

THE BELL NEWS

And Ringers' Record:

A Weekly Journal of the Ringing Exercise; and Compendium of Information for the Clergy and Churchwardens.

No. 40. [NEW SERIES.]—VOL. I.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 6, 1883.

[ONE PENNY]



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The last chapter is devoted to a list of the names of Composers of the different peals, with various particulars, and in the cases of deceased Composers with the dates of death, age, etc.

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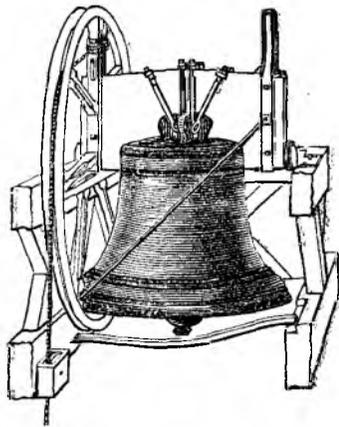
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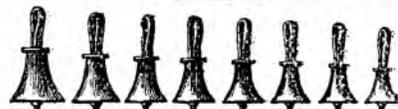
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THE BELLS OF SUFFOLK.

ALTHOUGH it is universally admitted among ringers that few counties present so many features of interest in connection with bells as Suffolk does, yet it is a remarkable circumstance that the towers containing them are confined, as a rule, to certain districts. Ipswich, as every one knows, has a peal of twelve and several of six and five, but if we examine the towers met with between this town and that of Woodbridge, eight miles distant, we find not one of them containing a ring of bells: on turning to the district between Ipswich and Debenham, however, the reverse state of affairs exist, and we at once find ourselves in a neighbourhood where peals abound, many of them noted for sweetness of tone, and all in good order, and possessing a band of change-ringers.

It is not my intention to dwell upon subjects in connection with each tower or peal, nor would the space at my disposal admit of my so doing, but there are one or two which may be said to possess special features of interest—notably a peal of six at Otley—as the tenor was made in the year 1572, and the third, fourth and fifth a hundred years earlier. Tradition says, they were cast in the churchyard by the monks, and I think this is probable, for each bell has an inscription round its crown in Latin, dedicating them respectively to "Holy Catherine, St. Gabriel, and Blessed Mary." The second, cast in 1727, was the gift of Bartholomew Russel, and the treble was presented by Captain Woolner, in 1876, thus making this fine old peal of five into one of the prettiest rings of six to be found for miles around: they were re-hung and quartered by Day and Son, of Eye, in 1875, chiefly through the exertions of the rector and Dr. Meadows, and it is to be hoped that the time is not far distant when they will be increased to eight.

About four miles from Otley is the church at Coddendam, with eight bells, and two miles further on that of Stonham, containing a good peal of ten: both these peals were the gift of a gentleman named Eccleston, in the beginning of the present century, who having learnt to ring, became so enthusiastic in the art, that he spent a great part of his fortune in travelling about the country with a band of his own, it being his desire to ring at every steeple in Norfolk and Suffolk before he died. After this took place his band seem to have become dispersed, and change-ringing to have died out of the neighbourhood: his beautiful peal at Coddendam were neglected until the sixth and third were cracked, and two others fell into the cage, while the peal of ten at Stonham fared only slightly better. This disgraceful state of affairs continued until about a dozen years ago, when the cracked bells were re-cast and the whole thoroughly re-hung and put in first-rate going order by Day and Son, of Eye. There is one special feature of interest in connection with this tower I must not omit to mention, namely, the condition of the belfry. I have been in many ringing-chambers, some of them kept in decent order and some I am sorry to say "dismal dens" used as receptacles for rubbish, but never (with the exception of Battersea) have I seen one so well fitted in every respect to remind a ringer that when there he is in a part of the church—the space at my disposal will not admit of an attempt to describe it, but one cannot help admiring the taste and art displayed there, which secure for Coddendam the neatest and best ordered belfry in the Eastern Counties.

Travelling some miles further on I arrive at the small (and dirty) town of Debenham, and while walking up its narrow thoroughfare on my way to the church am struck with the remarkable circumstance that about every other house I pass is a "public" and that two-thirds of the population seem to be children; whether this is due to the adults being concealed from view within the afore-mentioned "pubs" or not is a mystery I did not attempt to unravel, for arriving at the church I lost no time in making my way to the belfry (having first carefully fastened the door to prevent the ingress of some twenty or thirty inquisitive youngsters who had followed me) and were equally surprised to find it in much better condition than my previous experience of the town had led me to expect. The bells are a fine peal of eight, and were re-hung by Day and Son, of Eye, in 1879, but I noticed that the treble was slightly cracked in the crown, although on sounding her its effect was hardly appreciable: a ten thousand of Bob Major was rung here about the year 1790, which was surpassed a few years ago by one of Kent Treble Bob. Having finished my inspection I descended to the street, and here my attention was attracted by hearing the sound of bells, while walking a few paces further I beheld a seedy-looking individual engaged in tapping rounds on nine odd hand-bells strung on a pole to an admiring audience of half the juvenile population! espying me, he asked if I would assist a brother ringer, but not feeling disposed to encourage a public nuisance, I bluntly refused and made the best of my way out of the town, listening as I walked to the melodious peal of "stoney" then being rung in the tower by the local company, and with a feeling of gladness on being at last on my way out of the neighbourhood.

I hope it will not be considered out of place if I mention here a story told me by an old man in connection with this tower during my

visit to the belfry: he said that many years ago a certain inhabitant of the town was "wanted" by the police for a crime of a somewhat serious character, inasmuch as he was sought for high and low, houses were examined, footprints tracked, and the officers, as a last resource, went into the belfry to see if he was hiding among the ringers, this also proving fruitless, the search was abandoned, but towards nightfall, however, the policeman on watch close to the church noticed a bell-rope carefully let down to the earth from one of the topmost windows, and presently down came his man, hand over hand, straight into the constable's arms: when questioned he admitted that during the search he was stowed away underneath the tenor (having got there before the bells were raised), where he remained while the peal was being rung, hoping to escape in the night when all was quiet; I forgot what I was told his sentence was, but I believe he got penal servitude for ten years. Before closing this brief account of the principal features of interest in connection with bells met with in this district, I must not forget to mention the rapid strides change-ringing has taken there within the last few years, eight years ago there was not a church for miles around (with the exception of Ipswich) where anything but call-changes were practised, and I only remember two men who knew anything at all about the art, one a very old fellow who was the survivor of a band that could ring Bob Doubles when he was a boy, and the other a ringer well known throughout the Eastern Counties and in London as having been the means of teaching over two hundred different people. I allude to Mr. Sadler, of Witnesham, and in conclusion I can only add, that it is mainly owing to his perseverance and labour that the ringers in this district are considered to be as well noted for the way in which they ring Grandsire and Bob Major, as are the Londoners for Stedman, or the Yorkshiremen for Treble Bob.

N. W. W. M.

PRESENTATION BY THE LEEDS SOCIETY, YORKSHIRE.

On Tuesday evening, January 2nd, the St. Peter's Society of Change Ringers, Leeds (parish church), held their annual Christmas supper at Mr. Mitchell's, the "Nag's Head Hotel," opposite the church, Kirkgate. The Rev. William Lee, Precentor of the church, presided, and Robert Tuke, Esq., late treasurer to the Yorkshire Association, occupied the vice-chair. After ample justice had been done to the "Roast Beef of old England," and other things provided, which spoke well of Mr. Mitchell as a caterer, and the cloth being drawn, the chairman opened his remarks in a very appropriate manner, touching on the past events and good advice for the future prosperity of the society, and concluding with the toast, "The Queen and Royal Family." After the company had played several tunes on the hand-bells in excellent form, the chairman presented, on behalf of the society, to Mr. W. Whitaker, president, a large photograph of the whole company, in a large and magnificent gilt frame, as a mark of esteem. Mr. Whitaker, in accepting the gift, spoke in terms long to be remembered by those who heard them. Then followed the toasts. "Success to the Yorkshire Association" (St. Peter's Society); "Host and Hostess," and several others. At intervals during the evening, the company sang courses of Kent and Oxford Treble Bob Royal, Grandsire, and Stedman Caters. Mr. Walker played several airs on the dulcimer, on which instrument he is acknowledged to be an expert. Mr. Pawson also added much to the evening's enjoyment with tunes on a large set of tapping bells, a fine specimen of handbell founding. J. Hutchinson sang several songs with great effect, while E. Pickles presided at the piano in his usual masterly style. After votes of thanks to the chairman and vice-chairman, and to Mr. Binns, who acted as secretary to the presentation, had been given, the latter gentleman was in course of responding when the church clock chimed twelve, and he then called "stand all" at the moment, and this brought one of the pleasantest evenings to a close to be ever remembered by its oldest members.

DERBY AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

THE QUARTERLY MEETING of the above Association will be held at Leicester on Saturday, January 13th, 1883. The following towers will be opened for ringing:—St. Saviour's, St. Mary's, and St. Mark's. Tea at Five o'clock in St. Margaret's Schoolroom; Tickets 1s. 6d. The Annual Subscription for 1883, as per rule 4, is now due.
19, Morleston Street, H. C. WOODWARD,
Derby, January 1st, 1883. Hon. Sec.

THE SOUTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

THE next Quarterly Meeting of this Association will be held on Glington on Saturday, January 20th. A business meeting will be held at Twelve o'clock p.m.; Dinner at Two o'clock at "The Bell" inn. Tickets Two Shillings each. Members intending to be present must send to me on or before the 10th instant, or the usual allowance will not be made.

R. CREASEY,
Secretary.

HOLY TRINITY, BENGEIO, HERTFORD.

THE solemn dedication of a new ring of six bells, the munificent gift of Robert Smith, Esq., of Goldings, took place on Sunday last, being New Year's eve. The limited space at command made a light set of bells most desirable, therefore the tenor weighs only 7 cwt., in the key of A. The peal is very sweet in tone. They were cast, and erected in the tower by the eminent firm of Mears and Stainbank, of the White-chapel Foundry, to whom the greatest praise is from the musical as well as the structural and mechanical points of view.

After the ordinary Sunday evening service, with sermon by the Bishop-Suffragan of Colchester, a special consecration service was conducted by the bishop, and included four collects from *The Book of Common Prayer*, the due setting apart of the bells in the Name of the Blessed Trinity for the holy service of Almighty God, six most appropriate versicles, the Lord's Prayer, a beautiful special hymn, then a few rounds upon the newly-consecrated bells, and the Episcopal blessing.

The Revs. J. C. Mansel-Pleydell (rector), L. R. Tuttielt (curate) R. Rutland, and P. Deedes took part in the service. The ringers were selected from the Hertford College Youths: James Staples, 1; Jasper G. Crawley, 2; Alfred Baker, 3; Herbert Baker, 4; Thomas Gathard, 5; John Godfrey, 6. At the conclusion of the service several 6-scores of Grandsire and Stedman Doubles were rung. The ringers were most hospitably entertained at supper by C. E. Longmore, Esq., Churchwarden, and at eleven o'clock returned to the belfry, and rang a few touches previous to a short service, with sermon by the Rev. P. Deedes, at the close of which the bells again pealed forth, to usher in the New Year. The bells bear the following inscriptions:—

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

WOBURN (BEDFORDSHIRE) COMPANY OF CHANGE RINGERS.

On Monday evening, January 1st, the members of this Society were hospitably entertained at a supper given by F. T. Tanqueray, Esq., the Hon. Treasurer, at his residence, in George Street. A very pleasant evening was spent, the handbells being rung, interspersed with some carol singing. Her Grace the Duchess of Bedford very kindly (unsolicited) sent a donation of £5 to the funds of this company on Christmas-Day. We are pleased to note this, because the ringers of Woburn have for a long time been energetically working to establish the practice of half-pull ringing in and around the town and neighbourhood.

BATH AND KEYNSHAM UNITED DEANERIES ASSOCIATION.

THE third meeting of this Association will (by the kind permission of the Rev. Canon Bernard, M.A., Vicar of Walcot) be held at St. Andrew's church, Julian Road, Bath, on the evening of Monday, January 8th, 1883. Hours of ringing from 6.30 to 9 p.m.

There is a fine ring of eight bells at this church, which were cast by Messrs. Taylor, of Loughborough, and hung by them in the tower shortly after its completion in the early part of 1880. Tenor 23 cwt., in the key of E.

St. Andrew's church is about twenty minutes' walk from the Great Western Railway station, and twelve minutes from the Midland terminus.

Twerton-on-Avon Vicarage.

W. STOKES SHAW, M.A.,
Hon. Sec.

ASTON, BIRMINGHAM.—On Tuesday morning, December 26th, eight members of the Holt Society of change-ringers, Aston, assembled to have a touch and fall the bells, which were kept up from ringing on Christmas-Day, and succeeded in ringing Mr. Henry Johnson's musical touch of Grandsire Triples, comprising 1008 changes with six courses of 756, six courses of 675, and six courses of 567, which is arranged three courses alternately, and without a bob being called at the course-end. James Quarternan, 1; Richard Boland, 2; Thomas Hemming, 3; Arthur Jones, 4; William Ansell, 5; William Kent (conductor), 6; Charles Stanbridge, 7; George Ferris, 8. The above touch was rang in first class style, and is the first upon the bells for upwards of three months, through the extensive alterations and additions to the church, the belfry having been temporary put straight for ringing at Christmas and new year.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION OF CHANGE RINGERS.

The First Annual Meeting of the members of this association will be held at Bedford on Easter Monday next.

CHARLES HERBERT,
Hon. Sec.

In Memoriam.

On Wednesday afternoon, the 27th inst., the remains of the late Mr. John Steel, of Willowbrook, was interred in the quiet and sequestered little churchyard of Langley. The interment took place at three o'clock, witnessed by many friends and relations of the deceased and his wife's, who being unable to sustain the ordeal, had remained at home with her two children.

The service was performed by the Rev. W. D. Scoones, M.A., the vicar, and although the weather was most objectionable and inclement for many to be present, the churchyard was unusually peopled, giving a sad and mournful tone to the ceremony, as it proceeded in the rain by the old red brick church, with its surrounding quaint-fashioned houses of the 16th century. The following ringers were present:—F. Joys, G. Ball, R. Flaxman, W. Wilder, G. Maisey, F. Mattingley, H. Appleton, F. King, H. Barker, W. Fussell, T. Udell, A. Fussell, G. Tullitt, R. Dennett, and others. The deceased was born December 21st, 1823, and died December 21st, 1882, on the 59th anniversary of his birthday. The early part of his life was spent in the parish of Langley, and it was at the parish church of St. Mary's that he learned to ring in the old style of call changes. He subsequently lived near Isleworth, and while there frequently rang at Richmond, Twickenham, Isleworth and Kingston, and other churches near till he came, as bailiff, to Henry Nash, Esq., at the Dutchman's farm, near Slough. While living here he joined the following societies:—"The Windsor Parish Church Society," "The West Middlesex Association," "The Oxford Diocesan Guild of Change-Ringers," and "The Waterloo Society."

Immediately after the burial service, the following ringers rang the bells of St. Mary's Langley, which were deeply muffled for the occasion:—A. Fussell, 1; W. Wilder, 2; W. Fussell, 3; J. Barker, 4; R. Flaxman, 5. Messrs. F. King, H. Appleton, and C. Tullitt, also took part in the ringing. At St. Mary's, Slough, the following members of the West Middlesex Association met at 6 p.m., and rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor:—W. Leader, 1; W. Fussell, 2; A. Fussell, 3; W. Wilder, 4; J. Pursey, 5; R. Flaxman, 6 (conductor). J. Hale and E. Leader also rang.

At 7.30 the bells of the Curfew Tower, Windsor Castle commenced ringing, deeply muffled, and at eight o'clock they were again rung, half-muffled, by the following:—W. Fussell, 1; A. Butler, 2; H. Appleton, 3; G. Bradley, 4; W. Wilder, 5; H. Barker, 6; J. Beauchamp, 7; R. Flaxman, 8. Messrs. J. Holloway, Squelch, Newport, Clarke and Dennis, took part in the ringing during the evening.

Correspondence.

[While allowing the utmost freedom for the expression of opinion, it must never be considered that we are in any way bound to statements made by correspondents.]

To the Editor of "THE BELL NEWS AND RINGERS' RECORD."

THE "SUNDERGLOCKE" OF BRESLAU.

SIR,—In "THE BELL NEWS" for December 23rd, I see, under the heading—"The Bell Founder of Breslau," a few notes on one of the great bells of that town. I have by me the volume for 1873 of the German illustrated magazine, *Die Gartenlaube*, in which (page 100) there is an interesting account of a visit to the bell-tower of the church of S. Mary Magdalen at Breslau, and a full-page engraving of the great bell hanging there. After reading this account I have come to the conclusion that your contributor, W. H. F., has confused together two distinct bells. The great bell which he speaks of as weighing 11 tons, and as having been cast ten years after the Erfurt bell, is not hung in the tower of S. Mary Magdalen, but in that of S. Elisabeth, in Breslau, and it is not, I think, this bell, but the "Sünderglocke" (Sinners' bell), in the southern tower of St. Mary Magdalen's, which is associated with Wilhelm Müller's ballad. As the latter bell is one of the best known, and ranks among the oldest in Germany, perhaps the following particulars about it, which I have extracted from the article in *Die Gartenlaube*, may prove of some interest. The bell owes its name, "Armen-Sünderglocke" (condemned criminals' bell), or, shortly, "Sünderglocke," to the old custom of tolling it on occasions when criminals were led out to execution. According to *Menzel's Topographical Chronicle of Breslau*, it was cast by Johann Wilden, in the year 1386, at Ohlau (a town about 14 miles from Breslau). The bell weighs 113 German centner (about six tons). There is an inscription upon it in old German, with Gothic characters, followed by the Latin sentence:—"O Rex Gloriæ veni cum pace amen. Anno Domini mcccclxxxvi fusa est hoc campana in die Alexii." Underneath this is a small crucifix, the whole standing out in relief, and being very delicately and beautifully worked. There is too, on the top of the bell, some finely-executed ornamentation. In the illustration, the bell is shown hung on a large wooden stock, and it appears to be moved by a rope attached to a lever, in the same way as our smaller English bells are chimed. The Breslau chronicles do not say one word of any circumstance connected with the casting of this bell likely to have given rise to the melancholy story related in Müller's ballad. The first victim for whom the bell was tolled seems to have been one Johann Beer, a clerk. However, as regards another great bell in Breslau, that in the tower of S. Elisabeth (the one, I believe, referred to by W. H. F.) there is a strange story told in town chronicles that the bell was first sounded in 1507 for the death of the very man who had been the chief promoter of its casting, a Sebald Saueremann. In the course of time the two legends may very likely have been confounded together, and this, together with the fact that both these bells were for a few years previous to 1526 (when the use of the S. Elisabeth's was discontinued) tolled alternately when an execution was taking place, may have led to some confusion between the two. I believe, however, that I am right in saying that the "Sünderglocke" of the ballad is the bell which now hangs in the southern tower of the church of St. Mary Magdalen.

C. CANDLER.

"THE BELL NEWS AND RINGERS' RECORD" will be forwarded post free, on the following terms:—

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" " 6 "	3s. 3d.
" " 3 "	1s. 8d.

All Subscriptions and Orders for papers must be sent direct to the Publisher, W. E. ALLEN, Ave Maria Lane, London.

All communications respecting advertisements must be addressed to the office of "THE BELL NEWS," Walthamstow, London."

Everything for insertion in this Journal to be addressed, "The Editor of THE BELL NEWS, Walthamstow, London." Letters forwarded for publication must reach us not later than Wednesday morning; the insertion of Performances coming later than the first Postal delivery on Thursday morning, cannot be guaranteed in that week's number.

Contributions are invited from any of our friends. We shall always be glad to give any information asked for, relative to the subjects this paper deals with.

The Editor would be glad to receive the names of gentlemen who would be willing to act for their respective districts, in the capacity of reporter or correspondent. We shall feel obliged by Association and other Secretaries sending intelligence of events occurring within their jurisdiction.

CHARGES FOR ADVERTISEMENTS:

The charge for Advertisements is 4s. per inch single column, or 8s. per inch double column. Special arrangements for a series of more than four insertions. Displayed advertisements by special contract. All advertisements must reach the Publisher's by 12 o'clock at noon on Thursday.

P. T. C.—We think your idea a very good one, but we shall have a better opportunity of embracing it by-and-by.

J. BARRY.—There has been neglect, as you say. You forwarded a report of a peal which for aught we knew, may have been rung in Philadelphia, as you specified no church, town, or district. Two of the most prominent members of your company will testify that we have more than once pointed out to them, previous to publication, omissions in reports they have sent, and we intended to do the same with your MS., but through the anxiety attendant upon publishing our number for Christmas-week, we unfortunately overlooked it. We confess to belong to the Society to which you make a pointed allusion; but we should be glad for you to believe that no supposed predilections in favour of that society influence us, in the least, in the conduct of this journal, and we should be content to rest our case for fairness upon a verdict given by our general body of readers, or members of your company alone.

Communications from Llanfairfechan and other places we are compelled to hold over. D. Prentice, C. H. Hattersley, R. Williams, and others, in turn.

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 6, 1883.

UNWILLING as we are at all times to play the part of critic upon points connected with the internal government of any ringing society or association, we are of opinion that such criticism falls legitimately within our province, as being in a measure the mouthpiece of the Exercise at large. There arises at times also, questions that hardly fall within the lines of legislation on the part of societies as societies, but are still of the first importance, as affecting the spirit of good fellowship that should exist in all bodies whose only tie is a similarity of tastes and pursuits, and who are not bound together by any mutual pecuniary interest, the latter feeling generally proving of sufficient strength to hold together men whose tastes and mode of life may be essentially dissimilar.

It is under the latter category that the point, to which we would call attention, falls, and while doing so, and conceiving it to be our duty to do so, we are perfectly aware of the fact that many amongst our readers hold diametrically opposite views upon the question to those that we ourselves hold.

We refer to the practice that obtains in some quarters, of men who have engaged themselves to ring in one peal, throwing that peal over, so to speak, in order to make one in a peal of a higher class.

Dividing the year broadly into two parts, *i.e.*, summer and winter, it will be found that by far the larger number of peals are rung in the winter moiety, and as a glance at our reports of performances will shew, it often happens that two or more peals are rung by members of the same company upon the same day, and it is owing to the very laudable desire upon the part of ringers, more especially the younger members of the Exercise, to ring good peals and plenty of them, that the evil, for as such we look upon it, has crept in. For instance, a band is made up for a certain day and place, to go for a peal of "common" Grandsire Triples, but before the day comes round, another band is being formed for a peal of Treble Bob, Stedman Caters, or Cinques, as the case may be, and, perhaps unwittingly, upon the part of the getter-up of the second peal, one of the Grandsire Triples band is asked to ring in it, he consents and thus disorganises the first band, very often to the serious inconvenience of some of its members. This we hold to be a quite unjustifiable proceeding upon the part of any man, without he first obtains the full concurrence to such a course of every other individual member of that band to which he had first pledged himself, and this, in cases of such necessity as will readily suggest themselves to our readers, would of course be readily given. A very extreme case came under our notice a few years ago, and although it is hardly conceivable that a second person could be found in any society to commit such an outrage upon good manners, it serves to show the tendency that the practice in question has run to most unseemly lengths. A band had been formed to go for a peal of Grandsire Triples at a church distant some seven or eight miles from the residence of most of the parties concerned, and at the time and place appointed, seven of the band duly met: the remaining individual, without the slightest intimation to the other parties that would have saved them cash, time, and disappointment, coolly ignored the business and went off in another direction to make one in a peal of Treble Bob Major. Upon such a case, comment is superfluous, all must agree in condemning such conduct, and our contention is that the practice in question led up to the outrage thus committed; had such a practice not been in vogue, no man would have dared to thus transgress against the unwritten laws that serve to bind societies together, equally as much as those that are made and recorded in more formal assemblages.

The Metropolis.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS, AND THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 30, 1882, in Two Hours and Forty-eight Minutes,

AT ST. SAVIOUR'S CHURCH, WALTHAMSTOW,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

TAYLOR'S BOB-AND-SINGLE VARIATION. Tenor 16 cwt.

EDWARD FENN*	Treble.	WINGFIELD MEADOWS, Esq. 5.
FREDERICK BINES	2.	ROBERT MAYNARD 6.
WILLIAM MANNING	3.	THOMAS MAYNARD 7.
HARVEY REEVES.. .. .	4.	WILLIAM CROCKFORD .. Tenor.

Conducted by THOMAS MAYNARD.

[*First peal.]

The Provinces.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—ECCLES.

On Monday, December 18, 1882, in Two Hours and Forty-five Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
ANNABLE'S COMPOSITION. Tenor 13½ cwt.

EDWARD CASH Treble.	JAMES SCHOLEY 5.
JAMES BARRATT 2.	RICHARD ASHCROFT 6.
RICHARD PEARCE 3.	GEO. HY. JOHNSON 7.
JOSEPH SCOTT 4.	WILLIAM ASHCROFT Tenor.

Conducted by GEO. HY. JOHNSON.

The time of performance of this peal is the quickest on record at this church.

Messrs. Cash, Barratt, Scholey, R. and W. Ashcroft, and Johnson, hail from Eccles; R. Pearce, from Swinton; and J. Scott, from Manchester.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
MERSHAM, KENT.

On Tuesday, December 19, 1882, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES.

E. RUCK, SEN. Treble.	W. HYDER 5.
G. FINN, SEN. 2.	G. PAINE 6.
G. FINN, JUN. 3.	F. FINN 7.
D. PAINE 4.	E. FINN Tenor.

(No conductor mentioned.)

HULME, MANCHESTER.

On Thursday, December 21, 1882, in Two Hours and Forty-six Minutes,
AT ST. PHILIP'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 12½ cwt.

THOMAS BRADBURY* Treble.	EDWIN ETTOCK 5.
THOMAS HEALD 2.	ARTHUR WOOD 6.
ALFRED EGGINTON 3.	JOHN F. WOODS 7.
JOSEPH SCOTT 4.	W. HENRY REEVES Tenor.

Conducted by ARTHUR WOOD.

* First peal with a bob bell.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—GUISELEY.

On Tuesday, December 26, 1882, in Two Hours and Fifty-four Minutes,
AT ST. OSWALD'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;
IN THE OXFORD VARIATION.

Composed by NATMAN JOHN PITSTOW.

Also, on the same bells, on the same day, after an interval of an hour, by the same company,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 10½ cwt.

MATTHEW TOMLINSON .. Treble.	JOHN MCKELL 5.
DAVID E. RHODES 2.	JOSEPH YEADON 6.
WILLIAM DEMAINE 3.	JAMES BALDWIN 7.
WILLIAM MALLINSON .. . 4.	JASPER W. SNOWDON, Esq. Tenor.

Composed by TOM LOCKWOOD.

Both peals were conducted by JASPER W. SNOWDON, Esq.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—APPLETON, BERKS.

On Friday, December 29, 1882, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF UNION TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES.

F. S. WHITE Treble.	W. BENNETT 5.
J. AVERY 2.	G. HOLIFIELD 6.
B. BARRETT 3.	F. WHITE 7.
E. HOLIFIELD 4.	T. BENNETT Tenor.

Composed and conducted by G. HOLIFIELD.

This is the first peal ever rung on these bells in this method; and the first in the method by the above Guild.

THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY.—RUISLIP, MIDDLESEX.

On Saturday, December 30, 1882, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,
AT ST. MARTIN'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
REEVES'S VARIATION. Tenor 15 cwt.

HENRY LANGDON Treble.	HARRY CUTTER 5.
EDWIN HORREX 2.	GEORGE R. BANKS 6.
RICHARD FRENCH 3.	CHALLIS F. WINNY 7.
BURTON J. JAMES 4.	WILLIAM H. GEORGE .. Tenor.

Conducted by RICHARD FRENCH.

This is the first peal on the bells, which were augmented to eight by Messrs. Warner and Son, about five years ago. Mr. Cutter hails from Willesden; Mr. George from Pinner; the rest from London.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—SWINTON.

On Saturday, December 30, 1882, in Two Hours and Fifty-two Minutes,
AT ST. PETER'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
TAYLOR'S BOB-AND-SINGLE VARIATION. Tenor 20 cwt. 1 qr.

W. CROSSLEY Treble.	*J. URMSTON 5.
C. CASH 2.	E. CASH 6.
R. PEARCE 3.	J. EDGE 7.
W. HAUGHTON 4.	J. T. JONES Tenor.

Conducted by E. CASH.

* First peal.

DRIGHLINGTON, YORKSHIRE.

On Saturday, December 30, 1882, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,
AT ST. PAUL'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 16 cwt. in F.

A. MOULSON Treble.	J. CHEETHAM 5.
J. NAYLOR 2.	J. H. HARDCASTLE 6.
J. ANGUS 3.	J. WILKINSON, Esq. 7.
T. POLLARD 4.	W. E. LONDON Tenor.

Composed specially by W. SOTTANSTALL, of Sowerby, and

Conducted by J. H. HARDCASTLE.

This peal has the sixth nine times wrong and twelve times right; and the sixth nine courses out of the last ten at home.

Date Touches.

BIRMINGHAM AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.

On Saturday, December 30th, 1882, at Mr. T. Miller's, 37, Weaman Street, upon handbells (retained in hand), the date of year, 1882 changes of Grandsire Triples, in 55 mins., with the 6th and 7th together throughout. Bennett Stevens, 1-2; John Carter (composer and conductor), 3-4; Thomas Miller, 5-6; Richard Hackley, 7-8. Referees, Messrs. Albert Hackley and William Saniger, who marked off the leads as it was rung. All members of the Birmingham and District Association.

BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

On December 30th, and January 1st, the old year out and new year in, was rung upon St. Chad's bells, 1883 changes of Grandsire Triples in 1 hr. 6 mins. William Saniger, 1; John Callaghan, 2; John Carter (composer and conductor), 3; Thomas Miller, 4; Bennett Stevens, 5; Richard Hackley, 6; Albert Hackley, 7; Anthony Druce, 8. Tenor 15 cwt in F. This touch contains the twenty-four 6-7's.

BARNWOOD (Gloucestershire).—On New Year's morning, six members of the St. Lawrence's society, rang upon the church bells, fifteen 6-scores, and 83 changes of Grandsire Doubles, being the date of the present year, in 1 hr. 5 mins. A. Waite, 1; J. Yeates, 2; G. Miles, 3; A. Smart, 4; H. Mitchell (conductor), 5; A. W. Mitchell, 6. Tenor 14 cwt. in G.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS.—The time-honoured custom of ringing in the New Year was observed by the members of the St. James's Society on January 1st, by the performance of a date touch, consisting of 1883 changes of Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. 18 mins. Jos. Kendall, 1; J. Hague, 2; B. M. Brown, 3; Jos. Dancer, 4; G. Brotherton, 5; J. Mercer (conductor), 6; R. M. Graham, 7; Rob. Bowker, 8. Tenor 15½ cwt.

BRIGHOUSE (Yorkshire).—On Monday, January 1st, the St. Martin's company rang in the new year with a date touch of Kent Treble Bob Major, consisting of 1883 changes with 6th's place bobs only, in 1 hr. and 7 mins. H. Wilson, 1; F. Crossley, 2; J. F. Pearson, 3; G. Lawton, 4; W. Wood, 5; J. Cockroft, 6; C. Nield (composer and conductor), 7; F. Prince, 8. Tenor 14½ cwt.

Miscellaneous.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—On Christmas Eve, at St. Stephen's, 2352 of Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. 30 mins. Geo. Allan, 1; R. H. Richardson, 2; E. W. Scott, 2; E. W. Pyle, 4; F. Ord, 5; E. Wallis (conductor), 6; I. Power, 7; G. W. Hobart, 8. Also on Christmas morning, 840 of Grandsire Triples, in 36 mins. R. Bell, 1; R. H. Richardson, 2; E. W. Scott, 3; E. W. Pyle, 4; F. Ord, 5; I. Power (conductor), 6; E. Wallis, 7; G. W. Hobart, 8. Tenor 30 cwt. And on New Year's Eve, at St. John's, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, with the bells half muffled, in 31 mins. Geo. Herdman, 1; C. L. Routledge, 2; R. S. Story, 3; W. G. Routledge (conductor), 4; W. Story, 5; F. Lees, 6. The New Year was immediately after the completion of the foregoing, ushered in with a well struck touch of Plain Bob, by the following band. Geo. Campbell, 1; C. L. Routledge, 2; F. Lees, 3; W. G. Routledge, 4; W. Story, 5; R. S. Story (conductor), 6. Tenor 14½ cwt. And on January 2nd, at St. John's, a 720 of Plain Bob, with eight bobs and six singles, in 29 mins. G. Campbell, 1; A. Moffatt (South Shields), 2; W. G. Routledge, 3; Jas. Moffatt (South Shields), 4; John Moffatt (South Shields), 5; R. S. Story (conductor), 6.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

IPSWICH (Suffolk).—The following ten members of the above association rang the old year out and ushered the new in with a well-struck 1040 of Kent Treble Bob Royal, in 45 mins., upon the bells of St. Mary-le-Tower. William L. Catchpole (conductor), 1; E. Pemberton, 2; I. S. Alexander, 3; W. Meadows, 4; C. Saul, 5; H. Bowell, 6; R. Hawes, 7; R. Brundle, 8; E. Reeve, 9; S. Tillet, 10. Tenor 32 cwt.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

FARNHAM ROYAL (Berks).—On Sunday evening, December 31st, the company met at six o'clock, and rang a variety of Doubles; and again at 11.30, when they rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor in 28 mins., and after an interval of two minutes, when brother Clark, who officiated at the tenor, had quietly tapped off twelve o'clock, they again struck out merrily and pulled off another 720 Grandsire Minor, in 26 mins. after which the bells were let down in peal in the position of Queens. C. Chapman, 1; F. Fells, 2; G. Basden, 3; J. Basden, 4; J. Parker (conductor), 5; C. Clark, 6.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

MERSHAM (Kent).—On Thursday evening, December 28th, 1882, being the thirty-fourth Anniversary of the old treble (or 3rd now), the gift of the late Right Honourable Sir Edward Knatchbull, Bart., in the year 1847. The following rang a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor. F. Finn, jun., 1; G. Finn, sen., 2; E. Ruck, sen. (conductor), 3; G. Finn, jun., 4; F. Finn, sen., 5; E. Finn, 6. Also 720 of Plain Bob Minor. E. Ruck, jun., 1; G. Finn, sen., 2; E. Ruck, sen., 3; G. Finn, jun., 4; F. Finn, sen. (conductor), 5; E. Finn, 6.

AUGHTON (Lancashire).—On Sunday afternoon, December 31st, at Christ Church, six members of the local company rang for Divine Service a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 26 mins., with tenor covering. G. Larkey, 1; J. Gardner, 2; W. Fairclough, 3; C. Sharples (conductor), 4; W. Bentham, 5; J. Walker, 6; H. Cave, tenor. And on Tuesday evening, January 2nd, six members rang for practice a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 26 mins. G. Larkey, 1; J. Orme, 2; C. Sharples, 3; W. Bentham, 4; J. Walker, 5; W. Fairclough (conductor), 6. Tenor 16 cwt.

BATH.—On Sunday, December 31st, being new year's-eve, a midnight peal was rung at St. Andrew's church with the bells deeply muffled to celebrate the expiration of the year 1882. Twelve o'clock having struck, the buffs were removed, and the bells rang out merrily to welcome the incoming of the new year 1883.

BETCHWORTH (Surrey).—On Tuesday evening, December 26th, a mixed company rung 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in 25 mins. W. Burkin, jun., 1; T. Boniface, 2; T. Miles, 3; W. Webb, 4; T. Burkin, sen., 5; I. Brooker (conductor), 6. Tenor 12 cwt.

BISHOPS STORTFORD (Herts).—The old year was rung out and the new year in at St. Michael's Church, by eight members of the local society with a select touch of Grandsire Triples, 1638 changes, in 1 hr. 1 min. T. Newman, 1; N. White, 2; A. Tucker, 3; G. Martin, 4; J. Newman, 5; H. Champness, 6; H. J. Tucker (conductor), 7; H. Doughty, 8. Tenor 20 cwt.

CAVENDISH (Suffolk).—On Christmas-eve, the Cavendish Society rang at the parish church a 720 of New London Pleasure in 26 mins. On Christmas-day, for morning service, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob in 24½ mins. On Wednesday December 27th, for practice, a 720 of Double Court Bob in 26 mins. Also the same evening a 720 of Duke of York in 27 mins. On Friday, December 29th, 1440 changes, consisting of 720 Duke of York and 720 Double Court, in 52 mins. On Sunday December 31st, 1440 changes, consisting of 720 Double Oxford Bob and 720 Double Court, in 50 mins. At midnight the old year was rung out with a 720 of Duke of York, in 27 mins. and the new year rung in with a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, in 26 mins. Fred. J. Thompson, 1; Joe S. Page, 2; Chas. W. Hurst, 3; Albert Ives, 4; Harry Thompson, 5; Alexander Hurst (conductor), 6.

CHESTER.—Handbell Ringing.—On Sunday evening, December 31st, six members of the St. Michael's society rang (in the belfry) on handbells, retained in hand, four courses of Kent Treble Bob Major (1280 changes), in 46½ mins. (Witnessed by J. Errington and E. Ward.) J. Gibson, 1-2; T. Bethell, 3-4; J. Moulton (conductor), 5-6; C. Price, 7-8. This was the last four courses of Mr. J. Fleming's one-part peal of 5088 changes (see Snowdon's *Rope-Sight*, part 2), with the bob before omitted. The same ringers rang on the church bells, half-muffled, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor (the late J. Reeves's composition), with fifteen bobs, in 25 mins. J. Moulton (conductor), 1; E. Ward, 2; J. Gibson, 3; J. Errington, 4; C. Price, 5; T. Bethell, 6. Afterwards a course of Bob Royal in hand, which brought the year to a conclusion. J. Errington, 1-2; J. Gibson, 3-4; T. Bethell, 5-6; J. Moulton, 7-8; C. Price, 9-10. The same company opened the new year with several touches of Bob and Kent Treble Bob Minor, and also rang a course of Grandsire Maximus in hand. E. Ward, 1-2; J. Errington, 3-4; J. Gibson, 5-6; T. Bethell, 7-8; J. Moulton, 9-10; E. Price, 11-12. Also a course of Kent Treble Bob Royal in hand. J. Gibson, 1-2; J. Errington, 3; E. Ward, 4; T. Bethell, 5-6; J. Moulton, 7-8; C. Price, 9-10.

CRAWLEY (Sussex).—On Monday, January 1st, the Crawley society, assisted by H. Burstow of Horsham, rung their first quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, in 47 mins. G. Holder, 1; T. Smith, Esq., 2; Rev. J. B. Lennard (Rector), 3; F. Caffin, 4; J. Newman, 5; F. Hillier, 6; H. Burstow (conductor), 7; B. Court, 8.

EVERTON (Notts).—On Dec. 19th, the local company rang a 720 of Bob Minor (Mr. Penning's), eighteen bobs and six singles. J. S. Phillips, 1; C. Lindley, 2; G. Pearson, 3; J. Swindin, 4; R. Lindley, 5; G. Brown (conductor), 6. On Dec. 20th, another 720, with 28 bobs and 2 singles: J. S. Phillips, 1; R. Lindley, 2; G. Pearson, 3; J. Swindin, 4; G. Brown, 5; R. Lindley (conductor), 6. At six o'clock on Christmas morning, another 720, with 16 bobs and 2 singles: Messrs. Phillips, R. Lindley, Pearson, Rev. H. F. Ramsey, J. Swindin, G. Brown (conductor), 6. On the 30th, another 720, 28 bobs and 2 singles, conducted by R. Lindley. On Jan. 1st, at 12.10, to hail the new year, another 720 with 26 singles, conducted by G. Brown; and in the evening, another 720 (Penning's), with 26 bobs and 2 singles: J. S. Phillips, 1; C. Lindley, 2; G. Pearson, 3; J. Swindin, 4; R. Lindley (conductor), 5; G. Brown, 6. This last was rung as a compliment to the Rev. H. F. Ramsey, who is leaving Everton, to the deep regret of the ringing company.

LYTHAM (Lancashire).—On Christmas morning, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor was rung at St. John's Church. W. Bamber, 1; R. J. Rainford (Capt.), 2; Jno. Fell, 3; C. H. Kerr, (conductor; the first he has called), 4; Jno. Pemberton, 5; Robert Whiteside, (his first 720), 6. Tenor 10½ cwt.

REIGATE (Surrey).—On Christmas morning, eight members of the Reigate society rang a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes). J. Howard, 1; F. T. Hoad (conductor), 2; T. Fuller, 3; W. Burt, 4; T. Brown, 5; W. Argent, 6; W. Webb, 7; E. Kenward, 8. Also on Monday evening, January 1st, the following members attempted to ring a date touch for the present year in the same method, but after ringing 1473 changes in 56 mins. they came to grief on account of the 5th slipping the wheel. E. Dewey, 1; F. T. Hoad (conductor), 2; W. Bone, 3; W. Argent, 4; T. Fuller, 5; E. Kenward, 6; W. Webb, 7; J. Howard, 8.

SADDLEWORTH (Yorkshire).—On Sunday evening last, the local company met in the belfry of St. Chad's church, and rung the old year out and the new one in, a 6-score of Merchant's Return being rung. Also 240 of Oxford. After a pause, the bells were again started about a quarter to twelve, and 1200 changes were rung in the following Treble Bob methods: 360 of New London Pleasure; 720 of Oxford, and 120 of Violet. J. J. Brierley, 1; John Holden (conductor), 2; J. L. Buckley, 3; James Wrigley, 4; Edgar Buckley, 5; Edward Wood, 6. Tenor 12 cwt. After ringing, the ringers were entertained at a friend's house, to refresh the inner man, separating about 2.30, wishing each other and their friends "a happy and prosperous new year."

HIGHER SUTTON, MACCLESFIELD (Cheshire).—On Monday, January 1st, 1883, at St. James's church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with a call every lead, in 25 mins., also a touch, of Bob Minor. Wm. H. Ingham (conductor), 1; Ed. Mathews, 2; James Holt, 3; J. Devenport, 4; Wm. Hy. Hardman, 5; Walter Ingham, 6. After ringing the ringers partook of an excellent supper provided in good old English style at the "Church Inn." After the repast touches of Minor, Triples, Caters, and Cinques, were performed on the hand-bells, and after a few remarks from Mr. James Holt on the progress the society was making in change ringing, a pleasant evening was brought to a close.

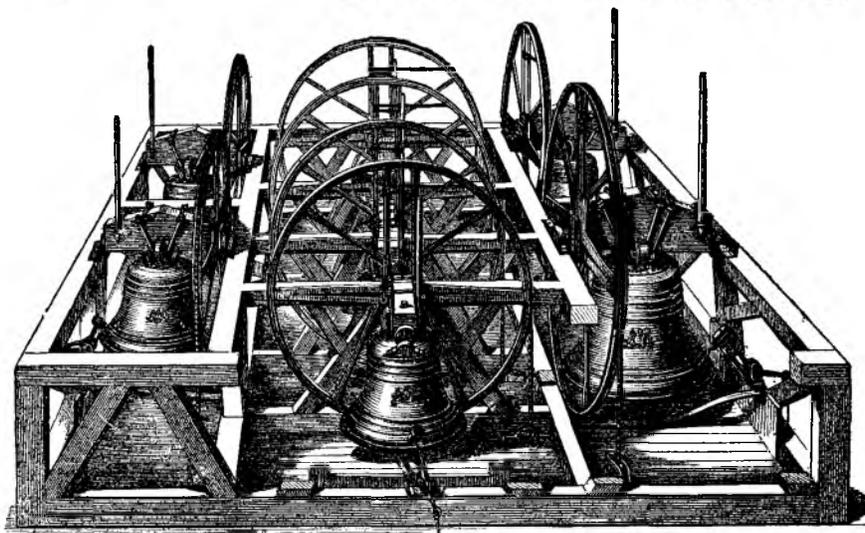
MELBOURNE (Derbyshire).—On Saturday' December 30th, at St. Michael's church, five members of the local society, assisted by Mr. W. C. Woodward, of Derby, rung six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. H. Hulse, 1; J. Warren, 2; F. Calow, 3; H. C. Woodward (conductor), 4; T. Hollingworth, 5; F. Kincey, 6. Tenor 16 cwt in F#.

SPALDING (Lincs.).—At St. Paul's, Fulney, on Saturday night, December 26th, Christmas morning was rang in with a 720 of Bob Minor. T. Manton, 1; E. Quinton, 2; A. F. Walker, 3; C. Creasey, 4; J. W. Creasey, 5; J. Croxford (conductor), 6. On Sunday night, December 31st, the old year was rang out and the new year in with a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, in 26 mins. C. Creasey, 1; E. Quinton, 2; A. F. Walker, 3; R. Creasey (conductor), 4; J. W. Creasey, 5; J. Croxford, 6. And at SS. Mary and Nicholas, on Christmas-eve, after service, 720 of Bob Minor, eighteen bobs and two singles. A. Brown, 1; G. Harrison, 2; G. Richardson, 3; R. Mackman, 4; S. Wright, 5; J. Brown, 6. At midnight, 720 in the same method: J. R. Jerram, 6; J. S. Wright (conductor). On December 31st, after evening service, 720 Bob Minor, eighteen bobs and two singles. G. Skeef, 1; A. Brown, 2; G. L. Richardson, 3; E. J. Brown, J. 4; S. Wright, 5; R. Mackman, 6. January 1st, for early celebration, 720 Bob Minor; also at noon 720 same method: R. Creasey, 4; and another 720 in the same method thirty bobs and two singles; J. Rudd, (of Whittlesea), E. J. Brown, 4; R. Mackman (conductor), 6. Tenor 18 cwt.

WOMBURN (near Wolverhampton).—On Sunday afternoon, December 31st, six members of the local society rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 30 mins. A. Little, 1; H. Carrier, 2; H. Deane, 3; W. Devy, 4; J. E. Claridge, 5; R. Cartwright (conductor), 6. Tenor 14½ cwt. in G. Several attempts have been made to ring this 720, but have failed, 710 changes have been rung and the thread lost so short a distance from the end, but when we take into consideration that the bells are left-handed and the treble is between the 5th and tenor there is little need for surprise. The 720 was composed by Mr. H. Johnson of Birmingham, and has thirty-eight bobs and twenty-two singles. This is the first 720 by this society and the first on the bells by villagers, although the bells bear the date of 1744. [*Member of the Yorkshire Association.]

FALL OF A CHURCH TOWER.—On Friday, December 29th, the tower of Freckenham church, near Mildenhall, Cambridgeshire, fell with a tremendous crash. The tower was a square one, and contained five bells, which were rung as usual at Christmas-time. It had been for some time past in a dilapidated state, and was patched up occasionally. Fortunately the tower fell away from the church, or the fabric must have been considerably damaged. No one was injured.

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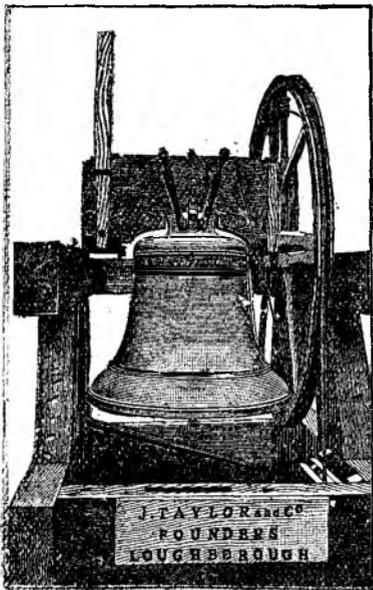
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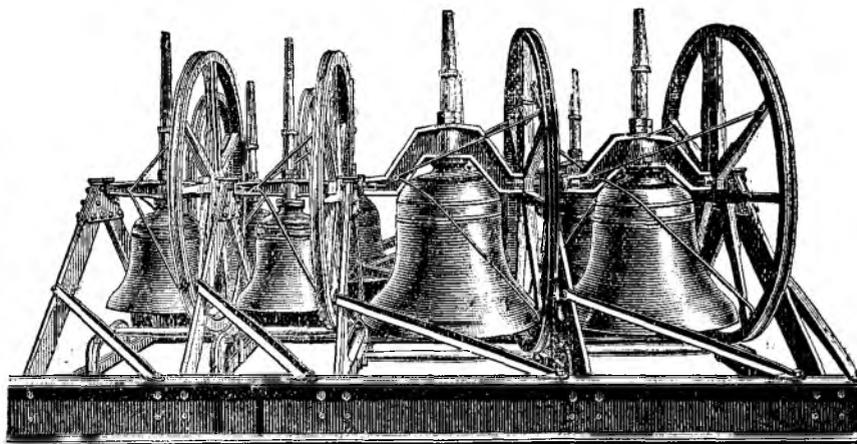
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No. 41. [NEW SERIES.]—VOL. I.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 13, 1883.

[ONE PENNY.]



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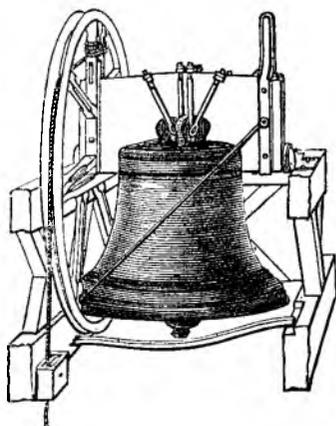
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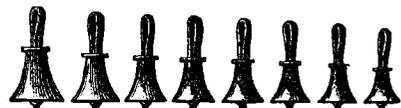
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FESTIVITIES AT WORCESTER.

ON Wednesday, December 27th, through the liberality of the Rev. W. Carr, the Rector of St. John in Bedwardine, the choir and ringers were treated to a capital repast in the large school-room which was tastefully decorated for the occasion. Over the entrance door was the following: "Ring out the old; Ring in the new" and other suitable mottoes. There were present the Rev. W. Carr (Vicar), Mr. A. Buck and Mr. Birch (Churchwardens), Mr. Bramwell and party, and about one hundred of the principal parishioners, all earnest church-workers. Before the repast the choir sang several pieces and carols, and afterwards the ringers introduced the handbells, when several courses of Grandsire Triples and Caters were rang. Several tunes were played, four in hand, by Messrs. Gwynn, Cleal, and Owen; and Mr. J. Hinton, Sen., a ringer entirely deaf, tapped tunes at intervals on his fifteen bells, also a course of Grandsire Caters. At twelve o'clock the company separated all highly pleased with the ringing and singing, and all wishing to spend another evening together next year.

The church of St. John, in Worcester, is situated on a pleasing eminence overlooking the river Severn. A perambulation of the meadows adjacent to this picturesque church on a Sunday afternoon when the bells are chiming for Divine Service, their notes in the distance falling on the ear, is an enjoyment never to be forgotten. There is no doubt it was originally intended to have eight bells here, as there are pits left for two trebles; perhaps the archives of the Whitechapel Foundry could throw some light on this matter; be this as it may, such an addition at any time would be welcome news. The late John Wheeley Lea, Esq., Alderman of the city, whose name will for ever live in grateful remembrance among the poor folk of the "faithful city," was Churchwarden of St. John's for many years. We are convinced that had he known such an augmentation of the bells to be desirable, the tower would long ago possessed a peal of eight. Perhaps this hint may lead—and we hope it may—to the question of adding two more trebles to the peal being considered by the worthy Rector. In such case, knowing the requirements two new bells ought to possess for this particular peal, we should be pleased to give the Rector or Churchwardens the benefit of our experience.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

ON Tuesday, December 26th, the following members of this Association visited the village of Southgate, Middlesex, and upon the truly magnificent bells of Christ Church (cast by Mears and Stainbank, and said to rival the famed Lavenham peal) they attempted Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, but after ringing for 33 minutes, the conductor having discovered that two bells had changed course, wisely called "Stand." A second attempt was then made, and ringing was kept up with spirit, with excellent striking, for 3 hrs. 15 mins., but unfortunately, this attempt also came to grief through one of the company neglecting to make third's place. An adjournment was then made to the well-known hostelry, "The Cherry Tree" inn, where the company sat down to dinner. After this repast, they again repaired to the steeple, where they were met by W. Meadows, Esq., and rang a touch of Stedman Triples—500 changes—two courses of Plain Bob, and a course of Kent Treble Bob Major, in which that gentlemen took part. This finished the day's proceedings, and though naturally disappointed at their want of success, so far as regards the peal, the company were very well pleased with their day's outing, and their gratification, in having enjoyed a ring upon so tuneful a peal, was, from the same cause, in no way diminished. The ringers were: C. Martin, 1; J. Harris, 2; J. Trappitt, 3; G. Pell, 4; D. Springhall, 5; J. Fayers, 6; C. Gordon, 7; J. Zealey, 8. The whole of the ringing was conducted by J. Trappitt.

Southgate is one of those places having a good peal of bells, with a well-appointed steeple, without a band of ringers worthy of the name. In this particular instance, however, we believe there is a number of young men in the parish willing to be taught the principles of the art, if a qualified instructor were provided for a short period. The cost of such provision would not be an alarming high figure, provided the services of a really efficient teacher were secured. The establishment of a good band of *bona fide* ringers at Southgate is much to be desired, and we commend the idea to the worthy Vicar.

KIDDERMINSTER.—A short time since the fine ring of eight bells (tenor 29 cwt.) at St. Mary's church in this town was rehung, and three new bells being added and a set of Carillon chimes. This was thought a good opportunity for the formation of an amateur association of ringers, there being no half-pull ringers in the town. No sooner however was the society started, than the churchwardens "killed" it for some reason or another. Fortunately it is seldom that this kind of thing is met with, and for the sake of ringing generally we hope that a similar case may never again occur.

CAVENDISH, SUFFOLK.—THE CAVENDISH SOCIETY'S ANNIVERSARY.

The parish church of St. Mary, Cavendish, which is a very fine building in the perpendicular style, possesses a massive tower with a ring of six bells.

The original peal was cast by Mears in 1779, and before the tenor was cracked whilst being raised in 1868, was regarded with admiration by the parish and neighbourhood, on account of the pure, melodious tone of the bells. Through the munificence of the late Mr. Ambrose Smith, of Nether Hall, Cavendish, the cracked tenor was re-placed by Messrs. Warner in 1869, with a fine-toned bell of 12 cwt., since which time a crack in the crown has gradually extended and spoilt the tone of the 4th bell. It is to be hoped that, sooner or later, the parishioners (who have always manifested great interest in change-ringing) will remedy the existing defects in the peal, and by the addition of two trebles augment it to eight.

In 1870, there existed here an excellent company, who rang a 5040 in 7 different methods. Only two of this company are now in the parish, three having left the place, and one, the heart and soul of Cavendish ringing up to the time of his death, having gone over to join the great majority. Since the death of this ardent ringer in 1877, the Cavendish bells have seldom been rung, until through the instrumentality of Mr. F. J. Thompson, the present society was formed in January, 1882. The progress of the young members of this society, whose names frequently figure in this journal, has been very rapid. Their first peal was rung on April 26, since which time they have also mastered the following methods:—Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, New London Pleasure, Duke of York, Double Oxford, and Double Court, in which methods they have rung 40 complete 720's, and also a 2160 in three methods.

Through the exertions of the society, the St. Mary's belfry has undergone a complete transformation. The Gothic lights have been filled in with cathedral-tinted and stained glass, and the interior nicely decorated, giving the belfry a more cheerful and sacred aspect, contrasting in a marked manner with its state a few months since.

The first anniversary of the society's formation was held January 1st, when the members, together with the Curate of Cavendish, and Churchwarden, and several of the leading tradesmen of the place, sat down to an excellent dinner at the "White Horse" Hotel in the evening. The chair was taken by Mr. Alexander Hurst, of Cavendish Grammar School, the master of the Society, who was supported by Mr. Hugh Clark, Churchwarden; the Vice-chair being occupied by the Rev. Herbert S. Clark, Curate.

After the cloth was removed the usual loyal toasts were given from the chair, the remainder of the evening being spent in singing and hand-bell ringing. In reply to the toast of his health, the master (Mr. A. Hurst) said it gave him unbounded pleasure to be sitting there that evening, as master of the Cavendish society of change-ringers. He little thought last year when they first ascended the tower and rang a few rounds, as a welcome to the then New Year, that ere 1882 closed upon them, they would have mastered 7 different methods in the grand art of change-ringing. He thought he could safely say that the rapidity with which they had got on was remarkable, and was a well-merited reward for the dogged perseverance every man had shewn in mastering the various methods with which they were now conversant. He was pleased to see so many supporters of the society there that evening; it was a clear proof of the earnestness of the parishioners to support them. He would publicly thank the inhabitants of Cavendish, for the handsome manner in which they had subscribed to purchase the beautiful peal of hand-bells they had been ringing that evening. The company had now, what in his opinion should be dearest to a true-hearted ringer, a comfortable and cheerful belfry, which was a great improvement on the cold and bleak place they first rang in. One of the objects of the society, as set forth in their rules, was the promotion of belfry reform, in which direction he would strongly exhort all to aim. He was glad to recognize the efforts of the society in this respect, and trusted the sacredness of the belfry would be revered. In conclusion, he hoped that in the forthcoming year the society would make great progress; that on the great festivals of the church their bells would again peal out in strains of praise, and that every endeavour would be made to initiate other young men in their grand recreative art, so that now another impetus had been given to Cavendish change-ringing, it might be carried on for years to come.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

THE next District Meeting of the above Association will be held at Bungay, on Monday, January 29th. Members wishing to attend are requested to communicate with the Secretary on or before Tuesday, January 23rd.

Tunstead Vicarage, Norwich.

G. H. HARRIS,
Hon. Sec.

THE UNITED COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

THIS Association held its annual meeting at Ashton-under-Lyne, on Saturday last, when there was a fair attendance of members; ringers being present from Mottram, Glossop, Hyde, Ashton, Stalybridge, Saddleworth, Chapel-en-le-Frith, Hayfield, etc. There was very little ringing done during the day owing to the bells being muffled on account of the death of Lord Stamford. Dinner was held at the house of G. Braddock, "King William IV.," Stamford Street, and which spoke well for Mr. Braddock as a caterer. After dinner the usual business was gone through, and the following gentlemen elected officers for the next twelve months:—*President*, Mr. John Holden; *Vice-President*, Mr. George Lord; *Treasurer*, Mr. John Pye; *Secretary*, Mr. Jas. S. Wilde; *Committee*, Messrs Joseph Wood, Thomas Price, Thomas Brocklehurst, Henry Rostron, John Bailey, Samuel Wood, and Hugh Shaw. After business was got through, the evening was enlivened by course-ringing, tune-ringing, and singing. The next meeting will be held at Chapel-en-le-Frith next July, of which due notice will be given in this paper.

AYLSHAM, NORFOLK.

A very pleasant evening was spent by the ringers of the above parish on Friday, the 29th ult., at the "Black Boys" Inn. Messrs. R. J. W. Purdy and H. G. Wright, the Churchwardens, had most kindly invited them to a supper, and such a one as ringers do not come across every day; there was no pretence about it, the table was bountifully supplied with all that could be wished for. After supper, speeches, toasts, among them "Success to the Norwich Diocesan Association of Ringers," the Rev. G. H. Harris, the Secretary, and other friends being among the guests, songs and handbell music filled up the time until the hour of departure, when the party broke up amidst hearty thanks to the generous donors of the feast, and many good wishes for the coming year. It may be added that there is no need of any chiming apparatus here; every Sunday Mr. Wright, one of the above named gentlemen, is always to be seen in the tower surrounded by his brother-chimers, and with rope in hand, delighting in the music of the bells.

BELLS FOR SPAIN.

Messrs. Warner and Sons send us the following account:—On Christmas-Eve, three of our bellhangers, with their foreman, returned from Madrid, having been out there about 26 days, during which time they had the task to set up in new oak wood frame, 19 bells in the Cathedral, and Royal Church of San Francisco. Eleven of the bells, with 45-inch tenor, note F, about 15 cwt, were hung dead, to chime with a chiming apparatus in one tower; and a ring of 8, tenor 36½ inch, Ab, weight about 8½ cwt., were set up in the other towers, with wheels, slides and other fittings for ringing in true English style. From the reports given, it appears that the Ministers of State, as well as the Cardinal and priests, were more than pleased, and have certified to their satisfaction of the work executed, as well as to the tone of the bells. Never before, perhaps, has such a chime of bells, or such a ring of bells, been heard in Spain: and never before has a ring of eight been pulled to hand or backstroke in English style in Madrid. Before the bells were lifted a number of English residents, and a clergyman of the Anglican Church from Toronto, came to inspect them. When the eleven bells were set up, and ready for chiming, numbers of the citizens congregated in the streets to listen to the "Home Sweet, Home," and "God save the Queen" chimed by the Englishmen, which was listened to in the palace; but when the ringing eight were set going in rounds, and an attempt at changes made, the concourse of people in the streets to listen was immense. And to further satisfy their curiosity and pleasure, the bandmaster of one of the regiments, with the organist of the Cathedral, chimed several of the national airs much to their delight. Our men during the time took several hands into tuition, so that a start has been fairly made among the Spaniards to go in for hand-ringing with rope and salley, and bells set instead of the old method of men turning somersaults and round and round with the bells. The new bells are all inscribed with a chaste Jerusalem cross, and the words "Inglesia Sanfrisco."

Correspondence.

[While allowing the utmost freedom for the expression of opinion, it must never be considered that we are in any way bound to statements made by correspondents.]

To the Editor of "THE BELL NEWS AND RINGERS' RECORD."

THE BELLS OF SUFFOLK.

SIR,—In "THE BELL NEWS" of last week, under the above heading, appeared an article, with regard to which I should like to point out a few slight mistakes. The writer says—"... thus making (Otley) this fine old peal of five into one of the prettiest rings of six to be found for miles around." There are three peals of six

within as many miles, better, and nine ringers out of every ten will say so, namely, Grundisburgh, Clopton, and Woodbridge. Then he says:—"... which secure for Coddennham the neatest and best-ordered belfry in the Eastern Counties." Well, sir, I do not know what my friend Mr. Catchpole, the steeple-keeper of St. Mary-le-Tower, Ipswich, will say to this, for I do not think there is any one spends more time and trouble on their bells than he does, and always to time. Then your contributor says that a 10,000 of Bob Major was rung at Debenham about the year 1790; it was rang March 16th, 1767. I should like to know where are the two hundred ringers that Mr. Sadler has taught. Well, I suppose I am one; but I rang my first 5000 at Diss, in 1867, about four years before Mr. Sadler became a ringer. Mr. Sadler, as a paid instructor, has taught the Grundisburgh, Helmingham, Coddennham, and Otley companies. If you go to one or two places the people will tell you that Mr. Sadler taught all the Ipswich ringers what they know! There is just 200 ringers that live in Suffolk belonging to the Association, does he claim to have taught the whole lot of us, as several of us were good ringers before he was born? DANIEL PRENTICE.
Ipswich.

BOB MINOR.

SIR,—Allow me to tell my friend Mr. Penning, after reading his sarcastic remarks, and who it appears is in high dudgeon about the affair, that I have as many original 720's of Bob Minor with 43, 44, 45, and 46 calls as would fill the best part of a "BELL NEWS." Now, sir, why I did not send some of them to you for insertion was because they did not then contain the amount of simplicity I wished, and again, I could not help feeling that I should be taking up too much of your valuable space, and that we have already had a good dose of the subject. J. J. PARKER.

BELL-HANGING.

SIR,—An advertisement of a most wonderful character has been brought before me, as full of puff and nonsense as ever Barnum, the American showman, could have concocted, upon the above topic, in which the great triumph—extraordinary discovery and improvement in the form of cast-steel gudgeons—is held forth as an inducement to try the discovery, with the assurance that such productions wear a thousand times longer, and go fifty per cent. lighter (than—it is not said what) for the ringers. Now, as cast-steel is very liable to have flaws, and break off short; as all large bell-gudgeons are generally case-hardened by men who understand their business properly, and as ordinary gudgeons will wear well for ten to twenty years without being turned afresh in a lathe, I fail to see how any one can assert, in truth, either from his own knowledge or reliable information, that steel gudgeons will last in wear from 10 to 20,000 years; and further, I fail to comprehend how that such a one-handed performance in Devon, as a 22 cwt. tenor, being rung on steel gudgeons, can compare with the St. Saviour's pull on ordinary gudgeons, where the tenor was and is 52 cwt., and one man rung it for a stretch of 6½ hours. The advertisement appeared, I think, in the *Western Times* of December 21st last, and if any of your readers are desirous to see a good long puff, they will be satisfied with a perusal, but my humble advice to parties concerned in rehanging or hanging church bells decidedly must be, "Beware of steel gudgeons." I have heard of them breaking short off. S. B. GOSLIN.

THE NOBLE ART, DESPISED BY THE IGNORANT.—The above line appears at the foot of a page in an old peal-book, and was written nearly 100 years ago. The following will show that the time has not yet arrived for it to be erased. After repeated application for nearly three years, a band from Little Heath were permitted on Sunday morning to visit St. Mary's, Great Ilford, Essex, and ring 120 of Grandsire Doubles. The tower contains a magnificent light ring of six, tenor 8 cwt., with all the appliances necessary for the due performance of the art in capital order. There is a local band styling themselves "St. Mary's Society of Ringers" (?) which boasts of having 13 members. Notwithstanding that they have a weekly practice with the above advantages, there is not a single member that has the slightest knowledge of the art even in its simplicity, after having been occupants of the belfry for years. Some of the band consider themselves skilled ringers (?) and when the opportunity offers itself do not fail to attempt to palm off their performances of "churchyard bobs" to the uninitiated parishioners as peals. If this was all, no doubt the Exercise at large would be somewhat amused, but ringers will regret to hear that there is a majority of the band, supported by some of the officials, who offer every opposition in their power to allow any band to visit the tower for peal ringing. Our correspondent says the Essex Association has for one of its objects "belfry reform," surely there is room for it here, as such a standing disgrace to the ringing community by a set of bell-haulers ought to be removed.

OBITUARY.—We regret to have to record the death (at the age of 78) of Mr. Stephen Marsh, who died very suddenly whilst chiming the bells for evening service at the church of All Saints, Weston, near Bath, on Sunday evening—New-Year's eve. The deceased, who was highly respected by all who knew him, had filled the office of sexton at the above church for many years past. On Sunday afternoon last, his mortal remains were interred in their last resting place. The coffin (which was covered with very choice flowers sent by friends) was borne to the grave by the Weston ringers, and representatives from St. James's and St. Michael's churches, Bath. He was buried at the new cemetery, the service being conducted by the Revs. Murray Dixon and Stedman. At the conclusion of the afternoon service the bells of Weston church, deeply muffled, were rung as a last mark of respect to his memory, by the following: W. Simmonds, 1; J. Cox, 2; J. Smith, 3; J. Weeks, 4; J. Wyatt, 5; W. Pethers, 6, who rang the date of his age in months, viz., 936 changes in the Grandsire method.

"THE BELL NEWS AND RINGERS' RECORD" will be forwarded *post free*, on the following terms:—

One copy, 12 months	6s. 6d.
" 6 "	3s. 3d.
" 3 "	1s. 8d.

All Subscriptions and Orders for papers must be sent direct to the Publisher, W. E. ALLEN, Ave Maria Lane, London.

All communications respecting advertisements must be addressed to the office of "THE BELL NEWS," Walthamstow, London."

Everything for insertion in this Journal to be addressed, "The Editor of THE BELL NEWS, Walthamstow, London." Letters forwarded for publication must reach us not later than Wednesday morning; the insertion of Performances coming later than the first Postal delivery on Thursday morning, cannot be guaranteed in that week's number.

Contributions are invited from any of our friends. We shall always be glad to give any information asked for, relative to the subjects this paper deals with.

The Editor would be glad to receive the names of gentlemen who would be willing to act for their respective districts, in the capacity of reporter or correspondent. We shall feel obliged by Association and other Secretaries sending intelligence of events occurring within their jurisdiction.

CHARGES FOR ADVERTISEMENTS.

The charge for Advertisements is 4s. per inch single column, or 8s. per inch double column. Special arrangements for a series of more than four insertions. Displayed advertisements by special contract. All advertisements must reach the Publisher's by 12 o'clock at noon on Thursday.

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 13, 1883.

WE have received many complaints recently concerning the difficulty experienced by some of our readers in procuring copies of this paper. In all such cases in future, the publisher will be glad to know from the subscribers themselves, who the London agent of their local bookseller may be, so that enquiries may be made with a view to remove the cause of offence. The printed copies are delivered to the publisher early on each Friday morning, therefore there is no reason why they should not be all over the country in company with other serials.

As we have been interrogated about our number for the Christmas-week, we may say that sufficient notice was given beforehand of our intention not to reprint, and those who are without copies of that number must account to themselves. But we know there are a few returned to the publisher from the various local agents in London, and advantage should at once be taken of this by those who require them. The number for that week, certainly was as a correspondent writes, "without parallel in the annals of ringing." If the present increase in our circulation continues, we shall give another illustration before long, and we hope our friends will show by their support that it will be politic to permanently enlarge this paper at the same time.

We desire to impress upon our correspondents the necessity for greater care in the preparation of reports of performances, several important particulars, recently, having been omitted. In the peal reports, the names of ringers should be given in full, if convenient.

The Metropolis.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.
CAMBERWELL, SURREY.

On Tuesday, December 26, 1882, in Two Hours and Forty-nine Minutes,
AT ST. GEORGE'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
MR. PENNING'S ORIGINAL 1-PART PEAL. Tenor 14 cwt.

A. H. GARDOM	Treble.	E. MOSES	5.
F. BATE	2.	J. BARRY	6.
N. J. PITSTOW	3.	H. HOPKINS	7.
C. HOPKINS	4.	W. D. MATTHEWS	Tenor.

Conducted by A. H. GARDOM.

The Provinces.

THE LIVERPOOL YOUTHS' SOCIETY.

Muffled Peal.

On Wednesday, January 3, 1883, in Three Hours and Thirty-two Minutes,
AT THE PRO-CATHEDRAL OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5039 CHANGES;
Tenor 25 cwt.

GEORGE HELSBY	Treble.	JOHN MOORE	6.
JAMES EGERTON	2.	THOMAS HAMMOND	7.
WILLIAM WOODHEAD	3.	ROBERT WILLIAMS	8.
RICHARD WILLIAMS	4.	EDWARD VOSE	9.
JOHN BROWN	5.	WILLIAM BROOKS	Tenor.

Composed and conducted by ROBERT WILLIAMS.

The above peal was rung with the bells muffled in memory of the late R. C. Gardner, Esq. Mayor of Liverpool.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

HELMINGHAM, SUFFOLK.

On Saturday, January 6, 1883, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,
AT ST. MARY'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HOLT'S 10-PART. Tenor 19½ cwt.

JOHN LAST*	Treble.	HAWKINS ENGLISH	5.
GEORGE PERRY†	2.	EDWARD WELLS	6.
JOHN KNIGHTS	3.	GEORGE SHERMAN	7.
GEORGE THURLOW	4.	*CALEB MOUSER	Tenor.

Conducted by EDWARD WELLS.

* First peal. † First peal with a bob bell.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—MAIDSTONE.

On Thursday, January 4, 1882, in Three Hours,

AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
TAYLOR'S BOB-AND-SINGLE VARIATION. Tenor about 19 cwt.

REUBEN SIMMONS	Treble.	ALFRED H. WOOLLEY	5.
EDWARD BALDOCK	2.	GEORGE PAWLEY	6.
EDWARD ELLIOTT*	3.	CALEB PAYNE	7.
FRED. G. NEWMAN	4.	GEORGE MOORCRAFT	Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE PAWLEY.

* First peal with a bob bell. First peal called by W. Pawley.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—DRAYTON, BERKS.

On Thursday, January 4, 1883, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT ST. PETER'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF UNION TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES.
Tenor 9½ cwt.

REV. F. E. ROBINSON	Treble.	W. BENNETT	5.
J. AVERY	2.	G. HOLIFIELD	6.
B. BARRETT	3.	F. WHITE	7.
E. HOLIFIELD	4.	T. BENNETT	Tenor.

Composed and conducted by G. HOLIFIELD.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—ECCLES.

On Saturday, January 6, 1883 (the time of performance not being given),
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

TAYLOR'S BOB-AND-SINGLE VARIATION. Tenor 13 $\frac{3}{4}$ cwt.

EDWARD CASH Treble.	CHARLES CASH 5.
JAMES BARRATT 2.	JOSEPH SCOTT 6.
RICHARD PEARCE 3.	JOHN EDGE 7.
JAMES RIDYARD 4.	EDWARD REDDISH Tenor.

Conducted by JOSEPH SCOTT.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—BOLTON.

On Saturday, January 6, 1883, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,
AT HOLY TRINITY CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S 10-PART. Tenor 16 cwt.

HENRY W. JACKSON Treble.	JOHN WALSH 5.
JACOB LISTER 2.	WALTER MARSDEN 6.
JOEL REDFORD 3.	WILLIAM HAMER 7.
JOHN CURTIS 4.	JAMES H. JACKSON Tenor.

Conducted by HENRY W. JACKSON.

TEWKESBURY ABBEY, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

On Monday, January 8, 1883, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S 10-PART. Tenor 23 cwt. 3 qr. 19 lb.

RICH. H. WITHERINGTON* Treble.	JOHN WATHEN 5.
SAMUEL CLEAL* 2.	*CHARLES HALFORD 6.
FRANCIS J. MOORE* 3.	JOSIAH WATHEN 7.
JOHN HALE* 4.	WILLIAM HAINES Tenor.

Conducted by JOSIAH WATHEN.

(* First peal of Triples.)

Date Touch.

PONTEFRACT.—On Friday evening, January 5th, seven of the Pontefract ringers, with W. Pearson, of Campsall, rang a date touch of 1883 Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. 12 mins. J. Smithies, 1; C. Watts, 2; H. Spurr, 3; S. Brook, 4; W. Stones, 5; R. Savile, 6; W. Pearson (conductor), 7; E. Waterton, 8. Tenor 16 $\frac{1}{2}$ cwt in E.

Miscellaneous.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

WILLESDEN (Middlesex).—On Thursday, January 4th, 1883, at St. Mary's, the local ringers, with Messrs. Parker and Basden, of Farnham Royal, Bucks, rang a 720 of Bob Minor, having thirty-four bobs and ten singles, in 24 mins., all being members of the above society. Joseph Jackman, 1; Frederick Weare, 2; Harry Cutter, 3; John Basden, 4; Joseph J. Parker (composer and conductor), 5; Richard Kilby, 6. Tenor 10 cwt. Also a 6-score of Stedman Doubles. Harry Cutter, 1; Frederick Weare, 2; Joseph J. Parker (conductor), 3; John Basden, 4; Richard Kilby, 5; Albert Kirby, 6.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—At St. John's church, for evening service, on the occasion of a sermon by the Lord Bishop of Newcastle, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor. George Campbell, 1; C. L. Routledge, 2; F. Lees, 3; W. G. Routledge (conductor), 4; W. Story, 5; R. S. Story, 6. Tenor 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ cwt. [What date?—ED.]

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

CODDENHAM (Suffolk).—On Thursday evening, January 4th, six members of the Coddenham society, assisted by the Rev. W. C. Pearson, of Syston, Leicestershire, and Mr. T. Sadler, of Winesham, rang the first half of Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, containing 2520 changes, in 1 hr. 35 mins. O. Waspe, 1; T. Sadler, 2; E. Wells (conductor), 3; G. Lummis, 4; J. Offord, 5; Rev. W. C. Pearson, 6; H. English, 7; S. English, 8. Tenor 16 $\frac{1}{2}$ cwt. in F#.

THE WEST MIDDLESEX ASSOCIATION.

SLOUGH (Bucks).—On Wednesday, December 27th, 1882, the following members of this society rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 25 mins. W. Leader, 1; W. H. Fussell, 2; A. Fussell, 3; W. Wilder, 4; J. Pursey, 5; R. Flaxman (conductor), 6. The bells were deeply muffled as a mark of respect to the memory of the late Mr. John Steel, who rang the first 720 of Minor in 1880, and the last in 1882, upon the bells. This 720 makes the 40th rang by W. H. Fussell during 1882.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

TONG (Yorkshire).—On Sunday, January 7th, the Tong branch of this Association rung for afternoon service 240 changes of Primrose, 240 of Tulip, 240 of Cambridge Surprise, and 240 of Symphony; also on Tuesday evening, January 9th, 240 each of the following methods:—College Exercise, Morning Pleasure, Morning Exercise, Evening Exercise, Royal Bob, Morning Delight, College Trebles, Evening Pleasure, and London Scholars' Pleasure. Geo. Carter, 1; Henry Oddy, 2; Edward Webster, 3; William Bolland, 4; Geo. Bolland (conductor), 5; John Haley, 6. Tenor 12 cwt.

The above company intend to attempt a 6000, in twenty-five different methods, on Saturday, February 17th, being the 72nd birthday of George Carter, who has been a ringer at the above place more than fifty years.

AUGHTON (Lancashire).—On Tuesday evening, January 9th, at Christ Church, six members of the local company rang for practice a 720 of Grandsire Minor in 27 mins. G. Larkey, 1; J. Gardner, 2; J. Orme, 3; C. Sharples (conductor), 4; W. Bentham, 5; W. Fairclough, 6. Also the same evening another 720 of Grandsire Minor in 26 mins. G. Larkey, 1; W. Bentham, 2; J. Gardner, 3; J. Orme, 4; W. Fairclough (conductor), 5; C. Sharples, 6. Tenor 16 cwt. in F.

BLACK NOTLEY.—(Muffled peal).—A half-muffled peal was rung on Monday afternoon, January 8th, when the remains of the late Mr. William Dodd was interred in this quiet and sequestered churchyard. The interment took place at three o'clock, witnessed by many relations and friends of the deceased. The deceased was found drowned in the mill-pond, which is considered a very dangerous place, being by the roadside. He was one of the first who tried to learn ringing when these bells were hung by Meares and Stainbank, in August, 1879, he had filled the office of church clerk for the past twenty-six years, and died in the 59th year of his age, greatly respected by all who knew him. Six 6-scores of Bob Doubles was rung by the following members of the Braintree company as a mark of respect. *S. Hammond (conductor), 1; *F. Rudkin, 2; H. E. Hammond, 3; F. Calthorpe, 4; *A. Huckson, 5. Tenor 7 cwt. The above are all members of the Essex Association those marked * are College Youths,

CAVENDISH (Suffolk).—On Monday, January 8th, at St. Mary's, by the Cavendish Society, 4320 changes, being a 720 in each of the following Minor methods:—Double Oxford, Double Court, New London Pleasure, Duke of York, Kent Treble Bob, and Oxford Treble Bob. Time 2 hrs. 42 mins. Fred. J. Thompson, 1; Joe. S. Page, 2; Chas. W. Hurst, 3; Albert Ives, 4; Harry Thompson, 5; Alexander Hurst (conductor), 6. Tenor 12 cwt.

DONCASTER.—The Doncaster Society, rang at St. George's church, on Christmas Day, at 6 a.m. and brought round in an excellent style, five parts of Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. 44 mins. H. Fevre (conductor), 1; W. Newsome, 2; W. White, 3; G. Marwood, 4; T. Fevre, jun., 5; J. White, 6; H. Wilson, 7; W. Howard, 8. Tenor 30 $\frac{3}{4}$ cwt. in Eb.

ERDINGTON (Near Birmingham).—On Saturday last, eight members of the Holt society, Aston, were invited to give the bells (of SS. Thomas and Edmund, Erdington) a trial, they having recently been re-hung by Blews and Son, of Birmingham. The bells going pretty well, it was resolved to start for a peal of Grandsire Triples, but owing to a change course just previous to half way, it was found necessary to call the bells home. Time occupied in ringing, 1 hr. 33 mins. In the mean-time the ringers belonging to the above church had kindly arranged for refreshments at the "Swan Hotel," and after ample justice had been done, the band again repaired to the tower, and succeeded in ringing the date of the present year, viz., 1883 changes of Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. 8 mins. J. Quarterman, 1; A. Jones, 2; T. Hemming, 3; W. Cartwright, 4; W. Ansell, 5; W. Kent (composer and conductor), 6; Jas. Stanbridge, 7; J. Terry, 8.

HAVERSTOCK HILL (Middlesex).—On Sunday evening, January 7th, at St. Martin's Church, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 24 mins. J. Hannington (conductor), 1; J. Leach, 2; A. Jacob, 3; T. Titchener, 4; J. Nixon, 5; T. Monks, 6. Tenor 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ cwt.

HORNCHURCH.—After service at St. Andrew's, on Sunday evening, 720 Bob Minor, with eighteen singles and three bobs, in 30 mins. W. Halls, 1; B. Keeble (conductor), 2; A. Pye, 3; A. J. Perkins, 4; G. Deer, 5; J. Deer, 6. Tenor 20 cwt.

NORTHWINGFIELD (Derbyshire).—On Sunday, January 7th, 1883, for Divine Service in the morning, a 720 of Bob Minor was rung by the local company, with 32 bobs and 2 singles, in 30 mins. G. Clough, 1; T. Allibone, 2; J. J. Cook, 3; T. Millington (conductor), 4; J. Atkin, 5; T. Clough, 6. [Will Mr. Millington kindly oblige by sending direct to our office, not to the publisher?—ED.]

ROMFORD.—At St. Edward's, for Divine Service, on Sunday afternoon, 720 Bob Minor, with twenty-five bobs and ten singles, in 27 mins. W. Wood, 1; A. J. Perkins (conductor), 2; B. Keeble, 3; G. Galley, 4; G. Roughton, 5; A. Pye, 6. Tenor 17 cwt.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

THE January meeting of this society was held at Leeds, on Saturday, January 6th, when the bells of the parish church and those of the district churches of Holbeck and Hunslet, were placed at the disposal of the society. The general meeting was held at the "Nag's Head," Kirkgate, at four in the afternoon. As there was not any direct invitation to hold the next meeting (on Saturday, April 7th) at any particular place, a resolution was passed instructing the committee to make arrangements to hold the meeting at some convenient place where the use of the bells could be obtained for the day. Votes of thanks were passed to the Vicars, Churchwardens, and ringers of the different churches where permission had been granted for ringing during the day, and a vote of thanks to the chairman (Jasper W. Snowdon, Esq.), concluded the business of the meeting.

THE ST. PETER'S SOCIETY OF CHANGE-RINGERS, TIVERTON.

THE peal of bells in St. Peter's Church, Tiverton, is one of the finest in the West of England: the tenor bell weighing nearly 29 cwt. For a great many years this peal was neglected, and both ringers and ringing in Tiverton fell into disrepute. In the year 1868, Mr. Troyte founded the St. Peter's Society "for the promotion of change-ringing and belfry reform." In the year 1869, owing to the generosity of that gentleman, the seventh bell was recast and the peal rehung at a cost of 250*l.* Free instruction is given by the society in the various systems of change-ringing; classes to which all young men are welcomed are held every week, and the services of a skilled instructor are secured every year. Seage's Dumb Bell apparatus has been affixed to six of the bells, enabling practices to be conducted without disturbing neighbouring residents. As the expenses connected with this Society are considerable, and the subscriptions of the ringers are necessarily small, the committee have decided to give a concert on the 1st February 1883, for the benefit of their funds.

This concert, of which we have a programme forwarded us, is under distinguished patronage. In addition to the usual vocal and instrumental attractions, a plain course of Grandsire Triples will be rung by Messrs. R. Grater, J. Grater, Hippisley, Wood, R. Grater, sen., J. Grater, sen., Clements, Fewings. A plain course of Stedman Triples by Miss Sharland, Messrs. Troyte, Mackenzie, J. Grater, Munday, Clements. A course of Caters by Miss Sharland, Messrs. Ellacott, Hill, Troyte, Mackenzie, Munday, Clarke, Grater, Clements.

We cordially wish this society success, and doubt not the receipts of such an entertainment will materially help them in their good work.

THE ST. MARY'S SOCIETY, STRATFORD-LE-BOW, MIDDLESEX.

ON Wednesday evening, January 3rd, between twenty and thirty members and friends of the St. Mary-at-Bow society of ringers assembled at the "Three Cups" Tavern, Bow Road, and partook of an excellent dinner provided by the host, J. Bolton. Amongst those present at the table were several well-known members of the Ancient Society of College Youths. Ample justice having been done to the good fare, the toast "The Queen and Royal Family," proposed by Mr. D. Sutton, was duly honoured, followed by that of the "Bow Society of Ringers," coupled with "the friends and visitors," proposed by Mr. George Finch, was enthusiastically received. After which the thanks of the company was expressed to the host and hostess for the admirable provision made for the comfort of the party, and their health was drunk with musical honours. Several well selected songs were sung during the evening by Messrs. Harvey, D. Sutton, R. J. Turner, E. Powell, W. D. Smith, Walter Jones, and others; and some Grandsire Triples and Cinques were given on the handbells by members of the Bow Society, assisted by Messrs. W. D. Smith and Walter Jones of the College Youths, after which the singing of "Auld Lang Syne" and "God save the Queen" by the whole company, brought a very enjoyable evening to a close.

YORK BELL FOUNDERS.

"G. B. (York)" may like to know that at Sproxtton, Leicestershire, there is a bell (the 2nd) inscribed round the upper part, in small Gothic capitals:—

+ JHONANNES DE YORKE ME FECIT
IN HONORE BEATA MARIE

and again, in larger capitals round the lower part of the bell:—

+ IHESVS NAZARENTS REX IVDEORVM

Besides this there are other bells in Leicestershire which can be traced to the same founder by the use of the same letters, initial cross and intervening stops, but this is the only bell in that county upon which the name of the founder is given. The other bells are Billesdon 4th, Birstall 3rd, Brentingly 1st, Cotesbach 2nd, Hungarton 3rd, Long Clawson 4th, Sproxtton 1st, and Witherby 5th. At Waulip, in the same county, is a bell (the 2nd) bearing the same initial cross, with the figure of an angel, but the inscription is cut in the usual gothic capitals used by John of York, but in small "black letter." Waulip church was built, according to a memorial brass now existing therein, a few years before the year 1393, that would probably be the date when John of York cast the ancient bell hanging there. The number of his bells still remaining in Leicestershire, considering their antiquity, leads to the inference that John of York supplied many more in the county, which have, since his time, from various causes, been recast. If this be so he was, probably, established at least for a time in Leicester, or its neighbourhood.

Northamptonshire has one of his bells still hanging at Great Billing: it is the tenor, and bears his name.

THOMAS NORTH.

BATH AND KEYNSHAM UNITED DEANERIES ASSOCIATION.

THE Third Meeting of this Association was (by the kind permission of the Rev. Canon Bernard, Rector of Walcot) held at the Church of St. Andrew, Julian Road, Bath, on Monday evening last. There was a good attendance of members, more than forty being present. Ringing commenced shortly after half-past six, and was continued at intervals till nine o'clock, during which time, the several different companies present had a good opportunity of having a pull at the fine ring of eight bells which the tower contains. At the conclusion of ringing for the evening, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the Rev. Stokes Shaw, Honorary Secretary to the Association, for his kindness in attending the meeting and arranging matters, which so greatly promoted its success.

A RETROSPECT.

Now we have started on a new lease, it is interesting to look back at the last year, and see what has been done. "THE BELL NEWS" has certainly made great progress in the amount and nature of its contents, and on looking through the performances in 1882, I was pleased to see that the peals reported in its columns are very numerous, and many of them excellent performances. I think it would be advisable to have an "Index" to the numbers issued in each year, if our worthy Editor would contrive to present us with it, and it would be very convenient and would give us a good idea of the increase of peal-ringing by comparing the numbers achieved in the several methods annually. The following information I have collected for the interest of the readers of "our paper," I cannot say it is quite correct, as it requires a good deal of care and patience to examine and go through "THE BELL NEWS" for a twelvemonth, and a considerable amount of time. Were I to go into the subject statistically, I cannot say when I should have done. How many hours were all the peals rung during 1882 performed in?—how many days and years? How many bobs and singles were called? and how many ringers were there in the whole of the peals? I should like to see the figures that would represent the number of changes rung.

First.—*Handbell Performances.*—There has been six peals of over 5000 changes, bells retained in hand;—2 of Grandsire Triples; 1 of Grandsire Major; 2 of Plain Bob Triples; 1 of Grandsire Caters.

Of the Six-Bell Performances there have been nine peals of 5040, consisting of 720's in numerous methods, and one peal of 5040 changes on 5 bells, being 42 6-scores of Doubles. The total number of peals rung on seven bells and upwards is 248; of this total there are no less than 86 peals of Grandsire Triples—25 of this number are Holt's Original, and 36 Holt's 10-part peals, the others being miscellaneous productions.

It is a curious fact that there has been just the same number of "Holt's Original" rung as there has been miscellaneous peals. Again, there has been the same number of peals on seven bells (Triples), as there have been peals of Major recorded in these columns, viz.: 103, although the peals of Major represent an extra method. W. H. F.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CINQUES.

5082.

By DANIEL PRENTICE, Ipswich.

2 3 4 5 6

- 3 5 4 2 6*
- 6 2 5 3 4 11th in three.
- 2 3 5 6 4 11th in four.
- 5 2 3 6 4 7th in four.
- 8 5 2 6 4 7th in four.
- 5 6 2 3 4 11th in four.
- 6 3 2 5 4 11th in four.
- 2 6 3 5 4 7th in four.
- 3 2 6 5 4 7th in four.
- 2 5 6 3 4 11th in four.
- 5 3 6 2 4 11th in four.
- 6 5 3 2 4 7th in four.
- 3 6 5 2 4 7th in four.

* 9th in and out at three, with a double.

Twice repeated.

Omitting the calling of the second course in last part, produce the course-end 2 3 4 5 6; bobs at 1, 1, 2, 1, 1, 2, 2, 1, 1, complete the peal.

FOUR 720's OF BOB MINOR.

- | | | |
|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| -2 3 5 6 4 | -2 3 5 6 4 | 3 5 2 6 4 |
| -2 3 6 4 5 | -2 3 6 4 5 | 5 6 3 4 2 |
| 3 4 2 5 6 | 3 4 2 5 6 | 6 4 5 2 3 |
| -3 4 5 6 2 | -3 4 5 6 2 | -6 4 2 3 5 |
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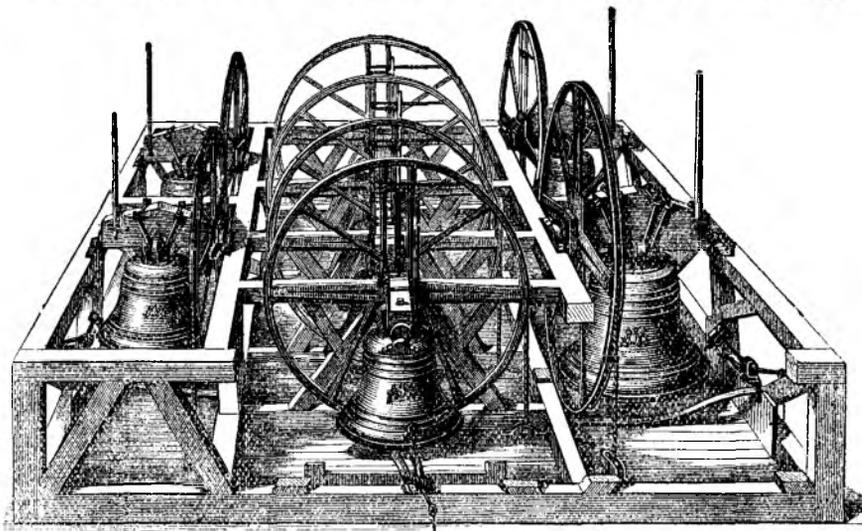
J. F. PENNING, Saffron Walden.

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Repeated.

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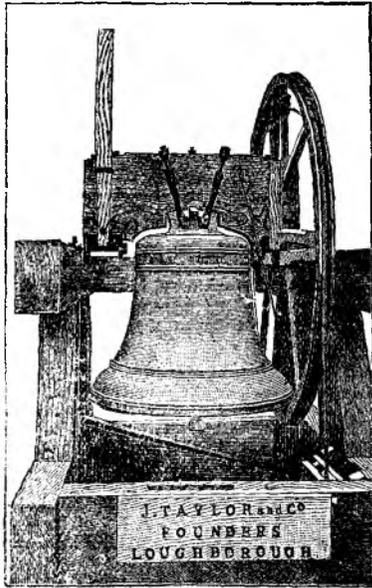
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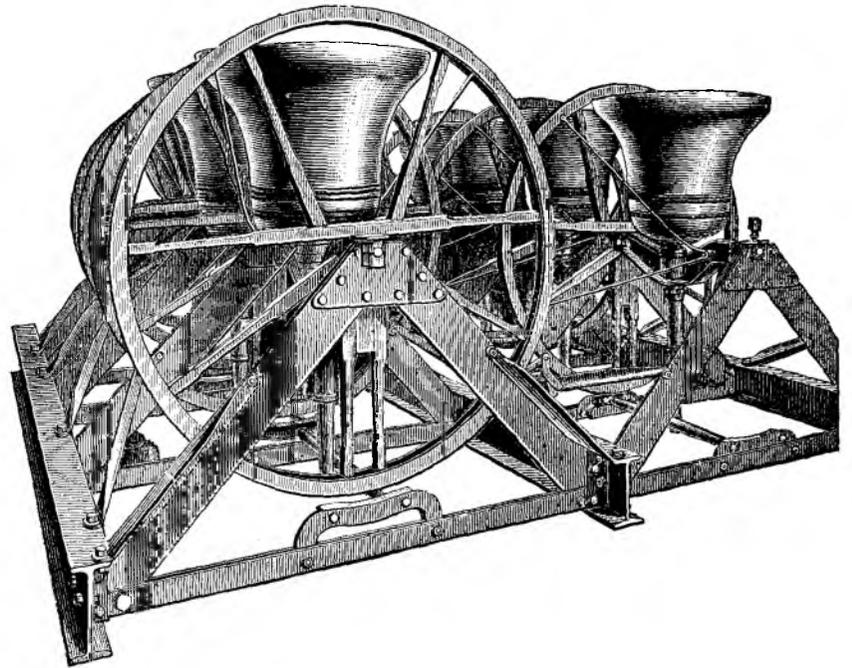
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SATURDAY, JANUARY 20, 1883.

[ONE PENNY.]



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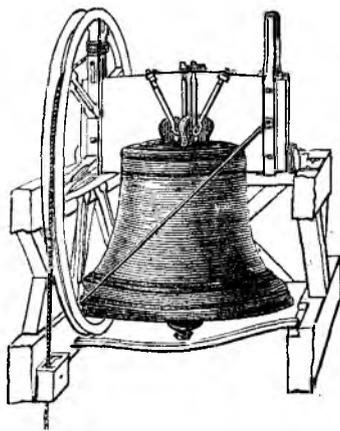
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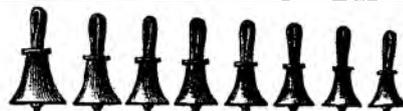
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Composers of the different peals, with various particu-
lars, and in the cases of deceased Composers with the
dates of death, age, &c.

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GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

A district meeting of this society, which was founded on January 8th five years ago, was held at Wotton-under-Edge on Monday. It now numbers about 180 performing members and 78 honorary members, with the Bishop of the Diocese as President, the Archdeacons of Gloucester and Bristol, Sir M. H. Beach, M.P., and Colonel R. N. F. Kingscote, M.P., as Vice-presidents; Mr. J. Drinkwater, master; the Rev. Pitt Eykyn, of France Lynch, Stroud, Hon. Sec.; and the Rev. F. E. B. Witts, of Norton, near Gloucester, Hon. Sec. The proceedings commenced by Divine Service at the parish church at eleven o'clock, when an address was delivered to the members present by the vicar of the parish, the Rev. H. Sewell, M.A. At the conclusion of the address some of the members ascended the tower and rang a peal of about an hour's duration. The meeting of the members took place in the Boys' Church Sunday Schoolroom, the chair being taken by the Rev. F. E. B. Witts, of Norton. The Hon. Sec. (the Rev. Pitt Eykyn) read the minutes of the last meeting, which was held at Bisley, and which were confirmed. A discussion took place as to the next place of meeting, Stow-on-the-Wold, Bourton-on-the-Water, Northleach, or a place near Bristol being suggested. On the proposition of Mr. Drinkwater (the master), it was decided to leave the matter in the hands of the committee. Application had been made by some of the Wotton men to join the society as performing members, but as they were unable to comply with the requirements of the rules, viz., to be capable of taking part in a peal of 120 changes, they were not eligible. The dinner took place at the Swan Hotel. About 35 sat down, the chair being taken by the vicar, who was supported by Mr. A. H. Turner (churchwarden), Rev. C. R. Bailey (curate), Rev. Pitt Eykyn, Rev. F. E. B. Witts, Mr. J. Drinkwater, Mr. Latham (Stroud), Mr. Meaton (Gloucester), Mr. King (Stroud), Mr. Pegler (Bisley), and others. After the removal of the cloth the loyal toasts were given and responded to. The Rev. Pitt Eykyn gave "The Vicar and Churchwardens of Wotton," and in doing so announced that the vicar and Mr. A. H. Turner had been proposed as honorary members, and suggested their being elected at once, which was done. The Rev. H. Sewell, in responding, expressed the pleasure it gave him to meet the association. He had spoken in the morning as to his idea of ringers and ringing, and he was certain they would do a great deal of good, not only by learning others to ring, but by promoting decency among the ringers. He concluded by proposing "Success to the Association." The master responded, and said that, having arrived at the close of their fifth year of existence, they could review their work, and although they had not done all they could wish, they had done well. It was not change-ringing solely they were formed for, but belfry reform, and he hoped the ringers would not do anything to desecrate the walls of the church, of which the tower was a part. At the conclusion of the post-prandial proceedings some of the members returned to the tower and rang several touches. There were also touches on the handbells after dinner.

ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH, KIRK ELLA, YORKSHIRE.

The dedication of a new ring of six bells, the magnificent gift of a member of the congregation attending Divine Service at this church, took place on Tuesday, January 9th. The bells were cast and erected by Messrs. Taylor and Co., and were opened with a 720 of Yorkshire Court, which was rung for service in 29 mins. The sermon was preached by the Rev. H. L. Clarke, vicar of Hedon, who spoke of the different uses of bells in the olden times. The rev. gentleman also spoke of the reforms which had taken place in the belfries throughout England in the past few years, and said that change-ringing was an art that was worth cultivating, and he was glad to say that it was now being recognised as church work and that it was taking its place as such. After the service, the ringers, who were chosen from Holy Trinity church, Hull, again rang a 720 of Bob Minor, in 26 mins. A. Taylor, 1; W. Southwick, 2; J. Dixey, 3; J. W. Stickney, 4; C. Bennett, 5; C. Jackson, 6. Both peals were conducted by C. Jackson. Tenor 19½wt. Also on Wednesday, January 10th, the same company rang on the occasion of the wedding of Mr. J. Watson (of Kirk Ella Grange) to Miss L. Sanderson, 1883 changes in the following methods: 720 College Single, 720 Kent Treble Bob, and 443 of Bob Minor in 1 hr. 15 mins; also during the day touches were rung in the following methods; Yorkshire Court, Grandsire Minor, Oxford Treble Bob, Court Bob, and a 6-score of Grandsire Doubles. All the above were conducted by C. Jackson. The above company are all members of the Yorkshire Association.

THE BEDDINGTON (SURREY) ST. MARY'S SOCIETY.

The Annual Supper of this society will be held at "The Red Lion," Hackbridge, Surrey, on Saturday, January 27th, at Seven o'clock. Tickets, 3s. 6d. each. The members of this company would rejoice to see any visitors on this occasion, and such will be accorded a hearty welcome. Application for tickets to be made to Mr. J. Trappitt, Taunton Cottages, Bandon Hill, Beddington, near Croydon, not later than Thursday, the 25th instant.

THE CROYDON SOCIETY.

THE annual dinner in connection with the above society was held at the Rose and Crown, Church Street, on Wednesday week. The Vicar occupied the chair, and Mr. Corbet Anderson the vice-chair. The churchwardens were represented by Mr. Price. After dinner, the usual loyal toasts were given and responded to. The chairman, in proposing the "Army, Navy, and Reserve Forces" said there was in the room a participator in the charge of the Light Brigade Mr. Gammage, and also a gentleman named Harvey, whose brother Lieutenant Harvey, who was one of the first officers, if not the first who entered Tel-el-Kebir.—Mr. Harvey appropriately responded. The toast of "The Clergy of the Parish Church" was proposed by Mr. Price. The Rev. J. M. Braithwaite, in responding, said he believed that everyone connected with the fabric or organization of the church had a ministry of their own, the bell-ringers' mission being to make the name of God known in the neighbourhood by ringing people to church. He hoped that the good feeling existing between the Croydon bell ringers and the clergy would be strengthened. The next toast was "success to the Croydon Society of Bell Ringers," the chairman observing that but little interest had been taken in the bells of the parish church, which was, he thought, a great mistake. The ringers had a great difficulty to put up with in the performance of their duty, inasmuch as the bells had not been well hung, and the tenor required some attention, and as complaints had been made with regard to the ringing of the bells in the church tower, he thought it was only right it should go forth to the public that the fault was not with the bell ringers. As soon as it was possible the churchwardens and himself would see that the bells were properly hung. With the toast he coupled the name of Mr. Blogg. Mr. Blogg, in a very practical speech, responded, remarking that had the officials of the church taken a proper interest in the church bellringing, that he should not have occupied the position that he did that evening. He was pleased to hear that there was a chance of the bells being rehung, for if this was done they would be able to welcome ringers from other towns who might wish to visit the tower, and inspect the bells. The toast "The Churchwardens and officers of the parish church" was duly proposed by Mr. Corbet Anderson, and responding to by Mr. Price and Mr. Whittaker. The proceedings were enlivened by some excellent singing.

RINGERS' FESTIVITIES AT BOURNEMOUTH.

THE ST. PETER'S SOCIETY.—On Saturday last, the ringers of this church visited the parish church of St. Peter and St. Paul at Ringwood. They were met at the Vicarage by the Vicar (the Rev. W. F. Witts), and by his kindness were entertained with a substantial supply of tea and cake. After tea they proceeded to the belfry and rang several 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. After the ringing a cordial vote of thanks was accorded to the Vicar for his kindness and liberality, and the party returned home, having spent a most enjoyable afternoon and evening. The ringers present were Mr. A. Grist (deputy captain), Mr. Merritt (Treasurer), Mr. H. A. Garratt (Hon. Secretary), and Messrs. Green, Belben, Vivash, Scovell, and Bennett.

The annual supper of the company attached to the church of St. Peter, took place on Wednesday evening at Eden Glen, the residence of Mr. E. W. Rebbeck (the captain of the ringers). In addition to Mr. and Mrs. Rebbeck, there were also the Vicar (the Rev. G. S. Ram), and churchwarden (Mr. W. Scott Evans) of St. Peter's, and eight ringers. In the course of the evening the Vicar expressed satisfaction that the ringers, under the tuition of C. C. Child, Esq., of Christ Church, Oxford, were progressing favourably in the art of change-ringing, and he hoped that they would continue to practise with credit to themselves and to the church to which they belonged. The health of the captain (Mr. Rebbeck), and deputy captain (Mr. A. Grist), having been drunk with enthusiasm, the hon. secretary (Mr. H. Garratt) in the course of a few remarks said it was hoped that before long the apparatus known as Seage's dumb practice apparatus would be fixed in the belfry so that the ringers could practice on the bells without causing an annoyance to outsiders. It was also hoped that they would shortly be able to ring a "touch" of Triples for the Sunday services.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

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

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE SONNING DEANERY BRANCH.

THE Annual Meeting of this branch was held at Wokingham on Saturday, January 13th. Ringers from Hurst, Sonning, Sandhurst, Wargrave, and Wokingham assembled at Four o'clock to ring at the churches of All Saints and St. Paul. At Six o'clock p.m., a short choral service was held in the parish church, and an excellent practical address given by the Rev. Dolben Paul, on the words: "Prosper Thou the work of our hands upon us; O prosper Thou our handiwork." He dwelt especially on the work of bell-ringing being distinctly a Church work, and one which should be consecrated to God's service by being performed in the right way. There were two ways of bell-ringing—"a right way," by which the bells might be rung in successive changes: and "a wrong way," or "a makeshift," by which the bells might be rung in "call-changes" or rounds. Having dwelt upon the peculiar temptations of bellringers to self-conceit and quarrelsomeness, he begged all his brother-guildsmen to remember that God alone could prosper the work of their hands upon them.

A substantial tea was afterwards given to the members of the branch, and the meeting concluded with the Annual General Meeting for the election of officers and other business. The Secretary, in his report for the previous year, in speaking of the services of Mr. Haworth, the Guild's instructor, said that the branch now numbered 50 change-ringers who had passed the test of 120 Grandsire Doubles, against 24 the previous year, and that this, with an increase of honorary members, had increased the numbers from 96 to 118. No one could doubt that the Guild was doing a most useful work for the Church. The hearty service in the church, and the general goodwill expressed was of itself an evidence of a higher tone among our ringers, and of a greater care for a long-neglected corner of our parish churches.

THE ART AT ST. SEPULCHRE'S, SNOW HILL.

ON Saturday evening, January 13th, the Annual Supper of this progressing young society took place at the meeting-house, Smithfield, when about 20 sat down and did real justice to a splendid repast provided for the occasion by host Sadler. After partaking of this liberal refectory, the usual loyal toasts were given and duly honoured. "The health of the Society" was next given, and responded to by Mr. J. Wheeler, Master of the Society, who presided. Mr. Steeplekeeper Lovate gave "The Visitors and the Royal Cumberlands," most of the company present belonging to that society, and several prominent members being in attendance, musical honours followed the toast. Mr. J. Nelms responded for the Royal Cumberlands, Mr. T. Bates (a builder in the immediate neighbourhood), for the visitors, the latter gentleman saying that he was and had been for fifty years a great lover of bells and ringing, to which statement, his liberality on this and former occasions is ample testimony. The evening's pleasure was enhanced by change-ringing and tune-playing on handbells. A most enjoyable evening was brought to a conclusion by the toast of "the Stewards," which was suitably responded to.

THE LONG MELFORD (SUFFOLK) SOCIETY.

ON December 26th, 1882, the members of the above company held their annual dinner at the "Black Lion" Hotel, which repast is given to them by their worthy Rector, the Rev. C. J. Martyne. The chair was taken by the respected parish clerk, Mr. Frederick R. Steed. The dinner was served by host Pretty, in good style. After dinner the chairman proposed "The Health of the Rector," which was well received by all the company. Some tunes and touches on the handbells brought a very pleasant evening to a close.

OBITUARY.—On Monday evening, January 1st, a muffled knell was rung at St. Mary Redcliffe, Bristol, by the St. Stephen's society, to the memory of Mr. William Dowling, who died on that morning, aged 51 years. The deceased, who died rather sudden (he having met the society on the Friday previous), was the highly respected steeple-keeper of St. Mary Redcliffe church, and was an excellent ringer. During his lifetime he had taken part in a great number of peals with the St. Stephen's society. His death makes the sixth which has occurred among the members of this society in the space of five years. On Saturday, January 6th, his mortal remains were carried into the church, the organist playing "The Dead March," the Service being read by the vicar, the Rev. Mr. Cornish. After the service in the church his body was conveyed to Arno's Vale cemetery, and interred; many of the ringers following him to his last resting-place. The burial service was read by the Rev. Mr. Taylor, vicar of St. Thomas's. After the funeral, muffled peals were rung at St. Mary Redcliffe by the above society and also at St. Thomas's by the St. James's society as a mark of respect, the latter being the church he first learned the art of change-ringing.

WITNESHAM, SUFFOLK.

At this village church, during the past year, there has been rang on these bells sixty 720's, made up by the following numbers in various methods, viz:—Eight of Woodbine Treble Bob; five of New London Pleasure; four of Violet Treble Bob; five of Duke of York; four of City Delight; three of Plain Bob Minor; six of Kent Treble Bob; nine of Oxford Treble Bob; one of Arnold's Victory; four of Cambridge Surprise; one of London Scholars' Pleasure; three of College Pleasure; three of Oxford Delight; two of Oxford Single Bob; two of Morning Pleasure; besides touches taken from Merchant's Delight, Christmas Eve, and College Single. This will be seen to be fourteen Treble Bob methods, and four of plain hunt; two peals of 5040 changes have also been performed, one by the village society, and one by a mixed band, consisting of four of the home society assisted by two of the St. Mary-le-Tower Society, Ipswich. The number of peals and various methods practised are not so many as would have been the case, owing to the following unforeseen circumstances; the parish is purely agricultural, and the ringers reside in a scattered area of from two to three miles, and on account of the unusual length of haymaking and harvest operations, the practice meetings had to be suspended, and again later on through the illness of the rector's wife, but enough has been accomplished to illustrate the reward of perseverance. The society trusts that this simple record of facts will not be taken as a boast, as few companies are better aware of the great difficulty in maintaining a fair company in a country village, as dozens of young men have been tutored to a fair state of proficiency only to suddenly take their departure to "fresh fields and pastures new," and the present band mainly consists of young lads aged 15, 17, and 18 years, who have been ringers only a short time, and who will, if they remain another year in the village, agreeably surprise the writer; but let us hope they may, if only for the sake of their instructor, Mr. Thomas Sadler.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

THE next meeting of this Association will be held at Kingston-on-Thames, on Monday, January 29th. The tower will be open for ringing at Two o'clock. The meeting for business, and Tea which will be provided for members, will be held at the Leopold Coffee Tavern at 5.30 p.m.; non-members One and Sixpence each. All those intending to be present will oblige by sending in their names to me not later than Friday, January 26. Ringers and friends earnestly invited.

Eagle House, Wimbeldon.

A. B. PERCEVAL.

ST. MARY'S, SELLY OAK, NEAR BIRMINGHAM.

ON Wednesday evening January 10th, the above society held their Annual Supper at "The White Horse" Selly Oak. Mr. R. Wilson presided, and after ample justice had been done to the "Roast Beef of Old England," and other things provided, which spoke well of Mr. Preece as a caterer, the evening was well spent in a series of toasting, singing, tunes on the handbells, and a touch on eight bells. After a vote of thanks to the chairman the meeting separated, having spent a most pleasant evening. St. Mary's tower has only six bells, but the ringers live in hopes of having them augmented to eight.

THE WATERLOO SOCIETY.

The meetings of this Society will be as follows, for practice only: ST. JOHN'S, WATERLOO ROAD at 8.30 p.m., Wednesdays: January 31st; February 14th, 28th; March 14th, 28th; April 11th, 25th. William Coppage, Steeple Keeper. ST. MARGARET'S, WESTMINSTER, at 7.45 p.m., Fridays: January 26th; February 9th, 23rd; March 9th, 23rd; April 6th, 20th. Samuel Smith, Steeple Keeper.

THE WEST MIDDLESEX ASSOCIATION.

The members of the above Association will meet for practice at the following Belfries:—

S. John Baptist, Hillingdon, Thursdays, 25th January, and 22nd February, at 7.45.

Isleworth, Saturdays, 27th January and 24th February, at 7.30.

S. Andrew's, Hillingdon, Saturdays, 3rd February and 3rd March, at 7.0.

Slough, Saturdays, 10th February and 10th March, at 6.30.

Ruislip, Saturdays, 17th February and 17th March, at 7.30.

The ringing will be under the direction of Mr. W. Baron, instructor to the Association.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

A Quarterly Meeting will be held on Saturday, January 27th, 1883, at St. Michael's church, Garston. Ringing from 2 p.m. Tea at Schoolroom at 6 p.m. Tickets 1s. 6d.

WILLIAM JOS. CHATTERTON, } Hon. Secs.
JOEL REDFORD, }

"THE BELL NEWS AND RINGERS' RECORD" will be forwarded post free, on the following terms:—

One copy, 12 months	6s. 6d.
" " 6 "	3s. 3d.
" " 3 "	1s. 8d.

All Subscriptions and Orders for papers must be sent direct to the Publisher, W. E. ALLEN, Ave Maria Lane, London.

All communications respecting advertisements must be addressed to the office of "THE BELL NEWS," Walthamstow, London."

Everything for insertion in this Journal to be addressed, "The Editor of THE BELL NEWS, Walthamstow, London." Letters forwarded for publication must reach us not later than Wednesday morning; the insertion of Performances coming later than the first Postal delivery on Thursday morning, cannot be guaranteed in that week's number.

Contributions are invited from any of our friends. We shall always be glad to give any information asked for, relative to the subjects this paper deals with.

The Editor would be glad to receive the names of gentlemen who would be willing to act for their respective districts, in the capacity of reporter or correspondent. We shall feel obliged by Association and other Secretaries sending intelligence of events occurring within their jurisdiction.

CHARGES FOR ADVERTISEMENTS.

The charge for Advertisements is 4s. per inch single column, or 8s. per inch double column. Special arrangements for a series of more than four insertions. Displayed advertisements by special contract. All advertisements must reach the Publisher's by 12 o'clock at noon on Thursday.

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 20, 1883.

It has already been intimated that at the close of our first volume, viz.: the fifty-second number, that an index and appropriate title-page will be given. This statement will satisfy some of our readers who during the past week have interrogated us on the subject. We publish this week an extraordinary number of peals, and this must be our excuse for again holding over several interesting articles, already in type, from valued and esteemed contributors. We feel confident that the time is near when the space at our disposal will be sufficient for our requirements. The circulation of "THE BELL NEWS" is steadily increasing each week, and our friends will be glad to hear that the sale required to bring about its permanent enlargement is nearly reached. Further efforts by our friends to promote its interests are all that is needed.

The Metropolis.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS, AND THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.—BEDDINGTON, SURREY.

On Saturday, January 13, 1883, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes, AT ST. MARY'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;

SHIPWAY'S COMPOSITION. Tenor 21 cwt. in Eb.

JOSEPH ZEALEY	JOHN PLOWMAN	5.
JOHN BRANCH	JOSEPH FAYERS	6.
JAMES HARRIS	JAMES CAWLEY	7.
JAMES TRAPPITT	CHARLES GORDON	Tenor.

Conducted by CHARLES GORDON.

Previous to starting for this peal, Messrs. Fayers and Harris were elected members of the Society of College Youths. This is the first peal of Major by any of the above band, and J. Harris's first peal in any method.

J. Fayers hails from Mitcham; the rest of the company from Beddington. J. Harris formerly belonged to the society of St. Peter-at-Gowts, Lincoln.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS. CAMBERWELL, SURREY.

On Tuesday, December 19, 1882, in Two Hours and Fifty-one Minutes, AT ST. GEORGE'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES

HOLT'S 10-PART. Tenor, 14 cwt.

HENRY WINDLY	Treble.	*JOSEPH BARRY	5.
JOHN NELMS	2.	THOMAS TAYLOR	6.
WILLIAM JONES	3.	GEORGE FLAVELL	7.
FRED. BATE	4.	JOHN LEWIS	Tenor.

Conducted by JOHN NELMS.

*First peal with a bob bell.

[This report would have appeared in our Christmas number, had the name of the Church been forwarded.]

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS. SOUTHGATE, MIDDLESEX.

On Saturday, January 13, 1883, in Three Hours and Twenty-three Minutes,

AT CHRIST CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

BROOK'S VARIATION. Tenor 24 cwt.

NEWLAND ALDERMAN	Treble.	HARRY RANDALL	5.
GEORGE NEWSON	2.	WILLIAM DORAN	6.
CHARLES HOPKINS	3.	SAMUEL JARMAN	7.
JAMES HANNINGTON	4.	ALFRED DAWES	Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE NEWSON.

This is the first peal of Stedman rang upon the bells. Messrs. Alderman and Doran's first peal in the method, and A. Dawes' first peal.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS. TOTTENHAM, MIDDLESEX.

On Saturday, January 13, 1883, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT ALL HALLOWS CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

MR. PENNING'S ORIGINAL 1-PART PEAL. Tenor 20 cwt.

JAMES PRIEST*	Treble.	*ERNEST ROBINS	5.
JOHN GOBBETT	2.	EDWARD MOSES	6.
MATTHEW ELLSMORE	3.	A. H. GARDOM, ESQ.	7.
HUGH SCARLETT	4.	JOSEPH BARRY	Tenor.

Conducted by ARTHUR H. GARDOM.

[* First peal.]

THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY.—LEWISHAM, KENT.

On Thursday, January 11, 1883, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT ST. MARY'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S 10-PART. Tenor 22½ cwt. in Eb.

C. J. BARHAM*	Treble.	A. G. FREEMAN	5.
W. PEAD	2.	T. TAYLOR	6.
W. WEATHERSTONE	3.	H. FREEMAN	7.
T. G. DEAL	4.	E. FREEMAN	Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM WEATHERSTONE.

[*First peal.]

Mr. Barham, who hails from Erith, was unanimously elected a member of the Society previous to starting for the peal. He is the grandson of the late Mr. James Barham, who took part in the long lengths at Leeds, Kent.

THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY.

On Monday, January 15, 1883, in Three Hours and Twenty-nine Minutes,

AT ST. CLEMENT DANES, STRAND,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5001 CHANGES.

J. R. HAWORTH	Treble.	M. A. WOOD	6.
H. BOSWELL	2.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON	7.
R. JAMESON	3.	J. PETTIT	8.
F. E. DAWE	4.	W. GREENLEAF	9.
G. DORRINGTON	5.	E. ALBONE	Tenor.

Composed by Mr. J. Cox; Conducted by the Rev. F. E. ROBINSON, Master of the Oxford Diocesan Guild.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.
CHELSEA, MIDDLESEX.

On Tuesday, January 16, 1883, in Three Hours and Forty-four Minutes,
At St. Luke's Church,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5000 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION.

JOHN ROGERSTreble.	WILLIAM HOVERD 6.
JOHN GOBBETT* 2.	EDWARD MOSES.. .. 7.
JOHN NELMS.. .. . 3.	*WILLIAM DORAN 8.
HENRY DAINS 4.	DAVID STACKWOOD 9.
HARRY RANDALL* 5.	SAMUEL JARMANTenor.

Composed by the late JEREMIAH MILLER; Conducted by
JOHN ROGERS.

Many years have elapsed since Treble Bob was rung on these bells, and it is believed to be the first in the Kent variation.

*First peal of Royal.

The Provinces.

MOTTRAM-IN-LONGDENDALE, CHESHIRE.

Muffled Peal.

On Saturday, January 13, 1883, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,
At the Parish Church,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 14 cwt.

JOHN SIDEBOTHAM*Treble.	WILLIAM MIDDLETON .. 5.
JOHN HARROP 2.	THOMAS WILDE.. .. 6.
HUGH SHAW 3.	THOMAS BRADDOCK 7.
ROBERT WRIGHT 4.	JAMES S. WILDETenor.

Composed by the late JAMES WILDE of Hyde, and conducted by
JAMES S. WILDE.

[* First peal.]

This peal was rung with the bells deeply-muffled as a last token of esteem and respect to the late Mr. John Bailey, who was for a number of years a ringer at the above church, and whose remains were interred just previous to ringing it.

Messrs. Wilde Brothers hail from Hyde, Shaw from Stalybridge, the remainder of the company from Mottram.

DERBY AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.—LEICESTER.

On Saturday, January 13, 1883, in Three Hours and Twenty-nine Minutes,
At St. Saviour's Church.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 27 cwt.

JOSEPH GRIFFIN.. ..Treble.	ARTHUR WAKLEY 5.
JOHN JAGGAR 2.	THOMAS HOLMES 6.
HARRY WAKLEY.. .. . 3.	JOHN HOWE 7.
HENRY C. WOODWARD .. 4.	WILLIAM WAKLEYTenor.

Composed by D. PRENTICE, and conducted by JOSEPH GRIFFIN.

ERDINGTON, WARWICKSHIRE.

THE BIRMINGHAM ST. MARTIN'S SOCIETY.

On Monday, January 15, 1883, in Three Hours,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HOLT'S 10-PART. Tenor 14 cwt. in F.

JOHN JAMES.. .. .Treble.	S. REEVES.. .. . 5.
JOHN BUFFERY 2.	JOHN DUNN 6.
H. BASTABLE 3.	THOMAS MILLER 7.
AMOS CRESSER 4.	FRANK H. JAMESTenor.

Conducted by HENRY BASTABLE.

This peal was rung on the occasion of the re-opening of the bells, which have been re-hung by Messrs. Blews, of Birmingham. After the peal the ringers were entertained, by the donor of the bells, at "The Cross Keys" inn, where a number of touches and plain courses in different methods were performed.

This is the first peal ever rang in Erdington.

THE BIRMINGHAM ST. MARTIN'S SOCIETY.
HARBORNE, STAFFORDSHIRE.

On Saturday, January 15, 1883, in Three Hours and Fifty Minutes,
At St. Peter's Church,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 6336 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 12 cwt.

AMOS CRESSERTreble.	WILLIAM SMALL 5.
SAMUEL REEVES 2.	JOHN DUNN 6.
H. BASTABLE 3.	FRANK H. JAMES 7.
H. JOHNSON, SEN. 4.	WILLIAM HALLSWORTH ..Tenor.

Composed by HENRY JOHNSON, SEN., and conducted by WILLIAM HALLSWORTH.

This was the longest peal on the bells, and the greatest number of changes ever rang in Staffordshire in this method. The figures will be found in Snowdon's Treatise of Treble Bob.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—WORSLEY.

On Tuesday, January 16, 1883, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,
At St. Martin's Church.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
REEVES'S VARIATION OF HOLT'S 10-PART. Tenor 21 cwt. 14 lbs.

EDWARD CASHTreble.	GEORGE HENRY JOHNSON 5.
CHARLES CASH 2.	JAMES BARRATT 6.
RICHARD PEARCE.. .. . 3.	FREDERICK DERBYSHIRE.. 7.
JAMES RIDYARD 4.	WILLIAM ASHCROFTTenor.

Conducted by GEORGE HENRY JOHNSON.

Messrs. E. Cash, Johnson, Barratt, and Ashcroft, hail from Eccles; C. Cash and Pearce, from Swinton; and Ridyard and Derbyshire, from Worsley.

TICKHILL, YORKSHIRE.

On Tuesday, December 19, 1882, in Three Hours and One Minute,
At St. Mary's Church,

5040 CHANGES; IN SEVEN DIFFERENT METHODS
UPON SIX BELLS, viz.:

CITY DELIGHT; DUKE OF YORK; LONDON SCHOLARS;
WOODBINE; NEW LONDON PLEASURE; OXFORD; & VIOLET;
A 720 of each, in the foregoing order.

Tenor 19½ cwt. in F.

ALFRED WRIGHT.. ..Treble.	THOMAS MANIFIELD.. .. 4.
CHARLES AINLEY 2.	GEORGE GLEADALE 5.
JOHN S. JENKINSON 3.	FRANCIS JENKINSONTenor.

Conducted by FRANCIS JENKINSON.

It is nineteen years ago on the day of the above performance, since a 5040 was rung upon these bells. The ringers of the 5th and tenor rang in the previous 5040.

Date Touch.

MOTTRAM-IN-LONGDENDALE (Cheshire).—Muffled Peal.—On Sunday, January 14th, eight members of the Society of Change-Ringers, Hyde, paid a visit to Mottram, and rang, with the bells deeply muffled, a date touch of 1883 changes of Bob Major, in 1 hr. 3 mins., as a last token of respect to Mr. John Bailey, a respected member of the Mottram Society of Change-Ringers, whose mortal remains were interred on Saturday, January 13th, in the cemetery belonging to the Old Church at Mottram. The coffin was borne to the grave by a number of his brother-ringers from Mottram and Hyde. James Shaw, 1; Ralph Prichard, 2; Thomas Bradley, 3; Robert Woolley, 4; John Fildes, 5; Samuel Bradley, 6; Thomas Wilde, 7; James S. Wilde, 8. Composed by James S. Wilde, and conducted by Thomas Wilde.

Miscellaneous.

ALDEBURGH (Suffolk).—On Christmas-Day, at the church of SS. Peter and Paul, 1080 Grandsire Doubles in 37 mins. C. Smith, 1; E. Cooper, 2; J. Colliss, 3; F. Cooper, 4; C. Cooke, 5. Tenor 11½ cwt.

BEDDINGTON (Surrey).—On Sunday January, 7th, for afternoon service at St. Mary's, on the back six, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 26 mins. J. Zealey, 1; C. Gordon, 2; J. Trappitt, 3; J. Harris, 4; J. Plowman (conductor), 5; J. Cawley, 6. Tenor 21 cwt. Eb.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—HARWICH.

On Saturday, January 13th, 1883, in Three Hours and One Minute,
At St. NICHOLAS' CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 15 cwt. in G.

WILLIAM L. CATCHPOLE .. Treble.	JOHN FOSDIKE 5.
HENRY BEVAN 2.	EDGAR PEMBERTON 6.
ISAAC S. ALEXANDER 3.	ROBERT HAWES 7.
WILLIAM MEADOWS 4.	ROBERT H. BRUNDLE .. Tenor.

Composed by H. DAINS and conducted by W. L. CATCHPOLE.

This peal is No. 50 in the Association Report, 1882, in two parts, with the alternate calling in the first course. The first in the method, and the 2nd peal on the bells. All the above company are College Youths.

[Through an oversight, this report is out of its proper place.]

BENGELO (Hertford).—On Sunday, January 14th, for Divine Service in the evening (by kind permission of the Rev. J. C. Mansel-Pleydell, Rector), six of the Hertford College Youths assembled at Holy Trinity Church, and rang a 720 of Bob Minor, in 25 mins., thus completing the first 720 on the new bells, which were opened by the Society on New Year's eve. Fredk. Geo. Crawley, 1; James Staples, 2; Alfred Baker, 3; Jasper G. Crawley, 4; Thomas Gathard, 5; Herbert Baker (conductor), 6. Tenor 7 cwt. in A. After service several 6-scores of Stedman and Grandsire Doubles were rung by members of the same society.

BENHILTON (Surrey).—At the weekly practice on Tuesday evening, Jan. 16th, at All Saints, six members of the Benhilton Society rang in 28 minutes a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with thirty-eight bobs, and twenty-two singles. Lewin Ferrige, 1; George F. Scott, Esq., 2; George Petrie, 3; Charles Trendell, 4; James Trendell, 5; John Trendell (conductor), 6. Tower-keeper, G. Turner. First 720 of Grandsire Minor on the bells, and also by the ringers, who have practised this method about two months. Tenor 19½ cwt. in E.

BRISTOL.—(Muffled Peal).—On Monday evening, January 15th, at St. Philip's parish church, 840 Grandsire Triples, with the bells muffled, on account of that day being the anniversary of the death of the late Mr. Alfred Jones, for many years a change-ringer of this city.

BRAINTREE (Essex).—On Saturday, January 13th, a 720 of Violet Treble Bob. T. Watson, 1; F. Calthorpe, 2; H. E. Hammond, 3; S. Hammond (conductor), 4; F. Rudkin, 5; A. Huckson, 6. Also a 6-score of Stedman Doubles. H. E. Hammond, 1; F. Calthorpe, 2; S. Hammond, 3; F. Rudkin, 4; A. Huckson, 5; T. Watson, 6. On Sunday, January 14th, 720 Woodbine Treble Bob. T. Watson, 1; F. Calthorpe, 2; H. E. Hammond, 3; S. Hammond, 4; F. Rudkin (conductor), 5; A. Huckson, 6. Also a 720 of Bob Minor. T. Watson, 1; Frank Bumsted, 2; S. Hammond, 3; H. E. Hammond, 4; F. Rudkin (conductor), 5; A. Huckson, 6. Tenor 14 cwt. The above is the first 6-score of Stedman on the bells by any of the above company. First 720 by Frank Bumsted with a bob bell.

CRETINGHAM (Suffolk).—On Sunday, Jan. 14th, twenty-one 6-scores were rung by the Cretingham Society in the following methods: Cambridge Journey, Cambridge Delight, Westminster Doubles, Winwick Doubles, Reading Doubles, Chace, St. Dunstan's Doubles, The Dream, London Doubles, College Doubles, Antelope, Gog Magog, Grandsire, Old Doubles, Plain Doubles, Victory, St. Patrick, St. Peter's Doubles, Fortune, St. Clement's Doubles, and Nightingale. S. Meadowe, 1; D. G. Wightman (conductor), 2; G. Wicks, 3; A. S. Wightman, 4; S. Wightman, 5.

GLEMSFORD (Suffolk).—On Monday evening, January 15th, six members of the above society rang upon the bells of the parish church, a 720 of Ely Surprise Minor, in 30 mins. John Slater, 1; Zachariah Slater, 2; Frederick Wells, 3; Oliver Garwood, 4; F. Paul Adams, 5; Samuel Slater (conductor), 6. This is the first 720 in this method by this society, and is also another of the sixteen Surprise methods from the Clavis.

HORNSEY (Middlesex).—On Sunday evening, January 14th, for Divine Service, a 720 of Bob Minor (nine bobs and six singles), in 27 mins. H. Nunn, 1; J. Hannington (conductor), 2; J. Leach, 3; J. Nunn, 4; T. Titchener, 5; T. Monks, 6. Also after Divine Service, a 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 26 mins. H. Nunn, 1; J. Leach, 2; J. Hannington (conductor), 3; T. Titchener, 4; J. Nunn, 5; A. Jacob, 6. A 720 Bob Minor, in 28 mins. A. Dawes (first 720), 1; G. Griffin, 2; A. Jacob, 3; J. Nunn, 4; J. Hannington (conductor), 5; T. Titchener, 6. A 6-score of Grandsire Doubles. H. Nunn, 1; J. Leach, 2; J. Hannington, 3; T. Titchener, 4; J. Nunn, 5; E. King, 6. Another 6-score of Grandsire Doubles. P. Parker, 1; G. Griffin, 2; A. Jacob, 3; J. Hannington, 4; A. Dawes, 5; W. Linge, 6. Tenor 17½ cwt.

LONG EATON (Derbyshire).—On Monday evening, January 15th, six members of the above society rang for practice a 720 of College Single Minor, in 28 mins; being the first 720 in that method ever rung on these bells. Samuel Clarke, 1; George Bradley, 2; John Ward, 3; John Copeland, 4; Arthur Widdowson, 5; Joseph Barrow (conductor), 6. Tenor 11 cwt. in G.

LONG MELFORD (Suffolk).—On Saturday afternoon, January 13th, the Long Melford bells pealed forth with joy, to welcome, on return from their wedding tour, of Mr. and Mrs. Lees, the lady being the second daughter of the Rector of this parish, the Rev. C. J. Martyne. And on Sunday, January 14th, the bells again rang merrily before the 8 o'clock service, and again before the 10.30 service, in honour of the birthday of the esteemed rector, and all wish him many happy returns.

MAIDENHEAD (Berks).—On Sunday, January 14th, before evening service at All Saints, Boyne Hill, in 1 hr. and 3 mins., a touch of 1680 Grandsire Triples. J. Eldridge, 1; G. Wilkins, junr., 2; J. W. Wilkins, 3; H. Rogers, 4; R. Smith, 5; W. A. Garraway (conductor), 6; E. Rogers, 7; G. Wilkins, senr. 8. Tenor 17½ cwt.

MEREWORTH (Kent).—On Friday, January 12th, six members of the local company rang six 6-scores of Stedman Doubles, in 25 mins. G. Sudds, 1; A. Brooker, 2; G. Bell, 3; G. Newman, 4; F. G. Newman, 5; T. Buss, 6. Tenor 12 cwt. in A.

MONEWDEN (Suffolk).—Handbell Ringing.—On Sunday morning, January 14th, six of the Monewden handbell society rang upon the bells (retained in hand), a course of Grandsire Cinques, S. Martin, 1-2; Joseph Tarrant, 3-4; R. H. Hayward, 5-6; Peto Meadows, 7-8; Thomas Tarrant, 9-10; William Tarrant, 11-12.

SUDBURY (Suffolk).—On Sunday, January 14, the local company rang after evening service at St. Peter's, a touch of Grandsire Triples, 672 changes. F. Tolliday, 1; J. Campin, 2; A. Scott (conductor), 3; C. Sillitoe, 4; W. Howell, 5; H. Harper, 6; W. Cross, 7; G. L. Andrews Esq., 8. The following also met at St. Gregory's on Saturday, January 13th, and attempted a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major, but after ringing for 1 hour and 30 minutes it came to grief. F. Tolliday, 1; W. Griggs, 2; J. Campin, 3; V. Howell, 4; C. Sillitoe, 5; H. Harper, 6; W. Cross, 7; A. Scott (conductor), 8. Also on Tuesday, January 16th, for practice at All Saints, a touch of Grandsire Triples, 672 changes. W. Bacon, 1; M. Silvestre, 2; G. Brown, 3; W. Howell, 4; A. Scott (conductor), 5; C. Sillitoe, 6; H. Harper, 7; G. Gooch, 8. The following also rang on Handbells, the same evening a course of Grandsire Caters. M. Silvestre, 1-2; A. Scott, 3-4; C. Sillitoe, 5-6; W. Howell, 7-8; H. Harper, 9-10. Also a course of Bob Major, C. Sillitoe, 1-2-3-4; W. Howell, 5-6; A. Scott, 7-8. The weights of the tenors are: St. Gregory's 16 cwt. in F; St. Peter's, 22 cwt. in Eb; and All Saints, 28 cwt. in D.

WORDSLEY (Staffordshire).—On Sunday last, January 14th, the Wordsley ringers rang, with bells deeply muffled, four 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, the tenor covering. The rope of the treble broke, so two were rang without, making a total of 720 changes. Rung as a token of respect to the late Earl of Stamford and Warrington, who was a most benevolent supporter of Enville and the country round, thousands of persons being permitted to visit his gardens each year. Thomas Darby, 1; William Henry Hughes, 2; Edward George Husselbee, 3; Ernest Samuel Chapman, 4; William Lawrence, 5; Joseph Husselbee, 6.

WEST MALLING (Kent).—On Sunday, January 14th, for evening service, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 25 mins. W. Driver, 1; W. Aldridge, 2; E. Baldock, 3; W. Harding, 4; J. W. Leonard (conductor), 5; F. G. Newman, 6. Also after service, a 720 of Grandsire Minor in 24 mins. E. Bonner, 1; C. Payne, 2; D. Hall, 3; G. Pawley, 4; J. W. Leonard, 5; F. G. Newman (conductor), 6. Tenor about 12 cwt.

WITNESHAM (Suffolk).—On Christmas morning, a 720 of Oxford Delight was rung by the following:—Thomas Sadler (conductor), 1; William Damant (aged 15 years), 2; Charles Chooet, 3; William Wood, 4; (no 5th mentioned); George Pyett, 6. Also on January 2nd, assisted by the Rev. W. C. Pearson, of Syston, Leicestershire, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. Thomas Sadler, 1; William Damant, 2; Charles Chooet, 3; William Wood, 4; William Ramsay (conductor), 5; Rev. W. C. Pearson, 6.

WORCESTER.—(Funeral Peal).—On Thursday evening, January 9th, four 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles were rung at Swithin's church, and a 720 of Grandsire Minor (in six parts) at St. Martin's church, in this city. Rung with the bells muffled as a last token of respect to the late Mr. H. Banks, who was formerly a member of the ringing society attached to the last-named church. The deceased was interred at the city cemetery on the above date. S. Paton, 1; N. Wale, 2; J. Hinton, sen., 3; J. Reynolds, 4; S. Price, 5; H. Wilkes (conductor), 6.

**THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE
DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**

NORTH SHIELDS.—On Sunday, January 14th, for evening service at Christ Church, 704 Kent Treble Bob Major. S. Nott, 1; J. Rossiter, 2; Joel Hern, 3; A. Sawyer, 4; W. Waugh, 5; R. Wignell, 6; R. S. Story (of St. John's, Newcastle), 7; W. Reed, Esq. (conductor), 8. On Tuesday night for practice, a course (360) of Kent Treble Bob Royal. S. Nott, 1; J. Rossiter, 2; A. Sawyer, 3; R. Smith, 4; R. Wignell, 5; Joel Hern, 6; W. Waugh, 7; H. Ross, 8; R. S. Story, 9; W. Reed, Esq. 10. First course in this method (on ten) for all this band. Also a course of Stedman Triples, being the first for all the band. A. Sawyer, 1; H. Ross, 2; J. Rossiter, 3; R. Smith, 4; W. Reed, Esq. 5; R. Wignell, 6; R. S. Story, 7; S. Nott, 8. Also another course with W. Waugh on the 5th, being his first course in the method.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—On Monday, Jan. 15th, at St. John's church, in 27½ mins, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor. G. Campbell, 1; *C. L. Routledge, 2; W. G. Routledge (conductor) 3; *T. Des Forges, 4; *William Story, 5; R. Smith (North Shields), 6. Also the same evening, on the same bells, a 6-score of Stedman Doubles. C. L. Routledge (conductor), Francis Lees, 2; R. Smith (North Shields), 3; Walter G. Routledge, 4; William Story, 5; George Herdman, 6. Tenor 14½ cwt. *First 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor, and the first in the method conducted by W. G. Routledge.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thursday, January 11th, at St. Mary Magdalen, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 23 mins. Job Howes, 1; Chas. Boots, 2; Chas. Hounslow, 3; Jas. W. Washbrook (conductor), 4; Oliver Thomas, 5; W. Finch, 6. And on Monday, January 15th, a 720 in the same method, in 25 mins., with the bells half-muffled out of respect to Mr. Allchin, organist. Job Howes, 1; T. Paine, 2; John Collier, 3; C. Boots, 4; W. Baston, 5; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 6. On Tuesday, January 16th, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, in 27 mins. at Holywell parish church. Job Howes, 1; C. Boots, 2; W. Baston, 3; O. Thomas, 4; S. Hounslow, 5; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 6. And on January 16th a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor in 23 mins. J. Howes, 1; C. Boots, 2; C. Hounslow, 3; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 4; O. Thomas, 5; W. Finch, 6.

Mr. H. A. Garrett, Hon. Sec. of the Bournemouth St. Peter's society, writes:—Can you or any of your readers inform me the best kind of grease to use for bells? we have used several kinds here but none to answer, it all seems to dry hard and form a little arch over the gudgeon and does not feed the bearing. We fancy the sea air affects it, as we are situated within 300 yards of the sea.

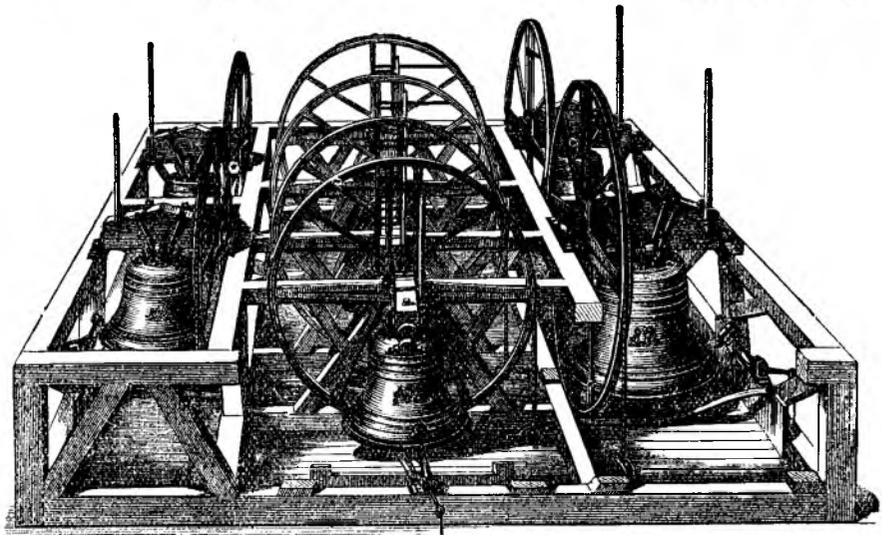
M. C. POTTER, Esq., President of the Cambridge University Society, is collecting all the five-bell methods extant, and would feel obliged if any of our readers would forward to him any they may have in their possession.

Mr. D. Prentice writes, concerning his letter of last week, that it should have been Winesham, not Woodbridge, that has a good ring of six; and it should be his first "1000" which he rang at Diss, not his first "5000."

We shall deal next week with the second letter from Hull, Mr. Stickney's report was already in type.

We shall feel obliged by all reports being sent to our office as early in the week as possible.

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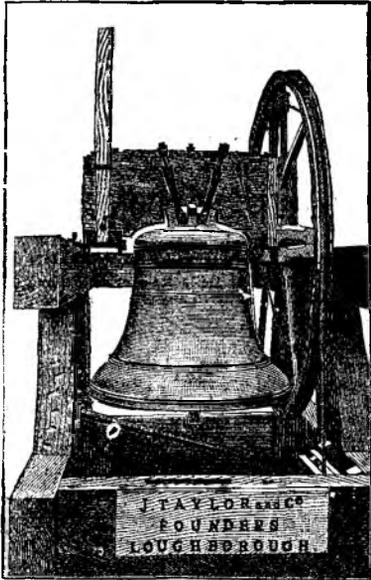
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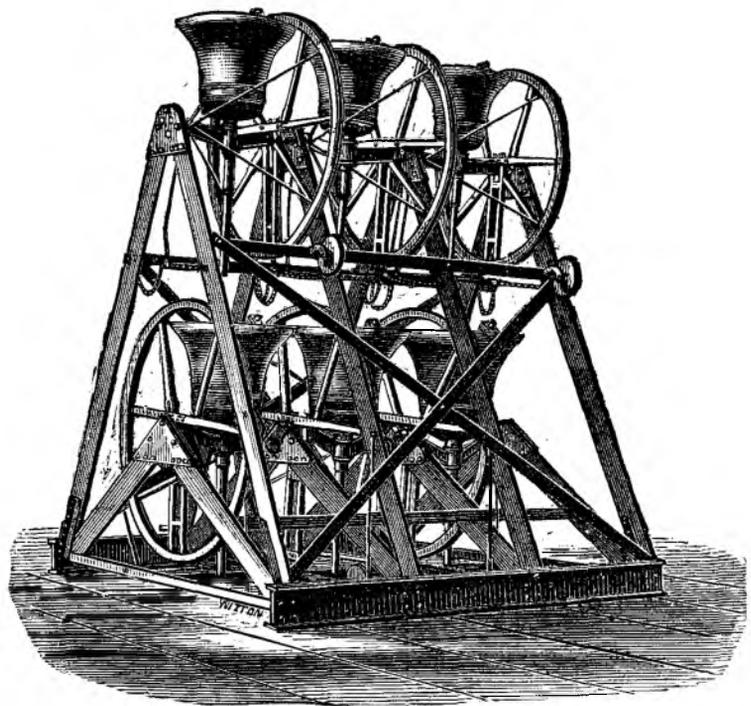
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SATURDAY, JANUARY 27, 1883.

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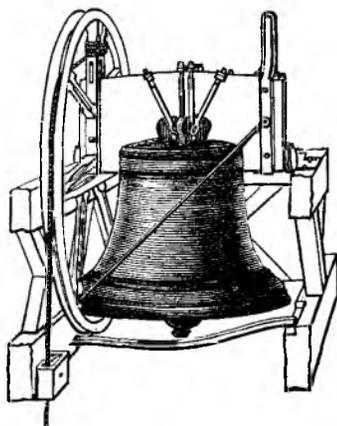
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The last chapter is devoted to a list of the names of Composers of the different peals, with various particulars, and in the cases of deceased Composers with the dates of death, age, etc.

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THE BELLS OF BONNIE DUNDEE AND THEIR RINGERS.

THERE exists a rather prevalent opinion among strangers to Dundee that the bonnie town was celebrated for its bells at least two hundred years ago, at the time the infamous John Graham of Claverhouse was busy about the foul work of his weak and cruel master, James II., whose last contribution to the peerage, before his flight from London, was to make his notorious tool Viscount of Dundee.

This notion has evidently arisen from the lines of the famous song, which run:

Dundee he is mounted, he rides up the street,
The bells they ring backward, the drums they are beat.

and more than one writer upon the subject of bells has assumed that the expression "ringing backward" was meant in the sense that they were rung contrary to the usual fashion, *i.e.*, from bass to treble, instead of from treble to bass, or tenor, and proceed to give instances of fire alarms, etc., being sounded in various parts of the country in a similar fashion. These hypotheses are founded upon the assumption that Dundee possessed a peal of bells of, at any rate, not less than five or six, and more probably eight, the latter being the number generally taken for granted by most writers upon the subject. But it is very doubtful whether in 1688 Dundee possessed more than one bell in any of its churches or steeples, and in fact the only one of which any record exists, hung in a turret appertaining to an old private house that formerly stood at the north end of Murraygate. This bell, before being re-cast in 1827, was found to bear the date of 1636.

It is very probable, therefore, that the author of "Bonnie Dundee," having seen a bell or bells rung "up," meant by "backward" (if he meant anything at all), to express the seemingly violent manner in which that operation is effected, calculated to arouse alarm in the minds of the uninitiated in bellringing.

The bells next in point of age were the two in the old steeple, cast by "J. OUDERROGGE, ROTTERDAMI, 1693." The largest of these was badly broken during the rebellion in 1745, which was said to have been done by a violent ringing (?) to celebrate the arrival of some succours from France. Bell experts will take this story for what it is worth. It remained in this state till 1819, when it was taken down, sent to London, and recast, but of a considerably less size, by "T. MEARS OF LONDON."

The old Trades' Hall had a good-toned bell by "PACK AND CHAPMAN, 1778," and upon the demolition of that building, it was rehung in the Town Hall, which already contained several bells of a mixed character; these were replaced, after a fire, in 1857, by the present not "most musical" but certainly "most melancholy" peal, upon which the clock chimes the quarters.

There are three odd bells at St. Andrew's Church, the two smaller of good tone, but the large one very panny.

About 1871 or '72 a fine peal of eight, tenor 23 cwt. was cast and hung by Mears and Stainbank in the tower of St. Paul's Episcopal Church, a fine work of Sir Gilbert Scott's.

In 1872, as a finish to the restoration of the magnificent old steeple, the pride and glory of Dundee, a movement was set on foot to provide a peal of bells worthy of the tower, and by the perseverance and energy of Mr. John Leng, the proprietor of the *Dundee Advertiser*, and the generosity of individual donors, six new bells were provided, Mr. Leng himself giving the largest, the present 6th; Mears' bell of 1819 weighing about 20 cwt. being retained as the tenor, and the old Rotterdam bell being re-cast to form the 7th. The bells were cast by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank of Whitechapel, London, and are considered worthy of their reputation. They have been rendered more complete and serviceable by the hand chimes, the cost of which was defrayed by Messrs. W. Miles and P. Anderson. These hand-chimes comprise a fine peal of 56 musical bells by George Stockham. A band of eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths were brought from London, at a cost of about £80, to inaugurate the bells, this they did by ringing Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples in 3 hours and 7 minutes, on May 21st, 1873, under the conductorship of Mr. M. A. Wood. One of the band, J. R. Haworth, remained in Dundee for six months, salaried by the Town Council, for the purpose of instructing the town ringers in the art of change-ringing.

Having thus sketched the history of the bells down to recent times, there remains a few words to be said about the ringing. Alas, bellringing, as the term is understood by proficient in the art, is simply non-existent, although, as shown above, the town possesses two as fine peals of eight as there are in the country. The reason for this very unsatisfactory state of things are various, one of the most potent being the want of a society or association, embracing every member of both bands, thus bringing together a sufficient number of men who would be induced to devote a few hours each week to mastering the intricacies of the art. At present there are, possibly, a few in each band so inclined, but they have no common ground upon which to meet, and the consequence is that each go their own way year after year, clashing away at "Stoney," and very bad "Stoney" too. What little the instructor taught them in 1873 has been utterly lost, none of the band thus taught now remaining in the town, the best man, a Mr. William Hill, having been drowned in Africa.

It may seem a very harsh term to use "very bad Stoney," but in the case of the old steeple there is a very good, or rather a very bad reason for such bad ringing. In this tower the authorities have neglected to have a "deadening" floor put in, there being nothing but the floor upon which the frame stands between the ringers and the bells. The consequence is that the noise is deafening, if anything, worse than York Minster, the caller being for the most part inaudible, even when shouting at the top of his voice: it is a mere truism to assert that under such circumstances good striking is simply unattainable. We may be permitted to doubt whether the band of College Youths who rang the opening peal would ring another for their own pleasure, if they even happened to be within easy distance. A well known member of the Royal Cumberland Youths, who made a prolonged stay in the town about four years ago, and who was visited by three or four other members of the same society from London, offered to provide the materials for a floor, on condition that the authorities would fix it, but the project came to nought.

At St. Paul's, too, there might be better striking. The bells are in good going order, and are heard just nicely from the ringing-room, but the ringers have fallen into the habit of ringing with no open lead at hand, consequently they soon get confused; and moreover, in justice to them it should be stated that the circle is bad, the 7th rope falling right behind the 6th and tenor, and their opportunities of practice are very small. Owing to the propinquity of the theatre, practice is not permitted later than 7.30 p.m., this practically limits them to a single half-hour's practice per week.

It is cheering to notice however, that there are some signs of better things being at hand, and it is to be hoped that a move in the right direction having been made, the ringers of the Bells of Bonnie Dundee, famed wherever the English tongue is spoken (although upon mistaken grounds), will persevere, and endeavour to do something worthy of the name of bell-ringing. There is also room for a little "Belfry Reform," and we would ask them, in all kindness, to read attentively our article in a recent number upon the subject, which will show the direction in which reform is needed. It is worthy of notice that the keeping of the old steeple bells has been in the same family for at least four generations.

THE BELLS OF SUFFOLK.

BEING much interested in that district of Suffolk about which "N. W. W. M." has published an account in "THE BELL NEWS" of the 6th instant, and knowing well most of the bellfries there referred to by him, I should like to add a few remarks to his, at the same time hoping that, should they come under his notice, he will not think that I wish in any way to detract from the merits of his paper in so doing.

The ring of twelve at Ipswich (the only one in Suffolk) is not unfrequently brought before the readers of "THE BELL NEWS," by the performances of the S. Mary-le-Tower ringers, a most energetic and successful company, a superior to which it would be hard to find out of London. But a short time ago the pretty story of the way in which the ring was increased from ten to twelve, and put in order, was published in this paper, (see p. 235) so I will only just refer to it by saying, it was through the munificence of the late T. C. Cobbold, Esq. of Holy Wells, Ipswich. The 5th and 9th were recast, and a new treble and tenor were added by J. Warner and Sons, of Cripplegate, in 1866. The second and third were cast by J. Taylor and Son, of Loughborough, in 1845 and 1844 respectively; the 4th by Christopher Graye, in 1688, 6th, 8th, 10th by John Darbie, 1671; 7th by Miles Graye in 1607; and the 11th, by Miles Graye in 1610. Two other rings in the town deserve to be mentioned as being especially interesting, one being that of S. Margaret's, tenor 17 cwt. in F. This is a complete ring by the celebrated founder, Miles Graye, of Colchester, cast in 1630, and as far as I know is the only one of his in existence. The Tenor bears the inscription:

The living to the church, the dead unto the grave,
That's my only calli'ng and propertie I have.

The other ring which deserves special notice, is that of S. Lawrence's, tenor 15 cwt. in F. It consists of five "black-letter" bells; and with the exception of a ring of four at S. Botolph's, Cambridge, is, I believe the only "black-letter" ring in the Eastern counties. The bells are severally inscribed:—

Treble—Sancta Maria Ora Pro Nobis.
2nd—Sancta Katerina Ora Pro Nobis.
3rd—Sonitus Egidii Accendit Ad Culmina Celi.
4th—Nos Thorne Meritis Mereamur Gaudice Lucis.
Tenor—Sum Rosa Pulsata Mundi Maria Vocata.

The treble is by a London founder, whose name is unknown. The second is by a founder who lived at Bury St. Edmunds, whose initials appear on his foundry stamp as H. S. The other three are the work of Richard Brasyer, of Norwich. All are 15th century bells, and are a good-toned ring of five. Rings similar to that at Otley are not at all uncommon in this district, there being a great number of mediæval bells in this part of the country. With regard to the Otley ring in particular, N. W. W. M.'s tradition of the third, fourth, and fifth being cast in the churchyard is not improbable, but they are not all the

work of the same founder. The 3rd was certainly the work of a founder residing at Bury S. Edmunds, many of whose bells are to be found in the neighbourhood. This is proved by the peculiarity of the capital letters, and also by the foundry stamp, which is given in *L'Estrange's Church Bells of Norfolk*, p. 62. This founder has not left us his name behind, but his stamp bears two letters, which are generally supposed to be "H.S.," and this is all we know of him. He appears to have carried on business about the latter end of the 15th century, and was not improbably one of the monks of the Abbey. Shortly afterwards we find bell-founding carried on here by one "Chirch." The inscription on this bell is:—

Sancta Katerina Ora Pro Nobis.

The 4th and 5th are the work of Richard Brasyer, of Norwich, and bear his well-known highly ornamented capital letters and ermine shield, given in the *Church Bells of Norfolk*, p. 31. Their inscriptions are:

4th—Hac Tu Conclave Gabriel Nunc Pange Suave.
5th—Nos Thome Meritis Mereamur Gaudice Lucis.

There are many of Brasyer's bells scattered about Norfolk and Suffolk, and they are mostly of a superior quality, both in tone and workmanship. The tenor speaks for itself:—

De Buri Sante Edmondi Stephanus Touni, me Fecit. W. L. 1576.

W. L. stands for one William Land, at this time Touni's foreman, but he afterwards set up business for himself.

The beautiful ring of eight at Coddendam, tenor 16½ cwt. in F♯, was presented by Theodore Ecclestone, Esq., at the beginning of the last (not the present) century, as is proved by the inscriptions on the bells themselves, e.g., that on the treble:

Theodore Eccleston, Esqre., 1742. Thomas Lester made mee.

This bell also bears the inscription:—

Although I am but small, I will be heard above you all.

About the same time, this Mr. Ecclestone also presented the Stoneham ring of ten, tenor 24 cwt. in E, as is shown by the inscription on the 9th, which reads thus:—

In this tower hung 5 bells the tenor weighing 10 cwt. 2 qrs. In the year 1742 they were taken down and with the addition of 3 tons of metal were recast into ten at the expense of Theodore Ecclestone Esqre., of Crowfield Hall, aged 27 years. He gave also a new frame at the same time 1742. Thos. Lester made us all.

With the exception of the 9th and tenor, the whole ring has since been recast. What became of this Mr. Ecclestone I have been up to the present unable to ascertain, but I have heard a tradition that he became bankrupt, and went out to America. In *Page's History of Suffolk*, I find that he was owner of the Crowfield Hall estate, which was purchased in the year 1764, by William, son of Arthur Middleton, Esq., governor of South Carolina, and grandfather of the late Sir William F. F. Middleton, Bart., of Shrubland Hall.

The other ring of eight, viz., at Debenham, mentioned by N. W. W. M., I have never had the pleasure of listening to, but have always heard them spoken of in terms of praise. The tenor is 20 cwt. in E. The whole ring, with the exception of the 5th (cast in 1793 by T. Mears), is the work of Messrs. Lester and Pack, of the Whitechapel Foundry, London. They are all dated 1761. The tenor bears the humorous stanza:

In wedlock's bands all ye who join,
Your hearts with hands unite,
So shall our tuneful tongues combine,
To laud the nuptial rite.

Within a few miles of Coddendam are two fine rings of eight which N. W. W. M. has not referred to.

The first of these is Helmingham, tenor 19¾ cwt. in D. These bells were all cast by Mr. T. Mears in 1815, and were presented by the Earl of Dysart. There is a good and energetic company of change-ringers here, and several peals have been obtained during the last year or two. In the adjoining parish of Framdsen, there is also a good ring of eight bells, tenor 16½ cwt. in F. Five of these bells were presented by the patron of the living, Lionel Tollemach, Earl of Dysart in 1773. The 6th was the work of Henry Pleasant, in 1706. The treble and 2nd were the gift of Wilbraham, Earl of Dysart, in 1814, and were cast by T. Mears. The 3rd was recast by W. Dobson, of Downham, in 1809.

Two rings of six in the neighbourhood deserve mention: one at Clopton, the adjoining parish to Otlev, the tenor weighs about 15 cwt. in F♯, and is the work of Lester and Pack, in 1788, as are also the rest of the ring, with the exception of the 3rd, which has since been recast by the firm of Moore, Holmes, and Mackenzie, of Redenhall. The other is at Grundisburgh, the tenor weighing 14 cwt.; the treble is by T. Mears, 1830; 2nd and 4th by J. Darbie, 1665; 3rd by Pack and Chapman; 5th by G. Mears, 1864; tenor by Miles Graye in 1628. In conclusion I must say that I owe too much to the assistance that Mr. T. Sadler has ever been willing to give me, not to thoroughly endorse what N. W. W. M. has said in reference to the perseverance and trouble that he has for some long time past taken to instruct numerous bands of young ringers throughout the district. It must be a great satisfaction to him to see how well many of his pupils have profited by his lessons, and it is to be hoped that he will long be spared to see the result of his labours. W. P.

LINDFIELD. SUSSEX.

ON Saturday, January 20th, the tower of St. Peter's parish church was visited by the following ringers:—Messrs. Jno. Gasson, E. Streeter, F. Streeter, and W. Comber, from Balcombe; and G. Hillman, F. Rice, and B. Payne, from Worth, who rang six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, being the first 120's on the bells. W. F. Meads, the Secretary of the newly-formed Society here, rang the treble in two of them. Conducted by J. Gasson. Tenor about 18 cwt. in E.

A short paragraph about these bells appeared in "THE BELL NEWS" of December 30th. The two coins which are stated in error to be cast in the 2nd bell, are in the treble. They are about the size of a crown piece, having the "head" outwards and the words "Carolus II., Dei Gratia," but no date.

ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH, KIRK ELLA, YORKSHIRE.

On Tuesday, January 9th, this ring of six bells was solemnly dedicated to God's service. The new peal, which has been cast and hung by Messrs. Taylor and Co., and fitted with Ellacombe chiming apparatus, is the generous gift of Arthur Egginton, Esq., of South Ella. The opening peal was performed by members of the Yorkshire Association of change-ringers, from Holy Trinity church, Hull, as given in the last number of this paper. At 7 o'clock Divine Service commenced, and the church was filled. The ceremony was performed by the Vicar, the Rev. James Foord, M.A.; intonations by the Rev. H. C. Davies, B.A., Curate; and the lessons read by the Revs. W. T. Pearson, and R. H. Foord, B.A. In the midst of the service, and during a pause, the ringers gave a round upon the bells.

The sermon was preached by the Rev. H. L. Clarke, M.A., Vicar of Hedon, who spoke of the change and improvement that had taken place amongst our ringers during the last fifty years.

THE SCIENCE AT HERTFORD.

THIS ancient county town possesses features of great interest relative to the ringing Exercise, if only from the fact that the art has, in years gone by, received great encouragement and patronage from several noblemen who figure most conspicuously in our historical annals. We have on a previous occasion alluded to various documents in the possession of the Hertford College Youths—a totally different association to the London society bearing that title—which shows that ringing flourished here at an early period. But though the ringers of a past age were thus fortunately placed in having such patrons as the Earl of Salisbury and the like, we question whether the ringers of that day were equal to those of the present in point of skill. And considering that such a town, so far as ringing matters were concerned, would repay a visit, we last Tuesday made our way thither.

Hertford boasts of two rings of bells: All Saints, a ring of ten, about 22 cwt., and St. Andrew's, a ring of eight. Many of our readers will not need to be told that the rector of the latter church is the Rev. Woolmore Wigram, the author of the work, *Change-Ringing Disentangled*. On the evening of our visit, practice took place at All Saints, where, of course, we attended. The ringing-chamber is a marvel of neatness and comfort, and the bells go very well. Touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples and Bob Major, with a course of Grandsire Caters were rung, but the striking of either was not up to the mark, this is however, not to be wondered at, the majority of the company being actually learners, but we hope at our next visit to hear of an improvement in this direction. We are sure, even from the little knowledge we have of the Hertford gentlemen, that they will not take our advice amiss, when we tell them that they should early give their attention to so important a matter as precision of striking. The leads, when they are good, they should endeavour to perpetuate throughout their touches, and their tenor ringers should be shown, in polite but forcible language, how easy it is for a mere "coverer" to destroy the ringing compass. A little attention would soon bring about a happy change, to the satisfaction of all, and we believe from the calibre of this ringing company, not one of them would object to being told when they may be striking indifferently. We would impress upon them the desirability of listening to each blow of the bell when ringing, and when thus discovering a bad blow after a certain bell, take pains to gauge the blow correctly when that bell again comes up.

The ropes at All Saints may certainly be improved by being replaced by others less clumsy to handle. This is, however, about the only fault to find with the belfry arrangements, and that can be easily overcome. As long as ringing remains in the hands of the gentlemen constituting the present company, Hertford will always be one of the most favoured spots near London for a visit, and we need not say that the courtesy of the gentlemen forming the company highly enhances the prospect of a ringer's enjoyment.

We would recommend all who visit this town to make their head quarters at "The Maidenhead Inn," where they will find the host and hostess, Mr. and Mrs. Pryor, do everything to make them comfortable, indeed the visits of ringers who have on so many occasions called on Mr. Pryor testify to his genial, hospitable, and gentlemanly treatment.

"THE BELL NEWS AND RINGERS' RECORD" will be forwarded post free, on the following terms:—

One copy, 12 months	6s. 6d.
" 6 "	3s. 3d.
" 3 "	1s. 8d.

All Subscriptions and Orders for papers must be sent direct to the Publisher, W. E. ALLEN, Ave Maria Lane, London.

All communications respecting advertisements must be addressed to the office of "THE BELL NEWS," Walthamstow, London."

Everything for insertion in this Journal to be addressed, "The Editor of THE BELL NEWS, Walthamstow, London." Letters forwarded for publication must reach us not later than Wednesday morning; the insertion of Performances coming later than the first Postal delivery on Thursday morning, cannot be guaranteed in that week's number.

Contributions are invited from any of our friends. We shall always be glad to give any information asked for, relative to the subjects this paper deals with.

The Editor would be glad to receive the names of gentlemen who would be willing to act for their respective districts, in the capacity of reporter or correspondent. We shall feel obliged by Association and other Secretaries sending intelligence of events occurring within their jurisdiction.

CHARGES FOR ADVERTISEMENTS.

The charge for Advertisements is 4s. per inch single column, or 8s. per inch double column. Special arrangements for a series of more than four insertions. Displayed advertisements by special contract. All advertisements must reach the Publisher's by 12 o'clock at noon on Thursday.

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 27, 1883.

IN response to the wishes of many ringers who have been unable to obtain copies of our Christmas number, we have at great inconvenience reprinted a few hundreds of that issue, which are now on sale at the publisher's.

The Metropolis.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, January 20, 1883, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,
AT ST. MATTHEW'S, BETHNAL GREEN,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S 10-PART.

JOSEPH WEST	Treble.	THOMAS DUPEN	5.
WILLIAM CECIL	2.	EDWARD WALLAGE	6.
JOHN BONNEY	3.	MATTHEW A. WOOD	7.
WILLIAM COOTER	4.	JAMES MONDAY	Tenor.

Conducted by MATTHEW A. WOOD.

The above peal was rung in commemoration of the fortieth year of Mr. Matthew A. Wood's charge of the bells.

The Provinces.

BRIGHOUSE, YORKSHIRE.

On Saturday, January 20, 1883, in Two Hours and Fifty-six Minutes,
AT ST. MARTIN'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 14½ cwt.

HENRY WILSON	Treble.	WILSON WOOD	5.
JOHN WALKER RAWLINSON	2.	FRED CROSSLEY	6.
JOHN FRANCIS PEARSON	3.	CHRISTOPHER NIELD	7.
GEORGE LAWTON	4.	JOHN WILLIAM WALKER	Tenor.

Composed by WILLIAM SOTTANSTALL, and Conducted by JOHN WILLIAM WALKER.

MOTTRAM-IN-LONGDENDALE, CHESHIRE.

On Saturday, January 20, 1883, in Two Hours and Fifty-three Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 14 cwt. in G.

JOHN SIDEBOTHAM	Treble.	WILLIAM MIDDLETON	5.
JOHN HARROP	2.	JAMES S. WILDE	6.
ROBERT WRIGHT	3.	THOMAS BRADDOCK	7.
ROBERT WOOLLEY	4.	THOMAS WILDE	Tenor.

Composed and conducted by JAMES S. WILDE.

Messrs. Woolley and Wilde Brothers hail from Hyde; and the rest of the company from Mottram.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS, CRAYFORD, KENT.

On Monday, January 22, 1883, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,

AT ST. PAULINUS' CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S 10-PART.

W. J. REEVE	Treble.	C. F. WINNY	5.
J. SAXBY	2.	R. FRENCH	6.
G. CONYARD	3.	F. M. JACOBS	7.
C. HAMMANT	4.	THOMAS WEBB	Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES SAXBY.

LEESFIELD, LANCASHIRE.

On Tuesday, January 23, 1883, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT ST. THOMAS'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

REEVES'S VARIATION. Tenor 14 cwt.

JAMES THOMAS HARTLEY	Treble.	JAMES PRIESTLEY	5.
FRED CROSLAND	2.	FRANK EDMUNDSON	6.
JAMES PLATT	3.	SAMUEL STOTT	7.
GEO. HY. BEAVER	4.	JOHN HILTON	Tenor.

Conducted by GEO. HENRY BEAVER.

Messrs. Hartley, Crosland, Platt, Priestly, and Edmundson, hail from Oldham; Messrs. Beaver and Stott from Glodwick; and John Hilton from Leesfield.

Date Touches.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BRADFORD (Yorkshire).—On Tuesday, January 23d, at St. John's church, by the St. James's (Bolton) society, a date touch of Kent Treble Bob Major. R. S. Ambler, 1; H. Rastrick, 2; R. Tuke, Esq., 3; J. Broadley, 4; B. Sugden, 5; A. Moulson, 6; B. T. Copley, 7; J. B. Jennings, 8. Composed by B. T. Copley, and conducted by J. B. Jennings. Time 1 hr. 10½ mins. Tenor 15½ cwt.

ROTHERHAM (Yorkshire).—On Tuesday, January 23rd, this branch of the above Association rang a date touch of Stedman Caters, 1883 changes, in 1 hr. 19 mins. George Briggs, 1; Thomas Jenkinson, 2; Fred Coates, 3; Job Athey, 4; Walter Coates, 5; John Hale, 6; George Flint, 7; Tom Lee, 8; Alfred Rodgers, 9; William Hirst and assistant, 10. Composed by Fred Coates, and conducted by Walter Coates. Tenor 32 cwt.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

ECCLES.—On Monday evening, January 22nd, eight of the local company rang at the parish church a date touch of Bob Major, 1883 changes, in 1 hr. 5 mins. John Barratt, 1; James Scholey, 2; William Walton, 3; Thomas Yates, 4; James Barratt, 5; Richard Ashcroft, 6; George Henry Johnson (composer and conductor), 7; William Ashcroft, 8. Tenor 13 cwt. 3 qrs.

TICKHILL (Yorkshire).—On Tuesday, January 23rd, the local society rang for practice at St. Mary's church a date touch of 1883 changes, consisting of 720 of Duke of York; 720 of New London Pleasure; and 443 of Oxford Treble Bob; which was completed in 1 hr. 7 mins. Alfred Wright, 1; Charles Ainley, 2; John S. Jenkinson, 3; Thomas Manfield, 4; George Gleadall, 5; Francis Jenkinson (conductor), 6. Tenor 19½ cwt. in F.

WALTON-LE-DALE (Lancashire).—On Thursday, January 4th, at St. Leonard's Church, on the occasion of the marriage of J. F. Kershaw, Esq., and Miss Wilson, five of the parish ringers, assisted by Mr. Jas. Mather, of Higher Walton, rang a date touch of 1883 changes, composed of the following methods, viz:—720 of Kent Treble Bob; 720 of Oxford Treble Bob; 360 of Plain Bob Reverse; 83 of Plain Bob; in 1 hr. 14 mins. Robert Dewhurst, 1; James Mather, 2; Hy. Robinson, 3; John Robinson, 4; Eli Balshaw, 5; James Robinson, 6. Tenor 17 cwt. 3 qrs.

Miscellaneous.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Friday evening, January 19th, the undermentioned met the Rev. F. E. Robinson, Vicar of Drayton, Berks., at the church of St. Clement Danes, Strand, and rang a touch of Double Norwich Court Bob Major, containing 1120 changes. H. J. Tucker, 1; F. T. Gover, 2; J. W. Rowbotham, 3; R. French, 4; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 5; E. Gibbs, 6; E. Horrex, 7; J. M. Hayes (conductor), 8.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—On Thursday, January 18th, for evening service at St. John's Church, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 27 mins. George Herdman, 1; Charles L. Routledge, 2; Walter G. Routledge, 3; Thomas Des Forges, 4; William Story, 5; Francis Lees (conductor), 6. Tenor 14½ cwt. The first 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor rung entirely by members of the St. John's Guild. And on Monday, January 22nd, on the same bells, in 27½ mins., a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor. George Herdman, 1; Charles L. Routledge, 2; William Egglestone, 3; Thomas J. Des Forges, 4; William Story, 5; Francis Lees (conductor), 6.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

ROMFORD.—On Tuesday morning, at St. Edward's, in honor of the marriage of the Rev. H. M. Burgess (late curate), 1050 of Grandsire Triples. G. Garnett, 1; A. Pye (conductor), 2; G. Roughton, 3; A. Porter, 4; B. Keeble, 5; A. Pye, 6; G. Galley, 7; H. Skingsley, 8. The above band includes five of the Romford and three of the Little Heath members of the Association.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

KENNINGHALL (Norfolk).—On Tuesday, January 16th, eight members of this Association met at the church of St. Mary's, and attempted to ring the Rev. H. E. Bulwer's peal of 5088 Kent Treble Bob Major, but after ringing within one course of the finish it was brought to grief by the fourth rope breaking, after three hours good ringing by the following:—R. Hutton, 1; H. Eagling, 2; G. Edwards, 3; J. Saunders, 4; C. Everett, 5; J. Woods, 6; J. Mordey, 7; J. Cunningham (conductor), 8. Tenor 16½ cwt.

ACTON (Middlesex).—On January 18th, at St. Mary's, eight members of the Acton Society rang a touch of Grandsire Triples, 1008 changes, in 40 mins. W. Taylor, 1; G. Ilsley, 2; W. Baron (conductor), 3; W. Fenwick, 4; G. Trinder, 5; F. Goddard, 6; F. Slade, Esq., 7; E. Gould, 8. Tenor 13 cwt. This is the longest touch rung by this society, which has been established but a short time.

CAMBRIDGE.—On January 22nd, at Great St. Mary's, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with thirty-four bobs and two singles, in 27 mins. W. W. Baker, Esq., 1; W. Kempton, 2; J. Rocket, 3; G. Taylor, 4; E. Andrews, 5; M. C. Potter, Esq. (conductor), 6. First 720 in this method by any of the above band. Tenor 17½ cwt.

CLAY CROSS (Derbyshire).—On Sunday, January 21st, at St. Bartholomew's church, for Divine Service in the evening, a 720 of Bob Minor, with sixteen bobs and two singles, was rung by the St. Lawrence ringers of Northwingfield, for the first time on the bells. G. Clough, 1; T. Allibone, 2; J. J. Cook, 3; T. Millington (conductor), 4; J. Atkin, 5; T. Clough, 6. Time 32 mins. from rising to settling. Tenor 9½ cwt. in A.

CHACELEY (Worcestershire).—On Sunday, January 21st, 1883, the Tewkesbury ringers walked to Chaceley, and, with Mr. Davies, rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor. S. Cleal, 1; Rev. C. D. P. Davies, 2; F. Moore, 3; J. Hale, 4; John Wathen, 5; Josiah Wathen (conductor), 6. Also a 6-score of Stedman Doubles; and on the handbells three courses of Plain Bob Major, and a touch of Union Triples.

DISS (Norfolk).—On Monday, January 22nd, the local company rang at St. Mary's church, 1008 changes of Bob Major, in 38 mins. C. Webster, 1; J. Rudd, 2; J. Cuthbert, 3; B. Francis, 4; T. Ford, 5;

E. Francis, 6; W. Ireland (conductor), 7; W. Brown, 8. Tenor 24 cwt. in D. The ringer of 4th bell, first 1000. Rung it before ringing his 720 on six.

GLEMSFORD (Suffolk).—On Saturday evening, January 20th, six members of the Glemsford Society rang on the bells of the parish church a 720 of Rochester Surprise Minor in 30 mins. John Slater, 1; Zachariah Slater, 2; Frederick Wells, 3; Oliver Garwood, 4; Fred. Paul Adams, 5; Samuel Slater (conductor), 6. This 720 is taken from the *Clavis*. Also on the same evening was rung for practice by the same band, 360 of Cambridge Surprise, and 360 of Violet Treble Bob. Tenor 16 cwt. in F.

HAVERSTOCK HILL (Middlesex).—On Wednesday, January 17th, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor (15 bobs), in 26 mins. J. Nixon, 1; N. Alderman, 2; A. Jacob, 3; J. Hannington (conductor), 4; T. Titchener, 5; H. J. Tucker, 6. Also on Sunday evening, January 21st, for Divine Service, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor in 26 mins. J. Leach, 1; A. Jacob, 2; J. Hannington (conductor), 3; J. Nixon, 4; T. Titchener, 5; T. Monks, 6. This 720 is the composition of Mr. J. F. Penning, of of Saffron Walden, and contains twenty-eight bobs and eighteen singles. On Wednesday evening, January 24th, a 720 of Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 26 mins. P. S. Kendall, Esq. (first 720), 1; H. J. Tucker, 2; J. Hannington (conductor), 3; T. Titchener, 4; A. Jacob, 5; G. Newson, 6. Tenor 12½ cwt.

HIGHER SUTTON (Cheshire).—On Sunday, January 14th, for Divine Service at St. James's church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with thirty-four bobs and twenty-six singles, was rung by the local society. William H. Ingham (conductor), 1; Edward Matthews, 2; William Kenny, 3; John M. Devenport, 4; William H. Hardman, 5; Walter Ingham, 6. Tenor about 12 cwt. in G.

SAFFRON WALDEN (Essex).—On Tuesday evening, January 23rd, at St. Mary's church, the following rang the first part of Annable's 5040 of Bob Major, viz., 1680 changes, in 1 hr. 9 mins. John Freeman, 1; A. G. Coe, 2; Ernest Pitstow, 3; John Seaman, 4; George Martin, 5; Charles Freeman, 6; N. J. Pitstow, 7; F. Pitstow (conductor), 8. This is the longest touch in this method by A. G. Coe, Ernest Pitstow, and John Seaman.

SPALDING (Lincolnshire).—At St. Paul's, Fulney, on Sunday evening, after service, a 720 of Bob Minor in 26 mins. George Keal, 1; Edwin Quinton, 2; Alfred William Walker, 3; Charles Creasey, 4; James William Creasey, 5; Richard Creasey (conductor), 6.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

CHARSFIELD (Suffolk).—On Saturday last, five members of the St. Mary-le-Tower Society, Ipswich, paid a visit to this village for the purpose of ringing and inspecting the bells of this interesting church, and upon reaching the same commenced taking rubbings of dates, &c. The bell-frame is placed corner-wise in the tower, with the treble hoisted, and a large piece out of her crown, also a double-lined Latin inscription; the second is a black-letter bell, without date; the third was east by James Edbere, 1068; the fourth and fifth are black-letter bells, without dates. After this inspection, the company rang 1883 changes in the following methods: Stedman, Grandsire, and Plain Doubles, supposed to be the longest length ever rang upon the bells. William L. Catchpole, 1; John Fosdike, 2; Isaac S. Alexander, 3; Robert H. Brundle, 4; Edgar Pemberton, 5. Conducted by W. L. Catchpole. Time, 1 hr. 4 mins. Tenor 10 cwt.

THE TRINITY SOCIETY, HULL.

THE ANNUAL DINNER of the above Society was held at the "Malt Shovel Hotel," North Church Side, on Wednesday, January 17th, when members and friends to the number of thirty sat down to dinner, which was served in the host's most excellent style, the chair being occupied by Mr. C. Jackson, Master, and the vice-chair by Mr. J. Stickney, Secretary. After dinner the usual loyal toasts were given and responded to. During the evening, songs, a course of Caters, and a double course of Grandsire Triples, were rung on handbells, which was heartily applauded. The Victoria Handbell Ringers, under the conductorship of Mr. W. Southwick, also gave some very excellent music, which was heartily received, and a very pleasant evening was brought to a close by the singing of the "National Anthem."

OBITUARY.—It is our melancholy duty to announce the death, after a painful illness, of ROBERT STAINBANK, Esq., of the Old Foundry, Whitechapel, which took place at his residence at Sydenham on Wednesday morning last. We shall briefly allude next week to the sad occurrence of the demise of the late esteemed gentleman.

THE DERBY AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

THE QUARTERLY MEETING of the above Association was held at Leicester, on Saturday, January 13th, 1883, and was a great success. Ringers attended from Derby, Burton, Nottingham, Long Eaton, Lenton, Syston, Loughborough, and Leicester. The following towers were open to the Association, by the kind permission of the Vicars and Churchwardens:—St. Saviour's, St. Mary's, and St. Mark's. It was however a matter of regret that the fine peal of ten at St. Margaret's, could not be rung the Vicar and Churchwardens having had advice of their dangerous condition, and it was deemed advisable that the bells should not be rung, until they had been rehung and made secure, and we hope that upon the next visit of the members of the Association, they will be able to ring on one of the finest peals of ten in Leicester, the question of rehanging the bells having now the careful attention of the worthy Vicar and Churchwardens of St. Margaret's. During the day a mixed band from Derby and St. Paul's Society, Burton-on-Trent, rang at St. Saviour's Church a peal of 5088 Kent Treble Bob Major (the account of which appeared in our ringing columns of last week). At 5.0 p.m. about 50 ringers sat down to an excellent Tea provided in St. Margaret's School-Room by Mr. Stephen Cooper, of the "Alliance" inn, after which the usual business meeting was held, the President, Rev. James H. Fish, Vicar of St. Paul, Burton-on-Trent, in the chair, supported by the Rev. L. Clayton, Vicar of St. Margaret's, and Canon Broughton, of St. Mary's, Leicester. The President congratulated the members of the Association upon the number of peals that they had rung during the past quarter, and hoped they would still persevere in their attempts at peal-ringing; he was also pleased to inform them that the Association had during the past quarter rung the greatest number of changes that had yet been accomplished in the method of Double Norwich Court Bob, and which spoke well for the future of the Association. Having read and explained the rules and objects at some length, and which were well received, the following gentlemen signified their willingness of becoming Honorary Members: The Rev. Canon Broughton (St. Mary's), Rev. L. Clayton (St. Margaret's), and Mr. Stephen Cooper (Leicester), also Enoch Hitchcock, Esq. (of Syston), Secretary of the North Goscote Ringers Association, also 24 ringing members joined the Association, which brings up the total number of members to nearly 100. The Rev. L. Clayton, in a few well chosen words, congratulated the Association on their visit to Leicester that day, and urged the necessity of ringers joining with the Clergy and Churchwardens as Churchworkers. Having explained the dangerous condition of St. Margaret's bells, the rev. gentleman informed them that the next great work in St. Margaret's parish would be the putting of the bells in thorough order, and hoped that the work might soon be put in hand. During the evening the ringers again visited the towers of St. Mary's and St. Mark's, when touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples, also of Kent Treble Bob Major, were rung. The visitors expressed themselves highly pleased with their visit, and also the kind reception given to them by their Leicester friends.

The annual meeting of this Association was proposed to be held at Derby, on Easter Monday, March 26th, 1883.

THE SOUTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

A Quarterly Meeting of this Association took place on Saturday last at Glington, when ringers to the number of forty met for some friendly ringing on the fine-toned bells of the parish church. During the day some very good 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, Bob Minor, Treble Bob, and Bob Minor variations were rung. At 12 o'clock, a meeting for the transaction of the business of the Association was held, when Spalding was fixed upon for holding the Annual Meeting, that being the only suitable place in the Southern division having two churches one with a peal of eight, and one with six bells. Stamford was mentioned, but although there are two or three peals of six, and one of eight, the latter are in such bad order, that it was given up, but with a hope that they may soon be put in proper repair. At 2 o'clock, a substantial dinner was provided, by mine host of "the Bell," to which ample justice was done by forty-five guests, the Vicar presiding after dinner. Mr. J. T. Hollis, of Wakefield, entertained the company with some excellent tunes and change-ringing in different methods on the handbells; a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob was then rang on the church bells by the following: James Storey Wright, (Spalding), 1; William Pearce (Bourne), 2; Thomas Taylor (Bourne), 3; John T. Hollis (Wakefield), 4; Robert Clarke (Bourne), 5; Richard Creasey (Spalding; conductor), 6. Mr. Thomas Taylor, of Bourne, is 77 years of age next March, and as keen a ringer as when a young man, and a pattern for a great many young ringers of the present day.

It is encouraging to find that there is a marked improvement in the striking during the past quarter, and great credit is due to the young members for their perseverance and practice of the science.

We have had some interesting rubbings sent us which we shall be glad to submit to the inspection of any of our readers.

Correspondence.

[While allowing the utmost freedom for the expression of opinion, it must never be considered that we are in any way bound to statements made by correspondents.]

To the Editor of "THE BELL NEWS AND RINGERS' RECORD."

BOB MINOR.

SIR,—I am surprised at Mr. Parker's letter of the 13th instant. Surely no letter could have been written in a more humble spirit than mine, yet he thinks me "sarcastic, and in high dudgeon." These terms apply more to himself than to me, as any ringer at once may see. The statement at which he is this time offended, is correct, as no other peals have been published with more than forty-two calls, and how could I know of such being in his collection. He gives as his reason for non-publishing that "he does not like taking up too much of your valuable space," why not have sent you some of them, instead of so many of such little interest? He is evidently envious of other composers. Mr. Nunn, in giving a 720 some time back, asked if any one had the same in his collection. Mr. Parker replies he had, and says, "there is not a spark of originality about it." (Mr. Nunn's.) Which is the original—the one first published, or a variation of it? Mr. Nunn must be more clever with his "bunch of fives" than Mr. Parker credits him with, to produce a variation of an unknown peal. It is much easier to do so afterwards. In the letter referred to, he gives Mr. Nunn some able instruction (?) on composing, without tending to display any great knowledge on his own part.

In a former letter, Mr. Parker congratulates himself on having produced a "photo" of an old peal, but he must certainly hand over the palm to Mr. Nunn in this art, he having obtained a photo, of one (which Mr. Parker himself admits) he had never seen.

Without egotism, perhaps I may claim the following points in Bob Minor:—The first with forty-two calls by a known composer; the only 720's (excepting one by Mr. Annable) with thirty-two bobs and two singles; the first with thirty-four or thirty-five bobs; and the first with forty-six calls.

Apologising for taking up so much of your valuable space, and wishing every success to "THE BELL NEWS," I remain, Yours,
JNO. F. PENNING.

"EXCLUSIVENESS."

SIR,—As I was one of the unfortunate ringers from the Manchester Cathedral who were so politely excluded from the townhall, I trust that you will give me space to reply to W. Roberts's letter, which appeared on the 30th proximo, in reply to one by "A Ringer," who I wish to state was not one of the ringers from the above church.

I have been at a little trouble to ascertain if some of the statements made by W. R. were correct. I am able to state, on the authority of the chairman of the townhall committee, Mr. Alderman Heywood, that no such order was ever issued, to prevent any ringer from going to the belfry, either to have a pull, or to watch. If such an order was ever promulgated, how was it W. R. did not inform us of it when we first entered the belfry, and not let us remain so long before he went through the farce of carrying the wine into another room, and returning before the rest of his men and politely asking us to withdraw? There were other visitors present besides us; it is simply nothing but the petty jealousy of himself and some members of the C division of the force. If it was against orders for anyone to be there, why was ex-P.C. Staton (the person who held the position now filled by W. R., but had to resign the force through the "high jinks" which took place last Whit-Monday after ringing for the school procession) allowed to remain? and he was not the only one. Why did he select us to retire, and the rest to remain? His conduct, sir, was mean and contemptible. When we were asked to withdraw, can W. R. explain where he expected us to go; was it downstairs, or on to the roof? His answer is evasive and absurd. The same remark may be applied to another statement he made, to the effect that "it was not when the Mayor was returning, but a considerable time before." It would have been useless to have gone afterwards, because the bells stopped soon after the Mayor entered the hall, and it was to ring that we went.

W. R. also insinuates that the Cathedral ringers are frequently intruding. Let me inform him we should not have been present that day had we not been invited by three of his men. It is no treat for a change-ringer to visit the townhall for the purpose of ringing; some of the bells are always going bad, and the ringers can ring nothing but rounds, thirds, and a very rough attempt at a plain course of Grandsire Caters: the tenor at the present time takes three or four men to ring it; and with this combination of evils, I will leave my brother-ringers to judge if there is anything enticing to intrude so frequently.

As to the "high jinks" at the church near the city, in the first place, there is no publichouse nearer than half-a-mile, and what we received that day was kindly sent by the founder of the church, and was brought to the tower by one of the clergy. It is hardly creditable to say so, perhaps, but W. K. was an intruder upon that occasion, but he was not treated as such, for he partook of what was provided and was not looked upon with contempt by any means.

Before concluding, let me give this young ringer—whose only record is a 720 of Bob Minor—a little advice, first to learn to ring and call that which he professes to teach his brother-policemen, i.e., Grandsire Triples and Caters. The attainment of such knowledge will assist him in the capacity of teacher; and should at any time a ringer from the Cathedral or from any other church visit the townhall belfry, let him give them the right hand of fellowship. Some of them will be able to give him a few hints that he will find useful in the arduous task he has undertaken, and then perhaps we shall hear from the bells something more pleasing than rounds and thirds.

3, Hayden Street, Queen's Road, Manchester.

JOHN EACHUS.

GRANDSIRE CINQUES.

SIR,—I suppose my thanks are due to Mr. Prentice for having pointed out a third way in which my unfortunate 5082 of Grandsire Cinques will go true, for he cannot with any consistency claim the peal inserted last week as his own, as he has simply varied the calling of the first and coming-round courses by calling the 9th into the hunt, and out at three with a double, and thus adopting my last course-end as his first, and so getting rid of the repeating changes, and calling rounds from 23456. Two other ways of this peal go true—you will remember that I sent to you, sir, the week after the notice of its being false appeared in our paper—the first by reversing the calling of the last two parts, viz., 11th in three, 11th in four, 7th in four, 7th in four, &c., by which the course-end 35426 will be produced by 7th in four, and so will be true. The second way is by calling bobs with the 10th and 11th before, from the eleventh course-end, third part, 23456, and shorten the peal to 5038 changes. It may be thought that I am very selfish in seeking to deprive Mr. Prentice of the peal, but this is a matter in which I should like to have an expression of opinion from others.
Ipswich.

W. L. CATCHPOLE.

MR. PENNING'S PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES.

SIR,—In perusing your paper of the 13th and 20th inst., I perceive two peals of Grandsire Triples, reported as "Mr. Penning's Original one-part Peal." Now, Sir, I would like to inform the sender of the above peals to "THE BELL NEWS" to send them properly in future, as the peal is not original nor does the composer put it as such. Give credit where credit is due, but do not violate Mr. John Holt, or Mr. Penning, as the remark respecting the Original peal in the *Clavis* is sufficient to suffice. I hope to see the above peal published in its true form in future.

COLLEGE YOUTH.

REOPENING OF BELLS AT MOUNT-SORREL, LEICESTERSHIRE.

On Sunday afternoon, January 21st, the village of Mountsorrel was enlivened by the reopening of the church bells, which have been augmented by Taylor and Co. from three to six, by having two new trebles and a tenor added, and one of the old bells recast, thus making a light ring of six. The work has been very carefully executed, and seems almost a marvel how the above firm could manage to squeeze a ring of six into so small a tower, it being not more than 8 feet square. Early in the afternoon, ringers from the neighbouring parishes of Loughborough, Wymeswold, Sileby, Rothley, and Syston, and a band of ringers from Long Eaton (Derbyshire), mustered in strong force. Immediately after arrival, four members of the Long Eaton Society, with Mr. W. Taylor, of Loughborough, and Mr. J. North, of Syston, raised the bells and rang three courses of Bob Minor. Afterwards five members of the Long Eaton Company, assisted by the Rev. W. C. Pearson, of Syston, rang a course of Kent Treble Bob Minor in 25 mins. Samuel Clarke, 1; Richard Hickton, 2; John Ward, 3; Rev. W. C. Pearson, 4; Arthur Middleton, 5; Joseph Barrow (conductor), 6. Tenor 9 cwt. in A. Ringing was taken up with great spirit by the neighbouring societies, who sang touches of Bob Minor and Grandsire Doubles. A special service was then held, and an excellent sermon on the use of Church Bells was preached by the Rev. — Sheers, of Sileby. Then the service was brought to a close, 360 of Kent Treble Bob was rung by the Long Eaton Company, which concluded the opening ceremony, and a most enjoyable afternoon was spent by all present.

ST. MARY'S, STOCKPORT, CHESHIRE.

From January 1st to March 19th, and from October 29th to December 31st, 1822, has been rung on the bells of the above church, 32,711 changes of Grandsire Triples, consisting of 69 touches, as follows:—
 One touch of 1882 changes; one of 1022; three of 1008; one of 952; one of 811; two of 700; one of 658; one of 602; one of 560; two of 546; four of 518; nine of 504; one of 503; one of 490; one of 476; one of 475; one of 461; one of 448; one of 434; two of 420; one of 419; two of 406; one of 405; one of 392; one of 387; one of 363; one of 350; one of 349; seven of 336; two of 335; two of 294; three of 260; two of 266; one of 237; one of 223; one of 210; and five of 168.
 756 changes of Stedman Triples, consisting of three touches containing 252 each.
 Also 360 changes of Plain Bob Minor, consisting of two touches containing 180 each.

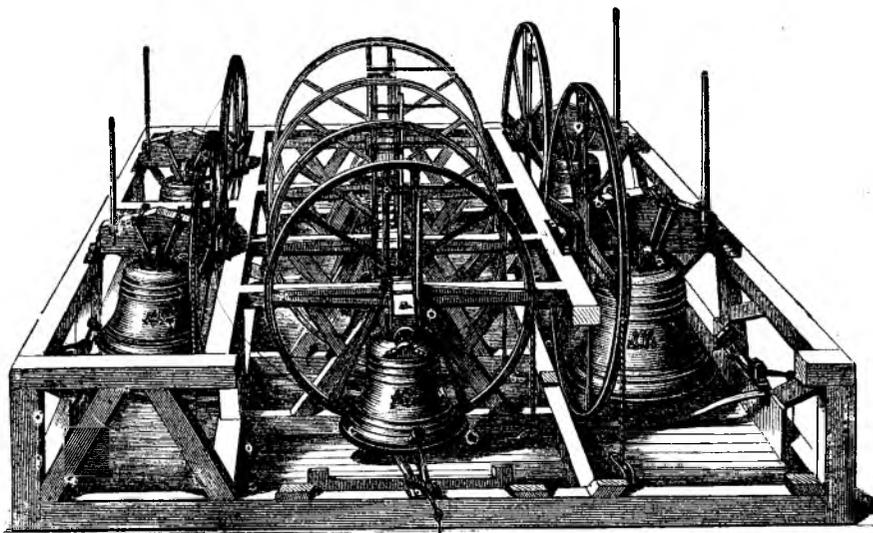
THE BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

The Third Quarterly Meeting of this Association will be held at Selly Oak, on Saturday, February 10th. The tower will be open during the afternoon for ringing, after which the business of the Association will be transacted at the club-house of the Selly Oak branch, "The Oak." All members who can are requested to attend.
 J. WRIGHT, Hon. Sec.

THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

A General Meeting will be held at Stockton, on Monday, February 5th. Members intending to dine, are requested to apply for tickets on or before Thursday, February 1st, to the Secretary, ringing at Stockton parish church—ring of six, tenor 12 cwt., and at Middlesbrough, ring of eight, tenor 12 cwt.
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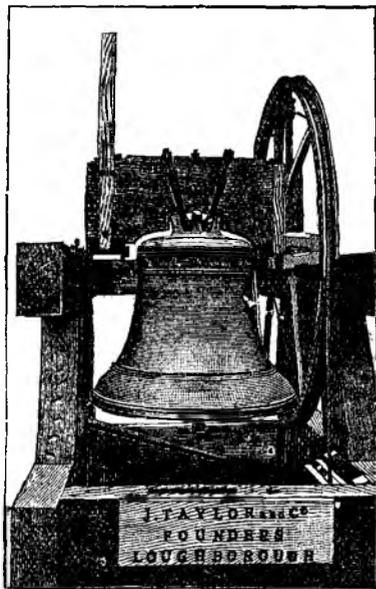
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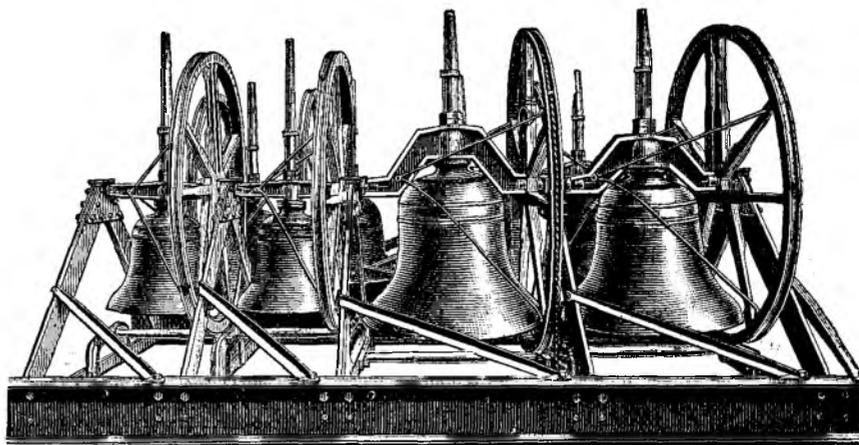
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No. 44. [NEW SERIES.]—VOL. I.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 1883.

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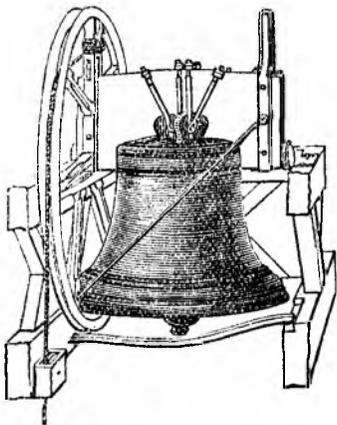
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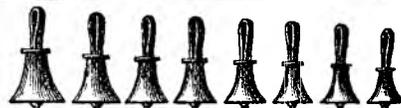
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A Collection of Two Thousand peals of TREBLE BOB MINOR, MAJOR, ROYAL, and MAXIMUS, with the Tenors together; and a Selection of Musical Compositions with the Tenors parted. Arranged with their reverse variations under a simple classification, with remarks upon the different qualities in each class; with particulars of the time of performance, etc.

The last chapter is devoted to a list of the names of Composers of the different peals, with various particulars, and in the cases of deceased Composers with the dates of death, age, etc.

J. W. SNOWDON, Old Bank Chambers, Leeds.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

A QUARTERLY MEETING of this Association was held on Saturday January 27th, at Garston. Such was the severity of the weather, that not more than thirty members were able to attend; they, however under the presidency of the Rev. J. Chambers, Vicar of Halewood, did justice to the repast prepared for them by the local ringers. After the tea, a short meeting was held. The Rev. J. Chambers expressed his pleasure in being able to attend and spoke also of the kindness with which his inquiries had been answered, he being extremely anxious to gather all particulars with regard to bells and ringers, as a lady had kindly undertaken to provide his church with a tower and a peal of eight bells, which he hoped would be ready for opening soon after Whitsuntide, when he would be glad to show the association his hospitality. He thought the objects of the association, as tending to raise ringing and ringers, deserved the hearty support of all. He felt sure that the association had already done good in the county, as he himself could well remember the time when bellfries and bellringers were quite different to what they are now. He concluded by wishing the association success, and said he himself would be glad to become a member as soon as he was eligible. A vote of thanks to him for presiding was proposed by Rev. W. Locke, and seconded by Mr. Beacall. Votes of thanks were also passed to the Vicar, Churchwardens and Sidesmen for their kindness in allowing the association the use of their bells. During the day, various touches of Grandsire Triples, were rung and also two 720's of Minor.

THE DUNDEE SOCIETY.

On Tuesday evening the annual soiree of this Society was held at the Queen's Hotel. Between forty and fifty of the members, with their lady friends, were present. Mr. George Paton, the Secretary, who presided, congratulated the members of the Society on the steady increase of their numbers. He referred to the friendly, although rather pungent, criticism of their ringing, which had appeared in "THE BELL NEWS," and which was quoted in that day's *Evening Telegraph*. The writer of the article, Mr. Crossman, was present. He was an enthusiastic bell-ringer; he had evinced great interest in the Society, and they had the pleasure of his company for several evenings. The Chairman concluded by proposing "Success to the Society." Mr. John Knight, in complimentary terms, proposed "The Honorary Members," to whom he said they had been indebted in past years for great encouragement and assistance. He associated the toast with the name of Mr. John Leng, the managing proprietor of the *Dundee Advertiser* and *Evening Telegraph* newspapers, who in responding, adverted to his recent visit to the country most celebrated for its bells—namely, Russia. He spoke of the fine bells in the Cathedral of St. Isaac's, which are rung in such a manner as to chime in with the choir during religious services. He also described the largest bell in the world, at Moscow—Czar Kolokol—and expressed surprise that it should be allowed to remain on the ground with its broken fragment at the foot of the bell tower in the Kremlin. The present Emperor might make himself famous by re-casting that bell. Mr. Leng expressed his gratification at having met Mr. Crossman, who had travelled further than himself, and who would be able to tell them about other famous bells. Mr. Robert Knight proposed "The Ancient Society of College Youths," and other ringing societies to whom they had been indebted for their instruction in bell-ringing, and who were represented that evening by Mr. Crossman. The latter gentleman replied in a humorous speech, which was greatly applauded. In the course of his remarks he said his knowledge of bell-ringing had been much exaggerated by the proposer of the toast; the fact was he knew but very little of the science, but the misfortune was, that the little he knew, was much in excess of what they knew about change-ringing. It was one thing to ring bells and another to ring changes, the latter being an art which required diligent study and long-continued practice. He should be in Dundee only a few weeks, but it would afford him pleasure to assist the Society to the utmost of his power. Several other toasts were given, and a number of songs, recitations, and violin and piano solos were rendered with excellent effect.

THE BATH AND KEYNSHAM UNITED DEANERIES ASSOCIATION.

THE Fourth Meeting of this Association will (by the kind permission of the Rev. W. T. Wilson, Vicar) be held at the church of St. Matthew, Widcombe Hill, Bath, on the evening of Monday, February 5th, 1883. Hours of ringing from 6.30 to 9.0 p.m.

There is a good ring of six bells at this church, the oldest of them being the second bell, which bears an interesting date and inscriptions. This church is about ten minutes walk from the Great Western Railway Station, and some twenty minutes walk from the Midland Terminus.

W. STOKES SHAW, M.A., Hon. Sec.
Tweron-on-Avon Vicarage.

REOPENING OF BELLS AT TICKINGHAM, SOMERSET.

ON Monday, January 8th, the picturesque village of Tickingham was in high festivity. From the beautiful church tower (of which so many villages in Somerset can boast) a flag was floating, and young and old turned out to hear, what had not been heard for years, the sound of their village bells. The bells, originally a peal of five, and in a very bad state, two of their number cracked, have now been augmented to a peal of six, the new treble bell being presented by the late churchwarden, Mr. Samuel Coombs; the second and fifth have been recast, and the whole ring entirely rehung and put in thorough going order, by the firm of Llewellyns and James, of Bristol, who must be complimented on the go of the bells, and also in turning out three maiden bells well in tune with the rest. After a short dedication service by the Rev. A. Atkinson, the bells were opened by the St. Stephen's Society of change-ringers from Bristol, who rang upon them several 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, Grandsire Minor, &c. The ringers then retired from the church to do justice to the good things provided for them at the "Star Inn." They then returned to the church, and rang several 6-scores of Stedman Doubles; the Rev. A. Atkinson coming into the church and seeing so many present, watching the ringing (the ropes coming down into the church), again addressed them, and more kind words and good wishes than those which fell from the rev. gentleman in the course of his remarks, seldom falls to the lot of a ringer to hear.

By the kind invitation of the rev. gentleman, the ringers had tea at the Vicarage, and adjourned to the schoolroom and gave a performance on the hand-bells, which was highly appreciated. They then returned to Bristol, highly pleased with the day's outing, promising to pay another visit at an early date.

CALVERLEY, YORKSHIRE.

A NEW PUBLIC CLOCK.—An interesting ceremony was performed on Saturday afternoon, January 20th, at Calverley, the occasion being the starting of a new public clock, which has been erected in the ancient tower of the parish church, at the sole expense of Mr. Thomas H. Gray, of Calverley. Its predecessor had done duty ever since the year 1815, but had latterly begun to be a little wayward in its conduct, probably in consequence of rapidly advancing years. This reaching the ears of Mr. Thomas H. Gray, that gentleman generously undertook to bear the entire cost himself, and thus relieve the Vicar and Churchwardens of a source of anxiety. The main difficulty being overcome, the Churchwardens set about looking after a suitable clock, and, amongst others, examined one exhibited by Messrs. Jas. Shaw and Sons, church bell founders, of Leeds Road, Bradford, in the Technical exhibition recently held at Bradford, which seemed to be suitable to their requirements. This being the case, it was purchased, and steps at once taken for its erection in the church tower, in place of the old one, which was found to be thoroughly worn out. The following is a description of the clock:—The driving wheel of the going part is 12 inches in diameter, with steel shafts and pinions, working in hard gun-metal bushes, with Denison's double three-legged gravity escapement, $\frac{1}{4}$ seconds compensating pendulum, weighing 170 lbs., Denison's maintaining power on the bolt and shutter principle, to keep the clock going during winding, minute dial attached at the front of the clock, so that the outside hands can be regulated without interfering with the going part of the clock. The clock strikes Cambridge quarters upon four bells, being the second, third, fourth and seventh bells of a peal of eight in the tower, with five hammers, varying in weight from 10lbs. to 18lbs. The striking part is let off by a cam, independent of the quarters, so as to give proper time with the first blow. The hammer weighs 33lbs., and strikes upon the largest bell in the tower, which weighs 11 cwt. The three weights giving the motive power to the clock weigh together 16 cwt. The whole of the work is constructed upon a solid horizontal cast iron bed frame, planed up, the plumber blocks being planed to suit. The dial is seven feet in diameter.

HIGH SUFFOLK.

WHO—at any rate amongst the dwellers in the Eastern Counties—has not heard of High Suffolk? but who, on the other hand, ever got there? We have met many—hundreds, we may say—who have been in the next parish, but that's the nearest. By many it is thought to lie somewhere in "The Parishes" (a cluster of seven, South Elmhams), at any rate, it is of doings in one of these—whether High Suffolk or no—that we would write, to wit, of a date touch in Doubles—Stedman, St. Simon's, Grandsire, and Plain, accomplished in a masterly manner in 1 hr. 20 mins., on the evening of Monday, January 29th, on the bells of St. Margaret, of the South Elmhams, by the following band, members of the Norwich Diocesan Association, and four out of the five quite young hands. P. Page (conductor), 1; T. Lord, 2; H. Aldrich, 3; S. Bird, 4; A. Aldrich, 5. Tenor 12 cwt. The bells of St. Margaret's are a collection by different founders, and at dates ranging from the early part of the fifteenth to the middle of the eighteenth century, yet strange to say, are a maiden peal, fairly in tune.

An Memoriam.

ROBERT STAINBANK, BELLFOUNDER.

In our last number we briefly announced the decease of this gentleman as having occurred on the Wednesday previous at his mansion at Sydenham. For a long time past his health had been very precarious, and this, coupled with the fact that he was near the age mentioned by the Psalmist as the extent of man's pilgrimage upon earth, naturally caused some uneasiness to his friends, which was intensified for some time previous to his death. After much suffering, which he bore with exemplary fortitude and peaceful resignation, he passed quietly away on the morning of the above date, to the great sorrow of his loving relatives, and his loss, will also be greatly felt by those to whom he was for so many years a kind, indulgent, and courteous employer and benefactor.

The deceased gentleman was a native of Nottingham. Before embarking in the business of bell-founding, he had been engaged in commercial transactions as a timber merchant, and his experience in this particular branch of commerce no doubt stood him in good stead in after years, when a stock of valuable oak had to be secured by his firm for bell-hanging purposes. Many years ago, when the fortunes of that daily paper which boasts of the "largest circulation in the world"—*The Daily Telegraph*—were at a low ebb, and the then proprietor, in consequence, being about to undergo a change, Mr. Stainbank, being a man of substance, felt inclined to become the owner of that journal, but was deterred from legal considerations inseparable from its financial position at that time. It therefore fell to his lot, by entering into partnership with the late Mr. Mears, to maintain the prestige of the Old Foundry, and this, in spite of the action of disappointed theorists, he did manfully and well. Tenacious of the character his bells had gained, he naturally—and we will add, rightly—considered that the productions of his establishment would not suffer by comparison with those of any other foundry. But while in a singularly undemonstrative manner he held to such a belief, we are in a position solemnly to assert, without fear of contradiction, that all he desired was "a fair field and no favour." He was not one to be disconcerted by the loss of a contract he had hoped to obtain; such disappointments as these did not prevent him from pursuing the even tenour of his way; and it was his constant desire that himself and other bell-founders should be able to conduct their business untrammelled by the interference of so-called scientists, whom he regarded with feelings of the most profound contempt. We believe it was only from a strict sense of duty, and in the interest, not only of his own establishment, but of the bellfounding trade generally, that he sought to destroy—or at any rate to remove into the hands of competent persons, viz., practical ringers—the office of arbiter in bell-matters, by taking legal proceedings, and it was not so much against the individual defendant, as against the system under which these referees were empowered to act, that the action in question was successfully maintained in a court of law. When an assertion that Belgian or Dutch bells were vastly superior to English manufacture had been made, and statements from non-practical persons promulgated to the effect that the Whitechapel firm could not or should not be entrusted with the founding of a peal of bells, Mr. Stainbank proved himself equal to the occasion. Himself the soul of probity and honour, he construed the latter as an insidious attack upon the reputation of his foundry; the former as an anti-English sentiment. He caused it to be published throughout the length and breadth of the land, that he would cast a bell, or peal of bells, of any dimensions, in competition with any founder, English or foreign, his only stipulation being that none but really practical men should be the judges. This challenge may savour of boasting, perhaps, but the provocation which begat it should be taken into consideration.

Such are a few incidents in the life of the late ROBERT STAINBANK, Esq. His connection with "THE BELL NEWS" was no more than that of other bell-founders who are solicitous for its welfare. But as a partner in a firm of bell-founders so well-known, the occurrence of his demise demands more than a passing notice.

The funeral of the deceased gentleman took place on Monday last at Boston, Lincolnshire. His remains were removed from Sydenham early in the morning under the care of Mr. J. W. Burden, undertaker, of Whitechapel Road, and conveyed to the Great Northern Railway station at King's Cross, leaving by the 9.0 a.m. train. On its arrival at Boston, the coffin was placed into a hearse in waiting, and with two coaches, one containing M. Staniland, Esq., and his son, R. Staniland, Esq.—brother-in-law and nephew of the deceased; the other being occupied by J. Muzio, Esq. (executor), C. A. Betts, Esq. (solicitor), and Mr. Stainbank's old servant and manager, Mr. W. Warskitt, the funeral cortege proceeded to the burial-ground, where the father and mother, and brother and sister of the deceased gentleman are buried, and with whom he was laid to rest from his labours.

On the eve of going to press we hear that the College Youths intend ringing a muffled peal, as a token of the great respect in which he was held, on the bells of St. Mary-le-Bow, Chancery Lane.

REVIEWS.

"GREAT PAUL TONGUE-TIED."—We have received a pamphlet entitled "Great Paul Tongue-Tied; why don't he speak out?" by A. Bellringer, W. S. C. R., which appears to be a review of a work by Dr. Stainer and a Mr. Mackie, C.E., with the title of "Great Paul: From its Casting to its Dedication." As the "Great Paul" of the two gentlemen named has not come under our notice, we are not in a position to speak of its contents as a whole, but as the author of "Great Paul Tongue-Tied" gives copious extracts from the work, we are thus enabled to arrive at some idea of its scope and object. From these extracts, then, it seems, the joint authors of "Great Paul" take to themselves the credit of being authorities on the arts of bell-founding, bell-hanging, and bell-ringing, and with the usual amount of self-complacency exhibited by amateurs in general, do not seem to doubt for a moment but that their ideas on these subjects will be received by their readers as gospel. But to experts it is very evident that their notions are, to put it mildly, very amateurish, and as the author of "Great Paul Tongue-Tied" is, quite as evidently, thoroughly posted in all matters relating to bells, from the foundry to the steeple, he avails himself of his technical knowledge of the subjects to snub the amateurs in by no means too gentle a manner. While agreeing generally with "A Bell-ringer" as to the technical errors committed by Messrs. Stainer and Mackie, we must join issue with him where he so broadly asserts that "Great Paul" was written as an advertisement to Taylor and Co., in fact we consider that in several instances he passes the boundary of fair criticism; in our opinion, Dr. Stainer, in his official capacity in connection with St. Paul's Cathedral, may with perfect propriety write somewhat proudly of the grand peal of bells therein, without laying himself open to the charge of "advertising" their founders. With regard to the question asked in the title, *i.e.*, "Why don't Great Paul speak out?" that can but be looked upon as a fair question to ask. It was generally understood that such an immense bell would be heard at a distance of several miles, even farther than "Big Ben," it being so much larger, but as it has not, up to the present time, *although rung twice daily*, as the author pertinently remarks, been heard but a very short distance outside of St. Paul's Churchyard, it would be only fair to the public, whose interest in the subject a few months ago was at fever heat, that some one in authority should give a reason why it cannot be made to "speak" louder. That the fault does not lie in the bell itself may be taken for granted, it being pronounced by every expert that has seen it, with whom we have come into personal contact, both founders and ringers, to be a "good casting."

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—We have received a copy of this report from the Secretary to the Association, the Rev. G. H. Harris. It contains much the same features as previous reports issued by this Association. In a former number, we gave the Hon. Sec's report *in extenso*, being read at the Annual Meeting of the Association, by Gervas Holmes, Esq., in the absence of the Secretary through indisposition. During the past year the Association has scored twenty-one peals, which may be classified thus: fifteen of Treble Bob Major, ten of which were rung in the Oxford, and five in the Kent variation; three of Grandsire Triples; two of Plain Bob Major; and a 5040 in seven different methods on six bells. These are all 5000 peals, and we confess to feeling a little disappointment at the meagre list of performances presented. In the diocese over which this Association has jurisdiction, many churches are endowed with rings of bells, where nothing worth recording in the report under consideration has been achieved. This is to be deplored, and we hope to see, when the next yearly report is issued, that our eastern friends have been a little more energetic in the direction of peal-ringing. Still, on the whole, the prospects of this patrician Association are very encouraging to all who are desirous of seeing the practice of change-ringing carried into every nook and corner of the kingdom.

The bob-caller of a touch rang at Beeston writes: It is a pity the science is not more appreciated by the general public, as it is a very fine exercise, bringing every faculty, both mental and physical, into action. It may in no doubt be in consequence of persons not being aware of the intrinsic value of the science, but it is well known by those who practice it, that it requires men of rather more than the ordinary amount of ability to make any progress in the art, as a great number have gone to the different churches from time to time with the intention of learning, but after years of practice and perseverance have been obliged to give it up, because they could not surmount the difficulties, of which there are many. It is a lamentable fact that ringers as a rule do not stand very high in the estimation of the public, and this understanding, or rather want of understanding, has no doubt been brought about by a set of men who are really not ringers, but who pull at the rope and cause the bell to make a noise without any scientific system whatever, and who unfortunately think more of drink than they do of the fine art of change-ringing.

The Metropolis.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.
LOUGHTON, ESSEX.

On Thursday, January 25, 1883, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,
AT ST. JOHN'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
PENNING'S ORIGINAL ONE-PART PEAL. Tenor 19 cwt.

WILLIAM SMITH.. .. .Treble.	JOHN GOBBETT 5.
GEORGE AKERS 2.	ARTHUR H. GARDOM .. . 6.
JOHN NUNN 3.	HUGH SCARLETT 7.
MATTHEW ELLSMORE .. . 4.	JOSEPH BARRYTenor.

Conducted by ARTHUR H. GARDOM.

The Provinces.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—MAIDSTONE.

On Thursday, January 25, 1883, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,
AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 31 cwt. in C.

CHARLES RELFTreble.	GEORGE PAWLEY 5.
FREDRICK G. NEWMAN .. . 2.	HENRY PEARCE* 6.
EDWARD BALDOCK 3.	ALFRED H. WOOLLEY .. . 7.
ALCHIN MOORCRAFT* .. . 4.	GEORGE MOORCRAFT .. .Tenor.

Conducted by FREDRICK G. NEWMAN.

Many years have elapsed since a peal was performed on the back eight bells, the last being in 1792. * Members of the Ancient Society of College Youths.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—DRIFHLINGTON.

On Saturday, January 27, 1883, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,
AT ST. PAUL'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5280 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 16 cwt. in F.

ARTHUR SPURRTreble.	DAVID STEPHENSON .. . 5.
WALTER MORTON 2.	*JOHN THOMAS HOLLIS .. . 6.
GEORGE CRAWSHAW 3.	GODFREY MARSDEN 7.
JOSEPH CHAPPEL 4.	WILLOUGHBY DIXON .. .Tenor.

Composed by HENRY JOHNSON, Birmingham; and conducted by GODFREY MARSDEN.

The above peal is in three parts, with a double bob at home at each course-end. Messrs. Chappel and Hollis's first peal; and the first peal conducted by Godfrey Marsden.

* Member of the South Lincolnshire Association, now residing at Wakefield, formerly of Glinton, Northamptonshire; the rest of the company hail from Ossett, near Wakefield.

MOTTRAM-IN-LONGDENDALE, CHESHIRE.

On Tuesday, January 30, 1883, in Two Hours and Fifty-one Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 14 cwt. in G.

JAMES SHAWTreble.	WILLIAM MIDDLETON .. . 5.
JOHN SIDEBOTHAM 2.	THOMAS BRADDOCK 6.
ROBERT WRIGHT 3.	JAMES S. WILDE 7.
JOHN HARROP 4.	THOMAS WILDETenor.

Composed by JOHN THORP, of Ashton-under-Lyne, and conducted by THOMAS WILDE.

The peal, which is a three-part one, has the sixth at home at nine different courses, and also its extent at home; and is now rung for the first time.

Messrs. Shaw and Wilde Brothers hail from Hyde; and the rest of the company from Mottram.

Date Touch.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

FARNHAM ROYAL (Bucks).—On Sunday evening, January 28th, six members of the above Guild rang a date touch of Grandsire Minor, 1883 changes, in 1 hour 10 mins., consisting of two 720's, the first obtained in two parts with forty-four bobs and four singles; the second containing thirty-four bobs and two singles; and a 443 round at hand, with twenty-three bobs and four singles. Charles Chapman, 1; Frederick B. Fells, 2; Joseph J. Parker (conductor), 3; Albert P. Batten, 4; Alfred C. Fussell, 5; Charles Clark, 6, Tenor 12 cwt.

Miscellaneous.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—At St. John's Church, for practice, on Monday, January 29th, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 28 mins. Francis Lees, 1; Chas. Linnæus Routledge, 2; Walter Graham Routledge, 3; Thomas J. Des Forges, 4; William Story, 5; R. S. Story (conductor), 6; first 720 as conductor in this method. Tenor 14 cwt.

NORTH SHIELDS.—At Christ Church, on Sunday, January 28th, for evening service, 704 of Kent Treble Bob Major. W. Reed, Esq. (conductor), 1; R. Smith, 2; A. Sawyer, 3; R. Wignell, 4; W. Waugh, 5; H. Ross, 6; R. S. Story (St. John's, Newcastle), 7; Joel Hern, 8. Tenor 19 cwt.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

BRAINTREE (Essex).—On Sunday, January 21st, at St. Michael's, 720 of College Exercise, for morning service; also the following touches for evening service: 120 of Bob Minor, 96 Woodbine Treble Bob, 96 New London Pleasure, 120 Violet Treble Bob, 192 Cambridge Surprise; conducted by S. Hammond. On Wednesday, January 24, 720 Cambridge Surprise, 720 Kent Treble Bob; F. Rudkin, conductor. On Saturday, January 27th, 720 Woodbine Treble Bob; S. Hammond, conductor. On Sunday, January 28, 720 Oxford Delight, for morning service, and 720 of College Exercise, for evening service. T. Watson, 1; F. Calthorpe, 2; H. E. Hammond, 3; S. Hammond, 4; F. Rudkin (conductor), 5; A. Huckson, 6. Tenor 14 cwt. H. E. Hammond's first 720 of Cambridge Surprise with a bob bell; and first 720 of Oxford Delight by any of the company.

ROMFORD.—Handbell Ringing.—On Saturday evening, January 27th, three members of the above Association rang on handbells, retained in hand, a 720 of Bob Minor, with nine bobs and six singles, in 22 mins. * A. Porter, 1-2; A. J. Perkins (conductor), 3-4; * G. Galley, 5-6. Also a 6-score of Stedman Doubles, and a 6-score of Grandsire Doubles, by A. J. Perkins and G. Galley. * First 720 double-handed.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

GARSTON (Lancashire).—On Saturday, January 27th, 1883, at St. Michael's Church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 26 mins. J. Davidson, 1; P. Barton, 2; F. Turner, 3; W. Brown, 4; J. T. Lowe, 5; W. Hughes (conductor), 6. Also on the same day at the same place a 720 of Plain Bob Minor in 25 mins. P. Barton, 1; J. Davidson, 2; W. J. Chatterton, 3; F. Turner, 4; I. Latchford, 5; W. Hughes (conductor), 6. Tenor 12½ cwt.

HEYWOOD (Lancashire).—On Monday evening, January 29th, eight members of the St. Luke's society, being also members of the above Association, rang 2520 changes (being half-a-peal, bob-and-single variation), in 1 hr. 35 mins. W. Wharton, 1; G. Crossley, 2; John Millett (composer and conductor), 3; T. Wharton, 4; W. R. Barrett, 5; J. Street, 6; J. Harrison, 7; James Millett, 8. Tenor 22¾ cwt. in Eb.

MANCHESTER.—On Tuesday, January 23rd, at Holy Trinity Church, Hulme, six members of this Association rang for practice a 720 of Bob Minor, in 28 mins. Hy. Diggle, 1; W. Diggle (conductor), 2; W. Savage, 3; C. Woodward, 4; W. Hargreaves, 5; W. Roberts, 6. Tenor 15¾ cwt. First 720 conducted by W. Diggle.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

PULHAM MARKET (Norfolk).—On Friday evening, January 26th, six members of the above Association rang a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in 30 mins. Thomas Jarrow (conductor), 1; William Roope, 2; William Culham, 3; Charles Tann, 4; John Charles Allen, 5; Abel Hart, 6. Tenor 18 cwt. This is the first 720 in the method by W. Culham and J. C. Allen.

KENNINGHALL (Norfolk).—On Tuesday, January 30th, eight members of the Kenninghall and Banham branches of this Association met at St. Mary's church, and again attempted the Rev. H. Earle Bulwer's peal of 5088 of Treble Bob Major, but after ringing the first part, the conductor called "Set," owing to one of the men not being able to proceed any further. Time, 1 hr. 5 mins. R. Hutton, 1; H. Eagling, 2; G. Edwards, 3; J. Saunders, 4; C. Everett, 5; J. Woods, 6; J. Mordey, 7; J. Cunningham (conductor), 8. Tenor 16½ cwt.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

OXFORD.—On Saturday, January 27th, at New College, a touch of 1008 Grandsire Triples, in 38 mins. *G. F. Scott, Esq., 1; W. Washbrook, 2; C. Boots, 3; S. Hounslow, 4; *G. F. Coleridge, Esq., 5; *C. C. Child, Esq., 6; *J. F. Hastings, Esq., 7; *J. R. Vincent, Esq., 8. Tenor 15½ cwt. *Members of the Oxford University Society.

BARWELL (Leicestershire).—On Sunday, January 28th, four members of the Barwell Society, assisted by E. Garner, of Leicester, and J. H. Swinfield, of Earl Shilton, rang a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, with nine bobs and six singles, in 29 mins. T. Needham, 1; J. H. Swinfield, 2; G. White, 3; W. A. Needham, 4; W. Powers, 5; E. Garner (conductor), 6. Tenor 16 cwt. in F#. Another attempt was made the previous evening with Mr. Briggs, of Stoney Stanton, at the tenor, but owing to the breaking of the fifth rope, it failed when two-thirds of it had been rung.

BARNWOOD (Gloucestershire).—On Friday, January 12th, six members of St. Lawrence's company rang for practice at Barnwood church a 720 of Canterbury Pleasure Minor, with eighteen bobs and two singles, in 27 mins. J. Jordan, 1; J. Yeates, 2; G. Miles, 3; A. Smart, 4; H. Mitchell (composer and conductor), 5; A. Waite, 6. Tenor 14 cwt. in G. This is the first 720 ever rung in the above county in this method.

BEESTON (Notts).—On Saturday evening, January 20th, the local society rang at the parish church, assisted by two of the Derby and District Association, a date touch of Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. 5 mins. J. Moody, 1; A. Archer (member of the association), 2; R. Mellors, 3; J. Spray, 4; J. Hickman (member of the association), 5; S. G. Henson (conductor), 6; S. Mellors, 7; A. Towison, 8.

DIDSBURY (Lancashire).—On Saturday, January 27th, seven members of the Manchester Cathedral Society, with Mr. W. Ryder, of St. James's, Birch, Manchester, attempted to ring Thurston's (bob and single) peal of Grandsire Triples, but "stand" had to be called after ringing 2 hrs. 30 mins., in consequence of the tenor-man giving up through the extra work required caused by the severe gale that was blowing at the time. William Ryder, 1; Samuel West, 2; Samson Knight, 3; Joseph Grimshaw, 4; George Mee, 5; Albert E. Wreaks (conductor), 6; John Withers, 7; James Parkinson, 8. Tenor 18 cwt. in E.

GARSTON (Lancashire).—A mixed band met at St. Michael's Church and rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor. S. Gough, 1; T. Beacall, 2; J. Pritchard, 3; J. Davidson, 4; F. Turner, 5; Geo. W. Hughes (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Plain Bob Minor. J. Davidson, 1; T. Beacall, 2; J. Pritchard, 3; W. James, 4; F. Turner, 5; Geo. W. Hughes (conductor), 6. Each in 26 mins. Tenor 12½ cwt. And on January 27th, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 26 mins. A. Brown, 1; J. Aspinwall, 2; J. Latchford, 3; Geo. W. Hughes, 4; S. Foster, 5; T. Hammond (conductor), 6.

LEE (Kent).—On Wednesday, January 24th, at St. Margaret's, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 26 mins. I. G. Shade, 1; E. F. Cole, 2; F. Fraser, 3; T. Taylor, 4; G. Shepherd, 5; T. G. Deal (conductor), 6. Tenor 12½ cwt. The first time the method has been rung on these bells.

MANCHESTER.—On Monday, January 29th, at the Cathedral, a 504 of Grandsire Triples. T. Thorpe (aged 12 years), 1; J. E. Pollitt, 2; J. Lowcock, 3; S. West, 4; G. Mee, 5; J. Grimshaw, 6; Albert E. Wreaks, 7; H. Mee, 8. Also a 728 of Grandsire Triples. J. Grimshaw, 1; S. West, 2; J. Lowcock, 3; G. Mee, 4; J. E. Pollitt, 5; Albert E. Wreaks, 6; J. Withers, 7; J. Parkinson, 8. Both of these touches were conducted by Albert E. Wreaks. Tenor 25 cwt. in Eb.

SPALDING (Lincolnshire).—On January 12th, at SS. Mary and Nicolas, a 720 of Oxford Bob, eighteen bobs and two singles. G. Sheef, 1; J. Brown, 2; G. L. Richardson, 3; E. Mason (of Boston), 4; J. S. Wright, 5; R. Mackman (conductor), 6. January 18th, 720 Plain Bob, thirty-two bobs and two singles. January 25th, two 720's of Bob Minor, one with eighteen bobs and two singles; one with fourteen bobs and two singles. January 28th, for morning service, 360 of Plain

Bob, fifteen bobs, also for evening service, 360 of the same, twelve singles. G. Sheef, 1; A. Brown, 2; G. L. Richardson, 3; J. Brown 4; J. S. Wright, 5; R. Mackman (conductor), 6. Tenor 18 cwt.

UPTON ST. LEONARDS (Gloucestershire).—On Sunday, January 28th, after Divine Service, six members of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association of change-ringers, assisted by Mr. J. Yates and Mr. B. Athaway, rang at the above parish church 1260 changes of Grandsire Triples in 45 mins. J. Yates, 1; J. Middlecote, 2; W. Hunt, 3; H. Mitchell, 4; J. D. Aston, 5; A. Waite, 6; H. G. Gardner (conductor), 7; B. Athaway, 8. Tenor 17 cwt. 3 qrs. in F#. Also the same evening a 720 of Bob Minor with eighteen bobs and two singles, on the back six, in 29 mins. J. Middlecote, 1; J. Yeates, 2; J. D. Aston, 3; A. Waite, 4; H. Mitchell, 5; and H. G. Gardener (conductor), 6.

TICKHILL (Yorkshire).—This society rang for Divine Service on Sunday morning, January 28th, a 720 of Violet, in 26½ mins. Alfred Wright, 1; Charles Ainley, 2; George Hackford, 3; John S. Jenkinson, 4; George Gleadale, 5; Francis Jenkinson (conductor), 6. And on Tuesday night, for practice, they rang a course and a 12-score, and afterwards a 720 of Primrose, in 25½ mins: this latter has not been rung in this tower for nearly 19 years, it being the first time the first four ringers tried to ring it. Alfred Wright, 1; C. Ainley, 2; J. S. Jenkinson, 3; T. Manifield, 4; G. Gleadale, 5; F. Jenkinson (conductor), 6. Tenor 19½ cwt. in F.

TROWBRIDGE (Wiltshire).—On Saturday, January 27th, six members of the local society, with Messrs. W. Rea and O. James, of Bromsgrove, Worcestershire, members of the Worcestershire Association, rang a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 50 mins. Wm. Alley, 1; John Hayward, 2; Samuel Webb, 3; Walter Rea, 4; Oliver James, 5; Walter Lane, 6; Wm. McCaffrey, 7; Joseph Cooper, 8. Composed by J. W. Washbrook, of Oxford, and conducted by Walter Rea, being his first time of conducting.

WANSTEAD (Essex).—On Tuesday, January 23rd, at Christ Church, a 720 of Bob Minor, nine bobs and six singles, in 25 mins. H. Nunn, sen. 1; J. Gobbett, 2; J. Nunn, 3; M. Ellsmore (conductor), 4; J. Marks, 5; J. Priest, 6. Also a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 27 mins. J. Priest, 1; J. Nunn, 2; M. Ellsmore, 3; H. Scarlett, 4. A. H. Gardom, 5; G. Akers (conductor), 6. Also on Sunday, January 28th, 720 of Bob Minor, in 25 mins. J. King, 1; W. Smith, 2; G. Akers, 3; G. Allen, 4; A. H. Gardom (conductor), 5; M. Ellsmore, 6. Tenor 9 cwt.

Correspondence.

[While allowing the utmost freedom for the expression of opinion, it must never be considered that we are in any way bound to statements made by correspondents.]

To the Editor of "THE BELL NEWS AND RINGERS' RECORD."

GRANDSIRE CINQUES.

SIR,—This is not the first time that Mr. Catchpole has accused me of copying other people's peals. I should not have taken the trouble of writing if his letter of last week had been misleading. He admits that by reversing the calling of the last two parts, 11th in three, etc., but he does not say the number of changes that it ran to, viz., 5126. Then he says the second way is by calling bobs with the 10th and 11th before from the eleventh course-end. Now, sir, how can he lay any claim to my peal of 5082, with 4th, 5th, and 6th twelve courses in 6th's place? His peal is false with these qualities, and until he can transpose his peal into the required number of changes by using the same calling in the first part, I shall say mine is original, and a true peal, with the least number of changes yet obtained with these qualities.

DANIEL PRENTICE.

MR. PENNING'S PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES.

SIR,—I must certainly take exception to your correspondent, "College Youth," as I do not see how Holt's name is in the least violated. The term, "Holt's Original One-part peal," simply means that author's first composition in this method, and had he not produced another composition therein, I suppose we should never have heard of the term "Holt's Original," as it is well known that peals existed prior to Holt's time. Let your correspondent turn from page 59 to page 64 of the *Clavis*, where an old peal will be found, so old as 1788, that these writers did not know its authorship.

Mr. Penning has engaged in the very laudable but unprofitable endeavour of trying to cut out the singles in this peal; in so doing, I believe he has found more than one peal, and therefore his first production in this method is his original. Although not upon an original plan, it certainly is an original combination of bobs and singles, and also of changes. Without saying a word against Holt, or unduly in Penning's favour, all peals in this method are more or less alike, as all obtainable changes are contained. The earliest production is therefore the original composition in the method; subsequently others are produced on original plans, and these again having an original course of bobs.

ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTH.

SIR,—Your last number contains a literary treat—"sufficient to suffice." Your correspondent, "College Youth," has certainly become famous. He would like to inform the sender to send peals properly in future, accompanying this phrase with the most extraordinary remark, "Do not violate Mr. John Holt, or Mr. Penning." Poor Holt! Poor Penning! The disgust one feels at reading such rubbish mars the amusement such a foolish letter might afford. When your correspondent feels again inclined to "rush into print," let me beg of him to submit his ms. for revision to some one better informed with the English language than he appears to be. I hope he will consider this "sufficient to suffice."

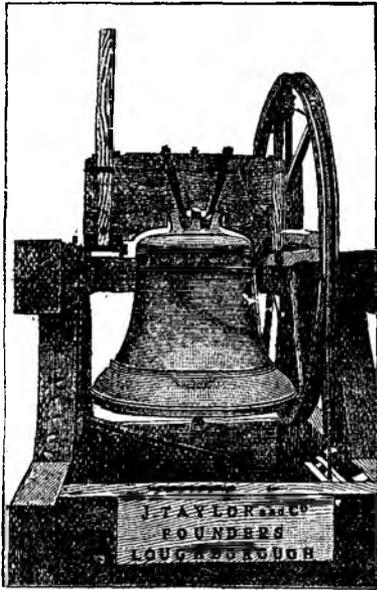
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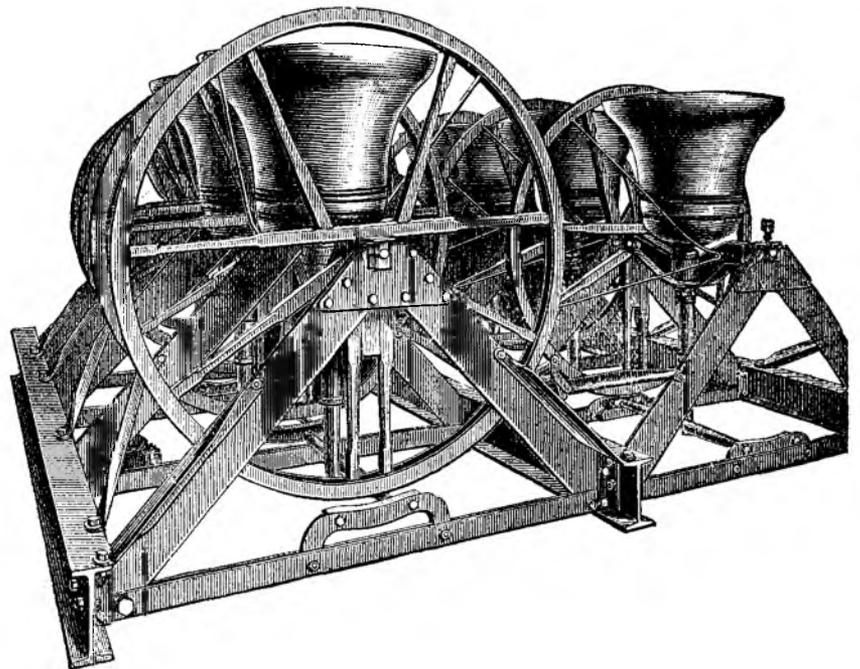
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SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 1883.

[ONE PENNY.]



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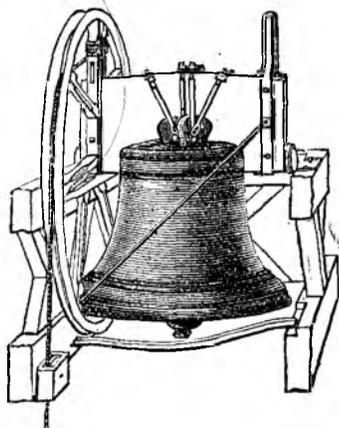
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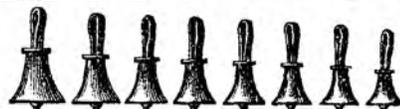
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Selection from Weber's "Der Frieschutz," introducing
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together; and a Selection of Musical Compositions with
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variations under a simple classification, with remarks
upon the different qualities in each class; with particu-
lars of the time of performance, &c.

The last chapter is devoted to a list of the names of
Composers of the different peals, with various particu-
lars, and in the cases of deceased Composers with the
dates of death, age, &c.

J. W. SNOWDON, Old Bank Chambers, Leeds.

YORK BELL FOUNDERS.

(Continued.)

JOHN POTTER.

YORK.—HOLY TRINITY, MICKLEGATE.

"Campana: Beate: Marie: Johannes: Potter: me: fecit + ihc +"

Further information about this founder or his works is desired.

THOMAS INNOCENT.

"In the year 1466, there was then delivered into the hands of Thomas Innocent, bell-founder, by John Knapton, Under Treasurer, for the founding of four bells, certain metals all particularly named in the record, which also shews the weight of each bell."—YORK MINSTER.

These bells were hung in the north-west tower, called St. Mary's, the inscriptions upon two them being as follows:—

- (1) "+ Sum (stamp) Rosa Pulsata (stamp) Mundi Maria (stamp) Vocata"
in English "I being rung an called Mary, the Rose of the world"
(2) "Petrus psalto Petrus spe tibi dum resonat chorus iste"

In the year 1765, the former along with the others, was removed from the Minster to the tower of St. Michael's, Spurriergate, were it at present hangs. The letters are all from separate stamps, each capital being surrounded with a crown. The stamp consists of three lions pass, guard, sinister; two crowned and one.

JOHN HOTON.

Johannes Hoton de Ebor, founder, is mentioned in the York Fabric Rolls, 1473.

YORK.—ST. MARY BISHOPHILL JUNIOR.

"+ O mater (1) dia (2) me (3) sana (4) virgo (5) maria (6)"

Shields 1 and 3 contain three crowns in pale—St. Edmund.

" 2 " three crescents—Ryther of Harewood.

" 3 and 4 " chevron with chief indented—Thornton—

The stamp (6) probably refers to the Annunciation.

The capital letter is a separate stamp, but the other letters of each word are from a single block or stereotype stamp.

The following particulars are taken from a paper, by Rev. J. T. Fowler, in the Yorkshire Archaeological Journal, Vol. II, p. 61.

This bell was probably cast by the above John Hoton, for "the arms of Thornton (a chevron with chief indented), are upon a bell at Sedgfield, Durham, in which church a brass commemorates one William Hoton (died 1445), who brought into a settlement of Hardwick, in the same parish, Roger Thornton, Esq.; if John Hoton was a relative to William Hoton, he may for that reason have been employed by or through one of the Thornton family to cast bells in that neighbourhood, or he may have had the Thornton arms, first made for the Sedgfield bell, and then have continued to use them on other bells (according to custom) as a mere ornament. He may too, have liked to use it on account of family connection.

The same inscription as the above, in precisely the same sort of letters, with the same arms (Thornton of Newcastle), and the other stamps is upon a bell at

NEWCASTLE.—St. Nicholas; and also on a bell at HEIGHINGTON, CO. Durham; but at

SEDGFIELD, CO. Durham, above referred to, the inscription is:—

"+ Trinitate Sacra Fiat Hec Campana Beata"

The capital letters being separate from their stereotyped words, from their large size, and elaborate ornamentation were used in other inscriptions, where they would come in, A bell at

Newcastle St. Nicholas has them in the inscription:—

"Sum Nicolius Ouans Cunctis Modulamina Promans"

with the same trade-mark as the Sedgfield Trinitate bell.

The capital letters and the stereotyped words that we have been describing as the stamps of John Hoton, are found on post-reformation bells, having been used by the Nottingham founders, who had become possessed of the original stamps or copies of them, made by casting; thus these letters or their facsimiles are found upon bells from about 1450 to 1744."

The above concludes my list of the works of the mediæval bell-founders of York, but there are some rich specimens of mediæval art hung in our belfries, probably the works of local founders, although not identified.

CHRIST CHURCH.—3 bells.

"Johannes eternis annis resonet Domino"

"Sic nomen Domini benedictum"

"Santa Margareta, ora pro nobis"

Upon these bells are shields—keys in saltire, with a device in each division. Upon the others the letter "m" occurs.

ALL SAINTS', PAVEMENT.—2 bells.

"+ Sce. Johaenns, Ora Pro Nobis"

"+ Ihes Nazareus Rex Iudeorum"

In the latter the capitals are each surmounted by a crown. The same inscription occurs at Fridaythorpe in the East Riding.

ST. JOHN'S.—4 bells.

(1) "+ Sancte" (Also shield with three helms, two and one.)

(2) "Maria."

1408. + Come: Propicia: Sis: (illegible) Virgo: Maria; A: D: MCCCCVIII"

(3) "S. Nichola-us"

+ Ad: Loca: Sancte: Trahe: Betris: Ros: Sc: Nicholœ"

(4) The inscription is scarcely legible, a shield contains a cross surmounted by a crown, also the is surmounted by a crown.

These bells were saved by Lord Fairfax from the fire which destroyed the church of St. Nicholas, without Walmgate Bar, during the siege of the city in 1644, and were afterwards given to this Church, The belfries and the bells of our city churches were, during this siege, in very great danger of being destroyed. for in Markham's "Life of Fairfax," it is stated that one of the shots from Fairfax's battery went through the tower of St. Sampson's, "the fissures of which may still be plainly seen." Another went through the tower of St. Dennis, and a third is said to have killed a maiden in Thursday Market, now St. Sampson's Square, gone into the house of Mr. Clarke, writing master, cut the string by which some dried fish were hung to a rafter, and then came down and knocked old Mrs. Clarke under the table! It was fortunate for York that Fairfax was among the besiegers, for his exertions were unceasing to prevent damage being done to any of the public buildings.

ST. SAMPSON.

"+ Fiat Voluntas Tva Pater Omnipotens (sic)
R. B."

HOLY TRINITY, GOODRAMGATE.

"Sancta Maria Ora Pro Nobis"

BISHOPHILL, JUNR.. ST. MARY'S.

"+ Fac tibi Baptista, Fit ut acceptabilis ista"

In Lombardic characters. The stamp has the figure of St. John the Baptist upon it.

ALL SAINTS', NORTH STREET.—Sanctus bell.

"I H C"

There are other seven of these small bells, about twelve inches in diameter, but with no inscription. They are in the towers of St. Sampson; St. Martin-cum-Gregory; St. Saviour's; St. John; St. Margaret; St. Mary, Castlegate; and All Saints', Pavement.

G. B. (York.)

(To be continued.)

STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

THE first monthly district meeting of this newly-formed Association was held on Saturday, February 3rd, at Leek. Ringing commenced at 3.30, and was continued at intervals until 7.30. The members sat down at the well-appointed coffee-house to tea provided by the Leek Company, at 5; and the Rev. W. W. Bolton (Hon. Sec.), brought various business before the meeting, which was promptly responded to. Mr. Carding, Shoobridge Street, was elected to be local secretary for the Leek Centre, and the system of ringing to be followed at all Association meetings was discussed. "THE BELL NEWS" was brought before the members as the official paper, and one really interesting to all ringers. Returning to the tower, some courses of Bob Triples, and Bob Major were rung through, and all agreed that a very satisfactory meeting had been held. Ringers attended from Leek, Cheddleton, Biddulph, and Horton, whilst the Hon. Sec. and Mr. Page, leader of the Stoke company, attended as representing the Parent Society.

It should be remarked that as one of the objects of this Association is Belfry Reform, how pleasing it was to notice the care evidently taken of this (Leek) tower. Roomy and clean, it is just what is wanted for its purpose, and we trust that other towers may make an effort to resemble it. The next meeting will be for the Stoke District, at Stoke, on Saturday next, at 3.0. p.m.

THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

A DISTRICT MEETING of this Guild was held at Longbridge Deverill on Thursday, February 1st. The tower of the parish church now contains a ring of six bells, tenor 14 cwt., the treble having lately been added by Messrs. Warner and Sons. In the course of the evening several 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles were rung, in which the Revs. A. D. Hill, E. G. Wyld, C. W. Hony, and Messrs. J. R. Jerram, T. Blackburn, W. Alley, W. Gifford, J. Parsons, and F. White took part. The Longbridge ringers very hospitably entertained their brother-guildsmen at tea in the schoolroom, where, after a few kind words of welcome by the vicar, the Rev. J. D. Morrice, some touches of Grandsire Triples were rung by the following four members of the Guild upon handbells, retained in hand:—J. R. Jerram, 1-2; Rev. A. D. Hill, 3-4; W. Alley, 5-6; Rev. C. W. Hony, 7-8. A very pleasant evening was brought to a close with some more ringing in the tower, by the Longbridge, Warminster, and Kingston Deverill companies.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

The above Association held its first District Meeting for the season at Bungay, a small town on the borders of Suffolk. There are two churches, St. Mary and Holy Trinity, the latter has but one bell, and consequently was not much visited by the ringers; the other has a peal of eight fair bells in a beautiful tower, which stands at the S.W. corner of the church, and has lately been much strengthened, the lower portion of one of the interior angles having been entirely rebuilt. The church itself was at the same time restored, but the fine proportions of the nave are spoilt, owing to there being no chancel. Some most uncomfortable steps lead to the ringing-floor, but as they are only of wood they may easily and speedily, we hope, be rearranged. The ringing during the day consisted of touches of Plain Bob and Treble Bob Major, Grandsire and Stedman Triples, and some of the striking was very good, several of the best companies of the Association being well represented. Ringers came from Norwich, Aylsham, Redenhall, Kenninghall, Alburgh, Hingham, Hethersett, Pulham, S. Elmham, Beccles, Ditchingham, Woodton, Halesworth, Wenhaston, Yarmouth, etc. At 1.30 they assembled at "The Fleece," where mine host, Mr. Martin, is accustomed to provide for the wants of the ringers. His capabilities were pretty well tried on this occasion, there being 66 expecting to get a good dinner, but of that number nearly 20 dropped in unexpectedly, not having thought it worth while to say they were coming. Mr. Martin was equal to the occasion, a table was spread in an adjoining room, and ample provision was found for all. All's well that ends well, but it will not do to play this little game to often, as many places might be named where such an influx of unexpected hungry guests would certainly cause much discomfort. The chair was taken by the Vicar, the Rev. T. K. Weatherhead, the vice-chair being occupied by Gervas Holmes, Esq., and amongst those present were H. Bellman, Esq. (churchwarden), Captain Moore, the Revds. J. Greenall, H. J. Borrow, N. Bolingbroke, J. Scudamore, and G. H. Harris (Secretary). After dinner the usual loyal toasts were felicitously given by the chairman, and in proposing "Success to the Association," he welcomed the members to Bungay, and said he was always pleased to hear the music of the bells, for wherever he was they always reminded him of home; and he concluded by saying that he should be glad to become a member if those present should see fit to elect him. The Secretary, in responding, was glad to see so good a muster of members; and alluding to the arrival of so many unexpected guests, hoped that in the future when members had made up their minds to attend any meeting, they would be so good as to lay out one penny and notify their intentions to him. He also made some remarks on a point which he said had been touched upon in the columns of "THE BELL NEWS," viz., the irregularity of attendance in the tower. A company could put up with the sudden loss of several of its members when that loss was occasioned by the removal of those members to other parts of the country, but what was most disheartening, and brought about the ruin of companies, was the thoughtless selfish absence of first one man on one night, and another on another. He concluded with urging ringers to adopt the golden maxim, "Do to others as you would be done by." The election of members was then proceeded with. Three honorary members were elected—the chairman; the Rev. B. Dale (Lynn); and the Rev. H. J. Borrow (Earsham); two honorary and performing members—the Rev. J. Scudamore, (Ditchingham); and Mr. J. Fosdike, (Woodbridge); nineteen performing members: two from South Elmham, one from Reepham, two from Hingham, six from Pulham Market, four from Stonham Parva, two from Rendham, one from Norwich, one from Ditchingham, and one probationer from Hingham. The vice-chairman then proposed the health of one of the veteran ringers of the Association, Mr. Peter Page. He used, he said, in his younger days, to belong to the Bungay company, and though he had to walk five miles after his day's work, he was always in his place on the practice-nights, and too often before those who lived close by. In his own tower he had been the trainer of many a young company, and though he had from time to time lost them all, yet he had manfully stuck to his work; now there were eight of them able to ring anything that could be rung on their five bells, and moreover all now members of the Association. Mr. Peter Page smiled, and being a man of deeds rather than words, bowed his acknowledgements. Mr. Holmes then proposed the health of the visitors, to which the Rev. J. Greenall, Vicar of Holy Trinity, briefly responded. The Vicar having been obliged to retire for a time, Mr. Bellman kindly took his place, and on the proposition of Mr. Holmes, seconded by the Secretary, the thanks of the meeting was accorded to him for so doing. Mr. Bellman returned thanks, and said it had given him great pleasure to meet the members of the Association of ringers, as he was much interested in all matters connected with the Church. Soon after this the tables were deserted for a time, some of the members again betaking themselves to the tower, whilst others amused themselves with the handbells. Too soon the hour of departure arrived, and a most pleasant gathering came to an end. The next meeting will be held at Reepham, of which full notice will be given in the columns of this paper.

THE BATH AND KEYNSHAM UNITED DEANERIES ASSOCIATION.

A MEETING (the fourth) of this Association was (by the kind permission of the Rev. W. T. Wilson, Vicar) held at the church of St. Matthew, Widcombe Hill, Bath, on the evening of Monday, January 5th; number of members present—fifty-three. The bells were raised shortly after half-past six by the parish church ringers, and ringing was kept up at frequent intervals throughout the evening, till shortly after nine o'clock, during which time the members present were afforded an opportunity of having a pull at the ring of six bells which the tower of this church contains. The bells appeared to be in good ringing order, and credit is therefore due to the St. Matthew's ringers for keeping them in so satisfactory a state.

ST. MARY-LE-BOW, CHEAPSIDE, LONDON.

Muffled Peal.

ON Thursday evening, February 1st, twelve members of the Ancient Society of College Youths met at this church, and rang a funeral peal, with the bells half-muffled, being the usual whole pull and stand, as a last tribute of respect to the late ROBERT STAINBANK, Esq., of the firm of Mears and Stainbank, Bellfounders, Whitechapel, who died on Wednesday, the 24th day of January, in his sixty-ninth year.

Several ringers and friends stood in Cheapside listening with interest to the regular striking of the fine and heavy ring of twelve at the above church. The ringers were: H. W. Haley (conductor), 1; J. Pettit, 2; G. A. Muskett, 3; C. F. Winny, 4; J. R. Haworth, 5; G. Mash, 6; G. Dorrington, 7; M. A. Wood, 8; E. Horrex, 9; F. E. Dawe, 10; W. Jones, 11; W. Greenleaf, 12. Tenor 53 cwt. in C.

THE ROCHDALE AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

THIS Association held their Annual Meeting on Saturday, February 3rd, in the school-room of St. Chad's, Rochdale, at which there was a good muster of members from the following districts: Rochdale, Milnrow, New Hey, Todmorden, Leesfield, Oldham, Heywood, and Walsden. The Association is making rapid progress in adding to its members; also in ringing. The President (Mr. Hirst), took the chair at 4.30, for the usual transaction of business, at which upwards of 20 new members were made, the Society now numbering over 100 members. After the meeting the members sat down to a substantial tea in the same school, then afterwards ascended the tower and rang several touches of Grandsire Triples, which was kept up till late.

The Association held their first annual concert at St. Mary's, Balderstone, the week previous to the above meeting, the Rev. Ifan, Ll. Harry (curate in charge), taking the chair. The Association, which is possessed of three companies of handbell ringers, viz., Rochdale, Todmorden, and Milnrow, all took part in the entertainment, which was much appreciated.

The next meeting will be held at St. Luke's, Heywood, on Saturday, March 17th, 1883. JAMES ADSHEAD, Secretary.

THE NEW PRIMATE.—On Monday, after morning service, the Dean and Chapter of Canterbury Cathedral met for the purpose of electing the Right Rev. Dr. Benson to the see of Canterbury, and the primacy of all England. The meeting was summoned according to ancient custom, by the tolling of "Harry," the old curfew bell, and the members of the Chapter who assembled in the Treasury were: The Very Rev. the Dean (Dr. Payne Smith), the Very Rev. the Bishop of Dover (Archdeacon of Canterbury), the Ven. Archdeacon of Maidstone (Dr. Benjamin Harrison), Canons Holland and Fremantle, and the Chapter officials. Arrayed in their vestments they marched in procession, preceded by a vesturer carrying the silver mace, to the Chapter-house. Immediately on assembling there it was agreed to adjourn to the Cathedral library, where the business was conducted with closed doors, strictly in secret, privacy being duly enforced by an official guarding the entrance. The Dean then announced the purpose for which the chapter had been called, read the *congé d'elire*, and the letter recommendatory from her Majesty requiring the chapter to elect the Right Rev. Dr. Edward White Benson as Archbishop of Canterbury. The vote of the Chapter was then taken in authorised form, each member voting separately. At the conclusion of the afternoon service, the Dean made the official announcement of the election, after which the Te Deum was sung. A peal on the bells was rung in the evening.

WESTMINSTER ABBEY.—Great consternation has been caused among the enemies of "restorations" by the announcement that the exterior stonework of Westminster Abbey is now so completely and even dangerously disintegrated that no other choice remains to the Dean and Chapter but to reface the entire fabric with some more durable stone. If such an opinion is worth anything, the hopes that have been indulged in relative to the erection of a peal of bells worthy of the grand old edifice, will be entirely dissipated.

"THE BELL NEWS AND RINGERS' RECORD" will be forwarded post free, on the following terms:—

One copy, 12 months 6s. 6d.
 " 6 " 3s. 3d.
 " 3 " 1s. 8d.

All Subscriptions and Orders for papers must be sent direct to the Publisher, W. E. ALLEN, Ave Maria Lane, London.

All communications respecting advertisements must be addressed to the office of "THE BELL NEWS," Walthamstow, London."

Everything for insertion in this Journal to be addressed, "The Editor of THE BELL NEWS, Walthamstow, London." Letters forwarded for publication must reach us not later than Wednesday morning; the insertion of Performances coming later than the first Postal delivery on Thursday morning, cannot be guaranteed in that week's number.

Contributions are invited from any of our friends. We shall always be glad to give any information asked for, relative to the subjects this paper deals with.

The Editor would be glad to receive the names of gentlemen who would be willing to act for their respective districts, in the capacity of reporter or correspondent. We shall feel obliged by Association and other Secretaries sending intelligence of events occurring within their jurisdiction.

W. NEWELL.—We have always, from the birth of this paper, greatly appreciated your efforts, in more directions than one, to promote its usefulness. But you will excuse us saying, that the time has hardly arrived when we can venture to incur the cost which would be inseparable from such a permanent enlargement as you propose. It is hoped, however, that the time for such enlargement, with the additional features you allude to, is not far distant.

J. WRIGHT.—Your composition, with many others, will appear in turn. You will doubtless see that this paper is invariably very closely packed with intelligence which would be of no value if delayed even for one week.

P. HAMBLETT.—We will communicate with you direct.
 J. W. WASHBROOK.—Send us the six-ends of the coming-round courses of each touch, with a stamped addressed envelope.

TAIL-END.—We think very little of such "inventions," very little indeed; and are inclined to consider their pursuit a very unprofitable occupation.

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 1883.

The Metropolis.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.
 CAMBERWELL, SURREY.

On Saturday, February 3, 1883, in Three Hours and Forty-seven $\frac{1}{2}$ Minutes,
 AT ST. GILES'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5555 CHANGES;
 Tenor 25 cwt. in D.

JAMES PETTIT Treble.	MATTHEW A. WOOD 6.
WILLIAM GREENLEAF 2.	WALTER JONES 7.
WILLIAM CECIL 3.	WILLIAM D. SMITH 8.
GEORGE MASH 4.	FRANCIS E. DAWE 9.
GEORGE A. MUSKETT 5.	WALTER PRIME Tenor.

The above peal, which has never been previously performed, was composed by HENRY JOHNSON, SEN., of Birmingham, and conducted by FRANCIS EDWARD DAWE.

Messrs. Smith and Prime's first peal of Stedman Caters, and also the first peal the conductor has called in this method.

[Mr. Roberts, the steeple-keeper, deserves great credit for the manner in which the bells can be turned about, and also for the perfect state of the belfry in general.]

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.
 FULHAM, MIDDLESEX.

On Saturday, February 3, 1883, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,
 AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR,
 5040 CHANGES. Tenor 21 cwt.

HENRY J. TUCKER* Treble.	CHALLIS F. WINNY 5.
FREDERICK T. GOVER 2.	EDWIN GIBBS 6.
JOHN W. ROWBOTHAM 3.	EDWIN HORREX 7.
RICHARD FRENCH 4.	JOHN M. HAYES Tenor.

Composed by the late HENRY HUBBARD, and conducted by JOHN MURRAY HAYES.

[* First peal in the method.]

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.
Muffled Peal.

On Saturday, February 3, 1883, in Four Hours and Seven Minutes,
 AT ST. BRIDE'S CHURCH, FLEET STREET,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5019 CHANGES;
 Tenor 28 cwt.

JOHN NELMS Treble.	*HARRY RANDALL 7.
CHARLES HOPKINS 2.	*EDWARD MOSES 8.
JOHN ROGERS 3.	*WILLIAM DORAN 9.
GEORGE NEWSON 4.	DAVID STACKWOOD 10.
HENRY HOPKINS 5.	SAMUEL JARMAN 11.
HENRY DAINS 6.	WILLIAM HOVERD Tenor.

Composed and conducted by JOHN NELMS.

[* First peal of Cinques.]

This peal was rung with the bells half-muffled, as a last mark of esteem and respect to the late Rector of St. Bride's, and was rung on the day of his interment. It is thought to be the first peal of Stedman Cinques ever rung with the bells muffled.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—WALTHAMSTOW, ESSEX.

On Saturday, February 3, 1883, in Two Hours and Forty-seven Minutes,
 AT ST. MARY'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
 PENNING'S ORIGINAL ONE-PART PEAL. Tenor 19 $\frac{1}{2}$ cwt.

HENRY NUNN* Treble.	ARTHUR H. GARDOM, ESQ. 5.
WILLIAM MANNING 2.	THOMAS MAYNARD 6.
FREDERICK BINES 3.	HUGH SCARLETT 7.
MATTHEW ELLSMORE 4.	WILLIAM CROCKFORD Tenor.

Conducted by ARTHUR H. GARDOM.

[* First peal.]

The Provinces.

BRIGHTON, SUSSEX.—THE BRIGHTON SOCIETIES.

On Monday, January 29, 1883, in Two Hours and Fifty-three Minutes,
 AT ST. NICHOLAS' CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
 HOLT'S 10-PART. Tenor 18 $\frac{1}{2}$ cwt. in F#.

J. JAY, JUN. Treble.	C. TYLER 5.
E. HILDER 2.	G. F. ATTREE 6.
H. BOAST 3.	J. JAY, SEN. 7.
J. SEARLE 4.	*W. ROBINSON Tenor.

Conducted by J. JAY, SEN.

[* First peal.]

The above is the only peal on these bells since 1833.

GLOSSOP, DERBYSHIRE.

On Saturday, February 3, 1883, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,
 AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
 IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 15 cwt. in E.

WILLIAM SMITH Treble.	JOSEPH MELLOR 5.
THOMAS JAMES 2.	JOSEPH ROBINSON 6.
SAMUEL HARROP 3.	GEORGE LONGDEN 7.
JAMES ADAMS 4.	JOHN THORP Tenor.

Composed by JOHN THORP, and conducted by GEORGE LONGDEN.

Messrs. James, Harrop, and Robinson hail from Glossop; the rest of the company from Ashton-under-Lyne.

DRIGHLINGTON.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 3, 1883, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,
 AT ST. PAUL'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
 IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 15 $\frac{1}{2}$ cwt.

HERBERT ROBINSON Treble.	WILLIAM WILKS 5.
HENRY ODDY 2.	JOHN THORNTON 6.
RICHARD THORNTON 3.	GEORGE BOLLAND 7.
WILLIAM BOLLAND 4.	HENRY SMITH Tenor.

Composed by the Rev. H. EARLE BULWER, and conducted by HENRY SMITH.

BLETCHINGLEY, SURREY.

On Tuesday, February 6, 1883, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

TAYLOR'S BOB-AND-SINGLE VARIATION. Tenor 19 cwt.

JOHN BASHFORD	Treble.	JOHN BURKIN	5.
THOMAS BONIFACE	2.	WILLIAM BURKIN	6.
LUKE KILLICK*	3.	WILLIAM WEBB	7.
WALTER HAWKINS*	4.	JOHN BALCOMB	Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM BURKIN.

[* First peal.]

Date Touches.

THE BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday evening, February 4th, at Bishop Ryder's Church, Birmingham, after evening service, eight members of the above Association rang a date touch, 1883 changes, of Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. 6 mins., containing the Queens, Titums, Whittingtons, and all the 6-7's. J. W. Cattle (conductor), 1; T. Miller, 2; T. Russam, 3; W. Bryant, 4; W. H. Fussell, 5; R. Hackley, 6; B. Stevens, 7; T. Chaytor, 8. Composed by J. Carter. The above was rung on the occasion of the visit of Mr. W. H. Fussell, who hails from Bridgenorth.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—On Sunday evening, February 4th, for Divine Service at St. Stephen's, on the occasion of a sermon by the Lord Bishop of Newcastle, a date touch of Grandsire Triples, 1883 changes in 1 hr. 15 mins. G. Allen, 1; R. Richardson, 2; E. Scott, 3; E. W. Pyle, 4; F. Ord, 5; E. Wallis (conductor), 6; J. Power, 7; G. W. Stobart, 8. Tenor 30 cwt.

EASTBOURNE (Sussex).—On Wednesday, January 31st, the Eastbourne society met at St. Mary's church and rang a date touch of Grandsire Triples, 1883 changes, in 1 hr. 13 mins. S. Hart, 1; H. Bennet (conductor), 2; S. Sinden, 3; L. Huggett, 4; T. Hart, 5; J. Potter, 6; S. Deadman, 7; J. Rollison, 8. Composed by A. Dumsday, of Cuckfield.

HAYFIELD (Derbyshire).—On Thursday, February 1st, the ringers in connexion with St. Matthew's Church, rang a date touch of 1883 changes, comprising 720 of Violet Treble Bob; 720 of Oxford Treble Bob; 360 of New London Pleasure; and the remainder of Kent Treble Bob. William Booth, 1; Joseph Brocklehurst, 2; Thomas Whitehead (conductor), 3; Joshua Wheatcroft, 4; Abel Hadfield, 5; Thomas Brocklehurst, 6. Tenor 9 cwt.

UPPER ARMLEY (Yorkshire).—On Tuesday, February 6th, being the eleventh Anniversary of the opening of the bells of Christ Church, a date touch of 1883 changes was rung in the following methods: 600 of Woodbine; 600 of Violet; 600 of Oxford; and 83 Kent. I. Myers, 1; A. Windsor, 2; J. Cooper, 3; J. Thackray, 4; M. Broadbent, 5; J. Guy, 6. Tenor 16 cwt. Composed and conducted by J. Thackray, and brought round in 1 hr. and 13 mins.

Miscellaneous.

THE BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

KING'S NORTON (Worcestershire).—On Christmas-Day, 1882, six members of the above rang on the bells of the parish church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 26 mins. Frank Palmer, 1; W. H. Sumner, 2; F. Townsend (first 720 with a bob bell), 3; F. Scrivens, 4; W. Palmer, 5; J. Cooks, 6. Also on Wednesday, January 31st, 1883, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 25 mins. F. Townsend, 1; W. H. Sumner, 2; F. Palmer, 3; W. Palmer, 4; J. Cooks, 5; J. Wright (conductor), 6. Also on Tuesday, February 6th, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with thirty-eight bobs and twenty-two singles, with the tenors parted throughout, composed by W. Palmer, now rang for the first time. Frank Palmer, 1; J. Wright, 2; Fred Palmer, 3; F. Scrivens, 4; J. Cooks, 5; W. Palmer (conductor), 6. Time 25 mins. Tenor 18 cwt.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

DARLINGTON.—On Tuesday evening, February 6th, six members of the above association rang a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in 26 mins. J. W. Blakiston, 1; W. Patton, 2; G. A. Overton, 3; J. H. Whitfield, 4; J. H. Blakiston, 5; R. Moncaster (conductor), 6. Tenor 10 cwt.

THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

QUEDGELEY (Gloucestershire).—On Wednesday, January 31st, a 720 of Grandsire Minor was rung by the local society, in 24 mins. A. Harris, 1; W. Brown, 2; T. Mansfield, 3; C. Lyes, 4; W. Bick (his first 720), 5; T. Brown (conductor), 6. Tenor about 11 cwt.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

ROCHESTER (Kent).—On Tuesday, January 30th, at St. Margaret's, a 720 of Grandsire Miur, in 24 mins. O. Sullivan, 1; J. Kidd, 2; H. Greaves, 3; T. Tulett, 4; W. Baker, 5; E. Andrew (conductor), 6. Also on February 3rd, at the same church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 25 mins. O. Sullivan, 1; J. Kidd, 2; E. Andrew, 3; H. Greaves, 4; W. Baker, 5; T. Tulett (conductor), 6. Tenor 18 cwt. First 720 of T. Tulett as conductor.

HYTHE (Kent).—On Monday, February 5th, eight members of the above association visited Hythe, and rang a touch of 475, and a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. Fredk. Rolfe, 1; Fredk. Finn, 2; Jas. Fisher, 3; Edwd. Potter, 4; Henry Croucher, 5; Saml. Barker (conductor), 6; Fredk. Slingsby, 7; Wm. Booth, 8 (in short touch); Wm. Marsh, 8, in the quarter-peal. (Rolfe hails from Chertown; Potter from Dover; and the rest from Folkstone.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

FARNWORTH.—On Sunday, February 4th, six members of the above association rang for Divine Service at St. Luke's, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 26 mins. J. Whitfield, 1; J. Large (conductor), 2; P. Case, 3; J. Latchford, 4; J. T. Lowe, 5; Geo. W. Hughes, 6.

ECCLES.—On Monday, January 6th, the ringers connected with the parish church, rang a 720 of Bob Minor, in 26 mins. William Walton (conductor), 1; Edward Cash, 2; James Barratt, 3; Richard Ashcroft, 4; George Henry Johnson, 5; Thomas Yeates, 6. Tenor 13 cwt. 3 qrs.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

IPSWICH.—On Monday, February 5th, the following members met at the church of St. Mary-le-Tower, and attempted Mr. Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, to celebrate the 70th anniversary of Mr. William Meadows' birthday, but unfortunately after ringing 2½ hours, it was brought to grief in consequence of a change-course having occurred. Jno. Fosdike (Woodbridge, conductor), 1; Wm. Meadows, 2; Walter Meadows (Woodbridge), 3; W. L. Catchpole, 4; I. S. Alexander, 5; R. H. Brundle, 6; E. Pemberton, 7; S. Pollard, 8. Tenor 32 cwt. It is worthy of note that the persons' ages who rung 1, 2, 3, as above, amount to 211 years:—J. Fosdike being 67; William Meadows, 70; and Walter Meadows, 74.

PULHAM MARKET (Norfolk).—On Tuesday, January 30th, at the church of St. Mary Magdalene, six members of the above Association rang a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor in 30 mins. Thomas Farrow (conductor), 1; Charles Brown, 2; William Culham, 3; William Roope, 4; Charles Tann, 5; Abel Hart, 6. Also the same evening, a 720 in the same method in 27 mins. Thomas Farrow (conductor), 1; William Roope, 2; Charles Tann, 3; Fred Surridge, 4; John Allen, 5; Abel Hart, 6. Tenor 18 cwt., in F. First 720 in the method by Charles Brown and Fred Surridge.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

FARNHAM ROYAL (Bucks).—On Saturday, February 3rd, a 720 of Grandsire Minor in 26 mins. C. Chapman, 1; A. Fussell, 2; G. Basden, 3; A. Batten, 4; J. Parker, (conductor), 5; C. Clark, 6.

OXFORD.—On Saturday, February 3rd, at Merton College, a quarter peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes. W. Finch, 1; T. Hill, 2; J. F. Hastings, Esq., 3; C. Hounslow, 4; C. Boots, 5; S. Hounslow, 6; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 7; G. F. Coleridge, Esq., and T. Payne, 8. Tenor 36 cwt.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

BEDDINGTON.—On Sunday, February 4th, for Divine Service in the afternoon at St. Mary's church, six of the above company rang on the back six, a 720 of Bob Minor with 26 singles in 28 mins. Charles Martin, 1; John Plowman, 2; James Harris, 3; Charles Gordon, 4; Joseph Zealey, 5; James Trappitt (conductor), 6. Tenor 21 cwt. in Eb.

BARNWOOD (Gloucestershire).—On Tuesday, January 23rd, six members of the St. Lawrence company, rang for practice a 720 of Canterbury Pleasure Minor, in 27½ mins., having eighteen bobs and two singles. J. Jordan, 1; J. Yeates, 2; G. Miles, 3; A. Smart, 4; H. Mitchell, 5; A. Waite (composer and conductor), 6. This is the second 720 rung on these bells in the above method. Tenor 14 cwt. in G.

BENHILTON (Surrey).—On Tuesday evening, February 6th, at All Saints, three members of the above society, assisted by three members of the Epsom society rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with thirty-eight bobs and twenty-two singles, in 28 mins. John Trendell (conductor), 1; John Francis (first 720), 2; George Petrie, 3; James Easton, 4; Robert Harden, 5; Thomas Miles, 6. Tenor 19½ cwt. in E.

EAST PECKHAM (Kent).—On Thursday, February 1st, at St. Michael's church, five members of the local company, with the assistance of F. G. Newman, rang a 720 of Bob Minor, in 37 mins. J. Rogers (conductor), 1; G. Bishop, 2; W. Aldridge, 3; R. Bishop, 4; C. Newman, 5; F. G. Newman, 6. Tenor 16½ cwt. The above is the first on the bells for several years; as the company have practised nothing but call-changes.

GARSTON.—On Saturday, February 3rd, a mixed band met at St. Michael's church, and rang 2000 of Grandsire Major; 500 of Plain Major; and a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 26½ mins. R. Mann, 1; T. Beacall, 2; J. Pritchard, 3; W. James, 4; J. Aspinwall (conductor), 5; Geo. W. Hughes, 6. Tenor 12½ cwt.

HAVERSTOCK HILL (Middlesex).—On Sunday Morning, February 4th, for Divine Service, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, twenty bobs and ten singles, in 22 mins. T. Titchener, 1; J. Hannington (conductor), 2; J. Nixon, 3; J. Leach, 4; J. Barrett, 5; T. Monks, 6. For evening service a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, fifteen bobs, in 25 mins. J. Nixon, 1; J. Leach, 2; T. Titchener, 3; J. Hannington (conductor), 4; A. Jacob, 5; J. Barrett, 6. After service, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, 30 singles, in 26 mins. T. Titchener, 1; G. Griffin, 2; B. Foskett, 3; J. Nixon, 4; J. Hannington (conductor), 5; A. Jacob, 6. Tenor 12½ cwt.

HIGHER SUTTON (Cheshire).—On Monday, February 5th, six members of St. James' Church local society rung a date touch of Grandsire Minor, 1883 changes, in 1 hr. and eight mins., being two 720's, the first obtained in six parts, with thirty-eight bobs and twenty-two singles; the second with thirty-four bobs and twenty-six singles; and 443, with twenty-seven bobs and three singles, and round at hand. William H. Ingham (conductor), 1; Edward Matthews, 2; James Holt, 3; John M. Devenport, 4; William H. Hardman, 5; Thomas Mottershead, 6. Tenor 12 cwt. in G.

LANCASTER.—On Saturday, February 3rd, a peal of Grandsire Triples, Holt's 10-part, was attempted on the bells of St. Peter's, when after ringing 1 hr. 55 mins., it was lost through some one ignorant of the peal in progress, pulling the rope attached to a chimer for the tenor from the church below; 3390 changes had been rung when the peal was lost. George Winn (conductor), 1; W. Wearing, 2; W. Crook, 3; J. Hartley, 4; R. Johnson, 5; J. Lennon, 6; P. Mulligan, 7; D. Magowen, 8. The longest touch rung by this company except the treble and tenor men.

LEWISHAM (Kent).—On Tuesday, February 6th, for practice at St. Mary's, touches of Grandsire Triples were rung, conducted by G. Freeman, also a touch of Grandsire Major (about 500). John Crowder, 1; Henry Hervey, 2; William Pead, 3; William Weatherstone (conductor), 4; Thomas G. Deal, 5; Thomas Taylor, 6; Henry Freeman, 7; William Bowles (first touch in this method), 8. Also a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor (on the front six, covered by 7th and tenor) in 28 mins. Joseph Barey (Islington; first 720 of Treble Bob), 1; Henry Hervey, 2; Charles Harvey, 3; Thomas G. Deal, 4; Thomas Taylor, 5; William Weatherstone (conductor), 6; Henry Freeman, 7; William Bowles, 8; after which practice some Bob Major was rung. Tenor 22½ cwt. in Eb.

LIVERPOOL.—Handbell Ringing.—On Sunday, January 28th, the following rang a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, with the bells retained in hand, in 40 mins. S. Beacall (composer), 1-2; J. Aspinwall (conductor), 3-4; J. R. Pritchard, 5-6; J. Davidson, 7-8. The bob leads, 4 2 5 5 1 5 2 5, and one plain lead will give 3 5 7 2 4 6, twice repeated.

LONDON.—Muffled Peal.—On Tuesday evening, February 23rd, eight members of the St. George-in-the-East society rang at St. Stephen's, Coleman Street, City, a deeply-muffled peal, as a mark of respect to the memory of the late Rev. Josiah Pratt, Rector of St. Stephen's, who departed this life on Sunday, January 28th, in the 82nd year of his age, beloved and mourned by all who knew him. W. C. Barsham, 1; J. Charters, 2; W. Latchford, 3; W. Moles, 4; R. Cook, 5; J. Sinclair, 6; J. Scholes, 7; R. Lewis, 8. The time occupied was 1 hr. 45 mins.; conducted by W. Moles.

LYTHAM (Lancashire).—On Sunday, January 4th, before Divine Service at St. John's, the following rang 720 of Plain Bob Minor, with sixteen bobs and two singles, in 25 mins. W. Bamber, 1; R. H. Rainford, 2; J. Fell, 3; C. Kerr (conductor), 4; J. Pemberton, 5; R. Whiteside, 6. Tenor 10½ cwt.

PRESTBURY (Gloucestershire).—On Friday, February 2nd, six members of the Cheltenham and Prestbury societies rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor, on the bells of the parish church, in 28 mins. *T.

Steele, 1; H. Karn, 2; G. Phillott, Esq., 3; F. Musty, 4; *T. Davis, 5; W. T. Pates (conductor), 6. *First 720 in any method. The same party afterwards rang some Stedman and Grandsire 6-scores, conducted by F. Musty, being his first essay in bob-calling. Tenor 14 cwt.

MAIDENHEAD (Berks).—On Sunday, February 4th, for afternoon service at All Saints, Boyne Hill, a 720 of Grandsire Minor in 25½ mins. J. Eldridge, 1; G. Wilkins, 2; W. A. Garraway (conductor), 3; R. Smith, 4; E. Rogers, 5; J. W. Wilkins, 6. Tenor 17½ cwt.

SANDIACRE (near Long Eaton, Derbyshire).—On Sunday afternoon, February 4th, several members of the Long Eaton society, visited this place, and by the kind permission of the Vicar rang a 720 of Double Court Bob Minor, with eighteen bobs and two singles, in 27 mins., being the first 720 in that method ever rung on the bells. John Copeland, 1; George Bradley, 2; John Ward, 3; Samuel Clarke, 4; Arthur Widdowson, 5; Joseph Barrow (conductor), 6. Also two courses of Oxford, and two courses of Kent Treble Bob—480 changes, were rung by the following: Richard Hickton, 1; Samuel Clarke, 2; John Ward, 3; William Gilson, 4; Arthur Widdowson, 5; Joseph Barrow (conductor), 6. Tenor 16 cwt. in F.

SHEFFIELD.—On Sunday afternoon, January 4th, eight members of the All Saints society rang for Divine Service at that church a quarter peal of Grandsire Triples, in 45 mins., composed by E. Barnett of Ross, Herefordshire, and taken from our issue of November 25th, 1882. F. Willey, 1; J. Rowley, 2; E. F. Rippon, 3; J. Taylor, 4; W. Gardiner (conductor), 5; H. Thompson, 6; S. Seed, 7; *J. Rew, 8. Tenor 14½ cwt. in F. *First attempt in a touch of any length.

STONEY STANTON (Leicestershire).—On Tuesday evening, February 6th, five members of the Stoney Stanton Society (assisted by J. H. Swinfield, of Earl Shilton), rang a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, with eighteen bobs and two singles, in 25 mins. E. Brown, 1; J. H. Swinfield, 2; J. Brown, 3; J. Noble, 4; R. Bishop, 5; H. Briggs (conductor), 6. Tenor 8 cwt. in G#.

TUDDENHAM (Suffolk).—On Sunday, February, 4th, four members of the local society, assisted by Harry Damant, of Woolverstone, rang before Divine Service in the afternoon, ten 6-scores of Doubles in the following methods; three of Grandsire; four of Plain Doubles; two of Old Doubles; and one of Nightingale; in 42 mins. William Damant, 1; William Wood (conductor), 2; Harry Damant, 3; William Leggett, 4; Benjamin Smye, 5. Tenor about 6½ cwt.

WARNHAM (Sussex).—On Sunday evening, February 4th, after evening service, the local company rang upon the bells of the parish church, a 720 of Canterbury Pleasure. William Wood, 1; William Short, 2; Henry Chantler, 3; Henry Wood, 4; Thomas Andrews, 5; Felix Knight, 6. Also a 720 of Court Bob: William Wood, 1; William Short, 2; Henry Chantler, 3; Henry Wood, 4; Felix Knight, 5; Henry Burstow, 6. The Canterbury Pleasure was called with eighteen bobs and two singles; the Court Bob with thirty singles. Time 25 mins. each; both conducted by H. Burstow. Also on Tuesday, February 6th, four 720's of Minor; the first was Oxford Bob, eighteen singles and three bobs: William Wood, 1; William Short, 2; Joseph Dale, 3; Henry Wood, 4; Thomas Andrews, 5; Henry Chantler, 6. The second was Oxford Bob, with twenty-two osingles: Harry Cook, 1; William Short, 2; Thomas Andrews, 3; Henry Wood, 4; William Wood, 5; Henry Chantler, 6. The third was Plain Bob, with eighteen bobs and two singles: Joseph Dale, 1; William Short, 2; Henry Wood, 3; Thomas Andrews, 4; William Wood, 5; Henry Chantler, 6. The fourth was Oxford Bob, with twenty-six singles: Harry Cook, 1; William Short, 2; Thomas Andrews, 3; William Wood, 4; Henry Wood, 5; Henry Chantler, 6. These 720's were conducted by Henry Chantler, and rung in honour of Mr. Agate's wedding.

WEST MALLING (Kent).—On Sunday, February 4th, for evening service, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 25 mins. E. Bonner, 1; D. Hall, 2; A. Moorcraft, 3; R. Simmonds, 4; J. W. Leonard, 5; C. Payne (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Bob Minor, with forty-two singles, in 25 mins. G. Moorcraft, 1; C. Payne, 2; E. Baldock, 3; E. Bonner, 4; J. W. Leonard, 5; F. G. Newman (conductor), 6. Also after service two 720's of Grandsire Minor. Tenor 12 cwt.

WORDSLEY (Staffordshire).—On Sunday, February 4th, the local company rang before service 960 changes of Grandsire Doubles in various ways of calling, being the greatest length by this company, in 38 mins. Thomas Darby, 1; W. H. Hughes, 2; E. G. Husselbee, 3; E. T. Chapman, 4; William Lawrence, 5; Joseph Husselbee, 6; Conductors—W. Hughes and W. Lawrence.

INFORMATION WANTED.—The undermentioned will be glad of any information respecting the history of the bells at Dean Prior, Devon, of which place Herrick was once the vicar.—J. SCOTT, Stretford Road, Manchester.

DURHAM & NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

THE usual QUARTERLY MEETING of this Association took place on Monday last, at Stockton-on-Tees, when the bells of St. Thomas's church, in that town, and those of the parish church in the adjacent town of Middlesbrough, were at the liberty of the ringers. Beneath will be found particulars of the performances of the day, and it is much to be regretted that no good touches of Triples or Major were accomplished. Dinner was held at 3 p.m., when between thirty and forty members sat down, the Rev. Canon Falconar taking the chair. After dinner, votes of thanks were passed to the chairman for his kindness in presiding, and to the Hon. Sec. for his exertions on behalf of the Association. A band composed of members from St. John's, Newcastle, and North Shields, made a call at Sunderland on their homeward journey, and rung at St. Michael's, Bishop Wearmouth.

ST. THOMAS'S CHURCH (Stockton-on-Tees).—A 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in 27 mins. T. Clark, 1; C. L. Routledge, 2; W. Reed, Esq. (conductor), 3; W. Story, 4; R. Smith, 5; R. W. Wignell, 6. Also a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, W. Newton, 1; W. J. Blakiston, 2; J. W. Shipp, 3; W. Eggleston, 4; T. Burdon (conductor), 5; D. Shipp, 6. And a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor. W. Pick, 1; J. H. Blakiston, 2; C. L. Routledge, 3; W. Stephenson, 4; T. Stevenson (conductor), 5; T. Clark, 6. Tenor 12 cwt.

ST. MICHAEL'S (Bishop Wearmouth).—A 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor. R. Smith, 1; C. L. Routledge, 2; W. Reed, Esq., 3; W. Story, 4; R. W. Wignell, 5; F. Lees (conductor), 6. Tenor 12 cwt.

During the day 720's of Grandsire Doubles, and a 120 of Stedman Doubles, and a touch of College Single, were rung at St. Thomas's, Stockton, and touches of Kent Treble Bob Major, and Grandsire Triples, at Middlesbrough parish church.

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

This peal has the 4th and 6th the extent in 5-6.

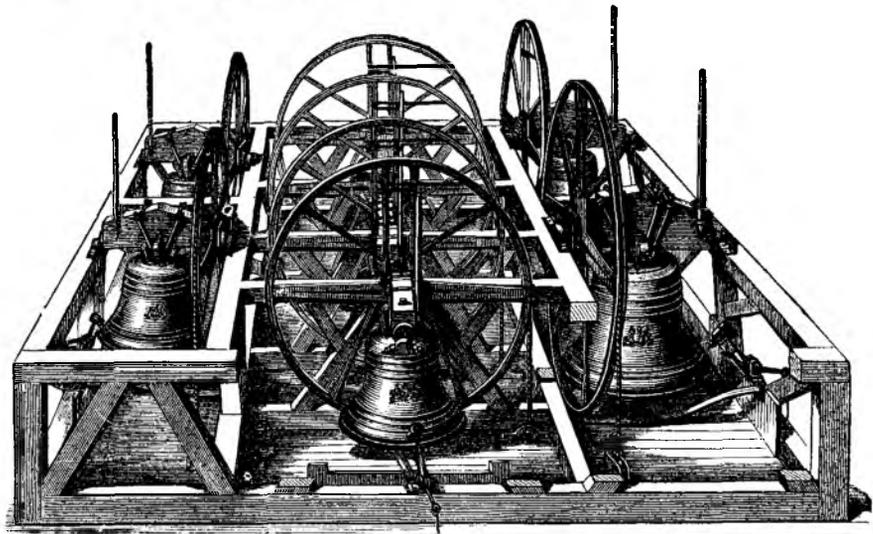
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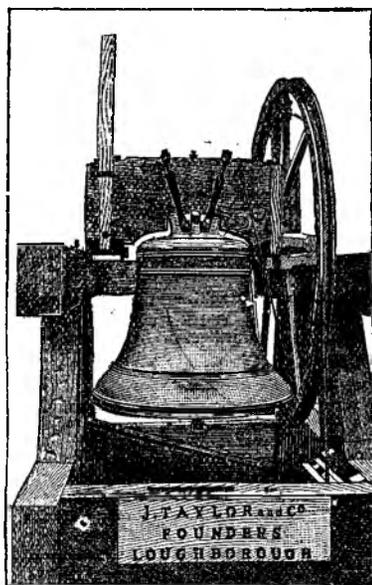
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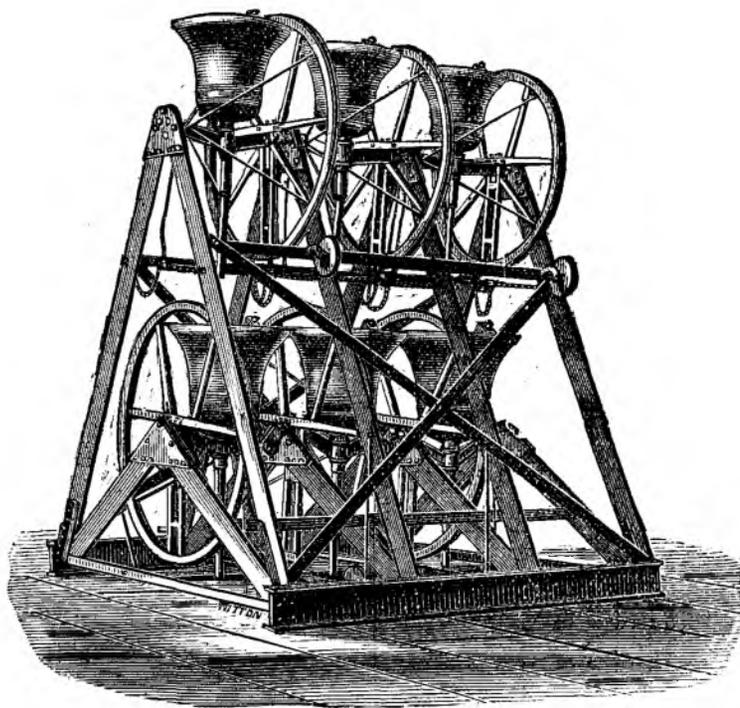
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SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 1883.

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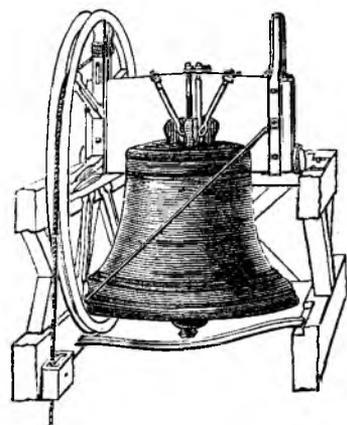
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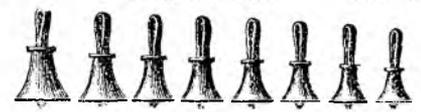
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J. W. SNOWDON, Old Bank Chambers, Leeds.

BORDEN BELLS.

At the beginning of this century, and until recent years, the above heading was quite a phrase in talking of bell matters: an enquiry into the circumstances of the decadence of the art in this Kentish village may not, therefore, be without interest. The church-tower is a plain square, without buttress or battlement, Norman throughout, an inserted poor rectilinear west window, and also inserted bell-chamber openings of the same date, a magnificent Norman arch opening into the church, also a west door of like character. The bells, eight in number, were cast at the beginning of this century by Mears, and leave nothing to be desired in point of tone—which is saying a great deal.

Not many years ago, a desire to throw open the grand arch to the church, with handsome iron circle for guiding the sallies; removing a most uninteresting font, which succeeded a very fine one of the last century, with appropriate cover and wheel, given by a citizen of London—all thrown to the winds at the mis-restoration. The other remedy would be to lower the present ringing-floor to quite the level of the top of the Norman arch, take out the poor perpendicular window (as it would be cut across) with its still worse foreign painted glass, quite out of keeping with an English interior, making a fresh design in accordance with the Norman surroundings, a thing quite legitimate, as not effacing any history or other sentiment. By this least means, some few more feet would be gained, and a proper floor to deaden would be possible; the sallies no longer as now, entering the shroudings. The frame also needs much alteration, it is bolted very clumsily to great transverse beams, with a raking-shore down into a window-cill, the effect of which has been to rend the tower on the north side, and renders a total collapse on the ringers' heads not improbable at any moment!

The proper thing to do is to bring the ropes down to the area in the church, with handsome iron circle for guiding the sallies; removing a most uninteresting font, which succeeded a very fine one of the last century, with appropriate cover and wheel, given by a citizen of London—all thrown to the winds at the mis-restoration. The other remedy would be to lower the present ringing-floor to quite the level of the top of the Norman arch, take out the poor perpendicular window (as it would be cut across) with its still worse foreign painted glass, quite out of keeping with an English interior, making a fresh design in accordance with the Norman surroundings, a thing quite legitimate, as not effacing any history or other sentiment. By this least means, some few more feet would be gained, and a proper floor to deaden would be possible; the sallies no longer as now, entering the shroudings. The frame also needs much alteration, it is bolted very clumsily to great transverse beams, with a raking-shore down into a window-cill, the effect of which has been to rend the tower on the north side, and renders a total collapse on the ringers' heads not improbable at any moment!

At the present time there are very many ready and willing to practise the art properly in the village, and a thorough repair, by competent hands, imperative, with the addition of the dumb-practice apparatus, as one or two residents are very near, and the tower is unusually low. These remarks, it is hoped, may be of good effect on the authorities, most of whom are greatly interested in their parish church, which is otherwise beautifully ordered.

There would be found the proper holes in the wall for the present floor, a few feet lower, as an old circular-headed opening is still to be seen, just at the present level which formerly looked into the church, as at Sittingbourne, and which is so useful to the ringers on Sundays.

THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

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

LEESFIELD, LANCASHIRE.—DEATH OF A VETERAN.

On Thursday evening, February 8th, seven members of the Leesfield society, assisted by Mr. Fred. Crosland, of St. Mary's, Oldham, rang 1512 changes of Grandsire Triples, in 53 mins., with the bells deeply muffled, as a tribute of respect to the late Mr. James Mills, of Oldham, who departed this life, February 3rd, 1883, in the eighty-sixth year of his age.

The deceased gentleman—with reference to whom a local paper devotes nearly an entire column—had been a ringer for over seventy years. He accompanied his father to the old church of St. Paul, Oldham, when he was eight years old, and assisted in ringing a peal when the news reached Oldham of Lord Nelson's glorious victory in Trafalgar Bay, in the year 1805.

On the following Saturday, the same company also rang the first half of Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, 2520 changes, in 1 hr. 25 mins. James W. Holmes, 1; Fred. Crosland, 2; Edwin Shaw, 3; Samuel Stott (conductor), 4; James Bailey, 5; William Holden, 6; John Hilton, 7; Thomas B. Shaw, 1. Tenor 14 cwt. This is the greatest length that has been rung by the Leesfield company for the last ten years. They are quite a young society (and have only been under tuition (that of Messrs. Stott and Crosland) for about four months, and we compliment them on their progress.

News from Abroad.

OUR readers are no doubt often interested in items of news appearing in the newspapers under such headings as "Foreign Intelligence," "Foreign and Colonial," and so forth, and while such titles seem to have become, as it were, common property, we shall not, perhaps, be held to be guilty of plagiarism in adopting the line placed at the head of these observations. For unlike many of the indexes to which we refer, ours points to actual communications received direct from the Antipodes. Many, perhaps, who are interested in the contents of this journal were hardly prepared to hear that its circulation extended to the United States of America, or the still more remote colony of New Zealand. "THE BELL NEWS" is known in the former country through the instrumentality of Mr. Duncan S. Miller, the talented conductor of the Royal Handbell Ringers, who has frequently sent us matter for insertion, and below we print a letter from this gentleman. The report from the Maori colony is very gratifying, and we give the whole of our correspondent's letter in full. We hope that the unpealable condition of the tenor at the Cathedral of New Zealand may soon be rectified, and that we may soon hear of a peal of Caters being rung out there. Who knows but that in years to come we in the old country may be startled by an announcement that the College Youths or Cumberlands of New Zealand intend attempting a 12,000 of Treble Ten, or the like number of Stedman Caters. But in such a case, we should have to send Mr. Haley, Mr. Cox, or some one equally clever, over there, to "take off" the peal as it progressed.

NEW ZEALAND.

CANTERBURY.—On August 17th, 1882, on the front six (tenor 12 cwt.) bells of the peal of ten at Christ Church Cathedral, a 6-score of Grand-sire Doubles. J. F. Colegrave, 1; J. Beechey, 2; J. Andrews, 3; T. Marriott, 4; F. Parker, 5; J. Guntripp (of Acton, Middlesex), 6. On April 24th, 1882, a 6-score of Grandsire Doubles on the back six bells (tenor 32 cwt. in D). J. F. Colegrave, 1; J. Beechey, 2; J. Andrews, 3; T. Marriott, 4; F. Parker, 5; J. Marsden, 6. On December 12th, 1882, on the front six, six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, in 27½ mins. J. F. Colegrave (King's Sutton, Banbury, Oxfordshire), 1; J. Beechey (Leamington), 2; J. Andrews (Gloucester), 3; T. Marriott (Leicester), 4; F. Parker (Cheltenham, Gloucestershire), 5; J. Marsden (Padiham, Lancashire), 6.

The splendid peal of ten bells, treble 6 cwt., tenor 32 cwt., hung in the above Cathedral tower, where cast by Messrs Taylor and Co., of Loughborough, England, fitted to which is an excellent arrangement of small bells for dumb practice, also Ellacombe chiming hammers, both of which seem to work very well. The above bells were formally opened by the Primate of New Zealand on the eve of All Saints' day, October 31st, 1881. About the time the bells were opened, a society (with the Rev. E. A. Lingard as President) was formed, and rules adopted, to be called "The Christ Church Cathedral Bell Ringers' Society." At the time of the formation of the society, we contrived to get together about ten or twelve men who had previously obtained in England a slight knowledge of how to handle a bell-ropes. We had only one member amongst us at that time who was in any way acquainted with the art of change-ringing, and that one only having had very little practice in half-pull ringing previous to his leaving England nine years ago, was not what may be called a professional, consequently, we had no other choice but to unanimously elect him Master, and the few performances which are stated above will prove that he has not been altogether idle. I am sorry to state that there are a few thick heads (myself for one), that he has in hand at present, who almost defy him to drive the half-pull ringing into them, but perhaps through perseverance we shall be able to see through it shortly. The above-mentioned gentleman at the time of his appointment as Master promised to put us through about five thousand changes on the ten bells (Caters) in a most incredible short time. Of course he was not aware at that time, of the many difficulties he would have to contend with, and one of the greatest has been and still is, the obtaining a sufficient number of smart young men able to give their time and energy to that most difficult and intricate but most enjoyable art, scientific half-pull ringing. When our society was first formed twelve months ago, we had about forty-seven members, but after a little practice, about three-fourths of them, through not being able to master the handling of a rope and other causes, gave it up as an hopeless task; so that now at the present time, after twelve months' existence, we have only about twelve or fourteen members that attend anything like regular, and up to the time of ringing our first and last 720 of Grandsire Doubles, (December 12th), the above-mentioned members were the only ones that could take any part in half-pull ringing, but we hope to be able shortly to give a better account of ourselves. I am sorry to state that we shall never be able to ring above a 720 on the back bells, in consequence of our tenor working so badly. I defy any man to keep her going for more than 30 minutes, and then he will be more exhausted than what he ought to be in going through a 5000, and until there is a very great alteration made in the working of her, we shall be debarred from going through any thing over this number, except by having two men to ring her, which ought to be avoided if possible. The remainder of the bells work very fair, and everything about the tower and bells is kept in apple order, as far as lies in the power of our steeple-keeper, Mr. T. Anderson. The means at his command are very much limited, so that we cannot get all the improvements attended to which it is requisite should be attended to at once. Divine Service is held two and three times every day throughout the year. The duties of the steeple-keeper are to attend to the visitors to the tower, at a charge of one shilling each; attend to the chiming, and ringing the odd bell for evening service; keeping the tower clean; and attend to other odds and ends connected with such an office. The money received from the visitors goes to the Cathedral funds: none of it finds its way into the ringers' fund, which seems to cause general dissatisfaction among the members of the society. Our present Master's (Mr. John Andrews, who hails from Gloucester) term of office expires (Dec.), and his successor is Mr. Francis Parker, from Cheltenham, Gloucestershire. Mr. Parker, previous to his entering this Society twelve months ago, had not had any experience in handling a bell-ropes, and I hope that during Mr. Parker's term of office we shall still gather strength and still cry "go." The above is a list of what we have done since the formation of the Society in the shape of change-ringing. Although there are several older peals of bells than ours in New Zealand, and will shortly be two or three more peals in the neighbourhood, the above-mentioned members of the above Society have the honour of being the first to introduce change-ringing into New Zealand, although

yet only on a small scale. We are open to correction, perhaps, if we include the Australasian Colonies, but if not contradicted, we claim to be the first to introduce the art into the most extreme parts of the globe. I have great pleasure in informing you that we receive "THE BELL NEWS AND RINGERS' RECORD" out here regularly every mail, and it is very much appreciated. STAND.—I. M.

UNITED STATES.

FROM Nebraska, U.S., Mr. Duncan S. Miller writes as follows:—I see that on January 25th a bill was brought into the House of Representatives at Washington to enable a chime of bells for Holy Trinity Church, Philadelphia, to be brought into the United States, free of duty. This is necessary, as on bells there is a protective tariff of 33½ per cent. on the invoice value. Our hand-bells we have twice passed through the American Custom House free, on the ground that they are to us "Implements of Trade," but I have had also to sign an affidavit that they were not brought for purposes of merchandise. Once, on going into Canada from the States (at Niagara Suspension Bridge), they were stopped, and seventy-five dols. demanded (£15) as duty; I had to pay it, but the money was refunded when I got to Ottawa, and personally explained the matter to the chief of Inland Revenue there. The tariff of Canada specially exempts church bells from being liable to duty.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

As we briefly announced last week, a meeting took place at Stockton on Monday week, when the above Association visited the old Tees-side town. There was a capital muster, and the morning and early part of the afternoon were agreeably occupied by the members in change-ringing on the peal of six bells in the tower of the parish church. At three o'clock in the afternoon the company sat down to dinner at the Custom House Hotel, the Rev. Canon Falconer presiding, and Mr. W. Reed, solicitor, of North Shields, president of the association, occupying the vice-chair. Above the mantel-piece of the room was a very noticeable object in the shape of a very neatly framed specimen of a certificate which is about to be issued to the members of the association. This certificate, which has been specially designed by Mr. George Geering, lithographer's artist, of Stockton, is of a very appropriate design, being composed of an allegorical figure and views of Durham and Newcastle Cathedrals, with illuminated text.

After dinner the toast of "The Queen" was heartily drunk. The VICE-CHAIRMAN proposed the healths of the Bishops and Clergy of the diocese of Durham and Newcastle, and in the course of his remarks he expressed his regret that the hope which was entertained at the last meeting in Stockton that the members of the association on their next visit to the old town would find a peal of eight bells in the tower of the old Parish Church, had not been realised. The CHAIRMAN, with whose name the toast was coupled, and who was warmly applauded, responded, and expressed the pleasure he had in being present. A good deal had of late been done in Stockton in the way of church building and improvement, and a good deal remained to be done; consequently the addition of bells to the Parish Church belfry must be regarded as extra work which could not be pushed forward in the face of the other work he had referred to; but still he hoped the day was not far distant when there would be a peal of eight bells in the Parish Church tower. St. Peter's had an incomplete tower, but he had no doubt that when the work there was finished in this respect, the parishioners would not rest content till they also had a peal of bells; and thereby the facilities of local bellringers, and of the association generally, for exercising their skill and art, would be increased. He quite agreed with Mr. Reed that the association was working for the good of the Church, and he wished it every success.

Mr. P. LEES (Newcastle), proposed the health of the president, who was highly esteemed by all the members, and who spared neither time nor money to promote the art of bell-ringing.

The VICE-CHAIRMAN suitably acknowledged the compliment which had been so heartily paid him, and proposed the health of the Hon. Secretary and Treasurer (Mr. G. J. Clarkson, of Stockton), who, "without money and without price," had worked indefatigably for the good of the association.

Mr. CLARKSON, in response, expressed his solicitude for the prosperity of the association, and said he thought they at Stockton might have a peal of eight bells as well as Northallerton, Thirsk, Barnard Castle, and Bishop Auckland. The tower was very spacious—20 feet by 20 feet—and it was very strong; and he hardly thought it creditable to a town with upwards of 40,000 inhabitants, that they should be content with no stronger peal than their forefathers put up 150 years ago, when the town had the population of 1,700 only. A peal of six was not adequate to the importance of the church in which they hung, and he hoped that ere long there would be an addition.

The business part of the meeting being proceeded with, Mr. CLARKSON submitted a very gratifying report, which showed the association, in a numerical as well as financial sense, to be in a capital position. Some fifteen new members were elected, amongst the new Honorary members being Mr. J. A. Dain and Mr. R. Nix, sidesmen of Stockton Parish Church.

THE BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

ON Saturday, February 10th, the above Association held their Third Quarterly Meeting at Selly Oak when considering the very unpropitious weather, a good muster of members from the several districts forming the Association put in an appearance. Some disappointment was felt, owing to the quarter-day falling in Lent, as the Vicar of Selly Oak objects to the ringing of the tower bells during the solemn season of Lent; but through the kindness of Mr. E. Bush, of the Selly Oak branch of the Association, in providing a peal of handbells, the disappointment was mitigated to a considerable degree, and altogether a very pleasant evening was spent; the only business to be disposed of being the election of ten new members, which being done recourse was made to the handbells. The President, Mr. Bennett Stevens, occupied the chair, and Mr. J. Wright, the Sec. the Vice-chair the principal feature of the evening being the ringing of courses, in the following methods: Stedman Triples, Grandsire Caters, Plain Bob Major, and Kent Treble Bob Major, which were rendered in admirable style. Our readers will be able to judge of the manner themselves, from the names subjoined, who took part in the performances. Messrs. J. Carter, J. W. Cattle, B. Stevens, T. Miller, and T. Russam, all of Birmingham. Messrs. Carter and Cattle being indisposed, were compelled to leave early, in fact it was not expected that Mr. Carter would be at the meeting at all, as he has been seriously ill for some time his ringing friends will be pleased to hear that he has much improved in health, and hopes to be soon himself again. After change-ringing, several tunes were rung on the handbells, which were interspersed with a selection of songs, the meeting being closed at half-past ten, every one (considering that there was no tower bell ringing) apparently pleased with the evening's meeting.

JACK IN OFFICE.

A correspondent, "N. W. W. N." writes as follows: "Although London is acknowledged to be the head-quarters of all scientific ringing, yet there are many who would be surprised to know that there are many more towers there where the harmonious 'stone' is practised than those which are devoted to change-ringing. Perhaps if I relate the following incident, it will help to explain the reason why, to a great extent, this condition of things exist. A party of half-pull ringers met the other Sunday for practice at their usual church, but on account of illness being in the neighbourhood, the bells could not be rung; however, rather than be disappointed, they agreed to walk to a certain ten-bell tower not far off, occupied by a call-change party, and ask them to allow their ringing some Stedman. This was done, the permission granted, and so far everything went well. Suddenly, just as the conductor called 'go,' the door was violently thrown open, and in rushed an important-looking personage, with a very red face, arrayed in all the glories of a black gown and white collar. Advancing into the centre of the belfry, he roared out at the top of his voice, 'Who dare ring half-pulls here? stop! I won't allow such a thing to take place as long as I am in authority.' We all looked aghast at one another, and attempted to pacify him by asking him to ring the tenor behind for us. This seemed to have the desired effect, and he began to relent, but suddenly, as if ashamed of his momentary weakness, he burst forth afresh, 'You shan't ring half-pulls here; its no good going to the clergyman about it, as I am the man in authority here.' Seeing it was no good attempting to ring we had to descend and return homewards, but not without first attempting to find out who this important personage was; some said he was the steeple-keeper and deputy beadle, others that he was an organ-grinder, and one said he was a distant relation to the pew-opener; what and who he really was I do not know, but I have a very small opinion of any one who happens to have authority in any matter without the sense of knowing how to use it. I may mention that although he would not allow us to ring Stedman on his bells, yet our ears were saluted on leaving the church by his band ringing the most extraordinary jumble of changes and clashes I ever heard in my life, which I understand they call Banjo Major, Tombstone Surprise, Turkey Driving, Graveligger's Delight, and Stedman's 'Agony' and have no doubt that before another year has passed they will, by strict perseverance, be enabled to add one or two more of these highly intricate methods to their already long and brilliant list.

PENZANCE.—The bell-ringers of St. Mary's were invited, as usual at Christmastide to Poltair, and hospitably entertained there by Col. Trelawny. Mr. John Symons, M.R.C.S., of Penzance, who takes such a warm interest in change-ringing, on Friday invited his brethren of the belfry to supper, and after a hearty repast at the "Star" Hotel, excellently catered by Mr. and Mrs. Lawrey, was surprised by their taking the opportunity to present him with a token of their esteem—a handsome serpentine ornament column, bearing a thermometer and compass. The presentation was made by Col. Trelawny; and the value of Mr. Symons' services in ringing and in helping to spread a love of that amusement was further witnessed to by the Rev. A. B. Berry, and heartily endorsed by all present.

"THE BELL NEWS AND RINGERS' RECORD" will be forwarded post free, on the following terms:—

One copy, 12 months	6s. 6d.
" " 6 " " " " " " " " " "	3s. 3d.
" " 3 " " " " " " " " " "	1s. 8d.

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All communications respecting advertisements must be addressed to the office of "THE BELL NEWS," Walthamstow, London."

Everything for insertion in this Journal to be addressed, "The Editor of THE BELL NEWS, Walthamstow, London." Letters forwarded for publication must reach us not later than Wednesday morning; the insertion of Performances coming later than the first Postal delivery on Thursday morning, cannot be guaranteed in that week's number.

Contributions are invited from any of our friends. We shall always be glad to give any information asked for, relative to the subjects this paper deals with.

The Editor would be glad to receive the names of gentlemen who would be willing to act for their respective districts, in the capacity of reporter or correspondent. We shall feel obliged by Association and other Secretaries sending intelligence of events occurring within their jurisdiction.

W. B.—Your touch contains twelve 6-7's, certainly; but not the twelve 6-7's. We say emphatically that the phrase, "This touch contains the twelve 6-7's," means the twelve in-course, at back-stroke, produced without a single. Such fancy properties as "the 7th never in the hunt," "the 5th never called before," are valueless and absurd. Adhere to the recognised musical positions only, adopting none of these unscientific expressions. Your touch is not one whit the better through not having the "7th in the hunt."

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 1883.

We have great pleasure in being able to announce, that at the commencement of our next volume, the size of this paper will be permanently enlarged to twelve pages. The fifty-second number will complete the first volume; and the following week the enlargement will take place. With the first number of the next volume, we shall also present our readers with a title-page and index for the volume then complete.

The Metropolis.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

CAMBERWELL, SURREY.

On Saturday, February 10th, 1883, in Two Hours and Fifty-three Minutes,

AT ST. GEORGE'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 14 cwt.

HENRY HALEY, JUN.	Treble.	HARRY CUTTER	5.
GEORGE T. McLAUGHLIN .. .	2.	FREDERICK T. GOVER .. .	6.
JOHN W. ROWBOTHAM .. .	3.	HENRY J. TUCKER .. .	7.
CHALLIS F. WINNY .. .	4.	WALTER PRIME .. .	Tenor.

Conducted by HENRY HALEY, JUN.

H. J. Tucker hails from Bishops Stortford, Herts; H. Cutter from Willesden.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

MIDDLESEX.

On Saturday, February 10th, 1883, in Two Hours and Fifty-seven Minutes,

AT ST. GILES'S-IN-THE-FIELDS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 18 cwt.

JAMES RUMSEY*	Treble.	JAMES HANNINGTON .. .	5.
THOMAS TITCHENER	2.	NEWLAND ALDERMAN .. .	6.
ARTHUR JACOB	3.	GEORGE NEWSON	7.
JOSEPH BARRY	4.	ERNEST ROBINS	Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES HANNINGTON.

[* First peal.]

The Provinces.

KIRKBURTON, YORKSHIRE.

On Saturday, February 3rd, 1883, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT ST. JOHN'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 14 cwt.

DAVID COPLEY	Treble.	ABRAHAM HAIGH	5.
HENRY KAYE	2.	W. WHOMARSLEY	6.
JOHN G. HARDY*	3.	*JOSEPH PICKERING	7.
ROWLAND HILL*	4.	ALLEN WHOMARSLEY .. .	Tenor.

No Conductor's name mentioned.

* Yorkshire Association.

The ringers of the 1st, 2nd, 4th and 7th hail from Kirkburton; the others from Almondbury.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—HULL.

On Tuesday, February 13, 1883, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,

AT HOLY TRINITY CHURCH,

A PEAL OF YORKSHIRE COURT BOB MAJOR,

5088 CHANGES. Tenor 25 cwt.

F. DRABBLE	Treble.	J. DIXEY	5.
W. SOUTHWICK	2.	C. BENNETT	6.
T. STOCKDALE	3.	W. GILL	7.
R. CHAFFER	4.	C. JACKSON	Tenor.

Composed and conducted by C. JACKSON.

This peal has the 6th twenty-two times wrong, and twenty-four times right.

Date Touches.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

BROMSGROVE.—On Sunday evening, February 11th, at St. John's church, before evening service, eight members of the above Association rang a date touch, 1883 changes, of Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. 9 mins. George Perry, 1; George Bourne, 2; George Hayward (composer), 3; Reuben Broomfield, 4; George Morris, 5; William Duffill, 6; Elijah Crump (conductor), 7; James Parry, 8. Tenor 20 cwt.

BRADFORD (Yorks).—On Sunday, February 11th, at St. John's, for evening service, by the local company, a date touch of Kent Treble Bob Major, in 1 hr. 9 mins. J. Angus, 1; J. Naylor, 2; N. Binns, 3; T. Pollard, 4; J. Cheetham, 5; J. H. Hardcastle, 6; W. E. London, 7; J. Wilson, 8. Composed by W. Sottanstill, of Sowerby, and conducted by J. H. Hardcastle. Tenor 16 cwt. in F.

Miscellaneous.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

DARLINGTON (Durham).—On Tuesday evening, February 13th, at St. John's, six members of the above association rang a 720 of Oxford Bob Minor, in 26 mins. J. Bolton, 1; W. Patton, 2; R. Moncaster, 3; J. H. Whitfield, 4; J. H. Blakiston, 5; G. A. Overton (conductor), 6. Tenor 10 cwt.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—On Thursday, February 8th, at All Saints' church, a course of Stedman Triples. *C. L. Routledge, 1; *W. G. Routledge, 2; F. Lees, 3; J. Simm, 4; J. Power, 5; *W. Story, 6; R. S. Story, 7; J. Gillings, 8; *First touch in this method. This course of Stedman Triples is the first touch in the method rung in this town for about thirty years, when a band then in existence rang as much as a quarter-peal. The ringer of the 4th in this touch is the only one left of the old band. Tenor 19 cwt. Also on Sunday, February 11th, at St. John's church, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor in 29 mins. G. Campbell, 1; C. L. Routledge, 2; Francis Lees, 3; Walter G. Routledge, 4; W. Story, 5; R. S. Story (conductor), 6. And on Monday, February 12th, at the same church, for practice, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 27 mins. F. Lees, 1; C. L. Routledge, 3; W. G. Routledge, 3; T. S. Des Forges, 4; W. Story, 5; R. S. Story, 6. This 720 was conducted by C. L. Routledge (aged 16 years), and is the first 720 conducted by him. Tenor 14½ cwt.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

ROMFORD (Essex).—On Sunday afternoon for Divine Service at St. Edward's, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, 18 bobs and 2 singles, in 27 mins. W. Keeble, 1; A. Pye, 2; B. Keeble, 3; A. Perkins (conductor), 4; S. Roughton, 5; A. Porter, 6. Tenor 17½ cwt.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

BANHAM (Norfolk).—On Thursday, February 1st, six members of the Banham society rang a 720 of Double Court Bob Minor, in 26 mins. R. Hutton (conductor), 1; J. Saunders, 2; R. Patrick, 3; C. Everett, 4; J. Cunningham, 5; W. Nudds, 6. This is the first 720 in the method by R. Patrick. Also on the same evening a course of Cambridge Surprise, and a course of Superlative Surprise. R. Patrick, 1; J. Saunders, 2; C. Everett, 3; W. Nudds, 4; J. Cunningham, 5; R. Hutton, 6. Tenor 12 cwt.

KENNINGHALL (Norfolk).—On Tuesday, February 6th, the following members met at St. Mary's church and attempted the Rev. Earle Bulwer's peal of 5088 Treble Bob Major, but unfortunately, after ringing 1 hr. and 4 mins. it came to grief in consequence of the pulley dropping from the tenor. R. Hutton, 1; H. Eagling, 2; G. Edwards, 3; J. Saunders, 4; C. Everett, 5; J. Woods, 6; J. Mordey, 7; J. Cunningham (conductor), 8. Tenor 16 cwt.

BETCHWORTH (Surrey).—On Monday, February 5th, the Betchworth society rang at the parish church a 6-score of Grandsire Doubles. Fredk. Arnold, 1; Frank Arnold, 2; H. Trinder, 3; R. Herbert, 4; W. Sadler (conductor), 5; W. Port, 6. Tenor 13 cwt. This is the first 120 by the above society, which we are glad to hear is now progressing very favourably under the tuition of Mr. W. Burkin, of Nutfield.

FARNWORTH (Lancashire).—On Saturday evening, February 10th, six ringers of St. Luke's church, for the first time rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor in good style, in 26½ mins. A. Whitfield, 1; Peter Case, 2; J. Large (conductor), 3; J. S. Lowe, 4; T. Fletcher, 5; F. Latchford, jun., 6. Tenor 12½ cwt. in G.

CLAY CROSS (Derbyshire).—On Sunday, February 11th, for Divine Service in the evening at St. Bartholomew's, a 240 of Bob Minor, called with four extreme singles, was rung for the first time on these bells. G. Clough, 1; J. Brown, 2; J. J. Cook, 3; T. Millington (composer and conductor), 4; F. Hoffman, 5; F. Clough, 6. Tenor 9½ cwt. in A. This is the first 240 by all with extreme singles.

DISS (Norfolk).—On Monday, February 5th, the Diss company attempted at St. Mary's church, a peal of Bob Major, but after ringing 480 changes a shift occurred and "stand" had to be called. C. Webster, 1; J. Rudd, 2; W. Scales, 3; T. Ford, 4; E. Francis, 5; A. Batram, 6; W. Ireland (conductor), 7; W. Brown, 8. Tenor 24 cwt.

GARGRAVE (Yorkshire).—On Saturday evening, February 10th, at St. Andrew's, a 720 of Bob Minor, in three parts, with twenty-four bobs and eighteen singles, composed by J. J. Parker. C. Lancaster, 1; J. F. Middlebrook, 2; *Herbert Middlebrook, 3; *James McGoun, 4; J. McKell (conductor), 5; W. Mallinson, 6. *First 720 with a bob bell. And on Monday evening, February 12th, a touch of Bob Triples, 504 changes. J. T. Middlebrook, 1; W. Wray, 2; H. Horsman, 3; W. Mallinson, 4; W. Clarke, 5; *James McGoun, 6; J. McKell (conductor), 7; C. Lancaster, 8. *First attempt at the method. Tenor 16 cwt.

GAWSWORTH (Cheshire).—On Monday evening, February 12th, five members of the St. James's Society, of Higher Sutton, paid a visit to Gawsorth, and with Mr. John Henshall, of the Gawsorth Society, rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with 38 bobs and 22 singles, in 28 mins. William H. Ingham (conductor), 1; John Henshall, 2; Walter Ingham, 3; John M. Devenport, 4; William H. Hardman, 5; Thomas Mottershead, 6. Tenor 18 cwt. in G.

HORNSEY (Middlesex).—On Sunday evening, February 11th, for Divine Service, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 26 mins. J. Nixon, 1; J. Nunn, 2; T. Titchener, 3; J. Leach, 4; A. Jacob, 5; J. Hannington (conductor), 6. After Divine Service, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 27 mins. G. B. Lucas (first 720), 1; G. Griffin, 2; J. Hannington (conductor), 3; T. Titchener, 4; J. Nixon, 5; A. Jacob, 6. Also a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 27 mins. G. Griffin, 1; A. Jacob, 2; J. Leach, 3; J. Nunn, 4; J. Hannington (conductor), 5; T. Titchener, 6. And two 6-scores of Stedman Doubles. J. Hannington (conductor), 1; J. Leach, 2; T. Titchener, 3; J. Nunn, 4; A. Jacob, 5; E. King, 6. Tenor 17½ cwt.

LAWTON.—On January 20th, the ringers of Christ Church, Tunstall, paid a friendly visit to the ringers of Lawton Church, and rang six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles in 30 mins; 3rd and 5th the observation. George Gee, sen. (conductor), 1; George Gee, jun., 2; James Gee, 3;

W. Gee, 4; E. Horn, 5; W. M. Sanders, 6. Lawton bells have just been rehung, and a new treble added by Taylor and Co. of Loughborough, and the above ringers very much admire them. Tenor 11 cwt.

LOUGHBOROUGH (Leicestershire).—On Tuesday evening, February 6th, four members of the local society, assisted by four members of the Long Eaton society, Derbyshire, rang for practice 1008 of Grandsire Triples, in 39 mins. John W. Taylor, sen., 1; *George Bradley, 2; Thomas Cook, 3; Richard Lane, 4; *John Copeland, 5; *John Ward, 6; *Joseph Barrow (conductor), 7; Edward Clark, 8. Tenor 24 cwt. in D. *Long Eaton society.

NORTHWINGFIELD (Derbyshire).—On Monday, February 12th, at St. Lawrence's, a 720 of Bob Minor, with nine extreme singles and three Minor singles was rung for the first time on the above bells in 29½ mins. G. Clough, 1; T. Allibone, 2; F. Hoffman, 3; T. Millington (conductor), 4; J. Brown, 5; T. Clough, 6. Tenor 18½ cwt. in F. First 720 by all with extreme singles. F. Hoffman hails from Kirkham, in Lancashire; G. Brown from St. Bartholomew's, Clay Cross; the others belong to the Northwingfield company.

NUNEATON (Warwickshire).—On Monday evening, February 12th, at St. Nicholas's church, five members of the local company, assisted by William Power, of Barwell, Leicestershire, rang for the first time scientifically, a 6-score of Grandsire Doubles, on the back six. William Adler, 1; Thomas Liugard, 2; John J. Morley, 3; Henry Horwood, 4; William Power (conductor), 5; Thomas Bates, 6. Tenor 14½ cwt. in E. It is nearly twenty years since any change-ringing has been accomplished by the Nuneaton society.

PENZANCE (Cornwall).—On Thursday, January 8th, at St. Mary's, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 50 mins. J. Fleming, 1; C. Boase, 2; J. Hodder, 3; W. Dale, 4; J. Richards, 5; T. Hicks, 6; J. Symons (conductor), 7; Rev. A. Berry, 8. Also on Sunday morning, on the occasion of the Mayor and Corporation attending Divine Service, a half-peal of Grandsire Triples was commenced, but the time was limited to a touch of 2382 changes, in 1 hr. and 35 mins. G. Sellers, 1; C. Boase, 2; J. Hodder, 3; W. Dale, 4; J. Richards, 5; T. Hicks, 6; J. Symons (conductor), 7; M. Bassett, 8. Tenor 21 cwt. in Eb.

STAINDROP (Durham).—On Sunday, February 11th, the ringers of St. Mary's belfry rang for morning service, 360 of Bob Minor 4 bobs and 4 singles. Also for evening Service 480 of Bob Minor, 10 singles and 2 bobs. Also on Tuesday, February 13th, a 720 of Bob Minor 8 bobs and 6 singles. W. McLean, 1; J. W. Shipp, 2; W. Johnson, 3; T. Leonard, 4; D. Shipp (conductor), 5; J. Brown, 6. Tenor 13 cwt.

SUDBURY (Suffolk).—On Tuesday, February 6th, at All Saints, for practice, a touch of Bob Major, 1056 changes, in 47 mins. A. Scott (conductor), 1; M. Silvester, 2; G. Brown, 3; W. Bacon, 4; H. Brackett, 5; C. Sillitoe, 6; H. Griggs, 7; H. Harper, 8. Tenor 28 cwt.

SYSTON (Leicestershire).—On Tuesday, February 13th, three members of the company of St. Saviour's, Leicester, with three of the Syston company, rang a 720 of Bob Minor having eighteen bobs and two singles, in 26 mins. J. Freeman (Syston), 1; J. Needham (Leicester), 2; A. Mellis (Leicester), 3; C. Needham (Leicester), 4; T. B. Pickard (Syston), 5; Rev. W. Pearson (Syston; conductor), 6. Tenor 15½ cwt. in F. The following afterwards rang a 6-score of Stedman Doubles, being it is believed, the first time for many years that this method has been rung on these bells. A. Mellis, 1; C. Needham, 2; T. North, 3; Rev. W. Pearson, 4; J. Needham, 5; J. Freeman, 6.

OPENING OF A RING OF SIX BELLS AT MIRFIELD, YORKSHIRE.

RECENTLY, six of the society of change-ringers of St. Mary's, Mirfield, rang at St. Paul's a 720 each of Oxford and Violet, in 50 mins. John Crowther, 1; Ralph Ellis, 2; Henry Hinchliffe (conductor), 3; Benjamin Robinson, 4; Joah Peacock, 5; John H. Dixon, 6. Tenor 15 cwt. Messrs. Taylor and Co. deserve great credit for the sweetness of the bells and the manner in which they can be turned about. Ringers attended from Dewsbury, Liversedge, Earlsheaton, Huddersfield, Calverley, Batley, and rung short touches during the day. [Our correspondent does not mention the date of this opening.—Ed.]

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF SIX BELL RINGERS.

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

JOHN G. HIGSON, Hon. Sec.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

THE first Monthly Meeting of the towers in the Stoke District was held at Stoke on Saturday last. Ringers attended from Stoke, Burslem, Barlaston, Cheadle, Hanley, Norton, Leek, and Brown Edge. Various courses of Grandsire were rung through, and at 5 p.m. a tea, provided by the Stoke company, was partaken of by the ringers and clergy. At the after meeting, the Archdeacon, Sir L. T. Stamer, Bart., took the chair, and made a very happy and useful speech. He was also pleased to notice the success that had attended this youthful society, and he had great pleasure in announcing that the Bishop of the Diocese had readily consented to become patron. Business was then proceeded with: Mr. Page, South Street, Mount Pleasant, Stoke-on-Trent, was elected to the office of local secretary.

For the future in this district it was decided that wherever practicable the place where the meeting is held should provide the tea, it being felt, as it was at Leek the Saturday previous, that the Clergy, Churchwardens, and gentry around would gladly contribute towards this object, but where the ringers felt this to be beyond them and the place, each member should pay for himself. "THE BELL NEWS AND RINGER'S RECORD," as the official organ, was again pressed, and after a few minor matters the meeting ended. Ringing was continued by the various companies present till 9 p.m.

It was felt and expressed that the object of the Association, in bringing ringers together and promoting good feeling among them, had been well attained in this, only the second meeting of the Society. The belfry of Stoke Church has already been so highly praised in the columns of this paper, that it does not require repetition. Through many kind friends, it is one of the most perfect towers in the Diocese, and it has the effect of sending many away determined that theirs shall "stand" no longer. The bells themselves, however, are not at all what the Stoke ringers would wish them to be, but the time is coming for a push being made to rehang and recast them if need be.

The next meeting of the Society will be held at Wolstanton Church, on Saturday next, at 3.30 p.m.

FATAL ACCIDENT TO AN OLD RINGER AT BINGLEY, YORKSHIRE.—

On Thursday, February 8th, an inquest was held at the Old King's Head Inn, Bingley, before Mr. W. Barstow, coroner, touching the death of Henry Dickinson, ninety years of age, who was found in an unconscious state at the bottom of the steps of the Mechanics' Institute on Monday evening, and who died on the following morning from the effects of a fall down the steps alluded to. Mr. Dickinson reached his ninetieth birthday on Tuesday, the 26th December last. He was well known throughout Yorkshire as a change-ringer, and on that day a few of his old ringing friends from the neighbouring towns met to celebrate the occasion by ringing a peal on the church bells with which he has been so long and intimately associated. Mr. Dickinson was for sixty-two years a member of the Society of change-ringers at Bingley, and he was the only survivor of the band who, on the 7th February, 1826, achieved a performance in thirty-six different methods, many of which were extremely difficult. This feat, which was accomplished by men all living in the town, is said to be unequalled in the history of change-ringing. The merit of it will be best understood when it is stated that a great number of ringers of the present day are satisfied with being able to ring only one. The deceased was very highly respected by his townsmen, and his sudden death is regretted by all. At the inquest the jury returned a verdict in accordance with the medical evidence.

"A Treble Bob ringer" writes:—"In reading your issue for the 10th inst., a date touch of Minor methods came under my notice, the touch which was stated to be composed by J. Thackray, is brought round with 83 changes of Kent Treble Bob Minor. Failing to see how this can be done, I should be glad if J. T. would publish the composition of it in next week's paper, as if it is of any value we should like to ring it in some of our six-bell towers."

A new ring of six bells, hung on substantial oak frames, has been erected at St. Columb's Church, Cornwall. Messrs. Aggett, of Chagford, Devon, carried out the work.

Correspondence.

[While allowing the utmost freedom for the expression of opinion, it must never be considered that we are in any way bound to statements made by correspondents.]

To the Editor of "THE BELL NEWS AND RINGERS' RECORD."

GRANDSIRE CINQUES.

SIR,—In answer to Mr. Prentice, I may state that I have frequently expressed my opinion as to compositions of peals in the present day in such way as this:—That a great many so-called new peals are more or less elaborate variations, or transpositions, or whatever one likes to call them, of the work of old composers. So much is already prepared—for instance, one may have Lockwood's composing-made-easy plan before him, and thus arrange a peal—it may be a little different from one that has been published for years; it may be a lead shorter, a or less number of bobs before—and a peal has been composed—but I contend that a great part of there are no genuine composers of Treble Bob and other methods in the present day, because we have proof of the ability of some of them in the columns of our paper nearly every week, but at the same time there is a great deal of variation, and I take this case of the Grandsire Cinques as proof of the correctness of my argument. I don't claim any credit for having arranged a 5082 of Grandsire Cinques, with 4th, 5th, and 6th each twelve course-ends in 6th's place, but as you know, sir, I had such a peal, and before attempting to ring it had submitted it, through an eminent composer of Treble Bob, to one more acquainted with odd number work, for his opinion as to its truthfulness and originality; his reply, which I forwarded to you for your inspection a some months since, is a sufficient proof of the truth of this statement. Reversing the calling of the last two parts, as I stated in my last letter, does not add to the number of changes given (viz., 5082), and I cannot make out where Mr. P. has tacked on the two extra leads. I have no intention or wish to mislead any one, and if the gentleman referred to above will oblige in giving his opinion of the peal through this paper, under whatever cover he chooses—for I don't care to mention names—whether he gives me credit or blame, I shall rest satisfied. I hope, sir, in conclusion, that there will be less space occupied in this part of the paper by the Ipswich company in the future. Thanking you sincerely for your kindness in having inserted this and other matters connected therewith, I remain, yours truly,

W. L. CATCHPOLE.

PIRACY, OR WHAT?

SIR,—In your issue of the 6th ult., I notice the report of a peal rung on December 30th, 1882, at St. Paul's, Drighlington, Yorkshire, said to be a special composition by Mr. W. Sottanstill, and conducted by J. H. Hardcastle. As the number of changes and other particulars answered somewhat the description of one of my own peals, I wrote to ask Mr. Sottanstill for the composition. On the 24th ult. I received a letter from Mr. S., containing the very peal I expected, dishd and served up in good order, with the information that it would run true in either the Kent or Oxford variation, and hoping it would meet with my approbation. The same evening I again wrote Mr. S., pointing out the fact that this peal was to be found in Snowdon's *Treatise on Treble Bob*, part ii., p. 80, and that it had been called on June 1st, 1878, by Mr. J. Cox, at St. Matthew's, Bethnal Green, London; asking him to kindly correct the statement in our paper, and save any unpleasantness, and me the trouble of so doing. To this solicitation I received, on the 27th ult., another letter from Mr. S., saying that there need be no controversy about this peal. He had as much right in the field of composition as any one else, and I had no more. He had never seen Mr. Snowdon's collection, and although requested by the author, he never sent peals for publication. He never felt surprised at any one working on the same ground as himself, and he had been engaged in composing peals since 1825.

In reply to this, I asked Mr. S., on the 28th ult., why no controversy was needed? pointing out that except by mutual consent, no peal could belong to two persons, any more than could the same piece of music, a poem, the same patent, or what not, and expressing my surprise that such a man of renown should not have the *Treatise* without which no ringing library is complete, and no man can compose without the inevitable reproduction of old peals. (I should also have included "THE BELL NEWS," but as I did not, I hope Mr. Editor will accept my apology for such an unintentional omit.) To this communication I have not had any reply, and I should have here let the matter drop, but in a more recent number of our paper I see my peal given, with the name of W. Sottanstill attached thereto.

If Mr. S. had given a date to this composition prior to mine, I should have given way, but it is obvious that he cannot, it being a special composition, and cannot thus be five or six years old in his ms. This, however, is not the first time that he has fallen into an error with my peals.

In his second letter was enclosed another peal for my approbation. This peal has the sixth the extent at home at the last ten course-ends. But Mr. S. had recourse to parting the tenors in three courses to get this peal. In the *Treatise*, p. 81, are three peals with similar qualities, all obtained previous to Mr. Sottanstill's date, 1860, without parting the tenors. That belonging to me was in the hands of both Mr. Snowdon, and Mr. Gordon, of Stockport, twelve months or more before that date. *Barnsbury Road, London, N.*

HENRY DAVIS.

MR. PENNING'S PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES.

SIR,—In reply to your correspondent, "Royal Cumberland," he would lead me to believe that Holt's peal is not original, he stating that peals existed prior to Holt's time. Yes, a peal was supposed to exist in Norwich in 1718, but there is not the slightest trace of it whatever. But Holt called his peal (which is allowed to be the first true peal ever rung) at St. Margaret's, Westminster, on July 7th, 1751; that is many years prior to the peal "so old as 1788." But this is going away from the question. I quite agree with your correspondent that Mr. Penning has done a good performance, no one disputes that, but he does not call it original, as in the number of this paper for October 14th, 1882, is stated—'on the lines of the Original,' which is simply a variation, such as Reeves and Shipway contented themselves with in the 10-part peal. I shall not trouble you any further on this matter, but it is as little as they can do who ring the peal to publish it in its true form.

Your correspondent, "Looker on," seems to be greatly distressed about my complaint. I should like to tell him I have as much right to speak my mind, as he has to ridicule me about my English language. If he has been to college, I care not, and if that is the nearest phrase he can get to my letter, the sooner he "looks off" the better. I am more surprised to find such a remarkable grammarian "looking on" a lot of ringers. Perhaps he would like to give a few lessons on the English language gratis.

COLLEGE YOUTH.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

A GENERAL MEETING of this Association was held on Monday, January 29th, at Kingston-on-Thames. The Rev. A. S. W. Young, Vicar of Kingston, Treasurer, took the chair, and produced the balance-sheet for the past year, which shewed the funds to be in a satisfactory condition. It was resolved that with the approval of the Rev. Stenton Eardly, the next Quarterly Meeting should be held at Streatham, on April 16th. One of the churches has a ring of eight, the other, one of six, to which last the ringers have been denied access for four years.

Two Honorary members and thirteen performing members were elected. The parishes represented were: Beddington, Epsom, Horley, Kingston, Mitcham, Streatham, and Wimbledon. About 40 members sat down to tea at the "Leopold" Coffee Tavern, after which several members entertained the company with performances on the handbells. During the day several touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Grandsire Caters, and Bob Major, were rung on the fine peal of ten at the parish church.

A. B. PERCEVAL,
Hon. Sec.

STEDMAN CATERS.

By FRED COATES, Rotherham.

1883.

1	2	3	4	5	6	5	16
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3	1	4	2	6	5	-	-
3	1	5	4	6	2	-	-
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2	1	4	5	6	3	-	-
4	1	2	3	6	5	-	-
4	1	5	2	6	3	-	-
5	1	4	3	6	2	-	-
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2	1	5	4	6	3	-	-
1	4	3	5	6	2	6	15
4	2	1	3	6	5	6	16

Bobs at 2, 5, 7, 14, 16, 18, bring the bells round.

* This course is obtained by bobs at 1, 3, 5, 6, 9, 11, 15, 21, 23.

TWO PEALS OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL.

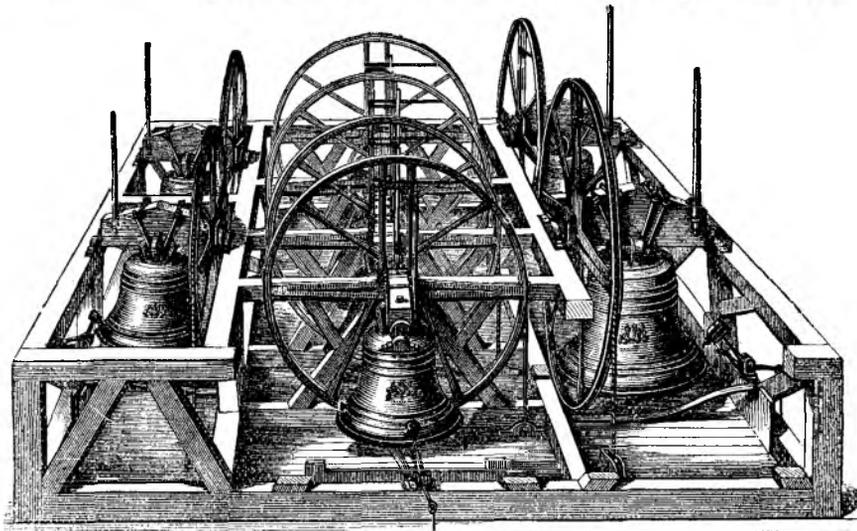
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2	3	5	6	4		I	2	2	4	2	5	6	3	2	I
3	4	5	6	2	I		2	2	3	4	6	2	5	2	I
6	3	4	2	5	2		2	2	4	3	5	2	6	2	2
3	5	4	2	6	I		2	2	2	5	3	4	6	2	2
2	4	5	3	6	2		2	2	3	4	2	5	6	I	I
2	5	3	4	6	I		2	2	5	2	4	3	6	2	2
2	3	4	5	6	I		2	2	2	3	4	5	6	2	

The 5th and 6th their extent home. The 6th its extent home.

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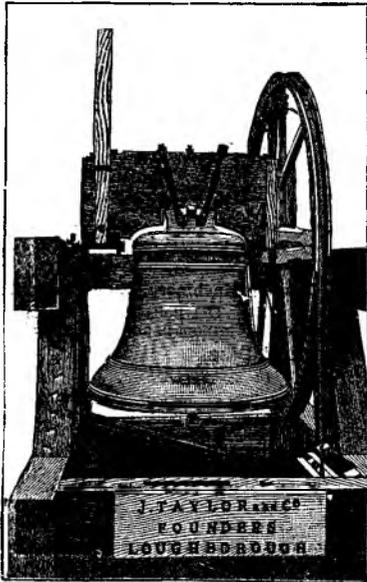
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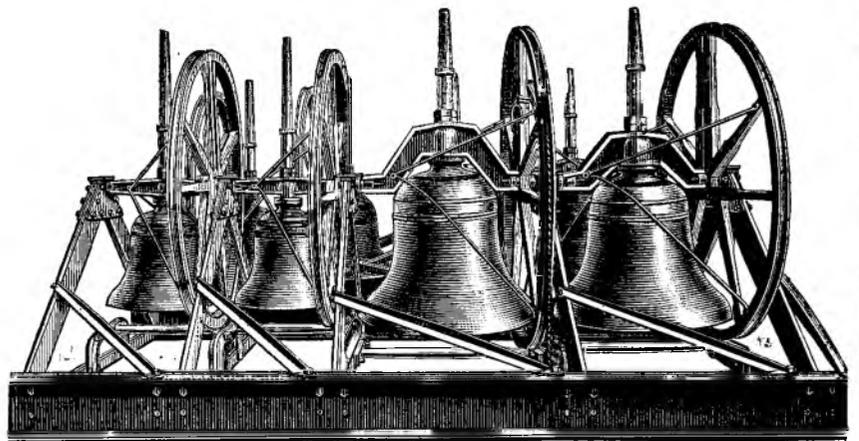
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No. 47. [NEW SERIES.]—VOL. I.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 1883.

[ONE PENNY.]



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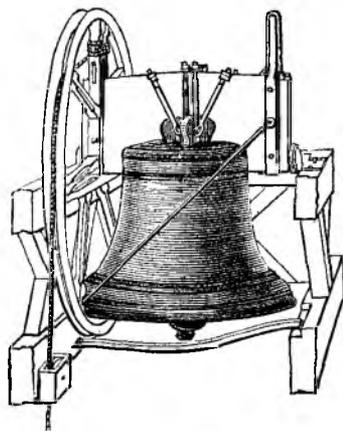
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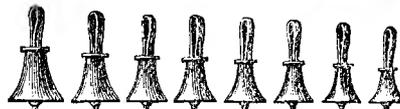
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The last chapter is devoted to a list of the names of Composers of the different peals, with various particulars, and in the cases of deceased Composers with the dates of death, age, etc.

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THE CHURCH BELLS OF SPALDING, LINCOLNSHIRE.

SPALDING has figured largely in the periodicals devoted to change-ringing, it may therefore interest the readers of "THE BELL NEWS" to hear something about the bells of this town. The parish church, SS. Mary and Nicolas, possesses a peal of six bells, tenor 44 in. diameter, 17 cwt., in F. Before 1801 there were only five bells, and they were much out of tune. In 1801 the tenor was recast and a treble added, and the rest tuned. They are now fairly in tune with the exception of the treble, which is rather shary. She is a maiden bell. The inscriptions are as follows:—

- Treble—Thomas Osborn fecit, Downham, Norfolk 1801
(Diameter 29 in.)
Second— + OMNIA FIANT AD GLORIAM DEI 1629. Thomas Morris
cast me W Sneath R Burton Ch. Wa.
(Ornaments between the words. Diameter 30 in.)
Third—Omnia fiant ad gloriam Dei Gloria Deo soli Anno Dom 1773
(Diameter 33 in.)
Fourth—Omnia fiant ad gloriam Dei Gloria Patri, Filio et Spiritus
Sancta A.D. 1744. (Diameter 35 in.)
Fifth— + JAMES WILESBY IOHN HOMAN CH WA 1648
(Diameter 38½ in.)
Tenor—Maurice Johnson D.D. Minister. Thos Maples Wm Law
churchwardens. Thomas Osborn fecit 1801. (Diameter 44 in.)

There are two peal-boards in the belfry; one recording a 5040, made up of seven 720's of Plain and Treble Bob, rung February 3rd, 1803, and another recording 5040 of Plain Bob and College Single, rung February 3rd, 1870. The bells are rung for morning and evening service every Sunday, and in the early morning on festivals. Change-ringing has been kept up here for many years through the exertions of Mr. J. S. Wright, a ringer of forty years' standing, and a member of the Royal Cumberland Society. Mr. Wright has had many difficulties to contend with; at one time he had to instruct an entirely new company in the art, none of whom knew anything of it but himself. He has persevered so far and overcome every difficulty and we hope that he may long live to occupy the important post which he has filled so admirably for so many years.

The church of St. Peter-at-Abbey has but one bell, weighing about 2 cwt. It was cast by C. and G. Mears, of London, and gained a prize at the Exhibition of 1851.

St. Paul's Church, Fulney End, was erected 1878-80, and has a peal of eight, tenor 15 cwt. in F. All were cast by T. C. Lewis, of Brixton, in 1879. They are thus inscribed:—

- Treble—Richard Guy Ash our Vicar T.C.L. (Weight 3 cwt 3 qrs.)
Second—Canon Moore our Rural Dean T.C.L. (Aams of the Moore
family.) (Weight 4 cwt. 1 qr.)
Third—Charlotte Charinton our benefactor T.C.L.
(Weight 5 cwt 1 qr.)
Fourth—Xtopher our Bishop T.C.L. (Arms of Lincoln Diocese)
(Weight 6 cwt 2 qrs.)
Fifth—(A sword) Saint Paul our Patron Saint T.C.L.
(Weight 7 cwt 3 qrs.)
Sixth—The Holy Ghost our Sanctifier T.C.L. (Weight 9 cwt.)
Seventh— + Jesus Christ our Redeemer T.C.L. (Weight 11 cwt.)
Tenor—God our Father T.C.L. (Weight 15 cwt Diameter 43½ in F.)

These inscriptions are all in Lombardic letters. The bells are hung in two tiers, 1, 2, 6, 8 at the bottom and 3, 4, 5, 7 at the top. The trebles are rather too light for the other bells. A very efficient band of six and seven bell-ringers has been established here by Mr. R. Creasey, member of the Ancient Society of College Youths, one of the best change-ringers in Lincolnshire. Mr. Creasey has contended with and overcome some of the greatest difficulties, having had to work almost single-handed amongst those who when they first joined the company could barely ring rounds. In the month of March 1881, Mr. Creasey and his newly formed company succeeded in accomplishing their first 1260 of Grandsire Triples; most of them had not handled a bell a year previously. They have rang several long lengths since, and we wish them every success.

St. John the Baptist's church has two bells, cast by Warner and Sons, London. They are thus inscribed:—

- First—J. Warner and Sons, London, 1875.
Saint John Baptist. St. Matthew iii., ver. 5. A. D. 1875.
Second—Mary Ann, Daughter of Rev. Walter Maurice Johnson.
St. Luke vii., ver. 5. A.D. 1875. (Diameter 27 in.; weight 4 cwt.)

These bells, though individually good, do not sound well together. At a distance the smaller bell appears to give the lower note. Before concluding this account we may say that the Rev. Canon Moore, Vicar of Spalding, has done much to promote change-ringing in the district. He is President of the South Lincolnshire, Change-Ringers, Association, and has been from its first foundation.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

THE first MONTHLY MEETING for the Wolstanton district of the above Society was held at that centre on Saturday last. Ringers attended in good numbers from Stone, Keele, Tunstall, Wolstanton, Lawton, Stoke, Burslem, and Norton. A pleasant time of freely mixing with one another was passed till tea, which the company and their friends very kindly provided, and at the after meeting the Rev. O. W. Steele (vicar), spoke a few kindly and manly words to those present, pointing out the importance of their office, and the need of living up to it. He heartily welcomed the Association to his tower and parish.

The Rev W. W. Bolton, Hon. Sec., went through the necessary business, Mr. W. Miller, of Lily Street, being elected District Secretary, but a slight difference of opinion was expressed as to the matter of providing tea to those who should come to future meetings. This meeting felt that each man should pay for his own, and not leave it to the place and tower to provide. A hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar, Churchwardens, and Wolstanton ringers, was passed, and Charles Challinor, Esq., (Basford Hall) replied in suitable terms. After some handbell performances by the local ringers, an adjournment was made to the tower (a nice easy-going peal of six), where a 720 Bob Minor was rung in 26 mins. A. Walker (first 720), 1; L. Miller, 2; W. Miller, 3; H. Page, 4; W. Priestman, 5; S. Spencer (conductor), 6. Several touches of Grandsire Doubles and Bob Minor were rung during the evening. The belfry of this church is small, but nicely and neatly kept, the ringers have shown no little spirit in raising such a sum of money as has been already so highly commented upon in this paper; they thoroughly deserve a peal of

The next meeting of the Association will be held at Uttoxeter, on Saturday next, at 3 p.m.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

A MEETING for Ringing purposes only, will be held on Saturday, March 3rd, at All Souls' Church, Bolton. Ringing from 3 p.m. Halliwell Road, and Astley Bridge tram cars pass the Church.

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

"BELLS."—A writer in the *The Detroit Free Press* has attempted to be merry on the subject of bells. He says:—"The word is suggestive of a variety of sounds, some harsh, others sweet, and a few fair (fare), the last named class being confined strictly to car conductors. One rarely hears more exquisite music than a harmonious chime of sweet-toned bells, or one more jarring and disagreeable than the discordant jingling of poor or cracked ones. Bells have their peculiarities, many of which we fail to appreciate from lack of observation. The numerous advantages of a call-bell on the table over the caster or salt-seller, as an article to throw at the servant to hurry her, or at the children to quiet them, cannot be overestimated. It has all the injurious qualities of the others, and the desirable characteristic of always remaining a sound article. Then the door-bell presents itself, a medium, by the way, to inform observing people the number of the house they want is next door. It usually rings in such a manner as to be distinctly heard by everybody in the house, except the girl whose duty is to answer it, and, if by any chance she does hear it, it is the bell's fault, not the girl's, and if it is a well-regulated bell it will ring twice as often when she is out than it does any other time. Bells sometimes exercise a "fare" amount of influence over men. This is especially noticeable on street cars where bells are used to prevent passengers paying their fare twice, and to compel the conductor to keep his eyes "pealed" and thus enable him to make his bell-punch chime with the jingling amount of money turned in. The ragman's bell, which tinkles mournfully in the early morning, and causes the average man, as he passes him in the street, to button his coat tighter and wish he might wear all his clothes at once, and tie them on with a clothes line, to prevent a sacrifice of them to the addition of a new vase on the mantel, or a plaster cast of Venus riding on a lizard. And last, the wedding bells, which usually announce a man has reached the end of his happiness, but neglect to say which end, and it is a subject for debating clubs to decide, whether the bell-e who goes on or stays in the tour (tower) is the most cracked.

WE have received a report (too late for this week) of a half-peal being rung at Heywood, Lancashire. The writer, who does not add his name, mentions no method whatever, and has forwarded his communication to our publisher instead of sending direct to us. We beg that our friends will be more particular in compiling their reports.

REVIEWS.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE
DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

This report, with which is issued a copy of the address presented by the Association to the Lord Bishop of Newcastle, has just been issued. The document is a neat embodiment of the proceedings of the Association during the past twelvemonth, and will well repay a perusal. Only one peal—a 5040 of Grandsire Triples—has been rung by the Association during the year, and while we should have been pleased to have heard of greater successes in this direction, the list of what may be termed minor performances are a tangible indication that the northerners are working well, in spite of attendant obstacles. The addition of such performances as these to an Association Report is certainly an innovation, but as to the wisdom of such a course there can be but one opinion. As all ringers take a pardonable pride in seeing their names in print, and would prefer to viewing them in connection with a peal rather than a touch, so the publication of both kinds of performances side by side, as it were, will no doubt act as a strong incentive to the members to obtain a place upon the record of the more honourable achievement. The balance-sheet—one of the best indices for arriving at a conclusion, satisfactory or otherwise—shows a healthy financial state of affairs, and the continued progress of the Association reflects great credit on the Management in general, and upon the Hon. Sec. in particular. It is a well-known fact that many rings of bells in the counties of Durham and Northumberland are, if not positively unringable, at least in a most wretched condition. Against the continuance of such deplorable neglect the Hon. Sec., G. J. Clarkson, Esq., the President, W. Reed, Esq., and other members of the Association have waged an unrelenting crusade, not always successfully, it is true, as indifference to the condition of church bells prevails to a great extent in the north, as in many other parts of England. A correspondence relative to the bells of All Saints' church, has recently appeared in a local paper, and before we conclude our brief notice of the Report, we should like to give our readers a sample of a few of the arguments employed in answer to the strictures of ringers who are qualified to form an opinion. A statement having been made in a local paper, emanating from the Association, that the fittings of these bells had become worn out, an ex-churchwarden lodges a demurrer by saying the bells were put in perfect order during the previous year. Thereupon Mr. Clarkson suggests that one of the bells should be lifted up and examined by a competent bellhanger. Now the "competent" bellhanger appears upon the scene. The ex-churchwarden, who by this time appears to have waxed angry, writes thus:—"In October last year, at the request of the Churchwardens, Mr. Glencross made a careful survey and report as to their (the bells') condition. On his report Messrs. Donkin and Nichol were instructed to make needful repairs. It was then found the wood rope wheels were very much shattered, and these were put in good working order. One of the bells was also lifted to ascertain what condition the journals were in, but the wear upon them was not sufficient to justify Messrs. Donkin and Nichol in leading the churchwardens to the expense of renewing them, as they considered the bells to be in fair working order for some years to come." The "competent" bellhanger, then, is one of the trio—Donkin, Nichol, Glencross. Then two more letters appear from really competent ringers, and dealing with the selection of such as the three above-named persons, Mr. Clarkson again writes: "I should like to ask 'ex-churchwarden' whether, if the organists of Newcastle and district unanimously asserted that a certain organ was not in working order, he would prefer to take the contrary written statement of a local firm of plumbers and gasfitters? The statement in the Association report is the unanimous assertion of the Newcastle and other well-known ringers, and he prefers the contrary statement of a firm, which whatever may be its reputation at its own trade, is unknown as doing the work of hanging bells. Many members of the Association are ringers of 20 or 30 years' standing, and if they cannot judge the condition of a set of bells on which they have frequently practised, who can? And what object can we have in describing a set of bells in bad condition if such were not the case? By rushing into print to confute a statement which a little consideration should have led him to suppose would only have been made on information of a

most reliable character, 'ex-churchwarden' has only been holding up to public view a wasteful expenditure of money on All Saints' bells for injudicious repairs." The publication of this letter brings up Donkin and Co. again, who after saying that they do not profess to be gasfitters or plumbers, state "for the special information of Mr. Clarkson that a very great deal of bellhanging is done by that trade. Our firm has been engaged in it for upwards of forty years, and until recently, formed part of our staple trade. So far as our opinion goes about the condition of an organ, we should say an organ-builder was the proper person to report upon its requirements, and not an organist, nor yet a plumber or gas-fitter. The same applies to bellhanging, the bellhanger being much more qualified to give an opinion on the hanging of bells than the ringers themselves, notwithstanding the very definite opinion passed by Mr. Clarkson and the Association in their report." This correspondence appears to have been closed by Mr. Clarkson, who in his concluding letter says:—"Although hanging bells has formed part of the staple trade of Messrs. Donkin and Nichol for the last forty years, where is there a single peal in Durham or Northumberland, or anywhere else, that has been hung or re-hung by them? Plumbers and gasfitters do hang small bells which are fitted up in the rooms of private establishments; and perhaps Messrs. Donkin and Nichol do this kind of bell-hanging also. I will not waste the valuable space of your paper in replying further to a letter which is sufficiently absurd to reply to itself, but will simply state that I have already made application to the authorities of All Saints' church for permission to send at my own expense a competent and well-known bell-hanger, whose name I have, as to their condition. The result of this will perhaps prove that the members of our association know something more about bells than the 'Ex-Churchwarden' or Messrs. Donkin and Nichol are willing to give us credit for."

In giving extracts from this correspondence, it may be considered that we have strayed from the legitimate task of criticising the report, but it must be remembered that such difficulties and obstacles as these letters establish, have existed throughout the Association's history, and therefore, when considering the progress it has made, these drawbacks should be taken into account. The pretensions of Messrs. Donkin and Co. to be ranked as church bell hangers seem to us irresistibly comical, and though they may be, and no doubt are, most respectable tradesmen, we take the liberty to apprise them, the ex-churchwarden, and the ex-churchwarden's manager (Mr. Glencross) of the following facts:—That the work of fitting-up bells on boardship bears not the least analogy to the experience and knowledge requisite to enable any one to hang a church bell properly; a bellhanger who is practically acquainted with the duties required has received a special training for the work; and that those who have not received such training are not church bellhangers, and their attempts to officiate as such will inevitably result in failure, and give not the slightest satisfaction to the parties immediately concerned. We should rejoice to learn from the next year's report that the Church folk of the two northern dioceses had firmly resolved to abolish the long-standing reproach of having their bells in a state of dilapidation and decay.

BELLS AND BELLRINGERS, by Benjamin Lomax.—(H. J. Infield, Fleet Street.)—This is a well-written epitome, touching very faintly the principles of the art, but nevertheless a welcome addition to the library of every bellringer. The author pens his remarks in a strain which will commend his work to all who stand up for the quality of English bells; he contends there is not to be found in any spire in Europe bells more melodious than those of St. Saviour's, Southwark, St. Dunstan's, Stepney, and many others which he mentions, and in support of this view he quotes the opinion of Mr. Gatty, who says "that our own church bells, both in size and general quality, are superior to those of other times and countries, for all the best purposes to which ringing can be applied." We should be glad to hear of Mr. Lomax's book meeting with an extensive sale. To the proficient in the art it will prove interesting; the efforts of the tyro will be encouraged by a perusal of its pages.

THE two peals of Treble Bob Royal in our last number were the composition of Mr. N. J. Pitstow, of Saffron Walden. We hope that gentleman will accept our apology for the omission.

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" 6 "	3s. 3d.
" 3 "	1s. 8d.

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All communications respecting advertisements must be addressed to the office of "THE BELL NEWS," Walthamstow, London."

Everything for insertion in this Journal to be addressed, "The Editor of THE BELL NEWS, Walthamstow, London." Letters forwarded for publication must reach us not later than Wednesday morning; the insertion of Performances coming later than the first Postal delivery on Thursday morning, cannot be guaranteed in that week's number.

The Editor would be glad to receive the names of gentlemen who would be willing to act for their respective districts, in the capacity of reporter or correspondent. We shall feel obliged by Association and other Secretaries sending intelligence of events occurring within their jurisdiction.

F. G. NEWMAN.—Let us know your first available Saturday.

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 1883.

In our last number there appeared from a correspondent who wrote in a facetious vein somewhat—an account of a visit to a ten-bell steeple within the Metropolitan area. No doubt this particular tower has, ere now, been "spotted" by those of the London Exercise whose wanderings lead them to visit some belfry or other on every evening throughout the year, though we confess to a total ignorance as regards the indentical one in question. Our being unacquainted with the place availeth nothing, and perhaps it is as well for our personal benefit that it is so. "Where ignorance is bliss, 'tis folly to be wise," we are told, and it would not be a profitable occupation, to judge by the reception accorded to others, to make acquaintance with the steeple alluded to by our correspondent; or to attempt to fraternise with the august but terrible personage who holds, or appears to hold, despotic sway therein.

The fact of this singularly unwelcome reception of a half-pull band by the steeple-keeper of a London church affords good material for a variety of comment. We have previously alluded to the official position of steeple-keeper in this part of our journal, and it cannot be denied that the unpleasant episode we are now dealing with, affirms the appropriateness of the remarks which we then wrote on the subject. That there should be an individual in existence allowed to perform such vagaries, and display such pranks in a church steeple because the ringing-chamber was for the nonce occupied by his betters, seems most deplorable; that he should, for the exhibition of such airs, escape censure from the Church authorities seems a great pity, both for his own sake and that of others who at a future time may again wish to ring on the bells. It is to be hoped that some one connected with the party who visited the steeple that evening may have the courage to bring the whole matter before the Vicar, with a view to prevent such interference at any future period.

The office of steeple-keeper, especially in country places, is one which should not be thought lightly of by those who are empowered with the election of candidates for such a post. We think that in many cases the duties should be simply that of keeping the tower and bells in order, getting everything ready for the ringers, and such-like. In many instances the Clergy and Churchwardens are apt to regard the steeple-keeper as a kind of foreman or conductor of the ringing company, and in consequence, invest them with power to do as they please—a sort of absolute monarch, from whose profound and sagacious decrees there is no appeal. In many instances this power is used in a very arbitrary manner. But in such cases, the blame must not always be laid to the door of those who, placed in such a position of authority, yet remain unskilled ringers. We are glad to add our testimony to the fact that may call-change ringers, occupants of the office we are dealing with, have with the greatest alacrity and pleasure made every preparation for the visit of a half-pull party to their steeple. The grievance exists sometimes among companies which are closely connected together by stringent rules and regulations. The "jack-in-office" is apt to imagine himself "the" man of the place. Things go on very well as long as he can "rule the roast" but if he happens to be opposed on any point he has set his heart upon, then he is exhibited in his true colors. And, unfortunately, he has many ways of rendering himself obnoxious, and throwing impediments in the progress of a society. One thing after the other which is proposed to be carried into effect is objected to by him; applications for peals are refused to some, while he solicits others to attempt them; and this conduct is persisted in till those who held him in the wrong are compelled to give way for the sake of peace. While ringers gladly submit to any restrictions imposed on their practice by the Clergy or Churchwardens, they object to be controlled by any one whose only qualification is that of being a paid official. If a company are anxious to attempt a peal, the members not in the band offering no objection, the veto should not rest with the steeple-keeper, but with the incumbent of the church. When the attention of the clergy to matters appertaining to the belfry is become more frequent, perhaps a better state of affairs may become universal. In the well-known steeples of London, the bells being looked after by popular, and talented ringers, no change is needed; but in many places throughout England, a hint to the steeple-keeper that he is not the lord paramount he fondly imagines himself to be would be very salutary. Where there is but one company in a town or village, and that company, skilled in the art, meeting for periodical practice, it is certainly reasonable to imagine that the voice of the majority should be supreme, and not the whims and caprice of the steeple-keeper, whoever he may be. And it is not out of place to suggest to the clergy that where a steeple-keeper is at continual variance with the rest of his ringing brethren, it is high time for them to interfere, and consider the reasonable necessities of the ringing company themselves.

The Provinces.

LANCASTER.

On Monday, February 13, 1883, in Two Hours and Fifty-six Minutes,

AT ST. PETER'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S 10-PART. Tenor about 25 cwt.

GEORGE WINNTreble.	ROBERT JOHNSON5.
WILLIAM WEARING.. .. .2.	JOHN LENNON6.
WILLIAM CROOKE3.	PATRICK MULLIGAN.. .. .7.
JAMES HARTLEY.. .. .4.	DAVID MAGOWENTenor.

Conducted by GEORGE WINN.

First peal for Messrs. Wearing, Crooke, Hartley, Lennon, and Mulligan; and the first peal on the bells.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—TONG.

On Saturday, February 17, 1883, in Three Hours and Thirty-two Minutes,

AT ST. JAMES'S CHURCH,

6000 CHANGES; IN 25 DIFFERENT METHODS UPON SIX BELLS:

Being 240 changes of each, and rung in the following order:

GRAVEN DELIGHT	MORNING DELIGHT	ARNOLD'S VICTORY
OXFORD DELIGHT	MORNING EXERCISE	CITY DELIGHT
COLLEGE EXERCISE	CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE	COLLEGE PLEASURE
ROYAL BOB	SYMPHONY	KENT TREBLE BOB
TONG DELIGHT	PRIMROSE	NEW LONDON PLEASURE
EVENING PLEASURE	TULIP	DUKE OF YORK
MORNING PLEASURE	COLLEGE TREBLES	VIOLET
EBOR	LONDON SCHOLARS'	OXFORD
EVENING EXERCISE	PLEASURE	

Tenor 12 cwt.

GEORGE CARTER.. .. .Treble.	WILLIAM BOLLAND4.
HENRY ODDY2.	GEORGE BOLLAND5.
EDWARD WEBSTER3.	JOHN HALEYTenor.

The whole was ably conducted by GEORGE BOLLAND.

This feat was accomplished to celebrate the 72nd birthday of the veteran ringer, Mr. George Carter, who has been a ringer at Tong church for more than fifty years. It was listened to by a goodly number of ringers from Birstal, Liversedge, Bradford, Pudsey, Gwiseley, &c., who all acknowledged it to be a masterly performance.

Mr. John Ross, of Pudsey, was present in the tower as witness during the whole period of ringing.

DRIFHLINGTON, YORKSHIRE.

On Saturday, February 17th, 1883, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5280 CHANGES;

Tenor 15 cwt. in F.

J. GARFORTHTreble.	I. IDLE5.
A. GOODALL.. .. .2.	C. A. FOX6.
S. SENIOR3.	J. BUCKLEY.. .. .7.
G. TAYLOR4.	*J. RUDDLESDENTenor.

Composed and conducted by JOHN BUCKLEY.

[* First peal.]

Date Touches.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—On Monday, February 19th, at St. John's church, a date touch of 1883 changes in 1 hr. 12 mins., being 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, and 443 of Plain Bob Minor. George Herdman, 1; C. L. Routledge, 2; W. Egglestone, 3; W. G. Routledge (conductor), 4; W. Story, 5; F. Lees, 6. Tenor 14½ cwt. The 443 of Plain Bob Minor is composed by Mr. C. L. Routledge. Should any of our readers desire to have the composition, they can do so by sending a stamped addressed envelope to Mr. C. L. Routledge, 8, Westmorland Road, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

SHIPLEY (Yorkshire).—On Saturday, February 17th, at St. Paul's church, eight members of the above association rang a date touch of 1883 changes of Kent Treble Bob Major, in 1 hr. 10 mins. B. F.

Lamb (Bolton), 1; B. T. Copley (Bolton), 2; W. Wilks, jun. (Shipley), 3; J. Broadley (Bolton), 4; J. Wilks, 5; W. Wilks, sen. (conductor), 6; G. O. Nettleton, 7; J. S. Clark (Shipley), 8. Also on Tuesday, February 28th, eight members of the same association rang another date touch of 1883 changes of Kent Treble Bob Major, in 1 hr. 10 mins. A. Anderson (Bingley), 1; W. Wilks, jun., 2; T. Lawson (Bingley), 3; J. Wilks, 4; J. S. Clark, 5; W. Wilks, sen. (conductor), 6; J. Mountain (Bingley), 7; W. E. London (Bradford), 8. Tenor 15 cwt.

Miscellaneous.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

JARROW.—On Friday, January 29th, six members of the North Shields branch rang at Christ church, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in 26 mins. S. Nott, 1; A. Sawyer, 2; R. Smith, 3; H. Ross, 4; W. Reed, Esq., 5; R. Willins (conductor), 6.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—On Thursday evening, February 15th, at All Saints' church, 1008 of Grandsire Triples, in 40 mins. Jas. Weddle, 1; W. G. Routledge, 2; F. Lees, 3; C. L. Routledge, 4; John Simm, 5; S. Power (conductor), 6; R. S. Story, 7; J. Dyboll, 8. Tenor 19 cwt.

NORTH SHIELDS.—On Sunday, February 4th, at Christ Church, a touch of 1120 changes of Treble Bob Major, 45 mins. S. Nott, 1; R. Smith, 2; A. Sawyer, 3; R. Willins, 4; W. Waugh, 5; H. Ross, 6; W. Reed, Esq. (conductor), 7; J. Hern, 8. And on Sunday, February 18th, at the same church, for Divine Service, a touch of 704 changes of Kent Treble Bob Major, in 26 mins. S. Nott, 1; W. Reed, Esq., 2; J. Rossiter, 3; W. Waugh, 4; R. Willins, 5; H. Ross, 6; R. Smith (conductor), 7; J. Hern, 8. Tenor 19 cwt. in E.

SOUTH SHIELDS.—On Monday, February 19th, three of the North and three of the South Shields members rang, at St. Hilda's church, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 27 mins. R. Smith, 1; John Moffatt, 2; R. Scrafton, 3; James Moffatt, 4; H. Ross, 5; R. Willins (conductor), 6. This is the first 720 in the method by R. Scrafton, and James Moffatt. Tenor 10 cwt. in C.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

WOLSTANTON (Staffordshire).—On Tuesday evening, February 20th, at St. Margaret's church, a 720 of Bob Minor in 27 mins. S. Walker, 1; L. Miller, 2; W. Priestman, 3; W. Miller, 4; A. Walker (first 720 with a bob bell), 5; S. Spencer (conductor), 6. The above are also members of the Stoke-upon-Trent Archidiaconal Association.

BALDERSTON (near Rochdale, Lancashire).—On Tuesday, February 13th, at St. Mary's church, Reeves's variation peal of Grandsire Triples was attempted, but owing to one of the ringers being taken ill it was brought to an abrupt termination, after ringing 45 mins. C. J. Silverwood, 1; H. Dearnley, 2; A. Fitton, 3; J. E. Howarth, 4; J. H. Prescott, 5; J. Fitton (conductor), 6; W. Howarth, 7; T. Fitton, 8. Tenor 16 cwt. in F.

BEXLEY (Kent).—On Saturday, February 17th, at All Saints, a 720 of Grandsire Minor was rung by six of the Maidstone ringers in 25 mins. G. Moorcraft, 1; G. Pawley, 2; A. Moorcraft, 3; R. Simmonds, 4; A. Woolley, 5; C. Payne (conductor), 6.

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

HIGHER WALTON (Lancashire).—On Sunday, February 18th, for afternoon service at All Saints' church, five of the parish ringers assisted by Mr. Joshua Walker, rung a 720 of Bob Minor, in 26½ mins. Geo. Thornley (conductor), 1; Jas. Walmsley, 2; Henry Hunt, 3; Henry Brewer, 4; Joshua Walker, 5; John Eccles, 6. Tenor 16 cwt. 3 qrs. 26 lbs.

OLDSWINFORD (Worcestershire).—On Sunday, February 18th, six members from the Wordsley and Wollaston companies paid a visit to the Old Church at the above town, and rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 27 mins. The first attempt they made came to grief by the 5th rope breaking after ringing 610 changes. T. Darby, 1; J. Guest (conductor), 2; G. Howells, 3; E. S. Chapman, 4; W. Lawrence, 5; R. Bidmead, 6.

MONEWDEN (Suffolk).—*Handbell Ringing*.—On Monday, February 19, three members of the Monewden Handbell society rang upon handbells (retained in hand) 360 changes of Bob Minor. R. H. Hayward (conductor), 1-2; Joseph Tarrant, 3-4; Thomas Tarrant, 5-6.

PONTEFRAC (Yorkshire).—On Thursday evening, February 15th, at All Saints' church, the local company rang a 720 of Bob Minor, in 27 mins. W. Pearson, 1; J. Pollard, 2; J. P. Heckingbottom, 3; J. Heckingbottom, 4; R. Brook (conductor), 5; J. Carter, 6. Tenor II cwt. in F.

WORDSLEY (Staffordshire).—On Thursday, February 7th, six members of the Holy Trinity Society, rang four 6-scores of Bob Doubles, being the first time the method has been rung on these bells. T. Darby, 1; John Guest, 2; E. G. Husselbee, 3; W. H. Hughes, 4; E. S. Chapman, 5; J. Husselbee, 6. On February 15th, upon the same bells, a mixed band rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 27 mins. Alfred Whatmore (of Brierley Hill; first 720), 1; John Guest (conductor), 2; W. H. Hughes, 3; R. Bidmead, 4; W. Lawrence, 5; E. S. Chapman, 6.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS.

5939.

By CHARLES HENRY HATTERSLEY, *Sheffield*.

First Part.					Third Part.				
2	3	4	5	6	5	3	2	4	6
4	5	2	6	3*	3	4	2	5	6
2	4	5	6	3	4	5	2	3	6
3	2	4	6	5	2	4	5	3	6
5	3	2	6	4	5	2	4	3	6
2	5	3	6	4	2	3	4	5	6
3	2	5	6	4	3	5	4	2	6
4	3	2	6	5	4	3	5	2	6
5	4	3	6	2	5	4	3	2	6
3	5	4	6	2	4	2	3	5	6
4	3	5	6	2	3	5	2	4	6
2	4	3	6	5	2	3	5	4	6
5	2	4	6	3	5	2	3	4	6
3	5	2	6	4	2	4	3	5	6
2	3	5	6	4	4	5	3	2	6
4	2	3	6	5	3	4	5	2	6
5	4	2	6	3	5	3	4	2	6
2	5	4	6	3	3	2	4	5	6
4	2	5	6	3	2	5	4	3	6
3	4	2	6	5	4	2	5	3	6
5	3	4	6	2	4	3	2	5	6
4	5	3	6	2	4	3	2	5	6
3	4	5	6	2	2	5	3	4	6
2	3	4	6	5					
5	2	3	6	4					

Second Part.

4	6	2	5	3	8th in two.
5	6	3	4	2	8th in two and 7 8.
2	4	6	5	3	8th in two.
4	5	6	2	3	8th in three.
3	2	5	4	6	8th in two.

9th in and out at two, then in with two, bring the bells round.

*7th in and out at two twice, last time out with a single.

First rung at Rotherham, on May 18th, 1874, conducted by its composer. It was again rung on handbells (retained in hand) at York, on March 5th, 1877, conducted by Thomas Dixon.

THORNS IN AN EDITOR'S CHAIR.—Among the things, writes the *Tablet*, which a puzzled editor has often to ponder upon, is the best means of pacifying the fiery gentleman whose letters from time to time appear in his columns. His editorial heart is pained by the tendency he observes to wander from the point at issue, and sooner or latter to drift into idle irrelevances or poor personalities. Nothing seems so well calculated to arouse the combative instinct as public letter-writing; once a man is engaged in a newspaper controversy charity is cast to the winds; the meekest of men will set down to pen venomous innuendos about the character of the critic who has ventured to differ from him about the authorship of a prayer-book or the reading of a text. Amiable old gentlemen, admirable in all the relations of life, will sit for hours together with elaborate vindictiveness, hugging and nursing the prospect of impaling an antagonist, or perhaps subjecting him to a sort of literary scalping. To make an opponent cut a pitiable figure, so that his friends may think of him as a good sort of creature who has made the mistake of appearing in print, soon becomes the object of desire, and the truth of the matter in dispute is lightly forgotten; and so epithet is piled upon epithet until the editor in his perplexity announces that the controversy must end.

Correspondence.

[While allowing the utmost freedom for the expression of opinion, it must never be considered that we are in any way bound to statements made by correspondents.]

To the Editor of "THE BELL NEWS AND RINGERS' RECORD."

A DOUBTFUL PERFORMANCE.

SIR,—On looking through your valuable paper, I see there is a peal inserted which I doubt very much whether it has been rung, especially after what I am bound to hear from one or two that took part in it.

The peal in question is the one published as an Essex Association peal, rung at Walthamstow, on Saturday, the 3rd instant, conducted by A. H. Gardom. I am told that the 2nd and 3rd bells shifted, and the band knew nothing about it until the treble came to lead, when "quick as lightning"—to use the expression of my informant—the conductor shifted them back again. That, though it may be very clever, is not the way to ring a "true and complete" peal. Perhaps this may account for the very quick time it is said to be rung in.

The quickest peal ever rung on these bells was rung in two hours and fifty-six minutes; whereas this one is said to have been rung in two hours and forty-seven minutes, making it a quicker peal by nine minutes. The first of these peals was considered to have been rung very quick, but I don't think I shall be contradicted if I say that, upon the whole, the company who rang this peal was a better band than that which rung this very quick one.

The company who go about for peals with Mr. Gardom rang a peal at Loughton in, I think, three hours and nine minutes. These bells are about the same weight as those upon which this quick peal is said to have been rung, but are in better order. Mr. Gardom also called a peal at Edmonton, a lighter peal, in good order, but not in such quick time as the said Walthamstow peal. I should like to ask A. H. Gardom to explain this great difference in the time. There was great doubt thrown upon the Edmonton peal by some one in the *Edmonton* newspaper.

It is a well-known fact that one of those who generally stand in Mr. Gardom's peals, admitted missing to make third's place on one of these occasions, and when asked if the peal was got all the same, he said—"Do you think we were coming away without getting a peal, after ringing two hours?" I was outside the tower for some considerable time when this quick peal was being rung, and on two occasions it was nothing but firing for a whole lead, you could not distinguish one bell from another. I hope you will insert this, and perhaps I shall get an explanation.

T. A. ESTALL.

BOB MINOR.

SIR,—Allow me to make a few remarks in reply to Mr. Penning's last letter, from the tone of which one would think I had not got a leg to stand upon. Now I omitted to tell him in my last that two of my 720's has appeared in our paper, each with forty-three calls; so his statement is not correct. He appears to be unable to make his remarks sufficiently effective without dragging Mr. Nunn into it, and sneers about the bunches of fives, but it is gratifying to find that my remarks has had some effect on that gentleman. I should not have made the remark (which Mr. P. crows about) concerning Mr. Nunn's 720, only I had got mine long before Mr. Nunn's appeared, besides, if we take the quantities of each into consideration, it will clearly be seen that mine is the original, and why I took the matter up was because I knew that the appearance of such shapeless productions was an eye-sore to many. I may be pardoned for using the expression "shapeless," when I say that I see no difficulty in putting them into two parts, with forty, and in a few cases with forty-two singles, but I can afford to allow Mr. Penning to differ with me on this point. With regard to my being envious of other composers I beg to say that I should dearly like to see some 720's from both those gentlemen that I have not got in my collection, and that they are arranged and transposed into their best possible form, and are such as will command a position by the side of those old favorites.

J. J. PARKER.

NOT PIRACY AT ALL.

SIR,—In your issue of the 17th inst., I notice a little comment on the peal we, the Bradford Old Society of Change-Ringers, rung at St. Paul's, Drighlington, on the 30th December, 1882, which Mr. H. Dains claims to be his peal, but we can assure him it is not. Now previous to ringing this peal we wrote to Mr. Sottanstill to compose us one to be rung on the above occasion, and he sent us the peal here referred to, which he said was his own composition, and as such we rung it, and most certainly believe it was his, and are of the same opinion yet. If Mr. D. happens to have one like it, which is very likely, so may other composers, if they will take the same trouble as Mr. Dains has in this peal, but surely that does not make the composer any the worse. I have not the least doubt that if Mr. D. was to compare his with Mr. Sottanstill, he would find some other peals alike, which were composed by Mr. Sottanstill a long time before his. Now, Mr. Editor, as we happen to be a company that prefers to ring Mr. Sottanstill's peals, and have invariably found that they get pretty well dissected and put to the test by some of his friends, and I may say, that to save Mr. D. any unnecessary correspondence and uneasiness, we have decided to ring another of Mr. S.'s peals in a week or two, composed on the 28th of October last, which he brought us when he was over at the Annual Meeting of the Sowerby Centenary, held at Bradford on October 29th, and we shall have much pleasure in publishing it in full in this paper, for the benefit of all concerned, and if some one should happen to have one like it, why they must excuse our ignorance in the matter, as it is our honest intention to ring only the peal here referred to.

J. NAYLOR.

In answer to "A Treble Bob Ringer" Mr. John Thackray, of Ellis Square, Theaker Lane, Armley, Leeds, writes:—In your issue of the 17th instant "A Treble Bob Ringer" fails to see how to get 83 changes of Kent Treble Bob Minor for a date touch, John Thackray thinking there ought to be as little repeating of changes as possible, got his thus to go off at back stroke.—[We give our correspondent's epistle verbatim; the composition shall be sent to "A Treble Bob Ringer" if he will send us a stamped addressed envelope.—Ed.]

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS.

5076.

By J. WRIGHT, Kingston-on-Thames.

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

3 2 5 4 7 6 8 9
 2 5 3 4 7 6 8 9
 4 5 2 6 3 9 7 8
 5 2 4 6 3 9 7 8
 4 3 5 2 7 6 8 9
 3 5 4 2 7 6 8 9
 2 5 3 6 4 9 7 8
 5 3 2 6 4 9 7 8
 2 4 5 3 7 6 8 9
 4 5 2 3 7 6 8 9
 3 5 4 6 2 9 7 8

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

2 6 3 5 4 9 7 8
 3 4 2 6 7 5 8 9
 4 2 3 6 7 5 8 9
 6 2 4 5 3 9 7 8
 2 4 6 5 3 9 7 8
 6 3 2 4 7 5 8 9
 3 2 6 4 7 5 8 9
 4 2 3 5 6 9 7 8
 2 3 4 5 6 9 7 8
 7 8 2 6 9 4 5 3
 2 9 7 8 5 6 3 4

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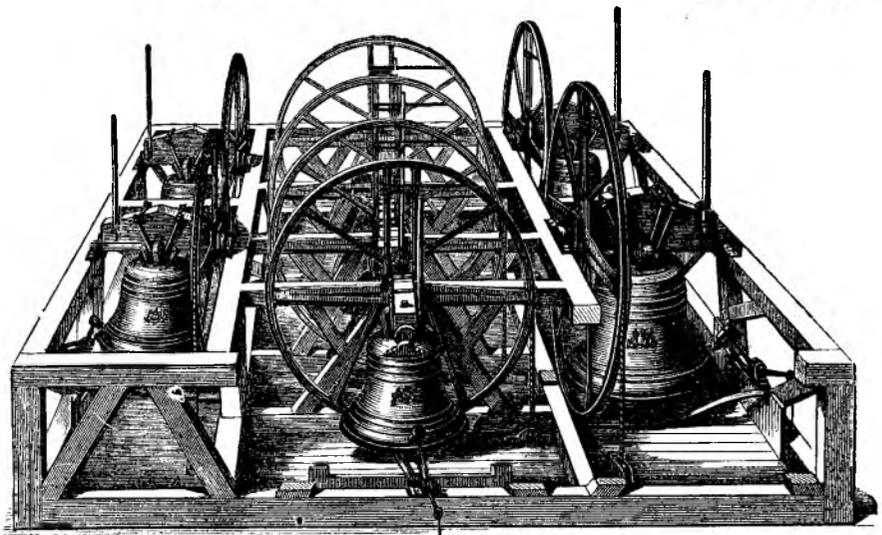
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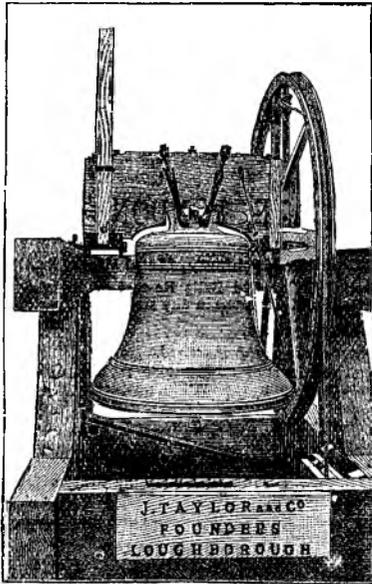
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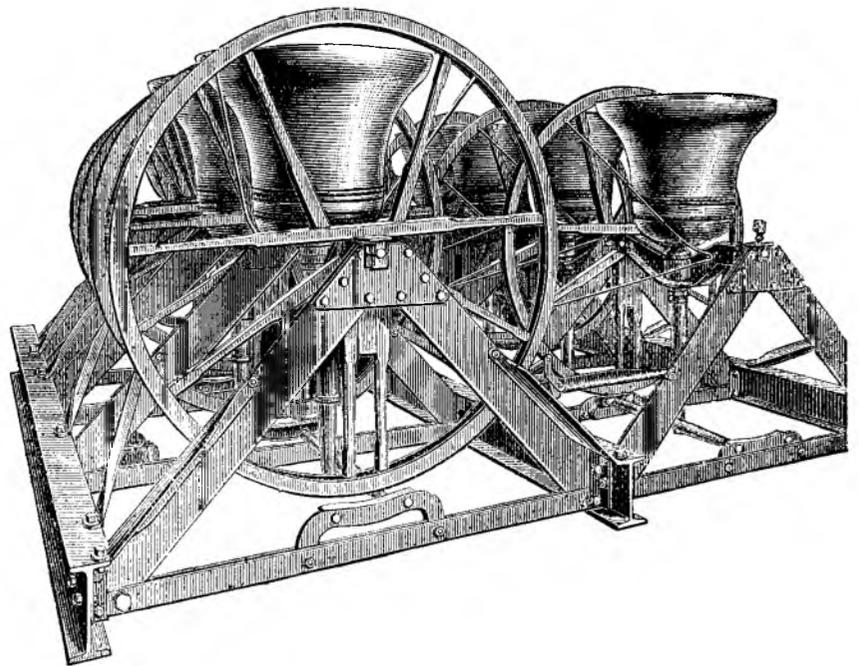
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And Ringers' Record:

A Weekly Journal of the Ringing Exercise; and Compendium of Information for the Clergy and Churchwardens.

No. 48. [NEW SERIES.]—VOL. I.

SATURDAY, MARCH 3, 1883.

[ONE PENNY.]



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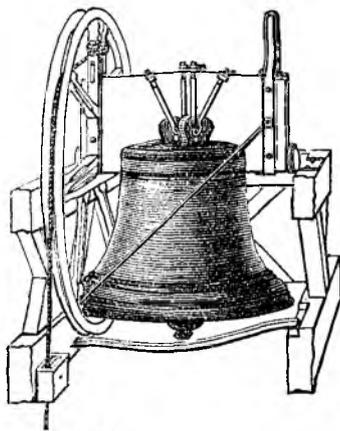
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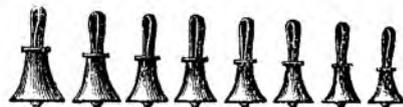
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The last chapter is devoted to a list of the names of Composers of the different peals, with various particulars, and in the cases of deceased Composers with the dates of death, age, etc.

J. W. SNOWDON, Old Bank Chambers, Leeds.

YORK BELL FOUNDERS.—III.

(Continued.)

I thank Mr. North for his notes on the bells cast by John of York. In 1457, a Johannes de Yorke was one of the Keepers of the York Guild of Corpus Christi.

Mr. W. H. Howard has communicated to me that at Osmotherley, a bell bearing the inscription:—

"Sancte Petre Ora Pro Nobis"

contains the same shields as the three bells at Christ Church, York (mentioned in my last).

THOMAS ASBY.

1485.—In this year "Thos. Asby, bellmaker," was admitted into the Guild of Corpus Christi, in the City of York.

The destruction of monasteries, as well as churches in large towns, was the means of dispersing many of the bells throughout the country. A letter amongst the Dodsworth mss. dated from York, concerning Jerveaux Abbey, will give some idea how the work of stripping the religious houses was carried out, and the difficulty of selling the bells.

"A letter from Richard Bellycys, 14th November. Pleasythe your lordship to be advertysed. I have taken down all the lead of Jerveaux, and made it into pecys of half foddors, which lead amounteth to the number of eight en score and five foddors, with thirty and four foddors and a half that were there before; and the said lead cannot be conveit nor carried until the next sumbre, for the ways in that countre are so foul and deep that no caryage can pass in wyntre. And as concernynge the raising and taking down of the house, if it be your lordship's pleasure, I am minded to let it stand until the next spring of the year, by reason of the days are now so short it would be double charges to do it now. And as concernynge the selling of the bells, I cannot sell them above 15s the hundred, wherein I wolde gladly know your lordship's pleasure, whether I sholde sell them after that price, or send them up to London; and if they be sent up, surely the caryage will be costly from that place to the water. And as for Bridlington, I have done nothing there as yet; but spayrid it to March next, because the days are now so very short; and from such time as I begin, I trust shortly to dispatch it after such fashion, that when all is finished, I trust your lordship hath appointed me to doo; and thus the Holy Ghost ever preserve your lordship in honour. At York, this 14th day of November, 1558, by your lordship's most bounden headman.—(Signed) RICHARD BELLICYS."

ROBERT MOT.

I have not met with the name of this founder elsewhere, and should be glad to receive any information about him,

Amongst the City records we find that in—

"1565.—Ald. John Bean, then Lord Mayor of York, gave 100 marks to buy three tuneable bells for the Church of St. Martin, in Micklegate."

At the present time there are two bells hanging there, each containing the following, in Old English characters:—

1579.—"John Beane Alderman gave these bells
Robert Mot made me mccccclxxix"
(with shield—in pale—two helms, crown, and one helm.)

John Bean, innholder, served the office of Sheriff in 1538, afterwards Alderman, Lord Mayor in 1545 and 1565, elected M.P. 8 March, 1554, died 1581. His only child Mary, was married at the above church August 6th, 1554, to Anthony Wharton, esq., of Regell Grange, county Westmoreland. From this marriage, the wealthy and eccentric Mrs. Margaret Wharton, who died in 1791, and her noble contemporary Hugh, Duke of Northumberland, both derived their descent.—*Davie's Walks through York.*

1583.—ST. WILLIAM'S CHAPEL, OUSE BRIDGE.—It had its little steeple with three bells, but in 1583 the city exchanged them for two from St. Saviour's parish, only one of which, however, appears to have found its way to St. William's steeple.

The following bells were probably cast in York:—

1592.—THE MINSTER.—

"Surge cito, propra, cunctos citat, excitat hora;
Cur Dormis? Virgila, me resonante leva, 1592"

Translated:—

"Rise quickly, haste, 'tis time to stir for all;
Why sleepest thou? awake when I do call."

This, the bell for calling to prayers, was formerly hung over the south entrance, but in the time of Dean Finch it was removed to the top of the Great Tower, at the south-west angle of which was placed a cupola for it to hang in. This cupola was removed by order of Dean Markham.

1599.—THE MINSTER:—

"I will sound and resound to thy people, Lord
With my sweet voice to call them to thy word
1599"

1621.—YORK, ST. DENNIS.—This bell is broken.

"Fili Dei Miserere Mei 1621"

1627.—THE MINSTER.—2 bells.

"Exvltetms Domino 1627 Phineas Hodson Cancellarius
Wickham Archi nus Ebor"

This was the largest bell weighing 59 cwt., and was usually tolled at funerals. On March 29th, 1628, the year following, Archbishop Matthews died, and at his funeral this bell was tolled for the first time.

"Sweetly tolling Men do call
To taste on Food that feeds the soul—1627"

G. B. (York.)

(To be continued.)

STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

THE first Monthly Meeting for the District of Uttoxeter was held at that centre on Saturday last, February 24th. Ringers attended in good numbers from Checkley, Ellaston, Leigh, Stoke, and Uttoxeter. Call-changes were the order of the day, but on such a splendid peal of eight, both the ringers and the Association are determined quickly to produce thorough change-ringing.

After a pleasant time in the tower, an adjournment was made to the Town Hall, where tea was very kindly provided by the Uttoxeter band of ringers. The Rev. H. Abud (Rural Dean), spoke a few kindly words, and the Rev. W. W. Bolton (Hon. Sec.), brought forward the business.

Mr. William Cope was elected to the post of District Secretary, so that now this Association has its four under-secretaries; one in each of its districts:—Leek, Stoke, Wolstanton, Uttoxeter. The question as to providing tea at future meetings was discussed, and it was unanimously decided that each man should pay for his own.

Many present having taken down particulars as to "THE BELL NEWS," and a hearty vote of thanks having been passed to the Vicar for his presence and kind attention, an adjournment was made to the tower, where ringing was continued till a late hour.

There is a very perfect carillon at work in this tower (Uttoxeter) and the hanging of the bells is very good. The tower is a lofty one, and the tone of the bells are very sweet and mellow. The belfry is roomy and kept very neat and clean.

The next meeting of the Association will held be on Saturday, at Cheddleton.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
STOCKTON-ON-TEES.

THE number of 720's of Minor rung on the bells of Stockton parish church during the year 1882 include sixteen of Kent Treble Bob; thirteen of Oxford Bob; ten of College Singles; six of Bob Minor; four of Stedman's Slow Course; four of Court Bob; three of St. Simon's; two of Grandsire; and two of Oxford Treble Bob; or a total of sixty 720's in nine different methods. The greatest length accomplished was 3650, in an attempt for a 5040. Thirty-seven of the above 720's were conducted by G. J. Clarkson; eighteen by T. Stephenson; and five by T. Burdon. The total number of 720's rung on these bells since the formation of the Durham Association is as follows:—in 1878, five; in 1879, thirty-five; in 1880, fifty-nine; in 1881, fifty-two; or a total of 211 720's of Minor to the end of 1882.

The Ven. H. Martin, Archdeacon of Lindisfarne, has consented to become a patron of the Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association.

FUNERAL OF A RINGER.—On Wednesday, February 21st, the remains of Mr. John Wood were interred at St. Chad's church, Saddleworth. The deceased was a ringer at Saddleworth church, and one of the handbell ringers. On Saturday, February 10th, he rang his last tune at the tea meeting in connection with the Wrigley Mill School. During the evening he complained of being unwell. On Sunday he was much worse, and it was found that he suffered from inflammation of the lungs. He died on Saturday morning, the 17th. The deceased was in his 31st year, and leaves a widow and infant son. The bells at St. Chad's church were deeply muffled on Sunday week. At his funeral, ringers from Hayfield, Glossop, and other places were present. The local ringers rang a course of Grandsire Major, and a course of Grandsire Triples on handbells over his grave, and the ringers from Hayfield and Glossop, rang 360 changes of Oxford in the steeple. The deceased had helped to ring ten true and complete 720's, comprising 7200 changes, on March 30th, 1877, which were brought round in 4 hrs. 18 mins. which is the longest length ever rung on Saddleworth bells. The local ringers, after the funeral, rang a 720 of Violet, which is the last method the deceased rang in the tower. He has been successful in helping to win a second prize on six bells, a fourth on eight, and a fourth on the handbells. The ringers mourn the loss of a good ringer, neighbour, and friend.

TEMPERANCE IN AND OUT OF THE BELL-CHAMBER.

BROTHER RINGERS.—Having read this journal since its existence amongst us, and noticed the several accounts of ringing performances, belfries, and belfry reform, I think it time I put a finger into the pie (not my hand, by chance I get burnt). Thanks be to the promoters of this journal for the pains they have taken to make it a success, as now we are able to converse with our brother ringers in most parts of the country to an extent which a while back was almost unknown.

In the first place I will say a few words about belfries. I quite concur with our Editor's remarks in this paper of November 4th, in which he speaks of some belfries being disgraceful. I remember our own Association holding one of its quarterly meetings in one of our largest towns, when a party of six of us agreed to pay a visit to a six-bell steeple. This we did, but when we got there it looked more like a lumber-room than part of a church. One man occupied all the clothes-pegs, which consisted of a gas-bracket, and all the other garments had to lie quietly on the floor, which was not a pleasing condition for anyone's Sunday best; while down a few steps led us into a clean, tidy and comfortable little church. What a pity the Vicar could not give a visit to this uncomfortable place, where a few shillings' expense might put matters into their proper order, yet this is not the only place of this description. Other belfries I have visited, where the Vicar only allows the bells to be rung on special occasions. Then what is the use of having a peal of bells or wanting to keep a set of ringers if the bells are only to be rung once or twice a year? Nevertheless this is the case in many village churches. What sounds sweeter on a Sunday than to hear bells pealing forth their sweet and melodious sounds on one's way to church. Does not it remind us of that hymn which says "Far, far away, like bells at evening pealing," and does not it make us think of that day which our Eternal Maker set apart as "The Day of Rest"?

Now a few words as to the order kept in belfries. Is not this in 99 cases out of 100 solely the fault of the ringers, for what Vicar or Churchwardens could deny them a little expense if they knew it was to be spent in making the bell-chamber comfortable and respectable? We in our little village church of Sandal Magna, pay a trifle every year out of our salary to one ringer, who undertakes to sweep the bell-chamber out every week so that it is clean and tidy on the Sunday. Then once a year we spend a little time in white-washing and painting, which we can afford to do cheap, it being to our own benefit, and our churchwardens are always willing to bear the little expense.

Then comes that awful nuisance of smoking in the belfry, which I am happy to say is a rare occurrence in ours, although I have seen it more like the floor of a public-house than anything else, with the expectoration of tobacco-smokers and chewers. I myself have never used either tobacco or cigars, or taken any intoxicating drink, although I have lived in a public business now for 12 years, and I am, either in the belfry or out, a strict advocate for temperance, which I can safely say has not been in vain. I belong to that old established block, "The Church of England Temperance Society," and my duty is to promote the objects of that society. Some of my readers may say this is self-praise, so it is, but how many would give all they possessed if they could say the same as me. When a farmer wishes to sell his grain, does not he take a sample of it to market, so in like manner am I a sample of the above society, the bulk of which I have a right, fully to expose, and the honour of which I feel proud to be possessed of. Nobody only those like myself, know what sneers and taunts we get thrown at us, but if a man has health and strength what, can he wish for more, as a man said to me the other day "get some ale and it'll put new life into thee." Well, that is all right, but I believe in real life and not artificial. You know all about artificial life the next morning when your head feels more like a block of wood than that of a human being. I myself have seen ringers at Christmas-time, who after ringing for midnight service, have freely indulged in the liquor, and next morning could scarcely see the ropes. One sight I never shall forget, a young man who was a good ringer when sober, came to ring when a little beerified. The rope formed a complete noose round his neck, when as by an act of Providence, the bell happened to be set, which had not this been the case, he may have met with a fatal accident. We all then agreed that it was the last time we should ring with anyone the worse for beer, and we had to dispense with this same young man's services a little while afterwards for the same cause. I have rung at churches where the ringers stand in the body of the church, on a level with the congregation, and what would it look like, a man coming to ring the worse for beer, in the midst of earnest worshippers, would not the Vicar and Churchwardens soon begin to interfere? yet is there any more harm here than in the bellchamber, which is part and parcel of the consecrated church? I see in recent numbers of "THE BELL NEWS AND RINGERS' RECORD," accounts of a "spree" amongst certain ringers, which turned out to be a good supper provided by a certain parishioner. I only wish this was more common, as ringers are nearly always left out in the cold. Our late

vicar invited us every New-Year's-eve to a coffee supper before we commenced ringing at midnight, and I can assure you it was very acceptable. If the vicars and churchwardens the several churches would only pay an occasional visit into the belfries unknown to the ringers, they would in many cases find room for improvement. I say many cases, not all, for I am happy to say that from my own knowledge some ringers have as clean a belfry as anyone would wish to go into. Belfry furniture is not in most cases either costly or expensive, but what little exists, if decency and order prevails, can be made look decent and becoming: I long to see the present efforts of belfry reform brought fully into operation, and ringers looked upon as honest, noble-minded church-workers, and not a low, disreputable set of men as in days of yore.

I will send you an account of our bells for insertion in some future paper. Hoping I have not intruded too much upon your valuable space, but at some future time to have another dip.

WILLIAM REYNER,

Member of the Sandal Magna branch of the Yorkshire Association.

RINGING IN NOTTINGHAM.

A correspondent, writing under the *nom de plume* of "Friar Tuck," says:—

"The bob-caller of the touch rung at Beeston (which it may be said, is a limb of the borough), makes a few timely remarks with reference to a pest of many years' standing, I mean that red-nosed untidy lout, who is nearly always out of work, who can manage to haul a bell about, who will persist in thrusting himself in your company, and does not forget to let it be pretty well known he is your brother-ringer. But the bob-caller makes no mention of the other class of pullers, very different to those mentioned above, but bell-haulers in every sense of the word, in fact St. Mary's Nottingham is not a deal unlike what you tell us is the case at St. Mary's, Great Ilford, Essex ("BELL NEWS," No. 41). Here we have certainly a band of apparently intelligent young men, and the very model of future change-ringers, but their tutor, who was never considered safe beyond the treble in Grandsire Caters, has become captain of the belfry, that honour being conferred by the Vicar and Churchwardens, in spite of the change-ringers' remonstrances of incompetency, the result—the change-ringers being replaced by those mentioned above; the "tutor" set against all changes, both methods and men. I am informed two of them suggested they should commence to ring changes, a few days afterwards they each received a note:—"Your services are no longer required." The same authority says when two of them come together in ringing churchyard bobs no sooner do they begin to strike over and under each other, then round is called, their instructor thinking it too much like dodging to be agreeable to him.

But bell-hauling is not the only drawback to change-ringing in Nottingham, there also a small clique of unmistakably scientific persons who are never to be seen in a belfry from one Sunday to another, except it is for a job; men who can boast of having rung Stedman years ago, and never will lend a helping hand with a young one, or even attempt a peal in that method; men who dub themselves A 1's, but if there is anything to be done apart from emolument it falls to the lot of A 2's. They are never present to receive Associations, or visitors of any description but too ready with sarcastic criticism. I have yet to learn that a man is really what he claims to be, viz., a lover of the noble art, who never puts in an appearance to try to save two fine peals in his own town from running to seed. Truly there is ample room for man and belfry reform in Nottingham, for this last fifteen years St. Peter's bells have been in the hands of a class of persons mentioned by "bob-caller."

One visit of the Derby and District Association was the means of initiating the Rector and several other clergymen as honorary members, and from that date (last September) change-ringing has been making a slow but sure progress. It would easily be seen what good if all, instead of a portion of the Stedman ringers could do, if they would cease their sarcastic criticisms, offer the use of their superior knowledge, join the Association, and lay a penny out in "BELL NEWS," we might soon have change-ringing on two peals of eight, and probably on the ten, about which you made a capital Editorial reference in a recent number."

NORTON (Derbyshire).—On Sunday, February 25th, at St. James's church, six members of the Norton society rang for Divine Service a 720 of Bob Minor, in three parts, with nine bobs and six singles, in 30 mins. *F. Ward, 1; *H. Ward, 2; *W. Biggin, 3; J. Goucher, 4; J. Atkin, 5; *J. Allen (conductor), 6. Tenor 11½ cwt. *First 720. This is the first 720 on the bells in this method, and the first 720 rang by a Norton company for the last twenty-five years. [This report came too late for insertion in its proper place.—ED.]

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 " 6 " 3s. 3d.
 " 3 " 1s. 8d.

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All communications respecting advertisements must be addressed to the office of "THE BELL NEWS," Walthamstow, London.

Everything for insertion in this Journal to be addressed "The Editor of THE BELL NEWS, Walthamstow, London." Letters forwarded for publication must reach us not later than Wednesday morning; the insertion of Performances coming later than the first Postal delivery on Thursday morning cannot be guaranteed in that week's number.

The Editor would be glad to receive the names of gentlemen who would be willing to act for their respective districts, in the capacity of reporter or correspondent. We shall feel obliged by Association and other Secretaries sending intelligence of events occurring within their jurisdiction.

L. C. Y.—Will answer your query next week.

E. F. STRANGE.—The maker, Mr. Seage, of Codrington Street, Exeter, will be glad to afford you every information. We recommend its adoption, where available.

A LANCASHIRE CORRESPONDENT.—The first peal was probably composed about the end of the seventeenth century, as there is a legend of a peal having been rung before 1700. There is no authentic record of any earlier composition than the peal of Triples rung in Norwich in 1718, though peals had been rung before that date.

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, MARCH 3, 1883.

AMID the excitement attendant upon what is known as the Ritualistic movement, we are frequently told by competent authority that the Church of England must be regarded as comprehensive, meaning, we suppose, that it must be held to embrace, not merely one sect of Christians, but all who conform to its chief theological tenets, though in such minor matters as ritual, and trifling excesses of belief, they may differ. It is open to question, however, whether the plea for such comprehensiveness is not tantamount to an apology for the extreme point in matters appertaining to ritual. This, however, *en passant*. It is sufficient for the present to point out that great divergencies of opinion do exist among the clergy both as to modes of ritual, and to what is correct or otherwise in several important questions of belief. It is not intended to dwell, however, in these prefatory observations, on all or any of the phases that orthodoxy has assumed; it is sufficient to mention that differences of opinion in the manner we allude to do prevail.

One circumstance, as coming within the domain of this journal, we certainly are entitled to make a pointed reference thereto. We refer to the question of the use of the bells of the Church during the solemn season of Lent. We are fully aware that such a question requires great delicacy in handling. It is well-known that many of our readers, both clerical and lay, insist that the bells should remain silent through this season, to be rung with increased vigour on the festival of the Resurrection—Easter-day. Indeed the falling-of ringing news both in our pages and in the ringing column of our contemporary is a sufficient indication that this solemn fast is being observed in this manner, and we are far indeed from objecting to such an

observance. On the other hand, we find the opposite usage advocated. It is within our knowledge that the idea of keeping the bells silent through Lent has been ridiculed, and arguments adduced to show, from a religious point of view, that the bells during that season should be rung more merrily if possible than ever. Thus a conflict of opinion upon this question is seen, similar to that relating to ritual, etc.

No doubt in many cases acrimony has been engendered by the stoppage of ringers' meetings through Lent, but we must say, not always by the ringers' non-acquiescence in the solemnity of the season, but by the manner in which the restriction has been brought about. And in such cases as these it is nothing to be wondered at if examples are brought forward where those who are so outwardly strict in this particular observance seem to forget their religious principles when various kinds of pleasure—apart from the belfry—are available to them. One great cause of much ill-feeling in connection with this question is in many cases the forwardness, assurance, or whatever it may be called, of one or two members of a ringing company suddenly becoming good, and insisting that the bells shall not be rung. This is, unfortunately, demanded by such pharisaical persons in the hope that their conscientious scruples will cause them to be petted by the Church authorities. We can well remember an instance of this description, in which the individual who appeared so anxious—from a pure religious feeling, of course—that the bells should be silent, did not hesitate to concoct a falsehood or two in order to carry out his object.

It may be asked, what should a ringing company do under the circumstances? Are they of their own accord to cease ringing during Lent? There may be, and very probably there will be, a difference of opinion among the members with respect to this. Then in such case the incumbent should be consulted, and to his determination every one should cheerfully yield. But while saying this much, we think the initiative ought to proceed from the incumbent himself. At any rate, his wishes, even should he not issue a command, should be at once complied with. But in any case it will be the best plan for him to personally state his intentions to the ringers, and where he is indifferent as to whether the bells should be rung or otherwise, to refuse to listen to anyone who tries to appear better or more righteous than his fellows.

The Metropolis.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.
 BISHOPSGATE, LONDON.

On Thursday, February 22, 1882, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,

AT ST. BOTOLPH'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 19 cwt. in E.

HENRY C. HALEY Treble.	CHALLIS F. WINNY 5.
JOHN BONNEY 2.	RICHARD FRENCH 6.
FRANCIS E. DAWE 3.	HENRY J. TUCKER 7.
EDWIN GIBBS 4.	WALTER PRIME Tenor.

Conducted by HENRY C. HALEY.

THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY.—WALWORTH, SURREY.

On Wednesday, February 28, 1883, in Two Hours and Forty-two Minutes,

AT ST. PETER'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THE ORIGINAL BOB-AND-SINGLE PEAL. Tenor 15½ cwt.

HENRY LANGDON Treble.	WILLIAM JONES 5.
GEORGE T. McLAUGHLIN.. 2.	HENRY J. TUCKER 6.
CHALLIS F. WINNY 3.	RICHARD FRENCH 7.
J. MARTIN ROUTH, ESQ. .. 4.	WILLIAM H. GEORGE .. Tenor.

Conducted by HENRY J. TUCKER.

The Provinces.

BROMBOROUGH, CHESHIRE.

On Saturday, February 24, 1883, in Three Hours and Nineteen Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

TAYLOR'S BOB-AND-SINGLE VARIATION. Tenor 24 cwt. in Eb.

W. GITTINGS Treble.	E. GITTINS 5.
J. ROBERTS 2.	J. OLLERHEAD 6.
T. HUGHES 3.	W. WOODS 7.
C. GITTINS 4.	THOS. KING Tenor.

Conducted by W. Woods.

First peal by all except the conductor.

MOORSIDE, NEAR OLDHAM, LANCASHIRE.

On Saturday, February 24th, 1883, in Two Hours and Fifty-seven Minutes,

AT ST. THOMAS'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S 10-PART. Tenor 18 cwt.

JOHN HILTON Treble.	SAMUEL STOTT 5.
FRED CROSLAND 2.	JAMES ADAMS 6.
WILLIAM SMITH 3.	GEORGE LONGDEN 7.
JAMES PRIESTLEY 4.	JOSEPH MELLOR Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE LONGDEN.

Messrs Hilton and Stott hail from Lees; Crosland and Priestley from Oldham; and the rest from Ashton.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—MAIDSTONE.

On Monday, February 26, 1883, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,

AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

A VARIATION OF HOLT'S 10-PART. Tenor 19 cwt. in E.

CHARLES RELF Treble.	GEORGE PAWLEY 5.
HENRY PEARCE* 2.	*ALCHIN MOORCRAFT .. 6.
ALFRED H. WOOLLEY 3.	*FREDERICK G. NEWMAN.. 7.
REUBEN SIMMONDS† 4.	GEORGE MOORCRAFT .. Tenor.

Conducted by ALCHIN MOORCRAFT.

* College Youths. † First peal with a bob bell.

Date Touches.

ECKINGTON (Derbyshire) On Monday, February 26th, at the Parish Church, a date touch of 1883 changes, in 1 hr. 10 mins, being 360 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor; 360 of Violet; 360 of Duke of York; 360 of College Pleasure; and 443 of New London Pleasure. G. Smith, 1; W. Price, 2; J. Shaw, 3; G. Norman, 4; G. Marsden (conductor), 5; T. Lunn, 6. Tenor 16 cwt. 14 lbs.

EYE (Suffolk).—On Tuesday, February 27th, at the parish church, a date touch, 1883 changes, of Oxford Treble Bob Major, in 1 hr. 15 mins. W. Gudesham, 1; D. Collins, 2; R. Ford, 3; E. Collins, 4; R. E. Gibbs, 5; G. Ford, 6; John Bumpstead, 7; G. Murton, 8. Composed by Arthur Knights, of Chesterfield, and conducted by George Murton. Tenor 24 cwt.

LEICESTER.—On Tuesday, February 20th, at St. Saviour's church, eight members of the St. Saviour's Society rung a date touch of Grand-sire Triples, containing 1883 changes, in 1 hr. and 15 mins. Enos

Garner, 1; Arthur Brown, 2; Guydo Dickinson, 3; Edwin Ashwell, 4; Joseph Needham, 5; Herbert Needham, 6; Alfred Millis, (composer and conductor), 7; George Needham, 8. If any of our readers would like the touch, they can have it by sending a stamped addressed envelope to Mr. H. Needham, 49, Clipstone Street, Leicester. Tenor 27 cwt in E.

MIRFIELD (Yorkshire).—On Sunday evening, February 25th, the society belonging to St. Mary's church, rang 1883 changes of Kent Treble Bob Royal, in 1 hr. 26 mins. The bells were muffled as a last tribute of respect to the late Mr. Henry Firth, formerly a member of the society. John Crowther, 1; Jesse Holt, 2; David Clarkson, 3; Thomas Oxley, 4; Ralph Ellis, 5; Henry Robinson (composer; of Dewsbury), 6; Arthur Jackson, 7; Henry Hinchliffe, 8; Benjamin Robinson, 9; Joah Peacock (conductor), 10. Tenor 30 cwt.

STOCKPORT (Cheshire).—On Tuesday, February 27th, with the bells muffled in memory of the late Lord Egerton, of Tatton Park, a benefactor to the Church, a date touch, 1883 changes of Grandsire Triples, was rung in 1 hr. 10 mins. John Warburton, 1; James Meakin, 2; John Dymock, 3; Alfred Gordon, 4; Joseph Barlow, 5; Edward Leonard, 6; William Gordon (composer and conductor), 7; William Sharples, 8. Tenor 25 cwt. in Eb.

Miscellaneous.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

DARLINGTON (Durham).—On Sunday evening, February 25th, for Divine Service at St. John's church, five members of the Darlington branch of the above Association, with Mr. W. Eggleston, of St. John's, Newcastle-on-Tyne, rang a 720 of Oxford Bob Minor, in 26 mins. W. J. Blakiston, 1; W. Patton, 2; W. Eggleston (first 720 in the method), 3; J. H. Whitfield, 4; J. H. Blakiston, 5; G. A. Overton (conductor), 6. Tenor 10 cwt.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

BRAINTREE (Essex).—On Saturday evening, February 25th, at St. Michael's church, a 720 of Double Court Bob. T. Watson, 1; *J. T. Barker, 2; H. E. Hammond, 3; *E. Claydon, 4; F. Rudkin (conductor), 5; S. Hammond, 6. (*First 720 in this method.) Also a 720 of Bob Minor. F. Calthorpe, 1; J. T. Barker (Stebbing), 2; *H. Gowers (Stebbing), 3; S. Hammond (conductor), 4; E. Claydon (Stebbing), 5; A. Huckson, 6. (*First 720.)

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

HEYWOOD (Lancashire).—On Tuesday evening, February 20th, eight members of the St. Luke's Society, being also members of the above Association, rang 2520 changes, being a half-peal (bob-and-single) of Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. and 35 mins. A. Schofield, 1; George Crossley, 2; *W. R. Barrett, 3; T. Wharton, 4; John Millett, 5; *J. Harrison (conductor), 6; *Joseph Street, 7; James Millett, 8. Tenor 22½ cwt. in E. *Members of the Rochdale and District Association.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

PULHAM MARKET (Norfolk).—On Tuesday Evening, February 20th, six members of the above Association rang a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in 30 mins. Thomas Farrow (conductor), 1; James Tann, sen., 2; William Tann, 3; Frederick Surridge, 4; John Smith, 5; William Roope, 6. Tenor 18 cwt. in F.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

FARNHAM ROYAL (Bucks).—On Sunday afternoon, February 18th, for Divine Service at the Parish Church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 26½ mins. C. Chapman, 1; F. Fells, 2; J. Parker (conductor), 3; A. Batten, 4; J. Basden, 5; C. Clark, 6. Also on Saturday, February 24th, a 720 in the same method, in 27 mins. G. Basden, 1; F. Fells, 2; J. Parker (conductor), 3; A. Batten, 4; C. Clark, 5; A. Fussell, 6. Tenor 12 cwt.

OXFORD.—On Tuesday, February 20th, at the Cathedral Church of Christ, the following members of the above Guild, attempted a peal of Grandsire Caters, 5003 changes, when after ringing 3 hrs. the third rope broke and brought it to grief. Charles Hester, 1; Job Howes, 2; John G. Collier, 3; Samuel Hounslow, 4; J. F. Hastings, Esq., 5; Oliver Thomas, 6; Charles Hounslow, 7; G. F. Coleridge, Esq., 8; James W. Washbrook (conductor), 9; David Francombe, 10. Tenor 42 cwt. in C. Also on Saturday, February 24th, a touch of Stedman Caters, consisting of 1083 changes, in 43 mins., at New College. Joseph Field (conductor), 1; Samuel Hounslow, 2; John G. Collier, 3; Charles Hounslow, 4; Chas. Boots, 5; G. F. Coleridge, Esq., 6; J. F. Hastings, Esq., 7; C. C. Child, Esq., 8; J. W. Washbrook, 9; W. Finch, 10. This is the greatest length in this method by this company. Tenor 23 cwt. in D.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

HULL.—On Tuesday, February 20th, the following members of the Holy Trinity Society, also members of the above association, rang on the back six bells of Holy Trinity Church, 720 of Bob Minor, and 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 1 hr. 5 mins. A. Taylor, 1; F. Drabble (first attempt with a bob bell), 2; W. Gill, 3; W. Southwick (conductor), 4; I. Dixey, 5; C. Bennet, 6. Tenor 25 cwt.

DARLINGTON (Durham).—On Tuesday, February 27th, four members of the St. John's society, with Mr. J. E. Hern and Mr. J. Simpson, of Hurworth-on-Tees, rang a 720 of Bob Minor, in 28 mins. J. Bolton, 1; J. Simpson, 2; J. E. Hern, 3; W. Patton, 4; J. H. Blakiston, 5; J. H. Whitefield (conductor), 6. Also a 720 in the same method, in 26 mins., with Mr. J. E. Hern and the Rev. W. H. Deane of Hurworth-on-Tees. W. J. Blakiston, 1; Rev. W. H. Deane, 2; J. E. Hern, 3; J. H. Whitefield, 4; R. Moncaster, 5; J. H. Blakiston (conductor), 6.

EDMONTON (Middlesex).—On Monday evening, February 26th, at All Saints' Church, a touch of Grandsire Triples, 1330 changes, in about 50 mins., taken from Holt's Original. J. Davidson, 1; J. Pettit (conductor), 2; W. Carter, 3; J. Crouch, 4; R. Goodchild, 5; J. White, 6; W. Jiggins, 7; L. Sawyer, 8.

FARNWORTH NEAR WIDNES (Lancashire).—On Saturday evening, February 24th, five ringers of St. Luke's church, assisted by W. Brown, of Runcorn, Cheshire, rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 27 mins. J. Large (conductor), 1; A. Whitfield (first 720 with a bob bell), 2; J. Whilde (first 720), 3; W. Brown, 4; J. T. Lowe, 5; J. Latchford, junr., 6. Tenor 16½ cwt. in G.

HAVERSTOCK HILL (Middlesex).—On Wednesday, February 28th, at St. Martin's church, a 720 of Double Oxford Bob Minor, in 25 mins. J. Nixon, 1; G. Newson, 2; T. Titchener, 3; J. Hannington (conductor), 4; A. Jacob, 5; J. Barrett, 6. Tenor 12½ cwt. This is the first 720 in the method by the above band, none of them having struck a blow in the method previous to Sunday, February 25th.

HORSHAM (Sussex).—On Sunday, February 25th, at St. Mary's church, the local company rang the first 840 of Taylor's six-part peal of Grandsire Triples, for Divine Service in the afternoon, and for Divine Service in the evening the same party repeated it again, in 34 mins. each. Harry Cook, 1; Elias Knight, 2; Henry Chantler, 3; Henry Wood, 4; Thomas Andrews, 5; Henry Burstow (conductor), 6; Felix Knight, 7; William Wood, 8. Tenor 24 cwt.

LONG EATON (Derbyshire).—On Monday, February 26th, for practice, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 28 mins. John Coupland, 1; Samuel Clarke, 2; Richard Hickton, 3; Joseph Barrow, 4; William Grice, 5; John Ward (conductor), 6. Tenor 11 cwt. First 720 of J. Ward as conductor.

NEWINGTON (Surrey).—On Sunday, February 25th, at Holy Trinity Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, in 43 mins. Henry Langdon, 1; Frederick Lennard, 2; George T. McLaughlin, 3; Joseph Barry, 4; William Jones, 5; Martin Routh, 6; Henry J. Tucker (composer and conductor), 7; Frederick Coxhead, 8. This touch contains the twelve 7-4's; the twelve 4-6's; and the twelve 6-7's.

STANSTEAD (Essex).—On Thursday, February 22nd, four members of the local society, assisted by F. and R. Sworder, of Great Hillingbury, rang a 720 of Plain Bob Minor. J. Caviil, 1; H. Prior, 2; R. S. Sworder, 3; F. Sworder, 4; I. Caviil, 5; C. Prior (conductor), 6. The first 720 on the bells after being overhauled by J. Grey, of Little Munden, and the ringers testify to the good going of them. Tenor 13 cwt.

STRADBROKE (Suffolk).—On Wednesday, February 21st, the following members of the Stradbroke company met at the Parish Church, and attempted a peal of 5040 changes of Bob Major, but after ringing 4948 changes, it was observed that the 2nd and 4th had changed places from some cause, and the bells were brought to a stand. C. B. Bayles (conductor), 1; G. Vincent, 2; R. Taylor, 3; S. Girling, 4; R. Routh, sen., 5; J. Keeble, 6; C. Bullen, 7; R. Routh, jun., 8. Tenor 24½ cwt. in Eb. Time 3 hrs. 4 mins.

WOLLASTON (Worcestershire).—On Thursday, February 22nd, the Wollaston and Wordsley society rang at St. James's, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 24 mins. Also at Holy Trinity church, a 720 in the same method, in 27 mins. G. Darby, 1; J. Guest (conductor), 2; E. S. Chapman, 3; G. Howells, 4; W. Lawrence, 5; R. Bidmead, 6.

WOLSTANTON (Staffordshire).—On Tuesday, February 27th, six members of the local society rang at St. Margaret's, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in 29 mins. A. Walker (first 720 in the method), 1; L. Miller, 2; W. Miller, 3; S. Wooton, 4; W. Priestman (first 720 in the method), 5; —. Spencer, 6; this being the first 720 since April 21st, 1878.

Correspondence.

[While allowing the utmost freedom for the expression of opinion, it must never be considered that we are in any way bound to statements made by correspondents.]

To the Editor of "THE BELL NEWS AND RINGERS' RECORD."

MR. PENNING'S PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES.

SIR.—One word more with your correspondent, "College Youth." I alluded only to the old bob-and-single peal, sometimes not incorrectly termed the "bob-and-swindle" peal. I doubt if your correspondent be a real College Youth. He can never have been in college, or he would never charge me with saying that Holt's One-part peal was not original; neither would he assert the non-existence of the Norwich peal. I am sorry for his mistakes; it shows your correspondent's ignorance of the question, and I would advise him to get well posted up in these matters before he again addresses himself to the subject. ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTH.

THE FIRST PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES.

SIR.—It was stated in our paper for February 17th, on the authority of "College Youth," that John Holt's peal of Grandsire Triples was the first true peal of Grandsire Triples ever rung—July 25th, 1751. If doctors disagree, I presume ringers may do so, and I would ask "College Youth" how he can reconcile that statement with the tablet at St. Peter Mancroft, Norwich, which states that a peal of Grandsire Triples was composed by John Garthorn, and rung August 26th, 1748; and the Rev. H. T. Ellacombe, in *The Bells of Somerset*, says in respect of this peal, "that it was long before Holt's discovery; and when coupled with the entries in Dr. Mason's mss. in the library of Downing College, Cambridge, places beyond doubt the fact that the first true peal of Grandsire Triples was composed by John Garthorn, of Norwich." And again, the Cambridge Society was established in 1724, and on the 5th of November, 1725, they rang a peal of Grandsire Triples, and also the same peal again on October 25th, 1734. Dr. Mason, Woodwardian Professor, and Fellow of Trinity College, was elected a member of this society, 1725, and I firmly believe that had there been anything wrong with this peal, he would have made a note of it in his mss. I have lately seen a six-part peal of Grandsire Triples, said to have been found in Dr. Mason's mss., and to my mind the second peal of Grandsire Triples, printed in Troyte's *Change-Ringing*, p. 165, is only a variation of this peal, the place of the single in the second and third divisions of each part being the only difference, not only do the part-ends come up the same, but the same figures come up at the end of every division, or 210 changes. If some physician in the art of ringing will kindly say whose peal this is—whether Garthorn, Dr. Mason, or Annable—we may, perhaps, get at the root of the matter. ROVING RINGER.

WHAT THEN IS PIRACY?

SIR.—I do hope Mr. J. Naylor will not think my wish is to prevent the Bradford men ringing Mr. Sottanstell's peals. Certainly not. All I ask of them is, not to ring my peals under his name. Mr. J. Naylor suggests that I should compare mss. with Mr. Sottanstell. I may say in this respect I am at a great disadvantage, as while all my peals up to about six months ago were published in your valuable paper, Mr. Sottanstell, for some unexplained reason, did not avail himself of the invitation to compare mss. with his contemporaries. Whatever he has is still under cover, therefore it is clear I have no opportunity of purloining or even knowing any of Mr. Sottanstell's peals, while at the same time he has a good chance of seeing all mine to that date. The question, therefore, in my view, does not resolve itself into a speculation, as suggested by Mr. J. Naylor, that I may perhaps have a peal or two like Mr. Sottanstell, but to a certainty, that he had none like mine, as such would have been challenged when appearing in print.

Your correspondent next says—"Mr. Sottanstell's peals are generally dissected and tested by his friends previous to being rung." This I am glad to know, as care seems to be intended, and however misapplied these labours have been, better things may be expected in the future. Those of your readers who possess Snowdon's *Treatise*, part ii., p. 80, or *Church Bells* for June 8th or 15th, will greatly oblige me by comparing either of these publications with your issue of the 3rd instant, and thus prove for themselves the value of my statements, and judge for themselves the facts of this case. Mr. S., in one of his letters to me, claimed ignorance of Snowdon's *Treatise*, but surely he cannot claim similar indulgence as to *Church Bells*, which he does see.

I am freely admonished not to be uneasy, nor rush into unnecessary correspondence, as the Bradford men honestly intend to ring another of Mr. Sottanstell's new compositions, composed on October 23rd last. I am pleased to hear this, and hope the old veteran may live to see many more of his own peals rung yet. But I wish to express another hope that this honest intention will cause them to use every care that no more plagiarisms take place, unintentional or otherwise. It is promised that the peal is to appear in this paper, and should it prove an original one it will save me a little trouble, and Mr. Sottanstell all the annoyance which I am sure this correspondence must have caused him.

Mr. Sottanstell's friends are really to be blamed for this in one sense. They ask him to perform the almost impossible task of composing a special peal for a special occasion. He dare not refuse, and must not fail, as this would lose friends, fame, &c. In his despair he eventually drops into the errors which cause all this correspondence. All men, however, are liable to mistakes, but should admit the same when such is discovered. HENRY DAINS.

Barnsbury Road, London.

SIR.—Your correspondent, J. Naylor, must have some very odd notions of composition if he thinks that because the peal referred to had Mr. Sottanstell's name attached to it must be considered by all to be his composition. Were this the case, the "Bradford Old Society of Change-Ringers" need not take the trouble to write to Mr. Sottanstell when they want to ring a peal, as all they need do is to look up some peal that would suit them, and then Mr. Naylor could attach his own name, or if the "Bradford Old Society" are so particular to ring only Mr. Sottanstell's peals, they might put his name thereto, the composition would be his all the same—at least according to Mr. Naylor's argument. This peal they reported as having been composed specially for the occasion; had they said "selected" it might have passed. Now suppose Mr. Sottanstell had obtained the peal by legitimate and scientific composition—which for aught I know may be likely enough—he was in honour bound to withdraw his claim when Mr. Dains pointed out the fact that the same peal had been composed by him, and had been rung on the 1st of June, 1878, therefore proving at once that it must be older than one "specially composed" for an "occasion" several years later; and I suppose that every one—Messrs. S. and N. included—knows that the person who first obtains a peal, or, as Mr. Dains says, a patent, &c., has the only right to claim it as his own.

Allow me to wish the B. O. S. success in their attempt, and let us hope, that though dated 23rd October last, it may not, like this one, turn out to have belonged to some one else for several years. YORKSHIREMAN.

Several letters unavoidably stand over till next week.

THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE
DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—On Thursday last, February 22nd, at St. Stephen's church, 2520 Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. 40 mins. R. Smith (North Shields), 1; H. Richardson, 2; E. H. Scott, 3; E. Pyle, 4; F. Ord, 5; E. Wallis (conductor), 6; W. Reed, Esq. (North Shields), 7; J. Stobart, 8. Tenor 30 cwt.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

5120.
2 3 4 5 6 M B W H
3 5 2 6 4 I
4 2 5 6 3 I I
5 6 4 2 3 I I
6 2 5 3 4 I

Four times repeated.

J. R. PRITCHARD, *Liverpool.*

TWO PEALS OF TREBLE BOB
ROYAL.

By H. DAINS, *Royal Cumberland Youths.*

5040.					6000.										
2	3	4	5	6	M	W	H	2	3	4	5	6	M	W	H
3	2	6	5	4	2		2	3	5	2	6	4	2	2	
3	4	2	5	6	2		1	5	4	2	6	3	1		2
3	2	5	4	6	I		2	4	3	2	6	5	I		2
3	5	4	2	6	I		2	3	4	5	6	2	2		2
4	6	2	5	3	I		1	6	5	4	3	2	2		2
6	4	3	5	2	2		2	5	2	4	3	6	I		2
5	3	4	6	2	2		2	5	2	3	6	4	2		1
2	5	6	3	4	2		1	3	4	6	2	5	I		1
5	2	4	3	6	2		2	3	4	2	5	6	2		1
2	3	4	5	6	2			3	2	5	4	6	I		2
5th and 6th the extent home at five course-ends. The first ever composed on this plan.							6th the extent in 5-6.								

A 720 OF BOB MINOR.

By B. FRANCIS, *Diss.*

S 3 2 5 6 4
S 3 5 2 6 4
S 4 6 2 3 5
- 2 4 6 3 5
- 2 4 3 5 6
S 3 6 2 4 5
S 3 2 6 4 5
- 3 2 4 5 6
- 4 3 2 5 6
Repeated.

ORGAN (FINGER) FOR SALE,

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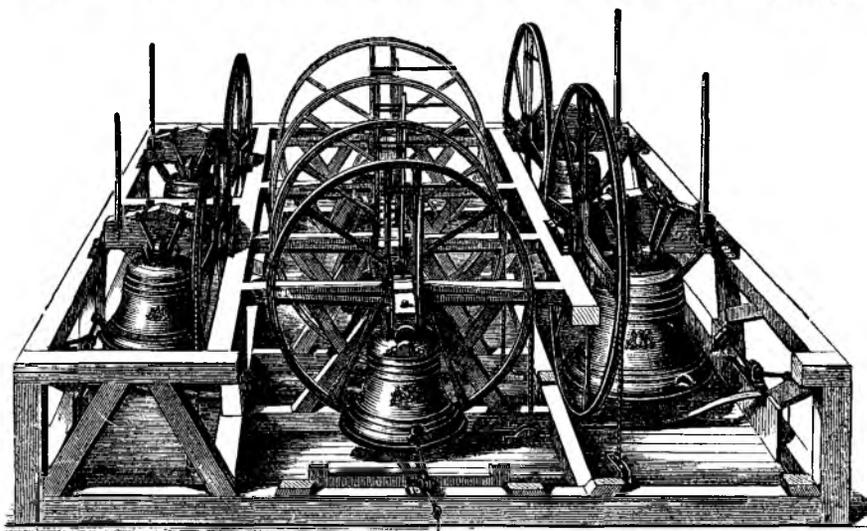
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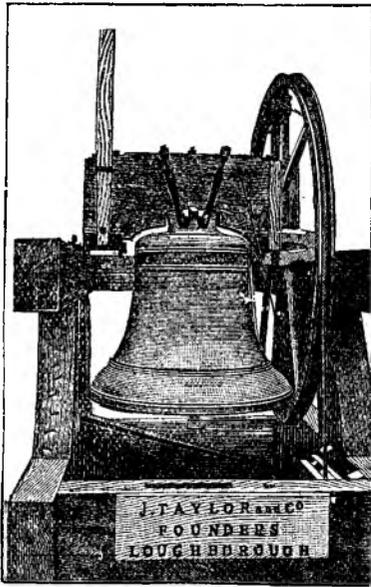
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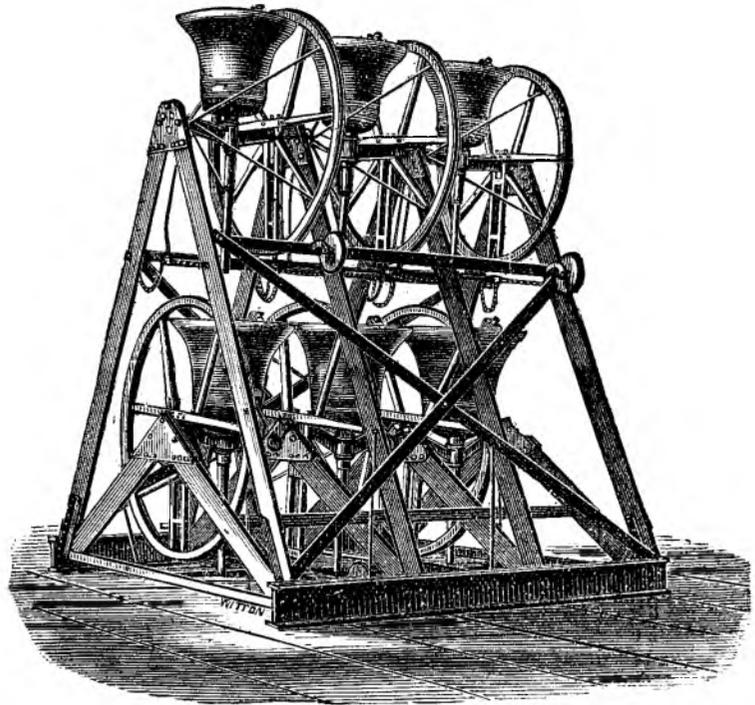
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SATURDAY, MARCH 10, 1883.

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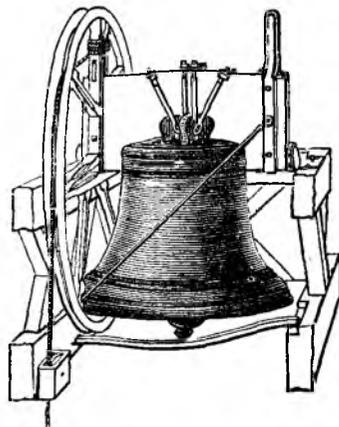
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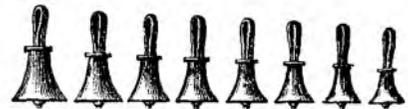
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The last chapter is devoted to a list of the names of
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MINSTER-IN-SHEPPEY, KENT.

THIS remnant of monastic ages, the oldest monastic church in England, is not to be confounded with a place of the same name in another island in Kent, which we shall some time describe in these pages.

Having arrived at either Queensborough or Sheerness by rail or road, the village is about 2½ miles distant, on a high ridge of land running the entire length of the island. There are two good roads, all the rest pasture, and corn growing; soil, stiff clay; cliffs to the north, greatly falling down at this time, on the shore. The Abbey is visible from all points, and will be found to be the entire conventual church, and St. Catherine's aisle, formerly, and now the Parish Church; the only other building left is the ancient gate-house.

The two churches, distinct in plan, always have been practically one, as an Early English arcade alone forms the division. The conventual church is far more lofty, and has Saxon openings visible here and there. The monumental remains are most interesting, and we should advise our readers to peruse their *Ingoldsbys Legends* before visiting the place—suffice it to say the Baron's tomb with horse's head is quite perfect, as is now everything else about the place, except the bells.

The tower is situated at the west end of the north church, the conventual portion, and opens by an arch of unusual magnificence, of the fifteenth century. Unfortunately this tower never was finished further than the high roof, but it is the stump of some very grand original design it having two staircases, one up from the church below, another down from the bells, into a garden below, not now used at all; a very stout oak cot, now covered with shingles, keeps off the weather, and covers the bells. The frame is in good condition, and would hold six bells, we find five present, the treble a long time cracked, all cast by Hatch, in the 17th century. The writer last saw these bells rung in 1868 on the occasion of the visit of the Kent Archaeological Society, since about that time everything, has been allowed to fall into disuse. Since the completion of the entire repairs of the Abbey a year or more ago, all the wheels have been fairly well renewed, and a gentleman from the other side has offered to take the cracked bell in hand. At the present time in the parish is another bell, taken from Warden, when the falls of the cliff threatened the church which would go far towards a 6th or new treble. But the few parishioners still left, claim it as their property, and would sell it, and have a dinner. So report goes, but efforts are being made, to keep the bell in the island, until it is available for the purpose suggested. Of itself it is too small to be made tunable to the others. We hope soon to report, of at least the five bells being in order, and a few 6-scores of Doubles being performed; very much however is required before this can be accomplished. The pit in the frame for the treble of six has never at any time been occupied. Sally-stays, which are of course imperative, as the bells rest on the ceiling of the tower space, will not, it is expected, be opposed, on the absurd ground of interfering with the view down the church.

THE OXFORD ARCHITECTURAL AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

At a meeting of this Society, held in the University Museum, Oxford, on Tuesday evening, February 28th, Professor Westwood in the chair, Mr. E. Pickard-Hall, M.A., read a paper on "Church Towers and Church Bells."

Of church towers little was said, they were rather introduced as an apology for the bells, which were to form the chief subject of the paper, and to whose existence they are essential. The paper proceeded at once to deal with these latter, and first to define bells. They were described in the words of Mr. Grove, as "musical instruments of metal, sounding by percussion, and consisting of a cup or bowl, caused to vibrate by the blow of a clapper or hammer on the inner or outer surface of the bell." The beginning of this definition is apparently not accepted by all, for, as Dr. Stainer says, bells stand in a somewhat anomalous position, they are not musical instruments from an artistic point of view, and yet no more beautiful music can be heard than the rising and falling tones of a church peal. But although bells fail to obtain the dignified title of musical instruments, they are far above the level of a mere toy; they can hardly be called secular at any time, for even when ringing most merrily there lingers in their cadences a breath of solemnity which can not be surpassed.

The next point dwelt upon was the form and material of bells. The form of bells has varied very much, and at the present time varies in different countries, but that now adopted by English founders was arrived at by mediæval founders, and has remained practically unaltered since their time; but whereas they were unable to tell the tone or note of a bell till it was cast, it is possible now to determine these by calculation beforehand with a great amount of certainty, and the casting of a maiden peal is no unfrequent occurrence now-a-days.

After touching on the traditional addition of gold and silver, to the alloy of copper and tin, which constitutes bell-metal; the paper pro-

ceeded to deal with the history of bells. Bells appear to be almost pre-historic, for they seem to have been used by all nations from time immemorial, their use, however, at first being merely for calls and ornaments, as the bells on harness and sheep-bells, and then as ornaments on the vestments of priests, they were raised to their present use in churches in the middle ages. The first person who introduced bells into churches was said to have been Paulinus, Bishop of Nola, early in the fifth century, but it was not for about ten centuries after that any really large bells were cast; it was probably in the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries that most of the important churches in England got their bells. At the beginning of the eighteenth century there was a falling-off in the quality of the bells then cast, owing for the demand of light and cheap bells, which has been attributed to the introduction of change-ringing, but we have happily lived to see a reform in bell-founding which is merely a return to the old principles.

An account was then given of the founding of bells in old days when they were cast in the church-yards by the monks with great solemnity, and their naming and dedication, with all the rites that were used at the baptism of infants; and after enumerating some of the famous large bells that exist and sketching their history, with particular reference to Tom of Oxford, perhaps the worst big bell in the kingdom, some of the various uses to which church bells have been put were discussed. Here mention was made of the superstition that used to prevail that bells would scare away evil spirits which were the cause of bad weather; also of the curfew and its supposed original object and derivation, also of the use of muffled peals, in connection with which an amusing anecdote was told of one John Nash who left £50 a year to the ringers of the Abbey Church of Bath, "on condition of their ringing on the whole peal of bells, with clappers muffled, various solemn and doleful changes on the 14th of May in every year, being the anniversary of my wedding day; and also on the anniversary of my decease to ring a grand Bob Major, and merry mirthful peals unmuffled, in joyful commemoration of my happy release from domestic tyranny and wretchedness."

Attention was then directed to the bells of Oxford, there being in that city three rings of ten bells, one of eight, and ten of six; of these the bells of Christ Church and Merton are probably the oldest, the former having come from the Abbey of Osney. The latter were originally five in number, but in 1657 Anthony Wood gave £5 to have them cast into a ring of eight, this however was opposed by many, who wanted to have a treble added, so as not to touch the tenor, which was said to be the finest bell in England, but this opposition was overcome, and "by the knavery of the warden and the founder they were made eight."

The paper concluded with a few words on the subject of change-ringing and the various guilds and societies that have been found for the advancement thereof, more especially the University Society of Change-ringers, a notice of whose report appeared in our columns a short time since.

The president then thanked Mr. Hall for his interesting paper, and after a few questions and some remarks by the Master of the University Society of Change-ringers on change-ringing, and the progress it has made in this country, the meeting broke up.

SHEEPSHEAD, LEICESTERSHIRE.

On Saturday afternoon, March 3rd, several members of the Long Eaton society, with Mr. J. W. Taylor, sen., of Loughborough, and Messrs. North and Pickard of Syston, visited the above place, and by kind permission of the vicar were allowed the use of the bells, when five of the Long Eaton society, with Mr. J. North, rang a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in 27 mins. Joseph North, 1; George Bradley, 2; Samuel Clarke, 3; William Gilson, 4; John Ward, 5; Joseph Barrow (conductor), 6. Also 360 of Plain Bob Minor, with eighteen bobs and two singles. Jos. Barrow (conductor), 1; Wm. Grice, 2; Jno. Ward, 3; J. W. Taylor, sen., 4; Jos. Pickard, 5; Saml. Clarke, 6. Also several 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles was rung during the afternoon. The above 720 of Treble Bob is believed to be the second only in that method ever rung on these bells, the first being rung by six members of the society of Leicester Scholars at the opening on December 27, 1805. The following is a copy of the record taken from the note book of the late Thomas Sibson of Leicester:—"On Friday, December 27, 1805, was rung at the opening of a new peal of six bells at Sheepshead, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. John Warburton, 1; Thomas Stringer, 2; Richard Catlin, 3; Thomas Clark, 4; George Taylor, 5; Thomas Sibson (conductor), 6." Tenor 16 cwt. in F.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

The committee of this Association have fixed their next District Meeting to be held at Colerne, near Bath, on Thursday in Easter week, the 29th of March, when all friends of the Association who will honour them with their company will receive a hearty welcome.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

A MEETING for the District of Leek was held at Cheddleton, last Saturday, March 3rd. Ringers attended from Leek, Kimpley, Cheddleton, Biddulph, Horton, Norton, and Stoke. From 3 p.m. till 5.0 ringing was well kept up, though nothing particular was done. Tea was given by the Cheddleton company and their friends, in the choir-room just outside the church. The Vicar (Rev. A. F. Boucher), spoke kindly to those present, welcoming this Association to his tower and village, and a hearty vote of thanks was passed on the motion of the Rev. W. W. Bolton, (Hon. Sec.).

After tea some very good handbell ringing was indulged in by some of the ringers and their friends in the village; such tunes as "The Blue Bells of Scotland," and the "Prince of Wales' Waltz" being especially well performed.

The church itself has lately been restored, and the belfry was bright and clean. The bells (a peal of six) are very nicely hung, and the "go" of them very easy. The "striking" of the ringers both here and at Leek is much to be commended.

The next meeting will be on Saturday next (10th March), at Burslem.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

By the kindness of the Vicar and Churchwardens of All Souls' church, Bolton, a ringing meeting of the above Association was held at that church, on Saturday, March 3rd. Ringing was commenced at 3.0 p.m., and continued by various mixed bands until 9.0 p.m. Grand-sire Triples and Bob Minor were the methods principally rung during the day. Over forty members were present from Manchester, Eccles, Bolton, Swinton, Heywood, Walkden, Worsley, Blackrod, and Whitfield. During the course of the evening, the Vicar of All Souls' (the Rev. W. Popplewell, M.A.), visited the belfry and gave a cordial welcome to the ringers on behalf of himself and wardens. He trusted that they would be able to visit All Souls' at some future time, when again every facility would be given for ringing. The church is a new one, and due provision has been made for the comfort of the ringers. A 720 of Bob Minor, was rung in 27½ mins. Henry W. Jackson (conductor), 1; Arthur Barratt, 2; James H. Jackson, 3; John Curtis, 4; William Warburton, 5; William Hamer, 6. Tenor 23 cwt. 3 qrs.

"COMPETENT" BELL-HANGERS.

In our notice of the Annual Report of the Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association, a fortnight ago, it will no doubt be remembered that pointed allusions were made to the fact that a firm in the north, part of whose business appeared to be the furnishing of ship-bells to vessels, claimed to be in consequence, efficient church bell-hangers. A valued contributor, writing under the *nom de plume* of "Ship bell-ringer," sends us the following letter, but unlike those who can only pretend to know anything about church bells, our correspondent is perfectly *au fait* with the subject, and also with the *worth* of the training which those who suspend bells on board-ship undergo, to render them authorities in anything relating to church bells. He says:—

"I was amused to read in your issue of the 24th ult., of a firm of plumbers setting themselves up as authorities on church bell hanging, upon the ground that they have 'fitted up' many bells aboard-ship; the two jobs bear as much resemblance to each other as the celebrated old chesnut-horse and the horse-chesnut.

"A ship's bell seldom exceeds forty pounds in weight, and is rigidly fixed in an iron frame with one bolt, in such a manner as to prevent any movement whatever. A large ship's bell would take quite three minutes to 'fit-up.' Any unprejudiced person can see that individuals used to this intricate mechanism would be fully qualified to pass an opinion upon such a trumpery work as hanging a peal of church bells, weighing many hundredweights, and requiring to be continuously rung for hours together sometimes.

"No doubt the same firm have hung many peals (in kitchens, and rung from above with copper wire, instead of from below with a common rope) in their time, and that they may hang many more (of the same sort) is my fervent wish."

Some time in the latter half of last century, a certain John Dodley, of Worcester, experienced an unexpected deliverance. Born with a contraction of the tendons in one of his legs, he was obliged to wear an artificial limb for thirty years. One day endeavouring to adjust a church bell which happened to remain inverted, the rope pulled him up with such velocity as to break the bands that fastened his artificial limb, and in the same instant relaxed the tendon of the "game" leg, thus rendering it as useful as its fellow for the remainder of his life, which extended to ninety years.—*Chambers's Journal*.

ST. PETER'S CHURCH, BOURNEMOUTH.

ON Tuesday evening, March 6th, a special meeting of the ringers of the above church was held in the schoolroom, for the purpose of formally opening an apparatus which has just been fixed in the tower of the church, and known as Seage's dumb practice apparatus. The Rev. G. Stopford Ram, (Vicar), presided, and there were also present the Revs. Percy Brent and W. Gompertz, Curates; E. W. Rebbeck, Esq., Captain; Mr. E. Seage; and Messrs. Grist, Colborn, Green, Merritt, Scovell, Bennett, Belvern, Crumpler, and H. A. Garrett (Hon. Sec.).

The Vicar gave the ringers a very encouraging address. He said he took great interest in them; and he urged them to be punctual and regular in their attendance for practice at the appointed times, for he had reason to believe that they took as much pride in their services to the church, as the choir did in theirs. He hoped now that this apparatus had been fixed, that they would still continue to practice with credit to themselves and to the church to which they belonged. Mr. H. A. Garrett, in seconding a vote of thanks proposed by Mr. Rebbeck, assured the Vicar that the ringers did take a pride in their services, and they were very much gratified to know that their Vicar had their interests at heart, and that they were not forgotten by him.

A very successful trial then took place in the presence of the Vicar, who expressed himself exceedingly pleased with the apparatus. It consists of a series of small bells fixed on the walls of the ringing-chamber, and corresponding accurately with the large bells, with which they are connected by wires. The clappers of the bells being lashed, the movements of them are conveyed by means of these wires to the small bells beneath, which produce the sound to the ringers only, and inaudible outside. The apparatus is indispensable when a band of change-ringers are desirous of learning the art of change-ringing without being an annoyance to the public, and in a town like Bournemouth will be a great boon.

The cost has been about £25, two-thirds of which has been defrayed by subscriptions from the residents and visitors in the vicinity of the church, and the remainder is provided for out of the church funds.

A rumour is current to the effect that a certain squire has placed, or is about to place, in the hands of the Rev. Canon Cattley, the sum of £10,000, for the purpose of erecting a tower in the squire's park, with a peal of twelve bells the same weight as the peal at St. Paul's Cathedral.

Correspondence.

[While allowing the utmost freedom for the expression of opinion, it must never be considered that we are in any way bound to statements made by correspondents.]

To the Editor of "THE BELL NEWS AND RINGERS' RECORD."

DOG IN THE MANGER.

SIR,—I hardly think it worth while to answer Estall's letter, but it may be well to let the outside world know what it means. The main fact of the matter is that Estall has for the last ten months been trying weekly to call Holt's ten-part peal, at Walthamstow, but has failed, and hearing some of his own company ring a peal the first time, there is every reason for him to cut up rough, but we must see if we can't coach him through one of these times. As Estall has had so little experience in the time of ringing peals, he cannot be expected to know that the same number of changes can be rung on the same bells, and the time differ to the extent of fifteen and twenty minutes—this is often the case. I will not occupy more of your precious space in this paper, but if Mr. Estall will prepare himself for a peal on Easter Monday, I shall be most happy to come and call it for him.

ARTHUR H. GARDOM.

NO PIRACY AT ALL.

SIR,—Will you allow me in concluding my correspondence with respect to ringing Mr. Sottanstill's peals, to draw the attention of Mr. H. Dains to his mistake in the last number of "THE BELL NEWS," in saying that I stated in my letter of February 24th, "that Mr. Sottanstill's peals got dissected and put to the test previous to being rung." Now I did not say anything of the kind. What I stated are simply the facts, so far as we, as a company, are concerned, and as for anything else we have nothing to do with.

And now, Mr. Editor, with respect to the remarks by our friend signed "Yorkshireman." We will leave them for what they are worth, seeing that we had a long interview some time since with a Yorkshireman on this subject (at least I think he was a Yorkshireman, he looked like one, although not particularly known by that name), and if this should happen to be the same Yorkshireman—judging by his letter, which we fully expected to see—I wish to say that we have no desire at present to enter into the subject again, but if either our friend "Yorkshireman" or Mr. Dains should happen at any time to come to Bradford, if they will give us a few days' notice, we shall be glad to meet them and have a friendly pull together, and no restriction as to whose composition it shall be.

J. NAYLOR.

THE TREBLE BOB FRAUD.

SIR,—I am not surprised to see Mr. Dains asserting his rights against Mr. Sottanstill's latest fraud. Although an old offender, it seems from the tone of Mr. Naylor's letter that the Bradford Old Society still have a wonderful faith in him, and readily believe all the peals he chooses to send them, or has in his MS., are his undoubted compositions, or ought to be so, but I am glad that at least some of their neighbours are not so easily deceived, and I would advise Mr. Naylor and the rest of the B. O. S. to well consider, and reflect upon, a letter in your last issue signed "Yorkshireman," which so forcibly refutes Mr. Naylor's arguments in support of Mr. Sottanstill's attempted robbery.

A MEMBER OF THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

P.S.—As another "special" peal is promised, I would advise Mr. Naylor to send the composition at once to Mr. Snowdon, and ascertain from that gentleman whether the peal is original, or another piece of "peal-snatching."

"THE BELL NEWS AND RINGERS' RECORD" will be forwarded post free, on the following terms:—

One copy, 12 months	6s. 6d.
" 6 "	3s. 3d.
" 3 "	1s. 3d.

All Subscriptions and Orders for papers must be sent direct to the Publisher, W. E. ALLEN, Ave Maria Lane, London.

All communications respecting advertisements must be addressed to the office of "THE BELL NEWS," Walthamstow, London.

Everything for insertion in this Journal to be addressed "The Editor of THE BELL NEWS, Walthamstow, London." Letters forwarded for publication must reach us not later than Wednesday morning; the insertion of Performances coming later than the first Postal delivery on Thursday morning cannot be guaranteed in that week's number.

The Editor would be glad to receive the names of gentlemen who would be willing to act for their respective districts, in the capacity of reporter or correspondent. We shall feel obliged by Association and other Secretaries sending intelligence of events occurring within their jurisdiction.

M. ELLSMORE.—We cannot insert your letter. So long as the conduct of this paper remains in our hands, it will never become a vehicle for coarse abuse, to please any one. Vituperation, calling nicknames, and the like, is not argument. Eminent ringers have submitted, ere now, to criticism, and with a good grace.

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, MARCH 10, 1883.

It cannot be doubted that the continual assembling together of the members of any society has a great tendency to promote the interests and well-being of that society; and therefore if we accept this hypothesis, it follows that the art of ringing in general would receive a healthy stimulus if such reunions among ringers were more frequently held. In support of this statement, no doubt many instances could be quoted of good societies, the members of which were renowned for their ringing skill, languishing away by degrees on account of the want of cohesion among them, caused by the total absence of that cordial feeling and respectful—not undue—familiarity which goes a long way to unite all temperaments together. We think we shall not be far wrong when we say that where ringers only meet in the tower on practice-night, and on no other occasion endeavour to enjoy on interchange of opinion amongst themselves—to discuss ringing affairs, for instance—their society cannot be in an extraordinary flourishing condition, nor can it be recognised in any way as a factor in the promotion of all those praiseworthy objects that good ringers are anxious to see established. The conviction is painful indeed that there are to be found those who are versed in the complex mysteries of the science, who scarcely meet their fellow-ringers but on the days when emolument is to be received for ringing, and with the exception of those appointed occasions, never converse on ringing subjects. Yet such as these would no doubt claim to be recognised among the *elite* of the ringing community were their position threatened, and with a pretence of honest indignation, carry the day in an encounter with any one who had the temerity to suggest such wholesome changes as the real followers of the art in the present day insist upon. In districts where the frequent meetings of ringing companies under proper

safeguards and regulations take place, chiefly for the discussion of subjects connected with it, there must inevitably be greater interest taken in ringing than in those places where the meetings of ringers are few and far between. This is fully exemplified where the almost nightly assemblages of ringers take place; and it is a fact worth taking into consideration that the excellence, speaking generally, of Metropolitan ringers, is owing to the many opportunities afforded them for association in the belfry.

Owing to the limited number of steeples possessed by some towns, and in others where periodical practice is not always readily afforded, ringers have been prevented in a great measure from becoming so enthusiastic as they might have been under more favourable circumstances. It is however, pleasing to note that such hindrances are fast passing away. By-and-by we hope to see ringing Associations become more numerous than at present, and any one who takes the trouble to read our pages, will not fail to see that there is some ground for such hope. That such established bodies meet a want hitherto felt cannot be denied. Through their agency every ringer of the particular district in which an Association takes its rise, has the opportunity afforded them of periodical association among their brethren, and by such means they not only gain information and experience, but soon become possessed with a desire to do something which they have hitherto left undone to promote the art. That a decided interest in bells and ringing clearly becomes manifested to a great degree by constant and frequent meetings, the increased circulation of this paper sufficiently proves, and it is to such additional interest being shown in the science that we have been induced, at the commencement of our next volume, to enlarge this journal. Perhaps our existence has been the cause of calling into being some of these bodies, and if so, it is a standing proof of our usefulness, which it shall be our aim to increase. If we have been instrumental in effecting any good, we are sure our readers will be at one with us in hoping that much more may yet be done. We trust that the establishment of ringing Associations—of which the past year has been prolific—may become more contagious than ever, and not only this do we hope for, but also that those Associations of mature age will endeavour to arrange their various meetings so that they may be held more frequently than at present.

We cannot conclude these remarks without alluding to the operations of a recently-formed body, the Stoke-upon-Trent Archdiaconal Association, the members of which, through the capital arrangements made by their indefatigable Honorary Secretary (the Rev. W. W. BOLTON), enjoy a friendly meeting every week at places within their district. Such a process deserves the warmest commendation, cementing, as it does, the various ranks of society of which the Exercise is composed, and bringing into connection with the art those, who having authority in the Church, are able and let us hope, willing, to advance the interests and objects we all have in view.

The Metropolis.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.
LEWISHAM, KENT.

On Monday, March 5, 1883, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT ST. MARY'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 22½ cwt. in Eb.

GEORGE FREEMAN* Treble.	HARRY RANDALL 5.
JOHN GOBBETT 2.	*THOMAS TAYLOR 6.
THOMAS G. DEAL* 3.	FREDERICK BATE 7.
ARTHUR H. GARDOM 4.	GEORGE NEWSON Tenor.

Composed by HENRY DAINS, and conducted by FREDERICK BATE.

[* First peal in the method.]

The composition and qualities of this peal are the same as the one rung at Drighlington, Yorkshire, by the Bradford Old Society; specially composed by its author since the discussion on this question commenced; and has never been previously performed. The figures of the peal will be found in another column.

The Provinces.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—HULL.

On Friday, March 2nd, 1883, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT ST. JAMES'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 15 cwt.

FRANK DRABBLE Treble.	*ROBERT CHAFFER 5.
JOHN W. STICKNEY* 2.	JAMES DIXEY 6.
TOM STOCKDALE 3.	*CHARLES BENNETT 7.
WILLIAM GILL* 4.	*CHARLES JACKSON Tenor.

Composed by H. DAINS, and conducted by C. JACKSON.

[* College Youths.]

CAWTHORNE, YORKSHIRE.

On Saturday, March 3, 1883, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH,

5040 CHANGES; IN 14 DIFFERENT METHODS UPON SIX BELLS;

Being 360 changes of each method, in the following order:—

PRIMROSE	DARTON'S VICTORY	DUKE OF YORK
COLLEGE TREBLE	LONDON SCHOLARS	NEW LONDON
TULIP	COLLEGE PLEASURE	PLEASURE
COLLEGE EXERCISE	CITY DELIGHT	OXFORD
DUKE OF LEEDS	ARNOLD'S VICTORY	VIOLET

Tenor 11 cwt.

HENRY CROSSLAND Treble.	GEORGE WILKINSON 4.
G. WINDLE 2.	JOHN BARLOW 5.
LEWIS BARLOW 3.	*HENRY BARLOW Tenor.

Conducted by LEWIS BARLOW.

[* First 5040.]

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.

On Saturday, March 3rd, 1883, in Six Hours and Fourteen Minutes,

AT ST. PETER'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 10,464 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 20 cwt. in E.

THOMAS MOSS Treble.	BENJAMIN BROADBENT 5.
JOSEPH MELLOR 2.	GEORGE LONGDEN 6.
JAMES WOOD 3.	SAMUEL WOOD 7.
JAMES ADAMS 4.	JOHN THORP Tenor.

Composed by JOHN THORP, and conducted by SAMUEL WOOD.

This peal was rung by a complete band of Ashton ringers. The figures of the same will be found on another page.

Date Couch.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BARROW (Lincolnshire).—On Saturday, March 3rd, three members of the Trinity society, and three of St. James's society, Hull, visited

this place, and rang 1883 changes in the following methods: 83 Grandsire Minor, 360 Yorkshire Court, 720 Kent Treble Bob, and 720 of Bob Minor, in 1 hr. 15 mins. S. Slingsby, 1; A. Taylor, 2; T. Stockdale, 3; R. Chaffer, 4; C. Bennett, 5; J. W. Stickney, 6. Tenor 19 cwt. Arranged and conducted by J. W. Stickney.

Miscellaneous.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—On Sunday evening, March 4th, for Divine Service at St. John's, a 720 of College Singles, in 28 mins. G. Campbell, 1; C. L. Routledge, 2; F. Lees, 3; W. G. Routledge, 4; W. Story, 5; R. S. Story (conductor), 6. First 720 in this method by each of the band. Tenor 14½ cwt.

THE CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY GUILD.

FOXTON (Cambridgeshire).—On Tuesday, March the 6th, at St. Lawrence's, fifteen 6-scores in the methods of Grandsire, Stedman, and Plain Bob were rung by Rev. A. H. Boughy (Trinity; President), 1; M. C. Potter (Peterhouse; conductor), 2; G. Holmes (Emmanuel), 3; W. W. C. Baker (Clare), 4; R. Sewell (St. John's), 5; H. Ellsee (St. John's), 6; G. Klugh (Clare), 7. Tenor 10 cwt.

THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY, LONDON.

WALWORTH (Surrey).—On Friday, March 2nd, at St. Peter's, eight members of this society rung 2008 changes of Bob Major and 640 of Kent Treble Bob. J. Barry, 1; T. Deal, 2; T. Taylor, 3; G. Weatherstone, 4; A. Perkins, 5; N. Meadows, 6; R. Robins, 7; H. Tucker (conductor), 8. Also 910 of Grandsire Triples. A. J. Perkins (conductor), 1; T. Deal, 2; G. Freeman, 3; G. Waghorn, 4; F. Freeman, 5; J. Barry, 6; N. Meadows, 7; H. Tucker, 8.

THH KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

CHERITON (Kent).—On Saturday evening, March 3rd, a mixed band of the above association rung at the parish church a 720 of Bob Minor, with twenty-one bobs and twelve singles, in 26 mins. E. Hallida (Newington), 1; W. Driscoll, 2; Rev. A. Hall Hall, 3; A. Tanton (Lyminge), 4; R. Beal, 5; F. Rolfe (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Canterbury Pleasure with eighteen bobs and two singles, in 25½ mins. E. Hallida, 1; W. Driscoll, 2; A. Tanton, 3; R. Beal, 4; F. Rolfe, 5; J. Marsh (Newington; conductor), 6. Also a 6-score of Bob Doubles. W. Driscoll, 1; R. Beal, 2; A. Tanton, 3; F. Rolfe (conductor), 4; *J. Andrews (Lyminge), 5; *S. Divers (Lyminge), 6. *Not members of the Association. Tenor 7½ cwt.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

KINGSTON (Surrey).—On Tuesday, February 27th, for evening practice, at All Saints' church, a musical quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes with the twelve 7-4's and the twelve 6-7's, in 45 mins., by the local company. *John Green, 1; Alfred Challis, 2; Charles Slade, 3; Joseph Parslow, 4; George Gray, 5; James Strutt, 6; John Wright (conductor), 7; *Henry Milton, 8. *First quarter-peal. Tenor 33 cwt.

BARWELL (Leicestershire).—On Saturday, March 3rd, a 720 of Bob Minor, with eighteen bobs and two singles, was rung at the parish church, in 28 mins. Thomas Needham, 1; John Swinfield, 2; George White, 3; William A. Needham, 4; William Powers, 5; Herbert Needham (conductor), 6. Tenor 16 cwt. in F#.

CAVENDISH (Suffolk).—On Thursday, March 1st, the undermentioned members of the Cavendish Society rang at St. Mary's 3600 changes in five different methods, in 2 hrs. 15 mins., being a 720 of each of the following: Double Oxford, Double Court, Duke of York, New London Pleasure, and Plain Bob. Fred J. Thompson, 1; J. S. Page, 2; C. W. Hurst, 3; A. Ives, 4; Harry Thompson, 5; Alexander Hurst (conductor), 6. The above was an attempt at a 5040 in six different methods, which unfortunately came to grief in the middle of the 6th method through the fourth rope breaking.

CHELTHENHAM (Gloucestershire).—On Thursday, February 22nd, at St. Mary's, seven members of the Cheltenham society, assisted by Mr. T. Brown of Quedgeley, Gloucestershire, rang a quarter-peal. Stedman Triples, in 47½ mins. T. Brown, 1; J. Belcher, 2; W. Morris, 3; G. Phillott, Esq., 4; H. Karn, 5; W. T. Pates, 6; F. Musty, 7; T. Hooper, 8. Conducted by W. T. Pates, being his first time of calling a quarter-peal in any method.

CHESTER.—On Thursday evening, March 1st, at the Cathedral, the undermentioned eight members of the Chester Cathedral Society (established 1867), rung in a superlative manner, in 1 hr. 34 mins., the first half of Taylor's well-known peal of Grandsire Triples, 2520 changes.

Samuel Hand, 1; Arthur Jones, 2; Joseph Griffiths, 3; Alfred Cross, 4; William Walton, 5; Peter Griffiths, 6; Freeman Ball (conductor), 7; William Ball, 8. Also on Saturday evening, the 3rd ult., the following rung three courses of Kent Treble Bob Major. Alfred Peers, 1; Arthur Jones, 2; Joseph Griffiths, 3; Samuel Hand, 4; Alfred Cross, 5; Peter Griffiths, 6; William Walton, 7; Freeman Ball (conductor), 8. Afterwards the same company rang 700 changes of Union Triples, with Freeman Ball (conductor), 7; and William Walton, 8. Tenor 33 cwt. And at St. Michael's, on Monday, March 5th, five members of St. Michael's society, with Mr. S. Hand, rang Reeves's 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, with fifteen bobs, in 25 mins. S. Hand, 1; E. Ward, 2; T. Bethell, 3; J. Errington, 4; J. Gibson, 5; J. Moulton (conductor), 6. Tenor 12 cwt. in D. This is the first 720 in the method ever rung in the city of Chester.

ECKINGTON (Derbyshire).—On Saturday, March 3rd, four member of the local company, with Messrs. A. and D. Brearley, of Bradfield, rang at the parish church, 240 of Violet, 240 of Arnold's Victory, 240 of Duke of York, and 360 of London Scholars' Pleasure. W. Price, 1; G. Marsden (conductor), 2; J. Shaw, 3; G. Norman, 4; D. Brearley, 5; A. Brearley, 6. Also on Sunday, March 4th, for morning service, 360 of Duke of York, and 360 of Violet. G. Smith, 1; W. Price, 2; G. Marsden (conductor), 3; T. Lunn, 4; D. Brearley, 5; A. Brearley, 6.

ELTHAM (Kent).—On Thursday, February 15th, at St. John the Baptist, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, with eight bobs and fourteen singles, in 25 mins. W. Fright (first 720), 1; F. Fraser, 2; F. French, 3; G. Conyard, 4; J. Saxby, 5; G. Sheppard (conductor), 6. Also on Thursday, February 22nd, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, with eighteen bobs and two singles, in 25 mins. J. King, 1; F. Fraser, 2; T. G. Deal, 3; J. Smith, 4; C. English, 5; G. Sheppard (conductor), 6. Also on Thursday, March 1st, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with twenty bobs and 34 singles, in 26 mins. W. Gosling (first 720), 1; T. G. Deal, 2; C. Mussett, (first 720 on a bob bell), 3; J. Smith, 4; G. Sheppard, 5; F. Fraser (conductor), 6. Also on Thursday, March 1st, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, with 9 bobs, in 26 mins. G. Conyard, 1; F. Fraser, 2; T. G. Deal, 3; J. Smith (first 720 in the method), 4; G. Sheppard (conductor), 5; F. French, 6. Tenor 9½ cwt. in A.

EYE (Suffolk).—On Saturday, March 3rd, four members of the St. Mary-le-Tower society, Ipswich, paid a visit to this ancient borough, and were kindly welcomed by the parish ringers, and also by some brother ringers who came from Diss. An attempt was made for a 5024 of Oxford Treble Bob Major, upon the fine-toned bells of the parish church, but after 1400 changes of regular striking, a shift course occurred, and the conductor wisely called "stand." W. Ireland (Diss, conductor), 1; G. Day (Eye), 2; J. Fosdike (Ipswich), 3; I. S. Alexander (Ipswich), 4; F. Day (Eye), 5; W. Brown (Diss), 6; R. Brundle (Ipswich), 7; E. Pemberton (Ipswich), 8. Tenor 24 cwt. Though unsuccessful the visitors were well pleased at meeting their Eye and Diss friends, and also visiting the workshop of Messrs. G. Day and Son, Bell-hangers, where they had the pleasure of inspecting a new substantial English oak bell frame for a peal of eight at Monmouth, and of which all spoke in high terms of praise for strength and construction as a masterpiece of bell hanging.

MELBOURNE (Derbyshire).—On Saturday, March 3rd, six of the local company rang for practice in the afternoon, six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, all called differently, in 29 mins. H. Hulse, 1; J. Warren, 2; F. Calow, 3; G. C. Tunnicliff, 4; H. C. Woodward (conductor), 5; T. Hollingsworth, 6. The first of this number of Doubles that the company has rung called differently. Tenor 16 cwt. in the key of F.

PENZANCE (Cornwall).—On Monday, March 5th, at St. Mary's, a 720 of Bob Minor, with eighteen bobs and two singles, in 30½ mins. W. Dale, 1; C. Boase, 2; J. Hodder, 3; J. Richards, 4; T. Hicks, 5; J. Symons (conductor), 6. The first 720 in this method by either of the above ringers, and the first 720 of Bob Minor in the county. Tenor 21 cwt. in Eb.

PRESTBURY (Cheshire).—On Monday, March 5th, a mixed band paid a visit to St. Peter's church, and rang 1008 changes of Grandsire Triples, in 37 mins., as a preliminary practice to forming an Association in Cheshire. J. Hoult, 1; W. Hulme, 2; S. Smith, 3; W. Berry, 4; H. Hardman, 5; E. Matthews (conductor), 6; W. A. Ingham, 7; C. Banford, 8. Tenor 18 cwt. J. Hoult, W. Hulme, W. Berry, E. Matthews, C. Banford, hail from Macclesfield; Walter Ingham, H. Hardman, from Sutton; and S. Smith from Prestbury.

STAVELEY (Derbyshire).—On Sunday, March 4th, at St. John's church, a 720 of Duke of York and 240 New London Pleasure. H. Mottershall (Staveley), 1; W. Price (Eckington), 2; H. Madin (Staveley), 3; G. Marsden (conductor, Eckington), 4; D. Brearley (Bradfield), 5; A. Brearley (Bradfield), 6. Also a 720 of Violet with

twenty-one bobs, and a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in 54½ mins. W. Harris, 1; W. Price, 2; H. Madin, 3; W. Worthington (conductor), 4; J. Harris, 5; G. Marsden, 6. Tenor 18 cwt. 3 qrs. 21 lbs.

SUDBURY (Suffolk).—On Tuesday, February 27th, the following members with Mr. M. Hawkins, of Walter Belchamp, met at All Saints' church, and rang a touch of Bob Major, 1056 changes, in 47 mins. Arthur Scott (conductor), 1; Maurice Silvester, 2; George Brown, 3; William Howell, 4; William Bacon, 5; Nelson Hawkins (his first 1000), 6; Charles Sillitoe, 7; Harry Harper, 8. Tenor 28 cwt. in D.

ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION.

On Wednesday, February 28th, upwards of twenty-five members of the St. Martin's Society of Change-ringers, Birmingham, met at the "Dog and Partridge," Alcester Street, Deritend, Birmingham, to celebrate the second anniversary of the longest peal of Stedman Cinques ever rung. After the cloth was drawn the company passed a very enjoyable evening with songs, recitations, and touches, and plain courses in various methods on the handbells. On Thursday, the first of March, the company met at St. John's, Deritend, for a peal of Stedman Triples, to accommodate Mr. W. Gordon, of Stockport, who was on a visit to the town, but owing to a misunderstanding with the ringers outside and those in the peal, it was lost after ringing 26 courses.

YORK BELL FOUNDERS.

ROBERT MOT (see query in page 382) was a London Founder; he worked the Whitechapel foundry from about 1578 to 1608, when he died.

THOMAS NORTH.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

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

CHARLES HERBERT,
Hon. Sec.

ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH, BATH, SOMERSETSHIRE.

THIS church (which is dedicated to St. Michael) is situated at the junction of Broad Street and Walcot Street, and occupies a commanding position. It is a noble edifice in the Early English style of architecture, and consists of nave, apse, east and west aisles, and a handsome southern tower, surmounted with an elegant and lofty spire. The tower contains a sweet-toned ring of eight bells, each of which bear the following inscriptions and dates:—

Treble.—When you us ring, we'll sweetly sing. A.R. 1757.

2nd.—Hark to our melody. A.R. 1757.

3rd.—Fear God, honour the King. A.R. 1757.

4th.—Peace and good neighbourhood. A.R. 1757.

5th.—Prosperity to our benefactors. A.R. 1757.

6th.—We were all cast at Gloucester by Abel Ruddhall. 1757.

7th.—John Flower and John Perry, Churchwardens. A.R. 1757.

Tenor.—I to the church the living call, and to the grave do summon all. 1759.

The weight of the tenor is about 19 cwt.

The church is situated about seven minutes' walk from either the Great Western or Midland Railway Stations. The ringing is under the control of the St. Michael's and St. James's churches company of ringers.

NATIONAL EXHIBITION OF HYGIENIC DRESS AND DECORATION.—Arrangements have been completed for an Exhibition, on an important scale, of Hygienic Dress, Sanitary Appliances, and Household Decoration, under Royal and distinguished patronage, and under the direction of the National Health Society, at Humphreys' Hall, Knightsbridge. The Exhibition will be opened on June 2nd next. A meeting in furtherance of the object will be held at an early date at Grosvenor House, by permission of his Grace the Duke of Westminster. The Executive Committee include Professor Corfield, Mr. Godwin, F.R.S., Sir F. Pollock, Bart., Mr. Robson (School Board), Mr. Eassie, C.E., Mr. Saxon Snell, F.R.I.B.A., Mr. Turner, F.R.I.B.A., Lady Borthwick, Lady Harberton, Mrs. Edward Neville, Mrs. Mark Hammond, Mrs. McLaren, Miss Gladstone, and others; Mr. Ernest Hart, Chairman, and Mr. E. J. Powell, Superintendent of the Exhibition. The Exhibits will be divided into seven classes, and besides hygienic, rational and artistic dress, will include food products, appliances for the sick room, home nursing and home education, industrial dwelling and cottage hygiene, the sanitation of the house and hygienic decoration, heating, lighting and cooking apparatus, fuel, &c. All applications for space, &c., are to be made to the superintendent, Mr. E. J. Powell, at the offices of the society, 44, Berners' Street, W., or at Humphreys' Hall, Knightsbridge, S.W.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

5120.

By HENRY DAINS, *Royal Cumberland Youths.*

2 3 4 5 6 M B W H

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

First rung on Monday, March 5th, 1881, at St Mary's, Lewisham, Kent, by the society of Cumberlands; conducted by Frederick Bate.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

10,464.

By JOHN THORP, *Ashton-under-Lyne.*

2 3 4 5 6 M O W H

7 3 2 5 6 4	1	In the hunt.
5 7 2 3 6 4	2 2	In once, 5ths.
5 6 7 3 2 4	1 2	In and out twice, 5ths.
4 6 3 2 5	2	In and out.
2 4 3 6 5	1	
4 5 3 6 2	1	2
4 3 6 5 2	1	2
5 6 3 4 2	1	- 2
6 5 2 4 3	-	1 2
5 3 2 4 6	2	- 1 2
3 4 2 5 6	1	-

Twice repeated. The above contains the extent of the course-ends.

Rung on Saturday, March 3rd, 1883, at St. Peter's, Ashton-under-Lyne; conducted by Samuel Wood.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL.

5080.

N. J. PITSTOW, *Saffron Walden.*

2 3 4 5 6 M W H

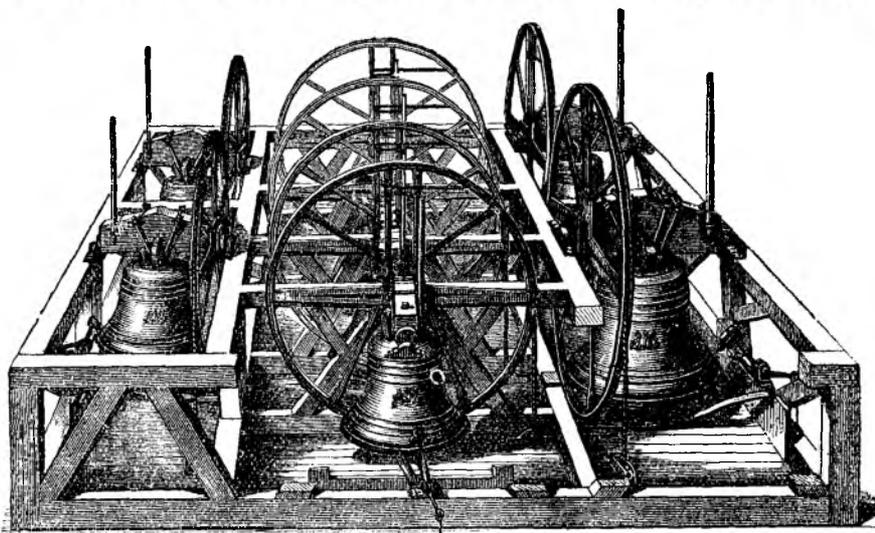
5 6 3 4 2	1 2 2
2 5 4 6 3	2 1 2
5 3 4 6 2	1 2
3 2 4 6 5	1 2
2 3 5 6 4	2 2
5 3 6 2 4	2 1
3 5 4 2 6	2 2
2 4 5 3 6	2 2
2 5 3 4 6	1 2
2 3 4 5 6	1 2

Reverses to the same peal. The 6th its extent in 5-6.

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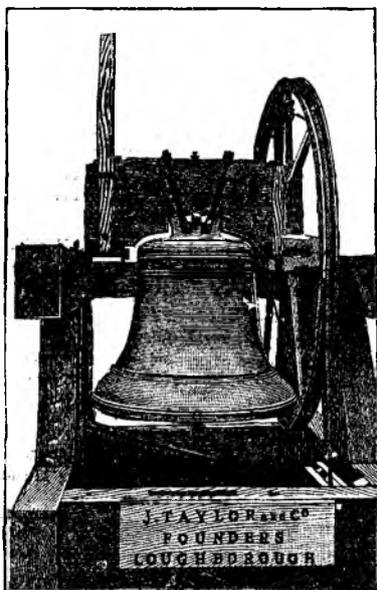
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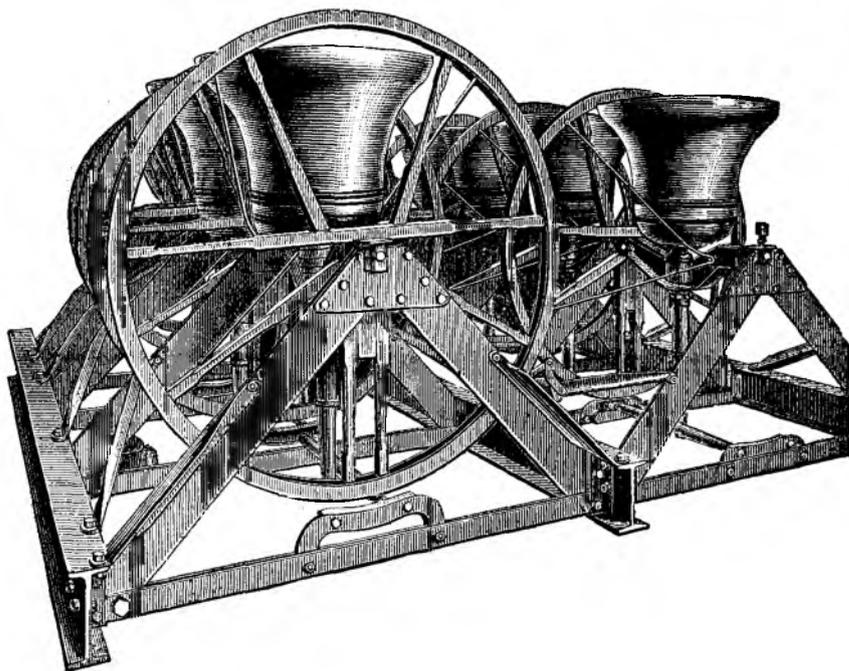
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No. 50 [NEW SERIES.]—VOL. I.

SATURDAY, MARCH 17, 1883.

[ONE PENNY.]



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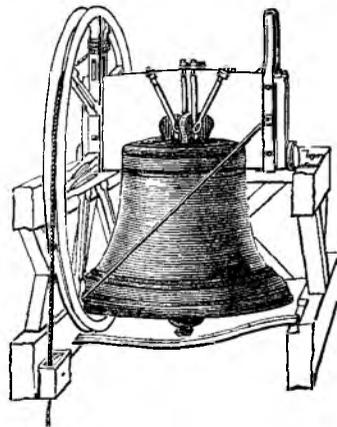
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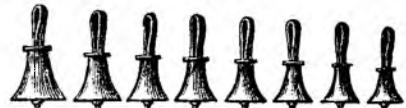
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HANDBELL MUSIC.—All Pieces previously advertised kept in stock, to which additions of new music are constantly being made.

The following pieces are in preparation, and will be published as follows:—

In the first week of February, 1883: "Haydn's Hymn to the Emperor," with variations; known also as the "Imperial Quartet." In the first week of March, 1883, Selection from Weber's "Der Frieschutz," introducing the "Peasant's March," Chorus of Huntsmen, Waltz, "Through the Woodlands," &c. In the first week of April, 1883, Handel's splendid chorus from the *Messiah*: "For unto us a Child is born."

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The last chapter is devoted to a list of the names of Composers of the different peals, with various particulars, and in the cases of deceased Composers with the dates of death, age, etc.

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ANNUAL REPORT OF THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

AMONG the evidences which are continually being brought before the Exercise having especial reference to the promotion and extension of the art, none, perhaps, offers a more tangible proof of its rapid propagation than these interesting reports, which are periodically issued by the various ringing Associations. We have said as much before, perhaps, but a perusal of the report compiled by the Hon. Sec. of the Oxford Guild—the Rev. Dolben Paul—brings home the conviction to our minds with greater force, that the "Science" is—copying the opening sentences of this report—"enlarging its borders, lengthening its cords, and strengthening its stakes."

The report before us must be regarded as most satisfactory. Not from the number of performances eligible for booking, or the difficult character of such achievements—for more in this direction may have been reasonably expected—but in the great accession to the name-book of the Guild, the increase upon the previous year being nearly 200, while it is an additional cause for satisfaction that the greatest increase has taken place in what may be known as efficient, viz., those qualified by a probationary course to be reckoned among the ranks of skilled ringers.

The plan of having paid instructors for teaching the art seems to be recognised in the Oxford Guild far more than any other kindred Association. This feature, when care is exercised in the selection of teachers, cannot fail to act beneficially. But to our thinking, a kind of special aptitude and tact is necessary for those who lay claim to possess the qualifications of a teacher, and our experience has taught us that those who blazon forth very loudly their skill and success as preceptors have been found upon examination, to be unqualified for the position. But we doubt not that the Guild Committee have been alive to such possible drawbacks, and have selected, on the whole, good men, at any rate we congratulate them on having secured the services of Mr. J. Field as Principal Instructor, while the known reputation of such gentlemen as Messrs. White, Hounslow, Holifield, and Washbrook, augur well for the success of pupils placed under their tuition.

With such a Guild as the one we are dealing with, a good balance-sheet may be expected, and this interesting document shows a balance in hand of £63 8s. 6d. The performances by the Guild are five peals of Grandsire Triples; one of Stedman Triples; one of Kent Treble Bob Major; one of Union Triples; one of Grandsire Caters; and one of Stedman Caters; not a very great show, but nevertheless showing gradual improvement, which we hope to see, in the next report, has been fully maintained.

The only thing wanted to render these annual publications complete, is a record of what has been done in the way of reclaiming bells and steeples where mismanagement has for years been rampant. Ten towers, says the Oxford report, have joined the Guild during the year, and several others have made enquiries with the same view. This of course is satisfactory intelligence, but it may be presumed that the ringing companies at these places are not entirely ignorant of the art, or unaware of the prestige which a union with the Guild would give them; their connection with it, therefore, is only a matter of time. The work we consider peculiarly appropriate for all our ringing Guilds and Associations is that of discovering and bringing to light the cases where the bells, belfry, and ringers (such as they are), have for years been uncared for, and their existence positively ignored, with a strong and honest determination to have such offences removed. The restoration of bells and belfries should be regarded as the principal agency in promoting the extension of real ringing, and henceforth our Guilds should consider it their paramount duty to take thorough and vigorous action in the matter. The bells restored, the ringing-chamber made habitable, improvement in other matters will be sure to follow, and an increased desire to become acquainted with ringing will be evinced by intelligent communities. The diocese of Oxford offers a fair field for the Guild Committee, in which they may commence operations. We could point out, if necessary, steeples where their kindly interference would probably be productive of good, at any rate, the representations of such an influential body as the Oxford Diocesan Guild would, if not immediately acted on, be listened to with respect, and pave the way for offering counsel and advice in the future. In adopting and persevering in such a plan of operations the Oxford Guild will, we doubt not, succeed in effecting a truly noble work, and the reward will be great. With perfect faith it may be predicted that in entering upon such a warfare, the Guild would discover long before their labours in the manner we are alluding to are completed, that it had perceptibly "enlarged its borders, lengthened its cords, and strengthened its stakes."

DEATH OF AN OLD RINGER.—On Sunday, March 4th, died one of the old ringers, late of York Minster, Thos. Cooper, who was interred on the 7th, and on the same evening a muffled peal was rung to his memory. He had the misfortune to be run over by a vehicle about three years ago, and sustained a severe fracture of his leg, and afterwards was not able to ascend the steps of the tower.

ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION AT APPLETON, BERKS.

On Monday, March 5th, the Appleton society celebrated their sixty-third anniversary of the opening of the original peal of six bells. It has generally been the rule to ring a peal on the above occasion, but this year the peal was dispensed with, in order to give any ringing friends an opportunity of having a friendly touch on this beautiful peal of ten, which is supposed to be one of the best peals for their weight in England. Tenor 14½ cwt. in F.

Ringings commenced at 11.30, and was kept up with much spirit for about 2½ hours. The following methods were all rung in good style, viz.: Grandsire Triples, Grandsire Caters, Stedman Caters and Oxford Treble Bob. The bells being lowered, the company made their way to the Greyhound, at Besselsleigh, which is about half a mile distant from Appleton, and the residence of Mr. F. White, church bell hanger, who had provided a most substantial repast. The dinner being over, the evening was spent in a most enjoyable manner by performances on the handbells, and we were pleased to find the Rev. F. E. Robinson officiating as chairman.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

THE MONTHLY MEETING for the Stoke District was held on Saturday last, at Burslem parish church. Ringers attended in large numbers from Stoke, Burslem, Hanley, Norton, and Tunstall. Ringing commenced shortly after 3.30. Tea was provided by the Burslem tower and their friends, in the schools attached to the church. Some very excellent handbell ringing was performed by the Burslem handbell ringers amongst which are several of the tower ringers. Both Rev. A. Watton (Vicar), the churchwardens, and other kind friends, deserve and have the thanks of the ringers for the welcome we received, and the ringing-chamber itself bears witness of what they evidently feel it to be, a portion of the House of God. The tower is a very old one, very strong, and contains a nice peal of six.

The next meeting will be held at Keele, on Saturday, the 17th inst.

SOUTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

THE ANNUAL MEETING of this Association will be held at Spalding, on Easter Monday. The eight bells of St. Paul's, Fulney, and the six of SS. Mary and Nicolas will be at the disposal of ringing friends. A meeting for the transaction of business will be held in the National Schoolroom at 12 o'clock, and dinner at 2.0 p.m. Members wishing to attend must send in their names to me on or before the 17th instant, or the usual allowance will not be made.

R. CREASEY, *Secretary (pro tem.)*

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

A SPECIAL MEETING of this Association will be held at Writtle, on Easter Monday, when alterations in rules will be submitted for discussion. Also for the election of a Secretary, the Rev. J. B. Seaman being about to leave the Diocese with his family for Manitoba.

Belfry open at 10 a.m. Meeting at 2 p.m. Arrangements made for refreshment at the "Cock and Bell."

Writtle Vicarage,
March 12th.

JOHN B. SEAMAN,
Hon. Sec.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

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

CHARLES HERBERT, *Hon. Sec.*

HARLOW (Essex).—A stained-glass window has been erected in the church of St. Mary, Harlow, as a memorial to the late Mr. J. W. Perry-Watlington, the subjects chosen being "Faith" and "Good Works." A beautiful memorial has also been just placed over the grave of Mr. Perry-Watlington, consisting of three marble recumbent flat tombs of white. The largest and richest is over his grave, a small one over the infant child, and the third is a cenotaph for a future interment. Each marble has upon it a canopied cross, and the canopy on Mr. Perry-Watlington's tomb is enriched with his arms. The tomb was erected by Messrs. Wheeler Bros., of Reading, from the designs of Mr. H. Woodyer, architect, of Graffham, Guildford. The idea was at one time entertained to place a peal of bells in Harlow church to the memory of the above-named deceased gentleman, but ultimately the memorials took the above form. We hear by chance that the Royal Cumberlands intend visiting Harlow, on Easter-Monday, but they have not vouchsafed to us any official information of such intention.

NON-MUSICAL BELLS AND CHANGE-RINGING.

It is usual for a gentleman who reads a paper before a society, upon whatsoever subject he may choose, to make himself thoroughly acquainted with the pro's and con's of the matter he takes in hand, as his audience naturally expect, and have a perfect right to so expect, that by giving their time to hear such paper read, they will learn something reliable upon a subject in which they feel interested, but have not, possibly, the time or inclination to search the authorities for themselves. If after the reading of the paper, no discussion is raised, it may be presumed that the audience are satisfied that the statements contained therein are incontrovertible, and that henceforth they can base their knowledge of the subject upon such statements.

These remarks are suggested by the paper read before the Oxford Architectural and Historical Society, by Mr. E. Pickard-Hall, M.A., on February 28th, which bears strong internal evidence that the author has relied principally for his matter upon Dr. Stainer's preface to "Great Paul," and has taken for granted all that is there stated, without troubling himself to look further afield, to see whether the Doctor's astonishing theories are born out by facts.

Mr. Pickard-Hall reproduces without comment (as far as the report tells), the misleading and mischievous assertions, that the falling-off in the quality and tone of the bells noticeable early in the last century, was owing to the introduction of change-ringing, when it must be obvious to every unprejudiced mind that the facts point in quite the opposite direction.

If it were not for change-ringing, whence the use or necessity for the large number of musical and melodious peals of eight, ten, or twelve bells scattered over our country so plentifully. Hundreds of churches on the continent of Europe possess a large number of bells, ranging from five or six, to forty or fifty, and in two or three instances even a yet larger number, but with the exception of a few in Western Mid-Europe which are possessed of carillons, no use is made of them except to clash away anyhow, without the slightest regard for time or order of any sort. What inducement therefore is there, or was there, for founders in those countries to produce good bells? None whatever; so long as a bell was made big enough and noisy enough all was done that was needed, whereas, on the other hand, it is one of the first essentials to the successful practice of change-ringing that the bells shall be tunable, and therefore melodious, and such being the case, it follows that it is owing to the invention and practice of change-ringing that the art of bellfounding has attained to its present state of perfection.

The logical consequences of the theory thus advanced, with regard to the decadence of bell-founding following upon the advancement of change-ringing, if followed up in another direction, say for example the art and science of music, leads to the conclusion that as proficiency in the study and practice of music advanced, so have the instruments of music themselves deteriorated; whether this be so or no, must be known to that old gentleman, the "merest school-boy," and that well-known individual is at liberty to draw his own inferences.

No more unfair statements respecting change-ringing and its relation to the qualities of bells have ever been published than in the preface referred to, and Mr. Pickard-Hall would have done well to have studied the questions somewhat deeper before committing himself to repeat them in public. Had he have read "Great Paul Tongue-Tied," he would have seen the other side of the question stated in a manner that utterly demolishes Dr. Stainer's theories, and would have shown him that he was leaning upon a very broken reed indeed when he took the preface of "Great Paul" as the foundation upon which to rear the superstructure of his paper. DANIEL.

REOPENING OF ST. MARY'S PARISH CHURCH BELLS, PRESCOT, LANCASHIRE.

On Saturday, February 24th, by the kind invitation of the Churchwardens, eleven members of the Liverpool Society paid a visit to this place and rung a touch of Grandsire Triples, afterwards eight members started for a peal of 5024 changes of Kent Treble Bob Major, but after ringing in good style 3776 changes in 2 hrs. 36 mins. the 7th man called "stand." R. Williams, sen., 1; Geo. Helsby, 2; W. Woodhead, 3; H. Meadows, 4; E. Booth, 5; T. Hammond, 6; E. Foster, 7; R. Williams, jun. (conductor), 8. Tenor 14 cwt. 3 qrs. 21 lbs. After the ringing the members adjourned to the Royal Hotel and sat down to a sumptuous dinner provided by the Churchwardens. These bells have just been rehung by Messrs. Taylor of Loughborough.

The *Northampton Herald* states that the Rev. J. Godson, vicar of Ashby Folville, Melton Mowbray, has published a letter complaining of the mode in which the appeal for the restoration of the central tower of Peterborough Cathedral had been brought forward by the Dean and Chapter—of the situation of the Cathedral; of its architectural deficiencies; and of its practical uselessness, hinting that it had better be allowed to become an ivy-clad ruin! A Non-conformist has replied, contending that even Dissenters may fairly be asked to find funds in aid of the restoration.

BELFRY RHYMES.

The following lines are in Gulval Church, Cornwall. The frames of the bells bear date 1688:—

Good Sirs! our meaning is not small,
That God to praise assemblies call;
And warn the sluggard when at home,
That he may with devotion come
Unto the church and join in prayer;
Of absolution take his share.
Who hears the bells, appears betime,
And in his seat against we chime.
Therefore I'd have you not to vapour,
Nor blame ye lads that use the clapper,
By which are scar'd the fiends of hell,
And all by virtue of a bell.
You ringers all, observe these orders well!
He pays his sixpence that o'erturns a bell;
And he that rings with either spur or hat,
Must pay his sixpence certainly for that;
And he that rings and does disturb the peal,
Must pay his sixpence or a gun of ale.
These laws elsewhere in ev'ry church are used,
That bells and ringers may not be abused.

According to Halliwell's Dictionary of Archaisms and Provincialisms, Gun is a north country word for a large flagon of ale. "Son of a gun, implies a merry, jovial, drunken fellow."

Verses in Laudolph Church belfry, Cornwall:—

Let awful silence first proclaimed be,
And praise unto the Holy Trinity;
Then honour give unto our noble king,
So with a blessing let us raise the ring.
Hark how the charping treble sings most clear,
And covering Tom comes rowling in the rear;
And now the bells are up, come let us see,
What laws are best to keep sobriety.
Who swears, or curses, or in choleric mood
Quarrels, or strikes, although he draw no blood:
Who wears his hat, or o'erturns a bell,
Or by unskilful handling, mars a peal;
Let him pay sixpence for each single crime,
'Twill make him cautious 'gainst another time;
But if the sexton's fault an hind'rance be,
We call from him a double penalty.
If any should our Parson disrespect,
Or Warden's order any time neglect,
Let him be always held in full disgrace,
And evermore be banished this place;
So when the bells are ceased, then let us sing,
God bless the church—God save the King.

In Calstock Church, Cornwall:—

We ring the quick to church, the dead to grave
Good is our use, such usage let us have.
Who swears, or curses, or in a choleric mood
Quarrels or strikes, altho' he draw no blood;
Who wears his hat, or spur, or turns a bell,
Or by unskilful handling mars a peal,
Let him pay sixpence for each single crime,
'Twill make him cautious another time.
So when the bells are ceased then let us sing,
God bless our Holy Church, God save the King.

These bells were cast, and the tower new leaded, in the year 1773.
John Moon, John Hunn, Churchwardens.

Copied from the belfry-wall of All Saints' Church, at Hastings:—

This is a belfry that is free
For all those that civil be:
And if you please to chime or ring,
It is a very pleasant thing.
There is no musick play'd or sung,
Like unto bells when they're well rung
Then ring your bells well, if you can—
Silence is best for every man.
But if you ring in spur or hat
Sixpence you pay—be sure of that:
And if a bell you overthrow
Pray pay a groat before you go.

Dated 1756.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

On Saturday, April 7th, being the date of commencement of a new volume, this Paper will be

PERMANENTLY ENLARGED TO 12 PAGES.

The increase in the circulation warrants this step being taken. The promoters of this paper hope that those gentlemen for whose need it is established, will continue their exertions in advancing its interests, so that at an early period it may be still further enlarged, and its usefulness increased. Printed circulars will be gladly forwarded to any of our friends who will take the trouble to distribute them.

"THE BELL NEWS AND RINGERS' RECORD" will be forwarded post free, on the following terms:—

One copy, 12 months	6s. 6d.
" 6 "	3s. 3d.
" 3 "	1s. 8d.

All Subscriptions and Orders for papers must be sent direct to the Publisher, W. E. ALLEN, Ave Maria Lane, London.

All communications respecting advertisements must be addressed to the office of "THE BELL NEWS," Walthamstow, London.

Everything for insertion in this Journal to be addressed "The Editor of THE BELL NEWS, Walthamstow, London." Letters forwarded for publication must reach us not later than Wednesday morning; the insertion of Performances coming later than the first Postal delivery on Thursday morning cannot be guaranteed in that week's number.

The Editor would be glad to receive the names of gentlemen who would be willing to act for their respective districts, in the capacity of reporter or correspondent. We shall feel obliged by Association and other Secretaries sending intelligence of events occurring within their jurisdiction.

J. S. ARCHER.—We have just discovered that the church you mention is the actual one.

W. WALKER.—We hope that when this paper is enlarged we shall have a better opportunity of meeting your requirements.

J. W. WASHBROOK.—Next week.

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, MARCH 17, 1883.

AN announcement placed at the head of this column formally publishes the fact, which on one or two occasions we have briefly referred to in our Editorial comment, of the proposed increase in size of "THE BELL NEWS." But a kind of prerogative belongs to us to comment upon the favourable position to which this paper has now attained. We read with feelings of the greatest satisfaction that its founders at last see their way clear to proceed, on the commencement of the next volume, to a "permanent enlargement." No one but those actually responsible for the conduct of a paper know the anxious solicitude attendant upon such an undertaking. We have watched with eager, almost feverish anxiety, the growth and steady progress of our bantling. Sometimes under circumstances of great discouragement, at other times cheered by indications of ultimate success gleaming forth,

we have striven, amid these alternating phases of despondency and exultation, to present to our readers, week by week, a faithful reflex of the doings of the Exercise. Such an era of doubt is passed, we hope, for ever; and the fact of our paper being now in a position to reimburse itself, or in other words, to pay its way, is a sufficient refutation of those lugubrious prognostications regarding the probable duration of its existence which were prophesied on its first appearance.

In the future, we hope to receive from more of our ringing brethren than formerly, contributions for insertion in our columns. We wish that every ringer may be led, through the medium of this journal, to express their opinions upon the numerous subjects that at present agitate the ringing world. "In the multitude of counsellors there is wisdom," we are told, and the frequent interchange of opinion among ringers may often throw light upon many questions at present undecided. We shall be pleased to receive a continuance of that able assistance which many gentlemen connected with the Exercise have hitherto given us. The topics with which this paper deals being limited, their treatment is soon worked out and worn threadbare if the ingenuity of only one or two persons is exercised upon them. The fact that among ringers of the present day numbers of gentlemen possessed of undoubted literary talent are to be found, will not for one moment be denied, and we respectfully ask such to aid us in our work whenever an opportunity presents itself to them.

It has been our pleasure to receive many very flattering encomiums upon "THE BELL NEWS" during the past year; and while on the other hand improvements have been suggested and shortcomings pointed out, our critics have dealt their blows in a very gentle manner. We shall have a better opportunity to carry into effect many of the practical suggestions submitted for our consideration, when the enlargement takes place. And we indulge a hope that before the close of our second volume, we may hear of "our paper" having, from the increase in its circulation, to undergo a further enlargement, upon which gratifying feature we shall be able then, as now, to congratulate our readers.

THE DERBY AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

THE first ANNUAL MEETING of the members of the above Association will be held at Derby, on Easter Monday, March 26th, 1883. The following towers will be open for ringing from 10.0 a.m.:—All Saints' ten bells; St. Andrew's, eight bells; St. Luke's, eight bells; St. Werburgh's, eight bells; and St. Alkmund's, eight bells. Committee Meeting at 3.0 p.m. Service in St. Andrew's church at 4.30. Tea in St. Andrew's school-room at 5.0 p.m. Tickets 1s. 6d. each. General Meeting and Election of Officers for 1883-4 at 6.0 p.m. All ringers and friends are earnestly invited to attend.

H. C. WOODWARD, Hon. Sec.
19, Morleston Street, Derby, March, 1883.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

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

WILLIAM JOS. CHATTERTON, }
JOEL REDFORD, } Hon. Secs.

NOTICE.—Good Friday occurring next week, we shall have to go to press a day earlier. All communications, therefore, intended for insertion in next week's paper, must reach us not later than the morning of Wednesday, the 21st instant.

The Metropolis.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

Muffled Peal.

On Wednesday, March 14, 1883, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

AT ST. MARY'S CHAPEL-OF-EASE, HOLLOWAY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S 10-PART PEAL. Tenor 19 cwt.

JAMES RUMSEYTreble.	THOMAS TITCHENER 5.
EDWARD MOSES 2.	ARTHUR JACOBS 6.
JAMES LEACH 3.	GEORGE NEWSON 7.
JAMES HANNINGTON 4.	DANIEL LOVETTTenor.

Conducted by JAMES HANNINGTON.

This peal was rang with the bells fully muffled as a last mark of esteem and respect to the late Mr. John Layton, who was vestry-clerk and solicitor to the parish of St. Mary, Islington, for over thirty years.

The Provinces.

WREXHAM, DENBIGHSHIRE, NORTH WALES.

On Tuesday, March 6, 1883, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S 10-PART PEAL. Tenor 28 cwt. in D.

ALFRED LEATreble.	EDWARD ROWLAND 5.
ROBERT JONES 2.	THOMAS NEWELL 6.
JOHN ELLIS 3.	EDWARD EVANS 7.
JOSEPH WILLIAMS 4.	THOMAS DAVENPORTTenor.

Conducted by E. ROWLAND.

[First peal by all except the conductor.]

BRISTOL.

On Saturday, March 10, 1883, in Two Hours and Fifty-two Minutes,

AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

TAYLOR'S BOB-AND-SINGLE VARIATION. Tenor 18 cwt. in F.

GEORGE STADONTreble.	HORACE W. ABBOTT 5.
HARRY PORTCH 2.	JAMES HINTON 6.
OLIVER JAMES 3.	WILLIAM PARSONS 7.
WALTER REA 4.	WILLIAM EMORYTenor.

Conducted by JAMES HINTON.

Messrs. O. James and W. Rea hail from Bromsgrove; the remainder are all members of the St. Stephen's society, Bristol.

THE LIVERPOOL YOUTHS' SOCIETY.

PRESCOT, LANCASHIRE.

On Saturday, March 10, 1883, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 14 cwt., 3 qrs., 21 lbs.

RICHARD WILLIAMSTreble.	HENRY BECK 5.
GEORGE HELSBY 2.	ROBERT WILLIAMS 6.
WILLIAM WOODHEAD 3.	THOMAS HAMMOND 7.
JOHN BROWN 4.	WILLIAM BROOKSTenor.

Composed and conducted by ROBERT WILLIAMS.

It was intended to have rung a peal of Treble Bob, but a member of the above society, Mr. Henry Meadows, being unwell, it was abandoned. After the completion of the peal, the members sat down at the Royal Hotel, to a bountiful supper, provided by the Churchwardens.

Date Touch.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

YORK.—On Tuesday, March 12th, at the Minster, by the kind permission of the Dean, a date touch of 1883 changes of Grandsire

was rung in 1 hr. 18 mins. Jno. Cundall, 1; Wm. Bean, 2; Thos. Hodgson, 3; Robt. Thompson, 4; Josh. Underwood, 5; Jas. Thompson, 6; Thos. Haigh, 7; Wm. Morrell, 8; Wm. H. Howard (composer), 9; Geo. Breed (conductor), 10. Tenor 54 cwt.

Miscellaneous.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—On Monday evening, March 12th, at St. John's church, a 720 of Violet Treble Bob Minor, in 28 mins. G. Campbell, 1; C. L. Routledge, 2; F. Lees, 3; W. G. Routledge (conductor), 4; W. Story, 5; R. S. Story, 6. This is the first 720 in this method, by all the band except F. Lees. This beautiful method is now introduced for the first time into the northern dioceses, and is the first peal in the method rung by the Association. Tenor 14½ cwt.

STAINDROP (Durham).—On Sunday, March 11th, for Divine Service in the evening at St. Mary's, a 396 of Bob Minor with sixteen singles and two bobs. Also on Tuesday, March 13th, a 720 of Bob Minor with twenty bobs and ten singles. W. McLean, 1; J. W. Shipp, 2; W. Johnson, 3; J. Leonard, 4; D. Shipp (conductor), 5; J. Brown, 6. Tenor 13 cwt.

THE GLEMSFORD SOCIETY, SUFFOLK.

On Saturday evening, March 3rd, six of the above Society, rang on the bells of the parish church, a 720 of Cambridge Surprise Minor, in 30 mins. John Slater, 1; Zachariah Slater, 2; Frederick Paul Adams, 3; Charles Honeybell, 4; Oliver Garwood, 5; Samuel Slater, (conductor), 6.

On Saturday evening, March 10th, being the anniversary of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales's wedding-day, six members succeeded in ringing a 720 of that most intricate method of all in the scientific art of ringing, London Surprise Minor, in 30 mins. John Slater, 1; Zachariah Slater, 2; Frederick Wells, 3; Oliver Garwood, 4; Frederick Paul Adams, 5; Samuel Slater (conductor), 6. Our correspondent adds:—"This company has taken in *Church Bells* from its commencement, and also that interesting paper "THE BELL NEWS," of which every number is still in the company's possession, and the above is the first and only instance of a 720 of London Surprise having been recorded. May merit meet its due reward."

Also on the same evening, a 720 of Cambridge Surprise Minor, in 29 mins. John Slater, 1; Zachariah Slater, 2; Samuel Slater, 3; Frederick Wells, 4; Oliver Garwood, 5; F. P. Adams (conductor), 6. Tenor 16 cwt., in F.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

FOLKESTONE (Kent).—On Tuesday evening, March 13th, eight members of the above association rang 2520 changes of Grandsire Triples (Taylor's bob-and-single variation), in 1 hr. 38 mins. *Fredk. Rolfe, 1; *Fredk. Finn, 2; Jas. Fisher, 3; *Edwd. Potter, 4; Henry Croucher, 5; Saml. Barker (conductor), 6; *Fredk. Slingsby, 7; *Geo. Millen, 8. *The greatest number of changes in the method. Rolfe hails from Cheriton; Potter from Dover; and the rest from Folkestone. Tenor 25½ cwt.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

FARNHAM ROYAL (Bucks).—On Saturday, March 10th, being the anniversary of the marriage of the Prince and Princess of Wales, a 720 of Bob Minor, with thirty-four bobs and ten singles, was rung at St. Mary's, in 26 mins. F. Fells, 1; J. Basden, 2; A. Fussell, 3; A. Batten, 4; J. Parker (composer and conductor), 5; C. Clark, 6. Also another 720 of Bob Minor with sixteen bobs and two singles, in 29 mins. G. Basden, 1; F. Fells, 2; A. Fussell, 3; J. Parker (conductor), 4; A. Batten, 5; J. Basden, 6. [J. Parker would like to have W. H. Fussell's address, and so would the Editor of this paper.]

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 10th, being the 20th anniversary of the Prince of Wales's wedding-day, the undermentioned members of the above society visited (upon the kind invitation of Mr. G. Sayers, jun., Ashstead, and after doing justice to a substantial tea, most generously provided by Mr. G. Sayers, at the brewery, rung at the parish church upon the very musical peal of eight bells a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, 1260 changes, in 40 mins. J. Trappitt, 1; E. F. Cole, Esq., 2; D. Springall, 3; G. Pell, 4; S. Brooker, 5; J. Fayers, 6; S. Greenwood (conductor), 7; T. Miles, 8. Also two courses of Kent Treble Bob Major. D. Springall, 1; G. Sayers, 2; J. Trappitt, 3; E. F. Cole, Esq., T. Miles, 5; J. Fayers, 6; G. Pell, 7; S. Brooker (conductor), 8. The party then returned home, having thoroughly enjoyed their evening's outing.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

LEEK (Staffordshire).—On Sunday morning, March 11th, at the parish church, 18-score of Grandsire Minor, and in the evening a 720 of Bob Minor. S. Sheldon, 1; H. Carding, 2; R. Gibson, 3; T. Turner, 4; E. Sharratt, 5; W. H. Armit (conductor), 6. Tenor 20 cwt. in E.

WORCESTER DIOCESAN AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

NETHERTON (Worcestershire).—On Sunday, March 4th, at St. Andrew's church, four members of the above society, and two from Dudley, rang their first 720 of Plain Bob, after six weeks' practice, in 28 mins. B. Townsend, 1; W. Micklewright, junr. (composer and conductor), 2; W. Micklewright, senr., 3; J. Townsend, 4; J. Prestidge, 5; J. Smith, 6. Tenor 12½ cwt.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

GARGRAVE (Yorkshire).—On Saturday, March 10th, the local branch of this Association attempted the reverse of Annable's six-part peal of Bob Triples, when a shift taking place in the fifth part, the bells were called round at the fifth part-end, in 2 hrs. 25 mins., W. Wray, 1; C. Lancster, 2; H. Horsman, 3; W. Clarke, 4; J. T. Middlebrook, 5; W. Mallinson (conductor), 6; J. McKell, 7; J. McGoun, 8. Tenor 16 cwt.

CHESTER.—On Sunday evening, March 11th, six members of the St. Michael's Society, rang at St. Michael's church, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in 25½ mins. J. Moulton, 1; E. Ward, 2; T. Bethell, 3; J. Errington, 4; J. Gibson, 5; C. Price (conductor), 6. Tenor 12 cwt. in D.

CRAYFORD (Kent).—On Sunday, March 4th, for Divine Service in the morning at the church of St. Paulinus, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, was rung by the Crayford company, in 42 mins. C. Saxby, 1; W. Fright, 2; J. Saxby, 3; G. Conyard (conductor), 4; G. Sheppard, 5; C. Hammant, 6; M. Jacobs, 7; F. French, 8. Composed by Mr. W. Washbrook, of Oxford. Also on Monday evening, March 5th, a 720 of Bob Minor, forty-two singles, in 27 mins. C. Saxby, 1; G. Conyard, 2; C. Hammant, 3; J. Saxby, 4; F. French (composer and conductor), 5; W. J. Reeve, 6. Tenor 12½ cwt.

EAST MALLING (Kent).—On Tuesday, March 13th, at the parish church, for practice, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 24 mins. H. Bonner, 1; E. Bonner, 2; J. White, 3; D. Hall, 4; F. Shoobridge (first 720) 5; W. Leonard, 6. Also a 720 of Bob Minor, in 25 mins. H. Bonner, 1; D. Hall, 2; J. White, 3; F. Colegate, 4; F. Shoobridge, 5; W. Leonard (conductor), 6. Tenor 13 cwt.

ERITH (Kent).—On Saturday evening, February 24th, a 720 of Treble Bob Minor, was rung on the back six bells, in 29 mins. M. Jacobs, 1; G. Conyard, 2; F. Fraser, 3; C. Hammant, 4; G. Sheppard, 5; F. French (conductor), 6. Tenor 17 cwt.

FARNWORTH-NEAR-WIDNES (Lancashire).—On Saturday, March 10th, at St. Luke's church, four of the local company, assisted by Messrs. S. Oxworth and W. Brown of Runcorn, Cheshire, rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor in 26½ mins. S. Oxworth, 1; A. Whitfield, 2; J. Whilde, 3; W. Brown, 4; J. T. Lowe, 5; J. Latchford (conductor), 6. Tenor 12½ cwt. in G.

HANDSWORTH (Staffordshire).—On Sunday, March 4th, before Morning Service at St. Mary's, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 30 mins. T. Verry, senr., 1; H. Bastable, 2; F. H. Banks, 3; T. Westwood (conductor), 4; T. Reynolds, 5; A. Thomas, 6. Also on Monday, March 12th, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 28 mins. T. Verry, junr., 1; H. Bastable (conductor), 2; F. H. Banks, 3; A. Thomas, 4; T. Verry, senr., 5; T. Westwood, 6. Tenor about 12 cwt.

HORNCHURCH (Essex).—On Saturday, March 10th, at St. Andrew's church, a 720 of Bob Minor, (Penning's original), with 28 bobs and 18 singles. J. Barry, 1; A. Perkins (conductor), 2; W. Meadows, Esq., 3; A. Pye, 4; G. Dear, 5; I. Dear, 6.

HORNSEY (Middlesex).—On Sunday evening, March 11th, for Divine Service, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 27 mins. J. Ward (first 720), 1; G. Griffin, 2; N. Alderman, 3; J. Hannington (conductor), 4; T. Titchener, 5; A. Jacob, 6. After service a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor (nine bobs), in 25 mins. J. Leach, 1; J. Hannington, 2; N. Alderman, 3; T. Titchener, 4; A. Jacob, 5; G. Newson (conductor), 6. A 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor (fifteen bobs), in 26 mins. G. Griffin, 1; J. Leach, 2; N. Alderman, 3; A. Jacob, 4; J. Hannington (conductor), 5; G. Newson, 6. And a 720 of Plain Bob Minor (four bobs and fourteen singles), in 27 mins. F. Parker (first 720), 1; G. Griffin, 2; J. Hannington (conductor), 3; N. Alderman, 4; A. Jacob, 5; G. Newson, 6. Tenor 17½ cwt.

MAIDSTONE (Kent).—On Thursday, March 8th, at St. Michael and All Angels, a 720 of Grandsire Minor. J. Fergusson, 1; C. Payne, 2;

E. Elliott, 3; R. Simmonds, 4; A. H. Woolley, 5; G. Pawley (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Plain Bob Minor. E. Elliott, 1; C. Payne, 2; A. Moorcraft, 3; S. Kemp, 4; G. Pawley (conductor), 5; A. H. Woolley, 6.

ROMFORD (Essex).—On Saturday, March 10th, at St. Edward's church, a 720 of Bob Minor, with fourteen bobs and four singles, in 24 mins. F. Gillingham, 1; A. Perkins, 2; B. Keeble, 3; W. Meadows, Esq., 4; G. Roughton, 5; A. Pye, 6. Composed and conducted by A. Pye.

SUDBURY (Suffolk).—On Thursday, March 8th, on the occasion of the Lord Bishop of Ely holding a confirmation service at All Saints' Church, the local company rang before service a 720 of Bob Minor, and after service 1056 changes in the same method. W. Cross, 1; J. Tolliday, 2; G. Brown, 3; M. Silvester, 4; H. Brackett, 5; A. Scott (conductor), 6; C. Sillitoe, 7; H. Harper, 8. Also on the same evening a 576 of Grandsire Triples. W. Cross, 1; J. Tolliday, 2; G. Brown, 3; M. Silvester, 4; C. Sillitoe, 5; A. Scott (conductor), 6; H. Harper, 7; H. Brackett, 8. Tenor 28 cwt. in D.

TEWKESBURY (Gloucestershire).—On Tuesday, March 13th, seven members of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association, with C. Bassett, rung for practice, at the Abbey, 1792 changes of Union Triples, in 1 hr. 8 mins. R. H. Witherington, 1; C. Awford, 2; S. Cleal, 3; J. Hale, 4; J. Wathen, 5; Rev. C. D. P. Davies, 6; Jos. Wathen (conductor), 7; C. Bassett, 8. Tenor 23 cwt. 3 qrs. 19 lbs.

WRAYSBURY (Bucks).—On Sunday evening, February 11th, at the parish church (St. Andrew's) after Divine Service, on the occasion of the baptism of Gladys Mary, infant daughter of Mr. J. J. Hall, F.M.S. (one of the local ringers), his brother-ringers rang their first 120 of Grandsire Doubles. G. Whatmore (conductor), 1; R. Shanks, 2; H. Clarke, 3; J. Mills, 4; R. Parker, 5; G. Grant, 6.

CHARTHAM BELLS, KENT.

BEING occupied recently at Chartham church, near Canterbury, I took the opportunity of examining the bells. From what I saw, and from information gathered from the sexton, I found that at the restoration of the church about ten years ago, the gallery was taken down, the tower arch opened up, and the belfry-floor taken away, as it came across the middle of the arch. The bells, six in number, have never been rung since, though the room beneath the bells with a little alteration would make a good ringing-chamber. The bells and frame are in a deplorable state, everything being covered with pigeon-manure in some places several inches thick. The wheels and fittings seem in fair order, at least, nothing was broken or unsound.

The bells do not hang regularly, the treble being between the 5th and tenor. The tenor is 3 ft. 10 ins. in diameter.

At the bottom of the tower, which is used as the vestry, there is a chiming apparatus, but I was told that it was seldom that all six were chimed.

MAN OF KENT.

The same writer also adds:—

For the information of G. B. (York), I beg to state that at Rainham church, Kent, there are six bells, the 2nd, 3rd, and tenor of which were cast by Robert Mot, the two former in 1601, and the tenor in 1582. Of the other bells, the treble was cast by Christopher Hodson, in 1685, the 4th by Josephus Hatch, 1618, and the 5th by Pack and Chapman, 1773. The tenor is 49 inches in diameter, and said to weigh 24 cwt. 3 qrs.

THE ROYAL HANDBELL RINGERS during their last passage across the Atlantic, in the White Star Steamer "Britannia," gave an entertainment for charitable purposes by which a large sum was realized. This is a common form of helping the Merchant Seamen's Orphan Asylum and other charities, adopted by travelling companies of public entertainers, and is always highly appreciated during the monotony of a sea voyage, no charge being made for admission, but often as much as a guinea apiece obtained for the programmes from the wealthier passengers, but which is of course left entirely to their own ideas of generosity.

Correspondence.

[While allowing the utmost freedom for the expression of opinion, it must never be considered that we are in any way bound to statements made by correspondents.]

To the Editor of "THE BELL NEWS AND RINGERS' RECORD."

THE TREBLE BOB QUESTION.

SIR,—I am told by a ringing friend that the Bradford Company are charging my letter of your issue of the 3rd instant, to Mr. Snowdon's account. I am extremely sorry that this should be the case, and in justice to that gentleman beg to be allowed to assure them that neither Mr. Snowdon, nor any of his company, know anything about it.

[If our friends at Bradford are under this impression, it is requisite that we at once undeceive them. Mr. Snowdon has never written a line to us having the least connection with this controversy.—ED.]

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS.

5580.

By JAMES WOOD, Sen., *Ashton-under-Lyne.*

2 3 4 5 6

2 3 4 5 6*

3 5 4 2 0 8th in three.
 5 2 4 3 6 8th in three.
 4 5 2 3 6 9th in three.
 2 4 5 3 6 9th in three.
 4 3 5 2 6 8th in three.
 3 2 5 4 6 8th in three.
 5 3 2 4 6 9th in three.
 2 5 3 4 6 9th in three.
 5 4 3 2 6 8th in three.
 4 2 3 5 6 8th in three.
 3 4 2 5 6 9th in three.

These eleven courses four times repeated, being preceded in each instance by 8th in with a double, and a 7-8, produce—

5 3 6 2 4 9 7 8

when the following bobs bring the bells round :

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

*7th in and out at three, with a double.

TWO PEALS OF TREBLE BOB MAXIMUS.

By HENRY DAINS, *Royal Cumberland Youths.*

5040.

6000.

2 3 4 5 6 MWH

2 3 4 5 6 MWH

6 4 3 5 2 I I
 3 4 5 6 2 2 I
 2 5 4 6 3 I I
 6 2 4 5 3 I
 3 4 2 5 6 I I
 3 2 5 4 6 I 2
 3 5 4 2 6 I 2
 2 3 4 5 6 I

3 6 4 5 2 I 2
 3 4 5 6 2 I 2
 4 3 2 6 5 2 2
 3 5 2 6 4 I 2
 3 2 6 5 4 I 2
 3 4 2 5 6 2 I
 3 2 5 4 6 I 2
 3 5 4 2 6 I 2
 2 3 4 5 6 I

Each of these peals possess the same qualities viz. : both the 5th and 6th are at home at four course-ends.

By omitting a bob at M and H in the third course of the 6000, the third course-end of 5040 is brought up, and the changes augmented to 5088.

ORGAN (FINGER) FOR SALE,

Very Superior, suitable for Large Room or Small Church or Chapel; in substantial oak grained case, bold and handsome front (speaking) six stops, viz. :—

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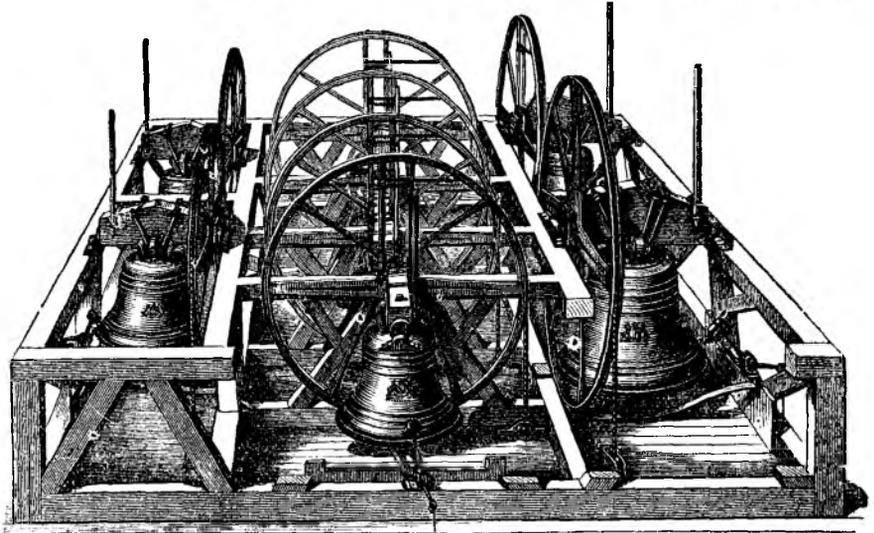
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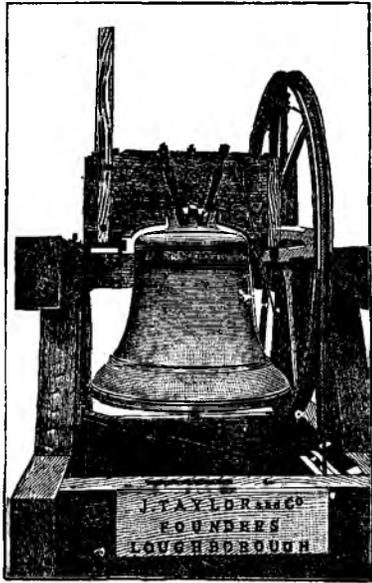
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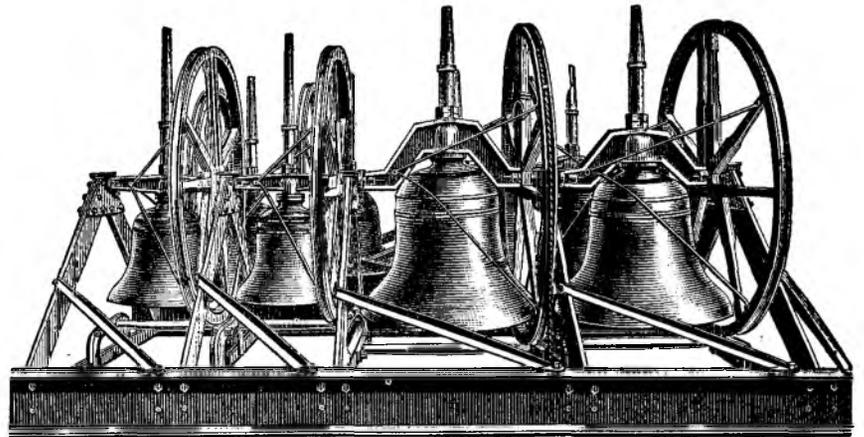
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SATURDAY, MARCH 24, 1883.

[ONE PENNY.]



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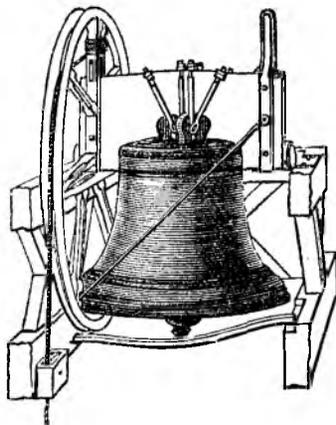
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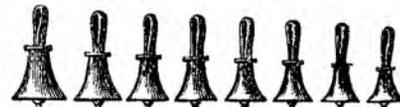
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The following pieces are in preparation, and will be
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In the first week of February, 1883: "Haydn's Hymn
to the Emperor," with variations; known also as the
"Imperial Quartett." In the first week of March, 1883.
Selection from Weber's "Der Frieschutz," introducing the
"Peasant's March," Chorus of Huntsmen, Waltz,
"Through the Woodlands," &c. In the first week of
April, 1883, Handel's splendid chorus from the *Messiah*:
"For unto us a Child is born."

Each piece will be arranged for eight or nine ringers
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YORK BELL FOUNDERS.—IV.

(Continued.)

"W. O." Yorke.

Mr. W. C. Boulter, in his list of inscriptions upon East Riding Bells, gives two bells having upon them "w. o. Yorke."

The following may have been cast either by "w. o." or some other York founder; with three exceptions, they contain the inscription:—

"Soli Deo Gloria"

1634—BRANTINGHAM—HORNSEY.—

1635—YORK—St. Michael-le-Belfry.

1637—WEAVERTHORPE.—

also "James Fovster Vicar George Tomson William
Wordy Chvrch Bryan Gray Clarke"
wardens

1638—BIELBY—SLEDMERE—WILLERBY.

1639—LUND.—

also "Esqvier Minister Chvrch
R.R. I.F. I.W. warden"

DUNNINGTON.—

"God save the King 1639
IN. W.H."

1640—YORK—All Saint's, North Street.

—Holme on Spalding Moor.—

also "+ F.B. E.B. N.A. R.M. Chvrch
wardens"

WHELDRAKE.—

" + Exvltabo in Deo 1640
R.R. T.T. Chvrch
wardens"

1641—RILLINGTON.—

also "Vicar Chvrch
IS GA MA IP wardens"

LANGTOFT.—

also "MH RM Chvrch WO
wardens 1641
Yorke"

1642—SHERIFF HUTTON.—

also "MR CW
WL ES. RH. T.C"

the MR refers to William Lucke, Vicar, 1638—1665.—
WL

1645—HESSLE.—

" + All men that heare my mornfvll sovnde
Repent before yov ly in grovnd
W.W. G.O. Chvrch WO
wardens 1641
Yorke"

During the seventeenth century, two families of bell-founders were at work in our city, namely:—Smith and Seller, respectively, the former family being the earlier, I shall treat of their work first.

ABRAHAM SMITH AND WILLIAM CURETON.

Their bells were cast on Toft Green. The following were probably cast by them, and have generally either one, or other of the following inscriptions upon them.

(a) "Jesvs be our speed"

(b) "Deo gloria, pax hominibvs"

1620—BOLTON PERCY.—

Gent gives the following:—

"Non forman spectas Domini, sed supplice flectas, &c., 1620"

TOPCLIFFE (a).

1622 TOPCLIFFE (a).

1626—YORK—Holy Trinity, Goodramgate (a).

WHITBY.—

(a) also "J.J. G.C"

STILLINGFLEET (a) (b).

1627—HESSLE (b).

1628—FANGFOSS (a).—BOLTON PERCY (b).

1633—YORK St. John—(a). ACOMB (a). YORK All Hallows (b).

1637—SUTTON-ON-DERWENT (a). RICCALL (a).

—WHITBY.—

"Gloria Deo in excelsis, et pax hominibvs 1637
RR. WH. CC. JH. SR. DS"

1638—WAWNE (a).

1649—BISHOP WILTON.—

"Soli Deo Gloria, Pax Hominibvs 1640"
M^r. RD. PH."

1653—RASKELF.—

"Soli Deo gloria, pax hominibus A.S. et W.C 1653
I.I. IW"

1656—ALNE.—

"Soli Deo gloria, pax hominibvs 1656"

KIRKBURTON.—

"Jesvs be our speed A.S. 1656"

1657—YORK MINSTER.—This year the largest bell but one was broken, and new cast, the fourth bell being likewise untuneable, was broken and melted down, and to add metal to these, the largest bell of the three belonging to the demolished Church of St. Nicholas, without Walmgate, was given. Towards the cost of this, and to make the chimes go on all the bells, the Lord Mayor and Commonalty gave £130 from the chamber.

"Funera deploro, populum voco, festa decoro
Thomas Dickinson Milite Majore Civit Eboraci, Vice
2 da, sumptus procurante. H. Harwood, E. Calvert,
E. Etcocke"

"Beatus est populus qui agnoscunt Clangorem 1657"
Diameter 5 ft. 2½ ins.

Sir Thomas Dickinson, merchant, Knt. was twice Lord Mayor of York, represented the city in parliament, and was Knighted by Oliver Cromwell during his second mayoralty in 1657. In September 1662, he was along with four other Aldermen, all of whom were especially obnoxious to the Royalist party in the city, displaced from office, and others chosen in their room by Commissioners authorised by an Act of Parliament.

1657—ASKRIGG.—The three bells were probably cast by Smith.

1659—YORK.—Christ Church.

"Laudate Iah quie bonvm et amœnvum est psallire
Deo nostro 1659"
(shields—cross with bell on either side.)

"A.D. 1659, September 26th, a new bell being made out of the two lesser, belonging to the church of St. Lawrence, without Walmgate Bar, was hung up the steeple of Christ Church, being the least of four there. It weighs 5 cwt 3 qrs 9 lbs. and was cast on Toft Green, by one Wm. Cureton, at the procurement of Abraham Smith, who had 20s. per cwt. for casting the same the parish finding metal. Thomas Ragge of Gainsborough, Co. Lincoln, made the bell frame, the timber for which was bought at Healaugh. Leonard Thompson, Lord Mayor gave a piece of Timber out of the Minster for bell yokes; the total cost of the bell and frame was £40 8s. 3d." Rev. C. E. Norcliffe, "Holy Trinity, Kings Square."

JAMES SMITH.

He succeeded Abraham Smith, and generally placed his monogram, I.S. interwoven with other stamps on his bells.

1659—SHERBURN.—

"Soli Deo Gloria 1659 York"

WESTOW.—

"Soli Deo Gloria 1659 IS.
T. Wake Clr. R. Cvdrex Chvrch
W. Dawson wardens"

1660—ACOMB.—

"Jesvs be ovr speed 1660 IS.

1663—SHERIFF HUTTON.—

"Soli Deo gloria—pax hominibvs 1663
IS + W.V. IT. IA. FR Chvr wds
+ Jesvs be ovr speed 1663 IS"

SHERBURN.—

"Soli Deo Gloria 1663
W.G. I.R."

EASTINGTON.—

"Soli Deo gloria—pax hominibvs 1663"

RIPON CATHEDRAL. 2 bells.

"Gloria in altissimis Deo 1663"
"Jacobvs Smith Eboracensis fecit 1663"

1665—YORK.—St. Maurice.

"Gloria in altissimis Deo 1665"

G. B. (York)

(To be continued.)

The whole of the windows in the south transept of Canterbury Cathedral will, in the course of a few days, have been filled in with stained glass. The Alford Memorial window, erected in 1872, has recently been retoned, and the space next to it filled with a very handsome window, erected by Mr. Loftus Pemberton, as a memorial of the late Mr. W. R. Pemberton, of Torry Hill, Sittingbourne (father of the member for East Kent). The third space is now being fitted with the Conyngham Memorial window, subscribed for by the officers and non-commissioned officers, past and present, of the Royal East Kent Mounted Yeomanry, of which regiment the late Marquis Conyngham was for many years the colonel.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE DERBY AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

THE first Annual Report of this Association has just been issued, and its contents are, taking everything into consideration, equally as gratifying as those which have recently been noticed in this paper. The actual report issued by the Committee bristles with some very apposite observations relating to sweeping measures of reform—not the old cry which aimed merely at the reformation of the occupants of the ringing-chamber—which are actually necessary for the carrying into effect the aims and objects of the Association. The report says that “the belfries visited by the Association during the year have been found to be, with hardly an exception, in excellent order, the bells well cared for, the ropes good, and the ringers proficient in one or more methods. It must be remembered, however, that the pick of the towers only have been visited.” Such a statement as this abundantly confirms what we have repeatedly written upon the subject of belfry reform. We use the term “belfry reform” in as broad and as comprehensive a sense as possible. Reform should be initiated in the bell-chamber, but if individuals are to be subjected to its operation, those “jacks-in-office” of whom we have heard a little lately, should be the first patients. The town of Nottingham possesses—so we are informed—a worthy specimen of this class, whose vagaries were the means of preventing, on a recent occasion, the members of this very Association being admitted to the tower which he no doubt thought was his own feudal domain. Such as these are the places where the attention of the Association should be concentrated. The report goes on to say: “As matters now stand the requirements essential to the pursuit of the most elementary stages of change-ringing seem to have been altogether lost sight of. In too many instances, Architects, Bellfounders, or Clockmakers, have had the entire say in the direction of the belfry appointments, so that change-ringing has been rendered an impossibility, and a science which is certainly one of the most intellectual of accomplishments has been degraded into nothing better than rope-hauling. Can it be wondered at if ringers, under these circumstances, have forsaken their high calling, and relapsed into a dull mechanical performance of their interesting duty?” These are words of courage and sober truth. The power wielded by the first-named of these bodies is frequently inimical to the interests of change-ringing. Many belfries testify to this fact. And the remarks we have just quoted show that the Committee of the Derby Association are of one mind with ourselves relative to the selection of properly-qualified persons to adjudicate upon all matters relating to bells and steeples.

Were the time and space at our disposal commensurate with our inclination, we would give this report at length; not being so, we pass on to notice other portions of the pamphlet. The peals recorded are ten in number, and comprise four of Grandsire Triples; four of Kent Treble Bob Major; and two of Double Norwich Court Bob Major, one of the two last comprising 7200 changes, being the greatest length ever performed in this intricate method. We think the style in which these performances are given in this report is not one which will commend itself to universal approbation. We would rather see each peal occupy an entire page, thus giving the performances the prominence they are entitled to, by the employment of type of a more conspicuous character. This, however, is merely a matter of trifling import.

The Association has been fortunate in gaining at each successive Quarterly Meeting a fresh accession of members. We wish them all success, and hope that at their Annual Meeting next Monday, to which we have received a kind invitation, will be the means of promoting, to a greater extent than ever, the interests of the art of change-ringing, and also making known the value of the work the association is engaged upon.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

THE MONTHLY MEETING for the Wolstanton district was held at Keele, on Saturday last (17th March). Ringers attended from Wolstanton, Norton, Tunstall, Lawton, Stoke, and Keele. About forty members sat down to tea, which in this instance was paid for by the several ringers. The Rev. W. W. Bolton proposed a vote of thanks to both the Vicar and Curate of the parish (Rev. F. J. Kelly). The Vicar spoke most straightforwardly, welcoming the Association to his tower, and pointing out the good it was intended to effect. The tower is comparatively new, and the bells are well hung. The belfry itself is small and rather dark, but it is kept tidy and clean. This band possesses a large number of handbells, and it is hoped that they will soon learn to use them.

The next meeting of the Association will be held on Saturday, the 31st, at Checkley, it not being the wish of the Association to hold a meeting on Easter-Eve.

It may have appeared out of place to some to have held meetings during Lent, but the result has perfectly justified it. All the members feel the good that it has done them themselves; and the sooner we can get a better standard of ringing in these parts, the sooner we shall be able to give to the glory of God of our best.

ST. VEDAST, FOSTER LANE, LONDON.

It is doubtless still fresh in the recollection of many of our readers that it was in this church that the Rev. Pelham Dale some few years ago persevered in carrying out a ritual which ultimately led to his being deprived of his benefice.

On the installation of the new Rector, the bells were restored and thoroughly put in ringing order by Mr. Banks, of Kennington, and opened by the Cumberland Society (an account of which appeared in this journal some time ago). On the 17th of this month, through the instrumentality of Mr. J. Barry, a select party of the above society met to again testify their “go,” and succeeded in ringing some Treble Bob Minor, and several 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, conducted by Mr. Gobbett, of West Ham. All expressed their entire satisfaction with the fittings and the admirable manner in which Mr. Banks has put them to rights, but it was noticed that the fifth bell had hardly any vibration in her, while all the rest were good specimens of the founder's art. There is a rumour afloat that two new trebles will shortly be added, but we are afraid that even should such come to pass, a peal will not be allowed on them on account of the short distance of the tower from the General Post Office, St. Martin's-le-Grand. After descending the belfry, we spent some time in examining the interior of the church, and especially noticed the magnificent carved oak-work therein contained, which is doubtless many hundred years old, in fact part of the original work was destroyed in the Great Fire of 1666, the rest remaining intact till the present day.

Several of the Cumberlands were unable to obtain admission in consequence of arriving late, but as a compensation for their disappointment, they were consoled by the assurance of Mr. Barry that he would endeavour on a future occasion to again get the tower open, and thus afford them the opportunity of ringing they desired.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

THE first ANNUAL MEETING of the members of the above Association will be held at Bedford, on Easter Monday next. The fine ring of eight (tenor 28 cwt.) at St. Paul's, will be available for ringing during the day. A luncheon will be provided at the Swan Hotel. CHARLES HERBERT, *Hon. Sec.*

THE VANE OF ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH, BATH.—For some time past the weather vane of this church has been out of repair, and would not move except in exceptionally rough weather. Accordingly, the services of Mr. James D. Wright (Edinburgh) and his two sons, who describe themselves as the original “Steeple Jacks,” were secured for the purpose of doing what was requisite to put matters right, and their operations have been watched by crowds of people. The men commenced by flying a huge kite from the High Common, attached to which was a cord something like half-a-mile in length. Having got the kite up to a good height, they proceeded along the Julian Road, and dexterously contrived to bring the string to bear on the ornamental cross just below the vane of the church. The desired result was at once attained—the string broke near the kite in consequence of the strain, and the kite rejoicing to be free, went away in the direction of the Royal Victoria Park, the string dropping over the cross and coming down the other side of the spire, just where it was wanted. This part of a Steeple Jack's work, although possibly the least dangerous, is nevertheless, very uncertain, and unsuccessful attempts are frequently made. By means of a cord a rope was drawn over the cross; and a still thicker rope, with an iron pulley block was raised, the pulley resting beneath the cross, the “stay” rope on the opposite side of the steeple being properly secured to keep the block from slipping over. The first ascent was made, and the dangerous feat was watched by two or three hundred persons. The man went up inside the tower, and got out of the bottom window of the spire. Seating himself in a chair seat which had been affixed to the rope, he pulled himself up hand over hand, guiding himself with his toes. On reaching the summit of the steeple he stood upon the cross just below the weathercock, and examined the same. The height of the spire is 226 feet, which is the highest in Bath, being several feet higher than the spire of St. John's (R. C.) church. When going up the steeple the man looked almost as though he was crawling, and the attention of the spectators was rivetted by the fearlessness and skill with which the ascent was made, the descent being watched with no less interest. The man turned the weathercock and discovered that the socket had become a little rusty, owing to a leakage of water. We have been informed by one of the climbers that a copper washer will in all probability set matters right. A second ascent was made, and was again witnessed by a large number of people.

The Mercers' Company of London have subscribed two hundred and fifty guineas to the fund for repairing Peterborough Cathedral. The amount subscribed now reaches a total of thirteen thousand pounds.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

On Saturday, April 7th, being the date of commencement of a new volume, this Paper will be

**PERMANENTLY ENLARGED
TO 12 PAGES.**

The increase in the circulation warrants this step being taken. The promoters of this paper hope that those gentlemen for whose need it is established, will continue their exertions in advancing its interest, so that at an early period it may be still further enlarged, and its usefulness increased. Printed circulars will be gladly forwarded to any of our friends who will take the trouble to distribute them.

—♦—

"THE BELL NEWS AND RINGERS' RECORD" will be forwarded post free, on the following terms:—

One copy,	12 months	6s. 6d.
" "	6 "	3s. 3d.
" "	3 "	1s. 8d.

—♦—

All Subscriptions and Orders for papers must be sent direct to the Publisher, W. E. ALLEN, Ave Maria Lane, London.

All communications respecting advertisements must be addressed to the office of "THE BELL NEWS," Walthamstow, London.

Everything for insertion in this Journal to be addressed "The Editor of THE BELL NEWS, Walthamstow, London." Letters forwarded for publication must reach us not later than Wednesday morning; the insertion of Performances coming later than the first Postal delivery on Thursday morning cannot be guaranteed in that week's number.

The Editor would be glad to receive the names of gentlemen who would be willing to act for their respective districts, in the capacity of reporter or correspondent. We shall feel obliged by Association and other Secretaries sending intelligence of events occurring within their jurisdiction.

—♦—

D. PRENTICE.—Your peal of 5067 of Stedman Caters is false.

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, MARCH 24, 1883.

It has often been remarked that the chances against the accomplishment of a peal, even in the most simple method, and by the most skilful company, are many. There is no doubt of the truth of such an observation. The accounts of repeated failure in attempts for peals of moderate length, which from time to time appear among our records of performances, show the multitude of agencies which are constantly militating against success. It must however be admitted that in many cases due provision is not made to neutralise or counteract such unfavourable incidents as are, unfortunately, of too frequent occurrence. We know to our cost, that bell-ropes, which have not shown any signs of old age or decay, have a freak of giving way at some interesting portion of the proceedings; and a noisy interruption made by the entrance into the ringing-room of a loquacious church official during its progress, may operate to mar the attainment of a peal. Such circumstances as these, may in most instances, though not in all, be considered as accidents, over which the ringing company may have no control. But there are many

cases where, had proper provision been made, and efficient arrangements been carried out in order to make success more than probable, peals would have been obtained. We have heard of gas suddenly becoming extinguished just before the half-way single, in a peal of Grandsire Triples, and leaving the ringers in darkness; we have ourselves experienced the premature approach of the "shades of evening," and in consequence, the collapse of a peal of Treble Bob in the last course. An account of of an attempted peal at Painswick is curious. In this case everything was supposed to be in good order, but when the peal was far advanced, a rope on one of the light bells gave way, much to the astonishment of the company, who thought the peal perfectly safe so far as ropes were concerned. Upon examination it was discovered that close to the pulley-block a rough nail or iron pin had been inserted, and the constant friction of the rope against this foreign substance gradually wore away the strands till it could no longer bear the strain put upon it from beneath. Such cases as these may, in most instances, be considered as accidents which cannot be foreseen. But how many attempts for peals would have met with a different fate had all probable contingencies been looked into, and sound arrangements made to neutralise them? We think the peal-books of many companies would show a more extensive record had greater care been taken in this particular. The attainment of a peal, we are quite aware, can never be regarded as a foregone conclusion, even under the most favourable circumstances; the best company of ringers that ever stood, rope in hand, can never consider the safety of the peal as assured till it has actually been rung. It is unnecessary to attempt a definition of the agencies, many of them of a most trifling character, apparently, which are in operation to prevent a peal being achieved. Their name is legion. But we may point out at least one of them where, when proper attention is given, the difficulty, if difficulty there be, can in every instance be overcome.

As long as Grandsire Triples maintains its position in the curriculum of practice, the ten-part composition of JOHN HOLT will always be a favourite. We are not to enquire why this will be so. It is sufficient to say that from various reasons this peal will be selected by many conductors for their maiden essay in bob-calling. And in this peal, as every one knows, are two singles, one half-way, and the other at the close of the peal, having characteristics somewhat out of the common. The accurate striking of these singles is the critical, and in many cases dangerous position. The majority of the company ringing this peal know nothing perhaps, of the singles in question, or at the least are but imperfectly acquainted with them, and depend upon the bob-caller or some "veteran" in the band to coach them over the few changes these singles occupy. It is a common thing, on starting for this peal for many ringers to ask "what am I to do when the single is called?" and such-like questions; and after being informed upon the point there is, in nine cases out of ten, a doubt in their minds as to what is to be done. And when under such circumstances the peal is com

menced, and the bells have gone on till they are half-way into the fifth part, the conductor, and those who have been able to follow him through it, are smitten with a feeling of the most painful anxiety whether the grave crisis which is gradually but surely approaching, change by change, will be surmounted. The bobs are called with the 3rd before, one, two, three times, the excitement increases at each moment, the 5th, 6th, and 7th are at home; the 6th is seen to make thirds; and the lead following the bob-caller, being almost overcome by his feelings, in a different tone of voice to that in which he has hitherto spoken, utters the word—"Single." Then the commotion arises, one of the company "wont be told" perhaps, another does the very thing he should not have done, in the din the front bells get confused, and order appearing impossible in the midst of such chaos, one by one the bells are set, and we are afraid that in some cases the reverse of complimentary language is indulged in by those of the band who are indignant at the disaster. This, or something like it, is not an uncommon occurrence in attempting HOLT's ten-part peal. Even when all the band engaged in its performance are to be depended on, some amount of anxiety is felt as to the fate of the half-way single. This may be known by a comparison of the facial expression of each ringer previous to the single being called with the complacency exhibited when the danger is passed. An appearance of great relief is visible when it is over, and the first bob in the sixth part is called. We may almost apply the same remarks to the half-way single in Stedman Triples, though a peal is now frequently called in that method with the two singles at an early stage.

It is a pertinent question to ask—"Why all this fear, excitement, and anxiety?" The answer is plain enough. The singles are never thought of, never practised, in many instances, till the day arrives on which the peal is to be attempted. Why should this be? why should not this real single be commonly rung, taking the place of the one now in use? HOLT's singles to our mind are more in unison with the method than the long-thirds arrangement which is called a "single," but which is in reality a "double." The latter throws the bells out-of-course, while the singles used by HOLT, in his ten-part production retains them in course. Then why not use the in-course singles more frequently? They certainly are preferable from several points of view. Even should the bells during a touch on practice-night get out of course the bob-caller need not resort to the common single to bring up rounds, for by using the change 1357264 in the same manner as he would use the round, the bells may be brought home at hand. At any rate, we think the idea of this single of HOLT's becoming more thoroughly known than it is at present, is one that will commend itself to our readers, and such knowledge will be the means of obviating in many cases what is held to be a serious difficulty.

A QUESTION.—A correspondent writes:—"Referring to your report in 'THE BELL NEWS,' March 17th, of the reopening of St. Mary's Bells, Prescott, Lancashire, which have just been rehung by Messrs. Taylor, of Loughborough, why did Mr. E. Foster on the 7th cry 'Stand' at the end of 3776 changes.—A RINGER."

The Provinces.

OXFORD.

On Tuesday, March 13, 1883, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF CHRIST,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S 10-PART PEAL. Tenor 42 cwt.

C. HESTER Treble.	C. C. CHILD, Esq. (Ch. Ch.) 5.
JOB HOWES* 2.	C. HOUNSLOW 6.
G. LAPWORTH 3.	J. W. WASHBROOK 7.
O. THOMAS 4.	S. HOUNSLOW Tenor

Conducted by J. W. WASHBROOK; his first peal as conductor.

[*First peal.]

CAVENDISH, SUFFOLK.

On Thursday, March 15, 1883, in Three Hours and Thirteen Minutes,

AT ST. MARY'S CHURCH,

5040 CHANGES; IN SEVEN DIFFERENT METHODS UPON SIX BELLS,

DUKE OF YORK; NEW LONDON PLEASURE; DOUBLE OXFORD; DOUBLE COURT; PLAIN BOB; KENT TREBLE BOB; AND OXFORD TREBLE BOB.

A 720 of each method, in the foregoing order.

Tenor 12 cwt. in F#.

FREDERIC JOHN THOMPSON Treble.	ALBERT IVES 4.
JOSEPH SAMUEL PAGE .. 2.	HARRY THOMPSON 5.
CHARLES WILLIAM HURST 3.	*ALEXANDER HURST Tenor

Conducted by ALEXANDER HURST.

* Member of the Ancient Society of College Youths.

Messrs. Page, C. Hurst, Ives, and A. Hurst, whose ages are respectively 22, 17, 21, and 20, have been connected with change-ringing only fourteen months.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.

On Saturday, March 17, 1883, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes.

AT ST. PETER'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION.

SAMUEL WOOD Treble.	SAMUEL STOTT 5.
JAMES ADAMS 2.	BENJAMIN BROADBENT .. 6.
WILLIAM SMITH 3.	GEORGE LONGDEN 7.
JAMES WOOD 4.	JOHN THORP Tenor.

Composed by JOHN THORP, and conducted by GEORGE LONGDEN.

This peal has the sixth her extent at home at nine different course-ends; and the fifth her extent home. The figures will be found on another page.

Mr. Stott hails from Oldham; the rest of the company from Ashton.

LIVERSEDGE, YORKSHIRE.

On Saturday, March 17, 1883, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 15 cwt.

JAMES WHITWORTH Treble.	GEORGE ILLINGWORTH .. 5.
HENRY BROOK 2.	TOM GOODALL 6.
ARTHUR BRIGGS 3.	*JAMES ROBNETT 7.
LUKE ILLINGWORTH 4.	SIDNEY GOODALL Tenor.

Composed by WILLIAM GOODALL, and conducted by SIDNEY GOODALL.

The above peal is in three equal parts. Mr. Robnett hails from Brighouse; the rest from Liversedge.

[*First peal.]

Miscellaneous.

THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY, LONDON.

On Sunday, March 18th, eight members of this society rung at St. George's church, Southwark, for Divine Service in the morning, the first four parts of Holt's ten-part peal, comprising 2016 changes, in 1 hr. 12 mins. Henry Langden, 1; William Jones, 2; Wingfield Meadows, Esq., 3; George McLaughlin, 4; John Basden, 5; Martin Routh, Esq., 6; Henry Tucker (conductor), 7; Frederick Coxhead, 8.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

NORTH SHIELDS.—On Sunday, March 18th, at Christ Church, for Divine Service in the morning, a 576 of Kent Treble Bob Major. W. Reed, Esq., (conductor), 1; A. Sawyer, 2; J. Rossiter, 3; H. Ross, 4; R. Wignell, 5; *W. Story (St. John's, Newcastle), 6; R. S. Story (St. John's, Newcastle), 7; Joel Hern, 8. *First touch in this method. Tenor 19 cwt.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

APPLETON (Berks).—On Thursday, March 15th, the following members of the Guild rang at St. Lawrence's, a quarter-peal of Double Norwich Court Bob Major, comprising 1344 changes. F. S. White, 1; E. Hollifield, 2; B. Barrett, 3; W. Bennett, 4; J. Avery, 5; G. Hollifield, 6; F. White, 7; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 8. Composed and conducted by the Rev. F. E. Robinson, Master of the Guild.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

ALDINGTON (Kent).—On Thursday, March 1st, at St. Martin's church, a 720 of Bob Minor with sixteen bobs and two singles, was rung in 27½ mins. William Post, jun., 1; Edward Hyder, 2; Philip Hodgkin, 3; Thomas Hodgkin, 4; William Hyder (conductor), 5; William Post, sen., 6. Also March 15th, a 720 of Bob Minor with three bobs and eighteen singles, in 29 mins. Charles Slingsby, 1; David Hodgkin (first 720), 2; P. Hodgkin, 3; E. Hyder, 4; W. Hyder (conductor), 5; W. Post, sen., 6. Also 360 of Bob Minor. W. Post, jun., 1; D. Hodgkin, 2; P. Hodgkin, 3; T. Hodgkin, 4; W. Hyder (conductor), 5; W. Post, sen., 6. Tenor 14 cwt. in G.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

HULME, MANCHESTER.—On Thursday evening, March 15th, at Holy Trinity Church, the following six members of this Association rang their first 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 28 mins. H. Diggles, 1; W. Diggles, 2; C. Woodward, 3; W. Roberts, 4; W. Hargreaves (conductor), 5; W. Savage, 6. Tenor 15½ cwt.

SOUTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

SPALDING.—On Thursday, March 15th, the following members of this Association rang at St. Paul's, Fulney, several touches of Grandsire Triples, with the bells deeply muffled, as a last token of respect to Mr. Joseph Tye, Ironmonger, of Spalding, who was buried on that day, and was an honorary member of the above Association since its commencement, and took the contract for hanging these bells in iron frames. J. Brown, 1; J. Croxford, 2; E. Quinton, 3; R. Mackman, 4; J. S. Wright, 5; R. Creasey (conductor), 6; J. W. Creasey, 7; C. Creasey, 8. Also on Sunday, March 18th, after Divine Service in the evening, a 720 of Plain Bob, on the back six, in 25 mins. E. Quinton, 1; J. Brown, 2; J. S. Wright, 3; C. Creasey, 4; J. W. Creasey, 5; R. Creasey (conductor), 6. This was rung to commemorate the forty-third birthday of the conductor, it falling on that day.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

WIMBLEDON.—On Tuesday, March, 20th, at St. Mary's church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with thirty-eight bobs and two singles, in 27 mins. This is the first 720 ever rung by a Wimbledon band, and the first for all the performers except the conductor. G. Hyde, 1; H. A. Roots, 2; C. Hyde, 3; S. Frost, 4; A. Garrott, 5; A. W. E. Perceval, Esq. (conductor), 6.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

KEBLE (Staffordshire).—On Saturday, March 17th, at the District Meeting, a 720 of Bob Minor in 26½ mins. A. Walker, 1; L. Miller, 2; W. Priestman, 3; S. Wooton, 4; S. Spencer, 5; W. Miller (conductor), 6. Also a course of Grandsire Caters, on handbells, retained in hand, by the five last-named ringers.

DONCASTER.—On Sunday, March 18th, for Divine Service at the church of St. George, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, by the Doncaster company, in 49 mins. H. Fevre, 1; H. G. Wilson (conductor), 2; W. White, 3; G. Marwood, 4; T. Fevre, 5; J. White, 6; J. Jeff, 7; W. Howard, 8. Tenor 31 cwt. in Eb.

HIGHER WALTON (Lancashire).—On Sunday, March 18th, being the eleventh anniversary of the opening of the bells, five of the parish ringers, assisted by Mr. Joshua Walker, rang for morning service at All Saints' church, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 26 mins. George Thornley (conductor), 1; James Walmsley, 2; Hy. Hunt, 3; Henry Brewer, 4; Joshua Walker, 5; John Eccles, 6. And for afternoon service the parish ringers of St. Leonard's, Walton-le-dale, rang a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 26½ mins. Robert Dewhurst (conductor), 1; Henry Robinson, 2; David Gregson, 3; John Robinson, 4; Eli Dalshaw, 5; James Robinson, 6. Tenor 16 cwt. 3 qrs. 26 lbs.

LONDON.—On Saturday, March 17th, at St. Vedast's, Foster Lane, six members of the Cumberland society, rang a 720 and a half of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 39 mins. J. Gobbett, 1; E. Moses, 2; W.

Meadows, Esq., 3; J. Jacob, 4; D. Stackwood, 5; S. Jarman, 6. Called by John Gobbett. Also several 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, in which J. Barry and P. Kendall, Esq., took part. Tenor 19 cwt.

MILDENHALL (Suffolk).—On Saturday, March 10th, a 720 of Bob Minor, with forty-two singles, was rung in good style by the local company, in 27 mins. C. Palmer, 1; H. Turner, 2; T. Bartle, 3; G. Turner, 4; J. Carpenter, 5; G. Flatt (conductor), 6.

OXFORD.—*Handbell Ringing.*—On Monday, March 19th, on handbells, retained in hand, an excellent touch of Grandsire Triples, containing 532 changes, in 14 mins. William C. Baston, 1-2; Charles Hounslow, 3-4; James W. Washbrook (conductor), 5-6; Samuel Hounslow, 7-8.

RIPON.—On Tuesday, March 13th, the Cathedral Society assembled for practice, and rung a 720 of Bob Minor, with nine bobs and six singles; and 360 of College Single, with four bobs and two singles, in 43 mins. Jno. Strodder, sen., 1; Jno. Strodder, jun., 2; Anthony Ingleby, 3; Walter Pick, 4; T. Clark (conductor), 5; George Ingleby, (first 720), 6. Tenor 21 cwt. in E.

STANSTED (Essex).—On Thursday, March 15th, four of the local company with Messrs. F. and R. S. Sworder, of Great Hallingbury, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor. J. Cavill, 1; R. S. Sworder, 2; C. Prior, 3; F. Sworder, 4; J. Luckey, 5; H. Prior (conductor), 6. Tenor 13 cwt.

THURSTON (Suffolk).—On Tuesday, March 6th, the ringers from Hessett, Pakenham, Thurston, &c., rang several touches of Grandsire, after the rehanging of the tenor with new oak head-stock, gudgeons, &c., the work being satisfactorily carried out by Geo. Bullock, Bill Hanger, & worth.

WORDSLEY (Staffordshire).—On March 10th, in commemoration of the twentieth anniversary of the marriage of their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales, the following members of the South Staffordshire six-bell ringers rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor in 25 mins. Thomas Darby, 1; John Guest (conductor), 2; William Lawrence, 3; Richard Bidmead, 4; George Howells, 5; Ernest Samuel Chapman, 6.

THE DUNDEE SOCIETY.

This society entertained Mr. G. P. Crossman, of the College Youths, to supper in the Albion Hotel, on Saturday night, on the occasion of his leaving Dundee, after a visit of two or three months. Mr. Robert Knight, master, presided, and in an appropriate speech, referred to the benefit which the company had derived from the advice of the guest of the evening during his stay at Dundee with regard to ringing matters. He also thought their belfry would be benefited by the attention drawn to its deficiencies by that gentleman. He trusted the members of the society would continue persevering in the art of ringing, and be able in a short time to give a good account of themselves to the ringing world through their own medium "BELL NEWS." He concluded by proposing the health of Mr. Crossman. In reply Mr. Crossman thanked the members for the hearty manner they had drunk his health, and referred to the many friends he had met since he came, and the great kindness shown not only by the ringers, but also by those whom he had met in his business capacity. He trusted that the ringers would persevere in the art of ringing, as nothing but attention and study would make them proficient. If ever he was in this part of Scotland again, he would be happy to pay them a visit, when he trusted he would see a great improvement in their ringing and also in their belfry. The rest of the evening was pleasantly spent.

Correspondence.

[While allowing the utmost freedom for the expression of opinion, it must never be considered that we are in any way bound to statements made by correspondents.]

To the Editor of "THE BELL NEWS AND RINGERS' RECORD."

A DOUBTFUL PERFORMANCE.

SIR,—Mr. Gardom is very kind to offer his services on my behalf, but they are not required; I can do all I want to do without his help.

But to come to the point at issue. I challenged his peal as being doubtful, and in his letter—which is a poor attempt at sarcasm—he does not deny my assertions, or offer any explanation whatever. A correspondence showing fair criticism deserves fair answers. He talks somewhat boastfully of his own knowledge and experience, but it is not of long duration. I had rung one or two peals before he could strike a blow in rounds. In his would-be sarcastical note he has not got hold of the right way of addressing a fellow-creature. He forgets the preterit; but if he succeeds in ringing a 720 in any method, he does not forget the affix "esq." to his own name; why, I don't know.

I would also tell him that his information concerning me going for a peal "weekly" for the past ten months is not true, because I have only attempted it four times. Once a rope broke, on the other occasions shift-courses happened.

Now the peal in question rung at Walthamstow has been proved false by a prominent member of the College Youths, whose opinion was asked by one who was in the peal, the circumstances being stated to him as they really did occur for him to pass such opinion. The gentleman who was thus written to says, on the account laid before him by one of the company who rang it—and who asked particularly for his opinion—that it was decidedly a false peal; and it is the opinion of almost every one who has rung at Walthamstow old church that a peal cannot be rung there quicker than nine minutes than the quickest yet recorded.

T. A. ESTALL.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

5088.

By JOHN THORP, Ashton-under-Lyne.

2	3	4	5	6	M	B	W	H
3	5	4	2	6	I	-		
6	3	2	5	4	-	2	3	
6	3	5	4	2	-		I	
6	3	4	2	5	-		I	
5	3	2	4	6	2	-	I	
3	4	2	5	6	I	-		

Twice repeated.

This peal has the sixth her extent at home at nine different course-ends; and the fifth her extent home.

Rang at St. Peter's, Ashton-under-Lyne, March 17th, 1883; conducted by George Lonsden.

Dr. GRAYLING, of Sittingbourne, writes:—
 "In reply to 'Man of Kent.' I may add that the 3rd at Rainham is by Robert Mot, 1601. The tenor, 49 ins., soundbow, 3½ ins., same as Sittingbourne tenor, by Bartlett, but longer in the waist. Mot also made the Bredgar 3rd, 1579. With regard to Charcham, one knows not whether to blame archtect or parson, probably the latter, for the continued state of things there: the splendid 6 ft. brasses were at the same time moved about the church for sheer trumpery.

"Date of Rainham tenor, 1582.

"The cracked bell at Minster Abbey was lowered by amateurs on Thursday last."

Mr. J. DRINKWATER, Master of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association, asks if any of our readers can inform him where and by whom the forty-two six-scores of Grandsire Doubles, as arranged by the late Mr. Isaac Gaze, of Gloucester, was first rung. They are ten six-scores in the true Grandsire method, and thirty-two with extremes instead of plain leads.

One Hundred and Thirty-Six closely-printed pages, Post-free, 2s. 1½d.

A TREATISE ON TREBLE BOB PART II.

By JASPER W. SNOWDON.

A Collection of Two Thousand peals of TREBLE BOB MINOR, MAJOR, ROYAL, and MAXIMUS, with the Tenors together; and a Selection of Musical Compositions with the Tenors parted. Arranged with their reverse variations under a simple classification, with remarks upon the different qualities in each class; with particulars of the time of performance, etc.

The last chapter is devoted to a list of the names of Composers of the different peals, with various particulars, and in the cases of deceased Composers with the dates of death, age, etc.

J. W. SNOWDON, Old Bank Chambers, Leeds.

ORGAN (FINGER) FOR SALE,

Very Superior, suitable for Large Room or Small Church or Chapel; in substantial oak grained case, bold and handsome front (speaking) six stops, viz.:

STOP DIAPASON	Through.
OPEN DIAPASON	Through.
PRINCIPAL	Through.
FIFTEENTH	Through.

German Gamba; Tenor, F & to C C; Stop; Flute Tenor C, two Composition Pedals, and front and side Blowers.

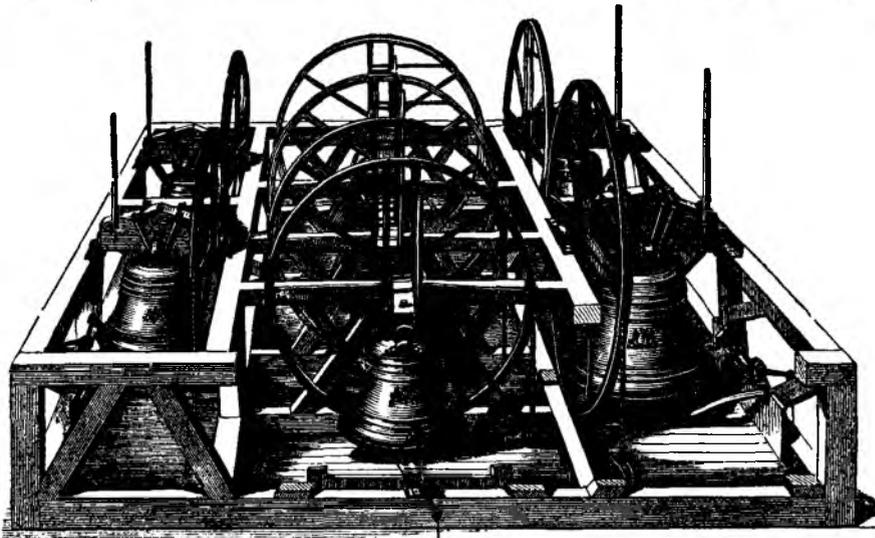
Will sell at cost price, room being required. Address: 25, Wolverley Street, Bethnal Green Road London.

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 WOODBURY, NEAR EXETER,

Undertake to hang Church Bells, single or in peal, on the most improved principles, and best workmanship and materials.

The Ellacombe chiming apparatus fixed at the cost of £1 per bell. Over 200 sets have already been fixed.

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 Bell and Brass Founders to Her Majesty,



THE CRESCENT FOUNDRY, CRIPPLEGATE, LONDON, E.C.

Prize Medals awarded in London, Vienna, &c., for Bells, Chiming Machinery, Metal Work, &c. Bells Cast Singly or in Rings. Church Bells, School Bells, Chapel Bells. Old Bells Re-cast or Re-hung. Hand Bells in sets in Diatonic and Chromatic Scales. Clock Bells and Carillons in any size or number.

Bells of every Description and Size.

References to Cathedrals and Churches in every part of the world, if desired.

J. W. & SONS are prepared to send an experienced Bell-hanger to report or advise upon repairs, Alterations or New Rings of Bells. Illustrated Catalogues can be obtained upon application, post-free, giving a large amount of information.

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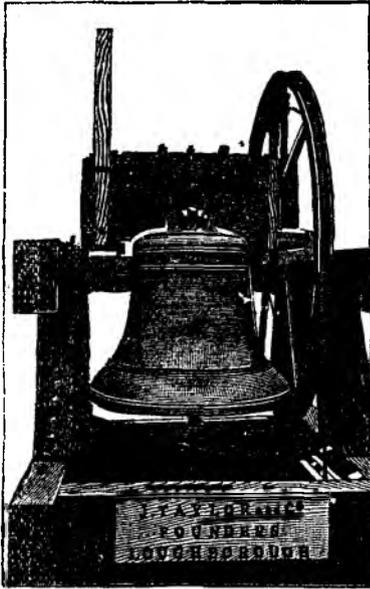
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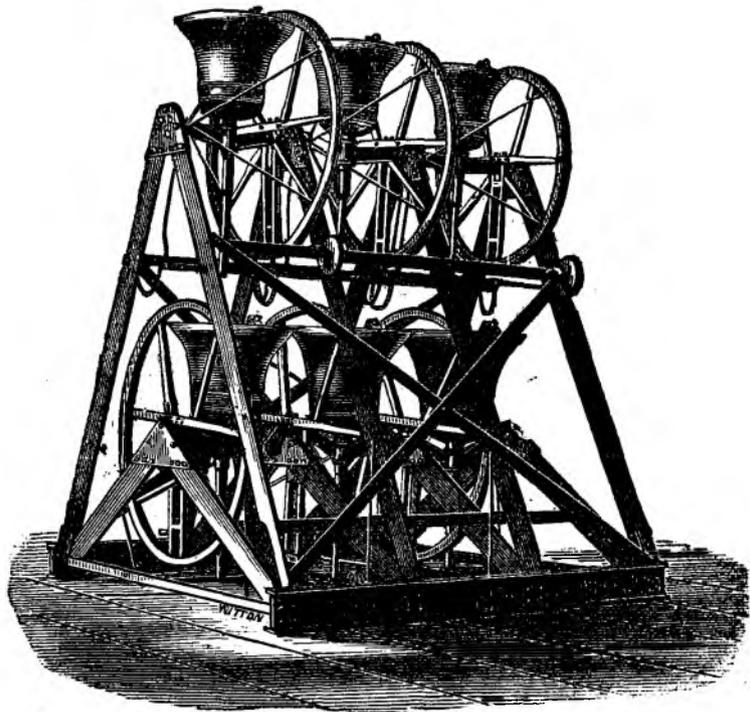
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No. 52. [NEW SERIES.]—VOL. I.

SATURDAY, MARCH 31, 1883.

[ONE PENNY.]



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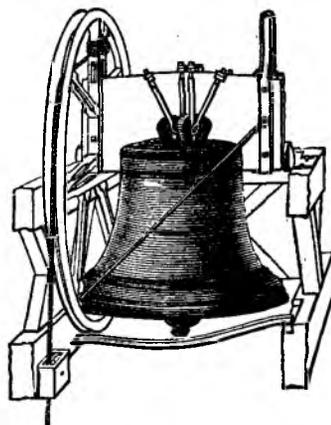
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HANDBELL MUSIC.—All Pieces previously advertised kept in stock, to which additions of new music are constantly being made.

The following pieces are in preparation, and will be published as follows:—

In the first week of February, 1883: "Haydn's Hymn to the Emperor," with variations; known also as the "Imperial Quartett." In the first week of March, 1883, Selection from Weber's "Der Frieschutz," introducing the "Peasant's March," Chorus of Huntsmen, Waltz, "Through the Woodlands," &c. In the first week of April, 1883, Handel's splendid chorus from the *Messiah*: "For unto us a Child is born."

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THE ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS AT ST. MARY'S, HARLOW, ESSEX.

On Saturday, March 24th, eight members of this society visited Harlow, by the invitation of Messrs. Warner and Sons, of the Crescent Foundry, Cripplegate, London, this firm having just erected a new peal of bells in St. Mary's church. The bells were presented by W. Walford, Esq., and given in memory of his wife. They are hung in a massive oak frame, and are fitted with the latest improvements, among which is Warner's improved chiming apparatus, by which one man can chime the whole eight bells for service, and this machine does not interfere with the ringing of the bells. A special Dedication Service was held on Easter-eve, after which several touches of Grandsire Triples and Treble Bob were rung. On Easter-day an appropriate sermon was preached by the Rev. R. W. Hiley, and the following touches were rung before and after the services: 576 of Treble Bob; 265 of Grandsire Triples; 576 of Treble Bob; 420 of Stedman Triples and 1728 of Treble Bob. On Easter-Monday, 1260 of Stedman Triples; 2842 of Grandsire Triples; and 320 of Treble Bob. The ringers who took part in this were G. Newson, 1; C. Hopkins, 2; J. Rogers, 3; J. Hannington, 4; W. Hoverd, 5; H. Hopkins, 6; W. Baron, 7; J. Barrett, 8. Afterwards, four courses of that most musical and intricate method, Double Norwich Court, was rung by W. Baron, 1; J. F. Penning (Saffron Walden), 2; C. Hopkins, 3; H. Hopkins, 4; G. Rochester (Sawbridgeworth), 5; J. Hannington, 6; G. Newson, 7; J. Barrett, 8. The whole of the ringing was conducted by G. Newson. At 2.30 p.m., the company and friends, about thirty in number, repaired to the "Queen's Head" inn, where a good and substantial dinner was provided by the liberality of the donor of the bells. Ample justice having been done to the good fare, the health of Mr. Walford (the donor) was drunk with musical honours, after which the thanks of the company were expressed to the host and hostess for the manner in which they had looked after the comfort of their guests. A few well-timed remarks being made by Mr. Master Newson, Mr. Quick, and others, the company were entertained with several airs upon the handbells by Messrs. Newson, Hopkins Brothers, and Barry; as well as several musical touches of Stedman Caters, Treble Bob Royal, and Grandsire Triples. This brought the day to a close, and the visitors returned to town well pleased with their day's enjoyment.

Next week we will give the brief description of the bells forwarded for insertion.

It may not be improper to say, here, that it would be well if the various railway companies would offer increased facilities to enable ringers, at a moderate cost, to attend such gatherings as this. The Great Eastern company took a step in the right direction when they issued ringers' tickets for the Lavenham festival of last year, and we should be glad to see such a plan more extensively followed. It is almost needless to add that we should rejoice in giving publicity to such arrangements.

EYE, SUFFOLK.

On Monday, March 26th, the Eye ringers held their anniversary under very auspicious circumstances. The weather being fine induced many to attend who might have been disinclined to face the sleet and snow of the previous week. A most enjoyable day was spent, friends being present from Norwich, Redenhall, Diss, Fressingfield, Pulham, Otley, Wetheringsett, &c. The bells were kept going all day. Some excellent touches of Stedman, Grandsire, Kent, Oxford, and Bob Major, were rung. At two o'clock, between thirty and forty ringers sat down to a bountiful dinner at the "Eight Bells," presided over by the Rev. Blythe. Through the courtesy of Messrs. Day and Son, the visitors were allowed to inspect a new frame they have just constructed for the peal of eight in Monmouth parish church. This is a fine piece of workmanship, and was much admired. This tower is 14 ft. square and the tenor weighs one ton, but the frame is made to such a nicety that the bells will all hang level. They were also shewn the last portion of the fittings for the bells of St. Peter Mancroft, Norwich. The restoration of this peal is nearly complete, and the bells will be hung in April next.

EASTER-MONDAY AT HERTFORD.

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

Date Touches.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

HULL.—On Easter Sunday for early service at 6.30 a.m., at St. James's church, a date touch of 1883 changes in the following methods; 83 of Grandsire Minor, 360 of Yorkshire Court, 720 of Kent Treble Bob, and 720 of Bob Minor, in 1 hr. 10 mins. S. Slingsby, 1; A. Taylor, 2; T. Stockdale, 3; R. Chaffer, 4; C. Bennet, 5; J. W. Stickney, 6. Arranged and conducted by J. W. Stickney. Tenor 15 cwt.

HERTFORD.—On Easter Sunday morning, at All Saints' Church, eight members of the Hertford College Youths rang a date touch of 1883 changes of Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. 10 mins., containing Queens, Tittums, Whittingtons, and all the 6-7's. Joseph Cull, 1; William L. Randall, 2; James Staples, 3; Jasper G. Crawley, 4; Herbert Baker (conductor), 5; John Godfrey, 6; Thomas Gathard, 7; Frederick George, 8. Tenor 22 cwt. in Eb. The touch was composed by Mr. John Carter, of Birmingham.

KIRKBURTON (Yorkshire).—On the evening of Easter Sunday, at the parish church, 1883 changes of Kent Treble Bob Major, in 1 hr. 6 mins. D. Copley, 1; H. Kaye, 2; A. Armitage, 3; R. Hill, 4; J. Copley, 5; H. Pickering (conductor), 6; H. Shaw, 7; W. Metcalf, 8. Tenor 13½ cwt.

WALSALL (Staffordshire).—On Easter Tuesday, at St. Matthew's parish church, for the election of churchwardens, a date touch of Stedman Triples, 1883 changes, was rung by the local company, in 1 hr. 5 mins. David Westley, 1; John Astbury, jun., 2; William Walker, 3; John Astbury, sen., 4; James Lees, 5; David Chapman, 6; William Hallsworth (composer and conductor), 7; Edmund Taylor, 8. Tenor 24 cwt. in Eb.

Miscellaneous.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

ALDINGTON (Kent).—On Thursday evening, March 22nd, at St. Martin's church, a 720 of Plain Bob, with four bobs and fourteen singles, was rung in 29 mins. William Post, jun., 1; David Hodgkin, 2; Edward Hyder, 3; Thomas Hodgkin, 4; William Hyder (conductor), 5; Philip Hodgkin, 6. Also on Easter Sunday, for Divine Service in the morning, a 360 of Plain Bob. Charles Slingsby, 1; D. Hodgkin, 2; E. Hyder, 3; T. Hodgkin, 4; W. Hyder (conductor), 5; P. Hodgkin, 6. Also for afternoon service, a 720 of Plain Bob, with two bobs and twenty-two singles, was rung in 27 mins. W. Post, jun., 1; T. Hodgkin, 2; P. Hodgkin, 3; E. Hyder, 4; W. Hyder (conductor), 5; W. Post, sen., 6. Also 360 of Bob Minor. W. Post, jun., 1; D. Hodgkin, 2; P. Hodgkin, 3; T. Hodgkin, 4; W. Hyder (conductor), 5; W. Post, sen., 6. After service, another 720 in the same method, with four bobs and fourteen singles, in 27 mins. W. Post, jun., 1; T. Hodgkin, 2; D. Hodgkin, 3; E. Hyder, 4; W. Hyder (conductor), 5; P. Hodgkin, 6. Tenor 14 cwt. in G.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

PULHAM MARKET.—On Tuesday evening, March 20th, six members of the above Association rang a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in 28 mins. John Smith (conductor), 1; William Tann, 2; William Culham, 3; Fred Surridge, 4; John Charles Allen, 5; William Roope, 6. Smith and Tann hail from Pulham St. Mary. Also on Easter-day, the following members rang, at six o'clock p.m., a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in 28 mins. Thomas Farrow (conductor), 1; Charles Brown, 2; William Culham, 3; Fred Surridge, 4; John C. Allen, 5; William Roope, 6. Tenor 18 cwt. in F. This is the first 720 in the method rung by a company of Pulham Market men for upwards of thirty years, four of whom are young hands. Mr. William Roope, on behalf of the company, wish publicly to thank the Pulham St. Mary ringers for their kind and able assistance they have rendered him and his colleague, Mr. Thos. Farrow.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

FARNHAM ROYAL (Bucks).—On Sunday morning, March 25th, for Divine Service at St. Mary's, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 26 mins. F. Fells, 1; J. Basden, 2; G. Basden, 3; J. Parker (conductor), 4; A. Batten, 5; C. Clark, 6. For Divine Service in the afternoon, a 504 of Bob Minor, in 20 mins. For Divine Service in the evening, a 720 of Bob Minor, with twenty bobs and ten singles, in 26 mins. Also a 720 of Oxford Bob Minor, with sixteen bobs and two singles, in 26½ mins. F. Fells, 1; J. Basden, 2; A. Fussell, 3; A. Batten, 4; J. Parker (conductor), 5; C. Clark, 6. And a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 27 mins. C. Clark, 1; J. Parker, 2; J. Basden, 3; F. Fells, 4; A. Batten, 5; A. Fussell (conductor), 6. It might be mentioned that the band had only attempted Oxford Bob but once before, when they rang some plain courses only.

OXFORD.—On Sunday, March 25th, for Divine Service in the morning, at St. Mary Magdalen, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with thirty-eight bobs and twenty-two singles, was rung in 25 mins. C. Boots, 1; F. Castle, 2; J. Collier, 3; J. Howes, 4; W. C. Baston (conductor), 5; J. W. Washbrook, 6. Also on Monday, March 26th, an attempt for Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, at Merton College, but after ringing over 2700 changes, in 1 hr. 35 mins., was obliged to stop, owing to the volunteers being at drill close by, they could not hear the word of command. C. Boots, 1; J. Howes, 2; T. Payne, 3; W. C. Baston, 4; O. Thomas, 5; S. Hounslow, 6; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 7; W. Finch and C. Walker, 8.

CAVENDISH (Suffolk).—On Easter-eve, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, in 28 mins. F. J. Thompson, 1; J. S. Page, 2; C. W. Hurst, 3; S. Slater (Glemsford), 4; H. Thompson, 5; A. Hurst (conductor), 6. On Easter-day, for Divine Service in the morning, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob, in 17 mins. F. J. Thompson, 1; H. Thompson, 2; J. S. Page, 3; F. P. Adams (Glemsford), 4; George Maxim, 5; A. Hurst (conductor), 6. Also the same evening, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, in 26 mins. F. J. Thompson, 1; H. Thompson, 2; F. P. Adams, 3; A. Ives, 4; G. Maxim, 5; A. Hurst (conductor), 6. On Tuesday, March 27th, the Lord Bishop of the Diocese held a confirmation in the parish church, when the following were rung during the day:—A 720 of Kent Treble Bob, in 25½ mins. A 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, in 24 mins. And a 720 of New London Pleasure, in 26 mins. F. J. Thompson, 1; J. S. Page, 2; S. Slater, 3; A. Ives, 4; H. Thompson, 5; A. Hurst (conductor), 6.

CHEADLE (Staffordshire).—On Tuesday evening, March 20th, at the parish church for practice, six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, in 28½ mins. Called in three different ways. G. Waugh, 1; J. Cartledge, 2; J. Burton (conductor), 3; J. Shenton, 4; H. Booth, 5; T. Coxon, 6. Tenor 15 cwt.

CHELLENHAM.—Muffled Peal.—On Wednesday, March 14th, on the occasion of the funeral of the late Lord Sherbourne, eight members of the Cheltenham society rang at St. Mary's church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 48 mins., with the bells half-muffled. J. Belcher, 1; W. Morris, 2; H. Hodges, 3; F. Musty, 4; G. Phillott, Esq., 5; H. Karn (conductor), 6; G. Acocks, 7; T. Hooper, 8. After the quarter-peal the age was rung out in the usual manner with the whole pull and stand.

CHESTER.—On Easter Sunday, for Divine Service at the Cathedral, Church, several touches of Grandsire Triples, Union Triples, and Kent Treble Bob Major; also at the conclusion of the evening service, a quarter-peal of Union Triples, 1260 changes, with thirty-eight bobs and four singles, taken from Holt's six-part peal, in 46 mins. Alfred Peers, 1; Arthur Jones, 2; Joseph Griffiths, 3; Alfred Cross, 4; William Walton, 5; Peter Griffiths, 6; Freeman Ball (conductor), 7; William Ball, 8. Tenor 33 cwt. in C.

CODDENHAM (Suffolk).—On Sunday, March 25th, at St. Mary's church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, on the back six, in 25 mins. —. Hawkey, 1; —. English, 2; E. Wells (conductor), 3; Thos. Sadler, 4; H. English, 5; W. Meadows, Esq., 6.

COVENTRY.—On Easter-Monday, March 26th, a party from Birmingham and Wednesbury paid a visit to this city and rung upon the bells of St. Michael's a touch of Grandsire Caters. T. Elliott, 1; T. Horton, 2; S. Lenton, 3; H. Johnson, sen., 4; C. Horsfall, 5; W. R. Small, 6; C. Standbridge, 7; J. Fullwood, 8; S. Reeves, 9; T. Lenton, 10. Also a touch of Grandsire Triples, conducted by S. Reeves. Tenor 32 cwt.

CRAYFORD (Kent).—On Easter Sunday, for Divine Service in the evening, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, on the back six of the parish church, in 25 mins. F. M. Jacobs, 1; G. Conyard, 2; H. Shade, 3; C. Hammant, 4; J. Saxby, 5; F. French (conductor), 6. Tenor 12½ cwt. in F.

ECKINGTON (Derbyshire).—On Sunday, March 25th, at the parish church, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, was rung for early service, in 27½ mins. G. Smith, 1; W. Price, 2; E. James, 3; G. Norman, 4; G. Marsden (conductor), 5; T. Lunn, 6. Also for Divine Service in the morning, a 720 of Violet, in 28 mins. G. Smith, 1; J. Shaw, 2; E. James, 3; G. Norman, 4; G. Marsden (conductor), 5; T. Lunn, 6. Tenor 16 cwt. 14 lbs.

HAYFIELD (Derbyshire).—On Sunday, March 25th, the local ringers rang at St. Mary's church a 720 of Violet Treble Bob Minor, with twenty-one bobs. Joseph Brocklehurst, 2; Dan Lyne, 2; Thomas Whitehead (conductor), 3; Joshua Wheatcroft, 4; Abel Hadfield, 5; Thomas Brocklehurst, 7. First 720 by any of the band.

HAMPSTEAD (Middlesex).—On Easter Monday, March 26th, a mixed company of College Youths and Cumberlands rang at St. Stephen's, a 500 of Grandsire Triples, on the back eight. S. Clark, 1; J. R. Haworth (conductor), 2; N. Alderman, 3; W. Foskett, 4; H. Cutter,

5; E. Chapman, 6; G. Turl, 7; W. Haskell, 8. Also some touches of Grandsire Caters. W. Williams, 1; J. Pain, 2; J. R. Haworth (conductor), 3; W. Foskett, 4; E. Chapman, 5; H. Cutter, 6; W. Payn, 7; N. Alderman, 8; G. Turl, 9; W. Haskell, 10. Tenor 27 cwt.

KINGSWINFORD (Staffordshire).—On Easter Sunday, for Divine Service in the evening, six of the South Staffordshire ringers rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor at St. Mary's church, in 26½ mins. The bells at this church are very old and hang very peculiar, making it very difficult to ring, the treble man stands in the centre. This is the second 720 on record as having been rung here. Thomas Darby, 1; George Howell, 2; John Guest (conductor), 3; Richard Bidmead, 4; William Lawrence, 5; Ernest Samuel Chapman, 6.

LEYLAND (Lancashire).—On Easter Sunday, the local company met at seven o'clock in the morning, and rang a 720 of Plain Bob Minor. Oliver Warden (conductor), 1; Thos. Bowling, 2; Willm. Bowling, 3; H. Greckson, 4; Thos. Baron, 5; Jas. Banister, 6. Tenor 18½ in F#. This is the first time a 720 has been rung so early on Easter Sunday.

LONDON.—Muffled Peal.—On Thursday afternoon, March 15th, at St. Botolph's, Aldgate, eight members of St. Botolph's Society, rang a funeral peal with the bells deeply muffled (being the usual whole pull and stand), as a mark of respect to the late Alderman Sir Thomas White, late alderman of the ward of Portsoken, and Lord Moyer of London in the year 1876, who died at his residence on Thursday, March 8th, in his sixty-fifth year. J. Charters, 1; W. Williamson, 2; J. Marshall, 3; H. Brand, 4; S. Strutt, 5; W. Gray, 6; J. May, 7; J. Scholes, 8. Conducted by W. Williamson. Tenor 28 cwt.

TYLEHURST, NEAR READING.—Handbell Ringing.—On Easter Monday, at the Rectory, on handbells, retained in hand, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with thirty-four bobs and two singles, in 23 mins. Miss Beatrix Routh, 1-2; Miss Rosa Routh, 3-4; J. Martin Routh, Esq. (conductor), 5-6. Also a 336 of Grandsire Triples. Miss B. Routh, 1-2; Miss R. Routh, 3-4; J. Martin Routh, Esq. (conductor), 5-6; Cyril E. Routh, Esq., 7-8.

WEDNESBURY (Staffordshire).—On Easter Sunday, March 25th, after Divine Service in the afternoon at the parish church, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, 1260 changes, in 47 mins. John Astbury, jun., 1; Thomas Horton, 2; John Astbury, sen., 3; Joseph Fullwood, 4; Joseph Bate, 5; Samuel Reeves (conductor), 7; William Rock Small, 7; Joseph Malborn and William Best, 8. Tenor 24 cwt.

WILLESDEN (Middlesex).—On Easter Sunday, at St. Mary's, the local company rang a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles, 1260 changes, in 54 mins. Albert Pittan, 1; *Harry Cutter, 2; *Joseph Jackman, 3; *Frederick Weare, 4; *Richard Kilby (conductor), 5; Walter Wellar and Albert Kirby (alternately), 6. Tenor 10 cwt. *College Youths.

WOLLASTON (Worcestershire).—On Easter Sunday, six of the South Staffordshire ringers rang at St. James's church, for Divine Service in the morning, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 25 mins. Edward Pugh, 1; Henry Deakin, 2; George Howells (conductor), 3; Richard Bidmead, 4; William Lawrence, 5; James Lewis, 6.

TO OUR READERS.—When we say that this is the only occasion since this paper was commenced that we have been unable, from lack of space, to insert all records of performances sent to us, we hope those of our friends who feel disappointed after a perusal of this number, will extend to us their kind indulgence. All reports and other matter standing over, will appear next week.

SOUTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

ON Monday last, the Annual Meeting of this Association took place at Spalding. During the day, some excellent touches of Grandsire Triples by different companies and a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, on the back six of St. Paul's Fulney. C. Creasey, 1; E. Quinton, 2; R. Creasey (conductor), 3; E. Mason, 4; J. W. Creasey, 5; J. Croxford, 6. At SS. Mary and Nicholas, several 720's of Bob Minor were rang, also a 360 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor. J. S. Wright, 1; R. Creasey, 2; T. Taylor (aged 77), 3; W. Pearce, 4; F. W. Flatters, 5; R. Clarke, 6. At 12 a.m. the members, to the number of twenty-six, met in the National Schoolroom, the Rev. R. G. Ash, in the chair, and the Rev. J. M. Coates in the vice-chair. The minutes of the last meeting was confirmed, and the balance-sheet passed, which proved the Association to be in a very prosperous state. The President and Vice-Presidents were re-elected, also the treasurer; the committee were also re-elected except Mr. Creasey, Mr. T. Rogers of Boston, being elected in his place, Mr. R. Creasey being elected Secretary in the place of Mr. J. R. Jerram, who has left the county. After nominating a place for the Quarterly Meeting—Wainfleet St. Mary,—they then sat down to an excellent dinner provided by Mr. J. Herrison of the "Pied Calf" Inn, in his usual style. After dinner ringing was continued until dusk, when the various companies had to leave by train well pleased with their day's enjoyment.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

On Saturday next, April 7th, being the date of commencement of a new volume, this Paper will be

PERMANENTLY ENLARGED
TO 12 PAGES.

The increase in the circulation warrants this step being taken. The promoters of this paper hope that those gentlemen for whose need it is established, will continue their exertions in advancing its interests, so that at an early period it may be still further enlarged, and its usefulness increased. Printed circulars will be gladly forwarded to any of our friends who will take the trouble to distribute them.

"THE BELL NEWS AND RINGERS' RECORD" will be forwarded post free, on the following terms:—

One copy, 12 months	6s. 6d.
" " 6 "	3s. 3d.
" " 3 "	1s. 8d.

All Subscriptions and Orders for papers must be sent direct to the Publisher, W. E. ALLEN, Ave Maria Lane, London.

All communications respecting advertisements must be addressed to the office of "THE BELL NEWS," Walthamstow, London.

Everything for insertion in this Journal to be addressed "The Editor of THE BELL NEWS, Walthamstow, London." Letters forwarded for publication must reach us not later than Wednesday morning; the insertion of Performances coming later than the first Postal delivery on Thursday morning cannot be guaranteed in that week's number.

The Editor would be glad to receive the names of gentlemen who would be willing to act for their respective districts, in the capacity of reporter or correspondent. We shall feel obliged by Association and other Secretaries sending intelligence of events occurring within their jurisdiction.

M. ELLSMORE.—As the discussion now appears to be at an end, we think it inadvisable to re-open the question, and the publication of your letter would very likely lead to a lengthy correspondence quite irrelevant to the points at issue, and from those who felt little or no interest in the truth or falsehood of the peal.

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, MARCH 31, 1883.

EASTER has arrived this year just one week too soon for us. Had it happened a week later, we should no doubt have had room for the various reports, correspondence, and other matters, which are crowded out of this number. We ask the kind forbearance of our friends who have to wait till next week before their contributions appear.

The Metropolis.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.
BERMONDSEY.

On Monday, March 19, 1883, in Three Hours and Twenty-nine Minutes,
AT ST. JAMES'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;
IN THE OXFORD VARIATION. Tenor 25 cwt.

JOHN W. ROWBOTHAM .. Treble.	EDWIN GIBBS 6.
RICHARD FRENCH 2.	EZRA CARTER 7.
GEORGE BREED 3.	HENRY J. TUCKER 8.
MATTHEW A. WOOD 4.	EDWIN HORREX 9.
CHALLIS F. WINNY 5.	JOHN M. HAYES Tenor.

Composed by H. W. HALEY, and conducted by J. M. HAYES.

It is upwards of forty-one years since a peal in the Oxford Variation was rung in London on ten bells, which was also rung at the above church, and by members of the same society.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.
BIRTHDAY PEAL.

SOUTHWARK, SURREY.

On Tuesday, March 20, 1883, in Four Hours and Three Minutes,

AT ST. SAVIOUR'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5134 CHANGES;
Tenor 52 cwt. in Bb.

MATTHEW A. WOOD Treble.	WILLIAM GREENLEAF .. 7.
WILLIAM CECIL 2.	EDWIN GIBBS 8.
GEORGE A. MUSKETT 3.	GEORGE DARRINGTON .. 9.
CHALLIS F. WINNY 4.	WALTER B. JONES 10.
GEORGE MASH 5.	FRANCIS E. DAWE 11.
JAMES R. HAWORTH 6.	GEORGE BREED Tenor.

Composed and conducted by FRANCIS EDWARD DAWE.

This peal was rung to commemorate the birthday of the conductor, who attained the age of twenty-one years on Friday, the 16th instant.

Several prominent members of the Exercise bore testimony to the regular striking on the melodious and heavy ring of twelve at the above church.

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

The figures of this peal will be found on another page.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.
BARKING, ESSEX.

On Monday, March 26, 1883, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

AT ST. MARGARET'S ABBEY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
BROOK'S VARIATION.

ROBERT SEWELL Treble.	RICHARD FRENCH 5.
EDWIN GIBBS 2.	JOHN M. HAYES 6.
CHALLIS F. WINNY 3.	EDWIN HORREX 7.
EZRA CARTER* 4.	EDWARD A. DAVIS Tenor.

Conducted by J. M. HAYES.

* First peal in the method.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.
BETHNAL GREEN.

On Saturday, March 24, 1883, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT ST. MATTHEW'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION.

MATTHEW A. WOOD Treble.	WILLIAM GREENLEAF .. 5.
WILLIAM CECIL 2.	THOMAS HAIGH 6.
HARRY PAGE* 3.	RICHARD FRENCH 7.
CHALLIS F. WINNY 4.	JOHN M. HAYES Tenor.

Composed by H. W. HALEY, and conducted by J. M. HAYES.

* First peal in the method.

Mr. Page hails from Stoke-upon-Trent; Mr. Haigh from Huddersfield.

The Provinces.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
MAIDENHEAD, BERKS.

On Saturday, March 24, 1883, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes,

AT ALL SAINTS, BOYNE HILL,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Tenor 17 cwt. 1 qr. 5 lbs.

JOHN ELDRIDGE* Treble.	*EDWARD ROGERS 5.
GEORGE WILKINS, JUN. .. 2.	WM. ALFRED GARRAWAY 6.
JAMES WILLIAM WILKINS 3.	EDWIN ROGERS 7.
HEZEKIAH ROGERS 4.	EDWARD KEELEY Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM ALFRED GARRAWAY.

[*First peal.]

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.

On Saturday, March 24, 1883, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,
AT ST. PETER'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HOLT'S 10-PART PEAL. Tenor 20 cwt.

JAMES ADAMS Treble.	BENJAMIN BROADBENT .. 5.
THOMAS WROE 2.	JOSEPH GILLOT 6.
SAMUEL WHITWORTH .. 3.	GEORGE LONGDEN 7.
JOHN THORP 4.	JOSEPH MELLOR Tenor.

Conducted by GEO. LONGDEN.

Mr. Whitworth hails from Rawmarsh, Yorkshire, formerly of Ashton; the rest of the company from Ashton.

GLODWICK, OLDHAM.

On Sunday, March 25, 1883, in Two Hours and Fifty-nine Minutes,
AT ST. MARK'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Tenor 8½ cwt.

DANIEL LEES Treble.	GEORGE DUNKERLEY .. 5.
GEORGE H. BEAVER 2.	CLEMOND DRONSFIELD .. 6.
JAMES RILEY 3.	ALBERT CLEGG 7.
WILLIAM WARD 4.	JAMES PRIESTLEY Tenor.

Composed by J. CARTER, West Bromwich, and conducted by GEORGE H. BEAVER.

J. Priestley hails from Lees; the others from Glodwick. First peal in this method by all except the conductor. This peal has the 6th twenty-four times wrong and right; the fifth twenty-four times right; with all the 8-5-7's, 8-6-7's, and 6-7-8's.

RANMORE, NEAR DORKING, SURREY.

On Monday, March 26, 1883, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,
AT ST. BARNABAS, CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HOLT'S 10-PART PEAL. Tenor 20 cwt.

JAMES HOWARD Treble.	EDGAR KENWARD 5.
FRANCIS T. HOAD 2.	ROBERT HARDEN 6.
WILLIAM WEBB 3.	STEPHEN BROOKER 7.
WILLIAM ARGENT 4.	GEORGE HOLDEN Tenor.

Conducted by FRANCIS T. HOAD.

The ringers of the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, and 5th bells hail from Reigate; the 6th from Epsom; the 7th from Leatherhead; and the tenor-man from Dorking.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.

On Monday, March 26, 1883, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,
AT ST. PETER'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 20 cwt.

SAMUEL WHITWORTH .. Treble.	JAMES WOOD 5.
JOHN HOPWOOD 2.	JOSEPH MELLOR 6.
WILLIAM SMITH 3.	SHEPHERD ANDREW .. 7.
SAMUEL WOOD 4.	GEORGE LONGDEN Tenor.

Composed and conducted by SAMUEL WOOD.

HYDE, CHESHIRE.

On Monday, March 26, 1883, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,
AT ST. GEORGE'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Tenor 16 cwt. in F.

HENRY FILDES Treble.	JOHN FILDES 5.
RALPH PRICHARD 2.	SAMUEL BRADLEY 6.
JAMES S. WILDE 3.	THOMAS WILDE 7.
ROBERT WOOLLEY 4.	DAVID LEIGH Tenor.

Composed by BENJAMIN ANNABLE, and conducted by THOMAS WILDE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—SADDLEWORTH.

On Monday, March 26, 1883, in Three Hours,
AT ST. CHAD'S CHURCH,

5040 CHANGES; IN 14 DIFFERENT METHODS UPON
SIX BELLS,

A 360 of each method, in the following order:

WESTMINSTER COLLEGE PLEASURE; LONDON SCHOLARS'
NEW YORK; BRITISH QUEEN; GARNET'S VICTORY;
HOLMFIRTH SURPRISE; DUKE OF YORK; YORKSHIRE
DELIGHT; KENT TREBLE BOB; MERCHANTS' RETURN; NEW
LONDON PLEASURE; OXFORD AND VIOLET.

Tenor 12 cwt.

JOHN J. BRIERLEY .. Treble.	JAS. WRIGLEY 4.
JOHN HOLDEN 2.	EDGAR BUCKLEY 5.
FRANK BRIERLEY 3.	EDWARD WOOD Tenor.

Conducted by JOHN HOLDEN.

MANCHESTER.

On Monday, March 26, 1883, in Three Hours and Thirty Minutes,
AT THE CATHEDRAL,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5580 CHANGES;
Tenor 25 cwt. in Eb.

SAMSON KNIGHT .. Treble.	JOSEPH GRIMSHAW .. 6.
SAMUEL WEST* 2.	†ALBERT E. WREAKS .. 7.
JOHN E. POLLITT* .. 3.	JOHN EACHUS 8.
JOHN LOWCOCK 4.	JOHN WITHERS 9.
GEORGE MEE 5.	JAMES PARKINSON Tenor.

Composed by JAMES WOOD, SEN., and conducted by JOHN EACHUS, and taken from "THE BELL NEWS" of March 17th, 1883.

* Members of the Ancient Society of College Youths. † First peal of Caters.

The Cathedral bells were opened as a ring of ten on Easter-Monday, 1825, and this peal was rung to commemorate the 58th anniversary of that event. This is the greatest length of Caters rang in the present tower.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.
ERITH, KENT.

On Monday, March 26, 1883, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,
AT ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST'S,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HOLT'S 10-PART PEAL. Tenor 17 cwt. in F.

WILLIAM J. REEVE .. Treble.	JAMES SAXBY 5.
FREDERICK FRENCH .. 2.	ALFRED COLE 6.
GEORGE CONYARD 3.	FREDERICK M. JACOBS .. 7.
CHARLES HAMMANT .. 4.	THOMAS WEBB Tenor.

Conducted by FREDERICK FRENCH.

The above are all members of the Crayford Company.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—DERBY.
(Late Derby and District Association.)

On Tuesday, March 27, 1883, in Three Hours and Thirteen Minutes,
AT ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH, LITCHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
THE ORIGINAL BOB-AND-SINGLE. Tenor 20½ cwt., in Eb.

REUBEN BOSWORTH .. Treble.	ALFRED ARCHER 5.
JOHN WARD* 2.	HY. CHAS. WOODWARD .. 6.
JOSEPH HARDY* 3.	JOHN HOWE 7.
JOHN WILLIAM TAYLOR, JUN. 4.	LEWIS LEONARD LOMAS .. Tenor.

Conducted by JOHN HOWE.

* First peal.

Messrs. Bosworth, Woodward, Howe, and Lomas belong to Derby; Messrs Taylor and Hardy hail from Loughborough; Mr. Ward from Long Eaton; and Mr Archer from Nottingham.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
MARSHAM, NORFOLK.

On Monday, March 26, 1883, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,
A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
IN THE OXFORD VARIATION. Tenor 7½ cwt.

T. GREENWOOD Treble.	P. SADDLER 5.
C. CLEMENTS 2.	R. STACKWOOD 6.
J. FIDDAMENT 3.	F. KNIGHTS 7.
REV. G. H. HARRIS 4.	J. EDRIAGE Tenor.

Conducted by T. GREENWOOD.

Messrs. Greenwood and Edridge belong to Marsham; Messrs. Fiddament, Sadler, and Knights hail from Norwich; Clements and Stackwood from Aylsham; and the Rev. G. H. Harris from Tunstead.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
(Late Derby and District Association.)

BURTON-ON-TRENT, STAFFORDSHIRE.
On Monday, March 26, 1883, in Three Hours and Thirty-five Minutes,
AT ST. PAUL'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 26 cwt.

JOHN JAGGAR Treble.	GEORGE APPLEBY 5.
JOSEPH GRIFFIN 2.	FREDERICK W. APPLEBY.. 6.
HARRY WAKLEY 3.	THOMAS HOLMES 7.
EDWARD ISAAC STONE .. 4.	WILLIAM WAKLEY Tenor.

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW, and conducted by WILLIAM WAKLEY.

This peal, which in seventeen courses, with the 6th six course-ends each way in 5-6, has never been previously performed.

HINDLEY, LANCASHIRE.

On Sunday, March 25, 1883, in Two Hours and Fifty-three Minutes,
AT ST. PETER'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HOLT'S 10-Part. Tenor 14 cwt. 1 qr.

JOSEPH PRESCOTT Treble.	EDWARD KAY 5.
EDWARD PRESCOTT 2.	THOMAS TICKLE 6.
EDMUND BROWN 3.	JOSEPH W. HALL 7.
WILLIAM CHISNALL 4.	THOMAS ECCLESTON .. Tenor.

Conducted by JOSEPH PRESCOTT.

Mr. Hall hails from Wigan; the rest of the company belong to Hindley.

BARNSELY, YORKSHIRE.

On Monday, March 26, 1883, in Three Hours and Twenty-one Minutes,
AT ST. MARY'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5440 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 15 cwt.

W. BEDFORD Treble.	WILLIAM ELLIS† 5.
CHAS. HOLLIN 2.	MATTHEW TOMLINSON* .. 6.
JOSEPH FOX 3.	GEO. TYAS† 7.
WILFRED RICHARDSON† .. 4.	ROBERT SPARKS† Tenor.

Conducted by GEO. TYAS.

* Member of the Yorkshire Association. † College Youths.

[*First peal.]

LONG MELFORD, SUFFOLK.

On Tuesday, March 27, 1883, in Four Hours and Thirty Minutes,
AT HOLY TRINITY CHURCH.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 7008 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 16 cwt.

ZACHARIAH SLATER Treble.	OLIVER GARWOOD 5.
ALEXANDER HURST* 2.	FREDERIC WELLS 6.
HARRY THOMPSON 3.	FREDERIC PAUL ADAMS .. 7.
SAMUEL SLATER 4.	HARRY HARPER Tenor.

Composed by W. HARRISON; conducted by FREDK. PAUL ADAMS.

* First peal of Major.

This peal, which will be found in Snowdon's *Treatise*, p. 29, has never been previously performed.

(The remainder of performances will be found on another page.)

THE DERBY AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

THE ANNUAL MEETING was held at Derby, on Easter-Monday, March 26th, 1883, when the bells of All Saints, St. Werburgh's, St. Alkmund's St. Luke's, and St. Andrew's churches were kindly placed by their respective Vicars at the disposal of members. A short service was held in St. Andrew's Church in the course of the afternoon, which was well attended, an excellent sermon being preached by the Rev. F. Atkinson, Rector of Darley Dale, and an honorary member of the Association.

Between sixty and seventy members sat down to tea in St. Andrew's Schools at 5 o'clock, and at the meeting held subsequently several gentlemen were admitted as honorary and ringing members, and the following, amongst other business, was done: Mr. Beresford (Derby), proposed and Mr. Maskery (Derby), seconded, and it was carried, that "The report of the Committee and the balance-sheet be approved." Mr. Henson (Lenton), proposed, and Mr. Jaggar (Burton), seconded, and it was carried, that "The amended rules as printed in the Annual Report, together with the two alterations suggested at this meeting, be adopted."

On the motion of Mr. H. C. Woodward (Derby), seconded by Mr. Cooper (Leicester), the Rev. J. H. Fish, Vicar of St. Paul's, Burton-on-Trent, was re-elected President; Mr. W. Wakley, Hon. Treasurer; and Mr. Joseph Griffin Hon. Sec. for the ensuing year.

The Quarterly Meeting was fixed to be held at Burton-on-Trent. The effect of the amendments passed at this meeting will be to change the name of this Association from that of the "Derby and District Association," to that of the "Midland Counties Association of Change Ringers," leaving Derby, Nottingham, Leicester, and Burton-on-Trent as district centres, each choosing its own Secretary, and sending two members to serve on the General Committee of the Association.

Touche of Grandsire and Stedman Caters, Kent Treble Bob Major, Grandsire and Stedman Triples were rung during the day, and a peal of 5024 Kent Treble Bob Major was rung in the early morning at St. Paul's, Burton-on-Trent, in honour of the occasion.

BATH AND KEYNSHAM UNITED DEANERIES
ASSOCIATION.

The Fifth Meeting of this Association will (by the kind permission of the Rev. T. P. Rogers, Vicar) be held at the Parish Church of St. John the Baptist, Bathampton, on Saturday, April 7th next. Hours of ringing from six o'clock to nine p.m. There is a good ring of six bells at this church, which were rehung about five years ago. Weight of tenor said to be 18 cwt. Distance from Bath about 2½ miles. Nearest station Bathampton, Great Western Railway, 15 minutes' walk.

Also by kind permission of the Rev. J. Harford, Vicar, the tower of the Parish Church (St. Swithin's) Bathford, will be open on the same evening. There is a light but sweet toned ring of six bells at this church, which were supplied by Messrs. Warner and Sons of London, and hung by them in the new tower shortly after its completion in the latter part of the year 1880. Weight of tenor about 10 cwt. Distance from Bath about 3½ miles. Bathampton is the nearest railway station, fifteen minutes' walk.

EASTER AT SADDLEWORTH.

EASTER MONDAY will long be remembered by the ringers and friends of Saddleworth church. At 8 a.m. the ringers ascended the tower, and rung 5040 changes, in fourteen different methods, finishing at 11 a.m., a report of which will be found amongst our records of performances. At one o'clock the whole of the local ringers fourteen in number, were treated to a sumptuous dinner by Mr. J. Bradbury, one of the retiring Churchwardens. After the usual loyal toasts, Mr. John Holden proposed the health of Mr. Bradbury, also the best thanks of the ringers for the very liberal treat he had that day given them, stating that he was very pleased to see that the ringers were being acknowledged as church-workers, for he was quite sure they would be willing to assist in any work which would tend to promote the interests and prosperity of the Church. Mr. Bradbury, in a very able speech responded, and said that nothing gave him greater pleasure than to hear the sweet tones of the bells on a Sunday morning. He was about to resign his office as Churchwarden; in leaving it, he had only one cause of regret, that was that the beautiful peal of six had not been augmented to eight, but he hoped his successor would see that that was accomplished before next Easter. At 2.30, a vestry meeting was held for the appointment of Wardens, presided over by the Vicar, the Rev. Thomas Fletcher, D.D. The accounts for the past year were submitted and passed, after which the Vicar appointed Mr. Ellis Meanock as his Warden for the ensuing year, and Mr. Bradbury proposed Mr. John Holden for the people's Warden, and hoped that Mr. Holden, being a ringer himself, would make an effort to get two new trebles added. Mr. Edgar Buckley seconded the resolution, which was carried. Votes of thanks to the retiring Wardens and the Vicar closed the proceedings,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES.

5134.

By F. E. DAWE, *College Youths.*

2 3 1 4 5 6	Bob on 9, 10, 11.
	5 6 7 19
3 1 5 6 2 4	- - -
5 1 3 4 2 6	- - -
5 1 6 3 2 4	- - -
5 1 4 6 2 3	- - -
4 1 5 3 2 6	- - -
4 1 6 5 2 3	- - -
4 1 3 6 2 5	- - -
3 1 4 5 2 6	- - -
2 1 4 6 3 5	- - -
2 1 5 4 3 6	- - -
2 1 6 5 3 4	- - -
6 1 2 4 3 5	- - -
6 1 5 2 3 4	- - -
6 1 4 5 3 2	- - -
4 1 6 2 3 5	- - -
3 1 6 5 4 2	- - -
3 1 2 6 4 5	- - -
2 1 3 5 4 6	- - -
2 1 6 3 4 5	- - -
2 1 5 6 4 3	- - -
5 1 2 3 4 6	- - -
5 1 6 2 4 3	- - -
6 1 5 3 4 2	- - -

These last eight courses twice repeated, omitting the last course in the last part, produce—3 1 2 4 5 6; when the peal is brought round by bobs at the following sixes:—12, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18 and 19.

Rung at St. Saviour's, Southwark, on March 20th, 1883, by the College Youths; conducted by its composer.

One Hundred and Thirty-Six closely-printed pages, Post-free, 2s. 1½d.

A TREATISE ON TREBLE BOB
PART II.

By JASPER W. SNOWDON.

A Collection of Two Thousand peals of TREBLE BOB MINOR, MAJOR, ROYAL, and MAXIMUS, with the Tenors together, and a Selection of Musical Compositions with the Tenors parted. Arranged with their reverse variations under a simple classification, with remarks upon the different qualities in each class, with particulars of the time of performance, etc.

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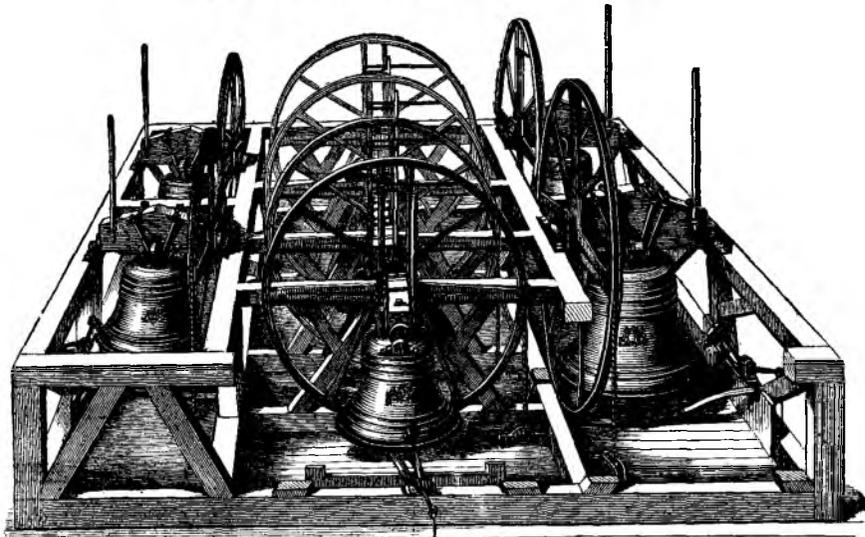
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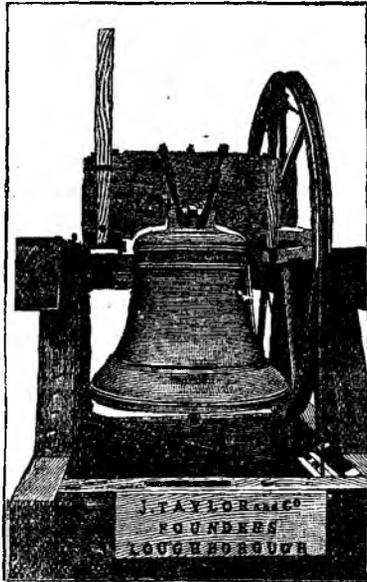
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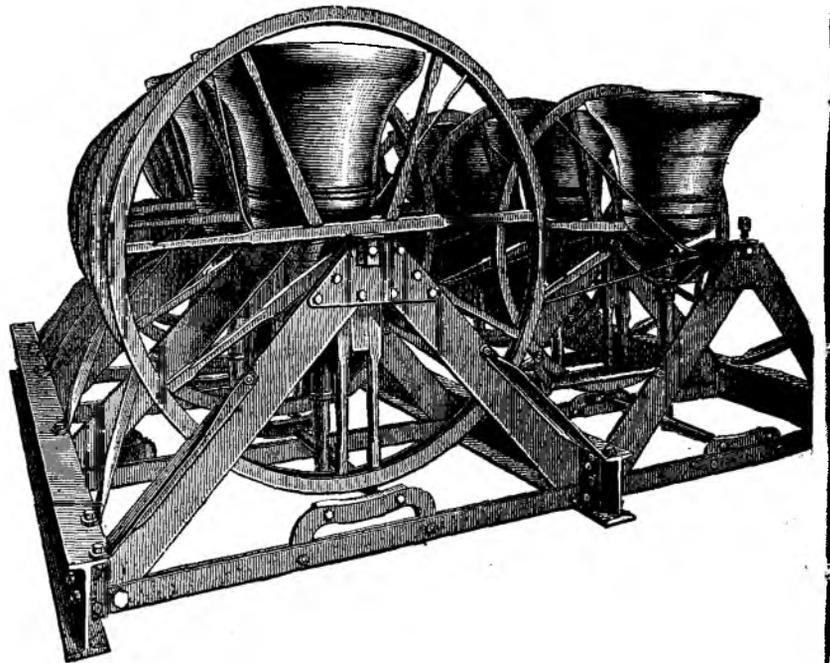
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