

of the Hindu religion is so deep, and the immorality and vices of both Hindus and Mohammedans are so revolting, that the need for Christianity is more patent than I had any conception of until I saw with my own eyes and heard on the spot with my own ears; yet the Indian mind, though now with most degraded objects and theories of worship, is essentially a reverent and religious mind. To win India to Christianity is not a hopeless task, if only enthusiasm at home were strong enough to multiply the army of workers tenfold, and to send men of such quality as those now at Delhi and Peshawur.

INDIAN HOMES IN ALGOMA.

(From the 'Canadian Church Magazine'.)

THE writings of the Rev. E. F. Wilson, of the diocese of Algoma, regarding Indian life are valuable as studies in ethnology and archæology; he has studied the languages, character, and tribal relations of the Indians with great care. He thus describes the way in which the Indian children are 'captured' in order to get them into the missionary 'homes' which have been found of such utility, and the system of training pursued in them:—

'Every year, or oftener, some one of our teachers goes West to escort a party of returning Indians. His duty is to see that they are provided with employment, and also to visit those previously returned, encouraging them in good, and helping up those who may have fallen. During these few days he is "capturing" his new Indian recruits. Of the large number who apply, he selects those who seem most promising, after consultation with the agent, physician, and missionary. The captor and captives then start towards the rising sun. The arrival at Hampton is an event for all concerned. After the inner man has been sufficiently refreshed, the outer man is consigned to the civilising influences of soap and hot water and the cruel shears, which represent the first step in the white man's road. Into this and further mysteries of wardrobe, bed-room, dining-room, office, work, and school, each new comer is initiated by his Indian friends who have taken him in charge. Never in his life has he known anything like discipline, as we understand that word. He has slept when he liked, and dined when he pleased—though, perhaps, not on what he pleased. He knew he was coming to a land of laws, but his imagination could never conceive of such a multiplicity of rules as he now finds thrown about him. Bells seem to be continually ringing: but he follows his friendly leader, with whom he is to "room," and with him he goes to meals, to prayers in the chapel, and later to the boys' own evening prayers, conducted by themselves just before retiring. Prayers are hardly over before a bell rings, and all scatter to their rooms; he is tired, and so throws himself on the bed, but there is no rest there yet; his friend makes him get up and change his garments, which seems a waste of time, and then he is allowed to lie down. His fatigue makes him sleep a single nap, and he only wakes when a bell rings in the darkness, and his friend sings out that it is half-past five, and they must get up. Now he has to put on again the clothes, which he therefore thinks it was absurd to have taken off. He is hardly ready before the cry of "Fall in" resounds through the building, and eighty pairs of heavy shoes go tearing downstairs and out into the chilly air, to bring their wearers into line before marching over to breakfast hall, where the hot corn-bread and beans are duly appreciated. Thus fortified for a day's work, our recruit is escorted back to the wigwam, and instructed in the art of making beds, sweeping, dusting, blacking shoes, and whatever is necessary to make him pass with credit the inspection of room and person to follow; for this is a military school, and, like a good soldier, he must be on time and in order.

'Thus the pupils are at once placed under a discipline entirely foreign to their wild habits in the forest. They soon learn its value, and show by their actions that they appreciate it. As one illustration, out of many, of the success that has attended Mr. Wilson's labours, we are told that he sent one of these boys, about nineteen years of age, last year to Trinity College School at Port Hope to reap the benefit of an unfinished term belonging to his own son. People laughed at the idea. What could a wild Indian hope to do there against white competition? Well, the "wild Indian" set to work; his writing was of the best in the school; his work in the different subjects was reported by the master to be very good and satisfactory; and as the upshot of the whole, the Indian Department in Ottawa offered to Mr. Wilson to admit the lad as a third-class clerk, at a salary of \$400 a-year, with the promise of an annual increase of \$50.'

Such is a sketch of the way in which Mr. Wilson and other clergy of Algoma, with Bishop Sullivan at their head, are endeavouring, with no small success, to perform the double task of civilising and Christianising our aborigines.

TOBACCONISTS COMMENCING.—Write to-day for Illustrated Guide how to open a Shop respectably (post free). TOBACCONISTS' OUTFITTING CO., Braime's Buildings, 11 Beech Street, London, E.C. HENRY MYERS, Manager.—[Advt.]

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

The Bells of Whaplode Parish Church.

ON November 19th the bells of Whaplode Parish Church were rededicated by the Lord Bishop of Lincoln, after having been rehung with extensive repairs to the belfry.

The bells are five in number, and on them are the following inscriptions:—1. 'Laudo Deum Verum. Henricus Penn Fusor. 1718.' 2. 'It Clamor ad caelos. 1718.' 3. 'Ut mundus sic nos, nunc laetitiam nunc dolorem. 1718.' 4. 'Plebem voco. Congrego clerum. Iac. Bolton. Guls. One. C.W.S. 1718.' 5. Defunctos plango, vivos moneo. Ioh. Rustat, vicar. 1718.'

It appears that John Rustat, the vicar, appointed James Bolton his churchwarden, at a vestry meeting held 14th April, 1718, and the parishioners appointed William One (Owen) theirs. Whether the date, 1718, refers to the first casting of the bells by the celebrated bell-founder of Peterborough, or to their being recast by him, is uncertain.

The bell-frame has a date on it—1628—and is an exceptionally good one for that period; owing, however, to neglect the supporting beams had become quite rotten with damp and dirt, and the bell-fittings quite out of repair, till at last it became unsafe to ring the bells, and two years ago it was decided to rehang them, and through the advice of Mr. Pearson, R.A., who had already been consulted as to the restoration of the whole church, the work was entrusted to Mr. Thompson, of Peterborough. The cost of the work amounted to 128*l.* 7*s.* 1*d.*

Whaplode Church is a most interesting one of the Norman and Transitional periods. It is 151 feet long, and has north and south aisles and transepts. The tower occupies the unusual position of forming the southern end of the south transept, the basement having been once used as a chapel and still containing its piscina—it is now, however, partially walled off from the church. The whole church, indeed, much needs restoration, which the present Vicar hopes soon to take in hand.

The Church Bells of Rye, Sussex.

SIR,—I should be extremely pleased for any information concerning the church bells of that interesting old Cinque Port Town, Rye. As a schoolboy, some twenty years ago, I remember its fine old church, with its chiming clock taken from the Spanish Armada, the pendulum of said old timekeeper swinging across the chancel arch in full view of the congregation. In a book recently published giving a history of the Cinque Ports, by Montague Burrows, it is stated that in the fourteenth century (1378) the French attacked Rye, and amongst other plunder took away the church bells. But the Rye men in conjunction with Winchelsea made a return raid on the French coast and brought their bells back in triumph. It would be interesting, I think, to know if any of these bells are in existence. Perhaps some members of the Sussex Association will give me the desired information.

GRANDSIRE BOB.

P.S.—Whilst writing may I also ask for correct weights and diameters of the tenor bells at Melton Mowbray, Leicestershire, and St. Margaret's Church, Leicester? The Melton Mowbray tenor is said to be 35 cwt. in North's *Church Bells of Leicester*, but Messrs. Taylor of Loughborough give its weight as 26 cwt. in a list published by them in 1870. Which is correct?

The Church Bells of Thrapston.

In this day of general restoration and improvement it is rather unusual to find a town belfry in the untidy and (from a ringer's point of view) unpleasant condition of that at Thrapston. A comfortable ringing-room, with ceiling open in places to the bells just above (rendering the operation of chiming or ringing anything but 'soothing'), a much-worn newel stair, requiring very careful navigation, and, lastly, the bell-chamber itself, with louvreless windows, squeaking gudgeons and clappers, and an 'out-of-order' state of things generally, is the impression left on a visitor to this belfry. Were these old bells rehung it would be a great encouragement to the local ringers. The bells are dated as follows: Treble, 1686; second, 1765; third, 1677; fourth (ancient), tenor, 1634. Diameter of largest bell, 35½ in.; weight, about 9 cwt. The inscriptions are of no particular interest, except that on the fourth, which is in black-letter, and reads thus: 'Sancta Anna Ora Pro Nobis. J. S.' This old sixteenth-century bell is rung daily at one o'clock.

The Bells of Holy Trinity, Blackburn.—Dedication of the New Ring.

AN interesting service for the dedication of the new ring of bells hung in the belfry of Holy Trinity Church was conducted on Wednesday, the 21st ult., in the presence of a large congregation. The dedication was performed by the Rev. Canon Champneys, vicar of Haslingden and rural dean, who was also the preacher for the occasion. The failure of the tubular bells to meet the wants of the parish seems to have stimulated the interest of every member of the congregation in the question of the bells. They were sweet and melodious, but ill-adapted for the centre of a busy town in which their tones could scarcely be heard for the traffic in the streets, and the agitation for a 'proper peal' became general. With it a commendable disposition has been shown to put the hand deeper in the pocket to secure a new and full peal at any cost. The outlay at once jumps from 400*l.* to 700*l.*, but the committee and the congregation are pulling well together to raise the necessary amount. Close upon one-half has already been subscribed, and by special services and other means it is hoped that the deficiency will grow smaller. When the sermon had concluded, the clergy repaired to the west end of the church, where the bells were briefly dedicated to God's service and the first bell was tolled.

The service in the church concluded with the singing of a hymn and prayer, and, as the organ ceased, the bells in the steeple were heard in merry peal. The bells have been cast by the famous bell-founders, Messrs. J. Taylor & Co., of Loughborough, Leicestershire. The treble or first bell weighs 4 cwt. 2 qrs.; the second, 5 cwt.; the third, 5 cwt. 2 qrs.; the fourth, 6 cwt. 2 qrs.; the fifth, 8 cwt. 2 qrs.; the sixth, 10 cwt.; the seventh, 12 cwt. 2 qrs.; the tenor or eighth bell, 18 cwt.; total, 70 cwt. 2 qrs. The massive tower in which these bells are placed is 14 ft. square inside, and 140 ft. high, the walls being 5 ft. 6 in. thick at the base and 3 ft. 6 in. thick at the top. Very powerful English oak beams and trimmers, firmly bolted together, are let into the walls to carry this weight and strain. The bells are hung on the improved system of Messrs. J. Taylor & Co., being suspended on heavy vertical iron-frame castings, in which are fitted gun-metal bearings with patent adjustable lubricating caps, which reduces the friction to a minimum. The changes were rung by the following members of Holy Trinity Young Men's Mutual Improvement Society: Messrs. W. Slater, J. Horsefield, J. Ainsworth, W. Sims, J. Appleby, W. Watson, J. Smith, and J. Anderson. All the woodwork of the tower was entrusted to Messrs. T. Harrison & Son, who carried out their work to the complete satisfaction of the committee.

The Rev. H. A. Cockey.

We are pleased to announce that the above reverend gentleman has been instituted to the Vicarage of Oldland, near Bristol, which took place on November 23rd. Patron, the Rev. Canon Ellacombe; net value, 316*l*. He will take residence in January. Mr. Cockey is a member of the Ancient Society of College Youths, and stands high in the art of change-ringing.

The Worcestershire and Adjoining Districts Change-ringing Association.

On Saturday last a Quarterly Meeting of this Association was held in St. Martin's Schoolroom, Tipton, between forty and fifty members being present from Arelley Kings, Bromsgrove, Brierley Hill, Birmingham, Coseley, Cradley, Dudley, Hanbury, Halesowen, Netherton, Old Hill, Stoughton, Stourbridge, Tipton, &c. In the unavoidable absence of the Rev. A. A. Cory, vicar, through the death of Archdeacon Iles, the chair was occupied by the Rev. H. N. Eales, senior curate, he being supported by the Rev. R. H. O. Banks, junior curate. The Rev. Chairman, in opening the proceedings, said he had been instructed by his Vicar to give a hearty welcome to the members of the Association on their first visit to Tipton, and hoped it would not be the last. The minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed, the usual business of the Association was transacted, several new members, honorary and performing, being added to the list. In the course of the miscellaneous business, the Hon. Secretary spoke of the advantages he thought might be derived by all Associations and Guilds taking up the suggestion of the Rev. C. P. Davies (*Bell News*, Nov. 3rd), and so ably handled by Mr. Washbrook on Nov. 10th, on forming a benefit society for ringers. He did not wish to offer any suggestion as to the form it should take, but ventured to say such a Society might be worked with very little expense, and so become a good financial success. If the various Associations and Guilds would take the matter up at their next meetings, and appoint delegates from each, call a meeting as central as possible, and there discuss the question as to the form it should take, the Society would soon have an actual being. Several other members also spoke of the advantages such a Society would bring with it, and all present heartily concurred in the remarks that had been made, and hoped ere long to see some steps taken in this direction. Votes of thanks were passed to the Vicar for the use of the schoolroom, tower, and bells, and to the Rev. H. N. Eales for presiding. The Chairman and the Rev. R. H. O. Banks suitably responded, and the meeting terminated. During the afternoon and evening the following touches were brought round on the tower bells:—576 and 336 of PLAIN BOB MAJOR, two 216's of STEDMAN TRIPLES, 576 of KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, and a 720 of GRANDSIRE MINOR. A pleasant evening was spent at the 'Court House' Inn, where courses of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, MAJOR, CATERS, and CINQUES were gone through on the handbells.

The Sussex County Association.

A DISTRICT MEETING was held on Saturday, the 24th ult., at Alfriston, being the first six-bell tower visited in East Sussex. Representatives were present from Arundel, Brighton, Eastbourne, Lewes, Alfriston, and Seaford. The party sat down to luncheon at the 'Star' Hotel, under the presidency of the Vicar of Alfriston (Rev. J. Puttick), who was supported by the Rev. W. E. Richardson, rector of Southover, and the Rev. R. F. Tompkins, of Tortington. A business meeting followed, when forty-eight new active members were elected, consisting of three new branches, namely, Horley, Milland, and Harting, the Rev. T. Peebles, vicar of Milland, also being elected an hon. member. It was then decided that the next eight-bell tower district meeting for East Sussex should be held at Seaford on the last Saturday in January, and the next six-bell tower meeting for that division of the county at Chailley. A vote of thanks to the Vicar brought the meeting to a close. A special service was held during the afternoon, at which a short address was delivered by the Rev. J. Puttick. During the evening the local branch decided to call in the aid of one of the Association Instructors to enable them to substitute change-ringing for call-changes, which have held sway in Alfriston from time immemorial.

G. F. ATTREE, *Hon. Sec.*

The Lancashire Association.—Manchester Branch.

A MEETING of the above Branch was held on Saturday, the 24th ult., at the Manchester Cathedral. Ringers attended from Ashton-under-Lyne, Worsley, Walkden, Eccles, Northenden, and Huddersfield. Touches were rung in the following methods:—TREBLE BOB ROYAL and MAJOR, BOB MAJOR,

GRANDSIRE CATERS, and STEDMAN TRIPLES. It was decided to hold the next meeting at Eccles, on Saturday, December 15th.

The Lancashire Association.—Rochdale Branch.

ON Saturday, the 24th ult., a meeting of the above Branch was held at St. Thomas's Church, Lees, near Oldham, only a few members being present. Touches of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES and BOB MINOR were rung. It was agreed to hold the next meeting at St. Mary's Church, Balderstone, near Rochdale, in January next. A very pleasant evening was spent at the meeting-house afterwards, when tunes and changes were rung on the handbells. The best thanks of the members present were given to the Vicar and Churchwardens for the use of the bells, and to Mr. Samuel Stott for presiding.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At All Saints', Kingston-on-Thames, Surrey.

ON Wednesday, the 21st ult., eight members of the Surrey Association rang Holt's Original peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 3 hrs. 4 mins. J. Strutt (conductor), 1; J. Harris, 2; W. E. Garrard, 3; G. Woodiss, 4; Rev. H. Shears (first peal), 5; G. Gray, 6; J. Wright, 7; J. Smith, 8. Tenor, 33 cwt.

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

ON Thursday, the 22nd 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. 30 mins. G. Robinson, 1; R. Cartwright, 2; A. Wakley, 3; Jos. Griffiths, 4; E. I. Stone, 5; C. H. Hattersley (composer), 6; T. Holmes, 7; W. Wakley (conductor), 8. Tenor, 26 cwt. This composition, which is now rung for the first time, has the 4th and 6th their extent in 6th's place, with the 2nd never in that position.

At St. Lawrence's, Appleton, Berks.

ON Friday, the 23rd ult., ten members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild rang Johnson's peal of 5008 STEDMAN CATERS in 3 hrs. 2 mins. F. White, 1; J. W. Washbrook, 2; T. Hibbert, 3; W. Bennett, 4; B. Barratt, 5; G. Holfield, 6; Jas. Avery, 7; Rev. F. E. Robinson (conductor), 8; H. Woodward, 9; S. White, 10. Tenor, 14½ cwt.

At St. Peter's, Drayton, Berks.

ON Saturday, the 24th ult., eight members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild rang Brooke's Variation of Thurstan's peal of 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 33 mins. J. Carter (Birmingham, conductor), 1; W. Adkins, 2; H. F. de Lisle, Esq., 3; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 4; T. Short, 5; W. Napper, 6; J. W. Washbrook, 7; C. Hounslow, 8.

At St. Andrew's, Wells Street, Oxford Street, London.

ON Saturday, the 24th ult., eight members of the Society of Royal Cumberland Youths rang a peal of 5088 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR in 3 hrs. 15 mins. D. W. Griggs, 1; J. Page, 2; E. F. Cole, 3; B. Foskett, 4; G. B. Lucas, 5; T. Titchener, 6; A. Jacob, 7; T. Scarlett, 8. Composed by Mr. Dains and conducted by Mr. Jacob. Tenor, 20 cwt. This composition has the 6th the extent at home in three parts, the 2nd never in 6th's place at the course-ends, and is now rung for the first time.

At SS. Peter and Paul's, Aston, near Birmingham.

ON Saturday, the 24th ult., ten members of the Holt Society rang a peal of 5055 STEDMAN CATERS in 3 hrs. 9 mins. T. Russam, 1; H. Bastable, 2; J. Buffery, 3; C. Stanbridge, 4; S. Reeves, 5; W. R. Small, 6; T. Reynolds, 7; B. Mitchell, 8; H. Johnson, jun. (100th peal), 9; W. Jackson, 10. Composed by Mr. Johnson, sen., and conducted by Mr. Buffery. Tenor, 24 cwt. The above composition contains the 5th and 6th each twenty-three courses behind the 9th.

At the Parish Church, Newchurch, Lancashire.

ON Saturday, the 24th ult., eight members of the Lancashire Association rang Holt's Ten-part peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 3 hrs. 9 mins. J. Curtiss, 1; T. Harrison, 2; H. H. Rutter, 3; J. Ashworth, 4; G. Lord, 5; J. E. Whittaker, 6; J. T. Stott (birthday), 7; W. Whittaker, 8. Tenor, 16 cwt.

At St. Mary's, Bedford.

ON Monday, the 26th ult., six members of the Bedfordshire Association of Change-ringers rang a peal of 5040 changes in 2 hrs. 45 mins., being 720 changes each of the following methods:—WOODBINE TREBLE BOB, OXFORD TREBLE BOB, KENT TREBLE BOB, PLAIN BOB, OXFORD BOB, GRANDSIRE MINOR, and DOUBLE COURT. W. Allen, 1; F. Smith, 2; F. Sharpe, 3; I. Hills, 4; S. J. Cullip, 5; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 6. Tenor, 7 cwt., in B.

At the Parish Church (St. Helen's), Ashby-de-la-Zouch, Leicestershire.

ON Thursday, the 29th ult., eight members of the Midland Counties' Association rang Holt's Original peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 58 mins. W. Liggins, 1; W. J. Smith, 2; J. H. Dunmore, 3; J. Hopkin, 4; W. Owen, 5; L. Bullock, 6; J. Jagger (conductor), 7; J. Curtis, 8. Tenor, 17½ cwt. The peal was rung in honour of the marriage of Mr. Walter Conner (captain of the Ashby-de-la-Zouch Parish Church Society of Change-ringers) to Miss M. A. Hill, of Packington, Leicestershire. Messrs. Bullock, Jagger, and Smith kindly came from Burton-on-Trent to assist the band.

At St. Peter's, Sharnbrook, Beds.

ON Saturday, the 1st inst., six members of the Bedfordshire Association of Change-ringers rang a peal of 5040 changes in 2 hrs. 45 mins.

720 changes each of the following methods:—WOODBINE TREBLE BOB, OXFORD TREBLE BOB, KENT TREBLE BOB, PLAIN BOB, OXFORD BOB, GRANDSIRE MINOR, and DOUBLE COURT. A. Barcock, 1; F. Smith, 2; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 3; E. Chapman, 4; I. Hills, 5; W. A. Hill, 6. Tenor, 12½ cwt., in G.

At St. Bartholomew's, Quorndon, Leicestershire.

ON Saturday, the 1st inst., eight members of the Midland Counties' Association rang a peal of 9120 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR in 5 hrs. 38 mins. A. Cresser, 1; C. Smith, 2; R. Lane, 3; J. Hardy, 4; J. Buttery, 5; W. T. Billingham, 6; A. Millis, 7; J. W. Taylor, jun. (conductor), 8. Composed by Mr. Lockwood. Tenor, 14 cwt. 2 qrs. 18 lbs.

At St. Paul's, Shadwell, London.

ON Monday, the 3rd inst., eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang a peal of 5184 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR in 3 hrs. G. J. Smith (first peal), 1; W. Cecil, 2; J. Pettit, 3; F. W. Rice (Worth, Sussex), 4; W. Burkin, 5; H. Springall, 6; W. Greenleaf, 7; R. T. Woodley, 8. Composed by Mr. Johnson, of Birmingham, and conducted by Mr. Pettit.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH, BRANDESTON, SUFFOLK.—On Saturday, the 10th ult., for practice, 720 WORCESTER SURPRISE, 720 ROCHESTER SURPRISE, and 120 LONDON SURPRISE, were rung on the occasion of the birthday of W. Crickmer. Also on Saturday, the 17th, 360 PLAIN BOB, 720 CHICHESTER SURPRISE, and 240 LONDON SURPRISE. S. Wightman, 1; A. S. Wightman, 2; W. G. Crickmer, 3; G. Wightman, 4; D. G. Wightman (conductor), 5; S. Wightman, sen., 6.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH, DALTON-IN-FURNESS.—On Sunday, the 11th ult., 720 GRANDSIRE MINOR, 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. MICHAEL'S, BUNWELL, NORFOLK.—On Wednesday, the 14th ult., for practice, 720 OXFORD TREBLE BOB. R. Hutton (conductor), 1; G. Smith, 2; J. Hilling, 3; A. Dunnitt, 4; G. Smith, jun., 5; J. Hinchley, 6.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH, CHURCH-KIRK, LANCASHIRE.—On Wednesday evening, the 14th ult., 720 PLAIN BOB MINOR (sixteen bobs and two singles), in 28½ mins. J. Horrocks (conductor), 1; A. E. Porter, 2; J. Bentley, 3; R. Grimes, 4; W. Pattison, 5; T. Horrocks, 6. Tenor, 15 cwt. Mr. Porter came from Ely, Cambridgeshire; and Mr. Grimes from Walpole, Norfolk.

AT ST. MARY'S, WOOLWICH, KENT.—On Thursday, the 15th ult., an attempt was made to ring Holt's Original peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, but it came to an end after ringing about 800 changes. The above was rung with the bells half muffled, as a last tribute of respect to the late Rev. Joseph Jordan, vicar of Holy Trinity, Woolwich. H. Bright, 1; G. Hogg, 2; E. E. Richards, 3; H. Harman, 4; W. Watchorn, 6; J. C. Harvey (conductor), 6; H. Harvey, 7; R. G. Carter, 8. And on Sunday, the 18th inst., in the evening, a quarter-peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 40 mins. H. Hill, 1; H. Bright, 2; H. Harman, 3; J. Beaven, 4; E. E. Richards (composer and conductor), 5; J. C. Harvey, 6; H. Harvey, 7; R. G. Carter, 8.

AT BRADFELD, OXFORD.—On Saturday evening, the 17th ult., six of the Beenham Company visited the above place (having previously obtained permission of the Rector), and, having raised the bells in peal, rang 720 DOUBLE OXFORD BOB MINOR, 720 SINGLE OXFORD BOB MINOR, and attempted 720 PLAIN BOB, which came to an end through a shift-course. G. Webb, 1; H. Hatto, 2; A. Richardson, 3; T. Bidmead, 4; J. Hatto, 5; J. Richardson (conductor), 6. Tenor, 15 cwt. The bells were then lowered in peal, and the ringers walked back to Beenham, thoroughly pleased with their visit to Bradfield.

AT ST. MARY'S, LICHFIELD.—On Saturday, the 17th ult., with the bells half muffled, on the occasion of the funeral of the late Ven. J. H. Iles, Archdeacon of Stafford, 600 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, in 23 mins. A. G. Gallimore, 1; H. Meacham, 2; E. Gallimore, 3; A. Greenwood, 4; J. Key, 5; F. J. Cope (conductor), 6; W. Fearneyhough, 7; H. Gallimore, 8. Tenor, 19½ cwt., in E. Mr. Gallimore's first attempt at 600 with a bob-bell.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH, BRAINTREE, ESSEX.—On Sunday evening, the 18th ult., 720 DOUBLE COURT BOB MINOR. T. Watson, 1; W. Moore, 2; F. L. Bumstead, 3; S. Sargent, 4; F. Rudkin (conductor), 5; S. Hammond, 6. And on Sunday evening, the 25th ult., 720 KENT TREBLE BOB MINOR. T. Watson, 1; S. Hammond, 2; W. Bearman, 3; F. L. Bumstead, 4; F. Rudkin, 5; H. E. Hammond (conductor), 6. Messrs. Bearman, Sargent, and Moore came from Bocking.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH, TAMWORTH, STAFFORDSHIRE.—On Sunday, the 18th ult., eight 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 and president of the above Society, a quarter-peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES (1260 changes), in 46 mins. J. Windridge, 1; J. Timms (conductor), 2; A. Everitt, 3; R. Brindley, 4; J. Wainwright, 5; C. Chapman, 6; G. Woods, 7; W. Chapman, 8. The above was taken from Holt's Original, and is the first quarter-peal for A. Everitt. Also on Sunday evening, the 2nd inst., for Divine service, 1008 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 36 mins. W. Chapman, 1; J. Timms (conductor), 2; A. Everitt, 3; R. Brindley, 4; J. Wainwright, 5; C. Chapman, 6; G. Woods, 7; H. J. Chatterton, 8.

AT ST. MARY'S, BALDOCK, HERTS.—Handbell Ringing.—On Tuesday, the 20th ult., on handbells, 518 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. G. Spicer, 1; E. Bray, 2; J. Morley, 3; J. Craft, 4; W. Bidnell (aged twelve), 5; A. Thurgood, 6; R. Jackson (conductor), 7; J. Butts, 8. Also on Wednesday, the 21st ult., 420 in the same method. G. Poulter, 1; G. Spicer, 2; G. Stanley, 3; conducted by G. Spicer, and first touch as conductor. All the above, with the exception of Messrs. Jackson and Spicer, are new members, having learned the method within the last seven weeks.

AT ST. GABRIEL'S, PIMLICO, LONDON.—On Sunday, the 25th ult., for Divine service, 1120 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR in 41 mins. W. Hovard, 1; G. T. McLaughlin, 2; E. Carter, 3; H. R. Newton, 4; F. G. Newman, 5; J. N. Oxborrow, 6; C. F. Winny, 7; J. M. Hayes (conductor), 8. Also, upon handbells retained in hand, 461 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. C. F. Winny (conductor), 1-2; H. R. Newton, 3-4; G. T. McLaughlin, 5-6; C. Creasy (Spalding), 7-8.

AT ST. BARNABAS', PIMLICO, LONDON.—After evening service, 395 GRANDSIRE CATERERS. C. Creasy (Spalding), 1; W. E. Garrard, 2; W. Coombe, 3; W. Lalley, 4; W. Carter, 5; J. M. Hayes, 6; H. Swain, 7; G. T. McLaughlin, 8; W. H. George, 9; W. Crossley, 10. Also 377 in the same method. C. F. Winny, 1; W. Lalley, 2; W. Coombe, 3; W. Hovard, 4; H. R. Newton, 5; J. M. Hayes, 6; H. Swain, 7; G. T. McLaughlin (conductor), 8. W. H. George, 9; G. Wilson, 10.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH, ELMORE, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.—On Monday, the 26th ult., for practice, 360 GRANDSIRE MINOR. W. Ward, 1; R. Ellis, 2; T. Harmer, 3; L. Longney (conductor), 4; R. Prosser, 5; H. Merrett, 6. First touch of Minor by all except the conductor. Also a six-score of GRANDSIRE DOUBLES. R. Prosser, 1; H. Merrett, 2; R. Ellis, 3; W. Ward, 4; T. Harmer, 5; L. Longney (conductor), 6. Tenor about 12½ cwt., in G. S. Longney came from Croome, Worcestershire.

AT ST. ANDREW'S, BOREHAM, ESSEX.—On St. Andrew's Day, the 30th ult. (Dedication Festival), the Boreham Company rang 2500 changes, viz.: PLAIN BOB MINOR, 360; NEW LONDON PLEASURE, 720; KENT TREBLE BOB, 720; OXFORD TREBLE BOB, 700. T. Richell, 1; T. Shonk, 2; J. Dowsett, 3; James Youngs, 4; H. Argent, 5; Joseph Youngs (conductor), 6. The Danbury ringers paid a visit to the belfry and rang touches of BOB MAJOR.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH, STOWMARKET.—Recently, 1800 STEDMAN TRIPLES. W. G. Garret, 1; W. E. Tydeman, 2; I. S. Alexander, 3; H. Howell, 4; C. Mee, 5; J. Motts (conductor), 6; W. Motts, 7; H. English, 8. This was an attempt for a peal, but owing to the fourth rope stranding, it was brought round.

RECEIVED ALSO.—John Rogers; and others.

HIGH WYCOMBE CHURCH BELLS.

(Continued from page 1310.)

UPON the east wall there is an old tablet with a gilt frame, which bears the following inscription:—

'All Saints, Wycombe, April 8th, 1792. On the evening of the eighth instant was rung in this Steeple, a compleat Peal of Grandsire Caters, consisting of Five Thousand and eleven Changes, by a Party of the Society of London College Youths, which they completed in three hours and forty two minutes, in that masterly style for which they were famous. Performers. Mr. John Povey, Treble. Mr. John Holdsworth, 2. Mr. James Lance, 3. Mr. Willm Wilson, 4. Mr. Richd Wilson, 5. Mr. James Wooster, 6. Mr. John Inville, 7. Mr. Edm^d Sylvester, 8. Mr. Dan Jenkins, 9. Mr. John Lyford, Tenor. The Peal call'd by Mr. John Povey.'

The Wycombe bells have sometimes been made to sing a political song. Thus, on May 17th, 1832, when the news reached the town that all opposition to the Reform Bill had been withdrawn, the bells were rung all day by way of congratulation to the Government of Lord Melbourne. On the following day, when the Archdeacon of Buckingham, the Ven. Justly Hill, held his visitation at Wycombe, the ringers refused to pay him the customary compliment, because the Bishop of Oxford had voted against the Reform Bill. Of late years they have rung out in welcome to the Queen and the Her Apparent upon more than one occasion on their passing through or visiting the town.

The Curfew Bell has been rung from time immemorial down to within about forty years ago. This eight o'clock bell was generally rung by the sexton, who was formerly provided with an official robe. During last century 1l. 5s. was paid to the ringer of the Curfew Bell, but this sum was increased in 1807 to 1l. 6s., in 1813 to 1l. 10s., and in 1821 to 2l.

Another interesting custom was also kept up in Wycombe—the ringing of an early morning-bell at 4 a.m. This was discontinued at the same time as the Curfew Bell. The ringing of the Pancake Bell, as it is now familiarly called, on Shrove Tuesday, has been continued to our own time. During the last century a large concourse of people used to assemble in the churchyard on that day to indulge in the cruel sport of cock-throwing, although the authorities tried every effort to put a stop to it, and in 1774 sent the crier round to denounce it.

The bells were occasionally used for purposes in no way connected with the church, as, for instance, on February 6th, 1672, when Henry Shepherd was discharged and ousted as a Burgess of High Wycombe, it was ordered—'That the Great Bell be rung out according to custom, in testimony of his misdemeanours, and for his disfranchisement.'

The Wycombes were very loyal with their bells, and the parochial accounts show that royal birthdays and coronation-days were regularly honoured with a peal; and from the same source of information we learn that the ringers did not forget 'to remember the fifth of November, Gunpowder, Treason, and Plot.' On the occasion of Nelson's victory over the French at the Battle of the Nile, in August 1798, the bells were rung for two days, amid great rejoicings.

There is a very active Society of Voluntary Church Ringers in Wycombe, with a membership-roll of nearly fifty. The peal is in very fair order, and the bells are of good weight and tone; the sixth, however, is somewhat badly cracked, but this defect, it is said, can be remedied by hooping the bell with an iron band.

something before passing on. I call them objections, not because they are entirely inconsistent with what has been said, but because they block the way for not a few among us.

The first takes the form of a general denial that the state of things is really so bad as has been stated. Fortified by Mr. Giffen's figures, and by kindred arguments, it is undoubtedly possible to make out a plausible case. But I do not think that it can really satisfy a true man's heart, though it may puzzle his head. Poverty is a fact, and a fact with which war must be waged. Whether it is or is not quite so bad as it was fifty years ago is a question important indeed, but one which does not press for an immediate answer. And when all is said on the optimist side, the facts of poverty remain, staring us all in the face, impossible to be denied or put aside. The sternest opponents of Socialistic legislation are constrained to admit this, no less than the Social Democratic Federation itself. Here, for example, is the verdict of a strong anti-Socialist.

'No thoughtful person of any class can be contented, or can avoid misgivings and apprehensions, when he reflects that every twentieth inhabitant is a pauper; that, according to poor-law reports, one-fifth of the community is insufficiently clad; that, according to medical reports to the Privy Council, the agricultural labourers, and large classes of working people in towns, are too poorly fed to save them from what are known as starvation diseases; that the great proportion of our population lead a life of monotonous and incessant toil, with no prospect in old age but penury and parochial support; and that one-third, if not indeed one-half, of the families of the country are huddled six in a room, in a way quite incompatible with the elementary claims of decency, health, or morality.—(JOHN RAE, *Contemporary Socialism*.)

It would be easy to multiply testimony of this sort. The *Lancet*, for example, has a series of deeply interesting, though painful, papers upon the condition of the industrious poor. The optimist cannot, for all his statistics, get rid of such facts as are here made plain. There they are, growing more and more complicated every day. How did they get there? How are we to get rid of them, fruitful causes of all manner of evil that they are?

It is impossible to shirk these questions. They haunt us like menacing ghosts, which must be laid if we would not suffer unknown and unimaginable horrors.

But what shall we say of the second objection, which is indeed somewhat out of date, but still has weight with those who are in thrall to the economists of the older school? Things are indeed very bad, they tell us, but that cannot be helped. It is the result of necessary laws, which tend in the end to cure the evils of society. The struggle for existence must crush out the weaker before the stronger. The ablest and the most pushing must come to the front, and for the others,—well, we are sorry for them, but *occupet extremum scabies*. Why should we attempt to preserve what nature has doomed to disappear, and so place obstacles in the way of natural progress? 'The hard principle is the most salutary in the end; that the weakest trades, or parts of a trade, must be crushed out in order to the recovery of the strongest party.' All we can do is to make their inevitable extinction as little painful as possible. Thus, somewhat crudely stated, run the arguments of the school of *laissez-faire*—a school which, though it has received its death-blow, is still alive and still powerful.

I will only say that I cannot conceive that any one who calls himself a Christian, or even a Theist, should accept such an apology for society as it is. For if those stern laws are indeed laws of nature then they are laws of God. Has our Father made such a world and such a race as that in which such laws rule? Is He the author of the horrors we see around us? An atheist or an agnostic might accept such a position, but I cannot understand how one who believes in a living Father, in a Redeemer, in a sanctifying Spirit, can persuade himself that poverty and its miseries are due to the operation of natural laws, and that the best we can do is to leave things alone to work themselves out.

I believe that the exact contrary is the truth. The present state of society is due to the breaking of Divine laws, not to their natural operation; it is the fruit, not of order, but of disorder; it is unnatural, not natural, and the outcome is a state of more or less suspended social war, and unsafe, unchristian, ungodly.

H. C. SHUTTLEWORTH.

Some useful books upon the question of poverty are the following. I do not, of course, commit myself to entire assent or approval:—*The Co-operative Commonwealth*, by Laurence Groulund (Swan Sonnenschein); *Christian Economics*, by the Rev. Wilfrid Richmond (Rivingtons); *The Historical Basis of Socialism in England*, by H. M. Hyndman (Kegan Paul & Co.); *A Text-book of Political Economy*, by the Rev. Professor Symes (Rivingtons); *Unto this Last*, by John Ruskin. Those who are not afraid of somewhat strong Socialistic meat might also consult the 'Tracts' published by the Fabian Society, to be had from Reeves, 185 Fleet Street, or the 'Anti-poverty' publications of the Guild of St. Matthew (5 Duke Street, Adelphi, W.C.).

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

The Sussex County Association.—District Meeting at Heene.

THE fifth and last district meeting for the present year was held at Heene, near Worthing, and was well attended. Representatives from the following branches were present:—Angmering, Arundel, Balcombe, Brighton, Goring, Heene, Lindfield, and Midhurst. The majority of the ringing was upon the light eight in the tower of St. Botolph, the parish church of Heene, by Warner and Sons. The belfry at West Tarring was also visited during the afternoon. Luncheon was provided at the schoolroom, and between thirty and forty members sat down under the presidency of the Vicar of Heene, the Rev. H. McLeod Beckles, who was supported by the Rev. R. F. Tompkins, vicar of Tortington, the Rev. T. Cowther, and Dr. George, of Midhurst. A business meeting was then held, but following so closely, within one week, of that at Alfriston, only one honorary (the Vicar of Heene) and five active members were proposed. Four towers were then proposed as suitable for holding the next Eight-bell District Meeting for West Sussex, and Bolney was selected by a large majority. It was then decided that the Angmering Six-bell District Meeting should be held on the last Saturday in February, 1889. Votes of thanks to the Vicar of Heene for the use of the church bells and schoolroom, also for presiding at the meeting and providing the special service (which was held in the church at four o'clock), were then carried. The Chairman, in response, said he should have great pleasure in allowing any branch of the Association to have the use of the Heene bells at any time they wished to ring a peal or meet for a practice. The performances consisted of touches of STEDMAN, GRANDSIRE, and BOB TRIPLES, TREBLE BOB MAJOR, KENT TREBLE BOB, and BOB MINOR.

The following is a list of the District Meetings as at present arranged for the early part of 1889:—January 26th, Seaford, East Sussex, eight-bell tower; February 23rd, Angmering, West Sussex, six-bell tower; March 23rd, Chailly, East Sussex, six-bell tower; April 23rd, Bolney, West Sussex, eight-bell tower; May (Annual Meeting), Brighton, Central, eight-bell tower.

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

Lancashire Association.—Manchester Branch.

A MEETING of the above Branch will be held at the Parish Church, Eccles, on Saturday, December 15th. Bells ready at three o'clock. A good attendance is requested.

JOHN EACHUS, *Secretary*.

North Notts Association.

ON Saturday, the 1st inst., a ringing meeting of the above Association was held at the Abbey Church, Worksop, when members were present from Everton, Retford, Shire Oaks, and Worksop. Ringing commenced at four p.m., and was kept up for several hours, the most creditable performance being 720 OXFORD TREBLE BOB, which were brought round in 25 mins. S. Tomlinson, 1; E. Russon, 2; J. Swindin, 3; W. Hargreaves (conductor), 4; G. Brown, 5; R. Beestin, 6. The next performance was 360 KENT TREBLE BOB MINOR. S. Tomlinson, 1; J. Swindin, 2; E. Russon, 3; W. Hargreaves (conductor), 4; G. Brown, 5; D. Russon, 6. And 360 VIOLET TREBLE BOB. S. Tomlinson, 1; J. Swindin, 2; G. Barrowcliff, 3; W. Hargreaves (conductor), 4; D. Russon, 5; R. Beestin, 6. Several other methods were tried by mixed bands. Messrs. Swindin and Brown came from Everton; Hargreaves, Tomlinson, and Russons (2), Shire Oaks; and Beestin and Barrowcliff, local company. At the business meeting after ringing, it was decided to hold the next Quarterly Meeting at Retford, on Saturday, March 2nd, 1889.

Worcester and Adjoining Districts Association.—Bromsgrove Branch.

NOTICE.—The members of this Branch of the above Association intend celebrating the 100th anniversary of the 12,000 of BOB MAJOR which was rung at Bromsgrove on December 29th, 1788, conducted by Charles Ravenscroft. Dinner will be provided at the 'Golden Cross' Hotel. Further particulars will appear shortly. Any member of the above Association wishing to attend will receive a hearty welcome. Tickets for dinner, 2s. 6d. each, can be had by applying to

WALTER REA, *Sec.*

Stourbridge Road.

The Society of Trinity Youths.

At a meeting of the above Society, held in the vestry-room of St. Alphege Church, Greenwich, on Tuesday evening, the 3rd inst., Mr. Edward E. Richards, of St. Mary's, Woolwich, was unanimously elected to the post of Treasurer, vacant by the resignation of the Rev. Herbert A. Cockey, M.A., who has been appointed to the Vicarage of Oldland, Bristol.

FREDERICK W. THORNTON, *Hon. Sec.*

106 King George Street, Greenwich, S.E., Dec. 5th, 1888.

The Surrey Association.

THE District Meeting arranged to be held at Newington is unavoidably abandoned, owing to illness in the near neighbourhood of the church.

ARTHUR B. CARPENTER, } *Hon. Secs.*
EDWARD F. STRANGE, }

Dec. 4th, 1888.

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

ON Saturday, the 1st inst., the following members of the Royal Society of Cumberland rang, in honour of the birthday of H.R.H. the Princess of Wales, a peal of 5039 GRANDSIRE CATERS in 3 hrs. 24 mins. J. Rogers (composer and conductor), 1; W. Lally, 2; W. Hoverd, 3; H. Swain, 4; W. L. Chamberlain, 5; A. Jacob, 6; A. E. Church, 7; G. Wild, 8; G. Newson, 9; Jos. Barry and J. Wheeler, 10. Tenor, 32 cwt., in D. The above

composition in sixty-two courses has sixty courses undisturbed from Tittum position, each bell twelve times behind the 9th, all the 9-7-8's, and is believed to contain the greatest properties of any peal of this number and method. It was rung by request of the churchwardens.

THE PEAL.

9th 2, S 4 5 3 2 6

S 2, B 4, S 5 5 2 3 4 6 S 1, B 5 These six courses nine times repeated, calling a bob at 4 instead of 5 in first course of sixth part, produce 4 2 5 6 3; from which round, as usual.

A Peal of Stedman Cinques.

5016.

2 3 1 4 5 6 7 8

2 6 1 4 8 3 7 5 1 8 13 21 22

2 6 3 5 8 1 7 4 19 20

3 6 2 1 8 5 7 4 6 19

3 6 5 2 8 1 7 4 19

5 6 3 1 8 2 7 4 6 19

5 6 2 3 8 1 7 4 19

2 6 1 3 8 5 7 4 6

1 6 2 5 8 3 7 4 6 19

1 6 3 2 8 5 7 4 19

1 6 5 4 8 3 7 2 19 20

1 6 3 5 8 4 7 2 19

1 6 4 3 8 5 7 2 19

4 6 1 5 8 3 7 2 6 19

4 6 3 1 8 5 7 2 19

4 6 5 3 8 1 7 2 19

5 6 4 1 8 3 7 2 6 19

The last seven courses three times repeated produce:—

2 6 5 4 8 1 7 3

2 3 1 4 5 6 7 8 5, 9, 11, 13, 14, 18, 19, 21

This peal has an 8-10-12 six in the middle of each course, and is the first composed on the plan.

Rung at St. Martin's, Birmingham, on Monday, November 19th, 1888, conducted by its composer.

A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD, *Duffield*.

The Bells of St. Saviour's, Eastbourne.

A CORRESPONDENT sends the weight of the eight bells, in the key of D, at the above church:—Treble, 7 cwt.; Second, 7 cwt. 2 qrs.; Third, 8 cwt. 2 cwt.; Fourth, 10 cwt.; Fifth, 12 cwt.; Sixth, 14 cwt. 1 qr.; Seventh, 19 cwt.; Tenor, 25 cwt. The treble, fifth, sixth, seventh, and tenor, were hung eleven years ago; the second, third, and fourth, were hung in 1886; east and hung by Messrs. Warner.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At Burton-on-Trent, Staffordshire.

On Tuesday, the 27th ult., four members of the Midland Counties' Association rang Holt's One-part peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, on hand-bells retained in hand, in 2 hrs. 25 mins. W. J. Smith, 1-2; J. Jaggar (conductor), 3-4; L. Bullock, 5-6; J. Austin, 7-8. Umpire, R. Logie. Tenor, 15 size, in C. This made the tenth attempt for this peal; in the other nine were rung the following changes:—1200, 1300, 3000, 3922, 1876, 1120, 1904, 1890, 2744.

At All Saints', Great Marlow, Bucks.

On Saturday, the 1st inst., eight members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild rang Holt's Ten-part peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 47 mins. J. C. Truss, sen., 1; H. Rogers (birthday), 2; J. W. Walker (conductor), 3; C. Smith,* 4; H. Collins,* 5; S. Quintin,* 6; E. Rogers, 7; J. Woodford, 8. Tenor, 15 cwt. Messrs. Truss, Collins, and Smith belong to Marlow; the others to Boyne Hill. [* First peal.]

At St. Mary's, Woodbridge, Suffolk.

On Saturday, the 1st inst., eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths and the Norwich Diocesan Association rang a peal of 5568 OXFORD TREBLE BOB MAJOR in 3 hrs. 44 mins. J. Motts, 1; W. Motts, 2; W. P. Garrett, 3; J. Fosdike, 4; W. Fosdike, 5; F. Mee, 6; R. H. Brundle, 7; P. Tillet, 8. Composed by Mr. T. Day and conducted by Mr. J. Motts. Tenor, 28 cwt., in D. This peal was rung on the occasion of the fixing of a peal-board for the first and only peal of STEDMAN TRIPLES on the bells, and is the first part of the 16,608 of the late Mr. T. Day's composition. Messrs. Fosdike and Ward are local men; the rest are members of the St. Mary-le-Tower Society, Ipswich.

At St. Mary's, Ecclesfield, Yorkshire.

On Saturday, the 1st inst., eight members of the Yorkshire Association rang a peal of 6144 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR in 3 hrs. 47 mins. Jos. Mulligan, 1; W. Turton, 2; S. Hemmingfield, 3; C. H. Hattersley (composer), 4; T. Turton, 5; F. Turton, 6; G. Shaw (conductor), 7; A. Brierley, 8. Tenor, 18 cwt.

At the Parish Church, West Bromwich, Staffordshire.

On Saturday, the 1st inst., eight members of the Society for the Archdeaconry of Stafford rang Taylor's Six-part peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 3 hrs. J. Cooper, 1; E. Cashmore, 2; G. Griffiths, 3; E. Woodhall, 4; S. Smith, 5; S. Slater, 6; W. A. Cooper (conductor), 7; J. Harford, 8. Tenor, 14 cwt.

At St. Paulinus', Crayford, Kent.

On Saturday, the 1st inst., eight members of the Kent County Association rang Holt's Original peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 46 mins. H. Peace, 1; W. J. Reeve, 2; F. G. Newman (conductor), 3; G. Conyard, 4; A. Moorcraft, 5; F. J. French, 6; R. French, 7; W. Saxby, 8. Tenor, 12½ cwt. Previous to starting, Messrs. Reeve and R. French were elected members of the above Association.

At St. Dunstan's, Stepney, London.

On Wednesday, the 5th inst., ten members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang Haley's peal of 5003 GRANDSIRE CATERS in 3 hrs. 20 mins. W. Tanner, 1; W. Cecil, 2; W. Greenleaf, 3; S. E. Joyce,* 4; York Green,* 5; R. J. Turner,* 6; H. Springall+ (conductor), 7; Emanuel Hall,* 8; S. Hayes, 9; T. Baker,* 10. Tenor, 31 cwt. [* First peal of CATERS. + First peal of GRANDSIRE CATERS.]

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

On Saturday, the 8th inst., eight members of St. Peter's Society, the Ancient Society of College Youths, and the Herts Association, rang a peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES (Holt's Original) in 2 hrs. 58 mins. H. Brewer,* 1; J. W. Brewer,* 2; E. Hull,* 3; J. C. Mitchell, 4; E. P. Debenham (conductor), 5; W. H. L. Buckingham, 6; T. Waller, 7; A. Hull, 8. Messrs. Brewer were elected members of the Ancient Society of College Youths previous to starting for the peal. [* First peal. + First on a bob bell.]

At ELHAM, KENT.—On Saturday evening, the 24th ult., 720 BOB MINOR were rung (14 singles and 4 bobs) in 27 mins. J. Prebble, 1; R. Andrews, 2; A. Beer, 3; C. Laker, 4; J. Andrews, 5; D. Tanton (conductor), 6. Also another 720 in the same method, with 18 bobs and 2 singles. G. Greenstreet, 1; J. Andrews, 2; R. Ansley, 3; H. Cheeseman, 4; A. Tanton, 5; T. Hooker (conductor), 6. Tenor, 16½ cwt.

At THE PARISH CHURCH, WHITSTONE, DEVON.—On Sunday, the 25th ult., after Divine service, with the bells half muffled, as a last token of respect to the late Earl of Devon, six six-scores of GRANDSIRE DOUBLES and some single call-changes. The bells were raised and ceased in peal, and the ringing was continuous. S. Pester, 1; H. Baxter, 2; W. Pester, 3; W. Sercombe, 4; G. Baxter, 5; M. Skinner, 6. Mr. Elson took a bell in the singles.

At THE PARISH CHURCH, HORSELL, SURREY.—On Monday, the 26th ult., a few members of the St. Nicholas' company visited the above place, and rang several 120's of GRANDSIRE DOUBLES. C. W. Miller, 1; W. Groves (conductor), 2; J. Heathorn, 3; F. W. J. Rees, 4; T. H. Colburn (first six-score on an inside bell), 5; W. Biles (Horsell), 6. Tenor, 11½ cwt.

At ALL SAINTS', CARSHALTON, SURREY.—On Tuesday, the 27th ult., the local company, assisted by Messrs. J. and A. J. Plowman, rang a half-peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, in 1 hr. 30 mins. T. Holder,* 1; A. J. Plowman,* 2; C. E. Buckingham,* 3; E. Matthews,* 4; J. Plowman (conductor), 5; J. Harding, 6; E. Hollands,* 7; W. Bromsgrove,* 8. [* First half-peal with a bob bell. + First half-peal.]

At ST. ALPHEGE, GREENWICH, KENT.—On Friday, the 30th ult., the usual funeral peal was rung, with the bells deeply muffled, as a mark of respect to the memory of William Davies, jun., one of the local band, who died on the 24th ult. H. W. Grout, 1; J. Lamb, 2; R. Shade, 3; W. Buckmaster, 4; S. Gibbs, 5; W. Foreman, 6; W. G. Davis, 7; F. W. Thornton, 8.

At ST. MARTIN'S, TIPTON, STAFFORDSHIRE.—On Saturday, the 1st inst., eight members of the Society of Change-ringers for the Archdeaconry of Stafford (with the bells half muffled as a token of respect to the late Ven. J. H. Iles, Archdeacon of Stafford and President of the above Society) attempted a peal of PLAIN BOB MAJOR, but it ended after ringing about 1700 changes; afterwards ringing the usual peal, consisting of the whole-pull and stand, also 1008 PLAIN BOB MAJOR. E. Goodrich, 1; W. Cheshire, 2; B. Gough, 3; H. Mills, 4; W. R. Small, 5; W. Micklewright, 6; G. Hughes (conductor), 7; L. Smith, 8. Messrs. Cheshire and Gough belong to Coseley; Smith, Netherton; and Micklewright, Dudley.

At ALL SAINTS', BRIGHINGTON, KENT.—On Saturday evening, the 1st inst., for practice, 720 GRANDSIRE MINOR. E. Golder (first 720), 1; G. Willshire, 2; T. B. Reed, 3; T. B. Reed, jun., 4; L. Willshire (conductor), 5; J. Bristow, 6. Also 120 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES. L. Willshire, 1; G. Willshire, 2; T. B. Reed, 3; T. B. Reed, sen., 4; J. Bristow, 5; W. Enden (first 120), 6. And 120 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, with H. Wilson, tenor, the others standing as before.

At THE PARISH CHURCH, WANDSWORTH, SURREY.—On Saturday, the 1st inst., the Fulham band rang a quarter-peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES (1260 changes) in 44 mins. C. E. Kelley, 1; J. G. Green, 2; F. W. Kelley, 3; J. Nicholls, jun., 4; F. Davey, 5; J. W. Kelley (conductor), 6; W. E. Garrard, 7; S. How, 8. The above members take this opportunity of thanking the Vicar of Wandsworth for the use of the steeple, and the Clerk and Steeple-keeper for their courtesy.

At THE PARISH CHURCH, WOLLASTON.—On Saturday, the 1st inst., 720 CANTERBURY PLEASURE. F. Molineux, 1; T. Barber, 2; H. Morris, 3; J. Smith, 4; W. Short (conductor), 5; J. Barber, 6. Also 720 GRANDSIRE MINOR. F. Wright, 1; T. Barber, 2; H. Morris, 3; J. Smith, 4; J. Barber, 5; W. Short (conductor), 6. Messrs. Short and Barber came from Clent. the others from Hagley.

At THE PARISH CHURCH, DONCASTER.—On Sunday morning, the 2nd inst., for Divine service, a date touch of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES (1888 changes) in 1 hr. 15 mins. H. Fevre, 1; W. Newsom, 2; H. Brock, 3; G. Marwood, 4; T. Fevre, 5; J. White, 6; J. Leach, 7; W. Howard, 8. Tenor, 30 cwt.

At ST. SIDWELL'S, EXETER.—On Sunday evening, the 2nd inst., for Divine service, 2226 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, taken from Holt's Original, in 2 hrs. 23 mins. T. Mudge, 1; C. Carter, 2; F. Shepherd, 3; S. Binfield, 4; W. Stocker, 5; E. Shepherd (conductor), 6; J. Moss, 7; J. T. Lake, 8.

At SS. MARY AND CUTHBERT, CHESTER-LE-STREET, DURHAM.—On Tuesday evening, the 4th inst., for practice, 720 CANTERBURY PLEASURE in 2 hrs. A. Thompson, 1; G. Curry, 2; W. Brown, 3; T. Walker, 4; W. Searles, 5; J. Swinburne (conductor), 6. Tenor, 20 cwt.

number of cases could be cited in which lay-preaching has been licensed by the Diocesan. And recently Lord Wolseley gave an address in Rochester Cathedral. At Melbourne the Bishop gave Mr. Clarke a license to officiate as a layman; and, doubtless, if our Primate had by this time returned from the Lambeth Conference, he would have done the like.'

BISHOP STROSSMAYER AND CHURCH POLITICS.

(From a Correspondent.)

I FEAR Bishop Strossmayer's line is dictated by politics mainly. He has always posed as the leader of the Croatian Home Rulers against Hungary. Though he has allowed the Vatican decrees to be published in his diocese, I do not think that he has ever made a formal retraction of his opposition to them. His heart's supreme wish is to get up a South Slavonic nationality, uniting tribes at present under one or other of the Austro-Hungarian sceptres with those within the several Balkan States. These millions, one in race, and speaking dialects only superficially different, are ecclesiastically of threefold division, for the most part. There are the Latins proper, or Roman Catholics. There are the independent Eastern Orthodox, whose chief is the so-called Patriarch at Carlovitz, descended from the Serbian Patriarchs of the Middle Ages, and claiming to inherit the prerogative of 'Justiniana prima,' that Patriarchal creation of Justinian's. There are also the various Uniats, as others call them, but who are viewed by Rome as Eastern 'Catholics' in contrast with Eastern 'Schismatics,' bodies which are the result of compact rather than submission, always complaining of Rome's attempts to Latinise them more, and of her having already largely done so. Strossmayer seeks to bring over the second into the third class of religionists, and thus complete a union corresponding in spirituals with that of the nationality in temporals. But as he cannot expect to win the independent Easterns so long as the Uniats are thus dissatisfied, he wants the Papacy to quiet these by adopting towards them a different attitude. He also encourages the Latins proper to ask for vernacular worship.

The recent concession of the vernacular made by Leo XIII. to his adherents in little Montenegro has stimulated even the Bohemians, so long wholly Latin, to desire the like privilege, and has filled all the Uniats with hope that if they make enough noise they, too, will get their way, and efface all Roman encroachments from their Rites. But the Uniats have always been more uneasy since the Bull *Reversurus* in 1863, and the Vatican Council made things worse. Indeed, I should not be surprised any day to hear of some of them making an open breach with Rome, and Strossmayer himself might eventually, if he had to choose, prefer to exchange communion with the Slav-Latin minority for reunion with the independent majority, with its far-reaching political advantages. I take great interest in the Uniats generally, having had opportunities of personal intercourse with them, and thus learnt their feelings; they may at almost any moment assume a new importance for all Christendom. In 1869 I not only conversed with many members of the Antonine Order of the Uniat Armenians in Rome, but I also visited the Uniat Slavonians in Austro-Hungary. Those at Trieste described themselves to me as the 'Illyrian Church,' and their congregations in Istria may really be fragments of that ancient national body. Their ordinary daily vespers—including, I think, matins by anticipation, as is the habit of the Greek Orthodox—I found highly impressive; their church at Trieste is one of the finest in the city. Whatever Rome has gradually filched from the Eastern Uniats, they retain much of the liberty which with obstinate inconsistency she refuses in the West. Hence there is nothing materially to differentiate them from the Old Catholics save their—highly nominal—acceptance of the Vatican decrees. Their retention of priests' marriage makes one marvel the more at Dollinger having lately expressed to Canon Liddon his regret that the Old Catholics in Germany, as in Switzerland, have redevoted this liberty, though he is none the less hearty in the movement.

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 Honolulu.' Half Bot. per post, 2s. 6d., or 1 Bot. 3s. 6d. Descriptive book (95 pp.) on application to Messrs. Hicks and Co., Plymouth.—[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.]

SPEARMAN'S SERGES.—The best in the world.—Pure Indigo Dye, Royal Navy Blue, Woaded Black. Also in 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.—[Adv.]

TORACCONISTS COMMENCING.—Write to-day for Illustrated Guide how to open a Shop respectably from £20 to £1000 (post free). TORACCONISTS' OUTFITTING CO., Brambles' buildings, 11 Beech Street, London, E.C. HENRY MYERS, Manager.—[Adv.]

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

East Derbyshire Association.

THIS Association held its quarterly meeting at Heath, near Chesterfield, on Saturday, the 1st inst., when the Rev. Canon Cottingham gave a short address on 'Bells and Bell-ringers,' which was warmly responded to by the ringers present. After the meeting, thirty-eight members being present, vote of thanks was given to the chairman, the Rev. J. B. Nodder, of Ashover and the Rev. C. Sanderson, of Heath, after which a few peals of BOB DOUBLES and several peals of GRANDSIRE DOUBLES were rung.

The Royal Cumberland Society.

ON Thursday, the 6th inst., ten members of the above Society met, invitation of Mr. Chapman, at the 'Roebuck,' Hampstead, to celebrate the completion of a tablet recording the peal of CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE rung at St. Anne's Church, Highgate, on 26th June, 1888. This tablet is of marble in the shape of a bell, and has been ably executed by Mr. G. Hannington, of Highgate, from a drawing kindly supplied by Messrs. Warner & Sons, of the Crescent Foundry, Cripplegate. The tablet has not been fixed yet, as it is not quite decided whether it shall be placed in the belfry or in the vestibule. After supper, the rest of the evening was spent in harmony, in which Messrs. Chapman, Foskett, Newson, and the Hannington brothers took part; the above gentlemen also obliging with several tunes and touches upon the hand bells. Great regret was expressed that Mr. J. Barrett had to leave early on account of the serious illness of his wife.

Lancashire Association of Six-bell Ringers.

A QUARTERLY meeting of this Association was held at St. James's, Leyland, by the kind permission of the Vicar, on Saturday, the 8th inst. Members were present from Blackrod, Chorley, Eccleston; St. Andrew's, Leyland, and St. James's, Leyland. Several peals of BOB MINOR and touches in other methods were rung at intervals during the afternoon and evening. The meeting was held at five o'clock in the schoolroom, and was presided over by Mr. John Milner, of St. James's, Leyland. After the minutes of the last meeting had been read and confirmed, and other business gone through, it was arranged that the next quarterly meeting should be held at St. Mark's, Preston. Votes of thanks to the chairman for presiding, and to the Vicar for the use of the bells and schoolroom, brought a pleasant evening to a close.

JAMES HIGSON.

57 Chorley Road, Blackrod.

St. Sidwell's and St. David's Societies, Exeter.

ON Saturday, the 29th inst., a ringing meeting of the above Societies will be held at Exeter. The towers of St. David's and St. Sidwell's will be open for ringing at two p.m. At seven p.m. a dinner will be provided at the 'Rougemont Hotel.' Tickets 2s. 6d. each. All friends are heartily welcome.

B. MUNDY, A. W. SEARLE, Hon. Secs.

48 Sandford Street, Exeter, December 11, 1888.

St. Martin's Society, Birmingham.

THE annual quarterly meeting of this Society will be held at the Tower on Tuesday, January 1st, 1889.

A. THOMAS, Secretary.

The Holt Society, Aston-juxta-Birmingham.

THE usual quarterly meeting of this Society will be held at the Tower on Thursday, January 3rd, 1889.

W. H. GODDEN, Secretary.

St. Martin's Guild for Birmingham, Aston, and the Surrounding District.

THE first general meeting of this Guild will be held at St. Martin's Mission Rooms, Baswick Street, Edmund Street, Birmingham, on Tuesday evening, January 8th, 1889, at eight o'clock, when all the present members of the St. Martin's and Holt Societies are earnestly requested to attend.

W. H. GODDEN, Secretary pro tem.

Notice of a Long Peal.

A BAND of the Oxford Diocesan Guild will, if all is well, attempt a long peal of STEDMAN CATERERS at Appleton, on Monday, December 24th.

Lancashire Association of Change-ringers.—Proposed Liverpool Branch.

THE idea has long existed in the minds of ringers in this part of Lancashire, that a branch of the County Association should be established in the district. At last, under the impulse given to it by the action of one of the local clergy, the scheme has been definitely started, and is receiving warm support. A meeting will be held to arrange necessary details and establish the branch on Saturday, the 22nd inst., at 5.30 p.m., in the Cocoa Rooms, St. Luke's Place, Bold Street, Liverpool. All Change-ringers in the district are cordially invited to attend. It is especially hoped that every belfry in the diocese will send one representative at least to express the opinions of his band, and to give support to the proposals submitted to the meeting.

JOHN R. PRITCHARD, Local Secretary pro tem.

40 Lowther Street, Liverpool.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At St. Andrew's, Hagbourne, Berks.

ON Friday, the 30th ult., eight members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild rang Holt's Original peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 36 mins. J. Pether, 1; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 2; F. Napper, 3; D. Napper, 4; E. Napper, 5; W. Napper, 6; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 7; A. Woodley, 8. Tenor, 23½ cwt.

At St. Lawrence's, Appleton, Berks.

ON Friday, the 7th inst., eight members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild rang a peal of 5024 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR in 2 hrs. 58 mins. H. Woodward, 1; W. Bennett, 2; B. Barrett, 3; G. Holifield, 4; J. Avery, 5; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 6; F. White, 7; J. W. Washbrook (composer and conductor), 8. Tenor, 14½ cwt.

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

ON Saturday, the 8th inst., eight members of the St. Martin's Society (Birmingham) rang Holt's Ten-part peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 55 mins. H. Bastable (conductor), 1; W. H. Godden (first peal with a bob-bell), 2; W. Kent, 3; C. Stanbridge, 4; T. Reynolds, 5; B. Witchell, 6; H. Johnson, jun., 7; Jos. Johnson, 8. Tenor, 13½ cwt.

At All Saints', Fulham, London.

ON Saturday, the 8th inst., eight members of the Midland Counties' Association and the St. Paul's Society (Burton-on-Trent) rang a peal of 5088 LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR in 3 hrs. 19 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 Mr. N. J. Pitstow and conducted by Mr. W. Wakley. The above is the first peal of LONDON SURPRISE rung in London, and is also the first in this intricate method achieved by any band on bells other than those on which they were accustomed to practice.

At All Saints', Carshalton, Surrey.

ON Monday, the 10th inst., eight members of the Surrey Association rang Holt's Original peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 50 mins. J. Hartley, 1; J. Branch, 2; G. Welling, 3; J. W. Trappitt, 4; Dr. A. B. Carpenter (conductor), 5; J. Harding, 6; C. Bence, 7; H. Brooks, 8. Tenor, 12½ cwt.

At Christ Church, Southport, Lancashire.

ON Tuesday, the 11th inst., eight members of the Lancashire Association rang a peal of 5008 BOB MAJOR in 2 hrs. 57 mins. L. Whitmore, 1; Jos. Rimmer, 2; J. Rimmer, 3; B. Tungate, 4; J. W. Rimmer, 5; L. Tyldesley, 6; W. Baldwin, 7; D. E. Rimmer, 8. Composed by Mr. W. Harrison and conducted by Mr. D. E. Rimmer. Tenor, 10 cwt. [* First peal.]

At Loughborough, Leicestershire.

ON Friday, the 14th inst., the Midland Counties' Association rang a peal of 5003 GRANDSIRE CATERERS in 3 hrs. 16 mins. R. Lane, 1; J. Ward, 2; C. Smith, 3; A. Cresser, 4; J. C. Dickens, 5; F. A. Underwood, 6; E. Cartwright, 7; W. Birkinshaw, 8; J. W. Taylor, jun. (conductor), 9; E. Wightman, 10. Composed by Mr. J. Carter. Tenor 28 cwt., in D.

At the Schoolroom, Spicer Street, St. Albans.

ON Friday, the 14th inst., four members of the Ancient Society of College Youths, the Herts and Essex Associations, rang, on handbells retained in hand, Holt's Original peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 17 mins. G. W. Cartmel, 1-2; W. H. L. Buckingham, 3-4; J. C. Mitchell (conductor), 5-6; R. M. Pratt (first peal on handbells), 7-8. Umpire, Mr. T. Long.

At St. Andrew's, Derby.

ON Saturday, the 15th inst., eight members of the Midland Counties' Association and the St. Andrew's Society rang Shipway's six-part peal of 5040 OXFORD BOB TRIPLES in 3 hrs. 1 min. W. Shardlow, 1; T. Alton, 2; A. E. Thompson, 3; J. W. Thompson, 4; G. Mottashaw, 5; H. C. Woodwood (conductor), 6; C. E. Hart, 7; T. Allbutt, 8. Tenor, 20½ cwt., in E flat. This peal, which is from the Shipway reprint, was rung on the occasion of Mr. Shardlow's fifty-eighth birthday, the ringers wishing him many happy returns. It is the first peal in the method on the bells, and also by the above Association.

At St. Giles'-in-the-Fields, London.

ON Saturday, the 15th inst., eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths and the Hertford County Association rang Thurstans' peal of 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 49 mins. C. F. Winny, 1; J. C. Mitchell (conductor), 2; E. P. Debenham, 3; R. M. Pratt (first peal in the method), 4; G. W. Cartmel, 5; W. H. L. Buckingham, 6; J. W. Driver, 7; W. E. Gaddard, 8. Tenor, 18 cwt.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH, KIDDERMINSTER.—ON Sunday, the 2nd inst., for Divine service, 1008 BOB MAJOR. J. Bennett, 1; T. Bennett, 2; G. Salter, 3; J. Bennett, 4; W. H. Smith, 5; J. T. Salter, 6; R. E. Grove (conductor), 7; J. Crane, 8.

AT THE OFFICE OF THE 'HERTS STANDARD,' ST. ALBANS, HERTS.—ON Monday, the 3rd inst., on handbells retained in hand, 720 BOB MINOR (non-conducted). J. C. Mitchell, 1-2; W. H. L. Buckingham, 3-4; G. W. Cartmel, 5-6.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH, SAFFRON WALDEN, ESSEX.—ON Tuesday, the 4th inst., the following members of the Saffron Walden Company of Ringers, with Messrs. Sillitoe and Campin, of the Sudbury Company, rang a quarter-peal of STEDMAN TRIPLES (1260 changes) in 45 mins.—J. Freeman, 1; N. J. Gibston, 2; J. Campin, 3; C. Sillitoe, 4; G. Martin, 5; E. Gibston, 6; F. Gibston, 7; A. Coe, 8. Conducted by Mr. Pilston. Also a musical touch of 408 STEDMAN TRIPLES, conducted by Mr. C. Sillitoe. Tenor, 24 cwt., in D.

AT ST. GREGORY'S, SUDBURY, SUFFOLK.—ON Sunday, the 9th inst., the bells were rung, deeply muffled, as a mark of respect to Mr. A. Dupont, who was for many years, in former days, a change-ringer. Touches of BOB MAJOR were rung, and a half-muffled touch of KENT TREBLE BOB was rung afterwards, this being the deceased's favourite method. The above was rung by kind permission of the Rector.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Reform in Church Music.

SIR,—After your kindness and courtesy in inserting my previous letter upon this subject I am very reluctant to intrude again; but as Mr. Griffith has evidently misunderstood me, and, to a certain extent, misrepresented me (unintentionally I am sure), I beg leave to ask you to grant me space for one more letter, which I promise shall be the last whether any criticisms may hereafter be poured upon my head or not.

Mr. Griffith is hardly fair when he speaks of me as having used 'arguments against proper, well-regulated congregational singing.' I certainly did not say a word against such singing. It is the very thing for which I am contending. All my arguments were directed against 'bad, unintelligent, and undevotional singing,' and one would have thought that the few examples which I gave, and which were not so far-fetched as he imagines, would have sufficiently indicated the direction in which I wish to see a reform. I gather, however, from his letter that he has no objection to such singing (?), as he would 'under no consideration' offend hearty vocalists by requesting them to be silent, notwithstanding that they may be, as I pointed out, a disturbing element and hindrance to the devotion of those who desire to worship more reverently. If Mr. Griffith's idea of public worship, and his musical taste find their realisation in such performances as I, without any exaggeration, described, it is of course useless to discuss the question further so far as he is concerned. One can only say, *De gustibus non est disputandum*. It is, moreover, a gratuitous assumption on his part that I and those who think with me are content to be mere listeners. He has entirely missed my point, which was that a few unintelligent persons may destroy the worship of the many, and thus compel those who would otherwise sing properly to be listeners only; and although he hints that my being disturbed arises from failure on my part to sing heartily, I can only repeat that singing was rendered impossible by the mere dint of lung power and false harmonies employed by the individual to whom I referred. The only way in which one could have sung in his company would have been (given sufficient strength of voice) to have 'drowned' his shouts by shouting more loudly still; but this is not the way in which to sing at church, nor would I, for one, ever try to sing a fellow worshipper down. Mr. Griffith has, therefore, quite mistaken the spirit of my remarks as to listening, which were simply intended to show that a person who cannot sing correctly may equally participate in the Church worship if he listens devoutly to those who can, he meanwhile joining with them in his heart.

But I find, with reference to this expression 'hearty singing,' that it is frequently synonymous with 'noise.' I contend that singing in a subdued tone, with appropriate expression, so as not to annoy one's neighbours, is more reverent than shouting. Then Mr. Griffith quietly ignores my quotation from the Prayer-book about the 'humble voice' (which necessarily does not refer to the general confession only) and quotes a verse from the same book, italicising the word 'mouth.' This reminds me of a passage in Bishop Oxenden's *Fervent Prayer*, where, under the head of 'mistakes,' he tells of an old lady who asked him whether it was necessary for her to pray loudly, a neighbour having assured that it was essential. Let me quote from the little book in question, 'Our earnestness in prayer does not depend upon the loudness with which we make our requests. We shall not be "heard for our much speaking." It is not the vehemence of our cries which will awaken God's attention, but the fervour of our hearts.' Apply this to praise instead of prayer, and you have the kernel of the whole matter. It will not do to be too literal, either with the Bible or the Prayer-book. 'The letter killeth.'

One more point in Mr. Griffith's letter I must notice. He entirely disapproves of my suggestion as to regulating bad singing, yet he advocates antiphonal singing, the performance to be divided between the choir and the congregation. This is amusingly inconsistent. He blames me for wishing to deprive bad singers and those ignorant of harmony of some portions of the services unsuitable to them; and, in the same breath, suggests a practice, which would deprive good and bad singers alike of just half of their legitimate share in the services. We all understand the reasons for antiphonal singing in choirs, but as applied to congregations it would often introduce some incongruities. How odd it would seem, for instance, to commence in one verse some expression of adoration or a fervent aspiration, and leave off in the middle of it, leaving others to finish it in the next verse. This suggestion, coming from such a source, is, as I have said, amusingly illogical, and would be 'regulation' with a vengeance.

I am too great a lover of good congregational singing to wish to deprive any one who can sing of his due share in the act of praise. There is, to my mind, no sound so thrilling as that of a vast multitude singing with heart and soul the praises of God. Nothing, perhaps, has such a grand effect upon the deepest emotions of which we are cognisant as to hear, say on Easter Day, thousands of voices singing in swelling strains the triumphant song—

'Now above the sky He's King. Alleluia!'

but to hear such solemn words as—

'Have we no tears to shed for Him,
While soldiers scoff, and men deride?

Ah! look how patiently He hangs,
Jesus, our Lord, is crucified.'

or,

'See, from His head, His hands, His feet,
Sorrow and love flow mingled down!

Did e'er such love and sorrow meet,
Or thorns compose so rich a crown?

sung, as I have heard them sung, with the same vociferation as we hear during a Salvation Army procession, or to hear such dreadful words as—

'The ungodly, filled with guilty fears,
Behold His wrath prevailing,' &c.

BELLS AND BELLRINGING.

Reopening of the Bells at Kimpton, Herts.

THERE was a holiday on Thursday, the 6th inst., at the above village, this being the day fixed for the reopening, by the Bishop of St. Albans, of the tower and bells of the parish church, after a thorough restoration. It is about thirty years since this fine ring of bells were rung, owing to the dilapidated state of the tower; but through the energy and perseverance of the Rev. L. Stevens, the Vicar, once more the village is enlivened with the melody of the bells. The Rev. L. Stevens has spared nothing to make everything as perfect as possible in the belfry, and it was a great treat for the parishioners to listen to some good ringing, before and after the service, under the conductorship of C. Robinson, of Whitwell (who has been engaged by Mr. Stevens to instruct the men of Kimpton). Both the Bishop of St. Albans and the Archdeacon of St. Albans referred to the rapid strides that were made in bell-ringing. The Archdeacon said the time had passed when round-ringing was considered an art, and now change-ringing required both great thought and tact, and he wished the Kimpton company every success. The ringers were:—C. Robinson (conductor), 1; J. Chapman, 2; J. Dennis, 3; A. Sleet, 4; W. Wells, 5; C. Gilbert, 6. In the second touch, W. Ball rang the fourth. Messrs. Chapman, Dennis, and Gilbert, belong to the Knebworth Guild; Robinson, Ball, Sleet and Wells, to St. Paul's, Walden.

A New Clock at Elstow, near Bedford.

THIS place, so well known as the birthplace of Bunyan, has just had its church restored, under the care of Mr. T. J. Jackson, architect, and a very handsome clock has been erected by John Smith & Sons, Derby. The clock is fitted with all the latest improvements, all the wheels are of the best gun-metal, with their teeth cut from the solid, so as to be perfectly accurate and smooth. The main frame is arranged so that any separate part may be removed without interfering with the remainder, and steel wire ropes carry the weights. Messrs. Smith & Sons guarantee the clock to go with very great accuracy, and so form a standard of timekeeping for the place. The clocks of Wootton and Goldington, near Elstow, were also made by the same firm.

Notice of Long Peals.

THE peal of STEDMAN CATERS proposed for the 24th inst. was postponed, through the wish of the Rector of Appleton, till after the New Year.

TWELVE members of the Yorkshire Association will attempt 10,196 of STEDMAN CINQUES at the Parish Church, Sheffield, on Monday, the 31st inst., to commence at 10.30.

Mr. Thomas Bamford.

WE regret to announce the death of Mr. Bamford, who had been a ringer of the Rochdale Parish Church Society for over sixty years, which event took place on Sunday, November 11th, at the advanced age of eighty-four years. The deceased was interred at the Rochdale Cemetery on Wednesday, November 14th, and was borne to the grave by four of his ringing friends. The funeral ceremony was performed by the Rev. C. S. Rowland, one of the curates of the church, after which a course of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES was rung at the grave-side. The bells of the parish church were deeply muffled, when touches of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES and MAJOR were rung by mixed companies from Rochdale, Heywood, and Todmorden. Deceased rang regularly for the Sunday services within two months of his death, and was in possession of all his faculties up to the last. He took part in many peals of 5000, and notably one to celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of his first peal, when he was seventy-eight years of age. On his eightieth birthday he rang another 5000, and for Divine service on his eighty-second birthday he rang the first half of Reeves's Ten-part peal (2520 changes). Deceased was a member of the Ancient Society of College Youths, and took part in a peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in London.

Lancashire Association.—Manchester Branch.

A RINGING meeting of the above Branch was held at the Parish Church, Eccles, on Saturday, the 15th inst. Ringers attended from Radcliffe, Whitefield, Manchester, Swinton, Worsley, Walkden, and Bolton. Various methods were rung during the evening. Afterwards all adjourned to the meeting-house, Mr. James Barrett being appointed chairman. The proposed formation of a new branch of the Association at Liverpool was brought before the meeting by Mr. Joel Redford, the secretary, and was heartily approved by the members present. Three new members were proposed, and it was decided to hold the next meeting at Whitefield, on Saturday, January 12th, 1889, ringing to begin at four o'clock.

Worcestershire Change-ringing Association and the St. Andrew's Society, Netherton.—Birthday Peal.

ON Saturday, the 15th inst., at the Parish Church, 5040 changes in seven different methods were rung on six bells in 3 hrs. 6 mins., being 720 each of the following:—OXFORD TREBLE BOB, KENT TREBLE BOB, COURT BOB, COLLEGE SINGLE, BOB MINOR, CANTERBURY PLEASURE, and GRANDSIRE MINOR. W. Presidge first peal, also the first 720 of OXFORD and KENT TREBLE BOB. 1; J. Presidge, 2; J. Townsend, 3; R. Round (first peal), 4; W. Micklewright (conductor), 5; J. Smith, 6. Tenor, 12½ cwt. The above was rung to commemorate the thirty-fourth birthday of the conductor, his brother ringers wishing him many happy returns of the day. It is the first peal by all in seven different methods, and the first by members of the Association, and the first on the bells.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At the Parish Church, Glossop, Derbyshire.

ON Tuesday, the 11th inst., eight members of the United Counties' Association rang a peal of 5088 OXFORD TREBLE BOB MAJOR in 3 hrs. 11 mins. S. Harrop, 1; W. Harrop, 2; J. Sidebottom, 3; H. Cooper, 4; J. Malony, 5; C. Brooke, 6; M. Williamson, 7; S. Knott, jun., 8. Composed by Mr. Sottanstill and conducted by Mr. Knott. Tenor, 15 cwt. Messrs. Sidebottom and Williamson belong to Mottram.

At Christ Church, West Bromwich.

ON Thursday, the 13th inst., the following members of the Society for the Archdeaconry of Stafford succeeded in ringing, for the first time on the bells, Holt's Original peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 59 mins. E. Woodhall, 1; J. R. Frisby, 2; S. Reeves (conductor), 3; T. Horton, 4; C. Price, 5; R. Cartwright (Womborne), 6; C. Trinks, 7; J. Hall, 8. The peal was rung with the bells half muffled as a last token of respect to the late Isaiah Reeves, who died on Tuesday, November 27th, at the age of eighty-one years, and who had been beadle of the above church for upwards of twenty-five years.

At St. Giles', Ashstead, Surrey.

ON Saturday, the 15th inst., eight members of the Surrey Association rang Johnson's Twelve-part peal of 5040 OXFORD BOB TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 57 mins. R. E. Pearson, 1; W. States, 2; W. J. Chambers (first peal in the method), 3; Dr. A. B. Carpenter (conductor), 4; H. Brooker, 5; A. Bruce, 6; T. Verrall, 7; G. Burt, 8. Tenor, 14 cwt., in F. [*First peal.]

At the Parish Church, Crawley, Sussex.

ON Saturday, the 15th inst., eight members of the Sussex County Association rang Parker's Four-part peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 59 mins. W. Ward (first peal), 1; F. Wickens (conductor), 2; Jos. Newham, 3; G. Wickens, 4; E. Dewey, 5; B. King, 6; F. W. Rice, 7; W. Collison, 8. Tenor, 13½ cwt.

At the Parish Church, Harborne, Staffordshire.

ON Saturday, the 15th inst., eight members of the Birmingham Amalgamated Society rang Brooke's Variation of Thurstans' peal of 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 48 mins. J. Jones, 1; R. Hackley, 2; W. Brooke, 3; C. Carmell, 4; J. Carter (conductor), 5; J. T. Perry, 6; A. Hackley, 7; J. Hollier, 8. Tenor, 12 cwt.

At St. Clement Danes, Strand, London.

ON Monday, the 17th inst., ten members of the St. James's Society rang a peal of 5039 GRANDSIRE CATERS in 3 hrs. 18 mins. W. J. Moore, 1; A. E. Church, 2; W. Weatherstone, 3; J. W. Mansfield, 4; H. Langdon, 5; W. E. Garrad, 6; F. G. Newman, 7; G. C. Hammond (first peal of CATERS), 8; R. French, 9; J. Barry, 10. Composed by Mr. J. Rogers and conducted by Mr. French. Tenor, 24 cwt., in D.

At the Parish Church, Warnham, Sussex.

ON Monday, the 17th inst., eight members of the Sussex County Association rang a peal of 5040 CANTERBURY PLEASURE MAJOR in 2 hrs. 52 mins. G. Woodman, 1; W. Charman, 2; T. Andrews, 3; G. Charman, 4; W. Short, 5; H. Cook, 6; H. Burstow, 7; H. H. Chandler (composer and conductor), 8. The first peal of CANTERBURY PLEASURE MAJOR ever rung; the conductor's fiftieth peal, thirty-two of which he has conducted.

At St. Edward's, Romford, Essex.

ON Saturday evening, the 22nd inst., eight members of the Essex Association rang Holt's Five-part peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 53 mins. W. Pegrum, 1; J. Gobbett, 2; B. Keeble, 3; W. Nash, 4; M. L. Myhill, 5; A. J. Perkins (conductor), 6; E. Barnett, 7; L. James, 8. Tenor, 17 cwt. This is the quickest peal rung on these bells.

AT ST. NICHOLAS', BRISTOL.—On Monday, the 5th ult., a quarter-peal of GRANDSIRE CATERS (1272 changes). G. Colston, 1; W. Tyler, 2; E. Duckham, 4; G. Daltry, 5; C. Trevett, 6; W. Parsons, 7; F. Price, 8; J. Hinton (conductor), 9; W. Colston and J. Richmond, 10. At St. Mary-le-Port, 720 GRANDSIRE MINOR. H. Pring, 1; G. Colston, 2; W. Emery, 3; C. Trevett, 4; S. Phillips, 5; F. Price (conductor), 6. First 720 by H. Pring. And at St. Stephen's, on Tuesday, the 11th inst., 360 BOB MINOR. H. Pring, 1; C. Colston, 2; C. Trevett, 3; F. Ellis, 4; E. Duckham, 5; S. Phillips (conductor), 6. And a few courses of TREBLE BOB MINOR. First attempt by H. Pring.

AT ST. GABRIEL'S, PIMLICO, LONDON.—On Sunday, the 25th ult., for evening service, a quarter-peal of DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, in 46 mins. W. Hovard, 1; G. T. McLaughlin, 2; E. Carter, 3; H. Newton, 4; F. G. Newman, 5; J. N. Oxborrow, 6; C. F. Winney, 7; J. M. Hayes (conductor), 8. Tenor, 16½ cwt.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH, COLN ST. ALDWYN'S, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.—On Monday evening, the 3rd inst., for practice, 720 OXFORD TREBLE BOB MINOR. C. Bate, 1; R. Jefferies, 2; J. Kitchener (conductor), 3; H. Griffin, 4; T. Witchell, 5; T. Smith, 6.

AT CHRIST CHURCH, BACUP, LANCASHIRE.—On Tuesday, the 4th inst., a date touch (1888 changes) in 1 hr. 10 mins., in the following methods:—600 PLAIN BOB, 600 COLLEGE SINGLE, and 688 OXFORD SINGLE. W. Ormerod, 1; J. Hardman, 2; A. A. Downing, 3; A. Chew, 4; A. White, 5; W. Smith (conductor), 6. The above was rung with the bells deeply muffled, as a last tribute of respect to the late Vicar, the Rev. John McCubbin, who for thirty-four years had been at the above church, and was also an honorary member of the above Association.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

The Opening of St. Mary's Tower, Rawtenstall, Lancashire.

LATELY the formal opening of the new tower, clock, and bells, in connexion with St. Mary's Church, Rawtenstall, took place. The Bishop of Manchester preached the Dedicatorial Sermon from St. Mary's pulpit to an exceedingly large audience, and was listened to with profound attention. The following clergymen were present:—Revs. Canon Champneys, vicar of Haslingden and rural dean; J. G. Haworth, vicar of Tunstead; A. Spencer, vicar of Goodshaw; E. Holliday, vicar of Cloughfold; I. Downham, vicar of Baxenden; C. Wesson, vicar of St. James's, Waterfoot; A. Smith and T. F. Jones, curates, Stacksteads; J. Gardner, curate of Goodshaw; R. W. Hay, Newchurch Grammar School, and curate of Haslingden; and J. M. Mather, J. Norris, J. Dodd, and J. Given, Rawtenstall.

The Bishop said they had met to dedicate the tower and bells to that house of prayer. He supposed the principle upon which they had proceeded in their work had been this, that so far as they were able to secure it, every one of their gifts to God should be perfect of its kind. So thoroughly did the builders of the Middle Ages recognise this principle that they made not only every stone perfect that was exposed to view, but also those inside. The eye of man might not rest upon them, but the eye of God would; and so far as their efforts could prevent it, they were determined there should be no defect in their gifts. He believed they at that place had carried out that principle, and he congratulated them on their work; and might God grant His blessing on their works of faith and labours of love. His Lordship then preached an impressive sermon.

The bells were opened by the Newchurch ringers with 504 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES before and after the service. And on Sunday, for evening service, the same company rang another 504. After evening service 720 BOB MINOR. T. Harrison, 1; T. N. Pickup, 2; J. B. Taylor, 3; J. Pickup, 4; J. Smith, 5; J. Kershaw, 6. Tenor 14 cwt. The bells are by Messrs. Mears & Stainbank, the clock by Messrs. J. Smith & Sons; and they give every satisfaction.

The Visit of the Benington Ringers to Widford, Essex.

It may be interesting to the Exercise to know that this ring of bells (tenor, 12 cwt., in G) has recently been augmented from six to eight. Besides two new trebles, the back six have been thoroughly overhauled, the second and sixth are placed in a new oak frame above the others, the whole having new sally-rollers and iron guides for the ropes, with chiming apparatus complete. The work has been carried out in a most satisfactory manner by Mr. John Gray, of Hertford, through the munificence of A. Pryor, Esq.

On Wednesday, December 19th, by the kind invitation of the donor of the new bells, there journeyed to Widford L. Proctor, Esq., and the Benington ringers, accompanied by Mr. H. Baker and Mr. J. Gray of Hertford, where they arrived about eleven a.m. The bells were raised in peal, and afterwards touches of STEEDMAN, DOUBLE NORWICH, SUPERLATIVE, CAMBRIDGE, and LONDON SURPRISE, were brought round during the day, amounting to upwards of 4000 changes. At two o'clock the party sat down to an excellent repast provided at the 'Sir Evelyn Wood,' afterwards returning to the tower, where ringing was kept up until four p.m. The visitors, having expressed themselves greatly pleased with the 'go' of the bells, then made their way to Chelmsford, and rang a short touch of STEEDMAN TRIPLES and 416 DOUBLE NORWICH at St. Mary's, afterwards catching the 6.30 train for Hertfordshire. The Benington ringers included S. Page, John Kitchener, Joseph Kitchener, L. Chapman, Jabez Warner, Nathan Warner, C. Shambrook, and W. Hobbs.

The Raveningham Church Bells, Norfolk.

THE bells in this parish were reopened on Saturday, the 22nd ult., after having been entirely rehung upon a new stout English oak frame. Two new bells have also been added to complete the ring. Saturday was the day fixed or the opening, and the following places were represented:—Eye, Beccles, Loddon, Norton, Thurlton, &c. Through the liberality of N. W. Bacon, Esq., J.P., of Raveningham Hall, a substantial dinner was provided, to which about twenty sat down. The chair was taken by Mr. J. Mendham, agent to N. W. Bacon, Esq., and the vice-chair by Mr. George Day, Eye. The bells formerly consisted of three, which are from the Norwich foundry, 1676 and 1617, bearing the city shield, and have now, through the generosity of N. W. Bacon, Esq., been augmented into a ring of five by the addition of two new bells, and are considered by all who have heard them to be a musical peal. The two new bells were cast by Messrs. J. Warner & Sons, of London.

The Lancashire Association of Change-ringers.—Liverpool Diocesan Branch.

A most successful and harmonious gathering of ringers took place at the Cocoa Rooms, St. Luke's Place, Bold Street, Liverpool, on Saturday, the 22nd ult., when about thirty ringers attended, representing Aughton, Blackburn, Hindley, Huyton, Liverpool, Ormskirk, Prescott, Sefton, Southport, Upholland, and Wigan. The Rev. D. Jones, of Aughton, presided. The following propositions were unanimously agreed to:—1. That it is desirable to form a Branch of the Lancashire Association for Liverpool and district. 2. That it be called the Liverpool Diocesan Branch. 3. That monthly meetings be held alternately at eight and six-bell towers. 4. That the various superintendents of towers (being members) form the provisional committee for the selection of meeting-places. 5. That Mr. John R. Pritchard, Liverpool, be appointed Local Secretary. Mr. J. Martin, churchwarden, of Sefton, in a few well-chosen words, wished the branch every success, and became an honorary member. A vote of thanks to the Churchwardens of St. Luke's for kindly placing the bells at the disposal of the meeting, and to the Rev. D. Jones for

the energy he displayed in getting the meeting together and presiding, brought the proceedings to a close. Forty new performing members and two honorary members, including the Chairman, were elected. After the meeting, touches were rung on the handbells and on the bells of St. Luke's Church.

JOHN R. PRITCHARD, Local Sec.
40 Lowther Street, Liverpool.

Lancashire Association of Change-ringers.

THE Quarterly Meeting will be held on Saturday, the 12th inst., at Christ Church, Southport. Ringing from two p.m.; meeting in the schools at six. This meeting is arranged specially at Southport with the object of furthering the recently formed Liverpool Diocesan Branch, and it is hoped that all the ringers in the diocese will avail themselves of the opportunity, as the resolutions passed at the meeting held in Liverpool will be brought before this meeting for confirmation.

JOEL REDFORD, } Hon.
A. E. WREARNS, } Secs.

The Lancashire Association.—Rochdale Branch.

THE next meeting of the above branch will be held at the church of St. Mary, Balderstone, Rochdale, on Saturday, January 12th, 1889. Bells ready at three o'clock.

F. BIRTWISTLE, Sec.

The Chester Diocesan Guild.—Macclesfield Branch.

THE fourth Quarterly Meeting of the above branch will be held at Prestbury, on Saturday, January 12th, 1889. Bells ready at two o'clock; tea at five, in a building adjoining the Vicarage, and the usual business meeting immediately after. All ringing friends will be welcome.

Gurnett, near Macclesfield.

W. WALMSLEY, Local 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 14th. Tea at the 'Leopold' Coffee Tavern at six p.m., followed by the usual business meeting, at which subscriptions for the ensuing year will be payable.

December 25th.

ARTHUR B. CARPENTER, Hon. Sec.

St. Martin's Guild for Birmingham, Aston, and the Surrounding Districts.

THE first General Meeting of this Guild will be held at St. Martin's Mission Rooms, Barwick Street, Edmund Street, Birmingham, on Tuesday evening, January 8th, 1889, at eight o'clock, when all the present members of the St. Martin's and Holt Societies are earnestly requested to attend.

W. H. GODDEN, Sec. pro tem.

Society of Change-ringers for the Archdeaconry of Stafford.

THE next Quarterly Meeting of this Society will be held at the Parish Church, West Bromwich, on Saturday, January 12th. Members assemble at the tower at 2.30 p.m.

J. R. KEBLE, Hon. Sec.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At the Parish Church, Mitcham, Surrey.

ON Wednesday, the 19th ult., eight members of the Surrey Association rang Reeves's Variation of Holt's peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 53 mins. S. Greenwood (conductor), 1; J. Drewitt, 2; E. Burtenshaw, 3; C. E. Malim, 4; G. Foster, 5; G. Fell, 6; Jos. Fayers, 7; H. Pates, 8.

At All Saints', Glossop, Derbyshire.

ON Thursday, the 20th ult., eight members of the United Counties' Association rang Harrison's peal of 5184 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR in 3 hrs. 10 mins. S. Harrop, 1; J. Harrop, 2; J. Sidebotham (conductor), 3; J. B. Hibbert, 4; J. Maloney, 5; C. Gray (first peal), 6; G. Braddock, 7; J. Pye, jun., 8. Tenor, 15 cwt.

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

ON Thursday, the 20th ult., eight members of the Midland Counties' Association and the St. Paul's Society rang a peal of 5088 LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR in 3 hrs. 30 mins. H. Wakley, 1; J. Austin, 2; A. Wakley, 3; Jos. Griffin, 4; E. I. Stone, 5; A. P. Heywood, Esq., 6; T. Holmes, 7; W. Wakley, 8. Composed by Mr. N. J. Pitstow, and conducted by Mr. W. Wakley. Tenor, 26 cwt.

At St. Edward's, Romford, Essex.

ON Saturday, the 22nd ult., eight members of the Essex Association rang Hollis's Five-part peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 53 mins. W. Pegrum, 1; J. Gobbett, 2; B. Keeble, 3; W. Nash, 4; M. L. Myhill, 5; A. J. Perkins (conductor), 6; E. Barnett, 7; S. James, 8. Tenor, 17½ cwt.

At the Parish Church, Dewsbury, Yorkshire.

ON Saturday, the 22nd ult., eight members of the Ashton-under-Lyne and Stalybridge Societies rang a peal of 5056 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR in 3 hrs. 7 mins. J. Lawton, 1; H. Shaw, 2; W. Fawcett, 3; E. Schofield, 4; B. Broadbent, 5; G. Longden, 6; S. Wood (composer and conductor), 7; J. Thorp, 8. The first four came from Stalybridge, the last four from Ashton. The band wish to thank the Vicar and Churchwardens for the use of the bells, and the local societies for their kind reception.

At St. Peter's, Brighton.

ON Monday, the 24th ult., eight members of the Sussex County Association rang Brooke's Variation of Thurstan's peal of 5040 STEEDMAN TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 51 mins. G. F. Attree, 1; A. A. Fuller, 2; J. Jay, 3; H. Weston, 4; F. L. Davies (London), 5; J. Reilly, 6; J. Searle (conductor), 7; H. Cornwall, 8. Tenor, 10 cwt.

RECEIVED ALSO.—G. T. McLaughlin; G. W. Cartmel; and others,

that time comes I feel assured that I may depend upon your prayers and ready assistance in all works which tend to the glory of God and the advancement of His Kingdom. May God, dear brethren, ever have you in His holy keeping.'

WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

ST. GEORGE'S CATHEDRAL, Perth, W.A., was consecrated on the morning of the 15th November last by the Right Rev. Bishop Parry.

AUSTRALIA.

WE hear that Melbourne Cathedral will be dedicated in March next. The building will then, except a central tower, be completed. It is in the Early English style, and will have cost 160,000l. The site upon which it is built is in one of the best positions in the city, and is now of almost fabulous value. Originally granted by the Government when the land was of only nominal value, its worth has in the past few years increased by leaps and bounds. We believe that the Dean and Chapter a few months ago refused an offer for the land of 800,000l., a tempting proposal to an unwedded branch of the Church, which would have left them free to remove all the building material.

SOUTH AFRICA.

THE Bishop of Cape Town will, it is expected, shortly return to his diocese. We hear that he has made considerable progress towards what we hope will be a complete restoration to health. Although physically totally unfit to do so, he has lately been making great efforts to raise funds for his diocese, especially for the purpose of making up the deficiency in the stipends of his clergy.

The Bishop of Zululand, on his way back to his diocese, held a Confirmation for the Bishop of Cape Town at the Old Somerset Hospital, Cape Town. The candidates were aged and mostly too infirm to go up to the Bishop, they were therefore arranged in a circle. There were twenty-three altogether.

BURMAH.

THE difficulties of the missionaries in Southern Toungoo, as we learn from the *Mission Field*, have been increased by the springing up of a new religion, which combines some of the more popular of the ancient superstitious customs of the Karens with some of the teachings of Buddha and Christ. The founder of this religion, who is an influential Karen timber merchant, has built himself a place in imitation of a monastery to which crowds of Karens flock to enrol themselves among his disciples. The initiatory rite consists of taking a morsel of rice from his hands, and paying him 30 Rs. in the case of a man, 20 Rs. for a woman, and 15 Rs. for a child. The new disciples are pledged to abstinence from strong drink, and to keep the Christian Sabbath, when services are held in imitation of the Christians. It is thought, notwithstanding that adherents to this new phase of religious life number already some thousands, that it has not in it the elements of stability. We earnestly hope that this optimist view is the correct one, although when we remember the long life of similar errors, the thorns in the flesh which they have proved themselves to be, and the fanatical tenacity with which they have been held by their believers, we cannot help fearing that this new religion may possess, if only from the very few particles of truth which have been set in it, an unexpected vitality.

WEST AFRICA.

EFFORTS are being made to raise an endowment fund for the maintenance of a resident bishop for the Rio Pongas Mission. This mission is undertaken by the West Indian Church Association for the furtherance of the Gospel in Western Africa, and has for the last twenty-five years been carried on entirely by a staff of West Indian and African native clergy. The Bishop of Sierra Leone has exercised such episcopal supervision over the mission as the circumstances have allowed, and will continue to do so until a permanent resident bishop is appointed. It appears quite certain that a bishop on the spot will exercise great influence in developing the work of the mission, which at present is mainly on the coast, further inland. As the climate is very inimical to Europeans, the work has been for many years carried on by missionaries of African descent only, who were trained at Codrington College, Barbados.

Even on those who have not accepted the Gospel the influence of this mission has been very great. The Rio Pongo was formerly one of the chief strongholds of a foreign slave trade which the mission materially aided in destroying. Domestic slavery has also been greatly mitigated. There is, too, a marked improvement in the life, dress, and houses of the people, as well as in their methods of cultivation. Since the mission began its work—thirty-two years ago—hundreds of Susus have been admitted by baptism into the Church, and each of the four churches has attached to it an earnest band of communicants.

ERRATUM.—In last week's number, on page 121, seventeenth line from top of second column—for 1155 dollars—read 11.55 dollars.

TOBACCONISTS COMMENCING.—Write to-day for Illustrated Guide how to open a Shop respectably from £20 to £1000 (post free). TOBACCONISTS' OUTFITTING CO., Braimes' Buildings, 11 Beech Street, London, E.C. HENRY MYERS, Manager.—[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 Mills, Manchester. Please write at once to above address and mention this paper.—[Advt.]

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

The Annual Supper at Old Hill, Staffordshire.

THE Holy Trinity ringers had their Annual Supper on Wednesday, the 26th ult., at which the Vicar, the Rev. E. Brewer, was present. In the course of a response to a hearty welcome, Mr. Brewer proposed the health of the Rev. C. W. Bassano, who has just been ordained, and is leaving the band for a curacy at Cheltenham. Mr. Bassano returned thanks, commenting on the pleasure he had had in learning and achieving successes with the band from the commencement, and hoped to see glowing accounts of their progress.

The report for the year showed that twenty-one 720s had been done in the following methods:—GRANDSIRE, BOB, KENT TREBLE BOB, CANTERBURY PLEASURE, COLLEGE SINGLE, COURT BOB, OXFORD BOB, WOODBINE, DOUBLE COURT, DOUBLE OXFORD, and ASSOCIATION EXERCISE; and a peal of BOB MAJOR (5376), and of KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR (5024). Members of the band have taken part in three peals of GRANDSIRE CATERS and one of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. Touches have been rung of DOUBLE NORWICH and DUFFIELD in addition to the more common methods.

On Christmas Eve the band rang at midnight a quarter-peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES (1260 changes) in 44 mins. The bells were rung half muffled on New-year's Eve before twelve o'clock, and a touch of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES afterwards.

Sudbury, Suffolk.—Ringers' Supper.

ON Tuesday evening, the 1st inst., the members of the Sudbury Company of Change-ringers assembled at the 'Anchor' Hotel, and partook of supper, provided for them through the liberality of Miss Kershaw, who takes a great interest in the ringers and their doings. During the evening several songs were sung by members, and touches in different methods were rung on the handbells, Mr. W. B. Ransom taking part in the latter performance.

On Saturday, the 30th ult., the following members of the Sudbury Company of Change-ringers met at St. Gregory's Church and rang a quarter-peal of STEDMAN TRIPLES (1260 changes) in 50 mins. W. Howell, 1; W. Griggs, 2; W. B. Ransom, Esq., 3; M. Silvester, 4; H. Harper, 5; A. Scott, 6; C. Sillitoe (conductor), 7; J. Campin, 8. On Christmas Eve the bells of St. Peter's Church were rung as usual at 11.45, and a well-struck touch of BOB MAJOR (576 changes) was rung by F. Tolliday, 1; M. Silvester, 2; W. Griggs, 3; W. Cross, 4; W. Howell, 5; A. Scott, 6; C. Sillitoe, 7; H. Harper, 8. On Christmas Day, SS. Peter's and Gregory's bells were rung during the day (the bells of All Saints' unfortunately not being in a fit state for change-ringing, a state of things which it is hoped the authorities will soon remedy), touches of STEDMAN and GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, TREBLE BOB, and BOB MAJOR, being rung by the company. The usual custom of ringing the 'Old Year out and the New Year in' was observed at St. Peter's, where a well-struck touch of 720 changes of BOB MAJOR was rung by the following:—F. Tolliday, 1; J. Campin, 2; W. Griggs, 3; W. Cross, 4; W. Howell, 5; A. Scott, 6; C. Sillitoe (conductor), 7; H. Harper, 8.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At St. Martin's, Birmingham

ON Monday, the 24th ult., twelve members of the Holt Society rang a peal of 5003 STEDMAN CINQUES in 3 hrs. 35 mins. T. Russam, 1; W. E. Smith, 2; A. J. Jones, 3; B. Witchall, 4; H. Bastable, 5; C. Stanbridge, 6; T. Reynolds, 7; J. Buffery, 8; W. Kent, 9; J. James, 10; H. Johnson, jun., 11; W. Jackson (first peal on twelve bells), 12. Composed by Mr. H. Johnson, sen., and conducted by Mr. Bastable. Tenor, 36 cwt., in C. The first peal of CINQUES by the Holt Society.

At Merton College, Oxford.

ON Monday, the 24th ult., nine members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild rang Thurstan's peal of 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES in 3 hrs. 19 mins. W. Finch, 1; J. Howes, 2; F. Castle, 3; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 4; C. Hounslow, 5; T. Payne, 6; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 7; A. Strange and A. Barney, 8. Tenor, 36 cwt.

At the Parish Church, Stowmarket, Suffolk.

ON Wednesday, the 26th ult., eight members of the Norwich Diocesan Association rang Brooke's Variation of Thurstan's peal of 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES in 3 hrs. 5 mins. W. P. Garrett, 1; A. E. Durrant, * 2; I. S. Alexander, 3; W. Bedwell, * 4; W. L. Catchpole, 5; J. Motts (conductor), 6; W. Motts, 7; H. English, 8. Tenor, 24 cwt. The first peal of STEDMAN on the bells. [* First peal in the method.]

At the Parish Church, Hampton, Middlesex.

ON Boxing Day, the 26th ult., eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang Holt's Original peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 43 mins. J. Nicholls, 1; H. R. Newton, 2; G. T. McLaughlin (conductor), 3; H. Langdon, 4; J. M. Hayes, 5; W. T. Cockerill, 6; R. T. Woodley, 7; W. E. Garrard, 8. Tenor, 13 cwt. The ringers wish through *Church Bells* to thank the Vicar for the use of the bells, and for his kind offer to place a tablet in the porch to record the peal; and to Mr. W. Benn, the steeple-keeper, for having everything in readiness.

At St. Michael's, Herne Hill, Kent.

ON Wednesday, the 26th ult., eight members of the Kent County Association rang Sottanastall's Ten-part peal of 5040 BOB TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 57 mins. E. E. Foreman, * 1; H. F. Foreman, * 2; G. A. Ransom, * 3; Rev. F. J. O. Helmore, 4; F. T. Harris, * 5; W. W. Boulden (first peal with a bob bell), 6; H. G. Fairbrass (conductor), 7; A. Allen, * 8. The Rev. F. J. O. Helmore, H. G.

Fairbrass, and A. Allen came from Canterbury; W. W. Boulden, G. A. Ransom, and F. T. Harris, Boughton, Blean; and the Brothers Foreman belong to the local company. The ringers desire to express their best thanks to the Vicar for the use of the tower and bells. [* First peal.]

At St. Sidwell's, Exeter.

On Thursday, the 27th ult., eight members of the Devonshire Guild and the St. Sidwell's Society rang Holt's Original peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 55 mins. T. Mudge (first peal), 1; W. Stocker, 2; Dr. A. B. Carpenter (conductor), 3; S. Binfield, 4; F. Shepherd, 5; E. Shepherd, 6; J. Moss, 7; T. Lake, 8. Tenor, 24 cwt., in D.

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

On Friday, the 28th ult., four members of the Ancient Society of College Youths and the Herts and Essex Associations rang on handbells retained in hand Holt's Original peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 18 mins. H. Lewis, 1-2; W. H. L. Buckingham, 3-4; G. W. Cartmel (conductor), 5-6; R. M. Pratt, 7-8. Umpire, Mr. T. Long.

At St. Anne's, Brookfield, Highgate.

On Saturday, the 29th ult., eight members of the Society of Royal Cumberlands rang a peal of 5010 BOB MAJOR in 3 hrs. 4 mins. Jos. Woods (first peal), 1; G. Newson, 2; W. L. Chamberlain (first peal of MAJOR), 3; A. Jacob, 4; T. Titchener, 5; B. Foskett (first peal in the method), 6; J. Woods, 7; J. Hannington, 8. Composed by Mr. J. Reeves and conducted by Mr. Newson. The Messrs. Woods came from Kenninghall.

At St. Martin's, Salisbury.

On Saturday, the 29th ult., eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths and the Salisbury Diocesan Guild rang a peal of 5120 BOB MAJOR in 3 hrs. 10 mins. A. W. Barkus, 1; S. Lawrence, 2; W. S. Wise, 3; C. A. Clements, 4; T. Blackburn, 5; A. P. Goddard, 6; H. A. Adams, 7; W. W. Gifford, 8. Composed by Mr. A. Knight, of Chesterfield, and conducted by Mr. Gifford. Tenor, 15 cwt.

At St. Lawrence's, Appleton, Berks.

On Monday, the 31st ult., ten members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild, the Appleton Society, and the Ancient Society of College Youths, rang a peal of 15,041 STEEDMAN CATERERS in 9 hrs. 16 mins. F. White, 1; C. Hounslow, 2; H. Baker, 3; W. Bennett, 4; G. Holfield, 5; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 6; J. Avery, 7; J. W. Washbrook (composer and conductor), 8; Rev. G. F. Coleridge, 9; S. White, 10. Tenor, 14½ cwt., in E. This is the greatest number of STEEDMAN CATERERS yet rung on ten bells.

At St. Mary's, Chelmsford, Essex.

On New-year's Day, the 1st inst., ten members of the Essex Association rang Cox's peal of 5021 GRANDSIRE CATERERS in 3 hrs. 14 mins. C. T. Hopkins, 1; F. G. Newman (conductor), 2; H. F. De Lisle, Esq., 3; A. Edwards, 4; W. Lincoln, 5; W. Bedwell, 6; F. W. Thornton, 7; Rev. T. L. Papillon, 8; Rev. H. A. Cockey, 9; J. Parmenter, 10. Tenor, 22 cwt. Mr. Thornton was elected a member of the Essex Association before starting for the peal.

At HOLY TRINITY, HULL.—On Tuesday, the 4th ult., a date touch of BOB MAJOR (1888 changes) in 1 hr. 12 mins. R. Chaffer, 1; W. T. Verity, 2; J. F. Mallaby, 3; H. Jenkins, 4; T. Stockdale, 5; J. Dixey, 6; W. Southwick, 7; C. Jackson (composer and conductor), 8. In this touch the sixth is at home at every course-end.

At ST. MARTIN'S, SALISBURY.—On Wednesday, the 5th ult., 1260 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. W. E. Ramshaw (longest touch), 1; H. D. Adams, 2; A. P. Goddard, 3; A. W. Barkus, 4; W. S. Wise (conductor), 5; C. A. Clements, 6; W. W. Gifford, 7; W. M. Lush, 8. And 720 KENT TREBLE BOB MINOR. A. W. Barkus, 1; W. S. Wise, 2; H. D. Adams, 3; A. P. Goddard, 4; C. A. Clements, 5; W. W. Gifford (conductor), 6.

At ST. PETER'S, FAREHAM, HANTS.—On Thursday, the 6th ult., 720 GRANDSIRE MINOR. H. Carter, 1; C. Privett, 2; D. J. Jeffery (first 720), 3; F. Hill, 4; G. Grafham, 5; J. W. Whiting (conductor), 6. And on Thursday, the 13th inst., 504 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. G. Grafham, 1; J. Staples, 2; D. J. Jeffery, 3; C. Privett, 4; G. Instrel, 5; F. Staples, 6; W. J. Whiting (conductor), 7; W. Irish, 8.

At THE PARISH CHURCH, SITTINGBOURNE, KENT.—On Friday, the 7th ult., for practice, 504 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. J. Mann, 1; C. Bourguin, 2; C. Willshire, 3; Rev. E. W. Carpenter, 4; B. J. Bottle, 5; J. G. Elliott, 6; S. Snelling (conductor), 7; J. Wilson, 8.

At THE PARISH CHURCH, BRANDSTON, NORFOLK.—On Saturday, the 8th ult., an attempt was made to ring a surprise peal, but after ringing 720 each of LONDON, ROCHESTER, CHICHESTER, WORCESTER, and 120 of SUPERLATIVE, in 1 hr. 45 mins., the second rope broke. S. Wightman, 1; A. S. Wightman, 2; W. G. Crickmer, 3; G. Wightman, 4; D. G. Wightman (conductor), 5; S. Wightman, sen., 6.

At ST. BRANDON'S, BRANCEPETH.—On Saturday, the 8th ult., 720 BOB MINOR and 720 CANTERBURY PLEASURE. C. Bradford, 1; W. H. Craggs, 2; W. G. Newton, 3; J. E. Avery, 4; W. Prince, 5; L. Newton (conductor), 6.

At ST. PAUL'S, WALKDEN, LANCASHIRE.—On Sunday, the 9th ult., 720 GRANDSIRE MINOR was rung before Divine service in the morning in 24 mins. W. Denner (conductor), 1; Jos. Potter (first peal in the method), 2; Jas. Potter, 3; J. Werthington, 4; A. Potter, 5; J. Brookes, 6. The peal contained 32 bobs and 28 singles. Also on Sunday evening, the 23rd ult., 720 BOB MINOR (21 bobs and 12 singles) were rung in 23 mins. J. Brookes, 1; J. Werthington, 2; Jos. Potter, 3; J. Ridyard (Worsley), 4; Jas. Potter (composer and conductor), 5; A. Potter, 6. Tenor, 13½ cwt.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The Athanasian Creed.

SIR,—I beg to submit the following considerations. This venerable Creed dates from the fifth century; its use in England from the year 800. The heresies condemned are not extinct. All heresy is, and ever has been, and will be, opposed to the Catholic or Christian faith, which is necessary to the salvation, not of heathens, but of ourselves, according to the plain declaration of our Lord and His Apostles. Why should members of the English Church in our generation scruple to confess it publicly? By the law of this Church and realm ministers and people are solemnly bound to say this Creed on certain principal days. Why is not objection raised to the *ipsissima verba* of Christ Himself being repeated aloud by the clergy in reading and preaching the Word of God? What statement is there in the Creed which cannot be proved by Holy Writ? It is the office of the clergy to explain and prove it all. This is the only Creed that contains the doctrine of 'everlasting punishment' or 'the resurrection of damnation.' Why should not we openly acknowledge this, as well as that of 'life everlasting,' when both are taught by Christ with equal plainness?

As for the objection of 'anathematising our neighbours,' it is the same mistaken argument as that so constantly brought against the Communion, which is simply a recital of God's own threatenings. Wickedness and infidelity are rampant among us; why should not we in the Church acknowledge our belief in what the Scripture says about the consequences?

Moreover, this Creed is translated into various languages and used, with the rest of the Prayer-book, among the converts abroad; and there is good reason why it should be. The late Bishop Cotton, in his Charge of 1863, dwelt on its great value for the native Christians and inquirers in India, as a protest and preservative against the old Oriental heresies; and before his time, when Archdeacon (afterwards Bishop) Corrie had translated the Prayer-book into Urdu, the learned Mahomedans were so struck with the Athanasian Creed, that they observed, 'Now we know what you Christians believe' (*Anecdotes of the Prayer-book*, S.P.C.K., p. 58).

As to the Council of Ephesus and the Nicene Creed, referred to by 'Layman' in your issue of the 14th inst., that Council in the year 431 was posterior to the Athanasian Creed, which therefore could not have been an *alia fides*, such as the 7th Canon speaks of. The disuse of it by some Churches does not prove it to be forbidden to the Church at large. The American Bishops are beginning to regret its omission. The Bishops at Lambeth said not a word against the use of it; they only spoke of revising the translation. Bishop Browne on Art. VIII. observes: 'The particular value of this Creed consists in this, that it guards the doctrine of the Trinity and of the Incarnation against the various heretical subtleties, by which it has been explained away. . . . The loose way in which many modern writers on theology often express themselves requires to be restrained by something like the Creed in question. . . . The occurrence of one or two strong expressions should not so far weigh with us as to induce us to wish the removal of this confession of our faith from the formularies of the Church. . . . The Gospel declares that unbelief in the truth of Christ shall be a cause of condemnation; and the Church is therefore justified in saying the same.' The 'strong expressions' are taken from the Gospel.

West Hampstead, December 21st, 1888.

J. COLEY.

'Grace and Truth.'

SIR,—'A. M. W.', in your last, has done well in drawing attention to the little book entitled *Grace and Truth under Twelve Aspects*, by W. P. Mackay, M.A., of Hull, with its commendatory notice by the Lord Bishop of Liverpool, and to the fact of its being circulated or distributed by 'young ladies from London who are Churchwomen,' and the possibility of the same thing being done elsewhere on the strength of the same recommendation. As 'A. M. W.' has dealt very well with the extraordinary (not to say, to a scholar, really outrageous) treatment of St. John, iii. 5, by the author, which amounts to the insertion of a 'not' in the *ipsissima verba* of the Saviour, I only wish to draw attention to the circumstance that 'A. M. W.' writes apparently assuming that the author is a Church of England clergyman of a certain degree; and possibly the so-called young Church 'ladies from London' take the same thing for granted too. It may be supposed that the Bishop of Liverpool would be satisfied of the personality and position of the author whose book he commends (one must suppose) on its merits; but I think I may say that there is no clergyman of the Church of England in Hull named Mackay, nor in England anywhere of the initials W. P. Mackay; the subjoined M.A. is, of course, in no way distinctive. In drawing attention to this, which is, I believe, correct, I am making no charge of *mala fides* against the writer, or the distributors, or the Bishop, in any sense, but only pointing out how readily, perhaps, a good many people take for granted more things than they should. The implication, of course, is that Mr. Mackay belongs to another communion or denomination, and the doctrine he advances sustains this supposition; whether that would, or should, bar a recommendation from a bishop of our Church depends on other considerations; but a writer of the experience of Bishop Ryle, author of so many controversial (and controverted) 'little books,' and who has himself commented on the Gospel of St. John, could hardly have escaped (in judging of this little book) noticing how so crucial a passage of Scripture, and so important a portion of the little book itself, was dealt with by the writer; and if he noticed it he must be supposed to have seen nothing in it to which he, as a bishop of the Church of England, need affix his '*nigrum Theta*.' When one remembers how writers of a certain school of thought do explain away this and similar passages

so much under the direct influence of their spiritual advisers, readily converse with us, receive us in their houses, and in many cases eagerly listen to the glad tidings of the Messiah. The New Testament is no longer a sealed book to them. Many are well acquainted with its contents, unconsciously imbibe its teaching, and even adopt its phraseology. The other day I called upon a Spanish Jew, and while conversing with him I noticed that he often made use of New Testament expressions, and even whole sentences, without knowing it. On further inquiry, I found that he had been an in-patient in our hospital for some time, where he diligently studied the New Testament.

On the other hand, infidelity seems to be rapidly spreading even in these remote regions. The continual increase of foreign Jews from different parts of Europe—where the authority of Rabbinism, and along with it Judaism, is being rapidly undermined—exercises a most unwholesome influence upon the native Jewish population. At no other time, perhaps, was it more necessary to throw all our energy into the work, in order to counteract this evil influence, and to stem the tide of infidelity, by bringing to them the religion of Christ. For, humanly speaking, it is more difficult to convince a Jew of the truth of Christianity who has lost faith in his religion than one who still keeps it up. Through the kindness of Miss Barlee and Mr. Coral, I was introduced to many Jewish shops and houses. I also arranged with the doctors to kindly let me accompany them on their visits to their patients. This I found the best mode of introduction into many a Jewish house which would otherwise have been inaccessible. With the exception of the early morning services, and those days on which I was at the depot to receive Jews there, the greater part of my forenoons was occupied with visiting Jews in their houses, or speaking to them in the streets.—*Jewish Intelligence.*

PALESTINE.

In the beginning of December, while on his way to Jerusalem, Bishop Blyth had a narrow escape at Jaffa—the ancient Joppa—an open roadstead, where even in an ordinary ground sea the trip from shore to shore is two miles long. With his wife and two daughters he got into a boat, which became unmanageable and filled with water; the party was rescued by another boat, but the crowd on the landing-place had thought them doomed.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Reopening of St. Mary's Bells, Chepstow.

THE bells in this parish church were reopened on Thursday, December 6th, after having been rehung with new spindles, brasses, stocks, wheels, and also quarter-turned. The bells were opened by the Cheltenham ringers with 504 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES and 360 STEEDMAN TRIPLES, before the service. The work has been carried out by Messrs. Warner & Sons, of London, who have given every satisfaction.

Kent County Association of Change-ringers.

A COMMITTEE MEETING will be held at the Old Grammar School, Ashford, on Saturday, January 26th, at one o'clock, for the purpose of considering the alterations in rules and constitution of the Association, and for other business, including fixing the place of annual meeting in 1889. If you are unable to attend, you are invited to acquaint the Hon. Secretary with your views on the above subjects by the 26th inst.

(Rev.) R. B. KNATCHBULL-HUGESSEN, Hon. Sec.

Wrinstead Court, Lenham, January 7th, 1889.

[Copies of the old and new laws have been sent to each member with the above.]

Midland Counties Association.—St. Andrew's Society, Litchurch, Derby.

ON Friday evening, the 11th inst., the members of the above Society, together with the clergy, churchwardens, and several of the sidesmen, assembled at the 'George' Hotel, Station Street, to commemorate the seventh anniversary of the dedication of the bells of the church. An excellent supper was, through the liberality of the congregation and a number of the inhabitants of the parish, provided by hostess Mrs. Warrington. After the removal of the cloth, Mr. S. Round, F.C.O., took his seat at the piano, and a number of songs were rendered by members and friends, and touches on the handbells were also given by the members. Altogether a most enjoyable evening was passed.

On Saturday, the 12th inst., the ringers of the Association met at the church belfry for the purpose of fixing a very elaborate peal-board, which had been provided by the subscriptions and workmanship of the members themselves. The board having been safely fixed an attempt was made to honour the occasion by a peal of MAJOR, but after one and a half hour's ringing a change of course was made which unfortunately brought it to an early termination.

The Salisbury City Change-ringers.

THE Annual Dinner was held at the 'Three Swans,' on Friday, the 4th inst. About twenty-six sat down, and Mr. G. Fulford presided. The usual toasts of 'The Queen,' 'Bishops and Clergy,' &c., having been proposed and responded to, Mr. Griffin proposed 'The Diocesan Guild,' coupled with the names of the Rev. A. D. Hill and Mr. J. R. Jerram. Mr. Hill not being present, Mr. Jerram responded, and proposed the health of Mr. Gifford, who thanked them. Mr. Barlett then proposed 'The City Ringers,' coupled with the names of the captains of each belfry, who each returned thanks. The health of the chairman having been drunk, the rest of the evening was spent in handbell-ringing.

The Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association.

THE Annual Meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 30th, at Chipping Sodbury and Yate. Short service at St. John-the-Baptist Church, Chipping Sodbury, at twelve o'clock. Dinner at the 'Porteallis Hotel' at one o'clock. Business meeting afterwards. Usual allowance to members who have sent notice to the Local District Secretary by Wednesday, January 23rd. Train arrivals at Yate from Gloucester 9.33 and 11.8. From Bristol 9.35 and 11.23. Towers open to Associates (six bells), Chipping Sodbury, Yate, and Iron Acton.

The Worcestershire and Adjoining Districts Change-ringing Association.

THE next Quarterly Meeting of this Association will take place in the National Schoolroom, Cradley, near Stourbridge, on Saturday, Jan. 26th, 1889, at five p.m. prompt. Mr. S. Spittle (Master) will preside. The Rev. J. H. Thompson, vicar, has kindly offered the use of the tower and bells for the occasion. All contributions are due at this meeting, and the Hon. Sec. requests that all companies in union hand over the same according to Rule 10. The members of the Association will be pleased to meet any ringing friends.

The Chester Diocesan Guild.—Chester Branch.

By kind permission of Archdeacon Barber, the annual meeting of the above branch will be held in Old St. Mary's Schoolroom at seven p.m. on January 23rd. All our ringing friends and honorary members are cordially invited to attend the meeting.

RICHARD PEASE, Local Secretary.

Saltney.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At the Parish Church, Whitchurch, Salop.

ON Tuesday, the 1st inst., eight members of the Lichfield and Salop Diocesan Association rang Holt's Original peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 3 hrs. 15 mins. H. G. Gardner (Gloucester, conductor), 1; G. Wright, 2; W. Hutchinson, 3; F. Rider (first peal with a bob bell), 4; J. Gibson, 5; G. Woodhall, 6; T. Barron, 7; W. Barron (first peal), 8. Tenor, 21 cwt. This is the first time this peal has been rung by the Association.

At St. Mary's, Widford, Essex.

ON Thursday, the 3rd inst., eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths and the Essex Association rang a peal of 5088 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR in 2 hrs. 52 mins. A. Edwards,* 1; J. Dains,* 2; W. Hawkes, 3; A. Tarbun,* 4; H. F. De Lisle,* 5; Rev. H. A. Cockey (birthday), 6; W. J. Piper,* 7; W. Lincoln (first peal as conductor), 8. Composed by Mr. A. Knights, of Chesterfield. Tenor, 12 cwt., in G. [* First peal in the method. † First peal in the method with a bob bell.]

At Christchurch Cathedral, Oxford.

ON Friday, the 4th inst., eight members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild rang Thurstans' peal of 5040 STEEDMAN TRIPLES in 3 hrs. 16 mins. C. Tolley, 1; F. Castle, 2; C. Hounslow, 3; J. W. Washbrook, 4; W. C. Baston, 5; W. Smith (conductor), 6; W. Finch, 7; G. Tolley, 8. Tenor, 42 cwt.

At St. John's, Deritend, Birmingham.

ON Saturday, the 5th inst., eight members of the Birmingham Amalgamated Society rang Annable's Six-part peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 3 hrs. 7 mins. R. C. Bowkett,* 1; J. Jones, 2; J. Carter (conductor), 3; W. Brook, 4; G. Walker,* 5; F. H. James, 6; A. Hackley, 7; J. Jennings,* 8. Tenor, 14 cwt. [* First peal in any method.]

At St. Michael's, Cornhill, City of London.

ON Saturday, the 5th inst., twelve members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang Haley's peal of 5021 STEEDMAN CINQUES in 3 hrs. 54 mins. J. Pettit, 1; W. Cooter, 2; F. E. Joyce, 3; C. F. Winny, 4; R. French, 5; H. Springall, 6; G. T. McLaughlin, 7; E. Horrex, 8; R. T. Woodley, 9; Rev. H. Cockey, 10; J. M. Hayes (conductor), 11; W. Prime, 12. Tenor, 41 cwt. This peal was rung as a farewell to Mr. Cockey, who is leaving the metropolis, having been appointed to the living of Oldland, Gloucestershire. It was his first peal on twelve bells, and was the first twelve-bell peal in which a clergyman has taken part.

At St. Mary's, Walthamstow, Essex.

ON Saturday, the 5th inst., eight members of the Essex Association rang Holt's Original peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 56 mins. A. J. Keil, 1; G. Grimwade, 2; T. Maynard, 3; J. Nunn, 4; R. J. Maynard, 5; F. G. Newman (conductor), 6; J. Barry, 7; T. Watson, 8. Tenor, 19½ cwt.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH, GIGGLESWICK, YORKS.—On Sunday, the 9th ult., for afternoon service, 720 BOB MINOR (forty-two singles), in 26 mins. H. Ingham (conductor), 1; W. Middleton, 2; J. Parker, 3; S. James, 4; W. Fell, 5; J. Morphet, 6. Messrs. Ingham and Middleton belong to the Settle Society; the rest are local men.

AT KEMERTON, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.—On Sunday, the 9th ult., 720 GRANDSIRE MINOR, in 24½ mins. W. Payne, 1; A. Devereux, 2; F. Potter, 3; H. Payne, 4; A. Attwood, 5; E. Devereux (conductor), 6. Tenor, 12 cwt. First 720 of GRANDSIRE MINOR rung by any of the ringers, except the conductor.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH, THAMES DITTON, SURREY.—For Church Service on Sunday, the 9th ult., several peals of GRANDSIRE DOUBLES. J. C. (conductor), 1; H. Potter, 2; T. Wells, 3; J. Trapmore, 4; A. Morrison, 5; G. Brickwood, 6.

AT BALDOCK, HERTS.—*Handbell-ringing*.—On Tuesday, the 11th ult., a quarter-peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES (1260 changes). G. Poulter, 1; E. Bray, 2; J. Morley, 3; J. Craft, 4; R. Jackson, 5; A. Thurgood, 6; G. Spicer (conductor), 7; J. Cuts, 8. The following was rung on Monday, the 17th ult., on handbells: 252 STEDMAN TRIPLES. T. Webb (conductor), 1; E. Bray, 2; J. Cawdell, 3; J. Smith, 4; J. Phillips (conductor), 5; G. Spicer, 6; R. Jackson, 7; W. Bidnell, 8. This is the first touch of STEDMAN TRIPLES with all local men. Also on Wednesday, the 19th ult., a date touch of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. G. Poulter, 1; E. Bray, 2; J. Morley, 3; J. Craft, 4; W. Bidnell, 5; A. Thurgood, 6; R. Jackson (conductor), 7; G. Stanley, 8. Also a 1484 in the same method. G. Poulter, 1; E. Bray, 2; J. Morley, 3; J. Craft, 4; W. Bidnell, 5; R. Jackson, 6; G. Spicer (conductor), 7-8.

AT IPSWICH, SUFFOLK.—On Tuesday evening, the 11th ult., at the weekly practice, the following members of the St. Mary-le-Tower Society rang two plain courses of DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAXIMUS, being the first ever rung. R. Hawes, 1; J. Motts, 2; I. S. Alexander, 3; W. L. Catchpole, 4; A. Durrant, 4; W. Motts, 6; C. Saul, 7; H. Bowell, 8; W. P. Garrett, 9; R. Brundle, 10; T. Steward, 11; S. Tillet, 12.

AT ST. PETER'S, CROYDON, SURREY.—On Thursday, the 13th ult., 504 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. W. States, 1; G. Burt (first 500), 2; A. Arnold, 3; H. Brooker, 4; R. E. Pearson, 5; A. Bruce (conductor), 6; T. Verrall, 7; F. G. Hermon, 8.

AT RYDE, ISLE OF WIGHT.—On Tuesday evening, the 18th ult., at All Saints Church, for practice, a quarter-peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES (1260 changes) in 48 mins. J. Hewett, 1; O. Coombs, 2; W. Ward, 3; W. Jennings, 4; H. Jennings (conductor), 5; J. Norris, 6; E. Hatcher, 7; A. Ward, 8. First quarter-peal by all excepting J. Hewett, who came from Gosport. Also on Sunday evening, the 23rd ult., for Divine service, 350 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. A. R. Ward, 1; H. Jennings (conductor), 2; W. Ward, 3; W. Jennings, 4; O. Coombs, 5; J. Norris, 6; E. Hatcher, 7; A. Ward, 8. Tenor, 26½ cwt.

AT BASINGSTOKE, HANTS.—On Wednesday, the 19th ult., for practice, 720 GRANDSIRE MINOR (thirty-four bobs and two singles), with 7-8 covering. J. Ballard,* 1; W. Bullpit,* 2; T. Curtis,* 3; G. Casson,* 4; T. M. Stedman, 5; H. White (conductor), 6; J. R. Higgins, 7; W. Hatten, 8. Also 120 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, with S. F. W. Powell treble, conducted by Mr. Stedman. And 240 GRANDSIRE MINOR, with S. F. Powell, 1, and J. R. Higgins, 5; the rest as before. S. Powell is only twelve years of age, and this is his first attempt at change-ringing in the steeple. Mr. Stedman came from Capel, the rest belong to the local company. [* First 720 on tower bells.]

AT ST. MARY'S, SLOUGH, BUCKS.—On Monday evening, the 24th ult., for practice, 504 BOB TRIPLES. W. Leader, 1; F. V. H. Sinkins, 2; W. H. Fussell, 3; W. A. Garraway, 4; W. Wilder, 5; R. Flaxman, 6; A. C. Fussell (conductor), 7; J. Perryman, 8. Tenor, 9½ cwt.

AT ST. ALBANS, HERTS.—*Handbell-ringing*.—On Boxing Day, the 26th ult., at the business premises of Mr. H. Lewis, a date touch of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES (1888 changes), the composition of Mr. J. Carter, was rung in 55 mins. H. Lewis, 1-2; E. P. Debenham, 3-4; W. H. L. Buckingham, 5-6; G. W. Cartmel (conductor), 7-8. At St. Peter's.—*Chiming*.—On Sunday, the 30th ult., for afternoon service, 576 BOB CATERS. H. Lewis, 1-2; E. P. Debenham (conductor), 3-4; G. W. Cartmel, 5-6; W. H. L. Buckingham, 7-8; T. Waller, 9-10.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH, BROMSGROVE, WORCESTERSHIRE.—On Sunday, the 30th ult., for Divine service in the morning, 576 changes of KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR. W. James, 1; W. R. Small, 2; G. Hughes, 3; J. Albutt, 4; G. Hayward, 5; G. Bourne, 6; O. James, 7; W. Rae, 8. Also a touch of PLAIN BOB MAJOR, standing as above. For Divine service in the evening, 756 PLAIN BOB TRIPLES. G. Hayward, 1; W. Rae, 2; W. James, 3; W. R. Small, 4; O. James, 5; T. Albutt, 6; G. Bourne, 7; T. Parry, 8. The above touches were conducted by Mr. Hayward. Messrs. Small and Hughes came from Tipton.

AT ST. NICOLAS, GUILDFORD.—On Sunday evening, the 30th ult., for Divine service, 720 GRANDSIRE MINOR in 28½ mins. C. W. Miller, 1; J. Heathorn, 2; W. Groves, 3; F. W. J. Rees, 4; F. Bennett (conductor), 5; J. J. Jones, 6. Two covers by E. Stone and H. E. Hart. And on Monday night, with the bells half muffled, another 720 GRANDSIRE MINOR (with a call every lead) in 27½ mins. by the above, with T. H. Colburn on the treble. Also 168 of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. C. W. Miller, 1; T. H. Colburn, 2; J. Heathorn, 3; F. W. J. Rees, 4; J. J. Jones, 5; W. Groves, 6; F. Bennett (conductor), 7; H. E. Hart, 8. Tenor, 22½ cwt. The above are the first 720's that have been rung in Guildford by a local band for very many years.

AT NETHERTON, WORCESTERSHIRE.—On Thursday evening, the 10th inst., for practice, 720 CANTERBURY PLEASURE were rung in 25½ mins. W. Prestidge, 1; W. Cheshire, 2; J. Townsend, 3; W. Pardoe, 4; W. Micklewright (conductor), 5; J. Smith, 6. W. Cheshire comes from Colesey, and it is his first 720 in the method; W. Pardoe from Tipton.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH, DALTON-IN-FURNESS.—On Sunday, the 13th inst., a peal of 720 GRANDSIRE MINOR, containing 30 bobs and 30 singles, was rung in 24 mins. T. R. Jackson (conductor), 1; T. Townson, 2; J. Spencer, 3; M. Caddy, 4; T. Watson, 5; J. Burrows, 6. Tenor, 11 cwt. 1 qr. 19 lb., in G.

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 Honolulu.' Half Bot. per post, 2s. 6d., or 1 Bot. 3s. 6d. Descriptive book (95 pp.) on application to Messrs. Hicks and Co., Plymouth. [Adv't.]

CORRESPONDENCE.

Sponsors.

SIR,—I, for one, would willingly endeavour to assist 'H. A. T.' in accordance with the desire expressed in the last line of his (or her) letter, that is, if 'H. A. T.' is not so firmly fixed in his opinions that no arguments will change them. But there is a dogmatism about the commencement of 'H. A. T.'s' letter which suggests that it is almost hopeless to try to alter opinions which are shown to be the conclusive declarations of his mind. I do not recollect that *Church Bells* has anywhere offered a protest against our sponsorial system as an utterance of its own opinion. But I and some other writers have often repeated an expression of great sorrow that the sponsorial system is not put, practically, upon a better basis than it is. I should very deeply regret the removal of the sponsorial system, which appears to me Scriptural, and very useful.

But it is well to recollect that the baptism of the infants of Christians does not of necessity require the entire sponsorial system. Plainly, some one must present an infant for baptism if it is to be baptized, and plainly that person must be a Christian. But this does not involve of essential necessity the whole of the sponsorial system, but only a part of it. For, in the case of the private baptism of infants, no sponsors are necessary, although they be very properly required if the child live and be brought, as it then ought to be brought, to Church. And in the case of Presbyterians, although their printed service, if used by them, certainly requires one godfather, it appears to me that the answers there made by the godfather to the questions of the minister amount to a mere declaration of his own faith, not the faith of the child. I think the sponsorial system and infant baptism do not wholly stand and fall together, but can be regarded as distinct, although in my mind the one and the other is correct, Scriptural, and desirable.

Now I cannot at all agree with the very sweeping and remarkably dogmatic assertion for one to make who is really uneasy, or anxious to learn the truth, whereby we are told that 'our whole system of sponsors is contrary to the Word of God . . . simply a relic of Romanism which has never been purged out of the Church, has no foundation at all in Scripture, and therefore ought to be abolished immediately.' Then again, 'Parents who read their Bibles now begin to see the error they have been led into, and naturally decline to go on with it. This accounts for the decline in infant baptisms.'

Now, in addition to the trenchant language here used, and which can hardly be thought to be the real utterance of any member of the Church of England, there are also two or three errors as to fact. Men of deep piety used to read their Bibles quite as much a century or two ago as do any people now. The Bible is probably less known and less read than it was. And some of the most reverent readers of the Bible never had a shadow of doubt upon the propriety of infant baptism. Witness the words of Philip, father of Matthew Henry, the Nonconformist and Commentator. He says: 'Were infant baptism more improved, it would be less disputed.' I quote from memory, but am pretty sure that I give the words. Nor is there any decline in infant baptisms, except where there is a decline of Christianity. On the contrary, where the Church is doing her work, infant baptisms are more numerous, and are more attended to than ever. The error is when people forget the beautiful and Scriptural utterance, which in our office follows the baptism of an infant, 'that this child may lead the rest of his life according to *this* beginning.' As to numbers baptized, over one thousand were baptized annually for several years in my parish, a number never equalled before: and I believe that where there is spiritual life and activity, infant baptism prevails increasingly.

As to the sponsorial system being contrary to the Word of God. In Deut. xxix., 10-20, the people of Israel are called to enter into covenant with the Lord God and into His oath which the Lord God would make with them that day. Who are to enter into the covenant? Not alone the men. Not alone the adults, but 'your little ones.' How could these little ones enter into a covenant? It seems to me that they could do so, just as they do now, when presented for baptism at the font.

There are several instances in the Old Testament where a covenant is entered into between Jehovah and the people. In most of these it may be seen that old and young, great and small, without any regard to age, entered into the covenant. But this bears directly upon our question; for it shows something very like sponsorial action and activity, otherwise the covenant could not have included, as it plainly did include, the children as well as their parents. What was the action of Ezra, if not sponsorial, when (viii. 21) he proclaimed a fast (ignored now by too many Christians as Popish or as useless) that they might afflict themselves before God to seek of Him a right way for us, and for our little ones? There are many similar instances, but these are as good as twenty more.

Men in the New Testament. When a centurion seeks and obtains a great blessing for his faithful servant, or when a father entreates the intercession of Christ for his lunatic child, when the earnest words, 'If thou canst do anything,' are pleaded not for the suppliant, but for another, and in each case successfully, is it not a rather sweeping and hasty utterance of one who longs to learn to write that the whole system of sponsors is contrary to the Word of God? In some measure every intercession to God on behalf of another person is of a sponsorial character. Blessings are sought and are obtained by other people for those who are in need of such blessings, and who know nothing about them, yea, do not desire them. This is just what godfathers and godmothers and parents do who seek to bring 'little ones' into the covenant.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

St. Martin's Guild of Change-ringers for Birmingham, Aston, and the surrounding District.

THIS Guild is the result of a union between the St. Martin's Society of Birmingham and the Holt Society of Aston, with a desire for a wider scope of practical usefulness in the cultivation of the science of change-ringing. The terms of union having been mutually considered and agreed upon at a meeting of the two Societies held on October 9th, the first general meeting of the Guild for the election of officers was held on Tuesday, the 8th instant, at St. Martin's Mission Rooms, Birmingham, Mr. Henry Johnson, sen., being unanimously elected to preside.

Being so intimately associated with the towers of Birmingham and Aston parish churches, the rules provide permanent presidents in the incumbents of both parishes, and the following officers were appointed at this meeting:—Presiding Ringing Master, H. Johnson, sen. Ringing Master for St. Martin's, H. Bastable, with J. Buffery as deputy. Ringing Master for Aston, W. Kent; deputy, T. Russam. Trustees, J. Day and H. Bastable. Secretary, W. H. Godden. Steward for St. Martin's, W. Haywood. Steward for Aston, W. Jackson. Treasurer, H. Johnson, jun.

It may be interesting to recapitulate for the general body of our readers some of the more interesting events in the history of the St. Martin's Youths during their long career of at least 133 years, compiled and read by Mr. Day at this meeting, as well as the eventful performances of the Holt Society during its short but brilliant career since its foundation by Mr. Kent.

The first peal recorded by the St. Martin's Youths in their peal-book is one of BOB MAJOR in 1755, which was probably the first ever rung on the peal at St. Philip's, Birmingham. This naturally implies the existence of the Society prior to that date.

In 1758 we find a new ring of ten bells at St. Martin's, when peals of GRANDSIRE CATERS and BOB ROYAL were rung. In 1771 or 1772 the ring was augmented to twelve, and the first peal of GRANDSIRE CINQUES was rung in 1773.

In 1789 we find the Youths beating record by a peal of BOB MAJOR, 14,224, at Aston, and by a peal of GRANDSIRE CATERS, 8027, at St. Martin's. 1790 is memorable for the Society's first peal of STEDMAN CATERS, 5292, at St. Philip's, and this was the first peal of STEDMAN in the provinces, and the third and longest peal ever rung in that method.

In 1793 we find recorded a peal of 6000 OXFORD (or old) TREBLE BOB MAXIMUS; in 1815 a 5040 of GRANDSIRE MAXIMUS (for a long period supposed to have been the first of MAXIMUS ever rung in that method, but it was subsequently discovered that one had previously been rung by the Cumberland Youths in 1792 at Southwark); and another longest on record, a 6000 of GRANDSIRE ROYAL at Aston.

In 1817 a 5000 of TREBLE BOB ROYAL is recorded as rung at St. Martin's, when the memorable name of Thomas Thurstans, then in his twenty-second year, appears as ringing the tenor. This was no mean performance for a man of his years on a bell of 36 cwt.

In April of 1820 the Society again beat record by a peal of 7200 KENT (or new) TREBLE BOB MAXIMUS (the tenor being again handled by Thurstans); and in December by a peal of 6600 STEDMAN CINQUES, which was the second in the method on that number of bells ever rung.

St. Martin's bells were rehung in 1825; and in 1827 we find a peal of TREBLE BOB MAXIMUS recorded, and a few years later the only peal of TREBLE BOB CINQUES ever rung.

In 1830 the St. Martin's Youths rang their first peal of STEDMAN TRIPLES in Birmingham on the front eight at St. Martin's; and this peal is notable as introducing us to the names of two performers who will probably be remembered as long as change-ringing exists, viz., Thomas Day, the composer of the peal, and Elijah Roberts, who assisted in it. This identical peal of STEDMAN TRIPLES was the groundwork of the great improvements in the method afterwards made by Hudson, Thurstans, and Lates.

In 1846 was rung for the first time, on the front eight at St. Martin's, Thurstans' peal of STEDMAN TRIPLES, which was the first peal ever composed with two common singles.

In 1848 record in STEDMAN CINQUES was again beaten by a peal of 7392; and in the same year a peal of TREBLE BOB MAXIMUS, and a peal of GRANDSIRE CINQUES were rung.

Although still steadily practising their art, nothing particularly memorable occurs until February 28th, 1881, when, to commemorate Mr. H. Johnson's (senior) seventy-second birthday, a peal of 9238 STEDMAN CINQUES, in which he took part, was rung at St. Martin's, and this still remains the premier peal in the method.

In 1857, on the occasion of the visit of the Queen to Birmingham to lay the foundation-stone of the new Law Courts, the Society recorded the longest peal of GRANDSIRE CINQUES ever rung, viz., 9020.

This brings the St. Martin's Youths' most notable performances up to date; and although the Holt or Aston Society cannot claim such an honourable notoriety, its performances are eminently creditable to its short existence.

A society connected with Aston was in existence during the last century, as evidenced by peal-boards in the tower (one recording a peal of 15,360 BOB MAJOR rung single-handed, and composed and conducted by Joshua Short on October 1st, 1793); but this society had long ceased to exist when in 1879 Mr. Kent founded the Holt Society. This was the third attempt made by Mr. Kent to found a society with headquarters at Aston; and when it is considered that he started with all young members who had never rung in a peal, it speaks volumes for his pluck and perseverance that the Society should have accomplished so much.

In its career of nine years, during which the tower has been closed for three long periods for repairs, there have been recorded forty-one peals, comprising two of STEDMAN CINQUES (one in hand), seven of STEDMAN CATERS (two in hand), nine of STEDMAN TRIPLES, seven of GRANDSIRE CATERS (two in hand), one of GRANDSIRE MAJOR, eleven of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES (two in hand), one of TREBLE BOB ROYAL, two of TREBLE BOB MAJOR, and one of PLAIN BOB MAJOR.

Of the seven peals on handbells which stamped this Society as one of the premier societies in England for Handbell Change-ringing, the peal of STEDMAN CINQUES was the third on record, and the only one performed out of London, and the peals of STEDMAN CATERS also broke ground in the provinces.

Associated with these societies have been such celebrated composers as Henry Cooper, Joshua Short, Thomas Day, Thomas Thurstans, J. J. B. Lates, and, as a connecting link to the past, Henry Johnson, sen., who attains his eightieth birthday on February 28th next.

Mr. Johnson has been connected with change-ringing for nearly sixty years, his first peal being at Aston on January 12th, 1830.

Wherever change-ringing is practised, Mr. Johnson's name has become familiar through the variety, number, and merit of his compositions; and most of the eminent conductors in the kingdom and writers on our science have at some time or other been indebted to his services, and have drawn on his vast fund of information and change-ringing lore.

During the evening's proceedings, reference was made to the fact that the Guild had placed on record a desire to affiliate and assist neighbouring towers, and the Vicar of Hatton, the Rev. H. C. Courtney, expressed a wish that this portion of its duties might be earnestly taken up.

It may be as well to mention that any ringers visiting either of the towers will always find a cordial welcome.

W. H. G.

The Lancashire Association.—Rochdale Branch.

ON Saturday, the 12th inst., a ringing meeting of the above Association was held at the church of St. Mary, Balderstone, Rochdale. There were over twenty members present from the following places: Rochdale, Heywood, Moorside, and Bacup. Touches of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES were rung and BOB MAJOR attempted, but, owing to the bad 'go' of the bells, no good ringing could be done. The bells require a little more attention from the ringers themselves. A meeting was subsequently held in the schoolroom, which was presided over by Mr. Millett, sen., of Heywood, who briefly explained the objects for which the above branch was formed. Five new members were elected from St. Mary's tower, and it is hoped the others will soon follow. The meeting closed with the usual vote of thanks, Mr. Hartley responding for the St. Mary's Society. The next meeting will be held at St. Luke's Church, Heywood, on Saturday, February 2nd, and members are kindly requested to accept this as the only notice to be given.

The Surrey Association.

ON Monday, the 14th inst., this Association held its first quarterly meeting at Kingston, by the kind permission of the Vicar. Tea was provided at six p.m. at the 'Leopold' Coffee Tavern, and to this some forty members sat down. Besides the local men there were ringers present from London, Ashstead, Epsom, Beddington, Carshalton, Croydon, Streatham, Thames Ditton, and Wimbledon. At the business meeting held after tea, some twenty-four new members were elected; and it was decided to hold the next district meeting at Mortlake, and the next quarterly meeting at Camberwell.

There was some good practice on the church bells, both before and after tea; and amongst other touches may be noticed a course of TREBLE BOB ROYAL, a 701 of GRANDSIRE CATERS; and as a wind-up, a very pretty 648 of STEDMAN CATERS, conducted by Mr. Welling.

ARTHUR B. CARPENTER, *Hon. Sec.*

The Yorkshire Association.

THE Committee has pleasure in announcing that, by the kind permission of the Vicar, the Rev. W. Fowler, M.A., and with the friendly co-operation of the Liversedge change-ringers, the next meeting will be held at Liversedge on Saturday, February 9th—i.e., on the second Saturday in February.

WM. SNOWDON, *President.*

CHANGE-RINGING.

At St. Margaret's, Leiston, Suffolk.

ON Saturday, the 5th inst., eight members of the Norwich Diocesan Association rang Holt's Original peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 3 hrs. 15 mins. F. Argent, 1; F. Wilson, 2; H. J. Button, 3; R. Wells, 4; G. Lindoff (R.E.), 5; R. W. Stannard, 6; T. J. Saulkey, 7; J. Flegg, 8. Tenor, 20½ cwt. The peal was called off a cross-bell for the first time in Suffolk, and was conducted by Mr. Lindoff, who is the fourth and youngest conductor who has called it in this county.

At St. George's, Hyde, Cheshire.

ON Tuesday, the 8th inst., eight members of the United Counties Association rang a peal of 5024 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR in 3 hrs. 2 mins. J. S. Wilde (composer and conductor), 1; J. Sidebotham, 2; J. Holden, 3; W. Slater, 4; S. Bennett, 5; S. Bradley, 6; T. Wilde, 7; E. Wood, 8. Tenor, 15 cwt. This peal, which contains the 6th its extent right, and all the 8-6's, is a three-part one. Messrs. Holden and Wood came from Saddleworth; J. Sidebotham, Mottram; the rest are of the local company.

At the Parish Church, Warnham, Sussex.

ON Thursday, the 10th inst., eight members of the Sussex County Association rang a peal of 5040 OXFORD BOB MAJOR in 2 hrs. 52 mins. G. Woodman, 1; W. Charman (composer), 2; G. Charman, 3; T. Andrews, 4; W.

Short, 5; H. Cook, 6; H. Burstow, 7; H. H. Chandler (conductor), 8. This peal is supposed to be the first of MAJOR rung in the method, and was rung at the first attempt. First peal by all the band.

At St. Luke's, Heywood, Lancashire.

On Thursday, the 10th inst., eight members of the Lancashire Association rang Holt's Six-part peal of 5040 UNION TRIPLES in 3 hrs. 2 mins. A. Schofield, 1; J. Pilkington, 2; J. Millett (conductor), 3; E. Bishop (Bury), 4; W. H. Walmsley, 5; J. Harrison, 6; J. Scholey, 7; Jas. Millett, 8. Tenor, 22½ cwt. First peal in the method by all the band.

At All Saints', Fulham, London.

On Saturday, the 12th inst., ten members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang a peal of 5219 GRANDSIRE CATERS in 3 hrs. 15 mins. F. G. Newman, 1; F. W. Kelley, 2; W. E. Garrard, 3; F. Davey,* 4; J. W. Kelley (composer and conductor), 5; J. W. Driver, 6; W. T. Cockerill,* 7; J. Nicholls, jun., 8; C. F. Winny, 9; S. How, 10. Tenor, 21 cwt., in E flat. With the exception of Messrs. Newman and Cockerill, all the above are of the local company. [* First peal of CATERS.]

At the Parish Church, Caerleon, Monmouthshire.

On Saturday, the 12th inst., Taylor's Six-part peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES was rung in 2 hrs. 47 mins. Romulus Le Vesconte, 1; H. Sheam, 2; Evan Davies (conductor), 3; W. H. Arnold, 4; Lot Staeford, 5; J. W. Jones, 6; Frank Green, 7; H. Evans, 8. Tenor, 7½ cwt., in B flat. First peal by all the band, and first peal on the bells.

At St. John-the-Evangelist's, Wilton Road, Pimlico, London.

On Saturday, the 12th inst., eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang a peal of 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 48 mins. J. Pettit, 1; R. T. Woodley, 2; W. Greenleaf, 3; F. E. Dawe, 4; J. M. Hayes, 5; S. E. Joyce, 6; E. Horrex, 7; G. T. McLaughlin, 8. Tenor, 10½ cwt., in G. Composed by Mr. T. Thurstans, and conducted by Mr. F. E. Dawe.

This is the first peal of STEDMAN accomplished on the bells; also the first since they were lowered some twenty-seven feet about eighteen months ago; and, instead of the great oscillation previously experienced, their removal to a lower stage proves that they can now be handled with the greatest possible ease and comfort. The well-kept state of the whole tower reflects the highest credit on Mr. Teesdale, the verger, to whose care and attention the pleasure of ringing here is entirely due.

At COLN ST. ALDWYN, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.—On Christmas morning, 720 BOB MINOR. J. Tennant, 1; R. Jefferies, 2; C. Bate, 3; J. Kitchener (conductor), 4; A. Tennant, 5; T. Smith, 6. The brothers Tennant came from Willesden, Middlesex.

At THE PARISH CHURCH, BRAINTREE, ESSEX.—On Sunday morning, the 6th inst., for Divine service, 720 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE. T. Watson, 1; F. Bumpstead, 2; S. Hammond, 3; F. Calthorpe, 4; F. Rudkin, 5; H. E. Hammond (conductor), 6. Also, for evening service, 720 OXFORD TREBLE BOB. T. Watson, 1; F. Bumpstead, 2; S. Hammond (conductor), 3; E. Claydon, 4; F. Rudkin, 5; Rev. H. A. Cookey, 6. And 360 KENT TREBLE BOB. E. Hynds, 1; the rest as above, E. Hynds and E. Claydon came from Stebbing.

At HOLY TRINITY, WEST HAM, ESSEX.—On Sunday, the 6th inst., after evening service, 720 GRANDSIRE MINOR in 24 mins. W. Brown, 1; W. Smith (first 720 inside), 2; W. H. Dallimore, 3; A. White, 4; J. R. Lowe, 5; H. Randall (conductor), 6.

At CHRIST CHURCH, WANSTEAD, ESSEX.—On Sunday, the 6th inst., 720 BOB MINOR (forty-six calls) were rung after evening service. J. King, 1; J. Priest, 2; L. Green, 3; G. Cornell, 4; J. Marks, 5; E. Barnett (conductor), 6. Also on Sunday, the 13th inst., 720 KENT TREBLE BOB, after evening service. J. King, 1; L. Green, 2; T. Wood, 3; W. Manning, 4; J. Marks, 5; E. Barnett (conductor), 6.

At ST. STEPHEN'S, BRISTOL.—On Tuesday, the 8th inst., 1280 of FORWARD MAJOR. F. Elles, 1; E. Duckham, 2; C. Burden, 3; G. Colston, 4; S. Phillips, 5; C. Trevett, 6; W. Emery, 7; J. Hinton (conductor), 8. This is the first quarter-peal in the method, which is composed by Mr. J. Carter, of Birmingham. The striking was not so good as it should have been, owing to the bad 'go' of the bells.

At WICKHAM SKEITH, SUFFOLK.—On Wednesday, the 9th inst., the local company rang 720 BOB MINOR (eighteen bobs and two singles) in 26 mins. E. Youngs, 1; W. Burgess, 2; C. Nunn, 3; T. Davey, 4; G. Catermole (conductor), 5; S. Kemp, 6. Tenor, 13 cwt.

At CHRIST CHURCH, BOOTLE, LANCASHIRE.—On Saturday evening, the 12th inst., 720 GRANDSIRE MINOR in 27 mins. R. H. Barton, 1; T. Barton, 2; W. J. Short, 3; W. Rushton, 4; C. E. Wilson, 5; J. Bradshaw (conductor), 6. The above was rung with the bells half muffled as a tribute of respect to the memory of the late Mr. T. Woodward, who was for about eight years a ringer at the above church.

At THE PARISH CHURCH, DALTON-IN-FURNESS.—On Sunday, the 13th inst., 720 GRANDSIRE MINOR (thirty bobs and thirty singles) in 24 mins. T. R. Jackson (conductor), 1; T. Townsend, 2; J. Spencer, 3; M. Caddy, 4; T. Watson, 5; J. Burrows, 6.

At ST. MARY'S, WALTON-ON-THE-HILL, LANCASHIRE.—On Sunday evening, the 13th inst., three peals of 120 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES. J. Nightingale, 1; H. Kelly, 2; R. Hurst, 3; H. N. Spinks, 4; C. E. Wilson (conductor), 5; T. Johnson, 6. Tenor, 9 cwt.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Reform in Church Music.

SIR,—It does not seem to me at all likely that at the present day we shall all agree as to 'the definition of worship,' nor is it at all needful that we should wait for this before attempting something in the way of improvement in a vast number of churches. Supposing Dr. Warriner's experiences to be correct, that the only people who profess anxiety for the services to be congregational 'are those who don't sing or can't sing,' surely it would point to the fact that the music in their own churches has not been such as to enable them, or to induce them, to join in the singing. And this is one of the reforms to be aimed at. It seems to be supposed by some that it is intended to lower the standard of highly musical and highly appreciated services. I do not understand this to be the case, but rather to endeavour to 'level up' to a decent standard the multitude of churches in which there is little or no congregational singing because the music is such as to forbid it, whilst it falls entirely short of being such as to aid worship, or in any sense æsthetical. I cannot at all agree that 'worship is to be regarded as almost synonymous with praise.' Worship will include praise, as well as other acts of devotion. And if the music is to be made to appeal to the senses quite apart from, and instead of, rendering the words of the services more articulate and intelligible, it would, as it seems to me, be overthrowing the nature and intent of a musical service for congregational purposes. Selections from an oratorio efficiently rendered might be devoutly and beneficially listened to without any inducement, whether for the instructed or uninstructed, to join in as members of the congregation. But even supposing this to be so, I cannot conceive of such being the best and most popular or useful mode of rendering the services of the English Prayer-book.

WILLIAM WHITE, F.S.A.

30a Wimpole Street, W.

SIR,—May I suggest before the discussion on church music closes, that the rapid pace now so common is quite as great a hindrance to congregational singing as the high notes so much complained of. I have generally observed that if people like a tune they will sing it heartily, whether it be high or low. (I have often heard Jackson's *Te Deum* sung slowly by a whole ship's company, drowning the choir and harmonium.) But ordinary people will not sing if the music is too fast and breathless for them. For instance, if in chanting the Psalms one verse begins before the other is done, and if only time for half an Amen is allowed before the clergyman begins the next prayer. Some people call this 'bright,' and think anything is better than a moment's pause anywhere. But I am sure it disheartens the congregation, who like to sing, but will not race.

M. S. J.

January 21, 1889.

The late Rev. H. Robinson.

SIR,—As a brother chaplain I served with the late Rev. Henry Robinson in both the Crimean and Chinese wars, and many years afterwards he gave me most valuable help in the work of a large East-end parish. In fact, we never lost sight of each other from the time we first met.

It is quite true (as 'Clericus' states in your last issue) that he was invalided from China in '57. Intermittent fever following a sunstroke reduced him to a skeleton, and he was invalided home very much against his will, though his staying longer in China meant certain death; but it is equally true, as set forth by your earlier correspondent, that he was still serving as a military chaplain later on. After being a few years away from us he was placed again on the active list, and was serving as chaplain with the troops at Aldershot in '65, and, I think, in '66.

In devotion to the work of the ministry, and in loving sympathy for the feeble and the weak, he was a very Bayard of Christian chivalry, and, as to the vexed question raised by your correspondent as to pew rents or offertories producing the larger income at St. Paul's, I believe it never entered his head, for his greatest delight was to spend his wealth, and his energies, and all that he had, for the glory of God and the good of His Holy Church.

H. H.

Infant Baptism.

SIR,—As no one else appears to have replied to 'H. A. F.', whose letter, asking for enlightenment on Infant Baptism, appeared in your paper of Dec. 14, perhaps you will allow me to do so. 'H. A. F.' says he cannot find a single verse telling him to baptize any one, either infant or adult, *until they have believed*. It might be enough to answer that many things have to be done in all assemblies of Christians, not excepting the Plymouth Brethren, which no verse of Scripture commands. For instance, no verse commands the religious observation of the first day of the week, either for rest or for public worship. And the same authority that sends us to Holy Scripture to prove the articles of our *faith*, sends us to the *Church* for rites and ceremonies. See Article vi. and xx. But in the case before us, though Scripture does not command, it points the way. Infants were brought to Christ that He might touch them. He blamed those that would have kept them from Him. Was the privilege of this bodily contact for those children only who had access to Christ's visible Person, a few short years in Palestine? Or may not the Church, which is His visible Body now, command the children still to be brought to her, and blame those that would keep them from her? And if it be answered that Christ did not baptize the children, but lay His hands on them, we may fairly answer that, for all we know to the contrary, the children may have been baptized already, along with their parents. What we do know is that Jesus made and baptized many disciples, *although He* baptized by His disciples' hands. Who so likely to bring their little ones to the Master as they who had themselves become His scholars? If we know all, we might find that these little children were brought to Christ for what

men whose labour makes their dividends, and a little less anxious about getting high interest without asking ugly questions as to where it comes from, it will be time to talk about 'robbery.' As things are, they themselves might conceivably be called by some hard names, if He Who denounced the devourers of the poor were face to face with them.

Reduction of the hours of labour would undoubtedly provide work for the unemployed, and result in better work being done by more vigorous workers, more interested and more thorough in their work. Nor would it reduce wages, because the main force which keeps wages down is the eagerness of the unemployed to take work on any terms. When the pressure upon the labour market is lightened, as it would be by this proposed measure, this force will cease to be effective, and the more unscrupulous employers will be deprived of the weapon which now they use with such terrible effect.

2. There is no doubt that this measure must be accompanied by an international labour law, or by the prohibition of the immigration of foreign labourers, or both, in order to prevent the employers from flooding the market with cheap foreign labour. If it is possible for nations to come to an agreement as to methods of warfare—*e.g.*, as to the Red Cross and the non-use of explosive bullets, it is surely possible for them to agree upon labour questions. There is a strong feeling in favour of international legislation in not a few European countries whose competition might be formidable, and if a nation or nations should refuse reasonable terms, it will assuredly be found that the democracy is ready to fall back upon a war of tariffs.

3. The Poor Law must be reformed. In the principles which lie at the root of it the Poor Law is entirely sound. Every man has the right to live: the State has the right to exact an equivalent of work from him. But the workhouse system, and the general administration of the law, are admitted on all hands to be unsatisfactory. Mr. Herbert Mills' book, *Poverty and the State*, has much interesting information, and very valuable suggestions, upon this matter, especially in regard to the workhouse system of Holland, from which much may be learned. I content myself with indicating this useful book, and passing on to my last points.

4. At the Wolverhampton Church Congress of 1887, Mr. Stanley Leighton, M.P., in his paper on Socialism, uttered the following striking sentence:—'Much is required from him who has received much, little from him who has received little. The Christian carries out this principle in practice when he maintains the revolutionary doctrine, which he has preached for centuries, *that if any class habitually uses functions guaranteed to it by the State, not for the public service, but against the interests of the community, then the legal conditions of the guarantee should be readjusted. Reform is always a Christian duty. Revolution may be.*'

The time has come for Christians and Churchfolk to inquire whether the legal conditions which guarantee the holding of land by a few persons for their own private benefit, should not be readjusted. For myself, I believe that Mr. George's doctrine of the single tax has much, very much, to recommend it, and I think with him that landholders would be better off, and not worse, under that system. In theory, the land of England belongs to the whole people, and the legal conditions which govern its possession should be adjusted, without injustice or wrong to any, so as to make the land more serviceable to the whole community than it is now. In the country, the decay of the feudal system has divorced the labourer from the land to which it bound him. The result we have seen; depopulation of country districts, congestion in big towns. The labourer must be brought back to the land, not by peasant proprietorship, which cannot succeed, but by some wider, equitable, well-considered measure through which the State, or the municipality, may gradually resume the possession of the soil, to be used for the advantage of the whole community. In the same way, ground rents in towns, which are simply created by the industry of the community, should be employed for the benefit of the community, instead of the enrichment of a few.

Let those who doubt this read *Progress and Poverty*, and question Mr. George when he is here in March, if they have difficulty in following him. I have said that I do not entirely follow him myself: but no one, I think, can read the book or meet the man without feeling that here is indeed a solid contribution to the problem before us, which at the least deserves our careful and respectful consideration.

5. Finally, a progressive income-tax upon all incomes above, say, 500*l.* a-year. This proposal receives powerful support from so capable an economist as Professor Symes, and is already within the sphere of

practical politics. It is simply the taxation of those who can best afford it, for the benefit of the State as a whole; and if such a tax should operate in the direction of lessening the number of millionaires, and people generally who have too much money, I venture to think that little harm will be done.

'*The last triumph of Christianity*,' said Channing, '*will be a triumph over competition.*' Or as Maurice independently put it, '*Society must be reconstituted, not on the basis of competition, which is Mammon's law of selfishness, but on the basis of Christ's law of brotherhood.*'

That great triumph can never be won until we realise that there is something more sacred than private property, namely, public right; and that when the former is found to encroach upon the latter, the State is bound to step in and do justice. It is not lawful for any man to do what he will, even with what is rightfully his own, if in doing so he infringe the right of his neighbour, or trespass against the public good.

H. C. SHUTTLEWORTH.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

St. Martin's Guild of Change-ringers.

SIR,—I am reminded by several of my brother ringers that I made at least three rather important omissions in the paper read by me at the meeting of the St. Martin's Guild, Birmingham, held on the 8th ult., and published in the last number of *Church Bells*. I very much regret that I made them, and beg for a little space in your present issue to correct them. They are as follows:—On March 8th, 1859, a mixed band of the St. Philip's and St. Martin's Societies, Birmingham, rang at Aston 10,047 STEDMAN CATERERS in 6 hrs. 16 mins. This peal held the first position in STEDMAN CATERERS for about twenty-five years, and was the crowning effort of the late Mr. W. Chattell, who did so much for the revival of the art in Birmingham forty-five years ago, and was conducted by one of his pupils, viz., Mr. J. Perks. In February, 1856, members of the St. Martin's Society rang at Aston 5037 STEDMAN MAJOR, and in October, 1876, 5184 STEDMAN ROYAL, both conducted by Mr. H. Johnson, sen., the three peals being his compositions. These are the only peals of MAJOR and ROYAL ever rung in the method. Thanking you in anticipation.

J. DAY.

A Supper at St. Chad's, Shrewsbury.

On Monday evening, the 7th ult., the Rev. E. C. Carpenter, vicar of St. Chad's, entertained the ringers of the parish with a supper at his residence, Claremont House. The chair was taken by the Vicar, and the vice-chair by the Rev. E. P. Dunop, curate. After supper a pleasant hour or two was spent in the inspection of pictures, and a number of curiosities and interesting relics.

Anniversary at Redenhall, Norfolk.

On Monday, the 14th ult., the Redenhall ringers celebrated the 153rd anniversary of their Society of Change-ringers. The proper day should have been the 18th, but that fell on the Sunday this year. During the day they rang with friends touches of STEDMAN, GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, OXFORD TREBLE BOB, and DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB. There were present the following clergymen:—the Ven. Archdeacon Perowne (rector), who kindly presided at the dinner; the Rev. H. Earle Bulwer, rector of Stanhoe, a well-known ringer; the Rev. H. Morley Smith, rector of St. Cross; the Rev. C. F. Blyth, rector of Wetheringsett—the Rev. G. A. Blyth, rector of St. Philip's, Heigham, Norwich, two brothers well known as ringers; the Rev. N. Bolingbroke, secretary of the Norwich Diocesan Association; the Rev. H. Fitch, curate of Redenhall; the Rev. W. J. Pilter, curate of Needham and Harleston; Captain Moore, W. H. Read, Esq., Charles Candler, Esq., and ringers from the following places:—Norwich, Eye, Beccles, Bungay, Kenninghall, Plumstead, and Wingfield, besides those belonging to the Redenhall Company. There was some capital ringing, and everybody seemed to enjoy themselves.

The Society for the Archdeaconry of Stafford.

THE Quarterly Meeting in connexion with the above Society was held at West Bromwich on Saturday, the 12th ult., when the following places were represented:—Tipton, Darlaston, Willenhall, Lichfield, Perry Barr, Aston, and West Bromwich. Ringing commenced at All Saints' at 2.30, when some GRANDSIRE TRIPLES were rung. At five o'clock a short service was held in the church, and an excellent address delivered by the Vicar, the Rev. M. M. Connor; after which a committee meeting was held, and tea served in the All Saints' Schools, kindly lent for the occasion, when upwards of thirty members and friends partook of it. A vote of thanks to the Vicar for his address and a touch of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES on the handbells brought a very pleasant meeting to a close. Afterwards the ringers dispersed, some to All Saints' and some to Christ Church, where a touch of STEDMAN CATERERS, GRANDSIRE CATERERS, and a plain course of GRANDSIRE CINQUES were rung. It was decided to hold the next meeting at Sedgley in April.

Oxford Diocesan Guild of Ringers.—East Berks and South Bucks Branch.

THE Annual Meeting of this branch was held at Bray on Saturday. Some good ringing was done both at Bray and All Saints', Boyn Hill. During the afternoon and evening, and the meeting, both in numbers and interest, showed that this valuable and useful Guild is making rapid progress in the

diocese and doing good work. Amongst the clergy present were the Master of the Guild (Rev. F. E. Robinson, Drayton), the Branch President and Secretary (Revs. A. H. Drummond and R. P. Newhouse, Boyn Hill), Revs. C. A. Raymond and T. H. Wrenford (Bray), Rev. J. Daubeney (Winkfield), Rev. E. J. Norris (Marlow), and Rev. St. John Methuen (Wycombe); and about fifty lay members also took part in the proceedings. After an excellent tea in the schoolroom, the President opened the business of the meeting with a short address. He said that the branch was in a very prosperous condition from every point of view. There was a large accession of honorary and ringing members; more bands had availed themselves of the services of the instructors, and consequent progress had been made in the art, and three peals of GRANDSIRE rung (at Boyn Hill, Beaconsfield, and Marlow) as against one in 1887. Two of them had been conducted by Mr. J. W. Wilkins (Boyn Hill), to whose zeal, competence, and skill, the President paid a well-deserved compliment. He also urged the formation of junior or supplementary bands in every town, to extend the practice of change-ringing and supply any vacancies which might occur. He concluded by expressing his satisfaction at the unusual number of clergy present, and his hope that no tower would be represented on the branch list without its incumbent, and no incumbent become or be a member without his ringers following his lead.

The Secretary (Rev. R. P. Newhouse) then read the balance-sheet, and gave a short account of the work of the branch during the past year.

The balance-sheet was then adopted by the meeting, and the President, officers, and Committee having resigned their respective offices, were unanimously re-elected in each case, with the addition of a member of Committee for High Wycombe junior band.

The meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the Master for his sermon (by anticipation), and the Vicars of Bray and Boyn Hill for the use of their churches and bells.

The whole of the members then adjourned to Bray Church for evensong, at which an excellent and appropriate sermon, dealing chiefly with the proper cultivation of the spiritual life amongst ringers, and admirably illustrated by reference to the use of church bells and methods of ringing, &c., was preached by the Master of the Guild.

The Winchester Diocesan Guild.

A DISTRICT Meeting will be held at Guildford on Thursday, February 7th. The belfry of St. Nicholas will be open for practice from 3.30 to 5 and from 6.30 to 9 p.m. All ringers will be welcome. A meat tea will be provided at St. Nicholas' Parish Room at 5 p.m. at 1s. each, for all who send word to the Secretary before February 4th. Committee Meeting will be held at 5.30, and at the same place, for election of members and other business.

H. A. SPYERS, *Hon. Sec.*

Birmingham and District Association.

THE Annual Meeting of the above will be held at Birmingham on Saturday, February 9th. The tower of St. John's, Deritend, will be opened for ringing at three o'clock; after which a meeting will be held at the 'Swan' Hotel, Edmond Street, at six o'clock prompt. All members are earnestly requested to attend, as there is most important business to be brought forward.

E. PARKER.

Park Road, Harborne.

The Birmingham Amalgamated Society.

THE members of the above Society will hold a meeting at the 'Swan' Hotel, Edmond Street, on Saturday, February 9th, at six p.m., when all members are earnestly requested to attend.

W. BROOK, *Sec.*

11 Tennant Street.

The Lancashire Association.—Rossendale Branch.

ON Saturday, the 19th ult., a ringing meeting in connexion with the above branch took place at the Parish Church, Haslingden, when about thirty ringers attended from Ramsbottom, Helmshore, Waterfoot, Newchurch, Bacup, Rawtenstall, and Haslingden, and took part in the ringing, which commenced about 5.30. During the evening several 504's of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES was rung by mixed bands. The meeting in the school was presided over by the Rev. Canon Champneys, rural dean, who in a suitable speech welcomed the members to his tower, and congratulated them on the great good the Association had done, and said that he hoped it and similar Associations would continue to do even more in the future. Two new ringing members were proposed, and it was resolved that the next ringing meeting be held at St. Mary's, Rawtenstall, early in February. Votes of thanks to the chairman for presiding over the meeting, and to the wardens for the use of the tower, brought the proceedings to a close, after which the bells were again set going till about nine o'clock.

All Saints', Fulham.—Church Bell-ringers' Association.

THE Annual General Meeting of the above will take place on Saturday, February 9th, 1889. Tower open at 3 p.m. Special service at 5.30 p.m. (address by Rev. F. H. Fisher, President of Society). Tea at church-room, 6.30 p.m. Business and social gathering afterwards. Tickets 9d. each. All ringers welcome. Intending visitors, please let Secretary know not later than Thursday, February 7th.

C. E. KELLEY, *Hon. Sec.*

104 High Street, Fulham, S.W.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At St. Lawrence's, Appleton, Berks.

ON Friday, the 11th ult., ten members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild rang a peal of 5021 STEPMAN CATERERS in 2 hrs. 58 mins. F. White, 1; T. Short, 2;

W. Finch, 3; S. Hounslow, 4; B. Barrett, 5; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 6; J. Avery, 7; W. Bennett, 8; J. W. Washbrook (composer and conductor), 9; G. Holifield, 10. Tenor, 14½ cwt.

At the Parish Church of St. Denys, Sleaford, Lincolnshire.

ON Saturday, the 12th ult., eight members of the North Lincolnshire Association rang a peal of 5040 BOB TRIPLES in 3 hrs. J. B. Fenton,* 1; J. W. Watson,* 2; H. Maidens,* 3; H. Hoyes,* 4; C. Wells, 5; I. Vickers (conductor), 6; D. W. Brown,* 7; J. Ellard,* 8. Tenor, 20 cwt., in E. [* First peal.] The ringers wish to thank the Vicar and Churchwardens for kindly allowing them the use of the bells. This is the first peal that has ever been rung at Sleaford. [What composition was it?—Ed. C.B.]

At the Little Room, St. Peter's Street, St. Albans, Herts.

ON Friday, the 18th ult., four members of the Ancient Society of College Youths, the Herts and Essex Associations, and the St. Peter's Society, rang, on handbells retained in hand, Holt's Six-part peal of 5040 BOB TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 20 mins. H. Lewis, 1-2; J. W. Cartmel, 3-4; W. H. L. Buckingham (conductor), 5-6; T. Waller, 7-8. Umpire, Mr. A. Hull.

At St. Mary's, Beddington, Surrey.

ON Saturday, the 19th ult., ten members of the Surrey Association rang Haley's peal of 5075 GRANDSIRE CATERERS in 3 hrs. 22 mins. A. Plowman, 1; J. Branch, 2; S. Greenwood, 3; C. Martin, 4; E. Bennett (conductor), 5; A. B. Carpenter, 6; G. Welling, 7; J. Harding (first peal of CATERERS with a bob-bell), 8; J. Trappitt, 9; W. Burkin, 10. The above peal has the 5th and 6th behind the 9th, and is thought to be the first time it has been rung. The composition was given to the conductor some years ago by the composer, and has never been published.

At All Saints', Duffield, Derbyshire.

ON Monday, the 21st ult., eight members of the Midland Counties' Association and the St. Paul's Society (Burton-on-Trent) rang a peal of 5024 LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR in 3 hrs. 17 mins. G. Robinson, 1; J. Austin, 2; A. Wakley, 3; H. D. Betteridge, 4; E. I. Stone, 5; H. Wakley, 6; T. Holmes, 7; W. Wakley, 8. Composed by Mr. W. Sottanstill, and conducted by Mr. W. Wakley. Tenor, 17 cwt. Mr. Betteridge came from Drayton, Oxford, and the above is his first peal in the method.

At the Parish Church, Tenterden, Kent.

ON Monday, the 21st ult., eight members of the Kent County Association rang a Variation of Vicar's Six-part peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 3 hrs. 6 mins. J. Bartlett (first peal of GRANDSIRE), 1; G. Cramp, 2; H. G. Rumery, 3; J. Sharp, 4; R. Edwards, 5; A. E. Nunn (conductor), 6; G. Neve, 7; H. Holdstock, 8. Tenor, 30 cwt., in D flat. The above is the quickest peal on the bells by fourteen minutes.

At the Parish Church, Lyminge, Kent.

ON Wednesday, the 23rd ult., six members of the Kent County Association rang seven different peals of BOB MINOR, 5040 changes, in 3 hrs. 14 mins. S. Finn (aged seventeen), 1; C. Laker, 2; J. Andrews, 3; G. Finn, 4; A. Santon, 5; J. H. Cheesman, 6. Conducted by Mr. Cheesman, on his seventeenth birthday. Tenor, 18½ cwt.

At St. Giles-in-the-Fields, London.

ON Thursday, the 24th ult., eight members of the St. James' Society rang Holt's Original peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 40 mins. A. Jacob, 1; Jos. Barry, 2; T. Titchener, 3; G. Chamberlain, 4; E. E. Richards, 5; W. T. Cockerill, 6; F. G. Newman (conductor), 7; P. Gayter (first peal), 8. Tenor, 18 cwt., in F.

At the Parish Church of St. Peter, Fareham, Hampshire.

ON Saturday, the 26th ult., eight members of the Winchester Diocesan Guild rang Annable's Six-part peal of 5040 BOB TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 10 mins. D. J. Jeffrey (first peal), 1; J. Staples, 2; G. Grahame, 3; F. Hill, 4; G. Williams (conductor), 6; J. W. Whiting, 7; J. Batts, 8. Tenor, 14 cwt., in F sharp. This is the first peal in the method on the bells; also first attempt at BOB TRIPLES by all except the conductor.

At the Parish Church of St. Dunstan, Hunsdon, Herts.

ON Saturday, the 26th ult., eight members of the Hertford College Youths and the Hertfordshire Association rang Holt's Original peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 3 hrs. 1 min. E. Cains, 1; E. Holifield, 2; J. Jauncey, 3; Rev. Canon Wigram, 4; S. Knight, 5; M. Ellsmore (conductor), 6; H. Baker, 7; C. Ladley, 8. Tenor, 14 cwt.

At SS. Peter and Paul's, Hambledon, Hampshire.

ON the 27th ult., members of the Winchester Diocesan Guild and the Sussex Association rang 5040 changes in four methods on six bells, being 720 OXFORD, two 720's KENT TREBLE BOB, two 720's OXFORD BOB, and two 720's BOB MINOR, in 2 hrs. 36 mins. J. Batts, 1; G. Batts, 2; G. Williams (conductor), 3; C. Tribe, 4; W. Selby, 5; J. W. Whiting (first peal on six bells), 6. This is the first peal on the bells. Messrs. G. Batts, Williams, Tribe, and Selby came from Midhurst, Sussex; J. W. Whiting from Fareham; J. Batts is of the local band. The above band wish to thank (through the medium of this paper) the Rev. Dr. White for his kindness in granting permission for a peal; also for entertaining them to tea afterwards.

At Perry Barr, Staffordshire.

ON Monday, the 28th ult., eight members of the Society for the Archdeaconry of Stafford rang Taylor's Six-part peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 45 mins. G. Mitchison, 1; W. Carle, 2; W. Long, 3; C. Williams, 4; G. Smith, 5; W. E. Smith* (conductor), 6; W. Cooper, 7;

C. Fluck, 8. Tenor, 13½ cwt. The above is the quickest peal on the bells. [*First peal as conductor; age seventeen. †First peal with a bob bell.]

AT LONG MELFORD, SUFFOLK.—On Monday, the 14th ult., the following members of the Essex Association of Change-ringers assembled at Holy Trinity Church, and rang a touch of BOB MAJOR, containing 576 changes, as follows:—J. Slater (Glensford), 1; A. Ambrose (Melford), 2; P. C. S. Scott (Melford), 3; S. Slater (Glensford), 4; H. Duce (Melford), 5; J. Bird (Melford), 6; C. Sillitoe (Sudbury, conductor), 7; S. Garwood (Glensford), 8. Another touch of BOB MAJOR was also rung, after which the bells were fired. The above was rung in honour of the birthday of the esteemed Rector, the Rev. C. J. Martyn, who thanked the ringers very kindly for doing so.

AT BASINGSTOKE, HANTS.—On Wednesday, the 16th ult., for practice, 720 GRANDSIRE MINOR (34 bobs and singles), in 26½ mins., with 7-8 covering. J. Ballard, 1; W. Bullpit, 2; T. Curtis, 3; G. Gasson, 4; J. R. Higgins, 5; H. White (conductor), 6; T. Wheeler, 7; W. Hatton, 8. Also 360 (18 bobs and 12 singles). S. F. W. Powell, 1; G. Gasson, 2; W. Bullpit, 3; T. Curtis, 4; J. R. Higgins, 5; H. White, 6; T. Wheeler, 7; W. Woods, 8. Also, two Plain COurses of GRANDSIRE THIRPLES. W. Hatton, 1; J. Ballard, 2; W. Bullpit, 3; T. Curtis, 4; G. Gasson, 5; J. R. Higgins, 6; H. White, 7; T. Wheeler, 8.

AT ST. MARY'S PARISH CHURCH, DALTON-IN-FURNESS.—On Sunday, the 20th ult., 720 GRANDSIRE MINOR, containing 38 bobs, 22 singles, in 25 mins. T. Townson, 1; T. Watson, 2; J. Spencer, 3; M. Caddy, 4; T. R. Jackson, 5; J. Burrows, 6. Conducted by T. Townson. This is the first 720 that he has conducted.

AT CHRIST CHURCH, WEST BROMWICH.—On Thursday, the 24th ult., the following members of the Society for the Archdeaconry of Stafford rang Mr. H. Johnson's date touch of 1889 GRANDSIRE CATERS in 1 hr. 11 mins. J. Cooper, 1; T. Horton, 2; S. Reeves (conductor), 3; J. R. Frisby, 4; W. R. Small, 5; J. Hall, 6; C. Timms, 7; R. Hall, 8; R. Cartwright, 9; C. Price, 10.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The Archbishop's Court, &c.

SIR,—Your well-known and justly esteemed correspondent, 'G. V.', writes as if, for once, he did not see what is *now* the point—and the practically critical point—in the impending trial before the Archbishop. It is not that 'G. V.' over-estimates the *peril* to the Church of which he speaks; nor that the promoters of these now detestable proceedings have, by indeed a strange irony of fate, succeeded in bringing to the front a purely Ecclesiastical Court, in which all the few, or only, precedents practically establish a free and *final* hand for the Archbishop—all the Courts hitherto appealed to having, formerly and now, laid it down that the Archbishop alone has jurisdiction. We imagine that it *is* so; but surprises are frequent, and men may have their eyes opened yet in strange ways and to strange things. Nor is it the point to presage what the Archbishop may find himself free, or guided, to rule, by the authoritative decision of his Court. The serious point is, that Captain Cobham's letter is *conclusive* on the part of the prosecuting Association: he meets the very kernel of the defendant's case by replying, to the Bishop of Rochester's expression, that the Court 'may finally rule in a sense opposed to the well-known principles of the promoters,' by the distinct assurance (so far as they are concerned) that the Court will *finally* rule nothing. In other words, or, in 'quotidian' English, he says: 'Rule what you like, you will get *nothing* by it. The Privy Council will put all that right. To the Privy Council we go: that is the *only* finality.'

The case is put perfectly clear now, whatever it may have been before, and Archdeacon Denison has not characterised it wrongly. It is a distinctly *avowed attempt* now to override *Ecclesiastical* jurisdiction; to *EXTEND* the jurisdiction of Courts temporal, distinctly and *avowedly*, into the domain which is not theirs, and in a portion of it hitherto, for whatever reason in fact, uninvaded. By this plain avowal, moderate non-party Churchmen gauge, even *better than before*, the merits and tone of the prosecutors.

Rigby Rectory.

THOMAS FIELD, Rural Dean.

Athanasian Creed.

SIR,—I have read with much interest Mr. Foxley's letter on this subject, and think his suggestions are much to be commended. He writes, at any rate, in a sympathetic spirit, and does not rely on dogmatic assertions. I used to be considerably distressed by the wording of this Creed, and am still far from regarding it with much affection. Had it not been for the wide and comforting views taken of the document by the late Archbishop Taft, I might to this day have remained a layman. I do not regret that my scruples as to using the Creed were overcome, and that I have been able to officiate as a minister of the Church of England. That the Creed should be permitted to remain unaltered from generation to generation strikes me as very strange. No one, so far as I can learn, understands literally the damnable clauses; the clergy, as a rule, readily acknowledge the difficulties of the Creed; to the vast majority of our intelligent laity it is a stumbling-block; while to the poor and unlearned it is utterly unintelligible. So far as its public recitation in the service is concerned (whatever may be its effect upon Mahomedans and others, it seems to me better calculated to stir up strife than to promote unity and good-will among Christians. I am inclined to think that there are few Bishops who would press their clergy to make use of it, and who would reprimand those who do not. For myself, I read it once a year—on Trinity Sunday—which is oftener than my predecessors used it, and oftener, I fancy, than my congregation care about taking part in it.

As I read, I put upon it my own interpretation, but to my ears it always strikes a jarring note. I submit that it is not fair to attempt to force upon Churchmen this document, which every reasonable man agrees in taking with considerable latitude. It does not, it is often said, mean what it says; but in Mr. Foxley's words, 'it *seems* to mean it,' and thereby is a grievous offence to many good people. If it cannot be altered as your correspondent suggests, may not the rubric ordering its frequent recital be modified, so as to grant freely to the Church's ministers that liberty which, in any case, they are likely to claim?

A VICAR IN SUFFOLK.

SIR,—I am glad this subject is being again discussed. May I add my quota on two points? The Creeds or symbols of the Church have for their object I suppose (a) the expression of the Faith once delivered to the Saints; and (b) the security of the Sacraments from desecration by unbelievers. (a) As regards the first, being a personal expression from each believer of his own reception of that Faith, they are rightly expressed in the *first person singular*, 'I believe,' &c. How is it if the Athanasian formulæ, if it be a *creed* and not a *hymn* or *article*, is expressed in the *third person plural*? This is the real difficulty with many who hold everything taught therein, because it speaks of *those* who do not, rather than of *us* who do. (b) If the Apostles' Creed is a safeguard of the Sacrament of Baptism, and the Nicene Creed of the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper, so that he who will express his Faith in their terms can claim admission to both Sacraments, what does the Athanasian formulæ specially protect? *What have we more to offer than these two Sacraments*, which we dare not refuse to any one holding the Apostles' and Nicene Creeds, but has scruples as the Athanasian Creed.

W. J. ALDERFORD.

January 19th.

SIR,—If Acts, iii. 21 does not point to Universalism, it does not point to everlasting punishment; and as Scripture speaks of four quite different issues of sinful living—(1), Loss; (2), Destruction; (3), Eternal Punishment; (4), Reconciliation—and as the Church has not harmonised this apparent discord, I must still maintain that to place any one of the four by itself in a formal creed is to prejudge an open question. Is Matt. xxv. 31-46 a 'description of the last judgment?' By comparing the 'when' of ver. 31 with the 'henceforth' of chap. xxvi., ver. 64 (Revised Version), spoken less than three days afterwards, I conclude that both refer to the same thing, namely, a judgment which began when Christ stood as a prisoner before the high-priest, and is still going on. If so, it is certainly not a description but a parable; and if not so—that is, if it relates wholly to 'the last judgment'—does any one who has tried to picture the scene with his mind's eye, expect that all will happen, act for act and word for word, as there described? If not, how does it differ from a parable, especially the two other parables in the same chapter? As well say that while the first and second parables in Luke, xv. are parables, the third is literal description. But, after all, the phrases 'everlasting fire' and 'everlasting punishment' are translations of words of Christ, through imperfect translations, and whatever Christ meant by the original phrases we must mean also. This is not the case with the account of the Holy Trinity. Does any Christian scholar, from the Archbishop of Canterbury or the Bishop of Rome downwards, believe that everybody will perish everlastingly after death if he does not hold whole and undefiled, in this present life, the admirable and scientific expression of the Catholic faith which is called the Athanasian Creed? If we do not believe this, why need we go on using language which, to all but scholars, must seem to mean this? Is there anything at bottom much more respectable in such conservatism than in the customary 'mumpsimus' of famous memory? No doubt it is true that 'whosoever will walk upright, before all things it is necessary that he believe in gravitation, which belief except every one do keep whole and undefiled, without doubt he shall stumble perpetually. And gravitation is this, that every particle of matter in the universe attracts every other particle, with a force directly proportioned to the mass of the attracting particle, and inversely to the square of the distance between them.' But must every man before he can be trusted to walk believe in gravitation according to this definition?

JOSEPH FOXLEY.

Carlton, Workson, Conversion of St. Paul (Did he hold the faith according to the Athanasian definitions?), 1889.

Church Services.

SIR,—Such letters as that of 'A Vicar,' in *Church Bells* of last week, fill one with astonishment and alarm, not to say indignation. The clergy have no right whatever to chop and change the services appointed in the Prayer-book—they have no right to *leave out* this, or to *add* that (of course I exclude ordinary week-day services, which may be shortened in accordance with the *Shortened Services Act*). 'A Vicar,' however, on the Lord's Day, on his own authority entirely, omits part of the 'Exhortation,' or 'Dearly beloved,' as he terms it. He prefaces the same exhortation with a hymn, to which we cannot object, providing the 'Sentences' are read.

'A Vicar' does not state whether on week-days or Sundays in conducting the evening service he introduces a Litany, and then goes on to the Lord's Prayer. If on Sundays he does this, he is most emphatically a law-breaker, and an offender against ecclesiastical law and order; if on week-days he does this, I can only say that it is out of all order to have any week-day service shortened or added to, save as laid down in the aforementioned *Shortened Services Act*. As far as special anthems are concerned, let us have them by all means on great feasts instead of the *Venite*, but not until set *before* as used by those in authority. It may be pointed out that the *Mass* is the present, for special anthems, other than on Easter Day, if we want them, is after the third collect. [Moreover, an anthem need not necessarily be sung to florid music. A simple chant is often more appropriate.]

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

St. Paul's Cathedral, London.

THE bells will be rung on all Sundays throughout the year 1889 at 10 a.m. and 2.45 p.m. Also on the following days:—
 Tuesday, Jan. 1 (New-Year's Day) . . . 9 to 10 a.m.
 Friday, Jan. 25 (Dedication Festival) . . . 9 to 10 a.m. & 5.45 to 6.45 p.m.

Wednesday, May 15 (Sons of the Clergy Festival) . . . 2.30 & 5 p.m.
 Friday, May 24 (Queen's Birthday) . . . 9 to 10 a.m. & 7 p.m.
 Thursday, May 30 (Ascension Day) . . . 9.30 a.m. & 6 p.m.
 Thursday, 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.

Friday, Nov. 1 (All Saints') . . . 9 to 10 a.m. & 7 p.m.
 Saturday, Nov. 9 (Lord Mayor's Day) . . . 1 p.m. and 6 p.m.
 Wednesday, Dec. 25 (Christmas Day) . . . 10 a.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. 22, Feb. 19, May 14, July 9, Aug. 6, Sept. 3, Oct. 1, Oct. 29, Nov. 26.

BESIDES St. Paul's, the following is a list of churches at which the Members of the Ancient Society of College Youths are engaged, and the nights they meet for practice (1889):—

TWELVE BELLS.

St. Saviour's, Southwark, Tuesday, January 1st, and every fortnight.
 St. Giles', Cripplegate, Tuesday, January 8th, and every four weeks.
 St. Mary-le-Bow, Cheapside, Friday, January 11th, and every four weeks.
 St. Paul's Cathedral, Tuesday, January 22nd, and every four weeks.
 St. Michael's, Cornhill, Friday, January 25th, and every four weeks.
 These are the Official Meetings of the Company.

Members of the Society also meet at the following churches:—

TEN BELLS.

St. Magnus the Martyr, Thames Street.
 Allhallows, Lombard Street.
 St. Dunstan's, Stepney, Monday, January 14th, and every fortnight.

EIGHT BELLS.

St. Matthew's, Bethnal Green, every Sunday morning.
 St. John's, Hackney, Wednesday, January 2nd, and every fortnight.
 St. Paul's, Shadwell, Wednesday, January 2nd, and every fortnight.
 St. Matthew's, Upper Clapton, Thursday, January 3rd, and every fortnight.
 St. Mary Matfelon, Whitechapel, Friday, January 4th, and every fortnight.
 St. Mary's, Stratford, Bow, Monday, January 7th, and every fortnight.
 Christchurch, Spitalfields, Wednesday, January 9th, and every fortnight.
 St. John of Jerusalem, South Hackney, Thursday, January 10th, and every fortnight.
 St. Mary's, Walthamstow, second and fourth Saturday in the month.
 St. Gabriel's, Warwick Square, Pimlico, Sunday evening, January 6th, from 6 to 7 p.m., and every fortnight.
 All Saints', Fulham, every Thursday, 8 to 9.30; Sundays, 10 to 11 and 6 to 7.
 St. Stephen's, Rochester Row, Westminster, January 13th, from 6 to 7 p.m. and every fortnight; every Sunday morning, 10 to 11.

The United Counties' Association.

THE next Annual Meeting of the above Association will be held on Saturday, February 16th, at the 'Arden Arms,' Millgate, Stockport. Members are hereby requested to note that the business meeting, which will precede the dinner, will commence at 3.30, and dinner at five o'clock. Dinner tickets, 1s. 6d. each. Those companies intending being present at dinner will greatly oblige by sending in their number to Mr. Fletcher, 'Arden Arms,' Millgate, Stockport, on or before Thursday, February 14th. Members are further requested to note that the annual subscriptions are due. The bells of St. Mary's Parish Church (eight) have been kindly placed at the disposal of the members.

JAMES S. WILDE, } Hon. Secs.
 JOSEPH RADCLIFFE, }

The Lancashire Association.

THE next meeting of the Liverpool diocesan branch of this Association will be held at Huyton, on Saturday, February 16th.
 40 ~~Lancaster~~ Street, Liverpool.

JOHN R. PRITCHARD, Branch Sec.

Kent County Association.

A DISTRICT MEETING will be held at Swancombe on Monday, the 25th inst. Committee Meeting at 12.15 in the National School. The churches of Gravesend, Dartford, and Milton-next-Gravesend, may be visited. Members intending to be present are requested to communicate with the Secretary.

At the Committee Meeting held at Ashford on the 26th ult. the rules were revised, and several important alterations introduced. It is proposed to divide the county into Five Districts, with local Committees, who are to elect their own Secretary. The Central Committee will be much reduced in numbers. The proposal to raise the qualification was negatived by a large majority. The amended rules will be in the hands of members shortly.

R. B. KNATCHBULL-HUGGESSON, Hon. Sec.

The St. Albans Cathedral Society.

THE Annual Meeting of this Society was held at the Rectory on Tuesday evening, the 22nd ult., the President (the Ven. Archdeacon Lawrence) in the chair. The report and balance-sheet were produced and passed, the latter showing a balance in the hands of the Treasurer. Mr. R. Fowler and Mr. H. L. Waddington were re-elected Treasurer and Secretary respectively, and Mr. W. G. Cartmel was appointed by the Archdeacon to be Conductor for the ensuing year. Mr. W. Battle and Mr. T. Grant were elected Committeemen, and they, with the three *ex-officio* members, form the Committee.

The Hertfordshire Association.

A DISTRICT MEETING will be held at Hertford on Saturday, the 23rd inst. The towers of St. Andrew's and All Saints' Churches will be open for ringing during the afternoon and evening. Tea at five p.m. at the Coffee Tavern, followed by the business meeting. Arrangements will be made with the Great Northern Railway Company for the issue of cheap tickets to members attending the meeting if they will inform me, not later than Wednesday, the 20th inst., of the stations from which they intend to travel. The railway authorities will require members to produce their receipts for the current year's subscription at the booking offices at the time of applying for the tickets.

E. P. DEBENHAM, Hon. Sec.

St. Albans, February 5th, 1889.

The Ringers of Holbeck, Leeds, Yorkshire.

SIR,—As the Holbeck Church bells, which are admitted to be among the best in Yorkshire, are in danger of becoming silent, not on account of lack of competent ringers, but in consequence of want of funds to pay such ringers—our church offertory being quite unable to bear the burden of such payment—I venture to appeal through your columns to all lovers of bells to assist us in maintaining the ringing of our bells.

The majority of the company who compose our ringers have lately given their services free of charge, but we find that many of the voluntary ringers do not consider themselves bound, as paid ringers are, to attend regularly and punctually, and that they will not submit to the imposition of fines for non-attendance and unpunctuality; consequently, those who make it a point of duty to be in the belfry regularly, and at the times arranged for practice and ringing, are frequently put to the inconvenience of waiting for longer or shorter times till the company is complete, and sometimes the number for ringing cannot be made up.

The company have therefore concluded that they cannot continue the present voluntary plan, and we are compelled to find funds to remunerate our ringers, or to let our bells remain silent. This latter alternative will, I hope, be averted by the kind help of Holbeck people and others who appreciate bell-ringing. Any contributions that may be sent I will duly acknowledge.

In conclusion, I feel I ought to say our ringers stand second to none for respectability, good behaviour, and steadiness. They form a very capable company, and I believe it would be a matter of real regret to them to be disbanded—it certainly would be to me.

OSMOND COOKSON.

Holbeck Vicarage, Leeds.

[Ringers who will not come, and come regularly and punctually, without pay, can only be pretenders to the honourable title of 'ringer.' A real change-ringer will always look on the fact that he is permitted to use the bells for practice and peal-ringing in the week as more than ample pay for that which ought to be freely given to God, *i.e.*, the use of his bell-ringing talents in calling God's Church to worship. We advise the Vicar to look around for fresh ringers.—Ed. C.B.]

Restoration of the Bells of St. Peter's, Dorchester, Dorset.

We have great pleasure in announcing that the bells of the above church, which have been silent many months, are to be restored. The work will include the recasting of the sixth and seventh bells, which are cracked, quarter-turning the other six, providing entire new cage and fittings throughout. The bells will be fitted with a patent chiming apparatus, and the whole of the other fittings of the belfry will be renewed. The work is to be entrusted to Messrs. Warner & Sons, the well-known London bell-founders, who recently erected an entirely new ring at Bridport, added a treble and rehung the bells at St. Giles's, Chideock, and recast two of the bells at St. Michael's, Askerswell, all of which work has given great satisfaction.

It is hoped that the work to be done at Dorchester will be completed by Easter.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At St. Mary's, Prestbury, Gloucestershire.

ON Tuesday, the 22nd ult., eight members of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association rang the Rev. C. D. P. Davies' Ten-part peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES (No. 6) in 2 hrs. 57 mins. D. Davis, 1; F. E. Ward (conductor), 2; G. H. Phillott, 3; T. R. Hooper, 4; Rev. C. W. Bassano, 5; W. T. Pates, 6; T. Davis, 7; T. Compton, 8. Tenor, 14 cwt. A farewell peal to Mr. Ward, who is removing to Newport, Monmouthshire.

At St. Mary's, Ross, Herefordshire.

ON Tuesday, the 22nd ult., the following members of the Ross branch of the Ringers' Guild rang Holt's Ten-part peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 3 hrs. 14 mins.—H. Bird, 1; J. Wall (conductor), 2; E. Turner, 3; J. Atkins, 4; J. H. Bussell, 5; J. Clark, 6; A. Bird, 7; R. Clark, 8. Tenor, 25 cwt.

At St. John-the-Baptist's, Loughton, Essex.

ON Thursday, the 24th ult., eight members of the Society of Royal Cumberland Youths rang a peal of 6016 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR in 3 hrs. 38 mins. A. H. Gardom, 1; J. Gobbett, 2; J. Priest, jun., 3; E. Chapman, 4; E. Barnett, 5; B. Foskett, 6; H. Scarlett, 7; W. Lebbon (first peal in

the method), 8. Composed by Mr. Dains and conducted by Mr. Gardom. Tenor, 21 cwt. First peal in the method on the bells. This composition, which is now rung for the first time, has the fifth and sixth their extent wrong and right, and was rung on the occasion of the twenty-third birthday of Mr. W. Lebbon, the ringers wishing him many happy returns.

At All Saints', Fulham, London.

On Saturday, the 26th ult., ten members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang a peal of 5002 STEDMAN CATERS in 3 hrs. 9 mins. F. G. Newman, 1; W. Cecil, 2; W. H. L. Buckingham, 3; R. T. Woodley, 4; C. F. Winny, 5; E. P. Debenham, 6; E. Horrex, 7; G. T. McLaughlin, 8; J. W. Driver, 9; S. How, 10. Composed by Mr. Nelms and conducted by Mr. Newman. Tenor, 21 cwt.

At St. Stephen's, Westminster, London.

On Saturday, the 26th ult., eight members of the St. Stephen's Society (Westminster) and the Ancient Society of College Youths rang Holt's Original peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 3 hrs. 5 mins. S. J. Reed,* 1; J. M. Hayes, 2; H. R. Newton (conductor), 3; A. F. Ingerfield,* 4; E. Duff, 5; H. S. Ellis, 6; W. H. George, 7; W. Carter, 8. Tenor, 25 cwt. [* First peal.]

At Holy Trinity, Melford, Suffolk.

On Monday evening, the 28th ult., a mixed band of the Essex Association rang a peal of 5024 BOB MAJOR in 3 hrs. 5 mins. G. Maxim (Foxearth), 1; S. Slater (Glemsford), 2; O. Garwood (Glemsford), 3; A. Symonds (Lavenham), 4; H. Duce (Melford), 5; H. Smith (Lavenham), 6; C. Sillitoe (Sudbury), 7; J. Lee (Foxearth), 8. Tenor, 16 cwt., in F. This peal was composed by Mr. J. Barker of Liversedge, Yorkshire, and ably conducted by Mr. Sillitoe. It is in forty-four courses in two parts, and has the 6th bell twenty-two times wrong and right, with single half-way and end.

At the Parish Church, Rotherham, Yorkshire.

On Monday, the 28th ult., ten members of the Yorkshire Association rang a peal of 5016 STEDMAN CATERS in 3 hrs. 28 mins. C. Bower, 1; W. Davies, 2; F. Coates, 3; W. Coates, 4; T. Whitworth, 5; C. H. Hattersley (composer and conductor), 6; J. Hale, 7; T. Lee, 8; A. Rodgers, 9; W. Hurst, 10. This composition has the sixth in second's place throughout, with the fifth its extent behind the ninth (by the use of bells only), and the treble never in that position. Mr. Davies came from Liverpool.

At the Society's Meeting-room, Salisbury.

On Thursday, the 31st 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. 26 mins. W. S. Wise, 1-2; T. Blackburn (conductor), 3-4; W. W. Gifford, 5-6; H. D. Adams, 7-8. Umpire, Mr. A. P. Goddard. Messrs. Lush, Lawrence, and Clements, heard a great part of the peal.

At St. Andrew's, Litchurch, Derby.

On Thursday, the 31st ult., eight members of the Midland Counties Association rang Hubbard's Five-part peal of 5040 BOB MAJOR in 3 hrs. 10 mins., in honour of Mr. H. C. Woodward's birthday. W. Shardlow, 1; C. Draper, 2; H. C. Woodward, 3; T. Alton, 4; J. W. Thompson, 5; A. E. Thompson, 6; C. Hart, 7; G. Mottshaw (first peal as conductor), 8. Tenor, 21 cwt., in E flat.

At St. Paul's, Wood Green, Wednesday.

On Saturday, the 2nd inst., Biddlestone's Twelve-part peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES was rung in 3 hrs. 15 mins. W. Griffin,* 1; W. H. Horton,* 2; J. Astbury, sen., 3; W. Cheshire, 4; W. Johnson (conductor), 5; G. Hughes, 6; B. Gough, 7; D. Chapman, 8. Tenor, 17 cwt. Messrs. Griffin, Astbury, and Chapman, came from Walsall; Horton, Cheshire; Gough, Coseley; Hughes, Tipton; and Johnson, Darlaston. [* First peal.]

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

On Saturday, the 2nd inst., eight members of the Waterloo Society rang a peal of 5056 GRANDSIRE MAJOR in 3 hrs. W. Baron, jun., 1; W. W. Thorne, 2; A. E. Church, 3; G. E. Hammond, 4; W. E. Cockerill, 5; W. L. Chamberlain, 6; G. Wild, 7; F. G. Newman, 8. Composed by Mr. J. Carter, and conducted by Mr. Newman.

At St. Clement Danes, Strand, London.

On Tuesday afternoon, the 5th inst., ten members of the St. James's Society rang a peal of 5039 GRANDSIRE CATERS in 3 hrs. 34 mins. J. L. Haworth, 1; H. Langdon, 2; F. G. Newman, 3; A. E. Church, 4; W. Jones, 5; F. Davey (Exeter), 6; W. Weatherstone, 7; W. Davies (Liverpool), 8; R. French, 9; J. Barry, 10. Composed by Mr. J. Rogers, and conducted by Mr. French. The above peal was rung with the bells half muffled as a token of respect for Mr. James Hodges, late vestryman of St. Clement, who was buried the same day.

At St. Lawrence Jewry, Guildhall, City of London.—On Monday, the 4th inst., the following members of St. James's Society—Messrs. Alford, Haverhill (conductor), Jameson, Weatherstone, Barry, French, Davies (Liverpool), and Albane—rang, in two touches, 1260 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES to celebrate the swearing-in of Major Davies as one of the Aldermen of the City of London.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS.—The address of Mr. G. Mash, steeple-keeper of St. Saviour's, Southwark, London, for the future will be—No. 30 Newcomen Street, Borough, London.

REVERTER (L)—W. W. Gifford (thanks); Mr. J. Rogers; Mr. E. P. Debenham; and others. "A Member of St. James's Society" (though giving his name, has not given his address).

CORRESPONDENCE.

Toleration in Ritual.

SIR,—With the tone of Canon G. Venables' article, January 4th, I, for one, heartily agree; but there is one important point to be noted. The principle he advocates ends in congregationalism. If services are to be held to suit the tastes of Puritans and Ritualists respectively, as exhibited in their extreme and intolerant exponents, each will seek the 'place of worship' most suited to his idiosyncrasy, whether it be in his own parish or not. This, of course, is what is largely done in our large towns. A practical result of it was reported to me last week, in one clergyman addressing his Sunday-school in words like these, 'This is the true doctrine, which I give you; *you will not get it in other parishes, for example, in St. —'s* (naming the next parish).' Yet it is possible this clergyman is fully alive to the sin of schism.

But the whole is not said. The majority of our parish churches are not in big towns. In these cases to set up a plea for the right of extreme men, whether Calvinist or Ritualist, to model the whole services on the lines of their idiosyncrasies, on the ground of 'toleration,' is a sad confusion. For be it remembered that the parochial system, based upon the great ideal of unity in one place, requires every parishioner to attend his parish church. There is no other within reach. Where is the toleration in a man who has the solemn duty committed to him of preserving that unity in a parish, setting up a style of worship and interpretation which is directly calculated to exclude other phases of taste or opinion as heretical? In that parish are men inclined respectively to High, Low, or Broad. A man comes and makes all Church proceedings favour one school. Of what avail is it for the principle of toleration that the vicar in the parish to the north is of one divers variety of opinion, and he to the south of the opposite pole? If toleration is to be more than a mockery, it must prevail in each parish. The statesman-like ideal of our Prayer-book must be adhered to, and a service provided which, while it sets forth the unity of the faith and the majesty of worship, repels none by the exclusiveness of its extremes. On the other principle, in each parish should be set up two or three separate churches, side by side, in the name of unity: *μη γυνόιστο*. J. MALET LAMBERT.

Newland Vicarage, Hull.

Church Services.

SIR,—Your correspondent 'W.H.' forgets, I think, that when the prescribed Sunday services have been read, the clergy are at liberty to vary the evening service. At our ordinary services few keep to the letter of the law. In many churches the long exhortation in the Communion Service is omitted, and the words 'Ye that do truly, &c.' only read, a practice which the late Bishop Wilberforce adopted; while some omit the three prayers after the collect for grace in the morning, when the Litany follows in the afternoon or in the evening, and believe that they have authority for so doing; and others always read them.

May not all the improvements gained, such as the use of hymns, and the division of the services, &c., be ascribed to the clergy, who first familiarised the people with such changes, and not to our rulers or Convocations?

Many of us believe that the Church never will make that progress which we all desire, until there is more variety and elasticity allowed in the use of her prescribed services. Why should every petition and suffrage in our evening prayer be precisely the same as those used in morning prayer? When a member of the Church has attended early Communion, with morning prayer and Litany at midday; what more has the Church to offer that worshipper in the matter of *prayer*? Literally nothing more in the form of prayer, if the two collects after that for the day in the evening prayer be excepted. Can such needless repetition be desirable?

Surely the clergy who can see their way to supply some change at a third service are deserving of praise rather than censure. Many of us long for the day when the Church will see her way to enrich her services, and adapt them to the times. At the present moment we are like artisans, compelled to use instruments which have not advanced with the age. If the Church is ever to regain lost ground, and be rightly equipped for the conflict, she must make her services more adapted to the requirements of the age. In the last century evening services were almost unknown; now they are to be met with on every side, and nothing has to be done by authority to supply the want. There is too, now, a greater variety of character to deal with—from the costermonger up to the more refined member of society—which calls for some authorised *power of adaptation*, which, if centred in the Bishop of the diocese, might easily be exercised.

I only repeat the sentiment of many of my fellow clergy, who feel the need of more adaptation and variety in our services. A VICAR.

SIR,—The contention of 'W.H.' that things must go on as they have done, is quite too late in the day. Indeed, I am surprised that any one could write to you in that tone after the burning words we have had in your columns year after year from Mr. Venables upon this very question of the want of elasticity in the church services. I would recommend every clergyman to have morning prayer, Litany, and Communion at one service. When there is only an early celebration let the Communion service not be repeated. On other Sundays take the Litany, either in the afternoon or the evening. If in the evening, let it follow the anthem's place. Thousands would then hear and join in the beautiful Litany who never hear it now.

February 3rd, 1889.

The Athanasian Creed.

SIR,—May I contribute a few words to the discussion now going on in your pages on what are called the 'damnatory,' or, as I should prefer to call them, the 'minatory' clauses of the Athanasian symbol.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Belfry Shutters.

SIR,—Can any reader advise the wardens what to do to keep the rain off the bell-frames, ropes, &c., where the windows are large and the louvres far apart and narrow? It is suggested that wooden shutters be inserted in each opening, to be opened or closed from below, on the principle of Venetian blinds. Would this plan do? A line by post to me would be appreciated.

East Crompton, near Oldham.

SAMUEL H. WATTS.

A New Clock at Farley Hall, Staffordshire.

A LARGE clock has been erected upon Farley Hall stables by Messrs. John Smith & Sons, of the Midland Steam Clock Works, Derby. It strikes the hours and half-hours and has two dials. The same firm are making a large Cambridge clock for Matlock, one for Bradwell, near Buxton, one for Byrkley, and others.

A Commemoration at Bishop's Stortford, Herts.

ON Wednesday, the 16th ult., the Bishop's Stortford Company had a dinner to commemorate the peal of BOB MAJOR rung by them on New Year's Eve. A touch of 560 CANTERBURY PLEASURE was rung on the church bells. W. J. Prior, 1; W. Prior, 2; C. Prior, 3; H. Prior, 4; F. W. Chapman, 5; G. Prior, 6; P. Springham, 7; H. J. Tucker (conductor), 8. First attempt in the method by all. An adjournment was made to the house of the conductor, where about twenty ringers and friends sat down to an excellent dinner. Afterwards, the handbells were brought into requisition; and with touches and tunes, songs and music, a very pleasant evening was spent.

Bridport, Dorset.

THE Annual Dinner in connexion with St. Mary's Honorary Ringing Guild took place at the 'Greyhound' Hotel, on Tuesday evening, the 12th inst. The Rev. E. J. L. B. Henslowe, the rector, who is President of the Guild, occupied the chair, the vice-chair being filled by the Hon. Secretary, Mr. W. B. Northover. After the removal of the cloth, the usual loyal and patriotic toasts of 'The Queen,' 'The Prince and Princess of Wales and all the Royal Family,' were duly given and heartily received, also 'The Bishop and Clergy of the diocese,' 'The St. Mary's Honorary Ringing Guild,' 'The President, Vice-Presidents, and the Officers of the Guild,' all of which were suitably proposed and ably acknowledged. Several members added greatly to the enjoyment of the evening by singing some capital songs, Mr. Albert Stone, the organist, who is also a member of the Guild, being the accompanist. Altogether a very happy and joyous evening was spent.

The Worcestershire and Adjoining Districts, Change-Ringing Association.

ON Saturday, the 26th ult., a Quarterly Meeting of the above Association was held at Cradley. There were upwards of forty members present from Bromsgrove, Brierley Hill, Cradley, Clent, Dudley, Hagley, Netherton, Old Hill, Stourbridge, Tipton, and Wollaston. Touches of BOB TRIPLES, BOB MAJOR, 434 of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 704 of KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, and a course of STEDMAN TRIPLES, were rung upon the tower bells. The business meeting was held in the schoolroom, presided over by the Master, Mr. Samuel Spittle, Dudley, who, in opening the meeting, briefly remarked that, according to an analysis for the past year, the Association was making some progress in the number of the peals rung, although they were in only two methods, viz., GRANDSIRE and PLAIN BOB; but hoped during the present year some peals in the more intricate methods would not only be attempted, but accomplished. In conclusion, he wished the members one and all success in their undertaking, and hoped they would have a bright and prosperous new year. The minutes of the last meeting being read and confirmed, the usual business of the Association was transacted, twelve new members being elected. The meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the Rev. J. H. Thompson, vicar, for the use of the schoolroom, tower, and bells, and also to the Master for presiding, who suitably responded.

It was arranged to hold the next Committee meeting at Hagley on Saturday, March 16th, 1889.

The North Middlesex Association.

THE first Quarterly Meeting of the above Association was held at Hendon on Wednesday, January 16th. Members and visitors to the number of seventy-three were present, and ringing was freely indulged in. Several peals (120) of GRANDSIRE and BOB DOUBLES were rung, also touches of BOB MINOR. A fine tablet, about to be fixed in the ringing-chamber, and recording the first 720 rung by the Association, was on view. It has been executed by one of the members (Mr. W. Russell), upon whom it reflects great credit.

A business meeting was afterwards held, Mr. T. Card, Master of the Association for the current year, presiding, at which eight new members were elected. The Finchley branch gave notice that their tower would be open to members after evening service on the last Sunday in each month. The Hendon branch also gave notice that they had come to a similar arrangement for the first Sunday in each month. Two members volunteered, and their services were accepted, as instructors to the Edgware branch. It was decided to hold the next quarterly meeting at Edgware on Friday, April 12th, of which meeting due notice will be given.

A vote of thanks to the Vicar for the use of the bells, and to the Master for presiding, terminated the proceedings.

North Notts Association.

THE next meeting of the above Association will be held at St. Swithin's Church, East Retford, on Saturday, March 2nd, at four p.m., by kind permission of the Vicar, the Rev. A. F. Elsworth.

The North Lincolnshire Association.

THE Quarterly Meeting of this Association was held at Gainsborough on Saturday, the 26th ult., the Rev. Canon Williams, vicar of Gainsborough, presiding. There were present:—Sir Charles Anderson, Bart., Rev. C. E. Cockin, and other honorary members; also ringing members from Lincoln, Grimsby, Stow, and Retford.

The Chairman expressed his regret at being about to leave Gainsborough, and wished the Association every success in the future. He also availed himself of that opportunity to thank F. F. Linley, Esq. (who is Vice-President for the Gainsborough centre of the Association), for the very active part he has taken in the belfry of the parish church. Sir Charles Anderson, Bart., expressed his satisfaction at the good work done by the Association, and gave some very interesting particulars of the bells of this district and other famous peals. On the motion of the Rev. C. E. Cockin a vote of sympathy with the Lord Bishop of the diocese in his present trials was unanimously accorded. Five honorary and eleven ringing members were elected.

After the meeting several touches of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES were rung on the bells of the parish church by mixed bands.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At St. Andrew's, Hertford, Herts.

ON Thursday, the 31st ult., eight members of the Hertfordshire Association rang Holt's Original peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 58 mins. H. Bottrill, 1; W. A. Richardson (first peal), 2; J. Kentish (first peal inside), 3; J. Jauncey, 4; M. Ellsmore, 5; H. Baker (conductor), 6; J. Cull, 7; W. Goodchild, 8. Tenor, 16 cwt. Messrs. Richardson and Kentish came from Hatfield, Herts.

At St. Bartholomew's, Radcliffe, Lancashire.

ON Saturday, the 2nd inst., eight members of the Lancashire Association (Manchester and Rochdale Branches) rang a peal of 5040 BOB MAJOR in 2 hrs. 50 mins. F. Birtwistle, 1; J. Morris, 2; E. Bishop (birthday), 3; A. Barrett, 4; G. Hardman, 5; A. E. Wreaks (conductor), 6; W. Fielding, 7; J. Scholey, 8. Tenor, 12½ cwt. Composed by A. P. Heywood, Esq.

At St. Mary's, Stafford.

ON Saturday, the 2nd inst., ten members of the Society for the Archdeaconry of Stafford rang a peal of 5130 GRANDSIRE CATERS in 3 hrs. 25 mins. T. Horton, 1; W. R. Small, 2; S. Reeves, 3; J. R. Frisby, 4; R. Cartwright, 5; W. Micklewright, jun., 6; C. Timms, 7; R. Hall, 8; C. Price, 9; W. C. Hall, 10. Composed by the late Mr. H. Booth, of London, and conducted by Mr. S. Reeves. Tenor, 20 cwt. This is the first peal of CATERS rung on the bells (which were augmented from eight to ten in the Jubilee year, by Messrs. Gillett and Johnston, of Croydon), and the composition has the 5th and 6th each twenty-four times behind the 9th. Mr. Cartwright came from Wombourne; Micklewright, Dudley; W. C. Hall, Stafford; and the rest of the band belong to West Bromwich. [First peal on ten bells.]

At St. Mary's, Walthamstow, Essex.

ON Saturday, the 2nd inst., eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang Brooke's Variation of Thurstan's peal of 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 58 mins. J. Pettit (conductor), 1; W. B. Manning, 2; G. Grimwade (first peal of STEDMAN), 3; M. A. Wood, 4; T. Maynard, 5; H. Springall, 6; S. E. Joyce, 7; W. Crookford, 8. Tenor, 19½ cwt. The first peal in the method on the bells.

At the Parish Church, Glossop, Derbyshire.

ON Saturday, the 2nd inst., eight members of the United Counties Association rang a peal of 5376 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR in 3 hrs. 17 mins. T. Wilde, 1; R. Pritchard, 2; W. Harrop, 3; J. B. Hibbert, 4; C. Hayne, 5; Jos. Maloney, 6; S. Wood (composer and conductor), 7; J. Pye, jun., 8.

At St. Etheldreda's, Hatfield, Herts.

ON Monday, the 4th inst., eight members of the Hatfield College Youths rang Taylor's Bob-and-Single Variation peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 3 hrs. 10 mins. J. G. Rumney, 1; J. Shepherd, 2; J. Kentish, 3; Jos. Hollingsworth, 4; W. Powers, 5; H. J. Rowe (conductor), 6; T. Gathard, 7; R. Stocks, 8. Tenor, 28 cwt. The first peal by a local band since 1790. [* First peal.]

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

AT ST. PETER'S, BELGRAVE, LEICESTERSHIRE.

ON Tuesday, the 5th inst., a peal of 5184 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR was rung in 3 hrs. 4 mins. Rev. W. W. C. Baker (first peal in the method), 1; Rev. G. F. Coleridge, 2; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 3; H. Baker, 4; A. P. Heywood, 5; J. W. Taylor, jun., 6; C. H. Hattersley, 7; J. W. Washbrook (composer and conductor), 8. Tenor, 14 cwt. 2 qrs. 14 lbs., in F. The first peal in the method on the bells.

AT ST. SAVIOUR'S, LEICESTER.

ON Tuesday, the 5th inst., a peal of 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES (Brooke's Variation) was rung in 2 hrs. 58 mins. C. H. Hattersley (conductor), 1; Rev. G. F. Coleridge, 2; H. Baker, 3; J. W. Washbrook, 4; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 5; Rev. W. W. C. Baker, 6; J. W. Taylor, jun., 7; A. P. Heywood, 8. Tenor, 25 cwt. 3 qrs. 12 lbs., in E flat. The first peal in the method on the bells.

AT ST. MARY'S, COLEORTON, LEICESTERSHIRE.

ON Wednesday, the 6th inst., a peal of 5040 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR was rung in 3 hrs. 2 mins. Rev. W. W. C. Baker, 1; Rev. F. E.

Robinson, 2; J. W. Taylor, jun., 3; Rev. G. F. Coleridge, 4; J. W. Washbrook, 5; C. H. Hattersley, 6; H. Baker, 7; W. Wakley, 8. Tenor, 13 cwt. 1 qr. 8 lbs., in G. Composed by the Rev. H. Earle Bulwer, and conducted by Mr. Wakley. First peal in the method on the bells.

AT ST. HELEN'S, ASHBY-DE-LA-ZOUCH, LEICESTERSHIRE.

ON Wednesday, the 6th inst., a peal of 5024 SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR was rung in 3 hrs. 12 mins. Rev. G. F. Coleridge, 1; J. W. Washbrook, 2; A. P. Heywood, 3; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 4; J. W. Taylor, jun., 5; C. H. Hattersley, 6; H. Baker, 7; W. Wakley, 8. Tenor, 16 cwt. 3 qrs. 23 lbs., in E flat. Composed by Mr. Dains, and conducted by Mr. Wakley. This is the first 5024 of SUPERLATIVE ever rung, is the first peal in the method on the bells, and also the first in the county of Leicester. The Rev. F. E. Robinson's 200th peal.

AT ALL SAINTS', NOTTINGHAM.

ON Thursday, the 7th inst., a peal of 5024 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR was rung in 3 hrs. 12 mins. Rev. W. W. C. Baker, 1; H. Baker, 2; Rev. G. F. Coleridge, 3; J. W. Taylor, jun., 4; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 5; C. H. Hattersley, 6; R. Lane (first peal in the method), 7; J. W. Washbrook (composer and conductor), 8. Tenor, 17 cwt. 11 lbs., in E. The first peal in the method on the bells.

AT ALL SAINTS', LOUGHBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE

ON Thursday, the 7th inst., a peal of 5000 TREBLE BOB ROYAL was rung in 3 hrs. 45 mins. Amos Cresser, 1; H. Baker, 2; C. H. Hattersley, 3; W. A. Tyler, 4; J. W. Washbrook, 5; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 6; Rev. W. W. C. Baker (first peal of Royal), 7; R. Lane, 8; Rev. G. F. Coleridge, 9; J. W. Taylor, jun., 10. Tenor, 28 cwt., in D. Composed by Mr. N. J. Pitstow, and conducted by Mr. J. W. Taylor, jun.

ALSO on Saturday, the 9th inst., at the same church, a peal of 5010 STEDMAN CATERS in 3 hrs. 27 mins. Amos Cresser, 1; J. W. Taylor, jun., 2; W. A. Tyler, 3; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 4; C. H. Hattersley, 5; A. P. Heywood, 6; Rev. W. W. C. Baker, 7; J. W. Washbrook, 8; H. Baker, 9; E. Wightman, 10. Composed and conducted by A. P. Heywood, Esq., and now rung for the first time.

AT ALL SAINTS', DUFFIELD, DERBYSHIRE.

ON Friday, the 8th inst., a peal of 5040 DUFFIELD ROYAL was rung in 3 hrs. 21 mins. C. H. Hattersley, * 1; J. W. Taylor, jun., 2; H. Baker, 3; J. W. Washbrook, * 4; B. Sugden, 5; W. E. Tydeman, * 6; G. Hingley, 7; Rev. F. E. Robinson, * 8; W. A. Tyler, * 9; A. P. Heywood, 10. Tenor, 16 cwt. 2 qrs. 26 lbs., in F. Composed and conducted by A. P. Heywood, Esq., and now rung for the first time. Mr. H. Baker's 100th peal, and his first peal of DUFFIELD ROYAL. [* First peal in the method.]

ALSO on the same day, at the same church, a peal of 5079 STEDMAN CATERS was rung in 3 hrs. 15 mins. C. H. Hattersley, 1; J. W. Taylor, jun., 2; H. Baker, 3; B. Sugden, 4; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 5; W. E. Tydeman, * 6; Rev. W. W. C. Baker, * 7; H. Midgley, * 8; J. W. Washbrook, 9; W. A. Tyler, 10. Composed and conducted by Mr. C. H. Hattersley, and now rung for the first time. [* First peal of STEDMAN CATERS.]

ANALYSIS OF THE 200 PEALS RUNG BY THE REV. F. E. ROBINSON:—

STEDMAN TRIPLES	...	66	Conducted	...	14
STEDMAN CATERS	...	84	"	...	24
DOUBLE NORWICH	...	25	"	...	5
GRANDSIRE TRIPLES	...	27	"	...	8
GRANDSIRE CATERS	...	16	"	...	1
SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE	...	14	"	...	6
CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE	...	7	"	...	1
TREBLE BOB MAJOR	...	6	"	...	2
TREBLE BOB ROYAL	...	2	"	...	
DOUBLE OXFORD BOB MAJOR	...	1	"	...	
UNION TRIPLES	...	1	"	...	
COLLEGE SINGLE TRIPLES	...	1	"	...	

ANALYSIS OF THE 100 PEALS RUNG BY MR. HERBERT BAKER:—

GRANDSIRE TRIPLES	...	27	PLAIN BOB MAJOR	...	5
GRANDSIRE MAJOR	...	1	DUFFIELD MAJOR	...	1
GRANDSIRE CATERS	...	6	DUFFIELD ROYAL	...	1
STEDMAN TRIPLES	...	18	DOUBLE NORWICH COURT	...	12
STEDMAN CATERS	...	8	SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE	...	7
KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR	...	7	CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE	...	1
KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL	...	2	7 METHODS ON 6 BELLS	...	3
PLAIN BOB TRIPLES	...	1			

AT ST. PETER'S, BENINGTON, HERTS.—On Tuesday, the 4th inst. the Benington Society of Change-ringers met for their weekly practice, and, with much credit to themselves and to all their young ringers who assisted, one of the best ringing meetings took place that they have thoroughly enjoyed for a very long time past. The striking was excellent. STEDMAN TRIPLES, six courses; CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 672; LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 672. Tenor, 14 cwt., in F sharp. Conductor, Samuel Page. The Ringing Village Society numbers eleven members, all of whom are proficient in the science of change-ringing.

AN OMISSION.—The composition of the peal of BOB TRIPLES rung by Lincoln members of the North Lincolnshire Association on Saturday, the 12th ult., at Sleaford, was Holt's Six-part peal.

'A MEMBER of St. James's Society,' though giving his name, has not given his address.—ED. C. B.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The Athanasian Creed

SIR,—While sympathising, as any one must do, with the 'Vicar in Suffolk' on the happy effect in his own case of the 'comforting' views of the late Archbishop Tait (no doubt they were wide ones), enabling him to enter into the ministry of the Church of England, there is something too to commiserate even in his present happier state, of infrequent and rather uncordial use of the Athanasian Creed. The vicar does not write as if he remembered or had been much relieved by the lengthened and searching discussions of some half generation ago. They would at least show that Church Convocations or Councils do not and cannot proceed with the light-footed speed and versatility of parish vestries, or possibly of the new County Councils. But they are, and should be, rather a steady, ballasting weight upon fluctuating opinions, than a drastic motive-power to create and enforce new ones; hence they emphasise the inference that, being slow to change or expunge expressions, to suit the Vicar of Suffolk, they saw heavier reasons for maintaining them, after all, to suit and not to wound many others. The vicar seems not quite free from that common confusion which will extend the difficulty he feels, and others feel, as to the 'damnatory' clauses, to the rest of the Creed, which, as far as they are concerned, is quite clear of the same or that kind of difficulty. What these say is simply what the Holy Scripture says; what that says is simply and solely what the Saviour says; and the meaning of that, and nothing else, is, and ever will be, to some extent, a matter of interpretation, in which men will vary so long as they are not one man.

As to the opening of the Creed, the vicar can hardly need to be told that 'will' is simply 'willeth'—no predication at all; and 'be saved' is simply 'to be in the way of salvation' for which he no doubt knows his Greek Testament and his Greek grammar too well to require instances, like blackberries in plenty. It may be more new, but it is plausibly probable at least, that 'without doubt' means (and should be rendered) 'without doubting'; and the stop should be after it, not before—'to hold the faith undoubtingly' being the required and the natural thing. It should be borne in mind that our Church regards the formula as only addressed to, or contemplating, Christian men, not *all* men; and that the case, not indeed of invincible obstinacy, nor of invincible prejudice, both which things do or may in fact exist, but of 'invincible ignorance,' if such a thing there be, is not within its purview.

In point of fact, mere non-understanding is generally a removable thing to those who will accept or seek the removal. As to what is wrongly spoken of as the *argumentative* bulk of the Creed, strange things are often thought by would-be wise men, in mere mistake. I have known the angriest of scorn poured out, in connexion with the supposed logic of the oft-recurring 'as' and 'so' of the Creed; as if 'so' were the 'therefore' of Euclid. The only wonder is the wrong-headed twist of the arguer. With the bulk of people it is only tediousness that is felt, not offence, not defiant, insolent treading on their own pet corns,—the terms and topics being mostly (and without blame) felt to be beyond them, not injurious to them. One of the most latitudinarian of divines, and ablest—nay, *princeps*—of English scholars, the late inimitable Dr. J. W. Donaldson, wrote in one of his later works perhaps one of the best short defences of the Creed to be found; his width of knowledge and depth of scholarship showed him the emptiness of so many of the common objections.

These are but hasty and imperfect remarks, but they may be of some little use—I trust so—to the vicar or others in his position. To my friend Mr. Foxley I would only remark how exceedingly well chosen is his '*Gravitation*' instance for the purpose of showing with what perfect safety and good sense a man may hold and act upon a fact or a doctrine, of the learned or scientific exposition of which he is confessedly not able to appreciate one single syllable.

Bigby Rectory, Brigg.

THOS. FIELD, R.D.

Church Services.

SIR,—The correspondence in *Church Bells* on this subject has recalled to my recollection the trouble I experienced with one of my curates, who used to stop suddenly in the middle, or, in fact, any other part of the first or second lesson, and say, 'Here endeth the lesson.' My wife played the organ, and she was always uncomfortable when he was reading, not knowing when he would stop and say, 'Here endeth,' &c. On my remonstrating with him, he said, 'Oh, we never read the whole chapter in our church at home, and it is never done in Wales.' Not many years after that the new lectionary came out, and to my amusement I found that the practice of my curate had been adopted in it, and after that I thought he had been, like all other reformers, in advance of the age.

ANOTHER VICAR.

Reform in Church Music.

SIR,—I am sorry Dr. Warriner should have so missed the point of my reply. He maintained it was only those that could not sing, and would not sing, who professed any wish for more congregational music. If, as he now explains, he was speaking of non-worshippers, or discordant worshippers without voice or ear, I do not see that it is at all likely they would want a more congregational service. I can very well understand that willing 'worshippers,' unwilling to risk disturbing the music, should desire a simpler sort of music to aid congregational singing. But I certainly could not suppose it to be the heedless and careless who wished for it. Almost all agree that 'the best way of improving Church music is to improve the musical culture of the people.' My opinion, however, is that the first step towards this must be to endeavour to bring the congregational service of the Church within the reasonable compass of the congregation. This will not interfere with the highest development and popular culture of music.

Wimpole Street, W., February 8th, 1889.

WILLIAM WARRINER, F.S.A.

brought to a crisis by the Katikiro, on being unexpectedly questioned at court as to his loyalty to the king, declining to answer, and abruptly leaving the king's presence. This was the signal for a fresh revolution. The Mahomedans attacked the Christians, and the latter, taken by surprise, had to fight for their lives. Two of the principal Christian chiefs were killed, and the rest fled with their followers. The Arabs and Mahomedans were now in the ascendant. New officers of State were appointed, and the missionaries were thrown into prison. After a few days, however, they were released—their mission stations having in the interval been robbed and destroyed—and expelled from the country. They were sent off on their perilous journey in an open boat belonging to the Church Missionary Society, with scanty food or shelter. They had been plundered of almost everything. The concluding act of the natives was to strip Mr. Walker, one of the missionaries, of his coat and trousers. The last words of the native officer as the boat shoved off were, 'Let no white man come to Buganda for the space of two years. We do not want to see Mackay's boat in Buganda waters for a long time to come. We do not want to see a white teacher back again in Buganda until we have converted the whole of Buganda to the Mahomedan faith.' The misfortunes of the heroic little band had not, however, ended. On their voyage down the Lake they were wrecked by a huge hippopotamus; the boat filled with water, and the Europeans and sailors had to swim for their lives. They succeeded in reaching an island, and on looking back saw their boat on its side, with two Frenchmen and the mission boys and girls clinging to it. The island was inhabited by a single native and his wife, who treated them with great kindness, and whose canoe was instrumental in saving some of the children; five of the elder lads were, however, drowned. With the aid of other natives from the mainland the boat was beached and repaired, some of its little cargo fished up, and after various delays the voyage was continued. Finally, on the 4th of November the survivors of the little party arrived at their destination—Usamiriro.

[Our readers will remember that news of another revolution at Uganda—after the expulsion of the missionaries—has reached England. Full details have not yet arrived, but it appears that Kiwewa has in his turn been deposed, and that his brother, Kilema, has been placed upon the throne. Kiwewa is reported to be seeking the aid of the chiefs favourable to Christianity to attack Kilema.]

ITALY.

A PLAN to provide a church at Venice for English and American visitors, and for the sailors visiting the port each year, has been started. It is proposed to buy a building on the Grand Canal, which is capable of being converted into a handsome church, accommodating 320 worshippers. It is estimated that 2500*l.* will be required for the purpose. The need of a suitable English church at Venice has long been felt. Services were for some time permitted to be held in a palace, which has been lately sold. Divine worship at present takes place in a room which has kindly been lent for that purpose by the Venezia-Murano Glass Company.

FRANCE.

A CONFERENCE of twenty-nine chaplains on the Riviera from Marseilles to Genoa has been recently held at Cannes. After celebration of Holy Communion at St. George's Church, the Bishop of Gibraltar being celebrant, an adjournment was made to the Villa Cambria, where the Bishop delivered an opening address, in which he spoke of the difficulties of the chaplains' work. 'These,' he said, 'arose partly from a want of permanence. Of sixty-two who were chaplains in the diocese of Gibraltar in 1874, when he was consecrated Bishop, only nine remained. Of the chaplains on the Riviera only two were already chaplains in that year. He deprecated frequent changes, and hoped that the Church Societies, which have the patronage of most of the chaplaincies, would make fewer temporary and more permanent appointments. The congregations also were frequently changing, and on the Riviera much of the chaplain's work had to be begun anew every season. Another difficulty arose from the isolation of the chaplains, many of whom were too far from one another for opportunities of intercourse and brotherly counsel. Much might be done, however, to lessen this isolation. As regards the Church of the country in which they were sojourning, while rightly abstaining from attempts to make proselytes among the people, and in no way interfering with their religion, there were many opportunities of promoting friendly relations with them, of lending them a helping hand and contributing to their charitable institutions. Chaplains might do much to help one another in Advent and Lent, and thus meet more often.' Papers were read by various chaplains, addresses delivered, and after evening service at St. George's the Conference separated.

SCOTLAND.

THE *Scottish Guardian* gives details of a remarkable Confirmation service held at St. Margaret's, Lochee, near Dundee. Forty-four persons received the 'laying on of hands,' the largest number ever confirmed in this church at one time. Of the number, twenty-seven adults left the different Presbyterian bodies to seek Confirmation, and six of that number had never been baptized in infancy.

A HUMANE TELEPHONE.—People who suffer from Deafness and noises in the head will be glad to hear that an eminent Aural Specialist of London has hit upon a cure which is said to be absolutely efficacious, and may be applied at the patient's home. It is a miniature telephone, which fits inside the ear. It is not only a producer of sound, but also a cure for the distressing noises in the head. Being comfortable to wear, it will no doubt be a boon to mankind. A pamphlet describing its construction is printed, and may be had from the publisher, 21 Bedford Square, London, W.C. Price 3*d.*.—[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 Mills, Manchester. Please write at once to above address and mention his paper.—[Advt.]

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Date Touches in the Stedman Method for the Year 1889.]

By A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD.

As date touches can always be obtained in Stedman in a legitimate manner without any irregular changes, this method is preferable to others for the purpose. The following compositions may tempt those who have not the opportunity of going for a peal at least to try for a touch in this most attractive of odd-bell methods.

In the touch of Triples 6-7 are at home at every course-end, and the 4th being fixed in treble's place, both 7-4 and 4-6 come together behind in each course, thus producing the best obtainable music. The following instructions may be useful to conductors who are unaccustomed to call by the number of the six.

Call the 7th Wrong, Home, Wrong, Last whole turn, In quick, Home, Home with a double, Wrong. The first course-end will come up five sizes after this last call. The distance apart of the calls can be seen below. After the first course the 7th is a fixed bell; the bobs at 7 are called at its last whole turn, those at 12 when it is in quick. In the last course the bob at 9 is made by the 7th when it has come out slow. After making the bob it goes in quick and the bells come round at hand four sizes later. The bells behind at the single are the treble and 2nd, of which the latter makes the 6th place.

The touch of Caters is throughout in the most musical position to be had, viz., with the 6th fixed in 2nd's place, and the 5th always either at home or in treble's place. The touch of Cinques is good music generally, and arranged in the ordinary way with the treble a fixed bell. As all conductors of Caters and Cinques are familiar with the usual notation by figures, further explanation is superfluous.

1889 STEDMAN TRIPLES.

2 3 1 4 5 6		4 3 1 2 5 6	7 S 12
4 1 3 2 5 6	2 7 9 15 20 23 29 30 32	4 2 3 1 5 6	12
4 5 2 3 1 6	7 12	4 1 2 3 5 6	12
4 3 5 2 1 6	12	4 5 3 2 1 6	7 12
4 2 3 5 1 6	12	4 2 5 3 1 6	12
4 1 5 3 2 6	7 12	4 1 3 5 2 6	7 12
4 3 1 5 2 6	12	4 5 1 3 2 6	12
4 2 5 1 3 6	7 12	4 3 5 1 2 6	12
4 1 2 5 3 6	12	4 2 1 5 3 6	7 12
4 5 1 2 3 6	12	4 5 2 1 3 6	12
		4 1 5 2 3 6	12
		1 3 4 2 6 5	7 9

Round in 3 changes.

1889 STEDMAN CATERS.

2 3 1 4 5 6		1 6 4 3 5 2	16
3 6 2 1 5 4	1 6 16	5 6 4 2 1 3	4 5 16
5 6 4 1 3 2	4 5	5 6 3 4 1 2	16
4 6 2 3 5 1	4 16	5 6 2 3 1 4	16
4 6 1 2 5 3	16	2 6 4 1 5 3	4 16
4 6 3 1 5 2	16	2 6 3 4 5 1	16
5 6 3 2 4 1	4 5 16	5 6 1 4 2 3	4 5
5 6 1 3 4 2	16	1 3 4 2 6 5	
1 6 2 4 5 3	4 16		
1 6 3 2 5 4	16		

Round in 3 changes.

The last course-end is produced by bobs at 5, 6, 13, 15, 16, 19, 21, 23, 24.

1889 STEDMAN CINQUES.

2 3 1 4 5 6		2 1 4 3 6 5	19
3 1 6 4 5 2	1 S 6 7	4 1 2 5 6 3	6 19
6 1 2 4 5 3	6	4 1 3 2 6 5	19
5 1 3 4 6 2	5 6	4 1 5 3 6 2	19
3 1 5 2 6 4	6 19	5 1 2 6 4 3	5 19
3 1 4 5 6 2	19	5 1 3 2 4 6	19
3 1 2 4 6 5	19	1 3 4 2 6 5	
2 1 3 5 6 4	6 19		

Round in 3 changes.

The last course-end is produced by bobs at 4, 5, 8, 10, 14, 15, 17, 19, 21, 25, 27.

A Ring of Twelve Bells at Ashton-under-Lyne, Lancashire.

It having been decided to augment the ring of bells in the new tower of St. Michael's Church in this town from ten to twelve, the tender of Messrs. Mears & Stainbank for the new bells and framework has been accepted. The tower is finished except the roof, the floors are laid down, and it is hoped the bells will soon be in position and ready for ringing. A fortnight ago the Ashton Company held a meeting, at which it was resolved to form a united Society under the title of the Ashton-under-Lyne Society, comprising the ringers of St. Michael's and St. Peter's Churches as ordinary members. It was also further resolved to admit any ringing friends who are not resident in the town as honorary members on payment of a fee of 2*s.* 6*d.*, which will constitute them life members of the Society. It is requested that in future all communications be sent to the Hon. Secretary, Mr. John Hopwood, 25 Egerton Street, Ashton-under-Lyne.

Johnson Celebration, Birmingham, 1889.

PROGRAMME.

Thursday, Feb. 28th.—St. Martin's (twelve bells) and other towers will be open for touch-ringing from 2.30 till 4.30.

The dinner will be held at the 'Colonnade' Hotel, New Street (near the Station), at 5 p.m. The chair will be taken by A. Percival Heywood, Esq. Speeches will follow, after which arrangements will be made for peals at various towers on the following day.

Friday, March 1st.—A number of towers will be open for peal and touch-ringing in Birmingham and the neighbourhood. A social gathering will be held at the 'St. Martin's' Hotel in the evening, commencing with a meat tea (1s. 6d.) at 7 o'clock. Arrangements will then be made for any peals that may be desired on the following day.

A reception-room, where any inquiries may be made, will, for the convenience of visitors, be open at the 'St. Martin's' Hotel, adjoining the church, from 2 p.m. to 4.30 p.m. on Thursday, and from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Friday. In order to facilitate the meeting of friends, it is particularly requested that visitors, on arriving at Birmingham, will at once proceed to the reception-room and enter their names in the book provided for the purpose.

The stewards of the meeting (who will wear a red rosette) will be ready to give to visitors any information or assistance in their power.

The invited representatives of the various Associations will be presented with a ticket for the dinner on intimating their intention to be present to A. Percival Heywood, Esq., Duffield Bank, near Derby. Other ringers wishing to join the party are requested to apply for tickets (2s. 6d., including wine) to the Hon. Sec., Mr. W. H. Godden, Finch Road, Handsworth, Birmingham, to whom also any inquiries may be addressed. All applications for dinner tickets (except from invited guests) must be accompanied by a remittance, and must be made between February 11th and February 26th.

The Surrey Association.

A District Meeting of this Association (for ringing only) will be held at Mortlake, by kind permission of the Vicar, on Saturday, February 23rd. Tower open for ringing during the evening and later part of the afternoon. Any ringers will be welcome.

ARTHUR B. CARPENTER, Hon. Sec.

The Sussex County Association.

A District Meeting of this Association will be held at Angmering, West Sussex (six-bell tower), details of which will be sent to each member.

GEO. F. ATTREE, Hon. Sec. JAS. E. WORSSELL, Assist. Hon. Sec.

N.B.—In the account of the District Meeting held at Seaford, it was in error printed that a new branch had been opened at Eastbourne parish church; it should have read 'Easebourne.'

Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association.

The General Meeting due to be held at Hurworth on February 25th, has been postponed to Monday, March 4th. Dinner at the 'Bay Horse' at two o'clock; 1s. to members. Dinner tickets should be applied for as early as possible to the Secretary. The Committee will meet at the 'Bay Horse' at one o'clock. Hurworth Church is one mile from Croft Station, and three miles from Dinsdale. Peal of six, tenor 17 cwt. G. J. CLARKSON, Hon. Sec. 16 Finkle Street, Stockton-on-Tees.

All Saints', Fulham, Association.

The Annual General Meeting of the above Society took place on Saturday last. Members and friends began to assemble soon after 3 p.m., and a touch of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES opened the proceedings of the day. Soon, however, 'ringers,' 'changes,' and 'methods' increased, and some very good touches were accomplished, conducted respectively by Messrs. C. F. Winny, J. W. Kelley, J. W. Driver, and Murray Hayes. The whole party then attended service in the noble church of All Saints, where a very interesting address was delivered by the Rev. F. H. Fisher, vicar of Fulham, and President of the Society.

The following is a summary of the Vicar's address:—"Brother ringers, your presence here this afternoon goes to prove that a great change has taken place in the position of a ringer, namely, from "contempt" to "respect." A ringer should be respected quite as much as a "singer" or choirman, for the bells were God's consecrated vessels quite as much as the organ. There are four simple yet valuable lessons to be learnt from bell-ringing, namely, self-control, obedience, charity, and punctuality. From these lessons many spiritual benefits may be derived. A text for ringers may be found in Isaiah: "Be ye clean, ye that bear the vessels of the Lord." Alter bear into ring, and it becomes very appropriate."

After service an adjournment was made to the church-room, where a substantial tea was in readiness, and was thoroughly appreciated by all. The visitors then repaired to the belfry, while the members of All Saints' transacted business. Handbell-ringing and songs brought a very successful and enjoyable day to a close.

Many prominent London ringers were present, and some excellent ringing took place.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At St. Paulinus', Crayford, Kent.

On Saturday, the 9th inst., eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths and the Kent County Association rang a peal of 5088 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR in 3 hrs. 3 mins. R. French, 1; F. Hayes, 2; G. Conyard, 3; C. Hamman, 4; W. Martin, 5; G. Hayes, 6; W. Harper, 7; F. G. Newman, 8. Composed by Mr. Dains and conducted by Mr. Newman. This is the first peal of TREBLE BOB MAJOR by the Kent County Association, and is the first by all the band with the exception of Messrs. Newman and French.

The Hayes (Brothers), Harper, and Martin, came from Swanscombe; Hamman, Woolwich; Conyard, Crayford; Newman and French, London. Tenor, 12½ cwt., in F.

At St. Martin's, Salisbury.

On Saturday, the 9th inst., eight members of the Salisbury Guild rang a peal of 5120 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR in 3 hrs. 13 mins. W. S. Wise, 1; S. Lawrence, 2; H. D. Adams, 3; C. A. Clements, 4; T. Blackburn, 5; A. P. Goddard, 6; J. R. Jerram, 7; W. W. Gifford (conductor), 8. The first peal of TREBLE BOB ever rung in the county.

On Wednesday, the 13th inst., eight members of the above Guild rang at the same church Holt's Ten-part peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 55 mins. A. P. Goddard, 1; T. Blackburn, 2; W. S. Wise (first peal as conductor), 3; A. W. Barkus, 4; S. Lawrence, 5; H. D. Adams, 6; W. W. Gifford, 7; C. A. Clements, 8.

At St. Albans Cathedral, Herts.—An Oddfellows' Peal.

On Saturday, the 9th inst., eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths and the Hertfordshire Association rang Taylor's Bob-aud-Single variation peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 3 hrs. 4 mins. G. W. Cartmel, 1; E. Hull, 2; J. C. Mitchell, 3; R. M. Pratt, P.G., 4; W. H. L. Buckingham (conductor), 5; A. Godman, sen., P.G., 6; T. Waller, 7; H. L. Waddington, 8. Tenor, 30 cwt. This peal was rung on the occasion of the twenty-first anniversary of the Lord Bacon Lodge of Oddfellows, is the first peal rung by all Oddfellows, and also the conductor's sixtieth peal.

On Monday, the 11th inst., four members of the Ancient Society of College Youths, Herts and Essex Associations, and the St. Peter's Society, St. Albans, rang, on handbells retained in hand, a peal of 5040 BOB MAJOR in 2 hrs. 28 mins. A. Barnes, 1-2; E. P. Debenham, 3-4; W. H. L. Buckingham (composer and conductor), 5-6; T. Waller, 7-8. Umpires: Messrs. E. Hull and Little. The conductor's thirtieth handbell peal.

At St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, London.

On Saturday, the 9th inst., twelve members of the Society of Royal Cumberland Youths rang Cox's peal of 5014 STEDMAN CINQUES in 3 hrs. 38 mins. G. Newson (conductor), 1; B. Foskett, 2; J. Rogers, 3; T. Titchener, 4; J. Hannington, 5; W. L. Chamberlain, 6; A. Jacob, 7; H. Hopkins, 8; H. Randall, 9; A. E. Church, 10; H. Dains, 11; G. Wilde, 12. Tenor, 36 cwt. [* First peal in the method.]

At All Saints', West Bromwich.

On Saturday, the 9th inst., eight members of the Society for the Arch-deaconry of Stafford rang T. Thurstans' One-course peal of 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES (with a single in each of the two last courses) in 2 hrs. 55 mins. T. Horton, 1; T. Reynolds, 2; S. Reeves (conductor), 3; W. Smith, 4; C. Williams, 5; R. Hall, 6; W. Long, 7; C. Fluck, 8. Tenor, 14 cwt.

At All Saints', Carshalton, Surrey.

On Monday, the 11th inst., eight members of the Surrey Association rang a peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 49 mins. A. J. Plowman, 1; C. E. Malin, 2; J. Branch, 3; J. Harding, 4; J. W. Trappit, 5; A. B. Carpenter (conductor), 6; C. Bance, 7; J. Hartley, 8. The above composition is a variation of Holt's Original, with thirty-five bobs cut out, and is now rung for the first time.

At St. George's-in-the-East, London.

On Tuesday, the 12th inst., eight members of the Society of Trinity Youths and the St. James's Society rang Holt's Ten-part peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 3 hrs. 10 mins. H. G. Grout, 1; W. Weatherstone (conductor), 2; W. Bedwell, 3; T. Taylor, 4; E. E. Richards, 5; F. G. Newman, 6; W. H. Freeman, 7; A. G. Freeman, 8. Tenor 30 cwt. The previous peal rung on these bells was in the year 1824—sixty-five years ago.

At St. Martin's, Tipton, Staffordshire.

On Saturday, the 16th inst., eight members of the Worcestershire and Adjoining Districts Association rang a peal of 5056 BOB MAJOR in 3 hrs. 8 mins. W. Horton (first peal in the method), 1; H. Mason, 2; H. Mills, 3; E. Goodred, 4; J. Goodman, 5; S. Jesson, 6; G. Hughes (composer and conductor), 7; W. R. Small, 8. Tenor, 12 cwt., 25 lbs. W. Horton came from Coseley; Mason, Old Hill; Goodman, Dudley; the rest belong to the local company.

At St. George's, Camberwell, Surrey.

On Saturday, the 16th inst., eight members of the St. James's Society rang Holt's Original peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 47 mins. H. W. Flower, 1; R. French (conductor), 2; W. Jones, 3; F. Davey (Exeter), 4; W. Weatherstone, 5; J. Barry, 6; W. H. George, 7; James George (Coventry, first peal), 8. Tenor, 14 cwt., in F.

At St. Andrew's, BOREHAM, ESSEX.—On Sunday morning, the 6th ult., by the local company, who are also members of the Essex Association, 720 OXFORD TREBLE BOB in 26 mins. J. Richell, 1; J. Shonk, 2; J. Dowsett, 3; James Young, 4; H. Argent, 5; Joseph Young (conductor), 6. Also on Thursday evening, the 10th ult., for practice, Arthur Vial, a young beginner, rang his first 720 BOB MINOR on the 3rd bell with five of the above. H. Argent, conductor. On Sunday morning, the 13th ult., 720 KENT TREBLE BOB by the same company, T. Young, conductor. And on Thursday evening, the 24th ult., 720 COLLEGE SINGLE, H. Argent, conductor.

At EASTBOURNE, SUSSEX.—On Monday, the 7th ult. (by invitation, the Midland Branch of the Sussex County Association opened a new peal of eight handbells (by Mr. Welch, of 51 Bankside, Southwark), and a peal of BOB MAJOR, GRANDSIRE and STEDMAN TRIPLES, were rung at the same church-house. It was the opinion of all present that they were a very successful peal.

Tenor, 15 size, in C. Also, at the Parish Church, peals of BOB, GRANDSIRE, and STEDMAN DOUBLES, were rung. Dr. W. H. George, 1; G. Batts, 2; W. Selby, 3; G. Williams (conductor), 4; C. Tribe, 5. Tenor, 10 cwt.

At HECKINGTON, LINCOLNSHIRE.—On Monday evening, the 14th ult., the Sleaford company paid a visit to Heckington, and rung 350 and 280 of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. J. Holmes, 1; W. Bean, 2; Skinner, 3; N. E. Snow, 4; J. E. Picker, 5; T. H. Holdich (conductor), 6; Hilton, 7; W. Townsend and C. Gould, 8.

At THE PARISH CHURCH, BASINGSTOKE, HANTS.—On Wednesday, the 16th ult., for practice, 720 GRANDSIRE MINOR (thirty-four bobs and two singles) in 26½ mins., with 7-8 covering. J. Ballard, 1; W. Bullpit, 2; T. Curtis, 3; G. Gasson, 4; J. R. Higgins, 5; H. White (conductor), 6; S. Wheeler, 7; W. Hatten, 8. And 360 (eighteen bobs and twelve singles). H. W. Powell, 1; G. Gasson, 2; W. Bullpit, 3; T. Curtis, 4; J. R. Higgins, 5; H. White, 6; T. Wheeler, 7; W. Woods, 8. And two plain courses of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. W. Hatten, 1; J. Ballard, 2; W. Bullpit, 3; T. Curtis, 4; G. Gasson, 5; J. R. Higgins, 6; H. White, 7; T. Wheeler, 8.

At THE PARISH CHURCH, HUGHENDEN, BUCKS.—On Saturday, the 19th ult., for practice, 1086 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. S. Goodchild, 1; F. Biggs, 2; W. Goodchild, 3; R. Biggs, 4; F. L. Free, 5; J. Evans (conductor), 6; H. Stratford, 7; B. Page, 8.

At ST. MARY'S, DALTON-IN-FURNESS.—On Sunday, the 20th ult., 720 GRANDSIRE MINOR (thirty-eight bobs and twenty-two singles) in 25 mins. T. Townson (first 720 as conductor), 1; T. Watson, 2; J. Spencer, 3; M. Caddy, 4; T. R. Jackson, 5; J. Burrows, 6.

At THE PARISH CHURCH, HACKNEY, MIDDLESEX.—On Sunday morning, the 20th ult., for Divine service, a quarter-peal (1260 changes) of STEDMAN TRIPLES, in 46 mins. F. Rumens, 1; W. B. Manning, 2; G. J. Smith, 3; H. T. Scarlett, 4; T. Page, 5; W. D. Smith (conductor), 6; A. S. Barrell, 7; H. Spencer (first quarter-peal), 8.

At ST. PETER'S, BRISTOL.—On Monday evening, the 21st ult., for practice, a quarter-peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES (1260 changes). G. Staden, 1; E. Duckham, 2; W. Trevett, 3; W. Parsons, 4; J. Hinton, 5; F. Price (conductor), 6; J. Gould (first quarter-peal), 7; J. Palser, 8.

At THE PARISH CHURCH, SOUTH HARTING, SUSSEX.—On Monday, the 21st ult., six members of the Midhurst branch of the Sussex County Association rang 720 BOB MINOR in 25 mins. W. Court, 1; G. Williams (conductor), 2; Dr. W. H. George, 3; C. Tribe, 4; W. Selby, 5; G. Batts, 6. Tenor, 12 cwt. This is supposed to be the first on the bells.

At ST. GEORGE-THE-MARTYR, SOUTHWARK, LONDON.—On Monday, the 21st ult., a half-peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES (2520 changes) in 1 hr. 30 mins. W. H. Manning (Pinner), 1; W. W. Thorne, 2; A. Hayward, 3; W. H. George, 4; W. T. Cockerill, 5; W. Weatherstone, 6; R. French (conductor), 7; J. George, 8. Tenor, 18 cwt. Mr. J. George, of Coventry, was elected a member of St. James's Society previous to starting. The above was rung in honour of the twenty-first birthday of Edith Caroline Cassin, third daughter of the Rev. Burman Cassin, M.A., rector of the above church.

At MR. AUSTIN'S HOUSE, BURTON-ON-TRENT, STAFFORDSHIRE.—On Friday, the 1st inst., on handbells retained in hand, a date touch of 1889 STEDMAN TRIPLES in 54 mins. W. J. Smith, 1-2; J. Jaggar (conductor), 3-4; L. Bullock, 5-6; J. Austin, 7-8. Composed by A. Percival Heywood, Esq.

RECEIVED ALSO.—W. H. George (thanks—we have not the Report about the muffled peal at St. Giles', Camberwell); and others.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Reform of Church Music.

SIR,—The closing paragraph of Mr. Johnson's letter in last week's issue touches a point which has been much overlooked by the majority of your correspondents, viz., the identity of the choir with the congregation. The wide line of demarcation which some have set up between the one and the other has led to the advocacy of the congregation becoming auditors and the choir performers, thereby reviving the old parson-and-clerk duet in the form of the clergy and choir antiphonal. This entirely subverts the idea on which the service in the Prayer Book is based. The Rubrics only speak of 'the people joining with the priest,' and in the Exhortation 'the people' are exhorted to offer praise, and thanksgiving, and prayer, therefore the choir is included. The gist of Mr. Griffith's paper is that the note for reciting should be one that the congregation and the clergy can use without distressing the voice of either, and therefore if the clergy adopt a medium one, which a well-trained choir can easily take up, the congregation, as a rule, have very little difficulty in following; and I am convinced that congregations, as a rule, make great efforts to follow in the service, both in the responses (whether they are spoken in the natural voice, or intoned or sung to either Tallis's or the Ely responses) and in the chanting of the Psalms and canticles, as well as in the hymns; but as ordinary choirs, after practice, find it not particularly easy to sing a difficult and unfrequently used chant or hymn tune, it is not surprising if the congregation, without practice, fail. The question which has hitherto been unanswered is, Can a congregation be trained to take its proper part in the service, so that they not only 'sing to the Lord with cheerful voice,' but respond with the loud 'Amen?' I answer yes, for it is done at more than one church in this neighbourhood. At one there is a congregational practice of the chants and hymns after evening service, and at another the sympathy existing between

the clergy, the organist, the choir, and the congregation, induces the latter to sustain not only the singing but the responses throughout the service. Again, at some Nonconformist chapels that I have attended, the congregation sing their parts, the majority being provided not only with hymn-books with music, but also with anthem books. I would suggest that if some members of congregations (male and female) attended the choir practice and so became acquainted beforehand with the chants and hymns, as they would be distributed through the church, and if they were not afraid of being regarded as peculiar, they would exercise a very beneficial effect, as nothing is so contagious as example. Of course it would be requisite that pointed psalters with the chants, and hymn-books with the tunes, should be more generally used, and service papers, say for the month, more regularly distributed and exhibited at the church doors. These are some of the means to attain the desired end; there are others which might be mentioned, but I will only give one more, and that is, that the organist and choir in leading should do so in such a manner, and at such a medium pace, as to bring out the meaning of the words said or sung. The Rev. George Venables, in his 'Hearty Hints to Lay Officers of the Church,' which were published in some of the early numbers of *Church Bells*, lays down two grand canons for choirs and congregations on singing. One says, 'I will sing with the spirit, I will sing with the understanding also'; and the other, 'Make a joyful noise unto the Lord.' GEO. WRIGHT.

8 Thurlow Terrace, Maitland Park, N.W., Feb. 11th.

Poverty and its Remedies.

SIR,—I have read Mr. Shuttleworth's papers with much interest, and in the hope that they would throw some light on a very difficult subject. While agreeing with many of his remarks, I am disappointed at the general result. His suggested remedies seem not only more or less visionary, but even unwise. If, therefore, you will kindly afford me space I will briefly review some of his suggestions.

In his first paper he very wisely admits that poverty is a relative term. Any attempt, therefore, to deal with it as a social evil must be founded on a clear idea of what the evil is which we have to grapple with. If we understand by it that hard, degrading, hopeless state of existence, in which the most grinding toil will not procure necessary food, clothing, and shelter, many would answer, We know of no such poverty. And this reply might be fairly given in most of the country districts. The evil would seem then to be most pronounced in towns, and most of all in those dense centres of population (including London) which contain the busiest hives of industry, and which afford the most striking contrasts of wealth and poverty. It is in fact this contrast which emphasises the cry of distress, and makes a solution of this social problem the more imperative.

The difficulty how to grapple with the evil is perhaps one reason why the remedies proposed are so vague and illogical. The evil, it is admitted, is chiefly found in the densest centres of population. Yet some reformers propose as a remedy the nationalisation of the land or talk wildly against what they term land monopoly. It would seem that at the bottom of such notions there lies some visionary ideal of rural happiness. They would import into the busy lives, led perforce under widely different conditions, the health, wealth, and contentment of the typical village home; that home, not as it often is, but as in their judgment it might be. That there are thousands of such homes, centres of health, plain comfort, cleanliness, virtue, and happiness, is true enough. And it may be taken for granted that wherever cottages are fairly good, and employment regular, the village poor have never been so well off as they are now. Wages are not lower than they were twenty-five years since, if so low; whereas, the cost of almost every necessary of life is much less, less, it is said, by twenty-five or thirty per cent. The condition of the country labourer, therefore, so long as he is regularly employed, has very materially improved. But here we touch upon one cause of the present distress. There is less demand for country labour. The population of the United Kingdom goes on steadily increasing, but that of the rural districts as steadily decreases. The necessary result is that the population of the large towns is not only subject to its own natural increase, but is also largely congested by the numbers flocking in from the rural districts. The industrious poor must work to live; when work cannot be had at home they are driven to seek it elsewhere.

One great cause, then, of the degrading poverty in our large towns and cities is the congestion of the labour market. And this is increased not only by the cause just mentioned, but by the unrestricted importation of foreign labour. One way, therefore, of improving the condition of our own industrious poor would be to restrict this importation. The United States Government has lately introduced a measure to this effect, and whether public opinion and free trade principles will allow this country to do the same or not, it is clear that the large importation of foreign labour must and does tend to keep wages at a lower level.

In his third paper Mr. Shuttleworth examines the statement that a great mass of poverty and misery is caused by drunkenness, improvidence, and want of thrift. That this is so few will deny. But, as Mr. S. truly says, we do not thus reach the bottom of the matter. Drunkenness is a fruitful cause of misery and crime, but, on the other hand, the hopeless conditions of many human lives are a fruitful cause of drunkenness. He is right, therefore, in asserting that Christian philanthropy should seek to prevent rather than cure intemperance, by removing its too common causes. And here it must be allowed that much has been done, especially by providing more wholesome dwellings, public baths and washhouses, and also by preserving open spaces for recreation. But there is no doubt that legislation might go farther still in the same direction. It would be a great gain to the cause of humanity if the law were less tender of vested rights, especially when those rights are

canonical, seemed in this case highly expedient, received a reply of unexpected moderation; but Ferdinand's clumsy attempts to favour Romanism and hamper the Orthodox Church can have but one result for him if persisted in.

ITALY.

On Septuagesima Sunday, Count Campello addressed a large assembly of Italians in the theatre at San Remo. He had previously received Holy Communion with the English congregation at St. John Baptist's Church. The entrance to the Conference was free, and it was computed that more than a thousand persons, nearly all men, were present in the theatre, and as many more outside, unable to obtain admission. The Count explained the reasons which had induced him to abandon his position as Canon of St. Peter's. He sketched the rise and progress of the Old Catholic movement, and pointed out how impossible it was for a Church under Papal influence to sympathise with the moral and religious aspirations of a free and united Italy. He was followed by an evangelist of the Italian Catholic Church, Signor Ugo Janni, who denounced Vaticanism as a political rather than a religious system, referred to the fact that it was Fenian and Socialistic in Ireland, Conservative in England, Liberal in America, anti-Irredentist in Austria, and antagonistic to liberty in Italy. Both speakers were frequently and warmly applauded. There was some interruption at first, but as soon as the speakers warmed to their work it all disappeared, with the exception of considerable noise at the outskirts of the meeting, where the people were unable to hear, and where, in consequence of its being Sunday, and the admission being free, there were many children. The Count went on Tuesday to Bordighera, where, as at San Remo, he was received with enthusiasm. At each place he was asked to return at no distant date. The *Vessillo* of San Remo gives a full report of the Conference, of which it warmly approves, and trusts that the Count, when he comes again, will have a meeting to which admission will be by ticket, so as to secure, not a more sympathetic, but a more intelligent and less noisy audience. This is the first attempt Count Campello has made to extend his movement beyond the borders of Umbria. His reception is significant of the attitude of Italians in general, and of the working classes in particular, towards the movement for Catholic reform in their country.

FRANCE.

The Bishop of Ontario was married on Wednesday the 21st inst. to Miss Ada Leigh, at Paris. The civil ceremony was first celebrated at the British Embassy, and was followed by the religious ceremony at Christ Church, Neuilly. Miss Leigh has long been well known in England as the founder of a Home in Paris for English governesses, female servants, and orphans, and of a reading and refreshment room for British workmen. She is noted for her geniality and tact.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

The Lancashire Association.

The usual Monthly Meeting of the Liverpool Diocesan Branch was held at Huyton, on Saturday, February 16th, when members were present from Aughton, Liverpool, Prescot, Sefton, and Southport. During the afternoon and evening several short touches were rung on the bells, which are a very heavy peal, tenor reputed about 27 cwt. At 5.30 the members present, numbering about twenty, sat down to a meat tea, which was presided over by the Rev. O. H. L. Penrhyn, vicar. Tea being over the Vicar welcomed the members of the Association to Huyton, and promised that on their next visit to his church, the tower would be an eight-bell tower, instead of six as at present. The Rev. Mr. Tyrer also expressed his gratification at meeting the members then present. The Rev. D. Jones (Aughton) responded on behalf of the Association.

The business meeting was presided over by Mr. J. Martin, churchwarden of Sefton, who, in the course of his remarks, suggested that a circular be sent to each clergyman, warden, and sidesman in the diocese, inviting them not only to join the Association, but also to take a personal interest in the working of it. He also suggested that the managers of the National Schools in the diocese should provide handbells, and that the older ringers should constitute themselves teachers, to bring the older and most intelligent scholars out as change-ringers, so that at some time or other they could be more actively utilised as practical ringers.

The next meeting-place was fixed for Ormskirk on the 16th inst., notice of which will be given in due course. A hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar for the use of the schools, and the ringers for their hospitality in providing such an excellent tea, and to the ladies for attendance, brought a very pleasant meeting to a close. Nine new members were elected, including the Rev. O. H. L. Penrhyn, vicar of Huyton, Rev. E. Horley, rector of Sefton, Mr. Mosker, churchwarden of Sefton, and the Rev. H. F. Lloyd, curate of Wigan.

During the afternoon 720 GRANDSIRE MINOR was rung in 30 mins. by the following:—B. Hill (Southport), 1; J. R. Pritchard (Liverpool, conductor), 2; E. Coley (Liverpool), 3; P. Barton (Liverpool), 4; J. Broughley (Sefton), 5; J. Aspinwall (Liverpool), 8. JOHN R. PRITCHARD, Branch Secretary.

40 Leather Street, Liverpool.

Essex Association.

The Rev. J. B. Seaman, founder of the Essex Association of Change-ringers, has been dangerously ill for the last two months, and would be glad to be remembered by his fellow-associationists.

Ridgmont, Woburn, Sexagesima, 1889.

Surrey Association.

The *Sixth Annual Report*, with performances, balance-sheet, and list of members, is now ready for distribution at the price of 2d. each to ringing members whose subscriptions are paid up. As this is not more than half cost price, it is hoped that a large number will be sold. Members requiring copies will please communicate with their local secretaries. Single copies sent by post for 2½d. on application to ARTHUR B. CARPENTER, Hon. Sec. Wykeham House, Bedford Park, Croydon.

The Lancashire Association of Six-bell Ringers.

On Saturday, February 16th, a Quarterly Meeting of this Association took place at the Parish Church, Chorley, when the following places were represented:—Blackwood, St. Andrew's, Leyland, St. James Leyland, Eccleston, and Chorley. Ringing was commenced shortly after three o'clock, and during the afternoon and evening several 720's of LONDON, SINGLE BOB, and BOB MINOR, were rung. At five o'clock the company adjourned to a private room at the 'White Horse' Inn, where the business meeting was held. Mr. George Higson, Vice-President, in the absence of Mr. William Bowling, President, occupied the chair, supported by Mr. Bamber, churchwarden of the Parish Church, Chorley. The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, and other business of minor importance transacted, Mr. J. Milner proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Bamber for his kindness in favouring the meeting with his presence. Mr. J. Banister seconded the motion, which was carried. Mr. Bamber, in responding, gave the Association a very cordial welcome to Chorley. He said he was at any time pleased to hear the bells, and always glad to meet the ringers; that he always did his best to keep the bells in good going order, and keep the belfry comfortable for the convenience of the ringers. After a vote of thanks to the Chairman for presiding, and to the Treasurer and Secretary for their services, it was unanimously agreed that the next annual meeting be held on Whit-Saturday at St. Andrew's, Leyland. A vote of thanks to the Rector, Rev. E. G. James, for the use of the bells, terminated the proceedings. The evening up to eight o'clock was afterwards spent in a few touches of BOB MINOR on the handbells.

Meeting of the Herts Association at Hertford.

A DISTRICT Meeting of this Association was held at Hertford on Saturday the 23rd ult., at which were present Messrs. H. Baker, J. Staples, M. Ellsmore, J. G. Crawley, and F. G. Crawley (Hertford); Messrs. H. Lewis, E. P. Debenham, R. A. Fowler, G. W. Cartmel, W. H. L. Buckingham, and H. Brewer (St. Albans); Messrs. Robert Jackson, J. Phillips, G. T. Spicer, and Richard Jackson (Baldock); Messrs. H. G. Rowe, A. Shepherd, J. Kentish, and J. Hollingsworth (Hatfield); and Mr. C. Ladley (Hunsdon). During the afternoon touches of GRANDSIRE CATERS and TRIPLES were rung at ALL SAINTS'; and BOB MAJOR, GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, and some plain courses of STEDMAN TRIPLES, at St. Andrew's. At five o'clock 'stand' was called for an adjournment to the Coffee Tavern for tea. When that course had been got through, the meeting for business was entered upon, and, in the unavoidable absence of Mr. Proctor, the respected President, Mr. Baker was voted to the chair. After the minutes of the last meeting had been read and confirmed, the provisional election as members of Mr. A. Percival Heywood, the Rev. H. A. Cockey, and Mr. J. W. Taylor, jun., and those of Messrs. C. F. Winny, G. T. McLaughlin, J. W. Driver, and W. E. Garrard (London), Mr. A. Godman, sen., of St. Albans, Mr. H. Botttrill of Hertford, and Mr. C. Ladley of Hunsdon, were duly confirmed; and Messrs. T. Conley and W. Little of St. Albans were also elected members. On the proposition of Mr. Buckingham, seconded by Mr. Phillips, St. Albans was selected as the place for holding the annual meeting on Easter Monday. After the usual votes of thanks had been passed and acknowledged, a move was again made towards ALL SAINTS' Church, where the party was joined by Messrs. Holfield and other members belonging to the local company; and a couple of touches of STEDMAN CATERS were struck off, followed by the feature of the day, which was 560 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR rung under the conductorship of Mr. Baker, in which there were three 'firsts in the method.' Plain courses of BOB ROYAL and GRANDSIRE CATERS were then rung, and by that time the railway station had to be sought by the visitors in order to catch the last train, which leaves at the early hour of 8.15. When it is mentioned that, with the exception of those from St. Albans, scarcely any of the visitors had ever before had an opportunity of ringing CATERS or ROYAL, it may be taken for granted that the meeting proved a pleasurable one to them, apart from the universal expression of opinion to the same effect. The Secretary desires to express his thanks to Mr. Baker and Mr. Staples for their kind assistance in carrying out the programme, and also to the Hertford company generally for the cordial reception that was given to all.

E. P. D.

The Anniversary at Appleton, Berks.

THIS Anniversary will be held as usual on Monday, March 4th. There will be a peal of STEDMAN CATERS attempted at 8 a.m., and another at 12, method to be arranged at the time. Dinner at 4 o'clock. People wishing to attend, please communicate with Mr. F. White, Appleton, Abingdon.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At St. Mary's, Lambeth, Surrey.

On Saturday, the 16th ult., eight members of the Waterloo Society rung Holt's Original peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 51 mins. A. Swann, 1; F. L. Davis, 2; W. Partington, 3; G. C. Hammond, 4; D. Stoddard, 5; G. Wild, 6; G. Newman (conductor) 7; W. T. Cockrell, 8. Total, 20 cwt.

At St. Stephen's, Westminster, London.

On Saturday, the 16th ult., eight members of the Society of Royal Cumberland Youths rang Holt's Original peal of 5040 **GRANDSIRE TRIPLES** in 3 hrs. 19 mins. J. W. Mansfield, 1; W. W. Thorne, 2; W. Baron, jun., 3; W. L. Chamberlain, 4; C. E. Malin, 5; A. E. Church, 6; W. Baron, sen. (conductor), 7; W. Lamb, 8. Tenor, 25 cwt. The above was rung to commemorate the sixtieth birthday of Mr. W. Lamb, steeple-keeper of the church.

At St. Albans, Herts.

On Saturday, the 16th ult., five members of the Ancient Society of College Youths, the Herts and Essex Associations, and the St. Peter's Society, rang on handbells retained in hand a peal of 5000 **BOB ROYAL** in 2 hrs. 46 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; T. Waller, 9-10. Umpires, Messrs. E. Hall and Little.

At Holy Trinity, Long Melford, Suffolk.

On Monday, the 18th ult., eight members of the Essex Association rang Holt's peal of 5040 **BOB MAJOR** in 3 hrs. 7 mins. P. C. S. Scott, 1; A. Ambrose, 2; J. Bird, 3; S. Slater, 4; H. Duce, 5; H. Smith, 6; F. A. Symonds (first peal as conductor), 7; G. Maxim, 8. Tenor, 16½ cwt. Messrs. Symonds and Smith came from Lavenham; Slater, Glemsford; and Maxim, Foxearth.

At the Parish Church, Bradford, Yorkshire.

On Tuesday, the 19th inst., ten members of the Yorkshire Association rang a peal of 5040 **KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL** in 3 hrs. 25 mins. J. Hardcastle, jun., 1; S. Clark, 2; H. Raistrick, 3; T. Pollitt (composer), 4; J. Cotterell, 5; W. Cundall, 6; J. Angus, 7; J. H. Hardeastle (conductor), 8; B. F. J. Lamb, 9; F. London, 10. Tenor, 27 cwt. This was rung with the bells half muffled in respect to the memory of the late Mr. R. Tuke. [* First peal. † First peal in the method.]

At St. Nicholas', Bristol.

On Tuesday, the 19th ult., a peal of 5089 **GRANDSIRE CATERS** was rung in 3 hrs. 19 mins. S. Phillips, 1; C. Gordon, 2; G. Colston, 3; E. Duckham, 4; G. Daltry, 5; W. W. Gifford, 6; W. Parsons, 7; T. Hibbert, 8; J. Hinton, 9; J. Richmond, and J. Palser, 10. Composed by Mr. J. Carter of Birmingham, and conducted by Mr. Hinton. Tenor, 36 cwt., in C. Mr. Gifford came from Salisbury, and Mr. Hibbert from Reading. It is nineteen years since the last peal of **CATERS** was rung upon the bells. [* First peal of **CATERS**.]

At St. Helen's, Ashby-de-la-Zouch, Leicestershire.

On Tuesday, the 19th ult., eight members of the Midland Counties' Association and the Ashby-de-la-Zouch Parish Church Society rang a peal of 5024 **BOB MAJOR** in 3 hrs. 6 mins. W. Liggins, 1; H. Canner, 2; J. H. Dunmore, 3; J. Hopkin, 4; W. Owen, 5; J. Jaggard, 6; T. Jacques, 7; W. Canner, 8. Tenor, 16 cwt. 3 qrs. 23 lbs., in E flat. First **BOB MAJOR** peal by all. First peal in the method on the bells. Conducted by Mr. J. Jaggard, who belongs to Burton-on-Trent, and composed by A. Percival Heywood, Esq.

At St. Martin's, Tipton, Staffordshire.

On Thursday, the 21st ult., J. Thurstan's Two-part peal of 5040 **STEDMAN TRIPLES**, with a Single half way and at end of peal, was rung in 2 hrs. 52 mins., by the following members of the Society of Change-ringers for the Archdeaconry of Stafford: J. Carter, 1; T. Horton, 2; W. R. Small, 3; T. Reynolds, 4; W. Smith, 5; J. Astbury, 6; S. Reeves (conductor), 7; S. Jesson, 8. Tenor, 12 cwt. This is the first peal of **STEDMAN** on the bells, and is the tower-keeper's (Mr. W. R. Small) hundredth peal, consisting of **STEDMAN CINQUES**, 7; **STEDMAN CATERS**, 8; **STEDMAN TRIPLES**, 20; **GRANDSIRE CINQUES**, 3; **GRANDSIRE CATERS**, 9; **GRANDSIRE MAJOR**, 4; **GRANDSIRE TRIPLES**, 31; **KENT TREBLE ROYAL**, 2; **KENT TREBLE MAJOR**, 5; **PLAIN BOB ROYAL**, 3; **PLAIN BOB MAJOR**, 6; **PLAIN BOB TRIPLES**, 1; in four methods, 1. Total, 100.

At St. Mary-the-Virgin, Ringmer, Sussex.

On Saturday, the 23rd ult., the local branch of the Sussex County Association rang a Variation of Holt's Six-part peal of 5040 **GRANDSIRE TRIPLES** in 2 hrs. 48 mins. T. Miller (first peal with hunting-bell), 1; A. Washer (first peal), 2; A. Slarks (first peal with dodging-bell), 3; C. Painter, 4; H. Jones, 5; G. Washer, 6; Rev. C. D. P. Davies (conductor), 7; F. Banks (first peal), 8. Tenor, 14½ cwt., in F.

At Diss, Norfolk.

On Monday, the 25th inst., the Diss Company of the Norwich Diocesan Association rang upon their handbells a peal of 5040 **OXFORD TREBLE BOB ROYAL** in 3 hrs. 12 mins. E. Hayward, 1; G. Archer (aged eighteen), 2; E. Broome, 3-4; J. Souter (conductor), 5-6; E. Batrum, 7-8; W. Ireland, 9-10. Composed by Mr. S. Reeves.

At St. Edward's, Romford, Essex.—On Sunday, the 3rd ult., 600 **GRANDSIRE TRIPLES**. L. W. Copsey, 1; W. Pegrum, 2; G. Roughton, 3; A. J. Perkins (conductor), 4; B. Keeble, 5; M. L. Myhill, 6; W. Nash, 7; S. James, 8. And 720 **BOB MINOR**, on the back six. L. Copsey, 1; W. Pegrum, 2; W. Nash, 3; B. Keeble, 4; G. Roughton, 5; A. J. Perkins (conductor), 6.

At St. Martin's, Salisbury, Wilts.—On Wednesday, the 6th ult., 720 **DOUBLE COURT MINOR**. C. A. Clements, 1; W. S. Wise, 2; A. W. Barkus, 3; S. Lawrence, 4; A. P. Goddard, 4; W. W. Gifford (conductor), 6. On Friday, the 8th ult., on handbells, a half-peal of 2576 **BOB MAJOR**, composed by York Green. A. P. Goddard, 1-2; T. Blackburn, 3-4; W. W. Gifford (conductor), 5-6; W. S. Wise, 7-8. On Friday, the 15th ult., another 2576 in the same method. A. P. Goddard, 1-2; W. S. Wise, 3-4; W. W. Gifford (conductor), 5-6; H. D. Adams, 7-8.

At the Parish Church, Rossendale, Lancashire.—On Sunday, the 10th ult., for afternoon service, a date touch of 1889 **GRANDSIRE TRIPLES**, in 1 hr.

9 mins. J. Bolton (conductor), 1; J. Curtiss (Bolton, composer), 2; J. Ashworth, 3; W. Maden, 4; J. B. Taylor, 5; G. Lord, 6; J. T. Stott, 7; W. Whittaker, 8. The above was rung as a farewell touch with Mr. W. Maden, who is leaving the district for a foreign home.

At the Parish Church, Tottenham, Middlesex.—On Sunday, the 10th ult., for Divine Service in the evening, 720 **KENT TREBLE BOB MINOR**. J. Waghorn, jun., 1; T. C. Grove, 2; J. Waghorn, 3; G. B. Lucas (conductor), 4; H. A. Barnett, 5; W. P. English, 6.

At Christ Church, Wanstead, Essex.—On Tuesday, the 12th ult., 720 **CANTERBURY PLEASURE**. J. King, 1; W. Smith, 2; A. H. Gardom, 3; G. Cornell, 4; J. Marks, 5; E. Barnett (conductor), 6.

At SS. Mary and Nicolas, Spalding, Lincolnshire.—On Tuesday, the 12th ult., a date touch of 1889 **GRANDSIRE TRIPLES**, in 1 hr. 12 mins. J. S. Wright, 1; G. Skeef, 2; G. Ladd, 3; J. W. Jarvis, 4; G. L. Richardson, 5; R. Mackman (conductor), 6; R. Jarvis, 7; E. Jarvis, 8.

At St. Dunstan's, Stepney, London.—On Wednesday, the 13th ult., ten members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang a date touch of 1889 **GRANDSIRE CATERS** in 1 hr. 16 mins. T. Baker, 1; W. Tanner, 2; W. Jones, 3; W. Greenleaf, 4; Y. Green, 5; R. Woodley, 6; H. Springall (conductor), 7; R. Turner, 8; S. Hayes, 9; S. Joyce, 10. Composed by Mr. Bradley of West Ham.

At St. Mary-the-Virgin, Stanstead, Essex.—On Thursday, the 14th ult., for practice, 720 **DOUBLE OXFORD BOB** (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 25 mins. T. J. Watts (first 720 in the method), 1; W. Watts, 2; I. Hammond, 3; J. Luckey, 4; G. Gray, 5; I. Cavill (conductor), 6. Also 720 **OXFORD BOB MINOR** (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 25½ mins. T. J. Watts (first 720 in the method), 1; I. Hammond, 2; I. Cavill, 3; W. Watts, 4; G. Gray, 5; J. Luckey (conductor), 6. On Sunday morning, the 17th ult., for Divine Service, 720 **BOB MINOR** (twelve bobs and twenty-four singles), in 25 mins. T. J. Watts, 1; I. Hammond, 2; W. Watts, 3; G. Gray, 4; J. Luckey, 5; I. Cavill (composer and conductor), 6. For afternoon service, 720 in the same method (forty-two singles, composed by J. F. Penning, Saffron Walden), in 24 mins. T. J. Watts, 1; G. Gray, 2; I. Hammond, 3; W. Watts, 4; J. Luckey, 5; I. Cavill (conductor), 6. Tenor, 13 cwt.

At Holy Trinity, West Ham, Essex.—On Thursday, the 14th ult., six six-scores of **GRANDSIRE DOUBLES** (each called differently) in 24 mins. W. T. Smith, 1; E. Wright, 2; A. White (conductor), 3; H. Baldwin, 4; R. Lowe, 5; J. Dickerson (first 720), 6. Also 720 **GRANDSIRE MINOR** in 25 mins. H. Baldwin (first 720 of MINOR), 1; E. Wright, 2; W. H. Dallimore, 3; A. White, 4; R. Lowe, 5; H. Randall (conductor), 6. Tenor, 7½ cwt.

At Woolton, Lancashire.—On Saturday, the 16th ult., the St. Peter's Society rang, for practice, three touches of 168 **GRANDSIRE TRIPLES**. H. Richardson, 1; P. Leatherhead, jun., 2; H. Flyer, 3; R. Roughley, 4; R. Leather, 5; P. Ball, 6; T. Kay, 7; J. Edwards, 8. And three more touches. H. Richardson, 1; P. Leather, jun., 2; J. Edwards, 3; G. Hyslop, 4; R. Leather, 5; P. Ball, 6; T. Kay, 7; J. Peters, 8.

The following peals and touches have lately been rung:—

At the Parish Church, Midhurst, Sussex.—720 **BOB MINOR**. W. Selby, 1; Rev. J. L. Cother, 2; Dr. W. H. George, 3; E. Wannop, Esq. (first 720), 4; C. Tribe, 5; G. Williams (conductor), 6. Also 720 **OXFORD SINGLE BOB**. T. Ellis, 1; Dr. W. H. George, 2; G. Williams (conductor), 3; C. Tribe, 4; W. Selby, 5; G. Batts, 6. First in the method on the bells and by all except the conductor. 720 **KENT TREBLE BOB**. J. Batts (first 720 in the method, and came from Hambledon, Hants), 1; W. Court, 2; C. Tribe, 3; G. Williams (conductor), 4; W. Selby, 5; G. Batts, 6. In the peal of **BOB TRIPLES** rung at Fareham on January 26th, G. Batts rang the 5th, and the time was 2 hrs. 49 mins., not 2 hrs. 40 mins.

At St. Thomas's, Dudley, Worcestershire.—A quarter-peal of **GRANDSIRE TRIPLES**. F. Fellows, 1; J. Henton, 2; J. Mills, 3; J. Fellows, sen., 4; W. Micklewright, 5; J. Fellows, jun., 6; S. Spittle (conductor), 7; J. Bayliss, 8. Mr. Henton came from Coventry, and is a member of the Bath and Keynsham United Deaneries' Association.

At St. Nicholas', Witham.—720 **OXFORD TREBLE BOB** in 27 mins. W. G. Reynolds, 1; G. Rushen (first peal in the method), 2; E. Chaplin, 4; A. Chalk, 4; E. Garnett, 5; H. Sayer (conductor), 6. Tenor, 18 cwt.

At St. Mary Redcliffe, Bristol.—The following persons attempted a peal of **GRANDSIRE TRIPLES** (Taylor's Six-part) upon the above grand ring of bells. After ringing 1 hr. 45 mins., a change-course occurred:—E. E. Bewick, 1; F. E. Hart, 2; E. Price, 3; D. J. Aston, 4; G. Miles, 5; F. Price (conductor), 6; W. J. Sevier, 7; E. Palser (with assistance), 8. This was attempted on the back eight. Tenor, 52 cwt. The 1st, 2nd, 4th, 5th, 7th, came from Gloucester.

At St. Mary's, Grassendale, Lancashire.—For Divine service in the evening, 720 **PLAIN BOB MINOR** in 27 mins. J. Turner, 1; C. Newton, 2; J. Alexander, 3; W. Weaver, 4; T. Morris, 5; J. Allen (first 720 in the method as conductor), 6.

At St. John-the-Baptist's, Buckham, Weston, Dorset.—Four peals of 120 **BOB DOUBLES**. J. Flower, 1; C. C. H. D'Aeth, 2; J. Williams, 3; W. W. H. D'Aeth (conductor), 4; F. Coombs, 5; J. Coombs, 6. Tenor, 10 cwt.

A copy of the *Sixth Annual Report of the Salisbury Diocesan Guild of Ringers* (Roe, Salisbury) has reached us. We are glad to see that this Guild is making progress both in numbers of honorary and ringing members and in number of peals. We specially congratulate them on the achievement of their first peal of **STEDMAN TRIPLES**.

RECEIVED ALSO.—E. P. Debenham (thanks—intended to be present); F. E. Dawe (next week); and others,

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Ringing in Lent.

SIR,—Being a change-ringer, I should like to ask the opinion of some of your correspondents whether ringing in Lent is in accordance with the teaching and practice of the Church. Why is it that in our services we in most churches never say or sing the *Te Deum* in Lent?—yet the bells overhead, which are the voice of the Church to the outside world, make no difference whatever whether it be Lent or Easter.

I have before me, whilst I am writing, a *Church Bells* of 1882, in which you hope there will be little or no ringing of peals, either for pleasure or practice, in Lent, and you observe that the bells of St. Paul's will be silent till Easter Day (except for Divine service); but of late you have made no remark or uttered any remonstrance against the now, I am sorry to say, prevalent practice of ringing in Lent. If some men of 'light and leading' in the clerical world, such as 'G. V.' and 'J. F.', would take this matter up, I am sure they would have the thanks of many good Church people.

February, 1889.

A CHURCHMAN.

The Lancashire Association.

ROSSENDALE BRANCH.—On Saturday, the 2nd ult., a ringing meeting of the above branch took place at St. Mary's Church, Rawtenstall. Ringing was commenced at three o'clock and continued till six, when a short meeting was held in the schoolroom, presided over by the Vicar, who welcomed the members of the Association to his church and new peal of bells, which were formally opened last December, and are from the foundry of Messrs. Mears & Stainbank. They are a fine ring of eight, tenor about 14 cwt. The Vicar intimated that the bells would soon be at liberty for peal-ringing, after the Newchurch and St. Saviour's Societies have rung their first peal on them. About thirty ringers attended from Bacup, Waterfoot, Haslingden, Ramsbottom and Newchurch, Heywood and Bolton, who expressed their good opinion of the bells and finely fitted ringing-room. Votes of thanks to the Vicar for presiding, and to the Vicar and Wardens for the use of the tower were passed, Bacup (Christ Church) being fixed upon for the next meeting. Ringing was afterwards continued till 9.30.

ROCHDALE BRANCH.—On Saturday, the 9th ult., the above branch held a meeting at St. Luke's Church, Heywood. There were about thirty members present. Ringing was done in the following methods:—GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, UNION TRIPLES, and STEDMAN TRIPLES, the bells being kept in motion till nine p.m. The usual meeting was held in the vestry, the Vicar (the Rev. R. W. P. Circuit) in the chair, when he gave a lengthy address to the ringers, and the Association a hearty welcome to Heywood, assuring them he had the good of the Association at heart. He hoped that they would soon hold another meeting at his church in larger numbers, when he would be most happy to provide all who sent word with a good meat tea. If at any time the church selected could not be got, he should only be too glad to allow them the use of the fine ring in St. Luke's tower. A hearty vote of thanks was given to the Vicar for his kind invitation, also for the bells and room for meeting, and so ably presiding over it.

MANCHESTER BRANCH.—On Saturday, the 23rd ult., the usual monthly meeting was held at Christ Church, Pendlebury. Ringers attended from Whitefield, Manchester, Eccles, Swinton, Worsley, and Bolton, and rang touches in various methods (it was intended to ring at Swinton, but, owing to the committee deciding to hold the quarterly meeting at Swinton on April 27th, it was abandoned). A meeting was afterwards held in Pendlebury School, presided over by the Rev. E. Harries, vicar, who in a very cordial manner welcomed the ringers, and brought before them their duties as such. Mr. J. Redford, the secretary, also addressed the meeting, and stated that over one hundred members had joined since the annual meeting in October; also that Mr. A. Holme, M.A., Vice-President, was appointed to attend the Johnson Celebration at Birmingham. Votes of thanks to the Vicar for the use of the bells and presiding were passed. It was decided to hold the next meeting at Holy Trinity Church, Stretford Road, Manchester, on March 16th. Two ringing members joined the Association, and the Vicar of Pendlebury as an honorary member.

BLACKBURN BRANCH.—On Saturday, the 23rd ult., a ringing meeting of the above Association was held at the Parish Church, Church. There was a moderate attendance of members from Accrington, Blackburn, Church, Colne, Oswaldtwistle, and Whalley. Several peals of BOB MINOR were rung, also a touch of KENT TREBLE BOB. A meeting was held at 'The Thorn' Inn, which was presided over by Mr. A. E. Porter, of Accrington, who very ably officiated. The meeting closed with the usual votes of thanks to the Rector, Churchwardens, and Chairman.

The Birmingham and District Association and the Birmingham Amalgamated Society.

On Saturday, February 9th, the members of these societies held their annual meeting at the 'White Swan' Hotel, Edmund Street, when there was a good attendance of members from Bromsgrove, West Bromwich, Harborne, and Darlaston. After the meeting had been duly opened by the Vice-President, Mr. C. Carmell, the balance-sheets were read and found very satisfactory. The next business of the meeting was to combine the two societies together, to be called 'The Birmingham and District Amalgamated Society,' as it was considered the business would be carried on with more unity than before, and with four meetings instead of eight annually. The new rules, which were formed at a meeting a short time ago, were read and approved of by the members present. The election of officers was then proceeded with, as follows:—Rev. Canon Bowlby, president; Mr. C. Carmell, vice-president;

Mr. W. Brook, secretary; Mr. J. Carter, treasurer; Mr. J. Carter, ringing master; and J. T. Perry, deputy. The late Secretary of the District Association tendered his resignation in favour of the 'Amalgamated' Secretary, as one would be able to manage the business of the two societies. He was accorded a hearty vote of thanks for his able services during the past year. Several new members were elected. It was decided that the annual meetings should be held in July of each year instead of February. The progress of the society during the past year has been very satisfactory. Members are sorry to state that the bells of St. Philip's Church, the head quarters of the society, are not ringable; it is expected that they will shortly be rehung. The members were all agreed that the society was in a more prosperous condition than ever; and are of opinion that if all the ringers in Birmingham would form one body, it would be more beneficial to all parties. A vote of thanks to the officers and tower-keepers for their able services brought the meeting to a close.

The Waterloo Society, London.—(Established 1868.)

At the General Meeting of this Society, held on Wednesday, February 6th, the following members were unanimously re-elected as officers for the ensuing year:—Master, Mr. William Baron; Steward, Mr. William Baron, jun.; Treasurer, Mr. Charles E. Malim; Secretary, Mr. George Wild. Members are requested to note that for the future the meeting-time for practice at Waterloo is at 8.15 every Wednesday; and at St. Margaret's, Westminster, every alternate Friday at eight p.m.

The Worcestershire and Adjoining Districts' Change-ringing Association.

A COMMITTEE Meeting of the above Association will be held in St. John the Baptist's Schoolroom, Hagley, near Stourbridge, at 5.30 p.m., prompt, on Saturday, March 16th, 1889. The Rev. W. C. Gibbs, rector, has kindly consented to preside. All delegates are earnestly requested to be present. Owing to the season of Lent the Rector informs me he is willing to allow us the use of the tower bells providing we ring with the bells muffled.

37 Simms Lane, Netherton, near Dudley.

JOHN SMITH, Hon. Sec.

Wellingborough (Northants).—Supper to Ringers and Choirmen.

The Annual Supper to the choirs of the Parish Church and St. Barnabas', together with the ringers of the former, took place on Tuesday evening at the Drill Hall. There were about eighty present. Mr. Henry proposed 'The Ringers,' for whom Mr. E. J. Dennes made response, in the course of which he paid a high compliment to the ringers for their assiduous attention to practice, and the way in which the belfry was kept. The bells, he pointed out, were the heaviest in the county, with the exception of those in Peterborough Cathedral, but ringers from outside who practised upon them always remarked upon the ease with which they rang. At Wellingborough, he was glad to say, the men took as much interest in chiming as in ringing, and tried their utmost to commence punctually, and make the striking as good as possible. On behalf of the ringers he begged to thank the Vicar and Churchwardens for their sympathy and encouragement during the past year. The ringers very much appreciated the improvement made in the belfry by the peeling and 'pointing' of the walls and removal of the unsightly plaster.

[We are sorry to have to curtail this report, but we must remind our correspondents that *Church Bells* is for (1), reports of scientific ringing; (2), notices and reports of business meetings; (3), articles and correspondence on the science of bell-ringing; (4), bell archaeology. Reports of social gatherings come last, and should be as short and concise as possible.—Ed. C. B.]

CHANGE-RINGING.

At the Parish Church, Saddleworth, Yorkshire.

On Tuesday, the 19th ult., eight members of the Yorkshire and United Counties' Associations rang a peal of 5088 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR in 3 hrs. 6 mins. F. Brierley, 1; Jos. Radcliffe, 2; J. Holden, 3; J. H. Shaw, 4; Jos. L. Buckley, 5; E. Buckley, 6; E. Wood, 7; J. T. Dicken, 8. Composed by Mr. F. J. Brierley, and conducted by Mr. F. Brierley. Tenor, 12 cwt. The peal was rung with the bells muffled, as a token of respect to the memory of the late Mr. R. Tuke.

At St. Michael's, Hughenden, Bucks.

On Friday, the 22nd ult., eight members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild rang Holt's Original peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 3 hrs. 3 mins. H. Shalford, 1; F. G. Biggs, 2; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 3; F. L. Free, 4; R. Biggs, 5; J. Evans, 6; G. Bunce, 7; B. Page, 8. Tenor, 12½ cwt., in G. The above is the first peal by all except the conductor; the others belong to the local company.

At All Saints', Duffield, Derbyshire.

On Saturday, the 23rd ult., ten members of the Midland Counties' Association (the Duffield Branch) rang a peal of 5002 STEDMAN CATERS in 3 hrs. 14 mins. A. P. Heywood, Esq. (composer and conductor), 1; G. Dawson, 2; S. Johnson, 3; J. Howe, 4; E. Moreton, 5; W. J. Servier, 6; G. Hingley, 7; H. Midgley, 8; B. Sugden, 9; W. Hickling, 10. Tenor, 17 cwt. This peal, which is now rung for the first time, was to celebrate the fifth anniversary of the dedication of the bells. In the composition either the 5th or 6th are always behind the 9th.

At All Saints', Marlow, Bucks.

On Saturday, the 23rd ult., eight members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild rang Holt's Original peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 3 hrs. 8 mins. A. Cocks, Esq., 1; H. Collins, 2; S. Goodchild, 3; R. Briggs, 4; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 5; J. C. Truss, sen. (first inside), 6; C. Smith, 7; A. W.

Truss,* 8. Tenor, 16 cwt. The ringers of the 3rd and 4th belong to Hughenden; the others to Marlow. [* First peal.]

At St. Bride's (alias Bridget), Fleet Street, City of London.

On Saturday, the 23rd ult., twelve members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang a peal of 5019 STEDMAN CINQUES in 3 hrs. 56 mins. F. E. Dawe (composer and conductor), 1; M. A. Wood, 2; J. Pettit, 3; W. Cooter, 4; C. F. Winny, 5; G. T. McLaughlin, 6; G. Dorrington, 7; S. E. Joyce, 8; C. A. Clements, Esq., 9; W. D. Smith, 10; E. Horrex, 11; W. Greenleaf, 12. Tenor, 28 cwt., in D flat. Mr. Clements came from Salisbury. He returns home much pleased at having succeeded in the performance, which had been specially arranged in honour of his birthday, he having attained the age of twenty-one years on the above day. The above is the first peal Mr. Dawe has called in the City of London, and he has now rung every bell round in a ring of twelve for a peal of STEDMAN CINQUES, Mr. Wood being the only other ringer who has ever done so.

At Diss, Norfolk.

On Monday, the 25th ult., six members of the Norwich Association, at the residence of Mr. J. Souter, rang on handbells retained in hand a peal of 5040 OXFORD TREBLE BOB ROYAL in 3 hrs. 12 mins. E. Hayward, 1; G. Archer, 2; E. Brome, 3-4; J. Souter (conductor), 5-6; E. Bartrum, 7-8; W. Ireland, 9-10. Composed by Mr. J. Reeves. Umpire, Mr. J. Rudd. First peal on handbells by all the band, first peal of ROYAL by the first five, and first peal by 2nd and 3rd men.

At the Parish Church, Rowley Regis, Staffordshire.

On Monday, the 25th ult., eight members of the Birmingham and District Amalgamated Society rang a peal of 10,272 GRANDSIRE MAJOR in 6 hrs. 5 mins. J. Carter (composer and conductor), 1; J. Jones,* 2; T. Horton,* 3; W. Brooks, 4; C. Carmell, 5; F. H. James,* 6; A. Hackley, 7; J. T. Perry, 8. Tenor, 13 cwt., in F. The composition is in six parts, and contains the 120 course-ends with the tenors together throughout, and is the longest peal ever rung in the method. This is the first peal rung by the members since the Birmingham Amalgamated Society and the Birmingham and District Association have been joined together. The ringers take this opportunity of thanking the Vicar and Churchwardens for their kindness in granting them the use of the bells, and also to Mr. Bennett, steeple-keeper, for getting everything in order. [* First peal in the method.]

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

On Tuesday, the 26th ult., eight members of the Surrey Association rang Holt's Original peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 48 mins. A. Swetnam, 1; E. Bennett, 2; W. Baron, sen. (conductor), 3; S. Baker, 4; W. W. Thorne, 5; H. S. Thomas (birthday), 6; J. M. Hayes (birthday), 7; H. A. Hopkins, 8.

At St. Albans, Herts.

On Thursday, the 28th ult., four members of the Ancient Society of College Youths, the Herts and Essex Associations, and the St. Peter's Society, rang, on handbells retained in hand, a peal of 5040 BOB MAJOR in 2 hrs. 26 mins. G. W. Cartmel (conductor), 1-2; W. H. L. Buckingham, 3-4; E. P. Debenham, 5-6; T. Waller, 7-8. The peal was taken from Troyte's *Change-Ringing*. Umpires, Messrs. E. Hall and Little.

At Christ Church, West Bromwich, Staffordshire.

On Saturday, the 2nd inst., the following members of the Society of Change-ringers for the Archdeaconry of Stafford rang on the bells of the above church J. Thurstan's One-course peal of STEDMAN TRIPLES (with a single in each of the last two courses), containing 5040 changes, in 3 hrs. 1 min. J. Carter, 1; G. Walker, 2; S. Reeves, 3; T. Horton, 4; W. R. Small, 5; R. Hall, 6; C. Price, 7; J. Hall, 8. Tenor, 23 cwt. 3 qrs. This is the first peal of STEDMAN TRIPLES rung on the bells, and was rung to celebrate the eightieth birthday of Mr. Henry Johnson, of Birmingham. Mr. Carter came from Aston, Mr. Walker from Nottingham, and the rest belong to the local band. Mr. G. Walker was elected a member of the above Society previous to starting for the peal.

At St. Andrew's, Litchurch, Derby.

On Saturday, the 2nd inst., eight members of the Midland Counties' Association (St. Andrew's Society) rang a peal of 5040 Shipway's Six-part in 3 hrs. 12 mins. W. Shardlow, 1; J. W. Thompson, 2; G. Mottashaw, 3; T. Alton, 4; A. E. Thompson, 5; H. C. Woodward, 6; C. Hart (conductor, first peal), 7; C. Draper, 8. Tenor, 21 cwt., in E flat.

At ALL SAINTS', STAPLEHURST.—On Monday, the 11th ult., 672 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 312 STEDMAN, 252 BOB TRIPLES, and 224 BOB MAJOR. J. Woolgar, W. Walters, W. Collison, W. Pope, W. C. Pope, H. G. Pope, A. Palmer, E. Pope (conductor), and W. Legge.

At SALISBURY, WILTS.—*Handbell-ringing*.—On Thursday, the 21st ult., 1061 GRANDSIRE CATERS. A. P. Goddard, 1-2; W. W. Gifford, 3-4; T. Blackburn (conductor), 5-6; W. S. Wise, 7-8; H. D. Adams, 9-10. And on Sunday evening, the 24th ult., for Divine service, at St. Martin's Church, 1260 STEDMAN TRIPLES. A. W. Barkus, 1; H. D. Adams, 2; W. S. Wise, 3; A. P. Goddard, 4; S. Lawrence, 5; W. W. Gifford, 6; T. Blackburn (conductor), 7; J. Hallett, 8.

At THE PARISH CHURCH, NEWBURY, BERKS.—On Sunday evening, the 24th ult., for Divine service, a quarter-peal of 1260 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. J. E. Stillman (parish clerk), 1; J. Powers, 2; C. Swain, 3; G. Batt, 4; D. Geater (conductor), 5; J. C. Couch, 6; J. Hussey, 7; R. Sawyer, 8. Tenor, 26 cwt.

CORRESPONDENCE.

One Remedy for Poverty.

SIR,—Leslie, in his *Divine Right of Tithes*, describes a grand function in Winchester Cathedral—a Saxon king surrounded by his Witanagemotte of nobles, clergy, thanes, and wise men, kneeling before the high altar, solemnly dedicating the tithe of his kingdom to the service of Almighty God, and quoting Mal. iii. 8, invoking a curse on those who should cease to pay it. About a thousand years after another king—Henry VIII.—bribed Parliament with promises of remission of taxes and other things, and Acts were passed to enable him to rob the Church. If the King and his fellow-thieves fell under the '*Doom of Sacrilege*,'* surely we may expect to find in the history of the nation which consented to the robbery some indications of the same curse of God, and we have not far to look. Had the wealth of the monasteries been applied to the general needs of the Church she would have been able to keep pace with the needs of the nation; grammar-schools and colleges would have trained a wise and understanding people, with an educated clergy numerous enough to supply all requirements of an increasing population; so we may write heresy and schism under the doom of sacrilege. Next may come the Church's inability to keep up her hospitals and support the poor. Then the total cessation of the payment of tithes and offerings, which, down to the Reformation, were in theory, at all events, paid by every Christian man. We might go on to war, and many other curses; but it will be acknowledged that had the property of the Church been wisely administered, and had tithe payments been continued—in a word, had the Reformation included finance as well as doctrine, the present state of England would be very different, even if she had not been the means of converting the whole world to Christ.

The history of the Jews is full of instances of the judgment of God falling upon the whole nation, notably when they neglected the Sabbatical year for 490 years, or 70 seventh years, God sent them into captivity for exactly that time, and the land had rest (2 Chron. xxxv. 21); when they returned to their own country Malachi tells them that they are cursed because they had robbed God, 'even the whole nation.'

I am not concerned to prove that a Christian is bound by the law of tithe, every man who has ears to hear can find that in the Sermon on the Mount; our Lord gave four examples to show how we should keep the law; if every communicant of the Church obeyed the spirit of the law of first-fruits, tithes, and offerings, we should not be far from the practice of the Church of the Acts, and within measurable distance of solving the question of poverty.

Any national repentance and return to God in tithes and offerings may be a long way off, but not so with the individual. Every soul has power over his own environment, he can decide whether it shall be of the earth or of heaven, carnal or spiritual. The lilies of the field grow in the environment of God, and Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of them; the man who dedicates his worldly things to God consecrates his whole existence—body, soul, and spirit—he is growing in the garden of the Lord, he receives the blessings promised by Malachi, and Christ Himself commands him 'Be not anxious.' The only certain safety from poverty is living in the environment of God.

The one thing needful is that the clergy should teach this forgotten grace of giving; the 'Society of the Treasury of God'† will, as far as their funds admit, furnish tracts and leaflets gratis to all who will agree to teach God's system of finance in Church and Sunday School. Every poor man who 'returns to God' rises out of the ranks of poverty, for God's promise has never been known to fail; every rich man who does so will be raised to a higher spiritual life, and in many ways, direct and indirect, be the means of checking temporary poverty at home, and spiritual poverty among the heathen, and thus 'all nations' may yet 'call us blessed,' for we 'shall be a delightful land, saith the Lord of hosts.'

C. A. B. Pocock, Commander, R.N.

Lausanne, Sexagesima, 1889.

Hon. Sec. S.T.G. for Foreign Parts.

The Preservation of the Parish Registers.

SIR,—The best proposal on this subject which has been put forward is that by W. P. W. Phillimore, M.A., B.C.L., the author of *How to Write the History of a Family* (Elliott Stock) and the editor of *The Index Library* (C. J. Clark), in his letter to the *Times* of October 10th, 1888, under the heading of 'Provincial Records.' He there urges that it is quite unnecessary to deposit these provincial records in an office in London, but that in every county town there should be provided a suitable building under the direction of the County Council, styled the County Record Office, in which should be deposited all local records of a date earlier than the present reign. The county record-keeper should be the Clerk of the Peace, who, under proper authority, would arrange, by deputy or otherwise, the records, and so render them accessible to the public. These record-keepers should form a Central Board, under the Master of the Rolls, and thus, by systematic co-operation, gradually lay down a series of useful rules for the various depositories, and see that they were structurally suitable for this purpose, &c.

The great advantages of these county-town record depositories would be that they would contain the parochial records of the surrounding villages, on an average of thirty parishes or more. These records, properly arranged and calendared, would be rendered accessible to a searcher on the payment of a reasonable fee, and he would have within his reach the records of the

* See this book by the late Rev. Wayland Joyce.

† The address of the Master is Joseph Gunyon, Esq., Westbourne, Essex.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

THE JOHNSON CELEBRATION.

For years past the 28th February has been looked forward to with some interest as the occasion of a gathering of some of the principal ringers in the kingdom to celebrate the birthday of Mr. Henry Johnson, sen., of Birmingham. A still keener interest attached to this birthday from the fact that it was his eightieth, and that Mr. Heywood, President of the Midland Counties' Association, had, through the medium of the *Bell News* and the ringing columns of *Church Bells*, invited representatives from all the ringing societies in the kingdom to accept his hospitality, and honour the eminent composer at a three days' gathering in the 'hardware city.'

Although the local Committee did not anticipate any arrivals before mid-day, yet by the time the reception-room was advertised to open, the success of the meeting was amply assured by the trooping in of representatives from Brighton, Newcastle-on-Tyne, Manchester, Hyde, Burton-on-Trent, and less distant ringing centres.

Unfortunately the ringing on the twelve bells at St. Martin's was soon put an end to by a message from the friends of a sick parishioner. Local ringers were thus doomed to the keen disappointment of being unable to afford the visitors the opportunity of indulging in a pull on the famous twelve, or indeed on the rings of ten at Aston and St. Philip's, the former having been closed since Christmas through illness in the neighbourhood, and the latter being out of repair and in an unringable condition. The best was, however, made of the short interval before the evening gathering by ringing on the peals of eight at St. Chad's (R.C.) Cathedral, and Bishop Ryder's and St. John's (Deritend) churches.

Shortly after five o'clock an assembly of about ninety were seated at dinner in the banqueting-room of the Colonnade Hotel, under the chairmanship of A. P. Heywood, Esq.; and a glance at the following names of some of the many present will convince our readers of the representative nature of the gathering.—The Revs. F. L. Fawcett (St. Martin's, Birmingham), G. F. Coleridge (Oxford), C. D. P. Davies (Ringmer), H. A. Cockey (Oldlands, Bristol), C. P. Brickwell, H. C. Courtney (Hatton); and Messrs. F. E. Dawe (Master of the Ancient Society of College Youths), W. H. Thompson (College Youths), A. H. Gardom and H. S. Thomas (Royal Cumberlands), W. Whittaker and C. H. Hattersley (Yorks Association), R. S. Story (Durham and Newcastle), L. Proctor, Esq. (Benington), H. Baker (Hertford), A. E. Holme (Lancashire), J. Wilde (United Counties), J. Searle (Sussex), J. W. Taylor, sen., J. W. Taylor, jun., W. Wakley, J. Griffin (Midland Counties), S. Spittle (Worcester), S. Reeves (Stafford); the officers of the St. Martin's Guild and the Birmingham and District Amalgamated Society.

At the close of an excellent dinner the Chairman rose, and having referred to letters of apology for non-attendance, some of which were read, from several of the local clergy, and also from the Revs. F. E. Robinson, H. Earle Bulwer, W. W. C. Baker, W. H. Papillon; likewise from the following noted ringers—Mr. Wm. Snowden, Dr. Carpenter, Mr. F. E. Ward, and the Editor of the *Bell News*, many of whom congratulated Mr. Johnson on attaining his eightieth birthday, and referred in the kindest manner to his eminent services as a composer—the chairman then briefly stated the objects of the gathering. Speaking of the many compositions in nearly every known method which had made Mr. Johnson famous as a composer, and assisted in developing the science of change-ringing to the position it now occupies, he believed that it was largely owing to Mr. Johnson's continual urging that we are in possession of the peals of Stedman Triples composed by his contemporaries, Messrs. Thurstans and Lates.

The toast, 'Queen, Church, and State,' by the Chairman, then followed; after which, in a short and feeling speech, Mr. Hattersley proposed the health of Mr. Henry Johnson, sen., referring to his own early connexion and friendship with Mr. Johnson and another celebrated Birmingham ringer, Mr. Chattell. This having been responded to with musical honours, Mr. Johnson thanked the meeting, wishing them health and a hearty 'God bless you all!'

A capital touch of five courses of STEDMAN CINQUES, 649 changes, on handbells, then followed by T. Russam, 1-2; W. Kent, 3-4; T. Miller, 5-6; H. Bastable (conductor), 7-8; B. Wittchell, 9-10; H. Johnson, jun., 11-12; and was enthusiastically applauded.

The toast of 'The Visitors' was then proposed by Mr. John Day, who stated that he never at any time in his long career of nearly fifty years dreamed that Birmingham would see such a large and nationally representative gathering of ringers as was now met together.

Mr. Dawe humorously responded to this toast, delivering a hearty message of congratulation and respect to Mr. Johnson from the Ancient Society of College Youths, and thanked Mr. Heywood for affording him the opportunity of meeting so many ringing friends.

Mr. J. W. Taylor proposed the 'Health of the Clergy,' reminding his audience how necessary it was in the furtherance of the science to secure the co-operation of the clergy, and stating that he very frequently found that where rings of bells existed but were silent, the hitch arose through some difference between the clergy and ringers.

The Rev. F. L. Fawcett suitably replied, apologising for the absence of the Rector of St. Martin's, Canon Wilkinson.

The health of the Birmingham ringers was given by Mr. William Wakley, and responded to, on behalf of the St. Martin's Guild and the Birmingham and District Amalgamated Society, by Mr. A. Thomas.

The Rev. H. C. Courtney proposed the 'Ringing Papers,' stating how much was owing to their careful management for stimulating the ringing exercise.

To this toast the Rev. C. D. P. Davies responded on behalf of *Church Bells*, referring to Mr. Harvey Reeves, the Editor of the *Bell News*, and the kindly feeling which existed between the two papers.

The health of the Chairman was then proposed by Mr. W. R. Small (Tipton), and most enthusiastically received and drunk with musical honours.

In replying, Mr. Heywood, after thanking his audience for their hearty reception of the toast, reminded them that 'progress' was the demand of the present day, and that it behove them to take all needful steps for pushing forward their science. After briefly alluding to the work begun by the late Mr. Jasper Snowden, he referred to the fact that composition in change-ringing by such men as Mr. Johnson, who were unassisted by the higher and more abstruse researches in mathematics, had yet attained such a degree of excellence that very little in the standard methods was left for the coming generation to accomplish. Speaking of his left-hand supporter, Mr. W. H. Thompson, who a few years ago conclusively demonstrated by mathematical reasoning that a peal of Grandsire Triples could not possibly be obtained by common bobs only, he pointed out that, as the theory of the art was now under such serious investigation by such men as Mr. Thompson, the Rev. C. D. P. Davies, and the Rev. H. Earle Bulwer, it might be expected to make equal progress with its practice. He invited them to a careful discussion and consideration of the several resolutions which would be brought before them that evening, reminding them that the results would go forth to the ringing world with the impress of the authority of that great and representative meeting.

The following resolutions were then submitted to the meeting, and, after a discussion in which most of the leading ringers present joined, unanimously adopted:—

National Ringers' Association.—'That this meeting, whilst failing to see the advantages of a National Ringers' Association, is of opinion that great benefit would accrue to the exercise if a Committee, consisting of one or more selected members from each Association, could meet from time to time to consider and decide such ringing matters as are a cause of perplexity.'

Ringers' Benefit Society.—'That this meeting is of opinion that the advantages attending the establishment of a General Ringers' Benefit Society would not be great enough to outweigh the immense difficulty of collecting and administering the funds in a satisfactory manner.'

Ringing Phraseology.—'That, in the opinion of this meeting, the indefiniteness of many of the terms at present in use, more especially in the scientific treatment of Campanology, imperatively demands the attention of the exercise, with a view to their revision and improvement.'

Recording of Peals.—'That this meeting, approving the wholesome rivalry which has been established between the various ringing Associations in the matter of number of peals annually recorded by each, is of opinion that the registration (in the tabular list of peals) of any performance in the name of more than one such Association is destructive of fair comparison.'

Ringing Peals.—'That this meeting considers it eminently desirable that there should be some authoritative definition as to the extent of departure from absolute correctness of ringing which may be permitted in a true peal.'

The resolutions having been carried, the Chairman thanked the meeting for their attention, adding that the unanimity of opinion in so representative a gathering was a good augury for the future of the Art of Change-ringing.

On the day following the dinner, a mixed band, composed of some of the representatives and local ringers, journeyed by an early train to Warwick, and there rang a peal of STEDMAN CATERS, whilst others engaged in touch-ringing at the various towers in Birmingham.

At seven o'clock some thirty again assembled, at Mr. Heywood's invitation, to a 'high' tea at St. Martin's Hotel; and a pleasant evening was spent in social conversation, enlivened with STEDMAN CATERS on the handbells by H. Bastable, 1-2; J. Carter, 3-4; A. P. Heywood, 5-6; T. Miller, 7-8; W. Kent, 9-10; and tune-ringing.

Mr. Heywood, after wishing every one a hearty good-bye, and expressing the pleasure it had given him to preside over such a hearty and enthusiastic meeting, started homeward. Messrs. Story, Baker, Searle, and Wilde remained until the Saturday, and an unsuccessful attempt for another peal was made at Harborne in the afternoon.

It is sincerely to be hoped that the opinions of such an influential gathering, expressed in the resolutions referred to, may bear fruit in such a way as permanently to benefit the exercise.

The Johnson Celebration.

SIR,—In common, I have no doubt, with other members of the exercise who unfortunately were unable to be present at Birmingham on the 28th ult., I have to confess to a feeling of disappointment at the extreme meagreness of the report of the proceedings which has appeared in the ringing papers. The occasion was one so remarkable in its intention and scope, and so important in its possible results to the future of campanology, that a far fuller and more complete account of the proceedings ought to have been made and recorded, and I am sure that the increased space and closer printing required for such a purpose would have been well bestowed. The report, as it stands at present, does not differ materially from any ordinary record of post-prandial oratory, the cream of the meeting, namely, the discussion on the points covered by the resolutions, having been carefully skimmed off and withheld from the exercise at large. It was just the opportunity afforded for this discussion which made the assembly unique in the annals of change-ringing, and it is the outspoken opinion of representative men on these points that we want to hear. Complimentary toasts and after-dinner speeches of the ordinary character we can hear any day, but a discussion on special and carefully selected subjects by competent men is of more than fugitive interest, and, if it is not adequately reported, is lost to all save those who were privileged to listen to it. The report, as it stands, is all trifle and

no plums; and I hope it may not be impossible even now to repair the omission, and give us a *resumé* of the arguments used by the various speakers in support of the resolutions that were passed.

H. EARLE BULWER.

The St. James's Society, London.

On and after March 18th, 1889, the business meetings of this Society will be held, after the ringing at St. Clement Danes Church, at the 'Essex Head,' Essex Street, Strand. Members are requested to attend the meeting.

G. T. McLAUGHLIN, *Hon. Secretary.*

Lancashire Association—Liverpool Diocesan Branch.

THE Monthly Meeting of the above will be held at Ormskirk on Saturday, March 16th. Bells ready from 2 p.m. By kind permission the bells of Christ Church, Aughton, will also be placed at the disposal of ringing visitors during the afternoon. A meat tea at 1s. per head will be provided in the Vicarage Schoolroom at 5 p.m., to be followed by the business meeting at 6.30. A short service, with address by the Vicar, the Rev. J. E. Woodrow, will be held in the church. It is earnestly hoped that as many members as possibly can will attend, and also ringers from other churches who have not up to the present attended any of the meetings.

40 Lowther Street, Liverpool.

J. R. FRITCHARD, *Branch Secretary.*

CHANGE-RINGING.

At St. Mary's, Chelmsford, Essex.

On Monday, the 25th ult., eight members of the Essex Association rang Cox's peal of 5021 GRANDSIRE CATERS in 3 hrs. 15 mins. A. Edwards, 1; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 2; W. Rowland, 3; A. Tarbun, 4; Rev. J. F. Hastings, 5; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 6; W. Hawkins, 7; Rev. T. L. Papillon, 8; W. Lincoln, 9; W. J. Piper, 10. Tenor, 22 cwt. The Rev. J. F. Hastings, of Great Yarmouth, was elected a member of the Essex Association before starting for the peal.

At All Saints', Writtle, Essex.

On Tuesday, the 26th ult., eight members of the Essex Association rang a peal of 5040 BOB MAJOR in 3 hrs. 5 mins. R. C. Burrell, 1; Rev. J. F. Hastings, 2; A. Edwards, 3; F. Radley,* 4; W. Lincoln, 5; Rev. T. L. Papillon, 6; Rev. F. E. Robinson,* 7; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 8. Tenor, 18½ cwt. [* First peal in the method.]

At St. Mary's, Diss, Norfolk.

On Wednesday, the 27th ult., eight members of the Norwich Diocesan Association rang a peal of 5184 OXFORD TREBLE BOB MAJOR in 3 hrs. 21 mins. J. W. Washbrook* (conductor), 1; F. Day, 2; W. Ireland, 3; W. Salter (first peal), 4; Rev. F. E. Robinson,* 5; E. Hayward, 6; A. Hart, 7; J. Souter, 8. Composed by Mr. T. Lockwood. [* First peal in the method.]

At All Saints', Duffield, Derbyshire.

On Wednesday, the 27th ult., eight members of the Midland Counties' Association rang a peal of 5056 DOUBLE OXFORD BOB MAJOR in 3 hrs. 1 min. G. Dawson, 1; J. Howe, 2; S. Johnson, 3; E. Moreton, 4; G. Hingley, 5; W. Hickling, 6; B. Sugden, 7; A. Percival Heywood, Esq. (composer and conductor), 8. Tenor, 17 cwt. In this composition, which is now rung for the first time, and is the conductor's one hundredth peal, the 2nd and 3rd are never in the 6th's place.

At St. Mary's, Redenhall, Norfolk.

On Thursday, the 28th ult., eight members of the Norwich Diocesan Association rang a peal of 5024 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR in 3 hrs. 13 mins. E. Smith, 1; J. Bentley, 2; F. Knights, 3; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 4; F. Smith, 5; J. W. Washbrook (composer and conductor), 6; J. Souter, 7; Captain Moore, 8.

At St. Mary's, Bungay, Suffolk.

On Thursday, the 28th ult., Brooke's Variation of Thurstans' peal of 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES was rung in 3 hrs. 3 mins. E. Smith, 1; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 2; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 3; A. Webber,* 4; F. Knights, 5; J. Souter, 6; Captain Moore (first peal inside), 7; D. Hayward,* 8. Tenor, about 13 cwt. The first peal of STEDMAN on the bells. [* First peal in the method.]

At the Parish Church, Ashby-de-la-Zouch, Leicestershire.

On Thursday, the 28th ult., eight members of the Ashby-de-la-Zouch Parish Church Ringers' Society rang Holt's Ten-part peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 3 hrs. W. Liggins, 1; H. Canner, 2; T. Jacques, 3; J. Hopkin, 4; W. Owen, 5; J. H. Dunmore, 6; W. Canner (conductor), 7; G. Thornley, (first peal), 8. Tenor, 16 cwt. 3 qrs. 23 lbs., in E flat. This is the first peal ever rung on these bells by a band composed exclusively of inhabitants of Ashby-de-la-Zouch, and the ringers are members of the Midland Counties' Association.

At St. Nicholas', Great Yarmouth, Norfolk.

On Friday, the 1st inst., a peal of 5093 GRANDSIRE CATERS was rung in 3 hrs. 26 mins. R. Christian, 1; D. Hayward, 2; W. Blyth, 3; M. Long, 4; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 5; A. Webber, 6; R. T. Tooley, 7; J. Skinner, 8; J. W. Washbrook (composer and conductor), 9; Rev. J. F. Hastings, 10. Tenor, 31 cwt.

At St. Martin's, Salisbury.

On Saturday, the 2nd inst., eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths and the Salisbury Diocesan Guild rang Brooke's Variation of Thurstans' peal of STEDMAN TRIPLES in 3 hrs. 4 mins. A. W. Barkus, 1; C. A. Clements, 2; W. S. Wise, 3; A. P. Goddard, 4; S. Lawrence (first peal in the method inside), 5; W. W. Gifford, 6; T. Blackburn (conductor), 7; J. R. Jerram, 8.

On Thursday, the 28th ult., four members of the above Societies rang, on handbells retained in hand, Holt's Ten-part peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 22 mins. W. S. Wise (conductor), 1-2; A. W. Barkus, 3-4; W. W. Gifford, 5-6; H. D. Adams, 7-8. Umpire, Mr. E. Ramshaw. It was rung at the house of Mr. Gifford, to celebrate the nineteenth birthday of the conductor, Mr. Wise.

On Friday, the 1st inst., four members of the above Societies rang, on handbells retained in hand, a peal of 5152 BOB MAJOR, in 2 hrs. 30 mins. A. P. Goddard (first peal on handbells), 1-2; W. S. Wise, 3-4; W. W. Gifford, 5-6; H. D. Adams, 7-8. Composed by Mr. York Green and conducted by Mr. Gifford. Umpire, Mr. T. Blackburn.

On Friday, the 8th inst., four members of the above Societies rang, on handbells retained in hand, a peal of 5152 BOB MAJOR in 2 hrs. 30 mins. A. P. Goddard, 1-2; W. S. Wise, 3-4; W. W. Gifford, 5-6; A. W. Barkus, 7-8. Composed by Mr. York Green, and conducted by Mr. Gifford. Umpire, Mr. A. J. Callaway.

At St. Nicholas', Guildford, Surrey.

On Saturday, the 2nd inst., the following members of the Winchester Diocesan Guild rang Holt's Ten-part peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 3 hrs. 8 mins. T. H. Colburn,* 1; F. Bennett,* 2; J. Staples, 3; F. W. J. Rees, 4; H. White, 5; G. Williams (conductor), 6; W. Groves,* 7; C. W. Miller,* 8. Tenor, 22½ cwt. This is the first peal in the method on the bells. Mr. Williams came from Midhurst; Mr. Staples, Havant; Mr. White, Basingstoke; the others are members of the local band. [* First peal.]

At St. Margaret's, Barking, Essex.

On Saturday, the 2nd inst., the following members of the Essex Association, being also members of the Ancient Society of College Youths, rang Thurstans' peal of 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES in 3 hrs. H. Springale, 1; C. F. Winny, 2; H. R. Newton, 3; S. E. Joyce, 4; Y. Green, 5; S. Hayes (conductor), 6; J. M. Hayes, 7; E. A. Davies, 8. Tenor, 22 cwt., in E. Mr. S. Joyce was elected a member of the Essex Association previous to starting for the peal. This peal was rung to celebrate the completion of the tower repairs, also the recasting of the second bell.

At St. Giles', Cripplegate, City of London.

On Saturday, the 2nd inst., twelve members of the Society of Cumberland Youths rang a peal of 5000 STEDMAN CINQUES in 3 hrs. 50 mins. G. Newson (composer and conductor), 1; B. Foskett, 2; H. Davis, 3; J. Rogers, 4; A. Jacob, 5; J. Hannington, 6; H. Swain, 7; W. W. Thorne (first peal of STEDMAN CINQUES), 8; H. Randall, 9; H. Hopkins, 10; W. Baron, 11; Jos. Barry, 12. Tenor, 36 cwt.

At Holy Trinity, Blackburn, Lancashire.

On Saturday, the 9th inst., the ringers of Holy Trinity, Bolton, and members of the Lancashire Association rang Taylor's Bob-and-Single Variation peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 59 mins. H. W. Jackson (conductor), 1; H. Bentley, 2; J. Redford, 3; J. H. Jackson, 4; J. W. Crichley, 5; T. E. Turner, 6; W. Hamer, 7; R. Lindley, 8. Tenor, 13 cwt. The above is the first peal of 5040 on the new bells, which have a short time been hung in the tower by Messrs. Taylor of Loughborough.

At the Parish Church, Sheffield.

On Saturday, the 9th inst., eight members of the Yorkshire Association rang a peal of 5184 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR in 3 hrs. 23 mins. C. H. Hattersley (composer), 1; W. Bugar (first peal in the method), 2; W. Lomas, 3; F. Coates, 4; C. Bower, 5; T. Hattersley, 6; H. Madin, 7; A. Brierley (conductor), 8. Tenor, 14 cwt.

A Muffled Peal at Holy Trinity, Newington, London.

On Sunday, the 10th inst., eight members of the Society of Southwark Youths rang the bells of the above church, muffled, for the evening service and funeral sermon, which was preached by the Rev. Burman Cassin, M.A., to a congregation of over six hundred people; and after service a funeral peal was rang, by order of the churchwardens—the whole pull and stand—as a last mark of respect to the late Rev. D. Moullin, rector of the above church for forty years, and who died at the advanced age of seventy years. G. Woodage (conductor), 1; E. Drury, 2; W. Pritchett, 3; F. Perrin, 4; J. Fisher, 5; H. Welch, 6; H. Langdon, 7; J. Summers, 8.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH, DALTON-IN-FURNESS, LANCASHIRE.—On the 17th ult., for evening service, Carpenter's peal of 720 GRANDSIRE MINOR (36 bobs and 24 singles) was rung in 24 mins. by T. Smart (first 720), 1; T. Townson, 2; G. Spencer, 3; M. Caddy, 4; J. Burrows, 5; T. Watson (conductor), 6. On the 3rd inst., for morning service, Carpenter's 720 GRANDSIRE MINOR (34 bobs and 26 singles) was rung in 24 mins. T. Jackson (first 720), 1; T. Townson, 2; J. Burrows, 3; M. Caddy, 4; T. R. Jackson, 5; T. Watson (conductor), 6. On the 3rd inst., for evening service, Potter's 720 GRANDSIRE MINOR (30 bobs and 30 singles) was rung in 25 mins. T. Jackson, 1; T. Watson (conductor), 2; J. Spencer, 3; M. Caddy, 4; T. R. Jackson, 5; J. Burrows, 6.

AT ST. OSWALD'S, BIDSTONE, CHESHIRE.—On Sunday evening, the 3rd inst., for service, a peal of 720 GRANDSIRE MINOR (34 bobs and 2 singles) was rung in 24 mins. J. Sutton (first peal), 1; G. Royden, 2; G. Kendrick, 3; J. Griffiths, 4; W. Wilcox, 5; H. Povall (conductor, first on a bob bell), 6. First time of ringing this peal for all. On the 21st ult. the last five rang the plain course of KENT TREBLE BOB for first time, with Mr. Woods (teacher) on treble.

AT ST. MARTIN'S, TIPTON, STAFFORDSHIRE.—On Monday, the 11th inst., A. P. Heywood's date touch of 1889 STEDMAN TRIPLES in 1 hr. 11 mins.

H. Mills, 1; W. Cheshire, 2; J. Astbury, sen., 3; W. R. Small, 4; D. Chapman, 5; S. Jesson, 6; G. Hughes (conductor), 7; A. E. Law, 8. Messrs. Chapman and Astbury came from Walsall; Law and Cheshire, Coseley.

The Surrey Association of Change-ringers.

WE have received a copy of the *Sixth Report of the Surrey Association of Change-ringers* (printed at the *Bell News* office). It commences with a list of officers, passing on to a table of times of practice at churches in union. The Report states that twenty-seven peals have been rung, including two additional methods, viz., STEDMAN CATERS and OXFORD TREBLE BOB MAJOR. We congratulate them on the STEDMAN. The total number of members on the books is 204. We hope the Association will long continue in its present satisfactory state of progress.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The Athanasian Creed.

SIR,—Mr. Peat's letter expects, and I am sure deserves, a reply from me. To begin with his ending, I have no doubt it *would* be a grand thing for the Church of England to be satisfied with fewer articles and definitions, and at the same time maintain perfect loyalty to the Master. It would; but then the Church of England would require a *tabula rasa* as to all the long past, to begin with: she would have to start *ab initio*, and not be the *historical* Church of England she now is, nor perhaps any Church at all. So much for that fair but Utopian imagination.

Mr. Peat practically asks me how it is *consistent* for me to speak of a certain alteration (which, let me say in his ear, I do not in the least *desire* to see, nor care about) as 'plausibly probable,' and yet write as if we clergy ought to have no compunction about using the damnatory clauses? I do not see the inconsistency, which may be my fault only; but if Mr. Peat, having paid me the compliment of reading my letter (which I never expected to produce the crop of correspondents' inquiries it has done), will kindly consider it, he will see, I think, that the sole aim was to minimise *in fact* some difficulties that really are felt, and obviate (perhaps) some objections not always considerably brought; and further, that I gave, as far as I know, not the least hint that I wished the Creed to be read *otherwise* than as at present printed,—because, in fact, I have no such wish; nor *would I remove the stop* (as asked) on any authority which could be measured only by evidence 'plausibly probable,' however such evidence might *possibly* somewhat turn the edge of some individual doubter's difficulty.

I drew attention to the fact—not an uncomfortable one—that the Church of England applies the Creed *only* to members of the Christian Church, not to universal mankind; the proof of which may be seen in the declarations of the Convocation of York Province, February 2nd, 1873, and of the Province of Canterbury, February 14th, 1873, both further agreeing that 'the Church doth not pronounce judgment upon particular persons,' that being the province of the Great Judge of all, and Him alone. This remark will, therefore, obviate in fair reasoning the question that otherwise Mr. Peat might ask, 'How about accepting, "under pain of damnation," for individuals within the Church?' 'Still, is not that the meaning of "Except a man, &c., he cannot be saved?"' The Church states 'the peril of rejecting,' and 'the necessity of holding fast,' the Christian Faith, speaking of the two polar truths thereof, the Trinity and the Incarnation; and 'the Church, our Church, in both Convocations, declares that herein she does not pronounce upon individual cases. She speaks *ἁπλῶς*, if I may use a correct if Greek term, 'generally,' as she speaks in the Catechism, *not* of particular cases.

The only other point to notice in Mr. Peat's fair and reasonable, but not overpoweringly difficult letter, is, that I do not feel myself, nor see why other teachers are, tempted to *gloss over difficulties*, by the Creed as it is, whatever they may be by their own disposition or circumstances. Virtually, Mr. Peat would have me state what I understand to be meant by those clauses, and to that I have given him my answer by anticipation. I understand them to mean simply what the identical Scripture terms mean, not more, not less; and that, I stated (upon unquestionable facts), is more or less a matter of *interpretation*, and must and will remain so. Upon the terms used, and upon each term used, it is clear that men do, and I suppose *will*, differ to the end; Pusey, Maurice, Colenso, Farrar, Baldwin Brown, Ed. White, and how many more, disagreeing upon the very interpretation of terms; yet the terms are *there*, in Scripture, and must have some corresponding vertices attached. Disuse or blot out the *Creed*, your difficulty remains; you are not prepared to cancel the *Scripture*; then, interpret it you must, and the Church cannot ignore it and 'maintain loyalty to the Master.'

Bigby Rectory, Brigg.

THOMAS FIELD, B.D.

'Stand or Kneel.'

SIR,—Ritual changes do not begin with the Bishops and elder clergy, but, no doubt, they will gradually follow the practice of the juniors, who have in the last few years adopted kneeling as the attitude of all save the celebrant at the *Gloria in Excelsis* in the Communion Office. At the celebration in Henry VII.'s Chapel in Westminster Abbey before the recent session of Convocation, I noticed that the bishops, deans, archdeacons, and proctors, without exception, stood, while at a celebration at a Quiet Day for the Clergy this week in a London church, all knelt. In both cases the service was said, not sung.

A PROCTOR.

SIR,—I am glad to see that the question whether it is right to stand or kneel at the *Gloria in Excelsis* is being discussed in your correspondence columns. To my mind a standing posture seems most appropriate to the words of this beautiful hymn of thanksgiving; but in any case the accident

of whether it is sung or said ought not to decide the point at issue. At the church in Westminster where I worship the custom is to kneel at the early and midday celebrations when not choral, and to stand when choral, and my inquiries concerning this apparent inconsistency were answered thus:—It is right to kneel at a 'low' celebration and stand at a 'high' one. The same reason was given for another custom which prevails—that of standing during the offertory at the early celebration, only until you have deposited your alms in the bag, when you kneel down one by one, and the curious spectacle is presented of a gradually diminishing number of standing and a gradually increasing number of kneeling worshippers, until at last all have assumed the latter posture. At the mid-day celebration, however, a hymn is sung during the offertory, and therefore simply because of this, and not apparently as a matter of proper principle, the congregation remain standing until the priest proceeds with the prayer for the Church militant. Here again I think common sense would help us to a right decision. Surely standing is the more reverent and convenient posture in which to make our offerings, and only when they have been presented by the priest at the altar, and we are invited to pray, should we assume the kneeling position. I am not aware that in the Church of England any such distinctions as 'high' and 'low,' as applied to the celebration of Holy Communion, are recognised; and if this be so, the differences in posture under consideration are not to be explained in that way. I am therefore glad you have opened your columns to correspondence on this subject, and I hope some reliable information respecting it may be forthcoming.

J. M.

Returning the Parson's Call.

SIR,—'J. G. C.' invites a reply, and in deep sympathy with him I beg to suggest a few considerations:—1. It is quite true that domiciliary visits are disappointing. Who has not felt this? But then who, also, is not disappointed in the effect of his sermons, his services, guilds, &c., in fact in all that he does? 2. Is it not a mistake to speak of sitting 'under the infliction of hearing a detailed account of aches and pains?' Would it be an infliction if we possessed our Lord's compassion? The aches and pains are real. Should not our sympathy answer to them? 3. Can we know our people's hearts and minds otherwise than by intercourse? And can we do them much good if we do not understand them? 4. If we have friends of our own we see as much of them as we can. If we cease to visit or correspond with an old schoolfellow or college friend, we lose him, as too many do to their hurt. Our people naturally feel, 'If he does not care to come and see us—being able to do so—he does not care for us.' 5. Somewhat in the same way that confession of sin relieves a soul, so it is good for our people to have it out with us, to tell us what they feel. It is a comfort to them, and they love us the more afterwards, and trust us more. 6. Opportunities are afforded in such visits for a good word in season, to be spoken at once or kept in reserve for next time. Among these good words are counsels as to private prayers, reading the Bible, books to be used and avoided, training of children, &c. 7. We are to 'Seek for Christ's sheep that are scattered abroad,' as well as to welcome them if they come, which they seldom do if left to themselves. 8. The words 'domiciliary visits made at very short intervals' are vague. No doubt but we may visit too often; but, in case of affliction, or a seeming opening, or nearness of dwelling, or other causes, frequent visits seem natural.

On the whole there are, as I have heard it well put by the brother of the best-beloved of all our Bishops, there are two sorts of visits. 1. Those made at times of sickness, or trial, or after some great sin, or in view of some spiritual danger; and these should be serious, and generally at least accompanied by prayer. 2. Kindly visits to bring about and sustain kindly feeling; the visits of a neighbour who is interested in his neighbour's aches, pains, and all *Homo sum*, &c., plus an unexpressed, but gently felt atmosphere of paternal love, that sort of paternal which belongs to the parson, who is shepherd and parent as well as neighbour, and *tries* to copy the Good Shepherd, however poorly he does so.

Therefore let us not afflict ourselves, but do our best with confidence in Him Whose we are and Whom we serve; remembering Him as we knock at the door, and when we are within, and when we leave; often praying beforehand, and often praying afterwards, for the objects of our visitation.

All is failure, and nothing is failure. All is failure which we do to please ourselves, and in our own strength; but surely nothing else is all failure, else my whole life is failure, who am now

SEPTUAGENARIAN.

Free and Open Churches.

SIR,—I have been immensely interested in the paper read at a 'Conference of the Lay-Helpers' Association' by the Vicar of St. James', Upper Edmonton, and I unhesitatingly agree with his opinions regarding the 'Free and Open Church' question. You have kindly more than once allowed me a space in your excellent weekly issue of *Church Bells* to ventilate my opinions in this matter, and I trust you will yet once more grant me the indulgence of printing this communication.

I write from practical experience, after several years' observation of the results of freeing the churches in this part of the country, and am compelled to come to the conclusion that no difference whatever is noticeable in the attendance at church of those for whom they are made free. So far from increased congregations, I notice that several of the middle class families have slackened off from attending church; and if they were asked their reason for this, they would probably reply, that they had been turned out of seats they had occupied with their families for years, and were now scattered about the church at the sweet will of the churchwardens. I am not able to go into every argument of the Vicar of St. James', but as a layman I am entirely 'at one' with him.

As regards the matter of keeping the church 'open,' I, of course, am

IRELAND.

(From our Special Correspondent.)

St. Patrick's Day (March 17th) was religiously observed in a large number of the churches last Sunday. *Lorica*, or 'Breastplate,' was very generally sung as an anthem, the version used being Mrs. Alexander's spirited version, of which over 20,000 copies were disposed of at the central office of the A. P. C. K. in Dublin. In Derry, as a matter of course, it was sung; the Bishop, Dr. Alexander, preached at the afternoon service, when there was an overflowing congregation. The day falling on a Sunday this year, the holiday-making was not quite as apparent as usual. The shamrock, however, was very generally worn, and there was little drunkenness.

The Bishop of Meath held an ordination on Sunday in St. Patrick's Cathedral, when the sermon was preached by the Venerable J. George Scott, D.D., Archdeacon of Dublin. A large congregation was present, as also at Christ Church Cathedral.

His Grace the Archbishop of Dublin, who has been visiting Madrid, Seville, and other centres of the Reformed Church in Spain, is expected back in Dublin by the end of the month, when his confirmation tours in the city and suburbs will commence.

The important parish of St. Mary's, Donnybrook, is now vacant owing to the death of the late Canon Ryder. There are a large number of applicants.

Miss Mary Whately, second daughter of the late Archbishop Whately, died at Cairo on last Saturday week, aged 65. She was the founder of the British Mission Schools in that city, where a large number of Coptic children were educated. For a long time Miss Whately supported the school entirely out of her own resources, but latterly received some help from friends. She shared in many of her distinguished father's gifts, and wrote some interesting books on life in Egypt.

The death is also announced of Miss Warren, daughter of Serjeant Warren, formerly an eminent lawyer of this city. Miss Warren popularised the history of Luther, Zwingli, and others of the Reformers, in a form acceptable to young people.

A new edition of the revised Spanish Prayer-book will shortly be issued from the press by Messrs. Hodges and Figgis, Grafton Street, Dublin. Several important changes will be found in it.

The Rev. Augustine Fitzgerald, D.D., Rector of Portadown and Precentor of St. Patrick's Cathedral, Armagh, has been appointed by his Grace the Lord Primate, Rural Dean of Mullabrack in the diocese of Armagh. This deanery is said to be the largest and most populous in Ireland.

The Rev. Canon Hartley Carmichael, Rector of St. George's Church, Hamilton, Ontario, has been offered the Rectory of St. Paul's, Richmond, Virginia, U.S. Canon Carmichael is brother of the Dean of Montreal, and also of the Rev. Canon Carmichael, LL.D., chaplain of the Magdalen, Dublin.

The Irish branch of the Evangelical Alliance has arranged the following programme of lectures to be delivered in the Christian Union Buildings:—March 18th—I. The True Catholic Church: 1. Its Origin, by the Rev. Hamilton Magee, D.D.: 2. Its History, by the Rev. Henry Fiske, B.A. March 25th—II. The Christian Priesthood: 1. High Priesthood of Christ, by the Rev. E. F. Rambaut, B.A.: 2. The Priesthood of Believers, by the Rev. R. M'Cheyne Edgar, A.M. April 1st—III. The Scriptures: 1. Their Divine Authority and Sufficiency, by the Rev. Canon Neligan, D.D.: 2. The Right of Private Judgment in their Interpretation, by the Rev. William Nicholas, D.D. April 8th—IV. The Way of Salvation: 1. Justification by Faith, by the Rev. Professor Watts, D.D.: 2. Sanctification by the Word and the Spirit, by the Rev. W. E. Burroughs, A.M.

The annual report of the Irish Church Temporalities Office, for 1887-8, has just been presented to the House of Parliament. It states that the unappropriated cash balance on March 31st, 1888, amounted to 141,913*l.*, and the stock balance to 37,655*l.* New 3 per Cent, and 4000*l.* Bank of Ireland stock. It also sets forth that the amount due to the Commissioners for the Reduction of the National Debt in respect of advances for the general purposes of the Irish Church Acts has been reduced during the year by the sum of 346,030*l.*, principal and interest. With the consent of the treasurer a further sum of 50,326*l.* was during the year paid over to the Commissioners for the Reduction of the National Debt. Also during the same period the Commissioners have remitted arrears amounting to 8,226*l.* Arrears on the collection of rentals show an increase of 53,922*l.*, as compared with the amount collected for the previous year.

Mrs. Rice Hann, of Paradise Hill, has just presented to Kildysart Parish Church, in the diocese of Killaloe, a handsome altar cloth in crimson velvet, with sacred monogram in 'front centre,' and bordered with silk lace and fringe: also with a rich carpet for floor inside communion rails, and velvet cushions for pulpit and reading desk.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

The Peals lately rung at St. Martin's, Salisbury, Wilts.

On Wednesday, the 27th ult., the ringers at this church resolved to attempt to ring a peal in each of the four standard methods—GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, BOB MAJOR, KENT TREBLE BOB, and STEDMAN TRIPLES—before Lent, and as there were only two evenings in which peals could be attempted in the tower—Wednesday, the 27th ult., and Saturday, the 2nd inst.—two of the peals could only be attempted on handbells; so on Wednesday, the 27th ult., a peal of STEDMAN TRIPLES was started in the tower, but was lost after ringing 4116 changes; on Thursday, the 28th ult., Holt's Ten-part peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES was successfully brought round on handbells in 2 hrs. 22 mins.; on Friday, the 1st inst., Mr. York Green's peal of 5152 BOB MAJOR was likewise brought round in 2 hrs. 30 mins.; and on Saturday, the 2nd inst., Brooke's Variation of Thurstans' peal of 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES was successfully accomplished in the tower in 3 hrs. 4 mins., thus making three out of four of the standard methods in three days. This may not seem of much importance to some after the extraordinary performances which have lately appeared—nine peals in 'cramp' methods in five days—still, for a place like Salisbury, where change-ringing was unknown a few years ago, it is no doubt worthy of note. [See last week's number.]

A Presentation at Midhurst, Sussex.

On the occasion of the opening of a new Coffee Tavern at the above place, an opportunity was taken of presenting to the Rev. J. L. Cother, late curate of Midhurst, but now vicar of Yapton-cum-Ford, a handsome testimonial, subscribed by the parishioners, &c., which consisted of a purse containing 100*l.* It was presented to him by the Countess of Egmont. This gentleman has belonged to this branch of the Sussex County Association, and was presented by them with those excellent ringers' books, Shipway's *Reprint*, and Snowdon's *Grandsire*, as a token of respect. During the presentation the ringers rang several touches of MINOR, &c., while the Earl of Egmont paid them a visit in the belfry; and upon his lordship stating he used to be a bit of a ringer, he was asked to stand in, which he did, and rang the third, striking it well through a fair touch of call-changes. The ringers then rang a touch of MINOR, when his lordship expressed himself pleased with the ringing, and, placing a gold medallion of Her Majesty in the hands of the ringers, left the belfry.

The Church Bells of Cuckfield, Sussex.

The bells of the parish church having undergone a thorough overhauling and repairing, which consisted of new bearings to all of them, and new shrouding to six of the wheels, the frame strengthened, &c., were again put in motion on a recent evening, when 504 changes were brought round; and a touch of 840 was rung in 32 mins. These trials proved satisfactory, the striking being much truer and the going of the bells much smoother than before. The work has been inspected by the Churchwardens, and Mr. Edward Anscombe, one of the old band of Cuckfield ringers, and pronounced satisfactory. The present band hope soon to report a peal of 5040.

Reopening of the Bells at Christ Church, Chalford, Gloucestershire.

On Thursday, the 7th inst., the bells of Christ Church, Chalford, were reopened after undergoing some satisfactory repairs. There was a short service in the church in the evening, the sermon being preached by the Rev. Mr. Doherty, vicar of Oakridge; after which five ringers from the church of the Holy Trinity, Minchinhampton, rang several peals (120) of GRANDSIRE DOUBLES. J. Boulton, 1; J. Boulton, sen. (conductor), 2; A. Window, 3; G. Pincott, 4; A. Cowley, 5; H. Boulton, 6. Afterwards the ringers adjourned to the Company's meeting-house, where they partook of supper.

The Worcestershire and Adjoining Districts' Change-ringing Association.

A COMMITTEE Meeting of the above took place on the 2nd inst. in St. John-the-Baptist Schoolroom, Hagley. The Rector, Rev. W. C. Gibbs, M.A., presided. There was a good attendance of members, the usual business being transacted, and several new members added to the list. Mr. S. Spittle (master), who was present at Birmingham at the celebration of the eightieth birthday of Mr. H. Johnson, sen., spoke of the various resolutions which were passed at that meeting; and ventured to say that if the same were carried into effect they would be beneficial to the ringing world, suggesting that at the Annual Meeting, to be held at Worcester on Easter Monday, a delegate be appointed from this Association to form one on the Council of Ringers. A vote of thanks to the Reverend Chairman, for the use of the schoolroom and also for presiding, brought the meeting to a close.

The Lancashire Association—Liverpool Diocesan Branch.

On Saturday, the 16th inst., the above branch held its usual monthly meeting at Ormskirk, and it was a very successful one. The bells of the parish church, as also those of Christ Church, Aughton, were rung during the afternoon. At 5.30 thirty-eight members sat down to an excellent meal, presided over by the Vicar, the Rev. J. E. Woodrow, supported by the Rev. D. Jones, Aughton, and the churchwardens of Sefton. A short service with address in the church was conducted by the Vicar, and was listened to with marked attention, the reverend gentleman urging upon the ringers the necessity of attending the services of the church after calling others there; and he rejoiced to see the great change that had in recent years taken place in relation to clergy, wardens, and ringers. The business meeting was afterwards held in the vestry, at which the Vicar presided. Eleven new members, including the chairman, were elected; and the next meeting fixed for West

Derby on the 13th of April. A cordial vote of thanks to the Vicar for his address and services in the chair, moved by the Rev. D. Jones and seconded by Mr. R. Hill, brought a very pleasant meeting to a close.

Holt's Six-part Peal of Grandsire Triples.

A New Variation by the Rev. C. D. P. DAVIES.

2 3 4 5 6 7	2 3 5 4 7 6	In this variation the part-ends are the same as those in the original peal, though they do not occur in the same order of succession. As regards the observation bells, the 5th, which is five times 'before' in each part, is left unaltered. The work of the 6th and 7th is interchanged, there being a bob every time the 6th is 'before'—that is, ten times in each part, the 7th being never called 'before' throughout. The chief point of interest in connexion with this variation lies in the fact that, the part-ends occurring at a call, the singles at midway and end are bob-singles, as in Holt's Ten-part. This variation thus containing two calls fewer than the original peal.
4 6 2 3 7 5	6 4 2 7 3 5	
7 5 4 2 3 6	7 4 6 5 2 3	
6 2 7 3 5 4	3 5 7 2 4 6	
3 2 6 4 7 5	4 6 3 7 2 5	
5 4 3 7 2 6	3 2 4 6 5 7	
2 6 5 3 7 4	7 6 3 5 2 4	
6 5 2 3 7 4	5 6 7 4 3 2	
3 5 6 4 2 7	7 3 5 6 2 4	
5 6 3 4 2 7	4 6 7 2 3 5	
4 6 5 7 3 2	2 6 4 5 7 3	
7 6 4 2 5 3	3 5 2 7 6 4	
4 5 7 6 3 2	2 6 3 5 4 7	
2 6 1 3 5 7	7 5 2 4 6 3	
4 5 2 6 7 3	2 6 7 5 3 4	
3 6 4 7 5 2	5 6 2 4 7 3	
7 6 3 2 4 5	4 6 5 3 2 7	Fourth part—to be twice repeated.
5 2 7 4 6 3	6 5 4 3 2 7	
2 6 5 2 3 4	3 5 6 7 4 2	
2 6 7 4 5 3	5 6 3 7 4 2	
3 4 2 5 6 7	4 2 5 3 7 6	

A Peal of 12,960 Stedman Caters.

THE 120 courses complete (in limited numbers) with 1st, 7th, 8th, and 9th bells undisturbed throughout (supposed to be the only one).

Each column twice repeated for the first 60 courses, and then repeat the whole.

Start with quick six.

To ring this peal in Tittum position, call a bob at start and finish of courses, from which bobs on each bell excepting 9th bring bells home in numbers of 13044, the shortest possible.

In conducting this peal, call bobs at 4 and 16 in each course throughout, excepting those marked *, in which omit bobs at 4; extra calls at 4 by singles in 1st and 61st courses, and by bobs at 11st and 11st courses, complete the peal.

* 6 3 2 4 5	* 6 4 2 5 3
* 5 3 6 4 2	* 3 4 6 5 2
2 4 5 6 3	2 5 3 6 4
3 6 2 5 4	4 6 2 3 5
4 5 3 2 6	5 3 4 2 6
6 2 4 3 5	* 6 3 5 2 4
* 5 2 6 3 4	4 2 6 5 3
4 3 5 6 2	3 5 4 6 2
2 6 4 5 3	2 6 3 4 5
1st 3 5 2 4 6	5 4 2 3 6 4th
2nd 5 2 3 4 6	3 4 5 2 6 5th
3rd 2 3 5 4 6	2 4 3 5 6 6th
7th 4 5 2 3 6	5 3 2 4 6 10th
8th 5 2 4 3 6	3 4 5 2 6 11th
9th 2 4 5 4 6	2 3 4 5 6 12th

First Ends.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At the Parish Church, Warnham, Sussex.

On Friday, the 1st inst., eight members of the Sussex County Association rang a peal of 12,440 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 7 hrs. 45 mins. G. Woodman, 1; W. Chapman, 2; T. Andrews, 3; H. Cook, 4; W. Short, 5; F. Knight, 6; H. Burston, 7; H. H. Chandler (conductor), 8. Composed by Mr. A. Knights, of Chesterfield. This peal was rung to commemorate the twenty-fifth birthday of Mr. Chandler, also the forty-first of Mr. Knights, whose was the day before. It was rung as a farewell peal to Mr. H. Cook, who is leaving the neighbourhood. This is the longest peal ever rung in Sussex, and is the two hundredth peal by the Sussex County Association since its formation in January, 1885.

At St. Mary's, Warwick.

On Friday, the 1st inst., a peal of 5079 STEDMAN CATERS was rung in 3 hrs. 37 mins. C. H. Hattersley (composer and conductor), 1; A. H. Bassano, 2; A. W. Taylor, 3; G. Searle, 4; J. W. Cartwright, 5; H. Baker, 6; E. S. Storey, 7; T. Wilde, 8; T. Miller, 9; A. A. Thomas, 10. The above peal was rung to commemorate the eightieth birthday of Mr. H. Johnson, which was celebrated in Birmingham on February 28th by a National Meeting of Banners. C. H. Hattersley came from Sheffield; A. H. Bassano, Old Hill; J. W. Taylor, Loughborough; G. Searle, Brighton; J. W. Cartwright, Macclesfield; T. Wilde, Birmingham; H. Baker, Hertford; R. T. Storey, Newcastle-on-Tyne; and T. Wilde, Hyde.

At All Saints', Fulham, London.

On Saturday, the 2nd inst., eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths and the All Saints' Society rang a peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 40 mins. F. W. Kelley, 1; N. E. Shaw (first peal), 2; J. W. Kelley (conductor), 3; F. Davey, 4; W. Carter, 5; W. E. Gadd, 6; J. H. Jones, 7; S. How, 8. Tenor, 21 cwt., in E.

At St. Lawrence's, Appleton, Berks.

On Monday, the 5th inst., eight members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild rang a peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 30 mins. J. C. Truss (conductor), 1; W. Bennett, 2; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 3; G. Searle, 4; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 5; F. White, 6; J. Bennett, 7; T. Wilde, 8. Tenor, 14 cwt. The quickest peal rung on the bells.

On Monday, the 5th inst., at the same church and by the same Guild, a peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES was rung in 3 hrs. 2 mins. J. C. Truss, 1; J. W.

Washbrook (composer and conductor), 2; G. Holfield, 3; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 4; F. White, 5; C. Hounslow, 6; J. Avery, 7; W. Bennett, 8; H. Tubb, 9; R. Bennett, 10. First peal on ten bells by Messrs. Truss, Tubb, and R. Bennett.

At St. George's, Mossley, Lancashire.

On Thursday, the 7th inst., eight members of the United Counties' Association rang a peal of 5088 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR in 3 hrs. 5 mins. J. J. Brierley, 1; Jos. Radcliffe, 2; T. Bradley, 3; J. Holden, 4; J. Sellars, 5; E. Buckley, 6; T. Wilde, 7; J. Pye, jun., 8. Composed by Mr. Sottan-stall and conducted by Mr. Holden. Tenor, 12½ cwt., in F sharp. The above was rung to commemorate the birthdays of Messrs. Sellars and Holden. Messrs. Brierley, Radcliffe, and Buckley, came from Saddleworth; Bradley and Wilde, Hyde; Sellars and Pye, Glossop; Holden, Mossley.

At Christ Church, Southgate, Middlesex.

On Saturday, the 9th inst., eight members of the Society of Royal Cumberland Youths rang a peal of 5088 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR in 3 hrs. 22 mins. J. Hannington, 1; B. Foskett, 2; G. B. Lucas, 3; G. Grice, 4; A. Pittam, 5; T. Titchener, 6; A. Jacob, 7; G. Newson (composer and conductor), 8. Tenor, 25 cwt.

At St. Mary-the-Virgin, Putney, Surrey.

On Monday, the 11th inst., eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang Thurstons' peal of 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 54 mins. F. Davey, * 1; C. F. Winny (conductor), 2; H. Langdon, 3; W. Garrard, * 4; H. R. Newton, 5; W. T. Cockerill, 6; J. W. Driver, 7; S. How, 8. [* First peal in the method.]

At the Parish Church, Ormskirk, Lancashire.

On Monday, the 11th inst., eight members of the Lancashire Association rang Holt's Ten-part peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 52 mins. G. Prescott, 1; J. Pilkington, 2; W. Ellis, 3; J. Scholier (conductor), 4; C. Sharples, 5; W. J. Taylor, 6; W. Bentham, 7; P. H. Harvey (twenty-third birthday), 8. Tenor, 25½ cwt.

At St. George's, Hyde, Cheshire.

On Tuesday, the 12th inst., eight members of the United Counties' Association rang Holt's Original peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 53 mins. J. Wilde, 1; J. Sidebotham, * 2; T. Bradley, * 3; W. Slater, * 4; J. S. Wilde, 5; T. Wilde, 6; S. Wood (conductor), 7; D. Leigh, * 8. Tenor, 15½ cwt. [* First peal in the method.]

At Staunton Harold, Leicestershire.

On Wednesday, the 13th inst. (by kind permission of the Earl and Countess Ferrers), eight members of the Midland Counties' Association and Ashby-de-la-Zouch Parish Church Society rang Holt's Ten-part peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 3 hrs. 8 mins. W. Liggins, 1; H. Canner, 2; T. Jacques, 3; J. Hopkin, 4; W. Owen, 5; J. H. Dunmore, 6; W. Canner (conductor), 7; J. Carus, 8. Tenor, 21 cwt. This peal is the second on these bells, the first having been rung June 3, 1832.

At St. Peter's, Farnham, Hants.—On Wednesday, the 13th ult., 429 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. G. Hackett, 1; G. Grafham, 2; F. Hill, 3; C. Privett, 4; D. J. Jeffery, 5; G. Passingham, 6; J. W. Whiting (conductor), 7; C. Greenstock, 8. And 504 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. G. Passingham, 1; C. Privett, 2; J. W. Whiting, 3; D. J. Jeffery, 4; G. Hackett, 5; F. Hill (conductor), 6; G. Grafham, 7; C. Greenstock, 8. Also another 504. C. Privett (conductor), 1; G. Grafham, 2; F. Hill, 3; D. J. Jeffery, 4; G. Hackett, 5; G. Passingham, 6; J. Whiting, 7; C. Greenstock, 8. And on Monday, the 18th ult., 518 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. W. Linter, 1; D. J. Jeffery, 2; G. Hackett, 3; F. Hill (conductor), 4; C. Privett, 5; G. Passingham, 6; J. Whiting, 7; A. Millard, 8.

At the Parish Church, Malling, Kent.—On Sunday, the 17th ult., 720 KENT TREBLE BOB MINOR. J. Gransbury, 1; E. Baldock, 2; G. Bell, 3; A. H. Woolley, 4; G. Newman, 5; J. W. Leonard (conductor), 6. And another 720, with E. Baldock, 1; J. Gransbury, 2; G. Bell (conductor), 3; the rest as above. Messrs. G. Bell and G. Newman came from Mereworth; A. H. Woolley, Maidstone; Gransbury, Staplehurst; E. Baldock and J. Leonard belong to the local company.

At St. Peter's, Croydon, Surrey.—On Thursday, the 21st ult., for practice, 504 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. R. E. Pearson, 1; W. C. Palmer, 2; H. Brooker (conductor), 3; W. J. Chambers, 4; G. Burt, 5; C. Kitching, 6; F. G. Hermon, 7; A. Collins, 8. Also 518 OXFORD BOB TRIPLES. G. Burt, 1; W. J. Chambers, 2; R. E. Pearson, 3; H. Brooker, 4; A. Bruce, 5; W. States (composer and conductor), 6; T. Verrall, 7; F. G. Hermon, 8.

At the Parish Church, Swanscombe, Kent.—On Monday, the 25th ult., 720 PLAIN BOB MINOR. S. Nicholls (first 720), 1; W. Cooke, 2; G. Hayes, 3; J. R. Rayner, 4; A. Cornford, 5; W. Harper (conductor), 6. S. Nicholls came from Bobbing; W. Cooke, Gillingham; the rest belong to Swanscombe.

At the Parish Church, Dallington, Sussex.—On Monday, the 18th inst., two 120's of GRANDSIRE DOUBLES were rung by the local company. J. Booth, 1; E. Lovell, 2; J. Jones, 3; P. J. Peters (conductor), 4; J. Gadd, 5. Tenor, 14½ cwt. First 120 by J. Booth, E. Lovell, and J. Gadd; also the first on the bells.

At the Parish Church, Horley, Surrey.—On Monday, the 18th inst., 840 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES were rung by the following:—W. Wallis, 1; S. Kenward, 2; T. Whitmore, 3; B. King, 4; M. Kepper, 5; F. Wickens, 6; A. Ellis, 7; J. Hedgecock, 8. A meeting of bell-ringers for this neighbourhood is held on the third Sunday in the month for the purpose of touch-ringing.

ELEVEN Chinese, of whom six were adults, were baptized at Wuchang on Christmas morning last.

THE Shanghai Famine Relief Committee expect to continue their work till June, when the wheat harvest will be gathered. The Shantung missionaries could easily enrol 100,000 starving people, but funds are at present insufficient. Centres for the distribution of relief have been most carefully arranged. The British Consul at Shantung states that 2,000,000 people are starving in the district covered by their committee, and great numbers in other parts of Shantung. The Mansion House Famine Relief Fund, to which about 22,000*l.* has been contributed, will be closed at the end of April. The statements about the fabulous expenditure upon the Emperor of China's wedding have done much harm to the fund. Sir Thomas Wade says that these statements are very exaggerated.

INDIA.

THE great progress of the Parsi element in the population of Bombay is well known so far as regards commerce and social culture. Few, however, are aware how far the grosser form of fire-worship, and the notion of Dualism—an evil spirit as well as a good spirit—are now disclaimed by these descendants of the race of Cyrus. They have adopted a catechism, which contains, 'We believe in only one God, and in none beside Him, Who created heaven, earth, angels, stars, sun, moon, fire, water, all four elements, and all things of the two worlds. Whoever believes in any other God is an infidel. Our God has neither face nor form, colour nor shape, nor fixed place. There is no other like Him. He is Himself singly such a glory that we cannot describe Him, nor our mind comprehend Him.'

WEST AFRICA.

BISHOP FERGUSON, of the Church in the United States, writing from Cape Palmas, reports that on the last Sunday of December there were twenty-four baptisms—all fresh from heathenism—making the total number won for Christianity at the stations in this part of his jurisdiction during the year ninety-eight, the majority of whom were adults.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

The Lancashire Association—Manchester Branch.

A VERY successful meeting of the above branch was held on Saturday, the 16th inst., at Holy Trinity Church, Stretford Road, Manchester. The bells were set going shortly after the appointed hour, and touches in the following methods were rung during the evening:—BOB MINOR, BOB MAJOR, TREBLE BOB MAJOR, GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, and STEDMAN TRIPLES. Ringers attended from Ashton-under-Lyne, Whitfield, Worsley, Oldham, Northenden, Northwich, Eccles; and the following Manchester churches were represented:—St. Philip's, Chester Street; St. John's, Deansgate; Holy Trinity, Stretford Road; and the Cathedral. At nine o'clock a meeting was held in the belfry, the chair being occupied by the Rev. H. J. Elsee, who, in a very neat speech, congratulated the members on the progress such meetings as the present one were making for the Association. Five new members were elected, and it was decided to hold the next meeting at Christ Church, Barlow Moor Road, Withington, on Saturday, April 13th. The usual votes of thanks to the Rector, Churchwardens, and Chairman, were passed, and the bells were then rung.

The Society of Royal Cumberland Youths.

ON Tuesday, the 5th inst., ten members of the above Society paid a visit to St. Barnabas', Pimlico, London, for the purpose of inspecting a tablet erected to commemorate the peal of GRANDSIRE CATERS rung by them on Thursday, September 20th, 1888; but upon their arrival the bells were found to be half-muffled, owing to the death, at the age of forty, of Mr. G. Burling, a near resident, so they rang the usual whole-pull and stand, and a well-struck 700 GRANDSIRE CATERS, the band standing as in the peal. W. Baron (conductor), 1; W. Lally, 2; W. Hovard, 3; W. Jones, 4; C. E. Malin, 5; J. W. Mansfield, 6; W. W. Thorne, 7; A. E. Church, 8; H. Swain, 9; G. Chesterman, 10. Also two courses of STEDMAN CATERS and short touches of GRANDSIRE, in which Messrs. Hopkins, Swetman, and Ambrose took part. The tablet was presented by Messrs. Lally and Longhurst, and is of Gothic design, written in gold letters on a black ground, and in character with the fine tower. The manner in which the belfry is kept, and also the 'go' of the bells, give great credit to Mr. Longhurst, the steeple-keeper.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At the Parish Church, Tamworth, Staffordshire.

ON Thursday, the 7th inst., eight members of the local branch of the Society for the Archdeaconry of Stafford rang Holt's Original peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 3 hrs. 2 mins. J. Windridge, 1; J. W. Timms (first peal as conductor), 2; A. Everitt, 3; R. P. Brindley (first peal with inside bell), 4; J. Wainwright, 5; C. Chapman, 6; G. Woods, 7; W. Chapman, 8. Tenor, 22½ cwt. [* First peal.] This peal was rung to celebrate the laying of the foundation-stone of the new municipal buildings, which are being built as a Jubilee memorial.

ON Tuesday, the 13th inst., a date touch of 1889 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 1 hr. 8 mins. J. Windridge, 1; R. P. Brindley, 2; A. Everitt, 3; J. W. Timms, 4; J. Wainwright, 5; G. Woods (conductor), 6; C. Chapman, 7; G. Tomlinson (first touch), 8.

At St. Albans, Herts.

ON Tuesday, the 12th inst., four members of the St. Peter's Society rang, on handbells retained in hand, a peal of 5040 BOB TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 28 mins.

A. Barnes, 1-2; E. P. Debenham, 3-4; W. H. L. Buckingham (conductor), 5-6; T. Waller, 7-8. Umpire, Mr. W. Little. The above ringers also belong to the Ancient Society of College Youths and the Hertfordshire Association.

At the Parish Church, Hull, Yorkshire.

ON Thursday, the 14th inst., eight members of the Yorkshire Association rang a peal of 5088 KENT TREBLE BOB in 3 hrs. 11 mins. F. Merrison, 1; J. Pollard, 2; J. Dixey, 3; W. Southwick, 4; H. Jenkins, 5; T. Stockdale, 6; R. Chaffer, 7; C. Jackson (conductor), 8. Tenor, 15 cwt. This peal has the 4th and 6th their extent in 5-6, and is one of the 112 variations of Mr. C. H. Hattersley's Fourteen-Course Peal, in which the 5th and 6th are their extent in 5-6. It was rung with the bells muffled as a tribute of respect to the memory of the late Mr. C. Bennett, who died on March 12th, 1889.

At All Saints', Maidenhead, Berks.

ON Friday, the 15th inst., eight members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild rang Brooke's Variation of Thurstan's peal of 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 40 mins. H. Rogers, 1; J. W. Wilkins, 2; A. Hoskins, 3; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 4; S. Quintin, 5; E. Rogers, 6; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 7; R. Smith, 8. Tenor, 17½ cwt. First peal of STEDMAN by all except the Rev. F. E. Robinson and Mr. Washbrook.

At St. Mary's, Rawtenstall, Lancashire.

ON Saturday, the 16th inst., eight members of the Lancashire Association rang a peal of 6048 BOB MAJOR in 3 hrs. 51 mins. J. Harrison, 1; J. Shepherd, 2; J. B. Taylor, 3; G. Hoyle, 4; G. E. Turner, 5; G. E. W. Wreaks, 6; J. Millett, 7; F. Birtwistle, 8. Composed by Mr. J. Thorp, and conducted by Mr. Wreaks. Tenor, 14 cwt. This is the first peal in any method on the bells, which were opened on December 20th, 1888, and the first peal in the method by Messrs. Shepherd and Taylor. The above ringers wish to tender their thanks to the Vicar for his kindness in granting them the use of the bells.

At Christ Church, Oldbury, Worcestershire.

ON Saturday, the 16th inst., eight members of the Society for the Archdeaconry of Stafford rang Holt's Original peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 57 mins. J. Cooper, 1; S. Reeves (conductor), 2; J. R. Frisby, 3; T. Horton, 4; R. Hall, 5; J. Hall, 6; C. Timms, 7; J. Harbord, 8. Tenor, 10½ cwt.

At St Martin's-in-the-Fields, Trafalgar Square, London.

ON Saturday, the 16th inst., twelve members of the Society of Royal Cumberland Youths rang a peal of 5018 STEDMAN CINQUES in 3 hrs. 37 mins. J. Rogers (composer, and first attempt at STEDMAN as conductor), 1; H. Dains, 2; W. Baron, 3; A. Jacob, 4; C. E. Malin, 5; T. Titchener, 6; J. Hannington, 7; W. Partington, 8; H. Swain, 9; G. Wilde, 10; G. Newson, 11; H. Hopkins, 12. Tenor, 34 cwt. The above peal has the 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, and 11th bells in full Titum position, regularly coursing each other throughout, and is the first peal of CINQUES in any method on this plan ever rung. [* First peal of STEDMAN CINQUES.]

AT ST. MARY-LE-PORT, BRISTOL.—ON Sunday, the 24th ult., 704 TREBLE BOB MAJOR. C. H. Gordon, 1; C. Trivett, 2; G. H. Colston, 3; C. Burden, 4; F. Elles, 5; F. Price, 6; W. Emery, 7; J. Hinton (conductor), 8. Also 672 PLAIN BOB TRIPLES. C. H. Gordon, 1; J. Hinton, 2; G. H. Colston, 3; C. H. Burden, 4; F. W. Elles, 5; F. Price, 6; W. Colston, 8. The bells were rung muffled, as a mark of respect to the late Mr. W. Northcott, who died on February 18th, aged fifty-two years.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH, MIDHURST, SUSSEX.—ON Sunday, the 24th ult., for Divine service, 720 KENT TREBLE BOB were rung by the following members of the Sussex County Association. T. Ellis, 1; W. Court, 2; G. Batts, 3; J. Lee, 4; W. Selby 5; G. Williams, 6. And on Sunday, the 3rd inst., for Divine service, 720 OXFORD TREBLE BOB in 22½ mins. T. Ellis, 1; W. Court, 2; C. Tribe, 3; W. Selby, 4; G. Williams, 5; G. Batts, 6. And in the evening 720 OXFORD SINGLE BOB in 23 mins. J. Lee in place of W. Court. All conducted by G. Williams. Also, on handbells, at the house of Mr. Selby, on the 28th ult., 720 BOB MINOR (non-conducted). Dr. W. H. George, 1-2; G. Williams, 3-4; Mrs. G. Williams, 5-6. Referee, Mr. W. Selby.

AT ST. PAUL'S, WALKDEN, LANCASHIRE.—ON Sunday, the 24th ult., 720 GRANDSIRE MINOR were rung in 23½ mins. W. Denner (conductor), 1; J. Worthington, 2; S. Oakes, 3; A. Potter, 4; J. Potter, 5; J. Brookes, 6. Also on Sunday evening, the 3rd inst., 720 BOB MINOR were rung in 24 mins. W. Denner (conductor), 1; J. Worthington, 2; A. Potter, 3; J. Williamson, 4; J. Potter, 5; J. Brookes, 6. Tenor, 18½ cwt.

AT SS. PETER AND PAUL'S, LAVENHAM, SUFFOLK.—ON Tuesday, the 26th ult., the following persons rang a touch of KENT TREBLE BOB MINOR on the middle six of the ring of eight, the fine tenor bell being unringable; but we are glad to hear that it will shortly be put in proper going order by a competent bell-hanger. C. Sillitoe (conductor, Sudbury), 1; W. Hollocks (Preston), 2; G. Brown (Sudbury), 3; H. Smith (Lavenham), 4; W. Green (Monks Eleigh), 5; A. Symonds (Lavenham), 6.

AT STOW ST. MARY, LINCOLNSHIRE.—ON Saturday, the 2nd inst., a company of the North Lincolnshire Association from Gainsborough rang 720 GRANDSIRE MINOR in 25½ mins. W. W. Bast, 1; W. D. Tinker (conductor), 2; F. F. Linley, Esq., 3; W. Pattison, 4; C. Brewin, 5; F. W. Atkinson, 6. Tenor, 10½ cwt. This is the first peal on the bells. The bells have recently been augmented to six, and are an excellent ring.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH, DALLINGTON, SUSSEX.—Recently, by the local company, two peals of GRANDSIRE DOUBLES. J. Booth, 1; E. Lovell, 2; J. Jones, 3; P. J. Peters (conductor), 4; J. Gadd, 5. Tenor, 14½ cwt. [* First 720; also the first on the bells.]

IRELAND.

(From our Special Correspondent.)

A very interesting and successful mission has just been concluded in the important parish of Holyrood, a popular seaside suburb of Belfast. The missioner was the Rev. W. E. Burroughs, M.A., incumbent of the Mariners' Church, Kingstown. The following clergymen helped the Vicar, the Rev. J. B. Crozier, D.D., during the mission:—Very Rev. Dean of Down, D.D.; Revs. T. H. Abrahall, M.A.; B. Banks, M.A.; M. Beattie; A. Byrne, M.A.; John Bristow, M.A.; Geo. Chamberlain, M.A.; W. H. Davis, M.A.; J. H. Duke, D.D.; F. R. Graham, M.A.; S. J. Hackett, M.A.; N. Halliday, M.A.; N. Hollingsworth, B.D.; R. Irvine, D.D.; John Pim, B.D.; and H. W. Stewart, M.A. The special services commenced with a prayer meeting on Saturday, March 16th, and the Rev. Thomas J. Welland, rector of St. Thomas', Belfast, preached the opening sermon of the mission on the next day. There was a prayer meeting at the Parochial Hall every morning at 8.30, and a children's service attended by over 500 on Saturday afternoon. On the evening of Saturday, the 23rd ult., there was a meeting for instruction on the subject of the Holy Communion. The thankoffering at the end of the mission was 40*l*. The correspondent of the *Daily Express* says:—

'These services were continued each evening at the same hour, and the attendance rapidly increased until the closing service on Monday night last when about 1000 persons were closely packed into the large and beautiful building. A spirit of deep solemnity and earnestness pervaded the whole immense congregation as night after night the preacher dwelt upon the sinfulness of sin, the love of God the Father, the life and presence of God the Son, and the presence and power of His Holy Spirit. At the close of the sermon each evening there was a short pause to admit of those leaving who desired to do so. The after meetings were attended by almost the whole congregation.'

A large number of the Nonconformists of the town were present at all the services. The mission hymn-book used was that compiled by Mr. Hay Aitken.

A new financial scheme for the diocese of Ardfert and Aghadoc has been approved of at a meeting of the Diocesan Council, presided over by the Bishop of Limerick. It has been decided to engage a paid secretary to collect subscriptions to the Sustentation Fund of the diocese.

The important parishes of St. James', Dublin, vacant by the resignation of the Rev. Thomas Tomlinson, and St. Mary's, Donnybrook, by the death of Rev. Canon Ryder, are likely to be appointed to this week by their respective Boards of Nomination. The South Dublin Union, and the extensive brewery of Guinness & Co., so world-renowned for its porter, are situated in the first named parish; and in the latter, which lies on the south side of the city, one may still see a portion of the once famous green of 'Donnybrook Fair.' The number of candidates for these parishes is very large.

His Grace the Archbishop of Dublin has returned to the Palace of St. Stephen's Green from his visit to the reformed congregations in Spain. On Tuesday, the 2nd inst., His Grace's confirmations for the city and suburbs of Dublin began with a confirmation in Christ Church Cathedral. The Archbishop has a canonry in this cathedral at his disposal, owing to the death of the late Canon Ryder.

The Annual Meeting of the Church of Ireland Temperance Society will be held in the Metropolitan Hall, Dublin, on the evening of Tuesday, April 30th, at 8 p.m., when the chair will be taken by the Most Rev. the Lord Primate. The following prelates are expected to address the meeting: the Right Revs. Dr. Boyd-Carpenter, bishop of Ripon, Dr. Gregg, bishop of Cork, and Dr. Shone, bishop of Kilmore.

The Dublin Diocesan Choral Festival Union held its annual meeting on Friday last at 37 Dawson Street, when the report for the year was read and the honorary officers appointed. The Committee, in their report, take the opportunity of expressing their grateful acknowledgments to the members of the different choirs in union for the deep interest taken by them in their work, and also to the clergy and organists for their hearty co-operation. To these encouraging features must be mainly attributed the successful issue of the undertaking. Warm thanks must also be given to the Rev. Dr. Weldon for his kindness in consenting to preach upon the occasion of the festival.

Two new churches will shortly be opened in the diocese of Dublin—that of St. Kevin's, a beautiful building erected out of the Shannon bequest on the South Circular Road; and that of Raheny, on the north side of the county, about five miles beyond the city, entirely erected through the munificence of Lord Ardilaun. No expense has been spared in the effort to make this church a perfect ecclesiastical gem. It is a small structure, but copiously beautified both without and within. Lord Ardilaun is brother-in-law of His Grace the Archbishop of Dublin.

A series of sketches of Dublin churches is at present appearing in the columns of the *Irish Ecclesiastical Gazette*. The current number has a description of Bagginbally Church, the incumbent of which is the Rev. Dr. Leel, ex-classical scholar of Trinity College, Dublin. There is like-

wise a brief report of the sermon preached by the incumbent on March 17, when he made the following reference to St. Patrick:—

'On this day, the 17th March, Anno Domini 493, there was laid in the grave in a burial-ground in the north of Ireland, in the presence of a vast concourse of kings, bishops, abbots, and followers, one of the most diligent men that ever lived. Where can we find any man with greater diligence or courage than the great patron saint of Ireland, always fearless, and who stood with such fortitude before the old kings of Ireland? He confronted the chieftains of Ireland everywhere. That beautiful hymn which you have sung to-day, and in which I have to thank the choir for their care in leading the congregation, was composed by him when he was about to appear before the King O'Leary at Tara—at least that portion directly appealing to Christ for protection. This is called "The Hymn of Faith." What a faith, and what a hope, and what a breadth of piety there is in that hymn! It is a beautiful legacy that St. Patrick has handed down to our countrymen; and we have heard that it was the Irish custom that the churches should repeat that grand Te Deum. And when St. Patrick took up that pretty plant, the shamrock, to explain the love of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Spirit—the "Three in One, and One in Three"—and we take up that shamrock in commemoration, we feel that we can touch his hand as he touched the dear old plant one thousand years ago—that we could touch that hand and clasp him in our arms as a brother.'

The Bishops of Derry, Cork, and Ossory, have kindly consented to address a meeting of students in Trinity College, Dublin, on behalf of the Gospel Propagation Society, at 7.30 p.m., on May 7th. It was hoped that the Bishop of Ripon would also have been present, but engagements in his own diocese will prevent him.

The late Dr. Swan, of Kingstown, has left legacies of 1000*l*. each to the Irish Clergy Sons' Education Society, the Clergy Widows' and Orphans' Society, and the Irish Clergy Daughters' School.

The financial report of the Church Representative Body to be presented before the next meeting of the General Synod, will be of a more favourable character than that for 1887-8.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Lancashire Association of Change-ringers.—Liverpool Diocesan Branch.

The next meeting of the above will be held at St. James's, West Derby, on Saturday, April 13th. Bells ready from two p.m. By kind permission the business meeting will be held in the Parish Church Schools at 5.30: Short service in St. James's Church at 6.30. All ringers cordially invited.

40 Louth Street, Liverpool. JOHN R. PRITCHARD, Branch Secretary.

Kent County Association.

A DISTRICT MEETING is fixed for Easter Monday, April 22nd, at Elham. Permission has also been obtained to ring at Lymington. There will be a Committee Meeting in the Elham National School at twelve noon. Allowances (2*s*. and 1*s*. 6*d*.) will be paid at Elham between eleven and one. Those who purpose attending are requested to communicate with the Secretary.

Salisbury Diocesan Guild.—Notice to Local Committee-men.

A COMMITTEE MEETING will be held at my house on Wednesday, April 10th, at 3.30 p.m., to consider the following propositions to be brought forward at the annual meeting:—(1) Admission of life ringing members, being change-ringers, residing out of the diocese; (2) encouragement of change-ringing; (3) the advisability, funds permitting, of granting donations to towers in union with the Guild for belfry restoration or improvement.

J. R. JERRAM, General Secretary.

The Ringer and Parish Clerk of Chaddesley Corbett, Worcestershire.

LATELY, a large number of villagers gathered in the churchyard to witness the burial of Mr. William Marriott Broad, who had been for nearly forty years the parish clerk, in succession to his father, who held the office for over fifty years. Mr. Broad was the head of a family much respected in the neighbourhood, and had only given up his post when compelled by declining health, about three years ago. When crossing his sitting-room to partake of supper, he suddenly fell, and expired from inaction of the heart, according to medical testimony. He had been long one of the ringers and a member of the choir, and muffled peals were rung at intervals during the week by members of the local Society. The coffin, adorned by wreaths, was borne into the church by Mr. Horne, Mr. Law, Mr. Perrins, Mr. Pratt, and other old friends, and followed by his daughter and five sons. The procession was met by the surpliced choir and the curate-in-charge, the Rev. J. Kirby; the group entering the church singing the hymn, 'Jesus lives! no longer now,' with organ accompaniment; passing out to the grave while giving another hymn, 'The saints of God, their conflict past.' The last hymn was that beginning 'Christ will gather in His own,' and was sung at the graveside, accompanied on the harmonium by the organist. Muffled peals were rung after the service. Mr. Broad was in his seventy-seventh year.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At St. Botolph's, Bishopsgate, London.

On Saturday, the 23rd ult., eight members of the All Hallows' Society (Tottenham) and the Essex Association rang J. Reeves' peal of 5088 Kent

TREBLE BOB MAJOR in 3 hrs. 15 mins. A. Fox, 1; G. Griffin, 2; Jos. Waghorn, 3; Jos. Waghorn, jun., 4; J. Barber, 5; G. B. Lucas (first peal in the method as conductor), 6; H. A. Barnett (first peal in the method with a bob-bell), 7; W. Pye-English, 8. It is the first peal in the method by the All Hallows' Society; and the ringers wish to thank the Rector and Churchwardens for the use of the bells. [*First peal in the method.]

At St. John-the-Evangelist's, Waterloo Road, London.

On Saturday, the 23rd ult., eight members of the Waterloo Society rang a peal of 5088 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR in 3 hrs. 2 mins. A. E. Church, 1; W. Baron, sen., 2; W. Partington, 3; H. Swain, 4; F. L. Davies, 5; W. T. Cockerill, 6; G. Wilde, 7; G. Newson (composer and conductor), 8. Tenor, 20 cwt. [*First peal in the method.] This is the first peal of TREBLE BOB on the bells since 1874. The ringers wish to thank Mr. Coppage for having everything in readiness, and Mr. Newson for kindly calling the peal at a minute's notice.

At Christ Church, Eastbourne, Sussex.

On Saturday, the 23rd ult., eight members of the Sussex County Association rang Holt's Six-part peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 3 hrs. R. Howse, 1; F. Harding, 2; A. Piper, 3; J. Sharp, 4; G. H. Howse, 5; E. Willoughby, 6; T. M. Smith (conductor), 7; A. Childs, 8. Tenor, 8 cwt. The first peal in the method by all the ringers. Mr. Willoughby is a member of the St. Mary's Society.

At Holy Trinity, Bolton, Lancashire.

On Saturday, the 23rd ult., eight members of the Lancashire Association rang E. Taylor's Bob-and-Single Variation peal of 5040 changes in 2 hrs. 54½ mins. H. W. Jackson (conductor), 1; H. Bentley, 2; J. Redford, 3; R. Hill, 4; J. W. Crutchley, 5; T. C. Turner, 6; D. Rimmer, 7; R. Lindley, 8. Tenor, 16 cwt. The fourth and the seventh are from Southport parish church; the rest, Holy Trinity, Bolton.

At All Hallows', Tottenham, Middlesex.

On Tuesday, the 26th ult., eight members of the All Hallows' Society (Tottenham) and the Essex Association rang J. Reeves' peal of 5088 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR in 3 hrs. A. Fox, 1; Jos. Waghorn, sen., 2; G. Griffin, 3; T. C. Grove (first peal in the method), 4; W. Pye-English, 5; J. Barber, 6; H. A. Barnett (first peal in the method as conductor), 7; G. B. Lucas, 8. It was rung on the occasion of a Confirmation Service by the Bishop of Bedford.

At St. Stephen's, Westminster, London.

On Saturday, the 30th ult., eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang Harrison's peal of 5280 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR in 3 hrs. 26 mins. C. F. Winny, 1; G. T. McLaughlin, 2; C. Mee (Ipswich), 3; J. N. Oxborough, 4; F. L. Davies, 5; H. R. Newton, 6; R. T. Woodley, 7; J. M. Hayes (conductor), 8. Tenor, 25 cwt.

At CHRIST CHURCH, MITCHAM, SURREY.—On Saturday, the 2nd ult., by the Wimbledon band, 720 SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE and 720 OXFORD TREBLE BOB MINOR in 25 mins. G. Hyde, 1; R. Moss, 3; C. Hyde, 3; W. Cooley, 4; A. Garrett, 5; S. Frost (conductor), 6. Also 240 GRANDSIRE MINOR, one of the local men ringing the 2nd, the rest as before. This is the first 720 of SUPERLATIVE on the bells.

At ST. PETER'S, SUDBURY, SUFFOLK.—On Sunday evening, the 3rd ult., eight members of the Sudbury Company rang for evening service a touch of 576 KENT TREBLE BOB. F. Tolliday, 1; C. Sillitoe (conductor), 2; W. Cross, 3; W. B. Ransom, 4; W. Griggs, 5; A. Scott, 6; W. Howell, 7; H. Harper, 8. Also, after service, a touch of 840 STEDMAN TRIPLES. W. Cross, 1; C. Sillitoe (conductor), 2; G. S. Brown, 3; W. Griggs, 4; H. Harper, 5; A. Scott, 6; W. Howell, 7; H. Brackett, 8.

At BISHOP'S STORTFORD, HERTS.—On Sunday, the 10th ult., for morning service, two touches of FORWARD MINOR, with 7-8 covering. G. Prior, 1; W. Prior, 2; H. Prior, 3; F. W. Chapman, 4; P. Springham, 5; H. J. Tucker (conductor), 6; T. Newman, 7; F. Harris, 8. First in the method by all.

At THE PARISH CHURCH, BROMLEY, KENT.—On Sunday, the 10th ult., for morning service, a quarter-peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. J. Gold, 1; W. J. Smith, 2; E. Dunn, 3; T. Durling, 4; T. Harford, 5; W. Fright, 6; H. Fruin, 7; W. James, 8. Composed and conducted by Mr. Fruin. This was rung on the fifty-third birthday of Mr. Dunn, the ringer of the 3rd, and it was Mr. Harford's second attempt at Triples.

At FARNHAM, ESSEX.—On Sunday evening, the 10th ult., for service, a start was made for 720 KENT TREBLE BOB MINOR, which came to an end after ringing 690 changes. H. J. Tucker (conductor), 1; F. W. Chapman, 2; G. Prior, 3; W. Prior, 4; H. Prior, 5; P. Springham, 6. After service, 720 TREBLE BOB MINOR in 24 mins. C. Prior, 1; H. Prior, 2; F. W. Chapman, 3; W. Prior, 4; G. Prior, 5; P. Springham, 6.

The Oxford Diocesan Guild of Bell-ringers.

WE have received a copy of the *Eighth Annual Report of the Oxford Diocesan Guild of Church Bell-ringers* (Blackwell, Reading). This Guild is one of our leading Associations, both in organization and achievements. Its range of methods is a standing example to all. In form and substance the Report is much the same as its predecessors. We cannot too heartily congratulate the Guild on the energy displayed in their attack on great 'lengths,' and the well-deserved success which has crowned their efforts.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Reform in Church Music.

SIR,—I left 'Alter's' query in the 8th of March issue unanswered until I could be quite certain of my facts. I fear I gave a wrong impression in my letter of March 1st on one point. The whole of the singing in the church mentioned is *not* in unison. I was misled by the effect given by the congregation all joining in unison, the organ and the part-singing of the choir being so well modulated as to be subservient to the melody, a powerful bass or good tenor never indulging in a *forte* performance independent of the rest. The Psalms and Canticles (Gregorian) are in unison, at a pitch convenient for tenors and basses; hymns and Celebration music in harmony, excepting plain song, Lent services, and some plain song (*Hymns A. & M.*); responses in harmony (Helmore's or Tallis') on the greater festivals.

Unison singing must be gradually and carefully introduced, the prejudice against it being great. It is as difficult as harmony singing, and requires a good accompaniment. The impression given by the services alluded to is that devotion and reverence are aimed at rather than the indulgence of the sensitive members of the choir or the ambitious organist, and this is so inestimably valuable that I think all will agree with me that no trouble or self-denial are too great to arrive at a similar result. Ego.

Free and Open Churches.

SIR,—Will you allow me to offer a slight contribution to the much-discussed question of churches pew-rented or free-seated? Like all other questions it has of course its two aspects, and much may be said on behalf of both. Perhaps no amount of argument will convince the warmer disputants of either side that the other side has really a great deal to offer honestly in its defence; but if only some plan could be devised, which should combine the main advantages of both systems, part at least of the difficulty might vanish. Such a plan has been devised, and, I am inclined to think, successfully carried out, in the church of St. Saviour in Eastbourne. Seats are rented there, and *up to ten minutes before the opening of Divine service* each seatholder has a right to his own seat; beyond that moment he loses his right. At the 'change of the bell,' exactly ten minutes before the hour of service, the whole church becomes virtually free-seated. Waiting crowds—for it is much frequented—may then walk up the aisles and take any seat they will, asking no man's leave, and the sidesmen are careful to see that no one is left standing so long as a vacant seat remains. This plan not only secures early attendance, but by the time the organ begins the stir is over, all are seated. The congregation is spared the distracting bustle of strangers being shown into pews during prayers and Psalms, too often the case under the more usual and old-fashioned plan. Also the advantages of rented pews are combined with the advantages of a free church. I ought to add that this arrangement belongs only to the morning and evening Sunday services. On week-days the whole church is, I believe, regarded as entirely free. A. G.

SIR,—The question with which 'Pew Rents' opens his letter is as interesting to me as it is to him. 'Why treat it as though, when we discuss it, we are to put aside our common sense?' By all means let those who have hitherto worn clean collars continue to do so; the habit is a good one, and does not seem to have much bearing on the question. But as to 'cleanliness being next to godliness,' it is just one of those telling maxims that, to my mind, have precious little truth in them. Cleanliness is as often next to ungodliness. More often, I think. Most men who keep themselves clean do it because it is 'gentlemanly' so to do, and that is the beginning and end of it with them. Do not let us, as 'Pew Rents' says, 'be hypocrites or jesuitical in this matter.' I do not think it in any way absurd to say that while equality is practicable inside the Church, it is not practicable without. If common sense, which is by no means infallible, is to be our guide, I suppose Lord Beaconsfield had a very fair share of that, and yet the saying that 'there were two places where all men were equal—the polling booth and the Church,' is, I believe, rightly attributed to him. Anyhow, I quite agree with it. Why does not 'Pew Rents' go beyond the ministers of the Church? It is those who are not ministers that this question concerns; and what we say about them is that within the walls of the Church they are all equal. Not that 'dirty collars' should be preferred to clean, but that no distinctions of any kind—money or otherwise—should be countenanced. As to 'teaching the working classes to do their duty,' and so forth, I really cannot see how this has any bearing on the question; and as to there being anything 'insidious' in the 'Free and Open' movement, it is precisely from want of directness and simplicity in the matter that men come to resist it. Men are engaged in ten thousand occupations outside the Church; within the Church they are all engaged in one. They come there to worship the one God and Father of all. They are there as His family, and the accident of some having more money—which in many cases was earned by some one else—should not secure them any advantage. And whether the 'Association' has been mistaken in its methods, which it is no business of mine to consider, I heartily sympathise with its aim, and think we may all be pretty sure of its ultimate success. 'Class distinctions do exist, and will continue to exist, free and open societies and secretaries notwithstanding.' There, again, I heartily agree, and that is, I think, an argument for the movement, not against it. For in free and open churches people find their *place* and remain there, families and all; and the rent they pay for their seat is one which the great majority of poor as well as rich can pay—the coming to church a little earlier. So that, perhaps, to talk about *class distinctions* not existing in church is twaddle. As to the person being 'tempted by a better living,' I may, perhaps, be allowed to speak of myself. As an assistant curate of a large parish, where all the churches were free and open

church at this place is shown by the fact that about 250,000 people pass every year through the Suez Canal, all of whom stop for a time at Port Said, and that nine-tenths of this number are British, the greater part of whom are, of course, seafaring folk. A hospital in connexion with the church has also been erected at a cost of 5000*l.*, and an income of 2000*l.* a-year has been secured for us by the payments of owners of ships. There is, we believe, no more important chaplaincy between England and India than that at Port Said.

ITALY.

A DASTARDLY outrage was perpetrated at the Church of San Carlo, Rome, on Sunday morning, the 31st March. While the famous Father Agostino was preaching, a bomb was thrown from behind the high altar into the body of the church and burst, causing an indescribable panic in the dense congregation. The *Carabinieri* were instantly on the spot and formed a circle round the altar. Several arrests were made. There was, of course, a general rush for the doors, and many in their efforts to escape fell down and were injured. Father Agostino left off preaching for a few moments, but then resumed his discourse and finished his sermon with the greatest calmness.

CARDIFF CHURCH CONGRESS.

THE following is the final selection of subjects approved at the fifth meeting of the Subjects Committee lately held at the Town Hall, Cardiff, the Bishop of Llandaff presiding over a large attendance of members:—

THE CHURCH'S CARE OF CHILDREN.

- (a) Waifs and Strays.
- (b) In Workhouses and Factories.
- (c) Boys who have left School.

MISSIONS TO SEAMEN.

CHURCH FINANCE AND CLERGY PENSIONS.

THE CHURCH'S MODE OF DEALING WITH RAPIDLY-GROWING POPULATIONS.

- (a) The Division of Parishes: Is it a gain or not?
- (b) The Use of Mission Rooms and Lay Co-operation.
- (c) The Use of Special Services in Church.
- (d) Community Life for the Clergy—how far practicable or advisable?

CHURCH IN WALES.—Its Past Progress. Its Present Needs.

- (a) Increase of the Episcopate.
- (b) Parochial Missions.
- (c) Training of the Clergy.

LINGUISTIC CONDITION OF WALES.—Its Bearing upon Church Work and Education and the Difficulties arising from it.

ELEMENTARY EDUCATION.

- (a) Voluntary Schools, with reference to—(1), Free Education; (2), The New Code; (3), Moral and Religious Training.
- (b) Organization of Definite Religious Teaching in School Board Districts.

CONTINUATION SCHOOLS AND INTERMEDIATE EDUCATION.

THE CHURCH'S DUTY TO THE WORKING CLASSES.

- (a) Better Housing.
- (b) Thrift.
- (c) Recreation.
- (d) Sweating System.

SUNDAY OBSERVANCE.

CHURCH AND STATE.

- (a) Incidents of Establishment in 1689 and 1889.
- (b) Establishment, in its Relation to—(1), Religious Equality; (2), Spiritual Independence.

THE MINISTRY OF THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH.

- (a) The Witness of the Holy Scripture.
- (b) The Witness of History.
- (c) Orders in the Church of England.

LITERATURE OF THE DAY AND ITS ATTITUDE TOWARDS CHRISTIANITY.

- (a) In Connexion with Modern Philosophic Thought.
- (b) With Reference to Alleged Scepticism among the Working Classes.
- (c) In the Treatment of Religious Questions by Means of the Novel.

HOW TO MEET THE SPIRITUAL NEEDS OF YOUNG MEN.

POPULAR AMUSEMENTS IN RELATION TO THE CHRISTIAN LIFE.

- (a) Generally.
- (b) As Associated with Gambling and Betting.

HOME REUNION.

MISSIONS.—The Reciprocal Relationship between the Church at Home and its Foreign and Colonial Missions.

SUBJECT SELECTED FOR THE DEVOTIONAL MEETING.—The Christian's Relationship—

- (a) To God.
- (b) To the Church.
- (c) To the World.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

The Surrey Association.

THE next Quarterly Meeting will be held at Camberwell, by the kind permission of the Vicar, on Easter Monday, April 22nd. Tower open from three to five p.m. Service at five. Tea at the Surrey Masonic Hall at six p.m., followed by business meeting. All those who wish to have tea must please send word to the Manager, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, not later than Friday, April 19th. Tower open again after meeting. The tea will be free to all those members who have paid their subscriptions, and who send notice of their intention to be present, as requested. All others will be charged 1*s.* 6*d.* a-head.

ARTHUR B. CARPENTER, *Hon. Secretary.*

The Waltham Abbey Society.

THE second Annual Ringing Festival of the above Society will be held on Easter Monday next. The steeple will be open to visitors for ringing from 10 a.m. until 8 p.m. Dinner will be provided at the 'Green Dragon' Inn, Market Place, at 1.30 p.m. Tickets, 2*s.* 6*d.* each. All visitors whose intention it is to dine with the company are particularly requested to notify the same not later than Tuesday, April 16th, to

'Green Dragon' Inn, Waltham Abbey. WALTER C. DYMCK, *Secretary.*

The Lancashire Association of Change-ringers,—Manchester Branch.

THE usual Monthly Meeting of this Branch will be held on Saturday, April 13th, at Christ Church, Barlow Moor Road, Withington. Ringing to commence at four o'clock. Meeting in the belfry at seven o'clock.

3 Hayden Street, Queen's Road, Manchester. JOHN EACHUS, *Branch Sec.*

The Bedfordshire Association.

THE Annual Meeting of the above Association will be held at Bedford on Easter Monday next.

CHARLES HERBERT, } *Hon. Secretaries.*
W. W. C. BAKER, }

North Lincolnshire Association.

THE Annual Meeting of this Association will be held at Lincoln on Saturday, April 27th. Further particulars will appear in next week's issue. 15 Knight Street, Lincoln. JOHN W. WATSON, *Hon. Secretary.*

St. Martin's Guild of Change-ringers for Birmingham, Aston, and the surrounding District.

THE first Quarterly Meeting of this Guild was held at St. Martin's Mission Rooms, Birmingham, on Friday, the 29th ult., at eight o'clock, under the chairmanship of W. Jones, Esq., one of the Guild's vice-presidents and churchwarden of St. Martin's. The honorary secretary, Mr. W. H. Godden, having reported on the financial position of the Guild and the various measures under consideration by its officers, an application by a local band of ringers for incorporation with the Guild was considered and the terms of admission arranged. Various resolutions relative to the development of the science in the neighbourhood, and the arrangement of social gatherings for the purpose of fostering mutual good feeling were then discussed and decided upon, and the Secretary was instructed to have the following circular printed and distributed among the neighbouring clergymen and gentlemen interested in Change-ringing:—'This Guild, having in view the desirability of developing scientific change-ringing as an adjunct to the services of the Church, and with a desire to improve the status of ringers in this neighbourhood, and especially in the county of Warwick, solicits the co-operation and correspondence of fellow-ringers and any clergymen and gentlemen interested in the science. On receipt of applications addressed to the Secretary, either for incorporation with the Guild, for instruction, or for advice on the subject of bells and ringing, the Guild will at once depute one or more of its members to attend to the same.'

The meeting, after having passed a hearty vote of thanks to the Chairman for presiding, then broke up.

The Hertfordshire Association.

THE Annual Meeting will be held at St. Albans on Easter Monday, April 22nd. The towers of the Cathedral and St. Peter's will be open for ringing in the morning from 9.30 until 12.30; and in the afternoon from 3.30. At 12.45 there will be service in the Lady Chapel in the Cathedral, with an address by the Venerable Archdeacon Lawrance. Dinner will be provided at the 'Peahen' Hotel at 1.30 (the charge to members being 1*s.* 9*d.* a-head); after which the business meeting will be held for the election of officers for the ensuing year and general business. The chair will be taken by the President, Leonard Proctor, Esq. Cheap tickets will be issued from London by certain trains on the Great Northern and Midland lines, irrespective of membership. Further particulars I shall be happy to supply; and it is hoped that many friends in the metropolis will avail themselves of the opportunity to visit the ancient city. The usual facilities will be afforded to members travelling on the Great Northern Railway.

In order that proper arrangements may be made, I shall be glad to receive, not later than Wednesday, the 17th, the names of those who intend to be present at the dinner. Members are reminded that, when applying for the cheap tickets, it is necessary to produce at the provincial booking-offices their receipts for the current subscription; and I have to add that Easter Monday is 'pay-day.' To avoid confusion I would ask members and friends arriving during the hours of ringing to make for St. Peter's in the first instance.

E. P. DEBENHAM, *Hon. Sec.*
St. Albans.

The late Mr. Harry Pearce.

It is with regret we have this week to announce the sudden death of Mr. Pearce, which took place on Wednesday, March 27th, of heart disease, at the residence of his parents, Perryfields, Maidstone, at the early age of twenty-six years. He went to his work on Monday, apparently in good health, but at noon he was seized with a fit. Medical aid was called and he was conveyed home. On Tuesday he appeared much better, and all thought he would resume his employment in a day or two; but on Wednesday morning, on getting out of bed, he suddenly fell backwards and expired. On Sunday, the day of his funeral, sixty ringers were present to pay a last tribute of respect to their deceased brother. His remains were borne to the grave by ringing friends, and the funeral service was read by the Rev. S. Cartwright, curate of All Saints'. Wreaths and flowers were numerous, among others being one each from the members of All Saints' and St. Michael's. Messrs. Winny and Newman of the College Youths were present, of which Society deceased was a member. Mr. Pearce was also a member of All Saints' and St. Michael's, Maidstone, Sittingbourne, Staplehurst, Malling, Leeds, Aylesford, Birchington, Barming, and Linton Societies. By his death the Kent County Association, and All Saints' Company in particular, lose a good ringer. He had rung nearly fifty peals, including GRANDSIRE CATERS and TRIPLES, BOB MAJOR and TRIPLES; and he could also ring KENT TREBLE BOB and SPEDMAN. As a conductor he was a safe bob-caller, having called Taylor's Bob-and-Single variation at the age of nineteen, also Holt's Original several times; and he had been instructor to several bands. On Monday evening the bells were rung muffled at St. Michael's, Leeds, and Aylesford. At the latter place 559 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES were rung. J. Cosson (Aylesford), 1; T. Durban (Aylesford), 2; R. Simmonds, 3; T. Manning, 4; G. Pawley, 5; A. Moorcraft (conductor), 6; A. H. Woolley, 7; G. Moorcraft, 8.

THE LATE MR. JAMES SCALES.—On Tuesday, the 26th ult., in the parish churchyard, Baldock, Herts, were performed the last offices due to the mortal remains of Mr. Scales—the oldest member of the Baldock Society, he having been a member for upwards of sixty years—who departed this life on the 22nd ult., at the age of eighty-four. The deceased was a great lover of bells and ringing, although not a scientific change-ringer, as change-ringing was quite unknown in Baldock until about four years ago, when he was too far advanced in life to commence to study the intricacies of the art. He had taken part in ringing out the old and ringing in the new year for fifty-seven years, the last time he ascended the tower for that purpose being on the eve of the new year of 1887. In the evening, after the funeral, the members of the Baldock company rang several touches, with the bells deeply muffled, as a last token of their regard.

A Half-muffled Peal at St. Sepulchre's, Holborn Viaduct, City of London.

ON Sunday, the 7th inst., on the occasion of the Anniversary of the Parish Schools, the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor of London paid the annual visit to the above church, when the fine ring of ten bells (tenor, 81 cwt. 14 lbs.) were rung as usual; but in the evening, before and after Divine service (by order of the churchwardens, Messrs. Herbert, Lister, and Howell), the bells were rung half-muffled as a token of respect to Her Royal Highness the late Duchess of Cambridge (who died on the 6th inst.), by the parochial ringers: Lovett (steeple-keeper), Nelms, Haworth, Barry, Church, Davies, Moore, Clarkson, Matthews, and Wheeler.

A Long Peal at St. Mary's, Cheltenham.

ON Easter Monday, ten members of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association hope to attempt a long peal of GRANDSIRE CATERS at the above church, starting at twelve noon.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At St. Lawrence's, Appleton, Berks.

ON Friday, the 22nd ult., eight members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild rang a peal of 5024 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR in 3 hrs. H. Tubbe, 1; W. Bennett, 2; C. Hounslow, 3; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 4; J. Avery, 5; G. Holfield, 6; F. White, 7; J. W. Washbrook (composer and conductor), 8. Tenor, 14½ cwt.

At the Cathedral, Manchester.

ON Thursday, the 28th ult., ten members of the Lancashire Association rang a peal of 5000 KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL in 3 hrs. 20 mins. J. Gratrix, 1; Jos. Turner, 2; W. Jakeman, 3; J. Wood, 4; T. G. Downes, 5; J. Barratt, 6; H. Chapman, 7; E. Bishop, 8; S. Wood (composer), 9; J. Eachus (conductor), 10. Tenor, 25 cwt. The above was rung as a farewell peal to Mr. Bishop, who is leaving Lancashire to reside in Wiltshire.

At Christ Church Cathedral, Oxford.

ON Monday, the 1st inst., eight members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild rang Thurstan's peal of 5040 SPEDMAN TRIPLES in 3 hrs. 16 mins. J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 1; C. Tolley, 2; W. C. Barton, 3; S. Hounslow, 4; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 5; J. Howes, 6; W. Finch, 7; W. Jeffery, 8. Tenor, about 26 cwt. The above peal was rung on the middle eight, owing to the tenor clapper being out.

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

ON Saturday, the 6th inst., eight members of the St. Peter's Society and Hertfordshire Association rang Taylor's Bob-and-Single Variation peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 3 hrs. 3 mins. W. Little (first peal), 1; H. Brewer (first peal with bob-bell), 2; T. Waller, 3; J. W. Brewer, 4; E. P. Debenham (conductor), 5; W. H. L. Buckingham, 6; G. W. Cartmel (fiftieth peal), 7; A. Hull, 8.

RECEIVED ALSO.—Hereford Diocesan Guild (thanks—next week); E. P. Debenham (what you want will be done); and others.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The Newly Confirmed.

SIR,—As I believe the usual time for holding confirmations is now at hand, may I offer a suggestion with the view of helping those confirmed to become communicants? It is this: that for every person being prepared for confirmation, some older communicant should be found to undertake to accompany them to the Holy Communion for the first time; such communicants to be, as far as possible, of the same social position as the candidates for confirmation, or personal friends. I think it is certainly true that many of the poorer class, or servants living away from home, stay away from the Holy Communion from a feeling of shyness, and because (as they would say), 'They don't know what they have to do.' Perhaps this suggestion would be difficult to carry out fully in towns, but it would be more easy in country parishes. Being a layman, I write with some diffidence on such a subject, but I venture to do so as a case in point has recently come to my notice. The idea seems to me both pleasing and practical, viz., that those confirmed should be specially trusted to a friend to encourage them in taking the next great step in their spiritual life, which is, I fear, too often altogether neglected.

J. E. ACLAND-TROTTE.

Reunion.

SIR,—Since I wrote my last paper on this subject the second edition of Mr. Hutton's *Essays*, of which I had before only seen the first, has come into my hands. It contains a passage which, as coming from one who was a devoted admirer of Maurice, and at one time a Unitarian, has its own peculiar significance, and so exactly coincides with what I was trying to say that I am tempted to transcribe it. Let it be distinctly understood by those who have not read that preface that it contains strong words against the Roman position, but it also has these strong words in its favour:—

'I have none of the horror of Romanism, as we now know it in England, which some Protestants think it a kind of historic duty to feel, though I believe that the sacerdotal principle, which is at its highest point of power in Rome, has, on the whole, been a very mischievous and even fatal one. Indeed, I am certain that the intellectual dependence and confidence which the Roman Church gives to nine-tenths of her children, however much it may paralyse the genius and the intellectual activity of the few, offers to the meditative piety and spiritual affections of the many just that guarantee of serenity without which these affections seldom or never attain their highest proportions. I doubt if there be in any Church in the world, in proportion to the number of its adherents, so much true devotion and piety, so much genuine religious ardour and self-sacrifice, and, more than all, that best of all tests of the substantial truth of religion, so much true blessedness in the devotional life, as there is inside the Roman Catholic Church.' (*Essays, Theological and Literary*, by R. H. Hutton. Vol. I. Preface, p. ix. Second edition, 1876.)

Mr. Hutton at once goes on to say that it does not at all follow that the assumptions, on which this dependence is based, are true assumptions; and I would not of course quote what seem to me the generous and true words of a fair though by no means altogether friendly critic without calling attention to those other words by which they are modified. But there they are, and a thorough-going Reunionist may be thankful for them. There is no attempt here to insinuate Roman teaching into our Church, or to 'twist the conscience,' both of which I think would be simply dishonest; but there is the simple determination to be just and generous, and thus to break down the unnecessary but formidable barrier of prejudice. I have taken up far too much of your space lately, and must apologise for doing so.

Moreton-in-Marsh.

SPENCER JONES.

Parish Registers.

SIR,—I was very glad to see that you have taken up the subject of Parish Registers, about which there was so much correspondence recently in the *Times* and other papers. It is one in which I have long taken interest, and a good many years ago sent a petition to Parliament upon it, of which the following is a copy:—

'The humble Petition of the under-signed Vicar of Nafferton, in the East Riding of the County of York:—

'Sheweth: That many of the more ancient of the several Parish Registers of England are going fast to decay or becoming illegible through damp.

'That they are of the utmost value legally and otherwise to all the families in the kingdom.

'That your Petitioner has held cures in the dioceses of York, Chester, and Lincoln; and having been at first unaware, in common, he believes, with many of the clergy, in the absence of any instructions on the subject, that copies of the Parish Registers should be sent in periodically to the Diocesan Registries, neglected until recently to do so in any of the above cases; and that on applying at the Register Office in York to learn how many years of his present Parish Registers required being copied, found that the officials there could give him no information whatever on the subject, and referred him to the archives themselves, which appeared to be in a state of utter neglect and almost hopeless confusion.

'That your Petitioner, therefore, humbly requests that all copies of Parish Registers and the old Registers themselves be transferred to the custody of the Registrar-General, to be by him preserved, classified, and copied, as may be required.

It was presented by the late Lord Hotham, our then Member for the East Riding, and he wrote to me, with much agreeable surprise, that it was considered of sufficient importance to be printed by order of the House.

The subject having been brought up again by you in the way it was, I wrote to the Registrar General on a point connected with it, and the tenor of the correspondence which ensued is shown by what I have added below:—

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

The Late Mr. Robert Richardson.

It is this week our duty to announce the decease of the above ringer, who died at his residence in Stoke Newington on Saturday, March 30th, at the age of eighty-one years. He was a member of the Society of Royal Cumberland Youths. At the early age of thirteen he commenced ringing, and in 1829 began to take part in peal-ringing. On July 22nd, 1829, he rang the third in a peal of **GRANDSIRE TRIPLES** at St. John's, Hackney. About this time he also took part in peals at St. Mary's, Walthamstow; St. James's, Clerkenwell; and St. Giles-in-the-Fields; was an active ringer at St. Matthew's, Clapton, and for some time one of the ringers at the old Parish Church, Stoke Newington. The funeral took place on Thursday, the 4th inst., at Southgate Cemetery, a short service previously taking place at the old church, Stoke Newington, the Rector, the Rev. L. E. Shelford, and the Rev. Bloomfield Jackson, officiating. The body was brought into the church, followed by the aged wife and several members of the family, many residents of Stoke Newington attending as a mark of respect. The Rev. Bloomfield Jackson read the burial service. The coffin, which was covered with wreaths, was of polished elm, with brass fittings, and bore the following simple inscription: 'Robert Richardson, died March 30th, 1889, age 81 years.' The deceased was, for over forty years, a regular attendant on practice-nights at Waltham Abbey, Essex, having been associated with the ringers there ever since the year 1840; and as a mark of respect the ringers met on Saturday, and rang a muffled peal, the usual whole-pull and stand. W. C. Dymock, 1; G. Pearce, 2; R. Holgate, 3; T. Mitchell, 4; D. Tarling, 5; G. Thurgood, 6; W. A. Alps (conductor), 7; T. Colverd, 8. At a meeting of the Society immediately afterwards the Secretary was instructed to forward a letter of condolence to Mrs. Richardson, recognising the valuable assistance of their late friend, Mr. R. Richardson. Mr. Haworth accompanied Mr. Richardson from London, on Tuesdays, for eight or nine years, to assist the local ringers; and he remembers meeting there Messrs. John, William, and James Carr; Messrs. Britten, Powell, Alps (Rochester, Sawbridgeworth), Lobb, Pettit, Jeremiah Miller (London), and others; occasionally Squire Proctor and his band (Benington). The party could ring **GRANDSIRE TRIPLES**, **STEDMAN TRIPLES**, and **TREBLE BOB MAJOR**. Mr. W. Carr (sexton) always had great pleasure in ringing a course of **GRANDSIRE MAXIMUS** on the handbells.

A New Clock at Sandiacre, near Nottingham.

A LARGE clock has just been erected at this place, which strikes the hours, chimes the quarters, and shows time on two illuminated dials, 5 ft. 6 in. across. It is fitted with all the latest improvements made and adopted by the makers, Messrs. John Smith and Sons, Midland Clock Works, Derby, who are also now making clocks and chimes for Douglas, Isle of Man; Crossens, near Southport; and other places.

North Lincolnshire Association.

THE Annual General Meeting will be held at Lincoln on Saturday, the 27th inst. Tea will be provided at 1s. each (free to members) in the Guild Court (at the foot of the Steep Hill) at 5 p.m., after which the General Meeting will be held. Permission has kindly been granted for the use of the bells of the Cathedral (8), St. Peter-at-Arches (8), St. Peter-at-Gowts (6), and St. Botolph's (5). Those intending being present at the tea are requested to inform me as early as possible. JOHN W. WATSON, *Hon. Sec.*

15 Knight Street, Lincoln.

A Long Peal at Hagley.

ON Easter Monday, April 22nd, eight members of the Worcester and Adjoining Districts' Association will attempt a long peal of **BOB MAJOR**, 10,080 changes, at Hagley.

Society of Change-ringers for the Archdeaconry of Stafford.

THE next Quarterly Meeting will be held at Sedgley on Saturday, April 27. Members meet at the tower at 2.30 p.m. Railway station, Deepfields.

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

Worcester and Adjoining Districts' Association.

THE Annual Meeting of this Association will take place on Easter Monday, April 22nd, in the Chapter House, Worcester Cathedral, at 2 p.m., the tower of which will be open for a short time for ringing. Towers of the other churches in the city will be open during the day. The new peal of handbells, the property of the Association, will be rung for the first time at this meeting. All members are requested to meet at the house of Mr. J. Perks, 'Pack-horse', Hotel, Worcester, and to note that all subscriptions not yet paid should be handed over at this meeting. The Hon. Secretary hopes to receive, on or before the above date, the names of each company in union, so that a correct list may appear in the Annual Report. Members to take this as sufficient notice should they receive no other. Business—Election of officers for the ensuing year. JOHN SMITH, *Hon. Sec.*

37 Simms Lane, Netherton, Dudley.

The Lancashire Association.

A MEETING of the Rochdale Branch was held at the Parish Church, Oldham, on Saturday, April 6th. Members were present from Rochdale, Oldham, Moor-side, and Heywood, and touches of **GRANDSIRE TRIPLES** and **DOUBLES** were rung. A meeting was held in the schoolroom, presided over by Mr. Millet, *sen.* of Heywood. The next meeting is to be held at All Saints' Church, Rochdale, on Saturday, May 4th. Votes of thanks to the Wardens and Chairman brought the meeting to a close.

The usual monthly meeting of the Liverpool Diocesan Branch was held at St. James's Church, West Derby, on the 13th inst., several touches of **GRANDSIRE MINOR** and **DOUBLES** being rung during the afternoon. At 6 p.m. the business meeting was held in the parish church schools, presided over by Mr. J. Martin, churchwarden of Sefton. The minutes of the previous meeting having been submitted, the members present proceeded to the election of new members, of whom there were twelve. Votes of thanks to the Rev. A. W. Robinson, vicar of St. James's, and the ringers—the former for granting the use of the bells, and the latter for having everything in readiness—to the Rev. Canon Stewart, rector of West Derby, for placing the schools at the disposal of the meeting, and to the Chairman for his services in the chair, brought a pleasant meeting to a close. After the meeting 720 **KENT TREBLE BOB MINOR** were rung in 28 mins. J. R. Pritchard (conductor), 1; C. E. Wilson, 2; H. Coley, 3; W. James, 4; J. Aspinwall, 5; G. Fisher, 6. Also 720 **PLAIN BOB MINOR** in 28 mins. P. Barton, 1; G. Fisher, 2; C. E. Wilson, 3; W. James, 4; H. Coley, 5; J. Aspinwall (conductor), 6.

The Midland Counties' Association.

THE Seventh Annual Meeting of this Association will be held at Derby, on Easter Monday, April 22nd, when the following towers will be open for ringing from 10 a.m., viz.: All Saints', 10 bells; St. Alkmund's, 8 bells; St. Andrew's, 8 bells; and St. Werburgh's, 8 bells. Committee meeting in St. Andrew's Parish Room at 4 o'clock. Tea in the schools at 4.30, tickets 1s. 2d. each. General meeting and election of officers immediately after tea.

5 St. Paul's Street East, Burton-on-Trent. JOSEPH GRIFFIN, *Hon. Sec.*

Hereford Diocesan Guild of Bell-ringers.

ON Sunday morning, the 31st ult., the Rev. G. M. Custance, rector of Colwall and secretary to this Association, preached a sermon on behalf of the Guild in Hereford Cathedral. Owing to the heavy showers of rain previous to the service the attendance was not large. The rev. gentleman took for his text, 'Let all things be done decently and in order' (1 Cor. xiv. 40). He said he did not propose giving his hearers that morning what was generally called a sermon, but only to bring before them as shortly as he could the Society on whose behalf they were asked to give their alms. God's tower and God's bells, consecrated to His service, had been left almost entirely to themselves. People until quite lately had seemed quite to forget that the tower was as much part of the building as the chancel or the nave, when the bells were rung to the honour and glory of God. Therefore they wanted people to help them in this Guild to carry out the Apostolic admonition that all things should be done decently, seemingly, beautifully, with becoming reverence, and in order. Doubtless, in most parishes almost everything was carried out but this. Ringing was not accomplished by merely pulling a rope, by the bell being at one end and the person at the other. Out of every six men who tried to begin to learn, in nearly every instance only about two out of the six ever really learned the science. While other officers of the Church had been respected and cared for, the ringers had been left out in the cold, and not considered as Church officers at all. This should not be the case. Already they had thirty-six parishes in union with them, and he was thankful to say that the ringers of that Cathedral, as also of All Saints', St. Peter's, and St. Nicholas', had joined them. They had many difficulties, one of them being the want of funds. They now had a balance against them of over 5l., and the preacher went on to ask those who felt disposed in the congregation to send in their names as honorary members at 5s. a-year. Hereford should become the place where the Guild should find its home.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At St. Michael and All Angels', Hughenden, Bucks.

ON Saturday, the 30th ult., eight members of the Oxford Diocesan Association rang Holt's Ten-part peal of 5040 **GRANDSIRE TRIPLES** in 3 hrs. 2 mins. W. Lawrence (conductor), 1; J. W. Washbrook, 2; J. C. Truss, jun., 3; F. Dentry (first peal), 4; F. Bissley, 5; C. Smith, 6; J. C. Truss, sen., 7; R. Smith, 8. Mr. J. C. Truss, jun., has not yet attained his fifteenth year, and rang very correctly throughout. It was rung on the occasion of the thirty-first birthday of the conductor, and his second attempt at calling **TRIPLES**. On the completion of the peal the Vicar came into the belfry and complimented the band on their success.

At St. Etheldreda, Hatfield, Herts.

ON Tuesday, the 2nd inst., eight members of the Herts Association rang Holt's Original peal of 5040 **GRANDSIRE TRIPLES** in 3 hrs. H. J. Rowe, 1; W. Powers, 2; W. J. Richardson, 3; Jos. Hollingsworth, 4; E. P. Debenham (conductor), 5; H. Baker, 6; T. Gathard, 7; J. Kentish, 8. Tenor, 28 cwt. Mr. Baker came from Hertford, and Mr. Debenham, St. Albans. All the above, with the exception of H. Baker, belong to the Hatfield College Youths. T. Gathard and W. Powers were proposed members of the Herts Association before starting.

At St. Lawrence's, Appleton, Berks.

ON Friday, the 5th inst., eight members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild rang a peal of 5088 **DUFFIELD MAJOR** in 3 hrs. 5 mins. G. Holifield, 1; W. Bennett, 2; B. Barrett, 3; C. Hounslow, 4; J. Avery, 5; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 6; H. Tubb, 7; J. W. Washbrook (composer and conductor), 8; Tenor, 14½ cwt., in E. This is the first peal of **DUFFIELD MAJOR** by all the band, and was rung without any previous practice.

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

ON Friday, the 5th inst., eight members of the Midland Counties' Association and St. Paul's Society rang a peal of 5040 **DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB**

MAJOR in 3 hrs. 25 mins. W. Wakley, 1; J. Austin, 2; A. Wakley, 3; G. Robinson, 4; E. I. Stone, 5; H. Wakley, 6; J. Griffin, 7; T. Holmes, 8. Composed by Mr. N. J. Pitstow, and conducted by Mr. Griffin. It was rung with the bells half muffled, on the second anniversary of the death of the Rev. J. H. Fish, first vicar of St. Paul's, and founder of the St. Paul's Society.

At the Parish Church, Tilehurst, Berks.

On Saturday, the 6th inst., eight members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild rang Brooke's Variation of Thurstans' peal of 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES in 3 hrs. 3 mins. J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 1; E. Menday, 2; T. Newman, 3; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 4; G. Essex (first peal of STEDMAN), 5; W. Napper, 6; J. M. Routh, Esq., 7; C. Hounslow, 8. Tenor, 19 cwt.

At Great Crosby, Lancashire.

On Sunday, the 7th inst., for Divine service in the evening, 720 GRANDSIRE MINOR in 26 mins. W. Hale, 1; J. Howard (conductor), 2; J. Sefton, 3; J. R. Pritchard, 4; J. Roughley, 5; J. Hale, 8. Tenor, 10½ cwt.

At St. Mary's, Hadlow, Kent.

On Sunday, the 7th inst., eight members of the Kent County Association rang a half-muffled peal of 5008 BOB MAJOR in 3 hrs. 2 mins. W. Bell, 1; J. Gransbury, 2; W. E. Pope, 3; J. E. Tillman, 4; A. Moorcraft, 5; E. Pope, 6; A. Palmer, 7; F. G. Newman, 8. Composed by Mr. W. Harrison, and conducted by Mr. Newman. Tenor, 15 cwt. The peal was rung as the last mark of respect for Mr. H. Pearce.

At St. Mary-the-Virgin, Monken-Hadley, Middlesex.

On Sunday, the 7th inst., for afternoon service, four six-scores of GRANDSIRE DOUBLES by the local Society in 20 mins., with the bells half muffled as a token of respect to the late C. T. Carter, M.R.C.S., for forty-six years a resident in the parish. F. A. Milne, Esq., 1; G. Abbott (conductor), 2; W. Dell, 3; J. Sumter, 4; R. Knightley, 5; W. Tull, 6. Tenor, 12 cwt. With the exception of Mr. F. A. Milne no members of the Society had until within the last month ever rung a six-score.

At Worsley, Lancashire.

On Monday, the 8th inst., eight of the ringers of the Parish Church, being members of the Lancashire Association, Manchester Branch, rang a peal of 5088 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR in 3 hrs. 2 mins. H. Derbyshire, 1; F. Derbyshire, 2; J. Ridyard, 3; J. H. Ridyard, 4; J. Welsby, 5; T. Derbyshire, 6; J. Baguley, 7; R. Ridyard, 8. Tenor, 21 cwt. Composed by H. Johnson, of Birmingham, and conducted by R. Ridyard. This is the first peal in the method rung in Lancashire, and by all the above, who are of the local company.

At the Parish Church, Nuneaton, Warwickshire.

On Saturday, the 13th inst., eight members of the Midland Counties Association (Leicester Branch) rang Holt's Ten-part peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 59 mins. W. Adler, 1; J. H. Leninfeld, 2; J. Clarke, 3; G. J. Winter, 4; T. W. Chapman, 5; A. R. Aldham (conductor), 6; H. Horwood, 7; T. Bates, 8. Tenor, 14 cwt. 1 qr. 5 lbs., in E. The above is the first peal by all except the conductor, and the third peal on the bells since they were augmented to eight in 1873. Messrs. Aldham came from Barwell, Leicestershire; Leninfeld, from Earlshilton, Leicestershire; the rest from Nuneaton.

At Bishop Ryder's Church, Birmingham.

On Saturday, the 13th inst., the St. Martin's Guild rang Thurstans' One-part peal of 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 50 mins. H. Bastable (conductor), 1; C. Williams, 2; C. Stanbridge, 3; T. Reynolds, 4; W. Mundy (first peal in the method), 5; W. E. Smith, 6; B. Witchell, 7; W. Jackson, 8. This is the first time this peal has been conducted away from the 3rd and 7th.

AT HAVANT, HANTS.—On Monday, the 11th ult., the following members of the Winchester Diocesan Guild (after an unsuccessful attempt for a peal at the church of St. Faith) rang a quarter-peal of 1260 STEDMAN TRIPLES in 42 mins. J. Hewett, 1; J. W. Whiting, 2; G. Grafham, 3; C. Privett, 4; F. Hill, 5; J. Staples, 6; G. Williams (conductor), 7; G. Instrel, 8. First quarter-peal in the method on the bells, also by 6 and 8.

AT HOLY TRINITY, OLD HILL, STAFFORDSHIRE.—On Thursday, the 14th ult., 720 OXFORD TREBLE BOB MINOR in 27 mins. W. Green, 1; G. B. Raybould,* 2; H. Cartwright, 3; C. Beasley,* 4; R. Bird, 5; H. Mason (conductor), 6. And on Thursday, the 21st ult., 720 OXFORD SINGLE BOB in 30 mins. G. B. Raybould,* 1; J. Palmer, 2; H. Cartwright, 3; H. Mason, 4; R. Bird, 5; A. E. Parsons (conductor), 6. C. Beasley came from Cradley. [* First 720 in the method.]

AT ST. CUTHBERT'S, DARLINGTON.—On Friday, the 15th ult., by a company belonging to St. Cuthbert's and St. John's, 1008 BOB MAJOR in 36 mins. W. Allen, 1; W. Park, 2; J. Little, 3; W. Lister, 4; J. K. Whitefield, 5; J. Coverdale, 6; R. Moncaster, 7; G. A. Overton (conductor), 8.

AT ST. GEORGE'S, CAMBERWELL, SURREY.—On Saturday, the 16th ult., an attempt was made to ring Holt's Original, which came to an end after ringing thirty minutes, and, as there was no time to start again, a quarter-peal (1260 changes) was rung in 43 mins. J. George (Coventry, first quarter-peal on the treble), 1; J. Barry, 2; W. Jones, 3; R. French, 4; A. Hayward, 5; W. H. George, 6; W. W. Thorne (conductor), 7; W. Freeman, 8. Tenor, 14 cwt.

AT CROYDON, SURREY.—On Sunday, the 17th ult., for evening service, 518 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. H. Dudley, 1; A. Arnold, 2; W. J. Chambers, 3; H. Brooker, 4; R. E. Pearson, 5; W. States (conductor), 6; T. Verrall, 7; A. T. Miller (first 518), 8. Tenor, 32 cwt., in E flat.

AT HOLY TRINITY, HULL.—On Sunday, the 17th ult., for Divine service, 742 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, with the bells muffled, being the last part of Holt's Original. J. Smelt (Beverley), 1; W. Southwick, 2; J. Highfield, 3; J. F. Mallaby, 4; J. Pollard, 5; J. Dixey, 6; C. Jackson (conductor), 7; J. W. Dale, 8.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH, GREAT BROMLEY, ESSEX.—On Sunday, the 17th ult., 720 BOB MINOR. J. Taylor (Bromley), 1; J. Smith (Colchester), 2; A. Fuller (Little Bentley), 3; W. Smith (Colchester), 4; W. Nevard (Great Bentley), 5; A. Aviss (Colchester, first 720 and first attempt), 6. And 720 OXFORD TREBLE BOB, unfortunately lost in the four last leads. G. Bowell, 1; J. Smith, 2; J. Starling, 3; W. Smith, 4; W. Nevard, 5; J. Taylor (conductor), 6. And, on handbells, touches of BOB MAJOR, GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, KENT and OXFORD TREBLE BOB, and COLLEGE SINGLE, by twelve mixed members from Higham, Langham, Great and Little Bentley, Bromley, and Colchester.

AT HATFIELD, HERTS.—On Sunday, the 17th ult., for evening service, 392 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. F. Stocks, 1; W. J. Rumney, 2; J. Hollingsworth, 3; J. Shepherd, 4; H. G. Rowe (first as conductor), 5; J. Kentish, 6; T. Gathard, 7; G. Smith, 8. Also 111 with W. Powers, 3; the rest as before. And on Monday, the 18th ult., at the house of Mr. J. Kentish, on handbells retained in hand, 120 and 180 of BOB MINOR. G. Smith, 1; J. Shepherd, 2; J. Hollingsworth, 3; W. Powers, 4; H. G. Rowe (conductor), 5-6. Also on Thursday, the 21st ult., 720 BOB MINOR. J. Rumney, 1; J. Shepherd, 2; W. Powers, 3; J. Hollingsworth, 4; H. G. Rowe (conductor), 5-6. First 720 by the local company.

AT ST. MARY'S, WHITECHAPEL, LONDON.—On Sunday morning, the 17th ult., a quarter-peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 47 mins. T. Barmardin, 1; E. Wallace (conductor), 2; J. Carmichael, 3; J. Barry, 4; S. Parmenter (longest touch in the method), 5; E. Hall, 6; S. E. Joyce, 7; P. Gaymer, 8. Composed by Mr. Johnson, of Birmingham.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH, LLANGOLLEN, NORTH WALES.—On Monday, the 18th ult., a quarter-peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES (1260 changes), in 25 mins. J. Evans, 1; T. Williams, 2; D. E. Evans, 3; J. Davies, 4; J. W. Davies, 5; R. D. Horsepool, 6; T. Davies (conductor), 7; R. Maxwell, 8. The above was rung in honour of Mr. T. Davies' twentieth birthday. It is also his first attempt at calling.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH, COOKHAM, BERKS.—On Tuesday, the 19th ult., 720 GRANDSIRE MINOR in 32 mins. J. C. Truss, jun., 1; F. Dentry, 2; C. Smith, 3; J. C. Truss, sen., 4; J. Wilkins (conductor), 5; W. Ayres, 6. Also 120 STEDMAN DOUBLES. J. C. Truss, jun., 1; C. Smith, 2; F. Dentry, 3; J. W. Wilkins, 4; J. C. Truss, sen., 5; E. Keeley, 6.

AT ST. MARY'S, PETWORTH, SUSSEX.—On Tuesday, the 19th ult., the following members of the Midhurst Branch of the Sussex County Association rang two 252's of BOB TRIPLES, 209 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, also a quarter-peal of 1260 BOB TRIPLES, in 45 mins. T. Ellis, 1; Dr. W. H. George, 2; C. Tribe, 3; W. Court, 4; W. Selby, 5; G. Baker, 6; G. Williams, 7; J. Lee, 8. Also 336 BOB MAJOR. G. Baker, 5; J. Lee, 6; W. Selby, 7; G. Williams, 8. All conducted by George Williams. First attempt at changes on eight bells by Nos. 1, 4, 6, 7 in the Major. Tenor, 16 cwt.

AT STRATFORD-LE-BOW, MIDDLESEX.—On Wednesday, the 20th ult., a date touch of KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR (1889 changes) in 1 hr. 6 mins. H. Springall (conductor), 1; R. Turner, 2; W. Greenleaf, 3; S. Hayes, 4; Y. Green (composer), 5; R. Woodley, 6; H. Torble, 7; S. Joyce (twenty-first birthday), 8.

AT MOSSLEY, LANCASHIRE.—Handbell-ringing.—On Wednesday, the 20th ult., the local Amateur Society rang, at their meeting-house, Stamford Street, 720 OXFORD TREBLE BOB MINOR in 23 mins. J. Greaves, 1; F. Rhodes, 2; J. Holden, 3; H. Mayall (first peal as conductor), 4; T. B. Dicken, 5; H. Manns (first 720), 6.

AT SALISBURY, WILTS.—Handbell-ringing.—On Friday, the 22nd ult., 1260 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. W. S. Wise (conductor), 1-2; W. W. Gifford, 3-4; A. W. Barkus, 5-6; A. J. Callaway, 7-8. Also on Sunday, the 24th ult., for Divine service at St. Martin's Church, 1260 in the same method. W. M. Lush, 1; C. A. Clements, 2; W. S. Wise, 3; A. P. Goddard, 4; S. Lawrence, 5; A. W. Barkus (conductor), 6; W. W. Gifford, 7; J. Hallett, 8.

AT ST. STEPHEN'S, WESTMINSTER, LONDON.—On Sunday evening, the 24th ult., for Divine service, a quarter-peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES (1260 changes) in 48 mins. A. S. Ellis, 1; A. Ingerfield, 2; J. Reed, 3; J. Pryer, 4; R. H. Newton (conductor), 5; W. H. George, 6; H. Ellis, 7; W. Copley, 8.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH, NORTON, STAFFORDSHIRE.—On Sunday morning, the 24th ult., for Divine service, 720 DUKE OF YORK TREBLE BOB MINOR in 26 mins. G. Wood, 1; E. Glover, 2; J. Morton, 3; J. Wood (conductor), 4; J. W. Brough, 5; W. Baddeley, 6.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH, MELBOURNE, DERBYSHIRE.—On Tuesday, the 26th ult., members of the St. Michael's Society rang 720 BOB MINOR (18 bobs and 2 singles) in 28 mins., with 7-8 covering. J. R. Wood, 1; H. Hollingworth, 2; J. W. Warren, 3; G. A. Fish, 4; J. Hollingworth, 5; G. C. Tunnicliffe (conductor), 6; M. E. Fryer, 7; J. Bartram, 8. The above was rung in honour of the wedding of Mr. F. W. Cook.

AT MIDHURST, SUSSEX.—On Friday, the 29th ult., on handbells, at the house of Mr. G. Williams, 720 BOB MINOR (non-conducted) in 18½ mins. Dr. W. H. George, 1-2; G. Williams, 3-4; Mrs. G. Williams, 5-6. Also, on the 31st ult., 360 BOB MINOR. W. Selby, 1-2; G. Williams, 3-4; Mrs. G. Williams, 5-6. Conducted by G. Williams.

IRELAND.

(From our Special Correspondent.)

THE Easter Vestries are now being held throughout the Church. At these the parochial accounts are submitted, and churchwardens and select vestries elected for the ensuing year. An attempt was made to get up an anti-Ritualistic cry, but I believe nothing came of it. With our canons and our Church courts, he would be a bold man who would dream of a cross on the Communion Table, or the Eastward Position, or an eucharistic vestment, not to speak of still more heinous offences. Notwithstanding these enactments however, there is a small clique in Dublin who still think they see 'the narrow end of the wedge,' but they do not apparently mark the growth of a strong rationalistic temper among some of the evangelical clergy, which would deal with portions of the Old Testament in a highly critical mood. Strange to say, some of those who think they see Romanised tendencies in some recent utterances on the subject of the Eucharist, are themselves charged with doctrinal looseness of language on the same subject. The ensuing meeting of the General Synod will prove whether the anti-Ritualistic blast will come to any thing. There is certainly no excitement such as the death of the late Canon Portal recalls to mind, when Irish Churchfolk went off their heads on account of *Portal's Manual*, a twopenny tract handed by a Dublin curate to a servant girl, which brought about the revision of the Prayer-book, and lost thousands of pounds to the sustentation of the Church. The probability is that now such a little book as these 'short prayers for those who have little time to pray,' might be circulated without any attention being drawn to it. But it was in vain that at the time the late Archbishop, Dr. Trench, pointed out that there was no teaching in it that was not allowed by the Prayer-book, and certainly the revision of the Prayer-book left things as they were as far as the teaching of the *Manual* went. The Canon has departed this life, but he must often have wondered at the excitement his little book caused on this side of the Channel. His name became better known throughout the length and breadth of the Church than those of her most famous and popular divines. To condemn the *Manual* and denounce 'Ritualism' became the sure passport to popularity and rapid promotion in the Church. No clergyman had a chance who took a sober view of the crisis, and deprecated the excitement. Now, however, a wonderful change has come about, and moderate Churchmen find there is an increasing demand for their services.

The General Synod meets on Tuesday next in the Synod Hall, Christ Church Place. There will be previously a celebration of the Holy Communion in the two cathedrals on Monday evening at eight p.m. There will be an opening service in St. Patrick's National Cathedral, when the sermon will be preached in the presence of the members of the Synod by the Rev. George Salmon, D.D., Provost of Trinity College. His lamented predecessor, the late Provost Jellett, was to have preached the opening sermon on a similar occasion this time last year, but death cut him short. Under these sad circumstances an able and eloquent sermon was preached by Dr. Pakenham Walsh, bishop of Ossory.

On Saturday, the 13th inst., the Rev. Wellesley Leet, D.D., incumbent of Bagginbally, was installed Canon of Christ Church Cathedral in the place of the late Rev. Dr. Ryder. The ceremony was conducted by the Very Rev. the Dean of the Cathedral at the evening service. His Grace the Archbishop and the following members of the chapter were present:—The Rev. Dr. Marrable, treasurer; and Canons Hamilton, D.D.; Morgan Jellett, D.D.; and Henry Hogan, B.D. Evening prayers were intoned by the Rev. J. H. Miles, M.A., residentiary canon, and the lessons were read by the Rev. Dr. Marrable and the Rev. Dr. Hamilton. The Archbishop was attended by his chaplain the Rev. R. Deane Oliver.

I have to announce the death of the Rev. Canon Albert I. MacDonogh, D.D., LL.D., which occurred rather unexpectedly in his rooms in Trinity College, last Saturday week. The *Irish Ecclesiastical Gazette* says of the deceased:—

'He was Prebendary of Monmohenock in St. Patrick's Cathedral, Incumbent of Chapelizod, co. Dublin, and was also Catechetical Lecturer and Examiner in the Theological School of Trinity College. He had been in delicate health for some time previously. Dr. MacDonogh obtained a scholarship at Trinity College, Dublin, in 1857. His collegiate career was a very distinguished one. In 1858 he won the first prize in ecclesiastical history and second in Biblical Greek, together with the Regius Professor of Divinity Prize, entitling him to the Divinity Testimonial. He was ordained for the curacy of Sillorgan in 1858, and in 1860 he removed to the curacy of St. Luke's, Dublin. He subsequently held the curacy of St. Jude's, Inchicore. In 1871 he was appointed to the Incumbency of Chapelizod. The patronage of the canonry in St. Patrick's Cathedral, Dublin, is in the hands of the Dean and Chapter, who may appoint any clergyman they please. Several names are mentioned, among others, that of the Rev. Charles Ovenden, B.D., rector of Enniskillen, who during the time of his suitorship took so deep an interest in the welfare of the Cathedral.'

There are now three parishes vacant in the diocese of Dublin, namely, Malahide with Portmarnock, Coolock, and Chapelizod. The income of each is 216*l.* a-year, and the first and second mentioned parishes have glebe houses,

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

A Narrow Escape in a Belfry.

THE parish church of Cowden, Kent, was seriously damaged by lightning on Tuesday evening, the 9th inst. The spire was struck, and the shock, passing downwards, carried away a large portion of the steeple on the west side and a corner on the east side. The roofing shingles were scattered all over the village. Two gentlemen, examining the bells at the time, had a narrow escape.

A Rededication at St. Peter's, Dorchester, Dorset.

THESE bells were rededicated to the service of Almighty God, on Friday, the 12th inst., by the Ven. the Archdeacon of Dorset, the service according to the special form now in use in the diocese being used at 12.15 p.m. After the blessing had been given, a company of the Selling's Honorary Ringing Guild, of Bridport, rang a short trial peal of rounds; after which, and during the afternoon, they rang several touches, including Queen's, Tittums, &c. The splendid manner in which these bells are rung was evinced by the ease with which they were rung, the 'go' and striking of the bells leaving nothing to be desired. The whole of the work, which included entirely rehanging in cast-iron frame on stout wood beams, with all new fittings, together with the recasting of the three cracked bells, was entrusted to Messrs. Warner & Sons, Cripplegate, London, who, through their foreman, Mr. G. Dunn, have carried out the work in a highly satisfactory manner. The ringers, during the day, were most hospitably entertained at the residence of the parish churchwarden, Mr. M. Lock. The toast of the day, 'The Rector and Churchwardens of St. Peter's,' was suitably proposed by Mr. W. B. Northover, Hon. Sec. of the Bridport Guild, it being gracefully acknowledged by the Rector, the Rev. T. R. Allen, and Mr. Lock. The bells have been fitted with Warner's* patent chiming apparatus.

[* Should this not be 'Ellacombe's'?—Ed. C. B.]

The North Middlesex Association.

THE Quarterly Meeting of this Association was held at Edgware on Friday, the 12th inst., which was highly successful, owing to the excellent arrangements made by Mr. Nuskins. Upwards of thirty members and friends attended. Several peals of GRANDSIRE and BOB DOUBLES were rung, in which the local company took part. A 720 of BOB MINOR was attempted, but was lost owing to the bad 'go' of the bells. These bells having been hung 120 years, and apparently without any substantial repairs during that time, it is hoped that the authorities will soon be able to put them in good ringing order again. A business meeting was afterwards held, presided over by Mr. T. Card, Master for the ensuing year. Five ringing and two honorary members were elected, and it was proposed to hold the next quarterly meeting, if possible, at Barnet, in July, of which further particulars will be announced. Various propositions relating to the advancement of the art in the district were made, and finally a committee was appointed to draw up a circular, setting forth the objects of the Association, to be distributed amongst the clergy and gentlemen interested in Church work. A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the Master for his services as instructor to the Edgware Branch, and to the Rector for the use of the bells.

The Hertfordshire Association of Change-ringers.

ON Easter Monday the above Association met upon their annual gathering at the Cathedral City of St. Albans, about sixty members being present. Mr. Debenham, the secretary, with all good friends, gave them a most hearty welcome. The bells of St. Peter's were rung upon by the Benington Society of Change-ringers, and excellent touches of STEDMAN TRIPLES, DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, and SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR were rung and brought home with musical order, 1036 changes in extent. At St. Ethelburga's, Hatfield, the fine ring of eight bells was rung upon by the Benington Society of Change-ringers, completing 1428 musical changes in the several methods of STEDMAN TRIPLES, DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, and GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, making a total of 2464 changes rung at St. Albans and Hatfield. They arrived home at nine o'clock, much delighted with their happy day's ringing.

[A report of the meeting will appear next week.—Ed.]

The Lancashire Association.

THE Quarterly Meeting will be held on Easter Saturday, April 27th, at St. Peter's Church, Swinton, near Manchester. Ringing from 2 p.m. Meeting in the schools at 6 p.m.

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

A Muffled Peal by the Society of Royal Cumberland Youths.

ON Friday evening, the 12th inst., the bells of St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, Trafalgar Square, London, were rung half-muffled as a mark of respect to the memory of H.R.H. the late Duchess of Cambridge, who was for many years a resident in the royal parish. This half-muffled peal also commemorated the decease of the late Mr. R. Richardson, who was for upwards of sixty years a member of this Society. It will undoubtedly interest our readers to know that this church has just been fitted throughout with electric light, and the belfry is thus illuminated upon each occasion of practice-ringing, and this is the first muffled peal rung here under such conditions.

A Muffled Peal at Raunds, Northamptonshire.

ON Saturday, the 13th inst., on the day of the funeral of the late Duchess of Cambridge, the Raunds Ringers rang a muffled peal to her memory.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At Holy Trinity, Long Melford, Suffolk.

On Wednesday, the 10th inst., eight members of the Essex Association rang a peal of 5040 BOB MAJOR in 3 hrs. 8 mins. N. J. Pitstow (composer and conductor), 1; G. Maxim, 2; S. Slater, 3; A. Symonds, 4; H. Duce, 5; H. Smith, 6; P. C. S. Scott, 7; O. Garwood, 8. Tenor, 16 cwt., in F. This peal, which is now rung for the first time, contains the 4th, 5th, and 6th each twelve times in 6th's place without the 2nd ever dodging with the tenor in 7-8. The peal is in three equal parts, and has a bob at home at every course-end.

At the Parish Church, Feckenham, Worcestershire.

On Saturday, the 13th inst., eight members of the Worcester and Adjoining Districts' Association rang Holt's Ten-part peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 3 hrs. 3 mins. G. Handy,* 1; W. Rea (conductor), 2; G. Hayward, 3; W. James, 4; J. Mason (first peal of TRIPLES), 5; A. Moore, 6; O. James, 7; W. Baylis,* 8. Tenor, 12½ cwt. Messrs. Hayward, Rea, and Brothers James, came from Bromsgrove; Moore, Hanbury; Mason, Stoke Prior; the others, the local company. [* First peal in any method.]

At Christ Church, West Bromwich, Staffordshire.

On Saturday, the 13th inst., ten members of the Society for the Archdeaconry of Stafford rang a peal of 5021 GRANDSIRE CATER in 3 hrs. 13 mins. H. Hipkiss, 1; T. Horton, 2; J. R. Frisby, 3; W. R. Small, 4; S. Reeves, 5; J. Hall, 6; C. Timms, 7; R. Hall, 8; C. Price, 9; W. C. Hall, 10. Composed by Mr. J. Carter, and conducted by Mr. Reeves. Tenor, 23 cwt. W. C. Hall came from Stafford; the rest belong to West Bromwich. This peal has the 6th twenty-four times wrong and right, and the 5th twelve times right.

At the Parish Church, Eye, Suffolk.

On Saturday, the 13th inst., eight members of the Norwich Diocesan Association rang Brooke's Variation of Thurstans' peal of 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES in 3 hrs. 5 mins. W. Motts, 1; G. Day,* 2; I. S. Alexander, 3; W. P. Garrett, 4; F. Day,* 5; G. Murton,* 6; J. Motts (conductor), 7; W. Bumpstead, 8. Tenor, 24 cwt. Messrs. J. and W. Motts, Alexander, and Garrett, are members of the St. Mary-le-Tower Society, Ipswich; the rest belong to the local Society. The above is the first peal in the method on the bells. [*First peal of STEDMAN.]

At St. NICHOLAS', GUILDFORD, SURREY.—On Thursday, the 28th ult., on the occasion of the visit of the Bishop of Guildford, the following members of the Winchester Diocesan Guild rang the first half (2520 changes) of Holt's Ten-part peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 1 hr. 34 mins.:—C. W. Miller, 1; T. H. Colburn, 2; T. Heathorn, 3; E. W. T. Rees, 4; J. J. Jones, 5; F. Bennett (conductor), 6; W. Grove, 7; E. Stone, 8. Tenor, 22½ cwt. This is the first half-peal rung in Guildford by a local branch for many years.

At THE PARISH CHURCH, RAWENTHALL, LANCASHIRE.—Recently, for Divine service, 168 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. J. Harling, 1; J. Ramsbottom, 2; W. Haworth, 3; E. Whittaker, 4; E. Nuttall, 5; J. Smith, 6; J. Rollerson, 7; F. Nowell, 8. And another touch with W. Jemmison, 8. The above is the first attempt by all the band. Tenor, 14 cwt., in F.

At THE PARISH CHURCH, SITTINGBOURNE, KENT.—On Saturday, the 6th inst., the St. Michael's Society, assisted by Messrs. Lindoff and Haigh, from Gillingham, rang a quarter-peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. J. Mann, 1; E. Price, 2; Rev. E. W. Carpenter, 3; G. Lindoff, 4; W. Haigh, 5; C. Willshire, 6; S. Snelling (conductor), 7; J. Jordan, 8. Rung with the bells half muffled as a mark of respect to the late Mr. H. Pearce, of Maidstone.

At THE PARISH CHURCH, FOXEARTH, ESSEX.—On Saturday, the 6th inst., a peal of 5184 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR was to have been attempted; but meeting one short, the following rang on the back six an eighteen-score of Mr. Carter's new method (FORWARD MINOR), this being the first attempt by all the band. S. Slater, 1; C. Sillitoe, 2; W. Gridley, 3; R. Mingay, 4; J. Lee, 5; G. Maxim (conductor), 6. Also some touches of FORWARD MAJOR were afterwards rung on the handbells. And on Sunday, the 7th inst., for morning service, 720 BOB MINOR. G. Maxim, sen., 1; J. Lee, 2; C. Sillitoe, 3; R. Mingay, 4; W. Gridley, 5; G. Maxim, jun. (conductor), 6. Also 300 BOB MINOR. G. Maxim, sen., 1; J. Lee, 2; W. Gridley, 3; R. Mingay, 4; C. Sillitoe, 5; G. Maxim, jun. (conductor), 6.

At CHRIST CHURCH, OLDBURY, WORCESTERSHIRE.—On Saturday, the 6th inst., an attempt was made for a muffled peal of STEDMAN TRIPLES, in memory of the late John Bright, but, owing to the shortness of time, the bells were stopped at half-way in 1 hr. 15 mins. S. Reeves (conductor), 1; W. Cheshire, 2; E. Goodreds, 3; T. Horton, 4; G. Hughes, 5; W. R. Small, 6; B. Hall, 7; J. Hall, 8. Also 350 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. J. W. Sayers, 1; S. Reeves (conductor), 2; W. R. Small, 3; E. Goodreds, 4; W. Cheshire, 5; T. Horton, 6; B. Hall, 7; J. Hall, 8.

At St. BARTHOLOMEW'S, HORLEY, SUSSEX.—On Sunday, the 7th inst., for evening service, a touch of 504 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 16 mins. W. Wallis, 1; W. Edwards, 2; T. Whitmore, 3; A. Comber,* 4; T. Kenward, 5; T. Sparks (conductor), 6; J. Taylor, 7; J. Hedgecock,* 8. Also on Thursday evening, the 11th inst., a quarter-peal (1260) of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 42 mins. E. Taylor (first quarter-peal) 1; W. Edwards, 2; T. Whitmore, 3; J. Taylor, 4; E. Dewey, 5; J. Kenward, 6; T. Sparks (first quarter-peal as conductor) 7; A. Sparks, 8. Tenor, 14 cwt. [* First 504.]

At THE PARISH CHURCH, BISHOP'S STORTFORD, ESSEX.—On Sunday, the 7th inst., for Divine service, 504 BOB TRIPLES. T. Newman, 1; F. Harris (first 500), 2; H. J. Tucker, 3; F. W. Chapman, 4; G. Prior, 5; H. Prior, 6; P. Springham, 7; G. Cowling (first 500), 8. And on Thursday, the

11th inst., for practice, 167 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. T. Newman, 1; W. Prior, 2; H. Prior, 3; P. Springham, 4; G. Prior, 5; F. W. Chapman, 6; H. J. Tucker (conductor), 7; G. Cowling 8. Also 720 KENT TREBLE BOB. H. Prior, 1; W. Prior, 2; F. W. Chapman, 3; G. Prior, 4; P. Springham, 5; H. J. Tucker (conductor), 6. Members of the Essex Association, with the exception of Messrs. Cowling and Harris.

At St. LUKE'S, GREAT CROSBY, LANCASHIRE.—On Sunday evening, the 7th inst., for Divine service, 720 GRANDSIRE MINOR in 26 mins. W. Hale, 1; J. Howard (conductor), 2; J. Sefton, 3; J. R. Pritchard, 4; J. Roughley, 5; J. Hale, 6. Tenor, 10½ cwt.

At St. JOHN'S, HACKNEY, MIDDLESEX.—On Tuesday, the 9th inst., a quarter-peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES (1260 changes), in 50 mins. J. Davidson, 1; J. Carmichael, 2; W. B. Manning, 3; T. Page (conductor), 4; G. Page, 5; W. Burkin, 6; H. T. Scarlett, 7; W. D. Smith, 8. This was rung in commemoration of the golden wedding of the parents of the Rector, the Rev. F. E. Gardiner.

At GREAT MARLOW, BUCKS.—Handbell-ringing.—On Wednesday, the 10th inst., at the residence of Mr. Truss, 720 GRANDSIRE MINOR. C. Smith, 1-2; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 3-4; J. C. Truss, jun., 5-6. Also 360 BOB MINOR and 252 STEDMAN TRIPLES with J. C. Truss, sen., 7-8.

At St. MARY-THE-VIRGIN'S, STANSTEAD, ESSEX.—On Thursday, the 11th inst., for practice, 720 BOB MINOR (eighteen singles, three bobs) in 24½ mins. J. Cavill, 1; T. J. Watts (first 720 with a bob bell), 2; I. Hammond, 3; G. Gray, 4; J. Luckey, 5; I. Cavill (conductor), 6. And a plain course each of the following methods:—DOUBLE OXFORD, OXFORD BOB, DOUBLE COURT, PLAIN BOB MINOR, COLLEGE SINGLE, KENT and OXFORD TREBLE BOB. J. Cavill, 1; W. Watts, 2; J. Luckey, 3; G. Gray, 4; I. Hammond, 5; I. Cavill, 6. And on Sunday, the 14th inst., for morning service, 600 PLAIN BOB MINOR. T. J. Watts, 1; J. Luckey, 2; I. Cavill, 3; G. Gray, 4; I. Hammond, 5; W. Watts (conductor), 6. For afternoon service, 540 in the following methods:—KENT and OXFORD TREBLE BOB, PLAIN BOB MINOR, DOUBLE COURT, COLLEGE SINGLE, OXFORD BOB, DOUBLE OXFORD. T. J. Watts, 1; W. Watts, 2; J. Luckey, 3; G. Gray, 4; I. Hammond, 5; I. Cavill (conductor), 6. Tenor, 13 cwt.

At St. PETER'S, HINDLEY, LANCASHIRE.—On Saturday, the 13th inst., the local company, assisted by E. Bentham of Wigan, rang, with the bells muffled at hand-stroke, the first half of Holt's Ten-part peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES (2520 changes), in 1 hr. 29 mins. (called the reverse way), as a mark of respect to the late Mrs. Ryle, wife of the Lord Bishop of Liverpool. T. Tickle, 1; E. Brown, 2; J. Brown, 3; R. Calland, 4; E. Prescott, 5; E. Bentham, 6; J. Prescott (conductor), 7; G. Lang, 8. Tenor, 14 cwt. 1 qr.

At St. GEORGE'S, GRAVESEND, KENT.—On Saturday evening, the 13th inst., with the bells muffled, the usual whole-pull and stand, as a mark of respect to the late Mr. H. Pearce, of Maidstone. Also 504 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. L. Digweed, 1; F. Hayes, 2; H. D. Davies, 3; J. Broom, 4; B. Spinner, 5; G. Lindoff, R.E. (conductor), 6; G. Hayes, 7; C. Waters, 8.

At THE PARISH CHURCH, WANDSWORTH, SURREY.—On Saturday evening, the 13th inst., with the bells half muffled, being the occasion of the Duchess of Cambridge's funeral, a quarter-peal of STEDMAN TRIPLES in 46 mins. W. E. Garrard, 1; G. T. McLaughlin, 2; C. F. Winny (conductor), 3; J. M. Hayes, 4; J. W. Driver, 5; W. T. Cockerill, 6; J. W. Kelly (first quarter-peal of STEDMAN), 7; S. How, 8. Tenor, 16 cwt. 3 qrs.

At THE ABBEY, BATH.—On Saturday, the 13th inst., 1260 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, on the back eight, in 53 mins., with the bells half muffled, as a mark of respect to the late Duchess of Cambridge. W. Lanham, 1; G. Temple, 2; J. Holman, 3; J. Smith, 4; H. Wotton, 5; J. Wotton, 6; H. Brown (first quarter-peal and first as conductor), 7; N. Wake and A. Crocker, 8. The above contains the twelve 6-7's and the twelve 7-4's.

At St. MARY'S, LANCASTER.—On Sunday, the 14th inst., for evening service, 1020 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 25 mins. R. S. Hirst (conductor), 1; W. Clayton, 2; R. Walker, 3; T. G. Parker, 4; H. Wilcock, 5; R. Holiday, 6; W. Jackson, 7; G. Winn, 8. It was rung as a farewell touch to one of the ringers, Robert Holiday, who is leaving for Canada.

At St. STEPHEN'S, WESTMINSTER, LONDON.—On Sunday, the 14th inst., for Divine service in the evening, 1248 of DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB in 49 mins. E. Gibbs, 1; G. T. McLaughlin, 2; J. N. Oxborrow, 3; H. R. Newton, 4; E. Carter, 5; E. Pemberton, 6; F. G. Newman, 7; J. M. Hayes (conductor), 8.

At THE PARISH CHURCH, HIGH WYCOMBE, BUCKS.—On the 14th inst., 120 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES. H. Markham, 1; W. Smith, 2; F. Biggs, 3; R. Biggs, 4; A. W. Tubb (conductor), 5; B. Page, 6. The ringers of the 3rd, 4th, and 6th belong to the Hugghenden Society.

At SWANSCOMBE, KENT.—On Sunday, the 14th inst., for Divine service in the evening, 720 BOB MINOR. H. Digby, 1; L. Digweed, 2; W. Jackson, 3; F. King, 4; G. Hayes, 5; W. Harper (conductor), 6.

RECEIVED ALSO.—E. P. Debenham (next week); and others.

A HUMANE TELEPHONE.—People who suffer from Deafness and noises in the head will be glad to hear that an eminent Antral Specialist of London has hit upon a cure which is said to be absolutely efficacious, and may be applied at the patient's home. It is a miniature telephone, which fits inside the ear. It is not only a producer of sound, but also a cure for the distressing noises in the head. Being comfortable to wear, it will no doubt be a boon to mankind. A pamphlet describing its construction is printed, and may be had from the publisher, 21 Bedford Square, London, W.C. Price 3d.—[Advt.]

bands of music and deputations, will meet the prelates at Turn Severin, and will bring them in triumph to Belgrade. It is believed that the government of Serbia have made some secret concessions to the Archbishop.

TURKEY.

On the 27th ult., the Armenian Patriarch was admitted to an audience with the Sultan, and expressed to His Majesty renewed assurances of the devotion and fidelity of his Armenian subjects. The recent references in the press, and especially the remarks of the *Times* as to the condition of the Armenians, are thought to have had some connexion with this.

ITALY.

MONSIGNOR BONOMELLI, bishop of Cremona, has publicly avowed himself to be the author of the article which recently appeared in the *Rassegna Nazionale*, entitled 'Rome, Italy, and the Reality of Things,' and seeking to demonstrate the impossibility of a restoration of the temporal power. The article was censured and forbidden by the Pope. The Bishop has now expressed to his holiness his regret at its publication.

FATHER AGOSTINO concluded his course of Lenten sermons in the church of San Carlo, in the Corso, Rome, on the 23rd ult., by invoking the blessing of heaven upon the Pope, the princes of the Church, the priests, the country, the king, the ministers, and the national army, whose duty it was to defend the country. The Father was summoned before the Cardinal-Vicar on the 26th ult., and, it is said, was severely reproached for the language he used on this occasion.

GERMANY.

THE Old Catholic cause is thriving remarkably at Munich. At Easter the communicants in the church recently erected were so numerous that the newly confirmed had to be placed inside the rails close to the altar. During the present year thirty heads of families have been enrolled, many of them being cases of mixed marriage. A second new church is talked of, a Protestant lady of that city having just bequeathed a legacy. At Bonn last month Bishop Reinkens ordained to the diaconate a graduate from Silesia. Generally throughout Prussian Germany the *Deutscher Merkur* reports satisfactory progress.

SPAIN.

SEVILLE CATHEDRAL is in such a ruinous state that the Minister of Public Works has appointed a commission to report on its condition and the best plans for rebuilding it. Last year some of the pillars were found to be in an unsafe state, and some attempts were then made to repair them. Most of the pillars are now discovered to be in a very bad condition. It is estimated that 400,000*l.* will be required to properly restore the building. The Spanish Government are said to be inclined to ask for assistance from the State, as the subscription started in 1888 by the Queen Regent has not been very successful.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Annual Meeting of the Herts Association at St. Albans.

THE Annual Meeting of this Association was held on Easter Monday, when there were present the Ven. Archdeacon Laurance, the rector of the Abbey; Canon Wigram, rector of St. Andrew's, Hertford; the Rev. H. N. Dudding, vicar of St. Peter's; the Rev. Lord William Cecil, rector of Hatfield; the Revs. P. Deeds, G. H. P. Glossop, and T. T. Blockley; and about forty ringers. During the morning and afternoon, touches of SUPPLEMENTARY MAJOR, DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, BOB MAJOR, STEDMAN TRIPLES, and GRANDSIRE CATERS and TRIPLES were rung at St. Peter's, and STEDMAN and GRANDSIRE TRIPLES at the Cathedral. At 12.45 p.m. a short service was held in the Lady Chapel, when the Archdeacon delivered an address; and the reverend gentleman afterwards presided at the dinner at the 'Peahen' Hotel. After dinner the Secretary explained that the cause of the absence of the worthy President was the recent death of a near relative, which announcement was received with regret. The minutes of the last district meeting having been confirmed, the Secretary was called on for his report, which was then read.

THE REPORT.—'In presenting my first report as Secretary of this Association before the members, I feel I have cause to congratulate them upon the record. There are now eighty-one enrolled ringing members (besides three others whose provisional election will be brought forward at this meeting for confirmation) comprising sixty-five resident and sixteen non-resident. During the ten months which have elapsed since I was elected to my office, there have been twenty-eight peals rung by the Association, viz., eighteen on tower bells and ten on handbells, all the latter being accomplished at St. Albans. There have been district meetings held at Hatfield on June 16th, at Baldock on October 13th, and at Hertford on February 23rd, which were ~~very well attended~~. In accordance with a resolution passed at the Hatfield meeting, I, in company with my brother officers, went through and revised the then existing rules, the alterations being adopted by the members at the next district meeting. I have to bring before you the balance-sheet for the period that I have acted as Secretary, which shows a balance in hand of 4*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.* against 4*l.* 1*s.* in the last account, so that the income has just covered the expenditure. As regards the progress of change-ringing in the county I think that the peal-book is not a bad index; but at the same time the bands at St. Peter's, St. Albans, and Hatfield, are especially marked as coming into prominence, and I think that useful work is being done both at Sawbridgeworth and Baldock; but I should be failing in my duty in not mentioning the band at Benington, which maintains its high position in the ringing world, the Hertford College Youths, and also the Cathedral Society,

St. Albans; and I see in the ringing newspapers accounts of good performances at Bishop's Stortford under the conductorship of Mr. Tucker. It would be very desirable that change-ringing should be taken up more than it is on the western side of the county, as, with the exception of Oxhey, it is practically unknown. I know it is easier to point out a blot than to remedy it; and one of the difficulties in the way seems to be the want of a central line of railway to connect the two sides; as the absence of such communication prevents access, or at all events makes it difficult, to districts which might ultimately repay a visit. If sufficient support should be forthcoming to the Association I think that an allowance might be made under certain conditions towards travelling expenses when incurred for the purpose of instructing young bands desirous to learn the art, even if the question of a paid instructor could not be entertained.'

The balance-sheet showed the total receipts to be 9*l.* 4*s.*, and total expenditure 5*l.* 1*s.* 6*d.* Balance in hand, 4*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.*

On the proposition of Mr. Haworth, seconded by Mr. Buckingham, the report and balance-sheet were received and adopted. The provisional elections of Mr. E. Cains, of Hunsdon, and Messrs. T. Gathard and W. E. Powers, of Hatfield, as members, were confirmed, and the following new members were duly elected:—Messrs. N. N. Hills, T. Grant, E. J. Mitchell, and E. R. Mitchell, of St. Albans; Messrs. E. Bray, J. Craft, and A. Thurgood, of Baldock; and Mr. J. Shepherd, of Hatfield. Mr. Haworth proposed, and Mr. Chapman seconded, the re-election of Mr. Proctor as president; Mr. Lewis proposed, and Mr. J. W. Brewer seconded, the re-election of Mr. Debenham as secretary; and Mr. J. C. Mitchell proposed, and Mr. Waddington seconded, the re-election of Mr. Fowler as auditor. Canon Wigram brought forward a motion with regard to entering notable peals in the appendix to the peal-book, which was seconded by Mr. Crawley, but an amendment being proposed by Mr. Mitchell, seconded by Mr. Buckingham, some conversation ensued which terminated in the following resolution:—'That peals of exceptional merit, rung by bands some members of which belong to the Association, be entered in the appendix to the peal-book upon permission being received at any meeting;' and the Secretary was subsequently authorised to enter the long peal of STEDMAN CATERS rung at Appleton on the 31st December. The next district meeting was arranged to be at Hitchin in June. Mr. Mitchell called the members' attention to the letter from Mr. Heywood, published in last week's ringing newspapers, respecting the proposed formation of a Central Council of Change-ringing Associations, but at the Chairman's suggestion the further consideration of the same was postponed to a future meeting. Votes of thanks having been accorded to the Chairman for his address and for presiding at the meeting, and to the Secretary for his services, the business meeting terminated. Ringing was then resumed in the two towers, which continued until six o'clock, when there seemed to be a universal desire to call 'stand.' A peal of BOB TRIPLES was rung on handbells in the evening by Messrs. Barnes, Cartmel, Buckingham, and Battle, while at St. Peter's the handbells were kept going for some time in touches.

The Oxford Diocesan Guild.—East Berks and South Bucks Branch.

A QUARTERLY MEETING of this branch was held at Beaconsfield on Easter Monday, at which a large number of persons, chiefly from Boyne Hill and Marlow, were present, and several well-struck touches of TRIPLES and DOUBLES were rung both at Beaconsfield and Woodburn. The business meeting was held in the Church House, Beaconsfield, and was presided over by the Branch President, Rev. A. H. Drummond, vicar of Boyne Hill. Amongst other items it was resolved to hold the next meeting at Wycombe and Hughenden on Whit Monday, if permission could be obtained. The President expressed his satisfaction at meeting the members present at Beaconsfield, and hoped that the local ringers might be induced to rejoin the Oxford Guild in connexion with their own branch. Votes of thanks to the Rector (Rev. C. H. Cholmeley), for the use of the belfry and the Church House, and to the President for presiding, were carried unanimously. The members brought a pleasant and successful outing to a satisfactory conclusion by meeting at tea in Beaconsfield, previous to returning to their respective localities.

Lancashire Association.—Liverpool Diocesan Branch.

THE meeting of the above fixed for May 11th is unavoidably postponed until Saturday, May 18th, at the Parish Church, Wigan. Further particulars next week.

J. R. PRITCHARD, Branch Secretary.

40 Lowther Street, Liverpool.

The Lancashire Association.—Rochdale Branch.

A MEETING of the above branch will be held at All Saints' Church, Hamer, Rochdale, on Saturday, May 4th. The nearest station is Wardsworth, near the church. Bells ready at two p.m. Meeting in the schoolroom near the church from five p.m.

F. BIRTWISTLE, Branch Secretary.

Salisbury Diocesan Guild.

THE Annual Meeting will be held at Warminster, on Wednesday, May 8th. Service in St. Denys' Church at 11.45 a.m.; meeting for election of officers, and other business, in St. Denys' Schools at 12.30; dinner in the Town Hall at 1.15 p.m.

J. R. JERRAM, General Secretary.

The Surrey Association.

A QUARTERLY MEETING was held at Camberwell, by the kind permission of the Vicar, on Easter Monday, April 22nd. A considerable number of members mustered in the afternoon, and from three to five o'clock the bells of St. Giles's were sounding merrily in touches of GRANDSIRE CATERS and TRIPLES. After the five o'clock service more members arrived, and at six o'clock a party of thirty-eight sat down to tea at the Surrey Masonic Hall. At the subsequent business meeting eight new members were elected, and it was agreed to hold

the next District Meeting at Mitcham, and the Annual Meeting at Reigate. After the disposal of the business the majority of the members made their way back to the tower, and indulged in touches of STEDMAN, GRANDSIRE, and TREBLE BOB. Members attending the meeting came from the following districts:—Beddington, Carshalton, Croydon, Mitcham, Kingston, Reigate, Streatham, and various parts of London.

ARTHUR B. CARPENTER, *Hon. Sec.*

Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association.

MEMBERS are informed that the *Annual Report* for 1888 is in the hands of the printers, and will be issued very shortly. Those members who have already paid their subscriptions, will kindly inquire of their respective local secretaries for copies, and others will be supplied on payment of their subscriptions. The local secretaries are the same as last year, with the exception that Mr. F. Nicholson, Alstone, Cheltenham, supplants Mr. F. E. Ward as local secretary for the Cirencester, Cheltenham, and Winchcombe Deaneries.

Major Vicarage, Mon.

PITT EYKEN, *Hon. Sec.*

Rochdale and District Association.

THE above Society's next Quarterly Meeting will be held at Todmorden, on Saturday, May 4th, in the schoolroom. Meeting at five. Bells will be at the disposal of ringers from three o'clock. All subscriptions are now due.

Ely Diocesan Association.

NOTICE is hereby given that a meeting of the above Association will be held at Soham, Cambridgeshire, on June 10th (Whit Monday), when the favour of the attendance of all members and persons interested in the Association is requested. (N.B.—Ten bells.) K. H. SMITH, *Hon. Sec.*

Cambridge Road, Ely.

Kent County Association.

A DISTRICT MEETING was held at Elham on Easter Monday, April 22nd, attended by forty-four members. The neighbouring church of Lyminge was visited, and some good ringing done at both places; some of the members also visited Folkestone. The Committee admitted a number of new members. The bells at Elham have been put into thorough order by Messrs. Warner, and now go very well.

Society for the Archdeaconry of Stafford.

THE Quarterly Meeting in connexion with the above Society was held on the 20th ult. at Sedgley, when the following places were represented:—West Bromwich, Perry Barr, Wombourne, Wednesbury, Wolverhampton, Darlaston, Willenhall, Tipton, and Coseley. Ringing commenced at three o'clock, and was kept up during the afternoon and evening in the GRANDSIRE, STEDMAN, and KENT TREBLE BOB methods. A short service was held at five o'clock, and a committee meeting afterwards, when five tower elections were ratified, and it was decided to hold the Annual Meeting at Lichfield on the 29th June.

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 be held on Friday, May 10th, 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.

Cambridge Chimes at Douglas, Isle of Man.

A COMPLETE set of Cambridge chimes and chiming machinery has just been fixed at St. Thomas's Church by John Smith & Sons, Midland Clock Works, Derby. The same firm made the clock and chimes at Peel Church.

The Death of an Aged Ringer.

MR. GILES MANSFIELD, of Stroud, Gloucestershire, was probably the oldest bell-ringer in the country. He was born October, 1792, and first rang at Painswick, near Stroud, in 1805, his last appearance being at Stroud, in 1882, on his ninetieth birthday. Mr. Mansfield died last April, aged ninety-seven.

A Correction.

SIR,—In the announcement of the decease of Mr. Robert Richardson, made in *Church Bells* of the 18th ult., it is stated that 'the funeral took place on Thursday, the 4th inst., at Southgate Cemetery.' I beg to state that no person of the name of Richardson has been buried in *Southgate Cemetery* during the present year.

ARTHUR CHAMPION, *Clerk and Registrar.*

CHANGE-RINGING.

At Holy Trinity, Privett, Hampshire.

ON Easter Monday, the 22nd ult., the following members of the Winchester Diocesan Guild rang 5040 PLAIN BOB TRIPLES (Annable's composition) in 2 hrs. 50 mins. G. Instrel (first peal), 1; J. Staples, 2; J. Hewett, 3; C. Tribe,* 4; G. Batts, 5; W. Selby,* 6; G. Williams (conductor), 7; W. Irish, 8. Tenor, 12½ cwt. in F. First peal in the method on the bells. [* First peal of TRIPLES.]

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

ON Monday, the 22nd ult., eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang Brooke's Variation of Thurstan's peal of 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES in 3 hrs. 5 mins. J. Pettit (conductor), 1; M. A. Wood, 2; W. S. Wise, 3; F. E. Dawe, 4; A. A. Clements, 5; W. W. Gifford, 6; T. Blackburn, 7; A. G. Goddard, 8. Tenor, 14 cwt. Messrs. Clements, Gifford, Blackburn, and Goddard, came from Salisbury.

At St. Mary's, Cheltenham.

ON Monday, the 22nd ult., ten members of the Gloucester and Bristol Association rang a peal of 15,227 GRANDSIRE CATERS in 9 hrs. 43 mins. F. Musty, 1; G. H. Phillott, 2; S. Reeves, 3; H. Roberts, 4; F. E. Ward, 5; C. H. Hattersley, 6; W. Plant, 7; W. T. Pates, 8; T. Reynolds, 9; A. Humphreys, 10. Composed by Mr. H. Johnson, sen., and conducted by Mr. Pates. Tenor, 22 cwt. The above is the longest peal ever rung on ten bells in any method, and it may also be added is the longest time that any set of ringers have stood to ring. Mr. J. Belcher, the captain of the local band, remained in the church the whole time as umpire and attested the truth of the peal. This is the first peal of GRANDSIRE CATERS conducted by Mr. Pates.

At the Parish Church, Tenterden, Kent.

ON Monday, the 22nd ult., eight members of the Kent County Association rang Cox's Six-part peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 3 hrs. 3 mins. A. Hinds, 1; W. E. Pope, 2; R. Edwards, 3; J. G. Tillman, 4; F. Palmer, 5; A. E. Nunn (conductor) 6; G. Neve, 7; T. G. Colvin, 8. Tenor, 30 cwt., in D. Messrs. Pope, Tillman, Palmer, and Colvin, came from Staplehurst; and the above is the quickest peal on the bells.

At St. Edward's, Romford, Essex.

ON Monday, the 22nd ult., eight members of the Essex Association rang Holt's Original peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 52 mins. L. W. Copsey, 1; A. J. Perkins (conductor), 2; G. Roughton (first peal), 3; W. Pegrum, 4; W. Nash, 5; M. L. Myhill, 6; G. Newson, 7; S. James, 8. Tenor, 17½ cwt.

At the Parish Church, Arundel, Sussex.

ON Monday, the 22nd ult., eight members of the Sussex County Association rang a peal of 5040 CANTERBURY PLEASURE TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 38 mins. W. Twigg,* 1; F. Luxford,* 2; C. Blackman, 3; T. Andrews, 4; W. Charman (composer), 5; W. Short, 6; H. Chandler (conductor), 7; A. Mills, 8. Tenor, 14½ cwt. [* First peal in the method.]

At St. Albans, Herts.

ON Monday, the 22nd ult., four members of the Hertfordshire Association rang, on handbells retained in hand, Holt's Six-part peal of 5040 BOB TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 21 mins. A. Barnes, 1-2; G. W. Cartmell, 3-4; W. H. L. Buckingham (conductor), 5-6; W. Battle, 7-8. Umpire, Mr. T. Grant. Rung on the occasion of the conductor's twenty-third birthday.

At St. Mary's, Putney, Surrey.

ON Wednesday, the 24th ult., eight members of the St. James's Society rang Thurstan's peal of 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 55 mins. F. G. Newman, 1; Rev. F. J. O. Helmore, 2; O. F. Winny (conductor), 3; W. E. Garrard, 4; W. W. Thorne, 5; W. T. Cockerill, 6; J. W. Kelly (first peal of STEDMAN), 7; T. H. Beams (first peal), 8. Mr. Beams came from Sleaford; Rev. F. J. O. Helmore, Canterbury.

At St. Martin's, Birmingham.

ON Wednesday, the 24th ult., twelve members of the St. Martin's Guild rang a peal of 5019 STEDMAN CINQUES in 3 hrs. 35 mins. J. W. Cartwright, 1; T. Russam, 2; W. E. Smith, 3; H. Bastable, 4; T. Reynolds, 5; B. Witchell, 6; Rev. F. E. Robinson (first peal on twelve bells), 7; J. Plant, 8; W. Kent, 9; C. Stanbridge, 10; J. W. Washbrook, 11; H. Johnson, jun., 12. Tenor, 36 cwt., in C. Composed by Mr. C. H. Hattersley and conducted by Mr. Washbrook.

At All Saints', Ryde, Isle of Wight.

ON Thursday, the 25th ult., Holt's Ten-part peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES was rung in 3 hrs. 9 mins. J. Norris, 1; O. Coombes, 2; W. Ward, 3; W. Jennings, 4; H. Jennings, 5; R. Ward, 6; G. Williams (conductor), 7; A. Ward, 8. Rung on the occasion of the wedding of Miss Poole, daughter of the Vicar of this church. First peal by all (except the conductor), who belong to the local band.

At St. Lawrence's, Appleton, Berks.

ON Friday, the 26th ult., eight members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild rang a peal of 5088 SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR in 3 hrs. 3 mins. F. White, 1; Rev. F. J. O. Helmore, 2; Rev. C. D. P. Davies, 3; C. Hounslow, 4; W. Bennett, 5; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 6; G. Hollifield, 7; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 8.

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

ON Saturday, the 27th ult., eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang a peal of 8896 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR in 6 hrs. 5 mins. J. Pettit, 1; H. R. Newton, 2; J. N. Oxborrow, 3; G. T. McLaughlin, 4; C. F. Winny, 5; E. Pemberton (Ipswich), 6; E. Horrex, 7; J. M. Hayes, 8. Composed by Mr. Harrison and conducted by Mr. Hayes. Tenor, 25 cwt. This composition, the extent with the tenors together, is the longest peal on this grand ring of bells, and was rung to celebrate the anniversary of the birth of the Baroness Burdett-Coutts, the founder of the church.

CANON JACOB ON 'VINO SACRO.'—'I am delighted to hear of the successful success of "Vino Sacro." It is by far the best sacramental wine I know.'—*The Morning Hicks & Co., 27 George Street, Plymouth.* Established 80 years. New edition (86 pp.) post free on application. Half Bottle sent paid for 2s. 6d., or the Bottle for 3s. 6d.—[Adv.]

£20.—TOBACCONISTS COMMENCING.—Write to-day for Illustrated Guide how to open a Shop respectably, £20 to £1000 (post free). TOBACCONISTS' OUTFITS, Braimes' Buildings, 11 Beech Street, London, E.C. HENRY MYERS, Manager.—[Adv.]

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

The Worcestershire and Adjoining Districts' Change-ringing Association.

On Easter Monday the Annual Meeting of this Association was held, by kind permission of the President, the Very Rev. the Dean of Worcester, in the Chapter House. The meeting was well attended, upwards of seventy members being present from the various companies in union, viz., Areley Kings, Bromsgrove, Brierley Hill, Belbroughton, Chaddesley, Cradley, Croome, Cosleley, Dudley, Hanbury, Hagley, Hanley Castle, Kidderminster, Malvern, Netherton, Stourbridge, Stoke, Tipton, Wollaston, Worcester, &c. The chair was occupied by the Rev. Professor Creighton, LL.D., canon in residence, supported by the Revs. W. R. Carr, St. John's, Worcester, and W. C. Gibbs, St. John's, Hagley; Messrs. J. Smith, Hon. Sec.; S. Spittle, Master; E. Crump, Hon. Treasurer. In opening the proceedings, the rev. chairman said it gave them (the Dean and Chapter) very great pleasure to place at the disposal of such an important body of Church workers the mother church of the diocese for the purpose of holding their annual meeting, and gave them a hearty welcome to the city of Worcester. The minutes of the last annual meeting having been read and confirmed, the annual report of the Committee was read, and, with a slight alteration, was passed, the Rev. W. R. Carr expressing his great satisfaction as to the way the work of the Association was being carried out. In accordance with notice of motion given by the Master, Mr. S. Spittle, in reference to a central council of change-ringing associations being formed, he moved, and H. B. Kingsford, Esq., seconded, the resolution adopted at the Birmingham gathering. Carried unanimously. Several honorary and performing members were added to the roll, including the Revs. Canon Creighton (Worcester) and H. Fowler (Bromsgrove), Messrs. C. Parkes (Dudley), H. Reeves (London), as hon. members, and Mr. J. W. Washbrook (O. D. Guild), and other performing members. The following officers were re-elected:—President: the Rev. Dr. Gott, Dean of Worcester. Vice-Presidents: Canon Cattley and the Rev. W. R. Carr. Lay Vice-Presidents: Messrs. J. Naylor (Dudley), and H. B. Kingsford (Worcester). Master: Mr. S. Spittle (Dudley). Hon. Secretary: Mr. J. Smith (Netherton). Hon. Treasurer: Mr. E. Crump (Bromsgrove). The Management Committee are the Revs. Canon Claughton, Canon Creighton, W. C. Gibbs, S. G. Marriot, and E. W. Tibbits, with one representative from each company in union. A new ring of handbells, twenty-four in number, which have been presented to the Association by a native of the 'Faithful City,' were opened at this meeting, and a course of *GRANDSIRE* CATERs rung upon them for the first time in the Chapter House. A hearty vote of thanks to the rev. chairman brought the most numerously attended meeting of the Association to a close. The members afterwards met at the house of Mr. J. Perks, 'Pack-horse' Hotel, where the rest of the evening was spent in ringing courses of *GRANDSIRE* CATERs and *TRIPLES* on the new handbells, which are of perfect make and tone, reflecting great credit on the founders. Ringing was freely indulged in by the members of the Association during the day at the various towers in the city, and a very enjoyable day was spent by all present.

The Midland Counties' Association.

THE SEVENTH Annual Meeting of this Association was held at Derby on Easter Monday, the 22nd ult., the President (A. Percival Heywood, Esq.) in the chair. There were also present Mr. William Wakley, Hon. Treasurer; Mr. Joseph Griffin, Hon. Sec.; the Rev. Robert Hey, vicar of St. Andrew's, Derby; and the Rev. F. H. Bravem, vicar of St. Paul's, Burton-on-Trent; together with about seventy members from Ashby-de-la-Zouch, Birmingham, Burton, Beeston, Derby, Duffield, Leicester, Leeds, Long Eaton, Loughborough, Melbourne, Nottingham, and Sandiacre.

The President (after the minutes of the last meeting were read and passed) delivered his annual address; and after referring to the Report for 1888, which was placed in the hands of members that day, stated that twenty-one peals had been rung during the first quarter of the year in eleven methods, viz.:—*DUFFIELD ROYAL*, 1; *KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL*, 1; *STEDMAN CATERs*, 3; *LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR*, 1; *SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE*, 1; *DOUBLE NORWICH*, 4; *DOUBLE OXFORD*, 1; *BOB MAJOR*, 2; *OXFORD BOB TRIPLES*, 1; *STEDMAN*, 2; *GRANDSIRE TRIPLES*, 4; and heartily congratulated Mr. John W. Taylor, jun., on the success of his week's ringing in the Midlands; and also the Nuneaton band on their scoring their first peal of *GRANDSIRE TRIPLES*.

Mr. Maskery proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the retiring officers for their services during the past year, which was seconded by Mr. Jaggar, and acknowledged by the Hon. Treasurer. The election of officers for 1889-90 was then proceeded with, and the following were unanimously re-elected, viz.:—President, A. Percival Heywood, Esq.; Hon. Treasurer, Mr. William Wakley; Hon. Sec., Mr. Joseph Griffin. Mr. Griffin, on thanking the members for their kindness in re-electing him for the seventh time as Hon. Sec., stated that he had seriously contemplated giving up at that meeting, in consequence of not receiving the help and support from the districts and conductors of peals he had a right to expect. He stated that the work connected with the report increased each year; everything was left to him to prepare, whereas great assistance might be given by the local officers in each district, and unless that assistance was given in the future he most certainly should persist in retiring at the next annual meeting.

The President proposed, 'That this meeting is of opinion that great benefit would accrue to the exercise if a committee consisting of one or more selected members from each Association could meet from time to time to decide such ringing matters as are a cause of perplexity.' This was seconded by the Hon. Sec., and after a lengthy discussion as to the proposed working

of such a council, it was unanimously carried. It was decided to hold the first quarterly meeting of the year at Burton-on-Trent, which will, if possible, take place at the end of June. Votes of thanks to the clergy and churchwardens for kindly placing their bells at the disposal of the Association, and to the Chairman for presiding, brought a very successful meeting to a close. One honorary and thirteen ringing members were unanimously elected.

The North Lincolnshire Association.

THE Annual Meeting of this Association was held at Lincoln on Saturday, the 27th ult., at which there was a larger attendance than in previous years. During the afternoon touches were indulged in by the visitors on the bells of St. Peter-at-Arches and St. Peter-at-Gowts Churches, and at five o'clock all had assembled at the Guild Court, when upwards of seventy sat down to a tea. This being over, the business meeting commenced. S. F. Hood, Esq., Nettleham Hall, vice-president for the Lincoln Centre, occupied the chair in the absence of the President, the Very Rev. the Dean, and was supported by the Rev. Precentor Venables and F. F. Linley, Esq. (vice-president for the Gainsborough Centre). He read a letter which had been received from the Rev. Canon Andrews (vice-president) Claxley Rectory, stating that he was unable to attend owing to a heavy bereavement in the death of his wife. On the motion of the Chairman a vote of sympathy with him in his trouble was unanimously accorded.

The report for the past year was read by the Secretary, showing that the Association had made good progress, as forty-four new members had been enrolled, making the total membership 131, and that three peals had been rung, as previous to the last year only one peal had been achieved during the existence of the Association. It was decided that Grimsby be considered a centre of the Association, and for this centre the Rev. Canon J. P. Young, vicar of Grimsby, was elected vice-president. At this meeting twenty new members were elected, and six probationers were passed as efficient members. Grimsby was the place decided upon to hold the July quarterly meeting. Amongst the visitors who favoured this meeting with their presence we noticed T. H. Holditch and N. E. Snow, Esqs., Sleaford, and Messrs. C. Jackson, W. Southwick, and J. Dixey, of Hull. During the evening there was good ringing on the Cathedral and on other bells by mixed bands.

Lancashire Association.—Liverpool Diocesan Branch.

THE next meeting of the above will be held at the Parish Church, Wigan, on Saturday, May 18th. Bells ready at 2 p.m. Short service in the church at 4.30 p.m. Tea at one shilling per head, followed by the meeting in the Coffee-rooms, Market Street, at 5 p.m. The London and North-Western Railway Company have kindly conceded to members the privilege of return journey at a single fare and a quarter from any station on their route. To enable me therefore to give the necessary particulars to the Company, I request that members will inform me, not later than Tuesday, May 14th, from which station they wish to travel, and also how many are likely to do so.

40 *Louth Street, Liverpool.* JOHN R. PREITCHARD, Branch Secretary.

Rededication of the Bells at Marshfield, Gloucestershire.

A SPECIAL and interesting service was conducted in the parish church at three o'clock in the afternoon of Easter Day. The occasion was the rededication of the church bells, which have undergone a thorough repair, the ring of six bells having been rehung, and two of them recast, on one of which occurs the inscription:—*'Shatford and Adams, churchwardens, with Trotman, the Vicar, two of us recast, 1838.'* The service was conducted by the Rev. E. F. Trotman, vicar. The lesson (Numb. x. to ver. 10) was read by the Rev. W. T. Blathwayt, rector of Dyham. A most interesting address on church bells was delivered by the Rev. H. A. Cockey, M.A., vicar of Oldland, and master of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association of Change-ringers. At the close of the address a short touch was rung by the local ringers, assisted by some members of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association from Bristol and Stapleton. The service closed with a hymn, specially written for the occasion, which was heartily rendered by a large congregation of the inhabitants. The work of recasting the bells and rehanging the ring of six bells was entrusted to Messrs. Llewellyns & James, of Bristol, and has been carried out in a most satisfactory manner. Affixed to the bells is Ellacombe's well-known patent chiming apparatus, which can be worked by one person. The cost of rehanging the bells is about 175*l.*, whilst the cost recently incurred in putting the tower in thorough repair was about 300*l.*, the whole of which has been raised through the exertions of the Vicar, the members of his family, and the inhabitants of the place. Touches of *KENT TREBLE BOB* and *GRANDSIRE MINOR* were rung during the day.

A Great Silver Bell in Russia.

THE incident at Borki, where the Czar had such a hairbreadth escape (says the *Independence Belge*), has given rise to a great many manifestations in Russia. The most remarkable of these is certainly the great silver bell which has just been cast at Kharkow, and which is destined to recall to the minds of the inhabitants of the sacred town the recollection of the catastrophe of the 17th October. This bell, which is to bear the name of 'Czar's Bell,' will be adorned with the arms of their Majesties, and of all the princes who were in the train at the time of the accident. The bell will be hung outside the tower, on the west side—that is, in the direction of the Koursk-Kharkow-Azow railway. It will bear the inscription, 'This silver bell has been cast by the clergy of the diocese of Kharkow, in commemoration of the miraculous event of the preservation from mortal danger, in the railway accident of the 17th of October, 1888, near Kharkow, of his Majesty the Emperor Alexander III., her Majesty the Empress Marie Feodorovna, and their august children, the Grand Duke Cesarevitch Nicholas Alexandrovitch, the Grand Dukes

George Alexandrovitch and Michael Alexandrovitch, and the Grand Duchesses Xenie Alexandrovna and Olga Alexandrovna. Every day, at the exact hour at which the accident of the 17th October occurred, the bell will ring for five minutes. No other use than this is to be made of it.

Union Triples.

504

5 2 4 3 - B and H

4 5 2 3 - B

2 4 5 3 - B

5 4 3 2 - I and O

Repeated.

Rung April 14th, 1889.

C. D. P. DAVIES

A Record Tablet at Leiston, Suffolk.

A HANDSOME stone tablet has just been fixed in the tower of St. Margaret's Church by the parishioners to record four peals rung by the local company, viz., 5376 changes of BOB MAJOR, 5040 of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5024 of OXFORD TREBLE BOB MAJOR, and the premier peal of the Eastern Counties of 10,304 changes of BOB MAJOR. The work was executed by Mr. S. Dale, of Saxmundham, to whom much credit is due, the letters being well shown in red and black. To celebrate the event the bells were rung all day on Easter Monday, ringers attending from Aldeburgh, Benhall, Saxmundham, Rendham, Halesworth, Woodbridge, Wickham Market, and Stradbroke, when well-struck touches of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, BOB MAJOR, OXFORD TREBLE BOB MAJOR, and STEDMAN TRIPLES were rung, and BOB ROYAL and GRANDSIRE CATERS on the handbells. The cost of the tablet was 6l.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At St. Giles', Rowley Regis, Staffordshire.

On Monday, the 22nd ult., a peal of 5024 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR was rung in 2 hrs. 53 mins. H. Cartwright, 1; R. Cartwright, 2; E. Parsons,* 3; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 4; W. Bird,* 5; H. Mason,* 6; A. E. Bassano,* 7; J. W. Washbrook (composer and conductor), 8. Tenor, 13 cwt. Messrs. H. Cartwright, Parsons, Bird, Mason, and Bassano, came from Old Hill; R. Cartwright, Wombourn. [* First peal in the method.]

At Christ Church, West Bromwich, Staffordshire.

On Tuesday, the 23rd ult., ten members of the Society for the Archdeaconry of Stafford rang Mr. Johnson's peal of 5079 STEDMAN CATERS in 3 hrs. 9 mins. S. Reeves, 1; J. Carter, 2; A. E. Parsons, 3; A. H. Bassano, 4; W. R. Small, 5; H. Mason, 6; Rev. F. E. Robinson (conductor), 7; R. Hall, 8; J. W. Washbrook, 9; J. Hall, 10. Tenor, 23½ cwt. First peal of STEDMAN CATERS by the Society, and also the first by the 3rd, 6th, and 8th men. Mr. Reeves had just taken part in the long peal at Cheltenham. Messrs. Robinson and Washbrook came from Oxford; Parsons, Bassano, and Mason, Old Hill; Small, Great Bridge; Carter, Birmingham; Hall and Reeves, West Bromwich.

At All Saints', Fulham, London.

On Saturday, the 27th ult., ten members of the Ancient Society of College Youths and the All Saints' Society rang Cox's peal of 5021 GRANDSIRE CATERS in 3 hrs. 6 mins. J. W. Kelly, 1; J. W. Driver, 2; Rev. F. J. O. Helmore (Canterbury), 3; F. W. Kelly, 4; F. G. Newman (conductor), 5; J. Nichols, jun., 6; W. E. Garrard, 7; W. T. Cockerill, 8; W. H. George, 9; S. How, 10. Tenor, 21 cwt.

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

On Saturday, the 27th ult., twelve members of the Society of Royal Cumberlands rang a peal of 5134 STEDMAN CINQUES in 3 hrs. 51½ mins. G. Newson (composer and conductor), 1; J. Rogers, 2; H. Davis, 3; B. Foskett, 4; T. Titchener, 5; J. Hannington, 6; W. W. Thorne, 7; A. Jacob, 8; G. Wilde, 9; A. E. Church, 10; H. Swain, 11; D. Lovett, 12. Tenor, 28 cwt. This peal is a two-part composition, having the 5th and 6th each nineteen times in 5th's place at a course-end, and this is the first time it has been rung.

At St. Michael's, Flixton, Lancashire.

On Monday, the 29th ult., eight members of the Ashton-under-Lyne Society rang a peal of 5024 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR in 3 hrs. 10 mins. H. Heap, 1; J. Hopwood, 2; W. Smith, 3; J. Adams, 4; B. Broadbent, 5; J. Mellor, 6; G. Longden, 7; S. Wood (composer and conductor), 8. Tenor, 14½ cwt. The above is the first peal on the bells in the new tower.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH, MIDHURST, SUSSEX.—On Wednesday evening the 4th ult., the following members of the Sussex County Association rang 720 YORKSHIRE COURT in 24 mins.—T. Ellis, 1; W. Court, 2; Dr. W. H. George, 3; W. Selby, 4; C. Tribe, 5; G. Williams (conductor), 6. Also on the 11th ult., 720 in the same method, standing as before. First 720's in the method by all; also first on the bells. Tenor, 12 cwt., in G.

AT ST. NICHOLAS' CHURCH, WITHAM.—On Thursday, the 11th ult., after the funeral of the late Mr. T. S. H. Absey, who for twenty-one years had been churchwarden at the above church, a muffled peal was rung by the following:—J. Butler, 1; G. Rushen, 2; A. Chalk, 3; W. G. Richards, 4; E. Garnett, 5; H. Sayer (conductor), 6.

AT HUDDERSFIELD, YORKS.—On Thursday, the 18th ult., 720 KENT TREBLE BOB MINOR in 25 mins. M. Jessop, 1; J. Barrowclough, 2; F. Lockwood, 3; H. Kaye, 4; J. Wood, 5; T. Haigh (conductor), 6.

AT POSLINGFORD, SUFFOLK.—On Easter Sunday, for Divine service in the morning, two six-scores of GRANDSIRE DOUBLES. H. Burling, 1; G. Basham, 2; C. Rawlinson, 3; F. W. Hicks, 4; C. Howe (conductor), 5. Also three six-scores of GRANDSIRE and three six-scores of BOB DOUBLES. W. Atkinson, 1; H. Burling, 2; C. Rawlinson, 3; F. W. Hicks, 4; C. Howe (conductor), 5. For Divine service in the afternoon, two six-scores of GRANDSIRE. W. Atkinson, 1; G. Basham, 2; A. Seeley (Stansfield), 3; H. Burling, 4; C. Howe (conductor), 5. After service, six six-scores of GRANDSIRE and three of BOB DOUBLES. W. Atkinson, 1; G. Basham, 2; C. Rawlinson, 3; H. Burling, 4; C. Howe (conductor), 5. Also two six-scores of GRANDSIRE. W. Atkinson (conductor), 1; G. Basham, 2; C. Rawlinson, 3; H. Burling, 4; E. Richardson (Whepstead), 5.

AT GREAT BROMLEY, ESSEX.—On Easter Sunday, for afternoon service, 720 BOB MINOR (eight bobs and six singles). J. Taylor, 1; A. Knowler, 2; W. Hazell, 3; A. Fuller, 4; J. Starling, 5; W. J. Nevard (conductor), 6. After service another 720 BOB MINOR. W. J. Nevard (conductor), 1; W. Hazell, 2; J. Starling, 3; G. Dent, 4; J. Taylor, 5; A. Avis, 6. Messrs. Avis and Dent came from Colchester; Hazell, Fuller, and Knowler, Little Bentley; and W. J. Nevard, Great Bentley; the rest belong to the local company.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH, HUNDON, CAMBS.—On Easter Monday, the Poslingford Company of Change-ringers rang 720 BOB MINOR in 35 mins. C. Rawlinson, 1; W. Atkinson, 2; F. W. Hicks, 3; D. Gridley (conductor), 4; H. Burling, 5; C. Howe, 6. Tenor, 18 cwt. This is the first 720 by C. Rawlinson, and the first by the Company, without help, on tower bells.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH, COOKLEY, WORCESTERSHIRE.—On Thursday, the 25th ult., for practice, a quarter-peal of GRANDSIRE DOUBLES (being 10½ six-scores, each called differently). T. Witty, 1; G. Davies, 2; J. T. Salter, 3; G. Salter (conductor), 4; W. Smith, 5; H. Deely, 6. And 720 GRANDSIRE MINOR in 25 mins. G. Salter, 1; J. T. Salter, 2; N. Davies (first 720), 3; W. Smith, 4; H. Smith, 5; H. Williams (conductor), 6. Also 360 GRANDSIRE MINOR. G. Davis, 1; H. Smith, 2; W. Smith, 3; W. Wakeman (first touch of MINOR), 4; H. Williams, 5; J. T. Salter (conductor), 6. And on hand bells, 720 GRANDSIRE MINOR in 18 mins. J. T. Salter (conductor), 1-2; G. Salter, 3; W. Smith, 4; H. Williams, 5-6.

AT ST. CLEMENT DANES, STRAND, LONDON.—On Friday, the 26th ult., on the occasion of the annual election of churchwardens, ten members of the St. James's Society attempted a peal of STEDMAN CATERS, but, after ringing for 2 hrs. 42 mins., it came to an end, the third rope breaking. F. G. Newman (conductor), 1; H. Langdon, 2; W. Weatherstone, 3; C. F. Winny, 4; W. W. Thorne, 5; W. T. Chamberlaine, 6; A. E. Church, 7; W. T. Cockerill, 8; J. Barry, 9; P. Gaymer, 10. Tenor, 24 cwt., in E flat.

AT DRAYTON, BERKS.—On Friday, the 26th ult., the following lost a peal of CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, after ringing 4500 changes. Rev. F. J. O. Helmore, 1; H. D. Betteridge, 2; C. Trinder, 3; T. Short, 4; F. Field, 5; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 6; Rev. C. D. P. Davies, 7; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 8.

AT ST. STEPHEN'S, WESTMINSTER, LONDON.—On Sunday evening, the 28th ult., for Divine service, a quarter-peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES (1260 changes) in 47 mins. A. G. Ellis, 1; A. F. Ingerfield, 2; S. J. Reed, 3; J. Pryer, 4; W. Carter, 5; W. H. George, 6; H. S. Ellis (first quarter-peal as conductor), 7; W. Lamb, 8.

AT WHITCHURCH, OXON.—On May Day the local band rang their first 720 BOB MINOR (fourteen bobs and two singles) in 25 mins. J. Nicholls, 1; W. Pocock, 2; W. Laurence (conductor), 3; C. Pocock, 4; T. Pocock, 5; E. Bushnell, 6. Tenor, 10½ cwt., in A. The calling was taken from the late Mr. Jasper Snowden's *Rope-Sight* (page 73), was composed by B. Annable, and rung at Hessen in 1741 for the first time. On the preceding Sunday, for Divine service in the evening, 360 BOB MINOR (nine bobs) in 12 mins, with A. C. West, 5; the rest as before.

AT ST. PAUL'S, WALDEN, LANCASHIRE.—On Sunday, the 5th inst., being the occasion of the school anniversary sermons, peals were rung as follows:—At 6.30 a.m., 720 BOB MINOR in 24½ mins. A. Potter, 1; Joseph Potter, 2; S. Oakes, 3; J. Williamson, 4; Jas. Potter (conductor), 5; J. Brookes, 6. Also after Divine service in the evening, 720 BOB MINOR was rung in 24 mins. Jas. Ridyard, 1; Joseph Potter, 2; S. Oakes, 3; J. Worthington, 4; A. Potter, 5; R. Ridyard (conductor), 6. Also, 720 KENT TREBLE BOB in 25 mins. Joseph Ridyard, 1; E. Cash, 2; Joseph Potter, 3; J. Welsby, 4; A. Potter, 5; R. Ridyard (conductor), 6. There were also other touches rung during the day. This is the first 720 of TREBLE BOB for Messrs. A. and Joseph Potter, who are local ringers. Mr. E. Cash came from Manchester, and Messrs. R. Ridyard, Joseph Ridyard, and J. Welsby, from Worsley. Later, on Sunday evening, 720 BOB MINOR (sixteen bobs and two singles) was rung, with the bells muffled, in 28 mins., as a mark of respect to Mrs. Sarah Elizabeth Martin, wife of the churchwarden and much-respected friend, W. Y. Martin, Esq., M.D., who passed away on March 11th. W. Denner (conductor), 1; J. Worthington, 2; Jos. Potter, 3; J. Williamson, 4; A. Potter, 5; Jas. Potter, 6. Also on Easter Sunday, 360 BOB MINOR was rung before Early Celebration, at 5.30 a.m. At the morning service 720 BOB MINOR was rung in 24½ mins. W. Denner (conductor), 1; J. Worthington, 2; Jas. Potter, 3; J. Williamson, 4; A. Potter, 5; J. Brookes, 6. Tenor, 13½ cwt.

AT ST. GEORGE'S, TYLDESLEY, LANCASHIRE.—Later, on Sunday evening, the Walkden Company of Ringers paid a visit to the above church, and rang before Divine service 720 BOB MINOR (32 bobs and 2 singles) in 24 mins. W. Denner (conductor), 1; J. Worthington, 2; Jos. Potter, 3; A. Potter, 4; Jas. Potter, 5; J. Brookes, 6. Tenor, 12 cwt.

ITALY.

ON May the 11th, Signori Pais-Serra and Cavallini, in the Chamber of Deputies at Rome, addressed interpellations to the Government on the subject of the recent Catholic Congresses, which they declared had been authorised, especially that held in Vienna, in spite of the alliance between Austria and Italy. In reply Signor Crispi said that the Catholic Congresses first of all took place in France, at Marseilles and Lyons, and also in Belgium and Portugal. He declared that it would have been folly to have interfered, since Italy would thus have authorised foreign Governments to meddle with her internal affairs. Only recently all the Governments of Europe had declared that they had nothing to do with the Pontiff, and were therefore unwilling to interfere. 'Italy,' said the Premier, 'had nothing to fear, but if anything was regrettable, it was that a number of Italians would not be persuaded that the events of September 20th, 1870, had raised an insuperable barrier between the past and the future.' 'The clerical journals,' said Signor Crispi in conclusion, 'even in Rome itself, daily discuss the question, but no one takes any notice of them. Let Italy do the same with the Catholic Congress.'

GERMANY.

THE *Deutscher Merkur* states that at Easter-tide thirty persons joined the Old Catholics at Breslau. The accounts from Bohemia and Austria are very encouraging: at Warnsdorf the attendance at the principal service in the church on Easter-Day was close upon 2000; at Bodenbach thirteen persons came over from Romanism; at Reichenberg the first Old Catholic service was held, 1200 attending it; the fund for endowing the new Bishop at Vienna is constantly on the increase.

In Switzerland the Old Catholics are now become at Starrkirch almost as numerous as their Roman opponents, and hope consequently to get the parish church for their worship. The Old Catholic reaction in the 'Pays Romande' is advancing; the congregations have re-assembled at Grand-Saconnex and Collex-Bossey, while at Lancy 'the congregation regards itself as a single family; the struggle against Ultramontane tactics was especially hard, but the truth has definitely triumphed.'

FRANCE.

DIVINE service for English visitors at Paris will, during the French Exhibition, be held on Sunday mornings, and also on every week day at three p.m., at the Salle Rapp, which is close to the main entrance to the Exhibition. Intending English visitors to Paris owe a heavy debt of gratitude to the Rev. T. Howard Gill, Embassy chaplain, who has made the arrangements for the performance of divine worship at the Salle Rapp, and to Mr. McAll, who has lent the Hall for the purpose.

INTERNATIONAL ARBITRATION CONFERENCE IN PARIS.

A CONFERENCE will be held in Paris on the 29th and 30th of June of Members of Parliament representing England, France, Germany, Italy, Belgium, Switzerland, and other nations with the object of expediting the movement in favour of treaties of arbitration between various nations. Mr. Cremer, M.P., who, with M. Frederick Passy, French deputy, is acting for the British and French Parliaments respectively, has received the following letter in reference to the Conference from the Bishop of Bath and Wells:—

'MY DEAR SIR,—I have been honoured by an invitation to attend the above Conference, and should have been truly glad to do so had it been in my power. It seems to me that efforts to minimise the chances of war, to encourage in all nations the sense of equity in dealing with other nations, without reference to their respective power and resources, and, as a consequence, to dispose them to submit their differences to the decision of impartial and competent arbitrators, are worthy of the support of all Christian and humane men. The employment of wealth, and power, and intelligence in the wholesale destruction of life and property seems to be an anachronism at the close of the nineteenth century of an era, which dates from the birth of One Whose lesson to mankind was, "Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself." Requesting you to explain to the Committee my sincere regret that circumstances over which I have no control make it impossible for me to assist at the Conference, I remain, my dear Sir, your obedient Servant, ARTHUR BATH AND WELLS.'

CANON JACOB ON 'VINO SACRO.'—'I am delighted to hear of the continued success of "Vino Sacro." It is by far the best sacramental wine I know.' To Messrs. Hicks & Co., 27 George Street, Plymouth. Established 80 years. New descriptive book (86 pp.) post free on application. Half Bottle sent paid for 2s. 6d., or one Bottle for 3s. 6d.—[Adv't.]

SIXPENCE IS THE ONLY EXPENSE. Not a Conundrum. £250 to be given away in Prizes in Guessing Competition, and Ladies, Girls, and Boys becoming purchasers of 'WORSTEDOPOLIS' (price 6d.) are entitled to compete. This famous history of the town and trade of Bradford (the Worstedsopolis of the world) contains 80 pages of instructive and entertaining matter, together with a specially engraved map drawn to scale; is pronounced by the Press to be the best work of the kind, and well worth the published price, 1s. The Bradford Manufacturing Company, Bradford, Yorkshire, will, on receipt of Six Penny Stamps and address, forward post free a copy of 'Worstedsopolis,' containing particulars of Competition, Rules, &c., the cost of the book being all that is necessary to entitle readers to share in the Competition for the above-named Prizes. Only one Competition form is sent with each book, and Competitors will be required to state whether entering for Ladies', Girls', or Boys' Competition. The awards will be published in the London Daily Standard, December 2nd, 1889, or List of Successful Candidates will be sent on receipt of 1d. stamp to any address. Readers of this notice intending to compete should at once communicate with the Bradford Manufacturing Company, Bradford, Yorkshire, and address their letters—'Guessing Competition.'—[Adv't.]

£20.—TOBACCONISTS COMMENCING.—Write to-day for Illustrated Guide how to open respectably, £20 to £1000 (post free). TOBACCONISTS' OUTFITTING CO. (late H. MYERS & Co.), 11 Beech Street, London, E.C. HENRY MYERS, Manager.—[Adv't.]

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

The Chester Diocesan Guild.

THE fourth quarterly meeting of the Macclesfield Branch was held at Alderly, on Saturday, the 4th inst., when thirty-two members attended from Macclesfield, Alderly, Bollington, Poynton, Gawsworth, Prestbury, and Wilmslow. During the afternoon touches of PLAIN BOB and GRANDSIRE were rung on the ring of six (tenor about 16 cwt.) in the old church tower, and a walk was indulged in round the beautiful and ancient parish. At 5.30 about thirty-six members and friends sat down to a tea in a house close to the church. Afterwards the usual meeting was held, under the chairmanship of the Rev. E. J. Bell, rural dean. The Annual Meeting was discussed, and a committee formed to make arrangements for the dinner, &c. Poynton was carried for the next place of meeting, on October 12th. The business terminated with a vote of thanks to the Dean for the use of the bells and for presiding.

The Lancashire Association.

THE Quarterly Meeting was held on Saturday, the 27th ult., at St. Peter's Church, Swinton, which was attended by upwards of fifty ringers from Manchester, Liverpool, Bolton, Rochdale, Heywood, Moorside, Southport, Worsley, Walkden, Pendlebury, Whitefield, Eccles, &c. Several touches in various methods were rung during the afternoon. The meeting was held in the schools. Mr. A. E. Holme, M.A., Vice-President, occupied the chair, and was supported by Messrs. Redford, Wreaks, H. W. Jackson, and the Rev. H. J. Elsee. Messrs. Aspinwall, Hill, and Barratt (committee-men), were also present. In opening the proceedings the Chairman stated that he was glad to be able to congratulate the Association on the progress made during the year. He also gave a good report of the proceedings at the John's Birthday Celebration at Birmingham, and expressed his thanks for the honour conferred upon him by his appointment as representative of the Association. Mr. Redford having apologised for the absence of Canon Heywood, vicar of Swinton, said he had communicated with the secretaries of the Essex, Sussex, and Yorkshire Associations respecting the question of reduced fares being granted to members attending Association meetings, and which would be brought before the next committee meeting for further consideration. The proposed Central Ringing Council was next introduced to the meeting, the Chairman expressing himself in favour of such a council. Mr. J. R. Pritchard proposed, and Mr. Aspinwall seconded, that the resolution unanimously adopted at the Birmingham gathering be accepted by this meeting, subject to the approval of the annual meeting, which was supported by Messrs. Wreaks, R. Ridyard, Hoyle, H. W. Jackson, and the Rev. H. J. Elsee. A vote was taken, with the result that thirty-one voted for the resolution; the remainder abstained from voting. Mr. H. W. Jackson proposed, and Mr. Hill seconded, a vote of thanks to Canon Heywood for the use of the bells. Mr. Redford proposed, and Mr. Wreaks seconded, a vote of thanks to Mr. Holme for having represented the Association at Birmingham.

Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association.

A WELL-ATTENDED meeting of the Bristol members of this Association was held in the crypt of St. Mary Redcliff Church, under the presidency of the Vicar (Rev. C. E. Cornish), on Tuesday evening, May 7th. The Rev. H. A. Cockey (the Master) explained that the object of the meeting was to make arrangements for fortnightly meetings of the members for practice in Bristol without prejudice to any existing bands of ringers, and expressed the hope that it might be the means of improving the art of change-ringing in Bristol. It was after some discussion unanimously resolved that practices of the Association be held in Bristol on alternate Tuesdays, and that Mr. A. Anderson, Mr. J. Hinton, and Mr. C. E. D. Boutflower (the local Secretary of the Association) be appointed a committee to make the necessary arrangements, the tower in which the practice is to take place to be published.

The Anniversary at Braughing, Herts.

THE Annual Ringing Festival was observed here on Friday the 10th inst. This day has been kept as a festival for 109 years, in commemoration of the famous peal of 10,080 BOB MAJOR rung here in 1779 by the local band. It is generally agreed among ringers that it would be difficult to find anywhere in the county 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, supported by Squire Proctor, Mr. Rochester, Mr. Haworth, &c. During the day the following methods were rung by Squire Proctor and his band from Benington (Messrs. Warner, Jos. Kitchener, I. Chapman, Warner, jun., John Kitchener, Page, conductor, Sharnbrook), J. R. Haworth (London), G. Rochester (Sawbridgeworth), and others:—STEDMAN TRIPLES, GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, DOUBLE NORWICH COURT MAJOR, KING TREBLE BOB MAJOR, and SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR. Nearly 3000 changes were rung. Mr. J. Smith and Mr. Long (London), and ringers from Ware, with many friends, were present; also Messrs. Lawrance (Brothers), (Furneaux-Pelham), who rang in the peal of 6000 BOB MAJOR—recorded in the tower—in 1829. 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. Altogether it was a very successful meeting.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At St. Helen's, Abingdon, Berks.

ON Thursday, the 2nd inst., a peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE CATER was rung in 3 hrs. 15 mins. T. Short, 1; H. Humphrey, 2; J. W. Washbrook, 3; A. Kimbrey, 4; E. Aldworth, 5; C. Hounslow, 6; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 7; E. Humphrey (conductor), 8; J. Brown, 9; A. Burgess, 10.

AUSTRALIA.

THE Bishop of Brisbane is in communication with the Archbishop of Canterbury with the view to the consecration of Archdeacon Dawes as Co-adjutor-Bishop of Brisbane. The diocese of Brisbane is enormous, and utterly incapable of being properly worked by one man, however vigorous he might be, and the Bishop is making strenuous efforts to effect its division by the formation of the new bishopric of Rockhampton.

SOUTH AFRICA.

THE Ven. Archdeacon Gibson, in an 'Occasional Paper' just issued by the St. Augustine's Mission, in the diocese of St. John's, Kaffraria, states that during the past five years the number of clergy belonging to the mission has increased from one to five—four priests and one deacon; the baptisms have been 755, of which 194 were adults; the confirmations 322; the number of communicants has risen from 54 to 411; the number of people connected with the mission has increased from between 300 and 400 to 1211 members of the Church and 91 catechumens, and that the whole numbers of workers, 13 in 1884, is now 30.

THE Bishop of Bloemfontein's report of his recent visit to Mashonaland, which appears in the April quarterly paper of the Bloemfontein Mission, is very interesting. He seems generally to have been received courteously by the natives, and to have collected a large quantity of information about the country and the people, who are all heathen, and as yet untouched by mission work, which will undoubtedly be of much value in extending the outposts of Christianity. In the following forcible words the Bishop contrasts the difference between a Christian and a heathen chief:—'What Christianity can do for a nation is seen in Mangwato (Shoshong), Chief Khama's town. It is impossible to imagine a much greater contrast than between this cleanly, good-looking, educated gentleman, studiously polite to every child who salutes him, an example of life to all his fellow-Christian and heathen subjects, so good a soldier that his father, Sekomi, had to recall him from a kind of exile near Lake Ngame (on account of his being a Christian), and any ordinary native chief over whom Christianity has had no influence whatever. . . . I asked Khama whether he thought that, in any particular whatever, any of his people had deteriorated on becoming Christians. He answered that in none whatever; but that a people who became Christians would not, from want of practice, be so good for aggressive warfare, but that for defending their country he considered them just as good.'

THE late Bishop Gray of Capetown (it is stated on the authority of the late Prebendary Joyce) used to relate an instance of the munificence of the late Sir Frederick Ouseley. He had asked him for a donation towards the South African Church during the Colenso troubles, and was told in reply that Sir Frederick's liabilities, through church building, &c., in his parish, had not left him a farthing for disposal. Just as the Bishop was going away, he added, 'Yet I cannot refuse you a trifle, somehow. If you like to sell that stone for your mission, do so.' It was in a jewel box, and the Bishop did not open it till he got to London, where a well-known jeweller said, 'I suppose you really are a Bishop? This is a Persian stone of the rarest value, the whereabouts of which no one has known for years.' The Bishop was able to satisfy the jeweller of his identity, and the stone, which had belonged to the father of Sir Frederick, long British Minister in Persia, and a distinguished Orientalist, astounded Bishop Gray by the sum it fetched.

SERVIA.

THE ex-Metropolitan Michael left Moscow on the 17th inst. for Belgrade, travelling by way of Kieff, Bucharest, and the Danube. He was attended to the station by some high Russian officials.

ITALY.

It is stated at the Vatican that a secret Consistory will be held to-day, and the next public Consistory on the 27th inst.

RUSSIA.

THE Shah, who is on his way to Europe, received the Armenian Catholicos at Erivan, and requested to be informed of any act of oppression that might be committed against the Armenians in Persia.

SPAIN.

THE condition of Seville Cathedral is found to be far more serious than was at first anticipated. It is probable that ten or twelve of the great piers sustaining the vault will have to be rebuilt from the foundations. These piers are of great size—they average thirty-six feet in circumference—and the expense of their reconstruction and that of the great vault will be enormous. The Cathedral was built early in the fifteenth century, and is the largest mediæval cathedral in Europe, covering an area of 124,000 feet. Its length is about the same as Salisbury Cathedral, viz., 450 feet, but in the latter there are twenty-two bays, or divisions, including the transepts. In Seville there are only ten; the piers therefore are much farther apart, and the great vault being 145 feet high, as against 84 feet at Salisbury, and the width of nave 59 feet, centre to centre of piers at Seville, as against 37 feet at Salisbury, it follows that the dimensions of the piers are unusually great, and approximate to those which we find under the central towers of our English cathedrals.

CANON JACOB ON 'VINO SACRO.'—'I am delighted to hear of the continued success of "Vino Sacro." It is by far the best sacramental wine I know.' To Messrs. Hicks & Co., 27 George Street, Plymouth. Established 80 years. New descriptive book (86 pp.) post free on application. Half Bottle sent paid for 2s. 6d., or one Bottle for 3s. 6d.—[Advt.]

£20.—TOBACCONISTS COMMENCING.—Write to-day for Illustrated Guide how to open respectably, £20 to £500 (post free). TOBACCONISTS' OUTFITTING CO. (late H. MYERS & Co.), 11 Beech Street, London, E.C. HENRY MYERS, Manager.—[Advt.]

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Notice.

WE have received letters complaining of the delay with regard to the insertion of the reports of peals and other matters. We beg to announce that reports of peals (5000 and upwards) and notices of meetings will be inserted in the current number if they arrive not later than Tuesday evening or the first post on Wednesday morning. Reports of meetings must arrive by Monday's post. We go to press on *Thursday*, and publish on *Friday*. To be sent either to the publishing office, 12 Southampton Street, Strand, London; to the printing office, Strangeways and Sons, Tower Street, Cambridge Circus, London, W.C.; or to Mr. J. R. Haworth, 42 Exmouth Street, Clerkenwell, London.

The Long Peal at Cheltenham.

THE following account of the long peal of GRANDSIRE CATERS, lately rung at St. Mary's, Cheltenham, may be of interest. A letter last week appeared in *Bell News* asking for some account, which, together with the calling of the peal, was forwarded to the Editor for insertion some time ago. The time of standing under the bells was practically 10 hrs. 15 mins., as the conductor called a bob too many at the first start, and after ringing about half an hour a fresh start was made almost without letting go the ropes. The two long peals which have been called by Mr. Pates are remarkable apart from their compositions, as being the first two peals of CATERS ever called by him, and the long peal of GRANDSIRE CATERS is the first peal of CATERS in that method ever attempted by him as conductor. The composition of the last long peal is annexed, and readers of *Church Bells* can judge for themselves of its difficulties and qualities. It is with Mr. Pates's permission that this letter has been written by me, but he is much too modest a man to write any account of his own doings himself. The peal was rung perfectly truly, and to the tenor man great credit is due for the way in which he stuck to his not-too-easily-going bell, especially after the disappointment of a false start.

GEORGE H. PHILLOTT.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 15,227 CHANGES.

By Henry Johnson, sen., Birmingham.

2 3 4 5 6	6 2 3 4 5
3 5 4 2 6 7 8 9	3 6 2 4 5 7th in and out at 3
5 4 3 2 6	5 4 6 3 2 2 3 -
4 3 5 2 6	6 5 4 3 2 1 2 3
3 2 5 4 6	2 3 5 6 4 2 3 -
2 4 5 3 6	4 6 3 2 5 2 3 -
4 5 2 3 6	5 2 6 4 3 2 3 -
5 3 2 4 0	6 5 2 4 3 1 2 3
3 4 2 5 6	2 6 5 4 3 1 2 3
2 4 6 5 3	3 4 6 2 5 2 3 -
6 4 3 5 2	5 2 4 3 6 2 3 -
2 5 4 6 3	6 3 2 5 4 2 3 -
4 2 5 6 3	4 5 3 6 2 2 3 -
5 2 3 6 4	2 4 5 6 3 1 2 (3) S
3 5 2 6 4	5 2 4 6 3 1 2 3
2 3 5 6 4	3 6 2 5 4 2 3 -
5 3 4 6 2	4 5 6 3 2 2 3 -
4 5 3 6 2	6 4 5 3 2 1 2 3
3 4 5 6 2	5 6 4 3 2 1 2 3
5 2 4 6 3	2 3 6 5 4 2 3 -
2 4 3 6 5	4 5 3 2 6 2 3 -
3 2 4 6 5	6 2 5 4 3 2 3 -
4 3 2 6 5	3 4 2 6 5 2 3 -
3 6 2 4 5	2 3 4 6 5 1 2 3
6 4 2 3 5	4 2 3 6 5 1 2 3
2 6 4 3 5	5 6 2 4 3 2 3 -
6 3 4 2 5	3 4 6 5 2 2 3 -
4 6 3 2 5	6 3 4 5 2 1 2 3
3 4 6 2 5	4 6 3 5 2 1 2 3
4 2 6 3 5	2 5 6 4 3 2 3 -
2 3 6 4 5	3 4 5 2 6 9 7 8 2 3 -
6 2 3 4 7 7 8 9	

This column three times repeated excepting first course; instead call bobs at 2, 3, also a bob to be substituted for the single in the 2nd and 4th parts, produces 24536978; then call the 9th in and out at two completes the peal. Rung at Cheltenham, Easter Monday, April 22nd, 1889. Conducted by W. T. Pates.

The Salisbury Diocesan Guild of Bell-ringers.

FOR the first time the members of the Salisbury Diocesan Ringers' Guild visited Warminster to celebrate their Anniversary Festival. The weather being fine there was a very large attendance of members from the various districts, the meeting from all points of view being one of the most successful in the history of the Guild. The proceedings of the day commenced with matins at the Minster at 11.45, where the Vicar, the Rev. Sir J. E. Philipps, Bart., preached from Numb. x. 1. 2.

The Annual General Meeting was held in Vicarage Street Schoolroom, the Master of the Guild, the Rev. A. D. Hill (vicar of Downton), in the chair. There was a large attendance of members. A letter was read from Earl Nelson expressing regret at his inability to be present. His Lordship said

that he was quite in favour of small grants for belfry inspection and restoration, and for purchasing a set of handbells; he also expressed himself in favour of granting certificates for change-ringing. Mr. J. K. Jerram (Salisbury), General Secretary, read the statement of accounts, showing that the Guild commenced last year with a balance in hand of 18l. 13s. 11d., and ended with one of 20l. 7s. 10d. The Rev. V. Awdry proposed, 'That life ringing members, being change-ringers, residing out of the diocese, be admitted to the Guild on payment of a donation of 5s.' Mr. J. Parsons (Salisbury) seconded. Mr. Jerram moved as an amendment, Mr. C. A. Clements seconded, that the entrance fee be 2s. 6d. The amendment was carried. The Rev. V. Awdry then moved, 'That steps be taken to provide certificates according to Rule 8, and that the names of holders of certificates be distinguished in the report.' Mr. Jerram seconded the motion. The Chairman remarked that the diocese of Salisbury was rather behind in change-ringing, but things in that respect were improving. He hoped that soon in the rather scattered country districts there would be companies of change-ringers who at least would be able to ring 120 DOUBLES on their bells. They ought to endeavour to improve in change-ringing, which was really the higher art of ringing. He hoped that they would have certificates for change-ringing, and suggested that these should take the form of cards with the names of the holders inscribed on them. The motion was agreed to. The Rev. C. W. Hony (Bishops Cannings) proposed that the question of granting certificates should be left to the committee of the Guild. This, having been seconded by Mr. T. Rigden (Salisbury), was agreed to. The Rev. C. W. Hony next moved that donations to churches in union with the Guild be granted for the inspection of bells and belfries. He added that he was not in favour of grants for restoring the bells, as their restoration was a matter affecting churchwardens, and not the Guild. The Rev. J. Mitchell (Barford St. Martin), in seconding the motion, said that he demurred to those who complained of the Guild spending money for eating and drinking at their anniversaries. The outside public should remember that the members were mostly working men; and it was an act of considerable self-denial on their part to attend these anniversaries, seeing that in many cases they had to forfeit a day's wages, besides having a difficulty in leaving their employment. It was a day of pleasure; and although the Guild gave a liberal sum towards the day's expenses, it by no means covered their personal expenses in all instances. The motion was unanimously carried. The next business was the election of officers. Mr. Jerram proposed the re-election of the Master, the Rev. A. D. Hill, and also the Treasurer, Mr. W. Pinckney, of Salisbury. Mr. G. Farham (Longbridge Deverill) seconded the proposition, which was adopted. The Secretaries, Mr. J. R. Jerram, the Rev. C. W. Hony, and the Rev. M. Hankey, having been re-elected, the following were appointed on the Committee:—The Rev. W. J. Tait (Salisbury), the Rev. A. B. Thynne (Seend), Mr. F. Rigden and Mr. C. A. Clements (Salisbury), and Mr. W. H. Gifford. Mr. A. H. Handcock was re-elected Honorary Auditor.

Subsequently the members and friends, to the number of about 150, sat down to an excellent luncheon at the Town Hall. The Rev. Sir J. E. Philipps, Bart., presided.

The Yorkshire Association.

The next General Meeting will be held at Calverley on Saturday, June 1st. All members are cordially invited. Tea will be provided at a charge of sixpence each. Those intending to be present must communicate with Mr. John Cordingley, Calverley, near Leeds, not later than Monday, May 27th, in order that due provision may be made for their comfort. The official Committee Meeting will be held in the schoolroom at four p.m.

I would remind all members whose subscriptions are still unpaid to pay them without delay, as they are now nearly ten months in arrears. Members entitled to certificates may have them at the meeting by giving three days' notice of their intention to apply for them. W. WHITAKER, Hon. Sec.

Covered Market, Leeds.

The Worcestershire and Adjoining Districts Change-ringing Association.

The next Quarterly Meeting of the above will be held in the chantry of St. Mary's Church, Kidderminster, at 5.30 p.m. prompt on June 1st, 1889. The Vicar (if possible) will preside. The Hon. Sec. hopes to meet a representative from each company in union, as the reports, &c., for the past year will be ready for distribution. The tower and bells will be open for ringing during the afternoon. JOHN SMITH, Hon. Sec.

37 Simms Lane, Netherton, near Dudley, May 20, 1889.

The Ely Diocesan Association.

NOTICE is hereby given that a meeting of the above Association will be held at Soham, Cambridgeshire, on Monday, June 10th (Whit Monday), when the favour of the attendance of all members and persons interested in the Association is requested. N.B.—Ten bells. K. H. SMITH, Hon. Sec.

The Cambridge Road, Ely.

Kent County Association.

The Annual General Meeting is fixed to be held at Canterbury on Monday, June 17th. The Dean of Canterbury will preside at the dinner. All who wish to attend are requested to communicate with the Hon. Sec., Rev. R. Knatchbull-Hugessen, Wrinsted Court, Lenham, Kent.

Lancashire Association.—(Liverpool Diocesan Branch).

The Monthly Meeting of the above was held at All Saints' Church, Wigan, on Saturday, May 18th. The bells were set going shortly after two o'clock, several touches of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES and BOB MAJOR being rung. At 4.30 a short service was held in the church, which was well attended by the Rector, the Hon. and Rev. Canon Bridgeman, read the prayers,

and a short but excellent address was given by the Curate, the Rev. H. F. Lloyd, who himself is a performing member of the Association. Taking his text from 1 Cor. xii. 20, the rev. gentleman urged upon his brother-ringers the advantage of unity and brotherly love. After the service an adjournment was made for tea at the Coffee House, Market Street, when about twenty-eight sat down, including the Rector and Curate. After ample justice had been done to the good things provided the business meeting was held, presided over by the Rev. H. F. Lloyd. Lieut.-Col. Farrington, rector's warden; and J. Browne, Esq., people's warden, were elected honorary members; and Mr. A. Shaw, performing member. After some discussion it was decided to hold the next meeting at St. Helens on June 22nd. Cordial votes of thanks to the Rector for allowing the use of the bells, and to Mr. Halliwell for his indefatigable exertions in the tower, and also to Mr. Lloyd for his services in the chair and his sermon, brought a very enjoyable evening to a close. The bells were kept going until 9.30, several touches of GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, MINOR, and TRIPLES, and BOB MAJOR being brought round, ringers being present from Liverpool, Huyton, Prescott, Hindley, Bolton, Leigh, &c.

ROCHDALE BRANCH.—On Saturday, the 4th inst., the members of this branch held a meeting at All Saints' Church, Hamer, Rochdale, at the invitation of the ringers. Members were present from Rochdale, Bacup, Newchurch, and Moorside. The bells, six in number, were rung in BOB MINOR, GRANDSIRE MINOR and DOUBLES, COLLEGE SINGLE, and KENT TREBLE BOB MINOR. Mr. A. E. Wreaks presided, and gave some interesting statistics on the prosperity of the Association, and said one hundred and thirty new members had been enrolled already this year. The Vicar gave the members a hearty welcome to his church, and said if his ringers joined the Association he should only be too glad to follow their example, as they were all regular attendants at church, and communicants as well. It is their intention to join in a body. Two new members were elected from Moorside, Oldham. The next meeting will be held at St. Thomas's Church, Newhey, on Saturday, June 1st. A hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar and Mr. Wreaks brought the meeting to a close.

A Visit to Hammerwood, Sussex.

On Saturday evening, the 4th inst., some of the members of the East Grinstead branch of the Sussex County Association visited Hammerwood, Sussex, and rang during the evening on the bells of St. Stephen's (a light but musical ring of five) several peals of GRANDSIRE DOUBLES. J. Wren, C. Wren, A. B. Evershed, W. H. Wood, R. Billingham, A. Huggett, S. J. Huggett, A. Huggett (conductor). This is the first scientific ringing on the bells, and the first time any of the ringers have rung changes out of their own tower, having only received their first lesson in the art in January last.

The Dedication of a New Bell at Bushley, Worcestershire.

On Easter Monday a special service was held in the parish church to dedicate a new treble bell which has lately been hung in the tower, and which was supplied by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, of London. The Tewkesbury Abbey Society was invited to ring upon the bells at intervals during the afternoon. Several six-scores of GRANDSIRE and STEPMAN DOUBLES were rung, also 720 BOB MINOR. W. Hampton, 1; S. Cleal, 2; T. Devereux, 3; J. Hale, 4; J. Wachen, 5; Jos. Wachen (conductor), 6. Some members of the Bushley and Forthampton Societies took part in the GRANDSIRE DOUBLES. A tea and supper was provided in the schoolroom, to which a large number sat down, presided over by the Rev. E. R. Dowdeswell. Toasts were given, interspersed with courses of CATERS and TRIPLES, and tunes upon the handbells by members of the Tewkesbury Abbey Society. The six bells in the steeple are now a very fair ring.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At the Parish Church, Warnham, Sussex.

On Thursday, the 2nd inst., eight members of the Sussex Association rang Parker's Six-part peal of 5040 BOB TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 50 mins. J. Garman, 1; T. Andrews, 2; W. Charman (conductor), 3; G. Woodman (first peal with a bob-bell), 4; W. Short, 5; H. H. Chandler, 6; H. Burstow, 7; F. Garman (first peal), 8.

At St. Mary's, Diss, Norfolk.

On Monday, the 6th inst., eight members of the Norwich Diocesan Association rang Cox's peal of 5024 OXFORD TREBLE BOB MAJOR in 3 hrs. 18 mins. W. Ireland, 1; A. Jolly*, 2; J. Batram*, 3; B. Francis, 4; E. Hayward, 5; E. Batram, 6; A. Hart, 7; J. Souter (conductor), 8. Tenor, 24 cwt. [*First peal.]

At St. Etheldreda's, Hatfield, Herts.

On Tuesday, the 7th inst., eight members of the Herts Association rang Thurstans' Five-part peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 58 mins. J. Rumney, 1; J. Shepherd, 2; W. J. Richardson, 3; E. P. Debenham, 4; M. Ellsmore, 5; A. Shepherd (conductor, first peal), 6; H. Baker, 7; G. Smith, 8. Tenor, 28 cwt. Messrs. Rumney and Smith were proposed members of the Herts Association before starting. Mr. Debenham came from St. Albans; Messrs. Baker and Ellsmore, Hertford.

At St. Peter's, Drayton, Berks.

On Tuesday, the 7th inst., the following members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild, the first five being of St. Mary's Band, Whitechurch (Oxon), rang Holt's Original peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 43 mins. J. Nicholls, 1; C. Pocock, 2; T. Pocock, 3; W. Lawrence, 4; W. Pocock, 5; C. Chapman, 6; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 7; J. Bower, 8. In the afternoon the Rev. C. D. P. Davies' Variation of Holt's TEN-PART was rung in 2 hrs. 41 mins. by J. Nicholls, 1; C. Pocock, 2; T. Pocock, 3; W. Lawrence, 4; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 5; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 6; C.

Chapman, 7; W. Pocock, 8. First 5000 by the ringers of the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 5th, 6th, and 8th in the first peal.

On Friday, the 10th inst., eight members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild rang a Variation of Thurstans' peal of 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 45 mins. E. Burgess (first peal of STEDMAN), 1; W. Adkin, 2; E. Aldworth, 3; A. P. Goddard, 4; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 5; T. Blackburn, 6; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 7; H. Hyde, 8. Messrs. Blackburn and Goddard came from Salisbury.

On Monday, the 13th inst., at the same church, by the same Guild, Holt's Ten-part peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES was rung in 2 hrs. 51 mins. A Burgess, 1; T. Short, 2; E. Aldworth, 3; W. H. Adkins, 4; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 5; A. P. Goddard, 6; T. Blackburn (conductor), 7; H. Hyde, 8.

At the Parish Church, Kidderminster, Worcestershire.

On Wednesday, the 8th inst., eight members of the Worcester and Adjoining Districts Association rang Brooke's Variation of Thurstans' peal of 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES in 3 hrs. 9 mins. J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 1; J. T. Salter, 2; G. Salter, 3; R. E. Grove, 4; W. H. Smith, 5; H. Williams, 6; J. Crane, 7; T. Walters, 8. Tenor, 30 cwt. in D. First peal of STEDMAN by the Worcester Association; the first by all except the conductor, and the first on the bells.

At St. Helen's, Ashby-de-la-Zouch, Leicestershire.

On Thursday, the 9th inst., eight members of the Midland Counties' Association rang Holt's Ten-part peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES (5040 changes) in 3 hrs. 5 mins. Tenor, 16 cwt. 3 qrs. 23 lbs., in E flat. R. Davenport (first peal), 1; J. H. Dunmore (first peal as conductor), 2; W. Higgins (first peal with an inside bell), 3; J. Hopkin, 4; T. Jacques, 5; H. Canner, 6; W. Canner, 7; G. Thornley, 8.

At St. Paul's, Shipley, Yorkshire.

On Saturday, the 11th inst., eight members of the Yorkshire Association rang Sottanstell's peal of 5120 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR in 3 hrs. 9 mins. J. Hardecastle, 1; H. Raistrick, 2; B. T. Copley, 3; J. H. Hardecastle, 4; W. Wilks, 5; F. London (conductor), 6; G. A. G. Nettleton, 7; J. S. Clark, 8. Tenor, 16 cwt. Messrs. Joe Hardecastle, H. Raistrick, and J. H. Hardecastle came from Bradford; B. T. Copley, from Bolton.

At St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, Trafalgar Square, London.

On Saturday, the 11th inst., twelve members of the Society of Royal Cumberland Youths rang a peal of 5002 STEDMAN CINQUES in 3 hrs. 40 mins. G. Newton (composer and conductor), 1; J. Rogers, 2; B. Foskett, 3; J. Hannington, 4; A. Jacob, 5; H. Dams, 6; J. Trappitt, 7; H. Swain, 8; H. Randall, 9; G. Welling, 10; H. Hopkins, 11; H. Scarlett, 12. Tenor, 34 cwt. in D. Messrs. Trappitt and Welling came from Beddington, Surrey, and it is their first peal, with Mr. Scarlett, on twelve bells.

At the Parish Church, Melbourne, Derbyshire.

On Saturday, the 18th inst., eight members of the Midland Counties' Association and the St. Michael's Society rang a peal of 5040 OXFORD BOB TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 59 mins. J. R. Wood, 1; J. Vickers, 2; J. W. Warren, 3; H. Hollingworth, 4; H. C. Woodward (conductor), 5; G. A. Fish, 6; T. Hollingworth, 7; G. C. Tunnicliff, 8. Tenor, 16½ cwt., in F sharp. The above peal (Johnson's Twelve-part) is the first in the method by all except the conductor. It is the first time it has been rung by the Midland Counties' Association. It was rung in honour of the silver wedding of Mr. T. Hollingworth, and was that gentleman's first peal.

At St. Andrew's, Halstead, Essex.—On Sunday, the 28th ult., for afternoon service, 720 OXFORD TREBLE BOB and 720 KENT TREBLE BOB. D. Claydon, 1; W. Grimwade, 2; W. Rogers, 3; G. Galley, 4; W. Ward, 5; E. Latham (conductor), 6. For evening service, 720 COVER BOB, standing as before. Messrs. Latham, Galley, and Grimwade, came from Great Yarmouth; Rogers and Claydon, Colne; Ward, Halstead.

At TEWKESBURY ABBEY.—On Thursday, the 2nd inst., a date touch of STEDMAN TRIPLES (1889 changes) in 1 hr. 8 mins. C. W. Dyson, 1; R. H. Witherington, 2; J. F. Moore, 3; J. Hale, 4; J. Wathen, 5; T. Devereux, 6; Jos. Wathen (conductor), 7; S. Cleal, 8.

At THE PARISH CHURCH, RAMSBOTTOM, LANCASHIRE.—On Friday, the 3rd inst., the first 1512 of Holt's Ten-part peal in 50 mins. J. Dawson, 1; H. H. Nutter (conductor), 2; J. Wolstenholme, 3; A. Clegg, 4; J. H. Haydock, 5; J. T. Roston, 6; J. W. Laycock, 7; J. Tattersall, 8.

At THE PARISH CHURCH, HALEWOOD, LANCASHIRE.—On Saturday, the 4th inst., an attempt to ring Thurstans' Five-part peal of STEDMAN TRIPLES proved a failure owing to darkness intervening, after ringing upwards of 4500 changes in 2 hrs. 27 mins. J. R. Pritchard, 1; T. Hammond (conductor), 2; W. Booth, 3; J. Aspinwall, 4; H. Coley, 5; W. James, 6; W. Davies, 7; J. Martin, 8.

At St. Michael and All Angels', BRAINTREE, ESSEX.—On Sunday, the 5th inst., for Divine service in the morning, 720 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE and 240 NEW LONDON PLEASURE. S. Hammond, 1; F. Calthorpe, 2; F. Bumpstead, 3; W. Lincoln, 4; F. Rudkin (conductor), 5; H. Hammond, 6. And for evening service, 720 DOUBLE COURT. T. Watson, 1; W. Moore, 2; H. Hammond, 3; S. Hammond, 4; F. Rudkin (conductor), 5; W. Lincoln, 6.

At St. Mary's, BOCKING, ESSEX.—On Sunday, the 5th inst., for afternoon service, 720 OXFORD TREBLE BOB in 26½ mins. A. Spurge, 1; W. Moore, 2; W. Bearman, 3; C. Bearman, 4; H. Hammond (conductor), 5; W. Lincoln, 6. Tenor, 19 cwt. W. Lincoln came from Writtle, the rest are of Baintree and Bocking.

At THE PARISH CHURCH, MIDHURST, SUSSEX.—On Sunday, the 5th inst., after afternoon service, 720 OXFORD TREBLE BOB in 23 mins. T. Ellis, 1;

W. Court, 2; W. Wadey (Billingshurst), 3; C. Tribe, 4; W. Selby, 5; G. Williams (conductor), 6. Also 720 KENT TREBLE BOB in 23½ mins. W. Selby, 3; G. Williams (conductor), 5; W. Wadey, 6; others as in the Oxford. Also on handbells, at the house of Mr. Selby, 720 BOB MINOR in 18½ mins. W. Selby (first 720 double-handed), 1-2; G. Williams (conductor), 3-4; Mrs. G. Williams, 5-6.

At St. John's, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—On Monday, the 6th inst., 720 KENT TREBLE BOB MINOR in 28 mins. Jno. Simm, 1; F. Lees, 2; C. L. Routledge, 3; S. Power, 4; W. Story, 5; T. Denton (conductor), 6.

At St. Mary-the-Virgin's, PUTNEY, SURREY.—On Tuesday, the 7th inst., the All Saints' Society, Fulham, after an unsuccessful attempt for a peal, rang a quarter-peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 39 mins. A. S. Ough, 1; J. W. Kelley, 2; T. E. Hughes, 3; N. E. Snow, 4; A. Hubbard (conductor), 5; J. G. Green, 6; J. Nicholls, jun., 7; S. How, 8. Composed by Mr. Alps.

At ALL SAINTS', WIGAN, LANCASHIRE.—On Thursday, the 16th inst., for practice, the ringers of the above church, assisted by the Rev. H. F. Lloyd, rang 2520 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, being the first half of Reeves's Variation of Holt's Ten-part peal. T. Halliwell (conductor), 1; Rev. H. F. Lloyd (first half peal and longest length), 2; J. Layland, 3; G. Turner, 4; J. Hall, 5; S. Hall, 6; R. Fisher and J. Meadows, 7; J. Gummerson and J. Barker, 8.

RECEIVED ALSO.—T. Watson, Dalton-in-Furness (no method or time mentioned—send again); and others.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Rearrange the Prayer-book Services.

SIR,—The existing arrangement of the order of printing our Prayer-book directly suggests that 'Morning and Evening Prayer,' &c., are the principal thing. In *their place* they are excellent and edifying, but mischievous when they obscure the importance of what is greater than themselves. I submit that the sacramental services ought to lead—to catch the eye first on opening the book, and impress thus on the ignorant and superficial, who judge by what catches the eye, the lesson of their primary importance. At present they have the position of leading what are called the 'occasional' services; and having been thus thrust into the back-ground for some three and a half centuries, that fact has, I fear, had much to do with the rare communions and infrequent communicants of which our Church has to complain. That which is most prominent is assumed to be most important, and hence comes the post of honour on Sunday morning, allotted in the great majority of our Parish and even Cathedral Churches to 'morning prayer.'

As between the sacramental services themselves, I think that the Eucharist ought to lead, on account of the closer and more personal connexion which it has with the Divine Founder, Himself the first Celebrant, whereas He 'baptized not, but his disciples' (John, iv. 2). The Holy Communion in English was moreover the first instalment, in fact, of K. Edward's First Book, and saw the light some months before the rest of it was ready. Will no enterprising publisher undertake an edition in which the above due precedence shall be given? Would the S. P. C. K. try it?

Aldingham, April 25th, 1889.

HENRY HAYMAN, D.D.

Kneel or Sit?

SIR,—In reply to 'Anglicanus,' I would say that the reason why so many sit during the reading of the Epistle is merely that it is the modern custom to do so. The reason why many others continue kneeling is the same as that which your correspondent gives for standing up when the Gospel is read, namely, that it is 'of course according to rubric.' The people are to kneel for the Collect, and no direction is given for them to change this position for the Epistle.

30a Wimpole Street.

WILLIAM WHITE, F.S.A.

Lay Readers and the Convocations.

SIR,—Recent proceedings in respect of lay readers in both Convocations have attracted less attention than is due to their importance, involving, as they do, fundamental principles, and fraught, as they seem, with far-reaching consequences. More exciting events—political, ecclesiastical, and educational—have absorbed public interest. But now that your columns are less crowded, you will not deny a place for a few respectful observations on those proceedings.

As the proposals in the Upper Houses of both provinces were nearly identical, it may be convenient to deal with them together; and though they were very materially modified before adopted by York, and referred to a Committee in Canterbury, there will be an advantage in doing so, inasmuch as the original resolutions may be fairly taken to embody the deliberate mind and purpose of their very influential authors; and, however revised, are not unlikely, in a case in which so much is left to the discretion of diocesan and incumbent, to develop themselves in practice more or less on the lines of that purpose.

Do not these proposals amount to the addition of a fourth order to the Christian ministry, and one to be clothed with, in some respects, wider powers and a larger liberty than belongs to priests and deacons? A commission to be added to the license; that commission to extend not only to the diocese of the bishop who grants it, but to run in any diocese, or all to be 'universal,' as a lay reader correspondent of the *Guardian* claims. ~~It is~~ not to be exercised without episcopal license, as neither can commission of priest or deacon; to authorise any function to be prescribed therein a wide latitude, seeing the liberal views avowed by some prelates, and expressly in-

and of which he stood so much in need, and again assumed the principalship of the College, uniting with it the Professorship of Divinity, without emolument from either office, and while discharging his duties in connexion with it he has found the rest which he lost. He will long be remembered with grief by the many to whom he endeared himself by the gentleness of his disposition and the righteousness of his character.

SANDWICH ISLANDS.

THE most interesting and encouraging feature of missionary work in these islands just now seems to be the strong hold which is being gained on some thousands of Japanese labourers there. The members of the Japanese Embassy, who have themselves lately embraced Christianity, are actively aiding in the work.

JAPAN.

THE Greek Church is very active in Japan. It is now building a fine large church on a commanding site in Tokio. The land was given some years ago to the Russian Legation, and they turned it over to the Bishop of the Greek Church. 30,000 dollars have been spent on the foundations of the church. It will be of brick and iron, and will be completed within a year.

THE anti-Christian efforts of the Western Neo-Buddhists, or Theosophic Society, have been extended hither from Ceylon. Colonel Olcott is visiting the chief cities and temples, exhorting Buddhists to stand firm against foreign proselytisers. But the growing strength of the Gospel is evident. Last year a National Missionary Society was founded, in connexion with our branch of the Church, which already supports four stations—two near Tokio, and near Osaka and Kunamoto. Archdeacon Shaw writes:—‘The Buddhists now regularly send their best preachers to visit those parts where our Faith is especially making way. Mr. Nanjo, who studied at Oxford under Professor Max Müller, is now a priest at the great temple of Hougani, in Nagoya, and draws large congregations wherever he itinerates. But the effects of his advocating a reformed Buddhism are of a mixed character; when he tells the people they ought not to adore idols, or at shrines, as they have done for ages, he is very apt to bring both the priests about his ears.’ The Rev. J. Lloyd’s scheme for providing Christian masters in Japanese schools has been further developed, and will exercise a wide influence on the future of the nation.

INDIA.

THE Moslems of Delhi have opened a seminary in which preachers are taught all the objections of infidels against Christianity, that they may be sent out to counteract missionary efforts in India.

THE proposed appointment of a bishop for Chotâ Nagpore—a large district in the diocese of Calcutta—is in a fair way of being carried into effect. The S. P. G. are prepared to guarantee a stipend of 6000 rupees per annum for such a bishop from the date of his consecration, pending the raising of a capital sum of 12,000*l.* for the endowment of the see. The bishopric will be almost purely a missionary one, and jurisdiction will be conferred by canonical consent. The bishop will, therefore, be not independent, and his position will, in fact, correspond with that of Bishop Caldwell. The district has an area of 44,000 square miles, and a population of about four and a half millions, mostly heathen.

SOUTH AFRICA.

ARCHDEACON LIGHTFOOT, of Capetown, writes, with reference to the exodus from the Cape to the gold fields:—‘Our special trouble in many of the parishes is the departure of so many of the best and most enterprising parishioners for the gold fields in the Transvaal Republic.’ The movement has been so extensive that in some parishes few English men are left. In this diocese almost all the land of the country is in the hands of the Dutch. Our Church members are chiefly of the tradesmen and labouring classes, and it is to these classes that the wonderful gold fields appeal most strongly. Although so much support has been withdrawn from so many country parishes, we feel that we ought not to withdraw our missionaries; first, on account of the large number of poor coloured folk in these very parishes who have been converted under our ministry, and have joined our Church; and then, further, because we feel that the prosperity of the gold fields will react upon these now more or less deserted parishes (deserted, I mean, so far as our English people are concerned), and we ought to preserve all our parochial machinery, lest we should lose the returning or incoming people. Of course the Dutch Calvinistic Church, embracing nearly all the landowners, continues always in a prosperous state, and now lays itself out, by means of English services, to attract our own country people. Of ordinary English dissenting services in the country there is very little, but the Dutch Reformed Church, with the advantages of a quasi-established position, supplies its place. Our effort must now be prayerfully to hold on until the tide has turned.’

THE Bishop of Grahamstown has given some statistics of his diocese. The clergy are now nearly seventy, including two native priests and three native deacons. The churches and mission stations number eighty. The population is about 350,000; it consists of English settlers and their descendants, Dutch farmers, and native tribes—Fingos, Gaikas, Galaikas, Tambukis, Basutos, &c.—in the native reserves. The area of the diocese is 75,000 square miles. The Clergy Endowment Fund is invested in the names of the ‘diocesan trustees,’ it is administered by a Board of Finance appointed by the Diocesan Synod. During the last ten years efforts have been made throughout the diocese, resulting in the raising of 7500*l.*, for a fund in aid of the stipends of the clergy, to supply the place of the colonial chaplaincy grants, which the ‘Voluntary Act’ of the local Legislature is

making gradually to lapse. The recent exodus of some of the wealthier settlers to the gold-fields of the Transvaal has further tended to make the support of the clergy difficult. Happily the S.P.C.K. is about to grant a sum of 1000*l.* towards the Clergy Stipends Fund to meet 9000*l.* raised from other sources.

EAST AFRICA.

THE recent difficulty in reference to the Portuguese authorities at Tunghi refusing to allow Bishop Smythies and his party to land with an armed escort has been amicably settled, and Bishop Smythies, after consultation with the Governor of Mozambique, has proceeded on his journey.

CAPTAIN WISSMANN has made a report to Prince Bismarck concerning his expedition against Bushiri. In it he complains of the way in which his action was hampered by Bushiri’s capture of the English missionaries, who, he says, were veritable thumbscrews to him in Bushiri’s hands. He was obliged to defer punishing two Arabs who were guilty of some offence, pending the release of the missionaries, and was in other ways restricted in his operations for fear of imperilling their safety.

ARMENIA.

THE Governor of Van has lately issued a decree interdicting the breviary, which both the Gregorians and Catholic Armenians have been in the habit of using for religious teaching in all their schools for the last twelve or thirteen centuries. This breviary contains the lives of the saints and a number of ancient prayers, the only difference between the Gregorian and Catholic versions being that in the former the name ‘Catholico*s*’ is substituted for that of Pope in the latter. The motive alleged by the Governor for his action is that the breviary contains the lives of certain saints who were kings of Armenia. The measure was immediately reported by the Gregorian and Catholic bishops of Van to their respective patriarchs at Constantinople, and Monsignor Azarian, the Catholic Armenian patriarch, visited the Minister of Public Instruction in order to protest on behalf of the Church which he represents. The matter was subsequently referred to the Minister of the Interior, who declared that he was cognisant of the facts, and had directed the Governor of Van to withdraw his decree of prohibition, and to permit the use of the breviary as before. The Minister added, however, that the Governor had replied that he absolutely could not withdraw his order, as the teaching of the breviary was opposed to Ottoman national principles, and the latest intelligence from Van reports that the Armenians are still debarred from using it. The saints whose lives are narrated in the breviary include not only those who were kings of Armenia, but also some who were foreign kings. The patriarchs have lately had interviews with the Grand Vizier with the object of obtaining the withdrawal of the Governor’s decree.

SERVIA.

THE ex-Metropolitan, Michael arrived in Bucharest on Monday morning last.

TURKEY.

THE Christians of Upper Albania are loudly complaining of oppression at the hands of their Mussulman fellow-countrymen, and the Sultan has ordered a military officer of high rank and a judicial official to proceed to Albania for the purpose of inquiring into the alleged grievances and reporting to him on the matter.

ITALY.

THE Papal Allocation, read at the secret Consistory, held at Rome on the 24th inst., set forth the grievances of the Romish Church against the Italian Government, and dwelt especially upon the importance of the Catholic Congresses recently held in Madrid and Vienna. The Pope pointed out the impropriety of the monument to Giordano Bruno, which is shortly to be unveiled, and referred to the pernicious effects of the new law for regulating works of charity.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

The Sussex County Association.

NOTICE is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of this Association will be held at Brighton on Whit-Monday, June 10th.

Geo. F. ATTREE, Hon. Sec.

Jas. E. WORSSELL, Assistant Hon. Sec.

The Essex Association.

THE Annual Meeting of this Association will be held at Chelmsford on Whit-Monday, June 10th. Divine service at St. Mary’s Church at 11 a.m., with address by the Rev. Denys N. Yonge, vicar of Boreham. Business meeting at the Charity School at 12. Dinner (price 1*s.* to members who give notice of their intention to be present) at 1.30 p.m. Return tickets to Chelmsford at reduced fares will be granted by the G.E.R. to members of the Association who produce their receipt for this year’s subscription. Members who wish to avail themselves of this privilege should inform the Secretary from what station they intend to travel, not later than Wednesday, June 8th. The following towers will by kind permission be open to members during the day:—St. Mary’s, Chelmsford (ten bells); Widford, eight bells (one and a half miles distant); Writtle, eight bells (two miles); Galleywood, eight bells (three miles); Springfield, six bells (one and a quarter miles). Arrangements are being made for ringing peals at St. Mary’s, Chelmsford, on Saturday evening, June 8th, and at Widford and Writtle on the morning of Whit-Monday. By a resolution of the Association, passed on October 5th,

1887, no peal of 5000 changes or upwards should be started for in any tower open to members on the day of the Annual Meeting between the hours of 6 a.m. and 6 p.m.
T. L. PAPILLON, *Hon. Sec.*

Writtle Vicarage, Chelmsford.

The North Notts Association.

THE Annual Meeting of this Association will be held at Worksop on Whit-Monday, June 10th. The tower of the Priory Church will be open at 10.30, by kind permission of the Vicar.

Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association.

THE next General Meeting will be held at Morpeth on Whit-Monday, June 10th. A dinner will be provided at two o'clock at the New Phoenix Hotel, Bridge Street. Members intending to dine should apply for dinner tickets not later than Monday, June 3rd.
G. J. CLARKSON, *Hon. Sec.*

16 Finkle Street, Stockton-on-Tees.

REVIEWS.

THE following have recently reached us:—

(1.) SEVENTH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION OF CHANGE-RINGERS (*Leeds Express Office*).

(2.) ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1888 OF THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION OF CHANGE-RINGERS (Wadley, Newport, Mon.).

(3.) ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1888-89 OF THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF CHANGE-RINGERS (Cartmel, St. Albans).

(4.) BELLS OF PENRITH PARISH CHURCH, by Rev. H. Whitehead (Scott, Penrith, 6d.).

(1.) Consists of 88 pages, and contains all possible information concerning this flourishing Association, which well maintains its high position of efficiency and enterprise. The peal list, containing 71 peals in 13 methods, is noticeable as including the first peal of Cinques by the Association.

(2.) Is an excellently arranged and well-printed pamphlet of 44 pages. There is a steady increase in the number of peals rung, and a continued progress in the general well-being and utility of the Association. But the chief interest of the report centres in the notable peals recorded on p. 35, and that of 15,227 GRANDSIRE CATERs mentioned on p. 21, and to be entered in the next report. Both of these are indeed grand achievements.

(3.) Is excellent so far as it goes, but where are the peals? We are glad to see that the Association has good life in it, and we trust it may continue to grow steadily.

(4.) Is an interesting pamphlet of 28 pages, in which the author, together with very full information as to the weight, notes, age, inscriptions, &c., of the bells, gives also many noteworthy anecdotes of the history of the town, and also a few historical notices of other things connected with the church. We cannot help thinking that it would have been better to add two trebles rather than to cut up a family of Lester and Pach's bells to make up a ring of eight.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At the Parish Church, Twerton, Bath.

ON Thursday, the 16th inst., Holt's Original peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES was rung in 3 hrs. 1 min. J. S. Flower, 1; G. Tempest (first peal with a bob-bell), 2; W. Davis, 3; H. Pring,* 4; J. Holman (birthday), 5; H. Brown,* 6; J. Hinton (conductor), 7; A. Crocker,* 8. Tenor, 14 cwt. [* First peal.]

At All Saints', Duffield, Derbyshire.

ON Friday, the 17th inst., eight members of the Midland Counties' Association rang a Ten-part peal of STEDMAN TRIPLES in 3 hrs. 1 min. H. Midgley, 1; S. Johnson, 2; E. Moreton, 3; B. Sugden, 4; J. Howe, 5; W. Hickling, 6; A. P. Heywood, Esq. (composer and conductor), 7; G. Hingley, 8. Tenor, 17 cwt. This peal, which was achieved at the first attempt, is now rung for the first time.

ON Tuesday, the 21st inst., at the same church and by the same Association, eight members rang a peal of 5008 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR in 3 hrs. 14 mins. W. Clark, 1; S. Johnson, 2; W. Hickling, 3; H. Midgley, 4; G. Hingley, 5; J. Howe, 6; B. Sugden, 7; A. P. Heywood, Esq. (composer and conductor), 8. In this composition, which is now rung for the first time, the 2nd and 3rd are never in 6th's place.

At St. Mary's, Rawtenstall, Lancashire.

ON Saturday, the 18th inst., eight members of the Lancashire Association rang the Original Bob-and-Single peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 3 hrs. 12 mins. J. B. Taylor, 1; O. White, 2; G. Hoyle, 3; J. Shepherd, 4; J. Smith (first peal), 5; A. E. Wreaks (conductor), 6; F. Birtwistle, 7; J. Cropper, 8. Tenor, 14 cwt. The first peal in the method on the bells.

At St. Mary's, Diss, Norfolk.

ON Saturday, the 18th inst., eight members of the Norfolk Diocesan Association rang a peal of 5088 OXFORD TREBLE BOB MAJOR in 3 hrs. 22 mins. W. J. Nudds (first peal), 1; G. Archer, 2; J. Wood, 3; W. Nudds, 4; W. Ireland, 5; E. Batram, 6; A. Hart, 7; J. Souter, 8. Composed by Mr. J. Fleming, and conducted by Mr. Ireland. The Messrs. Nudds came from Banham; J. Woods, Kenninghall.

At St. Mary-de-Lode's, Gloucester.

ON Saturday, the 25th inst., the St. Michael's Juniors, and members of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association, rang a peal of 5040 BOB

MINOR (seven 720's, each called differently) in 2 hrs. 40 mins. A. Roberts (first peal), 1; S. E. Romans, 2; R. J. Wilkins, 3; E. F. Hart, 4; H. Mitchell, 5; W. J. Sevrer (conductor), 6. Tenor, 16½ cwt. First peal on the bells. The above was rung as a birthday peal for Queen Victoria, being celebrated in this city on the above date.

AT ST. LAWRENCE'S, PUDSEY, YORKSHIRE.—On Sunday evening, the 5th inst., for Divine service, 720 BOB MINOR (18 bobs and 2 singles) in 27 mins. D. Farrow, 1; J. Ross, 2; W. Bolland, 3; J. Smith, 4; S. Longstaff (first 720 as conductor), 5; F. Birks, 6. Tenor, 16 cwt.

AT ST. PAUL'S, FULNEX, SPALDING, LINCOLNSHIRE.—On Thursday evening, the 9th inst., a quarter-peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 47 mins. R. Lane (conductor), 1; E. Mason, 2; R. Skeef, 3; E. Quinton, 4; R. Creasey, 5; W. A. Tyler, 6; J. A. Croxford, 7; E. Jarvis, 8. Tenor, 15 cwt.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH, WANTAGE, BERKS.—On Saturday, the 11th inst., for practice, 720 GRANDSIRE MINOR in 30 mins. O. Gregory, 1; A. Bunce, 2; T. Millard (Ardington), 3; C. Page, 4; A. Gregory, 5; F. May (conductor), 6. Tenor, 25 cwt.

AT ST. PETER'S, ST. ALBANS, HERTS.—*Chiming*.—On Sunday, the 12th inst., for evening service, 504 BOB TRIPLES. H. Lewis, 1-2; E. P. Debenham (conductor), 3-4; W. H. L. Buckingham, 5-6; T. Waller, 7-8. On Sunday, the 19th inst., for afternoon service, 576 BOB MAJOR. G. W. Cartmel, 1-2; E. P. Debenham (conductor), 3-4; W. H. L. Buckingham, 5-6; T. Waller, 7-8.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH, WOOLFIT, SUFFOLK.—On Sunday, the 12th inst., six members of the Stowmarket Company rang 720 BOB MINOR (18 bobs and 2 singles) in 25 mins. W. Driver (first 720), 1; J. Jeffrey, 2; G. Ponder, 3; J. Souter, 4; W. Souter (conductor), 5; J. Wade, 6. Tenor, 13 cwt.

AT ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN'S, PUTNEY, SURREY.—On Tuesday, the 14th inst., a quarter-peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES (1260 changes) was rung in 44 mins. A. S. Ough, 1; J. G. Green, 2; N. E. Snow, 3; J. W. Driver, 4; J. Nicholls, jun., 5; W. H. George, 6; W. E. Garrard (conductor), 7; P. Gaymer, 8.

AT ST. ANDREW'S, WIVELISCOMBE, SOMERSETSHIRE.—On Tuesday, the 14th inst., nine peals of GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, each called differently, with 7-8 covering. T. Andrews, 1; W. Andrews, 2; R. Scott, 3; W. Chapman, 4; R. Andrews, 5; R. Chapman, 6; J. Richards, 7; C. Pulsford, 8.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH, SONNING, BERKS.—For practice, on Wednesday, the 15th inst., 1008 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 40 mins. J. Ford, 1; J. Potter, 2; J. F. Tarrant, 3; G. Talbot, 4; W. Johnson, 5; W. Goseltine, 6; W. Newell (conductor), 7; F. Russell, 8.

AT ALL SAINTS', STISTED, ESSEX.—On Thursday, the 16th inst., for practice, 720 BOB MINOR (nine bobs and six singles) in 25 mins. F. Radley, 1; E. Chaplin, 2; A. Chaplin, 3; F. Saunders, 4; E. Radley, 5; E. H. Howard (conductor), 6.

AT CAPEL, SURREY.—On Friday, the 17th inst., six members of the Capel Branch of the Winchester Diocesan Guild rang a date touch of 1889 changes in 1 hr. in the following nine minor methods:—120 FORWARD MINOR, 240 CARLISLE SURPRISE, 240 LONDON SURPRISE, 240 SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE, 240 WELLS SURPRISE, 240 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE, 240 WORCESTER SURPRISE, 240 OXFORD BOB, and 60 BOB MINOR. J. Akehurst, 1; R. Jordan, 2; E. Jordan, 3; M. Jenkins, 4; A. Mills (composer and conductor), 5; D. Jordan, 6.

AT TITCHMARSH, NORTHANTS.—On Saturday, the 18th inst., 704 TREBLE BOB MAJOR. G. Jeffs (first touch in the method), 1; W. Hall, 2; W. Gilbert, 3; F. Gilbert (conductor), 4; J. B. Martin, 5; A. E. Chapman, 6; A. H. Martin, 7; H. Stubbs, 8. Also 720 BOB MAJOR. W. Hall, 1; G. Jeffs, 2; W. Gilbert, 3; A. E. Chapman, 4; J. B. Martin, 5; A. H. Martin, 6; H. Stubbs, 7; F. Gilbert (conductor), 8. And 252 BOB TRIPLES. F. Gilbert, 1; G. Burton, 2; A. E. Chapman, 3; W. Hall, 4; J. B. Martin, 5; A. H. Martin (conductor), 6; H. Stubbs, 7; J. Bailey, 8.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH, WHITCHURCH, OXFORD.—On Sunday, the 19th inst., for Divine service, 120 and 60 of STEDMAN DOUBLES. T. Pocock, 1; W. Lawrence, 2; W. Pocock, 3; C. Pocock (conductor), 4; E. Bushnell, 5; H. Bushnell, 6. This was the first in the method rung on the bells, and the first on the ropes by all except the ringer of second, and was rung at the second attempt. Various touches of BOB and GRANDSIRE were rung for the services during the day, conducted by Messrs. Pocock and Lawrence.

AT CAYERSHAM, OXFORD.—On Sunday evening, the 19th inst., after Divine service, 720 KENT TREBLE BOB MINOR was rung with the bells half muffled, as a mark of respect to Miss Wilson, who passed away on Monday, the 13th inst. H. Simmonds, 1; J. Hands, 2; Rev. G. F. Coleridge, 3; H. Smith, 4; G. Essex, 5; T. Newman (conductor), 6. Tenor, 17 cwt.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH, POLSTEAD, SUFFOLK.—On Sunday morning, the 19th inst., for Divine service, 720 BOB MINOR. C. Ablitt, 1; W. Hazell, 2; W. Ransom, 3; A. Fuller, 4; J. Starling, 5; W. J. Nevard (conductor), 6. After service another 720, with T. Wood, 4; the rest as before.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH, STRAITFORD ST. MARY, SUFFOLK.—On Sunday evening, the 19th inst., after Divine service, 720 BOB MINOR. G. Winney, 1; W. Hazell, 2; W. Ransom, 3; A. Fuller, 4; J. Starling, 5; W. J. Nevard (conductor), 6.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH, BINGLEY, YORKSHIRE.—The following members of the local company rang 1889 changes of OXFORD TREBLE BOB MAJOR in 1 hr. 14 mins. to commemorate the seventieth birthday of Her Majesty the Queen, May 24th. J. Walker, 1; J. Speight, 2; H. Anderson, 3; J. Garnett, 4; T. Walker, 5; H. Foster, 6; J. Green, 7; T. W. Green (conductor), 8. Tenor, 17 cwt.

permeated, and at last, absorbed, by its increasing splendour; they recede and wither and disappear, and the eye ranges far beyond the sphere they had occupied, into the infinite glory that is above them.*

Undoubtedly Agnosticism is justified in appealing to language such as this as a sign of its own advancement. The passage—and it is a representative one—is simply an application to the Christian religion of the principle applied by Mr. Herbert Spencer† to religion universally, viz., that it is a progress in the conception of causal agents as ever becoming less known and less knowable. For the reason assigned by Mr. Lecky for the rejection of existing theological conceptions is not that they are imperfect and require correction, but that they are unnecessary and must be one and all dismissed. He affirms, speaking in the name of Rational Christianity, the existence of an invariable relation of antagonism between moral ideals and theological affirmations, and describes the progress of rational religion as a process of moral enlightenment accompanied by doctrinal disintegration. He indicates that the character and life which is at the centre of the Christian system, becomes influential as a moral lever in proportion to the completeness of its detachment from the truths which explain its nature, and justify its influence.

But if this be so, it is certainly surprising to learn at the same time that Mr. Lecky regards religion as 'no exception to the general law of progress,' for he represents it as the precise inversion of that law. We may, perhaps, be permitted to point out that the simile under which he describes the dissipation of theological vapours is more brilliant than accurate; for it is not to the clouds which conceal the sun, but rather to the scientific laws which explain its presence and its power, that theology should strictly be compared. *The Sun* is a term which has to-day an entirely different connotation from the sound by which the primitive man denoted the phenomenal source of light and heat. Between that day and this there has developed a complete heliology. Analysis and inference have revealed step by step the nature, the origin, the movements, and the effects of the solar body. Now we are accustomed to regard these successive discoveries as indicating the very essence of scientific progress, which is simply the elucidation of the causes of things, through the relation of fact to law. Had Mr. Lecky defined scientific development as the neglect of law for the sake of fact; had he urged us to further the progress of the race by abandoning heliologous speculation and contenting ourselves with the experience of light and warmth which satisfied the souls of our nomadic ancestors, he would have received, it is to be feared, from the exponents of scientific law, but a rough and rude reply. He would probably have been advised to leave the writing of philosophical history to those who could at least distinguish between progress and retrogression.

Yet this is precisely the advice which in a different sphere of knowledge Mr. Lecky gives us. The personal idea which is revealed in the life of Jesus is undoubtedly the sun of the Christian system. It is the central fact of which all Christian doctrine is an explanation. The person of Jesus has been elevated into a unique position; the influence of Jesus has been felt in a transcendent degree. Not to veil that position, nor yet to divert that influence, but to vindicate the one by accounting for the other, is the purpose of Christian doctrine. If it be urged that it has failed to fulfil this purpose, that its explanations are unsatisfactory and its vindication incomplete, we have, at all events, an intelligible statement which may be considered in detail, and may, perhaps, be satisfactorily met with; but when it is urged that no explanation and no vindication is necessary, that the simple fact is its own evidence and justification, we must simply reply that such an assertion can only arise out of misconception of the nature of religion, and the basis of certitude. It makes the former an instinct rather than a conviction, and it places the latter in the sensible feelings rather than in the rational judgment. It invites the cultured Christian to repose in the sunlight of a personal ideal which touches his sympathies without exciting his intelligence, much as an African savage may bask in the rays of the tropical sun without dreaming of inquiring into the nature and origin of the light and warmth which he enjoys. It is, indeed, a remarkable paradox that the final step in Rationalism should be the elimination of the rational element which is associated with the religious consciousness. But Mr. Lecky assures us that it is so; and his authority is indisputably great. Nevertheless, we are compelled to draw from his assertion the remarkable conclusion, that what is accounted progress in religion, would in any

other department of consciousness be regarded as deterioration. Before admitting the correctness of such a conclusion, we may at least be permitted to require that it be tested by the teaching of the original standards of the Christian faith, and by the evidence of the historic course of Christian development. FRED. W. FORD.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

The Kent County Association.

THE Annual General Meeting is fixed to be held at Canterbury on Monday, June 17th. The Dean of Canterbury will preside at the dinner, and the address will be given by the Archdeacon of Maidstone. The allowance to members attending is one shilling, besides the dinner ticket. All who wish to receive tickets must communicate with the Secretary not later than Monday, June 10th.

R. B. KNATCHBULL-HUGESSEN, *Hon. Sec.*

Winsted Court, Lenham, Kent.

The Society of Trinity Youths:

THE first Annual General Meeting of the above Society will be held at St. Mary's Church, Lewisham, on Monday, June 17th (Trinity Monday), at 8 p.m., when subscriptions for the ensuing year become due. Officers will be elected, and the report and balance-sheet for the past year presented. The tower will be open for ringing from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m., and after the meeting.

FREDERICK W. THORNTON, *Hon. Sec.*

The Ely Diocesan Association.

NOTICE is hereby given that a meeting of the above Association will be held at Soham, Cambridgeshire, on Monday, June 10th (Whit-Monday), when the favour of the attendance of all members and persons interested in the Association is requested. N.B.—Ten Bells. K. H. SMITH, *Hon. Sec.*

The Cambridge Road, Ely.

The Oxford Diocesan Guild.—East Berks and South Bucks Branch.

A MEETING of this branch will be held on Whit-Monday, June 10th Ringing at High Wycombe, West Wycombe, and Hughenden, at 2.30 p.m. Business (if any) at High Wycombe at 4.30 p.m.

R. P. NEWHOUSE, *Branch Sec.*

The Worcestershire and Adjoining Districts Change-ringing Association.

ON Saturday, the 1st inst., a Quarterly Meeting of this Association was held in the Chantry, St. Mary's Church, Kidderminster, the Rev. S. Phillips, vicar, presiding. The usual business was transacted, and several new members added to the list. In the course of the miscellaneous business the Master, Mr. S. Spittle, congratulated the Kidderminster Company on the achievement of the two peals of STEDMAN TRIPLES, especially being the first by members of the Association, and hoped other Societies would soon accomplish peals in the same and other intricate matters. A vote of thanks to the Reverend Chairman brought the meeting to a close. During the afternoon touches of GRANDSIRE, TREBLE BOB, and STEDMAN, were rung upon the tower bells. The members afterwards met at the 'Royal George' Inn, where the new ring of handbells, the property of the Association, was brought into requisition, when courses and touches of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, and courses of GRANDSIRE CATERS and ROYAL, were rung upon them.

BROMSGROVE BRANCH.—On Whit-Monday, the members of this branch of the above Association will unveil the tablet of the 8064 of GRANDSIRE CATERS rung on December 29th, 1888, and in connexion with the ceremony a dinner (tickets 1s. 6d. each) will be provided. Any ringing friends or members of the above Association will receive a hearty welcome. A peal of CATERS will be attempted in the morning, so as to give any other ringers the chance to ring another. Further particulars can be had on application to

Stourbridge Road.

WALTER REA, *Sec.*

The Hertfordshire Association.

A DISTRICT MEETING will be held at Hitchin on Saturday, June 22nd, when, by kind permission, the tower of St. Mary's Church will be open for ringing from two p.m. At five o'clock tea will be provided at the Coffee Tavern (charge to members 6d. each), followed by the business meeting. The usual arrangements will be made for the issue of cheap tickets to members travelling by the Great Northern Railway. The Secretary will be glad to receive, on or before Wednesday, June 19, the names of those who intend to be present at the tea, and to know the stations from which they propose to travel. Members are reminded that the subscriptions for the current year are now due.

E. P. DEBENHAM, *Hon. Sec.*

St. Albans, June 5th, 1889.

The Bells of Peterborough Cathedral.

THE bells of Peterborough Cathedral have been rehung at a cost of about 600l., and they were to have been rung about a week ago; but, at the last moment, Mr. Pearson, the architect, prohibited the ringing on account of the insecurity of the west front.

The Bells at Newnham-on-Severn, Gloucestershire.

THE bells of St. Peter's Church in this parish having for several years been unringable, and the fourth bell cracked, it has been unanimously decided at a public meeting of parishioners recently held to have the bells augmented to eight, by the addition of a new treble and tenor, and the old fourth recast into a new fifth, the whole to be rehung in an iron frame. A committee has been formed, including the vicar and churchwardens, to carry out the work

* Lecky, W. H.: *Rise of Rationalism in Europe*, bk. i. ch. ii.

† Herbert Spencer: *Reasons for Dissenting from the Philosophy of M. Comte* p. 19.

Subscriptions amounting to about 170*l.* have been obtained, and at a committee meeting held on Friday, May 24*th*, it was resolved to accept the tender of Warner & Son, London, to do the work.

A Long Peal of Grandsire Caters.

NOTICE.—On Whit-Monday ten members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild will attempt a long peal of Grandsire Caters.

A New Clock at Crossens Church, near Southport.

A LARGE clock with Cambridge chimes has just been erected at the above church by John Smith & Sons, Midland Clock Works, Derby. It has two dials, which are illuminated for the twofold purpose of showing the time and forming a beacon for the fishermen on the shore. The chimes will also serve as a guide when sudden sea fogs arise on the shrimping-ground. The same firm have also just completed a similar clock at Kelly College, Tavistock.

A Visit to Ringwould, Kent.

On Saturday, the 25*th* ult., some members of the Deal branch of the Kent County Association visited Ringwould, and rang two six-scores of BOB DOUBLES. T. Mockett (conductor), 1; H. Denne, 2; H. Castle, 3; G. Denne, 4; S. Parker, 5. And several plain courses, in which L. Silver rang the 4*th*. These are the first six peals (120 changes) on the bells, which are a light but musical ring; tenor, 5½ cwt. in C. They were recast and rehung in a new frame by Meers & Stainbank in April 1887, and space was left for a new tenor, which it is hoped will soon be added.

Recollections of Mr. Giles Mansfield.

On Wednesday, the 24*th* of April, the following ringers rang a muffled peal, consisting of 1008 changes of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, on the Stroud parish bells, after the funeral of Mr. Giles Mansfield. A. Trigg, 1; E. King, 2; C. King, 3; N. King, 4; J. Nash, 5; G. Latham (conductor), 6; W. Hale, 7; E. Paul, 8. In the evening, a deeply muffled and well-struck peal was rung on the Painswick parish church bells, consisting of the whole-pull-and-stand, followed by GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. The following peals were achieved by the deceased:—

			Time.
			h. m.
June 19, 1814.—5040 changes,	Grandsire Triples ...	3 8	
Aug. 6, 1815.—5099 "	Grandsire Royal ...	3 25	
Oct. 15, 1815.—5003 "	Grandsire Caters ...	3 19	
Oct. 29, 1815.—6101 "	" " " " " " " "	3 48	
May 23, 1816.—5856 "	Bob Major ...	3 48	
Aug. 31, 1816.—5000 "	Bob Royal ...	3 17	
Sept. 23, 1816.—10,278 "	Grandsire Caters ...	6 48	
Nov. 27, 1816.—6440 "	Bob Royal ...	4 48	
Jan. 14, 1817.—6000 "	Bob Major ...	4 1	
Feb. 1, 1817.—8064 "	" " " " " " " "	5 24	
Feb. 5, 1817.—5040 "	Bob Royal ...	3 26	
May 5, 1817.—12,312 "	Grandsire Caters ...	7 44	
June 4, 1817.—5003 "	" " " " " " " "	3 3	
July 7, 1817.—5040 "	Grandsire Triples ...	2 57	
Dec. 6, 1817.—5000 "	Grandsire Royal ...	3 20	
Jan. 1, 1818.—6000 "	" " " " " " " "	4 3	
May 4, 1818.—8000 "	Grandsire Major ...	5 23	
Jan. 23, 1819.—5040 "	Grandsire Triples ...	3 16	
July 2, 1820.—5040 "	Bob Triples ...	3 14	
Oct. 4, 1820.—5000 "	Bob Royal ...	3 25	
Oct. 11, 1819.—5213 "	Grandsire Cinques ...	3 32	
Nov. 6, 1820.—5356 "	Bob Royal ...	3 7	
Aug. 7, 1821.—5081 "	Grandsire Cinques ...	3 26	
Jan. 1, 1823.—5088 "	Treble Bob Major ...	3 27	
April 26, 1824.—5856 "	" " " " " " " "	3 51	
April 24, 1826.—5155 "	Grandsire Caters ...	3 17	
April 1, 1827.—5000 "	Treble Bob Royal ...	3 20	
June 5, 1827.—5579 "	Grandsire Caters ...	3 27	
April 13, 1828.—5085 "	Treble Bob Major ...	2 58	
May 6, 1828.—5120 "	Treble Bob Royal ...	2 23	
Nov. 5, 1832.—5232 "	Treble Bob Maximus ...	3 35	
Nov. 19, 1846.—5040 "	Stedman Triples ...	3 12	
Oct. 10, 1849.—5040 "	Grandsire Triples ...	3 18	
May 20, 1850.—5191 "	Grandsire Cinques ...	3 23	
Dec. 26, 1851.—5079 "	Stedman Caters ...	3 16	
June 31, 1852.—5189 "	" " " " " " " "	3 15	
Mar. 10, 1864.—5184 "	Grandsire Caters ...	3 12	

In preparation, published by subscription, *The Church Bells of Suffolk*. By John James Raven, D.D., of Emmanuel College, Cambridge; Vicar of Fressingfield-with-Withersdale, and Honorary Canon of Norwich Cathedral. With about 90 Illustrations.—Messrs. Jarrold & Sons (London: 3 Paternoster Buildings, E.C.—Branches: Yarmouth, 182 King Street; Cromer, The Library)—announce the early publication of this work. It will contain an account of all the church bells in the county of Suffolk, their makers and history, so far as they can be discovered. Incidental notices will be introduced of the ancient uses of bells, the individuals mentioned on them, and many historical events connected therewith. Introductory remarks on the general history of bells will be prefixed to the local portion of the work. The book will be fully illustrated with engravings of inscriptions, letterings, founders' marks, shields, &c., of which some will be found hitherto unknown. The latter portion of the work will contain a complete list of churches in the county, with the inscriptions on the

bells now belonging to them, as well as on many which have been recast. The demy 8vo. edition is limited to 500 copies, and will be offered to subscribers before the day of publication at 15*s.* nett. The larger edition, royal 4to., is limited to 50 copies, and will be subscribed at 25*s.* The prices will be raised on the day of issue should any copies remain unsold.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At St. Peter's, Drayton, Berks.

On Friday, the 17*th* ult., eight members of the Oxford Diocesan Association rang a peal of 5024 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR in 2 hrs. 45 mins. A. P. Goddard, 1; W. Adkin, 2; C. Hounslow, 3; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 4; T. Blackburn, 5; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 6; T. Short, 7; G. Holfield, 8.

At St. Margaret's, Barking, Essex.

On Saturday, the 18*th* ult., eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths, being also members of the Essex Association, rang Holt's Original peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 3 hrs. 5 mins. T. Baker, 1; H. Springall (conductor), 2; S. E. Joyce, 3; J. Carmichael, 4; York Green, 5; E. Hall, 6; S. Hayes, 7; E. A. Davies (churchwarden), 8. Tenor, 22 cwt., in E. This peal was rung from the church floor, and is the first on the bells since the removal of the gallery and the ancient ringing-floor. Messrs. Springale and Hall were elected members of the Essex Association previous to starting for the peal.

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

On Thursday, the 23*rd* ult., eight members of the Midland Counties Association rang a Three-part peal of 5040 STEPMAN TRIPLES in 3 hrs. 11 mins. A. P. Heywood, Esq. (composer), 1; J. Austin, 2; A. Wakley, 3; J. Griffin, 4; E. I. Stone, 5; T. Holmes, 6; W. Wakley (conductor), 7; G. Robinson, 8. Tenor, 26 cwt. This peal, which was achieved at the first attempt, is the first three-part peal composed in the method.

At St. Mary's, Woodbridge, Suffolk.

On Friday, the 24*th* ult., eight members of the Norwich Diocesan Association rang a peal of 5008 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR in 3 hrs. 15 mins. W. Ward, 1; W. A. Arnott, 2; H. Burch, 3; W. Burch, 4; C. Ward, 5; A. Ward, 6; P. Meadows, 7; E. Collins, 8. Composed by Mr. J. Reeves and conducted by Mr. W. Ward. Tenor, 28 cwt. Rung in honour of Her Majesty's birthday.

At St. John-the-Baptist's, Erith, Kent.

On Saturday, the 25*th* ult., eight members of the Society of Trinity Youths rang Holt's Ten-part peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 52 mins. G. Cullum, 1; F. Cullum, 2; C. Chooett (first peal), 3; G. Conyard, 4; E. E. Richards (first peal as conductor), 5; W. Bedwell, 6; E. Barnett, 7; D. Barnes 8. Tenor, 19 cwt.

At St. Mary's, Gloucester.

On Saturday, the 1*st* inst., the following members of the St. Michael's Junior Society, in connexion with the Gloucester and Bristol Association, rang 5040 changes of BOB MINOR, each 720 called differently, in 3 hrs. 9 mins. E. B. James, 1; F. E. Hart, 2; S. E. Romans, 3; R. J. Wilkins, 4; H. Mitchell, 5; W. J. J. Sevier, 6. Tenor, 23 cwt. in E flat. Arranged and conducted by Mr. Sevier. This is the first peal of MINOR on the bells. Great credit is due to the firm of Barwells, Bell-founders, Birmingham, for the manner in which they are hung, as the above well shows, being the first peal of MINOR on that weight of metal. The young band were congratulated for their excellent striking throughout, which was listened to by the local company. The visitors wish to thank the Vicar for the use of the bells, also Mr. Midwinter for getting everything ready.

At the Church of Bishop Ryder, Birmingham, Warwickshire.

On Saturday, the 1*st* inst., eight members of the St. Martin's Guild rang a peal of 5040 STEPMAN TRIPLES (a five-part composition) in 2 hrs. 54 mins. B. Witcheil, 1; W. Mundy, 2; T. Reynolds, 3; J. W. Cartwright, 4; W. E. Smith, 5; H. Bastable (conductor), 6; W. Kent, 7; J. Johnson, 8. Composed by A. Percival Heywood, Esq. Tenor, 12 cwt. This peal, which is now rung for the first time, is the first five-part composition ever achieved in the method with the 7*th* undisturbed by bobs.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH, CRATFORD, KENT.—On Sunday evening, the 12*th* ult., for Divine service, 720 BOB MINOR, with 6-8 covering, in 25 mins. G. Pilling,* 1; G. Cook,* 2; A. Peill,* 3; H. Gibbs, 4; R. Wilkins, 5; W. Dartnell,* 6; E. Barnett, 7; A. Dartnell,* 8. And on Friday evening, the 24*th* ult., to commemorate the Queen's birthday, 720 BOB MINOR, 6-8 covering, in 26 mins. G. Pilling, 1; W. McGregor,* 2; G. Cook, 3; H. Gibbs, 4; G. Conyard, 5; E. Beaumont,* 6; E. Barnett, 7; A. Dartnell, 8. Both conducted by E. Barnett. [* First 720.]

AT THE PARISH CHURCH, GLEMSFORD, SUFFOLK.—On Thursday, the 16*th* ult., 720 PLAIN BOB (18 bobs and 2 singles). S. Slater (conductor), 1; R. S. Theobald, 2; A. J. Clarke, 3; R. S. Breet, 4; J. Wheeler, 5; R. Gowers, 6. Messrs. Theobald, Clarke, Breet, Wheeler, and Gowers came from Stanstead; S. Slater belongs to the local company.

AT ST. GILES'S, READING.—On Thursday, the 16*th* ult., for practice, 720 CANTERBURY PLEASURE MINOR in 26½ mins. H. Bonney, 1; T. Sweetzer, 2; A. Evans, 3; A. Simmonds (Caversham), 4; A. E. Reeves, 5; H. Egby (conductor), 6. Also on Friday, the 24*th* ult., 720 BOB MINOR in 26 mins. H. Smart, 1; J. T. Tarrant, 2; H. Egby, 3; T. Sweetzer, 4; A. Evans 5; A. E. Reeves (conductor), 6.

AT ST. GREGORY'S, SUDBURY.—On Saturday evening, the 18th ult., the members of the Sudbury company of change-ringers met for their usual weekly practice at St. Gregory's, and rang a peal of 720 KENT TREBLE BOB MINOR. W. B. Ransom, Esq. (first peal in the method), 1; J. Campin, 2; W. Howell, 3; H. Harper, 4; C. Sillitoe (conductor), 5; A. Scott, 6. On Sunday evening, the 19th ult., the bells of St. Peter's were rung for evening service by the following members of the company, who rang a touch of 672 STEDMAN TRIPLES. J. Campin, 1; C. Sillitoe (conductor), 2; G. Brown, 3; W. B. Ransom, Esq., 4; H. Harper, 5; A. Scott, 6; W. Howell, 7; H. Brackett, 8. And after service another touch of 588 STEDMAN TRIPLES.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH, NORTON, STAFFORDSHIRE.—On Sunday, the 19th ult., for evening service, 720 OXFORD BOB MINOR in 26 mins. W. Tabernor (first 720), 1; E. Glover, 2; J. Morton, 3; J. W. Brough, 4; W. Baddeley, 5; J. Wood (conductor), 6.

AT ST. ANDREW'S, NETHERTON.—On Sunday, the 2nd inst., on the occasion of the choir sermons, for morning service, 720 KENT TREBLE BOB MINOR in 26 mins. E. Hampton, 1; R. Round, 2; J. Townsend, 3; W. Prestidge, 4; J. Prestidge, 5; J. Smith (conductor), 6. And for evening service, 720 OXFORD TREBLE BOB MINOR in 25 mins. E. Hampton, 1; J. Prestidge, 2; J. Townsend, 3; R. Round, 4; W. Micklewright, 5; J. Smith (conductor), 6.

ERRATUM.—In *Grandsire Caters*, page 601, for 'produces 24536978,' read 'produces 42563978.'

CORRESPONDENCE.

The Increase of the Episcopate.

SIR,—It is so many years since I first advocated the division of the important and overgrown see of Worcester, in the pages of *Church Bells*, by the erection of a bishopric for the county of Warwick, with the ancient episcopal city of Coventry as the see town, that I am encouraged to think, as the question seems now fast ripening for settlement, you will allow me a little of your valuable space to say a few words anent the discussion which has lately appeared in your columns between your correspondents 'W. E. T.' and 'S. Y. S.'

The division of the populous and unwieldy dioceses of the English and Welsh Churches is, and no doubt will continue to be, the great work of Churchmen of the present generation, and for the successful accomplishment of which much of the future welfare and efficiency in a great measure depends. For three centuries after the Reformation the Church fell into a sluggish sleep in this respect, and it was not until the year 1836 that she awoke to the fact that she was deeply suffering, and was handicapped in her work from a want of the increase of the episcopate. By the Act of that year two new sees were created, Manchester and Ripon, and many, especially the Midland ones, were rearranged. This shuffling of the cards gave some little relief, but it was soon found that more important measures must follow. But nearly another half century elapsed, so slow is Church reform carried out, before the great awakening occurred, and now, during the last decade, half-a-dozen new sees have been endowed and erected, some of which are almost ripe for division, so fast does population grow in old England, while those unsatisfactory makeshifts, suffragan bishops, are almost as plentiful as blackberries. Truly, this latter part of the nineteenth century will ever stand pre-eminent in the history of the Church of England.

But much yet remains to be done, and the urgent necessity for the division of the Midland see of Worcester has been so often proved, not only in the pages of *Church Bells*, but in both houses of Convocation, that very little may be said on that part of the subject. But although it may seem, as it has done before to some Churchmen, a little premature to even name, or to talk about the see town before the diocese is endowed, yet, on the other hand, it is quite certain nothing can be lost by doing so. There are two schemes before the Church with reference to the division of the see of Worcester, when this long-advocated project is brought forward for final settlement. The erection of a bishopric for the county of Warwick, with the old cathedral city of Coventry as see town; and the creation of a brand new see, to consist of the town, I beg pardon, I mean the city, of Birmingham, and a narrow fringe of land around. (But it has been said lately in the local press that Birmingham does not desire to become an episcopal city now that its ambition has been satisfied by being created a city by special favour of the Crown.) Some of our more far-seeing and energetic Church reformers even go so far as to say that both these propositions should be carried out, but I suppose that is too much to hope for, even in the present age of change and increased energy and life.

So the case resolves itself into this, Which would it be to the best interests of the Church to do—to erect a see for the county, that would effectually relieve, both in area and population, this very large old see of Worcester, by dividing from it the archdeaconry of Coventry, or simply to give only a partial relief by creating a new see for the town of Birmingham alone? It is generally allowed that the future sees will be formed by counties, and it does seem natural and right that when the area of a county is enough, and the population sufficient, to require two sees, that the foundation of a bishopric for the shire should be taken in hand first, and have precedent over one town.

There can be no doubt the 500 deaneries and benefices of Worcester cry aloud for more active supervision than it is possible for the present venerable and much-loved Bishop to bestow on them, and that this urgent piece of Church reform must soon be carried out goes without saying. And to do this effectually, with the least expense, and to do the most good, if only one

see is formed, it does seem to many to be the most reasonable and practicable plan to erect it in the centre of the county, at Coventry, where the Bishop could work all round among his people, and where he would be within thirty minutes rail of the centre of even Birmingham itself, and not at the hardware village which is situate in the remote north-west of the shire, on the extreme edge of the boundary of the county of Warwick.

The endowment of a bishopric for the town of Birmingham would cost Churchmen as much as the endowment of a see for the whole county of Warwick, and we may presume no more or less. But there is another thing to be considered as well as the endowment of the see is concerned, as Manchester and Liverpool have found out and are suffering from, and with all their wealth have not been able yet to remedy, and that is, the want of a great and stately cathedral. Eighty or ninety thousand pounds is a great sum to raise to erect a bishop's see anywhere; but when that has to be obtained, and then at least three times that amount to erect a cathedral large and grand enough to be the mother church of such a diocese as the historic and wealthy county of Warwick would form, many of the principal Churchmen of the county of Warwick may well be excused if they ask the question why they should be asked to subscribe part of that wealth which is so much needed for the erection of more parish and district churches, and for the rescue and preventative work of the Church, when the cathedral is already built (St. Michael's, Coventry, is said to be largest parish church in England) right in the centre of the work, an ancient historic church with an area of 27,000 feet, stately in architecture, immense in its altitude and proportions, sumptuously fitted, and just leaving the hands of the greatest ecclesiastical builder after a complete restoration, at a cost, almost wholly of the citizens of Coventry, of nearly 40,000l. Why, under these circumstances, should Birmingham be pushed forward? Sentiment, in the form of the reversionary right of Coventry to become the see town of any see created in the county of Warwick, as an ancient cathedral city, can well be disposed of in discussing this question, and the argument can well be sustained on even utilitarian grounds alone. Birmingham may be, and no doubt is, a good political centre, but as a see town for the county of Warwick, or to relieve the diocese of Worcester, it is a very bad one. Wiser counsels, it is hoped, will prevail than to erect a see for one town and neglect a whole shire. In every respect it would seem very much like putting the cart before the horse. There can be no doubt, even in the near future, looking to the increased life and activity of the Church, and the great and never-ceasing growth of the population of the county of Warwick, like Gloucester, this shire must soon have two sees—a county one, and one for the great town of Birmingham.

As the titles of the two bishoprics of Bath and Wells, Lichfield, and Coventry, or, as at first, and for nearly 500 years, Coventry and Lichfield, have been mentioned by your last correspondent as a reason why the suggested new see of Birmingham should receive as its title that of Birmingham and Coventry, would it not, as it would be a Church title, be better and seem more dignified if the title was reversed and made that of Coventry and Birmingham? Of course, that would only be if the county bishopric was formed first.

A. J. B.

Free and Open Churches.

SIR,—I have taken no part whatever in the local papers with regard to the question of Free and Open Seats in our parish church; nor is there the least feeling of excitement here upon the matter, as your readers, not acquainted with this neighbourhood, might be led to suppose; on the contrary, there is perfect peace and quietness. I merely trouble you because since you have thought certain extracts from one of our local papers worthy of a place in your columns, I have been asked by some of my friends elsewhere whether I am really deliberately turning my back on all my old convictions and taken to obstruct Church improvements. After having been always credited with a spirit of innovation and too great eagerness to upset existing things, this change is to myself refreshing. But inasmuch as it is calculated to convey a wrong impression to those of my friends amongst your readers who do not know my present parish, I venture to ask you just to let me say that I am in favour of Free and Open Churches, that I have one in this parish where every seat is unappropriated, and that with regard to the parish church I rejoice to think that whereas when I came here there were scarcely any free seats at all, they now abound, not under the galleries only (as strangers reading the correspondence might be led to suppose), but in the best positions possible in our most awkward and inconvenient church. This fact is one of the many things I owe to the constant efforts of my excellent friend and late churchwarden, Mr. Rooke. He and I have equally at heart the object of making the influence of the Church more powerfully felt in Barnes, and we agree, moreover, most cordially that the pew system is an evil interfering with that object, only he appears to think that the system is so radically and hopelessly bad that, never mind what harm may be done to old and devout Church worshippers, it must at all hazards be swept away at once, whereas my own view is that it is better dealt with as the apostles dealt with slavery, not declaring a relentless and implacable war against it, but trusting that the more and more the fullness of Church truth takes hold of people's minds it is certain to pass away.

Barnes, S.W., June 1, 1889.

L. T. LOCHEE, Rector.

[We have admitted this letter as a personal explanation. We cannot revive the discussion on the general question.—Ed. C.B.]

Gambling and Betting.

SIR,—No doubt gambling and betting are wrong, because they take money from others without giving any equivalent, and so break the eighth commandment. But I would take a higher view than this. Gambling is creating a feeling of dependence upon chance, and is a most engrossing feeling: but those things which we are looking forward to are not chances, but certain-

artificial manner in which it was carried on in modern times, an anomaly—doomed without the sentence of the Socialist. No democratic instinct on this subject had ever been more brilliantly touched than by Charles Kingsley in his song of the 'Poacher's Widow,' and his theme formed a keen weapon in the hands of a malignant Socialist. If the Church of the twentieth century was to command the Radicalism and guide the Socialistic instincts of modern Englishmen, its members must be open-minded, large-hearted, far-seeing, brave, just, and true. There was a tendency among some of the most generous and brave of the English clergy, which he observed with respectful anxiety, to combine somewhat Socialistic views with Catholic theology, and yet to stretch so far the right hand of fellowship to social reformers who cared not for the creeds, and his anxiety was that they might be in danger of losing their balance and falling into the embrace of the enemy. Every one was the enemy of the Church who would make traffic of her creeds and ignore her theology. Justice, however, must be done to the enemy; and he knew no greater good to hope and pray for, in the interests of the people of England and the Catholic Church of Christ, than that Churchmen, both clergy and laymen, should be more brave and just and uncompromising in dealing with the producers of wealth without respect of persons—of the landowners and capitalists, the upper class and the middle class, and all the while go forward in the work with perfect faith in the capacity of the Church of Christ to cope with all possible phenomena of modern life.

An interesting discussion followed.

It was eventually agreed, on the motion of *Mr. Butler*, seconded by *Archdeacon Long*—

'That Churchmen should carefully consider the attitude which the Church ought to assume towards the Socialistic tendencies of the present day, in connexion with the report of the Lambeth Conference on the subject, and that the report is respectfully submitted as one worthy of the early consideration of the diocesan conferences.'

The proceedings close with a vote of thanks to the chairman.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Kent County Association of Change-ringers.

GENERAL MEETING at CANTERBURY, JUNE 17TH.

CATHEDRAL belfry open from 8.30 a.m., except during service-time. Morning service, 10 o'clock; address by the Archdeacon of Maidstone, 10.40. Committee meeting at 12 noon, in the Cathedral Library.

Business.—Admission of members; report for 1888; steps towards new local committees; dinner at the Oddfellows' Hall, 1.30. The Dean of Canterbury in the chair. Tickets should be applied for before June 10th.

R. B. KNATCHBULL-HUGESSEN, *Hon. Sec.*

Winsted Court, Lenham, June 5th, 1889.

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF CHANGE-RINGERS.

BROTHER RINGERS,—My acceptance of a living in another diocese and county makes it necessary that I should resign the office of Secretary to our Association. It is with great regret that I find myself obliged to sever a connexion which has subsisted nearly nine years, during which I have been happy enough to make many friends among you. I am, however, glad to think that I shall leave you a united and flourishing Society, in a sound financial condition, and with those among your members from whom you will easily be able to supply my place, and (which is no small advantage) with a far better ringer than I can ever hope to be, though not, I make bold to add, with one more devoted to your interests.—I am, yours most faithfully,

June, 1889.

R. B. KNATCHBULL-HUGESSEN.

The Lancashire Association.—Rochdale Branch.

A MEETING of the above branch was held at the church of St. Thomas, Newhey, on the 1st inst. Members attended from Newhey, Moorside, Shaw, Oldham, Rochdale, Heywood, Milnrow, Ramsbottom, and Bacup. Touches of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES were rung by mixed bands, and also a plain course of KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, being the first attempt of some of those who took part in it. The next meeting is to be held at Heywood. The usual votes of thanks brought the meeting to a close.

The Ancient Society of College Youths.

NOTICE.—Members are asked to attend the meeting at St. Saviour's, on Tuesday, the 18th inst., at 8.15 p.m., as an important question will be brought forward.

RICHARD T. WOODLEY, *Hon. Sec.*

40 Lillington Street, Pimlico, W.

The Bells of St. Thomas's, Brentwood, Essex.

IN 1887 the new church of St. Thomas-the-Martyr, Brentwood, was completed, in so far as the building is concerned, by the addition of a tower and spire. At the same time the church was supplied with a very musical ring of eight bells from the foundry of Mears & Stainbank, which was formally opened for ringing on Oct. 3rd, 1888, by the members of the Essex Association, and a Society of Brentwood Ringers was formed. As the old church possessed but two bells, the local band was formed chiefly of new hands, who have made considerable progress under the tuition of Mr. A. J. Perkins of Brentford: and on Thursday, May 23rd, two peals of 120 changes of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES were rung on the tower bells, first by J. Burgess, 1; A. J.

Perkins, 2; H. J. Nixon, 3; T. Fudge, 4; W. J. Pegram, 5; D. Crow, 6; the second by J. Burgess, 1; Rev. H. B. Woolley, 2; H. J. Nixon, 3; A. J. Perkins, 4; W. J. Pegram, 5; J. Herbert, 6. Tenor 19½ cwt. On handbells a plain course of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES and several peals of DOUBLES, in which Messrs. J. Baker, C. Baker, and A. Searle took part. These touches were conducted by Mr. Perkins, and there seems to be every probability that under his guidance the Brentwood ringers will soon be able to do full justice to their fine bells.

The Bells of the Parish Church of Hailsham, Sussex.

ANOTHER step towards the complete restoration of the parish church of Hailsham is about to be taken. It is proposed to re-roof the nave and rebuild the clerestory, also to reseal the body of the church and open out the west arch, throwing the fine large west window into full view. It is to be hoped that this may be followed by the rehanging of the ring of five bells, and the long-talked-of addition of another treble. The bells were cast by John Hodgson, 1663. The tenor, a fine-toned bell in A flat, weighs 12½ cwt.

The Rev. H. A. Cockey.

WE hear that a marriage is arranged, and will take place on August 20th, between the Rev. Herbert A. Cockey, vicar of Oldland (a member of the Ancient Society of College Youths and Master of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association), and Miss Frances A. Ellacombe, daughter of the Rev. Canon Ellacombe, vicar of Bittou, and granddaughter of the late Rev. H. T. Ellacombe.

The Late Mr. Sottanstell and Mr. J. Whitley Yates.

ON Sunday morning, the 2nd inst., for Divine service, at the Liversedge (Yorkshire) Parish Church, a touch of CUMBERLAND EXERCISE; and for Divine service in the evening, a touch of VIOLET MAJOR. Both of the above touches were rung with the bells muffled as a token of respect to the late Mr. William Sottanstell, of Sowerby, near Halifax, Yorkshire, who died on Sunday, May 26th, aged eighty-eight years; also for Mr. J. Whitley Yates, one of the Birstall company and a member of the Yorkshire Association, who died on Tuesday, May 28th, aged fifty years. And on Monday, the 3rd inst., with the bells deeply muffled, 1008 of VIOLET MAJOR. J. Wilson Lang, 1; J. Knott, 2; A. Briggs, 3; S. Goodall, 4; H. Brooke, 5; M. Ramsden, 6; L. Illingworth (conductor), 7; W. Collins, 8.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At St. Michael's, Hughenden, Bucks.

ON Friday, the 31st ult., eight members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild rang a peal of 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 52 mins. J. C. Truss, jun., 1; J. W. Washbrook (composer and conductor), 2; J. Evans, 3; S. Goodchild, 4; F. Biggs, 5; R. Biggs, 6; H. Stratford, 7; Jos. Evans, 8. Tenor, 12½ cwt. The first peal in the method by all except the conductor, and the first peal by the tenor man. Mr. Washbrook came from Oxford; Mr. Truss, jun., Marlow; the rest are local men.

At the Parish Church, Saddleworth, Yorkshire.

ON Saturday, the 1st inst., eight members of the United Counties' Association rang a peal of 5024 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR in 2 hrs. 59 mins. J. Wrigley, 1; J. Radcliffe, 2; J. Holden (conductor), 3; H. Mayall, 4; A. W. Holden (first peal at first attempt), 5; E. Buckley, 6; J. W. Shaw, 7; E. Wood, 8. Composed by Mr. Hubbard. Tenor, 12 cwt. Messrs. Holden and Mayall came from Mossley; the others belong to the local company.

At the Parish Church, Heene, Worthing, Sussex.

ON Saturday, the 1st inst., eight members of the Sussex County Association rang Penning's Five-part peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 47½ mins. H. N. Miles, 1; A. A. Fuller (first peal as conductor), 2; W. Allfrey, 3; J. Searle, 4; F. C. Merrit, 5; J. Jay, 6; G. E. King, 7; J. Batts (first peal of TRIPLES), 8.

At St. Peter's, Drayton, Berks.

ON Monday, the 3rd inst., eight members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild rang a peal of 5088 SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR in 2 hrs. 53 mins. W. Adkins, 1; G. Williams (Midhurst, first peal of SUPERLATIVE), 2; C. Trinder, 3; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 4; C. Hounslow, 5; F. Field, 6; T. Short, 7; J. W. Washbrook (composer and conductor), 8. The composition, now rung for the first time, has the 2nd and 3rd never in 6th's place.

At St. Paul's Cathedral Meeting-house, City of London.

ON Saturday, the 8th inst., four members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang, on handbells retained in hand, Holt's Original peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 39 mins. C. F. Winny (conductor), 1-2; W. S. Wise (Salisbury), 3-4; W. W. Gifford (Salisbury), 5-6; G. T. McLaughlin, 7-8.

At St. Andrew's, Netherton, Worcestershire.

ON Saturday, the 8th inst., six members of the Worcestershire and Adjoining Districts Change-ringing Association rang, in 3 hrs. 2 mins., 5040 changes in seven different methods upon six bells, being 720 each of the following:—OXFORD TREBLE BOB, KENT TREBLE BOB, COURT BOB, COLLEGE SINGLE, PLAIN BOB, CANTERBURY PLEASURE, and GRANDSIRE MINOR. E. Hampton (first peal), 1; J. Prestidge, 2; W. Micklewright, 3; E. Round, 4; S. Spittle (first peal in seven methods on six bells), 5; J. Smith (first peal as conductor), 6. Tenor, 12½ cwt. This peal was rung in honour of the conductor's thirty-seventh birthday.

At the Parish Church, Prestbury, Gloucestershire.

EIGHT members of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association and the St. Michael's Junior Society (Gloucester) rang a peal of 5040 BOB MAJOR

in 3 hrs. 8 mins. E. E. Bewick,* 1; F. E. Hart,† 2; E. B. James,* 3; R. J. Wilkins,* 4; D. J. Aston, 5; S. E. Romans,* 6; R. Brunsden,* 7; W. J. Sevier, 8. Tenor, 14½ cwt. Composed by A. P. Heywood, Esq., and conducted by W. J. Sevier. [* First peal of MAJOR. † First peal with a bob bell.] This peal is now rung for the first time. [No date.]

At St. Mary's, Chepstow, Monmouthshire.

EIGHT members of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association and the St. Michael's Society (Gloucester) rang a peal of 5040 BOB MAJOR in 3 hrs. 8 mins. E. E. Bewick, 1; F. E. Hart, 2; E. B. James, 3; R. J. Wilkins, 4; A. Roberts (first peal), 5; S. E. Romans, 6; H. Mitchell, 7; W. J. Sevier, 8. Tenor, 21 cwt., in E. Composed by Mr. Thorp, and conducted by Mr. Sevier. Second peal on the bells; also the first peal of MAJOR ever rung in the county of Monmouth. [No date.]

At St. John's, DRONFIELD, DERBYSHIRE.—On Sunday, the 19th ult., for Divine service, 720 OXFORD TREBLE BOB MINOR. W. Jervis, 1; G. Leisley, 2; T. Kitson, 3; E. Platt, 4; S. Allen, 5; G. Marsden (conductor), 6. G. Marsden came from Eckington; T. Kitson, Ecclesfield; the rest belong to the local company. The above six bells are about to be increased by two more.

At St. John's, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—On Monday, the 20th ult., 504 STEDMAN TRIPLES in 18 mins. H. Ferguson, 1; C. L. Routledge, 2; W. Eggleston, 3; E. Wallis, 4; W. Story, 5; J. Simm, 6; F. Lee (conductor), 7; R. Simm, jun., 8. Also 1008 was attempted by the same band, but broke down in the last course. A short touch of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES was then rung. R. Simm, jun., 1; G. Dixon, 8. Tenor, 12½ cwt.

At St. Peter's, RAUNDS, NORTHANTS.—On Monday, the 20th ult., for practice, 360 BOB MINOR (fifteen bobs). A. Coles, 1; H. Stubbs, 2; W. J. Gilbert, 3; N. Martin, 4; G. Kirk, 5; F. Gilbert (conductor), 6. Also 720 in the same method (eighteen bobs and two singles). J. Podbury, 1; F. Gilbert, 2; R. Pendered, 3; G. Kirk, 4; H. Stubbs, 5; W. J. Gilbert (conductor), 6. Mr. Podbury's first 720 in any method, and rung at the first attempt.

At St. Paul's, WALKDEN, LANCASHIRE.—On Tuesday evening, the 21st ult., the ringers of the above Church met for practice, and succeeded in ringing their first local peal of KENT TREBLE BOB MINOR in 26 mins. Jos. Potter, 1; J. Worthington, 2; Jas. Potter (conductor), 3; J. Williamson, 4; J. Brookes, 5; A. Potter, 6. Tenor, 13½ cwt.

At ALL SAINTS', FULHAM, MIDDLESEX.—On Thursday, the 23rd ult., for practice, 504 STEDMAN TRIPLES. W. E. Garrard, 1; J. W. Kelley, 2; J. Nicholls, jun., 3; F. W. Kelley, 4; C. F. Winny (conductor), 5; H. Kenton (first 540 of STEDMAN), 6; J. D. Driver, 7; S. How, 8. Also on Saturday, the 25th ult., 540 GRANDSIRE CATERS. H. R. Newton, 1; J. G. Green, 2; G. T. McLaughlin, 3; J. W. Kelley (conductor), 4; C. F. Winny, 5; J. Nicholls, 6; A. W. Barkus, 7; W. H. George, 8; W. E. Garrard, 9; S. How, 10. Rung in honour of the eighty-fourth birthday of Mr. John Phelps.

At MADRESFIELD, WORCESTERSHIRE.—On Sunday, the 2nd inst, 720 GRANDSIRE MINOR in 29 mins. E. Sprague, 1; J. Thomas, 2; C. Layton, 3; A. Layton, 4; D. Greening, 5; H. Jeans (conductor), 6.

At St. Mary's, WALTHAMSTOW, ESSEX.—On Whit-Monday, for morning service, a quarter-peal of 1260 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 45 mins. F. Nunn, 1; A. J. Keit, 2; H. Boast, 3; H. Nunn, 4; J. Hugh Wilkins, 5; J. Cullen, 6; T. Maynard, 7; W. Crookford, 8. Composed by Mr. Rowe of Hatfield, and conducted by Mr. Maynard.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Professor Huxley and Dr. Wace.

SIR,—I have not read the whole of the controversy between Professor Huxley and Dr. Wace, but I have read some of it, including the Congress paper which began it; and I cannot but think the discussion, like many others in religion, needs clearing of an element which is merely verbal. In the Congress paper (Report, p. 254) Dr. Wace says, 'An Agnosticism which knows nothing of the relation of man to God must not only refuse belief to our Lord's most undoubted teaching, but must deny the reality of the spiritual convictions in which He lived and died.'

Dr. Wace repeats this sentence in the May number of the *Nineteenth Century*, p. 701, as containing, in brief, a statement of the question at issue. This gives it special importance. It is not a sentence taken at random out of several long articles, but must be regarded as bearing, to the rest of the controversy, a relation like that of a proposition in Euclid to the accompanying demonstration. And yet, as it stands, it appears to me to be untrue. By 'an Agnosticism which knows nothing of the relation of man to God' we must, of course, understand an *Agnostic* who knows nothing of the relation of man to God. Now, I must confess that I, a clergyman of the Church of England, am such an Agnostic. I know nothing of the relation of man to God. I do not know, in the strict sense of the word 'know,' whether there is a God. Yet I do not refuse belief to our Lord's undoubted teaching, nor deny the reality of the spiritual convictions in which He lived and died. But it is quite possible for another such Agnostic to refuse such belief and to deny such reality; and therefore I think Dr. Wace would have done better to state his proposition in different words. Professor Huxley's account of his own relation to Christianity (*Nineteenth Century* for June, p. 956) is twofold: first, that the exact nature of the teachings and the convictions of Jesus is extremely uncertain; and, secondly, that if Jesus taught the demonological system involved in Matt. viii. 28-34, he unhesitatingly refuses belief in that teaching, and denies the reality of these spiritual convictions. The Professor

is therefore an unbeliever as to the teachings and convictions of Jesus generally, and, as to His alleged demonological teaching and convictions, a disbeliever. And though I have criticised Dr. Wace's statement of his case, I must hold that substantially Dr. Wace is right. Believers, unbelievers, and disbelievers are all alike Agnostics; and when unbelievers or disbelievers attempt to classify themselves apart from believers as Agnostics, they are claiming a distinction which has no real existence. Would not Professor Huxley do well, as a scientific man, to discard the word which he is understood to have invented, and let Agnosticism take its place along with Gnosticism and many other designations whose interest is only historical? Dr. Wace says (Congress paper, p. 252):—

'The first word of a Christian is not "I know," but "I believe." He professes not a science, but a Faith.'

In the controversy between believers and unbelievers in Christianity there is, therefore, no useful function for the words Agnostic and Agnosticism. But is there any useful function in that controversy for the words infidel and infidelity? If the words Agnostic and Agnosticism were devised, or have been used, to evade the evil odour of those other words, ought we Christians to insist upon using those other words? Dr. Wace says (p. 254)—

'The word infidel, perhaps, carries an unpleasant signification. Perhaps it is right that it should. It is, and ought to be, an unpleasant thing for a man to have to say plainly that he does not believe Jesus Christ. It is, indeed, an awful thing to say. But even men who are not conscious of all it involves shrink from the ungraciousness, if from nothing more, of treating the beliefs inseparably associated with that sacred Person as an illusion. This, however, is what is really meant by Agnosticism.'

Agnosticism is not the right word for the thing thus meant. But is infidelity the right word? Here I cannot quite agree with Dr. Wace. By its derivation the word infidelity is, of course, free from all moral significance. In the Prayer-book 'infidel' it is equivalent to 'heathen.' But nobody using the language of the present day would call the Emperor of China an infidel. Many would call Professor Huxley an infidel. An infidel nowadays is a person who has been brought up among Christians, and had opportunities of studying the evidences of Christianity, but does not hold the Christian faith. This, says Dr. Wace, ought to be unpleasant. But this unpleasantness is of two kinds. A Protestant in a Roman Catholic country, or holding any communication with a devout Roman Catholic on distinctly Roman Catholic subjects, ought to find it unpleasant to treat the supremacy or infallibility of the Pope, the story of the Sacred Heart, or the doctrine of Transubstantiation, as an illusion. It ought to be unpleasant to be, as Dr. Wace says, ungracious, even when the ungraciousness is forced upon us by our duty. But ought the Roman Catholic so to behave towards the Protestant as to make his position more unpleasant than it would be otherwise? The sort of unpleasantness which was in vogue some centuries past was bodily torture and burning to death. The unpleasantness which we English Churchmen may be disposed to inflict upon educated unbelievers in English society is of a milder sort, but does it differ in kind? I do not say that we need invite unbelievers to our houses if we have reason to think they might unsettle the faith of any member of our household, or otherwise do harm. But I think we should clear our minds of all personal antipathy towards them. Certainly if our Creed is true, those who do not accept it are worthy of condemnation, but not necessarily by us. We are not the judges of our brother. We are not entitled to say that our faith came to us as a consequence of our previous moral superiority, nor that another man's unbelief is a consequence of his being or having been morally worse than ourselves. Look at belief in other cases. The causes of belief are not necessarily obvious. They may be quite different from the reasons which, in all honesty, we give for them and think we depend upon. Mr. Gladstone believes in Home Rule; Mr. Balfour does not. As far as can be seen, both these gentlemen have access to all the facts of the case; both are men of great intellect, large experience, and conscious honesty. Each of them lays before the other in abundant eloquence what he calls and thinks the reasons of his belief. But as neither can convince the other, must not the real cause of their wide divergence be something quite distinct from the overt reasons; something which may be compared to what is known in astronomical observations as the personal equation? And if the existence of that personal equation does not justify astronomers in making things unpleasant for one another, is it quite certain that Christians are justified in making things unpleasant for non-Christians merely because they are non-Christians? Should they not rather guide themselves by the Apostle's question, 'Who maketh thee to differ?' and what hast thou that thou didst not receive? Whatever fault there may be in an unbeliever's unbelief, let us leave the judgment to the Judge Who, we believe, knows what is in man. I will try to convert my brother because I believe the conversion would be for his good. But I will not blame him, and I think I may be more likely to convert him if, instead of hinting that he ought to be ashamed of himself, I let him see that in this respect also I own myself an agnostic.

J. F.

Stand or Kneel.

SIR,—A correspondent states that the reason why some remain kneeling at the Epistle, is because no direction is given for a change of position until the Gospel. Allow me, sir, to point out one or two other things which such people ought to do, if they consider that, in spite of custom or common sense, nothing must be done without a rubric.

First, then, having been directed to stand at the first *Gloria*, they should remain standing for the Lessons, as there is no direction given to change their posture. It is curious by-the-bye that after the Second Canticle we should actually be told to 'stand' at the Creed; but it seems to meet the case of some people who think they should do nothing without a rubric, and yet kneel in the middle of the Creed! Then all are directed to kneel for

The terrible railway accident near Armagh, by which seventy-seven persons met their death, and nearly two hundred more have been more or less seriously injured, has naturally created a great sensation. The sufferers were chiefly Methodists, but the sympathy is universal. It is one of those sad eventualities that go to show that beneath all our differences there is a bond of unity in our common humanity. The Methodist Conference happened to be in session at the time in Cork, and the Bishop, Dr. Gregg, at once addressed a letter to the chairman, which he sent by the hand of a special messenger, condoling with the Conference, and expressing his sympathy. In Armagh the two Primates are taking a joint interest in the relief fund that has been raised. The Queen has telegraphed twice to know how the sufferers are getting on. Yesterday (Trinity Sunday) all the Protestant churches were draped in mourning, and reference was made to the sad event in the sermons of the several preachers. The Rev. Mr. McDade, Methodist minister, in the course of his address said:—

‘Not only had Protestants come forward in their trial, but eminent members of the Roman Catholic Church had given them assurances of brotherly kindness and help. It was truly a beautiful thing to see the two Primates of Armagh drawn together in the presence of death, and sinking all differences in mourning for the dead, in comforting the bereaved, and doing all in their power to alleviate the sufferings of the injured, and in sympathising with the desolate.’

In St. Mark's Church the Rector, the Dean of Armagh, referring to the accident, said—

‘He would not attempt to explain all that was happening in the world around them. There was the hope set before them, “We shall know even as we are known.” And even in the twilight here there was left enough mingling with the darkness to teach them to believe in the fulness of the day that was already showing itself. These poor children and people had suffered the penalty of the mistake of some poor creature who probably meant to do everything for the best. They must pray that those who have been so sorely afflicted should be comforted and enabled to sustain the burden of their sorrow with patience.’

In the Roman Catholic churches reference was also made to the accident. Some seven or eight Roman Catholics were amongst the killed. A Roman Catholic excursion which was to have taken place on the feast of Corpus Christi has been indefinitely postponed, and the ordinary meeting of the National League was also postponed as a mark of respect to the dead and the dying. In the Cathedral the anthem was, ‘Lord, let me know mine end.’

His Grace the Lord Primate held an ordination on Trinity Sunday, at which the following were admitted to Holy Orders:—Priest: Rev. John Macartney, curate of Tullyallen. Deacons: Mr. Wm. Dancy, B.A., T.C.D., for the curacy of Magherafelt; Mr. Alfred Wade Johnson, B.A., T.C.D., for the curacy of Carlingford; Mr. Frederick Walker Macran, B.A., T.C.D., for the curacy of Clonfeacle; Mr. Richard James Merrin, B.A., T.C.D., for the curacy of Donaghmore; and, on letter dimissory from the Lord Bishop of Clogher, Mr. Thomas Kingston, St. Aidan's College, Birkenhead, for the curacy of Sallaghy. The sermon was preached by the Rev. Canon Armstrong, and the Armagh candidates were previously examined by the Archdeacon of Armagh, and the Revs. J. B. Crozier, D.D., W. Moore Morgan, LL.D., and C. K. Irwin, D.D., Examining Chaplains.

The new Dean of Norwich, Archdeacon Lefroy, is a Dublin man and graduate of T.C.D. He preached the Donellan Lecture two years ago, taking as his subject ‘The Christian Ministry.’ The *Irish Ecclesiastical Gazette* says,—

‘Archdeacon Lefroy may, we suppose, still be called an Evangelical, but like his predecessor at St. Andrew's, Liverpool—Prebendary Forrest, of St. Jude's, South Kensington—he is rapidly throwing aside the shibboleths of a party, a proceeding which his election to a Deanery is likely to accelerate. Indeed, none who heard his carefully prepared Donellan lectures can doubt that the new Dean is thoroughly orthodox. . . . The new Dean will, we are convinced, become one of the most useful members of the Southern Convocation, who, like Dean Pigou, Canon Cadman, and others, will do much to induce earnest-minded Evangelicals, while not giving up their prejudices, to co-operate with their brethren of other schools of thought. The new Dean is not only eloquent and a good organizer, but he is one who finds time to keep up his reading, who has his Greek Testament at his fingers' ends, and who keeps abreast with the current literature of the day. He has done much for the education and spiritual instruction of young men in Liverpool, and warmly supported the Temperance and Purity movements. His sermon preached before the Mayor and Corporation on the death of President Garfield was one of his finest pulpit efforts, and is said to have been submitted to the Queen and obtained her warm approval. To his exertions in stirring up lay liberality the position of the diocese of Liverpool is largely due.’

The Very Rev. Dr. Dickinson, dean of the Chapel Royal and vicar of St. Ann's, is one of the University Preachers in Cambridge for the ensuing academical year.

Mr. Henry Reichel, principal of the North Wales University College, has been re-elected a Fellow of All Souls, Oxford. He is the only surviving son of the Bishop of Meath.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

St. Martin's Guild of Change-ringers for Birmingham, Aston, and the Surrounding District.

THE next Quarterly Meeting will be held on Thursday, the 27th inst., at St. Martin's Mission Rooms, Barwick Street, Edmund Street, Birmingham. Chair to be taken at eight o'clock in the evening. Every member is earnestly requested to attend.

W. H. GODDEN, Hon. Secretary.

Lancashire Association.—Liverpool Diocesan Branch.

THE next meeting of the above will be held at St. Thomas's Church, St. Helen's, on Saturday, June 22nd. Bells ready at 2 p.m. Meeting in schools at 5.30.

JOHN R. PRITCHARD, Branch Secretary.

40 Lowther Street, Liverpool.

Society of Change-ringers for the Archdeaconry of Stafford.

THE Annual General Meeting will be held at Lichfield, on Saturday, June 29th. Members assemble at the Cathedral at 2.30 p.m. Committee meeting and payment of subscriptions in Cathedral Belfry at 4 p.m. Special service in Lady Chapel, with address by Rev. Canon Bodington, at 5 p.m. Tea (1s. per head) at 6 p.m. General meeting at 6.30 p.m. Notice should be sent at once, stating how many of each band intend to be present, to Mr. S. Reeves, 10 Bull Street, West Bromwich.

J. R. KEBLE, Hon. Secretary.

The Eastern Counties' Guild.

THIS Guild held its Fifth Annual Meeting at Holbeach, on Whit-Monday, June 10th, the company comprising members from Spalding, Lynn, Terrington, Walpole, and Pinchbeck. Ringing began early and continued throughout the morning, being resumed in the evening after the general meeting. Several touches of BOB MAJOR, GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, TREBLE BOB MINOR, and GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, were rung by the different companies and by mixed bands. The Holbeach parish church bells are a fine ring of eight, but have not for some time been in the hands of skilled ringers. The Guild has broken new ground, and the Holbeach Company are now numbered among its members. The meeting was held under the presidency of the Rev. Canon Hemmans, vicar of Holbeach and rural dean, there being present also Dr. Secombe, of Terrington; Mr. H. Watkinson, of Spalding, vice-president of the Guild; the Rev. H. Whalley, of Walpole St. Peter; and a large number of members and friends, including the Holbeach Company. After the adoption of the report and statement of accounts, a new President was elected in the room of the late Rev. Canon Moore, vicar of Spalding. The choice of the members fell upon Mr. Augustus Maples, of Elmsford House, Spalding, who was elected without opposition. Mr. W. G. Cross, of Lynn, was appointed joint hon. secretary with the Rev. J. M. Coates, of Spalding. Nine honorary and ten ringing members were also elected. The report showed that the membership of the Guild was increasing, and that the attendance of members at the meetings was well maintained. The general meetings are held three times a year, and thirteen steeples in the district have now been visited.

The Raunds and Wellingborough Association.

THE Annual Meeting of the members of this Association was held at Wellingborough on Monday, June 10th, when there was a good attendance, among the places represented being Kettering, Raunds, Higham Ferrers, Rushden, and Wellingborough. Ringing commenced at nine o'clock by the Wellingborough band, and mixed companies also rang some good touches of GRANDSIRE, BOB TRIPLES, and BOB MAJOR, until twelve o'clock, when the bells were lowered for chiming for service at one o'clock. The preacher, the Rev. J. M. Edmonds, of Stoke Doyle, gave an excellent address. Immediately after the service the whole company adjourned to an excellent luncheon. Afterwards the meeting took place, the President, the Ven. Archdeacon Lightfoot, presiding. The minutes of the last meeting were read and passed, and twenty-three new members elected. The Hon. Secretary, the Rev. Hugh Byran, in the absence of the Treasurer through ill-health, read the balance-sheet, which showed a balance in hand of 20l.

The President suggested that the Association should have a trip the first Saturday in July to a well-known town in the Midland Counties. This met with the approval of all. Mr. Heale proposed, and Mr. Gilbert seconded, ‘That the next meeting of the Association be held at Higham Ferrers, provided the bells are ringable; and, if not, Denford be the place of meeting.’

A hearty vote of thanks was given to the President for the use of the bells and for presiding, and also to the Rev. G. M. Edmonds for his excellent address. Among the company were Mr. Ward, of the Midland Counties' Association; C. W. Clarke, Bedford; Mr. Wilson, Birmingham; and H. Chapman, Manchester Cathedral. These, with Messrs. F. Stubbs, F. Gilbert, A. H. Martin, and A. E. Chapman, rang the first course of TREBLE BOB MAJOR on the bells, Mr. Ward ringing the tenor, 31 cwt.

A Yorkshire Ringer's Jubilee.

MR. W. H. HOWARD has lately celebrated his jubilee as a York Minster ringer, he having completed his fiftieth year as a bell-ringer on the 19th of May last. On the day following, by his kind invitation, the Dean of York, Mr. Whitaker (Hon. Sec. of the Yorkshire Association), and the Minster bell-ringers, were invited to tea at his residence, after which complimentary speeches were made. A letter was then read from Mr. W. Snowdon (President of the Yorkshire Association), congratulating Mr. Howard, and expressing his regret at being unable to be present. It was intended to present Mr. Howard with a testimonial on that occasion, but owing to unforeseen circumstances it was deferred until Saturday evening, when the presentation was made in the York Minster Library in the shape of an oil-painting of

himself by Messrs. Debenham & Co., of York. The Dean, in making the presentation, congratulated Mr. Howard on his jubilee, and said that not only the York ringers, but all ringers throughout the country who had the pleasure of meeting Mr. Howard, would hope that he might long be spared to continue a work which he had so much at heart. Mr. Howard briefly acknowledged the gift. Subsequently, on the kind invitation of the Dean and Lady Emma Percy-Cust, the ringers partook of tea at the Deanery, afterwards being conducted round the garden, and shown various objects of interest. On the motion of Mr. Howard, a vote of thanks was passed to them for their kindness, and the party separated after spending a most pleasant evening.

Opening of New Bells at Winkleigh, Devonshire.

THE little village of Winkleigh was *en fête* on the occasion of the dedication of the two new bells which have lately been added to the ring of six. One of the new bells was given by Mr. Pinckard, the other being provided by contributions. Morning service was held at eight a.m., and various bands of ringers arrived soon afterwards, the following places being represented, viz., Exeter and Plymouth (of the Guild of Devonshire Ringers), Chulmleigh, West Worlington, Chagford, Beaford, Wear Gifford, and Dolton. The dedication service was held at 3.30 p.m., when the sacred edifice was crowded to excess. Processional hymn No. 166, 'All people that on earth do dwell,' was sung at the commencement, many clergy taking part in the procession. After hymn 303 had been sung, the Lord Bishop, the Hon. and Rev. J. S. Northcote (Upton Pynes), and the Vicar, entered the belfry for the purpose of dedicating the bells. After this a short peal was rung by the local band, under the conductorship of Mr. M. Luxton. The Bishop was the preacher, and took for his text Ps. lxxxix. 15, 'Blessed are the people that know the joyful sound; they shall walk, O Lord, in the light of Thy countenance.' The service being concluded, several touches of *GRANDSIRE TRIPLES* were rung by the Exeter and Plymouth bands, and call-changes were rung by the other bands assembled. At 1.30 a dinner took place, at which upwards of seventy sat down. After dinner the Chairman thanked the Winkleigh ringers, on behalf of the visitors, for the welcome they had given them that day, and ended by urging them to join the Devonshire Guild of Ringers. Between the speeches several tunes were rung on the handbells by the St. Sidwell's Society.

The two new bells were cast by Messrs. Mears & Stainbank, and the work of hanging them was carried out by Messrs. M. Luxton & Son, of Winkleigh, who kindly gave their services. General satisfaction was expressed on all hands at the manner in which the hanging had been done. During the afternoon a bazaar was held on the Vicarage grounds, under the superintendence of the following ladies: Mrs. Friend, the Misses Stoneman, Bremridge, Fulford, and Blaney. Dancing also took place on the Vicarage lawn, and in the evening the grounds were illuminated, and a display of fireworks was given, the proceeds being devoted to the Bell Fund. The arrangements were most efficiently carried out by the Rev. H. Bremridge, the respected vicar of the parish. Much regret was expressed among the ringers at the announcement that the Hon. and Rev. J. S. Northcote, the energetic Secretary of the Guild, was about to leave Devonshire, having been appointed to the Vicarage of St. Andrew's, Westminster.

We have received a copy of the *Ninth Annual Report of the Winchester Diocesan Guild of Ringers*. (Cocks, Weybridge.) It contains a full and complete list of members. The 'Report' seems to be merely a newspaper cutting, giving an account of the annual meeting, the last dozen lines being all that is allotted to the real Annual Report. Eleven peals have been rung, but on eight bells the show is rather poor. The Capel band (six bells) have a remarkable record, on which we warmly congratulate them. They well deserve two more bells.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At the Parish Church, Appleton, Berks.

On Friday, the 7th inst., eight members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild rang Taylor's Bob-and-Single Variation peal of 5040 *STEDMAN TRIPLES* in 2 hrs. 50 mins. G. Williams (Midhurst, Sussex), 1; G. Holifield, 2; F. White, 3; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 4; J. Avery, 5; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 6; H. Woodward, 7; Stedman White, 8. Tenor, 14 cwt.

At Perry Barr, Staffordshire.

On Whit-Monday, the 10th inst., eight members of the Society for the Archdeaconry of Stafford rang Holt's Six-part peal of 5040 *BOB TRIPLES* in 2 hrs. 39 mins. G. Mitchison, 1; W. Carte, 2; W. Long, 3; C. Williams, 4; G. Smith, 5; H. Brown, 6; W. E. Smith (conductor), 7; C. Fluck, 8. Tenor, 13½ cwt. The above is the first peal of *BOB TRIPLES* by all the band, and was rung at the first attempt.

At the Cathedral, Chester.

On Monday, the 10th inst., eight members of the Chester Diocesan Guild rang Taylor's Bob-and-Single Variation peal of 5040 *GRANDSIRE TRIPLES* in 3 hrs. 9 mins. J. Griffiths, 1; W. Povey, 2; H. Gibson,* 3; W. Cross, 4; A. Cross, 5; J. Moulton, 6; F. Ball (conductor), 7; F. Jarvis,* 8. Tenor, 33 cwt. in C. The first peal on tower bells by the Guild. [*First peal.]

At St. Peter's, Drayton, Berks.

On Monday, the 10th inst., eight members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild rang a peal of 5040 *STEDMAN TRIPLES*, in 2 hrs. 39 mins. Rev. F. E. Robinson, 1; G. Jones, 2; C. Trinder, 3; E. Aldworth, 4; J. W. Washbrook (composer and conductor), 5; F. Field, 6; H. D. Betteridge, 7; K. Payne (first peal), 8. Tenor, 9½ cwt.

At the same church, the same date, and the same Guild, eight members

rang a peal of 5308 *DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR* in 2 hrs. 39 mins. K. Payne, 1; G. Jones, 2; C. Trinder, 3; F. Field, 4; H. D. Betteridge, 5; W. C. Baston, 6; J. W. Washbrook (composer and conductor), 7; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 8.

At All Saints', Duffield, Derbyshire.

On Monday, the 10th inst., eight members of the Midland Counties' Association rang a peal of 5040 *DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR* in 3 hrs. 5 mins. W. Barraclough, 1; B. Sugden, 2; A. Percival Heywood, Esq. (composer and conductor), 3; H. Midgley, 4; G. Hingley, 5; S. Johnson, 6; J. Howe, 7; W. Hickling, 8. Tenor, 17 cwt. In this composition, which is in three parts, and now rung for the first time, the 2nd and 3rd are never in 6th's place.

At St. Giles's, Ashstead, Surrey.

On Monday, the 10th inst., eight members of the Surrey Association rang a peal of 5040 *UNION TRIPLES* in 2 hrs. 56 mins. A. Arnold, 1; W. States, 3; R. E. Pearson, 3; W. J. Chambers, 4; T. Verrall, 5; A. B. Carpenter, Esq. (composer and conductor), 6; H. Brooker, 7; A. Bruce, 8. Tenor, 14 cwt., in F. This composition is in one course, and is a slight variation of that already published, having only 108 bobs.

At St. Mary's, Coddensham, Suffolk.

On Monday, the 10th inst., eight members of the Norwich Diocesan Guild rang Taylor's Bob-and-Single Variation peal of 5040 *GRANDSIRE TRIPLES* in 2 hrs. 48 mins. H. Last (first peal in any method), 1; G. Perry, 2; W. G. Crickmer, 3; G. Thurlow, 4; G. Wightman, 5; W. Dye (conductor), 6; S. Wightman, sen., 7; S. Wightman, jun., 8.

At Caerleon, Monmouthshire.

On Monday, the 17th inst., was rung in 2 hrs. 49 mins. a peal of 5040 *GRANDSIRE TRIPLES*, the composition being Shipway's Variation of Holt's Ten-part peal. W. J. Pickard (first peal), 1; L. Stafford, 2; F. Green, 3; W. H. Arnold, 4; E. Davis, 5; J. Jones, 6; F. E. Ward (conductor), 7; H. Evans, 8. Tenor, 7½ cwt.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH, CAVENDISH, SUFFOLK.—On Thursday, the 23rd ult., 720 *BOB MINOR*. J. Wheeler, 1; R. S. Theobald, 2; R. B. Brett, 3; A. J. Clarke, 4; D. Gridley (conductor), 5; R. Gowers, 6. And 216 in the same method, standing as above, and conducted by R. Gowers. Also 360. A. J. Clarke, 1; D. Gridley (conductor), 2; R. S. Theobald, 3; J. Wheeler, 4; R. B. Brett, 5; R. Gowers, 6. D. Gridley came from Clare; the rest, Stanstead.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH, DALTON-IN-FURNESS, LANCASHIRE.—On Friday, the 24th ult., two peals of *GRANDSIRE MINOR* (1440 changes), in honour of Her Majesty's birthday, were rung in 50 mins. T. R. Jackson, 1; T. Townson, 2; J. Spencer, 3; M. Caddy, 4; T. Watson (conductor), 5; J. Burrows, 6. And on Sunday evening, the 9th inst., 720 *GRANDSIRE MINOR* (38 bobs and 22 singles) were rung in 22 mins. C. G. A. Cushing,* 1; T. Townson, 2; J. Spencer, 3; M. Caddy, 4; T. Watson,* 5; J. Burrows* (conductor), 6. [*Members of the Lancashire Association.]

AT ST. JAMES'S, BOLTON, BRADFORD, YORKS.—On Sunday evening, the 26th ult., for Divine service, 784 *BOB TRIPLES*. W. Gill (longest length), 1; B. E. Howe, 2; J. Sugden, 3; G. Titterton, 4; J. Mawson, 5; B. T. Copley (conductor), 6; S. Palframan, 7; W. Titterton, 8.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH, BELGRAVE, LEICESTERSHIRE.—On Saturday, the 1st inst., an attempt was made for a peal of *GRANDSIRE TRIPLES*; but after ringing 2730 changes in 1 hr. 42 mins., the bells came round, the second and sixth having changed courses. J. Smith, 1; J. Jarvis, 2; G. Burrows (conductor), 3; J. Bennett, 4; W. Clayton, 5; J. Pole, 6; S. Pole, 7; W. Bennett, 8.

AT ST. MARK'S, LEICESTER.—On Sunday evening, the 2nd inst., for Divine Service, 700 *GRANDSIRE TRIPLES*. A. Bindley, 1; J. Jarvis, 2; J. Bennett, 3; G. Burrows (conductor), 4; A. Wilson, 5; T. Bennett, 6; J. Cooper, 7; F. Tustin (first touch), 8.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH, GUISELEY, YORKS.—On Sunday morning, the 2nd inst., for Divine service, 832 *KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR*. O. Frankland, 1; F. W. Dixon, 2; J. Strodder (Ripon), 3; T. Thompson, 4; H. Demaine, 5; J. Yeadon, 6; D. E. Rhodes, 7; J. Baldwin, 8. Also for evening service, 960 in the same method. O. Frankland, 1; J. Strodder, 2; J. Sunderland, 3; S. Brown, 4; H. Demaine, 5; J. Yeadon, 6; W. Kitson, 7; J. Baldwin, 8. Mr. Dixon was made a member of the Yorkshire Association on Saturday last. Messrs. Sunderland, Thompson, and Kitson have now qualified themselves, and will become members shortly; they commenced to ring in September last.

AT ST. MARY'S, STOKE NEWINGTON, LONDON.—On Sunday evening, the 2nd inst., for Divine service, 720 *PLAIN BOB MINOR* in 25 mins. T. Ringrose, 1; H. Scarlett, 2; J. Hannington, 3; T. Titchener, 4; J. Barber, 5; J. Smith, 6. And after service, 720 *KENT TREBLE BOB MINOR* in 24 mins. H. Scarlett (conductor), 1; J. Edridge, 2; J. Hannington, 3; T. Titchener, 4; J. Barber, 5; J. Smith, 6. J. Edridge came from Aylsham, Norfolk. Hannington, Titchener, and Barber, Hornsey; Smith, Hackney; Scarlett and Ringrose belong to the local company. The above peals are believed to be the first in the methods on the bells.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH, HENDON, MIDDLESEX.—On Sunday morning, the 2nd inst., for Divine service, 120 *GRANDSIRE DOUBLES*. C. Tucker, 1; C. Martin, 2; G. B. Lucas (conductor), 3; J. Barratt, 4; J. Edwards, 5; F. Kirby, 6. Also 360 *BOB MINOR*. H. Martin, 1; F. Spark, 2; C. Martin, 3; F. Pratt, 4; T. Card, 5; G. B. Lucas (conductor), 6. And a peal of *GRANDSIRE DOUBLES*. C. Tucker, 1; T. Card, 2; C. Martin, 3; F. Pratt, 4; G. B.

Lucas (conductor), 5; J. Edmonds, 6. For Divine service in the evening, a peal of GRANDSIRE DOUBLES. C. Tucker, 1; F. Pratt (conductor), 2; B. C. Pratchett, 3; J. Barrett, 4; J. Edmonds, 5; F. Kirby, 6. And after service, 720 BOB MINOR (twenty-six singles) in 27 mins. H. Martin, 1; F. Spark, 2; C. Martin, 3; F. Pratt, 4; T. Card (conductor), 5; C. Crampton, 6. Tenor, 16½ cwt.

AT OLDSWINFORD, WORCESTERSHIRE.—On Sunday, the 2nd inst., after evening service, 720 BOB MINOR in 25½ mins. F. Molineux, 1; A. Orford, 2; T. Lees (conductor), 3; C. Barratt, 4; W. F. Hartshorne, 5; H. Hartshorne, 6. Also 720 GRANDSIRE MINOR. F. Molineux, 1; W. F. Hartshorne (conductor), 2; T. Lees, 3; H. Harris, 4; A. Orford, 5; J. Smith, 6.

CORRECTION.—Messrs. J. M. Hayes and S. E. Joyce were the umpires in the peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES rung on handbells on Saturday, the 8th of June.

RECEIVED ALSO:—Mr. Fussell (thanks—next week); and others.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Comment on the Decision of the Archbishop. What Next?

SIR,—Kindly allow me to state that I intended to write, in the above comment, and, indeed, I believe I did write, 'But against this reasoning [if, indeed, it be acknowledged to be reasoning by the friends of the Bishop of Lincoln, which is most improbable.] My "most" having been printed "not," makes me say the contrary of what I meant. There are persons who consider that we cannot do better than defer and delay the utterance of a judgment upon any Church question. My belief is that any such policy is fraught with serious injury to the Church. And my impression is also strong that it is most improbable that the friends of the Bishop of Lincoln desire to defer or delay in any way the decision upon the questions upon his Lordship's proceedings which have been so unfortunately raised.

It will be observed that my comment was written before judgment was given or even premised upon the St. Paul's Reredos. G. V.

Definite Religious Teaching for the Middle and Upper Classes.

SIR,—I rejoice that the Archbishop of Canterbury is bringing this subject before the House of Laymen, and trust that public opinion may be stirred and rightly directed concerning it. During a recent tour in various parts of Southern Europe I have had casual intercourse with many of my compatriots (including also Colonists and Americans), and it has been sadly borne in upon me how little hold the Christian faith really seems to have on so many educated and intelligent persons. What vagueness and confusion as to doctrine! What often apparent carelessness as to the frequenting of our worship when it can be had! Observing this ignorance or indifference in so many of my fellows, who live daily in the 'Shadow of Death' and the certainty of eternity, I have asked myself and found two or three among many other reasons for this fatal deficiency.

1. The lack of earnestness which Christian parents show in seeking for their children schools where definite religious teaching is made at any rate as important a feature as any of the other branches of 'modern education.' Is it not true, that while hundreds of good and self-sacrificing parents do their utmost to put their boys and girls in schools where they may be most helped to 'get on in life' (this *passing* life), they give but secondary thought, if any, to ascertaining if they will also then be grounded in that knowledge of God, in which 'standeth our eternal life,' as they constantly affirm in the Church Collect. In most Roman Catholic countries the best education for the middle and upper classes is provided in convents, where a distinct religious teaching forms, of course, a portion of the educational course; I have also found in Mahomedan countries that teaching in the Koran is made the basis of all education, and up to a certain age is the one thing taught. Shall it be *only* in Christian and 'enlightened' England that religious instruction is forgotten or crammed out in preparing the young for the battle of life?

2. The lack in number of such schools as I am wishing to see more abundantly within reach of both the middle and upper classes, and which certainly would be forthcoming if the demand were pressing.

3. The lack of definiteness in the preaching and teaching of the clergy, which is one of the many factors in so many ignorant and heedless parents. I fear this vagueness holds good considerably among our clergy at home. Abroad, I can truly say that wherever there has been a service at all I have found it the exception to hear any but the most pointless and unedifying sermons, which seem rather to puzzle than to teach one, and which through their lack of distinctive doctrine might fit into almost any creed. I must except the Memorial Church at Constantinople, where I was present at a satisfying service conducted by an S. P. G. chaplain. All earnest Anglicans must deplore the way our Church is represented abroad. I would venture, *in passing*, to remark that one way in which the clergy could help their travelling brethren would be by having clear and correct notices of services put up in each hotel. At Palermo it was written up in our hotel that Holy Communion was celebrated on saints' days, but hearing no announcement to this effect in the church on the Sunday preceding a festival, one of my friends wrote to the chaplain asking him if this service would take place. He replied 'No,' and that there would be no service at all on that holy day. I was surprised to see that after this the incorrect notice paper remained unchanged all through our stay—to mislead other travellers, and I regret to say the beautiful church was kept closed throughout the week.

After this digression—I fell in during my travels with Atheists,

Unitarians, &c., and was struck to find that however false were the conclusions arrived at, they had been developed and were being maintained by them with real force of thought and integrity of conviction. Can the professing Christian who has once been 'enlightened' afford to be so vague and listless as to his religious thoughts and habits while error and false doctrine are working energetically around him? What prospect is there of *better* things in the next generation unless our young are grounded in the 'Truth?' Our poorer children have hitherto had the advantage in this respect (though one which many now desire to withdraw from them), but for *all*, high and low, children and adults, is not religious teaching a needful element of their life? Would that our clergy gave us *fewer* detached or high-flown or 'original' sermons and *more* Bible classes and courses of *continuous* and definite instruction in the faith: this adults need quite as much as children. I should like to see one such weekly course in every parish church; such a system (which but the *few* now adopt) would surely help to the fulfilment of a portion of the intercessory prayer for our Parliament (which so many priests both at home and abroad most faithlessly omit to read), and we might more confidently hope that 'religion and piety may be established among us for all generations.'

ONE OF THE LARTY.

Symbols and Emblems in Church Decoration.

SIR,—I should like to draw the attention of your readers to a book which I have lately fallen in with. It is a work on *Christian Emblems and Symbols*, by Louisa Twining. The subject, which is one of great interest, has not hitherto been treated in a systematic and convenient form, such works as Mrs. Jameson's *Sacred and Legendary Art* being occupied more with the artistic use and significance of symbols than intended to give a complete, though short, account of the details of the subject.

The value of this work is much enhanced by the large number of drawings, chronologically arranged, of all the principal symbols used in Christian art. Besides its inherent interest, such a work as this might be of great use in suggesting suitable decorations for our churches at festival seasons. I am sure that a little study of these illustrations would help to make our symbolical decorations more varied and accurate. The book is published by Murray, and costs nine shillings. A.

Books for Outward-bound Ships.

SIR,—Thanks greatly to the kindness of newspapers in publishing last year our need of disused books, magazines, and other periodicals, no less than ten thousand and ninety outward-bound merchant ships and fishing vessels took small libraries to sea last year, in boxes or bags placed in their forecables by the chaplains or readers of the Missions to Seamen. As our stock is exhausted, may I venture to renew my appeal for disused books and periodicals to be sent in boxes, hampers, or sacks, &c., prepaid, to the Missions to Seamen, 11 Buckingham Street, Strand, London, W.C., or to its nearest chaplaincy? Our small book notices placed on church boards would procure bountiful supplies. We also need several thousand white 'crash' bags, made the size to take a *Graphic* or *Illustrated London News*. A pattern bag would be sent. WM. DAWSON, Commander R.N.

The Missions to Seamen, 11 Buckingham Street, Strand, London, W.C.

Parochial Missions to the Jews Fund.

Design:—To help Incumbents in the Evangelisation of their Jewish Parishioners, by providing them with Curates specially trained for the purpose.

THE ANNUAL MEETING will be held on Tuesday, June 25th, 1889, at Sion College, Victoria Embankment (by the kind permission of the President and Governors).

THE RIGHT HON. THE EARL NELSON

Will take the Chair at 3 p.m.

The following are expected to attend:—The Very Rev. the DEAN OF LICHFIELD, the Rev. W. ALLEN WHITWORTH, the Rev. H. BICKERSTETH OTTLEY, Rev. H. L. PAGET, the Rev. CANON SIR J. E. PHILLIPS, Bart., and others.

REV. JOHN SCHOR, *Organizing Secretary*.

Arundel House, Victoria Embankment, London, W.C.

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OFFICE: 12 SOUTHAMPTON STREET, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

Herbert James Northridge, B.A., T.C.D., for the curacy of Kilnawly; Gerald Nenon O'Grada Beere, B.A., T.C.D., for the curacy of Larah and Lavey; John Robert Gumley, T.C.D., for the curacy of Munterconnaught; on Letters Dimissory from the Lord Bishop of Derry—George Sweetnam, B.A., T.C.D., for the curacy of Tamlaght O'Crilly. *Priests:* Rev. Fergus William Greer, B.A., Durham, for the curacy of Templemichael; on Letters Dimissory from the Lord Bishop of Tuam—Rev. Albert T. Keane, B.A., T.C.D., for the curacy of Westport; Rev. Richard Huggard, Cand. Bach., T.O.D., for the curacy of Tuam. The examination of the candidates for the united diocese was held on the three preceding days by the Bishop, the Dean of Kilmore, the Archdeacons of Kilmore and Ardagh, and the Rev. W. H. Hutchinson, LL.D. The sermon was preached by the Bishop from Isa. vi. 8.

By the Bishop of Cashel, in the Cathedral Church of the Holy Trinity, Waterford. *Priests:*—Rev. Richard M. Miller, B.A., T.C.D., curate of Killaloe; Rev. William R. Scully, B.A., T.C.D., curate of Tramore; Rev. John R. H. Beecher, B.A., T.C.D., curate of Kilrosanty. *Deacon:*—Charles E. T. Whitfield, B.A., T.C.D., for the curacy of St. Patrick's, Waterford. The candidates were examined on the two preceding days by the Bishop, assisted by the Archdeacon of Cashel and Rev. T. A. Drought. The sermon was preached and the candidates presented by the Archdeacon of Cashel.

By the Bishop of Cork, in the Cathedral Church of St. Finbarre, Cork. *Priests:*—Rev. Samuel Hobart Dorman, A.M., T.C.D., curate of Youghal, diocese of Cloyne; Rev. Brice Lee Jackson, A.B., T.C.D., curate of Nohoval, diocese of Cork. *Deacons:*—Charles Francis Bosville Tottenham, A.B., T.C.D., for the curacy of Kinsale, diocese of Cork; William Verner Miller, A.B., T.C.D., for the curacy of Macroom, diocese of Cloyne. The sermon was preached by the Archdeacon of Cork.

By the Archbishop of Dublin, in the Cathedral Church of Christ Church, Dublin. *Priest:*—Rev. H. A. Williams, M.A., Cantab, curate of Bray, diocese of Dublin. *Deacons:*—W. W. Manning, B.A., T.C.D., for the curacy of Carbery, diocese of Kildare; T. A. MacMurrough Murphy, B.A., T.C.D., as assistant chaplain of the Episcopal Chapel, Upper Baggot Street, Dublin; W. Jones, B.A., T.C.D., secretary of the Church of Ireland Temperance Society, for the curacy of St. Matthias' Dublin. The sermon was preached by the Archdeacon of Dublin, who also presented the candidates.

The Dean of Derry has nearly raised the entire 9000% necessary to defray the cost of the restoration of Derry Cathedral.

The Bishop of Cork will hold his annual visitation of the clergy of the united diocese on October 22nd, and the diocesan synod on the following day.

The annual Dublin Diocesan Choral Festival was held on Wednesday evening, June 19th, in St. Patrick's Cathedral. The following choirs took part in the service:—St. Ann's, St. Luke's, St. Peter's, St. Stephen's, St. Matthias', Bagginrath, Magdalene, St. George and Clonliffe, Free Church, Grangeogoman, Rotundo, St. Catherine's, St. Auden's, St. James's, St. Jude's, Sandford, St. Michan's, St. Paul's, St. Werburgh's, Donnybrook, St. Bartholomew's, St. John's (Sandymount), St. Matthew's (Rathmines), Mageough Church, St. Philip's (Whitechurch), Malahide, Swords, Lucan, Rathfarnham, Castleknock, Stillorgan, Mariners' Church (Kingstown), Christ Church (Kingstown), Dalkey, Killiney (Bray), St. James's (Bray), and Kilbride. The service commenced at 7.30 p.m., when a procession was formed, the surpliced choirs of St. Balliol, men's, All Saints', Grangeogoman, St. Ann's and St. Peter's leading, followed by the Cathedral choir and a large number of the clergy of the united diocese. 'Onward, Christian Soldiers,' was sung as the opening processional hymn. The service appointed for the occasion was the ordinary Evening Service, the *Preces Tullis* festival responses being intoned by Rev. W. B. Stillman. The first lesson was read by Archdeacon Jellet, and the second by Rev. Canon Francis Smith. The service (Stewart in G) was most carefully sung, close attention being paid to light and shade and steady time. The anthem was, 'The Lord is my Shepherd' (Macfarren). 'Alleluia! sing to Jesus!' was the hymn sung before the sermon. The sermon was preached by the Dean of Armagh. His text was—'And they sung as it were a new song before the throne and before the four beasts and the elders, and no man could learn that song but the hundred and forty and four thousand which were redeemed from the earth' (Rev. xiv. 3). The preacher dwelt chiefly on two thoughts suggested by the text—(1), praise is the most enduring of all forms of worship; and (2), every new experience of grace is a new call to praise, a new reason for praise, and a new qualification enabling us to sing anthems deeper than before. At the close of the sermon a collection was taken, the offertory hymn being by Sir Robert Stewart, 'The heavens declare Thy glory.' Rev. Canon Travers Smith having given the benediction, the congregation separated, the choir singing as they moved down the aisle, 'O worship the King.'

The Bishop of Killaloe has forwarded to the Lord Mayor of London the sum of £4. 12s. 3d. collected in the churches of his Lordship's diocese on behalf of the sufferers from famine in China.

The last meeting of the Waterford and Lismore Clerical Union was

held at the Deanery, Waterford, on last Thursday week, when the question was discussed, 'Altar or table, which should it be designated?' The Dean presided, and the Bishop of Cashel likewise was present.

The Bishop of Cashel completed his ministerial jubilee on Trinity Sunday. The clergymen who have been ordained by his Lordship, and who are at present in active service in the Church of Ireland, took advantage of the opportunity to present the Bishop with an address of congratulation and acknowledgment of his kindness and faithfulness. The address was beautifully illuminated by Mr. Hopkins, and had affixed to it thirty-eight names, arranged in order according to date of ordination.

At the recent English ordinations six deacons and eight priests were made, all of whom were T.C.D. men.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Wilby Church Bells, Northants.

DURING the restoration of the church of St. Mary some ten years ago, the three old bells in the beautiful little spire were rehung by Taylor & Co., of Loughborough, the tenor being at the same time recast, and a new treble added in memory of the late Richard Hall, Esq. They now make a bright little ring of four. The addition of another treble would be a vast improvement, however, for the tenor (a good strong-voiced bell) would make an excellent cover for a ring of five. Wilby bells are well hung, and (considering the length of pull and the fact that the position of the new clock necessitates two of the ropes passing over rollers) go very well indeed. The belfry is open to the church. The ringers take great interest in their bells, and are most persevering in their efforts to master the art of change-ringing. There is ample room for another treble in the bell-chamber, and it is to be hoped such an one may be forthcoming before long. Below are the inscriptions and diameters of the bells:—

Treble: 'In memoriam Ricardi Hall, obiit December 21, 1874.' 1878. (Diameter, 26 in.)

Second: 'Avgvstine Lord, William Worlidge, Chvrchwardens, 1705. Henry Penn made me.' (Diameter, 29 in.)

Third: 'Richard Brooke and Samvel Nickolds, Chvrchwardens. M. B., 1682.' (Diameter, 32 in.)

Tenor: 'Sit Nomen Domini Benedictum.' 1878. (Diameter, 36 in. Weight, 9 cwt.)

The inscription on the tenor is a reproduction of that on this interesting mediæval bell before it was recast. William Worlidge, whose name appears on the second bell as churchwarden in 1705, would very probably be a descendant of Thomas Worlidge, who was churchwarden at Wellingborough in the year 1639, when Wellingborough great bell was recast. The letters 'M. B.' on the third bell are the initials of its founder, Matthew Bagley, of Chacombe, in this county.

A Meeting of Change-ringers at Bredenbury, Herefordshire.

THROUGH the kindness of Mr. W. H. Barneby, of Bredenbury Court, a numerous company of change-ringers were enabled to spend a very enjoyable day together in this picturesque secluded parish on Whit-Monday. Ringers from Lugwardine were the first to arrive in vehicles supplied from Hereford. They were met by Mr. Barneby, and soon afterwards joined by ringers from Pencombe and the Bredenbury team. Dinner was served at the 'New Inn' at two o'clock. The health of Mr. W. H. Barneby was proposed by Mr. Fussell, who, in doing so, referred to the hearty manner in which they had been received and entertained that day, while the neighbouring church, with its musical ring of six bells, which they had just rung upon, was a further proof of his love to do good. During the day various peals and touches were rung in the GRANDSIRE method, under the leadership of Messrs. J. Jones, A. Guyott, and W. Emery, sen., by mixed bands of men. Supper was prepared at 6.30. This was followed by a selection of handbell tunes, such as 'Annie Laurie,' 'Garryowen,' &c., by the Lugwardine band, concluding with the singing of 'Auld Lang Syne' in true brotherly concord. The start for home was made punctually at eight o'clock.

Information Wanted.

THE Rev. E. Jackson, rector of Gilmorton, near Lutterworth, would be obliged to any Secretary or official who would send him information as to rules, &c., for the formation of a bell-ringing association, especially to any one connected with the Midland Counties' Association (parochial, ruridecanal, or general).

District Meeting of the Hertfordshire Association at Hitchin.

THIS meeting was held on Saturday, the 22nd inst., when there were present L. Proctor, Esq., President; Mr. E. P. Debenham, Hon. Secretary; Messrs. W. Allen, A. Squires, T. Dobbs, J. Hare, and J. Foster (Hitchin); Messrs. G. W. Cartmel, W. H. L. Buckingham, J. C. Mitchell, and J. W. Brewer (St. Albans); Messrs. Robert Jackson, Richard Jackson, T. Webb, J. Phillips, G. T. Spicer, A. Thurgood, E. Bray, J. Croft, and W. Bidnell, jun. (Baldock); Messrs. S. Page, C. Sharnbrook, and Jos. Kitchener (Bennington); Mr. J. Shepherd (Hatfield); and Mr. E. J. Comb (London). During the afternoon and evening touches were rung in several methods of TRIPLES and MAJORS upon the bells of St. Mary's Church. At five o'clock the members adjourned to the Coffee Tavern, where they found a substantial tea provided for them, and, in the absence of Mr. Proctor, who was obliged to

catch an early train, the chair was taken by the Rev. Canon Hensley, the vicar. After tea business commenced, and the Chairman called upon the Secretary for the minutes of the last meeting, which were read and duly confirmed. The members confirmed the provisional election of Messrs. J. Rumney and G. Smith of Hatfield, while Messrs. T. Dobbs, J. Hare, and J. Foster, of Hitchin, Mr. W. Bidnell, jun., of Baldock, Mr. B. Foskett of Hampstead, and Mr. R. T. Woodley of London, were severally elected members. Mr. Mitchell, in an able speech, proposed that 'This meeting is of opinion that great benefit would accrue to the exercise of a Council, consisting of one or more members selected from each Association, could meet together from time to time to consider and determine such ringing matters as are a cause of perplexity.' In making the proposition, he reiterated the arguments adduced by Mr. Heywood at the College Youths' meeting on the 18th inst., as to the necessity of a representation of the ringers of England; and he reminded the members that they were only asked by the resolution to express an opinion that a National Council was desirable, without going into details as to how the Council was to be formed or the scope of its work. Mr. Debenham said that if putting down the so-called 'nuisance' of peal-ringing was to be one of the reasons for forming a National Council, he for one would not support it, but, believing as he did that a Council such as the one contemplated would be productive of good, he seconded the motion; and as regards Mr. Heywood's remark that the Marylebone Cricket Club formed a representative body, and had for cricketing matters become a court of appeal, he (the speaker) would like to see the same principle carried out in the case of one of the large societies, such as the College Youths. After Mr. Buckingham had spoken on the subject, the resolution was put to the members and carried unanimously. The next district meeting was arranged to be held at Hatfield in October. Mr. Mitchell called attention to the present wording of Rule 9, which reads as follows:—'No peal of less than 5000 changes on seven bells and upwards, or 5000 in seven different methods on six bells, shall be entered in the Peal-book,' and gave notice that he would bring before the next meeting a proposition that there be added to the rule that 'No peal of TRIPLES, CATERS, or CINQUES, rung without the tenor covering, shall be entered without the consent of the members, which may be given at the next meeting of the Association.' Votes of thanks having been accorded to Canon Hensley for the use of the church bells and for his kindness in presiding, and to the Secretary for his services, the members again made their way to the tower, where the bells were kept going until eight o'clock.

Oxford Diocesan Guild of Church Bell-ringers.

ANNUAL FESTIVAL, 1889.

DATE, Monday, July 22nd. Place, Newbury.

Return tickets will be issued at any station on Great Western Railway, from which eight members, and on London and North-Western Railway, from which ten members travel at 1s. fare.

Dinner tickets, at 2s. each, will be forwarded to those members only who send the money with the order, and the name of station from which they travel, to the Rev. Dolben Paul, Bearwood Rectory, Wokingham, on or before July 15th.

N.B.—The whole amount will be returned to change-ringing members and 1s. each to probationers, who are present at the dinner.

DOLBEN PAUL, *Secretary*.

The St. James's Society, London.

MEMBERS are requested to attend the meeting at the 'Essex Head,' Essex Street, Strand, on Monday, July 8th, when the question of the formation of a National Council will be discussed.

G. T. McLAUGHLIN, *Hon. Sec.*

The Lancashire Association.

THE Quarterly Meeting will be held on Saturday, July 6th, at the Parish Church, Preston. Ringing from 2 p.m. Business meeting in the schools at 6 p.m.

J. REDFORD, }
A. E. WREATES, } *Hon. Secs.*

North Lincolnshire Association.

THE next Quarterly General Meeting of the above Association will be held at Grimsby, on Saturday, July 13th, when the peals of eight at St. James's and St. Andrew's Churches will be placed at the disposal of the visitors. Tea will be provided at 1s. each. Those intending being present are desired to communicate with Mr. Seamer, Deansgate, Grimsby.

15 Knight Street, Lincoln.

JOHN W. WATSON, *Hon. Sec.*

CHANGE-RINGING.

At St. Collen, Llangollen, North Wales.

ON Wednesday, the 12th inst., Holt's Ten-part peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES was rung in 3 hrs. A. R. James (aged 12 years), 1; T. Williams, 2; D. E. Evans, 3; J. Davies, 4; J. W. Davies (conductor), 5; R. Horspool, 6; T. Davies, 7; R. Maxwell, 8. Tenor, 17½ cwt., in F sharp. This is the first peal by the above party, and the first rung on the bells by a local company.

At St. Helen's, Abingdon, Berks.

ON Friday, the 14th inst., eight members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild rang a peal of 5021 GRANDSIRE CATERS in 3 hrs. 9 mins. E. Humfrey, 1; A. P. Goddard, 2; W. Lawrence, 3; H. Humfrey, 4; F. W. J. Rees, 5; T. Blackburn, 6; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 7; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 8; J. Brown, 9; A. Burgess, 10. Tenor, 21 cwt. [* First peal of CATERS.]

At All Saints', Fulham, London.

ON Saturday, the 15th inst., ten members of the St. James's Society rang a peal of 5256 STEDMAN CATERS in 3 hrs. 19 mins. G. Newson (composer

and conductor), 1; H. Dains, 2; F. G. Newman, 3; J. W. Driver, 4; H. Swain, 5; W. W. Thorne, 6; W. L. Chamberlain, 7; A. Jacob, 8; H. Hopkins, 9; S. How, 10. Tenor, 21 cwt. This composition has the 5th and 6th exclusively behind the 9th, with all the 9-7-8's and 8-9's, is now rung for the first time, and is the first peal rung with these qualities. [* First peal of STEDMAN CATERS.]

At Christ Church, Blackfriars Road, London.

ON Saturday, the 15th inst., eight members of the Waterloo Society rang Holt's Original peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 54 mins. G. Wild (conductor), 1; W. Jones, 2; W. Coppage, 3; W. Baron, jun., 4; A. E. Church, 5; W. Baron, sen., 6; F. L. Davies, 7; E. Bayford, 8.

At the Parish Church, Midhurst, Sussex.

ON Thursday, the 20th inst., eight members of the Sussex County Association rang 5040 changes in four methods on six bells—viz., two 720's each of OXFORD and KENT TREBLE BOB and BOB MINOR, and 720 OXFORD SINGLE BOB—in 2 hrs. 42 mins. T. Ellis, 1; W. Court, 2; C. Tribe, 3; J. Lee, 4; W. Selby, 5; G. Williams (conductor), 6. Tenor, 12 cwt.

At St. Peter's, Soberton, Hampshire.

ON Friday, the 21st inst., eight members of the Winchester Diocesan Guild rang Holt's Ten-part peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 53 mins. C. Privett, 1; W. Linter, 2; R. Linter, 3; F. G. Ayling, 4; G. Williams (conductor), 5; A. Baker, 6; H. Sutton, 7; J. W. Whiting, 8. Messrs. Privett and Whiting came from Fareham; the brothers Linter, Swanmore; Ayling, Baker, and Sutton, Privett; Williams, Midhurst. Tenor, 14½ cwt., in G. [* First peal.]

At St. Stephen's Schools, Westminster, London.

ON Friday, the 21st inst., four members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang, in the picture-room of St. Stephen's Schools, on handbells retained in hand, Thurstans' peal of 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 27½ mins. H. R. Newton, 1-2; C. F. Winny (conductor), 3-4; G. T. McLaughlin, 5-6; J. N. Oxborough, 7-8. Tenor, 15 size, in C. Umpires, Mr. G. Wilde, of the Royal Cumberland Society, and Mr. W. H. L. Buckingham, of the Ancient Society of College Youths. This peal was attempted on Friday, June 14th, when, owing to a misunderstanding with the caretaker of the schools, it was abandoned after ringing half-way. It was attempted again on Wednesday, June 19th, when, after ringing fifty-six courses, it was unfortunately lost.

At St. Saviour's, Southwark, London.

ON Friday, the 21st inst., the Rev. W. Thompson, rector of the above church, entertained to a supper at his house Mr. Mash's young band of ringers, who ring on Sunday for the services. After supper Mr. Mash thanked the Rector and also Mrs. Thompson for the kind manner that he and his young friends had been received. It was now the practice of several clergymen in London and other parts of England to meet the ringers and so entertain them. The reverend gentlemen, in replying, said it was now the fourth year that he had the pleasure of meeting his young friends, and hoped he should be spared for some time to spend many such meetings, as he looked forward to the same with a great amount of pleasure. He also spoke about his grand old church, and hoped before long to start the restoration of the old part, having part of a fund for that purpose, also having met with a certain amount of success for the same.

At St. Paulinus', Crayford, Kent.

ON Saturday, the 22nd inst., eight members of the Kent County Association rang a peal of 5088 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR in 3 hrs. 1 min. W. Weatherstone, 1; F. Hayes, 2; C. Hamman, 3; G. Conyard, 4; W. Bedwell, 5; W. Harper, 6; E. Barnett, 7; F. G. Newman, 8. Composed by Mr. H. Dains, and conducted by Mr. F. G. Newman. Tenor, 12½ cwt.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH, BALDOCK, HERTS.—On Sunday morning, the 2nd inst., for Divine service, 448 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. T. Webb (conductor) 1; E. Bray, 2; J. Cawdell, 3; J. Craft, 4; G. T. Spicer, 5; A. Thurgood, 6; R. Jackson, 7; W. Bidnell, sen., 8. Also 336 in the same method, with J. Cawdell (conductor); Rt. Jackson, 5; Rd. Jackson, 6; G. T. Spicer, 7; the rest as before.

AT GREAT BROMLEY, ESSEX.—On Sunday, the 2nd inst., 720 BOB MINOR in 27 mins. J. Taylor (conductor), 1; A. Hazell, 2; J. Starling, 3; G. Dent, 4; A. Fuller, 5; A. Aviss, 6. Also another 720 in the same method, standing as before, except W. J. Nevard, 6. Messrs. Aviss and Dent came from Colchester. Tenor, 18 cwt.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH, BRAINTREE, ESSEX.—On Sunday evening, the 2nd inst., for Divine service, 720 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE. T. Watson, 1; F. Calthorpe, 2; S. Hammond, 3; E. Claydon (Stepping, first 720), 4; F. Rudkin (conductor), 5; H. E. Hammond, 6.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH, BETCHWORTH, SURREY.—On Tuesday, the 4th inst., for practice, 720 OXFORD TREBLE BOB. J. Poplett, 1; E. Moses, 2; F. Arnold, 3; F. Sanders (first 720 in the method), 4; R. Arnold, 5; W. Sadler (conductor), 6. Also 720 KENT TREBLE BOB. J. Robinson, 1; E. Moses, 2; F. Arnold, 3; F. Saunders, 4; R. Arnold, 5; W. Sadler (conductor), 6. [* First 720 TREBLE BOB.]

AT HOLY TRINITY, COALBROOKDALE, SALOP.—On Saturday, the 5th inst., for practice, 720 BOB MINOR (eighteen bobs and two singles). J. Jackes, 1; R. Cartwright (conductor), 2; A. Wale, 3; W. Jackes, 4; W. Morgan, 5; D. Bradburn, 6; A. Morgan, 7; N. Boden, 8. First 720 by all except the conductor, and rung with 7-8 covering. R. Cartwright came from

Wombourn. Also on Sunday, the 9th inst., for morning service, 360 BOB MINOR (nine bobs). J. Jukes, 1; W. Davis, 2; A. Wale, 3; J. Jukes, 4; W. Morgan, 5; D. Bradburn (conductor), 6; R. Dunn, 7; A. Morgan, 8. And for evening service, 360 in the same method (four bobs and two singles), standing as before.

AT CAVERSHAM, OXON.—On Sunday morning, the 9th inst., at 7 a.m., 720 BOB MINOR. A. W. Pike, 1; J. Hands, 2; H. Simmonds, 3; T. Newman, 4; H. Smith, 5; G. Essex (conductor), 6. Also for Divine service at 11 a.m., 360 YORKSHIRE COURT. A. W. Pike, 1; J. Hands, 2; H. Simmonds, 3; G. Essex, 4; H. Smith, 5; T. Newman (conductor), 6. And after evening service, 120 VIOLET TREBLE BOB, 120 DUKE OF YORK, 120 OXFORD TREBLE BOB, 120 KENT TREBLE BOB, 60 DOUBLE BOB, 60 SINGLE COURT, and 60 DOUBLE COURT. H. Simmonds, 1; Rev. G. F. Coleridge, 2; E. Munday, 3; G. Essex, 4; H. Smith, 5; T. Newman (conductor), 6. Tenor, 17 cwt.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH, FOXEARTH, ESSEX.—On Sunday, the 9th inst., for morning service, 560 BOB MAJOR, and for afternoon service 672 in the same method. J. Lee, 1; W. P. Gridley, 2; C. Honeybell, 3; F. Wells, 4; R. Mingay, 5; N. Hawkins, 6; G. Maxim (Cavendish), 7; Geo. Maxim (conductor), 8. And after the afternoon service, 464 BOB MAJOR, and for evening service 560 in the same method. J. Lee, 1; C. Honeybell, 2; W. Gridley, 3; N. Hawkins, 4; F. Wells, 5; R. Mingay, 6; G. Maxim, 7; Geo. Maxim (conductor), 8.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The Communion Exhortation and the Ornaments Rubric.

SIR,—Surely Mr. J. C. Harvey does not mean to claim a right to pick and choose what parts of our services to use or to omit. The Exhortation is not long; and it is most important, and is an integral portion of the public service for the Communion; and its rubric was deliberately passed in 1661 to require its use. People might as well claim to omit the daily Exhortation, and Confession, and Absolution, because they were composed in 1552 at the suggestion of foreign Presbyterians; or the last baptismal declaration and thanksgiving (as did Holton's former rector), because they also were composed in 1552; or the latter part of the public reception of the privately baptized, because it was composed and added in 1661.

The Ornaments Rubric is quite Erastian; on the face of it, it is ambiguous. Most seem to read it as if it ordered that such Ornaments shall be retained and be in use as were in use in 1549 by the authority of Parliament. But if compared with the rubric of 1684, *i.e.*, with pseudo-rubric of 1559, it is clear that it really means, as were retained and in use [not in 'the,' as before, but] in 'this' [the reformed] 'Church of England' of 1559, by the authority of Parliament in 1549; *i.e.*, as were in use from 1559 till 1661, under the unmodified portions of the Act of 1549, as specified in the Act of 1559. My contention is, that to make a stir over an ambiguously worded rubric of that kind and to disobey a perfectly clear one as to the Communion Exhortation, is most inconsistent.

C. H. DAVIS.

Littleton Drew, Chippenham, Wilts, June 15th, 1889.

The Legal Qualification of a Convocational Proctor.

SIR,—In York province its Archbishop ruled that no one who is not a beneficed clergyman is eligible to sit as a parochial proctor, and that even a real canon cannot so sit, although he had sat unchallenged throughout a whole Parliament. But in Canterbury its Archbishop has ruled the election to be valid of a clergyman who was not then beneficed, and who did not then hold even an honorary canonry. Which of the two is right? Should not committees of privileges investigate each case? I observe the several cases of rural deans who are now beneficed. I consider this to be unlawful. Is it so?

INVESTIGATOR.

June 15th, 1889.

The Diocese of St. David's.

SIR,—I have looked at a map. Certainly Carmarthen, and Pembroke, and Cardigan would make a diocese of St. David's; and Brecknock and Radnorshire might form one of Brecon. But it seems to me that the Glamorgan deanery of Gower—with Swansea—might well go into Llandaff, so as to leave the whole county in one diocese, as is now required by the Act of 1836. Monmouth might possibly go on to Hereford, as it is not in Wales.

June 15th, 1889.

S. Y. S.

The 'Trisagion' and the 'Gloria in Excelsis.'

SIR,—Usage sanctions the use by the congregation of the *Trisagion* and the *Gloria in Excelsis*. Yet the 'Amen' is in Italics. This, as Wheatly reminds us, seems to denote a previous silence by the people, wherever it occurs; that these are to 'be said or sung,' but by whom it is not stated. Does it mean that when 'said,' it is to be by the minister alone? but when 'sung,' it is to be by the people?

June 15th, 1889.

QUERIST.

Gambling.

SIR,—I also would contribute my mite upon the evils of betting, even on the smallest scale. To my mind the whole question resolves itself into one of the moral use of money, and its possession as a trust not to be tampered with, or to be lightly and lavishly expended upon a little profitless excitement. For, without the risks of winning or losing, what interest would there be in the game for those who habitually play for even sixpenny or threepenny points? There are some who play occasionally not to seem ill-natured, and who make a rule of never profiting by anything they may win. They determine to devote it to some good work. But, then, what if they lose? And what of those to whom even the small loss is a real one?

It cannot be called a profitable mode of contributing a little questionable entertainment to their friends. And why attempt to minimise the evil by the reduction of the points? There are those to whom the loss of sixpence may be as much as the loss of a pound may be to another.

LONDON LAYMAN.

SIR,—As there has been some correspondence in your columns on the subject of gambling, the following extracts from the writings of Charles Kingsley may be of interest to some of your readers:—

'Betting and gambling of every kind is in itself wrong and immoral. Betting is wrong because it is wrong to take your neighbour's money without giving him anything in return; . . . betting is not labouring nor earning, it is getting money without earning it, and, more, it is getting money, or trying to get it, out of your neighbour's ignorance.'

In a letter to his son (then a public-school boy) the same author wrote:—

'Recollect always that the stock argument is worthless. It is this: "My friend would win from me if he could, therefore I have an equal right to win from him." Nonsense; the same argument would prove that I have a right to maim or kill a man if only I give him leave to maim and kill me if he can and will. . . . Betting is the way of the world. So are all the seven deadly sins under certain rules and pretty names, but to the devil they lead if indulged in, in spite of the wise world and its ways.'

F. S. BEALE, curate of Blandford, Dorset.

Victoria Road, Blandford, Dorset.

'A CONSTANT READER' writes:—'Would you, or any of your readers, kindly inform me: (a), In whose charge should the key of a church organ be? (b), In whose power is the right to allow practising on the organ vested, in the event of a fresh vicar taking charge of a parish?'

EIGHT HOURS' FRESH AIR asked for five hundred Southwark school children and poor mothers. No prosperous residents in the parish, or other possibility of meeting the expenses of the annual and, in many cases, the only outing. All postal orders or cheques will be thankfully received and acknowledged by the Vicar, the Rev. J. W. Pitchford, St. Jude's Vicarage, Southwark, S.E.

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ALEXANDER GORDON, Secretary.

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BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Kent County Association of Change-ringers.

THE Annual Meeting of this Association was held at Canterbury on Monday, June 17th. A large number of members attended service in the Cathedral at ten o'clock, after which an excellent address was delivered by the Archdeacon of Maidstone. About 200 members sat down to dinner, at which the Dean of Canterbury presided, and was supported by the Archdeacon of Maidstone, the Hon. Canon Fremantle, Rev. R. B. Knatchbull-Hugessen (Secretary), Rev. F. E. Tuke, Rev. F. J. O. Helmore, Rev. E. W. Carpenter, G. F. Attree, Esq., &c. It was with the greatest regret that the announcement by the Secretary of his resignation was received by all the members present, this step being rendered necessary by his acceptance of a living in Sussex. Mr. Knatchbull-Hugessen was the moving spirit in the formation of the Association in 1880, and since that time has held the office of Secretary. He leaves the Association in a very flourishing state as regards numbers and financial condition, the balance-sheet for 1888 showing a balance in hand of 941., and he goes to his new sphere of work with the heartiest good wishes of all the members.

The new constitution of the Association, rendered necessary by its extension, was finally adopted, by which it is divided into five districts, with centres at Canterbury, Ashford, Maidstone, Tunbridge, and Rochester. The Rev. E. W. Carpenter, vicar of Bobbing, was elected to the vacant office of Secretary; and district meetings, for the purpose of enabling the new District Committees to elect Secretaries and transact other business, were fixed to be held at Ashford on September 7th, at Maidstone on August 26th, at Tunbridge on July 27th, and at Gillingham on September 28th. The bells of the Cathedral and neighbouring churches were kept at work during the greater part of the day. E. W. CARPENTER, *Hon. Secretary.*

Bobbing Vicarage, Sittingbourne.

THE following letter has been sent, we believe, to every member of the above Association by the Rev. E. W. Carpenter, vicar of Bobbing:—

'DEAR SIR,—The wish has been expressed to me by many members of the Kent County Association of Change-ringers that some acknowledgment should be made to the Rev. R. B. Knatchbull-Hugessen for his great services to the Association, of which he has been Secretary since 1880. It has been suggested that the subscription should be limited in amount, a small sum from every member or band being most to be desired. The Committee will meet at Tunbridge on July 27th, after the District Committee Meeting, of which due notice will be given.—Yours faithfully,

'EDWARD W. CARPENTER, *Hon. Secretary.*

'Bobbing Vicarage, Sittingbourne, Kent.'

The St. Peter's Society, Walworth, London.

ON Thursday, the 6th ult., after a touch on the bells, the Rector (Rev. J. H. Hazel) of the above church kindly entertained his ringers at their Annual Supper, which took place at the rectory. The Rector presided, and the Rev. W. Wilkinson (curate) officiated as vice-chairman. Among the company present were the Churchwardens (Messrs. King and Evans), Mr. Stanley Hazel, R. Raby (verger), Mr. Jeffries (verger of St. Giles', Camberwell), and the following ringers: Messrs. Flower, Hayward, Coxhead, Groves, Summers, Drury, Somerset, and the Messrs. Peters. The cloth being removed, and grace having been said, the Reverend Chairman spoke very kindly of the good feeling which now existed between the ringers and clergy. Harmony was then resorted to, Mr. Stanley Hazel (son of the Rector) accompanying on the piano, and the Rev. W. Wilkinson on the violin, which the company very much enjoyed. The ringers return their thanks to the Rector and Churchwardens for their kindness on this and other occasions.

The Ely Diocesan Association at Soham.

A MEETING of the above Association was held at Soham on Whit-Monday, when members from Soham, Ely, and Cambridge attended. The weather was most unpropitious, and this fact, together with the attractions of the Bank Holiday, no doubt affected the attendance. The ringers were warmly received and welcomed by the Vicar, Churchwardens, and parishioners, as, owing to the decline in interest in ringing in this town, where years ago change-ringing was practised—as the tablets in the ringing-chamber bear witness—this fine ring of ten is seldom used. Several touches of BOB MINOR and one of BOB MAJOR were rung. After dinner a business meeting was held, when several new members were elected, amongst them Mr. F. J. W. Rees, B.A., formerly judge in Bengal, an old Cambridge Youth and ardent ringer. This Association still struggles on, but, owing to the geographical difficulties of the diocese, the utter apathy to ringing displayed by the clergy, and the callous indifference of the ringers, makes slow progress. It was proposed to hold the next meeting on the second Monday in September at Long Melford, which will also be the Annual Meeting.

Lancashire Association of Six-bell Ringers.

ON Saturday, the 15th ult., the Annual Meeting of the above Association was held at St. Andrew's, Leyland, when there was a good attendance, among the places represented being Standish, Chorley, Blackrod, Eccleston, St. James', Leyland, and St. Andrew's, Leyland. During the afternoon and evening several peals of 720 BOB MINOR and other methods were rung. At five o'clock the business meeting was held in the Grammar School, Mr. W. Bowling presiding, when two new members were admitted. The President referred to the satisfactory progress made by the Association, and in kindly terms spoke of the recent loss to the Association by the death of Mr. Thomas Baron, of Leyland, who had been a member since its formation. The minutes of the

previous meeting having been read and passed, it was agreed that the next quarterly meeting be held at Standish. The President announced the names of the retiring officers, when it was unanimously agreed that they be re-elected. A vote of thanks to the Rector for the use of the bells and school, and to the officers for their past services, concluded the proceedings. At six o'clock the members with a few friends (numbering forty-seven) adjourned to a substantial meat tea. Afterwards ringing was recommenced by some of the members, while others enjoyed themselves with handbell-ringing, &c., and a pleasant gathering was brought to a close.

The Midland Counties' Association.

THE First Quarterly Meeting of the year will be held at Burton-on-Trent, on Saturday, July 13th, full details of which will appear in our next issue. 5 St. Paul's Street, E., Burton-on-Trent. JOSEPH GRIFFIN, *Hon. Sec.*

The Sussex County Association.

A DISTRICT MEETING of this Association will be held at Bolney, on Saturday, July 20th. Full particulars in next issue.

GEO. F. ATTREE, *Hon. Sec.*

JAS. E. WORSSELL, *Assist. Hon. Sec.*

A Visit to Cambridge.

THE ringers of Poslingford, Suffolk, held their annual holiday on Monday, the 17th ult., the place selected for the occasion being Cambridge, for the purpose of ringing at some of the churches, having made arrangements with the various Vicars for permission to do so. The first church visited was Great St. Mary's, the tower of which contains a ring of twelve bells,—tenor 31 cwt. Having been joined by Mr. G. Taylor, they made a start for 720 of BOB MINOR on the six largest bells, but finding that the tenor bell was too heavy for six-bell ringing, they had to ring the middle six, and succeeded in bringing round 720, standing as follows:—C. Rawlinson, 1; W. Atkinson, 2; G. Taylor (Cambridge), 3; D. Gridley (conductor), 4; H. Burling, 5; C. Howe, 6. Having had a look round at the bells (which are in first-rate order), they went to the church of St. Andrew-the-Great, which has a fine ring of eight bells—tenor, 14 cwt. An attempt for 720 was made, with two of the local company, conducted by Mr. Gridley, but, owing to two bells changing places, they came round at the half-peal end. As their time was limited for ringing at this church, they had to abandon the hope of getting 720 there, so after a short tuck they lowered the bells. The next church visited was St. Benedict's, containing a ring of six bells (tenor, 18 cwt.); but they were not found to be in a condition for any ringing, there having to be three men to get the fifth bell up. After a hasty look round at the colleges and museums, they returned home pleased with their visit.

The Annual Meeting at Saffron Walden, Essex.

ON Thursday, the 27th ult., the Annual Meeting took place, when Squire Proctor and his talented band from Benington attended, with others from Sawbridgeworth (Rochester), Cambridge, Bishop Stortford, Sudbury, and other places. About 3000 changes were rung in the methods of STEPMAN, CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE, SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE, DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB, OXFORD and KENT TREBLE BOB, and GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. The Pitstows (brothers) expressed their opinion that it was the best anniversary that had taken place for many years. About forty ringers and friends sat down to an excellent dinner, at which Mr. Taylor presided. The Benington party enlivened the proceedings by tune-playing on their fine set of handbells.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At the Parish Church, Tottenham, Middlesex.

ON Saturday, the 22nd ult., eight members of the Essex Association rang a peal of 5120 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR in 3 hrs. 4 mins. A. Fox, 1; J. Hannington, 2; H. A. Barnett, 3; Jos. Waghorn, sen., 4; Jos. Waghorn, jun. (first peal in the method as conductor), 5; J. Barber, 6; G. B. Lucas, 7; W. Pye-English, 8. Composed by Mr. Dains and conducted by Mr. Waghorn, jun. Tenor, 20 cwt., in E. The composition has the 6th its extent in 5-6, and the 4th its extent in 6th's place.

At St. Peter's, Drayton, Berks.

ON Saturday, the 22nd ult., eight members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild rang a peal of 5040 STEPMAN TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 28 mins. T. Short, 1; W. Adkins, 2; A. P. Goddard, 3; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 4; J. W. Wilkins, 5; S. Lawrence, 6; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 7; T. Blackburn, 8.

At the Parish Church, Hughenden, Bucks.

ON Monday, the 24th ult., eight members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild rang Holt's Original peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 45 mins. Jos. Evans, 1; H. Stratford, 2; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 3; F. Biggs, 4; S. Goodchild, 5; R. Biggs, 6; John Evans, 7; E. Elburn, 8.

ON Tuesday, the 25th ult., at the same church and by the same Guild, Brooke's Variation of Thurstan's peal of 5040 STEPMAN TRIPLES was rung in 2 hrs. 36 mins. F. Biggs, 1; H. Stratford, 2; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 3; John Evans, 4; R. Biggs, 5; S. Goodchild, 6; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 7; Jos. Evans, 8. Tenor, 12½ cwt.

At the Parish Church, Great Marlow, Bucks.

ON Tuesday, the 25th ult., eight members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild rang a peal of 5040 STEPMAN TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 36 mins. John Evans, 1; F. Biggs, 2; R. Biggs, 3; S. Goodchild, 4; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 5; H. Stratford, 6; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 7; Jos. Evans, 8. The first peal of STEPMAN on the bells.

RECEIVED ALSO.—Rev. E. W. Carpenter (thanks); and others.

six per cent below the average, and, in fact, Ossory was the lowest in Ireland except Ardfer. The dioceses throughout the Church on an average contributed 58l. out of every 100l., while in Ossory parishes were only asked for 52l. Another very serious matter was this, that for the second time they had had to draw from the capital of their Stipend Fund to meet their liabilities. It was a small sum last year, only 2l. 11s. 11d., but it would increase every year until they lost the benefits of their commutation capital. Looking to the future, there was another important matter which must not be lost sight of. In consequence of recent legislation it was highly probable there would be extensive sales of the interests of landlords to their tenants, which could not but very materially affect contributions for sustentation, inasmuch as the tenants, who, as a rule, were not members of the Church, would become the landowners.

The report was adopted, and the Synod proceeded to consider the resolution of the General Synod sent down to them on the subject of curtailing the number of the Cathedral dignitaries in the diocese. The Bishop strongly opposed the cutting down of the staff of the Cathedral, and eventually a resolution was carried to the effect that it was not desirable to do so. The Synod shortly afterwards adjourned.

The annual meeting of the Diocesan Synod of Cashel and Emly was held in the Parish Church of Tipperary. The proceedings were opened by the President, the Bishop of Cashel (Dr. Day), who read the eighty-fifth Psalm and offered up prayer. In the course of his address the Bishop said:—

‘He could not but express the deep thankfulness that they were all bound to feel that the landed gentry of this county and of this diocese had not in any great measure been driven from amongst them, but were still holding their place, and he hoped would long continue to hold it. Their presence in the land was a benefit which it would be impossible otherwise to supply. He was sure that although the means of at least many of the gentry had been diminished, and though the legal power which they had over their properties might be altered, yet the presence of well-educated men, and still more if they were men of Christian principles, dwelling in the land, was a matter of enormous benefit to the whole country, and their removal would leave a grievous blank indeed.’

The report of the Diocesan Council stated that the annuities payable on the 1st January, 1889, amounted to 1573l. 18s. 10d., the capital value of which, at Government three per cent Life Table, was computed to be on the 31st December, 1888, 12,301l. 9s., which, if taken from the entire of the commutation capital, would leave a clear profit to the diocese on this account of 77,494l. 19s. 7d. The sum to the credit of the composition balances account remains the same as on the previous year—viz., 64,777l. 19s. 11d., no case of composition having taken place in 1888. In accordance with a resolution passed last year by the Diocesan Synod, the Representative Body have consented to unite the General Diocesan Fund with the Diocesan Stipend, and this united fund on the 1st January, 1889, amounted to 26,644l. 1s. 9d. This fund is now chargeable with all the payments for which the Diocesan Fund was liable.

With regard to the resolution of the General Synod on the subject of Cathedral dignitaries, it was resolved, ‘That this Synod, having already suppressed all the dignities and canonries formerly attached to the Cathedral of Emly, is of opinion that no further change is necessary, and that those of the Cathedral of Cashel should be maintained as at present.’ The Synod afterwards adjourned.

The Diocesan Synod of Waterford and Lismore met in the Synod Hall, Waterford, on Thursday, the 4th inst., the Bishop of Cashel presiding. His Lordship, in addressing the Synod, said:—

‘It was true, and sadly true, that many of the landed gentry were experiencing great straits, and perhaps more or less reduction of income, but still many would agree with him that when men were compelled to take in their expenses, the first reduction should not be in curtailing the Church of God. He knew of some who had reduced their establishments very considerably, and he thought it was to their honour, and not to their discredit, and yet they had not reduced their contributions in the least to the work of God in the country. And then there were many whose incomes were not, or were very slightly, dependent upon land, and who had for some reason or other increased their incomes.’

The report of the Diocesan Council stated that while the diocesan capital amounted in December, 1887, to 113,730l. 17s. 9d., it had been reduced to 113,520l. 7s. 11d. in the course of the past year—viz., by the sum of 210l. 9s. 10d. The cost of the outstanding annuities, however, over the diminished interest allowed for the commutation capital, reduced that portion of the capital by 495l. 5s. 3d. Since, then, the reduction on the entire capital amounted only to 210l. 9s. 10d., it followed that the loss on the commutation capital had been met to the amount of 284l. 15s. 5d. by the increase in other branches of the diocesan capital, the stipend fund in particular. This formed a pleasing contrast to last year's report, when the decrease in the diocesan capital amounted to 947l. 16s. 10d.

With regard to the resolution on the reduction of Cathedral dignities, it was carried, ‘That the communication of the General Synod be referred to the Diocesan Council, with directions to draw up a scheme and to lay it before an adjourned meeting of the Diocesan Synod.’

The Synod then adjourned.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Kent County Association of Change-ringers.

A DISTRICT Meeting will be held at Tunbridge on Saturday, July 27th. The Committee will meet at the Old Town Hall at 3.30 p.m. for the purpose of electing a District Secretary and transacting other business. Secretaries of bands are requested to inform the Secretary as soon as possible—1, How many of their band will attend; 2, By what train and from what station they wish to travel, in order that he may arrange for cheap fares; 3, Whether they would like him to arrange for the members to have tea together. Allowance to full members, 2s.; probationers, 1s. EDWARD W. CARPENTER, Hon. Sec.

Bobbing Vicarage, Sittingbourne.

The Bath and Keynsham United Deaneries' Association.

THE usual Monthly Meeting of this Association was held at the Parish Church, Twerton-on-Avon, on Monday evening, the 1st inst., when there was a good attendance of members. Tea was provided at the Vicarage, through the kindness of the Rev. W. S. Shaw, after which a pleasant evening was spent in change-ringing, including the following:—Three peals (120) of GRANDSIRE DOUBLES. H. Wyburn, 1; W. Lanham, 2; W. Dicks, 3; G. Hill (conductor), 4; F. Beesley, 5; F. Skure, 6. Also two peals of GRANDSIRE DOUBLES. T. Salmon, 1; G. Freith, 2; J. Holman, 3; S. J. Francis, 4; J. Stagg (conductor), 5; W. A. Gully, 6. And one peal of GRANDSIRE DOUBLES. T. Salmon, 1; W. Dicks, 2; H. Wotton (conductor), 3; S. J. Francis, 4; J. Stagg, 5; W. A. Gully, 6. A touch of 518 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. W. Dicks, 1; G. Temple, 2; G. Hill (conductor), 3; W. Lanham, 4; H. Wotton, 5; J. Holman, 6; J. B. Blackmore, 7; O. Wake, 8. And a touch of 112 GRANDSIRE MAJOR. W. Dicks, 1; G. Temple, 2; G. Hill, 3; W. Lanham, 4; H. Wotton (conductor), 5; J. S. Flower, 6; J. B. Blackmore, 7; J. Holman, 8.

St. Martin's Guild of Change-ringers for Birmingham, Aston, and the Surrounding Districts.

THE usual quarterly meeting of this Guild was held at Barwick Street Mission Rooms on the 27th ult., James Evans, Esq., one of the churchwardens of Aston, presiding. A very satisfactory report on the Guild's financial position and recent progress was made by the Secretary, and the officers for the ensuing year were then appointed. It was decided to hold the annual picnic and dinner on Saturday, July 20th, at Stratford-on-Avon; and the meeting then terminated with a hearty vote of thanks to the Chairman, who expressed the gratification it afforded him to assist in the business of the Guild.

A Ringers' Festival at Sudbury, Suffolk.

ON St. Peter's Day, the 29th ult., the Annual Ringers' Festival was held, and the bells of the three churches were rung with a variety of peals. Sudbury has a famous company of ringers, under the able conductorship of Mr. C. Sillitoe, and it is gratifying to find that the art of campanology is fully recognised and appreciated. There are few towns of its size where three such fine complete rings of ‘eights’ are to be found and such good ringing is to be heard. We are glad to hear that it is now in contemplation to complete a ring of ten at either All Saints' or St. Peter's tower. The ringers dined together at two o'clock at the ‘Oak’ Inn. The chair was occupied by the Rev. T. L. Green and the vice-chair by Dr. Inglis Mason, an old and generous friend of the Sudbury change-ringers. There were also present Mr. J. B. Westoby, churchwarden of St. Peter's, Mr. Peter Constable, churchwarden of St. Gregory's, and Mr. Lewis. In the course of the proceedings mention was made more than once of the proposal to complete a ring of ten bells. If once started it would certainly be successfully carried out, and be found of great advantage to the ancient art of change-ringing.

Change-ringing commenced at 6 a.m., the bells of St. Peter's being raised at that time. After a few preliminary ‘rounds’ they were fired, and a touch of 720 changes of BOB MAJOR was rung, the following comprising the band:—F. Tolliday, 1; C. Sillitoe (conductor), 2; G. Brown, 3; W. Cross, 4; J. Campin, 5; H. Harper, 6; W. Griggs, 7; A. Scott, 8. A move was then made to All Saints', where the fine ring of bells were soon set swinging to the method of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, a short touch being rung by ten members of the company, the big bells requiring two men each to them. St. Gregory's bells were also rung during the morning, with touches of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. During the afternoon the bells of St. Gregory's and St. Peter's were rung simultaneously, several visiting ringers from Lavenham and Melford having dropped in. A touch of STEDMAN TRIPLES was rung at St. Peter's by the following picked band:—W. Cross, 1; M. Silvester, 2; W. Griggs, 3; C. Sillitoe (conductor), 4; W. Howell, 5; J. Campin, 6; H. Harper, 7; H. Brackett, 8. The following also rang a well-struck touch of 464 changes of BOB MAJOR for evening service at St. Peter's:—F. Tolliday, 1; A. Ambrose (Melford), 2; C. Sillitoe, 3; W. B. Ransom, 4; W. Griggs, 5; H. Harper, 6; N. Hawkins (Belchamp), 7; A. Symonds (Lavenham), 8. This concluded the tower-ringing for the day, and the whole company then adjourned to headquarters for the rest of the evening. Some good courses of STEDMAN TREBLE BOB, GRANDSIRE CATERS, and STEDMAN CATERS were rung in the handbells, the principal being a course of STEDMAN CATERS by the following:—C. Sillitoe, 1-2; G. Brown, 3; M. Silvester, 4; N. J. Pitts (Walden), 5; H. Harper, 6; A. Scott, 7; W. Howell, 8; J. Campin, 9-10. The company spent a very enjoyable evening.

A Ringers' Holiday at Wiveton, Norfolk.

THROUGH the kind invitation of the Rev. H. N. D'Almaine, rector of Wiveton, Norfolk, the Aylsham Company (members of the Norwich Diocesan

Association) had their holiday on Whit-Monday. They had a wagonette and pair of horses. On their arrival at Wiveton the Rector was ready to receive them, and on entering the steeple they rang 720 OXFORD TREBLE BOB, after which they partook of refreshments provided by the Rector. Several other touches were rung on the bells—a ring of six, considered the best of their weight in the county—and, having lately been rehung by Mears & Stainbank, were in first-rate order. Towards the evening the ringers were invited to the Rectory, where a tea was provided for them, and several courses of GRANDSIRE CATERERS were rung on the handbells. Altogether a very enjoyable day was spent.

A New Ring of Six Bells at St. Lawrence's, Sheepwash, North Devon.

At a meeting of the parishioners in March last it was resolved to procure a ring of six bells for the parish church, and during the last fortnight men have been busily employed in hanging them under the skilled superintendence of Mr. Dunn; and on Saturday evening, the 29th ult., they were rung for the first time, to the great pleasure of a large number of parishioners and others who had assembled to hear them. These bells were founded and hung by the well-known firm of Messrs. Warner. They are in the key of G, the weight of the tenor being about 13 cwt. The cage is of the finest oak that could be procured, and was supplied by Mr. Fynamore and Mr. Newcombe, the former having also very kindly placed his barn and yard at the disposal of the workmen, the sawyer's work being done by Messrs. Bassett, Eyre, and W. Madge. The bells are inscribed as follows: No. 1, 'Thou, O God, art praised in Sion.' No. 2, 'Thou visitest the earth and blessest it.' No. 3, 'Thou makest it very plenteous.' No. 4, 'Thou waterest her furrows.' No. 5, 'Thou blessest the increase of it.' No. 6, 'Thou crownest the year with Thy goodness.' In the belfry, and immediately under the west window, a handsome brass plate, also supplied by Messrs. Warner, has been affixed, with the following inscription:—

'Our voices shall with joyful sound
Make hill and valley echo round.

'These bells were dedicated to the greater glory of God and the service of His Holy Church on the Feast of St. Lawrence, 1889, being the 5th year of Edward, 62nd Bishop of Exeter, and the 53rd of our Sovereign Lady Queen Victoria, whom may God preserve.

'Let Sheepwash bells right merrily be rung,
The truth loud preached and God's high praises sung.

'ED. TROLLOPE, Vicar.
JOHN POPE, } Churchwardens.
RICH. BROOK, }
RICH. FINNAMORE, }

As the bells are rung from the floor of the church, and in immediate proximity to the congregation, it has been deemed necessary to place a screen under the tower arch, and a very handsome one is now being made, and will shortly be put up.

The Lord Bishop of the diocese has fixed Thursday, August 8th, for the service of dedication, on which occasion his Lordship will preach, and a large gathering of friends may be expected. The parishioners of Sheepwash must be warmly congratulated on the happy issue of labours during the last three years. They have collected amongst themselves and their friends the large sums that have been required to carry out the heavy work that is now completed, and their beautiful church, with its recently built tower and sweet-toned musical bells, stands prominently out, an ornament to the landscape for many miles around, and a lasting monument of their own zeal for the house of God.

On Saturday Mr. Dunn and his workmen, with a few other friends, were entertained at a supper by Mr. and Mrs. Fynamore; and on Sunday evening a number of ringers came from adjoining parishes, who expressed their opinion that the tone and 'go' of the bells left nothing to be desired.

A New Ring of Eight Bells at Nuneaton, Warwickshire.

On Saturday, the 16th ult., the Nuneaton Company, with ringing friends from Barwell, Hinckley, Stanton, Earl Shilton, and Rugby, met at the parish church for the purpose of celebrating the unveiling of a peal tablet, a present from the Vicar, the Rev. Canon Bellairs, which has been erected in the belfry of the above church as a record of the peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES rung on April 13th, 1889. Ringing commenced at 4 o'clock with touches of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, and at 6 p.m., the Rev. Canon Bellairs ascended the tower for the purpose of unveiling the tablet, which, he said, gave him great pleasure to do, and was a credit to the band who rang the peal, especially to Mr. Chapman—who had written it in Old English letters—for the manner he had executed it. When he (the Vicar) came to Nuneaton, there were only six bells, three of that number being cracked; and one of the first things he did was to raise a fund to have the bells re-cast and augmented to eight, which are now a light ring in E, tenor 14½ cwt.; a chiming apparatus had been fixed at the sole expense of his (the Vicar's) sister, and is now used for daily services. The ringers of Nuneaton were a self-governed body, and he never had had cause to interfere with them, and hoped he should never have to do so. The Vicar's remarks were seconded by Mr. Horwood, who thanked the reverend gentleman for his presence amongst them that evening, and also for his handsome present, the peal tablet.

The following are a few touches which were rung on the occasion:—335 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. J. George (Rugby), 1; G. Winter, 2; J. Swinfield, 3; A. R. Aldham (Barwell), 4; H. Briggs (Stanton), 5; J. Clarke (conductor), 6; W. Chapman, 7; W. Colledge (Hinckley), 8. Also 630 in the same method. A. R. Aldham, 1; J. Swinfield (Shilton), 2; J. Clarke, 3; G. Winter, 4; H. Briggs, 5; T. W. Chapman (conductor), 6; H. Horwood, 7;

J. George, 8. And two other touches, 168 changes in each. W. Colledge, 1; T. W. Chapman, 2; J. Swinfield, 3; G. Winter, 4; H. Briggs, 5; J. Clarke (conductor), 6; H. Horwood, 7; J. Thompson (Shilton), 8. And two peals of GRANDSIRE DOUBLES. J. Thompson, 1; J. Garratt, 2; H. Briggs, 3; J. Clarke (conductor), 4; J. George, 5; H. Horwood, 6.

The Restoration of St. Peter's, Benington, Stevenage, Herts.

The above church has been finely restored, and was opened on Saturday, the 29th ult., when three services took place; the Bishop of Antigua preaching at eleven o'clock, and the Archdeacon of St. Albans at three o'clock. The fine ring of eight bells was rung during the day by Squire Proctor's famous band of change-ringers.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At St. John's, Beeston, Nottingham.

On Thursday, the 27th ult., eight members of the Midland Counties' Association rang Taylor's Bob-and-Single Variation peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 58 mins. S. Burton, 1; Jos. Woolley,* 2; G. Oldham (first peal with a bob-bell), 3; A. Lowe,* 4; W. Clifford, 5; W. Fox (first peal as conductor), 6; G. H. Johnson, 7; S. Wesley,* 8. Tenor, 19 cwt. [* First peal.]

At Caerleon, Monmouthshire.—Muffled Date Touch.

On Wednesday evening, the 3rd inst., was rung, as a token of respect to the memory of the late Rev. F. Archer, vicar of Christchurch, Monmouthshire, a date touch of 1839 TREBLE BOB MAJOR in the Kent Variation, the bells being half-muffled, in 1 hr. 9 mins. H. Evans, 1; R. Le Vesconte, 2; E. Davis, 3; H. Shearn, 4; W. H. Arnold, 5; J. W. Jones, 6; F. Green, 7; F. E. Ward, 8. Composed by Mr. H. Dains, and conducted by Mr. Ward. Tenor, 7½ cwt., in B flat.

At St. Mary's, Putney, Surrey.

On Monday, the 8th inst., eight Members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang Thurstans' peal of 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 52 mins. H. L. James, 1; H. R. Newton, 2; W. E. Garrard, 3; J. W. Driver, 4; C. F. Winny (conductor), 5; W. T. Cockerill, 6; R. T. Woodley, 7; S. How, 8. Tenor, 16½ cwt. This was Mr. James' first peal in the method. He is a member of the St. Michael's Juniors, Gloucester, and the Cambridge University Guild.

At HOLM LACY, HEREFORDSHIRE.—On Sunday, the 2nd ult., for Divine service, by the Pownhope and Holm Lacy ringers, two six-scores of BOB DOUBLES, leaving the 4th, 6th, and tenor behind. W. Rogers, 1; W. Fussell, 2; W. Wheatstone, 3; C. Morgan, 4; W. Jones, 5; J. Jeffries, 6; W. Davies (conductor), 7; J. Taylor, 8. Tenor, 16 cwt. Rung to welcome home the Rector, the Rev. W. P. S. Stanhope, after an absence of seven months through severe illness.

At PETERCHURCH, HEREFORDSHIRE.—On Tuesday, the 4th ult., ringers from Abbeydore, Michaelchurch, Eaton Bishop, and Peterchurch, took part in ringing during the day, celebrating a choral festival which was held in the church. All were present at tea in the schools at 5.30. Many were members of the various choirs.

At THE PARISH CHURCH, BRACKDISH, CHESHIRE.—On Sunday morning, the 9th ult., for Divine service, about 6.15, 720 OXFORD TREBLE BOB MINOR in 23 mins., and 720 COLLEGE EXERCISE in the same time. F. Barkway, 1; R. Peake, 2; E. Calver, 3; C. Gillman, 4; W. Gillman, 5; H. Smith, 6. Both were conducted by R. Peake. Also in the afternoon before service, 720 OXFORD TREBLE BOB MINOR in 26 mins., the ringers standing as before, conducted by F. Barkway. Tenor, 11 cwt. in G.

At DONCASTER, YORKSHIRE.—On Monday, the 10th ult., a quarter-peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 50 mins. H. Fevors (Doncaster), 1; H. Marwood (Doncaster), 2; V. Hawkins (Rawmarsh), 3; H. G. Wilson (Doncaster), 4; T. Whitworth (Rawmarsh, conductor), 5; C. Crawford (Markham), 6; J. Leach (Doncaster), 7; G. Marwood (Doncaster), 8. Composed by H. J. Tucker. The above quarter-peal contains the 5th at home every three leads and twelve 6-7's. Tenor, 31 cwt.

At ST. SAVIOUR'S, EASTBOURNE, SUSSEX.—On Monday, the 10th ult., the first attempt for a peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES came to an end after 2132 changes, in 1 hr. 20 mins. The band consisted of five members of St. Saviour's, two of St. Mary's, and one of All Saints'. W. Ticehurst, 1; H. P. Bennett (conductor), 2; W. Biggs, 3; E. Baker, 4; J. Hoiser,* 5; F. Fisher,* 6; E. Willoughby, 7; G. Ales, 8. This fine-toned ring was completed by Messrs. Warner & Sons in 1886, the above touch being the longest yet rung on them. Tenor, 25 cwt. [* First attempt.]

At BRENTWOOD, ESSEX.—On Whit-Monday morning, the 10th ult., Holt's Original peal was attempted, but lost after ringing about 1000 changes. The band met one short, and had to put a treble man inside, who got on fairly well. A. B. Goody, 1; L. Copsey, 2; W. Pegrum, 3; W. Pye, 4; A. J. Perkins (conductor), 5; W. Nash, 6; M. L. Myhill, 7; S. James, 8. Also on Saturday, the 29th ult., eight members of the Essex Association attempted Holt's Original peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, but finished after ringing 1 hr. 40 mins. A. Goody, 1; J. Gobbett, 2; W. Pegrum, 3; W. Pye, 4; A. J. Perkins (conductor), 5; W. Nash, 6; M. L. Myhill, 7; L. James, 8.

At THE PARISH CHURCH, WIDFORD, ESSEX.—On Whit-Monday evening, the 10th ult., Thurstans' peal of STEDMAN TRIPLES was attempted, and lost after ringing 1 hr. 40 mins. C. Winny (conductor), 1; A. J. Perkins, 2; W. H. Buckingham, 3; W. Wise, 4; W. Battle, 5; W. W. Gifford (Salisbury), 6; W. Lebbon, 7; J. Piper, 8. This was pronounced to be fine striking by many well-known ringers from London.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH, MINSTERWORTH, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.—On Saturday, the 15th ult., the following members of the St. Michael's Junior Society, Gloucester, rang 720 BOB MINOR in 20 mins. E. B. James, Esq., 1; F. E. Hart, 2; S. E. Romans, 3; R. J. Wilkins, 4; H. L. James, Esq., 5; W. J. Sevier (conductor), 6. Also 720 OXFORD TREBLE BOB MINOR in 21 mins. F. E. Hart, 1; E. B. James, Esq., 2; S. E. Romans, 3; R. J. Wilkins, 4; H. L. James, Esq., 5; W. J. Sevier (conductor), 6. Tenor, 9 cwt., in A. Also 360 each of KENT TREBLE BOB and CANTERBURY PLEASURE MINOR, conducted by J. Sevier. The first two 720 changes upon the bells. [* First 720 in the method.]

AT ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S, HORLEY, SURREY.—On Sunday, the 16th ult., 504 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. G. Apps, 1; W. Edwards, 2; E. Dewey, 3; A. Ellis, 4; J. Taylor (conductor), 5; J. Akehurst, 6; F. Wickens, 7; J. Hedgecock, 8. Another 504. G. Staplehurst, 1; S. Kenward, 2; E. Dewey, 3; J. Taylor, 4; A. Ellis, 5; F. Wickens (conductor), 6; T. Sparks, 7; J. Hedgecock, 8.

AT ROMFORD, ESSEX.—Handbell-ringing.—On Saturday, the 22nd ult., four members of the Essex Association rang the first 1000 of Holt's Original, with bells retained in hand. G. Pearl, 1-2; J. Gobbett, 3-4; A. J. Perkins (conductor), 5-6; M. L. Myhill, 7-8. Also on the 30th ult., for morning service at St. Edward's, 504 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, being the longest touch by the treble man on any other bell but the tenor. L. James, 1; L. Copsey, 2; W. Pegrum, 3; B. Keeble, 4; S. Boughton, 5; M. L. Myhill, 6; W. Nash, 7; A. J. Perkins (composer and conductor), 8. This touch has all the 7-5-6's.

AT WINDSOR, BERKS.—On Friday, the 28th ult., being the 52nd Anniversary of the Coronation of Queen Victoria, 518 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 20 mins. F. King, 1; A. C. Fussell, 2; G. Stanbrook, 3; W. Wilder, 4; E. Willis, 5; F. Sinkins, 6; W. H. Fussell, 7; J. Perryman, 8. Tenor 21 cwt.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Church Music Reform Association.

SIR,—Allow me to make a brief explanation regarding this Association, which is advertised in your columns. The above is our correct title, and we are in no way connected with a younger organization called, I think, the 'Modified Chant-form and Responsorial Church Music Guild.' In some ways our objects are not quite dissimilar; and as we, too (the C. M. R. A.), deal with the modified chant-form, there is a little confusion in the minds of some of our friends and supporters. This I seek, with your assistance, to clear away. Our Hon. Secretary, Mr. E. Griffith, F.C.O., Chislehurst, will gladly give all information regarding our work. J. F. MORTON, M.A.,
Vicar of Summerstown, Surrey; Chairman of Council, C. M. R. A.

SIR,—As a layman, might I inquire, through the columns of your paper, what the chief object of the Church Music Reform Association is? Having had considerable connexion with country parish choirs, I most heartily welcome any movement in this direction, that may tend to improve our beautiful Church services; for many villages, and, I am ashamed to say, not a few good-sized towns, possess only neglected choirs, which render the music in a most disgraceful manner. The point upon which I wish particularly to touch is the chanting. Why should Gregorians have the preference in High Churches? Of the various kinds of services, I enjoy most of all those of the so-called High Church (not to say Ritualistic), and I find it most difficult to meet with one where Anglican chants are used. I must say (and I am assured there are many that would endorse my sentiments) that I cannot tolerate Gregorians, especially to Psalms of praise; for instance, the 104th, which should be to anything but a minor tune. Contrast one of such to Dr. Woodward in D major, or Dr. Croich in C major, and, again, the grand chant to the last Psalm, either of which are well within the compass of any ordinary worshipper. On the other hand, for Penitential Psalms what is more fitting than the beautiful minor of *Tonus Peregrinus*? I attended evening service on Trinity Sunday, where the same ending was used throughout the Psalms, and I felt it painfully monotonous. Perhaps it is because I have the privilege of attending college chapels and cathedrals so frequently that I have such a partiality for Anglicans—but, to my mind, good chanting is the best portion of the whole service; and, in conclusion, what I should just like to ask the C. M. R. A. (if not presuming too much) is to recommend the cultivation of Anglicans, and never to adopt either to the entire exclusion of the other. Hoping I have not trespassed too much on your valuable space, and thanking you in anticipation,
ANGLICANS.

Poor Clergy Holiday Fund.

SIR,—Will you kindly permit me to make my usual annual appeal to your readers for contributions towards payment of the expenses of necessary 'rest' for the poorer clergy of the vast diocese of London?

I am happy this year in being able to do so by quoting the following commendatory words from the Ven. W. M. Sinclair, archdeacon of London:—

'There is no fund with which I shall feel it a greater privilege to be connected than the Poor Clergy Holiday. When we think, on the one hand, of the delights (often carelessly undervalued) of the countless English country houses, with their lawns, woods, and gardens, or of the great sums yearly spent by the increasing class of wealthy people in England in yachting, in the fresh air and glorious scenery of the Scottish moors, or in visiting the loveliest places which all parts of the earth can offer; and, on the other hand, of hardworking, conscientious, self-devoted men, and their wives and families, toiling on in the very numerous poor parishes in London, whether vicars or curates, in most cases most inadequately

paid, staunch to their work from month to month through the fogs of the long, dull, sunless London winter, as well as the airless heat of the summer months, with nothing but their own spiritual life to vary the monotony of their uphill labours in dull, mean streets and half-starved churches, and with no prospect of getting away, even for the sake of health itself, to more invigorating air and more refreshing scenes, we cannot but think that if the one class only knew a hundredth part of the heroism and sufferings of the other, so quietly and unobtrusively undertaken and borne for the sake of Christ and of His Church, there would be a competition amongst them to see which could confer the greatest amount of happiness and recuperation on those whose lot has fallen in the hardest and least fortunate parts of the field of Christian duty.'

Further information will be found elsewhere in your columns. I need only add that donations may be sent to me at the under-named address.

ARTHUR J. INGRAM, Hon. Treasurer, Prebendary of Lincoln.

St. Margaret's Rectory, 20 Finsbury Square,
London, E.C., July 8th, 1889.

Christian Evidences.

SIR,—In the north of England the name of the Rev. Alex. J. Harrison is everywhere known and honoured as that of an incomparable Christian Evidence lecturer, and his unique powers of conciliating, convincing, and converting Freethinkers, Secularists, and Sceptics, are beginning to be recognised in London. Many, therefore, will, I am sure, be thankful if you will allow me to state in your columns that through the great kindness of the Rev. the Sub-Dean of Her Majesty's Chapels Royal, and of the Ven. the Archdeacon of London, Mr. Harrison has been appointed preacher next Sunday, the 14th inst., at the Chapel Royal, Whitehall, at 3.30 p.m., and at St. Paul's Cathedral at 7 p.m. C. LLOYD ENGSTRÖM.

Christian Evidence Society, 13 Buckingham Street, Strand, W.C.

July 8th, 1889.

The Ornaments Rubric.

SIR,—There is great uncertainty surrounding the present ornaments rubric. For the sake of peace that uncertainty should be cleared up. The present rubric refers to the first Prayer-book of Edward VI., 1549. The rubric there is:—'In saying or singing Matins or Evensong, the minister shall use the surplice. In cathedrals the hood may be used.' The rubric says nothing about the service for the Holy Communion, but it says that the Bishop at that service shall use his rochette, surplice, cope, and pastoral staff. The conclusion is that the minister shall use the surplice only. C. A. P.

The Accession Service for June 20th.

SIR,—I fear that the Accession Service is now rarely read on 20th June. I expect that this is due, in part, to its careless and cumbrous character. As the service stands only on an 'Order in Council,' it could be revised even by the Archbishop and the Queen in Council alone. Could the bishops prepare a revised service? and could the Government be prevailed upon to authorise it? Especially let that clause be altered which Dr. Littledale tells us is a thanksgiving for the death of the previous sovereign. But let it be revised during the life and reign of our gracious Queen. Could a memorial to the Queen and the Archbishop on the subject be got up? S. Y. S.

29th June, 1889.

Exhortation at Celebration.

SIR,—Would the Rev. C. H. Davis kindly say whether it is not a fact that the Exhortation of the Celebration was intended for the whole congregation, and that therefore it ought to be said after the prayer for the 'Church Militant' before the people retire? F. W.

Comprehension.

SIR,—On the subject of 'Comprehension,' advocated by some just now, within certain 'well-defined limits,' and the novel idea of two prayer-books or two uses being legalised, and the precedent adduced of two different liturgies in the Greek Church, I beg to submit the following considerations. (1) Any limits of comprehension in the Established National Church must, of course, be assigned by lawful authority claiming submission from the whole Church. The limits already assigned in our Prayer-book and Thirty-nine Articles have been habitually transgressed by our modern Ritualists. What court is there now in existence, or likely to be, having final jurisdiction in the affairs of the Established Church, that could lay down other and wider limits which would satisfy all? How would it be possible for legal sanction to be extended in our Reformed Church of England to those mediæval and Popish practices which were swept away 300 years ago? to the revival of the sacrifice of the mass, transubstantiation, localisation of the Body and Blood of Christ in the elements, adoration of the Host? and to reverence for images, *cultus* of the Virgin, auricular confession, and masses for souls in purgatory? Yet nothing short of this would satisfy those who call themselves 'the Catholic Party,' and who, by the mouth of the President of the English Church Union, Viscount Halifax, declared not long ago, at Clifton, that none but those who agree with them 'on the nature of the Sacraments have an equal right with themselves to belong to the Church of England.' It is plainer every day, it is no longer disguised, that the real object of the rites and ceremonies of that party is to Romanise our Church, and to undo the work of the Reformation. (2) Two different prayer-books, therefore, would mean two books prescribing contrary observances; not merely different, but *contrary* ways of celebrating the Lord's Supper, and contradictory catechisms. It would be not only different ceremonies, but different and contradictory rites, inculcating *contrary doctrines*. The one would be a pre-Reformation use, the other that of the Reformation, for which our Protestant martyrs (Dr. Littledale's 'unredeemed villains') laid down their lives. How long would such a house divided against itself, be likely to stand? (3) There would not be the ana-

THE LATE REV. P. M. RUDRA.

THE *Indian Churchman* gives an account of the Rev. P. M. Rudra, a native Indian Christian, who died at Calcutta on the 4th June, aged fifty years. His earnest life and labours have been very helpful to the Church, and especially in our days, when doubt has in some quarters been cast on the efficacy and fervour of native mission-work. He has laboured well and faithfully, and has wrought a good work in his country. The following is taken from the account given of the deceased missionary:—

'In the death of the Rev. P. M. Rudra, which was noticed in the last issue of the *Indian Churchman*, the Church of Bengal suffers a heavy loss. It is sometimes said that native Christians do not attain to a high degree of spiritual stature. Mr. Rudra's character and life was a fair reply to such an assertion. There was a simplicity, a manliness, a loveliness, and a spirituality about him, as well as a zeal and intellectual vigour, which, in combination, presented a type of Christian character which would be recognised as a noble one anywhere. Mr. Rudra was a convert from Hinduism. From the first he was a lover of the truth. God had given him that "honest and good heart" upon which the divine seed falling readily takes root and springs to life. As the Truth of Christ unfolded itself to him, first in the imperfect form of Brahmoism, and then in the full light of the Gospel, he yielded himself to it, and was gradually but irresistibly drawn into the fold of the Church. He was baptized at the age of twenty-one. Dr. Duff's influence was powerfully felt by him, and also that of two Bengali friends who were converts of Dr. Duff. Mr. Rudra was emphatically a man who made haste to follow what he saw to be right, even though he could not at the moment see all that others saw. He once told the writer, *e.g.*, that at the time of his baptism he had little or no emotional sense of sin. His apprehension of his need, and of the Gospel's sufficiency to meet it, was an intellectual one. Yet so loyal was he to truth that this intellectual apprehension was sufficient to make him break with Hinduism and endure the pains of separation, opposition, and persecution from his family. Such a conscientious following of Christ's call is conversion in the strictest sense, whether the emotions be greatly stirred or not.

'Mr. Rudra joined the C.M.S. in 1864, and was ordained (both deacon and priest) in 1874. He worked as schoolmaster, pastor, evangelist, and superintendent of a mission in connexion with the C. M. Society, and always with a large measure of success. To the last he had a great zeal for work, and only two days before his death, though he was recommended a life of rest and leisure if he recovered, spoke to the writer of his earnest desire to be in some place where he would have opportunity to do at least some little work for the Master.

'Mr. Rudra remained always a thorough Bengali in his ways of looking at things; and yet we have never met an Indian with whom one could converse and live with such total absence of the jarring influences of race prejudice. This characteristic made his society especially agreeable to Europeans, as in it they enjoyed the distinctive savour of the Oriental mind without any counteracting loss of brotherly freedom. During his residence in Burdwan it was part of Mr. Rudra's duties to act as chaplain to the English residents, and we have reason to know, not only that his ministrations were acceptable to them, but that he was held by many of them in such respect and regard as could hardly have been increased had he been a countryman of their own.

'Pyari Mohan Rudra has now fought the good fight; he has finished the course; he has kept the faith. Delivered from the snares of sin and the mazes of Hindu superstition, he has won his crown of life. Almost the last word that he gasped out as he lay dying in great pain and weariness was "Redeemed!" One such redeemed life and death is a sufficient vindication of Christian Missions to India.'

THE CHILDREN'S COUNTRY HOLIDAY ASSOCIATION.—Mrs. Peel gave an 'At Home' at the Speaker's residence, Westminster Palace, on Tuesday afternoon, to promote the Children's Country Holiday Fund, whose office is at 10 Buckingham Street, Strand. There was a large attendance, among those present being Mr. Peel (Speaker of the House of Commons), the Countess of Jersey, Lady Normanton, Archdeacon Sinclair, and others. The Speaker, in opening the proceedings, said he had been unexpectedly released from another place, and was pleased to be present to advocate the claims of a society that appealed to the heads and hearts of all. This Society aimed at giving not a day in the country, but a period of a fortnight. Last year over 17,000 children were sent out, and the funds were derived from annual subscriptions, and amounted last year to 8700*l.* Of course, the more money that was subscribed the more children were sent out, and, as might be imagined, there was abundant scope for the exertions of the Society. The children sent were mainly Board School children, of whom there was a total in London of something like 600,000. In conclusion, he read a list of subscriptions that had been sent in to the meeting, amounting to about 80*l.* At the termination of the proceedings, the contributions announced by Mr. Peel were largely supplemented by collections made at the door.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Kent County Association of Change-ringers.

THE following letter has been sent to the Members of the Association:—
'DEAR SIR,—A District Meeting of the K. C. A. will be held at Tunbridge on Saturday, July 27th. The Committee will meet at the Old Town Hall at 3.30 p.m. for the purpose of electing a District Secretary and transacting other business. Will you kindly let me know as soon as possible—(1.) How many of your band will attend. (2.) By what train and from what station they wish to travel, in order that I may arrange for cheap fares. (3.) Whether they would like me to arrange for tea for the party. The allowance to full members will be 2*s.*; and to probationers, 1*s.* In future separate notices will only be sent to secretaries of bands in the district in which the meeting is to be held (except in the case of the Annual Meeting). Secretaries in other districts will find notices of meetings in *Church Bells* and *Bell News*. The tower will be open for ringing after nine a.m.

'Bobbing Vicarage, Sittingbourne. EDWARD W. CARPENTER, Hon. Sec.'

The Surrey Association.

THE Annual Meeting will be held, by the kind permission of the Vicar, at Reigate, on Monday, July 29th, when the tower will be open from three to nine p.m. Tea at the 'Red Cross' at six p.m., to be followed by the business meeting; and will be free to all those ringing members whose current subscriptions are paid, and who signify their intention of being present to the proprietor, Mr. Charles Hawkins, 'Red Cross Hotel,' Reigate, not later than Friday, July 26th. All others will be charged 1*s.* 6*d.* a-head. The Vicar has kindly promised to preside.

ARTHUR B. CARPENTER, Hon. Sec.

The Norwich Diocesan Association.

A DISTRICT MEETING will be held at Somerleyton on Thursday, August 1st. The Rev. C. J. Steward has most kindly offered to entertain the members at dinner in the rectory grounds at 1.30 p.m. Reduced fares will be granted by the Great Eastern Railway upon production of the Secretary's private card. No person will be admitted to the dinner without this card, which can only be obtained for performing members through the Master of the company. Hon. Members and Independent Members must apply direct to the Secretary. Members are particularly requested to state whether they or members of their company desire to be present, and how many cards they will require, on or before Tuesday, July 23rd.

N. BOLINGBROKE, Hon. Sec.

Bracondale, Norwich, July 15th, 1889.

Members will have the privilege of viewing the gardens of Somerleyton Hall.

The St. James's Society, London.

At the meeting of the above Society on the 8th inst., the question of the formation of a National Council was fully discussed, the resolution being carried by a large majority.

C. T. McLAUGHLIN, Hon. Sec.

The Lancashire Association.

THE usual Monthly Meeting of the Liverpool Diocesan Branch of this Association was held at St. Thomas's Church, St. Helen's, on Saturday, June 22nd. There was a small attendance, ringers being present from Hindley, Prescott, Hayton, and Liverpool. During the afternoon several peals of GRANDSIRE DOUBLES were rung. Six new members were proposed, and the next meeting was fixed for Garston on Saturday, July 20th.

A New Treble at Goring, Oxfordshire.

A NEW treble bell has been placed in the tower of the parish church by a gentleman who takes an interest in change-ringing. Messrs. Warner & Sons supplied it, and it has given great satisfaction, thus making a ring of six. The following members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild rang 720 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES in 18½ mins. J. Bower, 1; E. Bushnell, 2; J. Nicholls, 3; T. Pocock, 4; J. Richardson (conductor), 5; C. Bower, 6. They then visited Streasley, and rang 360 in 10 mins. H. Perry (Streasley) ringing the tenor. Messrs. Bushnell and Pocock came from Whitechurch, Oxon; Nicholls, Pangbourne; Richardson, Beenham; J. Bower and C. Bower, Goring.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At St. Martin's, Salisbury.

ON Saturday, the 6th inst., eight members of the Salisbury Diocesan Guild rang Hollis's Five-part peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 3 hrs. W. M. Lush (first peal), 1; W. J. Prince, 2; W. S. Wyse, 3; A. P. Goddard, 4; S. Lawrence, 5; T. Blackburn (conductor), 6; W. W. Gifford, 7; C. A. Clements, 8.

At All Saints', Staplehurst, Kent.

ON Monday, the 8th inst., eight members of the Kent County Association rang Davies's Five-part peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 3 hrs. J. Woolgar, 1; J. G. Tillmon (first peal as conductor), 2; W. E. Pope, 3; W. Collison, 4; H. G. Pope, 5; E. Pope, 6; A. Palmer, 7; T. G. Colvin, 8. Tenor, 21½ cwt.

At the Parish Church, Caerleon, Monmouthshire.

ON Wednesday, the 10th inst., a peal of 5088 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR was rung in 2 hrs. 50½ mins. H. Evans, 1; R. Le Visconte, 2; E. Davis, 3; H. Shearn, 4; W. H. Arnold, 5; J. W. Jones, 6; F. Green, 7; F. E. Ward, 8. Composed by the late Mr. H. W. Haley, of London, and conducted by Mr. Ward. Tenor, 7½ cwt., in B flat. First peal in the method by all the band.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH, DARLEY DALE, DERBYSHIRE.—On Tuesday, the 11th ult., on the occasion of the Anniversary of the Friendly Societies (the

Manchester and London Unities of Oddfellows), the local company rang 720 GRANDSIRE MINOR in 25 mins. J. Derbyshire, 1; W. Taylor, 2; W. Gill (first 720 with a bob-bell), 3; E. Hallows, 4; C. Gwatkin (conductor), 5; J. Siddall, 6.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH, RADCLIFFE, LANCASHIRE.—On Monday, the 1st inst., 720 BOB MINOR in 26 mins. J. W. Handley (first 720), 1; F. Rudman, 2; A. Hardman, 3; W. R. Barrett, 4; A. Barrett (conductor), 5; J. Hardman, 6. Tenor, 13 cwt.

AT ST. PAUL'S, RAMSDOTTOM, LANCASHIRE.—On Tuesday, the 2nd inst., the first half of Holt's Ten-part peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 1 hr. 27½ mins. J. Booth, * 1; H. H. Nutter (conductor), 2; J. Wolstenholme, * 3; A. Clegg, * 4; J. H. Haydock, * 5; J. T. Rostron, * 6; J. W. Laycock, 7; J. Tattersall, 8; [* Longest touch.]

AT ST. BRIDE'S, FLEET STREET, CITY OF LONDON.—On Wednesday, the 3rd inst., on the occasion of the visit of the Shah to the City of London, the following rang several touches of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, including a 504:—J. Spencer (Bedford), 1; T. F. Stevens, 2; W. Coppage, 3; J. Nelms (conductor), 4; W. Matthews, 5; A. E. Church, 6; J. Barry, 7; C. Clarkson, 8. Tenor, 28 cwt., in D.

AT ALL SAINTS', MAIDENHEAD, BERKS.—On Thursday, the 4th inst., a date touch of 1889 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 1 hr. 9½ mins. H. Markham, 1; A. Lasey, 2; F. Bissley, 3; F. Dentry, 4; W. Ayres, 5; S. Quintin, 6; J. Wilkin (conductor), 7; H. Gilding, 8. Composed by Mr. Washbrook. Mr. Markham came from Wycombe, and this is his first touch of TRIPLES.

AT ST. MICHAEL'S, HUGHENDEN, BUCKS.—On Saturday, the 6th inst., 518 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. G. Bunce, 1; W. Goodchild, 2; F. Biggs, 3; J. Evans (conductor), 4; S. Goodchild, 5; R. Biggs, 6; H. Stratford, 7; J. Collins, sen., 8. Also on Sunday evening, the 7th inst., for Divine service, 378 in the same method. R. Biggs, 1; W. Goodchild, 2; J. W. Wilkins (conductor), 3; S. Goodchild, 4; F. Biggs, 5; J. Evans, 6; H. Stratford, 7; J. Collins, sen., 8.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH, HALESOWEN, WORCESTERSHIRE.—On Sunday, the 7th inst., on the occasion of the National Day and Sunday-school Anniversary Sermons, a quarter-peal of BOB TRIPLES was attempted for morning service, but after ringing 420 changes it came to an end. H. Lea, 1; R. A. Eaton, 2; J. P. Heckingbottom, 3; G. Cockin, 4; E. White, 5; E. Hackett, 6; H. Raybould (conductor), 7; M. Hackett, 8. For afternoon service, 504 STEDMAN TRIPLES, in 18 mins. H. Lea, 1; R. A. Eaton, 2; G. B. Raybould, 3; G. Cockin, 4; E. White, 5; E. Hackett, 6; H. Raybould (conductor), 7; M. Hackett, 8. Longest touch in the method by all except Mr. Raybould. Also for evening service, 168 BOB TRIPLES and 168 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, the ringers standing as in the morning. On Monday, the 8th inst., for practice, two courses of BOB MAJOR. H. Lea, 1; G. Cockin, 2; J. P. Heckingbottom, 3; G. B. Raybould, 4; E. White, 5; E. Hackett, 6; H. Raybould, 7; R. A. Eaton, 8. First course in the method by Messrs. Lea, Cockin, Heckingbottom, White, and Hackett. Also 420 BOB TRIPLES, in 15 mins. H. Lea, 1; G. Cockin, 2; J. P. Heckingbottom, 3; G. B. Raybould, 4; E. White, 5; E. Hackett, 6; H. Raybould (conductor), 7; R. A. Eaton, 8. Longest length in the method by all except Mr. Raybould, who belongs to the Old Hill Company.

AT CHRIST CHURCH, BACUP, LANCASHIRE.—On Sunday evening, the 7th inst., for Divine service, 720 WOODBINE TREBLE BOB. A. L. Hardman, 1; J. Hardman, 2; Z. Lord, 3; A. Chew, 4; A. White, 5; W. Smith (conductor), 6.

AT CHELMSFORD, ESSEX.—On Sunday, the 7th inst., for evening service, 1008 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, on the back eight. R. C. Burrell (Chelmsford), 1; W. Rowland (Chelmsford), 2; A. Tarbun (Widford), 3; J. Carter (Birmingham, conductor), 4; C. Boxall (Widford), 5; W. J. Piper (Widford), 6; A. Edwards (Writtle), 7; J. Parmenter (Chelmsford), 8.

AT DARTFORD, KENT.—On Sunday, the 7th inst., for Divine service, a quarter-peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 44 mins. E. Everson, 1; F. French, 2; G. Morris, 3; E. Snowden, 4; J. Blackman, 5; H. J. Castle (conductor), 6; E. Everson, 7; H. Draper, 8. This quarter-peal is taken from the *Claris*, page 368, with Queens, Tittums, and rounds.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH, HENDON, MIDDLESEX.—On Sunday morning, the 7th inst., for Divine service, 240 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES. C. Tucker, 1; C. Crampton, 2; F. Pratt (conductor), 3; J. Barrett, 4; C. Martin, 5; F. Kirby, 6. After Divine service in the evening, 120 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES. J. Ricketts, 1; W. Childs, 2; B. C. Pratchett, 3; J. Barrett, 4; J. Jones, 5; W. Mulley, 6. And 240 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES. H. Martin (conductor), 1; W. Childs, 2; F. Pratt, 3; J. Nixon, 4; A. W. Barkus, 5; J. Cawley, 6. Also 720 BOB MINOR in 26 mins. H. Martin, 1; F. Spark, 2; N. Alderman, 3; J. Nixon, 4; A. W. Barkus (conductor), 5; T. Card, 6. And 360 BOB MINOR. A. W. Barkus, 1; F. Spark, 2; C. Martin, 3; F. Pratt, 4; T. Card (conductor), 5; C. Crampton, 6. Also 120 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES. C. Tucker, 1; W. Tubb, 2; C. Pratchett, 3; J. Barrett, 4; C. Martin (conductor), 5; W. Childs, 6. Tenor, 16½ cwt.

AT ST. PETER'S, SUDBURY, SUFFOLK.—On Sunday evening, the 7th inst., the following members of the Sudbury Company rang for evening service a touch of 504 STEDMAN TRIPLES. W. Cross, 1; C. Sillitoe (conductor), 2; G. Brown, 3; W. B. Ransom, Esq., 4; W. Howell, 5; A. Scott, 6; H. Harper, 7; H. Brackett, 8. And after service a touch of 672 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. W. Cross, 1; M. Silvester (conductor), 2; F. Tolliday, 3; C. Sillitoe, 4; W. Howell, 5; H. Harper, 6; A. Scott, 7; H. Brackett, 8. On Tuesday evening the members met for practice on handbells, and succeeded in ringing a course of DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR. The company are now practising this method, none of it ever having been rung by a Sudbury band.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The Ornaments Rubric and 'Comprehension.'

SIR,—It appears to be supposed by 'C. A. P.' that there is a great uncertainty about the Ornaments Rubric which 'refers to the First Prayer-book of Edward VI., 1549,' because in the Rubric ordering the use of the surplice for *Matins and Even. Song*, he can find 'nothing at all about the service for Holy Communion.' But in this office itself he will find the Rubric quite clear. It orders for 'the priest that executes the holy ministry, a white alb, plain, with a vestment or cope.'

One can but agree with 'J. C.'s' contention that the Church of England contemplates only one order of service. But in the face of the Ornaments Rubric it is but a sweet illusion to allege that the habitual transgressors against law and order are those who endeavour to observe the ritual which it ordains. For—and may 'J. C.' as well as others, take note of it—with the exception of the short-lined Prayer-book of 1552, this order, with only a few verbal alterations, has been maintained in every edition from the very first and down to the present day, in spite of a little parliamentary or unparliamentary attempts at legislation or interference. I cannot consider it consistent with the cause of Church unity, of Christian charity, or even of Gospel truth, to allege that 'the real object of the rites and ceremonies of that party' who would endeavour to maintain and retain this order, 'is to Romanise our Church.' Nor is it likely that they will be brought back from their supposed error by holding them up to scorn as law-breakers, or by subjecting them to criminal prosecutions 'in the cause of truth.' In any case, it is quite clear that 'J. C.' does not understand the aims and objects of these men. Will he not be entreated to look into the question with a little less prejudice and a little more care? WILLIAM WHITE, F.S.A.

Wimpole Street.

The Increase of the Episcopate.

SIR,—The Bishop of Worcester having twice during the last five years expressed his willingness to divide his large and populous see, the first step to secure for the City of Coventry the honour of being the see town for the proposed bishopric for Warwickshire was taken last Friday by the calling together of the Parish Council of St. Michael's, a thoroughly representative body consisting of the churchwardens, some of the leading citizens of the parish, and a fair sprinkling of working men.

The meeting was of a most enthusiastic and unanimous character, the feeling expressed was to the effect that, while not desiring to part with their venerable Bishop, while he is able to rule his see, yet knowing the urgent necessity for the division of the bishopric, they would most heartily welcome the restoration of their ancient city to its episcopal position in the Church.

The following resolutions were passed with acclamation:—

'That, in the event of the division of the see of Worcester, and the erection of a bishopric for the county of Warwick, this Church Council considers that Coventry should be the see town, being in every way the most suitable and convenient; and would dwell upon the following four among the numerous reasons that could be given for adopting this position:—(1) Its reversionary rights, from having been the see town and joint see town with Lichfield for about eight centuries, and the larger part, both with acreage and population of the present see of Worcester having been formed out of and still consisting of the ancient Archdeaconry of Coventry, which was separated from the Bishopric of Lichfield and Coventry by the Act of 1836. (2) The central position of Coventry in the county of Warwick, making it a place from which the Bishop, with ease and expedition, could work amongst Birmingham and all the towns and parishes in the shire. (3) The possession of a magnificent church, in every way suited for a cathedral, and larger than half the cathedral churches in England. (4) The great desire of the Coventry people and of the county generally that Coventry should be reinstated in all her ancient rights and dignities.'

'That copies of the above resolution be sent to the Lord Bishop of the Diocese, the Lord Lieutenant of the County, to the Mayor of Coventry, to the Archdeacon of Coventry, to the Marquis of Salisbury, to the Right Hon. W. H. Smith, and to the Committee of the Society for the Increase of the Home Episcopacy.'

A. J. B.

Birmingham and Coventry.

SIR,—Personally I agree with your correspondent who pleaded for Coventry as the Warwickshire see. But supposing that the tide should set in strength for Birmingham—as it now seems to set—what then is to be done? We have a precedent in Bath and Wells. The Bishop has a seat in Bath Abbey, but the cathedral, and registry, and palace, are at the more central place of Wells. In like manner, there might be a diocese of 'Birmingham and Coventry.' The Bishop could have a seat in a Birmingham church, but the cathedral, and registry, and see-house could be at the more central place of Coventry. Coventry would then re-acquire its old status, just as when there was a diocese of 'Lichfield and Coventry.' This would also prevent collision as to letters, &c., between the 'Bishop of Birmingham' and the 'Popish sham bishop' of the same (to quote a title used some forty-five years ago).

I wish that some of your correspondents would tell us whether *Lichfield* would not be the best diocese for the Swansea deanery of Gower, as ordered by the Act of 1836.

S. V. S.

The Prayer for Rain.

SIR,—During the late dry season the 'Prayer for Rain' was called for in some quarters, and the usual objections raised as to the impropriety, and to say impiety, of such prayers. The objections seem very shallow when we remember that the Divine rule is universal, 'in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your request be made known unto God;' that the object of all prayer is not to instruct or persuade the Almighty, but to be the acknowledgment of our wants and of our dependence upon Him;

tion before three Cardinals these questions. Whether, in the actual condition of things, it would be secure and convenient that the future conclave should be held in the Vatican? Should the reply to this be negative, what place should be fixed upon and what measures should be taken in preparation for such an event? Leo XIII. himself desires that it should be held at the Vatican. A suggestion has been made by several foreign Cardinals that the election of one of the American Cardinals as Pope would go far towards resolving the Roman question. Amongst the Italian Cardinals, however, this idea finds no favour.

The question of the withdrawal of the Pope from Italy, in default of the concession of some form of temporal power, will continue to recur until it is definitely settled by his departure or expulsion by the Italian Government, which is not an impossible solution of the difficulty. Signor Crispi is credited with believing that the Vatican is the worst enemy of Italy, and, although he may not now desire to expel the Pope, there is little doubt that in the event of a war he would cause the Vatican to be evacuated. He, however, holds his forces well in hand, and permits no personal attacks on or insults of the Pope. This may be a matter of policy, for the papacy has still a very large and powerful party on its side. An idea which prevails that the nation which, in the event of a papal exodus, gives the Pope an asylum would be regarded as an enemy of Italy is erroneous; on the contrary, a large majority of Italians would gladly see the Pope in a position of the highest dignity, if it could be attained without injury to Italian unity.

It is fairly certain that if the Pope leaves Italy he will never go back, except as the Head of the Italian Church, unless the world begins to move backwards.

FRANCE.

His Eminence the Cardinal Archbishop of Paris has been energetically protesting against the new Army Bill, which makes military service during a period of three years obligatory for all classes, including young men preparing for the priesthood. In a letter addressed to the President of the Republic, the Cardinal says that he does not want to identify the Government and M. Carnot with the party which is hostile to religion; but it is that party which seeks to identify itself with the State, and by the passage of the new Bill through the Chamber incalculable mischief will be done to the Government on the eve of the general elections. Far from pacifying people the action of the Anti-Religionists has paved the way to fiercer polemics of faction which are sure to arise whenever 'religious persecution' is undertaken. The history of the century, continues the Cardinal, shows that the Concordat established religious peace in the country, and that peace will now be broken by the suppression of the dispensation of young ecclesiastics from military service.

The Cardinal's letter was written to M. Carnot before the Bill became law, and he concluded his epistle by a strong appeal to the President not to sanction that. Nothing has come of the letter, and his Eminence desires its publication.

IRELAND.

(From our Special Correspondent.)

THE clergy who can enjoy one are fast scattering for their summer holiday, and Dublin is becoming empty of its usual clerics. Some find their way across the Channel to North Wales—a favourite hunting ground both accessible and cheap; others flit to Scotland, and a few more find their way further afield to Switzerland, where they are glad to get chaplaincies under either of the two well-known Societies. The Colonial and Continental Church Society does not seem to have as many Irish names on its list as usual. The Bishop of Ossory is in North Wales, the Bishop of Meath in Scotland, and the Bishops of Limerick and Derry in London. On the other hand, a few English clerics are visiting Ireland, and strange faces are to be seen gazing about in the streets of our capital.

The Bishop of Edinburgh (Dr. Dowden) has been over here and occupied a stall in St. Patrick's Cathedral on Sunday week at the afternoon service, when Archdeacon Jellett, D.D., canon in residence, preached one of a course of sermons on the Evidences of Christianity. It is rumoured that his brother, Dr. Dowden, the well-known critic and author, and Professor of English Literature in Trinity College, Dublin, is likely to go to Glasgow to fill a similar chair in that University. If so, Ireland shall have lost two eminent men.

On Thursday, the 18th inst., at the afternoon service in St. Patrick's Cathedral, the Rev. Alfred G. Elliott, M.A., was installed Prebendary of Mulhuddert, in the room of the Very Rev. William Stone, M.A., dean of Kilmore, resigned. The Very Rev. John West, D.D., dean and ordinary, was present, as well as the following clergymen of the Cathedral:—Revs. Canon Leeper, D.D.,—Sadleir, D.D., Ven. Henry Jellett, D.D., and Successor W. Beaufoy Stillman, M.A.

The Representative Church Body met on Wednesday week, the Archdeacon of Cloyne presiding. It was ordered that the offices be closed for six weeks from the 20th inst. Having transacted their business the Representative Body adjourned until Wednesday, October 16th.

The choristers of St. Patrick's Cathedral had their usual yearly outing on Wednesday, the 17th inst., under the direction of Mr. Stillman, successor, Mr. Marchant, deputy organist, and Mr. Carnegie, dean's singer. The whole party made for Kilruddery, Lord Meath's beautiful

demesne near Bray, where they had a most enjoyable day. At the close of all Farrant's anthem, 'Lord, for Thy tender mercies' sake,' was sung, and three cheers were given for the Dean.

The twelfth annual gathering of the parochial choirs of Ossory will be held in St. Canice's Cathedral, Kilkenny, on St. James's Day, being next Thursday, the 25th inst. Thirty-seven choirs in all will be represented. The hymns selected for the occasion are 'St. Patrick's Breastplate,' with which the service will commence, No. 232 before the sermon, and 339 (Tune, St. Fin Barre, by J. C. Marks, Mus. Doc.) which will be the concluding hymn. The special Psalms will be 132, 133, 134. The *Magnificat* and *Nunc Dimittis* will be Tours in F (unison). The first anthem will be 'Plead Thou my cause' (Mozart), and the second anthem will be 'O praise God in His holiness' (Weldon). The service will be fully choral, with Tallis's Festival Responses, arranged by Goss. The sermon will be preached by the Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of Cork, D.D.

The Rev. Thomas Connellan, formerly Roman Catholic curate in Athlone, and who has seceded to the Reformed Church of Ireland, has been staying in Dublin. The *Freeman's Journal* tries to make out that Mr. Connellan was really drowned in Lough Ree, and that some impostor has been going about personating the deceased clergyman, but it will not do. Mr. Connellan is in the flesh, and moreover has been down in his own county visiting his friends and relatives, some of whom, it is stated, are likely to follow his example and secede. Mr. Connellan gives as a reason for his apparently strange action that he wanted to see what the papers would say of him supposing him to have been drowned, as otherwise they would be likely to attack his character. As it has turned out, the local newspapers at the time praised up Mr. Connellan as a truly good and earnest priest, and beaviled his untimely (as it was believed to be) fate in being drowned in the waters of Lough Ree. The *Freeman's Journal* having started the theory that Mr. Connellan was drowned cannot now turn round and say anything more. Mr. Connellan has been thus saved a good deal of abuse which otherwise would undoubtedly have fallen to his lot. His little pamphlet, *Hear the Other Side*, has had an immense sale, and he is speaking of bringing out a new book. He is a modest, quiet, self-possessed gentleman, exceedingly well read, and much above the average R. C. parish priest.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

SIR,—Will you kindly allow me to draw the attention of your numerous readers to the case of Thomas Post, of Naccolt, Wye, Kent, a well-known East Kent change-ringer? He sustained, in the storm of the 10th ult., a serious loss of eleven sheep and three lambs, and is now making an earnest appeal to his friends for help towards retrieving a part, at least, of this loss.

On May 4th, 1846, Thomas Post rang the tenor in the famous peal of Bob Major rung in Hythe Church, consisting of 13,400 changes, which was, at the time, the greatest number of changes ever rung in the county by one set of men.

If any brother-ringer will kindly lend a helping hand to this brother in distress, I shall be most happy to receive his contribution, and forward the same to Mr. Post. The case is strongly recommended by the Vicar of Wye, Kent, the Rev. J. H. Dixon.

E. C. LUCY, Rector of Mersham.
Mersham Rectory, Ashford, Kent, July 2nd, 1889.

The Lancashire Association.

THE Quarterly Meeting was held on Saturday, the 6th inst., at the Parish Church, Preston, when members attended from Liverpool, Bolton, Southport, Rochdale, Colne, Lancaster, Blackburn, and Walkden. GRANDSIRE TRIPLES and BOB MAJOR were principally rung during the afternoon and evening. The meeting was held in the schools under the presidency of Mr. R. Hill, of Southport, who in a brief speech explained the advantages of being connected with the Association. Mr. Redford said the object of the meeting in Preston was to further extend the operations of the Association in the north and north-east divisions of the county. While congratulating the members of the county town on their excellent attendance, he regretted that the ringers in the immediate districts had not availed themselves of the opportunity to attend. Mr. Wreaks, Mr. Davies of Liverpool, and Mr. Walker of Blackburn, addressed the meeting, which was of a profitable nature to many present. Three new members from the Parish Church Company were elected, and a hope was expressed that all of them would shortly become members. The usual votes of thanks for the use of the bells and school were unanimously accorded. Thirty members were present.

MANCHESTER BRANCH.—A meeting of this branch was held at St. Mark's Church, Worsley, on Saturday, the 6th inst. About thirty members attended from surrounding districts. The meeting was held in the belfry, Mr. J. Barrett, of Eccles, in the chair: and it was decided to hold the next meeting at St. Bartholomew's Church, Radcliffe, on Saturday, August 10th, at four o'clock. The following methods were rung before and after the meeting:—BOB MAJOR, TREBLE BOB MAJOR, GRANDSIRE and STEDMAN TRIPLES. The usual votes of thanks were afterwards passed.

ROSSENDALE BRANCH.—On Saturday, the 13th inst., a ringing meeting of this branch was held at St. Thomas's Church, Helmsdale, at which ringers from Ramsbottom, Heywood, Waterfoot, Rawtenstall, and Newchurch attended and took part in several touches of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, which were

rung during the afternoon and evening. At the meeting, which was held in the vestry, presided over by Mr. J. B. Taylor, it was resolved to hold the next ringing meeting at St. Saviour's, Bacup. Votes of thanks to the Chairman, to the Vicar and Churchwardens, for the use of the tower and vestry, and to Mr. J. Harrison, for his assistance, brought the meeting to a close, after which ringing again commenced, and was kept up till nine o'clock, when the visitors departed for their homes.

The Bells of Graveley, near Stevenage, Herts.

On Friday, the 19th inst., the ring of six bells was 'opened' by members of the Benington (Herts) Society of Change-ringers. The bells were, with two trebles added, rehung by Mr. J. Gray, of Hertford; tenor 9 cwt., in the key of A. Two peals of 720 KENT TREBLE BOB MINOR, and six peals of 120 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, were rung in excellent style by John Kitchener, Jos. Kitchener, L. Proctor, Esq., Jabez Warner, L. Chapman, S. Page (conductor), and C. Shambrook. The fine musical handbells were arranged on the lawn of Graveley Hall, and some good tunes were played by Squire Proctor and Mr. John Kitchener. The fifth bell, dated 1589—three hundred years old—is supposed to have been brought, upon the dissolution of the religious houses, from Wymondley Priory, near Hitchin, Herts.

Two New Bells at Petersfield, Hants.

Two new trebles have been placed in the tower of St. Peter's Church, Petersfield, completing the octave. The money for them was raised by public subscription, one member of the congregation giving 30*l*. The total cost is 120*l*., and the work has been carried out by Messrs. Warner & Sons. A Dedication Service was held in the belfry on Thursday, the 11th inst., conducted by the Rev. Cyril Edwards, Captain of the St. Peter's ringers, and the Rev. G. Sampson. The bells were afterwards rung.

Reopening of the Eight Bells of the Parish Church, Condover, Salop.

THE bells of Condover, which have been so long silent, recently rang merry peals, after being renovated and improved, and a new bell platform erected. About four years ago the belfry was condemned, by reason of its age and manifest weakness, as no longer safe. When the church was restored about twelve years ago the belfry was considered so sufficiently secure as not to call for immediate renovation; but in course of time defects in the platform made themselves apparent, and ultimately the regular practice of ringing the bells had to be discontinued, so unsound was the greater portion of the woodwork. For the last few years, except on such occasions as Christmas and other Church festivals, the bells have only been chimed, but recently the task of renovating and improving the belfry was taken in hand, under the supervision of Mr. Horton, the well-known architect, of Wellington. An entirely new bell platform has been constructed, and the eight bells have been renovated by Mr. Price, of Shrewsbury. The task, which has been completed in a thoroughly satisfactory and workman-like manner, has entailed upon the parishioners an expenditure of close upon 120*l*. The service in celebration of the reopening took place in the evening, at half-past six, the preacher being the Right Rev. Bishop Bromby, D.D. The clergy present, in addition to his Lordship, were the Revs. R. C. Wanstall (vicar of Condover), Canon Bather, R.D. (vicar of Meole Brace), and others. A procession having been formed outside the building, the choir and clergy entered the church by the western door, and in the belfry a short service, specially prepared for occasions of the kind, was conducted by the Rev. R. C. Wanstall. A shortened form of evening service followed, the Vicar officiating. The Right Rev. Bishop Bromby, who, before the sermon, offered a collect having a direct reference to the bells, took for his text the words, 'The Spirit and the Bride say, Come.' The Bishop and clergy were most hospitably entertained at the Hall by Mr. and Mrs. Close before the service. Between the hours of four and half-past six, by the kind permission of Mr. H. G. Close, the magnificent grounds, conservatories, and ferneries of Condover Hall were opened to the public, who gladly availed themselves of the privilege.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At St. Martin's, Salisbury.

On Wednesday, the 10th inst., eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths and the Salisbury Diocesan Guild rang Holt's Ten-part peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 55 mins. W. H. Lush, 1; A. P. Goddard, 2; H. D. Adam, 3; W. S. Wise, 4; A. J. Callaway (first peal), 5; T. Blackburn (conductor), 6; W. W. Gifford, 7; S. Lawrence, 8.

On Thursday, the 11th inst., at the above city, and the same Societies, a peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE CATERNS was rung at the meeting-room, upon handbells retained in hand, in 2 hrs. 55 mins. A. P. Goddard, 1-2; W. S. Wise, 3-4; W. W. Gifford, 5-6; T. Blackburn, 7-8; H. D. Adam (conductor), 9-10. Umpire, Mr. W. M. Lush. The composition is taken from *Clavis*, and is the first peal of CATERNS rung in the county of Wilts.

At the Parish Church, Pinner, Middlesex.

On Saturday, the 13th inst., eight members of the Society of Royal Cumberland Youths rang Thurstans' peal of 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES in 3 hrs. 8 mins. B. Fokett, 1; A. Jacob, 2; A. C. Fussell, 3; H. Swain, 4; A. Pittain (first peal in the method), 5; W. H. Fussell, 6; G. Newson (conductor), 7; W. H. Manning, 8. Tenor, 20 cwt. The first peal of STEDMAN on the bells.

At St. Peter's, Drayton, Berks.

On Monday, the 15th inst., eight members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild rang a peal of STEDMAN TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 37 mins. T. Short, 1; E. Humfrey, 2; E. Aldworth, 3; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 4; H. Humfrey, 5; Rev.

J. F. Hastings (Yarmouth), 6; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 7; H. Hyde, 8. Tenor, 9½ cwt.

At the Parish Church, Sheffield, Yorkshire.

On Monday, the 15th inst., eight members of the Yorkshire Association and the Ancient Society of College Youths rang a peal of 5088 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR in 3 hrs. 8 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, 14 cwt. The composition, which is in two parts, has the 4th, 5th, and 6th, consecutively in 6th's place, and the only bells in that position.

At the Cathedral, Oxford.

On Wednesday, the 17th inst., eleven members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild rang a peal of 5021 STEDMAN CATERNS in 3 hrs. 27 mins. F. White, 1; C. Hounslow, 2; C. A. Clements, 3; W. J. Fisher, 4; W. Bennett, 5; G. Holfield, 6; Rev. J. F. Hastings (Yarmouth), 7; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 8; J. W. Washbrook (composer and conductor), 9; G. Tolley and A. Barnes, 10.

AT ST. MARY'S, STRATFORD-LE-BOW, LONDON.—On Sunday, the 7th inst., for Divine service in the morning, 672 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR. E. Hall, 1; L. Green, 2; A. Cutmore, 3; Y. Green, 4; S. Joyce, 5; H. Springall (conductor), 6; R. Turner, 7; S. Hayes, 8. The above was rung as a farewell to Mr. L. Green, who is leaving England for Africa, his brother ringers wishing him every success.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH, WARMHAM, SUSSEX.—On Sunday morning, the 7th inst., for Divine service, 504 CANTERBURY PLEASURE TRIPLES. T. Andrews, 1; T. H. Colburn, 2; W. Charman, 3; W. Wadey, 4; F. Bennett, 5; W. Grove, 6; H. Chandler (conductor), 7; E. Stone, 8. And in the afternoon an attempt was made for a peal in the same method, but was lost after ringing 3528 changes through a change-course. G. Charman, 1; T. H. Colburn, 2; T. Andrews, 3; W. Wadey, 4; F. Bennett, 5; W. Grove, 6; H. Chandler (conductor), 7; T. Hogsflesh, 8. Messrs. Colburn, Bennett, and Grove came from Guildford, and this is their first attempt in the method.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH, ORSETT, ESSEX.—On Sunday, the 7th inst., a peal of GRANDSIRE DOUBLES. F. Major, 1; J. Wright, 2; A. Keeling (conductor), 3; C. Jessop, 4; D. Harrod, 5; G. Ong, 6.

AT ST. JOHN'S, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—On Monday, the 8th inst., 720 KENT TREBLE BOB MINOR. H. Fergusson, 1; C. L. Routledge, 2; E. Wallis, 3; Jno. Simm, 4; F. Lees (conductor), 5; W. Story, 6. Also 720 BOB MINOR in 27 mins. R. Simm, jun. (first 720 of MINOR), 1; E. Wallis, 2; H. Fergusson, 3; C. L. Routledge (conductor), 4; F. Lees, 5; W. Story, 6. Tenor, 12½ cwt.

AT ST. NICHOLAS, NEWBURY, BERKS.—On Monday, the 27th inst., eight members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild, in the evening of the day of the anniversary held at Newbury, rang a touch of 560 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. J. Powers, 1; D. Geater, 2; J. R. Haworth (London, conductor), 3; C. Swain, 4; T. C. Couch, 5; F. W. Hopgood, 6; J. Hussey, 7; J. Wits, 8. All local men except Mr. Haworth and Mr. Hopgood (Reading).

CORRESPONDENCE.

The Communion Exhortation.

SIR,—In reply to 'F. W.', I beg to say that the Communion Exhortation, 'Dearly beloved in the Lord,' &c., is intended for the communicants, being addressed to those 'that mind to come to the Holy Communion,' and not to those that are minded to stay away. Moreover, the rubric states that it is to be used 'at the time of the celebration of Holy Communion,' and after the communicants have been 'conveniently placed for receiving of the Holy Sacrament,' and consequently after any movement of the non-communicants shall have taken place, and not before it. Hence it forms an integral portion of the service for the public administration—as much so as the prayer of humble access—and should never be omitted.

Littleton Drew, July 15th, 1889.

C. H. DAVIS.

The Ornaments' Rubric.

SIR,—I was sorry to see the misleading statement of 'C. A. P.' in *Church Bells* of July 12, respecting the original order in Edward the Sixth's first Prayer-book as to vestments at Holy Communion. So far from the priest's vestment being unnoticed, the words are, 'The priest that shall execute the holy ministry shall put upon him the vesture appointed for that ministration, that is to say, a white albe plain, with a vestment or cope.' And the assistant priests or deacons are to 'have upon them albes with tunicles.' I am not anxious to have vestments re-introduced, but in all references to authorities persons should take care to be exact. 'C. A. P.' has omitted to notice the Communion Service itself, where the above rubric may be seen. S. H. W.

Deacons to read 'the Gospel.'

SIR,—In the Ante-Communion Service the custom is for the principal minister or priest to read the Gospel, and for the secondary minister or deacon to read the Epistle. This seems to me to be the reverse of right: for in the Ordination Service a deacon receives authority to 'read the Gospel,' and at which a deacon does read 'the Gospel.' In 1549, I believe, a deacon could be the Gospeller. So that the superior minister should read the Epistle, and the inferior one or deacon the Gospel. I have adopted what I deem to be the correct mode. It seems to me that a like rule applies to the Lessons, and that the inferior minister or deacon should read the second lesson rather than the first. A PRIEST OF THE ENGLISH CHURCH.

July 20th, 1889.

THE HOSPITAL SUNDAY FUND.

A COUNCIL Meeting of the Hospital Sunday Fund was held on Thursday at the Mansion House, under the presidency of the Lord Mayor, to order the payment of awards to the metropolitan hospitals and dispensaries as recommended by the Committee of Distribution. Among those present were Sir Sydney Waterlow, Sir Owen Roberts, Mr. Bonsor, M.P., Sir Risdon Bennett, the Rev. C. J. Ridgway, Dr. Hare, Dr. Glover, Mr. C. McNamara, the Rev. R. R. Bristow, the Rev. J. S. Simpson, the Rev. Dr. Morison, and Mr. A. J. Cohen.

The report of the Committee recommended the payment of awards to 161 institutions, being three more than last year, and an increase of fifty-six since the first awards were made in 1873. The principal awards were as follows:—London Hospital, 333*l.*; Middlesex Hospital, 203*l.*; St. Mary's Hospital, 187*l.*; Brompton Consumption Hospital, 171*l.*; St. George's Hospital, 161*l.*; King's College Hospital, 140*l.*; University College Hospital, 130*l.*; and Westminster Hospital, 109*l.* Sir Sydney Waterlow (the vice-president) moved a resolution to the effect that the report be adopted and the several awards recommended be paid as soon as possible. He congratulated the Lord Mayor and all present upon the fact that the collection this year had been larger than ever. The sum received at the present moment was 41,107*l.*, being more than the total amount collected last year, and as there were three months to intervene before the subscription for this year was closed, there was no doubt that they would collect some 700*l.* or 800*l.* more. There had been a very small amount of dissatisfaction indeed at the awards which had been made, though some institutions might have been a little disappointed. He thought he might congratulate the Council and the public generally upon what he ventured to express as the opinion of the Committee and himself, that the accounts of the various hospitals were kept in a much better and more uniform manner. The fund had not received any legacies this year, but he trusted that it would in future years. Mr. Bonsor, M.P., seconded the motion, which was adopted.

Resolutions were afterwards passed thanking the Committee of Distribution; Sir Andrew Clark for his address at the Mansion House meeting on the 19th ult., the Bishop of Derry, and other speakers; the editors of newspapers who had pleaded the needs of hospitals and advocated the cause of the fund, and the Lord Mayor. In reply to the last-mentioned resolution the Lord Mayor referred to the scheme which he had initiated of penny-a-week collections at shops, factories, and workshops in connexion with the Hospital Saturday Fund. He expressed his conviction that while this scheme would not in any way interfere with the action or the power of usefulness of the Hospital Sunday Fund, it would enormously increase the amount collected on behalf of the Hospital Saturday Fund.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

The 5000 Stedman Cinques at St. Giles's, Cripplegate, London.

SIR,—I wish to call attention to the 5000 STEDMAN CINQUES rung at St. Giles's, Cripplegate, on March 2nd last, and duly reported in your paper of the 15th of March. Changes repeat in the thirty-sixth course, first six.

14 Farringdon Road, London, E.C., July 27th. JOHN NELMS.
[With what other six do they repeat?—Ed. C.B.]

The North Middlesex Association.

THE next Quarterly Meeting of this Association will be held, by kind permission of the Rector, at High Barnet, on Monday, August 5th. Bells ready at three p.m. Special service, with short address, five p.m. Meat tea (1*s.* per head) at six p.m., to be followed by business meeting.

W. H. TUBB, Hon. Sec.

The Chester Diocesan Guild.

THE Second Annual Festival of this Guild will be held at Macclesfield, on Monday, August 5th. At 10.45, there will be Divine service in St. Michael's Parish Church, with an address by the Archdeacon of Macclesfield. 12.0, General Meeting in the schoolroom, (Duke Street). 1.30, Dinner (in the same building). Hon. Members pay 2*s.* 6*d.*, Members pay 1*s.* 3*d.* for dinner.

The towers open during the afternoon will be Macclesfield Parish Church (ten bells); Bollington (eight bells), distant three miles; Prestbury (eight bells), two miles; Poynton (six bells), seven miles; Sutton (six bells), two miles. The L. & N.W. Railway Company will issue return tickets to Macclesfield and back at a single fare and a quarter from any stations having through bookings.

St. Mary's, Beddington, Surrey.

THE usual Meeting will be held on Monday, August 5th (Bank Holiday). The tower will be open at two p.m. Mr. Trappitt has again consented to provide tea for those who require it. All ringers invited.

The Worcestershire and Adjoining Districts Change-ringing Association.

THE next Quarterly Meeting of this Association will be held in the National Schoolroom, Fershire, near Worcester, on Saturday, August 17th, 1889, at 7 o'clock prompt. The Rev. Canon Walters, M.A., vicar of St. Andrew's,

has kindly promised to preside. The tower of Holy Cross will be open for ringing during the day.

Diocesan Guild of Bell-ringers.—Annual Festival at Newbury.

THE annual festival of the Oxford Diocesan Guild of Ringers took place on July 22nd at Newbury, which until the present year has been unable to welcome the members, in consequence of the condition of the bells of the Parish Church. These having been rehung at considerable cost, the local ringers felt justified in taking steps to secure the holding of the Annual Festival in their town. The ringers came from all parts of the diocese, the towers represented including Aldermaston, Drayton, Wargrave, Wokingham, Hughenden, Whitchurch, Theale, Hagbourne, East Ilsley, Headington, Maidenhead, Marlow, Cookham, Abingdon, Dorchester, Englefield, Oxford, Woodstock, Kidlington, Tilehurst, Thatcham, Newbury, Reading, Beenham, and Milton; L. Proctor, Esq. (Benington, Herts); Mr. J. R. Haworth (London). The day's proceedings opened with a touch of 504 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES by the local band, assisted by two ringers from Dorchester, and conducted by Mr. D. Geater.

A special service was held in the Parish Church at 11.30, at which there was a large attendance of the members of the Guild. The service was fully choral. The choir and clergy assembled in the Parish Room, and headed by a cross-bearer walked in procession to the church, singing the hymn, 'When morning gilds the sky.' The service was intoned by the rector of Newbury, and the lesson was read by the Rev. Dolben Paul, rector of Bearwood, Wokingham. The sermon was preached by the Venerable Archdeacon of Bucks, Rev. J. Leslie Randall, Bishop-designate of Reading. The preacher selected for his text 'For as we have many members in one body, and all members have not the same office, so we being many are one body in Christ, and every one members one of another' (Rom. xii. 4, 5).

Immediately after the service the Annual Meeting was held in the Parish Room, which was scarcely adequate to accommodate the large number of members who attended, and took a keen interest in the transaction of the business. The Venerable Archdeacon of Bucks, one of the vice-presidents of the Guild, took the chair, and he was supported by the Master of the Guild, Rev. F. E. Robinson, vicar of Drayton, the Hon. Secretary, Rev. Dolben Paul, rector of Bearwood, and others.

Mr. Geater (Newbury) proposed the re-election of the Rev. F. E. Robinson as Master of the Guild, and the Rev. Dolben Paul as Hon. Secretary. Mr. Hussey (Newbury) seconded the proposition, which was unanimously adopted.

The Committee were re-elected as follows:—Revs. A. H. Drummond, A. Majendie, S. F. Marshall, R. H. Hart-Davis, and Mr. A. H. Cocks; change-ringing members:—Messrs. H. D. Betteridge, W. New, E. Rogers, W. Napper, C. A. Hounslow, and J. W. Washbrook. On the motion of Rev. A. Majendie, seconded by Rev. G. F. Coleridge, the name of Rev. E. Chattaway, of Woodstock, was added to the Committee in the place of the Rev. A. Sturgess.

The election of forty-six change-ringing members and nine probationers, a total of fifty-five, was confirmed by the members. The Hon. Secretary reported that since the 1st January 106 change-ringing members and sixty-five probationers, making a total of 169, had joined the Guild.

The Rev. Dolben Paul then presented his Annual Report, stating that at the present time the Guild numbered 132 honorary members, 828 ringing members, of which 201 are probationers, making a grand total of 1010. This was the first time they had got into four figures, and he hoped they would go on still further. He should like to see the number of honorary members more in proportion to the ringing members. The following towers had joined the Guild during the year:—Appleford, Goring, Harwell, Aldermaston, all of which joined as change-ringing members. The record of peals rung by the Guild was very satisfactory, and they stood third on the list in the analysis of the Guilds throughout the country. The finances were in a fairly good state, and in spite of the extra money spent in instruction there would be a balance in hand.

The Master, in the absence of the Rev. A. H. Drummond, moved that the following addition be made to Rule X. :—'But unless the probationer qualifies as a change-ringer within two years of his election, he shall cease to be a ringing member of the Guild, but shall become an honorary member.' In an amusing speech the Master pointed out the necessity for this alteration, remarking that if the probationers did not find the brains, at least they might find the money.

The Rev. J. B. Burne asked if the latter sentence of the resolution was in order, as no notice had been given of it. The Chairman ruled that it was out of order and must be omitted.

The Rev. Dolben Paul entirely opposed the motion, for the reason that the Guild was established as a Church Guild for the improvement of bellfries and bell-ringers. There were in this diocese a number of country parishes where it was utterly impossible for the men to be change-ringers, but where it was quite possible to improve their moral tone and enjoy all the benefits of membership of the Guild. He maintained that if they adopted this rule they would break up the Guild. Their primary object was to improve the status of bell-ringers and bellfries, and secondarily to encourage the art of change-ringing. He was quite satisfied to go on as they were, as the plan they had adopted worked very well. Out of the 106 change-ringing members elected last year forty were probationers who had passed. He was quite satisfied that all these probationers would be enabled to become change-ringers, and for that reason did not wish to drive them out.

The Rev. H. Blagden suggested that a compromise should be arrived at, and moved as a rider that the rule should not apply to towers with less than five bells.

The Master having signified his willingness to accept the rider proposed by the Rev. H. Blagden, the Chairman put the question to the vote, and

declared that the Noes had the majority; a show of hands was demanded, when the resolution was defeated by a large majority.

Rev. J. P. Llewellyn, secretary of the Sonning Deanery Branch, proposed the following resolution:—‘That it be an instruction to the Committee to devise some plan for utilising the change-ringing powers of the Guild for the benefit of the less advanced section.’ He said in the Sonning Deanery Branch they had nine towers, and only fourteen probationers. He asked for the sympathy of the Guild in passing this resolution.

Rev. R. P. Newhouse, secretary of the East Berks and South Bucks Branch, suggested that there should be an enlarged staff of instructors. Their chief instructor now was Mr. Washbrook, and there was not a better man for the purpose in the Guild nor in the country. But, like all great men, Mr. Washbrook was subject to limitations of time and space, and could only be in one place at a time. He thought they should have more instructors for rings of eight bells, nominated by the Guild. The question of expenses would be lessened and disappointment prevented, while Mr. Washbrook himself would admit that there were plenty of men quite capable of undertaking the rough initiatory work, and leave him to put on the finishing touches. The resolution was adopted.

The Master invited an expression of opinion as to the advisability of sending representatives to a Central Council, and the members unanimously approved of the idea. The meeting then terminated.

The members then adjourned to the Town Hall for dinner, which had been arranged to take place at half-past one, but, owing to the long time occupied in the transaction of the business at the Annual Meeting, there was a delay of quite an hour. The chair was taken by the Mayor of Newbury (Councillor G. M. Knight), who wore his gold chain of office, and was supported on the right by the Ven. Archdeacon of Bucks, and on the left by the Rector of Newbury (Rev. E. I. Gardiner). After a hearty dinner and the due honouring of various toasts the company left the tables, and adjourned to the various towers in the town and neighbourhood, where some good ringing was accomplished.

St. Martin's Guild of Change-ringers for Birmingham, Aston, and the surrounding District.

On Saturday, the 20th ult., this Society held its annual gathering at Stratford-on-Avon, when nearly forty members assembled from different parts of the neighbourhood around Birmingham, among the first to put in an appearance at the railway station being the veteran Mr. Henry Johnson, sen. Just in time to catch a train, which was somewhat beyond its advertised time, arrived the genial and popular President of the Midland Counties' Association—A. P. Heywood, Esq.—who can never be more at home than he always appears to be with Birmingham ringers, and who had journeyed from Duffield expressly to take part in this gathering.

In due course the party arrived at Stratford, and after an excellent dinner at the ‘Unicorn,’ Mr. Heywood was enthusiastically elected to preside over the meeting. Afterwards, when responding to his health, given with musical honours, he expressed the pleasure it always gave him to meet his fellow-ringers of St. Martin's Guild. He also referred to the important and larger gathering which took place last February at the Johnson celebration in Birmingham, and begged his hearers to lose no opportunity of assisting to give effect to the movement for a National Council, which was now an absolute necessity for the welfare of their science.

A move was then made by several of the members to the tower and church, under the guidance of Mr. Freeman, and—what are believed to be—the first touches of STEDMAN TRIPLES and TREBLE BOB MAJOR were rung upon the bells. A touch of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES and a fall-in peal brought the ringing proceedings to a close. Meanwhile others had taken an opportunity of examining the beauties and quaintnesses of the church in which the immortal ‘Swan of Avon’ was interred, while others engaged in rambles by the picturesque river, boating, and fishing. After a ramble through the town, a start was made for Birmingham at 9.15, the return journey being enlivened by songs and touches upon the handbells, and home was reached again at the hour of eleven. Altogether a most enjoyable afternoon was spent, and let us hope that it may be the forerunner of many which will be equally so.

A New Clock at Bradwell Church, near Buxton.

A LARGE clock has been erected at the above church by J. Smith & Sons, Midland Clock Works, Derby. It strikes the hours, chimes the Cambridge quarters, and has two dials, each five feet across.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At the Society's Meeting-house, Salisbury.

On Friday, the 12th 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. 24 mins. A. P. Goddard, 1-2; T. Blackburn (conductor), 3-4; W. W. Gifford, 5-6; W. S. Wyse, 7-8. Umpire, Mr. H. D. Adams.

At St. Nicholas', Newchurch, Rossendale, Lancashire.

On Saturday, the 20th ult., eight members of the Lancashire Association rang Carter's Twelve-part peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 57 mins. J. T. Stott, 1; J. B. Taylor, 2; J. Millett (conductor), 3; Z. Lord, 4; W. H. Walsley, 5; J. E. Whittaker, 6; J. Harrison, 7; W. Whittaker, 8. Tenor, 16 cwt. Messrs. Millett, Harrison, and Walsley, came from Heywood.

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

On Saturday, the 20th ult., eight members of the Society of Royal Cumberland Youths rang a peal of 5040 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR

in 3 hrs. 16 mins. H. A. Hopkins, 1; H. Dains, 2; J. Hannington, 3; H. Swain, 4; A. Pittam, 5; T. Titchener, 6; A. Jacob, 7; G. Newson, 8. Composed by Mr. Hubbard, and conducted by Mr. Newson. Tenor, 25 cwt.

At St. Thomas's, Leesfield, Oldham, Lancashire.

On Saturday, the 20th ult., eight members of the Lancashire Association rang Johnson's peal of 5184 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR in 3 hrs. 11 mins. J. Shepherd (first peal in the method), 1; F. Crossland, 2; E. B. Shaw, 3; G. Hoyle, 4; S. Stott, 5; J. Priestley, 6; A. E. Wreaks (conductor), 7; F. Birtwistle, 8. Tenor, 14 cwt.

At St. Mary's, Framsdon, Suffolk.

On Saturday, the 20th ult., eight members of the Norwich Diocesan Association rang a peal of 5088 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR in 3 hrs. S. Wightman, 1; G. Perry, 2; D. G. Wightman, 3; G. Thurlow, 4; G. Sharman, 5; W. Dye, 6; S. Wightman, sen., 7; G. Wightman, 8. Composed by Mr. Hudson, and conducted by Mr. Dye. Tenor, 16 cwt.

At All Saints', Carshalton, Surrey.

On Wednesday, the 24th ult., the following members of the Surrey Association (Croydon Branch) rang Shipway's Six-part peal of 5040 OXFORD BOB TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 51 mins. A. E. Collins,* 1; W. J. Chambers, 2; A. Arnold,* 3; R. E. Pearson, 4; W. States (conductor), 5; A. B. Carpenter, 6; T. Verrall, 7; W. Hill, 8. Tenor, 12½ cwt., in G sharp. This is the one hundredth peal rung by the Surrey Association, and is supposed to be the first in the method on the bells. [* First peal in the method.]

At St. James's, Clerkenwell, London.—A Curious Peal.

On Thursday, the 25th ult. (St. James's Day), eight members of the St. James's Society (whose names begin with ‘James’), rang Holt's Original peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 3 hrs. 5 mins. James R. Haworth, 1; James Page, 2; James Pettit (conductor), 3; James Nixon, 4; James Leach, 5; James Hannington, 6; James Barrett, 7; James H. Monday, 8. Tenor, 22 cwt. St. James's Day, St. James's Church, St. James's Society, and eight men whose names begin with ‘James.’ The above peal has been talked about for nearly forty years, and many times nearly rung. Mr. Haworth was in the first attempt, and is the only one remaining of the first band to be in the successful termination of it.

At St. Edmund's, Northampton.—Wedding and Birthday Peal.

On Saturday, the 27th ult., Holt's Original peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES was rung in 3 hrs. 12 mins. J. George,* 1; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 2; T. Healey,* 3; A. Stewart,* 4; Jos. S. White,* 5; J. Mackay,* 6; G. Eads,* 7; C. E. W. Cherry,* 8. Tenor, 18 cwt., in F. [* First peal away from tenor, and came from Rugby. + First peal local ringers.] It was rung to commemorate the wedding of Her Royal Highness the Princess Louise; it was also Mr. J. W. Washbrook's twenty-fifth birthday. The first peal rung on the bells, and supposed to be the only peal rung in Northampton for fifty years.

It has long been the ambition of the members of this tower to ring a peal on the bells so kindly presented by Mr. W. Tomes, in 1884. Since that time the members have continued to practise half-peal ringing; but, owing to so many of the members leaving the district, it has been very difficult to accomplish this object. However, on Saturday, the 27th ult., Mr. J. W. Washbrook, of Oxford, visited Northampton, and very kindly conducted a peal for them, which was appreciated by the leader, Mr. White, the secretary, Mr. Eads, and all concerned. We cannot express ourselves too much in favour of Mr. Tomes for providing such a fine ring of bells to this tower, and also for his sympathy with the ringers, in whom he and his wife take the greatest interest. On this special occasion, through the medium of this paper, they tender their thanks to them for their hospitality in providing such an excellent tea after the peal was rung; and also to the Vicar and Churchwardens for their permission for the use of the tower.

At St. Peter's, BENINGTON, HERTS.—On Tuesday evening, the 30th ult., the Benington (Herbs) Society of Change-ringers met for their weekly practice, and, upon their musical ring of eight bells (tenor, 14 cwt., in F sharp), rang: CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 672; SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 672; LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 224. This interesting evening's ringing was most ably carried out by the undermentioned members of the Village Society residing in the village of Benington:—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.

REVIEW.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF CHANGE-RINGERS. Rules, List of Members, Peals, &c. 1889. (Burgiss-Brown, Maidstone.)—This Report shows a mingled condition of motion, direct and retrograde. The ringing members have increased in numbers, but that of the honorary members has diminished—a matter for sincere regret as thereby the Association loses prestige. In spite of this, however, the funds are as yet in a very satisfactory condition. An excellent move is about to be made by placing local secretaries in the several districts. We ourselves, from personal experience, can testify to the value, if not to the vital necessity, of this. The peals, which are fairly numerous, yet show but little variety in methods. They are poorly entered, and the calling is not given. The Secretary has adopted a most excellent plan in his list of members and churches, by putting them in parallel columns. His is quite the best plan we have yet seen.

RECEIVED ALSO:—J. George, Rugby (thanks); and others.

tures will be given by representative men of science, literature, and art. But its real work lies in stimulating home reading, and in making it less desultory and less frivolous than it too often is. The objects of the Union are worthy, and its endeavours can hardly fail to quicken and develop the intellectual life of the people, or to cultivate those moral instincts which are the scaffolding of our social system.

WHAT is the cost of a Cardinal's hat? If we may believe the Paris *Figaro*, 52,500 francs is the amount which the recipient of such an article has to pay. Here are the items: To the Noble Guard who brings the skull-cap, 5000 francs—plus some trifling present, such as an inkstand or cigar-case, 1000 francs; to the Papal ablegate who brings the hat, 10,000 francs—plus the present of a missal, a pair of silver buckles, or a pectoral cross, 1000 francs; the ablegate being always accompanied by a secretary it is customary to give this secretary 1500 francs; for registering the Papal bull, 22,000 francs; for the cardinal's journey to Rome, where he has to dine the cardinals, lunch the cardinals, monsignori, &c., 12,000 francs: total, 52,500. The red hat and tassels are expensive, and it is only a rich man who could afford the vanity of being their possessor.

THE London School Board has decided—by the narrow majority of one—for the present, at any rate, not to consider the question of providing a Training College of its own. Ratepayers will rejoice at this news, and so will every friend of religion, no matter by what name he calls himself. Such a College would nominally be undenominational, but it would really, probably, be the training institution of a number of young persons who would dub themselves 'Agnostics,' and consider it their mission in life to wage a crusade against every form of religious belief. The pernicious effect of their influence upon their pupils in such an event it is impossible to describe, but very easy to imagine. In India undenominational education has, we are assured, undermined all the restraining influences of the old systems of belief, without substituting in their place the truths of Christianity, and as the result the growing generation hope nothing and believe nothing, and are simply the essence of negation.

MR. BRYCE has done good service in getting a Parliamentary return of the pensioners on the Civil List. The total amount expended in this way is 25,000*l.* a-year; a fixed sum of 1200*l.* is annually given in pensions, and every summer there is a keen struggle of applicants for a share of it. The list is a very curious and miscellaneous one; it begins with Caroline and William Aldridge, the children of a murdered policeman, given as long ago as 1839. Three years later comes the name of Richard Owen, who has for forty-seven years been receiving from the State 200*l.* a-year, increased to 300*l.* in 1884, 'on account of his distinguished exertions in the improvement of science.' A few years later than the name of Sir Richard Owen occurs that of Thomas Henry Huxley. Professor Huxley has an undoubted right to be on the list, as he has made sacrifices in order to devote himself to scientific research. A little lower down we find the illustrious name of 'Baron Alfred Tennyson, in consideration of his eminence as a poet.' It is somewhat surprising to find that the Poet Laureate, whose books have been selling by hundreds of thousands, has for forty-four years been drawing 200*l.* a-year from the Civil List. It is certainly a poetical license that a peer, with a seat in Surrey and another in the Isle of Wight, should take a yearly dole from a fund primarily intended for 'poor writers and artists.' A somewhat less remarkable example of the same license is that Mr. Martin Farquhar Tupper has had 120*l.* a-year since 1873—a date when his *Proverbial Philosophy* had an immense sale. This return shows that lectures on thrift and providence, which are so freely bestowed on artisans and labourers, are sorely needed by many public servants, who, even as ambassadors, diplomatists, officials in the War Office or the Treasury, have failed out of their salaries to make provision for their widows or children. In the list there are the names of not a few for whom, or for their relatives, we are right glad that the State makes some modest provision in return for the good service they have done to their countrymen; but there are a great many names which could only have got on the list by some pressure, social or political, brought to bear on the Minister of the day. It is well that the list has now been made public, and it would probably help to restrict it to those whose names should fitly appear upon it if once or twice a-year the list in its entirety were published in the columns of the *Times*. Those who are not too squeamish to receive such pensions should not be ashamed to have the fact made known to those who provide the money.

THE CHURCH IN SCOTLAND.

BISHOP SANDFORD's youngest daughter, Miss Muriel Sandford, recently died, after a very short illness, at the house of a friend in Argyllshire, where she was paying a visit. She was buried in the churchyard of St. John-the-Evangelist, Edinburgh, on the 1st inst. Much sympathy is felt for the Bishop, that his first visit to Edinburgh, after his return from abroad, should be on so sad an occasion.

On the 25th ult., St. James's Day, St. James's church, Stonehaven, was consecrated by the Bishop of Brechin. The services of the day commenced with a celebration of Holy Communion at 8 a.m., the incumbent being celebrant. Mattins followed at 8.45. The consecration service took place at noon. The Bishop of Brechin, vested in cope and mitre, was attended by two chaplains, one of whom carried the pastoral staff. The Bishop of Glasgow and Galloway was attended by his chaplain. The bishops, having robed, with their chaplains and the attendant clergy and choir, proceeded in order round the church towards the principal doorway chanting the 48th Psalm. On arriving at the door of the church, a halt was made, when the treasurer of the congregation read the petition for consecration, which the Primus accepted, saying as he did so, 'Peace be within these walls.' Psalm xxiv. was then chanted. The chaplain having handed the Bishop his pastoral staff, his lordship said, 'Open me the gates of righteousness, that we may go into them and give thanks unto the Lord.' The doors were then thrown open, the Bishop adding, 'This is the gate of the Lord; the righteous shall enter into it.' The procession then entered the church singing the hymn, 'Rejoice, ye pure in heart.' On entering the chancel, the Bishop took his seat before the altar, delivered the usual address, which was followed by prayer, and all necessary documents connected with the consecration of the church having been presented to him, the *Veni Creator* was sung, the congregation kneeling. At its close, the Bishop, attended by his chaplains and the choir, proceeded round the church singing hymn 242, 'We love the place, O God.' Pauses were made at the font, the pulpit, and steps of the sanctuary, at each of which an appropriate prayer was offered by the Bishop; and at the close of the hymn, prayers for all who might be confirmed, married, or admitted to any office or administration in the church were said by the Bishop, who returned to his chair, where the sentence of consecration was read by one of the chaplains, and signed by the Bishop on the altar. The usual prayers followed, and the service closed by the Bishop saying the benediction. A full choral service of the Holy Communion followed.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

A Member of the Ancient Society of College Youths for Fifty Years.—A Jubilee Meeting.

MR. J. R. HAWORTH (London) was elected a member of the above Society on the 13th of August, 1839; so that, on August 13th, 1889, he will have completed his fifty years of membership. His certificate contains the following:—'This is to certify that James Robert Haworth was elected a member on August 13th, 1839. Mr. Richard Mills, *Master*; Messrs. James Durrant and Thomas Britten, *Stewards*. No. 2006.' The Master (Mr. Dawe) and officers of the Company will be pleased to meet on August 13th (meeting-night), at St. Saviour's, Southwark, London, any members (who are not in the habit of meeting the Society there) to congratulate Mr. Haworth on the above event.

RICHARD T. WOODLEY, *Hon. Sec.*

Worcester and Adjoining Districts Association.

THE next Quarterly Meeting of the above Association will be held in the National Schoolroom, Pershore, near Worcester, on Saturday, August 17th, at five o'clock. The Rev. Canon Walters, M.A., vicar of St. Andrew's, has kindly consented to preside. The tower of Holy Cross will be open for ringing during the day.

JOHN SMITH, *Hon. Sec.*

37 Simms Lane, Netherton, near Dudley.

Birmingham and District Amalgamated Society.

THE members of the above Society will have their Annual Holiday at Bewdley on Saturday, August 17th. Dinner tickets 2*s.* 6*d.* each; on the table at four p.m. Any friends wishing to join the party will oblige by communicating, not later than Monday, August 12th, to W. Brook, *Sec.*

11 Tennant Street.

The Kent County Association.

A DISTRICT MEETING was held at Tunbridge, on Saturday, July 27th, when seventy-nine members were present, the districts being represented as follows: Tunbridge, 47 (all the bands but one being represented); Maidstone, 20; Canterbury, 4; Ashford, 3; Rochester, 2; honorary members, 2: unattached, 1. Some very fair ringing was done, principally *GRANDSIRE* and *SREDMAN TRIPLES*. A District Committee Meeting was held at the Old Town Hall at 3.30.—C. E. Warner, Esq., in the chair. The Rev. T. S. Curteis, rector of Sevenoaks, having expressed his readiness to undertake the office of District Secretary, was unanimously elected; and Mr. Edgar Pope, of Staplehurst, was also unanimously elected representative of the district upon the Central Committee.

The Rev. E. W. Carpenter, after paying a well-deserved tribute to the

splendid work which has been done by the late Secretary (the Rev. R. B. Knatchbull-Hugessen) for the Association, drew attention to the great room there was for improvement in the ringing throughout the greater part of the county, and suggested that more frequent opportunities might be given for united practice by arranging for meetings for ringing only at all the towers in the district during the year. The idea was unanimously approved, and after some discussion it was resolved to hold such meetings, a month being appointed for each tower in the district, the day to be the practice-night of the tower nearest to the full moon, the latter part being the result of a very practical suggestion from Mr. Finn, of Mersham. Tunbridge Wells was selected for the place of meeting according to Rule 9, the meeting to be held in February, subject to the final decision of the Central Committee. The Committee then took into consideration the question of a testimonial to the late Secretary, Rev. R. B. Knatchbull-Hugessen, and, after discussion, it was decided to recommend to the Central Committee that it should take the form of a gold model of a church bell with its fittings, together with an address. Several other suggestions were made, including one by Mr. Finn, who showed drawings of a model of the tower of Mersham Church, with a clock striking upon a bell hung with its proper fittings in the tower. No final decision will be come to until all the districts have had an opportunity of expressing their views upon the matter.

The Lancashire Association.

ROCHDALE BRANCH.—On Saturday, July 27th, this branch held a meeting at St. Thomas's Church, Moorside, Oldham, but was only moderately attended, the following churches being represented: St. Alban's, Rochdale; St. Mary's, Balderstone; Oldham Parish Church; St. Thomas's, Leesfield; and the local company. The meeting was held in the belfry, and was presided over by Mr. Wreaks, Mr. Birtwistle being prevented from being present owing to the death of his father. The next meeting was decided to be held at St. Alban's, Rochdale, on Saturday, September 14th, this date being chosen on account of the holidays at Oldham and Rochdale taking place in the latter half of August. Votes of thanks to the Vicar and Wardens for the use of the bells, and also to Mr. Wreaks for presiding, brought the meeting to a close. **GRANDSIRE TRIPLES** was the only method practised, and a few courses of **GRANDSIRE DOUBLES** and **TRIPLES** terminated the day's proceedings.

The Surrey Association.

THE Annual Meeting was held at Reigate, by the kind permission of the Vicar, on Monday, July 29th. The bells were kept at work in various methods throughout the afternoon and evening. At six o'clock a party of thirty-seven sat down to a capital tea at the 'Bed Cross.' There were present, besides the local members, ringers from Beddington, Betchworth, Bletchingley, Carshalton, Croydon, Camden Town, Dorking, Guildford, Kingston, Leatherhead, Midsbury, and Nutfield. After tea, at the annual meeting, at which Mr. Rees, of Guildford, presided, four new members were elected, and five peals ordered to be recorded. A resolution was agreed to, on the motion of Mr. Bennett, declaring that the Surrey Association is in favour of the establishment of a Central Council, as proposed by Mr. Percival Heywood in March last. The officers and Committee were re-elected, with the addition of the name of Mr. H. Brooker, as representative of the St. Peter's Society, South Croydon. It was resolved that the next Quarterly Meeting be held at Carshalton.

ARTHUR B. CARPENTER, *Hon. Sec.*

North Middlesex Society of Change-ringers.

At a meeting held at the Church House, Barnet, last Monday evening (August 5), under the presidency of the Rev. D. W. Barrett, M.A., rector of Barnet, it was unanimously resolved that this Society should be reconstituted on a more extended basis, and a provisional committee was appointed to frame rules to be submitted for the approval of a general meeting which will be held at Finchley on a day to be advertised in due course. The committee will meet at the house of Mr. W. Tubbs, Church End, Finchley, on Saturday, August 17th, at eight p.m., and meanwhile any suggestions with regard to the constitution or management of the Society will be thankfully received by F. A. Milne, Esq., Hadley, Barnet, Hon. Sec. of the Provisional Committee.

Dedication of a Bell at St. Albans Abbey, Herts.

ON Tuesday evening, July 16th, the bell 'Edmund,' which has recently been placed in the north-east tower by the munificence of Lord Grimthorpe, was dedicated, the service being performed by the Ven. Archdeacon Lawrance, in the presence of the Cathedral ringers and others. After the service, and the tolling of the bell by the conductor, the ringers (in honour of the occasion) ascended to the belfry, and attempted a date touch of 1889 changes, but were unsuccessful in bringing it round. It is intended that the bell 'Edmund' shall be chimed for the daily services, excepting Sundays and festivals. The bell was founded by Messrs. Taylor and Co., of Loughborough; the tone is said to be exceedingly good.

A Visit to Reigate, Surrey.

ON Bank Holiday the ringers of St. George-the-Martyr's, Southwark, London, held their fifth Annual Dinner at the 'Reigate Arms' Coffee Tavern, kindly given to them by the Rector, the Rev. Burman Cassin, M.A., in commemoration of his fifty-fourth birthday, for which they thank him, also the Churchwardens and other gentlemen for subscribing towards their railway fare. At the church, assisted by the Reigate ringers, they rang several touches of **GRANDSIRE TRIPLES**, conducted by Mr. Moses. They returned to town highly pleased with their holiday.

The Hornsey Guild of Change-ringers.

ON Tuesday, July 11th, a deeply muffled peal was rung at the Parish Church for the late Canon and Mrs. Harvey, who were laid to rest side by side in Matson Churchyard. For nearly sixty years their married life lasted, and in

death they were not divided, but at the age of ninety-one and eighty-six respectively they died, within twelve hours of one another, beloved not only by those at Gloucester, but Hornsey as well. Canon Harvey had been Rector of St. Mary's, Hornsey, for fifty-one years, had also been for forty-two years Chaplain to the Queen, and was at his death Her Majesty's oldest Chaplain and the oldest Canon Residentiary in England. Canon Tinling took the service in the Cathedral, and at the grave the Bishop of Manchester, Canon Scott (vicar of Hull), and the Rev. W. Bazeley, all former curates of his at Hornsey, completed the service; and at the close Dr. Moorhouse delivered a short address. The following rang the usual whole-pull and stand, and concluded with several peals of 120 **GRANDSIRE DOUBLES**:—J. Ward, 1; E. King, 2; W. Dixon, 3; A. Howell, 4; J. Barber, 5; T. Titchener, 6.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At Diss, Norfolk.

ON Monday evening, the 22nd ult., five members of the Diss Branch of the Norwich Diocesan Association of Ringers rang, at the house of Mr. J. Souter, on handbells retained in hand, a peal of 5040 **BOB ROYAL** in 3 hrs. 3 mins. W. Ireland, 1-2; E. Broom, 3-4; J. Souter, 5-6; E. Batram, 7-8; G. Archer, 9-10. Umpire, J. Rudd. The peal was composed by Mr. J. Motts of Ipswich, and conducted by Mr. Souter, and was rung for the first time in this method by the above ringers, also the first in the county.

At St. James's, Hull, Yorkshire.

ON Saturday, the 27th ult., eight members of the Yorkshire Association rang the Rev. C. D. P. Davies' Six-part peal of 5040 **GRANDSIRE TRIPLES** in 3 hrs. H. Hoes, * 1; T. Stockdale, 2; J. W. Watson, * 3; C. Wells, 4; J. Pollard, 5; C. Jackson (conductor), 6; D. W. Brown, * 7; F. Drabble, 8. Tenor, 15 cwt. Messrs. Hoes, Watson, Wells, and Brown came from Lincoln. [* First peal in the method.]

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

ON Saturday, the 27th ult., eight members of the St. Martin's Guild, Birmingham, rang Heywood's No. 1 (as a five-part) peal of 5040 **STEDMAN TRIPLES** in 2 hrs. 49 mins. T. Reynolds, 1; C. Dickens (Sutton Coldfield, first peal), 2; T. Russam, 3; C. Williams, 4; W. Long, 5; B. Witchell (conductor), 6; W. F. Smith, 7; W. Jackson, 8. Tenor, 13½ cwt., in F. This peal, which is believed to be rung for the first time, has the 7th undisturbed by bobs, and was rung on the occasion of the marriage of Princess Louise.

At St. Giles'-in-the-Fields, London.

ON Saturday, the 3rd inst., eight members of the Royal Cumberland Youths rang Mr. H. Dains' peal of 5008 **DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR** in 3 hrs. 8 mins. J. Page, 1; B. Foskett, 2; H. Swain, 3; E. F. Cole (first peal in the method), 4; T. Titchener, 5; A. Pittam, 6; A. Jacob, 7; G. Newton (conductor), 8. This peal has the 6th twenty-four times each way in 5-6, and is now rung for the first time.

At St. Barnabas', Pimlico, London.

ON Monday, the 5th inst., ten members of the Royal Cumberland Youths rang Mr. H. Dains' Two-part peal of 5120 **KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL** in 3 hrs. 27 mins., being the first peal in this method on the bells. G. Newton (conductor), 1; A. J. Perkins, 2; N. J. Pitstow, 3; B. Foskett, * 4; T. Titchener, 5; A. Pittam, * 6; A. Jacob, 7; H. Hopkins, 8; W. Baron, 9; F. Pitstow, 10. Tenor, 19½ cwt. Messrs. Pitstow came from Saffron Walden; A. J. Perkins from Romford. [* First peal of ROYAL.]

AT THE PARISH CHURCH, GILLINGHAM, KENT.—On Saturday, the 6th ult., 720 **BOB MINOR** (forty-two singles). W. Cooke, 1; A. Ring, 2; W. Preston, 3; W. Evans, 4; W. Haigh, 5; G. Lindoff (conductor), 6. And on Tuesday, the 16th ult., 720 **KENT TREBLE BOB MINOR**. P. Taffs, 1; W. Cooke, 2; W. Evans, 3; W. Cable, 4; G. Lindoff (conductor), 5; W. Haigh, 6. First 720 of **TREBLE BOB** by the local band. On Sunday evening, the 21st ult., for Divine service, a quarter-peal of **GRANDSIRE TRIPLES**, taken from Holt's Original. A. Harris, 1; W. Evans, 2; J. Baker, 3; G. Lindoff (conductor), 4; C. Waterman, 5; W. Cooke, 6; W. Haigh, 7; A. Hore, 8.

AT SS. PETER AND PAUL'S, LAVENHAM, SUFFOLK.—On Monday, the 8th ult., 1008 **BOB MAJOR** in 45 mins. T. Bruce, 1; C. Fisk, 2; W. Boby, 3; J. Boby, 4; H. Smith, 5; W. Snell, 6; A. Symonds (conductor), 7; W. Moore, 8. The tenor bell, which has been going badly for many years, has recently been overhauled with all new fittings. It is now in capital ringing order for any band that wish to try their skill in the exercise on the fine ring of eight bells at the above church.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH, RYDE, ISLE OF WIGHT.—On Tuesday, the 9th ult., for practice, 559 **GRANDSIRE TRIPLES**. W. Ward, 1; A. Williams, 2; E. Hatcher, 3; J. G. Norris, 4; A. R. Ward, 5; W. Jennings, 6; H. Jennings (conductor), 7; A. Ward, 8. Also 112 in the same method. S. V. Salisbury, 1; J. G. Norris, 2; A. R. Ward, 3; H. Jennings, 4; O. Coombes, 5; W. Jennings, 6; W. Ward (conductor), 7; A. Ward, 8. And on Sunday morning, the 14th ult., for Divine service, 546 **GRANDSIRE TRIPLES**. W. Ward, 1; A. Williams, 2; W. Jennings, 3; A. R. Ward, 4; J. G. Norris, 5; H. Jennings (conductor), 6; E. Hatcher, 7; A. Ward, 8. And for evening service, 573 in the same method. S. V. Salisbury, 1; W. Jennings, 2; W. Ward, 3; O. Coombes, 4; A. R. Ward, 5; H. Jennings (conductor), 6; W. H. Carley, 7; A. Ward, 8.

AT ST. MARY'S, PRESTON, SUFFOLK.—On Wednesday, the 10th ult., 720 **BOB MINOR** (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 25 mins. H. Symonds (conductor), 1; H. Smith, 2; T. King (first attempt on church bells), 3; J.

Moore, 4; W. Snell, 5; A. Symonds, 6. Messrs. Smith, King, Snell, and Symonds came from Lavenham; the others are local men.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH, SUCKLEY, WORCESTERSHIRE.—On Saturday evening, the 13th ult., for practice, 720 GRANDSIRE MINOR in 28 mins. T. Tyler, 1; H. Ballard, 2; W. Ranford, 3; T. Huband, 4; E. Watkins, 5; J. Howells (conductor), 6. Also 360 PLAIN BOB MINOR, in 14 mins. T. Huband, 1; H. Ballard, 2; W. Watkins, 3; W. Ranford, 4; E. Watkins, 5; J. Howells (conductor), 6.

AT ST. GILES AND ALL SAINTS', ORSETT, ESSEX.—On Sunday morning, the 14th ult., for Divine service, two peals of GRANDSIRE DOUBLES and several plain courses. F. Stock, 1; J. Wright, 2; A. Keeling (conductor), 3; C. Jessop, 4; D. Harrod, 5; D. Wood, 6. A. Stock rang the 3rd in the plain courses. Also, for evening service, two peals of GRANDSIRE DOUBLES. F. Stock, 1; J. Wright, 2; A. Keeling (conductor), 3; C. Jessop, 4; D. Harrod, 5; G. Ong, 6.

AT ST. BARNABAS', SWANMORE, HANTS.—On Sunday morning, the 14th ult., for Divine service, 360 GRANDSIRE MINOR in 11 mins. E. Jacobs, 1; R. Linter, 2; H. Griffin, 3; J. Osman, 4; C. Apps, 5; W. Linter (conductor), 6. Also, for evening service, 360 BOB MINOR. E. Jacobs, 1; E. Warren, 2; J. Osman, 3; H. Griffin, 4; G. Williams (Midhurst, conductor), 5; W. Linter, 6.

AT SALISBURY.—On Sunday evening, the 14th ult., for Divine service, 1344 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. W. M. Lush, 1; S. Lawrence, 2; H. D. Adams, 3; A. P. Goddard, 4; A. J. Callaway, 5; T. Blackburn, 6; W. W. Gifford (conductor), 7; J. Hallett, 8.

A MUFFLED PEAL AT YORK MINSTER.—On Wednesday, the 31st ult., the Minster bell-ringers met at the Minster by special request of the Dean, and out of respect for the memory of the late General Daniell, rang a muffled peal of 1096 changes, or sixty-two leads, of GRANDSIRE CATERS, the latter number being the age of the late General. J. Cundall, 1; M. West, 2; E. Dawson, 3; G. Worth, 4; A. Fearnley, 5; J. Thompson, 6; T. Haigh, 7; W. Morrell, 8; W. H. Howard, 9; T. Hodgson and J. Underwood, 10. The above touch was composed and conducted by Mr. W. H. Howard.

AT WHITTLE, ESSEX.—On Monday, the 5th inst., the following members of the Essex Association made an attempt for Holt's Original peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES; but it was unfortunately lost after an hour's ringing. W. Emery, 1; M. L. Myhill (conductor), 2; A. Farbur, 3; W. Page, 4; Rev. T. L. Papillon, 5; H. F. De Lisle, Esq., 6; A. Edwards, 7; W. Lincoln, 8.

REVIEWS.

OXFORD BIBLE PICTURES. (London: Mowbray & Co.)—Forty-two pictures designed by Wyndham Hughes, printed in a toned ink on toned paper, are issued loose in a portfolio. Many of the designs are effective and artistic. The series, which begins with the vision of Zacharias and ends with the angel's delivering of St. Peter, would be very useful to a teacher of little children, who took one to his class Sunday by Sunday.

In these days, when so many periodicals consist mainly of extracts and cuttings, we are glad to give cordial commendation to GREAT THOUGHTS (London: A. W. Hall, 132 Fleet Street). The eleventh volume is full of excellent solid material, presented in the popular paragraphic form. There are also many portraits of notable persons, both those of the past and those so very modern as Father Damien and M. Eiffel. A useful feature is an index of the Scripture texts which are illustrated by the 'thoughts' in the volume.

The second number of THE DIGNITARIES OF THE CHURCH (London: Hatchards, 2s. 6d.) contains most pleasing and characteristic portraits of the venerable and venerated Bishop of Winchester, of the Bishop of Lichfield, fifteen years his junior, and of Canon Mason (the date of whose birth is not given in the biographic notice), but who is at least twenty years younger than Bishop MacLagan.

MAGAZINES.

THE second number of the NEWBURY HOUSE MAGAZINE maintains the standard with which this shilling monthly started. The best 'Churchy' paper is one by the Rev. T. Hancock, styled 'The Reredos in St. Paul's and Peril of Idolatry,' in which he reminds us that the New Testament doctrine of idolatry is covetousness, and points out that the nation has more to fear from the greed of its capitalists and speculators, and the competition of others for worldly gain and advantage, 'which is idolatry,' than from those particular two of the many statues in the reredos that have awakened the fears of a small part of the community. Messrs. Christie Murray and H. Herman's serial, 'The Bishop's Bible,' is beginning to get very interesting, and promises the development of some excellent sketches of character. The second and concluding part of Dr. Belcher's paper on 'The Ornaments Rubric' is as well written as the first, and the many other pages of the magazine are full of first-class reading on a large variety of subjects.

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N.B.—The work 'ON CONSUMPTION,' by itself (in paper covers), may be had for SIXPENCE (*post free*) from the Author, Coombe Lodge, Peckham, S.E., or from the Publisher, Elliot Stock, 62 Paternoster Row, E.C.

The Thirtieth Series of Weekly Cases is now publishing.

NOTICE TO THE READERS OF 'CHURCH BELLS'

WHO MAY BE PERSONALLY OR RELATIVELY INTERESTED IN THIS MATTER.

MR. CONGREVE will give ONE RECENT CASE, NOT PUBLISHED in this Journal BEFORE, EVERY WEEK.

CASE FOR THIS WEEK.

CASE OF CONFIRMED CONSUMPTION—Mrs. OTTO,
of COLCHESTER.

About a year and a half from the time I write (May, 1889), this patient, residing at Myrtle College, Alexandra Road, Colchester, applied to me for advice upon her case. She had been recommended by Captain Henslowe, of Colchester, who has kindly advised and helped others to adopt my treatment in similar cases.

Consumption had been very fatal in the patient's family. She had always been delicate. Had taken cold several months, which brought on severe cough, palpitations, acute pains, wasting of flesh, swellings of the feet and legs, &c., &c.

The acute pains were soon relieved after commencing my treatment. In other respects the improvement in the first month was very slight, but she persevered. After two months she was able to write: 'I feel better. I have spat a little more blood, but am stronger. I have not been able to get out of doors until to-day.' In another month—'Better; no return of blood-spitting.' Then better, each month, and the end of last year reported a progressive improvement.

And, Captain Henslowe writing me recently says:—'Mrs. Otto's health has been wonderfully sustained.'

NOTE.—Days of Consultation.—TUESDAY, THURSDAY, and SATURDAY MORNINGS ONLY, at Coombe Lodge, Peckham. Patients from any long distance should choose either of the two former days. Every one is expected to have seen the book first.

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GOOD BYE! Don't forget to read **HORNER'S New HOLIDAY STORIES** at the SEASIDE
ASK FOR NOS. 38, 39, 40, AND 41.

PROFESSOR FFOULKES lately made a brief visit to London from Oxford. He was one of Newman's school in those stirring days of the *Tracts for the Times*, and went to Rome, but made the return journey, and was publicly received into the Church at an early celebration of Holy Communion at St. Mary-the-Less, Lambeth. He is now the recognised champion of orthodoxy at Oxford against the learned latitudinarian, whom he dubs 'the so-called Bampton lecturer.' He is Vicar of St. Mary-the-Virgin—a church which will ever be associated with the name of John Henry Newman.

DR. BUTLER, the Master of Trinity, Cambridge, and Mrs. Butler, have had a son born to them. It is said that this is the first child that has been born to a Master of Trinity for over 150 years. Mrs. Butler was the Miss Aquila Ramsey, a student of Girton, who was senior classic of her year at Cambridge. It will be recollected that at the time it was regarded as a strong instance of heredity, for her grandfather, father, and uncle, were all distinguished classical scholars. Mrs. Butler's youngest sister has already done well at Cambridge, and it is considered probable that she will achieve the same success as her sister.

THE Bishop of Chester lately announced that the Queen is a Prebend of the Cathedral of St. David's, our smallest city. Whether or not, when Her Majesty is in Wales, she will visit the Cathedral and occupy her prebendal stall, is not stated. No emoluments are usually attached to the office of prebendary, although at one time the prebendal stall of Finsbury, attached to St. Paul's Cathedral, had an income of 40,000*l.* per annum. The income now goes to the Ecclesiastical Commissioners. There is one endowed stall in St. Paul's, which is held by the London Diocesan Inspector of Religious Knowledge, and which provides his stipend, but the others are merely honorary offices.

REPRESENTATIVES of the Press have usually no reason to complain of the manner in which they are treated at public meetings, and at other places where their services are required. They are generally accommodated with good places, and with every facility for both hearing and writing. If, by any chance, these conveniences should be denied them, we have the next morning a howl of virtuous indignation in the paper which they represent, asking if an enlightened public will permit such indignities to be inflicted upon its literary servants. No wail is more piteous, no indignation more scornful, than that of the newspaper reporter who is treated, or who thinks he is treated, on any public occasion with insufficient consideration. All well enough in its way, but these readily granted civilities to representatives of the papers demand at least an equally courteous response from the recipients in the matter of behaviour. Yet it was our sad experience not many Sundays ago to witness in St. Paul's Cathedral a scene of irreverence and of careless disregard of the feelings of others, on the part of two reporters, which was very distressing. The Cathedral was crowded; a notable preacher was announced, and a very large assembly of reverent worshippers was gathered together. In a very prominent position indeed, allotted to them, no doubt, in order to suit their greater convenience, sat—never stood or knelt—two reporters. Every one else around them rose or knelt as the custom of Divine worship directs, but these gentlemen, having nothing to do, sat or lolled in their chairs, laughed, and conversed gaily with each other. It was evident that the service had no interest for them, nor had they any part or lot in the matter. Not until the sermon commenced, and their pencils began to be busy, was there any relief from their distracting flippancy. These things are grievous, and they are not to be—they will not long be—tolerated. Reporters in church must either be chosen from those who are Churchmen, or at least Christians, or they must be men who, while not sharing perhaps the devout feelings of ordinary worshippers, will observe a quiet demeanour which will not offend the susceptibilities of other people. Failing this, they should be placed in a remote corner of the church, behind a screen, where their evil behaviour cannot distract others. Better, perhaps, than all—if that were possible—exclude reporting in churches altogether. But if they must remain, then let them learn to acknowledge the courtesy which gives them a prominent seat by abstaining from the marked irreverence which spoiled the service at St. Paul's for several unfortunate people who sat near the pulpit a few Sundays ago. The Press is powerful, and its representatives ought not to weaken its influence by their unworthy irreverence in the House of God.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

The Lancashire Association.

ROSSENDALE BRANCH.—The next ringing meeting in connexion with the above branch will take place at St. Saviour's Church, Bacup, on Saturday, August 17th. Bells ready at 2.30; meeting at 6.30.

J. T. STOTT, *Branch Sec.*

BLACKBURN BRANCH.—The next meeting of the above branch will be held at Darwen, on Saturday, August 17th. Belfry open at two p.m. Meeting in the tower at five.

J. HORROCKS, *Secretary.*

Kent County Association of Change-ringers.—Maidstone District.

A DISTRICT MEETING will be held at Maidstone, on Monday, August 26th. Committee meeting in the vestry of All Saints' Church, at 3.30, for the election of District Secretary and Representative on Central Committee, and other business. Allowances (full members, 2*s.*; probationers, 1*s.*) will be paid in the vestry at 3.15. The tower of All Saints', ten bells, will be open during the day, except during service, *i.e.*, for about half an hour at 10.30 a.m. and 8.15 p.m. Aylesford, eight bells, and St. Michael's, Maidstone, six bells, will also be open. Those who wish for cheap tickets must communicate with the Secretary not later than Monday, the 19th.

Bobbing Vicarage, Sittingbourne.

EDWARD W. CARPENTER, *Hon. Sec.*

The City Branch of the Royal Cumberland Youths.

ON Bank Holiday, the 5th inst., the members and friends of the above Branch held their twelfth Annual Holiday and Dinner at Carshalton, Surrey. Starting from the meeting-house, Pye Corner, Giltspur St., City of London, at 9.15, in a well-appointed brake drawn by four greys, the party arrived at Balham, halting to bait the horses, &c. Arriving at Carshalton the party were met and welcomed by several of the local ringers. After a few touches of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, assisted by Mr. C. Gordon and some other friends, the party numbering twenty (including Mr. Brooks, the steeple-keeper) adjourned to the 'Fox and Hounds,' where an excellent dinner was provided. The cloth being cleared, the usual loyal and other toasts, including the Clergy and Churchwardens of St. Sepulchre's, City of London, were given by the Chairman, Mr. Clarkson, and were duly honoured, after which the party separated, some going into the park to witness the sports, and others paying a visit to Beddington where several well-known ringers were assembled, Messrs. Nelms and Barry taking part in the concluding touch of STEDMAN CATERS. Muster being called for 7.30, the company again met, and having taken their seats in the brake a start was made for home (accompanied with the good wishes of many friends), which was reached at 10.45. A vote of thanks was proposed by Mr. Rouget to the Stewards, Messrs. W. D. Matthews and J. H. Wheeler, for the admirable arrangements, which left nothing to be desired throughout the day. The Stewards wish to tender their thanks to the Rector, Lord Victor Seymour, for the use of the bells, and to Mr. Brooks for having the belfry in readiness.

Wigan Parish Church, Lancashire.—Ringers' Outing.

ON Monday, the 5th inst., the ringers of this church had a day's holiday together. They were accompanied by the senior curate of the parish and two ringing friends, and made a party of seventeen ringers. Lincoln was their destination. Leaving Wigan at 7.15 they arrived at the cathedral city about mid-day, and proceeded almost at once to the glorious minster. Kind permission had been given by the Dean to use the bells; and as the time at their disposal was short the men were not long in getting to work. Mr. Hurst, the secretary of the Lincoln ringers, was kind enough to accompany the party to the ringing-room. Two touches of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES were rung, and the bells were pronounced to be in capital going order. A visit was paid to the central tower, and 'Great Tom' was seen and admired. Much of the building was left unvisited for want of time, for there was a further journey to be made by wagonette to the little village of Band. This was happily accomplished in an interval of fine weather; and at Band the visitors were met by the Rector, who had kindly had a substantial dinner provided for them at his house. After a short stay in that remote but pleasant spot, they bade good-bye to their hosts, thanked them, and started homewards. A journey of six hours brought the party back to Wigan in the small hours of the morning, and concluded a thoroughly enjoyable trip.

The Ashton-under-Lyne Society at Liverpool.

ON Saturday, the 3rd inst., the St. Peter's Branch of the above Society held their Annual Holiday, the place selected being Liverpool. The rendezvous was Park Place Station, from which a slow ride was had to Manchester—six miles in forty minutes. A hurried walk to the Central Station in that city enabled them to catch the express train to their destination, where they safely arrived. They were met by the Messrs. Williams, of the Pro-Cathedral company, but owing to service and choir practice it was impossible to ring on their bells, so they went to the church of St. Nicholas, where they managed to get a touch. TREBLE BOB MAXIMUS was attempted, but owing to the bad 'go' of the bells only three leads were rung. H. Heap, 1; S. Taylor, 2; W. Jakeman, 3; J. Hopwood, 4; J. Wood, 5; J. Harrison, 6; W. Smith, 7; G. Fisher, 8; B. Broadbent, 9; J. Mellor, 10; R. Williams, jun., 11; S. Wood, 12. Tenor, 41 cwt. Afterwards the party made the most of the time at their disposal in seeing the attractions of the great seaport, sailing on the river, going through the Mersey Tunnel, and so forth. Before the hour of midnight the visitors arrived safely home, having greatly enjoyed themselves; and they wish to thank Messrs. R. and C. Williams and Mr. Fisher for their kindness, and also the Churchwardens of Ashton for their liberality to the Excursion Fund.

All Saints', Sudbury, Suffolk.

A VESTRY MEETING was called at the Vestry-room, All Saints' Church, last Thursday, to consider the question of the proposed alterations necessary to the framework of the bells. The Vicar, and one of the Churchwardens, and several others were present, but as Mr. Elliston Allen sent word he was unable to attend as he had arranged, the meeting was adjourned until he and several other gentlemen interested in the matter should be able to be present. It appears that at the former restoration of the bells and increase of the ring, the new framework was built too high, and now it is very hard to ring the bells, especially the tenor, which requires two strong men to handle it properly. It is proposed to lower and rebuild the frame, which will probably involve the dismantling of the heavy bells, and lowering them to floor of the tower, and relifting and rehanging them after the frame has been rebuilt. It has been proposed at the same time to increase the 'ring' to ten by adding two trebles, to be hung on a separate frame. We believe that several gentlemen in the parish, and others interested in bells, have promised substantial help, and thus it is very probable that the work will be carried out, and then the All Saints' 'ring' will be one of the finest, weightiest, and most melodious in the Eastern Counties.

The St. Peter's Society, Wolverhampton.

ON Monday, the 5th inst., the members of this Society, with a few friends, had their Annual Holiday, the place chosen for this purpose being Chepstow, Monmouthshire. On arrival the visitors were met by Mr. Morley, master of the local Society. They visited the tower, and rang a short touch of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES to try the 'go' of the bells. A peal was then attempted, but it unfortunately came to an end after a considerable length had been rung. As the visitors wished to see as much of the district as possible, there was not sufficient time to make another attempt. After visiting the castle, and enjoying a row upon the river, the party returned for tea, and afterwards rang a touch of 504 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. J. Harper, 1; B. Dalton, 2; T. Collinson, 3; E. Nicholls, 4; J. W. Jones, 5; J. Fowler, 6; W. J. Sevier, 7; T. Morley, 8. After which was rung 504 in the same method. W. Freestone, 1; G. Watkins, 2; T. Morley, 4; O. Davis, 4; T. Pricket, 6; T. Collinson, 6; W. J. Sevier, 7; J. W. Jones, 8. Mr. Sevier came from Gloucestershire; Messrs. T. Collinson and J. W. Jones belong to Caerleon. The visitors wish to thank their Gloucester friends and others for so kindly meeting them and Mr. Morley for the use of the bells. After six hours' riding they got safely home from a holiday not soon to be forgotten.

The late Mr. Harris at Hardingstone, Northampton.

THE funeral of Mr. Daniel Harris took place in Hardingstone churchyard on Sunday afternoon, amid signs of the deepest respect. He had charge of and conducted the bell-ringing and chiming at the parish church for fifty-four years, and on his ringing his fiftieth Christmas peal, his brother-ringers presented him with a timepiece as a token of the respect they had for him. He was born on the Delapré estate on December 23rd, 1817, and commenced work at seven years old, and laboured until within a few weeks of his death, having served under three successive squires of Delapré. At the funeral on Sunday several beautiful floral wreaths were placed on the coffin, including one from Mrs. and Miss Bouverie, in affectionate remembrance, and Mr. and Mrs. Underwood. The service was performed by the Vicar, and as the procession moved down the church the 'Dead March' in *Saul* was played by Mr. W. S. Shaw, the organist. In the evening the Rev. R. H. Cox preached his sermon from the 127th Psalm, 'For so He giveth His beloved sleep,' and feelingly alluded to the occasion. After service the 'Dead March' was again played. A muffled peal was rung on the bells in the afternoon by the ringers, who also acted as bearers to their departed comrade.

Liskeard Church Bells, Cornwall.

MR. HARRY STOKES, the well-known bell-hanger of Woodbury, near Exeter, has lately been engaged in rehanging the fifth and tenor bells of this tower, and doing sundry repairs to the others. This work has been needed for a long time; in fact, the bells have been more or less silent since last Easter. Mr. Stokes has carried out the work in a most efficient manner, giving great satisfaction to every one, especially the ringers, who regard ringing the bells now as a pleasure, whereas before it was a real hardship.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At St. John-the-Baptist's, Capel, Surrey.

ON Monday, the 28th ult., 5040 changes in seven surprise methods on six bells (viz., CARLISLE, LONDON, SUPERATIVE, WORCESTER, WELLS, CAMBRIDGE, and CHICHESTER) were rung by the following members of the Winchester Diocesan Guild in 2 hrs. 38 mins. J. Akehurst, 1; R. Jordan, 2; A. D. Mills, 5; G. Williams, 4; E. Jordan, 5; D. Jordan (conductor), 6. Tenor, 7½ cwt. Mr. Williams came from Midhurst, Sussex. All of the above are members of the Sussex Association.

At the Parish Church, Gillingham, Kent.

ON Saturday, the 3rd inst., eight members of the Kent County Association rang Holt's Six-part peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 3 hrs. 4 mins. A. Harris, 1; G. Willshire, 2; C. Willshire, 3; Rev. E. W. Carpenter, 4; W. Cooke, 5; W. Haigh, 6; G. Lindoff (conductor), 7; J. Baker, 8. Tenor, 15 cwt. G. Willshire came from Onex Park, C. Willshire and the Rev. E. W. Carpenter, Sittingbourne. It was rung to commemorate the anniversary of the 're-opening' of the bells. [* First peal with a bob-bell. † First peal.]

At St. Martin's, Salisbury, Wilts.

ON Saturday, the 3rd inst., eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths and the Salisbury Diocesan Guild rang Thurstans' peal of 5040

STEDMAN TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 50 mins. S. Lawrence, 1; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 2; H. D. Adams, 3; C. A. Clements, 4; A. P. Goddard, 5; W. W. Gifford, 6; T. Blackburn, 7; W. S. Wise, 8.

At St. Paul's, Drighlington, Yorkshire.

ON Saturday, the 3rd inst., eight members of the Yorkshire Association rang a peal of 5056 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR in 3 hrs. 2 mins. H. Robinson, 1; S. Langstaffe, 2; R. Thornton, 3; W. Bolland, 4; D. Thornton, 5; G. Bolland, 6; L. Snowden, 7; H. Smith, 8. Tenor, 15½ cwt. Composed by Mr. Marsh and conducted by Mr. Robinson.

At SS. Peter and Paul's, Eye, Suffolk.

ON Monday, the 5th inst., eight members of the Norwich Diocesan Association rang Thurstans' peal of 5060 STEDMAN TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 54 mins. E. Gibbs, 1; E. Horrex, 2; I. S. Alexander, 3; W. Crickmer (first peal in the method), 4; W. Motts, 5; W. P. Garrett, 6; J. Motts (conductor), 7; F. Day, 8. Tenor, 24 cwt. Messrs. Horrex and Gibbs came from London.

At St. Mary's, Swanage, Dorset.

ON Monday, the 5th inst., eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths and the Salisbury Diocesan Guild rang Thurstans' (reversed) peal of 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES in 3 hrs. 8 mins. J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 1; S. Lawrence, 2; W. S. Wise, 3; H. D. Adams, 4; A. P. Goddard, 5; W. W. Gifford, 6; T. Blackburn, 7; C. A. Clements, 8. Tenor, 20 cwt. The first peal on the bells and the first peal of STEDMAN in Dorset.

ON Monday, the 5th inst., at the same church and the same societies, eight members rang a peal of 5152 BOB MAJOR in 3 hrs. 17 mins. W. S. Wise, 1; S. Lawrence, 2; C. A. Clements, 3; H. D. Adams, 4; R. P. Goddard, 5; W. W. Gifford, 6; T. Blackburn, 7; J. W. Washbrook (composer and conductor), 8. The first peal of MAJOR rung in the county of Dorset.

At St. Nicholas', Arundel, Sussex.

ON Monday, the 5th inst., Holt's Ten-part peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES was rung by the following members of the Sussex County Association in 2 hrs. 55 mins. H. W. Haggett, 1; O. Evershed, 2; F. Luxford, 3; G. Baker, 4; G. Williams (conductor), 5; E. Ede, 6; C. Blackman, 7; J. Balchin (first peal), 8. Also, in the evening, a peal of 5040 PLAIN BOB TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 51 mins. O. Evershed, 1; H. W. Haggett, 2; G. Baker, 3; F. Luxford, 4; E. Ede, 5; C. Blackman, 6; G. Williams (conductor), 7; J. Balchin, 8. Composed by Mr. Hubbard. Tenor, 14½ cwt., in E. The first peal in the method on the bells. Mr. Williams came from Midhurst, the rest are of the local band. [* First peal in the method.]

AT ST. PAUL'S, WALKDEN, LANCASHIRE.—On Whit-Sunday, June 9th, 720 KENT TREBLE BOB MINOR were rung at seven a.m. early celebration service in 25½ mins. Jos. Potter, 1; J. Worthington, 2; S. Oakes (first 720), 3; J. Williamson, 4; Jas. Potter (conductor), 5; A. Potter, 6. Also on Whit-Wednesday evening, June 12th, 720 KENT TREBLE BOB were rung in 25 mins. W. Denner (first 720), 1; J. Worthington, 2; Jas. Potter (conductor), 3; J. Brookes, 4; Jos. Potter, 5; A. Potter, 6.

AT ST. GEORGE'S, TYLDESLEY, LANCASHIRE.—On Tuesday evening, the 6th inst., 720 BOB MINOR (32 bobs and 2 singles) were rung in 23 mins., with the assistance of two of the Walkden company. W. Aldred (conductor), 1; I. Eckersley, 2; J. Worthington, 3; W. Gerrard, 4; R. Aldred, 5; J. Potter, 6. Also 720 in the same method, with 22 singles, in 23 mins. W. Aldred (conductor), 1; J. Worthington, 2; G. Heaton, 3; B. Aldred, 4; Jas. Potter, 5; E. Bowker, 6. Tenor, 11½ cwt. Messrs. Potter and Worthington came from Walkden, the others being of the local company.

AT THE ABBEY CHURCH, SELBY, YORKSHIRE.—On Sunday morning, the 14th ult., for Divine service, 720 BOB MINOR, with 7-8 covering, in 28 mins. C. Everatt, 1; F. Cryer (conductor), 2; W. Winders, 3; S. James, 4; A. Cryer, 5; A. Dobson, 6; R. Thompson, 7; M. Hague, 8. Tenor, 20 cwt., in E. The above was rung in honour of the Rev. A. G. Tweedie entering on his duties as vicar of the parish.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH, KINGSTON-ON-THAMES.—On Tuesday, the 16th ult., for practice, 672 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. E. J. Strutt, 1; J. Chandler, 2; G. Naish, 3; A. Challis, 4; G. Gray, 5; J. Wright (conductor), 6; G. Woodiss, 7; C. Slade, 8. Also 420 STEDMAN TRIPLES. J. Parslow, 1; G. Woodiss (conductor), 2; H. Parslow, 3; G. Gray, 4; C. Slade, 5; J. Wright, 6; J. Strutt, 7; G. Naish, 8. And 648 GRANDSIRE CATERS. E. J. Strutt, 1; C. Slade, 2; H. Parslow, 3; J. Parslow, 4; A. Challis, 5; G. Woodiss, 6; G. Gray, 7; J. Strutt, 8; J. Wright (conductor), 9; J. Chandler, 10.

AT ST. PAUL'S, BEDFORD.—On Saturday, the 27th ult., the Bedford Company of the Beds Association of Change-ringers rang, in honour of the marriage of Her Royal Highness the Princess Louise of Wales to the Earl of Fife, a quarter-peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 48 mins. W. Allen, 1; F. Smith, 2; J. Sharpe, 3; S. J. Cullip, 4; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 5; F. Keech, 6; I. Hills, 7; F. Sharpe, 8. Also several touches, including KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, PLAIN BOB MAJOR, and a musical touch of 504 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, in which the Rev. J. Pappillon, Hon. Secretary of the Essex Association, rang the sixth. And on Sunday evening, for Divine service, 672 changes, being six courses of BOB MAJOR. W. Allen, 1; F. Sharpe, 2; J. Sharpe, 3; S. J. Cullip, 4; F. Smith, 5; C. Pass, 6; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 7; I. Hills, 8. Tenor, 27 cwt., in D.

AT ST. MICHAEL'S, CORNHILL, CITY OF LONDON.—On Friday, the 9th inst., for practice, twelve members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang two courses of KENT TREBLE BOB MAXIMUS (1440 changes). Messrs. Pettit (conductor), Springall, Haworth, McLaughlin, Coster, Jameson, Dorrington, Mash, Smith, Joyce, Horrex, and Newman. Tenor, 41 cwt.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

A Jubilee Meeting.—Fifty Years a College Youth.

On Tuesday evening, the 13th inst., after a Jubilee touch of four courses (528 changes) of STEDMAN CINQUES on St. Saviour's ring of bells, Southwark, by thirteen members of the College Youths—Messrs. Pettit (conductor), Cooter, Haworth, Springall, Mash, Winny, Dorrington, McLaughlin, Joyce, Woodley, Horrex, Newman and Cecil—a numerous gathering of the members took place at the Meeting-house to congratulate Mr. Haworth on his fifty years of membership of the Society. Among others were Mr. E. P. Debenham (St. Albans); Mr. Bright (Woolwich, eighty years of age); and Messrs. Nelms, Lovett, and More, of the Cumberland Society. Mr. Mash was voted to the chair in the unavoidable absence of the Master of the Company, Mr. Dawe; and he remarked that it was certainly a unique occurrence which caused such a large number of members to be present, as no one knew, nor was it recorded in the Society's books, that any man had been a member of the Company fifty years, as it happened in Mr. Haworth's case.

Mr. Haworth replied as follows:—'Mr. Master and Gentlemen, I thank you most sincerely for your kind wishes. It is a fact that I have been a member of the Ancient Society of College Youths for fifty years, as I was elected on the 13th of August, 1839. I may state that during that period I have rung one hundred and seventy peals, as I rang my first peal in 1839. I have conducted several among the number, but I never did much that way or with composing, though I know something about both. The peals range from 5000 changes to 8580 STEDMAN CINQUES, in 6 hrs. 41 mins., at St. Michael's, Cornhill. Among the number are twenty-three on twelve bells—two of GRANDSIRE CINQUES, fifteen of STEDMAN CINQUES, and six of KENT TREBLE BOB MAXIMUS. I have rung peals in Ireland (Waterford Cathedral); in Scotland (Dundee); and in Wales (Llanstephan, near Carmarthen). In making inquiries—and I have known all the London ringers for many years—I have never heard any one say, nor is it recorded in the Society's books, that any College Youth was a member for fifty years. In that case we may come to the conclusion that at the present time I am the only person who has arrived at the point of being a Jubilee Member of the Ancient Society of College Youths. Gentlemen, I once more thank you; at the same time I hope all my friends will become Jubilee Members of the Society.'

During the evening several congratulatory cards arrived. Altogether a very successful meeting took place.

The Society of Royal Cumberland Youths.

THE members of this Society intend holding their Annual Dinner on Saturday, August 31st, at the 'Crooked Billet,' Walthamstow. Dinner (tickets 3s. each) will be upon the table at 4.30 punctually. Hoe Street is the nearest station. St. Mary's belfry will be open for ringing from 1.30 to 9 p.m. H. DAINS, Hon. Sec.

The North Lincolnshire Association.

A RINGING MEETING will be held at Scothern (six bells) on Saturday, August 31st. Tea will be provided at the schoolroom at 5.30 p.m. Will those intending to be present please signify the same, not later than Thursday, August 29th, to Mr. Richard Taylor, Scothern?

JOHN W. WATSON, Hon. Sec.

Kent County Association of Change-ringers.—Ashford District.

A DISTRICT MEETING will be held at Ashford on Saturday, September 7th. Committee Meeting at the Old Grammar School at 3.30 for the election of District Secretary and Representative on Central Committee, and other business. Allowances (full members, 2s.; probationers, 1s.) will be paid at 3.15. Cheap return tickets for a single fare and a quarter will be issued by the S.E. Railway to those who communicate with the Secretary.

Bobbing Vicarage, Sittingbourne. EDWARD W. CARPENTER, Hon. Sec.

St James's Society, London.

THE Election of Officers for the ensuing year took place on Monday, the 19th inst., when the following gentlemen were elected:—Master, Mr. G. C. Hammond; Secretary, Mr. G. T. McLaughlin; Treasurer, Mr. E. Albone; Stewards, Messrs. E. E. Richards and W. E. Garrard; Auditors, Messrs. F. G. Newman and G. Wild.

Gentlemen calling peals in this Society are earnestly requested from this date to forward particulars of such performances, together with the booking fees, to the Secretary as early as possible after the performance.

G. T. McLAUGHLIN, Hon. Sec.

The St. Peter's Society, Caversham, Oxon.

On Monday, the 5th inst., the members of this Society had their annual holiday. The arrangements for the day were entrusted to the hands of the Rev. G. F. Coleridge, a pleasing feature being that they were carried out to the letter without a mishap of any sort; the only regrettable incident being that one of the party, who had promised to meet his brother-ringers in the early part of the day before ringing began, did not arrive, so that assistance had to be sought at the eight-bell towers, and STEDMAN postponed for another day. Starting from Reading at 8.45, Steventon was reached in due course, when a short walk brought the party to Drayton. Here they were welcomed by the worthy Vicar, who quickly introduced them to the belfry, and to the lovely music of his sweet-toned bells, GRANDSIRE TRIPLES being the order of the day. It is well known that no ringer has ever yet been to Drayton and rung without being attended to; and to-day was no exception, a capital lunch being provided at the Vicarage, presided over by the Rev. F. E.

Robinson. Heartily thanking him for his kindness, they went across the fields to Abingdon—an enjoyable walk—where, with the assistance of Mr. Burgess, GRANDSIRE TRIPLES were attempted at St. Helen's Church, but owing to the noise the striking was not up to the mark. Ascending the belfry of St. Nicholas' (tenor, 7 cwt.), 720 OXFORD TREBLE BOB were rung in excellent style in 20 mins. Appleton was the next place (five miles). With Mr. F. White as conductor 1008 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES were rung, concluding with a few rounds on the ten. Then for Cumnor, where the visitors were welcomed by the Vicar, who first pointed out the many notable features in the church, and at the conclusion of a well-struck 360 of PLAIN BOB, kindly provided the company with refreshments. Another walk of three miles or so brought the party to Oxford railway station, having accomplished a round of fourteen or fifteen miles, and rung at the five towers included in the programme. Reading was reached, all admitting that it was the best of all the excursions their kind friends in Caversham have hitherto enabled them to enjoy.

The Festival of the Chester Diocesan Guild.

THE second Annual Festival was held at Macclesfield on Monday, the 5th inst. There was a short service in the parish church at 10.45, with an address by Archdeacon Gore. The Annual Meeting was held in the National Schoolroom, at twelve o'clock, and amongst those present were the Archdeacons of Chester and Macclesfield, Canon Turner, Canon Greenall, the Revs. E. C. Lowndes, E. J. Bell, G. E. Warburton, G. J. Howson, J. R. C. Miller, A. P. Holme, F. Richardson, Mr. H. A. Heywood, Hon. Sec., and about 150 ringers from all parts of the diocese. The General Committee was appointed, and amongst other business a vote of sympathy with the family of the late Mr. Tinsley was passed. Dinner was at 1.30, and during the afternoon the towers in the neighbourhood were open for ringing. The meeting next year will be held at Birkenhead. The Guild has nine branches, with 376 ringing members and sixty-one honorary members.

Middlesbrough Ringers' Holiday at Marske and Skelton.

On Saturday the 10th inst., the ringers of St. Hilda's Church, Middlesbrough, had a holiday at Marske and Skelton, where the bells of each place were kindly placed at the disposal of the visitors. After ringing several touches of PLAIN BOB, and a few peals of BOB DOUBLES, the company adjourned to a restaurant; afterwards a start was made to catch the last train home, which was reached in due course. The company wish to express their thanks to the Rectors of both places for the use of the bells, and also to the Marske and Skelton ringers for the kindness shown.

A New Clock at Eccleshall, near Sheffield.

A LARGE Memorial Clock to the late Mr. Jessop has been erected at Eccleshall Church, near Sheffield. It has two five-feet illuminated dials, strikes the hours on a large bell, and plays the ding-dong quarters. It has been constructed chiefly to the designs of Lord Grimthorpe, and has all the latest improvements. The pendulum is 2 cwt. All the teeth are machine-cut, and the makers, Messrs. John Smith & Sons, of Derby, guarantee it to keep time with less variation than two seconds a-week. Miss Jessop has borne the whole of the expense.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At St. Martin's, Salisbury, Wilts.

On Wednesday, the 7th inst., eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths and the Salisbury Diocesan Guild rang Sottanastall's peal of 5184 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR in 3 hrs. 15 mins. J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 1; A. P. Goddard, 2; W. S. Wise, 3; C. A. Clements, 4; S. Lawrence, 5; T. Blackburn, 6; H. D. Adams, 7; W. W. Gifford, 8.

At St. Mary's, Beddington, Surrey.

On Saturday, the 10th inst., eight members of the Surrey Association rang a peal of 5024 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR in 3 hrs. 5 mins. Dr. A. B. Carpenter, 1; E. Bennett, 2; G. Welling, 3; A. Whiteman, 4; J. Fayres, 5; J. Harding (first peal in the method with a bob-bell), 6; E. Gordon, 7; J. Trappitt, 8. Tenor, 20½ cwt., in E flat. Composed by Mr. Lockwood, and conducted by Mr. Bennett.

At All Saints', Carshalton, Surrey.

On Monday, the 12th inst., eight members of the Surrey Association rang Johnson's Twelve-part peal of 5040 OXFORD BOB TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 45 mins. J. Harding, 1; Rev. E. W. Carpenter, 2; E. Bennett, 3; J. Trappitt, 4; Dr. A. B. Carpenter (conductor), 5; C. Bance, 6; J. Plowman, 7; J. Hartley, 8. Tenor, 12 cwt., in G sharp. The first peal of OXFORD BOB TRIPLES by all except the conductor.

At St. Andrew's, Hertford.

On Tuesday, the 13th inst., eight members of the Hertfordshire Association rang Holt's Original peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 56 mins. H. Bottrill, 1; E. Holifield, 2; J. Frossell (Bedford), 3; J. Jauncey, 4; M. Ellesmore, 5; H. Baker (conductor), 6; J. Cull, 7; F. George, 8. Tenor, 16 cwt. It was rung on the occasion of the marriage of Mr. J. G. Crawley with the good wishes of his brother-ringers.

At St. Margaret's, Warnham, Sussex.

On Monday, the 18th inst., eight members of the Sussex County Association rang a peal of 5152 BOB MAJOR in 3 hrs. 1 min. W. Chantler, 1; T. Andrews, 2; W. Wadey, 3; W. Short, 4; R. Jordan, 5; A. D. Mills, 6; G. Williams (composer and conductor), 7; H. H. Chandler, 8. The conductor's fiftieth peal, including peals rung in twenty-six different towers, conducted thirty-five. This peal has only 4, 5, and 6 in sixth place at course-end.

AT HITCHAM, SUFFOLK.—On Wednesday afternoon, the 17th ult., on the occasion of a choral festival, 720 PLAIN BOB MINOR. A. Foster, 1; A. Long, 2; C. Green, 3; R. Bedingfield, 4; A. Keeble (conductor), 5; J. Taylor, 6. After service 360 OXFORD TREBLE BOB. H. Symonds, 1; W. Hollow, 2; A. Hollow, 3; R. Bedingfield, 4; A. Keeble (conductor), 5; J. Taylor, 6. Tenor, 18 cwt. During the evening touches of OXFORD and KENT TREBLE BOB and DOUBLE COURT BOB were rung upon the handbells. Messrs. Symonds, A. Hollow, and W. Hollow, came from Preston; Keeble, Foster, and Green, Monks Eleigh; Long, Taylor, and Bedingfield, Bildestone.

AT ST. MICHAEL'S, GLOUCESTER.—On Thursday, the 18th ult., by the St. Michael's Juniors, 504 STEDMAN TRIPLES. S. E. Romans (conductor), 1; T. Hibbert, 2; F. E. Hart, 3; R. J. Wilkins, 4; A. Roberts, 5; R. Brunsdon, 6; G. Brunsdon, 7; E. E. Bewick, 8. And on Sunday, the 21st ult., for Divine service, 672 BOB MAJOR. E. E. Bewick, 1; F. E. Hart, 2; E. B. James, 3; C. Jones, 4; A. Roberts, 5; R. J. Wilkin, 6; S. E. Romans, 7; W. J. Sevier (conductor), 8. Tenor, 21 cwt., in E.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH, HENDON, MIDDLESEX.—On Friday, the 19th ult., for practice, 720 BOB MINOR (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 27 mins. H. Martin, 1; T. Card, 2; C. Martin, 3; F. Pratt, 4; N. Alderman (conductor), 5; C. Crampton, 6. Also 120 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES. C. Tucker, 1; C. Crampton, 2; B. C. Patchett, 3; N. Alderman, 4; C. Martin (conductor), 5; T. Card, 6.

AT FOXEARTH, ESSEX.—On Friday evening, the 19th ult., the local company rang 720 BOB MINOR. W. Maxim, 1; A. Maxim (first 720, aged fourteen), 2; J. Lee, 3; R. Mingay, 4; W. P. Gridley, 5; G. Maxim (conductor), 6.

AT ALL SAINTS', EASTBOURNE.—On Sunday evening, the 21st ult., for Divine service, 504 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. W. Ticehurst, 1; F. Baber, 2; W. Siggs, 3; J. Davey, 4; J. Holter, 5; F. Harding (conductor), 6; G. Ades, 7; J. Parks, 8. Tenor, 19 cwt.

AT ST. ANDREW'S, NETHERTON.—On Thursday, the 25th ult., 720 KENT TREBLE BOB MINOR in 27 mins. W. Micklewright, 1; W. Pardoe, 2; J. Townsend, 3; R. Round, 4; J. Prestidge, 5; J. Smith (conductor), 6. And 720 CANTERBURY PLEASURE MINOR in 26½ mins. J. Prestidge, 1; W. Pardoe, 2; J. Townsend, 3; W. Micklewright, 4; W. Prestidge, 5; J. Smith (conductor), 6. Also on Sunday morning, the 28th ult., 720 CANTERBURY PLEASURE MINOR in 27 mins. E. Hampton, 1; J. Prestidge, 2; J. Townsend, 3; R. Round, 4; W. Prestidge, 5; J. Smith (conductor), 6. This 720 has a call at each lead. Composed by the Rev. C. W. Bassano. W. Pardoe came from Tipton. Tenor, 12½ cwt.

AT ST. MARY'S, HITCHIN.—On Saturday, the 27th ult., on the occasion of Princess Louise's marriage with Lord Fife, several touches of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES were rung during the afternoon, and the flag hoisted. On Monday evening, the 29th ult., for practice, 742 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, the last part of Holt's Original. J. Randall, 1; W. Allen, 2; F. Furr, 3; A. Squires, 4; J. Foster, 5; S. Hare, 6; J. Hare, 7; T. Dobbs, 8.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH, PENARTH, SOUTH WALES.—On Thursday, the 1st inst., for practice, several peals of GRANDSIRE DOUBLES. J. Humphreys, 1; C. A. Clements, 2; J. Jones, 3; D. Thomas, 4; J. Vinnicombe, 5; T. Northey, 6. Also with the Rev. D. M. Thomas, 2; and C. A. Clements, 3. Each of the above was conducted by Mr. Humphreys. These are the first peals (120) by all with the exception of C. A. Clements, and the first on the bells.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH, WYMLINGTON, BEDS.—On Thursday the 1st inst., a mixed company rang, for the first time on the bells, 720 BOB MINOR. J. Bailey (Rushden), 1; W. Pettit (Higham), 2; W. Wilson, 3; J. B. Martin (Higham), 4; A. E. Chapman (Rushden), 5; A. H. Martin (Higham, conductor), 6. The visitors wish to thank the Rev. J. Napleton for the use of the bells on this occasion.

AT ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S, HORLEY, SURREY.—On Saturday, the 3rd inst., eight members of the Sussex County Association rang a touch of 840 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. W. Wallis, 1; J. Akehurst, 2; T. Sparks, 3; S. Kenward, 4; J. Taylor, 5; F. Wickens (conductor), 6; D. Jordan, 7; A. Sparks, 8.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH, MIDHURST, SUSSEX.—On Thursday, the 8th inst., for practice, six members of the Sussex County Association rang 720 KENT TREBLE BOB in 25 mins. T. Ellis, 1; G. Williams, 2; Dr. W. H. George (conductor), 3; C. Tribe, 4; W. Selby, 5; J. Lee, 6. Also 360 OXFORD BOB in same order, conducted by Mr. Williams. On Sunday, the 11th inst., for Divine service in the evening, 720 KENT TREBLE BOB in 23½ mins. T. Ellis, 1; C. Tribe, 2; Dr. W. H. George (conductor), 3; W. Selby, 4; G. Williams, 5; J. Lee, 6.

AT MIDHURST, SUSSEX.—Handbell-ringing.—On Tuesday, the 13th inst., at the house of Mr. Williams, 720 BOB MINOR (eighteen bobs, two singles) in 18½ mins. W. Selby, 1-2; G. Williams (conductor), 3-4; Mrs. G. Williams, 5-6. Also on Wednesday, the 14th inst., another 720 in the same method (nine bobs, six singles), by the same, in 19 mins.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION OF CHANGE-RINGERS: ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1888-9. (Bell News Office.)—This Report contains a full account of the doings of the Association, together with a list of members and performances. We are glad to read the statement that progress is being steadily made both in numbers and achievements. The list of peals is a long one, though it shows but a small range in methods. We are glad, however, to see at least two peals of STEDMAN. We will only add, in conclusion, that the Secretary is to be much congratulated on the results of his labours, in which we trust he will soon find the assistance which he desires and so well deserves.

LETTERS FROM A MYSTIC.*

THAT a book with such a title as this should have reached a second edition is a most hopeful sign of the times, for it proves that even in this seemingly rationalistic and so-called practical day there are yet left a 'seven thousand' who are unsatisfied with mere form and letter, and desire to press on and in to that 'sub-stance' of truth, that all-forming, all-pervading Spirit, Whose manifestation, in terms of time and space, all visible appearance must surely be. For there certainly exists in many minds—and it is quite natural that it should at first be so—a too ready sense of satisfaction and contentment with the point of present attainment, and a shrinking from exploration in the unknown regions of thought which lie around. At present they feel firm ground under their feet; and should any one suggest, 'Let us go over unto the other side,' they picture to themselves vividly the toils and dangers of the deep; not understanding the profound significance of the saying of the Psalmist, 'They that go down to the sea in ships and occupy their business in great waters, these see the works of the Lord and His wonders in the deep.' Not in safety, but in danger and death boldly faced, does true safety lie, and they who stand still, thinking to save their lives (souls), miss the very end at which they aim.

Mysticism, it is felt, has such a strange and perplexing sound; it deals with concepts so shadowy and intangible, and seems of set purpose to seek to complicate the simplicity which is in Christ, that many are thereby repelled from the study of it. Others are deterred by the idea that it seeks to introduce new truths, unknown to our fathers before us, into religion; as if religion—the profoundest and sublimest thing in the universe—were the only thing outside the universal law of growth and evolution.

A perusal of the little work now under review will be sufficient to dispel at once these erroneous notions about the scope and character of Christian Mysticism. It is written with the clearness of a handbook, presupposing scarcely any previous acquaintance with the subject. Its style is simple and perspicuous, and the matters it deals with are the fundamental concepts and principles of religion. Here is no veiling of the meaning under figures and terms which require initiation to understand, no attempted analysis of the deepest and most transcendental concepts, such as the Being of God, the origin of the visible creation, and of the elements and qualities of the nature of man. Any one who is familiar with the surely most necessary to be known distinction between *being* and *seeming* will read this book with ease and pleasure, and will find himself lifted up and strengthened by the perusal of it. The writer is never assertive or dogmatic. He seeks to win not assent merely, but spontaneous consent. All through he appeals to his reader whether—now the point is thus put to him—he does not, of and in himself, feel that is so; all he asks is a fair hearing, and he then leaves the reader to form his own opinion of the point that has been put. And what are the conclusions to which he would seek to lead us? The one or two extracts which alone it would be possible to give in the space allotted, would be quite insufficient to give any fair idea of these, and, taken apart from their context, might even lead to actual misconception. It seems, therefore, better for the present purpose to summarise some of them.

The central thought, and that which underlies the whole of the book, and strikes the keynote of its spirit, is that the central truth of religion is a full, adequate, and profound apprehension of the significance of the Fatherhood of God—an apprehension freed from the limitation of false earthly analogy, because God is not the Father of all men only in the restricted way in which an earthly father is father of an earthly son; and to illustrate God's fatherhood by earthly fatherhood is, as it were, to describe the sun from an examination of its reflection in water—a description which would contain more of the qualities of the medium than of the real subject of investigation. It is to either the non-apprehension or to the erroneous and insufficient apprehension of this great truth that most of the evils of our time are due. False class distinctions, the ability to be happy in the presence of so wide-spread misery, the craving for assurance of individual salvation, these—the characteristics and the leper-spots of our day—could not stand for a moment did Christians but realise the full force of the central truth of the creed they profess. And as our author deals with this so he deals with others, ever seeking to suggest a profounder apprehension of the truth professed in words, ever urging, 'Be not satisfied with mere words and formulas; what do they mean in thought? What do they involve in action? Are you sure you have penetrated their full significance, and are living in the power of it?' Ever he would have us distrust what we think must be our final standpoint; urging, 'On! on! think! and a voice in you shall reveal a yet deeper view, a profounder apprehension. God has yet depths of wisdom and knowledge to reveal, and he who thinks he knows all knows nothing.'

How bold and yet how full and sublime is his teaching about the nature and purpose of sin! Many small and limited minds, judging of God by themselves, will shrink at first from all that it seems to involve,

* *Letters from a Mystic of the Present Day.* 2nd edition. Elliot Stock.

THE Treasury Minute upon the 'Second Report of the Royal Commission on Civil Establishments' has been laid before Parliament. The Commissioners were of opinion that there was room for great changes in the Service in respect of control, working hours, holidays, the holding of directorships, pay, pensions, and minor matters. Of course the object of such changes was to secure an increased efficiency in the Civil Service, combined with economy. My Lords, whose opinions do not probably satisfy the members of the Service in all respects, have not, it is evident, very sanguine hopes on the economical point, on the contrary they regard the reorganization as likely to cause a considerable increase of expenditure upon the normal establishment. The increased number of working hours—from 6 to 7 each day—will partly account for this. Of course it is only fair that additional work should receive additional pay, and if an equivalent is obtained for the additional pay, the country cannot justly grumble at the extra expense. One point which will be satisfactory to the public, is the plan that vacancies in one department of the Service, shall be filled by transferring redundant men from other departments. Thus, at last, the Government adopts a plan which has always been the practice in large commercial establishments, but in which the official mind has previously been unable to discover any merits. The question of Civil servants holding directorships is one which recent discussions has invested with a good deal of interest. Officials of the Colonial Office are absolutely prohibited from holding such posts, and it was widely hoped by tradesmen that this rule would be made to apply to all permanent officials. This, however, has not been done, although the Treasury profess to approve of the rule. By an evasion, the prohibition is made to apply only to posts that would interfere with official duties. In this the tradesmen who smart under the competition of the Stores will find, we think, just cause of complaint. It would be far better if the Civil servants left the functions of traders and distributors to others, and restricted their superfluous energies to operations which do not tend to increase the difficulties that retail traders find in making the two ends meet.

Not very long ago a daily paper was filled with correspondence on the subject of marriage. Thousands of persons wrote to show that it was a success, and thousands wrote to prove that it was a failure. But now the same paper asks us to discuss the still larger question, 'Is life itself a failure?' It comes to that, although the correspondence is headed simply, 'The Battle of Life.' What possible good can result from correspondence on such a subject? We all know that the poorest of our people live under conditions of misery, and in many cases of almost hopeless misery. On the other hand, more than ever is being done to alleviate their troubles, and to make such conditions impossible in the next generation. But what of that; the failure or success of life must depend on the individual; not on his income and house, his chances and his employment, so much as his aims and objects. If a man cannot say, 'The things which are not seen are eternal,' he is not very likely to call this life a success. For him, the happier it is the harder it is to know that it comes to nothing. It is only the Christian who can say, 'Life is hard, but I am happy to know it will come to something.' Still, we suppose a shoal of letters will be printed, moralising on the present distress and discontent, pessimism, social evils, and all the rest of it. Well, moralising is one thing and improving morals is quite another thing; the two do not always go together. And now we look again at the paper before us, there are about a dozen letters, and what is their outcome? 'A Lonely One,' a girl, 'forgets her unhappy life in sleep.' 'B. C.' writes more sensibly, but can only suggest that 'teachers and parents' should see the duty of promoting a cheerful, lively, and hopeful tone of mind. 'An Agnostic' says, 'Live to love, and love nobly,' and admits the possibility of a reward in the 'eternal silence!' 'M. R. C. S.' believes that 'few persons would like to live their lives over again.' 'A Pilgrim,' a poor man, aged sixty-one, earning 10s. a-week, says he has much to be grateful for, but his greatest consolation is the hope to see still brighter things when his 'eyes are closed in sleep.' We will not quote further, and evidently it is quite impossible to discuss such a subject thoroughly without introducing religion. Life itself cannot be an absolute failure excepting to persons who misunderstand the object with which it is given. A religious man—rich or poor—frequently fails and frequently falls, but he will not allow failure to spell disaster, nor permit a fall to hinder his rising again. A life full of failures frequently terminates in a great success. Talk of the battle of life, it appears to us that men who speak of it as a battle should not expect to succeed without scars, nor win without ever being wounded.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

The Yorkshire Association.

THE Annual Meeting will be held at Pudsey on the second Saturday in October and not on the first. Full particulars in the circulars which will be issued as usual in September. W. WHITAKER, Hon. Sec.

Leeds and District Amalgamated Society.

THE next monthly ringing meeting will be held at Rothwell, on Saturday, August 31st. Ringing to commence at three p.m.

H. W. NEEDHAM, Hon. Sec.

49 Green Mount Street, Beeston Hills, Leeds.

The Lancashire Association.

THE year of the Association will close on August 31st. We shall therefore be obliged if all members who have not paid their subscriptions will do so at once. Members must also notify any change of address in the ringing kalendar. All reports of peals, compositions, or number of Association peals rung must be forwarded to A. E. Wreaks, 14 Miller Street, Newbold, Rochdale. Any proposals relating to alteration in the existing rules must be forwarded to J. Redford, 9 Portugal Street, Bolton, who will be glad to receive any other business matters connected with the Association. We trust that all members will act in accordance with this notice, which will greatly facilitate the work of the Secretaries in preparing the Annual Report.

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

BLACKBURN BRANCH.—On Saturday, the 17th inst., a meeting of the above branch was held at Darwen, when representatives attended from Blackburn, Church, and Darwen. Several touches of BOB MINOR were rung during the afternoon and evening. At 5.30 the meeting was held in the belfry, presided over by Mr. Isaac Holden, who delivered an admirable address to the ringers. It was decided to hold five meetings in each year in future, and the next meeting is to be held at Holy Trinity, Blackburn, on the third Saturday in November. Votes of thanks to the Vicar and Wardens for the use of the bells, and to the Chairman for presiding, brought a very pleasant meeting to a close.

MANCHESTER BRANCH.—A ringing meeting of this Branch was held at the Parish Church, Radcliffe, on Saturday, the 10th inst., but only a few members attended. Touches of BOB MAJOR and GRANDSIRE TRIPLES were rung during the evening; and the next meeting was proposed to be held at the Parish Church, Prestwich, on Saturday, September 7th, the ringing to commence at four o'clock, meeting to be held in belfry at seven.

The North Middlesex Association.

THE Provisional Committee appointed at the meeting held at Barnet on Monday, August 5th, to frame rules for the future management of the above Association, are now prepared with a scheme to submit for the approval of a General Meeting, an important feature of the scheme being the omission of the word 'North' from the title of the Association. A General Meeting will accordingly be held at Finchley, on Saturday, September 7th, at 7.30 p.m. : (1) To receive the Report of the Provisional Committee; (2) to finally settle the constitution and rules of the Association; (3) to elect officers. The tower of Finchley Parish Church will be open for ringing at four p.m.

F. A. MILNE, Hon. Sec. of the Provisional Committee.

The St. Albans Cathedral Society.

THE annual holiday excursion of the members of the St. Albans Cathedral Society of Change-ringers took place on Monday, the 19th inst., and was prolonged until Wednesday. The city of Canterbury, which was the place chosen by the Society, was reached about mid-day. The Rev. F. J. Helmore, precentor of Canterbury Cathedral, and a prominent clerical change-ringer, met the company soon after their arrival, and conducted them over the Cathedral, explaining all the many points of interest. The library was visited, as was also the crypt, which for a length of time had been used as a place of worship for the French refugees. Dinner was provided at the 'Butcher's Arms' Hotel, the Rev. F. J. Helmore occupying the chair. An adjournment was again made to the Cathedral, where a full choral evening service was held at three o'clock, at the conclusion of which the organist, by special request, played a very spirited voluntary. The bells of the Cathedral were set in motion in the afternoon, the Rev. F. J. Helmore and Mr. H. G. Fairbrass assisting to ring STEDMAN TRIPLES. On Tuesday, a ringing party was made up for St. Mary's Church, Elham, a few miles from Canterbury, where STEDMAN and GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, and a half-peal of BOB MINOR were rung. In the afternoon, train was taken for Dover, *via* Folkestone, the Rev. F. J. Helmore taking leave of the party at the latter place. Wednesday was spent in exploring the places of interest, including Dover Castle, the harbour, &c.; but the usual seaside pastimes, such as bathing, boating, fishing, &c., had to be abandoned, owing to the heavy north gale that was blowing. The holiday proved quite a success, the party reaching home in the early hours of Thursday morning.

The Worcestershire and Adjoining Districts Change-ringing Association.

ON Saturday, the 24th inst., a Quarterly Meeting of this Association was held in the National Schoolroom, Pershore. The Rev. Canon Walters, M.A., vicar, presided over the business meeting, which included members from Birmingham, Dudley, Hanley Castle, Netherton, Pershore, Tipton, Tewkesbury, and Worcester. The Rev. Chairman, in opening the proceedings, said it gave him very great pleasure to meet the members of the Association at his centre, and hoped it would be the means of spreading the art of campanology (a thing he knew very little of) in Pershore. The minutes of the

last meeting were read and confirmed, and the usual business transacted, during which the names of the Rev. E. A. Johnstone and Mr. W. L. Smith (churchwarden), Dudley; Messrs. G. F. Walker and J. Warham (churchwardens), Netherton; and Mr. W. Pearce, Pershore, were added to the list as honorary, and several others as performing members. The usual vote of thanks to the Chairman for presiding, and for the use of the schoolroom, tower, and bells, brought the meeting to a close.

A visit was afterwards made to the church of Holy Cross, a splendid edifice, the tower of which contains one of the finest musical rings of eight bells in the diocese of Worcester. The bells being raised, a short touch of *GRANDSIRE* and a course of *STEDMAN TRIPLES* were brought round, the tenor taking two men to ring her, owing to the want of rehanging, the necessity of which was very much pressed upon the Vicar, Canon Walters. An adjournment was now made (by the express wish of the Vicar) to the room of the Working Men's Club, where courses of *STEDMAN* and *GRANDSIRE TRIPLES*, *GRANDSIRE MAJOR*, *CATERS*, and *CINQUES*, were rung upon the handbells.

On Sunday (the day following) a visit was made by Messrs. Crump, Micklewright, Spittle, Small, Smith, and several of the Pershore band to Great Comberton, where there is a very nice light ring of six bells in good ringing condition, but owing to change-ringing being unknown to the ringers only six-seconds could be rung. Here as well as at Pershore there seems to be a great desire to learn the art of change-ringing, and we are pleased to say that a few of our Worcester friends are going to Pershore for this purpose; and if more of those who are so closely connected with these places would make an effort to visit them and some of the other towers in the outlying districts, much good might result from such visits, not only by spreading the art of change-ringing amongst our fellow-ringers, but by adding strength to the Association.

Kent County Association of Change-ringers.—Maidstone District.

A DISTRICT MEETING was held at Maidstone on Monday, the 26th inst., and was attended by members from Maidstone, Aylesford, Leeds, Yalding, Harrietsham, Rochester, Sevenoaks, and Woolwich. The Committee meeting was held in the vestry of the Parish Church, and was attended by representatives from Maidstone, Aylesford, Leeds, Harrietsham, and Yalding, Mr. F. G. Newman and the Rev. E. W. Carpenter, Hon. Sec. Mr. F. Cutbush was elected Local Secretary for the District, and Mr. Woolley representative on the Central Committee. It was agreed to hold meetings for practice only at all the towers having six bells and upwards during the year, such meetings to be held once a-month, and the Annual Meeting of the District was fixed to be held at Maidstone in January, subject to the approval of the Central Committee. The Rev. E. F. Dyke, vicar of Maidstone, was present, and gave the ringers a hearty welcome.

The Tenor at St. James's Church, Bolton, Bradford.

THE tenor bell at this church, which has gone so badly of recent years as to make *MAJOR* ringing for any length out of the question, has just been fitted with Shaw's Patent Roller Bearings. In order to obtain a practical exhibition of the merits of this invention, a mixed company of Bradford, Shipley, and Bolton men rang for evening service on Sunday last. It was intended to have rung a date touch of *KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR*, but some of the men not arriving in time, touches of *TREBLE BOB MINOR* and *MAJOR* formed the service peal. The improvement in the 'go' of the bell was something remarkable, which fact was a source of much gratification, as *MAJOR* ringing will now be practicable, which before was a matter of impossibility.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At St. Mary's, Prestbury, Gloucestershire.

On Saturday, the 10th inst., eight members of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association rang J. J. Parker's One-part peal of *GRANDSIRE TRIPLES* in 2 hrs. 50 mins. W. J. Sevier (conductor), 1; F. E. Hart, 2; E. E. Bewick, 3; R. J. Wilkins, 4; W. T. Pates, 5; S. E. Romans, 6; R. T. Hibbert, 7; T. Davis, 8. Tenor, 14½ cwt. in F. T. Hibbert came from Reading; W. T. Pates, Cheltenham, the rest, Gloucester.

At St. Paulinus', Crayford, Kent.

On Saturday, the 17th inst., eight members of the Kent County Association rang Brooke's variation of Thurstan's peal of 5040 *STEDMAN TRIPLES* in 2 hrs. 47 mins. C. F. Winny, 1; G. Conyard, 2; E. E. Richards, 3; R. French, 4; W. Weatherstone, 5; E. Barnett, 6; F. G. Newman (conductor), 7; H. Gibbs, 8. Tenor, 12½ cwt., in F. The first peal of *STEDMAN TRIPLES* by the Association; the first in the method by Messrs. Conyard, Richards, and Barnett; the first peal by Mr. Gibbs; and the first peal of *STEDMAN* on the bells.

At SS. Peter and Paul's, Aston, Birmingham.

On Saturday, the 17th inst., ten members of the St. Martin's Guild rang Johnson's peal of 5265 *STEDMAN CATERS* in 3 hrs. 18 mins. C. Williams (first peal of *STEDMAN CATERS*), 1; B. Wicheell, 2; I. G. Shade (Greenwich), 3; S. Reeves, 4; W. E. Smith, 5; H. Bastable (conductor), 6; W. Kent, 7; M. Murphy (first peal of *STEDMAN CATERS* away from the tenor), 8; H. Johnson, jun., 9; W. Jackson, 10. Tenor, 23 cwt., in D. This peal was composed in 1860. It contains the 5th and 6th twenty-four courses behind the 9th, and twenty-four courses in 2nd's place respectively, and is now rung for the first time.

At St. Martin's, Salisbury.

On Saturday, the 17th inst., eight members of the Salisbury Diocesan Guild rang Holt's Ten-part peal of 5040 *GRANDSIRE TRIPLES*, in 3 hrs. W. E. Dore, 1; G. Woodiss (Walton-on-Thames), 2; W. S. Wise (conductor), 3; C. E. Clements, 4; A. J. Calloway, 5; H. D. Adams, 6; W. W. Gifford, 7; J. R. Jerram, 8.

At St. Martin's, Birmingham.

On Tuesday, the 20th inst., twelve members of the St. Martin's Guild rang Johnson's peal of 5125 *STEDMAN CINQUES* in 3 hrs. 42 mins. T. Reynolds, 1; J. Joynes, 2; I. G. Shade (first peal of *CINQUES*), 3; H. Bastable (conductor), 4; W. E. Smith, 5; W. R. Small, 6; J. W. Cartwright, 7; S. Reeves, 8; B. Wicheell, 9; A. Thomas, 10; H. Johnson, jun., 11; J. Buffery, 12. Tenor, 36 cwt., in C. Composed in April, 1889. It contains twenty-four courses with the 8th behind the 11th, and twelve courses with the large bells at home at handstroke, and the 6th undisturbed throughout.

At St. Mary's, Bow, Middlesex.

On Thursday, the 22nd inst., eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths and the St. Mary's Society rang a peal of 5056 *KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR* in 2 hrs. 56 mins. H. Springall, 1; R. J. Turner, 2; W. Cecil, 3; Emanuel Hall (first peal in the method), 4; Y. Green, 5; R. T. Woodley, 6; H. Torble (first peal in the *Kent Variation*), 7; S. Hayes, 8. Composed by Mr. York Green, and conducted by Mr. Springall. Tenor, 14 cwt. The first peal by the Bow Society.

At St. Mary's, Painswick, Gloucestershire.

On Saturday, the 24th inst., eight members of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association rang Mr. J. T. Hollis's One-part peal of 5040 *GRANDSIRE TRIPLES* in 3 hrs. 2 mins. E. B. James, 1; A. Roberts (first peal in the method), 2; W. Ryland, 3; F. E. Hart, 4; W. Hale, 5; H. Mitchell, 6; W. J. Sevier (conductor), 7; E. E. Bewick, 8. Tenor, 28 cwt. 2 qrs. 22 lbs., in D. The above commemorates Mr. Bewick's eighteenth birthday, his brother ringers wishing him many happy returns. Messrs. Hale and W. Ryland belong to the local company; the rest are St. Michael's Juniors, Gloucester.

At St. Chad's (R.C.) Cathedral, Birmingham.

On Saturday, the 24th inst., eight members of the Birmingham and District Association rang a peal of 5040 *STEDMAN TRIPLES* in 2 hrs. 58 mins. J. Carter, 1; T. Horton, 2; W. Brook, 3; J. Jones, 4; R. Hackley, 5; R. Hall, 6; A. Hackley, 7; W. Sanigar, 8. Composed by A. P. Heywood, Esq. Conducted by J. Carter. First time this peal has ever been rung.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH, MONKS ELEIGH, SUFFOLK.—On Saturday, the 3rd inst., 720 *BOB MINOR* in 29 mins. C. Parker, 1; R. Theobald, 2; H. Bowers, 3; W. Leeks, 4; A. Keeble (conductor), 5; H. Diggins, 6. Messrs. Diggins, Leeks, Bowers, and Theobald came from Great Walsingham; the rest are local men.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH, TWYNING, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.—On Sunday, the 4th inst., 720 *OXFORD TREBLE BOB* and 720 *KENT TREBLE BOB* in 52 mins. A. Attwood, 1; A. Devereux, 2; L. Longney (conductor), 3; F. Potter, 4; H. Payne, 5; E. Devereux, 6. Tenor, 13 cwt.

AT ST. GEORGE'S, MOSSLEY, LANCASHIRE.—On Tuesday, the 6th inst., 720 *OXFORD TREBLE BOB MINOR*. J. Greaves (first 720 as conductor), 1; F. Rhodes, 2; J. Holden, 3; H. Mayall, 4; T. B. Dicken, 5; H. Munns, 6. Also another 720 in the same method. J. Greaves (conductor), 1; F. Rhodes, 2; A. Holden, 3; H. Mayall, 4; S. Cooper, 5; S. Wrigley, 6.

THE RINGER'S GUIDE TO THE CHURCH BELLS OF DEVON. By Charles Pearson, M.A. (Bell & Sons; and Eland, Exeter.)—This book of 138 pages we have perused with interest, and we may add, with much pleasure also. We only regret that the space at our disposal will not allow us to review it at the length which it deserves. It really contains much more information, and that of a very useful kind, than its title suggests. This will be clearly perceived by the mere mention of some of the items in the Table of Contents, such for instance as: 'The origin and history of bells; the inscriptions upon ancient bells; gradual increase in the number of bells in a ring; progress of bell-ringing in spite of opposition; inscriptions typical of various centuries; the shape of bells; method of hanging and ringing bells; bell-founders; technical terms; bell-ringing as a pastime; belfry management and rules; a list of the church bells of Devon,' &c. The writer gives in the preface a list of authors whom he has consulted. His range of reading has been wide, the result of which is that he has produced a most handy and readable book. It does not lay claim to be a guide to those advanced in the subjects of which it treats, but it will be a most useful work for all change-ringers or bell archaeologists to have by them in readiness to present or lend to any friend who shows a possibility of bias in favour of any of the branches of bell-lore. It will form a most excellent volume to set inquirers or beginners on the right road. There are but very few passages—and those never more than a line or two in length—that we have marked for adverse criticism. The writer is scarcely correct in saying that bell-ringing reached its highest pitch in the eighteenth century. Though, doubtless, its pitch was then high, and was succeeded by a great decadence, yet there can be no question that it is far higher now than ever it was. On p. 26 there are some statements with regard to the weight of bells that are open to question. The old founders did distinctly not make bells lighter than they should be. An arbitrary and self-opinionated modern writer has succeeded in forcing a standard of his own creation in certain quarters, with the result that bells have been cast of such thickness that the result can only be described as abominable. The writer's remarks on p. 61 would lead his readers to suppose that the peal of 13,054 was rung at Appleton; it was rung at Cheltenham. To one other statement on this page we most strongly demur. Methods cannot be adapted to odd or even bells promiscuously. Odd-bell methods for odd bells and even for even. NEVER *vice versa*. With these trifling exceptions the book is throughout most excellent, and we very heartily wish it the success which it so well deserves.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

The Yorkshire Association.

THE Annual Meeting will be held at Pudsey on the *second* Saturday in October, and not on the *first*. Full particulars in the circulars which will be issued as usual in September. W. WHITAKER, *Hon. Secretary*.

The Ely Diocesan Association.

A DISTRICT MEETING will be held at Long Melford on Monday, September 9th. Lavenham tower will be free. Members wishing to be present will oblige by addressing REV. K. H. SMITH, *Hon. Secretary*.

The Cambridge Road, Ely.

Kent County Association of Change-ringers.—Tunbridge District.

A MEETING for ringing only will be held on Monday, September 9th, at Sevenoaks. E. W. CARPENTER, *Hon. Secretary*.

The Lancashire Association.—Rossendale Branch.

ON Saturday, the 24th ult., this branch held a ringing meeting at St. Saviour's, Bacup, when about forty members attended from Ramsbottom, Liverpool, Waterfoot, Rawtenstall, Newchurch, and Bacup, and several touches were rung on the bells during the afternoon by mixed bands. A meeting was held in the school, presided over by Mr. Nutter, at which it was resolved to hold the next meeting at Newchurch, in September. The usual vote of thanks to the Vicar and Churchwardens for the use of the tower and school, and to the Chairman for presiding, was passed; after which several touches were rung on the tower and handbells by mixed bands, including 504 and 830 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES.

The Bells at Peckleton, Leicestershire.

ON Sunday, the 11th ult., the musical ring of six bells of the above church was reopened. For some years past the bells have been in an unringable condition, but lately they have been relunged, and the work has been carried out in a satisfactory manner by Messrs. Taylor & Sons of Loughborough. The ringing commenced at 9.30, when 720 BOB MINOR were rung. W. Powers (Barwell), 1; H. Briggs (Stanton), 2; G. White (Barwell), 3; J. Noble (Stanton), 4; J. H. Swinfield (Earlshilton), 5; A. R. Aldham (Barwell, conductor), 6. Also several peals (120) of GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, in which the Rev. J. Chataway took part. In the afternoon an attempt was made for a 5000, but was lost after ringing 1440 KENT and 720 OXFORD TREBLE BOB, and 360 BOB MINOR. J. Noble, 1; H. Briggs, 2; A. R. Aldham (conductor), 3; J. W. Taylor, sen., 4; E. D. Taylor, 5; J. W. Taylor, jun., 6. The 'go' of the bells is excellent, and the ringers wish to thank the Vicar for kindly entertaining them at the Rectory during the day.

A Visit to Lavenham, Suffolk.

ON Saturday, the 24th ult., the fine ring of eight bells at SS. Peter and Paul were rung by the members of the Sudbury Company of Change-ringers. They were accompanied by Mr. Charles Herbert, who is the Hon. Secretary to the Bedfordshire Association of Change-ringers, and his sons, who came expressly to hear these noted bells. Eight members rang a touch of KENT TREBLE BOB (576 changes). F. Tollyday, 1; M. Silvester, 2; G. Brown, 3; J. Campin, 4; W. Howell, 5; W. Griggs, 6; A. Scott (conductor), 7; H. Harper, 8. A touch of STEDMAN TRIPLES, containing 756 changes, was also rung. W. Griggs, 1; M. Silvester, 2; W. Howell, 3; C. Sillitoe (conductor), 4; W. Bacon, 5; H. Harper, 6; A. Scott, 7; H. Brackett, 8. Other touches were rung. The rest of the evening was spent in handbell-ringing, courses of BOB MAJOR and other methods being rung, and selections by the Sudbury handbell-ringers.

A Wedding at Bitton, Gloucestershire.

ON Tuesday afternoon, August 20th, the marriage of the Rev. H. A. Cockey, M.A. (Vicar of Oldham and Master of the Gloucester and Bristol Association of Change-ringers), and Miss Frances Anne Ellacombe, third daughter of the Rev. Canon Ellacombe, M.A., of Bitton, was celebrated in the Parish Church, Bitton, in the presence of a large number of friends and well-wishers of both families. The Rev. Canon Ellacombe, father of the bride, officiated, assisted by the Rev. F. E. Robinson, Master of the Oxford Diocesan Guild. The bride was attended with four bridesmaids and four little girls, who carried large bouquets of flowers, and the best man was Mr. O. Cockey, brother of the bridegroom. The chancel was decorated with choice flowers, and there were several floral arches bearing appropriate mottoes along the road approaching the church. After the ceremony the wedding party returned to the vicarage, where the breakfast was served. The newly married pair left in the course of the afternoon for the North of Ireland.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At All Saints', Bristol.

ON Tuesday, the 20th ult., eight members of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association rang Brooke's Variation of Thurstans' peal of 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 57 mins. Rev. W. S. Willett, 1; G. Daltry,* 2; Rev. G. F. Coleridge, 3; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 4; C. Hounslow, 5; J. Hinton,* 6; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 7; F. Price, 8. Tenor, 18 cwt. The first peal in the method on the bells. [* First peal of STEDMAN.]

At St. Michael's, Twerton, near Bath.

ON Wednesday, the 21st ult., eight members of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association rang Thurstans' peal of 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES in 3 hrs. 44 mins. Rev. G. F. Coleridge, 1; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 2; E. Pring (first peal of STEDMAN), 3; G. Daltry, 4; J. Hinton, 5; C.

Hounslow, 6; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 7; H. Wotton, 8. Tenor, 18 cwt. The first peal in the method on the bells.

At St. Andrew's, Bath.

ON Wednesday, the 21st ult., eight members of the Gloucester and Bristol Association rang a peal of KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR in 3 hrs. 13 mins. C. Hounslow, 1; H. Pring,* 2; G. Daltry,* 3; J. Hinton, 4; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 5; J. W. Washbrook, 6; J. Holman,* 7; W. W. Gifford, 8. Tenor, 23 cwt. Composed by Mr. Haley, and conducted by Mr. Washbrook. The first peal on the bells, and first peal in the method in the city of Bath. [* First peal in the method.]

At Christ Church, Bath.

ON Thursday, the 22nd ult., eight members of the Gloucester and Bristol Association rang Thurstans' peal of 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 45 mins. J. Hinton, 1; C. Hounslow, 2; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 3; H. Pring, 4; J. Holman,* 5; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 6; W. Brown,* 7; H. Wyburn (first peal), 8. Tenor, 11 cwt. The first peal on the bells, and first in the method in the city of Bath. [* First peal in the method.]

At St. Giles's, Ashted, Surrey.

ON Saturday, the 24th ult., eight members of the Royal Cumberland Youths rang a peal of 5008 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR in 3 hrs. 3 mins. J. Page, 1; H. Swain, 2; T. Titchener, 3; B. Foskett, 4; E. F. Cole, 5; A. Pittam, 6; A. Jacob, 7; G. Newson, 8. Tenor, 14 cwt., in F. Composed by Mr. Dains, and conducted by Mr. Newson. This peal, which has the 4th twenty-two times and the 6th twenty-three times in 6th's place, with only one five-lead course, is now rung for the first time, and is also the first peal in the method on the bells.

At St. John's, Bromsgrove, Worcestershire.

ON Saturday, the 24th ult., the following members of the Worcester and Adjoining Districts Association rang a peal of 5166 GRANDSIRE CATERS in 3 hrs. 19 mins. H. Mills,* 1; W. Cheshire,* 2; E. Goodreds,* 3; S. Jesson,* 4; G. Hughes, 5; W. R. Small, 6; G. Hayward (conductor), 7; A. Moore, 8; G. Bourne, 9; W. James, 10. Tenor, 20 cwt. Composed by Mr. Hayward, and now rung for the first time. Mr. W. Cheshire came from Coseley, Staffordshire; Messrs. Mills, Goodreds, Jesson, Hughes, and Small, Tipton, Staffordshire; Mr. Moore, Hanbury; the rest belong to Bromsgrove. [* First peal of Caters.]

At St. Peter's, Fareham, Hampshire.

ON Monday, the 26th ult., eight members of the Winchester Diocesan Guild and the Society of Royal Cumberland Youths rang Thurstans' peal of 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 54 mins. H. White, 1; J. W. Whiting, 2; F. Hill, 3; C. Privett, 4; G. Grahame, 5; J. Staples, 6; G. Williams (conductor), 7; W. Naylor, 8. Tenor, 14 cwt. The above is the first peal of STEDMAN TRIPLES ever rung by all Hampshire men.

At St. Andrew's, Farnham, Surrey.

ON Wednesday, the 28th ult., eight members of the Winchester Diocesan Guild rang Holt's Ten-part peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 54 mins. A. Le Clercq, 1; G. H. Barnett, 2; J. Hawkes, 3; H. Garforth, 4; H. White, 5; C. Fry, 6; G. Williams (conductor, first peal), 7; E. Clapshaw, 8. Tenor, 22 cwt., in E flat.

AT ST. MARY'S, PETWORTH, SUSSEX.—ON Saturday, the 13th ult., the following members of the Sussex County Association rang 720 BOB MINOR on the back six. W. Short, 1; C. Tribe, 2; W. T. Chamberlain, 3; C. Blackman, 4; H. H. Chandler, 5; G. Williams (conductor), 6. Messrs. Short and Chandler came from Warnham; Blackman, Arundel; Chamberlain, London; Williams and Tribe, Midhurst.

AT SALISBURY, WILTS.—ON Sunday, the 11th ult., for Divine service, 720 BOB MINOR. W. Lush, 1; C. A. Clements, 2; A. J. Callaway, 3; W. W. Gifford (conductor), 4; H. D. Adams, 5; W. S. Wise, 6.

AT ST. MARY'S, PRESTON, SUFFOLK.—ON Sunday, the 11th ult., after Divine service in the afternoon, 720 BOB MINOR (six singles, fourteen bobs), in 24 mins. H. Symonds, 1; A. Baldwin, 2; A. Hollocks, 3; J. Moore, 4; A. Symonds (conductor), 5; W. Hollocks, 6. Tenor, 11 cwt., in F.

AT ST. NICHOLAS', GLOUCESTER.—ON Wednesday, the 14th ult., six members of the local band rang 720 CANTERBURY PLEASURE MINOR in 27 mins. S. E. Romans, 1; E. B. James, Esq., 2; R. J. Wilkins, 3; A. Roberts, 4; W. J. Sevier, 5; R. T. Hibbert (conductor), 6. Tenor, 20 cwt., in E.

AT ST. MARY'S, WALTON-ON-THE-HILL, LANCASHIRE.—ON Friday evening, the 16th ult., 720 CANTERBURY PLEASURE MINOR in 25 mins. T. Johnson, 1; H. Kelly, 2; R. Hurst, 3; H. N. Spinks, 4; J. Nightingale, 5; C. E. Wilson (conductor), 6. This is the first 720 in the method on the bells, and also the first by the above band. ON Sunday morning, the 18th ult., 720 CANTERBURY PLEASURE in 27 mins. And for Divine service in the evening, 240 GRANDSIRE MINOR, the band standing as before. Tenor, 9 cwt.

AT SS. PETER AND PAUL'S, LAVENHAM, SUFFOLK.—ON Saturday, the 17th ult., a mixed company rang the third part of a peal, being 1760 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR in 1 hr. 20 mins. S. Slater, 1; A. Ambrose, 2; F. Wells, 3; H. Duce, 4; H. Smith, 5; A. Symonds, 6; G. Maxim, 7; O. Garwood (conductor), 8. The above is taken from a three-part peal composed by Mr. Garrard, of Ipswich. Messrs. Slater, Wells, and Garwood, came from Glemsford; Ambrose and Duce, Melford; Maxim, Cavendish; Smith and Symonds are local men.

AT SALISBURY, WILTS.—ON Sunday, the 18th ult., a quarter-peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. W. M. Lush, 1; G. Woodis (conductor), 2; W. S.

Wise, 3; C. A. Clements, 4; A. J. Callaway, 5; H. D. Adams, 6; W. W. Gifford, 7; G. Uphill, 8.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH, FULHAM, MIDDLESEX.—On Sunday morning, the 18th ult., for Divine service, a quarter-peat of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 45 mins. F. W. Kelley, 1; N. Snow (conductor), 2; A. Goddard, 3; T. Blackburn, 4; J. Nicholls, jun., 5; C. E. Kelley, 6; J. W. Kelley, 7; S. How, 8; Tenor, 21 cwt, in E flat.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH, NORTON FITZWARRREN, SOMERSETSHIRE.—On Sunday, the 18th ult., three peals of GRANDSIRE DOUBLES (each called differently). J. Creed (conductor), 1; T. Radford, 2; H. Creed, 3; W. H. Wilkins, 4; J. Maddock, 5; T. Creed, 6. This band started about eight months since, and have made good use of their time. T. Radford and J. Maddock came from Taunton.

AT ST. PAULINUS', CRAYFORD, KENT.—On Monday, the 19th ult., for practice, a quarter-peat of BOB TRIPLES, 1260 changes in 42 mins. T. Saxby, 1; W. J. Reeve, 2; G. Cook, 3; H. Gibbs, 4; G. Conyard (conductor), 5; R. Wilkins, 6; E. Barnett, 7; W. Dartnell, 8. First quarter-peat by the ringers of the treble and tenor, also the treble man's first attempt at TRIPLES.

AT ST. MARY-DE-LODE, GLOUCESTER.—On Sunday, the 25th ult., for morning service, five peals of GRANDSIRE DOUBLES. C. Jones, 1; E. B. James, Esq., 2; E. E. Bewick (conductor), 3; A. Roberts, 4; R. Allen, 5; H. E. Sevier, 6. Tenor, 15 cwt., in F.

RECEIVED ALSO.—Higham Ferrers and Rev. E. W. Carpenter (next week); and others.

REVIEWS.

THE EPISTLES OF ST. PAUL TO THE GALATIANS, EPHESIANS, AND PHILIPPIANS, WITH NOTES CRITICAL AND PRACTICAL. By Rev. Prebendary Sadler. (G. Bell & Sons. 1889. 6s.)—It would be more correct to describe Mr. Sadler's notes as expository, doctrinal, and practical, as the critical element is only a small part of the whole. But, however they may be named, they sustain their high character, and form a valuable addition to our existing commentaries on Holy Scripture.

In noticing the volume on the Epistles to the Corinthians we remarked that the writer had given more heed than was his wont to the commentators who had preceded him, and this was a manifest advantage to his work. On the whole, we think that Mr. Sadler's method (as far as we can judge of it from its results) is the right one. He seems to work at the text independently, and make Scripture, to a great extent, its own expositor. This is far better in general than the method apparently followed by many annotators, of clipping out the notes of a number of other writers, and fastening them together, sometimes simply, sometimes with slight additions of their own. But it may be carried a little too far, and we think it is so in the present case. Thus we are quite certain that some of the notes in the epistles here treated would have been fuller and better if Mr. Sadler had kept the admirable commentary of Bishop Lightfoot before him. Surely a writer does not depreciate the character of his own genuine work by comparing it with the labours of others, and we would respectfully suggest to the thoughtful author of these commentaries that he should go over them once more in the manner suggested.

There is little doubt that these books will be for many years the favourite commentaries on the New Testament with a vast number of English Churchmen who know only the English Bible, and it is most desirable that they should obtain from them an answer to all ordinary and reasonable questions that must arise during the perusal of the sacred volume. To this end it would be well that new readings in the original text, and suggested amendments in the translation, should always be noted when they are of any importance, and it can hardly be said that this has been consistently done. Having thus pointed out the only defect which we have marked in these volumes, and which we fancy is a little more conspicuous in the present one, we can give a cordial welcome to the latest instalment of this most valuable work, and we must especially recognise the industry and devotion which the author must have practised in order to produce the successive volumes with so much regularity.

The introductions are brief and good, and the notes hardly ever leave a difficulty unsolved. These three epistles are of peculiar interest, as presenting what we might call the extreme types of Pauline teaching in the Epistles to the Galatians and to the Ephesians, and the mediation between them in that to the Philippians. It is impossible not to recognise the different points of view in the earlier and in the later epistles. But, as Mr. Sadler insists, and abundantly demonstrates, so far is there from being any contradiction between them, that the later epistles contain distinct references to the earlier modes of representation, and the earlier have the germs of the distinctive later teaching.

It is obvious to remark that Mr. Sadler is in his own special province in handling some parts of these epistles, particularly when he is rebutting the objections to the sacramental teaching of the Church which are supposed to be found in the writings of St. Paul, and particularly in the Epistles to the Romans and Galatians. Here, as elsewhere, the writer

proves that 'Church doctrine is Bible truth,' not as a mere disputant or partisan, but as a sincere and diligent expositor of the Word of God.

NEW TESTAMENT CHRONOLOGY. The Principal Events recorded in the New Testament, arranged under their probable respective dates. By William Thynne Lynn, B.A., F.R.A.S., Associate King's Coll., London; Lay Reader Dio. Rochester. (London: George Stoneman, Paternoster Row.)—We will not vouch for the accuracy of this or any other work on chronology, because it is astonishing how much can be said often in favour of one date over another. Thus, Bishop Wordsworth's date for the conversion of St. Paul is A.D. 34, and for his martyrdom A.D. 68. Mr. Lynn gives A.D. 36 for the former event and A.D. 66 for his martyrdom. This difference is of importance, since one gives thirty-four years to his 'converted' life on earth and the other only thirty years. We cannot attempt to settle such a discrepancy, knowing the terrible difficulties which accompany an inquiry of this sort. But we regard this little booklet with much pleasure, and believe that whether each date be quite exact or whether some of the dates are not quite accurate (who can tell?), it will, notwithstanding, prove to be a very useful little work.

LESSONS OF HOPE: Readings from the works of F. D. Maurice. Selected by J. Llewelyn Davies. (London: Macmillan & Co. 1889.)—A welcome guest, sure to stay and become a fond companion. The name of the author of these thoughts breathing throughout the spirit of hope needs no recommendation to modern Christians. For those who do not know much of Maurice's books these extracts will serve as a good introduction, and are sure to foster the taste for more of the teachings of the great thinker. For those who do already know and love Maurice and his works (and their name is Legion) Mr. Davies's selections will serve to recall passages already familiar, and, in the case of the extracts from the Lincoln's Inn Sermons, even open up new ground. We cannot help inquiring, 'Is there much more of the same kind of matter buried in these sermons now out of print?' If there be we ought to have it. There are men the dust of whose pen was of fine gold, and of such men Maurice stands in the first rank. There are altogether here one hundred selections on various topics, but all denominated by the central thought suggested by the title—Hope. A fit book surely for an age saddened by overmuch pessimism, and needing the brighter outlook of an eye fixed upon God.

ANTHEMS, ANCIENT AND MODERN. (London: Weekes & Co, 14 Hanover Street, Regent Street, W. Paper covers, 1s., cloth, 1s. 6d.)—The work consists of the words of 121 anthems, to which music has been set by composers of high reputation of ancient and of modern times, and such a collection ought to satisfy most churches in which anthems are used. Our own rather disappointing experience has been, after printing a careful and large collection for any season and condition, that the choir frequently desired any anthem except those found within the collection. This is a difficulty, and many probably have experienced it. The work under review is by Mr. R. M. Rogers, organist of the Parish Church, Doncaster, where the book has been in use for ten years, but has been enlarged considerably. It is very nicely printed, and is legible for almost all 'sights,' a matter too much forgotten, to the great injury of the eyesight of many persons, young and old. The selection is made with great good taste and judgment, and the 'Anthems' might, we think, thoroughly satisfy the demands of almost any parish church.

THE YOUNG QUEEN, AND OTHER STORIES. By E. S. Vicars. (London: George Bell & Sons.)—Nine short sketches, showing decided originality. *The Young Queen*, which gives its name to the volume, is a vivacious account of Her Majesty's coronation.

MAGAZINES.

THE NEWBURY HOUSE MAGAZINE is a great improvement upon last month. The account of 'Christ's Hospital Fifty Years Ago' is continued in a thoroughly interesting manner, and with very good illustrations. Professor Sayce has a thoughtful article on 'Egyptian Historical Remains,' in which he deals ably with the question of the period of the Exodus, and assigns the position of Pharaoh of that day to Ramses II. 'The Lay and Clerical Conferences' continue, and contain at least one excellent piece of advice to those careless clergymen who leave the choice of the hymns for the Sunday to the organist, the schoolmistress, or to some member of their family. There is a good article on 'Women and Sundays,' by E. Wordsworth, and the serial story of 'The Bishop's Bible' is going on well. The labour which must have been expended on Canon Benham's article, 'Shut up in his own Prison,' does not receive its adequate reward in the interest aroused by its perusal. The 'Notes on the Psalms' do not call for comment, and they rather suggest the thought that they are a little out of place in a magazine. No really capable scholar would be likely to seek his Hebrew notes within the pages of magazine literature, and for the many who are ignorant of Hebrew they are, of course, a sealed document; so that however excellent in themselves, they are in danger of falling between two stools. The whole number of the magazine is a good one, and contains matter of interest to every reader.

pretty horses with gold bridles and silver saddles. I asked the man of the place whose the garden was, and who the children were. He said, "These are the children who pray and learn and are good." Then I answered, "I also have a son who is called Hans Luther. May he come to this garden, and eat pears and apples, and ride a little horse, and play with the others?" The man said, "If he says his prayers, and learns and is good, he may come; and Lippus and Jost may come, and they shall have fifes and drums, and lutes and fiddles, and they shall dance and shoot with little crossbows." Then he showed me a smooth lawn in the garden, laid out for dancing, and there the fifes and drums and crossbows hung. But it was still early and the children had not dined; and I could not wait for the dance. So I said, "Dear sir, I will go straight home and write all this to my little boy; but he has an aunt, Lene, that he must bring with him." And the man answered, "So it shall be; go and write as you say." Therefore, dear little boy, learn and pray with a good heart, and tell Lippus and Jost to do the same, and then you will all come to the garden together. Almighty God guard you. Give my love to Aunt Lene, and give her a kiss for me.—Your loving father, MARTIN LUTHER.'

On the death of his daughter, Magdalen, to whom he was passionately devoted, Luther was almost broken-hearted. It is most pathetic to see the strong man in his grief. 'You will have heard,' he wrote to his friend Jonas, 'that my dearest child is born again in the eternal Kingdom of God. We ought to be glad at her departure, for she is taken away from the evil to come; but so strong is natural affection that we cannot bear it without anguish of heart, without the sense of death in ourselves. When I think of her words, her gestures, when she was with us, and in her departing, even Christ's death cannot relieve my agony. Oh! my daughter; my dutiful and gentle daughter!' On her tomb he wrote some lines which have been thus translated:—

'Here do I, Lena, Luther's daughter, rest,
Sleep in my little bed with all the blest.
In sin and trespass was I born,
For ever was I thus forlorn;
But yet I live, and all is good—
Thou, Christ, redeem'st me with Thy blood.'

Much might be said of Luther's kindness to the poor and destitute, of his conversation with his intimate friends, of his cheerfulness in the midst of poverty and persecution, of his faith, and hope, and love, in the goings-out and comings-in of daily life; but in these few extracts we trust that we have said enough to show what manner of man he was—that he was something more than a fierce controversialist, whose words scathed like lightning: that he was neither a Pharisee nor a Philistine; that if on occasions his conduct was somewhat violent, yet that he hid beneath a rugged exterior, a gentle, and refined, and noble heart.

JOHN VAUGHAN, M.A.

THE SILK THREAD IN THE THREEFOLD STRAND.

CHATHAM, long renowned for its ships of war and their armour and equipments, used also to boast of the possession of the longest room in England for spinning ropes for Her Majesty's Navy. Probably it is so still, but this is of no consequence in reference to the suggestion about to be propounded. There is one important feature in the rope-spinning, viz. that wherever the ropes are sent they are known and recognised as essentially belonging to the Queen of England, because within the strands a small silk cord is carefully entwined throughout.

The Parable which this seems to suggest to Christians of Great Britain is this. The times are alarming. Events rise rapidly. Some of these betoken a very unwholesome state of affairs down in the hearts of many. A great outcry on almost any subject is quickly raised, and succeeds in its object, which is often seen plainly enough a few weeks after the tumult, to have been founded in error and urged on by mistakes and hypocrisy. Whatever be the motives which prompt men to action, it is certain that by one means and another the hold which Christianity had on the people of this United Kingdom has been terribly shaken. By men must, of course, be understood women as much as men, because the inducements and writings of many ladies are quite as pronounced for evil against Christianity, and are quite as pernicious as those of men. Loose-ness as to morality extends. Education is in very great danger of losing any definite Christian teaching.

It is an error for any one to plead, as some have been known to do, that religion is better taught in nearly all schools than ever. Probably

few will continue to make this assertion now as freely as they did five years ago. There is far less religious training than there was, and it is plain that any effort to secure more distinctly Christian teaching will be scornfully rejected. The attempted new code ought to have educated the nation to see this.

Cannot the Chatham cord be adopted as the Church's, and indeed every true Christian's code? If it could be managed, it would be found throughout Great Britain that the nation would then have a 'threefold cord' of Christianity which will 'not be quickly broken.'

Let the three strands, then, represent the multitudes of all the Christians of the land. Earnest, loving, prayerful men and women, who—as the Epistle to the Hebrews teaches them to do—will 'consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works,' and who will promote the union of all Christian men and women in 'one communion and fellowship.' Let one strand represent the many who are lovers of what may be termed Moderate Anglicanism, embracing, however, in that mighty strand a considerable number who are not, in every little particular, of precisely the same opinion. Let the second strand combine in itself all who may be termed High Ritualists, not forgetting that of High Ritualists the varieties are neither few nor inconsiderable. And then let the third strand gather up as one powerful, useful, and very important contingent to the formation of the rope, all those true-hearted and earnest lovers of their Saviour, who, from a variety of causes, much prefer the veriest simplicity in ritual to the avoidance even of some things which other and equally earnest Christians may love and enjoy. If only the silk cord run through each and all it shall suffice. The silk cord signifies and attests that all belong to Christ the supreme Head of the body, and that all that is absolutely necessary to the possession of the presence and the blessing of the Saviour is there.

Suppose the essential words of the two sacraments to be rightly secured, and to be used on all occasions of their being administered. Suppose Episcopacy and Confirmation and Holy Orders duly secured and the doctrines of the faith utterly unchanged. What if then it were proclaimed that the external strands binding around the silk cord of all the glorious and essential truths were threefold, varying even considerably in colour and in quality, but all tightly holding fast together, and all gladly prizing the silk cord within. That this is within present bounds of possibility is, perhaps, not true, but it is apparently becoming not impossible.

They who know the singular simplicity of the early Church, and the present longings of High Ritualists, and the resolute determination for an approach to primitive methods for which others contend, cannot imagine that the Catholic Church can ever be induced to one rigid system of uniformity. Never has strict uniformity been attempted but it has been followed by dissatisfaction and dissension. It has been a mistake whenever attempted. Soundness in the faith and the proclamation of truth in creeds and offices come first. The silk thread cannot be entwined with or by error in doctrine or defective orders. These must be unaltered. But there is no more reason why, under this limitation, varieties in the modes of worship may not exist than there is for requiring that one strand alone shall enclasp the silken cord of the ropes of the Royal Navy. Rather shall the honour and dignity of that silk cord be better sustained by a well-bound rope of three strands than of one. But this is the rope which is sorely needed, and there is nothing that can take its place.

G. V.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

The Bells of Milton, Sittingbourne, Kent.

SIR,—I venture to make an appeal, through the medium of *Church Bells*, to the lovers of bells in general, and especially to the members of the Kent County Association of Change-ringers, on behalf of the fund for the restoration of the bells of the ancient church of Milton-next-Sittingbourne. The church is a fine structure, partly incorporating one of the first churches erected in England, the tower, which is of grand dimensions, capable of containing almost any number of bells, having been built in the fourteenth century. The church, principally owing to its position somewhat outside the town, has been allowed to fall into a sad state of decay; but the present Vicar, the Rev. R. Payne Smith, has taken the matter in hand, and, having collected nearly 1000*l.*, the work of general restoration is being pushed forward rapidly. The restoration of the bells, however, he has felt unable to include in the general scheme, as he is unwilling to incur more expense until the deficit on the restoration fund of something over 100*l.* has been made up. I venture, therefore, to appeal to ringers in general, and especially to members of the Kent County Association, for help, especially taking into

consideration the fact that, owing to the position of the tower obviating all possibility of annoyance, it will be an excellent training-ground for young ringers. There are five old bells, cast by Bartlett in 1681, hanging in a mediæval frame, of which the tenor is badly cracked and will have to be recast, the fittings of the others being in a very bad state. The estimated cost of recasting the tenor and putting the five into ringing order is about 60*l.*, towards which 10*l.* has been received or promised. It is very much to be wished that the work may be taken in hand soon, so that the bells may take their proper part in the day's rejoicing when the fine old church is once more opened to fulfil its sacred purpose. Any subscriptions towards this object, however small, will be gladly received and acknowledged by Dr. F. Grayling, Park Road, Sittingbourne; or by

EDWARD W. CARPENTER,

Hon. Sec. Kent County Association of Change-ringers, and formerly curate of Milton-next-Sittingbourne.

Bobbing Vicarage, Sittingbourne.

Stoke-upon-Trent Archidiaconal Association.

A GENERAL MEETING will be held in Christ Church Schoolroom, Norton, on Saturday, September 21st, to see what steps can be taken to float this Association.

E. GLOVER, Hon. Secretary.

The Lancashire Association.—Rochdale Branch.

THERE will be a Meeting of the above Branch at St. Alban's Church, Rochdale, on Saturday, September 14th. Bells ready at three p.m. Meeting in the Schoolroom, Latin Street, at five p.m.

F. BIRTWISTLE, Branch Secretary.

The Society of Royal Cumberland Youths.—Notice.

ON Friday evening, the 20th inst., the election of officers for the ensuing year will take place at headquarters, the 'Green Man,' 54 St. Martin's Lane, W.C., and the balance-sheet will be presented. All members are cordially invited upon this occasion, when papers, giving a list of subscribers and balance-sheet, with an illustration of the Snowdon memorial window, will be distributed to those requiring a copy.

H. DAINS.

The North Lincolnshire Association.

A RINGING MEETING of this Association was held on Saturday, the 31st ult., at Scothern, a village situated between Lincoln and Market Rasen, the church of which possesses a fine ring of six bells, tenor, 11 cwt., cast by Messrs. Taylor & Co., of Loughborough, about two years ago. They are hung in iron frames, and the 'go' of them leaves nothing to be desired. The day being beautifully fine, a more numerous gathering than was expected was the result. Early in the afternoon ringers arrived from Lincoln, Market Rasen, and Wasingborough, and soon made known the fact by raising the bells and ringing several touches of MINOR and DOUBLES. At 5.30, the time appointed for tea, the ringers, numbering upwards of thirty, assembled at the schoolroom, where a substantial tea, kindly provided by Miss Barry, awaited them. They were there met by the Vicar, the Rev. E. Milner Barry, and the Revs. T. H. Dalby and J. Vines. Afterwards Mr. H. Gadd (Market Rasen) proposed a vote of thanks to the Vicar for his kind reception, and for the use of the bells; to Mrs. and Miss Barry for the kind welcome they had accorded by providing for their wants, for the very tasteful way in which they had carried out the decorations of the room and the tables; and also to those ladies who had kindly assisted with the tea. Mr. Maidens (Lincoln) ably seconded the proposition. The Vicar responded in a few well-chosen remarks, expressing the pleasure it gave him and his family to welcome the Association to Scothern, and said it would be a pleasure to see them at any future time, as he considered such meetings as the present very helpful.

Some of the ringers then paid a visit to the Vicarage and grounds, whilst others repaired to the tower and again set the bells in motion, which was kept up by mixed bands until about 9.30, when the ringers returned to their homes, all having thoroughly enjoyed the holiday.

The Bath and Keynsham United Diocesan Association at Christchurch.

At the Monthly Meeting of the above Association, held at Christchurch on Tuesday, the 3rd inst., the ringing included the following:—377 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. G. Kingman, 1; W. Chew, 2; A. J. Comb, 3; W. Lanham, 4; H. Wootton, 5; J. Fussell, 6; H. Brown (conductor), 7; G. Crisp, 8. 210 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. H. Wyburn, 1; W. Chew, 2; H. Brown, 3; W. Lanham, 4; H. Wootton (conductor), 5; J. S. Flower, 6; J. Holman, 7; A. Crocker, 8. A peal of GRANDSIRE DOUBLES. H. Wyburn, 1; W. Simmonds, 2; D. H. Goodman, 3; G. Kingman, 4; J. Fussell (conductor), 5; G. Butler, 6. Messrs. Chew and Comb came from London.

A Visit to Wath and Darfield, Yorkshire.

On Saturday, the 31st ult., the ringers of St. Mary's Church, Tickhill, paid a visit to Wath and Darfield. On reaching Wath, a move was at once made for St. Ann's Church. After raising the bells, 720 VIOLET was rung in 24 mins. A. Wright, 1; C. Ainley, 2; G. Hackford, 3; T. Manifold, 4; F. Jenkinson, 5; J. S. Jenkinson (conductor), 6. A start was then made for Darfield. On arriving there the bells of All Saints were raised, and 720 DUCK or YORK were rung by the above-named ringers in 26 mins. On leaving the tower the party were invited by a friend to partake of refreshment, and after a pleasant drive they arrived home, having passed an enjoyable day.

A Visit to Killamarsh, Derbyshire.

On Sunday, the 1st inst., being the feast of the above village, seven of the Eckington Company, together with three of the Staveley Company, met at the above church, and were joined by six of the local band; but on account of the Sunday School, headed by a brass band, marching to the church for

service, the time for ringing was very short. For evening service 720 VIOLET (twenty-one bobs) was rung. A. Worthington, 1; W. Price, 2; E. James, 3; W. Worthington (conductor), 4; H. Madin, 5; T. Lunn, 6. Six of the Eckington men had just made a start for a 720, when the order came to stop for the band. After service the local company rang 720 MINOR in a manner that was a credit to the band, who are all young men, and have taught themselves with the aid of Snowdon's work. Messrs. Madin and W. and A. Worthington came from Staveley. It is fourteen years ago since Mr. Madin visited Killamarsh for ringing.

A new Peal-board at Woolaston.

On Saturday, the 31st ult., the ringers of Woolaston (members of the Worcester and Adjoining Districts Association), with other friends, met at the belfry for the purpose of fixing a peal-board recording a seven-method peal of 5040 changes, which was rung some time back. This being done, some touches of PLAIN BOB and GRANDSIRE MINOR were rung by the company, who afterwards adjourned to supper. The cloth being removed, Mr. G. H. Pagett (Stourbridge) was voted to the chair, and Mr. E. Chapman (Wordsley) as Vice, when, after a few remarks, courses of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES and CATERERS were rung on the handbells. The visitors included ringers from Stourbridge, Wordsley, and Brierly Hill.

The Church Bells of Higham Ferrers, Northampton.

The proposal to rehang the ring of six bells in the graceful church tower of the old corporate town of Higham Ferrers, has led to many inquiries as to their size, age, and weight. Ringers throughout the district are pleased to learn that after being in bad condition, with one bell cracked, for some years, there is now a probability not only of the whole ring being rehung and the defective bell recast, but very possibly two trebles added to complete the octave. It is to be hoped the necessary funds may soon be forthcoming, and the bells put in ringing order ready for the Association Meeting next Whitsuntide.

When the tower and spire fell down in the year 1631, several of the bells were, no doubt, cracked, for the second and tenor bear date 1633. The third and fourth are not dated, but, although cast by the same founder (Watts, of Leicester), are evidently much older, being, most likely, two of the bells which survived the downfall. The fifth appears to have been recast by the same man three years later. The present treble came from Taylor's foundry at St. Neots, seventy years ago; not an entirely new bell, however, but a recast of the old treble, which tradition says had been melted down once or twice before, being on one occasion cracked by the workman striking it with a hammer just as he had finished fixing it to its stock. Higham folk are—and have good reason to be—proud of their tenor. It is one of the many good specimens of work sent out from the ancient Leicester foundry, and in tone and weight is very similar to its near neighbour the 'Great Bell' of Irchester.

Should the proposed increase of the ring be carried out, there will be no difficulty in finding men in the town well able to take the ropes and ring the bells in a scientific manner. With a ring of eight bells of moderate weight, hung on a modern plan, the inhabitants of Higham may look forward to a treat in the way of peals of TRIPLES and MAJOR, and the belfry walls, it is to be hoped, may soon bear record of a complete 5000 rung in Higham steeple by Higham men.

The inscriptions and diameters of the bells are given below:—

Treble.—THE REV. W. MALIM VICAR WALTER SPONG AND C. RICHARDS CHURCHWARDENS ROB. TAYLOR & SON FOUNDERS ST NEOTS 1820. (Diam. 35 in.)

Second.—HIS NAZARENS REX IVDEORVM FILII DEI MISERERE MEI 1633. (Diam. 35½ in.)

Third.—ABCDE FGHIK LMNO. (Diam. 37½ in.)

Fourth.—HTMF HTMP GROMG. (Diam. 41 in.)

Fifth.—GLORI BEE TO GOD ONE HIGH 1636. (Diam. 45½ in.)

Tenor.—CUM SONO SI NON VIS VENIRE NUNQUAM AD PRECES CUPIES IRE 1633. JOHN CUTLER. (Diam. 50 in. Weight, about 23 cwt.)

CHANGE-RINGING.

At St. Nicholas', Guildford, Surrey.

On Thursday, the 22nd ult., eight members of the Winchester Diocesan Guild rang a peal of 5040 BOB TRIPLES in 3 hrs. 6 mins. C. W. Miller, 1; T. H. Colburn, 2; J. Heathorn, 3; H. White, 4; J. Jones, 5; F. Bennett, 6; G. Williams, 7; E. Stone, 8. Composed by Mr. H. Johnson, sen., and conducted by Mr. Williams. First peal in the method by all except the conductor, and first in the method on the bells.

At Merton College, Oxford.

On Saturday, the 24th ult., eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang Thurstans' peal of 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES in 3 hrs. 12 mins. C. Hounslow, 1; W. Bennett, 2; T. Short, 3; F. E. Dawe (conductor), 4; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 5; Rev. G. F. Coleridge, 6; J. M. Hayes, 7; J. W. Washbrook, 8. Tenor, 36 cwt., in D sharp. The above is the first peal on the bells by eight men alone. They were cast by Christopher Hodson in the year 1690, are very ornamental with crests, coins, flowers, &c., and only four peals have as yet been achieved on them. The ringing-chamber, which is a curiosity in itself, is 26½ feet square, and the ringers stand (two on each side) on a stone gallery, only three feet wide, lighted by candles with a balustrade round it. The opening in the centre, twenty feet square, looks down into the chapel, the tessellated floor of which is sixty feet below. The bells are only twenty feet above the ringers' gallery, and there is nothing between but a beautifully designed and richly carved ornamental oak ceiling, not to be equalled elsewhere. The noise while ringing is very great.

At St. Peter's, Soberton, Hampshire.

ON Tuesday, the 27th ult., eight members of the Winchester Diocesan Guild rang Holt's Ten-part peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 44 mins. C. Privett, 1; H. White (first peal as conductor), 2; J. Heathorn, 3; G. Williams, 4; F. Bennett, 5; J. Jones, 6; W. Groves, 7; J. W. Whiting, 8. Tenor, 14 cwt., in G. Messrs. Bennett, Groves, Jones, and Heathorn came from Guildford; Privett and Whiting, Fareham; White, Basingstoke; G. Williams, Midhurst. The above band wish to thank the Rev. W. H. Morley, through this paper, for granting permission to ring.

At the Parish Church, Ormskirk, Lancashire.

ON Saturday, the 31st ult., eight members of the Lancashire Association rang a peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 59 mins. J. Smith (first peal), 1; W. Ellis, 2; J. Pilkington, 3; J. Walker, 4; J. Scholcar (composer and conductor), 5; W. J. Taylor, 6; G. Prescott, 7; P. H. Harvey, 8. Tenor, 25 cwt. Messrs. Walker and Smith came from Blackburn; the others belong to the local company.

At St. Lawrence's, Appleton, Berks.

ON Sunday, the 1st inst., eight members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild rang a muffled peal of 5040 STEEDMAN TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 55 mins. W. Finch, 1; W. Bennett, 2; P. Hounslow, 3; G. Holifield, 4; J. Avery, 5; F. White, 6; J. W. Washbrook, 7; R. Bennett, 8. Composed by A. P. Heywood, Esq., and conducted by Mr. Washbrook. The above peal was rung as a last tribute of respect to the late Mr. Thomas Bennett, of Appleton.

At St. Michael's, Hughenden, Bucks.

ON Monday, the 2nd inst., eight members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild rang a peal of 5040 BOB MAJOR in 3 hrs. 5 mins. B. Page, 1; J. Evans, 2; J. C. Truss, jun., 3; R. Biggs, 4; H. Stratford, 5; F. Biggs, 6; S. Goodchild, 7; J. W. Washbrook (composer and conductor), 8. The first peal of MAJOR by all except the conductor, and the first peal in the method on the bells.

REVIEWS.

THEOLOGICAL.

THE EXPOSITOR'S BIBLE. THE EPISTLES OF ST. JOHN. By the Lord Bishop of Derry. THE REVELATION OF ST. JOHN. By Rev. Dr. Milligan. Two vols., 7s. 6d. each. (Hodder & Stoughton, 1889.)—These are two admirable volumes, inferior to none of their predecessors. Bishop Alexander has given us a beautiful work on the Epistles of St. John, which seems to us amply to realise the idea of such an essay. His plan differs a good deal from the method of his predecessors. By this we mean no suggestion of reproach for them or for him. It is well that each writer should follow the guidance of his own genius, and different works admit of and require different modes of treatment. No reasonable reader will be disappointed in Dr. Alexander's exposition.

The writer begins with four discourses, the first dealing with the historical surroundings of the writer and the receivers of the letters. In the second he institutes a comparison between the Gospel and the Epistles. The third deals with the polemical element in the epistles, more especially, of course, with the various forms of gnosticism. 'The object of the fourth discourse is to bring out the image of St. John's soul—the essentials of the spiritual life to be found in these precious chapters, which still continue to be an element of the life of the Church.'

These are introductory aids to the understanding of the epistles in general and as a whole. From this the Bishop proceeds to the consideration of the epistles in detail. He divides the first epistle into ten sections, and each of these is treated in the following manner. First of all he gives the text in five forms, presented in parallel columns, containing (1) the original Greek text, (2) the Vulgate, (3) the Authorised Version, (4) the Revised Version, (5) a translation of his own.

The Greek text is generally that of Tischendorf, with occasional emendations from Scrivener and Westcott. The Latin translation of Jerome holds properly the second place. It is not only of great value as a rendering, but no less as representing early texts of the Greek original. Of the Revised Version the Bishop says: 'The third column offers to view the scholarlike—if sometimes just a little pedantic and provoking—accuracy of the R.V.' It will be very consoling to those who are attached to this admirable version to find that in his own translation the Bishop not only has almost all the pedantic expressions of the R.V., but makes considerable additions to them.

Passing over the admirable introductory discourses, we proceed to show the manner in which the Bishop deals with the various sections into which the first epistle is divided. First of all he begins with some general rules for the interpretation of this epistle, dealing particularly with the subject-matter and the language, and, under this, with St. John's use of the tenses. Next he points out, in five columns, the five forms of the text of the first section (i. 1–4). In order to justify our previous remark respecting the R.V., we will copy out the beginning of the passage as it is in the R.V., and in the Bishop's rendering:—

R.V.: 'That which was from the beginning, that which we have heard, that which we have seen with our eyes, that which we beheld, and our hands handled, concerning the Word of Life. . . .'

B. R.: 'That which was ever from the beginning, that which we

have heard, that which we have seen with our eyes, that which we gazed upon, and our hands handled—I speak concerning the Word, Who is the Life. . . .'

Generally there is a still wider divergence from the Authorised and Revised Versions, but always in the direction of the latter rather than of the former. Of course, the Bishop may say that he was not preparing a translation for public reading. Still he must have thought that his own rendering brought out the meaning of the original better than the A. V., and, that being so, most persons will conclude that the revisers have been singularly happy in hitting the mean between inaccuracy and pedantry.

After the text come two discourses, the first giving an analysis and theory of St. John's Gospel, rendered necessary by the obvious resemblance between this document and the epistle. This discourse contains an admirable, although brief discussion of "the great dogmatic term never, so far as we are told, applied by our Lord to Himself, but with which St. John begins each of his three principal writings—THE WORD."

The second discourse maintains that St. John's Gospel is historical, not ideological. This chapter is a favourable and beautiful example of the author's manner of treatment, learned, eloquent, illuminating, fascinating. To this are appended notes on verses 2 and 4. So much for the author's mode of dealing with this epistle, as illustrated in his treatment of the first four verses. And this may suffice by way of recommendation of this book, which no one will regret buying and reading.

Dr. Milligan's exposition of the Revelation is, no less than Bishop Alexander's on the Epistles, the fruit of earlier prolonged study. If Bishop Alexander contributed the commentaries on the Epistles of St. John to the *Speaker's Commentary*, Dr. Milligan wrote the Commentary on the Apocalypse in Dr. Schaff's Commentary, besides delivering the Baird Lectures on the same subject. Both of these works have been noticed in *Church Bells*, and our readers may probably remember the general line taken by the author in the exposition of this mystical book. Dr. Milligan is not a Preterist nor a Futurist, nor does he accept the historical theory of the Apocalypse. He considers that time has nothing to do with the exposition of the book. All is ideal. It is quite possible that illustrations and fulfilments of its visions may be found at particular periods in the history of the Church, because the principles symbolised in the book are always operating; but he will not allow that any particular period or series of events is represented or predicted in any particular vision or announcement.

However Dr. Milligan's exposition may be accepted or rejected—and we believe that, in the main, it will finally stand the test of investigation—at least it is quite certain that it is the result of a careful and minute examination of the book. No passage, no line, no word, has escaped a careful scrutiny; and whether his inductions and conclusions are to be received or not, at least they are based upon a minute and exhaustive examination of the facts.

We have said that, in the main, we accept the general principle of interpretation adopted by Dr. Milligan. The other theories are broken down. The historical theory of Elliot, with its year-day theory, has probably not a dozen adherents at the present moment. The Preterist theory has gone the same way; and the Plymouth Brethren have encumbered the Futurist theory with all kinds of fanciful interpretations that only the initiated can even understand it. But we are not prepared to go so far as Dr. Milligan does in his statement of the alternative to the reception of his theory. We will state Dr. Milligan's opinion in his own words:—

'That the principles upon which it [the Apocalypse] has been interpreted should be generally accepted were too much to hope for. Their acceptance, where they are received, must depend mainly upon the consideration that while, as scientific principles, they are thoroughly capable of defence, they give unity to the book and a meaning worthy of that Divine Spirit by Whose influence upon the soul of the Apostle it was produced.' So far we do not disagree with the writer, and we are inclined to go with him when he proceeds:—'On no other principles of interpretation does it seem possible to effect this; but when he goes on: 'The writer of these pages at least is compelled to think that, if they are rejected, there is only one conclusion possible—that the Apocalypse, however interesting as a literary memorial of the early Christian age, must be regarded as a merely human production, and not entitled to a place in the canon of Scripture,' we must regard such an alternative as a very perilous one, and enter our vehement protest against it. We are persuaded that the writer, on further consideration, will cancel these lines.

As we have said, we agree in substance with the principles and conclusions of the writer. We think his view of the millennium, although necessarily incomplete, is the right one. Readers will remark that he is willing to withdraw some statements made in his earlier works, and that on some points he refrains from giving a confident opinion; but this will only increase the reader's confidence in his judgment and candour.

For remainder of Reviews see page 996.

we fear, are the only free churches in the parish), whether their churches are "empty," and whether the Weekly Offertory, when people are taught their duty, is not reliable as well as Scriptural. Then possibly what they have refused merely because it was unfashionable (though in accordance with God's Word) they may yield because it is attractive and expedient, and not the less because they have proved by sad experience that the pew system does not pay. At the same time they may become impressed with the truth that their duties and responsibilities are not only to their congregations, but also to their parishes. Their districts may be large and their staff of helpers small, but they will surely never be contented that it should be said of any portion of their parishes, "for seven years no clergyman has ever set foot here." There may be more serious matters even than the break-down of the pew system. The break-down of the parochial system is one.

'A Supporter' writes to us that the figures as to pew-rents at St Stephen's, Canonbury, quoted above, are overstated. He says:—

'An appeal has recently been issued to provide the Vicar with a parsonage, from which it appears that nine-tenths of the parishioners live in tenement houses—sometimes from six to eight families in a house. The church was consecrated in 1839, and formerly the congregation was rich, but it has deteriorated so much that first day-schools, then curate, and then lay agents have been given up for want of funds. The pew-rents vary from 10s. to 24s. In 1881 they produced 261l. From then they have steadily decreased, and now produce only 147l.'

The most devoted supporter of pew-rents can hardly allege that this is a success, even if still unconvinced that the system is ill adapted to the wants of such a parish. Would there, it may fairly be asked, have been the same result at the end of fifty years if the church had been worked on Free and Open Church lines, and the congregation trained to support their church through the Offertory?

(To be continued in our next issue.)

SCOTLAND.

THE Bishop of Argyll and the Isles, in his charge delivered at the Annual Synod of his diocese on the 22nd ult., said with reference to the proposed revised Scottish Liturgy:—"This proposed revision, which has been the result of much prayerful study and earnest consideration, is now before you. Allow me to say at the outset that I am in favour of all the more important changes that have been made in the text, and also that there is nothing in the present revision to which I am opposed. In saying this, I am saying much. For the last twenty years—in fact, during nearly the whole of my sacerdotal ministry—it has been my privilege, very frequently, to a great extent daily, to celebrate the Holy Eucharist according to the Scottish rite. How much I have loved that rite, and the doctrines that it embodies, God knows. Such being the case, I think you will believe, my Reverend Brethren, that I never could have persuaded myself to consent to any change which might even seem to detract from the merits of this priceless inheritance of our fathers, or to any modification which in aught obscured the witness that our Liturgy has hitherto borne to the ancient Eucharistic teaching of the Catholic Church. It is true that we have, in the form for the Invocation of the Holy Spirit, changed the word "become" into "be." But in so doing, let it be observed, we have substituted, for a term not to be found in any of the principal Liturgies of the Primitive Church, an exact counterpart of what our blessed Lord Himself uttered at the table of the first Eucharist. "This is My body," said He. That it may be His body we pray. . . . Those who humbly accept our blessed Lord's declaration, "This is My Body, this is My Blood," in its true and literal sense, have again and again expressed their amazement at our praying to the Eternal Father, *after those words have been pronounced*, that what we designate His "gifts and creatures of bread and wine" should become (as if nothing had yet been effected in the way of consecration) the Body and Blood of His most dearly beloved Son. On the other hand, there are those who accuse us of teaching transubstantiation—of affirming, that is, not merely that the Body and Blood of Christ are really present under the forms of bread and wine, which is the doctrine of the Fathers and of the Catholic Church, but of implying that the bread and wine cease to exist, through being transmuted into the Body and Blood of the Lord. And that the word "become" is often used in such a sense we cannot deny; as for example, when we speak of stone *becoming* bread, of water *becoming* wine, and of the rod in the hand of Moses *becoming* a serpent. . . . We no more affirm that the bread and wine are transmuted into the Body and Blood of Christ, so as to lose their own proper substance, than did the ancient Church of Rome, as represented in the fifth century by her chief bishop, Gelasius. For that Pope, when contending against the Eutychian heretics (who taught that Christ's Manhood was absorbed into His Deity), made use of the true doctrine of the real presence as analogous to the true doctrine of the Incarnation. His words, as recorded in his work, *De duabus Naturis in Christo*, are worthy to be called to mind. They are as follows:—"The Sacraments of the Body and Blood of Christ which we take, are a Divine thing, inasmuch as through them we are made partakers of the Divine Nature, and yet the substance and nature of the bread and wine ceases not to be. And certainly an image or similitude of the Body and Blood of Christ is celebrated in the act of

the Mysteries. It is then plainly enough shown to us, that the same thing is to be thought of in our Lord Jesus Christ, that we profess, celebrate, and take in His image. And as they (the bread and wine), by the operation of the Holy Spirit, pass into this substance, a Divine one, and yet remain in the propriety of their own nature, so is that principal Mystery itself, the essence and virtue of which they represent to us." This primitive doctrine is what we teach, and what our predecessors in the Scottish Episcopate have taught before us.

On the 3rd inst., a meeting was held in the schoolroom of St. Ninian's Cathedral, Perth, for the purpose of greeting Provost Rorison on his return from the Continent, after an absence of some months on account of illness. A beautifully illuminated address of welcome was presented to the Very Rev. Provost.

On the 8th inst., the Right Rev. Bishop Jermyn, acting for the Bishop of St. Andrew's, Dunkeld, and Dunblane, held a confirmation in St. Mary's, Kirriemuir. Twelve candidates received the holy ordinance. The Bishop delivered to them a very touching address, with which they all appeared to be deeply impressed.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Kent County Association of Change-ringers.—Rochester District.

A MEETING will be held at Gillingham on Saturday, the 28th inst. Allowances paid at 3.15. Committee Meeting at 3.30 in the Vestry, for election of Local Secretary and Representative on the Central Committee, and other business. Members who wish for cheap railway fares should communicate with me as soon as possible.

Bobbing Vicarage, Sittingbourne.

EDWARD W. CARPENTER, Hon. Sec.

The Lancashire Association.

LIVERPOOL BRANCH.—On Saturday, the 7th inst., a Special Meeting of the above Branch was held at Ormskirk, and ringers attended from the following places:—Aughton, Bolton, Blackburn, Croston, Hindley, Ormskirk, Liverpool, and Southport. The Rev. D. Jones was voted to the chair, and informed the members that the reason why a special meeting had been called was to consider some new rules, &c., and to appoint a new Secretary in place of Mr. J. R. Pritchard, who had resigned. After a few remarks as regards new rules, expenses, &c., it was decided to postpone anything definite until the Annual Meeting of the Association, which will be held shortly. The next business was to appoint a new Secretary, and it was decided to have a Secretary and Treasurer. On being put to the vote, Mr. W. Bentham (Aughton), was appointed Secretary, and Mr. W. James (Liverpool), Treasurer. There were three new members proposed and seconded, viz., John Taylor, John Hodge, and William Lea, from Christ Church, Aughton. Croston was the place selected for the next meeting, which will be held on Saturday, the 21st inst. Mr. J. Retford made some remarks as to the Annual Meeting, &c., and dwelt at some length on the loss the Association will sustain by the worthy Chairman leaving Lancashire, on being appointed to a higher position at Lichfield Cathedral. The Chairman thanked the ringers for their good wishes, and after a hearty vote of thanks to him and to the Vicar of Ormskirk for the use of the schoolroom, the meeting was brought to a close. During the afternoon the bells of Ormskirk Parish Church and Christ Church, Aughton, were open for the ringers, and several touches of GRAND-IRE and STEPMAN TRIPLES, BOB MAJOR, and KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, were successfully brought round. It is very creditable to Mr. J. Prescott (Ormskirk), and Mr. H. Cave (Aughton), to have the bells in such capital going order.

MANCHESTER BRANCH.—The usual Monthly Meeting of this Branch was held at the Parish Church, Prestwich, on Saturday, the 7th inst. Members attended from Radcliffe, Whitefield, Eccles, Manchester, and Walkden. The bells (a ring of six) were set going at the appointed hour, and touches and 720's of BOB MINOR and TREBLE BOB were rung during the evening. A meeting was held after the ringing, presided over by the Rev. H. J. Elsee, of Manchester. It was decided to hold no meeting in October on account of the Annual Meeting being held at Bacup, but to hold the next meeting at St. John's Church, Deansgate, Manchester, on November 2nd. The usual votes of thanks were afterwards passed.

The Middlesex Association at Finchley.

A GENERAL MEETING of the North Middlesex Association was held at Finchley on Saturday, September 7th, when it was unanimously resolved to omit the word 'North' from the title of the Association; and the rules framed by the Provisional Committee were taken into consideration and adopted, with one or two trifling alterations. Twenty-two new performing members were enrolled; ten from Tottenham, six from Barnet, four from Hadley, one from Finchley, and one from Edgware. Officers for the ensuing year were appointed, Mr. T. Card, of Finchley, being unanimously elected Master; Mr. W. Tubb, of Finchley, Treasurer; and F. A. Milne, Esq., of Hadley, Secretary; the remaining places on the Committee being filled up by the appointment of Messrs. H. Martin, Cornell, Knight, Skinner, G. B. Lucas, and Deil. The Annual General Meeting of the Association will in future years be held on the first Saturday in October, Tottenham being the place for 1890. The Secretary begs to call particular attention to the following rules, viz., rule 3, 'That honorary members shall subscribe not less than 5s. annually, or by a donation of not less than 2l. 2s. become life members. That performing members shall pay an annual subscription of 1s., and that all subscriptions shall become due on the 1st January in each year. Rule 4.

'That no person shall be admitted as a performing member, if he belongs to a band, till he be certified by the captain of his band to be desirous of learning change-ringing, or, if he does not belong to a band, till he be recommended by two performing members to the Secretary; but that any ringer duly certified or recommended as aforesaid shall be admitted as a performing member at the Annual General Meeting, or at any meeting of the Committee.' Rule 8, 'That any person wishing to attempt a peal with the Association may be proposed, seconded, and elected previous to the attempt being made, provided that not less than four performing members in the case of a six-bell ring, or six performing members in the case of an eight-bell ring, take part in the peal; and that the conductor shall at once report the election to the Secretary, in order that the same may be ratified at the next meeting of the Committee.'

F. A. MILNE, *Hon. Secretary.*

The Kent County Association.—Ashford District.

A MEETING of this district was held at Ashford on the 7th inst., when fifty members attended. Mr. A. E. Nunn, of Tenterden, was elected Secretary, and Mr. F. Finn, of Folkestone, representative of the district. The bells of the parish church were kept going during the afternoon and evening, and various touches of STEDMAN and GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, and KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, were rung. Among them there was a 240 STEDMAN. S. Snelling, 1; A. H. Woolley, 2; R. Edwards, 3; Rev. E. W. Carpenter, 4; A. E. Nunn (conductor), 5; S. Barker, 6; G. Neve, 7; H. Holdstock, 8. Also 420 GRANDSIRE. S. Finn, 1; E. Ruck, sen., 2; J. Bartlett, 3; F. Finn, 4; G. Finn, 5; G. Neeve, 6; A. E. Nunn (conductor), 7; H. Holdstock, 8. It was decided to hold Monthly Meetings, for ringing only, at the various towers in the district, and the Annual Meeting at Merham in March, subject to approval of the Central Committee.

The Society of Royal Cumberland Youths at Hounslow.

On Saturday, the 14th inst., the members of the Slough branch of the above London Society of Change-ringers visited Hounslow, and by kind permission of the Vicar of St. Paul's, the Rev. Alfred E. Bull, B.A., rang touches of GRANDSIRE and PLAIN BOB TRIPLES. Tea, at the Vicarage, was kindly provided by the Vicar, and a pleasant half-hour's chat on ringing matters in general afterwards spent. The journey from Slough, and back again, was by horse and vehicle. Mr. Carter, steeple-keeper of St. Paul's, met the visitors, and remained close at hand in case of being required. It is an excellent little ring of eight (tenor, 8 cwt.) the gift of W. H. Taylor, Esq., of Hounslow. With many thanks to the Vicar for his courtesy, and well pleased with their half-holiday, the visitors returned home. W. Leader, 1; A. Andrews, 2; R. Flaxman, 3; W. Wilder, 4; F. V. Simkins, 5; W. H. Fussell, 6; A. C. Fussell (conductor), 7; T. Leader, 8.

Visit of the Tewkesbury Abbey Society to Stratford-on-Avon.

On Monday, the 9th inst., the above Society, ten in number, visited Stratford-on-Avon, where permission to ring upon the ring of eight bells had previously been obtained from the Rev. G. Arbuthnot, vicar of Stratford.

On the arrival of the train, about 11.45, the visitors were met by Mr. Freeman, who accompanied them through the town, and pointed out several places of interest, after which the tower was visited, when some GRANDSIRE TRIPLES were rung. After dinner they returned, and rang 504 STEDMAN TRIPLES and a touch of UNION TRIPLES. C. W. Dyson, 1; R. H. Witherington, 2; S. Cleal, 3; J. Hale, 4; J. Wathen, 5; T. Devereux, 6; Jos. Wathen (conductor), 7; W. Hampton, 8. Messrs. Moore and Haines took part in the ringing during the day. The ringers wish to thank the Vicar and Churchwardens for the use of the bells, and also Mr. Freeman for his kind assistance during the day.

An Inquiry.

SIR,—Could you inform me through *Church Bells* if there is a work published giving a complete history of church bells from the earliest times up to the present date, also giving the cost of same, as I wish to have a copy?

W. R. S.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At St. Martin's, Salisbury, Wilts.

On Wednesday, the 4th inst., eight members of the Salisbury Diocesan Guild rang Holt's Ten-part peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 57 mins. W. M. Lush, 1; H. D. Adams, 2; Rev. F. J. O. Helmore (Canterbury), 3; C. A. Clements, 4; A. J. Callaway, 5; W. S. Wise (conductor), 6; W. W. Gifford, 7; G. A. Uphills, 8.

At St. Peter's, Drayton, Berks.

On Thursday, the 5th inst., eight members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild rang a variation of Thurstans' peal of 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 42 mins. K. Perry (first peal), 1; W. C. Baston, 2; W. Adkins, 3; O. Tolley, 4; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 5; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 6; T. Short, 7; A. Burgess, 8.

On Monday, the 9th inst., eight members of the above Guild, and at the same church, rang a variation of Thurstans' peal of 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 44 mins. C. Hounslow, 1; T. Short, 2; Rev. F. J. O. Helmore (Canterbury), 3; E. Humfrey, 4; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 5; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 6; H. Humfrey, 7; A. Burgess, 8.

At St. Nicholas', Newbury, Bucks.

On Saturday, the 14th inst., nine members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild rang Holt's Original peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 3 hrs. 7 mins. R. Sawyer,* 1; J. Powers,* 2; D. Geater, 3; C. Swain,* 4; T. C. Couch,* 5; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 6; J. Hussey,* 7; J. Witt* and J. Targett,* 8. Tenor, 25 cwt., in D. The second peal ever rung at Newbury and first by a Newbury band. [* First peal.]

RECEIVED ALSO.—W. H. Fussell and J. Hussey (thanks); and others.

For Notices of Books see page 1020.

LITTLE ST. JOHN'S, DITCHLING, SUSSEX.

This School offers the advantage of Preparation for Public School Life, combined with the comforts necessary for young boys on leaving home for the first time. It is also specially recommended for delicate boys. The village being on sand-rock, and having its water supply from the Downs, renders it unusually healthy. Resident Master and Governess, Playfields, Dairy, &c. Boys are prepared for Competitive Examinations and for the Royal Navy. For further particulars and references apply to the LADY PRINCIPAL.

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SCHOOL.—Headmaster, Rev. R. H. Wix, M.A., Assisted by Mr. H. Wix, M.A., and other University Masters. A good Church School (with private chapel) for 100 Boarders. Large commodious building recently erected in a splendid and healthy situation on high ground. Ten acres of playing fields, Gymnasium, &c. Terms moderate and inclusive. Technical subjects extra. For Prospectus and view of the School apply to the Headmaster.

SCHORNE COLLEGE, near Winslow, for

Sons of Clergy, Army, Navy, Medical, &c. Thirty Guineas per annum; considerable reduction to Brothers and Orphans. Entrance Fee, Five Guineas. Vicar is Warden. Address Rev. Dr. JAMES.

BOURNEMOUTH.—Rev. A. HERBERT

STANTON, M.A. (formerly Scholar of Winchester and New Coll., Oxon), prepares a small number of Pupils for the Universities, &c., has now room for ONE or TWO MORE. Address Upper Lansdowne Road.

GREEN HALL, BELPER (8 miles north

of Derby, and on the main line of the Midland Railway).

PREPARATORY SCHOOL for Sons of Gentlemen, conducted by a Lady of experience, assisted by University Graduates. Individual attention, and careful domestic arrangements. Rooms large and airy. Sound Church teaching. Playing fields, drilling, swimming, &c. Terms moderate. References to parents of pupils. Address Miss TAYLOR, as above.

REV. H. A. SOAMES, M.A., Bromley,

selects four Boarders to work with twelve other Pupils, ages 8 to 14. Terms from 54 guineas per annum.

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THE QUEEN'S COLLEGE, Birmingham. THEOLOGICAL DEPARTMENT.

Michaelmas Term will commence on TUESDAY, 8th October next. At the Examination in July, 1890, an Exhibition of 21, 14, or 7 guineas, according to circumstances, will be offered for competition. Students entering in October, 1889, will be eligible for the above.

The course is two years, and the total amount of fees about £46. Further information may be obtained from the Rev. W. H. POULTON, Warden.

FLORIDA.—A Cambridge B.A. (resident

six years), the owner of a bearing orange grove and fruit farm, wants a Gentleman to join him; also has a vacancy for a Boarder or Pupil. Highest references. Write S. H. B., May's Advertising Offices, 162 Piccadilly, London.

HOME in Clergyman's Family desired by

a Gentleman Farmer's Daughter, in return for services in parish. Very fond of visiting the poor. Good walker. Address MONICA, 'Church Bells' Office.

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Gentleman's Daughter in N., N.W., or N.E. districts. Thorough English, German, Music, good Drawing and Painting. French (acquired abroad). Senior Cambridge Certificate. Good reference. Address M. J., Allerton Road, Lordship Park, N.

WANTED a strong Country Girl, of about

18, for the Country, to help in House and Kitchen. Several Servants kept. Must be very respectable, and willing to be generally useful. Apply by letter to Mrs. LODGE SYMONDS, Hinton Manor, Faringdon, Berks.

FUR BOA, very dark brown, real Russian

tail, 10 feet long, very full and soft, value 50s.; sacrifice, 18s. 6d. Mrs. B. RIVERS, 96 Edith Grove, West Brompton, S.W.

OVERCROWDED CEMETERIES.

Conferences of the CHURCH OF ENGLAND BURIAL REFORM ASSOCIATION.

CARDIFF.

Queen's Chambers. Monday, September 30. 8 p.m.

OXFORD.

Council Chamber. Tuesday, October 8. 3 p.m.

WESTMINSTER.

Church House. Thursday, October 10. 5 p.m.

CAMBRIDGE.

Guildhall. Tuesday, October 15. 2.30 p.m.

Leaflets, Pamphlets, &c., of the Hon. Sec., Westow Vicarage, York, whose address, during the Church Congress, will be 13 Longcross Street, and Ecclesiastical Art Exhibition, Cardiff.

SIX CABINET PORTRAITS, 3s.; three

for 2s. Twelve Carte Portraits, 2s. 2d.; Six for 1s. 4d. Eight-inch Enlargement, 3s.; Three for 6s. Send Carte or Cabinet and Postal Order, and you will promptly receive Highly-finished Copies, with Original. FRANCIS & CO., 29 Ludgate Hill, London.

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Apple Marmalade ('a sweet'), Apple Jelly, Pear Marmalade, Pear Jelly, Tomato Marmalade, Green Tomato Jam. See Smith's *Encyclopædia of New Fruit Preserving* and *Wine Making Recipes*, price 6d. Address SMITH, Encyclopædist, Lewes.

CLERGY INSURANCE AGENCY.—

LOAN DEPARTMENT.—100l. to 2000l. at 5 per cent on Insurance Policies, Reversions, Life Interests, &c. For particulars address the SECRETARY, Clergy Insurance Agency, 17 Bouverie St., Fleet St., E.C. N.B.—Unqualified references are given of this Agency if desired.

COALS, in Truck-Loads (from Five Tons

upwards) to any Railway Station, direct from Cannock Chase Colliery Company. Address J. NEWLAND BROWN, Warwick Chambers, Corporation Street, Birmingham.

power of bringing far more blessing on the Church than even those who can give large sums of money."

'Artisans, with whom, "the Parson of Mudford" tells us, is "the future of English life," are anything but mean and selfish, if the matter is placed properly before them. And this is how, one is pleased to see, the vicar of one of the poorest London districts (Christ Church, Kensal Green) talks to his people in the Parish Magazine on the Offertory:—"The tenth of what we earn is God's. Till we all learn this lesson, there will be the constant, urgent cry of 'Give, give.' No place is there more suitable for opening and presenting our treasures than in the presence of Jesus Christ in God's house. Of every 5d. earned, 4d. ought to be dedicated to God and His service. Of every 10d., a 1d. is His. God's share of every 2s. 6d. is 3d.; of 5s., 6d.; of 10s., 1s.; and of 1l., 2s. Try this plan. It is not of man's invention." If, as Mr. Blandford tells us, his Offertory now averages 2l. 5s. 6d. on Sunday, it is because he has been "educating" his people on these lines from the time they met in the "potato-shop" of which we have heard; and any other clergyman who will work on the same lines, and talk in the same straightforward, business-like manner, will meet with the same result.

'It is no use to object that at present the Offertory does not pay church expenses. The offerings in a free church always largely exceed what is raised under the half-and-half system. There the pew-holders will not give because they have already paid for their seats. A bad example is always quickly followed, and passing the bag especially is contagious. The free-seaters are not behindhand in finding excuses. Why should they pay for both sides? Besides, if they are treated as paupers, we must expect them to behave as such. Put all on the same level, make them feel that the church is theirs, and has to be maintained, and, depend upon it, they will not fail.

'At any rate, any change would seem to be for the better at St. Peter's. The seat-rents are most moderate in amount, varying from 6s. to 16s. The 365 seats that are lettable should produce 200l. They have been gradually going down. Three years ago they produced 75l.; now, 65l. Assuming that only half the seats are actually let, it would give an average of 8s. a sitting. Surely these 180 seat-holders will give the same amount through the Offertory. If they come twice a-day, it is only a penny a service. As Mr. Darlow says in his forcible paper in the *July Congregational Review*, which you have already noticed, "It is hard to believe that a Christian (though some Christians are marvellously mean) will give less to God's house because his gift no longer secures him the sole right to any particular pew therein. There is no gain without possible or probable loss; and that type of Christian who will desert his church because he is disturbed in his pew for the sake of bringing in those who are without, must count for what he is worth, and for no more, in reckoning what it will cost to adopt free seats. For a time the church revenue may shrink, and it seems to me that in promoting such a change a minister ought to take his share in the risk involved. If there be any truth in that common political catchword, 'Trust the people,' then a minister who is brave enough to throw himself on the unpledged loyalty of his congregation will not suffer very seriously in the end. After all, his first duty is not to make money."

'Justice' writes in the *City Press* to combat the idea that the City churches are exceptionally deserted on Sundays, and refers to two neighbouring Islington churches with worse records. Of St. Bartholomew's, he says the church was built to accommodate 1000, and there are to be found on a Sunday morning about 40, and not 100 in the evening. St. Philip's, Arlington Square, will seat 1100, but the average attendance is 30, and two Sundays ago 'Justice' counted 25 persons present. Again we ask, Could these things be if the churches from their consecration had been free?

'An Old Islingtonian' calls attention to a correspondence which was printed in the *Free and Open Church Advocate* of October 5th, 1875, as to the failure to secure a free and open church in the neighbourhood of Canonbury, which formed the subject of evidence by Sir Antonio Brady before the Lords' Committee on Spiritual Destitution in 1858. The following extract will be read at this time with interest. As our correspondent observes, 'The Islington clergy are reaping now as they have sown':—

'About the year 1856 an appeal was issued by the then Vicar of Islington, the Rev. Daniel Wilson, asking for help to meet the spiritual destitution of the parish, which was at that time very great, more than 30,000 persons being without any church or even chapel accommodation. In response to this appeal Mr. F. T. Mackreth, a City merchant, residing at Canonbury Park (who was a strong supporter of Free and Open Churches, and anxious to see one worked on those lines in the parish), made the following formal offer in writing to the Vicar:—"I hereby offer to build a church and parsonage-house in the parish of Islington, and to endow the church; also to build schools, if the district requires them, upon condition that an agreement satisfactory to me can be made with regard to the patronage. I may mention that I should prefer a populous district, where schools would be required; and hope that you will at once assign such a one, and assist in carrying out my offer successfully." This was followed by a letter from the Vicar, dated May 23rd, 1858, finally declining Mr. Mackreth's offer as follows:—"I have already explained to you, in my former letter, that the principle upon which we have invariably acted in this parish has been to give the appointment of clergymen to new churches to the incumbents of the districts in which they are built, and that from this principle I am not prepared to deviate. This is the common practice of the Church, and unless you are willing to accede to it, I cannot accept your present offer." A few weeks afterwards the Vicar addressed a letter to Mr. Charles Woodward, in which, referring to the proposal that the church should

be opened daily for public worship, he says:—"I cannot doubt but that the present is an attempt to introduce into the parish such a system as is pursued at St. Barnabas', Pimlico, or St. Paul's, Brighton. On this ground I have, in concurrence with all the incumbents of the parish, rejected the offer. We all feel bound to protest in the most emphatic manner against the proposed movement; and earnestly pray that God may give us grace boldly to maintain those Protestant and Evangelical principles which are the glory of our Reformed Church." The church was not built, and the matter ended with the publication by Mr. Mackreth of the whole correspondence. It was intended that the church should have been free and unappropriated. But it seems the Vicar and clergy of Islington preferred that the "30,000 souls perishing for lack of saving knowledge," should go without the proposed church, unless the Vicar could be the sole patron! We believe it was intended that he should have been one of four or five trustees. Moreover, the clergy of Islington do not like free and unappropriated churches.'

ST. THOMAS'S, FINSBURY PARK.—This church is rapidly approaching completion, and a meeting was lately held to decide whether the Free and Open system, which has hitherto prevailed in the temporary Mission Church, shall be continued in the new building. With the recent statistics of the result of the pew system in Islington before them we should have thought that there was not much room for question, but we understand that one of the churchwardens spoke in favour of pew-rents and had a certain following. However, the sense of the meeting was decidedly against his proposition, and by a majority of 'quite two-thirds,' as we are told, it was decided that all the seats in the new church should be free and unappropriated.

PENARTH.—This rapidly increasing watering-place at the mouth of the Severn is situated on a headland visible from most parts of Cardiff, from which it is distant between four and five miles, and may be regarded as a fashionable suburb of that town. The church of All Saints has recently been built, and we gather that it is still uncertain whether the seats are to be all free. In reviewing the Islington statistics the Cardiff *Argus* points out that the pew-rents there only yield twenty-nine per cent of the original estimate, and says that 'the Penarth friends who wish to establish pew-rents will not find much encouragement' from them. We hope that the waverers may hear at the Church Congress that which will make them decide that their church shall be truly National and not Congregational. Welshmen will never be won back to the old Church by the pew system.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

The Hertfordshire Association.

A DISTRICT MEETING will be held at Hatfield on Saturday, October 12th, when, by kind permission of the Rector, the tower will be open for ringing during the afternoon and evening. At 5 p.m. tea will be provided (charge to members, 6d.), and a meeting held for the transaction of general and special business. Mr. J. C. Mitchell (St. Albans) gave notice at the last meeting that he would propose that the following be added to Rule IX.:—"No peal of TRIPLES, CATERS, or CINQUES, rung without the tenor covering, shall be entered (in the peal-book) without the consent of the members, which may be given at the next meeting of the Association." The recent letter from Mr. Heywood on the subject of a Central Council will be considered with the view of taking such steps in the matter as may be thought desirable. The usual facilities will be granted to members travelling on the Great Northern line, but, in order that proper arrangements may be made, members and visitors intending to be present will kindly so inform the Secretary three days previously. The Secretary will be glad to receive the subscriptions of those members who have not yet remitted the same to him.

St. Albans, September 24th.

E. P. DEBENHAM, Hon. Sec.

The Yorkshire Association.

THE Annual Meeting will be held at Pudsey on the second Saturday in October, and not on the first. Full particulars in the circulars which will be issued as usual in September.

W. WHITAKER, Hon. Sec.

The Ely Diocesan Association of Change-ringers.

A DISTRICT MEETING of this Association was held on Monday, the 9th inst. A goodly number of ringers attended from Sudbury, Ely, Glensford, Foxearth, Lavenham, Melford, Colchester, Oxford, and Woburn (Beds). The Ely company, with the Rev. K. Smith, vicar of St. Mary's, Ely, and Hon. Secretary to the Association, paid a visit to Lavenham in the morning and rang on the noted bells of that church. Other members stayed at Melford, and a touch of 576 BOB MAJOR was rung by C. Sillitoe (Sudbury), 1: A. Ambrose (Melford), 2; H. Smith (Lavenham), 3; S. Slater (Glensford), 4; W. Gridley (Foxearth), 5; G. Dent (Colchester), 6; J. Bird (Melford), 7; O. Garwood (Glensford), 8. Dinner took place at the 'Black Lion,' at 1.30. The Rev. K. Smith occupied the chair, the vice-chair being filled by the Rev. W. Vincent. After dinner the Secretary made a few remarks as to the position of the Association, and hoped that it would go on and prosper as other Associations are doing. The ringers then adjourned to the evening, and a touch of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES was rung by J. Pilgrim (Ely), 1; F. Tothill (Sudbury), 2; Rev. H. Du Boulay (Oxford), 3; C. Sillitoe (Sudbury, conductor), 4; Rev. W. Vincent (Theological College, Ely), 5; G. Dent (Colchester), 6; W. Cross (Sudbury), 7; A. Symonds (Lavenham), 8. Also a touch of STEDMAN TRIPLES. C. Herbert (Woburn), 1; C. Sillitoe (conductor),

2; Rev H. Du Boulay, 3; S. Slater, 4; Rev. W. Vincent, 5; G. Dent, 6; W. Cross, 7; A. Symonds, 8. A touch of BOB MAJOR was also rung, in which Mr. W. Downs, of Glemsford, took part. The tower ringing finished with a touch of 576 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR being rung by F. Tolliday, 1; W. Gridley, 2; H. Smith, 3; C. Sillitoe (conductor), 4; H. Dice, 5; G. Dent, 6; W. Cross, 7; O. Garwood, 8. During the afternoon the handbells were rung, a course of GRANDSIRE CINQUES being rung, with the bells retained in hand, by G. Dent, 1-2; S. Slater, 3-4; C. Herbert, 5-6; C. Sillitoe, 7-8; F. Tolliday, 9; O. Garwood, 10; A. Symonds, 11-12. Also a course of STEDMAN TRIPLES by C. Sillitoe, 1-2; S. Slater, 3; G. Dent, 4; C. Herbert, 5; W. Cross, 6; J. Morley (Sudbury), 7-8. Other touches were also rung, consisting of BOB MAJOR, BOB TRIPLES, KENT TREBLE BOB, DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB. We are pleased to state that the bells of Holy Trinity Church have been furnished with a new set of ropes, which are a great improvement.

Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association.

THE Annual Meeting of this Association was held in Gloucester on Thursday, August 29th. The members present, numbering between seventy and eighty, attended Divine service at the Cathedral. The Rev. J. G. Tetley, vicar of Highnam and rural dean, preached, taking his text from 1 Cor. ix. 16. At the conclusion of the service the members assembled in the College School, where the Rev. F. E. Broome Witts was voted to the chair.

The Hon. Secretary, the Rev. Pitt Eykyn, read the report for the past year, which stated that the Association had made progress in a steady and satisfactory manner, alike financially, scientifically, and numerically. There had been an increase of subscriptions, but the expenditure had been unusually heavy, consequent upon the writing up of the peal-book since the commencement of the Association. Scientifically, the progress had been more apparent in the increase in the number of peals rung than in the hoped-for increase in the variety of methods. The number of members who had rung peals was in excess of those of 1887. A special feature in the year's work was the performance of a peal of STEDMAN CATERS, 13,054 changes, in 8 hrs. 16 mins., rung at Cheltenham on May 21st, which was allowed to hold the highest position until beaten by the Oxford Guild at Appleton, on the last day of the year by a peal of 15,041 changes in the same method. Another 'record peal' was rung by members, viz., 15,227 of GRANDSIRE CATERS, in 9 hrs. 43 mins., at Cheltenham, on April 22nd, 1889. The number of members who had rung peals was stated to be 113; those who had conducted peals, 18; towers in which peals had been rung, 16; different compositions rung, 27; meetings held to end of 1888, 37; members at end of 1888—life (honorary), 3; performing, 40; annual (honorary), 77; performing, 268; total, 388. The

Master (Rev. H. A. Oakey) had submitted a proposition to allow of probationary members qualifying as performing members, but as that gentleman was absent on his wedding tour it was agreed that the subject should be deferred. In the event of it being adopted, Mr. H. L. James had suggested an alteration in rule 4, to the effect that no one should be admitted as a performing member 'until he has satisfied the committee of his capability of ringing a bob-bell in changes, or the treble or tenor through a 5000,' instead of the words as they stand, 'until he has satisfied the committee of his capability of taking the treble or tenor of a ring of bells or handbells in 120 changes.' This matter was also deferred, the Secretary observing that it would require careful consideration, as if the proposal were carried out it would cut out about one-third of their members. The next place of meeting in January was then discussed, and Thornbury, Painswick, and Prestbury were respectively proposed. On a show of hands being taken, nine voted in favour of Painswick, but a considerably larger number in favour of Prestbury, and this, it was declared, would be the next place of assembling. It was agreed that the officers, in conjunction with the Prestbury ringers, should fix the date. A number of new members were then elected, which concluded the business of the annual meeting. The members afterwards partook of dinner, which was served at the 'New Inn' hotel. The Rev. J. G. Tetley presided.

After this the party broke up and proceeded to visit several of the city churches, and during the afternoon and evening gave ringing performances. At St. Mary-de-Crypt, 648 STEDMAN TRIPLES were rung (conducted by G. Wanklin), and 504 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES (conducted by T. Pates), and at St. Nicholas', 504 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES were rung (conducted by G. Latham).

Stoke Gabriel, Devon.

THE bells of this church were reopened on Wednesday, the 18th inst., after having two new bells and the other four rehung at a cost of over £50. The work has been most satisfactorily carried out by Mr. Harry Stokes, of Woodbury. The following members of the Guild of Devonshire Ringers from the St. Edmund Society, Exeter, reopened the bells, which are a pretty-toned ring of six, with STEDMAN and GRANDSIRE DOUBLES:—Messrs. W. C. Marsh, H. Swift, E. Pitt, W. Richardson, W. G. Goss, T. Townsend, S. Meadows, W. H. Webber, and Sydney Herbert. Ringers from the parishes of Dittisham, Cornworthy, and Ashprington, as well as the Stoke Gabriel ringers, also took part in the ringing at intervals during the day. Dinner was provided for the ringers, who numbered over fifty. Mr. H. Studdy, D.L., C.C., J.P., occupied the chair, the vice-chair being filled by the Rector.

(For continuation of Bell-ringing News see page 1044.)

HOME REUNION SOCIETY.

CHURCH CONGRESS, CARDIFF.

A BREAKFAST will be provided at the DRILL HALL (ECCLESIASTICAL ART EXHIBITION) on Thursday Morning, Oct. 3, at 8.30 a.m. Members of the Church Congress, and others interested in Home Reunion, are invited to attend. Short addresses will be delivered.

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The Lancashire Association.

ROCHDALE BRANCH.—On Saturday, the 14th inst., a meeting of the above branch was held at St. Alban's Church, Rochdale. Though not largely attended it was thoroughly representative, and a very interesting meeting was held in the school, presided over by Mr. J. Harrison, of Heywood. It was resolved that the next meeting be held at St. Mark's Church, Glodwick, Oldham, and that the Branch Secretary write for the usual cheap fares from Rochdale to Bacup, for those attending the Annual Meeting. The usual vote of thanks brought the meeting to a close.

The Snowdon Memorial Balance-sheet.

The Committee of the above Fund are glad to announce that, as far as at present known, balance-sheets have been sent to all subscribers, either direct or through the local secretaries of the various Associations. From the great delay that has occurred, owing in part to the lamented death of one of the Hon. Secs., it is probable that many subscribers may have changed their address, and thus not have got a copy of the balance-sheet. If all such will kindly send to the Hon. Sec. informing him of the fact, they will be supplied with them as early as possible.

WM. WHITAKER, Hon. Sec.

Covered Market, Leeds.

The Late Mr. John Bissmire.

On Monday evening, the 23rd inst., at St. James's, Clerkenwell, several members of the Clerkenwell Society rang the bells, half muffled (whole-pull and stand), in memory of Mr. Bissmire. E. Ricketts, 1; J. T. Knight, 2; H. Mandeville, 3; E. March, 4; C. Ward, 5; J. Looker, 6; R. Matthews, 7; J. Rayner, 8; assisted by W. Jones, J. S. Knight, jun., and W. Manthorpe. Mr. Bissmire for twenty-three years was sexton, and twenty-seven years steeple-keeper of the above church, and much respected by the Vicar, church officials, parishioners, and by all ringers who knew him, for his kind and obliging manner.

On Tuesday, the 24th inst., at St. Giles-in-the-Fields, London, the following rang a muffled peal (the usual whole-pull and stand) as a last mark of respect to the late Mr. John Bissmire, sexton of St. James's, Clerkenwell, who died September 12th, aged forty-eight years, and was interred at Old Leyton Churchyard on Thursday, the 19th. J. Nelms (conductor), 1; F. Bennett, 2; G. Turl, 3; J. Yomanton, 4; F. Thomas, 5; C. Holmes, 6; C. Ward, 7; W. Williams, 8. Tenor, 18 cwt.

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CHANGE-RINGING.

At Benington, Herts.

On Wednesday evening, the 18th inst., the Benington Society of Change-ringers met for their weekly practice upon their musical ring of eight bells (tenor, 14 cwt., in F sharp). They rang 216 STEDMAN TRIPLES. J. Kitchener, 1; Jos. Kitchener, 2; S. Page, 3; W. Warner, 4; W. Hobbs, 5; J. Warner, 6; C. Shambrook, 7; N. Warner, 8. 448 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR. N. Warner, 1; Jos. Kitchener, 2; L. Proctor, Esq., 3; L. Chapman, 4; W. Hobbs, 5; J. Warner, 6; C. Shambrook, 7; S. Page, 8. 448 LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR. N. Warner, 1; Jos. Kitchener, 2; J. Kitchener, 3; L. Chapman, 4; W. Hobbs, 5; J. Warner, 6; C. Shambrook, 7; S. Page, 8. Conducted by Mr. Page.

On Saturday, the 21st inst., 216 STEDMAN TRIPLES, 672 SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, and 448 LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR.

On Sunday morning, for service, 448 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, and for evening services 560 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR. N. Warner, Jos. Kitchener, L. Proctor, Esq., L. Chapman, W. Hobbs, Jabez Warner, C. Shambrook, J. Kitchener, and Samuel Page (conductor).

On Monday, the 23rd inst., being visited by that excellent friend to change-ringing, Dr. Francis Grayling, of Sittingbourne, Kent, they went with him to Ardeley, Herts, where they rang a peal of 720 KENT TREBLE BOB MINOR, and finished with ringing three peals of GRANDSIRE MINOR, lowering the bells in musical order. F. Grayling, J. Kitchener, Jos. Kitchener, L. Proctor, Esq., Jabez Warner, C. Shambrook, S. Page (conductor). Tenor, 11 cwt.; key, B minor.

Also, lately, for practice, 896 SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR. N. Warner, 1; M. Ellmore, 2; J. Kitchener, 3; L. Chapman, 4; W. Hobbs, 5; J. Warner, 6; C. Shambrook, 7; S. Page, 8. Mr. Ellmore, who is at present working at Benington, came from Hertford.

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

On Saturday, the 21st inst., eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang Thurstans' peal of 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES in 3 hrs. 11 mins. J. Reed,* 1; J. M. Hayes, 2; J. N. Oxborrow, 3; H. R. Newton (conductor), 4; C. F. Winny, 5; H. J. Ellis,* 6; R. T. Woodley, 7; W. Copley, 8. Tenor, 24 cwt. [*First peal in the method.]

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NOTICE TO THE READERS OF 'CHURCH BELLS.'

THE THIRTY-FIRST SERIES of WEEKLY CASES will
commence appearing in the first week in OCTOBER.

NOTE.—Days of Consultation.—TUESDAY, THURSDAY, and SATURDAY MORNINGS ONLY, at Coombe Lodge, Peckham. Patients from any long distance should choose either of the two former days. Every one is expected to have seen the book first.

DE MORTUIS.—SIMPLIFIED FUNERALS and the PROPER BURIAL of the DEAD.—Explanatory Pamphlets gratis on application. LONDON NEOPOLIS COMPANY, 2 Lancaster Place, Strand, W.O., patentees of the 'March to Earth' Coffin.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

The Hereford Diocesan Guild of Church Bell-ringers.

THE Annual Festival of the above Guild will be held at Bridgworth on Saturday, October 12th, 1889. Dinner at one o'clock in the Town Hall, High Street. Service at St. Leonard's Parish Church at 2.15 p.m., by permission of the Rector, the Rev. A. S. Oldham. A sermon will be preached by the Rector of Colwall, on behalf of the Guild. Railway tickets for the double journey will be issued by the G. W. R. Company at a fare and a quarter. Early application for tickets should be made by those teams travelling from one station. The towers of St. Leonard's (eight bells, tenor 21 cwt.) and St. Mary's (six bells, tenor 12 cwt.) will be open to all ringers before one and after three o'clock. Ringers from various parishes desirous of making up a band for change-ringing will please communicate with the Instructor (address, after Monday, 31 West Castle Street, Bridgworth). All members are particularly asked to endeavour to attend, the date of the Festival having been twice altered to suit the majority of the towers in union.

G. M. CUSTANCE, *Hon. Sec.*

Cohall Rectory, Gt. Malvern, October 1st, 1889.

Kent County Association.

THE first meeting of the Rochester District was held at Gillingham on Saturday, September 28th, when ringers from most of the parish churches in the district were present. The business meeting was held in the vestry at 3.30, the Rev. E. W. Carpenter in the chair. Mr. S. Snelling, of Sittingbourne, was elected on the Central Committee, and Mr. W. Martin, of Swanscombe, was elected District Secretary. One new honorary and five new practising members were admitted. It was decided to hold monthly meetings for ringing only, and the annual meeting at Sittingbourne in April. Touches in the following methods were brought round during the afternoon:—PLAIN BOB and KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, GRANDSIRE and STEDMAN TRIPLES. A 720 of OXFORD TREBLE BOB was also rung at St. Margaret's, Rochester, by the Swanscombe band.

The Lancashire Association.

THE Annual Meeting will be held at St. Saviour's, Bacup, on Saturday, October 13th. Particulars by circular.

J. REDFORD, } *Hon. Secs.*
A. E. WREAKS, }

CHANGE-RINGING.

At St. Martin's, Tipton, Staffordshire.

ON Sept. 14th, Thurstans' peal of 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES was rung in 2 hrs. 52 mins. by the following (all being members of the Worcestershire and Adjoining Districts Association and the Society of Change-ringers for the Archdeaconry of Stafford):—H. Mills, 1; W. Cheshire, 2; E. Goodreds, 3; J. Goodman, 4; W. R. Small, 5; S. Jesson, 6; G. Hughes (conductor), 7; R. Hall, 8. Tenor, 12 cwt. 25 lbs. This is the first peal of STEDMAN rung by members of the Worcestershire Association without the aid of a professional conductor, the second peal of STEDMAN on the bells, and the first peal of STEDMAN by all except the 5th and 8th men.

ON Thursday, the 19th ult., it being the Harvest Festival, a quarter-peal of STEDMAN TRIPLES (1260 changes) was rung in 45 mins. W. R. Small, 1; W. Cheshire, 2; H. Mills, 3; E. Goodreds, 4; C. Price, 5; S. Jesson, 6; S. Reeves (conductor), 7; W. Gold, 8.

ON Saturday, the 21st ult., having three ringing friends from Bromsgrove paying the local band a visit, a peal of BOB MAJOR was attempted, but after ringing 1376 changes a mishap occurred. H. Mills, 1; E. Crump, * 2; W. Cheshire, 3; W. R. Small, 4; W. James, * 5; J. Goodman, 6; G. Hughes (conductor), 7; W. Rae, * 8. Also 768 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR. W. James, 1; E. Goodreds, 2; W. Cheshire, 3; S. Reeves, 4; W. R. Small, 5; E. Crump (conductor), 6; G. Hughes, 7; W. Rae, 8. [* From Bromsgrove.]

ON Sunday, the 22nd ult., before morning service, the Harvest Festival being continued, 720 BOB MINOR in 26 mins. B. Gough, 1; E. Goodreds, 2; H. Mills, 3; W. James, 4; G. Hughes (conductor), 5; W. Rae, 6. Also 576 of BOB MAJOR. W. R. Small, 1; E. Goodreds, 2; B. Gough, 3; H. Mills, 4; W. James, 5; E. Crump, 6; G. Hughes, 7; W. Rae (conductor), 8. And 420 BOB TRIPLES. W. Rae, 1; B. Gough, 2; E. Goodreds, 3; H. Mills, 4; W. James, 5; W. Bennett, 6; G. Hughes, 7; L. Kitchen (conductor), 8. Before evening service 704 BOB MAJOR was started for, the signal being given to stop ringing when about a course from finish was not completed. S. Jesson, 1; J. Day (Birmingham), 2; W. R. Small, 3; H. Mills, 4; W. Rae, 5; E. Goodreds, 6; G. Hughes, 7; W. James (conductor), 8. After evening service 720 GRANDSIRE MINOR in 27 mins. W. Cheshire, 1; W. Horton, 2; H. Mills, 3; E. Goodreds, 4; G. Hughes, 5; B. Gough (conductor), 6. Also a 504 STEDMAN TRIPLES. W. R. Small, 1; B. Gough, 2; H. Mills, 3; W. Horton, 4; W. Cheshire, 5; E. Goodreds, 7; L. Kitchen (conductor), 8.

At SS. Peter and Paul's, Lavenham, Suffolk.

ON Wednesday, the 25th ult., eight members of the Essex Association rang a peal of 5024 BOB MAJOR in 3 hrs. 30 mins. N. J. Pitstow (composer and conductor), 1; A. Symonds, 2; E. F. Cole, 3; A. Jacob, 4; H. Smith, 5; W. Snell, 6; G. Newson, 7; W. Moore, 8. Tenor, 24 cwt.

TENBRIDGE DISTRICT.—A meeting for ringing only will be held at Fritton-den on Saturday, the 12th inst. Belfry open from nine a.m.

The Rectory, Sevenoaks.

THOS. S. CURTIS, *District Sec.*

RECEIVED ALSO:—W. H. Fussell (thanks); and others. Many valuable communications unavoidably postponed.

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The Thirty-first Series of Weekly Cases is now publishing.

NOTICE TO THE READERS OF 'CHURCH BELLS'
WHO MAY BE PERSONALLY OR RELATIVELY INTERESTED IN THIS MATTER.

Mr. CONGREVE will give ONE RECENT CASE, NOT PUBLISHED in this Journal BEFORE, EVERY WEEK.

CASE FOR THIS WEEK.

CASE OF MR. GEO. BUNN, OF ST. LEONARD'S—
RIGHT LUNG DISEASED.

This patient, a well-known photographer, applied to me in February last, by the advice of a friend who had seen a notice of my treatment in the *Christian*. He had had inflammation of the lungs some years before that time. A violent cough was now troubling him, with much phlegm and expectoration of blood.

I advised him through March, April, and May by letter. He also called at Coombe Lodge to see me.

The cough left him in April, and he was making flesh fast—but wisely continued my treatment—till well.

Writing me July 13 he says:—'I think it is only fair to you to write and tell you of the wonderful good your medicine has done me. I had not been well since the Autumn of 1888. I took a violent cold soon after Xmas, and soon began spitting blood; I lost my appetite, and my breathing was very bad. On consulting a doctor he told me that the apex of one lung was in a very bad state. A friend recommended me to try your medicine, and I have been taking it steadily ever since, and am nearly well. The same doctor saw me again about a month ago, and told me that he was surprised to find my lung had healed. I quite believe that, under God, you have been the means of saving my life, and I desire to thank you most heartily for the same, and shall be very pleased for you to make any use of this letter.—Yours faithfully, G. BUNN, 32 ALEXANDRA TERRACE, ST. LEONARD'S-ON-SEA, SUSSEX.

NOTE.—Days of Consultation.—**TUESDAY, THURSDAY, and SATURDAY MORNINGS ONLY**, at Coombe Lodge, Peckham. Patients from any long distance should choose either of the two former days. Every one is expected to have seen the book first.

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that these leading features of the Church, to which they had been all their life accustomed, had been stamped upon it from the very beginning, and that they ought to be looked for, and proved by sound historical evidence to exist, in every religious community claiming to be a part of the Church of Christ—that Church which is 'built upon the foundation of the Apostles and Prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief corner-stone.' Such, I need hardly remind you, is the authoritative teaching of the Church of England upon this point; for in Art. xix. we read, 'The visible Church of Christ is a congregation'—that is, one general congregation, including all particular congregations, which are homogeneous parts of the one congregation—'of faithful men,' of those who hold and have been baptized into the faith—the faith in the three-fold Name professed in Baptism—and have so been admitted into the Apostles' fellowship, 'in the which' congregation 'the pure word of God'—the Apostles' doctrine as expounded in Holy Scripture and summed up in the Creeds—'is preached' by those who have mission to preach; for 'how shall they preach except they be sent?' and the Sacraments'—the breaking of the bread with the accompanying 'prayers'—'be duly ministered'—i.e., by men properly appointed to minister them as 'stewards of the mysteries of God'—'according to Christ's ordinance in all those things that of necessity are requisite to the same.'

And this is just the idea we derive from Holy Scripture of the Catholic Church at the end of the Apostolic age, when we find it expanding under the form of a confederation of national Churches, all on this one model, and only slightly varying, according as local circumstances and conditions seemed to require. We find it standing forth as a representation of federal unity and essential identity of government, exhibiting the very same characteristic notes which distinguished the comparatively small, but specially inspired and directed company, that formed the 'Church' to which 'the Lord daily added the saved,' immediately after the Day of Pentecost. And if this be so, and it is merely a matter of historical fact, which is capable of ample proof, then there cannot be a doubt that no body of men, no community of principle, can be a legitimate offshoot of the Catholic Church which is not a legitimate branch of this Pentecostal tree; and that no association of individuals can truly correspond to, or be a homogeneous branch of this Pentecostal tree, which does not show its allegiance to the constitution established through the agency of the Apostles, which does not adhere to the doctrine that they taught, nor join in the sacraments and worship which they have handed on; in other words, which does not 'continue steadfast in the Apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in the breaking of the bread, and in the prayers.' For these are the marks which were the organic manifestation of that essential unity—that seamless robe, which our Blessed Lord clearly intended that His Church should wear, and which in its earliest ages was so conspicuous in those who 'were all of one heart and of one soul.'

And this is the picture which the Catholic Church would have still presented to the world, if its essential unity had not been dangerously wrecked by the unscriptural and uncatholic assumption of supremacy on the part of one particular Church over all the rest, an assumption which has proved a more potent cause of hindrance to the spread of Christianity throughout the world than any other that can be named; for it was the cause of that perilous breach between the east and west of Christendom which has existed for so many centuries, and it has been the main obstruction to their mutual reunion down to the present day. No one can read the history of the Catholic Church from the time of that lamentable 'schism,' without being painfully struck with the evident upgrowth of 'false doctrine and heresy' which have unhappily sprung from it, and marred the fair field which the Lord had planted. It is no part of my present purpose to enumerate the errors which from time to time arose, or to discuss the question how far the suspension of intercommunion, to which they are undoubtedly owing, affects the essential unity of the Catholic Church. I would rather acknowledge the duty of hearty thankfulness to Almighty God that, in the ordering of His never-failing providence, He has led the branch of it to which we belong to cast off the errors and accretions with which it had been overlaid, and to return to an exact conformity with the doctrine of the early and undivided Church, to 'the faith which was once delivered to the saints.' And now, when passing over the intervening ages, we come down to this nineteenth century of the Christian era, and find a great Communion expanding its spiritual forces over a terrestrial extent on which the sun scarce ever sets, a Communion whose distinctive marks correspond minutely with the notes of the Apostolic Church, teaching the truth of God as the Apostles taught it and as it has been treasured up in Holy Scripture,

ministering Sacraments according to Christ's ordinance for the very purpose and with the very meaning for which they were designed—a Communion whose constitution is identical with that we read in the inspired records—whose government is founded on the basis of an Apostolic autocracy as distinguished from the equally unscriptural and unchristian forms of a Papal monarchy on the one hand, and of a Democratic democracy on the other—whose very order of service is drawn over the Apostolic lines of 'supplication, prayer, and praise, and thanksgiving, to be made for all men.' And we find this great Communion, after every kind of vicissitude and every season of depression, not only holding its own at this present hour, but developing the fruit of ages in a holy instinct with life, what else can we do but come to the only natural conclusion which is admissible, that here we have, in the words of us, and after the lapse of centuries, the very same Holy Catholic Church which we have read of as in its early state, nearly two thousand years ago, in the upper room at Jerusalem, 'the Church to which the Lord added daily such as should be saved?'

And now, what is to be said of those multitudes who, while they 'profess and call themselves Christians,' are not visibly added to the Church? I have not time to enter fully into the answer, which I leave in my own mind, to this important question now. Suffice it to say, that whatever portion of the truth is found and taught among them, that truth, if faithfully accepted, will produce its fruit in the life and conduct. But, at the same time, it is right to bear in mind that the mere conscious possession of truth alongside of the Church can no more make any one a member of it, than the possession of vitality can make the dry a branch of the oak, around which it grows, and from which it derives its sustenance and support. I will conclude what I have to say upon this point in words far more weighty than any I could ever use myself. They are the words of the late Rev. William Archer Butler, professor of Moral Philosophy in the University of Dublin: 'The Divine and exclusive authority of the constitution of the Church is consistent with the strong probability that where it should be lost the mercy of God would not suffer that unhappy error to prevent the gift of His graces to those who sincerely sought them. In the general analogy of Divine dealings there is what may be called the principle of accommodation, the principle observable in God's merciful dispensations of suiting Himself to the infirmities of His creatures by occasional variations of His stated laws, without any repeal of those laws themselves. It is the primary purpose of God that all within His Church should be holy, and that all holy men should be within His Church. The blessed design has been contravened in both respects. Millions within the Church are but nominally its members; thousands beyond it appear in the enjoyment of its real graces: these special arrangements of God as to individual souls in no respect altering either the duty of men or the nature of the Church as the Kingdom of Christ, and the sole appointed school of immortality. Remember, therefore, my brethren,' he adds, 'that if your place is prominent in the eye of Heaven, your responsibilities are awful. If I magnify your office, it is that I may magnify your obligations. If no men speak from Heaven so directly as we, from no men does Heaven expect so faithful a message.'

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Sussex Association of Change-ringers.—Horley Branch.

THE annual Harvest Festival was held in the Parish Church on Sunday, the 6th inst. In the afternoon the following members of the above Association rang 504 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES as follows:—P. Etheridge, 1; W. Edwards, 2; T. Whitmore, 3; S. Kenward, 4; E. Dewey, 5; F. Wickens, 6; J. Taylor (conductor), 7; W. Wallis, 8. Also 840 in the same method:—W. Wallis, 1; T. Whitmore, 2; W. Edwards, 3; S. Kenward, 4; J. Taylor, 5; F. Wickens (conductor), 6; G. Apps, 7; J. Robinson, 8. For evening service a quarter-peal of 1260 changes in the same method was rung in 43 mins. W. Wallis, 1; T. Whitmore, 2; E. Dewey, 3; S. Kenward, 4; J. Taylor, 5; F. Wickens (conductor), 6; G. Apps, 7; J. Robinson, 8. First quarter-peal by G. Apps, F. Wickens, Hall (from Charlwood), E. Dewey and J. Robinson (from Reigate).

Society of Change-ringers for the Archdeaconry of Stafford.

THE next Quarterly Meeting will be held on Saturday, October 13th, at Wolverhampton. Members assemble at the Collegiate Church at 2.15 p.m. J. R. KERR, Hon. Sec.

Perry Barr Vicarage, Birmingham, October 9th.

Birmingham and District Amalgamated Society.

THE next Quarterly Meeting of the above Society will be held at the 'White Swan' Hotel, Edmund Street, on Saturday, October 13th, at six o'clock p.m., when all members are earnestly requested to attend. 11 Tennant Street. W. BAKER, Secretary.

The Kent County Association.—Ashford District.

THE next meeting of this district will be held at Tenterden on Monday, October 14th. The tower will be open for ringing from six p.m.

A. E. NUNN, *Local Hon. Secretary.*

A Commemoration at St. Paul's Cathedral, London.

On Tuesday, Oct. 1, 1889, it being the monthly meeting of the Ancient Society of College Youths, thirteen members—Messrs. Pettit (conductor), Springall, Cooter, Haworth, Jameson, Mash, Dorrington, Cockerill, Smith, Woodley, Horrex, Joyce, and Winny—rang six courses of **STEDMAN CINQUES** (786 changes) in 41 mins., to commemorate the event of Mr. Haworth having exactly fifty years ago (Oct. 1, 1839) rang his first peal. Many friends were present, who, with his fellow-ringers, congratulated him on the occasion. The following is the record of the first peal:—

'**SOUTHWARK SOCIETY.**—On Monday, October 1st, 1839, a peal of 5040 **GRANDSIRE TRIPLES** (Holt's Bob and Single) was rung at Holy Trinity, Borough of Southwark, in two hours, fifty-two minutes. Performers—Abraham Antill, treble; James R. Haworth, 2; James Hughes, 3; Thomas Reece, 4; William Lobb, 5; John Freeman, 6; Thomas Tolladay, 7; Robert Burgess, tenor. Conducted by Mr. Lobb.

Lancashire Association.—Liverpool Diocesan Branch.

THE next Meeting will be held at Sefton (six bells), on Saturday, the 19th inst. Bells open for ringing at three p.m.; meeting in schoolroom at half-past six.

W. BERTHAM, *Branch Secretary.*

Black Moss Lane, Aughton, Ormskirk.

CHANGE-RINGING.**At St. Matthew's, Bethnal Green, London.**

On Saturday, the 14th ult., eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang a peal of 5040 **STEDMAN TRIPLES** (Thurstans' composition) in 2 hrs. 56 mins. M. A. Wood, 1; H. Langdon, 2; J. Pettit, 3; W. Cecil, 4; E. E. Richards, 5; J. G. Shade (conductor), 6; S. E. Joyce, 7; J. Monday, 8.

At St. Martin's, Salisbury, Wilts.

On Saturday, the 14th ult., eight members of the Salisbury Diocesan Guild rang Holt's Original peal of 5040 **GRANDSIRE TRIPLES** in 3 hrs. 3 mins. J. R. Jerram, 1; W. S. Wise, 2; Rev. F. J. O. Helmore (conductor), 3; C. A. Clements, 4; A. J. Callaway, 5; H. D. Adams, 6; W. W. Gifford, 7; W. J. Hallett, 8. The first time Holt's Original has been rung in the county.

At All Saints', Loughborough, Leicestershire.

On Wednesday, the 18th ult., ten members of the Midland Counties Association rang Carter's peal of 5039 **GRANDSIRE CATERS** in 3 hrs. 33 mins. E. Reader (first peal), 1; J. Smith, 2; W. E. Tydeman, 3; T. Bennett (Leicester, first peal of CATERS), 4; J. Hardy, 5; A. Millis (Leicester), 6; E. W. Cartwright, 7; W. Birkenshaw, 8; J. W. Taylor, jun. (conductor), 9; E. Wightman, 10. Tenor, 28 cwt., in D.

At St. Albans, Herts.

On Saturday, the 21st ult., eight members of the Hertfordshire Association and the St. Peter's Society rang a peal of 5021 **GRANDSIRE CATERS** in 3 hrs. 18 mins. A. Hull,* 1; A. Barnes, 2; W. H. L. Buckingham, 3; Jesse W. Brewer,* 4; E. Hull,* 5; H. Brewer, 6; T. Waller, 7; W. Battle, 8; G. W. Cartmel, 9; E. P. Debenham, 10. Composed by Mr. J. Cox and conducted by Mr. Buckingham. The peal was rung in honour of the birthday of the Rev. H. N. Dudding, vicar of St. Peter's, and President of the Society, and it is the first peal of CATERS rung at the church by an entirely local band. The above are also members of the Ancient Society of College Youths. [*First peal of CATERS. †First peal of CATERS on a bob-bell.]

Lately four members of the Ancient Society of College Youths and the Herts Association rang, on handbells retained in hand, Holt's Ten-part peal of 5040 **GRANDSIRE TRIPLES** in 2 hrs. 30 mins. G. W. Cartmel, 1-2; E. P. Debenham (first peal on handbells as conductor), 3-4; W. H. L. Buckingham, 5-6; J. W. Brewer (first peal on handbells, and also his birthday), 7-8. Umpire, Mr. D. Gibbons. The above are members of the St. Peter's Society.

At St. Peter's, Drayton, Berks.

On Monday, the 23rd ult., eight members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild rang Thurstans' peal of 5040 **STEDMAN TRIPLES** in 2 hrs. 40 mins. J. W. Washbrook, 1; W. Baston, 2; J. Waghorn (Tottenham, London), 3; E. Humfrey, 4; Rev. F. E. Robinson (conductor), 5; T. Short, 6; H. Humfrey, 7; K. Payne, 8. Tenor, 9½ cwt. The conductor's 250th peal, and the first in the method conducted by a clergyman from a non-observation bell.

On Saturday, the 28th ult., eight members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild rang Thurstans' peal of 5040 **STEDMAN TRIPLES** in 2 hrs. 38 mins. A. Burgess, 1; J. W. Washbrook, 2; W. Adkins, 3; Rev. F. E. Robinson (conductor), 4; J. Waghorn, jun., 5; T. Short, 6; E. Humfrey, 7; W. E. Robinson (first peal), 8.

At SS. Peter and Paul's, Foxearth, Essex.

On Tuesday, the 24th ult., eight members of the Society of Royal Cumberland Youths rang a peal of 5024 **KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR** in 2 hrs. 44 mins. G. Newson (conductor), 1; S. Slater, 2; W. Gridley, 3; F. Wells, 4; E. P. Cole, 5; R. Mingay, 6; G. Maxim, 7; A. Jacob, 8. Composed by Mr. Dains. Tenor, 8½ cwt. Messrs. Newson, Cole, and Jacob came from London; Slater and Wells, Glemsford; the others, Foxearth.

At Merton College, Oxford.

On Wednesday, the 25th ult., nine members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild rang Holt's Original peal of 5040 **GRANDSIRE TRIPLES** in 3 hrs. 26 mins. C. Tolley, 1; Jos. Waghorn, jun., 2; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 3; W. Bennett, 4; W. Finde, 5; T. Payne, 6; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 7; A. Strange and A. Barney, 8. The large block of the peal was rung out of course, so as to have the musical changes on the open stroke. Rung as a last tribute of respect to the late Bishop Mackarness, who graduated from this college. This is the first muffled peal rung on this fine ring of bells, the effect of which was very grand.

At All Saints', Fulham, London.

On Saturday, the 28th ult., ten members of the Surrey Association rang a peal of 5360 **OXFORD TREBLE BOB ROYAL** in 2 hrs. 41 mins. C. F. Winny, 1; G. T. McLaughlin, 2; G. Woodin (first peal of ROYAL), 3; G. W. Cartmel, 4; W. H. L. Buckingham, 5; J. W. Driver, 6; J. Smith, 7; Jos. Fayers, 8; G. Welling, 9; J. M. Hayes, 10. Composed by Mr. Thorp, and conducted by Mr. Hayes. The first peal in the method by the Association.

At St. Albans Cathedral, Hertfordshire.

On Monday, the 30th ult., eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths and the Herts and Essex Associations rang Holt's Six-part peal of 5040 **BOB TRIPLES** in 3 hrs. 2 mins. E. J. Mitchell, 1; E. P. Debenham, 2; A. Barnes, 3; W. Waller, 4; W. H. L. Buckingham, 5; W. Battle, 6; G. W. Cartmel (conductor, birthday), 7; A. Hull, 8. Tenor, 30 cwt.

At St. Cadoc's, Caerleon, Monmouthshire.

On Wednesday, the 2nd inst., a peal of 5040 **PLAIN BOB MAJOR**, with the clappers muffled one side, out of respect to the memory of two of the leading inhabitants of the town who have passed away this week, was rung in 2 hrs. 48 mins. R. le Vesconte,* 1; H. Shearn,* 2; J. W. Jones,* 3; W. H. Arnold,* 4; L. Stafford,* 5; F. Green,* 6; E. Davies,* 7; F. E. Ward, 8. Composed by Mr. Lockwood; conducted by Mr. Ward. Tenor, 17½ cwt., in B flat. [*First peal in the method.]

At St. Saviour's, Bacup, Lancashire.

LATELY eight members of the Lancashire Association rang Holt's Ten-part peal of 5040 **GRANDSIRE TRIPLES** in 2 hrs. 53 mins. T. Bradley,* 1; T. Standing, 2; J. B. Taylor, 3; J. Shepherd (conductor), 4; F. Birtwistle, 5; W. Haworth,* 6; A. E. Wreaks, 7; W. Bradley,* 8. Tenor, 10 cwt. [*First peal.]

At Holy Trinity, Stratford-on-Avon, Warwickshire.

LATELY eight members of the St. Martin's Guild, Birmingham, rang Brooke's Variation of Thurstans' peal of 5040 **STEDMAN TRIPLES** in 2 hrs. 52 mins. H. Bastable (conductor), 1; M. Murphy, 2; C. Dickens, 3; C. Williams, 4; W. E. Smith, 5; T. Reynolds, 6; H. Johnson, jun., 7; J. W. Cartwright, 8. Tenor, 16 cwt., in F. Made from a ring of six to one of eight bells in the Jubilee year, and the above is the first peal upon them.

At Christ Church, Aughton, near Ormskirk, Lancashire.

LATELY eight members of the Lancashire Association rang Haley's Variation peal of 5040 **STEDMAN TRIPLES** in 2 hrs. 57 mins. W. James, 1; C. Sharples,* 2; Nathan Spencer,* 3; Rev. D. Jones,* 4; H. Coley, 5; W. Bentham,* 6; G. Hammond (conductor), 7; J. Benson,* 8. Tenor, 16 cwt. The first peal of **STEDMAN TRIPLES** on the bells. Rung as a farewell peal to the Rev. D. Jones, who is leaving Aughton. [*First peal in the method.]

At St. Lawrence's, Appleton, Berks.

LATELY eight members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild rang a peal of 5088 **SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR** in 3 hrs. W. Adkin,* 1; T. Short, 2; W. Baston,* 3; C. Hounslow, 4; W. Bennett, 5; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 6; G. Holfield, 7; J. W. Washbrook (composer and conductor), 8. Tenor, 14½ cwt. The composition of this peal is now rung for the first time; the 2nd and 3rd are never in sixth's place, and the 4th, 5th, and 6th, three courses each in fifth's place. [*First peal in the method.]

At St. Peter Mancroft, Norwich.

LATELY eight members of the Norwich Diocesan Association and the St. Peter's Society rang Holt's Ten-part peal of 5040 **GRANDSIRE TRIPLES** in 3 hrs. 30 mins. F. H. Knight,* 1; A. Hubbard (conductor), 2; A. G. Warnes (first peal), 3; F. Howchin,* 4; P. Sadler,* 5; E. Francis, 6; F. Knights,* 7; J. Skinner, 8. Tenor, 41 cwt. This is the first peal in the method on the bells, and the fifth peal in the method ever rung in Norwich, the previous ones being Garthorn's peal of **GRANDSIRE TRIPLES** at St. Peter Mancroft, in 1718, on the old ring of eight; Holt's Original at St. Michael's, Coslany, in 1752, and the same peal rung the same year at St. Giles's; and Holt's Ten-part peal at St. Andrew's in 1822. It is just sixty-seven years since the last peal of **GRANDSIRE TRIPLES** was rung in Norwich. The present peal is supposed to be the only one ever rung on a ring of the above weight. [*First peal in the method.]

AT SHRIVENHAM, BERKS.—On Sunday, the 22nd ult., 720 **GRANDSIRE DOUBLES** (being six six-scores each called differently) in 25 mins. O. W. Layng, 1; G. Ricketts, 2; G. Iles, 3; J. H. Shepherd, 4; E. Bishop (conductor), 5; G. Stait, 6. Also three six-scores, with G. Stait, 1; J. Truman, 2. Tenor, about 16 cwt.

AT ST. EDMUND'S, NORTHAMPTON.—On Thursday, the 3rd inst., a touch of 1008 **GRANDSIRE TRIPLES** (Holt's Ten-part) was rung in 40 mins. J. George, 1; E. Haxley, 2; T. Healey, 3; A. Stewart, 4; Jos. S. White (conductor), 5; J. Mackay, 6; G. Eads, 7; C. E. W. Cherry, 8.

RECEIVED ALSO:—J. George; and others. Communications unavoidably postponed.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Meeting of the Hertfordshire Association at Hatfield.

A DISTRICT MEETING of this Association was held at Hatfield last Saturday, when a strong contingent attended from Hertford, St. Albans, Bennington, and Baldock, besides the local company and several non-resident members and visitors. Ringing commenced shortly after three in the afternoon, and during the day touches were accomplished of SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE, DOUBLE NORWICH, KENT TREBLE BOB, BOB MAJOR, STEDMAN, and GRANDSIRE TRIPLES.

About five o'clock an adjournment was made to the 'Baker's Arms,' the headquarters of the Hatfield College Youths, where an excellent tea was provided; and the company, numbering thirty, sat down under the presidency of Leonard Proctor, Esq., the vice-chair being occupied by Canon Wigram.

After tea, the President called upon the Secretary to read the minutes of the previous meeting, which were confirmed. The provisional election of Mr. J. Frossell (Bedford) as a member was confirmed, and Mr. Herbert Warner (Bennington) was elected a ringing member. Mr. J. C. Mitchell (St. Albans) proposed, and Canon Wigram seconded, that the following be added to Rule 9:—No peal of TRIPLES, CATERS, or CINQUES rung without the tenor covering shall be entered (in the peal-book) without the consent of the members, which may be given at the next meeting of the Association. Mr. R. T. Woodley (London) moved an amendment to omit all the words after 'entered,' and this being seconded by Mr. G. W. Cartmel (St. Albans), a short discussion ensued. On the amendment being put it was carried by seven votes to four; and the resolution, as amended, was carried by eleven votes to one.

The Secretary brought forward the recent letter of Mr. Heywood on the subject of the Central Council, and pointed out that, as the Association was entitled to send a representative, there was no reason why one should not be appointed. He therefore proposed that the President should be chosen to represent it, and remarked that Mr. Proctor had been known in the ringing world even longer than their friend, Mr. Haworth. The proposition being seconded by Mr. Haworth, it was carried with acclamation. The President acknowledged the compliment paid to him, and assured the members that he would continue to do all in his power for the promotion of change-ringing.

The next District Meeting was arranged to be held at Barnet in February.

The President proposed, and the Secretary seconded, a vote of thanks to the Rev. Lord William Gascoyne-Cecil, the Rector, for the use of the church bells on that occasion. His Lordship thanked the members, and he was subsequently elected an Honorary Member.

The usual votes of thanks to the Officers having been heartily accorded and responded to, the members made their way back to the tower.

During the evening, the 'Squire' had his fine set of handbells got out, and with the assistance of Mr. John Kitchener tapped off several tunes upon them.

Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association.

THE Annual Meeting will be held at Durham on Monday, October 28th. Dinner at the 'Three Tuns' Hotel. Members intending to be present will kindly notify the same to—
R. S. STORY, President.

Whitley, R.S.O.

Meeting-nights at St. Mary's, Whitechapel, London.

THE usual practice commenced on Friday, October 11th, and will continue every fortnight from the above date. Time of meeting, 8.30.

E. WALLAGE, Steeple-keeper.

The Kent County Association.—Canterbury District.

A MEETING was held at Canterbury on Monday, October 7th, and was attended by members from Canterbury, Boughton, Deal, Elham, Faversham, and Hernhill. The committee meeting was held in the Cathedral Library at four o'clock, the Rev. E. W. Carpenter, Hon. Secretary, in the chair. Mr. A. Foreman, Shelmford, Canterbury, was unanimously elected Secretary of the district, and Mr. H. G. Fairbrass, representative on the Central Committee. It was decided to follow the example of the other districts, and hold meetings for ringing only at all the towers in union in the district, and the Annual Meeting of the district at Faversham in February, subject to the approval of the Central Committee.

CHANGE-RINGING.

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

ON Monday, the 30th ult., eight members of the Midland Counties' Association rang a peal of 5088 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR in 3 hrs. 29 mins. G. Robinson, 1; A. Wakley, 2; T. Reynolds (first peal in the method), 3; H. Bastable, 4; B. Witchell, 5; W. Kent, 6; Jos. Griffin, 7; T. Holmes, 8. Composed by Mr. Carter and conducted by Mr. Griffin. Tenor, 26 cwt. The ringers of the 3rd, 4th, 5th, and 6th bells, came from Birmingham.

AT ST. LAWRENCE'S, MEREWORTH, KENT.—On Sunday, the 6th inst., after evening service, six members of the Kent County Association rang 720 KENT TREBLE BOB MINOR in 25 mins. E. Newman, 1; F. G. Newman, 2; W. Eldridge, 3; G. Hook, 4; W. Bell, 5; G. Newman (conductor), 6. Tenor, 12 cwt.

ERRATUM.—The time given last week in account of OXFORD TREBLE BOB ROYAL at All Saints', Fulham, should have been 3 hrs. 41 mins.

CLERICAL REGISTRY, Arundel House,

Arundel Street, Strand, W.C. Under the sanction of the Archbishops, and in connexion with the Additional Curates' Society. Curacies, Temporary Duty, Sunday Duty, and Titles.

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pointment, Secretarial or otherwise, Business Knowledge, good Speaker, experienced Musician, Organist, age 23. Reference permitted to the Lord Bishop of Ripon. Address in the first place, ANTHROPUS, care of Messrs. Warters, Richardson, & Co., 14 Great James St., Bedford Row, W.C.

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many years an invalid, seeks a Quiet Home, either permanent or temporary, with a lady or other ladies. Warm situation; in home counties preferred. Terms must be quite moderate. Address Mr. DENNING, Aslaeton Vicarage, Long Stratton, Norfolk.

CHICHESTER CATHEDRAL.—A Re-

treat for Women will (D.V.) be conducted by the Dean in the Lady Chapel, from Nov. 12th to 16th. Any who may wish to attend it are requested, as soon as possible, to send name and address to the Dean that necessary arrangements may be made.

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Income. The Rev. W. Langhorne, Vicar of St. Luke's, Hackney, and others, strongly recommend a Private Boarding Home where Ladies will meet with every comfort and kindness. Terms from 13s. to 17s. per week inclusive. Address PRINCIPAL, 4 Clapton Square, N.E. Circulars on application.

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CUTLERY FOR SALE at great sacrifice, to realise money to meet pressing demands. 24 handsome Table Knives, best double shear steel blades, solid patent ivory handles, mounted with beautiful antique silver ferrules. Hall marked, only 27s. 6d. dozen; 24 smaller knives, 18s. 6d. dozen; 2 pairs of Carvers (meat and game) 7s. pair; and steel, 4s. all en suite, quite new, and by eminent Sheffield Silversmiths. Would accept 5l. 5s. for whole service, or divided in any way. Valued at 8l. 4s.; on approval to responsible applicant. Address Mrs. F., at Shelley & Co.'s Advertising Offices, 5 Leadenhall Street, E.C.

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BAGATELLE BOARD, 8 ft. long, solid

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COALS, in Truck-Loads (from Five Tons

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CORDED SILK, real Lyons make and soft finish, offered for 4s. yard; worth nearly double. Advertiser is in great want of money, and would send on approval willingly. Letters only to 'M.' 15 The Inghed, Dudley.

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much needed in a Mission House amongst a large number of very poor people. Funds almost exhausted. Gifts in money (for relief in sickness), hospital letters, or old clothes, will be thankfully acknowledged by Sister-in-Charge, Holy Redeemer Mission House, 21 Wilmington Square, E.C.

POOR IN CLERKENWELL.—Please

HELP the above by helping ready-made clothes made by them. The Materials and Work are good. Many respectable Women are kept from starvation by means of this Charity. But more Purchasers are very much wanted. For prices and all particulars apply to Miss L. NICHOLSON, 13 Lloyd Square, Clerkenwell, W.C.

'EDITH' is greatly thanked for her kind

Contribution of 1l. towards starting the Girls' Club. Further assistance gratefully received. 'SISTER MARY PAULINE,' All Souls' Mission, Clapton Park, N.E.

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out of their scanty earnings 3s. to over 7s. a-week for accommodation which is unfit for human beings, and worse than you provide for your horse. In our large towns, relatively to their size, the condition of affairs is much the same. No individualistic solution is possible—even the gigantic philanthropy of a Peabody scarce makes a perceptible impression. If this is to be grappled with at all effectively, it must be by the collective action of the nation or the municipality. The Socialistic position in regard to this problem is this: These oppressive conditions arise in no small measure from the great value of land where large masses of men congregate. This value is not due to the labour of those whom we have permitted to own the land, and yet they have been allowed to reap the whole of the benefit. The annual unearned increment of London alone is estimated at about 4,500,000*l*. This process of individual appropriation must be, say Socialists, in the name of justice, reversed, and with the funds which thus accrue, a comprehensive scheme for providing fitting accommodation must be carried out.

‘I need not dilate on the hours of tramway conductors and the horrors of the sweating system. The Socialistic position is that here, too, collective action must supersede individualism by limitation of hours of labour, and by, as far as practicable, taking the organization of labour out of the hands of soulless companies consumed with a greed for dividend, and place it in the hands of the community, where the opinion of the community can and will enforce humane treatment; hence the demand that the municipality shall own its gas and water works and its own tramways. I might instance other lines of advance in Socialistic programmes—such as, that in which I am specially interested, viz., the collective action of the nation to secure adequate provision for the aged and infirm; but the two I have chosen lead us to the heart of the modern Socialist position, which I will give you, not in my own words, but in those of one of the authorised programmes:—

“Socialism aims at the reorganization of society by the emancipation of land and industrial capital from individuals and class ownership, and the vesting of them in the community for the general benefit. In this way only can the natural and acquired advantages of the country be equitably shared by the whole people. Socialism accordingly works for the extinction of private property in land, and of the consequent individual appropriation in the form of rent, of the price paid for permission to use the earth, as well as for the advantages of superior soils and sites. Socialism further works for the transfer to the community of the administration of such industrial capital as can conveniently be managed socially. For, owing to the monopoly of the means of production in the past, industrial inventions, and the transformation of the surplus income into capital, have mainly enriched the proprietary class, the worker being now dependent on that class for leave to earn a living.”

‘As followers of Him Who manifested His sympathy with the poor man’s sufferings by choosing the poor man’s lot, the Church of Christ can never be indifferent to the sufferings of the poor and the weak, and the causes of those sufferings, economic or moral. In all our parishes we are labouring to mitigate suffering, and by practical assistance, as well as sympathy, lessen the evils of poverty. Our Bishops, in their Encyclical Letter, tell us “no more important problems can well occupy the attention of clergy or laity than such as are connected with what is popularly called Socialism.” They refrain from telling us whether its main position of progress in social organization, with the view to the ultimate nationalisation of land and capital, is right or wrong, just or unjust. “They leave us to decide that for ourselves. Doubtless, many wild things are said by some Socialists; every movement has its ignorant, rowdy camp-followers, even Church parties are not exempt from such hangers-on. The special proposals put forward by various Socialists are doubtless open to criticism, and they generally overlook or under-estimate difficulties connected with the growth of population—that addition of 1000 mouths a-day which is taking place; but the great question for us to decide is—Are the principles which lie at the root of Socialism based on justice and righteousness? Those principles are the organization of society for the better protection of the weak, and the securing to all more equitable conditions of life, and with a view to this end, emancipating land and industrial capital from individual and class ownership, and vesting them in the community for the general benefit. This is the question our Bishops ask us to consider and make up our mind upon. Is that which lies at the heart of modern Socialism in accordance with justice and righteousness? What do you say?”

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BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

The Worcestershire and Adjoining Districts Change-ringing Association.

THE next Quarterly Meeting of the above will be held at Halesowen on Saturday, November 2nd, by the kind permission of the Rector, the Rev. C. C. Nation, who has kindly promised to preside. Meeting in the schoolroom at 5 p.m. prompt. The tower will be open for ringing during afternoon and evening. The Hon. Sec. will be pleased to receive the subscriptions for the current year from those societies and members who have not yet paid same, and requests all members (if possible) to be present.

37 Simms Lane, Netherton, near Dudley.

JOHN SMITH, Hon. Sec.

Lancashire Association.—Liverpool Diocesan Branch.

THE Monthly Meeting of the Branch was held at Sefton on Saturday, October 19th, when eighteen ringers attended from the following places, viz., Aughton, Crossens, Liverpool, Ormskirk, Southport, and Walton. During the course of the afternoon and evening several touches of GRANDSIRE, BOB and TREBLE BOB MINOR, and STEDMAN DOUBLES were rung. The meeting was held in the schoolroom at 6.30 p.m., and was presided over by Mr. J. Martin, churchwarden, who gave the ringers a hearty welcome. After discussing various items of interest it was decided to hold a special meeting in Liverpool on November 23rd (in place of the usual monthly meeting), of which meeting due notice will be given. Three new members were made, viz., William Fairclough (Aughton), Richard Holmes and Thomas Hosker (Crossens), and, after a hearty vote of thanks to the Chairman for presiding, and to the Rector for the use of the bells and schoolroom, the meeting was brought to a close.

On Saturday, the 19th inst., being the monthly meeting of the Branch, there was rung by a mixed company a 720 of BOB MINOR in 28 mins. R. Mann (Liverpool), 1; T. Hosker (Crossens), 2; W. Mann (Liverpool), 3; W. Bentham (Aughton), 4; R. Holmes (Crossens), 5; W. Davies (conductor, Liverpool), 6. Also a 720 of GRANDSIRE MINOR in 28 mins. J. Martin (Liverpool), 1; H. N. Spinks (Walton-on-the-Hill), 2; W. Mann (Liverpool), 3; J. Benson (Aughton), 4; C. Wilson (Walton), 5; G. Prescott (conductor, Ormskirk), 6.

New Bells at Wychbold, Worcestershire.

THREE miles from Droitwich, and midway between the village of Wychbold and Stoke Works, is the new church of St. Mary-de-Wyche. This church was consecrated by the Bishop of Worcester on the 31st August last year, and the new ecclesiastical parish of Wychbold constituted. Owing to the development of the salt works at Stoke, the population of the district has considerably increased of late years, and the fact that some portions of the old parish were five miles from the mother church of Dodderhill, rendered it almost imperative that either a chapel-of-ease to Dodderhill or a new parish church should be built. Through the munificence of Mr. John Corbett, M.P., and the members of the family of R. Holmden Amplett, Esq., of Wychbold Hall, assisted by contributions from the parishioners and friends in the neighbourhood, about 6000*l*. was raised, by which this handsome and commodious church was built and partially endowed. Mr. Corbett also gave the site for the church and an acre of ground for the churchyard. During the erection of the building Mr. Corbett generously offered to pay the cost of a tower in addition to what he had already done, and on its completion last Easter came forward with another liberal offer, viz., a ring of six bells. These have been cast and hung by Mr. James Barwell, of Birmingham, and lately the bells were dedicated on the occasion of the Harvest Festival. The offertories amounted to 33*l*. 1*s*. 3*d*., and included the sum of 8*l*. 8*s*. from Mr. Corbett. At each service the hymn commencing ‘Lifted gently to the steeple’ was sung. At intervals on that day and the following Sunday the bells were rung by ringers from Bromsgrove parish church. Before service on Sunday morning 720 TREBLE BOB MINOR was rung. W. James, 1; E. Crump, 2; W. Rea, 3; O. James, 4; G. Hayward (conductor), 5; G. Bourne, 6. During Sunday afternoon a peal (120) of GRANDSIRE DOUBLES and 360 GRANDSIRE MINOR were rung, conducted by Mr. Crump. For the evening service 720 BOB MINOR, conducted by Mr. Hayward. In addition to the above several touches were rung by three of the Bromsgrove men, assisted by Messrs. A. Moore and G. Moore (Hanbury), and S. Crowther (Droitwich). The ringers were provided with a substantial dinner and tea at the expense of the Vicar.

An Old Ringer at Wollaston, Northants.

LATELY the remains of Joseph Green were interred in Wollaston cemetery, the Rev. H. Powell officiating. Deceased had lived to the age of eighty years, and was the oldest ringer connected with the church, having been one of the ringers at the coronation of our present sovereign. His last performance in the belfry was at the Jubilee, when he visited the church, and taking one of the ropes gave it several pulls, so that he might say he rang at the Jubilee as well as the Coronation. A great many persons were present at the funeral, and instead of tolling the bell—according to the usual custom—the ringers chimed. In the evening, as a special mark of respect for their deceased companion, a muffled peal was rung. According to statements of various old inhabitants, this is the first muffled peal rung in Wollaston.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At All Saints’, Loughborough, Leicestershire.

On Friday, the 4th inst., ten members of the Midland Counties’ Association rang a peal of 5010 STEDMAN CATERERS in 3 hrs. 15 mins. A. Cresser, 1; J. Smith, 2; J. Hardy, 3; W. E. Tydeman, 4; S. Smith, 5; F. A. Under-

wood,* 6; E. W. Cartwright,* 7; W. T. Billingham,* 8; J. W. Taylor, Esq., 9; E. Reader,* 10. Composed by A. P. Heywood, Esq., and conducted by J. W. Taylor. Tenor, 28 cwt., in D. This is the first peal rung entirely by members of the reorganized Society of All Saints' Church, Loughborough. [* First peal in the method.]

At All Saints', Fulham, London.

On Saturday, the 5th inst., ten members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang Johnson's peal of 5004 GRANDSIRE CATERS in 3 hrs. 5 mins. J. M. Hayes, 1; O. F. Winny, 2; F. W. Kelley, 3; W. E. Gerrard, 4; R. T. Hibbert (Reading), 5; A. W. Barkers (Salisbury), 6; J. Nicholls, jun., 7; J. W. Kelley (conductor), 8; W. T. Cockerill, 9; S. How, 10. Rung in honour of the birthday of the Vicar of Fulham, he being President of the Fulham Society and also a College Youth, his brother-strings wishing him many happy returns.

At the Parish Church, Bletchingley, Surrey.

On Saturday, the 5th inst., eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang Thurstan's peal of 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 59 mins. J. Pettit (conductor), 1; J. Bashford, jun.,* 2; C. Beech, 3; W. D. Smith, 4; G. J. Smith,* 5; W. Burkin,* 6; E. Horrex, 7; L. Killick, 8. The first peal of STEDMAN on the bells, and rung at the second attempt. The ringers desire to thank the Vicar for his kindness in granting them the use of the bells. Messrs. Bashford and Killick, Bletchingley; William Burkin, Nutfield; the rest, London. [* First peal in the method.]

At St. Peter's, Drayton, Berks.

On Saturday, the 5th inst., eight members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild rang a peal of DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR in 2 hrs. 48 mins. A. Burgess, 1; W. Short, 2; C. Hounslow, 3; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 4; W. H. L. Buckingham (St. Albans), 5; W. Gifford (Salisbury), 6; W. Field, 7; J. W. Washbrook (composer and conductor), 8. Tenor, 9½ cwt.

On Monday, the 7th ult., eight members of the above Guild rang Thurstan's peal of 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 45 mins. W. W. Gifford, 1; W. Adkins, 2; Rev. F. E. Robinson (conductor), 3; T. Blackburn, 4; H. F. Adams, 5; A. F. Kimbrey, 6; J. W. Washbrook, 7; T. Short, 8. Messrs. Gifford, Blackburn, and Adams, came from Salisbury.

On Saturday, the 12th inst., eight members of the above Guild rang a peal of 5024 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR in 2 hrs. 49 mins. W. Adkin, 1; C. Hounslow, 2; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 3; T. Short, 4; W. W. Gifford, 5; T. Blackburn, 6; A. P. Goddard (first peal in the method), 7; J. W. Washbrook (composer and conductor), 8. Rung for the first time, and contains the 4th sixteen, the 5th eight, and the 6th twenty-two times in 6th's place. Also a peal of 5024 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR in 2 hrs. 47 mins. W. Adkins, 1; C. Hounslow, 2; W. W. Gifford, 3; W. Bennett, 4; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 5; T. Blackburn, 6; A. P. Goddard, 7;

J. W. Washbrook (composer and conductor), 8. Rung for the first time, and contains the 4th and 5th sixteen times and the 6th fourteen times in 6th's place, and their extent in 5th's place respectively. Messrs. Gifford, Blackburn, and Goddard came from Salisbury.

At Christ Church, Oldbury, Worcestershire.

On Friday, the 11th inst., eight members of the Society for the Archdeaconry of Stafford rang Holt's Original peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 55 mins. L. W. Sayers, Esq. (first peal), 1; E. Goodred, 2; T. Horton, 3; L. Hall, 4; S. Reeves (conductor), 5; W. R. Small, 6; R. Hall, 7; W. Gold, 8. Tenor, 10½ cwt. Messrs. Sayers and Gold belong to the local band; Goodred and Small, Tipton; the brothers Hall, also Horton and Reeves, Westbromwich. The above peal was rung as a birthday peal to the twin brothers Hall.

Sussex County Association.—Horley Branch.

On Saturday evening, the 12th inst., an attempt was made for a peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, but after ringing 40 mins. (1162 changes) it came to grief. W. Wallis, 1; T. Kenward, 2; E. Dewey, 3; A. Ellis, 4; J. Taylor, 5; B. King, 6; F. Wickens (conductor), 7; G. Apps, 8. Afterwards a start was made for a 672 (changes) in the same method, which was brought round in 23 mins. W. Wallis, 1; S. Kenward, 2; E. Dewey, 3; B. King, 4; J. Taylor, 5; G. Apps, 6; E. Wickens (conductor), 7; A. Ellis, 8. Messrs. Wickens, Ellis, and King came from Charlwood; E. Dewey from Reigate.

At St. John-the-Evangelist's, Waterloo Road, London.

On Saturday, the 19th inst., eight members of the Waterloo Society rang Holt's Original peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 44 mins. W. Coppage, 1; S. G. Davies, 2; W. W. Thorne, 3; W. Jones, 4; W. Partington, 5; G. Wild, 6; F. L. Davies (conductor), 7; E. Bayford, 8. Tenor, 20 cwt. The above, which is the quickest peal on the bells, is the first since the re-hanging of the 5th and 6th by Mr. W. Hill, of Kennington, successor to the late Mr. G. Banks. The bells go well and give great satisfaction.

Lately the following peals and touches have been rung:—

At NEWBURY PARISH CHURCH.—Before Divine service, a quarter-peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. R. Sawyer, 1; D. Geater (conductor), 2; J. Powers, 3; C. Swain, 4; G. Batt, 5; H. D. Adams (Salisbury), 6; J. Hussey, 7; J. Wits, 8. Arranged by Mr. Geater from the first two parts and the first half of the third part of Reeves' Variation of Holt's Ten-part. Also a touch of 672 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. R. Sawyer, 1; E. Hillman (parish clerk), 2; J. Powers, 3; C. Swain, 4; D. Geater (conductor), 5; G. Batt, 6; J. Hussey, 7; J. Targett, 8.

At ST. NICHOLAS', EAST DEREHAM, NORFOLK.—The following members of the East Dereham Bell-ringers' Association rang a peal of 720 BOB MINOR

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CHICHESTER CATHEDRAL.—A Re-

treat for Women will (D.Y.) be conducted by the Dean in the Lady Chapel, from Nov. 12th to 16th. Any who may wish to attend it are requested, as soon as possible, to send name and address to the Dean that necessary arrangements may be made.

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much needed in a Mission House amongst a large number of very poor people. Funds almost exhausted. Gifts in money (for relief in sickness), hospital letters, or old clothes, will be thankfully acknowledged by Sister-in-Charge, Holy Redeemer Mission House, 21 Wilmington Square, E.C.

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(18 bobs and 2 singles) in 27 mins. F. M. Aldis (first time and first peal), 1; J. Guymer, 2; S. F. Burleigh, 3; W. Fitt, 4; J. Wells, 5; W. Leggatt, (conductor), 6.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH, MIDHURST, SUSSEX.—The following members of the Sussex County Association rang 720 DOUBLES Oxford Bob Minor in 23½ mins.:—T. Ellis, 1; C. Tribe (first 720 in the method), 2; Dr. W. H. George, 3; W. Selby, 4; G. Williams (conductor), 5; J. Lee, 6. Tenor, 12 cwt., in G.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH, BALDOCK, HERTS.—434 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. G. T. Spicer (conductor), 1; E. Bray, 2; J. Cawdell, 3; J. Craft, 4; Rt. Jackson, 5; A. Thurgood, 6; Rd. Jackson, 7; T. Webb, 8. And for evening service a non-conducted 350 of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, with J. Phillips, 1; and G. T. Spicer, 6; the rest as before.

AT ST. GILES'S, READING, BERKS.—720 OXFORD BOB MINOR in 27 mins. J. F. Tarrant, 1; F. Sweetzer, 2; A. E. Reeves, 3; A. H. Evans, 4; H. White (Basingstoke), 5; R. T. Hibbert, 6.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH, CAVERSHAM, OKON.—After Divine service, 720 OXFORD TREBLE BOB MINOR in 24 mins. H. Smith, 1; H. White, 2; R. T. Hibbert, 3; J. Hands, 4; E. Menday, 5; T. Newman (conductor), 6. H. White came from Basingstoke, and this was his first attempt in the method.

AT ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST'S, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—504 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. G. Little* (Carlisle), 1; C. L. Boutledge, 2; H. Ferguson, 3; F. Gibson* (Carlisle), 4; F. Lees, 5; S. Power (conductor), 6; W. Story, 7; R. Simm, jun., 8. Tenor, 12½ cwt. [* First touch.]

AT SALTAIRE, YORKS.—720 KENT TREBLE BOB MINOR in 27 mins. F. London, 1; S. H. London, 2; T. B. Kendall, 3; J. Cotterell, 4; C. Creasy (Spalding), 5; A. Riley (conductor), 6.

AT DARLSTON, STAFFORDSHIRE.—The first quarter of Mr. J. Carter's Twelve-part peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 42 mins. J. Harper, 1; B. Dalton, 2; S. Atkins (conductor), 3; S. Hammond (College Youth and Essex Association), 4; E. Nicholls, 5; J. Gough, 6; W. Smith, 7; C. F. Vicars, 8. Also on handbells 504 in the same method. J. Tinsley, 1-2; J. Gough, 3-4; W. Smith, 5-6; S. Atkins, 7-8. Also a touch of GRANDSIRE ROYAL. J. Fowler, 1-2; J. Gough, 3-4; J. Tinsley, 5-6; S. Hammond (first touch of ROYAL), 7-8; S. Atkins, 9-10.

AT DARTFORD, KENT.—On the occasion of the Harvest Festival, a quarter-peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES (1260 changes), in 44 mins. E. Everson, 1; F. French, 2; G. Morris, 3; E. Snowden, 4; J. Blackman, 5; H. J. Castle (conductor), 6; E. Everson, 7; H. Draper, 8. Composed by M. Hopgood, of Reading.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH, HANLEY CASTLE, WORCESTERSHIRE.—A peal of 720 GRANDSIRE MINOR in 26½ mins. A. Pitt (first 720), 1; W. Tarling, 2; L.

Longney (Croome, conductor), 3; H. T. Knowles (Malvern), 4; R. G. Knowles, 5; W. Page (Worcester), 6. Also several scores of GRANDSIRE and BOB DOUBLES, W. Worthington ringing the tenor.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH, HALESOWEN, WORCESTERSHIRE.—A peal of 720 BOB MINOR in 26 mins., with the tenor covering. A. Lea (first 720), 1; H. Lea, 2; J. P. Heckingbottom, 3; G. Cockin, 4; E. Hackett, 5; H. Raybould (conductor), 6; M. Hackett, 7. First 720 in the method by all except the conductor.

AT SOUTHGATE, MIDDLESEX.—The following members of St. James's Society attempted Holt's Original peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, but after ringing 1 hr. 15 mins. the conductor called the bells round, owing to the tenor going badly. J. George (Rugby), 1; W. E. Gerrard, 2; G. Grimwade, 3; J. Nunn, 4; F. G. Newman (conductor), 5; J. Barber, 6; W. G. George, 7; J. Hitch, 8. Tenor, 24 cwt.

AT ST. MARY'S, BURTON LATIMER.—Five members of the Lowick Church Bell-ringing Society paid a visit to the above village, and rang three six-scores of GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, each called differently. R. Dunkley, 1; J. Guess, 2; W. Fox, 3; C. Swan, 4; G. March (conductor), 5. Also four peals of BOB DOUBLES, conducted in turns. G. March, 1; J. Guess, 2; R. Dunkley, 3; W. Fox, 4; C. Swan, 5. Also a six-score of ST. SIMON'S DOUBLES, and two six-scores of CANTERBURY DOUBLES. C. Swan, 1; J. Guess, 2; W. Fox, 3; G. March, 4; R. Dunkley (conductor), 5. Tenor about 16 cwt. The ringers desire to express their thanks to the Rev. F. B. Newman, rector, and the Rev. C. B. Bartlett, curate, for the use of the bells, and also for their hospitality and great kindness, which made the visit a very happy one.

AT SEVENHAMPTON, WILTS.—720 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES (being six six-scores each called differently). E. Bishop (conductor), 1; T. Ricketts, 2; G. Iles, 3; J. H. Shepherd, 4; O. W. Layng, 5; G. Stait, 6. Also 120 with J. Truman, 5. Tenor, about 8 cwt.

AT MEYSEY-HAMPTON, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.—720 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES (being six six-scores called differently). J. Truman, 1; J. H. Shepherd, 2; G. Iles, 3; T. Ricketts, 4; O. W. Layng (conductor), 5; G. Stait, 6. Also several six-scores, called by T. Ricketts and G. Iles. A few six-scores were also rung on a light peal of five at Lalton, Wilts, on the same day. J. Truman, 1; T. Ricketts, 2; G. Iles, 3; J. H. Shepherd, 4; O. W. Layng, 5.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH, DALTON-IN-FURNESS, LANCASHIRE.—720 PLAIN BOB MINOR (18 bobs, 2 singles) in 24 mins. T. Luart,* 1; T. Townson,* 2; T. Watson (conductor), 3; M. Caddy, 4; T. R. Jackson,* 5; J. Burrows,* 6. First peal by all except T. Watson. [*Members of the Lancashire Association.]

NOTICE.—Many valuable communications unavoidably postponed.

EDWARD GARRETT'S NEW TALE,

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IRELAND.

(From our Special Correspondent.)

THE annual visitation of the Bishop of Derry was held in St. Columba's Cathedral, Londonderry, on Tuesday week. Before the charge the Archdeacon of Derry presented the Bishop, Dr. Alexander, with an address of confidence, signed by 115 clergymen of the united diocese of Derry and Raphoe, representing nearly the entire clerical staff. Referring to the attacks made on the Bishop in consequence of his being present at the high celebration in St. Mary's, Cardiff, the Archdeacon said: 'The Bishop's presence at that service was not of his own selection, and he must have been surprised as, bit by bit, the ritual of the celebration was developed. He asked the Bishop to receive their dutiful address, not only as a mark of their affection for his person, but also of their unswerving loyalty to him as their Bishop.' Dr. Alexander, in replying to the address, was much affected. He said:—

'I preached at the Cardiff Congress by the invitation of the Bishop of Llandaff, and, I presume, of the managers of the Congress. I committed myself without hesitation or question to them, as I had done on seven previous occasions, when I preached at similar gatherings in other dioceses of England. My sermon at Cardiff was thus delivered, by invitation of the Bishop, in a fabric whose very name I had to ask at the Cardiff station when I arrived on the morning of the Congress; of whose peculiar ceremonial I knew absolutely nothing until a few minutes before the service began—nay, not fully until after my discourse was ended; in a diocese over which I had no control; within the sphere of a Church which is not regulated by the same law as our own in things ritual, with which, therefore, I had no right to interfere. The whole complicated and elaborate function was one to which, in a ministry of forty-two years, I had neither seen nor even conceived a parallel, and filled me with such amazement as advancing years still leave elderly men the capacity for feeling in presence of things novel and unexpected.'

The Bishop went on to take a review of his own life and teaching among them since he has set over them as their Bishop twenty-two years before, and ended with great emotion, many of the clergy likewise being deeply affected. His Lordship then proceeded with his charge. In the course of it he referred to the opposition raised against their cathedral service, which was being increasingly attended by Presbyterians, and said:—

'They could not help it if their service was becoming attractive to many outside their own communion. Genius and sanctity were sporadic gifts in their liturgical service. Lovingly rendered, without extravagance or irreverence, it had the charm of perpetual genius and perpetual sanctity. Enshrined amongst them, and exercising the influence of these rare and glorious gifts, their attractive service was fast getting popular, and yet some proposed to raise a regiment of muscular theologians to put down these services on the assumption, apparently, that they would empty our church and fill their own. For a Churchman to entertain such an idea was the logic of ecclesiastical suicide.'

The Bishop of Cork held his visitation in St. Finbarre's Cathedral, Cork, on the same day. Referring to the Ornaments Rubric, Dr. Gregg said: 'We stand in a different position as regards some things likely to cause difference of opinion from the members of the Church of England. For one, at all events, of the happy results of the revision of the Prayer-book was that we got rid altogether of the difficulties and ambiguity of the Rubric, and instead of it we have clear and precise directions as to the ritual in the Canons.'

The Archbishop of Dublin held his visitation on Friday in Christchurch Cathedral, Dublin. Divine service began at eleven a.m. There was a large gathering of the clergy of the diocese. Immediately after morning prayers his Grace delivered his triennial charge. He referred at large to the increase of Church-work in the united diocese, the consecration of new churches, and the restoration of old ones; the creation of the Jubilee Fund for the education of the children of the clergy, educational progress, the political and social dangers of the day, the antagonism of the Church of Rome, and the responsibilities of the reformed Church of Ireland. At the close of his charge the Archbishop dealt with the Ritualistic scare, and added some words of reassurance.

'Let me,' said his Grace, 'at once say that if I thought that there were a danger, in any appreciable form, of Ritualism making an inroad into our Irish Church—our "reformed and Protestant Church," as in the preamble to our Constitution we are taught to call it—I should deem it a danger of far more disastrous portent than any other peril—social, political, and financial—to which I have already referred. I look on the movement which Ritualism represents as distinctly Romeward, if not in its aim, certainly in its tendency and in its results.'

The *Irish Ecclesiastical Gazette* publishes an important correspondence that has gone on between the Archbishop and his Chancellor, Dr. Ball, on the subject of certain alleged violations of the rubrics and canons of the Church brought forward by the 'Protestant Defence Association.' Dr. Ball points out that 'Until the construction of a rule regulating ceremonial procedure has been laid down, error may arise from honest misconception. When it shall be laid down, I am not disposed to

believe that any clergyman would willingly disobey what shall be decided.'

And he adds: 'Under these circumstances it is for your Grace to consider whether it is advisable for you to express an opinion upon charges which may come to be decided in the court of which you are President.'

The Diocesan Synod of Dublin meets to-day (Monday) in Christchurch Place, when it is likely the above correspondence will come under review. The Diocesan Synods of Derry and Cork met on Wednesday and Thursday last, but a notice of them must be deferred till next week.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

The Ancient Society of College Youths.

NOTICE.—The 252nd Anniversary Dinner of this Society will be held on Saturday, November 16th. Further particulars will be announced. To ensure the success of the meeting, the under-mentioned Committee will be pleased to receive the names of those purposing to attend. The following form the Dinner Committee:—Mr. F. E. Dawe (Master), 7½ Chesham Mews, Belgrave, S.W.; Messrs. J. Pettit (Treasurer), 3 St. Thomas' Cottages, St. Thomas' Square, Hackney, E.; H. Springall (Steward), Tower Hamlets Road, Forest Gate, E.; G. Mash, 30 Newcomen Street, Borough, S.E.; C. F. Winny, 27 Tadema Road, Chelsea; G. T. McLaughlin, 10 Belle Vue Gardens, Earlsfield, Surrey; W. D. Smith, 44 Spurstowe Road, Hackney; S. E. Joyce, 33 Finch Street, Whitechapel, E.; R. T. Woodley (Hon. Secretary), 40 Lillington Street, Piccadilly, S.W.

Guild of Devonshire Ringers.

THE Hon. and Rev. J. S. Northcote, son of the late Earl of Iddesleigh, who has left Upton Pyne to undertake the vicarage of St. Andrew's, Westminster, was on Saturday afternoon presented by the Guild of Devonshire Ringers with a set of forty-nine handbells, in 'token of the high appreciation with which they regard the many years of hard, earnest, and successful work which he has devoted to the cause of change-ringing and belfry reform.' Seven years ago the rev. gentleman became the hon. secretary to the Guild, and he has shown intense interest in his work. He is now succeeded by Canon Trefusis, who will no doubt become as popular as his predecessor. At the presentation, which took place in the St. Sidwell's Institute, Mr. Charles Pearson, of Whitstone, presided. Mr. Pearson, in making the presentation, said they were grateful for the courtesy and painstaking industry which had marked Mr. Northcote's fulfilment of the duties of honorary secretary of the Guild. At first it was intended to make Mrs. Northcote a present as well, but it was intimated that the handbells would be quite as acceptable and equally useful to her as to her husband, both of whom are handbell-ringers. It was satisfactory to see ladies taking an interest in the art, for no one was in a better position to promote the objects of the Guild than the fair sex.

The bells and the address were then uncovered. The address was beautifully written and illuminated, the top corners being filled by two painted views of the Cathedral and of Upton Pyne Church, and the Iddesleigh arms and motto, 'Christi Crux est mea lux.' It was the work of Mr. A. J. Couch. In addition to the names of the ringers who had subscribed, the address also contained the signatures of the Right Rev. the Lord Bishop (Patron), the Right Hon. Lord Coleridge, Colonel C. A. W. Troyte (President), the Very Rev. the Dean, Ven. Archdeacon Sandford, Ven. Archdeacon Barnes, the Rev. Canon Trefusis, &c.

The Rev. J. S. Northcote, in response, thanked them heartily for their kindness. There were, he said, no better men to be found in Devonshire than ringers, and none more truly attached to the Church. Although change-ringing was not as popular as it would be, yet ringing itself was as popular in the county as in any part of England. Church ringing and belfry reform must go together. The one helped the other. If they raised the character of the work they would raise the character of the workmen, and there could be no doubt that change-ringing was higher and more scientific than common ringing, and therefore the more they improved that the greater would be the improvement in the men who did it. He did not think that belfry reform had been as complete a success as the chairman seemed to think. There was still work to be done, and let them never be satisfied that they had done enough in this respect. He mentioned that at the church to which he had removed at Westminster there was no ringing, but he hoped to be able to raise a band for the purpose, while Mrs. Northcote had quite made up her mind to organize a ladies' band of ringers.

Several changes were then rung on the new bells, which possess a remarkable beauty of tone, and the proceedings were concluded with votes of thanks. It should be added that the Committee who made arrangements for the presentation were Messrs. C. Pearson (Whitstone), S. Herbert, B. Mundy, F. Shephard, A. W. Serle, E. Pitt, W. Webber, R. Jerman, and Canon Trefusis (hon. sec.). The subscribers numbered about 150, and the subscriptions amounted to 30l.

Kent County Association.

CANTERBURY DISTRICT.—The next meeting of this district will be held at Elham, on Monday, November 4th. The tower will be open for ringing from 12 at noon. ALFRED FOREMAN, Local Hon. Sec.

TUNBRIDGE DISTRICT.—The next monthly meeting for united practice will be held at Shipbourne, on Saturday, the 9th inst., from 9.30 a.m. Sevenoaks Rectory. T. S. CURTIS, Hon. Sec.

ROCHESTER DISTRICT.—The next meeting of this district (for ringing only) will be held at Woolwich (St. Mary, eight bells) on Saturday, November 9th. Tower open from 2 until 10 p.m. W. MARTIN, *Local Hon. Sec.*

The Lancashire Association.—Rossendale Branch.

THE next meeting of the above Branch will be held at St. James's Church, Haslingden, on Saturday, November 9th. Bells ready at 2.30 p.m. Meeting in the schoolroom at 5.30 p.m. All non-members of the Association are invited to attend. JOHN SHEPHERD, *Hon. Sec.*

The Hertfordshire Association.—Complimentary Peal to Mr. Haworth at St. Peter's, St. Albans.

SOME months ago the project was formed of arranging a peal at St. Peter's to commemorate the completion by Mr. Haworth of his fiftieth year of membership of the College Youths, and an invitation was given to him to take part in it; but, consequent upon illness near the church, the idea could not be carried out at the time. The immediate obstacle having been removed, it only remained to fix the date and get the band together. The birthday of Mr. T. Waller being at hand, it was decided that Saturday, October 26th, should be the day, so that the peal would at once be a complimentary one to two brother-members. Three were invited from Hertford to take part in it with Mr. Haworth, and the remainder of the band was made up out of the local Society. The peal was intended to be one of *Bon Royal*, but at the last minute the truth of the old proverb, 'Man proposes, &c.', was again realised, and in the face of two unavoidable absentees it was felt to be inexpedient to start for a peal in that method. Substitutes having been found, a peal of *GRANDSIRE CATERS* (5021 changes) was commenced by the following:—J. R. Haworth, 1; W. H. L. Buckingham, 2; A. Barnes, 3; J. W. Brewer, 4; S. Knight, 5; M. Ellsmore, 6; E. P. Debenham, 7; G. W. Cartmel, 8; W. Battle, 9; A. Hull, 10; which was successfully brought round in 3 hrs. 26 mins. At the conclusion Mr. Debenham, the conductor, on behalf of those present, congratulated Mr. Haworth upon completing his half-century as a College Youth, and, referring to the peal just rung, hoped that it would be regarded as a memento of that event. Mr. Haworth replied in suitable terms, and informed the company that he rang his first peal fifty years ago (October 1839); although he had had many attempts at St. Albans, this was the first he had rung there. The peal was composed by the late Mr. John Cox, who for many years was associated with Mr. Haworth in the ringing world, and Mr. Debenham acquired his knowledge of change-ringing from Mr. Haworth.

There has been a considerable improvement effected in the belfry at St. Peter's during the last few weeks, by the colouring of the walls, and other little matters have also received attention: great satisfaction was expressed at the manner in which the work was carried out by Messrs. W. Little and A. and E. Hull, three of the members of the local Society.

The Loughborough Ringers at Grantham.

PERMISSION having been kindly given by the Vicar (the Rev. W. Glaister), the Loughborough (All Saints') Society determined to visit Grantham on Saturday, the 19th ult., for the purpose of attempting a peal of *GRANDSIRE CATERS* on the St. Wolfran Church bells. Leaving Loughborough at 1.16 p.m., Grantham was reached, *via* Nottingham, at 2.47, and after a hurried glance at the interior of the magnificent church, the ringers directed their way to the belfry, which was reached by a long pull up the numerous steps of the tower. Some little time was spent in adjusting ropes, &c. At 3.30 'Go' was called, and with but slight trips all went merrily until the welcome cry of 'That's all' was heard at 7.8. Thus the first peal of *CATERS* (of which particulars will be found in their proper place) ever rang in the county of Lincoln was successfully accomplished by the Loughborough Branch of the Midland Counties' Association, who were heartily congratulated upon the striking by the Vicar and many of the local ringers present. A 'bus' was in waiting for those who were anxious to catch the earliest train home, leaving Grantham at 7.38. The Loughborough ringers take this opportunity of thanking the Vicar and Churchwardens for kindly allowing them the use of the bells.

A New Clock at Burwash Church, Sussex.

A LARGE memorial clock has just been fixed in the church to the late Rector. It strikes the hours, chimes the quarters, and has two five-foot dials. John Smith & Sons, Midland Clock Works, Derby, have carried out the work, and they guarantee the clock to keep time with the greatest accuracy.

A Question.

SIR,—Two new bells have lately been given by public subscription to Penrith Church tower. We have now a peal of eight bells. A great stimulus has been given to bell-ringing. Meanwhile, the houses surround the tower *in statu quo*. The week-day ringing causes annoyance or delight. I am informed that there is a system of electric bells patented by Mr. Seage. May I ask the experienced to answer the question, Does the above system make the bell-ringers more efficient? T. P. MONNINGTON.

[Seage's apparatus is not 'electric,' but is worked by the action of levers and wires from the tower bells in full swing causing handbells in the ringing room to strike at the moment the large bell would have struck had its clapper been unslashed. It costs rather over 1*l.* per bell. For ringers' practice it is, of course, not so good as open ringing, but it is a very fair makeshift.—ED. C. B.]

CHANGE-RINGING.

At St. Martin-in-the-Fields, Trafalgar Square, London.

ON Saturday, the 19th ult., twelve members of the Norwich Diocesan Association rang a peal of 5040 *KENT TREBLE BOB MAXIMUS* in 3 hrs. 38 mins.

W. L. Catchpole (conductor), 1; J. Motts, 2; I. S. Alexander, 3; W. P. Garrard, 4; R. E. Durrant, 5; W. Motts, 6; H. Dains (composer), 7; R. Hawes, 8; E. Reeve, 9; G. Newson, 10; R. H. Brundell, 11; F. Tillet, 12. Tenor, 34 cwt. Messrs. Dains and Newson are members of the Royal Cumberland Society, and the others belong to the St. Mary-le-Tower Society, Ipswich.

At St. John-the-Baptist's, Erith, Kent.

THE COMPOSITION.

	2	3	4	5	6	7		3	2	6	5	4	7	2
On Saturday, the 12th ult.,	7	5	2	6	3	4	1	5	2	3	7	6	4	5
eight members of the Society of	6	5	7	4	2	3	5	2	3	5	7	6	4	4
Trinity Youths rang a peal of	4	5	6	3	7	2	5	6	4	2	5	7	3	2
5040 <i>GRANDSIRE TRIPLES</i> in	3	5	4	2	6	7	5	5	4	6	3	2	7	5
2 hrs. 45 mins. G. Cullum, 1;	4	6	3	5	7	2	3	7	3	5	2	4	6	1
W. J. Reeve, 2; E. E. Richards	3	7	4	6	2	5	3	2	3	7	6	5	4	5
(composer and conductor), 3;	5	6	3	2	7	4	1	4	6	2	5	3	7	1
G. Conyard, 4; F. Cullum, 5;	2	6	5	4	3	7	5	5	6	4	7	2	3	5
J. Garard, 6; R. Gee, 7; E.	7	4	2	3	6	5	1	4	2	5	6	3	7	3
Barnett, 8. The above was	3	4	7	5	2	6	5	7	6	4	3	2	5	1
rung as a Birthday Peal for its	5	4	3	6	7	2	5	4	2	7	6	5	3	3
Conductor.	2	6	5	7	4	3	1	5	3	4	7	6	2	2
	7	6	2	3	4	5	3	3	4	5	7	6	2	4
	4	3	7	5	6	2	1	4	5	3	7	6	2	4
	6	2	4	7	5	3	2	2	7	4	6	5	3	1
	3	7	6	5	2	4	1	5	3	2	4	6	7	2
	7	6	3	5	2	4	4	5	4	3	7	2	6	
	4	5	7	2	6	3	1	5	7	4	6	3	2	
	2	5	4	3	7	6	5	5	6	7	2	4	3	
	6	3	2	7	5	4	1	5	2	6	3	7	4	
	5	4	6	2	7	3	2		Twice repeated.					
	6	7	5	4	3	2	3							

These leads—627354, 436527, 754236—to be inserted at three, after the second bob, with a plain lead single and bob single.

Woolwich.

E. E. RICHARDS.

At St. Dunstan's, Stepney, London.

ON Saturday, the 19th ult., ten members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang Haley's peal of 5002 *STEDMAN CATERS* in 3 hrs. 25 mins. H. Springall (conductor), 1; J. Pettit, 2; W. Cecil, 3; S. E. Joyce, 4; W. Greenleaf, 5; W. Tanner, 6; York Green,* 7; W. T. Cockerill,* 8; S. Hayes,* 9; T. Baker,* 10. Tenor, 31 cwt. [* First peal of *STEDMAN CATERS*.]

At St. Wolfran's, Grantham, Lincolnshire.

ON Saturday, the 19th ult., ten members of the Midland Counties' Association rang a peal of 5021 *GRANDSIRE CATERS* in 3 hrs. 35 mins. A. Cresser, 1; J. Smith, 2; J. Hardy, 3; J. W. Taylor, sen., 4; W. E. Tydeman, 5; W. A. Tyler, 6; R. Lane, 7; W. T. Billingham, 8; J. W. Taylor, jun., 9; F. Reader, 10. Composed by Mr. Carter of Birmingham, and conducted by Mr. Taylor, jun. Tenor, 32 cwt., in D. The first peal of *CATERS* in the county of Lincoln. The composition has the sixth alternately eight courses wrong, and eight courses right, and has not been previously rung.

At All Saints', Duffield, Derbyshire.

ON Saturday, the 19th ult., ten members of the Midland Counties' Association rang a peal of 5100 *DUFFIELD ROYAL* in 3 hrs. 22 mins. G. Dawson, 1; S. Johnson, 2; A. Robinson, 3; H. Midgley, 4; B. Sugden, 5; A. P. Heywood, Esq. (composer and conductor), 6; G. Hingley, 7; E. Moreton, 8; J. Howe, 9; W. Hickling, 10. Tenor, 17 cwt. Now rung for the first time.

At Benington, Herts.

ON Tuesday, the 22nd ult., the following members of the Herts Association rang six courses of *SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR*, and three courses of *DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR*. Jno. Kitchener, 1; Jos. Kitchener, 2; W. Hobbs, 3; L. Chapman, 4; W. H. L. Buckingham, 5; J. Warner, 6; S. Shambrook, 7; S. Page (conductor), 8.

ON Wednesday, the 23rd ult., the undermentioned members of the Benington (Herts) Change-ringing Society rang upon their musical ring of eight bells (tenor, 14 cwt., in F), upon the occasion of a wedding:—*GRANDSIRE TRIPLES*, 504; *STEDMAN TRIPLES*, 504; *KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR*, 576; *DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR*, 672: 2256. The bells were raised and fallen in musical order. J. Kitchener, Jos. Kitchener, L. Proctor, Esq., L. Chapman, W. Hobbs, J. Warner, C. Shambrook, W. Smith, S. Page (conductor).

At St. Thomas's, Brentwood, Essex.

ON Saturday evening, the 26th ult., a band of the Essex Association rang Holt's Original peal of *GRANDSIRE TRIPLES* in 3 hrs. 1 min. W. Pigram (Brentwood), 1; J. Gobbett (West Ham), 2; W. Peyrum (Romford), 3; W. Eye* (Little Heath), 4; A. J. Perkins (Romford), 5; W. Nash (Romford), 6; M. L. Myhill (Romford), 7; L. James (Romford), 8. Tenor, 13½ cwt. [* First peal, and treble ringer's first attempt.]

AT ST. PAUL'S, WALKDEN, LANCASHIRE.—ON Wednesday evening, the 26th ult., 720 *KENT TREBLE BOB* were rung for practice in 25 mins. W. Denner, 1; J. Worthington (first 720 as conductor), 2; J. Brooks, 3; J. Williamson, 4; J. Potter, 5; A. Potter, 6. Also on Sunday evening, the 27th ult., 720 *KENT TREBLE BOB* in 25½ mins. W. Denner, 1; J. Worthington, 2; E. Cash (conductor), 3; J. Williamson, 4; J. Potter, 5; J. Brookes, 6. Tenor, 13½ cwt. Mr. E. Cash came from Swinton.

CARLISLE DIOCESAN HISTORY. By Richard S. Ferguson, Chancellor of Carlisle. (London: S.P.C.K.)—The diocese of Carlisle before its enlargement in 1856 was the smallest in England, including only part of Cumberland and part of Westmoreland; not arbitrarily carved out from those two counties, the names and boundaries of which, when the see was founded in 1133 by Henry I., had not yet come into existence; but coincident with a territory which in 1133 was already well defined, and is historically interesting as having, until conquered in 1092 by William Rufus, never formed part of the kingdom of England. The ecclesiastical history of this district, of course, begins centuries earlier than the foundation of the see of Carlisle. Indeed, on hypothesis of St. Ninian having preached at the end of the fourth century to his compatriots south of the Solway, the first bishop of Carlisle dates but half way between the introduction of Christianity into this part of Britain and the present time; referring to which theory, advanced and ably advocated by the Rev. T. Lees, F.S.A., Chancellor Ferguson says: 'The idea is so fascinating that one would wish it had a more solid historical basis.' In later times, amid much that is obscure in Cumbrian history, there stand out two conspicuous ecclesiastical landmarks, viz., the inclusion of the whole of Strathclyde (circa 570) in St. Kentigern's diocese of Glasgow, and the transference of the Carlisle district in 685 to St. Cuthbert's diocese of Lindisfarne, to which, or rather successively to Lindisfarne, Chester-le-Street, and Durham, it remained subject until itself constituted a diocese by Henry I. Of these arrangements, and of whatever else there is to be said of pre-Norman Christianity in these parts, the story is well and concisely told by Mr. Ferguson in his chapters on 'Strathclyde' and 'The Land of Carlisle.' Prefixed, however, to these two chapters is one on 'The Britons and the Romans,' which, interesting and important as it is in itself, might perhaps with advantage have been somewhat curtailed; and the space so gained might have been devoted to expansion of some other part of the volume. At first sight it may seem as if the chapter which would have been most benefited by expansion is one on 'A Century and a Quarter of Bishops,' which occupies only seven pages. But the apparently disproportionate brevity of this chapter is not without reasonable grounds. The period with which it is concerned—1396-1421—'covers much,' says Mr. Ferguson, 'of fascinating interest in English history; but there is nothing special to be said of the diocese of Carlisle.' The episcopal registers of this period have unfortunately long been missing, and 'there is nothing left to supply their place.' Of the bishops themselves, fifteen in number, little is known, except of reputation gained by some of them before or after their tenures of office at Carlisle, or, as in the case of Merks, by something done elsewhere than in the diocese. By what must be regarded as a fortunate accident, in a district long subject to most terrible devastation, the earlier registers from 1292 to 1396 have been preserved; and good use is made of them by Mr. Ferguson in his chapter on the Scottish wars. A troublesome and difficult post was the bishopric of Carlisle during those wars. Bishop Halton in 1318 writes 'a piteous letter to the Pope, in which he states that he is reduced to indigence.' His successor, Ross, 'found his diocese in dire poverty, without even a manor house, he says, capable of covering his familia.' Kikby, who succeeded Ross, 'himself headed the troops, and fought in person; in one of his battles 'was unhorsed, but regained his saddle, rallied his men, and gained the victory.' Nor until quite recent times, owing to various causes, which will be found fully set forth in this volume, has the condition of the diocese been such as to render the bishopric other than a post of peculiar difficulty. Yet, 'spite of its disadvantages, Carlisle can boast that it has attracted every pattern of bishop but one. Diplomats, politicians, courtiers, soldiers, lawyers, scholars, and men of affairs, have all occupied the episcopal throne; but no bishop of the pattern of the mediæval saint has ever adorned the see of Carlisle. Rainbow was perhaps the nearest approach to one. Nicolson, of all the bishops that have ever reigned in Carlisle, was perhaps the one most suited for the see as it was situated in the 17th and 18th centuries.' Mr. Ferguson's account of this remarkable man, archdeacon of Carlisle from 1682 to 1702, and bishop from 1702 to 1718, will certainly induce in the reader a strong desire to know more about him; which desire can be best gratified, and at the same time the condition of the diocese at the beginning of last century best understood, by perusal of a singularly interesting book, entitled *Miscellany Accounts of the Diocese of Carlisle*, printed *verbatim* from Bishop Nicolson's notes, which have remained in MS. until recently published by the Cumberland and Westmoreland Archaeological Society. A pleasing contrast to the troubles and difficulties of bygone centuries is presented in Mr. Ferguson's account of the present condition of the diocese; which, with many other matters of interest, we are sorry that want of space obliges us to leave unnoticed.

For remainder of notices of books, see pages 1209-10.

HOUSEWIVES AND HOUSEKEEPERS.—To make rich or plain cakes, scones, tencakes, puddings, pice, and tarts, use Borwick's Baking Powder according to printed directions. The best in the world, largest sale in the world, and awarded five gold medals. Insist on having Borwick's. —ADVT.]

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

The Ancient Society of College Youths.

THE 252nd Anniversary Dinner of this Society will be held on Saturday, November 16th, at the 'City Restaurant,' Milk Street, Cheapside, City of London, at 7.30 p.m., when a most substantial repast and an efficient pianist will be provided. Tickets, 3s. 6d. each. To ensure the success of the meeting, the undermentioned Committee will be pleased to receive the names of those purposing to attend. The following form the Dinner Committee:—Mr. F. E. Dawe (Master), 7½ Chesham Mews, Belgrave, S.W.; Messrs. J. Pettit (Treasurer), 3 St. Thomas' Cottages, St. Thomas' Square, Hackney, E.; H. Springall (Steward), Tower Hamlets Road, Forest Gate, E.; G. Mash, 30 Newcomen Street, Borough, S.E.; C. F. Winny, 27 Tadema Road, Chelsea; G. T. McLaughlin, 10 Belle Vue Gardens, Earsfield, Surrey; W. D. Smith, 44 Spurstowe Road, Hackney; S. E. Joyce, 33 Finch Street, Whitechapel, E.; R. T. Woodley (Hon. Secretary), 'King's Head,' Winchester Street, Borough.

The Lancashire Association.

LIVERPOOL DIOCESAN BRANCH.—In place of the usual monthly meeting a special meeting of the Branch will be held in the Cocoa Rooms, St. Luke's Place, Liverpool, on Saturday, November 16th, at five p.m., when it is earnestly requested that as many ringers as possible belonging to the diocese will attend the meeting, as the business is of great importance. Most probably the bells of St. Luke's Church will be open for ringing after the meeting. The meeting will take place on the 16th, and not the 23rd as previously reported.

W. BENTHAM, Branch Secretary.

Black Moss Lane, Aughton, Ormskirk.

ROCHDALE BRANCH.—A meeting of this Branch was held at St. Mark's Church, Glodwick, on Saturday, October 26th. There was only a poor attendance of members, two being from Rochdale, and the rest from Oldham. Touches of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES were rung, and a touch of BOB MAJOR attempted. 720 KENT TREBLE BOB were rung in good style in 24 mins. F. Crosland, 1; E. B. Shaw, 2; S. Stott, 3; F. Birtwistle, 4; J. Priestley, 5; T. B. Dickens (conductor), 6. The next meeting is at St. Thomas's Church, Newhey, on Saturday, November 30th, 1889.

The Surrey Association.

A QUARTERLY MEETING was held at Carshalton, by the kind permission of the Rector, on Monday, October 28th. Ringing began at about four o'clock with 720 KENT TREBLE BOB by the Betchworth band, with the Rev. E. W. Carpenter and Messrs. Miles and Springall. Subsequently the ringing comprised touches of STEDMAN TRIPLES, GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, and TREBLE BOB MAJOR. At 6.30 the members repaired to the schoolroom, where tea was provided, of which thirty-four members partook. At the subsequent meeting, with the Rev. E. W. Carpenter in the chair, Mr. Strange was chosen as the representative of the Surrey Association on the Central Council, and it was decided to hold the next Quarterly Meeting at Kingston-on-Thames.

Amersham Church and Bells, Bucks.

THE tower of this handsome old parish church is at present undergoing thorough repair. The unsightly patched plastering which hid the stone dressings and flint walls of the exterior is being removed, and the defective parts made good. The angled staircase is to be surmounted with a spirelet, new stone mullioned windows are inserted in the upper part on each side, and the battlements will be raised; in fact, the general appearance when completed will resemble Beaconsfield tower on a taller scale. Local subscriptions are promised, and by other means it is hoped to complete the remainder of the church in the coming spring.

Lately a bazaar was held in the grounds of Shardeloes Park, and the Hall thrown open for visitors, by the kindness of Captain Drake. This resulted in the sum of 330*l.* being added to the building fund. The ring of six bells was rung at intervals on each day by local ringers, assisted by friends from Hughenden, and several peals of GRANDSIRE DOUBLES were rung, conducted by W. Hussey and W. H. Fussell, in which the following took part: E. Elburn (captain and sexton), A. Martin (first 120), L. Edwards, W. Peddell, E. Meads, H. Grunsdell, W. Peddell, and J. Dover.

A new clock is to be erected and attention given to the bells, which are in a defective state; and should the gentry and parishioners support the movement sufficiently, two new bells will be added to the present ring of six.

The Church Bells of Great Bardfield.

LATELY Harvest Thanksgiving Services were held in the parish church. The reopening of the church bells, which have been restored, took place on the same day. There was a celebration of the Holy Eucharist at 8 a.m., Benediction of the Bells at 4.15 p.m., and Evensong at 7.15 p.m. All the services were well attended, the congregation in the evening being especially large. The Rev. A. C. Roberts, vicar of Dunmow and rural dean, was the preacher, and gave a suitable discourse. After the offertory, at evensong, a *Te Deum* was sung. The bells having been silent for the last two months, the day had been looked forward to with much pleasure by the inhabitants. It had been decided to commemorate Her Majesty's Jubilee by putting up a new treble, to complete the ring of six. Last year, however, the fourth was unfortunately cracked, and, upon examination, it was found necessary to rehang all the bells, and to put in a new framework. Later on, another was found to be cracked, and that also had to be recast. At a meeting of the chief parishioners, held at the Town Hall, the Vicar, who was in the chair, laid an estimate before the gathering, and it was unanimously agreed that the work should be undertaken at once. A subscription list was forth-

with opened, and over 80*l.* was raised in the room. The work has been most satisfactorily carried out by Messrs. Taylor, Loughborough. On the day of opening the ringers of Braintree, who had kindly offered their services, rang the following peals during the afternoon and evening:—720 OXFORD TREBLE BOB, 720 BOB MINOR, and 720 KENT TREBLE BOB. T. Watson, 1; F. Calthorpe, 2; C. Howard, 3; F. Bumpstead, 4; F. Rudkin (conductor), 5; H. Hammond, 6. The old ring of five is considerably improved by the new bell. The inhabitants of the parish have given liberal contributions towards the restoration fund, and over 30*l.* has been raised by the excellent concerts lately given. There is still a deficiency of 50*l.*, which it is hoped will shortly be wiped out. The total cost of the work will be about 250*l.*

Church Bell-ringers' Festival at Bridgnorth.

MEMBERS of the Hereford Diocesan Guild of Church Bell-ringers came from neighbouring churches in large numbers. At the dinner the Mayor (Councillor Whitefoot, jun.) occupied the chair, and he was supported by the Revs. A. L. Oldham, G. M. Custance (secretary), A. Dudley, H. J. Ward, and H. Parsons; Mr. Phillott (master of the Guild) was vice-chairman. There were also present many others. After dinner the Mayor, who was received with applause, said their time was exceedingly short—service at St. Leonard's Church being fixed for 2.30—and the toast list must correspond to their time. He therefore asked them in a few brief words to drink the health of Her Majesty the Queen. The toast having been observed, the Mayor said the next toast he had to propose was essentially the toast of the day, and he knew they would receive it most heartily. He asked them to drink to the health of 'The Hereford Diocesan Guild of Church Bell-ringers,' and coupled with the toast the name of Mr. Phillott, the master of their Guild. Mr. Phillott replied in a characteristic speech. He was greatly delighted to see so many ringers present, for it was on such occasions as the present that men got to know each other, and were able to exchange ideas. It also brought them into direct communication with the clergy of the parish, and by this means the clergy knew that the ringers were not such a bad lot after all, and the ringers were able to tell their friends that the clergy were not such a bad lot. The Rev. A. L. Oldham proposed the health of the Mayor, and thanked him for so kindly presiding there that day. The toast having been heartily drunk, the Mayor thanked them for the cordial way in which they had received it. The Rev. G. M. Custance thanked the Revs.—Oldham and Parsons for throwing open their towers that day for bell-ringing. He thought that the festival would have fallen very flat if they had no towers to ring in. This was the first time the Guild had been on the Shropshire side, and they would go back satisfied with the hospitality and the kindness they had received. He was

pleased to see the Arley ringers with them, and he took it as kind of them to come over in a brotherly way, and ring with them, take dinner with them, and worship with them. In concluding his remarks Mr. Custance said he could not forget *L. s. d.* at that meeting, and he hoped to get a few more honorary members to join the Guild. The company then proceeded to St. Leonard's Church, where a short service was held, the Rev. G. M. Custance preaching an excellent sermon from the words 'Hallowed be Thy Name.'

A Question.

SIR,—On the three bells of St. John's Church, Stanwick, Yorkshire, there is a pattern into which the letters S. S. are introduced, with the word Ebor under them. They appear to be the initials of the bell-founder. Could any of your readers tell me his name? The bells are dated 1677 and 1685. I should be glad also to know whether many bells were destroyed during the Reformation, or the Great Rebellion; and if so for what reason? H. P.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At St. Matthew's, Upper Clapton, London.

ON Thursday, the 24th ult., eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang Haley's peal of 5184 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR in 3 hrs. 1 min. J. Pettit (conductor), 1; C. Beech (birthday), 2; G. J. Smith (first peal with a bob-bell), 3; T. Page (first peal in the method), 4; W. Burkin, 5; W. B. Manning, 6; W. D. Smith, 7; W. Greenleaf, 8. The first peal in the method on the bells.

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

ON Thursday, the 24th ult., eight members of the Midland Counties' Association rang a peal of 5088 SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR in 3 hrs. 25 mins. W. J. Smith, 1; J. Austin, 2; A. Wakley, 3; W. Wakley, 4; E. I. Stone, 5; H. Wakley, 6; J. Griffin, 7; T. Holmes, 8. Composed by Mr. N. J. Pitstow, and conducted by Mr. Griffin. Tenor, 26 cwt.

At St. Peter's, Mancroft, Norwich.

ON Monday, the 28th ult., ten members of the Norwich Diocesan Association rang a peal (taken from *Clavis*) of 5011 GRANDSIRE CATERS in 3 hrs. 22 mins. J. Fiddament, 1; W. T. Blyth, 2; F. H. Knights, 3; M. Long (conductor), 4; F. Howchin, 5; A. Webber, 6; T. R. Tooley, 7; Rev. J. F. Hastings, 8; F. Knights, 9; J. Skinner, 10. Tenor, 41 cwt. Messrs. Blyth, Long, Webber, Tooley, and the Rev. J. F. Hastings, came from Great Yarmouth; the others belong to the local society.

For remainder of Bell-ringing see page 1204.

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At St. Mary's, Newnham, Gloucestershire.

On Saturday, the 26th ult., eight members of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association and St. Michael's Junior Society of Gloucester rang a peal of 5040 BOB MAJOR in 2 hrs. 48 mins. E. E. Bewick, 1; F. E. Hart, 2; A. Roberts, 3; R. T. Hibbert (Reading), 4; D. J. Aston, 5; R. J. Wilkins, 6; J. E. Hern, 7; W. J. Sevier (composer and conductor), 8. Tenor, 12 cwt., in G. This is the first peal on the bells.

At St. Peter's, Brighton, Sussex.

On Monday, the 28th ult., Thurstans' peal of 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES was rung in 2 hrs. 51 mins. by the following members of the Sussex County Association:—A. A. Fuller, 1; G. A. King, 2; H. Weston, 3; G. F. Attree, 4; E. C. Merrett, 5; J. Jay, sen., 6; G. Williams (conductor), 7; H. Cornwall, 8. Rung on the occasion of the laying of the foundation-stone by the Bishop of Chichester of the new chancel, which it is proposed to erect at a cost exceeding 20,000l.

On Sunday, the 3rd inst., for Divine service in the evening, 504 STEDMAN TRIPLES. H. Weston, 1; G. Williams (conductor), 2; J. Jay, 3; E. C. Merrett, 4; G. King, 5; G. F. Attree, 6; A. A. Fuller, 7; F. Tywell, 8.

At St. Martin's, Birmingham.

On Tuesday, the 29th ult., ten members of the St. Martin's Guild rang Johnson's peal of 5025 STEDMAN CATERS in 3 hrs. 23 mins. J. Joynes, 1; R. T. Woodley (London), 2; B. W. Witchell (conductor), 3; A. J. Jones, 4; W. Mundy (first peal of STEDMAN CATERS), 5; W. E. Smith, 6; J. W. Cartwright, 7; H. Johnson, jun., 8; T. Reynolds, 9; T. Miller, 10. The composition, now rung for the first time, contains the 5th twenty-four and the 6th twenty-two times behind the 9th.

At St. Paul's, Shadwell, London.

On Wednesday, the 30th ult., eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang Holt's Ten-part peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 49 mins. J. Davidson, 1; E. Taylor, 2; W. Burkin (conductor), 3; W. H. L. Buckingham, 4; C. Beech, 5; F. Sephton, 6; G. J. Smith, 7; H. H. Batten (first peal), 8. Tenor, 16 cwt., in F sharp. Messrs. Taylor and Batten came from Plymouth; Sephton, Derby; Buckingham, St. Albans; and Burkin, Nutfield.

At St. Mary's, Walthamstow, Essex.

On Saturday, the 2nd inst., eight members of the Essex Association rang a peal of 5056 GRANDSIRE MAJOR in 2 hrs. 59 mins. W. J. Cookham,* 1; T. Maynard,* 2; G. Grimwade,* 3; J. Nunn, 4; R. J. Maynard,* 5; C. Hopkins,* 6; W. H. Freeman, 7; A. G. Freeman (conductor), 8. Tenor, 19½ cwt. Composed by Mr. Carter, of Birmingham. This is the first peal of GRANDSIRE MAJOR rung in Walthamstow. The Messrs. Freeman were elected members of the Essex Association in the tower on a previous unsuccessful attempt for the peal. [* First peal of GRANDSIRE MAJOR.]

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—On the 20th ult., for evening service, 840 changes in 27 mins. A. Comber, 1; W. Edwards, 2; G. Wickens, 3; S. Kenward, 4; E. Davey, 5; F. Wickens (conductor), 6; F. Rice, 7; J. Taylor, 8.

[Where? What method?—ED. C. B.]

At IRECHESTER, NORTHANTS.—In commemoration of the reopening of the church on Thursday, the 24th ult., the bells were raised in peal at six a.m., and rung instead of chimed for the various services during the day. Well-struck touches of GRANDSIRE DOUBLES were rung by the local ringers. W. Lawton, 1; S. B. Payne, 2; J. Foster, 3; A. Goosey, 4; J. Craddock, 5. Tenor, 22 cwt.

At ST. MARY-DE-LODE, GLOUCESTER.—On Sunday, the 27th ult., six members of the St. Michael's Juniors rang 720 changes in 25 mins. A. Roberts, 1; F. C. Hart, 2; R. J. Romans, 3; R. T. Hibbert (conductor), 4; W. Bruasden, 5; W. Sevier, 6. Tenor, 16 cwt.

THE BELL HYMN-BOOK. By William Haley. Published by John Warner & Sons. 1889. (No price mentioned.)—This volume is tastefully bound, and of a convenient size and shape for placing on an elevated music-stand by the side of the chiming ropes—as, indeed, is shown in the picture on cover. Before opening the book we may remark that the cover is a pretty and a natural one, with the exception of the ridiculous print in the top left-hand corner. This consists of bells whose clappers are minus any flights at all, the bells so long-waisted that they remind us of inverted glass tumblers; while to add to it all they are represented as flying off at a tangent from the rims of their wheels. Passing over the brief preface and alphabetical index we come to nine pages of instructions. It need not be said that the author pre-supposes the knowledge of the elements of music-reading on the part of his readers. Bearing this in mind he gives all the information that a student of average intelligence can need. He furnishes hints on striking, on reading the figures, on 'time,' which last he explains fully and carefully. For examples he takes three hymns, the first a simple one, 'The sun is sinking fast,' the next somewhat more intricate, viz., the 'Easter Hymn,' and the third a difficult one, 'Lead, kindly Light.' These hints are followed by two pages of tables of the length of the different notes. After this comes the body of the work, consisting of 144 tunes for rings of bells from five to twelve, taken for the most part from *Hymns Ancient and Modern*. The book, as a whole, adopting as it does the 'tonic sol-fa' system, raises the 'previous question' of the comparative advantages of that system. For our own part we have never been able to see the advantages of it, and had all the hymn-tunes in the book in ques-

tion been simply transposed into one key, we cannot but think the whole object in view would have been gained with the expenditure of less space and complexity. But we do not wish or intend to enter into an argument on the merits or demerits of the competitive systems, and our author is perfectly justified in throwing his work into that form which he thinks will prove the more acceptable.

Though in what has been said above we have touched more upon what appear to be points requiring criticism, let not the reader imagine for one moment that we have anything but warm praise for the work in general. It will form a valuable and useful addition to bell literature. Of one thing we are certain, which is that it will supply a long-felt want, and will be, as it certainly deserves to be, warmly welcomed by all tune ringers on tower bells with Ellacombe's hammers, on handbells, or on Harrington's tubes. We recommend it most heartily.

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CASE FOR THIS WEEK.

CASE AT LAUNCESTON, CORNWALL.—CONSUMPTION FOLLOWING HÆMORRHAGE.

The case of this patient (THOMAS FARTHING) was first brought under my notice by REV. J. CLEAVE, Methodist Free Church Minister, of LAUNCESTON, on the 9th Nov. in last year.

On the 27th June I received the following testimonial from Mr. Cleave:—

'To Mr. Congreve—Dear Sir,—Thomas Farthing, residing at St. Thomas Hill, Launceston, was at the point of death. Hæmorrhage of the lungs had reduced him to a skeleton; there was a wound on the top of the right lung. His medical adviser stated that it was useless giving him any more medicine. As a last resource he applied to you. After taking two of your largest bottles he was able to leave his bedroom.

'This morning he came to my house requesting me to write, stating that he commenced work on Saturday, and has not felt any bad effects; he can walk uphill without stopping; his appetite, also, is excellent.

'T. F. says that he owes his life, under God, to your medicine, and is anxious for others who are suffering to know.—Yours truly, J. CLEAVE, The Manse, Launceston, June 26, 1889.'

NOTE.—Days of Consultation.—**TUESDAY, THURSDAY, and SATURDAY MORNINGS ONLY,** at Coombe Lodge, Peckham. Patients from any long distance should choose either of the two former days. Every one is expected to have seen the book first.

DE MORTUIS.—SIMPLIFIED FUNERALS and the PROPER BURIAL of the DEAD.—Explanatory Pamphlets gratis on application. LONDON NECROPOLIS COMPANY, 2 Lancaster Place, Strand, W.C., patentees of the 'Earth to Earth' Coffin.

MESSRS. NISBET'S new list of story-books includes some works by popular writers. LAUREL CROWNS (5s.), by Mrs. Marshall, is a history of two families, the Carringtons and the Blunts, which well sets forth the preciousness of sympathy and the evils resulting from its absence. 'Sympathy,' says our authoress, 'gives a warmth and colour to the events of daily life, which is apt to become cold and grey without it.' Dick Blunt's illness at Hong-Kong gives occasion for a well-merited tribute to the mission work for seamen which is being carried on at that port. Towards the close of the tale we have a description of Jubilee Day in London. The book is peopled with a great variety of characters, and the interest is well sustained throughout.—NUMBER THREE WINIFRED PLACE (3s. 6d.) is a good tale for girls, written by Miss Agnes Giberne.—YOURS AND MINE, by Anna B. Warner (3s. 6d.), belonging to the 'Golden Ladder Series,' possesses its author's wonted characteristic—intense spirituality, in curious, if not incongruous, combination with the seemingly irrepressible American propensity for the minute description of articles of food. The main idea—prettily worked out—is 'that everything really belongs to God; and so when He gives us something it's a trust.' The doings of the 'My-and-my Society' are interesting and worthy of imitation.—THE ADVENTURES OF JOHNNY PASCOE (1s.), by J. G. Norway, is a good little book for little boys or country lads. Bigger volumes, suitable for elder boys, are THE YARL'S YACHT (3s. 6d.)—wherein Mrs. Saxby tells us more about our old friends, *The Lads of Lunda*—and two capital stories of adventure by R. M. Ballantyne. BLOWN TO BITS: OR, THE LONELY MAN OF RAKATA (5s.), transports its readers to the Malay Archipelago, and harks back to 1883, the year of the tremendous volcanic eruption at Krakatoa. This book has illustrations by the author. Mr. Ballantyne appears to be equally at home in every part of the world, and we are not, therefore, in the least surprised to find that another new work of his, entitled THE CREW OF THE 'WATER WAGTAIL' (3s. 6d.), is a story of Newfoundland in the sixteenth century.—All who have observed the pernicious effects produced by tattle and gossip (and who amongst us has not had ample opportunity for so doing?) must heartily agree with Ganganelli that 'the art of holding one's tongue is a great virtue.' This is an axiom well illustrated by Mrs. Marshall's charming little tale, GOLDEN SILENCE (1s. 6d.), which shows that 'it is the sympathetic workers who effect the most in this world of sin and trouble, not the well-meaning talkers!'—THE ONE LITTLE VEIN OF DROSS ('Golden Ladder Series,' 3s. 6d.) in Tom Beauchamp's character was his propensity to prevaricate, prompted by the fear of his stately mother.—MR. ORDE'S GRANDCHILDREN (3s. 6d.), by Cecilia Selby Lowndes, is a pretty tale of and for boys and girls, largely composed of the grandchildren's bright chatter. The plot is a rather commonplace one—the gradual 'coming round' and softening of an unjustly offended parent. We cannot approve of the limitation placed upon the efficacy and exercise of prayer, on pp. 224, 225.—What Cornelia's jewels were to her, such was Miss BROWN'S BASKET (1s.) to Miss Brown. This little story of 'holy ingenuity and enthusiasm' in the cause of foreign missions is well told by Mrs. Henry Charles.

THE National Society has recently issued a series of capital tale-books of high tone and sustained interest.—THE BLUE DRAGON (3s. 6d.), by Frances Mary Peard, is an interesting story of Chester in the rather rough times of King Henry VII. The narrative (which is full of incident and movement) includes a description of a miracle play, and an account of the pestilence which visited the old city early in the sixteenth century. The production of this work must have involved much painstaking study. Another of the very best among these books is that entitled THE CUNNING WOMAN'S GRANDSON (3s. 6d.), written by Miss Yonge, wherein we have a picture of the sad state of the Cheddar district in the last century, and of the labour of love carried on there by Miss Hannah More and her sisters. We have also enjoyed reading BANNING AND BLESSING (3s. 6d.), by the author of *Mademoiselle Mori*, &c. Its plot is skilfully worked out, and its end is entirely satisfactory. Miss Coleridge's MAUD FLORENCE NELLIE; OR, DON'T CARE (3s.) is the story of an irrepressible maiden whose exuberant vitality is happily directed into a healthy channel. In CAST ASHORE (3s.) Esmé Stuart displays her customary skill. Some wicked smugglers figure in this tale; IN CHARGE (3s. 6d.), by Mary E. Palgrave, is also a 'free-trade' story. The latter, however, we do not greatly care for. It is disappointing and painful; moreover, the good young man of the tale is guilty of an extremely foolish and cruel action when he leaves his companion, the brave and loving little Persis, to lie for hours on a foggy night alone upon the roadside turf. No wonder the child died from the effects of such exposure! After such conduct as this Edward Hurst did not deserve to be rewarded with the hand and heart of the heroine. FAIRMEADOW FARM (2s.), by Mary H. Debenham, is a rather sweet little story, characterised by a certain purity and delicacy of style, and a refreshing absence of hackneyed love-making. Another admirable tale is Miss Bramston's A PAIR OF COUSINS (2s. 6d.), from which many girls would do well to draw a practical lesson. And now it only remains for us to recommend CHRIS DERRICK (2s.), a sea-story, by the author of *Starwood Hall*, &c., as a suitable gift-book for boys.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

The Ancient Society of College Youths.

THE 252nd Anniversary Dinner will take place at the City Restaurant, 34 Milk Street, Cheapside, E.C., to-morrow (Saturday), at 7.30 p.m. St. Michael's, Cornhill, will be open at 5 p.m. and St. Mary-le-Bow, Cheapside, at 6.30 p.m.—both twelve-bell towers.

The Lancashire Association.

MANCHESTER BRANCH.—A meeting of the above Branch was held on Saturday, the 2nd inst., at St. John's Church, Deansgate, Manchester, when members attended from Ashton-under-Lyne, Bacup, Bolton, Flixton, Oldham, Leesfield, Swinton, Whitefield, Northenden, and Manchester. Ringing began at four o'clock, and touches of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, STEDMAN TRIPLES, TREBLE BOB MAJOR, and BOB MAJOR, were rung during the evening. A meeting was held shortly after seven o'clock, presided over by the Rev. H. J. Elsee. Two new members were elected, and it is proposed to hold the next meeting at St. Thomas's Church, Pendleton, on Saturday, the 30th inst., also to hold a meeting at Bolton, on Saturday, December 28th, to which all the other branches will be invited to attend. The usual votes of thanks to the Rector, Churchwardens, and members of St. John's Church, for the use of the bells, and to the Chairman for presiding, brought a very successful meeting to a close, after which the bells were again set going until nine o'clock.

BLACKBURN BRANCH.—The next meeting will be held at Holy Trinity Church, Blackburn, on Saturday, November 16th. Belfry open at 2.30. Tea at 5; tickets 1s. each. Meeting in school at 6. J. HORROCKS, Sec.

93 Henry Street, Church.

Church Bells Dedication and Harvest Festival at Bruntingthorpe.

SINCE the restoration of the parish church, during the incumbency of the late Rev. W. G. Berry, only one bell has been used, one of the other two being found to be cracked, and the other broken in two parts. Since the advent to the parish of the Bishop of Leicester, strenuous efforts have been put forth not only to have a new organ for the church, which has recently been added, but also to have the three bells re-cast and placed in the tower. Most praiseworthy action has been taken in the matter by the churchwardens, Messrs. R. Worthington and A. Robinson, the latter having been especially active in the good work of raising funds. About 150*l.* was needed, and towards this sum the parishioners have subscribed 113*l.*, part being raised by entertainments and collections. The bells, which weigh respectively about 7 cwt., 5½ cwt., and 4 cwt., have been sent to Messrs. Taylor and Sons, bell-founders, Loughborough, who have re-cast and added more metal to the two damaged bells, the tone of which is now sweet and musical. The dedication service, which was simultaneous with the harvest thanksgiving service, took place on Sunday last, and was of a most interesting character, being conducted by the Rector, the Bishop of Leicester. At the dedication service, which was held prior to the morning service, the Bishop proceeded to the bell chamber, preceded by his verger carrying a new silver mace, where the usual dedicatory service, consisting of versicles, the 150th and 122nd Psalms, and a few prayers, was performed, and the ringers rang a short peal, after which the hymn, 'In Sinai's dreary waste,' was sung. The Bishop also conducted the morning service, the special Psalms lxxv. and cxlv. being nicely chanted by the choir. Special hymns and lessons were used, and the Bishop preached an appropriate discourse from Isaiah, xl. 6—'The voice said, Cry.' Hymn 387 concluded the service. The sacred edifice was chastely adorned with the various fruits of the earth, contributed by the willing parishioners, and tastefully arranged by Mrs. Thicknesse, Miss Catherine Thicknesse, and Miss Green. A collection was made on behalf of the bell fund, and the Bishop announced that, owing to the inclemency of the weather, the dedication service would be repeated in the evening, to allow the rest of the parishioners an opportunity of being present. [We give the Bishop's notice as reported, but surely there was some misunderstanding of the notice. Lessons and hymns might be repeated at a Festival Evensong, but there could not possibly be a second dedication, which, once done, lasts for ever.—ED. C. B.]

The Belfry, Hurstmonceux, Sussex.

VISITORS inspecting the beautiful old church of Hurstmonceux cannot fail to be struck with the good order in which it is kept, and the evident marks of loving care and veneration to be seen on all sides. But, unfortunately, all this seems to end at the belfry. Whilst the church might be taken as an example of what such a building *should* be, the belfry and bell-chamber are most decidedly samples of what such places *should not* be. A shabby little door (sadly needing a coat of boiled oil) admits to the dilapidated stone steps leading up to the bells. On arrival at the bell-chamber you discover one poor, old, cracked bell, mellow and musical in its day, maybe, but now, alas! split and spoilt; broken-hearted, perhaps, at the loss of its two companions, which some energetic churchwarden of former days disposed of, very likely to meet current expenses. It would be interesting to know when the two missing bells were removed. Their brasses and other fittings remain, but the bells themselves have disappeared. In these days of reform and improvement it is unusual to find a belfry in such a neglected, despoiled condition. The sooner this state of things is altered the more to the credit of the rector, churchwardens, and parishioners connected with the ancient church of Hurstmonceux. It is to be hoped the lost bells may soon be replaced, with two more added, if possible, to make a ring of five. The present solitary bell is inscribed: 'William Hull made Mee 1684. Thomas Baker, John Cooper, Chvrchwardens.' It is also ornamented with coins of the period, &c. Its diameter is 34 inches; weight about 8 cwt. There is a crack running from the crown right across the shoulder.

Raunds Belfry, Bells, and Ringers.

THERE is no belfry in the district where the ringers have a better reputation for change-ringing, or where more use is made of the church bells, than at Raunds. Peal-boards on the belfry walls testify to the skill of Raunds ringers, past and present. Yet, however clever the men who handle the ropes, no one will be inclined to dispute that the bells themselves are not at all a satisfactory ring. The local ringers would be the first to acknowledge this, and it is gratifying to know that they are now starting a movement to recast the tenor and add two smaller bells in front. As what may be termed the headquarters of change-ringing in the neighbourhood, and the belfry that has the honour of having started the Raunds, Wellingborough, and District Society of Church Bell-ringers, the church of St. Peter, Raunds, certainly merits a larger number of bells. It is to be hoped the inhabitants will respond heartily to the request for subscriptions, for an increased ring will be an encouragement to the ringers, a credit to the town, and a compliment to the Vicar, the Rev. Hugh Bryan, who interests himself so much in all that appertains to belfry reform.

The inscriptions and diameters of the six bells now in the tower are as follows:—

Treble.—GRATA SIT ARGUTA RESONANS CAMPANULA NOCE ANNO DOM. 1732. (Diam. 33½ in.)

Second.—HENRY PENN MADE ME 1723. (Diam. 36½ in.)

Third.—OMNIA FIANT AD GLORIAM DEI. RICHARD ROWLINGS AND JOHN WOODRUFFE CHURCHWARDENS EATRE KETTERING 1732. (Diam. 37½ in.)

Fourth.—GRATUM OPUS AGRICOLIS. OMNIA FIANT AD GLORIAM DEI ANNO DOMINI 1732. (Diam. 38 in.)

Fifth.—GEORGE TYMMS VICAR RICHARD RAWLINGS AND JOHN WOODRUFF CHURCHWARDENS ANNO DOMINI 1732. RECAST BY JOHN WARNER & SON LONDON 1878. (Diam. 42½ in.)

Tenor.—IN DEI GLORIAM IN ECCLESIE COMMODO JOHANNES LANGHAM BARR. MARIA MILLINTON & ANNA MILLINTON BENEFACTORES ANNO DOM 1732. RECAST BY JOHN WARNER & SON LONDON 1878. (Diam. 47 in. Note, E flat. Weight, 17 cwt. 3 qrs. 11 lbs.)

The two largest bells, being cracked, were recast eleven years ago, but the result was not satisfactory. The fifth is a good bell, but the tenor has a very poor, 'thin' tone, and scarcely any vibration.

Wanted.

SIR,—I am anxious to meet with a good bell, weighing about ¾ cwt., for a Mission-room in a poor mining district. A sum of about 4l. is available for the purpose. If any of your readers can put me in the way of buying one second-hand I shall be very glad.

J. M. POLLOCK.

Shadforth, Durham.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At Lichfield Cathedral, Staffordshire.

ON Saturday, the 2nd inst., eight members of the Midland Counties' Association and the St. Paul's Society (Burton-on-Trent), rang Thurstans' peal of 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES in 3 hrs. 11 mins. G. Robinson, 1; J. Austen, 2; A. Wakley, 3; Jos. Griffin (conductor), 4; E. I. Stone, 5; H. Wakley, 6; T. Holmes, 7; W. Wakley, 8. Tenor, 29 cwt. The first peal of STEDMAN TRIPLES in the city of Lichfield.

At St. Mary's, Beddington, Surrey.

ON Saturday, the 2nd inst., ten members of the Surrey Association rang a peal of 5093 GRANDSIRE CATERERS in 3 hrs. 20 mins. J. Harbly, 1; G. Welling, 2; J. Plowman, 3; Dr. E. B. Carpenter, 4; E. Bennett (conductor), 5; J. Trappitt, 6; Jos. Fayers, 7; J. Harding, 8; C. Bance, 9; W. Greenleaf, 10. Tenor, 21½ cwt., in E flat. The above has the 5th and 6th twenty-four courses behind the 9th, and is a variation of the late Mr. Hubbard's peal, by the conductor. It is also the first peal on the bells since being rehung by Messrs. Mears & Stainbank.

At the Cathedral, St. Albans, Herts.

ON Saturday, the 2nd inst., eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths and the Hertford County Association rang Thurstans' peal of 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 57 mins. J. C. Mitchell (conductor), 1; E. J. Mitchell, 2; E. P. Debenham, 3; C. F. Winny, 4; W. H. L. Buckingham, 5; G. W. Cartmel, 6; W. Battle, 7; H. L. Waddington, 8. Tenor, 26 cwt., in E flat. The quickest peal on the bells by several minutes, and the first in the method.

At St. Nicholas', Newbury, Berks.

ON Tuesday, the 5th inst., nine members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild rang Reeves' Variation of Holt's Ten-part peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 3 hrs. C. Swain, 1; D. Geater (first peal as conductor), 2; G. Batt (first peal), 3; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 4; J. W. Washbrook, 5; Rev. G. F. Colebridge, 6; J. Hussey, 7; J. Witts and R. Sawyer, 8. Rung on the occasion of the Church Dedication Festival.

At St. Peter's, Drayton, Berks.

ON Saturday, the 9th inst., eight members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild rang Holt's Ten-part peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 41 mins. E. Pether, 1; C. Pocock (Whitchurch), 2; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 3; T. Pocock (Whitchurch), 4; W. Lawrence (conductor), 5; J. W. Washbrook, 6; W. Napper, 7; E. Nicholls (Pangbourne, first peal), 8.

For remainder of Bell-ringing see page 1232.

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At St. Mary's, Redenhall, Norfolk.

On Tuesday, the 5th inst., eight members of the Norwich Diocesan Association rang a peal of 5024 OXFORD TREBLE BOB MAJOR in 3 hrs. 3 mins. E. Smith, 1; F. Barkway (aged sixteen), 2; E. Calver (aged eighteen), 3; C. Gilman (aged sixteen), 4; H. Hines, 5; H. Smith, 6; J. Souther, 7; Captain Moore, 8. Tenor, 20 cwt. Messrs. Barkway, Calver, Gilman, Hines, and Henry Smith, belong to Brockdish, and it is their first peal. Two of them had only rung on bells twice before, and the other three only three times. Some of them had not been in an eight-bell tower till they came to Redenhall a month ago. The rest of the band belong to Redenhall.

At St. Andrew's, East Hagbourne, Berks.

On Thursday, the 7th inst., eight members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild rang Holt's Original peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 54 mins. E. Pether (Hagbourne), 1; Rev. F. E. Robinson (Drayton), 2; W. Lawrence (Whitechurch), 3; T. Blackburn (Salisbury), 4; E. Napper (Hagbourne), 5; W. Napper (Hagbourne), 6; J. W. Washbrook (Oxford conductor), 7; D. Napper (Hagbourne), 8. Rung on the occasion of the laying of the memorial stone of the new church at North Hagbourne, by Mrs. Boles, of Milton, the Bishop Suffragan of Reading conducting the service.

At St. PETER'S, LOWICK, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.—On Friday, the 25th ult., was rung a Six-score each of BOB, CANTERBURY, and ST. SIMON DOUBLES. C. Swan, 1; J. Guess (conductor), 2; W. Fox, 3; E. Curtis, 4; G. March, 5. Also two Six-score new DOUBLES and a Six-score GRANDSIRE DOUBLES. J. Guess, 1; W. Fox, 2; R. Dunkley, 3; E. Curtis, 4; C. Swan (conductor), 5. The above was rung to commemorate the eighteenth birthday of Mr. J. Guess, his brother ringers wishing him many happy returns.

At St. EDMUND'S, NORTHAMPTON.—On Thursday, the 31st ult., for Divine service, Holt's Ten-part peal of 1512 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES was rung in 52 mins. J. George, 1; E. Huxley, 2; J. Healey, 3; A. Stewart, 4; J. L. White, 5; J. Mackay (conductor), 6; G. Eads, 7; H. Smith, 8.

At SS. DENIS AND MARY MAGDALEN, MIDHURST, SUSSEX.—Recently, on the occasion of a District Meeting of the Sussex County Association, were rung 720's of OXFORD and KENT TREBLE BOB and PLAIN BOB; also STEDMAN and GRANDSIRE DOUBLES. And for Divine service on Sunday, 720 OXFORD SINGLE BOB MINOR. T. Ellis, 1; G. Williams (conductor), 2; T. Linfield, 3; O. Hills, 4; C. Tribe, 5; J. Lee, 6. And 360 PLAIN BOB by the same band in the afternoon. Tenor, 12 cwt., in G.

At St. HELEN'S, SEFTON, NEAR LIVERPOOL.—On Sunday evening, the 3rd inst., for Divine service, ten Six-scores of GRANDSIRE DOUBLES (1200 changes) were rung, each called differently, in 45 mins. H. Rothwell, 1; J. Roughly (conductor), 2; J. T. Smith, 3; J. Owen, 4; J. Meadows, 5; W. Meadows, 6. The occasion being the presentation of a brass eagle lectern to the church, subscribed for by parishioners, to show their appreciation of the ministrations of the present Rector, the Rev. Edward Horley, M.A.

At St. MARY'S, LAMBETH, LONDON.—On Sunday, the 3rd inst., for Divine service in the evening, a quarter-peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 46 mins. T. Langdon* (age fourteen), 1; J. Nichols, jun., 2; A. W. Barkus, 3; G. T. MacLaughlin, 4; C. S. Burden, 5; W. T. Cockerill, 6; W. E. Garrard (conductor), 7; W. Sampson* (Whitstone, Devon), 8. [* First quarter-peal.]

At ALL SOULS', HALIFAX, YORKSHIRE.—On Sunday the 3rd inst., to commemorate the Anniversary of this church, a date touch, for evening service, of KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR in 1 hr. 14 mins. H. Reynolds, 1; T. Parker, 2; F. Salmons, 3; J. S. Ambler, 4; G. H. C. Copping, 5; C. E. Stewart, 6; A. F. Nichol, 7; S. W. Stewart (conductor), 8. Tenor, 25½ cwt.

At THE PARISH CHURCH, CROSTON, LANCASHIRE.—On Sunday, the 3rd inst., for Divine service on the occasion of the Harvest Festival, a quarter-peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 49 mins. J. Pye, 1; J. Sholicar (composer and conductor), 2; T. Bannister, 3; W. Ellis, 4; R. Hough, 5; J. Ashcroft, 6; W. Sumner, 7; H. Taylor, 8. This is the longest touch on the bells for upwards of twenty-five years. Messrs. Sholicar and Ellis came from Ormskirk; the rest belong to the local company.

At BATHEASTON, SOMERSET.—At the monthly meeting held at Bath-easton on Monday, the 4th inst., members of the Bath and Keynsham United Deaneries Association rang the following:—A peal (120) of GRANDSIRE DOUBLES. C. Bath, 1; T. Davis, 2; A. Hulbert (conductor), 3; T. Smith, 4; C. Miles, 5; J. Tanner, 6. Two peals of GRANDSIRE DOUBLES. H. Wyburn, 1; G. Kingman, 2; W. Lanham, 3; J. Fussell (conductor), 4; W. J. Eames, 5; C. Bell, 6. Also three peals of GRANDSIRE DOUBLES. H. Wyburn, 1; J. Morris, 2; H. Brown, 3; G. Hill (conductor), 4; Rev. A. M. Downes, 5; J. Fussell, 6. A peal of BOB DOUBLES. R. Tylee, 1; R. Lewis, 2; H. Brown (conductor), 3; C. Bell, 4; C. Miles, 5; J. Fussell, 6. Three courses of MINOR. H. Wyburn, 1; G. Kingman, 2; W. Lanham, 3; J. Fussell, 4; H. Brown, 5; G. Hill, 6. Two peals of GRANDSIRE DOUBLES. H. Wyburn, 1; W. Lanham, 2; H. Brown, 3; G. Hill (conductor), 4; W. Allen, 5; C. Bell, 6. A peal of GRANDSIRE DOUBLES. C. Bath, 1; T. Davis, 2; S. Rawlings, 3; T. Smith, 4; A. Hulbert (conductor), 5; J. Tanner, 6.

At St. SAVIOUR'S, SOUTHWARK, LONDON.—On Tuesday, the 5th inst., to commemorate the Society's 252nd Anniversary, twelve members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang ten courses of STEDMAN CINQUES (1318 changes), in 1 hr. 7 mins. J. Pettit (conductor), 1; C. Beech, 2; W. Burkin, 3; C. F. Winny, 4; H. Springall, 5; S. E. Joyce, 6; G. J.

Smith, 7; G. T. MacLaughlin, 8; W. J. Cockerill, 9; W. D. Smith, 10; F. G. Newman, 11; E. Horrex, 12. Taken from Cox's peal of 5014.

At CHRIST CHURCH, WEST BROMWICH.—On Thursday, the 7th inst., eight members of the Society of Change-Ringers for the Archdeaconry of Stafford rang a quarter-peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 41 mins. H. Hipkiss, 1; J. R. Frisby, 2; A. H. Hill, 3; W. R. Small, 4; R. Hall, 5; J. Hall, 6; C. Price (conductor), 7; W. Gould, 8. Tenor, 24 cwt. in E flat.

THE *Sixth Annual Report of the Society of Change-ringers of the Archdeaconry of Stafford* (Lomax, Lichfield) does not call for any special comment. It contains reports of a fair number of peals, among them the first of STEDMAN CATERS by the Society. We cordially endorse the hope expressed on page 5, that more local companies will see their way to becoming 'bands in union.' The Report contains all necessary and useful information, and the balance-sheet on the last page shows a balance on the right side.

RECEIVED ALSO.—The Salop Archidiaconal Change-ringing Society; and others.

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NOTICE TO THE READERS OF 'CHURCH BELLS'

WHO MAY BE PERSONALLY OR RELATIVELY INTERESTED IN THIS MATTER.

MR. CONGREVE will give ONE RECENT CASE, NOT PUBLISHED in this Journal BEFORE, EVERY WEEK.

CASE FOR THIS WEEK.

LETTER FROM AN OLD PATIENT AT STOKE-ON-TRENT.

This lady (Mrs. Leonard Wood), whose remarkable case is reported in my book (Case No. 107), and who has continued fairly well since her recovery under my treatment nine years ago, writing me in July, says: 'I had a cough come on a little time back, and your medicine (of which I always like to keep a little in the house) has cured it.

'Ever since leaving off your treatment, which so marvellously healed my lungs, I have been stronger in health, and am better now than ever in my life. I wish it could be more extensively known even than it is, so as to be adopted by all suffering with the chest. Praying that you still may be made a means of blessing, I am, &c.'

NOTE.—Days of Consultation.—TUESDAY, THURSDAY, and SATURDAY MORNINGS ONLY, at Coombe Lodge, Peckham. Patients from any long distance should choose either of the two former days. Every one is expected to have seen the book first.

DE MORTUIS.—SIMPLIFIED FUNERALS and the PROPER BURIAL of the DEAD.—Explanatory Pamphlets gratis on application. LONDON NECROPOLIS COMPANY, 2 Lancaster Place, Strand, W.C., patentees of the 'Earth to Earth' Coffin.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

'S.S. Ebor.'

SIR,—In reply to 'H. P.' in your last issue, the device ^{S.S. Ebor.} on the three bells of St. John's Church, Stanwick, Yorkshire, is the foundry stamp of the later branch of the Smith family, bell-founders, in the city of York. The first bearing the name we have met with is

Abraham Smith, whose bells, bearing the initials 'A. S.' with inscription, are found dating from the year 1652 to the year 1659. He used as a stamp a shield bearing two bells, chevron and one bell, impaling shield with three braziers. He appears to have been succeeded by

James Smith, who seems to have cast bells in conjunction with Abraham Smith, using the same device. His bells usually have his monogram, 'I. S.' upon them, and cover a period from 1656 to 1663. He was followed by

Samuel Smith (I.), whose bells have running around the crown two ornamental borders, the upper containing the inscription amidst the ornament, whilst the lower has a design consisting of bells, and the founder's stamp—a shield bearing ^{Ebor.} 'S. S.' with a bell on either side. The writer of these notes has the inscriptions of nearly a hundred bells cast by this founder between the years 1663 and 1709, and who, no doubt, cast the bells at Stanwick, Yorks. Samuel Smith died at the beginning of April, in the year 1709, and was buried on the 12th at the church of the Holy Trinity, in Micklegate, York. He was succeeded by his son,

Samuel Smith (II.), who used the same shield as his father. His productions cover a period extending over twenty-two years. He served the office of Sheriff for the city of York in 1723-4, and was the last of the Smith family of York bell-founders. He died in August, 1731, and was interred in the church of the Holy Trinity, in Micklegate.

The writer has inscriptions of 180 bells cast by this family. York was a celebrated place for bell-founding. From 1662 to 1764, covering the whole period, the Smith family were casting bells in York. Another family named Sellers was similarly employed.

From 1751 to the end of the last century the trade was continued by the Daltons, and at the beginning of this century the once flourishing trade of bell-founding in York became extinct.

GEORGE BENSON.

York.

The Norwich Diocesan Association.

THE annual gathering of members of the Association will take place at Ipswich on Monday, November 25th. The 'Coach and Horses' Inn, Brook Street, will be the headquarters for the day. Masters of companies and members are requested to attend as soon as possible after arrival, to secure dinner tickets and be directed as to ringing. All ringing to cease at 12.30. At 12.45 there will be Divine service at the church of St. Mary-le-Tower. At 1.30 dinner will be provided at the 'Coach and Horses.' After dinner the usual business meeting will take place. Ringing may re-commence about 4 p.m. You are requested to inform me at once whether you will be present, and how many of your company; also the name of the G.E.R. station from which you will start. Cards will be sent on application in order to obtain the fare-and-quarter railway tickets.

Weybread House, Harleston, Norfolk.

The Middlesex Association.

THE hours for practice at the different towers of this Association are as follows:—Barnet, eight bells, Monday, 8 p.m.; Tottenham, eight bells, Tuesday, 8.30 p.m.; Hadley and Hendon, six bells, Wednesday, 7.30 p.m.; Finchley, six bells, Thursday, 7.30 p.m. The Secretary will be glad to communicate with any other bands desirous of joining the Association.

There will be a District Meeting at Hackney Parish Church on Saturday, November 30th.

F. A. MILNE, Hon. Sec.

Hadley, November 2nd.

CHANGE-RINGING.

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

On Thursday, the 7th inst., eight members of the Burton-on-Trent, Midland Counties' Association, and the St. Paul's Society, rang a peal of 5088 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR (in the Burton variation) in 3 hrs. 29 mins. G. Robinson, 1; J. Austin, 2; A. Wakley, 3; J. Carter (first peal in the method), 4; W. Wakley, 5; H. Wakley, 6; Jos. Griffin, 7; T. Holmes, 8. Composed by A. P. Heywood, Esq., and conducted by Mr. Griffin. Tenor, 26 cwt.

At St. Edward's, Romford, Essex.

PRINTERS' PEAL.

On Saturday, the 16th inst., eight members of the Essex Association, being all engaged in the art of Printing, rang Holt's Original One-part peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES at the above church in 2 hrs. 58 mins. H. Hopkins (Messrs. Clowes', Blackfriars), 1; C. Elliott (*Essex Weekly News*), 2; A. J. Perkins, conductor (*Essex Times*), 3; M. L. Myhill (*Essex Times*), 4; B. Keeble (*Essex Times*), 5; W. Bedwell (Messrs. Pryce's, Woolwich), 6; W. Battle (*Heris Advertiser*), 7; S. Garnett (*Essex Times*), 8. Tenor, 17 cwt. This is the first peal ever rung by eight men, all following the art introduced by Caxton.

At St. Edmund's, NORTHAMPTON.—On Thursday, the 31st ult., for practice, a touch of 1512 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES (from Holt's Ten-part) was rung in 52 mins. J. George, 1; E. Huxley, 2; J. Healey, 3; A. Stewart, 4; J. L. White, 5; J. Mackay, 6; G. Eads (conductor), 7; H. Smith, 8.

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NOTICE TO THE READERS OF 'CHURCH BELLS'

WHO MAY BE PERSONALLY OR RELATIVELY INTERESTED IN THIS MATTER.

Mr. CONGREVE will give ONE RECENT CASE, NOT PUBLISHED in this Journal BEFORE, EVERY WEEK.

CASE FOR THIS WEEK.

ADVANCED CASE of CONSUMPTION—A YOUTH at STOURBRIDGE.

'I applied to you two years ago; my son being (according to the medical report) in an advanced stage of Consumption; in a few weeks he was wonderfully improved, which continued till he got nearly well, and since then he has gradually become strong.'

Such is the testimony of a recent letter from Mr. B. FIDDIAN, of Albion Works, Longlands, STOURBRIDGE.

On referring to the original statement of this case, as forwarded to me by his father when applying for medicine, I find the history of the case as follows:—'Illness had arisen from cold after bathing, followed by cough, blood spitting, periodic dyspnoea, pain in the side, flushing, and night sweats, loss of appetite and strength, and general wasting of body.'

NOTE.—Days of Consultation.—TUESDAY, THURSDAY, and SATURDAY MORNINGS ONLY, at Coombe Lodge, Peckham. Patients from any long distance should choose either of the two former days. Every one is expected to have seen the book first.

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DE MORTUIS.—SIMPLIFIED FUNERALS and the PROPER

BURIAL OF THE DEAD.—Explanatory Pamphlets gratis on application. LONDON NEOPOLIS COMPANY, 2 Lancaster Place, Strand, W.C., patentees of the 'Earth to Earth' Coffin.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

The Lancashire Association.

ROSSENDALE BRANCH.—A Ringing Meeting was held at Haslingden Parish Church on Saturday, the 9th inst. Members were present from Bacup, Newchurch, Rawtenstall, Helmshore, Ramsbottom, Haslingden, Accrington, and Burnley. **GRANDSIRE TRIPLES** was the order of the day, touches being rung by mixed bands at intervals. The business meeting was of the usual character. The question of a social meeting at Bolton was postponed till next meeting, which will be held at St. Mary's, Rawtenstall, on December 7th, in order that the members may be informed upon the matter.

J. SHEPHERD, *Hon. Sec.*

BLACKBURN BRANCH.—On Saturday, the 16th inst., a meeting of the above branch was held at Holy Trinity Church, Blackburn, when representatives attended from Blackburn, Church, Darwen, Hoghton, Oswaldtwistle, Bacup, and Whalley. At five o'clock an excellent tea was provided, and after doing justice to the good things provided, the company afterwards adjourned to the schoolroom, where the meeting was held, presided over by Mr. Walker. After transacting the ordinary business of the branch, twelve new members were elected. Votes of thanks were accorded to the Vicar, wardens, and ringers for the use of the belfry and schoolroom, also to Mr. Walker for presiding. During the afternoon and evening touches of **BOB MINOR** and **GRANDSIRE TRIPLES** were rung. J. Walker, 1; J. Vogwill (conductor, aged thirteen), 2; T. Hindley, 3; W. Slater, 4; Z. Lord, 5; J. Smith, jun., 6; J. Walker, 7; J. Smith, sen., 8.

Kent County Association.

On Saturday, the 9th inst., the members of the Mersham Campany assembled at Ashford church tower to celebrate the eighty-third birthday of their old friend, Mr. John Laker. Mr. Laker is the oldest ringer in the town of Ashford, having been a member of that band for upwards of sixty-five years: and although so far advanced in years, he was able to take part in the ringing during the evening, and also conducted one touch. Mr. Laker so thoroughly enjoyed the ringing with his old friends, that he promised to pay one more visit to Mersham shortly, should he be spared to do so. The following are two of the touches which were rung:—672 **BOB MAJOR**. E. Ruck, sen., 1; G. Paine, 2; J. Laker (conductor), 3; D. Paine, 4; J. Cheeseman, 5; E. Ruck, jun., 6; F. Finn, 7; G. Finn, jun., 8. Also 168 **GRANDSIRE TRIPLES**. S. Finn, 1; E. Ruck, sen. (conductor), 2; J. Laker, 3; G. Finn, jun., 4; G. Payne, 5; J. Cheeseman (Lyminge), 6; F. Finn, 7; D. Payne, 8.

Society for the Archdeaconry of Stafford.

On Wednesday, the 13th inst., at St. Editha's Church, Tamworth, on the occasion of the funeral of the Rev. A. Gott, who died at Scarborough on Saturday, the 9th inst., whither he had gone for the good of his health, the local company rang the usual whole-pull and stand and several touches of **GRANDSIRE TRIPLES** as a token of respect for the deceased, who was senior curate of the parish, an honorary member of the above Society, president of the local company, and was buried at Armley, near Leeds, on that day. Also on Sunday, the 17th inst., several touches and the usual whole-pull and stand were rung; and in the evening an excellent sermon was preached by the Rev. E. G. Thatcher, M.A., vicar, on the life of the deceased, and the 'Dead March' was played on the organ, after which the bells were lowered in peal. The ringers have sent a wreath and tablet, with a suitable inscription on it, to be placed on his grave.

The Ancient Society of College Youths.

At the Annual Meeting of this Society, held at St. Saviour's on Tuesday, the 19th inst., the election of officers for 1889-90 took place, with the following result:—Master, Mr. Francis E. Dawe; Treasurer, Mr. James Pettit; Senior Steward, Mr. Henry Springall; Junior Steward, Mr. Arthur S. Barrell; Secretary, Mr. Richard T. Woodley. All of these were re-elected unanimously. Auditors, Messrs. G. T. McLaughlin and Richard J. Turner.

The question of electing two members to represent the Society on the Central Council was discussed, and two members were nominated, but the final election was deferred till the next meeting, to be held at St. Saviour's on Tuesday evening, December 3rd, when it is hoped there will be a full meeting to discuss this important question.

RICHARD T. WOODLEY, *Hon. Sec.*

40 Lillingston Street, Pimlico.

The Norwich Diocesan Association.

The Annual Meeting of the above Association is unavoidably postponed on account of the lamented death of the Rev. N. Bolingbroke, Secretary to the Association, who died on Saturday morning, November 16th, at Hastings, and had been ailing for a long time.

A. P. MOORE, *Acting Sec.*

Weybread House, Harleston, Norfolk.

Society of Voluntary Church Bell-ringers, High Wycombe.

The second anniversary of this Society was held on Monday, the 18th inst. During the afternoon 518 **GRANDSIRE TRIPLES** was rung by the following:—H. Markham, 1; S. Goodchild, 2; Frank Biggs, 3; F. Biggs, 4; A. W. Tubb, 5; J. Evans (conductor), 6; R. Biggs, 7; R. James, 8. At half-past five the members assembled at the National School, where they partook of an excellent tea. After tea a move was again made for the belfry, when a start was made for 1086 **GRANDSIRE TRIPLES**, which was successfully brought round in 40 mins. W. Smith, 1; H. Markham, 2; S. Goodchild, 3; G. Harvey, 4; Fred. Biggs, 5; J. Evans (conductor), 6; R. Biggs, 7; A. W. Tubb, 8. Also 180 **GRANDSIRE DOUBLES**, with the trebles in front. A. Kirby,

1; R. James, 2; Frank Biggs, 3; W. Whiffin, 4; W. Smith, 5; A. W. Tubb (conductor), 6; F. Harvey, 7; W. Markham, 8. Tenor, 23 cwt. At half-past seven a meeting was held in the National School, the Rev. A. L. Armitage in the chair. The Chairman said he was pleased to find that the financial state of the Society was satisfactory, as there was a balance in hand of above 4l. There was one improvement he should like to see made another year, and that was to begin the celebration of their anniversary by a service in church. Some of the ringers then gave 120 **GRANDSIRE DOUBLES** on the handbells, after which the report for the past year was read by the Secretary, Mr. A. W. Tubb, from which it appeared that out of a total of fifty-nine members, including honorary and non-ringing, twenty-five had joined the Oxford Diocesan Guild. Of this number eighteen had gained change-ringing certificates. The Society had made a grant of 4l. towards the new gas-fittings in the belfry. It may be added that the members of this Society started learning change-ringing in February last, with Mr. J. W. Washbrook as instructor.

Reopening of the Church Bells, Frampton-on-Severn, Gloucestershire.

THESE bells, six in number, having just been rehung and fitted throughout with new and modern fittings, were reopened at a special service on Thursday evening, Nov. 21st, at seven o'clock. Special prayers were used for the occasion, and the special lesson was read by the Rev. E. H. Whin-yates, rector of Fretherne. An address on bells was given by the Vicar of the parish, the Rev. E. Blake. After service the bells rang out a merry peal, having been silent for just over six months. The work was carried out by Mr. T. Hooper, of Woodbury, Exeter, and has given satisfaction. Tenor, 15 cwt. Bells about 150 years old.

A New Clock at Warmington, Warwickshire.

A LARGE chiming clock has just been erected at the parish church by John Smith & Sons, Midland Clock Works, Derby. It is fitted with all the latest improvements, and guaranteed to maintain true time with less variation than one quarter of a minute a-month.

Presentation to the Dean of Battle.

LATELY, the members of the Battle Society of Church Bell-ringers had a special practice with the object of making a present to the Dean (the Very Rev. E. R. Currie, D.D.) on his approaching marriage. Previous to this pleasing ceremony the following members rang 300 **GRANDSIRE TRIPLES**. H. Franks, 1; F. Mathis, 2; J. Mathis, 3; W. Franks (conductor), 4; W. Thomas, 5; W. Mercer, 6; C. Freaks, 7; J. Duke, 8. On the Dean ascending the belfry, the Captain presented him with an address and a handsome dolphin gong. From the tail a well-shaped, clear-toned nickel bell was suspended, on which the following inscription was engraved:—'Presented to the Very Rev. E. R. Currie, D.D., dean of Battle, by the Church Bell-ringers on the occasion of his marriage, October 8th, 1889,' together with an address as follows:—

'BATTLE SOCIETY OF CHURCH BELL-RINGERS.

October 3rd, 1889.

'To the Very Rev. Edward Reid Currie, D.D., dean of Battle.

'VERY REVEREND SIR,—We, as members of the above Society, have the honour to offer for your acceptance a dolphin gong as a token of our regard, esteem, and appreciation of the kind consideration and assistance you have accorded us as President of our Society. We trust that the step you are about to take may be attended by God's blessing, and may also be conducive to the further welfare of your parishioners; and we most sincerely wish you and the esteemed and amiable lady to whom you are so soon to become united, long life, prosperity and every blessing.

'WALTER FRANKS, Captain.

'FRANK MATHIS, *Hon. Secretary.*

'JOSHUA MATHIS, WILLIAM THOMAS, JAMES DUKE, HENRY FRANKS, CHARLES FREAKS, THOMAS HUTCHINGS, FRANK HAY, WILLIAM BARNES, HENRY ELLIOTT, WALTER MERCER.'

The Dean, having read the address, said this was a complete surprise to him, as he had no idea of anything of the sort until he came into the belfry. Even when asked to come, he thought the ringers were in some difficulty. He must say that he was pleased that the whole thing was so appropriate. On his own and on his future wife's behalf he must thank the members very much, and hoped that every word with God's help would come true, and that all would work harmoniously together in the future as in the past. After a few kindly words to each, and a hand-shake all round, the very reverend gentleman left the belfry. The gong was supplied through Mr. J. Mathis, watchmaker. After the presentation the bells were rung.

The same members of the Battle Branch, Sussex Association, succeeded in ringing 1260 changes on the church bells in 47 mins., after the wedding; the bells were also rung at six a.m., and at intervals until nine p.m.

St. Thomas's Society, Belfast.

WE have received a copy of the Report of St. Thomas's Society, Belfast. They seem to have a tremendous array of officers, exceeding, in fact, the number of ringers. There is no evidence to show that change-ringing is practised, as no method whatsoever is mentioned. But doubtless there is much up-hill work. May we soon hear of 'peals' in the proper sense of the word, i.e., 5000 changes and upwards.—ED. C.B.

Inquiries.

SIR,—We have in our parish three bells with the following dates inscribed upon them:—'1611,' '1720,' '1730.' Their approximate weights are 5 cwt. 1 qr., 6 cwt., and 6 cwt. 2 qrs. I should be very grateful if any of your readers would kindly inform me whether, in the event of our being able to

increase our number, the weight of the new bells ought to be greater than those we have now, or whether they might be less. Also whether there is any Society which would help a very poor parish thus to complete a peal.

D.

SIR,—Having at one time lived in Northamptonshire for two years, I should be glad if one of your readers would tell me what is the title of the following set of changes, which seem to be rung, almost without exception, at the village churches with peals of five bells. The ringers do not seem, as a rule, to know any other set of changes, and go through it several times until they are tired.

Barton, near Manchester, November 13th, 1889.

C. E. CARDEN.

[Our correspondent, though apparently not a ringer, has a good ear, and gives the rows correctly. He should have noticed with which particular row a beginning is made. This is 2 1 3 5 4, from which they simply ring by heart the first ten changes of the plain course of GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 'jumping' them round from 1 2 5 3 4 when 'they are tired.'—ED. C. B.]

CHANGE-RINGING.

At St. Paul's, Brighton.

On Thursday, the 7th inst., eight members of the Sussex County Association rang a peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 53 mins. H. Eves,* 1; H. Raun, 2; P. Allfrey, 3; W. Allfrey, 4; F. Hill,* 5; J. A. Stepney, 6; A. Bennett (conductor), 7; J. Batts, 8. Tenor, 13½ cwt. [* First peal.]

At St. Lawrence's, Appleton, Berks.

On Friday, the 8th inst., ten members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild rang a peal of 5021 GRANDSIRE CATERS in 3 hrs. 7 mins. H. Walters (first peal of CATERS), 1; T. Blackburn, 2; A. P. Goddard, 3; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 4; C. Hounslow, 5; F. White, 6; J. Avery, 7; G. Holifield, 8; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 9; S. White, 10.

At St. Martin's, Tipton, Staffordshire.

On Saturday, the 9th inst., a peal of 5056 BOB MAJOR was rung by the following members of the Worcestershire and Adjoining Districts Change-ringing Association (also the Society of Change-ringers for the Archdeaconry of Stafford), in 3 hrs. 13 mins. W. R. Small (first peal with treble as a plain

hunt in any method), 1; W. Cheshire,* 2; B. Gough,* 3; H. Mills, 4; A. H. Hill, 5; S. Jesson, 6; G. Hughes (composer and conductor), 7; R. Hall,* 8. Tenor, 12 cwt. 25 lbs. [* First peal with a bob-bell.]

At the Parish Church, Frittenham, Kent.

On Monday, the 11th inst., eight members of the Kent County Association rang a peal of 5376 BOB MAJOR in 3 hrs. 3 mins. J. J. Tillmon (21st birthday), 1; W. E. Pope, 2; W. Pope, 3; E. Potter, 4; H. G. Pope, 5; E. Pope, 6; W. Beatile, 7; T. Daynes (conductor), 8. Tenor, 13 cwt. Mr. Potter came from Dover; Messrs. Beatile and Daynes, Frittenham; the others, Staplehurst.

At the Parish Church, Eccles, Lancashire.

On Tuesday, the 12th inst., eight members of the Lancashire Association rang a peal of 5024 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR in 2 hrs. 55 mins. J. R. Ridyard, 1; H. Chapman (birthday), 2; Jos. Ridyard, 3; Jos. Derbyshire, 4; J. Barratt (birthday) 5; T. Derbyshire, 6; F. Derbyshire, 7; R. Ridyard, 8. Tenor, 13 cwt. Composed by Mr. Thorp, and conducted by Mr. R. Ridyard.

At St. Cadoc's, Caerlon, Monmouthshire.

On Tuesday, the 12th inst., a peal of 5088 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR (J. Reeves's, in Shipway Reprint, III. p. 217), was rung in 2 hrs. 44 mins. E. Davies, 1; L. Stafford (first peal in the method), 2; F. Green, 3; W. H. Arnold, 4; J. W. Jones, 5; L. Phillips,* 6; Jas. Hinton* (conductor), 7; F. E. Ward, 8. Tenor, 7½ cwt., in B flat. The quickest yet rung on the bells. [* Bristol.]

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

On Thursday, the 14th inst., eight members of the Midland Counties' Association and the St. Paul's Society rang a peal of 5088 SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR in 3 hrs. 22 mins. J. Austin, 1; W. Wakley, 2; A. Wakley, 3; R. Cartwright, 4; E. I. Stone, 5; H. Wakley, 6; Jos. Griffin, 7; T. Holmes, 8. Composed by Mr. N. J. Pitstow, and conducted by Mr. W. Wakley.

At the Parish Church, Sheffield, Yorkshire.

On Saturday, the 16th inst., twelve members of the Yorkshire Association and the Ancient Society of College Youths rang a peal of 5040 KENT TREBLE BOB MAXIMS in 3 hrs. 55 mins. H. Mading, 1; W. Bugar, 2; W. Lomas, 3; J. Carter (Birmingham, conductor), 4; C. Bower, 5; C. H. Hattersley (composer), 6; T. Dixon, 7; S. Seed, 8; D. Brearley, 9; G. Holmes, 10; T. Hattersley, 11; A. Brearley, 12. Tenor, 41 cwt. The composition has the sixth its extent in sixth's place, and the second and third never there.

For remainder of Bell-ringing see page 1288.

PUBLIC NOTICE.

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At St. Andrew's, Hertford.

ON Monday, the 18th inst., 5184 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT were rung in 3 hrs. 10 mins. N. J. Pitstow, 1; Rev. G. F. Coleridge, 2; J. W. Washbrook (composer), 3; Rev. Canon Wigram, 4; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 5; S. Knight, 6; Jasper G. Crawley, 7; H. Baker (conductor), 8. Tenor, 16 cwt. [*First peal in the method.]

ON Thursday, the 21st inst., 5088 SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR were rung in 3 hrs. 9 mins. by Rev. W. S. Willett, 1; Rev. G. F. Coleridge (first peal on an inside bell in SUPERLATIVE), 2; H. Baker, 3; Rev. Canon Wigram, 4; J. W. Taylor, 5; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 6; N. J. Pitstow, 7; J. W. Washbrook (composer and conductor), 8. Tenor, 16 cwt. [*First peal in a SURPRISE method.]

At St. Peter's, Benington, Herts.

ON Wednesday, the 20th inst., 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES (Thurstans' composition as varied by J. W. Washbrook) were rung in 3 hrs. 4 mins. S. Page, 1; J. W. Washbrook, 2; Rev. W. S. Willett, 3; N. J. Pitstow, 4; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 5; J. Warner, 6; C. Shambrook, 7; Rev. G. F. Coleridge, 8. Tenor, 14 cwt., in F sharp. [*First peal in STEDMAN TRIPLES.]

At All Saints', Hertford.

ON Thursday, the 21st inst., 5079 STEDMAN CATERS were rung in 3 hrs. 13 mins. N. J. Pitstow, 1; E. Holifield, 2; J. G. Crawley, 3; J. W. Washbrook, 4; S. Knight, 5; J. W. Taylor, 6; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 7; J. Cull (first peal of STEDMAN CATERS), 8; Rev. G. F. Coleridge, 9; F. George, 10. Tenor, 21 cwt., in E flat. Composed by H. Johnson; conducted by Rev. F. E. Robinson.

At St. Mary's, Braughing, Herts.

ON Friday, the 22nd inst., 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES were rung in 2 hrs. 58 mins. Rev. Canon Wigram, 1; Rev. W. S. Willett, 2; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 3; Rev. A. D. Hill, 4; N. J. Pitstow, 5; J. W. Taylor, 6; J. W. Washbrook (composer and conductor), 7; H. Baker, 8. Tenor, 19 cwt., in E.

At the Abbey Church of St. Lawrence, Waltham, Essex.

ON Saturday, the 23rd inst., a peal of 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES (Thurstans' composition, varied by J. W. Washbrook), was rung in 3 hrs. 10 mins. by the following members of the Hertford College Youths:—Rev. A. D. Hill, 1; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 2; N. J. Pitstow, 3; Rev. Canon Wigram, 4; J. W. Taylor, 5; H. Baker, 6; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 7; Rev. G. F. Coleridge, 8. Tenor, 19½ cwt., in F.

AT ST. EDMUND'S, NORTHAMPTON.—Lately, for practice, a touch of 1512 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES (from Holt's Ten-part) in 52 mins. J. George, 1; E. Haxley, 2; J. Healey, 3; A. Stewart, 4; J. S. White (conductor), 5; J. Mackay, 6; G. Eads, 7; H. Smith, 8.

AT ST. MICHAEL'S, BISHOPS STORTFORD.—Lately, for practice, 1441 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, taken from Holt's Original. W. Rickett, 1; A. Tucker, 2; H. Prior, 3; H. J. Tucker (conductor), 4; F. W. Chapman, 5; G. Prior, 6; P. Springham, 7; T. Newman, 8. Also 386 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. T. Newman, 1; A. Tucker (conductor), 2; G. Prior, 3; H. J. Tucker, 4; F. Harris, 5; H. Prior, 6; P. Springham, 7; F. W. Chapman, 8. And 504 OXFORD BOB TRIPLES. W. Rickett, 1; A. Tucker, 2; F. W. Chapman, 3; H. J. Tucker (conductor), 4; G. Prior, 5; H. Prior, 6; P. Springham, 7; T. Newman, 8. Also, for practice, 504 OXFORD BOB TRIPLES. W. Rickett, 1; W. Prior, 2; A. Tucker, 3; H. J. Tucker, 4; H. Prior, 5; G. Prior, 6; W. Morris, 7; T. Newman, 8. And on Thursday, the 7th inst., 952 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. W. Rickett, 1; A. Tucker (conductor), 2; F. W. Chapman, 3; G. Prior, 4; F. Harris, 5; H. Prior, 6; H. J. Tucker, 7; G. Cowling, 8.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH, COALBROOKDALE, SALOP.—On Sunday morning, the 3rd inst. for Divine Service, 680 BOB TRIPLES. Also on Monday evening, for practice, a quarter-peal of BOB TRIPLES (thirty bobs) in 43 mins. J. Jukes, 1; W. Jukes, 2; A. Wale, 3; R. Dunn, 4; W. Morgan, 5; A. Morgan, 6; D. Bradburn (conductor), 7; N. Boden, 8.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH, BETCHWORTH, SURREY.—On Tuesday, the 5th inst., 720 COLLEGE SINGLE BOB. J. Robinson, 1; F. Bridger, 2; F. Arnold, 3; E. Moses, 4; F. Sanders, 5; R. Arnold (conductor), 6.

AT ST. NICHOLAS', HARWICH, ESSEX.—On Saturday, the 9th inst., on the occasion of the election of Mayor for the borough, 720 BOB MINOR. A. Knight, 1; T. Aldis, 2; A. Peachey, 3; C. Ramplin, 4; J. Brewster, 5; W. Easter (conductor), 6. Also touches of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES and BOB MAJOR with the above ringers and G. Knock, D. Huff, W. Pennick, and A. Bedwell.

AT ST. PETER'S, HINDLEY, LANCASHIRE.—On Saturday, the 9th inst., the first half of Holt's Ten-part peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES (2520 changes) in 1 hr. 27 mins. T. Tickle (conductor, and first attempt), 1; W. Blackledge, 2; E. Brown, 3; R. Calland, 4; J. Brown, 5; E. Prescott, 6; J. Prescott, 7; N. Gregory (first half-peal), 8. Tenor, 14 cwt. 1 qr.

AT ST. MARY'S, BLACKHILL, DURHAM.—On Saturday, the 9th inst., for practice, 720 BOB MINOR in 30 mins. J. Moore, jun., 1; J. McPhillips, 2; E. Wallis (Newcastle), 3; B. King, 4; A. Nichols (conductor), 5; J. Moore, 6. Tenor 22 cwt.

AT ST. JOHN'S, WATERLOO ROAD, LONDON.—On Sunday, the 10th inst., before Divine service, a quarter-peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, in 43 mins. W. Ball, 1; J. Cassidy, 2; W. Partington, 3; S. G. Davies, 4; F. L. Davies, 5; Rev. A. W. Jephson, 6; G. Wild (conductor), 7; H. G. Owen* (Windsor), 8. [*First quarter-peal.]

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CASE FOR THIS WEEK.

**SEVERE BRONCHIAL CATARRH (SEQUENT ON OLD
DYSPEPSIA) at CHELMSFORD.**

A very old and chronic case.

Mr. W. B. (whose name and address will be given to any *bona fide* patient of mine desiring it) applied to me in March of the present year. For twenty years he had suffered more or less from dyspepsia, and for three years the chest had become affected. The first symptom was oppressed breathing. This increased and became distressing; also cough troublesome at night, with difficult expectoration. Had become, very gradually, thin and weak. He had seen the cases, given weekly by me, in the *Christian World*.

'You describe my case as perfectly as if you had seen me (he says) in the description you give of Asthma and Dyspepsia in your book.'

I sent him the medicine required, with such instructions as were needed; the result being that all his chest symptoms disappeared. And though constitutionally dyspeptic, the patient has been wonderfully relieved in these symptoms by the use of 'Dr. Fleming's Quinine and Camphor Pills'—the gentle tonic aperient which I recommend in connexion with strict diet (see chapter on diet in my book).

And writing me a short time since he says: 'I soon lost all my cough and expectoration, and am at my employment again. I am thankful for the great good. I shall recommend your medicine to all I meet who suffer from cough or bronchitis.'

NOTE.—Days of Consultation.—TUESDAY, THURSDAY, and SATURDAY MORNINGS ONLY, at Coombe Lodge, Peckham. Patients from any long distance should choose either of the two former days. Every one is expected to have seen the book first.

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