; J. Bowtell, 12. It occupied 5 hrs. 5 mins., and as it has not been exceeded, a meeting of ringers was held at Cambridge on that day to commemorate the event. Ringing commenced shortly after ten with TREBLE BOB MAJOR, GRANDSIRE and STEDMAN TRIPLES, and shortly after these CINQUES and CATERPILLARS were rung. TOUCHES of TREBLE BOB and STEDMAN were also rung at St. Andrew's, and at 2 p.m. the company adjourned to an excellent repast, the chair being taken by the Vicar of Great St. Mary's (the Rev. W. Cunningham), the vice-chair by Mr. W. Vail; the Vicar of St. Andrew's (the Rev. J. C. Saunders) being also present. After dinner, the Treasurer of the Ely Diocesan Association (Mr. M. C. Potter) made a statement of accounts, showing a fair balance; but in the absence of the Secretary (the Rev. K. H. Smith) it was felt that further steps for the better organization of the Society could not be taken. The toast to the illustrious ringers above mentioned, coupled with the name of Fabian Stedman, was received with great applause. After dinner, ringing was carried on at both Great St. Mary's and St. Andrew's, some very good striking being heard. Ringers were present from Ely, Saffron Walden, Bedford, Mildenhall, Sudbury, Ditton, Chesterton, and ultimately a very successful meeting was brought to a close.

The Anniversary at Appleton, Berks.

THE 4th of March coming this year on a Sunday, this annual anniversary will be held this year on Monday, March 5th. In the morning there will be an attempt made for a long peal of STEDMAN CATERPILLARS by ten members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild and the Appleton Society. In the afternoon the annual dinner will take place at 'The Horse Shoes.' All ringing friends who wish to attend will please send their names to Mr. F. White, Appleton, Abingdon.

The Bedfordshire Association.

ON Wednesday, the 18th inst., at Tringrith, Bedfordshire, the marriage of the Rev. William Wing Carew Baker, rector of Milton Bryant, Beds, with Miss Catherine Anna, youngest daughter of the Rev. Truman Tanqueray, rector of Tringrith, was celebrated.

At the practice-meeting of the change-ringers at Woburn, held at Mr. C. Herbert's house on the Wednesday evening preceding the above, the Aspley Guise company being represented, Mr. Chibnall however being unavoidably absent, Mr. Herbert stated that he had been deputed on behalf of the Bedfordshire Association to perform a very pleasing duty, viz., that of presenting on their behalf to the Rev. Mr. Baker a fine-art gold bronze tazza. He had received a communication from Mr. Isaac Hills, on behalf of the Bedford company, desiring him to convey to Mr. Baker from all members on that side all the joy, health, happiness, and prosperity it was possible for them to wish him and his future wife. He then asked Mr. Baker to be pleased to accept the gift, which was accompanied by a neatly executed illuminated address in an Oxford frame, of which the following is a copy:—'Bedfordshire Association of Change-ringers. To the Rev. W. W. C. Baker, rector of Milton Bryant, Beds: We, the undersigned, members of the above Association, beg your acceptance of the accompanying gold bronze tazza on the occasion of your marriage, as a token of our esteem and heartfelt thanks for the kind interest taken by you in the promotion and furtherance of scientific change-ringing. With sincere wishes for your future happiness and welfare.—W. Allen, W. Biggs, T. Bull, J. Carwell-Cooke, H. Chapman, H. Checkley, W. Chibnall, C. W. Clarke, S. Cullip, T. G. E. Elger, J. N. Frossell, W. Hall, C. Herbert, I. Hills, C. R. Howard, E. Keech, F. Keech, M. Lane, E. Lewin, J. C. Maltby, F. Mayes, A. Morrison, W. Mynard, E. Norman, C. Pass, E. Ransom, W. Starr, W. Smith, J. Spencer, F. T. Tanqueray, W. E. Turney, G. Usher, M. Warwick, R. Wells.—Bedfordshire, January 1888.'

The Rev. Mr. Baker, in accepting the present, expressed himself ex

tremely gratified at the kindness shown to him by the members of the Association, of which body he had been a member since its formation in 1882, stating also that it would always remind him of many happy hours spent in the exercise of change-ringing in the county.

The tiazza, which was supplied by Messrs. Bull & Co., of Bedford, also members, bore the following inscription, neatly engraved in old English characters:—'Presented to the Rev. W. W. C. Baker, on his marriage, from the Beds Association of Change-ringers. 1888.'

The bells of St. Paul's Church, Bedford, were rung on the day of the marriage, a quarter peal of **GRANDSIRE TRIPLES** being struck by the following members of the Association:—J. Spooner, 1; W. Hall, 2; C. Pass, 3; S. Cullip, 4; I. Hills, 5; F. Keech, 6; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 7; H. Toll, 8. St. Mary's bells, Bedford, also gave forth many 720's of **MINOR** on the suspicious occasion.

The Sussex County Association.—District Meeting at Buxted.

The first gathering of members of this Association for the present year was held at Buxted on Saturday, the 4th inst., and was attended by about forty ringers from Eastbourne, East Hoathly, Brighton, Buxted, Steyning, Ringmer, Heathfield, &c. The bells of Buxted parish church were started with 720 **BOB MINOR** about eleven o'clock, and were kept ringing till the evening, except during the hours of service, luncheon, and tea, in the following methods:—**STEDMAN**, **KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR**, **BOB MAJOR**, and **GRANDSIRE TRIPLES**. At one o'clock a short choral service was kindly arranged by the Rector, who gave an address to the ringers present. At 1.45 luncheon was provided at the 'White Hart' hotel, and this was succeeded by a business meeting, which, like the luncheon, was presided over by the Rev. H. Harborne, rector of East Hoathly. The minutes of the meeting held in December last at Warnham having been confirmed, the Rev. G. F. d'Auvergne, vicar of Lindfield, was elected an honorary member, and thirty-three active members were proposed, including two new branches connected with the parish churches of Broadwater and Fittleworth. On the motion of the Hon. Sec., seconded by Mr. Wratten, it was proposed that the challenge bell be presented to the winning branch (to be held by them for one year) at the Annual General Meeting. Mr. G. C. Hammond then proposed that a District Meeting be held on Easter Monday. Three places were suggested, but on being put to the vote Steyning was selected. Votes of thanks were proposed to the Rev. J. P. Gell for the use of the Buxted bells, for arranging the service and the address, to the Chairman for presiding, and to the Rectors of Waldron, Uckfield, and Maresfield, for kindly placing their church bells at the disposal of the members during the day.

Geo. F. ATTREE, *Hon. Sec.*

Rochdale and District Association.

The above Association held the Annual Meeting at the parish church, Rochdale, on Saturday, the 4th inst. The bells were set in motion about three o'clock. Various touches of **STEDMAN** and **GRANDSIRE TRIPLES** were rung until eight, when the meeting was held in the schoolroom, about thirty members being present. After the meeting the handbells were brought out, and a course of **GRANDSIRE CATERS** were rung, Mr. Thomas Bamford (aged eighty-four) ringing 5-6 in fine style. The ringers then adjourned for tea, after which the tower was visited, and the bells kept going till eight o'clock. The handbells were then brought out, and a pleasant meeting was brought to a close. The ringers wish to thank the Vicar and Churchwardens for the use of the bells and the school.

The Lancashire Association.

The Quarterly Meeting was held on Saturday, January 28th, at Radcliffe, when members were present from Manchester, Bolton, Heywood, Rochdale, Bury, Worsley, Walkden, Eccles, Ashton-under-Lyne, Ramsbottom, and Newchurch. Touches of **TREBLE BOB**, **GRANDSIRE TRIPLES**, &c., were rung at intervals during the afternoon and evening. The meeting was held at six o'clock, and was presided over by the Rev. H. A. Starkie, rector, who gave an excellent address, congratulated the ringers on the formation of the Association, and stated that he would be glad to become an honorary member of the Association. Thirteen new members were elected, including ten from the parish church of Lancaster. This announcement was received with applause. Votes of thanks to the Rector and Churchwardens for the use of the bells and schools brought a very successful meeting to a close.

The Waterloo Society, London.—Established 1868.

The Annual Dinner of the above Society will take place on Saturday, February 25th, at the 'York Hotel,' York Road, S.E. Tickets 3s. each. Members and friends requiring tickets will please forward their names to the Secretary on or before Monday, February 20th. Dinner at 7 p.m. sharp.

8 Francis Street, Waterloo Road, S.E.

Kent County Association.

A DISTRICT MEETING was held on Monday, the 13th inst., at Faversham, when about thirty ringers attended. There was an excursion to the neighbouring church of Hernehill, where the band of ringers have just joined the Society. The Committee passed a resolution that a fee of 3d. per man should be paid by the ringers of any peal sent up to be entered in the Society's peal-book, and that the Secretary shall forward a certificate in return.

Surrey Association.

A DISTRICT MEETING of this Association will be held at St. Mary's, Putney, by kind permission, on Monday, February 20th. The tower will be open from five o'clock. Ringers arriving early are requested to apply for the keys to Mr. E. Miller, the verger, 46 High Street. There will be no ringing at Fulham on the above date.

ARTHUR B. CARPENTER, *Hon. Sec.*

34 Dingwall Road, Croydon.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At the Cathedral, Manchester.

ON Thursday, the 2nd inst., ten members of the Lancashire Association rang a peal of 5080 **KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL** in 3 hrs. 16 mins. J. Gratrix, 1; J. Leish, 2; J. Wood, 3; T. G. Downs, 4; E. Bishop (birthday), 5; J. Eachus, 6; Jos. Mellor, 7; S. Wood (composer and conductor), 8; J. Thorp, 9; G. Longden, 10. Tenor, 25 cwt.

At the Abbey National Schools, St. Albans, Herts.

ON Thursday, the 2nd inst., five members of the Ancient Society of College Youths and the Essex Association rang, on handbells retained in hand, a peal of 5021 **GRANDSIRE CATERS** in 2 hrs. 56 mins. H. Lewis, 1-2; C. F. Winny, 3-4; G. W. Cartmel, 5-6; W. H. L. Buckingham, 7-8; E. P. Debenham, 9-10. Composed by Mr. J. Cox and conducted by Mr. Buckingham. Umpire: Mr. A. Sibley, who marked off every treble lead as rung.

At St. Gregory's, Sudbury, Suffolk.

ON Saturday, the 4th inst., a peal of 5056 **KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR** was rung in 3 hrs. 13 mins. G. Maxim, 1; W. Howell, 2; R. Mingay, 3; J. Lampin, 4; A. Scott, 5; C. Sillitoe, 6; J. Lee, 7; H. Harper (birthday, 50), 8. Composed by Mr. J. Brierley of Saddleworth and conducted by Mr. Sillitoe. Tenor, 16 cwt., in F. Messrs. Lee, Maxim, and Mingay came from Foxearth. On Tuesday evening the company met at All Saints', and rang a touch of 724 **BOB MAJOR**. F. Tolliday, 1; M. Silvester, 2; S. Brown, 3; W. B. Ransom, 4; H. Brackett, 5; W. Howell, 6; A. Scott, 7; C. Sillitoe (conductor), 8. Tenor, 28 cwt., in D.

On Monday, the 30th ult., the local company met at St. Peter's Church, for the purpose of erecting a peal-board, recording a peal of **BOB MAJOR** rung in November last, it being the first peal on the bells. The board was presented to the company by G. L. Andrewes, Esq., and presents a handsome appearance, having a black ground with gold letters, surmounted by a bell at each corner, the work being well done by Mr. Anderton.

At St. Giles', Rowley Regis, Staffordshire.

ON Saturday, the 4th inst., eight members of the Society for the Archdeaconery of Stafford rang Holt's original 5040 **GRANDSIRE TRIPLES** in 2 hrs. 56 mins. H. Hipkins, 1; T. Horton, 2; S. Reeves (conductor), 3; J. Hall, 4; A. Hill, 5; R. Holl, 6; W. R. Small, 7; W. Cooper, 8. Tenor, 13 cwt. This peal was rung at the first attempt, and is the first peal of **GRANDSIRE TRIPLES** rung on the bells. The ringers wish to thank the Vicar for kindly placing the bells at their disposal, and also to the ringers for getting everything in readiness.

At St. Mary's, Woodbridge, Suffolk.

ON Saturday, the 4th inst., eight members of the St. Mary-le-Tower Society, Ipswich, and the Ancient Society of College Youths, rang a peal of 5280 **DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR** in 3 hrs. 29 mins. J. Motts (composer and conductor), 1; F. Tillet, 2; I. S. Alexander, 3; H. Bowell, 4; W. P. Garrett, 5; C. Mee, 6; W. Motts, 7; R. H. Brundle, 8. Tenor, 28 cwt. First peal in the method on the bells, and the fiftieth peal by Mr. C. Mee.

At St. Martin's, Tipton, Staffordshire.

ON Monday, the 6th inst., a peal of 5040 **GRANDSIRE TRIPLES** (Taylor's Bob-and-Single Variation) was rung in 2 hrs. 55 mins. by the Worcester and adjoining districts Association of Change-ringers. H. Mills, 1; W. Pardoe, 2; W. R. Small, 3; A. Hill, 4; J. Goodman, 5; G. Hughes (conductor), 6; W. Micklewright, 7; B. Starky, 8. Tenor, 12½ cwt. Messrs. Micklewright and Goodman came from Dudley, the rest belong to the local band.

On Monday, the 13th inst., a peal of 5040 **GRANDSIRE TRIPLES** was rung in 2 hrs. 58 mins. H. Mills, 1; G. Hughes (conductor), 2; W. R. Small, 3; C. W. Bassano, Esq., 4; H. Mason, 5; A. E. Parsons, 6; J. Smith, 7; B. Starkey, 8. Tenor, 12½ cwt., in G. This peal was composed by the Rev. C. D. P. Davies, and is a ten-part peal No. 1. It was rung as a friendly one, and for the first time. Messrs. Bassano, Mason, and Parsons came from Old Hill; J. Smith from Netherton; the rest belong to the Tipton Company.

At All Saints', Hertford, Herts.

ON Monday, the 6th inst., ten members of the Hertford College Youths rang a peal of 5021 **GRANDSIRE CATERS** in 3 hrs. 18 mins. W. Goodchild, 1; J. G. Crawley, 2; H. Baker, 3; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 4; M. Ellsmore, 5; H. Phillips, 6; Rev. C. D. P. Davies, 7; S. Knight, 8; J. W. Washbrook (composer and conductor), 9; F. George, 10. Tenor, 22 cwt.

At St. Peter's, Benington, Herts.

ON Tuesday, the 7th inst., eight members of the Hertfordshire Association rang a peal of 5184 **DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR** in 3 hrs. 7 mins. J. Kitchener, 1; J. W. Washbrook (composer and conductor), 2; H. Baker, 3; Rev. Canon Wigram, 4; S. Page, 5; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 6; C. Sharnbrook, 7; Rev. C. D. P. Davies, 8. Tenor, 14 cwt. This peal has the 4th, 5th, and 6th eighteen times in the 6th's place, and the 2nd and 3rd never there, and was now rung for the first time.

At Braughing, Herts.

ON Wednesday, the 8th inst., eight members of the Hertfordshire Association rang a peal of 5056 **SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR** in 2 hrs. 57 mins. E. Chapman, 1; Rev. C. D. P. Davies, 2; J. W. Washbrook, 3; L. Chapman, 4; H. Baker, 5; J. Warner, 6; G. Newson, 7; Rev. F. E. Robinson (conductor), 8. Tenor, 18 cwt. This peal, composed by N. J. Pittsow, has the 3rd three courses in 6th's place, and the 2nd never there and was now rung for the first time.

At St. Etheldreda, Hatfield, Herts.

ON Thursday, the 9th inst., eight members of the Hertford College Youths rang a peal of 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES (Thurstans' reversed) in 2 hrs. 54 mins. H. Baker, 1; J. Jauncey, 2; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 3; Rev. Canon Wigram, 4; Rev. C. D. P. Davies, 5; S. Knight, 6; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 7; Thos. Gathard, 8. Tenor, 27½ cwt. This is the first peal in the method on the bells.

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

ON Thursday, the 9th inst., ten members of the St. James' Society, London, rang a peal of 5025 STEDMAN CATERS in 3 hrs. 12 mins. H. Lewis, 1; E. P. Debenham, 2; S. Knight, 3; W. H. L. Buckingham, 4; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 5; M. Ellsmore, 6; Rev. C. D. P. Davies (conductor), 7; H. Baker, 8; J. W. Washbrook, 9; T. Waller, 10. Tenor, about 21 cwt. This peal was composed by H. Johnson, sen., Birmingham.

At the Parish Church, Hunsdon, Herts.

ON Friday, the 10th inst., eight members of the Hertford College Youths rang a peal of 5152 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR in 3 hrs. 11 mins. J. Pomfret, 1; H. Baker, 2; M. Ellsmore, 3; Rev. Canon Wigram, 4; Rev. C. D. P. Davies, 5; H. Phillips, 6; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 7; J. W. Washbrook (composer and conductor), 8. Tenor, 14 cwt. This is the first peal in the method on the bells. Also on the same day, at the same church, a peal of 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES (Brooks' Variation) in 2 hrs. 55 mins. M. Ellsmore, 1; Rev. C. D. P. Davies, 2; H. Phillips, 3; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 4; J. W. Washbrook, 5; W. Goodchild, 6; H. Baker (conductor), 7; C. Ladley, 8. This is also the first peal in the method on the bells.

At Christ Church, Southgate, Middlesex.

ON Saturday, the 11th inst., a peal of 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES (Brooks' Reversed), in 2 hrs. 54 mins. H. Baker, 1; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 2; M. Ellsmore, 3; Rev. Canon Wigram, 4; Rev. C. D. P. Davies, 5; H. A. Barnett, 6; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 7; F. George, 8. Tenor, 26 cwt.

At the Parish Church, Bradford, Yorkshire.

ON Tuesday, the 7th inst., ten members of the Yorkshire Association rang a peal of 5000 KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL in 3 hrs. 23 mins. J. Hardcastle, jun. (first peal, aged 18), 1; A. Moulson, 2; H. Raistrick, 3; S. H. London (first peal of ROYAL), 4; J. Broadley, 5; T. Pollett (composer), 6; J. H. Fisher, 7; J. H. Harcastle (conductor), 8; B. Lamb (first peal of ROYAL), 9; F. London, 10. Tenor, 27 cwt. This muffled peal was rung as a mark of respect to the late Mr. J. B. Jennings, secretary to the company, who had been a ringer in Bradford for more than forty years.

At the Parish Church, Loughborough, Leicestershire.

ON Friday, the 10th inst., the Loughborough Bell-foundry Branch of the Midland Counties Association rang a peal of 5074 STEDMAN CATERS in 3 hrs. 35 mins. A. Cresser, 1; C. Smith, 2; A. R. Aldham, 3; J. W. Taylor, sen., 4; S. Smith, 5; E. D. Taylor, 6; R. Lane, 7; W. T. Billingham, 8; J. W. Taylor, jun., 9; E. Wightman, 10. Composed by Henry Hubbard and conducted by J. W. Taylor, jun. Tenor, 28 cwt., in D. This was the first peal in the method on the bells, and is believed to be the second peal of STEDMAN CATERS in the county, the first peal having been rung by the St. Margaret's Company, Leicester, on March 19th, 1887. It was also the first peal on ten bells that has ever been accomplished by performers who are all engaged at one establishment, and to ringers it will be more noteworthy that they are all regularly employed at the Loughborough Bellfoundry.

At St. Mary's, Beddington, Surrey.

ON Saturday, the 11th inst., eight members of the Surrey Association rang a peal of 5040 UNION TRIPLES in 3 hrs. 7 mins. W. Burkin, 1; E. Bennett, 2; A. B. Carpenter, 3; H. C. Haley, 4; J. W. Trappitt, 5; W. States, 6; T. Verrall, 7; A. Bruce, 8. Tenor, 20½ cwt., in E flat. Composed and conducted by Dr. A. B. Carpenter.

At St. Paul's, Walkden, Lancashire.—Birthday Festivity.

ON Saturday afternoon, the 11th inst., the bells were rung to celebrate the fortieth birthday of Mr. W. Denner (the oldest ringer amongst the local company). After having had a good ring of nothing worthy of comment, save two 360's of GRANDSIRE MINOR, the ringers were very courteously invited to the house of Mr. Denner, where a substantial repast was awaiting them, that had been provided by the good host and hostess (Mrs. Denner). A very pleasant evening was afterwards spent. At the close of the evening, Mr. Williamson (one of the local company) proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Denner for their kindness in thus entertaining them. Mr. Denner, in reply, said he was only too glad to have the opportunity of helping to make them happy, and also expressed his hope that it would not be the last meeting of the character. The happy party dissolved about eleven o'clock.

ON Tuesday, the 7th inst., a 720 BOB MINOR was rung in 25 mins. A. Potter, 1; Jos. Potter, 2; S. Oakes, 3; J. Williamson (conductor), 4; Jas. Potter, 5; J. Brookes, 6. This is the first peal as conductor for Mr. Williamson.

AT KINGSWINFORD, STAFFORDSHIRE.—On Sunday, the 29th ult., after morning service, 720 GRANDSIRE MINOR, in 25 mins. T. Vaughan, 1; S. Atkins, 2; W. Smith, 1; J. Hillman, 4; E. Bourne, 5; J. Fullwood (conductor), 6. Tenor, 11 cwt. 3 qrs.

AT WILLESDEN, MIDDLESEX.—On Sunday evening, the 29th ult., for Divine service in the evening, 720 BOB MINOR in 23 mins. A. Kirby, 1; J. Nixon, 2; J. Jackman, 3; R. Kilby, 4; A. Pittam, 5; A. Tennant (conductor), 6.

RECEIVED ALSO:—MESSRS. Llewellyns and Jones (next week); and others.

CORRESPONDENCE.

‘Is there Room for another Guild?’

SIR,—Every one will sympathise with the object proposed in the letter signed ‘Louisa Twining’ in your last issue. The amount of gambling and of bad language in all large towns at the present time is terrible. I am very thankful that the feeling against raffling and bazaars is rapidly increasing, but I venture to doubt whether the suggestion made by the question at the head of this letter is the best way of endeavouring to check the evil. It seems to me that the policy of forming special societies for each virtue, and making piecemeal attacks upon sin, causes the Evil One to direct his efforts into some new channel. If you attack drunkenness by itself, he allows the spirit in whose charge that vice is to slumber, and puts forward the spirit of impurity. Then a Purity Society is formed, and ere long the spirit of gambling breaks forth with vigour; and, *pari passu*, with the formation of each new society the spirits of Pharisaism and uncharitableness appear. Ought we not rather to promote godliness and attack all sin, after the manner of the Apostles, who did not form ‘Temperance,’ or ‘Purity,’ or ‘Anti-gambling’ Societies? Ought we not to teach with more earnestness ‘my duty towards God’ and ‘my duty towards my neighbour,’ and to enforce again and again the ‘promises and vows’ which were made when we were baptized?

H. S. G.

SIR,—I have received the following letter since writing on the question of ‘Another Guild,’ and perhaps you will kindly insert it in confirmation of what I urged. I now commend the subject also to the attention of women who have charge of the various organizations of girls, and who perhaps may hardly be aware of what goes on ‘out of school’ and beyond club hours:—

‘Having just read your letter in *Church Bells* on “Another Guild,” I write to say what has very often struck me in passing through the streets after I leave my duties at 10 p.m., is, that the use of bad language is more shocking among girls than boys; hence it is a woman’s question, and one which a woman only can deal with.’

LOUISA TWINING.

The Hidden Talent.

SIR,—In reading over the list of preachers appointed for various services at St. Paul’s Cathedral, Westminster Abbey, and other national churches, it has struck me that much opportunity is lost for kindling and developing the preaching faculty of the many gifted clergy of our Church who are scattered throughout the length and breadth of the land. The list from which the above-named preachers are selected is a small one and little varied from year to year, and although they are undoubtedly well-known men of talent, piety, and influence—and if we look at their success in rendering the services popular, instructive, and spiritually a blessing to thousands—it might seem as if any change in the mode of selection were to be deprecated; and yet, from another point of view, I think the principle followed in such selection might to advantage be modified. Shall I be contradicted if I assert that there are hundreds of able men buried alive, by force of circumstances, in country parishes, whose talents in the direction of preaching—in earlier days undeniably great—are now dying a natural death for the want of stimulus and development?

What a gain to our Church at large could a key be found to set at liberty this imprisoned and neglected gift! and what an unmistakable loss it is that so powerful an instrument for good, as eloquent preaching is allowed on all sides to be, should be so wasted, so lost, because so little cultivated, as is the case in our scattered agricultural districts, some of them very hotbeds of dissent and socialistic doctrine.

Surely there is many an earnest priest depressed by isolation, and cramped by the sameness of his daily existence, who would hail with delight an occasional invitation to preach at one of the metropolitan centres of Church worship, and return to his narrow sphere invigorated and encouraged to go on his way rejoicing. And why, therefore, should not one object of these great national temples be to bring forward and make known the talent indisputably existent in our midst, though for the present hidden entirely away? Could not some plan be organized by our Church rulers on which those who desire to be thus brought forward might send in their names to their Diocesan, and by him be forwarded to the Deans or other ecclesiastical authorities in the metropolis, and an opportunity be given them of showing their mental calibre; which, if successful, might be repeated, their names recorded, and perhaps, even if desired, a certificate of approval given? They would become known in their own diocese as possessing the gift of preaching, and their talent would be in demand on the thousand-and-one occasions, when now such gifted ones are sought for far and wide, and so often sought in vain.

Possessing no gift of the kind myself, and having, therefore, no desire to be put upon the trial named, I can the more easily enter upon the subject; and I feel confident that very many of my more talented brethren, if given the opportunity, would avail themselves of it, and that the result would fully justify some alteration in the custom now in force in the selection of preachers at the services in our cathedrals, abbeys, and most prominent London churches.

WILLIAM GUNTER.

New Sampford Rectory, Braintree, Essex.

Clerical Rats and their Sinking Ship.

SIR,—The clergy are generally a fine butt for jokers, small and great. We therefore forgive the comparison used by the M.P. for Denbigh in referring to the clergy of Maelor. I am not interested in that district, but knowing Wales as a Welshman by birth and ancestry only can know it, and also having some acquaintance of its borders by residence, I venture to

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Sutton-on-the-Hill, Derbyshire.—Opening of a Ring of Six Bells.

In the tower of this church there were formerly three old bells. The treble became cracked, and was recast in 1863 by Messrs. John Taylor & Co., of Loughborough. By the munificent liberality of Miss Dakin and the Rev. R. G. Buckston, the ring is now augmented by the addition of two new trebles and a tenor, completing a musical ring of six bells. The work has been most satisfactorily executed by Messrs. Taylor & Co. of Loughborough, who have hung the bells in their improved iron frames, and the 'go' of them is all that can be desired. The new bells bear the following inscriptions:—On the treble, 'The gift of R. G. Buckston, vicar, 1887.' On the second, 'To the glory of God and in memory of Mary Dakin, who died March 29th, 1882. This bell was given by her sister, Frances Dakin, 1887.' On the tenor, 'To the glory of God, and in memory of Hannah Dakin, who died March 12th, 1887. This bell was given by her sister, Frances Dakin, 1887.' The diameter of the tenor is 3 ft. 4½ in., it weighs 12 cwt. 18 lbs., and its note is G. On the kind invitation of the Vicar, several members of the Loughborough Bell-foundry Branch of the Midland Counties Association of Change-ringers visited Sutton-on-the-Hill on Saturday, February 4th, to open the bells. All the party were hospitably entertained at the Vicarage. They then adjourned to the tower, where several 720's of Kent and Oxford TREBLE BOB, PLAIN BOB, and GRANDSIRE MINOR, and some 120's of STEDMAN and GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, were rung.

A Meeting at Wellingsborough, Northants.

THE fifth Annual Supper to choirs, ringers, and other officials connected with the Parish Church, took place on Friday evening, in the Drill Hall, which was prettily decorated with flags, &c., for the occasion. As usual, the bells were rung for an hour previously. Over seventy sat down to the capital hot supper provided. At the upper table were the Vicar (the Ven. Archdeacon Lightfoot); the Rev. W. R. Morse; Messrs. W. Davis and H. J. Russ, churchwardens; Mr. Head, organist; and several of the sidesmen. In replying to the toast of the Vicar, the Archdeacon pointed out how much he and the parishioners were indebted to Mr. Head and the choirs and ringers for the voluntary work performed by them. It was most gratifying to him to know that they had such an efficient organist and choir, and that their belfry was so well conducted. Mr. W. J. Henry, in giving the toast of 'The Ringers,' spoke of the good quality of the ringing and chiming. He knew little of campanology, but what he had learnt had interested him very much indeed. Mr. E. J. Dennes, in responding for the ringers, said that the encouragement they received from vicar, churchwardens, and parishioners, was most cheering. There were now eighteen men connected with the belfry, ranging in age from eighteen to eighty-four. They had made some progress in change-ringing during the year, having rung peals of GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, which had not been done by a local team for some thirty years. In conclusion he begged leave to propose the health of their two veteran ringers, John Harley and John Youle.

The North Lincolnshire Bell-ringers' Association.

THE General Quarterly Meeting of this Association was held at the Gainsborough local centre on Saturday, February 11th, and was attended with success. Through the kindness of the Rev. Canon Williams, vicar of Gainsborough, and the Rev. C. E. Cockin, rector of Lea, the rings of eight and six respectively were placed at the disposal of the members, who, upon arriving in the afternoon, rang several touches. At half-past five o'clock tea was provided at the 'Coffee Palace,' and was partaken of by officers and members from Lincoln, Market Rasen, Grimsby, in addition to the Gainsborough members and some visitors from Stowe. The chair was taken by the Rev. Canon Williams, who was supported by the Rev. W. N. Usher, rector of Stowe, and other gentlemen; Mr. F. F. Linley, the Vice-President for the Gainsborough centre, occupying the vice-chair. The business portion of the meeting was next proceeded with. The Chairman announced that they had the painful duty of reporting the first death since the Association was formed, the Rev. T. P. Holdich of Linwood, who was one of the oldest practical ringers in the county, and an honorary member of the Association, having died at the age of eighty-four. As a tribute of respect the members of Market Rasen and Gainsborough rang muffled peals to his memory. The Rev. W. N. Usher was elected an honorary member, and three probationary members were enrolled. It was resolved that the Annual Meeting be held at Lincoln on Saturday, April 28th, the day's programme to be arranged by the Committee. Several short touches were subsequently rung on the Gainsborough bells by mixed bands.

The St. Martin's Society, Birmingham.

THE above Society beg to announce their intention of holding the usual public dinner on Tuesday, February 28th, 1888, at 'The Woolpack' Hotel, Birmingham, directly opposite the church. Ringers who intend to be present are invited to signify the same to the undersigned not later than Friday, February 24th. Dinner on the table at 6 p.m. Tickets, 3s. each. A peal of STEDMAN CINQUES will be attempted at noon. Ringers from a distance wishing to take part in the same are asked to forward their names not later than Tuesday, February 21st, as the band will be selected on that evening.

Wheeleys' Road, Birmingham.

The Worcestershire and Adjoining Districts Change-ringing Association.

A COMMITTEE Meeting of the above Association will be held on Saturday, March 3rd, 1888, at six o'clock, in the King Street Schoolroom, Dudley. The

Rev. Dr. Cosens, Vicar and Rural Dean, will preside. The tower of St. Thomas will be open for ringing in the afternoon. Business:—To arrange time and place of annual meeting, and to draw out report for past year.

37 Simms Lane, Netherton, near Dudley. JOHN SMITH, Hon. Secretary.

The Salisbury Diocesan Guild of Ringers.

WE have been favoured with a copy of the Report of the Salisbury Diocesan Guild of Ringers. We are glad to note that the balance-sheet shows a good supply of funds in hand. But the number of honorary members is very small, and we should recommend energetic endeavours to obtain more, and thus interest the Churchfolk of the diocese in the subject. We see that they employ an instructor. But surely he is not largely employed, as otherwise the peal list would not be so very meagre and scanty, comprising as it does but six peals for the whole year, and those all in one method; to wit, GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. But doubtless it is very uphill work to plant change-ringing in a fresh soil; these things always take time, and we feel sure that the Salisbury Guild will bear good fruit ere long.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At the Parish Church, Lindfield, Sussex.

ON Thursday, the 9th inst., eight members of the Sussex County Association rang Holt's Ten-part peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 3 hrs. 6 mins. J. Reilly, 1; G. F. Attree, 2; J. Gasson (first peal of TRIPLES), 3; A. A. Fuller, 4; F. Rice, 5; T. Hart, 6; J. Jay, senr. (conductor), 7; W. Robinson, 8. Tenor, 23 cwt. The peal was rung on the occasion of the Dedication of the four new bells.

At St. Peter's, Liverpool.

ON Thursday, the 9th inst., ten members of the Liverpool Youths' Society rang a peal of 5058 GRANDSIRE CATERS in 3 hrs. 22 mins. R. Williams, 1; W. Woodhead, 2; R. Williams, jun. (composer), 3; C. Williams, 4; W. Booth, 5; J. Brown, 6; J. R. Pritchard, 7; H. Coley, 8; T. Hammond (conductor), 9; W. Brooks, 10. Tenor, 25 cwt., in D. The above was rung as a compliment to Mr. R. Williams, who completed his seventy-seventh year on Friday, February 10th, and is the oldest ringer now living in Liverpool. His brother ringers wish him many happy returns of the day. It is worth recording that he took part in a peal of GRANDSIRE CATERS on the same bells on February 9th, 1838—exactly fifty years ago.

At the Parish Church, Calverley, Yorkshire.

ON Saturday, the 11th inst., a peal of 5376 PRINCE ALBERT MAJOR was rung in 3 hrs. 15 mins. J. Cordingley, 1; W. Child, 2; E. Keighley, 3; C. Pratt, 4; Jos. Page, 5; J. Ross, 6; W. Hollings, 7; W. Davison, 8. Tenor, 11 cwt. Composed by Mr. W. Soltanstell and conducted by Mr. J. Cordingley.

At St. Margaret's, Barking, Essex.

ON Saturday, the 11th inst., eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang a peal of 5056 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR in 3 hrs. 13 mins. R. Sewell, 1; J. Bonny, 2; W. Cecil, 3; S. Hayes, 4; H. Springall, 5; S. E. Joyce, 6; York Green (composer and conductor), 7; J. M. Hayes, 8. Tenor, 22½ cwt. This peal, which is now rung for the first time, is a one-part peal; it has the 2nd in second's place at twelve course-ends and never in sixth's place at a course-end, and only one in fifth's; the 6th is eighteen times wrong, and the extent right; and is the only peal that has been composed on this plan containing these qualities.

At St. Nicholas', Warwick.

ON Saturday, the 11th inst., eight members of the St. Martin's Society, Birmingham, rang Brooke's Variation of Thurstans' peal of 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 58 mins. H. Bastable (conductor), 1; J. Joynes, 2; A. J. Jones, 3; C. Stanbridge, 4; J. Buffery, 5; T. Reynolds, 6; H. Johnson, junr., 7; A. Thomas, 8. Tenor, 16 cwt. The first peal on the bells.

At St. Mary's, Slough, Buckinghamshire.

ON Saturday, the 11th inst., eight members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild and the St. James' Society, London, rang a peal of 5040 BOB TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 58 mins. W. Leader, 1; A. Andrews, 2; T. W. Udell, 3; W. H. Fussell, 4; R. Flaxman, 5; W. Wilder, 6; A. C. Fussell, 7; J. Jones, 8. Composed by Mr. H. Hubbard and conducted by Mr. A. C. Fussell. Tenor, 9½ cwt. Rung in honour of the birthday of Frederick Charsley, Esq., the donor of the treble bells. The above is the first peal of BOB TRIPLES rung by members of the Guild, and is believed to be the first in the county. It is also the first peal of BOB TRIPLES by the whole of the band. The time was taken by Mr. J. Perryman, who was seated in the ringing-room. It is desired to acknowledge his courtesy in giving up his rope in favour of Mr. Jones. This performance commemorates the first peal rung on these bells in 1887.

At St. Mary Magdalene, Woolwich, Kent.

ON Monday, the 13th inst., eight members of the St. James' Society rang Holt's Original peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 36 mins. G. H. Hogg, 1; W. Bedwell, 2; F. G. Newman (conductor), 3; E. Wells, 4; W. Watchorn, 5; E. E. Richards, 6; A. G. Freeman, 7; J. Laws, 8. This is the quickest peal on the bells. Tenor, 13 cwt.

At the Parish Church, Loughborough, Leicestershire.

ON Tuesday, the 14th inst., eight members of the Loughborough Branch of the Midland Counties' Association rang in 3 hrs. 35 mins. a peal of 5088 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR. A. Cresser, 1; C. Smith, 2; G. Draycott, 3; W. T. Billingham, 4; S. Smith, 5; W. A. Tyler, 6; R. Lane, 7; A. R. Adham (first peal as conductor), 8. Composed by J. W. Lines of Ipswich. Tenor, 28 cwt., in D.

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

On Saturday, the 18th inst., eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang a true peal of 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES in 3 hrs. 5 mins. W. Cooter (conductor), 1; C. Beech, 2; J. Bonney, 3; W. Cecil, 4; J. G. Shade, 5; W. Prime, 6; M. A. Wood, 7; J. Monday, 8.

At St. John's, Deritend, Worcestershire.

On Saturday, the 18th inst., Holt's Ten-part peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES was rung in 3 hrs. 5 mins. W. H. Godden (first peal), 1; H. Bastable, 2; C. Cormell, 3; J. Jones, 4; J. Carter (conductor), 5; F. H. James, 6; G. Bourne, 7; J. Ward, 8. Tenor, 12 cwt., in F sharp. This was rung as a friendly peal to commemorate the sixtieth birthday of the tower-keeper, Mr. F. H. James.

At St. Peter's, Hindley, Lancashire.

On Saturday, the 18th inst., the undermentioned ringers rang Holt's Ten-part peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 53 mins., the occasion being the twenty-first anniversary of the opening of the bells. J. Prescott (Hindley, conductor), 1; Edmund Prescott (first peal, Hindley), 2; Edward Prescott (Leigh), 3; S. C. C. Turner (Wigan), 4; G. B. Walker (Wigan), 5; J. E. Gummerson (Wigan), 6; E. Arrowsmith (Leigh), 7; W. Gregory (first peal), 8. Tenor, 14½ cwt. Mr. Edward Arrowsmith rang the tenor in the opening peal twenty-one years ago.

At CHRIST CHURCH, WANSTEAD, ESSEX.—On Tuesday, the 31st ult., 720 DOUBLE OXFORD BOB MINOR in 25 mins. L. Green, 1; W. Manning, 2; J. Nunn, 3; E. Barnett (conductor), 4; J. Priest, 5; H. Scarlett, 6. The above is the first 720 in the method on the bells.

At THE PARISH CHURCH, STROUD, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.—On Sunday, the 5th inst., for Divine service, by the local company, 1542 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 1 hr. 8 mins. A. Trigg, 1; W. Nash, 2; C. Ring, 3; N. Ring, 4; G. Latham (conductor), 5; F. Stephens, 6; G. Smith, 7; H. Jordan, 8.

At TWYNING, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.—On Sunday, the 5th inst., for Divine service in the afternoon, 720 GRANDSIRE MINOR (34 bobs and 26 singles). P. Price, 1; S. Cleal, 2; W. Page, 3; L. Longney, 4; J. Green (first 720), 5; Jos. Walhen (conductor), 6.

Messrs. Llewellyns & James' List of Bells.

As evidence of the progress of the movement for restoring damaged rings of bells and of the erection of new rings in commemoration of the Jubilee Year, 1887, Messrs. Llewellyns & James, bell-founders of Bristol, hand us the following list of work done by them in this department during the twelve months just closed:—

Burton Fleming Church, Hummanby, Yorkshire.—Recasting bell to key of D sharp and one new bell in F sharp.

St. Mary's Church, Abergavenny.—Augmenting ring of six to eight bells by adding two new trebles, and rehangng the whole ring with eight; new chiming apparatus.

All Cannings' Church, Devizes.—Recasting tenor bell.

Broadhempston Church, Totness.—New treble bell, augmenting ring to six bells.

Shroton Church, near Blandford.—New tenor and altering treble, augmenting to ring of five.

Woodlands' Church, near Frome.—New bell in key of G sharp.

Curry Rivell Church, near Taunton.—Recast tenor and rehngng peal of four.

Durweston, Blandford.—New treble, augmenting ring to five bells.

Frithestock, Great Torrington, North Devon.—Treble bell to harmonise with present bells, augmenting ring to six.

Holy Trinity Church, Hotwells, Bristol.—New ring of four bells.

Chedzoy, near Bridgwater.—New treble, augmenting ring to six bells.

Wrazall Church, Nailsea, Somerset.—Two new trebles, augmenting ring to eight, and fixing Ellacombe's chiming apparatus.

Ashcott, Bridgwater.—Recast tenor bell.

Westbury, Sub-Mendip, near Wells, Somerset.—Five new bells, making with tenor a ring of six, with chiming hammers and rehngng.

West Buckland, Wellington, Somerset.—Recast treble bell.

Alwington, near Bideford.—Two new trebles, and recast third bell, augmenting to ring of eight.

Farnborough, Hampshire.—Two new trebles and new tenor, augmenting ring to five bells.

Batcomb, near Evererech.—Recast tenor and Ellacombe's chiming apparatus, and rehngng second bell.

East Chinnock, near Yeovil.—Rehngng ring of five bells.

Folke, near Sherborne.—Recast treble bell.

Oldland, near Bristol.—Rehngng bells.

Butcombe, near Wrington, Somerset.—One new bell and rehngng, making ring of four.

Berkeley, near Frome.—New tenor, recast third bell, augmenting ring to four bells, and rehngng all.

Trull, near Taunton.—New treble, recast third bell, and rehngng ring, augmented to six bells.

Cheilton Bishop, Durnford, Exeter.—New treble bell.

Penselwood, near Bath.—Recast second bell of ring of three bells.

Blithfield, Rugeley.—New treble, making ring of six.

Nibblingshill, Bridge of Weir, Scotland.—New ring of ten bells.

* * * Several communications unavoidably postponed.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Subjects for Church Congress, 1888.

SIR,—The Subjects' Committee of the Church Congress of 1888, to be held in Manchester on October 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5, will meet for the first time on February 21, under the presidency of the Lord Bishop of the Diocese. The Hon. Secretaries will be very glad to receive suggestions, to be submitted to the Subjects' Committee for consideration, on or before that date, at 51 South King Street, Manchester, addressed 'The Hon. Secretaries,' and endorsed 'Subjects.'

EDWARD C. MACLURE.

The Vicarage, Rochdale, February 4.

Increase of the Episcopate.

SIR,—A communication from 'H. E. R.' to you on an increase of the Episcopate in East Anglia seems to call for a reply from the 'East Anglian Rector' to whose scheme he refers, and concerning which I would say that it was drawn up at the suggestion of the late Bishop of Ely, and received his qualified approval shortly before his death. It corresponds in its main outlines with that of 'H. C. R.,' except that it combines in one diocese the already too-much-divided halves of Suffolk, and would endeavour to reconcile the conflicting claims of Bury and Ipswich to be the See-town by following the precedents of Gloucester and Bristol, Bath and Wells, and, till late years, of Lichfield and Coventry. The rearrangement thus suggested, which would provide five Bishops where there are now but three, was provisionally adopted by the Committee of the House of Laymen last summer, and has been submitted by them to the Bishops, Archdeacons, and Lords-Lieutenant of the counties concerned: it has received the sanction of the greater Chapter of this diocese, as also of the Rural Deans (save with regard to two details, which would sacrifice the symmetry of coterminous boundaries of county and diocese, to the practical convenience of outlying districts), and it is to be brought before the Norwich Diocesan Conference at Easter. 'H. C. R.' is mistaken in supposing that I contemplated, even three years ago, 'bishoprics with 3000l. a-year and a seat in the House of Lords,' as a rule. I suggested that such a minimum annual income is considerably in excess of modern requirements; and the number of Episcopal seats in the House of Lords is, of course, fixed.

May I take this opportunity of submitting the following suggestions on the increase of the Episcopate throughout the country to the consideration of your readers, urging the paramount importance of No. 1? It is what the late Lord Lyttelton laboured for twenty years ago without success, but what the present Government ought to be able and willing to give us. 'All things come to those who wait,' said Lord Beaconsfield. 'Quousque tandem?' we reply.

1. Application to be made to Parliament for a general enabling Act for the creation of new Sees as occasion may serve.

2. As far as practicable the limits of a diocese to be coterminous with those of a county.

3. Seats in the House of Lords to be restricted to the old historic Sees.

4. Qualifications for new Cathedral cities to be, as far as possible, large towns, having large churches, and being central in position.

5. The minimum endowment of the new Sees to be 1500l. per annum, and the maximum endowment of the old Sees to be 3000l. per annum, excepting those of Canterbury, York, London, Durham, and Winchester.

6. Suffragans to be appointed where needed, with a view to future subdivision.

7. London to be left undivided, but supplied with a due number of Suffragans.

8. Palaces unsuitable in size, position, &c., to be sold; and Bishops, when practicable, to reside in their own Cathedral cities.

9. The Channel Islands to be transferred to the diocese of Sherborne until they have a Bishop of their own.

10. The following new dioceses to be provided as soon as convenient; for the Counties—Lancaster, Doncaster, Shrewsbury, Derby, Coventry, Leicester, Bury and Ipswich, Chelmsford, Brecon, Sherborne, Reading, Guildford. For the Towns, with their adjacent suburbs—Manchester, Leeds, Sheffield, Birmingham, Bristol, Southwark.

Plumstead Parva Rectory, Norwich, Feb. 3rd, 1888.

C. B. PENRICE.

The Dilapidation Difficulty.

SIR,—No reply has appeared on this subject. I fear that the Dilapidations Act makes no provision for the case of a new Rector who may be called upon for the repair of his house and chancel, through the insolvency and neglect of his predecessor. But 'A Listener to Church Bells' is mistaken in supposing that the new Rector 'may not spend his money in his own way, but only as the Diocesan Surveyor thinks proper.' He must, of course, put the whole of the buildings into such a state of repair as to obtain the certificate of the Diocesan Surveyor for his next five years' amenity, but he may employ his own architect and builder to carry out the work in his own way. It has been, unfortunately, a too common complaint, that even the Diocesan Surveyor has been unable to get a contract taken by a builder for carrying out the work for the amount of his own valuation; so that the taking of the living has involved a larger outlay than has been covered by the amount received for dilapidations, or than has been contemplated. The Bounty Office can lend money upon improvements, not upon the mere repairs of a house; but it has lent, and I believe still can lend money, for the restoration of a chancel. In this, however, no fittings or decorative finishings may be included, not even the stalls.

In the case of an Impropriation, the receiver of the great tithes is under

rector of Killiskey, co. Wicklow, to the incumbency of Delgany, vacant by the resignation of Archdeacon Sheane. The parish of Killiskey thus vacated is beautifully situated near the Wooden Bridge, in the most lovely part of the county. The country-seat of the late Archbishop Broomfield is in the parish, and his family still reside there.

Earl Digby has presented the Rev. W. G. Russell, rector of Dartrey, to the valuable living of Geashill, in the diocese of Kildare. The Rev. Canon Russell, senior curate of St. Ann's, Dublin, will resign his curacy to become curate to his brother in his new benefice.

COLONIAL AND FOREIGN CHURCH NEWS.

CANADA.

THE Rev. J. G. Norton, 'Rector' of Montreal Cathedral, has been created D.D. of Dublin. His best-known book is *Worship in Heaven and on Earth*, to which we have devoted a notice. Canon Norman, LL.D., has been appointed to the Rectorship in Quebec Cathedral.

ACCOUNTS of the election to the Bishopric of Nova Scotia state that forty-four clergymen and forty-one lay delegates were present. After reading the correspondence and telegrams that had passed between the diocese and the English Bishops concerning the election, the resolution referring the selection of the Bishop to England was rescinded. Dr. Frederick Courtney was then proposed; no other candidate was nominated, and he was unanimously elected. He is an Englishman. He was ordained priest and deacon in the Diocese of Canterbury, and was successively curate of Hadlow, Kent, and perpetual curate of Charles Chapel, Plymouth. In 1876 he became associate rector of St. Thomas's Church, New York; since then he has been rector of St. James's Church, Chicago, and St. Paul's, Boston.

UNITED STATES.

MR. M. L. WILLISTON, lately Congregationalist pastor at Davenport, Iowa, has applied to the Bishop of that State for ordination.

WE have to acknowledge the receipt of the first number of the *Michigan Churchman*; its appearance is a fresh proof of the growing strength of our Communion in the north-west of the Republic.

PROFESSOR DRUMMOND'S *Natural Law in the Spiritual World* has had a sale of 100,000 copies in the United States.

INDIA.

THAT the English language is destined to be the medium of educated intercourse for the different races becomes increasingly certain. Thus at the 'National Indian Congress' of 700 delegates, just held at Madras, the difficulty of the confusion of tongues—Bengali, Mahrati, Gujarati, Hindu, Urdu, Sindi, Canari, Tamul, Telugu—was met by adopting English for the speeches and all the proceedings. Such a fact points to greater facilities for Missionary effort.

JAPAN.

BISHOP BICKERSTETH does 'not regard even a native Episcopate in Japan as being in a very remote future.' Though the work in the capital is so engrossing, he has had to spend no less than six months in travelling to the various missions. There has been a remarkable movement towards Christianity in Shimosha, a province on the eastern side of the Bay of Tokyo; some thirty have been baptized already. This is but 'one of several places where new congregations are springing up.' From 'the lady workers' the Bishop hopes great things; some more went out in October to be the first members of an 'Associated Mission,' and six more are going out this winter to take charge of a ladies' college in Tokyo. The American Bishop Williams has arranged with Bishop Bickersteth that the theological students of each's jurisdiction shall be taught in the same college by a united staff of teachers. The college, situated at Tsakigi, Tokyo, is to have a council consisting of the two Anglican Bishops, one S.P.G. missionary and one American, and two Japanese clergy. Bishop Bickersteth's next letters to England will be of peculiar interest, as containing details of his visit in October to Corea, in company with Bishop Scott from North China; he says that a new Bishopric ought to be established there.

MISS K. TRISTRAM, a daughter of Canon Tristram, is about to join in the C.M.S. work in Japan.

A BISHOP'S OPINION OF 'VINO SACRO.'—'I am glad to testify to the excellence of "Vino Sacro," as in every essential particular adapted to its sacred purpose. I now use no other.'—(Signed), J. N. Staley, D.D., Vicar of Croxhall, formerly Bishop of Honolulu. To Messrs. Hicks and Co., Plymouth.—[See ADVT. at end.]

LETTER FROM REV. J. C. S. KRONIG, VICAR OF ST. BARNABAS, HULL.—'St. Barnabas' Vicarage, Nov. 12, 1887. My dear Sir—I always had some prejudice against using patent medicines, but your "Lung Tonic" has removed this misgiving. Suffering from a severe cold, and on the eve of a public engagement, being in a dilemma, by fearing the loss of my voice, I was strongly advised by a friend to try your Lung Tonic. I did so, and to my most agreeable surprise after the third dose I was able to officiate with perfect ease. I resolved henceforth to add your valuable medicine to my household remedies, and certainly shall never be without it. I am, my dear Sir, with many thanks, yours faithfully, J. C. S. KRONIG. To W. T. Owbridge, Esq., Owbridge's Lung Tonic is sold everywhere, price 1s. 1½d., 2s. 9d., 4s. 6d., and 11s. per bottle.—[ADVT.]

'WATCHES, JEWELLERY.'—Midland Counties Watch Company.—Ladies' or Gents' Fine Silver Crystal Glass heavy-cased Watches, 25s.; Ladies' heavy case Gold Levers, 70s.; Gents' ditto, 80s. Send for Catalogue, beautifully illustrated, 1000 copper-plate Engravings, 1000 Testimonials, gratis and post free to any part of the world. A. PERCY, Manager, Vyse Street, Birmingham.—[ADVT.]

IMPORTANT TO SMALL CAPITALISTS WISHING TO COMMENCE AS TOBACCONISTS; for Illustrated Guide, Regd. (136 pp.), three stamps to H. MYERS & Co., Tobacconists' Outfitters, 107 to 111 Euston Road, London. General Shopfitters. Estimates free.—[ADVT.]

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Reopening of the Bells at St. Michael-Coslany, Norwich.

ON Tuesday, the 14th ult., another portion of the work of renovating this grand old parish church was most auspiciously brought to completion. The tower has been thoroughly restored under the superintendence of Mr. E. P. Willins. The stonework of the windows, the buttresses, and pinnacles, have been renewed, the flintwork has been repointed, and an air of solidity and beauty now pervades the whole. But it is with the interior arrangements of the tower we have to deal on this occasion. In the various works connected with St. Miles' thoroughness and completeness have been the leading principles. The ring of eight bells has been entirely rehung in a substantial frame of English oak, with new stocks, wheels, and pulleys. The cast-iron chairs and brasses on which the bells revolve were designed and supplied by Messrs. Sturgess & Towlson. The work of hanging the bells was carried out by Mr. W. Crane of Great Fransham, under Mr. Willins' directions. The restoration of the ringing-gallery is most satisfactory. Those only who knew it in its old form can appreciate the change. It is entirely open to the church, there being merely a light metal protecting rail. The west window has been opened out to its original proportions, and has been filled with stained glass by the Sheriff as a memorial to members of his family. The ceiling is of oak match-boarding divided into panels by moulded ribs. A light double ring of iron guides the bell-ropes into a convenient circle. At three o'clock on Tuesday word was given by Mr. Sturgess, and the bells were rung for the first time by eight members of the Norwich Diocesan Association of Ringers, selected by the Secretary and stationed as follows:—W. Freeman, 1; Rev. A. G. Blyth, 2; Rev. N. Bolingbroke, 3; P. Sadler, 4; J. W. Spratt, 5; F. Knights, 6; J. Skinner, 7; Captain A. P. Moore, 8. A few touches having been rung, an inspection was made of the frame and fittings. Ringing was again resumed, and kept up with spirit till 6.30. After dinner an adjournment was made to the tower, the various methods of change-ringing and other ways of using the bells being briefly explained to the non-ringers by Mr. Bolingbroke. A few changes, rounds and fires, brought a pleasant afternoon and evening to a close. It should have been noted that the restoration of the tower and ringing gallery was carried out by Mr. Horace Lacey, and the glazing of the west window by Messrs. J. & J. King.

The Harris Orphanage, Preston.

A LARGE clock, with Cambridge quarter chimes, has just been completed upon this building by John Smith and Sons, Midland Clock Works, Derby. It shows the time upon four dials, each five feet across, and is fitted with all the latest improvements. All the wheels have had their teeth cut from the solid, and the pinions are of hardened steel. The pendulum has a one-hundred weight bob.

The Clerkenwell Society of Bell-ringers.

ON Thursday, the 23rd ult., the fourteenth Anniversary Supper of the above Society took place at the Society House, the Three Kings, Clerkenwell Close. Chairman, Mr. J. C. Banks; Vice-Chairman, Mr. H. Mandeville; Accompanist, Mr. R. Tate; Stewards, Messrs. W. Jones and W. Humphreys. The following toasts were given:—'The Queen,' 'The Prince of Wales and the rest of the Royal Family,' 'The Vicar and Churchwardens of St. James', Clerkenwell,' 'Success to the Clerkenwell Society of Ringers,' 'Health of Past Officers,' 'Health of Friends and non-Members present,' to which Mr. J. R. Haworth responded. The intervals between the toasts were enlivened by some good songs, and the Chairman, in introducing the toasts, made many interesting observations. The good wishes of the Society were given to Mr. John Knight, who has managed the business of the Company for many years. Altogether a pleasant evening's gathering took place. The members of the Society meet every Thursday evening at St. James's Church at 8.15.

The St. Stephen's (Westminster) Society of Ringers.

THE Second Annual Dinner took place at the 'Victoria Restaurant' on Saturday the 18th ult. The Rev. W. M. Sinclair (Vicar) took the chair in the unavoidable absence of Mr. W. A. B. Burdett-Coutts, M.P. Twenty-four sat down to dinner. After the cloth was removed Mr. Burdett-Coutts arrived and occupied the chair, and the Rev. W. M. Sinclair the vice-chair. The usual toast of the Queen and the Royal Family was proposed by the Rev. W. M. Sinclair, responded to by the members. The health of the President and Vice-Presidents was then proposed by Mr. T. R. Bell (Secretary), the Rev. W. M. Sinclair (President) responded. Mr. J. Isaacson proposed the St. Stephen's (Westminster) Society of Ringers, coupling with it the names of Mr. J. M. Hayes (Instructor), and Mr. T. R. Bell (Secretary). Mr. J. M. Hayes responded. A short touch of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES was then rung on the handbells by Messrs. H. R. Newton, 1-2; J. M. Hayes, 3-4; G. T. M'Laughlin, 5-6; J. M. Oxborrow, 7-8. Mr. Lamb (Steeple-keeper), proposed the health of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman, to which Mr. W. A. B. Burdett-Coutts, responded with an interesting and amusing speech. Mr. W. A. B. Burdett-Coutts proposed the health of the 'Visitors,' which was responded to by Mr. G. T. M'Laughlin. Another touch was then rung on the handbells by Messrs. J. Willshire, 1-2; H. R. Newton, 3-4; J. M. Hayes, 5-6; T. R. Bell, 7-8. At this stage the Visitors left, after wishing everyone good-night. It being still early, Mr. J. M. Hayes was elected Chairman, and Mr. H. Burgess Vice-Chairman, and some very good singing followed.

The Eastern Counties' Guild.

ON Saturday, the 11th ult., an ordinary meeting of the above Guild was held at Long Sutton. Ringing commenced about eleven, and was kept up until two o'clock, when an adjournment was made to an excellent dinner,

presided over by Dr. Secombe of Terrington, and supported by the Rev. S. Leigh Bennett, and Mr. Churchwarden Swain, and twenty-five ringers from King's Lynn, Terrington, Walpole, Long Sutton, and Spalding. Afterwards the toasts of 'Church and Queen' were given and ably responded to. The usual business of the meeting was transacted, several new members being elected. The next meeting was fixed to be held at Walpole St. Peter's on Whit-Monday. Ringing was again resumed, and kept up until time for departure arrived. The methods rung during the day were OXFORD TREBLE BOB, LONDON SINGLE, PLAIN BOB, and GRANDSIRE DOUBLES.

The Worcester and Adjoining Districts Association.

A COMMITTEE Meeting of the above Association will be held on Saturday, March 3rd, at six o'clock, in the King Street schoolroom, Dudley. The Rev. Dr. Cosens, vicar and rural dean, will preside. The tower of St. Thomas's will be open for ringing during the afternoon. Business: To arrange time and place of Annual Meeting, and to draw out report for past year.

37 Simms Lane, Netherton, near Dudley.

J. SMITH, Hon. Sec.

The Lancashire Association of Six-bell Ringers.

A QUARTERLY Meeting of this Association was held at St. Lawrence Church, Chorley, on Saturday, the 18th ult., by the kind permission of the Rector (the Rev. E. G. James). Shortly after 2 o'clock members began to arrive from Preston, Leyland parish, Leyland St. James, Standish, Blackrod, and Chorley. During the afternoon and evening several 720's of Bob Minor and other touches were rung. At 5 o'clock the members assembled in the vestry, where the usual business was gone through, it being unanimously agreed to hold the Annual Meeting on Whit Saturday, at Leyland. A vote of thanks to the reverend gentleman brought the meeting to a close.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At St. Michael's, Garston, Lancashire.

ON Thursday, the 9th ult., eight members of the Garston Youths' Society rang a peal of 5040 BOB TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 58 mins. S. Gough, 1; G. F. Sharrock, 2; A. Jones, 3; W. Weaver, 4; J. Allen, 5; C. Newton, 6; F. Turner (conductor), 7; P. Roberts, 8. Composed by Mr. H. Hubbard. Tenor, 12½ cwt. The above was rung to commemorate the thirty-fourth anniversary of the conductor's service in the Royal Regiment of Artillery: it is the first peal of TRIPLES in the method by all, and the first in the method on the bells.

At the Parish Church, Rotherham, Yorkshire.

ON Tuesday, the 14th ult., ten members of the Yorkshire Association rang a peal of 5000 STEPMAN CATERERS in 3 hrs. 26 mins. G. Briggs, 1; C. Bower, 2; W. Coates, 3; J. Athey, 4; T. Whitworth, 5; C. H. Hattersley (composer and conductor), 6; J. Hale, 7; T. Lee, 8; A. Rodgers, 9; W. Hurst, 10. Tenor, 32 cwt. This peal, which is composed on a new plan, has the 6th twenty-four times wrong and right, with the treble in 2nd's place, and 9-7-8 at the course-ends.

At the Parish Church, Ormskirk, Lancashire.

ON Shrove Tuesday, the 14th ult., eight members of the Ormskirk Society rang a peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 51 mins. J. Prescott, 1; W. J. Taylor, 2; W. B. Lloyd, 3; J. Aspinwall, 4; J. Scholicher (composer and conductor), 5; J. Sharples, 6; G. Prescott, 7; P. H. Harvey, 8. Tenor, 25½ cwt. Rung on the 11th anniversary of the first record of change-ringing at Ormskirk, which was a quarter-peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, rung on Shrove Tuesday, February 11th, 1777, by the first band of ringers at the parish church.

What peal?—Ed. C. B.

At Aston-juxta-Birmingham.

ON Wednesday, the 15th ult., five members of the Holt Society rang a peal of 5125 STEPMAN CATERERS on handbells retained in hand, in 2 hrs. 51 mins. T. Russam (first peal on handbells in the method), 1-2; W. Kent, 3-4; T. Miller, 5-6; B. Wittchell (first peal as conductor in the method), 7-8; H. Johnson, jun., 9-10. Tenor, size 15 in C. Messrs. C. Stanbridge, Godden, and Jackson referees. The above peal contains the sixth 22 courses behind the ninth and 24 courses behind the eighth, is the longest length in the method (and supposed to be the fourth peal in the method) rung on handbells.

At the Parish Church, Warnham, Sussex.

ON Thursday, the 16th ult., eight members of the Sussex County Association rang a peal of 5040 BOB TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 50 mins. W. Short, 1; W. Charman (first peal in the method), 2; G. Charman (first peal in the method), 3; T. Andrews, 4; F. Knight (first peal in the method), 5; H. Cook, 6; H. Chandler, 7; G. Woodman, 8. Composed by Mr. Johnson and conducted by Mr. Chandler. Tenor, 14½ cwt.

At St. Paul's, Shadwell, London.

ON Monday, the 20th ult., eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang a peal of 5088 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR in 3 hrs. 15 mins. J. Pettit (conductor), 1; W. Tanner, 2; N. N. Hills (first peal in the method, St. Albans), 3; H. Springall, 4; E. Wallage, 5; S. E. Joyce, 6; W. Battle (first peal in the method, St. Albans), 7; E. Horrex, 8. Composed by the late Mr. T. Day of Birmingham.

At St. Stephen's, Rochester Row, Westminster, London.

ON Saturday, the 18th ult., eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths and the St. Stephen's (Westminster) Society of Ringers rang Reeves' Variation of Holt's Ten-part peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 3 hrs. 7 mins. J. Pryor (first peal), 1; H. R. Newton, 2; J. N. Oxborrow

(conductor), 3; J. Willshire, 4; G. T. McLaughlin, 5; H. S. Ellis, 6; J. M. Hayes, 7; W. Croyley, 8. On Saturday, the 25th ult., eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang a peal of 5040 STEPMAN TRIPLES in 3 hrs 3 mins. J. N. Oxborrow, 1; W. H. L. Buckingham, 2; G. W. Cartmel, 3; H. R. Newton, 4; C. F. Winny, 5; G. T. McLaughlin, 6; J. M. Hayes (conductor, birthday), 7; W. Croyley, 8. Tenor, 25 cwt.

At St. Peter's, Walworth, London.

ON Tuesday, the 28th ult., eight members of the St. James' Society rang Holt's One-part peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 48 mins. H. Flower (first peal inside), 1; H. Langdon, 2; R. French (conductor), 3; F. Bate, 4; A. Hayward, 5; W. Weatherstone, 6; J. Barry, 7; W. G. Bull (first peal), 8. Tenor, 15 cwt., in F. The above was rung to commemorate the sixty-fourth anniversary of the consecration of the church, which took place Feb. 28th, 1824. The Rector kindly entertained the ringers after the peal.

AT NUNEATON, WARWICKSHIRE.—On Sunday morning, the 5th ult., for Divine service, 336 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. W. Adler, 1; J. Clarke, 2; T. Lingard, 3; W. Swain, 4; T. W. Chapman, 5; T. Bates, 6; H. Horwood (conductor), 7; G. Winter, 8. Also 224 in the same method, for evening service, standing as before. On Saturday, the 11th ult., 336 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. W. Adler, 1; J. Clarke, 2; T. Lingard, 3; W. Swain, 4; W. H. George (London, conductor), 5; T. Bates, 6; T. W. Chapman, 7; J. George (Coventry), 8. On Sunday, the 19th ult., for morning service, 168 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. W. Adler, 1; E. Swain, 2; T. Lingard, 3; W. Swain, 4; J. Clarke, 5; T. W. Chapman, 6; H. Horwood (conductor), 7; J. Ballard, 8. Also for Divine service in the evening, a plain course of BOB MINOR. W. Adler, 1; J. Clarke, 2; G. Winter, 3; T. W. Chapman, 4; T. Lingard, 5; H. Horwood, 6. Tenor, 14½ cwt., in E.

AT WRITTLE, ESSEX.—On Sunday, the 5th ult., for Divine service in the evening, 504 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, with the bells muffled, in respect for the late Mr. Edmund Pryor of Rolleston, Writtle. H. Brazier (Galleywood), 1; J. Daines (Widford), 2; F. Radley (Writtle), 3; H. F. de Lisle, Esq. (Galleywood, conductor), 4; A. Tarbun (Widford), 5; Rev. T. L. Papillon, 6; W. J. Piper (Widford), 7; C. Hawkes (Galleywood), 8. Also 350 in the same method. J. Everard (Writtle), 1; J. Dains, 2; R. Wood (Writtle), 3; A. Shuttleworth (Widford), 4; A. Tarbun, 5; H. F. de Lisle, Esq. (conductor), 6; W. J. Piper, 7; C. J. Dennison (Writtle), 8. The father of the deceased, Mr. A. Pryor of Hylands is a large landowner in the three parishes of Galleywood, Widford, and Writtle.

AT THE ABBEY, TEWKESBURY, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.—On Sunday, the 5th ult., for Divine service in the evening, 504 STEPMAN TRIPLES. L. Longney (first 504 in the method), 1; R. H. Witherington, 2; F. J. Moore, 3; J. Hale, 4; S. Cleal, 5; W. Page (first 504 in the method on tower bells), 6; Jos. Wathen (conductor), 7; Jno. Wathen, 8. L. Longney came from Croome, W. Page from Worcester.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH, UPTON ST. LEONARDS, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.—On Sunday, the 5th ult., after Divine service in the evening, eight members of the local company rang a date touch of 1888 BOB MAJOR, composed by H. J. Tucker of Bishop Stortford, in 1 hr. 15 mins. J. Middlecote, 1; J. Yeates, 2; H. Mitchell, 3; R. J. Wilkins, 4; D. J. Aston, 5; S. E. Romans, 6; W. J. Sevier, 7; H. G. Gardener (conductor), 8. Tenor, 17½ cwt., in F.

AT ST. MARY'S, BALDOCK, HERTS.—On Sunday, the 5th ult., for Divine Service, 180 PLAIN BOB MINOR, with the 7th covering. R. Jackson, 1; T. Webb, 2; J. Cawdell, 3; J. Spicer, 4; A. Squires (conductor), 5; Richard Jackson, 6; G. Gentle, 7. Also 120 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES with 6-7 covering. T. Webb (conductor), 1; A. Squires, 2; Robert Jackson, 5; the rest as before. In the evening, 448 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. T. Webb (conductor), 1; J. Spicer, 2; J. Cawdell, 3; J. Smith, 4; Robert Jackson, 5; A. Squires, 6; R. Jackson, 7; A. Bygrave, 8. Also 350 in the same method, with J. Phillips, 5; G. Gentle, 8; the rest as before. Conducted by A. Squires. A. Bygrave came from Wallington and A. Squires from Hitchin.

AT ST. MARY'S, HITCHIN, HERTS.—On Monday, the 6th ult., for practice, a quarter peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, containing Queens and Tittums, in 49 mins. J. Randall, 1; J. Spicer, 2; F. Furr, 3; A. Squires, 4; W. Allen, 5; S. Hare, 6; J. Hare (conductor), 7; J. Foster, 8. Tenor, 28 cwt., in D. J. Spicer came from Baldock.

AT BASINGSTOKE, HANTS.—On Wednesday, the 8th ult., 559 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES by members of the Winchester Diocesan Guild. T. Curtis, 1; J. Hewett, 2; J. Staples, 3; J. R. Higgins, 4; W. Tiller, 5; H. White, 6; J. W. Whiting (conductor), 7; W. Sugg, 8. And 216 of GRANDSIRE MINOR. T. Curtis, 1; J. R. Higgins, 2; J. Hewett, 3; J. Staples, 4; H. White, 5; J. W. Whiting (conductor), 6. J. Staples came from Havant; J. Hewett, Gosport; J. W. Whiting, Fareham; the rest belong to the local company.

AT CHRIST CHURCH, COSELEY, STAFFORDSHIRE.—On Friday, the 10th ult., a peal of GRANDSIRE MINOR was rung in 28 mins. W. Pardoe, 1; E. Goodreds, 2; H. Mills, 3; A. Hill, 4; W. R. Small, 5; J. Goodman (conductor), 6. Mr. Goodman came from Dudley, the rest from Tipton.

AT ST. STEPHEN'S, BRISTOL.—On Saturday, the 11th ult., eight members of the Association attempted a peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES; but it came to an end after ringing 1 hr. 34 mins., at the midway single. E. Andrewson, Esq., 2; F. E. Hart (Gloucester), 3; G. Daltry, 4; G. Duckham, 5; F. Price, 6; W. J. Sevier (conductor, Gloucester), 7; E. Palser, Esq., 8. The name of the ringer of the treble is not given. Tenor, 20 cwt., in E. Afterwards at the Clubhouse, a touch of 336 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES on the handbells. G. Daltry, 1-2; W. J. Sevier, 3-4; J. Hinton (conductor), 5-6; F. E. Hart, 7-8.

On Sunday week the Bishop of Ossory held an ordination in the Cathedral of St. Canice, Kilkenny. Morning prayer was said at eight o'clock, and the Ordination service took place at 11.30. One candidate was admitted to the order of deacon and four were priested. The Ven. the Archdeacon of Ossory presented the candidates, and preached a special Ordination sermon. The Very Rev. the Dean of Ossory, together with Rev. G. W. Rooke, also took part in the service. This was the only Lent Ordination held.

The Court of the General Synod gave a decision last week on the proposed 50,000*l.* Divinity-School grant out of the surplus funds in the hands of the Representative Body, which is not regarded as entirely satisfactory. The power of the General Synod to direct the Representative Body in the allocation of money for Church purposes is recognised, but no decision is come to with regard to the power of disposing of this particular sum.

The sad illness of the Crown Prince of Germany is exciting general commiseration. Prayers are offered up in several of the churches on his behalf. 'It will interest our readers,' says the *Irish Ecclesiastical Gazette*, 'to know that the Irish lady who, at the special request of the Crown Prince of Germany, has been summoned to San Remo to nurse him, is Miss Adelaide Dolling, one of the devoted ladies belonging to the Winchester College Mission at Portsmouth. She is a relative of the Bishop of Derry, and was trained in France, and is as noted for her skill as for her Christian self-denial.'

Mention was made in these columns recently of the outrage perpetrated in Castle Caldwell Church when an attempt was made to burn down the sacred edifice, and the large desk Bible was found in the midst of the unconsumed embers in the body of the church. A new Bible has since been presented, which, says the correspondent of the *Daily Express*,

'was used for Divine service for the first time by the Rev. R. R. Kane, LL.D., Grand Master of the Orangemen of Belfast. The Orangemen of the district, and of the order generally, assembled at half-past two in front of Sandy-row Orange Hall, where they formed into procession, and, decked with sashes, collars, &c., marched to the church. Other detachments of the brethren arrived from different parts of the town. Long before the service commenced the church was packed to inconvenience in every part, and many were unable to gain admission. The preacher was the Rev. Dr. Kane, who took as his text, "Ye shall know the Truth, and the Truth shall make you free;" "Thy Word is Truth." From which he preached a very able discourse.'

Some mill-girls working in the factory of Ewart and Sons, Belfast, behaved badly at the funeral of a Passionist Father lately, and the matter was brought before Parliament. It was found that the case had been ridiculously exaggerated. Little is said, however, of the insults offered every day to the clergy in the south and west. It is not so very long since the Bishop of Limerick was openly insulted and spat upon in the streets of Limerick; but Protestants have learned to take these things quietly.

The fifth meeting of the present session of the Dublin Clerical Association was held in the Board-room of the S.P.C.K., Dawson Street, on Tuesday, when an excellent practical paper on 'Waste in Charity' was read by the Very Rev. the Dean of the Chapel Royal, Dr. Dickinson, President of the Association. The Revs. Canon Jellett, H. K. Moore, and B. C. Davidson-Howston, subsequently spoke on the subject of the paper.

At a meeting held in the same rooms on Tuesday week a Dublin Diocesan Choral Association was formed. The Rev. W. B. Stillman, Succentor of St. Patrick's Cathedral, and Mr. Atherstone Wolseley, were elected Hon. Secretaries, and the Rev. Joseph Bewley Hon. Treasurer.

The Bishop of Derry and Raphoe has conferred the Good Service Pension of the diocese on the Rev. Canon R. Babington, Secretary of the Diocesan Council.

Among the signatures to the Dublin University Home Rule Association, presented to the Marquis of Ripon and Mr. Morley, M.P., on the occasion of their recent visit to Dublin, occurs that of Dr. Thomas Gregg, who asserts the style of Bishop of Verulam of the Free or Reformed Church of England.

A meeting of the Council of the Church of Ireland Temperance Association was held on Thursday last at 8 Dawson Street, the Rev. Dr. Hoops in the chair, when it was decided to hold a public meeting in connexion with the Society in support of the Sunday closing of public-houses at as early a date as possible, and a sub-committee was appointed to make the necessary arrangements. It was also decided to arrange for an interview with the members for the University of Dublin at an early date, in order to lay before them a declaration of the views of this Society as to the urgency and importance of the Sunday Closing measure and the Bill for the early closing of public-houses on Saturdays. A resolution was passed requesting the Council of the Church of England Temperance Society to support the Irish Sunday Closing measure and the Bill for the early closing of public-houses on Saturdays, now before Parliament.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

The Waterloo Society.

ON Saturday, the 25th ult., the annual dinner of the above Society took place at the 'York Hotel,' Waterloo Road, and was well attended by members and their friends, Mr. W. Baron, Master of the Society, presiding; Mr. H. S. Thomas occupying the vice-chair. Amongst the company present were the Rev. A. W. Jephson (vicar of St. John's), Messrs. R. T. Woodley, W. H. Daniell, F. L. Davies, S. G. Davies, W. H. L. Partington, J. Mansfield, C. E. Malim, J. M. Hayes, G. T. M'Laughlin, W. H. L. Buckingham, G. W. Cartmel, W. Tyack, A. G. Thomas, J. Taylor, G. Wild (Secretary), and others. The cloth having been removed, the programme for the occasion was opened by the chairman calling on the company to testify their loyalty by drinking, 'The health of Her Majesty and the rest of the Royal Family.' Mr. Tyack proposed the toast of 'The Waterloo Society.' He said that the Society had now been in existence for twenty years, had experienced its ups and downs, and he congratulated the members upon their present satisfactory standing. Mr. A. G. Thomas in reply complimented 'The Waterloo Society' upon its general efficiency, which was exemplified by the peal rung that afternoon, to which he had listened with great pleasure, and could bear witness to the excellent striking. Mr. W. H. Daniell proposed the health of 'The Vicar and Churchwardens of St. John's,' stating how gratified the ringers present felt at having the reverend gentleman amongst them, who thereby showed his interest in belfry affairs, and his desire to make the personal acquaintance of the ringers. Mr. Daniell also eulogised the character of the churchwardens. The Rev. A. W. Jephson (who was received with acclamation) reciprocated the good wishes so kindly expressed by Mr. Daniell, and was very pleased to be amongst them that evening. He had from his youth up delighted in bells and bell-ringing, and one very great inducement in his taking the living of St. John's had been the fact that there was a good ring of eight in the church tower, and he hoped they might eventually increase it to ten. He would convey to the churchwardens the friendly sentiments they had expressed concerning them. Mr. H. S. Thomas called upon the company to toast 'The Officers,' remarking that they could not find a better man as Master than Mr. Baron; that the gathering on the present occasion was sufficient to show how Mr. Wild did his duty as Secretary; that Mr. W. Baron, jun., as steward, seemed following the example of his worthy father; and that Mr. Malim was in every respect a model Treasurer. The other toasts were: 'London and other Ringing Societies,' 'The Visitors,' and 'The papers interested in the Exercise.' A course of GRANDSIRE CATERS was rung on the handbells. G. Wild, 1-2; S. G. Davies, 3-4; H. Hopkins, 5-6; F. L. Davies, 7-8; H. L. Partington, 9-10. A thoroughly enjoyable evening was brought to a conclusion by the singing of the National Anthem. The day was memorable as the birthday of two ringers present, viz. Messrs. H. S. Thomas and J. M. Hayes, and who were wished 'many happy returns' by their brethren and friends.

The Surrey Association.

A DISTRICT MEETING of this Association was held at Putney, on Monday, the 20th ult., by the kind permission of the Vicar, and, in spite of the inclement weather, was fairly well attended by members from Wimbledon, Beddington, Streatham, Kingston, Mitcham, Acton, Tottenham, Fulham, and London. In the course of the evening some very good practice was enjoyed, touches being brought round in STEDMAN and GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, OXFORD and KENT TREBLE BOB, BOB MAJOR, &c., the best being two courses of KENT, conducted by E. Bennett. The 'go' of the bells was good, but the ropes are very much worn, and need renewal.

EDWARD F. STRANGE,

Assistant Hon. Secretary.

The Worcestershire and adjoining Districts Change-ringing Association.

ON Saturday, the 3rd inst., a Committee Meeting of the above Association was held in the King Street Schoolroom, Dudley. The Rev. Dr. Cosens, rural dean, presiding, supported by the Rev. S. J. Marriott, vicar of Netherton. Letters of apology were read from the president, the Rev. Dr. Gott, dean of Worcester, the Revs. W. R. Carr, and E. J. Hall, Bromsgrove. A good number of delegates were present from companies in union. The usual business being transacted, a draft report for the past year was read and adopted, a very good suggestion from the Rev. Chairman being added thereto. The Auditor's report was received, which showed that the Association, financially, was not quite so good as last year. It was then unanimously resolved that the Annual Meeting be held at Worcester on Easter Monday. During the afternoon touches of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, BOB TRIPLES, and MAJOR, and a 1061 of GRANDSIRE CATERS, by J. Perrins (Chaddesley), 1; W. Pardoe (Tipton), 2; J. Fellows, sen. (Dudley), 3; A. Beddal (Brierley Hill), 4; W. R. Small (Tipton), 5; W. Micklewright (Dudley), 6; S. Spittle (conductor, Dudley), 7; J. Broad (Chaddesley), 8; J. Smith (Netherton), 9; E. Gilbert (Chaddesley), 10. 'The rest of the evening was pleasantly spent at the house of Mr. E. Fellows, 'Bee Hive' Inn, upon the hand-bells.

A Ringing Meeting at St. Paul's, Ramsbottom, Lancashire.

ON Saturday, the 18th ult., a ringing meeting of the Rossendale Branch of the Lancashire Association took place, when ringers from the following towers took part in the ringing of several touches of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, BOB MAJOR, PLAIN BOB, and COLLEGE SINGLE,—Christ Church and St. Saviour's, Bacup, Newchurch, Waterfoot, Helmshore, Haslingden, Bolton, and Ramsbottom. A meeting was held in the schoolroom, presided over by Mr. Nutter of Ramsbottom, when it was resolved to hold the next ringing meeting at Newchurch, the date to be fixed by the Newchurch ringers. Votes of thanks to the Vicar and Churchwardens for the use of the bells and school-

room, and to the Chairman for presiding, brought the meeting to a close, after which the members again returned to the belfry.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At St. Andrew's, Hagbourne, Berks.

ON Saturday, the 18th ult., eight members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild rang HALEY'S Variation of THURSTANS' peal of 5040 STEPMAN TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 58 mins. A. Hawes, 1; C. W. Bassano, Esq., 2; H. Cobb, 3; E. Napper, 4; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 5; W. Napper, 6; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 7; D. Napper, 8. Tenor, 23½ cwt.

At the Parish Church, Bradford, Yorkshire.

ON Saturday, the 25th ult., ten members of the Yorkshire Association rang a peal of KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL in 3 hrs. 17 mins. A. Moulson, 1; H. Raistrick, 2; J. H. Fisher, 3; R. Creasey (first peal of ROYAL), 4; J. Broadley, 5; T. Pollitt, 6; J. Angus, 7; J. H. Harcastle (conductor), 8; B. F. Lamb, 9; F. London, 10. Tenor, 27 cwt. Composed by Mr. R. Smith, of Halifax. Mr. Creasey came from Spalding; Mr. London, Shipley; the others belong to the local company.

At the Meeting-House, Ipswich, Suffolk.

ON Saturday, the 25th ult., five members of the St. Mary-le-Tower Society, the Ancient Society of College Youths, and the Norwich Diocesan Association, rang, on handbells retained in hand, a peal of 5040 BOB ROYAL in 3 hrs. ½ min. W. Motts, 1-2; W. P. Garrett, 3-4; J. Motts (composer and conductor), 5-6; F. Tillett, 7-8; S. Tillett, 9-10. Tenor, 19 size, in F. First peal on handbells by Messrs. F. and S. Tillett, and first in the method by all the above. Mr. D. Prentice acted as referee, and took down the course-ends as they were rung. This was a good struck peal, there being several other brother-ringers in the room, and is supposed to be the first peal of BOB ROYAL rung on handbells.

At St. Mary's, Old Battersea, Surrey.

ON Saturday, the 25th ult., eight members of the Waterloo Society rang HOLT'S Original peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 45 mins. S. Baker, 1; C. E. Malim, 2; W. Partington, 3; W. Baron (conductor), 4; G. Wild, 5; H. S. Thomas (birthday), 6; H. L. Partington, 7; H. A. Hopkins, 8.

At St. James', Milnrow, Lancashire.

ON Saturday, the 25th ult., eight members of the Lancashire Association rang HOLT'S Original peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 3 hrs. 9 mins. S. Fielcing, 1; W. R. Barrett, 2; A. E. Wreake, 3; G. Hoyle, 4; J. Harrison, 5; A. Clegg, 6; J. Millett (conductor), 7; F. Birtwistle, 8. Tenor, 20 cwt., in E. Wreake came from Manchester; Hoyle and Birtwistle, Rochdale; Barrett, Millett, and Harrison, Heywood; the others belong to Milnrow.

At St. Edward's, Romford, Essex.

ON Saturday evening, the 25th ult., eight members of the Essex Association rang a peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES (Reeves' Variation), in 3 hrs. 8 mins. W. Nash, 1; R. Sewell, 2; B. Keeble, 3; W. Lincoln (first peal), 4; A. J. Perkins (conductor), 5; E. Barnett, 6; A. Jacob, 7; G. Newson, 8. Tenor, 17 cwt. This tower and bells have been under repair, and the improvements to the bells have been carried out satisfactorily by Messrs. Warner & Sons, and this peal was rung to test their work. The ringers and workmen were invited by the Vicar to a meat tea after the peal was over.

At Great Marlow, Bucks.—Handbell-ringing.

ON Thursday, the 1st inst., at the house of Mr. J. C. Truss, St. Peter's Street, on handbells retained in hand, a peal of 5040 HOLT'S Original GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. H. Buckingham (first peal), 1-2; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 3-4; J. C. Truss, jun. (first peal), 5-6; J. C. Truss, sen., 7-8. Referee, W. Truss, who marked off the bob leads as they came up. J. C. Truss, jun., is within one month of fourteen years of age.

ON Tuesday afternoon, the 14th ult., at the above house, a quarter peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES (1260 changes) in 43 mins. J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 1-2; H. Buckingham, 3-4; J. C. Truss, 5-6; J. C. Truss, sen., 7-8. Also 504 of the same method. C. Smith, 1-2; H. Buckingham, 3-4; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 5-6; J. C. Truss, sen., 7-8. ON Friday, the 17th ult., at the same house, a quarter peal of GRANDSIRE DOUBLES (1260 changes) in 32 mins., each part called differently. H. Buckingham (conductor), 1-2; J. C. Truss, jun., 3-4; J. C. Truss, 5-6.

AT ST. MARTIN'S, SALISBURY.—ON Sunday, the 12th ult., for Divine service in the morning, 1056 BOB MAJOR was rung in 40 mins. A. P. Goddard, 1; A. W. Barkus, 2; J. R. Jerram, 3; H. D. Adams, 4; T. Blackburn, 5; W. E. Tydeman, 6; C. A. Clements, 7; W. W. Gifford (conductor), 8.

AT ST. DUNSTAN'S, STERNEY, LONDON.—ON Sunday, the 12th ult., for evening service, a long course of KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL. J. Pettit, 1; W. Tanner, 2; E. Clark, 3; E. Horrex, 4; W. Jones, 5; H. Springhall, 6; G. T. McLaughlin, 7; E. Carter, 8; J. M. Hayes (conductor), 9; F. G. Newman, 10. Tenor, 30 cwt., in D.

AT ST. MICHAEL'S, GLOUCESTER.—ON Sunday, the 12th ult., for evening service, 504 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. W. Pegler, 1; S. Romans (conductor), 2; H. Mitchell, 3; R. J. Wilkins, 4; D. J. Aston, 5; A. A. Waite, 6; W. J. Sevier, 7; E. Buick, 8. Tenor, 21 cwt., in E flat.

BELL-ROPES.—We have received a sample of church bell-ropes from Mr. J. Astley, Coventry. The rope is well made, and has a good salley; but we think it would be greatly improved if, under the salley, the rope was made of softer material, so as not to hurt the hands.

RECEIVED ALSO:—W. W. Gifford, Salisbury; T. G. Newman; and others.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The Church and the Marriage Question.

SIR,—When 'Salf' says it should be known that a couple who have been married at the Registrar's office can 'be married again' in church, I presume he means that the State allows this profanation of the marriage service; but I am surprised that he should suggest that the Church may comply with it. The State, in the spirit of Gallio, allows the clergy to do as they please in the matter, and protects them from civil penalties if they choose to marry over again those who are already man and wife. But are we therefore to stultify ourselves and degrade the offices of the Church by going through a mock marriage? Of course 'Salf' does not mean that we are to use the office in its entirety. Perhaps he will suggest what parts are to be used. The opening exhortation will, I presume, be altered somewhat as follows: 'Dearly beloved, we are gathered together . . . to go through the form of joining together this man and this woman, who are already by the laws of Church and State joined in holy matrimony,' &c. The questions to the man and woman will, of course, be transposed in tense, and the declaration in the espousals will take the form: 'I, M., once took thee N., to my wedded wife, to have and to hold from the day when we were married at the Registrar's office, for better for worse,' &c. But, after all, what authority have we thus to adapt an office?

NELLA WHEATLAND.

Increase of the Episcopate.

SIR,—I was pleased to see the letter of the Rev. C. B. Penrice in your columns on 'Increase of the Episcopate.' I should think there are few Churchmen who will not endorse his suggestions. I would add two more, namely, first (Suggestion 11), 'That in order to provide endowments for the new Bishoprics, all deaneries other than those mentioned in Suggestion No. 5, and that of Westminster, as they fall vacant, be not filled up, but the incomes thus appropriated become a fund for the endowment of the new bishoprics.' Second (Suggestion 12), 'That when this is done the Bishop of the See shall be the head of the Chapter, with all the functions of the late Dean, and thus become the Master of his Cathedral.'

T. G.

Candidates for Confirmation.

SIR,—In the article 'Candidates for Ordination' 'A. M. W.'s remarks are misleading. He maintains that the intellectual attainments of many graduates are woefully small. From an Oxford point of view this is incorrect. Before a man is able to take his degree at Oxford he has to pass five examinations, which embrace Latin and Greek Classics, Mathematics, the work of a Greek Philosopher; in most cases logic, history, political economy, and Scripture. The standard of all these examinations is very high; a thorough knowledge of every subject is needed in order to satisfy the examiners. With regard to cribbing it is rendered now almost impossible, by arranging the candidates each at separate tables, and by appointing graduates whose duty it is to walk about the room. I maintain that not one Oxford man in a thousand 'obtains credit from the public on false pretences as being qualified for a University degree.' Of course there may be cases of boys coming up from school in order to pass their first examination successfully smuggling into the schools some pages of Euclid; but amongst undergraduate members of the University 'cribbing' is never thought of, both on the ground of its dishonesty and impossibility.

R. S. T.

Southwell Minster.

SIR,—Your special correspondent in his most graphic and interesting account of the reopening of this splendid pile speaks of 'the soreness felt by the Churchmen of the adjoining county (Derby) when Southwell was selected to bestow the title upon the new See.' Allow me to say that Southwell was unanimously recommended as the seat and title of the diocese to be formed by the union of Derbyshire and Notts, by the Derby Archidiaconal Conference in 1876 (before Mr. Cross brought out the Additional Bishoprics' Bill), by the advice of Bishop Selwyn, who spoke strongly against the selection of either Nottingham or Derby. The parties in Derbyshire who took up the question of the division of the diocese of Lichfield were warmly in favour of Southwell from the first. Had Nottingham or Derby been selected there must inevitably have been jealousy, and I am perfectly certain that the See would not have been founded yet. I believe, however, that some little soreness *did* exist in the town of Nottingham (not in the county), at that place being passed over; but no such feeling existed in Derby. An effort is being made in some outside quarters to render us dissatisfied with the present arrangement, and to induce us to agitate for a further subdivision. As after the lapse of ten years from the passing of the Act the modest minimum endowment of the See is not yet quite completed, local Churchmen will require a little breathing-time before they open a fresh subscription-list for a like purpose. Those who talk loudly about a further immediate subdivision are not those who would find any appreciable amount towards an endowment, however small. It must be remembered that Southwell had two bishoprics to draw upon for a contribution of 800*l.* a-year, which was a potent reason for joining the two counties. This could not occur again; and if the heads of the Church, and Parliament, were to sanction so small an endowment as 1500*l.* a-year (which is unlikely and undesirable), I do not know where the necessary capital of 50,000*l.* would be found. Much better to turn attention to the raising of a few thousands for the endowment with 200*l.* a-year of two or more of the old prebendal stalls in the Minster.

A LAY MEMBER OF THE SOUTHWELL DIOCESAN CONFERENCE.

Room for more Guilds.

SIR,—I am sure that some Guilds have done good, and are doing good, but I never yet have been able to fall in with the system so heartily as I have desired, or to work with them so thoroughly as any one must if he would

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Seventh Annual Report of the Oxford Diocesan Guild of Church Bell-Ringers.

[Blackwell, London Street, Reading.]

THIS Guild still holds on its triumphant way, and since the publication of the Report it has added to its deeds of prowess by beating the record in *STEDMAN CATERS* by over 1000 changes. There is no special remark to make on the Report. It is presented in the same excellent and business-like form as its predecessors. The number of peals achieved is 48, and, which is far more important, the range of methods is considerable—surpassed, we believe, only by the Midland Counties' Association. The presence of a conductor such as Mr. Washbrook is a great temptation to give the calling into his hands, but we most strongly think that, having called peals to the full, we might almost say to *repletion*, his energies should be devoted to training others in the science of practical calling. If he has used his large experience well, he ought to be in possession of endless tips and wrinkles. Knowledge is of no real value unless imparted.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At SS. Peter and Paul, Lavenham, Suffolk.

ON Saturday, the 23rd ult., Hollis' peal of 5040 *GRANDSIRE TRIPLES* was rung in 3 hrs. 25 mins. A. Symonds (first peal), 1; C. Sillitoe (conductor), 2; J. Campin (first peal in the method), 3; A. Scott, 4; W. Griggs, 5; W. Howell, 6; H. Harper, 7; W. Moore (first peal), 8. Tenor, 24 cwt. This is the first peal in this method on these noted bells, and was rung at the first attempt. The band was complimented by the inhabitants on the excellent striking, which was maintained throughout the peal. They also beg to thank the Rev. J. M. Croker for his kind permission to ring. Messrs. Symonds and Moore are of the Lavenham company, the rest belong to Sudbury, Suffolk. The above was rung to celebrate the forty-second birthday of W. Howell.

At Bolton Parish Church, Lancashire.

ON Saturday, the 25th ult., the ringers of the above church, assisted by Mr. Joseph Prescott of Hindley, rang Holt's Ten-part peal of 5040 *GRANDSIRE TRIPLES* in 2 hrs. 57 mins. R. Hart, 1; J. Higson, 2; J. Prescott, 3; W. Garton, 4; P. Nuttall (first peal), 5; J. May, 6; J. Whitehead, 7; J. Thorpe, 8; J. Prescott (conductor), 9. Tenor, 15½ cwt.

At Christ Church, Southgate, Middlesex.

ON Thursday, the 1st inst., eight members of the St. James' Society, London, rang a peal of 5056 *GRANDSIRE MAJOR* in 3 hrs. 7 mins. J. Davidson, 1; H. A. Barnett, 2; J. Nunn, 3; G. B. Lucas, 4; H. T. Scarlett, 5; J. Cullen, 6; W. H. Freeman, 7; F. G. Newman (conductor), 8. Tenor, 25 cwt., in D.

At St. James', Trowbridge, Wilts.

ON Saturday, the 3rd inst., eight members of the Salisbury Diocesan Guild rang Holt's Ten-part peal of 5040 *GRANDSIRE TRIPLES* in 3 hrs. 4 mins. H. D. Adams, 1; A. P. Goddard, 2; J. Hayward, 3; A. Anderson, 4; W. McCaffrey, 5; T. Blackburn (conductor), 6; W. W. Gifford, 7; C. A. Clements, 8. Tenor, 23 cwt., in E flat. Mr. Anderson came from Bristol, and this is his first peal on a bob-bell. The first time Holt's Ten-part peal has been rung in this tower since March 1826.

At St. Mary Magdalen, Twickenham, Surrey.

ON Saturday, the 3rd inst., eight members of the Surrey Association rang Rev. C. D. P. Davies' Five-part peal of 5040 *GRANDSIRE TRIPLES* in 2 hrs. 48 mins. C. Slade, 1; E. F. Strange (conductor), 2; C. E. Malim, 3; J. Strutt, 4; J. Harris, 5; J. Wright, 6; G. Gray, 7; J. Smith, 8. Tenor, 19 cwt.

At the Parish Church, Upton St. Leonard's, Gloucestershire.

ON Saturday, the 3rd inst., eight members of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association rang Holt's Original peal of 5040 *GRANDSIRE TRIPLES* in 3 hrs. ¼ min. H. G. Gardener (conductor), 1; W. J. Sevier, 2; H. Mitchell, 3; R. J. Wilkins, 4; D. J. Aston, 5; S. E. Romans, 6; A. A. Waite, 7; T. White, 8. Tenor, 17½ cwt., in F. All members of the local band.

At St. Andrew's, Hagbourne, Bucks.

ON Saturday, the 3rd inst., eight members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild rang a peal of 5184 *DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR* in 3 hrs. 6 mins. T. Short, 1; F. Field, 2; H. D. Butteridge, 3; C. Hounslow, 4; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 5; H. Baker, 6; A. Thomas, 7; J. W. Washbrook (composer and conductor), 8. Tenor, 23½ cwt. The first peal in the method on the bells; and, although the 7th and 8th did not 'go' well, the bells were exceedingly well struck.

At Christ Church, Oldbury, Worcestershire.

ON Saturday, the 3rd inst., eight members of the Society for the Arch-deaconry of Stafford rang T. Day's Six-part peal of 5040 *GRANDSIRE TRIPLES* in 2 hrs. 50 mins. W. H. Godden,* 1; E. Pemberton,* 2; Jos. Timms, 3; H. Slaney, 4; S. Atkins,* 5; S. Reeves (conductor), 6; C. Price, 7; W. Smith, 8. Tenor, 10½ cwt. * First peal in this Society. Mr. Pemberton, who was elected a member in the tower, came from Bury St. Edmunds; Timms and Slaney, Tamworth; Smith, Darlaston; Atkins, Willenhall; Godden, Handsworth; and the rest from West Bromwich.

At St. John the Baptist's, Croydon, Surrey.

ON Monday, the 5th inst., eight members of the Surrey Association rang Holt's original peal of 5040 *GRANDSIRE TRIPLES* in 3 hrs. 30 mins. H. C. Haley (conductor), 1; H. Dudley, 2; W. J. Chambers, 3; A. B. Carpenter, 4;

W. Stales, 5; A. Bruce, 6; T. Verrall, 7; W. Hill and S. Mayhew, 8. Tenor, 32 cwt., in E flat.

At St. Lawrence, Appleton, Berks.

ON Monday, the 5th inst., ten members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild rang a peal of 12,041 *STEDMAN CATERS* in 7 hrs. 26 mins. F. White, 1; G. H. Phillott, 2; E. Holifield, 3; W. Bennett, 4; H. Baker, 5; G. Holifield, 6; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 7; J. Avery, 8; J. W. Washbrook (composer and conductor), 9; S. White, 10. Tenor, 14½ cwt. The above is the longest peal yet rung in the method, and this is the first attempt.

ON Tuesday, the 6th inst., at the above Church, eight members of the same Guild rang a peal of 5056 *SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR* in 2 hrs. 58 mins. F. White, 1; E. Holifield, 2; H. Baker, 3; W. Bennett, 4; C. Hounslow, 5; J. W. Washbrook, 6; G. Holifield, 7; Rev. F. E. Robinson (conductor), 8. Composed by Mr. N. J. Pitstow.

At All Saints', Loughborough, Leicestershire.

ON Friday, the 9th inst., the day of the funeral of the late Duke of Rutland, Lord-Lieutenant of the county, a muffled peal was attempted on the ring of ten bells by the Loughborough Branch of the Midland Counties' Association of Change-ringers; but, unfortunately, after ringing nearly three hours the conductor had to call 'stand.' A. Cresser, 1; W. T. Billinghamurst, 2; G. Draycott, 3; A. Millis, 4; S. Smith, 5; A. R. Aldham, 6; J. Hardy, 7; W. Birkinshaw, 8; J. W. Taylor, jun. (conductor), 9; E. Wightman, 10.

At St. Andrew's, Litchurch, Derby.

ON Saturday, the 10th inst., eight members of the Midland Counties' Association and the St. Andrew's Society rang Holt's Ten-part peal of 5040 *GRANDSIRE TRIPLES* in 3 hrs. 9 mins. C. Draper, 1; T. Alton, 2; A. E. Thompson, 3; W. Midgley, 4; C. Hart, 5; H. C. Woodward (conductor), 6; J. W. Thompson, 7; T. Albutt, 8. The above peal was rung in honour of the Silver Wedding of T.R.H. the Prince and Princess of Wales. Tenor, 21 cwt., in E flat.

ON the Sunday evening following, for Divine service, the above Society rang a touch of 1008 *GRANDSIRE TRIPLES*. W. Shardlow, 1; T. Alton, 2; A. E. Thompson, 3; W. Midgley, 4; J. W. Thompson, 5; H. C. Woodward, 6; C. Hart (conductor), 7; T. Albutt, 8.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH, SAWBRIDGEWORTH, HERTS.—ON Tuesday evening, the 21st ult., with the bells deeply muffled, 1008 *GRANDSIRE TRIPLES* in 39 mins. N. W. Tarling (conductor), 1; A. Brown, 2; T. Saban, 3; W. J. Pleasance, 4; W. Morris, 5; H. Saban, 6; P. Springham, 7; F. W. Tarling, 8. Also with the bells half muffled, a 504 in the same method. N. W. Tarling (conductor), 1; A. Brown, 2; T. Saban, 3; F. W. Tarling, 4; W. Morris, 5; W. J. Pleasance, 6; H. Saban, 7; P. Springham, 8. The above was rung as a token of respect to the memory of Corporal Joseph Vick, late of the 4th Light Dragoons, who was one of the Six Hundred in the Balacava Charge. He had latterly resided with his son at Sawbridgeworth, where he died on the 14th ult. The funeral (which was a military one) took place on Tuesday, the 21st ult.

AT SUTTERTON, LINCOLNSHIRE.—ON Saturday afternoon, the 25th ult., several members of the East Lincolnshire Association visited this place, by the kind invitation of the Rev. A. C. Rowley, and rang at the parish church, on the back six bells, 720 of *BOB MINOR* (18 bobs and 2 singles). J. Sharp (Freeston), 1; G. Clow (Sutton), 2; A. Barber (Freeston), 3; F. Clow (Sutton), 4; T. Richardson (Kirtton), 5; E. Mason (Boston), 6. Also a half peal by T. Richardson, F. Harwood (Kirtton), A. Barber, F. Clow, J. Sharp, G. Clow. The Rev. A. C. Rowley kindly entertained the company to tea at the Vicarage. Two honorary members were admitted—the Rev. A. Rowley and F. M. Sealy, M.D. (Sutton). Another half peal was rung by the same company, after which, having spent a pleasant evening, the time came for departure. The next practice will be held at Kirtton, on March 10th.

AT ST. STEPHEN'S, ROCHESTER ROW, LONDON.—ON Sunday, the 26th ult., for Divine service in the evening, 1316 *GRANDSIRE TRIPLES* in 50 mins. J. Pryer, 1; H. R. Newton (conductor), 2; J. Willshire, 3; T. S. Bell, 4; W. Carter, 5; H. T. Ellis, 6; J. N. Oxborrow, 7; W. Croyley, 8.

AT SS. GREGORY AND PETER'S, SUDBURY, SUFFOLK.—Muffled Peal.—ON Tuesday, the 28th ult., the bells were rung deeply muffled on the occasion of the funeral of Mr. Thomas Smith. In the evening the bells were rung half muffled, and a fine touch of *BOB MAJOR* (1392 changes) was rung in one hour. F. Tolliday, 1; M. Silvester, 2; W. Griggs, 3; W. Cross, 4; W. Howell, 5; A. Scott, 6; H. Harper, 7; C. Sillitoe (conductor), 8. Tenor, 23 cwt.

A NEW BRANCH OF CHURCH BELL-RINGERS.—We are glad to announce that a Wirral Branch of the Chester Diocesan Guild of Church Bell-Ringers has been duly constituted, and an efficient committee nominated, of which the Vicar of Bidston (Rev. J. F. Buckler), is chairman, and H. A. Heywood, Esq., of Caldly Manor, is the treasurer and secretary. The representative from the Bromborough ringers, on the committee, is Mr. Henry Bird. The parishes affiliated to our own for the purpose of mutual practice in their church towers (with the consent of their respective rectors and vicars), are: Bidston, Birkenhead (St. Mary), Wallasey, Bebington, West Kirby, Neston, Eastham, Woodchurch, Thurstaston, and Upton. Each ringer on the committee is responsible for his tower being open, and should be there while it is open.—*Bromborough Parish Magazine*, March 1888.

A BISHOP'S OPINION OF 'VINO SACRO.'—'I am glad to testify to the excellence of "Vino Sacro," as in every essential particular adapted to its sacred purpose. I now use no other.'—(Signed), 'J. N. Staley, D.D., Vicar of Croxhall, formerly Bishop of Honolulu. To Messrs. Hicks and Co., Plymouth.'—[See ADVT. at end.]

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Mr. H. Johnson and the St. Martin's Society, Birmingham.

On Tuesday, February 28th, there was a friendly gathering of ringers in Birmingham to celebrate the seventy-ninth birthday of Mr. Henry Johnson. A peal of *STEDMAN CINQUES* was attempted by H. Bastable, W. R. Small, H. Johnson, jun., T. Reynolds, A. Thomas, C. H. Hattersley (Sheffield), J. W. Cartwright, A. P. Heywood, Esq. (Derby), C. Stanbridge, T. Miller, E. Pemberton (Bury St. Edmunds), E. Rowland (Wrexham); but after ringing over two hours and a half, it unfortunately was lost. At 6 p.m. about twenty-four ringers assembled at the 'Woolpack Hotel,' Moor Street, where an excellent dinner had been provided. The chair was occupied by W. Jones, Esq., churchwarden of St. Martin's, and the vice-chair by A. P. Heywood, Esq. The Chairman proposed the loyal toast, after which A. P. Heywood, Esq., in a very neat speech, gave the toast of 'Our dear Old Mother Church.' Mr. C. Hattersley was entrusted with the toast of the evening, and, in proposing 'The Health of Mr. Johnson,' said it was now about twenty-one years since he first had the pleasure of making his acquaintance, and when he looked back upon that time he felt how very much he was indebted to Mr. Johnson for what he had done in the science. This toast was received with musical honours.

A New Chiming Apparatus at Eydon, Northants.
Jubilee Memorial.

A Chiming Apparatus, invented by the late Rev. H. T. Ellacombe, has lately been fixed in this church by Mr. Hooper of Woodbury, near Exeter. It was used for the first time on the 10th inst., at the services held in commemoration of the Silver Wedding of the Prince and Princess of Wales.

The Surrey Association.

The next Quarterly Meeting will be held at Wimbledon, by the kind permission of the Rev. Canon Haygarth, on Easter Monday, April 2nd. The tower will be open for ringing from 4 p.m. The tea at 6 p.m., at the 'Welcome Coffee Tavern,' will be free to all those ringing members whose subscriptions are paid, and who send notice to the manager by Thursday, March 29th (at the latest), of their intention to be present. All others will be charged 1s. 6d. a-head. The business meeting will follow the tea.

The Report for the past year is now ready for distribution, containing times of practice at churches in union, performances, balance-sheet, and list of members. It is issued at the reduced price of 2d. to members whose subscriptions have been paid, and it is hoped that as many members as possible will take copies, so that the whole edition may be utilised. Members requiring copies will please send word to

ARTHUR B. CARPENTER, *Hon. Sec.*, 34 Dingwall Road, Croydon.

[We have been favoured with a copy of this Report. We would draw attention to the 'list of times of practice at churches in union.' This is a most useful list, and should always be inserted in such Reports. We hail with gladness the fact that the peal record contains a fresh method—*STEDMAN*.—ED. C. B.]

The Waltham Abbey Society, Essex.

The above Society of Change-ringers beg to announce that it is their intention to hold a Ringing Day at the above place on Easter Monday, when they will be pleased to welcome as many visitors as may be disposed to attend. A dinner will be provided at the 'Green Dragon' Inn at two o'clock, tickets 2s. 6d. each. Those visitors who intend dining with the Society will oblige by forwarding their names, not later than Saturday, March 24th, to the Secretary.

W. C. DYMCK.

'Green Dragon Inn,' Waltham Abbey, Essex.

Holt Society, Aston-juxta-Birmingham.

The usual Quarterly Meeting will be held at 'The Ring of Bells,' on Thursday, the 29th inst., at 7.45 p.m. W. H. GODDEN, *Secretary*.

The Worcestershire and adjoining Districts Change-ringing Association.

The Annual Meeting of the above Association will take place on Easter Monday, April 2nd, at Worcester. As no definite arrangements have yet been made, full particulars will appear next week. J. SMITH, *Hon. Sec.*

CHANGE-RINGING.

At Christ Church, Oldbury, Worcestershire.

On Saturday, the 3rd inst., eight members of the Society of Change-ringers for the Archdeaconry of Stafford rang J. Day's Six-part peal of 5040 *GRANDSIRE TRIPLES* in 2 hrs. 50 mins. W. H. Godden, 1; E. Pemberton, 2; J. Timms, 3; H. Slaney, 4; S. Atkins, 5; S. Reeves (conductor), 6; E. Price, 7; W. Smith, 8. Mr. Pemberton came from Bury St. Edmunds, and was elected a member in the tower; Timms and Slaney, Tamworth.

At St. Helen's, Abingdon, Berks.

On Saturday, the 10th inst., eight members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild rang *Tharstan's* peal of 5040 *STEDMAN TRIPLES* in 3 hrs. J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 1; T. Short, 2; H. Humphrey, 3; T. Blackburn* (Salisbury), 4; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 5; W. Napper, 6; J. Brown,* 7; H. Hyde, 8. Tenor, 20 cwt. * First peal in *STEDMAN*. [§ This name is sometimes spelt *Thurstans*. In Hubbard's *Elements of Campanalogia* it is spelt as above, and we believe that to be correct.]

At All Saints', Duffield, Derbyshire.

On Saturday, the 10th inst., eight members of the Midland Counties' Association (Duffield Society) rang a peal of 5008 *DOUBLE OXFORD BOB*

MAJOR in 2 hrs. 55 mins. H. Midgley (first peal), 1; A. P. Heywood, Esq. (composer and conductor), 2; S. Johnson, 3; E. Moreton, 4; G. Hingley, 5; J. Howe, 6; B. Sugden, 7; W. Hickling, 8. Tenor, 17 cwt. It had been intended to ring a peal to celebrate H.R.H. the Prince of Wales' Silver Wedding Day, but in consequence of the death of H.M. the Emperor of Germany, the bells were instead rung half muffled. In this composition the 2nd is never in either 5th's or 6th's place.

At the Parish Church, Painswick, Gloucestershire.

On Saturday, the 17th inst., eight members of the Society of Painswick Youths and Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association rang Holt's Ten-part peal of 5040 *GRANDSIRE TRIPLES* in 3 hrs. 11 mins. A. Trigg, 1; A. J. Gwinnett, 2; W. Ryland, 3; W. Hale (conductor), 4; J. Wager, 5; J. Everatt, 6; G. Smith, 7; T. Wright, 8. Tenor, 28 cwt. This is the first peal by a local band for twenty-six years. They have all been taught by William Hale. It is the first peal for the 3rd, 5th, 6th, and 8th men, and first with a bob bell for the 7th man. Mr. David Mannent was timekeeper and attested to the good ringing.

At the Oak Lane Rooms, Ipswich, Suffolk.

On Monday, the 22nd inst., six members of the Ancient Society of College Youths and the Norwich Diocesan Association (St. Mary-le-Tower Society) rang, on handbells retained in hand, a peal of 5016 *BOB MAXIMUS* in 3 hrs. 25 mins. W. Motts, 1-2; W. P. Garrett, 3-4; J. Motts (composer and conductor), 5-6; A. E. Durrant (first peal), 7-8; F. Tillet, 9-10; S. Tillet, 11-12. Tenor, 20 size, in D. Referee, Mr. R. Hawes, who took down every lead as they were rung. It is supposed to be the first peal of *BOB MAXIMUS* rung on handbells retained in hand.

At the College Youths' Meeting-House, St. Paul's Churchyard, London.

LATELY, four members of the Ancient Society of College Youths and the Essex Association rang, on handbells retained in hand, Holt's Original peal of 5040 *GRANDSIRE TRIPLES* in 2 hrs. 20½ mins. H. R. Newton, 1-2; G. T. McLaughlin, 3-4; W. H. L. Buckingham (conductor), 5-6; C. F. Winny, 7-8. Umpires, Mr. Pearce of Maidstone, and Messrs. G. Wild and W. H. Judd of London. This peal was rung to commemorate the non-conducted handbell peal (Holt's Original), rung on March 11th, 1887.

At ST. MARY'S, BEDDINGTON, SURREY.—On Saturday, the 3rd inst., eight members of the Surrey Association rang a date touch of *STEDMAN TRIPLES* (1888 changes) in 1 hr. 10 mins. E. Bennett, 1; J. Plowman, 2; A. B. Carpenter (composer and conductor), 3; J. Fayers, 4; J. W. Trappitt, 5; C. Bance, 6; C. Gordon, 7; W. Burkin, 8.

At THE PARISH CHURCH, HASLINGDEN, LANCASHIRE.—On Monday, the 5th inst., eight members of the local Society rang their first 518 *GRANDSIRE TRIPLES*. J. P. Holt, 1; J. H. Ormerod, 2; H. Halstead, 3; J. Barnes, 4; R. Pickup, 5; R. Wilson, 6; H. Fielding, 7; W. H. Heys, 8. Tenor, 18 cwt.

At ALL SAINTS', WORCESTER.—On Monday, the 5th inst., for practice, 828 *GRANDSIRE CATERS*. W. Pudge, 1; N. Wale, 2; W. Powell, 3; H. Pessant, 4; F. Owen, 5; W. Blandford, 6; H. Wilkes (conductor), 7; S. Cleal (Tewkesbury), 8; S. Cotton, 9; T. Malin, 10.

At ALL SAINTS', HERTFORD, HERTS.—On Monday, the 5th inst., for practice, 504 *STEDMAN TRIPLES* by the local company. J. Jauncey, 1; H. Phillips, 2; J. Staples, 3; Rev. Canon Wigram, 4; M. Ellsmore, 5; J. Cull, 6; S. Knight, 7; F. George, 8. Conducted by S. Knight, it being his first time of conducting *STEDMAN*. Tenor, 22 cwt. On Tuesday, the 6th inst., on the occasion of Mr. Justice Denman coming to Hertford, 504 *GRANDSIRE TRIPLES*. J. Pomfret, 1; J. Jauncey, 2; J. Staples, 3; H. Phillips, 4; M. Ellsmore (conductor), 5; J. Cull, 6; J. G. Crawley, 7; F. George, 8.

At ST. ANDREW'S, NETHERTON, WORCESTERSHIRE.—On Thursday evening, the 8th inst., for practice, 720 *OXFORD TREBLE BOB*. F. Hotchkiss, 1; W. Micklewright, 2; C. W. Bassano, Esq., 3; H. Mason, 4; A. H. Bassano, Esq., 5; J. Smith (conductor), 6. Also 720 *GRANDSIRE MINOR* in 27 mins. B. Townsend, 1; C. W. Bassano, Esq. (conductor), 2; A. H. Bassano, Esq., 3; H. Mason, 4; W. Micklewright, 5; J. Smith, 6. Also on Saturday, the 10th inst., a date touch of 1888 *GRANDSIRE* and *PLAIN BOB* was rung in 1 hr. 10 mins. E. Hampton, 1; F. Hotchkiss, 2; J. Townsend, 3; R. Round, 4; J. Prestidge, 5; J. Smith, 6. The above was arranged and conducted by J. Smith, and was rung to commemorate the Silver Wedding of T.R.H. the Prince and Princess of Wales. Also on Sunday morning, for Divine service, 720 *KENT TREBLE BOB* in 27 mins. R. Round, 1; H. Mason, 2; R. Bird, 3; M. J. Robinson, 4; J. Prestidge, 5; J. Smith, 6. Tenor, 12½ cwt. Messrs. C. W. and A. H. Bassano, H. Mason, and R. Bird, came from Old Hill; Micklewright, Dudley; Robinson, Kates Hill; the rest belong to the local company. Also on Thursday evening, the 15th, for practice, 720 *CANTERBURY PLEASURE* in 27 mins. B. Townsend, 1; J. Prestidge, 2; J. Townsend, 3; R. Round, 4; W. Micklewright (conductor), 5; J. Smith, 6. This is the first 720 in this method by all except J. Smith, and is also the first on the bells.

At ST. PAUL'S, WALKDEN, LANCASHIRE.—On Monday, the 14th inst., 720 *BOB MINOR* in 24½ mins. A. Potter, 1; Jos. Potter, 2; S. Oakes, 3; Jas. Potter (conductor), 4; J. A. Williamson, 5; W. Denner, 6. Also, on Tuesday, the 13th inst., 720 *BOB MINOR* in 24 mins., to celebrate the twenty-first birthday of Miss Martin, eldest daughter of W. Y. Martin, Esq., M.D., of Walkden. J. Brooks (conductor), 1; J. Worthington, 2; S. Oakes, 3; J. Williamson, 4; A. Potter, 5; J. Potter, 6.

evil being cut off for Him at one stroke, and infinite possibilities planted in Him, available for us all. Thus, perhaps, the origin of species by the transmutation of individuals may in time take its place among the possibilities, if not the certainties, of science; and the great mystery of Christianity, instead of remaining for ever an isolated fact, may be classed as an orderly sequence and term in creation.

But, be this as it may, the development of species by Transmutation, whether it took place by minute variations, as Darwin supposes, or by some force unrecognised by Darwin, as geology seems to require, or whether each species was created direct from the dust of the earth—so long as God is the Creator, and the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, no Christian need tremble for his faith.

J. F.

THE MANCHESTER CHURCH CONGRESS.

THE following Programme has been drawn up by the Subjects Committee :

FREE TRADE HALL.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 2ND.

10.30 to 1.—*President's Address*.—To what extent results of Historical and Scientific Criticism, especially of the Old Testament, should be recognised in Sermons and Teaching.

2.30 to 5.—*The Church in Wales*:—(a) Tithes; (b) Work; (c) Vernacular Preaching and Literature.

7.30 to 10.—*Working Men's Meeting*.—The Needs of Human Nature and their Supply in Christianity.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 3RD.

10.30 to 1.—*Foreign Missions of the Church of England and of the Protestant Episcopal Church of the United States of America*:—(a) To English-speaking people, in the Colonies, in other Countries; (b) To non-Christian people—Mohammedans, Buddhists, Hindus, &c.

2.30 to 5.—*Philosophic Doubts*:—(a) Atheism; (b) Agnosticism; (c) Pessimism.

7.30 to 10.—*Working Men's Meeting*.—Hindrances to Church Work and Progress.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 4TH.

10.30 to 1.—*Adaptation of the Prayer-book to Modern Needs*:—(a) Creeds and the Thirty-nine Articles; (b) Catechism; (c) Services.

2.30 to 5.—*Maintenance of Voluntary Elementary Schools*: should the Education in them be Free and Religious?

7.30 to 10.—*Working Men's Meeting*.—Economics:—(a) Competition; (b) Co-operation; (c) Over-population.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 5TH.

10.30 to 1.—*Devotional Meeting*.—Christian Service:—(a) Worship; (b) Almsgiving; (c) Work; (d) Home Life.

2.30 to 5.—*Church Finance*:—(a) Proportionate Giving; (b) Endowments and their effect on Voluntary Contributions; (c) Redistribution of Endowments and Taxation of Incomes.

7.30 to 10.—*Working Men's Meeting*.—Sunday Observance:—(a) Closing of Public-houses; (b) Opening of Libraries, Museums, &c.; (c) Sunday Recreation and Travelling.

TOWN HALL.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 2ND.

2.30 to 5.—How to Supply the Defects of the Parochial System by means of Evangelising Work.

7.30 to 10.—Gambling and Betting.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 3RD.

2.30 to 5.—*Temperance*: Demoralisation of Uncivilised and Heathen Races by the Drink Traffic.

7.30 to 10.—*The Sunday-School System in relation to the Church*.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 4TH.

2.30 to 5.—*The Bearing of Democracy on Church Life and Work*.

7.30 to 10.—*Conversazione*.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 5TH.

2.30 to 5.—*Eschatology*:—(a) Punishment; (b) Restoration.

7.30 to 10.—*Lay Help*:—(a) of Man: in Things Secular; in Things Spiritual; (b) of Woman: in Sisterhoods; as Deaconesses; as Nurses; as District Visitors; as Teaching Sisters.

CONCERT HALL.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 2ND.

2.30 to 5.—*The Duty of the Church to Seamen*.

7.30 to 10.—*Positivism*: its Truth and its Fallacies.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 3RD.

2.30 to 5.—*Disposal of the Dead*:—(a) Funeral Reform; (b) Cremation.

7.30 to 10.—*Social Purity*.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 4TH.

2.30 to 5.—*Lay Representation in Church Councils, and Statutory Parochial Councils*.

7.30 to 10.—*Free and Open Churches*; Reserved Seats and their Influence on Attendance.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 5TH.

2.30 to 5.—*The Increase of the Episcopate*.

7.30 to 10.—*The Desirableness of Reviving the Common Religious Life of Men*:—(a) Clergymen; (b) Laymen; (c) in connexion with Missions to the Heathen.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

The late Mr. C. Boxall.

WE regret to announce the death of Mr. C. Boxall, at the age of sixty-seven at his residence, Arundel Lodge, Howard Road, Dorking, on Monday, February 23rd, after a short illness. The remains were interred on the following Saturday in the Dorking Cemetery amid sorrow and sympathy, a large number of friends following the cortege. Amongst them were about thirty ringers from Dorking, Leatherhead, Ashted, Reigate, Betchworth, Buckland, &c. Deceased was a member of the College Youths, the Winchester Diocesan Guild, and had been a member of the local company for over fifty years, having rung his first peal at the age of seventeen; he was also captain and treasurer of the local society. Deeply muffled touches of GRANDSIRE and UNION were rung before and after the funeral service, and in the evening an attempt was made for a peal, but finished after ringing 1 hr. 50 mins. Muffled touches were also rung on the Monday evening following.

Restoration of the Bells at Stratton Strawless, Norfolk.

THE fine ring of six bells in St. Margaret's Church in this parish have for a long time been in a most unsatisfactory condition, as they were neither tunable nor ringable. Some months ago Miss Helen Matchett, daughter of the rector, made an appeal for funds to put the bells into a fitting and proper condition. Too much credit cannot be given to this young lady for the energy she has displayed. All lovers of bells and all practical ringers, as well as the parishioners, must tender her their hearty thanks. Thursday, March 15th, was the day appointed for the opening ceremony. At 11 a.m. a short and simple service was conducted in the church by the rector (the Rev. H. H. Matchett, M.A., R.N.). Special Psalms and Collects were used, and the well-known hymn,

'Now at length our bells are mounted
To their holy place on high.'

was very heartily sung by the choir and the ringers and congregation present. Immediately after service ringing commenced. A well-struck 720 of OXFORD TREBLE BOB MINOR was rung by the following band:—F. Day (Eye), 1; G. Day (Eye), 2; Rev. N. Bolingbroke (Secretary Association of Ringers, Norwich Diocese), 3; G. Moy (Aylsham), 4; P. Sadler (St. Peter Mancroft, Norwich), 5; Captain A. P. Moore (Redenhall), 6. The Aylsham band next took the ropes and did some excellent ringing, as also the St. Peter Mancroft, Norwich, band at a later hour. The ringing was continued by the local men, and others from Coltishall, Hevingham, Marsham, Tunstead, and Worstead. The work of restoring the bells has been carried out by the firm of G. & F. Day of Eye, Suffolk, and has been most skilfully and carefully completed. The old frame has been strengthened, and the bells have been rehung with new stocks, wheels, and all other gear. The bells have been fitted with reversible crown staples, so that at any time the clappers may be made to strike upon a fresh point. They have also been tuned, so now give forth a sound musically correct. All present acknowledged that the 'go' of the bells was excellent. A chiming apparatus on the Ellacombe system has been constructed, and is the gift of the rector and his family in memory of Queen Victoria's Jubilee. The handbell-ringing and tune-playing of Mr. Knights and his company added to the life of the gathering.

Ely Diocesan Association.

THERE will be a Meeting on Easter Monday at Ely. The tower of St. Mary's will be open to ringers. Dinner and Business Meeting 2 p.m., charge, 2s. As this meeting is most important, the Committee earnestly hope for a large attendance. Members and friends intending to be present should signify their intentions without delay to the Hon. Sec. The usual concession has been applied for to the G.E.R. K. H. SMITH, Hon. Sec.

The Cambridge Road, Ely, March 19th.

The Bedfordshire Association.

THE Annual General Meeting of this Association will be held at Bedford on Easter Monday next. Change-ringing at St. Paul's and St. Mary's churches during the day. A dinner will be provided at the 'Clarence' Hotel at 1.30, to be followed by the transaction of the usual business. At 5.30 p.m. a short special service will take place at St. Paul's Church. Members and friends desirous of dining with the Society are requested to send in their names without delay to

CHARLES HERBERT, Hon. Sec.

Woburn, Beds, March 19th.

Kent County Association.

A DISTRICT MEETING will be held at Crayford on Monday, the 16th April. Committee Meeting at 2 p.m. to fix the place for the Annual Meeting and other business. It is proposed to ring at Dartford and at Erith. Those who wish to attend are requested to communicate with the Secretary, Rev. R. K. Hugessen, Wrinsted Court, Lenham.

Worcestershire and adjoining Districts Change-ringing Association.

THE next Annual Meeting of the above Association will be held on Easter Monday, April 2nd, in the Chapter-house, Worcester Cathedral, at 2.30 p.m. The Rev. T. L. Cloughton, M.A., Canon of Worcester, has kindly consented to preside. The towers of All Saints', St. Helen's, St. Swithin's, St. Martin's, St. John's, and arrangements are being made for the cathedral bells (if possible), to be open for ringing. All members who have not received notice to take this as one, and to note that all contributions not yet paid should be paid at this meeting, so that all names can appear in the Annual Report. Business:—To read notice convening meeting. To read minutes of last meeting. Confirming (or otherwise) of same. To propose new members. To consider a resolution passed at a previous meeting. Election of President,

Vice-Presidents, Lay Vice-Presidents, Master, Secretary, Treasurer, and Management Committee; and other miscellaneous business.

37 Simms Lane, Netherton, near Dudley.

JOHN SMITH, Hon. Sec.

The East Derbyshire Association.

A FORMAL Meeting was held in the Church Schoolroom, Clay Cross, early in October, 1887, which was adjourned till October 27, when the following belfries were represented; Ashover (five bells); Old Brampton (five bells); Crich (five bells); Clay Cross (six bells); North Wingfield (six bells); South Normanton and Morton (five bells). The Rev. G. Shipton (of Brampton) was elected to the chair, when the following gentlemen were unanimously elected as officers. President, Rev. Canon Massey, South Normanton; Vice-President, Rev. J. B. Nodder, Ashover; Hon. Treasurer, Rev. J. Oldham, Clay Cross; Hon. Secretary, Mr. J. Green, Clay Cross. The objects of the Association are similar to those adopted by the Midland Counties' Association. The first Annual Meeting will be held at Clay Cross on Easter Monday, when a sermon will be preached in St. Bartholomew's Church by the President. The bells will be open at 10 a.m., when all ringing friends will receive a hearty welcome.

The Midland Counties' Association of Change-ringers.

THE Sixth Annual Meeting of this Association will be held at Derby on Easter Monday, April 2nd, and the usual towers (except St. Luke's) will be open for ringing between the hours of 10 a.m. and 3 p.m., and from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Committee Meeting in St. Andrew's Parish-room at 3 p.m. Tea in the Schoolroom at 4 p.m.; tickets, 1s. each. General Meeting and Election of Officers immediately after tea, to which all ringers and friends are earnestly invited. Business:—(1.) To receive Officers' Report and Treasurer's Accounts; (2.) Election of Officers for the year 1888-9. Nominations (by Derby District):—President, A. Percival Heywood, Esq., Duffield Bank; Hon. Treasurer, W. Wakley, Burton; Hon. Secretary, J. Griffin, Burton. The Easter Hand-bell Competition will take place after the General Meeting. 5 St. Paul's Street East, Burton-on-Trent. JOSEPH GRIFFIN, Hon. Sec.

Though not at the head of the list of Diocesan and County Associations as regards number of peals rung in the year, the Midland Counties' Association is *facile princeps* in the matter of methods; and this last, we shall always maintain, is the true test of ringing skill and perseverance. There is little that calls for comment in the Report (published by Bemrose & Sons, Derby). The Association has achieved forty-three peals in ten methods; the balance-sheet exhibits a balance of cash in hand; and the members have increased from 245 to 273. There is an appreciative notice of the late Rev. J. H. Fish, whose sudden death was so sadly mourned by all.

The Long Peal at Appleton, Berks.

THE long peal of GRANDSIR CATERS at Appleton will not be attempted on Easter Monday, but on some future day, which will be duly announced.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At St. George-the-Martyr, Southwark, London.

ON Thursday, December 15th, 1887, eight members of the St. James' Society rang a Jubilee peal (Brook's Variation of Tharstan's peal) of 5040 STEDMAN TRILFES in 3 hrs. and 5 mins., to commemorate the fiftieth year of Her Majesty's reign and the tenth year of the Rev. Burman Cassin, M.A., as Rector of this church. H. Langdon, 1; F. Bate, 2; W. Cecil, 3; W. Weatherstone, 4; W. W. Thorne, 5; R. French (conductor), 6; A. Hayward, 7; G. Woodage, 8. The following is the copy of a tablet placed in the ringing-room:—Rev. Burman Cassin, M.A., rector; Rev. H. A. Geake, A.K.C., curate; G. A. Gillett, rector's warden; R. D. Hilton, J. Lansdale, churchwardens; G. Woodage, belfry keeper. This tablet was given by the Rector, Churchwardens, and other gentlemen; J. Rockley, G.B.A., J. Palmer, J. Stanford, and the above ringers.

At St. Peter's Cathedral, Liverpool.

ON Tuesday, the 13th inst., ten members of the Liverpool Youths' Society rang a peal of 5001 STEDMAN CATERS in 3 hrs. 15 mins. R. Williams, 1; J. R. Pritchard (composer), 2; T. Hammond, 3; C. Williams, 4; H. Coley, 5; G. Fisher, 6; W. Booth (conductor), 7; W. Davies, 8; Robert Williams, 9; W. Brooks, 10. Tenor, 25 cwt.

At St. Lawrence, Appleton, Berks.

ON Tuesday, the 20th inst., eight members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild rang 5376 SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR in 3 hrs. 10 mins. W. Finch, 1; E. Holifield, 2; T. Payne, 3; W. Bennett, 4; J. Avery, 5; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 6; G. Holifield, 7; J. W. Washbrook (composer and conductor), 8. Tenor, 14½ cwt.

At St. Sepulchre's, Holborn Viaduct, City of London.

ON Sunday, the 25th inst., the Annual Sermons were preached in aid of the Parochial Boys' and Girls' Schools, when the fine ring of ten bells (tenor, 31 cwt.) were rung at each of the three services, and the ringing conducted by Mr. Nelms and Mr. Lovett. The Bishop of Marlborough (Suffragan Bishop of London), preached in the morning, the Rev. J. R. Kennedy-Bell in the afternoon, and the Bishop of Brisbane (Dr. W. T. Thornhill-Webber) in the evening. The Lord Mayor and the Sheriffs of London and Middlesex attended in the morning.

On Monday, the 12th inst., at the above church, the local company, assisted by Messrs. Coppage of the Waterloo Society, and E. Elburn of Amersham, Bucks, rang muffled touches on the occasion of the funeral of the late Mrs. Bedford, wife of the vestry clerk of this parish.

RECEIVED ALSO.—F. E. Dawe (it will appear); W. J. Sevier; A. B. Carpenter; C. Gordon.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Unprofitable and Useless Prophecies.

SIR,—You thus designate (*Church Bells*, March 16) a statement to the effect that the death of the German Emperor paves the way for 'the greatest European war ever known.' I have not seen, and know nothing of the origin of the advertisement in the *Standard* from which this is quoted, and which goes on to assign certain dates to certain great coming events.

But, Sir, I do think it is worth while to point out that the Books of Daniel and Revelation offer to our notice a series of coincident (not contradictory) numbers by way of dates; and that these numbers, jointly and separately, have enabled many scholars and commentators to understand that between 1789 and 1920 events would happen in the world which imply plainly enough the break-up of certain existing empires and institutions, and the end of all things.

Passing over the names of two great men who studied and wrote on prophecy—Bishop Newton and Sir Isaac Newton—I come to a man who in 1701 wrote a book, in which he pointed out that 'at least before the year 1794' there would happen 'some new mortification to the chief supporters of Antichrist' [the Pope], and 'perhaps the French monarchy may begin to be considerably humbled.' (*Rise and Fall of Rome Papal*, p. 75.)

Elsewhere Fleming gives his reasons, drawn from Scripture, for anticipating 'the total and final destruction of Rome Papal in or about the year 2000.' (*Ibid.* p. 93.)

When these words were published Louis XIV. was in the plenitude of his power; and that evil days were in store for either the French monarchy or the Papacy might have been justly deemed the most improbable of contingencies.

Since Fleming's time many eminent and skilful students of prophecy have written on these matters; and it may be shown clearly that, however much the world may wonder, yet the French Revolution of 1789, the humiliation of the Papacy, by the imprisonment of the Pope by Napoleon in 1809; the break-up of the Turkish Empire, beginning with the Greek Revolution of 1820; the flight of the Pope in 1848; the downfall of Austria in 1859, and again in 1866; the uprising of Italy in 1860; the degradation of Spain; the downfall of France and uprising of Germany in 1870; the further humiliation of Turkey in 1834, 1840, 1853, 1877, and 1882—have all been important zero points in the prophetic barometer, the index to which is to be found in Dan. vii. 25; viii. 13, 14; xii. 7, 11, 12; Rev. xi. 2, 3; xii. 6, 14; xiii. 5.

We know from Ezek. iv. 6, that in prophecy a day stands for a year; and each of the periods mentioned in the series just cited represents 1260 years, 1290 years, 1335 years, and 2300 years respectively. And how these are critical periods in the history of Europe will be seen in Elliott's *Horæ Apocalyptice*; Hoare's *Rome, Turkey, and Jerusalem*; Albert Barnes's *Commentary on Daniel and Revelation*; Grattan Guinness's *Approaching End of the Age*; and other works; and last but not least, in Bishop Christopher Wordsworth's *Is not the Church of Rome the Babylon of Revelation?* a most interesting and valuable shillingsworth.

If I thought you would give me space for two or three articles on this subject, I would gladly prepare a concise summary of the present state of our knowledge on these topics, in which it would be easy to show, by the testimony of others (no original crotchets of my own!), that a great European war is drawing near, the like of which it has never before fallen to the historian to describe; and that this war is merely a subsidiary incident in a series of events recorded in dim outline in Holy Scripture; of which the French Revolution of 1789, the downfall of the Papacy in 1866, and the wasting of Turkey (at this moment going on), are to be regarded as prophecies fulfilled; the unfulfilled features including a European war, probably initiated by Russia; the restoration of the Jews to Palestine as their own possession, independently of Russians and Turks; and the entire sweeping away of Pope and Popery, already undermined and toppling over as the result of 1866, which was the 1260th year of the rise of the Papacy in one of its hydra-headed aspects.

G. F. CHAMBERS.

Carlton Club.

Journalistic Preachers.

SIR,—Your correspondent, 'S. I.', does not relish the truth being brought home to those clergymen who have received such a strong rebuke at the hands of the reverend gentleman he refers to as a popular Bloomsbury preacher; but there are others, besides the reverend gentleman alluded to, who think that it would be much better if many of the newly ordained deacons and priests knew a little more of everyday life, and would show that they had a knowledge of what is passing in the world, whether their Bishop requires them to pass an examination in political economy or not. Cultured and serious men do not care for hearing a preacher tell them that 'it' is a personal pronoun, nor that the Disciples found the colt at a place where two ways met, and brought it to their Master, and then ask the congregation if they have been found and brought to Christ? And yet such things are said from the pulpit. Again: there are clergymen in the Church who are so anxious for numerical results that they will hunt up any number of persons who are willing to be confirmed, so that the numbers may tell as to their zeal, not at all caring whether they are prepared or not. Is not this inviting men (if not literally from the beer-shop to the sacrament), unprepared to the sacrament, and should not such be preached against? But for doing so is the preacher to have applied to him such characteristics as unfairness, untruth, clap-trap, and vulgarity? I did not hear the sermon referred to, but am sure that 'S. I.' has no right to apply vulgarity to the language used by the preacher, as the said preacher is incapable of using vulgar language. As

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

'Grandsire.' By the late Jasper Whitfield Snowdon, &c.

ALL ringers, whether beginners or proficients in the art, will hail the appearance of this work with delight, for it may safely be said that everyone may derive some kind of pleasure and profit from the study of it. The learner will find the most minute directions to guide him in mastering the method, while the conductor and the composer will obtain much valuable information in the higher branches. Coming, as it does, from the pen of the late lamented author of *TREBLE BOB* and *STANDARD METHODS*, the book proclaims its character on the title-page, and all ringers will know that it is the outcome of much patient, laborious investigation. In these days of friendly rivalry in the matter of 'longest lengths,' it is of the utmost importance to those concerned to have the history of the method complete, and, thanks to Mr. Snowdon's labours, we have it here in a clear and concise form.

Facing the title-page is a capital portrait of the author, and following the preface is a delightful memoir of him by his brother, the Editor, in reading which one almost feels to have the pleasure and honour of knowing him. It paints a rare character—that of a man who would have made a name in whatever position he might have been placed.

The first and second chapters treat of *GRANDSIRE DOUBLES* and *MINOR*, which are fairly exhaustively described. The third chapter is concerned with the method of *TRIPLES*, and contains directions for calling short touches and quarter peals. The young conductor will here find much useful information, notably about page 51. Chapters IV. to X. give a complete account of all peals of *TRIPLES*. It is here that the great usefulness of the work is most apparent, for it supplies an obvious want, no such complete collection having been hitherto published in a concise form.

Then follow the chapters on the history of *GRANDSIRE*, to which allusion has already been made. Finally, there is a most interesting Appendix, from the pen of the Rev. C. D. P. Davies, mainly on lines already sketched out by the author, but left unfinished. The remarks on composing, proving, varying, and reversing, and on conducting and calling round, are most valuable. There is also an account of his investigations concerning five and ten-part peals of *TRIPLES*, and a review of Mr. W. H. Thompson's 'Note on *GRANDSIRE TRIPLES*.' It should be remarked that Chapter X. was left unfinished when our talented author was called to his rest, and here again Mr. Davies has supplied the deficiency with great skill. He has ably performed the difficult task of completing another's unfinished labours; and since it was ordained that Snowdon was not to see the fulfilment of his design, it is a most happy thing that the Editor was able to secure the co-operation of Mr. Davies. Probably many ringers will regret that the consideration of *CATERS* and *CINQUES* was not within the scope of the work, but a little reflection will show that to treat of these subjects in the exhaustive manner in which *TRIPLES* are considered, would require a very much bulkier volume than the admirable work before us. A. B. C.

The Celebration of Two Non-conducted Peals of Grandsire Triples.

On Friday evening, the 16th ult., a supper took place at St. Paul's Meeting-House, St. Paul's Churchyard, to celebrate the non-conducted peals (Holt's Original and Holt's Ten-part) rung on handbells by Messrs. Mitchell, Buckingham, Winny, and M'Laughlin, and also a peal of *STEDMAN TRIPLES*, likewise rung on handbells, and conducted by Mr. Winny. Eighteen sat down to supper; namely, Messrs. Winny, Haworth, Rowbotham, J. M. Hayes, H. R. Newton, Dawe, Horrex, G. Mash, M'Laughlin, Judd, and R. T. Woodley (Hon. Sec.); Messrs. W. H. L. Buckingham, Mitchell, Cartmel, and Debenham (St. Albans); and Messrs. W. Baron, J. Barry, and G. Wild, of the Royal Cumberland Youths. The room was tastefully arranged, the tables being lighted with fairy lamps.

Mr. Woodley took the chair and Mr. W. Baron the vice-chair. After the cloth was removed the Chairman gave the toast, 'The Queen and Royal Family.' The next toast was 'The Ancient Society of College Youths, and the London and Provincial Associations.' Mr. G. Mash replied on behalf of his own Society, and Mr. Baron for the remainder. The latter alluded to the non-conducted peals, stating that he considered it an honour to be umpire to them, and also the *STEDMAN TRIPLES*, and added that he hoped it would not be long before he was asked to be umpire at an attempt for a silent peal of *STEDMAN*.

The next toast was that of 'The Non-Conducted Peal Band' (Messrs. Winny, Mitchell, Buckingham, and M'Laughlin). It was well received, the Chairman praising the patience and perseverance shown by them, which ultimately led them to success, and enabled them to accomplish their performances. Mr. Winny and Mr. Buckingham having replied, the toast of 'The Ringing Periodicals' was given, coupled with the name of Mr. J. R. Haworth, who, in the course of his remarks, hoped the company and all change-ringers would not forget the great service *Church Bells* had done in diverting the reports of change-ringing from the sporting papers to one suited for such news, and to the alteration, through its means, which had taken place of late years in the repairs of bells, towers, and the cleanliness of the ringing-chambers. He concluded by wishing prosperity to the ringing periodicals—*Church Bells* and *Bell News*.

It so happened that March 16th was the birthday of Mr. F. E. Dawe, who was wished many happy returns of the day.

During the evening a non-conducted touch of *STEDMAN TRIPLES* was rung by Messrs. Mitchell, 1-2; C. F. Winny, 3-4; W. H. L. Buckingham, 5-6; G. M'Laughlin, 7-8. Also a course of *GRANDSIRE CATERS*. J. Mitchell, 1-2; C. F. Winny, 3-4; G. Cartmel, 5-6; W. H. L. Buckingham, 7-8; E. P. Debenham, 9-10.

Dedication of Nine Bells at Fenton Church, North Staffordshire.

ON Easter Day a ring of nine bells was dedicated at Fenton Parish Church, North Staffordshire. The Office of Dedication was said by the Vicar, who first rang the bells, his example being followed by the churchwardens. The Stoke-on-Trent Church bell-ringers (leader, Mr. Page) then rang a short peal. Mrs. Hitehman, of Fenton House, has generously made a gift of the bells to the church; Messrs. Harrington & Co., Coventry, being the manufacturers. The bells are tubular in form, and are similar in size to the set recently erected by order of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales at Copenhagen English Church. In commemoration of the Queen's Jubilee, funds have been raised for a new church clock, which will be shortly erected in the tower. Arrangements will be made for the quarter chimes on eight of the bells, while the clock will strike on the ninth bell.

Society of Change-ringers for the Archdeaconry of Stafford.

The next Quarterly Meeting will be held at Bloxwich, on Saturday the 14th inst. Members will assemble in the tower at 2.30 p.m.

J. R. KEELE, *Hon. Sec.*

The Long Peal of Grandsire Caters.

THE long peal of *GRANDSIRE CATERS* (13,265 changes) will be attempted at Appleton, Berks, on Wednesday, April 11th, by ten members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild and the Appleton Society, at 6 a.m.

The Essex Association.

A DISTRICT MEETING will be held at Romford, on Saturday, April 17th. The belfry of St. Edward's Church (eight bells), which has lately been restored and the bells rehung, will be at the disposal of members of the Association during the day. A meat tea (price 6d. to members who give notice to the Secretary before Tuesday, April 3rd) will be supplied in the National Schoolroom at 5 p.m., and the usual Business Meeting will be held afterwards. Return tickets at reduced fares will be issued by the Great Eastern Railway to members who inform the Secretary before April 3rd from what station they intend to travel, and exhibit at the booking-office their receipt for the current year's subscription.

T. L. PAPILLON, *Hon. Sec.*

Writtle Vicarage, Chelmsford.

The Salisbury Diocesan Guild.

PRELIMINARY NOTICE.—The Annual Meeting will be held at Devizes on Wednesday, May 30th. Full particulars will be published shortly before that date. A Supplementary Meeting will be held at or near Dinton in August next.

J. R. JERRAM, *Secretary*.

A Correction.

SIR,—Seeing in your issue of Friday last a report of a peal rung upon handbells at the College Youths' Meeting-house, St. Paul's Churchyard, with no date given, I beg to inform you that according to your contemporary, the *Bell News*, the peal was rung on *Sunday*, March 11th. I do not think, Sir, that you would wish to encourage Sunday peal-ringing (especially in a public-house during the hours of Divine service) by recording the same in your columns.

N. N. HILLS.

St. Albans, March 26th, 1888.

[The reporter's mistake.]

CHANGE-RINGING.

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

ON Saturday, the 17th ult., eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths and the Essex Association rang Holt's Original peal of 5040 *GRANDSIRE TRIPLES* in 3 hrs. 6 mins. E. Hull (first peal), 1; E. P. Debenham (conductor), 2; J. C. Mitchell, 3; H. Lewis, 4; G. W. Cartmel, 5; W. H. L. Buckingham, 6; T. Waller, 7; A. Hall, 8. This, the first peal of the St. Peter's Society, was rung as a compliment to the Vicar, the Rev. H. N. Dudding, and his family, on the occasion of the baptism of Horatio Nelson Nugent Dudding, the Vicar's infant grandson. Mr. E. Hull was elected a member of the Ancient Society of College Youths and the Essex Association previous to starting for the peal.

On Friday, the 23rd ult., five members of the Ancient Society of College Youths and the Essex Association rang at St. Albans, on handbells retained in hand, a peal of 5021 *GRANDSIRE CATERS* in 2 hrs. 45 mins. H. Lewis, 1-2; W. H. L. Buckingham, 3-4; G. W. Cartmel, 5-6; E. P. Debenham, 7-8; T. Waller, 9-10. Composed by Mr. Cox and conducted by Mr. Buckingham. Umpire, Mr. Hull, who ticked off every lead.

At St. Stephen's, Rochester Row, Westminster, London.

ON Saturday, the 17th ult., eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths and the St. Stephen's (Westminster) Society rang Holt's Ten-part peal of 5040 *GRANDSIRE TRIPLES* in 3 hrs. 5 mins. G. T. M'Laughlin, 1; T. R. Bell, 2; J. N. Oxborrow, 3; J. Wiltshire, 4; W. Carter (first peal with a bob-bell), 5; H. T. Ellis, 6; J. M. Hayes (conductor), 7; H. R. Newton, 8. Tenor, 25 cwt. Before starting for the peal a handsome board was unveiled by the Vicar (Rev. W. M. Sinclair), in commemoration of the first peal rung by the above Society. After a few appropriate words of encouragement to the members, the same band rang the above in honour of the occasion.

On Saturday, the 10th inst., at the above church, in honour of the Prince and Princess of Wales' Silver Wedding, 742 *GRANDSIRE TRIPLES* were rung in 29 mins. J. T. Reed, 1; J. N. Oxborrow, 2; G. T. M'Laughlin, 3; H. S. Ellis, 4; E. Duff, 5; H. R. Newton (conductor), 6; J. Wiltshire, 7; W.

Cropley, 8. *Handbell Ringing*.—On Wednesday, the 14th ult., at the residence of Mr. H. R. Newton, the following members of the St. Stephen's (Westminster) Society rang a quarter-peal of **GRANDSIRE TRIPLES** (1260 changes) in 37 mins., on handbells retained in hand. H. R. Newton (conductor), 1-2; G. T. McLaughlin, 3-4; J. M. Hayes, 5-6; H. T. Ellis, 7-8.

At St. Faith's, Havant, Hants.

On Monday, the 19th ult., eight members of the Winchester Diocesan Guild and Society of Royal Cumberlands rang Holt's Original peal of 5040 **GRANDSIRE TRIPLES** in 2 hrs. 53 mins. J. Staples, 1; J. W. Whiting, 2; J. Hewett, 3; C. Privett, 4; G. Baker, 5; W. L. Chamberlain, 6; G. Williams (conductor), 7; G. Passingham, 8. Tenor, 16 cwt. This peal was intended to have been rung with the bells half muffled in respect to the memory of the late Mr. C. Boxall of Dorking, Surrey, a highly respected member of the Winchester Diocesan Guild; but, on the band arriving, the authorities objected, he not being an inhabitant of the town. This is the quickest peal on the bells. All members of the Sussex Association except Mr. Passingham.

At All Saints', Duffield, Derbyshire.

On Monday, the 19th ult., ten members of the Midland Counties' Association (Duffield Branch) rang a peal of 5040 **DUFFIELD ROYAL** in 3 hrs. 28 mins. G. Dawson, 1; J. Howe, 2; S. Johnson, 3; W. Wakley, 4; W. Hickling, 5; H. C. Woodward, 6; G. Hingley, 7; A. Robinson, 8; B. Sugden, 9; A. P. Heywood, Esq. (composer and conductor), 10. Tenor, 17 cwt., in F. This peal, which has the 6th at home throughout, is the first ever rung in the method on ten bells. In the absence of a member of the Duffield Society (Mr. Evan Moreton), Mr. Wakley kindly came over from Burton to complete the band.

At St. Mary's, Putney, Surrey.

On Tuesday, the 20th ult., eight members of the Surrey Association and the St. James' Society rang a peal of 5088 **OXFORD TREBLE BOB MAJOR** in 3 hrs. 4 mins. C. F. Winny, 1; G. Woodiss (first peal), 2; J. C. Mitchell, 3; G. W. Cartmel, 4; W. H. L. Buckingham, 5; J. Harriss (first peal of Oxford), 6; J. Smith, 7; J. M. Hayes, 8. Composed by Mr. Harrison, and conducted by Mr. Hayes. Tenor, 16½ cwt. * First peal of MAJOR. The first peal of OXFORD by the Surrey Association, rung on the first attempt, and was well struck throughout. Messrs. Woodiss, Smith, and Harriss, from Kingston-Thames; Messrs. Hayes and Winny, London; the rest from St. Albans.

At St. Mary's, Beddington, Surrey.

On Saturday, the 24th ult., nine members of the Surrey Association of Change-ringers and the St. Mary's Society, with Mr. E. Moses of Reigate, rang a peal of 5000 **KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL** in 3 hrs. 17 mins. J. Trappitt, 1; E. Bennett, 2; G. Welling, 3; W. Burkin, 4; Dr. A. B. Carpenter, 5; E. Moses, 6; C. Bance, 7; J. Fayers, 8; J. Plowman, 9; C. Gordon, 10. The above is a one-part peal by Mr. H. Hubbard, having the 6th its extent wrong and right; and was conducted by Mr. Bennett.

At St. Martin's, Salisbury, Wilts.

On Easter Monday, the 2nd inst., a peal of 5040 **BOB MAJOR** was rung in 3 hrs. 5 mins. by the Salisbury Diocesan Guild. Composed by the late Benj. Annables. S. Lawrence, 1; A. W. Barkus, 2; A. P. Goddard, 3; C. A. Clements, 4; W. E. Tydeman, 5; W. W. Gifford (conductor), 6; J. R. Jerram, 7; T. Blackburn, 8. Tenor, 15 cwt. This is the first peal of **BOB MAJOR** ever rung in Wilts, and the first peal by all except Messrs. Jerram and Clements.

On Sunday, the 11th ult., for Divine service, 700 **GRANDSIRE TRIPLES**. W. Wise, 1; S. Lawrence, 2; C. A. Clements (conductor), 3; A. P. Goddard, 4; A. W. Barkus, 5; W. E. Tydeman, 6; W. W. Gifford, 7; W. M. Lush, 8. Tenor, 15 cwt.

At St. Mary's, Old Battersea, Surrey.

On Easter Tuesday, the 3rd inst., eight members of the Society of Royal Cumberland Youths rang Holt's Original peal of 5040 **GRANDSIRE TRIPLES** in 2 hrs. 51 mins. A. Swetnam (first peal), 1; H. A. Hopkins, 2; C. E. Malim, 3; W. Partington, 4; H. S. Thomas, 5; G. Wild, 6; W. Baron (conductor), 7; W. Ambrose, 8.

At MARLOW, BUCKS.—*HANDBELL RINGING*.—On Wednesday evening, the 14th ult., at the residence of Mr. J. C. Truss, St. Peter's Street, 504 **GRANDSIRE TRIPLES**, being the first part of Holt's Ten-part peal. J. C. Truss, jun., 1-2; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 3-4; H. Buckingham, 5-6; J. C. Truss, sen., 7-8.

At HAGLEY, WORCESTERSHIRE.—On Sunday, the 18th ult., after afternoon service, 720 **GRANDSIRE MINOR** in 26 mins. by a mixed band. F. Wright, 1; H. Morris, 2; J. Smith, 3; W. Short, 4; J. Barber, 5; H. Martin (conductor), 6. This peal, having a call every treble lead, has 38 bobs and 22 singles. Messrs. Wright, Morris, and Smith, belong to the Hagley Company, Short and Barber to Clent, Martin to Belbroughton. First peal by all except the conductor.

At THE PARISH CHURCH, PAINSWICK, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.—On Saturday, the 24th ult., a Quarter-peal of **GRANDSIRE TRIPLES** (1260 changes), in 45 mins. A. Trigg, 1; A. Gwinnett, 2; R. Ryland, 3; W. Hale, 4; D. J. Aston, 5; W. J. Sevier (conductor), 6; G. Smith, 7; J. Powell, 8. Tenor, 28 cwt., 2 qrs., 22 lbs., in C.

At ST. MARY'S, DALTON, LANCASHIRE.—On Sunday, the 25th ult., for evening service, a peal of 720 **GRANDSIRE MINOR** in 26 mins., containing 10

singles, 26 bobs. J. Spencer, 1; T. Towson, 2; J. Burrows, 3; M. Caddy 4; T. R. Jackson, 5; T. Watson (conductor), 6. Tenor, 11 cwt. 1 qr. 19 lbs.

At ST. MARY'S, KELVEDON, ESSEX.—A date touch of 1888 changes, rang 1 hr. 23 mins., in the following methods:—STEDMAN'S SLOW COURSE, NEW DOUBLES, ST. SIMON'S, OLD DOUBLES, HUDIBRAS, CAMBRIDGE, ANTELOPE, GRANDSIRE. R. Elliott (in his seventy-fifth year), 1; H. Evers, 2; W. Elliott (conductor), 3; J. Elliott, 4; H. Elliott, 5. Tenor, 21 cwt., in E. Afterwards several other touches were rung, in all amounting to 4448.

At BARNWOOD, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.—Lately on Sunday, for afternoon service, six members of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association rang 720 **BOB MINOR**. J. Yates, 1; S. Romans, 2; D. J. Aston, 3; W. J. Sevier, 4; H. Mitchell, 5; A. A. Waite (conductor), 6. Tenor, 14 cwt.

The San Francisco Office-Boy.

JOHNNY MARTIN, the office-boy of a San Francisco firm, has a great liking for bells, and never tires of listening to them. It is a positive mania with him. Some weeks ago he sent a type-written letter on the letter-head of the firm to a well-known bell manufactory in this State, asking the price of bells, particularly large church bells weighing from 20,000 to 30,000 lbs. In reply he received a circular and price list, and a polite letter earnestly asking his patronage. He acknowledged its receipt, saying that he thought their prices too high, and that he could do better in Francisco. The bell-makers at once sent their best salesman to California, with instructions to secure the contract at any price, and a few days ago he walked into the San Francisco house and courteously asked for Mr. John Martin. No one knew him until the agent showed the letters, and then the book-keeper said, 'That must be our Johnny.' It was. He was called in and confessed. The agent was very wroth, and demanded the instant discharge of the lad, but the firm said 'No.' They said a boy who could write such good business letters was the kind of boy they wanted, and they promoted him. He says that when he gets rich he is going to build a church, and hang in it the biggest bell that this Eastern firm can cast.—*From the 'New York Sun,' January 13th, 1888.*

[We trust our good friend Johnny will give a handy ring of 8 or 10 to his church, instead of adding to the already too large list of insane thunderers, which simply cumber the earth.—ED. C. B.]

CORRESPONDENCE.

Leaving out Prayers.

SIR,—Let me heartily support the words of 'An Attached Member,' &c., in *Church Bells* of last week (p. 416). New arrangements of services in many churches have so wrought that the majority, including children, servants, and the generality, seldom hear the Ten Commandments, Epistle, and Gospel; and, by a violation of the rubric, the morning sermon comes in the wrong place; and by another violation we are defrauded of the offertory texts, and so on. Again, I am no grumbler, but I do most justly desire that the great congregation should join in that needful and noble prayer for the High Court of Parliament during its session, and I would earnestly beg all Christian heads of families to include it in their prayers at home. So plain a fulfilment of a Churchman's duty would in a manifold way tell for good in our nation. In the Communion Collect for the Queen we have a choice given. As a clergyman of thirty years' standing I have always used the former of the two, as very far the better, because it includes the reciprocal duties of *ourselves* and *all the Queen's subjects*, a far more wholesome thing than praying only for the Sovereign, and an exact and loyal compliance with St. Paul's exhortation. It seems to me that more steady '*prisca fides*,' and less 'fuss' would be 'a more excellent way,' and that if our zealous younger brethren would give their elders time to say their alternate verses of Psalms, *preces*, and the like, it would be not only very becoming, but good for their own soul's health. 'Praying's the end of preaching,' but, surely, the end of praying is not to escape at the earliest moment from the house of prayer. H. G. T.

Tuesday before Easter, 1888.

P.S.—Before laying down my pen let me with most earnest entreaty say to all whom it may concern: *Do not leave out Family Prayers.*

Art and Religion.

SIR,—In your notice last week of the opening, by Mr. Holman Hunt, of the annual exhibition of pictures in connexion with St. Jude's Church, White-chapel, I observed the following statement:—'The influence of art on human beings is not to bring about an immediate moral conversion; and a little further on, 'To interest people in things of fine interest is, *ipso facto*, to benefit them.' There is a passage in one of Cardinal Newman's *Discourses on University Teaching* which seems to me so exactly to corroborate this view that I am tempted to remind your readers of it. While drawing a sharp distinction between 'mental refinement' and 'genuine religion' this great writer goes on to say that 'cheap literature, libraries of useful and entertaining knowledge, scientific lectureships, museums, zoological collections, buildings, and gardens to please the eye, and to give repose to the feelings; external objects of whatever kind which may take the mind off itself, and expand and elevate it in liberal contemplations; these are the human means, wisely suggested, and good as far as they go, for at least parrying the assaults of moral evil, and keeping at bay the enemies, not only of the individual soul, but of society at large.' S. J.

COLONIAL AND FOREIGN CHURCH NEWS.

CANADA.

THE consecration of the Bishop of Nova Scotia is expected to take place on the 25th inst.

UNITED STATES.

AN Assistant Bishop of Ohio has been elected in the person of Dr. Satterlee, who succeeded Dr. Washburn at Calvary Church, New York.

THE death is announced of Dr. Dunlop, Missionary Bishop of New Mexico and Arizona. He was born in Ireland, where he graduated at Queen's University, Galway.

CHINA.

IN Corea, in 1885, in consequence of a visit by the Rev. J. R. Wolfe, a Native Mission was begun by two Chinese evangelists connected with the C. M. S. in Fuh-Kien. They have learnt the language, and have many inquirers come to them.

THREE more leading catechists of the Fuh-Kien Mission have been ordained by Bishop Burdon.

JAPAN.

IN December, Bishop E. Bickersteth admitted to deacon's orders Mr. John Batchelor, C. M. S. missionary to the Ainu aborigines of the Island of Yezo.

NEW ZEALAND.

THE Bishop of Auckland (Dr. Cowie) has lately ordained two new Maori clergymen. Both had been lay readers for several years.

AUSTRALIA.

It is stated that the Bishop of Adelaide has had a slight sunstroke.

WE welcome the appearance of the first number of the *Australian Missionary News* as the monthly paper of the new Board of Missions. The Primate writes the introductory article. The Chinese Mission is pleaded for by Archdeacon King. Indian Missionary news is included. Bishop Broughton's life is given in a short sketch, the first of a series of Australian Churchmen. For the February number the Melanesian Mission, by Bishop Selwyn, was promised.

INDIA.

THE *Madras Mail* gives the following proportion of criminals to the population of South India:—Hindus, 1 in 447; Mohammedans, 1 in 728; Christians, 1 in 2500.

THE Conference of the Bishops of the Province of Calcutta, holden at that city in January, was attended by all our Bishops excepting the new Bishop of Lahore, who had only a few days before been consecrated in England. The Conference dealt with three questions of great practical importance, viz., Purity, Temperance, and the Increase of the Indian Episcopate. On the first point the Bishops resolved: 'We hold it to be a fundamental principle that the discouragement and repression of vice are of far higher importance than the diminution of suffering or of other evils resulting from vice; and that, consequently, in all efforts to mitigate the physical effects of impurity no sanitary or material gain can justify measures which in their operations afford facilities or encouragement for vicious indulgence.'

THE question of Temperance, in regard to the Indian army, has been complicated by the appointment of a chaplain to the post of Secretary to the Soldiers' Total Abstinence Society, which is 'unsectarian,' and hitherto had been managed by its founder, Mr. Gregson, an excellent Nonconformist. Side by side with this organization the Church of England Temperance Society has worked on the distinctive basis of the English Church; but an effort is now being made to make the former Society the sole Temperance work in the army, and some of the chaplains are in favour of this, if they may make special provision for those members who are also members of the English Church. Upon the subject of Temperance in this connexion the Bishops' Conference declared: 'We desire to record our appreciation of the efforts being made by the Commander-in-Chief, and gladly give our general support to his scheme. At the same time, seeing that intemperance can only be fully dealt with when regarded as a vice needing for its conquest the heavenly assistance of the Holy Spirit, we must express our hope that his Excellency will secure that every facility shall be given to the clergy for bringing the influence of religion to bear upon such members of the Army Temperance Association as are professed members of the Church of England.'

ON the Increase of the Indian Episcopate the Conference resolved as follows: 'While we recognise to the full our responsibility to the Church at large for every step that we may take as a province, and would not only welcome but invite counsel and the expression of wishes on the part of all interested, we hold that no direct action should be taken in regard either to the formation of a new diocese or to the filling (otherwise than by letters patent) of a vacant see without the full knowledge and consent of the Episcopate of the province, whether as to the method to be adopted, the *status* to be conferred, or the person to be appointed. The consecration of all Bishops other than those appointed by letters patent should take place within the province, unless it be otherwise provided at the request of the Metropolitan. As to the obedience which Bishops so consecrated may require, it is sufficient that it rest upon canonical consent rather than upon what is called coercive jurisdiction, provided that such consent shall have been secured as a condition precedent to appointment. Before consecration care should be taken to

secure to the Bishop adequate and permanent guarantees of maintenance, and of scope for the due exercise of his functions.'

ON this last topic a letter appears in the *Indian Churchman* from Canon Churton. He regards the appointment of Missionary Suffragans as the only alternative now that Lord Cross has declined to bring the question of the increase of the Episcopate before Parliament. He suggests that the Missionary Societies should make block grants to the dioceses and allow their Secretaries to be replaced by such Suffragans.

EAST AFRICA.

AT the beginning of December, Bishop Parker, the Revs. R. P. Ashe, J. Blackburn, and R. H. Walker, and three lay brethren, were together at Wusambi, near the south end of the Victoria Nyanza, which will be the new C. M. S. station, to supersede the abandoned Msalala.

THE latest letter received in England from the Rev. E. Cyril Gordon in U-Ganda was dated September 22nd. He had been received with tolerable friendliness by King Mwanga, and was delighted by what he saw of the spread of Christianity.

WEST AFRICA.

IN December, at Onitsha on the Niger, Bishop Crowther admitted to deacon's orders his grandson; and at Brass, he admitted one of his African clergy to priest's orders. On January 2nd, he, with Princess Taba Florence Pepple, laid the foundation of a new iron church of St. Stephen at Bonny. He is expected in England in April.

THE Rev. W. Allan, vicar of St. James's, Bermondsey, having paid a visit to Sierra Leone, declares that Canon Taylor's recent statement that Christian Africans were becoming Mohammedans is quite unfounded. The Rev. O. Moore, a native clergyman at Freetown, writes: 'The idea that Islam is gaining ground among us is a delusion; nothing of the sort has taken place. Mohammedans increase by accessions from the interior, and not at all from conversions made in Sierra Leone: it is a great mistake to think otherwise.'

GERMANY.

ONE of the secretaries of the Anglo-Continental Society, the Rev. R. S. Oldham, in reply to a correspondent of the *Guardian*, observes that, so far from a 'steady decline of the Old Catholic communities, there has been a quiet but steady progress, if not always in numbers, at least in consolidation and spiritual life.' Outside of the new empire, 'both in Switzerland and Austria, there has been even a rapid increase in numbers.' A College for Divinity students has recently been opened at Bonn. A new church is about to be erected at Carlsruhe. Under the jurisdiction of Bishop Reinkens there are 'forty-eight settled congregations' and over 'eighty smaller communities.'

AN independent Prussian Protestant Bishopric at Jerusalem is seriously contemplated by the new King-Emperor. The ancient church of St. Mary Latin the Greater, which has been recently restored, would become the cathedral.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

The Worcestershire and adjoining Districts Change-ringing Association.

THE Annual Meeting of the above Association was held in the Chapter House, Worcester Cathedral, on Easter Monday. The Rev. T. L. Cloughton, M.A., Canon of Worcester (in the absence of the Dean, President of the Association), presided. Several clergymen and other gentlemen were also present. The Chairman, on behalf of the Dean and Chapter, cordially welcomed the members of the Association to Worcester, and remarked that they at the mother church of the diocese should always be pleased to receive them with open arms. Speaking of the clergy, he thought that a great many who were not members of the Association took a great interest in bells and their ringers. Referring to Canon Cattley, he would like to call him the father of bell-ringers, owing to the interest he had taken in the work for such a number of years. He then proceeded to speak of the healthiness as well as the usefulness of the science of change-ringing, and trusted the efforts of the Association would result in the spread of the art to every town in the diocese. A letter was read from the President, Dr. Gott, apologising for his absence. The minutes of the last Annual Meeting being read and confirmed, the following officers were elected for the ensuing year: President, Dr. Gott; Vice-Presidents, the Revs. Canon Cattley and W. R. Carr; Lay Vice-Presidents, Messrs. J. Naylor (Dudley) and H. B. Kingford (Stoulton); Master, S. Spittle (Dudley); Hon. Secretary, J. Smith (Nether-ton); Hon. Treasurer, E. Crump (Bromsgrove). Several alterations were made in the rules. The Secretary proposed that a new rule, which was carried, be added, whereby each company in union shall appoint a local secretary, who shall forward all communications in reference to the Association to the Hon. Secretary, and make all necessary arrangements for meetings held at his centre. He also suggested that each company have a code of rules for their own guidance, and that quarterly meetings be held for the transaction of any business conducive to the welfare of their company, having as their President the Vicar or Rector; Vice-Presidents, curates and churchwardens for the time being. The third Annual Report was read, and, after some discussion, was unanimously adopted. It was resolved that the President be requested, on some future occasion convenient to himself, to give an address upon the subject, 'The Deepening of the Religious Life of the Members of this Association.' Thanks were given to Canon Cloughton for presiding, to the Dean and Chapter for the use of the Chapter House, and the officers for past services. Each of the belfries in the city, in-

cluding the Cathedral, were open (by kind permission) during the day, and ringing was freely indulged in.

JOHN SMITH, *Hon. Sec.*

37 Simms Lane, Netherton, near Dudley.

The Ely Diocesan Association.

A MEETING was held at Ely on Easter Monday. Members from Cambridge, Soham, Bury St. Edmunds, and Mildenhall, attended, and the tower of St. Mary's was, by kind permission of the vicar and churchwardens, open to the ringers. The 'go' of this fine peal was all that could be desired, and some good touches were rung. The members dined together at the 'Crown and Anchor,' under the presidency of the Vicar and his curate, several of the principal parishioners joining them. The churchwardens were unavoidably absent. Afterwards a business meeting was held, when the Hon. Sec., the Rev. K. H. Smith, made a statement, and urged all ringers to join a society which aimed at the amelioration and amalgamation of all interested in the art. M. Potter, Esq., M.A., tendered his resignation as treasurer, and a vote of thanks was accorded him for past services, and Mr. Sayer of Ely was appointed in his place. Several new members were elected, and Wisbeach was selected as the next place of meeting on the August Bank Holiday.

Beds Association of Change-ringers.

THE Sixth Annual Dinner and general business meeting of this Association took place at the 'Clarence Hotel' on Easter Monday, and was attended by a much larger number of members than usual, more than fifty being present to partake of the sumptuous repast provided by Host Sadler. The Mayor presided, and the vice-chair was occupied by Mr. T. G. E. Elger. The tables having been cleared, business was proceeded with, letters of regret for non-attendance being read from Archdeacon Bathurst, Rev. E. W. Bowling (Houghton Conquest), Rev. W. S. Baker (Evershot), and the Rev. E. J. Hillier (Cardington). The Secretary having read the Report, the Treasurer (Mr. Elger) submitted his statement of accounts for the past year. The balance from the previous year had been 17l. 6s. 2d.; the subscriptions of hon. members were 2l. 15s., and of performing members, 4l. 16s.; the total income being 25l. 3s. 10d. The expenditure had been 7l. 4s. 9d., and this left a balance in hand of 17l. 19s. 1d. They had spent rather more money than last year, but still they were in a very enviable financial condition, having a larger balance than societies of that kind generally had.—Rev. J. Copner proposed the adoption of the Report and the financial statement. Mr. Willan was unable to come. He was Vicar, he said, of the Mayor's parish, but his church had only one miserable bell, and he thought the Mayor might speak to him so that they would get a ring of bells for Trinity Church. In his own parish of Elstow they were going on in a progressive way, and he hoped the church tower would soon be restored and an addition made to the bells. They had now a ring of five bells, but they hoped to have eight before long. They meant to have one more at least, and then they would be able to ring a few more changes than they could at present. He hoped he should soon be able to invite some members of the Association to Elstow to ring them some good peals.—Rev. A. C. Downer seconded the adoption of the Report. Although he was not privileged to have a ring of bells, yet he was not unacquainted with bell-ringing, his former church at Ilkley having a ring of eight bells, which were rung very ably for two hours every Sunday. The ringers were all voluntary, and received some instruction from the late Jasper Snowdon, a great authority and writer on the subject of bell-ringing, and he thought the Committee could not do better than obtain some of his works. At St. Cuthbert's there was only one bell, the central tower not being strong enough to bear much weight, but he hoped some day to see a ring there, and nothing would give him greater pleasure than to see a tablet in the belfry recording the ringing of so many peals and changes by members of the Association.—The Mayor made a few remarks on the subject of bell-ringing, tracing its introduction back to the early ages. After alluding to the happy and painful associations connected with bell-ringing, he suggested that the clergy should look forward to increasing the number of bells in their churches, and that they should sometimes point out to their congregations the use of bells, and encourage them to ring them. He had only found out the meaning of 'Bob Major' that day, and he trusted that some day they would be able to ring peals of Bob Major at every church in Bedford. There was a real art in bell-ringing, and he trusted the Association would develop that art, they having his sympathy and best wishes for their future success.

All the officers were re-elected, and the Rev. W. C. Baker was appointed a co-secretary. About twenty new members were elected, some coming from St. Albans and Hitchin. The Mayor was elected an hon. member, and was added to the Committee. The District Meetings were fixed for the last Saturdays in June, September, and December—the first meeting to be held at Woburn. It was resolved to expend 1l. in the purchase of two or three standard works on the art of campanology for circulation among the members. A vote of thanks to the Mayor closed the proceedings.

At repeated intervals during the day touches were rung upon the bells of St. Paul's Church, as well as on those of St. Mary's Church. At the former, among other touches rung, were 576 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR. MESSRS. S. Cullip, 1; C. W. Clarke, 2; W. H. L. Buckingham, 3; J. W. Taylor (Loughborough Foundry), 4; G. W. Cartmel, 5; H. Chapman, 6; I. Hills, 7; J. N. Frossell, 8. Also 336 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, conducted by J. Hare; 335 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, conducted by W. H. L. Buckingham. An attempt was made in the early morning to ring 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES at Cardington Church, but it ended after an hour's ringing. The ringers then rang touches in the methods of STEDMAN TRIPLES, GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, BOB MAJOR, and TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

The peals mentioned in the Report as having been rung during the year 1887 were as follows:—A 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 3 hrs. 12 min. at

St. Mary's Church, Cardington, on April 11th; conductor, W. G. Biggs, Bromham Mill. A 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 3 hrs. 14 mins. at St. Paul's, Bedford, on Whit-Monday, May 30th; conductor, C. W. Clarke. A 5024 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR in 3 hrs. at Old St. Mary's Tower, Woburn, on September 17th; conductor, C. W. Clarke. A 5040 in seven different methods—a Jubilee peal—in 3 hrs. at St. Peter's, Sharnbrook, on October 1st; conductor, M. Warwick. A 5040 in seven different methods in 3 hrs. 16 mins. at St. Owen's, Bromham, on December 3rd; conductor, W. G. Biggs. A 5040 in seven different methods in 2 hrs. 50 mins. at St. Mary's, Bedford, on December 21st; conductor, M. Warwick. A 5056 BOB MAJOR in 3 hrs. 26 mins. at St. Paul's, Bedford, on December 22nd; conductor W. G. Biggs. At five o'clock a special service was held at St. Paul's Church, which was well attended, and an address delivered by the Rev. E. T. Bird.

Society for the Archdeaconry of Stafford.

THE Quarterly Meeting in connexion with the above Society will be held at Bloxwich on Saturday, April 14th, when all members and friends are earnestly requested to attend. The new ring of bells at the parish church will be available for ringing during the afternoon, and tea will be provided at 1s. per head for those who send in their names by the 10th inst.

10 Bull Street, West Bromwich.

S. REEVES, *Hon. Sec.*

St. Mary's Honorary Ringing Guild, Bridport, Dorset.

THE First Annual Meeting of the Members of this Guild, which was formed shortly before the erection of the new ring of eight, took place in the National Schools, Bridport, on Tuesday evening, the 27th ult. The Rector presiding. The Report read by the Secretary was unanimously adopted. From it we learn that the total income of the Guild for the year had been 17l. 16s. 6d., of which sum 6l. 7s. 6d. had been expended on the ringing chamber, and after paying all other charges a balance of 3l. was carried forward. The following members were then elected officers for the ensuing year:—Captain, Mr. S. Matthews; Vice-Captain, Mr. W. Brookes; Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. V. B. Northover. The Rector, in proposing a vote of thanks to the officers of the past year, remarked that he felt personally grateful for the manner the work this Guild had in hand had been carried out, and it afforded him unmixed satisfaction to preside at that meeting. The resolution was carried with acclamation, and a unanimous vote of thanks to the Chairman brought the meeting to a close.

On Easter Monday nine members of the above Guild visited Beaminster, and rang several touches of plain courses on the bells at the parish church. Tenor, 28 cwt, in D.

The late Rev. A. Starey.

WE have to chronicle with deep regret the death (at the early age of thirty-eight) of the Rev. Augustin Starey, vicar of Charing, Kent. His face was a well-known one at Tottenham, Middlesex, where, prior to the year 1883, he was the senior curate at the parish church. It was during his curacy there, and very much through his exertions, that the two trebles were added to the old ring of six, to complete the octave, in the year 1881. He rang in the first peal upon the bells on the 24th June, 1882, the peal being Holt's Ten-part. When appointed to the Vicarage of Charing he at once set to work to improve the ringing, taking great pains to teach his ringers change-ringing, and in his last illness would attend practice and ring, even when it caused great pain to do so. He had a good head for mathematics, and a good ear for time and tune, and it was, perhaps, these qualifications which induced him to take up bell-ringing, the study of which he pursued with great enthusiasm. Upon receipt of the news of his death at Tottenham on Sunday, March 25th, the bells were half muffled for the evening service, and a quarter peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES rung by the following members of the All Hallows' Society:—T. Hughes, 1; J. Waghorn, 2; T. Grove, 3; J. Waghorn, jun., 4; G. B. Lucas, 5; W. Pye-English, 6; H. Barnett (conductor), 7; G. Richards, 8. The funeral took place at Tottenham on Wednesday, March 28th. Before proceeding to the Cemetery a short service was held in the parish church. The 'Dead March' from Saul was played as the mournful procession entered the sacred edifice, the 'Dies Ira' being subsequently sung by the choir of All Hallows. After the ante-service was concluded, a procession was formed to the Cemetery in the following order: Rev. Prebendary Wilson M.A. (vicar), officiating; Rev. A. F. King, M.A., and Rev. W. H. R. Arundel, M.A. (curates); Rev. W. Almack, M.A., and Rev. E. Hobson, M.A.; Mr. J. Langran, Mus. Bac., and the choristers; Rev. W. Starey, M.A., Mrs. A. Starey, the Misses Starey, Mr. Starey, and numerous friends and relatives of the deceased. The Cemetery having been reached, the Burial Service was concluded, and the hymn, 'Jesus lives! no longer now,' was sung. The coffin was of polished oak, and bore the inscription:

'Augustin Starey, priest.

God be merciful to me a sinner.'

The grave is situate as near as possible under the shadow of the church tower where he had loved to ring. After the funeral, the members of the All Hallows' (Tottenham) Society of Ringers met and rang the usual whole-pull and stand as a last token of respect for one to whom they are so much indebted for the position which they now hold.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At Christ Church Cathedral, Canterbury, Kent.

ON Easter Monday, the 2nd inst., ten members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang a peal of 5009 STEDMAN CATERS in 3 hrs. 27 mins. W. Cooter, 1; C. F. Winny, 2; Rev. F. J. O. Helmore, M.A., 3; F. E. Dawe, 4; W. D. Smith, 5; M. A. Wood, 6; H. G. Fairbrass, 7; R. T. Woodley, 8; J. M. Hayes, 9; E. Horrex, 10. Composed by Mr. H. Johnson, sen., of Birmingham, and conducted by Mr. Dawe. Tenor, 32 cwt., in C. The above

peal, which has never been previously rung, is the first in the method on the Cathedral bells. The Rev. F. J. O. Helmore and Mr. Fairbrass belong to Canterbury; the rest came from London. The ringers take this opportunity of tendering their thanks to the Dean for granting permission; also for his kindness in entertaining them at a banquet, and his instructions that the objects of interest in the Cathedral should be pointed out by the Rev. F. J. O. Helmore.

At St. Mary's, Coddendam, Suffolk.

ON Easter Monday, the 2nd inst., eight members of the Norwich Diocesan Association (Helmington Branch) rang a peal of 10,176 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR in 5 hrs. 55 mins. W. Dye, 1; G. Perry, 2; W. Whiting, 3; D. G. Wightman, 4; H. Pepper, 5; J. Fayers (Mitcham, Surrey), 6; S. Wightman, sen., 7; A. S. Wightman, 8. Composed by the late Mr. Harrison and conducted by Mr. Dye. Tenor, 16 cwt. The longest peal on the bells, and the first 10,000 by all the ringers.

At All Saints', Great Marlow, Bucks.

ON Easter Monday, the 2nd inst., eight members of the St. James' Society rang Holt's Original peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 59 mins. W. Manning, 1; W. E. Gerrard, 2; R. French (conductor), 3; H. Langdon, 4; W. Wilder, 5; W. Thorn, 6; A. Hayward, 7; E. Elburn, 8. Tenor, 16 cwt. The ringers beg to thank the Rev. A. Fearon (the vicar), for the use of the bells, also A. H. Cocks, Esq., the foreman ringer, and A. W. Truss, the steeple-keeper, for having everything in such good order. Manning came from Pinner; Wilder, Slough; Elburn, Amersham; the rest from London.

At St. Mary's, Reading, Berks.

ON Easter Monday, the 2nd inst., eight members of the St. Lawrence Society rang Hollis's One-part peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 3 hrs. 12 mins. B. White (first peal), 1; H. White, 2; W. H. Holloway, 3; T. Hibbert, 4; W. J. Williams (conductor), 5; W. Newell, 6; J. Martin-Routh, Esq., 7; C. Chapman (first peal), 8. Tenor, 28 cwt.

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

ON Easter Monday, the 2nd inst., eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang Holt's Original peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 52 mins. T. Baker (first peal with a bob bell), 1; W. Cecil, 2; J. Pettit, 3; A. Cutmore, 4; R. J. Turner, 5; H. Springall (first peal as conductor), 6; S. Hayes, 7; D. Sutton, 8. The ringers take this opportunity of thanking the Rector and Churchwardens for their kindness in allowing them the use of the bells.

At All Saints', West Bromwich, Staffordshire.

ON Easter Tuesday, the 3rd inst., eight members of the Society of Change-ringers for the Archdeaconry of Stafford rang Holt's Original peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 57 mins. B. Starkey (first peal with the treble), 1; J. Frisby, 2; S. Reeves (conductor), 3; A. H. Hill, 4; W. F. Hartshorn, 5; T. Horton, 6; W. R. Small, 7; C. Cotterell (first peal), 8.

At All Saints', Duffield, Derbyshire.

ON Tuesday, the 3rd inst., ten members of the Midland Counties' Association rang a peal of 5040 DUFFIELD ROYAL in 3 hrs. 15 mins. J. Howe, 1; W. Wakley, 2; Jos. Griffin, 3; S. Johnson, 4; W. Hickling, 5; A. Wakley, 6; H. Wakley (100th peal), 7; H. D. Betteridge, 8; B. Sugden, 9; A. P. Heywood, Esq. (composer and conductor), 10. Tenor, 17 cwt. This composition has the 6th at home throughout, and the treble only four courses behind the 7th.

At Aston-juxta-Birmingham.

ON Wednesday, the 4th inst., on handbells retained in the hand, at the residence of Mr. H. Johnson, jun., 102 Queen's Road, Aston, six members of the Holt Society of Change-ringers rang a peal of 5007 STEDMAN CINQUES in 3 hrs. 12 mins. Tenor, No. 15, key C. T. Russam, 1-2; W. Kent, 3-4; T. Miller, 5-6; H. Bastable, 7-8; B. Witchell, 9-10; H. Johnson, jun., 11-12. Composed by H. Johnson, sen., conducted by H. Bastable. This is the first peal of STEDMAN CINQUES ever rung out of London on handbells, and the third ever rung, and is also the first rung on this plan with the large bells turned at the half way. Mr. A. Thomas, referee; Messrs. H. Johnson, sen., G. W. Townsend, W. Bryant, W. H. Godden, and W. Munday from Exeter, witnesses.

At St. Editha's, Tamworth, Staffordshire.

ON Wednesday, the 4th inst., eight members of the Midland Counties' Association and the St. Paul's Society, Burton-on-Trent, rang Tharstan's peal of 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES in 3 hrs. 6 mins. A. P. Heywood, Esq., 1; A. Wakley, 2; J. Austin, 3; Jos. Griffin, 4; H. D. Betteridge, 5; H. Wakley, 6; W. Wakley (conductor), 7; G. Robinson, 8. Tenor, 22 cwt.

At St. Clement Danes, Strand, London.

ON Friday, the 6th inst., ten members of the St. James' Society rang a peal of 5062 STEDMAN CATERERS in 3 hrs. 17 mins. F. G. Newman, 1; H. Langdon, 2; H. R. Newton, 3; W. H. L. Buckingham, 4; W. Weatherstone, 5; J. N. Oxborrow, 6; F. L. Davies, 7; R. T. Woodley, 8; J. M. Hayes, 9; W. Cropley, 10. Tenor, 24 cwt. *First peals of STEDMAN CATERERS. Composed by Mr. Johnson, sen., of Birmingham, and conducted by Mr. Hayes.

RECEIVED ALSO.—W. W. Gifford, Salisbury (Thanks for letter, the money has been sent to Mr. W.); and others.

SNOWDON'S CH. RINGING WORKS. Send for List, 9 Old Bank Chambers, Leeds.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Confirmation Services.

SIR,—I was much interested in the remarks you made in this week's issue upon the unedifying manner in which Confirmation services are sometimes conducted. Perhaps you would allow me to add a further instance from my personal knowledge. The service to which I refer took place early in the week before Passion Week, in a well-known church in a large manufacturing town in the West Riding of Yorkshire, and in the diocese of Ripon, the Bishop himself being present. It was attended by a crowded congregation, amongst whom were a number of dissenting friends of the candidates for confirmation. The service—if such it can be called—was unaccompanied by any choir, the choir-stalls being filled with spectators of the ceremony, while even the clergy who had come to present their candidates were scattered throughout the pews allotted to those who were to be confirmed; some were not even fortunate enough to find pews, but had to content themselves with a chair hurriedly fetched in. Some of the clergy present wore surplices, others the antiquated black gown, thus preventing the appearance of monotony, and causing a pleasing variety. Several of the congregation who were Dissenters were under the impression that those in black gowns were vergers—this is a fact, and not a fictitious pleasantry. There was a good deal of unnecessary confusion owing to the small number of seats allotted to the girls, some of whom had to cross over and sit on the boys' side. The supply of hymn-books for the candidates was utterly insufficient, the girls from at least one church that I know of had none at all till the first hymn had been long begun. It is needless to add that the singing would have disgraced a village Bethel. The whole service was cold and graceless to the last degree. Of course, it is not my place to criticise the clergy concerned in this unfortunate service; that is a matter for their Bishop; but what I do wish to point out is the responsibility which rests on those who can so neglect the opportunity presented by the Confirmation service of impressing both candidates and their friends with a sense of the importance and sanctity of this rite; and to ask them whether they think it consistent with their duty to the Church to allow one of her most solemn services to be conducted in this slovenly and neglectful manner. What do they suppose were the thoughts in the minds of the Dissenters there present? I know that some of them at least were as much astonished as disgusted at the bare slovenliness of this most unedifying service. And this, too, in a town where dissent is exceedingly strong, and where the Church should make every effort to make manifest to those outside her the beauty, and order, and spiritual value of her services.

It is with much pain that I have written this letter; but facts like these should be made known, although, as I do not wish to cause pain to any one concerned, I have not given any names, and do not wish to do so.

A CHURCHMAN.

The Reredos at St. Paul's Cathedral.

SIR,—The controversy about the reredos in St. Paul's Cathedral is causing grief to many hearts. As an invalid, the photograph of it has given me thoughts of comfort and hope. Will you allow me to suggest some of them to your readers? It is truly a grand conception! teaching 'sermons in stones'—giving the whole history of our blessed Lord's birth, death, burial, resurrection, and ascension, thus set forth before all people and nations, causing many hearts to believe in Him, without a thought of 'heresy or superstition.' Is it not a similar case to that spoken of in Josh. xxii.? The 'two tribes and a half' built a great altar on their side of the Jordan, and, when accused of committing a 'trespass against the God of Israel to turn away from following the Lord,' simply answered, 'It is a witness between us and you.' Surely, in this age of doubt and scepticism, it is good thus to tell the story of the Cross, and 'witness that the Lord is God.' One word about the figures there represented. The angels are there: His friends and ours! The Virgin Mother is there: 'most blessed among women,' though one of ourselves, reminding us, for our consolation, that 'Whosoever shall do the will of God, the same is His brother, and sister, and mother.'

S. S. J.

Prophecies.

SIR,—I must venture to thank Mr. G. F. Chambers for his moderate but timely letter about Prophecy. We may 'watch time's full river as it flows,' and see the fulfilment of prophecies without turning prophets ourselves. And we may find comfort and encouragement as we see that very slowly the Kalendar of prophecy is being fulfilled. I think I am correct in stating that within the lifetime of many of us the Jews could have access to the 'holy city,' Jerusalem, upon very degrading conditions only, and only for a limited time.

I am in error unless it be true that at the present time Jews possess considerable estates in Judæa, and also that the number of Jews resident in that locality is larger than the number of any other people. If this be so, it is an interesting change for those to contemplate who believe that the Jews will return, probably from political causes, to their own land in an unconverted state, and that there they will be brought to believe in the Saviour. There are some people who just now occasionally turn out Ezek. xxxviii., xxxix. and the last chapter of Zechariah, and who, without desiring to be dogmatic, or to turn prophets, or to say their interpretation must be correct, nevertheless reflect and ask themselves, 'Will Russia presently play a very important part in the story of political strifes, and will she find her way by a tremendous onslaught to Jerusalem, and will she there experience what is in those chapters foretold?' Whether this will so be or not, prophecy ought not to be wholly set at nought, and the discourse of our Redeemer, read to-day in our services, to two disciples on their way to Emmaus, shows how all parts of the Old Testa-

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Tubular Bells.

SIR.—I see in *Church Bells* for April 6th an account of the opening of a set of tubular bells at Fenton, in which it is stated that the Stoke-upon-Trent men 'rang a short peal.' How can this be? With all deference to Messrs. Harrington's invention, these tubes can never be pealable or supersede church bells of the usual form.

J. R. JERRAM.

Salisbury, April 11, 1888.

The Parish Church Bells at Kettering, Northamptonshire.

By kind permission of the Rev. Canon Lindsay, a party of ringers from Wellingborough rang several six-scores of GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, with 4-6-8 and 7-4-8 covering, on Easter Monday. The Raunds, Wellingborough and District Ringers' Association Meeting was arranged for Kettering on that day, but had to be postponed. Kettering bells are now in a very bad state, not having been rehung for about 170 years, so that a long peal on them would be an impossibility. However, thanks to the attention given to them by the local ringers, the visitors got on quite as well as could be expected, and much enjoyed their 'pull' in this noted eight-bell tower. The bells are a tuneful octave, with a fine-toned tenor weighing 26 cwt., in the key of E.

Kettering was one of the first towns in Northamptonshire to obtain a full ring of eight. As far back as the year 1714 the five old bells were taken down and cast into eight. The bell-frames (now becoming unsafe) were doubtless put in at that time. Several of the bells have been recast since that date. The third bell was cracked in 1860, when it was thrown out of its bearings by a would-be ringer. It was recast by Taylor & Co., but it is thought to be much inferior in tone to the old bell; in fact, it is too sharp and shrill, and does not harmonise with the other bells. This 'black sheep' should be again recast when the ring is restored. The late Mr. W. H. Henson of Finedon, who knew these bells well, used to say that the old third bell was exceedingly musical, and bore the following inscription:—'Richard Sanders of Bromsgrove made us all.' It is to be hoped that the old reputation of the town for ringers and ringing may be revived. Several peal tablets in the belfry testify to what has been done in the past. It is gratifying to know that Mr. Taylor of Loughborough has been called in to report on the state of bells and belfry, and advises a complete restoration and rehanging on an improved plan, with iron frames on the modern principle. At present, what with decayed frames, rotten headstocks, warped wheels, and thick, coarse, local-made ropes, it would puzzle even a 'College Youth' to stand to his bell for a three-hours' peal in Kettering belfry. Much credit is due to the local ringers for the trouble they take in their work, for they are even now training new hands despite such discouraging circumstances. It is to be hoped the authorities will also do their share and put belfry, bells, and fittings in good order. Below are the inscriptions on the bells, and diameter of mouth of each, as given by Mr. North in *Church Bells of Northamptonshire*:—

Treble: 'Peace and Good Neighbourhood, 1714. RS.' [Arms of the See of Peterborough.] Diameter, 30 ins. *Second*: 'At the sound of my voice lett the people reioyce. RS. 1714.' Diameter, 31 ins. *Third*: 'J. Taylor & Co., Loughborough, late of Oxford, bell-founders. A.D. 1860.' Diameter, 34 ins. *Fourth*: 'Bryan Hvll Gent, 1714. T. Eayre Horo.' Diameter, 35 ins. *Fifth*: 'Non Vox sed Votum non Mvica Cordvla sed cor. 1630.' Diameter, 38 ins. Incised on bell: '1761.' *Sixth*: 'Thomas Eayre of Kettering, founder. Anno Domini 1732. Omnia fiant ad Gloriam Dei.' Diameter, 40½ ins. Five coins on the bell. *Seventh*: 'IHS. Nazarenus Rex Ivdeorum Miserere Mei Gloria Patri Filio et Spiritui Sancto. Tho. Eayre fecit Anno Dom. 1722.' Diameter, 45 ins. *Tenor*: 'This bell recast by voluntary contributions 1832. Willm. Cook and John Robinson, C. Wardens. Glory be to God on high. W. & J. Taylor, founders, Oxford and Bideford, Devon.' Diameter, 52 in.

The Midland Counties' Association.

THE Sixth Annual Meeting of this Association was held at Derby on Easter Monday, April 2nd, and the towers of All Saints', St. Alkmund's, St. Andrew's, and St. Werburgh's were ringing from 10 a.m. A Committee Meeting was held in St. Andrew's parish-room at 3 p.m.; tea and subsequent General Meeting in the Schools at 4 p.m., the President, A. Percival Heywood, Esq., in the chair. Between seventy and eighty members and friends were present from Duffield, Burton, Nottingham, Long Eaton, Loughborough, Leicester, Melbourne, Ashby-de-la-Zouch, and Derby. Two honorary and eight ringing members were unanimously elected.

The President stated that during the first quarter of the year eleven peals had been rung by the Association, and, with the exception of TREBLE BOB MAJOR (in which two peals had been scored), one peal each in the following methods, viz., GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, STEDMAN TRIPLES, BOB MAJOR, DOUBLE OXFORD, NEW CUMBERLAND SURPRISE, SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE, CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE (Burton Variation), STEDMAN CATERS, and DUFFIELD ROYAL. That was an achievement of which the Association might well be proud, and he hoped that one peal would be rung in every method practised by the Association during the present year, which would not only keep up the reputation of the Society, but excel any previous record. The Officers' report and Treasurer's accounts having been passed, the following officers were unanimously re-elected, viz.: President, A. Percival Heywood, Esq.; Hon. Treasurer, Mr. William Wakley; Hon. Secretary, Mr. Joseph Griffin. A hearty vote of thanks to the vicars and churchwardens for the use of the bells and to the chairman for presiding, brought a very successful meeting to a close. The handbell competition, the prizes of which are given by the President, took place after the meeting, which was also a great success.

Kent County Association.

A DISTRICT Meeting of this Society was held at Crayford on Monday, the 16th inst., and was attended by members from Woolwich, Gravesend, Swanscombe, and other places. At the Committee Meeting several new members were enrolled. The Annual General Meeting was fixed to be held at Ashford in June. The Secretary desires to take this opportunity of impressing upon those who wish the peals they have rung to be entered in the Association Book that it is necessary they should be sent to him for that purpose, together with the fee of 3d. per man. He cannot take the records of peals from the newspapers; they must be vouched for by some responsible person; and a rule is likely soon to be made excluding entirely peals not sent in within a reasonable time of their performance. As a matter of fact, nothing like the number of peals actually rung by members of the Association are sent for entry.

The Surrey Association.

ON Easter Monday, the 2nd inst., this Association held its first Quarterly Meeting of the year at Wimbledon, by the kind permission of the Rev. Canon Haygarth. Tea was served at the 'Welcome' Coffee Tavern at 6 p.m., and some thirty members partook of it. The new certificates of membership having been distributed to those who were present (either personally or by proxy), the chair was taken by Mr. Russell, and the usual business was proceeded with. The Secretary reported that there were fifteen peals to be entered in the book, and a resolution that they be so entered was passed. Five new members were elected. It was resolved that the next district meeting be held at Epsom, and the annual meeting at Bletchingley.

ARTHUR B. CARPENTER, Hon. Sec.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At the Parish Church, Speldhurst, Kent.

ON Sunday, the 1st inst., eight members of the Kent County Association rang a peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 3 hrs. 9 mins. H. Edwards, 1; J. Baker, 2; J. Maynard, 3; G. Turley, 4; Frank Still, 5; F. Still, jun. (conductor), 6; C. Chapman, 7; H. Anscombe, 8. Tenor, 14 cwt. [No composer's name.]

At St. Mary's, Woolwich, Kent.

ON Monday, the 2nd inst., a friendly party of eight ringers rang Holt's Ten-part peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 43 mins. H. Bright, 1; W. Cook, 2; W. Weatherstone (conductor), 3; W. Bedwell, 4; W. Watchhorn, 5; G. Conyard, 6; E. Riches, 7; J. Laws, 8.

At the Priory Church, Christchurch, Hants.

ON Monday, the 2nd inst., eight members of the Royal Cumberland Society rang Holt's Original peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 3 hrs. 4 mins. J. Hewett, 1; J. W. Whiting, 2; R. Jordan, 3; E. Jordan; W. L. Chamberlain, 5; F. Hill, 6; G. Williams (conductor), 7; G. Passingham, 8. Tenor, 30 cwt., in D. This is the first peal on the bells. Messrs. E. and R. Jordan were elected members of the Royal Cumberland Society before starting for the peal, and came from Capel, Surrey; Williams, Midhurst, Sussex; Chamberlain, Arundel; J. Hewett, Gosport; Whiting, Hill, and Passingham, Fareham.

At St. Cuthbert's, Wells, Somerset.

ON Monday, the 2nd inst., eight members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild rang Tharstan's peal of 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES in 3 hrs. J. F. Hastings, 1; J. Field, 2; S. Hounslow, 3; C. Hounslow, 4; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 5; T. Payne, 6; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 7; W. Finch, 8. Tenor, 28 cwt. The first peal rung in Wells.

At St. John's, Glastonbury, Somerset.

ON Tuesday, the 3rd inst., eight members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild rang Brooke's Variation of Tharstan's peal of 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 52½ mins. J. F. Hastings, 1; S. Hounslow, 2; W. Finch, 3; J. Field, 4; T. Short, 5; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 6; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 7; T. Payne, 8. Tenor, 26 cwt., in E flat. The first peal rung in Glastonbury.

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

ON Thursday, the 5th inst., eight members of the Midland Counties' Association and the St. Paul's Society rang a peal of 5056 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR (Burton Variation) in 3 hrs. 19 mins. G. Robinson, 1; J. Austin, 2; A. Wakley, 3; J. Griffin, 4; H. D. Betteridge (50th peal), 5; H. Wakley, 6; T. Holmes, 7; W. Wakley, 8. Composed by Mr. Dains and conducted by Mr. Griffin. Tenor, 26 cwt. This peal, which is now rung for the first time, has the 4th and 6th their extent in 6th's place; the 2nd and 3rd never being in that position. Rung with the bells half muffled on the first anniversary of the death of the Rev. James H. Fish, first Vicar of St. Paul's and founder of the Society.

At the Parish Church, Warnham, Sussex.

ON Thursday, the 5th inst., eight members of the Sussex County Association rang a peal of 5088 OXFORD TREBLE BOB MAJOR in 3 hrs. 2 mins. G. Charman, 1; W. Charman, 2; J. Andrews, 3; H. Cook, 4; W. Short, 5; F. Knight, 6; H. Burstow, 7; H. Chandler, 8. Composed by Mr. G. H. Hardy and conducted by Mr. Chandler. Tenor, 14½ cwt. First peal in the method by all the band and by the Sussex Association.

At St. Bartholomew's, Quorndon, Leicestershire.

ON Friday, the 6th inst., eight members of the Midland Counties' Association rang a peal of 5024 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR in 2 hrs. 52 mins. G. Robinson, 1; A. P. Heywood, Esq., 2; J. Austin, 3; J. Griffin, 4; A. R. Oldham, 5; H. Wakley, 6; J. W. Taylor, jun., 7; W. Wakley, 8. Composed by Mr. C. H. Hattersley and conducted by Mr. Griffin. Tenor,

14½ cwt. This peal has the 4th, 5th, and 6th consecutively in 6th's place, with no other bell there, and is now rung for the first time. It is the first peal of DOUBLE NORWICH rung in the county of Leicester, and Mr. Taylor's first peal in the method.

At St. Peter's, South Croydon, Surrey.

ON Friday, the 6th inst., eight members of the Beddington Branch of the Surrey Association of Change-ringers rang a peal of 5088 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR in 3 hrs. 20 mins. J. Branch, 1; E. Bennett, 2; J. Fayers, 3; Dr. A. B. Carpenter, 4; W. Burkin, 5; C. Bance, 6; J. Trappitt, 7; C. Gordon, 8. Composed by Mr. J. Platt and conducted by Mr. Bennett. Tenor, 26½ cwt., in D. This is the first peal in the method on the bells.

At All Saints', Fulham, London.

ON Saturday, the 7th inst., eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang a peal of 5040 KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL in 3 hrs. 15 mins. C. F. Winny, 1; G. F. Cartmel,* 2; W. H. L. Buckingham,* 3; G. T. McLaughlin,* 4; T. Maynard,* 5; J. W. Oxborrow,* 6; H. G. Fairbrass* (Canterbury), 7; J. M. Hayes, 8; J. W. Driver,* 9; F. G. Newman (conductor), 10. Composed by Henry Dains. * First peal. Tenor, 21 cwt.

At the Cathedral, St. Albans, Herts.

ON Monday, the 9th inst., eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths and the Essex Association rang Holt's Original peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 3 hrs. 13 mins. H. G. Fairbrass, Canterbury (conductor), 1; T. Grant (first peal with a bob-bell), 2; N. N. Hills, 3; R. M. Pratt, 4; G. W. Cartmel, 5; E. A. Hulks, 6; W. Battle, 7; H. L. Waddington, 8. Tenor, 30 cwt., in E flat.

ON Tuesday, the 10th inst., in the Temperance Hotel at the above city, five members of the St. Peter's Society, the Ancient Society of College Youths, and the Essex Association, rang a peal of 5021 GRANDSIRE CATERS on handbells retained in hand. G. W. Cartmel, 1-2; E. P. Debenham, 3-4; W. H. L. Buckingham, 5-6; J. C. Mitchell (twenty-first birthday), 7-8; T. Waller, 9-10. Composed by Mr. J. Cox and conducted by Mr. Mitchell.

At St. Lawrence's, Appleton, Berks.

ON Wednesday, the 11th inst., ten members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild and the Ancient Society of College Youths rang a peal of 13,265 GRANDSIRE CATERS in 8 hrs. 5 mins. E. Holfield, 1; C. Hounslow, 2; H. Baker, 3; W. Bennett, 4; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 5; F. White, 6; J. Avery, 7; G. Holfield, 8; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 9; S. White, 10. Tenor, 14½ cwt., in F. The above is the longest peal ever rung on ten bells, and was rung at the first attempt. The peal contains the 120 course-ends.

At St. Chad's Cathedral, Birmingham.

ON Wednesday, the 11th inst., a peal of 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES (Tharstan's Two-part) was rung in 2 hrs. 53 mins. by eight members of the Holt Society, Aston-juxta-Birmingham. H. Bastable (conductor), 1; A. Thomas, 2; J. Plant, 3; T. Miller, 4; B. Witchell, 5; T. Reynolds, 6; H. Johnson, jun., 7; W. Saneger, 8. Tenor, 14 cwt., in F. It was intended to start for TREBLE BOB, but, being one short for that method, the above was rung instead.

At Holy Trinity, Sutton Coldfield, Warwickshire.

ON Saturday, the 14th inst., a peal of 5184 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR was rung in 3 hrs. 11 mins. by eight members of the Holt Society, Aston-juxta-Birmingham. H. Bastable, 1; T. Russam, 2; A. Thomas, 3; J. Plant, 4; W. Kent, 5; T. Reynolds, 6; T. Miller, 7; H. Johnson, jun., 8. Tenor, 24 cwt., in E flat. Composed by Mr. H. Johnson, sen., and conducted by Mr. H. Bastable. This peal may be found in Snowdon's *Treble Bob*, Part II., p. 20, and is the reverse variation there given. First peal in the method on the bells. A great improvement has been made to this ringing-room by the addition of a deadening-floor.

AT SS. PETER AND PAUL, LAVENHAM, SUFFOLK.—On Sunday morning, the 1st inst., 784 BOB MAJOR. A. W. Baldwin, 1; W. Hollocks, 2; A. Hollocks, 3; J. Moore, 4; H. Smith, 5; W. Snell, 6; A. Symonds (conductor), 7; W. Moore, 8. Messrs. W. and A. Hollocks, Moore, and Snell, came from Preston; Baldwin, St. Andrew's the Less, Cambridge.

AT STANSTEAD, SUFFOLK.—On Easter Day, the 1st inst., several courses of BOB MINOR were rung on the bells of the parish church before the services by the band of young ringers lately formed here. E. Ableby, 1; A. Smith, 2; R. Gowers, 3; G. Britten, 4; Joseph Wheeler, 5; James Wheeler, 6.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH, WIGSTON, LEICESTERSHIRE.—On Easter Sunday, at 7 a.m., the local company rang 6-scores of GRANDSIRE DOUBLES. W. Humberstone (conductor), 1; J. Humberstone, 2; J. Wilson (Aylestone Park), 3; R. Roe, 4; H. Smith, 5; H. Vann, 6. Tenor 15 cwt.

AT ST. MARY-DE-CRYPT, GLOUCESTER.—On Easter Monday, the 2nd inst., eight members of the Association attempted a peal of BOB MAJOR, but after ringing in the twenty-seventh course one of the band was obliged to set his bell. H. G. Gardner, 1; A. A. Waite, 2; H. Mitchell, 3; R. J. Wilkins, 4; D. J. Aston, 5; H. Porch (Bristol), 6; J. Hinton (Bristol), 7; W. J. Sevier (conductor), 8. Tenor, 14½ cwt., in F. Afterwards, 420 STEDMAN TRIPLES.

AT ST. SEPULCHRE'S, HOLBORN VIADUCT, CITY OF LONDON.—On Tuesday, the 3rd inst., ten members of the St. James' Society attempted a peal of GRANDSIRE CATERS, which, through two bells changing courses, was not completed after ringing 3 hrs. 30 mins. F. G. Newman (conductor), 1; J. M. Nelms, 2; H. Langdon, 3; J. Ramsey, 4; W. H. L. Buckingham, 5; J. M. Hayes, 6; A. E. Church, 7; W. W. Thorne, 8; J. Barry, 9; D. Lovett, 10. Tenor, 32 cwt., in C sharp.

AT ST. LAWRENCE'S, BARNWOOD, GLOUCESTER.—On Tuesday, the 3rd inst., a 720 BOB MINOR in 28 mins. W. Pegler, 1; A. A. Waite, 2; D. J. Aston, 3; W. Sevier, 4; H. Mitchell (conductor), 5; J. Yates, 6. Tenor, 14 cwt.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH, HORLEY, SURREY.—On Wednesday evening, the 4th inst., for practice, 336 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. W. Wallis, 1; W. Edwards (conductor), 2; T. Whitmore, 3; E. Dewey, 4; S. Kenward, 5; J. Taylor, 6; T. Sparks, 7; G. Apps, 8. And 336 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. W. Wallis, 1; T. Sparks, 2; E. Dewey, 3; S. Kenward, 4; W. Edwards (conductor), 5; T. Whitmore, 6; J. Taylor, 7; G. Apps, 8.

AT ST. MARY'S, PRESTON, SUFFOLK.—On Wednesday evening, the 4th inst., 720 OXFORD TREBLE BOB (9 bobs), in 25 mins. H. Symonds, 1; A. W. Baldwin, 2; A. Hollocks, 3; J. Moore, 4; A. Symonds (conductor), 5; W. Hollocks, 6. This was rung in honour of Mr. Baldwin successfully passing the second year Schoolmaster's Certificate Examination. He was formerly of Preston, but now resides in the parish of St. Andrew the Less, Cambridge.

AT CAVERSHAM, OXFORD.—On Sunday, the 8th inst. after evening service, 720 KENT TREBLE BOB MINOR. H. Simmonds, 1; Rev. G. F. Coleridge, 2; J. Hands, 3; E. Menday, 4; H. Smith, 5; T. Newman (conductor), 6. Tenor, 17 cwt.

AT BENINGTON, HERTS.—On Tuesday evening, the 10th inst., the Benington Society of Change-ringers met for their usual weekly ringing practice, when the undermentioned members rang in excellent style a select touch containing 215 changes of STEDMAN TRIPLES, with 24 bobs in the Queen's and Tittum positions. An admirable touch of CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, and followed with excellent precision, containing 1344 musical changes. J. Kitchener, 1; Jos. Kitchener, 2; L. Proctor, Esq., 3; L. Chapman, 4; W. Hobbs, 5; Jabez Warner, 6; C. Shambrook, 7; S. Page (conductor), 8. Tenor, 14 cwt., in F sharp.

AT ST. MARTIN'S, SALISBURY, WILTS.—On the 11th inst., several touches of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES were rung in honour of the marriage of Miss E. A. Clements (sister of Mr. C. A. Clements) to Rev. D. M. Thomas, curate of Penarth, South Wales. A peal was attempted in the afternoon, which unfortunately broke down after ringing 1 hr. 45 mins. J. R. Jerram, 1; S. Lawrence, 2; A. W. Barkus, 3; A. P. Goddard, 4; H. D. Adams, 5; W. W. Gifford, 6; T. Blackburn (conductor), 7; C. A. Clements, 8.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH, ASHELOWORTH, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.—On Sunday, the 15th inst., six members of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association rang a 720 KENT TREBLE BOB MINOR, the first in the method on the bells, in 25 mins. H. G. Gardner, 1; J. Buffery, 2; S. Romans, 3; R. J. Wilkins, 4; H. Mitchell, 5; W. J. Sevier (conductor), 6. Also a 720 BOB MINOR in 26 mins. W. T. Pegler, 1; S. Romans, 2; J. Buffery, 3; R. J. Wilkins (conductor), 4; H. Mitchell, 5; W. Sevier, 6. Tenor, 18 cwt., in E.

CORRECTION.—The Secretary of the College Youths (Mr. Woodley) writes to say that the peal at St. Clement Danes, reported last week, was rung by ten members of that Society, and not by the St. James' Society; and that it was to celebrate the Election of Churchwardens.

RECEIVED ALSO.—F. G. Newman; W. W. Gifford; and others.

SNOWDON'S CH. RINGING WORKS. Send for List, 9 Old Bank Chambers, Leeds.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The Reredos in St. Paul's Cathedral.

SIR,—I have been requested by a Mr. H. Miller to sign a memorial, to be presented to the Bishop of the Diocese, protesting against the introduction of 'graven images' into St. Paul's Cathedral. Among those who have already signed it appears the name of a neighbouring incumbent. I am surprised at this, because a few years ago he took part in the ceremony of laying certain memorial stones of a Methodist chapel in my parish. On that building, on either side of the front entrance, may be seen in bold relief the *graven images* of our Lord and Daniel in the lions' den. The Wesleyans do not despise 'graven images.' In fine, it is recorded that one of their leading ministers, the late Dr. Jobson, traced his conversion to a sight of the Crucifix. If Mr. H. Miller and his friends will make a pilgrimage to this portion of the metropolis, they will discover not a few 'graven images' on Nonconformist places of worship. On the Baptist chapel near West Hackney Church there are figures carved in stone, representing the Son of God being baptized by St. John Baptist, with other incidents in their lives. As the Second Commandment condemns the *worship* only of graven images, and of the likeness of anything in heaven or in earth—not the things themselves, for if such were the case we should not be justified in having a portrait or photograph of a friend or relative—instead of attempting to prosecute the Dean and Chapter of St. Paul's for beautifying their Cathedral with a magnificent reredos, we should highly commend their taste and piety.

HENRY SHRIMPTON.

All Saints' Vicarage, Stoke Newington, April 12th, 1888.

SIR,—I have only just received my copy of *Church Bells* of March 29th. I do not know that I have ever been more grieved, and yet amused, than in reading the letter of 'English Churchman.' Well might the question be asked, 'What has education done for England?' Is the Education Act of 1870 a dead letter? Can people still be found dense with all the educational advantages around us? Is it possible to conceive that any Englishman with the smallest amount of intelligence would or could worship an image? Is it possible that there is danger that anyone, or even a child who has passed the second standard, will worship a crucifix? If so, then surely there is more danger that the paintings of the Crucifixion and the statues of Samuel and Timothy, which often ornament the cottages of the working classes, will lead to idolatry. Surely 'English Churchman' has had little

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

A Visit to Bergholt, Suffolk.

ON Wednesday, the 11th inst., a company of ringers from Great Bentley, Great Bromley, Heigham, and Ipswich, paid a visit to East Bergholt. It will be remembered that this noble ring of five bells hangs in a square cage on the ground at the back of the church. The visitors, after tapping some *GRANDSIRE DOUBLES* on them, and taking the cords off the clappers, raised the bells, and six of the local company rang rounds and a few changes, which were well done, as they have to handle them by the stock: the noise is very great. The bells were then given up to the visitors to try their skill. H. Bowell (Ipswich), 1; J. Starling (Great Bromley), 2; W. Smith (Heigham), 3; J. Smith (Heigham), 4; W. Nevard (Great Bentley), 6. Tenor, 26 cwt. The above also rang a touch of *GRANDSIRE TRIPLES*, three courses of *BOB MAJOR*, and 720 *BOB MINOR*, on the handbells. W. Nevard, 1-2; W. Smith, 3-4; J. Smith, 5-6. Also some courses of *GRANDSIRE TRIPLES* with A. Bowell and C. Abliitt.

A Meeting at St. Nicholas', Great Yarmouth, Norfolk.

THE ringers of this ancient cathedral-like edifice was never more honoured than when on Thursday, the 5th inst., the esteemed vicar (Rev. W. Donne, M.A.) invited them to meet in the belfry, Mr. James F. Hastings, of Wells, Somersetshire, had expressed a direct wish to have a touch on the fine ring of ten; tenor, 30 cwt. It may be remembered that Mr. Hastings had on the two days previously taken part in two peals of *STEDMAN TRIPLES* at Wells and Glastonbury respectively. During the day of his visit, touches of *GRANDSIRE TRIPLES* were rung by J. F. Bray, 1; M. Long (conductor), 2; A. Webber, 3; J. F. Hastings, 4; W. Secrett, 5; D. Hayward, 6; W. Fletcher, 7; T. Tooley, 8. Also a touch of *GRANDSIRE CATERS*. M. Long (conductor), 1; R. Christian, 2; W. Blyth, 3; A. Webber, 4; J. F. Hastings, 5; D. Hayward, 6; W. Secrett, 7; T. Tooley, 8; W. Fletcher, 9; G. Crowe, 10. The Vicar of Yarmouth treated the company in a generous spirit, with which they were all pleased. It is understood that Mr. Hastings intends to reside at Yarmouth.

Reopening of Chalgrove Bells, Oxon.

ON Thursday, the 12th inst., the bells having been refitted, were reopened and re-dedicated. A new oak frame had been erected, the treble recast, and all the bells rehung. At 4 p.m. the Master of the Oxford Diocesan Guild arrived with five of his brethren, and having raised the bells in peal rang 720 *KENT TREBLE BOB MINOR*. Rev. F. E. Robinson, 1; H. D. Betteridge, Esq., 2; F. Field, 3; C. Trinder, 4; H. Baker, 5; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 6. Tea was then provided at the Vicarage, after which Evensong was held at 7.15 p.m., at which the sermon was preached by the Master. A 360 *DOUBLE COURT* was rung before the service, and 720 *GRANDSIRE MINOR* afterwards.

Tubular Bells.

SIR,—Your readers are much indebted to Mr. Jerram for his remarks on 'Tubular Bells.' In his depreciation of them as a substitute for bells and bell-ringing he cannot put them at too low an estimate; but, unless those interested are fully warned, we shall be in great danger of suffering shortly from a tubular mania. I have even now to record that the little village church of West Anstey, Devon, has, by the sale of its four old bells, been provided with the means of installing eight of these paroxysms of bell-ringing—these cheap, if not 'nice,' substitute for the 'true metal.' Three of these old bells have been broken from time to time, solely by improper clapping; two of them, at least, in spite of warnings given. The fracture of the third has now 'justified' their sale. How about a faculty? Is it possible that a faculty can have been granted for such a purpose? Or has the deed been done in the hope of its receiving no notification from the ecclesiastical authorities of the diocese? Is no one responsible for the safe-keeping and protection of the old bells? The old tenor bell, measuring about 38 in. across, and weighing 22 cwt., is said to have been still sound when sold. It is probably by this time consigned to the melting-pot. Who instigated the crime? Was it the sexton, or the churchwarden, or the architect of the restored church, or the rector, or —? Has not the expostulation of the Society of Antiquaries, against the wanton destruction of what is old, yet reached this secluded spot through the Rural Dean? These are questions which seriously concern the village itself, the Church at large, the whole country, not to mention the bell-ringing community and the universal lovers of 'angels' music.' I have no wish to disparage this ingenious and useful invention, which in many a town will soon probably gratify a want which has been long felt by affording, at a moderate cost, the means of a light musical chime of deep tone, which shall be free from any alleged grievance or annoyance by excessive noise; but I do indignantly protest against the Vandalism of sacrificing the time-honoured and sacred association of centuries to 'clap-trap.'

A Church Mouse.

SIR,—A ringer correspondent remarks that tubular bells are not 'pealable.' If to 'peal' is a technical term reserved to the mechanical process of swinging a ring of bells by means of the ordinary rotary appliances, it is self-evident that tubular bells, not being thus sounded, are not 'pealable.' *Cadit questio.* But if the 'pealing' of bells signifies to most people the full and well sustained acoustic effect produced by ordinary bells only when they are swung, then in my judgment good tubular bells are eminently 'pealable.' In so far as they offer no means of yielding the tamer result effected by striking a stationary bell of the ordinary form, and commonly called chiming, it would rather be true that the tubulars differ from the others in being 'unchimeable.' It is chiefly a matter of the usage of terms. Any discussion of another point

laid down by your correspondents as to the comparative merits of the two kinds of bells would seem to me premature. Moreover, it will in due time solve itself by the operation of the law of the 'survival of the fittest,' the competition probably being solely between *inferior* bells and *good* tubes. Meanwhile nature suggests the use of another law—that of 'live and let live.' There is at present plenty of room both for the old church bells and also for the new, as many an old ringer round about my parish has gladly testified since becoming acquainted with the latter. They shake their heads awhile at first out of an amiable affection for their headstocks and gudgeons, and handstrokes and backstrokes; but the mood passes, and with true ringers' instinct they are soon ready to welcome tower music, no matter what shape the metal and mechanism concerned in producing it.

A LOVER OF BELLS.

The St. Peter Mancroft Society at King's Lynn.

A CORRESPONDENT writes:—Easter Bank Holiday will be a day long to be remembered by all true lovers of ringing in and around the ancient borough of King's Lynn. At an early hour in the morning the Lynn ringers raised their bells, and everything being in order they went to the railway station to to meet their visitors, who arrived by the 10 a.m. train. The Norwich company was accompanied by Captain Moore of Redenhall, the Rev. H. E. Bulwer, the Rev. N. Bolingbroke (hon. secretary of the Norwich Diocesan Association), and Mr. J. Soutar of Diss, Mr. F. Knights (Master of the Norwich Scholars), and others from various districts to the number of fourteen. They proceeded to the tower of St. Margaret's Church, and rang a well-struck course of *KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL* for morning service. The party then ascended the tower of St. Nicholas' Church, and rang a touch of *OXFORD TREBLE BOB MAJOR*, after which they returned to the tower of St. Margaret's and attempted a peal of 5000 *KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL*. After ringing 1 hr. 10 mins. it came to grief by the breaking of the sixth rope. Time would not admit further attempts for the peal that day. At four o'clock, by the kind invitation of the ex-Mayor (W. Burditt, Esq.) the ringers proceeded to the 'Crown Hotel,' where an excellent luncheon awaited them. Forty ringers and friends dined. The Mayor (G. S. Woodwork, Esq.) occupied the chair, and on his right were seated the ex-Mayor and Captain Moore; on the left, Dr. Seccombe and the Rev. H. E. Bulwer. After luncheon an adjournment was made to St. Margaret's Tower, when several touches of *GRANDSIRE CATERS*, *OXFORD* and *KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL*, and *STEDMAN CATERS*, were rung. The tone of the two new trebles was pronounced good. Further visits were made to St. Nicholas' Church, where more touches of *TREBLE BOB* were rung by the Norwich and Diss men, assisted by some of the Lynn company, the 'go' of the bells being much appreciated. Altogether a most enjoyable day was spent by the Lynn ringers and their visitors.

The Yorkshire Association.

A DISTRICT RINGING MEETING was held at Bingley on Saturday, the 14th inst., when members and friends attended from Bradford, Bolton, Shipley, Saltaire, Keighley, Rothwell, &c. The local company commenced the proceedings by attempting a date touch of *OXFORD TREBLE BOB MAJOR*, which was unfortunately lost, after ringing an hour. The bells of the parish church were then, by the kind permission of the vicar and churchwardens, placed at the disposal of the visitors, and touches of *MINOR* and *MAJOR* were rung during the afternoon and evening.

Society for the Archdeaconry of Stafford.

THE Quarterly Meeting in connexion with the above Society was held on Saturday last at Bloxwich, when members from the following places mustered in good number:—West Bromwich, Wednesbury, Wolverhampton, Wombourn, Walsall, Willenhall, Tipton, Darlaston, Perry Bar, and Lichfield. Ringing commenced shortly after three o'clock with a touch of *GRANDSIRE TRIPLES*, and was kept up during the afternoon and evening with touches in the *GRANDSIRE*, *STEDMAN*, and *KENT TREBLE BOB* methods. At five o'clock a short service was held in the church, conducted by the vicar the Rev. J. Barrow, who, in some well-chosen remarks, very kindly welcomed the Society to Bloxwich, and gave the members some good instruction with regard to their duties to the Church as bell-ringers. After this a committee meeting was held in the vestry, when eight new members were elected; and it was also arranged to hold the annual meeting at Lichfield on Saturday, June 30th. At six o'clock the ringers adjourned to the Schoolroom, where they found an excellent tea all in readiness, to which upwards of thirty members and friends sat down, when ample justice was done to the good things provided. A vote of thanks was proposed, seconded, and carried unanimously, to the Vicar for his address in the afternoon, who, in responding, said that he had no doubt but that before long he should have a band of ringers that would join the Society. A vote of thanks to the ladies for their very kind attention at the tables brought the meeting to a close.

The Lancashire Association.

NOTICE is hereby given, that the next Quarterly Meeting will be held at St. Alban's Church, Rochdale, on Saturday, May 5th. There will be a short service in the church at 5 p.m., at which members and friends are asked to attend. The business meeting will be held in St. Alban's Schoolroom, Drake Street, immediately after service, and over which the vicar, the Rev. W. Cooper, M.A., has kindly consented to preside. The bells (eight), tenor, 17 cwt., will be at the disposal of members from 2.30 p.m. up to the commencement of the service, and again at the close of the meeting. Members on arrival to meet in the schoolroom, where companies can be formed for ringing. The Committee will be very pleased to see as many as possible at both the service and the meeting.

JOEL REDFORD, A. E. WREAKS, Hon. Secs.

CHANGE-RINGING.**At the Parish Church, Foxearth, Essex.**

ON Thursday, the 12th inst., eight members of the Essex Association rang a peal of 5088 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR in 3 hrs. 5 mins. S. Slater, 1; W. P. Gridley, 2; F. Wells, 3; G. Maxim, 4; J. Lee, 5; R. Mingay, 6; G. Maxim, 7; O. Garwood (first peal as conductor), 8. Composed by Mr. J. Reeves. Tenor, 8½ cwt. Mr. G. Maxim came from Cavendish, and was elected a member of the Essex Association before starting for the peal.

At St. Peter's, Drayton, Berks.

ON Friday, the 13th inst., eight members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild rang Brooke's Variation of Tharstan's peal of 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 27 mins. W. Finch, 1; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 2; A. Browning, 3; F. Field, 4; H. D. Betteridge, 5; T. Payne, 6; H. Baker (conductor), 7; J. W. Washbrook, 8. Tenor, 9 cwt. Although the time was short, it was an exceedingly well-struck peal, and is believed to be the fastest on record.

At Sproughton, Suffolk.

ON Saturday, the 14th inst., four members of the Ancient Society of College Youths and the Norwich Diocesan Association rang, on handbells retained in hand, Holt's Original peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, in 2 hrs. 18½ mins. J. Steward, 1-2; C. Mee (conductor), 3-4; A. E. Durrant, 5-6; D. Prentice, 7-8. Tenor, 14 size, in D. Referee, Mr. W. L. Catchpole, who marked off the bob-leads as they were rung. The above is the first peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES on handbells rung in this county, and also the first by the Norwich Diocesan Association.

At the Parish Church, Sheffield, Yorkshire.

ON Saturday, the 14th inst., eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths and the Yorkshire Association rang a peal of 5024 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR in 3 hrs. 14 mins. C. Bower, 1; W. Bugar, 2; W. Lomas, 3; Jos. Mulligan, 4; G. Holmes, 5; C. H. Hattersley (composer and conductor), 6; T. Hattersley, 7; A. Brierley, 8. Tenor, 44 cwt. The first peal of DOUBLE NORWICH rung in the county of York.

At St. Martin's, Salisbury, Wilts.

ON Saturday, the 14th inst., 1056 BOB MAJOR was rung. W. S. Wise, 1; A. P. Goddard, 2; W. J. Baker (Rochester), 3; H. D. Adams, 4; A. W. Barkus, 5; J. R. Jerram, 6; C. A. Clements, 7; W. W. Gifford (conductor), 8. Tenor, 15 cwt.

ON Monday, the 16th inst., eight members of the Salisbury Diocesan Guild rang Holt's Ten-part peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, in 2 hrs. 49½ mins. J. R. Jerram, 1; S. Lawrence (first peal with a bob bell), 2; W. J. Baker (Rochester), 3; A. P. Goddard, 4; H. D. Adams, 5; A. W. Barkus, 6; W. W. Gifford (conductor), 7; C. A. Clements, 8.

HANDBELL PEAL.—On Sunday afternoon, the 22nd inst., at the above city, Holt's Ten-part peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES was rung in 2 hrs. 17 mins., at the house of Mr. Tydeman, 49 Castle Street. A. W. Barkus, 1-2; W. E. Tydeman, 3-4; W. Gifford (conductor), 5-6; W. S. Wise, 7-8. Umpire, Mr. W. Scammell, who marked off all the bob-leads as they were rung. Our correspondent tells us that, although rung on Sunday, it was not during the hours of Divine service. The first peal on hand-bells by Messrs. Barkus (aged 17) and Wise (18).

At St. Stephen's, Westminster, London.

ON Saturday, the 14th inst., eight members of the St. Stephen's Society (Westminster) and the Ancient Society of College Youths (London), rang Holt's Ten-part peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 3 hrs. 7½ mins. S. J. Reed (first peal), 1; G. T. McLaughlin, 2; J. N. Oxborrow, 3; H. R. Newton, 4; E. Duff (first peal), 5; H. S. Ellis, 6; J. M. Hayes (conductor), 7; W. Carter, 8. Tenor, 25 cwt.

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

ON Monday, the 16th inst., eight members of the Kent County Association rang Holt's Original peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 52 mins. F. J. Cullum (first peal), 1; F. G. Newman (conductor), 2; B. J. Sheldon (first peal), 3; J. C. Harvey, 4; G. Conyard, 5; Rev. E. W. Carpenter, M.A., 6; F. J. French, 7; J. Garard, 8. Tenor, 19 cwt.

At Dronfield Parish Church, Derbyshire.

ON Wednesday, the 18th inst., a muffled peal was rung as a mark of respect for the late Mr. Samuel Allen, who was interred that afternoon. He was seventy-four years of age, had been a ringer for the long period of fifty-eight years, and was well known throughout a very wide circle. F. Hancock (Eckington), 1; E. Hemmingfield (Ecclesfield), 2; T. Kitson (Ecclesfield), 3; N. Worthington (Staveley), 4; S. Hemmingfield (Ecclesfield), 5; G. Marsden (Eckington), 6.

At St. Andrew's, Derby.

ON Saturday, the 21st inst., a peal of 5120 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR was rung by eight members of the Midland Counties' Association (Derby District) and the St. Andrew's Society, in 3 hrs. 16 mins. C. Draper, 1; T. Alton, 2; J. W. Thompson, 3; W. B. Midgley, 4; C. E. Hart, 5; A. E. Thompson, 6; H. C. Woodward, 7; G. Mottashaw, 8. Tenor, 20½ cwt., in E flat. Composed by Mr. L. Stains of Leicester and conducted by Mr. Woodward. First peal by all in the method except the conductor, the first peal of TREBLE BOB rung on the bells, and it is believed to be the first peal in the method ever rung in the town by Derby ringers.

At the Parish Church, Dewsbury, Yorkshire.

ON Saturday, the 17th inst., a silent peal of 5280 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR was rung in 3 hrs. 12 mins. J. Garforth, 1; J. H. Dixon, 2; L. Illingworth, 3; B. A. Dodson,* 4; G. H. Hardy* (composer), 5; J. W. Yates,* 6; G. Bolland,* 7; W. Collins, 8. Tenor, 14 cwt. *Members of the Yorkshire Association. Messrs. J. H. Harcastle (Bradford) and Allan Womersley (Aldmondbury) officiated as umpires, and expressed themselves

highly satisfied with the manner in which the peal was rung. The striking throughout was excellent, and not a word was spoken in the belfry from the call off until 'That is all!' was announced. A goodly number of ringing friends from various places also assembled for the purpose of hearing the peal, who heartily congratulated the band on the creditable character of their performance. Messrs. Garforth and Dixon came from Dewsbury; Luke Illingworth and W. Collins, Liversedge; B. A. Dodson and J. W. Yates, Birstall; G. H. Hardy, Earlsheaton; and G. Bolland, Tong.

At St. Bartholomew's, Quorndon, Leicestershire.

ON Saturday, the 21st inst., eight members of the Loughborough Branch of the Midland Counties' Association rang a peal of 5056 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR in 3 hrs. 3 mins. C. Smith, 1; R. Lane, 2; J. C. Dickens, 3; J. Hardy, 4; J. W. Taylor, junr., 5; J. Ward, 6; W. Birkinshaw, 7; A. R. Aldham, 8. Tenor, 14½ cwt., in F sharp. Composed by Mr. Harrison and conducted by Mr. Aldham. Messrs. Dickens and Ward came from Long Eaton.

At Bishop Ryder's, Birmingham.

ON Saturday the 21st inst., Holt's Six-part peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES was rung in 2 hrs. 55 mins. by eight members of the Holt Society Aston-juxta-Birmingham. W. H. Godden, 1; T. Miller, 2; C. Stanbridge, 3; T. Reynolds, 4; W. Munday, 5; A. J. Jones, 6; J. Plant (first peal as conductor in this Society), 7; W. J. Jackson (first peal), 8. Tenor, 12 cwt., in G.

At Christ Church, West Bromwich.

ON Saturday, the 21st inst., ten members of the West Bromwich Society for the Archdeaconry of Stafford rang a peal of 5058 GRANDSIRE CATERS in 3 hrs. 10 mins. W. Cooper, 1; J. Tinsley, 2; S. Reeves, 3; J. Frisby, 4; A. H. Hill, 5; T. Horton, 6; W. Smith, 7; W. R. Small, 8; C. Price, 9; J. Hall, 10. Composed by Mr. Johnson, sen., of Birmingham, and conducted by Mr. Reeves. Tenor, 23 cwt. 3 qrs., in E flat. The peal has the 5th and 6th each twelve times wrong and right without an 8-9 or 7-8 being called.

At Barnwood, Gloucestershire.

ON Sunday, the 22nd inst., for afternoon service, the local band rang 720 KENT TREBLE BOB MINOR in 27 mins. H. Barnes, 1; J. Yates, 2; D. J. Aston, 3; W. J. Sevier (conductor), 4; A. Waite, 5; H. G. Gardner, 6. Tenor, 14 cwt.

The Annual Movable Committee of Manchester Unity will take place during Whitsun week at the ancient city of Gloucester. There will be special service in the nave of the Cathedral, in which the Rev. Dean, Dr. Butler, will preach. There will be long peals attempted round the outskirts of the city. STEDMAN CINQUES, CATERS, and many other even-bell methods will be started.

AT ST. SAVIOUR'S, SOUTHWARK, LONDON.—On Tuesday, the 10th inst., ten members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang a touch of 1000 KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL in 50 mins. Rev. H. A. Cockey, 1; J. Pettit, 2; R. T. Woodley, 3; H. Springfall, 4; S. Joyce, 5; G. T. McLaughlin, 6; W. Greenleaf, 7; J. M. Hayes (conductor), 8; E. Horrex, 9; F. G. Newman 10. Tenor, 52 cwt.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH, UPTON ST. LEONARD'S, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.—On Saturday, the 14th inst., 720 KENT TREBLE BOB MINOR in 28 mins. D. J. Aston, 1; R. J. Wilkins, 2; W. J. Sevier (conductor), 3; S. Romans, 4; H. Mitchell, 5; H. G. Gardner, 6. Also 720 PLAIN BOB MINOR in 26 mins. S. Romans, 1; R. J. Wilkins, 2; D. J. Aston, 3; J. Buffery, 4; H. Mitchell, 5; W. J. Sevier (conductor), 6. Tenor, 18 cwt. Afterwards, a number of courses of STEDMAN TRIPLES. H. G. Gardner, 1; S. Romans, 2; W. Sevier, 3; R. J. Wilkins, 4; D. J. Aston, 5; H. Mitchell, 6; J. Buffery (conductor), 7; T. White, 8. Mr. John Buffery belongs to St. Martin's Society, Birmingham, and came for a peal of MAJOR, but, meeting one short, the above was rung instead.

AT ST. MICHAEL'S, GLOUCESTER.—On Sunday, the 15th inst., for morning service, 360 BOB MINOR on the back six. H. L. James, Esq., 1; J. Buffery, 2; S. Romans, 3; R. J. Wilkins (conductor), 4; W. Brimsdon, 5; W. J. Sevier, 6. Tenor, 21 cwt., in E flat.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH, NUNEATON, WARWICKSHIRE.—On Thursday, the 19th inst., two 6-scores of PLAIN BOB DOUBLES, and six 6-scores of GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, each called differently. W. Adler, 1; G. Winter, 2; J. Clarke, 3; H. Horwood (conductor), 4; T. W. Chapman, 5; — George (Coventry), 6. Also two 6-scores of GRANDSIRE DOUBLES. — George (Coventry), 1; T. W. Chapman (conductor), 2; G. Winter, 3; J. Clarke, 4; W. Adler, 5; C. Palmer, 6. Mr. George's first touch with treble.

AT BENINGTON, HERTS.—On Friday evening, the 20th inst., eight members of the Benington (Herts) Society of Change-ringers met at the parish church of St. Peter, and after ringing GRANDSIRE TRIPLES with their young band, the undermentioned members rang, with excellent striking, a musical date touch of 1888 changes in that melodious method of DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR in 1 hr. 9 mins., containing 38 bobs, the production of Mr. F. Pitstow of Saffron Walden. N. Warner, 1; Jos. Kitchener, 2; J. Kitchener, 3; F. L. Chapman, 4; P. Hobbs, 5; J. Warner, 6; C. Shambrook, 7; S. Page (conductor), 8. Tenor, 14 cwt., in F sharp.

ST. SIDWELL'S SOCIETY, EXETER.—On Sunday, the 22nd inst., for evening service, a quarter-peal of STEDMAN TRIPLES (1260 changes), taken from Tharstan's peal, was rung in 43 mins. W. Stocker, 1; A. Shepherd, 2; F. Shepherd, 3; F. Davey, 4; S. Binfield, 5; J. Moss, 6; E. Shepherd (conductor), 7; B. Munday, 8. Tenor, 24 cwt., in D.

body would have their attention called to some facts and truths stated in this pamphlet.

Mr. Fitzmaurice Bloomfield said the pamphlet was not only a libel, but a gross falsehood on the Church of Ireland. He was happy it had received the utter condemnation of that Synod.

Some financial matters having been discussed, and the Archbishop of Dublin having made a statement as to the management of the Victoria Jubilee Fund, the *Te Deum* was said, and the Synod closed with the Benediction.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Otley Parish Church Bells.

AFTER having been rung for over 108 years, one of this fine ring of eight bells was cracked while ringing for service on Sunday, April 15th. Upon examination it was found that the clapper had almost worn a hole through the bell. The remainder of the bells were then examined, and found to be much worn; so the churchwardens decided to have the cracked bell recast, and the whole of the peal quarter-turned and rehung, with new fittings. Messrs. Shaw, Son, and Co., bell-founders, Bradford, have now the work in hand. The new bell will weigh about 12 cwt.

The Chester Diocesan Guild.

THE first Quarterly Meeting of the Macclesfield branch of the above Association was held at Bollington on Saturday, April 14th, when members attended from Macclesfield, Bollington, Prestbury, and Gawsorth. Thirteen new members were elected, bringing the total up to forty-four. After the meeting touches of GRANDSIRE and STEDMAN were rung on the tower bells.

The Society of Trinity Youths, Greenwich, Kent.

IN 1782 a Society, called the Trinity Youths, was formed at Deptford, Kent, with headquarters at St. Nicholas' Church, for the purpose of furthering the art of change-ringing. For some years the Society flourished, and, according to the peal-book, several creditable performances were accomplished, including a 10,080 of BOB MAJOR at St. Mary's, Lewisham, and numerous peals in the more intricate methods at Greenwich, Woolwich, Lewisham, and Deptford. Tablets recording these are still to be seen in the respective towers. Unfortunately, by death of members, lack of support and other causes, the Society gradually decreased, until two only could lay claim to membership. A short time ago, however, it was suggested that if the Society of Trinity Youths could be resuscitated, it would not only be a boon to the ringers of this district, but would tend greatly to advance the exercise and save young beginners numerous journeys to London in search of practice. This suggestion met with very cordial support, and arrangements were thereupon made for a meeting at St. Alphege, Greenwich, on Tuesday, April 17th, to discuss and, if possible, to bring the matter to a successful issue. There was a goodly array of ringers, 'Stoney Bob' and Stedman being alike represented, and during the evening several touches of GRANDSIRE, from Doubles to Caters, with a sprinkling of BOB MAJOR, were brought round.

Ringings being concluded, Mr. W. Weatherstone introduced Mr. Richard Smith, aged seventy-nine, one of the remaining members of the old Society, and stated that his colleague, Mr. James Dyer, aged eighty-five, was unable to be present through illness. He, however, had appointed Mr. Weatherstone to act as his proxy in conjunction with Mr. Smith for the election of new members. This was therefore at once proceeded with, the following names being eventually submitted and accepted, making, with the two old members, a total of fifteen:—Rev. H. A. Cockey, Messrs. J. Dyer, R. Smith, W. Weatherstone, A. G. Freeman, F. W. Thornton, E. E. Richards, J. Laws, W. Bedwell, J. Crowder, W. G. Davis, J. Lamb, W. Forman, S. Gibbs, and W. Everard. The next business was to elect officers, the following selections being unanimously made:—Master, Mr. W. Weatherstone; Secretary, Mr. F. W. Thornton; Treasurer, Rev. H. A. Cockey; Senior Steward, Mr. J. J. Lamb; Junior Steward, Mr. W. Bedwell. The officers-elect having expressed their thanks, it was decided to make St. Alphege, Greenwich, the Society's headquarters, meeting each Tuesday at 7.30 p.m., until further notice. The framing of rules, &c., was postponed for some future occasion. There are several good rings in this district, viz., Greenwich (ten bells), Deptford (St. John's and St. Nicholas'), Lewisham, Lee, and Woolwich, eight bells each. With the exception of the latter place, but little half-pull ringing has been done, although several peals have been rung by the St. James' and other London Societies.

The Secretary will be glad to receive the names of any ringers in the neighbourhood willing to join, who may be unable to attend the next meeting. It is earnestly hoped that members of kindred Societies will co-operate, and thus endeavour to make the Society of Trinity Youths a complete success.

The Anniversary Meeting at Braughing, near Ware, Herts.

THE Anniversary Ringing Day, held on the 10th of May for over 140 years, in commemoration of a peal of 12,000 BOB MAJOR having been rung by the band of ringers resident in the parish, will this next month, in consequence of Ascension Day being on the 10th May, be held on Friday, May 11th, when a large gathering of ringers is fully expected from distant parts. L. Proctor, Esq., with his skilled band of ringers from Benington, proposes attending, with many friends, to enjoy some good ringing upon this fine ring of eight bells. Tenor, 19 cwt., in F., recently rehung by Mr. John Gray of Hertford.

NOTICE.—On Saturday next, May 5th, the Bishop of Manchester will dedicate a ring of thirteen bells at Holy Trinity Church, Blackburn.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At the Abbey Church, Dorchester, Oxfordshire.

ON Monday, the 23rd ult., eight members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild rang Brooke's Variation of Tharstan's peal of 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 53 mins. J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 1; C. Tolley, 2; C. Trinder, 3; Rev. Canon Wigram, 4; F. Field, 5; H. Cobb, 6; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 7; W. Cobb, 8. Tenor, 19 cwt.

At St. Peter's, Roydon, Essex.

ON Tuesday, the 24th ult., six members of the Hertford College Youths rang 5040 changes in seven different minor methods:—DOUBLE COURT, COLLEGE SINGLE, OXFORD and KENT TREBLE BOB, OXFORD BOB, PLAIN BOB, and GRANDSIRE. E. Cains, 1; W. Bennett, 2; M. Ellsmore, 3; Jos. Pomfret, 4; H. Phillips, 5; H. Baker (conductor), 6. Tenor, 8½ cwt. This is the first time these bells have been rung, having only just been hung. The first five are new, by Mears and Stainbank, and the tenor by Pack and Chapman in 1776.

MESSRS. LLEWELLINS & JAMES of Bristol have just completed the thorough rehanging of St. James's bells, a ring of 10, and St. Michael's, a ring of 6, both in Bristol, in the most satisfactory manner; the bells being now in excellent ringing order.

RECEIVED ALSO:—MR. T. Menagh, Bandon, Ireland; and others.

SNOWDON'S CH. RINGING WORKS. Send for List, 9 Old Bank Chambers, Leeds.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Cardinal Newman and Dr. Dollinger.

SIR,—Your long transcript from the *New York Churchman* includes one statement about Cardinal Newman which, I believe, involves a complete misunderstanding. Mr. Ransford says that at one time there was a possibility of Dr. Newman joining Dr. Dollinger and his party. May I call attention to the following passages from the second volume of *The Difficulties of Anglicans*? This was written five years after the Vatican Council. An anonymous correspondent in a Liverpool paper 'understood that at one time Dr. Newman was on the point of uniting with Dr. Dollinger and his party, and that it required the earnest persuasion of several members of the Roman Catholic Episcopate to prevent him from taking that step.' Observe Cardinal Newman's comment upon this imputation: 'An unmitigated and most ridiculous untruth in every word of it; nor would it be worth while to notice it here except for its connexion with the subject on which I am entering.' This we find on p. 299. But later on there is a still more explicit statement, which entirely disposes of the misrepresentation to which I refer:—'From the day I became a Catholic to this day, now close upon thirty years, I have never had a moment's misgiving that the Communion of Rome is that Church which the Apostles set up at Pentecost. Nor have I ever, since 1845, for a moment hesitated in my conviction that it was my clear duty to join, as I did then join, that Catholic Church. . . . Never for a moment have I wished myself back. Never has my Maker let me feel forsaken by Him, or in distress, or any kind of religious trouble.'

I am sure Mr. Ransford would not wish to misrepresent the great Oratorian, nor am I writing this in any controversial spirit; but, in the light of such explicit statements from Cardinal Newman himself, no one could well leave such a passage unnoticed. Any reader of Dr. Newman's works will know that in his *Lectures on University Subjects*, delivered many years before the Vatican Council, he gave unmistakable and extensive expression to his belief in the Infallibility of the Pope. And though he certainly was distressed in 1870 at some circumstances connected with the Council, the idea of joining Dr. Dollinger surely never entered his head.

VERITAS.

The Deceased Wife's Sister Bill.

SIR,—I have carefully read the article on 'Marriages not sanctioned by Holy Scripture,' to which the respected initials, 'G. V.', are appended, in your issue of the 20th April, and must confess disappointment at its contents. From the tone adopted in the commencement of the article, I fully expected that the writer would show clearly and straightforwardly that marriage with a deceased wife's sister is contrary to the Divine law. He refers us only, however, to the sixteenth verse of the eighteenth chapter of Leviticus, which he interprets as saying, 'Thou shalt not marry thy [deceased] brother's wife,' and he then goes on to say, 'That if so, it follows with equal force and clearness that the woman is told, "Thou shalt not marry thy [deceased] sister's husband." ' Now, on reading further in the above chapter of Leviticus, we find that in verse 18 the relationship of a wife's sister is expressly dealt with; and if so, what right have to infer the existence of a commandment by analogy, as 'G. V.' so authoritatively does? In the Revised Version, the eighteenth verse reads thus: 'And thou shalt not take a woman to her sister to be a rival to her . . . in her lifetime.' This means, surely, that marriage with more than one sister is only prohibited during the lifetime of the first sister, and can have no reference to a marriage after the death of the first sister. 'G. V.'s argument, therefore, seems untenable on this eighteenth chapter of Leviticus; but what can we say of it when taken in connexion with the fifth verse of the twenty-fifth chapter of Deuteronomy, when the surviving brother is absolutely commanded to

efforts, Christian people must centre their hopes for the future of Ireland in the conversion of her clever and genial children to the simple faith of the Gospel. This is the primary means for the amelioration of Ireland's ills. There never was more need of it than now, and never more hope and evidence of its final victory in securing that real union of hearts which every true patriot desires.

C. J. PORTER, D.D.
Vicar of All Saints', Southport.

COLONIAL AND FOREIGN CHURCH NEWS.

CANADA.

BISHOP ANSON of Qu'Appelle, speaking of a recent visit to Port Arthur, says: 'The people residing outside the town could partially support at least two or more clergymen, but the men cannot be found. The Bishop of Rupertsland has seven or eight stations vacant for which he has sufficient funds, but he cannot find the men. In my own diocese we have been for a year in great want of three more priests.'

THE announced resignation of Bishop Hills is appreciatively noticed by the *Victoria Times*:—'The settler who has been familiar with British Columbia for twenty or thirty years will mourn for one who has spent his life in efforts for the good of the colony he made his home. While a curate in England, under Dr. Hook at Leeds, he is specially remembered for his labours during a small-pox epidemic; then at the great East Anglian seaport he did a work for eleven years which still keeps up for him in the old country the name "Hills of Yarmouth." For nearly thirty years he dwelt amongst ourselves; financial difficulties, under which many would have succumbed, have been surmounted by his patient skill and personal sacrifices; while misapprehensions, which too long clouded the minds of some in this colony, have passed away, leaving in their place remorse.'

UNITED STATES.

THE diocese of California is to be divided. The new diocese will comprise the south of the State, and will commence separate existence with twenty-three clergy.

THE Lutherans in New York have asked for a committee of conference on a system of Sunday-school lessons based on the ecclesiastical year. A step will have thus been made towards union with one of the largest bodies of Christians in the republic.

NEW ZEALAND.

IN December the Bishop of Waiapu ordained three more Maori deacons. Forty-seven Maori clergy have been ordained altogether.

INDIA.

THE ordination of Pandit Kharak Singh by Bishop French at Sukkur, in the Punjab, deserves to be especially noted. He is 'a Sikh of the Sikhs.' He first became a Hindu Fakir, and practised great austerities; twice he sought death in Benares, that he might go direct to heaven. In 1856 he met Sir John Lawrence, who employed him as a teacher of Sanscrit. He next became an officer of artillery. A Hindu of Amritsur led him to study the Bible, but he wrote against it a book with arguments from the Shastras. After many struggles, he was baptized by the Rev. R. Clark in 1874. He has since then been a preacher of Christ, living under trees, or making himself a hut.

THE members of the Armenian Church in Calcutta—says the *Indian Churchman*—have presented the Chaplain of Kidderpur with a set of Armenian vestments.

EAST AFRICA.

THE Rev. E. C. Gordon has been permitted by the young King of Uganda to take the place of Mr. Mackay, whom he had practically expelled. He wrote in September that the King had shown him unexpected favour on account of his having the same surname as the General of Khartoum fame. Of the converts he said:—'Many of them set a great value on the portions of the Scriptures they have purchased, and several have whole copies of the New Testament in Swahili. Most of the members of the Church Council are in hiding, and can only dare to venture out under cover of darkness. On Sundays several, of whom some are baptized and others not, collect here, and we have prayers and singing, with a few words in Swahili on a portion of Scripture. The fear which King Mwanga has of Emin Pasha is very great. His suspicion of the English is strong. To our human view the way seems very dark, and the new Bishop's work very difficult.' Later letters have been received at the C.M.S. House in London from Mr. Gordon in Uganda, dated November 16, and from Bishop Parker, Mr. Mackay, Mr. Ashe, and others, at the south end of the Lake, dated January 27. All were well.

ITALY.

THE *Courrier de Bruxelles* gives some details on the 'Budget' of the Pope. His annual official expenses amount to seven million francs. These are met in part by the Peter's pence, which have been more zealously collected since the loss of the temporal power. In 1870 a revenue was thus gathered of 7,117,000 francs, and it has never since sunk below six millions. At the recent Papal Jubilee the bishops gathered as extraordinary Peter's pence 32,500,000 francs, and the Pope's Mass brought in three millions besides. For the needs of missions, the Pope employs the Association for the Propagation of the Faith founded at Lyons in 1822; in 1887, 6,648,000 francs were thus received, of which it is remarked with regret that Germany contributed only 409,000 francs, and Austria only 80,000. The articles of the Vatican Exhibition—of Jubilee presents to H. H.—which are valued from 90 to 100 million francs, cannot be sold; a part of them—those of higher artistic worth—will be kept as a permanent museum, while the remainder will be given away to poor churches and missions.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

The Rev. J. Lindsay, D.D., and the Parochial Ringers of St. Clement Danes, Strand, London.

ON Friday, Oct. 7th, 1887, the Parochial Ringers of the above church rang a peal of 5089 GRANDSIRE CATERS to celebrate the thirty-fifth birthday of the Rev. J. Lindsay, who had exchanged livings with the Rev. G. Sutton Fleck, Berrington, Shrewsbury. On Thursday, the 3rd inst., the party met at the Shakespeare Tavern, Wych Street, Strand, to partake of a supper to commemorate that event, and to send good wishes to the late Rector. The chair was taken by E. Quin-Coles, Esq., the vice-chair by J. W. Quin, Esq. After supper the toast of 'The Queen' was given by the chairman. Mr. Albone then gave 'The Health of the Rev. J. Lindsay,' who had left the Rectory of St. Clement Danes on account of ill health, but who would always retain a kindly remembrance of his late parishioners, more especially the parochial ringers, with whom he was always on the best of terms. Mrs. Lindsay's name was coupled with the toast, who took a lively interest in the parish and the ringers. A hearty response was given. The chairman and vice-chairman made pleasing remarks in connexion with the good wishes of the company towards them. A course of Caters was rung on the hand-bells by Messrs Church, Haworth, Winny, French, and Hayes. A pleasing vocal entertainment followed by the Chairman, Vice-chairman, and Messrs. French, Haworth, Church, W. Jones (Camberwell), Hayes, Chew (who also gave the toast of 'The Bell-ringers of England, more especially the Society of St. James'), and Cartwright. A course of STEDMAN TRIPLES by Messrs. Haworth, Winny, French, and Church followed. A pleasant evening's meeting was then finished, but not before it was understood that another one was soon to follow.

The Surrey Association.

THE next District Meeting will be held at Epsom, by the kind permission of the Vicar, on Whit Monday, May 21st. The tower will be open for ringing from 3 till 9 p.m. The Secretary will be happy to furnish copies of the certificate of membership to all those members whose subscriptions for the current year are paid, and who have not yet had their certificates.

ARTHUR B. CARPENTER, *Hon. Sec.*

Yorkshire Association of Change-ringers.

By kind permission of the Vicar and Wardens, arrangements are being made for holding the next general meeting at Pontefract on Saturday, June 2nd.

W. SNOWDON, *President.*

North Lincolnshire Bell-ringers' Association.

THE Fourth General Annual Meeting of the officers and members of this Association took place at the head-quarters—the city of Lincoln—on Saturday, under very favourable auspices. Members from Gainsborough, Market Rasen, Louth, Caistor, Scothern, Hull, and the four Lincoln Societies, were present; the company being augmented by members of the Yorkshire, South Lincolnshire, Midland Counties, and other kindred Associations. Through the kindness of the Cathedral authorities, and the clergy and churchwardens of the city churches, four rings of bells were placed at the disposal of the Association for the day; and it is needless to add that this privilege was taken full advantage of and appreciated by the members. Shortly before twelve o'clock eight of the members, viz. Messrs. Stiles, Woodthorpe, Doughty, Rose, Vickers (conductor), and Stewart of the Cathedral company, C. Wells of St. Peter's-at-Arches, and W. Lunn of Market Rasen, met at the Cathedral tower, for the purpose of attempting a full peal of BOB TRIPLES (5040 changes); all went merrily for 2 hrs. 12 mins., when a 'change course' occurred, bringing with it collapse. By three o'clock the visitors began to arrive from all sides, and soon made their presence known at the various towers.

The annual tea was arranged to take place in the Guild Court, at the foot of the Steep Hill, at five o'clock, by which time between fifty and sixty sat down. While assembled at tea the company were honoured with the presence of the Lord Bishop of the Diocese (Dr. King), whose arrival, as also that of the Rev. Precentor Venables, was the signal for an outburst of applause. After tea his Lordship addressed the company. [We hope to give the Bishop's admirable address in a future number.]

The Rev. Precentor Venables, a warm friend of the Association, moved a vote of thanks to his Lordship for his kindness in sparing the members a few of his precious golden moments to come amongst them and encourage them in their work, which he himself heartily sympathised with.

The business portion of the meeting followed. The Report for the past year was of a very pleasing character; it showed an increase of thirty-one members (ten honorary and twenty-one ringing members), and a balance in hand of over 12l. The venerable Bishop kindly accepted the invitation of the Association to become its patron. The Very Rev. the Dean of Lincoln was unanimously re-elected president; the three Vice-presidents (S. F. Hood, Esq., for the Lincoln centre; the Rev. S. W. Andrews, for Market Rasen centre; and F. F. Linley, Esq., for Gainsboro' centre) were re-elected, as also were the hon. treasurer (Mr. H. Gadd), and the hon. secretary (Mr. W. Lunn) both of Market Rasen. Two new honorary members (the Rev. Canon Overton of Epworth, and the Rev. E. Milner Barry of Scothern), were enrolled, one probationer passed into the efficient rank, and three new efficient and nine probationary members were elected. It was agreed to hold the July Quarterly Meeting at Great Grimsby. The help of the Lincoln reception committee, the services of the chairman (F. F. Linley, Esq.), and the kindness of the clergy in granting their church bells, were acknowledged with votes of thanks.

During the evening the members visited the various towers in the city and rang short touches in a variety of methods. Thus ended what was undoubtedly one of the most successful meetings held by the Association.

The Bandon (near Cork, Ireland) Bell-ringers' Association.

THE members of this flourishing little Association met at the residence of their respected and efficient conductor, Thomas Menagh, Esq., on Thursday, at eight o'clock, for the purpose of bidding farewell to one of their members, Mr. S. Lees, who is about to emigrate to America. After tea and its accompaniments, their host, in suitable terms, referred to the reason why they had assembled there that evening, viz., to bid good-bye to one who had worked with them as change-ringers in the tower of Ballymodan Church; and also to present him with an address, as a small token of the esteem in which he had been held by them as members of the Society. The address bore the signature of the Patroness of the Association, the Countess of Bandon, who has on all occasions taken a deep interest in the Society since the inauguration a few years ago, when her ladyship presented the fine ring of bells to the parish. Mr. Lees briefly thanked them for the kindness he had at all times met at their hands, and said that it always gave him pleasure to assist in any way he could. A cordial and hearty vote of thanks was conveyed to Mr. and Mrs. Menagh for their kindness in providing such an entertainment, at which they had all so much enjoyed themselves. Recitations, singing, &c., from several of the members, brought a very pleasant evening to a close.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At the Parish Church, Bletchingley, Surrey.

ON Tuesday, the 17th ult., eight members of the Surrey Association rang a peal of 5040 UNION TRIPLES (in one main course) in 3 hrs. 3 mins. A. Wallis, 1; J. Burkin (sixty-ninth birthday), 2; F. Smith, 3; J. Bashford, jun., 4; J. Bashford, sen., 5; L. Killick, 6; W. Hawkins, 7; W. Mayne, 8. Composed by Dr. A. B. Carpenter and conducted by Mr. Bashford, jun. Tenor, 19 cwt.

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

ON Thursday, the 19th ult., eight members of the Midland Counties' Association and the St. Paul's Society rang a peal of 5056 SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR in 3 hrs. 27 mins. G. Robinson, 1; J. Austin, 2; A. Wakley, 3; J. Griffin, 4; J. Carter, 5; H. Wakley, 6; T. Holmes, 7; W. Wakley, 8. Composed by P. Heywood, Esq., and conducted by Mr. W. Wakley. Tenor, 26 cwt. This composition, which is now rung for the first time, contains the whole musical extent of the 6th, viz., twelve times in 6th's place, and six times in 4th's, the 2nd never in 6th's place. Rung to celebrate the marriage of Rowland Cartwright (Master of the St. Benedict's Society, Wombourne, and an honorary member of the St. Paul's Society) with Frances Catherine, second daughter of the late Rev. E. W. Stubbs, vicar of St. Nicholas, Salop. Mr. Carter came from Birmingham, and this is his first peal in the method.

ON Monday, the 30th ult., eight members of the above Association rang a peal of 5104 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR in 3 hrs. 30 mins. G. Robinson, 1; J. Austin, 2; C. H. Hattersley (composer), 3; J. Griffin, 4; E. I. Stone, 5; A. Wakley, 6; H. Wakley, 7; W. Wakley (conductor), 8. Rung with the bells half muffled to the memory of the late Mr. M. T. Bass, founder of St. Paul's Church, the fourth anniversary of whose death fell the day previous to the peal being rung, Sunday, April 29th.

At St. Peter and Paul, Foxearth, Essex.

ON Friday, the 20th ult., eight members of the Essex Association rang a peal of 5280 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR in 3 hrs. 3 mins. S. Slater, 1; W. P. Gridley, 2; J. Lee, 3; F. Wells, 4; G. Maxim, 5; R. Mingay, 6; O. Garwood, 7; C. Sillitoe, 8. Composed by Mr. W. J. Crofts and conducted by Mr. Sillitoe. Tenor, 8½ cwt.

The peal will be found in Snowdon's *Treatise on Treble Bob*, and is now rung for the first time. It was rung as a birthday compliment to Master W. F. Foster, eldest son of the Rev. J. F. Foster, who attained his thirteenth year on that day. This is the longest peal yet rung on these bells. Messrs. Slater, Wells, and Garwood came from Glemsford; Sillitoe, Sudbury; the rest are local men.

At Ipswich, Suffolk.

ON Friday, the 20th ult., at the Meeting-house, and on handbells retained in hand, four members of the St. Mary-le-Tower Society, Ancient Society of College Youths, and the Norwich Diocesan Association, rang Holt's Original peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 35 mins. W. Motts, 1-2; J. Motts (conductor), 3-4; F. Tillet, 5-6; R. H. Brundle, 7-8. Tenor, 22 size, in C. Umpires: Messrs. S. Tillet, W. P. Garrett, and A. E. Durrant, who with other ringers gave applause to the finish of a fine-struck peal, which was attempted on Thursday to be rung in honour of the memory of Lord Beaconsfield, but after ringing upwards of 3300 changes a shift occurred. It is the first rung in the method by four members of the St. Mary-le-Tower Society and Norwich Diocesan Association, and was rung upon the Rev. A. H. Hayes' splendid-toned ring of eight bells, kindly lent to R. Brundle.

At St. Peter's, Drayton, Berks.

ON Saturday, the 21st ult., eight members of the Oxford Diocesan Fund rang a peal of 5184 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, in 3 hrs. 4 mins. W. Gobb (first peal of MAJOR), 1; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 2; C. Trinder, 3; Rev. Canon Wigram (Hertford), 4; F. Field, 5; H. D. Betteridge, Esq., 6; T. Short, 7; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 8. Tenor, 9½ cwt. This composition has the 4th, 5th, and 6th, eighteen times in 6th's place, and was now rung for the first time.

NOTICE.—Many valuable communications are unavoidably postponed.

SNOWDON'S CH. RINGING WORKS, Send for List, 9 Old Bank Chambers, Leeds.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The Marriage Bill.

SIR,—Like your correspondent, Mr. J. H. Jones, I would observe that 'in the absence of the clearest case, it is unwise (if nothing worse)' to quote Lev. xviii. 18 as giving the slightest sanction to union with the second sister after the death of the first, until the recognised marginal translation of 'one wife to another' shall have been absolutely and authoritatively proved to be wrong. The Church may be deemed autocratic, bigoted, and misguided on this matter, but such a charge might have been urged with more fairness and with far greater justice and reason, if, like some of her professed supporters, she had attempted to draw—in respect of nearness of kin—refined distinctions as to the difference of moral obligation between a man's union with the surviving sister, and the mother, of a deceased wife; or with a sister-in-law, and a maternal or paternal aunt (v. 12, 13); or the wife of an uncle or brother (Lev. xx. 20, 21). It is quite true that in Leviticus, xviii. 16, there is not a word about union with a wife's sister being contrary to the Divine law, or about a sister-in-law at all. Nor is there in ver. 6. But in ver. 6 is a very great deal more. In it a man is forbidden to marry *any* one who is near of kin to him. And all the instances quoted above are unquestionably cases of *nearness of kin*. There is no intelligible distinction to be drawn between them in this respect.

The exceptional case (Deut. xxv. 5) of a brother taking the widow of an elder brother must be considered in reference to the exceptional circumstances and expressed purpose of the obligation; for this was not a mere permission. 'If brethren dwell together' in their common inheritance and 'one of them die having no child,' the rights of inheritance belonging to the deceased brother are to devolve upon the brother, or next kinsman, who takes the widow to wife. 'And the firstborn which she beareth shall succeed in the name of the brother which is dead, that his name be not put out in Israel.' But the obligation and its accompanying benefits were not always (v. 7-10) readily accepted as a blessing, though acquiesced in commonly as a religious duty. But no one can contend that such exceptional circumstances and conditions have any parallel at all in the Christian Church. And no human legislation can unmake sisters-in-law. Unfortunately, the distortion of facts may have its effect upon the conduct and action of the unthinking part of the community. And a nation may set aside morality and revelation, and make its laws solely upon a human, and what it may be pleased to call a social, basis. But it is to be hoped that we shall be spared legislation in the direction of licentiousness, as opposed to the true teaching of religious liberty in the Church.

WILLIAM WHITE, F.S.A.

30A Wimpole Street, May 7th.

The St. Paul's Reredos.

SIR,—I do not see your interesting paper until late, and this is my apology for only now referring to 'Cantab's' letter in your impression of April 20th. He asks, 'Has it ever been known that any adoration has been given to the beautiful sculptured images of saints in our cathedrals?' A few days ago two gentlemen were viewing and discussing the reredos in St. Paul's. One was arguing after the manner of 'Cantab.' A young lady approached and both bowed and genuflected before the reredos. In 1 Cor. x. 14, St. Paul is cautioning his converts against *ειδωλολατρεία*. Surely the translation is *worship of idols*. Alford says that *φειγγω*, followed by *ἀπό* with the genitive, expresses more strongly than when followed by an accusative, the entire avoidance.

R. L. BARNETT, M.A.

[The probability is that the persons referred to by our correspondent bowed and genuflected before the altar, not the reredos, and that they would have done the same if the reredos had not been there.—ED. C.B.]

Burial Reform.

SIR,—In calling the attention of your readers to an advertisement elsewhere in your columns, announcing the Tenth Annual Meeting of the Burial Reform Association in Grosvenor House, with the Duke of Westminster in the chair, kindly permit me to state that the Council, who hope to make the anniversary the occasion of a special effort, desire (a) to cause a Parliamentary inquiry to be made into the condition of the Cemeteries in our large towns, and the mode of burial adopted; (b) to hold a great meeting in Willis's Rooms in connexion with the Pan-Anglican Synod, over which the Bishop of Brisbane will preside; (c) to spread throughout the country the Society's papers, with a view of arousing general interest in its work; (d) to supply the clergy with the Society's literature previous to the discussion of the subject during the Church Congress. In order to carry out this scheme increased funds are necessary. Those who approve are invited to send contributions to the Treasurer, Major Coates, National Bank, Old Broad Street, E.C., or to myself, *Westow Vicarage, York, May 7, 1888.*

F. LAURENCE, Hon. Sec.

RECEIVED ALSO.—A. M. Wilcox; A Layman; Justitia; Church School Manager.

MISS C. M. YONGE says:—'The selections are excellent, and, I think, filling up the book will often be a great comfort.'

OUR FRIENDS IN PARADISE; or, Sanctum Dulcis Memoria. With Introduction by the BISHOP OF LICHFIELD. Floral Borders, cloth boards, 3s. 6d. [Second Edition.]

'All who daily assert their confidence in the Communion of Saints should welcome such a book . . . A fitting companion for the Altar . . . This book will do more to remind people that God is not the God of the *dead*, but of the *living*, to teach them the real state of their departed friends, than any number of . . . learned sermons.'—*Weekly Churchman.*

LONDON: WELLS GARDNER, DARTON, & CO., PATERNOSTER BUILDINGS.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

New Ring of Bells for Holy Trinity Church, Blackburn, Lancashire.

THE new ring of twelve bells, which have just been placed in the tower of this church, were dedicated on Saturday week by Bishop Cramer-Roberts, vicar of Blackburn. There was a large congregation, and after a shortened form of evening service the Bishop preached a sermon appropriate to the occasion. Taking as his text Col. iii. 2, 'Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth,' he urged upon his hearers to have their thoughts drawn to things above. The object which had brought them there that evening was one which just carried out the thought, when they came to think where those bells were placed, and what the object of those bells would be. All around was change and decay, and therefore it behoved them to carry out the words of the text and have their affection fixed upon things above, not on things on the earth. At the conclusion of the sermon the Bishop, accompanied by the Rev. Dr. Moffatt (vicar), proceeded to the west entrance, and standing beneath the belfry tower dedicated the bells. The shortened form of evening service was taken by the Curate, the Rev. F. G. Chevassut, B.A.; the lesson (Numb. x. 1-11) being read by the Rev. S. F. Harris, M.A., vicar of St. Michael's, Blackburn. After service the bells rang out a merry peal. Unfortunately, only eight of the thirteen bells were in position, but it is expected that they will all be ready for ringing next week. The bells are a set of Harrington's tubular bells, and the largest ever made by that firm. The total cost has been 406*l*.

A New Clock at Warslow, Staffordshire.

A LARGE new clock has just been erected in the parish church by John Smith & Sons, Midland Clock Works, Derby. It strikes the hours, shows time upon three dials, each four feet across, and is fitted with all the latest improvements, so as to keep perfectly accurate time. The old clock and bells were burnt in the tower a short time ago. The same firm have also just completed a large striking clock with two six-feet six-inch dials, upon the factory tower of Messrs. Clark, Street, near Glastonbury.

The Clerkenwell Society of Change-ringers.

By the invitation of the Rev. J. H. Rose, M.A. (vicar), the ringers of the parish church were invited to a supper at the 'Three Kings' Tavern, Clerkenwell Close, in celebration of his completion of twenty years in the parish, and also in recognition of the services rendered by the ringers at various times. Morning and evening the ringers ascended the belfry and rang in honour of the occasion, and subsequently sat down to a liberal repast by host Puddington. Mr. J. C. Banks, an esteemed member of the Clerkenwell Society of Change-ringers and also of the church choir, occupied the chair, and was supported by Mr. H. Mandeville (in the vice-chair), and Messrs. A. Green, J. T. Knight, E. Tate, John Bissmire, George Bissmire, E. March, E. Bridge, E. Ricketts, W. Jones, R. Allen, W. Thornhill, E. Bissmire, J. Rayner, J. Mitchell, R. Matthews, C. Ward, C. Holmes, J. Nelms, D. Lovett, J. Barry, W. Humphreys, F. Boyer, J. Looker, and R. Tate. After supper the Rev. J. H. Rose, M.A., entered the room, and was received with applause. The Chairman then proceeded with a short toast-list, in which the Queen and Royal Family were primarily honoured.

The Chairman then submitted 'The Health of the Vicar, Rev. J. H. Rose.' He said they were well aware of what had taken place at the Vestry Hall that night; and if their reverend friend would allow him, he would offer their united and earnest congratulations on that auspicious occasion. Mr. Rose was one of a vast population, and classing it with provincial populations they were a big town, although but a small parish. Their Vicar had a great responsibility in his clerical charge, and all were glad that he had been singled out that day to have honour done him for persevering industry and courage in carrying on his work in the parish during the last twenty years. What had been done he was sure was a labour of love, but there was no doubt the love was reciprocated from the highest to the lowest in the parish. He had extreme pleasure in proposing 'The Health of the Rev. J. H. Rose, Mrs. Rose, and Family,' and trusted all would be spared, with health and happiness, for many years.

The Rev. J. H. Rose, M.A., in reply, said he was extremely grateful to Mr. Banks and the other gentlemen present for proposing the toast. He had just come from another gathering, where he had certainly received from the hands of the people of Clerkenwell a very gratifying testimonial. He expected nothing but kindness in Clerkenwell, but he never expected it would take such a generous turn as it had. He had considerable pleasure in coming up there that night, notwithstanding that some one had said that 'singers and ringers were thorns in the parson's side.' But he had never found them to be thorns in his side. At St. James's, the singers and ringers worked well together, and all appeared to go on harmoniously. He thanked the ringers for the melodious peals they had rung that day in honour of his completion of twenty years among them. He had not known before that there was such a splendid body of men amongst the ringers; but with all the bone and muscle, and good fellowship, he could say that Mr. Bissmire had not shown sufficient energy if he failed to bring up sufficient for a peal. He thanked them for all past services, and said his old friend, Dr. Maguire, had sent a message to them, viz., that he also came to the parish on the 3rd of May, eleven years before he (the speaker) came there. Dr. Maguire also wished them every success.

The Chairman tendered the best thanks of the meeting to the Vicar for providing the feast of that evening, and for coming amongst them; and they further thanked him, as well as his churchwarden and sidesmen, for allowing

them uninterrupted use of the belfry. The Vicar then retired, and the company proceeded to a programme of songs, recitations, and complimentary toasts.

The Anniversary at Braughing, Herts.

THE annual ringing festival was observed here on Friday, the 11th inst., the usual day, the 10th inst., being Holy Thursday. This day has been kept as a festival for 108 years, in commemoration of the famous peal of 10,080 BOB MAJOR rung here in 1779. It is generally agreed among ringers that it would be difficult to find anywhere in the country a more perfect ring of eight than the Braughing bells. Tenor, 19 cwt., in F sharp. The dinner took place at the Bell Inn, at which the Rev. P. G. Ward presided, the other chair being occupied by the Rev. F. E. Robinson. During the day the following methods were rung by Squire Proctor and his band from Benington (Messrs. Warner, Jos. Kitchener, L. Chapman, Warner, jun., John Kitchener, Page, Sharnbrook), and the Rev. F. E. Robinson (Drayton, Berks), Baker and Goodchild (Hertford), Haworth and Chapman (London), Rochester and Springham (Sawbridgeworth)—504 SLEDMAN TRIPLES, 167 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, and 336 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT MAJOR, conducted by Mr. Baker; 672 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, and 336 DOUBLE NORWICH, conducted by the Rev. F. E. Robinson; 448 SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, conducted by Mr. L. Chapman; and 216 STEDMAN TRIPLES, conducted by Mr. Page. Nearly 3000 changes were rung. Mr. J. Smith (London), and ringers from Ware, with many friends, were present. Merry tunes were played on the handbells during the afternoon, with which the company were much pleased. In the evening the local brass band played several selections from popular airs, under the conductorship of Mr. J. Budd, Huntsman of the Puckeridge (Herts) hounds. Altogether it was a very successful meeting.

The Salisbury Diocesan Guild.

THE Annual Meeting of the above Guild will be held at Devizes on Wednesday next, May 30th. The proceedings for the day will be as follows:—Divine service at St. John's Church, with sermon by Rev. J. H. Burges, D.D. (Rector), at 11 a.m. A collection in behalf of the Guild at the close of the service. Meeting for election of officers and other business immediately after service. Dinner at 'The Bear' hotel at 1 p.m. The towers of St. John's and St. Mary's, Devizes, Potterne, and Bishops Cannings, will be at the disposal of the Guild for ringing during the day. Travelling expenses will be allowed to ringing members up to 3*s*. a head, provided they send in their names to me not later than Whit-Monday, May 21st next. The names of those who intend to dine must be also sent in by that date, and tickets will be forwarded to those applying for them beforehand. The charge for dinner will be 2*s*. a head to all ringing members holding tickets, and 2*s*. 3*d*. a head to others. The amount in both cases to be paid at the table. A Supplementary Meeting will also be held at Dinton on Wednesday, August 1, for the benefit of those who may not be able to attend the Annual Meeting. Another Meeting will be held at Bridport, under the management of Rev. M. Hankey (Maiden Newton Rectory), District Secretary, to whom application as to date and other particulars should be made. Members who have not attended the Annual Meeting will be entitled to a grant from the funds of the Guild towards paying their expenses to either of the two latter meetings. J. R. JERRAM, *Hon. Sec.*

The Essex Association.

THE Annual Meeting will be held on Whit Monday, May 21st, at Chelmsford. Divine Service at 12.30 in St. Mary's Church, with an address by the Rev. F. E. Robinson, Vicar of Drayton, Berks, and Master of the Oxford Diocesan Guild. Dinner at 1.30 p.m. in the Charity School (tickets, price 1*s*. each to members of the Association), and business meeting immediately after dinner. The following towers will be open during the day:—Chelmsford, 10 bells (except from 10 to 11 a.m. during a parochial service); Great Baddow, Galleywood, and Writtle, 8 bells; Springfield and Widford, 6 bells. Arrangements are being made to start for peals at Chelmsford at 6 a.m., and at Writtle after 6 p.m. A special meeting of the Committee will be held at 10.30 a.m. in the Charity School to consider what resolution shall be submitted to the Annual Meeting respecting a suggestion that the Association should be enlarged to include the present diocese of St. Albans—i.e., Essex and Hertfordshire. If any members of the Association who care to do so will attend this meeting, and express their opinion upon the matter, it will materially assist the committee, and perhaps lessen the necessity for long discussion at the subsequent meeting. T. L. PAPILLON, *Hon. Sec.*

Writtle Vicarage, Chelmsford.

The Yorkshire Association.

By kind permission of the Vicar and Wardens, arrangements are being made for holding the next general meeting at Pontefract on Saturday, June 2nd.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At the Parish Church, Melbourne, Derbyshire.

On Sunday, the 22nd ult., the Midland Counties' Association and the St. Michael's Society rang Holt's Ten-part peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 3 hrs. 14 mins. J. R. Wood, 1; H. Hollingworth, 2; J. Warren, 3; G. A. Fish, 4; G. C. Tunnicliff, 5; H. C. Woodward (conductor), 6; J. Vickers, 7; F. W. Cook, 8. The above peal was rung with the bells deeply muffled as a token of respect to the Rev. J. Deans, vicar of Melbourne, who died on April 20. He was also President of the St. Michael's Society, and was greatly respected by all who knew him.

On Saturday, the 28th ult., a peal of 5024 BOB MAJOR was rung in 3 hrs. 4 mins. J. R. Wood, 1; J. Warren, 2; H. Hollingworth, 3; J. Vickers, 4; H. C. Woodward, 5; F. W. Cook, 6; G. A. Fish, 7; G. C. Tunnicliff, 8.

Composed by A. P. Heywood, Esq., and conducted by H. C. Woodward. Tenor, 16½ cwt., in F. The above peal was rung with the bells half muffled as another token of respect to the late Rev. J. Deans. Also in memory of Mr. F. A. P. Knipe, who died in Australia on April 21. Although so far away at the time of his death, Mr. Knipe was well known to the Melbourne ringers, and was greatly respected by them. He was formerly a Member of the Royal Cumberland Youths.

At St. Andrew's, Hagbourne, Berks.

On Wednesday, the 25th ult., eight members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild rang Holt's Ten-part peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 50 mins. J. Pether, 1; E. Napper, 2; Rev. Canon Wigram, 3; D. Napper, 4; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 5; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 6; W. Napper, 7; A. Woodley, 8. Tenor, 22½ cwt.

At the Parish Church, Ashby-de-la-Zouch, Leicestershire.

On Monday, the 30th ult., Holt's Ten-part peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES was rung by eight members of the Midland Counties' Association (Burton-on-Trent Branch), in 3 hrs. 4½ mins. W. Liggins, 1; H. Canner, 2; T. Jacques, 3; J. Hopkins, 4; J. H. Dummore, 5; J. Jagger (conductor), 6; W. Canner, 7; J. Curtis, 8. Tenor, 18 cwt., in E flat. This is the first peal in the method on the bells, and the first by all except the conductor, the others being some of the members of the recently formed Society at Ashby-de-la-Zouch.

At St. Saviour's, Southwark, London.

On Monday, the 30th ult., the Rector, the Rev. Wm. Thompson, entertained his Sunday ringers (Mr. Mash's young band) to a supper at his house, to the number of sixteen. The Rector took the chair, and was supported by the bellwarden, Mr. Rideal. Mr. Mash proposed the health of the Rector, also Mrs. Thompson, thanking the rev. gentleman for his kindness in entertaining his young friends for the third time. The Rector responded, and said he was pleased to meet them, and hoped to have the pleasure of meeting them again next year, being quite sure that, under the tuition of Mr. Mash, they were quite safe.

At St. Martin's, Birmingham.

On Tuesday, the 1st inst., twelve members of the St. Martin's Society rang a peal of 5014 STEDMAN CINQUES in 3 hrs. 39 mins. H. Bastable, 1; W. R. Small, 2; B. Witchell, 3; W. Kent, 4; S. Reeves, 5; C. H. Hattersley, 6; J. W. Cartwright, 7; C. Stanbridge, 8; A. Thomas, 9; T. Reynolds, 10; H. Johnson, jun., 11; J. Buffery, 12. Composed by Mr. Johnson, sen., and conducted by Mr. C. H. Hattersley. Tenor, 36 cwt.

At SS. Peter and Paul, Foxearth, Essex.

On Monday, the 7th inst., eight members of the Essex Association rang at the first attempt a peal of 10,176 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR. This extraordinary peal was accomplished in 5 hrs. 55 mins. G. Slater (Glemsford), 1; J. Lee (Foxearth), 2; W. Gridley (Foxearth), 3; F. Wells (Glemsford), 4; G. Maxim (Foxearth), 5; W. Howell (Sudbury), 6; O. Garwood (Glemsford), 7; C. Sillitoe (Sudbury), 8. Composed by the late Mr. W. Harrison of Nottam, Cheshire, and conducted by Mr. C. Sillitoe. It is the longest peal in the method ever rung in the county of Essex, and also the longest ever rung by any of the above ringers. At the conclusion of the peal the ringers were complimented by the Rev. J. F. Foster, Mr. D. Ward, and other friends, on the bold and regular manner in which the bells were struck throughout the whole of this long peal, and the ringers are indebted to these gentlemen for the refreshments which they had kindly provided for them.

At St. Mary's, Beddington, Surrey.

On Tuesday, the 8th inst., eight members of the Surrey Association rang a peal of 5040 UNION TRIPLES (in one main course) in 2 hrs. 54 mins. A. J. Plowman, 1; Rev. E. W. Carpenter, 2; E. Bennett, 3; A. B. Carpenter (composer and conductor), 4; J. Plowman, 5; C. Gordon, 6; J. Trappitt, 7; C. Bance, 8.

At All Saints', Fulham, Middlesex.

On Saturday, the 12th inst., ten members of the Surrey Association rang a peal of 5048 STEDMAN CATERS in 3 hrs. 14 mins. H. A. Hopkins, 1; C. E. Malin, 2; J. C. Mitchell, 3; W. H. L. Buckingham, 4; G. Cartmel, 5; G. T. McLaughlin, 6; G. Woodis, 7; J. Smith, 8; J. M. Hayes, 9; W. Bidwell, 10. Composed by Mr. Johnson, sen., and conducted by Mr. Hayes. This is the first peal of STEDMAN CATERS rung by the Association. It is also the first peal of STEDMAN CATERS by Messrs. Mitchell, Cartmel, Woodis, Smith, and Bidwell.

At St. Paul's, WALKDEN, LANCASHIRE.—On Monday evening, March 19th, 720 BOB MINOR (22 singles) in 24½ mins. A. Potter, 1; Jos. Potter, 2; S. Dakes, 3; J. Williamson, 4; Jas. Potter (conductor), 5; J. Brookes, 6. On Easter Day, April 1st, 720 BOB MINOR, before morning service, in 24 mins. W. Denner (conductor), 1; J. Potter, 2; J. Worthington, 3; J. Williamson, 4; A. Potter, 5; J. Brookes, 6. Also on Friday eve, the 13th ult., 720 BOB MINOR in 24 mins., to celebrate the first birthday of the only son of W. Y. Martin, Esq., M.D., of Walkden. W. Denner, 1; Jos. Potter, 2; J. Worthington, 3; J. Williamson, 4; A. Potter, 5; J. Brookes (conductor), 6. Also on Sunday, the 6th inst., being the occasion of the Sunday-school Anniversary sermons, peals were rung as follows:—7 a.m., 720 BOB MINOR (32 bobs) in 25 mins. W. Denner (conductor), 1; Jos. Potter, 2; Jas. Potter, 3; J. Welsby (Worsley), 4; J. Williamson, 5; J. Brookes, 6. At 10 a.m., 720 GRANDSIRE MINOR in 24½ mins. J. Brookes (conductor), 1; J. Williamson, 2; Jas. Potter, 3; J. Worthington, 4; A. Potter, 5; W. Denner, 6. At 2.30 p.m., 720 GRANDSIRE MINOR (32 singles and 28 bobs) in 24½ mins. W. Denner

(conductor), 1; Jas. Potter, 2; J. Williamson, 3; J. Worthington, 4; J. Brookes, 5; A. Potter, 6. At 6 p.m., 720 BOB MINOR (14 singles and 4 bobs) in 24½ mins. Jas. Potter, 1; J. Ridyard (Worsley), 2; J. Worthington (conductor), 3; A. Potter, 4; W. Denner, 5; J. Brookes, 6. Tenor, 13½ cwt. The above peal of GRANDSIRE MINOR is the first ever rung on the bells by local ringers alone.

At St. JOHN'S, WATERLOO ROAD, LONDON.—On Sunday, the 15th ult., eight members of the St. John's Society rang for Divine service 1316 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 43 mins. C. Chaplin, 1; W. Broadbent, 2; W. Partington, 3; S. G. Davies, 4; F. L. Davies (conductor), 5; Rev. A. W. Jephson, 6; H. L. Partington, 7; W. Ball, 8. Tenor, 20 cwt.

At St. GREGORY'S, SUDBURY, SUFFOLK.—On Saturday, the 17th ult., the following members of the company of SS. Peter and Gregory rang a touch of KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 1888 changes, in 1 hr. 14 mins. F. Tolliday, 1; H. Harper, 2; W. B. Ransom, 3; M. Silvester, 4; C. Sillitoe, 5; W. Griggs, 6; W. Howell, 7; A. Scott, 8. Composed by D. Prentice of Ipswich and conducted by C. Sillitoe. Also on Sunday, after evening service at St. Peter's, 756 STEDMAN TRIPLES. J. Campin, 1; M. Silvester, 2; S. Brown, 3; W. Howell, 4; H. Harper, 5; A. Scott, 6; C. Sillitoe (conductor), 7; H. Brackett, 8. Tenor, 23 cwt., in E flat.

At SAWBRIDGEWORTH, HERTS.—On Tuesday, the 17th ult., a quarter peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES was rung in 45 minutes. N. W. Tarling, 1; A. Brown, 2; W. Morris, 3; W. J. Pleasance, 4; F. W. Tarling (first quarter peal), 5; F. Chapman, 6; H. J. Tucker (conductor), 7; P. Springham, 8. Composed by Mr. Thwaites. Tenor, 25 cwt. H. J. Tucker came from Bishops Stortford; F. Chapman, Hadham; the rest are local men.

At THE PARISH CHURCH, EPSOM, SURREY.—On Monday, the 23rd ult., a date touch of 1888 UNION TRIPLES was rung in 1 hr. 3 mins. A. E. Bassett, 1; W. Sanders, 2; T. Miles (conductor), 3; G. Wyatt, 4; H. Pederick, 5; J. Easton, 6; J. Hawkins, 7; G. Pederick, 8. Composed by Mr. Wathen of Tewkesbury. This touch was rung to commemorate the nineteenth anniversary of the peal rung by four fathers and their four sons, and also Mr. Easton's birthday.

At St. MARTIN'S, TIPTON, STAFFORDSHIRE.—On Monday, the 30th ult., for evening practice, 568 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. B. Starkey, 1; E. Goodreds, 2; W. Cheshire, 3; W. Hartshorne, 4; B. Gough, 5; S. Jesson, 6; G. Hughes (conductor), 7; T. Hibert, 8. 640 TREBLE BOB MAJOR. H. Mill, 1; E. Goodreds, 2; W. Pardoe, 3; W. Hartshorne, 4; T. Hibert, 5; S. Jesson, 6; G. Hughes (conductor), 7; W. Small, 8. 408 STEDMAN TRIPLES. W. Small, 1; T. Hibert, 2; W. Pardoe, 3; W. Hartshorne, 4; A. Hill, 5; S. Jesson, 6; G. Hughes (conductor), 7; H. Mills, 8. 216 STEDMAN TRIPLES. H. Mills, 1; W. Small, 2; W. Pardoe, 3; E. Goodreds, 4; A. Hill, 5; S. Jesson, 6; G. Hughes (conductor), 7; B. Starkey, 8. Mr. Hartshorne came from Brierly Hill; T. Hibbert, Reading; W. Cheshire and B. Gough, Coseley; the rest are the Tipton Company.

At THE PARISH CHURCH, WESTBURY, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.—On Tuesday, the 1st inst., 720 BOB MINOR, in 26 mins. W. Brown (first 720), 1; F. E. Ward, Esq., 2; J. E. Hearn, 3; R. J. Wilkins (conductor), 4; H. Mitchell, 5; W. J. Sevier, 6. Tenor, 22 cwt., in E flat. Also 720 KENT TREBLE BOB in 25 mins. T. Brown (first in the method), 1; F. E. Ward, Esq., 2; J. E. Hearn, 3; R. J. Wilkins, 4; H. Mitchell, 5; W. Sevier (conductor), 6. Also a number of six-scores of STEDMAN DOUBLES, conducted by F. E. Ward, Esq., Master of the Association.

At PAINSWICK, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.—On Saturday, the 5th inst., eight members of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association attempted the Rev. C. D. P. Davies' peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES to commemorate the long peal of 12,312 GRANDSIRE CATERS rung seventy-four years ago that day; but after ringing 3 hrs. 5 mins., leaving only two more calls to complete the peal, it ended, owing to the fifth ringer being unable to keep on for two minutes. T. Trigg, 1; W. Sevier (conductor), 2; F. Hart, 3; W. Hale, 4; R. Brunson, 5; R. A. Barrett, 6; G. Smith, 7; W. Prosser, 8.

At SOUTHNEWTON, WILTS.—The ring of four bells in this tower has been augmented to six by the addition of two new trebles. On Saturday, the 5th inst., they were opened by several members of the Salisbury Diocesan Guild, who rang a date touch of 1888 changes on them in 1 hr. 4 mins:—Two 720's, 300 and 108 BOB MINOR, and 40 BOB DOUBLES. W. W. Gifford, 1; A. P. Goddard, 2; A. W. Barkus, 3; C. A. Clements, 4; J. R. Jerram, 5; T. Blackburn (conductor), 6. Tenor, 7½ cwt.

At THE PARISH CHURCH, QUEBELEY, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.—On Sunday, the 6th inst., for evening service, 720 KENT TREBLE BOB MINOR in 24 mins., the first on the bells. T. Brown, 1; S. E. Romans, 2; H. G. Gardner, 3; R. J. Wilkins, 4; H. Mitchell, 5; W. J. Sevier (conductor), 6. Tenor, 11 cwt., in A.

At St. THOMAS'S, SALISBURY, WILTS.—On Ascension Day, for morning service, 504 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 25 mins. J. Short, 1; A. P. Goddard, 2; T. Blackburn (conductor), 3; S. Lawrence, 4; W. E. Tydeman, 5; J. R. Jerram, 6; W. W. Gifford, 7; H. D. Adams, 8. Also at St. Martin's Church, in the evening, 504 STEDMAN TRIPLES. W. S. Wise, 1; W. E. Tydeman, 2; A. P. Goddard, 3; H. D. Adams, 4; C. A. Clements, 5; W. W. Gifford, 6; T. Blackburn (conductor), 7; S. Lawrence, 8.

At St. PETER'S, BENINGTON, HERTS.—On Saturday, the 12th inst., the following persons met for a peal of CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, but after two attempts it was a failure. J. R. Haworth, 1; J. Kitchener, 2; E. Chapman, 3; L. Chapman, 4; H. Baker, 5; J. Warner, 6; C. Shambrook, 7; Rev. F. E. Robinson (conductor), 8.

SNOWDON'S CH. RINGING WORKS. Send for List, 9 Old Bank Chambers, Leeds.

the scholars; indeed, the profession of our faith was, until lately, if it is not even now, a penal offence. . . . Some two years ago Archdeacon Wolfe, head of the C.M.S. missions at Foo-Chow in China, sent over two Chinese catechists to settle in the port of Fu-san, on the south-east coast of the Korean peninsula. These men, who have since been joined by their wives and families, are supported by the native and foreign Christians in Foo-Chow, and are said by the archdeacon to be likely to succeed better than Japanese evangelists would.' An English official in China, who knows Corea well, declares himself 'convinced that in twenty years the whole of Corea will have become Christian; that the people are longing for a religion, as they have none of their own.' The Bishops say that Corea has an excellent climate. 'The people are not behind their neighbours in intellectual power, though they are indolent and seem inferior in business capacity. . . . They certainly appear to be even more open to conversion than the Japanese, who again are much more ready to embrace the faith than are the Chinese.'

JAPAN.

A LADY whom the Japanese Government sent to America for education, and who, after becoming a Christian, returned to Tokyo, writes from thence:—'I hear that 500 converts have been made during the last month in Tokyo alone. I do not know whether this movement will be a permanent one or not, but, though I do not like excitements they may do good to some people. Students in the theological schools have been going out preaching in the streets, and holding meetings in all sorts of places. The Methodists especially seem to be stirred. You would be surprised to see the progress Christianity has made in Japan, not in the number of converts only during the past year, but in its influence—how prejudice has died away. All agree that both Buddhism and Sintoism have lost power for ever, and that Japan needs a religious creed of some kind.'

AUSTRALIA.

THE diocese of Sydney had by the end of February raised 28,000*l.* towards the New South Wales Centennial Fund.

INDIA.

THE Bishop of Rangoon has sent interesting particulars of the last days of the late Rev. J. A. Colbeck at Mandalay. 'It is most mysterious that he should have been removed just at the present time, when the effect of his labours was appearing, not only on the Burmese at large, but upon many of the Phooingees. These had expressed a willingness to become Christians, and he had asked my advice on the matter; my last letter bade him form an order of Christian Phooingees, who should live together in community in a Kyoung, and be employed as schoolmasters, and ultimately as catechists.' In March Mr. Colbeck's surviving brother, who takes his place, baptized seventeen adults, and reported that the movement towards the Gospel was still advancing.

In the Malay peninsula, now attached to the Diocese of Labuan and Sarawak, the Bishop during last year consecrated two new churches—in the native States of Perak and Selangor. In connexion with the former a mission to the immigrants from Southern India has been started by the Rev. W. Markham. At Penang the Rev. R. Balavandrum has added a Chinese department to his work; here also a church has just been consecrated. At Singapore, the veteran Rev. W. H. Gomes is translating the Prayer-book into the Hankien colloquial dialect of Chinese. The Bishop's clergy in Malaya, Borneo, &c., have increased altogether to sixteen; there are twenty-two lay workers. The territory recently acquired in Borneo by the North Borneo Company has opened up a new and vast field to evangelistic enterprise.

THE strictures of Mr. Caine, M.P., on missionary work in Malaya, which in consideration of his respectability we noticed after their appearance in the *Times*, have been satisfactorily answered, both in that journal and in the *Mission Field*. One reply remarks:—'The statement that Mr. Caine stayed here some time may be met by the truth that a little over twenty-four hours was all the time he spent in Singapore.' His strictures on the Eurasians and their parentage are erroneous. His assertion that the merchants think little of the activity of the missionaries is also denied. As for the complaint that no natives attend service in the Cathedral, the answer is that this is in English; but in the mission chapel for them, the communicants alone are over sixty. Before that chapel was built, the natives did attend the Cathedral, where they communicated with the English, though the words of administration were said to them in their own tongue. The M.P.'s attack on the Presbyterians is equally unfair; the Romanists, whom he compliments, have large local endowments, and can therefore employ more agents.

WEST AFRICA.

AN exchange observes: 'There are many heathen serving under the British flag who are not likely to embrace Christianity where there is no religious worship on board, as in the great majority of British merchant ships. But in the Royal Navy, where daily prayers are held, the service of heathen seamen often results in conversion to Christianity. There are 600 men belonging to the Buddhist and other non-Christian religions in the Queen's Naval Service, and these are in some cases brought directly under the chaplains' teaching, as on the Coast of Africa and Ascension Island. At the latter naval station many of them become Christians: last year eleven heathen men were thus baptized by the naval chaplain.'

A BISHOP'S OPINION OF 'VINO SACRO.'—'I am glad to testify to the excellence of "Vino Sacro," as in every essential particular adapted to its sacred purpose. I now use no other.'—(Signed), J. N. Staley, B.D., Vicar of Oroxhall, formerly Bishop of Honolulu. To Messrs. Hicks and Co., Plymouth. [See ADVT. at end.]

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

JUBILEE PEALS RUNG IN 1887.

THE following Jubilee peals were rung in 1887, for which tablets have been erected in the towers, and of which the following are copies, inserted according to date:—

ST. LAWRENCE JEWRY, GUILDHALL, CITY OF LONDON.

'JUBILEE PEAL.—On Saturday, the 30th April, 1887, eight members of the St. James' Society rang Holt's One-part peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, consisting of 5040 changes, in three hours and six minutes. Performers:—James Robert Haworth, treble; Robert Jameson, 2; William Weatherstone, 3; Joseph Waghorn, 4; Joseph Barry, 5; George Richard Banks, 6; Richard French, 7; Edwin Albone, tenor. Conducted by R. French. M. S. A. Walrond, M.A., Vicar and Rector. Churchwardens:—J. W. Beningfield, Geo. Gladman, H. L. Dixon. The above peal was rung to celebrate the fiftieth year of the reign of Her Majesty Queen Victoria. The above is the longest peal for one hundred and twenty-five years, the last one having been rung in 1762. J. R. HAWORTH, *Caretaker of the Bells and Head Ringer*.'

[The tablet, placed over the door in the porch leading to the ringing-chamber, was erected at the expense of Mr. ex-Churchwarden Chretien.]

ST. BOTOLPH, BISHOPSGATE, CITY OF LONDON.

'ST. JAMES' SOCIETY.—JUBILEE PEAL.—On Thursday, May 5th, 1887, eight members of the above Society rang upon the bells of this tower Holt's Ten-part peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, consisting of 5040 changes, in 3 hours and 4 mins. Performers:—James R. Haworth, treble; William Cecil, 2; Henry Langdon, 3; Joseph Barry, 4; Matthew A. Wood, 5; Charles Beech, 6; William H. George, 7; Walter J. Williamson, tenor. Conducted by Matthew A. Wood. The Rev. W. Rogers, M.A., Rector. Churchwardens:—Charles W. Webb, Esq.; Alfred Wagstaff, Esq., C.C.; John Barker, Sexton. Daniel Living, Steeple-keeper. The above peal was rung to celebrate the fiftieth year of the reign of Her Majesty Queen Victoria.'

[The tablet placed in the belfry at the expense of Mr. Churchwarden Webb.]

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH, WATERLOO ROAD, S.E.

'ON Saturday, June 4th, 1887, eight members of the Waterloo Society rang, in honour of the completion of the fifty years' reign of Her Majesty Queen Victoria, Holt's Ten-part peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, consisting of 5040 changes, in 2 hours 45 minutes. Performers:—William Baron, treble; William Coppage, 2; H. J. Davies, 3; S. G. Davies, 4; A. E. Church, 5; H. L. Partington, 6; F. L. Davies, 7; George Wild, tenor. Conductor, F. L. Davies. Arthur W. Jephson, M.A., Vicar. J. Hutton, Esq., T. S. Conisbee, Esq., Churchwardens. "The Throne is Established by Righteousness." W. COPPAGE, *Steeple-keeper*.'

[Presented to the Society by the Vicar.]

ST. CLEMENT DANES, STRAND, LONDON.

"Praise Him upon the well-tuned cymbals;
Praise Him upon the loud cymbals."

'ST. JAMES' SOCIETY.—On Monday, 6th June, 1887, ten members of the above Society rang, at the request of Mr. Churchwarden Twining, a Jubilee Peal of GRANDSIRE CATERS, containing 5147 changes, in three hours twenty-five minutes, to celebrate the fiftieth year of Her Majesty's Reign. God save the Queen. Performers:—J. R. Haworth, 1; W. Weatherstone, 2; J. C. Mitchell, 3; W. W. Thorne, 4; H. Langdon, 5; R. French, 6; G. R. Banks, 7; A. Hayward, 8; W. H. George, 9; E. Albone, 10. Rector, Rev. John Lindsay, D.D. Churchwardens:—Herbert Haynes Twining and John Robert Dobree. Overseers:—Samuel Twining, William Wright, Albert Smith, James Ferguson. E. Albone, *Steeple-keeper*.'

[A marble tablet, at the expense of Mr. Churchwarden H. H. Twining, is placed in the porch over the door leading to the belfry.]

ST. GEORGE-THE-MARTYR, SOUTHWARK, LONDON.

ON Thursday, December 15, 1887, eight members of the St. James' Society rang a Jubilee Peal (Brook's Variation of Tharstan's peal) of 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES in 3 hrs. 5 mins., to commemorate the fiftieth year of Her Majesty's reign and the tenth year of the Rev. Burman Cassin, M.A., as Rector of this church. H. Langdon, 1; F. Bate, 2; W. Cecil, 3; W. Weatherstone, 4; W. W. Thorne, 5; R. French (conductor), 6; A. Hayward, 7; G. Woodage, 8. Rev. Burman Cassin, M.A., Rector. Rev. H. A. Geake, A.K.C., Curate. G. A. Gillett, Rector's Warden. R. D. Hilton, J. Landsdale, Churchwardens. G. Woodage, *Belfry-keeper*.

[This tablet was given by the Rector, Churchwardens, and other gentlemen (J. Rockley, G.B.A., J. Palmer, J. Stanford), and the above ringers.]

ST. MARY ABBOTT'S, KENSINGTON, LONDON.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.—On Saturday, December 3rd, 1887, a Jubilee Peal of GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5003 changes, in 3 hrs. 20 mins. was rung to commemorate the fiftieth year of Her Majesty's reign. Performers:—R. A. Daniell, Esq., treble; Wm. Baron, 2; A. Jacob, 3; J. W. Mansfield, 4; J. Hannington, 5; H. Swain, 6; J. Rogers, 7; G. Newton, 8; H. Dains, 9; H. Hopkins and G. Wild, tenor. Composed and conducted by John Rogers.

[It was at the Palace in this parish that the Queen was born. On the completion of the performance the Captain of the Kensington Guild of Ringers instructed the conductor of the peal to execute a tablet to record the same. The tablet (fixed in the belfry) is emblazoned with the Royal Arms in full, in proper colours, by a noted artist, is highly gilt and varnished, and is worthy of inspection.]

ST. MARTIN-IN-THE-FIELDS, TRAFALGAR SQUARE, LONDON.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.—On Saturday, the 29th of October, 1887, in 3 hrs. 40 mins., the following members rang on the bells in this steeple a true peal of GRANDSIRE CINQUES, comprising 5015 changes. The performers were:—John Rogers, treble; George Newson, 2; John W. Mansfield, 3; William Baron, 4; Charles E. Malin, 5; James Hannington, 6; Arthur Jacob, 7; Edward Chapman, 8; Henry Swain, 9; Henry A. Hopkins, 10; Henry Dains, 11; George Wild, tenor. Composed and conducted by Mr. John Rogers. This peal was rung to commemorate the Jubilee of Her Most Gracious Majesty Queen Victoria. Chairman, Mr. Henry S. Thomas. Vicar, The Rev. John F. Kitto. Hon. Sec., Mr. Arthur G. Thomas. Churchwardens, David S. Laing, Esq., and William Challice, Esq. *Steeple-keeper*, John W. Mansfield.

[The tablet recording the above is fixed in the belfry, the expense being defrayed from the surplus of a fund raised by H. S. Thomas, Esq., to commemorate the Jubilee Year; the board, in black and gold, has a carved oak bell at the summit.]

Tubular Bells.

SIR,—I cannot agree with your correspondent, 'A Lover of Bells,' and I feel sure that a very, very large majority of both ringers and other 'Lovers of Bells' are of the same opinion as myself. Even if the power of tone to be got out of a tube were in any way to be compared to that which can be got out of a bell—which it is not—I fancy ringers would find it rather tame work tapping tubes with a chiming apparatus instead of ringing in the usual way, whether they be change-ringers or only round-ringers. No doubt, one may have a set of very fine-toned tubes, but I cannot see that they bear any more relation to bells than a fine-toned set of organ pipes, or a fine-toned harp or violin.

J. R. JERRAM, *Salisbury*.

P.S.—Since writing the above, I see in to-day's issue an account of the opening of a new ring of twelve 'bells' at Blackburn. On reading this I was mentally congratulating that town on adding another ring of twelve to the list, and was looking for a record of some STEDMAN CINQUES or MAXIMUS rung thereon; but, lo and behold! I see at the foot of the paragraph that these are not bells at all, but some of the tubular arrangements! No doubt, as I said before, the tone may be very fine; but why call them a ring of twelve 'bells'?

Stoke-on-Trent Archidiaconal Association.

At a General Meeting of the above Society, held in the Church-room at Stoke, the Rev. W. T. Smith, vicar of St. John's, Longton, was elected Clerical Secretary and Treasurer. It was decided to hold another general meeting at the same place on June 9 at 4.30 p.m. The Secretary was asked to endeavour meanwhile to get in the subscriptions now due, the future of the Society to be determined by the result of his appeal.

Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association.

MEMBERS are informed that the Report for 1887 (which contains amongst other matters a full list of peals, with the compositions, rung by the Association since its formation in 1878) is now ready, and may be obtained of the local secretaries of the different deaneries as under. Free to those whose subscriptions are paid, and to others at a price of 3d.:—Gloucester, H. Hatherley, Esq., National Provincial Bank, Gloucester; Dursley, Hawkesbury, and Bitton, Mr. F. K. Howell, Morton, Thornbury; North and South Forest, Mr. J. Hern, Newnham; Bisley and Stonehouse, W. C. Long, Esq., Stonehouse; Winchcombe, Cirencester, and Tewkesbury, F. E. Ward, Esq., 433 High Street, Cheltenham; Fairford, Northleach, and Stow, T. W. Taylor, Esq., Northleach; Bristol and Stapleton, C. E. D. Boulflower, Esq., 30 Broad Street, Bristol.

REV. PITT EYKYN, *Hon. Secretary*.

Magor, Newport, Mon.

The Worcestershire and adjoining Districts Change-ringing Association.

The next Quarterly Meeting of the above Association will be held in St. John the Baptist Schoolroom, Bromsgrove, at five o'clock on Saturday, June 2nd. The vicar, Rev. A. E. Seymour, will preside. The annual report, balance-sheet, &c., will be ready for distribution, when the Hon. Secretary hopes to see a representative from each company to receive copies of same.

N.B.—Those members who have not yet paid their contributions should do so without delay.

JOHN SMITH, *Hon. Sec.*

37 Simms Lane, Netherton, near Dudley.

Salisbury Diocesan Ringing Guild.

THE Supplemental Meeting, announced in our last to be held at Bridport, will take place on Thursday, June 7th. The bells of St. Mary's (eight), recently erected, and those of several churches in the neighbourhood, will be placed at the disposal of the members. Dinner will be served at 'The Greyhound' Hotel, at 1 p.m. at 2s. 6d. per head; which amount will probably be considerably reduced by local subscriptions. Further information to be obtained from the Rev. M. Hankey, The Rectory, Maiden Newton, Dorset.

Muffled Peals for the late Mr. F. A. P. Knipe.

AT ST. SEPULCHRE'S, HOLBORN VIADUCT, CITY OF LONDON.—On Thursday, the 10th inst., with the bells half muffled as a token of respect to the above-named gentleman, the usual whole-peal and stand, followed by a touch of GRANDSIRE CATERS, was rung by D. Lovett, 1; H. Davies, 2; G. Gains, 3; W. Moore, 4; F. Bates, 5; J. Nelms (conductor), 6; J. Wheeler, 7; W. D. Matthews, 8; J. Rumsey, 9; A. E. Church, 10.

AT ST. BRIDE'S, FLEET STREET, CITY OF LONDON.—On Monday, the 14th inst., with the bells half muffled, also to the late W. Farley, a parishioner, and at one time a ringing member. J. Barry (conductor), 1; C. Clarkson, 2; D. Lovett, 3; G. Watkin, 4; F. Rumsey, 5; C. Holme, 6; G. Gains, 7; W. D. Matthews, 8; A. Vincent, 9; T. H. Chapman, 10; J. Wheeler, 11; A. E. Matthews, 12.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At the Parish Church, Tamworth, Staffordshire.

ON Saturday, the 12th inst., eight members of the Society for the Archdeaconry of Stafford rang Taylor's Bob-and-Single Variation peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 3 hrs. 4 mins. Jos. Windridge, 1; C. Chapman, 2; Jos. Wainwright, 3; Jos. Timms, 4; F. Chapman, 5; G. Woods (first peal as conductor), 6; H. Slaney, 7; R. P. Brindley, 8. Tenor, 22 cwt.

At the Cathedral, Manchester.

ON Saturday, the 12th inst., ten members of the Ashton-under-Lyne Society rang a peal of 5021 GRANDSIRE CATERS in 3 hrs. 16 mins. T. Taylor, 1; J. Hopwood, 2; W. Jakeman (first peal of GRANDSIRE CATERS), 3; J. Adams, 4; J. Moss, 5; Jos. Mellor, 6; B. Broadbent, 7; J. Thorp, 8; S. Wood (composer and conductor), 9; G. Longden, 10. Tenor, 25 cwt. The above peal is taken from a composition containing upwards of 14,000 changes, which the above Society wished to attempt on Whit Friday, but through unforeseen circumstances it will have to be abandoned.

At the Parish Church, Upton St Leonard's, Gloucestershire.

ON Saturday, the 12th inst., eight members of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association rang Hubbard's Ten-part peal (No. 2) of 50·0 BOB TRIPLES in 3 hrs. 8 mins. F. Hart (first peal), 1; Jos. Yeates, 2; H. Mitchell, 3; R. J. Wilkins, 4; H. G. Gardener (first peal), 5; S. E. Romans, 6; A. A. White (conductor), 7; T. White, 8. Tenor, 17½ cwt.

At St. Mary's, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire.

ON Whit Monday, the 21st inst., ten members of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association, rang a peal of 13,054 STEDMAN CATERS in 8 hrs. 16 mins. F. Musty, 1; G. H. Phillott, Esq., 2; H. Karn, 3; H. Roberts, 4; F. F. Ward, Esq., 5; C. H. Hattersley (Sheffield), 6; Rev. C. D. Davies, 7; W. T. Pates (conductor), 8; Rev. G. F. Coleridge (Caversham, Reading), 9; A. W. Humphreys, 10. Tenor, 23 cwt. in E flat. This is the greatest length ever rung in STEDMAN CATERS.

At St. Thomas's, Salisbury, Wilts.

ON Monday, the 21st inst., eight members of the Salisbury Diocesan Guild rang Hollis's Five-part peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 3 hrs. 24 mins. W. E. Tydeman, 1; A. P. Goddard, 2; H. D. Adams, 3; C. A. Clements, 4; T. Blackburn (conductor), 5; J. R. Jerram, 6; W. W. Gifford, 7; C. Gaisford, 8. Tenor, 30 cwt., in C sharp. The first peal on the bells, which were hung by R. Wells of Aldbourne in 1771.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH, PRESTWICH, LANCASHIRE.—On Sunday evening, the 6th inst., after Divine service, 720 BOB MINOR in 27 mins. J. Hardman, 1; R. Fitton, 2; J. Gratrix, 3; J. Brooks, 4; W. Warburton, 5; W. Hilton, 6. Tenor, 15½ cwt. Gratrix came from Manchester; Hilton and Warburton, Whitefield; Hardman, Pendleton; Brooks and Fitton, Prestwich.

AT ST. MARY'S, HITCHIN, HERTS.—On Monday evening, the 7th inst., 350 and 336 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. J. Randall, 1; J. Hare, 2; F. Furr, 3; A. Squires, 4; W. Allen (conductor), 5; S. Hare, 6; R. Jackson, 7; G. Halsey, 8. Tenor, 28 cwt.

AT SS. PETER AND PAUL, MILTON-NEXT-GRAVESEND.—On Tuesday evening the 8th inst., 720 GRANDSIRE MINOR in 27 mins. B. Spinner, 1; F. Osmotherly, first 720 (Cliffe), 2; F. Hayes, 3; C. Waterman (Shorne), 4; H. D. Davies, 5; M. Warwick (R.E., Chatham, conductor), 6.

AT ST. PETER'S, RAUNDS, NORTHANTS.—On Sunday, the 13th inst., on the occasion of the annual Sunday School sermons, 720 PLAIN BOB (14 bobs and 2 singles). A. Coles, 1; H. Stubbs, 2; W. J. Gilbert, 3; E. Mayes, 4; F. Gilbert (conductor), 5; W. A. Hall, 6. For evening service at 6 p.m., 720 COURT SINGLE (18 bobs and 2 singles). A. Coles, 1; H. Stubbs, 2; R. Pendered, 3; G. Kirk, 4; W. J. Gilbert, 5; F. Gilbert (conductor), 6. Also 120 OXFORD BOB. A. Coles, 1; R. Pendered, 2; H. Stubbs, 3; F. Gilbert, 4; G. Kirk, 5; W. J. Gilbert, 6.

AT CHRIST CHURCH, ROCHEDALE, LANCASHIRE.—On Sunday afternoon, the 13th inst., for Sunday School Anniversary, 720 PLAIN BOB MINOR, taken from the *Clavis* (9 bobs and 6 singles), in 32 mins. W. Lord, 1; J. W. Howarth, 2; J. T. Bartle, 3; J. Lord, 4; A. A. Stott, 5; J. Stott (conductor), 6. Tenor, 15 cwt. 3 qrs., in E. In the evening, a start was made for 720 in the same method (18 bobs and 2 singles), 5th the observation; but owing to the conductor missing the first single the bells came round at 360. The preacher in the afternoon was the Rev. K. Anketell, M.A., vicar of Wootton Bassett, Wilts; and in the evening, the Rev. B. Winfield, M.A., vicar of St. James', Burnley.

AT ST. PAUL'S, WALKDEN, LANCASHIRE.—On Saturday, the 19th inst., being the annual field-day for the Sunday scholars of the above church, 720 BOB MINOR (16 bobs and 2 singles) in 24 mins. W. Denner, 1; Jos. Potter, 2; J. Williamson, 3; J. Worthington (conductor), 4; Jas. Potter, 5; A. Potter, 6. Also 360 BOB MINOR. A. Potter, 1; Jos. Potter, 2; Jas. Williamson, 3; J. Worthington, 4; W. Denner, 5; Jas. Ridyard (Worsley), 6. On Whitsun Day the bells were rung at 6 a.m., as well as midday services. 720 BOB MINOR (18 bobs and 2 singles) were rung before evening service in 24 mins. W. Denner, 1; Jos. Potter, 2; J. Williamson, 3; J. Worthington, 4; Jas. Potter (conductor), 5; J. Brookes, 6. Tenor, 13½ cwt.

AT ST. MARTIN'S, SALISBURY.—On Whit-Sunday, the 20th inst., for Divine service in the morning, 1260 STEDMAN TRIPLES in 45 mins. W. S. Wise, 1; W. E. Tydeman, 2; A. P. Goddard, 3; C. A. Clements, 4; A. W. Barkus, 5; W. W. Gifford, 6; T. Blackburn (conductor), 7; S. Lawrence, 8. And for evening service, 1260 STEDMAN'S TRIPLES in 41 mins. W. S. Wise, 1; S. Lawrence, 2; W. E. Tydeman, 3; A. P. Goddard, 4; A. W. Barkus, 5; W. W. Gifford, 6; T. Blackburn (conductor), 7; C. A. Clements, 8. These are supposed to be the first quarter peals of Stedman ever rung in Wiltshire.

SNOWDON'S CH. RINGING WORKS. Send for List, 9 Old Bank Chambers, Leeds.

outside the city, and Messrs. O'Brien, M.P., and others, indulged in vituperative language against the Bishop and the Papal Manifesto. It is said that the Bishop left Limerick before the meeting took place.

THE ARCHBISHOP OF YORK ON FOREIGN MISSIONS.

THE Archbishop of York was present at the annual meeting of the York branch of the Church Missionary Society, held on Monday. Speaking from the chair, he said that the Society was one of the greatest amongst the agencies for Christianising the world. In saying that he did not forget the controversy of last year, nor the strong things that were said against missions and that Society. He was far from regretting that controversy. It had brought to his own mind in a clearer light than ever before the great progress that missions had made during the last few years. It had obliged him to look into certain facts, and the conclusion he came to was that the work of God had prospered mightily. Quoting from a book entitled *Are Foreign Missions Doing any Good?* written, his Grace said, by a man who had tried to find out whether the social progress that had unquestionably gone on in the world had been increased or retarded by the effect of missions, the Archbishop pointed out that there were now over 100 distinct societies at work in heathen lands, with more than 3000 ordained clergy, with 2400 ordained native pastors and congregations of converts numbering over two and half millions. Mr. Charles Darwin, in his *Journal of Researches*, said that human sacrifices and the power of an idolatrous priesthood had been abolished, and dishonesty, intemperance, and licentiousness greatly reduced by the introduction of Christianity; and the abolition of some of the most cruel customs of India had been attributed to Christian influence, or at any rate to Christian feeling underlying European civilisation. Then the condition of women was an excellent measure of the condition of any country as to true progress and civilisation, and the most successful efforts yet made to educate Indian women after leaving school had been conducted by missionaries. When they should have made the condition of the women of India what it ought to be, then they would see great changes, and they might depend upon it that as that day dawned greater and greater success would attend their missions, for the seat of their holy religion was the home, and those who reared the children would be those who would provide Christians in the future. He maintained that the method of counting of noses, and considering how much every convert cost was entirely fallacious, and must be known to be fallacious by those who used it as an argument against missions. How was it that a plausible case had been made out against missions? How was it that some things which were said during the course of last winter made so much impression on them? If they wanted to make a fair comparison between two things they compared them in their completeness; if they wanted to make an unfair comparison the best way was to compare the best of one thing with the worst of another. He had seen a discussion of that kind in which it seemed that the Christian religion was made responsible for all that went on in the slums of London; but when he asked that Mahometanism should be made equally responsible for all the horrors that went on in Africa in connexion with the slave-trade, he was told that that was not really Mahometanism, but that it was carried on by the hangers-on and off-scourings of Mahometanism. That was all very well, but he wanted the two things compared as a whole, and the reason that they were not compared as a whole was that when they were so compared the manifest excellency of the work of the Gospel, and the fruits of civilisation that it had borne, were too evident to allow of further controversy. The nations which professed the religion of Christ were at the head of the world's civilisation, and the quotations he had given them showed that as soon as they imparted their good things to the races that were less favoured, then, even where a large movement directly Christian did not take place, large groups of sins necessarily fled away; and government after government confessed that the missionaries in India had done immense service to government and to social order. They might very well decline to count heads in that matter. A given mission might give small fruit, but they dare not leave off on that account. It would be fatal to the very spirit of missions to conduct them in that way. They had arrived at the conviction that the doctrine of Christ was true, and they must endeavour to spread it abroad if they wished to observe His commandments.

CANADA.

On April 25th Dr. Courtney was consecrated Bishop of Nova Scotia at Halifax by the Metropolitan of Canada, assisted by the Bishops of Ontario, Quebec, Maine, and the Coadjutor of Fredericton.

UNITED STATES.

THE Diocesan Convention of South Carolina has unanimously resolved on 'a separate organization of the two races,'—'entire and complete,'—though both 'under the Bishop of the diocese,' and to apply to the General Convention for its sanction of this scheme for allaying the colour strife which has injured so grievously and so long the whole cause of religion in Carolina.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

New Bells at Childe Okeford, Dorset.

A NEW ring of six bells has been cast and hung in the tower by Messrs. Mears & Stainbank, in place of the old ring of three. They were dedicated on Friday, the 11th ult., by the Bishop of Salisbury; and were rung for the first time on that day by the Rev. R. S. K. Blucke and his company of Fontmell Magna. The new bells are inscribed with the names of Rev. J. G. Brymer, and Messrs. Bower and Rossiter, Churchwardens, 1888, also 'To the Glory of God.' The cost was 530*l.*, with cost of the old bells added; this included new frames and fittings and main bearing beams.

The Winchester Diocesan Guild.

THE District Meeting at Leatherhead was fairly well attended, ringers being present from Croydon, Epsom, Capel, Weybridge, Guildford, Farnham, Dorking, Basingstoke, Bournemouth, and Fareham. At the Committee Meeting at 2 p.m. between fifty and sixty new members were elected, including three new bands—Brading, Hambledon, and Shalford. It was decided to hold the Annual Festival this year at Leatherhead on Thursday, July 19th. During the day the following touches were brought round:—395 GRANDSIRE CATERS. G. H. Barnett, 1; H. White, 2; G. Russell, 3; F. W. J. Rees, Esq., 4; J. Hawkins, 5; T. Miles, 6; F. Wickens, 7; E. Hull, 8; S. Brooker (conductor), 9; J. Lisney, 10. 305 GRANDSIRE CATERS. H. Brown, 1; H. Wood, 2; J. Hawkins, 3; G. Russell, 4; H. Newnham, 5; H. White, 6; W. Marks (conductor), 7; E. Hull, 8; T. Miles, 9; J. Lisney, 10. Also 518 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. A. Grist, 1; S. Brooker (conductor), 2; G. Russell, 3; F. W. J. Rees, Esq., 4; D. Jordan, 5; F. Wickens, 6; H. White, 7; J. Lisney, 8. And 349 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. E. Dodd, 1; W. Marks (conductor), 2; H. Garforth, 3; J. Hawkins, 4; D. Jordan, 5; F. Wickens, 6; G. H. Barnett, 7; J. Lisney, 8. 350 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. H. White, 1; G. Russell, 2; H. Garforth, 3; F. W. J. Rees, Esq., 4; Rev. H. A. Spyers (conductor), 5; D. Jordan, 6; G. H. Barnett, 7; J. Lisney, 8.

Kent County Association.

THE Annual General Meeting is fixed to be held at Ashford on Monday, June 18th. Committee Meeting at 11; service at 12, when the sermon will be preached by the Rev. F. E. Robinson, Master of the Oxford Diocesan Guild. Dinner at 1. All who wish for dinner-tickets should communicate with the Secretary, not later than June 12th; and if reduced railway fares are desired, full particulars as to trains, stations, and numbers, must be given, or no application can be made. Allowance to members, 1*s.*, besides the dinner. R. B. KNATCHBULL-HUGESSEN.

The Hertfordshire Association.

A MEETING of the Members will be held at Hatfield on Saturday, June 16th. The tower will be open for ringing from 3 p.m. At 5 o'clock a Business Meeting will be held at the 'Coffee Tavern' to elect an Honorary Secretary, and transact general business.

E. P. DEBENHAM, *Hon. Sec. pro tem.*

CHANGE-RINGING.

At All Saints', Duffield, Derbyshire.

ON Saturday, the 12th ult., ten members of the Midland Counties' Association (Duffield Branch) rang a peal of 5040 KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL in 3 hrs. 28 mins. G. Dawson, 1; J. C. Dicken, 2; S. Johnson, 3; J. Howe, 4; J. W. Taylor, 5; H. C. Woodward, 6; G. Hingley, 7; J. Ward, 8; B. Sugden, 9; A. P. Heywood, 10. Composed by Mr. J. Reeves and conducted by A. P. Heywood, Esq. Tenor, 17 cwt. This peal is to replace a similar one rung by the same band on December 3rd, 1887, of which the composition was lately discovered to be false. The present performance must, therefore, not be included in any analysis of the achievements for 1888. Ringers who have the M. C. A. Report for 1887 are requested to write the word 'False' across the calling of the peal on page 56.

ON Saturday, the 19th ult., ten members of the Duffield Society, with the St. Martin's Society, Birmingham, rang at the above church, a peal of 5040 DUFFIELD ROYAL, in 3 hrs. 10 mins. H. Bastable, 1; T. Russam, 2; S. Johnson, 3; W. Kent, 4; W. Hickling, 5; E. Moreton, 6; J. Howe, 7; A. Thomas, 8; W. Wakley, 9; A. P. Heywood, Esq. (composer and conductor), 10. This peal, the third of Royal in the method, has the 6th and the bells above it at home throughout, and is now rung for the first time.

At St. Mary's, Beddington, Surrey.

ON Whit Monday, the 21st ult., ten members of the Surrey Association rang a peal of 5003 GRANDSIRE CATERS in 3 hrs. 16 mins. A. J. Plowman (first peal of CATERS), 1; J. Branch, 2; C. Gordon, 3; W. Burkin, 4; J. Trappitt, 5; A. B. Carpenter, 6; C. Bance, 7; G. Welling, 8; J. Fayers, 9; J. Harding (first peal), 10. Composed by Mr. H. Hubbard and conducted by Dr. A. B. Carpenter.

At St. Edward's, Romford, Essex.

ON Thursday, the 24th ult., being the occasion of the opening of the new Victoria Cottage Hospital here, eight members of the Essex Association rang Mr. J. Lates' peal of 5024 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR in 3 hrs. 6 mins. A. J. Perkins (conductor), 1; B. Keeble, 2; R. T. Woodley, 3; J. Gobbett, 4; W. Lincoln, 5; E. Barnett, 6; A. Porter, 7; G. Newson, 8. Tenor, 17 cwt. This is the first peal on these bells in this method since the re-hanging by Messrs. Warner. * First peal in this method.

RECEIVED ALSO.—J. R. Jerram and T. Weaver (thanks—they will be inserted in due course); and others.

SNOWDON'S CH. RINGING WORKS. Send for List, 9 Old Bank Chambers, Leeds.

attention was occupied throughout his stay with the interests of Gordon College, which needs more aid. On leaving Cairo he went to Alexandria. St. Mark's here is a fine building; it stands upon land given forty years ago by the Khedive. The Bishop suggested that the increase of the value of the property of this church may provide a chaplain's house, a second chaplaincy, an archdeaconry in Egypt, and perhaps eventually a separate bishopric for English congregations in Egypt and adjacent countries. The claims of Egypt are very pressing; the Bishop is anxious to found five additional chaplaincies at Suez, Cairo, Ramleh, together with a port-chaplain at Alexandria, and a travelling chaplain for English residents in outlying stations on the lines of railway. For Jewish work amongst a population nearly as large as that of all Palestine there is not yet a single missionary. The Bishop returned to Jerusalem in April to prepare for a tour in the north of Palestine.

PROSPECTS OF CHRISTIANITY IN JAPAN.

THE *Christian Advocate* prints a letter from Dr. Stevens, a Methodist missionary from the United States. He says:—

'This nation is now essentially civilised, for, besides having for generations the best form of Asiatic civilisation, it has now nearly all the chief provisions of Western civilisation. A nation which has the oldest dynasty on earth; which is thoroughly homogeneous and united; which has adopted the railroad, steamboat, telegraph, telephone, a national system of education on European models; the Western banking system, with a daily enlarging commerce, protected by its own steam navy; a national army and police, trained after the Western manner; the Western costume in court, army, navy, and police; the newspaper; the postal system of America; its women as legally free as those of Europe, with schools from the lowest to the highest for their education; a people which has accomplished "disestablishment," and established universal toleration; has legally recognised the Christian Sabbath, and observes it in all government offices, schools, banks, &c., and stands ready to be Christianised; whose intelligent classes are familiar with most of the scientific authors of Germany, England, and America, and have many of them in translations; and this people acknowledged to be the "politest" nation in the world; such a nation—larger in territory and population than the English "United Kingdom," nearly as large in both respects as France, can no longer be called barbarous or semi-barbarous. It is a civilised State.

'It is said that the Government is still considering the question of a national or Japanese Church, which will probably depend upon the popular strength of the respective denominations here. But while the idea of ecclesiastical unification is with the Government attributable to nationality or policy, it is with the native Christians more than this—a profoundly religious sentiment. They are familiar with Christ's prayer for the unity of His Church and the Scriptural teachings against dissensions and schisms; at the same time they know little or nothing of the historical causes of our sectarianism. It is simply astonishing to them, as readers of the Bible, and of hardly any other religious literature, that the Christian world is sending in upon their country representatives of so many different bodies. If you tell them the causes of this difference, they reply: "Why should we, who know nothing of these old quarrels, deviate from your common Bible, and organize here your old dissensions? In the name of your Master and ours we wish none of them." It is difficult for us, brought up from infancy in our sectarianism, to put ourselves exactly at their point of view, but we cannot rightly judge them without doing so. Our missionary labourers all agree with them.

'The spirit of unification is as rife among other bodies as among our own people. I do not think there is one, not even the Roman or Greek Church, that does not feel its influence. The last two dread it, but cannot repress it. The two Episcopal Churches of England and America, under two bishops (from their respective nations), have yielded to it, and, combining, have adopted as their new title "The Holy Catholic Church of Japan." Their Bishops have issued a circular inviting all other denominations to join them in a united Christianity for the country. Kindred as these denominations are, nowhere else in the world have they thus blended; but their new relation is enhancing their power, and their two Bishops are increasingly influential at Court and among high members of the Government. Again, look at the various Presbyterian bodies. No less than five sects of them have already combined—the American, Northern and Southern, the Dutch Reformed, the German Reformed of Europe, and the Scotch Presbyterian; and measures are pending for the addition to these of the Cumberland Presbyterians and the Congregationalists. This combination will render the united body the strongest Protestant one in Japan.'

A BISHOP'S OPINION OF 'VINO SACRO.'—'I am glad to testify to the excellence of "Vino Sacro," as in every essential particular adapted to its sacred purpose. I now use no other.'—(Signed), 'J. N. Staley, D.D., Vicar of Croxhall, formerly Bishop of Honolulu. To Messrs. Hicks and Co., Plymouth.'—[See Advr. at end.]

NOTICE TO LADIES AND HOUSEKEEPERS.—Borwick's Baking Powder is guaranteed entirely free from alum—a cheap and highly injurious article frequently used in low-class baking powders, which are retailed either by weight or in large tempting penny packets, and should be strenuously avoided.—[Advr.]

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Merton College Treble Bell.

SIR,—How is it that the treble bell at Merton College sounds double, yielding the octave below as well as its own proper note? At least, it did so in 1841–44. The effect was most peculiar.

M. A. Oxon.

The Late Mr. W. Hinton.

ON Monday afternoon, May 28th, the members of the Cirencester Company met at the tower of the parish church at 2.30 to pay the last tribute of respect to their departed chief, Mr. W. Hinton, builder, who expired on Wednesday morning, May 23rd, at his residence, Chester Street, Cirencester, after a brief illness. Although for some months unwell, i.e. would sit at the bottom of the tower and listen to the bells, being too stout to climb the stairs. He retained his faculties till the last three days of his death. Mr. Hinton was much respected by his London friends. Punctually at 2.30 the company rang 840 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, with the bells deeply muffled, the tenor being open on one side to represent the tolling bell. While he was being conveyed to the Cemetery, a distance of a mile and a half from the church, and after an interval of fifteen minutes, half the muffles were taken off. During the return journey another 840 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES was rung by the following:—J. Ponlin, 1; J. Earl, 2; W. Moorman, 3; G. Mason, 4; H. Treeth, 5; H. Hughes, 6; G. Davis, 7; H. Clutterbuck (conductor), 8.

Reports of County and Diocesan Associations.

We have a copy of the third Annual Report of the Sussex County Association of Change-ringers, and a copy of the Annual Report of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association of Change-ringers. Of the first we can only say that it is the most complete publication of its kind that we have seen. Every possible item of information—even a map of the county, showing places with towers in union—is contained in it. We are glad to see that the peal records, besides the innumerable peals of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, and many of TREBLE BOB MAJOR, contains one peal of STEDMAN TRIPLES. On p. 44, peal 36, we notice a little trip. We suppose Holt's Six-part is intended. It was not until four or five years ago that the first Ten-part peal of UNION TRIPLES was composed. We heartily congratulate the Hon. Sec. on his exhaustive volume.

Of the Report of the Gloucester and Bristol Association we can say that we hail its advent with delight. This is the first occasion of this Association putting itself into book form. The Report contains full information as to past meetings, local secretaries, rules, list of members, balance-sheet, and list of peals. To show that the Association is making progress it is only necessary to advance the fact, that in the year last past more peals were rung than in the previous nine years of the existence of this Association.

Essex Association of Change-ringers.

THE Essex Association of Change-ringers held their annual meeting at Chelmsford on Whit Monday. The proceedings commenced with a special service in St. Mary's Church at noon, when an address was given by the Rev. F. E. Robinson, a well-known ringer (Vicar of Drayton, Berks, and Master of the Oxford Diocesan Guild). The Revs. T. L. Papillon, J. D. Nairne, and Spencer Nairne, also took part in the service. About one hundred and thirty subsequently dined at the Charity Schools. The Ven. Archdeacon of Essex presided and was supported by the Revs. F. E. Robinson, T. L. Papillon (Honorary Secretary), J. B. Seaman, D. N. Yonge, and H. A. Cockey, and Mr. L. Proctor (of Benington). The business meeting followed. The annual report was read by the Hon. Secretary. It showed that the year had been a prosperous one for the Association, the number of members having again increased by sixty or seventy, leaving at present on the roll 398. Of these ninety were non-resident members. Four new Essex companies had joined the Association, viz., Great Baddow, Farnham, Foxearth, and Sandon, whilst Newport had withdrawn. Among the additions to the non-resident members were almost the whole of the company of All Hallows, Tottenham, and the ringers of Glemsford and Long Melford. The peal-book was itself a satisfactory evidence of progress. Last year eleven peals were rung, four on handbells, and only three of the remaining seven in Essex. This year the number of peals entered was thirty-one, nine of which were handbell peals by non-resident members; and of the remaining twenty-two peals on tower bells thirteen had been rung in Essex and to a considerable extent by Essex men. In belfry improvement they had to record the rehanging of eight bells at Romford, and of the ring of five at Great Leighs; the opening of a new ring of six bells at Holy Trinity, Barking Road; and the dedication of a new ring of eight at Brentwood. Since the last meeting the Chelmsford belfry had been fitted up with new ropes. The scheme for adding five bells to the one hanging at Moulsham seemed to be in abeyance for a time. The finances were rather complicated by the difficulty of getting in subscriptions. The total receipts for the year, excluding 9s. 6d. balance from previous year, 3l. 1s. 6d. arrears, and 1l. 9s. for certificates, amounted to 31l. 1s.; and the expenses totalled 33l. 7s. 4d. The unpaid subscriptions amounted to 7l. 17s. 6d. due from twenty-one honorary and forty-seven ringing members. If only a fair proportion of this sum was recovered the year's income would be sufficient for the expenses. The increase in the expenditure was due mainly to two causes—the large increase in the number of peals rung and the larger attendance at the annual and district meetings. Alluding to the great amount of work which fell upon the Hon. Secretary, through the gradual extension of the Association, Mr. Papillon suggested as a matter for consideration at the next meeting that the county should be divided into two or three districts, each with its Secretary.

The Rev. J. B. Seaman, in moving the adoption of the Report, expressed his approval of the idea thrown out by Mr. Papillon.

The Rev. H. A. Cockey seconded the motion, and it was agreed to.

The Bishop of St. Albans was re-elected president of the Association, Mr. Proctor was added to the list of vice-presidents, the Rev. T. L. Papillon was reappointed hon. secretary and treasurer, Mr. J. C. Hennah, assistant secretary, and the following were elected the Committee for the year:—Messrs. Robert Woodhouse, J.P., W. P. Gepp, and E. Durrant, the Revs. J. B. Seaman, H. A. Cockey, H. E. Hulton, and D. N. Yonge. The Rev. A. N. Colley (the new vicar of Great Baddow) was elected an hon. member, and a large number of ordinary members were admitted, including the Rev. F. E. Robinson.

Rule 13 was made to read, 'That no peal of less than 5000 changes in one method, or 5000 changes in seven different methods on six bells, shall be entered in the peal-book.'

The Rev. T. L. Papillon gave notice that at the next annual meeting he would propose:—'That in future non-resident candidates for membership shall pay an entrance fee of 2s. 6d. in their first year; and their ordinary subscription in every subsequent year.' He added that the Committee had considered the proposed extension of the Association to Herts; and had passed the following resolution:—'That this Committee is of opinion that the proposed amalgamation is at present undesirable, owing to the evident difficulty of working the new district of Herts, but they wished to call the attention of Herts ringers to Rule 5, which admits of their joining the Association as non-resident members.'

The resolution of the Committee was confirmed.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Rev. F. E. Robinson for his address in the morning, and to the Rev. T. L. Papillon for his services as Hon. Secretary.

Prior to the gathering the members of the Association took possession of all the bell towers in the neighbourhood, and rang various touches.

[We understand that at the meeting of the Essex Association on Whit Monday, at Chelmsford, remarks were made that reports of meetings and peals sent to *Church Bells* were not inserted. We beg leave to say that we always insert them; if not at the time, as soon as possible afterwards, and shall be pleased to do so.—ED. C.B.]

Raunds, Wellingborough, and District Association.

THE Eighth Annual Meeting took place (by kind permission of the Rev. Canon Lindsay) at the parish church, Kettering, on Whit Monday. This is the first time it has been held on a Bank Holiday, and the large attendance of ringers and general success of the day's proceedings proved the wisdom of such an arrangement. Teams from Kettering, Wellingborough, Raunds, Higham Ferrers, Rushden, and Ringstead, took turns at ringing morning and evening.

At one o'clock a public service was held in the parish church, and was well attended by ringers and others. The Rev. W. M. Croome, rector of Islip, preached an appropriate sermon.

A dinner was provided in the Iron Room, Workhouse Lane, to which about fifty sat down, the clergy present being the Rev. Canon Lindsay, Rev. J. P. Goodman (Keystone), Rev. W. M. Croome, Rev. G. M. Edmunds (Stoke Doyle), Rev. W. O. Leadbitter (Denford), Rev. A. S. Lindsay, Rev. H. Bryan. Immediately after dinner the business meeting was held, the Rev. Hugh Bryan, Hon. Secretary of the Society, presiding. After reading the minutes of the last annual meeting, the chairman referred to the loss the Society had sustained in the death of Mr. W. H. Henson, who for many years rung both in Kettering and Finedon bellfries; also of Mr. J. Thompson of Higham Ferrers, and Mr. A. Groom of Ringstead, whose death occurred a short time since, through an accident at Islip Furnaces. He was glad to announce the Rev. A. S. Lindsay had become an honorary member of the Society. The Society now numbered twelve hon. members and forty-eight ringing members.

The Rev. J. P. Goodman, treasurer of the Society, stated that their financial position was very good, as he had about 187. in hand. A new code of rules, which had been put off from several annual meetings, was next considered.

After some further discussion it was resolved that every member of the Society must be baptized, and be a member of the Church of England; also that every member be required to attend the services for which he chimes.

A proposal to add 'Kettering' to the name of the Society was negatived, and it was resolved that the title continue as hitherto. It was also decided that each bellfry could have a number of probationers, subject to the consent of the clergyman, ready to take the place of any men who might fall out of the peal. A suggestion was also made, that where possible each bellfry should keep a register of attendances.

Mr. Leadbitter suggested, that as the treasurer had got such a large balance in hand they could not do better than purchase books on the history and science of bellringing, and that each bellfry should have copies. A ringer present said he thought that the Kettering ringers ought to have a bellhanger before they had any books. Mr. Leadbitter proposed, and Mr. S. Gilbert seconded, that books to the value of five shillings be purchased for each bellfry connected with the Society.

Rev. G. M. Edmonds, in an interesting address, congratulated the meeting that they had at last adopted a code of rules suitable for their guidance.

It was unanimously carried that, seeing the Higham Ferrers bells were in an unserviceable condition, the next annual meeting be held at Wellingborough, on Whit Monday, 1889. On the proposition of Mr. F. Gilbert, seconded by Mr. F. Slade, a vote of thanks was accorded to the Rev. Canon Lindsay for the use of the bells, and for his kindness in allowing the ringers to roam at pleasure in the Rectory grounds, and also for supplying them with refreshments. A hearty vote of thanks to the hon. secretary

(the Rev. H. Bryan) terminated the meeting. An excellent tea was provided for all the ringers in the Rectory grounds by Mrs. Lindsay, and the rest of the evening was spent in performances on the hand-bells and other amusements.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At St. Martin's, Tipton, Staffordshire.

ON Tuesday, the 15th ult., a meeting was held in the belfry to uncover a peal tablet of two peals rung on the bells by members of the Tipton Band. This tablet is the first ever erected in the tower. The first ring of bells was put in the tower in 1798, being a ring of six cast by the firm of Mears and Stainbank. One of the six was broken by careless ringing, and the back four were taken out and replaced by six new ones in 1848 by the same firm, leaving in the tower at the present time a beautiful ring of eight. Tenor, 12 cwt. 25 lbs. The first peal of MAJOR rung on them was 5056 changes of KENT TREBLE BOB in 2 hrs. 45 mins., on February 22, 1852, composed and conducted by Mr. S. Marsh of West Bromwich. There were also two peals of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES rung on them about the year 1856. There was not much ringing after this till November 1884, when a peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES was rung, conducted by Mr. J. Fullwood, and another peal of GRANDSIRE MAJOR in April 1885. The bells being in very bad going order were put in proper order by Mr. W. R. Small last year, with new brasses, gudgeons, and other repairs. He also being appointed tower-keeper, change-ringing was begun in earnest by a band who take great delight in it. They have rung and brought round 43,000 changes this year in the four standard methods, GRANDSIRE, PLAIN BOB, TREBLE BOB, and STEDMAN, including three peals of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. At the opening of the meeting a touch of PLAIN BOB MAJOR was rung by the following:—H. Mills, 1; S. Spittle, 2; A. Hill, 3; E. Goodreds, 4; W. Micklewright, 5; J. Smith, 6; G. Hughes (conductor), 7; J. Goodman, 8. Afterwards the band stood in the same order and rang a short touch of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES as they stood in the ringing of the first peal. The Rev. A. A. Cory, vicar, then uncovered the tablet, and read out the inscription on it, also giving some practical advice to the ringers present on their duties as Church-workers. Afterwards another touch of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES was rung in the same order as the second peal in the tablet, with one exception, his place being filled up by Mr. E. Cashmore. Afterwards the tower-keeper, Mr. W. R. Small, proposed a vote of thanks to the Vicar, Rev. A. A. Cory, for his presence amongst them that evening. This was seconded by Mr. Samuel Spittle, Master of the Worcestershire and adjoining Districts Association. To close the evening's ringing, a touch of STEDMAN TRIPLES was attempted, but was brought to a close by the breaking of the seventh rope. R. R. Small, 1; A. H. Hill, 2; S. Jesson, 3; S. Reeves (conductor), 4; W. Micklewright, 5; S. Spittle, 6; G. Hughes, 7; J. Goodman, 8.

ON Tuesday, the 22nd ult., a peal of 5040 PLAIN BOB TRIPLES (composed by the late Charles Ravencroft of Bromsgrove) was rung by the Society of Change-ringers for the Archdeaconry of Stafford, and the Worcestershire and adjoining Districts Change-ringing Association, in 3 hrs. H. Mills, 1; W. R. Small, 2; A. H. Hill, 3; E. Goodreds, 4; W. Micklewright, jun., 5; S. Jesson, 6; G. Hughes (conductor), 7; B. Starkey, 8. Tenor, 12 cwt. 25 lbs. This is the first peal of BOB TRIPLES on the bells, also the first peal in the method by all the band, and was rung at the first attempt. Micklewright comes from Dudley, the others belong to the local company.

ON Thursday, the 31st ult., a peal of 5040 PLAIN BOB MAJOR was rung in 3 hrs. 5 mins. by the Worcestershire and adjoining Districts Change-ringing Association, also the Society of Change-ringers for the Archdeaconry of Stafford. B. Starkey,* 1; A. H. Hill, 2; H. Mills,† 3; E. Goodred, 4; W. Pardoe, 5; S. Jesson, 6; G. Hughes (conductor), 7; W. R. Small, 8. Tenor, 12 cwt. 25 lbs. This peal was composed by Mr. H. Hubbard, and is taken from Banister's work on Change-ringing. It was also rung at the first attempt; is the first of BOB MAJOR rung by all the members of the above Association, excepting Mr. W. R. Small, and is the first peal of BOB MAJOR on the bells. * First peal with treble in any method. † First peal with bob bell.

At the Parish Church, Galleywood, Essex.

ON Saturday, the 19th ult., eight members of the Essex Association and the Ancient Society of College Youths rang Holt's Original peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 48 mins. W. Brazier,* 1; W. Lincoln, 2; J. C. Mitchell, 3; A. Edwards,* 4; W. J. Piper,* 5; G. W. Cartmel (conductor), 6; W. H. L. Buckingham, 7; E. Scotcher, 8. Tenor, 14½ cwt. * First peal. Messrs. Lincoln and Edwards came from Writtle; Piper, Wiford; Mitchell, Cartmel, and Buckingham, St. Albans; Brazier and Scotcher belong to Galleywood.

At the Parish Church, Trevengeth, Pontypool, Monmouthshire.

ON Whit Monday, the 21st ult., eight members of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association rang Holt's Original peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 52 mins. H. Gardner (conductor), 1; J. Yeates, 2; R. Brunson, 3; R. J. Wilkins, 4; H. Mitchell, 5; S. E. Romans, 6; A. A. Waite, 7; W. Sevier, 8. Tenor, 10½ cwt., in F sharp. This peal was rung on the occasion of the opening of the bells. All the above belong to the Upton St. Leonard's Society except R. Brunson, who belongs to St. Mary-de-Crypt, Gloucester, and is organist of that church.

At St. Nicholas', Harwich, Essex.

ON Whit Monday, the 21st ult., eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths, the Norwich Diocesan Association, the Essex Association, and the St. Mary-le-Tower Society, Ipswich, rang a peal of 6160 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR in 3 hrs. 35 mins. C. Mee, 1; F. Mee, 2;

I. S. Alexander, 3; A. R. Aldham, 4; W. L. Catchpole, 5; H. Howell, 6; E. Reeves, 7; T. Steward, 8. Composed by Mr. W. Harrison and conducted by Mr. C. Mee. Tenor, 14 cwt. This peal is the first fifty-five courses of Mr. Harrison's 13,440, and was the attempt for the 13,440, but the bells were brought round at the above number owing to the bad 'go' of the tenor. This is the first peal in the method by Messrs. Steward and F. Mee.

At St. Mary's, Chelmsford, Essex.

On Whit Monday, the 21st ult., ten members of the Essex Association rang a peal of 5021 GRANDSIRE CATERERS in 3 hrs. 15 mins. A. J. Perkins (first peal of GRANDSIRE CATERERS), 1; R. T. Woodley, 2; N. J. Pitstow, 3; F. Pitstow, 4; W. Rowland, 5; W. Battle, 6; W. Lincoln, 7; Rev. T. L. Papillon, 8; G. Newson (conductor), 9; A. Jacob, 10. Tenor, 22 cwt. Messrs. Woodley, Newson, and Jacob came from London; Mr. Battle, St. Albans: the remainder are residents in Essex, viz., Rev. T. L. Papillon and W. Lincoln from Writtle; A. J. Perkins, Romford; W. Rowland, Chelmsford; the Messrs. Pitstow, Saffron Walden. This is the first peal of GRANDSIRE CATERERS on tower bells by the Essex Association. * First peal of CATERERS.

At All Saints', Loughborough, Leicestershire.

On Friday, the 1st inst., a peal of 5002 STEDMAN CATERERS was rung in 3 hrs. 31 mins. by ten members of the Midland Counties' Association. F. G. Newman, 1; A. Cresser, 2; W. T. Billingham, 3; J. W. Taylor, jun., Esq., 4; S. Smith, 5; W. A. Tyler, 6; J. Hardy, 7; T. Holmes, 8; A. R. Aldham, 9; R. Lane, 10. Tenor, 28 cwt., in D. Composed by John Nelms of London and conducted by F. G. Newman. * First peal STEDMAN CATERERS.

Mr. Holmes comes from Burton-on-Trent. This is his one-hundredth peal, which are made up as follows:—Stedman Cinques, 1; Stedman Caters, 2; London Surprise, 1; Cambridge Surprise, 8; Treble Bob Major, 14; Stedman Triples, 21; Treble Bob Royal, 1; Grandsire Caters, 2; New Cumberland, 2; Superlative Surprise, 25; Double Norwich Court Bob Major, 18; Grandsire Triples, 6.

At St. Mary's, Hornsey, London.—On Thursday, the 10th ult., 720 PLAIN BOB MINOR in 27 mins. W. Dixon, 1; J. Hannington (conductor), 2; A. Fox, 3; A. Howell (first 720), 4; G. B. Lucas, 5; G. Griffin, 6. On Sunday, the 13th ult., 360 PLAIN BOB MINOR. E. King, 1; J. Ward, 2; J. Hannington, 3; A. Howell, 4; G. Griffin, 5; G. B. Lucas (conductor), 6. And 720 PLAIN BOB MINOR in 26 mins. W. Dixon, 1; J. Hannington (conductor), 2; A. Fox, 3; A. Howell, 4; G. B. Lucas, 5; G. Griffin, 6. Tenor, 17½ cwt.

At St. Mary-la-Virgin, Baldock, Herts.—For evening service on Ascension Day 546 and 350 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. W. Allen (conductor), 1; J. Spicer, 2; J. Philips, 3; A. Squires, 4; Robert Jackson, 5; Richard Jackson, 6; J. Hare, 7; J. Bidwell, 8. W. Allen, J. Hare, A. Squires, come from Hitchin. On Thursday, the 31st ult., 742 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. T. Webb, 1; J. Spicer, 2; J. Cawdell, 3; J. Philips, 4; A. Squires, 5; Richard Jackson (conductor), 6; Robert Jackson, 7; W. Bidwell, 8. Also the plain course of STEDMAN TRIPLES. Robert Jackson, 4; J. Philips, 5; A. Squires, 6; Richard Jackson, 7; the rest standing as before. This is the first course of STEDMAN TRIPLES on the tower bells by all. Also on Sunday morning, the 3rd inst., for Divine service 350 and 168 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. T. Webb, 1; J. Spicer, 2; J. Cawdell, 3; J. Smith, 4; J. Philips, 5; A. Squires, 6; Robert Jackson, 7; G. Gentle, 8. Tenor, 28 cwt. in D.

At the Parish Church, Caversham, Oxon.—On Tuesday evening, the 15th ult., for practice, 720 KENT TREBLE BOB MINOR. H. Simmonds, 1; H. Smith, 2; G. Essex, 3; E. Menday, 4; J. Hands, 5; Rev. G. F. Coleridge (conductor), 6. On Whit Monday, the 20th ult., at 6.10 a.m., 720 PLAIN BOB MINOR. F. Simmonds, 1; H. Smith, 2; G. Essex, 3; H. Simmonds, 4; J. Hands, 5; E. Menday (conductor), 6. Also 120 STEDMAN DOUBLES. F. Simmonds, 1; E. Menday, 2; H. Smith, 3; J. Hands, 4; T. Newman, 5; H. Simmonds, 6. At 10.15 a.m., 360 CANTERBURY PLEASURE. H. Simmonds, 1; E. Menday, 2; H. Smith, 3; G. Essex, 4; J. Hands, 5; T. Newman (conductor), 6. 120 STEDMAN DOUBLES. J. Hands, 1; E. Menday, 2; H. Smith, 3; G. Essex, 4; T. Newman, 5; H. Simmonds, 6. Tenor, 17 cwt.

At the Parish Church, Pangbourne, Berks.—On Friday, the 18th ult., 720 GRANDSIRE MINOR. W. Parsons, 1; G. Ashley, 2; W. Lawrence (conductor), 3; E. Bushnell, 4; A. C. West, 5; J. Nicolls, 6. * First 720. The tenor of this peal is in A flat, and bears date 1720.

At St. Giles', Reading.—On Friday, the 18th ult., for practice, 720 KENT TREBLE BOB in 25 mins. H. Blissit, 1; F. Sweetzer, 2; A. Evans, 3; A. E. Reeves, 4; J. Hands (Caversham), 5; H. Egby (conductor), 6. On Sunday, the 20th ult., on the occasion of the wedding of one of the local company, several six-scores of GRANDSIRE DOUBLES by the following:—H. Smart, H. Bonney, F. Sweetzer, A. Evans, J. Tarrant, and H. Egby.

At the Parish Church, Horsham, Sussex.—On Sunday, the 20th ult., 840 PLAIN BOB TRIPLES. G. Woodman, 1; C. Blackman, 2; H. Burstow, 3; T. Brown, 4; W. Short (conductor), 5; F. Knight, 6; H. Chandler, 7; G. Hogsflesh, 8.

NOTICE.—Mr. Joseph Redhead, of 15 Rock View Road, Stoney Rock, Leeds, is anxious to know whether there has been published any history of the bells of Northamptonshire, and if so by what publisher, and at what price?

RECEIVED ALSO:—J. J. Parker; and others.

SNOWDON'S CH. RINGING WORKS. Send for List, 9 Old Bank Chambers, Leeds.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The Reredos in St. Paul's Cathedral.

SIR,—With your permission, I should like to make a few remarks upon the letter from 'English Churchman,' which appears in your issue of March 29th, and to which my attention was called a few days ago. It seems to me that all the arguments which the writer of that letter employs might with equal reason be brought against any representation of our Lord or His Saints, whether under the form of a reredos or of a stained-glass window. If there were the slightest fear of people in the English Church becoming idolatrous, then I grant that much thought ought to be exercised with respect to such matters; but, at least in our own Communion, the danger of our times is the exact opposite of superstition, and consists in a tendency to irreverence and scepticism. Nor is there any force whatever in the assertion that Dean Church would have done better to expend money on 'living agents,' unless we are agreed to give up beautifying our churches altogether. As a matter of fact, it is well known that the more Catholic the ritual of a Church is the more, *cet. par.*, do all good works flourish and abound. As regards Nonconformists, it is, I believe, true that, as a rule, when they leave their own sects to join the Church they ally themselves to the 'advanced' school of thought in the Church, and thus are not very likely to be disconcerted by so innocent a reredos as that lately erected in our great Cathedral.

A PRIEST.

The Clerical Club.

SIR,—The very interesting 'Clerical Club Sketch' in your last certainly invites a few remarks, if only your space admits, and they can be but favourable from one who has had pleasant personal experience in different parts of the country of two or three such societies, however differently circumstanced, and has arrived now at the office and dignity of which you speak so kindly—that of Rural Dean in a northern county. I think, glancing at the points which you take *seriatim* of an unusually practical and interesting discussion, that the subject of one of the anecdotes must fitly also describe the Society itself. He was an exceptional instance, and 'must have had good friends.' The Club perhaps is a rather *exceptional* one, having good and favourable surroundings. Anyhow, I should like to add a word or two on one or more of the topics. The influence of Dissent, let alone of Political Dissent, is very serious, and not overrated. It may vary in different districts, but is a very serious factor indeed, even granting that many of the labourers are 'yearning after a religious life,' and 'will be found when the line is drawn on our side.' Would that this might describe other districts than Wales apparently! There is, to my mind, little or no doubt that the influence of political prospects, though latent perhaps, began to tell strongly further back than the elections of 1885–86, though we found it out more then; but Mr. Gladstone's accession to power in 1880 really opened an almost unlimited vista to the ardent partisans of change and aggrandisement at the expense of existing interests and of the Church. In nothing has the truth been more certainly proved—'*l'homme propose, Dieu dispose*'—than in respect of the *contemplated* and the *actually fulfilled* course of Radical legislation in that interim, and that the prime mover has also (providentially) become himself the prime hinderer, and his blinded supporters see it not, still, through cloud and sunshine, believing him to be the destined agent for bringing about some great levelling, to their social and religious advantage. But, apart from politics, the seriousness of this factor, as experience shows not in one but in many districts—most certainly in this neighbourhood—is, that it has an unsettling and by consequence a lowering effect, religiously, upon those who are *not professedly* religious in particular. The effect on the young, and the more thoughtless older, is, 'Church or Chapel' makes no difference, because they see no striking difference; while the tone of the nominally more serious is, that they know as well as—nay, *better* than—the Church parson. It is not that 'we go to chapel because we can *understand* better what is said,' for in that sense it is very true that they *do* 'understand much more than we give them credit for understanding'; it is, that they do not *like* what they hear at church, and they do not *like* it usually because they *think they know better*; and their teachers, usually being somewhat ignorant men, of course claim for themselves, and foster in them, this pretension. They have, in shorter and simpler fashion and with less trouble (really, calling for less care and effort on their part, *taxing* them less), *all needful saving truth*. They are at that advantage over the Church: they hear what they *like* to hear at the chapels, and no wonder they understand it. If Church parsons *sink* the doctrine of Sacraments and other objective truths, and stick to personal assurance and the comforts of conscious salvation, they hear nothing about *not being understood*, and they can draw, even by superior attractions, from the very chapels: they give comfort and *satisfaction*; they are not 'always *teaching*' people undesirous of being taught, people who 'can read the Bible for themselves,' which means so often 'I don't see it your way,' and I don't *want* nor mean to see it. All this is very true and very sad, and as there are many, increasingly many, Church parsons who do not, and would not for worlds, sink distinctive Church doctrine to please and draw, rather than to *save* souls by constantly preaching and applying it, the time is still distant when, in at least many districts, we shall find the labouring classes lifted to that better level which enables them to take in and take to Church doctrine and truth as such; nevertheless, the process is going on here, there, and everywhere. The 'Clerical Club' discussion itself sheds many hopeful rays of light on the subject, and whatever special or *district* peculiarities (there are such, local, ethnical, and very distinct) may retard or accelerate the progress, we may hopefully echo the words of the sketch-writer himself, '*Veritas . . . pravealebit*.'

THOS. FIELD, B.D., Rector of Bigby, R.D.

IRELAND.

(From our Special Correspondent.)

THE last meeting of the present session of the Dublin Clerical Association was held at 37 Dawson Street on the 4th inst., the Very Rev. the Dean of the Chapel Royal, President, in the chair. After the Greek Testament study was closed, the officers and committee for the next session were elected. A paper was read by the Rev. F. W. Mervyn on 'Clerical Helps and Hindrances,' which was subsequently discussed by the Revs. H. G. Carleton, J. A. Davis, Henry Carleton, E. Fischer, W. J. Kittson, Canon Hogan, and Dr. Craig. The Epistle to the Hebrews was selected to be studied in the Greek for next term.

The annual examination of Church children in the Scriptures and formularies of the Church for the united Dioceses of Dublin, Glendalough, and Kildare, has been proceeding during the past few weeks in several centres. The examination is carried on under the auspices of the Diocesan Board of Religious Knowledge by means of printed questions. The entire Church is being gradually brought under a common system of primary religious instruction.

The Lord Primate, the Senior Bishop of the Home Episcopate of the Anglican Communion, has been carrying out his Confirmations in the Diocese of Armagh. His Grace took part in the Quiet Day held last week in St. Mark's Church, Armagh, when addresses were delivered to the assembled clergy by the conductor, the Rev. W. Hay Aitken. His Grace celebrated the Holy Communion at 8.30 a.m., when he was assisted by the Very Rev. Dean Chadwick, and at the close of the day's proceedings delivered an earnest and affectionate address to the assembled clergy.

The Rev. G. C. Grubb, Home Missioner of the Church of Ireland, has returned from India, where he held a series of missions in the principal towns last winter, and will resume his work as a mission preacher in Ireland.

The Rev. C. K. Strong was elected by the Board of Patronage to the incumbency of St. Mark's Church in the City of Dublin on Wednesday last, in succession to the Dr. A. Fuller, D.D. Mr. Strong had been curate of the parish since 1875.

The Rev. H. G. Garrett, senior curate of Christ Church, Leeson Park, has been appointed by the Trustees to the vicarage of Widnes, in the diocese of Liverpool. There are about 12,000 souls in the parish, and 1000 children attending the parish schools.

At the Trinity Ordinations, the Archbishop of Dublin ordained in Christ Church Cathedral four priests and two deacons; the sermon was preached by the Rev. C. J. Ridgeway, vicar of Christ Church, Lancaster Gate. The Bishop of Waterford ordained in the Cathedral Church of the Holy Trinity, Waterford, two deacons; the sermon was preached by the Archdeacon of Cashel. The Bishop of Ossory ordained in St. Canice's Cathedral, Kilkenny, three priests and one deacon; the sermon was preached by Canon Heatly. The Bishop of Down ordained in the Cathedral Church of St. Saviour, Lisburne, four priests and six deacons; the sermon was preached by the Archdeacon of Dromore. The Bishop of Limerick ordained three priests in St. Mary's Cathedral, Limerick; the sermon was preached by the Archdeacon of Limerick. The Bishop of Cork ordained two priests and one deacon in St. Finbarre's Cathedral, Cork; the sermon was preached by the Rev. W. FitzGerald. In all, sixteen priests were made and twelve deacons.

The Diocesan Council of Ardferit and Aghadoc have resolved that a list of all the parishioners of the united diocese, being members of the Church of Ireland and heads of families, should be published annually, with a list of subscriptions for Church purposes, blanks being left for those who have contributed nothing. These lists will be publicly posted in the porches of several churches.

On Monday his Grace the Archbishop of Dublin laid the foundation-stone of new buildings about to be erected in connexion with Alexandra College and the Clergy Daughters' School in Earlsfort Terrace.

The Salvation Army have taken possession of the Earlsfort Terrace Rink for the next year, where they will hold their usual extraordinary services.

The Senior Wrangler in the Cambridge Mathematical Tripos this year is Mr. W. McFadyan Orr, son of Mr. Blakeley Orr, of Blackstockart, co. Down. He was educated at the Methodist College and Queen's College, Belfast. His early education was conducted at the National School of his native place. Mr. Orr took a Foundation Scholarship at St. John's in 1885.

The Trinity College, Dublin, athletic sports came off on Thursday last in the College Park, in the presence of over 9000 persons. The first cyclist of the year is Mr. Kilkelly, who easily won in every race, although heavily handicapped. The long flat race (two miles) was won by the scratch man, Mr. F. R. Carr, who came in first, hands down.

A BISHOP'S OPINION OF 'VINO SACRO.'—'I am glad to testify to the excellence of "Vino Sacro," as in every essential particular adapted to its sacred purpose. I now use no other.'—(Signed), J. N. Staley, D.D., Vicar of Croxhall, formerly Bishop of Honolulu. To Messrs. Hicks and Co., Plymouth.—[See ADVT. at end.]

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Address by the Bishop of Lincoln to the Members of the Lincolnshire Association of Bell-ringers.

THE following is the substance of an address lately delivered by the Lord Bishop of Lincoln:—

In opening his remarks the rev. prelate said this was just one of those kind of things which they should have, because in such gatherings as this they had the pleasure of hope and the pleasure of happiness, which was a pleasure that left no regret afterwards. Out of the thousands that had come into the Lincoln fair, he was afraid there would be some—there would be one at least—who would go away and look back to the day with feelings of regret instead of happiness. Those present made pleasure by meeting in this sort of way; they enjoyed it at the time, and they enjoyed it when they came to look back upon the day. So it was a pleasure to him to come amongst them, because he knew what they were—they were those who rang the bells in their old church towers. He firmly believed there was more power to come out of the old churches than they had yet got out. Those old church towers had been a wonderful power when the clergy had been asleep; the old towers had been a witness and a sermon to many in days gone by; and they had done a great deal of good in this country. But far better was it when the clergy were wide awake, when the church doors were open, and the services were as they should be. First let the church be as it should be, and all things in harmony; and let those who rang the bells ring them in such a way as if it was indeed for human beings, for immortal beings, who had come there drawn by the love of God and one another, there to worship God in common. That was what the church ought to be, and thus when the clergy, the choir, and the ringers, and everybody about the church, were in harmony, when everyone was doing his work, the Church effected the most good. This association was doing a good work, and were helping to lift the Church up; the members knew and felt that the belfry was not a place in which they could smoke, drink beer, or use bad language; but the ringers themselves used the same language in the belfry as was used in every part of the church. That was a great difference from what things used to be, and it was the same all down the line. Nothing had done so much harm to the Church as careless clergymen, careless bishops, not doing what they ought to do, and thereby doing much harm. When any member of the Church did harm it did harm all round, and when they saw bishops, clergy, singers and ringers, all engaged with their hearts in the work, it was a help all round. It was a peculiar power the ringers had; the ringing of bells was a peculiarly touching thing; he had often thought of it, not merely as a charm of music, but there was something wonderfully fascinating in it; somehow or other there was something about bell-ringing that was so English, so homely. It led them to think of their own village bells, and as they thought about it there seemed to be something about it that was not of this world. The bells were raised above the ground,—poised up there between earth and heaven, there was a sort of heavenward feeling about the sound of the bells; and when the ringers were there with their coats off, they were probably unconsciously touching many a heart and drawing the tear from many an eye that no sermon could get at. People wandering about in the evenings in the lanes, or the man of business in his cart, heard the sound of the bells, and the bell-ringers thereby drew a tear from the eye, or moved the heart heavenward where the clergyman could not get at it. He personally thanked them for their work. Who could tell but the Great One, who knew the value of everybody's work? who could tell what England owed to the bell-ringers who rang the Jubilee peals, and in so doing kindled feelings of devotion and loyalty to our Most Gracious Sovereign and her family? The bell-ringers of the Jubilee peals did good work in moving people's hearts to maintain England as God would have her be. He wished to remind them that their real power depended on there being true harmony; when there was harmony between the ringers, the bells, and the church, that harmony and happiness was so much increased when they saw the men who pulled the ropes were also trying, by God's help, to get heavenwards themselves. When this true harmony existed it did make such a difference. God was not mocked, and they might depend on it God knew the true value of every man's work, and a good and sincere man contributed happiness to himself and imparted a sweetness and tenderness to the bells he rang by his character. When there was the harmony all round it did do a wonderful deal of good, and when the life was in harmony with the heavenly sounding bells it did make their work so much more beautiful. As he believed when they rang the Jubilee peals they were doing God's work, so he believed they were doing God's work when from the church towers they sent forth those heavenward-drawing sounds which led people to think of where their future home was to be. He trusted God would bless the ringers in their own hearts, in their meeting and associating together in this way, and that He would multiply their influences for good.

Grandsire Triples.

SIR,—I should like to make one or two remarks concerning the accompanying peals of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. In my investigation, something suggested the possibility of peals being made to contain only ninety calls. After condensing the subject by means of composing suitable tables, from which I was enabled to extract a variety of peals with ninety calls, the following are specimens of what the plan will produce. I have given the Bob leads in same order as they were extracted from the table. Hitherto, 140 has been the least number of calls we have had in a peal containing only two GRANDSIRE SINGLES, but here we have the calls reduced down to ninety, the

least possible number. With the exception of the first two leads in the one part in each peal the 6th and 7th are never called before.

2 3 4 5 6 7				5040
S 5 7 2 6 3 4 1	4 5 7 3 2 6 3	7 4 6 5 2 3 2	7 3 6 2 5 4 2	
4 6 5 3 7 2 1	3 5 4 6 7 2 5	5 4 7 3 6 2 5	2 3 7 4 6 5 5	
2 3 4 7 6 5 1	6 5 3 2 4 7 5	3 4 5 2 7 6 5	4 3 2 5 7 6 5	
S 7 5 2 6 3 4 1	2 5 6 7 3 4 5	2 4 3 6 5 7 5	6 5 4 7 3 2 1	
2 3 7 5 4 6 3	3 4 2 6 7 5 2	3 5 2 4 7 6 3	3 2 6 4 7 5 2	
5 3 2 6 7 4 5	4 2 3 6 7 5 4	5 2 3 4 7 6 4	4 2 3 5 6 7 5	
7 4 5 2 6 3 2	6 2 4 5 3 7 5	4 2 5 6 3 7 5	5 2 4 7 3 6 5	
4 5 7 2 6 3 4	5 2 6 7 4 3 5	6 2 4 7 5 3 5	7 2 5 6 4 3 5	
2 5 4 3 7 6 5	7 2 5 3 6 4 5	4 5 6 2 3 7 3	5 4 7 2 3 6 3	
3 5 2 6 4 7 5	6 4 7 5 3 2 2	2 5 4 7 6 3 5	2 4 5 6 7 3 5	
6 5 3 7 2 4 5	5 4 6 2 7 3 5	7 5 2 3 4 6 5	6 4 2 3 5 7 5	
	2 4 5 3 6 7 5	3 5 7 6 2 4 5	3 4 6 7 2 5 5	
3 2 6 5 4 7 3	3 4 2 7 5 6 5	6 5 3 4 7 2 5	7 4 3 5 6 2 5	
5 2 3 7 6 4 5	7 4 3 6 2 5 5	7 2 6 3 4 5 2	6 2 7 3 5 4 2	
7 2 5 4 3 6 5	2 5 7 3 6 4 2	3 2 7 5 6 4 5	5 4 6 7 3 2 2	
4 2 7 6 5 3 5	6 4 2 7 3 5 2	4 5 3 6 2 7 1	6 3 5 4 2 7 3	
6 2 4 3 7 5 5	2 3 6 4 5 7 3	5 3 4 6 2 7 4	4 3 6 7 5 2 5	
7 5 6 4 3 2 2	4 3 2 7 6 5 5	6 3 5 7 4 2 5	7 3 4 2 6 5 5	
2 4 7 3 5 6 1	7 3 4 5 2 6 5	5 4 6 3 2 7 3	6 5 1 4 2 3 2	
7 5 2 4 6 3 2	5 3 7 6 4 2 5	3 4 5 7 6 2 5	4 5 6 3 7 2 5	
6 3 7 2 4 5 2	6 3 5 2 7 4 5	7 4 3 2 5 6 5	3 5 4 2 6 7 5	
2 3 6 5 7 4 5		2 4 7 6 3 5 5	2 5 3 7 4 6 5	
5 3 2 4 6 7 5		6 4 2 5 7 3 5		
4 3 5 7 2 6 5				
7 3 4 6 5 2 5				

Repeated.

5040

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

Repeated.

With a ten-part single at the end of the second and fourth parts.
Farnham Royal, Slough, May 31, 1888. J. J. PARKER.

The Late Mr. James Rumsey.

WE regret to have to record the death of Mr. J. Rumsey, after a brief illness, in the twenty-eighth year of his age. He died on May 30th. His loss is keenly felt by the ringers of St. Sepulchre's (Holborn Viaduct, City of London), with which church he had been associated from an early age. His last time of ringing was on the 24th (Queen's birthday). He was a member of the Royal Cumberlands and the St. James' Society, and had rung five peals of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, two of GRANDSIRE CATERS, and took part in the last unsuccessful attempt at the above church. The funeral took place on Saturday, the 2nd inst., at Ilford Cemetery. He was buried in the family grave. There were several friends present, but many were absent on account of the Queen's Birthday Celebration in London, in consequence of which the funeral peal was postponed till Monday, the 4th inst., when the usual whole-pull and stand was rung by the following:—D. Lovett, 1; W. Milner, 2; A. Vincent, 3; C. Holmes, 4; G. Watkins, 5; T. H. Chapman, 6; C. Clarkson, 7; W. D. Matthews, 8; J. Wheeler, 9; A. E. Matthews, 10. After this, 500 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. F. Bates (conductor), 1; H. Davies, 2; Mr. Chew, 3; J. Nelms, 4; W. D. Matthews, 5; J. Barry, 6; A. E. Church, 7; J. Wheeler, 8. And a touch of GRANDSIRE CATERS, in which R. French, Alford, sen., and others, who came to pay their last respects to the deceased, took part.

On June 3rd, at St. Sepulchre's Church, after Sunday evening service, the Funeral March was played as a token of esteem.

The Midland Counties' Association.

THE First Quarterly Meeting of the year will be held at Loughborough on Saturday, the 23rd inst., and the towers of All Saints', Loughborough, and St. Bartholomew's, Quorndon, will be open for ringing from 2 p.m.
5 St. Paul's Street East, Burton-on-Trent. JOSEPH GRIFFIN, Hon. Sec.

The Lancashire Association.—Rossendale Branch.

A RINGING Meeting of the above branch took place at Christ Church, Bacup, on Saturday, the 2nd inst., when about twenty-five members from Bacup, Waterfoot, Newchurch, and Bolton, took part in the ringing during the afternoon and evening. Touches in PLAIN BOB and COLLEGE SINGLE, 720 PLAIN BOB, and 720 OXFORD SINGLE, were rung. A meeting was held in the Schoolroom at 6.30, presided over by the Rev. J. McCubbin, vicar, who kindly consented to become a honorary member of the Association.

Worcester and adjoining Districts Association.

ON Saturday, the 2nd inst., a Quarterly Meeting of this Association was held in St. John the Baptist's Schoolroom, Bromsgrove. The Vicar, the Rev. A. E. Seymour, M.A., presided. The usual business of the Association was transacted, in which several new members were added, including the Rev. Albany Wrey, who has just taken a curacy at Bromsgrove, and who is a good ringer of STEDMAN. The local company at this place are fairly well versed in various methods, and now with the assistance of the above-named reverend gentleman, we hope soon to see them figure in this intricate method. A hearty vote of thanks was accorded the chairman for presiding, and the meeting terminated.

Holt Society, Aston-juxta-Birmingham.

THE presence of all the members of the above Society is earnestly requested at the next Quarterly Meeting to be held on Thursday evening, June 28, at the 'Ring of Bells,' when important business will be considered.
W. H. GODDEN, Secretary.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At the Parish Church, Great Yarmouth, Norfolk.

ON Tuesday, the 29th ult., a peal of 5021 GRANDSIRE CATERS was rung in 3 hrs. 36½ mins. R. Christian, 1; W. Blyth, 2; J. Bray, 3; W. Long (conductor), 4; D. Hayward, 5; A. Webber, 6; W. Segrett, 7; T. Tooley, 8; W. Fletcher, 9; G. Grove, 10. Tenor, 30 cwt., in D. The above is the longest length ever yet rung on the bells in this method. The Rev. James F. Hastings, late of Wells and now of Yarmouth, who was outside and heard the peal, congratulated the company upon bringing round such a good peal, and invited them to partake of suitable refreshments. The above ring of bells was put in the tower by Mears & Stainbank, at a cost of 1161l. 3s. 4d., and were first rung on May 2, 1808.

At the Parish Church, Foxearth, Essex.

ON Thursday, the 31st ult., a mixed band of change-ringers rang a peal of 5088 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR in 2 hrs. 43 mins. S. Slater (Glensford), 1; C. Sillitoe (Sudbury), 2; J. Lee (Foxearth), 3; F. Wells (Glensford), 4; G. Maxim (Foxearth), 5; R. Mingay (Foxearth), 6; P. C. S. Scott (Melford), 7; G. Hammond (Melford), 8. Composed by the late Mr. W. Harrison of Mottram, Cheshire, and conducted by Mr. G. Hammond. Also on Saturday evening last another peal of 5184 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR in 2 hrs. 59 mins., thus making two complete peals rung in one week. S. Slater (Glensford), 1; C. Sillitoe (Sudbury), 2; W. Gridley (Foxearth), 3; F. Wells (Glensford), 4; W. J. Nevard (Great Bentley), 5; R. Mingay (Foxearth), 6; G. Maxim (Foxearth), 7; J. Lee (Foxearth), 8. Composed by Mr. Henry Johnson of Birmingham, and conducted by Mr. Charles Sillitoe. It contains the sixth the last two course-ends at home in each part, and also either the fifth or sixth one way in 5-6 at each course-end, being composed in three parts. It was arranged expressly for Mr. W. J. Nevard, and this is his first peal of TREBLE BOB MAJOR. He visited Foxearth for the express purpose of ringing it. It was also rung as a birthday peal with Mr. G. Maxim, who attained his twenty-first year on that day.

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

ON Thursday, the 31st ult., eight members of the Midland Counties' Association and the St. Paul's Society rang a peal of 5056 SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR in 3 hrs. 27 mins. G. Robinson, 1; J. Austin, 2; A. Wakley, 3; J. Griffin, 4; H. Wakley, 5; J. W. Taylor, jun. (first peal in the method), 6; T. Holmes, 7; W. Wakley, 8. Composed by Mr. N. J. Pitstow and conducted by Mr. J. Griffin. Tenor, 26 cwt. The composition, which is now rung for the first time, has the 6th the extent in 5-6, and nine consecutive courses home, the second being never in 6th's place.

At All Saints', Duffield, Derbyshire.

ON Saturday, the 2nd inst., ten members of the Midland Counties' Association rang a peal of 5004 DUFFIELD ROYAL in 3 hrs. 10 mins. J. Carter, 1; S. Johnson, 2; J. Jagger, 3; J. Howe, 4; W. Hickling, 5; H. C. Woodward, 6; G. Hingley, 7; J. W. Taylor, jun., 8; F. G. Newman (London), 9; A. P. Heywood, Esq. (composer and conductor), 10. Tenor, 17 cwt. In this composition, which is now rung for the first time, the 6th is at home at every course-end.

At St. Peter's, Drayton, Berks.

ON Monday, the 4th inst., eight members of the Oxford Diocesan Association rang a peal of 5184 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR in 2 hrs. 54 mins. W. Cobb,* 1; H. Fruin,* 2; C. Trinder,* 3; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 4; H. D. Betteridge, Esq., 5; F. Field,* 6; T. Short,* 7; J. W. Washbrook (composer and conductor), 8. Tenor, 3½ cwt. * First peal in the method, which was rung after four practices.

At St. John the Baptist, Erith, Kent.

ON Tuesday, the 5th inst., eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang Holt's Six-part peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 50 mins. F. Cullum, 1; W. Bedwell, 2; W. Weatherstone, 3; E. E. Richards, 4; G. Conyard, 5; F. J. French, 6; Rev. H. A. Cockey (conductor), 7; J. Gerard, 8. Tenor, 18 cwt. Messrs. Conyard and French came from Crayford; Weatherstone, Rotherhithe; Richards, Woolwich; Bedwell and Rev. H. A. Cockey, Greenwich; Cullum and Garrard belong to Erith.

At St. Peter's, Brighton, Sussex.

ON Wednesday, the 6th inst., a finely-struck peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES (Holt's Ten-part) was rung by the Brighton Branch of the Sussex Association in 3 hrs. 1 min. C. E. Golds, 1; G. F. Attree, 2; J. Worsell, 3; J. Reilly, 4; A. A. Fuller, 5; G. Thwaites, 6; J. Jay (conductor), 7; G.

Builer, 8. Tenor, 10½ cwt. The above was rung with the bells half muffled, as a tribute of respect to the late Rev. J. Hannah, D.D., Archdeacon of Lewes, and, until the commencement of this year, Vicar of Brighton

At Aston-juxta-Birmingham.

On Thursday, the 7th inst., eight members of the Holt Society rang T. Day's Six-part peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 49 mins. W. H. Godden, 1; T. Reynolds, 2; H. Bastable, 3; W. Long, 4; T. Miller, 5; J. Wilson (first peal), 6; J. Buffery (conductor), 7; C. Fluck, 8. Tenor, 13½ cwt., in F sharp. This is the first peal on the bells since five of them were rehung, and the treble and second tuned by Mr. James Barwell of Birmingham, four of the ringers being employed at his foundry.

At the Parish Church, Halesowen, Worcestershire.

On Monday, the 11th inst., a Six-part peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES was rung in 2 hrs. 51 mins. G. B. Raybould,* 1; H. Lea,† 2; H. Raybould, 3; E. White, 4; G. Cockin, 5; E. Hackett, 6; R. A. Eaton,† 7; M. Hackett, 8. Tenor, 20 cwt. Composed by Mr. J. J. Parker of Slough, and conducted by R. A. Eaton. * First peal. † First peal on a bob bell. ‡ First peal as conductor.

At ST. MARY'S, HITCHIN, HERTS.—On Whit Sunday, for evening service, 350 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. J. Randall, 1; W. Dawkes, 2; F. Furr, 3; A. Squires, 4; W. Allen (conductor), 5; S. Hare, 6; J. Hare, 7; T. Dobbs, 8. Mr. Dawkes came from Wolverhampton. On Saturday, the 26th ult., Holt's Original peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES was attempted, but after ringing 1 hr. 30 mins., a shift-course put a stop to it. T. Webb, 1; J. Spicer, 2; F. Furr, 3; A. Squires, 4; W. Allen, 5; H. Baker (conductor), 6; J. Hare, 7; T. Dobbs, 8. Mr. Baker came from Hertford. On Monday, the 28th ult., 720 BOB MINOR, with 7-8 cover. J. Randall, 1; W. Allen, 2; F. Furr, 3; A. Squires, 4; J. Hare (conductor), 5; S. Hare, 6; T. Dobbs, 7; J. Froy, 8. Also on Monday, the 4th inst., 720 BOB MINOR (9 bobs and 6 singles) in 27½ minutes. J. Randall, 1; W. Allen, 2; F. Furr, 3; A. Squires, 4; J. Hare (conductor), 5; S. Hare, 6; T. Dobbs, 7; J. Froy, 8. Tenor, 28 cwt., in D.

At SHRIVENHAM AND LONGCOTE, BERKS.—The ringers of Old Swindon Parish Church paid a visit to the above villages on Whit Monday, and rang a number of six-scores of GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, including one peal at Longcote of 6 six-scores, each called differently. G. State, 1; A. Lawrence, 2; J. Ricketts, 3; J. Trueman, 4; O. W. Layng (conductor), 5; F. Trueman, 6. Also two peals of 3 six-scores each at Shrivenham. Mr. Hill, parish clerk, ringing the tenor in the first and treble in the second peal.

At ST. THOMAS'S, RHYL, NORTH WALES.—On Tuesday, the 22nd ult., 720 KENT TREBLE BOB MINOR in 27½ mins. F. Hordley, 1; J. Wallis, 2; W. D. Asher, 3; J. P. Powell, 4; F. Wallis, 5; F. J. Gamlin (conductor), 6. First 720 in the method by all except the conductor.

At ST. PAUL'S, WALKDEN, LANCASHIRE.—On Thursday, the 24th ult., 720 BOB MINOR was rung in honour of the Queen's birthday. Jas. Potter, 1; Jos. Potter, 2; J. Brookes, 3; J. Worthington, 4; A. Potter, 5; W. Denner (conductor), 6. Time, 24½ mins. On Friday, the 25th, the ringers of the above church paid a visit to the parish church of Stretford, and were kindly entertained by Mr. Birchall, the leading ringer. 720 BOB MINOR (16 bobs and 2 singles) was rung in 23½ mins. W. Denner (conductor), 1; J. Worthington, 2; Jas. Potter, 3; J. Williamson, 4; A. Potter, 5; J. Brookes, 6. 360 GRANDSIRE MINOR. W. Denner, 1; Jos. Potter, 2; Jas. Potter, 3; A. Potter, 4; J. Worthington, 5; J. Brookes, 6. On Sunday evening, the 27th, 720 BOB MINOR (18 bobs and 2 singles) in 24 mins. A. Potter, 1; Jos. Potter, 2; J. Worthington, 3; Jas. Potter (composer and conductor), 4; J. Brookes, 5; W. Denner, 6. Tenor, 13½ cwt.

At THE PARISH CHURCH, COSELEY, STAFFORDSHIRE.—On Friday, the 25th ult., 630 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. W. Horton, 1; E. Goodreds, 2; B. Gough, 3; A. H. Hill, 4; W. Cheshire, 5; W. R. Small, 6; J. Goodman (conductor), 7; F. Fisher, 8. Goodreds, Hill, and Small, came from Tipton; Goodman, Dudley; and the rest belong to the local company.

At ST. PETER'S, ST. ALBANS, HERTS.—CHIMING.—On Sunday, the 27th ult., 616 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 22 mins., taken from Thompson's Three-part peal. A. Barnes, 1-2; G. W. Cartmel, 3-4; W. H. L. Buckingham (conductor), 5-6; T. Waller, 7-8.

At THE PARISH CHURCH, SAWERIDGEWORTH, HERTS.—On Sunday evening, the 27th ult., for service, 504 STEPMAN TRIPLES in 19 mins. G. Rochester (conductor), 1; N. W. Tarling, 2; T. Saban, 3; W. J. Pleasance, 4; J. Tarling, 5; H. Saban, 6; W. Morris, 7; P. Springham, 8. For practice on Tuesday evening, the 29th ult., 308 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. G. Rochester, 1; A. Brown, 2; T. Saban, 3; F. W. Tarling, 4; N. W. Tarling, 5; P. Springham, 6; W. Morris (conductor), 7; H. Saban, 8. Also 364 STEPMAN TRIPLES. G. Rochester (conductor), 1; A. Brown, 2; N. W. Tarling, 3; W. J. Pleasance, 4; W. Morris, 5; P. Springham, 6; H. Saban, 7; F. W. Tarling, 8. And a course of KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR. H. Saban, 1; A. Brown, 2; J. Saban, 3; W. J. Pleasance, 4; G. Rochester, 5; W. Morris, 6; P. Springham, 7; N. W. Tarling, 8. Tenor, 25 cwt.

At FINEDON, NORTHANTS.—On Tuesday, the 29th ult., a half-muffled peal of 720 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES (24 bobs, 12 singles) in 27 mins. C. Baker, 1; J. Wallis, 2; J. Elson, 3; W. Manning, 4; J. T. Tompkins, 5; W. Moon (conductor), 6. Tenor, 24 cwt. Finedon is one of the few places where the old custom of ringing on 'Royal Oak Day' is kept up. The bells are always rung half muffled.

SNOWDON'S CH. RINGING WORKS, Send for List, 9 Old Bank Chambers, Leeds.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Quid Custodiet ipsos Custodes?

SIR,—I made an attempt to bring the York Convocation to adopt the view that a flagitious act alleged against any member conveys a taint to the whole body, and that one of their members having been thus in fact reflected on, inquiry was their first duty. *I wholly failed.* I believe, from the President downwards, every voice (certainly all that made themselves heard) was against me. That venerable assembly, one of the two oldest in Western Christendom, fails to grasp the elementary principle that, 'if one member suffer, all the members suffer with it,'—a principle which, if true in physical organisms and in temporal corporations analogous to them, is even more intensely true in the moral sphere, and where the bond of union and functions involved are spiritual. The Body makes no attempt to purge itself from this taint, its President tells it in so many words that it *ought not* to make any, and the one voice uplifted in favour of inquiry is drowned in a servile clamour of 'Hear, hear!' from a full Synod.

Mark the contrast which the Free Kirk of Scotland offers. In the very week previous its Presbytery of Fordoun held a public investigation into a charge exactly similar—that of the plagiarism of a sermon by one of its ministers. In Scotland, unbroken traditions of spiritual freedom give a solemn reality to the rights of conscience, whether exercised disciplinarily or otherwise; south of the Tweed continuous traditions of spiritual bondage reduce them to a solemn sham, and deaden men to those instincts in the moral sphere which are analogous to that of self-preservation in the physical. Here no apathy of the laity, no obstruction of the civil power, can be pleaded. The duty and the obstruction are alike wholly internal. Why, Sir, even the Jockey Club lately, on a public reflection being cast on one of its members, held a solemn meeting and decided to do everything to favour adequate investigation. And here we have a body, deriving its essence and functions from the 'Apostles and Elders' of Acts xv., deciding *nem. con.* to shut it out, and carrying by acclamation a resolution which, I fear, is self-damatory! Truly such a result makes one almost 'despair of the republic,' and let go on its calm way to decay a 'sacred synod' which cannot realise the truth that

'pudet hæc opprobria nobis
Et dici potuisse et non potuisse refelli.'

HENRY HAYMAN, D.D., *Proctor in the York Convocation.*

Marriages not sanctioned by Holy Scripture.

SIR,—Will you allow me to point out that 'G. V.'s' excellent arguments against the Deceased Wife's Sister Bill are greatly strengthened when we come to examine the Hebrew language? To English readers it naturally seems that the prohibitions in the Decalogue are addressed, not only in the spirit but also in the letter, to *each* sex, because 'thou' and 'thy,' &c., are feminine as well as masculine in English. There is only one word in the English Decalogue, viz. the word 'wife' in the Tenth Commandment, to show that a man is addressed rather than a woman. But in the original Hebrew—a language which has a separate form for the feminine, not only in pronouns of the second and third persons, but also in verbs of those persons—it is the *masculine* form which is used throughout; and hence, if we abide by the strict letter of the law, a woman is not forbidden to murder or to steal. This is a *reductio ad absurdum* of the argument from the 'letter' of Holy Scripture. It will be found that, in like manner, the prohibitions in Lev. xviii. are each and all addressed to the *man*. If, therefore, we include the *woman* (and who does not?) in the prohibitions in the Decalogue, and believe that a woman is there forbidden to covet her neighbour's husband, *because* a man is forbidden to covet his neighbour's wife; must we not, by parity of reasoning, believe that, if a *man* is forbidden to marry his *brother's* widow, a *woman* is likewise forbidden to marry her *sister's* widower?

This may appear more plainly, perhaps, if we use English nouns which, like 'thou,' are of 'common' gender. Thus, as 'Thou shalt not steal' is, in English, addressed in letter and in spirit either to a man or a woman, by substituting a pronoun of *common* gender for the original Hebrew of *masculine* gender; so, making the same substitution in Lev. xviii. 16, it would read, 'Thou shalt not [marry] thy parent's deceased child's partner.'

The 'Hobab' argument also is very strong, viz. that as Hobab was evidently *brother-in-law* to Moses, the Hebrew word *chothen* in Judg. iv. 11, means more than *father-in-law*, and probably is equivalent to 'near kinsman by marriage,' and therefore its feminine form *chotheneth*, in Deut. xxvii. 23, means more than *mother-in-law*, and is probably equivalent to 'near kinswoman by marriage,' including of course 'sister-in-law.' The Revisers have translated the masculine form by 'brother-in-law,' but why they have not given 'sister-in-law' for the feminine has never been explained as far as I know. It is, *a priori*, more probable that marriage with a *sister-in-law* should be forbidden than with a *mother-in-law*, who could not possibly be very young.

Let me refer Mr. J. H. Jones to the excellent pamphlet on *Marriage with a Deceased Wife's Sister*, by 'Philadelphus,' published by Hamilton, Adams, & Co., Paternoster Row, price 6d. It simply exhausts the subject from every point of view, fully answering all objections.

I do not share 'G. V.'s' despondent view as to the probability of the Bill passing. On the contrary, the percentage of voters in the Commons in favour of it has been steadily declining from 63 in 1869 to 56 in 1888; and whereas in the Lords it was actually passed in 1883, it was thrown out without the help of the Bishops in 1886.

A. MARWOOD WILCOX, *Vicar of Spelsbury, Oxon.*

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

A Reply.

SIR,—Allow me space for a few words in reference to your rider to the Report of the Meeting of the Essex Association on Whit Monday. In moving the adoption of the Report, and in reference to its publication, I said, 'That I very much regretted that *Church Bells* was *shunted*, if I might use the expression, in the matter of ringing news. Objection had been made as to the limited space allowed for its insertion, and the delay in its appearance. I myself had represented this at the office, and it was readily allowed that it had occasionally been the case, but I was assured that a larger and all necessary space was being devoted to the subject, and all ringing news would be inserted that reached the Editor in time for publication. I must remind our ringers, and all interested in the work, that *Church Bells* was the pioneer in that work, and through its persevering and earnest advocacy the great change we witnessed in the position of ringers, in the improvement as to bells and belfries, and the art of ringing was due.' The Rev. F. E. Robinson followed this up by words more telling than mine, and which were received with applause by the large gathering present; and the name of the venerable ringer, Ellacombe, with that affectionate regard in which it is held throughout the ringing world. I trust your assurance of sufficient space and early insertion may be noticed by those who can officially, or otherwise, send you reports and ringing news will be appreciated, and that we shall not lose information on this subject, so interesting, not only to your ringing but non-ringing readers also.

JOHN B. SEAMAN.

Dedication of Bells at Stokeinteignhead, Devon.

THE bells of this parish church have lately been augmented from four to five, by having an old bell that formed one of the four recast into two new trebles, and the three old ones tuned to harmonise one with another. A dedication service was held on May 17, at which the Hon. and Rev. J. S. Northcote preached, and a band from the St. Sidwell's branch of the County Guild was entrusted with the opening. The bells were found to go well to GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, and do Mr. Stokes of Woodbury great credit for the manner in which he has carried out the work. The new trebles are from Messrs. Gillett & Co. of Croydon; they are of excellent tone and a good splice. The tenor is about 14 cwt., in G. Twelve months ago the belfry was in a very dilapidated condition, with old half wheels for ringing purposes, but now (through the efforts of the Rector, Rev. E. Stevenson), the parish has a very fair ring of bells in good going order. Dinner was served in the parish Guild Room, at which the local ringers sat down with the visitors. The following took part in the ringing: Hon. and Rev. J. S. Northcote, Ferris Shepherd, E. Shepherd, J. Moss, F. Davey, C. Carter, and W. Stocker.

Society of Change-ringers for the Archdeaconry of Stafford.

THE Annual Meeting will be held at Lichfield on Saturday, June 30th. Members assemble at the Cathedral at 2.30 p.m. The Service will be held at 5 p.m. The tea will be at 6 p.m. in the Coffee-house, followed by the General Meeting. Subscriptions to be paid to the Treasurer.

Perry Barr Vicarage.

J. R. KEELE, Hon. Sec.

The Bedfordshire Association.

A DISTRICT MEETING will be held at Woburn, Beds., on Saturday, June 30th. The bells (eight) will be at the service of the ringers attending at any time during the afternoon and evening of that day.

Woburn, June 12th, 1888.

CHARLES HERBERT, Hon. Sec.

Salisbury Diocesan Ringing Guild.

THE Supplemental Meeting announced to be held at Bridport took place on Thursday, June 7. The following Guilds were present: Bridport, 16 members; Beaminster, 8; Cattistock, 10; Maiden Newton, 8; Canford Magna, 5; Broadwindsor, 5. Total, 52. The proceedings commenced with Divine service at St. Mary's, Bridport; a special Psalm was chanted, and hymns suitable for the occasion were sung. The Rector preached a very appropriate sermon from Josh. v. 15. After which there was a luncheon at the 'Greyhound Hotel,' the Mayor of Bridport presiding, supported by the Rev. M. Hankey, District Secretary; the Rev. E. J. L. B. Henslowe, rector of Bridport; the Rev. S. S. Keddle, Allington; the Rev. J. P. S. Fagan, Bridport; and the Rev. J. Carter, Cattistock. The usual loyal and patriotic toasts were well received, after which the company separated, Broadwindsor going to Symondsbury and Chidcock; Bridport to Cattistock and Maiden Newton; Canford Magna, Maiden Newton and East Fordington; Cattistock and Maiden Newton to Beaminster; and the Beaminster Guild remained at Bridport. A thoroughly enjoyable day was spent by all, and the best thanks of the members of the different Guilds were tendered to the Rev. M. Hankey for the excellent manner the meeting was arranged; also for the hospitable entertainment by the Rectors of Bridport, Cattistock, and Maiden Newton; the latter gentlemen providing tea at their respective Rectories free of charge.

On Saturday, the 2nd inst., at St. Martin's, 2520 STEDMAN TRIPLES was rung in 1 hr. 24 mins. W. S. Wise, 1; C. A. Clements, 2; A. P. Goddard, 3; H. D. Adams, 4; A. W. Barkus, 5; W. W. Gifford, 6; T. Blackburn (conductor), 7; W. J. Prince, 8.

On Saturday, the 16th inst., the Guild rang at St. Martin's a muffled peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES (Holt's Ten-part), in 3 hrs., in memory of the Emperor of Germany. W. S. Wise,* 1; W. Prince,* 2; A. P. Goddard, 3; H. D. Adams, 4; F. Rigden, Esq.,* 5; A. W. Barkus, 6; T. Blackburn (conductor), 7; A. Clements, 8. Tenor, 15 cwt. * First peal. The above ringers are all bachelors.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At St. Mary's-without-the-Walls, Chester.

THIS handsome new church, built at the expense of His Grace the Duke of Westminster, has a fine ring of eight bells by Mears & Stainbank, on which several six-scores of GRANDSIRE DOUBLES were rung by the ringers of the ancient parish church of Sefton, situated seven miles from Liverpool, who, at the expense of the churchwardens and friends, were driven by road to and from Chester, a distance of forty-four miles. They were met by Mr. Bethell, conductor of St. Mary's, and rang in the following order:—J. H. Rothwell, 1; J. Roughley (conductor), 2; J. Smith, 3; R. Rothwell, 4; J. Meadows, 5; J. Bethell (St. Mary's), 6; W. Meadows, 7; W. Arnold, 8. Sefton Church has a ring of six bells, inscribed as follows:—the 1st, 'God bless the founder hereof;' 2nd, 'We were erected to the praise of the Lord in the year of our Lord 1601;' 3rd and 4th, 'May this bell be made sacred to the Blessed Trinity;' 5th and 6th were cast in 1815 by Dobson of Downham, in Norfolk, and are inscribed,—

'Our voices shall with joyful sound
Make hills and valleys to rebound.'

A very enjoyable day was passed in Chester, but the time spent in ringing was short, as the party was obliged to leave the city at 5 p.m. to be in time to cross the river Mersey at 7.30 by the last ferry-steamer taking horses and vehicles.

At St. Mary's, Beddington, Surrey.

ON Thursday, the 7th inst., ten members of the Surrey Association rang a peal of 5079 STEDMAN CATERS in 3 hrs. 6 mins. G. Welling, 1; J. Trap-pitt, 2; C. E. Malin, 3; J. W. Washbrook, 4; A. B. Carpenter, Esq., 5; Jos. Fayers, 6; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 7; C. Bance, 8; J. Plowman, 9; J. Hartley, 10. Composed by Mr. H. Johnson and conducted by the Rev. F. E. Robinson. Tenor, 20½ cwt., in E. flat.

At SS. Mary and Nicholas, Leatherhead, Surrey.

ON Friday, the 8th inst., ten members of the Surrey Association rang a peal of 5021 STEDMAN CATERS in 3 hrs. 10 mins. J. Strutt,* 1; C. E. Malin, 2; S. Greenwood, 3; A. B. Carpenter, Esq., 4; G. Williams,* 5; J. W. Washbrook (composer and conductor), 6; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 7; E. Moses, 8; S. Brooker, 9; J. Harding, 10. Tenor, 20 cwt., in E. * First peal of STEDMAN CATERS.

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

ON Saturday, the 9th inst., eight members of the Waterloo Society rang Holt's Original peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 49 mins. G. Wild (first peal as conductor), 1; W. Bacon, jun. (first peal), 2; W. Partington, 3; S. G. Davies, 4; W. W. Thorne, 5; William Jones, 6; W. Baron, sen., 7; H. Pinnegar, 8. Tenor, 20 cwt.

At St. Lawrence's, Long Eaton, Derbyshire.

ON Saturday, the 9th inst., eight members of the Midland Counties' Association rang Holt's Ten-part peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 55 mins. W. Shardlow, 1; T. Cope, 2; J. W. Warren, 3; H. Hollingworth, 4; J. Viccars, 5; H. C. Woodward (conductor), 6; J. C. Dicken, 7; H. Truman, 8. Tenor, 11 cwt., in G. Messrs. Shardlow and Woodward came from Derby; Warren, Hollingworth, and Viccars, Melbourne; the remainder belonging to Long Eaton.

At All Saints', Loughborough, Leicestershire.

ON Saturday, the 9th inst., ten members of the Midland Counties' Association rang a peal of 5000 TREBLE BOB ROYAL, in the Kent variation, in 3 hrs. 40 mins. A. Cresser, 1; W. T. Billingham,* 2; C. Smith,* 3; J. W. Taylor, sen.,* 4; S. Smith,* 5; W. A. Tyler,* 6; Jos. Hardy,* 7; A. R. Aldham, 8; W. Birkinshaw, 9; J. W. Taylor, jun., 10. Tenor, 28 cwt., in D. The first peal of ROYAL rung in the county of Leicester. * First peal of ROYAL.

ON Friday, the 15th inst., a peal of 5039 GRANDSIRE CATERS was rung in 3 hrs. 28 mins. by ten members of the Midland Counties' Association, Loughborough Branch. A. Cresser, 1; J. C. Dicken,* 2; W. A. Tyler, 3; J. W. Taylor, jun., 4; S. Smith, 5; J. Hardy, 6; J. Ward,* 7; W. T. Billingham,* 8; A. R. Aldham, 9; E. Wightman, 10. Tenor, 28 cwt., in D. Composed by Mr. J. Carter, Birmingham, and conducted by Mr. W. T. Billingham. * First peal of CATERS. † First peal as conductor.

Rung with the bells muffled in memory of the Emperor of Germany.

At the Parish Church, Ormskirk, Lancashire.

ON Tuesday, the 12th inst., a peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES (Holt's Ten-part) was rung in 2 hrs. 51 mins. J. Prescott, 1; J. Pilkington,* 2; J. Sholicar (conductor), 3; G. Prescott, 4; H. Winrow, 5; A. S. Porter,*† 6; J. Aspinwall,* 7; P. H. Harvey, 8. Tenor, 25½ cwt. [* First peal. † First peal of College Youths.] Mr. Aspinwall comes from Liverpool, and Mr. Porter from Southport.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH, CAVERSHAM, OXON.—On Tuesday evening, the 22nd ult., for practice, 720 YORKSHIRE COURT MINOR. F. Simmonds, 1; J. Hands, 2; H. Simmonds, 3; E. Menday, 4; H. Smith, 5; T. Newman (conductor), 6. Also 720 KENT TREBLE BOB MINOR. H. Simmonds, 1; Rev. G. F. Coleridge, 2; A. Evans, 3; T. Newman, 4; E. Menday, 5; H. Egby (conductor), 6. On Saturday evening, the 26th ult., 720 OXFORD TREBLE BOB MINOR. H. Simmonds, 1; Rev. G. F. Coleridge, 2; E. Menday, 3; G. Essex, 4; J. Hands, 5; T. Newman (conductor), 6. On Sunday morning, the 27th ult., for Divine service, 720 OXFORD TREBLE BOB MINOR. H. Simmonds, 1; J. Hands, 2; E. Menday, 3; G. Essex, 4; H. Smith, 5; T. Newman (conductor), 6. Also 120 STEDMAN DOUBLES. T. Newman, 1; G. Essex, 2; H. Smith, 3;

J. Hands, 4; E. Menday, 5; H. Simmonds, 6. For evening service, 720 KENT TREBLE BOB MINOR. H. Simmonds, 1; H. Smith, 2; G. Essex, 3; E. Menday, 4; J. Hands, 5; T. Newman (conductor), 6. After evening service 720 DOUBLE OXFORD BOB MINOR. H. Smith, 1; Rev. G. F. Colebridge, 2; J. Hands, 3; G. Essex, 4; E. Menday, 5; T. Newman (conductor), 6. Tenor, 17 cwt.

AT ST. PETER'S, BENNINGTON, HERTS.—On Saturday, the 2nd inst., an attempt was made for a peal of CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE, but after ringing eleven courses in 1 hr. 30 mins. it came to an end. M. Ellsmore, 1; S. Page, 2; E. Chapman, 3; J. Hobbs, 4; H. Baker, 5; J. Warner, 6; C. Shambrook, 7; J. Hannington (conductor), 8. On Sunday morning, the 3rd inst., four courses of CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE. N. Warner, 1; S. Page, 2; E. Chapman, 3; L. Chapman, 4; J. Hobbs, 5; J. Warner, 6; C. Shambrook, 7; J. Hannington (conductor), 8. On Sunday afternoon another attempt was made for a peal of CAMBRIDGE, but, unfortunately, it again came to an end after ringing sixteen courses in 2 hrs. 10 mins. S. Page, 1; J. Kitchener, 2; E. Chapman, 3; L. Chapman, 4; J. Hobbs, 5; J. Warner, 6; C. Shambrook, 7; J. Hannington (conductor), 8. Tenor, 14 cwt.

AT WOLLASTON, STAFFORDSHIRE.—On Sunday morning, the 3rd inst., the local company rang for Divine service, 720 BOB MINOR in 24½ mins. W. Stinton, 1; J. H. Parsons, 2; J. H. Parkes, 3; W. Fryer, 4; J. Lewis, 5; H. Dakin, 6.

AT ST. PETER'S, RAUNDS, NORTHAMPTON.—On Saturday, the 9th inst., a 360 OXFORD TREBLE BOB. A. Coles, 1; W. Hall, 2; J. Willmott, 3; A. H. Martin, 4; F. Gilbert, 5; H. Stubbs (conductor), 6. 360 OXFORD BOB. W. Kirk, 1; A. H. Martin, 2; F. Gilbert (conductor), 3; J. B. Martin, 4; W. Pettet, 5; F. Slade, 6. 360 DOUBLE COURT. A. Coles, 1; F. Stubbs, 2; W. J. Gilbert (conductor), 3; J. B. Martin, 4; A. H. Martin, 5; F. Slade, 6. 360 LONDON SINGLE. F. Kirk, 1; H. Stubbs, 2; J. Willmott, 3; J. B. Martin, 4; W. Pettet, 5; W. J. Gilbert (conductor), 6. Messrs. A. H. Martin and W. Pettet hail from Higham Ferrers.

AT SOMERLEYTON, SUFFOLK.—On Monday, the 11th inst., six members of the Somerleyton branch of the Norwich Diocesan Association of Ringers rang a date touch in the following methods:—720 GRANDSIRE MINOR, with 30 bobs and 30 singles; also 720 DUKE OF YORK, with 9 bobs; and 448 PLAIN BOB, in 1 hr. and 6 mins., making 1888 changes. G. Wright (conductor), 1; G. Budd, 2; John Orford, 3; James Orford, 4; H. Orford, 5; R. Wilson, 6. Tenor, 11 cwt. The above was rung as a concluding touch of the weekly practice during the summer months.

AT ST. ANDREW'S, NETHERTON, WORCESTERSHIRE.—On Thursday, the 14th inst., a 720 COLLEGE SINGLE in 27 mins. W. Prestidge, 1; J. Prestidge, 2; J. Townsend, 3; R. Round, 4; W. Micklewright (conductor), 5; J. Smith, 6. This is the first 720 by all in this method, and the first on the bells. Also a 720 GRANDSIRE MINOR in 26 mins. E. Hampton, 1; J. Meredith, 2; W. Micklewright, 3; J. Smith (conductor), 4; J. Prestidge, 5; R. Round, 6. J. Meredith hails from Cradley, and this is his first 720 in this method. On Monday, the 18th inst., for practice, a 720 COURT BOB MINOR in 27 mins. B. Townsend, 1; J. Prestidge, 2; J. Townsend, 3; R. Round, 4; W. Micklewright (conductor), 5; J. Smith, 6. Tenor, 12½ cwt. This is the first 720 in this method by all, and the first on the bells.

AT ST. LEONARD'S, CLENT, WORCESTERSHIRE.—On Sunday, the 17th inst., a 720 PLAIN BOB MINOR (no time taken). W. Prestidge, 1; E. Broughton, 2; W. Micklewright, 3; R. Round, 4; J. Prestidge, 5; J. Smith (conductor), 6. Also 360 KENT TREBLE BOB. W. Huxley, 1; J. Prestidge, 2; C. Boughton, 3; R. Round, 4; W. Micklewright (conductor), 5; J. Smith, 6. Messrs. W. and J. Prestidge, Smith and Round, hail from Netherton, Micklewright from Dudley, Huxley and Boughton belong to Clent.

SNOWDON'S CH. RINGING WORKS. Send for List, 9 Old Bank Chambers, Leeds.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The Vaticanised Churches.

SIR,—Your Home Reunion column is one that I take a special interest in, but I am sorry to see this week that Lord Nelson commends the course taken by the Dissident Bishops at the Vatican Council as 'wise.' Is it ever wise to proclaim a known falsehood as the truth of God? I hold, as strongly as any man, that the constitution of the Catholic Church is, by the nature of the case, local and territorial, not optional or congregational. In no other way can the unity that Christ prayed for be attained and secured. But truth is before unity. Unity in falsehood is not the unity that Christ prayed for. It was the duty of the Dissident Bishops, as honest men, to maintain their protest and take the consequences. It is quite possible that the Papal authorities, confronted by a determined minority, might themselves have given way. But, anyhow, the line the Bishops took has left thinking men on the Continent no choice but conscious falsehood or separation from the traditional organization. No doubt the Churches of the Roman Communion in France and elsewhere are suffering 'persecution' at the hands of the secularist and the infidel, but Churches which affirm as Divine and necessary truth what not only secularists and infidels, but their own Bishops, know to be false, deserve to be persecuted, so far as the withdrawal of State alliance and support is persecution. Some may say that those who had the courage to say No to the Vatican falsehoods should have contented themselves with a simple protest, and the consequent excommunication. I do not think so. Such a protest could not be handed on to another

generation as a matter of religion, unless it were embodied in a religious organization. If the Old Catholics are not ready to dissolve their organization, whenever the traditional organizations of their several localities shake themselves free from Romish error, then perhaps we need not help them. But even then they would have a good deal to say for themselves. Rome is, all over the world, the greatest enemy of true unity. It may be the duty of all who hold the truth to treat, not her individual souls, but her organization, as lapsed from all place in the commonwealth of Christians. Which have gone farthest from the institution of Christ and His Apostles, the Pope and his party, who have changed diocesan bishops into removable delegates of an Italian clique, or Presbyterians, who have returned as near as may be to the condition in which all Churches were before Episcopacy was developed?

Carlton, Worksop, June 18th.

JOSEPH FOXLEY.

Basilica Churches in England.

SIR,—In this week's issue you refer to the laying of the foundation-stone of a Basilica Church—St. Columba's, Sunderland. Three months ago your columns contained a reference to this proposed church, and it was described as the only Basilica Church in the North of England. This, however, is incorrect. A Basilica church of the purest type was built in Liverpool some twenty years ago, viz., St. Bridget's, Wavertree, by the Rev. A. L. Lodge, lately deceased. I remember, on going over the church with him when it was nearly completed, that he told me that he was rather weary of Gothic reproductions, and determined on having a church of the Basilica type. It has a lofty campanile. Can any of your readers tell me of any other examples in this country? This style of church is less expensive than Gothic, I believe, as a rule, the chancel being the same height as the nave.

H. C. R.

A Plea for Parish Endowment Funds.

SIR,—After perusing the excellent articles which from time to time appear in *Church Bells* anent the increase of the Episcopate and other Church reforms, one most necessary and urgent requirement presses itself upon me, and the feasibility of which must occur to many others; viz., that as the Disestablishment, or, more correctly, Disendowment question, is from time to time so persistently pressed forward, there should be in every parish a fund to be called the 'Endowment Fund,' supported by collections and bequests, two or more Sundays being set aside for that purpose. I feel sure that many clergymen would willingly contribute their Easter offerings, and if it were only fifteen or twenty pounds per year, it would in the course of time leave a fair fund and make the Church its own master, and indifferent to taunts and catchwords of political Dissenters.

P. S. E.

31 Vicarage Road, Camberwell.

The Local Government Bill v. the Surrey Diocese.

SIR,—If the Local Government Bill is to create eleven new 'counties' for all purposes, then what is to become of the 'Surrey diocese'? for much of Surrey will then have ceased to be in it—even in name—for any purpose whatever! The term 'county district' should be used when the county of the Bill is not a geographical county also. If, however, we are to have new 'counties' for all purposes, then it ought to be made legally allowable to designate them as 'shires'; e.g., 'Londonshire,' 'Bristolshire,' &c.

C. H. D.

'Our Lady.'

SIR,—Can any of your readers inform me whether the retention of this title of the Virgin Mary in the 'Lessons proper for Holydays' is intentional or accidental? If the former, what is the justification for it? This is, I believe, the only place where it is adopted by the Church of England. Even if, like Θεοτοκος, it is technically lawful, it appears to me highly inexpedient to use such a title, suggesting, as it must do to ordinary minds, that St. Mary was somehow equal to her Son 'as touching the Godhead.' And I regret to see that Canon Body, as reported in the *Church Times*, has been using this misleading term constantly in a course of sermons lately preached in London.

The *Churchman's Almanack*, by the way, has a curious but very discreditable blunder, in the Lessons for Palm Sunday this year, which fell on the Feast of the Annunciation. The hasty compiler, glancing at the Second Lessons for March 25, and recognising 'Luke, i. 46' as being about the Virgin Mary, rashly concluded that it was a proper Lesson for the Annunciation; and, therefore, inserted it as an alternative lesson. There is some excuse, perhaps, for this blunder, caused by a coincidence; but surely he (or the Committee) ought to have recognised '1 Cor. xv. to 35,' so well known from the Burial Service, and to have perceived that this had nothing to do with the Annunciation! Altogether the blunder gives one the idea that the S. P. C. K. are far from careful about the accuracy of their Almanack, several other errors in which have been recently pointed out in the *Guardian*.

Spelsbury Vicarage, Oxon, April 7th, 1888.

A. MARWOOD WILCOX.

Vicars and Curates.

SIR,—Like the gentleman who refused to take up the study of Algebra till the unknown quantity was revealed to him, I have delayed writing on the subject of Vicars and their Curates till I had some information to give your inquiring Correspondent. Briefly, that correspondent found that Vicars frequently monopolised the pulpit to the exclusion of their curates, and that from this moral and temporal platform they expanded the doctrine of an unselfishness to which they were themselves strangers. My experience coincides with this, save that I find that this feature is only invariably present when the Vicar is an indifferent preacher. In other cases, where the Vicar is a moderate or a fine preacher, the curate has usually the double advantage of not only hearing one who may serve him as a model, but also of sharing the pulpit with him and putting the knowledge he gains to the test of practice.

IRELAND.

(From our Special Correspondent.)

THE first Diocesan Synod for the present year was that of Limerick, held on Thursday last in the cathedral church of St. Mary, Limerick; the Bishop, the Right Rev. Dr. Graves, in the chair. There was a very fair attendance of clerical and lay Synodsmen present. The Dean, Dr. Bunbury, acted as secretary for the Bishop; Canon Gabbet as secretary for the clergy; and Lord Monteagle for the laity. The Bishop, in addressing the Synod, said the Report of the Board of Religious Education made no boast of its successes; but the figures which it exhibits were highly satisfactory. In order to do the work upon which it had entered the Board required to be supplied with ample funds. He saw no reason why it should not do what was done in his other diocese, which was to provide the means of adequately inspecting and stimulating the progress of secular education in our Church schools. This might be accomplished by granting result fees to reward the teachers who earn them by their diligence and capacity. The resources needed to accomplish these ends were more liberally provided in Kerry than in Limerick. The Report of the Diocesan Council exhibited a view of our financial position which, considering the circumstances of the times, might be regarded as on the whole favourable. After transacting the usual business, receiving the reports of the various diocesan organizations, and electing the members of the Council and of the General Synod and Diocesan Board of Patronage, the Synod adjourned. His Lordship leaves this week to attend the Lambeth Conference in London.

On Thursday week the Primate held his triennial Confirmations for the Rural Deanery of Drogheda in St. Peter's Church in that town, when seventy-eight young persons received the rite. The Rev. John Eccles, rector of the parish, acted as his Grace's chaplain. The Irish Primate, Dr. Knox, is the oldest Bishop, by date of consecration, of the Home Episcopate, as the Bishop of Guiana is of the Colonial Episcopate. His Grace will be present at the Lambeth Conference next week.

The fourth annual Choir Festival of the parish churches of the Ards district, diocese of Down, was held on the 14th inst. in Portaferry church, when ten parochial choirs, representing 170 voices, were present. The Rev. F. W. Hogan, rector of All Saints', Eglantine, presided at the organ.

It is not so long since we were obliged to record the malicious burning of the beautiful parish church of Killarney. Another sacrilegious outrage has since taken place in the county of Kerry. On the morning of Monday, the 10th inst., when the sexton arrived to open Ballyseedy Church, near Tralee, he found that one of the stained-glass windows of the sacred edifice had been broken during the previous night. Several stones were found scattered about inside the church, proving its malicious character. The Rector, the Rev. Frederick Foster, has served the usual notice of a claim from the County Grand Jury for compensation, to be levied off the district.

The Church correspondent of the *Daily Express* says, 'Episcopalians, Presbyterians, and Methodists, have now united—the first-mentioned through the General Synod of the Church of Ireland, the second through their General Assembly, and the third through their Annual Conference—in protesting against Home Rule, and deprecating the evils it is certain to bring upon the country.'

All the Irish Bishops, with the exception of the Bishop of Tuam, who is invalided, will be present at the Conference. The Bishop of Derry was one of the London preachers on the Sunday following the death of the late German Emperor. His Lordship preached before a crowded congregation in Westminster Abbey, taking for his text 1 John, v. 15-17; on which he founded a very eloquent and touching address, in the course of which he spoke of the many virtues which adorned the character of the Emperor Frederick.

The Bishop of Columbo, Dr. Copleston, son-in-law of the late Archbishop Trench, has been paying some visits in Dublin. On Saturday last his Lordship delivered a most interesting and instructive lecture on Buddhism in the Jellicoe Hall, Alexandra College, which was open to the public for the occasion.

The Associates and friends of the G.F.S. in the south-western division of the diocese of Cork spent a pleasant day during this month in the beautiful grounds of Castle Bernard, near Bandon, some of them coming for the purpose a distance of seventy miles from the extreme west of the county. At 11 a.m. Divine service was held in Ballymodan parish church, afterwards the members attended a meeting in the library of the Castle, where they were addressed by the Dean of Cork, and, at the request of Lady Bandon, by Mrs. Powell, of Rathclaren Rectory, Hon. Secretary of the Girls' Friendly Society. Among the visitors present who assisted in the day's proceedings were Lord Carbery, the Ladies Bandon, and Lieut.-Col. Shuldham, D.L., &c. About 300 members of the Society were present.

'A WORD TO THE WISE.'—If Borwick's Baking Powder is not the best in the world, why has it gained five gold medals? This is not a riddle, but a question, which any housewife will answer as follows:—Because it is the best that money can buy. —[Advt.]

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Meeting of the Hertfordshire Association of Change-ringers at Hatfield, Herts.

A MEETING of the above Association was held at Hatfield on Saturday, the 6th inst., and was attended by about twenty-two ringers from Hertford, St. Albans, Hatfield, Hitchin, Sawbridgeworth, and other places. Ringing commenced shortly after three o'clock and the bells were kept going until five o'clock, when an adjournment was made to the 'Coffee Tavern' for tea, and justice having been done to the repast a Business Meeting was the order of the day. The Rev. Canon Wigram presided, and there were present Messrs. Herbert Baker, M. Ellsmore, and J. Gray (Hertford); Messrs. Henry Lewis, E. P. Debenham, R. A. Fowler, G. W. Cartmel, J. C. Mitchell, D. Gibbons, H. Brewer, and J. W. Brewer (St. Albans); Messrs. W. J. Richardson, J. Kentish, H. Rowe, and A. Shepherd (Hatfield); Mr. W. Allen (Hitchin); Mr. P. Springham (Sawbridgeworth); Messrs. H. A. Barnett and G. B. Lucas (Tottenham); and Mr. E. J. Comb (London). The reverend Chairman proposed, and Mr. Baker seconded, that Leonard Proctor, Esq., be requested to act as President of the Association, which was carried unanimously. Mr. E. P. Debenham was elected Honorary Secretary, and Mr. R. A. Fowler Auditor to the Association. It was decided to hold three district meetings in the year on Saturdays, the next being arranged to be at Baldock in October, and the Annual Meeting was fixed for Easter Monday. After the present year the subscriptions will be payable on the day of the annual meeting instead of the 1st of January. The President, Secretary, and Auditor, were instructed to draw up and submit to the next meeting a revised set of rules. During the afternoon and evening touches of *BON MAJOR* and *GRANDSIRE* and *STEDMAN TRIPLES* were rung on the bells, which were in excellent going order, and Mr. Gray kindly examined the bells previously to see that everything was satisfactory.

The late Mr. G. R. Banks.

MR. BANKS, who died on Monday, the 11th inst., at his residence, Kennington Lane, London, and was sixty-two years of age, was well known as a change-ringer and bell-hanger. He was a member of the Cumberland, St. James', and Waterloo Societies, and was buried at Ilford Cemetery on Saturday, the 16th inst. On the same evening ten members of the St. James' Society started for a peal of *GRANDSIRE CATERPS*, with the bells half muffled, at St. Clement Danes (at which church he had been many years a ringer); but after ringing nearly 2000 changes it came to an end, the tenor going heavily. J. R. Haworth, 1; W. Baron, 2; W. Mansfield, 3; W. Coppage, 4; Jos. Barry, 5; B. French (conductor), 6; W. Weatherstone, 7; G. Wild, 8; A. Hayward, 9; E. Albone, 10. Tenor, 24 cwt.

AT ST. MARY'S, LAMBETH, SURREY.—On Monday, the 18th inst., the following members of the St. James' Society rang, with the bells half muffled, a funeral peal, the usual whole-pull and stand, as a mark of respect to Mr. James Rumsey and Mr. George Banks. G. T. McLaughlin (conductor), 1; S. Davis, 2; W. Tyack, 3; R. Newton, 4; D. Stackwood, 5; T. Coxhead, 6; W. T. Cockerill, 7; W. W. Thorne, 8. Afterwards some *GRANDSIRE* and *STEDMAN TRIPLES* were rung, in which Mr. F. Davis and H. Ellis took part. This was also rung on the day of the funeral of the Emperor of Germany.

AT ST. JOHN'S, WATERLOO ROAD, LONDON.—On Wednesday, the 20th inst., a muffled peal, consisting of the usual whole-pull and stand, followed by touches of *GRANDSIRE* and *STEDMAN TRIPLES*, was rung as a last mark of respect to the late George Banks, bell-hanger. W. Coppage, 1; C. E. Malim, 2; W. Tyack, 3; W. Partington, 4; F. L. Davies, 5; H. L. Partington, 6; W. W. Thorne, 7; G. Wild, 8.

A Wedding at St. Nicholas', Sevenoaks, Kent.

ON Wednesday, the 6th inst., on the occasion of the marriage of T. Holcroft, Esq., to Miss German, eight members of the James' Society (under the management of Mr. Albone, steeple-keeper of St. Clement Danes, London), were invited to Sevenoaks, where they rang merry peals to celebrate the above wedding. The Rector, the Rev. T. S. Curteis, and others, expressed their approbation with the way in which everything was conducted. Mr. Hills, the sexton, made every suitable arrangement. J. R. Haworth (conductor), 1; H. Flower, 2; H. Langdon, 3; S. Grimble, 4; R. French, 5; E. French, 6; A. Hayward, 7; E. Albone, 8. Tenor, 22 cwt.

The Kent County Association.

THE Annual General Meeting of this Association was held at Ashford on Monday, the 18th inst. At the Committee Meeting twenty-two new members were admitted, raising the total of practising members to 490. A resolution was also passed that peals not forwarded for entry within a month of their performance should not be entitled to be entered. The next District Meetings were fixed at Tenterden in August, and at Addington in October. There was a Choral Service in the parish church at 12, the Rev. F. J. O. Helmore, precentor of Canterbury Cathedral, intoning the prayers, and the sermon was preached by the Rev. F. E. Robinson, master of the Oxford Diocesan Guild, and was listened to with marked attention. W. P. Pomfret, Esq., M.P., presided at the dinner, to which 161 sat down, and the usual business of re-election of officers, &c., was afterwards transacted. The healths of the Vicar of Ashford, coupled with the Ashford Band of Ringers, the Preacher of the day, the Churchwardens, and the Ashford Choir, &c., were proposed and duly honoured. The Rev. F. E. Robinson and L. Proctor, Esq., were elected hon. members of the Association, and Mr. J. W. Washhook a practising member.

North Lincolnshire Association of Church Bell-Ringers.

The Quarterly Meeting of the above Association will be held at Grimsby on Saturday next, July 7th, when members of kindred Associations and friends interested in change-ringing are invited to be present. A meat tea will be provided at 1s. 3d. each, to be held immediately after the meeting. The churchwardens have kindly granted the use of the bells at St. James' and St. Andrew's (both beautiful rings of eight). All communications to be addressed to

J. HACKNEY, Hon. Sec. *pro tem.*

4 Mill Street, Market Rasen.

The Worcestershire and adjoining Districts Change-ringing Association.

A RINGING MEETING of this Association will take place at Chaddesley Corbett, near Kidderminster, on Saturday, July 14th, 1888, to which all members and friends are invited. The tower will be open at any time during the day for ringing. A meat tea will be provided at 1s. per head at the 'Swan Hotel' for those only who forward their names on or before Tuesday, the 10th, to the Hon. Secretary.

J. SMITH.

37 Sinms Lane, Netherton, Dudley.

The Oxford Diocesan Guild.

THE Annual Festival of the above Guild will be held on Monday, July 16th, at Witney. Dinner-tickets may be had on application by members to the Secretary, ensuring railway tickets at reduced fares on G.W.R. These dinner-tickets are free for change-ringing, one shilling per head for probationary, and two shillings per head for hon. members.

Bearwood Rectory, Wokingham.

DOMBEN PAUL, Hon. Sec.

The Surrey Association.

THE Annual Meeting for the election of officers and other business will be held at Bletchingley, by the kind permission of the Rector, on Monday, July 2nd. The towers at Bletchingley (eight bells), and Nutfield (six bells) will be open for ringing during the afternoon and evening.

A. B. CARPENTER, Hon. Sec.

The Midland Counties' Association.

THE First Quarterly Meeting of the year will be held at Loughborough, on Saturday, July 7th. The towers of All Saints', Loughborough, and St. Bartholomew's, Quorndon, will be open for ringing from 2 p.m.

5 St. Paul's Street East, Burton-on-Trent.

JOSEPH GRIFFIN, Hon. Sec.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At St. Etheldred's, Hatfield, Herts.

ON Saturday, the 9th inst., eight members of the Hertfordshire Association attempted Davies' Five-part peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. After ringing 4000 changes in 2 hrs. 25 mins. the sixth rope broke. H. Rowe, 1; H. Baker (conductor), 2; F. Furr, 3; J. C. Mitchell, 4; G. W. Cartmell, 5; W. H. L. Buckingham, 6; W. Allen, 7; T. Gatherd, 8. Messrs. Mitchell, Buckingham, Cartmell, come from St. Albans; W. Allen, F. Furr, Hitchin; H. Baker, Hertford; Gatherd and Rowe, Hatfield.

At SS. Peter and Paul's, Foxearth, Essex.

ON Thursday, the 14th inst., eight members of the Royal Cumberland Youths and the Essex Association rang a peal of 5040 BOB MAJOR in 2 hrs. 56 mins. S. Slater, 1; J. Lee, 2; W. Gridley, 3; F. Wells, 4; G. Maxim, 5; R. Mingay, 6; P. C. S. Scott, 7; J. Bird, 8. Composed by Mr. J. Reeves and conducted by Mr. Scott.

At the Parish Church, Warnham, Sussex.

ON Thursday, the 14th inst., eight members of the Sussex Association rang a peal of 5040 BOB TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 56 mins. J. Garman (first peal), 1; W. Charman, 2; G. Charman, 3; H. H. Chandler, 4; W. Short, 5; F. Knight, 6; T. Andrews (first peal as conductor), 7; G. Woodman, 8. Composed by W. Sottanstell. Tenor, 14½ cwt.

At St. Helen's, Abingdon, Berks.

ON Saturday, the 16th inst., eight members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild rang a peal of 5056 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR in 3 hrs. 10 mins. W. Cobb, 1; H. Fruin, 2; C. Trinder, 3; T. Short, 4; F. Field, 5; H. D. Betteridge, Esq., 6; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 7; J. L. Washbrook, 8. Composed by Mr. H. Johnson and conducted by Mr. Washbrook. Tenor, 20½ cwt. It was rung with the bells half muffled for the Emperor of Germany, and is the first peal in the method on the bells.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. CLEMENT DANES, LONDON.—On Monday, the 18th inst., a funeral peal, consisting of the usual whole-pull and stand, followed by 468 of GRANDSIRE CATERNS, as a last mark of respect to the late Emperor Frederick. W. Moore, 1; J. R. Haworth (conductor), 2; W. Tyack, 3; W. Weatherstone, 4; H. Langdon, 5; J. Barry, 6; C. F. Winny, 7; R. Hopkins, 8; R. French, 9; E. Albone, 10.

AT ST. PETER'S, ST. ALBANS, HERTS.—On Monday, the 18th inst., eight members of the St. Peter's Society rang 1064 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 50 mins., with the bells half muffled as a tribute of respect to the memory of the late Emperor of Germany. W. Little, 1; J. W. Brewer, 2; E. Hull, 3; A. Barnes, 4; E. P. Debenham (conductor), 5; W. H. L. Buckingham, 6; T. Waller, 7; D. Gibbons, 8. Longest touch by Messrs. Little and Brewer, and the longest on a bob bell by Mr. Hull.

On Wednesday, the 20th inst., in honour of the fifty-first anniversary of the accession of Her Majesty Queen Victoria, a quarter peal of STEDMAN TRIPLES (Tharstan's). H. Lewis, 1; J. C. Mitchell (conductor), 2; A. Barnes, 3; W. H. L. Buckingham, 4; E. P. Debenham, 5; G. W. Cartmel, 6; F. Waller, 7; A. Hull, 8.

SNOWDON'S CH. RINGING WORKS. Send for List, 9 Old Bank Chambers, Leeds.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The Vaticanised Churches.

SIR,—I am obliged to Mr. Foxley for his courteous letter. I will allow at once that I went further than I intended by applying the epithet 'wise' to the refusal of the dissentient Bishops to break unity, but I wanted to emphasise my protest against the opposite statement, that by the course they took they necessarily 'acted a lie.'

The dissentient Bishops were acknowledged to be among the wisest and most independent of the Roman Catholic hierarchy, and we all accepted that view until they disappointed us by refusing to secede, and I think it wrong that we should judge such men *either way* until we have heard fully their own views on the matter.

I believe it is a law of the Church Catholic that no decision of a Council, even if œcumenical, is binding on the Church until it has received the consensus of Christendom. I do not think that the Vatican Decrees, so strongly protested against by leading men of the Roman Catholic Communion, and so utterly repudiated by the rest of Christendom, have any chance of receiving such consensus; and it is surely possible that such a consideration, or the fact that the Council itself has never been finally closed, may have been considered a justification by the dissentient Bishops for the action which they took.

Until we have heard them we ought not to praise, but surely we have no right to condemn; and my point is, that without thoroughly understanding their position it would be rash for us to urge our Bishops, who have no jurisdiction, to take a course directly opposed to the Bishops of the particular Church on the bare opinion which individuals may have formed on the right or the wrong of the matter.

NELSON.

Ecclesiastical Colours.

SIR,—A question having been raised as to the proper colours, I would take the opportunity of calling attention to the fact that, all through the early periods of the Church, and far down into the middle ages, one traditional custom appears to have been universal as to the colours used for vestments at the altar. These were five in number, and consisted simply and solely of the sacrificial colours ordered under the Mosaic Law, namely, white and gold (or its equivalent, orange—not yellow or maize), blue, scarlet, and purple. No secondary colours were employed, such as green, brown, violet, black, grey, but only the primaries. It has been very difficult to determine the tone of colour intended by 'purple;' and it has been the subject of much controversy. I would protest strongly against the idea of its being what is now commonly called purple, which becomes a 'secondary' tone, an admixture of red with blue, and not a simple colour. The colour ought rather to be what we call crimson, a simple, pure red, having a tendency towards violet, as scarlet has towards yellow or pink, and as indicated, perhaps, by the colour of the juice of the grape. The difference of colour between venous and arterial blood may, perhaps, aptly express what is meant, though in the production of the exact tones very much must depend upon the natural substances available for its manufacture. I have employed this limitation of colour with good effect.

In these days we are met by further difficulties in the discoveries of natural science. Under spectral analysis the primitive colours are primitive no more. Red, yellow, and blue are supplanted by orange, violet, and green; colours which we have been accustomed to call 'secondaries.' We need not, however, trouble ourselves with this. We have to do more with the admixture of pigments than with the refined divisions of a ray of light, discoverable only with the aid of delicate mechanical contrivances. We are concerned more with the humble following of ecclesiastical convention and Christian art than with the teachings of natural philosophy. As to the special application of the several colours to the festivals of the Church, differences likewise have existed. In the absence of direct authority, we shall not go far wrong if we will but follow some rational and recognised principle of appropriateness. No doubt red (scarlet) was appointed for Whitsuntide, as representing the fire of Divine love; and also for the martyrdom of saints, as indicative of their sufferings. In this way purple (crimson)—as still being red and of a more solemn and sombre hue and as contrasting with the scarlet—might be appointed for Lent and Advent, leaving blue for ferial seasons, and white for Easter as being the pure blending of all colours in one.

Our only authority for special colours is a certain amount of traditional use. And this varies very materially from time to time. We have seen the changes it underwent in the Mediæval Church from that which had prevailed in the earlier ages. The use of Sarum will have its claims upon the sympathies of many Churchmen, as being a local authority in the National Church, apart from a rigid restriction to Roman rules in Western Christendom. But surely Primitive customs will have still higher claims upon us than any mere developments of late Mediævalism; when, indeed, we find for the use of these colours the sanction of Divine revelation.

Certain colours are found to have a physical effect upon the nerves, and it is natural, therefore, that they should be associated with some symbolical significance. They may be said to have, further, a moral effect upon human nature. And looking at the fact of the physical effects let us not, like some, depreciate the importance of a proper use of colours, or dismiss it contemptuously as conducing only to a sensuous worship. In this world of sense the effects of cheerfulness or gloom, for instance, may assuredly be greatly enhanced, or otherwise, by the character and tone of colouring presented to the eye, and may become real and operative instead of a mere matter of imaginative or theoretical speculation. This is an additional and most

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

The Anniversary at Lavenham, Suffolk.

ON Thursday, the 21st ult., the seventy-seventh anniversary of the augmentation of the two new trebles of the beautiful church of SS. Peter and Paul was held. Ringing commenced early in the morning, and was kept up at intervals during the day by visitors from Sudbury, Long Melford, Preston, Monks Eleigh, Bury, and Framlingham. At half-past one o'clock the ringers and choristers sat down to dinner. The expense of the dinner was defrayed by the Rev. E. Symonds, the esteemed curate, who left the parish on Monday, June 18th, after five and a quarter years' faithful service. The longest day was his wedding day. Mr. R. W. Roper, who is chosen in the place of Mr. Symonds as Treasurer and Secretary of the Lavenham Society, took the chair, and after dinner proposed the toast of the day, viz., 'The health of the Rev. E. Symonds.' He said it did not need any words from him to say in what esteem Mr. Symonds was held by all the parishioners, but he truly hoped the loss Lavenham had sustained by his removal would be a gain to the parish he would soon work in. The toast was musically honoured, one more cheer being given for Mrs. Symonds. A tablet recording a peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, on March 3rd, 1888, was exhibited at the dinner.

The Anniversary at Saffron Walden, Essex.

A VERY pleasant anniversary was held here on Wednesday, the 27th ult., the home company being favoured with the presence of many friends, representing London, Cambridge, Waltham Abbey, Stanstead, and Littlebury. Touches were rung in the GRANDSIRE, STEDMAN, TREBLE BOB, and DOUBLE NORWICH COURT methods. Among the visitors were several veteran ringers; viz., Mr. Thomas Powell, the only survivor of the band who rang the first double-handed peal of STEDMAN TRIPLES; Messrs. George Rochester, John Holliday, and A. H. Gardom. Service was held in the parish church at 11.30., and an instructive and interesting sermon, appropriate to the occasion, was preached by the Vicar, the Rev. T. Stevens. After dinner at the 'King's Arms' the health of the visitors was drunk, the proposer remarking that amongst those who had honoured the company with their presence were gentlemen who were not ringers, showing that ringing was admired by others than those versed in the art, and coupled with the toast the name of the Rev. Morgan, of Sawbridgeworth, who acknowledged the pleasure he experienced in being present on such an occasion. The Sawbridgeworth handbell company also rendered excellent selections on their musical bells, and, taken altogether, this anniversary must be regarded as one of the most pleasant for some years past.

A Question.

SIR,—Could you or any of your readers give me any idea when 'Ringing Lofts,' or floors *above* the pavement of the belfry, were first introduced? Is it supposed that such places existed before the Reformation?

GRANDSIRE BOB.

Corrections.

SIR,—In your issue for June 15th you were kind enough to insert two peals of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, but, unfortunately, there are one or two printer's errors. The first peal is a one-part, and will come round after the last bob in four leads, so does not require repeating. The second peal is a kind of four-part; the first part must be repeated, and the third, which is given in two divisions, must also be repeated.

J. J. PARKER.

[These are not printer's errors. We carefully followed our copy.]

In our issue for June 15th the peal recorded as having been rung at Aston-juxta-Birmingham should have been given as at St. John's, Ferry-Barr.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At St. Mary-the-Virgin, Putney, Surrey.

ON Thursday, the 21st ult., eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang Tharstan's peal of 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 51 mins. C. F. Winny (conductor), 1; H. Langdon, 2; J. N. Oxborrow, 3; H. R. Newton, 4; J. M. Hayes, 5; W. J. Cockerell,* 6; W. H. Judd,* 7; S. How, 8. Tenor, 16 cwt. *First peal in the method; also on the bells.

On the same day, a tablet to record a peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, of which the following is a copy, was fixed in the tower:—'Ancient Society of College Youths. Established A.D. 1637.' (Inscribed round the crown of a bell—'Ave Incognita Contemnitua.') St. Mary-the-Virgin, Putney. On Monday, September 28th, 1885, Holt's Original peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES was rung on these bells in 2 hrs. and 57 mins. Tenor 16 cwt. Performers: Benjamin E. Battrum, Treble; William W. Gifford, 2; Thomas Blackburn, 3; Henry Langdon, 4; Edwin Horrex, 5; Challis F. Winny, 6; Martin Murphy, 7; Daniel Newton, Tenor. Conducted by C. F. Winny. Hon. and Rev. R. Henley, M.A., Vicar; W. H. Cutler, W. J. Lancaster, Churchwardens. E. Miller, Steeplekeeper; J. R. Jerram, Scribe. This tablet was very kindly given by Messrs. Blackburn and Gifford, two well-known ringers of Salisbury, it being also the first peal in which they ever took part.

At St. Martin's, Salisbury.

ON Saturday, the 23rd ult., eight members of the Salisbury Diocesan Guild rang Holt's Ten-part peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 55 mins. A. W. Barkus, 1; E. C. Merritt,* 2; J. G. Bennett,* 3; S. Lawrence, 4; H. A. Garrett (first with a bob-bell), 5; T. Blackburn (conductor), 6; W. W. Gifford, 7; D. Adams, 8. Tenor, 15 cwt. *First peal. Messrs. Bennett, Garret, and Merritt came from St. Peter's, Bournemouth, and are also members of the Winchester Guild; the remainder, Salisbury.

At St. Paulinus', Crayford, Kent.

ON Friday, the 22nd ult., eight members of the Society of Trinity Youths and the Ancient Society of College Youths rang Holt's Ten-part peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 43 mins. G. Conyard, 1; W. Bedwell, 2; E. E. Richards, 3; W. Weatherstone (conductor), 4; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 5; F. J. French, 6; Rev. E. Cockey, 7; J. Garard, 8. Tenor, 13 cwt. The above is the first peal by the Trinity Youths since the revival of the Society.

At St. Peter's, Coggeshall, Essex.

ON Monday, the 25th ult., eight members of the Essex Association rang a peal of 5184 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR in 3 hrs. 22 mins. S. Slater, 1; Z. Slater, 2; C. Honeybell, 3; F. Wells, 4; C. Sillitoe, 5; O. Garwood, 6; N. Hawkins, 7; W. J. Nevard, 8. Composed by Mr. Lockwood and conducted by Mr. Sillitoe. Tenor, 23 cwt. The peal is in three parts, and contains the sixth the extent home, and is now supposed to be rung for the first time. This is the first peal ever rung on the bells; and at the conclusion the band was congratulated by the local company and inhabitants on its successful accomplishment, and were invited to dinner by the local ringers at the 'Woolpack Inn.' They returned their thanks to the Vicar and Churchwardens for the use of the bells. Messrs. Slater, Honeybell, Wells, and Garwood, came from Glemsford; Hawkins, Belchamp; Nevard, Great Bentley; and Sillitoe, Sudbury.

At Wellbeingborough, Northamptonshire.

ON Monday, the 25th ult., the parish church bells were rung muffled, from 7 to 8.30, in TRIPLES, DOUBLES, and QUEEN'S CHANGE, as a token of respect to the memory of the late Emperor of Germany. The tenor was rung by itself previous to the raising of the other bells. The muffling was well and evenly done by the steeple-keeper, Mr. G. Turnell, and the bells sounded exceedingly grand.

[We can understand how the bells were rung in the QUEEN'S CHANGE, but how they were rung in DOUBLES and TRIPLES utterly transcends our comprehension.—ED. C. B.]

At St. Anne's, Brookfield, Highgate, London.

ON Tuesday, the 26th ult., eight members of the Society of Royal Cumberland Youths rang a peal of 5056 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR in 2 hrs. 55 mins. J. Page, 1; B. Fosdike, 2; G. Newson (conductor), 3; J. Hannington, 4; J. Titchener, 5; A. Jacob, 6; E. Chapman, 7; J. Barrett, 8. Tenor, 14 cwt. The first true peal rung in London, and the first in method by all the band. (No composer's name.)

At St. Lawrence's, Upton St. Leonard's, Gloucestershire.—Wedding Peal.

ON Saturday, the 30th ult., eight members of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association and St. Michael's Junior Association rang Holt's Ten-part peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 3 hrs. 2 mins. H. I. James, Esq. (first peal), 1; F. E. Hart, 2; R. Brunsdon, 3; R. J. Wilkins, 4; W. J. Sevier (conductor), 5; S. E. Romans, 6; R. A. Barrett, 7; E. E. Bewick (first peal), 8. Tenor, 18½ cwt., in E. Rung in honour of the wedding of G. H. Phollett, Esq.

At St. Edward's, Romford, Essex.

ON Saturday, the 30th ult., eight members of the Society of the Royal Cumberland Youths and the Essex Association rang in 3 hrs. 4 mins. a peal of 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES, Brooke's Variation. G. Newson (conductor), 1; J. Gobbett, 2; C. E. Malim,* 3; A. Jacob, 4; A. J. Perkins,* 5; G. C. Hammond,* 6; A. Porter, 7; S. James, 8. Tenor, 17 cwt. *First peal of TRIPLES in this method. †First peal in this method; also the first in this method on these bells.

AT ROMFORD, ESSEX.—ON Saturday, the 16th ult., 504 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES was rung by members of the Essex Association on handbells retained in hand. G. Hammond, 1-2; A. J. Perkins, 3-4; G. Newson (conductor), 5-6; A. Porter, 7-8; also 120 STEDMAN DOUBLES: G. Newson, 1-2; A. J. Perkins, 3-4; M. Myhill, 5-6. And on Sunday morning, for service at St. Edward's, several touches of BOB MAJOR and GRANDSIRE TRIPLES; and in the afternoon, a quarter peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES (1260) in 44 mins. W. Pegrum (first-quarter peal), 1; M. Myhill (first-quarter peal), 2; G. Roughton, 3; G. Newson, 4; A. J. Perkins, 5; G. C. Hammond (conductor), 6; W. Nash, 7; S. James, 8. This quarter peal is the composition of A. J. Perkins, and has the twelve 6-7's, WHITTINGTONS, QUEENS, and TITMUS, and the second bell at home in three leads at each part-end.

St. Mary-le-Tower Society, Ipswich.

ON Saturday evening, the following members accepted the kind invitation of the Rev. J. B. Seaman to visit him at Parkside, the residence of the vicar, the Rev. Canon Turnock (whose place he is filling during the latter's absence), for the purpose of ringing upon the beautiful ring of handbells presented to him by the Essex Association upon his resigning the hon. secretaryship in 1883. After enjoying the excellent repast provided in the dining-room, they adjourned to the hall and rang one course each of GRANDSIRE CINQUES, G. TRIPLES, and PLAIN BOB MAXIMUS, and three leads of KENT TREBLE BOB MAXIMUS. PLAIN BOB MAXIMUS: W. Motts, 1-2; R. Hawes, 3-4; T. Motts, 5-6; A. Durrant, 7-8; W. Garrett, 9-10; S. Tillett, 11-12. TREBLE BOB MAXIMUS: A. Durrant, 3-4; W. Garrett, 7-8; W. L. Catchpole, 9-10. CINQUES as PLAIN BOB: for first four W. Catchpole, 9-10; W. Garrett, 11-12. TRIPLES: S. Tillett, 1-2; T. Motts, 3-4; W. Garrett, 5-6; W. Catchpole, 7-8.

At St. Mary's, Lambeth, Surrey.

ON Saturday, the 30th ult., eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang Tharstan's peal of 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 36 mins. J. M. Hayes, 1; H. R. Newton, 2; G. T. McLaughlin, 5; C. F. Winny (conductor), 4; H. G. Gardener (first peal in the method), 5;

W. T. Cockerill, 6; W. H. Judd, 7; R. T. Woodley, 8. Mr. Gardener came from Gloucester. The Ringers wish to thank the Rector for the use of the bells.

NOTICE OF REMOVAL.—Mr. J. M. Hayes' address now is '27 Hanover Street, Pimlico, London,' instead of 66.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH, GRASSDALE, CHESHIRE.—On Sunday evening, the 3rd ult., for Divine service, 720 TREBLE BOB. J. Turner, 1; T. Morris, 2; A. Jones (conductor), 3; F. Turner, 5; W. Weaver, 6.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH, HATFIELD, HERTS.—On Monday, the 3rd ult., on handbells, four six-scores of GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, each called differently. J. Hollingsworth, 1; W. Powers, 2; H. Rowe (conductor), 3-4; J. Shepherd, 5-6. Also two 216 GRANDSIRE MINOR, each called differently. J. Rumney, 1; J. Shepherd, 2; W. Powers, 3; J. Hollingsworth, 4; H. Rowe (conductor), 5-6.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH, HUDDERSFIELD, YORKSHIRE.—On Thursday, the 7th ult., 720 KENT TREBLE BOB MINOR in 24 mins. M. Jessop (first 720), 1; J. Barrowclough, 2; J. W. Cudworth, 3; T. Haigh (conductor), 4; H. Kaye (first 720), 5; W. Brogden, 6. Tenor about 9 cwt.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH, HANLEY CASTLE, WORCESTERSHIRE.—On Saturday, the 9th ult., an attempt was made for a peal of GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, but after ringing thirty-two six-scores with extremes and three and a half with plain leads (4260 changes), in 2 hrs. 35 mins., it unfortunately came to an end. H. Willis, 1; A. Pitt, 2; A. Aspey, 3; W. Tarling, 4; R. G. Knowles, 5; W. Turner, 6. The above is the longest touch by the band.

AT ST. THOMAS', SALISBURY.—On Monday, the 18th ult., the bells were rung half muffled by the City ringers, commencing about 12.30. The age of his late Majesty the Emperor of Germany was rung whole-pull and stand, and tenor a whole pull; also 300 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. J. Short, 1; T. Blackburn (conductor), 2; Rev. A. D. Hill, 3; S. Lawrence, 4; J. R. Jerram, 5; C. A. Clements, 6; A. W. Barkus, 7; C. Gaisford, 8. Tenor, 30 cwt. Touches of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES were also rung at St. Martin's in the evening. And on Sunday, the 17th ult., for Divine service, the last 700 of Holt's Original peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. A. P. Goddard, 1; W. S. Wise, 2; T. Blackburn, 3; S. Lawrence, 4; H. D. Adams, 5; W. E. Tydeman, 6; A. W. Barkus (conductor), 7; C. A. Clements, 8. Tenor, 15 cwt.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH, DALTON, LANCASHIRE.—On Wednesday, the 20th ult., 720 GRANDSIRE MINOR in 26 mins. T. Townson, 1; T. Watson (conductor), 2; J. Spencer (first peal upon a bob bell), 3; M. Caddy, 4; T. R. Jackson, 5; J. Burrows, 6. Also 636 GRANDSIRE MINOR. T. Jackson (longest touch), 1; T. Townson, 2; J. Spencer, 3; M. Caddy, 4; T. Watson (conductor), 5; J. Burrows, 6. Tenor, 11 cwt., 1 qr., 9 lbs.

Easter Bells in various parts of the World.

THE following is taken from the *Temperance Union*, a paper published at Shanghai, China (April 6, 1888):—"Alopek" says:—I think this a good opportunity of showing by way of illustration, at which time the merry chimes of the Easter bells shall communicate in the various parts of the globe the happy announcement, "He has risen from the dead." Such an illustration will give a pretty fair idea of the much-vexed question, "Where does the day begin?" Let us suppose it is agreed that bells should be rung all over the world for the whole day on the anniversary of Christ's resurrection—Easter Sunday last. This chime, then, would be first heard at Easter Island in the Pacific Ocean, 112 W. and 28 S. and that about 3.30 p.m., Shanghai time on Saturday last (or about 7.30 a.m. Greenwich time). After ringing has been going on there for three hours, the bells of the Sandwich Islands would join the chorus. Two hours later we should hear those of New Zealand and the Fiji Islands. Rather more than two hours later, and Adelaide and Japan would salute the "happy morn" with their tintinnabulations. But while all the rest of Polynesia and Australia was thus vocal with melody, an ominous sullen silence would reign in the Philippine Islands, to which no "Resurrexit" would be heralded for full twenty-four hours yet. Disregarding these belated Spaniards, the music reaches the Asiatic Continent, and Shanghai takes up the tale about one hour after Japan, *i.e.*, at midnight on Saturday. About three hours later the melody of the Easter bells would be sounded at Bombay; St. Petersburg, four hours after Bombay; and London "Bow Bells" would peal forth two hours after St. Petersburg—that is, rather more than sixteen hours after the first clang at Easter Island, and about eight hours after Shanghai. The Azore Islands would commence their ringing last of all European bells, being a full hour and a half later than London. New York would follow five hours after the British metropolis, and Denver City, on the "Great Divide," about two hours after New York—that is to say, just about the time when the bells of Easter Island, having rung through their twenty-four hours, would be stopping. Alaska, still further west on the continent of America, steps forward three hours after Easter Island has finished; and, finally, the Philippine islanders commence to wake the echoes when all their neighbours are sinking into silence, five hours after Alaska has begun, and about eight hours after the last note on Easter Island. It is now about eight o'clock in the morning of Monday, the 2nd April, with us Shanghaiites, and as the Philippine bells have still their twenty-four hours to ring, Easter Sunday, which began at 3 p.m. on Saturday, the 31st March, would not be over till 8 a.m. on the 3rd instant.'

RECEIVED ALSO.—J. R. Jerram (the Jubilee tablets will appear; but, at present, not the Belfry tablets); Yateley; and others.

SNOWDON'S CH. RINGING WORKS. Send for List, 9 Old Bank Chambers, Leeds.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Poor Clergy Holiday Fund.

SIR,—This week last year you allowed me to make an appeal in your columns on behalf of the above-named fund. The result (in part) was subsequently published in your advertisement sheet, and the final list will be found in the present issue. Of the sums received the trustees at once assigned grants varying from 8l. 8s. to 20l., to seventy-seven of the poorer clergy of the diocese. The balance which remained has been voted away in the course of this year. Our cash-box is therefore now empty, and needs to be refilled if we are to carry on our benevolent work.

Amongst the very first thoughts of Archdeacon Hessey, on recovery from his serious illness, is one for the welfare and happiness of the poorer clergy of the diocese. He has just written to me, 'Please get out our appeal as soon as you can.' The Archdeacon of London joins in this request.

In obedience to their wishes, and as treasurer of the fund, I hasten to ask you to allow me once again to place our appeal before your readers, and at the same time to thank them for their help in past years.

I cannot strengthen the words of the Bishop of Lichfield, who, when Vicar of Kensington, made the appeal as follows:—'There are, I fear, a considerable number of the clergy in the poorer parts of London, both incumbents and curates, who, from the very limited amount of their incomes, are quite unable to obtain for themselves, and still less for their families, the blessing of a yearly holiday. Oftentimes where the work is hardest the difficulty is greatest, and so the year goes round amidst uninterrupted toil, and not always in a very healthy or cheerful atmosphere. Even in cases of broken health I have often heard it said, "The doctor orders me to go away, but I cannot afford it."'

I need only add that the Archdeacons of London and Middlesex are the trustees, and assign all the grants. They make these grants from their personal knowledge of the circumstances of the recipients, and without requiring them to make any formal application. They take each selected clergyman by surprise by sending 10l. or 15l., or more, as his circumstances may need, with a few words recognising his valued work, urging his need of necessary rest, and stating that sympathising friends enable them to tender the means by which he may obtain it.

In my advertisement will be found a few extracts from the replies of those who have had grants offered to them. Contributions may be sent to the Archdeacon of London, 2 Chapter House, St. Paul's, E.C. (not this year to the Archdeacon of Middlesex; we wish to save him from as much work as possible), or to myself at the address at foot.

ARTHUR J. INGRAM, *Hon. Treasurer.*

St. Margaret's Rectory, 20 Finsbury Square, London, E.C., June 20th, 1888.

Marriage of a Woman to the Husband of her Deceased Sister.

SIR,—I am glad to notice that at least one of your correspondents does not incline to take the gloomy view which I take of the unhappy effort to render the secular laws of England concerning marriage different from those of the Bible (as I regard them, and as probably most students of the Bible regard them) and of the Church. This pernicious effort, however, seems to fall upon the Church almost as a just Nemesis for the abominable plan of dispensations, practised too often for the sake of authority and gain, in many past ages, and practised but a few days ago by the Pope, or Bishop of Rome, in a flagrant manner. If we are first to assume that God's Word forbids the marriage of sundry persons who, by consanguinity or by affinity, are in some way related, and then, secondly, to admit that any Pope, Bishop, or potentate can dispense with God's teaching, and can permit a marriage which God's Word forbids; then it ceases to be a matter of astonishment, however much we must deplore it, if the Legislature does that upon a wholesale system which, for fees or for policy, a portion of the Church has frequently done in individual cases, and continues still to do.

Believing that the view I sought to give is a true one, and believing that a woman is by God's Word forbidden to marry a man who was the husband of her sister, I hope that this country may not give a legal secular sanction to such a proceeding. If the Church had never practised dispensations I hardly think that any proposal to dispense with our present matrimonial regulations would have been thought of.

G. V.

Free and Open Churches in the Country.

SIR,—If, in the village church mentioned by 'Churchman,' 'the so-called free seats are comfortably upholstered and monopolised by the more respectable members of the community,' then it is evident that the church is *not* free and open. Your correspondent ought to tell his Vicar what is the true state of affairs, and should agitate until all private upholstery and all illicit appropriations are swept away. But if parishioners must and will have pews to themselves, let us be honest about it and charge them good heavy rents. The 'free but appropriated' system is a shame.

20 Holford Square, W.C.

S. G. B.

SIR,—'Churchman' says: 'In my village the church is free, but I should like to see any poor parishioner dare to enter a pew without being shown into it by the vergers. Many of the so-called free seats are comfortably upholstered, &c. . . . It does seem hard that these parishioners who contribute annually to the expenses of the church should not be allowed to have their own seats!' Here we have St. James' man, with the gold ring in full force, and quite forgetting that it is still harder to be so poor as not to be able to 'contribute annually.' I was for twenty-eight years incumbent of a church in what was scarcely more than a village. The church had pews and free seats for the first fourteen years, and plenty of trouble I had with

Wednesday, October 3rd.

2.30 to 5	<i>Sectional Subject.</i> Temperance: Demoralisation of Un- civilised and Heathen Races by the Drink Traffic.	Rev. J. Grant Mills. Hon. T. W. Pelham. Sir Charles Warren. Mr. Celestine Edwards.
7.30 to 10	<i>General Subject.</i> The Sunday-school System in Rela- tion to the Church.	Canon Elwyn. Canon Trotter. Mr. Palmer. Rev. J. W. Gedge.

Thursday, October 4th.

2.30 to 5	<i>Sectional Subject.</i> The Bearing of Democracy on Church Life and Work.	Rev. C. W. Stubbs. Rev. L. Davies. Judge Thos. Hughes. Archdeacon Watkins. Mr. Arnold White.
7.30 to 10	<i>Conversazione.</i>	

Friday, October 5th.

2.30 to 5	<i>Sectional Subject.</i> Eschatology— (a) Punishment. (b) Restoration.	Archdeacon Farrar. Canon Luckock. Rev. C. H. Waller.
7.30 to 10	<i>General Subject.</i> Lay Help— (a) Of Men—in things Secular; in things Spiritual. (b) Of Women—in Sisterhoods; as Deaconesses; as Nurses; as District Visitors; as Teaching Sisters.	(a) Rev. T. P. Ring. Mr. Sydney Gedge, M.P. (b) Canon Body. Canon Durst. Rev. C. N. Grundy.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Ringers' Anniversary.

THE Fourteenth Anniversary of the Sudbury Company of Bell-ringers was celebrated on Friday, being St. Peter's Day, in commemoration of the augmentation of the ring of bells in that steeple in 1874. The Company mustered soon after six o'clock a.m. in St. Peter's 'soller,' and rang for the seven o'clock celebration, and then went down to All Saints' tower and rang till eight o'clock. They recommenced their work by ringing at St. Peter's for the nine o'clock service, and next rang some peals on St. Gregory's bells. Dinner was partaken of at the 'Oak Inn.' The chair was occupied by the Rector of SS. Gregory and Peter, the Rev. T. Lingard Green, who was supported by the Rev. C. J. Stower, vicar of All Saints', and Mr. W. Lambton Lewis. After dinner the chairman fitly proposed the usual toast of 'Church and Queen,' which was duly honoured. The vice-chairman gave the health of the chairman, who, after a suitable response, gave the toast of the day, 'The Health of the Ringers,' which was briefly acknowledged by Mr. Arthur Scott, foreman of the Company. Mr. Ransom called attention to the unsatisfactory state of All Saints' bells, which required immediate attention, the frame needing alteration and rebuilding at a lower level. He was convinced that if the matter was once taken up, many would enter very heartily into it, and the necessary funds would be assured. He had reason to think that the Vicar would give his cordial sanction and support, and other gentlemen would do the same, and thus the much-needed reformation could be effected. With the help of the clergyman and of the churchwardens, and of others in the parish and the district interested in the fine old ring and in change-ringing, he had no doubt the work could be done. The Rev. C. J. Stower responded in a pleasing style, and with regard to the improvements proposed by Mr. Baily Ransom, said he thought it would be a good plan for the ringers to take the matter up, and no doubt it would be carried through. He believed that a well-known gentleman in the parish, who had on a previous occasion contributed largely to the bell restoration and the increase of the ring to eight, had promised a liberal subscription if the bells were put right and two new bells added. There were plenty of people willing to assist if the thing was once fairly started. After dinner the three steeples were again visited by the ringers, and the day finished up with a quarter peal of KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR at St. Peter's. There was some good handbell ringing in the evening at the 'Oak Inn,' in which Mr. Ransom and Mr. Newman Taylor took part, the latter gentleman having previously rung in the quarter peal. At eleven o'clock the party broke up after a very enjoyable day. Touches were rung during the day in the following methods: BOB MAJOR, GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, and STEDMAN TRIPLES.

The Surrey Association.

THE Annual Meeting was held at Bletchingley on Monday, 2nd inst., and was attended by about twenty-five members from London, Beddington, Bletchingley, Croydon, Guildford, Nutfield, and Reigate. There was some practice in GRANDSIRE and STEDMAN TRIPLES; but at about half-past five the Association had the misfortune of making the acquaintance of one of the churchwardens under the following circumstances. They were ringing a few

rounds before starting for TREBLE BOB when a gentleman in a great state of excitement rushed in (the ringing is performed on the floor of the church close by the west door), and with some violence of expression, which would be regrettable anywhere, but still more so in church, ordered that the ringing should cease and that they should all leave the building; adding that if they did not go *he would pitch them out*, an expression which of course greatly alarmed them, seeing that there were not more than a dozen or so of them present at the time. During the course of a somewhat excited address they gathered the following facts—1st. That the living was vacant. 2nd. That this gentleman was the sequestrator, and that nothing at all could, would, or should be done in the church without his permission. 3rd. That there had been a funeral in the church in the early part of the afternoon and another somewhere else in the district. Having pointed out that if he had come to them quietly and told them No. 3, and that it was the wish of the inhabitants that the ringing should cease, they should have gone at once without a word. They quietly left the church and Mr. Sequestrator, the latter staying behind to cool down.

The subsequent business meeting, at which the Rev. F. W. Pelly, curate-in-charge, kindly presided, was of a most unanimous character, so the business was quickly disposed of. The officers and committee were re-elected for the ensuing year, and three new names were added to the latter. Eight new members were elected. Eight peals were reported and ordered to be entered into the book. It was resolved to apply for leave to hold the next district meeting at Croydon and the quarterly meeting at Beddington.

ARTHUR B. CARPENTER, *Hon. Sec.*

Society of Change-ringers for the Archdeaconry of Stafford.

THE Sixth Annual Meeting of this Society was held at Lichfield on Saturday, the 30th ult. About seventy members attended, and the following bands were represented:—Harborne, Lichfield Cathedral, Lichfield St. Mary, Lichfield St. Michael, Pelsall, Perry Barr, Tamworth, Tipton, Walsall, West Bromwich All Saints', West Bromwich Christ Church. The Cathedral, St. Mary's, and St. Michael's steeples were open during the afternoon, and touches of GRANDSIRE CATERS, STEDMAN and GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, &c., were rung. A special service was held at 5 p.m. in the Lady Chapel of the Cathedral, at which the prayers were read by the Rev. J. R. Keble, and a stirring Address was given to the members by the Rev. E. E. Harding, Vice-Principal of the Theological College. Tea was served in the coffee-house at 6 p.m., and in the absence of the President, Archdeacon Iles, the Rev. J. R. Keble presided. After tea the usual business meeting was held. The Rev. C. H. Joberns, vicar of Christ Church, West Bromwich, was re-elected Hon. Treasurer; the Rev. J. R. Keble, vicar of Perry Barr, and Mr. S. Reeves of West Bromwich, were re-elected Hon. Secretaries. Thirteen new members were elected, and it was decided to hold the next meeting at Burton-on-Trent on Saturday, October 6. A resolution of sympathy with the President, Archdeacon Iles, who is seriously ill, was passed and signed by the Committee on behalf of the Society. The Rev. J. R. Keble is preparing the Annual Report, and would be glad to receive corrections, &c., during the next fortnight. All arrears of subscriptions should also be sent without delay, as those members who are more than one year in arrear will otherwise be struck off the list.

The Bedfordshire Association.

A DISTRICT Meeting of the above Association was held at Woburn on the 30th ult. Members attended from Apsley Guise, Bedford, Biddenham, Bromham, and elsewhere. Numerous touches of MAJOR and TRIPLES were rung. It was arranged to hold the next District Meeting at Houghton Conquest on the 29th of September, being the last Saturday in that month.

The Salisbury Diocesan Guild.

A DISTRICT MEETING will be held at Dinton for Chilmark on Wednesday, August 1st. Dinner at the 'Wyndham Arms' at 1 p.m. Names of those intending to be present to be sent to me before July 23rd.

J. R. JERRAM, *Hon. Sec.*

North Lincolnshire Bell-ringers' Association.

THE general Quarterly Meeting of the above was held at Grimsby on Saturday last. During the afternoon the bells of St. James's were kept ringing by several of the members, conducted by Mr. D. Seamer. Tea was provided in the 'Bull Ring Coffee Hall,' at five o'clock, after which the meeting was held, under the presidency of the Rev. Canon Young of Grimsby. Mr. J. W. Watson, 15 Knight Street, Lincoln, was elected as Honorary Secretary. The next meeting to be held at Market Rasen-with-Claxby in October, when the question will be discussed whether it would not be advisable to have fewer business meetings and more ringing meetings during the year. Several probationary members were enrolled as efficient, and three new probationers were elected. Mr. H. Gadd proposed a vote of thanks to the Rev. Canon Young, and the Rev. J. Spawforth, for granting the use of the bells on that day. Mr. Charles Jackson, of Hull, seconded, and the Rev. Canon Young, in an appropriate speech, responded. The Rev. A. N. Clay also made a few telling remarks. After the meeting an adjournment was made to the belfries, and a few short touches were rung.

A Correction.

SIR,—The inscription round the crown of the bell at the head of the Putney peal-board was "Ars incognita contemnitur," and not what was stated in to-day's issue of *Church Bells*,
July 6th, 1888.

J. R. JERRAM.

[We printed it as it was sent us, and were very much puzzled to understand the meaning.—ED.]

SNOWDON'S CH. RINGING WORKS. Send for List, 9 Old Bank Chambers, Leeds.

COLONIAL AND FOREIGN CHURCH NEWS.

CANADA.

BISHOP SWEATMAN of Toronto set before his Synod encouraging statistics. The clergy of the diocese are now 151, and there has been an improvement in every item of finance.

CHINA.

PROFESSOR DE LACOUPERIE throws further light, in the *Babylonian and Oriental Record*, on the origin of the Chinese characters or 'ideographs.' He proves that the *Ku-wen* are traceable to a more ancient form of writing, and had already grown corrupted when the ancestors of the Chinese learnt to engrave them on bamboo bark and other vegetable substances. The traditions preserved by the Chinese show some acquaintance with cuneiform writing. This learned Frenchman, who maintains that China derived its civilisation from Babylonia through Elam, is of opinion that Tsang-hieh, to whom he ascribes the invention of writing, and whose name in ancient Chinese was Dung-ki, was the celebrated Chaldean king Dungi; and that, therefore, Chinese writing must have begun B.C. 2500. Thus the Mosaic accounts of the earliest times after the Flood receive fresh corroboration.

JAPAN.

JAPAN now possesses 2000 newspapers, it is said.

YEZO, the northern island, now has Japanese congregations, not only at the capital (Hakodati), but at five or six other places. The aboriginal Ainu in this island have a C. M. S. missionary working especially among them: they possess a peculiar interest to the ethnologist, inasmuch as the Magyars of Hungary claim to be of the same stock. In the central island—the England of this Asiatic Britain—Christianity is steadily gaining strength—at Tokio, Osaka, and other centres of population. But it is in the southern island of Kiu-shiu that recent progress has been most marked. Archdeacon Maundrell has been repeatedly visited of late by Buddhist priests—on one occasion by seven of them—who listened most devoutly to the Gospel story. The Rev. J. B. Brandram reports from Kuanomoto the opening of a church planned and built entirely by the converts themselves.

RUSSIA.

THE 900th anniversary of the introduction of Christianity into Russia is this month to be celebrated at Kieff. Efforts are being made to get permission for the holding on this occasion of a 'General Council,' at which 'all the independent Orthodox Churches shall be represented, and which shall discuss the following questions:—(1), Termination of the Bulgarian schism; (2), Relations with the Coptic and Abyssinian Churches; (3), Organization of the Armenian Church; (4), Abolition of the sect of 'Old Believers;' (5), Restoration of the Servian Metropolitan Michael. The *Times* correspondent telegraphs, 'Deputations are expected to arrive on the 26th inst. from Montenegro, Bosnia, Roumania, Bulgaria, Greece, and Abyssinia.'

PALESTINE.

BISHOP BLYTH writes:—'There never was a time when the Jews listened with such attention to the claims of Christianity as they do now. . . . The increase in the number of Jews now resident in Palestine is remarkable; within the last few years they have increased from 20,000 to 50,000, a number much above that which was enrolled by Ezra and Nehemiah after the Captivity. If we could double our present insignificant outlay, we could at least treble our converts: we have only one English clergyman in all Palestine, and are spending only 7000*l.* a-year. I want at once to place a missionary and his staff at Hebron and at Damascus, two of the great centres of the present Jewish population. Medical aid is now (as in early days) of primary value on such a staff.'

GERMANY.

CERTAINLY the late Emperor Frederick went towards his death as a true Christian. Already while at San Remo he wrote to Chaplain Persius:—'You are right in speaking of patience and resignation, for without thus referring all to God such a life as mine is now could hardly be borne. I have the best of wives and have my children around me. But to be obliged to stay away from home, when my father is so old and any day this winter may carry him off, is no light trial; in addition to what my state of health in other respects entails. I often look into a book (Thomas à Kempis's *Imitation of Christ*) which contains passages that seem penned on purpose for me, and always do me good.'

THE death is announced of Dr. Keil, the eminent and orthodox Protestant exegete. He was Professor at Dorpat and then at Leipzig.

KING'S CHAPEL, BOSTON, U.S.A.

THE *Living Church* prints a letter suggested by a visit to one of the oldest and most important edifices reared in New England in the early Colonial days, but which unhappily fell into the hands of Unitarians at the time when the impossible oversight of the Bishop of London was about to be exchanged for that of an independent Episcopate. If the maxim has still some force, '*Nullum tempus occurrit Ecclesie*,' and if there are such manifest proofs of the original intention of the building and its ornaments as this letter speaks of, why cannot the wrong be righted? Would that some man arose in the midst of the well-meaning congregation who now worship within those walls who, like Meletius of old at Antioch, might heal the schism without a strife!

King's Chapel, Boston, was built a generation before the battle of

Bunker Hill, of solid granite, for and by Church of England people. It is, within, a complete Georgian chapel of our mother-land; its walls are lined with quaint old monuments and burial tablets. There is a neat but shallow chancel, the Our Father, Creed, and Decalogue, on the east wall over the Holy Table, in old English text, 'Our Father *which*, &c.'—'*Holy Catholic Church*, &c.'—all helping you to believe you were in some retired spot of Old England rather than in a Unitarian American meeting-house! The old organ came from London, as did also the sacred silver vessels. High old pulpit, high-backed pews, windows made by English carpenters whose dust for a century and a quarter has lain in English soil—and what means all this?—'Originally Episcopal,' says our guide-book, 'it became in 1785 Unitarian in faith.' Alas! are these very walls, once resounding to the Nicene Creed, now Unitarian? Yes, if you take up one of the 'liturgies' in the pews you will see how it is. The donors, innocent souls! originally gave the property to a 'congregation using the service-book of the Church of England' for ever. But note how this pledge is carried out and this valuable trust held. The Litany has the three first petitions expunged; the *Te Deum* likewise is mutilated; *Gloria Patri* is omitted; Trinity Sunday stricken from the calendar and (Romanwise) all the Sundays before Advent noted as 'after Whit-Sunday' instead! On the occasion of our visit we had a Bishop with us from a far-off diocese. He mounted the pulpit, and standing under the extinguisher sounding-board I knew his heart was full, but he did not speak. The janitor who showed us round was very attentive and led us to the chancel rail, and began to inform us that 'our people take the Communion kneeling, just like the Episcopalians.' Our bishop looked up to the west gallery and sighed. 'What's that picture up there in the corner?' he asked. Invited to see for ourselves, we went up to the organ-loft and found a large and valuable painting of the Last Supper, hidden away behind the roof pillars as if it had done something wrong and was *in penitentiâ*. 'A gift from the merchants of the City of London to King's Chapel, Boston, North America.' 'And never placed over the Communion Table, as they expected?' 'Oh, no, sir; that would have made disturbance!' And is that painting a lost and buried gem of Benjamin West, as was hinted to us? Will our children yet see and hear that mangled service restored, the full faith of St. John and St. Paul, and of Edward VI. preached, and that scene of the night of the betrayal, all again where it should be, in that quaint and precious old temple of colonial days, now, as it is, only giving the heartache to every son of the Church as he passes by?

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

The St. Andrew's Society of Change-ringers, Derby.

On Saturday, the 14th inst., the St. Andrew's Society had its annual outing. At 4.30 a.m. a start was made for Blackpool, which was reached about 9.30. After dinner every man was at his post. All being right, the word 'Go!' was called, and so we rang in fine style for some five or six courses without a hitch. 'Stand!' being called, we began to get ready for another short journey to St. John's Church, where arrangements had been previously made for a ring on the very musical little ring of eight in F; tenor, about 14 cwt. We ascended the tower, and among other short touches we rang 336 and 503 of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, conducted by C. Hart. The ringers were as follows:—W. Shardlow, 1; T. Alton, 2; W. B. Midgley, 3; R. Clitheroe, 4; J. W. Thompson, 5; A. E. Thompson, 6; C. E. Hart, 7; T. Alburt, 8. We wish to thank Mr. Worthington and Mr. Clitheroe for so kindly assisting us, and also the Vicar for granting us permission to ring. We next made our way to the Sacred Heart's Church, where we rang 360 of BOB MINOR on the ring of eight steel bells. After we had partaken of a substantial tea, we left for home. This brought to a close one of the most pleasant day's outing we ever had. We wish to take this opportunity of thanking the Vicar and churchwardens for their kindness in providing the outing, and hope that the next season we shall be favoured with their company. A. E. THOMPSON.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At St. Leonard's, Newton Abbott, Devon.

On Saturday, the 30th ult., eight members of the St. Sidwell's Society and the Devonshire Guild rang Holt's Original peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 52 mins. W. Stocker, 1; E. Shepherd, 2; R. French (conductor), 3; F. Davey, 4; J. Moss, 5; P. Binfield, 6; F. Shepherd, 7; T. J. Lake, 8. Tenor, 9½ cwt. The first peal on the bells, which have been augmented from six to eight in commemoration of Her Majesty's Jubilee.

At All Saints', Duffield, Derbyshire.

On Saturday, the 30th ult., ten members of the Midland Counties' Association rang a peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE CATERERS in 2 hrs. 57 mins. H. Midgley, 1; J. Howe, 2; S. Burton, 3; J. Hickman, 4; W. Hickling, 5; B. Sugden, 6; G. Hingley, 7; H. C. Woodward (conductor), 7; W. D. Smith, 9; S. Johnson, 10. Tenor, 17 cwt., in F. Messrs. Burton and Hickman came from Nottingham; Smith, London; Howe and Woodward, Derby; the remainder belong to Duffield.

On Tuesday, the 10th inst., eight members of the Midland Counties' Association rang Tharstan's peal of 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 57 mins. S. Johnson, 1; J. Howe, 2; B. Sugden, 3; A. P. Heywood, Esq. (conductor),

4; H. C. Woodward, 5; H. Midgley, 6; W. Hickling, 7; G. Hingley, 8. Tenor, 17 cwt. The band met to ring a peal in honour of Mr. W. Hickling's thirty-seventh birthday, but information having been received of a death in the parish a muffled peal was rung instead.

At St. Edward's, Romford, Essex.

On Saturday, the 30th ult., eight members of the Society of Royal Cumberland Youths and the Essex Association rang Brooke's Variation of Tharstan's peal of 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES in 3 hrs. 4 mins. G. Newson (conductor), 1; J. Gobbett, 2; C. E. Malin,* 3; A. Jacob, 4; A. J. Perkins,* 5; G. C. Hammond,* 6; A. Porter,† 7; S. James, 8. Tenor, 17 cwt. *First peal of STEDMAN TRIPLES. †First peal in the methods, also on the bells. Mr. James was elected a Royal Cumberland previous to starting for the peal.

At St. Mary's, Rotherhithe, Surrey.

On Tuesday, the 3rd inst., eight members of the Society of Trinity Youths rang a bob-and-single peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 47 mins., the quickest on the bells. T. Crowder, 1; W. Pead, 2; T. Taylor, 3; W. Bedwell, 4; W. Weatherstone (conductor), 5; J. Laws, 6; F. Thornton, 7; Rev. H. A. Cooke, 8.

At St. Peter's, Drayton, Berks.

On Wednesday, the 4th inst., eight members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild rang Tharstan's peal of 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 54 mins. W. Atkins (first peal of STEDMAN), 1; T. Short, 2; C. Trinder, 3; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 4; F. Field, 5; H. D. Betteridge, Esq., 6; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 7; W. Cobb, 8.

At the Abbey Church, Dorchester, Oxford.

On Saturday, the 7th inst., eight members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild rang a peal of 5056 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR in 3 hrs. 9 mins. W. Cobb, 1; F. Field, 2; C. Trinder, 3; H. Fruin, 4; T. Short, 5; H. D. Betteridge, Esq., 6; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 7; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 8. Tenor, 19 cwt. The first peal of CAMBRIDGE rung in Oxfordshire.

At St. Mary's, Walter Belchamp, Essex.

On Sunday, the 8th inst., after the afternoon service, a peal of 5088 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR was rung in 3 hrs. P. C. S. Scott (Melford), 1; S. Slater (Glemsford), 2; W. Howell (Sudbury), 3; C. Sillitoe (Sudbury), 4; F. Wells (Glemsford), 5; W. J. Nevard (Gt. Bentley), 6; N. Hawkins (Belchamp), 7; J. Lee (Foxearth), 8. The peal was composed by Mr. Dan. Prentice of Ipswich, and conducted by Mr. Chas. Sillitoe. It has the sixth at home, the last two course ends in each part, the peal being composed in three parts, and has never been previously rung.

At St. Mary the Virgin's, Ringmer, Sussex.

On Wednesday, the 11th inst., a variation of Holt's Original peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES was rung in 2 hrs. 52 mins. A. Slarks, 1; Rev. C. D. P. Davies (conductor), 2; C. Painter, 3; J. J. Parker (of Farnham Royal, Slough), 4; H. Jones, 5; G. Washer, 6; J. Tyler (of Steyning, Sussex), 7; T. Miller, 8. Tenor, 14 cwt., in F.

At All Saints', Loughborough, Leicestershire.

On Friday, the 13th inst., ten members of the Midland Counties' Association rang a peal of 5040 STEDMAN CATERS in 3 hrs. 21 mins. A. Millis, 1; W. A. Tyler, 2; H. Dains, 3; J. Griffin, 4; A. P. Heywood (composer and conductor), 5; J. Hardy, 6; S. Smith, 7; H. Wakley, 8; J. W. Taylor, jun., 9; T. Holmes, 10. Tenor, 28 cwt., in D. This peal, which is on a new plan, and now rung for the first time, has the usual 9-7-8 course-ends, and the 5th dodging behind with the 9th, and the 6th with both 8th and 9th in every course. It was rung on the evening of the annual treat to the scholars of All Saints' Sunday School. Mr. Millis came from Leicester; Mr. Dains, London; Mr. Heywood, Duffield; and Messrs. Griffin, Wakley, and Holmes, Burton-on-Trent.

At HERTFORD.—On Monday, the 18th ult., for practice in the evening, 392 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. H. Botrill, 1; W. L. Randle, 2; M. Ellsmore, 3; A. Wilshire, 4; W. Goodchild, 5; J. Cull, 6; H. Baker, 7; F. George, 8. On Monday, the 25th ult., 770 in the same method. H. Botrill, 1; H. Baker (conductor), 2; F. G. Crawley, 3; J. Jauncey, 4; M. Ellsmore, 5; W. Goodchild, 6; J. Cull, 7; F. George, 8. This is the longest length by Messrs. Wilshire and Botrill. On hand-bells two plain courses of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. M. Ellsmore, 1-2; F. G. Crawley, 3-4; H. Baker, 5-6; W. Goodchild, 7-8.

At ST. ANDREW'S, NETHERTON, WORCESTERSHIRE.—On Saturday, the 23rd ult., 720 CANTERBURY PLEASURE in 26 mins. B. Townsend, 1; F. Hotchkiss, 2; J. Townsend, 3; R. Round, 4; J. Prestidge, 5; J. Smith (conductor), 6. Also 720 COURT BOB in 27 mins. B. Townsend, 1; J. Prestidge, 2; J. Townsend, 3; R. Round, 4; W. Micklewright (conductor), 5; J. Smith, 6. On Saturday, the 7th inst., 720 CANTERBURY PLEASURE in 24 mins. B. Townsend, 1; J. Prestidge, 2; J. Townsend, 3; W. Micklewright (conductor), 4; S. Spittle, 5; J. Smith, 6. Also on Sunday morning, on the occasion of the School Sermons, 720 GRANDSIRE MINOR in 25½ mins. E. Hampton, 1; J. Smith (conductor), 2; J. Townsend, 3; W. Prestidge, 4; J. Prestidge, 5; R. Round, 6. And on Sunday evening, 570 changes in seven different methods in 20 mins., being 120 each of OXFORD and KENT TREBLE BOB, sixty each of COURT BOB, COLLEGE SINGLE, PLAIN BOB, CANTERBURY PLEASURE, and GRANDSIRE MINOR. F. Hotchkiss, 1; J. Prestidge, 2; J. Townsend, 3; R. Round, 4; W. Micklewright (conductor), 5; J. Smith, 6. Tenor, 12½ cwt.

At CROYDON, SURREY.—On Sunday evening, the 24th ult., being St. John the Baptist's Day, a quarter peal of 1260 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 49 mins. H. Dudley, 1; H. C. Haley, 2; W. J. Chambers, 3; S. Fisk, 4; W. States, 5; A. Bruce (conductor), 6; T. Verrall, 7; W. Hill and W. Todd, 8. And on Wednesday, the 20th ult., 504 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. H. Dudley, 1; G. Russell, 2; A. Arnold, 3; S. Fisk, 4; W. States, 5; A. Bruce (conductor), 6; T. Verrall, 7; G. Rosier and W. J. Chambers, 8.

At ALL SAINTS', PITSFORD, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.—On Saturday, the 7th inst., a band of ringers from Harleston paid a visit to this village, and rang in 1 hr. 50 mins., on the five bells, 2880 changes, consisting of 24 six-scores of GRANDSIRE, OLD DOUBLES, and other peals. J. Bates, 1; F. Wadsworth, 2; J. W. Craddock (conductor), 3; J. Irons, 4; H. Bull, 5. Tenor, 12 cwt. The ringers were greatly pleased with the 'go' of the bells, which were rehung last year in a new frame, with entirely new and improved fittings, and also quarter-turned. The work was done by Mr. George Eaton of Tichmarsh, Northants.

Tablets at St. Martin's, Tipton, Staffordshire.

THE SOCIETY OF CHANGE-RINGERS FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD, ESTABLISHED AT LICHFIELD, JUNE 30TH, 1883.—On Saturday, October 15th, 1887, was rung in this tower in two hours and fifty-four minutes Holt's Ten-part peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 changes, by members of the above Society. Harry Mills, treble; William Rock Small, 2; Edward Goodreds, 3; Samuel Reeves, 4; Samuel Jesson, 5; Adam Hickman Hill, 6; George Hughes, 7; Benjamin Starkey, tenor. Mr. Samuel Reeves, conductor.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS CHANGE-RINGING ASSOCIATION, FOUNDED APRIL 10TH, 1882.—On Monday, February 6th, 1888, was rung in this tower by members of the above Association Taylor's Bob-and-Single peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 changes, containing 194 bobs and 46 singles, in two hours and fifty-five minutes. Harry Mills, treble; William Pardoe, 2; William Rock Small, 3; Adam Hickman Hill, 4; John Goodman, 5; George Hughes, 6; William Micklewright, 7; Benjamin Starkey, tenor. Mr. George Hughes, conductor. Rev. A. A. Cory, M.A., Vicar. John Bywater, A. S. Underhill, M.D., Churchwardens. Tenor, 12 cwt. 25 lbs. M. R. Small, Tower Keeper, Saint Martin's, Tipton.

JUBILEE PEALS RUNG IN 1887.

THE following Jubilee peals were rung in 1887, for which tablets have been erected in the towers, and of which the following are copies, inserted according to date:—

At ST. JAMES', CHRISTLETON, CHESTER.

On June 21st, 1887, at 6.45 a.m., the Christleton College Youths ascended the tower, and rang Holt's Ten-part peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 50 mins. This was done as an introduction to the day's festivities, which were on a large scale, when all the parishioners thoroughly enjoyed themselves. The 'go' of the bells and the striking throughout the peal was good, and was performed by Henry Astle (first peal), 1; Richd. Lunt (first peal), 2; Joseph Mayers, 3; Saml. Mayers, 4; Richd. Wright, 5; Wm. Mayers (conductor), 6; Thos. Weaver, 7; Wm. Hewitt (first peal), 8. L. Garnet, Rector. W. Cawley, F. E. Roberts, T. Weaver, Churchwardens. A tablet is placed in the tower to commemorate the event.

At SS. PETER AND PAUL, RINGWOOD, HAMPSHIRE.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD OF RINGERS.—[A Bell.]—Jubilee V.R., 1887. On Monday, August 1, 1887, was rung on the bells Holt's Ten-part peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, in 2 hrs. and 49 mins. Henry A. Garrett, treble; James R. Jerram, 2; William E. Tydeman, 3; Charles A. Clements, 4; Henry D. Adams, 5; Thomas Blackburn, 6; William W. Gifford, 7; Charles Gaisford, tenor. Conducted by Thomas Blackburn. Tenor, 19 cwt. Rev. W. D. Bodkin, M. A., Rector. James Dawkins, Parish Clerk.

At ST. MARTIN'S, SALISBURY.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD OF RINGERS.—[A Bell.] V. R. Jubilee, A.D. 1887. On Saturday, September 3rd, 1887, was rung on these bells Holt's Ten-part peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, in 2 hrs. and 35 mins. Henry D. Adams, treble; Rev. F. J. O. Helmore, 2; William E. Sydeman, 3; C. A. Clements, 4; James R. Jerram, 5; T. Blackburn, 6; William W. Gifford, 7; Charles Gaisford, tenor. Conducted by Thomas Blackburn. This is the first peal ever rung in the city of Salisbury. Tenor, 15 cwt. John Wordsworth, D.D., Bishop of Sarum. Frederick Griffin, Mayor. C. N. Wyld, Rector. A. Tucker, W. T. Webb, Churchwardens.

At ST. MARY'S, BRIDPORT, DORSETSHIRE.

On Thursday, May 5th, 1887, being the day of the dedication of the new ring of eight bells, there was rung in this tower Hollis' Five-part peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, in three hours and two minutes, by Rev. A. D. Hill, 1; James R. Jerram, 2; Wm. Tydeman, 3; Chas. A. Clements, 4; Ferris Shepherd, 5; Thos. Blackburn, 6; Wm. W. Gifford, 7; John Judd, tenor. Conducted by F. Shepherd. Tenor, 20 cwt. John Warner & Sons, founders.

Irchester, Northants.—Belfry and Bells.

DURING the recent restoration of the church of St. Katharine, Irchester, a great step towards belfry reform was taken by the opening out of the west arch. There are no signs of a ringing-loft here. The bells have, doubtless, always been rung from the pavement, as now. The long draught and the fact that they are hung the wrong way round, and have the old-fashioned large wheels, &c., is somewhat puzzling to strangers. They are a musical ring of five, the tenor weighing about 22 cwt. For its weight the tenor is of

a remarkably fine tone, and well worthy to act as cover to a ring of six or even eight, which it is to be hoped it may do at some future time. Below are the inscriptions on the bells, and the diameter at mouth of each:—Treble, 'Nathaniel T. Goosey & James Mather, churchwardens; W. Taylor, Oxford, fecit ano Dni mccccxlvj.'; diameter, 36 inches. Second, 'Ihs Nazarene Rex Judaeorum Fili Dei Miserere mei Gloria Deo soli, Anno Dom. 1729.'; diameter, 38½ inches. Third, 'A b c d e f g h i k l m n o;' diameter, 41 inches. Fourth, 'A b c d e f g h i k l m n o p q r s t u x;' diameter, 43 inches. Tenor, 'Thomas Angrave & Timothy Jackson churchwardens;' Edwd. Arnold Leicester fecit 1792;' diameter 50 inches. There is the impression of a 'Coventry' Halfpenny on this bell.

The little Sanctus Bell (weighing about 1 cwt.) which was cracked some forty years ago, was recast in the year 1892, and replaced in its old position in the South Spire Light. It is inscribed—'E. W. Sandys-Reed, vicar. G. T. Bayes, R. W. Arkwright, churchwardens. J. Taylor, Loughborough.' It will be noticed that the third and fourth bells are not dated, but the sign of the bell-founder (Watts of Leicester) on the shoulder of each signifies that they were cast in the early part of the seventeenth century. They are what is termed 'Alphabet Bells.' For want of a regular inscription, a certain portion of the alphabet is run round the shoulder. The fourth bell has evidently seen much service, as it is chipped (tuned) both at its lip and inside the sound-bow, and has scarcely any vibration. Bell-frame and fittings are all exceedingly old, but owing to the care and attention bestowed on them by Mr. Percival, the steeple-keeper, the bells go very well indeed. The little oaken door leading to the clock-room is the work of the vicar, the Rev. H. H. Slater, and is made from some old oak timber from the church. The clock-room is now in good order, the windows having been glazed, and the floor repaired. Owing to the opening of the west arch, it was found necessary to remove the clock to the north side of the tower. This, under the management of Mr. J. Austin of Knuston, and Mr. Percival, the clockman, was satisfactorily carried out; new weights, new brass wheels to the dial, locking-plate for the quarters, and an improved escapement, being at the same time added. The clock is dated 1840, and was made by John and Edward Corby, of Grendon. Close to the clock is the machine for working the 'Quarter Chimes,' which strike on all five bells in 'rounds' or 'set changes,' according to taste. They were made and fixed by the present steeple-keeper, Mr. W. Percival, in the year 1869, the cost (25l.) being raised by subscription. These quarters sound clear and regular. They are a source of pleasure to the villagers, and a credit to the ingenious farm-labourer who erected them.

In the clock-room hang the Royal Arms, dated 'C.R. 1667,' lately removed from the west end of the church; also an ancient clock face, discovered beneath the plaster of the west arch. It is arranged for a clock with one hand only, and no doubt, judging from the position where it was found, it was formerly fixed in the church facing east. A bill, dated 1700, for repairs to the ancient clock, was recently found in the church chest. Just above the clock is a peal tablet (removed from the belfry below) recording the ringing of 5160 changes. It reads as follows: 'Change-ringing in this steeple. Forty-three peals, amounting to 5160 changes, were rung on five bells, March 1st, 1852, in three hours and twenty-eight minutes. Joseph Bayes, treble. Ephraim Hallabourne, second. Charles Sparks, third. Thomas Sparks, fourth. Thomas Craddock, tenor, peal conductor. Thomas George, umpire.' Joseph Bayes still chimes the treble bell. Craddock, the present tenor man, is a son of the conductor of the above peal.

Irchester ringers keep up their reputation for clear, well-struck ringing and chiming. It is to be hoped that the improved condition of the belfry may encourage them to persevere in their efforts to master the science of change-ringing, and also help to bring about the addition of at least one more bell to the ring. A nice musical set of handbells would be very serviceable to the ringers here.

The Church Bells at Yateley.

Two new bells have been added to the present ring of six through the munificence of John Pakenham Stilwell, Esq., of Hilfield. The bells were cast in the foundry of Messrs. John Taylor & Sons, and are capital specimens of modern workmanship, greatly enhancing the beauty and completeness of the whole ring, their clear and mellow tones being heard on Sunday (Midsummer Day) for the first time. The various inscriptions on the bells are worthy of note:—

Treble.—'Ex dono Johannis Pakenham Stilwell, 1888. Sanctus, Sanctus, Sanctus, Dominus Deus Sabaoth.'

Second.—'Ex dono Johannis Pakenham Stilwell, 1888. Pleni sunt coeli et terra gloria tua. Hosanna in excelsis.'

Third.—'Sancti Petri sum, ex dono Johannis Pakenham Stilwell, 1878. Sit splendor Domini Dei nostri super nos.'

Fourth.—'William Yare made me, 1613.'

Fifth.—'Sancta Katarina ora pro nobis.'

Sixth.—'Love the Lord the God and of E. H. S. 1577.'

'T E F. R.'

This bell has the figure of a man holding the sun in his right hand, the moon in his left.

Seventh.—'Our hope is in the Lord. R. E. 1617.'

Eighth.—'Reprove me not, Lord, in thy wrath. R. E. 1617.' This bell was cracked, and recast without inscription, 1814.

Sanctus Bell.—'1623. R. E.'

Inscriptions on Bells.

SIR,—In a recent number you took notice of some modern inscriptions on bells. Will you think the following worthy of insertion? It was written by the Rev. W. C. Green, for a bell lately added by the Squire to the belfry of

St. Leonard's Church, Downham, Lancashire, on the occasion of the coming of age of his eldest son. The bell is also used for the clock to strike on.

'Quas ego preteritas numero, bene si regis, horas,
Præterea accipiet te sine fine dies.'

Which may be freely paraphrased—

'I register the closing hours of time
With tuneful chime,
Sounding o'er moor and fell
And in my airy cell,
Thy birthday and my own, to peering sunbeams tell;
Rule thou the transient hour!
And, with a heaven-born power,
Make Time thy minister to serve thee well,
That, when thy curfew sounds,
Another day shall break that knows no bounds.'

Bilton Rectory, Rugby.

RIC. O. ASHETON.

Wellingborough Parish Church Bells.

INSCRIPTIONS AND WEIGHTS.

Treble.—Sex diu vocabant, diutius evocemus octo. Ad majorem Dei gloriam. The Gift of William Pendered, 1884. Diameter 32½ in. Weight (exact) 8 cwt. 14 lbs.

Second.—Sex diu vocabant, diutius evocemus octo. Ad majorem Dei gloriam. D. D. G. H. Burnham, 1884. Diameter 33 in. Weight (exact) 8 cwt. 17 lbs.

Third.—The gift of Sir Pavle Pinder Knight anno 1640. [Nine coins.] Diameter 37 in. Weight (exact) 11 cwt. 14 lbs.

Fourth.—Be yt knowne to all that doth me see that Newcombe of Leicester made mee 1604. Diameter 37½ in. Weight (exact) 9 cwt. 2 qrs. 11 lbs.

Fifth.—1884 Hinc vox consona, longius dissona 1729. Gloria Deo soli. The gift of W. J. & Harriet E. Henry. Diameter 41½ in. Weight (exact) 13 cwt. 21 lbs.

Sixth.—Tho^s Holme vicar John Pendred Richard Barker churchwardens. Islip Edmunds London fecit 1764. Diameter 44½ in. Weight (about) 17 cwt.

Seventh.—Ih's Nazarens Rex Iydeorvm Fili Dei miserere mei 1620. Diameter 48 in. Weight (about) 22 cwt.

Tenor.—To chvrch the liveinge I doe call the deade to grave I symmon all. Thomas Jones. Paule Dennet sacarye Hobsonn Thomas Worlidge Richard Hillaps chrchward 1639. [Nine coins.] Diameter 54 in. Weight (about) 30 cwt.

Priest's Bell.—Richard Tomlin Chvrehwarden. Hen Penn made me 1708. Diameter 20 in. Weight 1½ cwt.

The treble, second, and fifth were cast by Taylor & Son of Loughborough. The third, seventh, and tenor bear the shield charged with three bells and a crown, and rich ornamentation on the shoulder, used by Hugh Watts of Leicester, a noted 17th-century founder.

2 3 4 5 6 1 4 5 6

3 6 4 5 2 - - -

3 2 4 6 5 - -

4 3 5 2 6 -

4 6 5 3 2 - -

4 2 5 6 3 - -

5 4 3 2 6 - -

5 6 3 4 2 - -

5 2 3 6 4 - -

3 5 4 2 6 - -

2 4 5 3 6 - -

4 5 2 3 6 - -

Repeated.

A Date Touch.

A DATE TOUCH of 1838 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT

BOB MAJOR, rung at Benington, Herts, on Friday,

the 20th April. Composed by Mr. F. Pitstow.

A Peal of 15,555 Stedman Caters.

2 3 1 4 5 6

5 4 1 3 2 6

4 1 2 6 5 3

4 1 3 2 5 6

3 1 4 6 5 2

3 1 2 4 5 6

2 1 3 6 5 4

2 1 4 3 5 6

2 1 6 4 5 3

6 1 2 3 5 4

6 1 4 2 5 3

6 1 3 4 5 2

3 1 6 2 5 4

3 1 6 4 5 2

3 1 2 6 5 4

3 1 4 2 5 6

4 1 3 6 5 2

4 1 2 3 5 6

2 1 4 6 5 3

2 1 3 4 5 6

2 1 6 3 5 4

6 1 2 4 5 3

6 1 3 2 5 4

6 1 4 3 5 2

4 1 6 2 5 3

1.4.5.15.16

4.5. 6.16

-*

-

-

-

-

-

-

-

-

-

S

-

-

-

-

-

-

-

-

-*

Call two courses.

4 1 6 2 5 3

6 1 5 3 4 2 4 5S 16

6 1 2 5 4 3

And repeat: the last 22 courses

produce *6 1 5 2 4 3

These 24 courses repeated,

5 1 4 2 6 3 9 7 8

Call 1st course, 4 1 6 5 2 3 8 7 9, of 4th

part, with bobs at 2.5.7.9.15.16, and

the 24 courses 3 times produce 2 1 4 3 6 5,

with rounds next change. By calling either

the 2nd, 3rd, 5th, or 6th part,

4 1 6 2 5 3

6 1 3 5 4 2 4-16

6 1 2 3 4 5 16

6 1 5 2 4 3 16

Reduce the peal to 1 3 2 8 7 changes.

W. L. CATCHPOLE, Ipswich.

IRELAND.

(From our Special Correspondent.)

THE Irish Primate, Dr. Knox, and the Archbishop of Dublin, Lord Plunket, were among the Metropolitans who received the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws on Wednesday at Cambridge. The Public Orator was very felicitous in his introduction of each of them. The Bishop of Down, Connor, and Dromore (Dr. Reeves), is alone in his abstention from the Lambeth Congress, all the other Irish Bishops who could do so being present. His Lordship is in his diocese, and on the 14th inst. held a Confirmation in St. Ann's, the parish church of Belfast, when some seventy young persons received the rite. The Bishop was attended by Dr. Hannay, rector of Belfast, as his chaplain, and the Rev. G. G. Mervyn, curate, presented the candidates.

As usual, several of the Irish clergy are told off to hold service in Mr. Burns' private chapel at Wemyss Bay, Scotland. The Down and Connor correspondent of the *Ecclesiastical Gazette* says:—

'The list of the officiating clergy during the season, for the Scotch "schism shop," styled the "English Episcopal Church," and belonging to Mr. George Burns, at Wemyss Bay, has been lately announced. Said list contains the names of some clergy belonging to the united diocese. Unhappily, it has been the custom in some quarters to patronise the schism; and certain of the Scotch Bishops wrote some years ago to the present Primate, complaining of the intrusion of Irish presbyters from Down and Connor into their diocese. His Lordship thereupon remonstrated with the clergy in question, but it does not seem that his remonstrances have been attended with much effect.'

The Rev. William Frederick Stokes, M.A. Cantab., has been appointed by the Board of Nomination to the incumbency of Clogherney parish, in the diocese of Armagh. This appointment will render vacant the incumbency of Clonee.

The Rev. Neville Kearney, M.A., rector of Cloghan, in the diocese of Elphin, recently brought an action against Guy Lloyd and others for libel and conspiracy to injure. On the latter charge he got 200*l.* damages. The solicitor of the plaintiff now writes to the papers to say:

'On the question of libel, they (the Jury) could not agree as to whether there was malice in its publication, ten of the jurors (as one of them told me after the case was over) being for malice and two against, as in your own case. Therefore the libel is still an open question, which I intend at the first opportunity to push to a definite decision. Had the jurors been unanimous on this point, the plaintiff would probably have got five times as much damages. As to the conspiracy finding, it remains for the full court in November to decide whether a conspiracy to injure entitles the injured party to damages. There is no doubt but under the Crimes Act it would subject the conspirators to a prosecution. That is in theory. In practice it seems to be the Government view that, criminally at least, no landlord can be a conspirator. The points though novel are pretty clear.'

There can be little doubt that, in some cases at least, our new constitution and financial condition place a clergyman who may be obnoxious for any cause whatsoever to some of his parishioners, especially if they should happen to be the squire and his family, or some wealthy individual, in a very invidious position. Petty tyrannies, carping criticism of sermons, withholding subscriptions to the Assessment Fund—these and other practices can be put in force so as to make it unpleasantly hot for the clergyman. This will always be a danger attendant on a voluntary system, and it is peculiarly so in the Irish Church, where thought has always moved in an intensely narrow groove. There are very few congregations, indeed, where a clergyman can fully and unequivocally speak out his mind. This is the case especially in the miscalled Free Churches, *i.e.*, where the minister is supported by pew-rents. It is so easy for people to threaten to give up their pew, and so we find the incumbents of rich churches particularly docile. An instance of this kind occurred very lately in Dublin, where the incumbent of a pew-rented trustee church, an eloquent preacher and good scholar, had collected a sum of money to improve the church by adding a chancel and removing the pulpit, which at present is a kind of 'Jack-in-the-box' affair, the clergyman actually going out of the building and up a back stairs, where he opens a door in the wall and gets back into the church and pulpit at the same time. The Puritans, however, who love to keep things in an un-churchlike state, were up in arms before long, and the unfortunate clergyman was obliged to return the money, as they would not allow the improvements to go on. In this same church a learned divine, a Senior Fellow of Trinity College, ventured to preach in his surplice on Whit Sunday last, and all at once a member of the congregation got up to leave. A friend, who put out his hand to keep him in his place, received a solicitor's letter for doing so a short time afterwards, and was obliged to publish in the advertisement columns of the daily press the following meek apology:—

'Dublin, 183 Great Brunswick Street, 28th June, 1888. DEAR SIR,—With reference to what took place in Baggot Street Church on Sunday, the 20th May last, I find on reflection that I was not justified in laying hold of you as I did on the spur of the moment, I therefore beg to acknowledge

my error, and, without any qualification whatever, express my regret, and apologise.—Yours faithfully, J. RAWSON CARROLL. To L. F. S. Maberley, Esq., 71 Wellington Road.'

Mr. Maberley was the gentleman who wrote to the late Archbishop Trench, finding fault with a little 2*d.* pamphlet which, before long, was to obtain a world-wide celebrity as *Portal's Manual*. It was the storm aroused all over Ireland by this trumpety tract that precipitated the revision of the Prayer-book, alienated from us the Church of England, and dried up the springs of beneficence which would otherwise have flowed out generously on our behalf. 'How great a matter a little fire kindleth!' Whether wisely or not, the whole of this most unfortunate revision business is reopened for the public, and more especially the English Church, where the book will be widely read, in Archbishop Trench's *Memorials*, just published.

The Rev. Joseph Allen Galbraith, M.A., Senior Fellow T.C.D., speaking at the last fortnightly meeting of the National League in Dublin, strongly advocated the disfranchisement of his *Alma Mater*. Mr. Galbraith is a very ardent and pronounced Home Ruler.

While the C. M. S. shows a larger income for the year 1887, the Jews' Society is suffering from the times. The Report just published says:—'Since 1856 the income of the Society has never fallen below 3000*l.* until the present year (1888), when it has only reached 2600*l.* In that long interval the annual income of our auxiliary has on four occasions amounted to above 5000*l.*, and on six others above 4000*l.* But never till now, in all those thirty-three years, has it dropped below 3000*l.* And yet it may with truth be said, never till now has such need for effort arisen.' It is believed that there is a larger colony of Jews at present in Dublin than was ever known before to be living in the city.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Church Bells and Change-ringing.

THE following letter from the columns of the *Guardian* will be read with interest, as coming from the pen of one so well known among ringers, and so well qualified to speak on the subject:—

'SIR,—I see in the *Guardian* of the 11th inst., another forcible appeal from "T. L. P." on the subject of church bells, in which he urges the clergy to take up change-ringing themselves and to form bands for the practice of the art. It is to be hoped that his valuable suggestions may bear fruit in parishes where change-ringing is as yet unknown or unappreciated. In the meantime I should like to be allowed to direct attention to the case of parishes that possess competent bands of change-ringers. By comparative indifference to the interests of their ringers, the clergy, with few exceptions, are seriously hindering the progress of that belfry reform which was so successfully initiated by the Rev. H. T. Ellacombe. In his footsteps here and there an individual incumbent is earnestly following, and here and there a churchwarden or other influential layman. But the great strides—and they are great—that have been made in the art by which alone the beauty of our church bells can be fully manifested, the art of change-ringing, are mainly due to the energy of the ringers themselves, who, as a rule, receive but a half-hearted support from the parson. I do not speak without experience, for I have been a ringer for five-and-twenty years, and during that time, either as churchwarden or otherwise, in constant personal contact with ringers. As president of a leading ringing association it has fallen to my lot to become acquainted with the position of matters in many belfries, and to take part in peal-ringing pretty well all over the country. Let me say, then, that change-ringers are for the most part well educated, intelligent men, chiefly from the artisan class, and keenly interested in the scientific details of their art; but—and I state it with the deepest regret—the large majority have a very lukewarm interest in the Church. The reason is not far to seek. It is the rarest thing to see a clergyman in a belfry.

'The ringers are not habituated to connect their office with the service of the Church. Is it strange that they grow to concentrate their regard upon the bells entirely, to the exclusion of the ultimate object for which they and the bells are there?

'If the clergy, where there are bands of change-ringers, would bestow upon these the same personal interest and supervision which they usually accord to the choir, a valuable addition to the ranks of Church-helpers would result. It is not to be expected that the generality of incumbents can take up so complicated a science as change-ringing, nor is it necessary. All that is required is a knowledge of the broad principles of the art, so that they may be able to appreciate a good performance and criticise a bad one. This can soon be acquired by attending in the belfry on practice-nights and drawing the leaders into conversation. I would further insist that it is impossible to expect a strong Church feeling among change-ringers unless the clergy are constantly among them in the belfry. The men should be encouraged to do their best ringing for the Sunday services, and especially on the chief festivals; and their achievements, when good, should be applauded. An annual tea to, and a general moral supervision of, the ringers, do not fulfil the requirements of "personal interest." A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD.'

'Duffield, Derby, July 13, 1888.'

Presentation of a Peal-Book at St. Albans, Herts.

At the invitation of the Rev. H. N. Dudding, vicar of St. Peter's, the members of the St. Peter's Society attended at the Vicarage on the evening of Wednesday, the 4th inst., when he kindly presented them with a hand-

some Peal-Book. The reverend gentleman, in the course of an excellent address, referred to the ancient character of church bells, and identified them as being analogous in the present day to the silver trumpets mentioned in the Old Testament, and pointed out the similarity of their uses in many respects. The book, which contains spaces for one hundred peals, bears upon the title-page the following inscription: 'Presented to the St. Peter's Society of Change-ringers, St. Albans, by the undersigned, as a memento of the accomplishment on the 17th March, 1888, of the Society's first peal. H. N. Dudding, President, St. Peter's Vicarage, St. Albans, June, 1888. Whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God.' The book was supplied by Mr. B. Keeble, of Romford, and in it are entered the three peals already achieved by the Society, viz., the peal of **GRANDSIRE TRIPLES** on the 17th of March, above referred to, and the peals of **GRANDSIRE CATERS**, rung on handbells, on the 23rd of that month and the 10th of April. The ringers before separating partook of refreshments at the Vicarage, and brought the handbells into requisition. Previous to the presentation the members met in the tower and rang 560 **GRANDSIRE TRIPLES** and some **GRANDSIRE CATERS** on the church bells.

The Midland Counties' Association.

ON Saturday, the 7th inst., a successful meeting of the above Association was held at Loughborough, at which some forty ringers from Burton-on-Trent, Derby, Duffield, Leicester, Long Eaton, Nottingham, and Beeston, attended during the day, the only regret being that the esteemed President of the Association (A. Percival Heywood, Esq.), and the indefatigable Hon. Secretary (Mr. Joseph Griffin), were both unavoidably absent. A very hearty welcome was given to Mr. Henry Dains of London. The bells were kept going with but little intermission, except during the tea and business meeting, until nearly 10 o'clock, and touches were brought round in most of the standard methods, including **DUFFIELD MAJOR**, and **ROYAL**; **TREBLE BOB ROYAL**; **GRANDSIRE TRIPLES** and **CATERS**; **STEDMAN CATERS** and **DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR**. At the tea, which took place at the 'Mundy Arms' Hotel, the chair was occupied by the Rector of All Saints', Loughborough (Rev. Thos. Pitts), and a Vice-President of the Association. Eleven new ringing members were unanimously elected, including nine of the newly formed band at Beeston, whose names were received with pleasure by all present, and great hopes were expressed that it would not be long before a peal was reported from Beeston. Nottingham was then selected as the next place of meeting, presuming that the St. Mary's bells were available for the Association. The Chairman, in replying to a vote of thanks which was cordially passed to the Rector and Churchwardens for so kindly granting the use of the bells, expressed the pleasure it was for him to meet the members of the Association, whom he should always be pleased to assist to the best of his ability, and to give permission to ring upon all suitable occasions.

The Kent County Association.

ON Saturday, the 7th inst., the Swanscombe band of the above Association paid a long-promised visit to Eynsford and Shoreham. Starting from the parish church about 3 p.m., they arrived in Eynsford about 4, where they rang a few peals of **GRANDSIRE DOUBLES** with the local company; after which they proceeded to Shoreham by train and rang 720 **KENT TREBLE BOB**. A. Cornford, 1; W. Martin, 2; G. Hayes, 3; J. Broom, 4; G. Martin, 5; W. Harper (conductor), 6. They then came back to Eynsford, when, after partaking of tea, they attempted 720 **OXFORD TREBLE BOB**, which was lost three leads from home. It is hoped that this visit will stir up the Eynsford band (most of whom can ring **GRANDSIRE** and **PLAIN BOB DOUBLES**, and are members of the Kent County Association) to try to ring **MINOR**.

The Ely Diocesan Association.

THERE will be a meeting at Wisbeach on Bank Holiday, August 6th; St. Peter's, ten bells. Members intending to be present, kindly write to the Hon. Secretary, stating station from which they propose to travel—at once. Cambridge Road, Ely. K. H. SMITH, Hon. Sec.

The Holt Society, Aston-juxta-Birmingham.

THIS Society will hold its Annual Picnic at Sutton Coldfield on the afternoon of Saturday, the 28th inst. Dinner will be served at the 'Emmanuel College Arms.' Tickets for the dinner, price 3s. 6d. each, may be obtained by application to the Secretary on or before the 25th. Finch Road, Handsworth. W. H. GODDEN, Secretary.

The St. Edmund's Society, Exeter.

A GENERAL Meeting of the above Society was held in the belfry on Monday night, the 16th inst. In the absence of the Rector, Mr. W. H. Webber was voted to the chair. There were also present—Messrs. S. Herbert, Swift, Pitt, Coombes, Hutchings, Crane, Allen, Marsh, Richardson, Goss, Townsend, and Roberts. The following were elected members:—Messrs. Webb, Pymm, Back, Goad, Green, Balsom, Shapley, and Bright. The Assistant-Secretary (Mr. Herbert) said he was pleased to say that the Society contained over forty members, and he hoped those just elected would persevere in the art and do their utmost to make good ringers. The annual outing was fixed to take place on Monday, the 30th inst., the places being Moreton, Chagford, and Drewsteignton. Some further business connected with the Society being transacted, the meeting terminated with a vote of thanks to the chairman.

The Worcester and Adjoining Districts Association.

ON Saturday, the 14th inst., a ringing meeting of the above Association was held at Chaddesley Corbett, near Kidderminster, which was well attended by members from Areley Kings, Bromsgrove, Brierley Hill, Chaddesley, Caseley, Clent, Dudley, Kidderminster, Netherton, Stourbridge, and Tipton. Ringing was freely indulged in by the members from various places, and some good touches of **GRANDSIRE TRIPLES** were rung, after which some **KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR** and **PLAIN BOB MINOR** were gone through. An excellent

tea was provided at the 'Swan Hotel.' Some courses of **GRANDSIRE CATERS**, **TRIPLES**, &c., were rung upon the handbells, and a very pleasant evening was spent by all.

The Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association.

THE Annual Meeting of the above Association will take place at Bristol, on Monday, the 30th inst. Short service at St. Mary Redcliffe Church at 11 o'clock; address by the Rev. A. C. C. Anstey, vicar of St. John's, Clifton. Business meeting, immediately after service, at No. 1 Colston Parade (corner house). Dinner at the 'Ship' Inn, Redcliffe Hill, 2s. 6d. per head, at 1 o'clock. 1s. 6d. allowed to all who have given notice to C. E. D. Boutflower, Esq., Local Secretary, 30 Broad Street, on or before the 25th inst. A cheap train leaves Cheltenham at 8 a.m. on July 30th, and calls at all intermediate stations, leaving Temple Mead Station at 8.30 p.m. the same evening.

A New Clock at Baconsthorpe, Norfolk.

A LARGE clock has just been erected on the church tower by John Smith and Sons, Midland Clock Works, Derby, which is fitted with all the improvements introduced by this firm. It has one face five feet across, and strikes the hours.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At the New Church, Peel, Isle of Man.

ON Wednesday, the 4th inst., eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths and the Yorkshire Association rang a peal of 5184 **KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR** in 3 hrs. W. Davies, 1; Jos. Mulligan, 2; J. R. Pritchard, 3; J. Mulligan, 4; A. Thomas, 5; C. H. Hattersley (composer and conductor), 6; H. Coley, 7; A. Brearley, 8. Tenor, 8 cwt., 19 qrs., 6 lbs. This peal has the 5th and 6th their extent in 5th's place, and the 4th and 6th their extent in 6th's place; it also contains all the 8-6's, and is the first peal composed and rung with these combined qualities. It is also the first peal of any method ever rung in the Isle of Man.

At the same church, the same day, eight members of the above Societies rang Tharstan's peal of 5040 **STEDMAN TRIPLES** in 2 hrs. 53 mins. C. H. Hattersley (conductor), 1; W. R. Small, 2; W. Whitaker, 3; J. Mulligan, 4; A. Brearley, 5; A. Thomas, 6; W. Davies, 7; D. Brearley, 8. The above was rung after an interval of three hours from the finishing of the 5184 of **TREBLE BOB**.

At St. John-the-Baptist's, Capel, Surrey.

ON Saturday, the 7th inst., six members of the Winchester Diocesan Guild and the Surrey County Association rang 10,080 changes in Fourteen Different Methods, being 720 each of the following:—**YORK SURPRISE**, **DURHAM SURPRISE**, **ROCHESTER SURPRISE**, **CHICHESTER SURPRISE**, **WORCESTER SURPRISE**, **LONDON SURPRISE**, **WELLS SURPRISE**, **SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE**, **CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE**, **VIOLET**, **COLLEGE EXERCISE**, **COLLEGE PLEASURE**, **OXFORD AND KENT**. J. Akehurst, 1; R. Jordan,* 2; T. M. Stedman, 3; A. D. Mills, 4; E. Jordan,* 5; D. Jordan (conductor), 6. Tenor, 7½ cwt. This is the first 10,000 on the bells, the first by all the band, and the first by the above Associations. Mr. A. Tidy acted as referee, and booked off the course-ends as they came up. * Cumberland Youths.

At St. Mary's, Woodbridge, Suffolk.

ON Saturday, the 14th inst., eight members of the Norwich Diocesan Association, the St. Mary-le-Tower (Ipswich), and St. Mary's (Woodbridge) Societies rang Brooke's Variation of Tharstan's peal of 5040 **STEDMAN TRIPLES** in 3 hrs. 2 mins. J. Fosdike, 1; W. P. Garrett, 2; W. Motts, 3; R. H. Brundle, 4; W. Ward, 5; J. Motts (conductor), 6; F. Tillett, 7; A. Ward, 8. Tenor, 28 cwt. This is the first peal in the method on the bells. It is worthy of notice that Mr. Fosdike, the respected Master of the Woodbridge Society, who is in his seventy-second year, had long desired to ring a peal in this method, and the ringers congratulate themselves upon having the pleasure to accomplish it with him. Credit is due to Mr. Ward for the manner in which he rang throughout the peal at his first attempt. Mr. Fosdike has promised to present the company with a tablet to record the peal. The brothers Motts, R. H. Brundle, W. P. Garrett, and F. Tillett, came from Ipswich.

At St. George's, Hyde, Cheshire.

ON Tuesday, the 17th inst., eight members of the United Counties' Association rang a peal of 5120 **KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR** in 2 hrs. 56 mins. J. Sidebotham (composer and conductor), 1; J. Harrop, 2; W. Slater, 3; W. Middleton, 4; M. Williamson, 5; J. Shaw, 6; T. Wilde, 7; J. S. Wilde, 8. Tenor, 15½ cwt. Messrs. Sidebotham, Harrop, Middleton, and Williamson, came from Mottram, the rest are of the local company.

At the Parish Church, Putney, Surrey.

ON Wednesday, the 18th inst., eight members of the Surrey Association and the St. James' Society rang Brooke's Variation of Tharstan's peal of 5040 **STEDMAN TRIPLES** in 2 hrs. 56 mins. H. Langdon, 1; C. F. Winny, 2; G. Woodiss (first peal of **TRIPLES**), 3; J. Smith, 4; J. Wright (first peal of **STEDMAN TRIPLES**), 5; J. M. Hayes (conductor), 6; W. W. Thorne, 7; J. W. Driver, 8. Tenor, 16½ cwt.

At All Saints', Fulham, Middlesex.

ON Saturday, the 21st inst., eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths and the Fulham Association rang a peal of 5040 **GRANDSIRE TRIPLES** (**Holt's Original**) in 2 hrs. 53 mins. C. E. Kelley (first peal), 1; C. F. Winny (conductor), 2; J. N. Nicholls, 3; F. W. Kelley, 4; J. W. Kelley, 5; H. Kenten, 6; J. W. Driver, 7; S. How, 8. Tenor, 21 cwt. It was intended to start a peal of **CATERS** by the parochial ringers, but, unfortunately, meeting short, **TRIPLES** had to be rung.

SNOWDON'S CH. RINGING WORKS. Send for List, 9 Old Bank Chambers, Leeds.

AUSTRALIA.

IN Tasmania Canon Mason has accepted the Archdeaconry of Hobart, Mr. Davenport having resigned.

THE diocese of Bathurst being over large a new one is to be set off from it, with Bourke for its see. The Hon. Charles Campbell has already begun an endowment fund with 1000*l*.

BISHOP KENNEDY of Adelaide has been offered the see of Christchurch, New Zealand, but has declined it.

MALAYSIA.

THE work overseen by the Bishop of 'Singapore, Labuan, and Sarawak,' is constantly extending. A new church is rising at Bukitinga, Wellesley, in the Straits Settlements, where many Tamils have embraced Christianity since coming to the sugar plantations. An entirely fresh field is entered on in the vast island of Borneo, in the north of which an additional British protectorate is attracting capital and settlers. The Rev. W. Elton has gone forth with help from S.P.G. and S.P.C.K. to Sandacan, the government centre.

EAST AFRICA.

IN the *New York Missionary Review of the World* an article (by a Non-conformist) on Abyssinia discusses 'the vexed problem as to the position to be taken,' by American missions therein proposed, 'towards the native Church.' On this, Mr. Houghton, in the *Churchman*, makes the following comment:—'What the English Church is already doing in Abyssinia every one is familiar, the Archbishop of Canterbury sending some of his most learned clergy as instructors and guides to strengthen that which remains, preserving inviolably the ancient order.' We wish heartily that such was the fact; but here we have an amusing mistake of Abyssinia for Assyria!

RUSSIA.

GREAT social changes, which cannot fail to affect national religion, are still proceeding. The emancipation of the serfs is now being followed by the spread of popular education. One great agent in this latter work is Count Tolstoi. 'When he first began his literary career, out of the hundred millions of the empire the readers and writers could only be numbered by ten thousands. Now the schools are multiplied, and the ten thousands have become millions; and this reform is largely due to Tolstoi's preparation of school-books and primers, and the circulation of simple popular tales.'

GERMANY.

WE may quote a lamentable instance—among many others—of the degeneracy of popular Protestantism, which we find in the *Evangelisch-Kirchlicher Anzeiger*. This paper affirms that the Archbishop of Canterbury has arraigned his suffragan, the Bishop of Lincoln, for 'ritualistic' actions, and opines that 'those who, like most of the Anglican bishops, regard the Apostolic succession as essential, are compelled, even against their will, to adopt the course of the Vatican Council.' It would be difficult to condense so much absurdity into a single sentence; the writer may be glad that no Luther will come to chastise his fatuity as it deserves.

THE CHURCH OF HOLLAND AND THE LAMBETH CONFERENCE.

THE Rotterdam *Oud-Katholiek* says:—'In our January number we adverted to the intention of the Bishops of the Anglican Church to meet in Conference at Lambeth in July, and to the important fact that one of the subjects for consideration would be "Old Catholicism in Germany and Switzerland." Whether this ancient Church of Utrecht was also to be noticed we could not then say, as the official notification did not mention us. We are now, however, in a position to state that such will be the case. A visit has just been paid to our Episcopate, our Seminary, and some of our parochial clergy, by two English Bishops, John Wordsworth of Salisbury, and Ernest I. Wilberforce of Newcastle, accompanied by two priests, Pastors Oldham and Ditchfield. On June 14th they were received by the Archbishop of Utrecht at his house; present also, the Principal of our Seminary, and Pastors Van Sauten and Deelder. A letter commendatory was read from the Archbishop of Canterbury, written in a most friendly and generous spirit, explaining that the object of this visit was to obtain information respecting our Church. Our Archbishop opened the meeting with prayer; the proceedings were chiefly conducted in French and German. Various questions as to our doctrine and discipline were put and answered.

'On our own part we have learnt much from this visit. We see that the Anglican Church completely agrees with our own on many fundamental points; in some other features she comes very near to us, though there seem also to be important differences. The existence of such a variety of parties within that Church makes it the harder to attain to a right understanding of her real teaching. One thing which especially struck us was the clear and unhesitating way in which our Episcopal visitors declared that the decisions of a real General Council are binding. As to the validity of Anglican Orders, a favourable impression was produced by the information given, although our Church cannot commit herself to a formal recognition until our Archbishop has taken counsel with our clergy. The meeting closed with the Archbishop pronouncing his benediction. All present departed full of thankfulness for the devout and edifying tone which had marked everything in the proceedings.

'Let not our prayers be lacking for the guidance by the Holy Spirit of the Bishops who meet at Lambeth!'

THE BISHOP OF SHREWSBURY ON RAFFLING AT BAZAARS.

IN opening a three-days' bazaar in the grounds of Sir Rupert Kettle, at Merridale, Wolverhampton, in aid of providing new school buildings for Christ Church, Bishop Stamer, after adverting to the excellent object for which the bazaar was held, said that when he came to the means whereby the money was to be raised for the purposes mentioned he was somewhat at issue with them. He never refused the invitation to open a bazaar as long as it was distinctly understood that he was at liberty to 'deliver his soul' as to this means of raising money for Church purposes. He was bound to confess that he was at this very moment connected with an impending bazaar in the parish of Stoke. He felt considerable uneasiness at the necessity which his people said existed for raising money by means of this bazaar. He wanted to plead most earnestly, and try to create a better feeling as to the way in which money should be raised for Church purposes. There could be no doubt that this was not the right way to raise money. Was it not a reproach to them as Christians and as Church people that what they would not give for the love of God, and for the greatness of the object which was to be gained, they were ready to give if they had the promise of pleasure and excitement, and the privilege of carrying away something in triumph—a *quid pro quo* for the money they gave? Nobody came to this bazaar to supply a want. A bazaar was not legitimate shopping; but they came in a sort of aimless way. Their mind as to what they were going to buy was like a sheet of blank paper, and they were at the prey of those emissaries who were waiting to empty their pockets. This was not the way to give to God, and he wanted to try and raise a better spirit in connexion with it. The building or completion of a house of God was a most serious thing, and it commended itself to all, and ought to receive gifts altogether apart from such means as bazaars. As this was the first time that Christ Church had had a bazaar, he hoped it would be the last. If they had gone on for twenty-one years paying their way, what a pity it was that they could not have raised their 700*l*. without now falling back upon the bazaar system. Nothing could be more lame, or halting, or unsuitable to the promotion of Christian charity, than the work of these bazaars. He feared to say anything at a venture, but he hoped that raffling here, if not altogether forbidden, would be narrowed to a considerable limit. Raffling was very closely allied to gambling, and it was not what Christian people should encourage in connexion with bazaars. If they could not sell their things let them go; take them home again. He advised them not to get such expensive things as a pretext for raffling. At his request his people at Stoke had agreed to raffle for nothing below 3*l*. It was one of the tricks of bazaars that they got a thing worth 5*s*. They sent round a child with long ringlets and a very pretty dress. She had a little boy with her to act as page, and they asked people to give them so many threepences. They might get the 5*s*., but it was a very bad thing for the children. If they could not narrow this raffling now, he entreated all present who might have anything to do with bazaars in the future to turn their faces against it altogether.—*Lichfield Diocesan Magazine*.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Oxford Diocesan Guild of Church Bellringers.

THE Annual Festival was held on Monday, Witney being the centre selected. The very unsettled weather and the state of the hay-crop considerably affected the attendance, but still nearly 200 members were present, including the Revs. W. Foxley Norris (rector of Witney and rural dean), F. E. Robinson, J. P. (Drayton, Master of the Guild), Dolben Paul (Bearwood, Hon. Secretary and Treasurer), H. C. Sturges (Filkins), R. D. Buller and H. Dodd (Witney), R. H. Hart Davis (Dunsden), E. Broome (Hurst), Dr. Wood (Cropredy), J. F. Llewellyn (Wokingham), J. L. Challis (Stone), R. P. Newhouse (Boyne Hill), G. Littledale (Chipping Norton), W. Hyde-Parker (Wokingham), J. R. Vincent (Aylesbury), L. Procter, Esq. (Benington, Herts), and Mr. Haworth (London). The day's proceedings began with service in the noble parish church of St. Mary. The prayers were said by the Rev. R. D. Buller, and the Bishop of the Diocese was specially prayed for. The Rev. W. F. Norris preached an eloquent and most impressive sermon from the text, 'Do it heartily, as to the Lord' (Col. iii. 23). The annual meeting of the Guild followed in the parish meeting-room, kindly lent by the Rector; the Master in the chair. After the reading of the minutes, the Master and the Hon. Secretary and Treasurer were re-elected. The Committee were re-elected, with the exception of Mr. Field (New College, Oxford), change-ringing member, who had resigned through pressure of other business; and in his stead the meeting unanimously chose Mr. Wm. Napper, of Didcot. The meeting then confirmed the election of forty-three change-ringing members and twelve probationers, who had been admitted by the Secretary since the last Committee meeting.

The Hon. Secretary read the Report of the Sub-committee (the Master and the Revs. G. F. Coleridge and H. C. Sturges), who had been appointed at a meeting in October last, on the subject of instruction, and the subsequent minutes at the General Committee in November, when it was agreed to recommend to the meeting that Mr. Washbrook, of Oxford, be appointed

principal instructor to the Guild, and that if he were unable to attend the Secretary be empowered to call in the services of either Mr. Newell of Reading, Mr. Haworth of London, or Mr. Smith of Maidenhead—all qualified instructors. After some discussion the Report was carried *nem. con.*

In the absence of the Rev. A. H. Drummond (Boyne Hill), the Rev. R. P. Newhurst brought forward a resolution, the effect of which would be to prevent any probationary member from continuing a member of the Guild unless he qualified as a change-ringing member within two years of his election, or, in the case of a probationer now on the rolls, within two years of the present time. The Rev. Dolben Paul said he was utterly opposed to the resolution, as the Guild was formed not only to cultivate the art of change-ringing, but, first and foremost, to recognise the true position of ringers as Church officers, and to promote belfry reform. He read from a letter he had received from Archdeacon Randall, who said if the resolution were carried it would, he thought, split the Guild in two, even if it did not smash it up altogether. The Master strongly supported the resolution, contending that they would not lose members, but would improve them, as he believed almost all the 300 probationers could qualify for full membership in a month or two. After discussion, the resolution was negatived by a very large majority, only eight hands being held up in its favour.

The Rev. Dolben Paul next made his annual statement as to the position of the Guild. Since the 1st January, 1888, ninety-two members had been added—fifty-seven probationers and thirty-five change-ringers. The finances were being heavily drawn upon, and he did think that every clergyman whose tower was in union with the Guild ought at least to become an honorary member, which was now far from the case. Very few churchwardens, either, belonged to the Guild. During the year two towers—Beaconsfield and Stoke Lyne—had withdrawn from the Guild. The finances were in a fairly favourable state, partly owing to the very kind return, by Canon Freeling, of the 5l. the Guild subscribed two years ago towards adding to the ring of bells at Holywell Church, Oxford—a scheme which had fallen through. The membership now numbered within three or four of a thousand, and they were still the largest Guild in the island. Subsequently the party sat down to dinner in the large hall of the Corn Exchange. The Rev. W. F. Norris presided.

At the conclusion of the dinner, which lasted till nearly 8 p.m., three brakes conveyed some fifty ringers to the towers of Aston, Bampton, Brizenorton, Blaydon, Northmoor, Standlake, and Woodstock, the Rev. H. Sturges, vicar of Filkins, undertaking the arrangements. Touches of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES were rung at Woodstock by a band conducted by Mr. Newell of Reading. BOB MINOR and GRANDSIRE DOUBLES were rung at the six-bell towers by scratch bands. The striking in all cases was not very good. It needs first-class ringers to settle at once to strange bells, often (as in the case of Bampton, where the tenor of six was a ton and a half) double in weight to what they have been accustomed to ring. A special band, with the Master of the Guild, remained at the Witney Tower, and rang touches of 504 STEDMAN TRIPLES, 336 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 255 STEDMAN TRIPLES, 336 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR twice over. It is thought that more care should be exercised (in the interest of the Guild) to provide really good ringing at the towers visited by members of the Guild. The villagers leave their work and stand open-eared to hear the beautiful music of the change-ringing, which in many cases is converted into terrible jangling by an inexperienced band. The result of this is that the neighbourhood is more than ever convinced that the old way of ringing is the best.

Kent County Association.

THE next District Meeting is fixed to be held at Tenterden on Thursday, the 16th inst. It is intended to visit Rolvenden (8), Benenden (8), and Woodchurch (6). All who wish to attend are requested to communicate with the Hon. Sec., Rev. R. K. Hugessen, Wrinsted Court, Lenham, Kent.

The Anniversary at Beddington, Surrey.

By the kind invitation of the Rev. Canon Bridges, the Beddington ringers will celebrate the nineteenth anniversary of the opening of the bells on Bank Holiday, August 6th. The tower will be open at 2 p.m., when every effort will be made to suit the convenience of old and new friends. Mr. Trappitt has again kindly consented to provide tea for those who may require it.

The Ely Diocesan Association.

THERE will be a meeting at Wisbeach on Bank Holiday, August 6th; St. Peter's, ten bells. Members intending to be present, kindly write to the Hon. Secretary, stating station from which they propose to travel—at once. Cambridge Road, Ely. K. H. SMITH, Hon. Sec.

Tydd St. Giles, Cambridgeshire.

FOR many years the detached campanile of Tydd St. Giles' Church, standing about twenty yards south-east of the main building, contained a ring of five bells, the tenor of which had been cracked for fifty years or more. These bells were in a very bad state of repair. Some time ago it was decided to recast and rehang them, at the same time making them a ring of six. This has now been done, the work being carried out in a most satisfactory manner by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, London. The new bells were opened on the 4th of June last, when a special service was held in which the Bishop of Ely took part. 720's of BOB MINOR, LONDON SINGLE BOB, and OXFORD TREBLE BOB, were rung by ringers from Spalding, Walpole St. Peter's, and Tydd. The new bells are thus inscribed:—(1.) 'Omnia fiant ad gloriam Dei.' (2.) 'Sigismund Trafford, of Dunton Hall, Tydd St. Marie's, 1710.' (3.) 'I. M. John Scott, Rector, 1862-1868.' (4.) 'I. M. James W. Berryman, Rector, 1868-1877.' (5.) 'I. M. Samuel Charlton, Rector, 1887-1882.' (6.) 'Gordon Woodgate, Rector; Henry Smith Ward, Churchwarden, 1887. The old peal recast.' The tenor weighs 8 cwt. 2 qrs. 8 lbs. The old tenor weighed

9 cwt. 3 qrs., and was cast by Henry Penn of Peterborough in 1726, as was also the old treble. The latter had the arms of Sigismund Trafford (the Griffin) on one side, and a figure of that gentleman with a flail in his hand on the other, commemorating a certain story about him. Henry Penn cast a great many rings of bells in Lincolnshire, Northants, Hunts, Cambs, and neighbouring counties. His grandest work being the ring of ten at Peterborough Cathedral, tenor 36 cwt., only five of which unfortunately remain now.

In Memoriam.

ON Tuesday, the 24th ult., Charles Underwood, a member of the York Minster branch of the Yorkshire Association of Change-ringers, departed this life, after a long illness, at the early age of thirty-four years. He had rung at various churches ten peals of 5000 changes and upwards, in GRANDSIRE, TREBLE BOB, and STEDMAN, and not least, three peals on hand-bells retained in hand; viz., one of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, one of GRANDSIRE CATERS, and one of TREBLE BOB ROYAL in the Kent variation. He promised to be a good conductor. His funeral took place on Thursday the 26th, at the Cemetery, the remains being carried to the grave by four of the company. After the office for the burial of the dead, rendered by the chaplain, the Rev. G. H. Hewison, a course of GRANDSIRE CATERS was rung on the hand-bells in the presence of a numerous gathering of friends, by the following members; W. H. Howard, 1-2; A. C. Fearnley, 3-4; G. Breed, 5-6; J. Thompson, 7-8; and W. Morrell, 9-10. The coffin was covered with wreaths and flowers; and suspended on each side were two hand-bells, indicating that he was a lover of the science of ringing in all its branches. In the evening were rung on the bells of the Minster several touches of CATERS, with the bells muffled, as a last tribute to an old friend and comrade.

W. H. H.

The late Mr. J. Gutteridge.

ON Sunday, the 15th ult., six members of the Loughborough branch of the Midland Counties' Association visited Wymeswold, Leicestershire, to ring a muffled peal at the funeral of Mr. John Gutteridge, for over fifty years the respected parish clerk of Wymeswold, and well known locally as a change-ringer. The service was impressively read by the Rev. R. C. Green, vicar, and was attended by a large congregation. After the service 720 KENT TREBLE BOB MINOR was rung. A. Cresser, 1; E. D. Taylor, 2; W. A. Tyler, 3; J. W. Taylor, sen., 4; S. Smith, 5; J. W. Taylor, jun. (conductor), 6. And 720 PLAIN BOB MINOR. J. Brooks (Wymeswold, conductor), 1; S. Smith, 2; W. A. Tyler, 3; A. Cresser, 4; R. W. Charles, 5; J. W. Taylor, jun., 6. Afterwards 720 GRANDSIRE MINOR by the same band as in the TREBLE BOB MINOR. Within a few days of his death Mr. Gutteridge had performed his duties as usual, and after the briefest illness he peacefully passed away on the 10th ult., at the ripe age of eighty-four.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At St. Mary's, Framsdon, Suffolk.

ON Wednesday, the 18th ult., eight members of the Norwich Diocesan Association rang a peal of 5056 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR in 3 hrs. D. G. Wightman, 1; G. Perry, 2; G. Wightman (first peal in the method), 3; G. Thurlow, 4; H. Baldry, 5; S. Wightman, sen., 6; G. Sharman, 7; A. S. Wightman, 8. Composed by Mr. H. Dains and conducted by Mr. D. G. Wightman. Tenor, 16 cwt., in F. A two-part peal. Messrs. Wightman came from Creetingham; Baldry, Brandeston; the others belong to Framsdon.

At the Parish Church, Upton St. Leonard's, Gloucestershire.

ON Saturday, the 21st ult., eight members of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association rang Holt's Six-part peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 3 hrs. 3½ mins. H. G. Gardiner (conductor), 1; A. A. Waite, 2; H. Mitchell, 3; R. J. Wilkins, 4; W. H. Fussell (Slough), 5; S. E. Romans, 6; W. J. Sevier, 7; T. White, 8. Tenor, 17½ cwt., in F sharp. Rang in commemoration of the defeat of the Spanish Armada in 1588, Saturday being the day on which the English Navy gained the first advantage during the invasion.

At St. Peter's, Hindley, Lancashire.

ON Sunday, the 22nd ult., Holt's Ten-part peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES was rung in 2 hrs. 51½ mins., the occasion being the opening of a memorial clock erected in the tower in memory of R. Pennington, Esq., late of Hindley Lodge, one of the principal benefactors of the above church, also a large employer of labour in the township of Hindley. The clock was erected by public subscription. R. Calland, 1; E. Prescott, 2; E. Brown, 3; J. Prescott (conductor), 4; E. Bentham (Wigan), 5; T. Tickle, 6; J. Whittingham (Westhoughton), 7; G. Lang, 8. Tenor, 14 cwt. 1 qr.

At St. Peter's, Drayton, Berks.

ON Monday, the 23rd ult., eight members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild rang a peal of 5056 SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR in 2 hrs. 58 mins. W. Cobb, 1; F. Field, 2; C. Trinder, 3; N. Fruin (first peal of SUPERLATIVE), 4; T. Short, 5; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 6; H. D. Betteridge, Esq., 7; I. W. Westbrook (composer and conductor), 8. This peal has the 4th, 5th, and 6th only in sixth's place, and was now rung for the first time.

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

ON Monday, the 23rd ult., four members of the Essex Association and the St. Peter's Society rang, on hand-bells retained in hand, Holt's Original peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 24 mins. A. Barnes, 1-2; E. P. Debenham, 3-4; W. H. L. Buckingham (conductor), 5-6; T. Waller, 7-8. Umpire, Mr. D. Gibbons, who took off every lead as rung.

At SS. Peter and Paul, Foxearth, Essex.

On Tuesday, the 24th ult., eight members of the Essex Association rang a Birthday peal of 5088 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR in 2 hrs. 57 mins. J. Lee, 1; S. Slater, 2; P. C. S. Scott, 3; F. Wells, 4; C. Sillitoe (birthday, aged 23), 5; R. Mingay, 6; G. C. Hammond, 7; O. Garwood, 8. Composed by Mr. J. Thorp and conducted by Mr. Sillitoe.

At St. Sidwell's, Exeter.

On Tuesday, the 24th ult., eight members of the Devonshire Guild and the St. Sidwell's Society rang Hollis's Five-part peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 3 hrs. C. Carter, 1; S. Binfield, 2; F. Shepherd (conductor), 3; Rev. G. F. Coleridge, 4; C. H. Phillott, Esq., 5; E. Shepherd, 6; J. Moss, 7; T. J. Lake, 8. Tenor, 24 cwt., in D.

At St. Peter's, Raunds, Northamptonshire.

On Saturday, the 28th ult., in 3 hrs. 7 mins., the Raunds and Wellingborough District Association rang 5040 changes upon six bells, being 720 each of WOODBINE, KENT, OXFORD, TREBLE BOB, YORKSHIRE COURT, COLLEGE SINGLE, PLAIN BOB, OXFORD BOB. A. Coles, 1; H. Stubbs, 2; W. J. Gilbert, 3; A. Martin, 4; F. Gilbert, 5; W. A. Hall (conductor), 6. This was rung as a birthday peal to Mr. F. Gilbert, who was eighty-two years old on that day; and also that of the conductor, who was twenty-four years on Sunday, July 22nd. Their brother-ringers wish them many happy returns of the day. Tenor, 17 cwt. 3 qrs. 10 lbs.

At THE PARISH CHURCH, CAVERSHAM, OXON.—On Tuesday evening, June 26th, for practice, 720 DOUBLE COURT BOB MINOR. H. Simmonds, 1; E. Menday, 2; H. Smith, 3; J. Hands, 4; G. Essex, 5; T. Newman (conductor), 6. Also on Friday, June 29th, for the Dedication Festival of St. Peter's Church, for evening service at eight o'clock, 360 BOB MINOR. H. Smith, 1; J. Hands, 2; J. Butler, 3; H. Simmonds, 4; E. Menday, 5; T. Newman (conductor), 6. After service another 360 BOB MINOR. H. Simmonds, 1; G. Essex, 2; E. Menday, 3; H. Smith, 4; J. Hands, 5; T. Newman (conductor), 6. Also on Sunday morning, the 1st ult., for Divine Service, two peals of STEDMAN DOUBLES. T. Newman, 1; E. Menday, 2; F. Simmonds, 3; H. Smith, 4; G. Essex, 5; H. Simmonds, 6. And for Divine Service in the evening 120 and 360 COLLEGE SINGLE. H. Smith, 1; E. Menday, 2; J. Hands, 3; G. Essex, 4; H. Simmonds, 5; T. Newman (conductor), 6. Tenor, 17 cwt.

At ST. MARY'S, ROSS, HEREFORDSHIRE.—On the occasion of the anniversary of Her Majesty's Coronation 700 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES were rung. H. Bird, 1; J. G. Wall, 2; J. King, 3; W. H. Fussell (conductor), 4; J. Atkins, 5; J. Clark, 6; E. Andrews, 7; R. Clark, 8. Tenor, 24 cwt. On Thursday, the 12th ult., 720 BOB MINOR, on the back six, in 29 mins. H. Bird, 1; E. Turner, 2; J. G. Wall, 3; J. Atkins, 4; A. Bird, 5; W. H. Fussell (conductor), 6.

At THE PARISH CHURCH, MIDHURST, SUSSEX.—On Sunday, the 8th ult., for Divine Service in the morning, 360 BOB MINOR. T. Ellis, 1; G. Williams (conductor), 2; C. Tribe, 3; G. Batts, 4; W. Selby, 5; E. Jordan, 6. And on handbells in the afternoon, at the residence of Mr. Williams, 720 BOB MINOR in 1½ mins. *Mrs. Williams, 1; *W. Selby, 2; E. Jordan, 3; *Dr. W. H. George, 4; G. Williams (conductor), 5-6. Also two 120's of STEDMAN DOUBLES. +W. H. George, 1; E. Jordan, 2; G. Williams, 3-4; Mrs. Williams, 5-6. *First 720. †First 120 of STEDMAN. E. Jordan came from Capel, Surrey. Also on Sunday, the 22nd ult., for morning service, 360 and 120 BOB MINOR. T. Ellis, 1; J. Batts, 2; C. Tribe, 3; G. Williams (conductor), 4; W. Selby, 5; G. Batts, 6. An attempt for a 720 in the evening was lost in the last course. J. Batts came from Hambledon, Hants, and this is his first attempt at BOB MINOR.

At WHITCHURCH, OXON.—On Tuesday, the 10th ult., (on the occasion of the visit of about 400 members of the Girls' Friendly Society accompanied by a band, who attended a special short service at the parish church, having been previously entertained by Mrs. Foster of Coombe Park) 360 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES before service, each six-score called differently. W. Pocock, 1; C. Pocock, 2; W. Lawrence, 3; E. Bushnell, 4; A. C. West (conductor), 5; H. Bushnell, 6. Another 360 was rung as the congregation left the church, conducted as before.

At ST. MARY'S, WIMBLEDON, SURREY.—On Tuesday, the 10th ult., for practice, 720 SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE and 360 WOODBINE TREBLE BOB MINOR. C. Hyde, 1; R. Moss, 2; G. Hyde, 3; J. Cooley, 4; A. Garratt, 5; S. Frost (conductor), 6. Also on Wednesday, the 11th ult., on the occasion of a visit from Mr. Carter of Birmingham, 720 OXFORD TREBLE BOB and courses of SUPERLATIVE and KENT TREBLE BOB. G. Hyde, 1; R. Moss, 2; C. Hyde, 3; J. Cooley, 4; J. Carter, 5; S. Frost (conductor), 6.

At ST. MICHAEL'S, TWERTON, NEAR BATH.—On Thursday, the 12th ult., for practice, 796 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. W. Langham, 1; G. Temple, 2; J. Smith, 3; H. Wotton, 4; J. Holman, 5; J. Wotton (conductor), 6; H. Brown, 7; C. Bendall, 8. And 120 STEDMAN DOUBLES. J. Wotton, 1; G. Temple, 2; H. Wotton, 3; J. Holman, 4; H. Brown, 5; W. Dicks, 6.

At ST. MARTIN'S, SALISBURY, WILTS.—On Saturday, the 14th ult., 1260 STEDMAN TRIPLES. W. S. Wise, 1; C. A. Clements, 2; A. P. Goddard, 3; S. Lawrence, 4; W. E. Tydeman, 5; W. W. Gifford (conductor), 6; A. W. Barkus, 7; W. J. Prince, 8. And on Wednesday, the 11th ult., 720 BOB MINOR. W. M. Lush (first 720), 1; A. P. Goddard, 2; W. S. Wise, 3; A. W. Barkus, 4; H. D. Adams, 5; W. W. Gifford (conductor), 6.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The Office for Private Baptism, and its Use in Churches.

SIR,—The rubric before the Office for Private Baptism does not limit its use to cases of illness. Bishop Monk ruled its use in Union Workhouses in the cases of the children born therein, who could not have proper sponsors. Bishop Phillpotts went so far as to hold that in all cases where communicant sponsors cannot be had the Private Office should be used. This view of the rubric enables us to deal with cases where there is a difficulty of any sort as to sponsors. I have found it useful in such cases. The service, when used in church after Morning or Evening Prayer, is a 'private' service.

A FORMER CHAPLAIN OF ST. LAZARUS.

The only Lawful Form for announcing the Lessons.

SIR,—A discussion has been going on in your columns as to the right way to announce the Lessons. But 'free inquiry is for free inquirers.' The Church has settled this point for us. The rubric directs us to say, when it is not the beginning of a chapter, 'Here beginneth such a verse of such a chapter.' There were a few such cases in the old Lectionary. The Act of 1871, while it altered the Lessons on almost every day of the year, did not alter the mode of announcing them. And as we have promised to use the form prescribed and none other, so we are here bound to follow the rubric.

Littleton Drew, near Chippenham.

C. H. DAVIS.

Alterations in the Prayer-book.

SIR,—'H. E. Y.' has raised an interesting and important question.

1. In the prayer for the High Court of Parliament 'dominions' was substituted for 'kingdoms' by an Order in Council dated January 1st, 1801. The change was made in view of the recent Act of Union, with the intention of which the latter term was apparently held to be inconsistent. The preamble to the Order is as follows:—'Whereas by the Act of Uniformity which establisheth the Liturgy, and enacts, That no Form or Order of Common Prayer be openly used other than what is prescribed and appointed to be used in and by the said Book; it is notwithstanding provided, That in all those Prayers, Litanies, and Collects, which do anywise relate to the King, Queen, or Royal Progeny, the Names be altered and changed from time to time and fitted to the present occasion according to the Direction of lawful Authority. It is, therefore, this day ordered by His Majesty, with the Advice of his Privy Council, that the following alterations be made,' &c. It will be observed, first, that 'lawful authority' is regarded as synonymous with the King in Council; and, secondly, that the construction put by the King in Council on the clause in the Act of Uniformity is a remarkably liberal one.

2. In the Absolution (Evensong) 'beseech we him' was an emendation by the Commissioners appointed to examine the printed books. But the only known MS. Book of Common Prayer is the Irish book, in which the reading is 'let us beseech him.'

Bromborough, July 28th.

W. R. WORTHINGTON.

St. John the Author of the Fourth Gospel.

SIR,—I desire to thank you for your kindly worded notice of my work on the Fourth Gospel. I doubt, however, if your reviewer quite does me justice in saying, 'Mr. Heber Evans does not profess to give us anything specially new,' for the argument, taken as a whole, does profess to be new, while the long list of identical or similar phrases in the Apocalypse and the Fourth Gospel, by which the argument is clinched and rendered irrefragable, is not (with some exceptions) to be found in any other work that I have seen. This argument is certainly not the same as that employed by Canon Westcott in his *Commentary on the Gospel of St. John*, or by Professor Godet in his *Authorship of the Fourth Gospel*, although, of course, there is no earnest student of the New Testament who is not more or less indebted to these very eminent Biblical scholars. That this is so has been acknowledged by more than one critic, as by the reviewer in the *British Weekly*, who observes: 'Mr. Evans proves his point chiefly by comparing the Fourth Gospel with the Apocalypse, and this comparison has never been so thoroughly carried out. Indeed the tables Mr. Evans has drawn up carry conviction to the mind. . . . Certainly the most adverse of critics must admit that Mr. Evans has constructed a weighty argument in favour of the Johannine authorship.' So, too, the *English Churchman* says: 'It is a very . . . satisfactory piece of critical work, involving personal research as well as the collection of acknowledged New Testament specialists.' And a third critic points out that 'There are many evidences of independent research on the part of the author.' I may, perhaps, be allowed to add, that I have long made the Greek Testament my special study, while for several years past I have devoted myself to a minute analytical and comparative examination of its phraseology.

H. HEBER EVANS.

Marriages not Sanctioned by Holy Scripture.

SIR,—I suppose it was the post-card, which I quoted in my letter in your issue of July 13, that led to Bishop Cleveland Cox's repudiation—which I am rejoiced to read—of the 'statement of one of your contributors, that the American House of Bishops favoured the views of those who are persistently engaged in attempting to destroy the Christian family by legislation in behalf of the few who wish to marry their sister-in-law.' I trust that none of your readers imagined that I myself believed the statement which I quoted. I only meant to argue that, even supposing it were true, the action of any Daughter Church was no guide to the Mother Church of England.

May I take this opportunity of recommending most strongly to your readers Bishop Cox's *Impressions of England*, written after his first visit in 1851? I have not seen it for many years, but the impression it made on me in my boyhood will, I hope, never be effaced by time. There breathes

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Annual Excursion of the Ringers of St. Stephen's, Hampstead.

On Monday, the 23rd ult., the members and friends of the above company held their annual excursion. The day turned out fine, which added considerably to the enjoyment of the whole party. Appended is a programme of the day's proceedings:—7.15 a.m. met at Camden Town—North London Station for Broad Street, where they were met by others; 8.8 at Liverpool Street Station en route for Hertford. Mr. Ellsmore here met them and conducted the party to their head-quarters for the day, whence a move was made for All Saints' tower (ring of ten), where a short touch of GRANDSIRE CATERS was brought round; after which a start was made for a peal in the same method in honour of the Rev. Canon Wigram's silver wedding, who was married at Hampstead July 23rd, 1863. 'Go' was called at 10.20, and all went well for 2 hrs. 20 mins., when the second bell refused to answer to its pull, which brought the peal to an untimely end. S. Clark, 1; T. F. Stephens, 2; B. Paine, 3; G. Newson (conductor), 4; H. Tyler, 5; D. W. Greggs, 6; B. Foskett, 7; N. Alderman, 8; E. Chapman, 9; W. Asscott, 10. It was afterwards found that the rope had become fixed in the pulley-wheel, the cause being a piece of wood, which was found between the wheel and frame. After this disappointment a move was made for St. Andrew's tower (ring of eight), where a short touch of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES was brought round. 2 p.m. dinner at the 'Black Swan.' Justice was done to all the good things provided. The tower of St. Andrew's was again visited, where a quarter-peal (1260 changes) of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES was brought round by the following:—T. F. Stephens, 1; H. Tyler, 2; D. W. Greggs, 3; B. Foskett, 4; M. Ellsmore (conductor), 5; N. Alderman, 6; G. Newson, 7; E. Chapman, 8. Some of the company at the same time enjoyed a gentle row up the stream. The next move was to All Saints', where a short touch of GRANDSIRE CATERS was brought round and the bells lowered. A few of the Hertford ringers now joined the company, and at their request a touch of STEDMAN TRIPLES was attempted at St. Andrew's, but without success. It being near train-time, the visitors were accompanied to the station by their Hertford friends. This brought a most enjoyable day to a close. The company wish to thank the Rev. Canon Wigram and the Rev. T. Lindley for the use of their bells, and Mr. Ellsmore and other steeple-keepers for their kindness on this occasion.

The Lancashire Association.

THE Quarterly Meeting of the above Association was held on the 28th ult. at the Parish Church, Blackburn. The attendance of ringers was good, considering the state of the weather. Members were present from Manchester, Bolton, Southport, Heywood, Bury, Colne, Church, and Ramsbottom. Very little ringing was done, owing to the serious illness of a parishioner who resided very near the church. The meeting was subsequently held, over which Mr. Hill, of Southport, presided. A few short speeches were delivered in furtherance of the art of ringing and the development of the work of the Association in the East Lancashire district. Eleven new members were elected. Votes of thanks were accorded to the Vicar and wardens for the use of the bells, &c.

Hereford Diocesan Guild of Church Bell-ringers.

THIS organization, which was established on the 2nd March, 1886, and at present comprises the members of twenty-four towers in the diocese of Hereford, celebrated their first anniversary in Ross on Monday last. We should here state that the prime mover in connexion with the Guild is the Rev. G. M. Custance, of Colwell Rectory, who officiates as Secretary, his coadjutors being the Rev. H. W. Phillott, Canon and Chancellor of Hereford Cathedral, treasurer; and George H. Phillott, Esq., of Cheltenham, master of the Guild. Qualified instructor to the Guild, Mr. Fussell, Slough. The following towers were represented on the occasion:—Burwarton, Colwall, Much Dewchurch, Fownhope, Foy, Goodrich, Holme Lacy, Linton, Lugwardine, Upton Bishop, Weston-under-Penyard, Ross, and Hereford Cathedral. Several members from the Shropshire district were unable to attend because of the distance and the uncertain state of the weather. We may here add that previous to Divine service, and afterwards, touches were also rung, and bands were formed for visits by brake to Foy and Weston-under-Penyard for exchange-ringing on the bells of the churches of those parishes. Divine service took place at 11 o'clock in the parish church of Ross. Amongst the clergy present were Canon Mapleton, the Rev. Prebendary Hawkshaw, Rev. D. Seaton, Rev. E. Palin, Rev. E. J. Owen, Rev. Porter, Rev. E. G. Barnes (Stoke-upon-Trent, at present assisting the Rector of Ross), Rev. F. S. Stooke-Vaughan, Rev. A. C. Ley, &c. Messrs. A. J. Purchas and W. Hebb (churchwarden and sidesman) were also present. The surpliced clergy who took part in the service were the Revs. Canon Musgrave (Hereford Cathedral), Canon Phillott, Prebendary Cobbold, and G. M. Custance. The latter intoned the prayers throughout. The lessons were read by the Rev. Canon Phillott and Rev. R. H. Cobbold. The sermon was preached by the Rev. Canon Musgrave, who took his text from Ps. xciii. 5, 'Holiness becometh Thine house, O Lord, for ever.' At one o'clock dinner took place at the Town Hall. About eighty sat down, and every one enjoyed the good things most heartily. The Rector of Ross was in the chair, and there were present all the clergy and gentlemen mentioned above as being in the church. On the termination of the dinner the Rev. R. H. Cobbold thanked Canon Musgrave for the sermon he had delivered to them. Canon Musgrave expressed his obligations for the kind way in which he had been referred to. The Rev. R. H. Cobbold next proposed 'Prosperity to the Diocesan Guild of Church Bell-ringers.' The Rev. E. B. Hawkshaw proposed that 'The thanks of this meeting of ringers are due to the Rev. R. H. Cobbold for the use of Ross Church, in which they had assembled

that day.' Mr. Hebb proposed thanks to the Rector of Weston and the Vicar of Foy for the use of their towers that day for the purpose of practice. The Rev. G. M. Custance, as Secretary of the Guild, returned thanks for the toast proposed by the chairman, and related an amusing incident how a lady in Ross, in reply to his application for pecuniary assistance to the Guild, had stated that if he would institute a guild for the suppression of bell-ringing she would be very glad to subscribe handsomely. That was very encouraging. After mentioning a few details in connexion with the organization, he passed a high compliment on Mr. Fussell, the able instructor of the Guild. In reference to the financial department, he hoped the Guild would meet with the help it required. Money they must have, or they could not get on, and he particularly urged upon those to whom he forwarded letters to send replies to them. In conclusion, he said he should always be glad to lend a helping hand in any way he could. The Chairman, in regard to what Mr. Custance had said about the lady in Ross and the bells, explained that she did not object to church bell-ringing, but it must be admitted that even the most ardent admirer of the science, having a class to attend to, and whose open windows were not a hundred yards off, would at times be fairly beaten, dispirited, and disheartened by the poor bells when the wind was in a certain direction. He had interested himself on her behalf in this matter on occasions, for she was a most generous lady, who gave largely in various ways in this place, and her letter was more an amusement than anything else, for she told him what she had written. The Rev. A. C. Ley called for three cheers for the Rev. G. M. Custance, to whom great credit was due for starting the work; and the request being heartily complied with, the visitors dispersed, some to Foy, and others to Weston-under-Penyard, in brakes. During the rest of the day some interesting peals and changes were rung on the bells of Ross Church. The festival next year is arranged to be held at Bridgnorth.—*The Ross Gazette*.

Salisbury Diocesan Guild.

A DISTRICT Meeting was held at Dinton on Wednesday, the 1st inst., when members from Salisbury, Barford, Broadchalke, Dinton, and Damerham, were present. Dinner was served at the 'Wyndham Arms' at 1.30. Mr. W. H. Gramshaw presided, and was supported by Rev. A. D. Hill, Rev. J. Mitchell, Rev. J. H. Audland, and Mr. J. R. Jerram, Secretary. Ringing took place at Dinton, Fovant, and Chilmark, during the afternoon.

The Erection of a Peal-board at Oxhey, Herts.

On Saturday, the 28th ult., a band of ringers from St. Albans met at Oxhey, Herts, to place a peal-board in the parish church tower, to commemorate the ringing of the first peal on the bells. The peal-board, which is the work of Messrs. W. H. Hurrell & Co., of Lowth Road, Camberwell, is of Spanish mahogany, painted on olive green with gold lettering. It bears a simple record of the peal as follows:—THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS, FOUNDED 1637. On Monday, February 6th, 1888, eight members of the above Society rang on the bells Holt's Original One-part peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 changes, in 2 hrs. 16 mins. George W. Cartmel treble; John C. Mitchell, 2; W. H. L. Buckingham, 3; Alfred Barner, 4; E. Percy Debenham, 5; Challis F. Winny, 6; Thomas Waller, 7; Arthur Hall, tenor. Conducted by John C. Mitchell. Newton Price, Vicar. Robert Savill, Joseph Benskin, Churchwardens.

After the board had been fixed, the last 1300 changes of Holt's Original were rung. E. Hall, 1; R. A. Fowler, 2; J. C. Mitchell (conductor), 3; A. Gibbard (Oxhey), 4; E. P. Debenham, 5; W. H. L. Buckingham, 6; T. Waller, 7; A. Hall, 8. Some more GRANDSIRE TRIPLES were rung with G. W. Cartmel, 2; G. Derrick (Ryde, Isle of Wight), 7. Conducted by E. P. Debenham. 168 BOB TRIPLES and 120 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES were then rung, the Vicar's son, Master G. N. Price (aged 13), ringing his first 120 of DOUBLES on the treble.

Bells at Hambledon, Rutlandshire.

At the little village of Hambledon, in Rutland, a good work has been brought to a successful termination. Messrs. Taylor of Loughborough have furnished a new treble, recast and increased the weight of the tenor, and overhauled and tuned the other bells, which now form one of the sweetest rings in the county, consisting of:—

Treble.—D, 4 cwt., with inscription, 'Victoria Jubilee, A.D. 1887.'

No. 2.—C, 4½ cwt. Inscription, 'Omnia fiant ad gloriam Dei. Iesus spede me. 1610.'

No. 3.—B, 6 cwt. Inscription, 'Non clamor sed amor cantat in aure Dei. 1621.'

No. 4.—A, 8½ cwt. No inscription. (Recast in 1861 by Taylor.)

Tenor.—G, 10½ cwt. Inscription, '1611 A.D. Laus Deo. Recast 1887.'

The old tenor weighed 9½ cwt., and had as inscription, 'Non sono animabus mortuorum, sed auribus viventium.'

CHANGE-RINGING.

At St. Peter's, Drayton, Berks.

On Friday, the 20th ult., eight members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild rang a peal of 5184 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR in 2 hrs. 56 mins. W. Cobb, 1; C. Trinder, 2; F. Field, 3; H. Fruin (first peal in the method), 4; T. Short, 5; H. D. Betteridge, Esq., 6; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 7; J. W. Washbrook (composer and conductor), 8. The peal has the 4th, 5th, and 6th each eighteen times in 6th's place; the 2nd and 3rd never there.

At Christ Church Cathedral, Oxford.

On Thursday, the 26th ult., ten members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild rang a peal of 5021 STEDMAN CATERS in 3 hrs. 25 mins. C. Hounslow, 1; E. Hind,* 2; H. Fruin,* 3; A. Browning,* 4; T. Short,* 5; W. C. Baston,*

6; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 7; T. Payne,* 8; J. W. Washbrook (composer and conductor), 9; G. Tolley, C. Tolley, and S. Hounslow, 10. The above peal was rung on the conductor's twenty-fourth birthday. The tenor required three men, on account of the 'go' of the bell. [* First peal in the method.]

At St. John's, Deptford, Kent.

On Friday, the 27th ult., eight members of the Society of Trinity Youths rang Holt's Original peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 41 mins. J. Rose, 1; F. G. Newman (conductor), 2; T. Taylor, 3; W. Weatherstone, 4; F. J. French, 5; E. E. Richards, 6; A. G. Freeman, 7; Jos. Lawes, 8. Tenor, 14 cwt. R. London, Esq., Churchwarden of St. John's, has kindly promised a tablet for the above peal.

The above is the conductor's 100th peal:—Grandsire Triples, 47 (conducted 31); Bob Triples, 1; Stedman Triples, 4; 720's of six bells, 4 (conducted 4); Bob Major, 8 (conducted 4); Grandsire Major, 4 (conducted 3); Kent Treble Bob, 10 (conducted 8); Oxford Treble Bob, 2 (conducted 2); Double Norwich Court Bob Major, 2 (conducted 1); Grandsire Caters, 6 (conducted 2); Stedman Caters 2 (conducted 1); Grandsire Royal, 1 (conducted 1); Treble Bob Royal, 4 (conducted 3); Duffield Royal, 1; Stedman Cinques, 2; Treble Bob Maximus, 2 (conducted 2). Totals, 100 peals, and conducted 62. These peals have been rung in twelve different counties, and in ten different societies.

At St. Mary's, Woburn, Bedfordshire.

On Saturday, the 28th ult., eight members of the Bedfordshire Association rang a peal of 5024 BOB MAJOR in 2 hrs. 59 mins. W. Smith,* 1; H. Chapman, 2; M. Lane,* 3; C. Herbert, 4; W. G. Biggs, 5; C. W. Clarke, 6; Rev. W. W. C. Baker,* 7; I. Hills, 8. Composed by A. P. Heywood, Esq., and conducted by the Rev. W. W. C. Baker. [* First peal. † First peal as conductor.] This peal contains all the combinations of 4, 5, and 6, in 5-6, with the 2nd and 3rd never in 6th's place. No. 173, *Midland Counties' Association Report*, 1887. Messrs. Chapman, Biggs, Clarke, and Hills came from Bedford; the rest are members of the Woburn company.

At the Cathedral, Manchester.

On Monday, the 30th ult., ten members of the Lancashire Association rang a peal of 5020 GRANDSIRE CATERS in 3 hrs. 16 mins. T. G. Downs, 1; J. Turner, 2; J. Gratrix, 3; J. E. Pollitt, 4; Rev. H. J. Elsee, 5; J. Barratt (Eccles), 6; G. E. Turner, 7; A. E. Wreaks, 8; J. Eachus, 9; J. Parkinson, 10. Composed by Mr. H. Johnson and conducted by Mr. Wreaks. Tenor, 25 cwt., in E flat. The above was the conductor's one hundredth peal. Previous to starting the Rev. H. J. Elsee was elected a member of the Lancashire Association, and this is his first peal in any method.

At All Saints', Kingston-on-Thames, Surrey.

On Monday, the 6th inst., ten members of the Royal Cumberland Youths rang the late J. Cox's 5021 GRANDSIRE CATERS in 3 hrs. 13 mins.—G. Newson (conductor), 1; H. Dains, 2; A. Jacob, 3; F. Pitstow, 4; A. J. Perkins, 5; G. Woodis,* 6; N. J. Pitstow, 7; G. Gray,† 8; E. Chapman, 9; J. Smith, 10. Tenor, 32 cwt., in D. * First peal of GRANDSIRE CATERS. † First peal of CATERS in any method. This was intended for a peal of ROYAL, but met one short.

At St. Nicholas', Leeds, Kent.

On Monday, the 6th inst., eight members of the Kent County Association rang Holt's Original peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 58 mins. H. Pearce, 1; Geo. King, 2; S. Kemp, 3; W. E. Pope, 4; A. Moorcraft, 5; F. G. Newman (conductor), 6; E. Pope, 7; G. Moorcraft, 8. Tenor, 20 cwt.

At OLDBURY, WORCESTERSHIRE.—On Sunday, the 15th ult., after evening service, 756 STEDMAN TRIPLES. H. Mills, 1; S. Reeves (conductor), 2; W. R. Small, 3; T. Horton, 4; A. H. Hill, 5; R. Hall, 6; C. Price, 7; G. Hall, 8. Mills, Small, and Hill came from Tipton.

At THE PARISH CHURCH, PAINSWICK, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.—On Sunday morning, the 15th ult., for Divine Service, the local company rang 630 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. A. Trigg, 1; D. Marment, 2; W. Ryland, 3; W. Hale (conductor), 4; J. Wager, 5; J. Everatt, 6; E. King, 7; T. Wright, 8. Also on Monday evening, the 16th ult., 504 in the same method. A. Trigg, 1; D. Marment, 2; W. Ryland, 3; E. King, 4; J. Wager, 5; J. Everatt, 6; W. Hale (conductor), 7; J. Powell, 8. And 168 with T. Wright, 1; T. Ireland, 3.

At WEST BROMWICH, STAFFORDSHIRE.—On Sunday afternoon, the 15th ult., 924 STEDMAN TRIPLES. G. Hughes, 1; W. R. Small, 2; S. Reeves (conductor), 3; T. Horton, 4; A. H. Hill, 5; R. Hall, 6; C. Price, 7; G. Hall, 8. Hughes, Small, and Hill came from Tipton.

At THE PARISH CHURCH, ORMSKIRK, LANCASHIRE.—On Sunday, the 15th ult., for afternoon flower service, a date touch of 1888 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 1 hr. 6 mins. J. Prescott, 1; J. Pilkington, 2; W. Bensham, 3; J. Sholicar, 4; W. J. Taylor, 5; H. Winrow, 6; G. Prescott, 7; P. H. Harvey, 8. Composed and conducted by Mr. James Sholicar.

At THE PARISH CHURCH, PRESTWICH, LANCASHIRE.—On Sunday evening, the 15th ult., 720 BOB MINOR in 27 mins. W. T. Hutton, 1; A. Barrett, 2; A. Hardman, 3; J. Brooks, 4; W. Warburton, 5; E. Bishop (conductor), 6. Tenor, 16 cwt.

At ST. DEINIST'S, LLANGARRIN, HEREFORDSHIRE.—On Sunday, the 15th ult., six 6-scores of GRANDSIRE DOUBLES in 25 mins. Also 720 BOB MINOR in 27 mins. J. Clark, 1; E. Turner, 2; A. Bird, 3; J. G. Wall, 4; E. Andrews, 5; W. H. Fussell (conductor), 6. Tenor, 14 cwt. These bells have recently been rehung by Messrs. Warner & Sons of London.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Wood Carving in Ancient Pews.

SIR.—Your last issue contained some words which have gone to the hearts of all true lovers of curious art. I refer to the very interesting little account of some specimens of ancient wood carving yet untouched by the hand of the leveller and destroyer. Is it possible that any one can imagine the cause of true religion is promoted by destroying the remarkable specimens of heart, hand, and brainwork found in the decoration of their seats, or of the parts of the church, in which in bygone times our forefathers worshipped? If it is wrong for the squire or the nobleman to have an handsomer canopy or seat than the rest of the congregation, is it not equally wrong, for the matter of that, for him to go to church in a better coat more fashionably cut? It has often struck me that a different motive from that usually attributed to those who adorned and ornamented their pews may have been the true one. If their houses were to be beautified; if their chairs were carved and covered with embroidery, why should their seats in the church be less handsome, the covering less rich? To myself it is a strange fact that I can point to four families, the members of which in my childhood's days met in their separate very handsome old pews, and were remarkably regular church-goers. Through, as I think, a mistaken view of true humility, they all allowed these seats to be removed, the rich carved work, consecrated by the presence of the worshippers of many a generation, discarded; and now a very different state of things also presents itself as regards attendance of these families in church. I think Bishop Wilberforce was right. The family pew meant the gathering of the family in the House of God, and he regretted their removal. There is a lack of the old feeling, 'I and my house we will serve the Lord,' which is a sad change. Some persons imagine that these canopied and ornamented pews did not exist before the Reformation. This is a mistake, as any one visiting Rycot in Oxfordshire may see, where two very remarkable specimens of canopies and other decorations of pews have existed much longer than since post-Reformation days. Now that we are endeavouring to revive the exquisite art of wood-carving, do let us preserve all we can of the curious workmanship and quaintly original designs which the light of other days produced. Alas that we so often dim 'the lamp of memory,' so sacred to the wise and thoughtful!

G. F. L.

Godly Gambling.

SIR,—*Appropos* of last week's article on this subject, the following is the first paragraph of an advertisement in the *Standard* of the 23rd June last:—

'One hundred and seventy-five pounds is the value of the first prize to be drawn for at the White Abbey Bazaar, to be held in Dublin under the patronage of the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor and High Sheriff of Dublin, on the 28th June next, with several other most valuable prizes, including one from the Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone, one from the Marquis of Ripon, one from Lord Acton, and one from the Right Hon. John Morley, M.P.'

Can it be true that these lotteries are patronised by English Statesmen and English Churchmen?

S. G. B.

Alms' Bags or Open Plates?

SIR,—A very interesting question arises in our parish, whether we should do away with alms' bags, which for many years have been in use for collecting offertories, and substitute open plates. In a neighbouring church, with a congregation no more influential than our own, open plates have always been the rule, and the offertories are more than double those at ours. The late Prebendary Webb of St. Andrew's, Wells Street, informed me that a member of his congregation presented him with a set of alms' bags, which were used for six months, during which time the offertories fell off at least one half; and this serious diminution of funds compelled him to return to the old system of open plates. I should like to know the experience of your readers in the matter.

F. B.

Ecclesiastical Art.

SIR,—Kindly allow me to appeal to your antiquarian readers for contributions to the Loan Department of the Ecclesiastical Art Exhibition, to be held concurrently with the Church Congress at Manchester. The loan collection will include ancient and modern gold and silver plate and church metal-work generally, embroidery, tapestry, wood and ivory carving, old church furniture, paintings, drawings, books and MSS.; communion plate being always a special feature in this department. Any assistance in obtaining interesting loans to place before the visitors at the Congress will be very welcome.

JOHN HART (Manager).

35 Southampton Street, Strand, W.C.

SHORT FAMILY PRAYERS.

BY THE REV. PEILE THOMPSON, M.A. Price Two SHILLINGS.

RIVINGTONS, Waterloo Place, S.W., and all Booksellers.

NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS.

THE SCALE OF CHARGES IS AS FOLLOWS:—

First 3 lines or under	... £0 1 6	One Column	£2 10 0
Every additional line (7 words)	... 0 0 6	Do. on Front Page	2 2 0
Per inch	One Page	7 7 0

Special Terms for a Series of Insertions. Paragraph Advertisements 1s. per line. * Advertisements, to secure insertion in the current Number, should reach the Office by WEDNESDAY Mid-day at latest.

OFFICE: 12 SOUTHAMPTON STREET, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

A Munificent Gift to the Church in Queensland.

SIR,—Many of your readers will no doubt feel an interest in the following, which I quote from a parish report I saw lately:—'The most magnificent gift yet bestowed on the Church in Queensland is a splendid tower and peal of nine bells, which gives us (St. Paul's, Maryborough) the honour of being the only church in Australia with a campanile containing nine bells. These were dedicated and rung on Easter Day, 1888. The whole is the gift of E. T. Aldridge, Esq., and family, in memory of the late Mrs. Aldridge; and the same donors generously provided the services of St. Philip's Bellringers' Association, Sydney, to inaugurate the first peal. On each bell is inscribed:—'Mears & Stainbank, Founders, London. To the glory of God and in memory of Mrs. Maria Aldridge, 1886.' I send you the list of the weights and tones of the bells in case you should have room to print them. C. B.

New Bells at Minehead, Somerset.

THE tower of the parish church of this picturesque place, dedicated to St. Michael, formerly contained a ring of five bells, but now, through the liberality of Mr. Bosanquet (Churchwarden) and family, they have been augmented, forming a fine ring of eight bells, Messrs. Warner & Son of Cripplegate having been entrusted with the work. The tower has been cleared out, iron girders put in, and a massive English-oak frame constructed to carry eight bells. The treble of the old five, made in Bristol in 1863, being much too small, and not being heard with the others, has been recast with more metal, and three new bells; so that the front four bells now form the new portion of the ring. The fifth bell is dated 1607, the sixth and tenor being cast by Billie of Cullompton, and the seventh by Bailey of Bridgewater. They were rung for the first time on Saturday, July 14th, by the hangers and ringers from Dunster; and afterwards a touch of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES (195 changes) by E. Hole, 1; T. Elliott, 2; J. Graham, 3; W. Thrush, 4; R. Hole, 5; C. Gordon (conductor), 6; C. B. Craze, 7; J. Payne, 8. 308 by the Dunster band, F. Pitts ringing the third. They also rang the bells up and down several times in excellent style, the ringers expressing themselves highly pleased with the 'go' and tone of the bells. There has been a chiming apparatus fixed. The whole work of rehanging, making frame, &c., has been carried out under the direction of Mr. G. Dunn, Messrs. Warner's foreman. Tenor, 21 cwt., in E flat.

The Poslingford Ringers' Holiday.

ON Monday, the 28rd ult., the ringers of the parish church, Poslingford, Suffolk, held their first annual outing. Being a rural district, the first thing was to walk down to the ancient town of Clare (where hangs the only ring of eight bells in Suffolk that are unringable; tenor, 28 cwt.) to find two conveyances awaiting them. Starting from Clare at 8.45 they reached Hartest about 10.15. The ring of five were soon seen set in motion, and three 6-scores of GRANDSIRE and one of BOB DOUBLES were rung by W. Atkinson, 1; G. Basham, 2; D. Gridley, 3; H. Burling, 4; C. Howe (conductor), 5. Also another 6-score, with C. Rawlinson, 3; the others standing as before.

The next tower on the list being Shimpling, they made a start at 11.45, and in about fifteen minutes they were in the churchyard; but now a difficulty arose as to where to find the sexton, for the church stands quite out of the village; but he was discovered working about two minutes' walk from the church. The bells, five in number, were found in rather a poor condition, not having been rung for several years. After a little perseverance two 6-scores of BOB and one of GRANDSIRE were rung by W. Atkinson, 1; G. Basham, 2; D. Gridley, 3; H. Burling, 4; C. Howe (conductor), 5.

A move was then made to Stanstead, Suffolk. After dinner they were joined by Mr. S. Slater of Glemsford, and then went to the church, which possesses a ring of six, tenor 12 cwt., upon which they rang, at the second attempt, their first 720 of BOB MINOR, in 30 mins. W. Atkinson, 1; D. Gridley, 2; G. Basham, 3; S. Slater (conductor), 4; H. Burling, 5; C. Howe, 6. Also some touches with C. Rawlinson on the 5th.

As there was another tower to visit, namely, Glemsford (six bells; tenor, — cwt.), they lost no time in reaching it, and rang another 720 BOB MINOR, as follows:—W. Atkinson, 1; S. Slater (conductor), 2; G. Basham, 3; D. Gridley, 4; H. Burling, 5; C. Howe, 6. After which some touches were rung with F. W. Hicks (who had just arrived from Clare) on the 4th. Messrs. C. Adams, Z. Slater, and W. Downes of the Glemsford company, also took part during the evening. After a friendly chat the party returned home, having thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

The St. James' Society, Bristol.—Annual Outing and Presentation.

ON Monday, June 25th, the members of the above Society had their annual outing, the places selected being Frome and Longleat. The foreman (Mr. Henry Porch) made the necessary arrangements. The party, which numbered nineteen, journeyed to Frome by the train leaving Bristol at 10.25 a.m., and was accompanied by the Rev. E. H. Rogers and W. E. Blathwayte, Mr. G. W. Swinerd (lay reader), and a few friends. Upon arrival at Frome they proceeded at once to the fine old parish church, and spent a short time in inspecting the beautiful carving, sculpture, and unique medallions.

Lunch having been partaken at the 'Crown Hotel,' the brakes were the next item on the programme, and a very pleasant drive to Shearwater was much enjoyed. After wandering around the lake for some time, a move was

made for Heavensgate, where a magnificent view of the surrounding scenery was obtained through the open spaces in the trees. A gentle walk through the park brought them to Longleat House, the seat of the Marquis of Bath. The party were then conducted through the various apartments, which were much admired. Returning to the brakes, Frome was reached at six o'clock. After dinner there was only time to catch the last train for Bristol, which was reached at nine o'clock.

Mr. G. W. Swinerd, who is an honorary member of the above Society, and who has been lay reader in the parish for six years, has, owing to ill-health in his family, been compelled to leave this neighbourhood, and has taken charge of a mission at St. Michael's, Sittingbourne, Kent. On Wednesday evening, June 27th, in the St. James' (Barton) Schoolroom, a social gathering of the men and women's Bible classes was held for the purpose of doing honour to one that was highly esteemed and much beloved, and to show in various ways their expression of sympathy at his departure from them. He was presented with a purse of gold from the members of both classes. The ringers through their foreman presented him with their photo framed in oak, and an illuminated address; also a book entitled *Natural Law in the Spiritual World*, by Mr. Henry Drummond. The address, which is the work of Mr. Arthur Howell, is as follows:—

TO MR. G. W. SWINERD, FROM ST. JAMES' COMPANY OF CHANGE-RINGERS.—We, the undersigned, being desirous of expressing our deep feeling and sympathy, beg to tender this as a slight token of our esteem for the unwavering interest which you have taken in our work, and by which we have been able to accomplish much that would have been impossible without your aid. We deeply regret the circumstances that have compelled you to retire from amongst us, and we trust that it may please Providence to pour out its blessings upon you, that in your new sphere of labour you may continue to advocate the cause of purity and righteousness. Henry Porch, Walter Hill, Francis T. Jewell, William H. Short, Frederick J. Porch, James G. Pearce, Walter W. Porch, Arthur H. Howell, Herbert H. Tucker, George W. Pym, William R. Paddock, Alfred E. Pearce, Frank Gooding, Robert G. Collins.

A Visit to Earl's Barton, Northants.

By permission of the Rev. R. R. Cobbold, seven of the Wellingborough parish-church ringers lately visited Earl's Barton and rang several six-scores of GRANDSIRE DOUBLES on the bells in this old Saxon tower, which go remarkably well. The ropes formerly fell to the pavement, but the bells are now rung from the clock-room. They are a rather light ring of six, the tenor measuring 41½ inches across the mouth, and weighing about 14 cwt. The treble is a sweet-toned bell. There is plenty of room for additional bells. When the tenor was recast in the year 1761, the founder (Eayre of Kettering) made the bell somewhat too light; he therefore (according to a tradition in the village) reduced the diameter of the fifth bell by chipping away its lip in order to tune it to the defective tenor. The mutilated 'skirts' of the fifth bell seem to verify the truth of this tradition. The treble, second, fourth and fifth, were all cast by Penn of Peterborough, in 1720. The third was recast by Arnold of St. Neots, 1775. Penn was the founder of the ring of ten bells placed in Peterborough Cathedral in the year 1709, five of which have since been removed. He also cast the 'Priests' Bell,' or 'Ting Tang,' at Wellingborough, 1708. The inscriptions on Barton Bells were given in a recent number of the *Parish Magazine*, as follows: (The English translation of Latin words is given in brackets).—(1.) *Beati Pacifici* [Blessed are the Peacemakers]. Robert Whitworth, Senr., Benefr., 1720. (2.) *Si Deus Pro Nobis Qvis Contra Nos* [If God be for us who can be against us?]. (3.) Edward Arnold, St. Neots, Fecit, 1775. John Smith and William Kemshead, Churchwardens. (4.) *Ihs Rex Iudeorum Fili Dei Misere Mei* [Jesus, King of the Jews, Son of God, have mercy on me!]. 1720. (5.) *Vera Judicet Ecclesia Flams Adversa Sperno* [Let the Church determine the truth; being firm, I despise adversity]. 1720. John James, Henry Wine, Churchwardens. Henry Penn, Founder. (5.) To The Church The Living I Do Call and To The Grave I Summon All. John Warren & John Smith c.w.s., 1761. Thos. Eayre Vincent Barker, Benefactor. In the year 1700 (according to Bridges) there were five bells.

The Guild of Devonshire Ringers.

THE fourteenth Annual Report of the Guild of Devonshire Ringers has just been issued. The Committee stated that the Guild continued to do very useful work, and they were glad to be able to report that better rules and a better system of ringing were to be found in all parts of Devon and Cornwall than existed a few years ago. The members of the Guild had proved that Devonshire ringers, whether in large towns or in very small villages, were quite capable of making their music a true service of praise to God, and of overcoming the difficulties of scientific ringing. During the past year a proposal was made to admit 'round' ringers to the Guild in order to increase the number of members and to show their friendly feeling towards those who used the simpler methods of ringing. The members were all consulted on the proposal, and a large majority decided against it, mainly on the ground that it was not advisable to lower the standard of proficiency. The Guild had been of great service to many parishes which were not connected with it by giving advice through its inspectors about repairs of bells which may be needed, and by examining any work done. There are at present, according to other information contained in the Report, 17 bands of ringers connected with the Guild. There were nearly 180 ordinary members connected with these bands, and there are 48 honorary members, 4 lady associates, 8 performing members unattached to any band, and 18 life members. The balance-sheet shows that the receipts during the past year, including a balance in hand of 12l. 18s. 9d., amounted to 49l. 4s. 9d. The principal items were:—honorary members' and lady associates' fees, 20l. 14s. 6d., and performing members' ditto, 7l. 7s. The expenditure amounted to 40l. 17s. 10d., the chief disbursements being: Instruction fees, 9l. 6s.; opening bells, 5l. 10s.; out-

ings and bands, 16l. 4s. 2d.; printing, 4l. 7s. 2d.; stationery and postage, 3l. 3s. 10d.; leaving a balance in hand of 7l. 6s. 11d. Three peals have been rung during this year by the St. Sidwell's band, assisted on one occasion by Mr. F. W. Batchelor of Plymouth, and Mr. W. W. Gifford of Salisbury. The conductor on all three occasions was Mr. Ferris Shepherd, and the composition in each case the same, as well as the method (GRANDSIRE TRIPLES). The Hon. and Rev. J. S. Northcote, of Upton Pyne, is the Secretary.

The Stoke Archidiaconal Association.

THIS Association had its Annual Meeting at Leek on July 28th. Members were present from Leek, Stoke, Wolstanton, Horton, Norton, Cheddleton, Uttoxeter, Brickwall, and Ellastone towers. Ringing commenced in the tower of St. Edward's Church at 2.30 p.m., and was continued until 4 o'clock, when a service was held in the church, and an admirable sermon was preached by the Vicar, the Rev. C. B. Maude, M.A., from the text, 1 Cor. x. 31, 'Whether therefore ye eat or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God.' The preacher addressed a few hearty words of welcome to the visitors, and then proceeded to speak in a very sympathetic way of the office of ringers, whose work he described as that of angels, and exhorted his hearers to make the text their guide and aim in their work. After the service the members proceeded to the 'Leek Coffee Tavern,' where an admirable tea was provided. That being concluded, the Annual Meeting was held, at which the Rev. B. Blakeway, vicar of Horton, took the chair, in the absence of the Bishop of Shrewsbury and Archdeacon Lane, who were kept away by an engagement in London. The Rev. W. J. Smith, Hon. Clerical Secretary and Treasurer, read the report, in which the Committee regretted more general interest was not taken in the work of the Association, and begged the clergy and churchwardens who have bells under their care to do what they can to encourage the work of the belfry being carried out in the best spirit. The Treasurer's report showed a decrease in subscriptions, and only a very small balance in hand, but on the other hand a larger sum than usual had been spent to assist in giving instruction in towers from which appeals for help had been received. The Right Rev. the Bishop of Shrewsbury was elected a Patron of the Association; the new Archdeacon of Stoke, President; and the Rev. H. C. Turner, vicar of Horton, and the Rev. C. B. Maude, vicar of Leek, Vice-presidents. It was decided, after a warm discussion, to continue the monthly ringing meetings at various centres. The meeting was a very hearty one, and apparently the members separated for another year's work with a revived interest in their labour.

The Worcestershire and adjoining Districts Change-ringing Association.

THE next Quarterly Meeting of the above Association will be held in the Lyttelton Middle Class School-room, Malvern, at 5 o'clock prompt, on Saturday, August 25th, 1888. The Rev. Dr. Gregory Smith has kindly consented to preside. The bells of the Abbey Church will be open for ringing.

37 Sinms Lane, Netherton, near Dudley. JOHN SMITH, Hon. Sec.

The St. James's Society, London.

ON Monday, the 20th inst., the Annual Election of Officers will take place for the ensuing year, after the usual practice. Jos. BARRY, Hon. Secretary.

The St. Martin's Society, Birmingham.

THIS Society held its annual outing at Hagley on Saturday, the 21st ult., when members assembled from Birmingham, Aston, Handsworth, West Bromwich, Tipton, and Sheffield. A dinner having been partaken of at the 'Prince of Wales' Inn, the members adjourned to the church, permission for ringing having been kindly given by the Vicar (Rev. W. C. Gibbs), and touches of STEDMAN and TREBLE BOB were rung upon the light but pleasant ring of eight, which this Society inaugurated in November, 1885. During the ringing several of the members enjoyed a ramble through the beautiful Hagley Park, wherein is situate the mansion well known as the seat of the famous Lyttelton family. It was necessary to assemble at the station at 8.30 p.m. for the return journey to Birmingham, which the majority of the members reached in due course, having thoroughly enjoyed their pleasant excursion. They take the opportunity, through the medium of this journal, of thanking the Rector for the use of the bells.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At the Meeting-house, St. Paul's Churchyard, London.

ON Thursday, the 26th ult., four members of the Waterloo Society rang, on handbells retained in hand, Holt's Original peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 34½ mins. W. Baron, sen., 1-2; W. H. L. Buckingham (conductor), 3-4; G. T. McLaughlin, 5-6; G. Wild, 7-8. Umpires, Messrs. C. F. Winny and R. T. Woodley. The first handbell peal by the Society.

A Meeting at Bury St. Edmunds, Suffolk.

ON Monday, the 30th ult., a party of change-ringers from Sudbury paid a visit to this town for the purpose of ringing upon the fine ring of ten bells in the Norman tower of St. James's Church. They were assisted by Messrs. Osborne, Pemberton, Moore, and Farrants, of the Bury Company. A touch of GRANDSIRE CATERS, about 800 changes, was rung by the following:—A. Osborne (conductor), 1; E. Pemberton, 2; E. Debenham, 3; G. Hammond, 4; W. Howell, 5; W. Griggs, 6; C. Sillitoe, 7; H. Harper, 8; R. Moore, 9; G. Farrants, 10. Another touch of GRANDSIRE CATERS was also rung, in which W. Bacon and G. Brown took part. Also a touch of STEDMAN TRIPLES (408 changes), A. Osborne (conductor), 1; H. Harper, 2; W. Howell, 3; C. Sillitoe, 4; G. Hammond, 5; W. Griggs, 6; E. Pemberton, 7; R. Moore, 8. Tenor, 30 cwt., in D flat.

At the Abbey Church, Dorchester, Oxon.

ON Saturday, the 4th inst., eight members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild rang a peal of 5152 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR in 3 hrs. 5 mins. W. Cobb, 1; F. Field, 2; C. Trinder, 3; T. Short, 4; H. Fruin, 5; H. D. Betteridge, Esq., 6; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 7; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 8. Tenor, 19 cwt.

At St. Martin's, Salisbury, Wilts.

ON Saturday, the 4th inst., eight members of the Salisbury Diocesan Guild rang Brooke's Variation of Tharstan's peal of 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES in 3 hrs. W. S. Wise,* 1; W. E. Tydeman, 2; A. P. Goddard,* 3; C. A. Clements, 4; W. Greenleaf (London), 5; W. W. Gifford, 6; T. Blackburn (conductor), 7; S. Lawrence,* 8. Tenor, 15 cwt. * First peal in the method. All the above belong to the Ancient Society of College Youths excepting Mr. Wise. This is supposed to be the first peal of STEDMAN ever rung in the county of Wilts.

At St. Peter's, Drayton, Berks.

ON Monday, the 6th inst., eight members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild rang a peal of 5056 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR in 2 hrs. 40 mins. W. Cobb, 1; C. Trinder, 2; H. Fruin, 3; F. Field, 4; T. Short, 5; H. D. Betteridge, Esq., 6; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 7; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 8. Tenor, 9½ cwt.

At the same church, the same day, and the same Guild, a peal of 5088 SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR was rung in 2 hrs. 40 mins. W. Cobb, 1; C. Trinder, 2; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 3; H. Fruin, 4; T. Short, 5; F. Field, 6; H. D. Betteridge, Esq., 7; J. W. Washbrook (composer and conductor), 8.

At the same church, the same day, and the same Guild, a peal of 5184 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR was rung in 2 hrs. 42 mins. W. Cobb, 1; H. D. Betteridge, Esq., 2; C. Trinder, 3; F. Field, 4; T. Short, 5; J. W. Washbrook (composer and conductor), 6; H. Fruin, 7; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 8. Intervals took place for refreshment after each peal.

At St. Peter Mancroft, Norwich.

ON Monday, the 6th inst., twelve members of the Norwich Diocesan Association rang a peal of 5088 KENT TREBLE BOB MAXIMUS in 3 hrs. 45 mins. C. Mee, 1; E. Pemberton, 2; I. S. Alexander, 3; R. H. Brundle, 4; A. E. Durrant, 5; P. Sadler, 6; W. Motts, 7; R. Hawes, 8; E. Reeve, 9; J. Skinner, 10; G. Smith, 11; E. Horrex, 12. Composed by Mr. D. Prentice, and conducted by Mr. Mee. Tenor, 41 cwt. Messrs. Skinner, Smith, and Sadler belong to Norwich; Horrex, London; the rest, Ipswich.

At St. Andrew's, Hertford.

ON Monday, the 6th inst., eight members of the Hertford College Youths rang the Rev. C. D. P. Davies' Five-part peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 51 mins. H. Bottrill (first peal), 1; H. Baker (conductor), 2; E. Hollifield, 3; H. Hollifield, 4; M. Ellsmore, 5; W. Goodchild, 6; S. Knight, 7; F. George, 8. Tenor, 16 cwt.

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

ON Monday, the 6th inst., ten members of the Essex and Hertfordshire Associations rang a peal of 5021 GRANDSIRE CATERS in 3 hrs. 10 mins. E. Hall,* 1; A. Barnes,* 2; H. Lewis, 3; G. W. Cartmel, 4; J. C. Mitchell, 5; E. P. Debenham, 6; W. Battle, 7; W. H. L. Buckingham, 8; T. Waller, 9; G. Cornell,* 10. Composed by Mr. J. Cox and conducted by Mr. Buckingham. Tenor, 20 cwt. The above, with the exception of the tenor man, are all local. * First peal of CATERS.

At the same city, on the same day, five members of the Ancient Society of College Youths and the Essex Association rang, on handbells retained in hand, a peal of 5147 GRANDSIRE CATERS in 2 hrs. 46 mins. J. C. Mitchell, 1-2; G. W. Cartmel (conductor), 3-4; W. H. L. Buckingham, 5-6; E. P. Debenham, 7-8; T. Waller, 9-10. Umpire, Mr. Arthur Hull, who checked off all the lead-ends. The same band also took part in the GRANDSIRE CATER peal on the church bells the same day, the handbell peal being rung in the evening. The above belong to the St. Peter's Society and the Hertfordshire Association.

AT ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S, RADCLIFFE, LANCASHIRE.—On Sunday, the 15th ult., for afternoon service, 720 BOB MINOR in 25 mins. F. Rudman (conductor), 1; A. Barrett, 2; A. Hardman, 3; J. Hardman, 4; E. Bishop, 5; W. Fielding, 6. Tenor, 12½ cwt.

AT WESTON, HEREFORDSHIRE.—On Monday, the 16th ult., six 6-scores of GRANDSIRE DOUBLES (called differently) in 26 mins. H. J. Pike, 1; W. Redding, 2; J. E. G. Bowen, 3; W. H. Fussell (conductor), 4; Geo. Wilks, 5; C. Thompson, 6. Tenor, 12 cwt. Also on Sunday, the 22nd ult., 720 BOB MINOR in 26½ mins. H. Bird, 1; J. G. Wall, 2; A. Bird, 3; J. Clark, 4; J. Atkins, 5; E. Andrews (conductor), 6. And some GRANDSIRE DOUBLES and MINOR, conducted by W. H. Fussell, in which four of the local ringers took part.

AT ST. GEORGE'S, DUNSTER, SOMERSET.—On Monday, the 16th ult., a quarter-peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES (1260 changes), composed by J. Carter of Birmingham, was rung by seven of the Dunster band, with C. Gordon of the Surrey Association, in 48 mins. E. Hole, 1; R. Hole, 2; J. Grabham, 3; J. Tudball, 4; C. Gordon, 5; W. W. Thrush, 6; C. B. Craze (conductor), 7; J. Payne, 8. Tenor, 21 cwt., in E.

AT NUNEATON, WARWICKSHIRE.—On Thursday evening, the 19th ult., a quarter-peal (1260) GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, differently called, in 45 mins. J. George (Coventry, first quarter peal with treble), 1; G. Winter, 2; W. Adler, 3; T. W. Chapman (conductor), 4; T. Bates, 5; A. Palmer, 6; H. Horwood, 7; J. Ballard, 8.

RECEIVED ALSO.—C. Gordon (thanks); the Archdeacon of Chester; St. Mary-le-Bow, London; and others.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

The Bells of St. Mary-le-Bow, City of London.

ST. MARY-LE-BOW, Cheapside, commonly called 'Bow Church,' is in reality the parish or mother-church of the City of London. 'Bow Bells' have ever been notorious from the tradition relating to Dick Whittington; and also from the supposition that to be a true 'Cockney' one must have been born within their sound. In very early times we read that a citizen named John Downe left two tenements in Bow Lane to the maintenance of the great bell; and in 1496 the Common Council ordered the curfew to be rung nightly at nine o'clock. The bells and steeple were both destroyed by the fire of London in 1666; and the steeple was rebuilt by Wren, being finished in 1679. At that time part of 400*l.*, paid by the City to this parish for the site of the old church of All Hallows, with other donations, was appropriated for a ring of bells; and the steeple was prepared for twelve, but only eight were hung there. These in time got out of order, and in 1738 Richard Phelps recast the tenor (which was cracked) at the cost of 290*l.* In 1758 it was decided to recast the other seven, and to add two trebles to make a ring of ten. This was done, the new bells being cast by Lester & Pack of Whitechapel; and they were rung for the first time on June 4th, 1762, being King George's birthday. Two trebles were added in 1881, cast by Mears & Stainbank, thus making a ring of twelve. The following are the inscriptions and particulars of these bells:—

Treble.—Cast and hung by Mears & Stainbank, Oct. 1881. Marshall H. Vine, Rector. James Hughes, William Tegg, C. H. Bowden, F. T. Tyars, Jonathan Crocker, Churchwardens. Weight, 8 cwt. 0 qrs. 21 lbs.

Second.—Same as on treble. Weight, 8 cwt. 2 qrs. 16 lbs.

Third.—Lester & Pack of London fecit. Wm. Gibson & Jas. Pierrepont, Ch. wardens. 1762. Weight, 8 cwt. 3 qrs. 7 lbs.

Fourth.—Same inscription as on third. Weight, 9 cwt. 0 qrs. 2 lbs.

Fifth.—Same as on third. Weight, 10 cwt. 1 qr. 4 lbs.

Sixth.—Same as on third. Weight, 12 cwt. 0 qrs. 7 lbs.

Seventh.—Same as on third. Weight, 13 cwt. 3 qrs. 12 lbs.

Eighth.—Four coins of Charles II. Same inscription as on third. Weight, 17 cwt. 0 qrs. 11 lbs.

Ninth.—Ten bells; three small coins and two larger ones. Same as on third. Weight, 20 cwt. 2 qrs. 23 lbs.

Tenth.—Rt. Revd. Dr. Thos. Newton, Rector. Wm. Gibson & Jas. Pierrepont, Church Wardens of Bow; Thos. & Jno. Stevenson, Ch. Wardens of St. Pancras. Lester & Pack of London fecit, 1762. (A medallion with two heads.) Weight, 24 cwt. 2 qrs. 6 lbs.

Eleventh.—Lester & Pack of London fecit, 1762. William Gibson & Jas. Pierrepont, Ch. Wardens of Bow. (Six coins, two coins, a crown.) Samuel Blackwell, Esq., gave £50 0 0. (Arms of Blackwell.)* Weight, 34 cwt. 1 qr. 6 lbs.

Tenor.—Samuel Lisle, D.D., Rector. Robert Green, Wm. Cannell, Thos. Paris, Ino. Waldron, Ino. Rainford, Church Wardens. Bow Bell, 1669. Recast, 1738. Richard Phelps & Thos. Lester Londini fecit. (Ten coins; cut in the bell.) Weight, 53 cwt. 0 qrs. 22 lbs. The tenor measures 66½ inches in diameter.

The following performances on these bells are recorded by tablets in the belfry:—

'Society of Cumberland Youths rung in this steeple on Monday, January 3rd, 1803, a true and complete peal of TREBLE BOB ROYAL, consisting of 5200 changes, in 4 hours and 7 minutes, being the full extent of nine courses, and the first peal in that method rung by ten men only. George Gross, sen., Treble; George Gross, jun., 2; Thomas Reeves, 3; William Herbert, 4; James Barnard, 5; John Hints, 6; John Wooding, 7; Anthony Cavalier, 8; Willm. Stephens, 9; James Malton, 10. This peal was called by George Gross, jun. Mr. Thos. Wilkinson, Mr. Thos. Lett, Churchwardens.'

'Cumberland Society.—On Monday, March 8th, 1808, did ring in this steeple a true and complete peal of CATERS on STEDMAN'S PRINCIPLE, consisting of 5049 changes, in 3 hours and 40 minutes, being the only peal ever rung in that intricate method on these bells. By the following persons:—George Gross, Treble; Willm. Shipway, 2; Jams. Nash, 3; Richd. Jaggars, 4; Jams. Stickbury, 5; John Hints, 6; Thos. Freeth, 7; Anthony Cavalier, 8; Willm. Stephens, 9; Philip Pilgrim, Tenor. This peal was composed and called by George Gross. Mr. Thos. Rigg, Mr. John Hubbard, Churchwardens.'

'Society of Cumberlands.—On Tuesday, March 28th, 1837, rung in this steeple a true peal of OXFORD TREBLE BOB ROYAL, containing 5200 changes, in 3 hours and 53 minutes, the extent of nine courses. The masterly manner in which this peal was rung will ever reflect honour upon the performers. W. Hy. Burwash, Treble; John Fairbairn, 2; Chas. Goozee, 3; Edwd. Giles, 4; Jeremh. Miller, 5; Chas. Wilson, 6; Willm. Kellett, 7; Willm. Ludford, 8; Thos. Michael, 9; A. G. Frost, Tenor. Conducted by W. H. Burwash. Jno. Lucas, Esq., Jno. Hancock, Esq., Churchwardens. N.B.—Previous to stopping the bells they completed a course of CATERS on STEDMAN'S PRINCIPLE.'

'Society of Cumberlands.—On Tuesday, March 17th, 1840, rung in this steeple a true peal of CATERS on STEDMAN'S PRINCIPLE, containing 5079 changes, in 3 hours and 47 minutes. Wm. Hy. Burwash, Treble; Jno. Fairbairn, 2; Chas. Goozee, 3; Edwd. Giles, 4; Jeremh. Miller, 5; Chas. Wilson, 6; Willm. Ludford, 7; Willm. Ludford, 8; Thos. Whiting, 9; A. G. Frost, Tenor. Conducted by Wm. Hy. Burwash. Morgan Williams, Esq., George Harrison, Esq., Churchwardens.'

* Samuel Blackwell is mentioned on page 11 of the Introduction to the Clavis, and we believe, the donor of the ring of twelve at Cirencester.—ED. C.B.

'Ancient Society of College Youths.—On Saturday, Dec. 19th, 1863, ten members of the Society achieved upon the grand bells in this steeple a true peal of STEDMAN'S CATERS, comprising 5081 changes, in 3 hours and 42 minutes. A period of 23 years had elapsed since the last peal. Performers:—Henry W. Haley, Treble; Henry Boswell, Second; Edwin C. Langton, Third; William Cooter, Fourth; James R. Haworth, Fifth; Robert Jameson, Sixth; James Dwight, Seventh; George E. Ferris, Eighth; G. A. Muskett, Ninth; Matthew A. Wood, Tenor. Weight of Tenor, 53 cwt. Composed and conducted by Mr. Haley.'

A Garden-Party at Duffield Bank, near Derby.

THE members of the Midland Counties' Association are invited to a garden-party at Duffield Bank on Saturday, September 8th, from two till six o'clock. Tea at half-past four. The church tower will be open from two till half-past four, and from half-past five till nine o'clock. Mr. Heywood will also be glad to see friends who are members of other Associations.

The Lancashire Association.

THE members of the above are respectfully reminded that the financial year ends with the present month (August). Members owing subscriptions are requested to pay them to the undersigned as soon as possible. New members elected during the present year are also requested to pay their subscriptions if they have not already done so, otherwise their names and peals (if any), will not be inserted in the annual report. Conductors of peals will oblige by sending the compositions of such to Mr. A. Ed. Wreaks, providing the same have not appeared in the last annual report. To forward the business of the next annual meeting, members may send in nominations to fill the places of the following retiring officers:—The Rev. C. Lowe, president; Mr. J. Redford, secretary; and Messrs. Horrocks, Nutter, Wilde, and Wood (committee); and Messrs. Booth and Davis (auditors), but who are eligible for re-election. Members proposing new rules or alterations to the existing rules must give notice of the same before the last day of the present month to the undersigned. Notice of errors in the ringing calendar must be also sent to Mr. Joel Redford, 9 Portugal Street, Bolton-le-Moors, or to Mr. A. Edward Wreaks, 25 Tweedale Street, Rochdale, or 42 Cleveland Road, Crumpsall, Manchester.

St. Martin's Society, Birmingham.

A SPECIAL General Meeting of this Society will be held on Tuesday, the 28th inst., in the tower, at 7.45 p.m. The attendance of members, for the consideration of important business, is earnestly requested.

ALFRED THOMAS, Secretary.

The West City of London Society.

ON Monday, the 6th inst., the members of this Society held their eleventh annual holiday and dinner at 'The Bush Inn,' Horsham Road, Dorking. The party left London about nine o'clock, and arrived at Dorking at 10.45, where waggons had been provided to convey them to their destination; and after a little refreshment a delightful walk was taken through the Glory, one of the most picturesque spots in the neighbourhood. Dinner was served punctually at two o'clock. The chair was occupied by Mr. Lovett, and the vice-chair by Mr. Wheeler. The cloth being cleared, a lengthy programme was carried out. After the usual loyal toasts, the first performance was a course of GRANDSIRE CATERS on the handbells by Messrs. H. J. Davis, A. E. Church, W. D. Matthews, R. French, and J. Barry. The remaining toasts included 'Prosperity to the Society,' 'The Clergy and Churchwardens of St. Sepulchre,' and 'The Visitors.' Several selections on the handbells were given by Messrs. Clarkson, Matthews, and Lovett, and Messrs. Barry and Moore; and some excellent songs were rendered by Messrs. Clarkson, Church, Barry, Davis, Matthews, Chapman, Rumsey, and Milner. The Officers of the Society, Messrs. D. Lovett (master), J. Wheeler (treasurer), and A. E. Matthews (secretary), also the steward, Mr. W. D. Matthews, were congratulated for the able manner in which the arrangements had been made and carried out; and thus ended one of the most successful meetings the Society ever had.

The Kent County Association.

FORTY-THREE members attended the district meeting which was held at Tenterden on Thursday, the 16th inst. The average attendance at the last three has been rather under forty, and thus all have had the opportunity of ringing; which seems to show that multiplying the number of meetings will cure the evil of overcrowding, without materially increasing the expenses. During the day ringing was done at the neighbouring churches of Woodchurch, Rolvenden, and Benenden.

The St. James's Society, London.

ON Monday, the 20th inst., the election of officers for the ensuing year took place, when the following were elected:—Mr. W. Chew, Master; Mr. G. T. McLaughlin, Secretary; Mr. E. Albone, Treasurer; Messrs. Winny and Hammond, Stewards; and Messrs. Hubbard and Thorn, Auditors.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At Bishop Ryder's, Birmingham.

ON Saturday, the 4th inst., eight members of the Holt Society rang Holt's Ten-part peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 3 hrs. 7 mins. W. H. Godden, 1; J. Buffery, 2; W. Baldwin (first peal with a bob bell), 3; W. Kent, 4; A. Thomas, 5; W. Long, 6; T. Miller (conductor), 7; J. Hodson (first peal), 8. Tenor, 12 cwt., in G. The peal was rung with the bells half muffled as a last tribute of respect to the late Mr. W. Stephens, who was churchwarden for twelve years at the above church.

At St. Lawrence, Pudsey, Yorkshire.

On Saturday, the 4th inst., eight members of the Yorkshire Society rang a peal of 5088 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR in 3 hrs. 4 mins. S. Longstaff, 1; J. Haigh, 2; W. Stainthorpe, 3; J. Whitaker, 4; J. A. Idle, 5; G. H. Hardy (composer and conductor), 6; H. Hubbard, 7; R. Binns, 8. Tenor, 16 cwt. J. Haigh came from Woodlesford; W. Stainthorpe, Birstal; J. Whitaker, Headingley; J. A. Idle, Dewsbury; G. H. Hardy, Earlsheaton; R. Binns and H. Hubbard, Leeds; S. Longstaff, local company.

At SS. Peter and Paul's, Foxearth, Essex.

On Wednesday, the 8th inst., eight members of the Royal Cumberland and the Essex Association rang a peal of 5088 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR in 2 hrs. 48 mins. S. Slater, 1; Z. Slater, 2; F. Wells, 3; G. Maxim, 4; G. C. Hammond, 5; J. Bird, 6; N. Hawkins, 7; N. J. Pitstow (composer and conductor), 8. Tenor, 8½ cwt. The composition, in one part, contains the last 6th nine course-ends at home in the last eleven courses; was composed on July 12th expressly for the occasion, and has never been previously rung.

At St. Giles-in-the-Fields, London.

On Saturday, the 11th inst., eight members of the Royal Cumberland Society rang a peal of 5056 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR in 3 hrs. 4 mins. T. Tichener, 1; B. Foskett, 2; A. Tennant, 3; J. Hamington, 4; A. Pittam, 5; G. Newson (conductor), 6; H. Dains (composer), 7; A. Jacob, 8. Tenor, 18 cwt.

At St. Helen's, Abingdon, Berks.

On Saturday, the 11th inst., eight members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild rang Holt's Ten-part peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 59 mins. J. Brown, 1; H. Humfrey (first peal as conductor), 2; E. Aldword, 3; W. Spiers (first peal with a bob bell), 4; A. Burgess, 5; T. Short, 6; E. Humfrey, 7; J. W. Washbrook, 8. Tenor, 20 cwt.

At St. Mary's, Slough, Bucks.

On Monday, the 13th inst., eight members of the Royal Cumberland Society rang a peal of 5040 BOB MAJOR in 2 hrs. 54 mins. R. Flaxman,* 1; A. A. H. Andrews,* 2; W. H. Fussell, 3; T. W. Udell, 4; G. Newson, 5; A. C. Fussell, 6; W. Wilder,* 7; A. Jacob, 8. Composed by Mr. Annable and conducted by Mr. Newson. Tenor, 9½ cwt. * First peal of Major. The first peal in the method on the bells. Messrs. Newson and Jacob came from London, the rest are local men.

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

On Thursday, the 16th inst., eight members of the Society for the Archdeaconry of Stafford rang Taylor's Bob-and-Single peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 59 mins. G. Mitcheson (first peal), 1; M. Murphy, 2; W. Smith (first peal), 3; G. Smith, 4; Rev. J. R. Keble, 5; W. Long (first peal as conductor), 6; W. Cooper (first peal on a bob bell), 7; C. Williams, 8. Tenor, 18½ cwt., in F sharp. M. Murphy came from Erdington; the rest belong to the local company.

At St. Albans, Herts.

On Saturday, the 18th inst., four members of the St. Peter's Society, the Ancient Society of College Youths, and the Herts and Essex Associations, rang, on handbells retained in hand, Holt's Six-part peal of 5040 BOB TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 15 mins. G. W. Cartmel, 1-2; E. P. Debenham, 3-4; W. H. L. Buckingham (conductor), 5-6; T. Waller, 7-8. Umpire, Mr. E. Hull. Mr. A. Barnes heard part of the peal.

At St. Martin's, Tipton, Staffordshire.

On Saturday, the 18th inst., a peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, Taylor's Bob-and-Single Variation, was rung in 2 hrs. 51 mins. by eight members of the Worcestershire and adjoining Districts Change-ringing Association, also the Society of Change-ringers for the Archdeaconry of Stafford. G. Hughes, 1; W. Cheshire,* 2; H. Mills,† 3; W. R. Small, 4; B. Gough,* 5; S. Jessop (first peal as conductor), 6; S. Reeves, 7; E. Goodreds,† 8. Tenor, 12 cwt. 25 lbs. Messrs. Gough and Cheshire came from Coseley, Reeves from West Bromwich. * First peal in any method. † First peal in this method with a bob bell. ‡ First peal with tenor.

At THE PARISH CHURCH, MILTON-NEXT-GRAVESEND.—On Saturday, the 21st ult., for practice, 720 OXFORD TREBLE BOB. L. Digweed, 1; F. Hayes, 2; G. Hayes, 3; C. Waterman, 4; W. Martin, 5; W. Harper (conductor), 6.

At THE PARISH CHURCH, SWANSCOMBE, KENT.—On Sunday, the 22nd ult., for Divine service in the evening, 720 PLAIN BOB. G. Hayes, 1; A. Cornford, 2; W. Jackson, 3; J. Broom, 4; W. Martin, 5; W. Harper (conductor), 6.

At NORTON, STAFFORDSHIRE.—On Sunday, the 22nd ult., for evening service, 720 WOODBINE TREBLE BOB MINOR in 25 mins. G. Wood, 1; J. Wood (conductor), 2; J. Morton, 3; J. W. Brough, 4; W. Baddeley, 5; E. Glover, 6.

At ST. MARY'S, BAMPTON, OXON.—On Monday, the 23rd ult., the Annual Festival of the Oxford Diocesan Guild was held at Witney, and several of its members came to Bampton, and attempted to ring a peal of BOB DOUBLES; but were not very successful, owing to the heavy weight of the bells. Several peals of the above method were rung by the local company in the following order:—C. Ponder, 1; J. Plaster, 2; G. Plaster, 3; C. Williams (conductor), 4; W. Wells, 5; F. W. Fox, 6. Tenor, 30 cwt., in D. All the ringers were entertained to tea at the Vicarage by the Vicar, the Rev. E. G. Hunt, and a very pleasant afternoon was spent.

At ST. LUKE'S, HEYWOOD, LANCASHIRE.—On Sunday, the 23rd ult., for the Annual Flower Service, a quarter-peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES (1260 changes) in 45 mins. J. Kay, 1; A. Schofield, 2; W. R. Barrett, 3; D.

Wild, 4; W. H. Walmsley, 5; J. Harrison, 6; E. Bishop (conductor), 7; J. Millett, 8. Tenor, 23 cwt.

At ST. NICHOLAS', WITHAM, ESSEX.—On Tuesday, the 31st ult., in commemoration of a peal-board being erected in the above tower, the following peals were rung:—First peal—OXFORD TREBLE BOB: W. G. Richards, 1; A. Chalk, 2; W. Rowland, 3; J. Parmenter, 4; W. Chalk, 5; J. Young (conductor), 6. Second peal—OXFORD TREBLE BOB: W. G. Richards, 1; A. Chalk, 2; W. Rowland, 3; A. Fryatt, 4; W. Chalk, 5; J. Young (conductor), 6. Third peal—PLAIN BOB MINOR: J. Butler, 1; A. Chalk, 2; A. Fryatt, 3; E. Garnett, 4; W. Chalk, 5; H. Sayer (conductor), 6. All the above are members of the Essex Association.

At GLENSFORD, SUFFOLK.—On Tuesday, the 31st ult., being the occasion of the annual Horticultural Show and parish fete, the bells were rung at intervals during the day, when upwards of 5000 changes were rung in various MINOR, TREBLE BOB, and SURPRISE methods. The following are the principal touches that were rung:—720 OXFORD TREBLE BOB: G. C. Hammond (conductor), 1; C. Honeybell, 2; H. Duce, 3; F. Wells, 4; O. Garwood, 5; S. Slater, 6. 720 KENT TREBLE BOB: J. Slater, 1; Joseph Slater, 2; H. Duce, 3; F. Wells, 4; G. C. Hammond, 5; S. Slater (conductor), 6. Also 720 BOB MINOR: Z. Slater, 1; Joseph Slater, 2; H. Duce, 3; G. C. Hammond (conductor), 4; Edward W. Downs, 5; S. Slater, 6. To finish the day's ringing 720 KENT TREBLE BOB was rung, non-conducted, no intimation given whatever: F. Wells, 1; C. Honeybell, 2; G. C. Hammond, 3; Z. Slater, 4; S. Slater, 5; O. Garwood, 6. On the following Tuesday, on handbells retained in hand, 720 BOB MINOR in 22 mins. G. C. Hammond (conductor) 1-2; S. Slater, 3-4; H. Duce, 5-6. Messrs. Hammond and Duce came from Long Melford.

At SALISBURY, WILTS.—On Thursday, the 2nd inst., on handbells, retained in hand, a quarter peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES (taken from Holt's Original) in 38 mins. W. S. Wise, 1-2; W. W. Gifford, 3-4; A. W. Barks (conductor), 5-6; H. D. Adams, 7-8. On Wednesday, the 18th ult., on the tower bells, a quarter-peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. W. W. Gifford, 1; W. S. Wise, 2; S. Lawrence, 3; C. A. Clements, 4; W. J. Prince, 5; W. F. Tydeman, 6; T. Blackburn (conductor), 7; C. Gaisford, 8. Tenor, 15 cwt.

At THE PARISH CHURCH, COSELEY, STAFFORDSHIRE.—On Friday, the 3rd inst., a quarter peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, in 48 mins., by the Worcestershire and adjoining Districts Association. E. Goodreds, 1; W. Cheshire, 2; W. Horton, 3; W. R. Small, 4; W. Pardoe, 5; B. Gough, 6; J. Goodman (conductor), 7; A. E. Law, 8. Cheshire, Horton, Gough, and Law are of the local band, and this is their first quarter peal; Goodreds, Small, and Pardoe, from Tipton; Goodman from Dudley. On Sunday, the 5th inst., after Evensong, a quarter peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES (1260 changes). W. R. Small, 1; B. Gough, 2; W. Horton, 3; W. Cheshire, 4; R. Hall, 5; G. Hughes, 6; J. Goodman (conductor), 7; E. Goodreds, 8. Gough, Horton, and Cheshire are of the local band; Small, Hughes, and Goodreds, Tipton; R. Hall, Christ Church, West Bromwich.

At ST. MARY-LE-TOWER, IPSWICH.—On Saturday, the 4th inst., three courses of DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB ROYAL. W. P. Garrett, 1; E. Pemberton, 2; I. S. Alexander, 3; R. Hawes, 4; C. Saul, 5; C. Mee, 6; E. Horrex (London), 7; W. Motts, 8; W. Catchpole (conductor), 9; R. H. Brundle, 10.

At THE PARISH CHURCH, DATCHWORTH, HERTS.—On Monday, the 6th inst., five peals (120) of GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, each called differently. J. Shepherd, 1; J. Hollingsworth, 2; W. Powers, 3; H. Rowe, 4; A. Shepherd (conductor), 5; G. Smith, 6. The above belong to Hatfield.

At ST. PETER'S, MANCROFT, NORWICH.—On Monday, the 8th inst., a course of DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB ROYAL. A. E. Durrant, 1; W. Motts, 2; I. S. Alexander, 3; C. Mee, 4; P. Sadler, 5; R. Hawes, 6; E. Reeve, 7; E. Horrex, 8; R. H. Brundle, 9; G. Smith, 10. Messrs. Sadler and Smith belong to the St. Peter's Mancroft Company; E. Horrex to the College Youths, London; and the rest to St. Mary-le-Tower Society, Ipswich.

At ST. MARGARET'S, STANFORD-LE-HOPE, ESSEX.—On Sunday afternoon, the 12th inst., by the kind permission of the Rector, Dr. Sedgwick, several peals (120 changes) of GRANDSIRE DOUBLES. F. Stock, 1; H. Read, 2; C. F. Winny, 3; E. Kent, 4; D. Harrod, 5; A. Cowell (Stanford), 6. Tenor, 9 cwt. Also with G. Ong, 4; and A. Keeling, 5; the rest as before.

At ST. GILES' AND ALL SAINTS', ORSETT, ESSEX.—On Sunday, the 12th inst., the local ringers rang, for Divine service in the morning and evening, several peals (120 changes) of GRANDSIRE DOUBLES. F. Stock, 1; H. Read, 2; C. F. Winny, 3; E. Kent, 4; A. Keeling (conductor), 5; F. Roast, 6. Tenor, 11 cwt. D. Harrod and G. Ong also took part in the ringing.

At EAST HAGBOURNE, BERKS.—On Sunday, the 12th inst., for Divine service in the evening, 504 and 336 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. J. Pether, 1; W. Lawrence, 2; F. Napper, 3; C. Allen, 4; E. Napper, 5; W. Napper (conductor), 6; D. Napper, 7; A. Woodley, 8.

At ST. PETER'S, BENINGTON, HERTS.—On Friday, the 17th inst., eight members of the local company rang 672 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 224 LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, and 216 STEPMAN TRIPLES. N. Warner, 1; J. Kitchener, 2; L. Proctor, Esq., 3; L. Chapman, 4; W. Hobbs, 5; Jos. Kitchener, 6; C. Shambrook, 7; S. Page (conductor), 8. Tenor, 14 cwt., in F sharp.

At ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN, STANSTEAD, ESSEX.—On Sunday, the 12th inst., for evening service, three courses of BOB MINOR. J. Cavill, 1; J. Luckey, 2; W. Waits, 3; G. Gray, 4; Isaac Hammond, 5; Isaac Cavil (conductor), 6. After evening service, 720 OXFORD TREBLE BOB. J. Cavill, 1; W. Waits, 2; J. Lucky (conductor), 3; G. Gray, 4; Isaac Hammond, 5; Isaac Cavil, 6. This is the first 720 by the local company without a Prior. Tenor, 13 cwt.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

A Visit to Caerleon, Monmouthshire.

ON Monday, the 5th inst., a portion of the local company of St. Mary's and the local company of St. Mary's, Caldicott, near Chepstow, paid a friendly visit to Caerleon, which they reached at 10 a.m., and had a ring on eight bells; tenor, 7½ cwt. Afterwards the Caerleon band rang 168 and 360 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, also a plain course of STEDMAN TRIPLES, and a plain course of GRANDSIRE MAJOR, to please their visitors. After visiting the Museum, where they were much interested, they took a quiet stroll through the ancient town. They then bade farewell to their Caerleon friends and returned to Newport, where the rest of the evening was spent in viewing the ancient church of St. Woolos, with a ring of six bells; tenor, 14½ cwt. On account of a death near the church no ringing took place; but all arrived home safely at 9.30 p.m., pleased with their day's outing. The visitors wish to thank their Caerleon friends for the use of their bells.

A Visitor from Australia to Bristol.

ON Friday, the 10th inst., a mixed band of the ringers of Bristol had great pleasure in meeting Mr. J. Dennis, of the St. Philip's Society, Sydney, Australia, at St. Matthew's Church, Kingsdown, where several touches were rung in the GRANDSIRE method, in which Mr. Dennis took part; after which they rang at St. Mary Redcliffe, and St. Peter's. The ringers were Messrs. York, Salter, Knill, Dennis, Beak, Walters, Gordon, Chamings, Palser, and Rooke. The party then spent a pleasant evening.

A Holiday at Gainsborough.

ON Saturday afternoon, the 18th inst., the Dewsbury Society left Dewsbury by the 2.5 p.m. excursion train for Gainsborough, arriving after a pleasant journey at 3.30. At the station they were met by Mr. W. Tinker, who escorted them to the church, in the tower of which there is a splendid ring of eight bells; tenor, 20 cwt. The bells were raised in peal and a date touch of KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR was successfully brought round in 1 hr. 11 mins. J. Garforth, 1; J. H. Dixon (conductor), 2; J. Idle, 3; H. Robinson, 4; N. Hepworth, 5; G. H. Hardy (composer), 6; J. Buckley, 7; G. Taylor, 8. Their best thanks are due to the local ringers for the way in which they assisted to make the visit successful.

Chester Diocesan Guild of Church Bell-ringers.

THE first annual festival of the Guild was held at Chester on Monday, the 6th inst. The Guild originated at the Diocesan Conference in October 1887, when the Rev. Canon Greenall kindly undertook the office of secretary *pro tem.*, and Mr. J. Tinsley that of treasurer; and to their exertions much of the success of the Guild will be ascribed. The members were invited to be present at the morning service at the Cathedral, and though the exigencies of Bank Holiday traffic made some of the trains bringing distant visitors to be late there was a large congregation present. After the anthem a short address was given by the Archdeacon of Chester, who took for his text Ps. xxix. 2. At 11.30 the General Meeting of the Guild was held in the Old Refectory, by kind permission of the Dean, who presided, and gave a hearty welcome to the Cathedral precincts to these Church-workers, who had gathered together from the different parts of the diocese. The Report was read by Canon Greenall, and gave an account of the progress which had been made in the first nine months of the Guild's existence. From this it would appear that there are now 7 local branches, containing 46 honorary members, 235 change-ringers, and 52 probationers. The local branches are Chester, Wirral, Macclesfield, Bowdon and Stockport, Northwich, Runcorn and Frodsham, and Grappenhall; whilst it is hoped soon to establish others at Holmes Chapel, at Crewe or Northwich, and elsewhere. A full discussion on some of the rules was raised by some suggested alterations moved by Mr. Peace of Salney, but the general opinion was that it would be better to give the rules a longer trial before making any change. The officers and committee for the ensuing year were elected, but no election was made to the office of Master, in the hope that ere long some influential person in the diocese, who is a change-ringer, may be met with, and be willing to occupy that position. Mr. H. A. Heywood of Caldby Manor was elected secretary and treasurer, and the following were chosen as members of the committee:—The Rev. the Precentor, Rev. H. Grantham, Dr. Bridge, Messrs. R. Bushell, J. Tinsley, H. Hatt Cooke, F. Ball, Matthews, Dexter, Pease, Bithell, and T. Marshall. The following were approved of as instructors:—For Chester, Messrs. F. Ball, Bithell, and Pierce; for Frodsham, Mr. G. Rigby; for Grappenhall, Mr. Houghton; for Runcorn, Mr. Hoxworth; for Macclesfield, Mr. Walmsley; for Holmes Chapel, Mr. Johnson; for Wirral, Mr. W. Woods; and for Northwich, Mr. W. Foster. Arrangements were made for the distribution of the certificates of membership and the belfry prayers through the secretaries of local branches, and very hearty thanks were unanimously accorded to Canon Greenall and Mr. Tinsley for their provisional work as secretary and treasurer respectively. On the motion of the Rev. H. Blogg, a vote of thanks to the Dean for the use of the refectory and for his conduct in the chair was passed; and after a graceful acknowledgment from the Dean, the company adjourned to the School, St. Mary's-on-the-Hill (kindly lent by the Archdeacon), where a substantial dinner had been provided by Messrs. Baker. Nearly 150 sat down, and the room was well filled. After dinner was over the Dean proposed the toast of 'Church and Queen,' which was duly answered; and Mr. Matthews of Macclesfield, in cordial terms, proposed the health of Archdeacon Barber, as the founder of the Guild. The toast was very warmly received. The Archdeacon, in reply, said that any efforts of his to establish the Guild had been amply repaid by the magnificent gathering that day, which they would have been useless and vain had he not

been so heartily seconded and supported by many energetic workers. It had been a great pleasure to him to do what he had done, and he wished continued and increasing success to the Guild which had begun so auspiciously. During the afternoon the towers of the Cathedral, St. Mary's-without-the-Walls, St. Mary's-on-the-Hill, St. Michael's, and St. Peter's, were open to the members of the Guild, and there being no time for peals, touches of the following methods were rung:—STEDMAN, GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, TREBLE BOB, and PLAIN BOB. At six o'clock the members reassembled at St. Mary's School for tea; and the opportunity was taken of consulting them as to the best time and place for the next annual meeting. It was ascertained that a large majority were in favour of meeting at Macclesfield (D.V.) on the August Bank Holiday. And thus was brought to a close a festival which on all sides was pronounced to be most pleasant and successful.

The St. Sidwell's Society, Exeter.

THE Society held its annual holiday on Monday, the 6th inst., and by the kind invitation of Mr. J. Richards they visited Torrington, North Devon, where half-pull ringing was never known, the old round ringers saying it was a matter of impossibility for a peal of 5040 changes to be rung without stopping. The party left Queen Street Station at 6.50 a.m., and their destination was reached at 9.30, where Mr. Richards was in waiting to receive the party. After a pleasant walk over the moor (about a mile), we reached the pretty town. Mr. Richards then conducted us to the 'Plough Inn,' where he had prepared a substantial breakfast. About eleven o'clock a move was made to the church of St. Michael, where hangs a very fine ring of eight in F sharp, which were augmented from six to eight in 1884, two new trebles being added, the tenor recast by Warner & Sons, and the whole rehung. The 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, and 7th are by Rudhall, dated back to 1716. After a short touch a start was made for a peal, but 'Stand' was called after 40 mins.; then another start, and all went well for 30 mins., the conductor missing a bob. Nothing daunted, another start was made, and Hollis's Five-part peal was successfully brought round in 2 hrs. 40 mins. C. Carter, 1; E. Shepherd, 2; W. Stocker, 3; F. Shepherd (conductor), 4; F. Davey, 5; W. Mundy, 6; J. Moss, 7; B. Mundy, 8. Tenor, 15 cwt. The rest of the time was spent with some local ringers, and an enjoyable day was brought to a close by reaching home at 10.30 p.m., leaving behind at Torrington the fact that a peal of 5040 changes can be rung.

The St. Paul's Guild, Brighton.

ON Monday, the 6th inst., the members of the above Guild held their annual holiday at Mr. Turner's farm, near East Hoathly. The party, numbering about twenty-five, left Brighton by the 8.17 a.m. train to Uckfield, and on their arrival proceeded in waggonettes to East Hoathly. After partaking of refreshments they rang several peals (120 of Doubles on the bells of the parish church, and subsequently played cricket. At one o'clock the members sat down to a luncheon provided by Mr. and Mrs. Turner. In the afternoon a visit was paid to Waldron, and touches of TRIPLES were rung upon the bells of All Saints' Church, including a well-struck quarter peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, which was accomplished in 45 mins. by the following ringers:—P. Allfrey, 1; W. Allfrey, 2; W. Palmer, 4; F. W. Harding (Eastbourne), 5; E. Willoughby (Eastbourne), 6; A. Bennett (conductor), 7; G. Murray, 8. The members then adjourned to Mr. Turner's, and after partaking of tea returned in their conveyances to Uckfield, for Brighton, highly satisfied with their outing. The thanks of the Guild are due to Mr. and Mrs. Allfrey, who journeyed from Brighton the previous day in order to make the necessary arrangements for the visits. So admirably had they arranged everything for the comfort of the ringers, that the day proved one of the most enjoyable the members of the Guild have ever spent. They take this opportunity of thanking the incumbents of East Hoathly and Waldron parish churches for kindly granting them permission to ring upon their bells. [No 3rd bell mentioned.]

The Ashton-under-Lyne Society.

ON Saturday, the 11th inst., the members of the above Society in connexion with St. Peter's Church held their annual picnic; the place selected being Prestbury, near Macclesfield, Cheshire, the parish church of which contains a ring of eight bells; tenor, 18 cwt. The party left Guidebridge for Macclesfield about 2.30 p.m., and arrived at four o'clock. After a walk through the fields Prestbury was reached shortly after five. A move was made for the church, and a touch of TREBLE BOB MAJOR (conducted by Mr. J. Thorp), and a touch of STEDMAN TRIPLES (conducted by Mr. S. Wood) were successfully brought round. An attempt was made for a course of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES with one of the local men; and while this was in progress some of the visitors were looking round the churchyard. A short meeting was afterwards held under the presidency of Mr. G. Longden, when it was resolved, on the motion of Mr. Hopwood, seconded by Mr. Gillot, 'That the best thanks of the meeting be given to Canon Wilson for the use of the bells.' Also on the motion of Mr. Hopwood, seconded by Mr. S. Wood, 'That a vote of thanks be given to the wardens of St. Peter's Church for their kindness in contributing so liberally to the picnic fund.' A move was then made for Prestbury station to commence the return journey, which was accomplished by 10.30 p.m., all being highly satisfied with the few hours from home.

The All Saints' Society, Fulham, London.

THE annual holiday of the above Society took place on Saturday, the 25th inst., when an enjoyable day was spent at the historical town of St. Albans. The company, consisting of the following members, Messrs. Davies, Gale, Driver, F. Kelly, C. F. Winny, How, Nicholls, J. W. Kelly, Porter, Green, and a friend, started from Putney Bridge Station by the 8.47 train for Willesden, and hence to St. Albans. During the railway journey the handbells

were brought into requisition, and amongst other touches 223 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES were brought round at hand. Alighting at St. Albans, at St. Peter's church, ringing commenced; amongst which were 559 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 521 and 305 GRANDSIRE CATERS, conducted by Messrs. J. W. Kelley and C. F. Winny. By this time all were ready for the dinner at the 'Peahen.' Here the company was met by the much-respected President of the Society, the Rev. F. H. Fisher, vicar of Fulham, who presided in his customary good-natured style. After thanks had been given to the Vicar, a start was made for the Cathedral, where Mr. Battle was awaiting to conduct the company through the labyrinth of passages to the tower. Notwithstanding the weight of the bells and the beams in the belfry, touches of GRANDSIRE and STEDMAN TRIPLES were successfully accomplished; in the latter method assistance was given by some of the local ringers. An inspection of the grand Cathedral was the next pleasure, which all thoroughly appreciated. St. Peter's church was again found to be the meeting-place, where the Fulham Company were met by Leonard Proctor, Esq., J. R. Haworth, S. Page, Messrs. Cartmel, Waller, Battle, Brewer, and Buckingham, who with four of the Fulham company rang some touches of STEDMAN TRIPLES and CATERS. The members of the Fulham Society take this opportunity, through the medium of *Church Bells*, of thanking all those concerned in the making the day what it was—a very enjoyable one.

Change-ringing in Bedfordshire.

SOME years ago the science and art of change-ringing was a thing unknown in this county, but through the exertions of Mr. Chas. Herbert, who has worked indefatigably for the cause, we are happy to state that several competent bands of ringers can be found, notably at Bedford, Aspley Guise, Woburn, and various places. On Wednesday, the 8th inst., Mr. C. Sillitoe, of the Sudbury Company, was invited by Mr. Herbert to spend a few days with him in Bedfordshire and ring on the various rings of bells in his neighbourhood. The first place visited was Crawley. Here is a fine-toned ring of six bells, with the tenor weighing about 21 cwt. Two peals of BOB DOUBLES were rung by E. Keech, 1; E. Norman, 2; W. Mynard, 3; M. Lane, 4; C. Sillitoe, 5; W. Smith, 6. Conducted by M. Lane. The next place visited was Aspley Guise. Here is a very pretty ring of six bells, tenor about 9½ cwt., cast and hung by Taylor & Sons of Loughborough, a few years ago. A peal of BOB MINOR was rung by E. Keech, 1; C. Herbert, 2; E. Norman, 3; W. Smith, 4; M. Lane, 5; C. Sillitoe, 6. Conducted by C. Sillitoe. On Saturday the bells of St. Mary's Old Tower, at Woburn, were set going, and a touch of BOB MAJOR was rung by W. Smith, 1; E. Norman, 2; W. Mynard, 3; C. Herbert, 4; W. E. Turney, 5; M. Lane, 6; Rev. W. W. C. Baker, 7; C. Sillitoe, 8. Also a touch of 1056 BOB MAJOR. W. Smith, 1; E. Norman, 2; W. Mynard, 3; C. Herbert, 4; A. Morrison, 5; M. Lane, 6; Rev. W. W. C. Baker, 7; C. Sillitoe, 8. Both conducted by C. Sillitoe. On Sunday the bells of Aspley Guise were rung for evening service. A peal of KENT TREBLE BOB MINOR was rung by the following:—W. Smith, 1; E. Norman, 2; W. Chibnall, 3; W. Mynard, 4; M. Lane, 5; C. Sillitoe (conductor), 6. On Monday a touch of BOB MAJOR, containing 1008 changes, was rung on handbells at Mr. Herbert's house. C. Herbert, jun., 1-2; Master E. Herbert (age 11), 3; Master F. Flood, 4; Chas. Herbert, 5-6; C. Sillitoe (conductor), 7-8. Also a peal of BOB MINOR. Master E. Herbert, 1-2; C. Herbert, jun., 3-4; C. Sillitoe (conductor), 5-6. On Tuesday the bells of St. Mary Old Tower, Woburn, were again rung, and a touch of 1680 BOB MAJOR was rung in 58 mins. W. Smith, 1; E. Norman, 2; W. Mynard, 3; C. Herbert, 4; A. Morrison, 5; M. Lane, 6; Rev. W. W. C. Baker, 7; C. Sillitoe, 8. Composed by S. Slater of Glemsford, and conducted by C. Sillitoe. Tenor, 13 cwt., in G. The above performances will show that good ringers are springing up in the county, and it is to be hoped that this is not the last that we shall hear of them.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At St. Mary's, Horham, Suffolk.

On Saturday, the 11th inst., T. Lockwood's peal of 5056 OXFORD TREBLE BOB MAJOR was rung in 2 hrs. 56 mins. F. Day (conductor), 1; G. Day, 2; E. Collins, 3; G. Marton, 4; D. Collins, 5; R. Ruth, sen., 6; R. Ruth, jun., 7; H. Torble, 8. Tenor, 7 cwt., in B flat. Messrs. Day, Merton, and Torble came from Eye; Messrs. Collins, Worlingworth; Messrs. Day, the local company.

At St. Andrew's, Enfield, Middlesex.

On Thursday, the 16th inst., eight members of the Society of Royal Cumberland Youths rang a peal of 5024 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR in 3 hrs. B. Foskett, 1; J. Hannington, 2; T. Titchener, 3; A. Tenant, 4; G. B. Lucas (first peal in the method), 5; N. Alderman, 6; G. Griffin, 7; T. Scarlett, 8. Composed by Mr. J. Cox and conducted by Mr. Hannington. Tenor, 18 cwt.

At SS. Peter and Paul's, Aston, Birmingham.

On Saturday, the 15th inst., eight members of the St. Martin's Society rang a peal of 5028 STEDMAN CATERS in 3 hrs. 14 mins. J. W. Cartwright, 1; J. Buffery, 2; W. Kent, 3; I. G. Shade (Greenwich), 4; H. Bastable, 5; B. Wicheell, 6; A. Thomas, 7; C. Sanbridge, 8; J. James, 9; H. Johnson, jun., 10. Composed by Mr. H. Johnson, sen., and conducted by Mr. Bastable. Tenor, 23 cwt., in D. This peal contains the 5th and 6th twenty-three courses behind the 9th, and has not been previously performed.

At St. Mary's, Liscard, Cheshire.

On Saturday, the 15th inst., the Rev. C. D. F. Davies' Ten-part peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES was rung in 2 hrs. 59 mins. R. S. Mann, 1; W. James (conductor), 2; J. R. Pritchard, 3; J. Aspinwall, 4; T. Hammond, 5; H. Coley, 6; W. Davies, 7; G. Fisher, 8. First peal in the method on the bells.

At St. Bartholomew's, Quorndon, Leicestershire.

On Wednesday, the 22nd inst., eight members of the Midland Counties' Association rang a peal of 5088 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR in 3 hrs. 8 mins. A. Cresser, 1; A. Jacob (London), 2; W. A. Tyler, 3; C. Smith, 4; S. Smith, 5; R. Lane, 6; J. W. Taylor, jun., 7; G. Newson (composer and conductor, London), 8. Tenor, 14½ cwt., in F sharp. The above is a variation of Mr. Newson's Three-part peal, and the 2nd is never in 6th's place at the course-ends.

At All Saints', Loughborough, Leicestershire.

On Wednesday, the 22nd inst., ten members of the Midland Counties' Association rang a peal of 5006 STEDMAN CATERS in 3 hrs. 22 mins. A. Cresser, 1; W. A. Tyler, 2; R. Lane, 3; J. W. Taylor, sen., 4; S. Smith, 5; G. Newson (composer and conductor), 6; A. Jacob, 7; C. Smith, 8; J. W. Taylor, jun., 9; E. Wightman, 10. Tenor, 28 cwt., in D.

AT CRANHAM, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.—On Sunday afternoon, July 29th, prior to the evening service, six members of the Upton St. Leonard's Society visited this place and rang 720 KENT TREBLE BOB MINOR (9 bobs), in 25 mins. H. Barnes, 1; H. G. Gardner, 2; J. Yeates, 3; G. Miles, 4; H. Mitchell, 5; A. A. Waite (conductor), 6. Also two peals of STEDMAN DOUBLES. J. Yeates (conductor), 1; H. G. Gardner, 2; A. A. Waite, 3; G. Miles, 4; H. Mitchell, 5; H. Barnes, 6. Also a touch of 660 PLAIN BOB MINOR, in 23 mins. H. Barnes, 1; G. Miles, 2; A. A. Waite, 3; J. Yeates, 4; H. Mitchell, 5; H. G. Gardner (conductor), 6. Tenor, 9½ cwt., in A flat. This is the first 720 of TREBLE BOB and the first peals of STEDMAN DOUBLES ever rung on the bells.

AT PAINSWICK, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.—On Monday, July 30th, 350 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. A. Trigg, 1; D. Marment, 2; W. Ryland, 3; C. West (age 16), 4; J. Wager, 5; J. Everatt, 6; E. King, 7; J. Powell, 8. Conducted by W. Hale. Also five peals of DOUBLES. On Sunday, the 5th inst., six peals of GRANDSIRE DOUBLES on the back six. On Monday, the 6th inst., on the occasion of the wedding of their leader, W. Hale, a touch of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES was rung on his leaving church, and the ten bells were fired. On partaking of a wedding-supper at Mr. Hale's new residence, on Wednesday, August 8th, 518 from Holt's peal was rung. A. Trigg, 1; D. Marment, 2; W. Ryland, 3; E. King, 4; J. Wager, 5; J. Everatt, 6; W. Hale (conductor), 7; T. Wright, 8. Also two courses on the front seven, with 11-9-8-10-12 covering. A very pleasant evening was spent, several courses and tunes being rung on the handbells.

AT BARNWOOD, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.—On Tuesday evening, the 31st ult., five members of the local band, assisted by Mr. F. Hannis, of Witcombe, rang 720 PLAIN BOB MINOR (16 bobs and 2 singles) in 26½ mins. J. Yeates, 1; F. Hannis, 2; G. Miles, 3; R. J. Wilkins, 4; W. J. Sevier, 5; A. A. Waite (conductor), 6. Also five peals of 120 STEDMAN DOUBLES (each called differently), in 21 mins. J. Yeates (conductor), 1; S. E. Romans, 2; G. Miles, 3; A. A. Waite, 4; H. Mitchell, 5; E. E. Bewick (Hempstead), 6. On Tuesday evening, the 7th inst., for practice, 720 OXFORD TREBLE BOB MINOR (9 bobs), in 27 mins. G. Miles, 1; S. E. Romans, 2; J. Yeates, 3; R. J. Wilkins, 4; H. Mitchell, 5; A. A. Waite (conductor), 6. Tenor 14 cwt., in G.

AT BACUP, LANCASHIRE.—On Sunday evening, the 5th inst., for Divine service, 720 OXFORD SINGLE. Z. Lord, 1; G. Hardman, 2; A. A. Downing, 3; A. Chew, 4; A. White, 5; W. Smith (conductor), 6. On Tuesday evening, the 7th inst., 720 COLLEGE SINGLES in 25 mins. W. Ormerod, 1; G. Hardman, 2; A. A. Downing, 3; A. Chew, 4; A. White, 5; W. Smith (conductor), 6. The latter was rung in honour of the marriage of Mr. Arthur Chew to Miss Lucy Ward of Workop, Notts.

AT ST. THOMAS'S, SALISBURY, WILTS.—On Monday, the 6th inst., 546 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. W. E. Tydeman, 1; W. Greenleaf (London), 2; H. D. Adams, 3; A. P. Goddard, 4; T. Blackburn (conductor), 5; J. P. Jerram, 6; W. W. Gifford, 7; C. Gaisford, 8. Also three courses of STEDMAN TRIPLES. W. E. Tydeman, 1; A. P. Goddard, 2; W. S. Wise, 3; S. Lawrence, 4; T. Blackburn (conductor), 5; H. D. Adams, 6; W. W. Gifford, 7. W. Greenleaf, 8.

AT SOUTH NEWTON, WILTS.—On Tuesday, the 7th inst., two peals of KENT TREBLE BOB MINOR. W. S. Wise, 1; W. W. Gifford, 2; W. Greenleaf, 3; J. R. Jerram, 4; C. A. Clements, 5; F. E. Dawe (conductor, London), 6. Also 720 PLAIN BOB. H. D. Adams, 1; W. S. Wise, 2; W. Greenleaf, 3; J. R. Jerram, 4; C. A. Clements, 5; W. W. Gifford (conductor), 6.

AT CAVERSHAM, OXON.—On Sunday morning, the 12th inst., for Divine service, 720 OXFORD TREBLE BOB MINOR and 120 STEDMAN DOUBLES. After evening service 120 STEDMAN DOUBLES. Also on Sunday morning, the 12th, for Divine service, 720 PLAIN BOB MINOR and 120 STEDMAN DOUBLES. Also for evening service 240 STEDMAN DOUBLES. After evening service, 720 COLLEGE SINGLE. The following ringers took part in the above: Rev. G. P. Coleridge, T. Newman (conductor), G. Essex, J. Hands, E. Menday, H. Smith, H. Simmonds, and F. Simmonds. Tenor, 17 cwt.

AT ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN, STANSTEAD, ESSEX.—On Saturday, the 15th inst., 720 KENT TREBLE BOB in 26 mins. H. J. Tucker (conductor), 1; F. W. Chapman, 2; I. Cavill, 3; G. Prior, 4; W. Prior, 5; H. Prior, 6. An attempt was made for 720 DOUBLE COURT, but after ringing 600 changes it came to an end owing to the breaking of a rope. F. W. Chapman, 1; W. Watts, 2; C. Prior, 3; J. Luckey, 4; H. Prior, 5; H. J. Tucker (conductor), 6. Also 360 OXFORD TREBLE BOB. W. Prior, 1; W. Watts, 2; H. Prior, 3; F. W. Chapman (first attempt), 4; J. Luckey, 5; H. J. Tucker (conductor), 6. Messrs. Tucker and Chapman came from Epping and Stortford.

COLONIAL AND FOREIGN CHURCH NEWS.

UNITED STATES.

WE regret to learn that Bishop Coxe's cathedral church at Buffalo has been destroyed by fire.

A GRANDSON of the late Brigham Young has been confirmed in the Church. The mother of this young man is a daughter of the well-known Mrs. Stenhouse, whose book against Mormonism, *An Englishwoman in Utah*, created much excitement. Mrs. Young was fanatically Mormon, and was very severe upon her mother for her work against the Saints. Now she is an 'apostate' herself, and not one of her large family is a Mormon, but they are all gravitating towards the Christians.—*Standard of the Cross*.

THE Bishop of Long Island in a pastoral calls attention to the 'growing disposition to use the General Thanksgiving in an unauthorised way,'—that is, by the congregation repeating it with the minister, and condemns this for several reasons as 'distinctly uncanonical and illegal.'

THE Roman Catholic Church numbers in the republic, in a population of fifty and a half millions, 6,833,000 adherents, with a clergy of 73 bishops and 7048 priests; but these numbers would have been much greater had the Roman Catholic immigrants remained true to their communion, for they have been nearly one half of all the immigrants. The *Irish World*, even in 1874, estimated the 'leakage' at eighteen millions.

AUSTRALIA.

It is affirmed by the Sydney newspapers that 200,000 persons in that city never enter a place of worship. In many of its 'parishes' there are more than 10,000 souls.

THE Australian Church Congress is to meet next year at Sydney, on the last day of April.

SOME of the 'Protestant Dissenters' are already in reality Churchmen. The Sydney *Record* mentions that, at Ballarat, 'Dr. Bevan, the Congregational minister, has had our Church Litany sung at his Sunday-school anniversary service, not even changing the petition for bishops, priests, and deacons.'

IN the British part of New Guinea a church is about to be erected for the settlers who have gathered at the new township of Glanville, Port Moresby.

RUSSIA.

THE Berlin *Ev.-Kirchl. Anzeiger* quotes from the Archbishop of Canterbury's letter to the festival held in celebration of the ninth centenary of Christianity's introduction:—'The Russian and the Anglican Churches have a common foe. We are compelled, just as you are, to defend our independence against the efforts of the Papacy. We have to guard our flocks from the teachers of new strange doctrines, contrary to the teaching of the holy Apostles and ancient Fathers. Heartily we pray for the union of all mankind in the faith of the Gospel, as set forth according to the Holy Bible by the Œcumenical Councils of the ancient undivided Church.'

IRELAND.

(From our Special Correspondent.)

AN inquest was held on Monday, the 27th ult., on the body of the late Archdeacon Bowles, whose sudden death I recorded in my last letter. Mrs. Ida Bowles testified that her husband returned home the evening before from the Assizes in his usual health apparently, only complaining of tiredness. On Friday morning she remarked that his breathing became very heavy, and getting alarmed at this she sent for Dr. Morton. Before the latter could arrive, however, the Archdeacon had passed away. Dr. Morton considered that the deceased died of heart disease, and the jury passed a verdict to that effect. The remains of the deservedly regretted clergyman were interred in the family vault at Shinrone on Thursday.

The annual meeting of the Ardferd and Aghadoc Synod was held at Tralee on Wednesday, August 29th, the Bishop of Limerick presiding. In addressing the Synod, Dr. Graves referred to the necessity of securing the services of men of capacity who could attend to the duties to which they were appointed. The small attendance of laymen at the Synod was a cause of much complaint. The report of the Board of Religious Education showed that a large number of the children who presented themselves for examination during the year gained prizes, which cost 150*l.*, and further funds for the purpose were now needed. He was certain assistance would be given when it was generally understood that their people had not, for want of money, such advantages as were afforded to the Christian Brothers' schools. The amount to meet ~~the~~ in 1887 was less by 164*l.* 1*s.* than the amount available for the year before. Last year eighteen parishes were 1258*l.* in arrears, and this year twenty parishes were 1551*l.* in arrears, showing an increase in debt of 292*l.* The figures showed a considerable falling off in the voluntary contributions, which, if allowed to decrease, the immediate consequences were obvious. At present the clergy had to contribute largely from their limited stipends to make up the deficit of the Assessment Fund. The maintenance of public worship and the support of the ministry were obligatory on the members of a Christian Church, and it was not reasonable to expect the clergy to go about collecting

funds. The number of mites given by a man to relieve want or to support his Church were not to be taken as an exact criterion of his benevolence. The question was, did he practise any self-denial in order to give to others? A quorum not being present the Synod then adjourned.

THE Bishop of Ossory—acting for the Bishop of Killaloe, who is ill—held an ordination in Parsonstown Church, on Friday, the 24th ult. (St. Bartholomew's Day), at which the following were admitted to the Holy Order of Deacon:—Charles W. McDowell, B.A., T.C.D., to the curacy of Dromcliffe Union (Ennis), and Edward Rush, T.C.D., to the curacy of Woodlawn. The candidates were presented by the Rev. T. S. Berry, D.D., rector of Parsonstown, and the sermon was preached by the Bishop of Ossory.

THE Lord Bishop of Meath held his annual visitation of the clergy of his diocese in St. Patrick's National Cathedral, on Thursday, the 30th ult., at which there was a large attendance of clergy. Divine service was held at 11.30 o'clock, after which there was a celebration of the Holy Communion. The Bishop was assisted in the celebration by the Dean of Clonmacnois, the Archdeacon of Meath, Rev. Canon Bell, Rev. F. Hopkins, and Rev. J. B. Keane. Subsequently the clergy assembled in the chancel, and the Bishop delivered his charge, in which he deplored at some length the social condition of Ireland. Happily the people of the Church of Ireland had taken little part in the organization which had effected the present crisis, and to which he was astonished to see such support given by the people in England. His Lordship having dealt with a variety of other topics, spoke of the state of the Church in the diocese of Meath, and said he was glad to find that the number of communicants exceeded the numbers in England in proportion to the number of the congregations. He urged strongly on the clergy the advisability of having frequent celebrations of the Holy Communion. Dr. Reichel concluded his charge with a few words on the subject of preaching, and attributed any decadence that might exist in pulpit oratory to recent scientific occurrences, which tended to modify the views of men.

ON Friday the Synod of the diocese of Meath was held in the Synod Hall, Christ Church Place, the Lord Bishop presiding. Previous to the meeting the members, both clerical and lay, attended Divine service, at which there was a celebration of the Holy Communion. The President, in opening the Synod, was glad to be able to say that the diocese had prospered during the past year. It appeared from the Report of the Diocesan Council that subscriptions to the several funds to the credit of the diocese had increased, and that the income during the past year had exceeded the expenditure by 250*l.* 10*s.* 3*d.* In 1886 the deficit amounted to 139*l.* 9*s.*, so that the total gain of 1887 over 1886 had been 389*l.* 19*s.* 3*d.* This is mainly due to an increase of upwards of 600*l.* in the cash receipts for assessment, and, as owing to a reduction in the interest allowed on commutation capital from four to three and a half per cent, made for the first time this year, the income from this source is nearly 500*l.* less than it would otherwise have been, the result may be regarded as highly satisfactory. The Report was unanimously adopted, and a resolution was passed requesting the Diocesan Council to formulate a scheme for the collection of small subscriptions throughout the diocese. The Education Report having been also adopted, the President announced his intention of holding the next meeting of the Synod towards the end of the month of June. The Synod was then closed with the Benediction, pronounced by the Bishop.

Dublin has been *en fête* last week over the Horse Show. The show has been pronounced on all sides to be the most successful ever held in point of attendance, but the quality of horses, although good, is said not to have been all round up to the standard of late years. Every habitable place was crowded, and daily visitors were turned away from the already full hotels. The weather, for the summer of 1888, was propitious. The Lord and Lady Lieutenant were present on each afternoon of the show, his Excellency taking a great interest in the horses.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

The Six Bells at Woodhope, Herefordshire.

THE fine old ring of six bells in the church of St. George has recently undergone extensive repairs. They have been entirely rehung, with new stocks, wheels, and clappers. The bells from constant use were found to be very much worn, and have been turned on the new stocks, so that the clappers now strike in an opposite direction. New bell-ropes have been supplied, new guides for ropes to pass through fitted with turned ornamental bosses, and new troughs between the floors for the ropes to work in. The bells being turned, are fitted with reversible crown staples, passing through the crown of the bell and screwing on top of the stock, and are all hung on gun-metal bearings fitted into cast-iron chairs, and fitted with grease-boxes and covers. The gudgeons are all turned up in the stocks, and fitted in iron bed-plates to the under sides of the stock. The oldest bell bears the date 1649, and has the following inscription: 'Honour and Praise be given to Thee, O Lord. J.B. A.D., Churchwardens.' The work has given entire satisfaction.

A Visit to Upton Pyne, Devon.

On Sunday, the 19th ult., by the kind invitation of the Hon. and Rev. J. S. Northcote, some members of the St. Sidwell's Society paid a visit to this pretty village, about four miles from Exeter, and rang with the reverend gentleman on the pleasant ring of six bells. Several peals (120) of GRANDSIRE DOUBLES were rung, conducted by the Hon. and Rev. J. S. Northcote; and afterwards the visitors were shown over the church, various things of interest being explained, including the handsome stained-glass window erected to the memory of the late Earl of Idlesleigh. All things having been seen, the reverend gentleman conducted them to the clubroom, where he had generously provided a tea; afterwards a start was made for home, after many thanks for the reverend gentleman's kindness. The following were present:—F. Shepherd, B. Mundy, E. Shepherd, J. Moss, C. Carter, T. J. Lake, T. Mudge, J. Bastin, S. Binfield, Hon. and Rev. J. S. Northcote.

The Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association.

On Thursday, August 23rd, after assembling in the belfry of the parish church, Cheltenham, and ringing two touches of GRANDSIRE CATERS, conducted by Mr. J. Belcher, a supper was held at the 'Eight Bells' to commemorate the long peal of STEDMAN CATERS rung at Cheltenham on May 21st last. About thirty ringers and friends sat down to supper. The chair was taken by Mr. Belcher, and the vice-chair by the Rev. Pitt Eykyn, secretary to the Association. The cloth being removed, the usual loyal toasts were given and duly honoured. The next two toasts were those of the ringers of the long peal and Mr. W. T. Pates, the conductor; after which a very handsome peal tablet was presented to Mr. Pates, through the Chairman, commemorative of the long peal, it being also his first peal of STEDMAN CATERS as conductor.

Mr. Pates having duly responded, expressing his thanks and saying what a surprise to him such a handsome present was, the Chairman presented Mr. Phillott, on behalf of his ringing friends in Cheltenham and various parts, with an exceedingly handsome gift on the occasion of his marriage. The present consisted of a splendid sewing machine, having on the case a silver plate engraved with the words, 'Presented to G. H. Phillott by ringing friends, June 26th, 1888.' Together with this was also presented a beautifully illuminated address on vellum, which was read by Mr. Ward, giving the names of the donors, and wishing Mr. and Mrs. Phillott long life and happiness. After this, Mr. Phillott thanked his numerous friends, one and all, both those present and others unavoidably absent, for the useful present they had given him.

The health of 'The Visitors' was then proposed, and afterwards that of Mr. Ward, who, in replying, proposed the health of 'The Chairman,' to whom the usual vote of thanks was given. The last toast on the board was that of the well-known veteran—Mr. W. Morris—now fast nearing seventy-nine, but who is still hale and hearty, and able to make one in a peal of CATERS. The rest of the evening was agreeably spent in harmony, various courses and tunes being rung, and a solo performance of a well-struck touch of KENT TREBLE BOB by Mr. W. T. Pates, which was heartily applauded by all. Solos on the handbells were also given by Messrs. Brunson and Humphries, and courses by friends from Gloucester and Tewkesbury.

The St. Stephen's Society, Bristol.

On Wednesday, the 22nd ult., the members of the above Society had their annual holiday, the place selected being Trowbridge, where they arrived about 1.45 p.m. The first place visited was St. James's Church, where they were very generously received by the local band of ringers. The bells were already raised, and they were asked to take possession of the ropes. After a touch of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, and one of MAJOR, a quarter-peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES was decided on, which was brought round in 47 mins. by the following:—G. Staddon, 1; W. A. Dowling, 2; C. H. Gordon, 3; W. McCaffrey (Trowbridge), 4; W. Parsons, 5; F. Price (conductor), 6; J. Hinton, 7; J. Palser, 8. It being Trowbridge Flower Show, they made their way to the show-grounds, where they spent most of their spare time, the weather being all that could be desired. Afterwards they had time to see the illuminations, &c., in the town, before starting for Bristol, which place was reached shortly after eleven o'clock.

The Lancashire Association.—Rossendale Branch.

On Saturday, the 25th ult., a meeting of this Association was held at St. Saviour's Church, Stubblye. There was a good muster of ringers present, and some excellent ringing done in various methods by mixed companies from the following churches:—Christ Church, Bacup; St. Saviour's, Bacup; Newchurch, Waterfoot; Ramsbottom, Rawtenstall, and Bolton. The bells of St. Saviour's Church began ringing soon after three o'clock, and continued at intervals until half-past nine. The usual general meeting was held in the schoolroom, presided over by the Rev. William Johnson, M.A., vicar of the church. After the business had been transacted, which was of a routine character, a cordial vote of thanks was accorded to the Vicar and Wardens for the use of the bells and the schoolroom. The next meeting will be held at Helmshore; the date has not yet been fixed.

The United Counties' Association.

The half-yearly meeting and six-bell competition will take place at Hayfield, Derbyshire, on September 22nd, commencing at 2 p.m. There will be no general dinner, but members and friends standing will find every accommodation at the several hotels and refreshment-rooms. The officers and Committee will meet at the 'Royal Hotel' to enrol new members and receive subscriptions. JAMES S. WILDE, JOSEPH RADCLIFFE, Secretaries.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At St. Mary's, Woodbridge, Suffolk.

On Saturday, the 25th ult., eight members of the Norwich Diocesan Association rang a peal of 5088 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR in 3 hrs. 16 mins. W. Ward, 1; W. A. Arnott, 2; I. S. Alexander, 3; A. E. Acfield, 4; W. Motts, 5; J. Motts, 6; F. Tillett, 7; C. Ward, 8. Composed by the Rev. H. E. Bulwer, and conducted by Mr. W. Ward. Tenor, 27 cwt. Messrs. Alexander, Tillett, W. and J. Motts, belong to the St. Mary-le-Tower Society, Ipswich; the others to the local society.

At St. Mary's, Beddington, Surrey.

On Saturday, the 25th ult., eight members of the Surrey Association rang a peal of 5003 GRANDSIRE CATERS in 3 hrs. 18 mins. J. W. Trappitt, 1; J. Plowman, 2; C. Gordon, 3; W. States (birthday), 4; H. C. Haley, 5; A. B. Carpenter (composer and conductor), 6; Jos. Fayers, 7; A. Bruce, 8; T. Verrall, 9; W. Hill (first peal of CATERS), 10. Tenor, 20½ cwt., in F flat.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH, WRAXALL, SOMERSETSHIRE.—Recently, by the St. Stephen's Amateur Society, Bristol, 168 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. C. Burder, 1; G. Colston, 2; J. Harvey (first attempt), 3; J. Hinton (conductor), 4; C. Trevett, 5; W. Emery, 6; F. Elles, 7; W. Colston, 8. Also a quarter peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. J. Hinton, 1; G. Colston, 2; C. Burden, 3; S. Phillips, 4; C. Trevett, 5; F. Price (conductor), 6; W. Emery, 7; W. Colston, 8. First quarter peal on the bells. And 504 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR. C. Burden, 1; G. Colston, 2; F. Elles, 3; C. Trevett, 4; S. Phillips, 5; F. Price, 6; W. Emery, 7; J. Hinton (conductor), 8. Also several peals of GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, with 4-6-8 covering. J. Harvey, 1; J. Good, 2; G. Colston, 3; C. Winston, 4; J. Bishop, 5; J. Windsor, 6; J. Windsor, 7; G. Goodland, 8.

AT HEIGHINGTON, DURHAM.—On Saturday, the 18th ult., the members of St. John's, Darlington, paid a visit to the above village by invitation of the Vicar, and rang 720 COLLEGE SINGLE. J. Bolton, 1; J. Little, 2; W. Patton, 3; H. S. Taylor, 4; W. D. Lister, 5; J. H. Whitfield (conductor), 6. Also 720 OXFORD TREBLE BOB. J. Little, 1; H. S. Taylor, 2; W. Patton, 3; R. Moncaster, 4; W. D. Lister, 5; J. H. Whitfield (conductor), 6. Tenor, 16 cwt.

AT CHRIST CHURCH, WANSTEAD, ESSEX.—On Sunday, the 19th ult., after evening service, 720 BOB MINOR (32 bobs and 2 singles) in 26 mins. F. Nunn, 1; J. Nunn, 2; H. Nunn, jun., 3; G. Cornell, 4; E. Barnett (conductor), 5; J. Marks, 6.

AT ST. PAUL'S, BURTON-ON-TRENT.—On Sunday, the 19th ult., for morning service, a touch of SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR. G. Robinson, 1; A. Jacob, 2; A. Wakley, 3; J. Griffin, 4; E. I. Stone, 5; H. Wakley, 6; G. Newson, 7; W. Wakley (conductor), 8. Also, for evening service, two courses of LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR. G. Robinson, 1; J. Austin, 2; A. Wakley, 3; J. Griffin (conductor), 4; E. I. Stone, 5; H. Wakley, 6; J. Jaggard, 7; W. Wakley, 8. And two courses of CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR in the Burton Variation. G. Robinson, 1; J. Austin, 2; A. Wakley, 3; J. Griffin, 4; A. Jacob, 5; H. Wakley, 6; G. Newson (conductor), 7; W. Wakley, 8. Also a plain course of LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR. G. Robinson, 1; J. Austin, 2; A. Wakley, 3; A. Jacob, 4; E. I. Stone, 5; H. Wakley, 6; G. Newson, 7; W. Wakley, 8.

AT ST. PETER'S, SUDBURY, SUFFOLK.—On Monday evening, the 20th ult., the following members of the Sudbury Company of Change-ringers rang after evening service, a touch of 1024 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR. F. Tolliday, 1; J. Silvester, 2; W. Griggs, 3; W. Cross, 4; W. Bacon, 5; A. Scott, 6; H. Harper, 7; C. Sillitoe (conductor), 8. Tenor, 23 cwt.

AT ST. OSWALD'S, DURHAM.—On Monday evening, the 20th ult., 720 PLAIN BOB MINOR (4 bobs and 14 singles), in 27 mins. T. Wheatley (first 720), 1; W. H. Craggs, 2; J. E. Avery, 3; C. Bradford, 4; C. J. Butterworth, 5; L. Newton (conductor), 6.

AT ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST'S, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—On Monday, the 20th ult., an attempt was made to ring T. Lockwood's peal of 5392 BOB MAJOR, but unfortunately had to stand at the end of the 2816th change, two bells having changed course. F. Lees, 1; G. T. Ross, 2; W. C. Bennett, 3; G. Atkinson, 4; Joseph Pattison, 5; R. S. Story, 6; Z. Scott, 7; W. Story (conductor), 8. Tenor, 12½ cwt. At the same church, on Monday, the 19th ult., 720 BOB MINOR (22 singles). F. Lees, 1; G. T. Ross, 2; W. Story, 3; G. Atkinson, 4; Z. Scott, 5; W. C. Bennett (conductor), 6.

AT ST. MARTIN'S, SALISBURY (DEFEAT OF THE SPANISH ARMADA).—On Wednesday, the 22nd ult. (being the three-hundredth anniversary of the day of the final destruction of the Spanish Armada), 720 KENT TREBLE BOB MINOR in 28 mins. H. D. Adams, 1; A. P. Goddard, 2; G. A. Clements, 3; W. S. Wise, 4; J. R. Jerram, 5; W. W. Gifford (conductor), 6. Rung on the back six bells; tenor, 15 cwt. It was intended to have rung a touch of MAJOR, but only seven of the company met.

AT ST. THOMAS'S, SALISBURY.—On Thursday, the 23rd ult. (on the occasion of the Flower-Show in the Palace grounds), 1260 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 53 mins. G. A. Clements, 1; J. P. Goddard, 2; H. D. Adams, 3; W. E. Tydeman, 4; W. S. Wise, 5; A. R. Jerram, 6; W. W. Gifford (conductor), 7; C. Gaisford, 8. Also two peals of STEDMAN DOUBLES on the back six bells. W. E. Tydeman, 1; A. P. Goddard, 2; W. S. Wise, 3; H. D. Adams, 4; W. W. Gifford (conductor), 5; C. Gaisford, 6. Tenor, 30 cwt.

RECEIVED ALSO.—L. Proctor, Esq., 'Bells at Minehead' thanks for the information but substantially the same account appeared in our issue for August 18th and 25th.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Hospital Sunday at Eastbourne, Sussex.

ON Sunday, the 26th ult., being Hospital Sunday, at St. Saviour's Church, for the afternoon service, 968 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. W. Ticehurst, 1; H. P. Bennett, 2; W. Lawrence, 3; L. Huggett, 4; E. Willoughby, 5; F. Fisher, 6; T. Hart* (conductor), 7; G. Ades, 8. It was intended to start for a quarter-peal, but meeting late it had to be given up. The sum of 117l. 13s. 6d. was contributed by the congregation of the sacred edifice during the day towards this local institution. The old town is situated about one and a half miles from the beach. The parish church of St. Mary (old town) is worth a visit, and dates back to about 1150. In 1851 it was partially repaired, and twenty years later it was again renovated, when about 6000l. was expended on it. The church boasts of one of the finest rings of eight in the county. The old parsonage is on the north side of the church, and is now portioned off into labourers' cottages. On Wednesday evening, the 29th ult., a well-struck and quick touch of 616 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES was rung. W. Piper, 1; W. Lawrence, 2; S. Willoughby, 3; L. Huggett, 4; E. Willoughby, 5; T. Lewis, 6; T. Hart (conductor), 7; G. Ades, 8. Close to the church is the 'Lamb Inn,' probably one of the oldest inns in the county, and celebrated for a curious crypt beneath it. The workhouse is situated in the old town, and was designed as a cavalry barracks during the Peninsular War. All Saints' and St. Saviour's Church towers are fitted with Seage's silent apparatus, so that the weekly practices are carried on and the outside world none the wiser. Christchurch has a little ring of six, which are in good order; and the whole of the belfries are nicely kept, having matting and other comforts. * Members of the Sussex County Association. † Members of St. Lawrence's Society, Reading.

The Holiday of the St. Stephen's Society, Westminster.

ON Saturday, the 8th inst., the annual holiday of the St. Stephen's local band took place at Beddington, Surrey. A party of ten members started from Victoria to West Croydon, and enjoyed a pleasant walk to Beddington. On arriving at the church everything was in readiness, and 447 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES was brought round by the following members:—A. Ellis, 1; H. Ghous, 2; H. R. Newton, 3; J. Pugh, 4; H. S. Ellis, 5; J. Willshire, 6; G. T. McLaughlin, 7; J. N. Oxborrow, 8. Afterwards another touch of 307 in the same method. Then followed touches of STEDMAN TRIPLES, GRANDSIRE CATERERS, and STEDMAN CATERERS. Tea being ready, at 6 p.m. an adjournment was made; and the party, now numbering nineteen, sat down to a substantial meal. Afterwards Mr. J. M. Hayes, late instructor to the Society, was presented with a gold saif-pin in the shape of a bell, with the following inscription engraved on it:—'Presented by the St. Stephen's Ringing Society to J. M. Hayes.' After this the company again visited the church, and touches in the following methods were rung:—GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, STEDMAN CATERERS, TREBLE BOB ROYAL, and TREBLE BOB MAJOR. Ringing being finished, the company adjourned to the 'Plough Inn,' where the evening was spent in harmonic selections and handbell ringing. The St. Stephen's Society thank the Beddington ringers and Dr. Carpenter of Croydon for meeting them, and making such a pleasant gathering; also the rector for the use of the bells.

The First Holiday of St. Margaret's Society, Lee, Kent.

ON Saturday, the 1st inst., nine members of the St. Margaret's Society had their first holiday, the place selected being Brighton. Leaving New Cross at 8.35, they arrived at Brighton at 10.30. Previous arrangements having been made for a pull at St. Peter's, the first thing was to find Mr. G. F. Attree and Mr. Jay, when arrangements were made to meet at 3 o'clock at the above church. In the meantime some enjoyed an excursion on the water, while others preferred the beach. After luncheon a start was made for St. Peter's, where they were met by the above-named gentlemen and several more of the Brighton ringers. The younger members had a few courses, when 500 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES were brought round with the assistance of four of the Brighton ringers. Leaving Brighton at 7 o'clock, they reached New Cross at 9.45, all having enjoyed their holiday; and wish to thank the rector and churchwardens for allowing them the use of the bells; also to Mr. Attree for having all in readiness.

The Worcestershire and Adjoining Districts Change-ringing Association.

ON Saturday, the 25th ult., a Quarterly Meeting of this Association, well attended by members from Arley Kings, Bromsgrove, Belbroughton, Clent, Cradley, Dudley, Malvern, Netherton, Stourbridge, and Tipton, was held in the Lyttelton Middle-Class Schoolroom, Malvern. The Vicar, Dr. G. Smith, who had other business of importance, could not preside, the chair being occupied in his absence by the Rev. E. A. Ball, senior curate. The reverend gentleman, in opening the meeting, said he had been requested by his Vicar to give them a most hearty welcome on this their first visit to his parish, and hoped all would enjoy their holiday. Speaking of the bells, he said we all knew that they had been augmented to a peal of eight, and he was pleased to say it was through his instrumentality that it was so. Although at first his Vicar and a few others were against him, still, with perseverance, he overcame the few obstacles, and all gave him a willing hand, and enabled him to add three new bells as an offering to God in commemoration of her Majesty's Jubilee. The reverend gentleman then gave all a hearty welcome to his residence to tea, for which they thanked him kindly, and were sorry they could not partake of his kind hospitality, as the time was so short, and as they were anxious to have a ring on what is now a fine ring of eight bells in the Abbey Church at Great Malvern. The usual business of the Association was

then gone through, the Rev. Dr. G. Smith, vicar, and P. Armstrong, Esq., Hon. Sec. of Probationer Ringers, becoming hon. members; the local company, with several others, becoming performing members. A hearty vote of thanks to the reverend chairman for presiding, and to the Vicar for the use of the schoolroom, tower, and bells, brought the meeting to a close. A few short touches of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES and KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, &c., were rung upon the tower bells. We now venture to hope (as the Vicar and his ringers have joined the Association) we shall hear of more ringing being done, and that we shall have the pleasure of recording in the Association peal-books peals rung by them.

A RINGING Meeting of this Association will be held at Clent, near Stourbridge, on Saturday, the 22nd inst., to which all members and ringing friends are invited. The tower of St. Leonard's, Clent (six bells), and St. John's, Hagley (eight bells), will be open for ringing, through the kindness of the vicar and rector respectively. Tea will be provided at a reasonable price at 'Fair View,' Adam's Hill, Clent, for all who wish to partake of same. Members to take this as sufficient notice. JOHN SMITH, Hon. Sec.

The Lancashire Association.

THERE will be a meeting of the members of the proposed branch for the Rochdale and Heywood District on Saturday, the 22nd inst., at St. Alban's, Rochdale. Bells ready at 2 p.m.; meeting in the schoolroom, Drake Street, at 5 p.m. JOHN MILLET.

St. Peter's Parish Church (Brighton) Amateur Society.

THE Annual Holiday of the above Society took place on Monday, the 27th ult., under very favourable circumstances, the weather being all that could be desired. Assembling at Brighton Station at 8 a.m., they were soon on their way to the Kentish hop and corn-fields, while during the railway journey the handbells were brought into requisition. Arriving at Groombridge, a wagonette being in readiness, they started for Tunbridge and Tunbridge Wells, visiting on their journey the tower of Speldhurst, where they found a ring of eight, tenor 14 cwt. in G, by Mears and Stainbank, two of the bells having been added as a Jubilee memorial in 1887. Having been conducted to the belfry by Messrs. H. Edwards and B. Winn, two of the local band, a start was made for 504 STEDMAN TRIPLES, but this unfortunately came to an end, when a course of TREBLE BOB was rung. In the tower is a peal-board recording the first peal on the eight bells, having been rung in December last by the local company. On the belfry door is a notice requesting visitors to take off their hats, thus reminding one that here, at any rate, the belfry forms part of the sacred edifice (a fact too often entirely forgotten). After a stroll round the church, the journey was continued to Penshurst, where there is a heavy ring of six, hung in the reverse order; tenor close upon 24 cwt. While some indulged themselves in ringing GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, others paid a hurried visit to Penshurst Place, an historical mansion dating from the fifteenth century. Then to Tunbridge, where luncheon was found waiting for them, some seventeen miles of road having been traversed. Afterwards a visit was paid to the church of SS. Peter and Paul, where was found a fine ring of eight; tenor, 21 cwt. Here 504 each of STEDMAN and GRANDSIRE were rung, some expressing a wish to attempt a peal; but time prevented this, as they were to visit Tunbridge Wells—the belfry of St. Peter's Church, where again a fine ring was found; tenor, 14½ cwt. in F flat. A 504 STEDMAN was rung in very quick time, the bells going well; and 168 GRANDSIRE brought the day's ringing to a close. The journey home was resumed, the train leaving somewhat early, and Brighton was reached about 9 p.m. The general opinion was that all had spent a most enjoyable day, which in a measure was due to the forethought of their secretary, Mr. G. F. Attree, who had made all the necessary arrangements for the holiday. The thanks of the Society are also due to the vicars and churchwardens of the several churches for the use of their bells.

The Lancashire Association of Six-Bell Ringers.

THE next quarterly meeting of this Association will be held at Ecclestone, by the kind permission of the Rector, on Saturday, the 15th inst. The tower will be open for ringing from 2 p.m. Business meeting in the schoolroom at 5 p.m. JAMES HIGSON, Sec.

57 Chorley Road, Blackrod.

A New Carillon at Adderbury Church, Oxfordshire.

SOME time since a large clock was erected in the above church. By John Smith and Sons, Midland Clock Works, Derby, and now the same firm have fixed a large carillon in connexion with the clock, which plays seven times on eight bells (one tune for each day of the week), at three, six, nine, and twelve o'clock. The largest bell is 25 cwt.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At All Hallows', Tottenham, Middlesex.

ON Thursday, the 29th ult., eight members of the Essex Association rang the Rev. C. D. P. Davies' Five-part peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 47 mins. T. Hughes, 1; H. A. Barnett (conductor), 2; J. Carmichael, 3; G. Griffin, 4; W. Weatherstone, 5; G. B. Lucas, 6; Jos. Waghorn, 7; T. H. Scarlett, 8. Messrs. Weatherstone and Griffin were elected members of the Essex Association in the tower before starting.

At St. Stephen's Schools, Rochester Row, Westminster, London.

ON Friday, the 31st ult., five members of the Ancient Society of College Youths and the Essex Association rang, on handbells retained in hand, a peal of 5039 GRANDSIRE CATERERS in 3 hrs. 2 mins. H. R. Newton, 1; C. F. Winney, 3-4; G. T. MacLaughlin, 5-6; J. M. Hayes, 7-8; E. T. Woodley, 9-10. Composed by Mr. H. Hubbard, and conducted by Mr.

Hayes. Tenor, size 15, in C. Umpire, Mr. J. N. Oxborrow (St. Stephen's Society and Ancient Society of College Youths). * First peal of CATERS on handbells. † First peal on handbells. This is the first peal of GRANDSIRE CATERS rung on handbells in London.

At St. Botolph's, Heene, Worthing, Sussex.

On Saturday, the 1st inst., eight members of the Sussex County Association rang a peal of 5024 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR in 2 hrs. 55 mins. A. A. Triller, 1; J. Reilly, 2; G. A. King, 3; J. Searle, 4; G. W. Cartmel (St. Albans), 5; J. C. Mitchel (St. Albans), 6; H. Weston, 7; C. Tyler, 8. Composed by Mr. Dains and conducted by Mr. Tyler. Tenor, 10½ cwt. The first peal in the method on the bells, and the composition has the sixth the extent home at ten course-ends.

At the Parish Church, Warnham, Sussex.

On Monday, the 3rd inst., eight members of the Sussex Association rang a peal of 5040 BOB TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 53 mins. G. Woodman, 1; W. Charman, 2; G. Charman, 3; F. Luxford (Arundel, first peal in the method), 4; W. Short, 5; T. Andrews, 6; H. H. Chandler, 7; T. Hogsflesh, 8. Composed by Mr. H. Johnson, *sett*, and conducted by Mr. Chandler.

At St. Mary's, WALTON-ON-THE-HILL, LANCASHIRE.—On Tuesday evening, the 21st ult., ten peals of GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, each called differently, in 46 mins. C. E. Wilson (conductor), 1; H. Kelly, 2; R. Hurst, 3; H. Spinks, 4; J. Nightingale, 5; T. Johnson, 6. Tenor, 9 cwt.

At THE PARISH CHURCH, BIDSTON, CHESHIRE.—On Wednesday, the 22nd ult., 720 GRANDSIRE MINOR in 26 mins. H. Povall (conductor), 1; G. Royden, 2; G. Kendrick, 3; J. Griffiths, 4; W. Wilcox, 5; G. Helsby, 6. Tenor, 9½ cwt.

At St. Peter's, RAUNDS, NORTHANTS.—On Saturday evening, the 25th ult., 120 BOB DOUBLES. A. Coles, 1; R. Pendrick, 2; N. Martin, 3; J. B. Martin, 4; H. Stubbs, 5; J. Mitchell, 6. Also 360 COURT SINGLE. A. Coles, 1; W. Gilbert, 2; R. Pendrick, 3; J. B. Martin, 4; N. Martin, 5; H. Stubbs, 6. And 288 OXFORD BOB. A. Coles, 1; H. Stubbs, 2; R. Pendrick, 3; J. B. Martin, 4; N. Martin, 5; W. Gilbert, 6. Also 120 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES. H. Stubbs, 1; R. Pendrick, 2; W. Gilbert, 3; N. Martin, 4; J. B. Martin, 5; J. Mitchell, 6.—On Sunday evening, the 26th ult., for Divine service, 720 BOB MINOR (28 bobs and 2 singles). G. Kirk, 1; H. Stubbs, 2; W. Gilbert, 3; J. B. Martin, 4; W. Pettit, 5; G. Gilbert (conductor), 6. Also 180 LONDON SINGLE. G. Kirk, 1; H. Stubbs, 2; R. Pendrick, 3; J. B. Martin, 4; W. Pettit, 5; W. Gilbert (conductor), 6.

At St. Peter's, BENINGTON, HERTS.—On Tuesday evening, the 28th ult., the Benington Society of Change-ringers met for their usual ringing practice, when the undermentioned members of the Village Ringing Society rang, with remarkable brilliancy of good striking, 1120 changes of that most melodious 'Surprise Method, CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR,' containing 10 bobs. J. Kitchener, 1; Jos. Kitchener, 2; L. Proctor, Esq., 3; L. Chapman, 4; W. Hobbs, 5; J. Warner, 6; C. Shambrook, 7; S. Page (conductor), 8. Tenor, 14 cwt., in F sharp.

At St. Margaret's, ROCHESTER, KENT.—On Tuesday, the 28th ult., 720 BOB MINOR in 26 mins. J. Tulett, 1; A. Osborne, 2; G. Chantler, 3; J. Raynor, 4; J. P. Kidd, 5; W. Baker (conductor), 6. Also on Sunday evening, the 2nd inst., for Divine service, 720 BOB MINOR in 25½ mins. E. Raynor, 1; W. Baker, 2; C. Waterman, 3; A. Osborne, 4; J. P. Kidd, 5; J. Tulett (conductor), 6. C. Waterman came from Shorne.

At THE PARISH CHURCH, WOODCHURCH, CHESHIRE.—On Wednesday evening, the 29th ult., the following members of the Chester Diocesan Guild, ringers at Bidston, assisted by G. Helsby, of Liverpool, paid a visit to the above place, and rang 720 GRANDSIRE MINOR in 27 mins. H. Povall (conductor), 1; G. Royden, 2; G. Kendrick, 3; J. Griffiths, 4; W. Wilcox, 5; G. Helsby, 6. Tenor 10 cwt.

At St. Paul's, BEDFORD.—On Thursday evening, the 30th ult., eight members of the Beds Association of Change-ringers rang a half-peal of 2520 changes BOB MAJOR in 1 hr. 40 mins. W. Allen, 1; F. Smith, 2; W. Biggs, 3; S. J. Cullip, 4; F. Keech, 5; Rev. W. W. C. Baker, 6; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 7; I. Hills, 8. Tenor, 27 cwt., in D. The above was started for a peal to celebrate the silver wedding of Mr. I. Hills, the much-respected steeple-keeper of St. Paul's, but owing to the back bells going very heavily the conductor brought them home at the half-peal end.

At St. Paul's, BEDFORD.—On Thursday, the 30th ult., 2512 BOB MAJOR in 1 hr. 40 mins. W. Allen, 1; F. Smith (longest length in the method), 2; W. G. Biggs, 3; S. J. Cullip, 4; F. Keech, 5; Rev. W. W. C. Baker, 6; C. W. Clarke (composer and conductor), 7; I. Hills, 8. The above was an attempt for 5000, but on account of the bad 'go' of the seventh, the bells were brought home half-way. Also 504 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. W. G. Biggs, 1; S. J. Cullip, 2; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 3; F. Smith, 4; Rev. W. W. C. Baker, 5; F. Keech, 6; I. Hills, 7; W. Allen, 8. And on Sunday morning, the 1st inst., for Divine service, 350 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. F. Hull, 1; F. Smith, 2; F. Sharpe, 3; F. Keech, 4; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 5; J. N. Frossell, 6; I. Hills, 7; W. Bettles, 8. Also for evening service 336 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. W. Bettles, 1; F. Keech, 2; F. Sharp, 3; S. J. Cullip, 4; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 5; W. Allen, 6; I. Hills, 7; F. Hull, 8. And 224 BOB MAJOR. W. Bettles, 1; F. Smith, 2; W. Hall, 3; W. Allen, 4; S. J. Cullip, 5; F. Keech, 6; I. Hills, 7; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 8.

At THE PARISH CHURCH, CLAPHAM, BEDS.—On Saturday, the 1st inst., for practice, six six-scores of BOB DOUBLES. H. Sharpe, 1; F. Smith, 2; G. Coatings, 3; F. Lane, 4; F. Sharpe (conductor), 5.

At St. Matthew's, UPPER CLAPTON, LONDON.—On Sunday evening, the 2nd inst., for Divine service, a quarter-peal of STEDMAN TRIPLES (1260 changes) was rung in 42 mins. T. Page, 1; G. J. Smith, 2; A. S. Barrell, 3; J. Barry (first in the method), 4; G. Page, 5; W. B. Manning, 6; W. D. Smith (conductor), 7; C. Davidson, 8.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The Bishop of Liverpool's Call for an Eirenikon.

SM.—The Bishop says that the defect in the Encyclical is that there is no reference to the unhappy divisions about the doctrine and ritual of the Lord's Supper, which are at this moment convulsing the Church of England, and will certainly bring on disruption and disestablishment unless they are healed.

How are they to be healed? The evil perhaps is not so much that each extreme wing holds erroneous views itself, as that it imputes erroneous views to the other extreme. It may be that there are some on the outskirts of the right wing who hold a Popish presence and adoration thereof; and perhaps there are some on the outskirts of the left wing who make the Eucharist no means of grace, but a mere commemoration of an historic event. Thus there may be extreme men on the outskirts of each portion of our Church; but the main evil is that we caricature one another's opinions. If we would judge more fairly we should think more charitably. It is upon the Sacraments, especially on the Eucharist, that we differ most. One side thinks that the 'verily and indeed taken and received' of the Catechism, and that therein 'our souls are strengthened and refreshed by the Body and Blood of Christ as our bodies are by the bread and wine,' that these teach a corporal presence. The other side thinks that the Fourth Article and the Black Rubric deny any presence at all of our Lord's Body. If we could understand these documents correctly, we should be more satisfied with our own subscriptions, and should be more at unity with one another. The Catechism asserts a presence, but not a material or corporal presence. The Fourth Article and the Black Rubric deny a presence, but it is only a corporal, material presence. There may be a real presence of the effects of a distant body; thus the heat and light of the sun are really present, though its body is in the sky alone. Such was our great divines' explanation of the real objective presence of our Lord's Body in the Eucharist. It is real, because not imaginary. It is objective, because from above, and not caused by our faith. I do not see why this explanation should not supply the eirenikon that the Bishop of Liverpool sighs for. The one side may believe that 'the Body and Blood of Christ are verily and indeed taken and received' in the Eucharist, because what is meant is the grace and virtue which come from His Body, according to His own words, 'It is the Spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing.' In the same way there is no difficulty in believing that the bread is a means whereby we receive the grace, that is, the Body and Blood of Christ, as the mystery is explained by St. Paul, *κοινωνία*. Now, to return to the other side, why should it call the Black Rubric 'wretched,' and wish it expunged? It does not deny a presence by spirit, grace, and virtue. All it denies is that our Lord's Body can be materially present on the altar, as it is in heaven. A spiritual or virtual presence the Black Rubric does not deny. A local corporal presence it does deny, whether with or without its own accidents. If our Lord's Body could be omnipresent it would, as Augustine says, not be a real body at all, much less that which suffered in our stead. Even if we could get rid of the Black Rubric, the Fourth Article still remains. It says that our Lord's risen and ascended Body has still 'all that appertains to the perfection of man's nature.' If being confined to one place at one time so appertains to it, then our Lord's Body is so limited. If angels are so confined, as their moving about shows, His resurrection and ascension, even if they made Him like unto the angels, would not necessarily give His Body omnipresence. If the Lord's presence in the Eucharist confers on us all the graces which can come from His Body, what more do we want or need? What need we of actual contact between His material flesh and ours?

Again, if His flesh be spiritualised, or, as Rome says, turned into a spirit, it is hard to understand a contact between this spirit and our flesh, or how it can confer immortality upon our bodies. Transubstantiation we deny, because St. Paul says the bread remains—'the bread which we break.' Even Rome says our Lord's material Body cannot be broken. So it is bread that we break. Following this we say, 'We receiving these Thy creatures of bread and wine,' calling them so after consecration. That their substance remains is plain, because we only pray that, as our bodies are strengthened and refreshed by their substance, so our souls may be by the Body and Blood of Christ. Accidents, as look, smell, taste, &c., could not strengthen or refresh our bodies. Thus we get rid of a change of substance. But perhaps the most popular and most dangerous error now is consubstantiation, or a presence of our Lord's substantial Body locally with the bread and wine. This is denied by both the Black Rubric and the Fourth Article. I cannot think it would be difficult to draw up a declaration which would at the same time assert a presence of grace and virtue, coming up to the words of the Catechism; and yet deny any change of the substance of the bread, and any material presence, inconsistent with the attributes of our Lord's real ascended Body, and forbidding any adoration of the present grace, as if it were our Lord's substantial Body present in heaven alone.

C. G. C.

'Robert Ellesmere.'

SIR,—I would advise any one whose mind is disturbed by the sugared blasphemy of Robert Ellesmere, to recover its lucidity and calmness by obtaining and reading a book called *The Great Dilemma*. The unanswerable line of argument in it is this, 'That our Lord was not a good man, but an

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

The Curfew Bell.

THE custom of ringing the Curfew Bell was resumed at Stratford-on-Avon on Tuesday night, the 11th inst., the same bell being used as that which was tolled at Shakespeare's funeral.

Visit of the St. Margaret's (King's Lynn) Society to Cromer [St. Peter's].

ON Saturday, the 8th inst., eight members of this Society, with their respected captain, Mr. G. Holland, paid a visit to this little town, for the purpose of having a ring on Cromer's musical bells. The party reached Cromer at 2.45. They were met at the station by Mr. W. Lee, late captain of the St. Nicholas' company, Yarmouth, and after a stroll on the beach the party rang 720 BOB MINOR (thirty bobs and two singles). W. Brown, 1; E. Lockwood (aged seventy-nine years), 2; W. Lee (conductor), 3; J. Dodman, 4; W. G. Cross, 5; G. Holland, 6. The two last-named are members of the Eastern Counties' Guild. Tenor, 12½ cwt. in G. Several touches of TREBLE BOB MINOR were also rung, assisted by Messrs. W. Curston, T. Giles, and W. Crome, who rang the fourth bell in turns. The company then left the tower, and reached Lynn at 10 p.m., having enjoyed their pleasant holiday. Several touches of TREBLE BOB MAJOR and BOB MINOR were rung on the handbells both going to Cromer and on the return journey. The company take this opportunity of thanking the Rev. F. Fitch, vicar, for the use of the bells, and also the steeple-keeper, for having the bells raised and ready for ringing.

A Visit to Ellesmere, Salop.

ON Tuesday, the 4th inst., on the occasion of the Volunteer camp at the above place, eight members of the Whitchurch Society visited this place for the purpose of ringing a peal on the bells; but after an inspection of the bells and fittings, it was decided that two parts, or 1008 changes, would be quite enough, as the bells are not in good repair. After a few rounds with the local men and visitors, a start was made, but ended after about 600 changes had been rung, the treble rope breaking. E. Langford, 1; J. Gibson, 2; G. Wright, 3; F. Ryder, 4; R. T. Holding, 5; G. Woodhall (conductor), 6; T. Barron, 7; W. Barron, 8. Also 360 GRANDSIRE MINOR. J. Gibson, 1; G. Wright, 2; F. Ryder, 3; T. Barron, 4; G. Woodhall (conductor), 5; R. T. Holding, 6; W. Barron, 7. Tenor, about 20 cwt.

Tipton, Staffordshire.

ON Saturday, the 1st inst., the St. Martin's Society of Tipton had their annual holiday. Hanbury, Worcestershire, a village a few miles from Bromsgrove, being the place selected. A start from the church was made at 7.45 a.m. in a waggone. The route taken was through Oldbury, Harborne, and Selly Oak, each church containing a ring of eight, and through the famous Lickey Hills, reaching Bromsgrove at 10 o'clock, where they were met by several of the local ringers. They were here joined by Mr. H. Martin, of Bellbroughton, and Mr. G. Hayward, of Bromsgrove, and Hanbury was reached at 11.30, after a pleasant ride away from the Black Country smoke. Reaching the church of St. Mary-the-Virgin (permission having been previously obtained from the Rector, the Rev. C. W. N. Ogilvy), they were met by Mr. A. Moore with the keys, and a touch of 1008 BOB MAJOR was rung. A. Moore, 1; G. Hayward, 2; H. Mills, 3; E. Goodreds, 4; H. Martin, 5; S. Jesson, 6; G. Hughes (conductor), 7; W. R. Small, 8. Afterwards some of the party betook themselves to the top of the tower, where a fine view of the country for miles around was obtained, the church standing on a high hill. After a good tea, the company again adjourned to the tower and rang 504 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. H. Martin, 1; E. Goodreds, 2; G. Hayward (conductor), 3; H. Mills, 4; A. H. Hill, 5; S. Jesson, 6; G. Hughes, 7; A. Moore, 8. Falling the bells (tenor about 14 cwt.), the party started for home, again calling at Bromsgrove, and rang two courses of PLAIN BOB ROYAL. E. Crump, 1; E. Goodreds, 2; H. Mills, 3; O. James, 4; A. H. Hill, 5; S. Jesson, 6; G. Hughes, 7; W. R. Small, 8; H. Martin, 9; W. Rea, 10. And a course of GRANDSIRE CATERS, with G. Hayward ringing the 4th. Taking a farewell of their Bromsgrove friends, they arrived home after a pleasant day's enjoyment.

The Bells of Rickmansworth, Herts.

ON Wednesday, the 12th inst., the ring of eight bells at the above town was reopened, after repARATION by Mr. Gray, of Hertford, by Squire Proctor and his famous band of change-ringers, when STEDMAN TRIPLES, DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, and SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, were rung, conducted by Messrs. Page and Newson. The following persons took part in the ringing:—L. Proctor, Esq.; Rev. E. W. Carpenter (Bobbing, Kent); Messrs. Page, Jos. Kitchener, Warner (senior and junior), John Kitchener, Hobbs, Shambrook (Benington), Haworth (London); Chapman, Newson, Foskett (Hampstead); Gray and Holdfield (Hertford). Luncheon and dinner took place at the 'Swan' Hotel. Messrs. Chapman, Newson, and Foskett, accompanied the Benington ringers to Hatfield, on their way home, where SUPERLATIVE, STEDMAN, and DOUBLE NORWICH, were rung at the parish church.

The Reigate Society, Surrey.

ON Monday, the 10th inst., the above Society had their annual holiday, the places selected being Guildford and Godalming. Leaving Reigate at 12.15, accompanied by Mr. J. Bashford, sen., of Bletchingley, they were met at Godalming by Messrs. G. Riddle, A. and W. Haigh, and J. Cooper, who had everything in readiness for them at the Parish Church, where a touch of 504 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES WAS rung. W. Bone, 1; F. Hoad (conductor), 2; G. Croucher, 3; J. Bashford, 4; E. Moses, 5; W. Argent, 6; E. Kenward,

7; G. Riddle, 8. Also 209 in the same method. G. Croucher, 1; F. Hoad, 2; J. Cooper, 3; W. Sadler, 4; T. Brown, 5; E. Moses (conductor), 6; A. Haigh, 7; W. Argent, 8. And 252 STEDMAN TRIPLES. G. Croucher, 1; F. Hoad (conductor), 2; F. Linter, 3; J. Bashford, 4; W. Argent, 5; E. Moses, 6; E. Kenward, 7; A. Haigh, 8. Proceeding to Guildford, St. Nicholas Church was reached, where Mr. F. W. J. Bees was in waiting with the bells ready for them. A start was made for a quarter-peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES (1260 changes), which was brought round in 47½ mins. G. Croucher, 1; F. Hoad (conductor), 2; J. Bashford, 3; F. W. J. Rees, 4; E. Moses, 5; E. Kenward, 6; W. Argent, 7; J. Howard, 8. Tenor, 25 cwt. Another attempt for a touch came to an abrupt termination by the treble rope breaking. Messrs. Riddle, the brothers Haigh, and Cooper belong to Godalming. They wish to thank the Vicars of Godalming and St. Nicholas, Guildford, for the use of the bells, and also the steeple-keepers and ringers at each church for having the bells ready for them, and giving them such a friendly welcome.

Birmingham Amalgamated Society.

THE members of the above Society will hold their next Quarterly Meeting at the 'Swan' Hotel, Edmund Street, Birmingham, on Monday, October 1st, at 8 p.m., when most important business will be brought forward. W. Brook, Secretary.

The Lancashire Association.

IN accordance with the result of the vote taken at the last annual meeting, the next annual meeting will be held at Bolton, on Saturday, October 13th, 1888. Further particulars later.—J. REDFORD, A. E. WREAKS, Hon. Secs.

The Essex Association.

THE Report and list of members for the current year, 1888-9, have been issued. Ringing members of the Association who have not received it should apply to the secretary or foreman of their respective companies, or in the case of 'non-resident' members, to myself.

I regret the accidental omission of two well-known names—Mr. G. Newson and Mr. C. F. Winny, both of which, I am glad to say, remain on our books. The name of Mr. A. S. Barrell has also been omitted without reason. Where a member's subscription has remained unpaid for two previous years, it is assumed that he has withdrawn from the Association.

I venture to invite particular attention to the remarks on page 18 of the Report with regard to the payment of subscriptions; and to request that all members—and especially those whose subscription for 1887-8 is also in arrear—will forward their subscription for the current year as early as possible. T. L. PAPILLON, Hon. Secretary.

Writtle Vicarage, Chelmsford, September 10th.

The Yorkshire Association of Change-Ringers.

THE annual meeting will be held at York on Saturday, October 6th. Divine service at the Minster at 4.30, with special sermon by the Very Rev. the Dean. Tea at 6, and business meeting at 6.45. Members desirous of having tea provided for them are requested to send word to Mr. W. H. Howard, 43 Trinity Lane, York, on or before October 1st. Tea tickets 6d. each, in accordance with the resolution of the Association. Further particulars will be given in the circulars.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At Christ Church Cathedral, Oxford.

ON Thursday, the 6th inst., ten members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild rang Mr. H. Johnson's peal of 5079 STEDMAN CATERS in 3 hrs. 28 mins. W. Finch, 1; H. Fruin, 2; A. W. Barkus,* 3; C. Tolley,* 4; T. Blackburn,* 5; W. Baston, 6; Rev. F. E. Robinson (conductor), 7; S. Hounslow, 8; J. W. Washbrook, 9; A. Strange, 10. Tenor, 41 cwt. *First peal of STEDMAN CATERS.

At St. Peter's, Drayton, Berks.

ON Saturday, the 8th inst., eight members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild rang Brookes' variation of Thurstan's peal of 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 45 mins. E. Bishop* (Bury), 1; T. Short, 2; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 3; T. Blackburn (Salisbury), 4; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 5; A. W. Barkus* (Salisbury), 6; J. Brown, 7; H. Fruin, 8. Tenor, 9½ cwt. *First peal of STEDMAN TRIPLES.

At St. John-the-Baptist's, Erith, Kent.

ON Saturday, the 8th inst., eight members of the Kent County Association rang Holt's Ten-part peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 52 mins. G. Cullum (first peal), 1; E. E. Richards, 2; F. Cullum (first peal with a bob-bell), 3; W. Atkins, 4; G. Conyard, 5; W. Bedwell (first peal as conductor), 6; J. Garard, 7; W. Saxby, 8. Tenor, 18 cwt. Messrs. G. Cullum, F. Cullum, and Garard belong to Erith; Conyard and Saxby, Crayford; Richard and Atkins, Woolwich; and Bedwell, Greenwich.

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

ON Saturday, the 8th inst., eight members of the Ashton-under-Lyne Society rang a peal of 5024 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR in 3 hrs. 6 mins. T. Taylor, 1; J. Hopwood, 2; J. Wood (conductor), 3; T. Wroe, 4; J. Leigh, 5; J. Gillott, 6; G. Longden, 7; S. Wood (composer), 8. The above is Mr. J. Wood's 100th peal, and it is the 100th TREBLE BOB peal in which Mr. Longden has taken part.

At St. Helen's, Abingdon, Berks.

ON Monday, the 10th inst., a peal of 5021 GRANDSIRE CATERS was rung in 3 hrs. 14 mins. W. Adkins,* 1; J. W. Washbrook (composer and conductor), 2; A. Burgess,* 3; A. W. Barkus,* 4; A. J. Kimbrey, 5; T. Blackburn,* 6; E. Aldworth, 7; T. Short, 8; J. Brown,* 9; W. Carter,* 10. Tenor, 21 cwt. *First peal of GRANDSIRE CATERS.

At St. Mary's, Rotherhithe, Surrey.

On Tuesday, the 11th inst., eight members of the Society of Trinity Youths and the St. James's Society rang Holt's Original peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 40 mins. W. Pead, 1; Rev. H. A. Cockey, 2; W. Bedwell, 3; W. Weatherstone, 4; T. Taylor, 5; E. E. Richards, 6; F. G. Newman (conductor), 7; Jos. Laws, 8. Tenor, 16 cwt.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH, SWANSCOMBE, KENT.—On Thursday evening, the 30th ult., the following members of the Kent County Association rang for Divine service, 720 BOB MINOR. J. Harding, 1; J. Broom, 2; W. Jackson, 3; A. Cornford, 4; W. Martin (conductor), 5; W. Harper, 6. And on Thursday evening, the 6th inst., for Divine service, 720 of KENT TREBLE BOB MINOR. L. Digweed, 1; A. Cornford, 2; G. Hayes (conductor), 3; J. Broom, 4; W. Martin, 5; W. Harper, 6.

AT ST. PETER'S, WORKING, SURREY.—On Sunday evening, the 2nd inst., for Divine service, 360 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES. W. Furlonger, 1; W. C. Ryde, Esq., 2; B. Ryde, Esq., 3; F. Ryde, Esq., 4; F. Arnold (conductor), 5; A. Sanders, 6. This is the first 360 on the bells by the local band.

AT ST. PETER'S, ST. ALBANS, HERTS.—On Sunday, the 2nd inst., for Divine service, 504 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. A. Hull, 1; J. W. Brewer, 2; E. Hull, 3; H. Brewer, 4; E. P. Debenham (conductor), 5; W. H. L. Buckingham, 6; T. Waller, 7; J. Waller, 8. Composed by H. J. Tucker. For evening service the last 742 of Holt's Original, with W. H. L. Buckingham, 4; the others standing as before. *Hand-bell Ringing*.—On Saturday, the 1st inst., in the belfry, 960 GRANDSIRE MAJOR and 672 BOB MAJOR. A. Barnes, 1-2; E. P. Debenham, 3; H. Brewer, 4; W. H. L. Buckingham (conductor), 5-6; T. Waller, 7-8. And a plain course of STEDMAN TRIPLES. H. Brewer, 1; A. Barnes, 2; E. P. Debenham, 3-4; W. H. L. Buckingham, 5-6; T. Waller, 7-8. First attempt at MAJOR and STEDMAN TRIPLES by H. Brewer.

AT ST. BARNABAS', PIMLICO, LONDON.—On Sunday evening, the 2nd inst., after Divine service, ten members of the St. James's Society rang 1380 STEDMAN CATERS in 54 mins. C. F. Winny, 1; H. Langdon, 2; W. Hoved, 3; G. T. McLaughlin, 4; J. N. Oxborrow, 5; H. R. Newton, 6; H. Swain, 7; W. H. Judd, 8; J. M. Hayes (conductor), 9; W. Copley, 10.

AT SS. PETER AND PAUL, MILTON-NEXT-GRAVESEND.—On Sunday evening, the 2nd inst., 720 GRANDSIRE MINOR in 26 mins. W. Louth, 1; J. Allen, 2; B. Spunner, 3; J. H. Broom (Swanscombe), 4; H. D. Davis (conductor), 5; F. Hayes, 6.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH, FARNHAM, SURREY.—On Wednesday evening, the 5th inst., a quarter-peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 45 mins. R. Le Clercq, * 1; H. Garfath, * 2; W. Fright, 3; A. White, 4; J. Hawkes, * 5; C. Fry, * 6; G. Lindoff (conductor), 7; T. Spreadborough, 8. * First quarter-peal.

AT THE ABBEY, TEWKESBURY.—On Thursday evening, the 6th inst., for practice, 1008 STEDMAN TRIPLES. C. W. Dyson, 1; R. H. Witherington, 2; F. Moore, 3; J. Hale, 4; S. Cleal, 5; J. Wathen, 6; Jos. Wathen (conductor), 4; T. Devereux, 8.

AT ALL SAINTS', RYDE, ISLE OF WIGHT.—On Thursday, the 6th inst., for practice, eight members of the Winchester Diocesan Guild rang 504 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. S. V. Salisbury, 1; O. Coombes, 2; W. E. Ward, 3; W. Jennings, 4; H. Jennings (conductor), 5; A. R. Ward, 6; J. Norris, 7; A. Ward, 8.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH, DRAYTON, BERKS.—On Saturday, the 8th inst., six courses of DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR. J. Brown, 1; J. W. Washbrook, 2; A. W. Barkus, 3; T. Short, 4; T. Blackburn, 5; H. Fruin, 6; E. Bishop, 7; Rev. F. E. Robinson (conductor), 8.

AT STROUD, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.—On Saturday, the 8th inst., eight members of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association attempted Holt's Ten-part peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, but it came to an end after ringing 2 hrs. 10 mins., owing to some persons gaining access to the church. A. Trigg, 1; C. King, 2; W. Ryland, 3; W. Hale (conductor), 4; J. Nash, 5; G. Latham, 6; F. Stephens, 7; T. Wright, 8.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH, TWYNING, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.—On Sunday, the 9th inst., 720 PLAIN BOB MINOR in 26 mins. F. J. Moore, 1; R. H. Witherington, 2; L. Longney (conductor), 3; J. Hale, 4; T. Devereux, 5; Jno. Wathen, 6.

AT ST. PETER'S, CAVERSHAM, OXON.—On Sunday morning, the 9th inst., for Divine service, three peals of GRANDSIRE DOUBLES on the front five. G. Essex, 1; H. Smith, 2; T. Newman, 3; H. Simmonds, 4; E. Menday (conductor), 5. Also for Divine service in the evening, 360 CANTERBURY PLEASURE. F. Simmonds, 1; J. Hands, 2; E. Menday, 3; H. Simmonds, 4; H. Smith, 5; T. Newman (conductor), 6. And after service, 720 OXFORD TREBLE BOB. H. Simmonds, 1; J. Hands, 2; Rev. G. F. Coleridge, 3; H. Smith, 4; E. Menday, 5; T. Newman (conductor), 6. Tenor, 17 cwt.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH, CHALWORTH, SURREY.—On Sunday, the 9th inst., some of the Betchworth band visited this place, and rang 720 KENT TREBLE BOB MINOR. F. Sanders, 1; P. Bridger, 2; J. Newnham, 3; W. Sadler, 4; R. Arnold, 5; F. Wickens (conductor), 6. And 720 PLAIN BOB (twenty-two singles). J. Poplett, 1; F. Sanders, 2; A. Ellis, 3; W. Sadler, 4; R. Arnold, 5; F. Wickens (conductor), 6.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH, PAINSWICK, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.—On Sunday, the 9th inst., for Divine service, 504 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. A. Trigg, 1; D. Marment, 2; W. Ryland, 3; E. King, 4; J. Wager, 5; W. Hale, 6; H. G. Gardener (Gloucester, conductor), 7; T. Wright, 8. Painswick Feast is on September 23rd, and the church bells will be rung at 7 a.m. 10.30, and during the afternoon, on the occasion of the Annual Sunday-School Anni-

versary. All ringers will be made welcome. The twelve bells are in good ringing order.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH, FAREHAM, HANTS.—On Monday, the 10th inst., on the occasion of the wedding of the Rev. A. Du Boulay Hill, founder and first secretary of the Winchester Diocesan Guild, a quarter-peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES was rung in 44 mins. D. J. Jeffery, 1; C. Privett, 2; F. Hill (conductor), 3; Rev. H. A. Spyers, 4; G. Grafham, 5; G. Passingham, 6; J. W. Whiting, 7; W. Swash, 8. Also a course of STEDMAN TRIPLES by the same, excepting that C. Greenstock rang the tenor instead of W. Swash.

AT COOKLEY, WORCESTERSHIRE.—On Monday, the 10th inst., for practice, 240 GRANDSIRE MINOR. N. Davis, 1; G. Salter, 2; T. Salter, 3; H. Smith, 4; W. Smith, 5; H. Williams (conductor), 6. Also 720 GRANDSIRE MINOR. F. Wright, 1; G. Salter, 2; W. Smith, 3; H. Smith, 4; H. Williams (conductor), 5; T. Salter, 6. (First touch of MINOR by N. Davis, and first 720 by H. Smith.) And two peals of BOB DOUBLES. F. Wright, 1; T. Salter (conductor), 2; W. Smith, 3; G. Salter, 4; H. Williams, 5; H. Smith, 6. F. Wright came from Hagley.

AT ST. PETER'S, CROYDON, SURREY.—On Monday, the 10th inst., for practice, 518 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. G. Burt, 1; A. Arnold, 2; R. E. Pearson, 3; W. J. Chambers, 4; H. Brooker, 5; W. States (conductor), 6; T. Verrall, 7; A. E. Collins, 8. First 500 by R. E. Pearson.

AT ST. MARTIN'S, SALISBURY.—On Saturday, the 15th inst., 1120 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR. C. A. Clements, 1; W. S. Wise, 2; W. Bedwell, 3; A. P. Goddard, 4; H. D. Adams, 5; W. E. Tydeman, 6; J. R. Jerram, 7; W. W. Gifford (conductor), 8.

CORRESPONDENCE.

A Eucharistic Eirenicon.

SIR,—I do not wish to enter into controversy with 'C. G. C.' but merely to call attention to a certain looseness or confusion of language, if not of thought, in his letter; and that in dealing with a subject which, in order to prevent misconception and 'caricature,' demands the utmost precision of both.

(1) 'C. G. C.' seems to misunderstand the word 'corporal.' The Catechism, he affirms, 'asserts a presence, but not a material or corporal presence.' But surely a 'corporal presence' means simply the 'presence of a body,' neither more nor less. The words of the Catechism, too, are clear. The inward part of the sacrament is defined to be 'the Body and Blood of Christ;' not the virtues or influences of His absent Body. The real presence, therefore, being, according to the Catechism, the presence of a Body, must be a corporal presence. 'C. G. C.' has, moreover, added confusion to confusion by coupling 'material' with 'corporal;' whereas a real or corporal presence does not necessarily, or at all, imply the presence of so much ponderable matter. This would be a very gross belief; but it seems, nevertheless, to be the belief which 'C. G. C.' is intending to combat by his use of the words 'corporal,' 'material,' 'substantial.' Is not this 'caricature'?

(2) If the word 'corporal' is coloured, and perhaps, therefore, untrue, the word 'local' is equally undesirable. The Black Rubric, we are told, denies a 'local presence.' Surely, sir, this would be a contradiction in terms. A presence, to be with man at all, cannot be otherwise than local. A presence merely in the soul of the faithful communicant is every whit as 'local' as a presence in the tabernacle of the Roman chapel hard by. For I suppose an embodied spirit bears some relation to space. I doubt, furthermore, whether we can conceive of God at all, except as localised. Our minds are finite. It is, therefore, an encouraging condescension of His, which would have us think of Him as 'placing His name' or special presence more in one spot than another.

(3) 'C. G. C.' bids us beware of consubstantiation, which he defines to be 'a presence of our Lord's substantial Body locally with the bread and wine.' But does not the term express rather the error of confusing the substance of our Lord's Body with the substance of the bread and wine? a totally different belief, and not, I fancy, one at all likely to become popular.

'C. G. C.' will pardon me for venturing to correct what I conceive to be errors of language; and if I have committed any similar solecisms, I hope he will be so good as to point them out.

The Cottage, Ham Common, Surrey, Sept. 17, 1888.

The Athanasian Creed.

SIR,—Would it not be a relief to many of the laity if the anathemata clauses of the Creed were expunged? I never repeat them: I dare not, although I do the other clauses. Unitarians, for instance, do not hold the Catholic Faith as expounded in the Creed. Shall we, therefore, dare to pronounce that they 'without doubt shall perish everlastingly?' If the clergy persist in retaining these clauses, then let it be so arranged that they are repeated by themselves, and not permit the onus of condemnation to rest on the laity. I have a cutting by me from a local newspaper, dated July 2nd, 1879, of the meeting of the Upper House at the Convocation of Canterbury, which runs thus:—

'THE ATHANASIAN CREED.'

'On the Bishops resuming the consideration of the rubrics, the Bishop of London moved: "That the days on which the Athanasian Creed must be used in the service of the Church of England be lessened to four." He strongly pressed against the anathemas contained in that Creed, and when he himself signed the Articles, he felt that the anathemas formed no part of the Creed. He did not believe that the words could be proved by Holy Scripture, while every other doctrine contained in the Creed could. In consequence of the condemnation of the condemnatory words in the Creed, it was not used as a matter of fact by a large

gentlemen were admitted to Holy Orders:—Priests; Rev. Robert Percival Waugh, B.A., T.C.D., curate of Armagh, and Rev. Thomas James M'Endoo, B.A., T.C.D., curate of Ballymore; and upon letters dismissory from the Lord Bishop of Down, Connor, and Dromore, Rev. Henry Simonds Cooper, M.A., T.C.D., curate of St. Ann's, Belfast. Deacons: Mr. John Macartney, of St. Aiden's College and Durham University, for the curacy of Tullyhally, diocese of Armagh; and upon letters dismissory from the Lord Bishop of Down, Connor, and Dromore, Mr. Thomas Hugh McFaddin, B.A., T.C.D., for the curacy of Christ Church, Belfast; Mr. Charles Henry Leslie Buchanan, B.A., T.C.D., for the curacy of St. Paul's, Belfast; Mr. Patrick Albert Kelly, B.A., T.C.D., for the curacy of Scarva, diocese of Dromore. The examination was previously conducted at the Palace by the Primate's Chaplains, the Ven. Archdeacon of Armagh and the Revs. John B. Crozier, D.D., and W. Moore Morgan, LL.D. The service was conducted by the Dean of Armagh, the Archdeacon, and the Revs. Charles King Irwin, D.D., W. Moore Morgan, LL.D., and Charles Farris. The ordination sermon was preached by the Dean. Much disappointment is expressed at the inferior acoustic properties of the cathedral now that the entire nave is opened up for Divine service, but it is hoped that a sounding-board placed behind the pulpit in its new position will remedy the defect. It was a matter of general regret that the noble sermon of the Bishop of Derry on the occasion of the reopening of the cathedral was so imperfectly heard.

The Rev. R. Holmes Orr, has retired from the charge of Killmely parish, in the Diocese of Down, after a lengthened service in the Church of Ireland. Mr. Orr was ordained in the year 1849, and was for some time Principal of the Missionary College of Ballinasloe. The parish, which is of the annual value of 200*l.*, with a good glebe-house, is beautifully situated on the shores of Strangford Lough.

On Friday last the ninth annual meeting of the choirs of the Louth district in the Diocese of Armagh, was held in the parish church of St. Peter, Drogheda. Several of the choirs from the adjoining Diocese of Meath took part in the festival service.

The Rev. Horace Webb Townsend, Secretary of the Irish Church Missions, was elected by the Board of Nomination on Friday last, to the incumbency of the parish church of Kathcoole, in the Diocese of Dublin, vacant by the death of the late Canon Thornhill.

The Board of Trinity College has presented a copy of Archbishop Ussher's works in thirteen volumes to the Down, Connor, and Dromore Diocesan Library. The Board will shortly proceed to the election of a Professor of Biblical Greek in Trinity College, vacant by the resignation of Dr. Abbott. Among the candidates are mentioned the names of the Rev. J. H. Kennedy, B.D., ex-Sch. T.C.D., rector of Stillingan, and the Rev. James J. Carleton, B.D., senior curate of St. Peter's, also an ex-Sch. Both these gentlemen have been contributors to our current theological literature, the former having recently brought out a translation, with introduction and notes, of the fragment of *Hippolytus' Commentary on the Prophecy of Daniel*, recently discovered. The value of the chair is only 100*l.* per annum.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

The Holiday of the Norton (Derbyshire) Change-ringers.

LATELY the Norton Company had their annual holiday the place selected being Hull. After a pleasant journey by train and water Hull was reached, Holy Trinity Church visited, and 120 BOB MINOR rung. G. Oates, 1; H. Ward, 2; G. Butcher, 3; J. Goucher, 4; J. Atkin, 5; J. Allen (conductor), 6. And 360 KENT TREBLE BOB MINOR, with the assistance of Mr. Pollard, G. Butcher, 1; H. Ward, 2; J. Pollard, 3; J. Goucher, 4; J. Atkin, 5; J. Allen (conductor), 6. Mr. Jackson having arrived, 168 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES were rung. G. Butcher, 1; H. Ward, 2; J. Pollard, 3; J. Goucher, 4; J. Atkin, 5; J. Allen, 6; C. Jackson (conductor), 7; G. Oates, 8. An adjournment was then made, and a pleasant day spent by all.

A Visit to Sevenoaks, Kent.

ON Saturday, the 15th inst., the Speldhurst branch of the Kent County Association visited St. Nicholas' Church, Sevenoaks. Starting from home at 2.30 p.m. in a brake supplied by Mr. Hardwick, after a ride of two hours and fifteen minutes Sevenoaks was reached, where all preparations were made for the visit. After refreshment the belfry was visited (ringing not commencing before 5.30, owing to a short service), where a quarter-peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES was rung in 55 mins. G. Card, 1; J. Baker, 2; J. Maynard, 3; G. Turley, 4; Frank Still, 5; F. Still, jun. (conductor), 6; C. Chapman, 7; H. Edwards, 8. Tenor, 22 cwt. Also a touch of MAJOR. H. Edwards, 1; J. Baker, 2; J. Maynard, 3; G. Turley, 4; F. Still, sen., 5; F. Still, 6; C. Chapman, 7; F. Still, jun. (conductor), 8. At eight o'clock the bells were lowered in peal by special desire of the Sevenoaks ringers. After supper the chair was taken by A. Laurie, Esq., people's churchwarden, supported by W. Johnston, Esq. (the Vicar not being able to take the chair, as was his wish). The Chairman proposed the first toast, viz., 'Church and Queen,' and after a few appropriate remarks it was carried with musical honours. He next proposed 'The Kent County Association of Change-ringers,' coupled with the name of Mr. Frank Still, secretary to the Speldhurst band, who in response pointed out several of the advantages of the

Association, also telling the Sevenoaks members (who by the way are about to become members of the Association) that by joining the Society they would see more of change-ringing than heretofore. Mr. Still finished by proposing the health of 'The Rector and Churchwardens of St. Nicholas' Parish Church,' coupled with the name of the Chairman, A. Laurie, Esq. The Chairman, in response, thanked the ringers for the kind way he had been received that evening, saying he had great pleasure in being amongst them, and would do anything he could in connexion with the bells or change-ringing, in which he took great interest. He next proposed 'The Visitors,' coupled with the name of Mr. Edwards, who in response thanked them for the way they had been received that day, and proposed 'The St. Nicholas' band,' coupled with the name of their captain, Mr. Ashdown, who ably responded. The return journey commenced at ten o'clock, arriving home about midnight.

The Ringers of St. George-the-Martyr, Southwark, London.

ON Monday, the 6th ult., the ringers of the above church held their annual dinner and tea, kindly given by the Rev. Burman Cassin, M.A., rector, at the 'British Workman' Coffee Tavern, Crayford, Kent. The railway fare was paid by the Churchwardens and other gentlemen, all of whom the ringers beg to thank for their kindness. After dinner they paid a visit to Crayford Church, and with the aid of the Crayford ringers rang several touches of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES and STEDMAN TRIPLES. They returned to London after spending a happy day together.

On Monday, the 10th inst., the ringers rang merry peals, and fired the bells twenty-five times to commemorate the Rev. Burman Cassin's silver wedding. By order of the Rector and Churchwardens the bells were rung muffled on Sunday, the 16th inst., for the funeral sermon at morning service; and after service a half-muffled peal was rung to the memory of the late J. Rockley, Esq., many years Churchwarden and Vestryman, and Treasurer of the South London Shoeblack Brigade. The performers were W. Pritchett, 1; E. Drury, 2; W. Blackaby, 3; F. Perrin, 4; J. Fisher, 5; G. Woodage (conductor), 6; H. Langdon, 7; J. Summers, 8.

The Yorkshire Association of Change-ringers.

THE annual meeting will be held at York on Saturday, October 6th. Divine service at the Minster at 4.30, with special sermon by the Very Rev. the Dean. Tea at 6, and business meeting at 6.45. Members desirous of having tea provided for them are requested to send word to Mr. W. H. Howard, 43 Trinity Lane, York, on or before October 1st. Tea tickets 6*d.* each, in accordance with the resolution of the Association. Further particulars will be given in the circulars.

The Society of Trinity Youths.

ST. ALPHEGE, GREENWICH.—Until further notice, meetings of the Society for the transaction of business are held after ringing on the first Tuesday in each month, in the vestry-room of this church, by kind permission of the Vicar and churchwardens.

FREDK. W. THORNTON, Secretary.

106 King George Street, Greenwich.

The Essex Association.

THE District Meeting will be held at Loughton on Saturday, October 6th, Whittle Vicarage, Chelmsford.

T. L. PAPILLON, Hon. Sec.

The Midland Counties' Association.

THE Second Quarterly Meeting of the year will be held at Nottingham on Saturday, October 13th, and the following towers will be open for ringing from 2 p.m., viz., St. Mary's (ten bells), St. Peter's (eight bells), and All Saints' (eight bells). Committee Meeting in St. Mary's Schools at 5 o'clock. Tea and subsequent General Meeting at 5.30. Tickets 1*s.* 6*d.* each.

5 St. Paul's Street East, Burton-on-Trent. JOSEPH GRIFFIN, Hon. Sec.

The Lancashire Association of Six-Bell Ringers.

ON Saturday, the 15th inst., a Quarterly Meeting of the above Association was held at Eccleston, by the kind permission of the Rector, and was well attended by the members from St. Andrew's (Leyland), St. James's (Leyland), Chorley, Standish, Blackrod, and Eccleston. Several peals of PLAIN BOB and touches in other methods were rung during the afternoon and evening. The bells of this parish church have lately been rehung by Messrs Taylor & Co., of Loughborough. They have been quarter-turned, had new clappers and new gearing of all kinds, and have been hung in one of their improved iron A frames. The treble, which was half a note flat, has been removed, and replaced by a new tenor a little over 11 cwt., which makes them a fine ring of six. The new bell was given by Mrs. Talbot, the Rector's aunt, and east by the above firm, and the other work has been defrayed by subscriptions. At five o'clock the company adjourned to the schoolroom, and at the kind invitation of the Rector about thirty sat down to tea. The cloth having been removed, the President (Mr. William Bowling) opened the business. The minutes of the last meeting having been read and unanimously passed, and other business having been transacted, four new ringing members were elected, whose names were received with pleasure by all present. St. James's, Leyland, was selected as the next place of meeting in December. The chairman, replying to a vote of thanks, which was cordially passed to him (and to the Rector for so kindly providing them with a good tea and granting them the use of the bells), brought the meeting to a close.

Society of Change-ringers for the Archdeaconry of Stafford.

THE next meeting will be held at the Parish Church, Burton-on-Trent, on Saturday, October 6th. Members to assemble in the town at 2.30 p.m.

J. R. KEBLE, Hon. Sec.

RECEIVED ALSO:—F. G. Newman (Rotherhithe last week); and others.

in love and charities." I should have hesitated to detain you even for a few seconds from the ceremony at which we are to be present, but I wished to give expression to my own grateful feelings that I should have been selected to perform it. I am glad the task has devolved upon a woman, for it is the women of the country who owe most to Lord Shaftesbury. I could wish it had been a little child, for to the children of the country, also, he has been a noble benefactor. I cannot but think that the last service which his hand performed was to sign himself as President of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, and that the ear to which a pitiful little child always found access must have had borne to it in death a message from the Christ Whom he served so well and so faithfully, "Enter now into the joy of thy Lord."

The company then proceeded to the Abbey, where, after a few prayers, the statue was unveiled by Lady Burdett-Coutts.

The statue, which in face and posture is a striking likeness of the late earl, is in peer's robes and of full length, and, after the date of his birth and death, bears the inscription:—"Endeared to his countrymen by a long life spent in the cause of the helpless and suffering. Love—Serve."

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Lancashire Association of Change-ringers.

THE annual meeting will be held on Saturday, October 13th, at Holy Trinity Church, Bolton. Service in the church at 3.30 p.m. Preacher, Rev. Charles Heath, M.A., vicar of Walkden. Tea will be provided in the schools at 5 p.m., tickets (1s. each) may be purchased from any member of the Committee; trusting that any member who intends to be present will acquaint his own local Secretary before Tuesday, October 9th, in order that proper arrangements may be made. Ringers not members of the Association will be heartily welcomed. Ringing will take place at the various churches through the kindness of the authorities. The Secretary will be in attendance at the schools to take subscriptions previous to the service. Any other information required may be had from the undersigned,—

J. REDFORD, } Hon. Secs.
A. E. WREAKS, }

The Hertford County Association.

A DISTRICT MEETING will be held at Baldock on Saturday, the 13th inst. The tower will be open for ringing from 3 p.m. and at 5 o'clock. Tea will be provided at the 'George and Dragon' Hotel, after which a meeting will be held for general business, and also to consider the new rules drawn up by the officers, and any amendments to the same. Railway tickets at cheap fares will be issued by the Great Northern Railway to members, by their informing the Secretary not later than Wednesday, October 10th, of the stations from which they propose to travel, and on production of the receipt for the current subscription at the Booking Office.

St. Albans, September 25th.

E. P. DEBENHAM, Hon. Sec.

The Yorkshire Association of Change-ringers.

THE annual meeting will be held at York on Saturday, October 6th. Divine service at the Minster at 4.30, with special sermon by the Very Rev. the Dean. Tea at 6, and business meeting at 6.45. Members desirous of having tea provided for them are requested to send word to Mr. W. H. Howard, 43 Trinity Lane, York, on or before October 1st. Tea tickets 6d. each, in accordance with the resolution of the Association. Further particulars will be given in the circulars.

Kent County Association.

A DISTRICT MEETING will be held on Monday, October 22nd, at Aldington. Those who intend to be present are requested to communicate with the Secretary. Merisham (about three miles) will probably be visited. Allowance, 2s. and 1s. 6d., which will be paid up to one o'clock, not after.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At All Saints', Duffield, Derbyshire.

ON Thursday, the 6th ult., eight members of the Midland Counties' Association rang a peal of 5004 DUFFIELD MAJOR in 3 hrs. J. Howe, 1; S. Johnson, 2; B. Sugden, 3; H. C. Woodward, 4; G. Hingley, 5; H. Midgley, 6; W. Hickling, 7; A. P. Heywood, Esq. (composer and conductor), 8. Tenor, 17 cwt. The composition, which is now rung for the first time, has the sixth at home at 104 out of 106 course-ends, without the use of singles.

ON Thursday, the 13th ult., eight members of the above Association, at the same church, rang a peal of 5040 BOB TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 42 mins. H. Midgley, 1; S. Johnson, 2; B. Sugden, 3; E. Moreton, 4; G. Hingley, 5; W. Hickling, 6; H. C. Woodward, 7; C. Clark, 8. Composed by Mr. H. Hubbard, and conducted by Mr. Woodward. The composition is in five parts, without a single.

At All Saints', Loughborough, Leicestershire.

ON Tuesday, the 11th ult., ten members of the Midland Counties' Association rang a peal of 5008 STEDMAN CATERS in 3 hrs. 20 mins. A. Cresser, 1; A. Thomas, 2; A. P. Heywood, Esq. (composer), 3; Jos. Griffin, 4; H. Baker, 5; Rev. C. D. P. Davies, 6; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 7; N. J. Pitstow, 8; J. W. Taylor, jun., Esq. (conductor), 9; E. Wightman, 10. The composition, which is now rung for the first time, has the sixth fixed in second's place throughout.

At St. Andrew's, Derby.

ON Friday, the 14th ult., eight members of the Midland Counties' Association rang Mr. Davies' Five-part peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 3 hrs. S. Johnson, 1; H. Baker (conductor), 2; N. J. Pitstow, 3; Rev. C. D. P. Davies (composer), 4; B. Sugden, 5; J. W. Taylor, Esq., 6; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 7; J. Howe, 8. Tenor, 21 cwt.

At All Saints', Dewsbury, Yorkshire.

ON Saturday, the 15th ult., eight members of the Yorkshire Association rang a peal of 5088 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR in 3 hrs. J. Buckley, 1; W. Idle, 2; J. Idle, 3; J. Hutchinson, 4; J. A. Idle, 5; G. H. Hardy (composer and conductor), 6; D. Stephenson, 7; R. Binns, 8. Tenor, 14 cwt. Messrs. Binns and Hutchinson came from Leeds; Messrs. W. Idle, J. R. Idle, and Stephenson, Ossett; the others belong to the local company.

At St. Peter's, Drayton, Berks.

ON Wednesday, the 19th ult., eight members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild rang Brookes' Variation of Tharston's peal of 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 34 mins. C. Hounslow, 1; N. J. Pitstow, 2; E. Pitstow, 3; Rev. F. J. O. Helmore, 4; H. Baker, 5; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 6; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 7; H. Fruin, 8. Tenor, 9½ cwt.

ON Thursday, the 20th ult., a peal of 5024 NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR in 2 hrs. 46 mins. H. Fruin, 1; W. Baston, 2; E. Pitstow, 3; Rev. F. J. O. Helmore, 4; T. Short, 5; J. W. Washbrook (composer and conductor), 6; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 7; H. Baker, 8.

ON Friday, the 21st ult., a peal of 5088 SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR in 2 hrs. 48 mins. E. Pitstow, 1; N. J. Pitstow (composer), 2; H. Baker, 3; C. Hounslow, 4; H. Fruin, 5; T. Short, 6; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 7; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 8.

At St. Barnabas', Pimlico, London.

ON Thursday, the 20th ult., ten members of the Society of Royal Cumberland Youths rang a peal of 5008 GRANDSIRE CATERS in 3 hrs. 20 mins. W. Baron, sen., 1; W. Lally, 2; W. Hoverd, 3; W. Jones, 4; C. E. Malim, Esq., 5; J. W. Mansfield, 6; W. W. Thorne, 7; A. E. Church, 8; H. Swain, 9; G. Chesterman, 10. Composed by Mr. Cox and conducted by Mr. Baron. Tenor, 19½ cwt. The above is the first peal on the bells since they were rehung by the late Mr. Banks, and also the first since 1862, or just over twenty-six years; and it is worthy of notice that it was rung on the thirty-fourth anniversary of the battle of the Alma, in which two of the performers took part, viz., Messrs. Hoverd and Jones. The ringers wish to thank Mr. G. Longhurst, steeple-keeper, for having everything in readiness.

At St. Stephen's, Rochester Row, Westminster, London.

ON Saturday, the 22nd ult., eight members of the St. James's Society rang a peal of 5056 GRANDSIRE MAJOR in 3 hrs. 19 mins. W. W. Thorne,* 1; C. Hammond,* 2; H. A. Barnett, 3; J. Barry,* 4; A. E. Church,* 5; W. H. Judd,* 6; G. Wild,* 7; F. G. Newnan (conductor), 8. Composed by Mr. Carter (Birmingham). Tenor, 25 cwt., in D. * First peal of GRANDSIRE MAJOR.

At St. Martin's, Tipton, Staffordshire.

ON Saturday, the 22nd ult., eight members of the Worcester and adjoining Districts' Change-ringing Association rang a peal of 5376 BOB MAJOR in 3 hrs. 12 mins. W. Cheshire (first peal in the method), 1; E. Goodred, 2; H. Mills, 3; W. Pardoe, 4; J. Goodman (first peal in the method with a bob bell), 5; S. Jesson, 6; G. Hughes (conductor), 7; W. R. Small, 8. Tenor, 12 cwt. 25 lbs. This peal contains the 5th eighteen times wrong and the 6th eighteen times wrong and right.

At the Meeting House, Winchester Street, Southwark, London.

ON Saturday, the 22nd ult., five members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang, on handbells retained in hand, a peal of 5057 GRANDSIRE CATERS in 3 hrs. 3 mins. H. R. Newton, 1-2; C. F. Winny, 3-4; G. T. MacLaughlin, 5-6; J. M. Hayes, 7-8; J. N. Oxborrow (first peal of GRANDSIRE CATERS), 9-10. Composed by Mr. J. Bradley and conducted by Mr. Hayes. The second peal in the method upon handbells rung in the metropolises. Umpires—Mr. W. Baron, of the Royal Cumberland Society; Mr. G. Mash and Mr. H. Gardner (Gloucestershire), of the Ancient Society of College Youths.

RECEIVED ALSO:—G. W. Cartmel (thanks); and others.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Open Churches.

Sir,—As an old reader of *Church Bells* I am glad to see the subject of 'Open Churches' discussed in your columns by all sorts and conditions of men. Last month I took (for health's sake) a little roaming expedition in two or three neighbouring counties, and so far as some parish churches are concerned, I will relate my adventures without note or comment.

1. On Saturday morning, August 18th, I visited the stately Byzantine church, built at Wilton by the late Lord Herbert. All the doors were closed and locked. By the friendly offices of the groom of a doctor who lives opposite, I found at a little cottage hard by the keeper of the key, a tidy, civil housewife, who had to leave her baby in order to accompany me. The pleasure of my half-hour in the church was marred by the thought that on my account certain home duties were being neglected.

2. The parish church of Lyndhurst is famous for the fresco over the

of a minor without consent. Of other irregular marriages there were a great many, and how they were to be prevented he confessed he could not see, unless by what would be almost a mischievous exercise of the powers which either the registrar or the clergy possessed. Excessive interference might lead to the most mischievous social consequences.

A paper prepared by the *Rev. Canon Hoare* was read, in which he pointed out that, although more than two-thirds of the marriages of the country still took place in the Church of England, there was no increase in the number, as there ought to be, according to the increase of population, but that Nonconformist marriages and marriages without religion were on the increase. The Church of England, moreover, was fettered by a most unpopular restriction, to which no other body was exposed. Nonconformists could marry in any chapel they liked within the district of the registrar, but a Churchman must go through the ceremony in the parish in which either he or his intended wife resided.

After considerable discussion the following resolution was carried:—

‘That the district in which it shall be lawful to celebrate marriages in the Church of England should be extended from the parish in which one of the parties resides to the registrar’s district, and that the subject be referred to the Parliamentary Committee for further consideration.’

The proceedings concluded with a paper by the *Rev. H. J. Bigsby* on pastoral visitation of the whole and the sick.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

St. Mary’s Society, Penzance.

ON Wednesday, the 5th ult., advantage of an excursion to Plymouth was embraced by this small but united band. On arriving, after slight refreshment, steps were wended to St. Andrew’s Church, where the bells were raised and left set, owing to a service being held, and a short visit paid to Charles Church, when some short touches, including two 168’s of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, were rung with the assistance of the local men. The ‘go’ of the bells might be considerably improved, although the ringers there do contrive to ring them very creditably; yet a party of strangers, we feel confident, will never be able to accomplish more than a short touch of half-pull changes in their present condition, unless they are fonder of hard work than pleasure. A retreat was then made to St. Andrew’s, when that noble ring of ten was sent off in rounds for a few minutes, the tenor being 35 cwt. 45 lbs., in D. A representative of the peace, clad in blue, however, intruded his presence into the belfry, with the request from the Guildhall just below that the ringing should cease for half an hour, there being an important case on. That brief interval was not to be wasted, so the party, with some of their Plymouth friends, repaired to an adjacent refreshment saloon. A touch of 336 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES was rung on the front bells, with 9, 8, 10 covering, reported by the local men as having been creditably struck; afterwards a short touch was attempted on the heavy eight, with F. W. Batchelor, Esq., at the 7th.

After thanking the local ringers, Messrs. Batchelor, Taylor, Screech, and Widdicombe, for their courteous reception and great kindness in getting everything ready, the individual members separated to wend their footsteps wherever their inclination led them, some by tram to Devonport, others to the Hoe, to enjoy the unequalled view of the Sound and its shipping; the day drawing too soon to a finish when the muster-roll was called at the station at 6.20 for their homeward journey, which was safely accomplished about 11 o’clock p.m., after a most enjoyable and satisfactory day.

Great regret was felt by the band at not meeting with their old friend and adviser, Mr. Banister, whom they have since heard with much satisfaction was at the time in the country, rapidly recovering from a serious illness. They were also pleased to see Mr. Taylor able once again to take to the ropes, and hope he may soon regain that robust health which will enable him to espouse the cause he has so much at heart.

The Harvest Festival at St. Paul’s Cathedral, London.

ON Monday evening, the 8th inst., at 7 p.m., the harvest thanksgiving took place, when, before and after the service, well-struck touches of STEDMAN CINQUES were rung by the Cathedral ringers, who are members of the Ancient Society of College Youths: Messrs. Pettit, Springall, Cooter, Haworth, Jameson, Mash, Dorrington, Wood, Horrex, Hayes, and Muskett; Jones, Clarke (tenor, 62 cwt., in B flat).

A Visit to Birmingham.

ON Saturday, the 29th ult., seven members of St. Andrew’s Society, Derby, paid a visit to Birmingham. On their arrival they were met by Messrs. Carter and Jones. After refreshment, they made their way to Perry Bar, where arrangements had been made by the above gentlemen for a peal. After raising the bells, which are in splendid going order, a start was made for a peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, which ultimately came to an end owing to a change of course. They then made their way back to Birmingham, and after viewing some of the beautiful buildings and places of interest parted with their Birmingham friends, hoping this would not be the last time of seeing them. They wish, therefore, to take this opportunity of thanking Messrs. Carter and Jones for kindly placing themselves at their disposal, also to the Vicar for the use of the bells, and Mr. Smith for having everything in readiness for them.

Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association.

ST. MICHAEL’S, JUNIOR, AT MAGOR, MONMOUTHSHIRE.—On the occasion of special services for the Harvest Thanksgiving at the parish church of St. Mary-the-Virgin, the following rang for the morning service, on Thursday,

the 27th ult., 720 BOB MINOR in 23 mins. T. Brown, 1; E. F. Hart,* 2; S. E. Romans, 3; R. J. Wilkins (conductor), 4; J. E. Hearn, 5; W. J. Sevier, 6. After the service, 720 GRANDSIRE MINOR (34 bobs and 2 singles) in 26 mins. W. J. Sevier, 1; E. F. Hart, 2; S. E. Romans, 3; R. J. Wilkins, 4; J. E. Hearn, 5; T. Brown (conductor), 6. After this the band adjourned to the ‘Red Lion Hotel,’ where dinner was provided by the honorary secretary of the Gloucester and Bristol Association, Rev. Pitt-Eykyn, vicar of Magor-with-Ranwick. Afterwards, a vote of thanks was proposed by the chairman, Johnson E. Hearn, to the Vicar for his kindness, and heartily passed. The band, on returning to the tower, rang 720 CANTERBURY PLEASURE MINOR (18 bobs and 2 singles). T. Brown,* 1; E. F. Hart,* 2; S. E. Romans, 3; R. J. Wilkins, 4; J. E. Hearn, 5; W. J. Sevier (conductor), 6. Time, 23 mins.; tenor, 8 cwt., in A. A start was then made for the grounds where the sports were being held. Several courses of CATERS and TRIPLES were rung, and tunes. A move was then made for tea. Afterwards, with the help of one of the local band, in place of Mr. Hearn, who had to return by an early train to Newham, they rang for evening service some six scores of GRANDSIRE DOUBLES. T. Brown, 1; E. F. Hart, 2; S. E. Romans, 3; R. J. Wilkins (conductor), 4; Tower-keeper of Magor (first attempt), 5; W. J. Sevier, 6. [*First 720 in the method.]

The Worcestershire and Adjoining Districts Change-ringing Association.

ON Saturday, the 22nd ult., a ringing meeting, well attended by members from Birmingham, Belbroughton, Brierley Hill, Clent, Cradley, Dudley, Hagley, Kidderminster, Netherton, Stourbridge, and Old Hill, and Mr. Roland Cartwright of Wombourn, was held at Clent. St. John’s, Hagley, was first visited, where a touch of BOB MAJOR was rung, conducted by Mr. R. Cartwright. After a walk through the beautiful park (the residence of Lord Lyttelton) to the noted Clent Hills, tea awaited the party at Mrs. Jones’s, ‘Fair View,’ which was enjoyed by all; but a kind invitation by the Rev. F. R. Lawson, vicar of Clent, to visit his garden, had to be declined owing to want of time. The following 720’s were rung at St. Leonard’s, Clent:—720 PLAIN BOB MINOR in 25 mins. C. Barrett, 1; H. Mason, 2; W. F. Hartshorne, 3; J. Meredith, 4; J. Barber, 5; C. Boughton (conductor), 6.—720 KENT TREBLE BOB MINOR. J. Meredith,* 1; T. Salter, 2; H. Mason, 3; G. H. Pagett, 4; C. Boughton (conductor), 5; J. Crane, 6.—720 OXFORD TREBLE BOB MINOR. H. Morris, 1; W. Huxley, 2; J. Smith, 3; S. Spittle,* 4; R. Cartwright,* 5; H. Martin (conductor), 6.—720 KENT TREBLE BOB MINOR. W. Huxley, 1; H. Mason, 2; J. Smith, 3; H. Morris, 4; J. Barber, 5; C. Boughton (conductor), 6. *First 720 in the method.

Birmingham and District Association.

THE next Quarterly Meeting of the above Association will be held at King’s Norton on Saturday, October 20th. By kind permission the tower will be open for ringing at four o’clock, after which a meeting will be held. All members and friends are earnestly invited.

Park Road, Harborne.

Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association.

THE Annual Meeting will be held at Newcastle on Monday, October 29th. As soon as the arrangements are completed circulars will be issued to the members.

G. J. CLARKSON, *Hon. Sec.*

Stockton-on-Tees.

The St. James’s Society, London.

ALL members of this Society, and particularly the officers for the past year, are respectfully requested to attend the next meeting on Monday, October 15th, for the discussion and transaction of important business.

GEORGE C. HAMMOND, *Hon. Sec. pro tem.*

CHANGE-RINGING.

At St. Lawrence’s, Appleton, Berks.

ON Saturday, the 22nd ult., ten members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild rang Mr. H. Johnson’s peal of 5035 STEDMAN CATERS in 2 hrs. 55 mins. F. White, 1; J. W. Washbrook, 2; T. Short, 3; H. Fruin, 4; B. Barratt, 5; N. J. Pitstow, 6; Rev. F. E. Robinson (conductor), 7; E. Pitstow, 8; G. Holfield, 9; W. Bennett, 10. The above was rung on the erection of the peal-board recording the three long peals rung in the above tower, viz., 10,080 DOUBLE NORWICH, 12,041 STEDMAN CATERS, and 13,247 GRANDSIRE CATERS.

At St. Mary’s, Stratford, Bow, London.

ON Thursday, the 27th ult., eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang Brooke’s Variation of Thurstan’s peal of 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 46 mins. W. Cecil, 1; W. W. Gifford (Salisbury), 2; A. Cutmore, 3; S. E. Joyce, 4; R. J. Turner, 5; H. Springall (conductor), 6; Y. Green, 7; T. Baker, 8.

At St. Peter’s, St. Albans, Herts.

ON Saturday, the 29th ult., nine members of the Ancient Society of College Youths and the Hertfordshire Association rang a peal of 5003 GRANDSIRE CATERS in 3 hrs. 10 mins. H. Lewis, 1; A. Barnes, 2; E. Holfield, 3; G. W. Cartmel, 4; H. Baker, 5; J. C. Mitchell, 6; W. H. L. Buckingham, 7; W. Battle, 8; T. Waller, 9; E. P. Debenham and A. Hull, 10. Composed by Mr. J. Reeves, and conducted by Mr. Cartmel. Rung as a compliment to the conductor on his birthday. Also on the occasion of the erection of a tablet recording the first peal of STEDMAN TRIPLES rung in the city. Messrs. Baker and Holfield belong to Hertford. Tenor, 21 cwt., in D.

At St. Mary’s, Old Battersea, Surrey.

ON Saturday, the 29th ult., eight members of the Society of Royal Cumberland Youths rang Holt’s Original peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in

2 hrs. 37½ mins. A. Swetman, 1; W. Baron, jun., 2; H. Swain, 3; S. Baker, 4; W. W. Thorne, 5; W. Baron, sen. (conductor), 6; G. Wild, 7; A. E. Church, 8. It was rung previous to the Harvest Festival, and is the quickest on the bells.

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

On Saturday, the 29th ult., eight members of the Ashton-under-Lyne Society rang a peal of 5040 BOB MAJOR in 3 hrs. 10 mins. J. Hopwood, 1; S. Taylor (first peal in the method on the tower bells), 2; W. Jakeman, 3; J. Wood, 4; C. Wood, 5; J. Harrison (first peal in the method), 6; S. Andrew, 7; G. Longden (composer and conductor), 8. Tenor, 20 cwt., in E.

At the Residence of Mr. G. T. McLaughlin, 48 Westmoreland Street, Pimlico, London.

LATELY, eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang, upon handbells retained in hand, Holt's Original peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 47 mins. W. E. Tydeman (Stowmarket), 1-2; C. F. Winny (conductor), 3-4; W. W. Gifford (Salisbury), 5-6; G. T. McLaughlin, 7-8. Umpire, Mr. J. N. Oxborrow.

At the Meeting House, Rochester Row, Westminster, London.

On Monday, the 1st inst., five members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang, on handbells retained in hand, a peal of 5021 GRANDSIRE CATERS in 3 hrs. 5 mins. H. R. Newton, 1-2; C. F. Winny, 3-4; W. W. Gifford (Salisbury, first peal of GRANDSIRE CATERS on handbells), 5-6; J. M. Hayes, 7-8; G. T. McLaughlin, 9-10. Composed by the late Mr. Cox; conducted by Mr. Hayes. Umpire, Mr. W. H. Judd.

At St. Mary's, Prestbury, Gloucestershire.

On Tuesday, the 2nd inst., eight members of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association and the St. Michael's Juniors, Gloucester, rang Parker's One-part peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 50 mins. H. L. James, 1; F. E. Hart, 2; W. J. Sevier (conductor), 3; R. J. Wilkins, 4; G. L. Brunsdon, 5; S. E. Romans, 6; R. Brunsdon, 7; E. E. Bewick, 8. Tenor, 14½ cwt. This peal is now rung for the second time. The ringers wish to thank the Vicar for the use of the bells, also the local Company for getting everything ready.

At the Parish Church, Worsley, Lancashire.

On Wednesday, the 3rd inst., eight members of the Lancashire Association rang a peal of 5088 TREBLE BOB MAJOR (Kent Variation) in 3 hrs. 4 mins. Jas. H. Ridyard, 1; G. Lee, 2; Jos. Ridyard, 3; J. Welsby, 4; J. Barrett (Eccles), 5; T. Derbyshire, 6; F. Derbyshire, 7; R. Ridyard (conductor), 8. Composed by Mr. S. Wilde of Hyde. Tenor, 21 cwt.

At St. Paul's, Wood Green, Wednesbury, Staffordshire.

On Wednesday, the 3rd inst., the following members of the Society for the Archdeaconry of Stafford rang on the new ring of bells placed in the tower by Messrs J. Taylor & Son of Loughborough, the late T. Thurstan's peal of SREDMAN TRIPLES, in five equal parts, containing 5040 changes, with 240 bobs and 10 singles. J. Carter (Aston), 1; S. Reeves (West Bromwich, conductor), 2; W. Walker (Walsall), 3; J. Tinsley (Darlaston), 4; W. R. Small (Tipton), 5; W. Smith (Darlaston), 6; J. Astbury (Walsall), 7; C. Price (West Bromwich), 8. Tenor, 17 cwt., in F. This peal was rung in 3 hrs. 6 mins. at the first attempt, and is the first peal rung on the bells.

At St. Albans, Herts.

On Saturday, the 6th inst., four members of the Ancient Society of College Youths and the St. Peter's Society rang on handbells retained in hand a peal of 5040 BOB MAJOR in 2 hrs. 22 mins. J. C. Mitchell, 1-2; G. W. Cartmel, 3-4; W. H. L. Buckingham (composer and conductor), 5-6; E. P. Debenham, 7-8. Umpire, Mr. R. M. Pratt.

At All Saints', Fulham, London.

On Saturday, the 6th inst., ten members of the Fulham Society, and the Ancient Society of College Youths, rang a peal of 5184 GRANDSIRE CATERS in 3 hrs. 26 mins. J. Green, 1; E. Horrex, 2; J. Nicholls, 3; A. Taber, 4; F. Kelley, 5; W. Driver, 6; J. W. Kelley, 7; H. Kenten, 8; C. F. Winny, 9; S. How, 10. Composed by the Rev. F. H. Fisher, and conducted by Mr. J. W. Kelley. It was rung as a compliment to the Vicar (Rev. F. H. Fisher) on his birthday.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH, HARSMONDEN, KENT.—On Sunday, the 9th ult., 720 BOB MINOR in 23 mins. T. Lambert, 1; W. Pope, 2; W. H. Lambert,* 3; W. E. Pope, 4; E. Pope, 5; F. J. Lambert* (conductor), 6. *First 720. The Messrs. Pope came from Staplehurst; F. J. Lambert, Canterbury; the rest belong to the local company. The above was rung on the occasion of the sixty-first birthday of the oldest ringer, Mr. Thomas Lambert.

AT ST. NICHOLAS', ARUNDEL, SUSSEX.—On Monday, the 10th ult., 540 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. G. Baklin, 1; E. Ede, 2; F. Luxford, 3; C. Blackman, 4; H. Hagger, 5; J. C. Mitchell (conductor), 6; G. Baker, 7; G. W. Cartmel, 8. Messrs. Mitchell and Cartmel came from St. Albans, the rest are local men. On Sunday evening, the 16th ult., 1260 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. O. Evershed, 1; E. Ede, 2; H. Hagger, 3; G. Baker, 4; G. Balchin, 5; W. L. Chamberlain, 6; C. Blackman (conductor), 7; R. Goacher, 8.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH, HATFIELD, HERTS.—On Tuesday, the 11th ult., for practice, 600 GRANDSIRE MINOR, with 7-8 covering. J. Rumney, 1; J. Shepherd, 2; W. Powers, 3; J. Hollingsworth, 4; H. Rowe (conductor), 5; E. P. Debenham, 6; G. Smith, 7; F. Stocks, 8. Also 700 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. J. Kentish, 1; J. Shepherd, 2; W. Powers, 3; J. Hollingsworth, 4; H. Rowe, 5; J. Richardson, 6; E. P. Debenham (conductor), 7; F.

Stocks, 8. And 504 in the same method. J. Rumney (first 504), 1; G. Smith, 8; the rest as before. Also a 97. J. Kentish, 1; J. Shepherd, 2; W. Powers, 3; H. Rowe, 4; A. Shepherd, 5; J. Richardson, 6; E. P. Debenham (conductor), 7; F. Stocks, 8. E. P. Debenham belongs to St. Albans, the rest to the local company. And on Sunday, the 16th ult., for Divine service, 336 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. J. Kentish, 1; J. Shepherd, 2; W. Powers, 3; J. Hollingsworth, 4; H. Rowe, 5; J. Richardson, 6; T. Gathard (conductor), 7; G. Smith, 8. Also for evening service, 600 GRANDSIRE MINOR in 23 mins., with 7-8 covering. J. Kentish, 1; J. Shepherd, 2; J. Channer, 3; J. Hollingsworth, 4; W. Powers, 5; H. Rowe (conductor), 6; G. Smith, 7; W. Valentine, 8.

AT ST. PAUL'S, SHADWELL, MIDDLESEX.—On Wednesday, the 12th ult., a quarter-peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES (1260 changes) taken from Holt's Original, in 43 mins. T. Bernardin,* 1; C. Relton, 2; W. Cecil, 3; E. Hall, 4; G. Tanner, 5; R. Turner, 6; H. Springhall (conductor), 7; G. Barrall,* 8. * First quarter-peal.

AT BECKWITHSHAW, YORKS.—On Saturday, the 15th ult., the ringers of St. Mary's Church, Harrogate, paid a visit to the above village, and rang 720 BOB MINOR (nine bobs and six singles), in 27½ mins. J. Ireland, 1; H. Robinson, 2; J. Vickers, 3; A. Atkinson, 4; H. Brown, 5; W. Turner (conductor), 6. Also 360 (nine bobs). H. Brown, 4; A. Atkinson, 5; the rest standing as before. Tenor, 14 cwt.

AT ST. PETER'S, BENINGTON, HERTS.—On Tuesday, the 25th ult., the under-mentioned members of the Benington Ringing Society rang, upon their musical peal of eight bells (tenor, 14 cwt., F sharp), a touch of 1568 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR. J. Kitchener, 1; Jos. Kitchener, 2; L. Proctor, Esq., 3; L. Chapman, 4; Walter Hobbs, 5; Jabez Warner, 6; C. Shambrook, 7; S. Page (conductor), 8.

AT ST. ANDREW'S, FARNHAM, SURREY.—On Tuesday evening, the 2nd inst., the last 700 of Holt's Original peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. A. Le Clercq, 1; H. Garforth, 2; G. H. Barnett, 3; A. White, 4; J. Hawkes, 5; C. Fry, 6; G. Lindoff (conductor), 7; T. Spreadborough, 8.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The Tithe Bill.

SIR,—Will you kindly allow me to supplement my last letter on this subject by saying that, (1), a circular has been sent out from this office to all Archdeacons and Rural Deans asking them to ascertain as fully as possible the opinions of the clerical tithe-owners on the two Tithe Bills; and that, (2), at a meeting held in Manchester during the Church Congress, Mr. Stanley Leighton, M.P., in the chair, a strong resolution was moved by Mr. J. G. Talbot, M.P., seconded by the Rev. Watkin Williams, and unanimously adopted, pressing upon H. M. Government the urgent importance of passing the Tithe Bills during the present session. A memorial to Lord Salisbury was also adopted and numerous signed. H. GRANVILLE DICKSON.

The Church Defence Institution, 9 Bridge Street.

An Explanation.

SIR,—It is somewhat difficult to understand the ways of Churchmen in Nova Scotia. They recently elected a Bishop from the United States without awaiting the nomination they had requested from the Archbishop of Canterbury. One of the first utterances of the new prelate was an exhortation to strengthen the position of King's College, the venerable Anglican University of Acadia; but the Nova Scotia Diocesan Synod has now pronounced in favour of "amalgamating" it with the Presbyterian Dalhousie College on an "undenominational" basis.

The above is from your issue of August 24th. The first accusation is met by the following telegram and resolution found in the *Journal* of the Diocesan Synod:—

'London, January 18th, 1888.

'Archdeacon Gilpin, Halifax, N. S.

'Nominators have met. Failing guarantee that nomination will be accepted, the difficulties are too great. Letter by post. ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY.

'Unanimously resolved: "That the resolution asking the English Prelates to recommend a clergyman be rescinded."

The Synod could not guarantee. It did everything it could short of actual guarantee, however. And the Bishop is in English orders. With regard to the second point, it by no means follows (though I do not assert it) but that our Bishop might consider the best means of strengthening King's College was to bring it to Halifax, and put it in connexion with Dalhousie College. Dalhousie, although largely in the hands of Presbyterians, is a provincial and not a sectarian College, and it was never intended to 'amalgamate,' but that Dalhousie, King's (and other Colleges, if they will), should unite as one provincial University, King's to retain its strictly Church teaching, as Keble in Oxford, or King's with regard to London University. A MEMBER OF SYNOD OF NOVA SCOTIA.

'Natural Law in the Spiritual World.'

SIR,—Your 'Reviewer,' in the issue of *Church Bells* of the 14th inst., expressed his opinion that Professor Drummond's work should not be read by the theological student without a word of warning. I have recently read a clever review upon this work by an American Episcopal clergyman (the Rev. J. Davenport), which appeared in the *Church Eclectic* of March 1888, and has been reprinted as a pamphlet, and is published by Mr. C. Goodwin Norton, of 38 Marchmont Street, Russell Square, W.C., and may be obtained of him for the trifling sum of 3½d. This review shows that Professor

College, Dublin. He was ordained for the important curacy of Christ Church, Liverpool, and after working there with unremitting energy till his health broke down he accepted the curacy of Brailsford, and subsequently the incumbency of Heage, which he resigned a short time ago owing to ill health. Mr. Mosse was one of those men whom to know was to love, and the numbers who crowded to his funeral the other day and wept beside his open grave showed how beloved and valued he was by his old parishioners, among whom he had laboured as a faithful parish priest for so many years, and who then sorrowed because they would see his face no more. Cheerful and pleasant as was his exterior, with kindly loving words for all, Mr. Mosse was one who saw the serious side of life, and knew what the burden of sin was. His great and burning desire was 'to turn many to righteousness,' and the Last Day alone will show what the fruits of his ministry were. He died at the house of his eldest son, who is a rector in Bedfordshire, and his remains were laid beside those of his wife, whom he mourned for twenty years, in the churchyard of Brailsford.

At the afternoon service in St. Patrick's Cathedral, on the 11th inst., the Rev. Thomas Lucas Scott, M.A., rector of St. George's, Dublin, was installed as Prebendary of Tassagard in the room of the late Canon Thornhill, M.A., rector of Rathcole. In the absence of the Dean, the new Canon was installed by the Very Rev. Dean Dickinson, precentor of the Cathedral.

The Rectory of Rathcole having been declined by the Rev. H. Webb Townsend, secretary of the Irish Church Mission, has been offered to, and accepted by, the Rev. George T. H. Barton, D.D., incumbent of Kenure.

A great fuss is being made in the columns of the *Daily Express* over the suggestion of the two Archbishops that the Irish clergy, with the sanction of their respective Bishops, should read the Encyclical Letter of the Bishops assembled at the recent Lambeth Conference. Some refuse to read it, and others make out captious objections to its phraseology. One clergyman falls foul of the words 'parish priest,' entirely overlooking the fact that by quietly surrendering this term in the past to their Roman Catholic rivals, they tacitly admitted that they were the true parish priests of the country. It was things like this, together with infrequent Celebrations, the non-observance of the Holy Days of the Church, and the jealous barring-up and locking of the parish churches during all the week, that lessened the hold of the Reformed Church on the peasantry of Ireland. The paragraph on the Lord's Day has likewise given umbrage to some, who would object to it as 'the Puritan heresy of the Sabbath.'

The news continues to come in of Harvest Thanksgiving services held with unusual heartiness all over the country. In the vast majority of cases the churches are richly decorated with corn, fruit, and flowers.

The fact that some 800 Nonconformist ministers in Ireland, out of a total of about 830, have drawn up an address to the Marquis of Salisbury and Lord Hartington deprecating any movement towards Home Rule, has given the utmost satisfaction. The address is in marked contrast with the action of a majority of their co-religionists in England.

The adjourned meeting of the Ardferd and Aghadoe Diocesan Synod was held in Tralee on the 26th ult., when there was an unusually large gathering of clerical and lay members. A choral celebration of the Holy Communion preceded the meeting. The main business of the Synod, after electing diocesan representatives to the General Synod and Diocesan Nominators, was the consideration of the Report of the Council recommending important modifications of the financial plan, involving a still further amalgamation of parishes. After some debate, the scheme was sent down again to its framers for fresh consideration, and when completed it will be submitted for approval to the Church Representative Body in Dublin.

The Diocesan Synod of Clogher met in Clones on the 28th ult., when the chair was taken by the Bishop, Dr. Stack. The arrears on the diocesan financial plan were announced to be £4307., representing a loss of interest approaching 200l. a-year. His Lordship announced that he had confirmed 2000 young persons during the past year. He also stated that he observed a marked improvement in the decency and order of Divine worship in the several churches of his diocese.

His Grace the Archbishop of Dublin held his last garden party in the beautiful grounds of his country seat, Old Connaught, on last Wednesday. His Lordship had what he calls 'Old Connaught weather,' and his guests enjoyed their outing. Among these was Dr. Miller Thompson, bishop of Mississippi, who has been a great favourite with us in Dublin. We enjoyed his noble sermons in St. Patrick's Cathedral and elsewhere, and part from him with regret. The Bishop never forgets that he is an Irishman, nor disguises his love for the old country.

BISHOP SELWYN once related in London how some of his flock in New Zealand came to church. They had to cross two rivers, and stripped at the bank, tied their clothes in a bundle, crossed the first, walked to the second, crossed it, and then dressed themselves for church. The Bishop heard a little boy remark, 'I say, Jem, them chaps wouldn't be afraid of a wet Sunday, would they?'

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Tubular Bells.

SIR,—*Apròpos* of the above, on which I wrote some time ago, I send you annexed paragraph, taken from the *Salisbury and Winchester Journal* of Saturday, September 15th last. I may say that not having heard the tubular bells at Christ Church, Warminster, referred to, I am unable to give an opinion in the matter.

'WARMINSTER.

'THE CHRIST CHURCH BELLS.—On the evening of the 7th inst. a meeting of the parishioners of Christ Church was held in the Sambourne Reading-room, the Vicar (the Rev. W. Hickman) in the chair, to decide whether the tubular bells, which had been on trial for several weeks, should be retained. It was stated that the majority of the inhabitants were against retaining the bells, and the Chairman said that their sound had been described in the town as resembling bagpipes. Mr. B. W. Coates, one of the churchwardens, had been in communication with Messrs. Harrington, the makers, who advised that the bells should be rung slower. Feelings were, however, expressed against this, and the Chairman said it would be no improvement. It was decided to await a reply from Messrs. Harrington on Saturday morning, and that if the Committee was not satisfied with it the bells should be returned. The letter was duly received, and as it was not considered satisfactory the bells are to be returned. The trial has cost 15l. It is hoped that a peal of real bells will be obtained for the church.'

J. R. JERRAM.

Meeting of the Hertford County Association at Baldock.

A DISTRICT MEETING of this Association was held at Baldock on Saturday, the 13th inst., when there were present:—L. Proctor, Esq., President; Mr. E. P. Debenham, Hon. Sec.; Messrs. H. Baker (Hertford); G. W. Cartmel, J. C. Mitchell, H. Brewer, and J. W. Brewer (St. Albans); S. Page, John Kitchener, Jos. Kitchener, C. Shambrook, W. Smith, N. Warner, and J. Warner (Benington); W. Allen, A. Squires, and F. Furr (Hitchin); R. Jackson, G. Spicer, J. Cawdell, T. Webb, W. Bidnell, and J. Smith (Baldock); and H. Rowe and J. Hollingsworth (Hatfield). During the afternoon and evening touches of DOUBLE NORWICH, COURT BOB MAJOR, and STEDMAN and GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, were rung on the church bells; and STEDMAN TRIPLES, GRANDSIRE CATERS, and GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, on handbells. At five o'clock the members sat down to an excellent tea at the 'George and Dragon' Hotel, after which a business meeting was held, under the chairmanship of Mr. Proctor. The provisional elections of Messrs. T. Waller, A. Hull, E. Hull, and R. M. Pratt, of St. Albans, and Mr. G. Cornell, of Wanstead, as members, were confirmed, and Mr. J. Hollingsworth was elected a new member. The fresh set of rules prepared by the officers was read over, discussed, and adopted by the members, on the proposition of Mr. Baker, seconded by Mr. Allen. The next District Meeting was arranged to be held at Hertford, in the month of February. Votes of thanks to the President and Secretary closed the business. The thanks of the members are due to the Rector, the Rev. W. J. Skilton, for granting the use of the tower; and also to Mr. Jackson, for seeing that everything was in readiness.

The Kent County Association.

A DISTRICT MEETING will be held at Aldington on Monday, October 22. Those who wish to attend are requested to communicate with the Secretary Merham (about three miles) will probably be visited. Allowance, 2s. and 1s. 6d., which will be paid up to one p.m. at Aldington.

R. B. KNATCHBULL-HUGESSEN, Hon. Sec.

Winsted Court, Lenham, Kent.

The Ancient Society of College Youths.

NOTICE.—The Annual Dinner of this Society, to celebrate its 251st Anniversary, will take place on Saturday, November 3, 1888, at the Bridge House Hotel, London Bridge, S.E. The chair will be taken at seven o'clock p.m. prompt. Tickets 3s. 6d. each, can be obtained of the Dinner Committee, viz.:—Mr. Samuel E. Joyce, Master; Mr. James Pettit, Treasurer; Mr. Edgar E. Clark, and Mr. Henry Springall, Stewards; Mr. Richard T. Woodley, Secretary; and Messrs. G. Mash, sen.; G. T. McLaughlin; C. F. Winny, and W. Tyack. Members residing in the country when making their application for tickets should remit the amount by 'blank' postal orders. Further particulars will be announced as to the various towers to be opened on that day. The Secretary has to request that, until further notice, all communications should be addressed—The Secretary, Ancient Society of College Youths, 'King's Head,' Winchester Street, Borough Market, S.E.

RICHARD T. WOODLEY, Hon. Sec.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At All Saints', Loughborough, Leicestershire.

On Friday, the 5th inst., ten members of the Midland Counties Association rang a peal of 5021 GRANDSIRE CATERS in 3 hrs. 20 mins. J. Smith (first peal), 1; W. T. Billingham, 2; C. Smith, 3; A. Cresser, 4; W. A. Tyler, 5; F. A. Underwood, 6; E. W. Cartwright (first peal), 7; W. Birkinshaw, 8; J. W. Taylor, jun., 9; R. Lane, 10. Composed by Mr. C. H. Hattersley and conducted by Mr. Taylor.

On Friday, the 12th inst., ten members of the Midland Counties Association rang a peal of 5049 STEDMAN CATERS in 3 hrs. 30 mins. A. Cresser, 1; W. T. Billingham, 2; F. E. Dawe, 3; J. W. Taylor, sen., 4; J. W. Taylor, jun., Esq., 5; R. Lane, 6; J. Hardy, 7; C. Smith, 8; W. A. Tyler, 9; E. Wightman, 10. Tenor, 28 cwt., in D. The above peal, which is in four parts, was composed by Mr. H. Johnson, sen., of Birmingham, and conducted by Mr. Dawe, of London.

At the Parish Church, Crawley, Sussex.

On Saturday, the 6th inst., eight members of the Sussex County Association rang Holt's Ten-part peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 49 mins. G. Wickens, 1; F. Wickens (conductor), 2; E. Dewey, 3; B. King, 4; W. Collison, 5; F. Price, 6; M. Heffer, 7; E. Pearce, 8. Tenor, 13½ cwt. The above peal was rung on the anniversary of the opening of the bells.

At St. Andrew's, Farnham, Surrey.

On Saturday, the 6th inst., eight members of the Winchester Diocesan Guild rang Holt's Ten-part peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 3 hrs. 6 mins. A. Le Clercq, *1; G. Williams (conductor), 2; H. Garfath, *3; A. White, 4; J. Hawkes, *5; C. Fry, *6; G. Lindorff, R.E., 7; T. Spreadborough, *8. Tenor, 21 cwt. Mr. Williams came from Fareham and Mr. Lindorff from Aldershot. [*First peal.]

At St. Bartholomew's, Quorndon, Leicestershire.

On Saturday, the 6th inst., eight members of the Midland Counties Association rang Holt's Ten-part peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 58 mins. E. W. Cartwright, 1; J. Hardy, 2; A. Cresser, 3; J. W. Taylor, sen., 4; J. W. Taylor, jun., 5; W. A. Tyler (conductor), 6; W. Birkinshaw, 7; R. Lane, 8. Tenor, 14½ cwt., in F sharp.

At the Parish Church, Ormskirk, Lancashire.

On Saturday, the 6th inst., Holt's Ten-part peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES was rung in 2 hrs. 58 mins. John Prescott, 1; E. Prescott, 2; Jos. Prescott (conductor), 3; Edmund Prescott, 4; Geo. Prescott, 5; W. Bentham, 6; E. Arrowsmith, 7; E. Bentham, 8. Tenor, 25½ cwt. Messrs. J. and G. Prescott belong to Ormskirk; E. Prescott and E. Arrowsmith, Leigh; Edmund Prescott and Jos. Prescott, Hindley; E. Bentham, Wigan; and W. Bentham, Aughton.

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

On Tuesday, the 9th inst., the following members of the Ipswich Society of Change-ringers, with Mr. C. Sillitoe, of the Sudbury Company, rang a peal of 5040 KENT TREBLE BOB MAXIMS in 3 hrs. 44 mins. J. Notts, 1; R. Hawes, 2; J. S. Alexander, 3; N. L. Catchpole, 4; A. Durrant, 5; C. Mee, 6; C. Sillitoe, 7; W. Notts, 8; W. P. Garrett, 9; M. Ward, 10; R. H. Brundle, 11; F. Tillet, 12. Composed by Mr. N. J. Pitstow, of Saffron Walden, and conducted by Mr. Notts. It was rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. Tillet, who ably rang the tenor; also the third peal that has been rung on these fine bells since the restoration of the tower. Tenor, 32 cwt., in C sharp. The above are members of the Ancient Society of College Youths, London, and of the Norwich Diocesan Association of Change-ringers.

At St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, London.

On Saturday evening, the 13th inst., the following members of the Society of Royal Cumberland Youths rang a peal of STEDMAN'S CINQUES, 5002 changes, in 3 hrs. 40 mins. George Newson (composer and conductor), 1; Benjamin Foskett, *2; John Rogers, 3; Henry Davis, 4; Thomas Tichenor, *5; Arthur Jacob, *6; Harry Randall, 7; Edward Chapman, *8; Henry Swain, 9; Frederick Pitstow, *10; John Smith, *11; John Mansfield, 12. Tenor, 33 cwt., in D. [*First peal in the method on twelve bells.]

At All Saints', Fulham, Middlesex.

On Saturday, the 13th inst., eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang Holt's Original peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 48 mins. J. G. Green, 1; R. T. Woodley, 2; J. N. Oxborrow, 3; J. W. Driver, 4; W. H. L. Buckingham, 5; F. G. Newman (conductor), 6; C. F. Winney, 7; S. How, 8.

At St. Mary's, Painswick, Gloucestershire.

On Saturday, the 13th inst., eight members of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association rang, in 3 hrs. 19 mins., Mr. Holt's Three-part peal of BOB MAJOR, 5040 changes. Tenor, 28 cwt., in D flat. F. E. Hart, 1; Wm. Hale, 2; G. Miles, 3; D. J. Aston, 4; A. A. Waite, 5; H. Mitchell, 6; W. J. Sevier, 7; H. G. Gardner (conductor), 8. Excepting Mr. Sevier, this is the first peal of MAJOR by all.

At St. Martin's, Salisbury.

On Monday, the 15th inst., eight members of St. Martin's Society rang Holt's Ten-part peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 56 mins. A. Grist (Bournemouth, first peal), 1; H. D. Adams, 2; A. W. Barkus, 3; C. A. Clements, 4; S. Lawrence, 5; W. W. Gifford, 6; T. Blackburn (conductor), 7; A. P. Goddard, 8. Tenor, 15 cwt.

Muffled Peal at Hethersett, Norfolk.

On Monday evening, the 15th inst., a muffled peal was rung in the church tower in memory of the late James Youngs, ringer of St. Peter's, Mancroft, Norwich, an esteemed and well-known friend of all Norfolk ringers. R. Blake, 1; A. Goodrum, 2; S. Moore, 3; F. Yull, 4; W. Davey (conductor), 5.

At the Parish Church, Acton, Middlesex.—On Thursday evening, the 13th ult., 1330 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 47 mins. C. Reeves, 1; W. Baron (conductor), 2; A. Fenwick, 3; W. Baron, jun., 4; G. Trinder, 5; H. S. Thomas, 6; W. Fenwick, 7; G. Iisley, 8.

At the Parish Church, Bradford, Somerset.—On Friday evening, the 14th ult., four peals (120 changes) of GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, and four peals of BOB DOUBLES, each called differently. T. Andrews (conductor), 1; W. Andrews, 2; R. Scott, 3; J. Richards, 4; R. Andrews, 5; W. Chapman, 6. Tenor, 21 cwt.

At St. Mary's, Stoke Newington.—On Tuesday evening, the 18th ult., 720 GRANDSIRE MINOR, in 27 mins. W. Moore (first 720), 1; A. S. Barrell, 2; G. J. Smith, 3; W. Burkin, 4; J. Barry, 5; W. D. Smith (conductor), 6.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Ember Seasons and Quiet Days.

SIR,—Will you kindly allow me to mention through *Church Bells*, for the convenience of the clergy, that I no longer supply copies of the *Office of Commemoration*, having parted with the copyright to Messrs. Wells Gardner & Co., who issue them in packets of one dozen for a shilling? So many of my brethren continue to write to me for copies that it will be a kindness to them as well as to me if you will be so good as to insert this letter. A copy of the little *Office* is enclosed.

JOHN W. IRVINE.

Colchester, October 12th.

The Universities' Mission to Central Africa.

SIR,—I shall be glad if you will contradict the statement in your issue of October 12th that the rising in East Central Africa has 'necessitated the withdrawal of the eighteen members of the Magila Mission.' The members of the Universities' Mission have refused to leave their posts at Magila and the adjoining stations, and, as Bishop Smythies stated in his farewell sermon, the missionaries altogether refuse to leave so long as their services are accepted by the people. The natives have given their word that our people shall not be harmed, for they have proved themselves friends. The only cause for anxiety is that other tribes, who do not know of the Mission's good work, may be stirred by the general rising to do mischief.

C. J. VINER for W. H. PENNEY, Sec.

THE Rev. F. R. Murray (74 King Street, Kingston, Jamaica) writes:—'You were kind enough to insert a letter for me early in the year relative to my papers, &c. Would you kindly repeat your kind act by stating that the Rev. Fred. R. Murray, having become convalescent, but not being able to return to a cold climate, has been appointed by the Bishop of Jamaica as S.P.G. Missionary and Rector of St. Mary's, Belize, British Honduras, to which address he would be glad for all correspondence, letters, papers, &c., to be forwarded after the middle of October?'

MR. HARRY B. MOORE, lay reader of St. Alban's Mission, Grand Valley, Ontario, Canada, would be very thankful if some kind friend would send him a copy of *Church Bells* regularly.

HARVEST THANKSGIVING OFFERTORIES

For the Poorer Clergy and their Bereaved Families.

The Poor Clergy Relief Corporation.

ESTABLISHED 1836. INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER, 1867.

Patrons:

HIS GRACE THE LORD ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY.

HIS GRACE THE LORD ARCHBISHOP OF YORK.

President:—THE RIGHT HON. THE LORD BISHOP OF LONDON.

Treasurer:—RICHARD G. CLARKE, Esq.

Professional Auditors:

MESSRS. DRURY & ELLIOT, Chartered Accountants, Mansion House Chambers, E.C.

THE Committee earnestly APPEAL for liberal HELP both in the way of Offertories, Donations, and Subscriptions. They assist the Clergy, their widows and orphans, in times of sickness, bereavement, or other temporary distress. All cheques should be crossed 'London and Westminster Bank, No. 1 St. James's Square, S.W.'

R. T. PIGOTT, D.C.L., Secretary.

Offices, 36 Southampton Street, Strand, W.C.

SHORT FAMILY PRAYERS.

BY THE REV. PEILE THOMPSON, M.A. Price Two SHILLINGS.

RIVINGTONS, Waterloo Place, S.W., and all Booksellers.

BENEDICITE FOR ADVENT, 1888.

TWO TUNEFUL SETTINGS.—No. 1. in B flat. No. 2. in D. Easy; very congregational. Price 3d. each, or 2s. 6d. per dozen, post free.

Apply to Rev. A. JONES, 20 East Acton Villas, W.

NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS.

THE SCALE OF CHARGES IS AS FOLLOWS:—

First 3 lines or under	£0 1 6	One Column	£2 10 0
Every additional line (7 words)	0 0 6	Do. on Front Page	2 2 0
Per inch	0 5 0	One Page	7 7 0

Special Terms for a Series of Insertions. Paragraph Advertisements 1s. per line.
* * * Advertisements, to secure insertion in the current Number, should reach the Office by WEDNESDAY Mid-day at latest.

NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBERS.

One Year (post free)	6s. 6d.	Six Months	3s. 6d.	Three Months	2s. 0d.
----------------------	--------	---------	------------	--------	---------	--------------	--------	---------

Subscriptions to be paid in advance.

Postal Orders payable to Mr. Arthur Game, at the Post-office, 369 Strand, W.C.

ALTERATIONS OF ADDRESS should reach the Office on WEDNESDAY by first post.

OFFICE: 12 SOUTHAMPTON STREET, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Finedon Church Bells.

The ringers, as usual, announced the entry of 'Feast Sunday' with well-struck peals on the church bells. A few particulars concerning the bells may, perhaps, prove interesting. The musical ring of six now hanging in the beautiful tower of the church of St. Mary were recast from the ancient bells in the year 1825, the tenor being again recast fifty years later. The old tenor weighed 19 cwt., but the present fine-toned bell weighs 24 cwt., and is full heavy for the front bells; it would make an excellent 'cover' for a peal of eight or ten. Formerly the bells hung in two frames, but they are now placed all together in the bell-chamber proper. Below are the inscriptions as given in North's *Bells of Northamptonshire* :—

Treble.—'Ex dono Gilbert Dolben Armiger, 1688. Recast 1825. Call a solemn assembly. W. and J. Taylor, Founders, Oxford. Thomas Boddington and Peter Smith, Churchwardens.' Diameter, 34 in.

Second.—'Holiness unto the Lord. Recast by W. and J. Taylor, Oxford, 1825. Thomas Boddington and Peter Smith, Churchwardens.' Diameter, 36 in.

Third.—'Praise God upon the high sounding cymbals. Recast by W. & J. T., Oxon, 1825. T. Boddington & P. Smith, Ch. Ws.' Diameter, 39 in.

Fourth.—'A voice from the Temple, a voice of the Lord. Rev. S. W. Paul, Vicar, Richard Vincent and Vincent Bailey, Churchwardens, 1779. Recast 1825.' Diameter, 40 in.

Fifth.—'As in Adam all die, so in Christ shall be made alive. Cast by Watts, of Leicester, 1639, & recast by W. & J. Taylor, Oxford, 1825.' Diameter, 41½ in.

Tenor.—'Watch therefore, for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come. This Bell cast by John Taylor & Co., 1875. Mrs. Mackworth Dolben, Lady of the Manor. Revd. G. W. Paul, Vicar. John Hawkes, Willm. Lea Hill, Ch. Wardens.' Date of original Tenor Bell, 1613. Diameter, 51 in.

These bells come very close in weight to the rings of six at Higham Ferrers and Middleton Cheney, but run rather lighter on the whole. It is worthy of note that 'Watts of Leicester,' founder of the fifth bell, 1639, also cast Wellingborough 'Great Bell' the same year.

Wellingborough Parish Church Ringers visited Finedon recently, and were much pleased with the 'go' of the bells, the capital ropes, and the general tidiness and comfort of the ringing-room. The ropes of two of the bells pass over rollers, just above the ceiling, which makes a considerable rattle, rather annoying to strangers. Suitable oak blocks with sloped sides would be quite as effective and much less noisy. On the south wall of the belfry is a tablet recording the ringing of 3000 changes and a Royal Salute on Thanksgiving Day, February 27th, 1872. On the opposite side are portions of the old plaster inscribed with various names (enclosed in ornamented borders) of ringers, &c., of bygone days. In one case six names are given, concluding with that of the sexton and the date, 1636, which would lead one to infer that Finedon possessed a peal of six at that time. The old custom of ringing a 'Restoration Peal' is still kept up at Finedon—the bells being always rung half-muffled on the 29th of May.

Stroud and Painswick, Gloucestershire.

The ninety-sixth birthday of the veteran ringer, Giles Mansfield, the oldest ringer living, was celebrated on Monday, the 15th inst., by the Painswick and Stroud Societies of Ringers. The Painswick Society rang at 1 p.m. a touch of *GRANDSIRE TRIPLES* containing 96 treble leads, or 1344 changes in 53 minutes, viz.:—A. Trigg, 1; D. Marment, 2; W. Ryland, 3; E. King, 4; J. Wager, 5; J. Everatt, 6; W. Hale (conductor), 7; T. Wright, 8. The bell he rang to the 12,312 of *GRANDSIRE CATERS* was raised and rung by all the band. In the evening at the Stroud Parish Church, a touch of *GRANDSIRE TRIPLES*, 1344 changes in 50 minutes, by the following: A. Trigg, 1; D. Marment, 2; C. King, 3; N. King, 4; G. Latham, 5; J. Everatt, 6; W. Hale (conductor), 7; F. Stephens, 8. The house of the veteran was then visited, and several courses of *MINOR* and *TRIPLES* were rung on the handbells. He is perfectly conscious and retains a good memory, and talking of any of the intricacies of ringing as though he was in regular practice. His arms are too weak to hold the bells this year. A small present was given him by the ringers present as he is still dependent on an allowance from the parish. It is trusted that the kind friends who so willingly assisted him on his last birthday will again help him to face the ordeal of the coming winter. Any subscription will be handed to him, and acknowledged by post by Mr. William Hale, near the Church, Painswick.

The Ancient Society of College Youths.

THE Dinner to celebrate the 251st anniversary of this Society will take place at the Bridge House Hotel, London Bridge, S.E., on Saturday, November 3rd, at seven o'clock. The Dinner Committee invite early application for tickets, in order that the necessary arrangements may be satisfactorily carried out. Tickets, 3s. 6d. each. GEORGE MASH.

20 Essex Street, Southwark, London, S.E.

Kent County Association.

A DISTRICT MEETING was held at Aldington, on Monday, the 22nd inst., which was attended by ringers from Mersham, Brabourne, Hernhill, Ashford, Boughton, Horsmonden and Elmsted. Mersham Church was visited during the day, and the members were most hospitably entertained by the rectors both of Aldington and Mersham.

The next two meetings were fixed to be held at Swanscombe and Elham;

and the Committee declared itself in favour of Canterbury for the Annual General Meeting; but the final decision on this point awaits the expression of opinion of all the band, which the Secretary will be glad to receive, or, if desired, he will call a Committee meeting early in 1889 to settle the matter.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At St. Margaret's, Westminster, London.

ON Saturday, the 13th inst., ten members of the Society of Royal Cumberland Youths rang Shipway's peal of 5039 *GRANDSIRE CATERS* in 3 hrs. 10 mins. W. Baron, sen. (conductor), 1; W. Lally, 2; W. Jones, 3; W. W. Thorne, 4; C. E. Malin, Esq., 5; W. Partington, 6; H. L. Partington, 7; G. Wild, 8; A. E. Church, 9; G. Chesterman, 10. Tenor, 28 cwt., in D. The above peal was rung as a birthday peal for its conductor, his brother ringers wishing him many happy returns; and also on the eleventh anniversary of the long peal of *GRANDSIRE CATERS* rung at the above church, in which the late Dr. F. A. Knipe took part. [* First peal of *CATERS*. † First peal of *CATERS* with a bob bell.]

At the Parish Church, Woodstock, Oxfordshire.

ON Saturday, the 13th inst., eight members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild rang Holt's Ten-part peal of 5040 *GRANDSIRE TRIPLES* in 2 hrs. 46 mins. H. Judge (first peal), 1; E. Humfrey (first peal as conductor), 2; J. W. Washbrook, 3; Dr. A. B. Carpenter, 4; H. Humfrey, 5; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 6; H. Fruin, 7; J. Franklin, 8. The above peal was rung on the anniversary of the reopening of the church. Tenor, 16 cwt.

At the Parish Church, Coggeshall, Essex.

ON Saturday, the 13th inst., eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths and the Norwich Diocesan Association rang W. Royle's peal of 5040 *DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR* in 3 hrs. 12 mins. W. L. Catchpole (conductor), 1; W. Motts, 2; I. S. Alexander, 3; J. Motts, 4; R. H. Brundle, 5; E. Carter, 6; E. Horrex, 7; E. Pemberton, 8. Tenor, 21 cwt. First peal in the method on the bells.

At St. Martin's, Salisbury, Wilts.

ON Wednesday, the 17th inst., Shipway's peal of 5040 *BOB MAJOR* was rung in 3 hrs. 6 mins. S. Lawrence, 1; H. D. Adams, 2; W. S. Wise, 3; A. P. Goddard, 4; A. W. Barkus, 5; T. Blackburn, 6; E. Chapman, 7; W. W. Gifford (conductor), 8. Tenor, 15 cwt. Mr. Chapman came from Hampstead, London, and this is his first peal in his native county. [* First peal in the method.]

At St. Edward's, Romford, Essex.

ON Saturday evening, the 20th inst., eight members of the Essex Association rang a peal of *GRANDSIRE TRIPLES*, 5040 changes (Holt's Ten-part Reverse), in 3 hrs. 10 mins. L. Copsey, 1; W. Pegrum, 2; J. Gobbett, 3; M. L. Myhill, 4; E. Barnett, 5; A. J. Perkins (conductor), 6; W. Nash, 7; G. Garnett, 8. This peal was rung half-muffled, being the day of interment of the late N. Lurridge, Esq., formerly Churchwarden of St. Edward's. The ringers of the treble, 2nd, and 4th are under the age of seventeen, and have only been practising change-ringing since last February (when the bells and belfry were restored), under the instructorship of Mr. Perkins. Tenor, 17 cwt. G. Garnett was elected a member of this Association previous to starting for the peal. [* First peal.]

At St. Ethelreda's, Hatfield, Herts.

ON Saturday, the 20th inst., eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths and the Herts and Essex Associations rang Holt's Original peal of 5040 *GRANDSIRE TRIPLES* in 3 hrs. 7 mins. J. C. Mitchell, 1; G. W. Cartmel (conductor), 2; F. Furr, 3; E. P. Debenham, 4; W. Battle, 5; W. H. L. Buckingham, 6; W. Allen, 7; J. Kentish, 8. Tenor, 28 cwt., in E flat. This is the first peal for Mr. Kentish, who belongs to Hatfield; Messrs. Furr and Allen came from Hitchin, and were elected, together with Mr. Kentish, members of the Essex Association. The last-named was also elected a member of the Ancient Society of College Youths.

AT ST. EDWARD'S, ROMFORD.—On Saturday evening, the 15th ult., for practice, the last 1300 of Holt's Original in 50 mins. W. Pegrum, 1; E. Barnett, 2; A. S. Barrell, 3; M. L. Myhill, 4; W. Pye, 5; A. J. Perkins (conductor), 6; W. Nash, 7; S. James, 8. Also 630 *GRANDSIRE TRIPLES*, standing as before, with E. Barnett (conductor).

RECEIVED ALSO:—G. W. Cartmel, St. Albans, (thanks, send again; send others.)

A BISHOP'S OPINION OF 'VINO SACRO.'—'I am glad to testify to the excellence of "Vino Sacro," as in every essential particular adapted to its sacred purpose. I now use no other.'—(Signed), J. N. STALEY, D.D., Vicar of Croxhall, formerly Bp. of Honiagh. Half Bot. per post, 2s. 6d., or 1 Bot. 3s. 6d. Descriptive book (50 pp.) on application to Messrs. Hicks and Co., Plymouth.—[Advt.]

SPEARMAN'S SERGES.—The best in the world.—Pure Indigo Dye, Royal Navy Blue, Woaled Black. Also all other colours and Fancy Weavings. Low quotations. No draper or tailor sells SPEARMAN'S renowned Serges; they can only be obtained direct from SPEARMAN, SPEARMAN, PLYMOUTH. No material manufactured is so useful for Ladies' Autumn and Winter Wear or Gentlemen's Suits. Send for patterns and select at home for yourselves. Parcels carriage paid in Great Britain and Ireland. Goods packed for export at lowest freights.—[Advt.]

HEALTH UNDERCLOTHING.—Ladies should send for patterns of the White and Scarlet Flannels, Undyed Wools, Fancy Shirting Flannels, Dressing-gown Flannels, which will be sent, post free, from the manufacturer, John Noble, Victoria Manchester. Please write at once to above address and mention this paper.—[Advt.]

TOBACCONISTS COMMENCING.—Write to-day for Illustrated Guide how to open a Shop respectably (post free). TOBACCONISTS' OUTFITTING CO., BROADWAY, Bech Street, London, E.C.—[Advt.]

IRELAND.

(From our Special Correspondent.)

THE various diocesan synods are now meeting for the transaction of business, involving this year the important matter of the triennial election of diocesan nominators and representatives to the General Synod.

On Tuesday week the Diocesan Synod of Armagh met in the Royal School, after Divine service had been held in the Cathedral. His Grace the Lord Primate was in the chair. The President, in the course of his address, alluded to the recent Lambeth Conference. Although, said Dr. Knox, the decisions arrived at, not in all cases unanimously, did not carry with them the weight or authority of a general council, yet they could not fail to exercise a powerful influence over the whole Anglican Communion, though it set forth no new decrees. The kind and brotherly spirit which prevailed was largely due to the wise and gentle rule of the Archbishop, and they all carried away with them a pleasing recollection of his Grace's hearty and loving welcome.

A letter was read from the Home Secretary to the Archdeacon of Armagh, acknowledging the resolution passed at the last Synod in connexion with Her Majesty's Jubilee.

Colonel Lowry, commenting on the financial statement of the Diocesan Council, said it was a most important thing in the present crisis to know what the farmers intended to do. Hitherto they had but poorly supported the Church; what were they going to do in the future, now that the landlords were in so many instances selling their estates and leaving the country? In the parish to which he belonged he had collected for a great many years as treasurer, and he thought that what happened in one parish would most probably happen in another. There had been two large sales of property under Lord Ashbourne's Act. One gentleman who sold his property kept the subscription up, but whether the other would was uncertain. A number of landlords subscribed to parishes where they did not reside; but the time had come when the question would be decided whether they would give in the parish where their property was or where they resided.

Sir Calvert Strange reported that while a large number of subscriptions had come in, the sum of 2000*l.* was still required to complete the purchase of the Armagh Palace.

The financial report stated that the sum received for assessment of parishes in the scheme in 1887 amounted to 7281*l.* 13*s.* 11*d.*, as against 7801*l.* 1*s.* 9*d.* in 1886, being a decrease of 519*l.* 7*s.* 10*d.* The total of the balances due by the several parishes at the end of 1887 was 3983*l.* 1*s.* 8*d.*, as against 3820*l.* 1*s.* 10*d.* in 1886. Of the balances so due at the end of 1887, 2226*l.* 0*s.* 11*d.* has been cleared off. The capital at the end of the year 1887 was 177,290*l.* 19*s.* 1*d.*, charged with annuities amounting to 9289*l.* 18*s.* 5*d.*

The Synod reassembled on Wednesday, when the Primate again presided. Various diocesan reports were presented, including those on Temperance and Education. The triennial elections were carried, and the business of the Synod having been completed, the Benediction was given and the meeting broke up.

The Archbishop of Dublin preached on Tuesday week at the afternoon meeting of the Christian Convention in the Christian Union Buildings, Lower Abbey Street. There were a few Church clergymen present, and a large number of Dissenting ministers. His Grace delivered an address on Christian Union, in the course of which he said:—

'It might be asked, how did the Encyclical bear on the present Convention?—that because the Bishops had laid down a basis of agreement with a view to future reunion, it was not right for any of them in the meantime to meet together until they had in the first instance agreed as to the extent of these terms. That was a total misconception as to the meaning of the Encyclical, which spoke of a basis of union with a view to organic union, corporate union, in the future, and with a view to formal conference between the representatives of different Churches for the purpose of negotiating as to the possibility of bringing such a corporate reunion about. No such meeting, consistently with the suggestion of the Encyclical, could be held except upon that basis. But, as he thought they all understood, they did not meet here for the purpose of formally consulting together and negotiating as regards the corporate reunion in the future. Whatever they might think, and whatever they might hope with respect to the reunion, they were now met, not in the interests of fusion, or even of federation, but for that which, meanwhile, was a sacred duty amongst all Christians, the interests of brotherly love—that was to say, fraternisation; and in order to fraternise with one another, no such basis of agreement was required. They had, blessed be God, sufficient bases of agreement in the attachment they all felt to God's Holy Word and to its truths. They were met together in order that they might try to prepare the way for whatever God in His great mercy hereafter might do towards further reunion.'

At the conclusion of his address, the Archbishop asked those present to join with him in the public recitation of the Nicene Creed, the great symbol of an united Christendom previous to the separation of East and West: this the meeting did with great fervour.

On Sunday week the annual Harvest Festival of St. Bartholomew's Church, Dublin, took place. Among those present was the Right Rev.

Alexander Chinnery-Haldane, D.D., Bishop of Argyll, who read the Gospel. The sacred edifice was filled to its utmost capacity at both services. At morning service the choir and clergy entered the south door of the church and proceeded slowly in procession to their stalls, singing the harvest hymn, 'Come, ye thankful people, come.' At the evening service the processional hymn was 'Brightly gleams our banner,' which has been set to music by Mr. Vipond Barry, and was sung with most devotional enthusiasm by choir and people. The anthem was taken from Haydn's *Creation*—'The heavens are telling the glory of God.' At the conclusion of the service a solemn *Te Deum* was sung, and the Blessing having been given by the Bishop of Argyll, the choir returned to the vestry, singing Hymn 292 (*A. & M.*) The officiating clergy were the Revs. T. B. Morley, B.A.; W. B. Stillman, M.A.; W. Rathborne Supple, B.D.; the Vicar, Canon Smith, D.D.; and the Bishop of Argyll. The fruit and flowers with which the church was profusely and beautifully decorated were afterwards presented to several of the hospitals.

The Diocesan Synod of Dublin met on Monday, at noon, after a celebration of the Holy Communion in Christchurch Cathedral. Among the resolutions, of which notice was given, was the following by the Rev. Dr. Wright:—

'That the statements concerning the spread of Ritualism in Dublin put forward in a pamphlet entitled *Ritualistic Prospects in Dublin*, and in the Rev. Canon Crosthwaite's *Brief for any member of the Diocesan Synod who is opposed to Ritualistic Progress in Churches, Divinity School, and Press*, deserve the serious attention of this Synod.'

The financial report of the Diocesan Council presented at the Synod contained the following figures:—Value of life service of the clergy, 95,552*l.*; diocesan composition balances, 111,895*l.*; stipend fund, 187,441*l.*; total capital, 344,888*l.*, which, at 3½ per cent, would yield 12,071*l.*; parochial assessment for shares, including net amount of free shares to poor parishes, 17,591*l.*; being a total income for the united dioceses of 29,662*l.* Deducting the stipends provided for the clergy under the Plan there is a surplus of 16*l.*

The stipend fund has increased by 6149*l.*, as compared with 5205*l.* during 1886; of this increase 939*l.* is represented by capital paid by parishes on joining the financial plan. The subscriptions for shares in 1887 amounted to 16,977*l.*, as compared with 17,025*l.* in 1886, and the regular stipends paid in 1887 were 19,374*l.*, as against 18,981*l.* in 1886. The poor parishes fund was unable to meet the charges upon it by 234*l.* which sum has been debited to the supplemental fund, the balance to the credit of which amounts to 1318*l.*, as compared with 1356*l.* at the close of 1886.

There was due by parishes to the Diocesan Plan at the close of 1887 the sum of 3855*l.*, as compared with 3138*l.* due at the close of the year 1886.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Notices of Peals.

SIR,—It has frequently struck me that a valuable addition to your notes and records would be notices of meetings for change-ringing, &c., proposed to be held in each ensuing week. Many more (not College Youths) might hear and enjoy if they only knew the when and where. Is there any reason why such notices should not be given?

A SUBSCRIBER FROM THE FIRST NUMBER.

[We insert all notices forwarded for insertion, and would be happy to insert as many more. Such notices are usually of forthcoming gatherings of Associations, &c., but there is no reason why local companies should not send notice of intended peals, &c.—ED. C. B.]

A New Clock at Peel, Isle of Man.

A VERY large clock and set of carillon machinery has just been erected at the new church here by John Smith and Sons, of the Midland Clock Works, Derby. The Cambridge quarters are chimed upon four bells, the hours struck upon the largest, and the carillon machine plays seven tunes upon eight bells, one tune for each day of the week. The clock is of the very finest construction in every way, and has been carried out by the makers to the designs of Lord Grimthorpe. It has a double three-legged gravity escapement and compensated pendulum. All the wheels are of gun-metal, with new teeth cut from the solid. Special apparatus is provided to keep the clock going while the weights are wound up. The weights are carried by steel-wire ropes. The clock and chimes will doubtless be a great boon to the inhabitants of the neighbourhood, for it is the most complete clock and chimes in the Isle of Man.

The Lancashire Association of Change Ringers.—Annual Meeting at Bolton.

BELL-RINGERS from all parts of the county assembled in Bolton on Saturday, Sept. 13th, on the occasion of the annual meeting of the Lancashire Association of Change-ringers, representatives to the number of about 150 being present from Manchester, Liverpool, Southport, Ashton, Bolton and district, Eccles, Heywood, Hyde, Milnrow, Newhey, Pendlebury, Prestwich, Radcliffe, Rochdale, Stalybridge, Walkden, Worsley, Bacup, Whitefield, Newchurch, Ramsbottom, and Waterfoot. The various belfries in the town were visited and some splendid ringing indulged in, and then the whole of the ringers

assembled in Holy Trinity Church, where the Rev. Charles Heath, M.A., vicar of Walkden, delivered a most appropriate sermon. At the close of the service, tea was served in the adjoining schools, the church choir and a number of friends waiting upon the visitors. Afterwards the business meeting of the Association was held. There was a large attendance, including a few ladies, and the Vicar of the parish presided by virtue of his office as President of the Association, being supported by the Rev. S. T. Williamson, M.A., his curate; the Rev. H. J. Elsee, curate of St. Andrew's, Manchester; Mr. A. E. Holme, M.A., of Manchester, vice-president of the Association; and Mr. Joel Redford, the secretary. Several of the ringers present from different towns rang on the handbells.

The Rev. Charles Lowe, M.A., said that, as President of their Association, it afforded him the greatest pleasure to welcome them to that schoolroom again; also to see so many of the Lancashire church bell-ringers in the adjoining sanctuary that afternoon. He then went on to say that it gave him sincere pleasure to congratulate them upon the satisfactory nature of the report of the year's work. Financially they were sound, and numerically they had a substantial gain to show.

Mr. Joel Redford, the energetic Secretary, read the Committee's report as follows:—'During the past year we may congratulate ourselves as being the most successful during the existence of the Association. Four honorary and 74 ringing members have been elected. Our members are now 43 of the former and 277 of the latter. We notice the satisfactory progress of the working of the Association in the Northern Division of the county; all the ringers of the Parish Church, Lancaster, and Dalton-in-Furness, have been admitted. In the North-east Division matters are now assuming that which the officers have long desired, viz., the enrolment of new members. Two more branches have been formed out of the ranks of the Association, viz., the Manchester Branch and the Rochdale Branch. Thirty-nine peals of 5000 changes and upwards have been rung in various methods; forty-three peals of 720's have also been rung. The balance in the hands of the Treasurer is 17l. 7s. 1d., which amount would have been considerably more but for the apathy of some members, who by not complying with Rule 4 have been struck off, but the Society is more than compensated by the increase of new members. Though greater activity has been shown during the year by the enrolment of new members, we would impress on the members generally the necessity of furthering the work of the Association in the many districts which have not been hitherto reached. We would also commend to the large districts the advantages of the formation of branches, which are being worked with great success.' Suitable reference was made to the demise of Mr. Thomas Morris, a ringer of over thirty years' standing in Bolton. The report was unanimously adopted.

The Rev. Charles Lowe was again proposed as the President, the mover remarking that no clergyman in Lancashire took a deeper interest in the Association. An amendment was proposed that the Rev. H. J. Elsee, a ringing member, be elected; but that gentleman intimated that having been in Lancashire a very short time only, he did not feel justified in allowing his name to be put before the meeting. The Chairman said he should be pleased to give way, thinking that changes might be beneficial; but the meeting appeared to be highly pleased with Mr. Lowe's valuable services, and he was unanimously re-elected amid applause. The Chairman said he was obliged to them for their kindness and confidence. He was not a 'full' ringer, but for nine of the ten years he was at Kersley Moor, he rang the people to church daily. His services were entirely at their disposal, and he would do all he could to further their interests. Mr. Joel Redford was reappointed Secretary by the unanimous vote of the meeting, the highest appreciation being expressed for Mr. Redford's diligent labours for the welfare of the Association. Mr. H. W. Jackson, another Boltonian, was unanimously reappointed Treasurer; Messrs. Davies and Booth (Liverpool), Auditors; and Messrs. Wood (Ashton), Nutter (Ramsbottom), Horrocks (Church), and Aspinall (Liverpool), members of the Committee.

A goodly number of new members were elected, including the whole of the ringers at the Saviour's Church, Bolton.

By a majority of thirty-four to twenty-six Bacup was selected as the town for next year's meeting, in preference to Manchester.

Heartly thanks were tendered for the use of the belfries in the town, to the Rev. Charles Heath for his sermon, for the excellent tea provided, and to the Chairman for his services.

The proceedings then terminated, several peals being afterwards rung from St. George's, the Parish, the Saviour's, and the Holy Trinity belfries.

A Visit to Great Rissington, Gloucestershire.

On Friday, the 28th ult., six of the Burford Association of Bell-ringers went to Great Rissington, where they were joined by Mr. F. E. Ward, of Cheltenham, formerly a resident of the town and a member of the Church Bell-ringers, and, by the kind permission of the Hon. and Rev. H. Rice, rector of Great Rissington, were allowed to use the bells at the Parish Church. After raising the bells, 720 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES was rung. A start was then made for 720 GRANDSIRE MINOR, which was accomplished in 25 mins. Afterwards, 720 PLAIN BOB MINOR was brought round in 23 mins. D. Francis, H. Bond, jun., W. Hall, W. Large, J. E. Granville, and F. E. Ward (conductor). The bells are considered a good ring of six, but the fifth and sixth bells go badly, the local ringers not having touched them since Easter.

The South Lincolnshire Association.

On Saturday, the 18th ult., an ordinary meeting of the above Association was held at Market Deeping. Ringing commenced at 9 o'clock a.m. and was kept up with great spirit until 9 p.m. During the day touches on five and six-bell methods were rung. At 1 p.m. dinner was served at the 'George' Inn, presided over by G. Shillaker, Esq., who became an honorary member.

After dinner the business of the Association was transacted, when several new members were elected, and Peterborough was selected as the next place of meeting. About thirty members rang during the day, and congratulated the Society on so successful a meeting, also the Deeping Company for having the belfry in such good order. The Sunday before being Harvest Festival the belfry was decorated with a miniature stack of corn, and corn and fruit hung around the walls.

The Ancient Society of College Youths. (Established 1637.)

THE 251st Anniversary Dinner will take place at the Bridge House Hotel, London Bridge, S.E., on Saturday, November 3rd, 1888, at 7 o'clock punctual. The following towers will be open for ringing:—St. Michael's, Cornhill, 4 o'clock to 5; St. Saviour's, Southwark, 5 o'clock to 6.30. Tickets, 3s. 6d. each, may be obtained up to Wednesday, October 31st, of the dinner committee:—Mr. G. Mash, 20 Little Essex Street, Southwark; Mr. S. E. Joyce, 33 Finch Street, Mile End; Mr. J. Pettit, 3 St. Thomas's Place, Hackney; Mr. G. T. McLaughlin, 48 Westmoreland Street, Pimlico, S.W.; Mr. C. F. Winny, 27 Tadema Road, Chelsea, S.W.; and Messrs. W. Tyack, H. Springhall, E. E. Clarke, and R. T. Woodley. All friends will be heartily welcomed.

Rochdale and District Association.

THE above Association will hold a Quarterly Meeting at St. Mark's Church, Glodwick, on Saturday, November 17th. Bells ready about 2.30; meeting at 4.30, to be held in the Schoolroom.

Oxford Diocesan Guild of Church-bell Ringers.—Bradfield Deanery Branch.

The members of this Branch held their annual festival on Saturday, the 27th ult., at Theale, by kind permission of the Rector, the Rev. S. Angel Smith. Seven belfries were well represented, the party numbering about sixty-five. After a bright service in the parish church, at which the Rector intoned the prayers, and a capital sermon on 'Thoroughness in work for God,' preached by the Rev. R. H. Hart-Davis, vicar of Dunsden, there was tea in the schoolroom.

The Surrey Association.

A QUARTERLY MEETING of this Association was held at Beddington, by the kind permission of the Rector, on Monday, the 15th ult. Ringers began to assemble soon after four, and were met by the Rector, the Rev. Canon Bridges, who accompanied them to the ringing-chamber. Among those present at this time were L. Procter, Esq., the Rev. E. W. Carpenter, vicar of Bobbing, and Mr. Rees, of Guildford, who were very soon joined by ringers from all parts of the county. Tea was served at the 'Plough' Inn at 6.30 p.m., and forty-seven members sat down. The Rector had most kindly sent a liberal supply of grapes and peaches from his hot-houses, which not only beautified the tables, but also subsequently gratified the palates of those present. At the business meeting which followed, eight new members were elected, including Squire Procter, of Benington, Herts. The Rev. E. D. L. Harvey gave notice of his intention to propose an alteration of the existing Rule III. at the next Quarterly Meeting. The next District Meeting was arranged to be held at Newington, and the next Quarterly Meeting at Kingston-on-Thames. ARTHUR B. CARPENTER, Hon. Sec.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At St. Peter's, Drayton, Berks.

On Wednesday, the 10th ult., eight members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild rang a peal of 5024 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR in 2 hrs. 48 mins. H. Humphrey, 1; F. Field, 2; C. Trinder, 3; Dr. A. B. Carpenter (Croydon, first peal in the method), 4; H. Fruin, 5; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 6; T. Short, 7; J. W. Washbrook (composer and conductor), 8.

At St. Gregory's, Sudbury, Suffolk.

On Thursday, the 18th ult., eight members of the Essex Association rang Mr. W. Harrison's peal of 5088 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR in 3 hrs. 7 mins. C. Sillitoe (conductor), 1; W. Howell, 2; G. S. Brown (first peal in the method), 3; A. Scott, 4; P. C. S. Scott (Long Melford), 5; W. Griggs, 6; H. Harper, 7; R. T. Woodley (London), 8. Tenor, 16 cwt., in F.

At All Saints', Loughborough, Leicestershire.

On Friday, the 19th ult., ten members of the Midland Counties' Association rang a peal of 5080 KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL in 3 hrs. 31 mins. A. Cresser, 1; C. Smith, 2; R. Lane, 3; J. W. Taylor, sen., 4; S. Smith, 5; W. A. Tyler, 6; J. Hardy, 7; W. T. Billingham, 8; H. Baker (Hertford, first peal of TREBLE BOB ROYAL), 9; J. W. Taylor, jun., 10. Composed by Mr. N. J. Pitstow, and conducted by Mr. J. W. Taylor, jun. Tenor, 28 cwt., in D.

On Friday, the 26th ult., ten members of the Midland Counties' Association rang a peal of 5129 GRANDSIRE CATERS in 3 hrs. 27 mins. A. Cresser, 1; J. Hardy, 2; A. Millis, 3; W. A. Tyler, 4; S. Smith, 5; Rev. T. E. Robinson, 6; E. W. Cartwright, 7; F. A. Underwood, 8; J. W. Taylor, jun., 9; E. Wightman, 10. Composed by Henry Hubbard and conducted by J. W. Taylor, jun. Tenor, 28 cwt., in D. The following sixteen peals have been rung on these bells since they were opened on October 28, 1887:—Two peals of TREBLE BOB ROYAL, six peals of STEEDMAN CATERS, six peals of GRANDSIRE CATERS, one peal of TREBLE BOB MAJOR, one peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES.

At St. Peter's, Belgrave, Leicestershire.

On Saturday, the 20th ult., eight members of the Midland Counties' Association rang Tebb's peal of 5056 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR in 3 hrs. 15 mins. A. Cresser, 1; A. Millis (Leicester), 2; J. Buttery (Leicester), 3; J. W. Taylor, sen., 4; R. Lane, 5; W. A. Tyler, 6; H. Baker (Hertford), 7;

J. W. Taylor, jun. (conductor), 8. Tenor, 16 cwt., in F. This is the first peal on the bells since the addition of three trebles to complete the ring of eight, which were put up in memory of the late Vicar the Rev. F. H. Richardson.

At St. Mary's, Woolwich, Kent.

On Saturday, the 20th ult., eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths and the Essex Association rang a peal of 5056 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR in 2 hrs. 55 mins. H. Bright (in his 80th year), 1; C. F. Winny, 2; H. R. Newton,* 3; W. Bedwell,* 4; York Green (composer), 5; S. Hayes, 6; Rev. H. A. Cockey,* 7; J. M. Hayes (conductor), 8. [*First peal in the method.]

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

On Saturday, the 20th ult., twelve members of the Ancient Society of College Youths and the Norwich Diocesan Association rang Mr. J. Reeves's peal of 5040 KENT TREBLE BOB MAXIMUS in 3 hrs. 47 mins. W. L. Catchpole (conductor), 1; W. Motts, 2; I. S. Alexander, 3; J. Motts, 4; A. E. Durrant, 5; R. Hawes, 6; R. H. Brundle, 7; E. Carter, 8; R. T. Woodley, 9; W. P. Garrett, 10; E. Reeve, 11; S. Tillett, 12. Messrs. Carter and Woodley came from London; their first peal on twelve bells. Tenor, 32 cwt.

At the Parish Church, Ormskirk.

On Monday, the 22nd ult., a peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 57 mins. J. Prescott, 1; C. Sharples, 2; W. Lloyd, 3; W. Ellis, 4; J. Sholicar (composer and conductor), 5; W. Bentham, 6; G. Prescott, 7; P. Harvey, 8. Tenor, 25½ cwt.

At All Saints', Fulham, Middlesex.

On Monday, the 22nd ult., ten members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang a peal of 5009 STEDMAN CATERS in 3 hrs. 8 mins. C. F. Winny, 1; T. Miller (Birmingham), 2; E. Horrex, 3; Dr. A. B. Carpenter, 4; Ezra Carter, 5; H. Newton, 6; J. W. Driver,* 7; Rev. H. A. Cockey,* 8; J. M. Hayes, 9; S. How, 10. Composed by Mr. Haley and conducted by Mr. Hayes. Tenor, 21 cwt., in E flat. [*First peal in the method.] The band wish to thank the Vicar (the Rev. F. Fisher), through the medium of *Church Bells*, for his kind permission and good wishes.

At St. John-the-Baptist's, Erith, Kent.

On Tuesday, the 23rd ult., eight members of the Society of Trinity Youths rang Holt's Ten-part peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 48 mins. W. I. Reeves, 1; W. Bedwell, 2; G. Conyard, 3; W. Weatherstone (48th birthday and 80th peal), 4; F. W. Thornton (conductor, secretary of the Society), 5; E. E. Richards, 6; F. J. French, 7; J. Garard, 8.

At St. Mary's Cole-Orton, Leicestershire.

On Thursday, the 25th ult., eight members of the Ashby-de-la-Zouch Parish Church Society of Change-ringers, who are also members of the Midland Counties' Association, rang Holt's Ten-part peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 3 hrs. 2 mins. W. Liggins, 1; H. Canner, 2; T. Jacques, 3; J. Hopkin, 4; W. Owen (first peal), 5; J. H. Dummore, 6; W. Canner, 7; J. Curtis, 8. This is the first peal conducted by Mr. Canner. It was intended to try for this peal at the Parish Church (St. Helen's), Ashby-de-la-Zouch, to commemorate the second anniversary of the foundation of the Society and rehanging of the bells; but as there were cases of illness near the church this idea was abandoned, and the permission of the Rev. W. B. Beaumont, rector of Cole-Orton, was asked and readily given for the use of the bells at St. Mary's, and the ringers desire to thank him for his kindness in granting their request. Tenor, 14 cwt.

At the Parish Church, STAVELEY, DERBYSHIRE.—On Monday evening, the 1st ult., the local company rang for practice 1232 BOB MAJOR, in 49 mins. S. Palmer, 1; A. Worthington, 2; S. Smedley, 3; H. Mottershall, 4; S. Price, 5; W. Worthington (conductor), 6; J. Harris, 7; H. Madin, 8. Tenor, 19 cwt.

At the Parish Church, FOLKESTONE, KENT.—On Tuesday evening, the 2nd ult., 840 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. A. Tanton (Lyminge), 1; H. Cheeseman (Stowting), 2; J. Fisher, 3; E. Tucker, 4; H. Couchier, 5; S. Barker (conductor), 6; F. Slingsby, 7; G. Miller, 8.

At the Parish Church, LYBE, WORCESTERSHIRE.—On Friday, the 5th ult., 720 PLAIN BOB MINOR (twenty-six singles and sixteen bobs), in 25 mins. T. Brooks (first 720), 1; A. J. Folkes (conductor), 2; W. Taylor, 3; J. Davies, 4; G. A. Hutton, 5; H. Wooldridge, 6. Tenor, 3½ cwt.

At ALL SAINTS', WIGSTON, LEICESTERSHIRE.—On Saturday, the 6th ult., the local Company of Bell-ringers rang a peal of 720 GRANDSIRE MINOR in, 27 mins. T. Humberstone (conductor), 1; J. Taily, 2; J. W. Sampson, 3; R. Roe, 4; H. Smith, 5; H. Vaun, 6. This is the first complete peal that has been rung on the bells since the ring has been raised to six.

At the Cathedral, ST. ALBANS, HERTS.—On Sunday evening, the 7th ult., for Divine service, by the Cathedral Society, 1008 STEDMAN TRIPLES. E. J. Mitchell, 1; T. Grant, 2; G. W. Cartmel, 3; R. M. Pratt, 4; J. C. Mitchell (conductor), 5; E. A. Hulks, 6; W. Battle, 7; H. L. Waddington, 8.

At St. Mary's, BEDDINGTON, SURREY.—On Sunday, the 7th ult., on the occasion of the Harvest Festival, for morning service, 521 GRANDSIRE CATERS. J. Harding, 1; J. Branch, 2; C. Martin, 3; J. Plowman, 4; E. Bennett (conductor), 5; C. Gordon, 6; J. Trappitt, 7; G. Welling, 8; C. Bance, 9; J. Harding, 10. For the evening service, 555 STEDMAN CATERS. E. Bennett (conductor), 1; J. Branch, 2; G. Welling, 3; J. Plowman, 4; W. Burkin, 5; J. Trappitt, 6; J. Fayers, 7; C. Bance, 8; C. Gordon, 9; J. Harding, 10. After service, 360 KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL. C. Martin, 1; E. Bennett, 2; J. Branch, 3; J. Plowman, 4; H. Martin, 5; G. Welling, 6; C. Bance, 7; J. Fayers, 8; J. Trappitt, 9; C. Gordon, 10.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Incomes of Welsh Sees.

SIR,—I notice with much satisfaction your remark in 'Notes on Passing Events' as to the absurdity of instituting a comparison between the official incomes of bishops and judges. But the discussion at Llandaff Diocesan Conference had to do with the Welsh Sees, and there is a striking consensus of opinion throughout Wales that the incomes of the Welsh Sees are unnecessarily large, and that, with the exception of the populous diocese of Llandaff, 3000*l.* a-year is a sufficient income for a Welsh bishop; and one great reason for this will appear when it is borne in mind how poor the majority of Welsh benefices are. In the whole of Wales there are, I believe, only forty benefices over 400*l.* a-year, and scarcely any of these exceed 500*l.* a-year. There are simply no 'rich livings' in Wales, and hence the social gulf between the bishops and the parochial clergy is enormously greater than in England, and is, in fact, altogether too wide. This opinion has frequently found expression during the last twelve months, and I am glad to notice that the *National Church*, the official organ of the Church Defence Institution, this month adopts the suggestion I made in *Church Bells* a year ago, that the three Sees of Bangor, St. Asaph, and St. David's should each contribute 1000*l.* a-year towards the endowment of a new bishopric for Mid-Wales, with Aberystwith as its See-town. We are within measurable distance of an increase of the Episcopate in Wales now. H. C. RICHMOND.

22 Scarisbrick Street, Southport.

Our Cathedrals.

SIR,—I read with pleasure your report of the meeting held on the 10th inst. of the Incorporated Free and Open Church Association in your issue of the 19th ult.; and especially the remark of the Bishop of Mississippi, advocating that the people should be trusted in our churches, and arguing that such trust would not, in his opinion, be abused. He said:—'If there is one thing that rasps me, it is to go into an English cathedral, and to be dogged about by a verger as if I was about to do something wrong, with certain parts locked, and notices "you can't go here" and "mustn't go there." This distrust,' the Bishop added, 'was astonishing, and made him ashamed.'

The Bishop's remarks brought to mind some of my own experiences; notably two instances which I will mention. A short time since I visited Salisbury, and was desirous of looking round before the morning service, as I had to leave early. Prayers were to be said at ten in the Lady Chapel; the choir was locked. On attempting to go down one of the side aisles, I was asked if I was going to remain for the service. I replied in the negative; and was told by the verger I must not go down there, although it wanted fully fifteen minutes before the service began. I simply left the place in disgust; and have made up my mind not to give a farthing to either vergers or any one connected with such places, until they show a little more courtesy and consideration to visitors. I was annoying no one, and should not have done so; and would have retired quietly and before the service began. I have too much regard for the Church and the service, also, to disturb any one at their devotions.

On a previous occasion I was at Rochester after morning prayers. The choir was locked, and one or two persons were dusting, &c., in the same. On going to the entrance to the choir the door was closed in my face, and I was told I must pay sixpence if I wished to look round. I made up my mind at once to do neither the one nor the other. On both these occasions my pleasure was spoiled, my recollection is anything but pleasant, and certainly I got no good from the visit.

It is preposterous and childish to behave in this manner to people who feel an interest in our churches and cathedrals. They are not visited by burglars, housebreakers, rowdies, and violent and lawless people, as a rule; and yet there is such locking of doors, dogging of footsteps, stretching of ropes across certain parts, as though they were in mortal terror of the tourist or visitor. It is quite time such nonsense was ended, and that deans and chapters should realise that they are mere custodians; while vergers, &c., should learn to be civil and obliging, and as far as possible facilitate the seeing of the whole fabric. If we (the public) are ever to see these places as our Father's house, as places in which we have 'an heritage, to which we should resort, it must be by free access and courteous treatment on the part of those in charge, whether it be the chief caretaker, the Dean, or the more officious verger.

Our late lamented Diocesan (Fraser) of Manchester used to say that no one disturbed and irritated him more than the bustling, important, and often noisy and irreverent verger. Why cannot a fixed charge be made, as at Westminster Abbey, and visitors be allowed, after registering their names, to look round in their own way and at their own time? And would it not be better if there was an absence of charging in many cases, so that the idea of churches being places for always getting money out of the pocket should be done away with, and the alienation, indifference, and, in some cases, perfect dislike, should be corrected and minimised? A REGULAR READER.

'The Canons of Chester Cathedral.'

SIR,—Will you permit me, as a resident in Cheshire and a near neighbour of the excellent man who has just been preferred to a residentiary stall, to offer a few remarks on the letter signed 'D. N. R.'? I premise that, according to the common saying, there are as good fish in the sea as ever came out of it, and I will concede, for argument's sake, that there may even be better. Did you ever yet know an ecclesiastical appointment concerning which it was not open to somebody to suggest a person quite as worthy, if not

presence, and reality of reception, the need of the spiritual acceptance of faith—just so far its work is unsound: it will not and cannot stand.

And now, what shall we say of the Broad Church assertion of comprehensiveness of idea, faith, communion? Its truth or falsehood turns simply on the degree in which it stands firmly on the truth of Christ, as not only the Son of Man, but the Eternal Son of God—to accept, therefore, His revelation of God as absolute and ultimate—to accept His Atonement as a true, mysterious sacrifice for the sins of the whole world—to believe in His Resurrection and Ascension, as the crown of His manifestation on earth, and as the entrance on His continuing mediation in heaven—to accept His grace as a real supernatural gift of the Holy Spirit of God, the true regeneration of the soul and of the world. If any of these things be obscured, or denied, or left in doubt; if there be any haziness as to the great facts of His manifestation, on which (as in the Apostles' Creed) Christianity has been built—if the miraculous in Holy Scripture is explained away, and with it the historic truth of Holy Scripture itself—if any terms be kept with that view, which most thoughtful scepticism takes up, that Christianity is only best in degree among the world's religions, to be superseded in its time by a better, and that accordingly its word and grace are only to be numbered among many co-ordinate or superior forces of civilisation—then all this is not only evil, but evil fatal to Christianity itself. To palter with it, for the sake of avoiding what seems conflict with modern thought, is (to use well-known words) '*Propter vitam vivendi perdere causas.*' It is one thing to simplify theology; it is another to destroy it. It is one thing to protest against extravagant artificial theories as the methods of salvation in Christ; it is another to let go the eternal facts.

(To be continued.)

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

The New Ring of Eight Bells at Brentwood, Essex.

LATELY, the new ring of eight by Mears and Stainbank, in St. Thomas' Church, was rung for the first time by a band of the Essex Association, selected by the Hon. Secretary at the invitation of the Vicar and Churchwardens of Brentwood. The bells have been in position for about a year, but it was not considered wise to ring them till the masonry of the new tower had become settled, and hitherto they have only been chimed. The party assembled in the ringing chamber, tastefully decorated for the occasion by Mr. Baker, the steeple-keeper, soon after 2 p.m., and a touch of about 300 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES was first rung by R. Sewell, 1; W. Rowland, 2; G. C. Scowen, 3; W. Gifford, 4; H. Randall, 5; Rev. T. L. Papillon (Hon. Secretary of the Essex Association), 6; F. Pitstow, 7; Rev. H. A. Cockey, 8. At 3 p.m. the following band started for a peal of TREBLE BOB MAJOR:—Rev. H. A. Cockey (late hon. secretary E.A.C.R.), 1; W. Rowland (Chelmsford), 2; A. J. Perkins (Romford), 3; W. Hawkes (Springfield), 4; H. Randall (West Ham), 5; E. Barnett (Wanstead), 6; G. Newson (Hampstead, formerly of Romford, conductor), 7; F. Pitstow (Saffron Walden), 8. The band had rung 4224 changes in excellent style in 2 hrs. 39 mins., when a message came that a gentleman in the neighbourhood was dying, and that they must stop at once. The bells are of a very fine tone, and their 'go' all that could be wished. Tenor, 19½ cwt., in E flat. The band were afterwards entertained at dinner by the authorities; the Vicar presiding; Mr. C. Wallis, parish churchwarden, in the vice-chair.

Augmentation of Christ Church (Eastbourne) Bells.

THE bells of this church, which originally consisted of only three down to the year 1883, when three new bells were added, have now been further augmented by the addition of a new treble and tenor. The work was entrusted to Messrs. Warner, of London (who have supplied all the bells), and they have succeeded in making a capital splice. The alteration of the old bells to make room for the new has been a decided improvement with regard to the ropes, which now fall in a circle. Further improvements are to be made in the ringing chamber, the Churchwardens having kindly promised to put in a new ceiling, &c. When these are completed it will be one of the neatest in the county. The bells were first rung on Sunday, the 28th ult., for the eight o'clock celebration. For afternoon service a well-struck 1008 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES was rung in 37 mins. On Monday, the 29th ult., an attempt was made for a peal of OXFORD BOB TRIPLES, but it unfortunately came to an end, after ringing 2 hrs. 12 mins. R. Howse, 1; G. Howse, 2; H. Colbran, 3; P. Peters, 4; F. Harding (conductor), 5; J. Sharp, 6; T. Smith, 7; H. Knight, 8.

The Lancashire Association (Rochdale Branch).

A MEETING of the above Branch was held at St. Thomas's Church, Moor-side, near Oldham, on Saturday, the 27th ult. About twenty members were present from Oldham, Moorside, Bacup, Heywood, and Rochdale. The Vicar said he hoped the visitors would give them a good ring, it being the old folks' tea-party in the schools near to the church. Touches of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, BOB MAJOR, and 576 KENT TREBLE BOB, were rung. The next meeting is to be held at St. Thomas's Church, Leesfield, near Oldham. Six new members were elected. Mr. Hoyle explained the objects of the members in forming the above Branch, which has proved such a success, as it is for the advancement of the members in the district. Votes of thanks were given to the Vicar and Churchwardens for the use of the bells, and also to the chairman, Mr. John Harrison, for presiding. After the meeting a well-struck touch of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES was rung at the meeting.

house by S. Stott, 1-2; F. Crossland, 3-4; J. Priestley, 5-6; E. B. Shaw, 7-8. Also 504 was attempted, with Mr. Harrison, 7-8, the rest as before, but it was not successful. A course of GRANDSIRE CATERS was also rung, which brought a pleasant meeting to a close.

Birmingham and District Association.

THE quarterly meeting of the above Association was held at King's Norton, Worcestershire, on Saturday, the 20th ult. During the afternoon several touches were rung, after which the business part of the meeting was held, Mr. C. Carmell taking the chair. There were several new members elected. The next meeting, being the Annual Meeting, was decided to be held at Birmingham. A hearty vote of thanks was given to the Vicar for kindly granting them the use of the bells, which brought the meeting to a close.

Worcester and Adjoining Districts Association.

THE next quarterly meeting of this Association will be held in St. Martin's Schoolroom, Tipton, on Saturday, the 17th inst., at five o'clock prompt. The Rev. A. A. Cory, vicar, will preside. The tower and bells will be open for ringing during the afternoon and evening. Members to take this as sufficient notice, should they receive no other. JOHN SMITH, Hon. Sec.

37 Simms Lane, Netherton, Dudley.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At St. Mary's, Widford, Essex.

ON Friday, the 26th ult., eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths and the Essex Association rang Holt's Ten-part peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 58 mins. J. Dains, 1; A. Edwards, 2; W. Hawkes, 3; H. Reeves (conductor), 4; A. Tarbun (first peal), 5; W. Lincoln, 6; E. Scotcher, 7; W. J. Piper, 8. The ring of bells has recently been augmented from six to eight by Mears and Stainbank, and the above is the first peal rung upon them.

At St. Mary's, Warwick.

ON Friday, the 26th ult., a peal of 5089 GRANDSIRE CATERS was rung in 3 hrs. 24 mins. H. Mason, 1; C. W. Bassano, 2; W. Bird, 3; E. B. Parsons, 4; W. Green, 5; H. Cartwright, 6; A. H. Bassano, 7; Rev. F. B. Robinson, 8; J. W. Washbrook (composer and conductor), 9; R. Bird, 10. Tenor, 28 cwt., in D. All the ringers, except Mr. Robinson and Mr. Washbrook, are from Old Hill, Staffordshire.

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

ON Saturday, the 27th ult., eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths, the Herts and Essex Associations, and the St. Peter's Society, rang Holt's Six-part peal of 5040 BOB TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 55 mins. A. Hull, 1; E. P. Debenham, 2; A. Barnes, 3; I. C. Mitchell, 4; W. H. L. Buckingham (conductor), 5; G. W. Cartmel, 6; T. Waller (birthday), 7; H. Baker (Hertford), 8. Tenor, 21 cwt., in D.

At St. Mary's, Woodbridge, Suffolk.

ON Saturday, the 27th ult., eight members of the Norwich Diocesan Association and the St. Mary-le-Tower Society, Ipswich, rang Holt's Ten-part peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 3 hrs. 11 mins. F. Mee, 1; C. Mee (conductor), 2; I. S. Alexander, 3; W. Motts, 4; A. E. Durrant, 5; W. P. Garrett, 6; W. L. Catchpole, 7; J. Motts, 8. Tenor, 27 cwt.

At the Immanuel Church, Streatham, Surrey.

ON Monday, the 29th ult., eight members of the Surrey Association rang a peal of 5088 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR in 3 hrs. 1 min. S. Greenwood,* 1; E. Bennett, 2; C. Bance, 3; A. B. Carpenter, 4; A. H. Martin,* 5; J. Fayers, 6; J. Trappitt, 7; C. Gordon, 8. Composed by Mr. J. Platt and conducted by Mr. Bennett. Tenor, 17 cwt., in F. [* First peal of MAJOR.]

At St. Thomas', Brentwood, Essex.

ON Saturday, the 3rd inst., the following members of the Essex Association of Change-ringers rang, at the Church of St. Thomas-the-Martyr, a true and complete peal of KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR in 3 hrs. 14 mins. H. Randall, 1; W. Rowland, 2; A. G. Perkins, 3; W. Hawkes, 4; J. Priest (first peal in the method), 5; Rev. H. Cockey, 6; G. Newson (conductor), 7; F. Pitstow, 8. J. Priest rang instead of E. Barnett, who was unable to attend. The above is the first peal on the bells, and was first attempted on the Harvest Festival, but had to be stopped after ringing 4300 changes owing to the illness of Dr. Earle, since deceased. The Vicar and Churchwardens have promised a tablet to record the peal. Tenor, 19½ cwt., in E flat.

At St. James's (Parish) Church, Dursley, Gloucestershire.

ON Saturday, the 3rd inst., eight members of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association rang Penning's Five-part peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 3 hrs. 1 min. A. Trigg, 1; F. E. Ward, 2; W. Ryland, 3; W. Hale, 4; J. Nash, 5; C. King, 6; F. Stephens, 7; T. Wright, 8. Conducted by Mr. Ward, Master of the Association. Tenor, 14 cwt. The first peal on record on the bells.

AT ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN'S, BALDOCK, HERTS.—On Sunday morning, the 4th inst., for Divine service, 504 and 112 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES were rung by the members of the Hertfordshire Association. T. Webb (conductor), 1; J. Spicer, 2; J. Cawdell, 3; J. Smith, 4; Robert Jackson, 5; A. Squires, 6; Richard Jackson, 7; G. Gentile, 8. And for the evening service, 518 and 168 in the same method, with J. Philips (conductor), 4, the others standing the same as in the morning. Tenor, 28 cwt., in D. A. Squires came from Hitchin, the rest are the local company.

MR. W. J. BRIDGER, of All Saints' School, Bloxham, Banbury, writes to ask if any of our subscribers, either by private letter or through the medium of our columns, can inform him as to whether a plastic material is procurable capable of receiving and retaining impressions of inscriptions, &c., on bells. —ED. C. B.

gregation at the service, the Bishop, Dean, and other dignitaries being present, as well as a large number of the city and country clergy. The sermon was preached by the Dean, Dr. Madden, who mentioned that the new Cathedral had cost altogether 100,000*l.*, and that during the last ten years he (the preacher) had received himself 15,000*l.* for cathedral and parish purposes.

The opening meeting of the Dublin Clerical Association for the present session was held on Monday week, at two p.m., in the Board-room of the S.P.C.K., Dawson Street, the Very Rev. the Dean of the Chapel Royal in the chair. A paper was read by the Rev. Canon J. J. Robinson, M.A., on 'Lay Help and Lay Responsibility,' and the subsequent discussion was taken part in by the Revs. Dr. Craig Thomas Good, B.D., A. D. Purefry, Sterling Tomlinson, J. S. Fletcher, Canon Wynne, Canon Scott, S. G. Cotton, and the Chairman.

The term at Trinity College is now in full swing. The new Regius Professor of Divinity lectures on Mondays, and the new Archbishop King's Lecturer, Mr. Bernard, on Tuesdays. The new (and first) Professor of Pastoral Theology, Canon Wynne, lectures on Wednesdays; the Professor of Ecclesiastical History, Dr. Stokes, on Tuesdays and Thursdays. This last-mentioned is also delivering occasional Sunday evening lectures in his own church on 'The Christian Faith as held and taught by the Apostolic Fathers.'

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

More Bells for Peterborough Cathedral.

An attempt is being made to replace in the north-western tower of the Cathedral a ring of ten bells, of which it is said the city once boasted, but five of which were removed and sold some fifty or sixty years since in consequence of the rottenness of the frames. But now matters have changed. Mr. H. P. Gates, J.P., has promised 350*l.* to provide new frames and incidental costs of rehanging the bells, and it is intended that in the new frames provision should again be made for ten. There is no doubt the original ring of bells were of very great weight, and, from the Chapter records, continued to hang until 1709, when they were taken down. Bridges gives a good idea of their great weight when he says that 'a tuneable peal of ten was cast out of the four great bells with very little addition, and the whole charge of founding, hanging, and framing was defrayed by parting with the others to the founders, who also gave 50*l.* towards adorning the altar.' The reason of their removal was their tremendous vibration, and the uncertainty at that time of the stability of the west front. Henry Penn had the work of recasting the four into a lighter ring. Penn, as all residents of the city know, was the famous bell-founder of Peterborough, whose rings were always described as of remarkable purity. His foundry was on the site of Dr. Waller's house in Bridge Street, and the old Bell Dyke, by which he used to transport his bells to the river for water carriage, exists to this day. The whole of this second ring was inscribed, according to the researches of North in his *Local Bells*, as follows:—

1. 'Cantemus Domino Canticum Novum. Henry Penn Fusore 1709.'
2. 'Venite Exultemus Domino. William Waring Precent. 1709.'
3. 'Gloria Deo in Excelsis. Richard Cumberland Præb. Henry Penn Fusore 1709.'
4. 'Voce mea ad Dom. John Balderson, D.D., Præb., 1709.'
5. 'Benedictum sit nomen Domini. John Taylor, A.M., Præb., 1709.'
6. (As the present No. 1.) 'Te decet Hymnus. Richard Rynolds, LL.D., Præb. Henry Penn Fusore 1709.'
7. (As the present No. 2.) 'Psallam Deo Meo Quamdiu sum. Tho. Ball Præb., 1709.'
8. (As present No. 3.) 'Magnificate Dominum Mecum. John Evans Præb. Hen. Penn Fusore 1709.'
9. 'Te Deum Laudemus. White Kennett, S.S.T.P., Decano. Henry Penn Fusore 1709.'
10. (As present No. 5.) 'Pacem te Poscimus omnes Concordia res Parvæ crescent. 1709. Richd. Cumberland E.P.O.'

This ring of ten bells was only used for a few years, and in 1881, says North, the ninth bell being cracked it was recast, and on the 16th of April in that year the five bells, as stated, were removed, they having been sold to Mr. Dobson, then a bell-founder at Downham, Norfolk, who is said to have used the metal in casting a ring of six bells, which now hangs in the church of Witham-on-the-Hill, Lincolnshire. It is stated that 'the Peterborough folk were, not unnaturally, somewhat annoyed when the ring, once so noble, was reduced to the meagre number of five bells,' when a similar sum to what is being spent now would have purchased new frames. The present five bells remain in precisely the same position as they were settled in in 1709. The first and fifth only have stays. It is stated that Mr. English, the venerable ex-clerk of the parish church, remembers the old peal of ten. It is estimated that the cost of the new bells will be about as follows, and as they will be the smaller bells the expense is considerably lightened:—No. 1, 72*l.*; No. 2, 74*l.*; No. 3, 75*l.*; No. 4, 86*l.*; No. 5, 90*l.* As in the case of St. Mary's, it is hoped that donors of single bells may be forthcoming, that once again the noble Cathedral may be rendered complete in one more detail.

The Marriage of the Member of Parliament for Salisbury, Wilts.

The marriage of Mr. E. H. Hulse, M.P. for the Borough of Salisbury, with Miss Edith M. W. Lawson, was celebrated at Beaconsfield on the 1st inst. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. Canon Cholmeley, assisted by

the Lord Bishop of Salisbury and the Hon. and Rev. Canon Gordon. The following ringing was done in Salisbury in honour of the wedding, the bells of St. Thomas's, St. Edmund's, and St. Martin's Churches ringing at intervals during the day to celebrate the event. At St. Martin's: a date touch of 1888 BOB MAJOR, in 1 hr. 10 mins. H. D. Adams, 1; C. A. Clements, 2; A. P. Goddard, 3; W. S. Wise, 4; S. Lawrence, 5; W. W. Gifford (conductor), 6; A. W. Barkus, 7; T. Blackburn, 8. At St. Thomas's: 546 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. J. Short, 1; J. R. Jeram, 2; A. W. Barkus, 3; W. S. Wise, 4; S. Lawrence, 5; A. P. Goddard, 6; T. Blackburn (conductor), 7; C. Gaisford, 8. Also 546 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. W. J. Price, 1; T. Blackburn (conductor), 2; A. P. Goddard, 3; S. Lawrence, 4; F. Rigden, 5; C. A. Clements, 6; W. W. Gifford, 7; C. Gaisford, 8.

A Visit to Bradford, Berks.

On Saturday afternoon, the 3rd inst., the St. Peter's Society, Caversham, visited the above place, and attempted a peal of 5040 changes in seven different methods; but after ringing 720 VIOLET TREBLE BOB, 720 KENT TREBLE BOB, 720 OXFORD TREBLE BOB, 720 COLLEGE SINGLE, and about 350 CANTERBURY PLEASURE, in 1 hr. 45 mins., it came to an end, owing to the bad 'go' of the bells, which have not been looked after as they should be since they were rehung. H. Simmonds, 1; Rev. G. F. Coleridge, 2; E. Menday, 3; G. Essex, 4; J. Hands, 5; T. Newman (conductor), 6. After lowering the bells in peal, the Vicar entertained the ringers to tea at the Vicarage. Afterwards, a selection of tunes was played on the handbells by F. Simmonds, E. Menday, J. Liddiard, G. Essex, H. Simmonds, and T. Newman. The Vicar and his family thanked the ringers for the way in which they amused them with the bells, which are about fifty in number. The ringers thanked the Vicar for the use of the church bells, and the way in which they were treated.

A New Company at Eardisley, Herefordshire.

The tower of the above church has been amalgamated with the Hereford Guild of Bell-ringers. It contains a ring of five bells, which were cast by Rudhall, at Gloucester, in 1708; tenor, 9 cwt. The Rector, the Rev. C. S. Palmer, is an hon. member, and a company of about sixteen young men have joined the movement in favour of change-ringing. A set of handbells for the use of this company was kindly purchased by the Rector, who will probably increase the tower bells to six early in the coming year. Previous to the instructor's visit this company only rang rounds; their first steps in the method commenced on the 18th October.

Gloucester Cathedral.

On Saturday, Sept. 8th, eight members of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association and the Junior Society of St. Michael, Gloucester, visited the above Cathedral, and attempted a peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, in which they were, unfortunately, unsuccessful, because the band was not well arranged. It is now sixty-eight years since a peal was rung on these bells, a ring of eight (tenor about 25 cwt., in D). The band hope, however, to attempt the peal again shortly.

The bells are some of the oldest and most interesting in the kingdom. When the Abbey of St. Peter was dissolved, and the church became the Cathedral Church of the Holy and Undivided Trinity, there were nine bells hanging in the tower. These were confiscated; but the last Abbot of Gloucester (William Parker—*alias* Malverne) had erected in the tower a clock and chimes, and the people of the city sent a petition to Edward VI. to spare the bells for the clock and chimes to play upon. Thus the old clock and chimes have saved for us these fine bells. The treble was recast, as the inscription shows, in 1598. The second is one of the old ring, and is supposed, from the initial 'J. S.' and the impression of a coin, to have been cast by John Sandre, or John de Gloucester (whose bell mark was found in the Thames some years ago) about 1350; it is thus one of the oldest ringing bells in the kingdom. The third and fourth were recast by Rudhall in 1810; the third has been twice recast, for the predecessor of the present one bore the inscription, 'Gul Jane S.T.P. DE Anno Dom., 1666' (Bigland's *History of Gloucester*), but William Jane was not installed Dean until 1683, so that the date was probably 1686. The old fourth was the original bell, and bore the inscription, 'Sit nomen Domini Benedictum' (Bigland). Five and six are mediæval, and were probably cast in the beginning of the sixteenth century. The seventh was recast in 1626 by John Pennington of Exeter, who preserved the old inscription, 'Missi de celio habeo nomen Gabrielis,' but reversed it on the bell. The tenor was recast by Abraham Rudhall, of Gloucester, in 1736. The ninth, or clock bell, weighs 65 cwt., and has this inscription: 'Me fecit fieri conventus nomine Petri,' in mediæval characters. Its date is uncertain, but it is older than the existing vault of the choir, erected in the fourteenth century, and is thus older than the thirteenth-century tower, since it will not pass through the hole left for the bells in the crown of the arch.

After the attempt for the peal, a touch of 336 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES was rung. H. L. James, Esq., 1; F. E. Hart, 2; R. Brunson, 3; R. J. Wilkins, 4; G. Brunson, 5; S. Romans, 6; W. J. Sevier, 7; E. E. Bewick, 8. The ringers then adjourned to St. Michael's vestry, and rang a course of ROYAL and CATERS. A. Roberts, 1-2; R. Brunson, 3-4; R. J. Wilkins, 5-6; H. L. James, 7-8; F. Hart, 9-10. Then a course of MAJOR and TRIPLES by the last four, and a course of MINOR and DOUBLES by the last three.

The Essex Association.

A DISTRICT MEETING of the Essex Association was held on Saturday, the 6th ult., at Loughton, where there is a good ring of eight; the tenor, however, goes heavily, and some of the ropes want renewing. The business meeting was held at 4.30 p.m. in a room near the church, kindly placed at

the disposal of the Association by the Rector, the Rev. J. Whitaker Maitland, about thirty-eight members being present. It was resolved, on the motion of Mr. S. Hayes, that in future no footnotes should be appended to the record of peals in the annual report or in the peal-book. The provisional election of Messrs. F. W. Chapman, G. Dempsey, C. Honeybell, J. Carmichael, W. Weatherstone, and G. Griffin, was confirmed, and the following were elected members:—Honorary: D. W. J. Mason, Sudbury; Ringing members: Messrs. J. Campin, W. Cross, and M. Silvester, Sudbury. Tea was served afterwards at the 'King's Head,' the Rev. T. L. Papillon, hon. secretary, presiding, in the unavoidable absence of the Rector, who had intended to be present. Touches in various methods were rung during the afternoon and evening, most of those present getting the opportunity of a pull.

The young band of change-ringers at Loughton, under the direction of Mr. W. Lebbon, have made good progress, and persevered under difficulties which might well have discouraged them; the tower on Sundays and on all special occasions being in the possession of an established set of call-change and round ringers, who bar the way as far as they can to those who are able and willing to make a better use of the bells.

The Anniversary of the Ancient Society of College Youths.

THE Ancient Society of College Youths celebrated their 251st anniversary at the Bridge House Hotel, London Bridge, on Saturday evening, November 3rd. The company present included Mr. S. E. Joyce (chairman), master; Messrs. G. T. McLaughlin (vice-chairman), J. Pettit (treasurer), R. T. Woodley (secretary), G. Mash, sen., G. Mash, jun., R. Mash, W. Cooter, H. Springall (junior steward), F. E. Dawe, J. R. Haworth, — Murphy, T. Coxhead, W. E. Garrard, J. W. Driver, H. Langdon, J. M. Hayes, C. F. Winny, E. Duff, W. Tyack, W. D. Smith, Lewis Green, A. S. Barrell, — Cartwright, — Harvey (St. James's, Bermondsey), G. Smith, Mead and Mumford (Ilford), C. Blackman (Arundel), B. Keeble (Romford, Essex Association), — Ludlow, — Adams, and — Trubb, and H. S. Thomas, W. Baron, W. D. Porter, and H. A. Hopkins (Royal Cumberland Youths), &c. The Master, who upon rising to commence the toast-list was loudly applauded, said that in every company of Englishmen the first toast to be honoured was that of the Queen. The Vice-Chairman, who gave 'Prosperity to the Ancient Society of College Youths,' said this was a toast which had been entrusted to him, and one which he was not sure that he could do justice to. He considered it a great honour for the toast to be put into his hands for proposing, and to be so well supported by some of the oldest members of the Society. They, as ringers, were all members of some society, and whatever society it might be they should endeavour to respect it. They should not only do so towards their own particular society, but they should respect other societies, as he was pleased to know the Ancient Society of College Youths was respected. Prosperity to the College Youths was a toast which he had pleasure in proposing, a pleasure which was increased by the fact that he was enabled to couple with the toast the name of Mr. J. R. Haworth, who he believed was the oldest living member of the Society. Mr. Haworth said he was pleased to be among them again, and to be able to respond to the toast. This was the 251st anniversary of the Society—the 250th, or Fifth Jubilee, having been celebrated last year. As to the Society, every one knew that it was known throughout the ringing world, and promoted sociability and geniality among all ringers. He rang his first peal in 1839, and his first peal of KENT TREBLE BOB MAXIMUS in 1846, at St. Saviour's, Southwark, London (tenor, 52 cwt.), and his last peal of the same method, at the same church, in 1884. Mr. W. D. Smith proposed the 'Officers of the Society and the Dinner Committee.' Mr. Woodley responding, said no doubt some of those present would like to know what the Society had done during the past twelve months. Well, they had rung peals up to the present Tuesday evening to the number of seventy-three, and during the year elected fifty-nine members, which he believed on Tuesday would be increased by an additional five. Mr. F. E. Dawe proposed 'The Provincial Members.' The toast was acknowledged by Messrs. Mead and Mumford, of Ilford, and Mr. Blackman, of Arundel. Handbell performance—a course of GRANDSIRE CINQUES. W. Baron, 1-2; G. T. McLaughlin, 3-4; W. Cooter, 5-6; H. Hopkins, 7-8; C. F. Winny, 9-10; R. T. Woodley, 11-12. Mr. Woodley proposed 'The London and Provincial Ringing Societies.' Mr. Thomas, in responding, said he was very pleased to think that his name had been associated with the toast of that of other societies. If at any time any of the members could give the company at Battersea a visit they would be welcomed. The Master proposed 'The Clergy,' and Mr. Cooter 'The Press.'

During the afternoon four courses of STEDMAN CATERERS were rung at St. Michael's, Cornhill. J. Pettit (conductor), 1; E. Horrex, 2; G. T. McLaughlin, 3; J. Barry, 4; C. F. Winny, 5; H. Springall, 6; A. S. Barrell, 7; S. E. Joyce, 8; R. T. Woodley, 9; H. Alford, 10. At the meeting-house, previous to the dinner, a course of GRANDSIRE CATERERS was rung. J. W. Driver, 1-2; S. E. Joyce, 3-4; G. T. McLaughlin, 5-6; C. F. Winny, 7-8; R. T. Woodley, 9-10.

The Annual Meeting of this Society was held on Tuesday evening, the 6th inst., when the following officers were elected for 1888-9:—Mr. F. E. Dawe, Master; Mr. J. Pettit (re-elected), Treasurer; Mr. H. Springall, Senior Steward; Mr. A. S. Barrell, Junior Steward; Mr. R. T. Woodley (re-elected), Hon. Secretary; Messrs. W. Smith and F. G. Newman, Auditors.

SPECIAL NOTICE.—As the 'Peal Committee' of the Society are preparing for the booking of peals for the previous twelve months, conductors of peals rung in the country are requested to forward at once to headquarters their copies of the same, with the necessary fees, at the latest by the first meeting next year, viz., January 1st, 1889. B. T. WOODLEY, Hon. Secretary.

40 Lillingdon Street, Pimlico, S.W.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At St. Peter's, Drayton, Berks.

On Wednesday, the 31st ult., eight members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild rang Thurstans' peal of 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES (inverted) in 2 hrs. 48 mins. T. Short, 1; W. Adkins, 2; J. Waghorn, jun. (Tottenham, London—first peal of STEDMAN), 3; E. Aldworth, 4; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 5; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 6; H. Fruin, 7; H. Hyde, 8. Tenor, 8 cwt.

On Saturday, the 3rd inst., at the same church and Guild, a peal of 5024 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR was rung in 2 hrs. 56 mins. W. Adkins,* 1; H. Humphrey, 2; C. Hounslow, 3; J. Waghorn, jun.,* 4; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 5; T. Short, 6; H. Fruin, 7; J. W. Washbrook (composer and conductor), 8. [* First peal in the method.]

On Monday, the 5th inst., at the same church and Guild, Thurstans' peal of 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES was rung in 2 hrs. 44 mins. Rev. F. E. Robinson, 1; W. Adkins, 2; H. F. De Lisle, Esq., 3; E. Aldworth, 4; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 5; S. Phillip (Bristol, first peal of STEDMAN), 6; T. Short, 7; H. Fruin, 8.

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

On Saturday, the 3rd inst., eight members of the Midland Counties' Association and the St. Paul's Society rang a peal of 5088 LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR in 3 hrs. 31 mins. G. Robinson, 1; J. Austin, 2; A. Wakley, 3; J. Griffin, 4; E. I. Stone, 5; H. Wakley, 6; T. Holmes, 7; W. Wakley, 8. Composed by Mr. J. N. Pitstow and conducted by Mr. Griffin. Tenor, 26 cwt.

At the Cathedral, Manchester.

On Saturday, the 3rd inst., ten members of the Lancashire Association rang a peal of 5040 BOB ROYAL in 3 hrs. 23 mins. A. E. Vrecks, 1; G. E. Turner, 2; J. Gratrix, 3; Jos. Grimshaw,* 4; J. Barratt, 5; H. Chapman,* 6; F. Birtwistle,* 7; E. Cash, 8; E. Bishop,* 9; J. Eachus, 10. Composed by Mr. J. Thorp, and conducted by Mr. Eachus. Tenor, 25 cwt. [* First peal in the method.]

At St. James's, Whitfield, Glossop, Derbyshire.

On Monday, the 5th inst., eight members of the United Counties' Association rang Sottanastall's peal of 5088 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR in 3 hrs. 1 min. Jos. Marsden, 1; W. Marsden, 2; T. Jackson, 3; E. Haigh (conductor), 4; E. Garside, 5; H. Cooper, 6; Jos. Maloney, 7; J. Lawton, 8. Tenor, 12½ cwt.

At the Parish Church, Burton-on-Trent, Staffordshire.

On Monday, the 5th inst., eight members of the Midland Counties' Association (Burton Branch) rang Parker's peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 48 mins. W. Orme, 1; W. J. Smith (first peal as conductor), 2; J. Jaggar, 3; J. Hicklin, 4; J. Walker, 5; P. Meadows, 6; L. Bullock, 7; J. Carvell, 8. Tenor, 24 cwt. The quickest peal on the bells. Mr. Meadows, who is now at Burton-on-Trent, belongs to Woodbridge, Suffolk.

At All Saints', Carshalton, Surrey.

On Monday, the 5th inst., eight members of the Surrey Association rang a peal of 5024 BOB MAJOR in 2 hrs. 52 mins. C. Bance, 1; E. Bennett, 2; Jos. Fayer, 3; A. B. Carpenter, 4; A. M. Martin (first peal of BOB MAJOR), 5; J. Harding (first peal), 6; C. Gordon, 7; G. Welling, 8. Composed by Mr. J. Barker, and conducted by Dr. Carpenter. Tenor, 12½ cwt.

AT SS. PETER AND PAUL, FOXEARTH, ESSEX.—On Monday, the 8th ult., the following mixed band of change-ringers, members of the Essex Association of Change-ringers, rang a touch of KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, containing 1888 changes, the number of changes corresponding to the date of the year. The time occupied was 1 hr. 5 mins. S. Slater (Glensford), 1; C. Sillitoe (Sudbury), 2; R. Mingay (Foxearth), 3; P. Wells (Glensford), 4; W. P. Gridley (Foxearth), 5; O. Garwood (Glensford), 6; S. Maxim (Cavendish), 7; N. Hawkins (Walter Belchamp), 8. Composed by Mr. D. Prentice, of Ipswich, and conducted by Mr. C. Sillitoe. Various other touches were rung during the day.

AT ST. GILES'S, KILLMARSH, DERBYSHIRE.—On Monday, the 8th ult., 720 GRANDSIRE MINOR (thirty-four bobs and two singles), in 27 mins. G. Burnham, 1; T. Bettison, 2; G. Jackson, 3; S. Norwood, 4; C. Severn (conductor), 5; J. Severn, 6. This is the first 720 by the local band, who are all young beginners.

AT CAVERS HAM, OXON.—On Tuesday evening, the 9th ult., for practice, 720 BOB MINOR. Rev. G. F. Coleridge, 1; F. Simmonds, 2; J. Richardson, 3; H. Smith, 4; H. Simmonds, 5; E. Menday (conductor), 6. Also 340 COLLEGE SINGLE. H. Simmonds, 1; E. Menday, 2; G. Essex, 3; J. Richardson, 4; H. Smith, 5; T. Newman (conductor), 6. On Sunday morning, the 14th ult., for Divine service, 720 SINGLE COURT. H. Simmonds, 1; E. Menday, 2; J. Hands, 3; G. Essex, 4; H. Smith, 5; T. Newman (conductor), 6. And after evening service, 360 COLLEGE SINGLE. H. Simmonds, 1; E. Menday, 2; J. Hands, 3; G. Essex, 4; H. Smith, 5; T. Newman (conductor), 6. This is the first 720 of SINGLE COURT by all. Mr. Richardson came from Benham. On Sunday morning, the 4th inst., for Divine service, 720 OXFORD TREBLE BOB. H. Simmonds, 1; J. Hands, 2; E. Menday, 3; G. Essex, 4; H. Smith, 5; T. Newman (conductor), 6. Also after Divine service in the evening, 360 PLAIN BOB. T. Newman, 1; E. Menday (conductor), 2; F. Simmonds, 3; H. Smith, 4; H. Simmonds, 5; J. Richardson, 6. Tenor, 17 cwt.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH, NUNEATON, WARWICKSHIRE.—On Monday, the 10th ult., being the Harvest Festival, 504 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. W.

Adler, 1; G. Winter, 2; T. Lingard, 3; J. Clarke, 4; T. W. Chapman, 5; T. Bates, 6; H. Horwood (conductor), 7; A. Palmer, 8.

At ALL SAINTS', BENHILTON, SUTTON, SURREY.—On the 11th ult., for the Harvest Festival, about 580 KENT TREBLE BOB MINOR, also about 240 of PLAIN BOB MINOR, and some GRANDSIRE DOUBLES. Also on Sunday, the 14th ult., 360 PLAIN BOB MINOR for the evening service. J. Lambert, 1; E. Trendell, 2; G. King, 3; T. Gaiger, 4; H. Bryant, 5; J. Trendell (conductor), 6. After the evening service 720 KENT TREBLE BOB MINOR was rung in 29 mins. G. King, 1; E. Trendell, 2; T. Gaiger, 3; Jas. Trendell, 4; H. Bryant, 5; John Trendell (conductor), 6. Also on Tuesday, the 6th inst., 720 OXFORD TREBLE BOB MINOR. H. Bryant, 1; E. Trendell, 2; T. Gaiger, 3; G. Petrie, 4; Jas. Trendell, 5; John Trendell (conductor), 6. First 720 of Oxford on the bells. This was rung on the occasion of the presentation to the Rev. J. Booker, M.A., twenty-five years Vicar of the above church. Tenor, 19½ cwt.

At APPLETON, BERKS.—On Friday, the 12th ult., three courses (672 changes) of SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR. F. White, 1; Dr. A. B. Carpenter, 2; H. Fruin, 3; W. Bennett, 4; J. Avery, 5; J. W. Washbrook, 6; G. Holifield, 7; Rev. F. E. Robinson (conductor), 8. And five courses (1120 changes) in the same method. F. White, 1; Dr. A. B. Carpenter, 2; H. Fruin, 3; W. Bennett, 4; J. Avery, 5; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 6; G. Holifield, 7; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 8.

At ST. MARY'S, ILKESTON.—On Sunday, the 14th ult., on the occasion of the Harvest Festival at this church, five members from Normanton attended and went through GRANDSIRE, MANCHESTER, MORNING PLEASURE, GOG, and EVENING PLEASURE. G. Hill, 1; S. Hill, 2; F. Hill, 3; S. Hill, jun., 4; E. Hill, 5. Tenor, 19 cwt.

At THE PARISH CHURCH, CAVENDISH, SUFFOLK.—On Monday, the 15th ult., the following members of the Poslingford Company of Ringers, assisted by Mr. S. Slater, of Glemsford, rang 720 BOB MINOR in 30 mins. S. Slater (conductor), 1; D. Gridley, 2; G. Basham, 3; F. W. Hicks, 4; H. Burling, 5; C. Howe, 6. Also 360 in the same method. S. Slater, 1; H. Burling, 2; G. Basham, 3; F. W. Hicks, 4; F. Wells (Glemsford), 5; D. Gridley (conductor), 6.

At THE PARISH CHURCH, PAINSWICK, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.—On Sunday evening, the 21st ult., for Divine service, 714 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. T. Wright, 1; D. Marment, 2; W. Ryland, 3; H. G. Gardner, 4; J. Wager, 5; W. Hale (conductor), 6; G. Smith, 7; J. Powell, 8. Also 350.—And on Monday evening, the 22nd ult., the local company rang 1260 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 50 mins. A. Trigg, 1; D. Marment, 2; W. Ryland, 3; E. King, 4; J. Wager, 5; J. Everatt, 6; W. Hale (conductor), 7; J. Powell, 8. Also 448 in the same method, with C. West, 4, which was his longest touch. H. G. Gardner belongs to Gloucester.

At ST. PAUL'S, BURTON-ON-TRENT.—On Thursday, the 25th ult., an attempt was made for a peal of 5088 LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, but it unfortunately ended in a failure when only 320 changes remained to be rung. G. Robinson, 1; J. Austin, 2; A. Wakley, 3; J. Griffin (conductor), 4; E. I. Stone, 5; H. Wakley, 6; T. Holmes, 7; W. Wakley, 8.

At HOLY TRINITY, ARUNDEL.—On Monday evening, the 29th ult., for practice, a date touch of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES (1888 changes) in 1 hr. 4 mins. W. Twigg, 1; G. Balchin, 2; W. Challen, 3; F. Luxford, 4; O. Evershed, 5; E. Ede, 6; C. Blackman (conductor), 7; C. Hayler, 8.

At ST. MICHAEL'S, BASINGSTOKE, HANTS.—On Saturday, the 3rd inst., a quarter-peal (1260 changes) of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 41½ mins. G. Gasson,* 1; F. Bennett,* 2; T. Curtis,* 3; F. W. J. Rees, Esq., 4; J. Staples, 5; H. White (conductor), 6; J. W. Whiting, 7; T. Wheeler,* 8. Also 504. G. Gasson, 1; F. W. J. Rees, Esq., 2; T. Curtis, 3; F. Bennett (conductor), 4; J. Staples, 5; H. White, 6; J. W. Whiting, 7; T. Wheeler, 8. J. Staples, Havant; J. W. Whiting, Fareham; F. W. J. Rees, Esq., and F. Bennett, Guildford; the rest belong to the local band. [* First quarter-peal.]

At THE PARISH CHURCH, FULHAM, LONDON.—On Sunday, the 4th inst., for Divine service, a quarter-peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES (1260 changes), in 44 mins. F. W. Kelley, 1; C. Blackman (Arundel), 2; C. E. Kelley,* 3; W. E. Garrard, 4; J. W. Kelley (conductor), 5; James Nicholls, jun., 6; R. T. Woodley, 7; J. G. Green, 8. Tenor, 22 cwt. Also on Thursday, All Saints' Day, a quarter-peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES for Divine service in 45 mins. C. E. Kelley, 1; J. W. Kelley (conductor), 2; T. E. Hughes, 3; J. W. Driver, 4; Frank Davey, 5; Harry Kenton, 6; S. Eales, 7; S. How, 8. [* First quarter-peal with a bob-bell.]

At ST. STEPHEN'S, WESTMINSTER, LONDON.—On Sunday evening, the 4th inst., for Divine service, 742 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. W. Carter, 1; J. N. Oxborrow, 2; J. Pryor, 3; H. R. Newton (conductor), 4; H. S. Ellis, 5; J. M. Hayes, 6; W. H. George, 7; J. George (Coventry), 8.

At ST. MARY'S, BALDOCK, HERTS.—On Sunday morning, the 4th inst., for Divine service, 504 and 112 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. T. Webb (conductor), 1; J. Spicer, 2; J. Cawdell, 3; J. Smith, 4; R. Jackson, 5; A. Squires (Hitchin), 6; R. Jackson, 7; G. Gentle, 8. And for Divine service in the evening, 518 and 168 in the same method, with J. Phillips (conductor), 4; the rest standing the same as in the morning.

At THE PARISH CHURCH, NORTON, STAFFORDSHIRE.—On Sunday evening, the 4th inst., for Divine service, 720 DUKE OF YORK TREBLE BOB MINOR in 34 mins. G. Wood, 1; E. Glover, 2; J. Norton, 3; J. Wood (conductor), 4; J. W. Brough, 5; W. Baddeley, 6.

At THE PARISH CHURCH, BINGLEY, YORKSHIRE.—On Monday, the 5th inst., 1588 changes of PLAIN BOB MAJOR were rung in 1 hr. 16 mins. J. Walker, 1;

J. Speight, 2; H. Anderson, 3; J. Garnett, 4; T. Walker, 5; H. Foster, 6; J. Green, 7; T. W. Green (composer and conductor), 8. Tenor, 17 cwt.

At ST. MARY'S, LAMBETH, SURREY.—On Monday, the 5th inst., being the fortnightly meeting of the St. James's Society, 349 and 461 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. J. George (Coventry), 1; C. F. Winny (conductor), 2; G. Wild, 3; W. W. Thorne, 4; W. Garrard, 5; W. H. George, 6; W. J. Cockerill, 7; J. Stoneman, 8. Tenor, 20 cwt.

At ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST'S, CROYDON, SURREY.—On Tuesday, the 6th inst., for practice, 504 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. Dr. A. B. Carpenter, 1; G. Russell (conductor), 2; A. Arnold, 3; S. Fisk, 4; T. Verrall, 5; C. H. Kitching (first 500), 6; A. Bruce, 7; A. E. Collins, 8. Also 210 OXFORD BOB TRIPLES. H. Dudley, 1; W. J. Chambers, 2; R. E. Pearson (first in the method with a bob-bell), 3; W. States, 4; H. Brooker, 5; Dr. A. B. Carpenter (conductor), 6; T. Verrall, 7; H. F. Hermon, 8.

At ALL SAINTS', FRINDSBURY, NEAR ROCHESTER.—Lately, for practice, six peals of GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, each called differently, in 25 mins. D. Winser, 1; E. Collard, 2; G. Hutchings, 3; A. Ring, 4; W. Hunt (conductor), 5. Tenor, 18 cwt.

At ST. MATTHEW'S, BETHNAL GREEN, LONDON.—Lately, a quarter-peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 44 mins. J. Dupéti, 1; W. Cecil, 2; J. West, 3; J. Bonney, 4; T. Dupen, 5; M. A. Wood (composer and conductor), 6; A. Hayward, 7; J. Monday, 8.

At ST. MARTIN'S, SALISBURY.—Recently, 1260 STEDMAN TRIPLES. W. S. Wise, 1; W. E. Tydeman, 2; W. Bedwell, 3; A. P. Goddard, 4; H. D. Adams, 5; W. W. Gifford, 6; T. Blackburn (conductor), 7; C. A. Clements, 8. Also in the evening, 1260 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. W. Bedwell, 1; W. S. Wise, 2; W. E. Tydeman, 3; A. P. Goddard, 4; H. D. Adams, 5; T. Blackburn (conductor), 6; W. W. Gifford, 7; C. A. Clements, 8. A peal of STEDMAN TRIPLES was attempted, but came to an end after ringing 3024 changes. W. S. Wise, 1; W. E. Tydeman, 2; W. Bedwell, 3; A. P. Goddard, 4; H. D. Adams, 5; W. W. Gifford, 6; T. Blackburn (conductor), 7; C. A. Clements, 8. Tenor, 15 cwt. At St. Thomas's, 1260 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 50 mins. W. E. Tydeman, 1; W. S. Wise, 2; H. D. Adams, 3; W. Bedwell (conductor), 4; T. Blackburn, 5; J. R. Jerram, 6; W. W. Gifford, 7; C. A. Clements, 8. Tenor, 28 cwt., in C sharp.

At THE PARISH CHURCH, TENTERDEN, KENT.—Lately, for practice, 1064 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, and 84 STEDMAN TRIPLES. J. Bartlett, 1; R. Edwards, 2; H. G. Rummery, 3; A. Hinds, 4; J. Sharpe, 5; A. E. Nunn (conductor), 6; G. Neve, 7; H. Holdstock, 8.

At ST. PETER'S, CROYDON, SURREY.—Lately, for practice, 350 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. R. E. Pearson, 1; G. Burt, 2; A. Arnold, 3; A. Bruce, 4; H. Brooker (conductor), 5; C. Kitching, 6; F. G. Hermon, 7; G. Wing, 8. Also 120 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, on the back six, with the 1st and 2nd leading. W. C. Palmer, 1; B. Blake, 2; R. E. Pearson, 3; C. Kitching, 4; G. Burt, 5; W. Collins, 6; F. G. Hermon (conductor), 7; A. E. Collins, 8.

At THE PARISH CHURCH, CLAPHAM, BEDS.—Lately, a date touch of 1888 changes of GRANDSIRE and BOB DOUBLES in 1 hr. 10 mins. H. Sharpe, 1; C. W. Clarke, 2; F. Sharpe, 3; T. Lane, 4; F. Smith (conductor), 5.

At THE PARISH CHURCH, DALTON-IN-FURNESS.—Lately, 720 GRANDSIRE MINOR (34 bobs, 26 singles). T. R. Jackson, 1; T. Townson, 2; J. Spencer, 3; M. Caddy, 4; T. Watson, 5; J. Burrows, 6. First peal of 720 conducted by T. R. Jackson.

At BARNWOOD, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.—Lately, at the Parish Church, for the Harvest Thanksgiving service, 720 changes of KENT TREBLE BOB in 25 mins. H. G. Gardner, 1; A. A. Waite, 2; G. Miles, 3; J. Yeates, 4; H. Mitchell (conductor), 5; W. J. Sevier, 6. Tenor, 14 cwt.

At ST. PAUL'S, WALKDEN, LANCASHIRE.—Recently, on Sunday morning, 720 BOB MINOR were rung for Divine service in 25 mins. J. Worthington, 1; Jos. Potter, 2; J. Williamson, 3; A. Potter, 4; Jas. Potter, 5; J. Brooks (conductor), 6. On Monday, the 8th ult., five of the Tyldesley Company, with the assistance of Mr. J. Welsby (one of the Worsley Company), rang 720 BOB MINOR in 21 mins., being the quickest peal every rung on the bells. J. Aldred (conductor), 1; I. Eckersley, 2; R. Aldred, 3; G. Heaton, 4; J. Welsby, 5; C. Oakes, 6. On Saturday, the 13th ult., being the Harvest Festival, 720 BOB MINOR was rung in 23 mins. by the Tyldesley company. J. Aldred (conductor), 1; I. Eckersley, 2; R. Aldred, 3; W. Gerrard, 4; G. Heaton, 5; C. Oakes, 6. On Sunday evening, the 21st ult., 720 BOB MINOR were rung before service in 24½ mins. W. Denner, 1; Jos. Potter, 2; A. Potter, 3; J. Worthington, 4; Jas. Potter (composer and conductor), 5; J. Brookes, 6.—Also on Sunday, the 11th inst., 720 BOB MINOR were rung in 23 mins., at midday, in honour of the second birthday of Charles Noel Heath (only son of the Rev. C. Heath, M.A., vicar). W. Denner (conductor), 1; J. Worthington, 2; J. Williamson, 3; A. Potter, 4; Jas. Potter, 5; J. Brookes, 6. Also, for evening service, 720 BOB MINOR were rung in 24½ mins. W. Denner (conductor), 1; Jos. Potter, 2; A. Potter, 3; J. Williamson, 4; Jas. Potter, 5; J. Brooks, 6. Tenor, 13½ cwt.

SPEARMAN'S SERGES.—The best in the world.—Pure Indigo Dye, Royal Navy Blue, Woaded Black. Also all other colours and Fancy Weavings. Low quotations. No draper or tailor sells SPEARMAN'S renowned Serges; they can only be obtained direct from SPEARMAN, SPEARMAN, PLYMOUTH. No material manufactured is so useful for Ladies' Autumn and Winter Wear or Gentlemen's Suits. Send for patterns and select at home for yourselves. Parcels carriage paid in Great Britain and Ireland. Goods packed for export at lowest freights.—[Advt.]

TOBACCONISTS COMMENCING.—Write to-day for Illustrated Guide how to open a Shop respectably (post free). TOBACCONISTS' OUTFITTING CO., Braine's Buildings, Beech Street, London, E.C.—[Advt.]

unquestioningly. In point of fact, certain difficulties were raised with respect to particular phrases in the letter, and it was only when these were explained that it was received. When the Council declared that 'Peter had spoken by Leo,' they were simply testifying that the Bishop whom they regarded as occupant of the see of Peter had declared that which they considered to be revealed truth.

It may be well to remind our readers that, at the time of the Council of Chalcedon, we are well on in the fifth century, and we must go back in order to discover the genesis of the Roman claims; but at present we are merely concerned to show that neither did Leo put forth, nor did the Council acknowledge, anything like the modern pretensions of the Roman see. It is quite true that the papal legates associated their Bishop 'with the blessed Apostle Peter, who is the rock and ground of the Catholic Church, and the foundation of the right faith;' but these vague phrases contained no assertion of authority over the Council, and it is certain that none such was acknowledged by the Council.

But we are not left to mere inference. We have the mind of the Council respecting the relations of the great sees of the Church clearly enough expressed in the twenty-eighth canon. We give it from Hefele's *History of the Councils* (vol. iii. p. 411, English edition; vol. ii. p. 527, German edition):—'Rightly have the Fathers conceded to the see of Old Rome its privileges on account of its character as the imperial city, and, moved by the same considerations, the 150 bishops [at the Council of Constantinople] have awarded the like privileges to the most holy see of New Rome, judging with good reason that the city which is honoured by the imperial power, and which (in a civil respect) enjoys the same privileges as the ancient imperial city, should also in its ecclesiastical relations be exalted, and hold the second place after that.'

Here are several things quite clear. First, that the see of Rome was regarded as the first in the Christian Church. Next, that it occupied this position as being the Church of the imperial city; and again, that Constantinople occupied the second place after Rome for a similar reason. It is easy (and indeed necessary) for the Roman controversialists to reply that the whole reason for the Roman primacy was not stated, and that the Pope never confirmed this particular canon of Chalcedon. The fact remains, that this canon represented the view of the Orientals, that it was drawn up at the very time when they were receiving the orthodox utterances of the Bishop of Rome with the greatest enthusiasm, and that they acted upon the principle which it embodied. They knew nothing of the modern claim of Rome to supreme authority in doctrine and government.

It is urged that the canon cannot 'be considered sufficient to counteract the effect of the use or admission of such solemn terms as the Rock, applied to St. Peter, and the Guardian of the Vine to St. Leo;' but those who are accustomed to the highflown language of Oriental writers will have no difficulty in reconciling the two things. As we have already remarked, it is not so much the application of the *rock* to St. Peter that concerns us, but rather the sense in which he is so designated. To the premier Bishop of Christendom it was natural and fitting that words of reverence should be addressed. The real meaning of these words first becomes apparent when he attempts to exceed the power and authority conceded to him, and it will be difficult to show that the Orientals ever recognised that authority when it sought to enforce anything of which they disapproved. To speak of the Pope as the Guardian of the Vine, as the Father of the Family, the Successor of the Fisherman, might mean much or little; it is quite certain that it never meant with the Greeks any disposition to allow the Pope to order anything in the Eastern Church contrary to its own choice and decision.

Mr. Rivington tells us that not only did the fifth century declare for the supremacy of the Pope, but its so doing was a proof that the fourth century did the same. 'Surely,' he remarks, with charming *naïveté*, 'there is something bordering on the absurd in the supposition that we know better than the fifth century what was the teaching of the fourth.' On this principle it would be easy to fix upon any century, and going backwards by a century at a time make this the guarantee for the teaching of the Apostles. But we will go with the writer to the fourth century, and hear what it has to say.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

A Week's Ringing in Herts.

READERS of *Church Bells* will have noticed that for the past four years it has been the custom of the Rev. Canon Wigram, rector of St. Andrew's, Hertford, to gather round him certain of his clerical and lay friends—brother ringers—with the object of discoursing sweet music on the various peals of bells in the towers adjacent to Hertford. With this end in view there lately accepted his kind invitation the Rev. F. E. Robinson, Drayton, Berks; the Rev. C. D. P. Davies, Ringmer, Sussex; and the Rev. G. F. Coleridge, Caversham, Oxon. In addition to these the following stayed with friends in Hertford and the neighbourhood:—A. Percival Heywood, Duffield Bank, Derby; the Rev. H. A. Cockey, Greenwich; J. W. Taylor, Loughborough; Mr. H. Baker, and Mr. W. J. Washbrook from Oxford. Dr. A. B. Carpenter, Croydon, also arrived, but was unable to remain for more than one night. On Monday, Nov. 12th, the party met at All Saints', Hertford, and on the fine ring of ten bells rang a capital peal of STEDMAN CATERS, conducted by the Rev. F. E. Robinson. On Tuesday, by the kind invitation of 'The Squire' of Benington, the party journeyed to that noted centre of ringing, and scored a peal of CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE in 3 hrs. 1 min., the remainder of the day being spent in ringing touches of STEDMAN TRIPLES, SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE, and DOUBLE NORWICH, with double attacks on the good things provided by 'The Squire.' Wednesday saw the party at Baldock, where a peal of DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR was rung (tenor, 28 cwt.). Hitchin was the next move, and a peal of STEDMAN TRIPLES, scored with a tenor of like weight. Thursday was spent at Braughing, where, with three of the Benington men, a peal—a good one too—of SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE was rung. The evening was to have been spent at Hertford (St. Andrew's), in the intricacies of a peal of DOUBLE NORWICH, but the train service not fitting in the attempt had reluctantly to be abandoned. On Friday a peal of STEDMAN TRIPLES was essayed at the Cathedral, St. Albans, but had to be abandoned owing to the bad 'go' of the tenor. Nothing daunted, however, the party proceeded to St. Peter's, and rang their peal in 3 hrs. 6 mins. On Saturday, though most of the party had been obliged to return to their homes, an attempt was made at St. Andrew's, Hertford, for a peal of DOUBLE NORWICH, with the aid of some of the local band. Bad striking was the result, and the peal came to nought, but was attempted later on in the day at Waltham Abbey with a like result. Thus a most enjoyable week was brought to an end:—eight attempts at peals, with a good result in six cases; the two failures being accounted for by the bad going of the St. Albans tenor, and the scratch party on the last day. Long may the worthy Canon flourish, and encourage such a feeling of brotherhood amongst ringers, as he undoubtedly does when friends meet thus from a distance, and return to their homes with fond memories of the many happy hours spent during 'a week's ringing in Herts.'

Report of the Yorkshire Association of Change-ringers.

We have been favoured with a copy of the *Thirteenth Annual Report of the Yorkshire Association of Change-ringers* (Spark, Leeds). Like its predecessors, it contains a most complete account of this energetic Association. Every item of information that either a member or an outsider could desire is clearly and conspicuously given. We need not go into details. Suffice to say that the Association during the past year rang thirty-seven peals, one of which was of DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, and another of PRINCE ALBERT MAJOR. We greatly rejoice to see a large reduction in the number of peals of TREBLE BOB MAJOR. Four members have been lost to the Association by death, while by the departure of Mr. Tuke from England the Association is bereft of one of its most prominent men of business. The funds are on a very solid basis, and excellently managed.

The Hertford College Youths.—Presentation to Mr. H. Baker.

ON Saturday evening, November 3rd, the Society of Hertford College Youths dined with the members of St. Andrew's Church choir at the 'Maidenhead Inn,' Hertford. The company numbered about thirty, including the Rev. Canon Wigram, in the chair; the Rev. J. H. Bloom; Mr. W. L. Randall, churchwarden; Mr. H. Baker; Mr. James Staples, hon. secretary of the Society; Mr. E. Jackson, organist of St. Andrew's; Mr. J. Gray, and others. Advantage was taken of the occasion to present a testimonial to Mr. Herbert Baker, who, in addition to working his way up to the conductorship of the Hertford College Youths, has achieved considerable distinction as a campanologist and has made his mark in the ringers' world away from his native town, more particularly by taking part in the remarkable peals of 1888.

The testimonial presented to Mr. H. Baker consisted of a very pretty model of a church bell with all its fittings complete. The stand was of polished oak, on which was fixed a plate with the inscription, 'Presented to Herbert Baker, October 31st, 1888, by the Hertford College Youths.' The fittings of the bell, wheel, supports, stay, and slider, were of electro-silver plate, the stock of oak, and the bell itself of highly polished bell-metal. Accompanying this was a splendidly written and illuminated address, the work of Mr. A. Stoddart, inscribed as follows:—

'To Mr. Herbert Baker, Conductor of the Hertford College Youths—October 31st, 1888.—We have for some time past desired to mark our grateful appreciation of your unwearying services as our Conductor, and we think that no more fitting opportunity could be found for the fulfilment of our object than the anniversary of your birthday, October 31st. We therefore beg your acceptance of the accompanying model bell as a token of our hearty good wishes on the occasion, and especially as a sincere recognition of your skill, courtesy, and patience, and an evidence of the pride we feel in having for our

TOBACCONISTS COMMENCING.—Write to-day for Illustrated Guide how to open a Shop respectably (post free). TOBACCONISTS' OUTFITTING CO., Braime's Buildings Beech Street, London, E.C.—[Adv.]

HEALTH UNDERCLOTHING.—Ladies should send for patterns of the White and Scarlet Flannels, Undyed Wools, Fancy Shirting Flannels, Dressing-gown Flannels, which will be sent, post free, from the manufacturer, John Noble, Victoria Mills, Manchester. Please write at once to above address and mention this paper.—[Adv.]

Conductor one who has assisted in the unsurpassed feats of the bands which performed the long peals of 1888.—We are, dear sir, your faithful friends, The Rev. Canon Wigram, president; J. Staples, hon. secretary; W. A. Alps, W. Bennett, H. Bottrill, E. F. Crawley, M. Ellsmore, J. Cull, T. Gathard, F. George, W. Goodchild, J. Gray, E. Holifield, H. Holifield, J. Jauncey, S. Knight, H. Phillips, J. Phipps, J. Pomfret, W. L. Randall, R. Wilds, A. Wilsher.

The Rev. Canon Wigram commenced the toast list by proposing 'Church and Queen.' The toast having been duly honoured, Canon Wigram said it was now his duty to propose the toast of the evening, to ask them to drink to the health of their good friend, Mr. Herbert Baker, whose birthday it was. He was sure they would all join in expressing their cordial hope that Mr. Baker would live to enjoy a good many more anniversaries of his birthday. He also wished them to join with him in offering to Mr. Herbert Baker an evidence of their respect and esteem, to ask him, as their conductor, to accept, as a gift from his friends in the belfry, a testimonial which they would shortly place before him. He asked Mr. Baker to accept the testimonial as an expression of their esteem of the manner in which he had carried out his duties as the conductor of the company. He had also been engaged in the long peals of 1888, and they felt the reflected glory that one of their party should have taken part in the long peals of this year. Canon Wigram also mentioned that Mr. Herbert Baker had, on his twenty-first birthday, conducted 'Holt's Original.' He asked Mr. Baker to accept the testimonial as an evidence of their appreciation of him as their conductor and as an expression of their personal regard and esteem. Canon Wigram then formally presented the testimonial and called on Mr. J. Staples, hon. secretary, to read the address.

Mr. H. Baker, who was very heartily applauded, said he could hardly find words to express his gratitude to his brother-ringers for the very handsome testimonial they had given him in acknowledgment of his efforts to further the progress of change-ringing in this town. He could not accept that token of their esteem without alluding to the fact that when Canon Wigram came to Hertford change-ringing was comparatively unknown, and it was owing to Canon Wigram's love of the art and his untiring exertions that their Society had been re-established and brought to its present state of proficiency.

A New Bell at St. Mary's, Slough, Bucks.

An improvement to the ring of bells of this parish church will soon be effected by the erection of a new sixth bell, in lieu of the present slightly discordant one, through the generosity of F. Charsley, Esq., who has entrusted the work to Mears & Stainbank, of London. The old bell, dated 1619, will not be destroyed, but replaced in a suitable frame in the tower of the old parish church, where it originally came from with three others, some fifty years ago, to make up a ring of six. The name of Mr. Charsley will readily be remembered in connexion with the addition of two trebles, thus completing the octave, a year or two back. A few more generously inclined residents are needed in many parishes where the bells are unsatisfactory. We learn that Mr. Charsley is leaving Slough and its neighbourhood for a residence in Kent. He will certainly take with him the best wishes of the present ringers of that town, and the thanks of all ringers for generations to come.

The Sussex County Association.

NOTICE is hereby given that two District Meetings of this Association will be held as under:—The Eastern Division, at Alfriston, on Saturday, November 24th. The Western Division, at Heene, Worthing, on Saturday, December 1st. Full particulars will be forwarded by post in due course to all branches.

GEORGE F. ATTREE, Hon. Secretary.

J. E. WORSSELL, Assist. Hon. Secretary.

The Lancashire Association—Rossendale Branch.

ON Saturday, the 10th inst., a ringing meeting of the above branch took place at the Parish Church, Newchurch, when about thirty ringers from Bacup, Rochdale, Shaw, Ramsbottom, Waterfoot, Rawtenstall, Heywood, Haslingden, Halliwell, attended, and rang during the afternoon and evening several 500's of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, touches of BOB MAJOR and BOB MINOR. A meeting was held in the schoolroom, presided over by the Rev. J. Barstow, curate, at which it was arranged to hold the next ringing meeting at Haslingden. Votes of thanks to the churchwardens for the use of the bells and to the chairman for presiding brought the meeting to a close, after which the ringing was continued till ten o'clock.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At St. Martin's, Salisbury, Wilts.

ON Thursday, the 8th inst., eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths and the Salisbury Diocesan Guild rang Hollis's peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 52 mins. A. W. Barkus, 1; A. P. Goddard, 2; S. Laurence (birthday), 3; W. S. Wise, 4; T. Blackburn (conductor), 5; W. G. Gifford, 6; H. D. Adams, 7; C. E. Clements, 8. Tenor, 15 cwt.

At All Saints', Duffield, Derbyshire.

ON Thursday, the 8th inst., eight members of the Midland Counties' Association (the Duffield Society) rang a peal of 5040 DUFFIELD MAJOR in 3 hrs. 3 mins. G. Dawson, 1; S. Johnson, 2; E. Moreton, 3; B. Sugden, 4; G. Hingley, 5; A. Robinson, 6; J. Howe, 7; W. Huckling, 8. Composed by Mr. Dains and conducted by Mr. Robinson. Tenor, 17 cwt., in F.

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

ON Thursday, the 8th inst., eight members of the Midland Counties' Association and the St. Paul's Society rang, the first time ever performed, the entire extent of LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 6720 changes, in 4 hrs. 39 mins.

G. Robinson, 1; J. Austin, 2; A. Wakley, 3; J. Griffin, 4; E. J. Stone, 5; H. Wakley, 6; T. Holmes, 7; W. Wakley, 8. Composed by Mr. W. Harrison, and conducted by Mr. Griffin. Tenor, 26 cwt. The 6048 at Benington, Herts, by Squire Proctor and his talented band, in 1870, was the longest length up to the present time.

At the Parish Church, Saddleworth, Yorkshire.

ON Friday, the 9th inst., eight members of the Yorkshire and United Counties' Associations rang a peal of 5088 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR in 3 hrs. 3 mins. J. J. Brierley (composer), 1; Jos. Radcliffe, 2; F. Brierley (conductor), 3; J. Wrigley, 4; E. Buckley, 5; Jos. Wood, 6; J. H. Shaw, 7; E. Wood, 8. Tenor, 12 cwt. The above peal is rung for the first time, and in honour of the birthday of Mr. F. Brierley.

At St. Mary's, Tewkesbury, Gloucestershire.

ON Saturday, the 10th inst., eight members of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association rang Thurstans' peal of 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 58 mins. C. W. Dyson, 1; R. H. Witherington, 2; S. Cleal, 3; J. Hale, 4; John Wathen, 5; T. Devereux, 6; Josiah Wathen (conductor), 7; W. Haines, 8. Tenor, 23 cwt. The first peal of STEDMAN TRIPLES rung upon the bells, and the first peal in the method by all the band.

At St. Gregory's, Sudbury, Suffolk.

ON Saturday, the 10th inst., eight members of the Essex Association of Change-ringers rang a peal of 5024 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR in 3 hrs. 7 mins. C. Sillitoe (Sudbury), 1; R. Mingay (Foxearth), 2; G. S. Brown (Sudbury), 3; J. Lee (Foxearth), 4; H. Harper (Sudbury), 5; J. Campin (Sudbury), 6; S. Slater (Glemsford), 7; G. Maxim (Foxearth), 8. Composed by Mr. Tom Lockwood of Leeds, and conducted by Mr. Chas. Sillitoe. It is a one-part peal, has the sixth bell five course-ends wrong and six right, and is the first part-peal ever rung in Sudbury. On Sunday the bells of St. Peter's and St. Gregory's were rung during the day by the members of the Sudbury Company, assisted by Mr. H. C. Howard of Braintree. A touch of 1024 KENT TREBLE BOB was rung for the afternoon service at St. Gregory's by the following:—F. Tolliday, 1; J. Campin, 2; G. Brown, 3; M. Silvester, 4; W. Cross, 5; H. C. Howard, 6; C. Sillitoe (conductor), 7; H. Harper, 8. This is Mr. Howard's longest touch in any method he has yet rung. For the evening service at St. Peter's 640 TREBLE BOB were rung, and after service a touch of STEDMAN TRIPLES.

At All Saints', Fulham, London.

ON Saturday, the 10th inst., ten members of the Sussex County Association rang a peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE CATERS in 3 hrs. 15 mins. W. Baron, 1; J. C. Mitchell, 2; G. C. Cartmel, 3; C. E. Malim, 4; J. Searle, 5; W. H. L. Buckingham, 6; H. Weston, 7; G. F. Attree, 8; H. A. Hopkins, 9; E. Butler, 10. Composed by Mr. Nelms and conducted by Mr. Baron. Tenor, 21 cwt. (not 22 cwt., as reported last week). The above is the first peal of CATERS by eight members of the above Association, and the first by Messrs. Searle, Weston, Attree, and Butler, who came from Brighton.

At St. Mary's, Eccles, Lancashire.

ON Monday, the 12th inst., eight members of the Lancashire Association rang a peal of 5184 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR in 2 hrs. 49 mins. F. Derbyshire, 1; J. Barratt (birthday), 2; Jos. Ridyard, 3; H. Chapman (birthday), 4; Josiah Rogers, 5; T. Derbyshire, 6; J. Eachus, 7; R. Ridyard, 8. Composed by Mr. S. Wood and conducted by Mr. R. Ridyard. Tenor, 13½ cwt.

At All Saints', Hertford.

ON Monday, the 12th inst., ten members of the Hertfordshire Association rang a peal of 5035 STEDMAN CATERS in 3 hrs. 12 mins. Rev. G. F. Coleridge, 1; H. Baker, 2; E. Holifield, 3; J. W. Taylor, jun., 4; M. Ellsmore, 5; Rev. C. D. P. Davies, 6; Rev. F. E. Robinson (conductor), 7; Rev. H. A. Cockey, 8; J. W. Washbrook, 9; F. George, 10. Tenor, 22 cwt. Composed by H. Johnson, sen.

At St. Peter's, Benington, Herts.

ON Tuesday, the 13th inst., eight members of the Hertfordshire Association rang H. Johnson's Variation of Middleton's peal of 5056 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR in 3 hrs. 1 min. Rev. G. F. Coleridge, 1; J. Kitchener, 2; A. P. Heywood, 3; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 4; H. Baker, 5; J. Warner, 6; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 7; S. Page, 8. Tenor, 14 cwt.

At St. Mary's, Baldock, Herts.

ON Wednesday, the 14th inst., eight members of the Hertfordshire Association rang a peal of 5024 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR in 3 hrs. 18 mins. Rev. G. F. Coleridge, 1; H. Baker, 2; S. Page, 3; Rev. Canon Wigram, 4; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 5; J. W. Taylor, jun., 6; A. P. Heywood, 7; J. W. Washbrook (composer and conductor), 8. Tenor, 28 cwt.

At St. Mary's, Hitchin, Herts.

ON Wednesday, the 14th inst., eight members of the Hertfordshire Association and Ancient Society of College Youths rang a Variation of Thurstans' peal of 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES in 3 hrs. 14 mins. H. Baker, 1; J. W. Taylor, 2; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 3; Rev. Canon Wigram, 4; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 5; Rev. H. A. Cockey, 6; Rev. G. F. Coleridge, 7; W. Allen, 8. Tenor, 28 cwt.

At St. Mary's, Braughing, Herts.

ON Thursday, the 15th inst., eight members of the Hertfordshire Association rang a peal of 5088 SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR in 3 hrs. 10 mins. Rev. G. F. Coleridge, 1; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 2; J. W. Washbrook (composer and conductor), 3; H. Baker, 4; J. W. Taylor, 5; J. Warner, 6; C. Shambrook, 7; S. Page, 8. Tenor, 19 cwt.

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

On Friday, the 16th inst., eight members of the Hertfordshire Association rang a variation of Thurstan's peal of 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES in 3 hrs. 6 mins. M. Ellmore, 1; H. Holifield, 2; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 3; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 4; J. W. Taylor, 5; H. Baker, 6; Rev. G. F. Coleridge, 7; T. Waller, 8. Tenor, 22 cwt.

At St. Mary's, Bedford.—Recently, on Sunday, being the Harvest Festival, the following members of the Beds Association rang for early Celebration 720 Bob Minor:—W. Bettles, 1; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 2; F. Sharpe, 3; I. Hills, 4; S. J. Cullip, 5; F. Keech, 6. 720 GRANDSIRE MINOR. F. Hull, 1; I. Hills, 2; F. Sharpe, 3; F. Smith, 4; S. J. Cullip, 5; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 6. Also for 11 o'clock Matins, 720 Oxford Bob Minor. W. Bettles, 1; I. Hills, 2; F. Sharpe, 3; F. Smith, 4; S. J. Cullip, 5; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 6. 120 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES and 120 Bob Doubles. W. Bettles, 1; C. W. Clarke, 2; F. Sharpe, 3; F. Smith, 4; S. J. Cullip, 5; F. Keech, 6. And after Evensong, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor. C. W. Clarke, 1; J. N. Frossell, 2; W. Allen, 3; F. Smith, 4; S. J. Cullip, 5; I. Hills (conductor), 6. 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor. F. Sharpe, 1; C. W. Clarke, 2; F. Smith, 3; W. Allen, 4; J. N. Frossell, 5; I. Hills (conductor), 6. At St. Paul's.—Lately, on Sunday, for Evensong, a touch of 672 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. J. Spencer, 1; F. Smith, 2; W. Allen, 3; S. J. Cullip, 4; J. N. Frossell, 5; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 6; I. Hills, 7; W. Bettles, 8. And 336 of same method. W. Bettles, 1; C. Clarke, 2; F. Sharpe, 3; W. Allen, 4; F. Smith, 5; I. Hills, 6; J. Frossell (conductor), 7; J. Spencer, 8.

At the Parish Church, Long Melford, Suffolk.—On Saturday, the 13th ult., with the bells muffled, on the occasion of the funeral of the late Mr. John Driver, touches of Bob Minor were rung. C. Bobby, 1; A. Ambrose, 2; J. Bird, 3; C. Sillitoe (Sudbury), 4; W. Cross (Sudbury), 5; S. Slater, 6. And 720 Kent Treble Bob. P. C. S. Scott, 1; R. Mingay (Foxearth), 2; H. Duce, 3; J. Bird, 4; W. Gridley (Foxearth), 5; S. Slater (conductor), 6.

At St. James's, Biddingham, Beds.—On Saturday, the 27th ult., 720 Oxford Bob (38 bobs and 22 singles). A. Ingram, 1; C. West, 2; W. Hall (conductor), 3; H. King, 5; I. Hills, 6. And on Sunday morning, the 28th ult., for Divine service, 360 London Single. A. Ingram,* 1; H. King,* 2; W. Hall, 3; H. Clifton, 4; C. West (conductor), 5; C. R. Howard,* 6. Also for Divine service in the afternoon, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. W. Allen, 1; C. West, 2; C. R. Howard, 3; H. King, 4; W. Hall, 5; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 6. W. Hall came from Raunds, Northants. Tenor, 14 cwt., in G. [* First in the method.]

At St. Thomas's, Stourbridge, Worcestershire.—On Sunday, the 28th ult., for Divine service, 504 Bob Triples. J. Pagett, 1; T. Lees, 2; H. Morris, 3; W. A. Pugh, 4; C. Barratt, 5; G. H. Pagett, 6; H. Harris (conductor), 7; P. Beasley, 8. Also on Sunday, the 11th inst., for morning service, 720 Bob Minor, with 6-8 behind, in 30 mins. C. Barrett, 1; G. H. Pagett, 2; W. A. Pugh, 3; J. Pagett, 4; A. Orford, 5; J. Bird, 6; H. Harris (conductor), 7; P. Beasley, 8.

At the Office of the 'HERTS STANDARD,' ST. ALBANS.—*Handbell Ringing*.—On Friday, the 2nd inst., 720 Bob Minor. J. C. Mitchell (conductor), 1-2; G. W. Cartmel, 3-4; E. P. Debenham, 5-6.

At St. Oswald's, Durham.—On Sunday evening, the 4th inst., for Divine service, 720 Canterbury Pleasure. W. Liddle,* 1; W. H. Craggs, 2; W. G. Newton, 3; J. E. Avery, 4; W. Prince, 5; L. Newton (conductor), 6. Also on Monday evening, the 12th inst., 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor. C. Bradford, 1; W. H. Craggs, 2; J. E. Avery, 3; W. Prince, 4; C. J. Butterworth (conductor), 5; L. Newton, 6. [* First 720 in the method.]

At CHEVINGTON, SUFFOLK.—On the arrival home of Mr. J. White from his wedding tour on November 6th, there were rung upon the bells of the above church seven peals of 120 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES by the following members of the local company of ringers:—J. Sharp, 1; A. Cooper, 2; G. Sparrow (conductor), 3; J. Smith, 4; E. Nunn, 5. Also eight peals of GRANDSIRE and MORNING STAR (1200 changes). The numbers stood as before, with Mr. Nunn (conductor). Time, 50 mins. Tenor, 13 cwt. Mr. Nunn belongs to the Ancient Society of College Youths.

At St. Andrew's, Hertford.—On Thursday, the 8th inst., on the occasion of the marriage of Mr. Perkiss Ginn with Miss Saide Garratt, a quarter-peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 44 mins. F. G. Crawley, 1; W. L. Randall, 2; H. Phillips, 3; S. Knight (conductor), 4; M. Ellmore, 5; W. Bennett, 6; J. G. Crawley, 7; J. Cull, 8.

At St. Mary's, Lichfield.—On Friday, the 9th inst., being Lord Mayor's Day, 504 and other touches of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES were rung during the day. F. J. Cope (conductor), 1; H. Kings, 2; A. Whitby, 3; A. Greenwood, 4; J. Key, 5; H. Measham, 6; W. Fearneyhough, 7; E. Gallimore, 8. The ringer of the second bell has rung in the cities and counties of Gloucester, Hereford, Worcester, Stafford, Warwick, Derby, and Yorkshire, at fifty-three different churches, and is a well-wisher to the exercise, and is now in his seventy-first year.

At the Meeting-house, St. Paul's Churchyard, London.—*Handbell Ringing*.—On Friday, the 9th inst., 811 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. A. R. Aldham, 1-2; C. F. Winny (conductor), 3-4; J. M. Hayes, 5-6; E. Horrex, 7-8. Also 461 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES and a course of STEDMAN TRIPLES. G. T. McLaughlin, 1-2; A. R. Aldham, 3-4; C. F. Winny (conductor), 5-6; W. Greenleaf, 7-8. Mr. Aldham came from Barwell, Leicestershire.

At the Parish Church, Faversham, Kent.—On Friday, the 9th inst. (Lord Mayor's Day), a date touch of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES (1888 changes) in 1 hr. 11 mins. J. King, 1; A. Biggs, 2; A. Foreman, 3; J. Barnard, 4; C. L. Graham, 5; W. Wood (conductor), 6; C. Couchman, 7; J. Smith, 8. J. King is a member of the Essex Association, and came from Wanstead; A. Foreman, Canterbury; the rest belong to the local band.

At the Cathedral, Ripon, Yorks.—On Friday, the 9th inst., being the Prince of Wales's birthday, a date touch of STEDMAN TRIPLES (1888 changes) in 1 hr. 12 mins. A. H. Clark, 1; W. Pick, 2; G. Ingleby, 3; A. Pratt, 4; A. Ingleby, 5; J. Flower, 6; T. Clark (conductor), 7; H. Rumbold, 8. Tenor, 21 cwt., in E. Composed by Dr. A. B. Carpenter, secretary of the Surrey Association.

At St. Mary's, Lichfield, Staffordshire.—On Friday, the 9th inst., 504 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. F. J. Cope (conductor), 1; J. Key, 2; T. W. Udell, 3; A. Greenwood, 4; A. Whitby, 5; H. Measham, 6; W. Fearneyhough, 7; E. Gallimore, 8. And on Sunday evening, the 11th inst., a quarter-peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 43 mins. E. Gallimore, 1; H. Measham, 2; T. W. Udell (Slough), 3; A. Greenwood, 4; A. Whitby, 5; F. J. Cope (conductor), 6; W. Fearneyhough, 7; A. G. Gallimore, 8. Tenor, 19½ cwt., in E.

At Mossley, Lancashire.—*Handbell Ringing*.—On Friday, the 9th inst., by the Mossley Amateur Society, at the house of Mr. R. Greaves, Stamford Street, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor in 25 mins. J. Greaves (aged 15), 1; F. Rhodes* (aged 14), 2; A. W. Holden,* 3; H. Mayall, 4; T. B. Dicken, 5; J. Holden (conductor), 6. The average age of the ringers of the first four bells is sixteen years. [* First 720.]

At the Parish Church, Hughenden, Bucks.—On Saturday, the 10th inst., the following members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild of Church Bell-ringers (also the local party) rang, for practice, 336 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. F. G. Biggs, 1; W. Hussey (conductor), 2; R. Biggs, 3; F. L. Free, 4; H. Stratford, 5; J. Evans, 6; W. Goodchild, 7; H. Boreham, 8. Also 280 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES.—F. Biggs, 1; W. Hussey, 2; R. Biggs (conductor), 3; F. L. Free, 4; F. G. Biggs, 5; H. Stratford, 6; G. Bunce, 7; W. Goodchild, 8.

At St. Dunstan's, Stepney.—On Sunday, the 11th inst., for evening service, 1349 GRANDSIRE CATERS in 53 mins. W. Tanner, 1; C. Relton,* 2; W. Cecil, 3; S. Joyce, 4; Y. Green,* 5; R. Turner, 6; H. Springall (conductor), 7; E. Hall, 8; S. Hayes, 9; T. Baker,* 10. [* Longest touch in the method.]

At the Parish Church, Llangollen, North Wales.—On Sunday, the 11th inst., for Divine service, 350 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. J. Evans, 1; T. Williams, 2; D. Evans, 3; J. Davies, 4; J. W. Davies (conductor), 5; R. Horspool, 6; T. Davies, 7; R. Maxwell, 8. The above company had the misfortune to lose (through their leaving the neighbourhood) two of the ringers on the eve of starting for a peal. They are now working up the second and tenor ringers, and the above is their longest touch.

At the Parish Church, Dalton-in-Furness.—On Sunday, the 11th inst., 720 GRANDSIRE MINOR (38 bobs, 22 singles) in 28 mins. T. R. Jackson (conductor), 1; T. Townson, 2; J. Spencer, 3; M. Caddy, 4; T. Watson, 5; J. Burrows, 6.

At St. Mary-atte-Bow, Middlesex.—On Monday evening, the 12th inst., for practice, 1008 Double Norwich Court Bob Major. W. Cecil, 1; L. Green, 2; H. Randall, 3; Y. Green, 4; W. Manning, 5; H. Springall (conductor), 6; R. Turner, 7; S. Hayes, 8. Longest touch in the method by all the band.

RECEIVED ALSO.—High Wycombe Church Bells; Mr. W. Hussey, Hughenden (thanks); and others.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Sermons from 'Another Layman's' point of view.

SIR,—We must not forget that sermons are God's messages to His people, through His ministers, and, therefore, we must ask for your earnest prayers on our behalf. Such, in effect, were the concluding words uttered by the Rural Dean of Kensington, the Rev. the Hon. E. Carr Glyn, when bringing to a close the Ruridecanal Conference held on November 8th.

The discussion, which was the outcome of a paper read on 'Sermons from a Layman's point of view,' seemed to point to the desirability of exhorting the sermon from the Sunday services whenever the clergyman did not feel inclined to preach; and throughout the sermon seemed to be a *bête noire*—at any rate to several of the speakers. It is true that thinking men will not tolerate the heartless, empty platitudes, which are too often called sermons, or listen to pitiful appeals to increase the minister's stipend, or a learned disquisition on the derivation of a word, when their souls are craving for spiritual food. Are these the times to let the world have entire sway? Is it right that Sunday morning trains should be crowded with pleasure-seekers, who are practically living without God in the world? Is it consistent with God's distinct command to keep the Sabbath holy, that invitations to Sunday dinner-parties and 'at homes' should now be so fashionable? Is it not a fact that men and women are daily and hourly passing from this present dreamland into eternity without waking from the sleep of indifference and sin—having simply had a name to live when really dead? Is it not time, and high time, for God's ministers to cry aloud, 'Awake, thou that sleepest,' 'Repent, therefore, and be converted?'

SOME NEEDS OF TO-DAY.

It is very seldom indeed that a clergyman has an opportunity of really getting at the opinions of Agnostics and of those who have lost their faith. The solemn *tête-à-tête* which one sometimes has with such is so constrained in tone as to leave upon each the impression only of having made the other thoroughly uncomfortable. A man generally shrinks into himself when discussing the matter of his faith, or his want of faith, with one who holds opposite views, or, at best, he presents his creed in a diluted form. Consequently, it is not an uncommon thing for the clergy to know almost nothing of the beliefs and the disbeliefs of those of their flock who have taken up the Agnostic position. It is to be regretted, but it is true. Our English reserve makes it almost inevitable.

The writer was recently invited to be present at a discussion upon a well-known book at a meeting of a debating society, which was understood to consist largely of Agnostics. I accepted the invitation, and found myself amidst some five-and-twenty or thirty gentlemen, who treated me, in spite of my long coat, with the utmost kindness and courtesy. The evening commenced with a paper—and a very able paper, too—which was read by one of the members. It was a criticism, sometimes literary and sometimes philosophical, on the supposed aspect of orthodox Christianity, as represented by the author, and the comments were directed more especially upon the lapse of faith traced out in one of his characters, who was made to abandon his early beliefs. The reader of the paper commented on the book with perfect fairness and with no little skill, and it soon became apparent why this was. He, also, had left the faith of his childhood, like the hero he was discussing; he had come to the view that, however great and noble a character Jesus of Nazareth might be, yet that he was man—a man and no more. I have seldom heard a more brilliant or a sadder paper. Again and again there welled out, through the interstices of some sharp attack upon Christianity, the confessed regret that the speaker could not find rest in his old faith. He made a free confession of his lament that his 'cradle-belief,' as he called it, had withered away. It is not, however, the purpose of the present article to give the gist of the paper, interesting as that might be. I simply wish to point out, for the benefit of my brother clergy, what were the chief conclusions adopted by the various speakers.

The debate upon the paper struck one very forcibly indeed as being far beyond the average ability of most debates, and—shall I say it?—of most clerical debates. Occasionally, indeed, a flippant remark was dropped, and on one or two occasions a slip as to some fact was made, but for the most part the subject, which practically resolved itself into the question, 'Is Christianity tenable?' was treated with care and with reverence. My own remarks and protest were received with politeness and with consideration. I shall not easily forget the solemn earnestness of some of the speakers who related how, step by step, their faith had crumbled away, and who showed by their faces that they appreciated to the full the magnitude of the decision which they had made in having renounced Christ as Divine. It would be, of course, impossible to repeat all the opinions which were given, or the objections which were propounded against Christianity; but they are included, for the most part, under the following heads:—

1. The evidence for miracles seemed to be the greatest difficulty. No *a priori* objection to them was alleged, but the view prevailed that the miracles of the Bible were either the product of exaggeration, or else were phenomena which may be accounted for by known natural laws.

2. The entirely rationalist position was maintained. It was proof, proof, from beginning to end of the debate. Proof as to the accuracy of the sacred records, proof as to the things which they relate: our possibility of disproving the inaccuracy, or the impossibility of the one or the other.

3. It was very noticeable to watch how almost every speaker eagerly clutched at the moral teaching of Jesus Christ as being of priceless value to mankind. Every one admitted the majesty of the 'Sermon on the Mount.' Yet most took up the position that the question of His being the Son of God was a matter of indifference to them, and did not affect their reverence for His moral rules. There was the teaching—it had come somehow—it was the best they knew, they would receive it as far as rules of life were concerned, while holding the supposition of any Divine authority for His teaching as not worth discussion.

4. Far more striking than anything else was the sad and despairing view of life which many of the speakers held. 'Let us do our duty,' said one, 'as well as such miserable creatures, who did not ask to be born into the world, can do it.'

Such were some of the statements put forward by a gathering of respectable men, of average circumstances and ability, at a meeting where men expressed with a freedom which I never heard before, their beliefs on the most important issues of life. It will at once be seen that many of the points indicated above are capable of explanation and of answer. All that is here wished to be done is to point out what were the chief stumbling-blocks existing in their minds, in order that these particular difficulties may be thought over by some of the clergy. As I need not say, the incident was to me peculiarly sad, but it was not without its value.

It seemed to point out that the clergy of to-day should direct their studies and their preaching (occasionally) towards the clearing up and the explanation of these and kindred matters. Surely it is a time when no man, if competent, should shrink from approaching these, the deepest of all difficulties. To denounce in vague terms Secularism, Atheism, Agnosticism, and other phases of thought, without a patient examination of their principles, and some attempt at least towards supplying their defects, is pure folly. Agnosticism is in the air, and it must be faced. Some are Agnostics from a silly fashion—they will give but little trouble; far more, alas! are so from real difficulties of their own being—they live in a dry and barren land where no water is. Hundreds of men such as those among whom I spent that memorable evening are to be found. Some are in our congregations, hungry for food; some are outside, groping in their own weary way for light. To meet the needs of such the ordinary 'simple sermon' is useless. For one sermon, as a well-known Professor remarked not long ago, which is preached 'over the heads' of our people, a hundred are preached far beneath their feet.

By prayer, by study, by manly honesty in acknowledging difficulties and in facing them, by confessing freely that many of those who have strayed out of the fold are, in their way, trying to solve the great problems of life, as we are, let the clergy of England be diligent to work and to win. Let them remember especially that the eyes of these men are upon us, watching our lives and our works, and that the attitude of an Agnostic towards Christianity cannot but be influenced by what he sees of the actions and spirit of those who profess to be followers of Jesus the Christ. We have to deal, generally, in this matter, with men who are in earnest, and who are asking if we can give them an answer to their sadness, and a reason for the hope which is in ourselves. A. H. P.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

A Visit to Maker Church, Cornwall.

SOME members of St. Andrew's (Plymouth) branch of the Devonshire Guild visited Maker in Cornwall, on Tuesday, the 20th inst. The six bells were raised in peal, and six 120's GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, called differently, were rung, conducted by Mr. Taylor. J. Peard, 1; Taylor, 2; Ellis, 3; Batchelor, 4; Widdicombe, 5; Screech, 6. Tenor, 13 cwt. Some call-changes were also rung, in which Messrs. W. Peard, and J. Mallett, of Plymouth, and Mr. Legg of the local band took part. It was found that the bells go very well in changes.

The Ancient Society of College Youths.

NOTICE.—Members are requested to attend the next meeting at St. Saviour's, viz., on Tuesday, December 4th, 1888, to discuss an important question. 40 Lillington Street, Pimlico, S.W. RICHARD T. WOODLEY, Hon. Sec.

Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association.

MEMBERS who have not yet paid their subscriptions are particularly requested to do so by December 1st, to ensure their names not appearing in italics in the Report for the year, which will be issued as early as possible in January next. The Report for 1887 (48 pages) is given gratis to all who pay up their subscriptions to the respective local Secretaries.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At the Parish Church, Appleton, Berks.

On Friday, the 9th inst., ten members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild rang Hubbard's peal of 5000 KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL in 3 hrs. 4 mins. H. Woodward, 1; W. Bennett, 2; C. Hounslow, 3; G. Holfield, 4; B. Barnett, 5; H. Fruin, 6; J. Avery, 7; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 8; F. White, 9; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 10. Tenor, 14½ cwt. The first peal of TREBLE BOB ROYAL by the Guild, and the first peal in the method by the first, second, fourth, fifth, sixth, seventh, and tenor men.

At St. Paul's, Shadwell, London.

On Thursday, the 15th inst., eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang Holt's Original peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 58 mins. T. Baker, 1; C. Relton (first peal with a bob-bell), 2; W. Cecil, 3; R. T. Turner, 4; S. E. Joyce, 5; E. Hall, 6; H. Springall (conductor), 7; S. W. Parmenter (first peal), 8. Tenor, 16 cwt.

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

On Thursday, the 15th inst., eight members of the Midland Counties' Association rang Thurstans' peal of 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES in 3 hrs. 6 mins. E. Stone, 1; W. J. Smith, 2; J. Austin, 3; Jos. Griffin (conductor), 4; J. Jaggard, 5; L. Bullock, 6; T. Holmes, 7; Peto Meadows, 8. Tenor, 26 cwt. Rang in honour of the marriage on that day of Mr. H. Wakley, a member of St. Paul's Society.

At All Saints', West Bromwich, Staffordshire.

On Saturday, the 17th inst., the following members of the Society for the Archdeaconry of Stafford rang with the bells half muffled, as a last token of respect to the late Ven. J. H. Iles, Archdeacon of Stafford, who had been President of the above Society from its commencement, Holt's Original peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, in 3 hrs. 7 mins. —E. Woodhall, 1; S. Reeves (conductor), 2; J. Hall, 3; R. Hall, 4; T. Horton, 5; S. Smith, 6; W. A. Cooper, 7; J. Harford, 8. And on Sunday, the 18th inst., at Christ Church, the usual muffled peal, consisting of the whole-pull and stand; after which

a touch of 518 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES and 503 GRANDSIRE CATERS were rung by the following:—J. W. Sayer, S. Reeves (conductor), T. Horton, J. Hall, R. Hall, W. R. Small, E. Goodreds, C. Price, J. Frisby, and W. Gould.

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

On Saturday, the 17th inst. eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths and the Ashton-under-Lyne Society rang a peal of 5088 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR in 3 hrs. 9 mins. J. S. Wilde, 1; C. H. Hattersley (composer), 2; J. Wood, 3; S. Wood (conductor), 4; T. Wilde, 5; T. Hattersley, 6; J. Thorp, 7; G. Longden, 8. All the above band have rung over a hundred peals each.

At St. Martin's, Birmingham.

On Monday, the 19th inst., twelve members of the Midland Counties' Association rang a peal of 5016 STEDMAN CINQUES in 3 hrs. 40 mins. H. Bastable, 1; T. Russam, 2; W. Kent, 3; T. Reynolds, 4; S. Reeves, 5; C. H. Hattersley, 6; Jos. Griffin, 7; J. Buffery, 8; W. Wakley, 9; W. Hickling, 10; A. P. Heywood, Esq. (composer and conductor), 11; A. Thomas, 12. Tenor, 36 cwt. The composition, which is the first rung thus, has the 8th fixed in 5th's place throughout, giving an 8-10-12 six in the middle of every course.

At the Parish Church, Great Yarmouth, Norfolk.

On Tuesday, the 20th inst., 5040 changes of PLAIN BOB ROYAL were rung by the following members of the St. Nicholas' Society in 3 hrs. 23 mins.:—H. Ireland, 1; R. Christian, 2; W. Blyth, 3; M. Long, 4; A. Webber, 5; W. Secrett, 6; T. Tooley, 7; Rev. J. Hastings, 8; W. Fletcher, 9; D. Haywood (conductor), 10. Tenor, 30 cwt., in D.

At the Meeting-house, Rochester Row, Westminster, London.

On Wednesday, the 21st inst., four members of the Ancient Society of College Youths and the Essex Association rang, on handbells retained in hand, Holt's Original peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 36 mins. H. K. Newton (first peal as conductor), 1-2; C. F. Winny, 3-4; G. T. McLaughlin, 5-6; J. M. Hayes, 7-8. Umpires:—Messrs. H. T. Ellis and W. Croyley, of the Ancient Society of College Youths.

At St. Mary's, Stratford, Bow, London.

On Thursday, the 22nd inst., eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang a peal of 5056 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR in 2 hrs 58 mins. H. Springall, 1; W. Cecil, 2; J. Bonney, 3; R. J. Turner, 4; W. Greenleaf, 5; S. E. Joyce, 6; York Green (composer and conductor), 7; S. Hayes, 8.

At the Parish Church, Hagley, Worcestershire.

On Saturday, the 24th inst., eight members of the Worcester and Adjoining Districts' Association rang Holt's Ten-part peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 3 hrs. 8 mins. F. Wright, 1; H. Martin (conductor), 2; H. Morris, 3; J. Smith, 4; T. Lees, 5; T. Barber, 6; W. Short, 7; J. Barber, 8. This is the first 5040 by all the above, except H. Martin and T. Lees, and the first peal as conductor. Messrs. Short and T. and J. Barber belong to Clent, Martin to Belbroughton, the rest to the Hagley company.

At St. Lawrence's, Longney, Gloucestershire.

On Sunday, the 25th inst., eight members of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association rang Mr. J. J. Parker's One-part peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 48 mins. E. E. Bewick (first peal inside), 1; H. Mitchell, 2; H. G. Gardener, 3; W. J. Sevier (conductor), 4; T. Brown, 5; L. Longney, Esq., 6; R. A. Barrett, 7; R. Gardner (first peal), 8. Tenor, 16½ cwt., in E.

At THE PARISH CHURCH, HORNSEY, LONDON.—On Sunday, the 11th inst., 720 BOB MINOR, in 26 mins. E. King, 1; J. Ward, 2; W. Dixon, 3; A. Howell, 4; J. Hannington (conductor), 5; G. Griffin, 6. And for evening service 720 BOB MINOR in 27 mins. E. King, 1; J. Hannington (conductor), 2; W. Dixon, 3; A. Howell, 4; G. Woodis, 5; G. Griffin, 6. After service, 720 BOB MINOR in 26½ mins. T. Wood (Walthamstow), 1; C. Martin (Hendon, first 720), 2; G. Griffin, 3; W. Manning (Walthamstow), 4; T. Card (Finchley, conductor), 5; J. Hannington, 6. And 720 KENT TREBLE BOB MINOR in 26 mins. T. Card, 1; G. Griffin, 2; J. Hannington (conductor), 3; A. Howell, 4; W. Manning, 5; G. Woodis, 6. Several peals of STEDMAN'S DOUBLES. W. Manning, 1; G. Griffin, 2; A. Howell, 3; J. Hannington (conductor), 4; G. Woodis, 5; E. King, 6. Tenor, 17 cwt.

At ST. STEPHEN'S, ROCHESTER ROW, WESTMINSTER.—On Sunday, the 18th inst., for Divine service, a quarter-peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES (1260 changes), in 49 mins. S. J. Reed, 1; H. R. Newton (conductor), 2; W. T. Cockerell, 3; G. T. McLaughlin, 4; E. Duff, 5; C. Creasey (Spalding), 6; W. H. George, 7; J. M. Hayes, 8.

At ST. SIDWELL'S, EXETER.—On Sunday evening, the 18th inst., for Divine service, a quarter-peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES (1260 changes) in 44 mins. B. Mundy, 1; C. Carter, 2; S. Binfield, 3; F. Shepherd (conductor), 4; W. Stocker, 5; E. Shepherd, 6; J. Moss, 7; T. Mudge, 8.

At ST. MARY'S, BALDOCK, HERTS.—On Thursday, the 22nd inst., a quarter-peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES (1260 changes) in 46 mins. T. Webb (conductor), 1; J. Phillips, 2; J. Cawdell, 3; J. Smith, 4; Robt. Jackson, 5; A. Squires, 6; Richd. Jackson, 7; G. Gentle, 8. Tenor, 28 cwt., in D. The above was taken from Shipway, and contains the queens and titbits, and was rung in honour of the silver wedding of the conductor, Mr. Thomas Webb, and is his first quarter-peal as conductor.

At ST. MARY'S, HITCHIN, HERTS.—On Monday, the 26th inst., for practice, 350 and 336 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. J. Randall, 1; A. Squires, 2; F. Furr, 3; J. Hare, 4; J. Foster, 5; S. Hare, 6; W. Allen (conductor), 7; G. Halsey, 8.

Also two six-scores of GRANDSIRE DOUBLES. J. Randall, 1; A. Squires (conductor), 2; F. Furr, 3; T. Dobbs, 4; S. Hare, 5; W. Denniss, 6; J. Foster, 7; J. Froy, 8. Tenor, 28 cwt., in D.

At ST. GILES'S, KILLMARSH, DERBYSHIRE.—On Monday, the 26th inst., a date touch (1888 changes), being two 720's and 408 of GRANDSIRE MINOR, and 40 of DOUBLES, each 720, called differently, in 1 hr. 5 mins. H. Taylor, 1; T. Bettison, 2; G. Jackson, 3; S. Norwood, 4; C. Severn (conductor), 5; J. Severn, 6. Tenor, 11 cwt. This touch was rung to commemorate the first anniversary of the Rev. F. J. Metcalfe's settlement in this parish.

At ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL, LONDON.—On Tuesday, the 27th inst., the following members of the Ancient Society of College Youths, at their monthly meeting, rang, after STEDMAN CINQUES, one course (528 changes) of KENT TREBLE BOB MAXIMUS in 28 mins.:—Messrs. Pettit, Barrell, Winny, Haworth, McLaughlin, Joyce, Newman, Rev. H. A. Cockey, Mash, Woodley, Hayes, Dawe, and Horrex. Tenor, 62 cwt., in B flat.

RECEIVED ALSO.—The Worcestershire Change-ringing Association (unavoidably delayed); and others.

HIGH WYCOMBE CHURCH BELLS.

THE grand old parish church of High Wycombe is the largest in the county, and has frequently been called 'the Cathedral of Bucks.' A Norman church was erected here by a wealthy inhabitant of the town in the reign of William I., and consecrated in 1076 by the last Saxon Bishop, St. Wulstan, of Worcester, acting under license from Remigius, Bishop of Lincoln. The greater portion of the present structure dates from the middle of the thirteenth century, at which period the tower was, as usual then, placed in the centre of the building at the intersection of the nave and transepts. In 1522, however, the old tower was removed, and the present one erected at the west end. This work was carried out under the superintendence of Sir Roland Messenger, vicar of High Wycombe, and Clerk of the Works for Wolsey at Cardinal College, Oxford, now Christ Church. The completion of the Wycombe tower, we are told, was celebrated with 'piping of organs and ringing of bells.' These bells had probably been removed from the old tower which contained a ring of six bells. No record has been preserved of the weight and inscriptions of these ancient bells. The earliest date at which we have any particulars given respecting the High Wycombe bells is 1639, in the returns made at the Visitation of Bishop Williams, of Lincoln, in that year; from which we learn that they were then six in number, exclusive of the Sanctus bell, and that there was only one other church in the county—SS. Peter and Paul at Wingrave—which then possessed a ring of like extent.

In 1711 the whole peal was recast by Phelps, of Whitechapel. Of the six bells in use before that year, all except the second were dated, the oldest one having been cast in 1583, and the latest exactly a century later. They bore the following inscriptions:—

Treble.—Praise ye Lorde, 1620.

Second.—Sit Nomen Domini Benedictum.

Third.—Multis Annis Resonet Campana Johannis, 1583.

Fourth.—Love God, 1636.

Fifth.—Martyn Lewellin, Mayr.; Robt. Roy, Chrstr. Weedon, Richd. Piggot, Robt. Bowdrey, Ch. W.'s., 1672.

Tenor.—Jno. Pettiphur, Mayr.; Cha. Elliot, Ald.; Jno. Bigg, Thos. Grove, Chrstr. Lansdell, Sam. Freeman, Robt. Ratliff, C.W., 1683.

When these bells were re-cast in 1711 five hundredweight of new metal was added, and eight new bells replaced the six old ones, at a cost of about 140*l*. They bore the following inscriptions:—

Treble.—Wm. Shrimpton, T. Clerk; Jno. Rose, Serjeant; Wm. Hailey, Beadle; R. P. fec. 1711.

Second.—Edward Stevens, Clark; Luke Gurney, Sexton; R. Phelps fec. 1711.

Third.—Richard Phelps, of White Chapel, London, made these eight bells, 1711.

Fourth.—God preserve the Church of England, and our Gracious Queen Ann, R. P. fec. 1711.

Fifth.—Messeiurs Ben Hickman, Jos. Pettiphur, Ric. Shrimpton, Hen. Hunt, Aldermen. R. Phelps made me, 1711.

Sixth.—Meseiurs John Lane, Tho. Stevens, Geo. Grove, Ferdo Shrimpton, Tho. Welles, Ald. R. P. fec. 1711.

Seventh.—Hugh Shrimpton, Mayr.; Thos. Russin, Justice; Thos. Wood, T. C.; Richd. Allen, Jno. Carter, Bail; R. P. fec. 1711.

Tenor.—Saml. Guise, M.A., Vicar; Nath. Morgin, Wm. Packer, Saml. Welles, Fra. Williams, C. W. Richd. Phelps made mee 1711.

Of these eight only three are retained in the present peal, viz., the second third, and sixth, now the fifth, sixth, and ninth, respectively. To these was subsequently added the seventh in 1756; a second was given by the Earl of Wycombe in 1788, and a third by his brother, Lord Henry Petty, in the same year. Four were recast by Thomas Mears, of London in 1802, which, with the three retained from those of 1711, make up the ten now in the tower. The present peal bears the following inscriptions:—

Treble.—Thomas Mears of London, fecit, 1802.

Second.—The gift of the Earl of Wycomb, eldest son of the Marquis of Lansdown. John Briant, Hartford, fecit 1788. W. Ball, G. Harman, Assistants. (And the obverse of a coin of George III.)

Third.—The gift of Lord Henry Petty, second son of the Marquis of Lansdown. John Briant, Hartford, fecit 1788. G. Harman, W. Ball, Assistants.

Fourth.—Recast by Thomas Mears, of London, A.D. 1802.

Fifth.—(Same as second *supra*.)

Sixth.—(Same as third *supra*.)

Seventh.—Aron Wooster, Thos. Walker, Mr. Mead, Churchwarden. Thos. Swain made me 1756.

Eighth.—Recast by Thomas Mears, of London, A.D. 1802.

Ninth.—(Same as sixth *supra*.)

Tenor.—May all whom I shall summon to the grave,
The blessings of a well-spent life receive.

The Revd. James Price, Vicar; Messrs. Richard Barton, Samuel Bates, James Kingston, & Daniel Turner, Church Wardens, W. B. Thomas Mears, of London, fecit 1802.

(To be continued.)

CORRESPONDENCE.

Church Music.

SIR,—I am not a musician, but my grandfather was chief musician in a village choir some hundred years ago, and perhaps I may contribute a little towards the discussion already begun in your columns by giving some account of one of his books which has come down to me—the *Compleat Psalmodist*, fourth edition, by John Arnold, Philo-musicæ (London, 1756). It consists of four parts, each with its own title-page and separate paging, though all in one volume of 422 pages, small octavo. The *First Part* is called the introduction, being a short treatise on music, including a great variety of subjects, from the gamut to composition in five, six, seven, and eight parts, and the rudiments of what is now known as the Tonic Sol-Fa Notation. As a sort of appendix to this introduction there is a copious dictionary of musical terms. This part, introduction and dictionary, have been so abundantly thumbed that the leaves are all loose. The *Second Part* contains 'A set of Services commonly called Chanting-tunes, together with four-and-twenty excellent Anthems composed of solo's, fuges, and chorus's, after the Cathedral manner.' The *Third Part* ('being proper for parish-clerks, and useful to country congregations . . . for the use of country choirs') gives one or more extracts from each of the 150 psalms in Sternhold and Hopkins' version, almost invariably of four verses, and with accompanying tunes. The *Fourth* and much the smallest part contains twelve hymns and canons. It may be worth while to give a list of the hymns. 'While shepherds watch'd;' 'Rejoice, rejoice, ye mortals, all rejoice' (for Christmas); 'A Virgin unspotted;' 'Mourn, mourn, ye Saints' (Good Friday); 'Christ from the dead is raised;' 'Jesus Christ is risen to-day;' 'He's come; let every knee be bent' (Whit-sunday); 'Lord, tune our souls with one accord' (Trinity); 'A hymn on the joys of Heaven—' 'Never weather-beaten sail more willing bent to shore;' the Angels' Hymn, a metrical version of Luke ii. 14, and comment thereon.

In this quaint old book we seem to have an eighteenth-century forecast of Mercer's Psalter and Hymn-book, with a treatise on music besides. I am not quite sure whether the vast quantities of hymns that we now possess are *altogether* an improvement on the rough but pathetic psalms which used to content our forefathers. But besides the change from psalms to hymns, there has been, since the middle of the last century, a change quite as great in the arrangement of psalm and hymn-tunes. In Arnold's book the air is *always in the tenor*; the treble equally with the 'contra,' and 'bassus' is an accompaniment. Does this imply that our country singers in those days were chiefly *men*, instead of, as at present, children? I have asked several musical men about this change, but have never got a satisfactory account of it, either as to its history or as to its reason. Some of your readers will, I hope, supply this lack.

Part 2 begins with 'The Order of Performing the Divine Service in Cathedrals and Collegiate Chapels, commonly called Chanting-Tunes.' The first rule or rubric stands thus: 'The Confession and Absolution being read by the Priest in one continued solemn tone, the Priest and Choir repeats the Lord's Prayer, thus,'—then follows a musical staff for the Lord's Prayer, monotoned on D. 'O Lord, open,' &c., and its response, are on the lower A. The first note of 'O Lord, make speed,' &c., is D; the rest, with the response, *Gloria*, &c., on F. The reciting note for the versicles after the Creed is also F; that of the Litany is G. The inflexions, both in versicles and in Litany, are almost exactly as in Mercer, except that the Lord's Prayer sinks to D in the versicles, and in the Litany to D for all except 'But deliver,' which goes down to B. All this is set in the *bass clef* and *unharmonised*. But in the 'Second Service' the responses to the Commandments, and the *Gloria* before the Gospel, are *harmonised*, the air being here, as in the psalm-tunes, in the tenor. The Litany is to be sung 'by two of the choir in the middle of the church, near the Bible desk, the whole choir answering,' &c. 'The second service is begun by the Priest, who reads the Lord's Prayer in one grave tone, the deeper (if strong and audible) the better. Then the Collect before the Commandments in a higher tone, the whole choir singing, Lord have mercy upon us, &c., to the organ, thus.' 'Services' are given for *Te Deum*, *Jubilate*, *Magnificat*, and *Nunc Dimittis*. *Venite* is set to an unbarred but harmonised chant, the notes being *g, g, &c., g, b, C, c, c, &c., d, c, b, c, C*. The 'service' for *Jubilate* used to be sung every Sunday by our village choir till about 1842.

Does not all this point to the plain-song in *unison*, and its reciting note, except in the Litany, F, with D for Lord's Prayer (and presumably the Confession)?—*harmony* being reserved for the second service, though, according to the bad custom of those days, only the ante-communion service was provided for. Has not the musical pitch risen since 1756? If so, was not Arnold's F practically = the E proposed by Mr. Griffith? And what is to be said for and against Psalm tunes for *tenor voices*? J. F.

SIR,—As an example of the manner in which the 'people' will join in singing when the music is simple, may I call attention to the evening services

held in the nave of Chester Cathedral, which is crowded, chiefly by the 'masses,' long before the service begins? The choir is largely augmented by volunteers. Simple chants and hymns only are used. Apparently, the whole congregation realise that the service is one in which they may offer their own praises and thanksgivings to God, instead of doing it by deputy—either, as formerly, by 'parson and clerk,' or, as is now only too common, by 'priest and choir.' The parish church at Croydon, which holds 1400 people, affords another instance of most hearty congregational singing. Let us hope that other vicars may follow the example set at Croydon, and afford their people the opportunity of taking their part in offering praises to God, instead of being mute spectators. A. B.

SIR,—Will you kindly allow me, as a constant reader of *Church Bells*, to tender my hearty thanks to the writer of the recent interesting articles on 'Reform in Church Music?' I am quite in accord with him on every one of the many points he has so thoughtfully taken up, and fully believe if the clergy, as well as organists, gave each separate idea their thoughtful and prayerful consideration, they must ultimately see it in the same light as Mr. Griffith does. Then, instead of the singing and responding being left in great measure to the choir (as is unfortunately the case in some churches), we should soon hear our congregations gladly taking their full part in the services of our beloved Church, and thus realising more largely the blessing of a Sabbath spent in our 'Father's house.' A CHURCHWOMAN.

Gloucester, November 19th, 1888.

Is there no Scarcity of Clergy?

SIR,—The writer in *Church Bells* of Nov. 9th, who signs herself (I presume the gender is feminine) 'Nella Wheatland,' informs us in a very positive tone that the answers to advertisements for curates (assistant-curates she means, since every incumbent is a curate) show what 'a mistake it is to suppose that there is any scarcity of clergy.' I trust, however, that this positive assurance will not disturb the belief of any of your readers that the Additional Curates' Aid Society, and the Pastoral Aid Society, and all the Bishops of our Church at home and abroad, and the single-handed incumbents of parishes with populations varying from 5000 to 20,000, and of country parishes spread over a number of square miles, are justified in maintaining the contrary.

As to the necessity of Greek for ordination, we are all aware that it is in general as indispensable as Hebrew ought to be. But there are certain spheres in which men ordained without it may be extremely useful, and though not *parsons* (which none but incumbents are), may still be efficient clerical workers. Some Bishops have ordained such men, and others may do the same. I have known, moreover, of men who have served their country as civilians or soldiers, and afterwards have rendered valuable service in the ministry of the Church. Does not 'Nella Wheatland,' without any authority or commission to show, conceive that she has a call to dictate, in a series of lectures or charges in a Church magazine, to the clergy all over England, how they should organize their parishes? (I do not say how many of her statements and instructions illustrate the wisdom of the old advice, *Ne sutor ultra crepidam*.) Why, then, should not such *men* be called inwardly by the Holy Ghost, and outwardly by the Church, to do the work of the sacred ministry in some humble sphere? PRESBYTER.

Nov. 16th.

Pronunciation.

SIR,—The fearful way in which some of the proper names in the Bible are pronounced is astounding, even by educated clergymen; but, as I heard it gravely asserted a few days ago that Diana ought to be pronounced as if written 'Dianna,' perhaps you can say if such pronunciation is common among clergymen, as my informant declared it to be. Of course, as an old Etonian, I know there is only one way of correctly accenting the word, but surely the incorrect way cannot be in 'common' use. Would any of your correspondents say how Satan should be pronounced, giving their reasons? A. R.

The Radical Party and the Church.

SIR,—In your issue of the 9th inst., you note with satisfaction that in a list of reforms set forth by Mr. C. V. Conybeare, the Disestablishment and Disendowment of the Church is apparently 'not referred to in any way as a necessary part of the well-defined policy of the Radical party.' Yet, when 'Free Education' is included, can we overlook the fact that many, if not most, of its advocates openly claim the Church's inherited endowments as the necessary purchase-money of their promised gift—be it blessing or curse—to the nation? While avoiding suspicions and imputations which may be unfounded, we shall do well to bear in mind that a menace need not always be direct. 'CAVENDO TUTUS.'

'Church Bells' for Abroad.

SIR,—Can you kindly give me the address of a Foreign or Colonial Clergyman, to whom copies of *Church Bells* regularly sent would be acceptable? I have sent them for some time to a clergyman in Canada, who has left the district and does not require further copies. I shall be glad to send them elsewhere if I get an address. An answer in an early copy under the initials W. X. A. will oblige. T. L. BARSTOW.

Wainwright Terrace, King Street, Oldham, November 26th, 1888.

Notice.

THE chromos, 'Sunrise behind Corsica, from San Remo,' and 'Sunset behind Mull, Oban' (noticed in our last issue), 2s. 2d. the pair, prepaid, are only to be obtained direct from Miss Riddell, Byron House, Buxton, Derbyshire.

RECEIVED ALSO.—Rev. J. Collin; J. Vaughan; T. H. G. Watson; S. C. Clarke; H. E. Brown; and others.